

A LOOK AT THE YEAR GONE BY 2020-21



Calcutta Chamber of Commerce

25 YEARS
*of Restoring
Hope and Health*



**Excellence is our
state of mind**



361°

CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE

- ♥ Cardiac Sciences
- 🏥 Orthopaedics and Joint Replacement
- 🧠 Neuro Sciences
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Calcutta Chamber of Commerce





President's Message

Volatility, Smart City Mission, Start-Ups & SMEs, Search & Seizure, Atmanirbhar Bharat, Industrialization in West Bengal, Health & Wellness, and India's Macroeconomic Prospects along with dozens of other topics.

It was my honour and privilege to serve as the President of the Calcutta Chamber of Commerce - a body standing strong since 1830. It was a very fulfilling journey as President and I am extremely thankful to each and every member of the Chamber for their unwavering confidence in me. I did my best to deliver for the interests & welfare of our members and for the State at large.

Individuals, businesses and institutions alike have seen 2020 and 2021 become their most challenging and complex years. It wasn't possible to organize face-to-face meetings. The chamber switched to digital means to function effectively. Despite these extraordinary times, the Chamber promoted spirited debates and discussions on various topical issues. Via multiple webinars, members were sensitized on issues of vital importance. The prominent items on the list included the Consumer Protection Act, the National Budget, Education and Stock Market

The session on The Consumer Protection Act with Mr. Rajesh Kumar Agrawal, the Former Judge of Supreme Court of India was thought provoking. The observations of Mr. R. Gopalakrishnan & Mr. R. Narayanan on Start-ups were beneficial for all of us. India's Principal Economic Adviser Mr. Sanjeev Sanyal explained that the government's Atmanirbhar Bharat policy is not a revisit to import substitution; it is about improving the resilience of a highly competitive industry. Former RBI Governor Dr. D. Subbarao expressed concerns over unevenness in economic recovery and wider inequalities between upper and lower income households caused by the pandemic. The session with The Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FNCCI) & Nepal Chamber of Commerce and Chairman Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port & Former Union Special Secretary on Logistics was a rewarding one. We were presented with many challenges, but our members pulled together, and along with them, we were able to have a very fulfilling year.



The pandemic has realigned the global order and may have forever changed the world. It has given us the opportunity to re-evaluate the way we do business and our relationships with our international stakeholders. The pandemic has significantly hampered the GDP of our country. No nation was prepared for this sort of economic downturn. India plans to transform the plight into opportunity by becoming self-reliant, and have the Indian economy emerge strongly in the post-covid-19 world. The government's localization strategy, in essence, includes steps for a larger share of the national demand being met by local companies, and to improve India's position in the global supply chain through focus on cost competitiveness, quality, infrastructure, and system efficiencies. The nation can leverage its existing skill and innovation base in Healthcare, Agriculture, Education, and Infrastructure, to help facilitate the creation of a resilient, self-sufficient 'New India'.

In conclusion, we hope that 2022 will be a year of gradual return to normality and economic recovery for everyone. Over the course of my tenure, I have been extremely blessed to have been supported, counselled, encouraged and stimulated by the Past Presidents, Executive Committee Members and all members of the Chamber. Our office bearers stood by me in total solidarity sharing responsibilities to make my tenure a satisfying one. I would like to wish the incoming President and her team all the very best for their tenure. I must also express my gratitude and thanks to the media for their cooperation throughout the year. I also acknowledge the tremendous support received by me from the Chamber Secretariat.

I offer my profound gratitude to you. This has been an experience that I will always remember.

Wishing all of you the very best and a very happy New Year.

Rajeev Maheshwari
President



Shaping a Holistic Education Culture

MCKV Group began its journey in the year 1997, with the aim of providing excellence in Education through establishing M.C. Kejriwal Vidyapeeth, now a premier school in Howrah. Since then, the group has continued to grow by establishing more schools and colleges in West Bengal and Jharkhand. MCKV Group now comprises a day school as well as a residential school, an Engineering and Management Institute, Teacher Training and Paramedical Science Colleges, and a Healthcare unit.

MCKV Group believes that providing quality Education and Healthcare is the best means of contributing towards nation building.

MCKV Milestones

- ★ 3 Centres for Higher Education
- ★ 2 Higher Secondary Schools
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- ★ 17 Educational Programs
- ★ 1 Health Sector Unit
- ★ 12000+ Alumni



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 Madhusthali Institute of Teacher Training | Madhusthali Institute of Paramedical Sciences | MCKV Health & Medicare Pvt. Ltd.

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CALCUTTA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE ...

Founded in 1830, Calcutta Chamber of Commerce is the oldest Commerce and Industry Association not only in India but in entire Asia. The records of the Association show that the idea of business assembly was first mooted at a meeting held on 5th July, 1830 attended by about 200 businessmen of Calcutta and Calcutta Trades Association was born under the aegis of Mr. Samuel Smith who assumed the post of the President.

On the 29th of December 1834, the Association was granted recognition as the first public body with powers to address the Government direct and on the 18th of January, 1883 it acquired the status of a corporate Body immediately following the incorporation of the Indian Companies Act, 1882. The most distinguishing operational aspect of the Calcutta Trades Association and its descendent, the Calcutta Chamber of Commerce, was its contribution for improving Calcutta's civic amenities.

The history of the West Bengal Legislature dates back to 18 January 1862 when under the Indian Councils Act of 1861, a 12 Member Legislative Council for Bengal was established by the Governor-General of India with the Lt. Governor of Bengal and some nominated members. The Calcutta Trade Association had the privilege of having one seat in the Legislative Council and subsequently in the Legislative Assembly till 1947.

The Association had a great contribution towards drafting of the original Calcutta Municipal Bill. The historical testimonials reveal that the Chamber was instrumental in introducing the Copyright Act, Limited Partnership Act and Apprenticeship Law, Calcutta Port Trust Bill and also to broach the idea of construction of Howrah Bridge across the Hooghly River. The Chamber's contribution to the construction of Town Hall was very significant.

In recognition of its contribution to City of Calcutta, Under the Act II of 1888 (the Calcutta Municipal Consolidation Act) the Calcutta Trade Association was entitled to elect four persons, which were then nominated by the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal to act as Municipal Commissioners at the Calcutta Corporation. The Port Commission, as reconstituted under the Act III of 1887, in recognition of the contribution of the Calcutta Trades Association entitled it to nominate one member as the Commissioner.

The Chamber demonstrated its progressive role by whole-heartedly supporting the Bank Nationalization and welcoming the nationalization of General Insurance.

The Calcutta Trades Association which was established in 1830, assumed the name "Calcutta Chamber of Commerce" in 1977. It may be recalled with real gratification that this august body has established the tradition over a century and eighty years to serve the country and the people in material progress and help development of the metropolitan City of Calcutta.

Calcutta Chamber of Commerce Foundation grants scholarship, stipends and prizes and other types of assistance to the needy and brilliant students, scholars and entrepreneurs for studies, research and other activities relating to socio-economic and scientific and technological advancement of human being. The Foundation has granted assistance to the victims of Kargil and Tsunami, to name a few.

Some 190 years ago Calcutta Chamber started its activities with the motto --- INDUSTRIA DITAT, which in English means "DILIGENCE MAKES ONE RICH". With the socio-economic change in the country we follow the same motto with some difference ---- "**DILIGENCE BRINGS PROSPERITY AND WELFARE TO A COUNTRY AND ITS PEOPLE**", because diligence is the basis of industrialisation with disciplined trade and commerce.



Executive Committee Members for 2020-21

Office Bearers & Committee Members for 2020-21

- | | | |
|------------------------------|---|-------------------|
| 1. Mr Rajeev Maheshwari | - | President |
| 2. Ms Shailja Mehta | - | Sr Vice President |
| 3. Mr Kishan Kumar Kejriwal | - | Vice President |
| 4. Mr Hari Shankar Halwasiya | - | Vice President |

Elected Members

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Mr K K Dalmia | 7. Mr Shankar Lal Gupta |
| 2. Mr B N Agarwala | 8. Mr Hemant Tibrewalla |
| 3. Mr Amit Sharma | 9. Mr Vijay Kumar Chandak |
| 4. Mr Nirmal Kumar Jain | 10. Mr Arun Laddha |
| 5. Mr Vinay Rathi | 11. Mr Hemant Marda |
| 6. Mr Rajat Agrawal | 12. Mr Annurag Jhunjunwala |

Nominated Members

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Mr Anand Muskara | 4. Dr Mahesh Kumar Maheshwari |
| 2. Mr Purushottam Agrawal | 5. Mr Ashok Kumar Pareek |
| 3. Mr Mahesh Dubey | 6. Mr Surendra Kumar Sharma |

Immediate Past President

1. Mr Madhav Prasad Sureka

Past Presidents

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Dr Hari Prasad Kanoria | 10. Mr Harsh Vardhan Patodia |
| 2. Mr Basant Kumar Nahata | 11. Mr Sushil Kr Agrawal |
| 3. Mr Prabhat Kr Jalan | 12. Mr Shyam Sunder Agarwal |
| 4. Mr Mahesh Kumar Saharia | 13. Mrs Alka Bangur |
| 5. Mr Sushil Jhunjunwala | 14. Mr Raj Kumar Chhajer |
| 6. Mr Hemant Kanoria | 15. Mr Shree Prakash Saharia |
| 7. Mr Satish Jhunjunwala | 16. Mr Dinesh Jain |
| 8. Mr Pradeep Sancheti | 17. Mr Rajendra Khandelwal |
| 9. Mr Manoj Mohanka | 18. Mr Om Prakash Agarwal |

Special Invitees

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Dr (Mrs) Alka Jayaswal | 5. Mr Dilip Bansal |
| 2. Mr Akhilesh Kumar Jain | 6. Mr Pramod Dayal Rungta, CA |
| 3. Mr Anant Saharia | 7. Mr Hariram Garg |
| 4. Mrs Manjula Jain | 8. Mr C S Sarda |



Standing Committees for 2020-21

Name of the Standing Committees

Chairman

1. Banking, Finance & Economic Affairs	:	Mr R K Chhajer
Co-Chairman	:	Mr Ashok Pareek
Member	:	Mr Mahesh Dubey
2. Taxation Direct, Indirect & State	:	Mr P D Rungta
Co-Chairman	:	Mr Anand Muskara
Members	:	Mr Rajat Agarwal Mr Jinesh Jain
3. Legal, Consumer Affairs & Member's Grievance	:	Mr Pradeep Sancheti
Co-Chairman	:	Mr Narayan Prasad Jain
Member	:	Ms Devyani Ashra
4. Excellence & Award	:	Mr M K Saharia
Co-Chairman	:	Mr B K Nahata
Member	:	Mr Satish Jhunjunwala
5. Agriculture, Plantation & Rural Devp	:	Mr S P Saharia
Co-Chairman	:	Ms Shailja Mehta
Members	:	Mr Hari Ram Garg Mr K K Dalmia
6. Membership Development	:	Mr Dinesh Jain
Co-Chairman	:	Mr K K Kejriwal
Member	:	Mr H S Halwasiya
7. Education & Skill Development	:	Mr Kishan Kr Kejriwal
Co-Chairman	:	Mr Amit Sharma
Members	:	Mr S L Gupta Ms Manoshi Roychowdhury Ms Indrani Ganguly
8. Industry, MSME and Trade & Commerce	:	Mr R K Chhajer
Co-Chairman	:	Mr S P Saharia
Members	:	Mr M PSureka Mr Hariram Garg



Standing Committees for 2020-21

Name of the Standing Committees	Chairman
9. Real Estate & Urban Development	Mr H V Patodia
Co-Chairman	Mr Bharat Bagla
Member	Mr Surya Prakash Bagla
10. International Trade & Relation	Mr Mahesh Saharia
Co-Chairman	Mr Satish Jhunjunwala
Members	Mr Rajendra Khandelwal Ms Shailja Mehta
11. Health, Hygiene & Public Affairs	Mr Rajendra Khandelwal
Co-Chairman	Mr Shyam Sunder Dey
Member	Mr Ashok Butta
12. Seminar & Workshop	Mr Manoj Mohanka
Co-Chairman	Mr M.P. Sureka
Members	Ms Shailja Mehta Mr Bharat Kr Bagla
13. Tourism and Delegation	Mr Hemant Marda
Co-Chairman	Mr B T Ramnani
14. Information Technology	Mr Amit Sharma
Co-Chairman	Mr Anurag Jhunjunwala
Member	Mr Aniruddha Roy Chowdhury
15. Investors, Advisory	Mr Dinesh Jain
Co-Chairman	Mr Arun Laddha
16. Press and Media	Mr Manoj Mohanka
Co-Chairman	Mr Hemant Marda
Member	Mr Rakesh Bhatia



December 22, 2020 Webinar on Make Choices not Sacrifices

The Guest of Honour was Dr Kiran Bedi, Hon'ble Lt. Governor, Puducherry

Dr Kiran Bedi, Hon'ble Governor of Puducherry remarked that all of us need to be the authorities in our respective fields. If we have to be progressive we will have to be updated in our news and analysis. Women in the business must stay up-to-date with the latest current news, knowledge and information and how she wants to use it that is her choice.

Dr Bedi further said that every moment she should realize own potential; she should not keep herself under pressure or underestimate herself. If she has to realize her potential she has to work hard and enjoy. She must enjoy in doing whatever she does and that should be her choice or compulsion. Everybody should be self-driven and not slave-driven.



Dr Kiran Bedi, Hon'ble Lt. Governor, Puducherry

January 08, 2021 Webinar on Indian Equity Markets: Where do we go from here ?

The Guest of Honour was Mr Bharat Shah, Executive Director, ASK Group



Mr Bharat Shah, Executive Director, ASK Group

While describing the nature of equity investments Mr Bharat Shah clarified that if you approach quality investment with a long term mindset and if you choose quality stocks there is no risk. He assured that in equity investments it is impossible to lose money.

Mr Shah said that volatility of the price or the index is a fact but that is not a source of risk. Markets were volatile 200 years ago; 100 years ago. Volatility is the intrinsic character of the market and there is nothing unusual about it. So volatility is not a threat, one should know how to benefit from it. Therefore the real risk is our own mind, our own knowledge, our own ability to value the business, our own discipline and our own understanding of the reality of the market. Once we are able to dominate or control it, there is nothing safer than equity investment.



February 01, 2021 Webinar on Union Budget-2021-22

The Guest of Honour was Mr Sajjan Kumar Tulsian, Hon'ble Advocate & Tax Consultant

Mr Sajjan Kumar Tulsian said that this year the budget is a development-oriented budget and it also addresses the Pandemic effect on the economy. He pointed out that there is a huge requirement for meeting the demand; the expenditures will create more money in the hands of the citizens thereby leading to the revival of the economy.

Hon'ble Finance Minister had proposed that there should be a Dispute Resolution Committee where income up to 50 lac and tax dispute up to 10 lac shall be settled by the said Committee on faceless basis and for the small tax payers this is a welcome step. Regarding ITAT the Hon'ble FM said that this also has become faceless but in his opinion this is a derogatory step. He said that a tribunal cannot be faceless.



Mr Sajjan Kumar Tulsian, Hon'ble Advocate & Tax Consultant

February 12, 2021 Webinar on Consumer's Access to Speedy and Quality Justice

The Chief Guest was Hon'ble Mr Rajesh Kumar Agrawal, Former Judge of Supreme Court of India and President, National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC). The Guest of Honour was Dr S M Kanatkar, Hon'ble Member, National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC)

Justice Mr Rajesh Kumar Agrawal remarked that the most important milestone in the consumer movement was the enactment of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986, to better protect the interest of the consumers. The new act 2019 has been introduced after many amendments to provide protection to buyers not only from traditional sellers but also from the new e-commerce retailers/platforms.

While summarizing the Consumer Protection Act 2019, Justice Agrawal said that this new Act will empower consumers and help them in protecting their rights through its various notified rules and provisions like Consumer Protection Councils, Consumer Disputes Redressal Commissions, Mediation, Product Liability and punishment for manufacture or sale of products containing adulterant / spurious goods. He said that CCPA will be empowered to conduct investigations into violations of consumer rights and institute complaints / prosecution. The new Act provides for simplifying the consumer dispute adjudication process

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Hon'ble Mr Rajesh Kumar Agrawal, Former Judge of Supreme Court of India & President, National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission.

in the consumer commissions, which include, among others, empowerment of the State and District Commissions to review their own orders, enabling a consumer to file complaints electronically and file complaints in consumer Commissions.

Dr Kantikar highlighted that consumer protection has always been a matter of great concern because of prolonged litigation in different courts and it discourages the consumers to seeking the legal reports. Therefore the Consumer Protection Act was passed in India in 1986 providing easy access to the justice and it brought total revolution in India. However, with the gradual advancement of the technology the people at large are getting it cost effective mechanism and the Act has got a popular support.

Dr Kantikar also pointed out one of the most important features of the new Consumer Protection Bill 2019 is that the protection of consumers rights U/s 2 Sub Section 9 was not in the previous act, which includes the right to be protected the goods and products hazardous to the society, property. He also Central Consumer which is to regulate the violation of consumer practices or misleading are prejudicial in the large.



Hon'ble Dr SM Kantikar, Member, National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission



February 19, 2021 Webinar on Union Budget 2021-22 and Its Impact on Economy

The Guest of Honour was Mr P R Ramesh, Former Chairman, Deloitte India

Mr P R Ramesh said that in the budget, percentage doesn't mean anything, outcomes are more important than outlays. India's GDP is approximately 2.7 trillion dollars and it is going to reach 3.8 trillion dollars next year. US GDP is 20.5 trillion dollars, China's is 13.6 trillion dollars and we cannot compare with the US and China but in the next 10 years we are expected to catch up and will reach the number which is 10 trillion dollar economy. The reality is the growth rate is picking up.

He said that if we go through the revised estimate for 2021 and budgeted revenue for 2021-22, it is clear that we have gone back by at least two years due to impact of Covid. However our Finance Minister has done some major allocation towards health and education and highest allocation has gone to MGNREGA. This budget is not only a good budget in bad times but would also rank a good budget in good times. There are numerous good policies announced in this budget.



Mr P R Ramesh, Former Chairman, Deloitte India

March 19, 2021 Webinar on Private Funding and Excellence in Universities

The Guests of Honour were Dr Renu Khator, Hon'ble Chancellor & President, University of Houston System/University of Houston and Mr T V Mohandas Pai, Hon'ble Chairman, Manipal Global Education Services Pvt Ltd



Dr Renu Khator, Hon'ble Chancellor & President University of Houston System, University of Houston

Dr Renu Khator shared her views on what transformation has taken place at the University of Houston and what role they have played for fund raising. The movement of transformation in the University of Houston has caught people's eyes, how it is possible to make an institution something different. She emphasized on the culture in any institution. She mentioned that Houston is the 4th largest city in the United States and the system of University of Houston is a very large system. The most remarkable story about the University of Houston is that there is lot of private donations and also corporate relationships are coming place. In 2007, the income from own technology was 1.2 million dollars and now this is 58 million dollars, which means it has increased by about 4000 per cent.



In terms of transforming institutions, we need the leadership of faculty, leadership of staff, because we all have to work together. The challenge was to build engineering programme and talk to the industry about corporate donation, joint project, scholarship in the investment form. The credibility of any university is their alumni, their success and put their money to the university. We have to make people believe that when they invest money it will make difference.

Mr Mohandas Pai explained the India's university system. He said India has a huge higher education system. We have more than 975 universities, 51 thousands colleges, 3.65 crore young people in college. The share of the Central and State Government are coming down, they are not investing enough. But investing in the higher education is very essential to transform India. The good news is that in the Indian family system, the mothers have understood all across India that the children should get higher education. Every Indian mother is of the opinion that when the children get educated, they will make a very different society in future.



Mr T V Mohandas Pai, Hon'ble Chairman, Manipal Global Education Services Pvt. Ltd.

He said that in terms of quality, enough money is needed for research, the research translates into knowledge and knowledge has to be disseminated. The universities have two ways to carry on their duties - creation of knowledge and dissemination of knowledge through teaching. Dissemination happens but the creation doesn't happen adequately because of lack of funding and that impacts quality and the result is that the students are not well rounded.

March 26, 2021 Webinar on How to Manoeuvre Today's Stock Market Volatility

The Guests of Honour was Mr Kailash Kulkarni, Chief Executive, L&T Mutual Fund



Mr Kailash Kulkarni Chief Executive, L&T Mutual Fund

Mr Kailash Kulkarni said that no one can predict the market. He showed last 20 years data to show the volatility of the market and it is clear that volatility has been an inherent part of the entire market. He advised all the investors that stay invested for long term to achieve higher return in the bull cycle because after every correction the opportunities come up. There is no logical reason that volatility will reduce. Overall global market are becoming far more integrated, the world is becoming much more integrated, news flow is much more faster, any small and large incident will have an impact on the market, the global economy is much more integrated and you are going to have significant volatility in times to come.



April 12, 2021 Webinar on Mission Smart City/ Vision of the Coffee House

The Guest of Honour was Mr Debashish Sen, IAS Hon'ble Chairman-Managing Director, HIDCO

Mr Debasish Sen enlightened about four platforms of a smart city - Technology, Economic Ability, livability & Sustainability. He said we are doing amazing work towards attaining sustainability with Zero shop. Shri Sen further said that HIDCO got in touch with IIT Kharagpur Centre of Excellence on happiness for making our smart city a happy city. New Town being a growing city, there are lots of IT offices, BPO Centres, there are two SEZs and so on. There are so many road side coffee bars runs in the night and this would make a safety in the neighbourhood. There is a smart street in the New Town displaying so many things around the street. A smart library is also there. He also narrated the story of the coffee house there.



Mr Debashish Sen, IAS, Hon'ble Chairman, West Bengal Housing Infrastructure Development Corporation

May 07, 2021 Webinar on Update on Economy and Equity Markets

The Guest of Honour was Mr Pankaj Tibrewal, Sr Vice President & Fund Manager (Equity), Kotak Mahindra Asset Management Company Limited. Mr Rajesh Agarwal, Head, Equity Research Wing, Aum Capital moderated the session.



Mr Pankaj Tibrewal, Executive Vice President & Fund Manager (Equity)
Kotak Mahindra Asset Management Company

Regarding equity markets, Mr Pankaj Tibrewal said that market in this year May will be similar to what we have seen in April last year. The impact of the regional lockdown will be there on the overall markets and economy. The available data is showing the galloping rise in the Indian equity market during lockdown. Possibly since second vaccination the market should start getting better and things should be okay. In the last three quarters we have seen that Corporate India has done a very unique job. According to him in the very near term markets will be in a volatile range. Mr Tibrewal strongly believes that if economic growth picks up over the next 2-3 years, market will do far better.



May 14, 2021 Webinar on Wisdom for Start-Ups & SMEs

The Guests of Honour were Mr R Gopalakrishnan, Author, Speaker and Corporate Adviser, Mr R Narayanan, Angel Investor and Mentor. The session was conducted by Mr Siddharth Zarabi, Senior Journalist.

Mr Gopalakrishnan said that apart from creativity, our entrepreneurs should have the discipline to convert those ideas into a business model. Because the key difference between Indian entrepreneurs and many other entrepreneurs is that the Indians are very tactical and very creative. We need to be a little more strategic. He mentioned 3E Model – enterprise, education and eudemonia to get the success for startup people. As per his perspective, it is impossible for government to behave like start up, because fundamentally the vision of the government and the start up is very different.

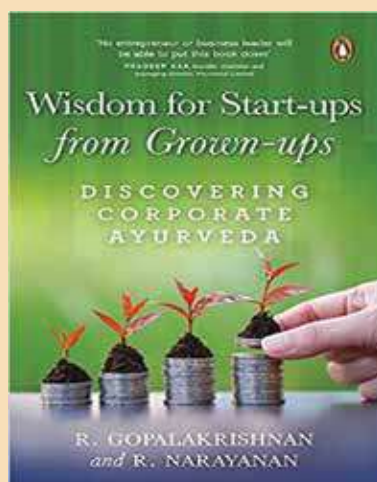


Mr R Gopalakrishnan, Author, Speaker & Corporate Advisor



Mr R Narayanan, Angel Investor & Mentor

Mr R Narayanan advised that entrepreneurs are to think really big to accelerate the culture of startups. Entrepreneurs are also influenced and driven by success story that they see around. It is a good thing that startup community are getting better recognition in some big area. Startups are abnormally growing corporate organism. The lesson for startup community is that they should build an identity first.



Mr Siddharth Zarabi, Senior Journalist Moderated the session



May 30, 2021 Webinar on Virtual Tour of the Last Pristine Destination in the World- Antarctica

The Guest of Honour was Ms Alifiya Calcuttawala, Regional Director, The Wanderers

Ms Alifiya Calcuttawala mentioned that Antarctica is the fifth largest continent and it is bigger than Europe and Australia. The closest continent to Antarctica is South America and if anyone wants to visit Antarctica he should go from South America because that is the shortest distance. Antarctica has no population; it has no currency and capital. Antarctica has no official language. The coldest temperature recorded in Antarctica was -90 degree Celsius. She suggested that the best time to travel to Antarctica is from November to 15th of March. Antarctica doesn't belong to any country, it can be only used for scientific and research purposes and opens to tourism. As per Antarctica Treaty one cannot take any organism from land to this Pristine Continent.



Ms Alifiya Calcuttawala, Regional Director, The Wanderers

June 11, 2021 Webinar on Awareness of Search & Seizure Under Income Tax – Key Issues

The Guests of Honour were Mr Subrata Kumar Ray, Former Member, CBDT & Mr Paras Kochar, Advocate, Author & Tax Consultant. The session was moderated by Mr M P Sureka, Past President, Calcutta Chamber of Commerce



Mr Subrata Kumar Ray, Former Member, CBDT

Mr Paras Kochar said that every assessee must have certain precautions when the survey and search take place. Whatsapp, SMS and Emails are very important for business but at the same time it is very risky as regards survey and search is concerned. He advised that every year we should change the hard disc. Books of accounts should be immediately destroyed after using it and one can preserve it in the pen drive.

Mr Subrata Ray said that in case of search, certain conditions have to be satisfied and person as senior as a Director General or Pr. Director General has to approve it because it is invading privacy of a person. During search and seizure they can seize the documents and they can enter any time of the day and night.



Mr Paras Kochar, Advocate, Author & Tax Consultant



June 13, 2021 Webinar on Be Blessed with Nature

The Guests of Honour were Dr Piyush Dwivedi, MD, Ayurved Expert & Ms Anuradha Vidhawan, Nutritionist.

The Session was organized by Calcutta Chamber of Commerce in association with Concern for Calcutta, Friends of Kolkata, Rotary Club of District 3291, Rotary Belur, Calcutta New Alipore & Calcutta Victoria.



Ms Anuradha Vidhawan, Nutritionist

Ms Anuradha Vidhawan mentioned that mankind is dependent on nature for food, for water, for oxygen, for medicine and various other products which we get from nature. To overcome the present Pandemic situation, she advised that we must stay in touch with nature. Nature will sooth us, heal us, our immune system will improve and it will boost our health and well being.

Dr Piyush Dwivedi explained Ayurveda as divine science. We will get long quality life through ayurved. He mentioned that we should boost our digestive system rather than boosting our immunity system. Ayurveda is not a pathy, this is the best way of living and there is no comparison to any other pathies. There should not be any clash with the Ayurveda because ayurveda is the mother of all the medical science.



Dr Piyush Dwivedi, MD, Ayurved Expert

July 04, 2021 Webinar on “Virtual Tour To Morocco – The Melting Pot of Cultures & Dynasties”

The Guest of Honour was Ms Alifiya Calcuttawala, Regional Director, The Wanderers



Morocco is a North African country and it is a fantastic destination for everyone. They are culturally very rich. Morocco is surrounded by Atlantic Ocean and Mediterranean Sea on the both sides, mountain on the centre and Sahara Desert on the west. Casablanca, Rabat, Tangler, Marrakesh are the main cities in Morocco. Rabat is the capital city and the major language is Arabic, Berber and French. The best time to visit to Morocco is in the winter. Casablanca is the main gateway to Morocco, it is a power house and it has a big industrial hub. Hassan II Mosque is a great mosque and it is the second largest mosque in the world and it has an outstanding feature.



July 13, 2021 Virtual Session on “Atmanirbhar Bharat – Opportunities & challenges”

The Guest of Honour was Mr Sanjeev Sanyal, Principal Economic Advisor, Ministry of Finance, GoI

Mr Sanjeev Sanyal described three possible ways for the economy to grow. One way is that we have opened the economy up after the second wave is stabilized, the FDI is doing well, the exports are doing well and some sectors may be doing well; but generally the overall economy slows down. In that environment we may have to provide extra supporting efforts to sustain the economy. The second possibility is that inflation is not entirely clear right now and inflation is coming back worldwide; we need to be concerned about this. In that environment our approach will be much more cautious about demand expansion. Thirdly, we will have to provide much targeted support to some segments that could be horizontal segments or could be vertical segments.

Mr Sanyal explained Atmanirbhar Bharat is leveraging our internal strength. It is about being pragmatic and resilient so that we can create skill, leveraging our own internal market. This is quite different from the earlier era import substitution. This is not about closing ourselves to the rest of the world. This is about a resilience of a global competitive industry and this is the thinking that if we want to compete globally we need to be able to achieve at least certain cluster of economic activity in-house and through it in future we will have major reforms.

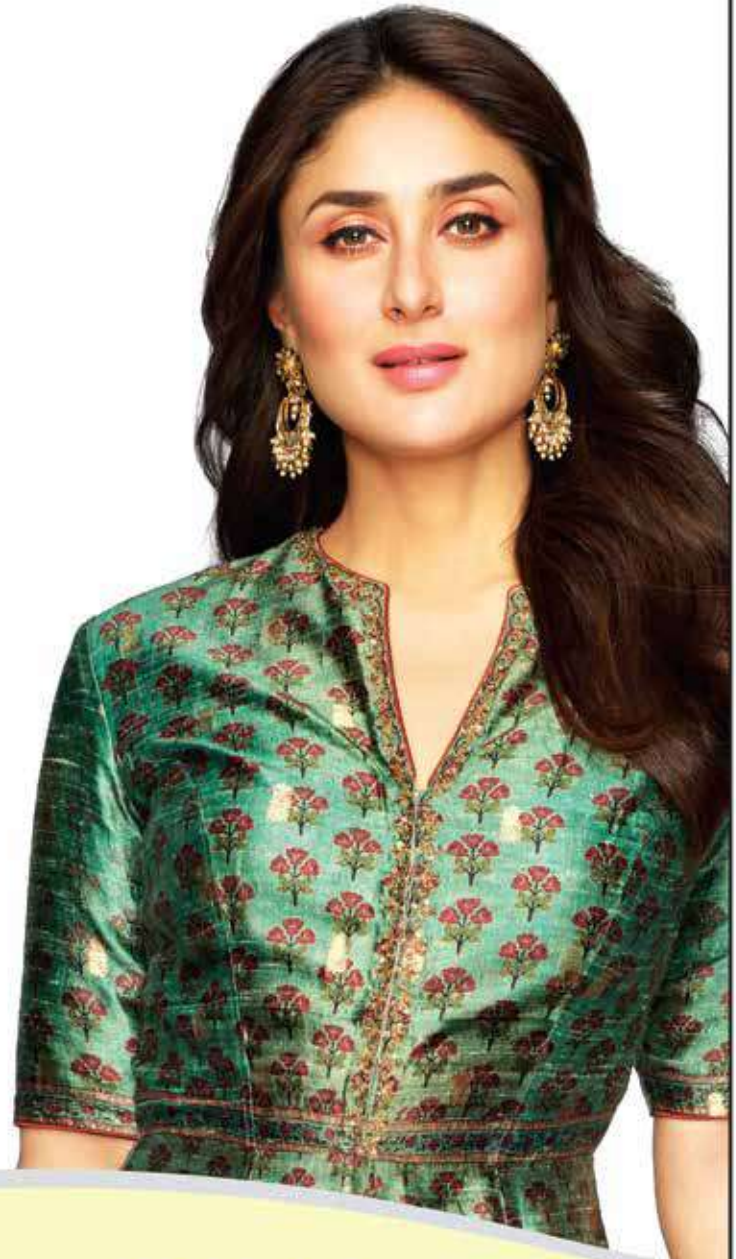


Mr Sanjeev Sanyal, Principal Economic Advisor, Ministry of Finance, Govt. of India



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July 27, 2021 Virtual Session on “Prospects of Industrialisation in West Bengal

Mr Rajiva Sinha, Hon’ble Chairman, West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation Ltd. was the Chief Guest. The Guests of Honour were Mr Sitaram Sharma, Chairman, Mironda Minmetals Pvt Ltd., Mr Hari Mohan Bangur, Managing Director, Shree Cement Limited and Mr Sanjay Budhia, Managing Director, Patton International Limited.

Mr Rajiva Sinha said that Bengal has been a forefront in industry since many years and the footfall is known to all of us. He always prefers to address the problems what the industry are facing. He said that let it be left to the Government or the Bureaucracy to address all the problems. He cleared that the focus area is creation of wealth by the private sector in Bengal. WBIDC’s role is to facilitating the industry in different ways. West Bengal has always been known as a sector leader in MSMEs. WBIDC started an exercise to identify top 50 companies in Bengal which are large industry having a turnover of more than 250 crores and one will be surprised to know that 156 companies have already come up in the pipeline. So the State has a huge response from the people of West Bengal. He mentioned that every bureaucrat and every department of Govt. of West Bengal is pro-active and pro-industry.



Mr Rajiva Sinha, Hon’ble Chairman, West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation Ltd



Mr Rajeev Maheshwari, President, Calcutta Chamber of Commerce delivering his welcome speech.



The session is on progress



Mr Sitaram Sharma said that at one time Bengal was the powerhouse of all industries. He pointed out 3 Ps- Perception, Potential and prospect. Perception is very important, Bengal has got all the potentials, Bengal is the 6th largest State in terms of foreign investment. In regard to prospect, physical and social infrastructure is very important. We need many agro-based industries. Bengal has been the pioneer in the field of steel, mines, minerals, textiles etc. and we need to restore it. MSME is playing a key role in the state. We have a huge coal block which is second in the whole world.



Mr Sitaram Sharma, Chairman, Mironda Minmetals Pvt. Ltd.



Mr Hari Mohan Bangur, Managing Director, Shree Cement Limited

Mr Hari Mohan Bangur said that Bengal is ready to absorb any amount of investment because land is cheaper here and industrial atmosphere is good. We are very bullish about the people here. The State is doing much better than the Indian growth and we don't find any problem. In last one year people are very positive about Bengal which sets the perception. Within last ten years no manpower is lost and the biggest thing is because of small scale industries, good horticulture, floriculture, pisciculture is there. Any investment will be viable in Bengal. He suggested that the state government may think of reducing the amount of incentives being offered now but can give incentive to industry upfront.

Mr Sanjay Budhia focused on 3 M- material, manpower and market. A variety of raw materials are available here, most learned manpower are here and the state has markets like entire North East, East and connectivity with the different states and neighbouring countries. He said Bengal is the best State for doing business. Engineering exports components are produced here and exports are done in different countries. Two main sectors like- logistics are doing well and so many industrial parks have been built up here. One world class Convention Centre is there in West Bengal. Overall West Bengal is the main attractive destination for investment.



Mr Sanjay Budhia, Managing Director, Patton International Limited



August 05 2021 Virtual Session on “Align Your Chakras For Maximum Wellness”

The Guest of Honour was Ms Hemlata Rathi, Clinical Nutritionist



Ms Hemlata Rathi, Clinical Nutritionist

Ms Hemlata Rathi explained in the webinar how the Chakras work in our life. Chakras are located in the mid line of our body and they govern our physiological, physical, emotional and mental health. We have to balance them properly to get maximum wellness. Chakras control our fear, anxiety, emotion which is very much necessary during this pandemic time. She elaborated seven different Chakras - Muladhara Chakra, Swadishthana Chakra, Manipur Chakra, Anahata Chakra, Vishuddhi Chakra, Ajna Chakra, Sahasrara Chakra - their colour, location, sound, activity to enhance the energy of different chakras, what food should we take and the affirmation statement. She emphasized on yogasana, exercise and meditation for fitness of health.

September 19, 2021 Virtual Session on “Exploring Business Opportunities in the New World : Visit Expo 2020, Dubai”

The Guest of Honour was Shri Vedant Marda, Vibrant Experiences

Mr Vedant Marda said that Vibrant Experiences is the authorized partner of Dubai Expo 2020. He remarked that Expo 2020 is going to be a greatest global event on the planet. The Expo will start from 1st October 2021 and will continue till 31st March 2022. The theme of the Expo is “Connecting Minds Creating the Future”. The Expo 2020 is going to incorporate 190 countries participating from across the globe. It is the opportunity for businessmen to connect with the best of the best. The world’s most futuristic design, architecture and innovative technology will be showcased at Expo 2020. In 182 days 60 events are going to take place every day. It is the first time in expo history that more than 190 countries are participating in the Dubai Expo 2020. India will be having its own pavilion. More than 25 million visitors expected to participate in the Expo.



One can experience business, technology, learning, architecture, entertainments, music of the world, domes of the world, cuisines of the world and so on. 200 pavilions will be showcasing their future in terms of the technology, business and in terms of sustainability. For businessmen the Expo 2020 has different kinds of industries showcasing the best. One will be able to see the industries such as retail, banking and finance, technology and innovation, design and architecture. Dubai Expo 2020 is the grandest stage for networking global giants and visitors from 190 countries visiting this under one platform. With the Expo 2020, one also gets the advantage of B2B App which people can use to connect and to network with the visitors travelling to Expo 2020.



September 27, 2021 Virtual Session on “India’s Macroeconomic Prospects- Questions in Search of Answers”

The Guest of Honour was Dr Duvvuri Subbarao, Former Governor, Reserve Bank of India.

Dr Subbarao said in September 2020 the total situation was most horrible. The Covid test was not very encouraging, medical infrastructure was inadequate, medical personnel were ill prepared, there was no cure there was no vaccine. Factories and businesses were stopped, schools were shut down, there was a reverse migration of 200 million people and 100 millions of people across villages in the country were in a destitute condition. There was a borrow and pay out to households and embarking on one of the economic growth was in was a fear and anxiety all came, our medical prepared, our health and prepared, our large running smoothly, slowly, exports are sector is growing, the the economy is on the certainly recovering but ahead to get back on to a high growth trajectory.



Dr Duvvuri Subbarao, Former Governor, Reserve Bank of India

pressure on the government to support the vulnerable vulnerable businesses. RBI was most extraordinary policy. The a precarious situation and there around. But when second wave infrastructure was much medical personnel were vaccination programme is schools have been opening up expanding, the agriculture fiscal situation has improved, recovery track. The economy is there are many challenges

He said that for the cause of pandemic the first scar is permanent loss of income. The output at the end of 2022 will be 6-7% lower than what if there have been no pandemic. He expressed his deep concern about wider inequality caused by the pandemic. When the economy catches over 7% last year, 75 million people actually were below the poverty line. The stock market is booming with indices record high. Despite the stringent lockdown last year, despite the negative growth rate; corporate sector in India recorded profits of 2.6% possibly highest ever even when employment loss is 23.5% last year. So this is the biggest scar the economy leaves behind us.

According to Dr. Subbarao we cannot depend on private consumption. Investment cannot be a growth driver for the short term because the economy is operating below capacity. Unless demand picks up, the private sector cannot play a big role. So in the short term we will have to depend on exports and government expenditure. For the long term growth we have to depend on consumption, investment, local exports and government expenditure by way of investment. He believes that asset monetization is a good idea. The economy is recovering but already the inflation is high.



September 28, 2021 Positioning Kolkata as the Super Gateway to Nepal

The Guests of Honour were **Mr Vinit Kumar, Chairman, Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata, Mr N Sivasailam, Former Special Secretary, Logistics, Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry & Administrative Member, Karnataka State Administrative Tribunal, Bengaluru, Mr Shekhar Golchha, President, Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FNCCI) and Mr Rajendra Malla, President, Nepal Chamber of Commerce.**

Mr Vinit Kumar mentioned that in the last three years Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port have done pretty well in the sense of highest cargo in 2020 i.e. 63.9 billion tons and in last year, though in the first 4-6 months the cargo movement were 25% down but by the end of the year this is 62 billion tons. The overall performance of port is good. The ports were down by 30% and the exports were up by 25% and this caused the imbalances. They had a meeting with Hon'ble Minister of Commerce, other departmental officers and shipping liners also and they are hopeful that by the first quarter of next year the picture will be quite normal.



Mr Vinit Kumar, Chairman Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata

In regard to Nepal, he said that the container movement and container trend was good in the last year. Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port is giving various facilities to Nepal trade. In last year during pandemic, the Nepalese containers were allowed to stay in the port without any charge. For containers and cargo movements the entire process is paperless in the port and nobody needs to come to the port. Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port is the highest revenue earner in the country by e-method.



Mr N Sivasailam, Former Special Secretary (Logistics), Union Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Administrative Member, Karnataka State Administrative Tribunal, Bengaluru

While addressing the session **Mr Sivasailam**, Former Special Secretary (Logistics) said that Kolkata was always the hub of trade and industry but the question is how we are going to do better. There are changes in technology, changes in expectation, changes in business techniques and how we should take it forward. He was of opinion that Nepal Chamber of Commerce, FNCCI and Calcutta Chamber of Commerce together should form a task force and implement ideas for business. The Task Force should look into the requirement of infrastructure in the Sahibganj Port. If there is no investment in infrastructure, logistics cost can never go down because every intervention adds money. He emphasized on the container business which will be organized by three chambers which helps huge savings immediately. His recommendation was on the digital platform for documentation.



Mr Shekhar Golcha remarked that Kolkata is not only the gateway for Nepal Exim trade but it also has a special historic relation for a long time. Kolkata is a special place in our heart. The railway service agreement that has recently been amended by India is a very welcome step. This will help us reducing our logistics costs but the same has not been implemented by shipping liners yet. In recent years there is an infrastructure development and progress is going on in Kolkata Port which is helping to facilitate the Nepalese trade. We hope that the volume will again be slowly transferred to Kolkata as infrastructure development and facilitation are extended to Nepalese traders. He mentioned that the banking system and banking standards in Nepal are world-class. The shipping companies should be registered in Nepal and they should accept payment locally and this is very important for Nepal trade. India and Nepal have also agreed to the development of indigenous waterways. In future, Nepal would also be operating small vessels using inland waterways and Kolkata will be connected to Nepal through this.



Mr Shekhar Golcha, President Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FNCCI)

Mr Rajendra Malla expressed that we have a historical relationship with Kolkata, we add a great importance to Kolkata as we are closely linked culturally and also from economic point of view. Kolkata is the gateway of Nepalese trade because more than 2/3rd of our external trade takes place through the Kolkata Port. There are direct link of cargo, trains from Kolkata to Nepal, connected to the different cities of Nepal. India and Nepal has excellent bilateral relationship. India is extending technical and economic support to Nepal especially from 1951. A large number of people attracted to Nepal for religious tourism. India is the largest trade partner of Nepal. We can also enhance our business through inland waterways. We also need to develop the digital payment system. He mentioned that hydro power sector is very potential sector in Nepal. Indian people can invest in the hydro sector. Lastly he appealed to formulate a Task Force between Calcutta Chamber of Commerce, Nepal Chamber of Commerce and FNCCI so that we can sit together for developing the business ties.



Mr Rajendra Malla, President Nepal Chamber of Commerce

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कलकत्ता चेंबर ऑफ कॉमर्स
'विश्वविद्यालयों में निजी धन और उत्कृष्टता' पर विशेष सत्र

कोलकाता, 9 मार्च (वि. प्र.) कलकत्ता चेंबर ऑफ कॉमर्स (सीसीसी) की ओर से कोलकाता के 'विश्वविद्यालयों में निजी धन और उत्कृष्टता' पर एक विशेष सत्र का आयोजन किया गया...

৬০০ কোটি টাকা বিনিয়োগে রাজ্যে কারখানা শ্রী সিমেন্টের

রঘুনাথপুরে প্রস্তুত করা যাবে হাজারের বেশি কর্মসংস্থান... শ্রী সিমেন্টের কোলকাতা কারখানা...

सीसीसी की ओर से 'उपभोक्ताओं के त्वरित न और गुणवत्ता' पर वर्तुजत सत्र का आयोजन

कोलकाता, 12 मार्च (वि. प्र.) कलकत्ता चेंबर ऑफ कॉमर्स (सीसीसी) की ओर से आज 'उपभोक्ताओं के त्वरित न और गुणवत्ता' पर विशेष सत्र का आयोजन किया गया...

कोलकाता को नेपाल के सुपर गेटवे पर हुई गोष्ठी

कोलकाता, 8 मार्च: कलकत्ता चेंबर ऑफ कॉमर्स की ओर से 'कोलकाता को नेपाल के सुपर गेटवे पर' एक विशेष सत्र का आयोजन किया गया...

स्वास्थ्य देखभाल पर वेबिनार का आयोजन

कोलकाता, 8 मार्च: कोलकाता चेंबर ऑफ कॉमर्स की ओर से 'स्वास्थ्य देखभाल पर वेबिनार का आयोजन किया गया...

Prabhat Khabar-13-2-21-Pg_06.jpg

किती भी उपभोक्ता अदालत में हो सकता है मामला: एनटीडीआरटी

कोलकाता, कलकत्ता चेंबर ऑफ कॉमर्स की ओर से सुप्रीम कोर्ट का आदेश पर विशेष सत्र का आयोजन किया गया...

कोलकाता, 12 मार्च (वि. प्र.) कलकत्ता चेंबर ऑफ कॉमर्स (सीसीसी) की ओर से आज 'उपभोक्ताओं के त्वरित न और गुणवत्ता' पर विशेष सत्र का आयोजन किया गया...

आनन्दबाजार पब्लिक

राज्य का है आर्जि शिल्लेर

निष्ठा संवर्धनात्मक... राज्य का है आर्जि शिल्लेर... राज्य का है आर्जि शिल्लेर...

कोरोना के दौरान स्वास्थ्य देखभाल पर वेबिनार का आयोजन

कोलकाता : कोरोना के दौरान स्वास्थ्य देखभाल पर एक विशेष सत्र का आयोजन किया गया...

कलकत्ता चेंबर की 'भारत की वृद्ध आर्थिक संभावनाएं' विषय पर गोष्ठी

कोलकाता, 23 फरवरी: कलकत्ता चेंबर ऑफ कॉमर्स की ओर से 'भारत की वृद्ध आर्थिक संभावनाएं' विषय पर विशेष सत्र का आयोजन किया गया...

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