

Export Essentials, Services and role of EPCH

Awareness Seminar at Bangalore, Karnataka; 3rd June 2026

EPCH's Southern Regional Office, Bangalore organised an awareness seminar on "Export Essentials, Services and role of EPCH," on 3rd June 2026, in Bangalore, Karnataka, for the beneficiaries of Karnataka State Khadi & Village Industries Board at KVIB conference hall, Bangalore. This was graced by Dr. Natesh D B (KAS), Chief Executive Officer of the Karnataka State Khadi and Village Industries Board (KVIB); and Mr. Periya Swamy, a prominent expert and advisor in the Indian textile and handicrafts sector - formerly Joint Director with the Textile Department (Tirupur, Tamil Nadu).

Dr. Natesh D B (KAS) spoke about the primary objective of promoting khadi and supporting village industries in the state through training, financial assistance, raw material support and marketing assistance for rural artisans and entrepreneurs in Karnataka. Mr. Periya Swamy spoke on the theme of "Fibre to Fashion," highlighting the growing global demand for sustainable, eco-friendly, and particularly Khadi products in overseas markets, along with the export



The seminar saw the presence of Dr. Natesh D.B (KAS), CEO, Karnataka State Khadi and Village Industries Board (KVIB); Mr. Periya Swamy, former Joint Director with the Textile Department (Tirupur, Tamil Nadu)

opportunities they offer. He also elaborated on several recent technological advancements and upgradation initiatives that would

benefit KVIC manufacturers by enhancing product quality, efficiency, and global competitiveness.

The EPCH Southern Regional Officer highlighted export essentials and the various services offered by the Council. The programme witnessed enthusiastic participation, and the session concluded with an interactive Q&A session. ■



Fire Safety, Precautions, Response and Survival Strategies

Workshop at Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh; 5th June 2026

EPCH organised a workshop on "Fire Safety, Precautions, Response and Survival Strategies" at EPCH House, Moradabad, with an aim to create awareness among exporters and industry stakeholders on fire prevention, emergency response, and workplace safety.

The workshop was conducted by Dr. Rajeev Pandey, Chief Fire Officer, Moradabad, and Mr. Gyan Prakash Sharma, Fire Station Officer, Moradabad. They delivered informative presentations on fire safety management, preventive measures, emergency response protocols, and survival strategies during fire incidents. Dr. Pandey emphasised the importance of adopting proactive safety practices, maintaining fire-fighting equipment and conducting regular safety audits and mock drills in industrial establishments.

The Fire Safety Department team also conducted a live demonstration on the proper use of fire extinguishers and fire-fighting techniques. Participants received practical guidance on handling different types of fire emergencies and safely evacuating premises during critical situations. The workshop witnessed active participation from members of the handicrafts export fraternity, including Mr. J P Singh, Chairman, Young Exporters Society (YES), Moradabad; Mr. Gagan Duggal, Vice Chairman, YES; Mr. Vivek Agarwal and Mr. Ujjwal Agarwal, Directors, YES; Mr. Manish Agarwal, Nodi Exports; Mr. Shubham Gupta, Brassex; along with several leading exporters and industry representatives from Moradabad.



Dr. Rajeev Pandey, Chief Fire Officer, Moradabad, and Mr. Gyan Prakash Sharma, Fire Station Officer, Moradabad seen conducting the workshop and demonstration on fire safety in the presence leading exporters and industry representatives



Participants appreciated this initiative and acknowledged the importance of such awareness programmes in strengthening workplace safety, emergency and risk management across the handicrafts industry. ■

Fire Safety & Precautions Mock Drill at Bangalore, Karnataka; 13th June 2026

The Southern Regional Office of EPCH conducted a Fire Safety & Precautions Mock Drill at the factory premises of Mr. K L Ramesh, Co-opted Member, EPCH, at Kaggalipura, Bengaluru. A simulated fire emergency was carried out in the production area, followed by



the evacuation of employees through designated emergency exits. The fire safety trainer demonstrated the correct use of fire extinguishers, explained different classes of fire and the appropriate extinguishers for each, and provided hands-on training to participants. The mock drill enhanced awareness of fire safety,



emergency response, and safe evacuation procedures. Participants appreciated the practical demonstration, and regular mock drills were recommended to strengthen workplace safety, emergencies and preparedness. ■

Fashion Trends & Color Forecast 2027

Awareness Seminar at Mumbai; 8th June 2026

A seminar on "Fashion Trends & Color Forecast 2027" was conducted on 8th June 2026 at the Indian Merchants' Chamber (IMC), Churchgate, Mumbai. Organised by EPCH Western Region office, it was led by Mr. Pradip Muchhala, Western Regional Convenor, EPCH.

The first session was conducted by Ms. Amla Shrivastava, Sr. Assistant Director-Design, EPCH, who presented insightful overview of upcoming fashion trends, colour directions, consumer preferences, and market forecasts for 2027, guiding members in aligning their product development and business strategies with future market demands. She also emphasised the growing importance of sustainability, contemporary craftsmanship, functionality and changing international market demands in shaping future product development.

The second session focused on 'E-Commerce in Today's Market Scenario' and was delivered by Mr. Ankur Dayal, CEO, M/s Primarc Pecan Retail Ltd., Mumbai. He shared valuable insights into the evolving e-commerce landscape, current market trends, digital business opportunities, and the role of Primarc Pecan in supporting businesses through online



The seminar saw the presence of Mr. Pradip Muchhala, Western Regional Convenor, EPCH; Ms. Amla Shrivastava, Head – Design, EPCH; and Mr. Ankur Dayal, CEO, M/s Primarc Pecan Retail Ltd., Mumbai

retail channels. The seminar concluded with an interactive discussion and question-and-answer session, allowing members to engage directly with the speakers and gain further clarity on the subjects presented. The program was highly informative and beneficial for the participating members, providing them with practical knowledge and future-oriented market perspectives. ■

Export Meet - Udaipur, 5th June 2026; Pushkar, 22nd June 2026

To enhance Udaipur's export potential and provide better facilitation to exporters, the Department of Posts, Udaipur Division, organised an Export Meet on 5th June 2026 at Udaipur. Mr. Akshay Bhanudas Gadekar (IPoS), Senior Superintendent of Post Offices, highlighted



India Post's role in facilitating exports through the Dak Niryat Kendra (DNK) initiative, with a focus on supporting MSMEs, artisans, and small

businesses. Mr. Umesh Nimawat, from DNK, presented India Post's export facilitation services, covering international shipping, documentation, customs compliance, shipment procedures, and cost-effective export solutions. Mr. Shailendra Sharma, General Manager, DICCC, outlined the Government of Rajasthan's export promotion schemes and incentives. EPCH Representative highlighted the Council's export promotion initiatives. Mr. Bharat Tak, Chartered Accountant, explained GST refunds and export

taxation procedures. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks by Mr. Ramesh Bhati, In-charge, Business Parcel Centre, Udaipur. Attended by over 60 exporters, entrepreneurs, artisans, MSME representatives, and other stakeholders, the meet strengthened awareness of export facilitation services and collaboration within Udaipur's export ecosystem.

A similar programme was organised on 22nd June 2026 at Pushkar, by the Department of Posts, Ajmer Division with the presence of Mr. Devi Lal Saharan (IPoS), Senior Superintendent of Post Offices; Mr. Ram Kumar Meena, Additional Commissioner, CGST South Division, Ajmer; Mr. Mukesh Mudgal, Additional Commissioner, CGST North Division, Ajmer; Mr. V S Jain, Assistant Director, Postal Services, Ajmer Division; and EPCH Jodhpur Office Representative. Around 50 exporters from Ajmer and nearby regions participated. ■



BIS Compliance and Upcoming Furniture Quality Control Orders (QCOs) and International Social Compliance

Awareness Seminar at Jaipur, Rajasthan; 12th June 2026



Mr. Girish Agarwal, COA Member and Regional Convenor, NWR, EPCH addressing the seminar

EPCH organised an interactive seminar on “BIS Compliance and Upcoming Furniture Quality Control Orders (QCOs) and International Social Compliance ” on 12 June 2026 at Jaipur. The programme was attended by exporters, manufacturers, and stakeholders from the handicrafts and furniture sector. It was graced by Mr. Girish Agarwal, COA Member and Regional Convenor, NWR, EPCH; Mr. Lekhraj Maheshwari, former Chairman, EPCH; Mr. Rajat Verma, Sr AD, O/o the DC (Handicrafts); Mr. Himanshu Joshi, Asst. Commissioner DIC; representatives from Complise India - Mr. Pradhuman Sharma and Mr. Pawan Sharma and distinguished members of the industry.

Focus on Quality Compliance and Global Competitiveness

Welcoming the participants, Mr. Girish Agarwal, COA Member and Regional Convenor, NWR, EPCH highlighted the growing importance of regulatory compliance in the furniture sector. He informed participants that the Furniture Quality Control Order (QCO), 2025 mandates BIS certification for Medium and Large Enterprises and, from August 2026, for applicable MSMEs. Thereafter, the manufacture, sale, or import of non-certified furniture products will not be permitted, urging exporters and manufacturers to prepare proactively for compliance. He further noted that global buyers increasingly expect adherence to sustainability, ethical sourcing, and social accountability standards, making frameworks such as SEDEX, SMETA, and BSCI essential for enhancing export competitiveness. He highlighted the Council's continued support through technical infrastructure, testing facilities and capacity-building initiatives.

Technical Sessions on BIS Certification and Govt. Support

The technical session by Mr. Pradhuman Sharma and Mr. Pawan Sharma of Complise India covered the Furniture QCO, BIS certification procedures, applicable standards, documentation, implementation timelines, and practical compliance requirements, while also addressing common challenges faced by manufacturers.

Mr. Himanshu Joshi, Assistant Commissioner, Department of Industries, Government of Rajasthan, highlighted the State Government's industrial promotion policies, including reimbursement of compliance-related expenses, and encouraged exporters to avail themselves of these initiatives. He reaffirmed the Department's continued support for industrial growth, quality enhancement, and regulatory compliance.

Mr. Rajat Verma, Senior Assistant Director, O/o DC (Handicrafts), stressed the importance of quality assurance and standardised testing in enhancing the competitiveness of Indian handicrafts and furniture. He also highlighted support schemes for MSMEs and artisan-based enterprises and encouraged exporters to utilise the EPCH Wood Testing Laboratory.

EPCH Showcases Upgraded Wood Testing Laboratory

EPCH officials presented the capabilities and future vision of the EPCH Wood Testing Laboratory, Jaipur, established in 2019 to provide accessible quality testing services for exporters. They highlighted that the facility has significantly reduced testing time, transportation costs, and logistical challenges by eliminating the need to send samples to distant laboratories.

Following a major upgradation, the laboratory now offers comprehensive furniture mechanical testing, including strength, durability, stability, impact resistance, and safety evaluation, along with transit testing covering vibration, shock, compression, packaging performance, and transportation simulation. These facilities enable exporters to meet BIS certification requirements and international buyer specifications through a single integrated testing facility at highly subsidised rates.

Interactive Discussions and Way Forward

The workshop concluded with an interactive session, during which experts addressed queries on BIS certification, testing requirements, social compliance, implementation timelines, government support schemes, and laboratory services. Participants appreciated EPCH's timely initiative and its efforts to strengthen testing infrastructure and facilitate compliance. The programme ended with a vote of thanks to the distinguished speakers and dignitaries. ■

Export Facilitation Services offered by India Post

Exporters Meet at Jodhpur, Rajasthan; 12th June 2026

On 12 June 2026, an Exporters Meet was organised at the Trade Facilitation Centre (TFC), Boranada, Jodhpur, by the Department of Posts, Jodhpur, in association with EPCH, to create awareness among exporters about the export facilitation services offered by India Post. This was attended by Mr. Nirmal Bhandari, COA Member, EPCH; Mr. Priyesh Bhandari, Secretary, Jodhpur Handicraft Export Federation; Col. Satish Solanki, Director, Postal Services, Jodhpur Region; Mr. S R Khatri, Senior Superintendent of Post Offices (SSPoS), Jodhpur Division; Mr. Ravi Veer Chaudhary, Assistant Director, O/o Development Commissioner (Handicrafts), Jodhpur; Mr. Ghanshyam Ojha, Former All India President, Laghu Udyog Bharti; Mr. Rajesh Gupta, Chairman, Young Entrepreneurs Society; and Mr. Mahaveer Chopra, President, Laghu Udyog Bharti, Jodhpur. Officials from the Customs Department, GST and other government departments also participated.

The programme commenced with a welcome address by Mr. Sudarshan Samariya, followed by informative films on India Post and Dak Niryat Kendras (DNKs). Mr. Kumawat, Manager, Business Post Centre, Jaipur, presented India Post's export facilitation services, including Dak Niryat Kendras, International Parcel Services, EMS, customs documentation, logistics support, and shipment tracking. Addressing the gathering, Mr. Priyesh Bhandari highlighted the importance of efficient logistics in international trade and the growing global recognition of "Made in India" products. Mr. Nirmal Bhandari spoke about the transformation of India's export sector over the past four decades and encouraged exporters to make greater use of India Post's services. Col. Satish Solanki emphasized the significant contribution of exports and MSMEs to the national economy and highlighted India Post's role in providing reliable and cost-effective logistics support. Mr. Ghanshyam Ojha highlighted the extensive reach and legacy of India Post and encouraged



exporters to leverage its services for expanding global business opportunities.

Participants were also introduced to the "My Stamp" initiative of India Post. Specially prepared My Stamp photo frames were presented to Mr. Nirmal Bhandari, Mr. Priyesh Bhandari, Mr. Ravi Veer Chaudhary, Assistant Director, Office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts), Jodhpur, Mr. Rajesh Gupta, Chairman, Young Entrepreneurs Society, and Mr. Rais Ahmed, Director, Jodhpur Institute of Export & Shipping Management.

The programme concluded with an interactive session, followed by a vote of thanks by Mr. Manish Kumar Verma. More than 100 participants from the export fraternity, government departments, and industry associations attended the programme, which provided a valuable platform for enhancing awareness of India Post's export facilitation services and strengthening support for the exporting community. ■

India-UK Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and Export Essentials for the Handicraft Sector

Awareness Seminar at Saharanpur, Uttar Pradesh; 17th June 2026



EPCH organised an awareness seminar on "India–UK Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and Export Essentials for the Handicraft Sector" at the Common Facility Centre (CFC), Saharanpur, on 17 June 2026. The programme was attended by EPCH member exporters and other stakeholders.

The session commenced with a welcome address by Mr. Ramji Suneja, eminent EPCH member exporter from Saharanpur.

Expert faculty, Mr. Mohsin Ahmad delivered a comprehensive presentation on the India–UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), highlighting its significance for the handicrafts sector. He explained that the agreement provides duty-free access for 99% of Indian exports to the UK, including major handicraft and textile products, thereby enhancing the global competitiveness of Indian artisans and MSMEs.

The presentation covered the key benefits of the agreement, including tariff elimination, improved market access, enhanced competitiveness, simplified compliance procedures, support for MSMEs and artisans, strengthening of export hubs, and protection of domestic industries. It also highlighted the significant opportunities the agreement creates for labour-intensive sectors such as handicrafts, textiles, leather, gems and jewellery, toys, engineering goods, marine products and organic chemicals.

The programme concluded with an interactive discussion, during which participants raised queries on various aspects of the agreement. Mr. Mohsin Ahmad addressed these questions in detail, providing valuable insights into the export opportunities arising from the India–UK CETA.



Digital Marketing for Handicraft Exporters

Workshop at Patna, Bihar; 23rd June 2026



EPCH in association with Upendra Maharathi Shilp Anusandhan Sansthan (UMSAS) organised a Digital Marketing Workshop for handicraft artisans and entrepreneurs. The programme was inaugurated by Mr. Sandeep Kumar, Regional Director; Mr. B K Jha, Assistant Director; and Mr. Mukesh Kumar, Assistant Director, Office of Development Commissioner (Handicrafts); Mr. Satyanand Singh, DDO, UMSAS; and the EPCH representative from the Council's Patna office.

Digital Marketing expert Mr. Amit Kumar conducted an informative session on leveraging digital platforms and social media to expand business opportunities. The EPCH representative also briefed participants on Export Readiness, IEC, RCMC, international exhibitions and various export promotion services. ■

Emerging Consumer Design Directions and Trend Forecasts in Home Furnishings, Fashion Jewellery and Accessories for Spring/Summer 2027

Awareness Seminar at New Delhi; 20th June 2026

A seminar on "Emerging Consumer Design Directions and Trend Forecasts in Home Furnishings, Fashion Jewellery and Accessories for Spring/Summer 2027" was conducted on 20th June 2026 at New Delhi.

The seminar focused on emerging global consumer and design trends influencing the home and lifestyle sector, with special emphasis on home furnishings, fashion jewellery and fashion accessories. Participants gained insights into key colour palettes, materials, surface techniques, evolving consumer preferences, sustainability expectations and market positioning across major international markets.

It was attended by Mr. Simrandeep Singh Kohli and Mr. Varun Sharma, COA Members, EPCH, along with Ms. Urvashi Gupta, Director, WGSN, who served as the session expert. Many member exporters from Delhi-NCR also participated.

The seminar concluded with an interactive question-and-answer session, during which participants engaged with the expert on market trends and product development strategies. ■



The seminar saw the presence of Mr. Simrandeep Singh Kohli and Mr. Varun Sharma, COA Members, EPCH; and Ms. Urvashi Gupta, Director, WGSN



Beyond Protection: Packaging as a Value Creator in the Handicraft Sector and Export through India Post

Awareness Seminar at Bangalore, Karnataka; 23rd June 2026

EPCH Southern Regional Office, organised this seminar in association with the Association of Women Entrepreneurs of Karnataka (AWAKE), at the AWAKE Conference Hall, Bengaluru. This was attended by Mr. K L Ramesh, Chairman, Handicraft and Carpet Sector Skill Council and Co-opted Member, EPCH; Ms. Bhuvaneshwari, President, AWAKE; Dr. Sridharan S., Advisor, The Brindavan Group of Institutions; Dr. Jennifer P Pinto, Assistant Professor, Indian Institute of Packaging (IIP), Bengaluru; and Mr. Venkatesh A V, Assistant Director (International Mail), Office of the Chief Postmaster General, Karnataka Circle.

Delivering the keynote address, Mr. K L Ramesh highlighted the importance of value-added packaging in enhancing the competitiveness of Indian handicrafts in global markets. Dr. Sridharan S. encouraged entrepreneurs to strengthen their knowledge and adopt best practices to improve export readiness.

Dr. Jennifer P. Pinto conducted a technical session on export packaging, covering packaging standards, procedures, product handling, and best practices for ensuring

product protection, value addition, and compliance with international requirements. Mr. Venkatesh A. V. highlighted the export services, schemes, and logistics solutions offered by India Post to support handicraft exporters, particularly MSMEs and first-time exporters. The seminar concluded with an interactive question-and-answer session attended by entrepreneurs and handicraft exporters. ■



Cyber Security and Banking Facilities for SMEs

Interactive Session at Jaipur, Rajasthan; 24th June 2026

On 24th June 2026, EPCH organised an interactive session on Cyber Security and Banking Facilities for SMEs at the Sanganer Hand Block Printing Cluster, Jaipur, in association with HDFC Bank and the Calico Printers Co-operative Society. It focused on strengthening the capabilities of SME exporters through expert guidance on cyber security, banking and financial solutions, FOREX risk management, e-commerce, and quality compliance. Participants were also encouraged to utilise the EPCH Testing Laboratory for packaging and product quality testing to meet international standards.

The programme was attended by Mr. Rajat Verma, Senior Assistant Director, O/o DC (Handicrafts), Jaipur; Mr. Rahul Sanghi, Vice President & Cluster Head, HDFC Bank; Mr. Anil Kumar Boliya, President, Calico Printers Co-operative Society; along with National Awardees, senior HDFC Bank officials, and a SME exporters and entrepreneurs.

Mr. Rajat Verma reiterated the Govt.'s commitment to strengthening the handicrafts sector and appreciated EPCH's efforts in supporting exporters. He urged participants to leverage the EPCH Testing Laboratory to enhance product quality and ensure compliance with international standards. He also encouraged participants to make effective use of the EPCH Testing Laboratory to ensure product quality and adherence to international standards.

Speaking on the importance of digital resilience, Mr. Rahul Sanghi highlighted the growing importance of cyber security in international trade, emphasising that a secure digital and financial ecosystem is essential for SMEs to compete globally. He also noted the strong export potential of the Sanganer cluster and the



The session was addressed by Mr. Rajat Verma, Senior Assistant Director, O/o D C (Handicrafts), Jaipur; Mr. Rahul Sanghi, Vice President & Cluster Head, HDFC Bank; and Mr. Anil Kumar Boliya, President, Calico Printers Co-operative Society



importance of financial awareness in supporting India's export growth. EPCH officials reaffirmed the Council's commitment to facilitating collaboration between Government, financial institutions and exporters through awareness and capacity-building initiatives.

The programme concluded with an interactive question-and-answer session, during which participants discussed their operational challenges and sought expert guidance on banking, cyber security, export finance, and quality compliance. ■

Export Logistics, International Shipping & Market Linkages for Handicraft Exporters

Interactive Session at Kolkata; 24th June 2026

EPCH Eastern Regional Office, in association with the Department of Posts, Government of India, organised an Exporters' Awareness Seminar on "Export Logistics, International Shipping & Market Linkages for Handicraft Exporters" on 24th June 2026 at Yogayog Bhawan, Kolkata. It was attended by handicraft exporters, entrepreneurs, and MSMEs and focused on export logistics, international shipping, customs procedures, export facilitation, and market linkages.

The programme commenced with

a welcome address by Mr. Jiju Das, Postmaster General, West Bengal Circle, followed by a presentation by the EPCH representative highlighting the Council's activities, member services, export promotion initiatives, and international trade fairs.

Addressing the gathering, Mr. Ashok Kumar, Chief Postmaster General, West Bengal Circle, highlighted the role of India Post in supporting exporters through its expanding logistics and international shipping network. Mr. Pradip Roy, Assistant Director, India Post, explained the export logistics services offered by the Department, while Mr. Rishabh Sinha, Assistant Director, India Post, presented the features of Dak Niryat Kendra (DNK) and domestic parcel solutions for exporters.



Mr. Jiju Das, PMG, West Bengal Circle; Mr. Ashok Kumar, CPMG, West Bengal Circle, India Post; Mr. Pradip Roy, Assistant Director, India Post; Mr. Rishabh Sinha, Assistant Director, India Post; Mr. Debabrata Chatterjee, Assistant Commissioner, Kolkata Customs (Port); Ms. Sukriti Gupta, IPoS, Director, India Post; Mr. Himanshu Dhar Pandey, Deputy DGFT, Kolkata

Mr. Debabrata Chatterjee, Assistant Commissioner, Kolkata Customs (Port), briefed participants on customs procedures and export compliance requirements. Ms. Sukriti Gupta, IPoS, Director, India Post, outlined the Department's initiatives to facilitate exports, and Mr. Himanshu Dhar Pandey, Deputy DGFT, Kolkata, shared information on DGFT schemes, export incentives, and emerging business opportunities.

Representing the industry, Mr. Jitesh Jain, Member, Eastern Regional Committee, EPCH, and Director, World Business Overseas, highlighted the expectations of handicraft exporters from India Post and emphasised the need for stronger collaboration between the postal network and the exporting community to improve logistics and market access.

The seminar concluded with an interactive question-and-answer session, during which participants sought clarifications on international shipping, customs clearance, GST refunds, parcel services, and export procedures. The experts addressed the queries and assured continued support to the handicrafts exporting community. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks followed by networking among participants. ■



Interactive Seminars on India's Free Trade Agreements (FTAs)

Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh; 30th June 2026

EPCH, Moradabad organised an insightful seminar on India's Trade Agreements on 30 June 2026 as part of the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India's initiative to enhance awareness and understanding of Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) among exporters, particularly from the handicrafts sector.

The seminar was attended by leading exporters and industry stakeholders, including Mr. Gagan Duggal, Vice Chairman, YES; Mr. Ujjwal Agarwal, Director, YES; Mr. Tanuj Tandon; Mr. Rahul Dhall; and other prominent exporter members.

Expert faculty, Dr. Vipin Jain, Director, TMU, explained the significance of FTAs, tariff concessions, Rules of



Origin, and market access, highlighting how exporters can strategically leverage these agreements to expand globally. He also emphasised the importance of capacity building, market intelligence, and strategic planning to maximise the benefits of



The session was addressed by Dr. Vipin Jain, Director, TMU, who explained the significance of FTAs, tariff concessions, Rules of Origin, and market access

India's trade agreements while staying abreast of evolving global trade dynamics. The session was highly interactive, with participants discussing export opportunities and practical challenges under various FTAs. ■

Jodhpur, Rajasthan; 30th June 2026

On 30 June 2026, the EPCH North Western Regional (NWR) Office organised an Interactive Seminar on Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) with Different Countries at the Trade Facilitation Centre, Boranada, Jodhpur. It was attended by Mr. Naresh Bothra, President, Jodhpur Handicraft Exporters Federation; Mr. Manish Manda, DDM, NABARD; Mr. Ravi Veer Chaudhary, Assistant Director, O/o DC (Handicrafts); Mr. Sunil Kumar, APEDA; Mr. Ravi Dubey, Branch Manager, ECGC, Jodhpur; Mr. Shikhar Bhamba, Observer, Ministry

of Commerce; Dr. Naresh Kumar, Agriculture Export Facilitation Centre; and Mr. Sunil Chauhan, Senior Faculty, FDDI.

The technical session featured an informative presentation by Mr. Rais Ahmed, Director, Jodhpur Institute of Shipping and Management, who explained key aspects of FTAs, including Rules of Origin, India's FTA partner countries, export opportunities, global trade challenges, cost advantages, and the role of digital marketing in boosting exports.



The session was addressed by Mr. Rais Ahmed, Director, Jodhpur Institute of Shipping and Management

Mr. Ravi Veer Chaudhary highlighted the schemes and initiatives of the O/o DC (Handicrafts) for exporters and artisans, while Mr. Ravi Dubey presented the various ECGC schemes and their role in mitigating export-related risks.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks by Mr. Shikhar Bhamba, who also briefed participants on the Government of India's upcoming FTAs and their potential impact on Indian exports. Over 70 exporters, entrepreneurs, and industry stakeholders attended. ■

Exporter's Clinic: Speak with Experts and Get Your Export Queries Answered Online

What Buyers Want: Key Expectations in Product Presentation, Communication & Compliance; 4th June 2026

As part of its ongoing series of Exporters' Clinic, the Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts (EPCH) organised the 10th session on 'What Buyers Want: Key Expectations in Product Presentation, Communication & Compliance'.

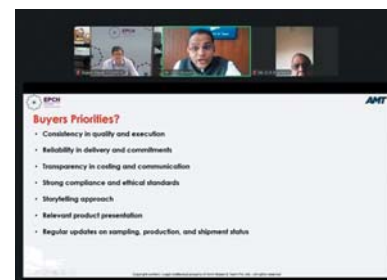
Held online on 4th June 2026, the session aimed to help Indian handicraft suppliers better understand international buyer



expectations across three core dimensions: product presentation, effective communication and compliance frameworks.

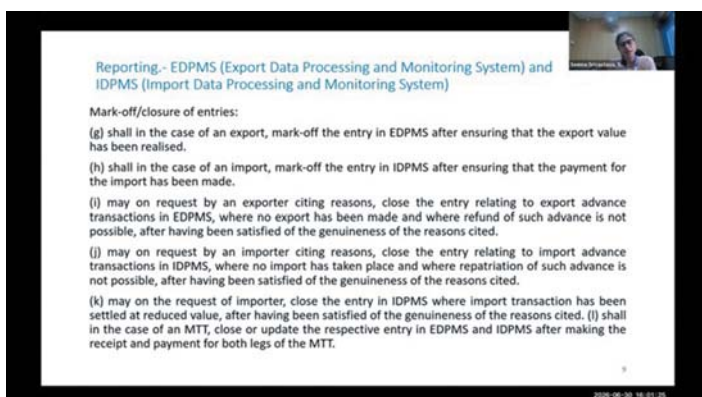
Additionally, participants gained valuable insights on how these aspects play an important role in building buyer confidence, improving chances of securing orders and developing long-term business relationships.

Mr. Amit Mulani, Trainer & Consultant, Bharat Udaan Mission alongwith Mr. O P Prahladka, COA Member and Eastern Region Convenor, EPCH; Mr. Rajesh Rawat, Executive Director, EPCH and member exporters from pan India basis were present and joined online. The session focused on Q&A and speaker addressed the queries received from the members and concluded their interaction on a positive note. ■



Recent Amendment in FEMA Regulations; 30th June 2026

The 11th session of Exporter's Clinic was on 'Recent Amendment in FEMA Regulations'. Held online on 30th June 2026, the session aimed to provide participants with an overview of the latest FEMA provisions, RBI guidelines and foreign exchange compliance requirements relating to exports and imports. It covered key regulatory aspects including closure of Shipping Bills through AD Banks under EDPMS/IDPMS, prescribed timelines for export realisation and import payments, documentation requirements,



recent regulatory updates and their practical implications for exporters to ensure smooth trade operations and avoid compliance-related issues.

During the interaction, Session Expert - Ms. Seema Srivastava, Assistant General Manager (IB), State Bank of India alongwith Mr. Rajesh Rawat, Executive Director, EPCH and member exporters from pan India basis were present and joined online.

The session focused on Q&A and speaker addressed the queries received from the members and concluded their interaction on a positive note. ■

Export Promotion Mission, E-Trade Connect Portal, and Opportunities under FTAs Outreach Programme at Kolar, Karnataka; 30th June 2026

The EPCH Southern Regional Office, in association with the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), Bengaluru, organised an Outreach Programme on the Export Promotion Mission, E-Trade Connect Portal, and Opportunities under Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) at the Zilla Panchayat Conference Hall, Kolar, Karnataka. This was attended by Mr. K Adarsh, Assistant Director General of Foreign Trade (ADGFT), Bengaluru; Mr. N Ravichandra, Chief Planning Officer, Zilla Panchayat, Kolar; Mr. Dhayanand, Superintendent of Post Offices, India Post, Kolar Division; Mr. Syed Salman Ahmed, IDFC First Bank; and Mr. Jagadish, Deputy Director, Department of Handlooms & Textiles, Kolar. The audience learnt about the Export Promotion Mission for Kolar, the use of the DGFT's E-Trade Connect Portal as a single-window digital platform for exporters and key aspects of customs duties, tariffs, trade regulations, FTAs, market intelligence, export opportunities, buyer information and trade event updates.

