

Design & Technology Development Workshop (DDW) & Guru Shishya Hastshilp Prashikshan Program on Metal Craft

Jodhpur, Rajasthan; 23rd August - 16th December 2025



The inauguration program was graced by Dr. Neeraj Khanna, Chairman, EPCH; Dr. Rakesh Kumar, Director General in the role of Chief Mentor, EPCH and Chairman, IEML; Mr. Raviveer Choudhary, Assistant Director, O/o DC (Handicrafts), Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India; Mr. Avdesh Agarwal, Chief Convenor, EPCH; Mr. Hansraj Baheti, COA Member, EPCH; Mr. Lekhraj Maheswari and Mr. Radheshyam Ranga, prominent member exporters; as well as Mr. R K Verma, Executive Director, EPCH

On 23rd August 2025, EPCH, with the support of the Office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts), Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, inaugurated a Design & Technology Development Workshop (DDW) and a Guru Shishya Hastshilp Prashikshan Program on Metal Craft in Jodhpur. The inauguration was graced by Dr. Neeraj Khanna, Chairman, EPCH, along with Dr. Rakesh Kumar, Director General in the role of Chief Mentor, EPCH and Chairman, IEML. Also present were Mr. Raviveer Choudhary, Assistant Director, Office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts), Ministry of Textiles; Mr. Avdesh Agarwal, Chief Convenor, EPCH; Mr. Hansraj Baheti, COA Member, EPCH; Mr. Lekhraj Maheswari and Mr. Radheshyam Ranga, prominent member exporters; as well as Mr. R K Verma, Executive Director, EPCH; along with participating artisans.

On 6th December 2025, the Closing Ceremony of the programs was held at the Trade Facilitation Centre (TFC), Jodhpur. It was graced by Mr. Hansraj Baheti, COA Member, EPCH; Mr. Ravi Veer Choudhary, Assistant Director, DC(H), Jodhpur; and Mr. Rajesh Gupta, Chairman, YES Jodhpur Chapter.



During the programme, Dr. Neeraj Khanna and Dr. Rakesh Kumar interacted with the artisans, encouraging them to adopt innovation,

improve skills, and enhance product quality through structured design and technology interventions.

Mr. Ravi Veer Choudhary welcomed the dignitaries and shared detailed information on various schemes and initiatives of the Office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts). Mr. Hansraj Baheti motivated the participating artisans to adopt new designs, modern techniques and skill development opportunities offered through such technical workshops and design training programmes of DC(H) and EPCH to grow as successful entrepreneurs. Mr. Rajesh Gupta appreciated the efforts of the artisans and encouraged them to continue their dedicated work towards a brighter future in the handicrafts sector. Mr. Kumar Ravi Ranjan, Designer (Master Crafts person & Trainer), Mr. Muzahid, Mr. Moti Lalwani, along with around 60 participating artisans, were also present during the programme. ■

Guru Shishya Hastshilp Prashikshan Program on Wooden Furniture Craft

Pipar City, Jodhpur, Rajasthan; 4th October - 6th December 2025



Mr. Raviveer Choudhary, Assistant Director, O/o DC (Handicrafts), Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India, addressing the artisans at the inauguration; glimpse of Toolkits distribution and inspection of the program where artisans were briefed about various schemes of DC(H) aimed at their welfare and skill upgradation.

On 4th October 2025, a Guru Shishya Hastshilp Prashikshan Program (GSHP) on Wooden Furniture Craft was inaugurated at Pipar City, Jodhpur. Organised by EPCH, this was sponsored by the Office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts), Ministry of Textiles, Government of India. The inauguration was carried out by Mr. Raviveer Choudhary, Assistant Director, DC(H), Jodhpur. During his interaction with the artisans, Mr. Choudhary shared his experiences and emphasised that products featuring innovative and contemporary designs are in high demand in international markets. He encouraged artisans to focus on developing new designs and to pay special attention to marketing in order to achieve greater success in the export business. He also informed the participants about various beneficiary-oriented schemes of the Office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts). EPCH

Jodhpur Representative, explained the role of EPCH in the development and welfare of exporters as well as artisans. Master Crafts person (Trainer) Mr. Mohd. Saleem and 30 artisans were present during the program.

On 21st November 2025, the toolkit distribution and inspection of the program was conducted, during which Mr. Raviveer Choudhary, Assistant Director, DC(H), Jodhpur, motivated the artisans to work with dedication and to focus on learning new designs in line with current market trends. He also briefed the artisans about various schemes of DC(H) aimed at their welfare and skill upgradation.

The program concluded with the closing ceremony on 6th December 2025 at Pipar City, Jodhpur. The ceremony was conducted by Mr. Raviveer Choudhary, Assistant Director, DC(H), Jodhpur, who once again interacted with the artisans and shared valuable insights.

He reiterated that innovative and contemporary designs, along with effective marketing strategies, are essential to meet international market demand and enhance export opportunities. He also provided detailed information about various departmental schemes available for the benefit of artisans. EPCH Jodhpur Representative, highlighted EPCH's continuous efforts and initiatives for the growth and development of exporters and artisans. ■



Guru Shishya Hastshilp prashikshan Program on Incense Stick Craft

Hoskote cluster, Bangalore District, Karnataka; 29th August - 19th December 2025



Mr. Sunil Kumar, Assistant Director, DC(H), Bengaluru, addressing the participants at the inauguration of the program, in the presence of Master Crafts person Mr. Humayun Shariff; a group photo of the 30 selected artisans for the program.

On 29 August 2025, the Southern Regional Office, Bengaluru, inaugurated the two-month Guru Shishya Hastshilp Prashikshan Programme (GSHPP) on Incense Stick Craft at the Hoskote Cluster, Bengaluru District, Karnataka. The programme commenced following the selection of artisans by the Assistant Director, Office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts), HSC Bengaluru.

The inauguration was attended by Mr. Sunil Kumar, Assistant Director, DC(H), Bengaluru, along with Master Crafts person Mr. Humayun Shariff. Addressing the participants, Mr. Sunil Kumar highlighted the growing global demand for incense stick craft and extended his best wishes to the artisans for successful training.

The valedictory function and toolkit distribution of the two-month training program was held on 19 December 2025 at Attibele, Hoskote Cluster, Bengaluru. The programme was attended by Mr. Sunil Kumar, Assistant Director, DC(H), Bengaluru; Mr. Vinod, President, Village Education Development Society; and Mr. Humayun Shariff, Master Crafts person. During the interaction, the Southern Regional Office appreciated the enthusiasm and active participation of the trainees and encouraged them to pursue incense stick making as a sustainable livelihood. Mr. Sunil Kumar advised the participants to continue applying the skills and knowledge acquired during the training for their personal and professional growth.

Certificates and toolkits were distributed to all 30 participants who successfully completed the training programme, and all trainees were present at the valedictory ceremony. ■

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