

Chairman's Pen

My dear fellow exporters,

As you are aware, the new Government has been formed under the leadership of Dr. Manmohan Singh. Shri Pranab Mukherjee has taken charge as Hon'ble Finance Minister and Shri Anand Sharma as the new Commerce & Industry Minister. I will be meeting with the new Finance and Commerce Ministers and take this opportunity to thank them for giving us this privilege of presenting EEPC INDIA's Pre-Budget suggestion as well as the Foreign Trade Policy suggestions.

On behalf of engineering exporting community, I have requested the Finance Minister for removing the Fringe Benefit Tax on exporters and MAT on MSME EOUs be suspended at least till March 2010; encourage investment in Plant and Machinery and R&D to enhance competitiveness; reintroduce Section 80 HHC; reduce transaction costs; include interest subvention for the engineering sector and lower the floor of 7%; introduce GST Scheme etc.

This apart, EEPC INDIA also requested the Commerce & Industry Minister for extending Focus Market Scheme to EU and USA along with countries like Australia and New Zealand; introduce duty neutralization scheme for all state level taxes and the DEPB scheme should continue till GST is introduced; include FPS for various engineering products at enhanced rate of 6.5% of FOB Value and increase threshold limit of MDA benefit to Rs. 30 crores.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Aman Chadha'.

(AMAN CHADHA)