

## EPCH Chairman and ED call on Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare

Put forth issues pertaining to export facilitation of wooden handicrafts



New Delhi; 3rd August 2018: Chairman, EPCH, Mr. O P Prahladka and Executive Director, EPCH, Mr. Rakesh Kumar met Hon'ble Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare,

Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and discussed issues pertaining to export facilitation of wooden handicrafts like, import of wood logs for manufacturing wooden handicrafts; sanitary import permit for bone and horns; phyto sanitary certificate requirement for



**New Delhi; 27th August: Chairman, EPCH, Mr. O P Prahladka and Executive Director, EPCH, Mr. Rakesh Kumar called upon and greeted the new Secretary, Ministry of Textiles, Mr. Raghvendra Singh**

export of wooden handicrafts, etc. The Hon'ble Minister gave a patient hearing on all the issues and assured all possible help. He would convene a high level stakeholders meeting shortly so as to assess the demands of the woodcrafts sector and has assured of a favourable outcome in the matter. ■

## EPCH takes representation on Non Antiquity Certificate to Chief Commissioner of Customs, Bangalore

Bangalore; 30th August 2018: The Southern Handicrafts Industry Association, Chennai, had sent a representation to the Chief Commissioner



of Customs, Bangalore, requesting that the Non Antiquity Certificate should not be mandatory for handicraft products.

The association also approached the EPCH - Southern Region office for the same. An EPCH official called on the concerned government department on 30th August 2018. He met Mr. A K

Jyotishi, Chief Commissioner of Customs and briefed him about EPCH and its activities in the handicrafts sector. He also handed over the representation of Southern Handicrafts Industry Association, Chennai, on the subject of Non Antiquity Certificate. Mr. Jyotishi was also briefed about the order of O/o Chief Commissioner Customs, Chennai, on the same issue during their 38th Meeting of CCFC held on 28th June 2018 at Chennai. During the CCFC meeting at Chennai, the Chief Commissioner Customs clearly ordered their Office that "henceforth new stone/ metal idols and new handicrafts will not be referred to ASI".

Mr. A K Jyotishi thereafter assured that his Office will also refer to the decision of Chennai Customs and they will also issue a similar decision on the subject. Besides, it will be included in the agenda of their next CCFC meeting and the same will be communicated to EPCH accordingly. He also invited EPCH to interact and approach their Office for discussion on any issues related to the trade. ■