

# OBITUARY

## Shri D D Kothari



**Shri D D Kothari** or **Dau Babu** (as he was popularly known) was the Chairman of Kothari Hosiery Group, Kolkata. He contributed significantly during his tenure in FOHMA and WBHA - besides organizing many meetings with various Central as well as State Governmental departments /agencies. As a doyen of the Indian Hosiery industry, his contributions in several key areas remain unparalleled.

He was one of the Founder Member of the **WBHA** – rising from the position of its First Deputy Secretary to becoming its President. He also initiated the founding of **FOHMA** (in 1972) with the help of Late Sri Santi Banerjee and several other important players of the Indian hosiery industry. He was also the first Secretary of FOHMA and then rose to the position of President.

Dau Babu was the key figure in organizing the program of the Calcutta Chapter of the “Centenary of Hosiery Industry of India” which was celebrated all over the country. The event was held at Netaji Subhas Stadium to packed capacity. As an Executive Member of FICCI he took up the matters related to problems faced by the Indian Hosiery Industry. He was member of Trade Development Authority (TDA), Apparel Export Promotion Council, National Institute of Fashion Technology, Hosiery Panel set up by the Ministry of Textiles.

He was the first to organize a visit to ITMA to provide glimpses of what is happening globally to the Association members. Additionally, Trade Fair in Japan under the Trade Development Authority (TDA) was led by him - where participants from all over India took part. Dau Babu was instrumental in voicing the need for a Hosiery Complex in Kolkata – way back in 1982 / 83, which is now being built under the aegis of WBHA.

Shri Kothari held office as President of West Bengal Hosiery Association (WBHA), Federation of Hosiery Manufacturers’ Association of India (FOHMA), Bharat Chamber of Commerce (BCC), Eastern India Corrugated Box Manufactures Association and Rotary Club of Calcutta. He was also very active on the social front and was a Trustee of MAHESHWARI SAVA.

The Indian Hosiery industry has lost one of its brightest stars today – although it will always be eternally grateful for his contributions to the cause & development of this industry.