

## Delegation from Vietnam Trade & Industry visit EPCH House



A delegation of Agency for Regional Industry Development, Ministry of Industry and Trade, Vietnam, visited EPCH House and met Mr. Rakesh Kumar Executive Director, EPCH, to discuss possible collaborations related to technology, product & design development and marketing initiatives.



## EPCH member exporter bestowed with "Innovative Women Entrepreneur and Fashion Designer Award"



Ms. Neetu Singh, an EPCH member exporter of fashion accessories & fashion jewellery, has been bestowed with the prestigious "Innovative Women Entrepreneur and Fashion Designer Award" in the 8th Annual Leadership Conclave & Indian Affairs Business Leadership Awards 2017 in a glittering ceremony held at Sahara Star, Mumbai.

This leadership event was organised by Network 7 Media Group where

business leaders & icons had assembled to discuss the road map for India's growth. Mrs. Neetu Singh was selected from the five shortlisted entrepreneurs across the country, on the basis of public voting as well as selection by a panel of juries. This recognition reflects her promising and inspiring leadership and out-of-the-box thought process. ■

## September was the tipping point for traditional supplies sales this B2S Season

Sales of traditional supplies for the 2017 back-to-school season amounted to \$4.2 billion in the US., a 1% increase over 2016, according to global information company The NPD Group. With more dollars being spent in the latter part of the season, September was the catalyst of growth, as it drove sales for the entire season through September 23.

Coinciding with the tax free holiday shift in Texas, dollar sales peaked during the week ending August 12, making the peak one week



earlier than last year; however, the largest gains came in the week ending September 9 – the first full week of September, when the post-Labor Day students returned to school. The brick-and-mortar channel experienced its strongest sales performance during this week, as it accounted for 85 percent of the absolute dollar growth.

The industry was given another lift the following week, and an even greater boost approaching the tail end of September. "The seasonal lines of back-to-school are shifting, as September has become increasingly important to this shopping season," said Tia Frapolli, president and office supplies industry analyst, The NPD Group. ■ Source: NPD

## EPCH Chairman and ED call on Mr. Rajeev Kher, Member, Task Force on Employment and Exports, NITI Aayog

Mr. OP Prahladka, Chairman, EPCH and Mr. Rakesh Kumar, Executive Director, EPCH, called on Mr. Rajeev Kher, former Secretary, Department of Commerce and Member, Task Force on Employment and Exports, NITI Aayog, to discuss issues and suggestions pertaining to the handicrafts sector.



## EPCH's 31<sup>st</sup> AGM brings 6 elected COA Members on board



Mr. Sudhir Kumar Tyagi, M/s Supras International and Mr. Naved Ur Rehman, M/s Zedsons were elected from the EPCH Central Region; Mr. Dinesh Kumar, M/s Orient Art & Crafts and Mr. Sagar Mehta, QTL Export House were elected from the Northern Region; Mr. Ashok Boob, M/s Om Ganesh and Mr. O P Prahladka, M/s Hitaishi KK-Manufacturing Company were elected from Western and Eastern Regions, respectively.



Seen L to R - Mr. R K Verma, Director, EPCH; Mr. A K Mohanty, Returning Officer from O/o Development Commissioner (Handicrafts); Mr. D K Kapila, Chartered Accountant; Mr. O P Prahladka, Chairman, EPCH; Mr. Rakesh Kumar, Executive Director, EPCH; and Mr. Sagar Mehta, Vice Chairman, EPCH



EPCH's 31st Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on 25th September, 2017 at New Delhi. There was election of six members of Committee of Administration. Members of the Council from all over India were present during the AGM and unanimously approved the other agenda of the AGM. Mr. A K Mohanty, Returning Officer, a Senior Officer from Office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts), Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, declared the election results during the AGM. ■