

Interactive Session with DGFT on FTP 2015-20 and Relative Issues of Trade Members

15th July, 2015; Kolkata



Left : Mr. OP Prahadka, Convenor, Eastern Region, EPCH, welcomes Mr. Sanjeev Nandwani, Additional Director General of Foreign and Zonal Head of the Office of the Additional DGFT, Eastern Region; Right : Mr. Nandwani interacts with the participants

An Interactive Session on "Understanding Foreign Trade Policy 2015-20 and discussion on Relative Issues of Trade Members" with Mr. Sanjeev Nandwani, Additional Director General of Foreign and Zonal Head of the Office of the Additional DGFT, Eastern Region, Kolkata, was conducted at Kolkata on 15th July, 2015. In addition, Mr. V Sraman, Joint DGFT and few top officials from Office of the Additional DGFT, Eastern Region (Kolkata) also attended & replied to queries. The Session was also attended by Mr. Vikram Tantia, President, Silk Association of India; Mr. Alope Prakash, Vice President, Indian Leather Products Association; and Mr. Tapan Nandi, immediate past Chairman, Council for Leather Exports; and Mr. Sushil Khaitan, Jute Products Development and Export Promotion Council. Among attendees were exporters and representatives from EPCH Eastern Region, Council for Leather Exports, Silk Association of India and Jute Products Development and Export Promotion Council.

This session was initiated by Mr. OP Prahadka, Convenor, Eastern Region, EPCH, who briefly touched upon various issues/problems affecting exports of handicrafts from India and how various government incentives on handicrafts exports i.e. FPS/FMS etc. allowed under earlier FTPs had been either reduced

or eliminated in the current FTP 2015-20. He also requested Addl. DGFT, Mr. Nandwani to look into the matter personally with the DGFT, New Delhi, to restore the incentives as early as possible under the new MEIS Scheme. Thereafter, representations of EPCH and other participating Councils/ Association were placed before Mr. Nandwani with a request to consider and work out a solution. The ADC discussed in detail all major issues/suggestions and expressed DGFT's views on the issues, also stating DGFT's limitations. He then outlined the Ministry's future outlook for increasing exports of Indian products.

Mr. V Sraman, Joint DGFT, O/o. the Addl. DGFT (ER) Kolkata, requested all participating Councils/ Associations to apply more importance on

training of artisans and talented craftsmen, so that more and more value added as well as new innovative products could be exported in the near future. He stated that because of the availability of limited funds, they are not able to fully extend the benefits as per expectations of industry members. ■

