

# The Legacy of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce

Founded in 1836, the Bombay Chamber of Commerce is India's oldest chamber. It has played a pivotal role in Mumbai's development. From advocating for India's first railway to establishing customs of trade, its impact spans nearly two centuries.

 by Vijay M





# Pioneering Initiatives



1

## First Railway

The Chamber advocated for India's first railway, the Bombay-Thana line completed in 1853.

2

## Postal System

Its advocacy led to the India Postage Act of 1854, standardizing the postal system.

3

## Arbitration

In 1880, it set up machinery for commercial dispute arbitration, a pioneering effort.

# Services and Expertise

## Member Support

Provides services like certification of origin, visa facilitation, labor advisory.

Organizes events, seminars, training for members.

## Policy Advocacy

Represents industry's views to government on policies.

Aims to improve India's competitiveness and ease of doing business.

## Thought Leadership

Draws on intellectual capital of its diverse membership.

Publishes studies, facilitates industry collaborations.

# Embracing the Future

1

## Atmanirbhar Bharat

Focuses on expanding manufacturing and import substitution for MSMEs.

2

## Digitalization

Championing digital transformation for industries and businesses.

3

## Sustainability

Promoting sustainable, equitable industrial growth practices.

4

## Diversity and Inclusion

Fostering diversity, equity and inclusion in the business ecosystem.



# Cultural Legacy

1

## Arts Center

Establishing Arts and Crafts Center (WADA) in Worli to promote arts.

2

## Kala Ghoda

Initiated the renowned Kala Ghoda Arts Festival in Mumbai.

3

## Skills Training

Engagement with education sector for skills training at ITI Bhokar.



# A Wide Membership Base



## Corporates

Large, medium and SME companies across sectors.



## Financial Institutions

Banking, investment firms, financial service providers.



## Public Sector

Government owned commercial enterprises.



## Professionals

Chartered accountants, lawyers, consultants, auditors.

# Inception and Objectives

"We beg to intimate...that at a meeting...it was unanimously resolved to establish...the Bombay Chamber of Commerce...for the promotion and protection of Trade..."

## 1 Common Good

Encourage friendly relations among businesspeople.

## 2 Mercantile Interests

Promote and protect mercantile interests.

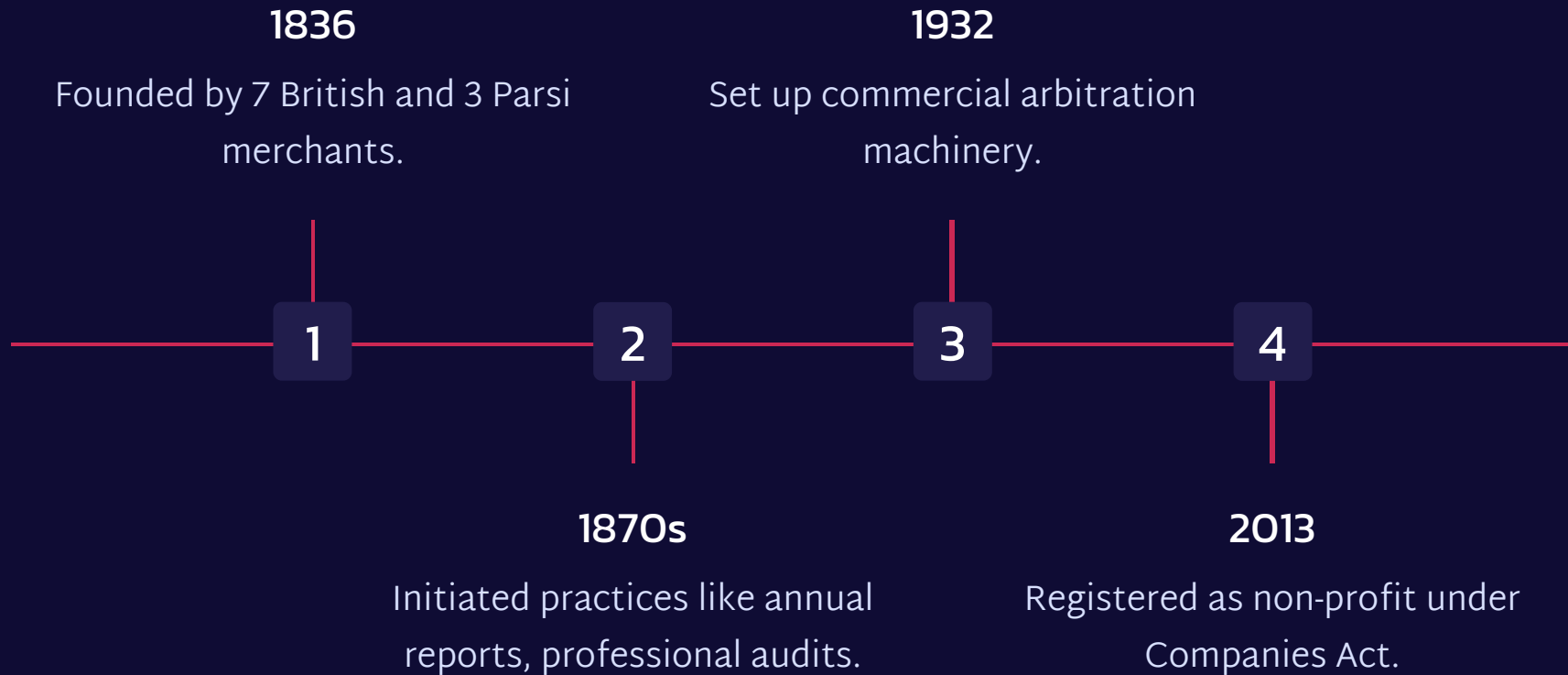
## 3 Information

Collect and classify information of commercial interest.

## 4 Grievances

Obtain removal of acknowledged grievances.

# Organizational Evolution





# Mission for the Future

Digitalization	Embracing digital transformation for businesses
Sustainability	Environmentally conscious, equitable industrial growth
Diversity & Inclusion	Fostering an inclusive, representative business ecosystem
Ease of Business	Enhancing ease of doing business, regulatory streamlining