



# **HANDLOOM EXPORT**

## **NEWS LETTER**



**April & May  
2021**

**VOL. No.1**  
**Rs.50/-**

**HANDLOOM EXPORT  
PROMOTION COUNCIL**  
(Ministry of Textiles, Government of India)

# INDIAN

Handwoven and  
Hometextiles Sourcing



HEPC  
Handloom Export Promotion Council  
100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200



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# HANDLOOM EXPORT

Newsletter of Handloom  
Export promotion council  
April & May 2021

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**CHAMPA  
SILK**

Known for its dull golden brownish  
look, soft texture and purity, this  
version of Tussar silk is produced  
exclusively in Champa, Chhattisgarh.

**VOL. No. 1**

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**THE HANDLOOM EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL**

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## Chairman's Column

**Dear Members,**

As per the provisional data released by the DGCI&S, the export of handloom products for the financial year 2020-21 was recorded as US\$223.19mn as against the export turnover of US\$ 315.62 mn during 2019-2020 which is fell down by around 29%.

The financial year 2020-2021 had been the most challenging year in our lifetimes. COVID-19 pandemic brought the entire world to a standstill, equitably affecting markets and supply chains globally. Our world and the businesses continues to face challenges due to the pandemic. Consumer habits are changing, and online shopping is growing rapidly. While the supply chain and logistics industry continues to face challenges, new opportunities abound as well.

Now, the states are lifting the lockdown in a phased manner and the textile industry would need support from the government to pick up their business thread again. Council has requested the Union ministry for the extension of interest subvention scheme, reinstate of duty credit scrip @5% for duty free import entitlement of specific trimming and embellishments and also requested to do the needful for the constant increase of yarn price, freight charges and packaging materials.

During this pandemic situation, besides organising international fairs, council is organising seminars through video conferencing on the topic which provides wider knowledge on international trade and the government policies, schemes and incentives available for the textile industry. I am requesting member exporters to participate in the seminars in order to know the updated latest policy.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'T.V. Chandrasekaran'.

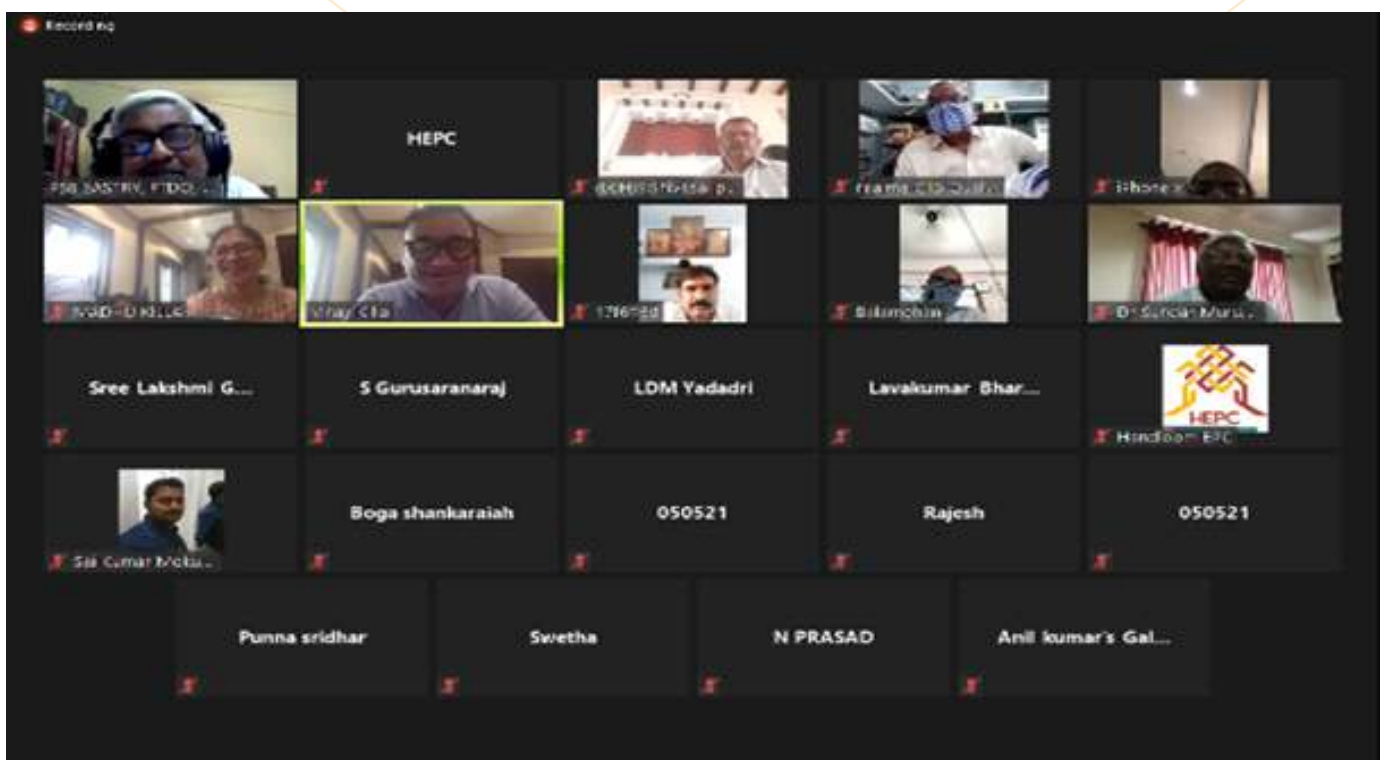
**T.V. Chandrasekaran**  
Chairman



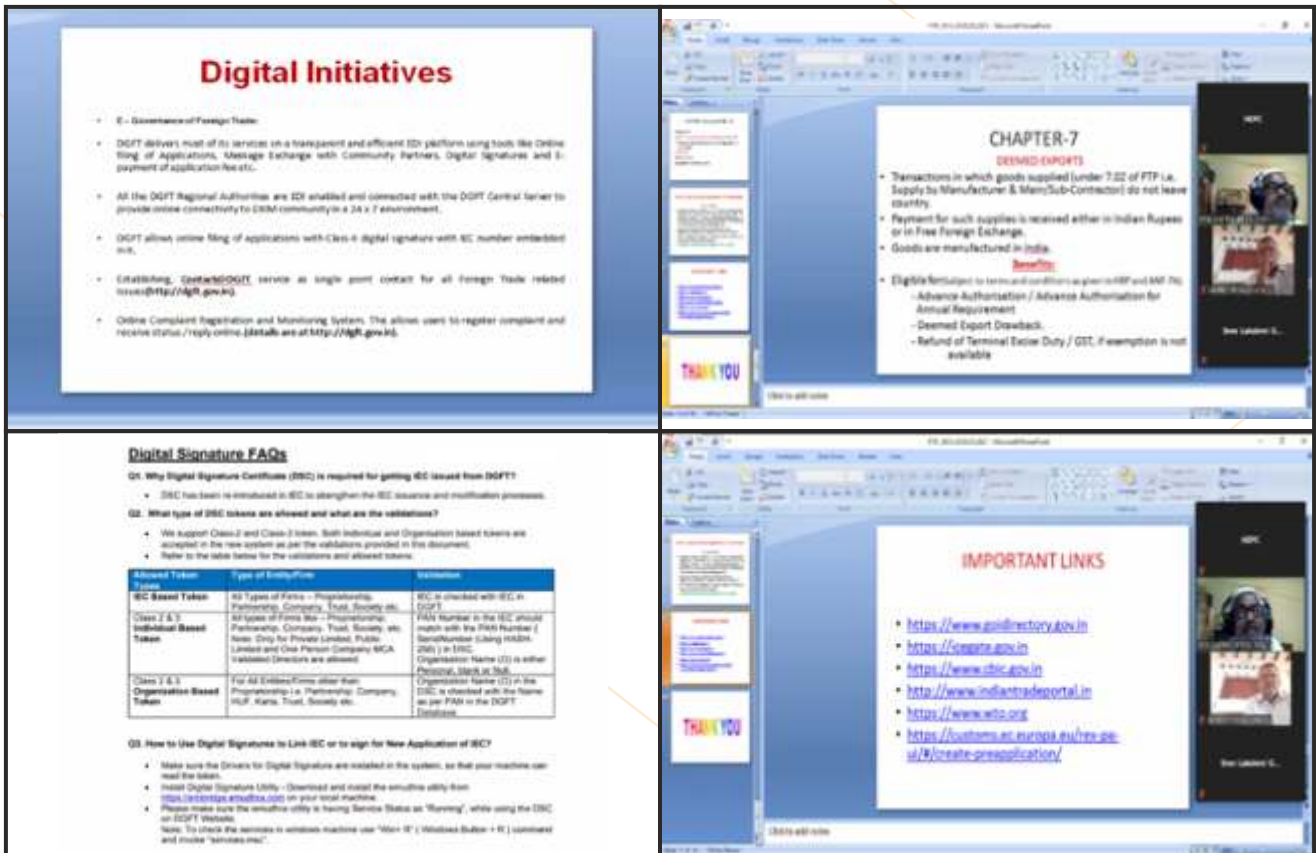
## REPORT ON VIRTUAL SEMINAR AT YADADRI, TELANGANA THROUGH VIDEO CONFERENCE HELD ON 05.05.2021

Handloom Export Promotion Council (HEPC) organized a seminar on the topic “Export procedures & Exportable Textiles Items” for the Weavers and Exporters in Yadadri, Telangana through virtual mode on 05.05.2021.

Shri M.Sundar, Jt. Director, HEPC presided over the seminar and General Manager, DIC - Yadadri District, Assistant Director, FTDO - DGFT Hyderabad and Shri. Madhu Vinay Killa, Citrus Fashions Pvt. Ltd., Kolkata were present in the seminar. Shri M.Sundar, Jt. Director, HEPC welcomed the participants and speakers.



Shri P.S.B. Sastry, Foreign Trade Development Officer, O/o the Addl. DGFT, Hyderabad has made a power point presentation on export procedures & documentation. The DGFT official has covered the Foreign Trade Policy, Digital Initiatives, Setting Export business, General provision of Import and Export, Indian schemes for export, Quality complaints and Other initiatives from Department of Commerce. The basics for a new exporter such as naming the business, creation of website and domain e-mail ID, Arranging Startup Documents (PAN, Bank Account, Importer - Exporter Code, Registration-cum-Membership Certificate from Export Promotion Councils/Commodity Boards), Various Central/State Govt. Schemes viz., Subsidy for investment on Plant & Machinery, Interest Subvention Scheme for exports, Costing, Pricing & Sampling, Selecting Market & Finding Prospective Buyer until realization of Foreign Exchange were informed.

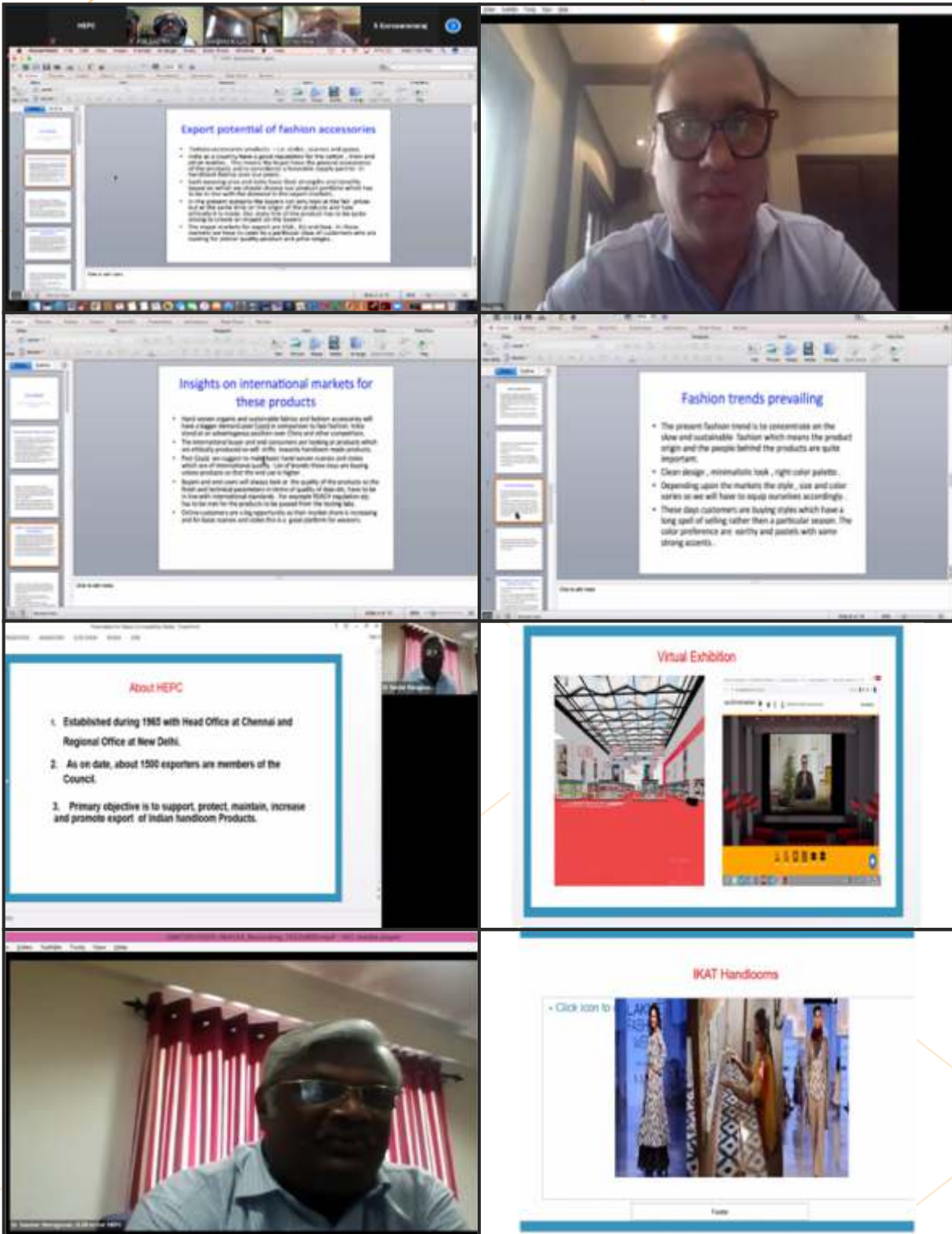


The Interactive session between the participants and Shri P.S.B. Sastry, Foreign Trade Development Officer was useful to the participants and the official explained all the queries in detail.

Secondly, Shri. Madhu Vinay Killa, Citrus Fashions Pvt. Ltd., Kolkata presented the PPT on Exportable Textiles items and explained about Export potential on Fashion accessories, Insights on International markets for these products, Fashion trends prevailing, Buyers expectation, etc,. He has also explained the past and present scenario for the fashion accessories products, uniqueness, new designs, major markets, online business, price ranges and the advantages of Handloom sector in fashion accessory products, etc.

Also, they shared a brief on their personal experience, learning and challenges faced in the export markets which was very useful to all the participants.

Finally, Council's presentation on Role of HEPC in Export market was made by Shri M. Sundar, Joint Director. He has explained about the HEPC and its activities, Product wise export data and the schemes & incentive available for the exporters under various ministry. He has also explained about the POST COVID situation in exports, council's initiatives support extended during the pandemic viz. policy support to member exporter, virtual events being organised by HEPC, etc.,.



The Interactive session between the participants and HEPC official was useful to the participants and the official were explained all the queries. Nearly around 25 master weavers and handloom producers have participated in Telangana region. The overall feedback from the participants was impressive and has requested to organize more such seminars. The seminar ended with Vote of Thanks by Shri M. Sundar, Joint Director, HEPC.

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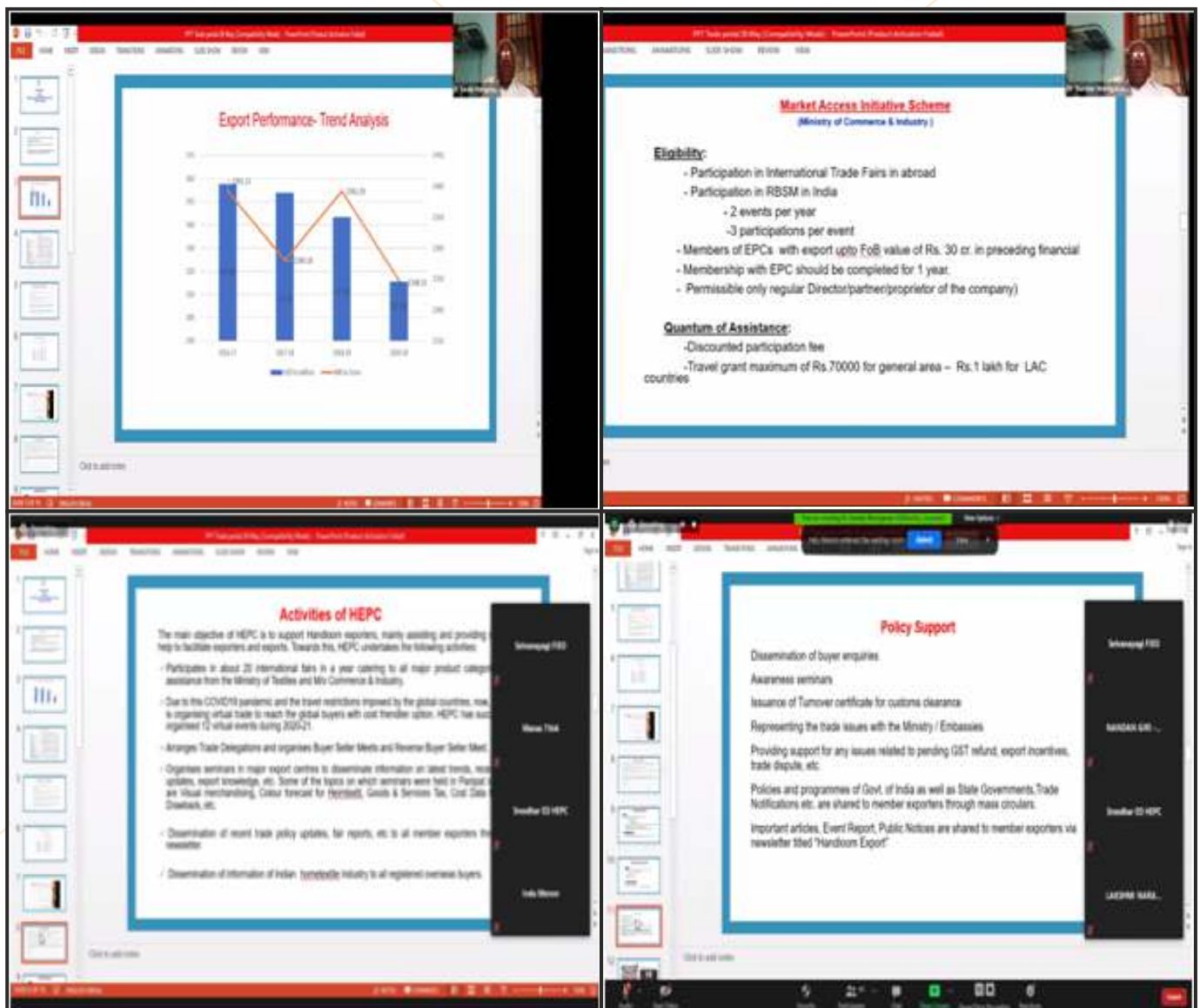


## REPORT ON SEMINAR ON “TRADE PORTALS” THROUGH VIDEO CONFERENCE HELD ON 26.05.2021

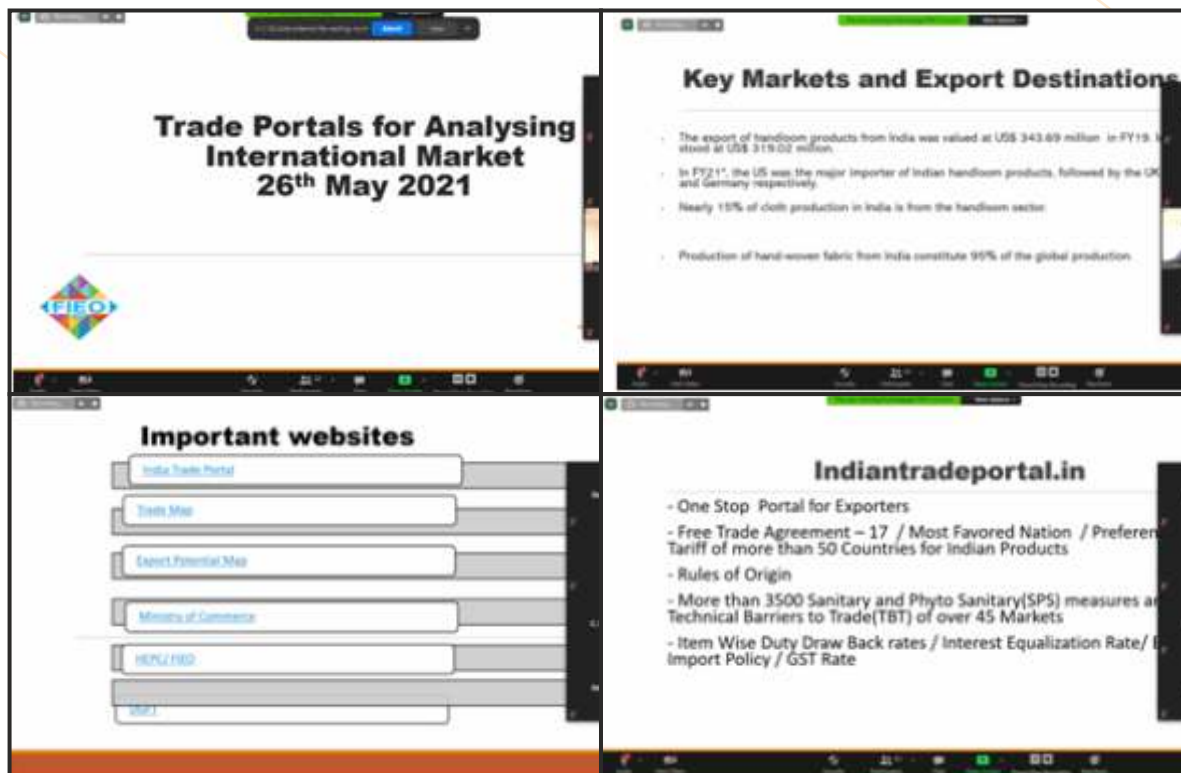
Handloom Export Promotion Council organized a seminar on the topic “Trade Portals” for the member exporters across India on 26.05.2021 at 11.00 am through video conference.

Shri T.V.Chandrasekaran, Chairman, HEPC presided over the seminar and Shri P.Gopalakrishnan, Vice Chairman, HEPC, Shri N.Sreedhar, Executive Director, HEPC, Shri M.Sundar, Joint Director, HEPC and Ms.Selvanayagi, Deputy Director, FIEO, Southern region were present in the seminar.

Shri M.Sundar, Joint Director, HEPC welcomed the Chairman, Vice chairman, Speaker and participants. Shri T.V.Chandrasekaran, Chairman, HEPC has delivered the welcome address and Shri M.Sundar, Joint Director, HEPC has made presentation on the activities of the Council towards international market promotion and he also expressed the policy support extended by the Council.



Followed by, Ms.Selvanayagi, Deputy Director, FIEO made presentation on “Trade Portals” and explained how to get the import/export data of a particular HS code and find the market place as well as product. Also, she explained about the salient feature and the information that can be ascertained from the trade portals namely “ India Trade Portal” managed by FIEO, “ Trade statistics” from Ministry of Commerce website and “ Trade Map” managed by International Trade Centre, Geneva.



The Interactive session between the participants and Ms.Selvanayagi, Deputy Director, FIEO was useful to the participants and the official were explained all the queries in detail.

Nearly around 55 member exporters have participated across India. The overall feedback from the participants was impressive and has requested to organize more such seminars.

The meeting concluded with vote of thanks by Shri M.Gopalakrishnan, Vice Chairman. In his address he thanked the speakers and participants and assured that HEPC will be extending full support to promote handloom Industry.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Report on Indian Handwoven and Hometextiles Sourcing (IHHS) - Australia (Virtual Buyer Seller Meet)

The travel restrictions induced by the Covid-19 pandemic, has resulted in cancellation / postponement of physical events around the world. This has adversely impacted the marketing activities of manufacturers and exporters in reaching out to the existing customers with new products and also in establishing new business linkages. HEPC has initiated activities in providing opportunities for its member exporters through a series of virtual events proposed across different regions around the world to help the exporters to sustain their marketing activities and also tap the new market opportunities.

In this context, HEPC has successfully organised the Indian Handwoven & Hometextiles Sourcing (IHHS) Australia from 16-18 March 2021 on the virtual platform. The event as a Buyer Seller Meet was organised based on approval from O/o The Development Commissioner (Handlooms), Ministry of Textiles, Government of India in line with the revised NHDP guidelines for organising Virtual events

The event was organised with active participation and support from High Commission of India, Canberra, Australia who rendered their valuable support by sharing of importers database, disseminating the information to the potential importers etc.

The Virtual event was organised in a 3D platform with the following features

- User-friendly 3D immersive virtual experience with unlimited product, video uploads
- Sorting by product category
- Presentations
- Personalized meeting schedules
- Live 1:1 Audio & Video chat
- Artificial Intelligence-Driven Matchmaking
- Secured data







Various publicity measures such as Exclusive eventwebsite : [www.ihhsfair.com](http://www.ihhsfair.com), social media advertisements mailers with flyers and promotional video circulated to all Indian missions abroad, Chamber of Commerce, Associations related to Textile Trade, in Australia & New Zealand were undertaken during the event.

HEPC roped in the services of International Agency, for mobilising the visitors and also organising pre-fixed virtual meetings with potential buyers from Australia and New Zealand for the Exhibitors. This arrangement had contributed for the success of the event apart from the registrations received through the online platform.

Exhibitors were imparted training on the virtual platform and were thoroughly explained about the various tools and features of the virtual platform and were guided for them onboarding onto the virtual platform and virtual meeting.

### Inauguration

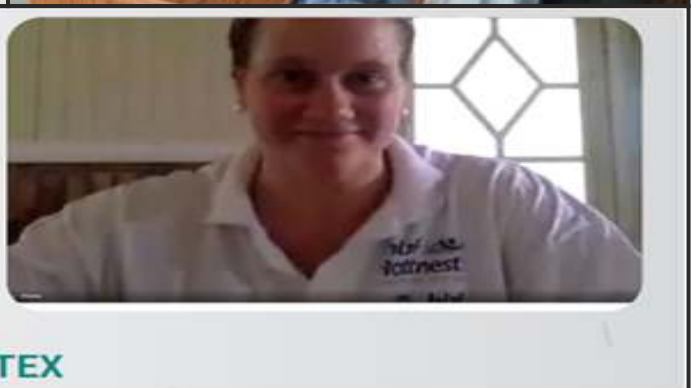
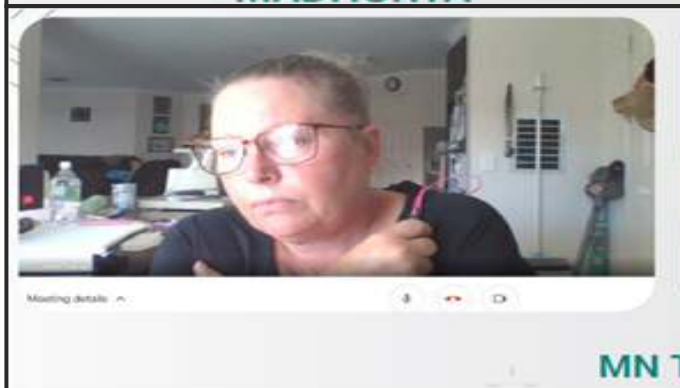
IHHS - Australia was officially inaugurated by Shri T.V. Chandrasekaran, Chairman, HEPC on 16-03-2021 through a video message.

Council has received 73 registrations from the following Countries Australia, Newzealand, Bangladesh etc.,



**PRE- FIXED MEETINGS :**

Overall, 20 exhibitors had 73 registered virtual visitors and over 73 prefixed meetings. Trade enquiries worth Rs.1.08 crore and spot order worth Rs.0.01 crore were generated during the 3 days virtual event. Exhibitors are constantly in touch with the buyers to convert the enquires into orders.





## Report on Indian Handwoven and Hometextiles Sourcing (IHHS) –Japan during 24-26 March 2021 (Virtual Buyer Seller Meet)

Japan is the 11th largest importer of Indian handwoven textiles and the market assumes significance in the present COVID-19 pandemic scenario and the resultant dramatic shift in sourcing strategies of Japanese importers to find an alternate supplier for China.

Like any other pandemics, COVID-19 has caused significant changes on all levels of supply chain and also the marketing activities. All physical events around the world got cancelled including 2 events in Japan in which HEPC used to take part regularly thus depriving the opportunities for establishing market linkage. As a measure to overcome this marketing difficulties, HEPC has initiated activities in providing opportunities for its member exporters through a series of virtual events proposed across different regions around the world to help the exporters to sustain their marketing activities and also tap the new market opportunities.

In this context, HEPC has successfully organised the Indian Handwoven & Hometextiles Sourcing (IHHS), Japan from 24-26 March 2021 on the virtual platform. The event as a Buyer Seller Meet was organised based on the approval from O/o. The Development Commissioner (Handlooms), Ministry of Textiles, Government of India in line with the revised NHDP guidelines for organising Virtual events. The event originally scheduled during 1st week of March 2021 got rescheduled to 24-26 March 2021 in consideration of extended state of emergency in the target country and as advised by our agency in Japan.

The Virtual event was organised in a user-friendly 3D platform with a host of features such as personalized meeting schedules, Live 1:1 Audio & Video chat, Artificial Intelligence-Driven Matchmaking





## EXHIBITION STALLS



Various publicity measures such as Exclusive event website: [www.ihhsfair.com](http://www.ihhsfair.com), social media advertisements mailers with flyers and circulation of promotional video to Indian missions in the target country, Chamber of Commerce, Associations related to Textile Trade and Importers were undertaken .

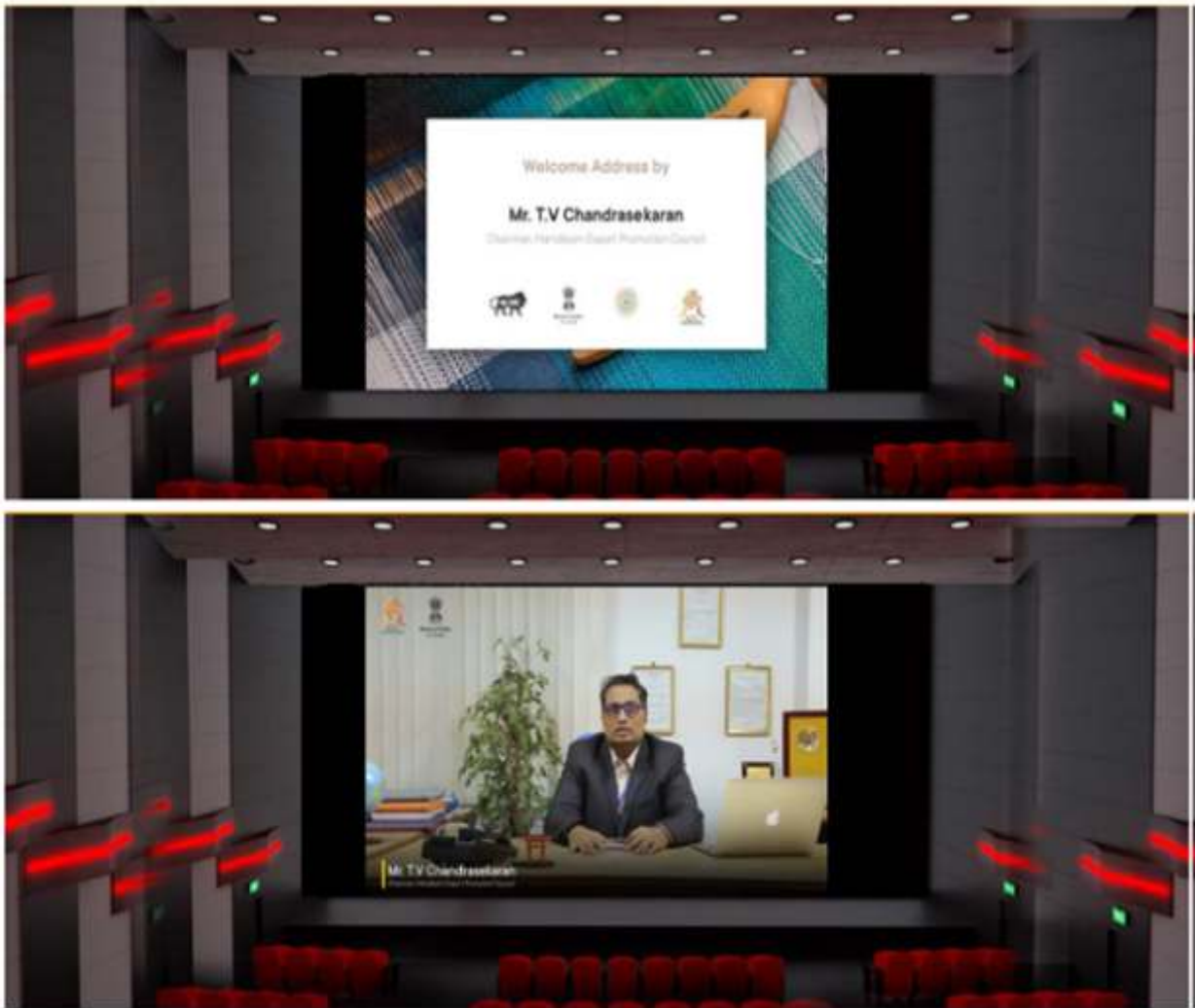
HEPC roped in the services of International Agency for arrangement of pre-fixed virtual meetings with potential buyers from Japan with exhibitors and contributed for the success of the event apart from the registrations received through the online platform.

The participation had exhibitors from across the country including Guwahati, Jaipur, Karur, Panipat, Mumbai, Chennai, Delhi, Alappuzha and Kannur etc.

Exhibitors were imparted training on the virtual platform and were thoroughly explained about the various tools and features of the virtual platform and were guided onboarding onto the virtual platform and virtual meeting.

### **Inauguration:**

IHHS-Japan was inaugurated through a virtual online message from Shri.TV.Chandrasekaran, Chairman, HEPC on 24/03/2021.



**PRE- FIXED MEETINGS :**

The event received 53 visitor registrations from JAPAN

A total of 139 pre fixed virtual meetings with Japanese buyers were organised for the Exhibitors. In order to overcome language barrier, such pre-fixed meetings were also facilitated with language interpreter services organised by the Council for a simultaneous interpretation of interaction between the buyer and seller on online platform.



The event had the participation of **20 exhibitors and 53 registered** visitors and over **139 prefixed meetings**. Though the event had an impressive number of one-on-one virtual meetings, the Japanese customers are known for their trade traits of taking time to finalise the orders, hence, the event could fetch Trade enquiries worth **Rs.0.88 crore and Sport orders Rs.0.005 Crore** only during the 3 days virtual event. However, many participants were very optimistic in securing orders from the buyers in due course of time.

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## MEETING

Executive Director attended the meeting through Virtual conference to discuss and deliberate the impact of pandemic on Handloom Sector and potential measures for revival under the chairmanship of the Development Commissioner (Handlooms) along with Commissioner of Handloom and Textiles from all over India on 12.05.2021.





## Report on Indian Handwoven and Hometextiles Sourcing for Spain, France & Italy markets held from March 29-31, 2021

Handloom Export Promotion Council undertook initiative to facilitate exporters and buyers get connected during these challenging times wherein the pandemic has brought about a paradigm shift in the conduct of international trade. Virtual exhibitions facilitate and provide an opportunity for buyers & exporters to explore business transactions from remote locations. Council organised “Indian Handwoven and Hometextiles Sourcing Virtual Buyer Seller Meet” for Spain, France & Italy markets from March 29-31, 2021. The event was organised with the financial assistance under National Handloom Development Programme of O/o. Development Commissioner (Handlooms), Ministry of Textiles, Government of India. Welcome Address by Shri.T.V.Chandrasekaran, Chairman, HEPC



22 Exporters of Hometextile products like Bed / Bath / Table Linen / Floor coverings / Window / Fabric / Kitchen Linen / walls and Clothing Accessories such as Dress materials, stoles, scarves, shawls garments were participated in the event.



The Virtual platform of the BSM provided the following features for the participants:

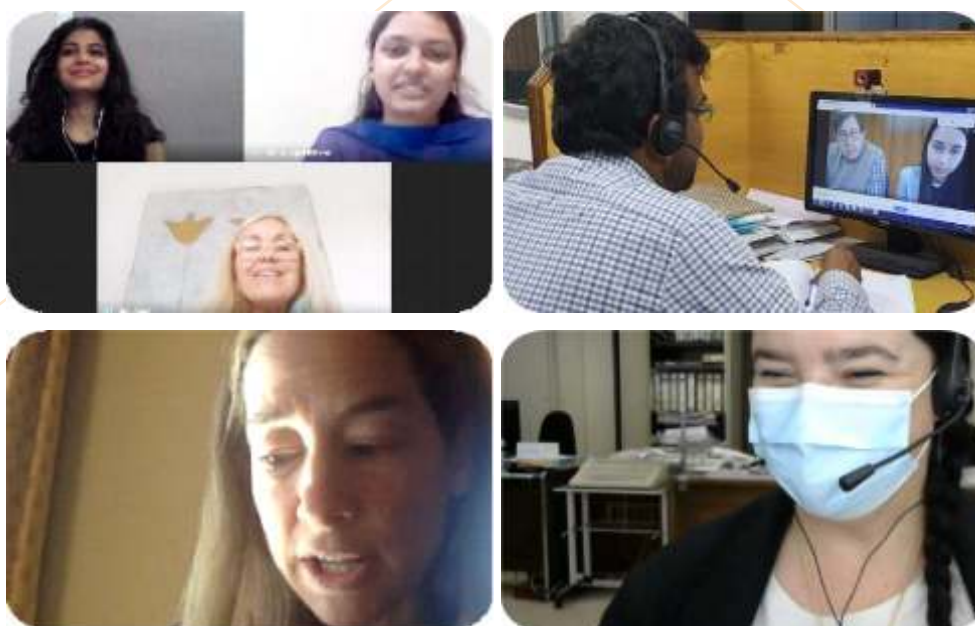
- Individual display for each participant
- Products with images / product catalogues
- Company logo and profile, company brochures & company video
- Company's social media handles
- Listing in Virtual Show Directory
- Schedule meeting with visitors
- Text Chat, Video Chat (between buyer and seller)
- Access to visitors viewed your virtual page and chat
- Technical Assistance/ Guidance for preparation and uploading the company profile, product brochures, video etc

The event was organized with extensive campaigning through various modes in social media.

The Embassy of India in France, Spain and Italy offered good support and cooperation in organizing the event. They shared database of buyers, chambers of commerce and disseminated event information through direct mailing and social media campaigns.

The event attracted totally 43 visitor registrations. Apart from the virtual visit of the buyers to the virtual platform, 34 one-on-one pre fixed video meetings were held between participants and buyers in the virtual platform of the event. Pre-fixed meetings were also provided with language interpreter services for the simultaneous interpretations of the discussion between the buyer and seller. The visitor registration from Italy and France was not significant since they were under strict lockdown during the period. Council has received 43 registrations from the following countries Spain, Italy, and France

## PRE\_FIXED MEETINGS



The virtual event resulted in spot orders of Rs. 0.06 crore and business enquiries of Rs. 0.88 crore according to the feedback received from the participants.

EMAIL: [coimbatore-dgft@nic.in](mailto:coimbatore-dgft@nic.in)

TELEPHONE: 2300947



भारत सरकार/GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
वाणिज्य और उद्योग मंत्रालय/MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY  
संयुक्त महानिदेशक विदेश व्यापार के कार्यालय  
OFFICE OF THE JOINT DIRECTOR GENERAL OF FOREIGN TRADE  
1544, इंडिया लाइफ बिल्डिंग (एनेक्सी), 1 मंज़िल,  
1544, INDIA LIFE BUILDING (ANNEXE), 1 FLOOR,  
त्रिची सड़क , कोयंबटूर - 641 018/TRICHY ROAD, COIMBATORE - 641 018.  
\*\*\*

## TRADE NOTICE NO.1 DATED 29.04.2021

Subject: Mandatory Updation of Importer-Exporter Code(IEC) Details before 01.07.2021

All Members of the Trade Community are advised to please take due cognizance of the following instructions on priority.

2. It is submitted that DGFT has mandated all IEC holders to update their Importer-Exporter Code (IEC) yearly between April to June. The IEC not updated within this prescribed period would be de-activated. DGFT has created the following video with simple and easy to understand steps for updation of IEC. This video is also available in Hindi on the DGFT channel. You may please refer to video at the given link - <https://youtu.be/B5zrx5k8QC4>.

3. Due care has been taken to not increase any specific compliance burden because of this updation exercise. The given process is automatic and no fee is charged for such updations. The online process can be completed within 5-10 minutes if all IEC details are correct or within 30 minutes otherwise. Objective of the given exercise is to prune out inactive IECs and incorrect IEC details. The support of all active IEC holders for this limited updation is kindly solicited.

4. IECs not updated within this prescribed period would be de-activated (post June). Subsequently, the firms that wish to re-activate their IEC(post de-activation for non-compliance), would be required to update the IEC. IEC shall be auto re-activated on updation after June.

5. There are various queries received in regard to the authentication process for linking and updating the IEC. In this regard, you may please note that any of the following authentication options may be used on the DGFT Website:-

i. Aadhaar e-sign - Any of the proprietors/partners/directors can use their Aadhaar given that their name and PAN are correctly mentioned under the IEC.



ii. Individual Digital Signature Certificate(DSC) Token - DSC in the name of the proprietors/partners/directors can be used given that their name and PAN are correctly mentioned under the IEC.

iii. Organization-based DSC - DSC in the name of the organization can use given that the firm name of the IEC matches the firm name on the DSC.

iv. IEC-based DSC - DSC with the IEC number embedded in it would also work for linking and updation of IEC

A Class-II or Class-III DSC used with any other organization such as MCA/Customs/CBDT/GSTN etc., would also work on the DGFT e-Platform.

6. In case you wish to use the Aadhaar e-sign but your name on PAN does not match your Aadhaar, please refer to the following instructions for any suitable corrections - <https://uidai.gov.in/292-faqs/your-aadhaar/pan-aadhaar/1955-my-name-is-different-in-pan-and-aadhaar-it-is-not-allowing-me-to-link-both-what-to-do.html>.

7. In case of any further issues or requirement for any guidance, please reach out the DGFT Helpdesk using the toll-free helpline number or the DGFT Support Email (dgftedi@nic.in) or the Helpdesk ticketing system.

8. You are once again requested to give wide publicity to all your trade members and ensure that their IECs are duly updated within the prescribed time.



(D. Sridhar) 29/4/24.

Joint Director General of Foreign Trade

To

All Trade Bodies/Associations/EPCs.

Government of India  
Ministry of Commerce and Industry  
Department of Commerce  
Directorate General of Foreign Trade

Dated: 26.04.2021  
Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi

## Trade Notice No. 02/2021-2022

To,  
All Exporters/Members of Trade  
All Export Promotion Councils/Commodity Boards

### **Subject : Operationalisation of DGFT 'COVID-19 Helpdesk' for International Trade related Issues'**

The Department of Commerce, Government of India and DGFT have undertaken to monitor the status of export and imports and difficulties being faced by trade stakeholders in view of the surge of COVID-19 cases. DGFT has accordingly operationalised a '**COVID-19 Helpdesk' to support and seek suitable resolutions to issues arising in respect of International Trade.**

2. This 'COVID-19 Helpdesk' would look into issues relating to Department of Commerce/DGFT, Import and Export Licensing Issues, Customs clearance delays and complexities arising thereon, Import/Export documentation issues, Banking matters etc. Helpdesk would also collect and collate trade related issues concerning other Ministries/Departments/Agencies of Central Government and State Governments and will co-ordinate to seek their support and provide possible resolution(s).

**3. EXIM community may submit information on the DGFT website** and submit information relating to their issues on which support is required using the following steps—

- i. Navigate to the DGFT Website (<https://dgft.gov.in>) ☞ Services ☞ DGFT Helpdesk Service
- ii. 'Create New Request' and select the Category as 'Covid-19'
- iii. Select the suitable sub-category, enter the other relevant details and submit

Alternatively, you may send your issues to email id: [dgftedi@nic.in](mailto:dgftedi@nic.in) with the subject header: Covid-19 Helpdesk or call at Toll Free No 1800-111-550

4. The status of resolutions and feedback may be tracked using the Status tracker under the DGFT Helpdesk Services. Email and SMS would also be sent as and when the status of these tickets are updated. Trade Community is requested to kindly make use of the given facilities suitably.

This issues with the approval of the competent authority.



(Md. Moin Afaque)

Deputy Director General of Foreign Trade

To be published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary Part-I, Section (I)

Government of India  
Ministry of Commerce & Industry  
Department of Commerce  
Directorate General of Foreign Trade  
Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi

**Public Notice No. 53 /2015-2020**


**Dated the 9<sup>th</sup> April 2021.**

**Subject: Late cut for MEIS applications for exports made in the Financial Year 2019-20**

In exercise of powers conferred under paragraph 1.03 of the Foreign Trade Policy (2015-2020), the Director General of Foreign Trade hereby inserts in the Handbook of Procedures, 2015-20 at the end of para 3.15 (a) as below:

“Further, MEIS applications for Shipping bills with Let Export date from 01.04.2019 to 31.03.2020 can be submitted without any late cut upto 30.09.2021. However any such application submitted after 30.09.2021, the last date for submitting applications shall be as per para 3.15 (a) (i) above and late cut applied accordingly. “

**Effect of this Public Notice:** A relaxation in the late cut provisions have been provided for Shipping bill (s) of the period 01.04.2019 to 31.03.2020 , so that if such shipping bills are submitted on or before 30.09.2021, for an MEIS claim, no late cut would be applicable.

  
09/04/2021  
(Amit Yadav)

Director General of Foreign Trade  
Ex-Officio Additional Secretary to the Government of India  
Email: dgft@nic.in

[Issued from File no. 01/61/180/288/AM20/PC-3 (Part 1)]



Ministry of Commerce & Industry

**Shri Piyush Goyal launches “DGFT Trade Facilitation App” for Providing instant access to Exporters/Importers any-time any-where;**

**Shri Goyal says Trade facilitation App is READY for Industry 4.0;**

**App is a symbol of India’s Idea of Aatmanirbharta – Making governance easy, economical & accessible  
Calls for developing Governance Apps in various regional languages**

Commerce & Industry Minister Shri Piyush Goyal today launched DGFT ‘Trade Facilitation’ Mobile App during the online video conference, for promoting ease of doing business and providing quick access to information to importers/exporters.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Piyush Goyal said that very often, the simple trade-related process becomes cumbersome, and when they are available with a touch of a button, like with a mobile app, we will ensure the Ease of doing business and the speedy growth in international trade. “We desire to move towards paperless, automated processing systems, simple procedures for trade players, online data exchange between departments & digital payments & acknowledgements.”, he added

Shri Goyal said that in the post-covid world, tech-enabled governance will play a key role in determining India’s growth and competitiveness. He said that a Single-window approach has enabled tech transformation of service delivery in India. It has liberated last-mile beneficiary from location based constraints, and enhanced ease of doing business. He said that Progress in technology helps develop the economy and strengthen Indian firms in the competitive global market.

Lauding the initiative of DGFT, Shri Goyal said that the new Trade Facilitation App is a step in the right direction as it provides easy, omni-channel access to various trade related processes and enquiries at the touch of button. He said that truly imbibing Prime Minister’s vision of Minimum Government, Maximum Governance, DGFT is standing up for businesses as a true leader with issuance of certificates, QR scan process to validate documents. It will reduce transaction cost and time for imports and exports related processes, and usher in transparency. He said that ‘Trade Facilitation Mobile App’ is a symbol of India’s idea of Aatmanirbharta – Making governance easy, economical & accessible, as it symbolises shift in traditional thinking.

Shri Goyal said that Trade facilitation App is **READY for Industry 4.0**, as it provides

- Real-time trade policy updates, notifications, application status alert, tracking help requests
- Explore item-wise Export-Import policy & statistics, Track IEC Portfolio
- AI-based 24\*7 assistance for trade queries
- DGFT services made accessible to all
- Your Trade Dashboard accessible anytime & anywhere

The Minister said that 'Mobile' India creates an international trade opportunities for MSMEs and Foreign players. It will enable creation of a quality conscious and cost-competitive domestic industry. Further, it will significantly contribute to export target of \$1 Trillion by 2025 and GDP target of \$5 Trillion. He said that for advanced App development, more inputs & ideas of all stakeholders should be invited for further refinement which will help in expediting our technological transformation. Shri Goyal also called for engagement with technology and language specialists to develop Governance Apps in various regional languages, which will support the spirit of oneness amongst our citizens.

The new Mobile App of DGFT provides the following features for ease of the exporters and importers –

- Real-time Trade Policy Updates and Event Notifications
- Your Trade Dashboard Anytime Anywhere
- Access all services offered by DGFT in App
- Explore Item-wise Export-Import Policy and Statistics
- 24x7 Virtual Assistance for Trade Related Queries
- Track your IEC Portfolio – IEC, Applications, Authorizations
- Real-time Alerts on status of applications
- Raise and track help requests in real-time
- Share Trade Notices, Public Notices easily

The App will be available on Android and iOS platforms. The App can also be downloaded from the DGFT Website (<https://dgft.gov.in>). It has been developed by the Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), as per the directions of the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT).

Source : PIB-12.04.2021

### **ATTENTION MEMBERS**

#### **Renewal of your Membership with HEPC for the year 2021-22**

Kindly refer to Council's message dated 25th March 2021 & 9th June 2021 seeking membership renewal fee of your firm for the year 2021-22.

**Members who have not yet send their renewal fee are requested to send their membership subscription fee for the year 2021-22 on or before 30th July 2021**

Ministry of Commerce & Industry

## **Government announces various relief measures for taxpayers under GST law in view of severe COVID- 19 pandemic**

In view of the challenges faced by taxpayers in meeting the statutory and regulatory compliances under Goods & Services Tax (GST) law due to the outbreak of the second wave of COVID-19 pandemic, the Government has issued notifications, all dated 1st May, 2021, providing various relief measures for taxpayers. These measures are explained below:

### **1. Reduction in rate of interest:**

Concessional rates of interest in lieu of the normal rate of interest of 18% per annum for delayed tax payments have been prescribed in the following cases.

**a. For registered persons having aggregate turnover above Rs. 5 crore:** A lower rate of interest of 9 per cent for the first 15 days from the due date of payment of tax and 18 per cent thereafter, for the tax payable for tax periods March 2021 and April 2021, payable in April 2021 and May 2021 respectively, has been notified.

**b. For registered persons having aggregate turnover upto Rs. 5 crore:** Nil rate of interest for the first 15 days from the due date of payment of tax, 9 per cent for the next 15 days, and 18 per cent thereafter, for both normal taxpayers and those under QRMP scheme, for the tax payable for the periods March 2021 and April 2021, payable in April 2021 and May 2021 respectively, has been notified.

**c. For registered persons who have opted to pay tax under the Composition scheme:** NIL rate of interest for first 15 days from the due date of payment of tax and 9 per cent for the next 15 days, and 18 per cent thereafter has been notified for the tax payable for the quarter ending 31st March, 2021, payable in April 2021.

### **2. Waiver of late fee**

**a. For registered persons having aggregate turnover above Rs. 5 crore:** Late fee waived for 15 days in respect of returns in **FORM GSTR-3B** furnished beyond the due date for tax periods March, 2021 and April, 2021, due in the April 2021 and May 2021 respectively;

**b. For registered persons having aggregate turnover upto Rs. 5 crore:** Late fee waived for 30 days in respect of the returns in **FORM GSTR-3B** furnished beyond the due date for tax periods March, 2021 and April, 2021 (for taxpayers filing monthly returns) due in April 2021 and May 2021 respectively / and for period Jan-March, 2021 (for taxpayers filing quarterly returns under QRMP scheme) due in April 2021.



**3. Extension of due date of filing GSTR-1, IFF, GSTR-4 and ITC-04**

a. Due date of filing **FORM GSTR-1** and **IFF** for the month of April (due in May) has been extended by 15 days.

b. . Due date of filing **FORM GSTR-4** for FY 2020-21 has been extended from 30th April, 2021 to 31st May, 2021.

c. Due date of furnishing **FORM ITC-04** for Jan-March, 2021 quarter has been extended from 25th April, 2021 to 31st May, 2021.

**4. Certain amendments in CGST Rules:**

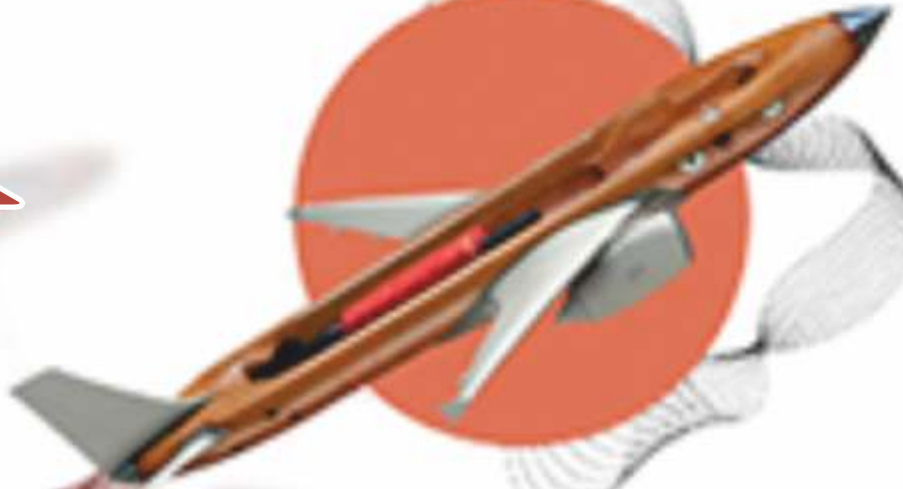
a. Relaxation in availment of ITC: Rule 36(4) i.e. 105% cap on availment of ITC in FORM GSTR-3B to be applicable on cumulative basis for period April and May 2021, to be applied in the return for tax period May 2021. Otherwise, rule 36(4) is applicable for each tax period.

b. The filing of GSTR-3B and GSTR-1/ IFF by companies using electronic verification code has already been enabled for the period from the 27.04.2021 to 31.05.2021.

**5. Extension in statutory time limits under section 168A of the CGST Act:** Time limit for completion of various actions, by any authority or by any person, under the GST Act, which falls during the period from **15th April, 2021 to 30th May, 2021**, has been extended upto **31st May, 2021**, subject to some exceptions as specified in the notification.

Source : PIB-02.05.2021





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