MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN’S DESK

Dear Members and Friends

It was indeed a pleasure to personally interact with several small and medium scale Enterprises concerning their problems and clarifications towards their journey for a successful business venture. We were also delighted to interact with youth who needed guidance concerning their professional careers.

We may not be angels to them but the very fact that they seek our guidance and help and the very fact that we do whatever we could with utmost sincerity of purpose to keep them on the right path, WZCC certainly fulfils its basic objective.

Our Ancestors have done wonders in the past, for the benefit of our Community. There is no denying the fact that almost all of us are the recipients of these benefits in one way or the other. It is, therefore, heartening to note that WZCC is trying to do something good for others in the realm of Trade, Business, Commerce, Industry, Professionalism and Entrepreneurship. It is the “Joy of giving something back to the Community” that is a delight to us.

Adi B. Siganporia
& The Entire Team Of WZCC

THE ACHIEVERS

BRIEF PROFILE OF MR. MAHER DHAMODIWALA

Maher is an MBA in Business Management and the Chief Architect of “Financial Architects” a company founded by him to venture into financial planning practice.

Maher is a Committee Member of the WZCC-Mumbai Chapter.

He has now been invited by the Indian Merchants’ Chamber to be on its Capital Market Committee.

WZCC congratulates him on his achievements and wishes him success in his endeavours.

BRIEF PROFILE OF MR. MURAD CURRAWALLA

Murad is a Commerce graduate and founder of CG Lab Pvt. Ltd.; a company servicing clients all over the world for Commercials, Feature Films, music videos, broadcast designs, etc. They also code for custom designed applications for hand held devices and software.

Murad is a Committee Member of WZCC-Mumbai Chapter.

He has now been invited by the Indian Merchants’ Chamber to become a member of the IT Committee.

WZCC congratulates him on his achievements and wishes him success in his endeavours.
Mr. Jamshed Mistry

Mr. Mistry is a life member of WZCC and appears as Counsel in the Supreme Court and in various High Courts all over India. His clients in India have, inter alia, included the Reserve Bank of India, Hindustan Petroleum, the Bhimramagiri Electric Supply and Transport Undertaking as well as several corporate private sector companies. He has vast experience in dealing with the media and entertainment industry (including immigration laws) and has been a consultant to several corporate agencies as well as high profile individual celebrity clients. He was invited to assist the Goa Law Commission for setting up the first international Arbitration Centre in Goa. He is a member of the Media Information and Communication Centre of India. He has helped establish the Entertainment, Media and Information Lawyers Association (EMILA) in India. He is an Associate member of the Canadian Bar Association and the chief coordinator of the committee formed by the Indian Canadian Business Chamber. He was legal consultant in Canada for the films Industry Film Awards recently held in Vancouver. He is an of counsel with international law firm - Nishtal Desai Associates.

Jamshed can be contacted on Mobile - +91982862842

Mr. Khushroo Ghadiali

Mr. Khushroo Ghadiali - a member of WZCC - has come up with an innovative idea for Disposable Razors. He states – “Disposable Razors are the preferred means of shaving by millions the world over due to its low cost and the assurance of a clean shave. After a certain number of shaves the razor on the razor’s handle reminds the user that it is time to replace it with a new one. By incorporating same cost with changing, while adding marginally to its cost, the Disposable Razor’s value is enhanced for the user.”

He has been granted a Patent No.188357 for the design changes. A copy of the patent describes in detail the changes made in the improved version of Disposable Razor. He is on the lookout for a manufacturer who will help him in his venture.

Khushroo can be contacted on email: kghadj@hotmail.com

Mr. Kayomar Gazder

Kayomar Gazder is an Individual Annual member of WZCC. He started his software business, Embox Solutions, in 2008. He develops three dimensional (3D) web applications and has specialized in interactive 3D software called 3D User Manuals. A 3D User Manual explains how to operate, maintain and assemble products. Further, it can be used for marketing and promotional purposes. The software is based on the latest 3D technology for web browsers and is custom built based on specific requirements.

He has developed 3D software for various purposes such as illustration of the assembly sequence of industrial valves, visualization tools for geographic data as well as promotional software (augmented reality) for consumer electronics devices.

Kayomar can be contacted on: kayomar@gmail.com

Mr. Burges Wania

Mr. Burges Wania is an Individual Life Member of WZCC. He is a Real Estate Consultant who successfully leads a Proprietary concern – Elite Property Professional – a company reputed for its professionalism and transparency.

His company handles real estate deals for Commercial as well as Residential properties on Ownership and on Lease & Licence basis.

His firm has crossed unbelievable milestones in a short time working with WZCC, Professionals, Corporates & Individuals on rescue.

Mr. Wania can be contacted on: elitepropertyprofessional@gmail.com

WE PROGRAM ON “SHARPENING YOUR SPEAKING SKILLS FOR BETTER NETWORKING”

WE - Women Entrepreneurs Wing of WZCC organized an interesting program on “Sharpening your Speaking Skills for better Networking” at PRG Hall, Della Towers on 19 October 2013. The workshop was organized for all women entrepreneurs, professionals and executives to enhance their speaking skills and gain by networking with other women in business and professions.

Ms. Dolly Dharmodwala, Chairperson WE, addressed the gathering of about 25 women and welcomed them. She gave a brief overview of programs conducted by WE over the last one and half years and briefed the participants on the collaboration of WZCC with TIE and its Women’s Wing – TIE Speer Sahil. She explained that WE decided to hold this program as effective speaking is the key to networking which is an important tool for business promotion.

Ms. Hema Menia, VC of WE and Director, J.J. College of Commerce introduced the Speaker for the evening, Ms. Parineet Commissariat, Director-Monitor India Pvt. Ltd.

Ms. Commissariat started her power-packed presentation with a statement “Every one wants to win. What does it take to win? One has to anticipate the best with no negative thinking and allow one’s mind to think of only constructive thoughts. If one embraces opportunities that come along, obstacles will face away.”

She further stated that while going for an interview, the important aspect to be kept in mind is to dress formally according to the requirement of one’s role, reach before time and carry the relevant documents. The pitch of voice, body language, facial expressions make a difference during an interview. Eye contact is very essential as the interviewer may lose interest in your discussion.

She concluded that these networking sessions help to build up confidence, contacts and growth for business.

The Event concluded with a Vote of Thanks by Ms. Vivek Darwicar, Secretary WE. She thanked the Speaker, the participants and particularly Mr. Jimmy Mistry of the Piss Resource Group for allowing the use of PRG Hall, Della Towers, absolutely gratis.

WZCC INDIA CHAMBER 10TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The World Zoroastrian Chamber of Commerce organized the 10th AGM of India Chamber at the Royal Bimbay Yacht Club, Mumbai on 8th September 2013. The Hall was packed with members, guests and all those present had a taste of glittering event. The compete, Ms Veera Mundodra welcomed everyone and then called upon Mr. Xerxes Dastur, Vice Chairman and Hon. Treasurer to present the financial accounts. Mr. Murad Caramwala, Committee Member, narrated a series of interesting events organized during the year, covering various interesting subjects relevant to Business.
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Ms. Homai Mehta, VC of WE and Director, J.J. College of Commerce introduced the Speaker for the evening, Mr. Parineet Commissariat, Director-Monitor India Pvt. Ltd.

Ms. Commissariat started her power-packed presentation with a statement “Every one wants to win. What does it take to win? One has to anticipate the best with no negative thinking and allow one’s mind to think of only constructive thoughts if one embraces opportunities that come along, obstacles will fade away”. She discussed how one can speak in front of a large audience without any fear. She said that whilst speaking one needs to be sincere and firmly believe in what one says. She then said one should choose the most appropriate language and let one’s enthusiasm be reflected in one’s voice. She added that it was important to stay with one’s personal accent and not try to put on an accent to impress others, have confidence and high self-esteem so that one does not hesitate while talking about oneself and feel proud of one’s achievements. She emphasized that one needs to be a good listener as listening is an art and if the same is not cultivated, no one will show interest while one speaks.

She further stated that while going for an interview, the important aspect to be kept in mind is to dress formally according to the requirement of one’s role, reach before time and carry the relevant documents. The plight of voice, body language, facial expressions make a difference during an interview. Eye contact is very essential as the interviewer may lose interest in your discussion. She concluded that these networking sessions help to build up confidence, contacts and growth for business.

The Event concluded with a Vote of Thanks by Ms. Ville D’arzaval, Secretary WE. She thanked the Speaker, the participants and particularly Mr. Jinmy Mistry of the Pass Resource Group for allowing the use of PRS Hall, Della Towers, absolutely gratis.

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Mr. P.P. Khanan, Director – International Board informed the members of the proposed association of WZCC with TE (The Indian Entrepreneur). He briefed the audience about the reasons of WZCC being an Institutional member of TE. He stated that TE has wealth of programs – about 75 in a year. These programs are designed for various life cycles of an entrepreneur starting with idea validation and provide ample opportunities for networking and mentoring for start-ups and business growth.

Mr. Adi Signoria, Chairman-Mumbai Chapter informed the members that WZCC’s main endeavour is to match Talent with the Opportunities it provides. He
WiZZc’s participation – world zoroastrian congress 2013

WiZZC participated actively in the proceedings of the World Zoroastrian Congress held in Mumbai from 27 December 2013 to 10 December 2013. Mr Yazdi Tantra, Chair of Technical Committee of WiZZC participated in the Session in “Eminent Parsi Business: Reconstructing the Community’s Business Skills” and emphasized the useful work done by WiZZC. He also elucidated the objectives of WiZZC and its work spread over the period of thirteen glorious years in the field of promotion of Professionalism, Trade, Business, Commerce, Industry, etc.

Mr Yazdi Tantra said that “Entrepreneurship is akin to a tea bag. The real flavor does not come out till it is put in hot water.” This was his response to how Entrepreneurship has its challenges. When asked to different between businessmen and an entrepreneur, it was quoted that a businessman is usually driven by profit, while an entrepreneur is driven by the passion of an idea.

Mr. Adi Siganporia, Chairman of the Mumbai Chapter and Mr. Xenex Dastur, Vice Chairman of the Mumbai Chapter explained in detail the role of WiZZC in our Community and offered to give any help towards these fields.

World Zarathushhti Chamber of Commerce Global Meet

World Zarathushhti Chamber of Commerce (WiZZC) organized a glittering event during their Global Meet on Thursday, 26th December, 2013 at Hotel Taj Lands End, a luxurious Hotel situated at Bandra Band Road, Mumbai, Maharashtra, India. It witnessed a wide range of dignitaries from all over the world and from different fields. Basically it served as a platform for interaction between its Chapters spread worldwide to exchange ideas, experiences, and also professional and business expertise. Representatives of various Chapters from India, USA, Canada, Dubai, Iran, Mumbai, Pune etc. participated enthusiastically, mainly with the prime objective of proliferation of Trade, Commerce, Industry, Entrepreneurship and professionalism.

The meet took off with the welcome address by the Global president, Mr. Misro R. Shroff, who specially welcomed the overseas members who had come to Mumbai to attend this meet. The meet started with the observance of a one minute silence in memory of WiZZC’s past president, Mr. Borom Boyce, who passed away in Toronto on 25 December 2013.

Mr. Shroff in his opening address mentioned that in today’s scenario there is a decrease in employment and job opportunities are not many and many employees are being laid off. Hence the key to Success, especially for the youth is “Entrepreneurship”. He advised the youth not to sit in the comfort zone of their jobs, but forge ahead, and take on the new opportunities that are forth coming, mainly in India.

He advised the parents to motivate their children to venture into business and grab the available opportunities. The youth should ignite the fire in their belly and take the plunge. Our community has a legacy of Entrepreneurs and the spirit of Entrepreneurship has to be reinforced.

He mentioned that although “funding” was available from various sectors e.g. Venture Capital Scheme of BPP unfortunately there are very few takers.

He then added that “WiZZ Women Entrepreneurs Wing” launched by WiZZC about two years ago has got off to a very good start. It organizes programs from time to time to involve participation of women entrepreneurs. It has evoked enormous interest both in Mumbai and Pune.

WiZZC has also worked out a collaborative arrangement with “TIE”, the internationally renowned organization for arranging joint programs and identifying opportunities for our members to participate in their very instructive programs.

WiZZC have collaboration with IIMC, the leading body of businessmen in Mumbai and we get regular invites for our members to attend their programs and network. WiZZC has also got invitation to participate and deliver a key note speech at an international event in the USA. WiZZC will be the first in India to have a business delegation go to so many countries and interact with entrepreneurs of different countries.

Lastly, technology is changing at a mind boggling pace. Those who plan to venture will have to be innovative and be fleet footed.

After the Global AGM, which was very well attended, there was a youth panel discussion on the topic being “Challenges of being an Entrepreneur”. This panel was kindly chaired by Mr. Yazdi Tantra, Managing Director, On-line Compairch (India) Pvt, Ltd, Chief of Zarathusti Co-op Bank Ltd (COZ) and the Chair of WiZZC Technical Committee.

The three panelists were:

Mr. Mahir Dhamdewala
Financial Planner
He is the Chief Architect of “Financial Artists”, the company founded to venture into the practice of Financial Planning. His presentation was on “Funding of Business”.

Mr. Kurinji Engineer
MD of Elemental Crafts and Founder CEO of Odhavli Elemental Crafts combines design technology and marketing teams to turn around innovative solutions to help business achieve growth.

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addressed the audience and asked them to get benefit from well qualified, highly experienced and professional senior members of WZCC. He said, “if you are confused about career building, we are ready to guide you. If you are at crossroads, we will show you the right way. If you have an idea, we will help you to convert this idea into reality. He further emphasized the importance of hard work to be put in by our youth. There is no substitute for hard work he said and mentioned that our Community cannot continue to sit on its past laurels for all times to come. It is time, he said, ‘self- introspection is done, because the world is changing very fast and we need to keep pace with a fast changing scenario.’

Ms. Dollly Chaodwadia, Chairperson “WE” elucidated the need taken by WZCC towards “Women Entrepreneurs” – WE for Women Empowerment. WZCC, she said, has given a platform to women to come forward without inhibitions for training, mentoring, networking, to plunge into the world of entrepreneurship and enhancement of professionalism.

Mr. Cyrus Bagwadia, President, India Chamber expressed his views on the macro-level role of WZCC. He said, even though the response this year was unexpectedly high, the real and the known challenge to the organization is how WZCC should become more attractive to the young men of the Community.”

Mr. Vinod Deboo, Chairman-Pune Chapter narrated events held in Pune and informed members about the future plans that are envisaged and also expressed his views on entrepreneurship.

Mr. Minoo R. Shroff, Global President, in his惯用的 style narrated the role of WZCC in the service of the Community. He informed the members that recent reports from Enterprise Development Institutes revealed a distinct preference for courses on entrepreneurship, even amongst technical graduates, including women graduates. This has raised in view of the shrinkage in job opportunities in the organized sector. Hence, WZCC’s focus in training, developing and counseling budding entrepreneurs is in the right direction. However, what is disheartening is that smaller businesses and professionals have not been readily forthcoming to share their wisdom and experiences.

The highlight of the event was a very inspiring talk by the keynote speaker, Mr. Karikala Choudhary, Hon. Ambassador, City of Philadelphia. She shared her experiences and struggles she came across in her entrepreneurial journey and also revived her memories of Bai Avabai Shel Petit School, Bandra where she studied in her childhood. She said that she is back here in the city to give back something to the Parsi Community, her School and Society and would like to connect again. Even after staying in a cosmopolitan society and being a secular lady, she believed that the Parsi spirit in her is still alive and will not let it die because where the stands today is because of the Parsi community.

The Chief Guest for the evening was Capt. Parry Master, Chairman & Managing Director – Master Group of Cos. who revealed his secret of success and key to climb the ladder of entrepreneurship. He emphasized the importance of Zoroastrian religion and the Prophet who always prophesied the dictum of Good Thoughts, Good Words and Good Deeds. He stated “It is true that you hear the best names related to property, infrastructure, hospital and schools belonging to the Parsis but now other communities have gone beyond imagination. One needs to have a focus in life to achieve something great in life and has to be best in his /her business or profession to excel”.

The Corporate thanked both the chief guests for a thought-provoking discussion at the AGM and the event concluded with a vote of thanks by Xenex Dastur.

The evening ended with cocktails along with networking with a sumptuous dinner.

WZCC’s Participation – WORLD ZORASTRIAN CONGRESS 2013

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He advised the parents to motivate their children to venture into business and grab the available opportunities. The youth should ignite the fire in their belly and take the plunge. Our community has a legacy of Entrepreneurs and the spirit of Entrepreneurship has to be rekindled. He mentioned that although ‘funding’ was available from various sectors e.g. Venture Capital Scheme of BPP, unfortunately there are very few takers.

He then added that “WZC Women Entrepreneurs Wing, launched by WZCC about two years ago has got off to a very good start. It organizes programs from time to time to involve participation of women entrepreneurs. It has evoked enormous interest both in Mumbai and Pune.

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He stressed that the environment is exciting but getting more competitive. The younger generation will have to be smarter and faster than we were, to succeed. Look at the possible economic benefits derived from a successful enterprise.

Lastly, technology is changing at a mind-boggling pace. Those who plan to venture will have to be innovative and be fleet-footed.

After the Global AGM, which was very well attended there was a youth panel discussion the topic being “Challenges of being an Entrepreneur.” This panel was ably chaired by Mr. Yazdi Tantra, Managing Director, On-Line Comashop (India) Pvt Ltd, Vice Chairman of Zoroastrian Co-op Bank Ltd (ZCB) and the Chair of WZCC Technical Committee.

The three panelists were:

Mr. Mahesh Dhamodia
Financial Planner
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Mr. Burzin Engineer
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World Zarathushtri Chamber of Commerce Global Meet
Dweller is cloud based software as a service platform for real estate. His presentation was “Being globally Competitive”.

Mr. Kobad Bhavnagri: An Environmentalist and an Energy Consultant. He is currently Head of Australia for Bloomberg, New Energy Finance.

His presentation was “Growth of Green Energy Sources.”

All the aforesaid three panel members gave a very interesting and informative presentation considering the current global scenario.

After these presentations, there was vibrant interaction between the “Panel Chair, the Panelists and the audience.

Post Lunch was the Economic Forum Session which was also very stimulating. Mr. M.R. Shroff addressed the audience on the “Overview of Global Indian Economy.” Mr. Shroff’s speech is also printed in this Newsletter.

Subsequently the Economic Forum Panel discussed the topic “Innovation–Key to Success.” This Panel was chaired by Mr. Sam Balsara, Chairman & Managing Director of Madison World.

The three panelists were:

Mr. Edul Daver (USA) - Entrepreneur who bought over Powder Division of the Company that he worked for and as CEO/President of the new company AC Powder International, LLC implemented an “Open Book Management” technique with all employees having a stake in the business and sharing 20% of pre tax profits.

His presentation was “Transition from Life. She gave a power point presentation which depicted how Indian ingenuity works in converting opportunities to very fruitful business entities. With factual and concrete examples she showed how small scale businesses can develop in far flung villages by people who earlier were simply written off. She stressed the importance of “Intelligence in Public Life – Need of the Hour”.

The two Awards were then presented by her to:

Dr. Behenrez Sethna from USA as the Outstanding Zarathushtra Professional of the year 2013. Dr. Sethna is a distinguished Alumni of the two most higher education institutions in India/Asia - IIT-Mumbai and IIT-Ahmedabad. It is estimated that no more than a handful (6 to 10) of the persons in the world hold both these honours. Dr. Sethna is the Regent Professor of Business and President of the University of West Georgia from 1994 to 2013, the longest serving University President in the State. In all of the History of American Higher Education, Dr. Sethna is the first known person of Indian origin to become President of a US University. He has awarded more than 33,000 degrees at UWG, than every other President combined in the institution’s 103 year history. He has functional responsibility for approximately 260,000 students and 10,000 faculty members in all 39 public institutions in the State, including 4 Research Universities, 15 Comprehensive Universities and 16 Two-Year and State Colleges. He has appointed 2 interim Presidents and led the search to appoint two permanent Presidents of Two Georgia Universities.

He has been presented the Key to the City of two cities in Georgia and the city of Carrollton named a day as the Behruz N. Sethna Day. He has a number of International Publications. He has published a book “Research Methods in Marketing & Management.” In addition, he has published 69 papers (30 since becoming UWG President), several case studies and obtained externally funded research from US Dept. of Energy, IBM, AT&T and others.

Dr. Sethna has been personally honored by Universities and University Presidents in China, Japan, Korea, Saudi Arabia and countries in Europe and also by Vice Chancellors and Board Chairs in India and also by three Ambassadors of India, in Washington DC.

Dr. Sethna has been a judge for Zoroastrian Scholarships for the past seven years, has made presentations to Zoroastrian students and been honoured by Zoroastrian Associations over the past couple of decades.

He has been an integral part of the judging committee for the past seven years for the Annual Congress 2000 Legacy Awards presented by the Zoroastrian Association of Houston.

Dr. Behenrez Sethna from USA as the Outstanding Zarathushtra Professional of the year 2013.

Mr. Kobad Bhavnagri holds a degree in Bachelor of Engineering (Hons.) in Mechanical Engineering from University of New South Wales and is part way through a Masters of Environmental Management at the Institute of Environmental Studies, at the University of New South Wales.

Kobad is the Head of Australia for Bloomberg New Energy Finance and is responsible for USD 1m a year in business. He is the youngest Country Manager in the Company which has offices in 14 countries around the world.

Kobad has achieved widespread recognition as a thought leader in the rapidly changing Energy Industry. He is regarded as one of Australia’s leading experts on Energy policy, economics and business, particularly in the renewable energy and carbon markets. Kobad’s analysis on energy issues has made headlines in the international and local media. He has been quoted in over 85 media articles in major Australian newspapers - The Sydney Morning Herald, The Age, The Australian Financial Review, etc. He has been on various TV and radio programs, including the Australian Broadcasting Corporation’s The World Today program.

Alongside his professional life, Kobad is also a professional level opera singer and also an active member of one of Australia’s major political party and served as President of his local District Branch.

Kobad has been heavily involved with youth and community leadership within the Zoroastrian community in Australia –

• Director, Australian Zoroastrian Association, 2007-08
• Sunday School teacher of the advanced children’s group, 2007
• Winner of Australian Zoroastrian Association essay competition, 2004

(Published in both the NSW and Victorian Zoroastrian journals)

• Youth Representative and Director Zoroastrian Association of Victoria, 2001-03
• Pioneer of exchange program between Zarathushtra youth of Melbourne and Sydney

He has also contributed to the Zoroastrian community worldwide through his involvement in Congresses:

• Directed and acted in the opening ceremony of the 4th World Zarathushtra Youth Congress in 2007.
**RECENT EVENTS**

Dwellor is cloud based software as a service platform for real estate. Its presentation was “Being globally Competitive”.

Mr. Kobad Bhavnagri
An Environmentalist and an Energy Consultant. He is currently Head of Australia for Bloomberg, New Energy Finance.

His presentation was “Growth of Green Energy Sources”

All the aforementioned panel members gave a very interesting and informative presentation considering the current global scenario.

After these presentations, there was vibrant interaction between the Panel Chair, the Panelists and the audience.

Post Lunch was the Economic Forum Session which was also very stimulating. Mr. M. S. Sharif addressed the audience on the “Overview of Global Indian Economy”. Mr. Sharif’s speech is also printed in this Newsletter.

Subsequently the Economic Forum Panel discussed the topic “Innovation - Key to Success”. This Panel was chaired by Mr. Sam Balasra, Chairman & Managing Director of Madison World.

The three panelists were:

- **Mr. Edul Daves (USA)** - Entrepreneur who bought over Powder Division of the Company that he worked for and as CEO/President of the new company AC Powder International, LLC implemented an “Open Book Management” technique with all employees having a stake in the business and sharing 20% of pre-tax profits. His presentation was “Transition from Life. She gave a power point presentation which depicted how Indian ingenuity works in converting opportunities in very fruitful business entries. With factual and concrete examples she showed how small scale businesses can develop in far flung villages by people who were earlier simply written off. She stressed the importance of “Intelligence in Public Life - Need of the Hour”.

**Dr. Behruz Sethna** from USA as the Outstanding Zarathushtri Professional of the year 2013. Dr. Sethna is a distinguished Alumni of the two most higher education institutions in India/Asia: IIT-Mumbai and IIIT-Bangalore. It is estimated that no more than a handful (5 to 10) of the persons in the World hold both these honours. Dr. Sethna is the Regent Professor of Business and President of the University of West Georgia from 1994 to 2013, the longest serving University President in the State. In all of the History of American Higher Education, Dr. Sethna is the first known person of Indian origin to become President of a U.S. University. He has awarded more than 33,000 degrees at UWG, than every other President combined in the institution’s 107 year history. He has functional responsibility for approximately 280,000 students and 130,000 faculty members in all 33 Public Institutions in the State, including 4 Research Universities, 5 Comprehensive Universities and 16 Two-year and State Colleges. He has appointed 2 interim Presidents and led the search to appoint two permanent Presidents of two Georgia Universities.

He has been presented the Key to the City of two cities in Georgia and the city of Carrolton named a day as the Behruz N. Sethna Day. He has a number of International Publications. He has published a book on “Research Methods in Marketing & Management”. In addition, he has published 69 papers (30 since becoming UWG President); several case studies and obtained externally funded research from US. Dept of Energy, NASA, A.T.&T. and others.

Dr. Sethna has been personally honored by Universities and University Presidents in China, Japan, Korea, Saudi Arabia and countries in Europe and also by Vice Chancellors and Board Chairs in India and also by three Ambassadors of India, in Washington DC.

Dr. Sethna has been a judge for Zoroastrian Scholarships for the past seven years, has made presentations to Zarathushtrian students and been honoured by Zarathustrian Associations over the past couple of decades.

He has been an integral part of the judging committee for the past seven years for the Annual Congress 2000 Legacy Awards presented by the Zarathushtra Association of Houston.

Mr. Kobad Bhavnagri from Australia as the Outstanding Young Zarathushtri Professional of the year 2013.

Mr. Kobad Bhavnagri holds a degree in Bachelor of Engineering (Honors, 1) in Mechanical Engineering from University of New South Wales and is part way through a Masters of Environmental Management at the Institute of Environmental Studies, at the University of New South Wales.

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- Directed and acted in the opening ceremony of the 4th World Zarathuastrian Youth Congress in 2007.
- Selected for the Leadership Enhancement Program for the 9th World Zarathuastrian Congress

W2CC Global Corporate Secretary, Ms. Behroz Darwalla then honoured their Chief Administrative Officer – Mr. Aspi Anita and Administrative Officer – Mr. Tannish Khan for their outstanding contribution in organizing this event.

Mr. Bomi Patel, Global Vice President then proposed a vote of thanks particularly with reference to the untiring efforts of Mr. P.P. Kharas – Director of the International Board, Mr. Adil Siganpura and his team of Mumbai Chapter and Mr. Vinal Deboo and his team of Pune Chapter, along with the team led by Mr. Farhad Cooper of Sanisens for providing excellent sound system and photography. The entire Event was ably led by Mr. Burtis Taraporewala as the Compeer with intermittent and relevant anecdotes. The proceedings under his overall stewardship went on smoothly with a high degree of interest and motivation. The event concluded with the audience enjoying the cocktails and the sumptuous food served by Taj Lands End. All those present appreciated the excellent arrangements made for this event.

September - December 2015 Newsletter

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RECENT EVENTS

WZCC GOES FOR INDUSTRIAL VISITS

In its relentless efforts to develop, encourage and proliferate the Spill of Business, Trade, Commerce, Industry, Entrepreneurship and Professionalism, WZCC went to Vapi and Valsad to meet and learn the nuances of business from Industrial Boilers and Ecoplast Ltd. Both these industrial boilers are the successful efforts of its Honorary Engineer and the team of M. P. Kharas and his team respectively.

At Vapi, Industrial Boilers are manufactured based on customer specifications and all their Boilers meet with International Standards. With Quality in mind, their Boilers are exported to various other countries with some degree of pride and a very high degree of satisfaction. The most important contribution made by Industrial Boilers is to reduce the cost of electric power per unit for its customers. No wonder they have won several awards, for all their efforts, from appropriate authorities.

At Valsad, M. P. Kharas, Chairman-Ecoplast Ltd. introduced the three subjects for presentation. Mr. R. H. Desai, the MD then reviewed the historical development of the business, the innovations that led to new applications of polyethylene films, where Ecoplast is the sole supplier. The Chief of Finance lucidly explained how they plan and monitor all the financial aspects through budgetary controls and monthly performance reviews. Controls are exercised over costs, operational efficiencies, wastages as well as prudent use of financial resources.

This was followed by presentation on the manufacturing process of multilayer polyethylene films and adhesive coated "surface protection" films.

The members were then taken to the plant, where one could understand the functions of extruders, the die, the cooling ring, the haul-off and winders involved in the continuous process of making films.

While returning to Mumbai, participants had an unscheduled pleasant stop at "Bhajpani Dari" near Bhivandi. Everyone had a taste of excellent dairy products.

All the members had a good time during the weekend and expressed their total satisfaction.

WZCC TIE

The World Zanzibarut Chamber of Commerce, Mumbai Chapter, with their recent tie-up with the world’s leading entrepreneurship organization TIE (The India Entrepreneur) is now in a position to provide more knowledge, networking opportunities and mentoring to help youngsters to succeed in their career paths.

A joint program of WZCC and TIE was held on Saturday, 5th October 2013 at the Neville Wadia Hall, Rustam Bagh, Byculla, Mumbai which was organized by Mr. Khem Dattut, Vice-Chairman-Mumbai Chapter. The program focused on the personal journey of an entrepreneur.

The first speaker for the evening was Mr. Umeed Kohivala, Managing Director, Externia Information Technology and International Youth Director of WZCC who spoke on "Evolving Social Media to your Advantage". He explained with the help of powerpoint presentation how social networking sites can be used for marketing and branding your business products and yourself in the right way.

His disappointment was nobody had a clear definition and several youngsters have their high profiles on their sites rather than more business focused profiles. The internet and support social media sites and contents, he mentioned, have little innate respect for user data – the user is on the user to determine what to share and how to share with whom. Coupled with the notion of performance, users (particularly youngsters) need to pay attention to their online information and presence. There is huge reach and compelling power behind social media – when used well this facilitates brand building (for a product, company, service, individual, etc) marketing and the establishment of online presence and reputation. Social media can serve as a field leveler, customer connector and message amplifier.

Mr. P.P. Kharsa, Chairman, Ecoplast Ltd. and International Director-WZCC emphasized how WZCC members can grab the unique opportunity to acquire knowledge, network, obtain business advisory services by participating in TIE Program in addition to those of WZCC.

Ms. Zarisha Khan, Program Director – Mentoring and TIE Street Smart explained the benefits from the TIE Network.

The second speaker was a successful young entrepreneur, Venkatesh Iyer, who shared his experience of his journey to become an entrepreneur. Venkatesh Iyer is the King of Golv Vada Pau, an ethnic Indian food brand which has captured the market all over India. His first store opened in February 2004 at Kalyan as a roadside brand and he gradually evolved into a franchise business with a high annual turnover and business valuation of Rs40 crores. Initially, he had to face several hardships to start the business. Today, he has 194 stores in 16 States and 14 cities across India. He believes that his passion and the idea was so strong that it found out its own business market at the right place and right time. Now Golv Vada Pau has entered the international markets and is ranked amongst the best fast food chains in the world. The Golv Vada Pau was awarded the Golden Spoon Award for the most admired food chain service.

Venkatesh concluded his presentation by stating that entrepreneurship is all about risk and if one has the willingness to grow, no body can stop him from achieving his goals.

The evening concluded with a vote of thanks to the speakers for their interesting sessions. Both WZCC and TIE looked forward to more Parshy youth enrolling in their programs and gaining more and valid advice for a bright future.

OVERVIEW OF GLOBAL AND INDIAN ECONOMY

BY MINOO R. SHROFF

I came across a very telling definition of slowdown when I shall narrate –

“ECONOMIC slowdown is when your neighbour loses his job. When you lose your job it is a recession. But when a journalist or an economist loses his job, it is a depression.”

No one can pinpoint the precise mix of reasons why nations grow, or fail to grow. There is no magic formula, only a long list of known ingredients: allow the free market flow of goods, money, people, encourage savings and make sure banks are funneling the money into productive investments; impose the rule of law and protecting property rights; stabilize the economy with low budget and trade deficits; keep inflation in check; develop infrastructure.

This is armchair academics, clothed in what is true but only on a long list of dos with no real insight into how these factors will or will not combine to produce growth in any given country at any given time.

By the middle of the last decade it seemed that every man and his dog could raise money for emerging markets. By the end, it appeared that just the dog would do. Yet history suggests economic development is like a game of snakes and ladders. There is no straight path to the top, and there are fewer ladders than snakes, which means that it’s much easier to fall than to climb. A nation can climb the ladders for a decade, two decades, three decades, only to hit a snake and fall back to the bottom, where it must start over again and again, while rivals pass it by. That kind of failure happens a lot more often than making it to the top. There is a huge pool of competitors, and only a few nations defy the long odds against success.

The perception that the growth game had suddenly become easy – that everyone could be a winner – is built on the unique results of the last decade, when virtually all emerging markets did grow together. But that was both the first and, in all probability, the last time we will ever see such a golden
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By the middle of the last decade it seemed that every man and his dog could raise money for emerging markets. By the end, it appeared that just the dog would do. Yet history suggests economic development is like a game of snakes and ladders. There is no straight path to the top, and there are fewer ladders than snakes, which means that it’s much easier to fall than to climb. A nation can climb the ladders for a decade, two decades; three decades, only to hit a snake and fall back to the bottom, where it must start over again and again, while rivals pass it by. That kind of failure happens a lot more often than making it to the top. There is a huge pool of competitors, and only a few nations defy the odds against success.

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NOTEWORTHY INFORMATION

age, the next decade will almost certainly not bring more of the same.

Now let me come to the current prognosis of the Global Indian Economy.

Let me start with the IMF forecasts for the global economy. The global GDP declined from 9.3% in 2010 to 2.9% in the current year. It is expected that it will rise to 3.6% next year and pick up steam gradually thereafter. Co-turnarounds with the pausing of the GDP the volume of world trade has fallen sharply from 13% in 2010 to 2.9% in the current year.

The world's largest economy is still the USA accounting for around 20% of the global GDP. Despite the political gridlock, the US economy is still considered the most resilient and the US continues to reign supreme among the global economies because of its political stability, breadth and depth of the financial market and the fact that over 60% of the global trade is still denominated in USD. It also accounts for almost two-thirds of the FOREX reserves held by several countries. The steady increase in production of shale and oil and gas and the consequent reduction in dependence of energy imports has inspired more confidence in the Dollar worldwide. It is predicted that USD will be totally self-dependent in its energy requirements by 2020. As a result of steady decline in the rate of unemployment which is now below 7%, near zero interest rates and the gradual reduction in the quantitative easing, the US economy is expected to bounce back to an annual growth rate of 2.5% to 3% from 2014.

However, its performance will steadily decline with the emergence of emerging country economies like China, Japan, Asian.

The next largest economic bloc is Eurozone, almost equal in size to US. Conditions there are lackluster with Spain, Portugal, Ireland, Greece and other countries still experiencing negative growth and high rates of unemployment ranging from 10% to 20% with average unemployment in the zone 11% and youth unemployment ranging over 20%. The Euro zone is also facing a crisis of political leadership in almost all countries, rating Germany. It is weighed down by high levels of public and private debt, balancing problems and painful austerity programmes. Germany is the only STAR Performer and that too with a growth of barely 1% in 2013. Next year also the prospects are for marginal growth of barely 1% overall in the zone.

The UK economy is near stagnant. There is lack of buoyancy both in investments and consumption. Another lurking danger is one of stagflation. Despite almost nil growth, inflation has been virtually zero.

Japan is steadily coming out of its next two decades of stagnation market by barely any growth and falling prices. The new Prime Minister ABL has bold economic policies to put the country back on the path of 2% to 2.5% annual growth with inflation target of 2%. It is also following the precedence of United States by resuming to fiscal stimulus. The sharp decline in the value of yen from 80 to a dollar to 104 now has helped spur up exports.

OPEC and the oil rich countries have benefited from the continuing high price of oil and the burgeoning FOREX reserves. However, with the sharp increase in the production of shale oil and gas, their growth rates are likely to slow down in the coming years and there is urgent need for them to diversifying their economies.

Australia a mineral rich affluent country which experienced boom and a very strong currency in the last year, is now facing a budget deficit of USD 45 billion in view of the sharp fall in the exports of iron ore, coal and other minerals.

GDP of China and India the drivers of growth in the emerging world economy have declined by 2.7% to 6% of their trade rate in 2013. The BRIC countries have also been facing the music more particularly Brazil and Russia. China with its over 10 billion economy and over 3 billion from resources is very well poised to continue to grow at over 7.5% annually and become the world's largest before 2030.

Now let me come to India. The Indian economy has slowed down considerably this year to below 5%. What is disturbing is that this is combined with sticky high inflation of between 7 to 8% and 10% respectively. As a result of impending national elections the Government has indulged in many populist programs which has put strain on to fiscal policy. Consequently, the RBI has had to keep the interest rates at a high level; the lending rates ranging between 12 to 15 for trade and industry. Owing to several scams, arising out of greater risk disclosures now in the media and the more stringent opposition, decision making has slowed down considerably affecting approval of projects. Exports declined slightly last year after a period of buoyant 20/25% annual growth, but are now picking up because of the deprecation of the rupee from an average of 150/52 to 560/54 now. Gold imports (5.5 billion in 2012) have sharply declined but oil are still high. The silver lining on the external front is the swap arrangement with friendly countries (Japan) which have resumed in the current account deficit being reduced to an estimated 50 billion this year from 5.85 billion. Even taking account of the tapering for the stimulus in USA the country is in a position to maintain the Rupee at a stable currency of between 60 to 65.

The good news is that like fireflies on a dark night, hundreds of small businesses are sparking across India. Seed and angel funding is booming, and more and more are very early stage investors are stepping in. Where banks and the government are absent, if you look at the new funds that have successfully raised capital recently, the most have been early – mid-stage growth funds focused on tech and other consumer-related businesses.

The economy may be slowing but it seems to have had little impact on hiring at India’s leading business school in fact, officials at the top B-Schools say that there would be no deaths of jobs for students graduating next year.

With the elections on the and the prospects of a more stable Government the Indian economy is poised to pick up traction from the second half of 2014. In the medium term 2015 to 2017 the economy could bounce back to 7% plus growths and inflation declined to 6%. Given the huge consumer market and the fact that the fast growing young population with high aspirations, the future looks promising. With the growing urbanization combined with burst in the entrepreneurship witnessed in the new towns and cities the future prospects for India are indeed promising and will continue to be the second fastest economy after China.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA), Gallery of Legends is located at Honolulu International Airport in Hawaii. The Gallery of Legends was conceived by former PATA President, Pierre Deley who worked for KLM Royal Dutch Airlines. The Gallery comprises striking bronze plaques that commemorate the outstanding achievements of individuals in the field of travel and tourism. One such bronze plaque honours our beloved J.R.D. Tata.

Ritesh; On this 18th day of April 1994 the Pacific Asia Travel Association at its 43rd Conference in Seoul, Korea themed INVESTING IN THE FUTURE.

Recognizes and salutes

Mr. J.R.D Tata (1904-1993)
Chairman of Tata Sons (1938-1990)
Founder of Tata Airlines (1932)
For his legendary accomplishment to:
• Pioneering civil air transport in India
• Expanding the Indian industrial base
• Initiating partnerships between labour and management
• Inhibit leadership in social & cultural reform
• Symbolizing the spirit of adventure and daring to the citizens of the world.

This Plaque makes all Indian's and certainly our Community very proud.
NOTEWORTHY INFORMATION

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However, its presence will steadily decline with the emergence of emerging country economies like China, Japan, Asian, Brazil.

The next largest economic bloc in Europe, almost equal in size to US. Conditions there are lackluster with Spain, Portugal, Ireland, Greece and other countries still experiencing negative growth and high rates of unemployment ranging from 10% to 20% with average unemployment in the zone 11% and youth unemployment ranging over 20%. The zone is also facing crisis of political leadership in almost all countries, barring Germany. It is weighed down by high levels of public and private debt, pension problems and painful austerity programmes. Germany is the only country that too with a growth of barely 1% in 2013. Next year also the prospects are for marginal growth of barely 1% overall in the zone.

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GDP of China and India the drivers of growth in the emerging world have declined by 2.1 to 3% of their trade rate in 2013. The BRC countries have also been facing the music more particularly Brazil and Russia. China with its over $100 billion economy and over $ 3 billion from resources is very well poised to continue to grow at over 7.5% annually and become the world’s largest before 2030.

Now let me come to India. The Indian economy has slowed down considerably this year to below 5%. What is disturbing is that this is combined with sticky high inflation of between 7 to 8%. This is 10% cap. As a result of impending national elections the Government has indulged in many populist programs which has put strain on its fiscal policy. Consequently the RBI has had to keep the interest rates at a high level, the lending rates ranging between 12 to 15 for trade and industry. Owing to several scams, arising out of greater disbursements now in the media and the more Student opposition, decision making has slowed down considerably affecting approval of projects. Exports declined slightly last year, after a period of buoyant 2010/2011 annual growth, but are now picking up because of the depreciation of the rupee from an average of 150 to 3.60/52 now. Gold imports ($ 55 billion in 2011) have sharply declined but oil are still high. The silver lining on the external front is the swap arrangement with friendly countries (Japan) which have resulted in the current account deficit being reduced to an estimated 80 billion this year from 3.85 billion. Even taking account of the tapering of the stimulus in USA the country is in a position to maintain the Rupee at a stable currency of between 60 to 65 next year.

The good news is that like fireflies on a dark night, hundreds of small businesses are sparkling across India. Seed and angel funding is booming and more and more very early stage investors are stepping in where banks and the government are absent. If you look at the new funds that have successfully raised capital recently, most have been early - to mid-stage growth funds focused on tech and other consumer-related businesses.

The economy may be slowing but it seems to have had little impact on hiring at India’s leading business schools. In fact, officials at the top B-Schools say that there would be no deaths of jobs for students graduating next year.

With the elections on the one and the prospects of a more stable Government the Indian economy is poised to pick up traction from the second half of 2014. In the medium term 2015 to 2017 the economy could bounce back to 7% plus growths and inflation declined to 6%. Given the huge consumer market and the fast growing young population with high aspirations the future looks promising. With the growing urbanisation combined with thrust in the entrepreneurship witnessed in the new towns and cities the future prospects for India are indeed promising and will continue to be the second fastest economy after China.

GALLERY OF LEGENDS

The Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA), Gallery of Legends is located at Honolulu International Airport in Hawaii. The Gallery of Legends was conceived by former PATA President, Pierre Deley who worked for KLM Royal Dutch Airlines. The gallery comprises striking bronze plaques that commemorate the outstanding achievements of individuals in the field of travel and tourism. One such bronze plaque honours our beloved J.R.D. Tata.

IT states: On this 18th day of April 1994 the Pacific Asia Travel Association at its 43rd Conference in Seoul, Korea, awarded

Recognizes and salutes MR. JRD TATA (1904-1993)
CHAIRMAN OF TATA SONS (1938-1984)
FOUNDER OF TATA AIRLINES (1932)

For his legendary accomplishment in:
• Pioneering civil air transport in India
• Expanding the Indian industrial base
• Initiating partnerships between labour and management
• Exhibiting leadership in social & community programmes
• Symbolizing the spirit of adventure and daring to the citizens of the world.

This Plaque makes all Indians and certainly our Community very proud.