

Chairman's Pen



My dear fellow exporters,

Friends, we should be happy about the fact that the Government is seriously considering exports as a major employment generation activity and engineering has been the main booster for employment generation. There has been an overall 50% employment growth in the export segment in 2005-06 and employment in export oriented engineering units grew by 92% in the same period and engineering units having turnover of less than Rs. 10 crore have generated maximum employment.

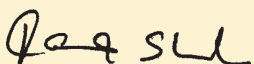
According to Shri Kamal Nath, Hon'ble Minister of Commerce & Industry, India's 60% population in the age group of 18-25 can be a strength for India and the Government would prefer employment generating exports. A 20% growth in exports in 2004-05 has created 1.4 million additional jobs and by 2010 total incremental employment would be 21 million.

He has also said that manufacturing needs to be taken up to 24-25% of the GDP against the current 17% as this is the main employment generating area. He has also assured engineering exporters of a level playing field.

Council's Eastern Region is conducting a series of SME Export Awareness Workshops to provide appropriate Trade and Finance Solutions. The first such workshop was conducted at Durgapur in association with Asansol Durgapur Development Authority where small and medium exporters were apprised about the benefits of exports, the government support policies for exports, the insurance and ways & means of covering risks in exports and financing solutions, the lifeline of exporters and SMEs.

EEPC plans to take the programme to other important cities in the Eastern Region at Bhubaneswar, Jamshedpur, Ranchi, Rourkela, Patna and Guwahati.

Yours sincerely,


(RAKESH SHAH)