

BENGAL GLOBAL BUSINESS SUMMIT 2019

PRESS RELEASE

The fifth edition of Bengal Global Business Summit 2019 was held on February 7-8, 2019 at *Biswa Bangla International Convention Center*, Kolkata. The exemplary performance of the State in creating a conducive industrial ecosystem and business environment has attracted investors from India and abroad. *"Bengal Means Business"* now echoes across the World.

The perceptual change about Bengal was visible from participation of delegates from India and abroad who expressed their business interests in Bengal. **Over 450 International delegates from 35 countries participated at this year's summit.**

Japan, Italy, Poland, Germany, Republic of Korea, Czech Republic, Great Britain, France, Luxembourg, Australia, Finland and United Arab Emirates were partner countries (12) in this year's Summit.

International Highlights

- 16 Ambassadors from Italy, Republic of Korea, Czech Republic, France, Poland, Japan, Finland, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Portugal, Argentina, Morocco, Paraguay, El Salvador, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia joined the Summit.
- Large Business and official delegates from several countries - 51 delegates from UK , 63 from Republic of Korea , 28 from Italy, 35 from Germany, 35 from Poland, 37 from Japan, 26 from USA participated at the summit.
- A significant outcome of the summit was the State to State partnerships signed with Lombardy Regional province, Italy; North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany; and Jeollanamdo Province , Republic of Korea and Govt of West Bengal towards mutual development of industry, infrastructure, education and skill development.
- It is the first time Luxembourg has ever participated at any business summit in the country.
- Eminent international dignitaries participated at the Summit include Mr Kim Yung-Rok, Governor of Jeollanamdo Province; Mr Fabrizio Sala , Vice-President and Minister for Research, Innovation, University, Export and Internationalization, Lombardy Regional Government, Italy; Prof. Dr.Andreas Pinkwart, Minister of Economic Affairs, Innovation, Digitalization & Energy, North Rhine-Westphalia , Germany; Mr. Grzegorz Tobiszowski, First Deputy Energy Minister, Ministry of Energy, Government of Poland; Ms. Elaine F. Marshall, Secretary of State, North Carolina, USA ; Mohammad Sayeed Khokon, Hon'ble Mayor, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

- Chamber of Commerce, Institutions including JETRO, JICA from Japan, KOTRA from Republic of Korea, Confindustria from Italy, Indo German Chamber of Commerce, IHK Duesseldorf from Germany, Dubai Multi Commodities Centre, UAE India Business Council, Dubai Chamber of Commerce from UAE, UK –India Business Council from UK, USA - India Business Council from USA, Indo - Polish Chamber of Commerce from Poland etc participated at the Summit.

Business Highlights

- The Summit saw a culmination of an integrated effort on the part of all departments of the Government of West Bengal, Chambers of Commerce and their international offices and the Consular Corps of Countries resulting in a total of **86 MoUs** , letters of exchanges and expressions of interest towards investment intentions of **Rs. 2,84,288.33 Crore**
- Significant multi-nationals like Alstom, Accor, D P World, IKEA, Capgemini, Decathlon, Schneider Electric, Oerlikon, Metro, Sharaf Group, IBM, Dell, BT, P&G were also present in the Summit.
- A book on ‘Ready -to - allot industrial plots with infrastructure at Industrial Parks in West Bengal’, an Industrial Grievance Redressal App (*Silpadisha*), Export Facilitation Mobile App (*Banglar Raftani*) and a book on ‘Industrial Clusters of West Bengal’ was launched.
- Over **1200 B2B** and **63 B2G** meetings took place during the course of the two day event. At the time of the concluding plenary, B2B meetings were still ongoing.

Calcutta University, Jadavpur University and Presidency University of West Bengal signed off mutual collaboration agreements with several international Universities.

Next edition of the Bengal Global Business Summit would be held in January/ February, 2020.

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