

West Bengal IT News Letter (January 2006)

'New'-s of the month

Quote of the month

- **Infocom 2005: A flight on to future**
- **» + 1 = >'Mahindra BT' starts facility at Kolkata**
- **Business seminar on resurgent Bengal**
- **» + 2 = >'PwC' opens up new campus in Kolkata**
- **19th International 'Trade Fair'**
- **'Descon' to play German game**
- **Kolkata IT Park gets `SEZ' status**
- **» + 3 = >'Xplore-tech' opens up 2nd facility**
- **'Come 2006' – season's greeting**

"The Bengal Government is clearly open to new ideas and fresh investments. There are few states in the country which can show business leadership like Bengal."

- P Chidambaram
Union Finance Minister

Coming events

Partnership Summit

Date: January 18-20, 2006
Organizer: CII, Eastern Region

Seminar on IT for Rural Development

Date: January 21, 2006
Organizer: Computer Society of India, Kolkata Chapter
Venue: Kalyani Govt. Engineering College Campus, Kalyani

Knowledge Conclave- the Kolkata Convergence

Date: February 9-12, 2006
Organizer: SINP and VECC, Kolkata
Venue: Science City

Infocom 2005: A flight on to future

It was the time of the year when the best & brightest in the ICT field converged to take stock of the past & to share dreams for the future in Kolkata for a five-day exposition – '*Infocom*'. Organized by the joint efforts of thought leaders, '*Businessworld*' & '*NASSCOM*', 'Infocom 2005' provided the definitive platform to bring upfront the challenges & opportunities for ICT players.

The three day conference from December 7-9, 2005 had these parallel tracks: CEO Conclave, Country Forum, CIO/CTO Forum, IT, ITes & BPO and 2 tracks on Technology e-Governance, SME Forum, Developer's Forum.

This 'Infocom' saw key players from disparate sectors coming together to advocate their ICT worldview. Eminent speakers from the Information and Communication Technology Industry along with focus on IT, IT enabled services, Bio Technology and Government were present. About 2000 delegates with close to 150 foreign delegates attended the event. The *Edufair*, which was also held for the first time, at Infocom was flooded with students, who have been flocking for guidance and counseling on various subjects from academicians of reputed institutes. The *Jobsmart* held from 10-11 December, saw revered names in IT industry on a recruitment drive.

The next Infocom will be held from December 6-10, 06 in Kolkata.

(<http://www.indiainfocom.com>)

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» + 1 = >'Mahindra BT' starts facility at Kolkata

Bengal IT Minister Manabendra Mukherjee inaugurated the new facility of *Mahindra BT* (MBT) on December 27, 05. *MBT*, one of India's largest software exporter said that it would employ 3,000 techies in Bengal by 2008 to cash in on the state's talent pool for growing business.

MBT CEO & MD Vineet Nayyar said that the operations in Kolkata would be the biggest outside Maharashtra and the planned investment for Kolkata would be Rs 150-200 crore within the next three years.

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Business seminar on resurgent Bengal

An all-day Business seminar was held in Kolkata on December 10 organized by *West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation* in association with the *Consular Corps of Kolkata* for the fourth successive year. The meet was inaugurated by Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee, CM, Bengal.

Union Finance Minister, P Chidambaram, Commerce and Industries Minister, Nirupam Sen, Ambassadors, Consulate Generals & corporate heads shared views on resurgent Bengal.

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» + 2 = >'PwC' opens up new campus in Kolkata

PricewaterhouseCoopers Limited, the largest professional services firm providing a full range of business advisory services to leading organizations, locally in India, as well as globally – has opened up its new campus at Salt Lake on December 7, 05. Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee, CM, Bengal inaugurated the new campus in presence of other dignitaries.

'PwC', celebrating its 125 year of operations in India, has set up a 100,000 sq ft in the new facility, that will house its global training center and will also be the hub for Knowledge Process Outsourcing (KPO) activities. The center will ensure complete data security and business continuity, in accordance with PwC's international standards.

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19th International 'Trade Fair'

The '*Industrial India Trade Fair*' was held for the 19th consecutive year on December 21- January 01, 06. The *Industrial India Trade Fair*, a mega show - the largest one of its kind in Eastern & North-eastern India projects the Industrial progress of the region.

Several Government of India enterprises representing the core sectors of steel, coal, petroleum, telecommunications and finance besides various State Governments participated in the fair. The different departments of Government of West Bengal, especially in the areas of industry and infrastructure, fully utilized the event to showcase business opportunities in Bengal.

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'Descon' to play German game

'*Astoria*', an online game developed by Germany's *Intent software*, will be distributed by Calcutta based company '*Descon Limited*'.

The agreement was signed at *Infocom 2005* in the presence of Bengal IT Minister Manabendra Mukherjee, Dr G D Gautama, Principal Secretary IT, MD, *Intent Software Alexander Von der Geest* and MD, *Descon Ltd*. The distribution will start in the eastern region from next month, but will later be extended to other metros in phases.

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Kolkata IT Park gets `SEZ' status

Kolkata IT Park (130 acres) received the approval for a **Special Economic Zone (SEZ)** status from the Central Government. The *SEZ* status would offer various fiscal and operational benefits to the units that would be located here. Kolkata IT Park will be business center, club and resort, food courts, restaurants and specialty shops. The environment would also be eco-friendly with plenty of greenery.

(Details)

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» + 3 = >'Xplore-tech' opens up 2nd facility

Xplore-Tech, a premier provider of outsourced communication solutions, specializing in customer acquisition, telemarketing, customer care and services, as well as conferencing and collection, announced the opening of its 2nd facility on November 26, 05. Manabendra Mukherjee, Bengal IT Minister inaugurated the new facility in presence of the Bengal IT Secretary Dr G D Gautama.

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'Come 2006' – season's greeting

Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee, Chief Minister, and Manabendra Mukherjee, IT Minister, Bengal wishes a very happy & prosperous new year to all.

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Suggestion

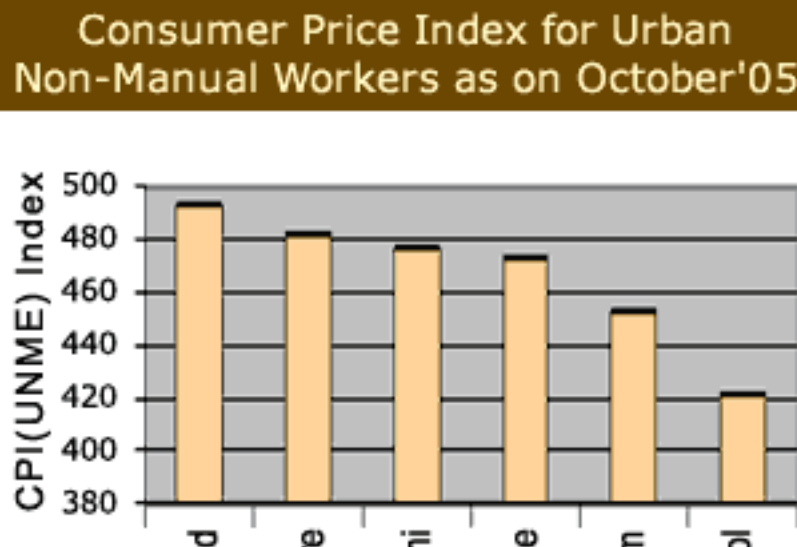
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Figures Speak

Consumer Price Index for Urban Non-Manual Workers as on October'05


Source: Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation CSO, Govt. of India

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