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## **Council for Leather Exports**

(Sponsored by Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India)

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To: Members of the Council

Dear Sirs,

## Sub: 'National SC and ST Hub' Scheme of Government of India 2021-2026

This is to inform that Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME), Government of India has accorded approval for the continuation of National Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Hub (NSSH) Scheme for the period FY 2021-22 to FY 2025-26. NSSH is aimed at capacity enhancement of SC/ST entrepreneurs and promoting 'entrepreneurship culture' amongst the SC/ST population. The NSSH proposes to intervene in the following areas:

- (a) To encourage SC/ST owned units to achieve their share of at least 4% of total procurement being made by Central/State Governments, CPSEs, and other government agencies
- (b) To prepare a strategy for intervention through industry associations to sensitize, encourage and enable the SC/ST owned units for participation in Public Procurement Process
- (c) Collection, collation, and dissemination of information regarding SC/ST enterprises and entrepreneurs
- (d) Facilitating SC/ST entrepreneurs to be part of vendor development programs and mentoring support by specific CPSE matching the products/services of such entrepreneurs
- (e) Capacity building of existing and prospective SC/ST entrepreneurs through skill development programs
- (f) Providing handholding and mentoring support
- (g) Facilitating credit linkages for SC/ST entrepreneurs
- (h) Sharing of SC/ST Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) Data with CPSEs to enhance the procurement from SC/ST entrepreneurs
- (i) Undertaking outreach activities for the promotion of the scheme among SC/ST population

Under NSSH, various components/interventions have been introduced to cater the needs of SCST MSEs in the areas of finance, technology, market linkages, capacity building etc. with a view to provide a conducive ecosystem. These components are

- 1) Special Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme for technology enablement of SC/ST MSEs
- 2) Capacity building of existing & aspiring SC/ST entrepreneurs
- 3) Support for enhancing competitiveness SC/ST MSEs through various reimbursement sub-schemes / interventions
- 4) Special Marketing Assistance Scheme (SMAS) for SC/ST entrepreneurs

The scheme guidelines issued by Ministry of MSME, Govt of India vide Office Memorandum dated 15.11.2021 is attached herewith for your perusal. The website of the NSSH: https://www.scsthub.in/

The 'Implementation Agency' for this scheme is National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) and a separate cell for NSSH is functioning in the Head Quarter of NSIC @ New Delhi. The field-level implementation is done by 15 NSSH Offices of NSIC located in various centres (Contact details of NSIC offices is attached)

An Advertisement issued by the NSIC on the National SC -ST Hub Scheme is attached herewith for your perusal (Reference: The Hindu dated 08.03.2022)

Eligible units may like to avail the sub-schemes of National Scheduled Caste & Scheduled Tribe Hub (NSSH) and get the intended benefits.

In respect of Leather and Footwear Industry, the NSIC is planning to organize the Awareness Campaign for NSSH in various centres in consultation and coordination with CLE, and the same is being worked out by NSIC. We will intimate the details of the Awareness Campaign as and when finalized for your participation.

With warm/regards,

R. SELVAM, IAS
Executive Director