

Exporters seek lower power tariff in Maharashtra

Engineering exporters, reeling under the backlog of GST refunds, have impressed upon the Maharashtra Government to lower the power tariff, stating these were among the highest in the country.

In his welcome address at the Export Award function in Mumbai, today, Chairman of the EEPC India (Western Region), Mr K L Dhingra made out a case for reduction in power tariff in the state. Senior state and central government officials were present at the function which was presided over by **Mr R A Rajeev, Principal Secretary IAS, Ministry of Finance, Govt of Maharashtra.**

Mr Dhingra said, the rates for power in Maharashtra were one of the highest in the country. Besides, the "very high cost" of transactions in the state, makes engineering exports from the state un-competitive.

In his address, the EEPC India Chairman Mr T S Bhasin said while the Goods and Services Tax was a laudable reform, the initial hiccups have resulted in locking up of working capital for the exporters. Out of 25000 shipping bills only 1500 have been cleared for the GST Refund. Customs officials are trying to resolve but they seem to be helpless as now the power has shifted to GST-Network.

The EEPC India also brought to the notice of the state Finance Minister about the pending VAT refunds from Maharashtra for last many years

In all over hundred engineering exporters were given away awards for their outstanding performance in 2015-16 even as they had faced odds of tough global competition.