

57 day Handicrafts Technical Training Program in Metal Engraving concludes in Moradabad

80 SC community artisans trained in 4 batches

EPCH conducted a 57 day Handicrafts Technical Training Programme (HTTP) in metal engraving craft, for SC community artisans in Moradabad. The artisans were trained in 04 batches with 20 in each. The training program was inaugurated by Mr. Ilyas Khan, Sr. Assistant Director, O/o DC (Handicrafts), Bareilly on 31st October 2019 at Katghar, Bawalan, Moradabad, in the presence of Mr. Naveen Gaur, Assistant Director and Regional Incharge-Central Region, EPCH; and four Master trainers - Mohd. Dilshad Hussain, Mohd. Shakir, Mr. Liyaqat Husain and Mr. Prem Singh. The objective was to teach/upgrade the skills of existing artisans of metal craft with next-level techniques and build up a workforce of budding entrepreneurs. The training offered an opportunity for the artisans to get to know about etching crafts and upgrade their skills for better craftsmanship. At the same time, the importance of quality was also understood.

The training program began with basic knowledge of design. The masters helped the trainees understand the given designs and draw them on paper as per their own interpretations, taking inspiration from their environment like windows, doors, balcony railings and even sarees. In the next step, the artisans worked on metal scraps so that they could understand know-how of tools and their usage. They worked on sample tools.

After completion of the initial learning, these artisans were distributed individual Tool Kits on 16th December 2019, by Mr. Ilyas Khan, Sr. Assistant Director, O/o DCH, Bareilly as a second step of the training. These kits included chisel, hand graver, tri stand, hammer, pencils, sketch pen, geometry box and tracing/ carbon /sandpapers - all in a kit bag. Under the guidance of Master trainers, the artisans started the work together in different groups and later individually started etching on the metal articles with their tools.

A closing ceremony of the Handicrafts Technical Program was organised in the presence of Mr. Ilyas Khan, on 23rd January 2020, along with Mr. Naveen Gaur, Assistant Director, EPCH and the participants of 4 batches. Mr. Khan interacted with the participants and shared his experience. He also asked participants to share their views on the program.

Moradabad, 31st Oct. 2019 -23rd Jan. 2020



The training program was inaugurated by Mr. Ilyas Khan, Sr. Assistant Director, O/o DC (Handicrafts), Bareilly on 31st October 2019 at Katghar, Bawalan, Moradabad



Distribution of Tool Kits



The closing ceremony



52 day Handicrafts Technical Training Programs in Bamboo and Hand Embroidery crafts conclude 40 artisans trained in 2 batches in Himachal Pradesh



Looking at the great demand of Himachali products in the International markets, EPCH with financial support from O/o DC (Handicrafts), Ministry of Textiles and in association with Prayas - an NGO working with artisans of Himachal Pradesh, initiated a Handicrafts Technical Training program in Bamboo and Hand Embroidery crafts at Kheri village (Sujanpur) and Samirpur, respectively. Designers from NIFT, Kangra and trainers from Barmer and Palampur were engaged to train artisans to produce hybrid products. The objective of the programs was to provide hands-on trading to the new handicraft artisans in order to engage them in the sector towards sustainable livelihood. The artisans' skills were enhanced through structured curriculum based skilling programmes, design development, production process to ensure quality norms, international product regulations and their participation in the fairs being organised by EPCH as well as in international exhibitions to enable them to create direct marketing linkages with the overseas buying community. This endeavour is expected to result in improved livelihood and enhance the artisans' base to convert them into exporters.



Tool Distribution to artisans at Samirpur

Below : the training in progress



Traditional Hand Embroidery

17th Dec. 2019 - 14th Feb. 2020; Samirpur

This 52 day training started on 17th December 2019 at Samirpur, Hamirpur Dist., Himachal Pradesh with 20 women artisans. A Master trainer from Barmer was engaged to integrate the Barmer hand embroidery with Himachal Pradesh craft techniques. To strengthen the program, designers from NIFT Kangra also engaged in the program. This training concluded on 14th February 2020.



The artisans could learn about product development in terms of cushion covers, table mats & runners and other fashion garments, using their hand embroidery skills. All women artisans were confident and ready to explore their future in the handicrafts sector.

Bamboo Craft; 18th Dec. 2019 - 13th Feb. 2020; Kheri Village, Sujanpur

This 49 day program was inaugurated on 18th December 2019 at Kheri Village, Sujanpur, Himachal Pradesh with 20 women artisans. Master Trainer from Kangra with over 20 years'



Master Trainer Trilok Chand facilitating training at Kheri



Bamboo artisans during visit of Assistant Director, O/o DC (Handicrafts) to Kheri, Sujanpur

experience and a designer from NIFT Kangra engaged in the program. The entire exercise aimed at developing a high range of bamboo products that would be commercially viable. It was observed that artisans in this region have been engaged in bamboo craft but were only making daily utilities for local markets. Towards end of the training program artisans had learnt to develop a wide range of bamboo crafts such as hanging lamps and table lamps, table mats, gift boxes, trays and pen holders and other such items. This program was completed on 13th February 2020.

15 day Skill Training Program for Artmetalware Craft

Jodhpur, 17th & 18th February 2020

EPCH conducted its second 15 days Skill Training for the Artmetalware Craft Artisans under Cluster Development Scheme of Commissioner Industries, Govt. of Rajasthan. This program from

31st January - 17th February 2020 was supported by District Industries, Jodhpur. A ceremony was organised to mark the successful completion of this program at Maulana Azad ITI College,



Jodhpur. It was organised on 17th February 2020 and was graced by Mr. Hansraj Baheti, COA Member, EPCH; Ms. Rita Nahata, Dean, Centre for Handicrafts Exports Management Studies (CHEM); Mr. Kiran V N, Assistant Director, O/o DC (Handicrafts) Jodhpur; Mr. Jitaram Choudhary, Industries Extension Officer, DIC Jodhpur; Mr. Manish Mathur, Principal, Maulana Azad ITI, Jodhpur; and Mohd. Atik, ex- General Secretary, Maulana Azad University, Jodhpur.

Ms. Rita Nahata informed the participants about EPCH's various skill training programs and how the artisans benefited, instilling confidence and the requisite skills to showcase their products in local and international fairs towards market exposure. Mr. Jitaram Choudhary informed that this artmetalware cluster will help them enhance their techniques and learn to improve their crafts. Mr. Kiran V N spoke about objectives and importance of the skill training program. He updated the participants about the various schemes of O/o DC (Handicrafts) and urged them to learn new design trends and imbibe proper knowledge of the same. Mr. Manish Mathur, Principal, Maulana Azad ITI, Jodhpur, also reiterated the importance of design and need to be aware of latest market trends. Mohd. Atik, ex- General Secretary, Maulana Azad University, Jodhpur, proposed the Vote of Thanks. The event concluded with the distribution of certificates to the artisans.

The 3rd batch for the 15 days Skill Training Program for Artmetalware Craft Cluster in Jodhpur was inaugurated on 18th February 2020. Supported by District Industries, Jodhpur, a ceremony was organised at Maulana Azad ITI College, Jodhpur, to mark the program's initiation. Present on the occasion were, the institute's Principal, Mr. Manish Mathur; Ms. Rita Nahata, Dean, Centre for Handicrafts Exports Management Studies (CHEM); and Mr. Ishwar Chand, H P O, O/o DC (Handicrafts) Jodhpur.

Ms. Rita Nahata informed the artisans about the importance of skill training and how it can help an artisan create her/his journey as an exporter. Mr. Ishwar Chand updated about various schemes of O/o DC (Handicrafts), for the upliftment of handicraft artisans and entrepreneurs. Mr. Manish Mathur motivated the artisans and also shared information regarding different courses running in their campus. Mr. Gopal Sharma, EPCH Representative, Jodhpur, informed about the certificate course in Handicrafts Export Management being conducted by EPCH in Jodhpur and how this course would be helpful for manufacturers to become exporters. He also informed the participants about the activities of EPCH for export promotion.



L to R : Mr. Jitaram Choudhary, Industries Extension Officer, DIC Jodhpur; Ms. Rita Nahata, Dean, Centre for Handicrafts Exports Management Studies (CHEM); Mr. Hansraj Baheti, COA Member, EPCH; Mr. Kiran V N, Assistant Director, O/o DC (Handicrafts) Jodhpur; Dr. Rehana from Maulana Azad ITI campus; Mr. Manish Mathur, Principal, Maulana Azad ITI, Jodhpur



Mr. Kiran V N, Mr. Manish Mathur, Mr. Jitaram Choudhary and Ms. Rita Nahata



Ms. Rita Nahata, Dean, Centre for Handicrafts Exports Management Studies (CHEM), addressing the participants enrolled for the 3rd batch



EPCH representative in Jodhpur, Mr. Gopal Sharma informs the participants about EPCH's certificate course in Handicrafts Export Management