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- Interactive Session with Exporters and Artisans by Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Union Minister of Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Consumer Affairs & Food & Public Distribution and Textiles, Nov. 14, 2021, Lucknow
- Interaction of Union Minister for Commerce & Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution and Textiles Shri Piyush Goyal with Indian exporters and businesses to Enhance Market Access for India in UAE, Dec. 12, 2021



COUNCIL FOR LEATHER EXPORTS

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The Council for Leather Exports was set up in July 1984. The Council functions under the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India. The Council is entrusted with export promotion activities and overall development of the Indian leather industry. The Council's activities also include promoting Foreign Direct Investments and Joint Ventures in the Indian leather industry. The CLE serves as a bridge between Indian leather exporters and buyers all over the world.

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### Dear Members

Going by the present opportunities and growth potential, the leather and footwear industry aims to achieve an export value of USD 10 billion by 2025-26 (from USD 5.09 billion in 2019-20). We also aim to achieve domestic industry value of USD 20 billion by 2025-26 (from USD 12 billion in 2019-20).

We understand that the Government of India is preparing the Vision 2047 document, commemorating 100 years of India's Independence. The leather and footwear industry will also provide its inputs in preparing the document.

Of course, the critical areas for attaining high growth of the industry will be production, productivity, sustainability, marketing and overall infrastructure development. We need the support of the Government in all these critical areas.

In the area of production, we not only need to implement capacity modernization and technological up-gradation of existing units and start new clusters/production centres, but also look at strengthening the supply chain. We also need to look at leveraging new technologies and undertake product diversification. For productivity, we need to do a thorough labour mapping and have a continuous upskilling programme to train our workers. As far as sustainability is concerned, we need to again look at technologies and processes that can reduce the carbon footprint while in the case of marketing, we need to not only undertake aggressive marketing through traditional mediums but also look at increasing share of e-commerce platforms. The Government should look into enhancing the common infrastructure in all production clusters and also port connectivity.

We have been taking-up the issue of extending the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme to the leather and footwear industry, as this will facilitate growth in production, exports and employment. CLE will shortly be submitting a detailed proposal in this regard to the Government. We have also been taking-up the request for extending the Indian Footwear, Leather & Accessories Development Programme (IFLADP) with the Government. Besides, ease of credit is also a major issue. We have been taking-up the request of notifying the interest equalization on rupee export credit. We hope that the Government will positively consider these requests and facilitate sustainable growth of our industry.

With best wishes

**Sanjay Leekha**

Chairman

COUNCIL FOR LEATHER EXPORTS



### Dear Members

Though the Pandemic has caused adverse impact on exports and global trade, it has also led to the maximum utilization of online interaction tools available for us. Using this, CLE has been organizing Knowledge Based series of webinars.

This year alone (i.e. during 2021-22), CLE has organized 13 such webinars on various topics like foreign exchange trading platform, Ubharte Sitaare, E-commerce, Kaizen, Authorised Economic Programme of Customs, online services of banks etc., Also, we have circulated the various presentations made in these webinars to members for their benefit.

We solicit the support and co-operation of all members in successful organization of these webinars, through their large scale participation.

As per Trade Notice No.27 dated 30.11.2021 issued by Directorate General of Foreign Trade, the Registration Cum Membership Certificate (RCMC) issued by Export Promotion Councils have to be done through DGFT portal URL: <https://dgft.gov.in> only with effect from 01.03.2022. The aforesaid trade notice also states that the Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)/Aadhar would be required for the purpose of electronic submission of applications by exporters and the digital signature would be the same as used in other DGFT applications. However, no separate registration is required for availing the RCMC/RC service from the DGFT Portal. Already registered exporters/importers can avail the service using the same login credentials. CLE will send a detailed circular on renewal of membership /RCMC in due course.

With kind regards

**R. Selvam IAS**

Executive Director

COUNCIL FOR LEATHER EXPORTS





*Interactive Session with Exporters and Artisans  
by Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Union Minister of  
Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Consumer  
Affairs & Food & Public Distribution and Textiles,  
Government of India held on 14-11-2021 in Indira  
Gandhi Pratisthan, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow*



Lighting of Lamp Ceremony of Interactive Session took by Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Union Minister of Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Consumer Affairs & Food & Public Distribution and Textiles, Government of India, Shri Kaushal Kishore, Hon'ble Minister of State for Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India and Shri Jitin Prasad, Hon'ble Cabinet Minister of Minister of Technical Education, Government of Uttar Pradesh at Lucknow.

Central Regional Office of the Council for Leather Exports coordinated industry participation in an Interactive Session with Exporters and Artisans by Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Union Minister of Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Consumer Affairs & Food & Public Distribution and Textiles, Government of India held on 14-11-2021 in Indira Gandhi Pratisthan, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow.

Shri Javed Iqbal, Regional Chairman - Central, Council for Leather Exports, Shri Asad K Iraqi, Member, Committee of Administration (CoA), CLE joined the session and represented leather industry issues at the interactive session. Shri Abu Sufiyan, Asst. Export Promotion Officer – Central Region, Council for Leather Exports coordinated participation of leather industry.

Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Union Minister of Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Consumer Affairs & Food & Public Distribution and Textiles, Government of India welcomed all distinguished guests, exporters, artisans and participants. He interacted with the exporters and artisans to address their issues took at the time of interaction wherein most of them were

artisans who are involved in making traditional handicrafts products had shared their success stories. Hon'ble Minister appreciated efforts of all artisans who all are playing key role in the contribution of economy, industry growth and employment generation. The way of working of Self Help Groups are indeed commendable job which makes self-reliant and helping women workforce to earn for respectable living. He requested the women artisans to work with confidence and dedication and added that when you really desire something from the heart and soul, all the universe helps you to achieve it.

While addressing the session Shri Piyush Goyal mentioned that the export potential of Uttar Pradesh and its contribution in India's economy is indeed significant. He added that exporters, artisans and industries in Uttar Pradesh will be able to established themselves in a prominent position and will achieve substantial growth. He further said that One District One Product scheme has been effectively implemented by the Government of Uttar Pradesh and it is expected that the projected vision for promotion of domestic industry will be fulfilled.

During one to one interaction with the exporters, Shri Asad K. Iraqi, Member of Committee of Administration (CoA), CLE thanked for organizing interaction with the exporters and artisans on the issues being faced by individual exporters and artisans as whole.

Shri Asad K. Iraqi represented leather industry issue including long pending applications of IDLS Scheme under IFLADP. He stated that there are several applications which are pending at various stages of process by concerned PIU. He mentioned that industry has invested their huge amount on purchase of capital goods



Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Union Minister of Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Consumer Affairs & Food & Public Distribution and Textiles, Government of India addressing the session.



Shri Javed Iqbal, Regional Chairman, Cenrtal, CLE along with Shri Asad K. Iraqi, Member of Committee of Administration (CoA), CLE at interactive session in Indira Gandhi Pratisthan, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow.



including machineries under IDLS Scheme and had filed their online application for availing financial assistance but due to pandemic industry suffered badly towards revival of their export trade and hence urged Hon'ble Union Minister of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India for kind intervention towards continuation of IDLS Scheme and considering old applications which are pending at various stages.

Upon submission of the above issue, Hon'ble Union Minister of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India informed that Ministry is well aware with this issue and working towards redressal of the concern at the earliest.

Further, while answering the concerns of artisans he said we have to connect artisans for developing their market otherwise traditional handicrafts will disappear. He urged that we should try to have a system that ensures future generation participation in handicrafts and export industry related work.

Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Union Minister of Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Consumer Affairs & Food & Public Distribution and Textiles, Government of India distributed free tool kits to artisans who took participated in the event.



Shri Javed Iqbal, Regional Chairman, Cenrtal, CLE along with Shri Asad K. Iraqi, Member of Committee of Administration (CoA), CLE at interactive session in Indira Gandhi Pratisthan, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow.



Shri Asad K. Iraqi, Member of Committee of Administration (CoA), CLE taking up industry issues at interactive session in Indira Gandhi Pratisthan, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow.



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***Union Minister for Commerce & Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution and Textiles Shri Piyush Goyal interacts with Indian exporters and businesses to Enhance Market Access for India in UAE, Dec. 12, 2021***



The Union Minister for Commerce & Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution and Textiles Shri Piyush Goyal chaired an interaction with the captains of Indian industry and heads of Export Promotion Councils in Mumbai today, to discuss certain opportunities for Indian businesses to expand their global footprint by leveraging the business platforms and infrastructure offered by UAE.

DP World, a leading smart logistics provider owned fully by the Government of UAE, presented the market expansion opportunities it offers to Indian businesses and



exporters. The firm is setting up India Mart Traders Market, a dedicated market for Indian businesses which would enable traders and manufacturers to trade with the UAE local market and regional market.

The potential offered by Dubai's Jebel Ali Free Zone (Jafza), one of the world's leading free trade zones, was also presented to the Indian industry.

Speaking about the immediate UAE opportunity presented by DP World and the Government of UAE, Shri Goyal said "We are looking for this to become a \$10 billion opportunity for India and to also showcase Brand India on the global stage."

Industry representatives welcomed the initiative and offered their ideas and suggestions to leverage its potential.

Shri Goyal added that our goal is to become the No. 1 Trading Partner of UAE. The Minister said, "UAE is a gateway to Gulf Cooperation Council and all of Africa".

The Minister welcomed Group Chairman & CEO, DP World, Sultan Ahmed Bin Sulayem for coming up with solutions such as provision of low-cost finance for Indian businesses.

Shri Goyal said that the goodwill built by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and Crown Prince H.H. Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan are helping us have bigger ambitions.

The Minister thanked the exporters for participating in the deliberations to create a roadmap for expanding Indian exports not only to UAE but also using UAE as a springboard, to expand exports to GCC and other markets in Africa and elsewhere.

The Union Minister shared the highly favourable outcomes which can be expected from the India-UAE Free Trade Agreement, which is in the



advanced stages of negotiation and finalization. "There is a lot of good news coming up, across several sectors, as we negotiate and finalize the FTA with the UAE."

The Hon'ble Minister shared three examples reflecting India-UAE friendship. "For the first time ever, UAE allotted land for India to set up a temple. This is remarkable as UAE is celebrating 50th year of its formation and India is celebrating its 75th year of Independence. Secondly, UAE has committed \$100 Billion for investment and infrastructure creation in India. And thirdly, the UAE-India FTA will be India's fastest-negotiated FTA and the fastest-negotiated Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) ever between two nations, which also gives the maximum opportunity to India."

Addressing the exporters and industry, Group Chairman & CEO DP World, Sultan Ahmed Bin Sulayem, spoke about the UAE market and the opportunities available there for Indian products. "The Jebel Ali Economic Zone has hundreds of warehouses suitable for any trader who would like to see and feel the market. The time is right for India to seize the opportunity in the world market. There is a huge shortage everywhere, which India can fill."

DP World official, Mr. Abdulla Al Hashmi presented to the industry the potential offered by the twin projects India Mart Traders Market and Jebel Ali Free Zone. "We want to support Made in India products, to enable them to be exported to the world."

During the discussions, Sharad Kumar Saraf, Immediate Past President opined that FIEO decision to open India Mart Traders Market is timely and very important.

Naresh Bhasin, Regional Chairman, Council of Leather Exports stated that besides touch-and-feel, speed-to-market is an important aspect which customers are looking at. Capital cost is cheaper in the UAE and setting up India Mart Traders Market in Dubai will be very attractive for the leather industry, he added.

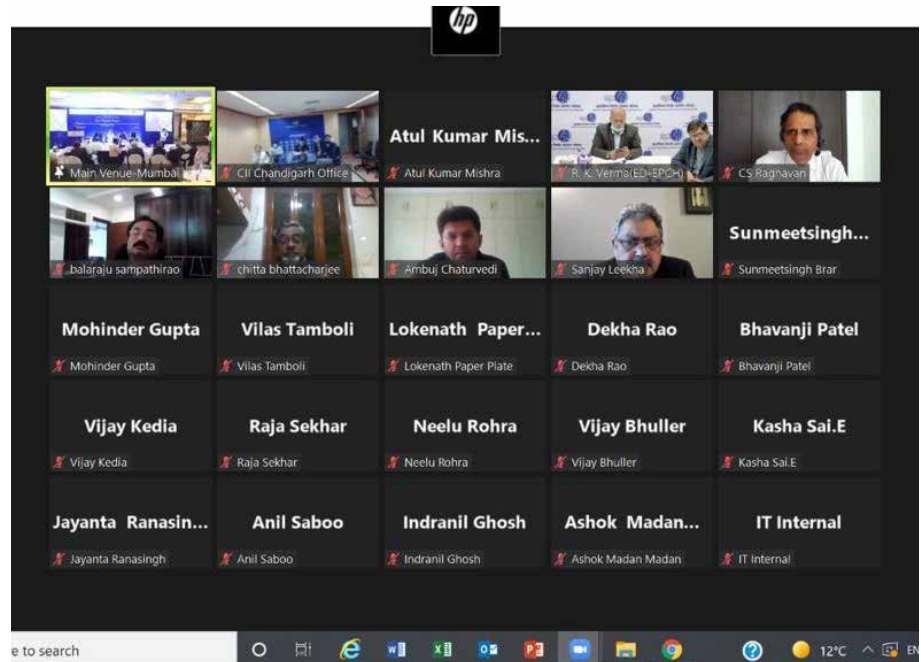
Amit Sarda, Member, Retailers Association of India (RAI) stated that the setting up of India Mart facility by DP World will further India's goals of Made in India



and Made for the World. “As MSMEs and start-ups drive up business, we need to talk about providing access to India Mart to them as well.” He said that in addition to providing warehousing facility, the Mart should also have a packaging facility.

B.Thiagarajan, Chairman, CII Western Region and Managing Director, Blue Star Ltd. said: “India-UAE bilateral relationship has led to tremendous growth in the past few years and led to creation of a framework for strategic partnerships. The interaction today is an example of the opportunities and relations that may emerge as a result of the strong bilateral relationship.”

Shri Sanjay Leekha, Chairman, CLE and Shri R.Selvam, Executive Director, CLE participated in the event virtually.



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## *Chairman, CLE participation in pre budget consultation meeting, Dec. 17,2021*



Hon'ble Union Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs Smt Nirmala Sitharaman held Pre Budget Consultation Meeting with Service & Trade Bodies held on 17.12.21 virtually.

Shri Sanjay Leekha, Chairman, CLE participated in this meeting and took-up the various requests of the industry .

Shri Leekha stated that Export of leather, leather products and footwear during April-Oct 2021 was US\$ 2673.43 million, as against USD 1954.52 million during April – Oct. 2020, showing 36.78% growth. The industry has lot of opportunities to significantly enhance the exports. However, Government support is requested to enhance the price competitiveness of the sector.

The requests taken-up include the following

Request to reinstate Basic Customs

Duty exemption on import wet blue, crust and finished leathers

- The duty free exemption for these leathers were in force since March 2000 but were removed in Union Budget 2021-22 vide Serial No. 30 of Customs Notification No. 2/2021 on account of which 10% duty is now levied
- Leathers are imported in India are as per specifications of these brands who even nominate the overseas suppliers. Also, these leathers cannot be sourced in India as they differ in terms of texture, grain and thickness which is unique to the animal species in foreign countries
- Import of wet blue, crust and finished leathers during 2019-20 was only to the tune of USD 520 million as against import of raw hides and skins which was only USD 30 million. However, export of value added products from the country during 2019-20 was to the tune of USD 5093.68 million, which is almost 10 times the value of import of leathers. Reinstatement of import duty exemption is crucial to enhance the price competitiveness and tap emerging business opportunities.

**Request to reinstate Duty Free Limit (DFIS) for leather garments , other leather products and footwear.**

- This scheme allowed Basic Customs duty exemption for inputs notified under Serial Nos. 311 and 312 of Customs Notification No. 50/2017. Duty free limit was 5% on FOB value of exports in previous year, for footwear and other leather products and 3% for leather garments. This scheme was removed in Union Budget 2022-23.



- Inputs under DFIS are imported as per specification and requirement of overseas buyers.
- The total imports imported under DFIS during 2020-21 (including the aforesaid lining and interlining materials) was Rs. 662.25 crore, out of the import entitlement of Rs.881.43 crore (75.13% usage) . The Basic Customs duty (10%) on these imports (i.e. the duty exempted value – annual revenue implication) is Rs.66.22 crore. This scheme is extensively used by exporters as it gives access to latest trends and accessories required by international fashion brands. Reinstatement of the scheme is extremely crucial to revive the business with brands.

#### **Request to implement Production Linked Incentive Scheme for leather, leather products and footwear**

- The total turnover of the leather and footwear industry (during 2019-20) was USD 17.09 billion i.e. exports of USD 5.09 billion and domestic market of USD 12 billion.

The industry has set an export target of USD 10 billion and domestic industry turnover target of USD 20 billion to be achieved by 2025.

- A large percentage of the leather, leather products and footwear are MSMEs. Hence, implementing Production Linked Incentive is crucial for brining higher scales of production and achieving growth and employment generation in the sector.

#### **Request to allow duty free import of PU Leather**

- The global import of footwear was USD 136.49 billion, out of which import of non leather footwear was USD 80.36 billion, account for a huge share of 59%. However, the export of non leather footwear from India was USD 0.28 billion only during 2019-20. Also, India's share in global import of non leather footwear during 2019 was 0.35% only. Hence, there is a need to penetrate in the non leather footwear segment to ensure significant export growth in the coming years. Also, there is a huge opportunity for export of PU Garments.
- The major issue acting as a deterrent for export growth of non-leather footwear is the high duty incidence of 20% on import of PU Leather/ PU Coated fabrics. Hence, the duty on PU Leather/PU Coated Fabrics may be reduced to zero so as to facilitate significant growth of exports of non-leather footwear and PU Garments
- PU Leather is primarily imported under Chapter 56 and Chapter 59 of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 under tariff items 5603.94.00 and 5903.20.90 respectively. The imports of PUC are also observed under certain other customs tariff headings viz. 3921.13.90, 5903.10.10, 5903.10.90, 5903.20.10, 5903.90.10, 5903.90.20, 5903.90.90, 5603.11.00, 5603.12.00, 5603.13.00, 5603.14.00, 5603.91.00, 5603.92.00, 5603.93.00



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## *Inauguration Ceremony of 2.5-MW Solar Power Generation Plant, set up as part of the Upgradation Project of SIDCO Phase I CETP, held on 22.12.2021 at Ranipet*

It may be recalled that upgradation Project of Ranipet SIDCO Finished Leather Effluent Treatment Company Limited (SIDCO Phase I CETP), Ranipet has been approved by Department for Promotion of Industry & Internal Trade (DPIIT), Government of India under the sub-scheme “Leather Technology, Innovations & Environmental Issues” of Indian Footwear, Leather & Accessories Development Programme (IFLADP) 2017-2021. This project is to upgrade the CETP capacity from 1800 m<sup>3</sup>/day to 2500 m<sup>3</sup>/day, which is the full capacity consented by Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB). The SIDCO Phase I CETP is located in SIPCOT Industrial Park, Ranipet. There are 80+ tanneries operating in the cluster which are connected to the CETP for discharge of tanner effluents for treatment. Chennai Environmental Management Company of Tanners (CEMCOT) is the Special Purpose Vehicle for this project. CSIR-Central Leather Research Institute (CLRI) is the Appraising Agency & Project Monitoring Consultant (PMC) for this project. As an industry body, the CLE is coordinating with DPIIT, Govt of India, CSIR-CLRI, CETPs & stakeholder agencies with a view to smooth implementation of the project.

As part of the CETP upgradation project, one of the approved project elements is setting up of 2.5 MW Solar Power Generation Plant and this has been successfully installed



Shri R. Gandhi, Hon'ble Minister of Textiles & Handlooms, Government of Tamil Nadu inaugurating the 2.5 MW Solar Power Generation Plant.



at Vembakottai Village, Virudhunagar District by SIDCO Phase I CETP.

The inauguration ceremony of the 2.5 MW Solar Power Generation Plant was held at Hotel Gee Kay Millenniaa, Ranipet on 22.12.2021 at 11.30am. Shri R. Gandhi, Hon'ble Minister of Textiles and Handlooms, Government of Tamil Nadu was the Special Guest and graced the programme. The dignitaries present on the occasion are Shri P.R Aqeel Ahmed, Chairman, Leather Sector Skill Council (LSSC), Shri M. Israr Ahmed, Regional Chairman (South), CLE, Shri R. Selvam IAS, Executive Director, CLE, Shri K. Baskara Pandian, IAS, District Collector, Ranipet District, Shri P. Ramesh Prasad, Chairman – CEMCOT, Shri C.M Zafarullah, Managing Director – RANITEC CETP. & Shri G.Vinoth Gandhi, State Joint Secretary, Environmental Team (DMK).

Shri V. Jayachandran, Managing Director, SIDCO Phase I CETP organized the event and the CETP Board of Directors participated are Shri G. Nandakumar, Shri M. Srinivasa Reddy, Shri G. Manogaran & Shri D. Ramalingam. The representatives from manufacturing units in the cluster who are members of the CETP were participated the programme. Shri A. Fayaz Ahmad, Deputy Director, CLE and representatives of CETPs – RANITEC, SIDCO Phase 2, Ambur, Pernambut etc attended the event.



Shri V. Jayachandran, Managing Director, SIDCO Phase I CETP, speaking in the event on the Solar Power Generation Plant set up in Vembakottai village, Virudhunagar district.



Shri P.R Aqeel Ahmed, Chairman, Leather Sector Skill Council (LSSC) & Member COA, CLE speaking at the occasion.







Shri M. Israr Ahmed, Regional Chairman (South), CLE speaking at the occasion



Shri R. Selvam, IAS, Executive Director, CLE explaining about the importance of the project.



A view of Audience



Shri P. Ramesh Prasad, Chairman, CEMCOT speaking on the occasion



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## IFCOMA – SHOETECH-KANPUR ( 2021)



Chief Guest along with Guests of honour inaugurating the show by Lighting of Lamp

Twelfth Edition of Kanpur Buyer Seller Meet branded as SHOETECH-KANPUR was organized by Indian Footwear Components Manufacturers Association (IFCOMA) on 15th & 16th December '2021 at the CLE Multipurpose Hall, KLC Complex, Banthar, Unnao, with the strong support of Council for Leather Exports, Kanpur Leather Complex & Agra Footwear Manufacturers & Exporters Chamber, Footwear design and development Institute, CFTI, NIFT, KLC and other institutions. The Shoetech Kanpur obtained the Logo support of MSME & Make in India (DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce) for showcasing the SME units from Agra, Kanpur, Delhi, Noida, Gurgaon, Chennai and Bangalore.

Shri Sanjay Gupta President IFCOMA gave his welcome address to the gathering during the inauguration function. He stressed on the need for components survey. Increase of



President IFCOMA Shri Sanjay Gupta in his Welcome address during the Shoetech Kanpur

20% subsidy to the components sector & technical know-how from Italy, Spain & Taiwan.

More than 70 Exhibitors participated in the Shoetech Kanpur and displayed various Footwear components, accessories & machinery. The above included specialized Finished leather, Buff leather, Soles (TPR/TPU/PU etc.) of the latest design, PU, Semi-PU, PVC, Machinery, Adhesive, Varnishes, Release Agents, Water based adhesives, Plastic shoe lasts, Insoles, toe-puff & Counters, Shank

Boards, Technical textiles, Linings & Interlinings, Laminated fabric, EVA & PU foam, Moulded Socks, Comfort foam Insole, Heel grip, Non-woven fabrics, Velcro tapes, Shoe finishing Chemicals, Buckles, Metal fittings, Industrial Sewing Threads, Finishes & Chemicals, Packaging Boxes, Synthetic leather, fur, labels, Moulded counters, Shoe Machinery, Spares for Machinery, Knitted fabrics, Fusible Interlinings, etc.

Shri Sanjay Gupta President IFCOMA gave his welcome address to the gathering during the inauguration function. He stressed on the need of components survey. Increase of 20% subsidy to the components sector & technical know-how from Italy, Spain & Taiwan.

The Fair was inaugurated on the 15th December, 2021 by Shri Mukhtarul Amin, Chairman Superhouse, Kanpur along with Guest of Honours, Shri R.K. Jalan Vice Chairman CLE, Shri Uday Kumar, IOFS, General Manager Ordnance Equipment Factory, Shri Javed Iqbal, Regional Chairman, Central Region, CLE, Shri Motilal Sethi, Regional Chairman, Northern Region, CLE Shri Rakesh Suri Convener – Safety Footwear Panel CLE, Shri O.P. Pandey Executive Director KLC by lighting of Lamp & Cutting of Ribbon. Smt. Pallavi Dubey, Regional Director and major component manufacturers were present during the ceremony. Mr. Balasubramaniam, Assistant General Manager, Ordnance Factory was facilitated during the inaugural function of the Shoetech Kanpur

The Chief Guest applauded the efforts of IFCOMA to bring the Industry together under one roof and help the exporters & Manufacturers to see the latest developments in the components sector. He stressed on the bonding between the Footwear & Components Sector in order to minimize the imports and allow growth for the local Industry.



Chief Guest & the Guests of honour inaugurating Shoetech Kanpur by cutting of ribbon.

Shri Uday Kumar, IOFS, Ordnance Equipment Factory, Kanpur expressed his happiness to be part of the Show. He emphasized that Ordnance factory is now a PSU and needs the partnership with private players to build the production strength including the footwear.

Shri RK Jalan, Vice Chairman, appreciated the IFCOMA endeavour to build the Shoetech Kanpur event into one of the major interactive point for the Industry. He expressed that the survey of components needs to be given thrust.

Shri Rakesh Suri, Convener-Safety Footwear Panel, CLE underlined the need of joint effort. He appealed to the component sector to be more self-reliant and work towards achieving the goal of minimizing the import from China.



Chief Guest Shri Mukhtarul Amin during his key note address



The Chief Guest and Guests of honour unveiled the curtain raiser of the Delhi International Leather Expo 2022. The event is slated for Feb. 14-15, 2022 at New Delhi.

As per the tradition, IFCOMA recognized and facilitated the special talent and achiever of the Industry.

IFCOMA Excellence Award was presented to M/s Chemcrown Exports Ltd.

Mr Manoj Bhaiya received the Award from the Chief Guest Shri Mukhtarul Amin, Chairman Superhouse Group.

The inauguration function ended with vote of thanks presented by Shri Deepak Manchanda General Secretary, IFCOMA.

Over 70 exhibitors from Kanpur, Agra, Noida, Delhi, Gurgaon, Chennai, Bangalore, Ludhiana and other places participated in this Grand Fair. The fair was appreciated by the Footwear & Leather Industry. Majority of the Exhibitors shared their satisfaction on the interactions and outcome of the fair.

The fair received stupendous response from the Industry in Jajmau, Banthar, Unnao Dada Nagar, Fazal Ganj and other industrial areas of Kanpur. There were over 2000 visitors during the two day event organized by IFCOMA.



Shri R.K.Jalan, Vice Chairman CLE addressing the audience during the Inauguration



Shri Uday Kumar IOFS, G.M Ordnance Equipment Factory, addressing the gathering during the inauguration.



Shri Rakesh Suri Convener-Safety Footwear Panel, CLE addressing the audience during the inauguration.



Shri Motilal Sethi, Regional Chairman, CLE addressing the audience during the inauguration.



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Shri Javed Iqbal, Regional Chairman, Central Region, CLE, addressing the audience during the inauguration.

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As per the tradition, IFCOMA recognized and facilitated the special talent and achiever of the Industry.



The Doyen of the Industry Shri Irshad Mirza, was honoured with Life time Achievement Award. The Award received by Shri Aqeel Khan, General Manager, Mirza International Ltd, on behalf of Shri Irshad Mirza



IFCOMA Excellence Award was presented to M/s Chemcrown Exports Ltd. Mr Manoj Bhaiya received the Award from the Chief Guest Shri Mukhtarul Amin, Chairman Superhouse Group.



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Innovative Product Award for specialized products was presented to M/s. Top Lasts, Agra and for their valuable contribution to the industry



**Innovative Product Awards** for specialized products were presented to M/s Zaibunco Industries Pvt Ltd., Banthar (Unnao), for their valuable contribution for the Industry



**Eco Friendly Product Award** was presented to M/s Rupmaya Shoe Last Industries, Agra for their special effort to bring up the eco friendly product that is conducive to the environment.



**Start up by women Award** – IFCOMA introduced the award for the women entrepreneur. Ms. Purna Verma, M/s Creative India, Kanpur was presented with start up by women Award.



The Chief Guest and Guests of honour unveiled the curtain raiser of the Delhi International Leather Expo 2022. The event is slated for Feb. 14-15, 2022 at New Delhi



The inauguration function ended with vote of thanks presented by Shri Deepak Manchanda General Secretary, IFCOMA.

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Mrs. Pallavi Dubey, Regional Director, CLE being welcomed by Shri Deepak Manchanda, General Secretary, IFCOMA



Chief Guest Shri Mukhtarul Amin being honored with a shawl by Shri Sanjay Gupta, President, IFCOMA

View of Exhibition hall and Stalls





## 'Release of Colour Cards of FASHION TREND POOL & MODEUROP for Spring Summer 2023 season'



In picture: Colours of FASHION TREND POOL for Spring Summer 2023 season being released

Winner of CLE's National Export Excellence Award for Leather Garments; Mr A Sekar, Managing Director of Gemini Enterprises released the 'first copies' of the FASHION TREND POOL & MODEUROP Colour Cards for the Spring Summer 2023 season on 9th December 2021.

Mr Sekar remains in awe of the services being rendered by CSIR-CLRI and the Council for Leather Exports. "The Colour Cards," says Mr Sekar, are very useful to his company in R&D developments for the upcoming seasons.



In picture: Colours of MODEUROP for Spring Summer 2023 season being released

**Gemini Enterprises: Manufactures Leather Garments for the best brands globally!**

Leather Garment manufacturers are making humble requests to the Government to reconsider the duties imposed on imports of wet-blue which is an important raw material for making leather garments in view of the panel size required besides reconsideration of duties on imported feather that is used to make light-weight jackets. Freight charges remain an important concern that could drift away brands and buyers to other destinations. "Indian Leather and Leather Product Manufacturers (including Leather Garments) remains optimistic" he said, in conclusion.



FASHION  
TREND  
POOL

FASHION TREND POOL  
Colour Codes for Spring Summer 2023 season

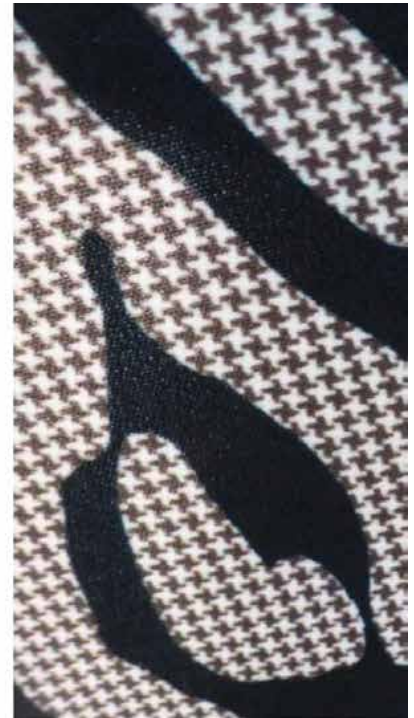
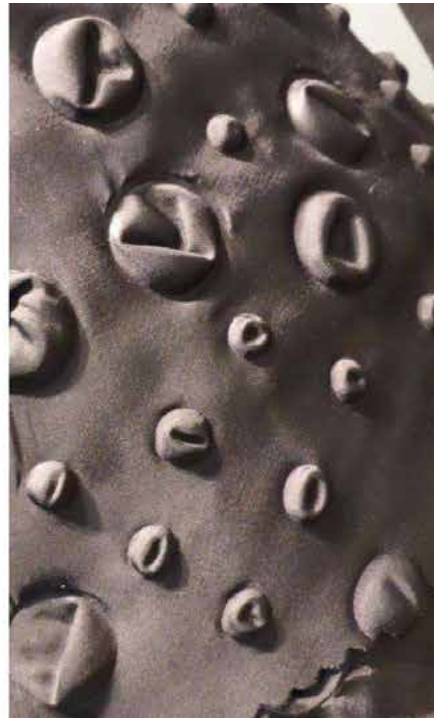
CODE #I REACTION



Colours full of energy, contrasts full of power. Fun and joie de vivre are the focus of the energetic Dopamine dressing. Expression and extravagance set the style pace. Courage and a breathless dose of craziness open up new design horizons full of strong statements. Sweet meets sour. Sexiness meets romance. Trash culture meets surrealism. Monochrome looks in signal colours pulsate just as powerfully as striking colour blockings and arty prints. Iridescent and glossy effects are reminiscent of Augmented Reality and Hyper Pop. The intense palette plays with candy colours, sci-fi pastels

and bold, bright bolds  
Leather News India



**CODE #2 REALISM**

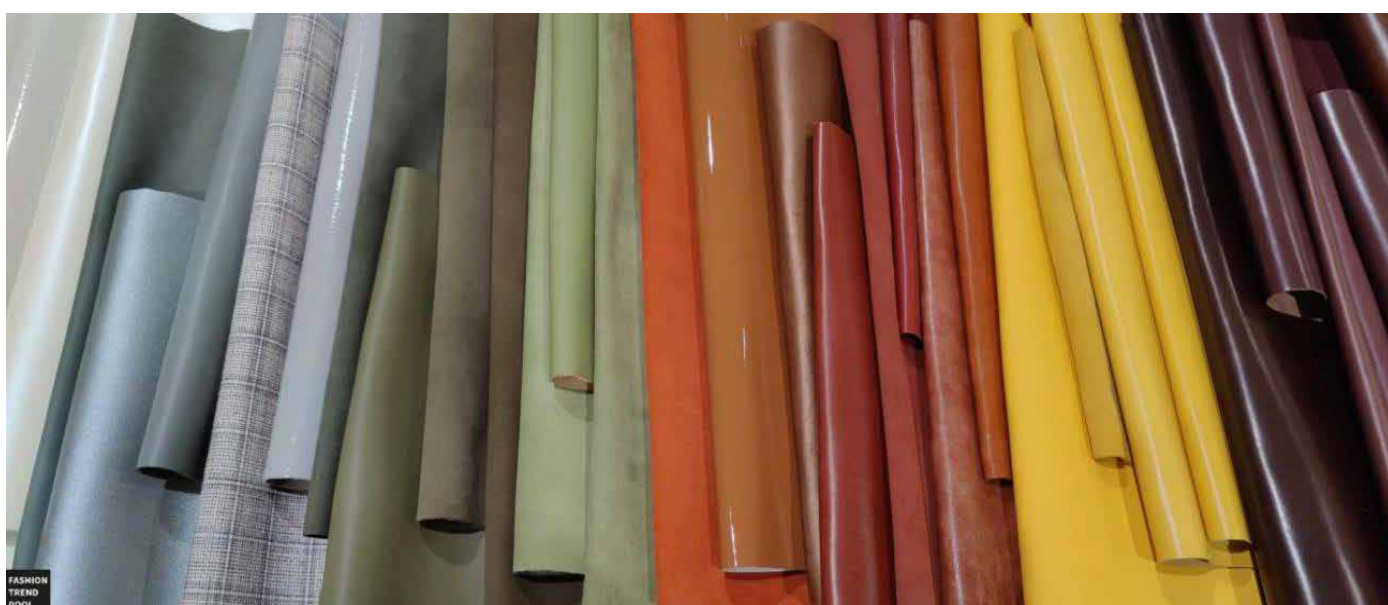
The new self-confidence, the new maturity. Wisdom meets vision. To a confidence in one's own values and the strengths of the tried and tested. The result is a sensual realism that transcends the fast. Long-lasting classicism is lived here as a sustainable idea. Smartness defines the cuts as well as the natural, high-quality materials with technical benefits. College and campus influences are reflected in preppy details. Relaxed seaside silhouettes are predestined as escapism from urban uniformity. Clean retro elements and originals flow into a minimalist design language. A clear, familiar colour palette of freshly interpreted classics forms the basis.

**CODE #3 REFLECTION**

Awareness of the special, a reflection on oneself and the world. Nature in all its facets is the driving force behind the Reflection theme. Sustainability and Searching for a Better Life are at the centre of thought and action. Mixed in with this is a global feeling of connectedness across all cultures and continents. Comfort in a foreign land lends a new form to travelwear.

Styles, colourways and details look like an endless summer. Dried colours and raw fabrics and leather meet new-generation technical materials. Botanical camouflage meets artisanal braiding.





Craftsmanship is realised as modern tech craft as well as the rediscovery of almost forgotten techniques. Earthy tones form a harmonious melange with intense sunny shades and dusty nuances.

You may kindly recall that we had Shri Sateesh Jadhav, President of RY Gaitonde Group raising the 'CURTAINS' on the tendencies in leathers & colours for Spring Summer 2023 season on 27th July 2021 and the Colour Cards were released by Shri ASekar, Managing Director, Gemini Enterprises on 9th December 2021.







Colours for Spring Summer 2023 season



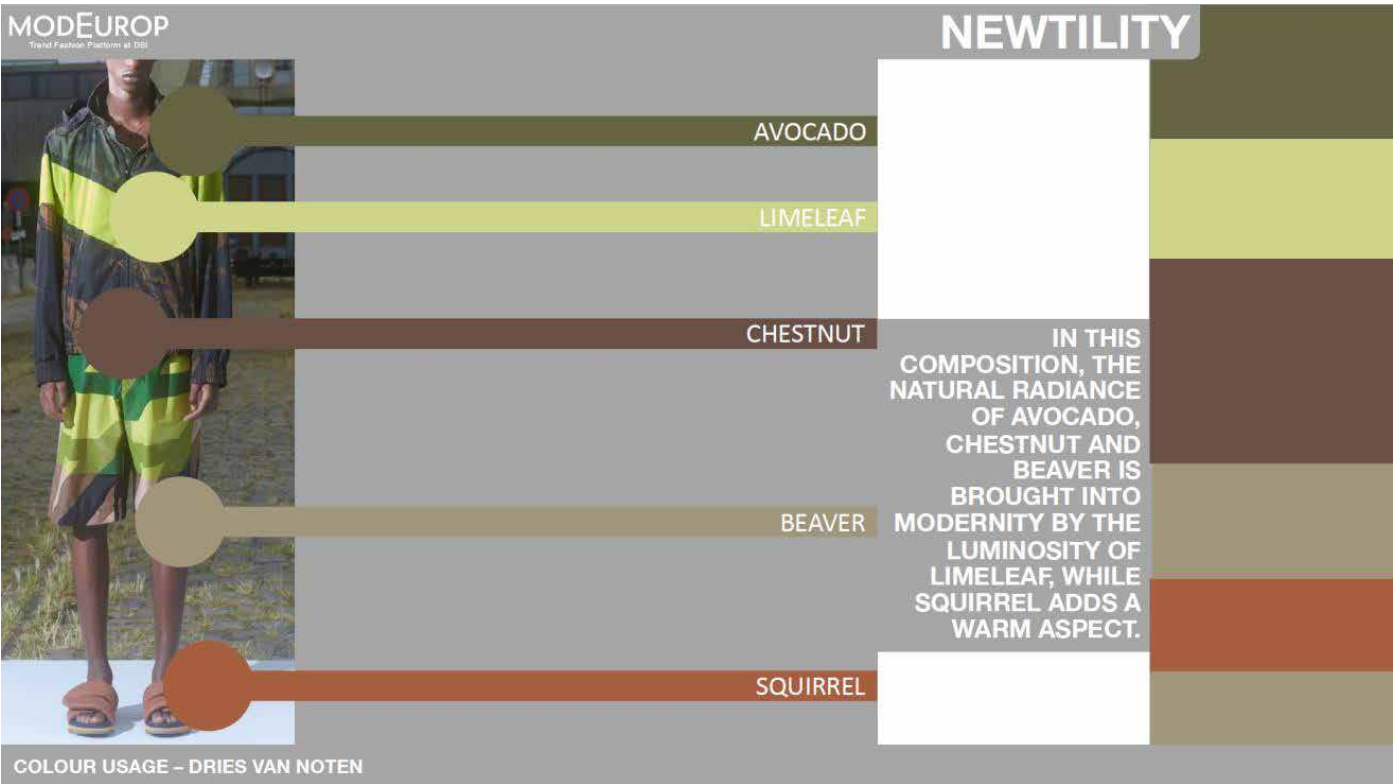
# MODEUROP

SPRING SUMMER 2023


NEWTILITY – RE-ROOTED

It is once again nature that serves as a reference and design template in this theme, ranging from photo-realistic and romanticism-inspired print patterns and designs to fluid silhouettes in midi-lengths to kaftan-style garments and kimono-inspired jackets and coats. Voluminous materials, billowing skirts and trousers made of chiffon or lightweight linen fabrics make for a very natural and laid-back feel. Novel crocheting and knitting techniques create dynamic

surfaces and innovative impressions. Corsage details, oversized blazers, workwear attributes and denim as an extra, add an innovative spin to this theme. It's a fresh look on the far side of the boho-artisanal style statements of previous seasons. This also applies to bags, where materials combined with knotting and braiding techniques, and decorative features ranging from prints to fringes and metal studs play a central role. The neck pouch mutates into an ornamental accessory on long, finely crafted straps. Shoppers and market bags come in two-in-one optics. Drawstring bags and bucket bags receive an update with new volumes and finishing techniques. Decorative opulence also extends to shoes. There is a lot of footroom due to lace up sandals, deep-footbed sandals and mules. A plethora of ornamental elements and charms ranging from coins to shells and fringes adorn the relative lack of surfaces.




On the other hand, there are elegant pumps complete with rounded carré and patch worked materials. Work wear-inspired aspects give a feminine touch to fisherman sandals and desert boots. As has been the case with sneakers for several seasons now, the soles are put in focus. Artisanal braiding, multi-coloured patterning and a patchwork of materials embellish the chunky shoe bottoms. Colours are an ode to nature. Summerly freshness and lightness combine with rich earthy tones. Intense Lime Leaf is flanked by Pistachio and bold Avocado. Chestnut and Beaver enable a proper grounding and team up with warm Red Brown. Dark red Merlot adds colourful depth. Invigorating effects are created by pure Cherry Tomato radiating crisp contrasts. A dash of brilliant Gentian Blue gives zest to these ultramodern combinations. On the materials front, surfaces are vivified by patchworks made of velours, smooth leather, canvas and raffia. Artisanal techniques provide the basis for new surfaces: there are handwoven materials and knitted fabrics in combination with nappa leathers; braid-trimmings made of grain less nappa; a lot of meshwork, and prominent edges created by eye-catching hand stitches. Ornamental features are emphasised; shells, pearls, coins, studs, fringes and frills, knots and pompoms are generously used. There are hardly any limits to the imagination.



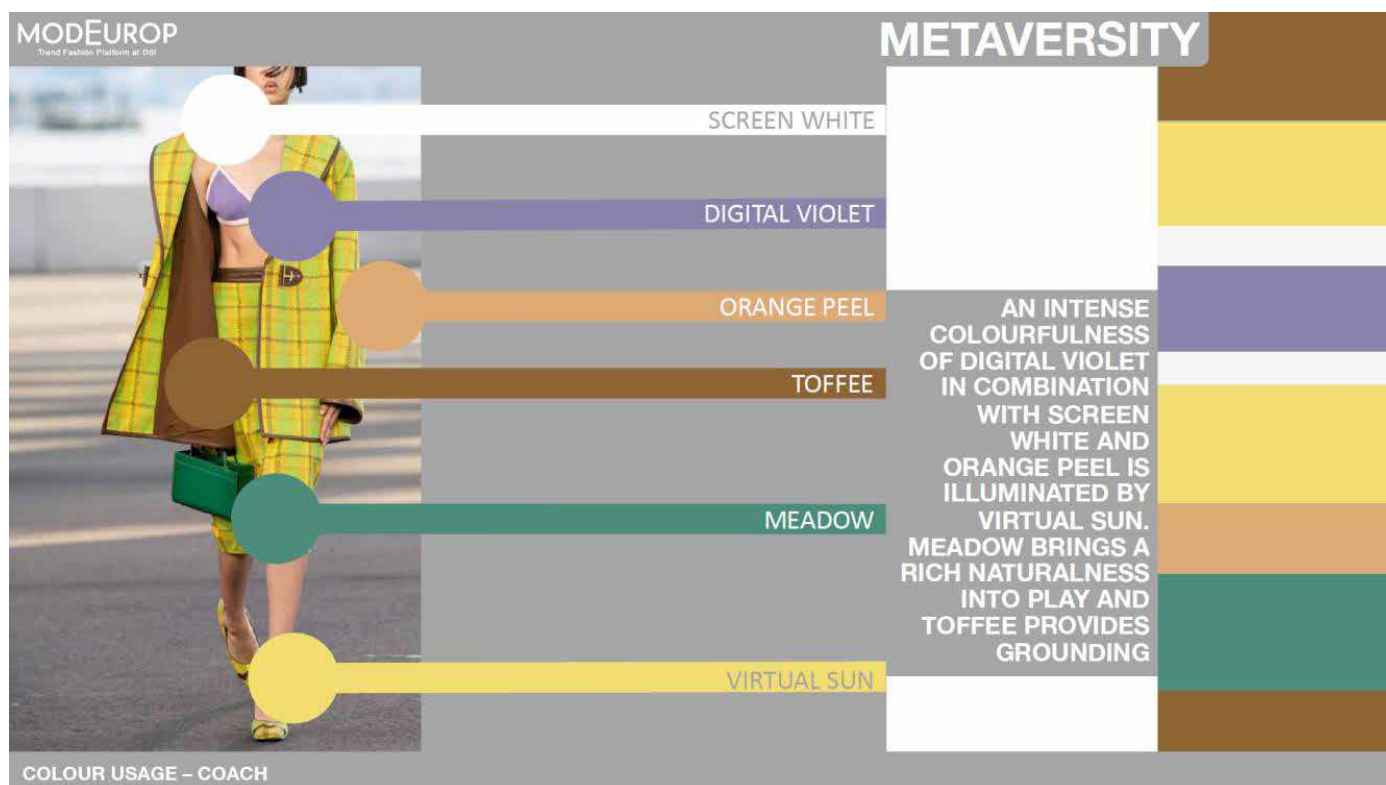
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## METAVERSITY - JOY LAB`



Uniqueness and individuality set the tone for this theme. It's a melting pot of styling options ranging from iconic sixties looks to grunge, digital gaming inspired outfits and neo-glam. New perspectives and aspirations create futuristic silhouettes beyond any practical functionality. A-form silhouettes with mini skirts and dresses, or Daisy-Duck style costumes are suitable for daily use. Sportswear is made more feminine and gets a romantic spin. Intense colours for total-look stylings in one colour or in combinations are on a par with striking prints and high-contrast chequers. Mini prevails but midi and maxi compete. The form-fitting moment is continued with looks showing a lot of skin. Summer booties with a nod to Courrèges impress with maximum colourfulness. Pumps are revisited in a gaudy revolution of colour blocks, chequers and dogteeth.

Colours at the foot as innovative fashion statement across all shoe types are here, without reservations – the loud burst of colours hits all the soles from sneakers and deep footbed sandal to plateau sandals, mules, loafers and boots. Bags also play colourful. Strong lush colours are key. Digital 3D design has triggered a variety of innovative forms. There is no common denominator; anything from miniature sizes to huge market bags works. Joining the game are bowling formats in mini sizes. The fun factor is high with clip-lock front pockets, embossed strap designs on the bag front or cartoonish bag forms. This season's motto is "Let's have fun again! "It's a colour lab of joy: Cyber Rave meets Swinging Sixties. A radiant Virtual Sun is coqueting with Digital Violet, both flirting with Meadow Green. Orange Peel is part of the palette, pierced by a luminous Screen White competing with radiant Cyber Blue. Mauve and Ice Pixel march to a different tune and tone. Toffee brings calm and earthy grounding to the feverish party mood. Colours are in a riot, happy chaos rules. Surfaces take a backseat and let colours take over. Lacquered uppers are on equal footing with grainless soft nappa leathers. Matt and gummed surface finishings enhance the intensity of the colours. High-gloss metallics also come in bold colours.

Padded, quilted volumes continue to be important and now also extend to include and influence bag forms. Novel stamping, printing and debossing techniques set surfaces in motion, generously supported by naps and studs trimmings. Metal applications put heels and shoe caps in the footlight. Glitzy, colourful materials and ornamental features on shoes and bags spark optimism and set the mood for the party season.

## LUCIDITY - SOFT CORE



This theme adds a huge dose of sex appeal to the novel approach of „intelligent design“. Classic silhouettes get an ultramodern update through new combinations. Traditional looks may pass as strikingly innovative by amalgamating different stylistic directions. There are loose, fluid oversized silhouettes on the one hand, and sharply tailored, body-hugging outfits showing a lot of skin, on the other. Hem lengths vary, ranging from knee-high to maxi with skirts and dresses, and ultrashort hot pants contrasting against excess-length trousers. The matching shoes come in a great variety of forms, from classic pumps futureproofed by new heel solutions and new combinations of disparate materials, to mules and loafers treating themselves to a flyknit face-lift, to deep footbed sandals whose uppers and bottoms received a major overhaul. Bottoms vary, trending towards new volumes and colourings. Heels are back in robust and solid varieties, average height, and fancy forms and colours. Bags have discovered geometrical shapes for themselves, playing on them, in sturdy leathers and in all variations from elegant to sporty. Drawstring bags come in practical sizes, net and mesh structures make sure there is enough lightness. Another playing field is bag fronts, where sculptural layerings transform bags into portable works of art. Sophisticated tailoring. Sustainable luxury and mindfulness. The colours make the connection between the dichotomies of loud and quiet, between the present and the future. Summer pastels like Salmon and a bright Flintstone Blue take centre stage in this light, natural colour palette. In team with earthy Dried Herbs and the glowing brightness of Faded Light, they stand for the four elements fire, water, earth and air. Clear grey Seagull provide for neutral grounds. Dark Ink, fruity Water Melon and Poppy Red are available for intense colour contrast and inventive combinations. The dark elegance resonating with the theme is introduced by Charcoal. It is a colour line promising a serene kind of modernity, which also holds exciting innovations depending on the combinations. On the materials side, quiet luxury is the credo. Surfaces highlight the value and elegance of fine leathers. The focus is on noble nappa accompanied by a descreet metallic shimmer on sanded nubuk. Novel kinds of quilting, padding and stitching make for an ultra-soft handfeel. Reflecting, glowing synthetics, cloud-inspired designs on canvas, and singularly glamorous tulle and glitzy meshwork complete the picture. Chains and additional metal fittings match the colour palette and enhance the luxury effect. Transparent heels add a modern spin.

**Synergy Partners:**

CLRI | CLE | ISF | IFLMEA

**Supported by:**

Colourtex | Chenitan | Colorfast | Smit &amp; Zoon | Stahl India Limited

**Partners in Progress:**

Alina | ATH Leder Fabrik | Chennai Leather Fashions | Genuine Leathers | Good Leather Company | KH Exports | PA Footwear | Pakkar Leathers | Rathnam Leathers | Shoeberry | STAHL | TATA International | Versatile Enterprises



## The official FASHION TREND POOL & MODEUROP Colour Card for Spring Summer 2023 season released!



Close on the heels of the release of the FASHION TREND POOL & MODEUROP Colour Cards for the Spring Summer 2023 season, made in India; the 'official versions' were also released. While the official version of the FASHION TREND POOL Colour Card for Spring Summer 2023 season was released on 14th December 2021 by **Mr Andrea Brogli from Switzerland and Md Sadiq** at the Park Hyatt in Chennai; the official MODEUROP Colour Card for Spring Summer 2023 season was released by **Dr KJ Sreeram, Director, CSIR-CLRI** on 3rd January 2022 at the Design & Fashion Studio, CSIR-CLRI in the august presence of **Shri R Subramanian, Administrative Officer, CSIR-CLRI** and **Shri D Maurya, Administrative Officer, CSIR-CLRI**.



## Convocation of FDDI , Noida campus

The convocation of Footwear Design and Development Institute (FDDI), an Institution of National Importance, Ministry of Commerce, Govt. of India, for students for the 2020 & 2021 batches, was held on 27th December 2021 at the Noida campus.

Smt. Anupriya Patel, Hon'ble Minister of State for Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India was the honorable Chief Guest for the event.

Shri Motilal Sethi, Regional Chairman (North), CLE participated in the convocation.



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## Webinar on Investment Opportunities at India Mart in Jebel Ali, UAE, Sept. 30, 2021

An "Interaction on UAE Opportunity" was organised under the Chairmanship for Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Minister of Commerce and Industry, Consumer Affairs & Food & Public Distribution and Textiles on 18th December 2021 in Mumbai, which was attended by the leading export promotion councils and industry associations of India.

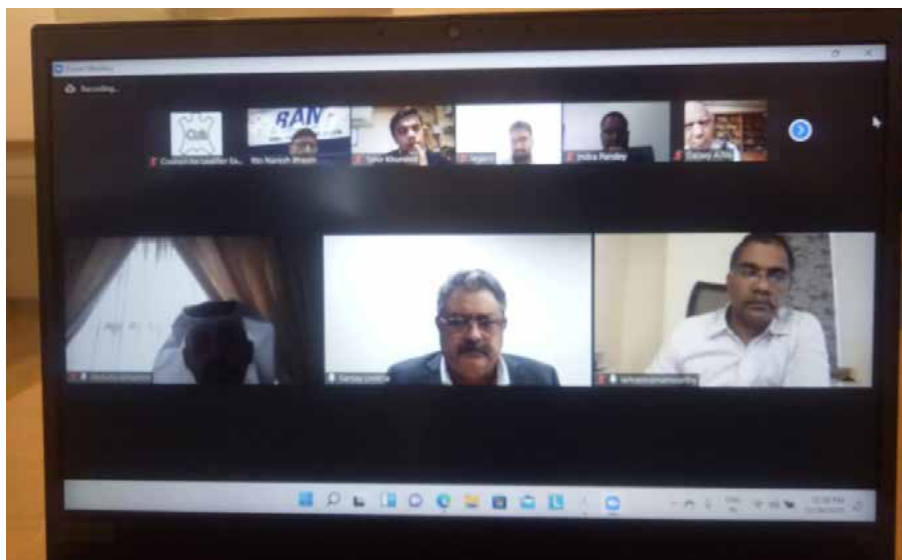
During the interaction, the Hon'ble Minister had urged the Industry to take up the India Traders Market opportunity with a view to promoting Indian goods in UAE, Africa and global markets and had set an aspirational target of bringing in additional USD 10 billion worth of revenue through the India Traders Market initiative.

Pursuant to the directives from the Hon'ble Minister, an Industry Specific session is was organised on 30 December from 12:00 PM to 01:00 PM for leather and footwear industry through the virtual mode with the following objectives as outlined during the interaction on 18th December:

- To discuss opportunities for Indian industry at Traders Market at Jebel Ali, Dubai

To resolve industry / sector specific queries for establishment of Indian businesses at Traders Market Jebel Ali

- To provide a non-binding expression of interest from the Indian Industry indicating the expected scale and size of operations at Jebel Ali



The session was conducted by Senior Leadership from DP World including Mr. Rizwan Soomar, CEO & MD, DP World (Subcontinent) and Mr. Abdulla Al Hashmi, Head of Business Intelligence, DP World.

Subsequent to the webinar, DP World has given the following indicative costs for shops and warehouses at the India Traders Market.

### Showrooms:

Standard Sizes - 17 sq.mt. / 25 sq.mt. / 29 sq.mt

Rentals - AED 500 to 1000 per sq.mt. per annum depending on the location (corner, in line, multiple access)

Warehouse: AED 350 per sq.mt per annum

Option A- Dedicated warehouse space for single user with a fixed term of lease for 2-3 years.

Option B - Common user facility on pay as you use basis

Members who are willing to invest in shops/warehouse at the India Traders Market are requested to send their requirement details to [ad-tp@cleindia.com](mailto:ad-tp@cleindia.com)



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## *Webinar on Authorised Economic Operator (AEO) programme, Dec. 10, 2021*

As part of Knowledge Series (K – Series) webinars being organised by Council for Leather Exports, a webinar on Authorised Economic Operator (AEO) programme of the Customs was organised by CLE on Dec. 10, 2021.

Shri R. Selvam, IAS, Executive Director, CLE delivered the introductory speech.

In the webinar, Shri Rajeshwar Singal, Consultant explained about AEO programme, its benefits and its implementation. The details of AEO programme as explained in the webinar are as follows.

### **AEO PROGRAMME**

AEO is a programme under the aegis of the World Customs Organization (WCO) SAFE Framework of Standards to secure and facilitate Global Trade. The programme aims to enhance international supply chain security and facilitate movement of legitimate goods. AEO encompasses various players in the International supply chain.

Under this programme an entity engaged in international trade is approved by Customs as compliant with supply chain security standards and granted AEO status & certain benefits. India's AEO Programme is in sync with the commitments made under Article 7.7 of WTO TFA.

AEO is a voluntary compliance programme. It enables Indian Customs to enhance and streamline cargo security through close cooperation with the principle stakeholders of the international supply chain viz.



importers, exporters, logistics providers, custodians or terminal operators, custom brokers and warehouse operators.

### **BENEFITS OF AEO**

- Major Benefits of the AEO certification are:
- Self-declaration of SION under Para 4.07A of FTP 2015-20 for AEO Exporters in cases where SION is not notified.
- Inclusion of Direct Port Delivery of imports to ensure just-in-time inventory management by manufacturers – clearance from wharf to warehouse for AEO T1, T2 and T3.
- Inclusion of Direct Port Entry for factory stuffed containers meant for export by AEOs for AEO T1, T2 AND T3.

Provision of Deferred Payment of duties – delinking duty payment and Customs clearance for AEO T2 and AEO T3.

- Benefits of Mutual Recognition Agreements with other Customs Administrations for AEO T2 and AEO T3.
- Fast tracking of adjudications and refunds including IGST refunds and disbursement of drawback.



## RECENT CHANGES IN AEO

- The Circular 33/2016 – Customs was amended by the Circular 03/2018 – Customs dated 17.01.2018. Amendment Circular 03/2018 – Customs has further liberalized, simplified and rationalized the AEO accreditation process so as to promote Ease of Doing Business and to emulate global best practices. Recently further relaxations have been given for MSME, PSU applicants and for renewal of AEO certifications.

## IMPLEMENTATION OF AEO

The Indian AEO Programme is implemented vide CBIC Circular 33/2016 – Customs dated 22.07.2016, as amended & Circular 26/2018- Cus dated 10.08.2018, which provides the statutory framework for the AEO programme. The circular is in line with the WCO's SAFE Framework. The circular provides for a three tier AEO Status for Exporters and Importers. The three tiers are AEO T1, AEO T2, AEO T3, where AEO T3 is the highest level of accreditation.

All three tiers provide for varying and incrementally increasing level of facilitation to the status holder. There is one more category of AEO- LO that covers all other entities in the supply chain other than the importers and exporters.

Recently, the AEO T1 processing was rationalized by new circular 26/2018 Cus. The present circular has cut down on the Annexure required for AEO T1 certification from earlier 7 to the present 2. It Circular has not just rationalized the AEO T1 processing by removing extra paperwork in earlier processing but also made more thorough certain key compliance requirements.

For that, the new circular has relied upon the latest SAFE framework 2018 edition and best practices from domestic AEO Programme of

different customs administrations.

Apart from the above changes, the new circular has completely decentralised the processing of AEO T1.

- In the present the setup, the AEO T1 file can be approved at the Customs Zonal level. This has completely eliminated the time that was wasted in transit of application from zonal offices to DIC (AEO HQ).
- In effect, the present AEO processing has not just been simplified but is also comprehensively aligned to security requirements as provided in the latest SAFE Framework. The process of renewal of AEO T1, T2, T3 has also been made simpler.
- In the present the setup, the AEO T1 file can be approved at the Customs Zonal level. This has completely eliminated the time that was wasted in transit of application from zonal offices to DIC (AEO HQ).
- In effect, the present AEO processing has not just been simplified but is also comprehensively aligned to security requirements as provided in the latest SAFE Framework. The process of renewal of AEO T1, T2, T3 has also been made simpler.
- Applicant should have been in business of import/export supply chain for at least three years. In certain deserving cases this condition can be relaxed.
- Simpler conditions are prescribed for MSME, PSUs applicants.
- Applicant should have handled at least 25 shipments in past one year. This condition too can be relaxed in certain cases.
- The position of net worth, net current assets at the end of each of last three financial years should have been increasing.
- Applicant Company/firm should be solvent and should not have filed any application for insolvency, bankruptcy, liquidation.
- No demand showcase notice should be pending or confirmed against Company/firm, or any employee/Director, relating to Customs, GST, Central Excise, Service Tax during last three years.
- AEO T1 applications are processed online only and there is no physical inspection of documents or premises by Department Officers. Deficiency in applications are pointed out and communicated by Department Officials through deficiency memo and additional inputs can be forwarded by applicants.
- Thereafter the jurisdictional Customs Commissionerate's AEO Cell processes and issues AEO T1 certificate.
- AEO T2, T3, and AEO LO applications are processed initially by jurisdictional Commissionerate and deficiency if any pointed out by deficiency memo can be complied by applicant by forwarding additional inputs including documents.
- Thereafter a team of officers visit the applicant's premises to inspect the factory, warehouse, godown, office area etc and check documents also to see whether AEO protocols relating to security of premises and procedures are

being followed or not. In case of any deficiency the applicant is advised to rectify the setup in few days time and again the matter is taken up. In case it is observed that there is no likelihood of improvement in short period or there are major legal or financial issues involving long time, the Commissionerate will recommend its rejection.

- In case everything is found to be in order Commissionerate sends its approval to Commissioner and Programme Manager AEO in Directorate of International Customs (DIC) in New Delhi.
- The Office of Commissioner DIC again checks the entire file in detail and occasionally raises some queries which are to be replied to by applicant. DIC issues the AEO

certificate if it finds the application to be in order. In case DIC finds major flaws in AEO security protocols, it rejects the application.

- Rejection of application can be by jurisdictional Customs Commissionerate having AEO charge only for AEO T1 application.
- However, the jurisdictional Customs Commissionerate having AEO charge can return any AEO application if it is incomplete or it is filed by any ineligible applicant.
- In case of AEO T2, T3, LO applications, jurisdictional Customs Commissionerate can only recommend for acceptance or rejection of application to Commissioner DIC.
- Actual acceptance or rejection of AEO T2, T3, LO applications is by Commissioner DIC only.
- There is no limitation on filing AEO application again after its rejection by Commissionerate or DIC. Fresh application can be filed after ensuring that the deficiency pointed out in rejection letter is no longer present.

Details on AEO and forms are available on [www.aeoindia.gov.in](http://www.aeoindia.gov.in), [www.cbic.gov.in](http://www.cbic.gov.in)

## POLICY UPDATES

### *GST increase on footwear*

The Govt. has also issued CGST Notification No. 21/2021 dated 31st Dec. 2021 and IGST Notification No. CGST Notification No. 21/2021 dated 31st Dec. 2021, giving effect to the GST increase on footwear with sale price upto Rs.1000/- from 5% to 12%.

### *Submission of online MEIS applications*

DGFT has issued Notification No. 48 dated 31st Dec. 2021 extending the last date for submission of online applications for MEIS scrip for exports made in the period 1.7.18 to 31.3.2019, 01.04.2019 to 31.3.2020 and 1.4.20 to 31.12.20 to 31st Jan. 2022.



## *Virtual Business Meet between Indian exporters of footwear, leather and leather products and buyers from Germany & Other Countries, Oct. 22, 2021*

Council for Leather Exports (CLE), in association with Embassy of India, Berlin, Germany and with the support of Federal Association of the German Footwear and Leather Goods Industry (HDSL) & Foreign Trade Association of German Retailers (AVE) had organized a Virtual Business Meet between Indian exporters of footwear, leather and leather products and buyers from Germany and other countries at 2.30 PM India Time – 11.00 AM Germany Time on 22nd October, 2021.

The below named 17 Indian companies took part in this Virtual Programme and presented their company and product profiles before the buyers and business delegates from Germany.

Name of the Company	Place
Aala Gloves	Chennai
Alpine Apparels Pvt. Ltd	Faridabad
Alpine Poly Rub P Ltd	Delhi
Classic Creation	Kolkata
G.P.Exports	Kolkata
Gaurav Lederwaren Pvt. Ltd.	Kolkata
H.R. Exports	Agra
Intelikraft Impex LLP	Kolkata
Jiya Exim Pvt Ltd	Kolkata
KH Exports India Pvt. Ltd	Chennai
Naaz Exports (P) Ltd.,	Kanpur
NS Leather Products Pvt. Ltd.	Kolkata
Prits Leather Art (P) Ltd	Noida
RR Chaussures World	New Delhi
SRV Exports	New Delhi
Styles N Smiles	Chennai
Varbi Footwear & Fashion P. Ltd	Thane

21 buyers and business delegates from Germany attended the programme virtually.

**Mr. Sanjay Leekha, Chairman-CLE** welcomed all participants. Chairman-CLE thanked Mr. Sreekumar N Veetil, Marketing Officer, Embassy of India, Berlin, Germany and other officials of the embassy for their efforts in organizing this Virtual Buyer Seller Meet. Chairman-CLE welcomed Mr. Manfred Junkert, Managing Director, Federal Association of the German Footwear and Leather Goods Industry (HDSL) and thanked him for attending the Program. Chairman-CLE also welcomed Ms. Andrea Breyer, Head of Trade Policy and Sustainability, Foreign Trade Association of German Retailers (AVE), Berlin and thanked her for attending the Virtual Business Meet.

Chairman-CLE stated that the leather and leather product sector in India is a major contributor to the economy besides an important job provider. Indian Leather Sector has achieved several mile stones in recent years. India is the 2nd largest producer of footwear, 2nd largest exporter of Leather Garments, the 3rd largest exporters Saddlery & Harness, 5th largest exporter of Leather Goods in the world. The leather sector has made significant investment in the last 2 decades in upgrading their production capacity and modernizing their factories with state of the art facilities. There is a huge potential for the export to grow, our partnership with the exporters, retailers and brands, can help in increasing our share tremendously over the years to come. While summing up his address, Chairman-CLE told that CLE and the Indian Leather Industry is very keen to take the trade relation with Germany to a new high and like to have frequent interaction and discussion with counter parts from there.

**Mr. Sreekumar N. Veetil, Marketing officer, Embassy of India, Berlin, Germany,** in his address talked about the trade opportunities in the leather and leather product industry that exist for India and Germany on the post Covid-19 pandemic era.

The outlook for 2021 onward is encouraging and raising hopes for further economic recovery. Leather and Leather product industry in India plays a major role in India's economy. India has several advantages that has positioned it among the most prominent leather players in the world like cattle population, skilled manpower, innovative technology and increasing industry compliance to the latest environmental standards. To be successful in the European Market, Indian Exporters are to be comply with certain requirements, these includes requirements concerning



Indo-Germany Footwear & Leather Products  
Virtual Business Meet 2021




**ADDRESS BY**



**Mr. Sreekumar N. Veetil**  
Marketing Officer  
Embassy of India, Berlin, Germany

product safety, compliance registration for use of chemicals, IPR and use of endangered species of animals etc. The other compliance are voluntary but meeting them can give the exporters a competitive advantage. There are other niche requirements which may give exporters an added advantage in future. These include for instance organic leather, recycled leather, natural dyes, and plant based materials. Indian companies need to also collaborate with major German Companies, for instance in the automotive sector the interiors of premium cars in Germany can upholstered with value added products which is a strength of India. Likewise we need to explore other innovative options like e-commerce to enhance our exports, we need to continuously strengthen the brand image of India as a leading supplier of high quality leather goods and garments by participating in the major fairs in Germany, Mr. Sreekumar stated.

**Mr. Manfred Junkert, Managing Director, Federal Association of the German Footwear and Leather Goods Industry (HDSL)** has



Indo-Germany Footwear & Leather Products  
Virtual Business Meet 2021




**ADDRESS BY**



**Mr. Manfred Junkert**  
Managing Director  
Federal Association of the German Footwear  
and Leather Goods Industry (HDSL)



made a detailed presentation on the importance of India for the German footwear and leather goods sector.

**In his presentation, he emphasized on the following points:**

1. Close cooperation of Indian tanneries and German brands at ModEurop, the official trend fashion platform of the German Shoe Institute.
2. Sustainability has an important role for European markets
3. Media coverage led by pressure groups and NGOs is not creating good image for Asian Countries especially for India.
4. Due diligence in supply chain law in Germany which comes into effect in 2023, consequently more bureaucracy, German companies will be affected for actions of third parties and increased requirements for suppliers of raw material.
5. The Indian companies should be aware of risks in terms of social and environmental rules and regulations, prepare information for the new regulation on the sustainable aspects, cooperate with European customers. This gives new opportunities. German companies will decrease number of their suppliers and it will be harder for SMEs in developing countries to become a supplier. The better to be able to deliver information on sustainability the better the market chances.

**Ms. Andrea Breyer, Head of Trade Policy and sustainability, Foreign Trade Association of German Retailers (AVE), Berlin** made an elaborate presentation on Global Trade: free and sustainable. AVE is committed to strict observance of social and environmental standards in supplier countries. AVE represents



the external economic interest of the German retail trade which needs friction free import of all kind of consumer goods in the framework of its global purchasing policy.

Currently, India is a beneficiary of the EU's Standard GSP. About 88% of the eligible imports from India currently make use of the preferential duties under GSP. The key elements of the Act on Corporate Due Diligence Obligations in Supply Chains has been elaborated. The scope of application of this act is for the Companies with headquarters and branches in Germany that employ more than 3000/1000 people in Germany. The supply chain in the sense of this law refers to all products and services of a company, which includes all the steps at home and abroad that are required to manufacture the products and provide the services, starting with the extraction of the raw materials thorough delivery to the end customer and recorded, Own business area, direct and indirect suppliers.

Human Rights and Environmental due diligence. The EU's Green Deal reaffirms the EU Commission's commitment to tackling climate and environmental challenges. It represents the growth strategy with which the EU is to be transformed into a fair and prosperous society with a modern, resource efficient and competitive economy. The Green Deal does not only focus on the areas of climate and environmental protection, consumer protection and employee rights are also to be expanded like Sustainable Finance Package, New EU-Trade Policy, Sustainable Corporate Governance Initiative, Human Rights & Environmental Due Diligence Legislation, Ms. Andrea stated.

After the presentation by Ms. Andrea Breyer, CLE has showcased a short video about India's strength and opportunities in various industry segments in general and in particular to the Indian leather and footwear industry.

Thereafter, Officials from CLE presented the brief profile of all 20 Indian participants before the German buyers and other delegates.

At the end, the session was opened for open discussion between Indian participants and German buyers.

## Virtual Business Meet between Indian exporters of footwear, leather and leather products and buyers from USA & Other Countries, Oct. 26, 2021

Council for Leather Exports (CLE), in association with Embassy of India in USA had organized a Virtual Business Meet between Indian exporters of footwear, leather and leather products and buyers from USA at 7.30 PM India Time – 10.00 AM USA Time on 26th October, 2021.

The below named 20 Indian companies took part in this Virtual Programme and presented their company and product profiles before the buyers and business delegates from USA.

Name of the Company	Place
Aala Gloves	Chennai
AB Global	Ranipet
Alpine Apparels Pvt. Ltd	Faridabad
Caldes Fashions	Chennai
D Lords Footwear and Fashion Pvt. Ltd	Mumbai
Edcons Exports Pvt. Ltd	Kolkata
Elahi Exim (India) P. Ltd	Kolkata
G.P Exports	Kolkata
Gaurav Lederwaren P. td.	Kolkata
Hijaz Kuroda Gloves Company Pvt. Ltd	Chennai
Intelikraft Impex LLP	Kolkata
JC International Limited	Kolkata
Jiya Exim Pvt. Ltd	Kolkata
N. S Leather Products Pvt. Ltd	Kolkata
Naaz Exports Pvt. Ltd	Kanpur
Perfect Shoe Fabrics	Ambur
Rahman Industries Ltd	Kanpur
Styles N Smiles	Chennai
Tritan Leather Works Pvt. :Ltd	Chennai
Varbi Footwear and Fashion Pvt. Ltd	Thane

**Indo-USA Footwear & Leather Products Virtual Business Meet 2021**

Date: 26<sup>th</sup> October, 2021 (Tuesday) Time: 7.30 PM India Time (10.00 AM USA Time)

Virtual Business Meet between **Indian** exporters of footwear, leather and leather products and buyers from **USA & Other countries**

17 buyers and business delegates from USA attended the programme virtually.

**Mr. R. Selvam IAS, Executive Director, Council for Leather Exports**, welcomed all the delegates from USA, India and Officials of Embassy of India. In his introductory remarks, the Executive Director-CLE described about the role of Council for Leather Exports and also elaborated the strength of Indian Leather and Leather Product industry and the present trade data between

**Indo-Mexico Footwear & Leather Products Virtual Business Meet 2021**

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS BY

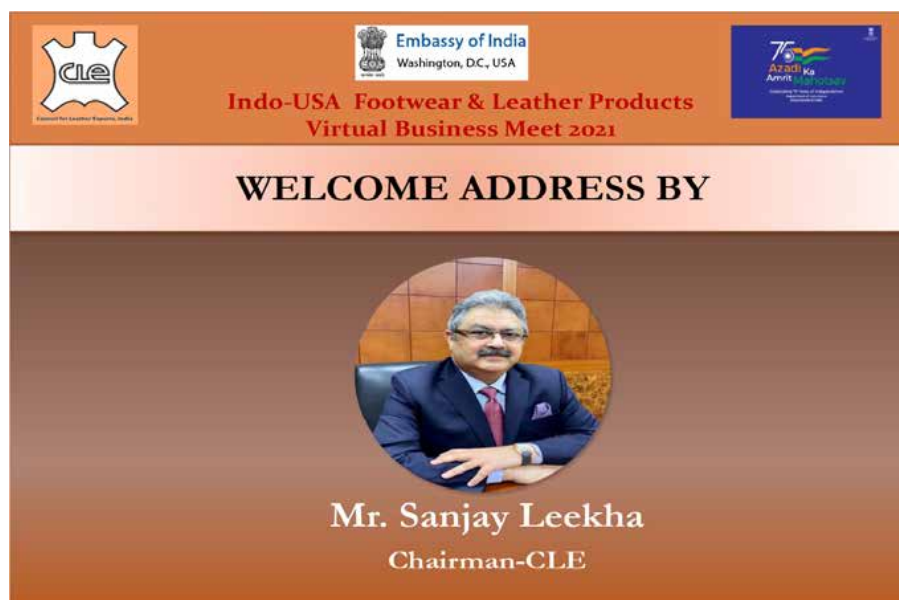
**Mr. R. Selvam, IAS**  
Executive Director-CLE



the two countries. He emphasized that there is huge potential for both the countries to grow together in leather and footwear products sector if exporters from India physically participate in trade fairs and events in USA in the post pandemic scenario.

**Mr. Sanjay Leekha, Chairman-CLE** in his welcome address thanked Dr. Manoj Kumar Mohapatra, Minister (Commerce), Mr. Abu Mathen George, First Secretary (Commerce) and other officials of the Embassy for their efforts in organizing this Virtual Buyer Seller Meet. Chairman – CLE welcomed all the delegates from USA and India. Chairman-CLE welcomed Ms. Julie Hughes, President-US Fashion Industry Association and their team members. Chairman-CLE mentioned that the leather and leather product sector is expected to grow tremendously in next 3 to 4 years. Various investments have been made in the Industry by the various players in upgrading their production capacity and modernizing their factories. India today is the supplier to most of the major luxury brands, premium brands and also for some of the large retail buyers. Chairman-CLE also appreciated CLE's association with the Industry associations like USFIA, FDRA in the United States, which will help the Indian industry to take trade forward.

**Dr. Manoj Kumar Mohapatra, IFS, Minister (Commerce) Embassy of India, Washington DC** stated that the bilateral commercial relationship between India and US is reflected in the official engagement of Ministries of both the countries. Hon'ble Prime Minister of India has addressed to the Embassies, Ambassadors, Export Promotion Councils, and Exporters with a view to encourage India's Exports and its potential. Embassy of

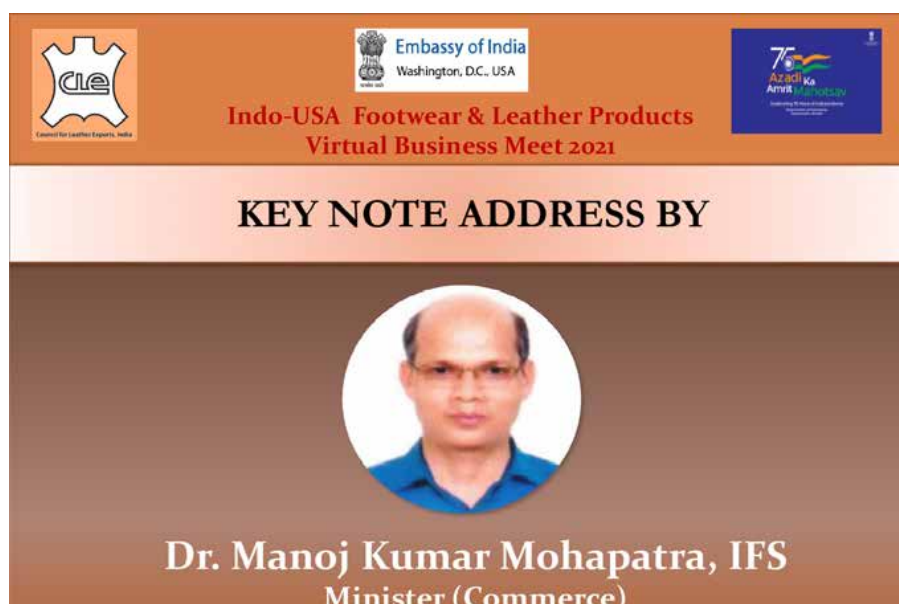


India, Washington DC is in contact with many buying groups like Wal-Mart, Costco, Home Depot, Target etc. Embassy would like to continue their engagement and want to do more B2B Meetings to achieve the export target given to the USA, Mr. Mohapatra informed.

Thereafter, CLE has showcased a short video about India's strength and opportunities in various industry segments in general and in particular to the Indian leather and footwear industry.

Officials from CLE presented the brief profile of all 20 Indian participants before the US buyers and other delegates.

At the end, the session was opened for open discussion between Indian participants and US buyers.



## *Meeting of Council for Leather Exports and Punjab Leather Federation with Hon'ble Punjab Industry Minister , Dec. 15, 2021*

Following the visit of Hon'ble Punjab Industry Minister Shri Gurkirat Singh Kotli to Leather Complex, Jalandhar on 24th November 2021 meeting was called on 15th Dec. 2021 at Udyog Bhawan, Chandigarh in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Govt. of Punjab to discuss the issues highlighted by the industry during his visit at Jalandhar leather complex. Shri Atul Kumar Mishra, Regional Director, Northern Region of CLE attended the meeting. Shri Motilal Sethi, Regional Chairman, Northern Region submitted the representation to the Hon'ble minister and Regional Director (North), CLE was advised to attend the meeting and represent the industry case during the meeting.



Visit of Hon'ble Minister of Industries Shri Gurkirat Singh Kotli to Jalandhar Complex, 24th Nov., 2021

Shri Harpreet Singh Sandhu, Chairman Punjab Infotech. Shri Heeralal, President Punjab Leather Federation (PLF) was also present in the meeting along with the industry members of CLE and PLF.

This meeting was chaired by Hon'ble Minister in the presence of Principal Secretary Industries Shri Tejveer Singh.

At the outset of meeting Regional Director (North) apprised the Hon'ble Minister and Principal Secretary (Industries) about the industry issues and informed that Jalandhar Leather Industry issues had already brought to the knowledge of the Department and Hon'ble Minister during his visit to complex. He requested that during these difficult times when entire country and world is affected due to pandemic, handholding is required from the Punjab Government to help in growth of the industry and bring in



Meeting of Shri Atul Kumar Mishra, RD-North CLE and members of Punjab Leather Federation (PLF) with the Shri Harpreet Singh Sandhu, Chairman Punjab Infotech, Govt of Punjab, 15th Dec., 2021

more investment. However, the following issues once again the issues were reiterated for the further consideration of Hon'ble Minister and Department of Industries.

- Common Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP) at Leather Complex, Jalandhar which is being upgraded through SPV i.e. Punjab Effluent Treatment Society (PETS), Jalandhar; has not made significance progress on account of non-availability of finance to complete the project..The total estimate cost of the project is Rs. 2725.54 lakhs. Out of the total estimated cost of the project



70% of the cost is being funded under IFLADP Scheme of DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India while the balance 30% of the fund has to be arranged and shared between the Government of Punjab and Industry stakeholders (15% each). Industry at Jalandhar had been facing the problem of closure of tanneries leading to the losses in revenue and profit. One of the prominent reasons of nonfunctioning of the tanneries and industries in Jalandhar complex was on account of closure of CETP as per the orders of Hon'ble High Court of Punjab & Haryana in LPA number 1924 of 2014. Since then, Industry got totally collapsed and is working with the lower capacity and unable to reach to optimum production size due to non-availability of electricity, disconnections and sealing of DG sets which are the primary energy source to run the industry at the Complex. Closure of industry and lower capacity utilization led to loss of business and exports due to which members do not have sufficient funds to pay and contribute their 15% share required to upgrade and modernize the capacity of CETP. Hence, the industry practically remains closed for 14 to 16 months. Hence, request is that the entire 30% contribution for the upgradation and modernization of CETP may please be granted from the Government of Punjab Fund that would be a great help for the revival and survival of the industry. Hon'ble minister and the Department was also informed about the letters in the above regard sent to Hon'ble Chief Minister, Govt. of Punjab dated 11.06.2020 and 31.08.2021.

- The four-lane road of JALANDHAR – KAPURTHALA to LEATHER COMPLEX is damaged badly and industry is unable to provide or receive logistic services conveniently and timely. This leads



Representation on Industry Issues Submitted to Department of Industries, Govt of Punjab by Shri Heeralal, President Punjab Leather Federation (PLF), Jalandhar, 15th Dec., 2021

to accidents and delay in freight and transportation. This requires immediate attention of Government of Punjab to improve the condition of above mentioned road. A letter in this regard have already been sent to Managing Director PSIEC Ltd dated 19.04.2021, 16.06.2021 and 18.10.2021. So far, the road has not been repaired. Moreover, Department was also apprised about the illegal encroachments happening alongside road by private persons against whom action has to be taken.

- Jalandhar Leather Complex is facing the problem of double taxation. The one is Property Tax levied by Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar and the second one is maintenance charges levied by PSIED Ltd. Leather Complex is the only single industrial complex in Punjab from where maintenance charges are being charged by PSIEC Ltd. Industry requested that this maintenance charges may be exempted so as to provide a relief and relaxation to the industry.
- Some of the plots in the Leather Complex which are cancelled by PSIEC without giving any valid reasons and hence have to be reinstated. PSIEC is charging non-construction charges from some wet area plots which are not getting connectivity with the Common Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP) due to lack of capacity of CETP. This issue was discussed with the concerned officers and they agreed but even then, notices to the plot holders for non-construction charges are being issued. Water/sewer bills should be charged by PSIEC Ltd from plot allottees of Leather Complex as per District Court, Jalandhar order dated 03.10.2012. PSIEC Ltd has yet not complied with court order cited above. In this regard, representations and requests to PSIEC was submitted but the department has not yet responded to the request and query.

In response to the above issues the Hon'ble Minister and Principal Secretary Punjab Govt agreed in principle to help the industry and take immediate actions to sort out the above mentioned issues. In the minutes of Govt of Punjab, Department of industries it has been confirmed that balance contribution of the govt of Punjab for CETP upgradation will be 22.5 percent instead of 15% which may be big breather for the industry. PSIEC was also instructed to look into the all other matters to resolve it immediately.

## CLE Cluster Visit to Indore, Dec. 16, 2021



From left to right : Mr Girish Punjabi Member Executive Board), Mr Sunil Vyas (Secretary), Mr Pramod Dafariya (President), Mr Arvind Dutta (EPO CLE), Mr Prakesh Jain (Senior Vice President), Association of Industries, Madhya Pradesh

As part of efforts of the Council for Leather Exports to reach out to various production clusters across the country in creating awareness on the activities of the Council and also the schemes and programmes of Government of India, the Western Region of CLE organised an awareness seminar on 16th December 2021 at AIMP (Association of Industries Madhya Pradesh) INDORE.

The seminar was graced by Mr. Pramod Dafariya (Chief Guest), Mr Sunil Vyas (Secretary) And Mr. Prakash Jain (Senior Aides), Satish Mittal (Member), Mohan Singh Raghuvanshi (Member) Around 60 members attend this programme at 4 PM.

Mr. Arvind Dutta, Export Promotion Officer, CLE, Mumbai participated in the event.

The welcome address was delivered by Shri Girish Punjabi (Coordinator AIMP Indore).

In the event, Mr Arvind Dutta briefed about benefits about becoming member with Council for Leather Exports including the following.



- 1) Various Awareness Seminars organised by Council & Services Provided by Council.
- 2) Trade fairs conducted by Council with MAI Grants
- 3) Assisting the Industry in MFLAC Project

Thereafter Mr. Pramod Dafariya presented some basic concepts of Trade (Import Export and Domestic). After that he discussed about major concepts of Export within State (Intra and inter State)



A view of the audience



## CLE CLUSTER VISIT TO AHMEDABAD, DEC. 16, 2021



An awareness seminar on “Leather Exports & Various benefits available to Industry by Government” was organized by Council for Leather Exports, Western Region along with National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) & CLRI on 16th December 2021 at CLRI-Ahmedabad Centre. Shri Santosh Pandey, Regional Director – West represented the CLE, Smt Grace Reji, Deputy Manager represented the NSIC and Shri S. Sundarapandiyam - Scientist represented the CLRI.

Leather Industries Association – Ahmedabad, member Shri Praveen Kumar facilitated the guest on the dais and he further thanked CLE to organize such a meeting as majority of the people are artisans and from backward community and this seminar will help them to know the various benefits available to them.



S. Sundarapandiyam - Scientist CLRI started the meeting by explaining to artisans about the existing facilities in Ahmedabad Centre and how they can utilize the service to improve their quality of products and he also assured to assist the association for preparation of DPR for the proposed common facilitation Centre (CFS) scheme of the Gujarat Government in Consultation with CLE.

Thereafter, Smt Grace Reji, Deputy Manager, NSIC presented all the schemes available to SME & MSME through Government of India and especially the scheme under “ SC ST HUB” and encouraged them to participate in Tendering Process in GeM Portal. Also she explained about the scheme pertaining to reimbursement of Export Promotion Council RCMC charges to SC ST entrepreneurs.

Shri Santosh Pandey, Regional Director – West, CLE thanked the CLRI for granting their space and organizing such an interactive session particularly for the artisans & SC community and then explained about the CLE's role in promotion of the leather sector and the organization structure. He further stated that there is abundance of raw materials available for the leather sector in India and the employment opportunities provided by this sector especially to the weaker section of the society and also leather industry contributes to women empowerment as 35% workforce in this sector is of women.



Shri Santosh Pandey, Regional Director – West, CLE

He further explained to them about the Common Facilities Centre “CFC” scheme of Gujarat Government, where 90% funding up to 4.5 Crore is available to SC community and up to 2.5 Lakhs assistance for preparation of DPR and requested CLRI to assist the association in preparation of DPR. He then explained about the benefits of becoming a member of CLE and giving details about the current foreign markets of Leather and assured the association of complete support from CLE.

Shri Praveen Kumar, member Federation of Gujarat Leather Industries delivered the vote of thanks

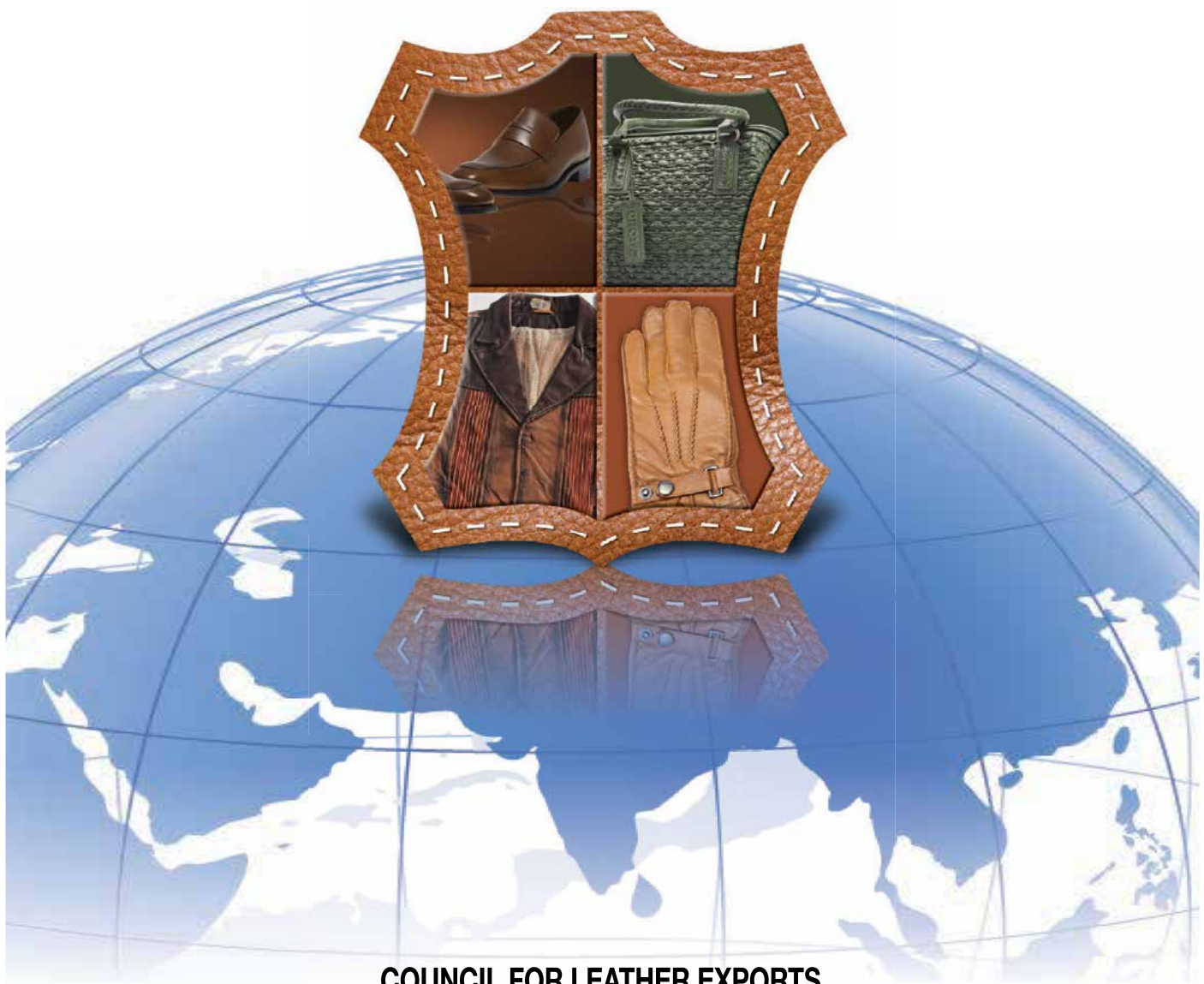


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# INDIAN LEATHER INDUSTRY - STRIDING WITH CONFIDENCE



## COUNCIL FOR LEATHER EXPORTS

(An Export Promotion Organisation sponsored by Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India)

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