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Minister MSME and Chairman KVIC meet Khadi Institution to discuss GST on KHADI

A Monthly Journal of KVIC on Rural Industrialisation KHADI AND VILLAGE INDUSTRIES COMMISSION, MUMBAI



A Monthly Journal of KVIC on Rural Industrialisation

Vol.61 No.9 Mumbai August-2017

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KHADI LIKELY TO GET EXEMPTION FROM GST BRACKET

NEW DELHI: Union Minister for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Kalraj Mishra, on 14th July2017 hoped to get Khadi products out of the newly-implemented Good and Service Taxes (GST) bracket in the coming days. As per the new GST norms, 5 to 12 percent GST had been imposed on different Khadi and Village Industries products.

While addressing the meeting of Khadi Institutions of the country here at India Habitat Centre , Mr Mishra said that for the larger interest of weavers and spinners

associated to Khadi industries, the GST panel had started analysing the pros and cons of GST exemption, to benefit the workers, weavers and spinners – associated with Khadi. "Even the Finance Minister had assured me to give a GST exemption for the financial development of otherwise economically backward lot of weavers and spinners," he said.

Shri Mishra also laid stress upon organising exhibitions at all the Embassies and High Commission, to make Khadi a global brand. He also





expressed concern over the idle properties including land and buildings at different places.

Expressing concern over decreasing numbers of artisans in the Khadi sector, Minister of State for MSME Giriraj Singh said that all-round development of Khadi sector would remain a mirage, without providing a sustainable economic growth to the artisans. "No one knows the reason that how the number of artisans came down from 11 lakh in 1950 to nearly 2 lakh at present. We must not forget that they are the roots of the tree named Khadi. If we'll permit the roots to wither away, the tree will automatically fell down," he said, adding, "If Arvind, Mafatlal or Raymond use the USP of Khadi and make mammoth profit, we must permit them to plunder the premiums of our artisans. The ray of hope and sign of happiness on faces of artisans should be our priorities."

Shri Singh also laid stress upon the need of more lucrative incentives in Khadi sector – to pave way for the new entrants.

On the other hand, hoping GST exemption for Khadi,



Rolling out of GST presents great opportunities



New Delhi 13th July: Ministry of MSME along with FICCI organized National Workshop on GST and Digital MSME here today. Speaking on the occasion Shri Kalraj Mishra, Union Minister for MSME said that Ministry of MSME is giving special focus to the development of MSMEs all over the country and to effectively implement different Schemes and Programmes. It has also directed the banks to accelerate the pace of solving the loan related problems of the entrepreneurs.

He also informed the gathering that by rolling out GST, cascading of taxes will be overcome and this will significantly reduce the tax burden. Furthermore, this will pave the way for a formal economy hence will give a fillip to growth and employment generation. Therefore, MSMEs should see this as an opportunity rather than a challenge.

Minister also informed that the Ministry has taken up various efforts to popularize GST. Under office of Development Commissioner (MSME), GST cells have been established in Headquarter office, all MSME-DIs and Tool Rooms. NSIC has also set up a Facilitation Cell with a toll free number – 1800-111-955. Till now more than 12000 entrepreneurs have been trained for GST by various MSME field offices and training institutes.

He reiterated that that he himself has given information on GST at Guwahati and Agartala in North East. Minister has directed all officials to use social media i.e. Facebook and Twitter to provide information, to publish notification and to answer questions related to GST. Furthermore, more than 200 Additional Secretary/Joint Secretary level officers have been told to monitor the implementation of GST at district level. In this effort two Joint Secretaries of M/o MSME are involved. Shri Mishra informed that a special issue of Laghu Udyog Samachar has been published by his Ministry focusing on GST. Furthermore, Secretary (MSME) has been included in the reviewing committee the Cabinet Secretary level. Central MSME Minister informed that along with GST, M/o MSME has taken effort to simplify the guidelines for implementation



of its various schemes. E-initiatives have been taken in simplification of guidelines wherein PMEGP has been made online. Online Grievance Redressal and Monitoring Systems(CPGRAMS and IGMS) have been established. E-office and Mobile friendly website have been initiated and 'My-MSME' Mobile App, MSME-Data Bank Portal and Digital-MSME portal have been started.

He informed that Digital MSME Scheme has been launched to sensitize and encourage MSMEs towards new approach i.e., Cloud computing for ICT adoption in their production and business processes with a view to improve their competitiveness in National and International Market.

Minister of State Shri Giriraj Singh informed the gathering that by rolling out GST, the Government has opened new opportunities for the hitherto unorganized rural entrepreneurs predominantly in the micro and small segment.

Minister of State Shri Haribhai Parthibhai mentioned that a huge parallel economy which has been existing till now will subsequently come in the formal fold, with the emergence of GST. He appealed to entrepreneurs to choose their vendors judiciously so as to take benefit of the input tax credit being offered by the new system.

Shri Arun Kumar Panda, Secretary (MSME) welcomed all participants and put light on the various possible problems which could be faced by the MSMEs in the new GST regime. He emphasized upon the utility of ICT Schemes like Digital MSME which could help in handholding the MSME entrepreneurs. The representative of CBEC was present in the occasion and he addressed to the common queries put forward by MSME entrepreneurs.

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Minister of State for MSME Haribhai P Choudhary said that the matter had been brought in the cognisance of panel made to it and very soon it would be sorted out. He also appreciated KVIC Chairman Vinai K Saxena's novel initiative to introduce Khadi in Gujarat schools.

Earlier, maintaining KVIC's commitment for the betterment of people associated with Khadi products, Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) Chairman Vinai Kumar Saxena, in his introductory speech, said that the time has come to work for the enhancement of their wages. "Lower wages with respect to other organisations, not only blow down the morale of our adroit workers, rather it also has stopped paving ways for the new generation of entrepreneurs in this particular segment," he said.

Expressing concern over the non-profitable and dormant assets of Khadi institutions at different important places in the country, the KVIC chairman said that an amicable plan was being chalked out to make the optimum uses of those assets. "Always considered a soft target for land-sharks and antisocial elements, we need to either revamp or dispose off these assets - to deposit our long-pending liabilities as loans from different institutions," he said.

Welcoming the textile giants, interested in designing and selling Khadi clothes, Mr Saxena cautioned the Khadi Institutions to understand their motives before heading for a deal with them. "First, they must ensure maximum benefits to our artisans and then they must have an equal eye for them right from Kashmir to Kanyakumari," he added.

Earlier, Union Minister of MSME Mr Kalraj Mishra along with his Ministers of States Mr Giriraj Singh and Mr Haribhai P Choudhary kicked off the meeting with kindling the lamp and paying flowery tribute to Mahatma Gandhi, followed by an open session of Khadi Institutions' representatives.



TEXTILE INDIA 2017

KVIC inks MoU with NIFT to improve design development, training

New Delhi/Ahmedabad: To improve design development and training at different Khadi institutions, the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) on Saturday in a Expo 'Textile India 2017' at Gandhinagar, in presence of Union Textiles Minister Smt Smriti Irani and KVIC Chairman Mr Vinai Kumar Saxena.

Underlining the salient features of this MoU, Mr Saxena said that while NIFT would work on design development and training with Khadi institutions – identified by KVIC and enable to bring in quality control as well as standardization and design inputs in production of Khadi fabric and





readymades, KVIC would take NIFT's help in product development, processes. "KVIC will coordinate and provide support to NIFT by identifying the suitable Khadi institutions – where the NIFT projects may take place and also engage NIFT students on summer internship/projects basis, for which stipends will be paid to them. On the other hand, NIFT will manage the projects and co-ordinate activities for cost in accordance with the MoU," he said.

The MoU was signed by KVIC's Dy CEO Mr K S Rao and NIFT Director General Ms Sarada Murleedharan in the august presence of Smt. Smriti Irani, Union Textile Minister, shri Ajay Tamta, MoS, Textille and Shri Vinai Kumar Saxena. The efforts will work in the direction of creating grass-root technical support system for intelligence



In Textile India 2017 Chairman KVIC inaugurates KVIC stall



Hon'ble Chairman KVIC Shri Vinai Kumar Saxena inaugurated KVIC stall during textile india 2017 on 30 june 2017. In KVIC stall K.G Bhava, Delhi, Sarvodaya Sshram Etah, Khadi Gramodyog Sangh Rajkot; Saghan Kshetra Yojna, Vanda; Fulkari hendicraft, patiyala (punjab), Vani Kh. Gr. Sangh, Surendranagar, Moral fiber etc. display there best khadi product and Khadi Gramodyog Prayog Samiti, Ahmedabad displayed live Solar Charkha, Peti Charkha,. Visitors appreciated khadi product. During inauguration Shri S.G.Hedaoo, director, shri ajay doshi, MD, Khadi Gramodyog sangh, Rajkot, representatives of institutions and KVIC staff were present on the occasion.



Chairman, KVIC, Shri Vinai Kumar Saxena visited Raymond stall during Textile India 2017 at Gandhinagar on 30th June, 2017. In photo Shri Pramod Pradhan from Raymond; Shri S.G.Hedaoo, State Director, KVIC; Shri Ajay Doshi , Managing Director; Khadi Gramodyog Sangh Rajkot also seen.



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development and market accessibility for KVIC as well as hand holding of artisans wherever required.

"As per this MoU – effective for at least three years, the NIFT will also provide its students for summer internship and projects, to work in Khadi sales outlets as well as Khadi institutions for visual merchandising, design development and planning. NIFT will also assist in design inputs and product development at different SFURTI clusters," the KVIC Chairman further said, adding, "It will also develop and build a directory of Khadi designs for KVIC's purpose. The nodal officers for this project convergence will be the KVIC's Director (Marketing) and Directors of different NIFT Campuses."

A committee of high officials, including the Director General of NIFT and CEO of KVIC, would



Chariman KVIC met Shri Haj Dodung, Joint Director, Govt of Arunachal Pradesh during Textile India 2017 . Discussed on Khadi work development in Arunachal Pradesh.



monitor and co-ordinate this convergence. In the recent past, KVIC has signed few agreements with corporate giants for supplying Khadi fabric and this MoU with NIFT attaches quite significance due to opening of new horizon for Khadi institutions

☆☆☆

During Textile India 2017 Shri Vinai Kumar Saxena, Chariman KVIC had interaction on role of women in Khadi work development with Smt. Rekha Maan and Smt. Yeole (speakers of women empowerment round table discussion)





Textile major Arvind to buy 1 million meters Denim Khadi from KVIC



Taking serious notes of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's call on Mann ki Baat, in which he stressed upon the importance of sustainable Khadi and his appeal to countrymen for buying Khadi and supporting rural artisans, the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), in yet another initiative to involve corporates and PSUs to provide largest spectrum for Khadi, has signed an agreement with Arvind mills Limited, a well-known name in denim business – to trade khadi denim products around the world.

Agreement between KVIC and Arvind mills was signed by Arvind Limited's Executive Director Mr Puneet Lalbhai and KVIC Deputy CEO K S Rao, in presence of KVIC Chairman Mr Vinai Kumar Saxena on Friday at Ahmedabad. After signing the agreement, Mr Lalbhai said that company's plan is to purchase approximately one million metres of Khadi

Denim every year. On the other hand, expressing happiness over this agreement, KVIC Chairman said, "This deal will not only enhance the Khadi's sale annually by Rs 40 crore, it will also increase the economic stability of Khadi artisans across India, by providing them Rs 2 crore as extra incentives."

Mr. Saxena further informed that this KVIC-Arvind mill tie-up will generate an additional 7.5 lakh human days – for the valued artisans of Khadi. "Such a unique value chain will not only facilitate sustainable fashion, but also empowers families





across Indian villages providing them access to a better way of life. As our Prime Minister Sri Narendra Modiji has recently described Khadi as the most comprehensive form of sustainability, we are committed to make the hand-spun, hand-woven and hand-dyed signature fabric of India to compete with other noted textile global giants," he said, adding "Khadi is a mission and we are committed to bring Khadi to maintain its legacy- as visualized by Mahatma Gandhiji. Since KVIC has taken several marketing initiatives in the recent past, to involve corporates and PSUs in developing global market for Khadi and provide sustainable employment to its artisans, we want to make Khadi for all – particularly for fashion-savvy youths and





teenagers. The KVIC-Arvind Limited initiative – for launching Denim Khadi is a step to make the journey of the signature fabric eternal."

It may be noted that in the recent past, the KVIC has got some major bulk orders from other trusted textile giants also. While Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail Limited (ABFRL) had tied up with KVIC to develop a product line 'Khadi Peter England', the other textile and apparel major Raymond has recently ordered two lakh meters of Khadi fabric for repositioning Khadi as a fabric of choice.

Chairman KVIC inaugurated workshop on GST for Khadi institutions at Hyderabad. One Yarn One Nation-Khadi, one Nation one Tax -GST, says Chairman KVIC.





KVIC celebrates the first anniversary of the World's Largest Wooden Charkha

New Delhi: Amid much fervour and gaiety, the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) celebrated the first anniversary of the world's largest wooden charkha by decorating it by flowers, banners and posters.

This Charkha, made under the aegis of KVIC, was unveiled by BJP president Shri Amit Shah, in presence of Union Minister of MSME Shri Kalraj Mishra and Ministers of State for MSME Shri Giriraj Singh

and KVIC Chairman Shri Vinay Kumar Saxena in a grand function on July 5 last year at Terminal 3 of Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA).

The four-tonne charkha is made of highquality Burma teak wood and is estimated to last for over 50 years. It is 9 feet wide, 17 feet tall and 30 feet long. The order to make the spinning wheel was given to Paryog Samiti, a KVIC unit, near Sabarmati Ashram, where 42 carpenters made it in 55 days.

Enthused by the massive response from the





commuters - who overwhelmingly hailed India's quest to foster an egalitarian society as demonstrated by the Father of our Nation Mahatma Gandhi throughout the year, KVIC chairman Vinai Kumar Saxena- who initiated to install the world's largest charkha at the international airport on the wishes of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to showcase India's symbol of non-violence to the world through the airport where around 2,50,000 people/tourists visit every day – said, "As per a random survey made by KVIC in initial three months, on average more than 3,250 visitors, including the foreign travellers, had taken 'Selfie with Charkha' per day. On the basis of this figure, more than 12 lakh commuters took the selfies in last one year. And, since most of them were travelling to different foreign countries, they must have shared out about their pictures with this symbol of non-violence and signature fabric Khadi across the globe."

Shri Saxena further said that as the idea behind displaying the world's biggest spinning wheel



at the country's busiest airport is to highlight was to promote India's rich cultural heritage through a symbol of Swadeshi, swablamban (selfsufficiency) a n d *sahbhagita*(interdependence), the KVIC staff wholeheartedly performed the care and maintenance of the Charkha round the clock. "Like the memorial to unknown soldiers, is memorial to the unknown rural masses, who heard the call of the father of the nation and took to the demonstrated ways of self-reliance and dignity of labour," he added.



Minister MSME Shri Kalraj Mishra inaugurated Solar Charkha plant at Village Pyasi, Deoria on 11th July 2017.

Chairman, Haryana KVIB visited S.O. Ambala



Smt. Gargi Kakkar, Chairman, Haryana Khadi and Village Industries Board Panchkula, visited State Office, Khadi And Village Industries Commission, Ambala Cantt on 6th July, 2017 where.

Smt. Gargi Kakkar, Chairman, Haryana Khadi and Village Industries Board Panchkula, visited State Office, Khadi And Village Industries Commission, Ambala Cantt on 6th July, 2017 where.

In her discussion with officials of State Office Smt. Kakkar said that to promote khadi activities across the country Prime Minister himself is a Khadi ambassador and number of times in his radio talk " Mann ki Baat he has appealed to buy and adopt Khadi fabric ". In the present scenario there is a positive scenario for Khadi in the country and every khadi institution must enhance this opportunity.

Later, she also went to Vani Creation Terracotta unit setup under PMEGP Programme and appreciated the products of terracotta produced by women entrepreneur.she also visited Khadi aur Gramodyog Sangh, (Narad) at Kurukshetra and inspected CFC, Khadi Bhandar and spinning and weaving centre setup under KRDP scheme run by KVIC where she interacted to artisans working in

spinning and weaving centre.

She also planted a plant at the office premises. Shri V.K. Nagar, State Director, KVIC, Ambala Cantt. and secretary of the institution Shri Satpal Saini were also present on this occasion.





KVIC Gears up to tap GeM Market



To finalize rates for the RC items to be provided to DGS&D for GeM portal a meeting with Khadi Institutions was held at Central Office Mumbai on 24th July 2017. On this occasion agenda items including order/supply position and issues relating to payments, bottlenecks with Railways, DSOs etc. was reviewed.

Chairman, KVIC Shri Vinai Kumar Saxena in his presidential address remarks informed that KVIC is making all out efforts to develop market for Khadi & Village Industry products. He also referred to the

discussions he had with DGS&D wherein it was decided that for Khadi items only KVIC will be permitted to upload items on GeM portal and private agencies will not be permitted for the same.

He also informed that bulk orders are expected from Govt. hospitals in line with the procurement policy guidelines issued by the Ministry of Health reserving 45 items required for hospitals for Khadi. He urged Chairman, KVIC cautioned Khadi institutions who are engaged in producing spurious Khadi and informed that strict action will be taken against such institutions. He suggested that institutions should sit and work out realistic costing and also provide bulk discounts to DGS&D for the items being uploaded in the GeM portal.

ensure genuineness of Khadi and also provide living wages to the artisans. He gave example of a few Gujarat institutions who are providing Rs. 10/- per hank to the Khadi spinners and some institutions who

> are carrying out Khadi production without asking for MDA grant. He exhorted the institutions to provide better wages to the spinners involving the Govt. supplies.

> While discussing the agenda issues of pricing it was a l s o d i s c u s s e d t h a t promotional efforts have to be taken up for developing the Govt. supply and bulk market and since the funds with KVIC are limited, it was proposed to

the Khadi institutions to improve the quality and

make a provision in the trade margins for 5% market



promotion expenditure which will be retained with Directorate of Marketing, KVIC and used for promotional expenditure to develop the market for bulk supplies.

Chairman informed that for the bulk supplies to Raymond and other Corporates 5% incentive is being provided to the Khadi artisans and in a similar way incentive should be provided to the artisans out of trade margins of Govt. supply.

Institutions represented that MDA is provided by Govt. on civil supplies but not on Govt. supplies. Some spinners produce both civil and Govt. supply varieties. Further in the same institution some spinners are getting MDA incentive as they are producing civil varieties and other spinners producing Govt. supply varieties are not eligible for MDA variety. This creates discontent among the artisans.

It was discussed that the focus of all Khadi activities is the Khadi artisans and since Ministry of MSME has not permitted MDA on Govt. supplies, the MDA incentive for artisans will be paid out of trade margins of the institutions for Govt. supply for which necessary provision should be made in the pricing. During the meeting institutions said that they will provide Rs. 10/- per hank to their Khadi spinners w.e.f. 01.08.2017 and MDA for civil varieties will be restricted upto Rs. 5.5 per hank.

Earlier Shri K.S. Rao Dy. CEO (Marketing) welcomed Chairman, KVIC, officials and Khadi institutions for the Govt. Supply review meeting and informed that the main purpose of the meeting was to finalize rates for the RC items to be provided to DGS&D for GeM portal. He also informed about other agenda items including order/supply position and issues relating to payments, bottlenecks with Railways, DSOs etc.

On this occasion Dy. CEO (Khadi) Shri D.S.Dhanpal requested the institutions to link artisan wages with Bank account and also link to Aadhar Card and mobile phone for transparency.

Director (IT) Shri M. Rajan Babu informed that around 65% of the institutions have entered their data in the portal of KVIC and given details of their







Parliamentary Committee for Official Language visited S.O KVIC, Ambala



Parliamentary Committee for Official Language visited State Office KVIC, Ambala on 16th June,

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artisans with Aadhar link, further those who have not done so should immediately do it so that proper monitoring and transparency can be achieved in Khadi sector.

Chairman KVIC suggested that various measures for cost reduction may also be explored by the Khadi institutions and one example could be to use sliver waste to make items like Duster etc. for Govt. supplies.

Discussions were held on the agenda for identifying additional products of Khadi for Govt. supply and after deliberations, items like Bandage clothm, Khes, Curtain cloth, Durries, Napkins were suggested. It was proposed to get details of these items and prices and offer to GeM portal in a phased manner.

Shri S. N. Shukla, Dy. CEO (NZ) informed that he had a meeting with Member, Railway Board at Delhi who informed that the poly bedsheets were turning yellow on washing and this problem is to be rectified. Dy. Director I/c (CCC) informed that washing with peroxide bleach gives a pale yellow 2017 under the Chairmanship of Shri Satya Narayan Jatiya along with Shri Hukum Dev Narayan Yadav, Shri Shadilal Batra, Shri Chintamani Malviya, Smt. Rajni Patil, Hon'ble Members of Parliament.

Shri B.H Anil Kumar, Jt. Secretary, MSME, Shri Satyapal, Jt. CEO, KVIC; Shri V.K.Nagar, Director S.O. KVIC, Ambala; Shri K.P.Singh, Astt. Director, MSME and Shri Shri K.P.Singh, Astt. Director, Official Language, KVIC were present on this occasion.

colour and this can be rectified during the washing process. It was decided that a letter may be issued from the desk of Chairman to Railway Board Member, Shri Gupta on the issues clarifying the position.

A review of orders versus supplies affected by the institutions was also taken and it was observed that all the orders have been fully executed. Issues of 2 percentage pending payments and issue relating to LD and deduction of payments by the Railways were raised by the institutions.

During the meeting institutions said that they will provide Rs. 10/- per hank to their Khadi spinners w.e.f. 01.08.2017 and MDA for civil varieties will be restricted upto Rs. 5.5 per hank. MDA incentive on Govt. supplies will be paid to the artisans out of the trade margins of the institutions for Govt. supply and will be built in the pricing. The institution also agreed to explore possibility of taking up production of Khadi denim for which it was decided that training by Arvind Limited will be organized.

Meeting concluded with the vote of thanks to the Chair.



Rise in Kashmir 2017

Srinagar, 3 July, 2017: Shri Radha Mohan Singh, Union Minister of Agriculture Research and Farmers welfare today inaugurated four day mega exhibition at SKICC, Srinagar, with an objective of promoting Agriculture Research, Science, Technology, Research, Development, Information Technology, Communication, Biotechnology, Industrial Development, Innovation, Crafts, Culture and Government Schemes and programmes. Dr. Heena Bhat, KVIC Member, NZ was also present during the inauguration.

While speaking on the occasion, Shri Singh said the event was designed for mass welfare, enlighten the future makers and upliftment of the unprivileged.

"Rise in Kashmir 2017" was a platform for science and technology lovers, Farmers, Traders, industrialists and students to interact with policy makers, scientists and researchers to give a glimpse of experiments, researches in the various fields.

The union minister was accompanied by Shamsher Singh Manhas MP Rajya Sabha. "The exhibition aims to transfer the technological knowhow and innovation to the visitors which is the need of the hour," Manhas said.

ISRO (Indian Space Research Organization), ICAR (Indian Council of Agriculture Research), Ministry of Railways, Ministry of AYUSH, ICMR (Indian Council Of Medical Research), CSIR (Council





of Scientific and Industrial Research),ICAR(Indian Council of Agriculture Research) and many more institutions participated in the event.

"Our vision is to create an interactive platform and multiply the messages for development of the society. We intend to uplift the section from the grassroots" says Anand Pal President Sansa Foundation, adding, "not only we are spreading science amongst the masses but Tourism, Railways, Agriculture, Medical, Skill Development, Handloom and Handicrafts," he said.

We at Sansa Foundation are also promoting knowledge, ethnic supremacy and mesmerizing tourist spots which will help in economically upliftment of the country, he added.

To encourage the young minds, a pavilion has been set up, where students from various schools have displayed their innovative models and ideas.

KVIC Employee bags award

Anil Kumar Sharma bagged best award in live



demonstration of e-portal PMEGP and exhibit of Khadi products at 'Rise in Kashmir - 2017' exhibition at SKICC organised from 3rd July in Srinagar.



Meeting with 400 Khadi Artisans in Srinagar

Artisans must be paid more: Dr. Hina Shafi Bhatt

Dr.Hina Shafi Bhat, Member (N.Z.), KVIC, in her meeting with institutions said that the Artisans working in different areas of the Kashmir Valley must be paid more as they are facing lot of problems as per the present wages system. Dr. Hina held a meeting with 400 Khadi Artisans in Srinagar and listened to their problems on 14th july. Assistant Director I/c, KVIC and Secretaries of Various Khadi Institutions were also present.

On the onset of the meeting various Artisans raised problems before Dr. Hina. One of the Artisan Namely Noor Mohammad said that since last two years they are not paid any wages due to which they are facing many problems. On this, Dr. Hina on spot issued instructions to the concerned for solving the problems of Artisans at the earliest.

Artisans say they cannot sustain for long on the prevailing low wages in the Industry and hence, youngsters are not willing to learn the art. The profit has gone down over the years. Very few young people are coming forward to learn it.

On being asked why, he says, "The artisans is paid very less. The final product, sold in glamorous showrooms, is expensive but the artisan at the base of



the chain earns very little.

The artisans complain that after working from 8.00 am to late night, all they earn is very less. Eyesight deteriorates soon because of constantly focusing on the miniature drawings. And in comparison to the hard work, you earn nothing.

Addressing the Artisans, Dr. Hina said that for the larger interest of weavers and spinners and to benefit the workers, weavers and spinners – associated with Khadi I will take the matter with the highest level so that the problems of the Artisans will be solved soon.

She said that we are providing lot of facilities to artisans, including setting up workshops for them at their native villages, besides coming up with other





schemes such as providing them with Rs.1,200 per month for their child's education and Rs.25.00 Lakhs loan facility. We are also making sure that there are no middlemen involved in the payment procedure of artisans.

The duo said this support is encouraging youngsters to take up the art as a profession. "The kids come up with new designs and technology. Which also helps propel Khadi in the global market," She said.

It is worth to mention here that the Khadi Industry generated employment for about 2,025 artisans in FY 2016-17. While the Village Industry generated 4.08 lakhs jobs." adding, "We very keen on generating employment and hence we are distributing charkhas and looms, and also replacing old charkhas".

Last year, Khadi and Village Industries" turnover was Rs.52,000 crore, of which Khadi contributed Rs.2,007 Crore. This year Khadi revenues are expected to grow by 35% to touch Rs.2,700 Crore.

Over the last one month, KVIC has announced association with textile giants Raymond and Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail that will see the launch of Khadi Products under their respective brand names.

M.P. Rajya Sabha visited PMEGP unit at Jammu



Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha, Shri Shamsher Singh Manhas visited Anita Devi Readymade Garments, PMEGP unit at ward 6, Bishnah, Jammu where all types of dresses for forceslike army,CRPF, ITBP ,SSB ETC. are stitched. More than 25 persons are employed in the unit.

EDP training for PMEGP beneficiaries of Kargil District

PMTC, KVIC Pampore in association with DIC and KVIB conducted 06 and 10 days EDP training for PMEGP beneficiaries of Kargil District. As there is no RSETI and RUDSTI in Kargil, KVIC took the initiative and for the first time conducted training programme which started from





10.July 2017. Imran Majeed, representative of KVIC was also present during the programme. Experts from various departments and banks delivered lectures on EDP and highlighted its importance for the beneficiaries. The training programme concluded on 20th.july 2017.



Chairman KVIC inaugurated Workshed under KRDP

Shri Vinai Kumar Saxena, Chairman KVIC inaugurated a Workshed under KRDP scheme of Jaihind Khadi Gramodyog Sangh, Palanpur Dist. Banaskantha Gujarat on 2-7-2017. Shri Sanjay Hedaoo State Directo, KVIC Ahmedabad, Shri N. G. Patalia, Secretary Jaihind Khadi Gramodyog Sangh, Palanpur in addition to spinners and weavers were also present here today.

On the occasion Shri Saxena said that it is very imperative and our duty to strengthen spinners and weavers of this sector. But Institutions should produce quality Khadi. Schemes like KRDP are

proving to be very helpful for institutions. In addition to ONGC, Raymond, Peter England and



Arvind many other Giants from market are ready to associate with Khadi in future, he added.

Khadi Adopted in Educational Institutions



To promote sense of nationalism, ICSI, adopts Indian Attire & Khadi

Angavastram at its Convocation 2017 ceremony for Northern Region.





W DELHI | SUNDAY | 25 JUNE-1 JULY 2017

THE KHADI WAY OF LIFE

Spinning the Wheels of Self-Reliance

Tihar Jail women inmates get a new lease of life as khadi spinners at Charkha Museum in Connaught Place

By LAKSHI BHATIA

New Delhi: Her smile is a lie that she has perfected in the last 14 years. Nobody can tell that behind Sonam Sharma's plastered gesture, is a painful story of defeat. After serving six years in Tihar Jail, she was released six months back. The ostensible murder case that she was charged for has left a permanent scar on her respect. In a flash she lost her home, husband, children and the purpose of life. But things have begun to change in the past 10 days. Of all the things she lost, one thing is trailing back-her dignity that her new job at the Charkha Museum complex has given her. She makes 8-10 bunches of kha di hank tags that are given to visitors along with the ticket priced ₹20. As part of the initia-tive spearheaded by Khadi and Village Industries Commission

My husband

manipulated facts and

doesn't realise he has

given me a better life."

Sonam Sharma, whose term

sent me to jail. He

ended six months ago



na. Sharma and her fellow inmates come to Ganga Ben Kutir in the museum complex at Connaught Place daily to spin deftly

the only thing she looks forward to. Old memories of her one-

from 11 am to 7 pm. Ever since her release, this is

and-a-half-year old daughter being snatched away from her shaking hands, still send chills

edly murdered a relative on her husband's side. "I never did it, she says as tears begin to roll down her freckled face, but she jolts back to reality quickly. "My husband manipulated facts and sent me to jail. He doesn't realise he's given me a better life." Like all others, she is paid ₹200 per day.

Kamla Rani, 55, who was charged for her tenant's murder, is the first one to come in everyday and the last one to leave. She will work till her body doesn't give way, she has promised herself. She's not just earning money; but is acquiring the confidence to make decisions in the family.

Ganga Ben Kutir, where these women work, is inspired by Ganga Ben, a women who holds historic significance. When Mahatma Gandhi returned from South Africa, he discovered the

Spinning has given me the confidence to be independent."

SHEKHARYADA

Kamla Rani, Tihar jali inmate

the wheel. Then, Ganga Ben of Gaekwad in the princely state of Baroda, presented him with a charkha and explained the method of spinning it in 1919. 'It was she who introduced Gandhi to the charkha and years later, he made it a symbol of national importance," Saxena. In fact, the charkha found significance in the agenda of the Indian National Congress party. The first flag of 1921 as suggested by Gandhi, had the traditional wheel. It began to be

Ganga Ben introduced Mahatma

Gandhi to charkha and later, he m

it a national symbol. By spinning

charkhas, women are earning and supporting their families."

hoisted by party members by 1923. In 1947 it was replaced with the Ashoka Chakra. Today the museum has a number of vintage charkhas, from 60 year to 102 years, besides the 25 feet long and 12 feet tall stainless steel installation charkha perched above Palika market.

On May 21, when the complex was inaugurated, 10 of the 40 vomen inmates trained in spinning came for the charkha demonstration to showcase their skillfulness. "When a woman is made competent, she earns and supports her family," says Saxena. That's exactly what Rekha Kumari, sitting across, seems to be doing. After she was accused for her husband's murder, she felt like it was end of world for her, but after fighting 14 years, she was released. She is now married to a fellow inmate and lives in a respectable family communion. Her close friend, a 65-year-old women inmate, hears everybody tell their stories but keeps silent. She is out on a one month-long parole. "At this age, all I want are my children," she says quivering. The women had allegedly burnt her 90-year-old tenant to death, and is serving her 14 year sentence.

Once many of these inmates are released from the jail, they will be given a charkha each to take with them. It will be a reminder to never stop. To spin new life narratives and thread the path of self-reliance.



THE SUNDAY STANDARD epaper. thesundaystandard.com//c/20490598



Highlights of

646th Commission Meeting

The 646th Meeting of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission was held on 29th June, 2017 at Mumbai presided over by Shri Vinai Kumar Saxena, Chairman, KVIC. The following members of the Commission were present in the meeting. Shri Vinai Kumar Saxena, Chairman, Shri Jai Prakash Tomar, Zonal Member (CZ), Shri G. Chandramouli, Zonal Member (SZ); Dr. Sangeeta Kumari, Zonal Member (EZ); Shri Narayan C. Borkataky, Zonal Member (NEZ); Dr. Hina Shafi Bhatt, Zonal Member (NZ); Shri Ashok Bhagat, Expert Member (RD); Dr. Sheila Rai, Expert Member (Technical Education and Training); Shri Rajeev V.G., DGM (ME&GSS) of SBI; Shri B.H. Anil Kumar, Joint Secretary, MSME; Smt. Anshu Sinha, Chief Executive Officer,; Smt. Usha Suresh, Financial Advisor, and Shri Mohit Jain, Chief Vigilance Officer KVIC respectively.

The new members were welcomed with a set of "Khadi Handkerchiefs" and "Tricolour Khadi Yarn".

FOLLOWING DECISIONS WERE TAKEN ON THE AGENDA ITEMS.

Action Taken Reports on the Commission's meeting No. 644th dated 25.04.2017.

1. Chairman, pointed out that in order to ensure proper compliance of the decisions of the Commission and also for monitoring the proper implementation of various KVI programmes, there is a need to review of all activities of the Directorates of KVIC in Central Office. Commission took the note of the observation of the Chairman, and decided to review the functioning of each Directorate at Central Office, KVIC, Mumbai in a regular bases.

v On note submitted by Directorate of Khadi Certification for deliberations and (1) Approving the guidelines for registration to conduct Khadi and Polyvastra activity. (2) Approval for replacing the khadi certification with Khadi Mark Registration. (3) Approving the amendments suggested in Khadi and V.I. Commission Regulations 2007, Regulation no.24(1)(2)(3).

Decisions: the matter was deferred to the next Commission meeting for detailed deliberations..

v On note submitted by Directorate of Legal Affairs for "Ratifying the actions taken for reimbursing Rs.7,37,488/- towards the medical expenditures incurred by Shri S.K. Bedwal, Sr. Executive (Legal Affairs), KVIC, New Delhi for the medical treatment of his wife".

Decision: The Commission ratified the proposal placed by the Directorate of Legal Affairs.

(I) JS, MSME, suggested that the proposals/bills related to the Medical Expenditures should be examined in future, only by the Directorate of Administration, and no pre audit should be carried out on those bills. The FA informed that pre-audit is carried out only in respect of medical bills to ensure that reimbursement is as per norms



and as it reduces the need for effecting recovery at a later stage in cases of excess payments.

- (ii) Since the above note submitted by the Directorate of Legal Affairs was for ratifying the action taken for reimbursing Rs. 7,37,488/- to Shri B.K. Bedwal, Sr. Executive, Legal Affairs, being the expenditure incurred by him over the period from 2014 to 2016, it was decided by the Commission that the proposals of said nature be processed by Directorate of Administration and decided upon by CEO, every quarter.
- (iii) JS, MSME also suggested that necessary Delegation of powers be made to the State Directors for approving the reimbursement of Medical Bills submitted by KVIC Officials.
- (iv) For the compliance to the decisions taken on the above lines, necessary draft Circular with suitable delegation of powers to the officers, be placed before the next commission meeting.
- v On note Submitted by Adm./H.R. to apprise the Commission about centralization/maintenance of common cadre of Staff Car Drivers in KVIC.

Decision: Commission noted actions taken by the Directorate of Administration & HR for the Centralization /maintenance of Common cadre of Staff Car Drivers in KVIC.

- It was also observed by the Commission that the Directorate of the Administration was not having the details / seniority lists of all employees attached to the trading units. Hence, it was directed by the Commission that the above details be compiled and placed to the authorities before 7th July, 2017.
- The Directorate of Administration shall be the

Controlling authority for the KVIC Officials of all cadres.

v On note submitted by Directorate of Marketing to approve the Draft "Policy Guidelines for procurements, Payment and testing and Inspection of Departmental Sales outlets of KVIC".

Decision: After deliberation, the commission approved the above proposal. Further JS, ARI desired to send few suggestions, which will be incorporated suitably.

v Note submitted by Directorate of Publicity (1) To relax *MPDA* Guideline to sponsor the event for maximum of Rs. 1.00 lakh per event and to fix maximum ceiling for sponsorship of event suitably. (2) To approve sponsorship of Rs. 10.00 lakhs for the Jr. Chess Championship to be organized by All Bihar Chess Association, Patna from 03.09.2017 to 11.09.2017.

Decisions: After deliberation the Commission has approved the above proposal and decided as under.

- The enhancement of limit of sponsorship under MPDA guideline shall be sent to the Ministry for its consideration.
- The proposal for sponsorship of Rs. 10.00 lakhs for the Jr. Chess Championship to be organized by All Bihar Chess Association, Patna from 03.09.2017 to 11.09.2017 is approved as a special case.
- The Dy.CEO, Publicity informed the Commission regarding a unique proposal received from the "Kairos Konten" Mumbai the producer of film 'Manikarinika' a film on the life of 'Jhansi Ki Rani' for providing Khadi fabrics for making costumes



of lead artists. As this is an unique opportunity for KVI sector to gain high level national and international publicity through audio-video publicity, display of Khadi costumes by renowned actors and actresses during promos, road shows, etc. for the masses. The producer has also agreed to use Khadi word in the dialogues suitably to promote indigenous fabric Khadi in the film.

After detailed deliberations, commission decided to approve the above said proposal as a special case, because of its uniqueness and to showcase the heritage fabric Khadi in the backdrop of 1857 mutiny.

Approval for the Annual Accounts of KVIC for the year 2016-17 submitted by Directorate of Accounts. Decisions: The Director Accounts presented the Annual Accounts of the Commission. It was informed that as against the allocation of Rs. 1932.75 crores under Plan and Non-Plan, the expenditure incurred was Rs.2052.09 crores for the various schemes. The Expenditures under the Non Plan head were also informed to the Commission. On the trading accounts of the Commission, it was informed that the trading units posted a net profit of Rs.10.91 crores against the net profit of Rs 0.62 crores in 2015-2016. This led to the reduction in total loss (accumulated) from Rs.26.49 crores in 2015-16 to Rs.15.59 crores in 2016-17.

 The Commission directed that the profits made by the trading units should facilitate year wise comparisons and directed to incorporate at page No. 10, the sales and profit details for the periods 2014-15 & 2015-16 (in addition to the period 2016-17) in respect of departmental trading units (CSPs/DSOs) which had earned the profit above Rs.5.00 lakh during 2016-17.

- It was also informed that the outstanding CBC loan payable to SBI has been reduced to Rs. 262 crores as a result of recoveries being regularly effected from the KVIs. The SBI had been paid a total amount of Rs 1307.16 crores (including interest of Rs. 831.16 crores) as against Rs. 738 crores which was taken as loan. The outstanding recoverable from loanees (both khadi and VI) was Rs. 486.58 crores. The Commission.
- reiterated that the matter should be taken up with SBI for waiver, as Khadi institutions are not financially robust institutions and it would take a very long time to extinguish the loan. Further, more amount had been repaid to SBI than loan taken. Since, the Chairman, SBI is a member of the Commission, the F.A. was directed to take up the matter with SBI. The Commission also directed that no further payments be made to SBI till the matter is resolved. Shri Rajeev V.G., DGM (ME&GSS) of SBI who was present in the meeting as the representative of Chairman, SBI informed that he had observed that the issue had also been discussed in the previous meeting of the Commission and suggested that the matter be taken up through the concerned branch and also offered his assistance in this regard.
- The Commission was also informed that during the year, Rs. 4.50 crores under Khadi loan, and Rs 3.50 crores under VI loan was refunded to the Govt. As against the total outstanding dues to the Government of the Khadi and VI loans taken by KVIC in the past, an amount of Rs. 1326.66 crores was due as on 31.3.2017 as compared to Rs. 1334.66 crores . The interest subsidy (to be



adjusted by way of book adjustment) was Rs. 2046.43 crores. The JS, MSME was informed to ensure that the interest subsidy is provided in the ensuing years budget so that the same could be wiped off.

The Commission thereafter approved the Annual Accounts of the Commission and directed the Directorate of Accounts to forward the same to CAG.

- Commission took note of observations of Member (SZ) that there should be a scientific mechanism for determining the financial assistance to be provided to different institutions under KRDP scheme as a wide variation in the sanctions have been observed for similar institutions in the same State in the same area.
- To this Joint Secretary (ARI) informed that the same is done, based on the availability of infrastructure, artisans, capacity and need of the institution that has opted for the KRDP project and hence the financial assistance may differ on case to case basis.

(i) DEBARRING INSTITUTIONS WHICH HAVE AVAILED OTHER SCHEMES OF THE COMMISSION LIKE SFURTI, REVAMPED SFURTI SCHEMES ETC., FROM KRDP SCHEME.

(a) On the issue raised by Member (CZ) regarding debarring institutions which availed other schemes of the Commission like SFURTI from availing the benefits of KRDP Scheme, the Joint Secretary (ARI) clarified that the artisans engaged for a particular scheme activity like SFURTI cannot further be engaged for any other scheme of the Commission like Revamped SFURTI or KRDP Scheme.

- (b) This working arrangement has been made with the objective of desisting the institutions from availing the benefit of multiple schemes by repeatedly showing the same number of artisans for the different schemes.
- (c) Commission therefore directed that if the group of artisans mentioned or roped in by the institutions are different and they have not been provided the benefit of any the scheme, can be considered for availing these schemes subject to modification in the existing circular clarifying the above issue.

(ii) FOCUSING ON AVAILABILITY OF RAW MATERIAL FOR KHADI AS WELL AS VILLAGE INDUSTRY SCHEMES:

- (a) Commission took note of observations of Expert Member (RD) that while Commission is actively involved in planning and implementation of major schemes like KRDP, SFURTI, Revamped SFURTI etc., the availability of raw material for the different projects should also be taken into consideration and focused approach should be adopted in this regard as well.
- (b) Regarding Village Industries he opined that availability of local raw material for Village Industries should also be addressed in order to make them cost effective and competitive in the market.



- (C) He further suggested tohave area specific Village Industry activities where the industry will be based on availability of raw material in the region which will assist in doubling of the raw material farmers income.
- (d) To this Joint Secretary (ARI) informed that a decision has been taken in the recently held National Khadi Board Meeting to go in for "Farm based Agri Cluster Scheme" in association with NABARD where assistance will be provided for value addition of product outputs of farm based activities like horticulture crops, dairy farming, beekeeping farm etc.,

(iii) MECHANISM FOR ASSESSING AND SANCTIONING OF FUNDS TO KHADI INSTITUTIONS UNDER KRDP PROGRAMME:

v. On note submitted by Directorate of Khadi reg. Khadi Ashram, Panipat, Haryana for returning by KVIC their title deeds in respect of 5 properties of Khadi Ashram, Panipat for revival of Khadi activities.

Decisions: After getting necessary feedback/inputs from the State Director, SO, KVIC, Haryana, who was present in the meeting, and also taking into account the details furnished by the Directorate of Khadi on the issue related to returning the title deeds to Khadi Ashram, Panipat, in respect of 5 properties for the revival of Khadi activities by the said institution. Commission deliberated the issue in detail and decided to refer the matter to the Ministry of MSME, for guidance and directions.

OTHER MATTERS DISCUSSED

(iv) Developing smart village in Haryana

Two villages (Raiseena & Lohatki) in the Gurugram Zilla of Haryana State are being selected by the Office of President of India, for developing it through KVIC by implementing existing KVI programmes by tapping the potentialities/ resources in the above villages.

The DPR for the above project is to be prepared by the State Director, S.O. KVIC, Haryana and submit it to the Central Office, KVIC, Mumbai.

(v) Exemption for KVI products under GST

The Commission noted that "Khadi Yarn" has been included as the item for exemption under GST. Though it is a good gesture by the Government of India for promoting Khadi programmes, however it has not been made clear in the notifications issued under GST as to whether the raw materials consumed such as sliver, roving, etc. for making Khadi yarn and Khadi products are also exempted or not from the GST. Hence it was decided by the Commission to approach the Council of GST, Ministry of Finance and also the Ministry of MSME, Govt. of India for getting the desired exemptions of Khadi from GST.

(vi) Implementing the programmes, beneficial for the Beekeepers in the Uttaranchal State.

The Member(CZ) raised the point of implementing the programmes, beneficial for the Beekeepers in the Uttaranchal State and also stated about policy for minimum procurement price for honey. After deliberation it was decided by the



Commission to extend suitable assistance to Uttaranchal under "Honey Mission".

<u>Annexure – I</u>

1. Expert Member (RD) pointed out the need for having a regular agenda on utilization of funds allocated to SC/ST sub plan including implementation of decisions taken at the Abhayaranya workshop organized at Ranchi. After deliberations, Commission decided as under:

- The physical and financial achievement in respect of SC/ST Sub Plan for various KVI Programmes be made as a regular agenda in all the Commission Meetings.
- A detailed action plan be prepared on the decisions taken in the Abhayaranya" workshop organized at Ranchi and be submitted in the next meeting of the Commission.

2. Commission also agreed to the observations of Joint Secretary (ARI) that a physical and financial performance report of all important schemes of the commission including SC, ST and NER component during the month should be placed regularly in the meetings of the Commission for appraisal.

3. Commission also agreed to the suggestion of Chairman that a complete calendar of 'Action Taken Report' on the 'Action Plan' of all developmental activities like KRDP, PMEGP, SFURTI, Sweet Kranti (Bee Keeping), Marketing, Village Industry etc., that needs to be deliberated on regular basis in every meeting of the Commission should be formulated in advance and action taken report/ appraisal note on all the vital issues should be placed in every meeting of the Commission for appraisal / suggestion/guidance of the Commission.

4. Member (CZ) informed that the issue of issuing NOC to V.I institutions has not been addressed in the right spirit and he also observed that applicants for NOC in V.I. activities were made to come to KVIC, Central Office, Mumbai several times and yet they were unable to procure the NOC and no proper reply was also being given to the applicants regarding status of the NOC. As such, he requested that such harassment should be done away with. To this, FA clarified that while Director(Accts.) in Mumbai issues the 'No Dues Clearance Certificate' for a particular institution the NOC has to be issued by the State Director based on records available with the State Office.

- I. In this connection Commission decided that detailed list of all institutions that have repaid all the V.I. Loans and have no further dues to the Commission should be put up on KVIC Web Site by Director (Accounts) with the help of DIT, within three days and details of these institutions should also be sent to all concerned State Directors for information for issue of NOC. The NOC should clearly mention the specific purpose for which the NOC is being provided to the institution and the NOC should not be used as an instrument to dispose of institutional land or property.
- II. Commission further took note of observations of Joint Secretary (ARI) that it is the primary responsibility of the Industry Director to inform Director Accounts and State Director about the status of loan of institution that has availed V.I Loan since all the details are



available with the Industry Director.

- III. Commission also took note of observations of Joint Secretary(ARI) that Industry Directors and Dy.CEO(V.I) should have all details pertaining to (1) details of loan dues of V.I. Institutions (2) Details of V.I Institutions that have repaid all the loan (3) Details of V.I Institutions that have requested No Dues Clearance Certificate /NOC (4) details of NDC/NOC issued and they should monitor these details. He further observed that any request for issue of No Dues Clearance Certificate/ NOC received by State Office should be forwarded to Industry Director in KVIC Central Office, Mumbai. The Industry Director should subsequently obtain No Dues Clearance Certificate from Directorate of Accounts and forward the same to State Director for issue of NOC. Commission also took note of observations of Member(SZ) for formulating a consolidated statement of status of loan availed by an V.I. Institution. The shall also be make available to the concerned Zonal Member for information.
- IV. Commission therefore decided that details of all institutions that have availed loan under V.I. from various State Offices should be called for by all Industry Directors and after updating and receipt of No Dues Clearance Certificate from Directorate of Accounts the No Dues Clearance Certificate should be forwarded to State Directors for issue of NOC to all such eligible V.I Institutions irrespective of the fact whether they have asked for it or not and this exercise should be completed within a month.
- V. Commission also noted the observations of Joint Secretary (ARI) that State Directors should be made accountable for recovery of all loan dues from institutions in their respective jurisdictions

and specific recovery target should be given to them failing which they shall be held responsible all bad debts. Commission also noted the observations of Member(CZ) in this regard that any dereliction of duty on part of State Director in this regard shall be viewed very seriously.

- VI. Commission also noted the observation of Member(SZ) that in case of any difference / dispute between institutions and KVIC, a mechanism need to be worked out where the differences can be sorted out amicably.
- VII. Commission also took note of observations of Expert Member(RD) that there is lack of coordination amongst officials while discussing key issues placed before Commission and officials should be thoroughly conversant with the subject while taking decisions on such key issues. He also observed that there was a strong need for strengthening the MIS with Field Offices. He further observed that key issues should be discussed between concerned officers before deliberating the same in the Commission in order to speed up the decisions in a time bound manner.
- VIII. Commission also noted the observations of Member(SZ) regarding the roles and functions of Zonal Offices since in majority of the cases the Zonal Offices are playing limited role and needs to be strengthened.

5. The Member (CZ) pointed out the observations of Member (Marketing), regarding engaging M/s Edcil for conducing the recruitment to fill up the vacant posts under direct recruitment. After having detailed deliberations, it was decided since much time has elapsed to complete the direct recruitment by engaging M/s Edcil, it was directed by the Commission that all the formalities related to



engaging M/s Edcil (including the execution of agreement) be completed before 7^{th} July 2017 and further undertake the direct recruitment to fill up the vacant posts through M/s Edcil.

6. Commission noted the observations of Member(CZ) that in the last meeting of the Commission although he had deliberated and suggested issues pertaining to performance and implementation of developmental activities of SFURTI Scheme of the Commission and Pandit Deen Dayal Centenary Celebrations which has been recorded in the minutes but the same does not mention that the suggestion was made by Member(CZ). Commission therefore decided that in future the designation of Members making the observations / suggestions / remarks should be

specifically recorded in all the minutes of the Commission and also ensure that all observations/ suggestions / remarks of Members are recorded properly in the minutes.

7. Compiling the details / seniority lists of all employees attached to the trading units. It was observed by the Commission that the Directorate of the Administration was not having the details / seniority lists of all employees attached to the trading units. Hence, it was directed by the Commission that the above details be compiled and placed before the authorities before 7^{th} July, 2017.

8. The Commission also directed that Directorate of Administration must be the Controlling authority for the KVIC Officials of all cadres.





An Outlook on GST in Khadi and Village Industries

August-2017

Usha Mishra Sub Editor, Jagriti

Goods and Services Tax structure since

India has been the under an indirect tax independence,

which creates avoidable complications. The Goods and Services Tax (GST) is a simplified tax structure which has replaced different indirect taxes applicable on products and services in India. GST is a destination based tax introduced by the government with the aim to eliminate several indirect taxes like VAT, Central Excise Duty, Sales Tax, Service Tax, etc. It is described as **one tax** for one nation.

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It is primarily a consumption based tax which has different stages of execution. Applicable on a national level, GST is levied upon sale, manufacture, and consumption of goods & services at a national level. In other words, GST replaces all the indirect taxes levied by the State and Central Government.

GST is actually a culmination of three taxes – Central Goods and Service Tax (CGST), Integrated/Interstate Goods and Service Tax (IGST) and State Goods and Service Tax (SGST).

· State GST (SGST), which is levied by the State.

· Central GST (CGST), which is levied by the Centre.

· Integrated GST (IGST), which is levied by the Centre on the supply of goods and services across states.

CGST and SGST both will be levied on intra-state supply of goods and services while IGST will be applicable on interstate supply of goods and services in India. Since it is a consumption or destination based tax, it will be levied at all stages right from manufacturer up to the final consumer with credit of taxes paid at previous stages available as set off. In short, tax will be levied only on value addition and the final burden of tax will be borne by the ultimate consumer.

Both CGST and SGST are planned to be levied on same tax base. While CGST is expected to replace all central indirect taxes like Excise Duty and Service Tax etc., SGST is expected to make VAT, Entertainment Tax (other than the one levied by Local Body), Luxury Tax, Purchase Tax, Octroi /Entry Tax, cesses and surcharges, taxes on lottery or betting etc. redundant. However, certain goods like human consumable alcohol, tobacco products, motor fuels, crude petroleum, natural gas, aviation turbine fuel will still be chargeable to Excise Duty.

GST will eliminate cascade effect



of taxes. In certain cases like VAT levied by state governments over Excise Tax (which is levied by central government), double taxation becomes obvious. Goods and Services Tax will mitigate this practice of tax on tax.

The impact of GST is that it has ensured that a single CGST rate is applicable, while a uniform SGST rate is levied across all the states. GST is expected to significantly reduce the tax burden as all taxes are integrated. It splits the burden equitably between manufacturing and services. GST subsequently reduces the cost burden upon the end-consumer.

Who has to get registered under GST?

- Any business whose turnover in a financial year exceeds Rs 20 lakhs (Rs 10 lakhs for North Eastern and hill states). If turnover is supply of only exempted goods/services which are exempt under GST, no registration is required
- Every person who is registered under an earlier law (i.e., Excise, VAT, Service Tax etc.)
- Anyone who drives inter-state supply of goods
- Agents of a supplier
- Those paying tax under the reverse charge mechanism
- Input service distributor
- E Commerce Operator
- • or aggregator

• ·Person who supplies via e-commerce aggregator

Person supplying online

information and database access or retrieval services from a place outside India to a person in India, other than a registered taxable person.

Only a registered taxable person can collect GST. The taxable person must



prominently indicate the GST amount on tax invoices.

GST Exemption for Khadi products

At present, GST Act does not provide for completion exemption to all khadi products although Khadi had been free from any kind of taxation since 1947. The levy of GST on different khadi products currently ranging between 5-12% has hurt Khadi traders across the Country. The Khadi yarn, Gandhi *topi* and India's national flag, however, have been kept out of the purview of GST.

Considering the demands made by the KVIC as well as various Khadi institutions, the GST panel has already started analyzing the pros and cons of GST exemption, to benefit the workers, weavers and spinners associated with Khadi. The minister of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME) Kalraj Mishra has stated that the GST Council is re-analysing taxes(which is currently



between 5 to 12 percent) on various khadi items for the benefit of weavers and spinners associated with the khadi industry. Even the Finance Minister had assured to give a GST exemption for the financial development of otherwise economically backward lot of weavers and spinners."

Efforts taken by KVIC for implementation of GST

With a view to educate officials of KVIC and institutions attached with KVIC, proactive steps have been taken by KVIC by appointing a GST consultant and organizing workshops and awareness camps in State and Divisional Offices of KVIC so that the change in the system is handled efficiently and effectively. Shri Anand Desai, who has been appointed **GST** Consultant for KVIC made his presentation in Central Office on issues popping up due to implementation of GST before the senior officials in the month of August. Besides Central Office Mumbai, State Office Chennai organized an awareness meet on 21st June where 44 Khadi institutions participated ,in West Bengal three workshops were conducted in which around 131, 17 and 130 institutions participated respectively, in Odisha 3 GST programs were conducted where 58,29 and 63 persons participated respectively, in Karnataka 150 persons participated, in Lucknow around 50 institutions participated to clear their doubts on GST which was addressed by Additional Commissioner of trade Tax UP, Meghalaya since there is only one in institution it was discussed with the secretary of the institution, Divisional

Office Bikaner 38 institutions covered, in Ahmedabad 96 institutions participated, In the workshop organized at Ranchi 13 institutions participated, Punjab and Haryana jointly conducted the workshop where 96 institutions participated, in Nagaland since there is only one institution the relative things were discussed with the Secretary of the Institution where they tried to cover all aspects of GST. The first filing of GST will be done in the month of August 2017.

The move of KVIC to educate the KVIC officials in particular and the sector as a whole is proving to be very helpful and vast majority of the institutions has already got registered under GST or migrated to it. Now regular filing of Returns is mandatory on all registrations.

And last but not the least out of 1561 registered Khadi institutions 666 institutions have been registered under GST and 651 have applied for registration.

Note: FAQ on GST and other related issues can be read in July 2017 issue of JAGRITI. **Ref: information posted on KVIC, GST watsapp group, Inputs from GST Cell and news published in news papers**.)





PRESS COVERAGE

इसके लिए सदन से माफी भी मांगी। पर भी लिख रहा है। रोष थेन 12



खादी कपड़े पर ५, रेडीमेड पर १२ और पॉली खादी पर १८ प्रतिशत जीएसटी, राष्ट्रीय ध्वज, गांधी टोपी और धागा में छूट एसटी : आजादी के बाद पहली बार खादी पर टैक्स

मोदी जैकेट २४७ व नेहरू जैकेट १३८ रु. महंगी

प्रवीण जैन कोटा

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आजादी से पहले और बाद में पहली बार खादी पर टैक्स लगा दिया गया है। एक जुलाई से खादी भी जीएसटी के दायरे में आ गई है। राष्ट्रीय ध्वज, गांधी टोपी और धागे को इससे मुक्त रखा गया है। खादी के कपड़े से लेकर रेडीमेड और पॉली खादी पर 5 से 18 प्रतिशत टैक्स चुकाना पड़ेगा। पिछले पांच दिन से शहर में खादी भंडारों पर बिक्री व प्रोडक्शन बंद है। हाड़ौती खादी ग्रामोद्योग समिति के अनुसार सादा खादी कपड़े पर 5, रेडीमेड खादी यानी एक हजार रुपए से अधिक खरीद, बिक्री पर 12% जीएसटी और पॉली कपड़ों पर 18 प्रतिशत टैक्स लिया जाएगा।



मोदी (होजरी जैकेट) और नेहरू जैकेट पर भी जीएसटी का असर दिखेगा। हाड़ौती खादी ग्रामोद्योग का कहना है कि मोदी जैकेट की रेट 2055 रुपए है जो १२ प्रतिशत जीएसटी के साथ २४७ रुपए महंगी और नेहरू जैकेट की रेट ११५० से बढ़कर १२८८ हो जाएगी। यानी ये 138 रुपए महंगी होगी।

पांच दिन से प्रोडवशन और बिक्री बंद

खादी पर टैक्स के चलते पांच दिन से ब्रिकी और प्रोडक्शन बंद है। सरकार ने आश्वासन दिया था कि टैक्स नहीं लगेगा। गांधी टोपी, राष्ट्रीय ध्वज और धागे को टैक्स फी किया है। इसके प्रभाव से खादी संस्थाएं खतम जाएंगी।

-कमल किशोर शर्मा, सचिव, ठाड़ौती खादी ग्रामोद्योग समिति कोटा

इधर टैक्स तो उधर छूट रहेगी जारी : खादी पर सालभर केंद्र सरकार की ओर से उपभोक्ताओं को 15 प्रतिशत छूट दी जाती है। इसके अलावा गांधी जयंती से 31 जनवरी तक राज्य सरकार की ओर से 10 प्रतिशत अलग से छट रहती है। कुल २५ प्रतिशत छूट मिलती है। जीएसटी लागू होने के बाद भी यह छूट उपभोक्ताओं को मिलती रहेगी।

अब सरकार के फैसले का इंतजार

खादी ग्रामोचोग आयोग के राष्ट्रीय अध्यक्ष इस संबंध में केंद्रीय वित्तमंत्री सहित अन्य से मिल चुके हैं। उन्हें आखासन दिया है। सरकार के फैसले का इंतजार कर रहे हैं। आजादी से पहले भी प्री-काउंसिल ने इस पर टैक्स लागू नहीं किया। - रामदास शर्मा, अध्यक्ष, राजस्थान खादी पामोटोग संस्था संघ, जयपुर

स्वतंत्रता सेनानी आतंड लक्ष्मण रवांडेकर इस फैसले को जलत सानते हैं। वे कहते हें बापू ने 1926 में चरखा संघ की स्थापना की तब का मेरा जन्म है। कोटा में 1964 में खादी की शुरुआत हुई थी। आजावी

भारकर एक्सपटे

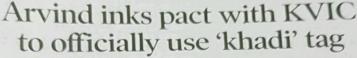
स्वतंत्रता सेनानी लक्ष्मण

ने गलत फैसला बताया

से पहले और बाद में कभी खादी पर टेक्स नहीं लगा है। इसमें गरीब लोगों की रोजी-रोटी चलती है। शुरुआत से कभी इन पर टैक्स नहीं लगा है।

feel that Jio's aggressive date plans could push customers to plans could push customers to wards consuming more video content on hand-beld devices rather than on televisions. Dish TV was down nearly 6% while buttomers of the second second second second terms of the second second second second second terms of the second second second second second terms of the second second second second second second terms of the second second second second second second terms of the second second second second second second second terms of the second second second second second second second second terms of the second second

been witnessing heavy sel-ling on each of the days that the new telco announced so-mething new – either a ser-vice offering, a new tariff plan or a hardware – at ex-



TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Ahmedabad: In a bid to po-sition India and Indianness globally in a premium way ar agreement with Khadi and streement with Khadi and KVIC). The pact al-textile to retail conglomera-te officially use 'khadi' mark for the fabric and products over the next five years. Arvind is already produ-ces denim made from khadi' used by KVIC. 'The agree-anght to officially use the word 'khadi' for our products. It gi-tes us more power to grow the Ahmedabad: In a bid to po-

ves us more power to grow the business to the next level. Through this association, we Through this association, we are aiming to take khadi de-nim to international mar-ket," said Punit Lalbhai, ex-ecutive director, Arvind Ltd. Already a global major in denim, the company expects

to procure one million me-ters of khadi from KVIC eve-ry year and it is cycling reve-nues of RS 30-40 crore from khadi denim. "Right now most of our products are in-digo (khadi denim) but we are expanding our product portfolio," he added. According to Lalbhai, the



group's vision is to build a substantially scalable supply chain platform, capable of servicing large international brand requirements. Several of Arvind's potential clients are major fashion brands which have expressed inter-est in creating their clothing lines around khadi denim.

"We also see this part-nership as an employment creation vehicle, especially for women. If we are able to you this market, we not on-iy get premium positioning (for khadi) but we also gene-rate employment. We also bringing hand spun an enti-re new audience and a scale,"

"It gives us more power to grow the business to the next level. Through this association, we are aiming to take khadi denim to international market," said Punit Lalbhai, executive director, Arvind

Lalbhai added.

"Khadi is a mission and we are committed to bring khadi to its prime glory as was visualised by Mahatma Gandhiji. The KVIC-Arvind initiative for launching kha-di denim is a step in this di-rection," said KVIC chair-man, Vinai Kumar Saxena.

TO COLUMNAN & CO. LTO. खादी से हटेगा GST! जोसफ बर्नाड | नई दिल्ली खादी से बने कपड़ों पर गुइस एंड सविंसेज टैक्स (जीएसटी) खादा से मार्थ सरकार इस पर गंभीरता के साथ विचार कर रही है। दरअसल, लघु उद्योग मंत्रालय ने वित्त मंत्रालय ाज दरें को खादी पर से जीएसटी हटाने का प्रस्ताव भेजा है। मंत्रालय की ओर से भेजे प्रस्ताव में कहा गया है कि खादी काउंसिल ने स्त मार्केट में की जीए से नगने पर आपत्ति जताई है। खादी काउंसिल का मानना गों के लिए है कि खादी पर जीएसटी लगाए जाने लाखों लोगों के रोजगार के भाई इस बार

प्रभावित होने का डर है। दरअसल पहली बार खादी को टैक्स के दायरे में लाया गया है। गौरतलब है कि जीएसटी के तहत खादी पर 5 फीसदी का टैक्स लगाया गया है। रेडीमेड खादी कपड़ों पर 12 फीसदी जीएसटी लगाया गया है। 1000 रुपये के ऊपर के कपड़ों पर 12 फीसदी जीएसटी लगाया गया है। मिक्स खादी पर 18 फीसदी जीएसटी लगाया गया है।

खादी काउंसिल ने जीएसटी को लेकर सरकार के सामने कई ोसदी से सवाल उठाये हैं। उसने कहा है कि सरकार एक तरफ कहती है कि खादी प्रोडेक्ट को बढ़ावा दिया जाना चाहिए। दूसरी तरफ मां और उसने खादी प्रोडक्ट पर ही जीएसटी लगा दिया है। काउँसिल का र प्राइस कहना है कि जीएसटी का भार ज्यादा समय तक उठाया नहीं जा सकता है। कुछ समय बाद खादी के प्रोडेक्ट को महंगा करना ही पड़ेगा। ऐसे में इसकी बिक्री कम होने की आशंका है। इससे खादी का कुल कारोबार प्रभावित होगा। खादी काउंसिल के अनुसार सरकार को खादी प्रोडेक्ट की बिक्री बढ़ाने के लिए इस सेक्टर को इंसेटिव देना चाहिए।



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PRESS COVERAGE

Govt taxes Khadi for first time since Independence

Jagphi

August-2017

KOTA:Khadi, a fabric often associated with India's freedom struggle, has so far been exempted from any kind of taxes. However, after GST, now Khadi too comes under the ambit of tax and traders in the state are worried that it will affect their business. Though Khadi yarn, Gandhi

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ગુજરાત માટે મહત્ત્વપૂર્ણ

હોય તેવા કેટલા MOU ?

૧. અટીરા અને EDI વચ્ચે જીઓ

ર. અટીરા અને ગુજરાત સરકાર વચ્ચે નવા

૩. પી કેકસીલ અને NID વચ્ચે માહિતીનાં

४. विद्यार्थीओनो ज्ञान-आदान-प्रदान माटे

નિફ્ટ અને EDI વચ્ચેનો કરાર.

પ. નિફ્ટ અને KVIC વચ્ચે ખાદી

સંસ્થાઓનાં વિકાસ અને તાલીમ

આદાન-પ્રદાન અંગેનો કરાર.

નિર્માણનો કરાર.

આપવાનો કરાર

ટેક્ટાઈલ્સ નેનો ફાઈબર અને કૌશલ્ય

ઉદ્યોગ સાહસિકોને પ્રોત્સાહન

topi, India's national flag will not attract any tax under the GST regime, other apparels and Khadi products will have 5% -18% GST. There are 9 Khadi Bhandars in the Kota division whose trade has been hit since the launch of GST. These sell Khadi cloth, readymade appar-

els, including kurta pyjama, Nehru jackets, carpet and other products. "Business has been hit since the enforcement of GST from last six days. Customers are not buying khadi due to a rise in their prices," said Kamal Kishore Sharma, secy of Hadoti Khadi Gramodhyog Samiti. HTC

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खादी से हटेगा GST! खादी से बने कपड़ों पर गुड्स एंड सी हट सकता है। मोदी सरकार इस पर गंभीरता के साथ वि कर रही है। दरअसल, लघु उद्योग मंत्रालय ने वित्त मंत्रालय कर रहा हु। वरजत्तरा, पाउ प्रयाप गयातम् पावस मंत्रा को खादी पर से जीएसटी **हटाने का प्रस्ताव भेज है। मंत्रा** की ओर से पेजे प्रस्ताव में कहा गया है कि खादी काउसिल ने जोएसटी लगाने पर आपति जताई है। खादी काउँसिल का मानना हे कि खादी पर जोएसटी लगाए जाने लाखो लोगों के रेत प्रभावित होने का डर है। दरअसल पहली बार खा एसरी के तहत वायरे में लाया गया है। गौरतलब है कि ज

वायर स लाखा गया हा आरतराम हाल आर्थाय के तरहा क्या पर 5 फीसदी का टेक्स लगाया गया है। रेडीमेड खादी कपड़ों पर 12 फीसदी जीएसटी लगाया गया है। 1000 रुप्ये के जपर के कपड़ों पर 12 फोसदी जीएसरी लगाया गया है। मिक्स ख

18 फीसदी जीएसटी लगाया गया है। खादी काउंसिल ने जीएसटी को लेकर सरकार के सामने कर सवाल उठाये हैं। उसने कहा है कि सरकार एक तरफ कहत ार्मा ने कि खादी प्रोडेक्ट को बढावा दिया जाना चाहिए। दूसरी तरफ जी नियों उसने खादी प्रोडक्ट पर ही जीएसदी लगा दिया है। का कहना है कि जीएसटी का भार ज्यादा समय तक उठाया नहीं ज त्पाद

सकता है। कुछ समय बाद खादी के प्रोडेकर को महंग करना राज्या २। उन्हें तर्वन पार जाय का होने को आशंका है। इस ही पड़ेगा। ऐसे में इसकी बिक्री कम होने को आशंका है। इस खादी का कुल कारोबार प्रभावित होगा। खादी कार्वासल अनुसार सरकार को खादी प्रोडेक्ट की बिक्री बढ़ाने के लिए इस सेक्टर को इंसेटिव देना चाहिए।

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कश्मीर में 'राइज इन कश्मीर– जी 2017' प्रदर्शनी शुरू

8/12



प्रदर्शनी का उदघाटन करते केन्द्रीय कृषि 21 मंत्री राधा मोहन सिंह। (स.ह.)

श्रीनगर, 3 जुलाई (मजीद): श्रीनगर के एस.के.आई.सी.सी. में 4 दिवसीय 'राइज इन कश्मीर-2017' प्रदर्शनी शुरू हो गई। प्रदर्शनी का उद्घाटन केन्द्रीय कृषि मंत्री राधा मोहन सिंह द्वारा किया गया। इसे दौरान सांसद शमशेर सिंह मन्हास, खादी एवं ग्रामोद्योग आयोग की सदस्य (उत्तर भारत) डा. हिना भटट के साथ-साथ कई विभागों के वरिष्ठ अधिकारी मौजूद थे। प्रदर्शनी का आयोजन करवाने में सांसद शमशेर सिंह मन्हास की मुख्य भूमिका रही है। इसके अलावा प्रदर्शनी में कई लोगों ने भाग लिया जिनमें किसान बोर्ड के उपाध्यक्ष डी.एस. चिब, भाजपा के राज्य मीडिया प्रभारी अल्ताफ ठाकुर, खादी एवं ग्रामोद्योग आयोग के राज्य निदेशक विनय कुमार, सहायक निदेशक अनिल कुमार शर्मा शामिल हैं।

इस अवसर पर बागवानी को देश में किसानों के लिए सबसे अधिक आय सृजनशील क्षेत्रों में से एक करार देते हुए राधा मोहन ने कहा कि केन्द्र सरकार इसे बढावा देने के लिए ध्यान केन्द्रित कर रही है। एस.के.आई.सी.सी. में संसा फाऊंडेशन द्वारा आयोजित 4 दिवसीय 'राइज इन कश्मीर-2017' प्रदर्शनी का उदघाटन करने के बाद मंत्री ने कहा कि प्रदर्शनी का आयोजन करने का मकसद बागवानी क्षेत्र से जुड़े लोगों को केन्द्र एवं राज्य सरकारों की नीतियों और उपलब्धियों से जागरूक करना है। इस दौरान प्रदर्शनी के आयोजन करवाने में मुख्य भूमिका निभाने वाले सांसद शमशेर सिंह मन्हास ने कहा कि इस तरह की प्रदर्शनियों के आयोजन से लोगों को देश के विशाल विकासीय कार्यक्रम से परिचित कराना है। सांसद ने केंद्रीय मंत्री के साथ प्रदर्शनी में लगाए गए कई स्टॉलों का दौरा भी किया। प्रदर्शनी का आयोजन करने वाले संसा फाऊंडेशन के अध्यक्ष आनंद पाल ने कहा कि हमारा वीजन समाज के प्रत्येक व्यक्ति का विकास करना है।

खासी राजन के अतिरित रखने वालों मोटे गुट व हैं, जबकि तैयारियों क कि अब वि संजीदा कि राज्य सर्वप्रथम रह तरह से पह कश्मीर में उसे ध्यान में जम्मू–कश्म अलगाववा में हस्तक्षेप तो राज्य क का भाग ब इस संबंधी लेकिन प अलगाववा लिए लक्ष्य पाकिस्तान के लिए आ की जाएं अ परेशानियों

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વિષયનો કરાર. દ. મંત્રી અને SVNIT વચ્ચે સંશોધનાત્મક પ્રવત્તિ માટેનો કરાર.

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KVIC seeks compensation from Fabindia over khadi

ohn Sarkar & dhartha

New Delhi: Taking the battle over khadi a step further, the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has sought compensation from ethnic retailer Fabindia for selling non-khadi garments as 'khadi' products in its stores.

While KVIC sought payment from Fabindia for indulging in alleged "unfaipractice", sources told TOI that the government agency could have lost around \$100-200 crore business. So far, the compensation amount has not been stated. This is highly speculative, with no basis in fact. Fabindia has been sustaining artisanal livelihoods for the last 57 years. We would like to clarify that Fabindia sources handcrafted products, including fabric, from artisans across the country. We have been in conversation with KVIC on certification since 2015," a Fabindia spokesperson told TOL Under the law, khadi products can only be sold if they are sourced from approved units. When contacted, KVIC chairman VK Saxena refused comment saying this was a business matter. Sources said that the agency responsib-

le for promoting khadi and village industries sought compensation earlier this month, while rejecting Fabindia's application for seiling "khadi" products as the foreign investor backed entity refused to accept the terms and conditions. Sourors said that despite KVIC's warning as far back as 2015, Fabindia was allegedly seiling non-khadi products as "khadi 'til January this year. Initially, there were negotiations between both the organisations to allow Fabindia to use the khadi trademark, something that has been granted to Raymond and Arvind Mills.

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PRESS COVERAGE

'Khadi' sale: KVIC wants Fabindia to pay damages

John Sarkar & Sidhartha TNN

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While KVIC sought payment from Fabindia for indulging in alleged "unfair practice", sources told **TOI** that the government agency could have lost around Rs 100-200 crore business due to this. So far, KVIC has not quoted any compensation amount.

"This is highly speculative, with no basis in fact. Fabindia has been sustaining artisanal livelihoods for the last 57 years. We would like to clarify that Fabindia sources handcrafted products, including fabric, from artisans across the country. We have been in conversation with KVIC on certification since 2015," a Fabindia spokesperson told **TOI**.

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Ganga calls on Union Minister for MSME

Excelsior Correspondent

NEW DELHI, July 13: Minister for Industries and Commerce, Chandra Parkash Ganga called on Union Minister for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), Kalraj Mishra, here today.

He discussed various issues pertaining to development of industries in the State.

The issue of expediting setting up of Technology Centre at Samba came up for discussion. It was conveyed to the Union Minister that the State Government has already allotted 80 kanals of land at Samba for setting up of the Technology Centre.

¹ The Union Minister was also requested to enhance the targets or Prime Minister Employment Jeneration Program (PMEGP) or the State. The PMEGP program is very popular scheme wherein subsidy ranging from 25-35 percent is provided by the Government to the entrepreneur.

Ganga thanked the Union Minister for sanctioning three clusters for the valley under the Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI). He also thanked the Ministry for sanctioning funds for State level exhibition to be held at Leh being organized by the Khadi and Village Board of the State Government.

The Union Minister assured that the issues will be taken into consideration for fostering industrial growth in State.

It was also felt that the State should identify and send more clusters to the Central Government for sanction and that the traditional art and skill heed to be encouraged and preserved.

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