

Important Notice

IMPORTANT DECISIONS OF VARIOUS PANEL AND SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS

PANEL MEETINGS

Important points discussed at the Railway Rolling Stock & Components, Signaling Equipments and other Transport Equipments including Air-Crafts, Ship Building and Repairing etc. Panel meeting held in Kolkata on May 25, 2007

- It was decided to collect necessary feedback from all Panel members on export target for this Panel for the year 2007-08.
- It was decided to request Council for consideration of its participation in few specialized internationally reputed conventions/exhibitions exclusively connected with Railway items such as Business on Rails Conference & Exhibition in Brazil, AusRAIL Plus in Australia and Inno Trans in Germany in the Council's Promotional Activities for 2008-09.
- It was decided to bring out product catalogue.

Important points discussed at the Mica and Other Mineral based products Panel meeting held in Kolkata June 29, 2007

- It was decided to fix target at Rs. 750 crore for this Panel for the year 2007-08.
- It was decided that the Council should follow-up the representation submitted to the Ministry regarding inclusion of Mica and Mica based products (H S Code Nos 2525, 8545) in the 'Focus Product Scheme' of Government of India.
- It was decided that the Council should take-up the issues regarding Export Cess and imposition of Excise Duty on Mica and Mica based products with the Government.
- It was decided to request the Council to approve the Panel's proposal to conduct market study on India's Mica and Mica products export to few select focus and non-focus countries.
- It was decided to bring out product catalogue.

Important points discussed at the Machine Tools Panel meeting held in Kolkata on June 22, 2007

- The Panel meeting was graced by Shri Rakesh Shah, National Chairman of the Council. Shri K.R. Pandian, Convener of the Panel mentioned that value addition in this sector was very high and the delivery time was also long. The Rupee appreciation is particularly affecting this sector as forward booking would not help. In fact there was huge loss in employment due to drop in exports, i.e., for every 1% drop in exports there would be a loss of 1.6 lakh jobs. There has been 10% drop in exports due to Rupee appreciation, thus 16-lakh loss of jobs. There was a Committee to find out production and employment loss that would probe into the matter and look for appropriate solutions, the Panel Convener said.

Shri Rakesh Shah, National Chairman, suggested that Seminars on Forfeiting, Forex Management, Hedging opportunities be organized for the benefit of the members of the Council.

Important points discussed at the Pumps – All Types Panel meeting held in Chennai on July 20, 2007

- The Panel, after a detailed deliberations, arrived at a consensus to participate in the following events overseas :
 - (i) India Pavilion in the Pumps & Systems Asia 2008, Singapore;
 - (ii) Trade Delegation to Latin American Countries, viz., Brazil and Argentina.

Important points discussed at the Stainless Steel Houseware Products Panel meetings in Mumbai on June 13, 2007 and in Chennai on August 03, 2007

- Customs Appraisers are raising objections when there are non-stainless steel components such as plastic/wooden handles, plastic/glass lids, in any stainless steel utensil/cutlery for exported under Drawback schedules tariff item 7323. This was clarified under the DEPB regime. Needs to be clarified under the Drawback Scheme as well.
- Shri Sulekh Jain, Convener of the Panel chaired the meeting. The Panel expressed concern over the slow growth in exports of the products covered by the Panel. The Convener stressed the need for aggressive marketing drive for promoting export of the Panel products.

Important points discussed at the Industrial Machinery - Others Panel meeting in Ahmedabad on June 29, 2007

- Members reasoned the following for falling growth rate in export :
 - (a) Lack of proper infrastructural facilities in ports.
 - (b) Procedural delays in making shipments.
 - (c) Lack of initiative for technical up-gradation.
 - (d) Rupee appreciation

Policy issues

Request for fixation of DEPB rates on pressed roller bearing cages/pressed ball bearing & brass cages (SION Nos. C-1973, 1974 & 1993 respectively) was made by M/s. Harsha Engineers Ltd., Ahmedabad.

Problems faced due to non-availability of DEPB/DBK for Humidification Plant causing fall in export of the item, was referred by M/s. Draft-Air Intl (I) Pvt. Ltd., Ahmedabad.

Important points discussed at the Hand Tools Panel meeting held in Jalandhar on April 27, 2004

- To include hand tools in the Focus Product Scheme of DGFT.
- The new Scheme to replace DEPB should run parallel to DEPB for at least six months or one year before DEPB is withdrawn.
- The Government should be pressed to open the road route for exports of engineering goods to Pakistan. This will help the Indian exporters and bilateral trade between two countries.
- To allow MDA through direct participation in the Exhibitions/Trade Fairs/Delegations. There should be no hard and fast condition of fourteen days clear notice.
- Raw material prices need to be contained as it has become difficult to survive for SMEs in the today's competitive atmosphere.
- The Dollar depreciation has caused huge loss to many exporters and Government should compensate the exporters against such fluctuations.