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- **Hon'ble Prime Minister inaugurates International Exhibition-cum-Convention Centre - 'Bharat Mandapam', July 26, 2023**
- **Council for Leather Exports Organises Trade & Investment Promotion Show at Taiwan, 10th-11th Aug., 2023**

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COUNCIL FOR LEATHER EXPORTS

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CENTRAL REGION

KLC Complex (Kanpur-Lucknow Highway)
Kader Patari, Banthar,
Unnao-209862
Tel: +91 – 0515-2823376
Fax: +91 – 0515-2823377
E-Mail: cleknp@cleindia.com

EASTERN REGION

I B, First Floor, “Duck Back House”,
41, Shakespeare Sarani, Kolkata – 700 017.
Tel: +91 – 33 – 22835479 / 80
Fax: +91 – 33 – 22877270
E-Mail: cleer@cleindia.com

NORTHERN REGION

Flat No. 317, DLF Prime Tower
OKhla Phase-I (Near Hotel Crowne Plaza)
New Delhi - 110 020
Ph: +91-11-26814501 /502
Fax : +91-11-26814503
E-mail : cledelhi@cleindia.com

SOUTHERN REGION

I, Sivaganga Road, Nungambakkam,
Chennai – 600 034, India
Phone: + 91-44-48684380 - 84
Fax: +91-44-48684386
E-mail: cle@cleindia.com

WESTERN REGION

STAR HUB, Building I, Unit No. 102, 1st Floor
Near Hotel Hyatt Regency & ITC Maratha
Sahar International Airport Road
Andheri (East), Mumbai – 400099
Tel : +91-22-28392221
Fax : +91-22-67256236
e-mail : cleb@cleindia.com

AGRA EXTENSION OFFICE

Agra Trade Centre,
Village Singna, NH -2
(Near Gokulam Water Park)
Agra - 282007, Uttar Pradesh
Mobile : 8791161159
email : cleagra@cleindia.com

JALANDHAR EXTENSION OFFICE

CFC Building, Leather Complex,
Kapurthala Road
Jalandhar 144 021, Punjab, India
Phone: +91-181-2650967
Fax: +91-181-2650967
E-mail: clejalandhar@cleindia.com

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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COUNCIL FOR LEATHER EXPORTS

Registered Office & Head Office
I, Sivaganga Road, Nungambakkam,
Chennai – 600 034, India
Phone: + 91-44-48684380 - 84
Fax: +91-44-48684386
E-mail: cle@cleindia.com
Website: www.leatherindia.org

EDITOR

R. Selvam

ASSOCIATE EDITORS

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Kanpur	Pallavi Dubey
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Council for Leather Exports,
I, Sivaganga Road, Nungambakkam,
Chennai - 600 034

on behalf of Council for Leather Exports,
I, Sivaganga Road, Nungambakkam,
Chennai - 600 034



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Dear Members

Export of Leather, Leather products and Footwear for the period April-June 2023-24 touched US\$ 1200.93 million as against the performance of US\$ 1388.56 million in April-June 2022-23, recording a decline of -13.51%. The persisting global market slowdown is a cause of concern, but I am sure that our exports will return to the growth trajectory soon. Going by the current trends, exports from our sector during 2022-23 are expected to be in the range of USD 5.4 to USD 5.6 billion, as against the export performance of USD 5.26 billion during 2022-23.

As you are all aware, USA is now the largest importing country for Indian footwear and leather sector. Removal of US GSP for leather products has affected our exports to the tune of USD 450 million per annum. As the US Congress is now reviewing reinstatement of the US GSP programme (which expired in Dec. 2020), we have taken-up the request of reinstatement of US GSP for India with the Government.

The European Union Regulation (2013/115) of May 31, 2023 on Deforestation and Forest Degradation free supply chain will come into force from December 30, 2024 (for micro enterprises from June 30, 2024). As per this regulation, Relevant Commodities and relevant products shall not be placed or made available on the market or exported, unless all the following conditions are fulfilled

- (a) They are de-forestation fee
- (b) They have been produced in accordance with relevant legislation of the country of production and
- (c) They are covered by a due diligence statement.

Also, the companies placing products in the EU market have maintain geo location of products sold in the EU market. This will be a major non tariff barrier, which will significantly increase the cost of compliance, as it involves the entire supply chain of the leather sector. Hence, we are taking up this issue with the Government of India, for suitably taking-up with the EU Side for dropping this regulation and instead bringing in mechanisms to prevent deforestation.

With best wishes

Sanjay Leekha

Chairman
COUNCIL FOR LEATHER EXPORTS



Dear Members

The Indian footwear and leather industry is aiming to reach a turnover (both domestic and export) of USD 47 billion by 2030, from the present turnover of USD 17.26 billion. In order to achieve this turnover, there is a need to significantly scale-up our production capacities, for which there is a need to attract both domestic and overseas investments and also promote technology transfer and technical collaborations with overseas countries.

In a significant stride towards fostering international trade relations and attracting foreign direct investment, the Council for Leather Export (CLE), in collaboration with the Department of Commerce, Government of India, and the India Taiwan Association, organized a Trade and Investment Promotion show in Taiwan during August 2023. The objective of this event was to promote India's leather exports, particularly in leather goods and footwear, while simultaneously encouraging foreign investment in India's leather and footwear manufacturing sector.

Shri Anand Swarup, Joint Secretary, Department of Commerce ; Shri Anup Singh, Deputy Secretary, Department of Commerce ; Shri Sanjay Leekha, Chairman, CLE, myself and seven member companies participated in the visit to Taiwan.

During the visit, we were able to meet a cross section of stakeholders in Taiwan including industry associations like Taiwan International Leather Association , Taiwan Footwear Manufacturers Association, Taiwan Import-Exporters Chamber of Commerce a ; Research Institute namely Footwear & Recreation Technology Research Institute (FRT) , besides meeting many Taiwanese companies.

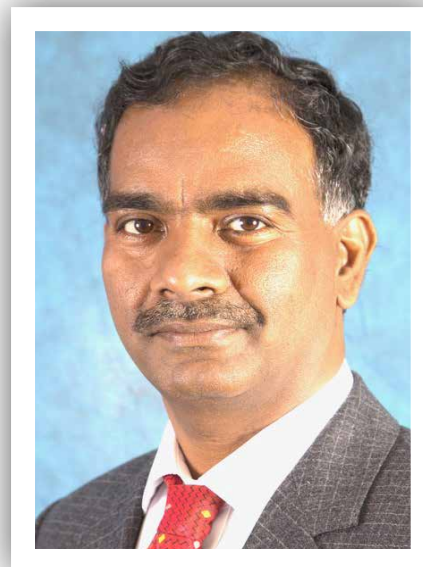
During the meetings, the Indian delegation was able to highlight the huge growth potential of the Indian footwear and leather sector and the opportunities for investments, joint ventures and technology transfers. This visit has opened -up new collaboration opportunities with Taiwan and I hope that this will lead to significant business prospects in the coming months

With kind regards

R. Selvam IAS

Executive Director

COUNCIL FOR LEATHER EXPORTS

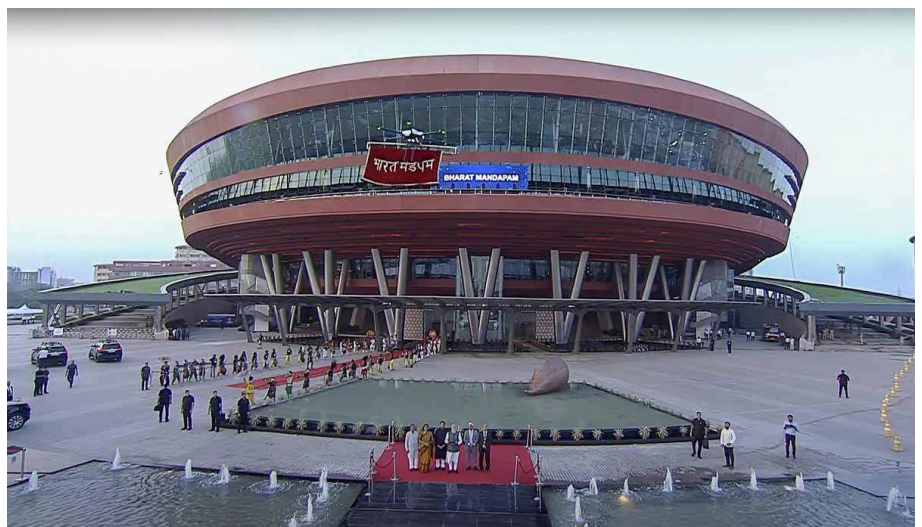


Hon'ble Prime Minister inaugurates International Exhibition-cum-Convention Centre - 'Bharat Mandapam', July 26, 2023



Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India inaugurating the International Exhibition-cum-Convention Centre - 'Bharat Mandapam' ITPO, New Delhi

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the International Exhibition-cum-Convention Centre (IECC) complex at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi on 26th July 2023. He also unveiled the G-20 coin and G-20 stamp. The Prime Minister also witnessed the naming ceremony of the Convention Centre as 'Bharat Mandapam' carried out via drone and a cultural program that was showcased on the occasion. Visioned by the Prime Minister and developed as a national project at a cost of about Rs 2700 crores, the new IECC complex at Pragati Maidan will help in promoting India as a global business destination. In his address, he encouraged the nation to embrace the ethos of "Think Big, Dream Big, Act Big".



Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India inaugurating the International Exhibition-cum-Convention Centre - 'Bharat Mandapam' ITPO, New Delhi

Earlier in the day, the Prime Minister conducted a puja (ritual prayer) at the Complex and honored the Shramjeevis who played a vital role in constructing the International Exhibition cum Convention Centre.



Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India inaugurating the International Exhibition-cum-Convention Centre - 'Bharat Mandapam' ITPO, New Delhi

Addressing the audience during the opening ceremony, Shri Piyush Goyal, the Union Minister of Commerce & Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, and Textiles, expressed gratitude to Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi for his valuable presence at the inauguration of the International Convention Complex – Bharat Mandapam. He highlighted how Prime Minister Modi's visionary leadership has reshaped the nation's mindset and spurred it towards becoming a developed nation. Shri Goyal also acknowledged the contribution of the dedicated Shramjeevis and architects in bringing the Complex to fruition.

Shri Goyal emphasized the importance of having a world-class convention and exhibition center in India to showcase the nation to the world. He credited the Prime Minister's foresight for the realization of this project, which would enable the display of India's agricultural output, MSMEs, artisans, and industries on the global stage. He

emphasized that this modern infrastructure complements the government's policies to promote industry and ensure the nation's progress.

The name "Bharat Mandapam" draws inspiration from Lord Basaveshwara's concept of Anubhav Mandapam, a pavilion for public ceremonies. This Complex, according to Shri Goyal, will be accessible to all, providing the necessary facilities to drive India's transformation into a developed and modern nation.

The International Exhibition-cum-Convention Centre (IECC) project is a comprehensive revamp of the outdated facilities at Pragati Maidan and is positioned as a National initiative. Encompassing approximately 123 acres



Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Minister for Commerce & Industries, GOI delivering welcome Speech at the International Exhibition-cum-Convention Centre - 'Bharat Mandapam' ITPO, New Delhi



Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Greeting the audience at the International Exhibition-cum-Convention Centre - 'Bharat Mandapam' ITPO, New Delhi

of land, the IECC complex emerges as India's largest MICE (Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, and Exhibitions) destination. In terms of covered space for events, the IECC Complex ranks among the top exhibition and convention centers globally. The newly established IECC complex at Pragati Maidan comprises a range of state-of-the-art facilities, including a Convention Centre, Exhibition halls, and an amphitheater, among others.

The Convention Centre takes center stage in the Pragati Maidan complex. A grand architectural marvel, it is designed to accommodate expansive international exhibitions, trade fairs, conventions, conferences, and prestigious events. The Centre boasts multiple meeting rooms, lounges, auditoriums, an amphitheater, and a business center, making it suitable for a wide array of events. The multi-purpose hall and plenary hall collectively accommodate a remarkable seven thousand people, surpassing the seating capacity of the renowned Sydney Opera House

in Australia. The impressive Amphitheater offers seating for 3,000 attendees

Inspired by Indian traditions, the architectural design of the Convention Centre reflects India's confidence in its heritage while embracing modern amenities. The building's form is reminiscent of the Shankha (conch shell), and its walls and facades showcase various elements of India's traditional art and culture. These include depictions of 'Surya Shakti,' representing India's solar energy initiatives, 'Zero to ISRO,' celebrating the nation's achievements in space exploration, and 'Pancha Mahabhuta,' symbolizing the universal foundation - Aakash (Sky), Vayu (Air), Agni (Fire), Jal (Water), and Prithvi (Earth), among others. The Convention Centre also features a range of paintings and tribal art forms from different regions of India, adding to its cultural richness

In his address to the assembled audience, the Prime Minister commenced his speech with a poetic verse, symbolizing the fresh fervor and spirit of the nation. He remarked, "Bharat Mandapam signifies the vigor and renewed dynamism of India, encapsulating the philosophy of our nation's magnificence and determination"

Reflecting on the morning's interaction with the dedicated Shramiks, the Prime Minister conveyed his admiration for their unwavering dedication and labor. He extended heartfelt congratulations to both the residents of Delhi and every citizen of India for the momentous occasion that is Bharat Mandapam. Amid the commemoration of Kargil Vijay Diwas, he paid tribute to the martyrs who valiantly sacrificed their lives for India during the Kargil war, on behalf of the entire nation.

Delving into the origin of the name 'Bharat Mandapam,' the Prime Minister drew inspiration from the concept of 'Anubhav Mandapam' as envisioned by Bhagwan Basaveshwara. He highlighted Anubhav Mandapam's representation

of the tradition of debate and expression, a cornerstone of India's rich democratic heritage. Emphasizing India's role as the cradle of democracy, the Prime Minister cited historical and archaeological evidence, underscoring that "Bharat Mandapam is our gift to democracy as we celebrate 75 years of Independence." He further underscored that the upcoming G20 Summit, scheduled at the venue in a few weeks, will showcase India's progress and global significance to the world.

Delving into the rationale behind a world-class convention center in Delhi, the Prime Minister underscored the need for contemporary infrastructure suited to the demands of the 21st century. He highlighted the far-reaching advantages of Bharat Mandapam, not only for international exhibitors but also as a catalyst for conference tourism within India. The Prime Minister envisioned the complex as a platform to spotlight the potential of the country's startups, host artistic performances, and showcase the craftsmanship of artisans. He eloquently termed Bharat Mandapam as a mirror reflecting the ideals of a self-reliant India and the Vocal for Local movement. With enthusiasm, he proclaimed that the convention center will serve as a stage for diverse sectors, spanning from the economy to ecology, trade to technology, ultimately becoming an emblem of a resurgent and self-assured India.

Highlighting the significance of an infrastructure like Bharat Mandapam, the Prime Minister emphasized that its development should have been undertaken decades ago. He underscored the imperative of persisting in infrastructure creation, even in the face of opposition from vested interests. The Prime Minister stressed the essential role of cohesive efforts for societal progress, noting that fragmentation hampers growth.



Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India addressing the audience at the International Exhibition-cum-Convention Centre - 'Bharat Mandapam' ITPO, New Delhi

He held up Bharat Mandapam as an exemplar of forward-looking holistic practices, citing the introduction of e-conference visa facilities for over 160 countries as a testament to this approach. The capacity of Delhi Airport has increased to 7.5 crore passengers annually from 5 crore in 2014, a statistic set to further improve with the impending operation of Jewar Airport. The significant expansion of the Hospitality Industry in Delhi NCR showcased a meticulously planned ecosystem for conference tourism.

With a focus on the capital city's infrastructural advancements, the Prime Minister proudly mentioned landmarks such as the newly inaugurated Parliament building, which invokes a sense of pride in every Indian. He offered examples of other notable monuments, including the National War Memorial, Police Memorial, and Baba Saheb Ambedkar Memorial. The Prime Minister reaffirmed the ongoing development of office buildings around Kartavya Path, underscoring the government's commitment to reshaping work culture and environments. He alluded to the Pradhan Mantri Sangrahalay, a unique museum providing insights into the lives of India's Prime Ministers throughout history. The Prime Minister revealed that the construction of 'Yuge Yugeen Bharat,' the world's largest museum, is rapidly progressing in New Delhi.

Urging a visionary approach, the Prime Minister emphasized the importance of setting ambitious goals to achieve development. He encapsulated this ethos with the principle of "Think Big, Dream Big, Act Big," which underpins India's progress. The Prime Minister declared that India is constantly striving for greater achievements, exemplified by endeavors such as the world's largest Solar-wind park, the highest rail bridge, the longest tunnel, the highest motorable road, the largest cricket stadium, the world's tallest statue, and Asia's second-largest railroad bridge—all located within India. He also acknowledged advancements in green hydrogen.

Highlighting the pillars of development during the present and previous government terms, the Prime Minister asserted that India's journey of progress

is now unstoppable. He pointed out that India was the 10th largest economy globally when the current government assumed power in 2014, but it has since ascended to the 5th largest economy. With unwavering conviction, he assured that India's trajectory will position it among the top 3 economies worldwide in the third term, offering this as "Modi's guarantee." The Prime Minister pledged that the pace of India's development journey will escalate manifold in the coming years, assuring citizens that their aspirations will be realized.

The Prime Minister highlighted India's current journey of transformative reconstruction, underscoring that over the past nine years, a staggering 34 lakh crore rupees have been invested in building vital infrastructure. Continuing this commitment, this year's capital expenditure has been allocated at an impressive 10 lakh crore. The nation is making unprecedented strides in both pace and scale. Notably, the electrification of 40 thousand km of railway lines occurred in the past nine years, dwarfing the mere 20 thousand km achieved in the previous seven decades. The progress of urban metro lines has seen a remarkable evolution, with the monthly laying of 600 meters of metro line before 2014 now skyrocketing to an impressive 6 km per month. Rural road networks have similarly flourished, expanding from a modest 4 lakh km in 2014 to an impressive 7.25 km today. The number of airports has surged from about 70 to nearly 150, while city gas distribution has burgeoned from just 60 cities in 2014 to a robust 600.



National and International Dignitaries at the International Exhibition-cum-Convention Centre - 'Bharat Mandapam' ITPO, New Delhi

"The New India" is undeterred by obstacles, stated the Prime Minister, as he underscored the government's commitment to finding lasting solutions. He highlighted the PM Gatishakti Masterplan, a revolutionary concept in social infrastructure, leveraging over 1600 layers of data to enhance efficiency and save valuable time and resources.

Drawing parallels with the significance of the 1930s in India's freedom struggle, the Prime Minister likened the third decade of this century to a critical juncture for realizing a prosperous and developed India, a "Viksit Bharat." Just as the pursuit of Swaraj led to India's independence, the Prime Minister urged citizens to rally behind the goal of "Viksit Bharat" for the upcoming 25 years, resonating with the dreams of freedom fighters. Speaking from experience, he asserted India's potential for development and poverty eradication, citing a Niti Aayog report that highlights the uplifting of 13.5 crore people from poverty in a mere five years.

International agencies, he added, acknowledge India's strides in diminishing extreme poverty, attributing these achievements to government policies and decisions over the past nine years.

The Prime Minister emphasized the imperative of clean intentions and sound policies, exemplifying the approach with the G-20. By expanding the G-20 meetings to over 50 cities across India, the nation's diverse cultural heritage was showcased, enriching global understanding of India's cultural power. This approach, evident in the development of facilities for G-20 meetings, exemplifies good governance. "Nation First, Citizen First" is the ethos guiding India toward its developed future. The occasion saw the presence of Union Minister for Trade and Commerce, Shri Piyush Goyal, several other Union Ministers, government officials, and leading industry experts, further affirming the collaborative effort towards India's growth.



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India International Footwear Fair (IIFF) 2023 at ITPO Pragati Maidan, 27-29th July, 2023



Lamp Lighting Ceremony during Inauguration of IIFF 2023 at ITPO Pragati Maidan

The bustling capital city of India witnessed a significant stride in the realm of the domestic footwear industry with the inauguration of the highly anticipated International Footwear Fair i.e. India International Footwear Fair (IIFF), 2023 during 27-29th July, 2023. Organized by the India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) in collaboration with CIFI and supported by CLE and IFCOMA, this grand event unfolded its doors to a myriad of footwear enthusiasts, manufacturers, retailers, and industry stakeholders on a vibrant morning today. The inauguration ceremony was graced by the esteemed presence of the Cabinet Minister for Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME), Shri Narayan Rane who

officially declared the event open on 27th July 2023.

The Domestic Footwear Fair, held at the sprawling premises of the India Trade Promotion Organisation in New Delhi, has been generating buzz for weeks as industry insiders and fashion aficionados eagerly anticipated the diverse range of footwear collections, technological innovations, and business opportunities it promised to showcase.

The opening ceremony was a spectacle of grandeur, attended by key figures from the footwear industry, government officials, and notable personalities. The Cabinet Minister for MSME, known for his unwavering support for small and medium enterprises, took center stage and inaugurated the event with a ribbon-cutting ceremony, symbolizing the commencement of a new chapter in the domestic footwear sector.

In his inaugural address, the Cabinet MSME Minister underscored the importance of the footwear industry in driving economic growth and fostering entrepreneurship. He emphasized the government's commitment to supporting small and medium-sized businesses, especially in sectors like footwear, which play a pivotal role in generating employment and contributing to the country's GDP.



Release of IIFF 2023 Directory of IIFF 2023 at ITPO Pragati Maidan

The fair itself lived up to its pre-event hype, with an array of booths and exhibits showcasing the latest trends in footwear design, manufacturing techniques, and sustainable practices. Attendees were treated to a visual feast of stylish, ergonomic, and innovative footwear creations that reflect the diverse tastes and preferences of the Indian market.

One of the standout features of the fair was its focus on promoting indigenous craftsmanship and supporting local artisans. Numerous stalls featured handcrafted footwear, showcasing the rich heritage and traditional techniques that make Indian footwear unique. This emphasis on preserving cultural traditions while embracing modern innovation resonated well with both exhibitors and visitors.



Shri Motilal Sethi, Northern Regional Chairman, CLE at Inauguration of IIFF 2023 at ITPO Pragati Maidan

Shri Motilal Sethi, Northern Regional Chairman, CLE welcoming Cabinet Minister for Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME), Shri Narayan Rane at Inauguration of IIFF 2023 and thanked him for launching various progressive initiatives & policies for the MSME Sector





Shri Moti Lal Sethi, Northern Regional Chairman, CLE along with Shri Subhash Jagga President Bahadurgarh Chamber of Commerce and industry, Shri Raj Kumar Gupta, MD Action Shoes, Dr. N. Mohan, CoA, CLE other Dignitaries and CLE officials at CLE Booth, of IIFF 2023 at ITPO Pragati Maidan

As the Domestic Footwear Fair continues over the next few days, attendees can look forward to engaging panel discussions, workshops, and networking opportunities aimed at fostering collaborations and knowledge sharing within the industry. With a diverse mix of established brands, emerging designers, and technological innovators under one roof, the event is poised to catalyze growth and drive positive change within the domestic footwear landscape.

In summary, the inauguration of the India International Footwear Fair at ITPO Delhi by the cabinet Minister for MSME marked a significant milestone for the domestic footwear industry. It not only celebrates the creativity and craftsmanship of Indian shoemakers but also serves as a platform to nurture innovation, collaboration, and sustainable practices within the sector. As the fair unfolded, it held the promise of forging new business relationships, inspiring design innovation, and propelling the Indian footwear industry to greater heights.

Union Minister for Commerce and Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, and Textiles, Shri Piyush Goyal, underlined the pivotal role of the Indian Footwear

& Leather industry, not just as a significant contributor to foreign exchange, but also as a labor-intensive sector responsible for generating employment for approximately 4.5 million individuals, with women constituting 40% of this workforce.

Speaking as the Chief Guest at the India International Footwear Fair 2023 (IIFF) held in New Delhi today, the Commerce and Industry Minister envisioned India's potential to ascend to the position of the world's largest and highest-quality footwear manufacturer.



Shri Sudhir Rustagi, Panel Convener (Footwear Components), CLE at CLE Booth of IIFF 2023 at ITPO Pragati Maidan

The Minister spotlighted India's global standing as the second-largest exporter of leather garments, third-largest exporter of Saddlery & Harness, and fourth-largest exporter of Leather Goods. He underscored the noteworthy aspect that more than 95% of production units within this sector are accredited as Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME) units.

Sh. Piyush Goyal conveyed the imminent introduction of an Indian Size of footwear, aiming to distinguish Indian Footwear on a global scale and curtail



Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Minister of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India addressing the dignitaries and the august gathering virtually at the closing ceremony of IIFF 2023 at ITPO Pragati Maidan

reliance on foreign sizing standards. He encouraged industrialists to explore Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) for fostering technological collaborations and non-leather footwear joint ventures, thereby amplifying both exports and the domestic market's access to Indian products.

Applauding the aesthetic allure of Maharashtra's Kolhapuri Footwear and Rajasthan's Mojari Footwear, Shri Goyal emphasized their potential as captivating offerings for international buyers. He noted that India's prowess in this sector is deeply rooted in locally sourced raw materials and its culturally diverse heritage.

The Minister underscored the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, citing monumental initiatives like the 'Bharat Mandapam' - an International Exhibition-cum-Convention Centre complex, set to host the upcoming G20 summit in September 2023.

Elaborating on the Government's strategic intent, Shri Goyal announced plans for establishing testing facilities within the framework of India's Footwear and Leather Development Programme. He underscored the Government's commitment to

facilitating ease of doing business through initiatives such as decriminalization of corporate offenses, alleviating compliance burdens, establishing a unified national approval framework, and enhancing infrastructure quality.

Shri Goyal urged stakeholders to expand business horizons while unwaveringly upholding quality and sustainability principles, promoting eco-friendly processes, efficient waste management, and exploring renewable energy sources. The Minister advocated for a shift towards competitiveness through innovative designs to facilitate substantial and sustainable growth. He recognized the global market's intense competitiveness and implored exporters to channel their efforts into producing innovative and sustainable products that align with the burgeoning worldwide demand.

Reinforcing the need to bolster design capabilities to elevate India's position in the value chain, Shri Goyal emphasized the importance of attracting greater investments and advanced technology to escalate production and develop groundbreaking products. He underscored the collaborative synergy between institutions like CLRI, FDDI, and NIFT, which will play a pivotal role in crafting novel products and technologies that resonate with the evolving market trends and requirements.

While addressing at India International Footwear Fair 2023 (IIFF) at New Delhi today, Shri V. Noushad, President, CIFI said that India has the capacity to become world's largest and best quality footwear manufacturer. He further added that India is the 2nd largest producer of footwear and 2nd largest consumer, in the world. He highlighted that more than 95% of the production units in this sector are Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME) units. He informed that the strength of India in this sector comes from the local raw material and its rich diverse history.

He thanked the visionary leadership of the Hon'ble minister leading in initiatives like undertaking grand infrastructure like 'Bharat Mandapam' - International Exhibition-cum-Convention Centre complex, which will host the G20 summit in September 2023. He also thanked govt for various initiatives undertaken for ease of doing business like decriminalisation of corporate offenses, reducing compliance burdens, creating a national single window for all approvals, World Class Infrastructure, etc.



Shri V. Noushad, President, CIFI giving address at the closing ceremony of IIFF 2023 at ITPO Pragati Maidan

Shri Sanjay Leekha, Chairman, CLE addressed the closing ceremony of IIFF and conveyed that this is the right time to expand the business while keeping the focus on quality and sustainability, eco-friendly process, waste management, and exploring renewable sources for electricity. He further emphasised embracing competitiveness in the form of innovative designs for a bigger and better growth.

He highlighted that the global market is very competitive and urged the footwear manufacturers to develop innovative as well as sustainable products for which there is a huge and growing demand in the world. Shri Leekha further said that not only do we need to enhance our design capabilities to move up the value chain, but also bring in



Shri Sanjay Leekha, Chairman, CLE giving address at the closing ceremony of IIFF 2023 at ITPO Pragati Maidan

more investments and technology to scale up the production and produce innovative products. He mentioned that institutions like FDDI, and CFTI will collaborate with the industry in developing new products and technologies in tune with the changing trends and requirements of the market."



Dignitaries on Dais at the closing ceremony of IIFF 2023 at ITPO Pragati Maidan

BIS meeting of Additional Secretary, DPIIT with industry representatives on QCO issued and implemented by BIS since 1st July 2023



Shri Rajeev Singh Thakur, IAS, Additional Secretary DPIT Chaired the BIS meeting with Industry Representative of Footwear Sector

Footwear Industry of India has been raising the issues regarding the implementation of Quality Control Order of India which is implementing standards and bringing in standardization in the manufacturing of footwear in India which can bring several benefits, such as improved quality consistency, and efficiency. However, manufacturers belonging to MSMEs are facing some challenges that may hamper their production process, supplying footwear to retailers and implement the standards in their factories.

DPIIT of MOC&I organised a meeting under the Chairmanship of Shri Rajeev Singh Thakur to discuss and clarify the implementation issues and way forward. CLE, CIFI and industry representatives from Agra, Jaipur, Jalandhar, Delhi, Kerala, Chennai and Mumbai participated in the meeting.

Shri Rajeev Singh Thakur, Additional Secretary welcomed the member

representative and opened the floor for meeting.

Representative from Agra footwear industry highlighted that adopting standardized manufacturing processes often requires investment in new equipment, technology, and training. Currently MSMEs are struggling with limited financial resources to implement these standards which are costly and cumbersome. Most of the small footwear manufacturers are uneducated and have less knowledge. He said that most of us lack awareness about the importance of standardization and the specific standards relevant to the footwear industry. Additionally, training employees and complying with physical and chemical tests to follow standardized processes and procedures can be time-consuming and resource-intensive that will wipe us out from the market.

CIFI representative highlighted that changing the quality norms and practices through QCO may be met with reluctance and scepticism, making the transition to standardized processes challenging. Moreover, MSMEs may encounter resistance from retailers and raw material supplier who are accustomed to existing manufacturing methods.

They also highlighted that footwear manufacturing often involves a complex network of suppliers, subcontractors, and vendors. Aligning all these stakeholders with standardized processes can be difficult, especially when they are spread across different regions of country.

Representatives from Jaipur and Jalandhar highlighted that footwear industry is producing a wide variety of products, each with its own design, materials,



Representatives from footwear Industry CLE, CIFI, Agra, Jaipur, Jalandhar, Mumbai and Kerala participated in the meeting at Vanijya Bhawna, New Delhi

and production requirements. Standardization efforts may struggle to accommodate this diversity and could require significant adjustments that may hamper or discourage the idea of design innovation. Price competitiveness coupled with QCO standard implementation may make industry challenging to Catching up with big industries and retailers.

Representatives from Mumbai & Kerala highlighted that Adhering to standards may involve compliance with various standards requirements as footwear involves more than 65 components, which can be confusing and time-consuming for MSMEs, especially when they lack resources and infrastructure for navigating the standardised landscape.

Some of them also highlighted that while standardization aims to improve quality however ensuring such consistent quality across different batches of footwear can be challenging for SMEs, particularly if they lack the necessary quality control measures. In some cases, MSMEs might lack the necessary infrastructure, such as proper labs and utilities, to fully implement standards required for manufacturing footwear.

They also added that Access to information about industry best practices, standards, and technological advancements might be limited for some MSMEs, hindering their ability to effectively implement standardization. MSMEs might face competition from larger, more established players who have already implemented standardized processes.

Shri Sanjay Leekha, Chairman CLE highlighted that to address these challenges, footwear industry may consider seeking support from government on these initiatives, industry associations, and consulting services that specialize in standardization and quality management. He also added that collaborating with other stakeholders in the supply chain and investing in awareness, creating infrastructure in form of labs and development can also contribute to successful implementation of QCO and standardization efforts in footwear manufacturing.



Representatives from footwear Industry CLE, CIFI, Agra, Jaipur, Jalandhar, Mumbai and Kerala presenting their view points of QCO for Footwear manufacturing in India in the meeting at Vanijya Bhawna, New Delhi

Interactive meeting of Quality Council of India with Chairman CLE and ED CLE



Dr.A. Raj, CEO Quality Council for India, New Delhi presenting coffee table book of QCI to Shri Sanjay Leekha, Chairman CLE and Shri R Selvam, ED CLE at Vanijya Bhawan New Delhi

Quality Council of India (QCI) called on for an interactive meeting with CLE representatives to discuss the matter related to promote and facilitate quality improvements in various sectors of leather and footwear industry to enhance competitiveness, productivity, and overall excellence.

Dr. A. Raj, CEO Quality Council for India briefed Chairman CLE and ED CLE about QCI and informed that The Quality Council of India (QCI) plays a significant role in the development and implementation of quality standards in various sectors across India. He informed that, QCI was established in 1997 and is a non-governmental organization that operates as an autonomous body under the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India. He highlighted that QCI contributes in making and setting quality standards, accreditation and certification, recognition of quality infrastructure, capacity building and training and sector specific initiatives.

In summary, the Quality Council of India plays a crucial role in formulating, promoting, and implementing quality standards across various sectors. Its efforts contribute to enhancing the overall quality, competitiveness, and credibility of Indian products and services in domestic and international markets.

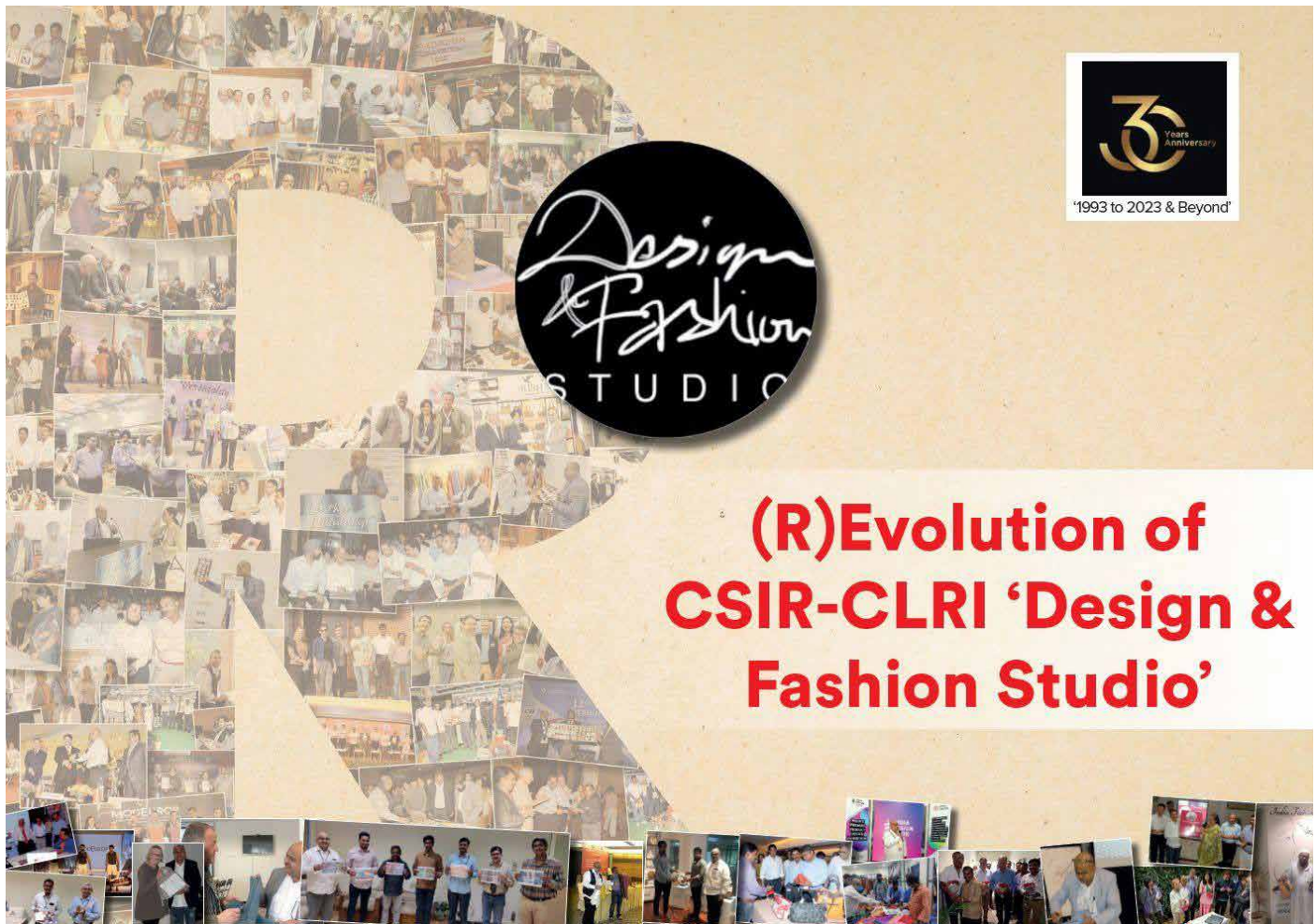
He further added that this meeting has been organised with a specific purpose of that quality and standardization are essential for the tanneries and leather industry in India to ensure product quality, meet international requirements, protect the environment, and build a strong reputation in the global marketplace. These efforts contribute to the growth, competitiveness, and sustainability of the industry. And in this direction QCI is conducting the study and would like to take CLE on board to complete the study of quality and standards followed by leather and footwear industry of India and finding the gaps if any and recommendation on best practices.

Chairman CLE welcomed the initiative of QCI for taking up the project to study the quality standards followed by Leather and footwear industry of India. Shri Leekha Further added that through this project QCI as an institution can exhibit its foresight in addressing critical aspects of the leather industry, including quality enhancement, environmental sustainability, and global competitiveness. By aligning its efforts with the objectives of the leather industry specially of Export sector, this project may effectively position this sector as a pivotal contributor to India's economic and trade growth journey toward becoming a world leader in leather & Footwear production and trade.

ED CLE emphasised that One of the most remarkable aspects of this initiative could be its emphasis on sustainable practices. He further added that in an era marked by growing environmental consciousness, the individual's commitment to eco-friendly tanning processes and responsible sourcing of materials sets a precedent for the entire industry. By prioritizing the integration of green technologies and reducing the industry's ecological footprint, the project may pave the way for a more sustainable future.



“The CSIR-CLRI Design & Fashion Studio celebrates 30 years”
“7th August 1993 to 7th August 2023 & Beyond”



**(R)Evolution of
CSIR-CLRI ‘Design &
Fashion Studio’**

**Celebrating 30 Years of
CSIR-CLRI Design and
Fashion Studio**

‘India Fashion Studio’ was set-up in CLRI on 7th August 1993 as one of the five wings of the Shoe Design & Development Centre. The Indian Footwear Industry was at its nascent stage during early 1990’s. With the objective to help and support the Industry with design and range building, colour trends forecasting and human resource development in ‘shoe design and styling,’ India Fashion Studio was born:

1993-2003:

“The Indian Footwear Industry was in its nascent stage. “Shoe Designing was key.” The Footwear industry began to realize the importance of CLRI endeavours in Design & Fashion. CLRI Design & Fashion Studio became the ‘nerve centre.’

2004-2013:

“Indian Footwear Industry was exploring New Markets globally” “The right kind of product/design for the right

market & the right season was key.” Indian Footwear Industry was now in its growth phase. CLRI was marching ahead adding tangible values to the sector.

2014-2023:

“Technology - led Innovation in Footwear.” “Indian domestic market growing rapidly. Non-leather footwear production increases.” India’s footwear Industry is the second largest in the world. CLRI established closer ties with the Industry.

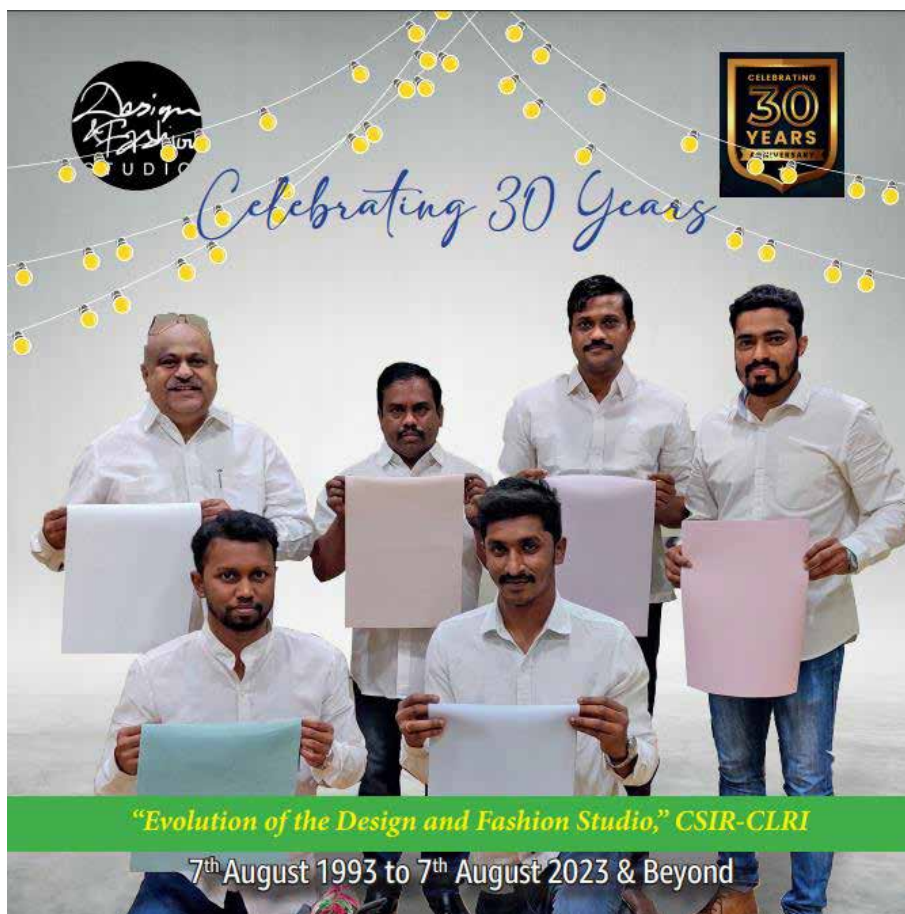
Setting up a State-of-the-art Fashion Studio:

In a globalising economy, design is perceived as a new engine of economic and industrial growth. Design and breakthrough innovations can play a pivotal role in positioning of Indian Leather and Leather Product industries in the global arena apart from enhancing competitiveness. Design and brand driven value chain need to be developed as core strengths of Indian Leather Products manufacturing industries. India also needs to aim to be a leading influencer of global design and must have a focused multi-pronged strategy to enhance the quality and spread of

Indian designs and to increase India's share in the world economy through this major value addition. Success in being able to work with high-end customers requires building design capabilities that enable us to offer exciting collections that can compete internationally. To achieve this one has to build not only in-house design capabilities, but also work in consultation with design companies internationally that have a deep understanding of lifestyle and fashion trends in Europe and the US, which will continue to be primary markets for the foreseeable future for upmarket products. In the footwear area, for such an output to be possible it was necessary to set up a state-of-the-art Design Studio which encapsulated conceptual designing as well as Computer Aided Pattern engineering.

The Shoe Fashion Design Studio comprised:

Resource Room: The Resource Room contained a resource of Leathers, Materials, Designs, Components, Magazines, a showcase of new design collection, computer with internet facility with details on where these materials could be



In picture (L to R, standing): Md Sadiq, K Dayalan, Dr D Suresh Kumar, R Sathiyaraj, (L to R, squatting): Akshaya Raman M & PVinoth Kumar; Team CSIR-CLRI Design and Fashion Studio

sourced from, availability of these materials in volume terms, price, lead times and so on. The ambience of this room inspired the Design team to let their creative juices flow and create 'Masterpieces'.

Design Room: The Design Room was the 'nerve centre' of the studio. This was where the Design conceptualization, Pattern generation, Pattern storage and Pattern retrieval was done. The designers required creative freedom and therefore the designer had an exclusive cubicle. Computer access with latest CAD footwear design and pattern engineering software and CAM devices were essential requirements for the designers and were accommodated in this studio in an adjoining facility.

Sample Making: The testing of designs generated was carried out in the Sample Making room. This facility contained Stitching machines, skiving machine, Leather cutting and Hand lasting tools. Quick realization of pull-overs to check accuracy of patterns and judge design outputs were the hallmark of this facility.

Interacting with them had given us a deeper insight into "Thinking Design" which has helped us in fashioning initiatives to analyse fashion trends and help the Indian Designers understand seasonal fashion trends and design the right product, for the right market and for the right season

Interacting with International Designers

The CSIR-CLRI Design & Fashion Studio had the unique opportunity of working with the Leading International Fashion Designers for Leather Products through UNIDO, and CLE sponsored projects. Travelling with them to various Footwear and Leather Goods factories, conducting dissemination workshops and seminars and interacting with them had given us a deeper insight into “Thinking Design” which has helped us in fashioning initiatives to analyse fashion trends and help the Indian Designers understand seasonal fashion trends and design the right product, for the right market and for the right season. We must make mention of Mr Julian Berwick, Mr Tonino Canucci, Mr Paul Higginson to whom we shall remain beholden for widening our horizons.

Study Tours abroad

Visits to the ‘Fashion Capitals’ of the world have been a real eye-opener for us and have added a fresh perspective to our ‘conceptual design thought process.’ Milano, Riva del Garda, Bologna in Italy; Dusseldorf, Offenbach, Pirmasens (in Germany), Graz (in Austria) and Spreitenbach in Switzerland live and breathe ‘Fashion and Design’ and our study tours to these places have enabled us to analyse the Shoe Retail Trends and new trends from the world’s fashion capitals and focus on trends which will be influential for the future. The Stops on our trips and our Reports have helped them to track down key footwear trends of the season and spell out the key directions for the season in address, which, in turn, has contributed to a better understanding of the Trends in Retail and enabled them to gear up with apt products for exposition at leading International Fairs such as Garda, WSA, MICAM and the GDS.

Offering Design and Range building services

The Success of the CSIR-CLRI Design Studio centred on being able to work with customers and build their design capabilities. We worked with them on their Market brief and offered them exciting collections that could compete internationally based on our deep understanding of lifestyle and fashion trends. Our Design and Range Building services demonstrated that there was a lot of scope for deeper penetration of our own ‘creative designs’ that would satisfy the requirements of customers in the global markets.

SHOE STYLING COURSE

This was yet another unique initiative from us that equipped budding designers develop an awareness to fashion and integrates these ideas into design collections. A CAD intensive module was also introduced to expose them to modern techniques in shoe designing. This course was so successful that we had a ‘waiting period’ of two years for candidates to join the course.



In picture (L to R.): Manfred Junkert, Director General, HDSL/ DSI/ MODEUROP, Germany, Dr Claudia Schulz, PR, MODEUROP; Mr Martin Wuttke, Co-Creative Director, MODEUROP, Ms Uta Richers Wuttke, Co-Creative Director, MODEUROP; Mr Mirco Lopardo, Italy & Md Sadiq, CSIR-CLRI Design and Fashion Studio, India

Fashion trend forecasting

‘Fashion Trend forecasting’ for leather was our initiative to bring to the fore the ability of the Indian Leather Industry to take pro-active measures in fashion forecasting and design development by providing a scientific leather product development focus in the areas of colour forecasting, range building, design and retail analysis. The outcome envisaged was to strengthen the Indian leather product design capabilities which would be reflected in product quality enhancement. Information is the key to success especially so in a fast changing and dynamic world and in this context the members of the Leather industry were enlightened by us with the vast international information base on ‘Fashion and Trends’ in Leathers & Materials, Colours and Textures, Shoe Design & Retail, Shoe Component & Accessories. This ‘Advance

preparedness' was vital to stay ahead in the competitive business. In the realm of International marketing of fashion related products, advance information relating to changing trends is a major business advantage and through our "Fashion Trend Forecasting" initiatives the leather industry of India began to realize the importance of Fashion Trend forecasts to be able to cater to the buyers with original materials / products in leather.

Colour Trend forecasting

In our "Travel of Fashion Forecasting for India", we realized that for India to make its presence felt in the foreyards of the leather trade, it was imperative that it be in the vanguard of deciding fashion colours and textures that are followed globally. It was in this context that we were excited to be part of the MODEUROP endeavour which technologies which would ensure absolute overall comfort to the wearer of the Shoe. This involves the study of the Shoe Construction parameters, Material Characteristics for shock absorption, embedding of technological devices for enhancing the output of the shoe as well as human-physiological wear trials and these would form an integral part of the "Smart Shoe" development with the end objective being to provide an "Intelligent shoe" which would provide maximum comfort.

Research on Retail

This exercise of ours has helped the Indian Leather Product industry monitor the fashion life span of each trend and discuss very new trends, rising trends, trends at their peak and downward trends. Trend Research included "The Big Picture" which involved Monitoring the flow of trends over past few seasons based on Retail Research, Trade Fair information and predictions on Colour, Leather and Materials in

various Categories like Formals, Casuals, Sports and also on Components which comprised Toes, Outsoles, Heels. The Retail Research focused on Men's, Women's and Children categories and brought out the Mainstream Choice which checked listed the top, not to be missed styles from a commercial point of view; the Key details which reviewed the silhouettes and details and highlighted the pick of the most directional colours, leathers and styles for the major footwear categories. A new innovation was our focus on 'Very new and rising trends.'



In picture (L to R): Mr A Sahasranaman, Mr S Jawahar, Mr M Mohammed Hashim and Dr KV Raghavan at a dissemination event in CSIR-CLRI

Organizing Partner Country events

We had the good fortune to be deputed to leading International Fairs where India was accorded the status of a partner country and I was fortunate to be associated in these events in helping to organize the India Country pavilion. Right from conceptualizing the pavilion, to interacting with the Event Manager, the Agency setting up the Stall, the Interior Design and layout of the Stall, the selection of Merchandise to adorn the stall, the Brochure Design, the Event Planning, the Presentations and dissemination exercise to be carried out, the Invitation Design, the Documentation. We were enthusiastically involved in all these activities and the overwhelming success and the accolades received for Organizing these events have gladdened us. The major events that we have been associated with are: GDS Fair, Dusseldorf; Expo Riva Schuh, Riva del Garda; APLF, Hong Kong; All China Leather Exhibition, Shanghai.

Setting up Theme/Trend pavilions

CSIR-CLRI has been entrusted with the responsibility of setting up Theme Pavilions at many Fairs and we have been actively associated with the Conceptualization, planning and execution of these Pavilions. We start with thinking about the Theme that would best represent the 'Image' of the Leather Industry and then try to visualize the space to generate an ambience representing the various sub-themes that comprise the main theme. We then look at sourcing the 'Best of India' merchandise in consonance with the Theme to adorn the Theme Pavilion. Innovation, Quality and Finesse are the hallmarks that I see in setting up the Theme Pavilions.

Organizing Cluster specific exhibitions

We have long been a votary of tapping the inherent strengths of Manufacturing Clusters and showcasing to the global business community. I therefore was very enthusiastic in promoting the concept of holding “Cluster Centric” exhibitions and was therefore passionately involved in the conceptualization and planning of the successive editions of Ambur OPEN. The objective was to ensure a collective approach to showcase the regions strengths and capabilities to the global market. The major objective of such exhibitions was to help in identifying huge opportunities that existed in hitherto unexplored locations like the leather belt in the Ambur region. It has helped create new relationships and forge stronger ties with the manufacturers of this region as also with the large number of buyers. These events, of international class in its appeal and content, provide a platform for exhibiting the outputs of the regional Leather and Leather Products Sector and garner good business. This helps in galvanising the leather sector to greater heights.

“FASHION TREND POOL is a network of footwear and fashion experts with a common vision: we inspire you today with the trends of the day after tomorrow”



In picture: (L to R): Shri Mukhtarul Amin, Dr M Rafeeqe Ahmed, Shri Habib Hussain, Prof Dr AB Mandal, Dr KV Raghavan witnessing the CLE's Design Award being presented to Shri K Dayalan of CSIR-CLRI Design & Fashion Studio.

Development of Customised Colour Cards

While the Global Shade Cards were available, we thought that if a particular manufacturer was able to present its own ‘Colour Card’ which reflected on its own inherent strength without waiting for directions from the Buyer then it would create a very good impression about the company. We therefore worked on Customized COLOUR CARDS for leading exporters and conceptualized, designed and brought out these Colour Cards aesthetically and highlighted the “Technical Features and end use of their leathers and textures’ which helped the customers recognize the Company’s capabilities of being abreast of fashion and delivering quality leathers and products. It has enhanced ‘IMAGE INDIA’ as well.

Shoe Designs for the Domestic Market

The Domestic Footwear market in India is growing rapidly and with rapidly changing lifestyles of the Indian consumer, the demand for footwear and other



In picture (L to R): Mrs Marga Indra Heide, Fashion Trend Pool, Germany; Md Sadiq, CSIR-CLRI, India; Ms Jutta Turnwald, Colortex, Pirmasens and Mr Gebhard Mueller, Roeckl Gloves, Munich

lifestyle accessories in the domestic market has good potential. Seizing on this opportunity, we addressed the needs of the domestic market and catered to it with the latest Designs and styles in conformity with the trends worldwide. The quality of input materials and manufacturing processes were also upscaled so that the domestic consumer would get the product that is excellent in quality, durability, comfort and style.

Jury at National and International Competitions

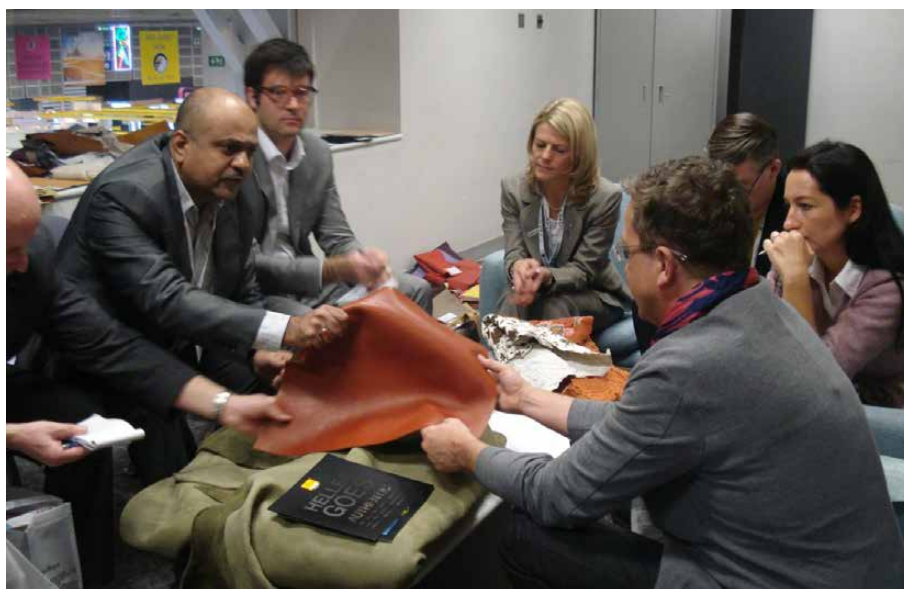
We have had the privilege to be bestowed with the honour of being invited to be a Member of the Jury at various National and International Events. This has led to me interacting with the global best in Leather and Leather Product Design and Styling and broadening my world view of 'haute couture.' Some of the events that require mention are Jury Member to judge the "Best of APLF Award", APLF, Hong Kong; Jury Member to judge the "Best Designs" at the International Footwear Design Competition, ACLE, China; Jury Member to evaluate the NIFT Students Design Projects.

Compering

Our Team Members been blessed with resounding, stentorian and sonorous voice. Coupled with a good diction and ease of speech delivery, we have become very popular choice to be a compere at various events both within and outside the Institute.

Report Writing

Another area where we can claim to be an expert of sorts is in the preparation of reports. A strong sense of aesthetics and appreciation of style has rendered our reports to be appreciated and preserved as 'mementos' by many. We use graphical illustrations, figures, varied fonts, table formats and highlighting



CSIR-CLRI serves as 'Jury Member' at International Fairs such as Asia Pacific Leather Fair in Hong Kong

of key points which make any text 'come alive' and make it interesting for the reader. Summary of points to be conveyed and presenting the essence of the matter cogently are something that we rely on for Report Writing.

Setting up of Design Studios for factories

We have been actively promoting the setting up of individual Design Studios for each factory and we have been actively pursuing this. This involves the Layout preparation, Interior Decorations, setting up of Design Rooms, equipping them with Design Tools and CAD systems, planning a work flow sequence, setting up a Resource Room to store materials, trend information, trims and accessories and also establishing a small sample development room to realize the products for wear trials. Many factories have benefitted from our expertise in this area.

Shoe Customization

The customisation program for Shoes and Bags in which we have been actively involved is a comprehensive business strategy development program in which customers work closely with technology and design experts to identify the critical objectives and challenges for their unique footwear and accessories needs and understand how technology can help address them. The Shoes and Bags are made according to the customer's choice of colour, shape, leathers, outsoles and fasteners from a library at the store. Our goal was to provide the customers with complete solutions that meet their styling/fashion needs and solve their comfort expectations.

Indo-Italy Design Round Table

DESIGN was been identified as an area for enhanced collaboration between Italy and India and in order to further strengthen the bilateral cooperation in this sector, the Embassy of Italy - in collaboration with the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Indian Ministry of Commerce and Industry and the National Institute of Design (Ahmedabad) - launched the initiative of an India-Italy Design Roundtable, which was held in Rome at Palazzo della Farnesina, the headquarters of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, on 20th July 2012.

CLE & CSIR-CLRI presented a road map titled “Mission of India and its approach to co-operation with Italy” with two presentations:

- Indian Leather Industry – opportunities galore
- The Travel of India in Fashion Forecasting for LEATHER

The key part of the roundtable was the open debate, in which participants discussed the way ahead to enhance bilateral ties in the design area. As an ultimate goal, the round table came out with a document – an action plan on design collaboration. The Round table added tangible value to the discussion on “India-Italy Design Collaboration” and would significantly contribute to shape the bilateral cooperation in the area of design.

Synergies with NID, NIFT, FDDI

We have been actively involved in building synergies with the Apex Design related Institutes in India primary among them being the NID, NIFT and FDDI. With NID, we have been actively associated with Design teaching of footwear design for their students, Development of a White paper on “Design Needs for the



Team CSIR-CLRI Design & Fashion Studio on the occasion of 'Celebrating 30 Years'

Indian leather Sector”, the National Sizing Standard Initiative for India, Design Clinic. With NIFT, we have been involved in delivering Guest Lectures for their students, serving as a Jury Member to evaluate student’s projects and also in mentoring the students. With FDDI, we have been involved in giving guest lectures, faculty mentoring and Fashion Trend information dissemination.



TAJ MODEUROP organized by CSIR-CLRI in Agra during Year 2013

Developing Designs for Diabetic Footwear

CSIR-CLRI collaborated with the MV Hospital for Diabetes and jointly designed and developed specialized Therapeutic Footwear which proved to be immensely beneficial to persons affected by Diabetes. This has been an immensely successful and enduring partnership for the development of Diabetic Footwear and currently we are working on developing specifically designed Diabetic Footwear for Women.

Organizing Round Tables

While we have been to successive Roundtables for the MODEUROP, we have had the unique privilege of helming three MODEUROP Roundtables in Chennai and Agra. This requires the active support and coordination between CLE, CLRI. Other leading Institutes and Trade organizations as well as the Industry sponsors and members. The Roundtables require immaculate planning with minute detailing of Travel schedules, hotel accommodation, Venue set-up, backdrops, lighting, podium branding, lunches and dinners, presentation preparation and presenting, documentation, brochure preparation, planning of social evenings, visits to tourist places, cultural evenings in addition to the main purpose of hosting the meeting to carry out the Colour Selection process. It has been an absolute pleasure in organizing the Roundtables and the applause that we have received for the excellent organization of these Roundtables will only act as a tonic to do even better the next time.

Children's Shoes Development

The Children's feet grow at a rapid rate thus necessitating a frequent change in footwear to accommodate this foot growth. We are now involved in a project that have addressed the



In picture: School Children from Kendriya Vidyalaya -CLRI wearing the New Children's Shoes

needs of Children for a well-fitting and comfortable footwear. In order to provide correct fitting shoes for them we gathered reliable foot dimensions of children through a 'digital capture' of the foot images. A novel method of 'cluster analysis' led us to compress the complete children's size range into only 5 Groups which helped in optimizing the size range to be manufactured, covered children having different foot sizes comfortably, accommodated the foot growth in children and also reduced the frequency of footwear change. Special Eco-friendly Leathers devoid of banned and toxic substances and which do not produce any health impact on the Children were developed. These Leathers accommodate the natural foot growth and allow for natural foot function of the children. The Children's Shoes were developed in accordance to the Trend forecasts prevalent for the current season and the styling was done to ensure the 'comfort' and 'safety' of the children. Colours were incorporated in the styling of these shoes in harmony with the House to which these Children belonged in the school. The Shoes were fabricated and the wear trials carried out for 'Fit' and 'Comfort' feedback.

Analysis of Foot Measurement Data & Recommendations for the Indian Foot (Shoe) Sizing System, sponsored by the Department of Promotion of Industry & Internal Trade (DPIIT), GOI

For Bureau of Indian Standards to aid in revision of IS 1638 (1969): Sizes and Fitting of Footwear carried out by CSIR-Central Leather Research Institute

"FOOT MEASUREMENT SURVEYS commenced from the second half of the 20th century. Fore runners were USSR, GDR, Hungary and UK. These countries used smaller sample size, manual or old technologies for measurement. The outcome was used for shoe fitting with limited applications in design and manufacture of footwear."

"IS 1638: 1969" Indian Standard (First Revision) was adopted by the Indian Standards Institution on 15 December 1969, after the draft finalized by the Footwear Sectional Committee had been approved by the Chemical Division

Council. This standard was originally published in 1960 subsequent to which various developments in this field have taken place. This standard has been revised to meet the present need of export trade and internal market. In the present standard various measurements for making last in five fittings for adults' last and four fittings for others in English size scale generally used for footwear have been given, in place of three fittings, given in the original standard. Further, for the guidance of the manufacturers and exporters, standard tables for measurements in Paris Point size scale in five fittings for men's last and four fittings for others have also been added. The categories of sizes have also been modified. It is hoped that the footwear industry which is presently following English sizes will progressively switch over to centimetre scale sizes or any other system towards rational metric sizes. The Sectional Committee further took note of the birth of Euro point' as a possible solution in the future for size standardization on the metric

system, but decided not to prescribe the system in this specification in view of this being still in developmental stage.

The background of the present study is that the proportion (i.e. shape) of feet of the Indian population differs considerably from what is built in European and North American shoe lasts owing to ethnic difference and wearing of open type footwear. Indian feet are flatter with the forepart - ball and waist part are wider and lower than in European feet. Indian feet have shorter forepart. The distance of ballpoints from the heel part is relatively larger than in European feet. As a consequence, Footwear made on European shoe lasts do not fit on Indian feet. Specially designed shoe lasts are required for footwear for Indians to provide comfort and durability.

The Project was carried out in four stages:

Stage I: Procurement/ Synergy Partner Agreements / NSSO sampling design.

Stage II: Installation, training and distribution of scanners.

Stage III: Filed work, 103,262 samples, 79 locations

Stage IV: Stake-holder meetings, interaction with BIS, Revision of Report

Foot dimension of 1,01,880 persons from 79 locations PAN India spread over five zones – North, Gangetic Basin, North East, West and South zone were collected by deploying 29 teams simultaneously in all these 79 locations, 26 scanners were used for this purpose, each team had 4 members, Fifteen synergy partners from institutions like Central Footwear Training Institute (CFTI) both Chennai and Agra, Government College of Engineering and Leather Technology (GCELT), Kolkata, Muzaffarpur Institute of Technology were roped in, including CSIR own sister laboratories and CLRI's extension centres spread over the country in the process of foot scanning."



Project Team @ HUB, CSIR-CLRI (L to R): Shri Akshaya Raman M, Shri R Sathiyaraj, Shri K Dayalan, Shri Md Sadiq, Shri P Vinoth Kumar and Dr D Suresh Kumar

The dimensions were measured in five groups, Children, Girls, Boys, Women and Men using the 3D Foot Scanner.

In almost all the five zones, the comparative shows that growth of the female feet peaks at the age 11 whereas in case of boys/men's growth continuous till the age of 15/16."

Sizes would be presented in eight groups as seen above. In the mathematical and statistical analysis of the data the 29 dimensions had been taken from each foot, during the statistical analysis, the main measurements, that determine the Indian Footwear sizing system included, are weight, height, foot length, foot breadth, ball girth, instep girth and heel girth. Basic statistics such as mean, median, standard deviation and range played significant role.

The increment in length for French sizing, another name is the

European sizing system is 6.66 mm. This means that, if my shoe size in the EU measurement is 42 and your shoe is 43, then the difference in length between our shoe is 6.66 mm. In the English / American sizing system the difference in length between size 8 and size 9 is 8.46mm. whereas in our recommendation the Mondo point sizing system the difference between the two sizes is 5 mm.

The most crucial statistics that enables one to determine the foot length, the length of shoe last, toe allowance based on the design and shape and to develop the bottom insole pattern. In short, the Indian Footwear Sizing System is shoe last size is derived by adding 5mm to the foot length.

To cover 95% of the population we need to make 13 sizes in the men's group in the English sizing system. whereas to cover 85% of the populations we need to make 10 sizes in the men group in the English sizing system. In the French sizing system, we need to make 7 sizes, whereas in the Mondo point on Indian footwear sizing system, 8 sizes to cover the same 85% population. A very important statement is been made to clarify with members of Indian footwear manufacture is that they need to make only 8 size system unlike 10 size in the English sizing system.

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) desired that CLRI provide the equivalence to the European and English/ American sizing and CLRI have worked to provide the equivalence with other sizing system followed internationally, which is given in final and terminal report.

It is important to introduce different widths such as narrow, medium or regular and wide. Different widths will play major role in the Indian Footwear sizing System. The manufacture may choose to develop either three different or five different width based on his customer profile.

“Perhaps for the first time in the World an exercise of this magnitude has been taken up to ensure appropriate fit and comfort from footwear for Indian population.”



TESTIMONIALS

Shri A Sekar
Managing Director
Gemini Enterprises, Chennai

Congratulations for your new position “Chief Scientist & Head of Design and Fashion Studio”. I’m very much happy with your 37 years of service to the leather industry you deserve it. I hope for the upcoming years under your guidance will brighter, new innovations, new designs etc., Our cooperation and unstinted support to you at all times.

Shri Rajiv Bhatia Managing Director, D2 International, Kolkata & Member, Committee of Administration, Council for Leather Exports	What a fantastic news!!! I am really very happy for you. You truly deserve it. Please keep up the good work and stay in touch.
Shri Motilal Sethi Regional Chairman (NR), CLE President, ILGA & Managing Director, Saroj International, Noida	I am deeply touched with contents and immensely happy to learn about your Appointment. Your tireless services to leather Industry for so many years truly deserves this Appointment and I heartily congratulate you and wish you all the best in your new assignment. You can count on our support always as we recognise your hard work, dedication and selfless services to CLRI and Indian Leather Industry. Please let us know your plans once you start your new assignment.
Shri A Sekar Managing Director Gemini Enterprises, Chennai	Congratulations, and we are very happy to note that recognition by the organisation CLRI has happened now for the unique, unparalleled and stupendous work you have done for the leather industry and for the country all these years.
Dr G Thyagarajan Former Director, CLRI	You are a fine asset to any organisation in more ways than one.
Prof Dr (Smt) Anitha Manohar Director, NIFT, Chennai	Good perseverance. Truthful talent will never go unobserved. Best Wishes. NIFT Chennai will be happy to associate with you.
Shri A Sahasranaman Former Executive Director, CLE & Vice Chairman, ILIFO	Dear Sadiq, very happy to know that u have been made chief scientist and head of Design section. That is ur forte. Congrats and all the best for your continued success.
Shri N Jameel Ahmed Managing Partner NM Zackriah LLP, Chennai	I wish you all the Best in your Re Start and our support will always be there.
Shri Yavar Dhala Vice president, ISF & Managing Director FORWARD Group	Congratulations on the Appointment and Elevation. The Industry and all of us at the FORWARD Group are indebted to you for your counsel and directional inputs impacting several spheres of our business for which we are immensely grateful.



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Design and Manufacturing of Custom Orthotics Footbed

Article by : Central Footwear Training Institute (CFTI), Chennai

INTRODUCTION

Foot is the foundation of the body i.e feet are the support base for our entire skeleton. Feet, Knee, Ankle, Hip, Back, neck are all interconnected. A badly aligned foot structure affects the rest of our body including lower back, hips, knees and legs. Flat Foot and high arch problems are very common and one of the major reasons for Back problems, Knee Osteoarthritis, and many Foot and Ankle problems.

Custom Orthotics (also known as orthotic insoles/footbed, shoe inserts, or orthoses) are devices placed inside shoes or footwear that restore the natural foot function. Many common complaints such as back, knee pain and hip pain are caused by poor foot biomechanics. Orthotic insoles/footbed correct and realign the foot and ankle bones to their neutral position. This improves natural foot functions thereby reducing not just foot and ankle problems but also alleviating knee, hip and lower back pain in many cases. Orthotic insoles/footbed have been prescribed over the years and were made up of cork, leather, rubber, and various types and densities of foam material but have the shortcomings of high labour and time costs. Moreover, customization via digital technology can rarely be achieved in the conventional way of orthosis design. Advanced rapid prototyping technology allows precise and effective solutions, such as 3D-printed insoles/footbed.

CUSTOMIZED FOOTBED AND FOOTWEAR FACILITY AT CFTI, CHENNAI

At CFTI, Chennai, we create custom orthotics made from an actual foot measurement and it comes with arch support that matches the foot curve. Those orthoses have been found useful to “correct” foot biomechanics. These customized insoles/footbed provide support for the foot as well as realign foot joints while standing, walking, or running. Those with flat feet, high arch or supinated feet can benefit enormously from custom insoles/footbed. Also, for patients with diabetic/neuropathic feet, podiatry elements of the insoles/footbed, such as a metatarsal bar, metatarsal pad, and weight off-loader rings are useful in the prevention as well as curing of foot ulceration

People who suffer from diabetes can have problems with circulation, nerves, immunity, and deformity. Occasionally one or more of these may exist as an isolated issue but often people suffer from more than one at the same time. Proper footwear is therefore very important for people with diabetes. Here in CFTI, Chennai, we design and fabricate customized footwear such as rocker bottom footwear to decrease the forces sent to the ball of the foot, a bar or wedge applied sole to even out the weight distribution on the foot and seamless footwear to prevent from rubbing against the foot, etc. for Diabetic/Neuropathic patients

MATERIAL & METHODS

Collection of Patients Data:

Anthropometry measurements such as height, weight, BMI and other personal information of the patients are measured and collected.

Foot Scan and Acquisition

Plantar Pressure is measured used “PODOPRINT PRESSURE MAT”. This Pressure mat allows non-invasive examination of the patient, and provides fast results with high levels of precision, reliability, and repeatability. The measurements such as maximum pressure, mean pressure, support surface areas (heel, midfoot, and forefoot), and contact time are recorded. This system produces high resolution image of the plantar pressure distribution with multi colours for analysis. Plantar pressure measurements are recorded for each patient for analysis. This data forms the quantitative feedback for insole/footbed design.

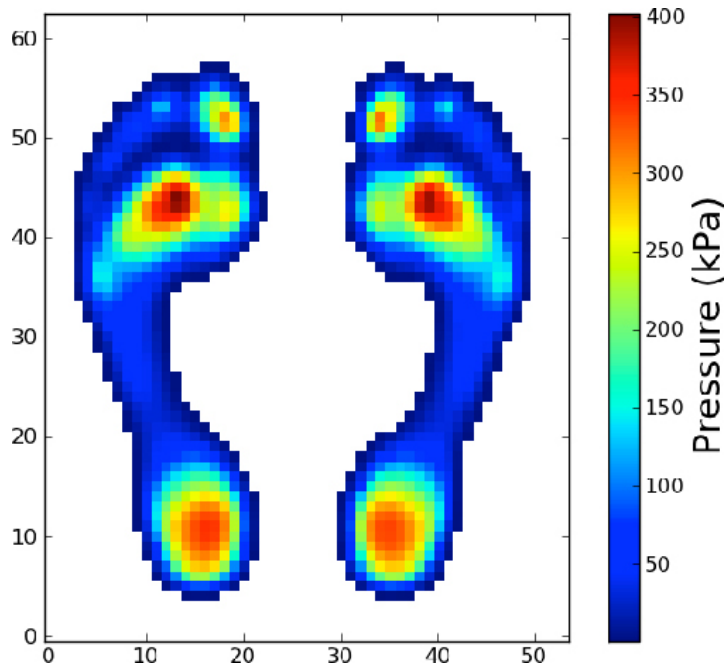


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“PODOPRINT PRESSURE MAT” to measure Plantar Pressure of the patient



Plantar Pressure Measurement of the Patient

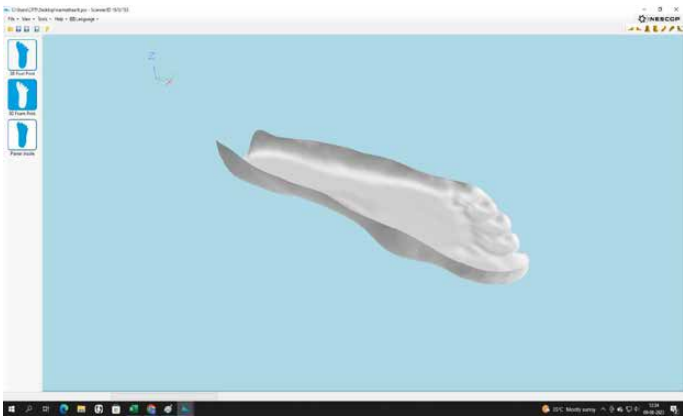
Foot Scanning – Foot measurement of the patient is generated using “FLAT FOOT SCANNER” & “ANKLE SCANNER” which is helpful for the insole/footbed measurements. Then by using “I CAD PIE” software, the patient’s report will be generated for further processing.



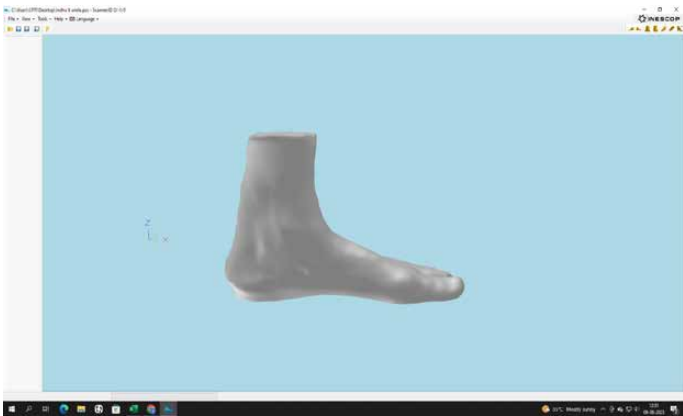
Scanning of Bottom Profile of Foot using “Flat Foot Scanner”



3D Scanning of Foot using “Ankle Scanner”



Scanned Foot of patient using “Flat Foot Scanner”



Scanned 3D Foot of patient using “Ankle Scanner”

Patient Data is analysed from the scanned report:

Report foot measures

GENERAL DATA

Name: **AISHWARYA ANKL**
Foot: **Left**
Size: **42.1**
Comments:

MEASURES

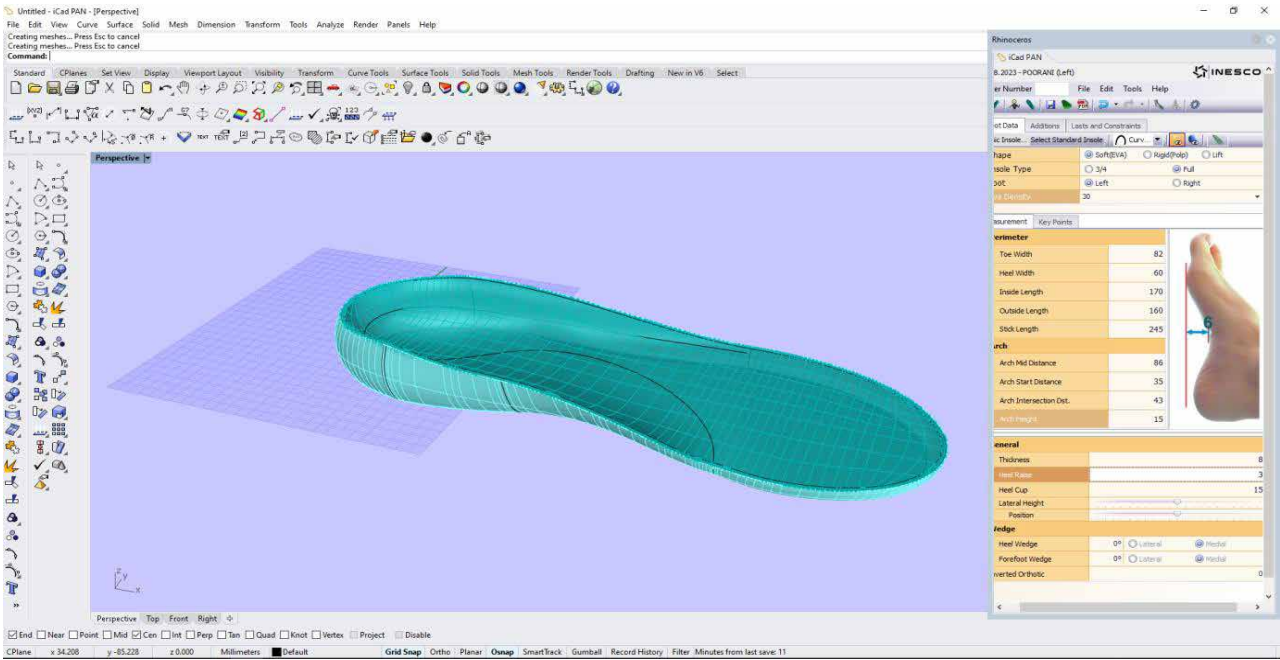
Toe length:	267.29 mm	First metatarsian angle:	15.48 °
Foot Width:	99.86 mm	Fifth metatarsian angle:	13.73 °
Arch Length:	192.32 mm	Standard ball perimeter:	244.9 mm
First metatarsal length:	180.29 mm	High instep - Heel perimeter:	319.82 mm
Fifth metatarsal length:	204.36 mm	Heel width:	62.66 mm
Big Toe Height:	28.02 mm	Instep height:	77.01 mm
Anatomic ball perimeter:	243.03 mm	Instep distance:	109.74 mm
Ball area:	1141.67 mm ²	Helbing line angle:	5.16 °
Ball width:	102.72 mm	Equine foot angle:	0 °
Ball height:	41.49 mm	Medium instep perimeter:	253.37 mm
Ball angle:	13.52 °	Medium instep height:	58.98 mm
Ankle:	1.24 °	Medium instep width:	96.14 mm

Inescop, Elda a 21-07-2023

1

Insole/Footbed Design and Preparation:

For designing a custom insole/footbed, five key parameters are taken into consideration: heel cup, medial arch height, lateral wedge height, density, and heel raise. These parameters are applied when designing customized insoles/footbed. Modelling of insole/footbed is done using “I CAD PAN” software based on the analysed report of individual patient.



Modelling of Footbed using “I CAD PAN” software

Manufacturing of Customized Footbed:

The diagnosis and data acquisition are carried out as explained in the above sections. Then using CNC Milling Machine, customized footbed is manufactured. Customized insole/footbed is made up of EVA (Ethylene Vinyl Acetate) and then it is covered using Micro Cellular Polymer (MCP) Sheet.

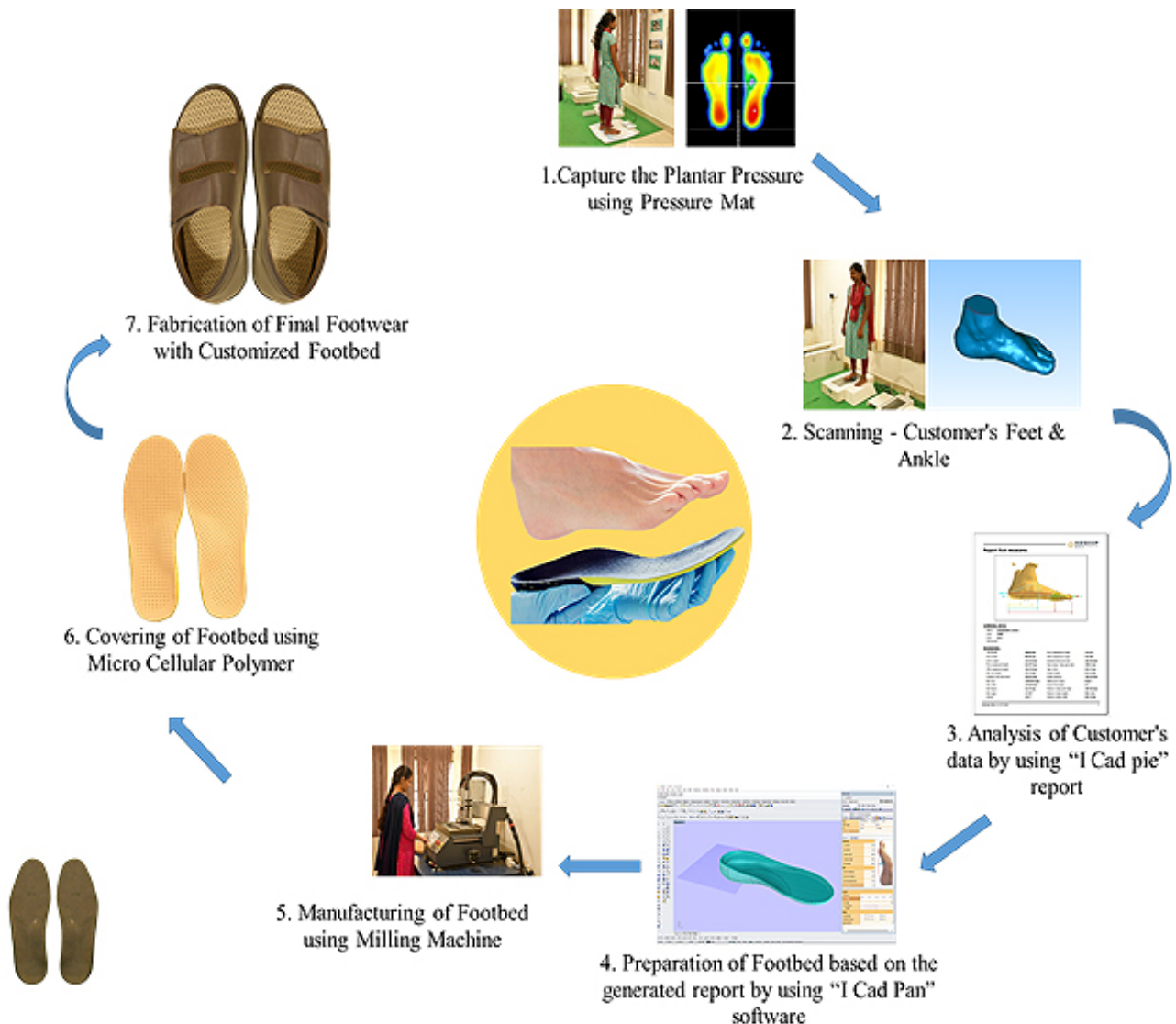


Fabrication of Final Footwear:


CNC Milling Machine for the manufacturing of Customized Insole/Footbed

The final Customized Footwear is made as per the exact measurement of the feet. Based on the patients foot report, shoe last modelling is done. Depending upon the design of the final customized footwear, the required raw materials are shortlisted and then fabrication is done. The Customized Footwear is fabricated with the prepared customized footbed. This customized footwear with footbed shows better comfort improvement among the patients than a prefabricated insole/footbed.


Workflow of Customized Footbed manufacturing process




SOME MODELS of CUSTOMIZED FOOTBED FABRICATED at CFTI, Chennai




Footbed for Foot Over-Pronation




Front Offload Footbed




Back Offload Footbed



Footbed with Arch Support and Heel Cup



Footbed with back offload and finger support



Footbed with heel cup and finger support for Hallux Valgus

SOME MODELS of CUSTOMIZED FOOTWEAR FABRICATED at CFTI, Chennai



Men's Sandals for Diabetic patients



Ladies Sandals for Diabetic patients



Ladies Open footwear for Diabetic patients

SOME MODELS of CUSTOMIZED FOOTWEAR FABRICATED at CFTI, Chennai



Men's Ortho Sandal



Men's Slip-On Shoe for Diabetic patients



Men's Open Footwear for Diabetic patients



Men's Sandal for Arch Support



Ladies Sandal for Flat Foot



Ankle Foot Orthosis (AFO) Lace On (End of Toes)

SOME MODELS of CUSTOMIZED FOOTWEAR FABRICATED at CFTI, Chennai



Ankle Foot Orthosis (AFO) Velcro (End of Toes)



Ankle Foot Orthosis (AFO) (Upto Metatarsal with Lace)



Built in Brace Shoes



Ankle Foot Orthosis (AFO) with Normal Sandals

Gait Cycle and Parameters for Gait Analysis

ASHISH DIXIT, Former Assistant Professor, Department of Footwear Technology,
Faculty of Engineering, Dayalbagh Educational Institute, Dayalbagh, Agra-282005
E-mail: ashishdixithbti@gmail.com

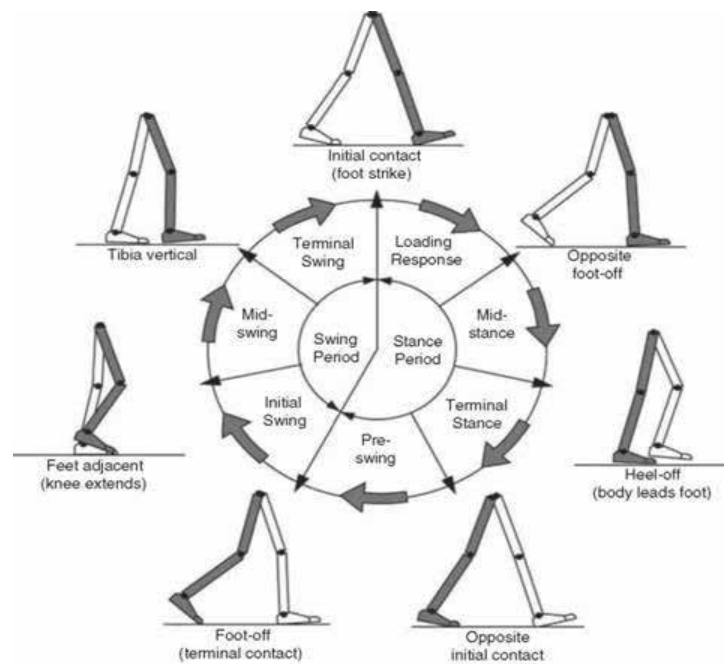
Gait is defined as series of rhythmical, alternating movements of the trunk & limbs which leads to the forward progression of the centre of gravity and Gait Cycle is defined as the sequence of events or movements during locomotion in which one foot contacts the ground to when that same foot again contacts the ground.

Gait cycle is a complicated process of joint exercise of the following neurological and physical phenomena.

1. Registration and activation of the gait command within the central nervous system.
2. Transmission of the gait commands to the peripheral nervous system.
3. Contraction of muscles as per the gait command.
4. Generation of several forces by muscles.
5. Regulation of joint forces and moments across synovial joints and skeletal segments.
6. Generation of ground reaction forces for the movement.

A gait cycle can be broadly divided into seven events (the moment at which the pattern of movement is at the verse of change) and seven sub phases (time periods) as shown in the diagram below.

Out of seven, four subphases occur in the stance phase, when our reference foot is (coloured as gray in the above figure) on the ground, and other three in the swing phase, when the reference foot is moving forward through the air (Fig.1). The stance phase started from initial contact of reference foot and end at toe off. This phase is also recognized as 'support phase' or 'contact phase', further subdivided into four subphases as below:



1. Loading response
2. Mid-stance
3. Terminal stance
4. Pre-swing.

The swing phase, where the reference foot leftovers in the air started from toe off and end at the next initial contact. It is subdivided into three subphases as below:

1. Initial swing
2. Mid-swing
3. Terminal swing.

The cycle time which is the leangth of time of a complete gait cycle is subdivided further,into stance time and swing time.

Timing and other parameters used in Gait Cycle

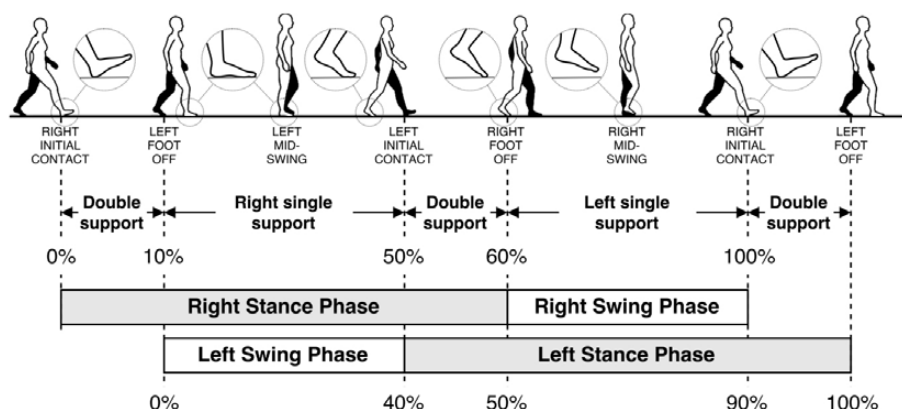


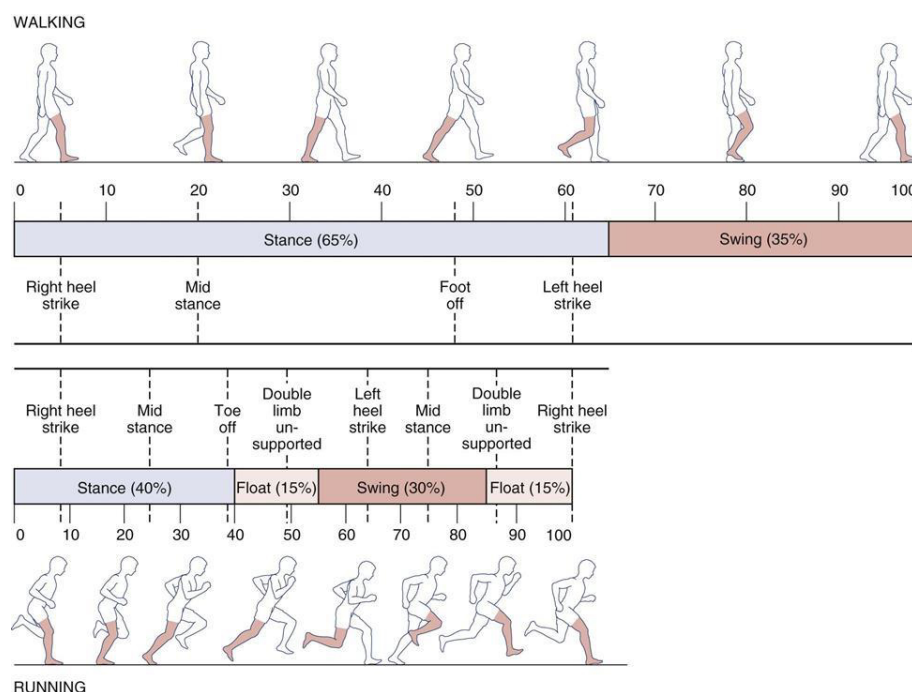
Fig.2 shows the timings of initial contact and toe off for both the feet during one gait cycle. In this figure the reference foot is right which is colourless. At the initial stage of first double support, initial contact of reference foot occurs whereas the left foot is still on the ground. This period is also known as 'double limb stance' between initial contact on the right and toe off on the left.

Right single support is the period in the swing phase of the left side foot (shaded black in fig.2), where only the right foot is on the ground. This duration is also known as 'single limb stance' and ends with initial contact by the left foot. There is then another period of double support, until toe off on the right side foot (colourless in fig.2).

Left single support corresponds to the right swing phase and vice versa. The cycle ends with the next initial contact on the right. In double support period, the forward leg being just landed on the ground while other one which is backward being just in the position to leave the ground. To make a distinction between the two legs in the double support phase, we see the different activities of legs the front leg is usually known as the 'leading' leg and the leg behind as the 'trailing' leg. The position of the forward leg will be in 'loading response phase', sometimes also recognized as 'braking double support', 'initial double support' or 'weight acceptance' and that of backward leg will be in 'pre-swing', also identified as 'second', 'terminal' or 'thrusting' double support or 'weight release'.

So, there are two periods of double support and two periods of single support in each gait cycle. In gait cycle the stance phase usually cover about 60%, while the swing phase about 40% and each period of double support about 10% of gait cycle. However, these percentages of time periods varies with the speed of walking. As

people increases their walking speed, the swing phase become proportionately longer and the stance phase and double support phases become shorter. The final disappearance of the double support phase marks the transition from walking to running. In running a new phase "flight phase" appears at the place of double support. The flight phase is also known as the 'float', 'double-float' or 'non-support' phase, when neither foot is on the ground. A comparison between running and walking gait cycle is shown in the figure below.



Gait Parameters and measurement of gait

Gait parameters are used to measure and evaluation of gait. General gait parameters are divided into two parts viz. temporal and distance parameters of gait. Some of the gait parameters are the cycle time (or cadence), stride length and speed, which are known for simplest evaluation of gait. Although there are automatic ways of making these measurements, they may also be measured manually, using only a stopwatch, a tape measure and with some talcum powder. The automatic method of measurement of parameters, 'general gait parameters from video recording', enables the simultaneous measurement of all the three of the general gait parameters and does not actually require the patient's gait to be recorded, since it can be used while the patient's gait is being observed.

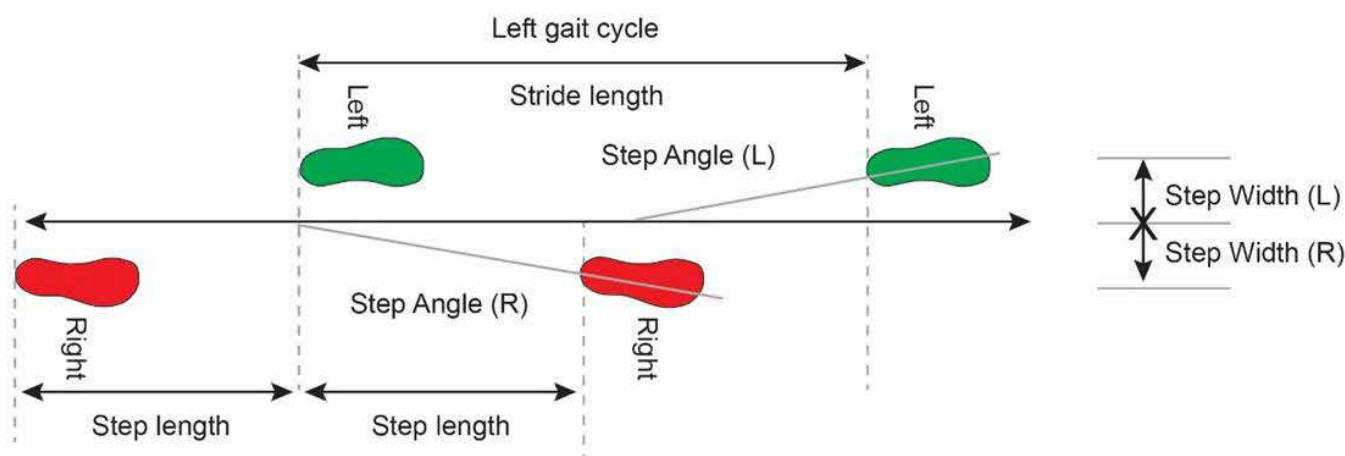
Generally in locomotor disabled people, cycle time, stride length and speed tend to change together, so that a subject with a long cycle time will usually also have a short stride length and a low speed (here speed is stride length divided by cycle time). Generally gait parameters give not only a rough guide to the walking ability of a subject, but little specific information also. They should always be interpreted in terms of the expected values for the subject's age and sex, the diamonds represent 95% confidence limits for a normal subject of the same age and sex as the subject under investigation. Yet nowadays we prefer cycle time more in comparison to cadence in the gait analysis community, but it is more convenient to use cadence on plots of this type, since abnormally slow gait will give values on the left-hand side of the graph for all three of the general gait parameters.

Parameters used in gait cycle measurement

Various parameters used in the analysis and measurement of GAIT in temporal and spatial way are as below

Distance parameters (spatial parameters)

Distance parameters are shown in the diagram as below



Step length: As shown in the above figure, if we measure a length such that it is parallel to the Line of Progression of the body, from the posterior contact (heel) of the previous footfall to the posterior contact (heel) of the current opposing footfall.

Stride length: Same way the length which is measured parallel to the Line of Progression, between the Posterior Heel points of two consecutive footprints of the foot in question.

Step Width: The length which has been measured between line of progression of the left foot and the line of progression of the right foot.

Toe out angle: It is the angle between

the line of progression and the foot axis. Foot Angle becomes zero when the foot axis becomes parallel to the line of progression. The Foot Angle considered positive when the foot axis points away to the line of progression and the Foot Angle considered negative when the foot axis points towards to the line of progression.

Time Parameters (Temporal Parameters)

1. Cadence

Cadence is measured as number of steps per unit time, the normal value of cadence is 100 to 115 steps/min and depends on cultural and social factors.

2. Velocity

Velocity known as distance travelled by the body in unit time and it generally measured in m/s. Instantaneous velocity varies during the gait cycle. Average velocity (m/min) = step length (m) x cadence (steps/min).

3. Comfortable walking speed

This is the speed at which least energy consumption per unit distance. Average = 80 m/min (~ 5 km/h, ~ 3 mph).



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Independence Day celebrations by Council for Leather Exports (CLE)



CLE Head Office in Chennai

Council for Leather Exports celebrated the 77th Independence Day of the country at its Head Office in Chennai, Regional Offices in New Delhi, Kanpur, Kolkata, Mumbai and in Extension Offices in Agra and Jalandhar. National Flag was hoisted in all CLE offices on the occasion.



CLE, Kanpur

In the Head Office at Chennai, Shri R. Selvam, ED, CLE hoisted the National Flag.

In the Central Regional Office at Kanpur, Shri Rajendra Kumar Jalan, Vice – Chairman, CLE and Shri Javed Iqbal, Regional Chairman (Central), hoisted the National Flag.

In the Northern Regional Office, Shri Motilal Sethi, Northern Regional Chairman, CLE hoisted National Flag on 15th August along with Shri Atul Kumar Mishra, Regional Director, CLE in the presence of distinguished guests and CLE officials.



CLE, Delhi

Flag Hoisting was also done in CLE offices in Agra, Kolkata, Mumbai and Jalandhar.

Unfurling of National Flag at the Residences of CLE Employees

As part of Har Ghar Tiranga Campaign, the CLE employees hoisted the National Flag at their

residences during August 13-15, 2023. CLE employees also uploaded their photo with National Flag in the website <https://harghartiranga.com> and obtained the certificates. Some of the certificates are given below. Besides, CLE employees also took photos along with Flag and Standee.

Celebrations by member exporters

CLE sent a circular to all its members requesting to celebrate the Independence Day by hoisting the National Flag at their offices/ factory premises and also requesting their employees to hoist the National Flag at their residences.



CLE, Agra



CLE, Mumbai

Shri Sanjay Leekha appointed as Chairman of CII Task Force on Leather and Footwear



Shri Sanjay Leekha, Chairman, CLE has been appointed as Chairman of CII Task Force on Leather and Footwear for the year 2023 – 24, under the CII Manufacturing Council.

FDDI - Institute of National Importance is creating Resource of National Importance to achieve targets – emphasized Northern Regional Chairman, CLE



“INI DAY” celebration started by the lighting of the lamp by Shri Motilal Sethi, Northern Regional Chairman, CLE, and Member of Governing Council of FDDI, Shri Arun Kumar Sinha, MD, FDDI, Shri Pankaj Kumar Sinha, Secretary, FDDI, Shri Sanjay Gupta, President, IFCOMA and member of Governing Council of FDDI and other dignitaries

Footwear Design & Development Institute (FDDI) is a premier design institute in the field of footwear, leather goods, accessories, fashion and retail. FDDI was set up by the Ministry of Commerce and Industries, Government of India in the year 1986 with an objective to provide one stop solution to the needs of Footwear, Leather Goods, Fashion and Retail Industry. In just a span of three decades, FDDI has evolved into a notable academic Institute and has been conferred the Status of an Institution of National Importance by the Government of India.

On 5th of August, 2023, FDDI was declared “Institute of National Importance” vide Government of India gazette Notification No. 30,



Shri Arun Kumar Sinha, MD, FDDI delivering the welcome address on ‘INI DAY’ celebration

Ministry of Law & 5th Justice (Legislative Department), New Delhi dated 5th August 2017, therefore, FDDI celebrates this date as “INI Day”.

Shri Arun Kumar Sinha, MD, FDDI delivering the welcome address extended a warm welcome to the esteemed guests present at the event including panelists, alumni, staff etc. and also congratulated them on this memorable day that marks a significance milestone in FDDI's journey of nurturing individuals to excel and contribute to the growth and development of various sectors, including fashion, leather, lifestyle, product design, and retail & fashion merchandise.

He stated that this event is served as a platform to celebrate FDDI's achievement and provide an opportunity for its students, alumni, industry leaders and academics experts to come together and share their experiences, insights and visions for the future.

Shri Motilal Sethi, Northern Regional Chairman, CLE in his address congratulated the panelists, alumni, staff of FDDI in this special occasion of 'INI DAY'

He mobilised the Students, Alumnus and Faculty by conveying that FDDI being an institute of national importance will create resource of national importance to achieve projected growth targets of USD 47 billion by 2030. He conveyed that the country is marching fast towards the visionary program⁴⁵mes of Hon'ble Prime Minister & "Leather & Footwear Sector" is of one of them. This is the opportune time, where India is looked as the next prospect of manufacturing hub after China and this is visible by looking the international investors, investing in India. He also gave example of latest ongoing investment of M/s. HONG FU Industrial group in Tamil Nadu; one of the largest manufacturer of Sports Shoes in Taiwan. Hence, it shows India is rapidly emerging as a



Shri Motilal Sethi, Northern Regional Chairman, CLE in his address talked about FDDI and its pivotal role to create a skilled ecosystem in the Industry.

preferred country for foreign investments due to Government's initiatives and steps taken by the government led by Hon'ble Prime Minister, which is evident from the ever-increasing volumes of FDI inflow in the footwear sector.

Shri Motilal Sethi further stressed on the FDDI strength and said talented resource from FDDI will help achieve this objective and suggested FDDI to further upgrade education pattern by virtually engaging foreign faculty and lectures to impart world class knowledge to students by utilising virtual classrooms created by FDDI.

Therefore, considering the inflow of investments and need of resources, FDDI has to create more value to skill by focusing on the manufacturing and entire supply chain involved in this sector, such as logistics and packaging, to create a holistic skilled force that covers all aspects of manufacturing and supply chain management.

Further he added that, indeed, Government of India is striving hard to promote this sector and he is sure that new ideas will emerge in collaboration between Academia and Industry to promote innovation, technology and efficiency.

Shri Pankaj Kumar Sinha, Secretary, FDDI while delivering his vote of thanks extended his special thanks to the distinguished alumni who stand out from the crowd with their achievements and contributions which continues to inspire current and future generations.

'INI DAY' celebration also included panel discussion on the topic "Prospects of Footwear, Leather Goods, Fashion & Retail Industry in India, cultural performances, Fashion Shows highlighting the fusion of traditional and contemporary designs and also show casing India's rich culture and heritage.



5 AUGUST & 6 AUGUST 2023


**रॉयल
बुलेटिन**

आई.एन.आई. दिवस का आयोजन

नोएडा। फुटवियर डिजाइन एण्ड डेवलपमेंट इंस्टिट्यूट (एफडीडीआई) ने शनिवार को भविष्य हेतु उत्साह और दूरदर्शिता के साथ आईएनआई दिवस मनाया। इस कार्यक्रम में अरुण कुमार सिन्हा, आईएएस, प्रबंध निदेशक, एफडीडीआई द्वारा एफडीडीआई कार्यक्रम की महत्वपूर्ण उपलब्धियों पर प्रकाश डालते हुए और उज्ज्वल भविष्य की परियोजनाओं का उजागर करते हुए एक व्यावहारिक स्वागत भाषण देखा गया। इस अवसर को एक प्रतिष्ठित पैनल की चर्चा के साथ समृद्ध किया गया जिसमें प्रसिद्ध पूर्व छात्र शामिल थे, इसके बाद विभिन्न स्कूलों - फुटवियर डिजाइन, फैशन डिजाइन, लेडर लाइफ स्टाइल और प्रोडक्ट डिजाइन और रिटेल और फैशन मर्चेंडाइज के छात्रों द्वारा आकर्षक प्रदर्शन किया गया। अपने स्वागत भाषण में अरुण कुमार सिन्हा, आईएएस, प्रबंध निदेशक एफडीडीआई ने सभी उपस्थित लोगों के प्रति आभार व्यक्त किया और डिजाइन और विकास के क्षेत्र में एफडीडीआई द्वारा की



गई उल्लेखनीय प्रगति पर प्रकाश डाला। उन्होंने प्रतिभाशाली व्यक्तियों को विकसित करने और एक रचनात्मक पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र को बढ़ावा देने के लिए संस्थान की अटूट प्रतिबद्धता पर जोर दिया जो उद्योग की निरंतर विकसित

मांगों को पूरा करता है। पैनल चर्चा एक मनोरम सत्र था, जिसमें संस्थान के कुछ प्रसिद्ध पूर्व छात्र शामिल थे। इन निपुण व्यक्तियों ने उद्योग के नवीनतम रुझानों में अपने मूल्यवान अनुभव, सफलता की कहानियाँ और अंतर्दृष्टि साझा की।



Shoes & Leather Fair

Saigon Exhibition & Convention Centre

Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, July 12-14, 2023

A Report by E.L. Samson, Regional Director, CLE-Southern Region



Introduction:

The 23rd International Shoes & Leather Exhibition is one of the most comprehensive and leading Exhibition for the Shoes and Leather Industry in the ASEAN Regions. This Fair is the right platform for exhibitors to reach their target buyers.

The Shoes & Leather Fair, Saigon Exhibition & Convention Center, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam was inaugurated by Vice Minister of Ministry of Industry and Trade, Her Excellency Phan Thi Thang.

This Event showcased a variety of advanced shoe making machines, Leather Goods machines, knitting machines, automation production line, shoe material, Leather, Chemical and accessories.

The Shoes & Leather Fair, held in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam has been playing a significant role in the Vietnam's Footwear and Leather industry.



Shri. Sanjay Leekha, Chairman, CLE updating about the Indian Leather Industry to the Vice Minister of Ministry of Industry and Trade, Her Excellency Phan Thi Thang at the CLE India Pavilion.

The Fair witnessed participation of 638 exhibitors from 21 Countries (Australia, Brazil, China, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Netherlands, Pakistan, Portugal, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, United Kingdom, USA and Vietnam) occupying 20,000 m2. This includes 13 Pavilions from 7 countries and Regions (Brazil, China, India, Italy, Malaysia, Taiwan and Vietnam)

The Events showcased Finished Leather, Footwear and Leather goods, like trendy shoes, bags, suitcases, fashion accessories, components, shoe materials,

and also advanced shoe making machines, leather goods machines, knitting machines etc.

Vietnam Market Potential:

Vietnam is the 3rd largest importer of Finished Leather in the world next to Italy and China. The total Import of Leather and Leather products into Vietnam has increased from US\$ 2260.22 million in 2017 to US\$ 2388.06 million in 2021, growing at a CAGR of close to 2%.The import of finished leather of Vietnam has increased from US\$ 1620 million in 2017 to US\$ 1630 million in 2021.

India’s export of leather & leather products to Vietnam touched US\$ 65 million in 2022-23. Finished Leather is mainly exported from India to Vietnam. Finished Leather alone accounts for 97% share in India’s total export of leather and leather products to Vietnam in the year 2022-23. India is the 8th largest supplier of finished leather to Vietnam. Besides, Leather Footwear, Leather Goods, Non Leather Footwear etc are also exported from India to Vietnam in lesser quantities.

Vietnam is also a major exporter of leather products to the world. The exports during 2021 touched USD 19 bn. Out of the total export, export of different categories of footwear alone is USD 18 bn, accounting for 95%. Hence, there is a positive sign for establishing joint venture collaborations between India and Vietnam in footwear manufacturing in the coming years.

Vietnam’s import of Finished Leather and Major suppliers

(Value in Mn US\$)

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Vietnam’s Import of finished leather	1620	1621	1663	1322	1630
Major suppliers					
China	312	325	380	378	514
Italy	218	239	239	193	240
Thailand	174	236	241	197	183
USA	114	113	125	80	144
Korea Rep	168	160	178	113	124
Brazil	114	74	69	58	96
Taiwan	153	125	99	56	61
India	97	81	52	59	63

Source: ITC Data

Vietnam’s Export of Footwear to the World

(Value in Mn US\$)

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Export of Footwear by Vietnam	14660	16165	18244	16677	17651

India Pavilion

Council for Leather Exports is regularly organizing participation of Member exporters in the Shoes & Leather Fair,Vietnam. The primary objective of organizing participation in the Shoes & Leather Fair is to promote the brand image of Indian footwear and leather industry thereby establishing direct linkages between Indian manufacturers of leather and leather products and Vietnamese counterparts. Vietnam is an important market for the Leather Industry in India and Member participants are looking forward to enhance trade relationship with Vietnam in the years to come.

Shri. Mahesh Chand Giri, Consul, Consulate General of India, Ho Chi Minh City,Vietnam visited the Fair and CLE India Pavilion. The Consul interacted with all the Participants and appreciated their Product Quality put on display made with latest Product Designs.The Consul also highlighted the potential of Vietnam as a Market and encouraged the Participants to explore all possibilities to enhance India-Vietnam Trade in Leather & Leather Products.

Shri. Sanjay Leekha, Chairman, CLE visited the Fair and interacted with all the CLE Participants and highlighted the market potential of Vietnam and requested them to utilize the business opportunity to the maximum.



Shri. Mahesh Chand Giri, Consul, Consulate General of India, Ho Chi Minh City,Vietnam visited the Fair and CLE India Pavilion.

The following 19 companies participated in the Shoes and Leather Fair, Vietnam, and exhibited products like Finished Leather, Footwear, Footwear Components, Leather Goods/accessories etc. The fair provides opportunity for members to explore the market potential and meet with the new buyers in Vietnam.

Sl.No	Company Name	Place
1	Alfa Impex Tanning Industries	Chennai
2	Good Leather Company	Chennai
3	Hindustan Foods Limited	Poothurai (TN)
4	Indian Tanning Industries	Kanpur
5	Jaeger Products Pwts Ltd, Chennai	Chennai
6	K K S K Tanning Company Private Limited	ERODE
7	KKSK International LLP	ERODE
8	Mirza International	Kanpur
9	Naaz Exports Pvt. Ltd.,	Kanpur
10	Nagu Leathers	Chennai
11	Navkar Techtex Pvt Ltd	Delhi
12	Prara Leathers Pvt. Ltd.,	Chennai
13	Rahman Industries Limited	Kanpur
14	Rathnam Leathers	Chennai
15	Sadaf Enterprises Pvt Ltd	Kanpur
16	Sansri Leathers	Ranipet
17	Tata International Limited	Dewas
18	Unifab Industries	Delhi
19	Mohib India	Chennai

CLE Information Booth

The CLE Information Booth was displayed with attractive publicity posters and materials including the participants profile booklets, CLE Membership Directory and CD version facilitating dissemination of information about the Indian Leather Industry to the Business Visitors. Shri. V. Samson, Regional Director, CLE-Southern Region coordinated member participation in the Fair.

Participants Feedback and Business Turnout

The three day fair was attended by 11,206 trade visitors from 37 countries and regions. The visitors were from countries like (Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Brazil, Brunei, Cambodia, China, Dubai, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, UK, USA and Vietnam)



Chairman, CLE interaction with participants



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The visitors include Professionals / Representatives from renowned Brands, Buying Offices, Department Stores, Franchisers of Fashion Brands, Import-Export Merchandisers, Wholesalers, Retailers, Trade Associations, Government Agencies, Production Management, Footwear Factory, Bag Suppliers, Sub-contract manufacturers etc.

Participants stated that this is a good market with huge export potential and with wider opportunities. It is a vibrant and potential market for finished leather, linings etc.

19 Members from CLE availed the opportunity to participate in the Shoes & Leather Fair, held in Ho Chi

Minh City, Vietnam to increase their market share in supplying finished leather and other leather products to Vietnam. The Fair also provided an opportunity for the Member participants to revive their existing contacts and establishing new contacts with the buyers in Vietnam. Further, it provided the right platform for making a thorough market assessment, exploring joint venture collaborations, understanding the latest market trends in Vietnam.

As per the feedback of the participants, 355 Buyers visited the CLE India Pavilion, 188 Business Meetings were held and the firm orders booked was to the tune of USD 30,000/- and the future expected business generation was US\$ 11,25,000/-

The footwear and leather sector in India has made significant investments in the last two decades in scaling-up production. Investment opportunities in the footwear and leather sector in India is huge and the fair provided an opportunity for our participants to discuss about cooperation between India and Vietnam in footwear and leather sector.

Participants expressed interest to participate again in the Shoes and Leather Fair, Vietnam and wanted CLE to organize the next edition of the fair.

IN BRIEF



CEC Reaction to EP Plenary Vote on the Ecodesign Regulation

The European Footwear Confederation (CEC) is the voice of an industry willing to further contribute to the green transition in the EU and worldwide. In this regard, together with our members and stakeholders' network, we welcome any EU legislative initiative – including the proposal for the Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation (ESPR) – supporting companies toward the circularity of the footwear industry, and our commitment does not diminish despite these difficult times. We therefore support research and investments on ecodesign approaches with the opportunities offered by the latest technologies. However, we consider that the ESPR should consider the specificities of each product, as well as the readiness of the related industry. We are thus

concerned on the outcome of the European Parliament's Plenary Vote this week that includes the footwear industry as a priority for ecodesign, and reiterate our call for an enforceable Regulation.

The European Parliament voted on the Plenary sitting of 12th July a more restrictive Report on the proposal for the ESPR, in line with the EP resolution on the EU Strategy for Sustainable and Circular Textiles earlier last month. Among the provisions negotiated since the adoption of the ESPR proposal by the European Commission in March 2022, the legislators are considering a ban on destruction of unsold goods, where recycling is intended as a form of destruction. Moreover, the EP Report sets an ambitious timeline to define ecodesign requirements for a selection of products considered at high environmental impact; among the list, footwear is included in combination with garments.

In light of the legislative trends addressed to the textiles ecosystem (textiles, clothing, leather and footwear) also beyond the Ecodesign file and the EU Textiles Strategy, the CEC and its members reiterate the need for a feasible and enforceable legislation, able to boost the state of play of the footwear sector in a realistic way, and aligned to the characteristic of the product and its value chain.

CLE’s Participation in the ILF-Indo Leather and Footwear Expo (August 3rd-5th 2023), Jakarta, Indonesia.



Council for Leather Exports organized group participation of its members on self-financing basis in the 17th Edition of Indo Leather and Footwear Expo in Jakarta, Indonesia from 3rd August-5th August,2023. The fair was organized by Krista Exhibitions and garnered support from the office of the Coordinating Economic Minister, Industry Ministry, Trade Ministry, SME’s Ministry, Tourism and Creative Economy Ministry in the Government of Indonesia along with the leading leather and footwear associations like ASPERAPI (the Indonesian Exhibition Entrepreneurs Association), APRINDO (Indonesian Retailers Association), KADIN Indonesia. This year ILF 2023 experience an increase in participants of around 30 percent in comparison to the previous year and involved exhibitors from more than eight countries including India, Italy, China, Korea, Taiwan, Japan, Singapore, France.

The exhibition was held in conjunction with the IGT-INDO GARMENT& TEXTILE EXPO 2023 featuring clothing and textile industries, textile machinery and technology companies along with SHOE & LEATHER FASHION FESTIVAL 2023 a fashion show festival featuring various shoe and leather products.

List of Participants from Council For Leather Exports :

Sl. No,	Company Name		Booth No. in Hall D2
1	ALLIED EXIMS	Kanpur	DC 020
2	KKSK International	Erode	DC 019
3	Model Tanners	Kanpur	DC 018
4	NavkarTechtexPvt.Ltd.	Delhi	DC 012
5	Superhouse Ltd	Kanpur	DC 017
6	Council for Leather Exports	India	DC 016

Opening Ceremony of the ILF 2023

The opening ceremony of ILF was held on 3rd August,2023. Shri Sanjay leekha, Chairman, CLE was invited to cut the ribbon during the opening ceremony of ILF 2023. Shri Javed Iqbal, Regional Chairman-Central CLE, Ms.Pallavi Dubey, Regional Director-Central,CLE were also present during the ceremony. Representatives from the various leather and footwear associations were part of the ceremony.



Shri Sanjay Leekha, Chairman CLE during Ribbon Cutting, opening ceremony of ILF 2023

The opening ceremony was followed by VIP tour of all the booths in Hall D2



The 40th International Footwear Conference

The 40th International footwear conference was held on the second day of the 16th Edition of Indo Leather and Footwear-ILF 2023 at Grand Mercure kemayoran, Jakarta Indonesia. The welcome address was delivered by Mr. Daud D. Salim, CEO of Krista Exhibitions wherein he extended welcome to all the delegates of Confederation of International Footwear Associations (CIFA) comprising of the following 16 countries namely Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Hongkong, India, Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Philippine, South Africa, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkish and Vietnam.



Shri Sanjay Leekha, Chairman CLE along with the CIFA delegates

The delegates from all the 16 countries were given a platform to apprise the member countries about the present scenario of Leather and Footwear Industry in their respective countries and also to apprise about the various initiatives undertaken by the Government to promote the growth of the Leather and Footwear Industry.

Just to quote a few:

Bangladesh highlighted about its strategic location as a Gateway to Asia Pacific Region for which The Government of Bangladesh is

spending approximately more than US\$ 8.53 Trillion annually to improve the connectivity as well as provide better access to the regional markets.

Cambodia emphasized on the increase of FDI (\$41.0 billion) which grew by 11 percent in 2021 with contributions coming from nations like China, South Korea, Vietnam, Singapore, Japan and Malaysia. Together with this, the emphasis was on the various Trade preferences available in Cambodia like ASEAN 1999, GSP, MFN Status, Cambodia-UAE CEPA, RCEP 2022 etc.

Indonesia highlighted the strong recovery of the economy post Covid where the GDP for Footwear, leather and leather products grew from 7.75 % in 2021 to 9.36% percent in 2022. Indonesia's Footwear exports reached USD 7.7 Billion in 2022 catering mainly to United States, EU countries and China.

With regards to imports, HS 6406 forms 45 percent of imports, followed by HS 6402 (23%), HS 6404 (20 %), HS 6403 (10% Of total imports) and lastly HS 6401 (1%).



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Chairman CLE giving presentation during the 40th International Footwear Conference

India

Sanjay Leekha, Chairman-Council for Leather Exports represented India in the 40th International Footwear Conference. Chairman CLE spoke on the topic Indian Footwear Industry, Potential for growth and collaboration. He started by giving a synopsis of the Indian Footwear Industry

Exports	USD 2.08 bn(global ranking :11)
Domestic Turnover	USD 10 bn* estimated
Imports	USD 0.50 billion
Production	2600 mn pairs (global ranking 2)
Consumption	2559 mn pairs (global ranking 2)
Employment	2 million
Share in Global Market	1.52% (2021)

Source: International Trade Centre, Geneva

Chairman, CLE stated that the turnover of the footwear industry is expected to grow from USD 10bn in 2021-22 to USD 18bn by 2025-26 (15.83% CAGR) and the production to increase from 2.6 bn pairs in 2021-22 to 4.55 bn pairs in 2025-26 at 15% CAGR.

The key growth drivers to support the growth of the Domestic and exports are

- the already signed trade agreements with UAE an Australia and the proposed FTA’S with UK and EU
 - very strong export growth in the US market
- increasing disposable income and higher spending on lifestyle products in India
 - Increased reach of mid and economy brands to TIER II/TIER III Indian cities



Shri Sanjay Leekha, Chairman CLE, then highlighted the various initiatives for manufacturing undertaken by the Government of India

1-Indian Footwear & Leather Development Program (IFLDP 2021-26) with total outlay of USD 222.50 mn to support the following components

- Modernization of Production Units
- Establishments of Mega Leather & Footwear Clusters
- Brand Promotion
- Establishments of Institutions
- Environment Management
- Establishment of Design Studios.

2- Fiscal Support Measures

- Low GST rates for leather industry items
- Reduction in corporate tax.

3- Duty Reimbursement for Exporters

- 3% reduction in interest rates on pre-shipment and post shipment on rupee export credit during October 2021-March 2024
- Reimbursement of excise/VAT on fuel used in inputs/raw materials, other unrefunded taxes)

- Custom duty paid is reimbursed in the form of drawback
- Duty free import of notified inputs under Advance Authorization Scheme, subject to export obligation
- Duty free import of machinery under EPCG scheme subject to export obligation of 6 times of duty saved in 6 years.

4- Import Duty Exemption Scheme for Footwear Exporters

- Subject to the conditions of Customs (Import of Goods at Concessional Rate of Duty) Rules, 2017, import duty is exempted on tags, laels, stickers, belts, buttons, hangers or printed bags.

5- Support Measures for FDI

- 100% repatriation of profit and dividends allowed if investment is made convertible foreign currency
- 100 % FDI permitted through automatic route (no prior approval required from Government)
- 100 % FDI is permitted in single brand retailing under automatic route
- 100% FDI under automatic route allowed for the establishment of duty-free shops in customs boded areas at international sea ports/airports/land custom stations.

6- Ease of doing Business

- E-BRC (bank realization certificate) introduced. Realization of export proceeds directly transferred from bank to DGFT service
- 24*7 customs clearance facility introduced
- E-sealing of export containers
- Single window programme implemented for imports and exports
- Authorized Economic Operator Programme (AEO) of customs facilitates faster clearances
- Mandatory documents for exports and imports brought down to 3 – Bill of lading, invoice cum packing list, shipping bill.



As per the feedback from the members, the Indonesian market holds potential for safety leathers, shoe uppers and has huge demand for microfibre. It is not an ideal market for cow leathers.

The next edition will be from 31st July, 2024- 2nd August, 2024.

Council for Leather Exports Organises Trade & Investment Promotion Show at Taiwan

10th-11th Aug., 2023



Fig 1: Shri Anup Singh, Deputy Secretary, DOC, Shri Sanjay Leekha, Chairman CLE and Shri R Selvam, ED CLE in the meeting with Taiwan International Leather Association, 10th Aug, 2022, Taichung



Fig 2: Shri Sanjay Leekha, Chairman CLE giving opening remarks in the meeting of India-Taiwan Leather Industry Roundtable, at Taichung, 10th Aug, 23

In a significant stride towards fostering international trade relations and attracting foreign direct investment, the Council for Leather Export (CLE), in collaboration with the Department of Commerce, Government of India, and the India Taiwan Association, organized a Trade and Investment Promotion show in Taiwan. The primary objective of this event was to promote India's leather exports, particularly in leather goods

and footwear, while simultaneously encouraging foreign investment in India's leather and footwear manufacturing sector.

The event, held in the vibrant city of Taichung, brought together key stakeholders from both India and Taiwan to explore avenues for collaboration and growth in the leather industry. Leading the Indian delegation were Mr. Sanjay Leekha, Chairman and Mr. Selvam ED CLE, along with prominent representatives from various segments of the leather, footwear, and component manufacturing sectors. From the Government of India's side, Shri Anant Swarup, Joint Secretary of the Department of Commerce, and Shri Anup Singh, Deputy Secretary of the same department, lent their support and expertise to the proceedings. Mr. Dhananjay Upadhyay, Head of the India Taiwan Association,



Fig 3: Shri R Selvam, ED CLE and Mr Fujay Chan, SG Taiwanese International Leather Association(TILA) in India-Taiwan Leather Industry Roundtable, at Taichung, 10th Aug, 23

played a crucial role in facilitating the dialogue between the two nations. His presence underscored the commitment to strengthening bilateral ties and leveraging the strengths of both countries in the leather and footwear domain. Shri Anup Singh DS DOC gave opening remarks to the meeting and informed the delegates from both side about bilateral trade relation of India and Taiwan in leather & footwear sector.

Shri Sanjay Leekha gave special remarks and invited attention of the delegates towards the growing significance of Indian economy in global market and conveyed that India is now 5th largest economy and expected to be 3rd largest in the world by the year 2030. He also conveyed that India with its growing per capita income and more that 600 mn. young population provide huge market to the international investors.

He also conveyed that we are here for an opportunity to showcase the high-quality leather products and footwear that India is known for. He said that that this meeting will provide a platform to both Indian and Taiwanese manufacturers to exhibit their capabilities, engage in business-to-business interactions, and explore potential partnerships with Taiwanese counterparts.

Shri R Selvam ED CLE gave presentation



Fig 4: Shri Sanjay Lekha, Chairman CLE greeting Mr Fujay Chan, SG Taiwanese International Leather Association(TILA) with CLE Souvenir during India-Taiwan Leather Industry Roundtable, at Taichung, 10th Aug, 23

on “Potential for growth of footwear and Leather Industry in India”. He initiated his presentation by conveying that Taiwanese businesses and investors may gain insights into India’s favourable investment climate and the potential for growth in the leather and footwear sectors through this presentation. He added that we are here for the promotion of foreign direct investment as a central theme, as India aims to attract capital inflow to bolster domestic manufacturing capabilities and contribute to the ‘Make in India’ initiative.

He summarised his presentation by saying that overall this meeting may serve as a testament to the collaborative efforts between India and Taiwan in promoting cross-border trade, technology exchange, and investment opportunities in the leather and footwear industry. Today’s meeting will mark a significant step forward in enhancing bilateral economic relations and fostering mutual growth and development in the bilateral leather & footwear market. The event’s success bodes well for future endeavours that aim to harness the synergies between these two dynamic economies.

Taiwan was represented by Mr. Fujay Chain, Secretary General of the Taiwan International Leather Association. His participation demonstrated Taiwan’s keen interest in expanding its trade relations with India, specifically in leather-related industries. The discussions encompassed a wide range of topics, with a particular focus on leather trade, wet blue and crust processing, and compliance issues within tanneries.

During the meeting following companies participated in the roundtable

S.No	Name of the Company	Country
1	Forest Leather Co. Ltd	Taiwan
2	Axel Incorporated	Taiwan
3	Symbol Trading Co.	Taiwan
4	Shan been Jeou Industrial Co. Ltd	Taiwan
5	Carl Education Foundation	Taiwan
6	Ellyasia Co. Ltd.	Taiwan
7	Novel goods Enterprises Ltd	Taiwan
8	Taiwanese International Leather Association (TILA)	Taiwan
9	Alpine Apparels Ltd	India
10	Blue Diamond Leathers	India
11	Top Last	India
12	C&E Ltd	India
13	Farida Group	India
14	DC International	India
15	BBK Export Pvt Ltd	India
16	Mohib India Shoes Pvt. Ltd.	India
17	Council for Leather Exports	India

Meeting with Taiwan Footwear Manufacturers Association, Taichung, 10th Aug., 23

A constructive and enlightening dialogue transpired between a delegation of prominent Taiwanese footwear manufacturers and Indian leather and footwear delegates. The discussions centred around several key areas, including ease of doing business, sustainability practices, carbon emission neutralization efforts by Indian leather manufacturers, and crucial government initiatives to support the industry's growth. Shri Anant Swarup Joint Secretary, Department of Commerce gave his opening remarks and welcomed the delegates from both side i.e. India and Taiwan. In his opening remarks Shri Swarup highlighted the importance of Indian economy and how it can be mutually beneficial from trade and investment perspective. He addressed one of the pivotal topics of the ease of doing business in India. He provided brief insights into the comprehensive reforms and initiatives implemented by the government to streamline



Fig 5: Shri Anant Swarup, Joint Secretary, DOC giving opening remarks to the Meeting of CLE and Taiwan Delegates during India-Taiwan Leather Industry Roundtable, at Taichung, 10th Aug, 23



Fig 6: Shri Sanjay Leekha, Chairman CLE addressing the Meeting of CLE and Taiwan Delegates during India-Taiwan Leather Industry Roundtable, at Taichung, 10th Aug, 23

bureaucratic processes, simplify regulations, and facilitate a conducive environment for businesses in India in the last few years. He conveyed that India is committed to creating a more business-friendly ecosystem, which in turn is promoting collaborations and partnerships between international players.

Shri Sanjay Leekha Chairman CLE gave special remarks in the meeting and highlighted the role of Indian leather and footwear sector in India's economy. He conveyed this sector provide significant chunk of employment to skilled and semiskilled population of India. He conveyed footwear industry is supporting more than 4.1 million people by providing them direct employment in the manufacturing sector. He further added that Indian industry is well aware of sustainability has emerged as a key focal point, and industry acknowledge the imperative of adopting environmentally responsible practices. He highlighted that the Indian leather and footwear industry's proactive efforts to embrace sustainability measures, including eco-friendly production processes, responsible sourcing of materials, and waste reduction strategies.

Mr Jackson Yu, Chairman FRT (Footwear and Recreation Technology) Research Institute raised a noteworthy aspect of mutual cooperation in the sector and his conversation centred on the Indian government's role in facilitating the industry's growth. He discussed the initiatives aimed at providing accessible land for industry development for foreigners by Indian govt. and questioned whether those initiative aligns with India's vision to bolster domestic manufacturing capabilities and attract foreign investment by ensuring the availability of suitable infrastructure.

Shri R Selvam ED CLE gave presentation on "Potential for growth



Fig 7: Mr Jacson Yu, Chairman FRT Research Institute addressing the Meeting of CLE and Taiwan Delegates during India-Taiwan Leather Industry Roundtable, at Taichung, 10th Aug, 23

of footwear and Leather Industry in India". He highlighted the key features of India's leather and footwear Industry and also the govt support measures to promote manufacturing and exports from India. During his presentation he conveyed that India's leather & footwear industry shines as a global export leader with a diverse range of products from leather goods to footwear and accessories. Currently global exports are for more than USD 200 bn. and India accounts for more than USD 5 bn. India's exports are in the sectors like finished leather, leather footwear, leather goods & accessories, saddlery & harness, footwear components, leather jackets, and non-leather footwear.

Shri Selvam highlighted that in India this sector is renowned for its craftsmanship, and the industry boasts skilled and modern manufacturing facilities. Abundant raw material supply, sustainable practices and innovative designs characterise the sector. He further added that with govt support through its various programmes Indian leather and footwear industries are highly compliant. He also informed that now India's leather and footwear industry stand as a dynamic player in the global world market as its market potential is expected to reach by USD 47 bn. by the year 2030. Out of which USD 13 bn. will be exports. He further informed that this sector is experiencing huge transformation by attracting large scale FDI across the value chain that is not only boosting India's high value non-leather footwear exports but also building scales and capacities through plug and play infrastructure, thus significantly contributing to boosting employment in the sector.

After his presentation floor was opened for the discussion and both sides expressed optimism regarding the prospects of collaboration and mutual growth. The exchange of ideas and information paved the way for potential partnerships and joint ventures, leveraging each other's strengths to create innovative solutions and products that resonate with global consumer preferences. The matter of duties on imported raw materials and machinery also surfaced, highlighting the government's efforts to create a competitive environment for Indian manufacturers. The delegates exchanged insights on how such policies stimulate local production and encourage self-reliance in the sector. Notably, discussions also revolved around Indian leather manufacturers' strides in achieving carbon emission neutrality; a testament to their commitment to combat climate change.



Fig 8: Meeting of CLE and Taiwan Delegates during India-Taiwan Leather Industry Roundtable in progress at Taichung, 10th Aug, 23

In sum, the dialogue marked a crucial step toward strengthening ties between Taiwan's footwear industry and India's leather and footwear sector. By addressing pertinent matters like ease of doing business, sustainability, carbon neutrality, and government initiatives, the discussion showcased the shared commitment of both nations to sustainable growth, innovation, and international collaboration in the leather and footwear domain. The outcomes of this exchange are expected to foster future cooperation, boost bilateral trade, and contribute to the overall advancement of the global leather and footwear market.



Fig 9: Shri Sanjay Leekha, Chairman CLE and Shri R Selvam ED CLE felicitating Mr Jackson Yu Chairman Footwear & Recreation Technology Research Institute (FRT) with Small Souvenir

S.No.	Name of the Company	Country
1.	Dah Shang International Co. Ltd.	Taiwan
2.	Gold long john International Co. Ltd.	Taiwan
3.	Nanpao Materials Resins Pvt. Ltd	Taiwan
4.	Orion Shoes India Co.	Taiwan
5.	San Fang Chemical Industrial Co. Ltd	Taiwan
6.	Cehenfull International Co. Ltd	Taiwan
7.	Kuo Yuen Tannery Co. Ltd	Taiwan
8.	Innovate Track Ltd.	Taiwan
9.	Great Eastern Resins Industrial Co. Ltd	Taiwan
10.	Tien Kang Co. Ltd	Taiwan
11.	Pao Lai Group	Taiwan
12.	Pauchen Group	Taiwan
13.	Chanty Industrial Co.	Taiwan
14.	Tung Yang Dynatan Trading Co. Ltd	Taiwan
15.	Jea Yeu Enterprises Co. Ltd.	Taiwan
16.	City Bank	Taiwan

S.No.	Name of the Company	Country
17.	New Yuming Machinery Co.	Taiwan
18.	Fengte Enterprises Co. Ltd.	Taiwan
19.	Tila Co. Ltd.	Taiwan
20.	Taiwanese Footwear Manufacturer Association	Taiwan
21.	Alpine Apparels Ltd	India
22.	Blue Diamond Leathers	India
23.	Top Last	India
24.	C&E Ltd	India
25.	Farida Group	India
26.	DC International	India
27.	BBK Export Pvt Ltd	India
28.	Mohib India Shoes Pvt. Ltd.	India
29.	Council for Leather Exports	India

Visit to Footwear & Recreation Technology Research Institute (FRT) at Taichung

A delegation of India's leather and footwear industry representatives embarked on a knowledge-enhancing journey to Taiwan's esteemed Footwear and Recreation Technology Research Institute. The visit was primarily aimed at delving into the realm of cutting-edge technology employed in crafting sports and athletic footwear. This endeavour aligned with the delegation's aspiration to understand the latest advancements in material inputs, modern machinery, and the pivotal role of automation and AI in reshaping the industry landscape.





Fig 10: View of Visit to Footwear & Recreation Technology Research Institute (FRT) at Taichung

During their visit, the Indian delegation was exposed to a treasure trove of innovative techniques and insights. They were granted the opportunity to witness firsthand the application of new-age technologies that seamlessly integrate precision, performance, and comfort in sports footwear. The institute's experts showcased how advanced materials, meticulous craftsmanship, and state-of-the-art machinery combine to create athletic shoes that cater to the dynamic needs of modern athletes.

Of particular interest was the intricate interplay between technology and creativity, highlighting the balance between functionality and design. Delegates gained insights into the meticulous selection of materials that optimize performance, durability, and comfort, thus redefining the boundaries of athletic & Sports footwear.

Automation and artificial intelligence emerged as game-changers, streamlining the manufacturing process and ensuring consistent quality. Delegates observed how automation seamlessly manages intricate tasks, from cutting and stitching to intricate detailing, resulting in products that meet exacting standards.



Fig 11: Shri Anup Singh, Deputy Secretary DOC, Shri Sanjay Leekha, Chairman CLE, Mr Jackson Yu, Chairman FRT and Shri R Selvam ED CLE with Indian Delegates at FRT Campus, Taichung on 10th Aug., 2023

The visit was not just about witnessing technological marvels; it was about fostering cross-border learning and collaboration. The exchange of ideas, experiences, and expertise was a testament to the industry's commitment to continuous improvement and adaptation to global trends. It illuminated the potential for synergies between Indian and Taiwanese industries, paving the way for future partnerships and joint ventures.

In summary, the visit of India's leather and footwear delegation to Taiwan's Footwear and Recreation Technology Research Institute was a transformative experience. The delegation's exposure to cutting-edge technology, material innovation, and the role of automation and AI in sports footwear production proved invaluable. This exchange of knowledge is set to invigorate India's leather and footwear industry, contributing to its growth, competitiveness, and alignment with global benchmarks.



Fig 12: Shri Anant Swarup , Joint Secretary DOC, Shri Dhananjay Upadhyay, Head ITA, Shri Sanjay Leekha, Chairman CLE , Mr Jackson Yu, Chairman FRT with Indian Delegates at FRT Campus, Taichung on 10th Aug., 2023

Meeting with Dean Shoes at Taichung 11th Aug., 2023

In a pivotal step towards fostering international collaboration and investment, a distinguished delegation from India's leather and footwear industry embarked on a significant visit to Dean Shoes in Taichung, Taiwan. Shri Sanjay Leekha Chairman CLE highlighted the purpose of the meeting and conveyed that this visit has two fold objective: one to explore avenues for collaboration between Indian and Taiwanese sports footwear manufacturers and second to extend a warm invitation to invest in India's burgeoning consumer market. His further discussion with team of Dean Shoes centred on leveraging India's substantial market potential, fostering export growth in non-leather footwear, and showcasing the range of incentives offered by the Indian government to attract foreign investors.





Fig 12: Shri Sanjay Leekha, Chairman CLE, Mr Jeff Liao CEO Dean Shoes, Mr Alan Huang, Dean Shoes, Shri R Selvam ED CLE with Indian Delegates at Dean Shoes HQ, Taichung on 11th Aug., 2023

Dean Shoes, renowned for its expertise in footwear manufacturing, his CEO Mr Jeff Liao welcomed the Indian delegation with open arms. The dialogue revolved around the shared aspirations of both nations to achieve new heights in the sports footwear segment. Shri R Selvam ED CLE from Indian delegation side highlighted India's impressive consumer market size and its rapid growth trajectory, positioning it as a fertile ground for investment and market expansion. He emphasized that collaboration between Indian and Taiwanese manufacturers could yield innovative products that resonate with diverse consumer preferences.

Shri Selvam's pivotal discussions centred on the export prospects of non-leather footwear from India. He highlighted the extensive support provided by the Indian government, including favourable policies such as low GST rates, corporate tax rebates, infrastructure subsidies, and streamlined trade facilitation measures. These incentives underscored India's commitment to creating a conducive environment for

foreign investors, offering a compelling proposition for Dean Shoes and other Taiwanese manufacturers to consider. He further added that by establishing manufacturing bases in India, Dean Shoes and other Taiwanese manufacturers can gain proximity to a burgeoning market while simultaneously contributing to India's manufacturing capabilities and employment generation.

The delegation's efforts to facilitate collaboration and investment were met with keen interest by Dean Shoes. The discussion not only shed light on the potential for bilateral growth but also laid the foundation for future dialogues, negotiations, and partnerships with all delegates present there.

Shri Leekha concluded the meeting by adding that the visit of India's leather and footwear delegation to Dean Shoes, Taichung, signifies a meaningful step towards international collaboration and investment. His concluding remarks highlighted India's immense market potential, the allure of its non-leather footwear exports, and the support offered by the government to investors. This encounter serves as a stepping stone towards fostering lasting partnerships, driving innovation, and contributing to the growth and evolution of the global footwear industry.

Meeting with Tienkang at Taichung 11th Aug., 2023

A delegation of prominent representatives from India's leather and footwear industry embarked on a significant visit to Tienkang Footwear Machinery Company, a leading player in the global footwear machinery sector. The visit was held for a twofold purpose: to delve into the cutting-edge technology employed in producing sports and athletic footwear and to extend an invitation to invest in India's burgeoning footwear manufacturing hub. The discussions encompassed the potential for collaborative growth, the supply of advanced machinery to Indian manufacturers, and the promising prospect of machinery export from India.



Fig 13: Shri Sanjay Leekha, Chairman CLE, Mrs Charlene Su Sales Director, Tienkang and Shri R Selvam ED CLE with Indian Delegates at Tienkang HQ, Taichung on 11th Aug., 2023

A significant highlight of the visit was the invitation extended to Tienkang to invest in India. The delegation emphasized India's stature as a significant and rapidly expanding footwear manufacturing hub. With its massive consumer market and growing demand for quality footwear, India provides a lucrative opportunity for global manufacturers like Tienkang. The delegates conveyed that Tienkang's expertise in supplying world-class machinery aligns seamlessly with India's manufacturing aspirations.

Furthermore, the discussion touched upon the potential for exporting footwear machinery from India. The Indian government's support, through measures such as low GST rates, corporate tax rebates, infrastructure subsidies, and trade facilitation, created an attractive environment for foreign investors. The delegates highlighted the potential synergy between Tienkang's cutting-edge

machinery and India's manufacturing ecosystem, facilitating the growth of machinery exports.

The visit of India's leather and footwear delegation to Tienkang Footwear Machinery Company was a significant step towards fostering technological exchange, innovation, and investment. The discussions not only showcased the advanced machinery utilized in producing sports footwear but also illuminated the potential for collaboration, investment, and machinery export. This encounter sets the stage for future endeavours that could redefine India's footwear manufacturing prowess on the global stage while bolstering Tienkang's international footprint.

Meeting with Taiwan Import-Exporters Chamber of Commerce at Taichung
11th Aug., 2023

An esteemed delegation representing India's leather and footwear industry visited Taiwanese Importer Exporters Chamber of Commerce at Taichung. The meeting was organised to foster a collaborative environment that enhances the exports of leather goods and footwear from India and to explore avenues for cooperation in the supply of critical raw materials, tools, components, and machinery essential to India's leather and footwear industry's growth.

During the visit, the delegates engaged in constructive dialogues aimed at boosting the trade relationship between India and Taiwan. The discussions focused on harnessing the strengths of both nations to create a symbiotic partnership that benefits the leather and footwear sectors. The delegates highlighted India's expertise in producing high-quality leather goods and footwear, while acknowledging Taiwan's prowess in importing and exporting.





Fig 14: Shri Sanjay Leekha, Chairman CLE, Mr Jerry Liu, Chairman and Mrs Daisy Seng SG, Taiwan Import-Exporters Chamber of Commerce and Shri R Selvam ED CLE with Indian Delegates at HQ,Taichung on 11th Aug., 2023

Of particular significance was the exchange regarding the supply of critical raw materials. The delegation emphasized the importance of a seamless supply chain, stressing the need for key inputs like molds, raw materials (including Polyurethanes, Rubber-based inputs, EVA copolymers, and more), tools, and packaging materials. Collaboration in the supply chain was perceived as pivotal to maintaining the industry's growth momentum.

The discussion extended to footwear components, encompassing uppers, soles, heels, laces, and other vital parts of footwear. The delegates recognized the potential for mutual growth by partnering in the production and supply of these essential components, thereby ensuring consistent quality and efficiency in the manufacturing process.

Furthermore, the delegation explored the potential for collaboration in the supply of footwear machinery. Both parties recognized the significance of state-of-the-art machinery in driving innovation and efficiency in the manufacturing process. The discussions laid the foundation for future collaborations that could enhance the availability of cutting-edge machinery to Indian manufacturers.

Overall, the visit showcased the determination of both nations

to create a win-win scenario. By leveraging their respective strengths and resources, India and Taiwan have the potential to shape the global leather and footwear landscape. This encounter set the stage for future collaborations, partnerships, and joint ventures that are expected to drive technological advancement, boost exports, and foster mutual growth in the industry.

Meeting with Pou Chen Group at Taichung 11th Aug., 2023

India's delegation of leather and footwear industry converged at the Windsor Hotel premise of Pou Chen Group, a leading footwear manufacturing company headquartered in Taichung, Taiwan. The purpose of this meeting was to explore avenues for collaboration between Indian sports footwear manufacturers and the esteemed Pou Chen Group, and to extend an invitation to invest in India's expansive and burgeoning consumer markets. The discussions emphasized the potential for export growth in non-leather footwear and the compelling incentives offered by the Indian government to encourage foreign investments.

During the meeting, the delegation had the privilege of engaging with the distinguished representatives of Pou Chen Group. The dialogue underscored the shared objectives of both nations in achieving new milestones in the sports footwear industry. The Indian delegation highlighted the sheer size and rapid growth of India's consumer market, positioning it as an attractive destination for investment and market expansion. The delegates articulated that a strategic alliance between Indian and Taiwanese manufacturers could lead to innovative products catering to diverse consumer demands.





Fig 15: Shri Sanjay Leekha, Chairman CLE, and Shri R Selvam ED CLE with Indian Delegates at Pou Chen Group Meeting, Taichung on 11th Aug., 2023

Integral to the discussions was the prospect of export growth in non-leather footwear from India. The Indian government's steadfast commitment to supporting investors was highlighted, including provisions such as low GST rates, corporate tax rebates, infrastructure subsidies, and streamlined trade facilitation measures. These incentives create a conducive environment for potential investors like Pou Chen Group to consider establishing their presence in India. The meeting's discourse also illuminated the potential synergy between Pou Chen Group's manufacturing expertise and India's vast consumer base. The delegation underscored the possibility of Pou Chen Group contributing to the growth of India's non-leather footwear exports while harnessing India's skilled workforce and robust manufacturing capabilities.

Pou Chen Group exhibited genuine interest in the collaborative possibilities presented during the meeting. The dialogue paved the



Fig 16: Shri Sanjay Leekha, Chairman CLE felicitating Mr Weber Wang with Souvenir at Pou Chen Group Meeting, Taichung on 11th Aug., 2023

way for potential partnerships that could foster innovation, elevate industry standards, and drive economic growth for both nations.

In conclusion, the meeting of India's leather and footwear delegation with Pou Chen Group symbolizes a substantial step towards international collaboration and investment. The discussions demonstrated the significant market potential of India and the opportunities it presents to global players. This encounter establishes a foundation for future endeavours that could reshape India's footwear industry and contribute to Pou Chen Group's strategic global expansion, all while elevating the dynamics of the global footwear market.

Report on facilitation of participation of Council of Leather Exports at 2023 China Shandong International Textile Expo (CSITE)

The 2023 Shandong International Textile Expo organized by Shandong Textile and Clothing Industry Association, Shandong Leather Industry Association, Qingdao Textile and Clothing Industry Association, Qingdao Leather Industry Association and Haiming International Exhibition Group was held in Qingdao, Shandong Province from 28 to 30 June 2023. This exhibition has been held annually for the last 23 years.

The exhibition covering an area of 80000 square meters, with over 1500 participating brands and over 100000 visitors had seven major theme exhibitions: "Sewing Equipment Exhibition, Textile Printing Industry Exhibition, Fabrics Materials and Yarn Exhibition, Office Clothing Exhibition, School Uniforms Exhibition, Leather-Shoe Machinery and Shoe Materials Exhibition, Clothing Supply Chain and Hat making Exhibition."

The Embassy facilitated remote participation of Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council (TEXPROCIL) and Council for Leather Exports of India (CLE) at the exhibition acquiring complimentary booths from the organizers.

Samples and Promotional Materials

Council for Leather Exports arranged samples to be delivered from three leather companies:

- Sumi Trading - Leather luggage bag, backpack, and wallets.
- Super Tannery - different types of finished buffalo leather.



Venue of the 2023 CSITE

- House of Ruksh - labor protection shoe upper and reflective vest.

Mission also worked in facilitating participation of representative from the Company Mohib India Shoes who had decided to book a separate booth and participate in the exhibition in person. Despite all preparations, the representative was unable to travel due to visa appointment.

CLE shared editable posters, brochures of companies and contact list of member companies which were translated to Chinese and given for printing to printers in Qingdao.

Manning of the booth

The local staff from the Embassy manning the booth provided the company brochures and contact information of Indian companies to all visitors. A WhatsApp group with the companies, CLE official, Embassy staff and E&C wing officers was also formed to respond to queries and share contact information in real time.

Many of the visitors inquired about the prices and how to purchase of the samples on display such as the buffalo leather and the finished leather products. Some visitors involved in leather label production inquired about local agents in China considering their low volume of demand, and difficulties in import procedures. A few of them also expressed interest in the production process and grade of leather. Majority of the visitors were involved in manufacturing of safety shoes, bags, car accessories, etc.. List of contacts collected at the booth is enclosed.



Manufacturing Ecosystem

8.The 2023 China Shandong International Textile Expo threw light on the Chinese prowess in shoe manufacturing. The exhibition showcased China's shoe manufacturing ecosystem ranging from shoe materials (mesh, reflective leathers), shoe linings, safety shoe hard toe covers, leather rolling mills for embossing patterns on leathers, water proofing chemicals to digital high precision material leather cutting machines, sewing machines, embroidery machines, 3D CAD/CAM designing software and automated machines which manufacture shoe soles in molds and glue them to shoes at 2000 pairs/day (with 8 hours running time) using only 3 workers.

Visit of Vietnam Logistic Association to India and Meeting with Various Stakeholders at Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi, July 31, 2023



Shri Rajeev Singh Thakur, IAS, Additional Secretary, DPIIT Welcoming the Vietnamese Delegation for India-Vietnam Trade Tie Ups

In a bid to strengthen bilateral trade ties and explore avenues of collaboration, a high-level delegation from the Vietnam Logistic Association (VLA) embarked on a productive visit to India. The visit aimed to foster partnerships between Vietnamese and Indian business entities in the realm of logistics and supply chain management. The delegation's engagement marked a significant step forward in enhancing trade relations and harnessing mutual expertise.

A meeting was organised by DPIIT with Vietnam Logistic Association delegation to promote bilateral cooperation in Logistics Sector on 31st July, 2023 at Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi wherein various trade associations and councils were invited to interact with the delegation.

CLE was represented by Shri R. Selvam, ED, CLE, Shri Motilal Sethi,

Northern Regional Chairman, CLE, Shri Vipin Seth CoA member and Shri Atul Kumar Mishra, Regional Director.

Shri Rajeev Singh Thakur, IAS, Additional Secretary (AS) of DPIIT welcomed the delegates from both side Vietnam and India. He thanked the Vietnam Logistic Association delegation, comprising distinguished representatives from the logistics sector, who have arrived in New Delhi with a clear objective: to foster connections, share insights, and facilitate the exchange of knowledge between the two countries' logistics industries. He added that this delegation's visit encompassed interactions with key Indian business entities, industry leaders, and government officials.

Shri Rajesh Kumar Singh, IAS, Secretary, DPIIT addressed the delegation and emphasised the growing importance of India in logistic sector. He added that India's logistic sector is increasingly gaining global significance, positioned at the forefront of international trade dynamics. Fuelled by robust economic growth policy reforms and technological advancements India's logistics industry plays a pivotal role in facilitating seamless movement of goods. With a burgeoning e-commerce landscape and expanding manufacturing base the sector's efficiency and innovation have generated global attention. Improved infrastructure, multimodal connectivity and digitalisation initiatives are propelling India's logistic sector onto the global stage. As a vital link in global supply chains India's logistic prowess is becoming indispensable, making it an influential player in shaping international trade and commerce.

During the seminar at Vanijaya Bhawan, New Delhi, the delegation of VLA gave presentation on potential collaborative areas with Indian counterparts, focusing on various facets of logistics and supply chain management. The discussions ranged from exploring innovative logistics solutions and emerging technologies to understanding regulatory frameworks and market dynamics in both nations.

Mr. Nguyen Minh Ke, President of the Vietnam Logistic Association, emphasized the importance of such collaborative initiatives in fostering robust trade relations between Vietnam and India. He highlighted the complementary strengths of the two nations in the logistics sector and envisioned a future of increased cooperation that would not only benefit the respective industries but also contribute to the overall economic growth of both countries.

A highlight of the visit was a seminar organized jointly by the Vietnam Logistic Association and prominent Indian industry associations. The seminar provided a platform for participants to delve into nuanced discussions, share best practices, and identify opportunities for synergy. Experts from both countries exchanged perspectives on optimizing supply chains, enhancing transport infrastructure, and leveraging digital technologies for efficient logistics operations



Shri RK Singh, IAS , Secretary DPIIT, Shri Rajeev Singh Thakur ,Additional Secretary DPIIT and Shri Yong Thong from Vietnam



Shri Motilal Sethi, Northern Regional Chairman, CLE was at the session along with Shri R. Selvam, ED, CLE and Shri Atul Kumar Mishra, Regional Director wherein he also interacted with the delegation for inviting investment in India





Presentation by Integrated Industrial Township -Greater NOIDA, Invest India, Vietnam Logistic Association and Ministry of Textiles

Mr. Thong from Vietnam Delegation spoke that this delegation from Vietnam is witnessing first-hand India's rapidly evolving logistics ecosystem, marked by advanced technologies, warehousing innovations, and efficient transport networks. He conveyed that we are happy to see the Indian business entities reciprocating the enthusiasm for collaboration, acknowledging the immense potential for joint ventures and knowledge sharing.

Shri R. Selvam, IAS, ED, CLE gave presentation on the Leather & Footwear sector of India and possible areas of collaboration from Vietnam side for export sector. He started his presentation by conveying

that India's Leather and Footwear (L&F) sector stands tall as a beacon of innovation, craftsmanship, and potential. With a rich legacy of producing quality leather products and diverse footwear designs, the industry is poised for a transformative leap on the global stage. Yet, the journey to elevate India's L&F prowess entails a strategic focus on bolstering the component and raw material segments – the very building blocks of success.

He highlighted the strength of India's L&F sector that lies in its skilled workforce, traditional craftsmanship, and adaptability to evolving trends. He said that a global market that demands both style and sustainability finds resonance in India's offerings. The sector's contribution to exports and employment is noteworthy, making it a key driver of economic growth.

To propel this sector to greater heights, concentrated investment in the component and raw material segments is paramount, he said. Encouraging Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in critical sectors like tanning, chemical processing, and material innovation can catalyse higher quality standards and enhance production efficiency, he informed the delegation. He suggested that collaborative ventures with international players can infuse advanced technologies and best practices, fostering a culture of continuous improvement.



Presentation by Shri R, Selvam, IAS, ED, CLE on "Opportunities in Leather & Footwear exports from India" before Vietnamese Delegation

He further that diversifying raw material sourcing and promoting indigenous materials not only ensures sustainability but also reduces dependence on imports. He was also of the view that focused investments in research and development can lead to breakthroughs in eco-friendly alternatives and cutting-edge materials, aligning with global preferences for ethical and green choices.

He also highlighted the strengthening the Indian component industry, including accessories and packaging, that fuels the overall sector's growth. Investments in modern machinery, skill development, and quality assurance elevate India's reputation as a reliable sourcing hub. Joint ventures and partnerships can lead to knowledge transfer, upgraded processes, and competitive pricing – key ingredients for global competitiveness.

He informed that India has earmarked specialized clusters and industrial parks for manufacturing, by investing and through JVs India can enhance its supply chain efficiency and reduce lead times. He conveyed that India is encouraging innovation and entrepreneurship through policy support and financial incentives that can create a vibrant ecosystem of component manufacturers, feeding into the larger L&F value chain.

He also added that as global markets increasingly seek responsibly sourced and premium-quality products, Indian manufacturers are investing in sustainability and compliance areas that are now playing pivotal



Mrs. Sumita Dawra, IAS, Special Secretary (Logistic), DPIIT giving her closing remarks to Vietnamese Delegation

role. Aligning with international standards not only opens doors to lucrative markets but also safeguards India's reputation as a conscientious producer.

He summed up his presentation and said that the ascent of India's L&F sector to global eminence hinges on fortifying the component and raw material segments. Strategic investments, FDI, and collaborations are the pillars upon which this journey rests. By nurturing these foundational elements, India's L&F sector will not only seize export growth opportunities but also set new benchmarks for quality, innovation, and sustainability in the dynamic world of footwear and leather goods.

Vietnam delegation seminar concluded with the concluding and closing remarks of Mrs. Sumita Dawra, Special Secretary (Logistics), DPIIT. She conveyed that both sides expressed their commitment to nurturing the seeds of collaboration that had been sown. She added that the exchange of ideas, experiences, and expertise during this visit laid the foundation for potential partnerships, investments, and joint ventures between Vietnamese and Indian logistics players.

She conveyed that the visit of the Vietnam Logistic Association to collaborate with Indian business entities represents a significant stride in strengthening bilateral trade ties and harnessing shared potential in the logistics sector. She said I am hopeful that this visit not only facilitated meaningful interactions and knowledge exchange but also set the stage for a future of enhanced collaboration and mutually beneficial partnerships between Vietnam and India in the dynamic world of logistics and supply chain management.



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Uttar Pradesh MSME Sammelan - 2023 under the theme “Accelerating Competitiveness and Global Integration” on 26th & 27th June 2023, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh



Shri Rakesh Sachan, Hon'ble Cabinet Minister Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh inaugurated Uttar Pradesh MSME Sammelan on 26th June, 2023 along with distinguished guests and various Government officials

Keeping in the mind the Government's initiatives and policies to support MSME, ASSOCHAM (Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India) in association with the Government of Uttar Pradesh organized Uttar Pradesh two-day MSME Sammelan during 26 - 27th June, 2023, which underlined the significance of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in making it competitive and engine of economic acceleration.

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 - “Accelerating Competitiveness and Global Integration”

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

Shri Rakesh Sachan, Hon'ble Cabinet Minister Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises, Government of Uttar Pradesh highlighted that, the Government of Uttar Pradesh is striving to make Uttar Pradesh a Trillion-Dollar Economy.

During his speech, he announced that the State Government is also planning a “Mega Textile Park”, the PM Mitra Park between Hardoi – Kanpur. These two parks will be inaugurated by Hon'ble Prime Minister of India.

Further he stated 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.

Shri Sivasubramanian Raman Chairman and Managing Director, Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), during his speech shed light on the fact that meeting the financial needs of unregistered MSMEs is a big challenge today. He informed that there are around 1.6 crore registered MSMEs in the country while there are around 7 (Seven) Crore unregistered MSMEs. These are Micro and Small enterprises to which public sector banks are not able to provide loans due to their fixed rules. SIDBI is looking into possible solutions to meet the financial requirements of these enterprises.

Shri Awanish Awasthi, IAS, Advisor to Hon'ble Chief Minister Government of Uttar Pradesh during the thematic session shared that the State Government is making every possible effort to create a favourable MSME environment. The options of finance facilities to small industries have increased while the rates for the same have decreased. Further he added that, attention should also be paid to providing microfinance facilities to small business owners like street vendors.

In the Thematic Session - Accelerating Competitiveness & Global Integration event witnessed many prominent industry leaders and decision-makers who gave invigorating addresses on "Financing opportunities and innovative financial solutions for MSMEs" in the presence of the eminent Guest of Honour - Shri Awanish Awasthi, IAS Advisor to Hon'ble Chief Minister Government of Uttar Pradesh.



Shri Rakesh Sachan, Hon'ble Cabinet Minister Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises, Government of Uttar Pradesh during his address informed that the State Government is also planning a "Mega Textile Park", the PM Mitra Park between Hardoi – Kanpur



Shri Sivasubramanian Raman, Chairman and Managing Director, Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), during his speech shed light on the fact that meeting the financial needs of unregistered MSMEs is a big challenge today



Shri Awanish Awasthi, IAS, Advisor to Hon'ble Chief Minister Government of Uttar Pradesh, during his address conveyed that the State Government is making every possible effort to create a favourable MSME environment

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 Jaswant Singh Saini, Industrial Development Minister, Government of Uttar Pradesh during his speech conveyed that India has started its journey towards carbon neutrality and has agreed to become 'carbon neutral' by 2070. Green finance facility has been considered a better way to



Shri Jaswant Singh Saini, Industrial Development Minister, Government of Uttar Pradesh during his speech conveyed that India has started its journey towards carbon neutrality and has agreed to become 'carbon neutral' by 2070

eliminate carbonization. Emphasis has been laid on increasing capital inflow from governments and private units to create environment friendly green infrastructure facilities.

Day 2

Shri Motilal Sethi, Northern Regional Chairman, CLE & Co-Chairman, ASSOCHAM National Committee on Leather & Footwear in his deliberations spoke about New India with a concept of New Manufacturing India wherein Government of India, under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, is encouraging Manufacturing Sector to make India as the Global Manufacturing hub of the world; Government has undertaken major reforms/measures to boost manufacturing sector in the country and to make India a favoured manufacturing and investment destination which can apparently can be seen as USA is eagerly ready to share technical know-how with India in order to strengthen the Supply-chain.

He further added that the benefits of China plus one policy where India is looked as next prospect of manufacturing hub after China. Therefore, looking at this opportune time, Government of India is playing a pivotal role in bringing competitive Eco-System where each district is



Second day of MSME Sannam commenced with the lighting of the lamp ceremony in the presence of renowned Indian folk singer, Ms. Malini Awasthi, Shri Motilal Sethi, Northern Regional Chairman, CLE & Co-Chairman, ASSOCHAM National Committee on Leather & Footwear and eminent dignitaries and speakers. Diarrhoea Net Zero

proposed to be an export hub which will bring growth to Exporters, Women Entrepreneurs, Small business and to the artisans.

He lauded the initiative of Government of India in encouraging Indian Start-ups, SMEs, Artisans & Farmers (GI Products), and Service providers to take their first step toward the exports. Government of India through their

industrial friendly policy is helping businesses navigate international market opportunities through its wide range of progressive initiatives.

Emphasizing the MSME sector, he informed that, this sector is a critical driver of India’s economy, contributing approximately 33% to the country’s gross domestic product (GDP) and 50% of exports.

Concluding his discussion, he also addressed the challenges being faced by MSMEs and requested all MSMEs to collectively and amicably to join hands together and grab this opportune time to remove all bottlenecks from the Government.



Shri Motilal Sethi, Northern Regional Chairman, CLE talking about Governments’ pivotal role in bringing competitive Eco-System and encouraging Manufacturing Sector to make India as the Global Manufacturing hub of the world



A knowledge report on ‘Purpose Led Investment for Uttar Pradesh’ being released by Shri Motilal Sethi, Northern Regional Chairman, CLE and other prominent panelists



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Interaction Meeting with the Leather Industry, 1st August 2023

The CLE-Southern Region in association with Guidance, Tamilnadu organised a Leather Industry Interaction Meeting with Thiru R. Gandhi, Hon'ble Minister for Handlooms & Textiles and Dr. T.R.B. Rajaa, Hon'ble Minister for Industries, Investment Promotion & Commerce, Government of Tamilnadu on 01st August, 2023 at Hotel Gee Kay Millennia, Ranipet between 11.30 am to 1.00 pm.

The Meeting was also attended by Tmt. S. Valarmathi, IAS, District Collector, Ranipet, Tmt. E. Sundaravalli, IAS, MD-SIPCOT

Shri. K.R. Vijayan, Chairman, IFLMEA and Shri. R. Ramesh Prasad, Chairman, Ranitec CETP supported CLE in making necessary arrangements for organising this Interaction Meeting.

Members and Association Heads from the following Leather Associations attended the interaction meeting:

- South India Shoe Manufacturers Association
- The All India Skin & Hide Tanners & Merchants Association
- MDs, Ranipet SIDCO Phase I & 2
- Secretary, South India Tanners & Dealers Association
- Secretary, VANITEC
- Secretary, The Vaniyambadi Tanners Association
- Secretary, Ambur Tanners Association
- Secretary, Tanners Association, Pernambut
- MD, Visharam Tanners Enviro Control Systems Pvt Ltd

Shri. K.R. Vijayan, Chairman, IFLMEA made a Presentation giving an update on the Status of Indian Leather Industry vis-à-vis Tamil Nadu Leather Industry to the Hon'ble Ministers and requested support from the Govt of Tamil Nadu for further development of the Leather Industry.

The Members and Association Heads thanked the Tamil Nadu Government for extending necessary support for the development of the Leather Industry in their Clusters and submitted their written requests on specific issues for intervention and support from the Govt of Tamilnadu.

Dr. T.R.B. Rajaa, Hon'ble Minister for Industries, Investment Promotion & Commerce, Government of Tamilnadu thanked the Leather Industry for organizing the Interaction Meeting with participation from the Leather Industry Clusters at very short notice and assured Govt support for the Leather Industry.



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A report of the site visit to the proposed “Mega Leather, Footwear & Accessories Cluster”, in Sitapur Phase II, Industrial Area, District Morena, Madhya Pradesh.

As per invitation extended by MD – MPIDC, Bhopal, a leather Sector Delegation led by Shri Naresh Bhasin, Regional Chairman (West) CLE consisting of the following members visited project site of the “Mega Leather, Footwear & Accessories Cluster”, in Sitapur Phase II, Industrial Area, District Morena, Madhya Pradesh on 8th August, 2023 and studied the ground report of the proposed project:

1. Shri Naresh Bhasin, Regional Chairman-West
2. Shri Suresh Bhasin, M/s Ram Fashion Exports Pvt Ltd
3. Shri Aspi Pader – M/s Veera Tannery
4. Shri Kunal Bajaj – M/s Bombay Leather
5. Shri Santosh Pandey – Regional Director – West

Shri R.K. Shukla, Assistant Director, CLE, and Shri Rajeev Kumar, IEDS, Assistant Director, MSME DI, joined the delegation at Gwalior.

The above members were received by the MPIDC officials and taken to the proposed project site at Sitapur Phase II, Industrial Area, District Morena.

Shri Naresh Bhasin, Regional Chairman (West)- CLE and other members discussed with the MPIDC Executive Director & Executive Engineer about the Land Area, Residential quarters for Workers, electricity, Water Supply, and probable year for commencement of this project etc.

After visiting the project site, a meeting was organized by MPIDC – Gwalior in their Regional Office and detailed discussions were held about the project.

Shri Naresh Bhasin, Regional Chairman (West) CLE asked the land rates and also about the allotment of land with built-in sheds. He further requested that the industry should be provided the layout of the shed as per their requirements. He further added that MP Government should provide the built-in shed to the industry and charge for the lease of the same.



Shri Aspi Pader suggested that tannery is the most important part in Leather Sector and the Madhya Pradesh Government should also allow the tanners to setup their units in the proposed cluster. The MPIDC should make provisions for a tannery, at zero liquid discharge, and waste disposal.

The Regional Chairman, West further stated that “we, as investors, will draft a list of questions about our queries and submit it to the MPIDC and a detailed reply to our questions may kindly be provided by the MP Government”.

The Meeting was concluded by the Executive Director, MPIDC Regional Office Gwalior with the vote of thanks to the delegation for visiting the proposed cluster site.

On 9th August, 2023 the members of Delegation visited one of the prominent safety Footwear unit “Acme Universal Safezone 9 Pvt. Ltd.” They are a leading manufacturers of Safety footwear in the domestic & Global market based in Gwalior.

The delegation was received by Shri Satyam Gehlot, CFO of the Company



& taken to the floor. The members of delegation were impressed to see the product & its quality. They took a few snaps in the production area. A few queries were raised about the product & market, which was explained by the CFO of the company

After visiting the unit the members of the Delegation thanked to the rep. of Acme Universal.

OBITUARY



We deeply mourn the loss of a great man, who devoted his entire life to loving, caring, serving people, and spreading joy.

Mr Ranendra Kumar Mukherjee, born in Dhaka / Bikrampur (presently Bangladesh), he came to India with his father Late Sri Dhiraj kumar Mukherjee and settled later in Kolkata, where he joined his father's occupation of manufacturing tannery machines. He founded M/S SHALIMAR ENGINEERINGWORKS PVT LTD. He soon expanded his company from one to several manufacturing bases/ units. Along with his passion for work he also selflessly nurtured his five brothers like a father figure, allowed them to grow independently under his guidance. He was a doting husband, an affectionate grandfather, a sincere colleague, and an ardent provider to

the needs of the downtrodden and held the family together with endless love & affection. He was a devoted son, a thoughtful father. His mammoth personality cannot be contained in brevity.

During his tenure, he was the recipient of the prestigious National award twice for Import Substitution and also received innumerable medals & shields from the stalwarts of the leather industry.

His great indigenous innovations & affordable tannery machine developments, made him a pioneer in his field.

Mr Mukherjee was one of the founding members of Indian Leather Technologists' Association. He was an active member and former President of Rotary club of East Calcutta.

He was freed from our earthly shackles on the 1st of August, 2023 and went on to grace his presence in the heavenly abode.

The world has lost a great man, leaving us with a void, that will be impossible to ever fill.

May his legacy of love, care & service inspire others to follow in his footsteps & continue doing good in this world.

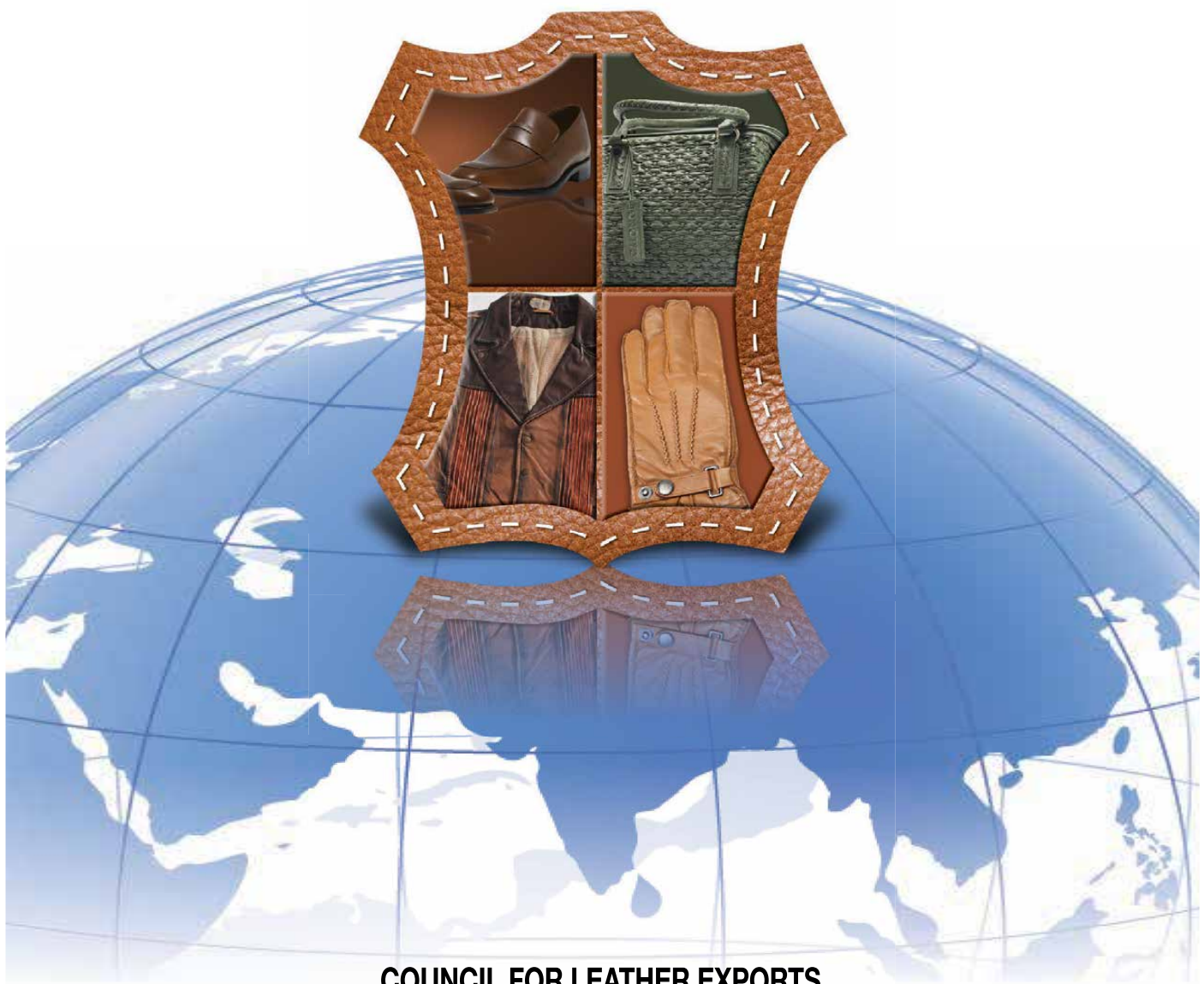
Let us all pray for the departed soul!



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INDIAN LEATHER INDUSTRY - STRIDING WITH CONFIDENCE



COUNCIL FOR LEATHER EXPORTS

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

Registered Head Office : 1, Sivaganga Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai 600034

Tel: +91-44-48684380 - 84 Fax: +91-44-48684386 • e-mail: cle@cleindia.com • website : www.leatherindia.org

Regional Offices : • New Delhi - cleldelhi@cleindia.com • Kanpur - cleknp@cleindia.com • Kolkata - cleer@cleindia.com • Mumbai - cleb@cleindia.com

Extension Offices : • Agra - cleagra@cleindia.com • Jalandhar - clejalandhar@cleindia.com