

Activities of EPCH in North East Region during the month of May – 2022

EPCH as a Technical Agency under the SFURTI Project supported by the Ministry of MSME has been providing handholding and technical support to the Implementing Agencies (IAs)/ Members of Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) and cluster artisans of various clusters of the North Eastern Region.

EPCH designers regularly interact with the artisans and provide designs for new and innovative product development at Cluster. The objective of such interaction is to showcase the diversified products in National and International level marketing events organized by EPCH and to nurture them into entrepreneurs and subsequently into exporters. EPCH as a Technical Agency has been working towards capacity enhancement, brand building and Skill Development of artisans thereby increasing employment opportunities, culminating in improving livelihood in the region.

In this connection, several cluster visit programmes were conducted in different clusters in NER. **On 11/05/2022, the team of EPCH visited Dress Making Cluster, Goalpara, Assam** for inspection of the CFC and to check on the status of installation of Machines in the CFC and to interact with the cluster artisans who have received handloom under the project. Miss Kewenilu Lohe, Project Assistant (EPCH NER), Miss Surjamala Maibam, Designer (EPCH NER), Mr Dhruvajyoti Barman, Designer, (EPCH NER) and Mr Brightson, Representative of Implementing Agency (IA) were present during the inspection. 13 SPV members representing from two villages namely, Dobapara and Langopara were also present during the visit.



Meeting with the SPV Members at Balijana, Assam

A similar field visit was conducted on **14/05/2022 at Silk and Handicraft Cluster, Ghilamara, Lakhimpur District, Assam**. During the visit, the working committee was formed at the cluster and also met with the cluster artisans and SPV members. Further, a visit to each of the work-shed was done followed by a meeting with bank officials. Prof. A. K Das Sir, Professor, Civil Engineering Dept., IIT Guwahati, laid the foundation for the construction of new work shed at the CFC campus. Representatives from NA, TA and IA were present during the visit.



Meeting with the working committee at Ghilamara, Lakhimpur, Assam



Laid foundation stone for construction of Workshed at Ghilamara Cluster



EPCH Designers with Cluster artisans



Meeting with the artisans of Ghilamara Cluster, Lakhimpur Assam

On 15/05/2022, a joint visit of the Nodal Agency (IIE) and Technical Agency (TA) was conducted at Gorchinga Handloom Cluster, Lakhimpur, Assam. The objective of the visit was to conduct a meeting with the SPV Members and train them on record keeping, preparation of activity reports, maintenance of accounts etc. 20 artisans along with the representative of IA and CDE were attended the programme.

Under SFURTI Project, EPCH as a Technical Agency assists the Implementing Agencies in the identification of machines that requires upscaling the cluster’s production. On 17/05/2022, the team of EPCH visited Brass Metal Cluster, Barpeta Assam for verification of machines supplied under the project. The machines for the cluster were finalized in consultation with the Metal Handicraft Service Centre, Moradabad. EPCH officials were present during the delivery and installation of machines at CFC. During the visit, a 5 day training programme for the operationalization of the machines has been planned for the cluster artisans. ■



Delivery and Installation of Machines at Brass Metal Cluster, Barpeta



SPV Members present during the delivery of new machines