

Panel Meetings

IMPORTANT DECISIONS OF VARIOUS PANEL AND SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS

PANEL MEETINGS

Meetings of Sanitary Castings Panel held on March 27, 2006 and May 09, 2006 respectively in Kolkata

March 27, 2006

- Floor Prices for export of C.I. Castings to USA and Gulf countries (except Saudi Arabia) were revised.
- It was decided to prepare identified revised list of products for Sanitary Castings Panel.
- It has been decided to call off to the participation of Sanitary Castings Panel at the Hannover Fair 2006 (24-28 April, 2006) due to lack of adequate response.
- Due to recent problem being faced by Panel members for exports to US countries, a decision was taken to develop a logo by EEPC for promoting export of Brand Products from India. The logo indicating licence number would be allocated to Panel members where verification would be done by a reputed body.

May 09, 2006

- Members pointed out that EEPC should raise the issue of VAT Claims and imposition of Section 80 HHC with appropriate authorities.
- The proposal of developing a logo for promoting export of brand products from India was taken up with SGS. The rates quoted by them was found to be steep and a revised rate was suggested by the members.

Meeting of Ferrous Industrial Castings (incl. Spun Pipes, Pressure Tested Pipe Fittings & Alloy Steel Castings) Panel held on March 27, 2006 in Kolkata

- **Import of Raw Material**
Members expressed their concern on the non-availability of containers for import of Metal Scrap from USA. Members suggested that for import of Cast Iron Scrap, the L/C terms and also that the conditions laid down by DGFT be waived.
- **VAT**
Members expressed their concern on non-refund of VAT and suggested that the matter should be taken up with the highest level in the Government.

Meeting of Fabricated Steel Structures including Transmission Line Towers Panel held on March 28, 2006 in Kolkata

- It was decided that Floor Price of the Fencing Materials will continue till further notice.

Meeting of Railway Rolling Stock and Components, Signalling Equipments and other Transport Equipments incl. Air-Crafts, Ship Building and Repairing etc. Panel held on April 21, 2006 in Kolkata

- It was suggested that the Council should take part in the various Railway Conventions/Conferences abroad for the benefit of Panel members for boosting Export of their products.

Meeting of Internal Combustion Engines, Compressors and Parts thereof Panel held on April 24, 2006 in Agra

Major points of discussion were as under :

- **SION**
Panel Convenor and members present thanked M/s. Kirloskar Oil Engines Ltd., Pune for their support in securing new entries in the SION for products relating to I. C. Engine, Gensets & Pumpsets as enlisted in Public Notice No. 90 dated 28th February, 2006.

• Trade with Pakistan

Panel Convenor informed members present about Council having forwarded the following products indicating ITC (HS) Code against each products to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry for their taking up suitably with Pakistani authorities concerned for inclusion of these products in the list of products eligible for import into Pakistan from India (Pakistan Positive list).

List of ITC (HS) Codes needs to be included in the list of permitted goods :

<i>Classification No.</i>	<i>Item Description</i>
8408	Compression - Ignition Internal Combustion Piston Engines (Diesel or Semi-Diesel Engines)
8408 20	Engines of a kind used for the propulsion of vehicles of Chapter 87
8408 20 10	Of Cylinder Capacity not exceeding 250 cc
8408 20 20	Engines of Cylinder capacity exceeding 250 cc
8408 90	Other Engines
8408 90 10	Stationary Engines of Cylinder capacity exceeding 50 cc
8408 90 90	Others
8502	Electric Generating Sets and Rotary Converters Generating Sets with compression ignition internal combustion piston engines (diesel or semi-diesel engines)
8502 11 00	Of an output not exceeding 75 kVA
8502 12 00	Of an output exceeding 75 kVA but not exceeding 375 kVA
8502 13	Of an output exceeding 375 kVA
8502 13 10	Of an output exceeding 375 kVA but not exceeding 1000 kVA

• Promotional Programmes specific to export of Panel Products

Members strongly felt about immense exporting opportunities of Panel products to Far East, African Countries, and South East Asian Countries. Panel Convenor informed members present about the decision taken in Sub-Committee on Trade with Africa to recommend to the Council to field a Multi-Product (including I.C. Diesel Engines) Trade Delegation to Central-African countries during the year 2006-07.

• Research and Development Centre at Rajkot

Since the export performance of stationary engines and small engines up to 30 HP included in this Panel are showing negative growth, it was felt that there is an impending need for Research and Development for these products both in terms of technology upgradation & absorption and economisation of cost.

This point was deliberated at length and members put-up their suggestions. Most of the members were of the opinion that the diesel engine being exported are based on technology which is 50 to 60 years old. They suggested that the diesel engine developed by Lister/Peter of England should be technically upgraded to meet the current

market requirements. Further, it was suggested that design should be lightweight, small in size and fuel efficient as the Chinese Engines. Even in the domestic market the traditional engines are being priced out by the Chinese Engines in spite of being imported and sold. This was also one of the factors affecting the export prices as our per unit production goes up due to lower sales in domestic market. Hence, we should have a common design for Indian and domestic market in order to become competitive in world. Indian industry can stand/ compete in the International Market through a common design.

Panel Convener further suggested that power to weight, ratio should be the basis of design for new design of the engine. He further stated that in order to develop such new models there is a need to set up a Research Centre and Laboratory where the members can design and develop a prototype collectively and expenses can be shared and economical. He enlightened the members that under MAI Scheme of the Ministry of Commerce, 25% subsidy (limited to Rs. 50 lac) is provided for this purpose. The proposal is already put forward in phase 1 and Rajkot City is being proposed as a cluster town.

Meeting of Machine Tools Panel held on June 23, 2006 in Hyderabad

- The Panel decided to participate in any of the following events :
 - CIMT 2007 - China International Machine Tool Show at Beijing, China
 - Shanghai International Machine Tool Fair - September 2007 at Shanghai, China
 - Metalex 2007 in Bangkok, Thailand
 - Metal Asia, Singapore
 - TECMA Show in Mexico City, Mexico
 - EMO, Hannover 2007, Hannover, Germany.

The Panel also decided to circulate the above information to the members and invite their suggestions before finalizing any particular Fair where Indian Pavilion could be put up.

Meeting of Pumps - all types Panel held on June 26, 2006 in Coimbatore

- The Panel fixed targets for the Products of the Panel as under :

Year	Target (Rs. in Crs.)
2006-07	850
2007-08	1000
2008-09	1200
- The Panel decided to participate in any of the following events :
 - The Big Five 2007, Dubai
 - Leading Pumps Exhibition in Italy
 - Pumps & Systems Asia 2008, Singapore
- The Panel also decided to field delegations to explore new markets, including L.A.C. Countries, for the pumps and systems.

SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Meeting of the Committee on Trade with Africa held on March 23, 2006 in Chennai

- The Committee decided to organize an India Pavilion in one of the leading Exhibitions in Ghana and to field a Multi-Product Delegation to Central Africa covering a minimum of three countries during the financial year 2006-2007.

Meeting of the Regional Committee (SR) held on March 23, 2006 in Chennai

- The Regional Committee fixed an export target of 20% for the year 2006-2007 over the target of Rs.14658 Crores fixed for the year 2005-2006.

Meeting of Functional Committee for Coimbatore held on May 12, 2006 in Coimbatore

- The members were of the view that the export performance from Coimbatore has doubled during the year 2005-06 and this was mainly due to the Buyer Seller Meet in Coimbatore organized by the Council which has really benefited a lot of exporters and desired the Secretariat to hold such BSMs or visits of overseas Delegations to Coimbatore which would help increase the share of exports from Coimbatore region.

Meeting of Regional Committee (WR) held on May 03, 2006 in Mumbai

Major points of discussion were as under :

- (i) **Setting up of SRO** : Chairman in the chair, informed members present about having received numerous requests from Gujarat based Exporters for opening of Council's sub-regional office and sought suggestions for the City where EEPC-WR should have an SRO. After long deliberation on the subject, members unanimously proposed to set up Council's SRO in Ahmedabad based on following points :
 - Ahmedabad is the capital of Gujarat State and is the centre of policymaking concerning business and industrial activities.
 - Most of the Government bodies such as DGFT, financial institutions, commercial banks and academic institutions have presence in Ahmedabad.
 - Ahmedabad & adjoining cities such as Surat, Vadodara & Anand account for more than 50% of total exporting members from the State of Gujarat.
 - Ahmedabad is a focal point providing maneuverability for covering other industrial towns of Gujarat such as Vadodara, Rajkot, Surat, Jamnagar, Bhuj etc.
- (ii) **Seminar** : Chairman in the chair sought suggestions from the members present for augmenting exports from the region and also to bring in new exporters into Council membership domain. After due deliberation it was decided to organize series of Seminar on following thematic topics in the current financial year in the industrial townships and major industrial clusters in the region :
 - (a) Focus Areas : Seminars in Pune, Aurangabad, Vadodara and Indore to create awareness & promote exports to CIS/LAC/ Africa/ASEAN+2 region as outlined under Focus CIS programme of the Ministry of Commerce, Government of India.
 - (b) India Engineering Meet : Seminars in Mumbai, Kolhapur, Ahmedabad, and Rajkot to disseminate information & mobilize participation for India Engineering Meet scheduled in January 2007 in New Delhi.
 - (c) Export Awareness-cum-Membership Drive : To mobilize new members for the Council in the smaller industrial towns such as Raipur, Panaji, Nashik, and Nagpur.