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West Bengal Pollution
Control Board

Press Release

**11th Environment Partnership Summit
&
ICC Environment Excellence Award 2017**

“Sustainable Management Practices - The Balancing Fulcrum between Environment and Economy”

Kolkata, 20th December, 2017: “There is an urgent need to maintain sustainable business practices in order to reduce environmental impact of expanding urbanization and develop processes to reduce carbon footprints and encourage waste management”: Shri Subrata Mukherjee, Hon’ble Minister-in-Charge, Department of Public Health Engineering, Government of West Bengal

Chief Guest Shri Subrata Mukherjee, Hon’ble Minister-in-Charge, Department of Public Health Engineering, Government of West Bengal, hailed the ICC for the successful organization of the Summit for years and elaborated on the West Bengal Government initiatives on making the state an attractive investment destination. He elucidated that as India is becoming increasingly urban the environmental hazards have surmounted simultaneously. Noting that sustainability is the backbone of business, environmental sustainability is also linked to economic prosperity in the long run. Production has an inherent environmental cost as it utilizes natural resources, even agriculture which is the base support of the Indian economy depletes the environment. There are contingent problems of rising health issues, lack of public infrastructure, unavailability of clean drinking water and health hazards rising from improper waste management. Therefore the need of the hour is to have sustainable economic and management practices for sustainable future in both industrial and non-industrial processes.

Speaking at the 11th Environment Partnership Summit, **Mr. Arnab Roy, IAS, Principal Secretary, Department of Environment, Govt. of West Bengal, Chairman of the Jury Panel**, expressed his happiness to partner with the Indian Chamber of Commerce in its endeavor. He noted that the Government of India has been the forerunners in formulating environmental regulations. In recent times, the West Bengal Pollution Board has also eased environmental compliance regulations. Industries can manage waste as well ensure regulatory compliance easily, while local bodies are encouraged to inculcate waste management practices to improve the overall environment.

Dr. Kalyan Rudra, Chairman, Pollution Control Board, illustrated the problem of air pollution that has engulfed New Delhi and also affects other capital cities during winter months. He pointed out that although industries are largely blamed for the same, in Delhi it has been reported that around fifty percent of the pollution is created by construction businesses. A major contributor of air pollution is domestic waste and emission from coal. In West Bengal the PCB practices three mantras, 'Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle' and he encouraged the participants to adopt sustainable practices. He also pointed out problems of water pollution wherein, 6000 litres of waste water are poured into the River Ganga from the source to its mouth. He also encouraged the audience and noted that sustainable management should be a people's initiative for securing sustainable development.

Mr. Alope Mookherjea, Jury Panel, ICC Environment Excellence Award 2017, welcomed the dignitaries and shared the objective behind the 11th Environment Partnership Summit & ICC Environment Excellence Award 2017.

The Knowledge Souvenir was also released at the session.

Additionally, for their achievement in the field of Environment Management in their operational practices, in the manufacturing & process category for large business organization, the Haldia Energy Ltd. was the winner followed by the ITC Ltd, Munger Plant. Similarly, in the mining operations & process category for large business organization, Hindustan Zinc Ltd, Kayad Mine won the first prize while Bharat Aluminium Co. Ltd. was the first runner-up. In the category of manufacturing & process (including power plants) in medium business organisation, UAL Bengal-Kharagpur won the first prize for their innovation in attaining sustainable practices. In the special service sector category, a special certificate of appreciation went to Yes Bank Ltd.

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