
MERCHANTS' CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

(Established in 1901)

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 2021-2022



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MERCHANTS' CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

15B, Hemanta Basu Sarani
Kolkata 700001

Dated: 11 July 2022

To
ALL MEMBERS,

Dear Members,

The Committee has great pleasure in presenting to you the report of activities for the year ending on 31 March 2022 in terms of Articles 34 (C) of the Constitution. The Audited Statement of Accounts and Balance Sheet for the year are also enclosed.

Yours faithfully,

Rishabh C. Kothari
President

Lalit Beriwal
Senior Vice President

Namit Bajoria
Vice President

Arun Kumar Dalmia
Honorary Secretary

Sanjib Kumar Kothari
Treasurer

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MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 2021-2022

OFFICE BEARERS

President	:	Shri Rishabh C. Kothari
Senior Vice President	:	Shri Lalit Beriwal
Vice President	:	Shri Namit Bajoria
Honorary Secretary	:	Shri Arun Kumar Dalmia
Treasurer	:	Shri Sanjib Kumar Kothari

TRUSTEES

Shri A.R. Sonthalia	Shri B.K. Jhajharia
Shri Radhe Shyam Agarwal	Shri Sanjay Agarwal
Shri Hemant Bangur	

PAST PRESIDENTS

Shri Mahesh Chandra Shah	Shri Amitav Kothari
Shri Arun Kumar Churiwal	Shri Suresh Jhunjhunwala
Shri Sheo Shankar Bagaria	Shri Birendra Agarwal
Shri Ajay Kajaria	Shri Sushil Kumar Dhandhania
Shri Sunil Kanoria	Shri Kunj Bihari Agarwala
Shri Aditya V. Agarwal	Shri Santosh Kumar Saraf
Shri Atul Churiwal	Shri Anupam Shah
Shri Shyam Sunder Beriwal	Shri Deepak Jalan
Shri Arun Kumar Saraf	Shri Manish Goenka
Shri Ramesh Agarwal	Shri Vishal Jhajharia
Shri Vivek Gupta	Shri Aakash Shah

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

Shri Vivek Adukia	Shri Arun Kumar Agarwal
Shri Bharat Agarwal	Shri Punit Gujarwasia Agarwal



Shri Brij Bhushan Agarwal	Shri Deepak Kumar Agarwal
Shri Keshav Agarwal	Shri Mahendra Kumar Agarwal
Shri Mahesh Kumar Agarwal	Shri Mayank Agarwal
Shri Naresh Kumar Agarwal	Shri Rahul Agarwal
Shri Raj Kumar Agarwal	Shri Ravi Agarwal
Shri Shankar Lal Agarwal	Shri Shyam Lal Agarwal
Shri Suresh Agarwal	Shri Vikas Agarwal
Shri Brahmanand Agarwala	Shri Arvind Agrawal
Shri Abhishek Bagaria	Shri Pulkit Baid
Shri Santosh Bajaj	Shri Devesh Bansal
Shri Sunil Bansal	Shri Tushar Basu
Shri Vishnu Kumar Bhandari	Shri Rajiv Bhartia
Dr. Mamta Binani	Shri Srinjoy Bose
Shri Hari Prasad Budhia	Shri Ravindra Chamaria
Shri Sudeep Chitlangia	Shri Deepak Choudhary
Shri Tulsi Kumar Dugar	Shri Adarsh Garodia
Shri Arun Kumar Garodia	Shri Devendra Goel
Shri Amit Goenka	Shri Girdhari Lal Goenka
Shri Radhe Shyam Goenka	Shri Sanjay Goenka
Shri Manish Gourisaria	Shri Abhishek Goyal
Shri Vinod Kumar Gupta	Shri Yashovardhan Gupta
Shri Chandra Kumar Jain	Shri Ravi Jain
Shri Sanjay Kumar Jain	Shri Srikant Jain
Shri Munish Jhajharia	Shri Radhey Shyam Jhanwar
Shri Anirudh Jhunjhunwala	Shri Sanjay Jhunjhunwala
Shri Mahesh Chandra Keyal	Shri Sharad Kumar Khaitan
Shri Smarajit Mitra	Shri Banwari Lal Mittal
Shri Rajesh Mittal	Shri Mahesh Pansari
Shri Sanjib Kumar Patwari	Shri Lavesh Poddar
Shri Sanjay Rasiwasia	Shri Apurva Salarpuria



Shri Rahul Saraf
 Shri Siddhartha Sawansukha
 Shri Miraj D Shah
 Shri Taranjit Singh
 Shri Rohit Singhania
 Shri Rajesh Kumar Sonthalia
 Shri Ashok Kumar Todi

Shri Avinash Sawalka
 Shri Sandeep Seksaria
 Shri Vicky Raj Sikaria
 Shri Pradeep Kumar Singhania
 Shri Akhil Sonthalia
 Smt. Priti A. Sureka
 Shri Pradip Kumar Todi

Shri Adarsh Tulshan

SPECIAL INVITEES

Shri Aditya Vikram Birla

Shri Srivatsa Kajaria

SECRETARIAT

Deputy Director General	:	Shri S. Roy
Deputy Director General	:	Dr. Amitayu Sengupta
Asst. Director General	:	Smt. Munmun Banerjee
Asst. Director General	:	Shri Sushantjit Dey
Deputy Secretary	:	Shri Rajiv Mukerji
Deputy Secretary	:	Shri Avishek Mukherjee
Deputy Secretary	:	Smt. Sukanya Basu
Assistant Secretary	:	Shri Arijit Dey

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120th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING on 30th December 2021 at Hotel Oberoi Grand, Kolkata

OPEN SESSION

Merchant's Chamber of Commerce & Industry hosted its 120th Annual General Meeting (AGM) with **Dr. Partha Chatterjee**, Hon'ble Minister of Industry, Commerce & Enterprises, Information Technology & Electronics and Parliament Affairs, Government of West Bengal and **Shri Chandranath Sinha**, Hon'ble Minister of MSME & Textiles, Government of West Bengal on December 30, 2021 at Ball Room, Hotel The Oberoi Grand, Kolkata.

Shri Aakash Shah, President, MCCI in his Welcome Address shared that Bengal, today has all that it takes to become one of the top 3 states in terms of GSDP. Even today, Bengal is the 6th largest economy in India, with its GDP growing at a CAGR of over 10 percent over the last decade. The able leadership shown by our Hon'ble Chief Minister and her cabinet of Ministers over the two years is beyond comparison.

For an industrial development plan of West Bengal, the focus must be on strengthening its MSME base, and that too in the critical sectors of traditional industries. West Bengal has the second largest MSME base (14% of all MSMEs) in India. Shri Shah also mentioned that according to official statements, The Government of West Bengal increased the infrastructure spend in the state by almost five times with Rs 1,758 crore expenditure in 2011 going up to Rs 9,553 crore in 2019.

Shri Shah mentioned that it is well understood that the State agencies can at best play the role of a facilitator for industries; while it is up to private sector entrepreneurs to utilize these facilities to build the industries. Certain institutional lacunae need to be addressed to encourage private investors to utilize the physical infrastructures offered in the state.

Dr. Partha Chatterjee, Hon'ble Minister of Industry, Commerce & Enterprises, Information Technology & Electronics and Parliament Affairs, Government of West Bengal in his address congratulated MCCI on its 120th AGM. He informed that over the last decade, Bengal has achieved new milestone in investments in the secondary sector. The State has become a representative in both national and global market. Dr. Chatterjee mentioned that Bengal has the potential to achieve large-scale industrialization.

Dr. Chatterjee shared that West Bengal is the sixth largest economy in India. Over the last decade the GSDP of Bengal has almost increased three times. The State has increased its expenditure in infrastructure six times. The Government of West Bengal has introduced friendly policies to encourage Ease of Doing Business. In the last year, Bengal has achieved the considerable rank in EODB among the other states.

Dr. Chatterjee mentioned that Bengal with its strategic location facilities has the

potential to be the gateway of North East and South East Asia. Improved industrial infrastructure, efficient and skilled labour and adequate natural resources are key factors of industrialisation in Bengal. He also informed the audience that already 5 lakhs MSMEs has been included in the petrochemical industry, while the engineering sector has grown 10 percent over the last decade in Bengal.

Another thrust area in Bengal is tourism sector. Over the last 5 years the tourism sector has contributed 11 percent in GSDP and has created 5 lakhs employment.

Dr. Chatterjee pointed out that the State Government was focused on developing the industrial sector in Bengal and asked for greater co-operation from associations and Chambers in this regard.

Shri Chandranath Sinha, Hon'ble Minister of MSME & Textiles, Government of West Bengal in his address mentioned that MSMEs are the strength behind the State's industrialization as they are the main suppliers of the raw materials to the heavy industries. The State has 89 lakhs MSMEs making the state one of the biggest MSME bases in the country, with 29 lakhs MSMEs run by women entrepreneurs. The MSMEs help to eliminate regional inequalities and has boosted employment.

Shri Sinha mentioned the Government of West Bengal has come up with many new policies for the betterment of the MSME sector and has already invested in infrastructure of Industrial Parks and MSME Clusters.

He also mentioned that the Government has provided new investors with financial

support through formal financial institutions. He also added during last 3 years the Government has offered aid of INR 2 lakh 13 thousand to MSMEs in times of crisis.

The Session ended with hearty Vote of Thanks by Shri Rishabh Kothari, Senior Vice President, MCCI.

BUSINESS SESSION

Shri Arun Kumar Dalmia, Honorary Secretary extended a cordial welcome to all the members present to the 120th Annual General Meeting of the Chamber. He requested Shri Aakash Shah, President to take the Chair in terms of Article 16 (a) of the Articles of Association of the Chamber.

The Hony. Secretary read out the Notice dated 15th December 2021 convening the AGM. The Chairman put forth the following resolutions:

ORDINARY BUSINESS

RESOLUTION No. 1 : ADOPTION OF AUDITED BALANCE SHEET AND ANNUAL REPORT

To receive, consider and adopt the audited Balance Sheet and Income & Expenditure Account of the Chamber for the year ending 31st March 2021 along with the Committee's Report, Auditor's Report and Annual Report thereon.

RESOLVED THAT the audited Balance Sheet and Income & Expenditure Account of the Chamber for the year ending 31st March 2021 along with the Committee's Report, Auditor's Report and Annual Report



Report of the Committee for the year 2020-21 be hereby received, considered and adopted.

Proposed by : Shri Sanjay Agarwal

Seconded by : Shri Santosh Kumar Saraf

The Resolution was put to vote and carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION No. 2 : APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR

To approve re-appointment of K. Prasad & Company, as the Statutory Auditors of the Chamber, to hold the office until the conclusion of the 124th Annual General Meeting of the Chamber and to fix their remuneration and if thought fit, to pass, with or without modification(s), the following resolution as an Ordinary Resolution :

RESOLVED THAT pursuant to the provisions of Section 139, 141 and other applicable provisions of the Companies Act, 2013, if any, read with the Companies (Audit & Auditors) Rules, 2014 as amended from time to time, **M/s K. Prasad & Company, Chartered Accountants** (Firm Registration No.303062E) be and is hereby re-appointed as the Statutory Auditors of the Chamber, to hold office from the conclusion of this Annual General Meeting till the conclusion of the 124th Annual General Meeting of the Chamber, at such remuneration as may be mutually agreed between the Committee of the Chamber and the said Auditors.

Proposed by : Shri Atul Churiwal

Seconded by : Shri Deepak Jalan

The Resolution was put to vote and carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION No. 3 : ELECTION OF PRESIDENT

To elect Shri Rishabh C Kothari as the President of the Chamber for the year 2021-22, and if thought fit, to pass, with or without modification(s), the following resolution as an Ordinary Resolution:

RESOLVED THAT pursuant to the provisions of Section 160 and other applicable provisions, if any, of the Companies Act, 2013 and rules made thereunder (including any statutory modification(s) or re-enactment(s) thereof for the time being in force) read with Article 13(c)(i), Article 13(c)(iii) and Article 14(b) of the Articles of Association (AoA) of the Company, and other applicable provisions/clauses in AoA, if any, the consent of the members of the Chamber be and is hereby accorded to the appointment of **Shri Rishabh C Kothari** (DIN: 00177074) as the President of the Chamber, for the year 2021-22, to hold office from the conclusion of this Annual General Meeting till the next Annual General Meeting of the Chamber and who will retire at the said next Annual General Meeting and will be considered as a Director of the Chamber for the purposes of Companies Act, 2013.

Proposed by : Shri A R Sonthalia

Seconded by : Shri B K Jhajharia

The Resolution was put to vote and carried unanimously.

SPECIAL BUSINESS :

ELECTION OF SIX COMMITTEE MEMBERS FROM OTHER THAN PAST PRESIDENTS

To elect the following members as the

Committee Members of the Chamber for the year 2021-22, and if thought fit, to pass, with or without modification(s), the following resolution as an Ordinary Resolution :

RESOLVED THAT pursuant to Article 13(c)(iii) and Article 14(b) of the Articles of Association (AoA) of the Company and other applicable provisions/clauses in AoA, if any, the consent of the members of the Chamber be and is hereby accorded to the appointment of the following members, as the Committee Member of the Chamber, from the year 2021-22, to hold office till they are due to retire by rotation, subject to the provisions of the AoA, and shall be eligible for re-election, and who will not be considered as a Directors of the Chamber for the purposes of Companies Act, 2013.

Election of 6 Committee Members :

Committee Member: 1. Shri Santosh Bajaj

Moved by : Shri Namit Bajoria

Seconded by : Shri Suresh Agarwal

The Resolution was put to vote and carried unanimously.

Committee Member: 2. Shri Tushar Basu

Moved by : Shri C K Jain

Seconded by : Shri Sanjay Goenka

The Resolution was put to vote and carried unanimously.

Committee Member: 3. Shri Arun Kumar Garodia

Moved by : Shri Sanjib Kothari

Seconded by : Shri Ankit Chhaparia

The Resolution was put to vote and carried unanimously.

Committee Member: 4. Shri Sanjay Goenka

Moved by : Shri Arun Kumar Dalmia

Seconded by : Smt. Chaitali Das

The Resolution was put to vote and carried unanimously.

Committee Member: 5. Shri Vinod Kumar Gupta

Moved by : Smt. Mamta Binani

Seconded by : Shri Sunil Bhoruka

The Resolution was put to vote and carried unanimously.

Committee Member: 6. Shri Sanjay Jhunjhunwala

Moved by : Shri C K Jain

Seconded by : Shri Vinod Kumar Gupta

The Resolution was put to vote and carried unanimously.

ELECTION OF TWELVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS FROM PAST PRESIDENTS

To elect the following members as the Committee Members of the Chamber for the year 2021-22, and if thought fit, to pass, with or without modification(s), the following resolution as an Ordinary Resolution :

RESOLVED THAT pursuant to Article 13(c)(iii) and Article 14(b) of the Articles of Association (AoA) of the Company and other applicable provisions/clauses in AoA, if any, the consent of the members of the Chamber be and is hereby accorded to the



appointment of the following members, as the Committee Member of the Chamber, from the year 2021-22, to hold office till they are due to retire by rotation, subject to the provisions of the AoA, and shall be eligible for re-election, and who will not be considered as a Directors of the Chamber for the purposes of Companies Act, 2013.

Election of 12 Past Presidents :

Committee Member: 7. Shri Mahesh Chandra Shah

Moved by : Shri A R Sonthalia

Seconded by : Shri Sanjib Kothari

The Resolution was put to vote and carried unanimously.

Committee Member: 8. Shri Amitav Kothari

Moved by : Shri B K Jhajharia

Seconded by : Shri Smarajit Mitra

The Resolution was put to vote and carried unanimously.

Committee Member: 9. Shri Arun Kumar Churiwal

Moved by : Shri Santosh Kumar Saraf

Seconded by : Shri Arun Garodia

The Resolution was put to vote and carried unanimously.

Committee Member: 10. Shri Suresh Jhunjhunwala

Moved by : Shri Atul Churiwal

Seconded by : Shri C K Jain

The Resolution was put to vote and carried unanimously.

Committee Member: 11. Shri Birendra Agarwal

Moved by : Shri Deepak Jalan

Seconded by : Shri Suresh Agarwal

The Resolution was put to vote and carried unanimously.

Committee Member: 12. Shri Ajay Kajaria

Moved by : Shri Sanjay Agarwal

Seconded by : Shri Sanjay Rasiwasia

The Resolution was put to vote and carried unanimously.

Committee Member: 13. Shri Kunj Bihari Agarwala

Moved by : Shri Vishal Jhajharia

Seconded by : Smt. Mamta Binani

The Resolution was put to vote and carried unanimously.

Committee Member: 14. Shri Aditya V. Agarwal

Moved by : Shri Vivek Gupta

Seconded by : Shri Sanjay Jhunjhunwala

The Resolution was put to vote and carried unanimously.

Committee Member: 15. Shri Santosh Kumar Saraf

Moved by : Shri Aakash Shah

Seconded by : Shri Namit Bajoria

The Resolution was put to vote and carried unanimously.



Committee Member : 16. Shri Atul Churiwal

Moved by : Shri Arun Kumar Dalmia

Seconded by : Shri C K Jain

The Resolution was put to vote and carried unanimously.

Committee Member: 17. Shri Anupam Shah

Moved by : Shri Sanjib Kothari

Seconded by : Shri Deepak Chowdhary

The Resolution was put to vote and carried unanimously.

Committee Member: 18. Shri Manish Goenka

Moved by : Shri Arun Kumar Garodia

Seconded by : Shri Sanjib Sanghi

The Resolution was put to vote and carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF THE BUDGET OF THE CHAMBER FOR THE YEAR 2021-22

To receive, consider and adopt the Budget of the Chamber for the year 2021-22, and if thought fit, to pass with or without modification(s), the following resolution as an Ordinary Resolution:

RESOLVED THAT the Budget of the Chamber for the year 2020-21, as circulated to the members of the Chamber, and now laid before this meeting, be and is hereby approved and adopted.

Proposed by : Shri Vishal Jhajharia

Seconded by : Shri Vivek Gupta

Shri Rishabh C Kothari, the newly elected President thanked all the Trustees, Past Presidents, Committee Members and Members of the Chamber for the confidence and trust bestowed upon him by electing him as President of MCCI. He sought co-operation from all to enable him to discharge his responsibilities as the President of this august body.

Shri Aakash Shah, the outgoing President proposed the Vote of Thanks to the Chair and to the members for attending the session.

NEWLY ELECTED COMMITTEE

The First Meeting of the New Committee for the year 2021-22 started immediately after the Business Session of 120th Annual General Meeting of the Chamber at the same venue.

Welcome by the New President.

The new President, Shri Rishabh C. Kothari took the chair and extended a cordial welcome to all members present at the First Meeting of the new Committee. He shared that while on the one hand it is a matter of great pride and privilege for him to have an opportunity to serve this 120-year-old legendary institution as the President, on the other, it is a very big responsibility and extreme hard work to discharge the duties.

He acknowledged the tremendous encouragement, motivation and guidance that he received from the Trustees, Shri A R Sonthalia and Shri B K Jhajharia, whom he termed as the pillars of the Chamber, as also from the new Trustees, Shri Sanjay Agarwal and Shri Hemant Bangur. He expressed his heartfelt thanks to all the past



Presidents, and other senior members for their immense support and wise counsel.

Shri Kothari thanked all the Members for bestowing their confidence in him and sought co-operation, active support and guidance from all, particularly the new Office Bearers, Trustees, Past Presidents & Committee Members in carrying out the functions of the Chamber effectively and introducing new initiatives to the Chamber to take this august body to greater heights.

He stressed upon good and continuous interaction with the Central and State Governments and regulatory authorities for the Chamber to have a leading role in advocacy and policy implementation. He requested the members to send their suggestions to the Chamber and assured full cooperation towards resolving their issues

Election from among Committee Members for the year 2021-22 of :

- a. **Senior Vice President**
- b. **Vice President**
- c. **Hony. Secretary**
- d. **Treasurer**

The President informed the House that as per the new provisions in terms of Article 13(c)(ii) of the Articles of Association, the Committee is required to elect Senior Vice President, Vice President, Hony. Secretary and Treasurer from among its Members for the year 2021-22.

Election of Senior Vice President for the year 2021-22

To elect **Shri Lalit Beriwal** as the Senior

Vice President of the Chamber for the year 2021-22, the following resolution was taken:

“RESOLVED THAT pursuant to the provisions of Section 152 and other applicable provisions, if any, of the Companies Act, 2013 and rules made thereunder (including any statutory modification(s) or re-enactment(s) thereof for the time being in force) read with Article 13(c)(ii) of the Articles of Association (AoA) of the Company, and other applicable provisions/clauses in AoA, if any, the consent of the committee members of the Chamber be and is hereby accorded to the appointment of Shri Lalit Beriwal (DIN:00006198) as the Senior Vice President of the Chamber, who shall be considered as a Director of the Chamber for the year 2021-22.”

The Resolution was put to vote and carried unanimously.

Election of Vice President for the year 2021-22

To elect Shri Namit Bajoria as the Vice President of the Chamber for the year 2021-20, the following resolution was taken:

“RESOLVED THAT pursuant to the provisions of Section 152 and other applicable provisions, if any, of the Companies Act, 2013 and rules made thereunder (including any statutory modification(s) or re-enactment(s) thereof for the time being in force) read with Article 13(c)(ii) of the Articles of Association (AoA) of the Company, and other applicable provisions/clauses in AoA, if any, the consent of the committee members of the Chamber be and is hereby accorded to the appointment of **Shri Namit Bajoria** (DIN:00945657) as the Vice President of

the Chamber, who shall be considered as a Director of the Chamber for the year 2021-22.”

The Resolution was put to vote and carried unanimously.

Election of Hony. Secretary and Treasurer for the year 2021-22

In terms of Article 13(c)(ii) of the Articles of Association, the Committee was required to elect Hony. Secretary and Treasurer from among its Members for the year 2021-22.

The President proposed the names of Shri Arun Kumar Dalmia and Shri Sanjib Kumar Kothari as Hony. Secretary and Treasurer respectively for the year 2021-22.

Hony. Secretary : Shri Arun Kumar Dalmia

Treasurer : Shri Sanjib Kumar Kothari

The proposal was approved unanimously by the Committee.

Nomination of Corporate Members

The President informed that in terms of Article 13(c)(iv) of the Articles of Association, the New Committee was required to nominate all Corporate Members as members of the Committee for the year, 2021-22. He further mentioned that currently there are 72 Corporate Members, out of whom two members had been elected as Sr. Vice President and Vice President. As such, the remaining 70 Corporate Members would become ipso facto members of the New Committee, with all rights and privileges, in terms of the aforesaid Article 13(c)(iv), subject to the payment of their annual subscription.

The proposal was approved unanimously by the Committee.

The names of 72 Corporate Members are given below :

Sl. No	Name of Organisation	Representative
1.	Adhunik Corporation Ltd.	Shri Mahesh Kumar Agarwal
2.	AIC Casting Pvt. Ltd.	Shri Vivek Adukia
3.	BDJ Oxides Private Limited	Shri Anirudh Jhunjunwala
4.	Bengal Beverages Pvt. Ltd.	Shri Amit Goenka
5.	Bharat Hitech (Cements) Pvt. Ltd.	Shri Naresh Kumar Agarwal
6.	Bhikharam Chandmal Sweets & Snacks Pvt.Ltd.	Shri Raj Kumar Agarwal
7.	Celica Developers Pvt. Ltd.	Shri Adarsh Tulshan
8.	Century Plyboards India Ltd.	Shri Sanjay Agarwal
9.	Decorum Infrastructure Pvt. Ltd.	Shri Girdhari Lal Goenka
10.	Duroply Industries Limited	Shri Sudeep Chitlangia



Sl. No	Name of Organisation	Representative
11.	EMAMI Limited	Shri R.S. Goenka
12.	Essel Kitchenware Limited	Shri Abhishek Goyal
13.	Forum Projects Pvt. Ltd.	Shri Rahul Saraf
14.	Future Educare Pvt. Ltd.	Shri Keshav Agarwal
15.	Ganapati Balaji Spinning Mills Pvt. Ltd.	Shri Punit Gujarwasia Agarwal
16.	GEE Limited	Shri Shankar Lal Agarwal
17.	Gopika Projects Pvt. Ltd.	Shri Rohit Singhania
18.	Greenply Industries Ltd.	Shri Rajesh Mittal
19.	IAC Electricals Pvt. Ltd.	Shri Adarsh Garodia
20.	Ideal Insurance Brokers Pvt. Ltd.	Shri Rahul Agarwal
21.	J.G. Hosiery Pvt. Ltd.	Shri Sandeep Seksaria
22.	Joonktollee Tea & Industries Ltd.	Shri Hemant Bangur
23.	JRK Stock Broking Pvt. Ltd.	Shri Ravi Jain
24.	King Chemicals	Shri Sanjib Kumar Kothari
25.	Kutchina Home Makers Pvt. Ltd	Shri Namit Bajoria
26.	Linc Pen & Plastics Limited	Shri Deepak Jalan
27.	Lion Pictures & Frames (India) Ltd.	Shri Manish Gourisaria
28.	Lumino Industries Ltd.	Shri Devendra Goel
29.	Lux Industries Ltd.	Shri Ashok Kumar Todi
30.	Lux Industries Ltd.	Shri Pradeep Kumar Todi
31.	Meghalaya Cements Ltd.	Shri Mahendra Kumar Agarwal
32.	Metropoli Fashion Pvt. Ltd.	Shri Yashovardhan Gupta
33.	Mortex (India)	Shri Mahesh Ch. Keyal
34.	Multiwyn Industries Pvt. Ltd.	Shri Vishal Jhajharia
35.	National Printing Works	Shri B. N. Agarwala
36.	Neo Metaliks Ltd.	Shri Ravi Agarwal

Sl. No	Name of Organisation	Representative
37.	Nipha Exports Pvt. Ltd.	Shri Aakash Shah
38.	Parag Vinimay Pvt. Ltd.	Shri Vikas Agarwal
39.	Phuguri Tea Estate Pvt. Ltd.	Shri Abhishek Bagaria
40.	Plymex Timber Pvt. Ltd.	Shri Srikant Jain
41.	Precision Technik Pvt. Ltd.	Shri Rajesh Kumar Sonthalia
42.	Pragya Mercantile Pvt. Ltd.	Shri Tulsi Kumar Dugar
43.	Pratidin Prakashani Pvt. Ltd.	Shri Srinjoy Bose
44.	PR Promoters & Developers Pvt. Ltd.	Shri Vicky Raj Sikaria
45.	Smt. Priti A. Sureka	Smt. Priti A. Sureka
46.	Rajdee Comex Pvt. LTd.	Shri Deepak Choudhary
47.	Rashmi Metaliks Ltd.	Shri Sanjib Kumar Patwari
48.	Ravindra Chamaria	Shri Ravindra Chamaria
49.	Rupa & Co. Ltd.	Shri Ramesh Agarwal
50.	Salarpuria Properties Pvt. Ltd.	Shri Apurva Salarpuria
51.	Sanmarg Pvt. Ltd.	Shri Vivek Gupta
52.	Sasta Sundar Ventures Ltd.	Shri B. L. Mittal
53.	Satellite Progressive Developers	Shri Suresh Agarwal
54.	Sawalka Kel Pvt. Ltd.	Shri Avinash Sawalka
55.	Sawansukha Jewellers Pvt. Ltd.	Shri Siddhartha Sawansukha
56.	Shailja Park Pvt. Ltd.	Shri Mayank Agarwal
57.	Shakambhari Ispat & Power Ltd.	Shri Deepak Kumar Agarwal
58.	Shakti Logistics Pvt. Ltd.	Shri Lavesh Poddar
59.	Shyam Metalics & Energy Ltd.	Shri Brij Bhushan Agarwal
60.	Shyam Steel Industries Limited	Shri Shyam Sunder Beriwal
61.	Shyam Steel Manufacturing Ltd.	Shri Lalit Beriwal
62.	Singhanian & Sons Pvt. Ltd.	Shri Pradeep Kumar Singhanian
63.	Skipper Limited	Shri Devesh Bansal
64.	Smarajit Mitra & Associates	Shri Smarajit Mitra
65.	SREI Equipment Finance Ltd.	Shri Sunil Kanoria



SI. No	Name of Organisation	Representative
66.	Sudhir Chandra Sur Degree Engineering College	Shri Taranjit Singh
67.	Supertron Electronics Pvt. Ltd.	Shri Vishnu Kumar Bhandari
68.	Swadeshi Marketing Pvt. Ltd.	Shri Sanjay Rasiwasia
69.	T.T. Limited	Shri Sanjay Kumar Jain
70.	The Bhawanipur Gujrati Education Society	Shri Miraj D. Shah
71.	UAL Industries Ltd.	Shri Arun Kumar Saraf
72.	Utkarsh India Ltd.	Shri Sunil Bansal

Appointment of Chairman and Co-Chairman for the Advisory Council for the year 2021-22

The President proposed **Shri Sanjay Agarwal** as the Chair and **Shri Hemant Bangur** as the Co-Chair of the Advisory Council.

The proposal was unanimously approved by the Committee.

Nomination of Chairman for the Merchants' Chamber of Commerce Foundation for the year 2021-22.

As per Trust Deed, **Shri Rishabh C Kothari**, newly elected President was nominated as Chairman of the Merchants' Chamber of Commerce Foundation for the year 2021-22.

Co-option to the new Committee

In terms of amended Article 13(b)(viii) of the Articles of Association of the Chamber, the Committee was required to co-opt 5 Members including the immediate past President for the year 2021-22

Shri A. R. Sonthalia proposed the following names :

Co-opted Members

1. Shri Aakash Shah – Immediate Past President
2. Shri Sheo Shankar Bagaria
3. Shri Sushil K. Dhandhania

Special Invitees

1. Shri Srivatsa Kajaria
2. Shri Aditya Vikram Birla

The proposal was unanimously approved by the Committee

Constitution of Councils for 2021-22 and Appointment of Chairmen and Co-Chairmen.

The Committee unanimously authorized the President to constitute, add or delete existing Councils. The Committee also authorized the President to appoint Chairmen and Co Chairmen of the Councils and inform the Committee accordingly.

The list is produced below :

ADVISORY COUNCIL, MCC FOUNDATION & COUNCILS FOR 2021-22

	Chairman	Co-Chairman
Advisory Council	Sanjay Agarwal	Hemant Bangur
Merchants' Chamber of Commerce Foundation	Rishabh C Kothari	
	Chairperson	Co-Chairperson
MCCI Ladies Forum (MLF)	Manasi Kothari	Manjulata Beriwal
	Chairman	Co-Chairman
MCCI Young Entrepreneurs Forum (MYEF)	Vidhan Rasiwasia	Anshuman Shah

Councils for 2021-22

SI No.	Sector	Chairman	Co Chairman
1	Agriculture & Horticulture	Suresh Agarwal	Sanjeev Kumar Baid
2	Banking & Finance	Sanjay Rasiwasia	Smarajit Mitra
3	Capital Markets	Girdhari Lal Goenka	Ravi Jain Rakesh Somani
4	Direct Taxes	Arvind Agrawal	Sanjay Bhattacharya Ramesh Kumar Chokhani
5	Education	Miraj D. Shah	Keshav Agarwal Simarpreet Singh
6	FMCG	Priti A. Sureka	
7	Food Processing	Raj Kumar Agarwal	Suresh Kumar Agarwal
8	Foreign Trade	Mahesh Chandra Keyal	Arun Kumar Garodia
9	Gem & Jewellery	Siddhartha Sawansukha	Arvind Soni
10	GST, Indirect & State Taxes	Arun Kumar Agarwal	Sushil Kumar Goyal
11	Human Resource Development	Tushar Basu	Abhijit Basu



Councils for 2021-22

12	Industry	Sanjib Kumar Patwari	Mahendra Kumar Agarwal Devendra Goel
13	Infrastructure & Real Estate	Munish Jhajharia	Rohit Singhania Vicky Raj Sikaria
14	Insurance	Deepak Kumar Choudhary	Shyam Agarwal
15	IT & Communication	Vishnu Kumar Bhandari	Sanjib Sanghi Amit Sharma
16	Jute	Srivatsa Kajaria	
17	Legal & Corporate Governance	Mamta Binani	Jiban Chakraborty
18	Logistics, Transport & Shipping	Lavesh Poddar	Nimish Saraf
19	Media & Entertainment	Srinjoy Bose	Bipin Newar
20	Membership Development	Santosh Kumar Saraf	Arun Kumar Saraf
21	MSMEs	Sanjib Kumar Kothari	Akhil Sonthalia
22	Power & Renewable Energy	Devendra Goel	Avijit Ghosh
23	Retail	Yashovardhan Gupta	Nikhil Golchha
24	Start Up & Skill Development	Smarajit Mitra	Dilip Shah
25	Steel	Mahesh Kumar Agarwal	Vivek Adukia Santosh Bajaj
26	Tea	Abhishek Bagaria	Padmanabh Jalan
27	Textiles & Hosiery	Pradip Kumar Todi	Vinod Kumar Gupta Brahmanand Agarwala

Shri A R Sonthalia extended heartiest congratulations to the incoming Team for the year ahead. He complimented the outgoing Team led by Shri Aakash Shah for their immense contribution to the Chamber. He said that it was a difficult period, but the results were far better than expected. In the pandemic year

amidst intermittent lockdowns, Shri Shah performed amazingly to his best. The Secretariat also had put in tremendous effort during the year, he said. He advised the incoming President to reach out to the members for sending their issues, feedback and suggestions.

Shri B K Jhajharia thanked the outgoing Office Bearers' Team led by Shri Aakash Shah for an eventful year, in spite of the difficult times. He congratulated the incoming Team under the Presidentship of Shri Rishabh C Kothari and was hopeful that the Chamber would attain newer dimensions and greater heights under his dynamic leadership. He assured his active support and guidance towards efficient running of the Chamber and put on record his appreciation for the dedication and commitment of the Secretariat. He advised to plan appropriate programmes and create a calendar, for effective functioning of the Chamber.

Shri Sanjay Agarwal congratulated Shri Rishabh C kothari and his Team and wished them all success. He complimented the outgoing Team led by Shri Aakash Shah for their immense contribution to the Chamber. He hoped that the new incoming Team would take the Chamber to greater heights. He stressed on new thinking, new policies, new direction and new approach.

Shri Deepak Jalan appreciated the immense work done by the outgoing President, Shri Aakash Shah and his Team. He congratulated the new Incoming Team and assured his support and cooperation.

Shri Vishal Jhajharia appreciated the

immense contribution of Shri Aakash Shah, the outgoing President to the Chamber. He hoped that the new incoming Team under Shri Rishabh C Kothari would take the Chamber to greater heights. He spoke highly on different initiatives taken by the Chamber in this difficult period.

Shri Vivek Gupta congratulated Shri Aakash Shah for a wonderful tenure in these troubled times. He extended a warm welcome to the new Team. The objective should be to make the Team more capable, so that the Chamber becomes the most sought after Chamber of Eastern India, he noted. He hoped to have an inclusive journey for all, to get good results from the Governments, both Central & State.

Shri Aakash Shah congratulated Shri Rishabh C Kothari on his election as the President of the Chamber and expressed his satisfaction that he handed over the baton to such a dynamic person. He felt that the Chamber would reach greater heights under the dynamic leadership of Shri Kothari as the President. He mentioned that that he had a wonderful experience as the President of the Chamber and thanked the tremendous support system for this huge task. He felt that the role of a past President would not only to provide support but also to help continue building the strong foundation of MCCI.



INTERACTIVE SESSIONS / SYMPOSIA / WORKSHOPS

MCCI Defence Forum 2021 - "Scope of MSMEs in Defence Procurement" on 7 April 2021 at The Park Hotel, Kolkata

The Chamber organized the MCCI Defence Forum, 2021 on 7 April 2021 at the Park Hotel, Kolkata, in order to promote defence procurement from MSMEs in West Bengal and Eastern India. The Forum was attended by representatives from major Defence manufacturers and procurers, including, DRDO, Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, GRSE Ltd, Ordnance Factory Dumdum, Cochin Shipyard Limited, Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited, BEML Limited, among others.

Shri Aakash Shah, President, MCCI stated in his Welcome Address that MCCI has always championed the cause of MSMEs in Eastern India and this Forum was an attempt on MCCI's part to promote defence procurement from MSMEs in Eastern India. He highlighted the criticality of the new vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat and its manifestation in the new Defence Production & Exports Promotion Policy (DPEPP) that now looks to develop Indian defence manufacturing not only for Indian requirements, but also to service global markets.

Shri Pranab Kumar Sarma, General Manager, Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, Barrackpore Division mentioned that HAL, a pioneer company in defence sector, has 8,000 registered private entities as its

supplier out of which 2,000 are MSMEs. HAL has 21 production units and 10 R&D centers across the country, to handhold private entities in manufacturing components for their requirements.

Shri Sanjeev Kumar, Additional Director, Directorate of Industry Interface & Technology Management (DIITM), DRDO HQ, Ministry of Defence stated that private enterprises cannot afford R&D in defence sector, and this is where DRDO plays a critical role. MSMEs can join DRDO as partners via technology transfer for mass production.

The Inaugural Session also had recorded messages from Dr. Satheesh Reddy, Chairman DRDO and Shri M. V. Rajasekhar, CMD, BEML Ltd.

The Session ended with a hearty Vote of Thanks by **Shri Rishabh C Kothari**, Senior Vice President of the Chamber.

The Plenary Session, titled "**Opportunity and Challenges for OEMs & MSMEs and Ensuring Ease of Doing Business - A step forward to realise Make in India**", was addressed by Cdr. Bhaskar Sengupta, IN (Retd), General Manager (QA,VD & IEP), GRSE Ltd; Shri Krishna Kumar Mandal, Chief manager (Integrated Materials Management), Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, Barrackpore Division; Shri Bijoy Kumar, Additional General Manager, Ordnance Factory Dumdum; Shri Sanil Peter, Assistant General Manager (New

Projects), Cochin Shipyard Limited & Shri Sanjay Biswas, Manager (Material Purchase), Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited.

The Session ended with **Shri Sanjib Kumar Kothari**, Treasurer and Chairman, Council on MSME, MCCI offering a hearty Vote of Thanks to the guest speakers.

The B2B interaction session witnessed participation from MSMEs and their direct liaison with the top defence manufacturing agencies at the event.

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**Special Session with
Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman
Hon'ble Minister of Finance & Corporate
Affairs, Government of India
on "Sustaining Growth Momentum
During COVID Times"
on 20 April 2021 at Hotel Taj Bengal,
Kolkata**

Merchants' Chamber of Commerce and Industry organised a Special Session on **"Sustaining Growth Momentum During COVID Times"** with **Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman**, Hon'ble Minister of Finance & Corporate Affairs, Government of India and Dr. Vinay Sahasrabuddhe, MP, Rajya Sabha & President, ICCR on 20 April 2021 at Hotel Taj Bengal, Kolkata.

Highlighting the challenges the Indian economy has gone through in the recent past, **Shri Aakash Shah**, President, MCCI in his Welcome Address, mentioned that India like many other countries faced the dual challenge of demand and supply shock during lockdown period, but the Government of India was very prompt to respond to it. He referred to relief package worth INR 1.7 trillion announced by the

Honorable Finance Minister in March 2020, which was followed by INR 20 Trillion package in May, 2020. While lauding the Honorable Finance Minister for the initiatives taken by the Government that ensured a V shaped recovery, he expressed concerns over COVID 2nd wave and its possible impact on the economy.

Shri Rishabh C Kothari, Senior Vice President, MCCI in his address said that India has been recognized by the world for its amazing recovery. Following the lockdown, the Indian economy witnessed a sharp contraction of 23.9% and 7.5% in Q1 and Q2 of FY 2020-21 respectively. During these tough times, GST collections marked an increase of 7.4% over previous year. Agriculture sector witnessed a growth of around 3.4% during Q1 & Q2 of fiscal 2020-21, when all other sectors witnessed sharp declines. The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), in its interim economic outlook report forecast that India would be the fastest growing economy in 2021 & 2022.

Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Hon'ble Minister of Finance & Corporate Affairs, Government of India mentioned the strategy of economic revival is to ensure that people with endowment continue to create jobs in the economy and at the same time ensure that people with no endowment are capable to take up these jobs. While highlighting the various key initiatives taken by the Government, she emphasized that for growth, an economy needs not relief but stimulus and economic reforms. Only Economic reforms can ensure a sustainable growth momentum for India. She pointed out that the Government of



India had been working on three major reforms; viz. Agricultural reform, Labour law reform and Company Law & Order reform. There are several regulatory gaps that need to be filled up via reforms to allow the economy achieve its true potential.

During COVID Lockdown, Government of India announced Rs. 2.7 lakh Cr. relief fund and the Atmanirbhar Bharat scheme to counter the economic slowdown triggered by the lockdown. During lockdown, the agriculture sector in India continued to grow, which formed the basis of economic recovery. Government of India supported the rural migrant workers and initiated funds over Rs 1 lakh Cr. through MGNREGA along with numerous other social benefit schemes for the marginalized population. She stressed on the need of mutual trust between Government and industry. While the Government should help ease of doing business, the industry must also trust the Government and support its reforms for the greater objective of economic growth. She requested the industry to rise up to the challenge and co-operate with the Government to ensure that India's growth momentum continues.

The Session ended with a hearty Vote of Thanks by **Shri Sanjay Rasiwasia**, Chairman, Council on Banking & Finance, MCCI.

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Special Session with Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat
Hon'ble Minister of Jal Shakti, Government of India
on 23 April 2021

The Merchant's Chamber of Commerce &

Industry held a Special Session with **Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat**, Hon'ble Minister of Jal Shakti, Government of India on 23 April 2021. **Shri Rishabh C Kothari**, Senior Vice President, MCCI chaired the session and welcomed Shri Shekhawat on behalf of the Chamber.

Shri Shekhawat discussed the major achievements of Jal Jeevan Mission and how it has enabled tap water supplies to 38% of all households in Bengal. Presently, there are 58 districts in the country that have 100% tap water connection for households in India. He also stated that West Bengal, with barely 5% households having tap water, is much below the national average. He also discussed about committing Rs. 25,000 Cr for implementing the project in the State. He stated that the Land Ceiling Act was one of the major impediments for industrial development in Bengal and it needs to be addressed for the future of industries in Bengal.

Members also discussed various issues related to improvement of agriculture, the future of technological intervention in conventional industries. Shri Shekhawat insisted that it was necessary to break out of conventional moulds to ensure development of various sectors like agriculture.

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Webinar Shri K. Ganesh, Member (Life), IRDAI on 'IRDAI Initiatives in This Pandemic Time'
on 27 April 2021 over Zoom Online Platform

Merchants' Chamber of Commerce & Industry organised a special E-Session with **Shri K. Ganesh, Member (Life), IRDAI**

on **“IRDAI Initiatives in This Pandemic Time”** on 27 April 2021 at 4 p.m. on Zoom Platform.

Shri Rishabh C Kothari, Senior Vice-President, MCCI in his Welcome Address said that the COVID crisis and the economic slowdown resulting from the related lockdown has proved to be major socio-economic challenge for the country. IRDAI has been extremely proactive throughout this period to ease the concern of Indian citizens. He lauded IRDAI for introducing “Saral Jeevan Bima”, a standard individual term policy, to make insurance affordable and available for all sections of society.

Shri K. Ganesh, Member (Life), IRDAI said that during the ongoing pandemic, the Government of India and the regulatory agencies have been working to ensure that certain critical services continue even under these challenging circumstances. In this regard, IRDAI had focused on insurer’s settlement, insolvency and policy agreement. During the lockdown phase, the Authority extended grace period for premium settlement. Shri Ganesh referred to IRDAI-initiated standard individual health insurance policy called “Arogya Sanjeevani” policy to cover treatment of COVID-19 and also designed policies such as Corona Rakshak and Corona Kavach to cover the cost of the treatment of COVID-19. These COVID specific short-term plans provides immediate coverage via affordable premium. IRDAI also introduced a simple term policy life insurance called Saral Jeevan Bima that allows coverage up to INR 25 lakh. IRDAI also designed a policy Saral Suraksha Bima to cover personal accident. IRDAI has recently introduced

general insurances viz Bharat Griha Raksha, Bharat Sookshma Udyam Suraksha and Bharat Laghu Udyam Suraksha to cover the Industries, especially MSMEs from physical accidents including like fire.

The Session ended with a hearty Vote of Thanks by **Shri Subodh Kumar Agrawal**, Chairman, Council of Capital Market & Insurance, MCCI.

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**Webinar with Dr. Rajiv Kumar, Vice
Chairman, NITI Aayog
on “Sustaining Robust Growth Rates”
on 29 April 2021 over Zoom Online
Platform**

The Chamber organized a Zoom Webinar on **“Sustaining Robust Growth Rates”** with **Dr. Rajiv Kumar**, Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog on 29 April 2021.

Shri Aakash Shah, President, MCCI in his Welcome Address said that India is noted for achieving a V shaped recovery in a very short period of time. Since last year, the economic slowdown required several interventions from the Government, ranging from relief to stimulus packages, Atmanirbhar Bharat Package in particular, which covered a wide array of sectors and industries. Largely because of these interventions, after two consecutive quarters of contraction, the country’s GDP entered into a positive territory with the growth of 0.4% in the October-December quarter of the last fiscal.

Dr. Rajiv Kumar, Vice-Chairman, NITI Aayog pointed out that India is a huge sub-continent, with a diverse and dual economy, it is important to achieve growth with equity for the huge and diverse population



of the country. He mentioned that if India can grow at 10-11% per year, the per capital income of our country would be \$16,000 by 2050. If India would maintain double digit growth rate, India would be amongst the top three global economies worth \$45 trillion. He suggested the following to achieve potential growth rate:

- India must raise its rate of investment from below 30% of GDP to 35-40% of GDP.
- India must increase exports as share of GDP. Export sector is always labour-intensive sector and if it performs well, it augurs well for employment generation as well.
- The share of manufacturing in GDP must increase. Manufacturing should not remain small scale and must emerge to be globally competitive.
- India must work towards modernization of agriculture. Currently, the water usage is too high, yields are too low and stocks are too expensive. Land Fragmentation is another constraint.
- Trust building between government and private sector is important. While the Government will continue to remove regulatory hurdles for ease of doing business, the private sector must evolve as a responsible partner of growth.

The session ended with a hearty Vote of Thanks by **Shri Rishabh C Kothari**, Senior Vice President, MCCI.

Webinar Shri G. Pradeepkumar, CEO, Union Asset Management Co. Pvt. Ltd. on "Opportunities in a Volatile Market" on 6 May 2021 over Zoom Platform

The Chamber organized a Zoom Webinar on '**Opportunities in a Volatile Market**' with **Shri G. Pradeepkumar**, CEO, Union Asset Management Co. Pvt. Ltd. on 6 May 2021.

Shri Rishabh C Kothari, Senior Vice President, MCCI in his Welcome Address said that the Volatility Index (or India VIX) based on the Nifty Index Option prices has reportedly been at its peak of 11 years in 2020. Much of the movements of the stock market can be attributed to the global uncertainties and how investors have been reacting.

Shri G. Pradeepkumar, CEO, Union Asset Management Co. Pvt. Ltd. explained a sharp economic recovery is expected in 2021 and it is anticipated that global markets will grow by 6% and India will grow at 11%. He suggested to potential investors that even while stocks are expensive today, being out of the market is a bigger risk as the market can go up 15% to 20% based on available liquidity, while investing in other forms of assets is riskier. In the current scenario, the best option for an investor is a Balanced Advantage Fund or an Equity Savings Fund. Those who have an investment horizon of five years can continue with their SIP into equity funds.

The session ended with a hearty Vote of Thanks by **Shri Subodh Kumar Agrawal**, Chairman, Council on Capital Market & Insurance, MCCI.

**Webinar with Dr. Randeep Guleria,
Director, AIIMS on “Expert’s Overview on
COVID – 19 : Prevention, Treatment and
post COVID Effects” on 1 June 2021 over
Zoom Online Platform**

Merchants’ Chamber of Commerce & Industry (MCCI) organized a Zoom Webinar on ‘Expert’s overview on COVID-19: Prevention, Treatment and Post COVID Effects’ with **Dr. Randeep Guleria**, Director, AIIMS, New Delhi on 1 June 2021.

Shri Aakash Shah, President, MCCI in his Welcome Address said that the country is witnessing a virulent second wave of COVID with the entire health care ecosystem being challenged to its limit. The pandemic is also taking a heavy toll on our economy.

In his address, **Dr. Randeep Guleria**, Director, AIIMS, New Delhi said India, with 27.5 million cases till date, had the second largest documented cases in the world. He provided the basic statistics on the proportion of various symptoms of COVID 19 : a. Fever (87.9%), b. Respiratory symptoms - Dry Cough (67.7%), Shortness of breath (18.6%), Sore Throat (13.9%), Running Nose (4.8%); c. Fatigue (38.1%); d. Myalgias/arthritis [aches and pains] (14.8%); e. Diarrhoea (3.7%).

Vaccines are the most effective public health measure to end the pandemic, he felt, however, developing vaccines is only half of the work done; delivering them equitably is more important. That is why global vaccination has to be considered. India is making 60% of global vaccine but India is mainly mass producing it for others.

On post COVID or long COVID effects, he pointed out that a large number of people

continue to have post COVID symptoms even after four weeks. If the infection goes beyond twelve weeks, it is recognized as long COVID. The common symptoms that people have to face after COVID are fatigue, dyspnea, joint pain, chest pain, palpitation. Adequate sleep is important and physiotherapy and rehabilitation is also important.

The Session ended with a hearty Vote of Thanks by **Shri Rishabh C Kothari**, Senior Vice President of the Chamber.

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**Webinar with Shri Supratim
Bandyopadhyay, Chairperson, Pension
Fund Regulatory and Development
Authority on ‘Securing Future with
Pension Planning’ on 3 June 2021 over
Zoom Online Platform**

MCCI organized a Zoom Webinar on ‘**Securing Future with Pension Planning**’ with **Shri Supratim Bandyopadhyay**, Chairperson, Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority on 3 June 2021.

Shri Subodh Kumar Agrawal, Chairman, Council on Capital Market & Insurance, MCCI in his Welcome Address said that the New Pension Scheme (NPS), originally notified for Central Government employees’, was subsequently extended to all citizens of the country w.e.f. 1st May, 2009 including self-employed professionals and others in the unorganized sector on a voluntary basis. NPS is one of the best tax saving investing options for the salaried class, and one of the most secured investment mechanisms for post-retirement life.

Shri Supratim Bandyopadhyay,
Chairperson, Pension Fund Regulatory



and Development Authority said that the average old age dependency ratio was 13 in 2020 in India, which means that 7 workers were supporting a retired person. In 2060, the old age dependency ratio will be 31 which means that only 3 workers will be supporting a retired person. India has a fragmented pension system consisting of a plethora of Social Security Schemes of the Government of India such as Atal Pension Yojana and many others. He recommended that young people should start contributing small amounts towards old age pension, at present only 2% to 4% of private sector employees register in the National Pension System (NPS). It is high time that young employees start to plan for their future in the long term.

Shri Girdhari Lal Goenka, Co-Chairman, Council on Capital Market & Insurance, MCCI offered a hearty Vote of Thanks.

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e-Workshop on “Effective Bidding for Government and Public Tenders” with Shri Nitin Jain, Director, Marvel Infocomm Pvt. Ltd. on 4 June 2021 over Zoom Online Platform

MCCI organized an E-Workshop on **Effective Bidding for Government & Public Tenders** with **Shri Nitin Jain**, Director, Marvel Infocomm Pvt. Ltd. on 4 June 2021 over Zoom Platform.

Shri Rishabh Kothari, Senior Vice-President, MCCI in his Welcome Address said that Government-e-Marketplace (GeM) is a one stop portal to facilitate online procurement of commonly use goods and services required by Government

departments. Of all the sellers and vendors registered on Government e-Marketplace, 26% approximately are MSMEs. How to actually bid and win Government contracts is important, he felt.

Shri Nitin Jain, Director of Marvel Infocomm Pvt. Ltd shared that India is a \$3 trillion economy with positive potential growth. The government is the most transparent and resilient business platform for all the business industries. Government has published 10 lakh tenders in a year. There are more than 55000 government, semi government and public sector units in the market to procure products and services from businesses. So it is important for the bidders to find the potential and effective tenders for their business from these huge opportunities. To get an effective tender, the bidder has to keep in his mind about three important factors viz location, product and sector. Shri Jain mentioned about Open Tender, Negotiated Tender, Single stage or Two stage Tender and Reserve / Forward Auction.

The e-Workshop ended with a hearty Vote of Thanks by **Shri Sanjib Kothari**, Chairman, MSME Council, MCCI

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17th MCCI MSME Help Desk on 11 June 2021 on Zoom Online Platform

17th MCCI MSME Help Desk was organized on 11 June 2021 over Zoom. The Mentor Panel for the Help Desk included :

- Shri Rajkumar Middya, Joint Director (P & S), MSME, Government of West Bengal (Chief Mentor);
- Shri Sanjib Kothari, Chairman, Council



on MSME, MCCI;

- Shri Smarajit Mitra, Co Chairman, Council on Banking & Finance, MCCI;
- Shri Akhilk Sonthalia, Co Chairman, Council on MSME, MCCI;
- M/s. Suvidha Consultants as Technical Partner.

There were 6 mentee units each having a one-on-one session with the Mentor Panel.

e-Workshop with CA Abhishek Agarwal, FCA, DISA, Founder, Abhishek Shankar Agarwal & Associates on 'Technical Preparedness for Department Audit under GST, for MSMEs' on 12 June 2021 over Zoom Online Platform

Merchants' Chamber of Commerce & Industry organized a E- Workshop on "Technical Preparedness for Department Audit under GST, for MSMEs" with **CA Abhishek Agarwal**, FCA, DISA, Founder, Abhishek Shankar Agarwal & Associates on 12 June 2021 over Zoom Platform.

Shri Sanjib Kothari, Chairman, MSMEs Council, MCCI in his Welcome Address, said that there are different categories of GST Audit under this ACT- Audit required to be done by the registered person u/s 35, Audit by Tax authorities u/s section 65 & Special audit u/s 66.

CA Abhishek Agarwal, FCA, DISA shared that GST audit is the process of the examination of records, returns and other documents maintained by the registered person under this ACT or the rules made under any other law. There is a conceptual discrimination between Raid and GST. GST

Audit will apply every year for those GST registered business having turnover more than Rs 2 crores in a financial year. GST is a trust-based taxation regime wherein a taxpayer is required to self-assess his tax liability, pay taxes and file returns.

The Session ended with a hearty Vote of Thanks by **Shri Akhil Sonthalia**, Co-Chairman, MSMEs Council.

Webinar with Shri Manuj Bajaj, CEO, GreyBox Technologies on 'Digital Marketing is EASY...When you know how...' on 19 June 2021 over Zoom Online Platform

MCCI organized a Webinar on '**Digital Marketing is Easy When You Know How**' with **Shri Manuj Bajaj**, CEO, GreyBox Technologies on 19 June 2021 over Zoom Platform.

Shri Aakash Shah, President, MCCI in his Welcome Address said that Digital Marketing offers innovative means of approaching customers and new ways of understanding how customers behave, as compared to traditional marketing. It helps minimize marketing expenditures as by transforming from traditional/offline marketing to a mix of offline and online marketing, the cost per unique users usually decreases.

Shri Manish Gourisaria, Chairman, ReMarCom Council, MCCI in his Keynote Address said that marketing and advertising have come a long way, with digitalization adding a newfillip to these services.

Shri Manuj Bajaj, CEO, GreyBox



Technologies pointed out that digital marketing is the process of reaching out to and engaging with the potential buyers through digital media like Internet, Email & Mobile. He dwelt upon the several components of digital marketing which like market research demand analysis & competition analysis, SEO strategy and PPC strategy. Email marketing strategy, social media strategy, mobile marketing strategy and measurement & ROI are other components. He referred to Facebook marketing as the new marketing tool for any company to get new clients, activate lost clients

Shri Yasovardhan Gupta, Co-Chairman, ReMarCom Council, MCCI offered a hearty Vote of Thanks to the guest.

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**Webinar with Shri Sanjeev Sanyal,
Principal Economic Advisor, Govt
of India on 'Economic Resilience in
Uncertain Times'
on 24 June 2021 over Zoom Online
Platform**

MCCI organized a Webinar on '**Economic Resilience in Uncertain Times**' with **Shri Sanjeev Sanyal**, Principal Economic Advisor, Govt. of India on June 24, 2021 over Zoom Platform.

Shri Aakash Shah, President, MCCI in his Welcome Address said that the restrictions due to COVID pandemic disrupted domestic and global supply chains which triggered a supply shock across the economy. The manufacturing sector endured pervasive demand and supply shock penetrating almost all sub sectors, including textiles and fabrics, consumer goods, machinery and equipment. A

timely combination of monetary and fiscal policies last year to counter the negative impacts, along with record agricultural production, helped India chart a V shaped recovery.

In his address, **Shri Sanjeev Sanyal**, Principal Economic Advisor, Govt. of India said that the economic crisis which arose due to COVID pandemic was totally a supply side problem. The Government of India decided to spend more in cushioning the impact. Under the government-initiated world largest food programme, 800 million people were provided food. The Government decided to provide 3 lakh crore guaranteed loan to the MSME sectors to bounce back from the crisis. India achieved the V shaped recovery and the country has been facing positive potential growth. On the basis of this recovery, the Government of India presented an aggressive, reforms oriented and universally acclaimed budget.

Shri Sanyal suggested that during the uncertain time, surveillance and situational awareness is more important than some forecasting tools and measures. He said that the Government would initiate demand enhancing measures.

The Government has continued to provide capital expenditure spending throughout the second wave. The favorable parts of economy like construction, infrastructure and exports have continued to be strong though out this period.

Shri Rishabh Kothari, Senior Vice President, MCCI offered a hearty Vote of Thanks to the guest of the session.

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**MYEF Webinar with Shri Rohit Kapoor,
CEO INSEA, OYO
on 'Building a World-class Business from
Scratch'
on 25 June 2021 over Zoom Online
Platform**

Merchants' Chamber of Commerce & Industry (MCCI) and MCCI Young Entrepreneurs Forum (MYEF) organized a Webinar on "Building a World-Class Business from Scratch" with Shri Rohit Kapoor, CEO INSEA, OYO on 25 June 2021 over Zoom Platform.

Shri Aakash Shah, President, MCCI in his Opening Remarks, said that the tech start-up sector is the most interesting and vibrant sector in India today. Indian entrepreneurship, fueled by the new age digital prowess, has turned India as the third largest tech start-up base in the world. 55,000 Indian startups raised over \$70 billion in funding between 2014 and 2020. A recent report by Praxis Global Alliance suggests India is expected to have around 150 Unicorns with HNI investments worth \$30 billion by 2025.

Shri Vidhan Rasiwasia, Chairperson, MYEF in his address said that MYEF was recently launched on 5 January 2021 as the youth wing and think-tank of young leaders at MCCI, primarily focusing on - Youth Leadership, Nation Building and Thought Leadership.

Shri Rohit Kapoor, CEO INSEA, OYO suggested that resilient industrial ecosystem needs a proper acquisition mechanism to attract the right talent. India is the hub of real talent, and new businesses are needed to channelize this talent base. If a young entrepreneur is

talented enough, money is not a constraint for his success. To grow a business or small startups, the employees must grow with the company. Shri Kapoor mentioned an important aspect of identifying one's field of business is to recognize the Megatrend. Entrepreneur's vision help define short and long-term goals, and guide the decisions along the way. He said that while engaging with new startup business, the entrepreneur should focus on marketing & branding. Entrepreneurs can promote digitally as well as traditionally at the same time with different platforms.

Shri Anshuman Shah, Co-Chairman, MYEF proposed a hearty Vote of Thanks.

**Webinar with Shri V S Radhakrishnan,
Deputy Managing Director, State Bank
of India on "Outlook of the Economy
due to COVID Surge and Impact on the
Banking Sector"
on 28 June 2021 over Zoom Online
Platform**

Merchants' Chamber of Commerce & Industry (MCCI) organized a Zoom Webinar on "Outlook of the Economy due to Covid Surge and Impact on the Banking Sector" with Shri **V.S. Radhakrishnan**, Deputy Managing Director, State Bank of India on 28 June 2021.

Shri Rishabh Kothari, Senior Vice President, MCCI in his Welcome Address said that the pandemic has resulted in a severe human tragedy and an economic paralysis for India. RBI played an exemplary role last year during the crisis with its monetary policy that helped facilitate the V shaped recovery. He said that Gross NPA ratio was estimated around 8.7% around



March-April 2021, and it is expected that NPAs over INR 2 lakh Crore will be moved from the books of the banks to the newly formed National Asset Reconstruction Company Ltd (NARCL).

Shri V.S. Radhakrishnan, Deputy Managing Director, State Bank of India said that the impact of the second wave both in economy and society is worse than the first, which affected the rural areas reducing demand from rural area. In the previous year our country had witnessed negative growth rates. The unorganized labour force faced several challenges in this pandemic. According to CMIE report; during this pandemic 15 million people have lost their jobs. The major challenge for the banking sector has been slowdown in credit offtake. Banks provide credit more to the MSMEs than large industries, growth in credit facilities for MSMEs has increased to 28 percent in the last year. This is because during this pandemic there has is a huge scale down in capital expenditure in corporate sector. NPAs in banks have deteriorated to 14.5 percent in last financial year and the Capital Adequacy Ratio for the banks has increased 12.5 percent than previous years.

The session ended with hearty Vote of Thanks by **Shri Sanjay Rasiwasia**, Chairman, Council on Banking & Finance, MCCI

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Webinar on "Impact of 2nd wave on the recovery of Indian economy" on 8 July 2021 over Zoom Online Platform

Merchants' Chamber of Commerce & Industry organized a Zoom Webinar on

'Impact of 2nd wave on the Recovery of Indian Economy' on 8 July 2021 with following speakers:

- **Dr. Shubhada Rao**, Founder, QuantEco Research and Former Group President & Chief Economist, Yes Bank Ltd.,
- **Prof. Pinaki Chakraborty**, Director, National Institute of Public Finance & Policy,
- **Shri Saugata Bhattacharya**, Chief Economist & Senior VP, Axis Bank,
- **Dr. Partha Pratim Pal**, Professor of Economics, IIM Calcutta,
- **Shri Dhruv Bhalla**, Group Head - Brand & Corporate Affairs, Srei Infrastructure Finance
- **Shri Siddhartha Sanyal**, Chief Economist & Head -Research, Bandhan Bank.

Shri Rishabh Kothari, Senior, Vice President, MCCI in his Welcome Address said that India was one of the first nations to adopt a nation-wide lockdown which was perhaps the harshest lockdown adopted by any country. Post unlocking, the Indian economy showed signs of a V shaped recovery as infection rates too decreased, leading to a period of short-lived optimism. The impact of the second wave in the economy is worse than first wave, as the former resulted in large scale human tragedy and consequently it is feared that the demand-supply dynamics that drives the economy may have been irreversibly damaged.

Dr. Shubhada Rao, Founder, QuantEco Research and Former Group President & Chief Economist, Yes Bank Ltd. moderated the Session and said that while 10% growth

remains feasible, there are risks. Growth should be calibrated against inflation, which is a staggering problem.

Prof. Pinaki Chakraborty, Director, National Institute of Public Finance & Policy said that India is experiencing higher growth rates on a low base. It has been determined that Debt / GDP should be 60% by 2023, which stands at 90% now. The Centre has a deficit of about 9.5% of GDP while the States run a deficit of about 4%. So, total deficit is high at about 13% - 13.5% of GDP. The Government has to navigate carefully as there is no room for fiscal expansion.

Shri Saugata Bhattacharya, Chief Economist & Senior VP, Axis Bank said that tapering/ normalization process has started in certain Western nations. In India, Investment was slowing, so government shifted to capex. Now, Consumption is also becoming problem. Prices of food, steel, etc. are rising which may force the RBI to tighten monetary policy.

Dr. Partha Pratim Pal, Professor of Economics, IIM Calcutta said that developed nations are experiencing demand pull inflation while inflation in developing nations is coming from the cost side, with rising prices of steel, food, etc. RBI cannot further cut interest rates and the fiscal space is limited. Credit outflow is no longer rising rapidly and personal loans were up 12% recently on account of higher vehicle purchase and credit card purchases. India's exports are growing and it can do better on the export front.

Shri Dhruv Bhalla, Group Head - Brand & Corporate Affairs, Srei Infrastructure

Finance Ltd. said that there is no blanket approach or universal strategy with respect to the virus and the effect of the pandemic varies from region to region. Businesses need to remove flab and stay lean during the crisis.

Shri Siddhartha Sanyal, Chief Economist & Head - Research, Bandhan Bank said that Consumer Confidence Index showed a steady decline. The Index was at 105 in March 2019 and it fell to as low as 50 during Covid crisis. The rural economy has done badly in the 2nd wave. Government should identify areas where higher expenditure would increase employment without raising debt too much.

Shri Sanjay Rasiwasia, Chairman, Council on Banking & Finance, MCCI offered a hearty Vote of Thanks.

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Webinar on 'Recent Circulars issued on GST and their Impact' with CA Sushil K Goyal, Co-Chairman, MCCI Council on GST & Indirect Taxes on 22 July 2021 over Zoom Online Platform

Merchants' Chamber of Commerce & Industry (MCCI) organized a Zoom Webinar on **"Recent Circulars issued on GST and their Impact"** with **CA Sushil K. Goyal**, Co-Chairman, Council on GST & Indirect Taxes, MCCI on 22 July 2021.

Shri Rishabh C Kothari, Senior Vice-President, MCCI in his opening address said that the focus on digitalization by Government of India, since the last two years, has been great; however, it also creates its own set of challenges for small business where digital technology



penetration and adaptation is still low.

Speaking on different GST Circulars, **CA Sushil K. Goyal**, Co-Chairman, Council on GST & Indirect Taxes, MCCI said that sponsorship in the Mid-day meal scheme through corporate funding is covered in the GST exemption. He mentioned no exemption is available from GST on annuities paid for construction of road where payment is made through deferred payment and it remains taxable. Services supplied to the Government Entity by way of construction such as, of rope-way are eligible for concession rate of 12% GST. Regarding Circular on irrigation parts, if the irrigation parts are sold under drip irrigation system in totality the tax rate levied 12%. Individual sale of such parts will be charged 18% of GST.

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Webinar on "Indian and World Stock Market - Current and post COVID Scenarios" with Shri Ashish Kumar Chauhan, MD & CEO, BSE Ltd. on 29 July 2021 over Zoom Online Platform

The Chamber organized a Zoom Webinar on 'Indian and World Stock Market - current and post COVID scenarios' with Shri Ashish Kumar Chauhan, Managing Director & CEO, BSE Ltd. on 29 July 2021.

Shri Aakash Shah, President, MCCI in his Welcome Address said that overall, stock markets declined over 30% by first phase of the pandemic. Although the BSE benchmark hit its one-year low of 27,500.79 in April 2020, indices marched higher and the frontline BSE 30-share index zoomed

to its all-time high of 52,516.76 in February 2021. At a time when economic activity in India has been derailed by the ongoing COVID-19 crisis, the country's equity markets seem to be riding the second wave confidently.

Shri Ashishkumar Chauhan, MD & CEO, BSE Ltd. said that COVID had put tremendous stress on world economy. In order to provide its customers with liquidity services, BSE ran its operations normally during COVID. Central Banks of nations have pumped liquidity amounting to USD 10 trillion which has gone into assets such as stocks and homes. While asset prices had increased considerably, inflation remained low as the Government distributed free food and relief packages. The entire world shut down for 70 days or so during COVID, but Indian back offices continued to work for foreign banks and overseas retailers. India worked responsibly to keep global offices running. All these factors helped raise global confidence on the Indian economy which in turn is reflected in the volumes of investment being channelized in the Indian stock markets. Indian youth are technology oriented and ready to create wealth. The future of Indian economy is bright, and global investors recognize this potential and hence are bullish to invest in India.

The session ended with **Shri Subodh Kumar Agrawal**, Chairman, Council on Capital Market & Insurance, MCCI offering a hearty Vote of Thanks.

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Webinar on “Decoding the IPO Market: Fundraising Opportunities of NSE” with Smt. Rachana Bhusari, Vice President, Listing Business Development, National Stock Exchange of India Ltd. on 17 August 2021 over Zoom Online Platform.

Merchants' Chamber of Commerce & Industry (MCCI) organized a Zoom Webinar on “Decoding the IPO Market: Fundraising Opportunities on NSE” with Smt. Rachana Bhusari, Vice President, Listing Business Development- National Stock Exchange of India Ltd on 17 August 2021.

Shri Rishabh C Kothari, Senior Vice President, MCCI in his Welcome Address said that the Indian stock market hit new highs just before the lockdown, which was followed by a temporary slump before it started rallying when economic conditions were harshest due to the nationwide lockdown. This is right time for launching IPOs, as 28 companies have already made their maiden offers till July 2021. As many as 12 firms have raised a staggering Rs 27,000 crore through IPO route in the first four months of the ongoing fiscal. New IPOs will seek to raise INR 70,000 Cr in the coming days.

Smt. Rachana Bhusari, Vice President, Listing Business Development, National Stock Exchange of India Ltd (NSE) shared that NSE has introduced various fundraising avenues for companies especially SMEs in recent times, which the companies can choose according to their growth levels. During early stages, a company prefers to choose long term debt, angel funding, venture capital fund and Government capital schemes as its funding sources. At

the growing phase, the company prefers to choose fund from private equity, debt raising and NSE SME Platform Emerge. She explained that NSE is a platform that provides the listed companies an effective way to raising funds. This platform is more transparent and widespread for raising funds from retail investors. NSE has introduced a new provision under which any company with paid up capital more than INR 10 crores becomes eligible to list on NSE. In case of NSE Innovators Growth Platform [IGP], the issuer must be from the technological sector and issuer has to maintain per institutional share holdings of 25 percent for at least a period of one year, she noted.

The Session ended with the offering of hearty Vote of Thanks by **Shri Subodh Kumar Agrawal**, Chairman, Council on Capital Market, MCCI.

Special Session on **“Destination Andhra Pradesh - A Land of Opportunities”** with **Shri J.V.N. Subramanyam, IAS**, Vice Chairman & MD, Andhra Pradesh Industrial Infrastructure Corporation (APIIC); Commissioner, Dept of Industries, Commerce & Export Promotion; CEO, Andhra Pradesh Economic Development Board and **Shri Krishna G. V. Giri**, Exec Vice Chairman, Andhra Pradesh Economic Development Board (APEDB); Advisor- Industries, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh **on 20 August 2021 at The Oberoi Grand, Kolkata**

Merchants' Chamber of Commerce & Industry organized a Special Session on “Destination Andhra Pradesh – A Land of



Opportunities” with

- **Shri J.V.N. Subramanyam**, IAS, Vice Chairman & MD, Andhra Pradesh Industrial Infrastructure Corporation (APIIC); Commissioner, Dept of Industries, Commerce & Export Promotion; CEO, Andhra Pradesh Economic Development Board and
- **Shri Krishna G. V. Giri**, Exec Vice Chairman, Andhra Pradesh Economic Development Board (APEDB); Advisor-Industries, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh.

Addressing the Session, **Shri J.V.N. Subramanyam** said that the sectors of Agri Tech & Foods Processing, Automobile & Auto Components, IT & Electronics, Pharma & Bio Tech, Textiles & Apparel, Aerospace & Defence and Chemicals & Petrochemicals have been the key drivers of growth in the state. He mentioned that Seamless Governance, Proximity to Skilled Labour Conducive industrial Policies, Proximity to R & D Hubs & Markets; E C Cleared Land at Low Cost/ Developed Infra; Lower Power Cost : 40-45% cheaper Power Cost INR 4.5-6.5 per unit, compared to other states; Power surplus state with 21 GW capacity; Lowest Water Cost and Vendor Base & Supply Chain Linkages as the key advantages of Andhra Pradesh as an Investment Destination :

Stressing on promotion of industrialization and Environment & Social Governance (ESG) as the primary objective, **Shri Krishna G. V. Giri** said that since May 2019, 65 mega & large projects have been implemented with 1,38,000 MSMEs having an investment of Rs. 34,000 cr. Providing employment of 1,30,000 people. Shri Giri informed

the House of Navaratnalu (9 assurances) for comprehensive social development, which are Support to Farmers; Irrigation Development; Incentive to Mother for Child Education; Scholarship for Higher Education; Women Empowerment; Social Safety Net; Housing for All; Quality Healthcare for All and Alcohol Ban

Earlier, in his Welcome Address, **Shri Aakash Shah**, President, MCCI mentioned that while Andhra Pradesh has been registering a GSDP growth rate of 11.5% over the last decade, West Bengal has also been growing at approximately 10% during the same period. Andhra Pradesh is currently ranked No.1 in the DIPP ranking on Ease of Doing Business (EODB) among States in India. West Bengal has a rich industrial base and the state accounts for approximately 14% of all MSMEs in the country, making it the second largest state in terms of MSMEs.

The Session was moderated by **Smt. Mamta Binani**, Chairperson, Council on Legal Affairs, MCCI, which ended with a hearty Vote of Thanks by Shri Anirudh Jhunjhunwala, Chairman, Council on Industry, MCCI.

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Special Session on “Developments and Opportunities of Food Processing & Horticulture Sector of West Bengal” with Dr. Subrata Gupta, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Food Processing & Horticulture, Government of West Bengal on 24 August 2021 at MCCI Conference Hall.

Merchants’ Chamber of Commerce & Industry (MCCI) organised a Special Session



on “Developments and Opportunities of Food Processing & Horticulture Sector of West Bengal” with Dr. Subrata Gupta, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Food Processing & Horticulture, Government of West Bengal on August 24, 2021 at 2.30 p.m. at MCCI Conference Hall.

Shri Aakash Shah, President, MCCI in his Welcome Address said that since 2011, the State has managed to ensure coverage of 14,82,696 hectares under fruits, flowers, vegetables, spices and plantation crops. He appreciated the Department of Food Processing and Horticulture, GoWB for pursuing several path breaking initiatives for the development of this sector even amidst the ongoing crisis, that includes Hi-Tech horticulture cultivation, Promotion of organic farming, a model nursery in Jalpaiguri for fruit production, to name a few.

Dr. Subrata Gupta, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Food Processing & Horticulture, Government of West Bengal said that West Bengal is the front benchers in the production of food items all over the country. The State is the highest rice producing state, and also fares well in vegetables, fruits, cereals and pulses. West Bengal is the fifth largest meat supplying state and number one in fish and marine products all over the country. Food & grocery is growing at CAGR at 25% and Food Services has also grown at 15% in last year. However, Dr Gupta informed that only 2.8% of the produce is processed in West Bengal, while more than 27% is wasted before it reaches the market. Dr. Gupta mentioned that there is major gap between crop production and practice of

storing these crops.

To address the challenges of storing, the Government is actively seeking investments via PPP mode for 2 kinds to storage facilities being developed : Type I : A large chamber with single temperature facilities. Type II : 6 different chambers with multiple temperature facilities. The Government can provide subsidy up to 35% for both the types. The Government has decided to establish 5 more small Food Processing Units and has already negotiated with NABARD to establish 4-5 Centralised Common facilities for Food processing units with required ancillary units in one location.

The Session ended with a hearty Vote of Thanks by **Shri Suresh Agarwal**, Chairman, Council on Agriculture and Food Processing of the Chamber.

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**18th MCCI MSME Help Desk on
27 August 2021
at MCCI Conference Hall
and also over Zoom**

18th MCCI MSME Help Desk was organized on 27th August 2021 in hybrid mode at MCCI Conference Hall and also over Zoom. The Mentor Panel for the Help Desk included :

- Shri Rajkumar Middy, Joint Director (P & S), MSME, Government of West Bengal (Chief Mentor);
- Shri Sanjib Kothari, Chairman, Council on MSME, MCCI;
- Shri Smarajit Mitra, Co Chairman, Council on Banking & Finance, MCCI;



- Shri Akhilk Sonthalia, Co Chairman, Council on MSME, MCCI;
- M/s. Suvidha Consultants as Technical Partner.

The Help Desk was attended by the members and select guest-units. There was good participation from the districts of West Bengal. There were 9 mentee units each having a one-on-one session with the Mentor Panel.

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**Workshop cum Buyer-Seller Meet titled
“Participation of MSMEs in Defence
Procurement” on 31 August 2021
at MCCI Conference Hall**

Merchants' Chamber of Commerce & Industry (MCCI) organized a Special Session on “Participation of MSMEs in Defence Procurement” with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, Barrackpore Division & Cochin Shipyard Limited on August 31, 2021 at MCCI.

The event was a follow-up session of MCCI DEfence Forum, held in April 2021 and was a B2B workshop with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, Barrackpore Division and Cochin Shipyard, to help promote procurement of Defense PSUs from MSMEs of West Bengal.

Shri Sanjib Kumar Kothari, Chairman, Council on MSMEs, MCCI in his Welcome Address said that this is an initiative of MCCI to help MSMEs from Eastern India to enhance their opportunities in Defence procurement.

Shri S.K. Majee, CM (Integrated Materials Management), Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, Barrackpore Division in his address

specified that Hindustan Aeronautics Limited is now willing to work with private player on assembling, repairing and designing aircrafts and helicopters. He mentioned that under the guidance of Government of India, HAL is now focusing on the indigenization for the procurements including outsourcing, assembling, rubber manufacturing, repairing activity etc. He spoke about special vendor procurement procedure viz. GEM portal, HAL e-Procurement Portal, Postal Mode of Trading and E-mail Trading.

Shri Harikrishnan Namboodiri KK, Manager, Cochin Shipyard Limited in his Address informed that the Kerala based shipbuilding and ship repairing company now has two units operational in West Bengal. These units are now soliciting private suppliers for AC and Hydraulics preferably from within the State. He mentioned that the material handling team operates out of Cochin even for its Kolkata operations. The private players can procure orders via GeM portal.

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**Webinar with Shri Santosh Kumar
Mohanty, Whole Time Member,
Securities and Exchange Board of India
on “Recent Regulatory Initiatives in
Securities Market”
on 6 September 2021 over Zoom**

Merchants' Chamber of Commerce & Industry organized a Zoom Webinar on ‘Recent Regulatory Initiatives in Securities Market’ with **Shri Santosh Kumar Mohanty**, Whole Time Member, Securities and Exchange Board of India on 6 September 2021.



Shri Rishabh C Kothari, Senior Vice President, MCCI in his Welcome Address said that while all are aware of the bull run in the bourses, what is often overlooked is the role played by the regulators in maintaining discipline and best practices during such runs. SEBI has come a long way to initiate a lot of reforms to make the market safer for investors. It has probed over 90 new cases for flouting securities laws in 2021.

Shri Santosh Kumar Mohanty, Whole Time Member, Securities and Exchange Board of India said that SEBI has been effective and active during the pandemic and took major steps, which include : trading of Rights issues; Special dispensation to companies with stressed assets; submission of forensic audits by companies; Relaxation of minimum contribution of promoters, lock in period reduced to 18 months from 3 years; Strengthened risk management of corporates; Tightening of dividend distribution policy; Announcement of Financial results within 30 minutes of a board meeting; Introduction of E-voting facility;

Business Responsibility and Sustainability Reporting made mandatory from 2023; Encouragement of block chain technology.

The session ended with **Shri Subodh Kumar Agrawal**, Chairman, Council on Capital Market & Insurance, MCCI offering a hearty Vote of Thanks.

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MCCI East India Energy Forum 2021
with Chief Guest : Janab Akhruzzaman,
Hon'ble Minister of State for Power, Govt.
of West Bengal

on 8 September 2021 at The Oberoi Grand, Kolkata

Merchants' Chamber of Commerce & Industry organized MCCI East India Energy Forum 2021 titled "Energy Infrastructure Development needs in West Bengal & East India" on 8 September 2021 at The Oberoi Grand, Kolkata.

Shri Aakash Shah, President, MCCI in his Welcome Address said that between 2010-11 to 2018-19, growth of total electricity consumption in India grew from 6,16,969 GW hours to 10,37,158 GWH. The industrial sector has been the largest power consumer in India, accounting for around 42.69% of the total power consumption in FY 2020. The Indian Government's target of installing 175 GW of renewable energy capacity coupled with the establishment of solar parks and the solar city programme offer great scope for private sector investment in the coming days in the field of renewable energy generation.

Janab Akhruzzaman, Hon'ble Minister of State, Power Department, Government of West Bengal said that over the last decade, West Bengal has been able to change the power infrastructure in the state. The State is working on the goal of achieving the highest connectivity and has build 719 substations. Number of people who can access power service has increased from 80 lakh to 2 crore in last decade. The state Government has provided INR 1000 cr. subsidy to the customers.

Shri S Suresh Kumar, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Department of Power, Government of West Bengal in his address said that the Government of India has



taken different initiatives for improvement of DISCOMs in power sector of the country. He mentioned that unlike other markets, in power sector, for consuming more power the consumer has to pay high tariff for bulk purchasing. He mentioned that in West Bengal, there is lack of demand in power. According to Government of India Energy Survey 2019, power demand in the state was 32,000 million units which was lower than 52,000 million units in 2017-18. The state has the power assets but these assets are underutilized due to lack of demand. The State Government has already invested INR 6700 Crore in critical power plant Sagar Dighi. The non-conventional powers may provide energy for few hours but thermal power can build the base for power conservation. West Bengal is in top 3 states in power transmission.

Shri Debasish U Banerjee, Managing Director, Distribution, CESC Limited said that 1% increase in electricity consumption can actually boost up the real GDP of the country by 1.72%. PV, EV and Energy Storage is the game changer in the power sector. The power generation capability in case of non conventional sources is controlled by the weather conditions that makes it difficult to control according to required demand. This is where conventional energy sources become critical as it can be scaled as per requirement. CESE has now focused on implementing more solar PV grid as in power generation there is a need of balancing conventional and nonconventional energy sources.

Shri Tushar Dalmia, Anvil Cables in his address covered the benefits of the Smart Meter technologies being implemented

by Anvil Cables, which is an IT device that provides the utility and ability to increase efficiency in billing and collection and others.

The Inaugural Session ended with a hearty Vote of Thanks by **Shri Avijit Ghosh**, Co-Chairman, Power & Renewable Energy, MCCI.

The second session was a panel discussion on "Renewable-Enabler for Sustainable Growth" with key panelists:

- Dr. B.K. Choudhury, Professor, Department of Energy Management, IISWBM.
- Shri Digbijoy, Chakraborty, MD & CEO, SunECO Tech Ventures Pvt Ltd.
- Shri Rajib Das, DGM (Planning), CESC Limited.
- Shri Suddhasatta Kundu, Senior Manager (Technical Advisory), India Smart Grid Forum.
- Shri Deepak Hansda, Deputy Manager-Technical, Energy Efficiency Services Limited

In this panel, the key discussions were:

- Importance of Public Private Partnership for expansion of non conventional sources.
- In Southern India, renewable energy has been established as a major power source.
- In North East, there is high potentiality to establish non conventional energy station.
- The cost of renewable energy has come

down, though for solar energy the cost of transmission has decreased by 18%.

- West Bengal Government has decided to install solar roof top units in public schools, hospitals and libraries and other places.
- In power generation, hydrogen is one of the leading options for storing renewable energy.

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Special Session with Dr. Mridul Sagar,
Executive Director, Reserve Bank of India
on “COVID-19 Shock : Macro-Financial
Impact and Policy Responses”
on 9 September 2021
at MCCI Conference Hall

The Chamber organised a Special Session on “COVID-19 Shock: Macro-Financial Impact and Policy Responses” with **Dr. Mridul Sagar**, Executive Director, Reserve Bank of India on 9 September 2021 at MCCI Conference Hall.

Shri Aakash Shah, President, MCCI in his Welcome Address said that RBI’s Financial Stability Report (FSR) of 2020 predicted a surge in the Gross NPA ratio of the banking sector up to 13.5% in September 2021, from 7.5% in September 2020. The second wave derailed the expected V shaped recovery for industries. MSMEs have always been at a disadvantage when it comes to accessing institutional credit. According to IFC estimates of 2018, 84% of the credit requirement of MSMEs were still being met by the informal sector.

Dr. Mridul Sagar, Executive Director, Reserve Bank of India in his address mentioned that COVID-19 shock could

have led to full scale financial crisis and collapse of the real economy, but timely actions by central banks and governments have helped keep the global economy afloat. Front-loaded and sustained RBI support during the current pandemic have forestalled crisis and helped arrest scaring. The Indian economy is on the recovery path, but structural challenges remain. Fortunately, in terms of infections or fatalities, India was not the worst affected country. In fact, once normalized by size of the population, infections and fatalities in India were lower than the global average. Vaccinations were helped to mitigate COVID-19 impact. Digital transactions are exhibiting good traction and suggest that business activity and consumption was on way to full recovery. Unwinding will become important once recovery is achieved to put the economy back on a sustained growth path; RBI will do everything in its capacity to achieve this on a non-disruptive manner.

Shri Chandra Shekhar Ghosh, MD & CEO, Bandhan Bank spoke about the optimism faced during the 3rd quarter of this year. The number of vaccinations has increased that boosts up people confidence. Agriculture sector has given very good production over the last 2 years. In last two years, Reserve Bank of India has come forward to supply liquidity to the small businesses. In West Bengal, MSMEs consumer base is mostly situated in its neighbor states, which faced inter-state travel restrictions due to COVID.

Shri Susobhan Sinha, Regional Director, RBI- Kolkata remarked that during the crisis period, Central Bank has imitated credit great support to the market. However, such liquidity cannot be continued forever



and businesses need to be prepared for the eventuality.

The Session ended with a hearty Vote of Thanks by **Shri Sanjay Rasiwasia**, Chairman, Council on Banking & Finance, MCCI.

Special Session on 'Conservation of Built Heritage - a Way Forward' to be organized jointly by MCCI and West Bengal Heritage Commission in association with Calcutta Heritage Collective
on 28 September 2021
at MCCI Conference Hall

Merchants' Chamber of Commerce & Industry organised a special Session on "**Conservation of Built Heritage - a Way Forward**" on 28 September, 2021 at MCCI Conference Hall, with the following speakers :

- Shri Shuvaprasanna, Chairman, West Bengal Heritage Commission
- Shri Alapan Bandyopadhyay, IAS (Retd), Chief Advisor to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of West Bengal
- Shri Partha Ranjan Das, Member, West Bengal Heritage Commission
- Smt Mukul Agarwal, Founder Trustee, Calcutta Heritage Collective
- Dr. Rupali Basu, Managing Director, Woodlands Multispeciality Hospitals
- Shri Munish Jhajharia, Chairman, Council on Infrastructure & Real Estate, MCCI

Shri Aakash Shah, President, MCCI in his Welcome Address said that hHeritage preservation is a long-term investment that benefits us today and insures these invaluable resources for generations to come. West Bengal is rich in heritage buildings and we are happy to be associating today with two such entities who are working tirelessly in preservation of these heritages in the state.

Shri Munish Jhajharia, Chairman, Council on Infrastructure & Real Estate, MCCI said that over the centuries, the state of West Bengal witnessed a confluence of different culture, including historical monuments and buildings. However, this rich legacy is often neglected without proper care. Several buildings and monuments has already declared the heritage building. TDR is one of the forms of incentive for conservation of the heritage. He suggested that TDR laws should be implemented in West Bengal, as in some other states.

Shri Shuvaprasanna, Chairman, West Bengal Heritage Commission said that West Bengal Heritage Commission continues to restore and save the heritage property. He pointed out that the main challenge with TDR is convincing individual proprietors to accept TDR for a greater public good. He reminded that many of these old buildings are under litigation, which only complicates matters. He highlighted the role of Public Private Partnership in restoring the rich built heritage in West Bengal.

Shri Alapan Bandyopadhyay, IAS (Retd.), Chief Advisor to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of West Bengal Member, West Bengal Heritage Commission Chairman, Centre for

Archaeological Studies & Training, Eastern India, Kolkata, in his address, suggested that a list of heritage buildings and monuments of the state should be prepared. To get correct lists of buildings and process of gradation of heritage buildings, the state should involve more stake holders, historians, architects, researchers to evolve more transparent the whole things. The important aspect to figure out is how to incentivise the heritage conservation.

For TDR, there is a need for a draft formulation with the help of architects, town planners, lawyers and other important stakeholders. West Bengal Heritage Commission will work as facilitator to make heritage conservation investment friendly.

Shri Partha Ranjan Das, Member, West Bengal Heritage Commission mentioned the technicalities of TDR law. He pointed out that to initiate TDR, many of the heritage building in the city can perhaps be maintained without affecting the fortunes of the owners. He pointed out in Kolkata, there are two agencies dealing with heritage buildings; the West Bengal Heritage Commission (WBHC) and the Heritage Conservation Committee (HCC) under Kolkata Municipal Corporation. HCC does not conserve any building, but WBHC has a vast range of activities including listing of buildings, restoring heritage properties.

Smt. Mukul Agarwal, Founder Trustee, Calcutta Heritage Collective suggested that the idea of restoration and reuse could be considered after taking in all due considerations of every involved stakeholder. One of the most common challenge is willing owners stuck with

massive properties with joint owners having no other recourse but to sell as it is not possible for them to maintain those properties.

The Session ended by offering the hearty Vote of Thanks by **Smt. Mukul Agarwal**, Founder Trustee, Calcutta Heritage Collective.

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**19th MCCI MSME Help Desk
on 29 October 2021 at MCCI premises**

19th MCCI MSME Help Desk was organized on 29th October 2021 in hybrid mode at MCCI Conference Hall and also over Zoom.

The Mentor Panel for the Help Desk included :

- Shri Rajkumar Middya, Joint Director (P & S), MSME, Government of West Bengal (Chief Mentor);
- Shri Sanjib Kothari, Chairman, Council on MSME, MCCI;
- Shri Smarajit Mitra, Co Chairman, Council on Banking & Finance, MCCI;
- M/s. Suvidha Consultants as Technical Partner.

The Help Desk was attended by the members and select guest-units. There was good participation from the districts of West Bengal.

There were 15 mentee units each having a one-on-one session with the Mentor Panel.

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Webinar on Raw Material Distribution Scheme of National Small Industries Corporation on 2 November 2021 over Zoom

Merchants' Chamber of Commerce & Industry organised a special E-Session on "NSIC's Raw Material Distribution Initiatives for MSMEs" with Dr. Avinash Choudhary, General Manager, NSIC HO, New Delhi and Shri Suresh Karmali, Chief General Manager, NSIC East 1 & 2 on November 2, 2021 over Zoom Platform.

Shri Sanjib Kothari, Chairman, Council on MSME, MCCI in his address mentioned that the high raw material prices is affecting all, especially the MSMEs which are already struggling with the challenge of liquidity and working capital ever since the pandemic hit us all. All major raw material manufacturers in India producing items such as iron and steel, copper, aluminium, polymers and plastic raw materials, have either sought a more lucrative exports market or had to simply hike domestic prices to make their own ends meet.

Dr. Avinash Choudhary, General Manager, NSIC HO, New Delhi & Shri Suresh Karmali, Chief General Manager, NSIC East 1 & 2 spoke about the different initiatives of NSIC. They pointed out that during last 5 months, NSIC has added different raw materials for MSMEs to procure at reasonable rates. NSIC has tied up with over 8 big houses to distribute wide array of raw materials such as Bitumen, Cement, Iron & Steel, Polymer, Plywood, Copper and Zinc, etc to the MSMEs at discounted rate 15-20%. NSIC has been working on adding products like silver nitrate, silver

powder, copper tubes and pipes which are important raw materials for the production for MSMEs. MSMEs can choose and order the products from the NSIC website.

The Session ended with offering a hearty Vote of Thanks by **Shri Smarajit Mitra**, Co-Chairman, Council on Banking & Finance, MCCI to the guests.

Interactive Session titled "The Insolvency Profession & the IBC space" with Dr. Navrang Saini, Acting Chairperson, Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India on 13 November 2021 at MCCI Conference Hall.

Merchants' Chamber of Commerce & Industry organised an Interactive Session titled "The Insolvency Profession & the IBC space" with Dr. Navrang Saini, Acting Chairperson, Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India on 13 November 2021 at MCCI Conference Hall.

Shri Aakash Shah, President, MCCI in his Welcome Address, said that the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Ordinance, 2021 was promulgated on 4th April, 2021 as an amendment to the earlier Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 to help ease the settlement process which was both time consuming and expensive. This is specially relevant given that under the new definition of MSME, 99% of all GST registered establishments now qualify under it. Shri Shah mentioned that the prime objective of the Insolvency Bankruptcy Code is to rescue corporate debtors in distress.

Dr. Navrang Saini, Acting Chairperson,



Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India in his Address said that presently, as per the new norms, a professional with 10 years' experience and a Post-graduate degree in Management or Finance including PG Diploma can become an Insolvency Professional. He also informed that the Board has introduced training under Graduate Insolvency Programme and the first batch has just received their degree. He explained that the Insolvency Professional (IP) has a critical role to play as they are the fulcrum of the entire resolution process. Till the new resolution applicants come, an IP has to perform all the duties of the Board of Directors of the company. He also addressed the issue of challenges faced by IPs and the resultant delays. He noted that IPs have to do some research to detect the cause of time delayed and try to fix that. Dr. Saini further informed that under Section 20 and Section 25, there is provisions for IPs to engage the third party professionals like accountants of their choice if they find the extant are not fully co-operating with them.

Dr. CS. Adv. Mamta Binani, Chairperson, Council on Legal Affairs, MCCI in her address said that, last year despite the COVID related challenges, Kolkata NCLT Bench disposed 3034 cases. She assured that IP professionals work hard to ensure the company is rehabilitated and assured that most cases are resolved in the stipulated time frame, but there are certain complicated cases that drag for long.

CS S M Gupta, President, NCLT Kolkata Bar Association, CA Vivek Agarwal, President, Association of Corporate Advisers and

Executives and CA Gopal Khetan, Joint Secretary, B B D Bag CA Study Circle also spoke on the occasion.

The Session ended by offering Vote of Thanks to the Guests by **Dr. Jiban Chakraborty**, Co-Chairman, Council on Legal Affairs, MCCI on the behalf of the Chamber.

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Interactive Session with Shri Rajiva Sinha, Chairman, WBIDC on "Industrial Scenario of West Bengal" & Unveiling the Theme of the year "Bouncing Back" on 11 January 2022 at MCCI Conference Hall

Merchants' Chamber of Commerce & Industry hosted an Interactive Session on "Industrial Scenario of West Bengal" with Shri Rajiva Sinha, Chairman, WBIDC on 11 January 2022 at MCCI Conference Hall.

Shri Rishabh C. Kothari, President, MCCI in his Welcome Address said that West Bengal has in its own merit achieved industrial development during the last decade, especially with MSMEs, as West Bengal has the second largest MSME base (14% of all MSMEs) in India. In addition to Banglasree Scheme, the State government has announced several initiatives for MSMEs in the state. During last 3 years the Government has offered aid of INR 2 lakh 13 thousand to MSMEs in times of crisis. He noted that this is time to Bounce Back, and MCCI as representative of industry offers to join forces with the State administration to chart a roadmap for economic vibrancy of Bengal.

Shri Rajiva Sinha, Chairman, WBIDC unveiled the Theme of the Year "**BOUNCING**



BACK” of MCCI.

Shri Lalit Beriwal, Senior Vice President, MCCI in his Address shared that under the guidance of Shri Rajiva Sinha, the state has achieved tremendous growth in the industrial sector.

Shri Namit Bajoria, Vice President, MCCI in his address said that over the last decade, the business community of Bengal has been working under a more industry friendly regime.

Shri Rajiva Sinha, Chairman, WBIDC in his Address, focused on Public Private Partnership.

He mentioned that Bengal has the potential of becoming the production and servicing hub for businesses in Eastern India, and development in Bengal can come from clusters of small businesses instead of big industrial projects, if the MSMEs of the State unite in their efforts.

WBIDC has already initiated Shilpa Sathi scheme for industries, which be considered as a Single Window Application Gateway within a few months, to make it easy for the perspective investors to start a business in the state. He referred to an agreement with WBSEDCL to match the rates for industries with that in the state's own industrial parks in those regions. Shri Sinha invited the members to come up with proposals to expand the logistic facilities to the manufacturing hub. He mentioned that the Tajpur Port, having a capacity of 50 million tones, could be operational within around three years.

For the future of industrial development in Bengal, Shri Sinha highlighted 3 areas

of focus: Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) facilitation for businesses in Bengal, Geographical Indicators (GI) for products from Bengal and quality certification for assurance of quality of products from Bengal. Shri Sinha suggested that **MCCI** can work in partnership with the relevant State Authorities to help businesses in Bengal to adopt these measures. He also invited **MCCI** to set up an **IPR facilitation Center** and provide quality certification to MSMEs.

MCCI Knowledge Series on “Recent Judicial Review and Selected Special Topics in GST” with Shri V. Sridharan, Former Founder, Lakshmikumaran & Sridharan Attorneys on 14 January 2022 over Zoom Platform.

Merchants' Chamber of Commerce & Industry organised a special E-Session on “Recent Judicial Review and Selected Special Topics in GST” with Shri V. Sridharan, Former Founder, Lakshmikumaran & Sridharan Attorneys on 14 January 2022 over Zoom Platform.

Shri Rishabh C. Kothari, President, MCCI in his Welcome Address said that since its inception in 2017, GST has been a learning experience for businesses, and to a certain extent, a rigorous compliance burden for many. Due to repetitive COVID outbreaks, the Government of India has emphasised on greater degree of digitalization in GST. Digitalization is great, however, it also creates its own set of challenges for small business where digital technology penetration and adaptation is still low.

Shri Arun Kumar Agarwal, Chairman,



Council on GST, Indirect & State Taxes, MCCI in his address said that recently, several ambiguities have arisen regarding GST clauses and their interpretations. Another major concern area he raised is that of fake invoices.

Shri V. Sridharan, Former Founder, Lakshmikumaran & Sridharan Attorneys in his address covered 3 special GST amendment laws and their implications. The notifications as stated in section 96(10) shall not have the benefit of claiming refund of integrated tax paid on exports of goods and services. He suggested to file protected claims. The Notification No. 54/2018 is required to be made applicable w.e.f. 23rd October 2017 and not prior thereto from the inception of the Rule 96(10) of the CGST Act. He mentioned that there is no disharmony between Rule 89(5) of the CGST Rules and Section 54(3) of the CGST Act. If the legislature had any intention of giving the credit of tax paid on input goods and input services, the legislature would not have restricted the scope of refund in inverted duty structure to only "input". Rule 89(5) was framed under Section 164 of CGST Act and therefore, Rule 89(5) is not without jurisdiction. Shri Sridharan also discussed at length the scope and interpretations of Section 83, 107 & Rule 159.

The Session ended by offering a Vote of Thanks by **Shri Sushil Kumar Goyal**, Co-Chairman, GST & Indirect Taxes, MCCI.

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Exclusive Interactive Session with Smt. Vandana Yadav, IAS, Secretary, Industries Commerce Enterprises, Government of West Bengal and

Managing Director, WBIDC on 17 January 2022 at MCCI

Merchants' Chamber of Commerce & Industry organised an Exclusive Interactive Session with Smt. Vandana Yadav, IAS, Secretary, Industries Commerce Enterprises, Government of West Bengal and Managing Director, WBIDC on 17 January 2022 at MCCI premises.

Shri Rishabh C. Kothari, President, MCCI in his Welcome Address said that the challenge is more acute for the MSMEs, many of which had to shut down over the last two years. The recovery process will be a collective effort by everyone. The Chamber believes that only public private partnership can take the State to higher level and is presently working on the specific Theme "**Bouncing Back**". MCCI is ready to play the pro-active role to build coordination between businesses and Government.

Smt. Vandana Yadav, IAS, Secretary, Industries Commerce Enterprises, Government of West Bengal in her Address firstly shared that Bengal becomes the best place for the investment over the last few years, because of political stability with no major elections in the horizon, which creates a conducive environment for industrial investment; major infrastructure improvement for Bengal with the Gas Pipeline that can offer industries the option of gas base power usage; announcement of two policies to promote ethanol production and establishing data center. She also discussed many issues with the members including : Registration of State PSUs in the GeM portal; critical issue of land



for industries in Bengal, involving issues like barga laws, 14Y clearance, primitive laws of land; issue of power, WBSEDCL should provide quality power to the industries at same rate as other power providers; lack of quality accommodation for workers of 53 jute manufacturing units from Howrah, North & South 24 Pgs & Hooghly, leading to shortage of workforces; feasibility of Government issuing specific bonds to finance Kona Express Way.

The Interactive Session ended with a hearty Vote of Thanks by **Shri Lalit Beriwal**, Senior Vice President, MCCI.

Special e-Session with Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Minister for Commerce & Industry, Textiles, Consumer Affairs and Food & Public Distribution, Govt. of India on 21 January 2022 over Zoom Online Platform

Merchants' Chamber of Commerce & Industry organized a Special E-Session with **Shri Piyush Goyal**, Hon'ble Minister of Commerce & Industries, Textiles & Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Govt. of India on 21 January 2022 over Zoom platform.

Shri Rishabh C. Kothari, President, MCCI in his Welcome Address said that Covid-19 was catastrophic for international trade. Indian exports fell by a record 60% and imports by 59% in April 2020. Though the situation has improved, the road to recovery is long and hard. A key development in this regard are the resilient startups. With over 60,000 recognised startups, India has transformed into the third largest startup ecosystem

in the world. With 55% of recognised startups from Tier 1 cities and 45% from Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities, and 45% of startups represented by women entrepreneurs, this is an exciting development that augurs well for the future of the country.

Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Minister of Commerce & Industries, Textiles & Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Govt. of India congratulated MCCI for emerging as the most dynamic Chamber in the Eastern India. Shri Goyal appreciated the contribution of industries in Eastern India in the growth process of the country.

Shri Goyal observed that India has been growing with the support of Triple Engine: Investment (private), Exports and Start-ups. He specially mentioned that Atma Nirbhar Bharat campaign is the vision of new India with the aim to make the country and its citizens self-reliant. To boost up public private relationship, the GOI has come up with transparent auctions of mines to help private sector investments. In the Defence sector, FDI has increased over 70% through automated route and for the local investors, investment level is 100%, if the investors have chosen Government approved route. Overall, 101 defence commodities are notified to be allowed under private investment. In Telecom sector, the Government now allows 100% FDI.

The Government is now actively pursuing Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with Foreign Countries such as Australia, Israel, UAE and United Kingdom. India is about to sign FTA with European Union and will

launch FTA talks with Canada and Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC). Shri Goyal specially identified some key players like plastic, footwear, leather as the emerging sectors. Shri Goyal invited the industries to proactively participate in FTAs. Shri Goyal mentioned that FTA is the two-way traffic system, which will help the industries access more businesses in the global market.

GOI has included PLI scheme in the steel industry for big businesses as the CAPEX requirement is very high. Shri Goyal noted that the PLI scheme is meant to create global champions. The PLI is designed to attract big investment opportunities. MSMEs can play a big role as suppliers as auxiliaries to the large industries.

The Hon'ble Minister also discussed about the issues relating to several sectors, including jute, tea, iron ore, cotton textiles, media, gem & jewellery and others.

20th MCCI MSME Help Desk on 28 January 2022 at MCCI premises

20th MCCI MSME Help Desk was organized on 28 January 2021 at MCCI Conference Hall. The Mentor Panel for the Help Desk included :

- Shri Rajkumar Middya, Joint Director (P & S), MSME, Government of West Bengal (Chief Mentor);
- Shri Sanjib Kothari, Chairman, Council on MSME, MCCI;
- Shri Akhil Sonthalia, Co Chairman, Council on MSME, MCCI;
- CA Vivek Jalan, Founder & Partner, Tax

Connect Advisory Services LLP

- M/s. Suvidha Consultants as Technical Partner.

The Help Desk was attended by the members and select guest-units. There was good participation from the districts of West Bengal. There were 16 mentee units each having a one-on-one session with the Mentor Panel.

Symposium on Union Budget 2022-23 on 2 February 2022 at Hotel Lalit Great Eastern, Kolkata

Merchants' Chamber of Commerce Industry organized a **Symposium on Union Budget 2022-23** on 2 February 2022 at Hotel Lalit Great Eastern, which was addressed by :

- **Shri Yashwant Sinha**, Former Minister for Finance and Minister for External Affairs, Government of India
- **Shri Nand Gopal Khaitan**, Senior Partner, Khaitan & Co.
- **Shri Amitav Kothari**, Past President, MCCI.
- **Shri Harish Agarwal**, Managing Partner, Ernst & Young, Kolkata

Shri Rishabh Kothari, President, MCCI in his Welcome Address said that the Union Budget 2022-23 has presented a blue print for the economy from India at 75 to India at 100 which is indeed a visionary document for the country. He lauded the measures like : Extension and expansion of the ECLGS scheme to Rs 5.0 lakh cr.; Emphasis on 'Ease of Doing Business 2.0'; Vision



of Digital India; Issuance of New Digital Rupee by the RBI in 2022-23; Emphasis on Blockchain technology.

Shri Yashwant Sinha, Former Minister of Finance, Government of India in his address labeled the Budget as 'incomplete' as it has not taken into account all the challenges. He mentioned that when an economy keeps fiscal deficit large, there arises the problem like crowding out in private sector. Economy has to borrow for current consumption. An important issue like unemployment has not been addressed properly in the Budget. It was good that the Budget focused on digitization and crypto currency, however, the issues of agriculture were not addressed adequately, which contributes to the GDP, in a significant way, he noted. He expressed concern that due to low income of the large section of the population, domestic savings had declined from 37-38% to 31% in the current year which would lead to lower rate of domestic investment.

Shri Nand Gopal Khaitan, Senior Partner, Khaitan & Co in his address mentioned that India becomes the fastest growing economy of the world and it's credit entirely goes to the Business Class of the country. During the lockdown period, India had achieved highest ever merger, acquisition and amalgamation worth USD 5 Trillion. In 2021, India has 44 new unicorns. In USA, out 500 unicorns, 19 unicorns are founded by Indians. Unemployment has been a huge issue of concern and NREGA would have been a great help to address this problem, he observed.

Shri Amitav Kothari, Past President, MCCI in his address pointed out that

82 amendments have been declared in the Finance Bill, with some having far reaching consequences. He spoke about the introduction of a new Section 139(8A) to provide for furnishing of updated return under the new provision, the assessee would be liable to pay an additional 25% after 1st year and additional 50% tax after 2 years, over and above the usual tax liability. He welcomed the conditions for availing tax benefits on the insurance policy for differently-abled children which are going to be relaxed from now on.

Shri Harish Agarwal, Managing Partner, Ernst & Young, Kolkata in his address pointed out that India would remain as the fastest growing major economy in the world during 2021-24. He noted that while the economy is expected to grow by 9.2% in the current fiscal, the projection for FY 23 is 8.0% - 8.5%.

The Session ended with a hearty Vote of Thanks by **Shri Lalit Beriwal**, Senior Vice President, MCCI.

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**Felicitations and Interaction with Janab
Firhad Hakim, Hon'ble Mayor of Kolkata &
Hon'ble Minister for Transport & Housing,
Govt. of West Bengal
on 3 March 2022
at Hotel Lalit Great Eastern, Kolkata**

Merchants' Chamber of Commerce & Industry organised a Session to Felicitate & Interact with **Janab Firhad Hakim**, Hon'ble Mayor of Kolkata & Minister of Transport and Housing, Government of West Bengal on February 3, 2022 at The Lalit Great Eastern, Kolkata.

Shri Rishabh C. Kothari, President, MCCI in

his Welcome Address lauded the initiatives of KMC such as 'zero blockage of drains', 'rejuvenation of Adi Ganga canal', 'Green City Mission'. He further praised the initiatives taken by the Transport Department while providing uninterrupted transportation system during lockdown. The Chamber urged to join hands and work closely with the City's Municipal Corporation in its new initiatives. While referring to the new opportunities for public private partnership, he highlighted that setting up of new generation Trolley Bus System could be an area of possible cooperation.

Janab Firhad Hakim, Hon'ble Mayor of Kolkata & Minister of Transport and Housing, Government of West Bengal, in his address said that Kolkata is not a planned city though the areas like Salt Lake, Newtown are properly planned. So implementing a modern planning system in Kolkata is a great challenge. While speaking on road system, Janab Hakim mentioned that KMC has started Mechanical Mastic Plant and this plant will be effective in next 2-3 months with the help of PwD. The Mayor urged the Chamber to come forward to promote 'Green Plantation'. He suggested the members to plant green and find out more free spaces to plant more trees to make Kolkata '**Green City**'.

Janab Hakim shared that to reduce the use of fossil fuel by 2030, 2000 more electric buses were planned to be introduced in the city. This demand and supply gap is due to the less availability of lithium. Recently KMC is in talk with the Consulate of Australia and about to sign an MOU for supply of lithium batteries. He promised that by 2030 the use of fossil fuel will be

zero in Kolkata. Plans are on to introduce gas supply through pipelines to the city after Dankuni with collaboration of GAIL.

On 'Zero Blockage drainage system', the Mayor said that the State is planning to set up 2000 more pump stations and talks are on with the Irrigation Department for dredging of canals. He further mentioned that the State has received a grant from World Bank towards development of water transport system with which transformation of ghats & jetties and introduction of AC boats will be done. He declared that within 2-3 months, RO-RO Ship Service will be introduced for Calcutta bound goods vehicles which will reduce the load on second Hooghly Bridge. Janab Hakim announced that in order to enhance interaction with the citizens, a programme namely 'Show to Your Mayor' will be launched by next Financial Year. He also declared that to provide easy connectivity between Southern part of the city and Airport area, a flyover will be constructed from Chingrighata to Newtown.

The Session ended with a hearty Vote of Thanks proposed by **Shri Lalit Beriwal**, Sr. Vice President, MCCI.

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Interactive e-Session on "Human Transformation with Blockchain Ecosystem" with Shri Prasanna B Lohar, Chief Innovation Officer, DCB Bank on 18 February 2022 over Zoom.

Merchants' Chamber of Commerce & Industry organised an Interactive e-Session on "**Human Transformation with Blockchain Ecosystem**" with **Shri**



Prasanna Lohar Chief Innovation Officer, DCB Bank on 18 February 2022 over Zoom Platform.

Shri Rishabh C. Kothari, President, MCCI in his Welcome Address, said that the Government of India is making a move to set up a National Blockchain Framework to prepare a Centralised Ecosystem that will cover as many as 44 sectors including e-governance. Blockchain has remarkable growth potential for India; it is one of the emerging technologies that's redefining the way companies do business.

Shri Prasanna Lohar, Chief Innovation Officer, DCB Bank said that Blockchain is a technology which brings like minded people coming together to operate with efficiency, total supply chain management in specific sectors, namely telecom, agriculture, healthcare, education, banking & finance, manufacturing, insurance etc. He also pointed out that Innovation & Collaboration with Right Partner & Technology is the Key of Success. While speaking about industry evaluation, Shri Lohar noted, that Blockchain technology is the backbone of Industry 4.0. Blockchain adds more trust layers to the users while using any specific application. In the areas of banking, digital currencies are showing new age banking. Shri Lohar mentioned that it is accessible to anyone, single source of data to store events and ownership activities, with no use of separate system and data base. Blockchain mainly ensures transparency to all the users, at a time multiple participates can access the system with date security services, he added.

The Session ended with a hearty Vote of Thanks by **Shri Smarajit Mitra**, Co-Chairman, Council on Banking & Finance, MCCI.

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21st MCCI MSME Help Desk on 22 February 2022 at MCCI premises

21st MCCI MSME Help Desk was organized on 22 February 2022 at MCCI Conference Hall.

The Mentor Panel for the Help Desk included :

- Shri Rajkumar Middy, Joint Director (P & S), MSME, Government of West Bengal (Chief Mentor)
- Shri Sanjib Kothari, Chairman, Council on MSME, MCCI
- Shri Arun Kumar Agarwal, Chairman, Council on GST, Indirect & State Taxes, MCCI
- Shri Smarajit Mitra, Chairman, Council on Skill Development & Start Up, MCCI
- Shri Akhil Sonthalia, Co Chairman, Council on MSME, MCCI
- CA Vivek Jalan, Founder & Partner, Tax Connect Advisory Services LLP
- M/s. Suvidha Consultants as Technical Partner.

The Help Desk was attended by the members and select guest-units. There was good participation from the districts of West Bengal. There were 12 mentee units each having a one-on-one session with the Mentor Panel.

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Special Session
with Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra, Secretary,
Department of Agricultural Research
& Education, Govt of India and Director
General, Indian Council of Agricultural
Research on 23 February 2022 over Zoom

The Chamber organised a Special E-Session with Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra, Secretary, Department of Agricultural Research & Education (DARE), Govt. of India and Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) on 'Current Developments in the area of Agricultural Research in India' on 23 February 2022 over Zoom Platform.

Shri Lalit Beriwal, Senior Vice President, MCCI in his Welcome Address spoke about the latest PLFS (Periodic Labour Force Survey) Report of 12th August, 2021, which shows a sharp increase in employment in agriculture from 42.5% of the total employment in 2018-19 to 45.6% in 2019-20. He suggested few important points to boost up the sector such as shift in focus from basic farming to more efficient, sustainable, and precision farming, crop diversity, promoting uniformity in agri and allied products and ramping up the value chain etc.

Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra, Secretary, Department of Agricultural Research & Education, Govt. of India and Director General, ICAR mentioned that agricultural sector contributes more than 20% in country's GDP which is a significant achievement. Even during COVID, when all other sectors were struggling and encountered negative growth, agriculture sector performed fairly well. With almost 100% growth over a period of 60-70 years,

the agricultural sector of the country has been able to feed 1.3 billion population of the country. Dr. Mohapatra pointed out that during 2020-21, India's food grain export amounted to USD 41.8 billion, though there are a few items which are still being imported such as edible oil (approx. value is USD 22 billion). During 2020-21, India exported flower worth INR 1,500 cr. and fresh fruit and vegetables were exported worth Rs. 11,000 cr. India being the leading exporter of Basmati Rice in the world, has exported 46.30 million tons (worth USD 4.018 billion) during 2020-21, which is 50% of country's total export.

Dr. Mohapatra spoke highly about the plans and schemes of the Government of providing support to farmers through increase in minimum support price, providing market place for selling products, special e-market place, investment in infrastructure, irrigation support particularly micro-irrigation etc. He further mentioned that the objective of the Government is to contribute significantly to the US\$ 5 trillion Indian economy by way of 'doubling agricultural export' and promoting 'one district - one product scheme'. He highlighted on the importance of agricultural research & development in the growth of the sector and mentioned a few development such as rust resistance wheat variety seeds, herbicide tolerance crops in case of rice, invention of 86 Bio-fortified crops etc. He raised concern over deficiency in the production of pulses, he said that the Government has come up with strong strategies to address this problem. Dr. Mohapatra said that the country needs 25 million tonnes of sugar every year. A new variant of Sugarcane seed - Co0238,



has brought revolution.

The Session ended with a hearty Vote of Thanks proposed by **Shri Suresh Agarwal**, Chairman, Council on Agriculture & Horticulture.

Special Session on 'Doing Business with United Arab Emirates' with H.E. Dr. Ahmed Abdul Rahman Albanna, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Embassy of the UAE on 24 February 2022 over Zoom

The Chamber organised a Special E-Session on **"Doing Business with United Arab Emirates"** with **H.E. Dr. Ahmed A. R. Al Banna**, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Embassy of the United Arab Emirates on February 24, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. on Zoom Platform.

Shri Mahesh Chandra Keyal, Chairman, Council on Foreign Trade, MCCI in his Welcome Address, said that the signing of Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) between India and UAE would usher in a new era in the bilateral relations. He inquired about the possibilities of cooperation between West Bengal and UAE in the areas of Information Technology, Textile, Electronic goods, Leather products and Food processing and other core areas.

H.E. Dr. Ahmed A. R. Al Banna, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Embassy of the United Arab Emirates said that India stood as the third largest trading partner of UAE for last 8 consecutive years. The bilateral trade between the two countries has seen tremendous growth registering

at US\$ 185 million in 1980 to US\$ 45 billion (non-oil) in 2021. His Excellency noted that India and UAE developed their relations to the next level from 2017 as several agreements, including CEPA, were signed between the two nations. The Ambassador invited Indian companies to cooperate in the areas of Manufacturing, Defence, Food processing, Healthcare, IT, Space and Artificial Intelligence. Dr. Al Banna informed that UAE is the largest Arab investors in India which has about 72% of Arab investment in India. He mentioned that the Government of UAE has relaxed Foreign Ownership of Business by allowing 100% mainland foreign ownership of business in UAE. The Government of UAE has targeted to set up 1 billion new companies in UAE within coming years and is promoting Start-ups, Fintech, and Incubation centres. He invited Indian companies to venture in these areas.

The session ended with a hearty Vote of Thanks to the Chair.

Signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Merchants' Chamber of Commerce & Industry & The Bhawanipur Education Society College (BESC) on 28 February 2022 at BESC premises

Merchants' Chamber of Commerce & Industry took the initiative to carry its mission forward and signed a Memorandum of Understanding with The Bhawanipur Education Society College, accredited by NAAC and affiliated to the University of Calcutta to promote excellence

in education as also to strengthen the academia-industry bonding. The MoU was signed between **Shri Rishabh C. Kothari**, President, MCCI and **Shri Miraj D. Shah**, Sr. Vice Chairman, BESC on 28 February 2022 at BESC premises. The MoU aimed at :

- Collaborating on the shared goals of promoting excellence in education and strengthening academia-industry bonding
- Imparting skill training through industry exposure
- Enhancing the employability of the youth and making them industry-ready
- Enhancing entrepreneurial capabilities of the youth and giving them a platform for industry interface

Shri Rishabh C. Kothari viewed that this MoU fulfills a much-needed requirement to build a strong cooperation in promoting excellence in education and bridging the gap between industry and academia. Students and faculty members of BESC would get the opportunity to take part in sessions, seminars, workshops, webinars conducted by the Chamber, and they would also get the chance of industry-visit as part of the MoU.

Shri Miraj D. Shah commented that the students of this college are very fortunate to be a part of this initiative at a juncture when Indian Economy is expected to be growing as the fastest economy in the world. Industry exposure is highly sought after while shortlisting a college. This MoU will provide the practical knowledge to the students which can help them better learn

their field to be better equipped for the future, said Shri Shah.

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MCCI Knowledge Series : “Building Resilience in the Workplace”
with Shri Avik Chanda,
Columnist & Business advisor
on 28 February 2022 over Zoom

The Chamber organised a Special E-Session on “Building Resilience in the Workplace” with Shri Avik Chanda, CEO-Founder, NUVAH, and Bestselling Author, Columnist & Business Advisor on 28 February 2022 over Zoom Platform.

In his Welcome Address, **Shri Namit Bajoria**, Vice-President, MCCI spoke about the MCCI new initiative to hold Knowledge Series Programme from this year where experts from different strata of life would share their wisdom and learning with the members.

Shri Avik Chanda, CEO-Founder, NUVAH, and Bestselling author, Columnist & Business Advisor said that Resilience is really a whole cluster of behavioral skills which collectively form its constituent elements. Shri Chanda mentioned about 4 ways to be followed in a workplace to become resilient, which are Behavioral Assessment and Report, Customized Psychological Intervention, Business Resilience Coaching and Overall Team Resilience Roadmap.

The Session ended with a Hearty Vote of Thanks proposed by Shri Tushar Basu, Chairman, Council on Human Resource Development, MCCI.

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**Special Session with Shri Debashis Sen,
Chairman & Managing Director, HIDCO
on 2 March 2022 at Hotel Taj Bengal**

The Chamber organised an **Exclusive Interaction** with **Shri Debashis Sen**, Chairman & Managing Director, Housing Infrastructure Development Corporation (HIDCO) on 2 March 2022 at Hotel Taj Bengal.

In his Welcome Address, **Shri Rishabh C. Kothari**, President, MCCI congratulated Shri Sen on taking HIDCO to a new milestone in the history of Kolkata, in which New Town embarks on its journey as a Smart City, under the Smart Cities Mission of Government of India during this phase, which adds another feather to the township's cap of achievements. He lauded various new initiatives taken by the HIDCO for the economic development of Kolkata and inquired about the possibilities of public private partnership in infrastructure development of West Bengal.

Shri Debashis Sen, Chairman & Managing Director, Housing Infrastructure Development Corporation (HIDCO), announced that to celebrate 75th Independence of India, 150th Birth Anniversary of Rishi Aurobindo and 125th Birth Anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, the Government of West Bengal has taken the initiative to set up a museum on Independence movement at the Alipore Correctional Home. HIDCO has been entrusted with the project. Shri Sen mentioned that the Government has decided to offer under-utilized lands in Alipore Area to E-Auction. The Government

is exploring the possibilities of development of housing complex, shopping malls, hospitals, hotels, etc. The notice will come within 2-3 weeks time.

He referred to the new township projects undertaken by HIDCO all over the state, which include : 'Gitobitan' over 100 acres of land in Shantiniketan; 'Khel Nagar Sport City' at Dumurjola, Howrah; Bengal Silicon Valley Tech Hub to attract investment in IT/ITES projects with employment potential and a '9 holes Golf Course' in New Town. He suggested that in order to reach the Government of India target to cut its emissions to net zero by 2070, lands of Bagjola Canal, East Kolkata Wet Land, Adi Ganga Canal, Beliaghata Canal and innumerable other canals could be utilized for solar power generation. He also referred to a PE Fund and requested the members to come forward.

The Session ended with a hearty Vote of Thanks proposed by **Shri Namit Bajoria**, Vice President of the Chamber.

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**Inauguration of MCCI GST Help Desk
by Mr. Khalid Aizaz Anwar, IAS,
Commissioner, State Tax, Directorate of
Commercial Taxes, Govt. of West Bengal
on 3 March 2022 at MCCI**

Merchants' Chamber of Commerce & Industry [MCCI] GST Help Desk was inaugurated by Mr. Khalid Aizaz Anwar, IAS, Commissioner, State Tax, Directorate of Commercial Taxes, Govt. of West Bengal on 3 March 2022 at MCCI Conference Hall.

The objective of this coveted initiative is to help industry, business and trade leverage



the opportunities and explore solutions to the key issues of Input Tax Credit, Filing of Returns, Refund, Compliances, Import Credit and other priority topics. The areas to be addressed by the Mentor panel, among others, are :

- Mentoring and hand holding support
- Single-point information/ consultation system
- Providing Solutions to Issues
- Clarification of Doubts
- Special Assistance

In his Welcome Address, **Mr. Rishabh C. Kothari**, President, MCCI said that with a view to provide handholding and mentoring support to the members, MSME units, entrepreneurs and start ups, the Chamber is starting the MCCI GST Help Desk at its premises, which would be held in association with the esteemed Directorate, where domain and subject matter experts will be available for consultation. The President of the Chamber invited members to come forward to enrich this initiative and make the endeavor a success.

Mr. Khalid Aizaz Anwar, IAS, Commissioner, State Tax, Directorate of Commercial Taxes, Govt. of West Bengal inaugurated the MCCI GST Help Desk by releasing Help Desk Brochure.

Lauding the Chamber on taking such a good initiative for helping the industries and businesses on the issues regarding GST, the Commissioner of State Tax assured support and assistance from the Directorate. He felt that for MSMEs, the issue of GST has been huge and quite complicated. Since its inception, many new changes have been

introduced in the GST Act and Rules. He invited the MSMEs, entrepreneurs and other concerned units to come forward to utilize the opportunity provided by MCCI and send their issues and queries regarding GST to the Help Desk. He noted that this platform of MCCI GST Help Desk would be extremely useful for exploring solutions to the critical issues faced by business units.

Smt. Nabanita Pal, Additional Commissioner & PRO, Directorate of Commercial Taxes, Govt. of West Bengal mentioned that issues/ doubts/ queries would be dealt with at the Help Desk for information, guidance and solution. In addition, the issues for redressal can be compiled and sent to the Commissionerate anytime.

CA Arun Kumar Agarwal, Chairman, Council on GST, Indirect & State Taxes, MCCI mentioned that the MCCI GST Help Desk would be held on a monthly / bi monthly basis as per the requirements. He said that Mr. Anwar has always a pillar of support and the Chamber looks up to him for the same for running the GST Help Desk.

The Session ended with a hearty Vote of Thanks by **CA Sushil Kumar Goyal**, Co-Chairman, Council on GST, Indirect & State Taxes, MCCI.

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Horticulture Camp on 4 March 2022 at Greenic Farms, Nadia

Merchants' Chamber of Commerce & Industry organised a Horticulture Camp on 4 March 2022 at Greenic Farms, Birohi, Nadia, West Bengal with Shri Jayanta Aikat, IAS, Director, Food Processing Industries, Director, Horticultural (Administration) &



Commissioner, Food Processing Industries & Horticulture, Government of West Bengal and Shri Hrishikesh Khara, Deputy Director, Horticulture, Department of Food Processing Industries & Horticulture, Government of West Bengal, among others. At the camp, seeds and saplings were distributed to the local farmers. Pumpkin & Sponge Boat (Dhudhul) seeds and Tissue Culture Banana saplings were given to the farmers. This was the first district based horticulture camp initiative by the Department of FPI&H, Government of West Bengal and MCCI. More than 150 farmers participated in the launch programme.

In his Welcome Address, **Shri Suresh Agarwal**, Chairman, Council on Agriculture & Horticulture, MCCI said that West Bengal had a very rich soil variety and immense potential to produce a variety of crops, vegetables and fruits across the state. He urged the government to take initiatives to help farmers market their produce.

Shri Jayanta Kumar Aikat, IAS, Director, Food Processing Industries, Director, Horticultural (Administration) & Commissioner, Food Processing Industries & Horticulture, Government of West Bengal appreciated that MCCI is reaching out to the farmers in the State to help them. He said that natural farming is the road ahead to safe and chemical free cultivation. He spoke about the MIDH Scheme and the RKVY Scheme to help farmers. West Bengal produces a lot of honey but there is no honey processing centre in the state. Rice remains the first choice for most farmers. The problem with growing vegetables is that unlike cereals they cannot be stored. There exists huge

potential for floriculture in West Bengal and this needs to be appreciated. In this respect, the farm producer organisations (FPOs) have a major role to play, he said.

Shri Hrishikesh Khara, Deputy Director, Horticulture, Department of Food Processing Industries & Horticulture, Government of West Bengal spoke about the financial support available through different schemes available for farmers. Farmers can avail of hybrid seeds from their block. He also spoke about various subsidies such as subsidies for power tillers, mushroom production, etc. With help from the Panchayats, the Department is providing 21 varieties of saplings to farmers.

Shri Sanjeev Kumar Baid, Co-Chairman, Council on Agriculture & Horticulture, MCCI also spoke on the occasion.

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Special Session on
'Doing Business with Ghana'
on 7 March 2022
at Hotel Taj Bengal, Kolkata

Merchants' Chamber of Commerce & Industry organized a Special Session on Doing Business with Ghana with **H.E. Mr. Kwaku Asomah-Cheremeh**, High Commissioner of Ghana in India on 7 March 2022 at Hotel Taj Bengal. **Mr. D. P Tantia**, Hony. Consul of Ghana in Kolkata, **Mr. Ernest Nana Adjei**, Minister - Counsellor, Political & Economic, Ghana and **Mr. Eric Amoako Missah**, First Secretary, Consular & Welfare Officer, Ghana were also present.

In his Welcome Address, **Mr. Rishabh C. Kothari**, President, MCCI said that with bilateral trade close to USD 2.4 billion in 2020, India is the second-largest investor

in Ghana. To enhance India-Ghana Bilateral trade and investment opportunities, he Kothari suggested of opening a Ghana Trade Centre in West Bengal.

Mr. D. P. Tantia, Hony. Consul of Ghana in Kolkata in his address shared that Ghana is a a producer of gold and timber. India enjoys an opportunity to import timber. The delegation showed a video which highlighted that the economy of Ghana is expected to grow at 5.1% between 2021 and 2023.

H.E. Mr. Kwaku Asomah-Cheremeh, High Commissioner of Ghana in India mentioned that Ghana is a major exporter of West Africa with exports of cocoa, oil, gold, aluminium, cement, metals, pharma, wood products, textiles, etc. The agriculture sector contributes to 22% of GDP and employs over 50% of the workforce. The country is diversifying its agricultural export base from cocoa to rubber, palm oil, cashew, etc. The Government gives importance to greenhouse technologies that produce high value vegetables. India is helping in mechanization of Ghana's agriculture. The Government of Ghana subsidises import of farm machinery for farmers. Government is also investing in infrastructure such as railways, airport, marine transport and a booming real estate sector. Indian companies investing a substantial amount in Ghana are primarily engaged in steel, telecom, ICT, construction and agri processing, among others. The country has reduced the corporate tax rate to 22% from 25%. AfCFTA is a critical response to development challenges and aims to boost trade

The Session ended with a hearty Vote of

Thanks by **Mr. Mahesh Keyal**, Chairman, Council on Foreign Trade, MCCI.

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MCCI Knowledge Series :
"TDS/TCS : Important Issues of Compliance" with
Shri Deba Kumar Sonowal IRS,
Commissioner of Income Tax, TDS,
Kolkata, Ministry of Finance, Govt. of
India on 8 March 2022 at MCCI

Merchants' Chamber of Commerce & Industry organised MCCI Knowledge Series on "TDS/ TCS : Important Issues of Compliance" with **Shri Deba Kumar Sonowal** IRS, Commissioner of Income Tax, TDS, Kolkata, Ministry of Finance, Govt. of India on 8 March 2022 at MCCI Conference Hall. The Session was also addressed by **CA Sanjay Bhattacharya**, Co-Chairman, Council on Direct Taxes, MCCI and **CA S S Gupta**, Member, Council on Direct Taxes, MCCI.

In his Welcome Address, **Shri Arvind Agrawal**, Chairman, Council on Direct Taxes, MCCI said that the Income Tax Department is poised to seize the opportunities and meet the challenges to realise its vision through progressive tax policies, efficient & effective administration and improved voluntary compliance.

Shri Deba Kumar Sonowal, IRS, Commissioner of Income Tax, TDS, Kolkata, Ministry of Finance, Govt. of India mentioned that the Department has tried to address the grievances of deductees regarding TDS compliances. The taxpayers are equally responsible in the collection of taxes. He noted that there are lots of burdens given



on the taxpayers and the success of the department is actually depends upon compliance by the taxpayers. He informed the house that 36 new provisions have been introduced in TDS and TCS. While speaking on the Form 15CA and Form 15CB, Shri Sonowal mentioned that every person liable for making a payment to non-residents shall deduct TDS from the payments made to non-residents. He spoke about the introduction of Section 194 R in the Budget 2022-23, which deals with TDS on Business Promotion Expenditure.

CA S S Gupta, Member, Council on Direct Taxes, MCCI said that there should be incentives for tax deductees, as they are performing partially the duty of the tax collector, which would go a long way in widening the tax net. He spoke about the Sections 206C, 206C(1C), 206C(1H) & 206C(1F) of Income Tax Act. Retrospective amendments proposed in the Budget 2022-23 creating an additional tax liability should be addressed properly, he felt.

CA Sanjay Bhattacharya, Co-Chairman, Council on Direct Taxes, MCCI spoke about the Sections 197 of Income Tax Act, which permits taxpayers a facility of Nil or lower tax rate deduction of TDS or exemption of TDS. He referred to Section 195 on TDS for NRIs. He also referred to introduction of section 194 R in the Budget 2022-23 proposing TDS on business promotion expenditure spent by an organization.

The Session was also addressed by **Shri Sailen Samaddar**, Additional Commissioner, TDS, who spoke about Section 200A, dealing with processing of statements of TDS and refund of the excess

amount. The Session ended with a hearty Vote of Thanks by **Shri Ramesh Kumar Chokhani**, Co-Chairman, Council on Direct Taxes, MCCI.

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**Special E-Session with
Shri Tuhin Kanta Pandey, IAS, Secretary,
Dept. of Investment and Public Asset
Management, Ministry of Finance,
Govt. of India on 10 March 2022
over Zoom Online Platform**

Merchants' Chamber of Commerce & Industry organised a Special E-Session on "Future Roadmap of Disinvestment & Asset Monetization Plan" with Shri Tuhin Kanta Pandey, Secretary, Department Of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM), Ministry of Finance, Govt. of India on March 10, 2022 over Zoom Online Platform.

While welcoming the guest, **Shri Rishabh C. Kothari**, President, MCCI mentioned that the National Monetisation Plan (NMP) aims to unlock the value in brownfield projects by transferring to the private sector revenue right in projects. He requested for more clarifications on de-risking the assets that have been put in the pipeline. He expressed concern that the NMP roadmap may be affected by lack of identifiable revenues streams in various assets, level of capacity utilisation in gas and petroleum pipeline networks, dispute resolution mechanism, and others. The slow pace of privatisation in government companies and less-than-encouraging bids in the recently launched PPP initiative in trains and mines show that attracting private investors' interest is not an easy task.

Shri Tuhin Kanta Pandey, Secretary, Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM), Ministry of Finance, Govt. of India mentioned that the Government has unveiled a new PSE Policy identifying 4 strategic sectors viz.: a. Atomic Energy, Space and Defence, b. Transport & Communication, c. Power, Petroleum, Coal & Minerals and d. Banking, Insurance & Financial Services. He referred to the Share Purchase Agreement (SPA) for Neelachal Ispat Nigam Ltd., which is second company after Air India to be privatised.

Shri Pandey said that out of the existing PSEs, the Government would retain bare minimum presence, rest can be merged, subsidised with other PSEs. For the non-strategic sectors, the Government has decided either to privatise or close them. This is a medium to long term policy. The Government has so far done INR 3.8 lakh crore worth of disinvestment. The government will soon seek expressions of interest for the disinvestment of IDBI Bank, Vizag Steel Plant, Nagarnar Steel Plant of NMDC and Ferro Scrap Nigam Limited, CONCOR.

Shri Pandey informed that tremendous strengthening of capital markets had taken place ahead of the largest Indian IPO. India now has 84 million demat accounts with about 10 million demat accounts having been opened only for the LIC IPO. LIC's asset under management is worth Rs 40 trillion, which is 66% of the assets of the remaining insurance companies functioning in India. LIC is the world's tenth largest insurance company.

He said the government had already done

asset monetisation worth Rs 17,000 crore in the road sector and targets Rs 88,000 crore worth of asset monetisation by end of the fiscal. On the Prime Minister's announcement of National Land Monetisation Corporation, he said that the idea is not only to build a land holding body but to make one which would function like a project management body, building facilities on excess land available with the PSUs.

The Session ended with a hearty Vote of Thanks by **Shri Sanjay Rasiwasia**, Chairman, Council on Banking & Finance, MCCI.

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Defence Workshop cum Buyer-Seller Meet on Participation of MSMEs in Defence Procurement 2022 on 17 March 2022 at MCCI

Merchants' Chamber of Commerce & Industry organised a Defence Workshop Cum Buyer Seller Meet on "Participation of MSMEs in Defence Procurement 2022" with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), Barrackpore Division on 11 March 2022 at MCCI Conference Hall.

Shri S.K. Majee, CM, Integrated Materials Management and Shri Tusar Sarkar, CM, Outsourcing addressed the Workshop. The event was essentially a B2S workshop organized to help MSMEs to understand the opportunities available in the Defence sector. The Workshop was followed by a Buyer-Seller meet.

Shri Sanjib Kumar Kothari, Chairman, Council on MSME, MCCI in his Welcome Address lauded the initiative taken by



the government of India to promote the Indigenously designed Defence equipment under its flagship programme 'Atmanirbhar Bharat'. GOI has set the target of meeting 70% of India's Defence needs internally in the next 5 years. Defence Workshop is an endeavor of MCCI to create a market place where buyers and sellers can come together and transact business thereby creating value, he noted.

Shri S.K. Majee, CM (Integrated Materials Management), HAL, Barrackpore Division mentioned that presently HAL has 20 Production and 11 R&D Centres all over India. The total sale for the Financial Year 20-21 stood at Rs.22,369 Crore. 100 percent of Indian Army Helicopters are maintained by HAL. There is a large number of MSMEs in Eastern India especially in West Bengal who can cooperate with them and HAL is providing opportunity to the MSMEs specially the local MSMEs for working together. He highlighted on three areas like, vendor registration, scope for MSMEs and Indigenisation.

Shri Tusar Sarkar, CM (Outsourcing), HAL, Barrackpore Division mentioned that HAL is now willing to work with private players on assembling, repairing and designing of air-crafts and helicopters. HAL is actively engaged and is contributing to the space programmes of the country. Out of 31 types of Aircraft produced so far, 17 have been of indigenous design. Shri Sarkar also mentioned that under the guidance of Government of India, HAL is now focusing on the indigenization for the procurement including outsourcing, assembling, rubber manufacturing, repairing activity etc. Indigenization can be executed through

two specific processes Make I and Make II.

The Session ended with a hearty Vote of Thanks proposed by **Shri Smarajit Mitra**, Chairman, Council on Skill Development & Start Up.

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Special Session on Demystifying the Saga of Valuation-New age Companies, Start-ups, Goodwill on 14 March 2022 at MCCI & also over Zoom

Merchants' Chamber of Commerce & Industry organised a Special Session on "Demystifying the Saga of Valuation-New age Companies, Start-ups, Goodwill" with **Shri Rammohan Bhawe**, CA, CS, CMA, LLB, Holder of Record in Limca Book of Records on 14 March 2022 at MCCI premises and also over Zoom online platform. The Session was organized in association with Association of Corporate Advisors and Executives, also in collaboration with IWIRC, NCLT Kolkata Bar Association, Insol India and IBC.

Smt. Mamta Binani, Chairperson, Council on Legal & Corporate Governance, MCCI said that Valuation is extremely important for all, valuation not only of new age companies and start ups, but also goodwill is also valued. Some of the new age companies get a sky rocketing valuation, even after not getting a healthy bottom line.

Shri Rammohan Bhawe, in his Address, said that Valuation of Start Up entities is very difficult, as these are not publicly listed and they do not make steady sales or earnings. He pointed out regarding the following 3 approaches for start-up entities valuation :

Going concern value, Liquidation value and Market Value. Shri Bhave discussed about the following methods of start-up Valuation. He pointed out that Post Money Valuation = Pre Money Valuation – Investment Amount. He mentioned that a Unicorn is a privately held technology startup with a valuation equal to or over \$1 billion (around Rs 7,500 crore). He also referred to a case Study of CRED, the mobile app for credit card payment and spoke about the Decacorn in India >10 B \$, which are PayTM, OYO and BYJU's.

The Session ended with a hearty Vote of Thanks by **CA Vivek Agarwal**, President, Association of Corporate Advisors and Executives.

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**MCCI Knowledge Series : New
Dimensions of EPFO
on 16 March 2022 at MCCI**

The Chamber organized MCCI Knowledge Series: "New Dimensions of EPFO" with **Shri Rajib Bhattacharya**, Additional Central PF Commissioner, West Bengal, Andaman & Nicobar Island, Sikkim on 16 March 2022 at MCCI Conference Hall. **Shri S. K. Gupta**, Regional PF Commissioner I, Regional Office Howrah and **Shri Rajesh Pandey**, Regional PF Commissioner I, Zonal Training Institute, East Zone, Kolkata also addressed the Session.

While welcoming the guests, **Shri Tushar Basu**, Chairman, Council on Human Resource Development, MCCI expressed his concern over slashing of the interest rate of EPF deposits to 8.1% for 2021-22 from 8.5% in 2020-21 and 2019-20. He said it was the lowest in more than four decades and

the move was expected to hit the earnings of over 60 million EPFO subscribers. He, however, welcomed the willingness of EPFO to set up funds for startups to help budding entrepreneurs.

Shri Rajib Bhattacharya assured the members that there is no need to worry about one's EPF investment, as their hard-earned money is in safe and secure hands. He said that there has been a paradigm shift in the process of PF. EPFO has 6 cr. active subscribers base, out of which 28 lakhs active subscribers are from West Bengal. 98% PF UAN has been linked with AADHAR. He informed that the date for Linking of AADHAR with UAN has been extended till 31st March 2022 and he requested all the member companies to come forward and complete the process. Owing to the launch of UAN-AADHAR linked account, E-nomination facility, introduction of UMANG-APP, people are relying more on EPF. In West Bengal zone, 95.5% PF accounts are UAN and Aadhar Linked. In West Bengal, 4.25 lacs E-Nominations have been filed already. It is expected to touch 15 lakhs within 3 months.

While speaking about the process of E-Nomination, **Shri S.K. Gupta** said that one has to immediately update the details of his or her change in the family declaration. He pointed out that the interest rate of EPF is relatively higher than other investment tools in the Capital market. Filing of Pension claim is automatic. On death of a member, the Family Members or Nominee (whoever has the entitlement to claim Provident Fund amount) can claim for EDLI Benefit. Maximum amount payable is up to Rs. 7,00,000/- and Minimum amount payable



is Rs.2,50,000/-. New employees joining with monthly wage of less than Rs. 15000/- are entitled to receive benefits for 24 wage months from the date of registration. Under the Atmanirbhar Bharat Rojgar Yojana, the government is paying both employees' and employers' contributions of 24% of wages (12% of wages for each) in respect of establishments having 1,000 employees and employees' contribution of 12% of wages to establishments employing more than 1,000 employees.

Felicitation of & Interaction with CA (Dr.) Debashis Mitra, President, ICAI on "The Future of Accounting & Auditing" on 17 March 2022 at MCCI

Merchants' Chamber of Commerce & Industry organized a Session on "The Future of Accounting & Auditing" to felicitate and interact with CA (Dr.) Debashis Mitra, President, ICAI on 17 March 2022 at MCCI Conference Hall.

Shri Rishabh C. Kothari congratulated and felicitated CA (Dr.) Debashis Mitra for taking over as the President of ICAI. In his Welcome Address, he said that the industry is adapting to new methodologies and moving ahead with innovative ways of accounting like Cloud Accounting & ERP. He mentioned that although the use of Blockchain in the financial field is still largely in an investigative stage, it is poised to change accounting and auditing on a more fundamental level. He also referred to the increased use of cryptocurrency in the future, which particularly calls for detailed audit processes.

CA (Dr.) Debashis Mitra said that

introduction of new technology in Accounting and Auditing is a reality, which has to be accepted and the challenges to be addressed. However, Technology is an enabler, it is not a disrupter, he felt. To accomplish this, that ICAI is coming up with a 2-acre Centre of Excellence in Kolkata, Dr. Mitra informed. He observed that auditors must provide value added services to industry while preparing audit. He felt that the professionals should work hand in hand with the industry. In order to cope up with the changing needs, ICAI is designing audit and data analysis tools, to be given free of cost to the members. Rs. 30 cr. has been earmarked for development of such tools. ICAI is doing extensive research and trying to incorporate the concepts like crypto currency, taxation, Artificial Intelligence and Blockchain in the syllabus.

The Session ended with Vote of Thanks by **Smt. Mamta Binani**, Chairperson, Council of Legal & Corporate Governance, MCCI, who also spoke about Sustainable Development Goals.

Session on MSME Empowerment : Awareness Programme on Delayed Payments & Recovery for MSEs on 23 March 2022 at MCCI

Merchants' Chamber of Commerce & Industry organized Session on MSME Empowerment: Awareness Programme on Delayed Payments & Recovery for MSEs, on 23 March 2022 at MCCI Conference Hall. The Session was held in association with Business Network International [BNI].

The Session was addressed by **Dr. Mou Sen**, Joint Director, MSME, Ministry of MSME & Textiles, Government of West Bengal, **Shri**

Alok Tibrewala, Member, West Bengal State Micro & Small Enterprises Facilitation Council and **Shri Ashok Ghosh**, Deputy Director, MSME, Govt. of West Bengal.

In his Welcome Address, **Shri Sanjib Kothari**, Chairman, Council on MSME, MCCI, said that West Bengal State Micro Small Enterprises Facilitation Council have been providing excellent support to address the issue on Delayed Payments. However, he expressed his concern about the increasing number of dispute cases. Shri Kothari pointed out that The 'Medium' sector has been left out of redressal through MSME Samadhaan and the state Facilitation Councils. Although the Chamber had sent both the points to the Ministry of MSME, Govt of India, he requested the Council to take the matter forward for redressal.

Dr. Mou Sen, Joint Director, MSME, Ministry of MSME & Textiles, Government of West Bengal in her address clarified that in West Bengal State Micro & Small Enterprises Facilitation Council only considers the issues of the suppliers from West Bengal and buyer from anywhere in India. Only the manufacturers and service providers can avail this facility regarding delayed payment. Dwelling upon the activities of the state Facilitation Council, she explained that the 1st step is Conciliation and 2nd step Arbitration. In the Conciliatory stage, 3 hearings are held before the case is sent for Arbitration. The case gets delayed in the Arbitration stage usually. The Council is 5-member body with the Director, MSME as the ex officio Chairman and 4 other members representing different industry associations. On the inclusion of 'Medium' scale units, Dr. Sen the matter has been taken up with the Central Government.

Shri Alok Tibrewala, Member, West Bengal State Micro & Small Enterprises Facilitation Council mentioned that Micro & Small Enterprise Facilitation Council (MSEFC) is empowered as per the MSMED Act 2006 for taking independent decisions regarding the cases filed. Even the Ministry of MSME, Govt of India cannot interfere with the judicial functioning of MSEFC. The State Councils were constituted under MSMED Act 2006 for settlement of disputes on getting references/ filing on Delayed Payments [Section 20 & 21], to undertake mandatory conciliation, in the event of failure of which, the Council acts as an Arbitrator. WBMSEFC has been performing reasonably well in the recent years. Earlier, 3 years back, the Council had settled 264-300 cases and the total amount recovered was Rs 103 cr. In the last three years in spite of COVID, the Council has settled 692 cases and the amount recovered was Rs. 228 cr. He Tibrewala mentioned that Chapter V [Sections 15 to 24] of MSMED Act 2006 are very important. Sec 16 of the MSMED ACT says 3 times Bank Rate as the RBI notifies compounded monthly.

Shri Ashok Ghosh, Deputy Director, West Bengal State Micro & Small Enterprises Facilitation Council pointed out that if any company does not have any purchase order, the company must provide an affidavit of the statement of the verbal order from the company.

The Session ended with Vote of Thanks proposed by **Shri Sumit Kothari**, Senior Director Consultant, BNI Kolkata CBD A & North and Chairman, Trade Body Tie Up Cell.



MCCI LADIES FORUM

MLF Webinar on 'Strengthening Women's Entrepreneurship' with Smt. Rekha Sharma, Hon'ble Chairperson, National Commission for Women on 5 April 2021 over Zoom Online Platform.

MCCI and MLF organized a Zoom Webinar on '**Strengthening Women's Entrepreneurship**' with **Smt. Rekha Sharma**, Hon'ble Chairperson, National Commission for Women (NCW) on 5 April 2021.

Smt. Snigdha Shah, Chairperson, MLF in her Welcome Address said that in India, statistics reveal that women entrepreneurs often face challenges pertaining to access to finance and raw materials, lack of education, challenges from patriarchal society and such. Women entrepreneurship requires guidance and support with entrepreneurial insights, the right kind of financial and logistic support, social recognition and encouragement. MCCI has started a mentorship programme for 20 women entrepreneurs, she mentioned.

Shri Aakash Shah, President, MCCI in his address said that during the extraordinary times of the pandemic, when the country was put under a lockdown, NCW stood apart with its quick measures to address the new challenges faced by women. The Commission has launched a one of its kind WhatsApp helpline number for women in addition to the robust complaint registration system already in place.

Smt. Rekha Sharma, Hon'ble Chairperson,

National Commission for Women said that when we talk about women's empowerment, we are talking about economic independence along with mental, political and social empowerment. Unless we empower women economically, they will not be able to participate in the growth of the economy. We cannot achieve the Hon'ble PM's target for growth without women's empowerment. There are different sets of rules for men and women. Equal education should be a must for girls. Many women are working in micro and small businesses and they are marketing on WhatsApp and Facebook to support their families. Women feel empowered when they earn. Domestic violence is less when the woman earns. She referred to the course, 'Empowerment through Entrepreneurship', for 5,000 women for two weeks at IIM (Bangalore). India is destined to shortly become a superpower, and men and women should jointly work toward this goal

The Session ended with a hearty Vote of Thanks by **Smt. Manasi Kothari**, Co-Chair, MLF.

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MLF Webinar with Dr Rupali Basu, Director & CEO, Woodlands Multispecialty Hospital Ltd on "The After Effect & Outlook for COVID" on 23 April 2021 over Zoom Online Platform

MLF organised a Zoom Webinar on "**The After Effect & Outlook for COVID**" with **Dr. Rupali Basu**, Director & CEO, Woodlands

Multispecialty Hospital Ltd. on 23 April 23, 2021.

Smt. Snigdha Shah, Chairperson, MLF in her Opening Remarks said that the society is now bracing up to combat the second wave of COVID pandemic. This is the time when one gathers from what one has learnt over the last year. This time, with a refurbished infrastructure and an Indian designed vaccine, the society is better prepared for the challenge. She mentioned that the after effects of COVID have proved to be more challenging for the patients; with numerous patients reporting varying degrees of discomfort and ailment even after they have proved to be COVID negative. She requested Dr. Rupali Basu to share the guidelines on how to cope up with effects and after effects of this disease.

Dr. Rupali Basu, Director & CEO, Woodlands Multispecialty Hospital Ltd shared that COVID-19 must not be considered as merely a physical disease because it affects mental as well as financial health. Concepts like Work from Home (WFH) have changed not only the process and working schedule of people, but also how they shop, socialize and interact. It has also created an environment of constant stress and tension for people.

She informed that the First Wave of COVID-19 hit the world December 31, 2019, stagnated briefly and gradually slowed down. However, the Second Wave of COVID-19 in mid 2021 has been very challenging for the healthcare ecosystem. There is arising a mismatch between provisions and requirement. Many patients are facing trouble to get admitted in the hospitals due to shortage of bed

and oxygen. However, she assured that availability of oxygen in West Bengal is better than some states in India. Dr. Basu mentioned that this time, 85% of virus carriers are asymptomatic and only need home isolation but rest 15% need special care, who require admission in hospitals or satellite Covid Care Centers as proper medication and oxygen provision must be kept available for them. She suggested patients to focus on home care if they have mild symptoms and to strictly follow the COVID protocols. She assured that the healthcare ecosystem is working to resolve bed issues. Given that the Government has now has decided to provide vaccine above 18 years, she suggested it is better to get vaccinated as soon as possible.

The Session ended with a hearty Vote of Thanks by **Smt. Manasi Kothari**, Co-Chair, MLF.

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**MLF Webinar with
Shri Karan Kakkad, International
International Nutrigenomics & Disease
Reversal Expert on 'How to Build
Immunity and Regain Strength after
Recovery from COVID 19' on 9 June 2021
over Zoom Online Platform**

MLF organized a Zoom Webinar on 'How to build immunity and regain Strength after Recovery from COVID-19' with Shri Karan Kakkad, International Nutrigenomics and Disease Reversal Expert on 9 June 2021.

Smt. Manasi Kothari, Co-Chairperson, MLF, in her Welcome Address said that for the last few months the country has been facing the challenge of a more virulent second wave of COVID pandemic. The states like Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, and



West Bengal have been trying to break the chain of this second wave. In most of cases, after recovery from COVID-19, people may face different health related issues like post COVID cough, Malaise, Sleeping Disorders, sudden breathlessness, Renal damage & Swelling. In this situation, proper and professional guidance is needed on how to cope with the effects and after-effects of COVID, for regaining strength and immunity.

Shri Karan Kakkad, International Nutrigenomics and Disease Reversal Expert said in India, lifestyle diseases have become an epidemic, a person dies of heart attack every 33 seconds and 3 out of 10 Indians have high cholesterol. In order to fight lifestyle diseases, we should consume more plant-based food and reduce our intake of animal food and processed food. Plant based foods are better for us as they have more antioxidants and fiber. Plant food reverses lifestyle diseases while animal food increases lifestyle diseases. 85% of our immunity lies in our gut which houses billions of bacteria. The parameters that weaken an immune system are : Stress, especially prolonged chronic stress; Sedentary lifestyle. Sitting for prolonged periods is bad for us; Junk food, packaged foods and deep-fried foods as they lack fiber; Lack of quality sleep and Smoking which damages the DNA in our cells. Intermittent fasting cleanses our system and lowers blood pressure / diabetes. In addition, intermittent fasting leads to loss of fat, improves cognitive function and lowers inflammation, he noted

Smt. Vayjayanti Pugalia, Core Committee Member, MLF offered a hearty Vote of Thanks.

MLF Webinar on “Why Challenges are our Biggest Gifts : How to Use Challenges to Rise Higher” with Mr. Yogesh Chabria, Bestselling Author and Founder of ‘The Happionaire™ Way’ on 31 July 2021 over Zoom Online Platform

MLF organized a Zoom Webinar on “**Why Challenges are Our Biggest Gifts: How To Use Challenges To Rise Higher**” with **Mr. Yogesh Chabria**, Bestselling Author and Founder of The Happionaire™ Way on 31 July 2021.

Smt. Snigdha Shah, Chairperson, MLF in her Welcome Address, said that COVID and its related developments have posed several challenges for all on multiple fronts; be it professional challenges, personal challenges, health related challenges, fatigue and mental challenges. However, all challenges can be channelized to our advantage. We need to change our perspective and see the challenges as opportunities for personal growth and self-improvement.

Shri Vidhan Rasiwasia, Chairman, MCCI Young Entrepreneurs Forum (MYEF) said that MYEF was recently launched on 5 January 2021 as the youth wing and think-tank of young leaders at MCCI, primarily focusing on – Youth Leadership, Nation Building and Thought Leadership. Through MYEF, MCCI aims to create a platform and support system for aspiring entrepreneurs for personal and professional growth.

Shri Yogesh Chabria, Bestselling Author and Founder of The Happionaire™ Way pointed out that every challenge offers some opportunities: opportunities to grow in life. said that challenges are a gift of life,



which are avoidable if practical knowledge is applied in our life. Practical knowledge always attracts the opportunities to prosper. If one has enough practical knowledge, one can easily overcome obstacles in life. Since last two years, the society is facing major challenges, the frustration out of which affects mental peace. To overcome this, we have to consider something similar that happened previously and how it was overcome. If we make a relative comparison of our crisis with others, we will find out the way of overcoming the challenges. He advised that we should not allow bad situation to control our mind. If we change our perspective, we can easily conquer all challenges

Shri Chabria mentioned that money and knowledge are both powerful weapons of life but knowledge should always be preferred over money as money can be exhausted at any time but knowledge remains lifetime. With knowledge, money can be earned again.

The Session ended with an interactive session and a Vote of Thanks offered by **Mrs. Manasi Kothari**, Co-Chairperson, MLF.

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MLF Convocation of the 1st Cohort of Grassroot Entrepreneurship Mentorship Programme with Chief Guest : Dr. Shashi Panja, Hon'ble Minister for Women & Child Development and Social Welfare, Govt. of West Bengal on 8 September 2021 at The Oberoi Grand, Kolkata

MCCI and MCCI Ladies Forum (MLF), in association with Social Venture Partners (SVP) organized the Convocation of the

1st Cohort of Grassroot Entrepreneurship Mentorship Programme on 8 September 2021 at The Oberoi Grand. **Dr. Shashi Panja**, Hon'ble Minister of Women & Child Development and Social Welfare, Government of West Bengal was the Chief Guest on the occasion.

The event witnessed 20 recipients receiving their certificate of achievement from the Chief Guest Dr. Shashi Panja. Sixteen recipients were given seed money for their businesses, which was handed over by Shri Aakash Shah, President, MCCI as benevolently sponsored by Century Plyboards (India) Limited.

Shri Aakash Shah, President, MCCI in his Welcome Address said that economic and financial empowerment of women is a critical aspect of social development at large. The impact of increasing participation of women workforce on the national GDP is well documented. Equal participation of both men and women is required to build an egalitarian and just society. He congratulated MCCI Ladies Forum (MLF) and SVP for organising this mentorship programme for women in these times of crisis. The initiative provided training for 20 beneficiaries in association with the NGO Literacy India. It is also heartening to note that these 20 women have now started their own small businesses, he noted.

Smt. Snigdha Shah, Chairperson, MLF in her address, said that economic empowerment is a crucial aspect of any significant push to make women full and equal partners in their communities. Strengthening the economic role of women is also critical to reducing poverty, improving health and education outcomes, and achieving other



broad development goals.

Smt. Shah explained that under the Grassroot Entrepreneurship Mentorship programme, a series of training & mentoring sessions were conducted for 20 beneficiaries associated with the NGO Literacy India for over 3.5 months, on topics ranging from financial literacy, digital literacy, social media marketing to soft skills. Most of these women have started their own micro-enterprises. The primary motive of this initiative was to give these women entrepreneurs an overview of the current market scenario, teach them new strategies which will help them to grow their business and to help them resolve the teething problems in their endeavors.

Dr. Shashi Panja, Hon'ble Minister of Women & Child Development and Social Welfare, Government of West Bengal said that granting seed money to the beneficiaries is exciting and appropriate as money is a key ingredient for success. Dr. Panja said that she deals with the problems faced by women on a daily basis. These hurdles include a lack of opportunities and little access to facilities. She was impressed that the beneficiaries of this programme are financially literate as financial literacy only comes after many other hurdles have been crossed. She was also impressed by the fact that the beneficiaries are active on social media.

Women must continue to work even after they get married in order to achieve empowerment. If women continue to work, then their husbands will respect them. The woman and child come as a unit, so unless the woman is empowered, the child cannot be empowered. Dr. Panja

said that MCCI has made a sea of difference in the lives of the twenty beneficiaries who will become the leaders of tomorrow.

Shri Aakash Shah felicitated the mentors and presented mementos to Shri Sanjib Kumar Kothari, Treasurer, MCCI and Chairman, Council on MSMEs, MCCI, Smt. Shamlu Dudeja, Mathematician, Philanthropist & Revivalist (her daughter Smt. Mallika Verma received on her behalf), Smt. Vayjayanti Pugalia, Core Committee Member, MLF, Smt. Chaitali Das, Member, MLF and Smt. Sanskriti Jhunjhunwala, Founder, Eduworks India

The Session ended with a hearty Vote of Thanks as offered by **Smt. Manasi Kothari**, Co-Chairperson, MLF.

MLF Webinar : An enriching E-Session with Smt. Archana Doshi, Founder, Archana's Kitchen on 9 February 2022 over Zoom Platform

MCCI Ladies Forum (MLF) organised an enriching E-Session with **Smt. Archana Doshi**, Founder of ARCHANA'S KITCHEN on 9 February 2022 over Zoom Platform. The Session was moderated by **Smt. Pooja Baid**, Chief Mentor, Piccadilly Square.

While welcoming the guests, **Smt. Manasi Kothari**, Chairperson, MCCI Ladies Forum (MLF) in her Welcome Address mentioned that MCCI Ladies Forum (MLF) works with an objective to address and discuss all women related social issues and represent them to the concerned government departments, technical agencies, national and international organizations and passionately promotes the cause of women

empowerment.

Smt. Archana Doshi, Founder, Archana's Kitchen, India's leading food and recipe platform, shared her professional journey from being a Software Engineer to one of the successful Food Bloggers and Influencers in the Digital platform, how she travelled through tough times after losing her job and become a successful blogger. She was featured as a Google Entrepreneur on the Web for her outstanding work on digital space for food and was the inspiration for the first Google Chrome Ad on National Television in India. To be confident, consistent and to have patience are few important things to follow to be successful in the digital world, she felt.

She believes that to monetize from Digital platform, one has to constantly update contents and videos. The reach of the website will increase only with fresh and innovative contents. Smt. Doshi launched her own food products in 2021 in digital world. She believes in adding value to the society in whatever she does. While answering to monetization aspect, she said that although product endorsement will help in monetization, but choosing right product is important.

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Special Session on 'Empowering Women and making a Self-reliant INDIA' on 7 March 2022 at Hotel Taj Bengal, Kolkata

To mark the occasion of International Women's Day, MCCI Ladies Forum organised a Special Session on "Empowering Women and making A Self-reliant India" on 7 March 2022 at Hotel Taj Bengal. **Mr. Ujjwal**

Biswas, Hon'ble Minister, Correctional Administration, Government of West Bengal was the Chief Guest of the Session. **Mr. Moley Chandan Chakraborty**, Jute Commissioner, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, **Mrs. Nakamura Yuko**, First Lady, Consulate General of Japan in Kolkata and **Ms. Chaitali Das**, Social Entrepreneur and Member of MLF were also present at the Session.

While welcoming the guests and speaking on this year's theme of International Women's Day, **Ms. Manasi Kothari**, Chairperson, MLF said that MCCI & MLF aspire to be an accelerator in propelling women empowerment and making an inclusive society. Working towards a world without stereotypes and discrimination is important, she felt.

Mr. Ujjwal Biswas, Hon'ble Minister, Correctional Administration, Government of West Bengal in his address referred to the initiative taken by the Government in changing the concept of 'Jail' and making it 'correctional home' where emphasis is given on providing reformative and corrective measures. In the Correctional home, Government is providing educational and vocational training to the inmates. Many NGOs have come forward to associate with the Government for empowerment and rehabilitation of the inmates. He mentioned about the initiative to involve the inmates in football manufacturing and already 1 lakh footballs have been made by them. Another 30,000 footballs will be supplied soon.

Mr. Moley Chandan Chakraborty, Jute Commissioner, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India said that



Empowerment is the multi-dimensional social process that helps people and community to gain control over their own lives. Empowerment of women is essential to the social development of families, communities and countries.

Mrs. Nakamura Yuko, The First Lady, Consul General of Japan in Kolkata raised concern over gender discrimination. She mentioned that to create a vibrant and growing society, it is essential to make conducive environment where women could utilize their potential.

Ms. Chaitali Das, Social Entrepreneur and Member of MLF mentioned that it should be the duty of the privileged class of the society to create opportunities for the people behind the bars to bring them back to the society. Through her project - 'Jute Story Beyond Bars' she is empowering the inmates of two correctional homes in the city through coordinated skill development training. The Session ended by Screening of Multi-Award Winning Short Documentary on the project of 'Jute Story Beyond Bars' by Social Entrepreneur, Ms. Chaitali Das.

OTHER IMPORTANT EVENTS

Celebration of 161st Income Tax Day 2021 by the Office of the Principal Chief Commissioner of Income Tax, West Bengal & Sikkim - Online Seminar with stakeholders of the Income Tax Department on 24 July 2021

An Online Seminar was organized by the Office of the Principal Chief Commissioner of Income Tax, West Bengal & Sikkim with all the stakeholders of Income Tax Department to commemorate the 161st Income Tax Day on 24.07.2021. The purpose of the Seminar was to highlight the reforms and achievements in the Department and also to discuss and conduct positive engagement on the future of tax administration in India.

Addressing the Seminar, **Shri Aakash Shah**, President, MCCI said that India has a progressive income tax policy where exemptions are provided upto a certain threshold of income and also to different professional categories keeping in mind the social requirements.

However, what has been the biggest achievement in tax reforms is improvement of ease for tax filing. The introduction of Saral forms, the speed of digitalization, the providence of online access to Forms 26AS are remarkable developments as it has empowered individuals to file their own taxes. These days, filing Income tax and availing returns is a simpler and easier process, which in turn encourages greater compliance as well.

He appreciated the healthy development where share of direct tax collection to total tax collection has steadily improved in the country. From only 36.3% share of direct taxes in total tax revenues in 2000-01, it has improved to around 50% by the last decade. This is a welcome change as indirect taxes are more regressive in nature and hence a higher proportion of direct taxes reflects a progressive tax regime.

He complimented the Department for all for the good work being done to improve on income tax in terms of ease of filing and increasing its collection. He hoped that the continuing good work will help shape a more vibrant, economically resilient, Aatmanirbhar Bharat.

Meeting with Shri Shyam Kumar, Pr. Chief Commissioner of Income Tax, West Bengal & Sikkim, Govt. of India on 13 August 2021

A Meeting was held with Shri Shyam Kumar, Principal Chief Commissioner of Income Tax, West Bengal & Sikkim, Govt. of India at his office, to discuss important issues relating to Direct Taxes.

The meeting was attended by Shri Sanjib Kothari, Treasurer and Chairman, Council on MSME, MCCI; Shri Arvind Agrawal, Chairman, Council on Direct Taxes, MCCI; Shri Ramesh Chokhani, Co Chairman, Council on Direct Taxes, MCCI and Shri S. Roy, Deputy Director General, MCCI.



**Meeting with Shri Suresh Kumar,
Director General of Income Tax
(Investigation), Govt. of India
on 17 August 2021**

A Meeting was held with Shri Shyam Kumar, Principal Chief Commissioner of Income Tax, West Bengal & Sikkim, Govt. of India at his office, to discuss important issues relating to Direct Taxes.

The meeting was attended by Shri Santosh Saraf, Past President, MCCI; Shri Arvind Agrawal, Chairman, Council on Direct Taxes, MCCI; Shri Ramesh Chokhani, Co Chairman, Council on Direct Taxes, MCCI and Shri S. Roy, Deputy Director General, MCCI.

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**Courtesy Meeting with the senior
officials of Govt. of West Bengal
on 23 August 2021**

Shri Aakash Shah, President MCCI and Shri Rishabh Kothari, Senior Vice President

MCCI had Courtesy Meetings with the following senior officials of Govt. of West Bengal on 23 August 2021 :

- a. **Shri Alapan Bandyopadhyay**, IAS (Retd.), Chief Advisor to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of West Bengal
- b. **Shri B. P. Gopalika**, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Home & Hill Affairs, Govt. of West Bengal
- c. **Dr. Manoj Pant**, IAS, Principal Secretary, Department of Finance, Govt. of West Bengal

The following points were suggested and presented to Shri Alapan Bandyopadhyay, IAS (Retd.), Chief Advisor to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of West Bengal, from the Chamber :

- A. **Improving EODB online services:** A Single Window Clearance mechanism for Factory license, Fire safety approval, Water license and other requisite clearances required to set up establishments; Need for greater awareness in TIER II and III towns and cities.
- B. Industry led Utkarsh Bangla
- C. Release of pending payments for MSMEs from PSUs
- D. Extension of the Banglashree Incentive Scheme
- E. Speedy disbursement of Subsidies for approved MSMEs
- F. Quarterly Return Monthly Scheme under GST
- G. Professional tax Filing Website to be made functional

The following points were discussed and presented to **Shri B. P. Gopalika**, IAS,



Additional Chief Secretary, Home & Hill Affairs, Govt. of West Bengal, from the Chamber :

- Revival of Intra-state Transportation
- Wage rate concerns for Tea industry
- Release of pending payments for MSMEs from PSUs

The following points were discussed and presented to **Dr. Manoj Pant**, IAS, Principal Secretary, Department of Finance, Govt. of West Bengal, from the Chamber :

- Release of pending payments for MSMEs from PSUs
- Extension of the Banglashree Incentive Scheme
- Speedy disbursement of Subsidies for approved MSMEs
- Quarterly Return Monthly Scheme under GST
- Professional tax Filing Website to be made operational
- Request Single Window for EODB

Meeting with Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Union Minister for Commerce & Industry and Railways on 23 August 2021

The DGFT convened an online meeting with **Shri Piyush Goyal**, Hon'ble Minister for Commerce & Industry and Textiles, Govt. of India on 23 August 2021 with the Presidents/ senior Representatives of all Chambers of Commerce and industry & trade Associations all over the country, to discuss the measures to enhance and increase exports.

The Meeting was also attended by

- **Shri Som Parkash**, Hon'ble Minister of

State for Commerce & Industry

- **Smt. Anupriya Patel**, Hon'ble Minister of State for Commerce & Industry

Shri Aakash Shah, President MCCI, participated in the meeting and discussed the following points :

- a. Control on exports of Raw Iron & pellets : Suggestions :
 - Complete ban on the export of iron ore & pellets, Pig Iron and Scrap to address the ongoing Demand-Supply Mismatch for value added or Hi Tech industries.
 - Exports of Steel Semis to be restricted, even totally stopped in certain sub sectors, if needed.
- b. RODTEP
- c. Logistical Challenges
- d. Working Capital Needs for MSME Exporters

Interaction Meeting between Industry associations and Departments of Govt of West Bengal on Ease of Doing Business & reduction of Regulatory Compliances on 26 August 2021 at Shilpa Sadan

An Interaction Meeting was held between Industry associations and different Departments of Govt of West Bengal on **Ease of Doing Business and reduction of Regulatory Compliances** on 26 August 2021 at the Conference Hall of Shilpa Sadan, Camac Street, Kolkata. The Government of West Bengal Panel was represented by the following Departmental Secretaries and senior officers :

- Shri Rajesh Pandey, IAS, Principal Secretary, Department of MSME & Textiles, Govt of West Bengal



- Shri Manoj Kumar Agarwal, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Department of Fire & Emergency Services, Govt of West Bengal
- Shri Barun Kumar Ray, IAS, Principal Secretary, Department of Labour, Govt of West Bengal
- Smt. Roshni Sen, IAS, Member Secretary, West Bengal Pollution Control Board and Principal Secretary, Department of Consumers Affairs Govt of West Bengal
- Smt. Vandana Yadav, IAS, Secretary, Department of Industry, Commerce & Enterprises, Govt of West Bengal and Managing Director, WBIDC
- Shri Uday Swaroop, IAS, Director of MSME, Govt of West Bengal.
- Shri Taj Hassan, IPS, Director General of Fire Service, Govt of West Bengal
- Shri P Kamalakanth, IFS, Executive Director, WBIDC

The Meeting was attended by Shri Sanjib Kothari, Treasurer and Chairman, Council on MSME, MCCI; Shri Akhil Sonthalia, Co Chairman, Council on MSME, MCCI and Smt. Munmun Banerjee, Assistant Director General, MCCI. The following suggestions from the Chamber were presented at the Session :

- Online Issuance and Renewal of Trade Licence by Panchayats.
- Shops and Establishment : Ease of Rules relating to employment/ retrenchment of employees :
- A clear cut policy for purchase of 'barga' land

The following initiatives taken by different Departments of Govt. of West Bengal on

EoDB:

- Urban Development & Municipal Affairs:
- Online Single Window Building Plan Approval
- Online Trade License
- Auto triggering of Mutation
- Real Time Property tax payment
- Digital Register for Labour
- Real Time Registration under Shops & Establishments Act
- Environment [Pollution control] : Consent to Establish - Orange Category - 30 days and Red Category - 60 days; Auto renewal of Consent to Operate when relevant parameters remains unchanged
- Consumer Affairs [Legal Metrology] - online services and timeline
- Fire - Online services and timeline
- Power : Obtaining new electricity connection - 7 days (Notified by WBSEDCL)
- IndustryCommerce&Enterprises-online services and timeline : Registration of Societies and Partnership Firms : within 30 days; Land Allotment : Evaluation completed in 10 days, Allotment within 60 days.
- **MSME & Textiles - online services and timeline**
- Consent to Establish (Green Category) Presently issued in 72 Hours by GM DICs
- Consent to Operate (Green Category) Yes Presently issued in 72 Hours by GM DICs
- Land allotment in Government Industrial Estates ---- (Evaluation done within 10 days)

Meeting on common Fire Safety Measures for homogenous industrial units in Industrial Parks and creation of CAF for Fire NOC, organized by Directorate of MSME, Govt. of West Bengal on 5 October 2021 at New Secretariat Building

A Meeting with a few Chambers of Commerce and trade bodies was organized by the Directorate of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME), Govt of West Bengal on 5 October 2021 at the office of the Directorate, to discuss common Fire Safety Measures for homogenous industrial units in Industrial Parks and creation of CAF for Fire NOC.

The Government of West Bengal Panel was represented by the following Departmental Secretaries and senior officers :

- Shri Manoj Kumar Agarwal, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Department of Fire & Emergency Services, Govt of West Bengal
- Shri Uday Swaroop, IAS, Director of MSME, Govt of West Bengal.

The Meeting was attended by Shri Manoj Agarwal, Member, MCCI MSME Council and Dr. Amitayu Sengupta, DDG, MCCI attended the Meeting.

Meeting with Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Hon'ble Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways and AYUSH, Government of India on 2 January 2022 at Hotel J W Marriott, Kolkata

Shri Rishabh C. Kothari, President, MCCI along with Shri Sanjay Rasiwasia, Chairman, Council on Banking & Finance, MCCI; Shri

Lavesh Poddar, Chairman, Council on Logistics, Transport & Shipping, MCCI and Shri S Roy, DDG, MCCI had a meeting with **Shri Sarbananda Sonowal**, Hon'ble Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways and AYUSH, Government of India at Hotel JW Marriott, Kolkata, to discuss certain key issues.

The President extended a cordial invitation to the Hon'ble Minister to address the Chamber in the near future.

Courtesy Meeting with Mr. Taufiq Hasan, Deputy High Commissioner of Bangladesh in Kolkata on 20 January 2022

Shri Rishabh C. Kothari, President, MCCI along with Shri Lalit Beriwal, Senior Vice President, MCCI and Shri S Roy, DDG, MCCI called upon Mr. Toufique Hasan, Deputy High Commissioner of Bangladesh in Kolkata on 20 January 2022 at the Office of Deputy Commissioner of Bangladesh in Kolkata to discuss the prospects of business and collaboration between India and Bangladesh.

The President of the Chamber thanked Mr. Hasan for his time and looked forward to working closely in future.

Courtesy Meeting with Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar, Hon'ble Governor of West Bengal on 20 January 2022 at Raj Bhavan

Shri Rishabh C. Kothari, President, MCCI along with Shri Lalit Beriwal, Senior Vice President, MCCI and Shri S Roy, DDG, MCCI had a courtesy meeting with **Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar**, Hon'ble Governor of West



Bengal on 20 January 2022 at Raj Bhavan, Kolkata to discuss certain key issues.

The President expressed his gratitude to the Governor for his time and extended a cordial invitation to the Governor to address the Chamber at his convenience.

Courtesy Meeting with Shri Vineet Kumar Goyal, IPS, Commissioner, Kolkata Police on 25 January 2022 at Lalbazar

Shri Rishabh C. Kothari, President, MCCI along with Shri Lalit Beriwal, Senior Vice President, MCCI, Shri Namit Bajoria, Vice President, Shri Vishal Jhaharia, Past President, MCCI and Shri S Roy, DDG, MCCI had a courtesy meeting with Shri Vineet Kumar Goyal, IPS, Commissioner, Kolkata Police on 25 January 2022 at Lalbazar, to discuss certain key issues.

The President thanked Shri Goyal for his time and looked forward to working closely in the future.

Courtesy Meeting and Felicitations to Shri P R Agarwala, Padma Shree Awardee and Chairman, Rupa & Co on 28 January 2022

Shri Rishabh C. Kothari, President, MCCI along with Shri Lalit Beriwal, Senior Vice President, MCCI and Shri S. Roy, DDG, MCCI had a Courtesy Meeting with Shri P R Agarwala, Padma Shree Awardee and Chairman, Rupa & Co to felicitate him on his Padma Shree Award, at his office, in the presence of Past Presidents of the Chamber : Shri K. B. Agarwala, M D, Rupa & Co and Shri Ramesh Agarwal, Director, Rupa & Co.

Live Telecast of Union Budget 2022-23, followed by Initial Reactions & Discussion on 1 February 2022 at MCCI Conference Hall

MCCI members attended the Live Telecast of Union Budget 2022 - 23, presented by Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Hon'ble Union Finance Minister, on 1 February 2022 at 11 AM at the MCCI Conference Hall, which was followed by initial reactions and discussion by them.

While complimenting the Hon'ble Union Finance Minister, on her 4th Budget placed in the Parliament today, **Shri Rishabh C. Kothari**, President, MCCI said that the proposed budget focused on sharp rebound and recovery of economy identifying 7 engines of growth, consisting roads, railways, airports, ports, mass transport, waterways and logistics infrastructure as the key areas. The budget prioritized inclusive development, productivity enhancement, energy transition and action on climate change as the four pillars of development. The Union Budget 2022-23 is a blue print of India at 100, which is a visionary document, he noted. A mix of short-term boost & long-term structural emphasis is hallmark of this Budget, remarked Shri Kothari.

Shri Namit Bajoria, Vice President, MCCI; Shri Sanjib Kothari, Treasurer & Chairman, Council on MSME, MCCI; Shri A R Sonthalia, Trustee and Past President, MCCI, Shri Santosh Saraf, Past President, MCCI; Shri Arvind Agrawal, Chairman, Council on Direct Taxes, MCCI; Shri Arun Kumar Agarwal, Chairman, Council on GST, Indirect & State Taxes, MCCI; Shri Sanjay Bhattacharya, Co Chairman, Council on



Direct Taxes, MCCI attended the Telecast session.

Courtesy Meeting with Shri Subrata Saha, Hon'ble MoS (I/C) for Food Processing Industries and Horticulture, Govt. of West Bengal on 8 February 2022 at his office

Shri Suresh Kumar Agarwal, Co-Chairman, Council on Food Processing, MCCI; Shri Suresh Agarwal, Chairman, Council on Agriculture & Horticulture, MCCI and Shri S. Roy, DDG, MCCI met Shri Subrata Saha, Hon'ble Minister of State (IC) Department of Food Processing Industries & Horticulture, Govt. of West Bengal on 8 February 2022 at his office and presented a potted plant as a unique Green Initiative taken by the Chamber.

In the discussion, the Department has showed interest in a Pilot project namely MGNREGA linked Banana Cultivation which will be implemented shortly, firstly in 3 districts (Murshidabad, South 24 Parganas & Jalpaiguri. In this scheme, the Department will support the farmers having at least 5 katthas of land with banana saplings, other inputs and financial assistance of Rs. 20,000 to encourage Tissue Culture Banana Cultivation.

Courtesy Meeting with Mr. Zha Liyou, Consul General of China in Kolkata on 17 February 2022 at the Office of Consulate General

Shri Rishabh C. Kothari, President along with Shri Lalit Beriwal, Sr. Vice President, Shri Namit Bajoria, Vice President and Shri S. Roy, Dy. DG of the Chamber made a courtesy call on Zha Liyou, Consul General of China in Kolkata on 17 February 2022 at

CG's Office.

The Consul General of China highlighted the following major fairs held in China every year and requested MCCI's participation in these fairs :

1. China International Fair for Investment & Trade (CIFIT)
2. China Import and Export Fair (Canton Fair)
3. China International Import Expo (CIIE)
4. China International Fair for Trade in Services (CIFTIS)
5. Kunming Fair

Courtesy Call on Mr. Manfred Auster, Consul General of the Federal Republic of Germany on 22 February 2022 at the Office of Consulate General

Shri Rishabh C. Kothari, President along with Shri Lalit Beriwal, Sr. Vice President, Shri Namit Bajoria, Vice President and Shri S. Roy, Dy. DG of the Chamber made a courtesy call on Mr. Manfred Auster, Consul General of the Federal Republic of Germany on 22 February 2022 at CG's Office.

The President of the Chamber thanked Mr. Auster for his time and looked forward to working closely in future.

Courtesy Call on Mr. Nick Low, British Deputy High Commissioner on 24 February 2022 at the Office of Deputy High Commissioner

Shri Rishabh C. Kothari, President along with Shri Lalit Beriwal, Sr. Vice President, Shri Namit Bajoria, Vice President and Shri S. Roy, Dy. DG of the Chamber made



a courtesy call on Mr. Nick Low, British Deputy High Commissioner at his office on 24 February 2022.

The President of the Chamber thanked Mr. Low for his time and looked forward to working closely in future.

Courtesy Call on Ms. Rowan Anisworth, Consul General, Australia 24 February 2022 at 11.30 AM at the office of the Consulate General

Shri Rishabh C. Kothari, President along with Shri Lalit Beriwal, Sr. Vice President, Shri Namit Bajoria, Vice President and Shri S. Roy, Dy. DG of the Chamber made a courtesy call on Ms. Rowan Anisworth, Consul General, Australia at her office on 24 February 2022.

The President of the Chamber thanked Ms.

Anisworth for her time and looked forward to working closely in future.

Courtesy Call on Mr. Gianluca Rubagotti, Consul General of Italy in Kolkata on 8 March 2022 at the office of the Consulate General

Shri Rishabh C. Kothari, President along with Shri Lalit Beriwal, Sr. Vice President, Shri Namit Bajoria, Vice President and Shri S. Roy, Dy. DG of the Chamber made a courtesy call on **Mr. Gianluca Rubagotti**, Consul General of Italy in Kolkata on 8 March 2022 at the Office of the Consulate General.

The President of the Chamber thanked Mr. Rubagotti for his time and looked forward to working closely in future.

PRESS COMMUNIQUE

05.04.2021

A Press Communiqué was issued on MLF Webinar : Special Session with Smt. Rekha Sharma, Hon'ble Chairperson, National Commission for Women

07.04.2021

A Press Communiqué was issued on MCCI Defence Forum 2021 : "Scope of MSMEs in Defence Procurement" at The Park Hotel, Kolkata

20.04.2021

A Press Communiqué was issued on Special Session with Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Hon'ble Finance Minister, Govt. of India at Hotel Taj Bengal, Kolkata

23.04.2021

A Press Communiqué was issued on MLF Webinar with Dr. Rupali Basu, Director & CEO, Woodlands Multispeciality Hospital on 'The After Effects & Outlook for COVID'

27.04.2021

A Press Communiqué was issued on Webinar with Shri K Ganesh, Member (Life), IRDAI on 'IRDAI Initiatives in this Pandemic time'

29.04.2021

A Press Communiqué was issued on Webinar with Dr. Rajiv Kumar, Vice Chairman, NITI Ayog on "Sustaining Robust Growth Rates"

06.05.2021

A Press Communiqué was issued on Webinar with Shri G Pradeepkumar, CEO, Union Asset Management Co. Pvt. Ltd.

01.06.2021

A Press Communiqué was issued on Webinar with Dr. Randeep Guleria, Director, AIIMS on "Expert's Overview on COVID-19 : Prevention, Treatment and post COVID Effects"

03.06.2021

A Press Communiqué was issued on Webinar with Shri Supratim Bandyopadhyay, Chairperson, Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority on 'Securing Future with Pension Planning'

04.06.2021

A Press Communiqué was issued on e-Workshop with Shri Nitin Jain, Director, Marvel Infocom on "Effective Bidding for Government and Public Tenders"

09.06.2021

A Press Communiqué was issued on MLF Webinar with Shri Karan Kakkad, International Nutrigenomics & Disease Reversal Expert on 'How to Build Immunity and Regain Strength after Recovery from COVID 19'

12.06.2021

A Press Communiqué was issued on e-Workshop with CA Abhishek Agarwal, FCA, DISA, Founder, Abhishek Shankar Agarwal & Associates on "Technical Preparedness for Department Audit of GST, for MSMEs"

19.06.2021

A Press Communiqué was issued on Webinar with Shri Manuj Bajaj, CEO, GreyBox Technologies on "Digital Marketing is EASY .. When you know how .."



24.06.2021

A Press Communiqué was issued on Webinar with Shri Sanjeev Sanyal, Principal Economic Advisor, Govt of India on "Economic Resilience in Uncertain Times"

25.06.2021

A Press Communiqué was issued on MYEF Webinar with Shri Rohit Kapoor, CEO INSEA, OYO on "Building a World Class Business from Scratch"

28.06.2021

A Press Communiqué was issued on Webinar with Shri V S Radhakrishnan, Deputy Managing Director, State Bank of India on "Outlook of the Economy due to COVID Surge and Impact on the Banking Sector"

08.07.2021

A Press Communiqué was issued on Webinar on 'Impact of 2nd Wave on the Recovery of Indian Economy'

29.07.2021

A Press Communiqué was issued on Webinar on "Indian and World Stock Market - Current and post COVID Scenarios" with Shri Ashish Kumar Chauhan, MD & CEO, BSE Ltd.

31.07.2021

A Press Communiqué was issued on MLF Webinar on "Why Challenges are our Biggest Gifts : How to Use Challenges to Rise Higher" with Mr. Yogesh Chabria, Bestselling Author and Founder of 'The Happonaire™ Way'

13.08.2021

A Press Communiqué was issued on Meeting with Shri Shyam Kumar, Pr. Chief Commissioner of Income Tax, West Bengal & Sikkim, Govt. of India

17.08.2021

A Press Communiqué was issued on Meeting with Shri Suresh Kumar, Director General of Income Tax (Investigation), Govt. of India

17.08.2021

A Press Communiqué was issued on Webinar on "Decoding the IPO Market: Fundraising Opportunities on NSE" with Smt. Rachana Bhusari, Vice President, Listing Business Development- National Stock Exchange of India Ltd

20.08.2021

A Press Communiqué was issued on Special Session on "Destination Andhra Pradesh - A Land of Opportunities" at Hotel The Oberoi Grand,

24.08.2021

A Press Communiqué was issued on Special Session on "Developments and Opportunities of Food Processing & Horticulture Sector of West Bengal" with Dr. Subrata Gupta, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Food Processing & Horticulture, Government of West Bengal

31.08.2021

A Press Communiqué was issued on Workshop cum Buyer-Seller Meet titled "Participation of MSMEs in Defence Procurement" at MCCI Conference Hall

06.09.2021

A Press Communiqué was issued on Webinar with Shri Santosh Kumar Mohanty, Whole Time Member, Securities and Exchange Board of India on 'Recent Regulatory Initiatives in Securities Market'

08.09.2021

A Press Communiqué was issued on MCCI

East India Energy Forum 2021 with Chief Guest : Janab Akhruzzaman, Hon'ble Minister of State for Power, Govt of West Bengal at The Oberoi Grand, Kolkata

08.09.2021

A Press Communiqué was issued on MLF Convocation of the 1st Cohort of Grassroots Entrepreneurship Mentorship Programme with Chief Guest : Dr. Shashi Panja, Hon'ble Minister for Women & Child Development and Social Welfare, Govt. of West Bengal at The Oberoi Grand, Kolkata

09.09.2021

A Press Communiqué was issued on Meeting with Dr. Mridul Saggur, Executive Director, Reserve Bank of India

28.09.2021

A Press Communiqué was issued on Special Session on 'Conservation of Built Heritage - a way forward', organized jointly by MCCI and West Bengal Heritage Commission in association with Calcutta Heritage Collective

02.11.2021

A Press Communiqué was issued on Webinar on Raw Material Distribution Scheme of National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC)

11.01.2022

A Press Communiqué was issued on Interactive Session with Shri Rajiva Sinha, Chairman, WBIDC on "Industrial Scenario of West Bengal" & Unveiling the Theme of the year "Bouncing Back"

14.01.2022

A Press Communiqué was issued on MCCI Knowledge Series on "Recent Judicial Review and Selected Special Topics in GST" with Shri V. Sridharan Former Founder, Lakshmikumaran & Sridharan Attorneys

21.01.2022

A Press Communiqué was issued on Special e-Session with Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Minister for Commerce & Industry, Textiles, Consumer Affairs and Food & Public distribution, Govt. of India

28.01.2022

A Press Communiqué was issued on Courtesy Meeting and Felicitations to Shri P R Agarwala on his Padma Shree Award

01.02.2022

A Press Communiqué was issued on the Initial Reactions of the Union Budget 2022-23

02.02.2022

A Press Communiqué was issued on Symposium on Union Budget 2022-23 at Hotel Lalit Great Eastern, Kolkata

03.02.2022

A Press Communiqué was issued on Felicitations and Interaction with Janab Firhad Hakim, Hon'ble Mayor of Kolkata & Hon'ble Minister for Transport & Housing, Govt. of West Bengal at Hotel Lalit Great Eastern, Kolkata

09.02.2022

A Press Communiqué was issued on MLF Webinar : Enriching Session with Smt. Archana Doshi, Founder of Archana's Kitchen in Conversation with Smt. Pooja Baid, Chief Mentor, Piccadilly Square

18.02.2022

A Press Communiqué was issued on Special e-Session on Human Transformation with Blockchain Ecosystem with Shri Prasanna B Lohar, Chief Innovation Officer, DCB Bank



23.02.2022

A Press Communiqué was issued on Special Session with Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra, Secretary, Dept. of Agricultural Research & Education, Govt of India and Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research over Zoom

24.02.2022

A Press Communiqué was issued on Special Session on 'Doing Business with United Arab Emirates' with H.E. Dr. Ahmed Abdul Rahman Albanna, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Embassy of the UAE over Zoom

28.02.2022

A Press Communiqué was issued on Signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Merchants' Chamber of Commerce & Industry & The Bhawanipur Education Society College

28.02.2022

A Press Communiqué was issued on MCCI Knowledge Series : "Building Resilience in the Workplace" with Shri Avik Chanda, Columnist & Business advisor over Zoom

03.03.2022

A Press Communiqué was issued on Inauguration of MCCI GST Help Desk by Mr. Khalid Aizaz Anwar, IAS, Commissioner, State Tax, Directorate of Commercial Taxes, Govt. of West Bengal

04.03.2022

A Press Communiqué was issued on Horticulture Camp at Greenic Farms, Nadia

07.03.2022

A Press Communiqué was issued on Special Session on 'Doing Business with Ghana' at Taj Bengal, Kolkata

07.03.2022

A Press Communiqué was issued on Special Session on 'Empowering Women and making a Self-reliant India' at Taj Bengal, Kolkata

08.03.2022

A Press Communiqué was issued on MCCI Knowledge Series : TDS/TCS - Important Issues of Compliance with Commissioner of Income Tax, TDS, Kolkata, Govt. of India

10.03.2022

A Press Communiqué was issued on Special E-Session with Shri Tuhin Kanta Pandey, IAS, Secretary, Dept. of Investment and Public Asset Management, Ministry of Finance, Govt. of India

11.03.2022

A Press Communiqué was issued on the Initial Reactions for the West Bengal Budget 2022-23

11.03.2022

A Press Communiqué was issued on Defence Workshop cum Buyer-Seller Meet on Participation of MSMEs in Defence Procurement 2022

16.03.2022

A Press Communiqué was issued on MCCI Knowledge Series : New Dimensions of EPFO

17.03.2022

A Press Communiqué was issued on Felicitation & Interaction with CA (Dr.) Debashis Mitra, President, ICAI on "The Future of Accounting & Auditing"

23.03.2022

A Press Communiqué was issued on Session on MSME Empowerment : Awareness Programme on Delayed Payments & Recovery for MSEs

REPRESENTATIONS / MEMORANDA

Sl. No.	Date	Representation/ Memorandum sent to	Representation Memorandum sent about
1	25.03.2021	Representation was sent to : Shri Raj Kumar Singh, Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ministry of Power, Govt. of India Shri Nitin Raut, Hon'ble Minister for Energy, New & Renewable Energy, State Excise, Govt. of Maharashtra	Request to expedite claims for interest on delayed payment.
2	12.04.2021	A Representation was sent to Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Hon'ble Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs, Govt. of	Representation on GST Classification and Applicable Rate for Photo/ Picture Framing Industry
3	23.04.2021	A Representation was sent to Shri Santanu Basu, IAS, CMD, WBSEDCL	Follow Up Representation requesting for load extension/ enhancement
4	23.04.2021	A Representation was sent Shri B B Swain, IAS, Secretary, MSME, Govt. of India	Representation regarding difficulties in Udyam Registration.
5	30.04.2021	Representations were sent to: Shri Raj Kumar Singh, Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ministry of Power, Govt. of India Shri Nitin Raut, Hon'ble Minister for Energy, New & Renewable Energy, State Excise, Govt. of Maharashtra	Payment for Power Supply : Repeated request for urgent intervention
6	04.05.2021	Representations were sent to: Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Hon'ble Steel Minister, Govt.	Representation on Demand - Supply Mismatch in Steel Industry



Sl. No.	Date	Representation/ Memorandum sent to	Representation Memorandum sent about
		of India Shri Pralhad Joshi, Hon'ble Minister for Mines, Govt of India with copies to : Shri Pradip Kumar Tripathi, IAS, Secretary, Department of Steel, Govt. of India Shri Alok Tandon, IAS, Secretary, Department of Mines, Govt. of India	
7	04.05.2021	Representations were sent to: Shri Surendra Kumar, IAS, Principal Secretary, Department of Steel & Mines, Govt. of Odisha Shri Hemant Sharma, IAS, Principal Secretary, Department of Industries, Govt. of Odisha Dr. Nitin B Jawale, IAS, Special Secretary, Department of Steel & Mines, Govt. of Odisha Smt. Soma Mondal, Chairperson, SAIL	Representation on Demand - Supply Mismatch in Steel Industry for Odisha
8	13.05.2021	A Representation was sent to Shri Durgesh Pandey, CEO, National Credit Guarantee Trustee Company Ltd.	Representation on Necessary Clarifications / Approval for Emergency Credit Line Requirement under ECLGS 1.0
9	15.05.2021	A Representation was sent to Smt. Mamata Banerjee, Hon'ble Chief Minister of West Bengal	Request for consideration on Recent Announcement of State Lockdown as on date



Sl. No.	Date	Representation/ Memorandum sent to	Representation Memorandum sent about
10	15.05.2021	<p>A Representation was sent to : Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Minister for Consumer Affairs & Food Distribution, Govt of India</p> <p>with copies to :</p> <p>Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Hon'ble Minister for Steel, Govt. of India</p> <p>Shri Pramod Kumar Tiwari, IAS, Director General, Bureau of Indian Standards.</p>	Representation on BIS matter
11	17.05.2021	A Representation was sent to Smt. Mamata Banerjee, Hon'ble Chief Minister of West Bengal.	Follow Up Representation requesting for consideration on Recent Announcement of State Lockdown, as on 15.05.2021
12	17.05.2021	A Representation was sent to Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Hon'ble Minister for Steel, Govt. of India.	Representation on Control/ Ban on Export of Raw Iron and Pellets
13	21.05.2021	A Representation was sent to Smt. Mamata Banerjee, Hon'ble Chief Minister of West Bengal.	Follow Up Representation : request for allowing industrial activities under the State Lockdown as on 15.05.2021
14	21.05.2021	A Representation was sent to Smt. Mamata Banerjee, Hon'ble Chief Minister of West Bengal.	Request for Exclusion of Agriculture and related industries from imposition of State Lockdown as on 15.05.2021
15	18.05.2021	A Representation was sent to Shri Pralhad Joshi, Hon'ble Minister for Mines, Government of India	Representation on Demand - Supply Gap of Iron Ore



Sl. No.	Date	Representation/ Memorandum sent to	Representation Memorandum sent about
		with a copy to Shri Alok Tandon, IAS, Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Government of India	
16	28.05.2021	A Representation was sent to Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India	Representation on Supply of Oxygen to Industries
17	31.05.2021	A Representation was sent to Shri Rajesh Verma, IAS, Secretary, Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Govt of India	Representation for Extension of Time Limit for Holding Meetings over Video Conferencing
18	02.06.2021	A Representation was sent to Shri Nitin Jairam Gadkari, Hon'ble Minister for MSMEs, Govt of India	Representation on different issues affecting the MSME sector
19	17.06.2021	Representations were sent to: Shri Raj Kumar Singh, Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ministry of Power, Govt. of India Shri Nitin Raut, Hon'ble Minister for Energy, New & Renewable Energy, State Excise, Govt. of Maharashtra	Follow-up Representation on Non-Payment of Dues by Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Corporation Ltd. [MSEDCL]
20	24.06.2021	A Representation was sent to Shri Moloy Ghatak, Hon'ble Minister, Public Works Department, Govt. of West Bengal	Request for issuance of revised Government Order regarding procurement of reinforcement steel for various Government Projects in the State of West Bengal in supersession of Government Order issued vide Memo No. 765-ENC/2020 in tune with the specifications set forth by MoRTH, Government of India.



Sl. No.	Date	Representation/ Memorandum sent to	Representation Memorandum sent about
21	24.06.2021	<p>Representations were sent to: Shri Raj Kumar Singh, Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ministry of Power, Govt. of India</p> <p>Shri Nitin Raut, Hon'ble Minister for Energy, New & Renewable Energy, State Excise, Govt. of Maharashtra</p>	Representation on Supply of Oxygen to Industries
22	28.06.2021	<p>Representations were sent to Shri Bimal Borah, Hon'ble Minister for Power, Govt. of Assam</p> <p>Shri Jishnu Baruah, IAS, Chief Secretary of Assam and Chairman of Assam Power Development Corporation Ltd. [APDCL]</p>	Representation on Interruption of Electricity Supply and Frequent Load Shedding
23	02.07.2021	A Representation was sent to Shri K. Ganesh, Member, Life, Insurance Regulatory & Development Authority of India [IRDAI]	Representation on High Commission for LIC Agents
24	03.07.2021	A Representation was sent to Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Minister for Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India	Representation on Inverted Duty Structure of GST, faced by Fragrances & Flavours Industry
25	03.07.2021	<p>A Representation was sent to Shri B P Gopalika, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Department of Home & Hill Affairs, Govt of West Bengal</p> <p>with copies to Shri Virendra, IPS, Director</p>	Representation on the issue of Theft of oil from Oil Tanker



Sl. No.	Date	Representation/ Memorandum sent to	Representation Memorandum sent about
		General & Inspector General of Police, West Bengal and Shri Saumya Roy, IPS, Superintendent of Police, Howrah Rural District, West Bengal	
26	05.07.2021	A Representation was sent to Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Minister for Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India	Representation on Income Tax Exemption under Start Up India Scheme
27	07.07.2021	A Representation was sent to Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Hon'ble Minister for Finance, Govt. of India	Representation on Income Tax Credit Dues
28	19.07.2021	Request Letter to Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Minister for Commerce & Industry, Textiles, Consumer Affairs & Food Distribution	Request Letter with Suggestions and gist of earlier Representations.
29	20.07.2021	A Representation was sent to Smt. Mamata Banerjee, Hon'ble Chief Minister of West Bengal.	Representation requesting Extension of Time Limit for Online Claims under Banglashree Incentive Scheme
30	20.07.2021	A Representation was sent to Shri Vivekanand Manohar Patki, Chairman Shri Sunil Prabhakar Sathe, MD & CEO and other senior officials of TJSB Sahakari Bank Ltd.	Representation on Waiver of pre-Payment Penalty
31	26.07.2021	A Representation was sent to Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble	Representation on Roadmap for 10x Jump in Textile Sector



Sl. No.	Date	Representation/ Memorandum sent to	Representation Memorandum sent about
		Minister for Commerce & Industry, Textiles, Consumer Affairs, and Food & Public Distribution, Govt of India	
32	07.08.2021	A Representation was sent to Shri Bhupinder Yadav, Hon'ble Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India	Representation on Review of the Deadline for Phasing Out of Rigid/ Foam Plastics Disposable cups, plates, trays and containers (Single Use Plastics)
33	12.08.2021	A Representation was sent to Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Hon'ble Union Finance Minister	Representation on TDS in Transport Sector
34	12.08.2021	Representation to Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Hon'ble Union Finance Minister	Representation on Major Issues in Transport Sector
35	26.08.2021	A Representation was sent to Shri B V R Subrahmanyam, IAS, Commerce Secretary, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India	Representation on several issues across industries
36	30.08.2021	A Representation was sent to Shri Shobhit Gupta, Deputy Director General, Directorate General of Foreign Trade, Department of Commerce, Government of India on different issues.	Representation on several issues across industries regarding foreign trade, exports and imports.
37	02.09.2021	A Representation was sent to Dr M S Sahoo, Chairperson, Insolvency & Bankruptcy Board of India on different issues	Representation on a. Protecting the interests of operational creditors/ small suppliers b. Changing Role of Resolution Professionals



Sl. No.	Date	Representation/ Memorandum sent to	Representation Memorandum sent about
38	16.09.2021	A Representation was sent to Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Minister for Textile, Commerce & Industry, Consumer Affairs and Food & Public Distribution, Government of India	Representation on Jute Industry
39	25.09.2021	A Representation was sent to Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Hon'ble Finance Minister, Govt of India with a copy to Shri Rakesh Agarwala, IAS, Commissioner of Taxes, Government of Assam	Representation requesting Amendments in Form GSTR 7
40	25.09.2021	A Representation was sent to Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Minister for Commerce & Industry, Government of India	Follow Up Representation on GST Issue - Inverted Duty Structure faced by Fragrances & Flavours Industry
41	28.09.2021	A Representation was sent to Shri M M Kutty, Chairman, Commission for Air Quality Management, NCR	Representation on Constitution of the Commission : Inclusion of Associate Member [regarding Air Quality Bill 2021 passed in the Parliament]
42	04.10.2021	A Representation was sent to Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Hon'ble Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs, Govt. of India	Representation on Extension of timelines for Filing of DIR -3 KYC for DIN / DPIN holders as at 31st March 2021 till 31.12.2021 without any late fee
43	04.10.2021	A Representation was sent to Shri Pramod Chandra Mody, IRS, Chairperson, Central Board of Direct Taxes	Representation on Faceless Assessment Schemes

Sl. No.	Date	Representation/ Memorandum sent to	Representation Memorandum sent about
		with a copy to the Office of the Prime Minister of India	
44	08.10.2021	A Representation was sent to Smt. Mamata Banerjee, Hon'ble Chief Minister of West Bengal	Representation on Extension of Timeline for Benefit of Stamp Duty Reduction
45	21.10.2021	A Representation was sent to Shri S. Suresh Kumar, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Department of Power & Energy, Govt of West Bengal with copy to Dr P B Salim, IAS, Chairman and Managing Director West Bengal Power Development Corporation Ltd.	Representation on TDS in Transport Sector
46	25.10.2021	A Representation was sent to Shri Bhupender Yadav, Hon'ble Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India with copies to Shri Rameshwar Prasad Gupta, IAS, Secretary, Department of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India and Shri Ravi Agrawal, IAS, Additional Secretary, Department of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India	Representation to include Associate Member to Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR



Sl. No.	Date	Representation/ Memorandum sent to	Representation Memorandum sent about
47	08.11.2021	A Representation was sent to Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Minister for Textile, Commerce & Industry, Consumer Affairs and Food & Public Distribution, Government of India	Representation on Proper Packaging/ Stacking/ Grading by the Government Companies
48	04.12.2021	Representations were sent to Shri Raj Kumar Singh, Hon'ble Minister of Power and New & Renewable Energy, Govt. of India and Dr. Nitin Raut, Hon'ble Minister for Energy, New & Renewable Energy, Govt. of Maharashtra	3rd Representation on Claim for interest on delayed payment by MSEDCL
49	01.01.2022	A Representation was sent to Shri Pralhad Joshi, Hon'ble Minister for Mines, Government of India with a copy to Shri Alok Tandon, IAS, Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Government of India	Representation on Review of Upfront Payment for Coal Auction
50	01.01.2022	Representations were sent to Shri D K Singh, IAS, Principal Secretary, Department of Steel & Mines, Government of Odisha Shri Hemant Sharma, IAS, Principal Secretary, Department of Industries, Government of Odisha Shri Bhupendra Singh Poonia, Managing Director, IPICOL	Request to restart Closed Mines in Odisha to meet the demand supply gap



Sl. No.	Date	Representation/ Memorandum sent to	Representation Memorandum sent about
51	19.01.2022	A Representation was sent to Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Minister for Commerce & Industry, Textiles, Consumer Affairs and Food & Public Distribution, Govt. of India	Representation regarding Issues concerning Legal Metrology Act / (Packaged Commodities) Rules 2011 for Textile/ Garments.
52	21.01.2022	A Representation was sent to Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Minister for Commerce & Industry, Textiles, Consumer Affairs and Food & Public Distribution, Govt. of India	Representation on Consumer Protection Act
53	22.01.2022	A Representation was sent to Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Minister for Commerce & Industry, Textiles, Consumer Affairs and Food & Public Distribution, Govt. of India	Representation on Installation of ATMs to facilitate online payment of wages to Tea workers: Review of application of Section 194N of Income Tax Act to the tea sector as an interim measure
54	24.01.2022	Representations were sent to: Shri Bimal Borah, Hon'ble Minister for Power, Govt. of Assam Shri Jishnu Baruah, IAS, Chief Secretary of Assam and Chairman of APDCL, APGCL & AEGCL Shri Pranab Kumar Gogoi, Chief General Manager (Distribution & Safety), CAR, Assam Power Distribution Company Limited	Follow Up Representation for Interruption of Electricity Supply and Frequent Load Shedding
55	01.02.2022	A Memorandum was sent to : Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Minister for Commerce & Industry, Textiles, Consumer	Memorandum on issues across several industries



Sl. No.	Date	Representation/ Memorandum sent to	Representation Memorandum sent about
		Affairs and Food & Public Distribution, Govt. of India	
56	03.02.2022	<p>Representations were sent to: Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, Hon'ble Minister of Chemicals & Fertilizers and Health & Family Welfare, Government of India,</p> <p>Shri R K Chaturvedi, I.A.S., Secretary, Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Government of India</p> <p>Shri Kashi Nath Jha, Joint Secretary, Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Government of India</p> <p>Shri O. P. Sharma, Technical Consultant, Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Government of India</p>	Representation regarding Issues faced by MSME Detergent Manufacturers
57	23.02.2022	<p>A Representation was sent to Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Hon'ble Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs, Govt. of India and Chairperson, GST Council</p> <p>with a copy to Mr. Khalid Aizaz Anwar, IAS, Commissioner, State Taxes, Directorate of Commercial Taxes, Govt. of West Bengal</p>	Representation on Extension of Due Date for GSTR 9 and GSTR 9C



Sl. No.	Date	Representation/ Memorandum sent to	Representation Memorandum sent about
58	24.02.2022	A Representation was sent to Dr. Sanjay Kumar Jha, Chairman & Managing Director, Mishra Dhatu Nigam Limited [MIDHANI]	Representation on waiver of LD Charges
59	01.03.2022	Memorandum was sent to Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Hon'ble Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs, Govt. of India	Post Budget 2022 - 23 Memorandum
60	02.03.2022	Memorandum was sent to the Office of Development Commissioner, MSME, Govt. of India	Memorandum on draft National Policy for MSMEs
61	30.03.2022	Representations were sent to: Shri Pralhad Joshi, Hon'ble Minister for Mines, Government of India and Shri Ram Chandra Prasad Singh, Hon'ble Minister for Steel, Government of India	Representation to increase Supply of Iron Ore
62	31.03.2022	Representations were sent to: Shri Naveen Patnaik, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Odisha Shri Hemant Sharma, IAS, Principal Secretary, Department of Industries Govt of Odisha Shri D K Singh, IAS, Principal Secretary, Department of Steel & Mines Govt of Odisha	Representation : Request to increase Supply of Iron Ore



WORKING OF MCCI COUNCILS

GST, Indirect & State Taxes

A Meeting of the Council on GST, Indirect & State Taxes was held on 12 April 2021 at the Chamber premises to discuss the action plan for the year. The Meeting was chaired by **Shri Arun Kumar Agarwal**, Chairman of the Council.

Direct Taxes

A Meeting of the Council on Direct Taxes was held on 10 June 2021 at the Chamber premises to discuss the critical issues and action plan for the year. The Meeting was chaired by **Shri Arvind Agrawal**, Chairman of the Council.

Legal Affairs

A Meeting of the Council on Legal affairs was held on 17 June 2021 at the Chamber premises to discuss the action plan for the year, including the topics for events and points for Representations. The Meeting was chaired by **Smt. Mamta Binani**, Chairperson of the Council.

Membership Development

A Meeting of the Council on Membership Development was held on 13 August 2021 at MCCI, to discuss and finalise about Membership Application forms. The meeting was chaired by **Shri Santosh Kumar Saraf**, Chairman of the Council.

Membership Development

A Meeting of the Council on Membership Development was held on 4 October 2021 at MCCI, to discuss and finalise about Membership Application forms. The meeting was chaired by **Shri Santosh Kumar Saraf**, Chairman of the Council.

Membership Development

A Meeting of the Council on Membership Development was held on 25 October 2021 at MCCI, to discuss and finalise about Membership Application forms. The meeting was chaired by **Shri Santosh Kumar Saraf**, Chairman of the Council.

GST, Indirect & State Taxes

A Meeting of the Council on GST, Indirect & State Taxes was held on 8 December 2021 at the Chamber premises to discuss the Pre Union Budget 2022-23 Memorandum. The Meeting was chaired by **Shri Arun Kumar Agarwal**, Chairman of the Council.

Direct Taxes

A Meeting of the Council on Direct Taxes was held on 8 December 2021 at the Chamber premises to discuss the Pre Union Budget 2022-23 Memorandum. The Meeting was chaired by **Shri Arvind Agrawal**, Chairman of the Council.

Membership Development

A Meeting of the Council on Membership Development was held on 17 January 2022 at MCCI, to discuss and finalise about Membership Application forms. The meeting was chaired by **Shri Santosh Kumar Saraf**, Chairman of the Council.

GST, Indirect & State Taxes

A Meeting of the Council on GST, Indirect & State Taxes was held on 10 February 2022 at the Chamber premises to discuss the Post Union Budget 2022-23 Memorandum as also the action plan for the year. The Meeting was chaired by **Shri Arun Kumar Agarwal**, Chairman of the Council.

Direct Taxes

A Meeting of the Council on Direct Taxes was held on 10 February 2022 at the Chamber premises to discuss the Post Union Budget 2022-23 Memorandum as also the action plan for the year. The Meeting was chaired by **Shri Arvind Agrawal**, Chairman of the Council.

MSMEs

A Meeting of the Council on MSMEs was held on 22 February 2022 at the Chamber premises to discuss Chamber's

recommendations for the Post Union Budget 2022-23 Memorandum as also for the draft National Policy for MSMEs. The Meeting was chaired by **Shri Sanjib Kumar Kothari**, Chairman of the Council.

Membership Development

A Meeting of the Council on Membership Development was held on 2 March 2022 at Hotel Taj Bengal, to discuss and finalise about membership matters. The meeting was chaired by **Shri Arun Kumar Saraf**, Co Chairman of the Council.



OTHER ACTIVITIES OF THE CHAMBER

Certificate of Origin :

The Chamber issued **3603** Certificates of Origin, **546** Invoices, **193** Shipping Documents and Agency Agreements during the period. In addition, recommendations for 19 Visa/Passports were also issued.

New Membership :

The total number of members as on 31st March 2022 was **634, 35** new members enrolled while **50** members resigned during the financial year under review.

Circulars and Trade Enquiries:

The Chamber issued **387** circulars covering various subjects and also a number of Trade Enquiries, which were received through various sources from within the country as well as from abroad. Inter-linkages with various trade and promotional bodies, professional organisations including Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) were strengthened to develop information base at the Chamber in order to cater to the requirements of the members of the Chamber. It may also be mentioned that the various foreign diplomatic missions based in India had regular support in providing information resulting in meaningful business alliances.

Acknowledgements:

The Committee would like to take this opportunity to offer sincere appreciation for the cooperation received from various Departments of the Ministries of the Union and State Governments, Foreign Diplomatic Missions, International Organisations, Trade Bodies and Associations. The Committee is grateful to the Press who have always lent their support and focused the activities of the Chamber in a big way.

The Committee would also like to put on records its high appreciation of the competent services rendered by the officers and staff of the Chamber.

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PAST TRUSTEES/ ADVISORY COUNCIL / MCC FOUNDATION /COUNCILS

PAST TRUSTEES	
*	Shri Bhagwati Prasad Agarwala
*	Shri Bijay Singh Kothari
*	Shri Hira Lall Somany
*	Shri S K Todi
* Since deceased	
ADVISORY COUNCIL	
Chairman	Co-Chairman
Shri Sanjay Agarwal	Shri Hemant Bangur
Members	
Shri A.R. Sonthalia	Shri B K Jhajharia
Shri M C Shah	Shri Suresh Jhunhunwala
Shri Santosh Kumar Saraf	Shri Arun Kumar Saraf
Shri Aakash Shah	Shri Rishabh C Kothari
Shri Lalit Beriwala	Shri Namit Bajoria
MERCHANTS' CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOUNDATION	
Chairman	
Shri Rishabh C Kothari	
Members	
Shri Lalit Beriwala	Shri Namit Bajoria
Shri Arun Kumar Dalmia	Shri Sanjib Kumar Kothari
Shri A.R. Sonthalia	Shri B.K. Jhajharia
Shri Arun Kumar Churiwal	Shri Santosh Kumar Saraf
Shri Arun Kumar Saraf	Shri Aakash Shah

**COUNCILS****Agriculture & Horticulture**

Chairman	Co-Chairman
Shri Suresh Agarwal	Shri Sanjeev Kumar Baid
Members	
Shri A.K. Ajitsaria	Shri Ajay Bangur
Shri Somdev Banerjee	Shri Atul Churiwal
Shri Narain Prasad Dalmia	Shri Patit Pabon De
Shri Mukesh Kumar Dhandhania	Shri Parag Vishnu Gadre
Shri Ashish Jhunjhunwala	Shri Anjan Kanoria
Shri Puspjeet Kumar	Shri Aditya Kumar Poddar
Shri Sanjay Rasiwasia	Shri Sudhir Satnaliwala
Shri Saket Tibrewal	
Special Invitees	
Prof. S. Dattagupta	Prof. Ashok Mishra
Mr. Taj Mohammad	Dr. Deborshi De
Shri Digbijoy Chakraborty	

Banking & Finance

Chairman	Co-Chairman
Shri Sanjay Rasiwasia	Shri Smarajit Mitra
Members	
Shri Arun Kumar Agarwal	Shri Suresh Agarwal
Shri Santajyoti Chakrabarti	Shri Girdhari Lal Goenka
Shri Mahesh Chandra Keyal	Shri Sanjib Kumar Kothari
Shri Lavesh Poddar	Shri Amitabh Saraogi
Shri Bharat D Sarawgee	

Capital Market

Chairman	Co-Chairman
Shri Girdhari Lal Goenka	Shri Ravi Jain
	Shri Rakesh Somani
Members	
Shri Vasudeo Agarwal	Shri Deepak Choudhary
Shri Kamal Nayan Jain	Shri R.S. Jhanwar

Shri Bijay Murmuria	Shri Ravindra Sanghai
Shri Vikash Somani	
Special Invitees	
Shri Vijay Kumar Chandak	Shri Dinesh Jain
Shri Rajesh Kumar Lihala	Shri Swatantra Rustogi
Shri Manoj Kumar Saraf	

Direct Taxes	
Chairman	Co-Chairmen
Shri Arvind Agrawal	Shri Sanjay Bhattacharya
	Shri Ramesh Kumar Chokhani
Members	
Shri Birendra Agarwal	Shri Bharat Agarwal
Shri Gaurav Agarwal	Shri Manoj Agarwal
Shri Manoharlal Agarwal	Shri Naresh Kr. Agarwala
Shri Rakesh Agarwal	Shri Vishwanath Agarwal
Shri Manoj Beriwal	Shri Paras Bohra
Shri P. K. Dhelia	Shri Shyamlal Dokania
Shri Vinod Dubey	Shri P. C. Gupta
Shri S. S. Gupta	Shri Jinesh Kumar Jain
Shri Nirmal Kaushik	Shri B. L. Kheria
Shri Prithvi Raj Kothari	Shri Yasaswi Kothari
Shri Ashutosh Poddar	Shri Kishan K. Poddar
Shri P.K. Roychowdhury	Shri Ramanand Rustagi
Shri Miraj D. Shah	Shri Sunil Surana
Shri Vikash Surana	
Special Invitees	
Smt. Nilima Joshi	Shri P.D. Rungta
Shri Anand Tibrewal	

Education	
Chairman	Co-Chairmen
Shri Miraj D Shah	Shri Keshav Agarwal
	Shri Simarpreet Singh
Members	
Shri Tushar Basu	Shri Saurav Jalan



Shri Kishan Kejriwal	Shri Smarajit Mitra
Shri Tamal Mukherjee	Prof. Dilip Shah
Shri Taranjit Singh	Shri Dharmen Trivedi
FMCG	
Chairperson	
Smt. Priti A Sureka	
Members	
Shri Aditya V Agarwal	Shri Ashok Kumar Agarwal
Shri Kishore Kumar Agarwal	Shri Rajesh Agarwal
Shri Ramesh Agarwal	Shri Sanjay Agarwal
Shri Bimal Kumar Choudhary	Shri Shankar Kumar Dokania
Shri Vinod Kumar Gupta	Shri Yashovardhan Gupta
Shri Deepak Jalan	Shri Ashish Jhunhunwala
Shri Rajendra Khandelwal	Shri Sumit Kothari
Shri Banwari Lal Mittal	Shri Siddhartha Sawansukha
Shri Suneel Swaika	Shri Pradip Kumar Todi
Special Invitees	
Shri Vikas Agarwal	
Food Processing	
Chairman	Co-Chairman
Shri Raj Kumar Agarwal	Shri Suresh Kumar Agarwal
Members	
Shri Ashok Kumar Agarwal	Shri Bhagwan Das Agarwal
Shri Kishore Kumar Agarwal	Shri Rajesh Agarwal
Shri Suresh Agarwal	Shri Shanti Swarup Aggarwal
Shri Ankit Chhaparia	Shri Bimal Chowdhury
Shri Shankar Kumar Dokania	Shri Ashish Jhunhunwala
Shri Prabhakar Kumar Singh	Smt. Priti A Sureka
Shri Suneel Swaika	Shri Deval Tibrewalla
Foreign Trade	
Chairman	Co-Chairman
Shri Mahesh Chandra Keyal	Shri Arun Kumar Garodia
Members	
Shri Abhishek Agarwal	Shri Suresh Agarwal

Shri Vishal Agarwal	Shri Pankaj Bajaj
Shri Vishnu Kumar Bhandari	Shri Sanjeev Fogla
Shri Sumit Goyal	Shri Ramesh C.Gupta
Shri Srikant Jain	Shri Ashutosh Jaiswal
Shri Vishal Jhajharia	Shri Pervez S. Kaikobad
Shri Sanjib Kumar Kothari	Shri Vinay Maheswari
Shri Pankaj Kumar Palriwala	Shri S K Patwari
Shri Sanjay Rasiwasia	Shri Amit Kumar Saraogi
Shri Rajat Sarawgi	Shri Anupam Shah
Smt. Hema Sharan	Shri Chirag Sheth
Shri Raj Gopal Sureka	
Special Invitees	
Shri Vikas Agarwal	

Gem & Jewellery	
Chairman	Co-Chairman
Shri Siddhartha Sawansukha	Shri Arvind Soni
Members	
Shri Arun Kumar Agarwal	Shri Saket Agarwal
Shri Suresh Agarwal	Shri Vinod Bamalwa
Dr. Mamta Binani	Shri Promod Dugar
Shri Arpan Goenka	Shri Amitabh Saraogi
Shri Pradip Kumar Todi	

GST, Indirect & State Taxes	
Chairman	Co-Chairman
Shri Arun Kumar Agarwal	Shri Sushil Kumar Goyal
Members	
Shri Birendra Agarwal	Shri Mahendra Kumar Agarwal
Shri Manoj Agarwal	Shri Rajesh Agarwal
Shri Suresh Agarwal	Shri Sandeep Agarwal
Shri Vishal Agarwal	Shri Vishal Bagaria
Shri Narendra K. Chandak	Shri Narendra Dhanuka
Shri Ramesh C. Gupta	CA Vivek Jalan
Shri Sanjib Jhori	Shri Anirudh Jhunjhunwala
Shri Prakash Joshi	Shri Prem Chand Kankaria



Shri Mahesh Chandra Keyal	Shri Puneet Keyal
Shri Sanjib Kothari	CA Smarajit Mitra
Shri Lalit Kumar Modi	Shri Sanjay Rasiwasia
Shri Ghanshyam Saraf	Shri Santosh Kumar Saraf
Shri Anil Saraogi	Shri Amitabh Saraogi
Shri Sukhbir Singh	
Special Invitees	
Shri Ajay Agrawal	Shri Harish Agarwal
Shri Sanjay Agarwal	CA Vikash Kumar Banka
Shri Achintya Bhattacharjee	Shri Desh Dulal Chatterjee
Shri Girija Kumar Choudhary	Shri Pradip K. Das
CA Arup Dasgupta	Shri Sanjay Gupta
Smt. Punam Kanodia	CA Gagan Kedia
CA Shubham Khaitan	CA Anup Kumar Luharuka
Shri Saibal Mukherjee	Smt. Nabanita Pal
Shri Prakash Chandra Pincha	CA Anshuma Rustagi
Shri Ravi K.Sharma	

Human Resource Development	
Chairman	Co-Chairman
Shri Tushar Basu	Shri Abhijit Basu
Members	
Smt. Rekha Arora	Shri Anjan Banerjee
Shri Shankhanil Banerjee	Shri Debasish Bhattacharjee
Smt. Indira Bhattacharya	Smt. Sanchita Chatterjee (Das)
Shri Diptarup Choudhury	Smt. Deepika Das
Smt. Ajapa Ghosh	Smt. Aparupa Ghosh
Shri Bidyut Mazumdar	Shri Chandrashekhar Mukherjee
Shri Vikas Saraf	Dr. J. S. Sareen
Shri Kaushik Shah	Shri Himadri Sen
Shri Sanjay Singh	Smt. Tanaya Sen Verma
Special Invitees	
Shri Saurabh Barman	Shri Sabyasachi Bhattacharya
Shri Subroto Basu Chaudhury	Smt. Indrani Roy Chowdhury
Shri Hirok Ghosh	Shri Ujjal Sen Gupta



Shri Ranadip Mitra	Shri Gautam Mukherjee
Shri Prakash Chandra Panda	Smt. A. Ratna Sekhar
Shri D Shome	Smt. Shreyasi Shome

Industry	
Chairman	Co-Chairmen
Shri Sanjib Kumar Patwari	Shri Mahendra Kumar Agarwal
	Shri Devendra Goel
Members	
Shri Deepak Kumar Agarwal	Shri Naresh Kumar Agarwal
Shri Prateek Agarwal	Shri Ramesh Agarwal
Shri Shankar Lal Agarwal	Shri Pankaj Bajaj
Shri Sunil Bansal	Shri Abhishek Goyal
Shri Deepak Jalan	Shri Anirudh Jhunjhunwala
Shri Mahesh Chandra Keyal	Shri Rajesh Mittal
Shri Bikram Munka	Shri Avinash Sawalka
Shri Arun Kumar Saraf	Shri Pradip Kumar Todi

Infrastructure & Real Estate	
Chairman	Co-Chairmen
Shri Munish Jhajharia	Shri Rohit Singhania
	Shri Vicky Raj Sikaria
Members	
Shri Arun Kumar Agarwal	Shri Suresh Agarwal
Shri Rama Shanker Bhartia	Dr. Mamta Binani
Shri Kaluram Dhariwal	Shri Rajeev Ginodia
Shri Vivek Kajaria	Shri Anand Neotia
Shri Kushal Rungta	Shri Apurva Salarpuria
Shri Amit Sarda	

Insurance	
Chairman	Co-Chairman
Shri Deepak Choudhary	Shri Shyam Agarwal
Members	
Shri Ankit Chhaparia	Shri Yashovardhan Gupta
Shri Suresh Gupta	Shri Kamal Nayan Jain
Shri Smarajit Mitra	Shri Bijay Murmuria



Shri Lavesh Poddar	Shri Nimish Saraf
Shri Rakesh Somani	Shri Suneel Swaika
Special Invitees	
Shri Nirmal Bazaz	
IT & Communication	
Chairman	Co-Chairmen
Shri Vishnu Kumar Bhandari	Shri Sanjib Sanghi
	Shri Amit Sharma
Members	
Mr. Arif Ahmed	Shri Arvind Agarwalla
Shri Neeraj Agarwal	Shri Alok Garodia
Shri Ranjan Goenka	Shri Yashovardhan Gupta
Shri Puneet Keyal	Shri Sumit Kothari
Shri K L Lalani	Shri Bharat D. Sarawgee
Special Invitees	
Shri Prakash Agrawal	Shri Hemant Chabria
Shri Sanjay Chaudhury	Shri Anil Dubey
Jute	
Chairman	
Shri Srivatsa Kajaria	
Members	
Shri Biswanath Agarwala	Shri Pankaj Bajaj
Smt. Chaitali Das	Shri B. C. Jain
Shri Sharat Jhunjunwala	Shri Panna Lal Jain
Shri Ajay Mittal	Shri Manish Poddar
Shri Ajay Kumar Todi	
Legal & Corporate Governance	
Chairperson	Co-Chairman
Dr. Mamta Binani	Dr. Jiban Chakraborty
Members	
Shri Manish Agarwal	Shri Rakesh Agarwal
Shri Vinay Agarwal	Smt. Debatrayee Banerjee
Shri N.K. Dujari	Shri A. K. Joshi
Shri Sundeep Jhunjunwala	Shri Ashok Pareek

Shri Ramanand Rustagi	Shri Subhash Saraf
Shri Narendra Kumar Shah	Shri Poonam Chandra Tibrewal
Special Invitees	
Shri Joydeep Datta Gupta	Shri Sandip Kejriwal
Shri Arun Kumar Khandelia	Shri S.M. Kothari
Shri Rohit Nanda	Shri Rajesh Poddar
Shri Joydev Sengupta	Shri Siddhartha Sharma

Logistics, Transport & Shipping	
Chairman	Co-Chairman
Shri Lavesh Poddar	Shri Nimish Saraf
Members	
Shri Ashok Kumar Agarwal	Shri Rajesh Agarwal
Shri Rajesh Kumar Agarwal	Shri Suresh Bangur
Shri Sanjay Bhandari	Shri Atul Churiwal
Shri Suresh Kumar Gupta	Shri Ashok Kumar Hawelia
Smt. Sumana Hazra	Shri Vishal Jhajharia
Shri Amit Kajaria	Shri Sanjay Rasiwasia
Shri Santosh Saraf	Shri Sajjan Kumar Shroff
Shri Naveen Somani	Shri Raj Kumar Somani
Shri Saket Tibrewal	

Media & Entertainment	
Chairman	Co-Chairman
Shri Srinjoy Bose	Shri Bipin Newar
Members	
Shri Saket Agarwal	Shri Suresh Agarwal
Shri Arvind Agrawal	Dr. Mamta Binani
Smt. Chaitali Das	Shri Arpan Goenka
Shri Vivek Gupta	Shri Smarajit Mitra
Shri Siddhartha Sawansukha	

Membership Development	
Chairman	Co-Chairman
Shri Santosh Kumar Saraf	Shri Arun Kumar Saraf
Members	
Shri A.R. Sonthalia	Shri B.K. Jhajharia
Shri Arun Churiwal	Shri Birendra Agarwal



MSMEs	
Chairman	Co-Chairman
Shri Sanjib Kumar Kothari	Shri Akhil Sonthalia
Members	
Shri Manoj Agarwal	Shri Sanjay Agarwal
Shri Suresh Kumar Agarwal	Shri Sunil Kumar Bhoruka
Shri Sanjay Goenka	Shri Vivek Jalan
Shri Anirudh Jhunjunwala	Shri Arkopaul Maiti
Shri Smarajit Mitra	Shri Nirmal Saraf
Shri Sushant Gopal Sureka	
Special Invitees	
Shri U Swaroop, IAS	Shri Debabrata Mitra, IEDS
Shri Biswanath Bhattacharya	Shri Dipankar Chakraborty
Prof. Ranjan Das	Shri P K Jain
Shri Siddhartha Mandal	Shri D.K. Mitra
Shri Udit Prasanna Mukherjee	Shri Nikhil Nirmal, IAS
Shri Biplob Roy Chowdhury	Shri Subhrangshu Sanyal
Power & Renewable Energy	
Chairman	Co-Chairman
Shri Devendra Goel	Shri Avijit Ghosh
Members	
Shri Deepak Kumar Agarwal	Shri Shankar Lal Agarwal
Shri S. S. Bagaria	Shri Manish Beriwalla
Shri Adarsh Garodia	Shri Abhishek Goyal
Shri Sanjib Kumar Patwari	Shri Nirmal Kumar Saraf
Special Invitees	
Shri Anand Banka	Shri Akash Garodia
Shri Bishnu Kedia	
Retail	
Chairman	Co-Chairman
Shri Yashovardhan Gupta	Shri Nikhil Golcha
Members	
Shri Birendra Agarwal	Shri Mayank Agarwal
Shri Suresh Kumar Agarwal	Shri Pulkit Baid

Shri Sanjay Goenka	Shri Manish Gourisaria
Shri Deepak Jalan	Shri Saurav Jalan
Shri Shasank Sekhar Jalan	Shri Aditya Kumar Poddar
Shri Nitin Rungta	Smt. Priti A Sureka
Special Invitees	
Shri Kalyaneswar Sarkar	

Start Up & Skill Development	
Chairman	Co-Chairman
Shri Smarajit Mitra	Shri Dilip Shah
Members	
Shri Keshav Agarwal	Shri Suresh Agarwal
Shri Ankit Chhaparia	Shri Arun Kumar Garodia
Shri Arpan Goenka	Shri Sanjib Kumar Kothari
Shri Akhil Sonthalia	

Steel	
Chairman	Co-Chairmen
Shri Mahesh Kumar Agarwal	Shri Vivek Adukia
	Shri Santosh Bajaj
Members	
Shri Avinash Agarwalla	Shri Deepak Kr. Agarwal
Shri Kamal Kumar Agarwal	Shri Gopal Kumar Agarwal
Shri Madhur Agarwala	Shri Om Prakash Agarwala
Shri Rajiv Agarwal	Shri Rakesh Agarwal
Shri Ravi Agarwal	Shri Shankar Lal Agarwal
Shri Tulsiram Agarwal	Shri S.S. Bagaria
Shri Manav Bansal	Shri Tapash Chatterjee
Shri Kumar Chand Chawla	Shri Dilip Kumar Didwania
Shri Alok Goyal	Shri Abhishek Goyal
Shri Anand Gupta	Shri Prem Gupta
Shri Raj Kumar Gupta	Shri B.P. Jalan
Shri P K Jalan	Shri Punit Jatia
Shri Bimal Kumar Kejriwal	Shri Jitendra Kejriwal
Shri R. S. Kejriwal	Shri Mahesh Chandra Keyal
Shri Praveen Mehrotra	Shri Bikram Munka



Shri Sanjib Kumar Patwari	Shri Nirmal Saraf
Shri Ashish Shah	Shri Dinesh Kumar Seksaria
Shri Pradeep Kumar Singhania	

Tea	
Chairman	Co-Chairman
Shri Abhishek Bagaria	Shri Padmanabh Jalan
Members	
Shri Anoop Kumar	Shri Pradeep Kumar Agarwal
Smt. Rachna Nahata	Shri Sushil K Dhandhania
Shri Gaurav Bhuwalka	

Textiles & Hosiery	
Chairman	Co-Chairmen
Shri Pradip Kumar Todi	Shri Vinod Kumar Gupta
	Shri Brahmanand Agarwala
Members	
Shri Arun Kumar Agarwal	Shri Bijay Gujarwasia Agarwal
Shri Kunj Bihari Agarwala	Shri Mayank Agarwal
Shri Ramesh Agarwal	Shri Shekhar S Bhuwania
Shri Arun Kumar Churiwal	Shri Satish Dhelia
Shri Krishan Kumar Jain	Shri Sanjay Kumar Jain
Shri Ajay Jalan	Shri Sanjay Jhunjhunwala
Shri Anand More	Shri Nanda Dulal Roy
Shri Sandeep Seksaria	

MCCI Ladies Forum (MLF)	
Chairperson	Co-Chairperson
Smt. Manasi Kothari	Smt. Manjulata Beriwala
Members	
Smt. Divya Agarwal	Smt. Niharika Agarwal
Smt. Puja Agarwal	Smt. Sashi Agarwal
Smt. Seema Agarwal	Smt. Anita Agarwala
Smt. Rina Rani Bhandari	Dr. Mamta Binani
Smt. Chaitali Das	Smt. Nidhi Goyal
Smt. Ruchika Gupta	Smt. Saritaa Jalan
Smt. Anju Jhahharia	Smt. Prapti Jhahharia



Smt. Saroj Jalan	Smt. Mansi Agarwal
Smt. Shruti Jhajharia	Smt. Vandana Jhajharia
Smt. Vaijayanti Pugalia	Smt. Madhu Rajgarhia
Smt. Anupama Rasiwasia	Smt. Saroj Saraf
Smt. Khusboo Saraf	Smt. Shibani Miraj Shah
Smt. Snigdha Shah	Smt. Vandana Sonthalia
Smt. Uma Saraogi	

MCCI Young Entrepreneurs' Forum (MYEF)	
Chairman	Co-Chairman
Shri Vidhan Rasiwasia	Shri Anshuman Shah
Members	
Shri Devansh Keshan	Shri Siddharth Singhania
Shri Chirag Goel	

Important :

The following Office Bearers of the Chamber are Ex-officio members of all the Councils :

- **Shri Rishabh C Kothari, President**
- **Shri Lalit Beriwal, Senior Vice President**
- **Shri Namit Bajoria, Vice President**

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AFFILIATIONS

The Chamber is affiliated with the following Organisations:

- The Associated Chambers of Commerce & Industry of India, New Delhi
- All India Organisation of Employers, New Delhi

The following Organisations are affiliated with the Chamber :

- ✓ Association of Corporate Advisers & Executives
- ✓ Association of National Exchanges Members of India (ANMI), EIRC
- ✓ Bengal Timber Importers Association
- ✓ Calcutta Motor Dealers' Association
- ✓ Computer Association of Eastern India (COMPASS)
- ✓ Foundry Cluster Development Association
- ✓ Indian Foundry Association
- ✓ Steel Re-Rolling Mills Association of India
- ✓ The Jute Balers' Association
- ✓ Welfare Society for the Members of Jalan Industrial Complex

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REPRESENTATIVES OF MCCI ON PUBLIC BODIES (2021-22)

Public Bodies	Representative
CESC Consultative Committee (January 2022 to December 2023)	<p>Shri Devendra Goel Chairman, MCCI Council on Power & Renewable Energy and Managing Director, Lumino Industries Ltd.</p>
Regional Advisory Committee of Central Excise, Kolkata	<p>Shri Arun Kumar Agarwal Chairman, MCCI Council on GST & Indirect Taxes and Director, ARS Management Consultancy Services Pvt. Ltd.</p>
Divisional Railway Users' Consultative Committee (DRUCC), Eastern Railway, Sealdah (01.01.2022 - 31.12.2023)	<p>Shri Lavesh Poddar Chairman, MCCI Council on Logistics, Transport & Shipping and Director, Shakti Logistics Pvt. Ltd.</p>
Zonal Railway Users' Consultative Committee (ZRUCC), South Eastern Railway, Kolkata (01.02.2021 - 31.01.2023)	<p>Shri Aakash Shah Immediate Past President, MCCI and Director, Nipha Group</p>

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MEETINGS HELD DURING THE YEAR 2021-22

Sl. No.	Meetings/ Seminars/ Conferences	Date
1	MLF Webinar : Special Session with Smt. Rekha Sharma, Hon'ble Chairperson, National Commission for Women	05.04.2021
2	MCCI Defence Forum 2021 : Scope of MSMEs in Defence Procurement at The Park Hotel, Kolkata	07.04.2021
3	Special Session with Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Hon'ble Finance Minister, Govt. of India at Hotel Taj Bengal, Kolkata	20.04.2021
4	MLF Webinar with Dr. Rupali Basu, Director & CEO, Woodlands Multispeciality Hospital on 'The After Effects & Outlook for COVID'	23.04.2021
5	Special Session with Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Hon'ble Minister for Jal Shakti, Govt. of India at Bengal Rowing Club.	23.04.2021
6	Webinar with Shri K Ganesh, Member (Life), IRDAI on 'IRDAI Initiatives in this Pandemic time'	27.04.2021
7	Webinar with Dr. Rajiv Kumar, Vice Chairman, NITI Ayog on "Sustaining Robust Growth Rates"	29.04.2021
8	Webinar with Shri G Pradeepkumar, CEO, Union Asset Management Co. Pvt. Ltd.	06.05.2021
9	Webinar with Dr. Randeep Guleria, Director, AIIMS on "Expert's Overview on COVID-19 : Prevention, Treatment and post COVID Effects"	01.06.2021
10	Webinar Shri Supratim Bandyopadhyay, Chairperson, Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority on 'Securing Future with Pension Planning'	03.06.2021
11	e-Workshop with Shri Nitin Jain, Director, Marvel Infocom on "Effective Bidding for Government and Public Tenders"	04.06.2021
12	MLF Webinar with Shri Karan Kakkad, International Nutrigenomics & Disease Reversal Expert on 'How to Build Immunity and Regain Strength after Recovery from COVID 19'	09.06.2021

Sl. No.	Meetings/ Seminars/ Conferences	Date
13	17th MCCI MSME Help Desk	11.06.2021
14	e-Workshop with CA Abhishek Agarwal, FCA, DISA, Founder, Abhishek Shankar Agarwal & Associates on "Technical Preparedness for Department Audit of GST, for MSMEs"	12.06.2021
15	Webinar with Shri Manuj Bajaj, CEO, GreyBox Technologies on "Digital Marketing is EASY .. When you know how .."	19.06.2021
16	Webinar with Shri Sanjeev Sanyal, Principal Economic Advisor, Govt of India on "Economic Resilience in Uncertain Times"	24.06.2021
17	MYEF Webinar with Shri Rohit Kapoor, CEO INSEA, OYO on "Building a World Class Business from Scratch"	25.06.2021
18	Webinar with Shri V S Radhakrishnan, Deputy Managing Director, State Bank of India on "Outlook of the Economy due to COVID Surge and Impact on the Banking Sector"	28.06.2021
19	Webinar on 'Impact of 2nd Wave on the Recovery of Indian Economy' with <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Shubhada Rao, Founder, QuantEco Research & Former Group President & Chief Economist of Yes Bank Ltd.; • Prof. Pinaki Chakraborty, Director, National Institute of Public Finance & Policy; • Shri Saugata Bhattacharya, Chief Economist & Senior Vice President, Axis Bank; • Prof. Partha Pratim Pal, Professor of Economics, IIM Calcutta • Shri Dhruv Bhalla, Group Head - Brand & Corporate Affairs, Srei Infrastructure Finance Ltd. • Shri Siddhartha Sanyal, Chief Economist & Head - Research, Bandhan Bank 	08.07.2021
20	Webinar on 'Recent Circulars issued on GST and their Impact' with CA Sushil K Goyal, Co-Chairman, MCCI Council on GST & Indirect Taxes	22.07.2021



Sl. No.	Meetings/ Seminars/ Conferences	Date
21	Celebration of 161st Income Tax Day 2021 by the Office of the Principal Chief Commissioner of Income Tax, West Bengal & Sikkim : Hosting of Online Seminar with all the stakeholders of the Income Tax Department	24.07.2021
22	Webinar on "Indian and World Stock Market - Current and post COVID Scenarios" with Shri Ashish Kumar Chauhan, MD & CEO, BSE Ltd.	29.07.2021
23	MCCI MLF Webinar on "Why Challenges are our Biggest Gifts : How to Use Challenges to Rise Higher" with Mr. Yogesh Chabria, Bestselling Author and Founder of 'The Happionaire™ Way'	31.07.2021
24	Meeting with Shri Shyam Kumar, Pr. Chief Commissioner of Income Tax, West Bengal & Sikkim, Govt. of India	13.08.2021
25	Meeting with Shri Suresh Kumar, Director General of Income Tax (Investigation), Govt. of India	17.08.2021
26	Webinar on "Decoding the IPO Market: Fundraising Opportunities on NSE" with Smt. Rachana Bhusari, Vice President, Listing Business Development- National Stock Exchange of India Ltd on Zoom Platform.	17.08.2021
27	Special Session on "Destination Andhra Pradesh - A Land of Opportunities" at Hotel The Oberoi Grand, Kolkata with : <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shri J.V.N. Subramanyam, IAS, Vice Chairman & MD, Andhra Pradesh Industrial Infrastructure Corporation (APIIC); Commissioner, Dept of Industries, Commerce & Export Promotion; CEO, Andhra Pradesh Economic Development Board and• Shri Krishna G. V. Giri, Exec Vice Chairman, Andhra Pradesh Economic Development Board (APEDB); Advisor-Industries, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh	20.08.2021
28	Courtesy Meeting of Shri Aakash Shah, President MCCI and Shri Rishabh Kothari, Senior Vice President MCCI with the following senior officials of Govt. of West Bengal : <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Shri Alapan Bandyopadhyay, IAS (Retd.), Chief Advisor to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of West Bengalb. Shri B. P. Gopalika, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary,	23.08.2021

Sl. No.	Meetings/ Seminars/ Conferences	Date
	Home & Hill Affairs, Govt. of West Bengal c. Dr. Manoj Pant, IAS, Principal Secretary, Department of Finance, Govt. of west Bengal	
29	Participation of Shri Aakash Shah, President MCCI, in an online in a meeting hosted by DGFT with Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Minister of Commerce, in a Meeting with Industry/ Association to discuss the measures to enhance and increase exports.	23.08.2021
30	Special Session on "Developments and Opportunities of Food Processing & Horticulture Sector of West Bengal" with Dr. Subrata Gupta, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Food Processing & Horticulture, Government of West Bengal at MCCI Conference Hall.	24.08.2021
31	Interaction Meeting between Industry associations and Departments of Govt of West Bengal on Ease of Doing Business & reduction of Regulatory Compliances	26.08.2021
32	18th MCCI MSME Help Desk at MCCI Conference Hall.	27.08.2021
33	Workshop cum Buyer-Seller Meet titled "Participation of MSMEs in Defence Procurement" at MCCI Conference Hall	31.08.2021
34	Webinar with Shri Santosh Kumar Mohanty, Whole Time Member, Securities and Exchange Board of India on 'Recent Regulatory Initiatives in Securities Market' on Zoom	06.09.2021
35	MCCI East India Energy Forum 2021with Chief Guest: Janab Akhruzzaman, Hon'ble Minister of State for Power, Govt of West Bengal at The Oberoi Grand, Kolkata	08.09.2021
36	MLF Convocation of the 1st Cohort of Grassroots Entrepreneurship Mentorship Programme with Chief Guest : Dr. Shashi Panja, Hon'ble Minister for Women & Child Development and Social Welfare, Govt. of West Bengal at The Oberoi Grand, Kolkata	08.09.2021
37	Meeting with Dr. Mridul Saggur, Executive Director, Reserve Bank of India at 4 PM at MCCI Conference Hall	09.09.2021



Sl. No.	Meetings/ Seminars/ Conferences	Date
38	Special Session on 'Conservation of Built Heritage - a way forward', organized jointly by MCCI and West Bengal Heritage Commission in association with Calcutta Heritage Collective at MCCI Conference Hall with the following Speakers : <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shri Shuvapasanna, Chairman, West Bengal Heritage Commission• Shri Alapan Bandyopadhyay, Chief Advisor to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of West Bengal• Shri Partha Ranjan Das, Member, West Bengal Heritage Commission• Shri Munish Jhajharia, Chairman, Council on Infrastructure & Real Estate, MCCI• Smt. Mukul Agarwal, Founder Trustee, Calcutta	28.09.2021
39	Meeting on common Fire Safety Measures for homogenous industrial units in Industrial Parks and creation of CAF for Fire NOC, organized by Directorate of MSME, Govt. of West Bengal at New Secretariat Building	05.10.2021
40	19th MCCI MSME Help Desk at MCCI premises.	29.10.2021
41	Webinar on Raw Material Distribution Scheme of National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) on Zoom	02.11.2021
42	Interactive Session on "The Insolvency Profession & the IBC Space" with Dr. Navrang Saini, Acting Chairperson, Insolvency & Bankruptcy Board of India at MCCI Conference Hall	13.11.2021
43	Meeting with Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Hon'ble Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways and AYUSH, Government of India at Hotel JW Marriott, Kolkata	02.01.2022
44	Interactive Session with Shri Rajiva Sinha, Chairman, WBIDC on "Industrial Scenario of West Bengal" & Unveiling the Theme of the year "Bouncing Back" at MCCI Conference Hall	11.01.2022
45	MCCI Knowledge Series on "Recent Judicial Review and Selected Special Topics in GST" with Shri V. Sridharan Former Founder, Lakshmikumaran & Sridharan Attorneys over Zoom Platform	14.01.2022



Sl. No.	Meetings/ Seminars/ Conferences	Date
46	Session with Smt. Vandana Yadav, IAS, Secretary, Industry, Commerce & Enterprises, Govt of West Bengal and Managing Director, West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation Ltd. at MCCI Conference Hall	17.01.2022
47	Courtesy Meeting with Mr. Taufiq Hasan, Deputy High Commissioner of Bangladesh in Kolkata	20.01.2022
48	Courtesy Meeting with Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar, Hon'ble Governor of West Bengal at Raj Bhavan	20.01.2022
49	Special e-Session with Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Minister for Commerce & Industry, Textiles, Consumer Affairs and Food & Public distribution, Govt. of India over Zoom Online Platform	21.01.2022
50	Courtesy Meeting with Shri Vineet Kumar Goyal, IPS, Commissioner, Kolkata Police at Lalbazar	25.01.2022
51	20th MCCI MSME Help Desk at MCCI premises	28.01.2022
52	Courtesy Meeting and Felicitations to Shri P R Agarwala	28.01.2022
53	Live Telecast of Union Budget 2022-23, followed by Initial Reactions & Discussion	01.02.2022
54	Symposium on Union Budget 2022-23 at Hotel Lalit Great Eastern, Kolkata	02.02.2022
55	Felicitations and Interaction with Janab Firhad Hakim, Hon'ble Mayor of Kolkata & Hon'ble Minister for Transport & Housing, Govt. of West Bengal at Hotel Lalit Great Eastern, Kolkata	03.02.2022
56	Courtesy Meeting with Shri Subrata Saha, Hon'ble Minister for Food Processing, Govt. of West Bengal	08.02.2022
57	MLF Webinar : Enriching Session with Smt. Archana Doshi, Founder of Archana's Kitchen in Conversation with Smt. Pooja Baid, Chief Mentor, Piccadilly Square over Zoom	09.02.2022
58	Courtesy Meeting with Mr. Zha Liyou, Consul General of China in Kolkata at the Office of Consulate General	17.02.2022
59	Special e-Session on Human Transformation with Blockchain Ecosystem with Shri Prasanna B Lohar, Chief Innovation Officer, DCB Bank over Zoom Platform.	18.02.2022



Sl. No.	Meetings/ Seminars/ Conferences	Date
60	Courtesy Call on Mr. Manfred Auster Consul General of the Federal Republic of Germany at the Office of CG	22.02.2022
61	21st MCCI MSME Help Desk at MCCI premises	22.02.2022
62	Special Session with Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra, Secretary, Dept. of Agricultural Research & Education, Govt of India and Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research over Zoom	23.02.2022
63	Courtesy Call on Mr. Nick Low, British Deputy High Commissioner at the Office of Deputy High Commissioner	24.02.2022
64	Courtesy Call on Ms. Rowan Anisworth, Consul General, Australia at the office of the Consulate General	24.02.2022
65	Special Session on 'Doing Business with United Arab Emirates' with H.E. Dr. Ahmed Abdul Rahman Albanna, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Embassy of the UAE over Zoom	24.02.2022
66	Signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Merchants' Chamber of Commerce & Industry & The Bhawanipur Education Society College at The Bhawanipur Education Society College premises	28.02.2022
67	MCCI Knowledge Series: "Building Resilience in the Workplace" with Shri Avik Chanda, Columnist & Business advisor over Zoom	28.02.2022
68	Special Session with Shri Debashis Sen, Chairman, HIDCO at Hotel Taj Bengal	02.03.2022
69	Inauguration of MCCI GST Help Desk by Mr. Khalid Aizaz Anwar, IAS, Commissioner, State Tax, Directorate of Commercial Taxes, Govt. of West Bengal at MCCI Conference Hall	03.03.2022
70	Horticulture Camp at Greenic Farms, Nadia	04.03.2022
71	Special Session on 'Doing Business with Ghana' at Taj Bengal, Kolkata	07.03.2022
72	Special Session on 'Empowering Women and making a Self-reliant India' at Taj Bengal, Kolkata at Taj Bengal, Kolkata	07.03.2022



Sl. No.	Meetings/ Seminars/ Conferences	Date
73	Courtesy Call on Mr. Gianluca Rubagotti, Consul General of Italy in Kolkata at the office of the Consulate General	08.03.2022
74	MCCI Knowledge Series : TDS/TCS - Important Issues of Compliance with Commissioner of Income Tax, TDS, Kolkata, Govt. of India at MCCI	08.03.2022
75	Special E-Session with Shri Tuhin Kanta Pandey, IAS, Secretary, Dept. of Investment and Public Asset Management, Ministry of Finance, Govt. of India over Zoom	10.03.2022
76	Defence Workshop cum Buyer-Seller Meet on Participation of MSMEs in Defence Procurement 2022 at MCCI	11.03.2022
77	Special Session on Demystifying the Saga of Valuation- New age Companies, Start-ups, Goodwill at MCCI Conference Hall & also over Zoom	14.03.2022
78	MCCI Knowledge Series : New Dimensions of EPFO at MCCI	16.03.2022
79	Felicitation of & Interaction with CA (Dr.) Debashis Mitra, President, ICAI on "The Future of Accounting & Auditing" at MCCI	17.03.2022
80	Session on MSME Empowerment : Awareness Programme on Delayed Payments & Recovery for MSEs at MCCI	23.03.2022

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PAST PRESIDENTS

* Shri Nanakram Sureka	1901-1920
* Shri Tejpal Sanganeria	1921-1923
* Shri Sadaram Kheria	1924-1936
* Shri Radhakishan Sanganeria	1937-1947
* Shri Gajanand Himatsingka	1948-1949
* Shri Baijnath Sanganeria	1950
* Shri Dharamchand Saraogi	1951
* Shri Chouthmal Saraf	1952-1957
* Shri Sawalram Goenka	1958-1960
* Shri Beniprasad Dalmia	1961-1965
* Shri Bhagwati Prasad Agarwala	1966-1967
* Shri Bijay Singh Kothari	1968-1969
* Shri Shree Niwas Dalmia	1970-1971
* Shri Atmaram Kanoria	1972-1973
* Shri Bijoy Kumar Swaika	1974-1975
* Shri Doongar Mal Kothari	1976-1977
Shri Atmaram Sonthalia	1978
* Shri Madan Lal Saraf	1979
* Shri Hira Lall Somany	1980 & 1981
Shri Bimal Kumar Jhaharia	1982 & 1983
* Shri Shyam Sunder Sanganeria	1984
Shri Mahesh Chandra Shah	1985
* Shi Radhe Shyam Bhartia	1986
* Shri Purushottam Das Tulsyan	1987-88 & 1988-89
Shri Amitav Kothari	1989-90
* Shri Chandra Kumar Somany	1990-91

Shri Arun Kumar Churiwal	1991-1992
* Shri Jay Prakash Tantia	1992-1993
Shri Suresh Jhunjunwala	1993-1994
Shri Radhe Shyam Agarwal	1994-1995
Shri Sheo Shankar Bagaria	1995-96 & 1996-97
Shri Birendra Agarwal	1997-1998
Shri Ajay Kumar Kajaria	1998-1999
Shri Ravi Todi	1999-2000
Shri Sushil Dhandhanian	2000-2001
Shri Sunil Kanoria	2001-02 & 2002-03
Shri Kunj Bihari Agarwala	2003-2004
Shri Aditya Vardhan Agarwal	2004-2005
Shri Santosh Saraf	2005-06 & 2006-07
Shri Atul Churiwal	2007-08
Shri Anupam Shah	2008-09
Shri Shyam Sundar Beriwal	2009-10
Shri Sudesh Sonthalia	2010-11
Shri Manish Goenka	2011-12
Shri Deepak Jalan	2012-13
Shri Sanjay Agarwal	2013-14
Shri Arun Kr. Saraf	2014-15
Shri Manish Goenka	2015-16
Shri Hemant Bangur	2016-17
Shri Ramesh Agarwal	2017-18
Shri Vishal Jhajharia	2018-19
Shri Vivek Gupta	2019-20
Shri Aakash Shah	2020-21

* since deceased