

**Address By**  
**Shri Bharath Kedia, President**  
**Eastern India Corrugated Box Manufacturers Association**  
**At “Holi Get Together”**  
**On Monday, the 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2012 at 4.00 p.m.**  
**At The Calcutta Swimming Club, Kolkata.**

Respected Past Presidents & My Dear Colleagues

Welcome to the General Body meeting, I wish you a very happy **Holi** & **Subho Nabo Barsho** in advance. I take this opportunity to seek the blessings of our Past Presidents & senior members present here today. We are pleased to welcome our guests Sri A.B. Banerjee, Deputy GM. NSIC Howrah, Sri Abhijeet Jhunjhunwala & Sri Tarun Ganguly from ICRA Ltd. A special welcome to Sri Manmohan Saraogi, member from Assam for attending this get together.

The Union Budget 2012-13 was on the expected lines considering the high fiscal deficit & sluggish economic growth. The committee met on the budget day for live viewing & discussing the implications. The changes were updated on our website on the same day which registered a record 900 hits. The implications of the budget on our industry will be presented shortly by our in house Taxation Experts. A booklet on the changes & procedures will be circulated by FCBM.

I am pleased to inform you that further to representations, the dispute of concessional rate of excise duty on C.B. Boxes with Duplex Board has been clarified, in favour of our industry. This has come as a relief to affected units in several regions where demand notices running into lakhs were served. This clarification vehemently sought by our industry has prevented the issue from escalating across the country & reaching our very door steps.

Our Assam Members were aggrieved with the imposition of Entry Tax @ 2% on Kraft Paper. We had submitted a memorandum to the ministry last year . The issue was strongly pursued by our Assam Members, spearheaded by Sri Manmohan Saraogi & Sri Pradip Arya. You will be happy to note that the Assam F.M. in his budget speech on 12<sup>th</sup> March 12', announced the exemption of Entry Tax on Kraft Paper **specifically & only** for the use by the Corrugated Paper Box Industry. We acknowledge the leading role played by Sri Manmohanji with a round of applause.

Coming to West Bengal VAT, on the issue of reconciliation of mismatch of purchase & sales figures, your association made a strong representation to the commercial taxes department & also approached BCC., MCC. & FOSMI for unified action. Sri R.G. Agarwalaji met the Joint Commissioner & explained the genuine reasons for the mismatch which was very well appreciated. As a result the authorities have issued a Trade Circular recently providing some relief. The issue is being actively pursued for further relief. I

will request Agarwalaji, to dwell on the subject during his Budget presentation; if time permits.

The much awaited '**Members Directory 2012**' is ready for release today; I am grateful to Sri Mohit Bajaj & Sri Nitesh Chowdhury for their untiring efforts for months & microscopic approach in data compilation & proof reading. I would like to thank Sri Hemantji Saraogi, Sri Rajendraji Chokhaniji & Sri Chetan Shah for their guidance; the managing committee members for the advertisements received & to the members for sending their contact details updates.

EICMA has provided logo support & participated at INDPACK 2012 hosted by IIP at Guwahati last week by putting up a stall for the promotion of the industry, with the active support of our Assam members.

The 40<sup>th</sup> FCBM Conference & Exhibition held at Delhi in Dec. 12' was attended by 30 delegates from EICMA.

The increasing representation of the intellectual strength of EICMA on the FCBM board is a matter of pride for our association.

Sri A.B. & Sri R. G. in addition to their advisory role, play vital roles in the Constitution & B.K. Doshi Awards subcommittees respectively. Sri Biplab Kumar Datta & Sri Hemant Saraogi are the Co Chairman from Eastern Region on the Grievance Cell & Paper Mills Sub Committee correspondingly. The Taxation Committee continues to stay with EICMA. The feather in the cap for the association is the nomination of our Vice President, Sri Milan Kumar Dey as the Chairman of the New Market Development Committee. Thank you gentlemen for keeping the EICMA flag flying high at the national level.

Friends, before I conclude I request you to kindly feel free to give your valuable suggestions & expectations from the association to enable us to address any other issue pertaining to the industry in general!

EICMA is & will be an Association of the Members, by the members & for the members!

Thank you!

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