Message from the Chairman’s Desk

DEAR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS,

With the advent of advanced electronic media and information technology, the personal warmth and attachment seem to be gradually disappearing. The one-to-one relationship, the feeling of togetherness, the hand-holding and that magical effect of “being near and dear to each other” seem to be taking a back-seat.

Even that personal touch of putting one’s signature is now a thing of the past. That very cold and dry phrase, “Since this is a computer-generated statement, it does not bear or require any signature”; generates an uncomfortable feeling. It is nothing but communication without any heart in it.

WZCC, therefore, will now be coming to you once every two months with the stamp of genuine and personal feelings and personal touch. Its basic objective of spreading and proliferating guidance and networking towards career building, Trade, Business, Commerce, Industry, Entrepreneurship and Professionalism is being achieved quietly and with modesty over the last twelve and a half years amongst its Members spread across the Globe. We will further enhance this objective with personal touch, help, advice, etc. to ultimately ensure that all of us, whoever we are and wherever we are; attain superior economic wellbeing and enjoy our lives.

So do write to us, keep in touch with us and remain close to us and get the benefit from our well-qualified, highly experienced and professional senior Members of our Chamber of Commerce. If you are confused about career building, we are ready to guide you. If you are at cross-roads, we will show you the right way. If you have an “idea”, we will help you to convert this “idea” into a “reality”. If you want to expand your business, we are ready to help you in your endeavour. If you want to start a business, we will handhold you. Opportunities are plenty, they need to be grabbed. WZCC’s main endeavour is to match talent with the opportunities it provides. On this auspicious season, let us therefore join hands together and walk on the path towards Prosperity and Happiness.

I sign off with pleasure.

Adi B. Siganporia
& The Entire Team Of WZCC
Ms. Jenobia Doctor has done it again. Besides other Awards, in July 2013 she was Awarded “The Business Leadership Award” by the Worldwide Achievers. In 2004 The National Economic Council Awarded her the “Rashtriya Rattan Award” and once again in 2012 Awarded her the “Bharat Gaurav Award”. Both these Awards were for Outstanding Individual Achievements & Distinguished Service to the Nation.

Jenobia, a Lawyer cum MBA, heads a BPO, Visions Marketing & Information Services Pvt Ltd. She quit her job with Citibank eighteen years ago and she dared to follow her dream and single handedly set up her Company. Her initiative has now spread over five cities in India.

Her 500+ employees are mostly women. She believes that women are more hardworking and efficient. She provides a platform to them for individual growth.

Her clients are, Tata Power, Johnson & Johnson, Hindustan Unilever, Videocon, Crisil India, Marico, IBM, Raymond India etc.

Her advice to all is “Follow your heart as much as you follow your head”.

Mr. Percy Elavia from Surat –

a life Member with the WZCC Mumbai Chapter received an Award from The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry for providing Surat – the Textile & Diamond hub of India – a very successful partnership firm Tango Cabs, a 24x7 Radio Cab Service. The idea of starting such a service in Surat by the energetic & dynamic Percy was well received as this created an option of public transport against the only available one of autorickshaws.

Tango CABS immediately joined hands with The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry as their “Cab Partners” in November 2012 for the two major events of the city; Sparkle-2013- a Vibrant Gujarat Event, sponsored by Government of Gujarat and organized by The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry & Auto Expo-2013, again The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry event. Impressed by the service, the relation has been extended for two years by The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry for all their needs of Car hire.

Taking the next step, Tango CABS won the tender for provision of cars to the Airport Director of Surat Airport in December 2012 and gained the status of approved Government of India Service Provider.

Today, Tango CABS is Service Provider to, Airport Director – Surat, The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Southern Gujarat Productivity Council, State Bank of India, Uninor Telecommunications (Gujarat Circle) and many others in waiting as talks are on with several other companies.

We at WZCC are proud of Percy’s achievements and wish him and his team the best for further growth of his Company.
In-tune with Mickey Mehta’s Mantra for Health and Happiness

World Zarathushti Chamber of Commerce, together with NUMBER ONE ICON – AN INIMITABLE GURU – on “Health and Happiness”, arranged a Special Event on Friday, 26 July 2013 at his well-known Centre near Babulnath Mandir, Mumbai. The Hall was full of Members of WZCC and many others from diverse fields. Apart from his forceful talk, the interaction with the audience proved useful and effective.

Whether a person is a Businessman or a Professional, one cannot be effective in one’s vocation unless and until he or she is physically fit and mentally healthy so as to conduct himself/herself successfully.

He emphatically talked about the impact of generating Good Thoughts, Good Words and Good Deeds on one’s health. He explained that if there is compassion in your attitude and if you help the downtrodden, you will genuinely feel good and automatically your nervous system works well. Good deeds help us to breath out bad toxins like emotions, anger, anxiety, fear and phobia and our mind and heart then wakes us up next morning with a fresh and renewed vigor.

Mickey, with open arms invited the drop-outs or unemployed and those who are perplexed and are on the cross-roads so that he may train them and empower them in terms of skills, knowledge and information. He also touched upon Religion vis-à-vis Spirituality. While concluding he mentioned that, in general, religion tends to trap you in several rituals and Do’s and Don’ts. Spirituality liberates you towards the realm of divine happiness. He concluded with a wise thought and said only human beings are capable of rising above God or fall below animals. The choice is in our hands.

Mr. Adil Dadachanji, Hon. Secretary felicitated Mr. Mickey Mehta and Mr. Xerxes Dastur, Vice-Chairman proposed a vote of thanks and appreciated his efforts including his kind gesture of providing the venue free of cost.

Empowering For Growth - An Interactive Workshop For Women By ‘WE’

‘WE’ – The Women Entrepreneurs’ Wing of World Zarathushti Chamber of Commerce (WZCC) hosted an Interactive Workshop for all women entrepreneurs, professionals and employed executives on Saturday, July 6, 2013 at the PRG Hall, Della Tower. Mr. Jimmy Mistry was kind enough to give this Venue free of cost. He has shown this magnanimity innumerable times for which WZCC is indeed grateful to him. The workshop aimed at achieving personal growth and improvement for women and attaining the desired growth in their business and profession.

Dolly Dhamodiwala, Chairperson, WE, addressed the audience, she said “Either you Evolve or you Disappear. Personal growth is all about Self improvement and taking up activities that Improve your Self Awareness”.

Homai Mehta, Vice Chairperson of WE gave a brief outline of the objectives of WE. She mentioned that WE is a platform for Training, Mentoring and Networking for women, both entrepreneurs and professionals.

There were two guest speakers – Dr. Nayreen Daruwalla, the Program Director at Society for Nutrition, Education and Health Action (SNEHA). She has conceptualized and developed a thriving Community organization program on prevention of violence in urban settlements. Her presentation focused on Personal Growth and Managing Conflicts in Relationships and at Workplace. She threw light on self awareness, renewal of identity, developing strengths and talents, improving health and enhancing quality of life.

The other Guest Speaker was Ms S Ganga, adjunct faculty in the Centre for Entrepreneurship, S P Jain Institute of Management and Research. She focused on Business Growth and Expansion and Diversification. She explained the three stages in the Enterprise Life Cycle – The Start-up Stage, Early Growth Stage and Success Stage and elaborated on the steps to be taken at each stage to reach the next level. She introduced some important financial concepts like break-even and return on investment in a simplified manner.

Ms Sulbha Pande, Dy. General Manager, In-Charge, Women Entrepreneur Cell, Central Bank of India, who was the program sponsor mentioned that – “A lot of inspiration can be gained from such a program and I truly appreciate the initiatives taken by WZCC for women empowerment”.

The workshop provided a good opportunity for networking among the participants. Veera Mundroina, WE Managing Committee member concluded with a vote of thanks.
Framji Cowasji Banaji

There were eight villages under Framji’s control. A number of wells were sunk by him; and the most noteworthy point about the estate was that there were one lakh mango trees in his garden.

Framji was the first native of India to send mango fruits to England as a present to Queen Victoria. This a copy of his letter to her Majesty, the Queen.

May it please Your Majesty,

The improvement and extension of Steam Navigation have now happily brought your Majesty’s Dominions in the Eastern World so closely together, that I venture most humbly and most respectfully to lay at Your Majesty’s feet some specimen of the celebrated Bombay Mangos, in earnest hope that this delicious fruit, which has never before been transmitted to Europe, may reach Your Majesty in a state of preservation and prove acceptable. Such precautions have been adopted to preserve the fruits as appear most efficacious, but if the botanists of our Majesty’s Dominions at home can prescribe a preferable method, it shall be adopted in the transmission of further supplies of this or any other kind of fruit peculiar to the country, which has not either been seen in Great Britain.

Your Majesty’s most obedient and faithful Eastern subject,

Framji Cowasji

Bombay, 18 May 1838.