

**Presidential Address of
Shri Hemant Saraogi, President
Eastern India Corrugated Box Manufacturers Association
at the 38th Annual General Meeting
on Friday, the 20th August, 2010 at 7.00 p.m.
at The Calcutta Swimming Club, Kolkata.**

Respected Past-Presidents and Friends,

It gives me an immense pleasure to welcome you all to the 38th Annual General Meeting of our Association.

I am grateful to Shri Pankaj Shah, Past President FCBM, former Chairman IIP, and Shri Ram Kumar Sunkara Chairman R&D FCBM, for gracing the occasion by their presence.

Friends, 2009-10 was the year of our great achievements and pride, the Association had the proud privilege to host the 38th FCBM Conference in last December in Kolkata. The tremendous success of the Conference could be achieved because of unparalleled dedication and hard work by the Team EICMA and their well wishers.

Our Past President, Shri Ram Gopalji Agarwal, was elected President of FCBM; it is pride as well as new feather in our cap. FCBM and the industry as a whole are being benefited by his dynamism and wisdom.

During the year, our longstanding demand for rationalization of Excise Duty on Corrugated Box was addressed to by the Hon'ble Union Finance Minister and the excise duty has been reduced to 4% in the Union Budget 10-11. This has given a sigh of relief to the industry. This rare achievement was only possible by the continuous harping on the issue by Shri R G Agarwala, blessings of Shri A B Ajmera, focused efforts of Shri B D Kothari and Shri Bharath Kedia and initiatives taken by many in our association as well as Federation.

However, the joy of accomplishments could not last longer as the Corrugated Box Manufacturing Industry witnessed a difficult year because of unprecedented hike in prices of Kraft Paper.

The Association not only protested but communicated effectively to the consumers of our final product through successful Propaganda and Press campaign, thanks to Mr. Achyut Chandra.

Friends, now I am going to share a secret with you, at this AGM, the mantle of the Association will be given to the able hands of a new Team. I am not only sure but confident; the new Team will take the Association to newer peaks and glory.

I know people here must have gone bored with my presence on the dais since last 22 years in different capacities, they will welcome this change.

Friends, I always knew my limitations, like my precesidors neither I was academically very strong, nor politically effluent, it was only members faith, love and affection which made me attain this highest post. If you ask me about my achievements as president I don't have many- I could only contribute my bit to build up the effective tool of communication – Our Web site www.eicbma.com and the great team for the future.

I will always cherish these three year as a president of this great association.

Now I would like to take the opportunity to convey my sincere thanks to all the past-Presidents, specially, Shri A B Ajmeraji, for their blessings and guidance.

I sincerely thank Vice-President Shri Milan Kumar Dey, Shri Bharath Kedia, Hony. Secretary, for supporting me in discharging of my duties as a President of the Association. I would be failing in my duty, if I do not thank Shri Rajendra Chokani, our mightier and miser Treasurer, who has ably handled the financial affairs of the Association. It needs mentioning that Shri Chokaniji

single handedly managed a mammoth task of financial matter with regard to FCBM Conference hosted by the Association in Kolkata which generated substantial surpluses.

I would also like to take the opportunity to convey my heartfelt thanks to the Members of the Managing Committee specially Mr. Achyut Chandra, Chetan Bhai and Narendraji for their unstinted support and co-operation. I would also thank to all the Members of the Association for extending co-operation .I sincerely hope that they will come forward with new ideas and take active interest in making the Association more vibrant and graceful.

I am also thankful to Bharat Chamber of Commerce specially Mr. U.S. Roy Chowdhury and Mr. Mitra for their whole hearted support. My thanks to our lab in charge Mr. Chandrakant and our office boy Mr. Bilas Patra for bearing my ill temper at lot of occasions.

Once again warm welcome to you all.

Thank you

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