

# Hon'ble Union Minister of Jal Shakti, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Textiles and Railways, Smt. Darshana V Jardosh, jointly inaugurate TFC Trade Facilitation Centre, Jodhpur, 9<sup>th</sup> April 2022

*Hon'ble Minister of Jal Shakti, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and Hon'ble Minister of State for Textiles and Railways, Smt. Darshana V Jardosh, jointly inaugurating the Trade Facilitation Centre, Jodhpur in the presence of Mr. Shantmanu, Development Commissioner (Handicrafts); Mr. Raj Kumar Malhotra, Chairman, EPCH; Dr. Rakesh Kumar, Director General, EPCH; EPCH's CoA members, and prominent exporters from Jodhpur*



In order to facilitate development, promotion and marketing of handicraft products of Jodhpur cluster, EPCH, in collaboration with O/o Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) has set up the Trade Facilitation Centre (TFC), at Boranada, Jodhpur. The Centre would provide the necessary infrastructure and support services comparable to international standards to host buyers, designers and resource persons and provide all required support services. Hon'ble Union Minister of Jal Shakti, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Textiles and Railways, Smt. Darshana V Jardosh, jointly inaugurated this TFC on 9th April 2022. On the occasion of the inauguration, **Hon'ble Union Minister of Jal Shakti, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat**, said, "since this facility has been set up in my constituency, it gives me additional joy that with such initiative, avenues for skilling and marketing will be available to both existing exporters and the budding entrepreneurs." He urged everyone to take full advantage of the facilities available at this centre. The Hon'ble Minister appreciated the enterprising nature of the handicrafts exporters of Jodhpur and hoped that exports from city and state would grow in future. He further requested Smt. Darshana V Jardosh to sanction a Textile Park and Vande Bharat Train for Jodhpur city.

**Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Textiles and Railways, Smt. Darshana V Jardosh**, said that the Trade Facilitation Centre would usher in a new era in exports from this mega cluster as this facility would enable and encourage



existing exporters to increase exports through various marketing initiatives that would be undertaken at this venue in the coming years. She further said that, this venue will also pave way for the budding entrepreneurs of the city, as Jodhpur is a land of entrepreneurship and this venue will act as a catalyst to stimulate young minds in the city to take up handicrafts as a viable vocation in future. She further informed about the various schemes like production linked incentive scheme, PM Mitra Park and One Station One Product for the growth & development of the sector from the country.



Hon'ble Minister of Jal Shakti, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and Hon'ble Minister of State for Textiles and Railways, Smt. Darshana V Jardosh, address the gathering at the inauguration ceremony. Below: The dignitaries, in a commemorative photograph with Mr. Shantmanu, Development Commissioner (Handicrafts); Mr. Raj Kumar Malhotra, Chairman, EPCH; Dr. Rakesh Kumar, Director General, EPCH; Mr. R K Verma, Executive Director, EPCH; EPCH's CoA members, and prominent member exporters from Jodhpur

**Mr. Shantmanu, Development Commissioner (Handicrafts)** in his address said that the gift of TFC given to Jodhpur will provide impetus to exports from the city. A detailed action plan will be prepared so that exporters and artisans can benefit from the programs organised in this Centre.

**Mr. Raj Kumar Malhotra, Chairman, EPCH** informed the state-of-art Trade Facilitation Centre will serve as a platform to hold trade fairs, retail exhibitions, buyer-seller meets, special promotional events, conduct workshops and conferences. He further said that he is confident that this venue will be an important land mark in Jodhpur nurturing entrepreneurship, facilitating exports of handicrafts and providing livelihood to many more.

During the occasion, **Dr. Rakesh Kumar, Director General, EPCH** said that the Council has over the years undertaken various initiatives for growth and development of the handicraft sector at Jodhpur. The inauguration of this Centre which is another feather in the cap of Jodhpur City would surely enhance EPCH's initiative of convergence of backward linkages with forward linkages and thereby contribute to enhancing exports from the city.



Planting of a sapling by the dignitaries



The dignitaries in a commemorative photograph after the inauguration



Smt. Darshana V Jardosh, interacting with exhibitors at the TFC Jodhpur

Smt. Darshana V Jardosh also visited some craft clusters around Jodhpur which were strengthened and promoted under CHCDS scheme of the Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India. She also visited some of the major wooden handicraft manufacturing units in the city. ■