“SELL SOMETHING THAT THE REST OF THE WORLD WANTS! DESIGN IN INDIA; IF YOU DON’T DESIGN IN INDIA, YOU DON’T GET PARTNERS GLOBALLY. WHEN YOU DESIGN A PRODUCT, YOU GET A BRAND VALUE “

Shri Suresh Prabhu, Honourable Minister for Commerce and Industry at the inauguration of IILF 2018 on 31st January at the Chennai Trade Centre
Dear Doyens and Members of the Indian Leather Fraternity; Colleagues from CSIR; Mentors and Teachers, Colleagues and Friends! It gives us great pleasure in sending you our February 2018 edition of The LEATHER POST.

READER’S DELIGHT: This is a very special edition as it features all the major events of LEATHER WEEK 2018, particularly intended for those who could not join us for LERIG 2018 and related events. The Leather POST, February 2018 edition is an insight into the Theme of India Leather Week “SUSTAINABILITY”.

In the last month, this Institute has hosted many international and national delegations who will be our associates in the near future collaborating with us on our projects for sustainability of the leather and allied industries.

CSIR-CLRI has been reaching out to the Industry in every sphere with its technologies and services. We hope to live up to the expectations of the Indian Leather Sector at all times. We must walk hand-in-hand in our journey ahead!

I wish to thank you all for your unstinted support and kind co-operation at all times, We will strive to make this magazine informative and interesting and welcome your feedback for improvement.

27th February 2018

SUSTAIN
SUSTAINABILITY OF LEATHER & ALLIED INDUSTRIES

51st Leather Research Industry Get-together LERIG 2018
29-30th January 2018, Hotel Le Royal Meridien, Chennai

Leather Research Industry Get-Together (LERIG) marks the beginning of the Leather week celebrations at Chennai, India. LERIG has been organized every year during the last week of January. This annual event aims to provide a platform to deliberate the ideas and concerns of common interest and to evolve a comprehensive strategy for enabling an internationally competitive Leather Sector.

This year, LERIG focused on Sustainability of Leather & Allied Industries, “SUSTAIN”. The 51st LERIG aimed at delivering the state-of-art concepts in the areas of developing new products, chemical systems and reducing energy consumption, while maximizing raw material to leather/product turnover that Indian leather sector could consider for adoption. Deliberation of LERIG 2018 is covered briefly in this report.

Highlights of LERIG 2018
Day 1-Inauguration

No | Description | Pg.
--- | --- | ---
1. | Report on 51st LERIG 2018 | 3
2. | Nayudamma Lecture by Shri VK Saraswat | 15
3. | 33rd IILF 2018: Inaugural Ceremony | 24
4. | IILF 2018: in pictures | 28
5. | New Products at IILF 2018 | 30
6. | Theme Pavilion at IILF 2018 | 34
7. | CSIR-CLRI at 3rd Designers Fair 2018 | 43
8. | Delegation from Kitui County, Gov. of Kenya | 45
9. | Technology Transfer of Waterless Chrome Tanning Technology to Trichy Tanners | 48
10. | H.E. Mr Ali Illiasou, Ambassador of Republic of Niger | 48
11. | Shri Anil Agarwal, Joint Secretary, DIPP visited CLRI | 49
12. | Skill upgradation programme in Ahmedabad | 50
51st Leather Research Industry Get together was inaugurated with lighting of the Kuthuvilakku (lamp) by Dr VK Saraswat, Dr M Rafeeqe Ahmed, Dr B Chandrasekaran, Shri PR Aqeel Ahmed, Shri N Shafeeq Ahmed, Dr Bhaskar Ramamurthi and Shri Ramesh Kumar.

Welcome address was delivered by Dr. B. Chandrasekaran, Director, CSIR-Central Leather Research Institute. He emphasized the importance of the theme “SUSTAIN”- Sustainability of Leather & Allied Industries which is the need of the hour.

**CLE MODEEUROP AWARDS**

The Council for Leather Exports (CLE) felicitates the winning colours from India at Modeurop by presenting the Modeurop Awards every year. This year, the awardees were M/s ATH Leder Fabric, Melvisharam (KH Group); M/s. Forward Leather Company, Chennai; M/s. Good Leather Company, Chennai; M/s. K H Exports India PVT LTD (Leather Division), Ranipet; M/s. Mathi Leather (PVT) LTD, Chennai; M/s. P A Footwear PVT LTD, Chennai; M/s. Sura Leather PVT LTD, Ambur; M/s. TATA International Limited, Mumbai; M/s. A V Thomas Leather & Allied Products PVT LTD, Chennai; M/s. Genuine Leather Associated PVT LTD, Vaniyambadi and M/s. Veera Tanneries PVT LTD, Mumbai.
The Presidential address was delivered by Padma Shri Dr M Rafeeqe Ahmed, Chairman, Farida Group and President, All India Skin and Hide Tanners Merchants Association. (AISHTMA)

He expressed the importance of LERIG and selection of a new theme every year to discuss and work for the subsequent year. He highlighted the prominence of introducing sustainable products which is environment friendly into the markets. He threw light on forecasting new product developments and technologies for the sustained growth of leather and leather product industry. He also emphasized on economical manufacturing and viability along with sustainable production. He urged that the significance of integrating technology in the manufacturing sector was the need of hour, which maximizes the production with less wastage, time reduction and environmental friendly. He also congratulated CLRI for the revolutionizing waterless chrome tanning technology and their continuous support to the leather industry. He also stressed upon the job creation in leather industry with lesser investment. He concluded his address with a vision of 15-20% growth for the leather industry in a span of 3 to 5 years.
The Council for Leather Exports presents Design Awards to Member-Exporters of the Council, Free-lance Designers, Institutional designers and Students of Design Courses every year. The Design Award was instituted by CLE in 1997, to increase "Fashion & Design" awareness in the country and help Indian leather and leather products industry to find a place of prominence in the global fashion world of leather. This year, a total of 152 entries were received under various categories and the winners were chosen based on the various aspects of design innovation, uniqueness and novelty.

Inaugural Address was delivered by Dr VK Saraswat, Member, NITI Aayog. He cited the global presence of Indian leather sector in terms of raw materials and foreign exchange earnings and its impact on employment creation. He also stressed upon the importance of maintaining the demand of social, environmental and economic prerequisites to accomplish sustainability. He praised the technological invention of CLRI for combating the pollution in leather industry. He highlighted the elements such as quality improvisation, reproducibility and value addition which embarks the competitiveness. He appreciated the harmonious relationship between CLRI and leather industry for their co-operation in forecasting the sector needs and working towards it. Introducing innovation in Indian leather sector at a global platform would reinforce the technology transformation in leather and leather products. He also encouraged the leather fraternity to actively participate in framing policy and promote leather industry, globally.

Leather Chemical Manufacturers Association (LCMA) Award

Leather Chemical Manufacturers Association (LCMA) has instituted best project awards to encourage talented students of the Department of Leather Technology, Anna University – CLRI. This year, the LCMA best project award was given to Ms. R. DHAARANI & Ms. S. DHARANI, B.Tech (Leather Technology) for their project work entitled “Wet-White Tanning by Al-Zr Complex”. The award carries a certificate and a cash prize of Rs 15,000.
Felicitation address was given by Shri PR Aqeel Ahmed. He mentioned the due importance given to Indian leather sector by Honorable Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi for focusing along with textile industry. This is mainly due to manpower generation and foreign exchange inflow by this sector. He also envisaged the technological advancements of leather sector in combating pollution and attaining sustainability. He concluded his address by congratulating all the awardees.

Outstanding Entrepreneur Award

The Nagappan Memorial trust has instituted an “Outstanding Entrepreneur award” in the year 2015. Outstanding Nagappan Entrepreneur award 2018 was presented to Shri Kumaresa Pandian. He is an established entrepreneur and completed his B Tech in 1980 from A C College, Anna University. After an initial training at Jaibharat tannery under the legendary Shri Raja Gopal Naidu, he went on to set up his own unit Blue Diamond Leders in 1995 in Chennai and subsequently in Ranipet and Wallajabad. For his tireless interest and efforts in the leather industry, he was awarded the Best Exporter for performing 100 crores turnover for the financial year 2015-2016 by CLE. In recognition of his contribution towards the leather industry, he has been selected by the Nagappan Foundation for the outstanding Entrepreneur Award 2018 and it was presented by Mr. A. Chidambaram & Shri. Yegammal Chidambaram, Chairperson, Nagappan Memorial Trust.

B D Bhaiya Award

B D Bhaiya award was instituted by Mr Manoj Bhaiya to encourage talent at the Department of Leather Technology of Anna University-CLRI. The award was instituted in 2016 for best project thesis from students of leather technology. This year the B D Bhaiya Award was presented to Mr. Y. AKILAN & Ms. T. SHURUTHI for their project work on “Novel Approach towards Sheep Nubuck Processing”.

Guest of Honour lecture was delivered by Shri Shafeeq Ahmed, IFLMEA. He began his address with the importance of LERIG which acts as a knowledge sharing forum between scientists and industry. He congratulated CLRI for being technological partner in 2600 Crores Project announced by Government of India. He explained the need for introducing innovative concepts in leather industry viz., recycle and reuse of leather wastes. He cited the
Mecca Haji Abdul Majid Sahib Endowment Awards

Mecca Haji Abdul Majid Sahib Endowment awards were instituted in the name of Mecca Haji Abdul Majid Sahib, founder of the Farida Group in order to encourage the Leather Technology and Footwear Science and Engineering Students of Anna University and to create awareness and interest among the Under Graduate and Post Graduate Students by Mr. Mecca Rafeeqe Ahmed, Chairman, Farida Group in the year 1995 with an initial contribution of Rs. 1,50,000 to Anna University, the proceeds of the deposit are being utilized for the best project thesis awards. Each award carries a cash prize and a plaque. These annual awards selected by a jury consisting of scientists, academicians and professional technologists are awarded during Leather Research Industry Get-Together (LERIG) every year.

This year, the first prize was awarded to Ms. S. R. ABHINAYAA, Mr. A. MOHAMED IMRAN & Mr. M. MUFEES AHMED for their project entitled “Chrome free leather using Titanium as a retanning agent”. The Second prize was given Ms. L. HARITHA & Mr. V. RENISHKRISHNAN for their project work on “Studies on inducing electrical conductivity in glove leather”.

The third prize was presented to Ms. R. DIVYA BHARATHI, Mr. N. PRASHANTH for their project work entitled “Attempt to use bio-based composites for filling cum lubrication property”. In the M.Tech Leather Technology category, the First prize was awarded to Ms. S. HEMA NAGALAKSHMI for her project work on “Synthesis of reactive fatliquors and their application onto leather”.

Guest of Honour Address was delivered by Shri Ramesh Kumar, IAS, Executive Director, CLE. He initiated his speech in admiring the close collaboration of central leather research institute with industries in framing norms for the leather and leather products. He also pitched upon the technology interventions in attaining sustainability along with skill development. He embraced the adoption of best practices and viable technologies in use to march towards sustainability in future for the leather sector. He summarized his speech embarking the make in India programme and zero defect zero effect.

growth of leather industry in the current Indian market and anticipated that choosing between the mass market industry and luxury industry by the Indian leather sector is the need of the hour.
The Director and Staff of CSIR-CLRI chose to institute an Oratorical Contest in 1968 as a mark of respect to Dr. AL Mudaliar, former Vice-Chancellor, University of Madras, the great visionary who himself was a great orator. Dr AL Mudaliar, former Vice-Chancellor of the University of Madras was instrumental in bringing Central Leather Research Institute to Chennai. He offered space within the University premises and also initiated a degree program in leather technology. The Leather Technology Course at the University of Madras was unique as it brought a rare synergy between the researchers of CLRI and the academicians. This partnership has blossomed today into a trinity partnership of Academy – Research – Industry. The course is now a part of the Anna University, with the scientists of CLRI serving as honorary teaching staff of the University.

Guest of honour address was delivered by Professor Bhaskar Ramamurthi, Director, IIT Madras. He delivered a phenomenal address on the role played by Dr Nayudamma and Dr AL Mudaliar during the establishment of IIT Madras. He urged the role of value addition through technology and design innovations. He also envisaged the new finishing systems, zero waste, and life cycle management of the products to attain the self-sustainability of Indian leather sector. He concluded his speech by promoting the new innovation through value addition for the futuristic, sustainable balance to reach out to the global market.

NAYUDAMMA LECTURE
This year, Prof. Y Nayudamma Lecture was delivered by Dr VK Saraswat, Member NITI Aayog & Former Secretary Defence, GoI on “New frontiers in Engineering”, Chaired by Dr Bhaskar Ramamurthi, Director, IIT Madras. Dr VK Saraswat commenced his lecture by signifying scientific knowledge overlapping the societal needs for the interest of public communities. He enlightened the technological evolution from Stone Age to current innovations and its impact on societal reforms. The role of engineering sciences had impelled several industrial revolutions that crafted various challenges in due course of their execution. He touched upon the root cause of attaining global sustainability with less adverse effect on low carbon footprints, human security with sustainable production and consumption. Dr VK Saraswat accentuated on distributed equilibrium between triad pillars for the progress towards sustainability.
He also pitched upon the translation of traditional sciences to sustainable engineering in order to escalate the global competitiveness. He mentioned several untouched areas of engineering sciences that would meet challenges to congregate the sustainability goals. He showcased the importance of technological intervention in leather sector that would translate the traditional leather process to bio-fabricated leather materials. He recapitulated his speech with emphasis on modern technological innovation sciences to combat the complexity and comprehensive needs to achieve the sustainability of all the sectors at the global platform.

Dr KJ Sreeram, Co-ordinating Convenor, LERIG 2018 proposed the Vote of Thanks.
Highlights of Day 2

Session 1: Sustainability through Reduced Environmental Footprints

Dr B Chandrasekaran, chairman of the session introduced theme for the session on sustainability and introduced the speakers to the onlookers.

Shri Avik Mitra is currently working as an Advisor, National Board for Quality Promotion, Quality Council of India was the first speaker of LERIG 2018 and commenced the address by throwing light on the implication of Zero Defect Zero Effect (ZED) in manufacturing sector. He introduced the exciting scheme of ZED which has the fullest potential to transform the manufacturing sector and the competence to improve the GDP to 25%. He stressed upon customer orientation and their responsibility towards society favouring the environment. He also highlighted the benefits of ZED such as due recognition of international investors, streamlining operations at lower costs, increased socio-environmental consciousness. He concluded his speech by explaining the eminence of ZED model and its various rating taxonomies which would benefit to the sustainability in leather and leather product sector.

Dr. Michael Costello, Director of Sustainability, M/s. Stahl, commenced his speech on the Competitive Advantage of Sustainability that bolsters the social-environmental prospects for the betterment of the sustainability in the leather and leather industry. He highlighted the embryonic development of sustainable future of the planet and proposed transparent ideologies on the basis of policies and strategies for open supply chain which stands as the precedence to march towards sustainability. He expressed his dogmas for reducing the carbon footprints from leather chemicals and products. He epitomized the vital strictures such as selection of raw material, less energy consumption, innovation and life cycle assessment. He accomplished his speech by lauding the ideas of adopting circular economy in leather chemicals and product industries to attain sustainability.

Shri Tatheer Zaidi, Co-ordinator, Leather and Dairy portfolio of Solidaridad in South & South East Asia. He highlighted the need for pollution prevention and Efficient Water consumption in Kanpur-Unnao Leather Cluster. He expressed his views on the contribution of various sectors for the alarming situation of river Ganga. He accentuated for adopting eco-friendly and viable processes to combat pollution with an agenda to implement the best practices in tanneries. He stressed on the main scope of clean Ganga project, focusing on capacity building of best known and viable technological practices, self-assessment tools and financial linkages of small tanneries with financial institutions. He also cherished the active involvement of CSIR-CLRI in conceptualizing the project under the clean Ganga mission. He consummated his speech with the implementation of clean Ganga project which would enhance the livelihood of the region to attain sustainability by achieving the balance between socio-economic-environmental mantras.

Dr. P. Saravanan, Chief Scientist, Head of Leather Processing Division, CSIR-CLRI, delivered an inspiring oration on the Roadmap for Comprehensive Sustainability in Leather Industry. He had begun his sermon on introducing various key features such as viable concepts and its path towards destination for achieving sustainability in leather sector. He stressed upon the importance of dynamic stability between social, environmental and economic needs that ought to be adequately addressed to realize sustainability. He also stated the leather industry is a model of sustainability which is the by-product of meat industry. He concluded his dialect by forecasting the roadmap for the implementation of best practices to achieve the sustainability in leather and allied industries.
Session 2: Chemicals for Sustainability of Tanning Industries

Shri N Shafeeq Ahmed chaired the proceedings of the second technical session by introducing the fellow speakers and emphasized on the need of sustainability in leather chemical industries.

Dr K J Sreeram, Principal Scientist, CSIR-CLRI, first speaker of the session 2 presented about the chemical sustainability with relevance to economically available indigenous chemicals needed for the transition of raw materials commodities for the foreign exchange. He commenced his speech by explaining the utility of synthetic fat liquors invented by CLRI in 1970’s. He highlighted the importance of developing leather auxiliaries for the reduction of hazardous compounds and other polluting chemicals to accomplish sustainable products. He also highlighted the techniques for transforming the Paradigm shift by eliminating salts through enzyme preservation technique in the beam house operations and the application of rare-earth pigments that leads to the reduction of toxic outlets to landfills. He finally concluded his speech by addressing the growth of the leather industry and the role of CLRI for progressing towards sustainable development.

Dr Guido Batema, Global Product Manager Wet-End, M/s Smit & Zoon, initiated his speech with the brief history of Smit & Zoon and their progress in leather processing. He also presented on protect passport and envisaged the simplified concepts for reducing the consumption rate of water and chemicals, profiling the industries as well as the environment. He highlighted the application of zeolites in the process of retanning which could minimize the ingestion of water in processing paving way for the sustainability of natural resources. Lastly, he concluded his speech with the various measures to obtain high exhaustion of chemicals by reducing the TDS in the effluents.

Dr V Vijayabaskar and Shri J. K. Basu, Associate Vice President, M/s Balmer Lawrie & Co. Mr. J K Basu began the speech on the exploration of modern chemistry by enlightening the adoption of cleaner processing in leather sector. He also explained about the new processes involved in the leather with respect to reduction of water and energy consumption for the future use. He lauded Balmer Lawrie’s efforts for attaining sustainability by adhering to the suitable selection of raw materials, upgraded chemical manufacturing methods and improved finishing techniques. Dr. V Vijayabaskar explored the unravelling concepts of energy balance and recovery processes to meet the future needs of the leather industry in accordance to accomplish sustainability. He highlighted the adoption of modern technologies to combat the carbon footprints and emission of greenhouse gases. He finally urged the consideration of reusing the waste resources which would contribute to a holistic sustainable development.

Session 3: Sustainability in Product Industries

Shrimathi Revathy Roy, the chairman of this session, elucidated the proceedings by introducing the speakers of the session to the onlookers of LERIG 2018.

Shri Md Sadiq, Chief Scientist, Indian Fashion Studio, CSIR-CLRI, initiated his speech with the highlights of annual shoe expo which is a collaboration of best manufacturers and retailers in Europe. He pitched upon the marketing strategies for designs and its impacts on the leather market. He urged to strengthen the designing proficiencies, application of 3D design and construction of designing studios with freelance designers for the growth of Indian leather industries. He conveyed the need for sample development, process modification and the maintenance of brand value chain which would drive the growth of the Indian leather products. He emphasized the concepts of fashion pool networks, trend forecasting and proactive designing for the betterment of the sustainable products. He was all praise for CLE for their ingenuities in this direction. He finally praised the Indian leather industry for maintaining higher demands in the global market.
Shri Israr Ahmed, Managing Director, FARIDA, Regional Chairman, CLE. He had begun his oration by defining sustainability in various aspects and explained the indispensable impacts created for the futuristic aspects in manufacturing sector. He illustrated the prominence of upholding three P’s namely planet, people and profit that focuses on the environment, social and economic benefits in the field of production and marketing. He also stressed about gaining the importance of interconnection among the three P’s to obtain holistic assistance for the leather industry. He urged the adoption of eco-friendly methods and viable technologies. He finally concluded his speech by insisting upon the adoption of eco-friendly techniques into practice for the accomplishment towards the sustainable industry.

Dr Egbert Dikkers, Leader Innovation & Sustainability, M/s Smit & Zoon. He initiated his speech with the brief introduction about the various paths traced by the current leather industry and their impact on the working conditions and environment. He explored the ideologies of leather manufacturing with the best available techniques for safer production benefitting the consumers as well as the environment. He stressed on the awareness of sustainable leather production, safety measures of laborers and healthy environmental conditions that needs to be implemented for the unabridged development of leather sector and its products. He finally congratulated the Indian leather industry for their re-engineering skills to drive the improvement in the progress of sustainable development.

Session 4 : Panel Discussion – Policies/Program Needs: Challenges and New Avenues

Dr B Chandrasekaran commenced the session with a brief overview of LERIG 2018, focusing on this year’s theme “SUSTAIN” and welcomed the chairman of the session Dr T Ramasami followed by the panel members-Shrimathi Revathi Roy and Shri Israr Ahmed.

Dr T Ramasami, Chairman of the session, captivated everyone by remarking the policies and programme needs for the leather sector to attain sustainability. He introduced the speakers of the session with the impressive welcome.

Shrimathi Revathi Roy shared her experience about the sustainability & disintegration of Korean leather and footwear industries. She expressed her dreams of setting up a common manufacturing unit for leather garments. She also dwelled upon the disparity in season between US and Europe at opposite calendar leading to 3-4 months of stagnation in employment. She mentioned about the creation of common infrastructure, labor pool and machineries to eradicate the seasonal unemployment. She concluded by recommending the importance of implementing common production platform as a policy initiation to the government to attract big brands.

Dr. T Ramasami, Chairman of the session summarized the panel discussion and made recommendations to Government of India as mentioned below:

- Consolidation of manufacturing units of leather garments and goods, Setting up a common manufacturing unit exclusively for brand marketing Commission to vision-2030 as a forecasting exercise which needs to be focused on sustaining leather sector through technological leadership with national interest in mind.
- Study on threat to Indian leather sector and creating an alternate way to combat if there is an extinction of the sector.
- Execution of scientific investigation of untapped potential sources of the leather sector to construct high yield revenue generation models.
- Implementation of footwear industry as a focus sector for employment generation of national interest.
- Compliance to create sustainability index as an incentive (Tax benefits) model for due recognition.
The Leather Post

33rd India International Leather Fair (IILF) 2018

Inaugural Ceremony held on 31st January 2018 at the Chennai Trade Centre

In his welcome address, Shri Deepak Kumar, IAS, Executive Director, India Trade promotion Organization (ITPO) said that the ‘Theme’ of the 33rd India International Leather fair 2018 was ‘SUSTAINABILITY.’ While welcoming the dignitaries on the dais that included: Shri Suresh Prabhu, Honourable Minister for Industries, Government of India; Thiru MC Sampath, Honourable Minister for Industries, Government of Tamil Nadu; Thiru Benjamin, Honourable Minister for Rural Industries, Government of Tamil Nadu; Shri Gnanadesikan, Additional Secretary, Government of Tamil Nadu; Shri LC Goyal, Chairman & Managing Director, ITPO; Shri Anil Agarwal, Joint Secretary, Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion; Shri Mukhtarul Amin, Chairman, Council for Leather Exports and other important dignitaries; he said that there were exhibitors from fourteen countries and he extended a very special welcome to them.

He said that IILF aims to project India as a destination for Investment and the government of India’s focus on creating jobs and incentives for exports. He thanked the so-sponsors: CLE, CLRI, ISF & IIFMEA.

Address by Shri Mukhtarul Amin, Chairman, Council for Leather Exports (CLE):

Respected Shri Suresh Prabhu ji, Hon’ble Minister for Commerce and Industry, Govt. of India; Shri M.C. Sampath, Hon’ble Minister for Industries, Steel Control & Special Initiatives, Govt. of Tamil Nadu; Thiru P.Benjamin, Hon’ble Minister for Rural Industries including Cottage Industries and Small Industries, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Dignitaries on Dais, Ladies and Gentlemen.

It gives me immense pleasure to be here again at the inauguration of 33rd edition of India International Leather Fair. This fair has achieved many milestones ever since moving to the Chennai Trade Centre way back in 2001. I wish to congratulate ITPO team and CMD Shri L.C.Goyal for their efforts in developing this fair, year-after-year. The leather industry has its own unique features. The elegance, style, strength, durability and fashion of leather cannot be matched by any other material and this is why this Industry holds a special place in the global market. The leather industry creates employment opportunities for thousands and thousands of economically weaker sections of the society, mostly in the rural and semi-urban areas. I thank the Hon’ble Union Minister for Commerce and Industry and the Government of India for recognizing the leather industry as one of the Focus Sectors under Make in India.
Friends, you all know that the last 2 ½ years has been a challenging period for us, as exports declined from USD 6.5 billion in 2014-15 to USD 5.6 billion last year and the decline continued in the first 6 months of the current year too, due to the global market recession.

With the support of Government of India, we have shown our fighting spirit and we always had the confidence of reviving the export growth. We continued our aggressive marketing efforts both in traditional markets of Europe, USA and in potential markets like Australia, Japan, UAE, Russia etc. As a result, exports during April – December 2017 has shown a growth of 1.48% in dollar terms. This is a very good sign which has given us the hope that we will be able to achieve double digit export growth in the coming years.

The Government of India has always supported and guided the leather industry and the recent turnaround in exports can be attributed to a series of support measures and programmes announced in the recent months. These include reduction of GST rates for several leather industry related items and extension of additional 2% duty credit scrip value under Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS) for leather, leather products and footwear, in the recently announced mid-term review of Foreign Trade Policy.

The Union Cabinet has approved the implementation of a special package for leather and footwear industry with an outlay of Rs.2600 core for a three-year period from 2017-2020. I am sure that this package will lead to substantial growth levels in all core areas namely modernization of production units, upgrading of CETPs, skill development, creation of new production centers in the form of Mega Leather Clusters, brand promotion etc. The industry is keen to implement the special package and generate additional employment. Today, our Hon’ble Union Commerce and Industry Minister is unveiling the Special Package.

I thank the Hon’ble Union Minister Shri Suresh Prabhu for all these support measures.

I take this opportunity to bring to the kind attention of the Hon’ble Union Minister, some of the additional key areas wherein we need to concentrate and where we need the support of the Government.

• Raw Material availability is extremely essential for the growth of value added products segment. Though India has a very huge raw material strength in the form of domestic availability of leathers to the tune of 2.5 billion sq.ft, the industry is increasingly resorting to imports to get certain special types of leathers and also to meet shortage in domestic supply. I would request that Funding support may be provided by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry for establishment of Bonded warehouses with refrigeration facility in Tamil Nadu, UD and Pradesha, West Bengal, etc. For this purpose, fund allocation of Rs.400 Crore be kindly earmarked under a new scheme.

• FDIIs are very essential for the industry’s growth. I would request that a 5-year Tax Holiday for 100% FDI units (as per Vietnamese Model) be provided so as to invite FDI and promote joint ventures in leather, footwear & accessories and in capital goods sector

• With a view to facilitate the investors to make their investment decisions, the Land Availability details in various states may kindly be hosted in Make in India website.

• The industry needs investment at domestic level too for enhancing capacities and for creating new capacities. The industry needs support in this regard in the form of Creation of Venture Capital Fund for leather industry by a Nationalised Bank to ensure sufficient funds for expansion of the industry.

• India is the 2nd largest exporter of Leather Garments. India’s share of Leather Garments in the global market is about 17%. In order to enhance the price competitiveness of the Leather Garments segment we would request to enhance basic customs duty exemption limit for import of critical inputs for leather garments exporters from 3% to 5%, as announced for other leather products and footwear in Union Budget 2017-18.

• As state levies like Mani Tax, Electricity Tax/ duty etc., are not covered under GST, it is requested that the Ministry of Finance may be requested to implement Rebate of State Levies (ROSLS) Scheme for the leather sector, as recommended by the Dept. of Commerce to the Drawback Directorate.

• There is a need to create a Global Market Intelligence Cell so as to track and forecast demand, for which we need Government support.

• The Government may kindly consider providing subsidy for transportation of cargo transportation to compete with competitors like China.

We shall be grateful for the kind consideration of the above requests by Hon’ble Minister of Commerce and Industry. I am sure that implementation of the above requests will help in sustainable growth of the industry both at the export front and at domestic level.

I wish to inform you that the Council for Leather Exports is organizing the 3rd edition of Designers Fair in Hotel ITC Grand Chola, Chennai during Feb, 1-3, 2018 in which 30 overseas Designers, and 11 Designers and Institutions from India will be participating. This fair will give opportunity for the Indian manufacturers to procure latest designs of leather products and footwear. Besides this, CLE is also organizing a Raw Material Sourcing Meet on Feb 1, 2018 at Hotel ITC Grand Chola in which 25 overseas suppliers of raw hides, semi-finished and finished leathers from 8 countries will be participating. I would urge our industry members to visit these two events in large numbers.

I take this opportunity to congratulate all the award winners who will be receiving their awards today for their outstanding export performance and achievements, despite the current slowdown in the global market.

In his key-note address, Shri LC Goyal, Chairman & Managing Director, ITPO said that ITPO takes great pride in hosting ILF in Chennai every year. This is an event, he said; which provides an ideal platform to display the state-of-the-art products of the Industry. LEATHER is an important sector owing to its export earnings and employment generation. It employs 3 million people of the weaker section and 30% are women, he added.

“India is a rising global power” under the dynamic leadership of the Honourable Prime Minister. The country needs infrastructure. He mentioned that ITPO was expanding with the Delhi Pragati Maidan way to have infrastructure in sync with the world’s financial powers. Chennai Trade Centre too is et for expansion. In conclusion, Shri Goyal said that the eco system is such that we need to work together and he expressed joy that ITPO, CLE, IILF and other trade bodies were organizing ILF so successfully.

Thiru P.Benjamin, Hon’ble Minister for Rural Industries including Cottage Industries and Small Industries, Govt. of Tamil Nadu in his address said that the vision of Amma has made Tamil Nadu a developed and preferred state for Investment. He spoke about the MSME sector. He also mentioned that Tamil Nadu accounted for 30% of Leather Exports and 70% of the production. Vellore is the largest manufacturing belt in Tamil Nadu, he said.

Thiru MC Sampath, Honourable Minister for Industries, Government of Tamil Nadu in his address said that he was happy to note that IILF has 475 exhibitors; with160 overseas anticipants. IILF is a pride for Chennai and Tamil Nadu, he exclaimed. With 37% of exports, Tamil Nadu is the only state to enforce Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD) from Year 2001. The sector strengthens the economy of the state. To retain this status, the Government of Tamil Nadu has taken several steps: TN ranks first among the states for manpower, land availability, power supply and four ports.

He mentioned about the online single window portal. Tamil Nadu to be the top export destination for the country, he said. He recalled the successful GIM organized by TN in Year 2015 and added that another GIM would be organized this Year.

He thanked the Minister for engaging the Leather Industry and requested him to extend policy support for the Industry.

The Chief Guest, Shri Suresh Prabhu, Honourable Minister for Industries, Government of India unveiled the ‘special package’ for the leather sector.

In his address, the Honourable Minister welcomed the delegates from the 22 countries with great warmth.

• He expressed that there is a need for social development, economic development. Some decades ago, the Minister said; “we were strong exporters and a part of the global supply chain.”

• One trillion dollar exports is our strategy and target to happen in the next three years.

• To export from INDIA, one has to Make in India.

• Service exports rising much more than merchandise exports.

• Leather is one of the traditional, natural and home grown industry for generations. We must modernize with changing times and hence the focus on the Leather Industry.

• We must modernize and have partnerships

• Sell something that the rest of the world wants.

• Design In India.

• If you don’t design in India, you don’t get partners.

• When you design a product, you get a brand value. Increasing brand value.

• After cabinet approval, the government plans to open 10-12 global offices of ITPO.

• IILF is a signature event; among the top five global fairs in the world.

• Infrastructure in TN (TNTPO) to be expanded.

• Organize meetings in Kanpur, Tamil Nadu, Kolkata and discuss as to how we must capture the entire chain from designing to manufacturing.
NEW PRODUCTS AT IILF 2018

‘Colorz n Style’ one of the most prominent and established brand in India for Leather and Transfer Foils and business associates of Memphis SpA, CFM s.r.l., Microfilm, Sublitex - Italy and other major International Leather Transfer Foil Manufacturers were present at IILF 2018, Chennai showcasing an array of new colours, trends, forecast, and a vibrant mood board showcasing latest collections in the world of fashion foils for Spring/Summer and Autumn/Winter 18/19.

They had covered a wide span from evergreen classical foils to value enhancing upgradation foils, bright Metallics, freaky reptiles to fresh florals. In vogue Holographics, Patents to rugged, tumbled and washed look foils.

TEAMPIEL International, providers of global leather solutions had displayed their range of “NEW” High Fashion Italian Leathers,

VERSATILE ENTERPRISES PVT. LTD. & UNIFAB INDUSTRIES
Exhibited their development of Innovative Textile fabrics. The products are Eco-friendly, durable and are as per International Standards.

VERSATILE had introduced New Products at IILF 2018 that included:
a) TOE-PUFF (PING PONG Sheet) and COUNTERS
b) NON-WOVEN FABRICS
c) FLY-KNIT UPPERS
d) HOT-MELT COATED INTERLINING ARTICLES - suitable for critical leathers

N & S Natural Products (P) Ltd under its Brand NineSteps® displayed at IILF 2018 its manufactured products like woven labels, printed labels, hang tags, tapes, laces; & cords of incomparable quality at most-competitive prices with quick delivery & reliable services.

APPLIED DB PUBLIC COMPANY LIMITED, one of successful PVC compound & Adhesive manufacturer in Thailand offered the full line of quality adhesive and primers, PVC for various application in footwear and leather-goods industries:
- Contact adhesives, Graft adhesives
- Natural Rubber adhesive
- PU adhesives.
- SBS based contact adhesive
- Emulsion adhesive (water based)
- Hardener
- Primers for different substrates and application.
- Cleaners
- PVC compounds for Footwear and sole manufacturers.
IMPACTIVA is an expert in quality optimization in textile industry from material to apparel and footwear. Strong of 15 years of experience in advanced manufacturing and supply chain strategies, Impactiva has become the solution provider of numerous global brands and factories.

As their slogan says, our daily actions and decisions are done “Right from the Start” to regenerate value and, positively impact to our customers and their stakeholders.

As one of our pioneering services, they have built expertise in leather throughout its entire value chain: quality control, audit & chrome VI prevention program, direct to cutting & speed to market solution, leather consumption optimization.

TFL chemical supplier were promoting the concept of displaying the end article which is the key factor for the promotion of Genuine leather.

Shashi Enterprises, Chennai had several New Product launches at ILF 2018 and these included:
Water Based Adhesive from FRABO ADHESIVE: One of the leading manufacturers of Water Based Adhesive for the Shoe Industry in Italy. They have high quality Water Based Adhesive for all kind of applications for Shoes, Bags, Garments.

Synthetics from JUYEE: Amongst the top companies in China for manufacturing Synthetic Leather. They are regularly supplying to many top brands of the world.
Toe Puff and Counters from IRS CPT
They have been regular participants in the ILF for last many years. Every year the footfalls are increasing which in turn has helped us in tapping new customers as well as show new products to existing customers.


D&A Industries Ltd., has been developing as the industry leader in Asia, providing professional solution in Edge paint application to brand clients about their leather/non leather accessories production in the region. With their own R&D and production facilities across China, Vietnam and the Philippines, they support clients’ production in a timely and demand driven assistance by domestic workforce. They foresee the great potential growth in India market for the next decade. Through their presence at Chennai Leather, they aim to bring the latest know how in Edge paint application and achieve experience and technical exchange as a result.

Fenice was glad to introduce at ILF 2018 its new range of polyurethanes binders in water dispersion that are produced in the new and advanced factory “Fenice Polymers” in Valdago (Italy), with the prestigious brand-name Resist®. The water based polyurethanes today carry out an important role among the binders used in leather finishing, as adhesion promoters or binders for basecoats or topcoats.

Lamebo produces all kinds of splitting knives, Platinum, Extra and Silver, can be mounted on any splitting machine, leather splitter or cutter, based on your requirements for length, width and thickness Dynamic, versatile, competitive, personalised customer service and order management: these are the company’s characteristics and a tangible sign of the presence and credibility of Lamebo on a global level.

Lamebo trademark is synonymous with constant quality (thanks to quality steels, perfect welding, straightness, perfect cut and constant high quality)

Lamebo introduced customization at ILF, Chennai and the saying goes: Need a band knife, but can’t find one? Let us custom-make it for you.

FOCUS machines from Noida had on display the following machines:
- LT 200 – ROBOTIC ARM WALLET ASSEMBLY MACHINE
- LT 600 OPTIC PROCE – ROBOTIC ARM EDGE GLUING MACHINE

GLOBAL SALES, a trading company from Kanpur catering to the need of Footwear Industry and are supplying Footwear Components ranging from TOE CAPS, STEEL MIDSOLES, TEXTILE MIDSOLES, COUNTER STIFFNERS, SHOE MOULDS to LAMINATION GLUING FILM FOR PU PVC, FABRICS & LEATHER.

Baoding Bangtai Polymeric New-Materials Co., Ltd. - TPU manufacturer in China was their first time at ILF Chennai. Their products are TPU for Solvent-based adhesive, water-based PU adhesive, TPU for shoe soles etc. At ILF 2018, they got to know more customers and cooperation through this fair, said Susan Lee the sales manager of the Company.
Report on
Theme Pavilion @ 33rd India International Leather Fair 2018

“SUSTAIN” traced the growth of the unique partnership between ITPO, CLE and CSIR-CLRI required for the sustainable development of the Indian Leather Industry. The trinity partnership between ITPO, CLE and CSIR-CLRI has enabled sustainable development of the leather industry.

India International Leather Fair (IILF) plays an important role in these linkages.

The THEME PAVILION at IILF radiated the dexterity of the Indian Expertise in the Design and Development of exquisite and high Quality LEATHERWARE from Finished Leather through to LEATHER PRODUCTS. Jostling for Space in this arena were the “BEST of INDIAN MERCHANDIZE” from the crème de la crème manufacturers who cater to the world’s leading brands. The display at the THEME PAVILION was a feast for the Leather Connoisseur and an eye-opener for the discerning international buyers – a gateway to IILF 2018, Chennai.

Indian Leather Exports
The exports from Leather Sector reached an all-time high value of USD 6.49 billion in 2014-15. The industry was looking to achieve double digit growth levels when recession set in. Subsequently, exports declined to USD 5.85 billion in 2015-16 and to USD 5.66 billion in 2016-17, due to a combination of factors namely decrease in
global leather prices to the extent of 10%, decrease in production in major producing countries like China in quantity terms by about 10%, recession in European Union to which about 52.5% of exports are directed, requirement of up-gradation of the tanning capacity and under-utilization of the existing capacity, instability in middle east etc. Nevertheless, India was able to considerably bring down the decline in exports during current year, with exports declining only by 0.23% during April - August 2017. Most remarkably, all product segments except finished leather (-3.91% decline) and footwear (-1.56% decline) showed positive growth during April - August 2017, which gave India the confidence of achieving positive growth this year. Despite the downturn in exports in the last two years, India was able to achieve positive export growth during 2016-17 in markets like USA, Russia, Denmark, Sweden, Austria, Belgium, Japan, Portugal, China and Poland.

In these difficult times, Indian Leather Industry started to think about how to consolidate and expand its strengths as well as diversify our activities to ensure optimum utilization of the opportunities available.

Some of the diversifications that the Sector needs to undertake in the near future to achieve the envisaged 10% export growth levels in next 3 years from 2017-18 to 2019-20 and achieve an export value of USD 7.5 billion by 2020 are:

- **Ladies and Children footwear** constitute 70% of global footwear market of USD 120 billion i.e. USD 84 billion approx. However, India’s share in global ladies and children footwear market is only 1. 19%. Hence, India’s objective is to increase capacities of ladies and children footwear with aid from Indian Footwear, Leather & Accessories Development Programme (IFLADP) during the next 3 years i.e. 2017-18 to 2019-20.

- **Design & Development helps in moving-up the value chain. CLE will continue its Design Development efforts through organizing Design workshops under Make in India 2.0 action plan so as to train the personnel in leather industry and also the students on the latest design development trends. Besides, our aim is to establish Design Studios in major clusters, so as to serve as a platform for procuring designs.**

- **During April 2014 to Sept. 2016 alone, Foreign Direct Investment to the tune of USD 53 million was generated in leather sector, which shows the scope for generating FDI. India needs FDI and Joint Ventures to propel its growth. Considering this, CLE proposes to organize investment promotion shows in East European Countries (Poland, Czech Republic and Hungary) and Spain (which is a major producer in Europe) this year to attract investments.**

- **Total global footwear imports during 2016 was USD 120 billion, out of which import of non-leather footwear was USD 69.02 billion (57% share). However, India’s share in non-leather footwear market is only 0.49%. Hence, the focus would be on extensive modernization of non-leather footwear units across the country including in clusters like Bahadurgarh, Kozhikode through IFLADP Scheme.**

- **There are many major markets where India’s market share is low. CLE proposes to undertake varied market promotion events depending on the market which includes Engaging Consultant in Russia, holding BSMs in UAE, South Africa, Hong Kong and Participation in fairs in Korea, Poland, Australia, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. Reverse BSMs provide an opportunity even to Small and Medium exporters to meet buyers in India itself. CLE proposes to invite about 235 buyers for RBSMs in India in next 3 years, with grant under MAI.**

### Penetration in US market

Total global import of leather, leather products and footwear during 2016 was USD 180.87 billion, out of which import of USA was USD 32.89 billion (18% share). India’s market share in USA is 2.65%. Though overall exports from leather sector declined by about 3.23% in Dollar Terms during 2016-17, exports to USA grew from USD 834.10 million during 2015-16 to USD 870.39 million in 2016-17, growing by a significant 4.35%.

Hence, there is tremendous scope to expand our market share. Considering this, besides the usual fair participation in the August and February editions of the Magic Show, the Council has adopted a distinct strategy of organizing the ‘US Consultancy Programmes’ to sustain our achievement in the USA market. The two US Consultancy Programmes had evoked good response among the members wherein 34 members participated in the Footwear Consultancy and 25 members participated in the Leather Goods and Garments Consultancy programme. The Consultants had visited India, interacted with the participants, examined the production capacities of the individual companies and introduced the US buyers that match with the profiles and capacities of the Indian companies.

Further, the Council for the first time participated in the June and August edition of the FFANY Shows, New York as part of the US Footwear Consultancy programme. Four times a year, Fashion Footwear Association of New York (FFANY) organizes the New York Shoe Expo. The Consultant had facilitated and brought buyers to the CLE India pavilion in both the FFANY and Magic Shows organized in USA. The other significant activity in USA is that the Council is undertaking a very big publicity campaign through FDRA (Footwear Distributors and Retailers Association), the largest Footwear Association in USA with the support of the MDA Publicity Grant. The Indian footwear industry was best portrayed through the FDRA editorials published in the FDRA magazines.

These efforts will help in significantly enhancing India’s market share in USA in the coming years.

### Technology Trends

Sustainability is today an important issue for the leather sector. This encompasses both ecological and economic factors, while keeping the consumer benefit as paramount. Leather sector needs to innovate by way of developing new products, chemical systems and reducing energy consumption, while maximizing raw material to leather/ product turnover.

- Sustainability through reduced environmental footprints
- Chemicals for sustainability of Tanning Industries
- Sustainability of Product Industries
- Challenges and New Avenues
Fashion Trends

MODEUROP Colour Trends S/S 2019

Anything goes! There are no limits – for either colours or materials. ‘No limits – for no-one & nobody!’ You can feel something big happening here. Thinking out of the box, more daring to do something new while retreating into all things proven and familiar at the same time.

Though every key here is the interplay of colour and the corresponding materials. It is this symbiosis that creates new possibilities and looks that become a creative challenge for all of us! Add to this the ever stronger competition “Leather vs. High-Tech”. The positive impact of high-intensity colours is undisputed and the importance of colours – be they loud, neutral or feminine and delicate – is all the more pivotal for summer 2019.

After colour was very much pushed to the background by shimmer and gloss with the opulent materials dominating the past seasons, it is back with a vengeance now: “Back to Colours” and their power, character and positive message.

The new colours are bold, large-surface and infectiously refreshing. Alongside this, there are, of course, also delicate, soft colour schemes heralding a comeback of femininity. Neutrals focus on understatement and there is subtle colour harmony very much characterised by a love of nature.

CLOSENESS TO NATURE / EARTHINESS

Our responsibility and closeness to nature is reflected here. You can virtually feel this longing for all things real, our cultural roots are de-discovered and you feel and sense a global awareness and responsibility for mother earth.

The result is a wonderful declaration of love to summer and experiencing it in the great outdoors. We see a warm, sunny picture before us: living in the countryside, wide cornfields, sunflowers, earth and plants – reminiscent of Provence, of paintings by Van Gogh. This is where we find our ‘life balance’, where we feel satisfaction and well-being. The sense of tradition and attachment to your home region is evoked; in the widest sense this theme is about our health, nutrition, sustainability and how we handle our resources. ‘Organic living’.

Colours come in an extensive palette of sunny, warm yellow tones on the verge of orange and brown. Add to this green shades reminiscent of dried grass and herbs. The aura of the sun and fields with meadow grasses gently swaying in the wind can literally be felt. Inspirations come care of old herbal archives or memories of carefree childhood days spent in the country that can also foster these creative emotions and ideas. These inspirations are translated into prints and surface textures, typically featuring mille-fleur, herbage prints, subtle ornaments or simple textures with a “lived-in” patina.

Even the materials follow nature’s blueprint: raffia and sisal, straw, wax, cork, wood, bamboo, cords etc. Braiding and embossing are typical elements. The new 3D technologies promise interesting approaches for translating these ideas borrowed from tradition and rural folklore in such a way that they are honest and genuine while projecting look & lifestyle into the future at the same time.

ECCENTRIC

Living life to the full in a permanently connected world!

Joie de vivre, energy and power even though this takes some courage. Enjoying the here and now while also having visions for the future, for the ‘Lab of Life’ – this is the message these colours send!

Our everyday lives are increasingly characterised by social media. We define ourselves by our online appearance, live out both our private and/or professional lives online. As a result, looks and appearances are becoming more and more important. This may sound superficial but underscores the contrast to the other two colour themes that are more introverted. Here, however, fakes are permitted. As long as they are fun and catch the eye. Preferably somewhat overdone, excessively styled. Inspired by modern paintings, LEDs and screen shots or nocturnal club life overdone, excessively styled. Inspired by modern paintings, LEDs and screen shots or nocturnal club life – not classical primary colours! Active colours that are often presented in a monochrome way – colour as a total look – from head to toe. This stands out and is new. Needless to say, creative colour blocking is also possible and there are unforeseen, virtual colour mixtures. Prints are becoming even more fancy, wild and extreme. Real motifs are ever harder to identify and categorise thanks to digital technologies. These new technologies call for new codes and the world of bits, bytes and pixels brings about ombrés, colour motifs and image transitions our eyes have never seen before. Artificial and shiny fabrics dominate the material selection and technical finishes – be they vinyl or patent, metallic, mirroring or transparent – anything goes!

The colour palette follows two directions:
On the one hand, there are the red tones from rosé, pink to red. Acting as a counterpart is a strong violet plus blue and green variations! A loud and cheeky tonal landscape that makes all types of colour and material excesses possible. These tones are sharp, clear-cut – not classical primary colours! Active colours that are often presented in a monochrome way – colour as a total look – from head to toe. This stands out and is new. Needless to say, creative colour blocking is also possible and there are unforeseen, virtual colour mixtures. Prints are becoming even more fancy, wild and extreme. Real motifs are ever harder to identify and categorise thanks to digital technologies. These new technologies call for new codes and the world of bits, bytes and pixels brings about ombrés, colour motifs and image transitions our eyes have never seen before. Artificial and shiny fabrics dominate the material selection and technical finishes – be they vinyl or patent, metallic, mirroring or transparent – anything goes!
This is an exquisite theme thriving on understatement. ‘Get smart!’ Urban and formal, it promises precious looks, classy colour tableaux with clean, delicate neutrals and classic contrasts.

The background to this theme is education, heritage, art and culture. One might think of sculptures, museums and architecture, of ateliers, little workshops. But a look to the future will not come off badly either. Research, labs, technology with their rather cool charisma also fit the picture.

This is a laid-back colour theme – very exciting and yet sophisticated: very feminine and subtle, on the one hand, and very modern and hip, on the other, at times even in an all-classic transposition. The focus here is on a tender, fragile tonality based on neutrals. A typical element is the interplay of light and shadow. Light/dark contrast or monochrome schemes are often-cited variations of this colour theme. Black and white are a given while dark blue is and will become even more important: ‘Indigo goes Black’. These dark essentials are complemented by light cream, grey, and nude hues.

The mix of modernity and classic elements is often also seen in the materials found here: innovative, lightweight summer wool fabrics and smart fibre mixtures but also exquisite silky materials and high-quality cotton blends. Poplin, velvet or jersey but also soft nappa and nubuck leather have been technically refined and given novel finishes. Incidentally, shine is still part of the game. ‘Technology is chic!’

TIMELESSNESS / ENDLESSNESS
A never-ending story – timeless!

Experience the Theme Pavilion SUSTAIN!

The stand presents itself with a classy eco-friendly poise. Warm natural interwoven textures with mood lighting set the tone of the entire display. Bamboo, Jute and Coir chipboard has been the chosen materials for the stand finishes.
The back walls are surfaced with Bamboo Mat tiles. The floor finish is in coir and the display stand are in Bamboo Structure. Accents of chipboard and Jute is tastefully introduced.

The design is to showcase the following elements:
- MODEEUROPE Trends for Spring Summer 2019 season
- Indian Leather Industry striding with confidence
- Technology Trends and describes SUSTAIN
- Sub-Themes – EARTHINESS, ECCENTRIC, ENDLESSNESS

Strategically placed section displaying Leather Material for Sub-Theme: Earthiness, Eccentric & Endlessness. Finished products made by Sub-Theme to display on specially designed Bamboo Podiums.

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<td><a href="mailto:akansha@avtleather.com">akansha@avtleather.com</a></td>
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A Joint endeavour of ITPO | CLE | CSIR-CLRI & supported by the Indian Leather Industry
Conceptualized and presented by

India Fashion Studio
The Leather Post

Delegation from Kitui County, Government of Kenya visited CSIR-Central Leather Research Institute (CSIR-CLRI) on 12th February 2018

1. H.E. Charity Kaluki Ngilu, Her Excellency the Governor, Kitui County, Govt of Kenya
2. Hon. Emeritus Kasee Musya, Chairman of Chair/Deputy Speaker Kitui County Assembly
3. Hon. James Musyoka, Chairman-Trade, Investment and Cooperative, Kitui County
4. Mr. Emmanuel Kisangau, CECM-Agriculture, Water and Livestock Development, Kitui County
5. Mr. Philip Mumo, CECM-Trade, Cooperative and Investments, Kitui County
6. Dr. Mutemi Mutia, Value Chain Addition Specialist, Kitui County
7. Ms. Fatuma Musau, Communication Advisor, Kitui County

Considering the important role played by design in sustainable development, Council for Leather Exports had organized two editions of Designers Fair during February 2016 & 2017 at Chennai. The designers fair provides an opportunity to the Indian manufacturers and exporters of leather, leather products and footwear to meet popular overseas and Indian designers.

The 3rd edition of Designers Fair 2018 was held during February 1-3, 2018 at Hotel ITC Grand Chola, Chennai. CSIR-CLRI had showcased the MODEUROP Colours for the Spring Summer 2019 season to overwhelming response from the exhibitors and visitors who had evinced interest in the Colours for Spring Summer 2019 season as well for CLRI India Design Club Membership. CSIR-CLRI provides trends ‘online’ through www.indiadesignclub.com as well as through the App “India Design Club” for both Android and i-phones.
The primary objective of the visit of delegation on 12th February 2018 to CSIR-CLRI is to explore possibilities for linkages with institute for the development of leather and leather product sectors in Kitui county of Kenya. The visit was facilitated by IL&FS, India.

Director and staff of CSIR-CLRI welcomed the high level delegation from Kitui County, Kenya. Kitui is one of the 47 counties of Kenya of about 1.3 million populaces. During her visit at CSIR-CLRI, H.E the Governor stated that the primary object of the county Government is to ensure food security, water availability, healthcare, education, youth development, and women empowerment. She also stated that the Government has been taking all the initiatives in these lines. She believed that the industrial growth would facilitate the attainment of this aim. The Governor expressed that there was a great scope of development of leather and leather product industry in the county which would not only bring about the benefit of value addition of conversion of hides and skins into finished leathers but would provide significant employment.

The Kenyan delegation visited various core departments in CSIR-CLRI. After the visit, H.E. Governor and the delegation expressed great satisfaction about the expertise and experience of CSIR-CLRI in providing technical support for leather and leather products manufacture. The Governor requested a delegation from CSIR-CLRI to visit to their county and provide an actionable program for the development of leather and leather product sectors in the Kitui county. Director, CSIR-CLRI has agreed to depute a team to Kitui County during the fourth week of March 2018 to carry out a baseline survey and prepare a detailed proposal.
Agreement signing of Technology transfer of Waterless Chrome Tanning Technology with Trichy Tanners Association on 15-02-2018

His Excellency Mr Ali Illiasou, Ambassador of the Republic of Niger and Mr Bonzougou Abdoullahi, Conseiller Technique, Ministry of Trade and Promotion of the Private Sector, Niger visited CSIR-CLRI on 03-02-2018.

Shri Anil Agrawal, Joint Secretary, Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion (DIPP) visited CSIR-CLRI on 1st February 2018
CLRI (RCED) Ahmedabad is conducting skill upgradation programmes (leather goods) of two months’ duration sponsored by GRIMCO/ Commissioner of Cottage Industries, Govt of Gujarat. One such skill upgradation programme was successfully completed at Vill- Shivnagar, Tal- Tharad, Distt- Banaskantha. Another two skill upgradation programmes under this project have been started at Vill- Sukhpar, Tal- Bhuj, Distt- Kachchh with 25 rural artisans participating in each training programme. These training programmes were started on 22nd January 2018 and shall be completed by 21st March 2018.

Two more skill upgradation programmes under this project have been started at vill- Sumrasar (Sheikh), Tal- Bhuj, Distt- Kachchh from 5th February 2018 and twenty-five rural artisans have been enrolled for each programme. There are seven other skill upgradation programmes to be conducted to complete the project.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No.</th>
<th>Place of training</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>No. of trainees</th>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Chandkheda, Distt- Ahmedabad</td>
<td>04.12.2017 to 03.03.2018</td>
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<td>Gambhu, Distt- Mehsana</td>
<td>05.01.2018 to 04.04.2018</td>
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<td>Gambhu,</td>
<td>17.01.2018 to 16.04.2018</td>
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INDIAN LEATHER INDUSTRY - STRIDING WITH CONFIDENCE

COUNCIL FOR LEATHER EXPORTS
(An Export Promotion Organisation sponsored by Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India)

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