



from the desk of the
PRESIDENT

Dear Member,



21st October, 2016

Subho Bijoya and my heartfelt greetings to you and your family for the upcoming Festival of Lights!

Having commenced my term as President of this hallowed and iconic Chamber on 14th September 2016 for which I feel humbled, I am delighted to address you through this newsletter column and to report that the Chamber's activities for the year have taken a head start with numerous stellar programmes already having been organized during the past one and a half months.

This year, the overarching focus of the Chamber would be towards fulfilling 3 distinct but interconnected roles; namely

- Being of use to the Business Fraternity
- Being of use to the Government and
- Being of use to the People

and in doing so, we would like to adopt the theme, 'Looking Back to Think Ahead'.

As this voluminous edition of the newsletter will reveal, we have had a number of mega events in the short timespan of one and a half months, none of which would have been successful without your participation, support and encouragement. Be it the "Changing Face of Communications" Conclave 3 days after AGM 2016, or the grandiose Infrastructure Summit, to felicitating Olympian Dipa Karmakar, or the first edition of the E-Business Summit which had International participation and of course the ever so vibrant overseas linkages which have brought the Minister Counselor from the US and the Ambassadors

from Norway, and previously Mexico, walking the floors of this historic and heritage building, the Chamber has presented an eclectic bouquet of activities. There have also been two most meaningful B2B meets with Russian Businesses. These are a few of the giant strides across a multitude of spheres that the Chamber has taken since the AGM.

In this journey, during the coming months, we would like to bolster our activities in the State and beyond in order to act across a larger canvas to have a pan India presence. We would also like to showcase the strengths of our State through telling publications on diverse issues to derive tangible advantages from such interventions, for the development and propagation of such sectors. These include our research into areas like energy, taxation, tourism and others.

Working for the citizens of Kolkata would receive very close attention from the Chamber this year. Improvement of the Quality of Life through interventions at Rabindra Sarobar, enhancement of our Son-et-Lumiere at Victoria Memorial, joining hands with the Indian Museum are some of the programmes outlined.

Thus, programmes / projects / events / publications / advocacy in a plethora of avenues would continue unabated with your support and good wishes to bolster and reinforce the Chamber's acknowledged position as an accelerator in Nation Building.

The motto this year would thus be, 'Enjoy the Chamber'.

Sd/-
Sutanu Ghosh
President

Announcing



"The Bengal Lounge" on the third level of The Bengal Chamber of Commerce, will be run by "6, Ballygunge Place" part of the Saviourites Hospitality Group. On the cards are a complete refurbishment to start off with - a new menu, smart uniforms and food high on taste. Other than the Lounge - 6, Ballygunge shall also manage the extensive conference facilities.



NEWS FLASH

The photos of the President of The Bengal Chamber, Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, were taken in front of the INA Memorial on Red Road, on 21st October 2016. 73 years back, on 21st October, 1943, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose proclaimed the formation of The Provisional Government of Azad Hind through a Radio Broadcast from Singapore.



NEWS FLASH



The Akshaya Patra Foundation has received the 1st Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Memorial Award for Innovation in Governance.



Infinity received the award for Outstanding Contribution to the Cause of Education (Anant Education Initiative) at the Asia Pacific HRM Congress Awards 2016 in Bengaluru.

Akshaya Patra is one of the CSR Initiatives of the Infinity Group. Mr. Ravindra Chamaria, CMD Infinity Group is the Vice Chairman on the advisory board of Akshaya Patra and serves as Chairman of the Board of Trustees in Akshaya Patra UK. The Chamber is proud to have Mr. Chamaria as the Chairperson of its CSR Committee.



Infinity Group wins the ACEF Award 2016 (Customer Engagement Forum) for the Best Sustainability Project - Infinity IT Lagoon & the Best Education Project - Anant Education Initiative.

NEWS FLASH

As is our tradition, following the Annual General Meeting, the President of the Chamber, Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, has been meeting senior-most officials of the Government of West Bengal to discuss, share and learn from them about the areas and issues in which the Bengal Chamber can work with the State Government. The President has, so far, met:



- Shri Dushyant Nariala, IAS, Secretary School Education, Government of West Bengal on 3rd October 2016.

- Shri Debashis Sen, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary in charge of Urban Development & Town & Country Planning, Government of West Bengal on 21st September 2016.

- Dr. Sanjeev Chopra, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, in charge of Agriculture, Government of West Bengal on 19th October 2016.

MEMBERS' NEWS CORNER

Welcome to the Bengal Chamber family! That's what we would like to convey to GEA Process Engineering India Pvt. Ltd and Martin Burn Constructions Ltd. whose applications for membership were tabled and approved by the Managing Committee at its meeting on 31st August 2016.

Personal transportation has undergone a significant change after the introduction of app based taxi services and has become the preferred mode for hailing a taxi. Over the past few years there has been a growing fleet of Mobile Application based (App-based) Taxi Service Providers in Kolkata. Popularity and preference for App-based taxis have also been on the rise. A key advantage of App-based taxis is the availability of a “platform for customer sourcing”. However there remains an estimated 30,000 taxis (yellow and blue/white taxis) which are outside the purview of such customer sourcing platforms.

In this context, with the focus of fostering collaboration with the yellow and blue/white taxis and catalyzing the transportation ecosystem of the State, BCC&I came up with an idea to create a platform on which mobile app providers can provide apps offering these taxi drivers a platform for customer sourcing, which would, in turn, provide them with a level playing field with other App-based taxi services. Such a platform is also expected to provide customers with an option to remotely locate and call a yellow or blue/white Taxi without compromising on safety, comfort, reliability and cost competitiveness.

This initiative led by BCC&I along with KPMG as Knowledge

Partner and Softthink Technologies as the Technology Service provider has taken the shape of a Mobile App – ‘Travelator’ that was launched on 31st August 2016 by The Hon’ble Minister- in-Charge for Transport, Government of West Bengal, Shri Suwendu Adhikari in presence of the Principal Secretary, Department of Transport, Government of West Bengal, Shri Alapan Bandopadhyay, IAS, and Chief Nodal Officer (Project), Transport Department, Shri Narayan Swaroop Nigam, IAS. The launch program was also attended by the President of BCC&I, Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta with his team from the Chamber and the partners.

This launch is the culmination of an initiative taken by BCC&I in March 2016, when it presented a proposal to the Department of Transport, Government of West Bengal for the “Taxi Commuter Connect Platform”, an innovative platform for Public Taxi Operators, popularly known as yellow and blue/white taxis which are outside the purview of app-based cab services at the moment.

By implementing such a platform, availing yellow and blue/white taxis is expected to become more convenient, and with less refusals. The number of passengers using these taxis should increase thereby transforming the way Kolkata moves!



L-R: Shri Narayan Swaroop Nigam, IAS, Chief Nodal Officer (projects), Department of Transport, Government of West Bengal; Shri Alapan Bandopadhyay, IAS, Principal Secretary, Department of Transport, Government of West Bengal; Shri Suwendu Adhikari, Hon’ble Minister-in-Charge, Department of Transport, Government of West Bengal; Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta, President, BCC&I; Mr. Subhodip Ghosh, Director General Designate, BCC&I; Mr. Pradip Bhowmick, Partner, KPMG and Mr. Jayanta Saha, Founder CEO, Softthink Intelligent Solutions Private Limited



Shri Suwendu Adhikari addressing the media and officially launching the App



L-R: Shri Alapan Bandopadhyay, Shri Suwendu Adhikari, Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta in conversation



Shri Suwendu Adhikari, Hon’ble Minister- in-Charge, Department of Transport, Government of West Bengal addressing the media



Press Conference in progress

6th September 2016
Chamber Premises

Forging Stronger Intra BRICS Trade : Exploring Complementarities

West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation (WBIDC) and the Department of Agriculture, Government of West Bengal, in association with The Bengal Chamber of Commerce & Industry and Indian Chamber of Commerce hosted the BRICS Young Diplomats Forum during their visit to Kolkata on 6th September 2016 at the Bengal Chamber Premises at an event titled "Forging Stronger Intra BRICS Trade: Exploring Complementarities". The event was a part of the initiative of the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India's elaborate plan to publicize its foreign policy initiatives to reach out to more people, especially the youth, and a beginning was to be made at the BRICS Summit in Goa on October 15-16. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) is planning to hold 90 events across several cities ahead of the eighth meeting of the five-nation group – Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa – that holds 42 % of the world's population and 25% of the global GDP.

The Speakers included :

- Shri Amarendra Khatua, IFS, Dean FSI and Secretary, Government of India.
- Dr Sanjeev Chopra, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Government of West Bengal.
- Shri Talleen Kumar, IAS, Principal Secretary, Department of IT&E, Government of West Bengal.
- Ms Nayantara Pal Chowdhury, Senior Member from Indian Chamber of Commerce.
- Shri P Kamalakanth, IFS, Executive Director, WBIDC.
- Shri Pradip Majumdar, Advisor, Agriculture Department, Government of West Bengal.

The Young Diplomats, for whom the session was organized, included a team of at least five to six from each of the five BRICS nations. All the Diplomats from the BRICS nations stayed in Kolkata from the 3rd to the 6th of September and the session was part of their tour programme.

Dr. Sanjeev Chopra, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, in charge of Agriculture, Government of West Bengal presided over the Session.

Shri Amarendra Khatua, IFS, Dean FSI and Secretary, Government of India, thanked the Chambers of Commerce and the Government of West Bengal for hosting the forum at Kolkata. He felt that were a number of technical co-operation programmes open to the BRICS nations and the interactions here would surely add a lot of knowledge and experience for the participants.

Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, President Designate, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce & Industry, in his welcome address expressed his happiness at Kolkata being included by the MEA in the BRICS schedule. He stated that with a cumulative global trade of 20 percent and generating over 40 percent of global economic growth, the BRICS countries and India specifically can position themselves as a prominent global leader in trade and are poised to strengthen their relationship through intra-BRICS trade. He also stated that the Bengal Chamber of Commerce in association with the Government of West Bengal has envisioned to reposition Kolkata as a "niche city" promoting "Analytics" as a select skill set, like the Silicon Valley in the USA.

Shri Talleen Kumar, IAS, Principal Secretary, Department of IT&E, Government of West Bengal, in his detailed presentation on the "ICT landscape in West Bengal", distinctly elaborated on the IT sector and opportunities that exist in the State for members of the BRICS nations. Cyber security, big data analytics, designs and innovations were the areas of strength in West Bengal. He emphasized the availability

of skilled manpower with presence of several renowned technical institutions in the State as well as the immense growth prospects of the State in the context of the large market it offers. An interesting round of Q&A followed Shri Kumar's presentation.

Ms Nayantara Pal Chowdhury from Indian Chamber of Commerce, stated that West Bengal was emerging as an important investment hub in the country and would provide the BRICS nations trade and investment opportunities especially in IT, agriculture, horticulture and fisheries and offered ICC's help from areas ranging from policy advocacy with the Government of India to identifying key sectors for investments by the BRICS nations.

Shri P Kamalakanth, IFS, Executive Director, WBIDC, in his presentation, emphasized the opportunities available in the State for investment in the manufacturing sector and the State's focus towards development of the industrial ecosystem. The specially earmarked manufacturing belts and industrial parks, development of ports and dedicated freight corridors and skill development initiatives taken up were highlights of his presentation.

Shri Pradip Majumdar, Advisor, Agriculture Department, Government of West Bengal, presented in detail the growth story of India's agriculture in general, particularly highlighting the improvements brought about on West Bengal's agricultural front through use of IT and IT enabled services, and by addressing the problems faced by the farmers, 95% of whom are marginalized. IT support, financial support and legislative changes in the State has brought about immense improvements and today West Bengal happens to be the leading producer of rice and vegetables. 66% of land area in West Bengal is under cultivation against the Indian average of 50%. There exist immense opportunities for export of agricultural produce, including a variety of fruits from West Bengal.

The Panel Discussion which followed the opening session had Mr S Radhakrishnan, Chairman, TIE and Past President, Bengal Chamber of Commerce & Industry; Mr Kalyan Kar of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Prof Soikat Sinha Roy, Professor of Economics of Jadavpur University, who deliberated on the outcome and prospects of the cooperation in the BRICS group. Mr Snehasish Sur Moderated the session. The panel discussed a number of important issues ranging from the key economic and strategic measures to be adopted for sustained growth as well as harnessing each other's strengths through FDI flows and treaties.

PROGRAMME

**Forging Stronger Intra BRICS Trade :
Exploring Complementarities**

**6th September 2016
Chamber Premises**



(From L – R) Shri Amarendra Khatua, IFS (Dean, Foreign Service Institute); Mr. Sutanu Ghosh (President, The Bengal Chamber); Dr. Sanjeev Chopra, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Government of West Bengal; Shri Pradip Majumdar, Advisor, Agriculture Department, Government of West Bengal; Ms. Nayantara Pal Chowdhury, Senior Member from Indian Chamber of Commerce and Shri P Kamalakanth, IFS, Executive Director, WBIDC

Shri Talleen Kumar, IAS, Principal Secretary, Department of IT&E, Government of West Bengal and Shri Amarendra Khatua, IFS (Dean, FSI) taking questions from the audience, while Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, President, Bengal Chamber, looks on



Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, President, The Bengal Chamber, delivering the Inaugural Lecture



The visiting Diplomats



The visiting Diplomats



The visiting Diplomats

PROGRAMME

Interactive Session with H.E. Ms. Melba Pria, Ambassador of Mexico in India

9th September 2016,
Chamber Premises

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized an Interactive Session with Her Excellency Ms. Melba Pria, Ambassador of Mexico in India on 9th September 2016 in the Chamber.

The Interactive Session was also graced by Mr. Sumit Mazumder, former President of The Bengal Chamber and Hony. Consul of Mexico in Kolkata.

Discussions in the session focused on opportunities to define the path of India-Mexico Partnership that allows the growth of bilateral relations in the fields of economy, science and technology. Emphasis was on increasing the importance of diversifying the economic exchanges to promote trade and investment.

The interaction commenced with an address by the Ambassador on 'Mexico- as an investment destination'.

Some of the statistics on Mexico which emerged are mentioned below:

- 15th largest economy in the world, projected to be one of the top 10 economies by 2050.
- Leading exporter in Latin America.
- Solid macroeconomic stability.
- Network of free trade agreements which gives the country access to 45 countries and 1.2 billion consumers.
- Part of the TPP and the Pacific Alliance.
- 120 million people = strong domestic market.
- One of the best ratios for working age population in the world.
- Competitive labor costs.
- Expanding skilled labor force.

The interaction with Members led to discussions on various issues like energy and environment, health, education, labour, industry specific issues like catalytic converter for automobile sectors and others.

The Meeting was preceded by a Networking Lunch.

The Bengal Chamber proposed to take a business delegation to Mexico. The Ambassador encouraged the proposition and also advised that it would be a positive approach to showcase West Bengal in Mexico.



L-R: Mr. Sumit Mazumder, former President of The Bengal Chamber and Hony. Consul of Mexico in Kolkata; Her Excellency Ms. Melba Pria, Ambassador of Mexico to India; Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, President Designate, The Bengal Chamber and Mr. Subhodip Ghosh, Director General, The Bengal Chamber



Her Excellency Ms. Melba Pria, Ambassador of Mexico in India addressing the Members



Interaction in progress

The Bengal Chamber AGM 2016

14th September 2016

Chamber Premises (Annual Reception in the Evening at The Oberoi Grand)

The Annual General Meeting 2016 of The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry was held on 14th September 2016, at the Chamber premises. The Chief Guest was Dr. Amit Mitra, Hon'ble Finance Minister of West Bengal.

The AGM commenced with an opening Rabindra Sangeet: "Akash Bhara Surya Tara" sung by Shri Shuvadip Roy Chowdhury followed by an Audio-Visual Presentation to showcase 2015-16: The Year That Was.

The outgoing President, Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta, delivered

a very telling presidential speech. Mr Dasgupta spoke his heart out especially on relevant issues with which the Chamber should be concerned and make itself an institution to be sought after by stakeholders. Having realized at the beginning of the year when he had taken charge that it would be worthwhile to understand the role and functions of the Chamber in the context of business and commerce in the State in particular as well as handling a significant advocacy role as far as the State Government was concerned, he took specific steps to ensure his intent reaches fruition.

14th September 2016
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The Bengal Chamber AGM 2016

He went on to evaluate the ecological perspectives of the Chamber, which has been an institution for almost two centuries, and led the business, social and even educational initiatives in the State and the Country. He noted that perhaps the importance of the Chamber has eroded in direct proportion to the pre-existing conditions in Bengal, and with the new and emergent social, economic and cultural scenarios, the Chamber was to map the felt need of making its presence felt, not just as “another” entity of its kind, the non-existence or closure of which would have little or no impact on the ecology, but a leader in every field and domain where it could positively impact its environment.

Towards this goal, Mr. Dasgupta devised an annual plan which he set about executing immediately, which comprised the following action points and components:

1. Individually connecting to around 25 senior officers of the Government’s Secretariat.
2. Approaching HNIs and connecting with them from the Chamber platform.
3. Approaching and connecting with Entrepreneurs, including SMEs.
4. Creating a division which would focus on paid research vis-à-vis knowledge driven activities from the Chamber platform.
5. Organizing the Chamber’s approach towards advocacy.
6. Taking on the role of a mediator bridging the gap between the Government of West Bengal and the industry.
7. Engaging in equal numbers of Seminars, Events and problem solving activities, so as to position the Chamber as the leading industry association adhering and adopting an institutionalized approach towards industrial problem solving.

Some initiatives which Mr. Dasgupta initiated included the project towards the Barge Manufacturing facility at Shalimar, the Kalyani City of Analytics [Samridhi], adoption of 5 model villages under the Agriculture and Rural Development sub-committee, MoU with NICED on research on Hepatitis C, creation of a mobile application for putting the yellow taxis on the grid, development of an integrated cluster in Howrah (thereby organizing a hitherto unorganized sector which had immense growth potential) and bringing a world leader in consulting and knowledge realms like McKinsey, to work together with the Chamber. Many of these projects have reached fruition, going past several successful milestones, but the outgoing President felt that some needed more going to, like the North Bengal initiatives. He ended with a clearly articulated vision, where he could envisage the docking of many a ship at the new ports at Tajpur, Kulpi or Sagar (the creation of which would also see advocacy and recommendations by BCC&I), with the Bengal Chamber as the catalyst in its role as the vanguard of business and commerce in Bengal.

The Chamber, also felicitated two of its former Presidents, Mr. Alope Mookherjea and Mr. S. Radhakrishnan for their significant contribution towards ‘The Bengal Entrepreneurship Recognition Awards’ institutionalized by The Chamber.

The Incoming President, Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, set the theme and focus for the year 2016-17 with his very engaging deliberation. Mr. Ghosh mentioned that this year, the overarching focus of the Chamber would be in fulfilling 3 distinct but interconnected roles:

- Being of use to the Business Fraternity.
- Being of use to the Government.
- Being of use to the People.



Commencement of AGM with ‘Akash Bhara Shurjo Tara



Presidential address by the outgoing President, Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta

In doing so, the Chamber would like to adopt the theme, 'Looking Back to Think Ahead'. Towards realization of this stated objective, Mr. Ghosh apprised the audience about the mega events already lined up for the month of September & October of 2016.

Strengthening The Chamber's activities in the North Eastern part of the State through its presence in Siliguri, bolstering Chamber's activities in the Durgapur-Asansol-Raniganj Industrial Belt and working in the North Eastern States while acting across a larger canvas to have a pan India presence, were part of his vision.

The Incoming President would like to showcase the strengths of our State through telling publications on GST, Tajpur Port with its associated facilities, Nuclear Power and Tourism, with a strong belief that the State is suitably positioned to derive tangible advantages from such interventions, or development and propagation of such sectors. He also spoke about the overarching focus of The Chamber which has been all about the continued thrust towards bringing new markets and overseas partners to work with business and industry in the State. Therefore, taking overseas delegations to Russia and The US would get top priority next year.

In the context of working for the people, Mr. Ghosh declared that this would receive very close attention from the Chamber this year. Improvement of Quality of Life through interventions at Rabindra Sarobar, enhancement of our Sonet-Lumiere at Victoria Memorial, joining hands with the Indian Museum are some of the projects outlined. Thus, programmes / projects / events / publications / advocacy in a plethora of avenues would continue unabated to bolster and reinforce the Chambers' acknowledged position as a lead accelerator in Nation Building. His motto would thus be to, 'Enjoy the Chamber'.

A Special Address was given by Mr. Craig Hall, Consul General, U.S Consulate Kolkata, who spoke about the growing bilateral connect in the areas of B2B exchanges.

Dr. Amit Mitra, Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Commerce and Industries, Finance & Excise, Industrial Reconstruction and Public Enterprises, Government of West Bengal, was the Chief Guest of The AGM 2016. Dr. Mitra, in his speech highlighted the strides Bengal had made over the past five years and his expectations from the Bengal Chamber of Commerce. He stated that Bengal is really on the move with its GDP almost doubling in the last five years. FISCAL deficit had reduced from 4.24% to 2.68%, revenue deficit had reduced from 3.75% to 1.03% and was moving towards zero with the strict fiscal discipline that is being adhered to. The State's revenue collections from taxes had also doubled. The State had seen a 4.5 times growth in social expenditure; agriculture had seen a 7 fold growth; physical infrastructure has witnessed a quantum jump. The Government was aware that through increased capital expenditure, permanent assets are created and that boost in infrastructure multiplies employment opportunities. Capital expenditure had increased by seven times from the time the new Government came to office.

Dr. Mitra was hopeful that investors would come forward from micro, small, medium and large scale industries in sync with each other. He was hopeful that Bengal would become

the cement hub of the country. There are three cement companies here. Four major cement companies have come afresh.

Expressing his happiness at being present at The Bengal Chamber's Annual General Meeting, Dr. Mitra stated that the State's Chief Minister was at Singur since morning handing over land rights to farmers consequent to the historic Supreme Court ruling. He stated that the State was committed on the one hand to social and economic rights of the common people and on the other hand committed to the State's economic growth through increased economic activities, thus drawing a perfect all round balanced growth model. Dr. Mitra also spoke about the successful business delegation that the State's Chief Minister had led to Germany and about the investment prospects arising out of the visit.

Dr. Amit Mitra's concluded his speech by clearly spelling out his expectations from The Bengal Chamber of Commerce & Industry. He desired that the:

- Chamber adopts an ITI and Polytechnic so that there is 100% placement.
- Chamber urgently looks for investors for the City of Analytics as land had already been made available.
- Chamber focuses on Food Processing and Animal Husbandry.
- Chamber also gives a push to textiles and garments.
- Chamber creates a GST Cell for Corporates. The Cell should handhold Corporates for GST operationalization.

Ms. Rita Bhimani, Chairperson, Ritam Communications and Hon. Member, BCC&I, was the Master of Ceremonies.

Subsequently, the names of the new office bearers and members of the Managing Committee was announced in the Business Session, with the President being Mr. Sutanu Ghosh; President Designate, Mr. Chandra Shekhar Ghosh; Senior Vice President, Mr. Indrajit Sen and Vice President, Mr. B B Chatterjee. The first Managing Committee meeting was held immediately after the Business Session.

The Evening Annual Reception and Cocktails commenced with a piano recital by Ms. Jennifer Heemstra, which kept the guests and the audience captivated throughout.



Ms. Rita Bhimani emceeing the AGM

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Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, incoming president, during his address



Special Address by Mr. Craig Hall, The US Consul General in Kolkata



Address by the Chief Guest, Dr. Amit Mitra, Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Department of Commerce & Industries, Finance & Excise, Industrial Reconstruction and Public Enterprises, Government of West Bengal



L-R: Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, Incoming President, BCC&I; Mr. Craig Hall, US Consul General in Kolkata; Dr. Amit Mitra, Hon'ble MIC, Commerce and Industries, Finance and Excise, Industrial Reconstruction and Public Enterprises, Government of West Bengal; Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta, Outgoing President and Mr. Subhodip Ghosh, Director General, BCC&I



L-R: Mr. Craig Hall, US Consul General in Kolkata; Mr. Bruce Bucknell, British Deputy High Commissioner in Kolkata; Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, Incoming President of the Chamber; Mr. Damiano Francovich, Italian Consul General in Kolkata; Mr. Jurgen Thomas Schrodd, Deputy Consul General of Germany in Kolkata; Mr. Subhodip Ghosh, Director General of the Bengal Chamber



Distinguished audience: from right - Mr. Kallol Datta, Past President; Mr. C S Ghosh, President Designate; Mr. Indrajit Sen, Senior Vice President; Mr. S Radhakrishnan, Past President; Mr. Alope Mookherjea, Past President; Mr. B B Chatterjee, Vice President of BCC&I



Felicitation to Mr. Alope Mookherjea, Past President; BCC&I



Felicitation to Mr. S Radhakrishnan, Past President; BCC&I



Release of the Special Publication – “Extraordinary Personalities from Bengal: A Tribute by the Bengal Chamber



Inauguration of the The Calcutta Gallery



Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, incoming president of The Bengal Chamber introducing Ms. Jenifer A Heemstra



Piano recital by Ms. Jenifer A Heemstra at The Oberoi Grand, Kolkata on the occasion of Annual Reception, 2016 of The Bengal Chamber.



A section of the guests.



Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, incoming president of The Bengal Chamber with Mr. Jurgen Thomas Schrodd, Deputy Consul General of Germany in Kolkata at The Oberoi Grand .



Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, President of The Bengal Chamber with Mr. Jonathan T. Ward, Principal Commercial Officer, U.S. Consulate Kolkata and Mr. Arup Kumar Mitra, Senior Commercial Specialist, US Commercial Service, US Consulate General Kolkata

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Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta greeting the guests



People enjoying the Annual Reception

14th September 2016
Chamber Premises

Bengal Entrepreneurship Recognition Award Ceremony

Various companies from Services, Manufacturing and Start-up sectors participated in the Bengal Entrepreneurship Recognition programme held on 19th August 2016, out of which nine companies from Services sector, seven companies from Manufacturing sector and six companies from Start-up sector qualified for the final round. After proper presentation and one-to-one interview of each company representative in front of the panel of judges, the Winner, 1st Runners up and 2nd Runners up from Services and

Manufacturing sectors and Winner & 1st Runner up from Start-up sector were finalized by the panel of judges. The Chief Guest of the AGM, Dr. Amit Mitra (Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge – Commerce and Industries, Finance and Excise, Industrial Reconstruction and Public Enterprises, Government of West Bengal) presented the Awards at the Annual General Meeting 2016 of The Chamber held on 14th September 2016 in the Chamber premises.

List of Winners of The Bengal Entrepreneurship Recognition 2016

	Start up	Manufacturing	Services
Winner	Mr Sandeep Sengupta ISOAH Data Securities Pvt. Ltd.	Mr Gyanesh Chaudhary Vikram Solar Pvt. Ltd.	Mr Suresh Prasad Mishra Wizertech Informatics Pvt. Ltd.
1st Runners Up	Ms Sneha Banerjee / Ms Nupur Agarwal Dimensions Interior Solutions	Mr Sagar Daryani & Mr Binod Homagai Wow Momo Foods Pvt. Ltd.	Mr Mukul Gupta Capital Numbers Infotech Pvt. Ltd.
2nd Runners Up	-	Mr Samir Kumar Neogi Neogi Technologies and Research Pvt. Ltd.	Mr Subhro Banerjee Axsys Technologies Ltd
Special Recognition Award (Services)			Mr. Vinaya Varma Mjunction services limited



Mr. Sandeep Sengupta of ISOAH Data Securities Pvt. Ltd. receiving the Winner award (Startup category) of The Bengal Entrepreneurship Recognition 2016 from Dr. Amit Mitra, Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Commerce and Industries, Finance & Excise, Industrial Reconstruction and Public Enterprises, Government of West Bengal



Ms. Sneha Banerjee and Ms. Nupur Agarwal of Dimensions Interior Solutions receiving the 1st Runner up award (Startup category) of The Bengal Entrepreneurship 2016 from Dr. Amit Mitra



Mr. Samujjal Ganguly on behalf of Vikram Solar Pvt Ltd receiving the Winner award (Manufacturing category) from Dr. Amit Mitra



Mr. Sagar Daryani & Mr Binod Homagai of Wow Momo Foods Pvt Ltd receiving the 1st Runner up award (Manufacturing category) from Dr. Amit Mitra



Mr. Samir Kr Neogi of Neogi Technologies and Research Pvt Ltd receiving the 2nd Runner up award (Manufacturing category) of The Bengal Entrepreneurship 2016 from Dr. Amit Mitra



Mr. Suresh Prasad Mishra of Wizertech Informatics Pvt Ltd receiving the Winner award (Services category) of The Bengal Entrepreneurship 2016 from Dr. Amit Mitra



Mr. Mukul Gupta of Capital Numbers Infotech Pvt Ltd receiving the 1st Runner up award (Services category) of The Bengal Entrepreneurship 2016 from Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta , President, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry



Mr. Subhro Banerjee of Axsys Technologies Ltd receiving the 2nd Runner up award (Services category) from Mr Ambarish Dasgupta



Mr. Mahul Brahma on behalf of Mjunction Services Ltd receiving Special Recognition Award (Services Category) from Dr. Amit Mitra.

14th September 2016
Chamber Premises

Inauguration of The Calcutta Gallery

On the occasion of The Bengal Chamber's AGM on 14th September 2016, The Bengal Chamber's very own Calcutta Gallery was inaugurated by Dr. Amit Mitra, Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Commerce & Industries, Finance & Excise, Industrial Reconstruction & Public Enterprises, Government of West Bengal. The Calcutta Gallery, dedicated to our Eternal City, is a pictorial journey down the hallowed pathways of the industrial and business history of Kolkata. The transformation of three villages by the Hooghly into a colossal metropolis is fascinating, awe inspiring and magical. The Gallery is a first-of-its-kind initiative, which portrays the 325 years of progress of Calcutta as a leading city of the world through a collection of rare photographs of the iconic City. It is permanently housed in the Chamber premises.



The Bengal Chamber heritage building's photograph in the panel catches eyes.



Dr. Amit Mitra, Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Finance and Excise, Commerce and Industries, Industrial Reconstruction and Public Enterprise, Government of West Bengal with Mr Ambarish Dasgupta, Outgoing President, BCC&I and Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, Incoming President, BCC&I, looking at the photo panels after the inauguration of the Gallery.



The Calcutta Gallery- dedicated to our Eternal City is a pictorial journey down the hallowed pathways of the industrial and business history of Calcutta.



The Calcutta Gallery – An exhibition on Calcutta's business and industrial heritage.



Mr. Chandra Shekhar Ghosh, President Designate, BCC&I, renowned banker and the MD & CEO, Bandhan Bank looking at the history of the City, which gave birth to the Indian banking system.



A collection of photographs portraying the journey of transformation of three villages by the Hooghly into a colossal metropolis called Calcutta now Kolkata.

Inauguration of The Calcutta Gallery

14th September 2016
Chamber Premises



A photograph of Pontoon Bridge which was later replaced by the Howrah Bridge.



A rare photograph of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.



Dum Dum airport during World War II.



An old picture of Calcutta Port from the Gallery.



The Calcutta Gallery has an audio visual kiosk with narration of our City's 325 years of business history.



Dr. Amit Mitra, Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Finance and Excise, Commerce and Industries, Industrial Reconstruction and Public Enterprises, Government of West Bengal, inaugurating the Gallery.

Launch of a Special Publication : "Extraordinary Personalities From Bengal: A Tribute By The Bengal Chamber"

14th September 2016
Chamber Premises

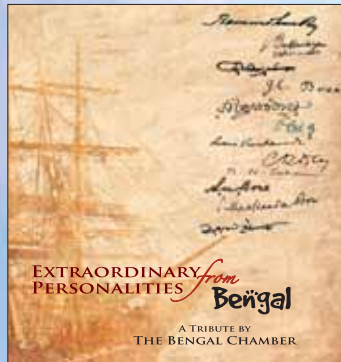
On the occasion of the AGM, the Chamber launched a special publication entitled, "Extraordinary Personalities From Bengal: A Tribute By The Bengal Chamber". This is a publication on twelve iconic Heroes from Bengal who formed the nuclei of the 'Bengal Renaissance' – the Reformers, all of whom lived and strived in British India in an era of unprecedented challenges, but strode the centrestage like

a true colossus. The book features the lives and contributions of Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar, Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay, Jagadish Chandra Bose, Rabindranath Tagore, Prafulla Chandra Ray, Swami Vivekananda, Chittaranjan Das, Meghnad Saha, Satyendra Nath Bose, Subhas Chandra Bose and Kazi Nazrul Islam.

14th September 2016
Chamber Premises

Launch of a Special Publication : "Extraordinary Personalities From Bengal: A Tribute By The Bengal Chamber"

'Extraordinary Personalities from Bengal- A Tribute by The Bengal Chamber'- A special publication by The Bengal Chamber



Extraordinary Personalities from Bengal- A Tribute by The Bengal Chamber'- A special publication by The Bengal Chamber, launched on the occasion of the Chamber's AGM

The Bengal Chamber's special publication portrays the lives and works of twelve national Heroes from Bengal – Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar, Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay, Jagadish Chandra Bose, Rabindranath Tagore, Prafulla Chandra Ray, Swami Vivekananda, Chittaranjan Das, Meghnad Saha, Satyendra Nath Bose, Subhas Chandra Bose and Kazi Nazrul Islam

Challenges & Prospects of Folk Rice Marketing –A Way Forward

15th September 2016
Fulia, Nadia, West Bengal

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Agriculture Training Centre, Fulia along with Agricultural Processed Food Export Development Authority (APEDA) organized a Capacity Building Programme on "Folk Rice – Collection, Conservation, Multiplication and Popularizing among farming community of West Bengal" on 15th September, 2016 at ATC, Fulia. The programme witnessed the participation of 30 folk rice farmers of 4 districts – Hoogly (Balagarh block), Murshidabad (Jalangi Block), North 24 Parganas (Hingalgunj Block) and South 24 Paraganas (Patharpratima block).

The programme was graced by Mr. Satyabrata Mukherjee, Chairperson-Agriculture Committee, The Bengal Chamber, Mr. R. K. Mondal, Deputy General Manager - Agricultural Processed Food Export Development Authority (APEDA) and Mr. Nayan Kumar Das, Deputy Director of Agriculture (Trg) - Agricultural Training Centre, Fulia.



Address by Shri R.K. Mondal, Deputy General Manager - Agricultural Processed Food Export Development Authority (APEDA)



Mr. Satyabrata Mukherjee, Chairperson, Agriculture & Rural Development Committee, BCC&I explaining the concepts



Audience of the programme

PROGRAMME

Skill Development for Young Engineers to Reform the Core Sector: Vision 2025. 49th Engineers' Day Celebration Organized by The Institution of Engineers (India) in association with BCC&I

15th September 2016, Sir. R N Mookherjee Hall,
The Institution of Engineers (India), Kolkata Chapter

The Institution of Engineers (India), in association with The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry, organized their "49th Engineers' Day Celebration" on 15th September 2016 at Sir R N Mookherjee Hall in The Institution of Engineers (India), Kolkata. Theme of the programme was "Skill Development for Young Engineers to Reform the Core Sector: Vision 2025."

Shri Sovandeb Chattopadhyay, Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Department of Power and Non-Conventional Energy Sources, Government of West Bengal was the Chief Guest of the programme. Prof. (Dr.) Saumen Kumar Mahapatra, Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Water Resources Investigation and Development Department, Government of West Bengal was also present.

Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, President, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry graced the occasion as the Guest of Honour and delivered the Theme Address.



On the dais (L-R): Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, President, The Bengal Chamber; Shri Sovandeb Chattopadhyay, Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Department of Power and Non-Conventional Energy Sources, Government of West Bengal; Mr. Sisir Kumar Banerjee, Chairman, WBSC,IEI; Prof. (Dr.) Saumen Kumar Mahapatra, Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Water Resources Investigation and Development Department, Government of West Bengal



Audience



Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, President, The Bengal Chamber delivering the Theme Address

Technology Meet featuring Ready Business Solutions along with Vodafone

16th September
The Lalit Great Eastern, Kolkata

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry partnered Vodafone Business Services in organizing a Technology Meet featuring Ready Business Solutions, on 16th Sept 2016 at The Lalit Great Eastern, Kolkata.

Business Leaders from Vodafone, Industry and the Government showcased and discussed how technology could help Businesses to be ready with an Enterprise Strategy.

The programme was graced by Shri Debashis Sen, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Urban Development Department, Government of West Bengal and Chairman, WBHIDCO and Shri Debashis Bandyopadhyay, Joint Secretary, Information Technology and Electronics, Government of West Bengal. Speakers from Vodafone included Mr. Anand Sahai, Business Head for Vodafone – Kolkata & ROB and Mr. Kaushik Banerjee,

Vodafone Business Services Head – Kolkata & ROB and Mr. Amit Bajoria – CEO, SkiCorp Group.

The programme also included a Panel Discussion which was moderated by Mr. Suphal Mehrotra – Senior Vice President, National Corporate Business, Vodafone. The Panelists included Shri Vineet Kumar Goyal, IPS, Additional Commissioner of Police 1, Kolkata Police; Mr. Partha Sengupta – Head IT Shared Services, ITC and Mr. P Sarangi – Chief Information Officer, Exide Industries Limited. Ready Business is the way Vodafone Business Services caters to the business needs of a customer, resulting in operational agility, better connected employees and richer customer experience. It involves:

16th September
The Lalit Great Eastern, Kolkata

Technology Meet featuring Ready Business Solutions
along with Vodafone

- Mobility – Voice and Data
- Connectivity – 4G
- Video Conferencing
- Audio Conferencing
- Vodafone Location Tracker
- Secure Device Manager
- Cloud services like Office 365, Internet Presence & Internet Shield
- Bulk SMS



Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, President, The Bengal Chamber delivering the Welcome Address



Shri Debashis Sen, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Urban Development Department, Government of West Bengal and Chairman, WBHIDCO



Shri Debashis Bandyopadhyay, Joint Secretary, Information Technology and Electronics, Government of West Bengal.



Mr. Anand Sahai, Business Head for Vodafone – Kolkata & ROB



Mr. Kaushik Banerjee, Vodafone Business Services Head – Kolkata & ROB



Ms. Angana Guha Roy Chowdhury, Assistant Director, The Bengal Chamber emceeing the programme



The Panel Discussion

These days 'brands' are created by the consumers, not by the advertisers. The top brasses of the media and communication business were unanimous on this opinion. However, the panelists differed on many other issues on the occasion of the Bengal Chamber's Marketing Conclave on "The Changing Face of Communication".

The Chamber's President, Mr Sutanu Ghosh opened the thought provoking Conclave. Supported by data, he explained how the world of communication had been experiencing a sea change with more than 40 per cent of the world's online population - and that's a tenfold increase over the last 17 years. Mr. Ghosh also laid emphasis on this enthusiasm for digital medium, churning all earlier concepts of communication and marketing.

Mr Anoop Hoon, the Chairperson of the Chamber's Brand and Marketing Committee set the tone for the day. He emphasized on the knowledge factor and opined that the knowledge factor was the fulcrum of all changes.

Inaugural Session:

Mr. Sameer Satpathy, Chief Executive, Personal Care Products Business, ITC Limited

The keynote Speaker Mr. Satpathy presented some mind blowing findings which show that these days children have a say on selecting a brand, courtesy digital media. He spoke mostly on building a new brand. Sighting the example of Google, Mr. Satpathy said that brand 'Google' was created by the consumers through social networks. The company hardly had any budget on advertising & what they did was building trust amongst the users and the rest was taken care of by the consumers.

Panel 1: The Buyer's Perspective

Moderated by Mr. Mizan Ur Rashid (GM – East, HUL)

Speakers :

- Mr. Tarun Rai, CEO, JWT South Asia
- Mr. Rohit Ohri, Group Chairman & CEO, FCB ULKA
- Mr. Sandip Chaudhuri, Programme Director, Calcutta Media Institute

Mr. Tarun Rai opened the panel discussions on Consumption / Buyer's perspective. He said that marketing strategists are dealing a generation that hardly has any idea of analog media, for them everything is digital and almost everything is a click away. Mr. Sandip Chaudhuri justified Mr. Rai with his fascinating realization & he added that the biggest challenge to the marketers was to cater to the 'on demand' generation. This generation clicks to see, clicks to buy, clicks to pay, clicks to return and clicks to skip to other brands if they are not satisfied. So keeping pace with this 'digital' generation is the toughest job. Mr. Rohit Ohri assured the audience that change is scary for everybody but understanding the change is an interesting experience. This is an era of highly connected consumers. Nowadays a brand is created by strangers. He sighted the examples of tour and travel agencies wherein while planning a holiday, people

largely depend on 'reviews' written by complete strangers.

Panel 2: The Content Perspective

Moderated by Mr. Supriyo Sinha (VP – Bengali Dailies, ABP)

Speakers:

- Dr. Bhaskar Das, Group CEO, Zee Media
- Ms. Lopamudra Ghatak, Head Lifestyle & Features, economictimes.com
- Mr. Anand Sahai, Business Head, Kolkata & ROB, Vodafone
- Mr. Mohit Hira, President & Country Head, IB Times

Dr. Bhaskar Das opened the second panel, the panel on Content Perspective. He mentioned that decoding intent is the centre of content-context-conversation and commerce model of media business. While creating content, Dr Das laid stress on credibility and trust which in turn generated a good revenue model. Ms. Lopamudra Ghatak, Head, Lifestyle & Features, economictimes.com had a different view altogether & said that 'Content' is no more the 'King', but the 'Queen'. She feels discovery, distribution and technology are now the kings of media. Mr. Anand Sahai shared his views on technology & its big impact on our lives. He said that technology intervention is happening faster than our imagination. Mr. Mohit Hira feels that today's generation live for the moment & words like 'trust', 'credibility', 'source' doesn't hold good for them.

Panel 3: The Media Perspective

Moderated by Mr. Sandip Chaudhuri (Programme Director – Calcutta Media Institute)

Speakers :

- Mr. Gaurav Jeet Singh, Head Media Services, South Asia, HUL
- Mr. Shashi Sinha, CEO, IPG, Mediabrands
- Mr. Suresh Balakrishnan, CEO, SA & ME, Kinetic
- Dr. Bhaskar Das, Group CEO, Zee Media

Mr. Gaurav Jeet Singh talked about the big change in media & media consumption & the bigger challenge of building brands in this constantly changing environment. Mr. Suresh Balakrishna shared his thoughts on today's customer who can share a feedback very easily & that is only possible due to digital revolution - technology. Although we had been hearing about digital & trends in digital media, Mr. Shashi Sinha made a very vital point when he said that traditional media (press & television) will not disappear. Mr. Balakrishna said that traditional media is constantly upgrading with newer ways of measuring the ROI & making their offering more relevant to the consumers & clients.

Close of Day's proceeding's

Mr. Deb A. Mukherjee (Member, Managing Committee, BCC&I; Chairperson – Energy & Environment Committee & Emerging Areas Committee) formally thanked all the speakers & sponsors at the successful conclusion of our Chamber's Marketing Conclave today.

17th September 2016
The Park

Changing Face of Communication



Welcome address by President, Mr. Sutanu Ghosh



Panel 2 – Content Perspective: From L –R; Dr. Bhaskar Das (Group CEO, Zee Media), Mr. Mohit Hira (President & Country Head, IB Times), Ms. Lopamudra Ghatak (Head Lifestyle & Features, economicstimes.com), Mr. Anand Sahai (Business Head, Kolkata & ROB, Vodafone), Mr. Supriyo Sinha (VP – Bengali Dailies, ABP)



Mr. Anoop Hoon... setting the tone for the day



Panel 3 – Media Perspective: From L to R; Mr. Sandip Chaudhuri (Programme Director, Calcutta Media Institute), Dr. Bhaskar Das (Group CEO, Zee Media), Mr. Gaurav Jeet Singh (Head Media Services, South Asia, HUL), Mr. Shashi Sinha (CEO, IPG, Mediabrands), Mr. Suresh Balakrishna (CEO, SA & ME, Kinetic)



Inaugural Session by Mr. Samir Satpathy, Chief Executive, Personal Care Products Business, ITC Limited.



Audience



Panel 1 – Buyer's Perspective: From L – R; Mr. Mizan Ur Rashid (GM – East, HUL), Mr. Tarun Rai (CEO, JWT South Asia), Mr. Rohit Ohri (Group Chairman & CEO, FCB ULKA), Mr. Sandip Chaudhuri (Programme Director, Calcutta Media Institute).

PROGRAMME

Felicitaton to Olympian Dipa Karmakar & Shri Bisweshwar Nandi

19th September 2016,
The Bengal Chamber Lounge, 3rd Floor, Kolkata

The Bengal Chamber, India's oldest institution of its kind, was privileged to felicitate Olympian Dipa Karmakar and her Coach and Mentor, Shri Bisweshwar Nandi on Monday, 19th September 2016 at a programme in the Chamber premises in association with Apollo Gleneagles Hospitals and supported by Exide Industries Limited.

As we are all bathed in their reflected glory, the Chamber wanted to convey our "Thank You" as grateful citizens of India, to them through this special felicitation programme. Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, President, Bengal Chamber welcomed Olympian Karmakar and Shri Nandi. The programme was graced by Dr. Rupali Basu, President and CEO ER of Apollo Hospitals Group.

The event was very well attended by the media and widely covered.



Mr. Joydeep Karmakar, Olympian (Fourth in Shooting in the London Games) interacting with Olympian Dipa Karmakar



Mr. Subhodip Ghosh, Director General, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry commencing the programme



Mr. Sutanu Ghosh felicitating Olympian Dipa Karmakar



Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, President, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry delivering the welcome address



Mr. Sutanu Ghosh presenting the Memento



Dr. Rupali Basu, President and CEO ER of Apollo Hospitals Group, delivering a special address



Mr. Sutanu Ghosh presenting the Chamber's Building Memento to Olympian Karmakar

19th September 2016,
The Bengal Chamber Lounge, 3rd Floor, Kolkata

Felicitation to Olympian
Dipa Karmakar & Shri Bisweshwar Nandi



Mr. Sutanu Ghosh felicitating Shri Bisweshwar Nandi



Dr. Rupali Basu felicitating Olympian Dipa Karmakar



Dr. Rupali Basu felicitating Shri Bisweshwar Nandi



A part of the audience



School children enjoying a special moment with Olympian Dipa Karmakar

UPCOMING PROGRAMME

Calcutta Talks	4th November 2016	Chamber premises
Business Delegation to Russia	7th November - 12th November, 2016	
The Annual Shipping Conclave on "Maritime Infrastructure Developments in East & North-East India"	11th November, 2016	Chamber premises
Conference on Self Sufficiency in Pulses : Challenges and Way Forward	19th, 20th November, 2016	Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan
Certificate Course on Indirect Taxes (including GST)	18th, 19th, 25th, 26th November, 2016, 2nd, 3rd, 9th, 10th December, 2016	Chamber premises
THINK Lecture Series with Mr K B S Anand, MD & CEO, Asian Paints	21st November 2016	Chamber premises
"Deceased Donor Programme - Cadaver Daan"	26th November, 2016	Chamber premises
B2B Meet with Business Delegation from Cracow Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Poland	30th November 2016	Chamber premises
Annual Bengal Chamber Golf 2016	2nd, 3rd December, 2016	Tollygunge Club
BCC&I EXIM Summit 2016	17th December 2016 (Tentative)	
India International Mega Trade Fair (IIMTF)	17th-27th December 2017	Science City grounds
Partnering the Indian Engineering Congress	15th-18th December 2016	J W Marriott, Kolkata

23rd September 2016
Vizag

Inauguration of India International Mega Trade Fair at Vizag

The first edition of The India International Mega Trade Fair (IIMTF) at Vizag was inaugurated by Shri Venkaiah Naidu, Hon'ble Union Minister For Urban Development and Information & Broadcasting, Government of India and Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Hon'ble Minister of State for Commerce & Industry, Government of India on 23rd September 2016.

The opening ceremony was attended by the dignitaries of the Vizagapatam Chamber of Commerce & Industry and the Bengal Chamber of Commerce & Industry. A joint venture of these two Chambers and organized by G. S. Marketing Associates, the Fair has a huge scope for increasing business opportunities in this region through increased awareness, sales, networking and the volume of matured business.

In his inaugural speech, Shri Venkaiah Naidu appreciated the efforts that had gone into the organizing of this Fair. While stressing on the need for more such international exhibitions and conventions, he elaborated on the many schemes and policies of the Central Government to streamline and simplify business practices in India under the able guidance of the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri. Narendra Modi.

Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman was happy to note that several foreign countries were participating in this Fair. She was hopeful of the establishment of newer businesses in the port city of Visakhapatnam through the business activities conducted at the Fair.

This Fair was all about an exhibition and sale of the products of Indian Companies, Foreign Companies, MSMEs, NSIC, National Jute Board, KVIC, EPCH, Government Departments, PSUs, Handlooms, Handicrafts, Furniture, Electronics, Lifestyle, Interiors, Health, Beauty, Food etc.

Notable to mention was the immense presence of the Electronics industry in this Fair. With more than 2 pavilions, this industry was very well represented at the Fair. Many of the Electronics brands participated through Sowndarya, which is a leading Electronics Showroom in AP.



The Inaugural Panel- from L-R: Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Hon'ble Minister of State for Commerce & Industry, Government of India; Shri Venkaiah Naidu, Hon'ble Union Minister For Urban Development and Information & Broadcasting, Government of India; Mr. Subhodip Ghosh, Director General, BCC&I

24th September 2016
Chamber Premises

E Business Summit 1st Edition

The Friends of IT Committee of The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized the "E Business Summit – 1st Edition" on Saturday, 24th September 2016 at the Williamson Magor Hall, The Chamber Premises. The Summit was focused on discussing and deliberating various issues relating to opportunities in this borderless business world.

Electronic Commerce has become the key enabler in every mature business ecology in the present era. With e-Business becoming an extension of e-Commerce, encompassing directly all aspects of business that function online vis-à-vis indirectly affecting all business, the order of the day was to ensure that there be a platform for exchange of success stories vis-à-vis thrashing out of issues that stand as impediments to making the growing and required business spectrum a whopping success.

Guest Speakers for the programme were Shri Raj Kumar Srivastava, IFS, Managing Director, Karnataka State Electronics Development Corporation Limited, Mr Dmitry Makeev, Head of E-Commerce, Russian Export Center, Shri Debabrata Mitra, Deputy Director – MSME Development Institute, Government of India, Mr Simarpreet Singh, Chairperson – Entrepreneur's Business Forum of The Bengal

Chamber and Director, JIS Group, Mr Anupom Mukherjee, Chief Executive Officer, Outline Systems India Pvt Ltd, Mr. Venkatakrishnan, General Manager, Bloom Electronics (P) Ltd, Mr. Anton Zadorozhnyy, Russian company "B2B Center" and Mr Sandeep Sengupta, Managing Director, ISOAH Data Securities Pvt Ltd.

In taking the first step to becoming a catalyst in facilitating emergence of competent entrepreneurs and transition of existing SMEs into growth-oriented enterprises through entrepreneurship education, training, research & institution building, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce & Industry, on the same day, launched a new forum named 'Entrepreneur's Business Forum' to enthuse, incubate and mentor entrepreneurship ventures across industry sectors under the Chairmanship of Mr Simarpreet Singh, who is also the Director of JIS Group.

The E-Business Summit, as intended, became the leading event that focused on the most important trends and developments in global, cross-border and omni-channel e-commerce. The day's event covered inspiring key notes, market insights, business strategies, useful business cases and of course networking possibilities.



Welcome Address by Mr. Subhodip Ghosh, Director General, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry



Theme Address by Mr. Abhijit Hazra, Chairperson - The Friends of IT Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Managing Director, Touchstone Tie-up Pvt. Ltd.



Address by Shri Raj Kumar Srivastava, IFS, Managing Director, Karnataka State Electronics Development Corporation Limited



Address by Mr. Dmitry Makeev, Head of E-Commerce, Russian Export Center



Address by Shri Debabrata Mitra, Deputy Director - MSME Development Institute, Government of India



Special Address on Bengal Chamber's, 'Entrepreneurs Business Forum' by Mr. Simarpreet Singh, Chairperson - Entrepreneur's Business Forum and Director, JIS Group



Mr. Abhijit Hazra, Chairperson - The Friends of IT Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Managing Director, Touchstone Tie-up Pvt. Ltd. in conversation with the media.



Mr. Simarpreet Singh, Chairperson - Entrepreneur's Business Forum and Director, JIS Group in conversation with the media.

24th September 2016
Chamber Premises

E Business Summit
1st Edition



Mr. Subhodip Ghosh, Director General, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry in conversation with the media.



Mr. R.N. Lahiri, Director, Techno India Batanagar (Formerly Batanagar Institute of Engineering, Management and Science) moderating the session on E Business.



Address by Mr. Anupom Mukherjee, Chief Executive Officer, Outline Systems India Pvt Ltd.



Address by Mr. Venkatakishnan, General Manager, Bloom Electronics (P) Ltd.



Address by Mr. Anton Zadorozhnyy, Russian company "B2B Center".



Address by Mr. Sandeep Sengupta, Managing Director, ISOAH Data Securities Pvt Ltd.



Formal Vote of Thanks by Mr Abhijit Hazra, Chairperson - The Friends of IT Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Managing Director, Touchstone Tie-up Pvt. Ltd.



A section of the audience.



Question from audience.

PROGRAMME

Indo - Russia B2B Meet

26th September
Chamber Premises

The Russian Export Center represents a huge number of companies, manufacturers, exporters of goods and technologies from different areas, including IT, food, energy, mining, metallurgy, oil and gas, infrastructure projects, equipment etc, and they have a wide range of interests. Mr. Dmitry Makeev, Head of the E-Commerce Department (India) and Mr. Pavel Borisov, Special Project Manager (India) of the Russian Export Center visited Kolkata during the last week of September, when the Chamber organised a focused B2B meet of companies from the food sector which would like to have fruitful cooperation with the Russian businesses.

From the Indian side, Mr. Sashank Shah, Vice President, Keventer and Mr. Saurabh Maheshwari, Additional GM-

Processed Food and Dairy of Spencer's Retail Limited participated in the exploratory meeting and discussed import-export opportunities amongst the 2 countries. During discussions both parties presented their cases in terms of mutual product categories. The Russian delegates were requested to appoint a distributor (out of the list of distributors which would be provided) for supplying into the Indian market as a whole. The requirements have to be consolidated and while importing, FSSAI rules and regulations need to be complied with. The Russians would specify and share the packaged food and beverage product categories for import over email exchanges with respect to the linkages established during the meeting.



Seen in the picture (second from left) Mr. Saurabh Maheshwari, Additional GM-Processed Food and Dairy, Spencer's Retail Limited; (in the middle) Mr. Sashank Shah, Vice President, Keventer; (second from right) Mr. Dmitry Makeev, Head of the E-Commerce Department (India) and (extreme right) Mr. Pavel Borisov, Special Project Manager (India), of Russian Export Center



Mr. Mikhail Gosev, Dy Consul General, The Consulate General of the Russian Federation in Kolkata moderating the session

Interactive Session on 'Business Opportunities in the realm of IT between West Bengal and Russia'

28th September
Gorky Sadan , Kolkata

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry and The Consulate General of the Russian Federation jointly organized an Interactive Session on 'Business Opportunities in the realm of IT between West Bengal and Russia' on 28th September 2016 from 3.00 p.m. onwards (IST) in Gorky Sadan - Russian Cultural Centre for Kolkata, 3 Gorky Terrace, Kolkata 17. The programme was streamed live between Kolkata and Russia.

A few months back, The Chamber had successfully organized a similar forum of Indo-Russian Business Dialogue to explore opportunities of Indo-Russian Business in the East. During the session, two key sectors emerged viz, Health and IT, in which closer bilateral business ties were possible. The Chamber, therefore, felt the need of organizing another Interactive Session with a more focused approach specializing in IT and IT Applications.



Address by Mr. Yuri Dubovoy, Head, Russian Centre of Science and Culture.



Mr. Mikhail Gosev, Deputy Consul General of The Consulate General of the Russian Federation in Kolkata, moderating the conference.

28th September
Gorky Sadan , Kolkata

Interactive Session on 'Business Opportunities in the realm of IT between West Bengal and Russia'

From the Indian side, representing West Bengal, the conference was attended by the following:

Name	Designation	Company
Shri Ritesh Mukherjee	Principal Engineer	Centre for Development of Advanced Computing
Mr. Subho Samanta	Founder	Dirac Business Solutions Pvt. Ltd
Mr Rajarshi Chatterjee	Founder	Dirac Business Solutions Pvt. Ltd
Mr. Goutam Ghosh	Co-founder & Executive Director	InfraStrat Private Limited
Mr Ranjay Ghosh	Vice President-Operations	Nevaeh Technology Pvt. Ltd.
Mr Rahul Naskar	Vice President-Software	Nevaeh Technology Pvt. Ltd.
Mr. Prabir Dasgupta		PDG Associates
Mr Nirmal Ray	GM-Technical	West Bengal Electronics Industry Development Corporation Limited
Mr Sanjib Banerjee	DGM	West Bengal Electronics Industry Development Corporation Limited
Mr. Bhaswata Sinharoy	General Manager	Wipro Limited
Mr Ankit Kumar	Founder and CEO	Re-rise
Mr Somik Banerjee	Director	Re-rise
Mr. Pronab Chatterjee	Executive Director- Tech Consulting Services	Strat Aid Consulting
Mr Indranil Mitra	Director-Advisory	PricewaterhouseCoopers Pvt Ltd
Mr Ashis K Chakraborty	CEO	ITOrbital
Mr Akash Arora	Assistant Vice President Marketing	Management and Computer Consultants

The Russian side was represented by companies such as:

1. "RELEX" - software and IT services
2. "Comnet" - cyber security
3. "Kodofon-T"- hardware and software (mobile communications, broadband wireless access, navigation, etc).
4. "BI-Leasing" - corporate information systems
5. "Doctornet.pro" - design
6. "Peremena" - data storage
7. "Angels IT Group" - medical information systems

The discussions took place over video conferencing between Kolkata and Moscow, where the participants shared their individual as well as Company profile and explored opportunities in the realms of IT and IT allied services. Some of the elements of IT and IT related services like Analytics, IOT, medical informatics, Dot Net etc. were discussed where the aim was to develop an ecosystem for cooperation among the two countries and their businesses. Another interesting aspect which came out of the interactions was about certain Mobile Applications, the technology aspect of which has already been developed by one of the participants from the Russian side. The Indian counterpart was willing to explore whether the same can be made available in Indian Languages.

The Russian representatives also invited the delegates and also the BCC&I IT Fraternity to pay a visit to Voronezh sometime soon to explore more on mutually beneficial collaborative arrangements.



B2B interaction between India and Russia via video conferencing



Interactive Session in Progress

The Bengal Chamber organised the BCC&I Infrastructure Summit 2016 on 29th September at the Hyatt Regency, Kolkata. This was the inaugural edition of our annual Summit, and the principal objective was to create a platform for all infrastructure stakeholders to discuss, analyze, share best practices and bring forward the opportunities in infrastructure and related logistics sectors, especially the cutting-edge developments of today.

Our objective is to create the largest and most relevant forum in the East so that this Summit creates the effective platform for infrastructure-related business development discussions and brings the Government together with private Infrastructure players, corporates and consultants.

India's power market is the fifth largest in the world. Growth of the power sector is of paramount importance, not only because of its investor friendly outlook but also because if India has to sustain the momentum of development, it should maximize its power generation capacity while ensuring that the impetus of industrial development is not stagnated. However, if the real-time status of project development on the ground were to be taken as a measure, the picture that emerges is in sharp contrast to the narrative of an impending industrial uptick. Over 57 base-load thermal units across India's northern and western heartland on a single day were faced with 'reserve shut-down', a technical term for a unit shut down due to lack of demand. Reflecting the low actual off-take, data from the central electricity regulator or CERC on traded power price shows a consistent drop in volumes since 2009 — a direct consequence of the fact that capacity addition grew at 13.7 annually in the three years to 2015 even as consumption grew at a measly 6 per cent. Despite efforts taken by the Government, investment momentum is yet to pick up and as a result, order inflows are devoid of large investments. There is still capacity under-utilisation and, therefore, no investments are coming in capacity addition. Players are waiting for demand momentum to go up. In this scenario it is interesting to understand what would be the view of the prime stakeholders and how cost efficiency and technology would be key instruments to tackle this problem.

As many States are already stressed with their Fund, the cash flow becomes the crucial problem for building infrastructure. Acquiring land is a problem, implementation such as removal of people is again a problem but indeed a great amount of job had already been done. There is a serious demand of private sector investment and that is seriously lacking as the level of private investment is far below the growing need. Maritime Transport is a critical infrastructure for the social and economic development of a country. About 90% by volume and 70% by value of the country's international trade is carried on through maritime transport. While Indian Railways' earnings are expected to

grow from 1.4 Lakh crore in FY14 to 2.7 Lakh crore by 2020, there is a need for modernization of warehouses, increase of coal transport capacity, regularizing rail land records, raising funds through IPO of profit making e-commerce company IRCTC, among others. It is important to analyze challenges and prospects of connectivity particularly in the East and North Eastern part of the country as that is of great strategic and economic importance for our country in the context of our outreach to the entire South East Asia.

Until recently, India's infrastructure was widely regarded as inadequate and inefficient. The power sector suffered from a peaking deficit of 14 percent and an energy shortage of 11 percent. Unlike the developed world, where long-term debt can be mobilised from the capital markets, the bond market in India did not present such an option as it was characterised by lack of liquidity and depth. To kick-start the process of private participation in infrastructure, the Government decided to create a new financing vehicle that would overcome the extant constraints. This new vehicle was meant to address the various regulatory and other restrictions; raise long-tenure funds from the market at economic costs and on the scale required; and on-lend to PPP projects while keeping the intermediation costs at the bare minimum. In this context, the Summit was to discuss the various strategies and means adopted by the infra financing companies in order to overcome the present-day challenges.

It was an honour to have the presence of Shri Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu, Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Railways via video conferencing as the Chief Guest of the Summit. The other guests at the Inaugural Session were Shri Rohit K Singh, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Road Transport & Highways, Government of India; Mr. Vinayak Chatterjee, Chairman & MD, Feedback Infra Pvt. Ltd.; Dr. Arup Roy Choudhury, Former CMD, NTPC Ltd and Chief Commissioner, Right to Public Service Commission in West Bengal; Mr. Dhruv Bhalla, Vice President and Head - International Business, Srei Infrastructure Finance Limited; Dr. Samarjit Chatterjee, Former President, Consulting Engineers Association of India and Dr. Rupali Basu, President and Chief Executive Officer, ER, Apollo Hospitals Group.

The Summit also witnessed the deliberations of eminent speakers like Mr. Santanu Basu, IAS, Chairman & MD, WBPDC; Mr. Shirang Karandikar, CEO, India Power Corporation Limited; Mr. Debasis Gupta, General Manager, Special Projects, CESC Ltd.; Mr. V L Patankar, Director, Indian Academy of Highway Engineers; Mr. Dip Kishore Sen, Whole Time Director and Senior Executive Vice President (Infrastructure), Larsen and Toubro and Mr. Deepak Chatterjee, CEO, IPL, IIFCL.

29th September
The Hyatt Regency, Kolkata

BCC&I Infrastructure Summit 2016



Inaugural Session of BCC&I Infrastructure Summit - (From L to R) Dr. Rupali Basu, President and CEO, ER, Apollo Hospitals Group; Dr. Arup Roy Choudhury, Former CMD, NTPC Ltd and Chief Commissioner, Right to Public Service Commission in West Bengal; Mr. Vinayak Chatterjee, Chairman & MD, Feedback Infra Pvt. Ltd.; Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, President, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Managing Director, Ghosh Bose and Associates Pvt. Ltd.; Shri Rohit K Singh, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Road Transport & Highways, Government of India; Mr. Dhruv Bhalla, Vice President and Head - International Business, Srei Infrastructure Finance Limited; Dr. Samarjit Chatterjee, Former President, Consulting Engineers Association of India



Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, President, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry is delivering the welcome address



Mr. Dhruv Bhalla, Vice President and Head - International Business, Srei Infrastructure Finance Limited during the Inaugural Session



Dr. Rupali Basu, President and Chief Executive Officer, ER, Apollo Hospitals Group



Dr. Arup Roy Choudhury, Former CMD, NTPC Ltd and Chief Commissioner, Right to Public Service Commission in West Bengal



Shri Rohit K Singh, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Road Transport & Highways, Government of India



Shri Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu , Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Railways, Government of India is interacting with the President and other Guest Speakers at the Inaugural Session via Video Conferencing



Shri Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu , Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Railways, Govt. of India is delivering the Inaugural Address at the Inaugural Session via Video Conferencing



Mr. Vinayak Chatterjee, Chairman & MD, Feedback Infra Pvt. Ltd. is addressing the audience at the Inaugural Session



Dr. Samarjit Chatterjee , Former President, Consulting Engineers Association of India delivering the vote of Thanks



August audience at the BCC&I Infrastructure Summit



A section of the audience



Session on "Power Sector- Cost Efficiency & Technology" chaired by Dr. Arup Roy Choudhury, Former CMD, NTPC Ltd and Chief Commissioner, Right to Public Service Commission in West Bengal



Mr. Santanu Basu, IAS, Chairman & MD, WBPDCI addressing the audience during the Session on "Power Sector- Cost Efficiency & Technology"



Mr. Shrirang Karandikar, CEO, India Power addressing the audience during the Session on "Power Sector- Cost Efficiency & Technology"

29th September
The Hyatt Regency, Kolkata

BCC&I Infrastructure Summit 2016



Mr. Debasis Gupta, General Manager, Special Projects, CESC Ltd. addressing the audience during the Session on “Power Sector- Cost Efficiency & Technology”



Mr. V L Patankar, Director, Indian Academy of Highway Engineers addressing the audience during the Session titled “Experts’ Roundtable – “Issues on Connectivity - Rail, Road and Infrastructure for Multimodal Transport”



Mr. Deepak Chatterjee, CEO, IPL, IIFCL is addressing on “Financing Infrastructure: the Larger Perspective”



Mr. Amitabha Ghoshal, Chairman, Regional Centre, Consulting Engineers Association of India chairing the Session entitled “Experts’ Roundtable – “Issues on Connectivity - Rail, Road and Infrastructure for Multimodal Transport”



Mr. Dip Kishore Sen, Whole Time Director and Senior Executive Vice President (Infrastructure), Larsen and Toubro addressing the audience during the Session titled “Experts’ Roundtable – “Issues on Connectivity- Rail, Road and Infrastructure for Multimodal Transport”

1st October 2016
Chamber Premises

Science Circle Lecture on Advanced Manufacturing through the Convergence of Micro and Nanotechnologies

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCC&I) partnering the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur (IIT, Kharagpur) and the Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany, Kolkata organized a Science Circle Lecture on “Advanced Manufacturing through the Convergence of Micro and Nano Technologies” on 1st October, 2016 at the Chamber premises. The programme was organized for industry professionals focusing on micro and nanotechnology and its convergence in the context of advanced manufacturing.

Prof. (Dr) Hans Jorg Fecht, Chair Professor and Director, Institute of Micro and Nanomaterial, Ulm University, Germany; Office Director, EUREKA Cluster Metallurgy, Europe & Senior Scientist, Institute of Nanotechnology, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (holding Adjunct Professor Positions in China, India and Japan) was the Keynote Speaker of the programme.

The programme was moderated by Mr. Debkumar Basu, Chairperson, Manufacturing Committee, The Bengal Chamber. The other eminent speakers present were Mr. Olaf Iversen, Consul General, Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany, Prof (Dr) Siddhartha Das, Member, Manufacturing Committee, The Bengal Chamber and Professor, Department of Metallurgical and Materials Engineering and Executive Adviser, Science and Technology Entrepreneurs’ Park (STEP), Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur and Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, President, The Bengal Chamber.

The niche programme brought together more than 100 participants drawn from manufacturing, engineering and services sectors.



Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, President, The Bengal Chamber delivering his speech. (L-R) Seated on the dais are Mr. Debkumar Basu, Chairperson, Manufacturing Committee, The Bengal Chamber; Mr. Olaf Iversen, Consul General, Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany; Prof. (Dr.) Hans Jorg Fecht, Chair Professor and Director, Institute of Micro and Nanomaterial, Ulm University, Germany, Office Director, EUREKA Cluster Metallurgy, Europe & Senior Scientist, Institute of Nanotechnology, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology; Prof (Dr) Siddhartha Das, Member, Manufacturing Committee, The Bengal Chamber and Professor, Department of Metallurgical and Materials Engineering and Executive Adviser, Science and Technology Entrepreneurs' Park (STEP), Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur



Mr. Debkumar Basu delivering his speech



Mr. Olaf Iversen delivering his speech



Prof. (Dr.) Siddhartha Das delivering his speech



Prof. (Dr.) Hans Jorg Fecht delivering his speech



Mr. Sutanu Ghosh presenting a memento to Prof. (Dr.) Hans Jorg Fecht



Mr. Debkumar Basu presenting a memento to Mrs. Fecht

1st October 2016
Chamber Premises

Science Circle Lecture on Advanced Manufacturing through the
Convergence of Micro and Nanotechnologies



A Group photo of the speakers



Delegates present in the programme



Delegates present in the programme

4th October
Chamber Premises

Interactive Session with Mr. Patrick Santillo, Minister Counselor
for Commercial Affairs, U.S. Embassy New Delhi

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized an Interactive Session with Mr. Patrick Santillo, Minister Counselor for Commercial Affairs, U.S. Embassy –India, for its senior members, on 4th October 2016 from 11.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. in the Chamber.

Mr. Santillo was accompanied by Mr. Jonathan T. Ward, Principal Commercial Officer and Mr. Arup Mitra, Senior Commercial Specialist, US Commercial Service, US Consulate General Kolkata.

The Meeting was chaired by Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, President, The Bengal Chamber. Mr. Alope Mookherjea, Past President, The Bengal Chamber was also present. The other Members who joined the programme were :

Mr. Alope Das Ghosh, Advisor, Larsen & Toubro

Mr. A Mandal, President - Business Development, Techno Electric and Engineering Company Limited

Dr. Amit Ghose, Consultant Urologist, Apollo Gleneagles Hospital

Mr. Arnab Basu, Partner, PricewaterhouseCoopers Pvt. Ltd.

Mr. Arun Kumar Mukherjee, Director (Technical), Prerana Engineers & Consultants Pvt. Ltd.

Mr. Deb A Mukherjee, Director, Teknowlegion Private Limited

Mr. P S Bhattacharyya, Former Chairman, Coal India Limited

Mr. Samrat Sarkar, Indismart Group Worldwide

Mr. R. N. Ghoshal, Regional President and Mrs. Madhusree

Daityari, Regional Director, Indo-American Chamber of Commerce were also part of the Session.

The focus areas of discussions were :

- Energy ● Health ● Infrastructure ● Information Technology
- Water

The sector focused discussions were as under :

Health

Dr. Amit Ghose initiated the discussions on Health which he mentioned as one of the booming sectors. His observations included the demography, social structure, increased affordability, emergence of insurance in healthcare sector as the factors behind growth of this sector. He also spoke about the gap between the demand and supply of quality doctors and paramedical staffers. He highlighted that the country is in apex performance in some specializations like robotics surgery. He identified e-commerce as a potential element for the healthcare industry. The increase in medical tourism in India is also another important factor for its growth.

Technology collaboration and tie-ups for medical education and training are the areas where partnerships may be explored with the US.

Energy

Mr. Deb A Mukherjee commenced the discussions on Energy speaking about India's INDC in COP 21, held in November 2016. Towards this, Mr. Mukherjee mentioned the value chain as:

- Policy
- Regulations
- Business Model
- Delivery
- Finance

He emphasized innovative financial models to make the renewable target viable. Technology collaboration and financial tie-ups with US companies will help India achieve its INDC target.

For solar, technology for smart and efficient grid is important for availability of power for all 24*7. In this context, he also talked about creating appropriate skills to maintain the assets which are being created in solar and other renewables. Discussions in this context highlighted that the materials and processes involved in generating solar energy may be obtained from the US.

Nuclear Power was also mentioned which would be an area of focus in the near future.

Emphasis was on clean coal. Bacteriological intervention for coalbed methane was mentioned where technology transfer from the US would help. Need for environment friendly mining equipment was also identified.

Smart grid for electricity transmission and distribution is also important.

Water

Mr. Alope Das Ghosh started the discussions on Water. He mentioned that India had mostly use of ground water in earlier days. However, the use of surface water is increasing in recent times, which is more predominant in the western part of the country. In West Bengal, though the quantity of ground water is not a challenge, but quality is a concern both in terms of health and environment. He indicated that there are opportunities for US companies in the water segment. Opportunities are also in waste water treatment. The technology from the US would be helpful in this sector. An important observation on network management of water was made. USA may play a major role by providing

technology for reduction of wastage of water during distribution.

Infrastructure

The President mentioned that a deep sea port would be very crucial for West Bengal. It is expected that the Tajpur Port project will be executed. The Chamber is in the process of preparing a Position Paper.

Information Technology

Mr. Arnab Basu addressed on IT which is one of the key export identities of India. In IT, India has several large Indian companies operating alongside foreign MNCs. The sector is going through a transition. Policies like implementation of GST which will have impact on all organizations, across all sectors, will need major technological intervention. The Government's Digital India Campaign is also a major catalyst for the sector.

With the advancement of technology, the outsourcing jobs are being reduced. Value chain is witnessing a vertical movement.

Startups constitute a key feature of India's IT eco-system. Some of the home grown IT Start Ups are becoming major players with potential competition to global ones.

There is a gradual shift towards products from services. Major IT companies are making investments in products.

Innovations and revolution around cloud are changing the eco system. Establishment of datacenters of global IT companies in India has made a positive impact on building confidence as data is not leaving the boundary.

Many conventional organizations are revamping themselves as technology organizations. Technological interventions in conventional areas like agriculture are changing the paradigm.

Internet of Things (IoT) and Cyber Security are major areas of focus.

MSME development is a focus of the Government of West Bengal. Electronics hardware industry is primarily constituted with MSMEs. In this regard, the US may share suggestions and models to create electronics hardware growth in the State.



L-R: Mr. Jonathan T. Ward, Principal Commercial Officer, U.S. Consulate General Kolkata; Mr. Patrick Santillo, Minister Counselor for Commercial Affairs, U.S. Embassy, New Delhi; Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, President, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Ms. Angana Guha Roy Chowdhury, Assistant Director, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce, Mr Alope Mookherjee, Past President, The Bengal Chamber.

**4th October
Chamber Premises**

**Interactive Session with Mr. Patrick Santillo, Minister Counselor
for Commercial Affairs, U.S. Embassy New Delhi**



Meeting in progress. L-R: Mr. Arun Kumar Mukherjee, Director (Technical), Prerana Engineers & Consultants Pvt. Ltd.; Mr. P S Bhattacharyya, Former Chairman, Coal India Ltd; Mr. A Mandal, President - Business Development, Techno Electric and Engineering Company Limited; Mr. Deb A Mukherjee, Director, Teknowlegion Pvt. Ltd. and Big Solar Ltd.; Dr. Amit Ghose, Consultant Urologist, Apollo Gleneagles Hospital; Mr. Arnab Basu, Partner, Technology Consulting & Digital Leader, PricewaterhouseCoopers Pvt. Ltd.; Mr. Jonathan T. Ward, Principal Commercial Officer, U.S. Consulate General, Kolkata; Mr. Patrick Santillo, Minister Counselor for Commercial Affairs, U.S. Embassy, New Delhi; Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, President, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Ms. Angana Guha Roy Chowdhury, Assistant Director, The Bengal Chamber; Mr Alope Mookherjea, Past President, The Bengal Chamber; Mr. R. N. Ghoshal, Regional President; Indo-American Chamber of Commerce



Meeting in progress. L-R: Mr. Samrat Sarkar, Indismart Group Worldwide; Mr. Arup Mitra, Senior Commercial Specialist, US Commercial Service, US Consulate General Kolkata and Mrs. Madhusree Daityari, Regional Director, Indo-American Chamber of Commerce.



Meeting in progress. (L-R) Mr. Patrick Santillo; Mr. Sutanu Ghosh; Ms. Angana Guha Roy Chowdhury; Mr. Alope Mookherjea; Mr. R N Ghosal and Mr. Alope Das Ghosh, Advisor, Larsen & Toubro Limited



Mr. Sutanu Ghosh and Mr. Patrick Santillo at the Calcutta Gallery of The Bengal Chamber



Ms. Soma Mitra Mukherjee, Assistant Director, The Bengal Chamber with President Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, explaining the concept of The Calcutta Gallery to Mr. Patrick Santillo, Minister Counselor for Commercial Affairs, U.S. Embassy –India

PROGRAMME

Interactive Session with His Excellency Nils Ragnar Kamsvag, Ambassador of Norway to India,

18th October 2016
The Chamber premises

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized an Interactive Session with His Excellency Nils Ragnar Kamsvag, Ambassador of Norway to India on 18th October 2016 in the Chamber.

The Ambassador was accompanied by his gracious wife and his colleagues, Mr. Helge Tryti, Counsellor, Commercial Affairs, Embassy of Norway in New Delhi and Director, Innovation Norway and Mr. Johan Loov, Second Secretary, Political Affairs, Embassy of Norway in New Delhi. Ms. Nayantara Palchoudhuri, Hon. Consul, Royal Norwegian Consulate, Kolkata was also present.

The Ambassador commenced his address mentioning that Kolkata would be the ideal destination, as indicated by the map, for Norway to connect with India by sea route. He spoke about the historical linkage Norway shares with Calcutta. Their first Consulate was opened in Calcutta in 1845.

He exclaimed that India and Norway share the common vision of a prosperous, sustainable and peaceful future based on international law and diplomacy. India is now one of the world's largest economies and is set to emerge as a global power. He made special emphasis on Energy and Environment and Shipping. He applauded India's forward looking attitude in the realm of Energy. He mentioned that Norway's direct and indirect investment in India would be

approximately USD 13-14 billion. There is a steady increase in Norwegian companies setting up business in India.

Mr. Helge Tryti reiterated His Excellency's views on the locational advantage of West Bengal and Kolkata for Norway to do business in India. He highlighted the under mentioned sectors which Norway is focusing on:

- Maritime
- Oil and Gas
- Water Treatment
- Innovation and Start Ups
- Renewable Energy
- Marine
- Health
- ICT
- Infrastructure and Smart Cities
- Defence
- Science and Technology

He spoke about the presence of Indian companies in Norway. He advised that West Bengal could showcase the opportunities it has to offer to the Norwegian companies.



Mr. Subhodip Ghosh, Director General, The Bengal Chamber emceeding the Interactive Session



Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, President, The Bengal Chamber delivering the Welcome Address



His Excellency Nils Ragnar Kamsvag, Ambassador of Norway to India addressing the audience



Mr. Helge Tryti, Counsellor, Commercial Affairs, Norway Embassy in New Delhi and Director, Innovation Norway addressing the audience

**18th October 2016
The Chamber premises** **Interactive Session with His Excellency Nils Ragnar Kamsvag,
Ambassador of Norway to India,**



Mr. Indrajit Sen, Senior Vice President, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry delivering the Vote of Thanks



(L-R): Mr. Subhodip Ghosh, Mr. Indrajit Sen, His Excellency Nils Ragnar Kamsvag, Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, Ms. Nayantara Palchoudhuri, Hon. Consul of Norway in Kolkata



Distinguished audience



Press Conference in progress



His Excellency Nils Ragnar Kamsvag , with the delegation, at The Calcutta Gallery escorted by Mr. Subhodip Ghosh



His Excellency Nils Ragnar Kamsvag at The Calcutta Gallery

**20th October 2016
The Chamber premises** **Bengal Chamber Press Meet**

The Bengal Chamber, following its annual tradition, organized a Press Meet for the Office Bearers of the Chamber on 20th October 2016 at the Chamber premises. The Press Meet was addressed by the President, Mr. Sutanu Ghosh and Mr. Indrajit Sen, Senior Vice President along with Mr. Subhodip Ghosh, Director General.

Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, President, The Bengal Chamber shared

the theme, 'Looking Back to Think Ahead'. He said that the overarching focus of the Chamber would be at fulfilling 3 distinct but interconnected roles:

- Being of use to the Business Fraternity
- Being of use to the Government
- Being of use to the People

Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, President shared with the media the snapshots of our activities till date and also updated them about our various projects and activities. He shared his views on the proposed Tajpur Port and about the turnaround of Shalimar Works in the context of barge manufacturing, for which a proposal had been submitted to the State Government. The Senior Vice President, Mr. Indrajit Sen, spoke about the GST issues and its impact on the industry. Mr Subhodip Ghosh, Director General, briefed about the agricultural initiatives of the Chamber. He spoke about the

5 villages adopted by the Chamber in Birbhum District and also about the mega Pulses Summit which the Chamber would be organizing in Shantineketan in the month of November along with Government of West Bengal and Visva Bharati University with BCKV as the Knowledge Partner.

The Press Meet concluded with a walk through of our newly minted "Calcutta Gallery" which was tremendously appreciated by everyone present.



Mr. Indrajit Sen, Senior Vice President, Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, President and Mr. Subhodip Ghosh, Director General greeting the Press before the meet



Mr. Sutanu Ghosh in dialogue with the media friends



Media Representatives



Mr. Indrajit Sen answering the media representatives



Press Conference in progress



Mr. Sutanu Ghosh during the Q/A



Walk-through of the Calcutta Gallery

GNIT Principal Receives the prestigious Rastriya Shiksha Gaurav Puraskar 2016

Prof (Dr) Santanu Kumar Sen, Principal, GNIT has been awarded the Rastriya Shiksha Gaurav Puraskar 2016 during the Second Higher Education Summit on 21st September 2016 at New Delhi. The award is in recognition of Dr Sen's dynamic leadership in academic sector for over a decade and for progressive contribution in research and innovation in technology and education.



Staff Development Program on Business Communication & Interpersonal Skills

NIT organized a TEQIP sponsored Staff Development Program on Business Communication & Interpersonal Skills from 19-24 September, 2016. There were around 60 participants in this event. This one week SDP enabled the staff members to be groomed in the basics of Professional communication required in daily life.



International Conference on Computational Advancement in Applied Science and Engineering

Narula Institute of Technology organized the TEQIP sponsored third International Conference on Computational Advancement in Applied Science and Engineering, (IC2A2SE-2016) from October 4-6, 2016. The aim of the conference was to share the ongoing research in the area of advanced applied science and Engineering. Altogether 74 research papers were presented in multifarious areas. The main attraction of the conference was the commendable presentations of the foreign delegates:

NEWS FROM THE JIS GROUP



Prof. Dr. Sun-Kyung Lee, Hanyang University; Prof. (Dr.) Myngchull Rhee, Chungnam National University; Prof. (Dr.) I-Fang Chung, National Yang-Ming University and Prof. (Dr.) Sheng –Fu Liang, National Cheng Kung University. The inaugural ceremony was glorified by the significant speech of the Conference Chair, Dr. Ajoy Ray (Director, IEST, Shibpur) and Dr. Phalguni Gupta (Director, NITTTR). The keynote speech was delivered by renowned professor, Dr. B.P.Sinha, Indian Statistical Institute and his area of discussion on “Energy Efficient Communication in Wireless Network” was multidirectional as it explored different facets of research in Engineering field. The presentation sessions were chaired by notable professors from National Universities: Prof. (Dr.) A.K. Mukhopadhyay, Ex. Director, SRGI; Prof. (Dr.) Abhinandan De, IEST, Shibpur; Prof. (Dr.) Debangshu Dey, Jadavpur University; Prof. (Dr.) Jayanta Maity, MSIT, Techno India; Prof. (Dr.) Amitava Chatterjee, Jadavpur University; Prof. (Dr.) Debashis De, MAKAUT, Kolkata. The three day conference was a tremendous success and a lot of interdisciplinary collaborations are expected to emerge from the fruitful discussions.



Glimpses of the Conference :



USA President Mr. Barack Obama To Award GNIT Student

Souvik Biswas (4th year CSE) stood Second in Creative Content Writing, organized by Stanford University, USA. He will be awarded by Mr. Barack Obama, honourable President of USA during the award giving ceremony. Early this year Souvik stood 1st the entrance examination of CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY, UK and received scholarship of Rs.5 lacs for studies.



GNIT Students' Research Achievement

Mission of Guru Nanak Institute of Technology (GNIT) is to instill innovative mindset and fostering research orientation, dynamism and collaborative academic spirit in students for years and mentoring them to perform consistently at global platforms.

During previous years the students have earned accolades from all across India and recently 13 Innovative Research Papers in the area of Food Science and Technology by B.Tech Food Technology students have been accepted at the International Conference on Emerging Technologies in Agriculture and Food Engineering, Department of Agricultural and Food Engineering, IIT Kharagpur to be held during 27-30 December 2016.

Students also presented Research Papers and received awards in the Poster Competition in the UGC Sponsored National Seminar at APC College, New Barrackpore held in September 2016.

Name of the Students	Paper Title	Name of the Faculty Guide
Sruti Mandal / Saikat Gorai	Development and Utilization of Carrot Powder in Value Added Biscuit Production	Dr.Subhajit Ray
Sanjana Chakraborty/ Ushnil Dutta	Effect of Drying Cucumber at Different Temperatures on Drying Characteristics and Physiochemical Properties	Dr.Subhajit Ray
Subhojit Singha / Chandrima Sarkar/ Sukriti Dutta	Potentiality of Polymers in Packaging	Dr.Subhajit Ray
Soumyadeep Pal/ Gargi Sharma	Preparation and characteristics of Salt Extracted Sesame Protein Isolate	Dr.Kakali Bandyopadhyay/ Dr. Chaitali Chakraborty
Smita Singha Roy/ Soumyadeep Pal	Effect of Heat Treatment on The Functional Characteristics of Pulse Based Tomato Soup	Dr.Kakali Bandyopadhyay Dr. Chaitali Chakraborty
Chandrani Dutta	Comprehensive Study of The Antioxidant Contents : Proximate Analysis of Fruits and Vegetables	Dr.Anju Paul
Manasi Roy / Mainak Ghosh Dipsikha Mukherjee/ Sukanya Kar	The Essence of Life: Aloe vera (Preparation of Pickle from Aloe vera)	Dr.Anju Paul
Sreemoyee Moitra	Development of Value Added Biscuit Fortified by Whey Protein	Dr.Anju Paul
Subham Mukherjee/ Bornini Banerjee Arunima Mukherjee	Preparation of Value Added Banana Chips From Banana Peel	Dr. Chaitali Chakraborty Dr. Kakali Bandyopadhyay
Anushree Modak / Nilanjana Misra	Herbs Fortified Whey Drink	Dr. Chaitali Chakraborty Dr. Kakali Bandyopadhyay
Sayani Adhikari / Sanchita Mukherjee	Quality Analysis of Raw and Packaged Meat of Kolkata	Dr. Chaitali Chakraborty Dr. Kakali Bandyopadhyay
Subhranil Sinha / Debosmita Paul Sreyasi Deb / Shramana Bhattacharyya	A Combination of Fermented Food by Peanut and Soya Milk Development of whey based RTS beverage	Mr. Amit Kumar Barman Mr. Amit Kumar Barman



GNIT Assistant Professor awarded for presenting her paper "Irregular Shaped Event Boundary Estimation in Wireless Sensor Networks"

Ms. Srabani Kundu, Assistant Professor of Computer Science and Engineering Department of GNIT received "IEEE ComSoc Kolkata Chapter - ICACNI 2016 Student Paper Award" for presenting her paper "Irregular Shaped Event Boundary Estimation in Wireless Sensor Networks" in the conference held on 22nd to 24th September 2016, at National Institute of Technology Rourkela. She is doing her PhD in Wireless sensor Network, under the guidance of Prof. Nabanita Das, ACMU Unit, ISI.

This award had been announced in the closing session of the conference and was given away by Guest of Honor for the valedictory session, IEEE ComSoc Chairperson of Kolkata Chapter, Prof. Iti Saha Misra.

