

Chairman's Pen



My dear fellow exporters,

I had the opportunity to share my view point in the last meeting of the Board of Trade in New Delhi on 14th March, 2006. The Commerce Ministry has sent the proposals to the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs for extension of DEPB Scheme for one more year and introduction of the alternate scheme with an overlapping period of six months. The Target Plus Scheme is slated to go. I took up other issues very strongly namely (i) Service Tax on export related services, (ii) 80HHC Amendment and (iii) Transaction Cost amongst other issues.

You are aware that your Council is now fully geared up to launch extensive Promotional Activities in India and abroad to increase country's share in export of engineering goods and services to a newer height. It is against this backdrop, EEPC is organizing an interactive meeting with Indian Commercial Representatives of seven CIS countries viz. Azerbaijan, Armenia (Georgia), Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan on March 23, 2006 in Kolkata. The Commercial representatives will share their views about potential of exports and current situation in respective countries. Senior government officials from Ministry of Commerce will also address the meeting.

As CIS region offers tremendous potential for trade with India particularly in the engineering sector, I am sure, this meet will offer our participating members a unique opportunity to interact with the Commercial Representatives to expedite and explore business opportunities in these countries.

The Golden Jubilee of the EEPC Western Region will be celebrated coinciding with the Annual Regional Award Presentation Function on March 25, 2006 in Mumbai where the Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Commerce & Industry Shri Jairam Ramesh has kindly consented to give away the Awards to the meritorious exporters of engineering products and services of the Western Region for their outstanding export performance for the year 2003-04.

Yours sincerely,


(RAKESH SHAH)