



# EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL FOR HANDICRAFTS

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## PRESS RELEASE

### HANDICRAFTS EXPORTS TO CROSS US\$ 4 BILLION

#### SIX NEW MEMBERS ELECTED IN COMMITTEE OF ADMINISTRATION OF EPCH

**New Delhi – 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2019** - The 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual General Meeting [AGM] of the Export Promotion Council was held today at New Delhi. Shri Ravi K. Passi, Chairman – EPCH while addressing the AGM informed that with the active support of the Council, exporting community performed very well with respect to exports from the Country which was Rs. 23,029.36 crores in 2017-18 and reached to the tune of Rs. 26,590.25 in 2018-19 crores registering an impressive growth of 15.46% over the previous year.

Shri Passi further informed about multifarious activities related to marketing, product and design development, skilling, compliance and other initiatives undertaken by EPCH during 2018-19 which included participation in International fairs within India and in the overseas markets, organizing informative seminars all across craft clusters, providing handholding to entrepreneurs, exporters and artisans and Council's active engagement with MSME's SFURTI programme in Norther Eastern Region.

He informed that Council also represented various issues pertaining to GST, MEIS benefits and the range of other issues affecting handicrafts sector at the highest level including Ministry of Textiles, Ministry of Commerce & Industry and Ministry of Finance.

With an objective to offer avenues for technological upgradation, skill development and marketing opportunities, EPCH set up Handicrafts Productivity Centre and Testing Laboratory at Jaipur, upgraded the Saharanpur Common Facility Centre with latest and modern technology machines elaborated Shri Passi.

Shri Rakesh Kumar, Director General – EPCH while speaking on the occasion informed the members present in the meeting about Council's PAN India reach and active participation of the prominent exporters from various crafts pockets in development, promotion and growth of exports of Handicrafts. He further informed the House about the tremendous increase of participation in IHGF Delhi Fair (Autumn/Spring) as well as footfall of overseas buyers in IHGF Delhi Fair in recent IHGFs. The DG-EPCH further informed the House about the council's future plans to actively engage the social media platforms to increase its reach within India as well across the globe and also providing backward and forward linkages for overall growth of handicrafts sector.

During 33<sup>rd</sup> AGM also saw election for six members of the Committee of Administration were also elected. The newly elected members include Mr. Raj Kumar Malhotra of M/s Asian Handicrafts Pvt. Ltd., Gurgaon from Northern Region, Mr. Hansraj Baheti of M/s Thar Art Exports, Jodhpur and Mr. Lekhraj Maheshwari of M/s Rajasthan Handloom & Handicrafts Industries, Jaipur from North West Region, Mr. Nabeel Ahmad of M/s Nawab Regency, Moradabd, Mr. Kamal Soni of M/s Vallabh Metal Inc., Moradabd and Mr. Sharad Kumar Bansal of M/s Bansal Impex, Moradabad are elected from Central Region informed Shri Rakesh Kumar, DG – EPCH.

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The Handicrafts exports during the eight months of current financial year from April to November, 2019-20 is Rs. 17,292.68 crores registering a growth of over 2.72% over the same period in last year.

A Large number of exporters from other states were also present during the Annual General Meeting.

For more information, please contact:

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**SHRI RAKESH KUMAR, DIRECTOR GENERAL – EPCH ADDRESSING THE MEMBERS DURING 33<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD IN NEW DELHI. SEEN WITH SHRI R.K. PASSI, CHAIRMAN – EPCH, SHRI RAJ KUMAR MALHOTRA AND MR. NAVED UR REHMAN, VICE CHAIRMEN OF EPCH AND SHRI R.K. VERMA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR – EPCH**

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**SHRI RAVI K. PASSI, CHAIRMAN – EPCH, SHRI RAKESH KUMAR, DIRECTOR GENERAL WELCOMING THE NEWLY ELECTED SIX MEMBERS IN COMMITTEE OF ADMINISTRATION OF EPCH SEEN WITH VICE CHAIRMEN, AND OTHER MEMBERS OF EPCH**

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