

LEATHER NEWS INDIA

June 2022

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- **Stakeholder's Outreach Programme on India – UAE CEPA and India – Australia ECTA, Agra, June 6, 2022**
- **EU-INDIA Sustainability Project for Leather Clusters in Tamil Nadu – Launch in Chennai on June 22, 2022**
- **CLE Central Regional Export Awards for 2019-20 & 2020-21**
- **Seminar on “Strategy planning & discussion on boosting the export growth of Leather Sector in coming years” held on 7th July 2022 at Kolkata**
- **“Stakeholder Consultation Workshop”, Effective Waste Management and Sustainable Development of MSME Tanning Companies in Kolkata Leather Cluster held on 7th July 2022 at Kolkata**

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

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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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on behalf of Council for Leather Exports,
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Egmore, Chennai - 600008, India and



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- EU-INDIA Sustainability Project for Leather Clusters in Tamil Nadu – Launch in Chennai on June 22, 2022
- CLE Central Regional Export Awards for 2019-20 & 2020-21
- Seminar on “Strategy planning & discussion on boosting the export growth of Leather Sector in coming years” held on 7th July, 2022 at Kolkata
- “Stakeholder Consultation Workshop”, Effective Waste Management and Sustainable Development of MSME Tanning Companies in Kolkata Leather Cluster was held on 7th July, 2022 at Kolkata
- Online Portal operationalized for submission of applications under IDLS Scheme 2021-26
- FX-Retail Platform
- Leather Working Group reaches 1,000 LWG-certified leather manufacturers
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- Development of Eco-Friendly Footwear Upper & Bottoming Materials from Natural Fibres - “Sustainability & Customer Experience”

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- “Mega Credit Outreach Programme” organized by Lead Bank, Agra, June 8, 2022
- Uttar Pradesh MSME Sammelan - 2022 under the theme ‘Transforming MSMEs’ competitiveness’ on 27th & 28th June 2022, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
- Meeting with Shri Dushyant Chautala, Hon’ble Deputy Chief Minister of Haryana for setting up of Footwear cluster at IMT Rohtak on 18th July, 2022 at Chandigarh
- CLE Open House Meetings on IDLS scheme under IFLDP held every Wednesday, via virtual mode during June 2022

Dear Members

You are aware that the Government of India has implemented the Production Linked Incentive Scheme (PLI) for certain sectors. The Council for Leather Exports has also submitted a detailed proposal to the Government seeking PLI for footwear and leather sectors. This proposal has been drawn-up based on extensive consultations with stakeholders and investment commitments received from members of CLE.

During our meetings with the Government, we have highlighted the huge emerging business opportunities for our industry which have presented immense prospects for achieving significant growth in production and exports the coming years. Many overseas companies are now looking to invest in India and set-up their manufacturing facilities. Considering this, our industry is aiming at reaching a turnover of USD 30 billion (including domestic turnover of USD 20 billion and export turnover of USD 10 billion) by 2025-26.

In order to ensure optimum utilization of the emerging business opportunities and achieve the envisaged turnover levels, the industry has to structurally transform itself by undertaking significant scaling-up initiatives, for which huge investments are required. In order to attract investments and to prop-up the production and exports significantly and also to generate additional employment opportunities, there is an urgent need to extend Production Linked Incentive Scheme (PLI) to our sector.

I hope that the Government will favourably consider our proposal and extend the PLI scheme to our sector.

As you are kindly aware, export of leather, leather products and footwear had reduced from USD 5.09 billion in 2019-20 to USD 3.78 billion in 2020-21, on account of the adverse impact of COVID. Exports had revived significantly during 2021-22, reaching about USD 5 billion. The growth momentum in exports is continuing this year also, with exports from our sector registering about 45% growth during April – June 2022.

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry had fixed an export target of USD 5.54 billion for our industry for the year 2022-23. Going by the current export growth and the emerging business opportunities for our country, we are sure that we will be able to surpass the export value of USD 6 billion this year. However, this requires concerted efforts from all of us i.e. from all regions across the country. You may recall that our sector had achieved the highest export value of USD 6.5 billion during 2014-15. Hence, our industry is very much capable of achieving higher growth levels. I would hence seek the support and co-operation of all members in surpassing the USD 6 billion exports this year

With best wishes

Sanjay Leekha

Chairman

COUNCIL FOR LEATHER EXPORTS



Dear Members

The Reserve Bank of India vide circular No. 10 dated 11th July 2022 has notified the settlement mechanism for exports and imports in Indian Rupees. This circular states the following

(a) Indian importers undertaking imports through this mechanism shall make payment in Indian Rupees (INR) which shall be credited into the Special Vostro account of the correspondent bank of the partner country, against the invoices for the supply of goods or services from the overseas seller /supplier.

(b) Indian exporters, undertaking exports of goods and services through this mechanism, shall be paid the export proceeds in INR from the balances in the designated Special Vostro account of the correspondent bank of the partner country.

The RBI circular further states that the export / import undertaken and under the rupee mechanism shall be subject to usual documentation and reporting requirements. Letter of Credit (LC) and other trade related documentation may be decided mutually between banks of the partner trading countries under the overall framework of Uniform Customs and Practice for Documentary Credits (UCPDC) and incoterms. Exchange of messages in safe, secure, and efficient way may be agreed mutually between the banks of partner countries. This mechanism also has provisions for receiving advance payments.

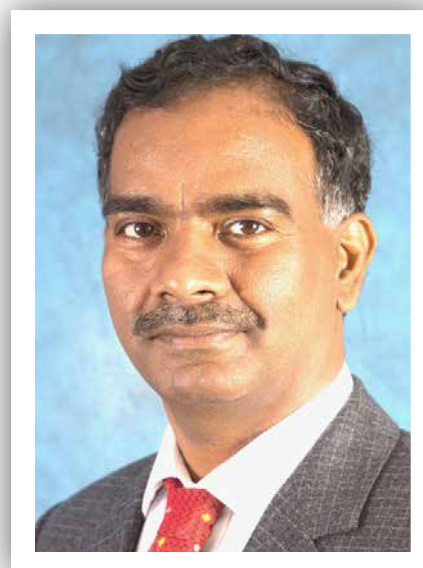
You are aware that the DGFT has issued Notification No. 15/2015-20 dated 1st July 2022 extending the time for submitting applications under Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS) for exports made in the period 01.09.20 to 31.12.20 upto 31.8.22. I would urge all members to utilize this opportunity and file their MEIS claims

With kind regards

R. Selvam IAS

Executive Director

COUNCIL FOR LEATHER EXPORTS



“Stakeholder’s Outreach Programme” on India – UAE CEPA and India – Australia ECTA, Agra, June 6, 2022



India and United Arab Emirates (UAE) have signed the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) for enhancing trade in Goods and Services between the two countries on 18 February, 2022. The Agreement has entered into force on 1st May, 2022. Further, India and Australia have also signed the Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (Ind-Aus ECTA) on 2 April, 2022 to promote bilateral trade between the two countries.

While the India-UAE CEPA is expected to boost the bilateral merchandise trade from US\$ 60 billion to US\$100 billion in five years, it is anticipated that the Ind-Aus ECTA will enhance the bilateral trade from US\$27.5 billion to about \$ 45 to 50 billion in next five years. The above trade Agreements of India

with the UAE and Australia are expected to create 20 lakhs jobs in the next five years in India and raise living standards and enhance the overall welfare of the people of India.

In order to take advantage of these free trade agreements, it is important that adequate awareness among the exporters is created. In this context Department of Commerce, Govt. of India has decided to organize the state level outreach programmes in 8 cities across the country.

Australia and UAE are major upcoming markets for leather, leather products and footwear exported from India. India has recently signed the India – UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement and the India – Australia Economic Co-operation Agreement (ECTA). Under these trade agreements, leather, leather products and footwear exported from India to UAE and Australia will get import duty exemption.

These agreements are going to be very useful for the exporters of state of Uttar Pradesh also. UAE is amongst the key export market for the products of Uttar Pradesh. The total export from Uttar Pradesh to UAE is around Rs.14100.00 Cr in the year 2021, accounting for 10% share in total export of U.P. Leather and footwear products are the key commodities of export from the state.

The total import market in UAE under Leather and footwear Sector is more

than 2.2 Billion US Dollar whereas the export from UP under above category is limited to 20 Million only with less than 01% share in total import of UAE. This mechanism provides a great opportunity to the exporters of leather and footwear products from U.P. as these items are allowed to enter the UAE market at zero rate of duty, giving 5% benefit of Duty over MFN rate.

As per directives of the Department of Commerce, Govt. of India, Council For leather Exports (CLE) in association with Other Export Promotion Councils & FIEO, organized the "Stakeholder's Outreach Programme" in Agra on 6th June, 2022 at hotel Holiday Inn, Agra.

The following dignitaries & Officials were on dais :

1. Smt. Anupriya Patel, Hon'ble MOS for Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India
2. Prof. S. P. Singh Baghel, Hon'ble MOS for Law and Justice, Govt. of India
3. Shri Anant Swarup, Joint Secretary, DOC, Govt. of India.
4. Dr. Srikar K. Reddy, Joint Secretary, DOC, Govt. of India.
5. Shri Prabhu N. Singh, DM, Agra
6. Shri Sanjay Leekha, Chairman – CLE
7. Shri Puran Dawar, President AFMEC & COA member - CLE
8. Shri R. Selvam, Executive Director – CLE
9. Shri Sulabh Sharma, President National Chamber.

"FTA Outreach Programme" started with lighting of lamp by the Chief Guest, Guest of Honor & other dignitaries.



Chairman – CLE welcomed the Chief Guests & Guest of Honor by presenting the flower Bouquet and shawl.



In his welcome address Shri Sanjay Leekha, Chairman CLE extended a very warm welcome to the Hon'ble Ministers, Joint Secretaries, President AFMEC & NCIC, reps. of EEPIC, Carpet EPC, APEDA, FIEO, EPCH, members & Panel Conveners of CLE, Industry Associations & Media. Chairman CLE welcomed &

congratulated - Smt. Anupriya Patel, Hon'ble MOS for Commerce & Industry for signing & implementing the two agreements with UAE & Australia. He also shared the brief details on the Indian leather industry how this industry can get the benefited from these FTAs.

Chairman CLE said that these FTA's will make us and our products more competitive in the international market and we can expand our business in the said markets. He also requested the Hon'ble mister for more FTA's as these will definitely boost the industry. He said that Uttar Pradesh has



Shri Sanjay Leekha, Chairman CLE

the potential to increase the export as currently they have the 5% Share in the total export from the country. Uttar Pradesh has the large number of the smart cities this will definitely help the industry and it will also increase the export from the state. He requested all the participants to take the utilization and full advantage of these FTA's and help in the taking the county to the next level of the export.



Shri Anant Swarup, Joint Secretary, Department of Commerce thanked CLE & other EPCs for organizing the "Stakeholder's Outreach Programme" in Agra. He provided the brief details on the FTA's between Australia (ECTA) and UAE (CEPA). He said that the export of India was stagnant during the last 10 years at around 300 billion Dollar but in the last financial year we had broken the record and made the total export of 419 Billion Dollar and this is a record achievement for us. Export from Uttar Pradesh is also increasing. In the last year it has also been increased and this state is the 5th largest exporting state in the country. This state has the potential to increase the export. He said that today's programme is organized to make aware the industry about the opportunities available and the markets available. Addressing to



Shri Anant Swarup, Joint Secretary, Department of Commerce

entrepreneurs, he said that you are requested to study the markets and find out the new supply chains and make contacts with the importers in these countries.

Two videos - providing the basic information of the FTA's between Australia (ECTA) and UAE (CEPA) were displayed in the outreach programme for the awareness of the participants.



Dr. Srikar K. Reddy, Joint Secretary, Department of Commerce made a detailed power point presentation on these two FTA's. He shared the details of the FTA's, as under :

1. Background of the bilateral relations.
2. Share of export and import from India in both the countries.
3. Scope of the Agreements.
4. India-UAE CEPA & Ind-Aus. ECTA – Trade in Goods
5. Benefits-Trade in Services
6. Key Features in the Agreements
7. India - UAE CEPA Sectoral Gains –



Immediate Duty-Free Access

8. Ind Aus. ECTA Sectoral Gains-Immediate Duty-Free Access
9. Export from Uttar Pradesh to UAE & Australia vis a vis India's total export to UAE & Australia as well as India's total export to World.

Presentation by Shri Sanjay Leekha, Chairman CLE – Chairman CLE made a detailed power point presentation on the “Indian Leather Sector” and its growth potential to UAE and Australia after the two agreements. In his presentation he talked about :

1. Evolution of Leather and Footwear Industry – Major Developments
2. Global Trade of Leather and Footwear
3. Major Trading Countries in Leather & Footwear - Opportunity for India
4. Indian Leather & Footwear Industry – Facts
5. Major Export Destinations – 2021-22 - Opportunity to diversify markets
6. India – UAE CEPA & India – Australia ECTA - Scope for increasing bilateral trade
7. Details on India's export to UAE vis-à-vis UAE import - Huge Potential for growth
8. Details on India's export to Australia vis-à-vis Australia import - Huge Potential for growth
9. Vision: Driving Indian Leather and Footwear Market - to US \$30 Billion by 2025
10. Opportunities for Investments from Australia and UAE.
11. India – UAE CEPA & India – Australia ECTA

Chairman, CLE highlighted the following in the presentation

- 0% duty provided for exports from India under both agreements



Dr. Srikar K. Reddy, Joint Secretary, Department of Commerce

for leather, leather products and footwear

- India's export of leather, leather products and footwear to UAE during 2021-22 was USD 105.49 mn but imports were USD 19.04 mn. Hence, India has offensive (export interest)
- India's export of leather, leather products and footwear to Australia during 2021-22 was USD 91.20 mn but imports were 3.93 mn. Hence, India has offensive (export interest)



Shri Sanjay Leekha, Chairman, CLE

Address by Guest of Honor – **Prof. S. P. Singh Baghel, Hon'ble MOS for Law and Justice, Govt. of India** informed the participants that Hon'ble Prime Minister Launched “Jan Samarth Portal” on June 6, 2022 wherein 11 kinds of loan (agriculture loan, Industries loan & education loan etc.) have been connected to this portal under ease of doing business.

Hon'ble MOS said that Hon'ble P.M. has a vision of 5 Trillion USD economy of the country & our CM has 1 trillion USD economy of the Uttar Pradesh & these agreements are starting steps in that direction. He spoke about the issues being faced by the industries in Agra. He said there are two major issues in Agra & because of it no new industry can be set up nor existing unit not grow – the first one is Ad-hoc Moratorium and other one is Taj Trapezium Zone (TTZ). These are the major challenges in the development



Prof. S. P. Singh Baghel, Hon'ble MOS for Law and Justice, Govt. of India

of the industries in Agra. He also requested the Chief Guest - Smt. Anupriya Patel, Hon'ble MOS for Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India to look into these issues to help the Agra industries. He also requested for opening of an Artisan School / University in Agra for providing training to youths.

Address by the Chief Guest - **Smt. Anupriya Patel, Hon'ble MOS for Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India** thanked all the dignitaries on the dais & Chairman – CLE, EEPC, APEDA, FIEO, EPCH, for organizing the Stakeholder's Outreach Programme in Agra. She Stated that his Ministry is organizing this "Stakeholders Outreach Programm" in seven states in the country to promote the two FTAs signed by the Govt. of India. In this sequence



Smt. Anupriya Patel, Hon'ble Minister of State for Commerce and Industry, Govt. of India

this program has been organized in Agra to create awareness amongst the exporters about the FTAs Scope. The Hon'ble Minister urged the exporters & entrepreneurs to avail of opportunities of the FTAs.



The Hon'ble Minister said there are 40 exports centres in the country & Agra is a major export centre for leather & footwear and other products. She informed the participants in detail about the efforts & initiatives taken by the Government of India for signing these FTAs between Australia (ECTA) and UAE (CEPA).

The Hon'ble MOS said that in future many more FTAs would be signed, which will provide benefits to the exporters and development to the export industry and also it will generate the employment opportunities upto 10 Lakh. These FTAs will double the export from the country. These FTAs will provide competitiveness in the export market to our entrepreneurs. She said the Govt. of India and Gate Govt. is planning to develop each state as the export hub. She said that Uttar Pradesh have 5% share in the total exports from the country and have the potential to boost in the Future.

The Chief guest informed that FTA between India and UAE is the fastest FTA signed by the Govt. of India, as it was completed in only 88 days. These FTAs will help in building new supply chain and making our products more competitive in international market. She added that “we had set a target of achieving 1 trillion export value by the year 2030”. Uttar Pradesh has a huge source of Raw material that’s why there are more opportunity for the increasing the exports. The Hon’ble Minister said through One District One Product Scheme (ODOP), we are looking forward to become local to global. She appreciated the dedicated efforts of exporters to achieve the exports of 419 bn USD during 2021-22. The Hon’ble Minister added that because this dedication of our exporters Govt. of India has fixed an export target of 2 trillion USD by 2030 (1 trillion USD each for merchandise & Services exports).

Chairman CLE & President AFMEC presented memento to the Chief Guest and Guest of Honor of the programme.



Presentation by EPCH, APEDA & FIEO

Presentations were made by the Senior Officers of the following organisations :

1. Shri Rajesh Rawat - Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts (EPCH)
2. Shri U K Vats, G M - Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA)
3. Shri Pratik Navale, Asstt. Director - Federation of Indian Export Organization (FIEO)

They briefly informed about their organization & presented details of their schemes and benefits, which can be availed by their respective members. They also explained how the exporters can get the benefit of these FTAs.

Federation of Indian Export Organizations (FIEO)



Export Promotion Council of Handicrafts (EPCH) :



Agricultural and Processes Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA)



Concluding Remarks by Shri R. Selvam, Executive Director -CLE. The Executive Director - CLE thanked the Chief Guest, Guest of Honor, Chairman CLE & Joint Secretaries for their valuable addresses about the two FTAs and made the concluding remarks of the event. E.D. – CLE said that Smt. Anupriya Patel, Hon'ble MOS- for Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India & Chief Guest of the program presented overall potential of the two Free Trade Agreements & how the country as well as Uttar Pradesh is going to be benefited from it. Prof. S.P. Singh Baghel -Hon'ble MOS for Law & Justice highlighted the major issues of Agra industries & assured full support of his Ministry to remove these hurdles. Shri Sanjay Leekha, Chairman CLE presented the overall scenario of Indian Leather Sector & opportunities for the leather sector with these two FTAs. He said that Shri Anant Swarup, Joint Secretary explained about FTAs & now we can enhance our exports in different sector with these countries. ED- CLE added that Dr. K Srikanth Reddy, Joint Secretary is the instrumental for these FTAs.

Executive Director - CLE appreciated the views of Chief Guest & Guest of Honor to help the exporters fraternity to boost the exports from the country. He said that we have the potential to increase our exports in the global market. These FTAs will help us to explore the markets very fast & boost the Indian leather sector and our export will also increase. He requested the Hon'ble MOS for Commerce & Industry and Hon'ble MOS for Law and Justice, Govt. of India for the revocation of the restrictions of Agra industry.

The Executive Director said that Product Linked Incentives (PLI) Scheme should also be implemented for the Leather Sector and import duty on raw material should be withdrawn. He added that Land should be provided by the Govt. for the development of Mega leather Clusters in the country.



Shri R. Selvam, Executive Director, CLE

Shri Puran Dawar, President AFMEC and COA member CLE conveyed the formal vote of thanks to the Chief Guest, Guest of Honor, Joint Secretaries, Chairman CLE & ED CLE. He said that it has happened for the first time that through this "Outreach Programme" Govt. of India came to your doors to explain the benefits that you can avail from these FTAs. He thanked the Government for signing the FTAs with Australia and UAE.

He thanked the Chief Guest of the program - Smt. Anupriya Patel, Hon'ble MOS for Commerce & Industry, Guest of Honor - Prof. S.P. Singh Baghel, Hon'ble MOS for Law & Justice, Shri Anant Swarup, Joint Secretary -DOC & Dr. Srikanth Reddy, Joint Secretary, DOC. He thanked Shri Sanjay Leekha Chairman-CLE for his untiring efforts for the Indian leather Sector & the Executive Director CLE. He also thanked Shri Pawan Agarwal, Jt. Export Commissioner – EPB, Shri Sharad Tandon, Dy. Commissioner – DIEPC, Agra, Shri Amit Kumar, Jt. DGFT, Kanpur, President NCIC, Agra & all the Industry Associations. He thanked the participants, media & organizers for organizing the programme successfully.



Shri Puran Dawar, Member, COA, CLE

MEETINGS OF CHAIRMAN, CLE

Inauguration Ceremony of Vanijya Bhawan

Shri Sanjay Leekha, Chairman CLE was invited to attend the inauguration ceremony of Newly Constructed “Vanijya Bhawan” Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Govt of India inaugurated on 23.6.22 by Shri Narendra Modi, Honble Prime Minister.



Preview of NIFT – Delhi, June 1, 2022

Shri Sanjay Leekha Chairman CLE attended “Preview” of NIFT Delhi- a display of creative collection of students on June 1, 2022. Shri Upendra Prasad Singh, IAS, Secretary, Textiles, Govt of India was the Chief Guest. Mr Manoj Tuli, Convenor (Northern Region), CLE also attended.



Meeting with DGFT, June 1, 2022

Shri Sanjay Leekha, Chairman CLE and Shri R Selvam, ED called on Shri Santosh Kumar Sarangi, DGFT at Udyog Bhawan New Delhi on 1.6.22 and discussed matters related to SION amendments and import duty exemption for wet blue, crust and finished leathers.



Meeting with Additional Secretary, DPIIT, June 1, 2022

Shri Sanjay Leekha, Chairman CLE and Shri R Selvam, ED called on Shri Rajeev Singh Thakur, IAS, Additional Secretary, DPIIT at Udyog Bhawan New Delhi on 1.6.22 to present and discuss implementation of Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme for Leather & Footwear Sector.



Meeting with Joint Secretary, Department of Commerce, June 1, 2022

Shri Sanjay Leekha, Chairman, CLE and Shri R Selvam, ED called on Ms. Nidhi Mani Tripathi, IAS, Joint Secretary, Department of Commerce at Udyog Bhawan New Delhi on 1.6.22 and discussed matters on Leather & Footwear Export Sector.



Meeting with Joint Secretary, Customs, June 1, 2022

Shri Sanjay Leekha, Chairman, CLE and Shri R Selvam, ED called on Shri Gaurav Masaldan, Joint Secretary, Customs, Ministry of Finance on 1.6.22 in New Delhi and discussed import duty exemption on wetblue, crust and finished leathers and requests on duty free import scheme of CBIC.



Meeting with Additional DGFT, June 1, 2022

Shri Sanjay Leekha, Chairman CLE and Shri R Selvam, ED called on Shri Hardeep Singh, Additional Director General of Foreign Trade at Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi on 1.6.22 and discussed FTP related matters.



Meeting with MD, HSIIDC, June 16, 2022

Shri Sanjay Leekha, Chairman, CLE & Shri R. Selvam, ED along with Shri Manoj Tuli, Convenor, NR & Shri Vikas Gupta, Member called on Shri Vikas Gupta, IAS, MD, HSIIDC, Govt of Haryana on 16.6.22 in Chandigarh & discussed about Development of Leather & Footwear Export Industry of Haryana.



Meeting on Standard Input Output Norms (SION) , June 23, 2022

Shri Santosh Kumar Sarangi, IAS, DGFT chaired a meeting on SION Amendment Proposals at Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi on 23.6.22. Meeting was moderated by Dr. Amiya Chandra, ADGFT. CLE Chairman Shri Sanjay Leekha; Shri R. Selvam, ED, CLE and Chairman EEPC, SG AEPC and Pharmexcil took part.



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MFR. YEAR : 2006

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Chairman, CLE delegation to DG, MSME and MD, HSIIDC to discuss leather & footwear cluster in Haryana and creation of CFC for Delhi Regional Office held on 16.06.2022 at Chandigarh.

Shri Sanjay Leekha, Chairman, CLE, Shri R. Selvam, Executive Director, CLE, Shri Manoj Tuli, Convener-Northern Region, CLE, Shri Vikas Gupta, Member, CLE and Shri Atul Kumar Mishra, Regional Director-North, CLE visited office of Director General, MSME Smt. Amneet P. Kumar, IAS and MD, HSIIDC, Shri Vikas Gupta, IAS.

Meeting with DG, MSME was organized to put up a request to add Air Freight Subsidy and enhance assistance under the Freight Assistance Scheme of Haryana Government for MSME Exporting Units. Shri Sanjay Leekha, Chairman, CLE submitted the request and conveyed that with reference to notification no. 49/43/2015-41B1 under chapter 12 of Enterprise Promotion Policy 2015 notified on 14th August 2015 wherein Haryana Government has provided "Freight Assistance Scheme for Exporting MSME located anywhere in the state of Haryana" may please be extended and amount of subsidy should also be increased both for sea freight and air freight. He informed that under the scheme MSME exporting units of Haryana state are eligible to get freight assistance to the extent of 1% of FOB value or actual freight excluding government fee and taxes on transportation of goods from place of manufacturer to the sea port from where goods are actually shipped. The maximum grant of Rs. 20 lakh per annum is provided as freight assistance to exporters of MSME category due to large distance from sea ports making their products uncompetitive.



Shri Sanjay Leekha, Chairman, CLE, Shri R. Selvam, Executive Director, CLE, Shri Manoj Tuli, Convener-Northern Region, CLE, Shri Vikas Gupta, Member, CLE in meeting with Smt Amneet P. Kumar, IAS, DG, MSME, Govt. of Haryana

Shri Manoj Tuli, Northern Regional Convener, CLE submitted that Government of Haryana this scheme is helping industry to remain competitive in the international market compared to factories which are located near the sea ports. He further added that in the last three odd years scheme has helped industry to remain competitive though the freight cost has gone up very high. Scheme has been helping significantly to exporters for last three years and upheld the survival of the industry which was almost difficult during Covid period. Moreover, heavy pressure from the buyer side for shorter delivery time to convert the deliveries from sea to air freight added to the cost of supply of goods for leather exporters. This has affected the margins of industry and has now almost become negative.

Shri R. Selvam, ED, CLE informed that this industry has been requesting for quite a long that subsidy given under the Freight Assistance Scheme of Enterprise Promotion Policy 2015 is five year old and since then there has been huge increase in the freight cost; hence, rate and amount of the freight assistance should be revised to Rs. 40 lakh per annum for all exporting MSME units of the Haryana state.

Shri Vikas Gupta, Member, CLE informed that most of the shipments are now getting converted as air shipments due to uncertainty and delay in sea transport and pressure from buyer on the exporter to supply goods in less time. Moreover, there has been a huge spurt in the air freight to exporter for air shipments. COVID 19 pandemic has disrupted almost all kind of transport across the world and keeps pressurizing the supplier to convert their sea

shipments into air shipments. Converting sea shipments to air shipments is adding to the logistic cost of the exporter and dents into the margin. Under such background we would like to request that Haryana Government may please consider provisioning of air freight subsidy to MSME exporters of leather and footwear sector from Haryana.

DG, MSME listened patiently to the submission and demand of the CLE delegation and conveyed that representation of CLE has been received by the Department and we are working on how to continue the scheme with wider coverage. Moreover, she also conveyed that MSME department of Govt. of Haryana has come out with the industrial policy and has increased the coverage of various schemes to benefit the MSME sector of Haryana belonging to labour intensive sectors. She also proposed that MSME office is planning to have one seminar and workshop with the industry stakeholders belonging to leather & footwear sector to disseminate information regarding the new policies and financial provisions therein.

Meeting with MD, HSIIDC Mr. Vikas Gupta, IAS

Shri Sanjay Leekha, Chairman, CLE led the delegation comprising Shri R. Selvam, Executive Director, CLE, Shri Manoj Tuli, Convener-Northern Region, CLE, Shri Vikas Gupta, Member, CLE and Shri Atul Kumar Mishra, Regional Director-North, CLE to request for providing 25-50 acres of land for Leather & Footwear Product Cluster at IMT Sohna as per the existing rate with longer payment terms of five years.

At the outset Chairman, CLE extended thanks to MD, HSIIDC and to his department for extending and continuing the cooperation to export industry of leather and footwear sector of Haryana. He conveyed that



Shri Sanjay Leekha, Chairman, CLE, Shri R. Selvam, Executive Director, CLE, Shri Manoj Tuli, Convener-Northern Region, CLE, Shri Vikas Gupta, Member, CLE in meeting with Smt Amneet P. Kumar, IAS, DG, MSME, Govt. of Haryana

state of Haryana exports more than 1600 crores worth leather garment, goods and footwear annually and is providing employment to more than 1.5 lakh workers directly and indirectly.

Shri Manoj Tuli, Convener, CLE mentioned that leather garments, products and footwear sector is also considered as one of the priority sector under Make in India Programme of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India as well as it is also amongst the top ten major foreign exchange earner for the country.



Shri Sanjay Leekha, Chairman, CLE, Shri R. Selvam, Executive Director, CLE, Shri Manoj Tuli, Convener-Northern Region, CLE, Shri Vikas Gupta, Member, CLE in meeting with Shri Vikas Gupta, IAS, MD, HSIIDC, Govt. of Haryana

Shri R. Selvam, ED, CLE added that looking at the potential of the sector to grow at least two to three folds in next three to five years; there is a huge demand and requirement for the expansion of the industries in and around Gurugram and Faridabad districts of Haryana. IMT Sohna which is already been allocated for the industrial purpose may once again please be considered for providing land of 25-50 acres for the development of leather and footwear cluster which will help the exporters to have an integrated production centre with facilities like common facility centre, testing centre, design studio and training centres. Shri Sanjay Leekha further added that plug and play model

of factory sheds, infrastructure and ancillary services are very much required to carry out manufacturing and export activities and the same may also please be considered in the above requested cluster.

Shri Vikas Gupta, Member, CLE added that the industry is very keen to have a leather cluster at IMT Sohna with a minimum proposed land of 50 acres which may be individually allotted to entrepreneurs belonging to leather and footwear sector as per the existing rates with a longer payment terms of five years. Moreover, Chairman, CLE also requested that leather product sector would also like to have clusters in IMT Faridabad and Palwal area as industries located in the area of Faridabad are looking for the expansion and investment. He informed that these areas are closer to the already existing units in Faridabad that would further help to bring in more investment and create world class infrastructure to satisfy the needs of the western buyers.

Shri Selvam further requested that longer payment terms has been requested by the industry on account of cash crunch and low cash flow that may help the industry to reduce the



Shri Sanjay Leekha, Chairman, CLE, Shri R. Selvam, Executive Director, CLE, Shri Manoj Tuli, Convener-Northern Region, CLE, Shri Vikas Gupta, Member, CLE in meeting with Shri Vikas Gupta, IAS, MD, HSIIDC, Govt. of Haryana

cost burden and economize the investment plan in the IMT Sohna and IMT Faridabad leather and footwear clusters.

Shri Vikas Gupta, MD, HSIIDC conveyed that land bank with the industry departments of Haryana is limited hence they have taken the route of auctioning to distribute land amongst various sectors of manufacturing services and exports. He further informed that request of the CLE is under consideration and he would like to have the minimum number of commitment for at least development of 25 acres of land for the leather & footwear sector at IMT, Sohna with plug and play model facilities. He requested Chairman, CLE and ED, CLE to convey the commitment of 25 acres of land by the industry so as to initiate his plan of earmarking leather & footwear cluster with plug and play model.



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EU-INDIA Sustainability Project for Leather Clusters in Tamil Nadu – Launch in Chennai on June 22, 2022



Solidaridad Regional Expertise Centre along with its partners - Politecnico Internazionale per lo Sviluppo Industriale ed Economico (PISIE), Indian Finished Leather Manufacturers and Exporters Association (IFLMEA), Council for Leather Exports, Tata International Limited and the European Union (EU) launched an EU-India sustainability project for the leather clusters in Tamil Nadu in Chennai on June 22, 2022. The project 'Promoting circularity in the Tamil Nadu leather clusters for solid waste management' is a 42-month initiative funded by the European Union under its SWITCH-Asia Programme, which promotes sustainable consumption and production across the Asia-Pacific region.

The overall objective of the EU funded SWITCH-Asia programme is to promote sustainable and inclusive growth, contribute to the economic prosperity and poverty reduction in Asia and Central Asia and to a transition towards a low-carbon, resource-efficient and circular economy. Launched in 2007,

the programme has achieved more than a decade of progress on SCP in 24 countries in the region. This has been possible through the joint efforts of the three SWITCH-Asia components:

- The Regional Policy Advocacy Component (RPAC) – implemented by UN Environment.
- The Sustainable Consumption and Production Facility – implemented by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) and adelphi.
- The SWITCH-Asia Grants Programme – directly managed by the Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development of the European Commission.

The website www.switch-asia.eu contains more details

Solidaridad Regional Expertise Centre (SREC) was established as a Charitable Trust in December 2008. The vision of SREC Trust is to support sustainable production in agriculture and industry, combined with sustainable trade and management of the environment around agricultural and industrial ecosystems that will make a significant contribution to combat poverty and preserving people's environment, in the context of a global economy SREC contributes to achieving its objectives by (a) Working with small farmers, government and businesses as a catalyst for improved food production, a safer workplace, access to clean water, and a better income. (b) Programmes are designed on criteria of sustainability so that finance, knowledge and skills remain available after the programme ends and continuity is ensured.

Politecnico Internazionale per lo Sviluppo Industriale ed Economico (PISIE) is an Italian NGO that has wide experience in the field of training and technical assistance for SME's within the tanning, textile and leather products sector.

The project was launched by Hon'ble Minister, Thiru Siva. V. Meyyanathan, Minister of Environment, Climate Change and Forests, Government of Tamil Nadu and H.E Ugo Astuto, Ambassador of the European Union to India. The event also brought together a number of participants from India and EU including, Council for Leather Exports, key industry leaders and the representatives from development partner communities. The event was attended by around 140 participants and was graced by an eminent panel of speakers.

The event was graced by Mr. Habib Hussain, Chairman, Research Council), Mr. R. Selvam, Executive Director, CLE, Mr. P R Aqeel Ahmed, Chairman- Leather Sector Skill Council, Dr. K. J. Sreeram, Director CSIR - CLRI, Mr. Sanjay Leekha, Chairman, CLE (virtually), Mr. Abdul Wahab, MD KH Exports India Pvt. Ltd; Mr Jaganathan- TATA International and other eminent speakers who endorsed the project and appreciated Solidaridad for making efforts to address issues of solid waste and promoting sustainability in the Tamil Nadu leather clusters.

In line with Tamil Nadu's effort to transition to a resource-efficient and circular economy model, this initiative supports clusters to adopt cleaner and sustainable production practices. This initiative entails pilot demonstration of sustainable technologies at the tanneries.

The EU is India's third largest trading partner, with Europe being one of the largest markets for Indian leather products. The EU's support to this initiative is in line with India's development priorities. Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Ugo Astuto, Ambassador of the European Union to India, said, "We are very pleased to collaborate with Tamil Nadu on this project as sustainability, circular economy and resource efficiency are key pillars of the EU-India partnership. This project will not only help to reduce environmental footprint of



the tanneries but also improve health and safety conditions of the workers and taking India a step closer to fulfilling SDGs."

With close to 600 tanneries located in Tamil Nadu, it is the key centre for the leather industry in India. The industry mainly processes semi-finished leather into finished and value-added products for export. The project, supported by the European Union, will follow four key approaches:

- Solidaridad will work with its partners and technical experts to demonstrate series of circular tanning and waste to value technologies at cluster level.
- Tannery workforce will be capacitated on better tanning practices, solid waste management and occupational health and safety through training-of-trainers programme.
- Sectoral cooperation and market linkages for 'waste to value' products will be facilitated by engaging with potential national and international off-takers.
- A public-private partnership platform will be established that represents the interests of key stakeholders. These stakeholders will come together to create a roadmap for improving waste management at the cluster level.



Hon'ble Minister Sh. Thiru Siva V Meyannathan, Minister of Environment, Climate Change and Forests, Tamil Nadu greeting H.E Ugo Astuto, Ambassador of the European Union to India.

Hon'ble Minister Sh. Thiru Siva V Meyannathan, Minister of Environment, Climate Change and Forests, Tamil Nadu highlighted that addressing the environmental challenges in the state, mainly polluted water bodies and waste management is a priority. This project is targeting waste management and its focus on promoting circularity has come at an opportune time, this will complement with the ongoing initiatives of the Government. On behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu, he assured to extend his utmost support and cooperation to achieve the project goals.

His Excellency Ugo Astuto, Ambassador of European Union to India highlighted that this initiative is indeed a strong expression of commitment to adopt cleaner production processes in the Tamil Nadu leather clusters. European Union has made Sustainable Consumption and Production a priority, thus this project is relevant. Leather Industry is one of the highest forex earners and generates high employment. He said that the project will be very beneficial to the leather stakeholders in Tamil Nadu.

His Excellency Vincenzo de Luca, Ambassador of Italy in India mentioned that this project will enhance the partnership between Italy and Tamil Nadu specifically towards technology know-how and circular economy in leather sector. Leather is equally important for Tamil Nadu and Italy. He mentioned that this project is particularly important as Italy is a part of the consortium through P.I.S.I.E.

Ms. Supriya Sahu, Principal Secretary, Department of Environment, Climate Change and Forests, mentioned that the state has planned to assess the



Hon'ble Minister Sh. Thiru Siva V Meyannathan, Minister of Environment, Climate Change and Forests, Tamil Nadu inaugurating the EU -India Sustainability Project For Leather Clusters In Tamil Nadu

industrial sector's environmental sustainability features through green rating mechanism. An index based assessment shall be brought in place to achieve desired goals. It will be developed in consultation with the department of industries, Government of Tamil Nadu and industry stakeholders. The aim of green benchmarking is to incentivize willing industries to move towards green and clean technologies. This initiative will be implemented through a consulting mechanism.

The event gave a special tribute to Mr. Mohamed Hashim Malack, who is the Doyen of Indian Leather Industry and Chairman, KH Group. He acknowledged that this is one of the most important projects for leather sector in Tamil Nadu.

Dr. M. Rafeeqe Ahmed, Chairman, All India Skin and Hide Tanners and Merchants Associations (AISHTMA) highlighted that waste management needs to be critically looked at for the sustainability of the leather sector. Thus, techno-commercial viable interventions are need of the hour, which the project will introduce through its initiatives.



Dr. M. Rafeeqe Ahmed, President, AISHTMA

Mr. R. Selvam, IAS, Executive Director, CLE welcomed Solidaridad's initiative towards solid waste management in Tamil Nadu leather tanneries. He highlighted four points that Solidaridad should take into consideration - technology, sustainability, affordability and availability.

Shri Israr Ahmed, Regional Chairman (South), CLE appreciated Solidaridad's efforts in Kanpur and Kolkata and for being able to adapt to the requirements of the southern region and coming up with the Sustainability Project. He mentioned the key point for the development of Tamil Nadu industries is to become sustainable; models and processes should be made viable and profitable. Another point he stated was the demand for environmental traceability for end consumers. ESG, Green rating are the key areas that should be looked at for social and environment development of Leather Industries.

Mr. K.R Vijayan, Chairman, Indian Finished Leather Manufacturers and Exporters Association (IFLMEA) appreciated Solidaridad for making efforts to address the issues of waste management and resource efficiency in the leather sector for Tamil Nadu.



Shri R. Selvam IAS, Executive Director, CLE



Shri Israr Ahmed, Regional Chairman (South), CLE



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CLE Central Regional Export Awards for 2019-20 & 2020-21



In order to recognize the meritorious performance & dedication of member-exporters and to provide impetus for making further investments at regional clusters of leather sector, Central Regional Office of the Council for Leather Exports had organized 3rd Central Regional Export Awards Ceremony on 25th June, 2022 in CLE Multipurpose Hall, KLC Complex, Banthar, Unnao.

Shri Rakesh Sachan, Hon'ble Cabinet Minister of Micro Small and Medium Enterprises, Khadi and Villages Industries, Sericulture Industries, Handloom and Textile, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh as Chief Guest graced the occasion and congratulated all the export award winners in recognition of their outstanding export performance for the different product categories of leather, leather & non-leather footwear, leather goods, saddlery & harness, leather garments, industrial leather gloves, brand creation and women entrepreneur award.



Shri R. K. Jalan, Vice Chairman, CLE; Shri Mukhtarul Amin, Former Chairman, CLE; Shri Javed Iqbal, Regional Chairman – Central, CLE; Shri Ashraf Rizwan, COA Member, CLE; Shri O.P. Pandey, COA Member, CLE; Shri Asad K. Iraqi, COA Member, CLE; Shri Rakesh Suri, Convener – Safety Footwear Panel, CLE; Shri Taj Alam, Convener – Saddlery & Harness, CLE; Shri R. Selvam, IAS, Executive Director, CLE; Members of Central Regional Committees, CLE Ms. Prerna Verma, Shri Tarun Garg and Shri Rajiv Suri; Shri Sarveshwar Shukla, Joint Commissioner Industries, Pallavi Dubey, Regional Director- Central, CLE and distinguished awardees; member of leather industry associations were present during the event.



Shri Rakesh Sachan, Hon'ble Cabinet Minister of Micro Small and Medium Enterprises, Khadi and Villages Industries, Sericulture Industries, Handloom and Textile, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh took the Guard of Honour from the Uttar Pradesh Police



Shri R. K. Jalan, Vice Chairman, CLE presenting floral bouquet to Shri Rakesh Sachan, Hon'ble Cabinet Minister of Micro Small and Medium Enterprises, Khadi and Villages Industries, Sericulture Industries, Handloom and Textile, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh



Shri Mukhtarul Amin, Former Chairman, CLE presenting floral bouquet to Shri Rakesh Sachan, Hon'ble Cabinet Minister of Micro Small and Medium Enterprises, Khadi and Villages Industries, Sericulture Industries, Handloom and Textile, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh



Shri Ashraf Rizwan, CoA Member, CLE presenting floral bouquet to Shri Sarveshwar Shukla, Joint Commissioner of Industries



Shri O. P. Pandey, COA Member, CLE presenting floral bouquet to Ms. Karuna Rai, Dy. Commissioner, DIEP, Unnao



Ms. Prerna Verma, Member, Central Regional Committee (CRC), CLE presenting floral bouquet to Manager, SBI, Jajmau branch, Kanpur



Shri Rehan Ajmal, COA Member, CLE presenting floral bouquet to a dignitary



Shri Asad K. Iraqi, COA Member, CLE presenting floral bouquet to a dignitary



(R-L) Shri Javed Iqbal, Regional Chairman-Central, CLE, Shri Sarveshwar Shukla, Joint Commissioner of Industries, Shri R. K. Jalan, Vice Chairman, CLE, Shri Rakesh Sachan, Hon'ble Cabinet Minister, Govt of Uttar Pradesh, Shri Mukhtarul Amin, Former Chairman, CLE, Shri R. Selvam, IAS, Executive Director, CLE and Shri Ashraf Rizwan, COA Member, CLE

Shri R. Selvam, IAS, Executive Director, CLE welcomed Chief Guest, Special Guest, export award winners, distinguished industry members, event partners, press media and participants.



Shri R. Selvam, IAS, Executive Director, CLE presenting welcome remark at the session.

He congratulated all the export awards winners for outstanding export contributions in exports of leather & leather products. He applauds the export growth and substantial contribution made by the leather industry spread in Kanpur-Unnao-Agra in state's export contribution which is about 40% of India's leather exports. He thanked State and Central Government for extending support to leather sector by announcement of various schemes towards overall development and growth of leather sector. He urged all industry members for formulation and diversification of their marketing strategies towards UAE and Australia and to avail the maximum benefits of recently concluded trade agreements between India-UAE and Ind-Aus ECTA. He added that under both the agreements leather, leather

products and footwear have been provided zero duty in UAE and Australia. As such agreements will bring business opportunities for the leather and footwear industry for enhancing India's market share in UAE and Australia and also helpful in achieving export target of leather sector.

Shri Rakesh Sachan, Hon'ble Cabinet Minister of Micro Small and Medium Enterprises, Khadi and Villages Industries, Sericulture Industries, Handloom and Textile, Govt of Uttar Pradesh as Chief Guest graced the occasion and congratulated all the export award winners in recognition of their outstanding export performance for the different product categories of leather, leather & non-leather footwear, leather goods, saddlery & harness, leather garments and industrial leather gloves and brand creation. Hon'ble Minister appreciated CLE for organizing such an inspiring and encouraging event. He said awards like these will encourage more and more of our exporters & entrepreneurs to strive harder and contribute to our country's economic, foreign exchange earnings and employment generation. He appreciated that export community had made India proud with their outstanding achievements in exports, as exporters have been the backbone of India's economy towards their contribution in nation-building. He said our Government is working over the years on the mantra of our Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji which is Reform, Perform, Transform and it has resulted encouraging outcomes in achieving 2nd ranking of UP in ease of doing business and has also moved from being the country's sixth economy to the second.

He mentioned that under the leadership of Hon'ble Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath ji we have successfully organized 3rd ground-breaking



Shri Rakesh Sachan, Hon'ble Cabinet Minister of Micro Small and Medium Enterprises, Khadi and Villages Industries, Sericulture Industries, Handloom and Textile, Govt of Uttar Pradesh addressing the session.

ceremony of Uttar Pradesh investors' summit on 3rd June, 2022 in Lucknow under the august presence of our Hon'ble Prime Minister and business tycoons of India. In which new projects worth more than Rs 80,000 crore investments have been done. He added that our government has formulated a new scheme called ODOP which provides a holistic and integrated approach for the development of artisans and SME sector of traditional enterprises. We have also taken skill development as a high priority area and in planning an action plan in collaboration with Government ITIs and private institution in skill development, a step towards making Atmanirbhar Bharat. He mentioned that Uttar Pradesh has also succeeded in increasing exports from 88 thousand crores to 1 lakh 56 thousand crores with the successful implementation of ODOP. He added that leather and leather products spread in Kanpur/Unnao region are playing an important role and contributing in State and India's economy. He said it is proud to inform you that Kanpur leather sector has an annual export of about Rs. 8200 crores and a domestic business of Rs. 15000 crores for 2021-22. Kanpur region has a leading role in exports which is in line with the vision of making Uttar Pradesh a 1 trillion-dollar economy. He stated that our Government is extending full support and cooperation to the establishment of Mega Leather Cluster at Ramaipur this has been included in 100 days working agendas of state government targets vs. achievements for speedy disposal of issues arising thereon. Therefore, he promised that for the development of MSMEs and for making of an Atmanirbhar Bharat, any reform that is required in any sector specifically focused on leather industry will be continuously undertaken by our govt.

Shri Mukhtarul Amin, Former Chairman, CLE welcomed Chief Guest, distinguished industry members and awardees. He apprised about the strength of the leather industry and contribution of the Kanpur region in India's export of leather and leather products. He thanked and appreciated the way of support and outstanding cooperation being extended by State and Central Government to this sector which is highly appreciable. He mentioned that conclusion of signing FTAs with India-UAE and India-Australia specifically for leather sector is indeed precious and will be most helpful

to this sector towards enhancing export performance. He urged Hon. Cabinet Minister, Uttar Pradesh for considering industry request including CFC, Design Studio and funding support for up-gradation of testing lab etc. He urged that issue pertaining to export duty imposed on export of raw hides leather should be considered at highest importance in restoring at its previous rate (60%) so that issue of scarcity of raw materials in India can be resolved towards enhancing exports of finished goods. He expressed sincere thanks to Govt. of Uttar Pradesh for sanction of Rs. 3.7 crore funds for the up-gradation of testing laboratory at KLC Complex under Gap funding. He further appreciated the flagship scheme called ODOP of Govt. of Uttar Pradesh is indeed a very focussed and helpful in exploring potential of traditional products and its way of promotion at global level. He added that ODOP scheme has attracted to other states in different part of countries which is now being implemented across India. Leather industry across Central Region is facing huge problems in availability of skilled workforce which is again a very challenging issue for the growth of leather sector. In line of above, we have explored various options for inviting premier institutions for imparting training to workforce. The CFTI-Agra has offered us a productive proposal to work in direction to run a training center in KLC premises towards imparting training to the workforce. He informed that currently Indian leather industry have feels huge business opportunities in catering world's leading buyers amidst internal issues arose in China market therefore international buyers taking shift towards India for buying their requirements.

Shri R. K. Jalan, Vice Chairman, CLE warmly welcomed Chief Guest and thanked for sparing his valuable time and grateful for gracing the occasion



Shri Mukhtarul Amin, Former Chairman, CLE addressing the session.

in presenting the Export Awards to the winners. He extended warmest thanks to distinguished industry members, all awardees and industry members and participants. He mentioned that over the years the state of Uttar Pradesh showcased its diverse business ecosystem and creation of vast business investment opportunities across key industries including leather industry. Outlining the various supports being extended by the Govt of Uttar Pradesh to the leather sector, he mentioned that sanction of Mega Leather Cluster (MLC) in Ramaipur, Kanpur is boon for this sector and fueled additionally to this sector in achieving substantial export growth and employment opportunities for the skill and unskilled workforce. He added revision of freight subsidy for the exporters and digitalization of its procedural and operational issues will again help to the exporters in availing the financial assistance in smooth and hurdle free manner. Inclusion of Kanpur & Unnao leather industry in ODOP scheme is also helping to this sector specifically to the micro and artisans for expanding their reach and potential at global level. Kanpur region is one of the leading and major hub for manufacturing of saddlery & harness goods and safety products in India with its substantial export share of 30% in India's



Shri R. K. Jalan, Vice Chairman, CLE addressing the session.

exports of leather & leather products. He informed that leather industry is highly thankful to the Government of India for extending various benefits to this sector including IFLDP, IGCR and recently concluded trade agreements performed between India-UAE and India-Aus ECTA. He urged and drew attention of Hon. Cabinet Minister towards representing one of industry request for extending benefits of Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme to the leather industry too so that industry can achieve the export target and generate more employment avenues in this sector. He mentioned that due to current internal issues in China the global scenario of leather industry is favorable to the Indian leather as leading customers shifting towards Vietnam or India, hence Indian leather industry have opportunity to grab such business shift. He stressed upon unavailability of skilled workforce which is a major cause in performing large business orders of world's biggest customers and thereby not able to attain expected export growth of leather sector.

Shri Sarveshwar Shukla, Joint Commissioner of Industries addressed the session and thanked all distinguished guests and industry members. He congratulated all awardees for their outstanding contribution in export performance of leather and leather products. He mentioned that Kanpur leather industry is playing vital role in export performance and employment generation. He added that District Industry and Entrepreneurs centers across Uttar Pradesh are extending various benefits to the MSMEs and exporters. He stated that DIEPC are resolving grievances of industry with short span of time. He also urged industry members to browse the Nivesh Mitra portal which is very useful for the industry.



Shri Sarveshwar Shukla, Joint Commissioner of Industries addressing the session.



Shri Javed Iqbal, Regional Chairman, Central Region, Council for Leather Exports presenting vote of thanks at the session.

Shri Javed Iqbal, Regional Chairman, Central Region, Council for Leather Exports extended formal vote of thanks and expressed sincere thanks to distinguished guests, COA Members of CLE, Members of Regional Committees of CLE and association heads, industry members. He extended warm wishes to all awardees for their outstanding contribution in export performance. He congratulated all Export Award winners for their continuous efforts in the augmentation of exports and carrying out significant innovations and developments in leather industry.

Presentation of Export Award by Shri Rakesh Sachan, Hon’ble Cabinet Minister of Micro Small and Medium Enterprises, Khadi and Villages Industries, Sericulture Industries, Handloom and Textile, Govt of Uttar Pradesh





List of Central Regional Export Award 2019-20 & 2020-21

OVERALL EXPORTS

2nd Place		1st Place		3rd Place	
2019-20	2020-21	2019-20	2020-21	2019-20	2020-21
Rahman Industries Group	Rahman Industries Group	Superhouse Group	Superhouse Group	AFPL Global Private Limited	Khemchand Handicrafts

2019-20	2020-21
Above Rs.200 crores and upto Rs.300 crores	
Leather Footwear	Leather Goods
1st Place: Superhouse Group	1st Place: Khemchand Handicrafts
Above Rs.100 crores & upto Rs.200 crores	
Leather Footwear	Leather Footwear
1st Place: Rahman Industries Group	1st Place: Rahman Industries Group
2nd Place: Tirubala International Pvt. Ltd	2nd Place: Superhouse Group
Above Rs.50 crores & upto Rs.100 crores	
Finished leather	Finished leather
1st Place: Superhouse Group	1st Place: Super Tannery Group
2nd Place: Rahman Industries Group	2nd Place: Model Exims (India) Pvt. Ltd
Leather Footwear	Leather Footwear
1st Place: Jama Corporation Pvt. Ltd	1st Place: Jama Corporation Pvt. Ltd
	2nd Place: Global Export
Leather Goods	Leather Goods
1st Place: Khemchand Handicrafts	1st Place: Karenn International Pvt Ltd
2nd Place: Karenn International Pvt Ltd.	
Saddlery & Harness (Non-leather)	Saddlery & Harness (Non-leather)
1st Place: Superhouse Group	1st Place: Superhouse Group
Above Rs.25 Crores & Upto Rs.50 Crores	
Finished Leather	Finished Leather
1st Place: Everest Exports	1st Place: Upper India Tanning Industries
2nd Place: Sabix Overseas	2nd Place: Omega International
Leather Footwear	Leather Footwear
1st Place: Super Tannery Group	1st Place: Super Tannery Group
2nd Place: Global Export	2nd Place: Euro Footwear Pvt Ltd
Footwear Components (Shoe Upper)	Footwear Components (Shoe Upper)
1st Place: Model Exims	1st Place: Abdullah Tannery Pvt Ltd
2nd Place: Rahman Industries Group	2nd Place: Northern Leather Products
	Footwear Components Other Than Shoe Upper
	First Place : Threads (India) Limited
Leather Goods	Leather Goods
1st Place: Everest Tannery Pvt. Ltd	1st Place: Superhouse Group
2nd Place: Amar Brothers Global Pvt. Ltd.	2nd Place: Mash International Pvt Ltd.
Saddlery & Harness (Leather)	Saddlery & Harness (Leather)
1st Place: Global Export	1st Place: S. K. Exports
2nd Place: Maria International	2nd Place: Lex International Pvt.Ltd

2019-20	2020-21
Saddlery & Harness (Non-leather)	Saddlery & Harness (Non-leather)
1st Place: Kartikeya International	1st Place: Tarun Textiles
2nd Place: Tarun Textiles	2nd Place: Lord Shiva International
Upto Rs.25 Crores	
Finished Leather	Finished Leather
1st Place: Northern Exims	1st Place: Array Fashions Pvt. Ltd.
2nd Place: Pacific Exports	2nd Place: AKI India Limited
Leather Footwear	Leather Footwear
1st Place: Suri Shoes Pvt Ltd	1st Place: Suri Shoes Pvt. Ltd.
2nd Place: Abdullah Tannery Pvt. Ltd.	2nd Place: I.A. Leather (India) Pvt. Ltd.
Footwear Components (Shoe Upper)	Footwear Components (Shoe Upper)
1st Place: Allied Exims	1st Place: Ahsan Leathers Pvt. Ltd.
2nd Place: AFPL Global Private Limited.	2nd Place: Allied Exims
Footwear Components Other than Shoe Upper	Footwear Components Other than Shoe Upper
1st Place: Threads (India) Limited	1st Place: Calico Trends
2nd Place: Swadeshi Agencies	2nd Place: Rahman Industries Group
Leather Goods	Leather Goods
1st Place: Mash International Pvt Ltd	1st Place: Everest Tannery Pvt. Ltd.
2nd Place: RNG Exports India	2nd Place: Habib Fashion
Saddlery & Harness (Leather)	Saddlery & Harness (Leather)
1st Place: Lex International Pvt. Ltd.	1st Place: Ibrahim International Pvt. Ltd.
2nd Place: S.K. Exports	2nd Place: S. B. International
Saddlery & Harness (Non-Leather)	Saddlery & Harness (Non-Leather)
1st Place: Lord Shiva International	1st Place: Eastern International
2nd Place: Samsons International	2nd Place: Text Horse
Leather Garments	Leather Garments
1st Place: Malik Tanning Industries	1st Place: Malik Tanning Industries
2nd Place: Icon Designs	2nd Place: Icon Designs
Leather Gloves (Industrial Gloves)	Leather Gloves (Industrial Gloves)
1st Place: Rahman Industries Group	1st Place: Rahman Industries Group
2nd Place: Competence Exports Pvt. Ltd	2nd Place: Competence Exports Pvt. Ltd.
Leather Gloves (Fashion and Sports Gloves)	Leather Gloves (Fashion and Sports Gloves)
1st Place: Competence Exports Pvt. Ltd	1st Place: Competence Exports Pvt. Ltd
Non-Leather Footwear	Non-Leather Footwear
1st Place: Jama Corporation Pvt. Ltd	1st Place: Jama Corporation Pvt. Ltd.
2nd Place: Global Export	2nd Place: Global Export
Woman Entrepreneur Award - 2019-20	Woman Entrepreneur Award - 2020-21
Saddlery & Harness	Saddlery & Harness
Ms. Aishah Bilgrami, Director	Ms. Navita Gupta, Partner,
Kings International Ltd.	Satkirti Agencies
Brand Creation Award for 2019-20	
Leather Goods	
Growmore International Ltd.	
Brand Name: "GIL"	

Seminar on “Strategy planning & discussion on boosting the export growth of Leather Sector in coming years” held on 7th July, 2022 at Kolkata

Seminar on “Strategy planning & discussion on boosting the export growth of Leather Sector in coming years” was organised on 7th July, 2022 at Hotel ITC Royal Bengal, Kolkata. The programme was graced by Janab Javed Ahmed Khan, Hon’ble Minister-in-Charge, Disaster Management & Civil Defence, Govt. of West Bengal, His Excellency Dr. Gianluca Rubagotti, Consul General, Consulate General of Italy, Kolkata, Mr. Sanjay Leekha, Chairman, CLE, Mr. Ramesh Juneja, Regional Chairman, CLE, Eastern Region and President, Calcutta Leather Complex Tanners’ Association, Mr. Mohammed Azhar, Member-COA, CLE, Mr. Imran Ahmed Khan, Member-COA, CLE & General Secretary(H), CLCTA, Mr. Javed Iqbal, Regional Chairman, CLE, Central Region, Mr. Tapan Nandi, Member-COA, CLE, Mr. R. Selvam, I.A.S., Executive Director, CLE, Mr. Md. Zia Nafis, Member-Regional Committee, CLE-ER & Joint Secretary, CLCTA, Mr. S.S. Sawhney, Convener-Leather Goods Panel, CLE, Mr. Taj Alam, Convener- Harness & Saddlery Panel, CLE, Mr. Ajay Kumar Tarway, President, ILPA, Mr. Subrata Ghosh, Chief Engineer, West Bengal Pollution Control Board besides many other dignitaries. The programme was attended by around 80 participants.

The programme was initiated with the felicitation of the dignitaries.

Mr. Rameh Juneja, Regional Chairman-Eastern Region, CLE delivered the welcomed address. Mr. Juneja thanked the dignitaries for gracing the grand occasion. Mr. Ramesh Juneja in his address said that the leather industry passed through a very difficult phase due to the pandemic situation. During the financial year 2021-2022, the



Mr Sanjay Leekha, Chairman, CLE

leather industry of Eastern Region recovered quite well registering around 20% growth in exports. Mr. Juneja further added that it was necessary to look into new markets to further increase exports. On this occasion Mr. Juneja also conveyed his special thanks to the Hon’ble Chief Minister of West Bengal, Madam Mamata Banerjee for the continuous support in every possible manner to the leather industry of West Bengal.



Mr Ramesh Juneja, Regional Chairman-East, CLE is giving the welcome speech

Thereafter, Mr. Imran Ahmed Khan, Member-COA, CLE and General Secretary (H), Calcutta Leather Complex Tanners’ Association emphasised about the necessity of reducing production cost and other fixed and variable cost to become lean and mean to stay competitive. He took the opportunity to convey his profound thanks to the Hon’ble Chief Minister of West Bengal, Madam Mamata Banerjee for identifying leather as the focus sector and extending the support of Govt. of West Bengal for making Kolkata Leather

Complex the best fully integrated largest leather complex in Asia.

Mr. Tapan Nandi, Member-COA, CLE in his speech stressed upon the need to continue exploring new markets. He added that this is necessary to increase exports. Mr. Tapan Nandi further said that this is a continuous process and exporters also need to look into developing new products for access to new markets as per the need of those markets.

Mr. R. Selvam, IAS, Executive Director, CLE emphasised about the need to maintain the growth rate to further increase exports. Mr. Selvam further said that exporters should also fix individual export targets so that cumulatively the overall exports can grow. He added that exporters can explore the possibility of taking benefit from the Free Trade Agreements with UAE and Australia which provides duty free access to the exporters of leather and leather products in these two markets.

His Excellency Dr. Gianluca Rubagotti, Consul General, Consulate General of Italy in Kolkata emphasised about the importance of Joint Ventures and collaborations between Indian and Italian companies. He further added that companies in Italy have expertise in various fields' especially in training and design and Indian companies can benefit from their expertise in these two areas. He also said that the Kolkata Leather Industry has already entered into collaboration with Italian companies specialized in training and these needs to further harnessed and expanded to take full advantage & scope of collaboration.

Janab Javed Ahmed Khan, Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Dept. of Disaster Management and Civil Defence, Govt. of West Bengal in his key note address said that the leather industry had to the pass through the difficult pandemic situation and the Govt. of West Bengal tried to help the industry in every possible manner during the crisis period. He



Mr. Imran Ahmed Khan, Member-COA, CLE & General Secretary(H), CLCTA is delivering his speech



Mr. Tapan Nandi, Member-COA, CLE is delivering his speech



Mr. R. Selvam, I.A.S., Executive Director, CLE is addressing to the participants



His Excellency Dr. Gianluca Rubagotti, Consul General, Italy is delivering his speech

further said that the leather sector is the priority sector for the Govt. of West Bengal and the Govt. of West Bengal is also investing heavily for infrastructure development in the Kolkata Leather Complex.

He also added that besides Common Facility Centres, Co-operative societies have been formed to support the small entrepreneurs in the value chain. Mr. Javed Ahmed Khan also suggested that Central Leather Research Institute (CSIR-CLRI) should have a fully equipped laboratory in Kolkata to enable the exporters save on time and cost.

Mr. Sanjay Leekha, Chairman, CLE in his key note address emphasised that the leather industry has recovered quite well from the pandemic situation and recorded exports of around USD 5 billion in the financial year 2021-22.

He further added that with the current export trends available for the first quarter, the sector will comfortably cross the USD 6 billion exports in the year 2022-23. Mr. Leekha said that exports from the Eastern Region have also registered healthy growth and the trend is likely to continue in the current financial year. He added that the exporters need to look into new products, new markets to further boost the exports. He continued by stating that Free Trade Agreements offer the exporters a good opportunity to penetrate deeper into the markets. In this regard the FTAs with Australia and UAE will definitely help the exporters to increase their business in the two markets. Mr. Leekha also said that three more important FTAs with United Kingdom, European Union and Canada are under negotiation and once concluded will open up a very big opportunity for Indian exporters. He also said that the Council for Leather Exports is organising export promotion events in UAE and Australia and exporters need to participate in these two events to increase their exports. He



Janab Javed Ahmed Khan, Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Disaster Management & Civil Defense, Govt. of West Bengal is delivering his speech.

continued by stating that exporters may also look into the Russian market under the current circumstances as there is a big vacuum presently and exporters from India can grab the opportunity. Mr. Leekha also said that exports to USA has grown very significantly during 2021-22 and is one of the key markets for the Indian exporters with very huge potential. He said that members also need to augment their production capacity and adhere to international compliances. Members need to fully utilise the Integrated Development of Leather Sector (IDLS) Sub-Scheme under IFLADP with an outlay of INR 500 Crores. Mr. Sanjay Leekha also stressed about the importance of developing brands by the Indian exporters to move up the value chain and added that IFLADP scheme also supports brand building.



Mr. Sanjay Leekha, Chairman, CLE is delivering his speech



Mr. Md. Zia Nafis, Member-Regional Committee, CLE-ER & Joint Secretary, CLCTA is delivering formal vote of thanks

The Vote of Thanks was proposed by Mr. Md. Zia Nafis, Member-Regional Committee, CLE-ER and Joint Secretary, Calcutta Leather Complex Tanners' Association. He thanked the dignitaries for their valuable time and sharing their thoughts for the growth and development of the leather sector. He also thanked the participants for joining in the seminar.



Participants during the seminar



Mr. Ramesh Juneja, Regional Chairman, CLE, Eastern Region greeting Mr. Subrata Ghosh, Chief Engineer, West Bengal Pollution Control Board and Mr. Tapan Nandi, Member-COA, CLE greeting Mr. Taj Alam, Convener - Harness & Saddlery Panel, CLE.



“Stakeholder Consultation Workshop”, Effective Waste Management and Sustainable Development of MSME Tanning Companies in Kolkata Leather Cluster held on 7th July, 2022 at Kolkata



Janab Javed Ahmed Khan, Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Disaster Management & Civil Defense, Govt. of West Bengal is delivering his speech

“Stakeholder Consultation Workshop”, Effective Waste Management and Sustainable Development of MSME Tanning Companies in the Kolkata Leather Cluster was organised on 7th July, 2022 at Hotel ITC Royal Bengal, Kolkata. The programme was graced by Janab Javed Ahmed Khan, Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Disaster Management & Civil Defence, Govt. of West Bengal, His Excellency Dr. Gianluca Rubagotti, Consul General, Consulate General of Italy, Kolkata, Mr. Sanjay Leekha, Chairman, CLE, Mr. Ramesh Juneja, Regional Chairman, CLE, Eastern Region and President, Calcutta Leather Complex Tanners' Association, Mr. Mohammed Azhar, Member-COA, CLE, Mr. Imran Ahmed Khan, Member-COA, CLE & General Secretary(H), CLCTA, Mr. Javed Iqbal, Regional Chairman, CLE, Central

Region, Mr. Tapan Nandi, Member-COA, CLE, Mr. R. Selvam, I.A.S., Executive Director, CLE, Mr. Md. Zia Nafis, Member-Regional Committee, CLE-ER & Joint Secretary, CLCTA, Mr. S.S. Sawhney, Convener-Leather Goods Panel, CLE, Mr. Taj Alam, Convener- Harness & Saddlery Panel, CLE and Vice Chairman, Uttar Pradesh Leather Industries Association, Mr. Ajay Kumar Tarway, President, ILPA, Mr. Subrata Ghosh, Chief Engineer, West Bengal Pollution Control Board, by Mr. Tatheer Zaidi, General Manager, Solidaridad Asia, Mr. Tuncay Deriner, Managing Director, Stahl India Pvt. Ltd., besides many other dignitaries. The programme was attended by around 80 participants.

The welcome address was delivered by Mr. Tatheer Zaidi, General Manager, Solidaridad Asia. Mr. Zaidi thanked the dignitaries for their gracious presence in the programme. He said that technological interventions were necessary for cleaner processing of tannery waste. He also mentioned about the implementation of cleaner technologies in the Kolkata Leather Cluster. Mr. Zaidi also stressed about the importance of reducing TDS and adoption of new technologies to achieve the desired level of TDS. He also mentioned about the development of turning tannery waste to value added products. In his address Mr. Tatheer Zaidi said that for the first time Leather Trade Information Portal will be launched from Kolkata on this grand occasion.

It was followed by a brief presentation by Solidaridad on their activities in the Kolkata Leather Cluster.

Thereafter Mr. Tuncay Deriner, Managing Director, Stahl India Pvt. Ltd. addressed the audience. He emphasised about the role of Stahl in this project and the path breaking chemicals developed for the leather industry used in the project. He further added that Stahl will continue to strive to innovate on leather chemicals which will make leather processing more and more environmental friendly.

His Excellency Dr. Gianluca Rubagotti, Consul General, Consulate General of Italy, Kolkata in his address stressed about caring for the environment and the various technological interventions and innovations which make this possible.

Mr. Ahmad Kamal Khan Yusufzai, Managing Director, Dugros Leather (India) Pvt. Ltd. also shared his valuable insights about the Solidaridad project as Dugros Leather is a partner in the project.

Mr. Taj Alam, Convener- Harness & Saddlery Panel, CLE and Vice Chairman, Uttar Pradesh Leather Industries Association in his speech spoke about the technological interventions carried out by Solidaridad in the Kanpur-Unnao leather cluster. He further added that the interventions were very beneficial for the leather cluster and the process will be continued to achieve higher level of standards set by regulatory authorities.

Mr. Ramesh Juneja, Regional Chairman, CLE, Eastern Region and President, Calcutta Leather Complex Tanners' Association in address thanked the European Union for the funding support to the Kolkata Leather Cluster to make the Solidaridad project possible. He also stressed about the support from the Govt. of West Bengal to the Calcutta Leather Complex for infrastructure upgradation and complete



Mr Ramesh Juneja, Regional Chairman-East, CLE is delivering his speech

transformation to make it the one of the best fully integrated modern and largest leather complex in Asia.

Mr. R. Selvam, I.A.S., Executive Director, CLE in his speech thanked Solidaridad Asia for their support and initiatives. He further added that future will be decided by adoption of cutting edge technology. Mr. Selvam also emphasised about the technological innovations need to be cost effective for wider adoption among industry members. In this regard he also stated that pace of research needs to be expedited due to the dynamic nature of changing regulations in the environmental norms.



Mr. R. Selvam, I.A.S., Executive Director, CLE is speaking during the workshop

Mr. Subrata Ghosh, Chief Engineer, West Bengal Pollution Control Board in his speech said that individual tanneries need to maintain standards in the effluents they discharge to the CETP besides adhering to the TDS norms laid down by the Central Pollution Control Board. In his speech Mr. Ghosh also stated that Calcutta Leather Complex is a fully integrated complex and a footwear park will come up very soon within the complex.

Mr. Sanjay Leekha, Chairman, Council for Leather Exports in his key note address stated that India needs to maintain and add on to the image of being a responsible supply partner in the global supply chain. On this grand occasion Mr. Leekha launched the unique Leather Trade Intelligence Portal developed by Solidaridad.



Mr. Sanjay Leekha, Chairman, CLE is delivering his speech



Mr. Sanjay Leekha, Chairman, CLE is inaugurating the portal for leather sector by solidaridad

Janab Javed Ahmed Khan, Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Disaster Management & Civil Defense, Govt. of West Bengal has delivered his speech and encouraged the tanneries by saying that adoption of such green innovative technologies will surely help in the business operations and provide a great visibility to the industry.

In his concluding remarks, Mr. Imran Ahmed Khan, Member-COA, CLE & General Secretary (H), CLCTA stated that the leather sector is the focus sector in West Bengal and a key contributor to the GSDP of the state. The leather sector also provides employment to a huge section of the population with significant contribution of women workers. He further emphasised the goal of the Kolkata Leather Cluster is reduce carbon footprint, turning tannery waste to value added products leading to sustainable development of the cluster. In this connection he added that leather waste contains hazardous Chromium which needs to be disposed only in the secure landfill site. Mr. Imran Ahmed Khan also added that Govt. of West Bengal is investing heavily in the onsite and offsite infrastructure development of the Kolkata Leather Complex at Bantala and took the opportunity to thank the Govt. of West Bengal for their continued support to the leather sector. Mr. Khan said that the capacity at CETP at the Complex is



Janab Javed Ahmed Khan, Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Disaster Management & Civil Defense, Govt. of West Bengal is delivering his speech

presently 40 mld per day with the addition of four new modules. He also added that the phase-I of the footwear park in the complex has been launched with 62 acres of land. He concluded by thanking team Solidaridad for taking the initiative to organise the programme.

The programme concluded with the felicitation of the dignitaries.



Mr. Imran Ahmed Khan, Member-COA, CLE & General Secretary(H), CLCTA is delivering his speech



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Online Portal operationalized for submission of applications under IDLS Scheme 2021-26

It may be recalled that CLE has issued circular of even number dated 07.03.2022, regarding approval of Indian Footwear and Leather Development Programme (IFLDP) for 5 years period 2021-26 with an outlay of Rs.1700 Crores. The IFLDP consisted of six sub-schemes namely (1) Sustainable Technology and Environmental Promotion (STEP) (2) Integrated Development of Leather Sector (IDLS) (3) Mega Leather, Footwear and Accessories Cluster Development (MLFACD) (4) Brand Promotion of Indian Brands in Leather & Footwear Sector (5) Development of Design Studios (6) Establishment of Institutional Facilities. The scheme guidelines of each of these sub-schemes were disseminated vide CLE Circular dated 07.03.2022. It was mentioned therein that the DPIIT, Govt of India proposes to develop a digital portal for the IFLDP, and all the

sub-schemes would be operated via the digital portal. Applications for grant under all the sub-schemes shall have to be submitted through online portal.

DPIIT, Government of India has now informed the CLE that at present, DPIIT has enabled the online portal to receive the applications under the Integrated Development of Leather Sector (IDLS) sub-scheme in the National Single Window System (NSWS). The pathway to reach the portal is as under:

To apply, visit the National Single Window System (NSWS) Click www.nsws.gov.in -> 'All Schemes' > Select 'Indian Footwear and Leather Development Programme' -> Select the applicable sub-scheme

Members may visit the National Single Window System and enter IFLDP and submit their application(s) seeking investment grant under IDLS Sub-Scheme as per the guidelines.

In order to enable the industry members to have consultations and seek guidance of the CLE on IDLS Sub-Scheme and other sub-schemes of IFLDP, the CLE would be organizing 'Open House Meeting for IFLDP', every Wednesday 11.30am via virtual mode. The CLE would be sending the Meeting Link by a circular to all members one-day prior by E-mail. Members are requested to make it convenient to participate in the Open House Meetings and avail guidance from the CLE.

(Reference: CLE Circular dated 12.05.2022)



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FX-Retail Platform

Background

The Reserve Bank of India -RBI in its “Statement on Developmental and Regulatory Policies” dated June 06, 2019 announced the introduction of a Foreign Exchange Trading platform for buying and selling foreign exchange for the Customers of Banks. In this regard, a circular was also issued by RBI on June 20, 2019.

With the endeavor to achieve the RBI initiative to bring in the transparency and fair pricing for the NRIs, Sole Proprietor, Partnership Firms, Corporates, Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), Importers and exporters etc.in the Foreign Exchange market, Clearing Corporation of India Limited (CCIL), through its fully owned subsidiary, ClearCorp Dealing Systems (India) Ltd (CDSIL), has launched FX-Retail Platform in 2019.

FX-Retail Platform is a web based order matching trading platform for the Customers of Banks which includes Individuals, NRIs, Sole Proprietor, Partnership Firms, Corporates, Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) etc. The platform offers trading in CASH, TOM, SPOT and FORWARD instruments (upto a period of 13 months) in the USD/INR currency pair. Customers can register on the platform through a simple and easy registration process for availing access of the platform.

Features

• **Registration process:** Customers have to register online for getting access to the FX-Retail platform. On successful registration, the customer’s details are forwarded to the Relationship bank selected at the time of registration for the purpose of verification and approval. On approval by the bank, the customer is provided with the user credentials which include a login name and password.

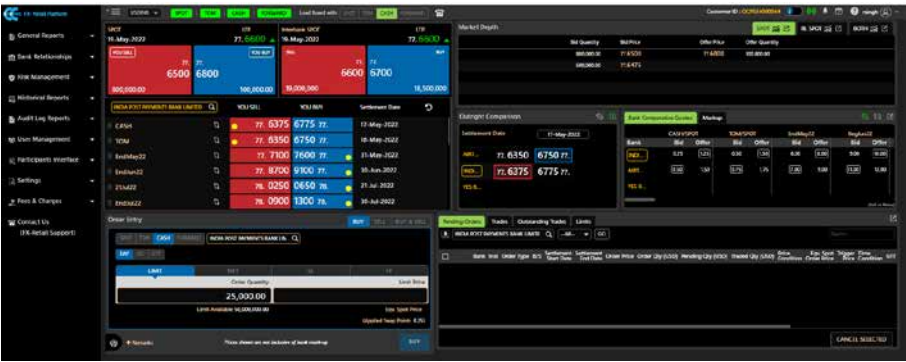


Figure 1: FX Retail Screen view

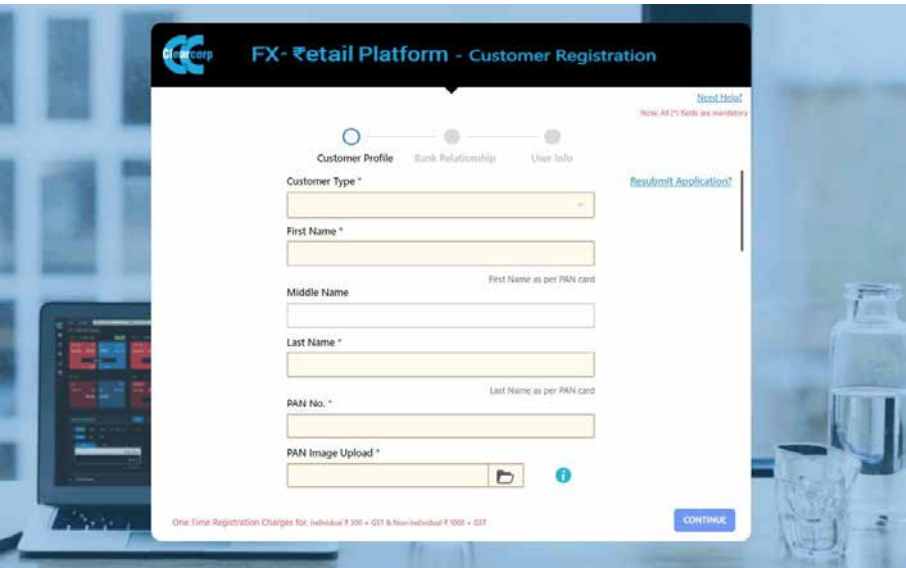


Figure 2: Registration Form

• **Order driven:** The platform provides for order driven dealing wherein the Customers can on their own place orders and book forex contracts in the USD/INR currency pair.

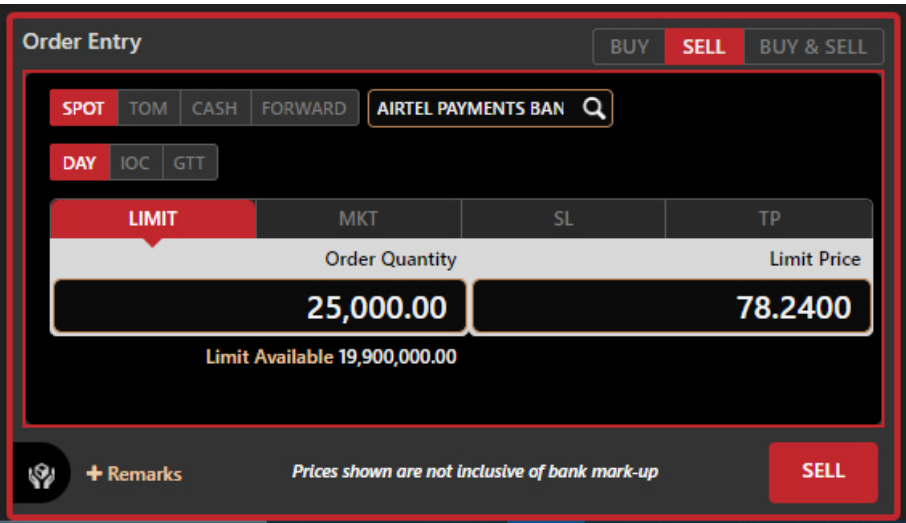


Figure 3: Order Entry

- **Web based:** The platform can be accessed through the Internet

- **Instruments:** Customers can book contracts in Cash (same day settlement), Tom (next day settlement), Spot (Trading day +2 days settlement), and Forwards upto a period of 13 months on the platform in standard tenors (start of month, middle of month and end of month) or broken dates as per the requirement.

- **Market watch:** The Market watch provides the best bid and offer rates available for trading in Cash (same day settlement), Tom (next day settlement), Spot (T+2 day settlement) and Forward instruments (any date) upto a period of 13 months. The Inter-bank Spot rates (FX-CLEAR, launched in August 2003, facilitates inter-bank forex dealing in the USD/INR currency pair.) are also displayed to the Customers for view and reference purpose. A bank comparative view of the prices is also available on the platform thereby providing the customer with a choice of better pricing.

- **Limits:** A Bank needs to set the limits for their customers for transacting on the platform based on which the customer would be allowed to place orders and book contracts on the platform. The limits for the customer can be an Only Sell Limit or Only Buy limit or Both Buy and Sell limit and Net limit depending on the customer requirement.

- **Mark Up:** The Relationship Bank set the mark up for their customers which would be adjusted with the trade rate. The platform provides the transparency by displaying the comparative mark- up value set by his Relationship Bank/s on the platform.

- **Counterparty and Settlement:** The counterparty for any contract booked on the platform is the Relationship Bank selected at

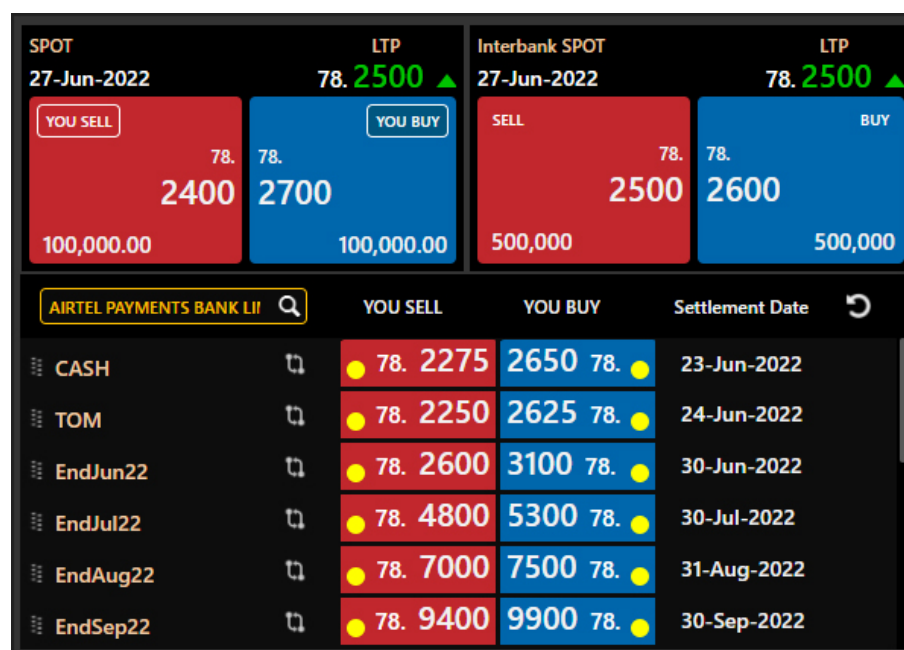


Figure 4: Market Watch and view of Interbank Spot rate

Bank	Markup Type	Markup Value	RO/ED Applicability
AIRT...	Paise	1.00	Both legs
INDI...	Paise	5.00	Both legs
YES B...	Paise	5.00	Both legs

Figure 5: Transparent view of Bank Mark up

- **Multiple Relationship Banks:** Customer can add multiple Relationship Banks on the platform.

Bank Name	Home Branch IFSC	Trading Branch IFSC	Status
INDIA POST PAYMENTS BANK LIMITED	IPBL000300	ZSBL000341	Active
AIRTEL PAYMENTS BANK LIMITED	ZSBL000311	ZSBL000311	Active
YES BANK LIMITED	YESB000796	YESBIN8XXX	Active

Figure 6: Multiple Relationship Banks

the time of order placement on the platform. The contracts are settled bilaterally with the Relationship Bank.

- **Aggregation feature:** A special feature which aggregates multiple orders placed in the FX-Retail platform to interbank market lot size (and multiples) for the purpose of matching. These aggregated orders are available for matching with orders in the Interbank Spot as well as the FX-Retail market

for matching at the same time.

- The platform also provides for Cancellation, Rollover and Early delivery of outstanding Forward Contracts originally booked on the platform.

Benefits to market participants

1. FX-Retail is one of its kind electronic trading platform for the Customers, which facilitates automatic price discovery.
2. Customer can buy/sell USD Dollars at the best exchange rate

3. Customers directly deal on the platform and have access to current rates; thereby moving from phone based trading to electronic trading.
4. The platform provides for transparency in bank margin and better pricing to the customers.
5. The prime objective of the platform is to be a one stop solution for all Customers to execute their Forex requirements in USD/INR currency pair through an electronic mode.

FX-Retail Support

Toll Free: 1800-266-2109
 Phone: 022-61546313
 Email : supportfxretail@ccilindia.co.in
 Website: www.fxretail.co.in

Leather Working Group reaches 1,000 LWG-certified leather manufacturers

Leather Working Group (LWG) is a membership organization composed of over 1,800 members across the leather value chain, including leather manufacturers, brands, suppliers, traders, and associations. The group develops audit certification standards to assess the environmental performance of leather manufacturing facilities and promotes responsible practices in the leather supply chain.

Over 1,000 leather manufacturers around the world have now obtained Leather Working Group (LWG) certification, meaning that they are committed to responsible leather production.

Leather Working Group (LWG) announces a new membership milestone, with over 1,000 leather manufacturers achieving LWG certification and becoming part of the global LWG community. As of July 2022, a total of 1,040 sites have been audited by an LWG-approved auditor and awarded one of four ratings (audited, bronze, silver, or gold) by

complying with the requirements of the LWG global audit standard.

Christina Trautmann, Head of Leather Working Group, commented:

“Our membership has been growing rapidly over the past couple of years, and in fact we only reached 1,000 members across all sectors back in 2020. It’s great to see so many more leather manufacturers getting involved and joining our community, as it is crucial for making the goal of a fully responsible leather supply chain a reality. This collective of companies working together will drive positive action at scale and amplify our impact.”

With LWG’s growing membership, they have seen an increase in the level of engagement and collaboration across all membership sectors, including leather manufacturers, leather traders, subcontractors, commissioning manufacturers, brands and retailers, suppliers, NGOs, and more.

In June 2022, LWG published the latest update to the Leather Manufacturer Audit Protocol, Version 7.2.2 (also known as “P7.2.2”). As announced at the most recent virtual LWG Member Meeting in April 2022, Version 7.3 is planned to be published later this year including crucial changes related to the traceability requirements of the LWG audit.

Those wishing to connect with an LWG-certified leather manufacturer can visit the LWG website to access their public listings, representing approximately 25% of the world’s total production of finished leather in over 50 countries.

For more information about LWG, please visit their website: <https://www.leatherworkinggroup.com/>

Monthly Outlook Forecast Report

Article by Ritesh Victor

USDINR

USDINR remained on front foot from the start of the month as the pair opened at 77.58 and made a low of 77.46 only while pair made a fresh peak of 79.12 in the last week of the previous month, weighed down by major strength in the dollar and as market participants retreated from the domestic equity markets. Greenback remained strong versus major peers due to the prospects of aggressive U.S. interest rates and concerns of a widespread recession.

Though Market participants saw intervention by RBI to protect our beloved Rupee but couldn't help much as the depreciation pressure on the local unit was large. Looking at current scenario of fear of widespread recession and dollar index at 105+ levels could depreciate Rupee further in the near-term, RBI might intervene to protect local unit but we recommend Importers to hedge for near term payments on every dip.

It's an important month ahead for the pair as Nikkei Services PMI for Jun month is scheduled in the start of the week while on the US side Services PMI and ISM Non-Manufacturing PMI is set to release in the mid of first week along with Initial jobless claims.

Market participants will be eying on the US job data scheduled for the last trading day of the first week - A higher than expected reading should be taken as positive for the pair, while a lower than expected reading should be taken as negative. Going ahead Core Retail sales and Core CPI is set to release in the mid of month while Fed Interest rate decision due at the end of month which might decide the direction of the pair.



Indian Rupee intraday losses around 79.19, staying within a fortnight-long triangle, during one day session, the pair has displayed an unimaginable shocking threat since the last one month after touching an all-time monthly highs at 79.19.

While a short-term trading range below 79.50 capped USD/INR upside, the pair bears have recently turned negative as the RSI (14) hints at receding bearish momentum. The asset has been trading continuously on the depreciation for the past one week from 78.20 to 79.21 almost weakening by 1.00 rupees in the last week of the month.

However, the USD/INR sellers need to acquire the 100-SMA, around 79.50, to take control back. A major volatility gap between the 20- and 50-period daily Simple Moving Averages indicates the market trending up to 78.69 & 78.18 respectively. After the , low of June 2 oscillating near 77.37 will come next to the 200-SMA level adopting 78.50 to restrict the short-term USD/INR downside.

On the other hand, recovery remain negative until the pair stays above mentioned triangle's resistance line near 79.00. Also downside key psychological hurdle is the 78.85 level. Should the USD/INR prices cross the 79.20 resistance, the odds of witnessing the 79.50 threshold on the chart can't be ruled out.

EURUSD

The EURUSD pair started the month of June with a deep fall. The highest mark was 1.2616 on the first trading day. The pair's movement was connected to the government bond yields' trend directly and it was impacted by inflation and growth-related worries.

The pair fell in the monthly session and ended around the 1.2175 price zone, as worries concealed other factors. The Governing Council said that the next hike will come in September. The Federal Reserve held a monetary policy meeting, and as broadly anticipated, decision-makers made a final decision to hike the interest rate by 75 basis points, the most significant hike since 1994.

The EURUSD pair recovered some levels after collapsing to the bottom level in mid-June at 1.0358 and finished the week by gaining some levels above the 1.0500 thresholds. Traders will be looking for the US Nonfarm Payrolls figure on Thursday, along with the US ADP jobs data released just before the weekly Jobless Claims. The Euro tried to march at first during the last trading week of June, but couldn't resist.

On the weekly chart, this region is worth paying close attention to, because the 1.04 level has been a significant support in the past and if the pair manages to stay above there, it opens up the possibility of trying to build up some type of base, but currently it looks like everybody's focusing on buying US dollars, and therefore I'm not looking for any signs of a turnaround. If the market were to rally from here, the 1.06 level is an area that's been very resistive and difficult to break above in the last three weeks, followed by the 1.08 level.

With all the present factors in mind, I do believe that it is probably only a matter of time before we break through the 1.04 level and go much lower. Once the pair breaks down, the 1.02 level is my next target, followed by parity. I do think that we will see parity in a few months, especially as economic conditions continue to show no signs of improvement. With the world heading into recession, the



greenback will continue to be very strong, at least through foreseeable future. In the meanwhile, it's about trying to buy cheap US dollars.

GBPUSD

The decline in the Treasury bond yields of US kept the USD bulls on the defensive, offered support to the GBP/USD. The US Fed non-stop chatter about hikes to curb inflation, along with the prevalent risk-off mood as a tailwind for the safe-haven. BOE monetary policy divergence with the US Fed weighed on the sterling.

BOE Governor Bailey spoke at the ECB Forum on Central Banking, stating that the Bank of England may not need to forcefully get inflation under control adding that cracks were appearing in the economy of the UK. The subsequent decline below the 2-week-old descending trend support confirmed a fresh bearish breakdown and supports a near-term depreciating move.

The negative outlook is reinforced by the fact that technical indicators on the daily chart are away from being in the oversold territory.

The British pound initially tried to rally during the last trading week of June, but then fell hard slamming into the 1.20 level. This is a big, round, psychologically important support level, which has been recently attempted. It has been an important historical level too, so I think a lot of market participants are going to be paying attention to it.



A break below the 1.20 level opens up the possibility of 1.18, followed by 1.16. The British pound itself is not necessarily a currency that we should worry about, the pair is being dominated by the US dollar right now rather than anything else. Rallies at this point in time should be considered as selling opportunities because quite frankly there are no good economic fundamentals backing up the pound.

Because of this, people will continue to flock towards the US dollar, as it is considered to be a safe haven currency. It is not until the Federal Reserve changes has a shift in its overall attitude that I see the US dollar's strength fading, and at this point that does not look likely to happen anytime soon. With the Federal Reserve becoming increasingly hawkish, the US dollar will strengthen a lot more.

USDJPY

The USDJPY pair counted gains close to 2.80% during the third week and ended the week with a surge, followed by the Japanese authorities statement's, which accepted the yen weakness. The assumption was that the Bank of Japan might control its monetary support by tracking the movement of central bank rate increases.

BoJ Governor Haruhiko Kuroda also said in the diet that a change in the bank's monetary policy was plausible and of the clear struggle for Japanese consumers and importers caused



by the yen's advanced weakness. The USDJPY pair was high at 137.005 on the second-last trading day. The followed falling and recovery indicated the Federal Reserve's rate increases dynamic leading to multiple US dollar-based currency values.

The BOJ remains unchanged in its dovish monetary policy. The advanced spread between Japanese Government Bonds (JGB) and US Treasuries had been guided solely by the American side. Credit markets depicted the US Fed's inflation rate program, boosting the 10-year yield from the levels around 1.514% in 2021 to its June 14 high at 3.480%. This week Japanese data ahead will be contingent on the market moves. The June's Eco Watchers Survey following regional sentiment is the most compulsive.

We expect the USD broadly to strengthen in 3rd quarter on tightening financial conditions and with high inflationary pressure and the US Fed to tighten further, the scope for a correction lower in USDJPY is not large. Furthermore, yields have started to fall which if sustained in these fast moving markets. The Treasury-JGB spread has been strong support for the pair, as it decreases it also takes the USDJPY down with it as a trend.

The US Fed has given no quarter to the notion that its interest rate hikes could be halted due to recession. Market participants are not buying that hard talk. Treasury yields have come off sharply in the last 2 weeks and will continue to fade if US data points crumble. The MACD Wednesday cross of the signal line and its gap on Friday is a classic sell signal in the early market hours.

Confirmation is obtained from the Relative Strength Index which has plunged to its lowest point in 2 weeks. The strong resistance is at 136.81 (indicated by the green horizontal line). The major support can be seen at 134.44 (presented with the red horizontal line).



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Potential investor from Vietnam met with CLE on 21.06.2022

Established in 1992, Wagon Group is a global leader in design, production, sales and access to the global gift / hardware / plastic / ceramics project service industry with a global presence. With its stable business philosophy and rational business model, Wagon has become a leader in the industry with its dedication to quality and its commitment to reputation. Wagon's manufacturing base owns many of the world's most advanced metal manufacturing lines and large-scale machinery and equipment. It manufactures in the production lines of the 12 major production areas and six major processes, and also handles the demand for goods from all over the world. The average monthly production total reached 8 million pcs to 12 million pcs. They produce Fashion Hardware (key ring, brooch & belt buckle), Luggage Hardware (charm, square buckle / circle & buckle), and Footwear Hardware (buckle, copper ornaments) etc.

As a multinational group focused on services, Wagon is committed to providing consumers worldwide with innovative and unique products and services of exceptional quality. Since its establishment, the company has provided goods and services for major international events and international events. Not only won the trust of the World Cup, Olympic Games, Expo and other groups, but also won the approval of many customers such as LVMH, COACH, MICHAEL KORS, TORY BURCH, POLO, RALPH LAURAN and Coca Cola, McDonald's, BMW, Samsung and many other global top 500 companies.



The CONG TY TNHH WAGON is exploring the option of setting up of manufacturing plant in India and in this regard, Mr. Danny Chaou, Director, CONG TY TNHH Wagon has visited the Council for Leather Exports (CLE), Head Quarter, Chennai on 21.06.2022 and has held discussions with Shri R. Selvam, IAS, Executive Director, CLE in the presence of Shri M Abdul Wahab, Managing Director, K H Exports India Private Limited. Shri Janarthanam Balasubramaniam, Sr Director, Tapestry, has accompanied the Taiwanese Delegates, and coordinated the discussions. Shri A. Fayaz Ahmad, Deputy Director, CLE was present on the occasion.

The delegates held discussions with Executive Director, CLE on various aspects of their queries relating to setting up of their manufacturing plant in India, and potential locations.



DEVELOPMENT OF ECO-FRIENDLY FOOTWEAR UPPER & BOTTOMING MATERIALS FROM NATURAL FIBRES

“Sustainability & Customer Experience”



Consumers are becoming increasingly aware of environmental issues and this has created a growing market for “Green Materials” and products. Leather is the most suitable material for footwear and a number of “Eco leathers” have been launched in recent years. The demand for eco-friendly footwear is increasing. It is therefore apparent that there is a clear economic necessity to increase the proportion of footwear produced with other “Eco-friendly” material and “Natural Fibres” is an attractive alternative.

The major amount of present non-leather materials which are used for manufacturing the various products are from non-renewable resources. Hence it is necessary to explore or revive the traditional practices of using the plant materials as the precursors for the industrial production, which are not only a renewable resource but also lends the products with high biodegradability when compared to synthetic products.

Natural fibres are bio-degradable materials and eco-friendly. Numerous natural fibres are available around us in the globe. Few natural fibres which are suitable for footwear fabrication were selected according to their availability and cost.

The fibers were assessed for their suitability as footwear upper materials vis-a-vis their physical property characteristics and then were used in the fabrication of the upper by incorporating fashion elements in the design.

Physical Properties required for upper:

- Flexibility
- Strength properties
- Softness



In picture above: Leather & Jute combined shoes being demonstrated by (l to R): Dr D Suresh Kumar (SPDC - CLRI), Shri K Dayalan, Shri P Vinoth Kumar & Shri R Sathiyaraj, Design and Fashion Studio, CSIR-CLRI

MATERIAL SELECTION

The natural fibers which are available domestically for producing industrial products are listed in the table below:

Various Types Natural Fibers in Use

Fiber	Available As	Raw Fiber or Yarn Sourced From
Cotton	Yarn	
Jute Processed	Jute & Yarn	West Bengal
Silk	Yarn	Kanchipuram, TN
Woolen	Yarn	Punjab
Linum/Flax	Yarn	Brazil
Hemp	Yarn/Fiber	Tribal Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh
Banana Stem	Stem	Tamil Nadu (TN)
Remi	Yarn	Assam
Naayal Silk- Recycled silk	Yarn	Bangalore, Karnataka
Koraa	Fiber	Ambasamudram, (TN)
Pineapple	Leaf	Kerala & TN
Sisal	Fiber	TN
Vetivera	Root	TN
Mesta	Fiber	Srikakulam, Andhra Pradesh
Bamboo	Yarn	China
Water Reed	Fiber	Bihar
Chevvai Grass	Fiber	Orissa
Coconut	Fiber	TN
Gold Zari	Yarn	Kanchipuram, TN
Lemon Grass	Grass	Kolli Malai- Namakkal, TN

Out of the many possibilities, three materials were selected keeping in mind ease of availability, ease of handling and manufacture as well as cost.

Materials selected:

- Jute processed
- Bamboo
- Banana stem



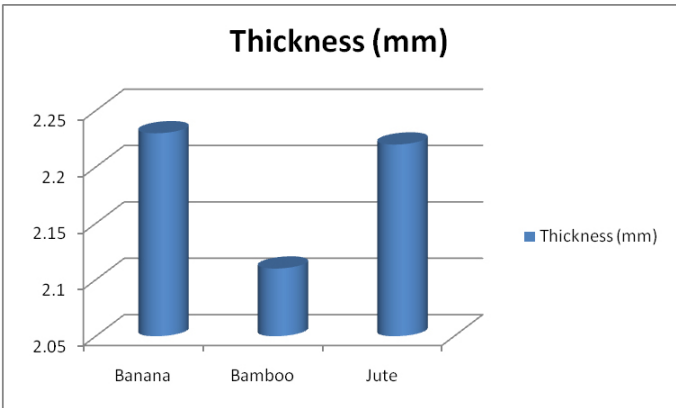
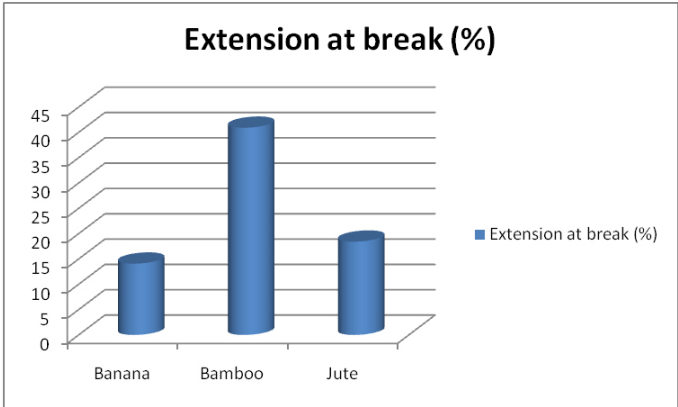
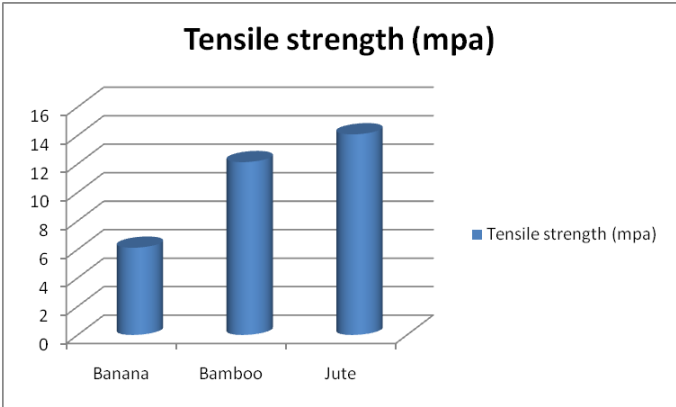
Physical Properties

Fibres	No	Max. Load(N)	Tensile strength(Mpa)	Extension At break (%)	Tensile Extension (mm)	Thickness (mm)
Banana	1	51.39	2.34	11.17	11.17	2.20
	2	227.96	9.91	17.00	17.00	2.30
	Mean	139.67	6.12	14.08	14.08	2.23
Bamboo	1	293.42	12.23	31.83	31.83	2.40
	2	298.63	12.04	50.00	50.00	2.48
	Mean	296.03	12.13	40.92	40.92	2.44
Jute	1	320.74	14.25	10.38	10.38	2.25
	2	319.64	13.90	26.00	26.00	2.30
	Mean	320.19	14.08	18.42	18.42	2.22

The samples Banana, Bamboo and Jute were collected as yarn and subjected to physical property test i.e. tensile strength. This test shows the maximum stress a material can withstand. The property of these natural fibers is suitable for fashion footwear. Among the three samples the tensile strength of the Jute fibers is higher. The mean tensile strengths of the Banana, Bamboo and Jute are 6.12 Mpa, 12.13 Mpa and 14.08 Mpa respectively.

It is also possible to make use of the fibers which have very less strength by blending or braiding it with fibers of higher strength. Hence the upper could withstand the stress even if it made of less strength fibers. This approach is followed in producing the upper from these fibers by braiding it with the high strength Jute fibers.

The product is fashionable and are easily marketable and can withstand competition from the more conventional products. The product could be further improved by softening the material. There is therefore an avenue for further research to examine the processes to increase the softness and strength of the natural fibers. This could pave the way for the production of competitive eco-friendly products.



Footwear Bottoming Material

The major thrust for developing an Eco-Friendly footwear arise from the concern to protect the atmosphere. One of the Green Materials which are available is “NATURAL FIBRE”.

As was done for the upper material, in the case of bottoming material also, the fibers were assessed for their suitability as footwear materials vis-a-vis their physical property characteristics and then were used in the fabrication of the footwear by incorporating fashion elements in the design.



In the case of bottoming materials, the following properties are important:

- Abrasion resistance
- Flexibility
- Light weightedness
- Hardness
- Density
- Impact resistance
- Tensile strength

Approach

The approach adopted was to first identify the raw material from the appropriate source and study the characteristics to shortlist the most suitable from amongst them. The next step was to convert the selected materials to a prototype sample and develop the product from that particular prototype. Finally, the developed material was tested for its physical properties, which was then compared with the standard or recommended values.

The following materials were initially considered to develop the bottoming material of footwear:

- Cork
- Coconut Coir
- Jute
- Banana
- Bamboo

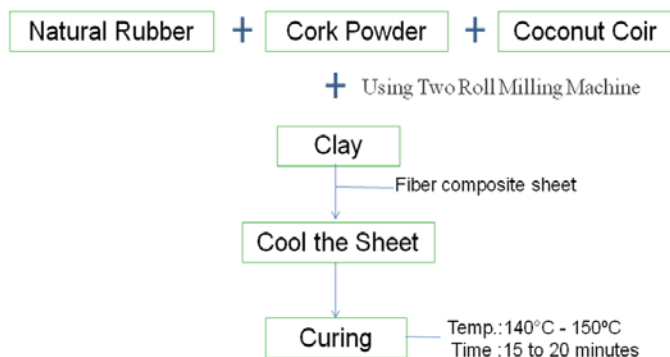
From amongst these materials, cork and coir were taken for an experimental study based on their properties. These natural materials were then mixed with Natural Rubber in different proportions. Cork powder and coir were mixed with natural rubber using clay as a filling agent using a Two Roll mill, after which the Fibre composite sheet was prepared. The fibre composite sheet was cured in pre – heated chamber at 140°C - 150°C for 15 to 20 minutes to get the cured sample by compression moulding process. A pre-weighted fibre composite sheet was then cut and filled in the mould cavity and a suitable pressure and temperature was applied using a hot press. The applied temperature and pressure forces the material to fill the mould cavity and facilitate polymerization (or cross-linking) and consolidation of composite material. The most important factor for obtaining a good fiber reinforcement is the strength of adhesion between the rubber and the fiber. The extent of this adhesion depends upon the structure and polarity of these materials. The structure of material was characterised through the use of Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM).



Flow chart of materials and methods used for making prototype. Experiments:

Twelve samples were prepared using different combination of mixing.

Following tables shows the combination of mixtures.



Sample Nos.	Cork	Coir	Natural Rubber	Clay	Jute	Neo-prene
1	1			0.5		1
2	2	1	3	1.5		
3	1		1	0.5		
4	2	0.5	5	1.25		
5	3	2	10	2.5		
6	1	1	4	1		
7	1	1	2	1		
8	1	3	8	2		
9		1	2	0.5		
10	1		2	0.5		
11	1	1	6	1.5	1	
12	1	1	6	1		

Table 1: Different composition of various sample

To arrive at the best sample, all the samples with different combinations and with different proportions are tested against a set of physical properties and these values are tabulated and evaluated.

Samples	Hardness (Shore A)	Density (g/cc)	Abrasion resistance (volume loss in mm ³)	Flexing endurance (No. of cycles)	Tensile strength (mpa)	Extention at break (%)
SOFT	50-70	0.9-1	Max. 350		Min. 4.0	Min. 300
HARD	71-95	0.98-1.06	Max. 400		Min. 6.0	Min. 250
1	79	1.236	492.514	1000	4.11	52.90
2	80	1.141	515.993	3000	2.75	21.03
3	48	1.013	505.862	2500	2.10	89.23
4	51	1.022	497.029	6000	1.84	94.35
5	46	1.083	513.093	10200	1.50	119.89
6	72	1.059	307.232	28800	2.61	84.72
7	62	1.085	332.998	12400	3.34	220.30
8	66	1.02	322.235	32400	1.83	183.79
9	70	1.009	676.033	7200	1.81	11.38
10	53	1.002	378.941	54000	2.50	153.35
11	74	1.12	291.249	28000	2.55	30.03
12	68	1.032	252.451	39600	3.34	302.68

Physical properties of various samples

Amongst these properties, abrasion resistance, flexing endurance and hardness are the major parameters considered in this study.

For abrasion resistance, the closest value is 378.941 beyond the recommended and on the lower side it is 252.451. The corresponding samples for this is sample nos. 10 and 12. The recommended value for abrasion resistance is max. 350 for soft material. The sample no. 10 and sample no. 12 are considered best among all other samples. So a prototype sole is made from each sample.

The flexing endurance is then considered. The highest value is 54000 and the next is 39600 and the corresponding sample are again sample no. 10 and sample no. 12.

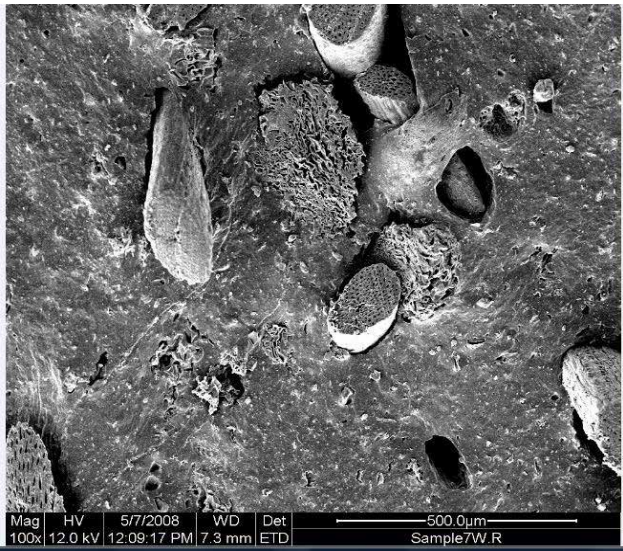
The hardness of these sample are shore A 53 and shore A 68 respectively, which is acceptable for fashion oriented products.

Apart from these the value of Extension at break (%) also is favorable for the samples considered.

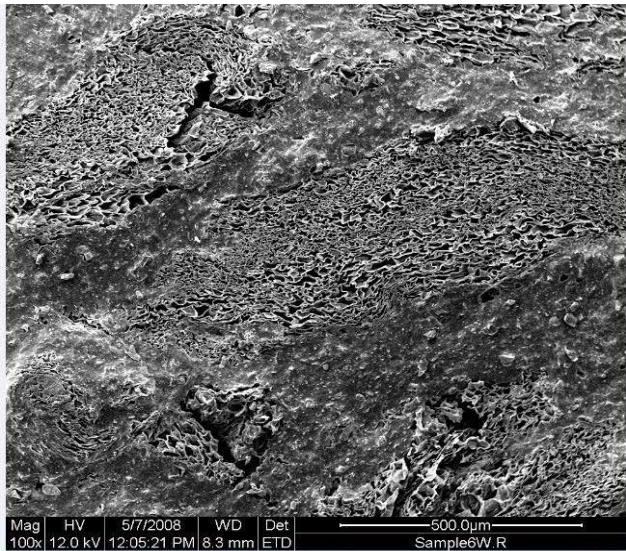
The tensile strength value is 2.50 and 3.34 for the corresponding samples, which is again acceptable for fashion oriented products.



The sample is put through a Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM) study for determining the compatibility of different fibers used. The SEM photographs of the two samples chosen (i.e. Sample No. 10 and Sample No. 12) are shown in the photographs below. The photographs are taken in 100X which implies the magnification of the object. It is clear that the SEM photograph of sample no. 10 and sample no. 12 containing the combination of (Cork : Natural rubber ; 1:2) and (Cork : Coir : Natural rubber ; 1:1:6) respectively shows a good combination and is evenly distributed. Hence from this, it is possible to take a compatible mixture from the above combination. A prototype from the above combination is thus fabricated for further wear trials.



SEM image of sample No.10 (100X)



SEM image of sample No.12 (100X)

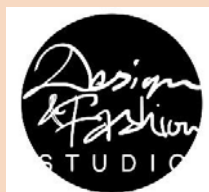
The study has been conducted with footwear made from different proportions of the natural material i.e. Cork, Coir and Natural Rubber. Of the various proportions, the most appropriate for achieving better properties of the sole are listed below:

- Cork with Natural Rubber 1:2 ratio
- Cork and Coir with Natural Rubber 1:1:6 ratio

Suitable footwear with the developed “Eco-friendly” ‘upper’ and ‘bottom’ materials made with “Natural Fibres” and have proven to be an attractive alternative.



**FASHION
TREND
POOL**



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

“Summer Trends at Mallorca: by Mrs Marga Indra Heide of FASHION TREND POOL, Germany provides insights into the SUMMER WEAR using Natural Materials for Footwear Upper and Soling materials. www.fashion-trend-pool.com

AUTHORS:

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Technical Assistance: K Dayalan and PVinoth Kumar.



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“Mega Credit Outreach Programme” organized by Lead Bank, Agra , June 8, 2022

The glorious 75th anniversary of independence is being celebrated by the Union Ministry of Culture as “Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav” under which a “Mega Credit Outreach Programme” was organized by lead bank, Agra as per directions of Department of Financial Services (DFS)-Ministry of Finance and under the guidance of State Level Bankers Committee (SLBC, UP).

Apart from bankers & financial institutions the following organizations were invited. They participated in the programme & presented the schemes / benefits to the entrepreneurs :

The following dignitaries were on dais :

1. Shri Prabhu N. Singh, District Magistrate, Agra
2. Shri Joginder Singh Ghangas, General Manager, Canara Bank.
3. Shri Brijesh Yadav, Deputy Director, MSME DI, Agra
4. Shri R. K. Shukla, Asstt. Director CLE, Agra
5. Shri O P Chak, District Village Industries Officer.
6. Shri Akash Kumar, District Manager, SIDBI
7. Shri Manoj Kumar Das, Deputy General Manager, Canara Bank



Chief Guest - Shri Prabhu N. Singh, DM Agra lighting the lamp



8. Shri Praveen Kumar Kakkar,
Regional Head Canara Bank
9. Shri Avinash V., L.D.M.
10. Shri Rajkumar, Manager

The programme was inaugurated by lighting of lamp by the Chief Guest- Shri Prabhu N Singh, District Magistrate, Agra & other dignitaries.

Starting the event Special Guest General Manager Canara Bank Shri Joginder Singh Ghangas ji gave information about the various banking activities prevalent in Agra district and “Jan Samarth Portal” which was launched by Hon’ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji on 6th June 2022 in which any person can easily get loan from the bank.

Addressing the beneficiaries - Chief Guest Shri Prabhu N. Singh District Magistrate, Agra said to avail the facility of get the loan easily but please pay it off smoothly on time. He also suggested the banks that apart from the traditional business, new types of enterprises and talented entrepreneurs should also be provided Loan for new start up for the development of the distt., State & Nation.

It was informed by bankers that during the campaign, 12447 people have been linked under Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana, 7510 under Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana, 19039 people under Atal Pension Yojana.



Shri R K Shukla, Assistant Director, CLE making a presentation on “an overview of “Agra Footwear Cluster” to the participants



During the said mega credit campaign, loans worth Rs.264 crore were disbursed to about 4800 beneficiaries.

In the event, the Assistant Director CLE– Shri R.K. Shukla presented an overview of “Agra Footwear Cluster” as well as Indian Leather Sector. He explained the activities of CLE and importance of the Agra footwear cluster. He said as per industry sources about 25% population of Agra Distt. is involved (directly & indirectly) in Footwear & its ancillaries industries. He informed about the marketing programmes of CLE for the leather & leather products entrepreneurs. Assistant Director CLE also explained how to generate the Import – Export Code (IEC No.). The participants were requested to visit CLE website & follow its twitter handle for updated information about the Indian leather sector.

Shri B. K. Yadav, Dy. Director MSME DI, Agra informed about the various schemes of his Ministry for the MSME Entrepreneurs. He urged the participants to visit his Office for setting up any industry. He also said that entrepreneurs can visit his Office for Udyam Registration or any project report.

Concluding the programme Shri P.K. Kakkar, Regional Head, Canara Bank conveyed the formal vote of thanks to the Chief Guest, Officials, participants and Bankers towards their participation & making the event successful.

Uttar Pradesh MSME Sammelan - 2022 under the theme 'Transforming MSMEs' competitiveness' on 27th & 28th June 2022, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh

Uttar Pradesh MSME Sammelan - 2022 under the theme 'Transforming MSMEs' competitiveness' was held on 27th & 28th June 2022 at Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh

Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM), in association with the Ministry of MSME, Government of India, organized the event, which underlined the important role of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in making the country self-reliant and in the field of employment.

The two-day event, which commenced on World MSME Day (June 27), witnessed entrepreneurs, industrialists and experts associated with varied sectors including MSME, Finance, Technology and Services participating in it from around the world. They shared their experiences and suggestions at the event that was themed - Transforming MSMEs Competitiveness.

Leather & Leather products including Footwear has a significant presence in MSME. Hence, considering the importance of this sector, Shri Motilal Sethi, Regional Chairman, CLE represented Council for Leather Exports by addressing various sessions. Day – 1 (a) Infrastructure and Quality Readiness for MSMEs (b) Creating a vibrant MSMEs Ecosystem in Uttar Pradesh Day – 2 (a) Making Indian MSMEs Globally Competitive through Trade, Finance & Investment Facilitation, (b) Developing the R&D facilities for MSMEs with Educational Institutions (creating Special Economic Institutional Zones)



Shri Brajesh Pathak, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh inaugurated Uttar Pradesh MSME Sammelan on 27th June, 2022 along with distinguished guests and various Government officials.

Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Shri Brajesh Pathak in his speech said that the state government is taking all necessary steps to attract investment and boost employment opportunities in the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) sector. He said that the emphasis of the government is on providing ease of doing business along with maintaining good law and order in the state.

In the Thematic Session Infrastructure and Quality Readiness for MSMEs, Speakers spoke on several schemes launched by Government of Uttar Pradesh pertaining to MSMEs. Further they said that U.P. stood at second position in 'Ease of Doing Business' and to attract investment, the state government will work to achieve the first position. In this session other stakeholders from different industries also gave their representation on their respective industry.

Shri Motilal Sethi, Northern Regional Chairman, CLE & Co-Chairman, ASSOCHAM National Committee on Leather & Footwear during his address conveyed that the schemes like ODOP (One District One Product) which are launched by the Government of Uttar Pradesh are revolutionary which will not only encourage the efficiency and productivity of artisans of various districts but also give them an international platform for their skills.

During his address he said that that the motive of this MSME Sammelan is to make 'Brand India' a representative of quality, productivity, talent & innovation. He conveyed that India has made a commendable progress in Industrial growth and Exports and continue to grow due to the attractive schemes and policies commenced by the Government of India in line with the vision of our Hon'ble Prime Minister.

Shri Motilal Sethi, Regional Chairman (North), CLE, urged Government to give Leather & Footwear Sector similar kind of hand-holding as given to the Textile Sector.

During his speech he emphasized that leather Industry must be given same incentives as Textile sector as manufacturing and procurement efforts of leather Industry are similar to textile and a long term policy incentive like ROSCTL should be also given to Leather sector for its growth. He conveyed that all duty free import schemes / IFLADP incentives must be User friendly with minimum paper work to en-cash on Global value chain opportunities, which India has today.

He also highlighted comparative incentives being offered to Textile and Leather Industry as per the various Government schemes in Central and as well as State level. He cited the example of Industrial policy of the state of Uttar Pradesh (Textile & Garmenting Policy 2017) in allotment of land and subsidy assistance where 30% of the subsidy in land cost is being given to Textile Sector for setting-up a Textile Park whereas there is no subsidy available for Leather & Footwear Sector. Therefore, he urged Government of



Shri Motilal Sethi, Northern Regional Chairman, CLE , urged Government to give Leather & Footwear Sector similar kind of hand-holding as given to the Textile Sector.



Shri Rakesh Sachan, Hon'ble Cabinet Minister, MSME, Government of Uttar Pradesh along with distinguished members on dias

Uttar Pradesh to give Same incentives and subsidies as Apparel Park to the upcoming Leather Park at Yamuna Express Noida for which U.P. Govt has allotted 100 acres and this park will generate great opportunities if policy frame work is Industry friendly supported by infrastructure incentives.

In the Thematic Session - Creating a vibrant MSMEs Ecosystem in Uttar Pradesh Day, Shri Rakesh Sachan, Hon'ble Cabinet Minister, MSME, Government of Uttar Pradesh was the Chief Guest wherein he said that the state government will soon introduce a new policy for MSME (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) to help facilitate investors setting up industries and ensure ease of doing business like Loans will be made available to one lakh handicraftsman, artisans and small entrepreneurs. He also informed that in series of reforms and development, Government of Uttar Pradesh has also initiated to set-up Leather Clusters in Uttar Pradesh for which Ministry of MSME will give all support.

In the Thematic Session on 28th June, 2022 - Making Indian MSMEs Globally Competitive through Trade, Finance & Investment Facilitation, Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma, Hon'ble State Minister of MSME, Government of India during his address assured that the government will remove all the obstacles and challenges faced by the MSME sector related to credit flow. He also said that the government is determined to create an efficient system of redressal and debt facilities.

In the Thematic Session on 28th June, 2022 - Developing the R&D facilities for MSMEs with Educational Institutions (creating Special



Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma, Hon'ble State Minister of MSME, Government of India along with Shri Motilal Sethi, Northern Regional Chairman, CLE and other dignitaries on dias

Economic Institutional Zones), Shri Awanish Kumar Awasthi, CEO, Uttar Pradesh Expressways Industrial Development Authority (UPEIDA) in his special speech shared those five expressways are being built in UP, which will also have industrial areas being developed along these expressways. He suggested that ASSOCHAM should take up the challenge to sign MoU to develop these industrial areas and bring forward young entrepreneurs.

He also conveyed that Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has set a target of making the state a \$1,000 billion economy and the small-scale industries are expected to play an important part in helping to achieve the goal. The MSME sector is the second-largest job-generator in the state after agriculture. It's an umbrella sector to varied industries like leather, handicrafts, carpets, milk and milk products and food processing industries.

Shri Motilal Sethi, Northern Regional Chairman, CLE & Co-Chairman, ASSOCHAM National Committee on Leather & Footwear in his address informed that the COVID pandemic has created anti-China sentiments worldwide; many countries are now thinking of developing an alternative supply chain based outside China and India is seen as an alternative destination for investment in the Leather & Footwear supply Chain Eco-system. Therefore, the need of the hour is that Industry should work cohesively to encash upon pro-India sentiments. Therefore, we can achieve projected target of USD 30 billion by 2025 by deliberating on 7 S- Skill, Scale, Speed, Sustainability, Supply Chain, Style and Sale. Further he added that, we need to Strategise on propelling growth in view of Pro India Global Value Chain Sentiments and Proactive Government Policies.

All the speakers at the conference unanimously agreed about the important role that MSMEs will play in making the country a \$5-trillion economy, financially self-reliant and in providing employment. Overall, there are more than 6-crore MSMEs in the country, which provides employment to more than 11-crore people. It not only accounts for half of the country's total exports, but also contributes close to 30 percent of the country's GDP.

Experts from various sectors believe that skill development is important in the development of the MSME sector. Since there is a shortage of skilled workers in many sectors of MSMEs, a database of skilled craftsmen and technicians of every field needs to be maintained and made available in the industries. It also needs to undertake digitization of business and branding of products to strengthen the sector, reduce cost and increase competition. Other factors that will help the sector are the provision of a timely financial facility, marketing network of products, safer and better facilities to transport the goods to their destination, increasing research and development (R&D) to make products, among others.

On the concluding day of the event, Her Excellency Smt. Anandiben Patel, Governor of Uttar Pradesh in her address, laid emphasis on interaction and coordination between the industries and research universities. Citing the example of the Army collaborating with Chandigarh University for 10 projects, she added that likewise industries should be associated with research institutes of UP. It will also motivate the youth to work hard.



Shri Awanish Kumar Awasthi, CEO, Uttar Pradesh Expressways Industrial Development Authority (UPEIDA) along with Shri Motilal Sethi, Regional Chairman and other dignitaries on dias



Her Excellency Smt. Anandiben Patel, Governor of Uttar Pradesh speaking on interaction and coordination between the industries and research universities



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Meeting with Shri Dushyant Chautala, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister of Haryana for setting up of Footwear cluster at IMT Rohtak on 18th July 2022 at Chandigarh

Northern Regional Chairman, CLE, Shri Motilal Sethi in his first Northern Regional committee meeting shared his vision document wherein he mentioned that two clusters will be created in Northern Region.

The first Cluster in the area of 100 Acre has already been allotted by Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority (YEIDA) which is under development near Jewar International Airport at Noida.

In a continuous endeavor to set up 2nd Cluster in Haryana at a strategic location and to eliminate the bottlenecks, Shri Motilal Sethi, Northern Regional Chairman, CLE, Shri Subhash Jagga, General Secretary, Footwear Park Association and a delegation of prominent Footwear Manufacturers based at Bahadurgarh Cluster visited Chandigarh on 18th July, 2022 to meet Shri Dushyant Chautala, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister of Haryana in the presence of Shri Vikas Gupta IAS, Managing Director, HSIDC and Ms. Amneet P. Kumar, IAS, DG MSME etc.

Shri Dushyant Chautala, Dy. CM, Haryana allotted 500 acres of footwear park (Cluster) at IMT Rohtak, Haryana which will have very modern state-of-the-art infrastructure and will be the biggest footwear cluster in the country.

Shri Motilal Sethi, Northern Regional Chairman, CLE also raised the matter of including Leather & Footwear



Shri Motilal Sethi, Northern Regional Chairman, CLE, Shri Subhash Jagga, General Secretary, Bahadurgarh Footwear Park requested on various Cluster Incentives and Shri Dushyant Chautala, Hon'ble Deputy CM, Haryana agreed for 80 percent exemption of Stamp Duty, SGST exemption, 10 percent discount on full payment in 90 days, Common Facilities etc.

in the "Thrust" sector of Haryana Industrial Policy to which Ms. Amneet P. Kumar, IAS, DG, MSME suggested to send representation for including Leather & Footwear in Textile and Apparels Sector, which has already been notified in the Haryana Industrial Policy

Shri Dushyant Chautala, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister of Haryana conveyed that Government of Haryana at IMT Rohtak is committed to cater and to serve the Industries by creating viable facilities especially to MSMEs which has the potential to generate employment and revenue for the state.

Shri Dushyant Chautala, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister of Haryana, conveyed that the Government of Haryana at IMT Rohtak will form a 'Footwear' cluster in an area of 500 acres on International standard, in which industrialists will be helped in every way.

As soon as about two dozen industries are commissioned, a Common Service Centre will be made within a year so that industrialists can get ease in their work. He also announced that a Centre of excellence related to leather will also be set up to help the industrialists of the leather industry in the state.

He assured to build a labour-hostel/dormitory near the 'Footwear-Park' cluster so that the labours working there do not face any problem in commuting to the industry.

While interacting with the delegation, he stated that training will also be imparted to the students of ITI institutes around Rohtak by connecting them with the footwear industry so that the industrialists of Footwear industry can get skilled youth at the local level and youth can get employment near their homes.

Citing the developments initiated by the Government of Haryana, he said that investors are coming forward to set up industries in the state, as the government has taken several major steps to improve the industrial environment and due to which Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi honoured the state of Haryana for their remarkable work done in the field of MSME wherein their rank is 3rd at the National level. Haryana has also been ranked in the top achievers' category in the fifth edition of 'State Ease of Doing Business' released by



Delegation also met Shri Devender Babli, Hon'ble Haryana Development Minister, Government of Haryana

the Union ministry of commerce and industry, which is a matter of pride for any state.

He also informed that Haryana government's commitment to provide a conducive ecosystem to the industries has resulted in Haryana getting excellent ranking in ease of doing business, ease of logistics and export readiness. In addition, the state has been ranked first in the Export Readiness Index (Land Closed Category)-2021 and second in the 'Logistics Across Different Status Survey'-2021.

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CLE Open House Meetings on IDLS scheme under IFLDP held every Wednesday, via virtual mode during June 2022

Integrated Development of Leather Sector (IDLS) Scheme is one of the sub-schemes of “Indian Footwear & Leather Development Programme (IFLDP) 2021-26”. The scheme proposes to incentivize investment and manufacturing by providing backend investment grant/subsidy for modernization, capacity expansion, technology upgradation in existing units and also for setting up of new units. All existing units in the Footwear and Leather industry having cash profits for 2 years, undertaking modernization or capacity expansion or technology upgradation on or after 01.01.2020 are eligible for assistance. Assistance would be provided @ 30% of cost of Plant and machinery to MSME units and 20% to other units, subject to a ceiling of Rs.15 crores. For those units located in North-Eastern areas, assistance would be provided @ 40% of cost of plant & machinery to MSME units and 30% to other units, subject to a ceiling of Rs.15 crores. Additional 5% financial assistance would be provided for the domestically manufactured plant and machinery. The applications seeking grant has to be filed in the online portal National Single Window System (NSWS).

In order to provide guidance on the scheme guidelines of IDLS Scheme, procedures, documents required to be uploaded etc and to give briefing on the application submission process in the online portal National Single Window System, the Council for Leather Exports (CLE) is organizing Open House Meeting for IFLDP, every Wednesday @ 11.30am via virtual mode.

The 1st in the series of the Open House Meeting for IFLDP was held on Wednesday 01.06.2022 to an encouraging participation by the industry. In the month of June 2022, the CLE has conducted a total of 5 Open House Meetings for IFLDP, every Wednesday, (01.06.2022, 08.06.2022, 15.06.2022, 22.06.2022 & 29.06.2022) via virtual mode.

The CLE Open House Meetings were conducted by Shri A. Fayaz Ahmad, Deputy Director, CLE. The Regional Directors of the CLE in South, North, East, Central, West Regions have joined these Meetings along with their dealing staff concerned. Besides, Assistant Director from Extension office Agra and official-in-charge of Jalandhar Extension Office also attend the Meetings. 1st Open House Meeting of the CLE was participated by Shri M Israr Ahmed, Regional Chairman (South), CLE and 2nd Open House Meeting was presided over by Shri R. Selvam, IAS, Executive Director, CLE

A total of 73 manufacturing units from various parts of the country have attended the CLE Open House Meetings and Scheme guidelines and procedures were explained to them and awareness was created on the IDLS Scheme.

In order to make the discussions further comprehensive and inclusive, on the invitation of CLE, officials from Project Implementation Unit for IDLS Scheme Footwear Design and Development Institute (FDDI) and CSIR-Central Leather Research Institute (CLRI) have also joined the Open House Meeting held on 29.06.2022. Shri Aritra Das, Senior Consultant, FDDI and Dr. K. Srinivasan, Principal Scientist, CSIR-CLRI have participated and held detailed discussions and clarified to the queries of the participants.

CLE Open House Meeting held on 01.06.2022



CLE Open House Meeting held on 08.06.2022



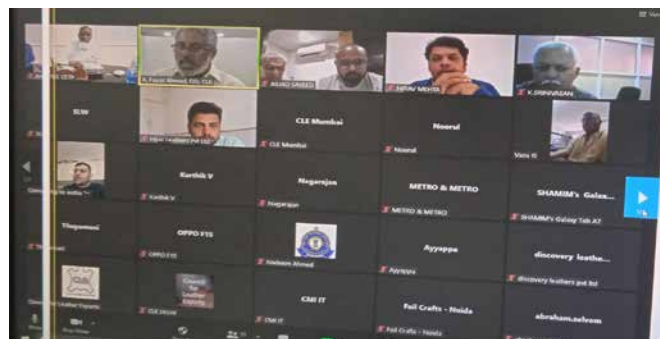
CLE Open House Meeting held on 15.06.2022



CLE Open House Meeting held on 22.6.2022



CLE Open House Meeting held on 29.06.2022



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