

# Export Outreach Programme under Niryat Bandhu Scheme of DGFT

Kolkata, West Bengal; 29<sup>th</sup> November 2022

EPCH Kolkata Office, in association with Director General of Foreign Trade, under Niryat Bandhu Scheme, organised an Export Awareness Program, on 29th November 2022. This was addressed by Mr. Krishna Prasad, ITS, Asst. Director General of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Govt. of India; Mr. Gautam Poddar, Assistant Director, MSME-DFO, Kolkata; Mr. Rajat Subhra Paul, Deputy Commissioner of Revenue, Directorate of Commercial Taxes, West Bengal; Mr. Kaushik Bose, Deputy Director, West Bengal State Export Promotion Society (WBSEPS); Mr. Shyamasish Acharya, Assistant General Manager, EXIM Bank; and Mr. O P Prahladka, Member COA and Convenor, Eastern Region, EPCH.

Mr. O P Prahladka explained about the Council's services with special reference to Trade Fairs organised to promote and increase export of handicrafts. He gave an overview of export of handicrafts from Kolkata and emphasised on the need for strengthening the infrastructure to increase exports from the region.

Mr. Gautam Poddar, Assistant Director, MSME - DFO, Kolkata elaborated on schemes for MSM exporters. He also encouraged the MSME in the region to enter into exports and shared details of facilities and schemes available for the same. He urged on improvement of product quality on the basis of international market requirements. He also emphasised on participation in domestic and international trade fairs and advised the artisans to contact EPCH regarding export of their handicraft products

Mr. Kaushik Bose, Deputy Director, West Bengal State Export Promotion Society (WBSEPS), gave an overview of export from Kolkata and emphasized on the need for strengthening the infrastructure to increase exports from the region. He explained the schemes and programmes implemented by DIC in facilitating growth of MSME. He urged the artisans to make use of the opportunities and start exporting their products. Mr. Krishna Prasad, ITS, Asst. Director General of Foreign Trade, Kolkata Zone, briefed the participants on how to start export business and about the



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salient features of Foreign Trade Policy and provided the details of the export procedures and various export promotion schemes such as EPCG, TMA, MEIS, SEIS run under the Foreign Trade Policy. Meanwhile, Mr. Krishna Devotosh, from DGFT explained the procedure for obtaining Import Export Code and also highlighted the export potential from Kolkata. Mr. Rajat Subhra Paul, Deputy Commissioner of Revenue, Directorate of Commercial Taxes, West Bengal, through a presentation, explained the different aspects of GST such Invoicing & Maintenance of Accounts & Records, GST Registration process, Concept of Input Tax Credit and Turnover, Submission of Returns, Payment of Tax, Late Fee & Interest, etc. Mr. Shyamasish Acharya, Assistant General Manager, EXIM Bank gave an overview on the financial products and services provided to the exporters and budding entrepreneurs. Ms Firdous Afrin from EPCH Kolkata office conducted the Q/A session. More than 40 exporters and entrepreneurs attended and addressed their queries to the dignitaries present. During the interactive session with participants, some pointed out the infrastructural issues they are facing. Some highlighted that they are not being considered for financial help for growth of MSME by banks & also pointed out the minimum price given to artisans for their hard work. ■