

Chairman's Pen

My dear fellow exporters,

The Council carried out an employment survey of its small and medium scale companies and the data that we received from 29 companies, shows results of concern. These companies employed around 8000 personnel, both direct and indirect as on August 31, 2008. Our survey shows that by January 22, 2009 the total number of employment in these 29 companies fell to 6134 which was a drop of 23% during the same period. Projection made by these companies till the first quarter of next fiscal year indicates that total employment in these 29 companies are likely to drop by nearly 37% by the end of June 29, 2008.

The total export figures as intimated by the Government with respect to the month of December 2008 has shown the total export declined by 1% and the Union Commerce Secretary has stated that 15 lakh jobs are likely to be lost by the end of this fiscal year. Our survey results are in line with what the export trend that has been provided by the Government and the employment affects of the global slowdown.

I do hope that Government will provide some benefits to the engineering exporting community so that engineering companies can survive in the present scenario.

Yours sincerely,

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

(AMAN CHADHA)