

# EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL FOR EOUS AND SEZs



16TH ANNUAL REPORT  
&  
AUDITED ACCOUNTS

2018-19

# EPCES International Activities



*Mr. T.V. Ravi, Director General EPCES honored during Inaugural ceremony*



*R to L: Chairman, Rajasthan Works Ltd, Director General EPCES & Director (EOU/SEZ), Deputy Director General, Mauritius Port Authority, Dy. Director General EPCES and Manager, MPA.*



*View of India Pavilion*



*Visitors at India Pavilion*



*Inauguration of EPCES Pavilion : R to L : Dr. Satyapal Kumar, First Secretary (Trade), Embassy of India in Japan, Shri T.V. Ravi, Director General EPCES and Shri Anand Giri, Deputy Director General EPCES.*



*Shri T.V. Ravi, Director General EPCES, Dr. Satyapal Kumar, First Secretary (Trade) and Shri Anand Giri, Deputy Director General EPCES visiting the fair.*



# EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL FOR EOUS AND SEZS

## 16TH ANNUAL REPORT & AUDITED ACCOUNTS

2018-19

### Statutory Auditors

**M/s Thakur Vaidyanath  
Aiyar & Co.**

### **Chartered Accountants**

221, Deen Dayal Marg  
New Delhi-110002  
Tel: 011-23234052  
Fax: 011-23230831  
e-mail: tavand@vsnl.com

### Internal Auditors

**M/s Garg Prateek &  
Associates**

### **Chartered Accountants**

400, 70/1/1, Mangolpuri,  
Marble Market,  
New Delhi-1100085  
Mobile: 8860079394  
e-mail: prateekgarg\_21@yahoo.com

### Bankers

### **ICICI Bank Ltd.**

2692, D. B. Gupta Road,  
Karol Bagh, New Delhi 110005

### **Corporation Bank**

M-41, Connaught Circus  
New Delhi 110001

## **Zonal Development Commissioners**



**Dr. L. B. Singhal**  
Zonal Development Commissioner  
**Noida SEZ**



**Mrs. Meeta Rajiv Lochan, IAS**  
Zonal Development Commissioner  
**SEEPZ-SEZ**



**Shri M. K. S. Sundaram, IAS**  
Zonal Development Commissioner  
**MEPZ-SEZ**



**Shri D. V. Swamy, IAS**  
Zonal Development Commissioner  
**Cochin SEZ**



**Dr. Amiya Chandra**  
Zonal Development Commissioner  
**Kandla SEZ**



**Shri B. K. Panda**  
Zonal Development Commissioner  
**Falta SEZ**



**Shri A. Rama Mohan Reddy**  
Zonal Development Commissioner  
**Visakhapatnam SEZ**



## Message : Director General

**T.V. Ravi, IRS**

**Director General**



Dear Member,

We are happy to place 16th Annual Report and Audited Accounts for the year 2018-19. As you are well aware that Export Promotion Council for EOUs & SEZs (EPCES) was set up in January 2003 to service the export promotional needs of Export Oriented Units and Special Economic Zones in the country. We are happy to inform that exports from this Sector specifically from Special Economic Zones has registered a growth of 21% in 2018-19 as compared to 2017-18. Exports from SEZs during 2017-18 was to the extent of Rs.5, 81,033 crore which is grown by Rs. 7,01,179 crore (21% growth over the export of the corresponding period of FY 2017-18).

EPCES has actively organized Open Houses, Seminars and participated in trade fairs abroad during 2018-19 as per the approved action of the Ministry of Commerce & Industry under MAI Scheme. We are still continuing the same process to publicize the EOU SEZ Scheme within India and abroad so as to attract maximum investment, generate maximum employment and increase exports from the Schemes. We request all the members to actively participate in the all the activities within India and abroad and take maximum advantage provided by the government of India and EPCES.

Keeping in view the importance of GST, EPCES organized seminar/open houses with the key officials of the concerned wings of the Government of India to provide a platform to its members to raise their issues in front of the officials. Apart from this under the chairmanship of Baba Kalyani a Committee was constituted to study and recommend the solutions and way forward to the issues related to SEZs. EPCES members were also member of this Committee. This Committee submitted its recommendations to Ministry of Commerce & Industry and this report is under active consideration of the government.

We once again assure EPCES members that for smooth functioning of the scheme, the issues received from the members will be taken up at the highest level so as to resolve them at appropriate level.



[T.V. RAVI]  
Director General

## EPCES Circular issued during 2018-19

Sl. No.	Circular No. & Date	Subject
1	<b>EPCES CIRCULAR NO. 285 dated 12.4.2018</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Trade Notice No. 01/2018-2019 F. No-01/94/180/361/AM18/PC-4 dated 4th April, 2018</b> in relation to Export Obligation Discharge Certificate (EODC) Monitoring System for Advance/EPCG Authorizations.</li> <li>- <b>Circular No. 40/14/2018-GST dated 6th April, 2018</b> - CBIC clarification regarding the furnishing of Bond/Letter of Undertaking for exports.</li> <li>- <b>Notification No. 42/2018-Customs dated 6th April, 2018</b> – rescinding notification No.07/2018-Cus, 08/2018-Cus, 19/2018-Cus, 20/2018 – Customs</li> <li>- <b>Press Release</b> regarding Roll-out of e-Way Bill system for Intrastate movement of goods</li> <li>- Notice by Directorate of Commercial Taxes, West Bengal</li> <li>- SEZ units located in the state of West Bengal have state code 19 (of West Bengal) in GSTIN have been not enabled as yet. Hence, e-waybill cannot be generated for the movement of the goods to/from the SEZ units from/to units located within the same state, i.e., West Bengal.</li> <li>- <b>Order No. 5/2018-GST F. No. 2(60)/Policy-GST/2017/13-18 dated 4th April, 2018</b> – reconstitution of Refund Approval Committee to grant approval in cases of refund of SGST, CGST, IGST and Cess above Rs. 50 Lakhs under DGST/CGST Act, 2018</li> </ul>
2	<b>EPCES CIRCULAR NO. 286 dated 18.4.2018</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Trade Notice No. 02/2018-2019 [File No. 01/02/70/AM-18/EDI] dated 11<sup>th</sup> April, 2018</b> - facility has been created to check the current status of IEC application and status of IEC transmission to ICEGATE. The status query is based on PAN used in IEC Application made to DGFT. This facility can be accessed from DGFT website using Online Application -&gt; IEC -&gt; Know your IEC Status or directly from: <a href="http://164.100.128.145:8100/lecStatusReport/link">http://164.100.128.145:8100/lecStatusReport/link</a>.</li> <li>- <b>Circular No. 42/16/2018-GST dated 13<sup>th</sup> April, 2018</b> - regarding procedure for recovery of central excise duty /service tax and CENVAT credit thereof</li> <li>- <b>Notification F. No. 10(6)/2016-DBA-II/NER dated: 12th April, 2018</b> - The Government of India has announced <b>North East Industrial Development Scheme, NEIDS-2017</b> for industrial units in the North Eastern Region comprising States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura to boost industrialization. The Scheme will be <b>effective from 01.04.2017</b> and will remain in force <b>up to 31.03.2022</b>.</li> <li>- <b>Press Release – Roll out Intra-state E-way bills from April 20</b> - It is hereby informed that e-Way Bill system for intra-State movement of goods would be implemented from 20th April, 2018 in the States of Bihar, Jharkhand, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Tripura, Uttarakhand</li> </ul>
3	<b>EPCES CIRCULAR NO. 287 dated 19.4.2018</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>The Government has issued Notification No. 21/2018 – Central Tax dated 18 April 2018</b> thereby amending CGST Rules with respect to Refund and prescribed forms.</li> </ul>

4	<b>EPCES CIRCULAR NO. 288</b> dated 26.4.2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Press Release dated 23rd April, 2018</b> – Clarification regarding “Bill-to-ship-to” for E-Way Bill</li> <li>- Press Release – Roll out Intra-state E-way bills from April 25</li> <li>- Circular No. 10/2018 – Customs dated 24th April, 2018 - CBIC has issued clarification regarding Imports by EOUs/EHTP/STP/BTP without payment of duty w.r.t. Rule 5 of Customs (import of goods at concessional rate of duty) Rules, 2017.</li> </ul>
5	<b>EPCES CIRCULAR NO. 289</b> dated 26.4.2018	Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs, Directorate General of Export Promotion has issued Circular No. 10/2018-Customs dated 24.4.2018 issuing clarification with regard to import by EOU without payment of duty by following Rule 5 of Customs (Import of Goods at Concessional Rate of Duty) Rules, 2017.
6	<b>EPCES CIRCULAR NO. 290</b> dated 7.5.2018	<p>1. GST council has approved principles for filing of a new return design which would be implemented in 3 phases:</p> <p><b>§ 1st phase</b> – Present system of filing of return i.e. GSTR-3B and GSTR-1 shall continue for a period not exceeding 6 months till the new return software would be ready. GSTR-2 and GSTR-3 shall continue to remain suspended.</p> <p><b>§ 2nd phase</b> – The new return would be brought in the system which would facilitate invoice wise data upload and claiming ITC on self-declaration basis i.e. on provisional basis, as in case of GSTR-3B currently.</p> <p><b>§ 3rd phase</b> – After 6 months of phase 2, the facility of provisional credit will get withdrawn and input tax credit will only be limited to the invoices uploaded by the sellers from whom the dealer has purchased goods.</p> <p>Also, there are indications that the new return shall be simplified by reducing the content / information required to be filled with an idea of single return per month.</p> <p>2. . In order to incentivize digital payment, the Council has proposed to provide concession of 2% in GST rate (where the GST rate on supply is 3% or more) on B2C supplies, for which payment is made through cheque or digital mode, subject to a ceiling of Rs. 100 per transaction.</p> <p>3. The Council has proposed to levy a new cess under GST viz. ‘Sugar Cess’ over and above 5% GST rate and further, council has recommended to reduce GST rate on ethanol;</p>
7	<b>EPCES CIRCULAR NO. 291</b> dated 9.5.2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Informing about the salient features of the decisions taken in <b>27<sup>th</sup> GST Council Meeting held on 04<sup>th</sup> May, 2018</b></li> <li>- Circular 209/1/2018-Service Tax F. No. 137/26/2016-Service Tax-Part-V Dated 4th May, 2018 - on the applicability of Place of Provision of Services Rules, 2012 (POPS) to development of software and services on software.</li> </ul>
8	<b>EPCES CIRCULAR NO. 292</b> dated 17.5.2018	<p><b>Press Release – Roll out Intra-State E-way bills</b> - It is hereby informed that e-Way Bill system for intra-State movement of goods would be implemented in Assam from 16<sup>th</sup> May, 2018 and Rajasthan from 20<sup>th</sup> May, 2018.</p> <p>- <b>Notification No. 22 /2018 – Central Tax dated 14<sup>th</sup> May, 2018</b> - The Central Government has waived the late fee payable on failure to furnish the return in FORM GSTR-3B by the due date for the months October, 2017 to April, 2018, for the registered persons whose declaration in FORM GST TRAN-1 was submitted but not filed on the portal on or before 27th December, 2017.</p> <p>- <b>Public Notice No. 09/2015-2020 dated 14<sup>th</sup> May, 2018</b> - DGFT has amended Para 4.07(i), Para 4.27 and Para 4.45(a)(iv) of Handbook of Procedures.</p>

9	<b>EPCES CIRCULAR NO. 293</b> <b>dated 24.5.2018</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Trade Notice No.11/2018-19 dated 18th May, 2018</b> - Changes have been made to delink it from DSC for login purpose and convenience. Also the date for mandatory digital payment through e-MPS is extended to 01.06.2018.</li> <li>- <b>Notification No.23/2018 – Central Tax dated 18th May, 2018</b> - Government of India vide NN 23/2018 – Central Tax dated 18th May 2018 has decided to extend due date for filing of GSTR-3B for the month of April,2018 to May 22, 2018.</li> </ul>
10	<b>EPCES CIRCULAR NO. 294</b> <b>dated 31.5.2018</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Public Notice No.10/2015-2020 dated 22nd May, 2018</b> - Director General of Foreign Trade amends Hand Book of Procedures 2015-2020 and states that the excess exports done towards the average export obligation fulfillment of an EPCG authorization during a year can be used to offset any shortfall in the Average Export Obligation done in other year(s) of the Export Obligation period or the block period, provided Average Export Obligation is maintained on an overall basis.</li> <li>- <b>Circular No. 3/1/2018-IGST dated 25th May, 2018</b> - CBIC has issued clarification regarding applicability of IGST on goods supplied while being deposited in a customs bonded warehouse</li> <li>- <b>Notification No.11/2018- Central Tax (Rate) dated 28th May, 2018</b> - Central government vide the captioned notification has inserted the entry in Notification No. 4/2017-Central Tax (Rate) dated 28th June, 2017 related to Reverse charge on certain specified supplies of goods under section 9 (3) of CGST act 2017</li> <li>- <b>Circular No. 12/2018- Customs dated 29<sup>th</sup> May, 2018</b> - With respect to sanction of refund of IGST paid on exports, it has been observed that exporters have committed mistakes while filing GSTR-1 and GSTR-3B, mis-declared IGST paid on export supplies as IGST paid on domestic outward supplies, short payment of IGST vis-a-vis liability declared in GSTR-1. These mismatches have led to non-transmission of records from GSTN to Customs EDI system. Procedure has been prescribed to overcome the problem of refund blockage</li> <li>- <b>Press release dated 30th May, 2018</b> - Special Refund Fortnight</li> <li>- <b>Circular No. 45/19/2018-GST dated 30th May, 2018</b> - The said circular provides clarification on certain refund related issues</li> </ul>
11	<b>EPCES CIRCULAR NO. 295</b> <b>dated 2.6.2018</b>	Two circulars have been issued on IGST refund related issues under Customs and GST Act respectively (1) Circular No. 12/2018-Customs dated 29.05.2018 (ii) Circular No. 45/19/2018-GST dated 30.05.2018
12	<b>EPCES CIRCULAR NO. 296</b> <b>dated 6.6.2018</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Notification No. 25 /2018 - Central Tax dated 31st May, 2018</b> - The time limit for furnishing the return by an Input Service Distributor in FORM GSTR-6 for the months of July, 2017 to June, 2018, has been extended till the 31st July, 2018</li> <li>- <b>Press Release dated 31st May, 2018</b> - Notified the Implementation date for roll-out of e-way bills in the states of Chhattisgarh, Goa, Jammu &amp; Kashmir, Mizoram, Odisha &amp; Punjab is 1st June, 2018; Tamil Nadu is 2nd June,2018; West Bengal is 3rd June,2018.</li> <li>- <b>Circular No.13/2018-Customs dated 30th May, 2018</b> - CBIC has decided to allow factory stuffing and sealing of reefer containers with perishable/ temperature sensitive export goods in the presence of Customs officials.</li> <li>- <b>Circular No.210/2/2018-Service Tax dated 30th May, 2018</b> - The said circular gives clarification on applicability of service tax on ambulance services provided to government by private service provider (PSP) under National Health Mission (NHM).</li> </ul>



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Trade Notice No.14/2018-19 dated 30th May, 2018-</b> The said notice highlights the difficulties faced in availing benefits in case of exports made under the project export category i.e. they are unable to file shipping bills under chapter 98 which notifies higher incentives and are required to file under specific HS code of product with lower incentives. Guidelines issued in this regard.</li> </ul>
<b>13</b>	<b>EPCES CIRCULAR NO. 297 dated 11.6.2018</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Circular No. 47/21/2018-GST - Clarifications have been provided with respect moulds and dies owned by Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEM) that are sent free of cost (FOC) to a component manufacturer is leviable to tax and whether OEMs are required to reverse input tax credit in this case.</li> <li>- Notification No. 10/2015-2020 dated 7th June 2018 Vide this notification, DGFT amends Para 6.08(b) of Foreign Trade Policy 2015-2020.</li> </ul>
<b>14</b>	<b>EPCES CIRCULAR NO. 298 dated 15.6.2018</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Circular No. 15/2018-Customs dated 6<sup>th</sup> June 2018</b> CBIC issued circular no.5/2018-customs dated 23/02/2018 and circular no.08/2018-customs dated 23/03/2018 providing alternate mechanism to resolve invoice mismatches for shipping bills filed till 28/02/2018. The facility of officer interface has now been extended for shipping bills filed upto 30/04/2018.</li> <li>- <b>Trade Notice No. 17/2018 dated 7th June 2018</b> - Export Obligation Discharge Certificate (EODC) camp will be organized for disposal of EODC applications for Advance and EPCG authorizations from 11/06/2018 to 22/06/2018 by following RA's: Mumbai, Chennai, CLA New Delhi, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Vadodara, Pune, Surat.</li> <li>- <b>Notification No. 10/2015-2020 dated 7<sup>th</sup> June 2018</b> - Vide this notification, DGFT amends Para 6.08(b) of Foreign Trade Policy 2015-2020.</li> <li>- <b>Circular No. 48/22/2018-GST dated 14<sup>th</sup> June, 2018</b> - Clarifications have been provided with respect to short term conferencing, accommodation, banqueting etc. provided to a SEZ developer/unit should be treated as an inter or intra state supply? Whether benefit of zero rated supply be allowed to all procurements by a SEZ unit such as event management service, hotel and accommodation service, consumables etc.? Whether independent fabric processors (job workers) in the textile sector supplying job work services are eligible for refund of unutilized ITC on account of inverted duty structure under section 54(3) of CGST Act, 2017, even if the goods (fabrics) supplied are covered under NN. 5/2017-Central Tax (Rate)?</li> </ul>
<b>15</b>	<b>EPCES CIRCULAR NO. 299 dated 25.6.2018</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Notification No.3/2018 dated 15<sup>th</sup> June 2018 (F. No. 3(163)/Policy-GST/2018/298-307)</b> - No E-way bill is required for movement of goods originating and terminating within Delhi (without passing through any other State) where consignment value does not exceed Rs. 1,00,000/-. No E-way bill is required for intra-state supply from registered taxable person to an unregistered end consumer, accompanied by a tax invoice, irrespective of any value.</li> <li>- <b>Circular No.19/2018-Customs dated 18th June 2018</b> - It has been decided by the Board to extend RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) sealing to transport of goods for deposit in a warehouse as well as removal therefrom. The importer or owner of goods shall use RFID anti-tamper one-time locks (RFID-OTL). Since goods may be removed from different types of vehicles, different types of RFID-OTL's shall be used as specified.</li> <li>- <b>Notification No.28/2018 – Central Tax dated 19<sup>th</sup> June 2018</b> - The said notification makes amendments in CGST rules 2017:</li> </ul>

<b>16</b> <b>EPCES CIRCULAR</b> <b>NO. 300</b> <b>dated 30.6.2018</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Trade Notice 18/2018 dated 20th June, 2018</b> - The said notice highlights the resolution taken that w.e.f 21st June 2018, importer/exporter are required to send their applications via email to import-dgft@nic.in (for import licenses) or export-dgft@nic.in (for export licenses) along with proof of application fee paid, where online application for import/export of restricted items have been submitted.</li> <li>- <b>Public Notice No. 14/2015-2020 dated 20<sup>th</sup> June, 2018</b> - The Director General of Foreign Trade hereby amends the office address of DGFT and its Regional Authorities and their Jurisdiction and Private SEZs of Appendix 1A of Foreign Trade Policy, 2015-20.</li> <li>- <b>Notification No.13/2015-2020 dated 20<sup>th</sup> June, 2018</b> - Amends Paragraph 4.29 (VI) and (vii) of Foreign Trade Policy 2015-20.</li> <li>- <b>Notification No. 12/2018 – Central Tax(Rate) and Notification No. 13/2018 – Integrated Tax(Rate) dated 29th June 2018</b> - Government of India vide the captioned notifications has decided to extend the exemption on intrastate and interstate supplies of goods and services or both received by a registered person from an unregistered supplier, from whole of the central tax leviable under section 9(4) of the CGST Act, 2017 or Integrated tax leviable under section 5(4) of IGST Act,2017 till 30th September 2018. Through this, the Reverse Charge on the said transactions has been deferred till 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2018.</li> </ul>
<b>17</b> <b>EPCES CIRCULAR</b> <b>NO. 301</b> <b>dated 9.7.2018</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Circular No.49/23/2018-GST dated 21<sup>st</sup> June 2018</b> - The said circular covers the modifications to Circular No.41/15/2018-GST in relation to clarification on the procedure for interception of conveyances for inspection of goods in movement, and detention, release and confiscation of such goods and conveyances.</li> <li>- <b>Press Release 29<sup>th</sup> June, 2018</b> - The said release extends the suspension of provisions relating to Tax deduction at source (TDS) and Tax collection at source (TCS) till 30th September 2018.</li> <li>- <b>Public Notice No.17/2015-2020 dated 03rd July 2018</b> - DGFT via the said notice adds Para 3.24 in the Hand Book of Procedures which prescribed the procedure will be followed at the concerned Regional Authority while issuing the No Incentive Certificate, in the specified format Appendix 3F.</li> </ul>
<b>18</b> <b>EPCES CIRCULAR</b> <b>NO. 302</b> <b>dated 16.7.2018</b>	<p><b>Policy Circular No.9/2015-20 dated 9<sup>th</sup> July 2018</b> - The said circular is regarding acceptance of any copy of Shipping Bill in lieu of EP copy of Shipping Bill for grant of EODC of Advance Authorization.</p>
<b>19</b> <b>EPCES CIRCULAR</b> <b>NO. 303</b> <b>dated 20.7.2018</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Press Release-Third Refund Fortnight dated 16th July 2018</b> - Press Release D.O.F. No.450/119/2017-CUS-IV has been issued by CBIC on 16th July 2018. In order to overcome issues related to sanction of refund under GST, Ministry of Finance has issued a Press Release starting “Refund Disposal Fortnight” from 16th July, 2018 to 30th July 2018, after observing two special drives cum refund fortnights i.e. from 15th to 31st March 2018 and 31st may to 16th June 2018. Dedicated cells and helpdesks would be provided for exporters to get refund claims processed.</li> <li>- <b>Circular No. 21/2018-Customs dated 18<sup>th</sup> July 2018</b> - Vide the captioned circular, it has been decided to set up help desks at the offices of FIEO and AEPC for expeditious resolutions of IGST refund related issues since exporters are unable to approach customs port of exports due to factors like distance, lack of information etc.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Order No. F. No. 96/ACTT/GST/2018/391-93 dated 18<sup>th</sup> July 2018</b> - It has been noted that Registration number is shown as inactive on GSTN Common Portal, thus making tax payers unable to log in and file their dues. The reason for this has been found to be that during verification of application for enrolment of existing tax payers, online SCN's were issued, being overlooked by taxpayers, due to which Provisional Registrations got cancelled from back end by system. Thus authorities have been directed to restore all such cases of migration after due verification of GST REG-21 submitted by tax payers.</li> <li>- <b>Circular No. 22/2018-Customs dated 18<sup>th</sup> July 2018</b> - Earlier CBIC has provided resolution of SB003 error in certain cases via the utility developed by the Directorate of System in a similar manner as in SB005 error provided in circular 15/2018-Customs dated 06.6.2018. In several cases, the exporters have mentioned PAN instead of GSTIN in the Shipping Bills, even though GSTIN has been correctly mentioned while filing the GST returns resulting in IGST refund claims not getting processed. Circulars have been issued offering alternate mechanism to resolve invoice mismatches (SB005 error) for shipping bills filed till 30th April 2018. It has been decided by the Board to extend the rectification facility to Shipping Bills filed up to 30.06.2018 in light of ongoing refund fortnight. The facility of rectification through Officer Interface is also extended in case of other errors mentioned in circulars 8/2018-Customs and</li> </ul>
20	<b>EPCES CIRCULAR NO. 304 dated 23.7.2018</b>	28 <sup>th</sup> GST council meeting held on 21 July 2018. Details of key recommendations made in the said meeting was provided to members.
21	<b>EPCES CIRCULAR NO. 305 dated 23.7.2018</b>	Directorate General of Export Promotion, Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance has issued <b>Circular No. 23/2018-Customs dated 23/7/2018</b> informing that there is, therefore, no requirement of establishing one to one correlation between the consignment of gold/silver/platinum imported and the export of jewellery. However, the nominated agencies/exporters are required to maintain the account of duty free gold and domestically procured duty paid gold in such manner so that duty free gold/silver/platinum obtained for the purpose of export of jewellery is clearly accounted for by the export of jewellery/articles.
22	<b>EPCES CIRCULAR NO. 306 dated 28.7.2018</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Office Memorandum No. Pr. CCA/CBEC/GST-IT/E-PAO Refund/ 33/2017-18/263 dated 19th July 2018</b> - The said Office Memorandum covers CBIC's GST Refund: Advisory No.2. The said advisory is issued to all concerned officers, authorities and organizations to ensure smooth and timely processing of GST refund during the refund fortnight from 16/07/2018 to 31/07/2018.</li> <li>- <b>Policy Circular No. 11/2015-20 dated 23rd July, 2018</b> - The captioned circular relates to grant of Deemed Export Benefits for supplies to the projects funded by organization such as JICA etc under para 8.2(d) of the Foreign Trade Policy, 2009-14.</li> <li>- <b>Press Release – Key recommendations of 28<sup>th</sup> GST Council Meeting dated 21<sup>st</sup> July 2018</b></li> <li>- <b>Notification 14/2018 – Central Tax (Rate) dated 26<sup>th</sup> July, 2018</b> - The captioned notification amends notification 12/2017 – Central Tax (Rate) so as to exempt certain supplies</li> <li>- <b>Notification 17/2018 – Central Tax (Rate) dated 26<sup>th</sup> July, 2018</b> - The captioned notification amends notification 11/2017 – Central Tax (Rate). Explanation inserted to Serial No. 3(vi) of Notification no. 11/2017 – Central tax (Rate) stating 'business' shall not include any activity or transaction undertaken by the Central or State Government or any local authority in which they are engaged as public authorities.</li> </ul>

<b>23</b> <b>EPCES CIRCULAR</b> <b>NO. 307</b> <b>dated 3.8.2018</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Notification No.22/2015-2020 dated 26<sup>th</sup> July 2018</b> - The Central Government makes amendments to the Foreign Trade Policy 2015-2020 on Para 2.47 and Para 3.05</li> <li>- <b>Notification No. 30/2018 – Central Tax dated 30<sup>th</sup> July 2018</b> - Vide the said notification, government has extended due date for filing of GSTR-6 for the months of July 2017 to August 2018 till 30th September 2018.</li> <li>- <b>Circular No. 50/24/2018-GST dated 31<sup>st</sup> July 2018</b> - It is clarified that the clarifications made by the earlier circular dated 08.01.2018 and order dated 31.03.2018 have been incorporated under the law by way of amendment of the Notification No. 13/2018-Central Tax(Rate) dated 26.07.2018</li> <li>- <b>Circular No. 51/25/2018-GST dated 31<sup>st</sup> July 2018</b> - The captioned circular has been issued in relation to ambulance services provided by Private Service Providers (PSP's) to Government under National Health Mission (NHM).</li> </ul>
<b>24</b> <b>EPCES CIRCULAR</b> <b>NO. 308</b> <b>dated 7.8.2018</b>	<p>Government of India vide Notification No. 22/2018- Central Tax (Rate) dated 6 August 2018, has further extended the exemption on intra-State supplies of goods and services or both received by a registered person from any unregistered supplier from whole of the central tax leviable under Section 9(4) of the Central Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017 till 30th September 2019.</p>
<b>25</b> <b>EPCES CIRCULAR</b> <b>NO. 309</b> <b>dated 13.8.2018</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Notification No. 22/2018- Central Tax (Rate) dated 6<sup>th</sup> August 2018</b> – government of India has further extended the exemption on intra-State supplies of goods and services or both received by a registered person from any unregistered supplier from whole of the central tax leviable under Section 9(4) of the Central Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017 till 30th September 2019.</li> <li>- <b>Notification No. 23/2018 – Integrated Tax (Rate) 6<sup>th</sup> August, 2018</b> – A notification has been issued under the Integrated Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017 (IGST) wherein the exemption on inter-State supplies of goods and services or both received by a registered person from any unregistered supplier from whole of the integrated tax leviable under Section 5(4) of the IGST has been extended till 30th September 2019.</li> <li>- <b>Notification No. 24/2015-2020 dated 08<sup>th</sup> August, 2018</b> - Vide this notification, the central government amends Para 2.05 of Foreign Trade Policy 2015-2020 on Importer-Exporter Code. This notification leads to revision of Para 2.05 and details on the procedure have been shifted to para 2.08 of Handbook of Procedures. Copy of the said notification is attached for your reference.</li> <li>- <b>Public Notice No. 27/2015-2020 dated 08<sup>th</sup> August, 2018-</b> Vide this notice, DGFT has amended Para 2.08 and 2.14 of Handbook of Procedures on Importer-Exporter Code.</li> </ul>
<b>26</b> <b>EPCES CIRCULAR</b> <b>NO. 310</b> <b>dated 16.8.2018</b>	<p>Directorate General of Export Promotion issued a clarification vide <b>Circular No. 27/2018-Customs dated 14.8.2018</b> that waiver of bank guarantee/ surety to EOUs would continue to be governed by various circular issued from time to time by CBIC with regard to B-17 bonds executed by EOUs and will not be guided by the <b>Circular No. 48/2017-Customs dated 8.12.2017</b> which governs the general importers and not the EOUs.</p>



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| <p><b>27</b>    <b>EPCES CIRCULAR NO. 311 dated 20.8.2018</b></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Notification No. 32/2018- Central Tax dated 10<sup>th</sup> August, 2018</b> - Due date of filing monthly GSTR-1 returns for the period from July 2018 to March 2019 by a registered person having aggregate turnover above INR 1.5 crore in FY 2017-18 or 2018-19 has been extended to 11th of each subsequent month.</li> <li>- <b>Notification No. 33/2018 – Central Tax dated 10<sup>th</sup> August, 2018</b> - Due date for filing quarterly GSTR-1 returns for the period from July 2018 to March 2019 by a registered person having aggregate turnover upto INR 1.5 crore in FY 2017-18 or 2018-19 have been notified</li> <li>- <b>Notification No. 34/2018 – Central Tax dated 10<sup>th</sup> August, 2018</b> - Due date of filing monthly GSTR-3B return for the period from July 2018 to March 2019 by all registered persons has been notified as 20th of each subsequent month. Further, it has also been notified that liability towards payment of tax, interest, penalty or fee pertaining to each month shall be deposited on or before the due date of filing GSTR-3B of the said month.</li> <li>- <b>Circular No. 27/2018 – Customs dated 14<sup>th</sup> August, 2018</b> - CBIC has issued a clarification regarding bank guarantee requirement for bond executed by EOUs.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>28</b>    <b>EPCES CIRCULAR NO. 312 dated 11.9.2018</b></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Notification No. 43/2018 – Central Tax dated 10 September 2018-</b> Due dates for filing quarterly GSTR-1 returns for the period from July 2018 to March 2019 by a registered person having aggregate turnover below INR 1.5 crore in FY 2017-18 or 2018-19 has been notified</li> <li>- <b>Notification No. 44/2018 – Central Tax dated 10 September 2018-</b> Due date for filing of monthly GSTR-1 returns for the period from July 2017 to September 2018 by a registered person having aggregate turnover above INR 1.5 crore in FY 2017-18 or 2018-19 shall be 31 October 2018;</li> <li>- <b>Notification No's 45, 46 and 47/2018 – Central Tax dated 10 September 2018</b> - Due date of filing Form GSTR-3B for taxpayers who have obtained GSTIN under special scheme for migration as per Notification No. 31/2018– Central Tax dated 6 August 2018 shall be 31 December 2018.</li> <li>- <b>Notification No. 48/2018 – Central Tax dated 10 September 2018-</b> Rule 117 of the Central Goods and Services Tax Rules, 2017 which deals with transition of credit in Form GST Tran-1, has been amended by inserting a sub-rule (1A) which empowers the Commissioner to extend due date of submitting Form GST Tran-1 to 31 March 2019 in respect of registered persons who could not submit the said declaration by the due date on account of technical difficulties on the common portal;</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>29</b>    <b>EPCES CIRCULAR NO. 313 dated 14.9.2018</b></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Notification No. 49/2018 – Central Tax, dated 13 September 2018</b> - The Government has notified GST audit report in Form GSTR-9C</li> <li>- <b>Notification No. 50/2018 – Central Tax, dated 13 September 2018</b> - Provisions of Tax Deducted at Source (TDS ) have been made effective from 1 October 2018.</li> <li>- <b>Notification No. 51/2018 – Central Tax, dated 13 September 2018</b> - The present notification provides for the date i.e. 1 October 2018 when the provisions of Collection of tax at source (TCS) shall come in force.</li> </ul>  |

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| <p><b>30 EPCES CIRCULAR NO. 314 dated 20.9.2018</b></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Notification No. 43/2018 – Central Tax dated 10th September, 2018</b> - As per the captioned notification, due dates for filing quarterly GSTR-1 returns for the period from July 2018 to March 2019</li> <li>- <b>Notification No. 44/2018 – Central Tax dated 10th September, 2018</b> - As per the captioned notification, the government has notified due date for GSTR-1</li> <li>- <b>Notification No. 45, 46 and 47/2018 – Central Tax dated 10th September, 2018</b> - Vide the captioned notification, the government has extended the due date of filing Form GSTR-3B for taxpayers who have obtained GSTIN under special scheme for migration as per Notification No. 31/2018 – Central Tax dated 6 August 2018 shall be 31st December 2018.</li> <li>- <b>Notification No. 48/2018 – Central Tax dated 10th August, 2018</b> - Vide the captioned notification, the government has amended the Rule 117 of the CGST Rules, 2017 which deals with transition of credit in Form GST Tran-1, by inserting a sub-rule (1A) which empowers the Commissioner to extend due date of submitting Form GST Tran-1 to 31st March 2019 in respect of registered persons who could not submit the said declaration by the due date on account of technical difficulties on the common portal;</li> <li>- <b>Notification No. 49/2018 – Central Tax dated 13th September, 2018</b> - As per the captioned notification, the Government has notified GST audit report in Form GSTR-9C.</li> <li>- <b>Notification No. 50/2018 – Central Tax dated 13th September, 2018</b> - Vide the captioned notification, the provisions of Tax Deducted at Source (TDS) have been made effective from 1st October 2018.</li> <li>- <b>Notification No. 51/2018 – Central Tax dated 13th September, 2018</b>- Vide the captioned notification, the Central Government notifies for the date i.e. 1st October 2018 when the provisions of Collection of Tax at Source (TCS) shall come in force.</li> <li>- <b>Trade Notice No. 30/2018-19</b> – Directorate General of Foreign Trade dated 13th September, 2018 - Guidelines to apply for MEIS under the System Driven approval mechanism for MEIS applications for shipping bills from EDI ports.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>31 EPCES CIRCULAR NO. 315 dated 25.9.2018</b></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Order No. 4/2018 – GST dated 17th September, 2018</b> - As per the captioned order, the government hereby extends the period for submitting the declaration in FORM GST TRAN-1 till 31st January 2019, for the class of registered persons who could not submit the said declaration by the due date on account of technical difficulties on the common portal.</li> <li>- <b>Circular No. 33/2018 – Customs dated 19th September, 2018</b> - As per the captioned circular, the government has also authorized the Cost Accountants to provide the requisite certificates as envisaged under Circular no. 12/2018-Customs dated 29th May 2018.</li> <li>- <b>Notification No. 52/2018 – Central Tax dated 20th September, 2018</b>- As per the captioned notification, all E-commerce operators excluding agents are required to collect half percent Tax at Source on net value of intra-state supplies made through other suppliers with respect to which consideration is received by the operator.</li> </ul>   |

<b>32</b> <b>EPCES CIRCULAR NO. 316 dated 4.10.2018</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Notification No. 02/2018 – Integrated Tax dated 20th September, 2018</b> - As per the captioned notification, all E-commerce operators excluding agents are required to collect one percent Tax at Source on net value of inter-state supplies made through other suppliers with respect to which consideration is received by the operator.</li> <li>- <b>Notification No. 65/2018 – Customs dated 24th September, 2018</b> - Vide the captioned notification, the Government of India has further extended the exemption from Integrated Tax and Compensation Cess for Import of goods by EOU/STPI/EHTP till 1st April 2019.</li> <li>- <b>SEZ (Amendment) Rules, 2018</b> - The Central government has notified SEZ (Amendment) Rules, 2018 on 19th September, 2018 in order to amend Special Economic Zones, Rules 2006.</li> <li>- <b>Notification No. 35/2015-20 dated 26th September, 2018</b> - As per the captioned notification, the Central Government has amended the Foreign Trade Policy 2015-20 to extend the exemption from applicability of Integrated Goods and Services Tax (IGST) and compensation cess upto 31st March 2019 under the Advance Authorization Scheme (AA) Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme (EPCG) Export Oriented Units Scheme (EOU)</li> </ul>
<b>33</b> <b>EPCES CIRCULAR NO. 317 dated 16.10.2018</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Notification No. 53/2018 – Central Tax dated 9th October, 2018</b> - As per the captioned notification, the Central Government amended Rule 96(10) of CGST Rules, 2017 w.e.f. 23rd October 2017</li> <li>- <b>Notification No. 54/2018 – Central Tax dated 9th October, 2018</b> - As per the captioned notification, the Central Government amended Rule 89(4B) and Rule 96(10) of CGST Rules, 2017</li> <li>- <b>Circular No. 37/2018-Customs dated 09th October, 2018</b> - Vide the captioned circular, CBIC has replied to numerous representations received from exporters regarding cases where IGST refunds have not been granted because higher rate of drawback has been claimed or where higher rate and lower rate were identical.</li> </ul>
<b>34</b> <b>EPCES CIRCULAR NO. 318 dated 25.10.2018</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Press Release dated 18th October, 2018</b> – regarding Last date for availing Input Tax Credit</li> <li>- <b>Press Release – Ministry of Finance dated 21st October, 2018</b> - extended the last date for furnishing return in the Form GSTR-3B for the month of September, 2018 upto 25th October, 2018.</li> <li>- <b>Notification No. 55/2018 – Central Tax dated 21st October, 2018</b> - Vide the captioned notification, the Central Government has extended the last date for furnishing the return in FORM GSTR-3B for the month of September, 2018 upto 25th October, 2018.</li> </ul>
<b>35</b> <b>EPCES CIRCULAR NO. 319 dated 31.10.2018</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Circular No. 40/2018 – Customs dated 24th October, 2018</b> - IGST Export Refunds – extension in SB005 alternate mechanism and revised processing in certain cases including disbursal of compensation cess</li> <li>- <b>Notification No. 58/2018 – Central Tax dated 26th October, 2018</b> - Vide the captioned notification, the Central Government notifies that the persons whose registration has been cancelled by the proper officer on or before the 30th September, 2018 shall furnish the final return in FORM GSTR-10 till the 31st December, 2018.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Notification No. 59/2018 – Central Tax dated 26st October, 2018</b> - Vide the captioned notification, the Central Government extends the time limit for furnishing the declaration in FORM GST ITC-04 in respect of goods dispatched to a job worker or received from a job worker or sent from one job worker to another job worker, during the period from July, 2017 to September, 2018 till 31st December, 2018.</li> <li>- <b>Circular No. 69/2018 – GST dated 26th October, 2018</b> – regarding Processing of Applications for Cancellation of Registration submitted in FORM REG-16</li> <li>- <b>Circular No. 70/2018 – GST dated 26th October, 2018</b> - Clarification on certain issues related to refund.</li> </ul>
36	<b>EPCES CIRCULAR NO. 320 dated 11.2.2019</b>	- Guidelines for Power Generation, Transmission and Distribution in Special Economic Zones (SEZs)
37	<b>EPCES CIRCULAR NO. 321 dated 19.2.2019</b>	- <b>Trade Notice No. 47 dated 11/2/2019</b> “Online Module for Filing & Tracking Quality Complaints/Trade Disputes relating to International Trade”.
38	<b>EPCES CIRCULAR NO. 322 dated 27.2.2019</b>	- Clarification on eligibility of Export made from SEZ/EOU units on behalf of DTA unit, but not through DTA unit. – <b>DGFT Policy Circular No. 20 dated 22.2.2019.</b>
39	<b>EPCES CIRCULAR NO. 323 dated 11.3.2019</b>	- <b>Amendment to SEZ Rules 2019</b> [Gazette Notification GSR 200(E) dated 7.3.2019].
40	<b>EPCES CIRCULAR NO. 324 dated 25.3.2019</b>	- Extension of exemption on Integrated Goods & Service Tax (IGST) and Compensation Cess under EOU Scheme under para 6.01(d)(ii) of FTP 2015-20.

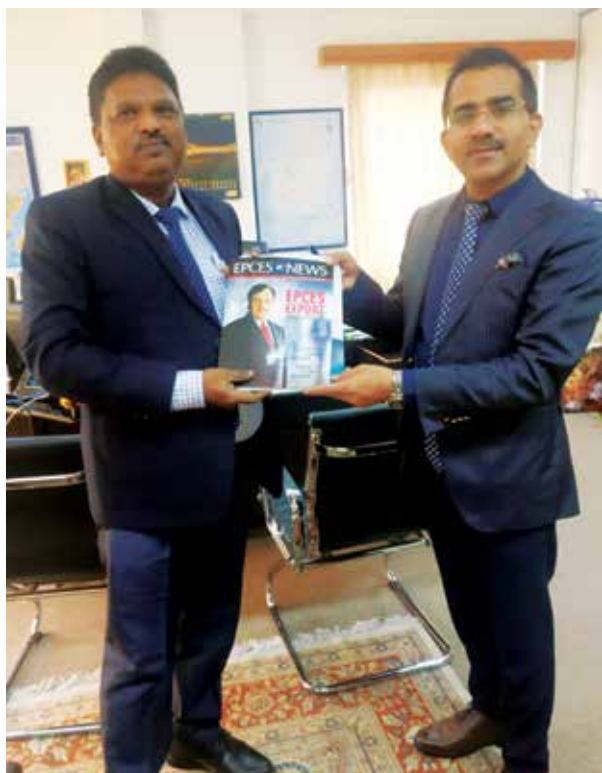


## Export Promotion Council for EOUs and SEZs

### 1. EPCES Participation in Home Wonder 2018 held from 6th to 15th April, 2018 at Free Port, Mer-Rouge, Port Louis, Mauritius

Ministry of Commerce & Industry has approved Action Plan of EPCES for 2018-19, under Market Access Initiative (MAI) Scheme, for participation in trade fairs/exhibitions abroad. Accordingly Export Promotion Council for EOUs & SEZs (EPCES), along with Indian exporting companies had participated in “Home Wonders 2018” (earlier “India International Trade Expo” change of name certificate attached) held from 6th to 15th April, 2018 at Free Port, Mer-Rouge, Mauritius. On behalf of EPCES Shri T.V. Ravi, Director General EPCES and Shri Anand Giri, Deputy Director General EPCES had accompanied the Indian exhibitors.

Before the fair, on 5th April, 2018, Director General EPCES and Dy. Director General EPCES met High Commissioner of India in Mauritius and Deputy High Commissioner of India in Mauritius and briefed them about the fair, EPCES participation, product covered etc. Director General presented latest edition of EPCES News, EPCES brochure etc to the High Commissioner and Dy. High Commissioner of India in Mauritius.



*Shri T.V. Ravi, Director General EPCES (left) presenting latest edition of EPCES News and literature of EPCES to Shri K.D. Dewal, Deputy High Commissioner of India in Mauritius*

Shri Abhay Thakur, High Commissioner of India in Mauritius, during the meeting, advised Director General EPCES to meet the SEZ authorities of Mauritius to further explore the possibilities for Indian SEZ to send their products to African countries via Mauritius and get the duty benefit. On his advise Director General EPCES along with Dy. Director General EPCES met The Deputy Director General of Mauritius Port Authority on the same day and briefed them about Indian SEZ Policy, its incentives and progress etc. DDG Mauritius Port Authority had made a presentation about Mauritius Port Authority, facilities available, space available etc. Chairman Rajasthan Works Ltd also joined the meeting.



*R to L:  
Chairman, Rajasthan Works Ltd,  
Director General EPCES & Director (EOU/  
SEZ), Deputy Director General, Mauritius Port  
Authority, Dy. Director General EPCES and  
Manager, MPA.*

The Home Wonder 2018 was held from 6th to 15th April, 2018 at Port Louis, Mauritius. The fair provided an opportunity for promoting African and Asian Countries in Mauritius as a global gateway to Africa. The show was attended by immeasurable guests likewise as exhibitors to participate and direct face to face communication with one another on the foremost recent market innovations and profitable business opportunities within the respective industry.

Since the Fair “Home Wonders 2018” was household items Fair, the products covered at the exhibition were household items related viz. textile, home furnishing, curtains, kitchenware, bed-sheets, utensils, electronic items, electrical items, furniture, cutlery etc.

A number of foreign exhibitors and Indian exporters displayed their products and services. The fair was attended by foreign businessmen, investors and buyers including large number of Indian exporters. It also provided good opportunity to publicize the concept of SEZ Scheme of India in the presence of foreign businessmen, investors and buyers. The organizer of the fair was M/s Rajasthan Works Limited, which is Mauritius based Company renowned for a second to none service in the world of consumer shows.

The Fair was inaugurated on 6th April, 2018 by lighting of lamp by Mrs. Santi Bai Hanoomanjee, Hon’ble Speaker for the Parliament of Mauritius, Mr. Raj Rampertab, Parliamentary Private Secretary, MP, Shri T.V. Ravi, Director General, Export Promotion Council for EOUs & SEZs and other senior government officials of Mauritius and other countries.



***Inauguration of the Fair by Mr. T.V. Ravi, Director General EPCES & Director (EOU/SEZ), Deptt. of Commerce, Government of India***



***Inauguration of the Fair by Mr. K.D. Dewal, Deputy High Commissioner of India in Mauritius***



***Mr. T.V. Ravi, Director General EPCES honored during Inaugural ceremony***





*Mr. T.V. Ravi, Director General EPCES (2nd from left – standing) during Inaugural ceremony*

The organizers have designed a special cultural programme for the inauguration ceremony with mesmerizing performances from international artists, magicians, singers from India and other countries.



*Cultural programme during the inauguration of the Fair*



*The Fair was also visited by Mrs. Sarojini Jugnauth, wife of Sir Anerood Jugnauth, past President and Prime Minister of Mauritius and mother of Mr. Pravind Jugnauth, Prime Minister of Mauritius.*

The Fair was very much appreciated by all the participants as well as the visitors. Units have got maximum business from this fair.

Approximately 1.5 lakh people visited the Fair and appreciated Indian products viz. Indian textile items, bed-sheets, kitchenware, electrical and electronic items and other household items. Participants have requested EPCES to regularly participate in this Fair in future also so as to avail the MAI benefit.

For ease of participants, organizers of the fair have made special arrangements viz. in-house Indian restaurant, shuttle service from Exhibition Ground to the nearest Bus Depot and provided direct vehicles also from exhibition ground to their place of stay etc.

It is also mentioned that details of the fair were publicized at Radio Mauritius and various stage-shows were also organized by Indian, Mauritian and Malaysian artists in this regard.



*A view of the Trade Fair*





- Mrs. Santi Bai Hanoomanjee, Hon'ble Speaker for the Parliament of Mauritius along with Mr. T V Ravi, Director General EPCES visiting the Fair
- Some of the stalls of Indian companies.
- Some of the stalls of Indian companies.



The objective of EPCES participation was to explore new markets for promoting exports from India and to publicize the concept of SEZ Scheme of India abroad for attracting foreign investment in SEZs in India. Mr. T.V. Ravi, Director General EPCES explained the salient features of SEZ Scheme to foreign businessmen, investors and buyers from Bangladesh, Pakistan, Syria etc.

There were total 120 stalls in the Fair wherein exporters from India, Mauritius, Singapore, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Afghanistan etc., have exhibited their products relating to home furnishing and decor.

EPCES participated with the Indian exporters in Multi Product Trade Fair, Home Wonders 2018 held from 6th to 15th April, 2018 at Mauritius.

EPCES has arranged visit of foreign visitors, investors and buyers to Indian stalls. For construction of stalls and fascia etc., representative of EPCES were there a days before the event.

EPCES representative met senior officials of Mauritius and other countries and explained them about the participation and handed over the EPCES Newsletter, Brochure etc., which provides details of SEZ and EOU Scheme. A catalogue was also published indicating company profiles of Indian participants, their contact details, products etc., for distributing to foreign businessmen, investors and buyers.

Apart from the above, the detail of the fair was announced on Mauritius Radio FM. There was a permanent stage wherein visitors have been informed about the fair and the participants, their products etc.

## **BUSINESS GENERATED/OBERVATIONS AT THE FAIR**

Individual feedback reports have been received from Indian exhibitors who had participated under EPCES Umbrella. Based on these reports received from the participants, it is mentioned that all the participants have got very good business during the fair and also tied-up various agreements/arrangements with various Mauritian companies.

It is further mentioned that a number of foreign buyers and businessmen visited the fair and very useful discussions were held by the Indian exhibitors with them. A large number of enquiries have also been received by the participants, negotiations for the same are in the pipeline.

## **2. Road Show at Hotel Fortune Pandian, Madurai – held on 5th April, 2018 by DC MEPZ-SEZ, Chennai**



*Sh. D. Anandan, Jt. D.C., MEPZ-SEZ Making presentation, (from L to R) Ms. Shilpa Prabhakar Satish, Executive Vice-Chairman, Guidance Bureau, Shri. K. Veera Raghava Rao, Collector - Madurai, Shri. B. Chandramohan, CMD, Elcot-Madurai, Dr. Vinay Sharma, Offg. Chairman, EPCES, Dr. M.K. Shanmuga Sundaram, D.C. MEPZ-SEZ, Shri. Ilangovan, Treasurer, Tamil Nadu Chamber, Madurai.*



FICCI in association with MEPZ arranged the road show for benefit of exporters. Large number of exporters attended the programme. EPCES Offtg. Chairman was the Chief Guest of the programme. In his address, he said that SEZ is the best platform to do business. More than the subsidies or benefits offered in SEZ, businessmen at present look for ease of doing business and SEZ gives that comfort. He urged businessmen in the City to utilize SEZ for their enterprises. The Development Commissioner also invited the exporters to set up their units in SEZ zone for doing ease of business and the competitive advantages of exporting from SEZ zones. Photos are attached herewith.



*The Officiating Chairman EPCES interacting with the members along with Sh. K.Veera Raghava Rao, Collector, Madurai (extreme left)*



*A view of the gathering*

### **3. EPCES organized an Interactive session of SEZ Developers on 14th April 2018 at Ahmedabad.**

EPCES convened an extensive interactive session at Ahmedabad with the Developers of Special Economic Zones in Gujarat on 14th April 2018, Ahmedabad. The major issued amongst others that werew deliberated included understanding the challenges faced by the Developers in the region primarily related to the Central SEZ Act and Rules framed there under. Other issued such as exploring the possibility of EPCES marketing for the Indian SEZ and operational challenges were deliberated at length. The session was very fruitful there for the resolving issues of SEZ Units /SEZ Developers.

### **4. Interaction of EOUs & SEZ units/SEZ Developer with Dr. L. B. Singhal Zonal Development Commissioner Noida April 18, 2018.**



*(Dr. L. B. Singhal, Zonal Development Commissioner addresseing the gathering)*

EPCES Regional Office at NSEZ in association with PHD Chamber of Commerce arranged Interactive Session of EOUs/SEZ/SEZ Developers on 18th April 2018 at PHD House, New Delhi. Dr L.B Singhal, Zonal Development Commissioner, Noida chaired the interactive Session. The Session was attended by Shri S S Sukhla, Joint Development Commissioner and Md Salik Pervez, Dy Commissioner (Custom) Noida attend the Interactive Session.

While addressing the participants Dr. L. B. Singhal Zonal Development Commissioner NSEZ informed that SEZs & EOUs are earning valuable foreign exchange for the country. SEZ Sector is contributing to national regional and sub-regional development of the country by creating world class infrastructure in their SEZs. It is a great sense of satisfaction, that export from SEZ Sector have gone from Rs. 22000/- crore in 2005-06 to Rs. 523637 crore in 2016-17. Dr. Singhal also highlighted benefits available in SEZ like exemption in duties and taxes, Single Window System in SEZ for speedy clearance.

Dr. L. B. Singhal informed that the contribution of Service Exports in SEZ is growing gradually and at present service export contribute about 53% of Total SEZ exports.

In the welcoming remarks Shri Anil Khaitan President, PHD Chamber of Commerce & Industry emphasized that the objective of SEZ could be accomplished with facilities that can link SEZ operations with port. Shri Anil Khaitan also urged that the Government should remove Minimum Alternative Tax on SEZ for its further expansion and diversification as the issue of MAT on this temples of Modern Indian Economy has hindered their growth in general and exports in particular. He further added that MAT needs to be re-examined by the concerned authorities so that SEZ are not subjected to such a taxation as hinders and restrict their growth and constrict expansion.



*Shri Bhuvnesh Seth, Regional Chairman EPCES – NSEZ, addressing the participants*

Shri Bhuvnesh Seth, Regional Chairman EPCES – NSEZ apprised the participants that SEZ Developers have developed SEZs in Jaipur, Noida, Greater Noida, Gurgaon and other places by investing heavily in construction of built up area with all facilities. The Developers have created built up areas which can be leased to prospective IT/ITES Software and Electronic Hardware, Engineering Companies etc. to setup up their captive units. He further added the under the SEZ





*A view of the participants*

Scheme the units are eligible for tax exemption by way of Income Tax on graded basis besides exemption from GST. The SEZ units can import machinery equipment's etc. without any import duty and can further purchase indigenous equipment with 100 percent excise duty exemption.

While proposing vote of thanks Shri S. K. Gupta members Regional Governing Council apprised that Dr. L. B. Singhal, Zonal Development Commissioner Noida SEZ with his vast experience resolves the issues of EOUs & SEZs in the interest of the EOUs and SEZ Community.

Shri Gupta thanked Dr. S. P. Sharma Chief Economist & Director Research of PHD Chambers of Commerce and Industry Shri. O. P. Kapoor, Regional Director, EPCES Noida. He further thanked Shri S. S. Shukla, Joint Development Commissioner Noida SEZ, Md. Salik Parwaiz, Dy. Commissioner (Customs) Noida SEZ for their support and help in resolving the issues of EOUs & SEZs. The programme was attended by more than 100 participants. The participants were satisfied with the clarification and information given during the programme.

## **5. Training Programme on “Product Market Identification and Market Entry Strategy” 24th April 24, 2018 Kolkata**

Export Promotion Council in association with CAPEXIL organized a Training Programme on “Product Market Identification and Market Entry Strategy” on 24th April 2018 at EEPC Conference Hall Kolkata.

The programme was designed keeping in view the free trade regime and economic reforms initiated by Govt. of India as well as the impetus given to international trade, accelerated growth rate of export under the ‘Make in India’ regime. The programme primarily focused on making exporters aware of the strategies associated to identify a new market and how to enter the market by using advance tools.

The key speaker was Dr. Gautam Dutta, Professor IIFT an expert in Marketing Management, Technology Innovation Management, Entrepreneurship, Small Business Development and in International Marketing. The programme was also attended by Mr. S. K. Ghosh, Chairman of Ceramics and Allied Products including Refractory's Panel, Mr. T. K. Bhattacharya, Executive Director CAPEXIL



and Dr. Sabyasachi Ghosh. Approximately 55 exporters attended the training programme and gave a positive feedback about the session. A simplified way of explaining the important issue of Product market identification and market entry strategies turned out to be really helpful to all of the delegates.

#### **6. EPCES ORGANISED OPEN HOUSE ON GST ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25, 2018 AT NEW DELHI.**



*(L to R) Dr. Vinay Sharma, Offg. Chairman EPCES, Dr. L.B. Singhal, Zones DC, NSEZ, Shri Yogendra Garg, Addl. Director General GST, Shri Arun Goyal, Special Secretary GST Council, Shri Dheeraj Rastogi, Joint Secretary, GST Council of India, Shri Vashishtha Chaudhary, Vice President GSTIN and Shri T. V. Ravi, Director General EPCES*

EPCES organized an Open House specifically on GST on April 25, 2018 at New Delhi in order to resolve the issues/difficulties faced by its members and to provide necessary clarification relating to GST.

The Open House was chaired by Shri Arun Goyal, Special Secretary, GST Council and attended by Dr. L.B. Singhal, Development Commissioner, Noida SEZ, Shri Yogendra Garg, Addl. Director General, Directorate General of Goods & Services Tax, Shri Dheeraj Rastogi, Joint Secretary, GST Council of India, Shri Vashishtha Chaudhary, Vice President GSTIN, and Shri Abhishek Apte, Sr. Manager, NSDL and senior officials from Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Ministry of Finance, CBEC, CBDT and other senior government officials, attended the Open House.



*(Lighting of Lamp by Shri Arun Goyal, Special Secretary GST Council)*



**Shri T. V. Ravi, Director (SEZ) & Director General EPCES**

While welcoming, Offtg. Chairman thanked Shri Arun Goyal Special Secretary, GST for sparing his valuable time for chairing the session. He further said that GST has replaced 17 taxes by one tax and at the same time every businessman wanted to deal with one tax instead of 17 different taxes. The businessmen wanted to save their time and energy in filing returns etc. Unfortunately, they are now spending more time than the time they used to spend in filing returns earlier for 17 different taxes.

Shri T.V. Ravi, Director (SEZs) and DG, EPCES said that the introduction of GST is a significant step in the field of indirect tax reforms in India. Exporters are very happy as the zero rated supplies has been done. However, there are some difficulties which are practical difficulties. He said that the issues related to GST refunds had been taken up at a very higher level. It may take some time for resolving these issues. Once refund related issues are resolved,

majority of the issues would be resolved automatically.

Addressing the participants, Shri Arun Goyal, Special Secretary, GST Council thanked EPCES for organizing this Open House on GST and expressed his happiness over presence of large number of EOUs and SEZs from all over the country. He said that Offtg. Chairman, EPCES has expressed concerns of members on GST. He informed that today's deliberations would provide clarifications required by the members and would also help in resolving their concerns and issues.

Special Secretary, GST Council said that GST is a major economic reform as it has got major economic, political and administrative dimensions. He further informed the participants about the details of these dimensions. He stated that for the first time a very powerful body GST Council has been formed. It was expected that GST refund would be made quickly and immediately. The issues/ difficulties are under consideration and would be responded to it quickly. A number of meetings of GST Council had been held where major decisions had been taken. This kind of momentum has to be discussed in other areas. The whole idea is that all the States and the taxpayers all over the country



**Shri Arun Goyal, Special Secretary GST Council addressing the gathering**





***Shri Yogendra Goyal, Additional Director General GST***

should have only one tax to pay. The issues/ concerns are being addressed. When the Government looks at the representations made by exporters, the exporters have to see that there was a big change. People were now filing returns in larger number and in time also. Kindly bear, as the department, we are aware that everything is not perfect.

Shri Yogendra Garg, Addl. Director General, Directorate General of Goods & Services Tax, thanked EPCES for providing this platform to discuss the difficulties and issues being faced by EOUs and SEZs relating to GST. Issue of zero rated supplies to SEZs has been resolved. There are some issues, gaps and lack of alignments, which would be looked into. When a big change is happened, some issues are likely to occur and the frequency of issues has also declined. He said that with such regular interactions we would be able to resolve the remaining issues of EOUs and SEZs relating to GST.

Dr. L.B. Singhal, Development Commissioner, Noida SEZ complemented EPCES for organizing Open House on GST. He said that today's Open House on GST is a timely interaction. He informed that recently a number of such programmes on GST had been organized by Noida SEZ in different areas under its jurisdiction. IGST is a welcome step. EOUs should also be given. Some clarifications are required to be given. He said that these issues had been taken up at higher levels and response was likely to come shortly.



***Dr. L. B. Singhal, Zonal Development Commissioner NSEZ, addressing the participants***

Dr. Singhal informed that SEZs are procuring goods from domestic units. It is very difficult to procure goods from domestic market as local units inform that they are unable to take refund and insist SEZs to claim for refund. In case, this issue is resolved, major portion of the issues on GST would be resolved automatically.



As regards GST paid by Service Sector, a procedure has to be laid down. Dr. L.B. Singhal, Development Commissioner, Noida SEZ informed that third party exports happen when a domestic unit is having export order and goods are directly moved from SEZ Units to the port and the goods are not exported by the domestic units.

The issues/ concerns/ difficulties discussed at the Open House were mainly relating to GST refund, Exemption from payment of GST, classification of Goods and Services and place of supply for service exports, GSTN, Input service distribution/GST Return. Apart from this, participants present raised a number of queries and requested for clarifications. The senior officers of the Government provided immediate necessary clarifications and replies on all the issues/difficulties/queries.



*A view of the gathering*



*Shri Bhuvnesh Seth, Regional Chairman EPCEs NSEZ proposing the Vote of thanks*



Shri Bhuvnesh Seth, Regional Chairman, EPCES-NSEZ, thanked the dignitaries and members for making it convenient to attend the Open House. He specifically thanked Shri Arun Goyal, Special Secretary, GST Council for sparing some of his valuable time and come to meet EOUs and SEZs and for replying to their queries relating to GST. He also thanked Special Secretary, GST Council for bringing with him his team of officers for resolving the issues/difficulties being faced by EOUs and SEZs relating to GST. The Regional Chairman EPCES thanked Shri Yogendra Goyal, Additional Director General GST for enlightening the gathering and assuring them that soon the issues relating to EOUs & SEZs will be resolved. Shri Bhuvnesh Seth also showed gratitude to Dr. L. B. Singhal, Zonal Development Commissioner NSEZ for taking up the issue and problems faced by EOUs & SEZs under the GST regime.

**7. A Meeting related to Clusters & Export Promotion issues, held at Conference Hall, MSME-DI, Kolkata on 16th May 2019.**

Shri D. Mitra, Dy. Director, MSME-DI, Kolkata welcomed the guests. With self-introductory session, the meeting started. Dr. Sabyasachi Ghosh, Regional Director, EPCES, Kolkata introduced the present export scenario in the country with special emphasis on West Bengal. He explained the functions of the EPCES and SEZ activities. He discussed the present schemes in brief which MSMEs can take benefit of. He stressed upon awareness as key factor for MSMEs to grow in export market and assured extension of all possible assistance & cooperation to MSME-DI, Kolkata for export promotion.

Shri A. Bajpai, Dy. Director, MSME-DI, Kanpur & Shri S.K. Pandey, Asstt. Director, MSME-DI, Kanpur raised various queries on export related activities at UP under MSME-DI, Kanpur in particular. Dr. S. Ghosh, Regional Director, EPCES, Kolkata clarified their doubts and assured to send various data support by e-mail to MSME-DI, Kanpur & Kolkata as and when approached.



*A view of the meeting in progress*



Shri D. Mitra, Dy. Director explained the present thrust given by M/o of MSME on Cluster Development as well as Export Promotion. He informed that four CFCs is already completed and nine CFCs are under process under Cluster Development Programme in West Bengal. MSME-DI, Kolkata have already set up an Export Facilitation Cell (EFC) in MSME-DI, Kolkata for the benefit of MSMEs. He informed that Shri G. Podder, Asstt. Director was designated as Nodal Officer for EFC attached to DI, Kolkata.

Shri Podder informed about the action plan for EFC for the year 2019-20 and requested all sorts of support from EPCES, Kolkata for inducing Mini-cluster in SEZ by identifying two segment of Mini-clusters in consultation with various stake-holders as well as for conducting various Industrial Motivational Campaigns(IMCs) on Export Promotion Awareness and Management Development Programmes(MDPs) on Export Management & Documentation through participation of MSMEs interested for International Business to boost up the export growth in MSME sector particularly in the state of West Bengal.

Dr. S. Ghosh RD EPCES Kolkata also suggested that the programme module for MDP on Export Management and Documentation may be prepared in consultation with IIFT, Kolkata, Canara Bank and others and may be endorsed through him before finalization. Dr. Ghosh also assured to extend dissemination of information to EFC upto six months by forming a whats app group for instant exchange of data/information.

Representatives from Canara Bank also expressed their willingness to extend faculty support specially on export finance in all such programmes and promotion of MSME clusters. Shri S.K. Mandal, AD,MSME-DI, Kolkata proposed formal vote of thanks to the guests and participants.

#### **8. Workshop on Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) held on 5th June 2018 at SEEPZ-SEZ, Mumbai**

A workshop on Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) programme was organized by the Export Promotion Council for EOUs & SEZs (EPCES) in association with the Mumnai Customs and Development Commissioner, SEEPZ-SEZ on 5th June 2018 at the Conference Hall BFC building SEEPZ-SEZ Mumbai. The dignitaries present on the dias were Shri Baldev Singh, IAS, Development Commissioner SEEPZ-SEZ, Shri Jagreet Sain Negi, Commissioner of Customs, Mumbai, Customs Zone-I, Shri Ram Mohana Rao, Jt. Commissioner Customs , Nodel Officer of AEO programme, Shri Ravi Kumar, Asstt. Commissioner of Customs, Client Relation Manager, AEO Cell, Offtg. Chairman EPCES and Mrs. M. H. Bhawe, Regional Chairperson EPCES Western Region.

While addressing Shri Baldev Singh, IAS, Development Commissioner SEEPZ-SEZ,said that he was happy to note the initiative taken by EPCES and Mumbai Customs for organizing the workshop as many stake holder are not clear in mind about the eligibility Criteria and advantage of being AEO Status holders. He also hoped that the units engaged in Import and Export will come forward for enrolment in AEO as the AEO status would be a milestone for ease of doing business and to safeguard the supply chain process.

Shri Jagreet Sain Negi, Commissioner of Customs, Mumbai, Customs Zone-I, educated the gathering about the procedures for enrolment and advantages of Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) programme envisaged by the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs. He further informed that the AEO was launched by the then CBEC in accordance with “SAFE FRAME WORK” developed by World Customs Organization and that the CBIC introduced a revamped scheme which covered various players in the international Supply Chain, such as importers, Exporters, Warehouse Owners, Customs Brokers, Freight Forwarders and Carriers. He also added that those entities who hold AEO

status are treated as “SECURE TRADERS’ and also as reliable trading partners. AEO programme is to provide business with internationally recognized quality concept and also indicating their commitment to security and the various stages of supply chain.

Shri Ram Mohana Rao, Jt. Commissioner Customs, Nodal Officer of AEO programme by illustrative explanations clarified to the participants about the procedures for enrolment in AEO and stated that there is no enrolment charges to be paid by the applicant for AEO. He also informed that India has entered into Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) with various countries such as America, Britain, France, South Korea, Hongkong and according to the agreements, Indian exporters with AEO status can have speedy clearance of their exported imported goods by the Customs of those countries. He further informed the participants in detail the AEO and its advantages. He also interacted with the participants on various issues raised by them.

The workshop ended with the vote of thanks presented by Ms. M. H. Bhawe, Regional Chairperson EPCES- SEEPZ-SEZ. She thanked Shri Baldev Singh, Development Commissioner SEEPZ-SEZ an Commissioner of Customs and other senior officers for providing an excellent opportunity to the units to understand the scheme.

#### **9. EPCES Regional Office Noida arrange a Training Programme for the Women Safety on 12th June 2018.**

EPCES Regional office Noida organized a Training Programme for the female employees of the units located in NSEZ for Safety, Security and Self Defense on Thursday 12th July 2018 at Noida Conference Room Noida. More than 80 Ladies working employees attend the Training Programme.

Addressing the participants Dr. L. B. Singhal, Zonal Development Commissioner NSEZ informed that this was the first programme of its kind being organized in NSEZ. He emphasized that the training of this nature for ladies employees is of immense importance and stated that he would be very happy to organize such programme in other SEZs in Northern India coming under the jurisdiction of DC, NSEZ.



*Dr. Diya Gupta, NCEO representing Jawala Mahila Samiti Addressing the Participants*



*A View of the training programme*



*A View of the training programme*

Dr. Divya Gupta, (MD) Gynecologist & Mr. Rajendran Nair, Head Admin. Corporate Affairs Tata power Trading Co. Ltd. representing a NGO Jawal Mahila Samit, thanked Dr. L. B. Singhal for giving an opportunity to educate women employees about their health and safety. Dr. Gupta informed that the personal safety drills are practice to train the sub-conscious mind so that ladies can defend themselves if in a situation. It also provides them a problem solving technique that are required by an average working women.



*(Dr L B Singhal , Zonal Development Commissioner NSEZ with Shri Rajendran Nair, Head Admn. & Corporate Affairs, Tata Power Trading Company Ltd and participants)*

Mr. Rajendran Nair informed that his motivator, guide and mentor is Dr. Satyapal Singh (former Commissioner of Police, Mumbai) and current Union Minister of State for HRD. Mr. Nair has personally trained over 125000 women all over India and his students have trained over 2 Lakh tribal women and girl children in Maharashtra, Gujarat and Bangalore.

All the participants appreciated and gave 100% positive feedback.

#### **10. Inaugural function of renovated EPCES Regional Office at MEPZ-SEZ on 13<sup>th</sup> June, 2018**

EPCES MEPZ-SEz organized a meeting of EOUs & SEZs on 13th June 2018 at Chennai Regional office at MEPZ premises. Shri D. Anandan, IAS, JDC, MEPZ-SEZ inaugurated the Regional Office at MEPZ-SEZ. The issues of EOUs & SEZs were also discussed.



*Shri. D Anandan, Jt. Development Commissioner in informal discussion with the EPECS members.*



*(Extreme left ) Shri D. Anandan, Jt. Development Commissioner MEPZ-SEZ inaugurating the EPCES Regional Office*



## **11. Seminar on Women's Rights & Safety held in SEEPZ-SEZ on 18th June 2018**

EPCES in association with Development Commissioner SEEPZ-SEZ held a Seminar on “Women Rights and Safety” on June 18-2018 in the Conference Hall of BFC Boilding SEEPZ-SEZ .

The Session was chaired by Ms. Sungita Sharma, IRS Chief Commissioner, GST & Central Excise, Mumbai. The other dignitaries on the dias were Shri V. P. Shukla, Jt. Development Commissioner SEEPZ-SEZ, Shri Pravin Chndra, Jt. Development Commissioner SEEPZ-SEZ, EPCES Offtg. Chairman and Regional Chairman EPCES.

Shri V. P. Shukla Jt. Development Commissioner SEEPZ-SEZ conveyed appreciation and gratitude for EPCES administration for organizing a seminar by EPCES on the relevant issue like Women's Rights and Safety. He was happy to see the large number of participant and advised them to carefully listen to the eminent person.

In her address, Smt. Sungita Sharma, IRS Chief Commissioner, GST & Central Excise, Mumbai commended EPCES of the initiative of having a Seminar of the very critical and contemporary topic of Women's Rights and Safety since there is a great need to create awareness on the subject among the women workforce in the country. She also shared her experiences of handling various situations relating to the subject in the workplace. She specially emphasized how the Government through well thought our HR policies as also many women and child oriented schemes has played a very benign role as an employer for women, which should be emulated by the organization across the board. She also brought to the knowledge of the participants the provisions of the Indian Penal Court and other laws in force for empowering women to report cases of even verbal abuse and any type of gesture or any other act of insult to modesty of women. In her conclusion she urged all the women participants to be aware, confident, fearless and to have the courage to speak up for their rights.

The seminar was very informative and all the participants appreciated the knowledge and information given to them with regard to violence against women, harassment amount to violation of the fundamental rights of the women, infringement of her equality and right to life and dignity. The session concluded with the vote of thanks by the Offtg. Chairman EPCES.

### **11A. Open House interaction with SEZ & EOUs from Rajasthan organized by EPCES & GJEPC held on 19th June 2018 at Jaipur**



*A View of the Dias*

EPCES Regional Office in association with Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion council organised Interactive Session of EOUs/SEZs at Jaipur on 19.07.2018. The Session was chaired by Dr L.B. Singhal, Zonal Development Commissioner, Noida. While addressing, Dr L.B. Singhal, Zonal Development Commissioner Noida briefed about the SEZ Scheme. Dr Singhal further added that the SEZ Act and SEZ Rules were made operational in 2005 & 2006 respectively. He said that the Exports have gone from Rs 22840 Crores in 2005-06 to Rs 581033 Crores in 2017-18. Now the SEZ sector is generating direct employment to 1977216 persons. He informed that there are 739 operational units in the SEZs under the Jurisdiction of the Zonal DC Noida. Total export from all SEZs under the Jurisdiction of DC NSEZ Noida during the year 2017-18 is 57569.61 Crores, total investment is Rs 36580.93 crores and total employment generation is 333542 during 2017-18.



*Dr. L. B. Singhal, Zonal Development Commissioner, NSEZ addressing the participants*

The Zonal DC mentioned that export from Rajasthan SEZ during the year 2017-18 is Rs.2596.81 Crores. He further added that the SEZ in Sitapura was set up in July 2003 and came into operation in 2004 but is not achieving its full potential yet. However, he assured that his office will provide full support for increasing export in the SEZ Sector from Rajasthan.

Dr L.B. Singhal, Zonal DC informed that three Committees were constituted by the Government of India under his chairmanship.



- Committee for amendment of SEZ rules
- Committee for Monitor Service Export in SEZs & STPs
- Committee for observation of PAC on Performance of SEZs

He further informed that based on the recommendations of Committee, necessary amendments are likely to be issued very soon.

Zonal Development Commissioner also informed that Department of Commerce has set up

a group of eminent personalities to study the Special Economic Zone Policy in June 2018 under the Chairman ship of Baba Kalyani Chairman, Bharat Forge. This group will submit its report within 3 months.



While welcoming Shri Bhuvnesh Seth, Regional Chairman, EPCES Noida thanked Dr L.B. Singhal, Zonal Development Commissioner Noida for sparing his valuable time to chair the interactive session at Jaipur. He also thanked Shri S C Agarwal, Commissioner Custom and Shri Virendra Singh, Jt. DGFT Jaipur for attending Interactive Session. Regional Chairman informed that the Department of Commerce has issued notification which requires the SEZ Units & SEZ Developers or Co-developers to take the membership of the council.

He requested all SEZ units/SEZ Developers to enroll as a member of the council so that the issues of the EOUs/SEZ are taken up in an effective manner.

While addressing, Shri S. C. Agarwal, Commissioner Custom, Jaipur said that efforts are being made to do maximum work “on line” instead of paper work. He further said that the exporters can register under the Authorised Economic Operator (AEO) Scheme. There are various benefits which includes speedy clearance of goods. Representative of GJEPC raised an issue of getting delayed permission for chemicals to be used in manufacturing of jewellery from O/O the Drug Controller, Delhi.

He advised Gem & Jewellery Council to study and prepare a general list of chemicals so that the general approval can be taken from O/O Drug Controller.



*A view of the participants*



While addressing the participants Shri Virendra Singh, Jt. DGFT Jaipur briefed about the various trade facilitation measures taken by the DGFT office for promotion of Exports. He also informed that the Rajasthan Government is going to constitute an Export Promotion Council of the state to promote export from Rajasthan.

Shri Vijay Gupta, Sr Vice President, NSDL assured his full cooperation to SEZ Units for resolving the issues related to NSDL. He also further informed that one officer (Ms Teresa Joseph) has been posted in Noida SEZ resolving the day to day problems of the SEZ Units. He further informed that in case the response is not received in time, he will circulate the Phone Numbers & E Mail ID for escalating the matter further.

Shri Chinmay Kothekar, Category Manager and Shri Perteek Gupta of M/s Amazon Seller Services Pvt Ltd made a detailed presentation to educate the Jewellery Exporters and manufacturers about B2C Exports from India through on e commerce. He further said that AMAZON GLOBAL intends to enhance or increase their export in USA, Europe and other global major markets through e commerce. He informed that there is a great demand for Indian Products in overseas market and e commerce provides a platform for sellers to display their products on line and expand their business with a minimum cost.

In the interactive session number of the issues were taken up by the units for discussions. Development Commissioner, NSEZ, Commissioner Customs & Vice President, NSDL responded appropriately to various issues and number of issues were resolved on the spot.

The session ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

## **12. EPCES PARTICIPATION IN “MANUFACTURING EXPO THAILAND” HELD FROM 20-23 JUNE, 2018 IN BANGKOK, THAILAND**

Ministry of Commerce & Industry has approved Action Plan of EPCES for 2018-19, under Market Access Initiative (MAI) Scheme, for participation in trade fairs/exhibitions abroad. Accordingly Export Promotion Council for EOUs & SEZs (EPCES), along with 22 Indian exporting companies had participated in Manufacturing Expo 2018 held from 20th to 23rd June, 2018 at Bangkok, Thailand.

The multi-products trade fair “Manufacturing Expo 2018” was held from 20th to 23rd June, 2018 at Bangkok International Trade & Exhibition Center (BITEC), Bangkok, Thailand. A total of 849 exhibitors and 67 exhibiting countries participated in the fair. The fair was held at a space of 41,209 sq.mtrs. 90,769 number of visitors visited the fair. Approx. 1600 business match-makings were done during the fair.

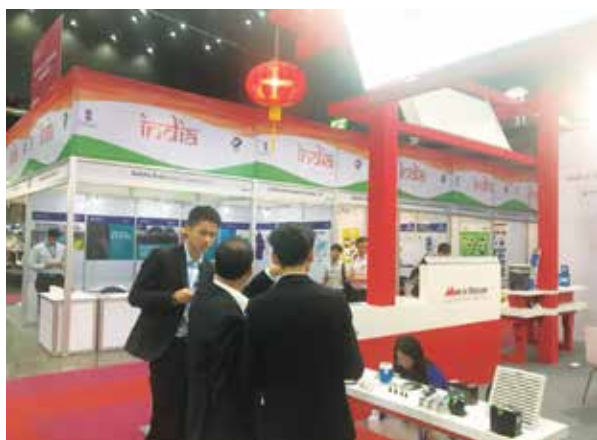


*A View of the Indian Pavilion*



Key Highlights of the fair were: Sophia Robot – Witness the industry’s transformation to 4.0; SI Community Platform – ASEAN’s leading System Integrators community platform, exchanging knowledge about automation production line; Robot Cluster Pavilion – Get advice about robotics and automation investment with seminar, workshop and matching; Painting Zone – Find enhance quality painting solutions, the use of colors and knowledge on surface treatment and coatings; Surface & Coatings Showcase – Glimpse the future of surface and coating trends and technologies; Metrology Zone – Achieve the highest manufacturing precision with the latest metrology technology; Cutting Tools Runway – Grand showcase of leading cutting tool providers who demonstrated their tools’ unique performance; Plastic

Intelligence & Innovation Zone – Technology for plastics production with leading providers from Japan; Chemical and Raw Material Zone – Showcase of chemicals and raw materials such as rasins, colors and composite; Koma Taisen – The spin top championship which the winners use highly engineering skills to beat their opponents



*Visitors at Indian Pavilion*

Since the Fair “Manufacturing Expo 2018” was multi-products trade fair, the products covered at the exhibition were Tools & Tooling: Cemented Carbide Tools, Ceramic, Cermet Tools, Cutting Tools Diamond & CBN Tools, High Speed Steel Tools, Tool Material; Plastics , Mold & Die : Machinery & Equipment , Components, Parts, Semi-finished products, Industrial Automation, Measuring, control & Testing, Service, Green Zone, Chemicals & Raw Materials, Auxiliaries, Composite & High Performance Materials , Machine for Mold & Die, Mold Material & Component, Machine Tool Accessory, Tools & Tooling, Precision Measuring Optical Measuring & Testing Machine & Instrument, Mold Repair & Maintenance, Mold Design & Engineering; Assembly Automation & Manufacturing : Assembly Technology , Electrical System, Drive & Motion, Power Transmission, Information Technology, Material Handling , Safety & Security, Metal Machine Tool, Metal Forming Machine, Welding and Cutting Machine, Surface Technologies, Product Development, Inter Packaging, Plastic Mold; Surface & Coating : Chemical and Raw Materials , Coating Products, Automation Systems, Machinery and Equipment, Mechanical Finishing, Metrology & Testing, Environment Protection and Safety; Automotive: Automotive, Automotive parts, electrical & electronics; Inter Packaging ,Safety & Security, Information Technology etc.



*Some of the Stalls of Indian Companies*

A number of foreign exhibitors and Indian exporters displayed their products and services. The fair was attended by foreign businessmen, investors and buyers including large number of Indian exporters.

The Fair was very much appreciated by all the participants as well as the visitors. Units have got maximum business from this fair.



*Some of the Stalls of Indian Companies*

Approximately 1 lakh people visited the Fair and appreciated Indian products viz. Indian textile items, bed-sheets, kitchenware, electrical and electronic items and other household items. Participants have requested EPCES to regularly participate in this Fair in future also so as to avail the MAI benefit.

The objective of EPCES participation was to explore new markets for promoting exports from India and to publicize the concept of SEZ Scheme of India abroad for attracting foreign investments in SEZs in India.

There were total 849 stalls in the Fair who have exhibited their products relating to home furnishing, décor and Tools & Tooling; Plastics , Mold & Die; Assembly Automation & Manufacturing : Surface



& Coating; Automotive: Inter Packaging ,Safety & Security, Information Technology etc. units had participated in the fair

Business Generated/Observations at the Fair: Individual feedback reports have been received from Indian exhibitors who had participated under EPCES Umbrella. Based on these reports received from the participants, it is mentioned that all the participants have got very good business during the fair and also tied-up various agreements/arrangements with various Thai companies.

It is further mentioned that a number of foreign buyers and businessmen visited the fair and very useful discussions were held by the Indian exhibitors with them. A large number of enquiries have also been received by the participants, negotiations for the same are in the pipeline.

### **13. Baba Kalyani Report on SEZs – June22, 2018 at New Delhi**

A Group of eminent personalities to study the Special Economic Zone Policy of India was constituted by the Minister for Commerce & Industry, Department of Commerce.

The first meeting of the above said group was held on 22nd June 2018 at Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi. The meeting was chaired by Shri Suresh Prabhu, Hon'ble Minister for Commerce & Industry and Shri C. R. Choudhary, Minister of State for Commerce alongwith the Commerce Secretary Ms. Rita Teotia, IAS, OSD Shri Anup Wadhwan IAS, Shri B. B. Swain, IAS, Additional Secretary and Shri. T. V. Ravi Director SEZ.

The members nominated from the Industry who attended the meeting were Shri Baba Kalyani, Chairman, Bharat Forge, The Chairman of the group, Shri Neel Raheja, Group President, K. Raheja group, Shri Arun Mishra, Managing Director, Tata Steel, SEZ, and Shri Srikanth Badiga, Director, Hyderabad Phoenix Developer. Dr. Vinay Sharma was Coopted member as representative of Export Promotion Council for EOUs & SEZs (EPCES).

The Hon'ble Minister of Commerce and Industry addressed the Committee about the background for setting up of this special group by mentioning that the SEZ is a good scheme but, still there are certain hurdles in full utilization of the benefits of the scheme. He asked the Committee to suggest ways to how to use the vacant land of the SEZ , how to remain compliance to WTO norms, create more employment, achieve much more export although SEZ export is 30% of the total export of the country but still has lots of potential. Shri Suresh Prabhu, Hon'ble Commerce Minister asked the Committed to submit their report at the earliest so that his ministry can examine the same and he will personally take it up with Ministry of Finance and PMO if required. Shri Baba Kalyani assured him that the committee will submit its report by 31st August 2018,

The report has been submitted by the Committee to the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry and the same is under consideration.

### **14. Training programme for Commercial Representatives posted in Europe organized by Foreign Services Institute of India held on 25th to 29th June 2018 at New Delhi.**

The Foreign Services Institute (FSI) has organized a Training Program for their commercial representatives (CRs) posted in Europe from 25 to 29 June 2018. As a part of Training program it was proposed to hold an interaction of their CRs with the heads of various Export Promotion Councils to familiarize them with the requirements and expectations of the latter.

On behalf of EPCES the Offtg. Chairman along with Deputy Director General EPCES participated in this interactive meeting. Offtg. Chairman made a power point presentation to update the CRs regarding

export performance of EOUs & SEZs, current status of SEZs in India, benefits available under SEZ Scheme of India. Offtg. Chairman requested all the CRs to interact with the foreign investors and encourage them to invest in SEZs in India as developers, Co-developer or as a unit. He further requested them to create a market for MSME and inform about the opportunities for Handicraft, leather & other sectors where employment of locals and artisans is available. He also advised that more communication/ correspondence may be developed between EPC and Indian Embassies abroad for better coordination.

**15. 1st QUARTERLY MEETING OF EXPORT FACILITATION CELL (EFC) & Introduction of Mini clusters in SEZ held on 28th June, 2019 at Kolkata**



*(A view of the meeting in progress)*

In Association with EPCES, Falta SEZ, FIEO, DGFT, ECGC, EXIM BANK various Export Promotion Councils, Industry Associations etc. participated in the 1ST Quarterly Meeting of EFC involving all stake holders was held 28th June, 2019 at the conference hall of EEPC India, Kolkata. The objective of the meeting was to boost up the export growth in MSME sector as well as to induce Mini clusters in SEZs with active participation of Industry association.

At the outset, Shri Ajoy Bandopadhyaya, Director, MSME-DI, Kolkata welcomed the guests. After a self-introductory session, the meeting started. Shri G. Podder, Asstt. Director, MSME-DI, Kolkata explained the functions of EFC, before the members through Power Point presentation. Action plans of EFC for the year 2019-20 has also been explained and urged to all stake holders to provide full support & co-operate to achieve the target assigned by Development Commissioner (MSME), New Delhi.

Shri U.K. Acharya, DDGFT, Kolkata appreciated the efforts made by MSME-DI, Kolkata and appealed to all members to come up with new ideas for promoting export in MSME sector and grievances if any, may also be shared with his Deptt. so that meeting can be arranged to sort out the grievances to accelerate the export growth. It has also been ensured that DGFT authority will extend all sorts of support & co-operation needed by Facilitation Cell.



*A view of the meeting in progress*

Shri M.K. Anjanaiah, Dy. Development Commissioner, Falta SEZ, Kolkata expressed his pleasure to work together for inducing Mini cluster in SEZ and he appealed to all industry associations to plan for formation of mini cluster in SEZ because land is available for them for such a good effort by M/O MSME. He also reiterated that two new SEZ will be coming up shortly from the state of Tripura & Jharkhand. Since Falta SEZ is multi product, there is a scope to induce mini clusters in different segment.

Dr. Sabyasachi Ghosh, Regional Director, EPC for EOUS & SEZ, Kolkata told that apart from promoting events to the members of all export promotion council outside India for B2B through their own scheme, all members can be motivated to avail the IC scheme of MSME for inviting more business in MSME sector internationally.

Representatives of all industry associations and EPCs put forward their issues and expressed their positive willingness to know various schemes of MSME so that all members can get the benefit of all the schemes and they have urged to MSME-DI, Kolkata to disseminate all related informations for needful action. All of them will extend co-operations to enhance export growth in MSME sector.

The meeting was concluded with vote of thanks proposed by Shri S. Mukhopadhaya, Asstt. Director, MSME-DI, Kolkata.

#### **16. Meeting with Commissioner of Customs on 28th June 2018 in Cochin**

Regional Director EPCES CSEZ alongwith Mr. N. N. Menon, Advisor to Chairman, EPCES met Commissioner of Customs / Preventive on Thursday the 28th of June 2018 to discuss to sort out the day to day operational and procedural problems faced by EOUs during their import / export operations. Apart from the Commissioner, senior officers from Customs / Preventive, dealing with EOUs and Shri Saju K Surendran, Dy. Development Commissioner, CSEZ was also present to redress the grievances submitted by the Units.



Regional Director, EPCES CSEZ welcomed the participants and highlighted the role and importance of EOUs in contributing to the export performance from CSEZ. The participants were mainly concerned about the bank Guarantee requirement insisted now for B-17 Bonds and procedural clarifications regarding allowing credit against the bond only after effecting exports.

The Customs Commissioner addressed the queries of the participants and assured them all assistance from his side and agreed to take up the issue with the CBEC authorities.

The meeting was highly appreciated by members as it provided an opportunity for direct interaction with the authorities. The Commissioner in his speech also indicated that he shall extend full support for such interactions with exporters on a much larger scale inviting higher authorities like DGFT, etc.

#### **17. Workshop & Training on NSDL SEZ online System on Advancement and new updated & EPCES Membership Awareness Programme held on 28th June 2018 Kolkata**

Export Promotion Council for EOUs & SEZs (EPCES) Regional office at Falta SEZ organized workshop and training on NSDL SEZ online system on demand of its members in the eastern regional as due to lots for recent development and updates in the systems and the units were facing difficult/ issues on the day to day business. Accordingly, on 20th July 2018 a workshop and training on NSDL SEZ online system was organized at Conference Room, Manikanchan, SEZ, office of the Development Commissioner Salt lake Kolkata.

Shri Shreerup Halder, NSDL eastern region representative delivered the training on the key areas as under:

- SEZ online new developments
- EDI integration with SEZ online
- Customs module in SEZ online
- Administrative module in SEZ online

The workshop was also attended by the Assistant Commissioner Customs and other Custom officials posted at the SEZ. Dr. Sabyasachi Ghosh, Regional Director EPCES Falta SEZ informed the units present there about the array of services and benefits the units can avail by becoming member of the Council. The units present appreciated the information and training arranged made by EPCES.

#### **18. EPCES PARTICIPATION IN LIFESTYLE EXPO 2018 HELD FROM 4TH TO 6TH JULY, 2018 AT TOKYO, JAPAN**

Ministry of Commerce & Industry has approved Action Plan of EPCES for 2018-19, under Market Access Initiative (MAI) Scheme, for participation in trade fairs/exhibitions abroad. Accordingly Export Promotion Council for EOUs & SEZs (EPCES), along with Indian exporting companies had participated in “Lifestyle Expo 2018” held from 4th to 6th July, 2018 at Tokyo, Japan. On behalf of EPCES Shri T.V. Ravi, Director General EPCES and Shri Anand Giri, Deputy Director General EPCES had accompanied Indian exhibitors.

Before the fair, on 3rd July, 2018, Director General EPCES and Dy. Director General EPCES met Deputy Chief of Mission of India in Tokyo, Embassy of India in Japan, Tokyo and First Secretary Commercial of India in Tokyo in Japan and briefed them about the fair, EPCES participation, products covered etc. Director General presented latest edition of EPCES News, EPCES brochure etc to the officials of Indian Embassy.



***R TO L : Dr. Satyapal Kumar, First Secretary (Trade), Shri Raj Kumar Srivastava, Deputy Chief of Mission of India in Japan, Shri T.V. Ravi, Director General EPCES and Shri Anand Giri, Deputy Director General EPCES***

Shri Raj Kumar Srivastava, Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of India in Japan, during the meeting, advised that EPCES should come with the MSME Sector so as to utilize maximum subsidy for the deserving companies. He further suggested to share the report of the fair with the Embassy of India in Japan and also the outcome of the fair and the business generated or MOUs signed so that Embassy can analyze the report and find out the thrust areas and products which are in demand and prepare future trade strategy with the country.

Dr. Satyapal Kumar, First Secretary (Trade), Embassy of India in Japan suggested that EPCs should inform about the fair or delegation visit to the concerned Embassy well in advance so that Embassy could also be prepared and give required time for the event as they are having a very busy schedule. If Embassy is informed well in time then they could arrange proper publicity and concerned buyers companies to visit the fair.

Lifestyle Expo 2018 consists of 6 shows viz. Giftex Tokoy, Baby & Kids Expo, Fashion Goods & Accessories Expo, Health & Beauty Goods and Interior Tokyo. The fair provided an opportunity for promoting exports. The show was attended by immeasurable guests likewise as exhibitors to participate and direct face to face communication with one another on the foremost recent market innovations and profitable business opportunities within the respective industry.

LIFESTYLE EXPO TOKYO (formerly GIFTTEX TOKYO) is Japan's leading trade fair for gifts, home and interior products. January edition has launched in 2018 consisting of 6 specialized shows as mentioned above.

Major products covered are : Accessories, Interior Goods, Home Accessories, Variety Goods, Gift Items, Kitchenware, Tableware, Fabric, Home Textile, Christmas Accessories, Imported Products, Wazakka/Crafts (Japanese Style Goods), Fashion Goods & Accessories, Fancy Goods, Gift-wrapping Supplies, Eco-friendly Goods, Floral Decoration, Fragrance & Aroma, Bath & Toiletry Products, Beauty Products, Relaxation and Healing, Pet Supplies, Outdoor Supplies, Travel and Leisure Products, Gardening Products, Smartphone Accessories etc.

The visitors are mainly Importers/Wholesalers, Mass retailers, Home centers, Convenience stores, Supermarkets, Drug stores, 100 yen shops, Catalogue retailers, Department stores, Gift shops, Select shops, Apparel shops, Accessory shops, Interior shops, Lifestyle shops, Stationery shops, Manufacturers, SP/PR agents and Corporate users etc.



***Inauguration of EPCEC Pavilion : R to L : Dr. Satyapal Kumar, First Secretary (Trade), Embassy of India in Japan, Shri T.V. Ravi, Director General EPCEC and Shri Anand Giri, Deputy Director General EPCEC***





**L to R : Mr. Elichi Hasegawa, Deptt Manager, Project Division Reed Exhibitions Japan Ltd, Dr. Satyapal Kumar, First Secretary (Trade), Shri T.V. Ravi, Director General and representative of Handicraft EPC.**

The Fair was very much appreciated by all the participants as well as the visitors. Units have got maximum business from this fair. Approximately 2 lakh people visited the Fair and appreciated Indian products viz. Indian textile items, kitchenware, handicraft and other household items. Participants have requested EPCES to regularly participate in this Fair in future also so as to avail the MAI benefit. It is the best place for importers, wholesalers, retailers and buyers from across the world to place orders and as well as finding OEM/ODM partners.



**Shri T.V. Ravi, Director General EPCES, Dr. Satyapal Kumar, First Secretary (Trade) and Shri Anand Giri, Deputy Director General EPCES visiting the fair.**



*Shri T.V. Ravi, DG EPCES and Dr. Satyapal Kumar, First Secretary (Trade) interacting with the participants*



*Shri T.V. Ravi, DG EPCES during the visit of the Trade Fair*



*R to L : Shri T.V. Ravi, Director General EPCES and Dr. Satyapal Kumar, First Secretary (Trade) Embassy of India inaugurating the pavilion of Handicraft Council*





*Some of the stalls of Indian participants in the fair*

The objective of EPCES participation was to explore new markets for promoting exports from India and to publicize the concept of SEZ Scheme of India abroad for attracting foreign investment in SEZs in India. Mr. T.V. Ravi, Director General EPCES explained the salient features of SEZ Scheme to foreign businessmen, investors and buyers who came across the globe.

There were total 2200 stalls in 6 shows of the Fair wherein exporters from India, China, Japan, Singapore, Pakistan, Bangladesh, South Korea etc., have exhibited their products.

EPCES has arranged visit of foreign visitors, investors and buyers to Indian stalls. For construction of stalls and fascia, and other arrangements etc., representative of EPCES was there a days before the event.

EPCES representative met senior officials of Japan along with officials of Indian Embassy in Tokyo, Japan and explained them about the participation and handed over the EPCES Newsletter, Brochure etc., which provided details of SEZ and EOU Schemes. A catalogue was also published indicating company profiles of Indian participants, their contact details, products etc., for distributing to foreign businessmen, investors and buyers.



*A view of the Show*





*A view of the Show*

Individual feedback reports have been received from Indian exhibitors who had participated under EPCES Umbrella. Based on these reports received from the participants, it is mentioned that all the participants have got very good business during the fair and also tied-up various agreements/arrangements with various Japanese companies.

It is further mentioned that a number of foreign buyers and businessmen visited the fair and very useful discussions were held by the Indian exhibitors with them. A large number of enquiries have also been received by the participants, negotiations for the same are in the pipeline.

**19. Dr Anup Wadhwan, Commerce Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, Govt. of India to Inauguration of 1000 KW Roof top Solar Power Plant on 5th October 2018.**



*R to L : Dr. Anup Wadhwan, Commerce Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Dr. L. B. Singhal, Zonal Development Commissioner Noida SEZ, Shri Bhuvnesh Seth, Regional Chairman EPCES and Shri Vilas Gupta, Regional Vice Chairman EPCES presenting Bouquet to Commerce Secretary*

Dr Anup Wadhwan, Commerce Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, Govt. of India inaugurated 1000KW Roof Top Solar Plant at Noida Special Economic Zone on Friday, the 5th October 2018. EPCES Regional Office Noida also arranged Interactive Session of EOUs & SEZ Units with Commerce Secretary, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India.



***Dr Anoop Wadhwan ,Commerce Secretary , Ministry of Commerce & Industry and Dr. L. B. Singhal, Zonal Development Commissioner Noida SEZ at Inauguration of 1000KW Roof Top Solar Power Plant***

During interactive session SEZs and EOU Units put forward several issues for discussions. Dr Anoop Wadhwan, Commerce Secretary and Dr L.B Singhal, Zonal Development Commissioner, Noida responded appropriately to these issues and assured EOUs/SEZ Units that issues will soon be taken up with concern department of Govt. of India.



***Dr. Anoop Wadhwan, Commerce Secretary, Ministry of Commerce & Industry Chairing Interactive Session Of EOUs & SEZ***

The Interactive Session was attended by Shri S.S. Shukla, Joint Development Commissioner, Md. Salik Parwaiz, Dy Commissioner (Custom), Noida SEZ, Shri Vijay Gupta, Sr. Vice President, NSDL, Shri Bhuvnesh Seth Regional Chairman, Shri Vilas Gupta Regional Vice Chairman, Shri Sunil Puri, Member Central Governing Council EPCES, Shri Ajay Goel, President of NSEZ Entrepreneurs Association and large number of prominent EOUs and SEZ Units and SEZ Developers.



**20. Meeting of EPCES Regional Director Bangalore with Shri A.S. Naveen Kushalappa, IRS, Joint Development Commissioner CSEZ, Bangalore held on 16th October 2018.**



EPCES Regional Director met Shri A.S. Naveen Kushalappa, IRS, Joint Development Commissioner CSEZ, Bangalore and Shri Harish of SEZ Bhavan to discuss about future activities of Regional Office EPCES along with Cochin SEZ. Shri A.S. Naveen Kushalappa, IRS, Joint Development Commissioner CSEZ assured all the necessary help to EPCES office.

**21. EPCES Swachhta Pakhwada organized in all the Zones from 15th September to 15 November 2018**

Pursuant to the mission of “SWACHHATA BHARAT PAKHWADA” as per the initiative of Hon’ble Prime Minister and directives and guidance from the Commerce Ministry, “SWATCH BHARAT PAKWADA” has been observed in all the 7 Zones by the Development Commissioner’s Office in all the Zones in association with Export Promotion Council for EOUs & SEZs . All the units and SEZs under the jurisdiction of the respective Development Commissioner took part in the Swachhta programme with full enthusiasm and true spirit to make the programme a grand success in all the Zones. The DCs, personally lead the participants to sweep and clean the roads and surroundings covering a vast area

The programme and actions were whole heartedly supported and participated by the Regional Direction and staff of EPCES Regional Office, the participation was in large number from the employees from various units and SEZs under the jurisdiction of respective Development Commissioner.

Placed below are some of the glimpses of the same”

**Swachhta drive in Cochin Special Economic Zone**

The EPCES Regional Director along with the officers & staff of Development Commissioner CSEZ office on a cleanliness drive around the Administrative building of Cochin Special Economic Zone.





## Name of Activity 2: Swachhta Hi Seva at Visakhapatnam Special Economic Zone

EPCES Regional Director along with Development Commissioner VSEZ and the officers, staff and units in the Zone on cleanliness drive inside the Zone.







*Development Commissioner VSEZ along with officers and staff*



*Swachhta Hi Seva Campaign at Sricity SEZ*

## Zero Waste Campagine at DivyaSree Technopark SEZ, Bangalore Cochin SEZ

### Communication & Event readiness

An initiative to educate about waste segregation at Source and Transforming to a greener environment

- Zero Waste is a philosophy that encourages the redesign of resource life cycles so that all products are reused. No trash is sent to landfills or incinerators.
- Endeavour is to help individuals on our campuses increase their recycling efforts and reduce their campus waste, thereby significantly reduce the campus's negative impact on the environment



Walk through campaign from CCD to OWC unit - Physical awareness



- First time such a campaign being taking place at Divyaasree Technopark- SEZ
- Communication via mails was coordinated to respective department in advance and daily basis on the activity
- Eco team formation

with the clients and daily meetings & participation

- Four stalls being placed at the Campus with Saahas, Denali C&W team presence in each stall attracting crowd
- The certificates will be issued to all the winners

➤ **Essential training areas**

- Spread awareness among sub- vendors through training programmes
- Participation in segregation of waste at source
- Enhance usage of colour coded bins
- Awareness and adherence of waste disposal as per guidelines
- Customise Bins procured and introduced in the Eco spots

**DRY WASTE      WET WASTE      E-WASTE:**

**Swachhta Hi Sewa Campaign at Falta Special Economic Zone, Kolkata.**

Swachhta Hi Sewa Campaign – Organized under FSEZ Jurisdiction- EPCES and DC office together organized the Swachhta hi Seva drive at different SEZs under FSEZ.



*Development Commissioner along with its officers, staff and EPCES Regional Director during Swachhta Hi Sewa Campaign at Falta Special Economic Zone*





*Development Commissioner FSEZ and Regional Director EPCES along with officers & staff of Falta Zone took part in active participation on the cleaning Drive.*

### **Swachhta Bharat Abhiyan by EOUs & SEZ under the jurisdiction of Noida Special Economic Zone,**

Swachhta Pakhwada by M/s Replika Press, Sonapat an EOU units under the jurisdiction of, Noida Special Economic Zone





*Cleanliness drive in and around the Replika Press an EOU unit at Sonapat, Haryana*



*Swachhta Pakhwada at Wipro Ltd., Noida Special Economic Zone, Greater Noida*





**Swachhta Pakhwada by DLF Cyber City, Gurugram (Haryana) under jurisdiction of Noida Special Economic Zone.**

## Opening Ceremony and Pledge on Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, On Dated 01-11-2018



Oath taking ceremony to start Swachh Bharat Abhiyan with all Occupants in DLF Cyber City (SEZ)





## Cleanliness Drive Within Building Premises On Dated 03-11-2018



Cleaning  
drive for  
Swachh  
Bharat  
Abhiyan  
by all  
Occupants  
for making  
the  
Surrounding  
Clean.



Drawing Competition to publicise and bring Awareness about Swachhta Pakhwada Celebration. 68 people Participated in this activity



Cleanliness Drive Outside Building by all Occupants Cleanliness the building Periphery area





## Workshop on Waste Management By NGO(SAAHAS) On Dated 12-11-2018



### Workshop on Waste Management in association with NGO -

**Saahas** under their project '**Alag Karo - har din teen bin**'. This will help us to implement and manage the waste as per the SWM Rule 2016 in better way .





A workshop Was organised on **Personnel Hygiene** with the help of Dr Hema Kapoor, where 82 team members participated and get benefited on personal & occupational based health and safety.



### Plantation Drive





**Swachhta Pakhwada by ASF INSIGNIA SEZ (P) Ltd., Gurugram (Haryana) under jurisdiction of Noida Special Economic Zone.**



**Swachhta hi Seva, Swachhta Pakhwada by the office of Development Commissioner SEEPZ- SEZ along with EPCES Regional Office at SEEPZ-SEZ, Mumbai.**





**22. EPCES Reigonal Director Bangalore held meeting with the units in Divya Sree SEZ on 22nd November 2018.**

A meeting of units in Divya Sree Developers SEZ was held on 22nd November 2018 by EPCES Regional Director Mr. Y. Chidanandaiah with representatives of Capgemini, Accenture, Wipro, Divyasree Developers and specified officer (government representative) working at Divyasree Developers.



During the meeting the Regional Director EPCES explained the importance of being the members of EPCES and also informed that it is mandatory to obtain RCMC certificate from EPCES by all the units and Developers for availing the benefits and exemptions under SEZ Scheme timely without any hassle. The units were also informed about the facilities available from Cochin SEZ.

EPCES Regional Director also requested the members present in the meeting to bring to the notice of the EPCES problems faced by them, whether procedural issues or policy issues, so that, EPCES can take up with appropriate Authorities.

**23. EPCES Regional Director – Bangalore, attended Unit Approval Committee convened by Development Commissioner CSEZ as Special Invitee on 20th December 2018.**



Regional Director EPCES-Bangalore, attended the three Unit Approval Committee meeting convened by Development Commissioner CSEZ, as a special invite on 27-08-2018, 16-10-2018, 20-12-2018 along with Shri Shanumuga Sundaram IAS, Development Commissioner Cochin and other officials of the Zonal DC office.

The Development Commissioner highly appreciated the EPCES activities and advised Regional Director EPCES to talk about corporate social responsibility to be undertaken by the units in the UAC meetings. This gave the opportunity to Regional Director EPCES to meet both the Developers and the representatives of the new SEZs established in SEZ zone. EPCES Regional Director briefed all the representatives of the companies who attended the meeting about EPCES and the benefits of becoming the member of EPCES. He also informed that once they get the approval and LOA/LOP is issued from the Development Commissioner office the unit can become member of EPCES. He further informed the units that the membership of EPCES is mandatory for availing the benefits and exemptions under SEZ Scheme vide Notification G.S.R.No.771( E ) dated 5.8.2016 issued by the Ministry of Commerce & Industry.

**24. Regional Director EPCES- SEEPZ-SEZ met Shri Manu Kumar Srivastava, IAS, Additional Secretary, Revenue, Maharashtra on 26th December 2018.**

EPCES Regional Director along with Development Commissioner SEEPZ-SEZ and SEEPZ-Gem & Jewellery Manufacturers Association ( SGJMA) met Shri Manu Kumar Srivastava IAS, Additional Secretary Revenue, Govt. of Maharashtra to discuss the major issue of Stamp Duty exemption for SEZ units faced by the exporter.

**25. Workshop on leadership Excellence held on 4.1.2019**

A Workshop on Leadership Excellence in association with Development Commissioner SEEPZ-SEZ and senior functionaries of “ Art of Living Foundation” was organized for members of electronic and Gems & Jewellery Manufacturing unit functioning in SEEPZ-SEZ.

**26. Inauguration of Gold Purity Karat Meter at MKSEZ Shri B. K. Panda Development Commissioner Falta SEZ and EPCES Regional Director on 28th January 2019**

To facilitate the exporters of Gem and Jewellery and Customs towards ease of doing business and better transparency a meeting of stake holders was organized on 28th January 2019 and inauguration of the Gold Purity Karat Meter was done By Shri B.K. Panda, Development Commissioner Falta SEZ in association with office of the DC MKSEZ and EPCES.



*Shri B. K. Panda, Development Commissioner Inaugurating the Gold Purity Karat Meter*



**27. Symposium of promoting awareness about risk awareness was organized on 12th February 2019 at Mumbai**

A Symposium of promoting awareness about the risk awareness, risk evaluation loss minimization, dealing with fear of loss etc. was organized in the Conference Hall, SEEPZ-SEZ for the benefit of Gems & Jewellery and IT sector in SEEPZ-SEZ Mumbai on 12th February 2019. The participant appreciated the information provided to them on the subject.

**28. Gem & Jewellery units meeting with Development Commissioner Falta SEZ and Regional Director EPCES on February 2019,**

A meeting of the stake holders of Gem and Jewellery was organized in association with EPCES at DC FSEZ office on February 2019, Development Commissioner Shri B.K. Panda addressed the unit holders and all bottle necks were discussed with respect to the Manikanchan SEZ.



*Shri B.K. Panda, Development Commissioner Falta SEZ presiding over the meeting*

**29. EPCES organized a Meeting of Stake holder of Multiproduct SEZ with Shri B. K. Panda, Development Commissioner Falta SEZ in the month of January 2019**



*A view of the meeting in progress*

A meeting of the stake holders for Multiproduct SEZ was organized in association with EPCES at DC FSEZ at the Falta Zone in the month of January 2019, Development Commissioner Shri B.K. Panda addressed the unit holders and all the suggestions from the Unit holders were noted including road drainage, waste management, security were discussed with respect to the Falta Zone.

**30. Meeting of Shri Bhaskar Khuble, IAS Secretary to Prime Minister with EOUs & SEZs at Noida Special Economic Zone on 9th February 2019.**



A Meeting of EOUs/SEZ/SEZ Developers with Shri Bhaskar Khuble , IAS, Secretary to Prime Minister on 9th February 2019 at Conference Room Noida SEZ. The Meeting was chaired by Dr L B Singhal, Zonal Development Commissioner, Noida SEZ. Shri Bhuvnesh Seth, Regional Chairman EPCES NSEZ, Shri Vilas Gupta, Regional Vice Chairman of EPCES NSEZ , and Shri Sunil Puri , Member Central Governing Council of EPCES attended the session. More than 50 units attended the meeting and discussed the issues in depth.

**31. EPCES participated in the The Bengal Global Business Summit 2019 in the Month of Feb 2019.**



*The Delegates from different parts of the world at the open house.*



## Independent Auditor's Report

### TO THE MEMBERS

### EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL FOR EOUs & SEZ NEW DELHI

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Export Promotion Council for EOUs & SEZ, which comprise the Balance Sheet as at March 31, 2019, Statement of Income and Expenditure for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and notes to the financial statements.

### Basis for Qualified Opinion

We conduct in our audit in accordance with Standards on Auditing (SAs). Our responsibilities under those Standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the entity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements, and we have our other responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. **In View of the various matters from Serial Nos. 1 to 12 as described in "Annexure-1" attached to this report, we believe that the audit evidences we have obtained are sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our Qualified Opinion.**

### Qualified Opinion

In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, the financial statements read together with accounting policies and Notes to accounts give the information required by the Societies Registration Act, 1860 in the manner so required and give a true and fair view **subject to the financial effects of the matters on the income, expenditure, assets and liabilities of the Council for the financial year 2018-19 and as at March 31, 2019 (amount not ascertained by the management) as described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion Paragraph**, in conformity with the accounting principles generally accepted in India:

- a) in the case of the Balance Sheet, of the state of affairs of the council as at March 31, 2019 and
- b) in the case of the Statement of Income and Expenditure, of the Surplus for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2019;

### Responsibilities of Management and Those charged with governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of these financial statements in accordance with the Accounting Standards, to the extent applicable, issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the entity's ability to continue as going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going



concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the entity's financial reporting process.

### **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements of the council as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with SAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with SAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- obtain an understanding of internal financial control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the council's internal control.
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- conclude on the appropriateness of council's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the council's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the council to cease to continue as a going concern.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide those charged with governance with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.





***Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements:***

- a) We have sought and obtained all the information and explanations which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purpose of our audit;
- b) In our opinion, proper books of account as required by law have been kept by the Council so far as appears from our examination of those books;
- c) The Balance Sheet and Statement of Income and Expenditure Account dealt with by this Report are in agreement with the books of account;
- d) In our opinion, the Balance Sheet, Statement of Income and Expenditure comply with the Accounting Standards, to the extent applicable, issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India.

For **Thakur, Vaidyanath Aiyar & Co**  
Chartered Accountants  
FRN: 000038N



**(K.N. Gupta)**

**Partner**

**M. No.: 009169**

**UDIN No.:19009169AAAABZ5220**



**Place: New Delhi**

**Date: September 24, 2019**

### Annexure-1 to the Independent Auditor's Report

Sr. Nos.	Significant Observations	Management Responses																									
1.	<p><b><u>Membership Subscription</u></b></p> <p>We have observed while verifying the supporting documents of the membership subscription on sample basis that the members are not submitting the audited financials for the verification of their turnover which helps to determine the membership subscription to be charged from them.</p>	As pointed out by Auditor, necessary Export Turnover Certificate will be obtained from members.																									
2.	<p><b><u>Investments</u></b></p> <p>Investments amounting to Rs. 5,64,33,229 are appearing as on 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2019 in the books of account of the council. Out of which we could not physically verify the original Fixed Deposit receipts (FDR's) amounting to Rs.81,72,007 held with various banks due to renewal / auto renewal, in spite of repeated requests / reminders to the council (Refer <b>Annexure – 1</b>) and also the FDR held with HUDCO amounting to Rs. 25,80,736 was matured on 19<sup>th</sup> February, 2018, neither amount has been received in the bank nor FDR amount renewed by the council and still shown in the books of accounts as on 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2019.</p>	Necessary action has been taken with PNB for renewal of FD. Necessary FD has been deposited with HUDCO for refund. Regional Office Cochin has been requested to return the original FD to H.O. The same will be shown to the Auditor on their next visit.																									
3.	We also noted that the management has not obtained all the FD Interest Certificates from the Bank (other than PNB Housing Finance).	As suggested, necessary certificate will be obtained.																									
4.	<p><b><u>Bank Balances</u></b></p> <p>Details (bank statement, bank confirmations) of the following bank accounts maintained by the Regional Offices are not provided to us for verification.</p> <table><tr><th>Regional Offices</th><th>Balance as on 31.03.2018 (Rs.)</th><th>Balance Confirmation</th><th>Bank Statement</th><th>Interest Certificate</th></tr><tr><td>FALTA, Kolkata</td><td>1,00,000.88</td><td>Received</td><td>Received</td><td>Pending</td></tr><tr><td>Kandla, Gujarat</td><td>18,848.46</td><td>Pending</td><td>Pending</td><td>Pending</td></tr><tr><td>MEPZ</td><td>3951</td><td>Pending</td><td>Pending</td><td>Pending</td></tr><tr><td>Cochin</td><td>1824</td><td>Pending</td><td>Pending</td><td>Pending</td></tr></table>	Regional Offices	Balance as on 31.03.2018 (Rs.)	Balance Confirmation	Bank Statement	Interest Certificate	FALTA, Kolkata	1,00,000.88	Received	Received	Pending	Kandla, Gujarat	18,848.46	Pending	Pending	Pending	MEPZ	3951	Pending	Pending	Pending	Cochin	1824	Pending	Pending	Pending	Noted. The necessary confirmation will be shown to Auditors.
Regional Offices	Balance as on 31.03.2018 (Rs.)	Balance Confirmation	Bank Statement	Interest Certificate																							
FALTA, Kolkata	1,00,000.88	Received	Received	Pending																							
Kandla, Gujarat	18,848.46	Pending	Pending	Pending																							
MEPZ	3951	Pending	Pending	Pending																							
Cochin	1824	Pending	Pending	Pending																							
5.	<p><b><u>Fixed Assets</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Fixed Assets amounting to Rs. 2,00,05,215 are appearing as on 31.03.2019. We have however, noted that neither Fixed Assets Register showing quantitative details, specifications, location and it's book values under various categories etc. was maintained nor physical verification of fixed assets have been carried out till date of the audit and also the council has not taken any insurance policy to safeguard its assets.</li><li>We have also noted that the council has purchased the fixed asset amounting to Rs 6,14,399 during the financial year 2018-19 without obtaining any quotation for such purchases. (List are attached in Annexure 2)</li></ul>	<p>Noted. Physical verification of assets will be carried out shortly</p> <p>Noted and action will be taken.</p>																									
6.	<p><b><u>MAI Grant</u></b></p> <p>The council has participated in the three Exhibitions/Fairs held abroad during the F.Y. 2018-19</p>																										





## Annexure-1 to the Independent Auditor's Report

i.e. in Mauritius, Thailand and Japan.

While verifying the supporting documents of Thailand and Japan Fairs, following observations have been noted:

- We observed that the council has not shared the contract if any entered with M/s Reed Tradex Company, Thailand and M/s Reed Exhibition Japan Ltd., Tokyo along with the total amount to be paid to the vendor for carrying out the arrangements for the participants to attend the Fair including the comparative quotation, if any received in this regard.
- As per office note no. EPC/SEZ/AM-18/F-14 dated 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 2018 of EPCES Secretariat it was suggested that "making payment to M/s Exhibitions & Trade Services India Pvt. Ltd. will help EPCES in transferring the payment in INR which will save lot of efforts, time and money which we spent on filing for 15CA & CB by paying money to CAs and bank take minimum 10 days to transfer the amount in USD in other countries that too regular follow ups".  
In our opinion, we could not satisfy ourselves with the reasons and process suggested and implemented by the EPCES secretariat by routing the payment to any Indian agency instead of directly to the foreign company with whom the required arrangement were supposed to have been done. This process needs to be looked into by the management/CGC.
- Discrepancies have been noted in the number of participants participated in both the fairs and also the contributions made by the participants. Details of the same areas under:

Fair	Actual no. of participants attended the Fair	No. of Participants confirmed by the Management (vide office note no. EPCES/SEZ/AM-18/F-14 dated 13 <sup>th</sup> June, 2018,)	Difference in amount actually received and amount confirmed by the Management (vide office note no. EPCES/SEZ/AM-18/F-14 dated 13 <sup>th</sup> June, 2018,)
Thailand	22	34*	Rs. 1,85,600 (Recoverable)
Japan, Tokyo	30	44*	Rs. 5,67,500 (Short)

\*As per emails dated 12<sup>th</sup> June, 2018 of M/s Exhibition & Trade Services India Private Limited.

- Payment for the space of Rs 80,23,320 for manufacturing Expo 2018 held in Bangkok and Rs. 1,20,82,673 for Lifestyle Expo 2018 held in Tokyo, Japan was made to M/s Exhibition & Trade Services India Private Limited (Vide Invoice no. ETSIPL – EXHIB/037/2018-19) and (Invoice no ETSIPL-EXHIB/037/2018-1) in Indian Rupees as per the letter dated 4th May 2018 received from M/s Reed Tradex Company (the exhibitors) and 7th May 2018 received from M/s Reed Exhibition Japan Ltd. certifying that M/s Exhibitions & Trade Service India Private Limited respectively is authorized to sell space of said exhibition in India and both the vendors also confirm the receipt of 100% payment for space construction and top branding from M/s Exhibitions & Trade Services India Private Ltd. (ETSIPL), however, the aggregate amount received by them is not mentioned in the letter 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2018 (Thailand) and dated 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 2018 (Japan).
- Also, noted the council has not shared Form 15CA & 15CB which relate to the payment, if any, made by ETSIP, India to M/s Reed Tradex Co., Thailand and M/s Reed Exhibition Japan Ltd, Japan.
- We also understand that a memorandum LR No. MEPZ/EPCES/2019-20 dated 9th May 2019 was received by the Council requesting an inquiry with regard to complaint lodged by Former Chairman alleging embezzlement of funds in grant received for Thailand Fair for which the report by the ministry is yet to be received by the Council.  
We would appreciate if a final updated status report on the above together with an update on the police complaint (stated in our previous year audit report) be shared with us.
- We understand that notice u/s 91 CRPC was also received in the name of secretariat of the Council enquiring about the details of the Fair of which the secretariat duly submitted the

The aforesaid matter was discussed in depth in CGC meeting held on 29.08.2019. In this regard a 3 member committee has been constituted to re-enquire and advise how to reduce the penalties & losses. The report is still awaited.



## Annexure-1 to the Independent Auditor's Report

	<p>replies with the supporting documents. The present status of the same be intimated to us.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As per grant sanction letter, utilization certificate needs to be submitted by the organization to the ministry within 2 months from date of completion of event but the <b>utilization certificate obtained from the internal auditors has neither been shown to us nor submitted to the ministry till date.</b></li> <li>As per clause 6.2 of MAI Scheme 2018 dated 16th February 2018, flat 10% cut may be levied by the ministry for non-submission of UC beyond 60 days by the ministry.</li> <li>As per compliance of MAI, the grant shall not be utilised for the purpose other than venue cost, publicity cost &amp; catalogue cost. While checking the invoice of M/s Exhibition &amp; Trade Services India Private Limited the gross amount includes other costs like air tickets, hotel accommodation and transportation charges which is <b>violation of the MAI compliance because the grant is sanctioned only for venue cost</b> and not for other cost related to the benefits of participant. Further, no bifurcation has been provided in the bill raised by the vendor between space charges and other costs.</li> <li>As per email received from M/s Exhibition &amp; Trade Services India Private Limited dated 19<sup>th</sup> June, 2018, it has been noted that Rs 7.50 lakhs was received from M/s D.S. enterprises on 18<sup>th</sup> June, 2018 on account of participant fee for Japan Fair of 6 participants of Rs 1.25 lakhs per participants which has been shown under the head "Advance from customers" in the council books of accounts as on 31<sup>st</sup> march, 2019.</li> </ul> <p>We have also noted that the council has not maintained the visa copy and Boarding passes for Air Ticket of participants representative who attended Exhibition Fair held in Mauritius, Thailand and Japan.</p>	
7.	<p><b><u>Strengthening of Internal Controls</u></b></p> <p>A) The provisions of AOA / MOA of the council, w.r.t. the payment of membership fees by the members by 31<sup>st</sup> May, has not been fully complied with.</p> <p>B) Cheque amounting to Rs 25,836 were appearing the bank reconciliation statement of ICICI Bank in the month of March, 2019 become stale for which the reversal entries are yet to be passed.</p> <p>C) The council has incurred an expenditure of Rs 4,00,000 for the designing of software for RCMC and Rs 2,35,000 for designing the software for event portal, however, during the F.Y. 2018-19 and even presently, the council does not have access to these software which results in the loss to the council. It is explained to us by the management that the vendor has provided the access of these software's to the Ex – officiating chairman.</p> <p>D) There is no movement in the seven imprest accounts of Regional Offices amounting to Rs. 1,44,798 since April,2017 except Noida SEZ. We have also not received balance confirmation certificates from Kandla, Falta, MEPZ and Cochin regional offices as they are dormant accounts.</p> <p>E) We have observed that ICICI Bank Head Office Account (A/c No. 629101102838) is reflecting a Book Overdraft balance of Rs.5,22,462 as on 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2019 on account of cheque issued but not presented for payment into the bank. This is not a good practice to be followed by the council and must be stopped immediately.</p> <p>F) Approvals as per delegation of matrix were not held on record for expenditure amounting to Rs. 2,95,162 incurred on various expenses related to the council and membership fee paid</p>	<p>Fresh cheques are being issued.</p> <p>Noted. Necessary action is being taken by CGC.</p> <p>Noted. Necessary action will be taken.</p>





## Annexure-1 to the Independent Auditor's Report

to WFZO on which no approval of Director General, Deputy Director General and Deputy Director held on record.	Noted.
G) We observed that the council has booked the gain on account of foreign exchange fluctuation of Rs 10,927 on 9 <sup>th</sup> July, 2018 for which no supporting documents and basis available with the management for such recognition of income.	Noted.
H) We observed that expenses amounting to Rs. 1,48,922 (on test check basis) on account of purchase of fixed assets for which original bills were missing/not available with the respective vouchers/files at the time of our verification.	2 AC's of Rs 49,000 were purchased by Regional Office MEPZ. However, RD has been requested to send original bill.
I) We observed that expenses amounting to Rs. 3,48,923 (on test check basis) for which no supporting documents attached with the respective vouchers/files at the time of our verification.	
J) We observed that invoice submitted by the Deputy Director General (DDG) for the reimbursement of dinner at Hotel Tropical Paradise Co. Ltd. Incurred during the Mauritius Fair of INR 1,308 (MUR 678). However, this invoice contains the name of Director General instead of DDG and has been reimbursed by the council to DDG.	Noted. In future such type of mistakes will not be repeated.
K) Expenditure amounting to Rs 4,34,700 incurred on account of legal & professional for which no contract/agreement entered with the vendor at the time of our verification.	Noted. In future such type of mistakes will not be repeated.
L) We observed that payment of Rs 50,000 per month has been paid to 7 regional directors and Rs 11,000 per month has been paid to 4 executive staffs without having any contract letter issued to them.	The matter under reference has been placed before CGC in its meeting held on 29.08.2019.
M) We observed that expense of Rs 38,100 per month incurred for hiring the staff car from the vendor M/s Rao Travels for which no contract, no log book maintained by the council. However, expenditure of Rs 36,000 per month approved in the 42 <sup>nd</sup> CGC meeting held on 20 <sup>th</sup> January 2017. The vendor also charging other amounts which was not approved by the council.	Necessary contract letters are being issued.
N) Expense amounting to Rs 4,28,340 incurred for the hotel booking for meeting on GST for 220 Pax but the attendance sheet of meeting have the attendance of only 72 Participant. No quotations for selection of Hotel and no approval had been taken by management for booking of hotels.	Noted. DDG have been requested to maintain Log Book and Other things.
O) We have noted that the council has the amount of Rs 11,00,000 which is shown under the head current liability with a ledger named "Contribution of EPCES SEZ developers" since 2011.	A large number of members attended the meeting. However, signature of the participants could not be obtained. In future such type of mistakes will not be repeated.
P) We have noted that the council has incurred prior period expense of Rs 5,28,015 for which no provision was made in the earlier financial year(s).	Noted.
Q) We have also noted that the service rules of the council has not been approved by the appropriate authority of the council and also the service rules are not amended/updated since 2013.	
R) We have noted that journal vouchers of any of the expenses incurred F.Y. 2018-19 were not	



## Annexure-1 to the Independent Auditor's Report

	held on record.									
	S) There is a lack of effective and adequate internal financial control system and their operating effectiveness in all the material operational aspects of the Council during the year under audit.									
8.	<p><b>Statutory Compliances</b></p> <p>A) The council has not taken the impact of the supreme court judgement on the provident fund i.e. considering the special allowances paid by the council for the computation of deduction towards provident fund till date.</p> <p>B) Cash expenditure amounting to Rs. 72,032 have been incurred in contravention of the provision of section 40(A)(3) of the Income Tax Act. (cash expenditure of more than Rs.10,000 per person per day).</p> <p>C) No Follow up done with income tax department in respect of TDS defaults of Rs. 7,09,740 appearing on Income Tax website. CGC had approved the payment for Rs. 5,71,341 of TDS defaults appearing on the income tax website in 44th Meeting dated 11th August,2017. However, it was noted that EPCES had still not made the payment.</p> <p>D) The council has outstanding demand of Rs. 64,577 appearing on Income Tax website.</p> <p>E) Significant delays were observed in deposition of TDS, PF, GST and their returns during the F.Y 2018-19 due to which interest/penalties aggregating to Rs. 80,920 was paid by the Council and the same would be recovered from the accountant in the next financial year.</p> <p>F) Tax deducted at source of Rs. 1,23,500 payable in the books as on 31st March,2019 for which no amount has been deposited till date.</p> <p>G) Major differences were observed while reconciling the amount of GST as per GST Returns and Books.</p> <p>H) Discrepancies has been observed while reconciling the TDS recoverable with 26AS.</p> <p>I) Amount of Rs 7,627 has been paid the council under RCM for which the council is not liable to pay the same, hence results in the loss of revenue to the council.</p> <p>J) The council has wrongly taken the input credit of Rs 2,822 which is ineligible or not allowed as per the section 17(5) of CGST Act, 2017.</p> <p>K) The annual return of members of the CGC as on 31st March, 2019 has so far not been filed as required under Section 4 of the Societies Registrations Act, 1860.</p> <p>L) We noted that Income Tax Return for the Assessment Year 2018-19 is filed on the basis of unaudited figures.</p>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>Noted and such type of mistakes will not be repeated.</p> <p>Noted. As pointed out, the necessary deposit will be made with Income Tax Department.</p> <p>Noted. In future more care will be kept in mind.</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>Noted. Necessary GST Return is being filed in consultation with Auditor GST. All entries will be rectified in GST Audit 2018-19.</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>Necessary entries have been booked in the book of accounts.</p>								
9.	Expenses which need the approval of the Central Governing Council (CGC)									
	<table><tr><th>S.No</th><th>Nature of Expense</th><th>Reason for Approval</th><th>Amount (Rs.)</th></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>Traces Demands (TDS) on Income</td><td>Non Compliance of</td><td>7,09,740</td></tr></table>	S.No	Nature of Expense	Reason for Approval	Amount (Rs.)	1	Traces Demands (TDS) on Income	Non Compliance of	7,09,740	
S.No	Nature of Expense	Reason for Approval	Amount (Rs.)							
1	Traces Demands (TDS) on Income	Non Compliance of	7,09,740							





### Annexure-1 to the Independent Auditor's Report

		Tax Website not Paid Till Date.	the earlier Resolution passed by CGC in the 44th Meeting held on 11th August 2017 for the payment of Traces Demands amounting to Rs. 5,71,341 till F.Y 2016-17.										
	2	Interest & Penalty Expense	Delay in Deposition of Statutory dues	80,920									
	4	Miscellaneous Expense and Membership Fee paid to WFZO	No Approvals on Expenditure Note as per Delegation of Authority	2,95,162									
10.	<b><u>Legal Case between Chairman &amp; Officiating Chairman</u></b>												
A)	The council has pending Legal cases as on date is as follows:												
	<table><tr><th>S.No</th><th>Details</th><th>Status</th></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>Dr. Vinay Sharma Vs EPCES &amp; others</td><td>Last hearing held on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2019. Online status shown as "Dismissed".</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>EPCES vs P.P Jewellers &amp; Others</td><td>Next Date 9<sup>th</sup> December 2019</td></tr></table>				S.No	Details	Status	1	Dr. Vinay Sharma Vs EPCES & others	Last hearing held on 7 <sup>th</sup> September 2019. Online status shown as "Dismissed".	2	EPCES vs P.P Jewellers & Others	Next Date 9 <sup>th</sup> December 2019
S.No	Details	Status											
1	Dr. Vinay Sharma Vs EPCES & others	Last hearing held on 7 <sup>th</sup> September 2019. Online status shown as "Dismissed".											
2	EPCES vs P.P Jewellers & Others	Next Date 9 <sup>th</sup> December 2019											
	Rest all cases have been either disposed off or have been withdrawn.												
11.	<b><u>Income Tax Related Issues</u></b>												
a.	We have noted that the assessing officer vide order dated 30th Dec, 2018 for the FY 2015-16 (AY 2016-17) opined that the assessee has not entitled to the benefit of exemption of income as per provisions of section 11 and 12 of IT act, 1961 and accordingly the income was being assessed as business income and the assessing officer assessed the income of the council for the AY 2016-17 as Rs 86,39,712 on which a total demand of Rs 32,29,051 (after adjustment of TDS and levy of interest) was raised which was recovered by the income tax department by attaching the bank account of the council. We understand that the council has filed an appeal before CIT(A), New Delhi.												
b.	The council made an accumulation of income of Rs 64,94,007 during the FY 2016-17 u/s 11(2) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for which Form 10B was not filed by the council/the then statutory auditors and accordingly I.T. department has raised the demand of income tax liability of Rs 15,16,411 (after adjustment of TDS) vide order dated 16 <sup>th</sup> March, 2019.												
12.	<b><u>Accumulation u/s 11(2) of the Income Tax Act, 1961</u></b>												
a.	The council made accumulation of Rs 62,85,278 u/s 11(2) of the Income tax Act, 1961 in the F.Y. 2013-14 which was to be utilized till the year ended 31st March, 2019 as per the Income tax act, 1961. However, the same has not been utilized up till 31st March, 2019 which results in the increase in the income of the council by the said amount and income tax would be payable on the same. Accordingly, the council has made provision for income tax liability of Rs. 19,61,007 Lakhs (exclusive of interest & penalty) in its books of												



### Annexure-1 to the Independent Auditor's Report

	accounts as on 31st March, 2019.	
b.	As per the financial statements of the council for the FY 2018-19, there is no accumulation of income as the total income applied is more than the total receipts of the council as per statement of Income & Expenditure and accordingly no provision of income tax liability for the FY 2018-19 has been made.	

For **Thakur, Vaidyanath Aiyar & Co**

Chartered Accountants

FRN: 000038N

*K. N. Gupta*

(K.N. Gupta)

Partner

M. No.: 009169

UDIN No.:19009169AAAABZ5220



Place: New Delhi

Date: September 24, 2019



# Annexure 1

Fixed Deposit held with various banks as on 31st March, 2019 for which no original FDR's were made available for our verification.

Name of the Bank	No. of FD's	Amount as per Tally	ROI	Period	FD No.
PNB Housing	1	6,498,339	NA	NA	
SBI Bank	1	244,859	NA	NA	34483349946
SBI Bank	10	952,990	NA	NA	30694394295(10)
SBI Bank	1	297,627	NA	NA	31835635476
ICICI Bank	6	178,192	NA	NA	
<b>Total</b>		<b>8,172,007</b>			



## Fixed Asset for which no quotation has been taken by the council

Name of the Vendor	ASSET	Invoice No.	Date of the Invoice	Journal Voucher No.	Amount (in Rs.)
OSR Technologies	HP LED	May/18-19/0026	22-05-18	149	5,800
OSR Technologies	HP LED	JUN/18-19/0038	15-06-18	238	5,800
M/S GNFC LTD.	Website	F22433000378	27-12-18	677	450,000
Ajith Kitchen	Refurbishing of Regional Office Premises	11	08-06-18	220	99,922
SmartNet Informatics	Laptop and Printer	IS/9	07-09-18	501	52,877
<b>Total</b>					<b>614,399</b>





**EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL FOR EOU's AND SEZ's**

Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2019

LIABILITIES	Schedule	As at 31st March 2019	As at 31st March 2018
Capital reserve	1	650,000	650,000
Reserves and surplus	2	65,548,316	54,817,000
Accumulation u/s 11(2) of the Income Tax Act, 1961	3	9,054,079	21,833,364
Capital expenditure fund	4	14,885,743	17,365,730
Current liabilities and Provision	5	25,673,990	28,193,216
		<u>115,812,128</u>	<u>122,859,310</u>
ASSETS			
Fixed assets	6	20,005,216	21,759,051
Investments	7	56,433,229	63,793,759
Sundry debtors	8	1,629,756	1,793,163
Cash and bank balances	9	26,140,766	4,348,807
Other current assets	10	11,603,161	31,164,530
		<u>115,812,128</u>	<u>122,859,310</u>
Significant accounting policies and notes to the financial statements	12		

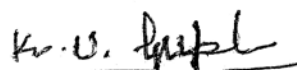
The schedules referred to above form an integral part of the financial statements

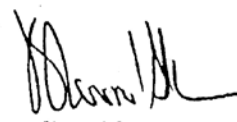
For Thakur, Vaidyanath Aiyar &amp; Co.

For and on behalf of the Council

Chartered Accountants

FRN: 000038N

  
K.N. Gupta  
Partner  
M.No - 009169

Anand Giri  
Deputy Director  
Dhruvneesh Seth  
Vice Chairman

Place: New Delhi

Date: 24-09-2019

**EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL FOR EQU&S AND SEZs**

Statement of Income and Expenditure for the year ended 31st March 2019

Schedule	For the year ended 31st March 2019	For the year ended 31st March 2018
<b>INCOME</b>		
Membership subscription	33,726,700	30,806,625
Interest on deposits, investments and saving bank accounts	4,620,540	5,419,023
Interest on Income Tax Refund	-	35,156
Advertisement on books of notification/EPCES News Magazine	615,000	745,000
Sponsorship for Export Awards Function	-	6,150,000
Contribution from Participants for Participation in Exhibitions/Fairs abroad	11,434,400	9,991,500
Market Access Initiative Grant received from Ministry (to the extent utilized)	8,585,000	16,130,206
Unutilized amount accumulated u/s 11(2)		
- For FY 2016-17 (non-submission of form 10B)	6,494,007	-
- For FY 2013-14	6,285,278	-
- For FY 2012-13	-	2,637,801
- For FY 2011-12	-	538,925
Other income	111,465	48,777
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>71,872,390</b>	<b>72,503,013</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
<b>A. Non core activities (Administrative expenditure)</b>		
Utilization of amount accumulated u/s 11(2) for FY 2012-13:		
- Research Work Expenses for enhancement of skills	-	1,081,356
- Training Programme/Material on GST for enhancement of skills	-	1,563,070
		<b>2,644,426</b>
Travelling and local conveyance	870,848	1,437,504
Legal and professional charges	2,131,951	2,278,229
Rates and taxes	3,555,782	291,165
Salaries, wages and allowances	6,873,395	7,390,879
Office expenses	3,386,497	4,846,906
Membership with other organizations	45,620	34,313
Statutory Audit fees	150,000	85,000
Depreciation	2,479,987	2,554,490
Provision for Doubtful Debts	-	514,968
Regional office expenses	7,414,477	3,885,768
Miscellaneous expenses	140,925	163,769
<b>Sub Total (A)</b>	<b>27,049,482</b>	<b>26,127,417</b>
<b>B. Core activities (Functional expenditure)</b>		
Participation in exhibition abroad		
- Expenses out of Market Access Initiative Grant	8,585,000	16,130,206
- Expenses out of Members Contributions for the event under MAI	21,098,158	9,354,442
	<b>29,683,158</b>	<b>25,484,648</b>
Event Management Expenses		135,850
Open house meet / workshop / meeting expenses	663,583	1,741,632
Periodicals on notifications issued by DGFT/CBEC/CBDT/RBI		
Advertisement in News		1,809,652
Founder Day Celebrations including Media	600,000	2,047,783
Printing of EPCES News/Budget/ Book on Notifications	1,282,260	2,195,745
EPCES export awards	213,832	3,409,542
<b>Sub Total (B)</b>	<b>32,442,833</b>	<b>36,824,852</b>
<b>TOTAL (A+B)</b>	<b>59,492,315</b>	<b>62,952,269</b>
Surplus for the year before appropriations	12,380,075	9,550,744
Add:- Amount released from capital expenditure fund	2,479,987	2,554,490
less:- Amount set apart for specified purposes u/s 11(2) of Income Tax Act, 1961	-	2,676,608
less:- Provision for Income Tax	4,128,746	166,528
<b>Balance transferred to Reserve and Surplus account in Balance Sheet</b>	<b>10,731,316</b>	<b>9,262,098</b>

Significant accounting policies and notes to the financial statements  
The schedules referred to above form an integral part of the financial statements

12

For Thakur, Vaidyanath Aiyar &amp; Co.

For and on behalf of the Council

Chartered Accountants  
PRN: 000038N

K. V. Gupta  
Partner  
M.No. - 009169



*[Signature]*

Anand Giri  
Deputy Director

*[Signature]*

Bhuvnesh Seth  
Vice Chairman

Date: 24-09-2019  
Scanner

**EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL FOR EOUs AND SEZs**  
**Schedules forming part of the financial statements as at 31st March 2019**

**Schedule 1**

**Capital reserve**

Seed money from founder members

As at  
31st March 2019

As at  
31st March 2018

650,000 650,000

650,000 650,000

**Schedule 2**

**Reserves and surplus**

Balance as per last year

54,817,000 45,554,902

Add: Surplus transferred from income and expenditure account

10,731,316 9,262,098

65,548,316 54,817,000

**Schedule 3**

**Accumulation u/s 11(2) of the Income Tax Act, 1961**

Balance as per last year

21,833,364 22,333,482

Less: Amount transferred to Income & Expenditure Account as accumulation made u/s 11(2) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the FY 2016-17 (non-submission of from 10B)

6,494,007 -

Less: Amount transferred to Income & Expenditure Account as accumulation made u/s 11(2) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the FY 2013-14 not utilized upto 31.03.2019

6,285,278 -

Less: Amount transferred to Income & Expenditure account as accumulation made u/s 11(2) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the FY 2012-13 not utilized.

- 2,637,801

Less: Amount transferred to Income & Expenditure Account as accumulation made u/s 11(2) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the FY 2012-13 not utilized upto 31.03.2017

- 538,925

Add: Amount transferred from Income & Expenditure Account for accumulation specified purposes u/s 11(2) of the Income Tax Act, 1961

2,676,608

9,054,079 21,833,364

**Schedule 4**

**Capital expenditure fund**

Balance as per last balance sheet

17,365,730 19,920,220

Less: Transferred to income and expenditure account

2,479,987 2,554,490

14,885,743 17,365,730

**Schedule 5**

**Current liabilities and provisions**

Advance membership subscription received

4,343,460 6,270,187

Unutilized MAI Grant

2,040,000 4,375,000 \*

Advance Advertisement Income from 'Book On Notification'

-

EPCEs Participation Exhibition, Mauritius

3,740,000

Audit fee payable - exclusive of GST (net of TDS)

-Statutory Audit Fee

135,000 76,500

-Internal Audit Fee

85,500 -

Other liabilities

4,265,145 4,252,322

Contribution received for EPCEs SEZ Developer Account

1,100,000 1,100,000

Amount refundable to Sundry Debtors

602,754 638,154

Income Tax Payable

4,128,746 166,528

Provision for retirement benefits

-Gratuity

2,717,284 2,549,461

-Leave Encashment

2,918,798 2,855,281

Property tax payable

255,765 255,765 \*\*

Service Tax / GST Payable

829,117 403,514 \*\*

PF Payable

262,037 106,083 \*\*

TDS Payable

943,085 1,169,965 \*\*

Salary Payable

1,047,299 234,456

25,673,990 28,193,216

\* Refunded in April, 2019

\*\* Paid during April to September, 2019





**EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL FOR EOU<sub>s</sub> AND SEZ<sub>s</sub>**

Schedules forming part of the financial statements as at 31st March 2019

Schedule 6	As at 31st March 2018	Additions	Deletions	As at 31st March 2019
<b>Fixed assets</b>				
<b>Gross block</b>				
Office vehicle	1,044,972	-	-	1,044,972
Furniture and fixtures	920,154	99,921	-	1,020,075
Office equipments	1,249,987	39,171	-	1,289,158
Computers and software	2,496,602	52,060	-	2,548,662
Office premises	41,436,264	-	-	41,436,264
Intangible Asset	82,000	535,000	-	617,000
	<b>47,229,979</b>	<b>726,152</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>47,956,131</b>
<b>Previous year</b>	<b>46,438,232</b>	<b>791,747</b>		<b>47,229,979</b>
<b>Depreciation</b>				
Office vehicle	289,980	113,249	-	403,229
Furniture and fixtures	437,584	61,344	-	498,928
Office equipments	865,763	63,509	-	929,272
Computers and software	2,235,005	124,543	-	2,359,548
Office premises	21,617,428	1,981,884	-	23,599,312
Intangible Asset	25,168	135,458	-	160,626
	<b>25,470,928</b>	<b>2,479,987</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>27,950,915</b>
<b>Previous year</b>	<b>22,916,438</b>	<b>2,570,390</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>25,486,828</b>
<b>Net block</b>				
Office vehicle	754,992	-	-	641,743
Furniture and fixtures	482,570	-	-	521,147
Office equipments	384,224	-	-	359,886
Computers and software	261,597	-	-	189,114
Office premises	19,818,836	-	-	17,836,952
Intangible Asset	56,832	-	-	456,374
	<b>21,759,051</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>20,005,216</b>
<b>Previous year</b>	<b>23,521,794</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>21,743,152</b>

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**EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL FOR EOU<sub>s</sub> AND SEZ<sub>s</sub>**

Schedules forming part of the financial statements as at 31st March 2019

	As at 31st March 2019	As at 31st March 2018
<b>Schedule 7</b>		
<b>Investments</b>		
Fixed deposits:		
<b>In Head Office</b>		
Housing and Urban Development Corporation Limited	2,580,736	2,580,736
PNB Housing Development Finance Corporation	41,496,080	41,496,080
<b>In Regional Offices</b>		
Corporation Bank	9,642,664	16,619,477
State Bank of India, Cochin	1,495,476	1,495,476
Central Bank of India, Noida	-	383,717
ICICI Bank, VSEZ	895,342	895,342
Indian Bank, Chennai	322,931	322,931
	<b>56,433,229</b>	<b>63,793,759</b>

**Schedule 8****Sundry debtors outstanding for a period more than 6 months**

-Unsecured, considered good	1,023,281	227,913
-Unsecured, considered doubtful	-	567,788
	<b>1,023,281</b>	<b>795,701</b>
Less: Provision for Doubtful Debts	-	451,688
	<b>1,023,281</b>	<b>344,013</b>

**Sundry debtors outstanding for a period less than 6 months**

-Unsecured, considered good	606,475	1,199,150
-Unsecured, considered doubtful	-	313,280
	<b>606,475</b>	<b>1,512,430</b>
Less: Provision for Doubtful Debts	-	63,280
	<b>606,475</b>	<b>1,449,150</b>
	<b>1,629,756</b>	<b>1,793,163</b>



# EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL FOR EOUs AND SEZs

Schedules forming part of the financial statements as at 31st March 2019

	As at 31st March 2019	As at 31st March 2018
<b>Schedule 9</b>		
<b>Cash and bank balances</b>		
<b>Cash in hand</b>		
Head office	71,920	39,747
Regional office	-	3,312
<b>Balance with bank in:</b>		
<b>Current account</b>		
Head office Corporation Bank	10,644,834	4,772,823
Regional offices	375,984	27,571
<b>Savings account</b>		
Head office Corporation Bank	1,512,603	1,460,800
Head office ICICI Bank (Book Overdraft)	-522,462	(5,314,176)
Regional office	128,617	136,637
<b>Auto linked deposits</b>		
Head office ICICI Bank	13,929,270	3,222,093
	<b>26,140,766</b>	<b>4,348,807</b>

## Schedule 10

### Other current assets (Unsecured, considered good)

Accrued membership subscription		500,000
Accrued Sponsorship for Export Award 2015-16/ advertisement (Billed in F.Y.2018-19)		4,835,000
Advance paid	6,909	9,415,349
Prepaid Expenses	9,250	61,300
Advances to staff	210,000	205,000
Interest accrued on investments and deposits (head office & regional offices)	7,940,420	5,583,439
Imprest Dollars in Hand	46,697	-
Security Deposit	16,500	16,500
TDS recoverable	2,681,262	1,939,705
MAI Grant Receivable	-	7,356,206 *
GST Input Tax Credit Receivable	692,123	1,234,031
	<b>11,603,161</b>	<b>31,146,530</b>

\* Received in April & May, 2018 for participation in Mauritius & Mexico Fair respectively





**EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL FOR EOU<sub>s</sub> AND SEZ<sub>s</sub>**

Schedules forming part of the financial statements as at 31st March 2019

	As at 31st March 2019	As at 31st March 2018
<b>Schedule 11</b>		
<b>Regional office expenses</b>		
<b>Non - core activities</b>		
Travelling and local expenses	65,966	325,126
Honarium expenses	4,628,000	2,520,000
Printing stationery	15,880	27,080
Telephone and postage expenses	54,735	66,979
Staff welfare/hospitality	11,491	4,096
Newspapers and periodicals	2,095	8,512
Rent	2,407,435	4,200
Office expenses	73,244	909,888
Bank charges	1,187	117
Professional Fee		19,770
Meeting Expenses	154,444	-
	<b>7,414,477</b>	<b>3,885,768</b>



## EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL FOR EOUs AND SEZ UNITS

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019

### Schedule 12

#### Significant accounting policies and notes to the financial statements

##### (A) BACKGROUND

1. The Council is registered as a Society under The Societies Registration Act, 1860 with the Registrar of Societies, Govt. of NCT of Delhi, on 16<sup>th</sup> January, 2003.
2. The Council is registered u/s 12A of the Income Tax Act, 1961 vide letter dated 15 October 2008 by the Office of Director of Income Tax (Exemption), New Delhi w.e.f 16 January, 2003.

##### (B) SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

###### 1. Accounting Convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention on accrual basis of accounting in accordance with the generally accepted accounting principles in India (Indian GAAP) and applicable accounting standards issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India.

###### 2. Revenue Recognition

- a) The revenue from membership subscription is recognized, when no significant uncertainty exists regarding its receipt.
- b) Membership subscriptions and admission fees are accounted on accrual basis except where ultimate collection is considered uncertain. Subscription received in advance is carried forward and adjusted in the year to which it relates.

Interest Income is recognized on a time proportion basis taking in to account the outstanding amount and applicable rate.

- c) Every year, at the request of Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India, New Delhi EPCES submits its annual proposals (for participation in trade fairs/ exhibitions abroad) to Ministry of commerce and Industry under Market Access Initiative (MAI) Scheme. These proposals are considered at the meeting of empowered committee chaired by the Commerce Secretary. After the approval of the said empowered committee and sanction of amount of grant, EPCES along with Indian exporting companies participate only in those trade fairs/exhibitions abroad, which are



approved by the Ministry of Commerce & Industry. In this regard, the grant received is utilized for participation in trade fairs/ exhibitions abroad. However, in case EPCES is not able to participate in the trade fairs/ exhibitions abroad, the unutilized grant is returned to Ministry of Commerce & Industry.

### 3. Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles in India requires EPCES to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and the disclosures of contingent liabilities at the date of financial statements and the reported amount of revenues and expenses during the year reported. Actual results could differ from those estimates. Any revisions to accounting estimates are recognized prospectively in current and future accounting periods.

### 4. Fixed Assets

Fixed Assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Cost of acquisition/construction includes freight, duties, taxes and other incidental expenses incurred until installation/commissioning of the asset concerned.

Fixed assets are depreciated on the written down value method at the rates specified under the Income Tax Rules, 1962. Rates of depreciation are:

Office Vehicles	15%
Furniture & Fixtures	10%
Office Equipments (including mobile Phones)	15%
Computer & Software	40%
Office Premises	10%
Intangible Asset	25%

### 5. Investments

Investments that are readily realizable and intended to be held for not more than a year are classified as current investments. All other investments are classified as long-term investments.

Current investments are carried at lower of cost and net realizable value determined on an individual investment basis. Long term investments are carried at cost. However, provision for diminution in value is made to recognize a decline, other than temporary, if any, in the value of the investments.

### 6. Retirement benefits

Liability on account of gratuity payable has been provided in accordance with the Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972 and liability for leave encashment for unavailed leaves is provided on the basis of encashable leaves as on 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2019 as per leave rules of the council.





## **7. Taxes on Income**

EPCES prepares the computation of taxable income and application of income under the Income Tax Act, 1961 as per Statement of Income and Expenditure (on accrual basis). Since there is no business activity carried out by EPCES and all expenses incurred are towards achieving the objects of the council which are exempted under Section 12A of Income Tax Act.

## **8. Impairment of Assets**

The Council on an annual basis makes an assessment of any indicator that may lead to impairment of assets. If any such indication exists, the council estimates the recoverable amount of the assets. If such recoverable amount is less than carrying amount, then carrying amount is reduced to its recoverable amount. The reduction is treated as an impairment loss and is charged to the statement of income & expenditure. If at the balance sheet date there is an indication that a previously assessed impairment loss no longer exists, the recoverable amount is reassessed and the asset is reflected at the recoverable amount subject to a maximum of depreciated historical cost.

9. The transactions in foreign exchange entered into by the council are accounted at the exchange rate prevalent on the date of the transaction. Foreign currency monetary items (other than derivative contracts) outstanding as at Balance Sheet date are restated at year end exchange rate. Non-monetary items are carried at historical cost and the exchange gains or losses are recognized in the Statement of Income and Expenditure. Exchange differences arising on a monetary item that, in substance, form part of an enterprise's net investments in a non-integral foreign operation are accumulated in a foreign currency translation reserve.

## **10. Provisions and Contingencies**

The Council makes a provision when there is a present obligation as a result of a past event where the outflow of economic resources is probable and a reliable estimate of the amount of the obligation can be made.

A disclosure is made for a contingent liability when there is a:

- a) Possible obligation, the existence of which will be confirmed by the occurrence/non-occurrence of one or more uncertain events, not fully within the control of the Council; or
- b) Present obligation, where it is not probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits will be required to settle the obligations; or
- c) Present obligation, where a reliable estimate cannot be made.

Where there is a present obligation in respect of which the likelihood of outflow of resources is remote, no provision or disclosure is made.



**(C) NOTES TO ACCOUNTS**

1. Salaries, wages and allowances include perquisites such as ex-gratia, staff welfare, reimbursement, provision for leave encashment & gratuity, contribution for provident fund, etc.
2. In the previous year(s), the Council had created a Capital expenditure fund of Rs. 1,73,65,730 upto 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2018 by transfer from Income and Expenditure Account. This fund was intended to be utilized for "Construction/expansion of office including furniture & fixtures and computerization etc". Rs. 24,79,987 (Previous year Rs. 25,54,490) equal to the amount of depreciation has been released from Capital expenditure fund by transferring it to Income and Expenditure Account.

**3. Accumulation u/s 11(2) of the Income Tax Act, 1961.**

- a. The council made accumulation of Rs 62,85,278 u/s 11(2) of the Income tax Act, 1961 in the F.Y. 2013-14 which was to be utilized till the year ended 31st March, 2019 as per the Income tax act, 1961. However, the same has not been utilized up till 31st March, 2019 which results in the increase in the income of the council by the said amount and income tax would be payable on the same.

Accordingly, the council has made provision for income tax liability of Rs. 19,61,007 Lakhs (exclusive of interest & penalty) in its books of accounts as on 31st March, 2019.

**4. Income Tax Assessments**

- a. The council has received the order from the income tax department (vide order dated 30th Dec, 2018) for the FY 2015-16 (AY 2016-17) opined that the assessee has not entitled to the benefit of exemption of income as per provisions of section 11 and 12 of IT act, 1961 and accordingly the income was being assessed as business income and the assessing officer assessed the income of the council for the AY 2016-17 as Rs 86,39,712 on which a total demand of Rs 32,29,051 (after adjustment of TDS and levy of interest) was raised which was recovered by the income tax department by attaching the bank account of the council.
- b. The council made an accumulation of income of Rs 64,94,007 during the FY 2016-17 u/s 11(2) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for which Form 10B was not filed by the council/the then statutory auditors and accordingly I.T. department has raised the demand of income tax liability of Rs 15,16,411 (after adjustment of TDS) vide order dated 16th



March, 2019 and for which provision of Rs 15,16,411 has been created in the books of accounts.

- c. As per the financial statements of the council for the FY 2018-19, there is no accumulation of income as the total income applied is more than the total receipts of the council as per statement of Income & Expenditure and accordingly no provision of income tax liability for the FY 2018-19 has been made.
5. MAI grant of Rs. 1,06,25,000(Previous year Rs. 20,505,206) was received / receivable by the Council during the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2019 out of which amount of Rs. 85,85,000 has been utilized during the Financial Year 2018-19 and balance amount of Rs.20,40,000 was refundable to Ministry of Commerce & Industry as on 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2019.
6. In the opinion of the Council Members, current assets, loans and advances have a value on realization in the ordinary course of business at least equal to the amount at which they are stated in the balance sheet and provisions for all known liabilities have been made, except to the extent specified separately.
7. There were delays in the deposition and filing returns of statutory liabilities (TDS, PF, GST, property Tax) in F.Y 2018-2019 due to which interest/penalties amounting to Rs. 80,920 have been provided for in the books of accounts.
8. The Council has received tax demand appearing on the Traces Website from TDS department amounting to Rs. 7,09,740 for the financial years 2007-08 to 2018-19 for which provision has been made in the books of accounts.
9. The Council has disputed various demands (including draft notice of demand) raised by Income Tax authorities for the assessment years 2016-17 and 2017-18 to the denial of exemption u/s 11 of the Income Tax Act, 1961 as well as the disallowance of prior period expenses and benefit of accumulation u/s 11(2) of the income tax Act. The orders are pending at various stages of appeals. The status of outstanding pending demands as per the E-filing portal is Rs. 15,80,987 out of which no provision has been created for the demand of Rs 64,577 raised by the department u/s 220(2) dated 8<sup>th</sup> April, 2019.
10. The Council has disputed against EPCES secretariat complaint lodged by Former Chairman alleging embezzlement of funds in grant received for Thailand and Japan Fair for which the report by the Ministry appointed committee is yet to be received by the Council.



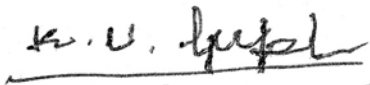


11. Presently, the council has only two legal cases pending out of which one case (Dr. Vinay Sharma Vs EPCES & others) is dismissed as per hearing held on 7<sup>th</sup> September, 2019 and other case (EPCES vs P.P Jewellers & Others) of which next hearing is on 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2019.
12. The council has received the notice u/s 91 CRPC in the name of Secretariat of the Council enquiring about the details of the Fair of which the secretariat duly submitted the replies with the supporting documents. The present status of the matter is not known.
13. The council has incurred prior period expense of Rs 5,28,015 for which no provision was made in the earlier financial year.
14. Previous year figures have been regrouped or reclassified wherever considered necessary, to make them comparable with the current year figures.

**For Thakur, Vaidyanath Aiyar & Co.**

Chartered Accountants

FRN: 000038N



**(K.N. Gupta)**

Partner

M. No. 009169



Place: New Delhi

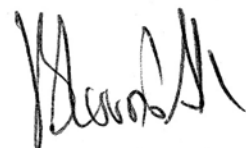
Date: 24-09-2019

**For and on the behalf of Council**



**Anand Giri**

Deputy Director General



**Bhuvnesh Seth**

Vice Chairman

EPCES participated in the The Bengal Global Business Summit 2019 in the Month of Feb 2019 with its SEZ unit members main motto and feature areas like providing large availability of skilled workers in all segments, large-scale production, processing and packaging of food products, to match our global peers, developing strategies to strengthen common facilities was looked into. The meeting was held with all the representatives of the countries to look forward for more exports for the exporters.

### 32. Membership Position

During the year 2018-19 the Council received membership subscription from 2703 units.

The Membership details zone-wise are placed below:

Sl. No.	Zone	EOU	SEZ	Developer	New Members	Total Membership Receipts
1	Cochin SEZ	59	318	41	122	540
2	Falta SEZ	14	56	7	5	82
3	Kandla SEZ	41	209	20	62	332
4	MEPZ-SEZ	126	259	35	60	480
5	Noida SEZ	43	320	26	60	449
6	SEEPZ-SEZ	44	190	22	98	354
7	Visakhapatnam SEZ	57	315	39	55	466
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>1667</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>462</b>	<b>2703</b>

# CENTRAL GOVERNING COUNCIL OF EPCES FOR 2016-18

## Chairman

Shri Rahul Gupta

Tel: 9810124550

E-mail: rahul@rahul.org

Zone		EOU		SEZ UNIT		SEZ DEVELOPER		Regional Chairmen
CSEZ	1	Vacant	2	Vacant	3	Vacant	4	[ EOU ] Shri Joshy Joseph, Indo German Carbon Ltd., 57/3, Old Mosque Road, IDA, Edayar, Binanipuram-683502, Cochin, Kerala Mobile: 0989524214, Tel: 0484-2558105/06, 2543092 Fax: 0484-2558202, Email: joshy@igcl.com
FSEZ	5	Vacant	6	Shri Krishan Kr. Maskara, Director (Finance), Vikram Solar Pvt.Ltd. "TOBACCO HOUSE", 1 Old Court House Corner, Kolkata-700001 Tel: 033-22307299 Fax: 033-22484881 E-mail: info@vikram.in	7	Shri Amit Grover Director DLF Kolkata 10th Floor, Gateway Tower, Gurgaon Haryana Mobile: 9810026026 e-mail: grover-amit@ dlf.in	8	[SEZ] Shri Avishek Dalmiya, Kolkata IT Park, M.L. Dalmiya & Co.Ltd., 32, Shakespeare Sarani, Kolkata-700 017 Tel: 033- 22904774/5565/6006/6216 Fax: 033-22902538 Email: midcal@vsnl.com, mickey_dalmiya@yahoo.com
KSEZ	9	Vacant	10	Vacant	11	Vacant	12	[EOU] Vacant
MSEZ	13	Shri T.C. Thiagarajan, Managing Director, Chansuba Pumps Pvt. Ltd., 366/5B, Thudiyalur Road, Chinnavedampatti, Coimbatore-541006	14	Vacant	15	Shri Sunil Rallan, Managing Director, J. Matadee Free Trade Zone Pvt. Ltd., No.14, Ruthland Gate, 4th Street, Chennai-600006 Email: sunilrallan@ gmail.com rallan2000@vsnl.com	16	[EOU]  Vacant
NSEZ	17	Chairman: Mr. Rahul Gupta – EOU	18	Shri Sunil Puri Director Su Import Services Pvt. Ltd. C-143, GK -1, New Delhi Mobile: 9910300507 e-mail: info@suimport.com sunil@pruiz.com sez@suimport.com accounts@suimport.com	19	Vacant	20	[EOU] Mr. Bhuvnesh Seth Managing Director Replika Press Pvt. Ltd. 310, EPIP HSIDC Indl Estate, Kundli, Dist. Sonapat, Haryana – 131028 Tel: 0130-2219044, 2219042 Fax: 0130- 2219042 Mobile : 9911224444 E-mail: info@replikapress.com bhuvnesh@replikapress.com
SEEPZ	21		22	Mr. P. C. Nambiar Director (Group EXIM) Serum Institute of India Ltd 212/2 Off. Sollipoonawalla Road Hadapasar, Pune 411 028 Tel : 020-6993976, Mobile : 9823090441 Fax: 020-6993974[2006-08] E-mail : nambiar.coepces@ gmail.com pcnambiar@ gmail.com nambiar@ seruminstitute.com	23	Shri Niranjan Hiranandani Hiranandani Builders (SEZ) Kensington Building, Ground Floor, Hiranandani Business Park, Powai, Mumbai 400076 Tel : 022-25763600 Fax: 022-25706450 Email : niranjan@ hiranandani.net	24	[ EOU ]  Vacant



VSEZ	25	Shri Suresh Seethalam Director Valbe Foods (India) Pvt. Ltd. Flat no. 18 & 18 A, 3rd Fl Deepthi Appartments, S. P. Road, Secunderabad 500003 Telangana Mobile: 09686969750 e-mail: sureshseethalam@ valbefoods.in	26	Vacant	27	Shri Srikanth Badiga, Director, Phoenix Infocity Pvt. Ltd., Plot No.1335, Road No.45, Jubilee Hills Hyderabad-500 003 Mobile: 09949977877 Tel: 040- 23557777/23558888 Email: srikanth. badiga@ phoenixindia.n.et, skb999@yahoo.com	28	[ SEZ ] Shri Dodla Srinivasulu Sr. Manager – CommI & Taxation DLF Commercial Developers Ltd Sy. No. 129, 130, 131 & 132 APHB Colony Gachibowli Village, Serilingapally Mandal Hyderabad 530 019 Tel : +91-4067-304602/5 Email : srinivasulu-dodla@dlf.in Mobile : 09948055448
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<p><b>DEVELOPMENT COMMISSIONERS</b></p> <p>29. Shri Baldev Singh, IAS Development Commissioner SEEPZ Special Economic Zone Andheri (East), Mumbai 400 096 Tel : 022-28290856 / 143 Fax: 022-28291385 Email : dcseepz-mah@nic.in</p> <p>30. Dr. L.B. Singhal, Development Commissioner Noida Special Economic Zone Noida-Dadri Road, Noida Phase II Noida (UP) 201 305 Tel : 0120-2567270-74, 3021444-46 Fax: 0120-2562314, 2567276 Email : dc@nsez.gov.in</p> <p>31. Shri D. K. Panda Development Commissioner Falta Special Economic Zone 2nd MSO Building, 4th Floor Nizam Palace, Kolkata 700 020 Tel : 033-22813117 Fax: 033-22877923 Email : devcomm.fsez@nic.in</p> <p>32. Dr. Amiya Chandra Development Commissioner, Kandla Special Economic Zone Administrative Building Gandhidham, Kutch 370 230 Tel : 02836-252475, 253300 Fax: 02836-252250 Email : dc.kasez-gj@gov.in kandlasez@gmail.com</p> <p>33. Shri M.K.S. Sundaram, IAS Development Commissioner, MEPZ Special Economic Zone Tambaram, Chennai Tel : 044-22628232 / 20 Fax: 044-22628218 Email : dc@mepz.gov.in</p> <p>34. Shri G. Sitaram Reddy Development Commissioner Visakhapatnam Special Economic Zone Duvvada, Visakhapatnam 530049 Tel : 0891-2708255 Fax: 0891-2587352 Email : devcomm.vsez@gov.in dc@vsez.gov.in, info@vsez.gov.in</p> <p>35. Shri M.K.S. Sundaram, IAS Development Commissioner (Addl. Charge) Cochin Special Economic Zone Kakkanad, Cochin 682 030 el : 0484-2558676 Fax: 0484-2413074 Email : dc@csez.gov.in, mail@csez.gov.in</p>	<p><b>REPRESENTATIVES FROM GOVERNMENT OF INDIA</b></p> <p>36. Shri T.V. Ravi, IRS Director (SEZs) and Director General, EPCES, Ministry of Commerce &amp; Industry, Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi 110 011 Tel : 011-23062109 Email : talla.ravi@nic.in</p> <p>37. Ms. Deep Shikha Sharma Director (ITA-I), CBDT Ministry of Finance, Govt. of India, North Block, New Delhi Tel : 011-23092107 Mobile: 9013850393 Email : deepshikha.sharma@nic.in</p> <p><b>CO-OPTED MEMBERS</b></p> <p>38. Shri Pankaj Jain, Joint Secretary, Department of Financial Services, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Jeevan Deep Bldg., New Delhi Tel: 23788716, (SO: S.K. Verma) Email: soifls-dfs@nic.in p.jain@nic.in jsif-dfs@nic.in</p> <p>39. Shri K.V. Madhan KVM Advisory (P) Ltd., Old No.21, New No.30, Lakshmanan Street, Mahalingapuram, Chennai-600034 Tel: 044-45572620 (M) 09840920247 Fax: 044-24311450 Email : kvrmadhan@gmail.com</p> <p>40. Shri Vivek Mehra Executive Director/Partner PricewaterhouseCoopers Pvt. Ltd Building No.10, Tower C, DLF Cyber City, Gurgaon, Haryana-122 002 Tel : 0124-3306000 (M) 9811068118 Email : vivek.mehra@in.pwc.com</p> <p>41. Shri S. K. Behra Joint Director (EP), Directorate General of Export Promotion CBEC, Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, Govt. of India, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Hotel Janpath, New Delhi 110 001 Tel : 011-23344615 Fax : 011-23344614 Email : dgep@indiatimes.com</p> <p>42. Ms. Vayaila Rungshun, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Labour &amp; Employment Shram Shakti Bhawan, Rafi Marg, New Delhi 110 001 Tel : 23737510 Fax: 23737510 E-mail: vayaila.r@nic.in</p>	<p>43. Shri Jay Karan Singh, Joint DGFT Director General of Foreign Trade Ministry of Commerce &amp; Industry, Govt. of India, Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi Tel : 23062225 Email : jaykaran.singh@nic.in</p> <p>44. Mr. K. Nagaraj Naidu Joint Secretary (ED) Ministry of External Affairs Jawahar Lal Nehru Bhawan, 23-D, Janpath, New Delhi - 110001</p> <p>45. Dr. A.K. Tripathi, Advisor/Scientist-G Ministry of New &amp; Renewable Energy Block 14, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi Tel : 24363056 Fax: 24363035 Email : aktripathi@nic.in</p> <p>46. Shri Srishta Raj, Regional Manager Export Credit &amp; Guarantee Corpn. Ltd., Mohan Dev, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Tolstoy Marg, Connaught Place, New Delhi - 110001. Tel : (011) 4152 9912 - 16 / 19 - 21 Fax: (011) 4152 9918 Email : nro@ecgc.in</p> <p>47. Shri Rajneesh Agarwal, Director, Software Technology Parks of India, Ganga Software Technology Complex Sec - 29, Noida 201303 Tel: 0120-2470502 Fax: 0120-2470403 E-mail: ram@stpi.in</p> <p>48. Shri Jayanta Das, General Manager, India Trade Promotion Organisation, Pragati Bhavan, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi-110001 Tel: 23378929 Fax: 23371673 Email: jd@itpo-online.com</p>
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# EPCES Activities with in India



*Lighting of Lamp by Shri Arun Goyal, Special Secretary GST*



*Dignitaries on the Dias at EPCES GST Open House*



*Dr. Anup Wadhwan , Commerce Secretary Ministry of Commerce & Industry inaugurating the Solar Power Plant at NSEZ.*



*Shri Bhaskar Khuble , IAS, Secretary to Prime Minister interacting with EOUs & SEZs along with Dr. L. B. Singhal, DC, NSEZ and Shri S. S. Shukla JDC, NSEZ.*



*Shri B. K. Panda, DC, Falta SEZ, presiding over the meeting with EOUs & SEZs*



*Shri Bhaskar Khuble , IAS, Secretary to Prime Minister with the members of EOUs & SEZ community at Noida SEZ, Noida.*



*Shri Anandan JDC, MEPZ-SEZ addressing the participants at the Road show*



*Dr. L. B Singhal, Development Commissioner NSEZ, addressing the gathering.*



# EPCES AT YOUR SERVICE

**Director General**

**Export Promotion Council for EOUs & SEZs**

*(Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India)*

8G, Hansalaya Building, 15, Barakhamba Road, New Delhi-110001

Tel: 23329766-69 Fax No.011-23329770

E-mail : [epcesho@gmail.com](mailto:epcesho@gmail.com) website: [www.epces.in](http://www.epces.in)

<p><b>Cochin Special Economic Zone</b> Regional Director EPCES <b>Cochin Special Economic Zone</b> Administrative Building, Ground Floor, Kochi – 37 Kerala Tel: 0484-2413312 <b>Mobile: 9847034862</b> E-mail : <a href="mailto:rdcsez@epces.org">rdcsez@epces.org</a></p>	<p><b>Falta Special Economic Zone</b> Regional Director EPCES <b>Falta Special Economic Zone</b> 2nd MSO Building, 4th Floor, Nizam Place, Kolkata – 700 020 <b>Mobile : 09007508189</b> E-mail: <a href="mailto:rdfsez@epces.org">rdfsez@epces.org</a></p>
<p><b>Kandla Special Economic Zone</b> Regional Director EPCES <b>Kandla Special Economic Zone,</b> 13-A, Administrative Building Gandhidham Kutch-370 230 (Gujarat)</p>	<p><b>MEPZ – Special Economic Zone</b> Regional Director EPCES <b>MEPZ – Special Economic Zone</b> Administrative Office Building, Tambaram, Chennai – 600 045 Mobile: 9840796403 E-mail: <a href="mailto:rdmepz@epces.org">rdmepz@epces.org</a></p>
<p><b>Noida Special Economic Zone</b> Regional Director EPCES <b>Noida Special Economic Zone</b> 1st Floor, Administrative Block, Noida- Dadri Road, Phase II, Noida – 201 305 (Uttar Pradesh) Mobile: 9810448119 E-mail: <a href="mailto:rdnsez@epces.org">rdnsez@epces.org</a></p>	<p><b>SEEPZ-Special Economic Zone</b> Regional Director EPCES SEEPZ-Special Economic Zone Office no. 3, 3rd Floor, Business Facilitation Centre, SEEPZ-SEZ Andheri (East), Mumbai-400096 (Maharashtra) Mobile: Mobile: 9870211174 E-mail: <a href="mailto:rdseepz@epces.org">rdseepz@epces.org</a>.</p>
<p><b>Visakhapatnam Special Economic Zone</b> Regional Director EPCES <b>Visakhapatnam Special Economic Zone</b> 2nd Floor, Administrative Building Visakhapatnam Special Economic Zone, Duvvada, Visakhapatnam 4 Mobile: 9866176962 E-mail: <a href="mailto:rdvsez@epces.org">rdvsez@epces.org</a></p>	<p><b>CSEZ EPCES Bangalore Office</b> Regional Director EPCES – Bangalore (CSEZ) <b>Cochin Special Economic Zone</b> NO-120-C EPIP , Ground Floor, CSEZ office, Whietfield, Bangalore -560066 <b>Mobile: 09449066447</b> E-mail: <a href="mailto:rdbangalore@epces.org">rdbangalore@epces.org</a></p>