

EPCH submits memorandum to Minister of Commerce & Industry for higher incentives to the handicrafts sector



The EPCH delegation with industry representatives, Mr. Lekhraj Maheshwari, immediate past Chairman, EPCH and Mr. Rakesh Kumar, Executive Director, EPCH, meeting Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Minister of State for Commerce & Industry



The foreign Trade Policy 2015-2020 was announced in April, 2015 and Duty Credit Scrip benefit for Handicrafts sector was reduced in many items and also important handicrafts items were omitted. An EPCH delegation with prominent exporters from Moradabad met Hon'ble Union Minister of Commerce & Industry Smt. Nirmala Seetharaman and presented to her a memorandum to consider the demands of the handicrafts sector pertaining to the benefits for handicrafts sector in foreign trade policy. The delegation was headed by Mr. Rakesh Kumar, Executive Director - EPCH.

Considering the request of the handicraft fraternity, the DGFT issued a fresh public notice No. 27/2015-16 dated 14th July, 2015 increasing the Duty Credit Scrip Incentive and also adding new items to the list under MEIS scheme for the handicrafts sector. The details of the incentives given to the handicrafts sector are at page 28. ■

Executive Director, EPCH felicitated



Mr. Rakesh Kumar, Executive Director, EPCH & Chairman, India Expo Mart Limited has been awarded by the Hon'ble Minister of Tourism, Culture & Civil Aviation (Independent Charge), Dr. Mahesh Sharma, for his outstanding contribution to bring Greater Noida as a destination on the Global level. Mrs. Bimla Batham, MLA from Gautam Budh Nagar, also graced the ceremony, conducted by Dainik Jagran Group at Noida.

Back-to-school consumers plan to buy apparel & accessories later

Consumers are off to a slower than usual start this back-to-school season, according to a recent NPD survey. The study found that the majority of consumers are planning to start their apparel and related accessories shopping much through August back-to-school shopping season, with many stating they plan to finish their shopping after school starts.

In terms of when consumers plan to begin their back-to-school apparel shopping this year, August was the clear winner at 54% of respondents. August, traditionally considered the end of the back-to-school shopping season, had almost double the shopping starts of July, and more than five times the responses of June. 55% of respondents said they plan to finish their back-to-school shopping in August, making it the peak month for retailers targeting these consumers. September, a month which isn't usually viewed by retailers as part of the back-to-school season, is the second biggest month cited by consumers for finishing the season's shopping (19%). ■ Source: NPD