OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Approval of the minutes of Standing Finance Committee (SFC) Meeting on “National Handicrafts Development Programme”.

Office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) implements various schemes for promotion and development of handicrafts sector under one umbrella scheme namely “National Handicrafts Development Programme (NHDP)”. The following modifications in certain parameters of some components in NHDP have been approved by Competent Authority:

1. Design & Technology Upgradation Scheme
   (i) To increase the stipend from existing Rs. 150/- to Rs. 300/- in respect of Design and Technology Workshops and Integrated Design Projects for all the artisans including SC/ST artisans.
   (ii) To include one mastercraftsman at a wage compensation of Rs. 30,000/- per month during development of prototypes and training (for one month in case of Design Workshop and 3 months in case of Integrated Design Projects).
   (iii) To enhance the designer’s fee from existing Rs. 20,000/- per month to Rs. 30,000/- per month for a period not exceeding six months under the programme namely Assistance to Exporter and Entrepreneurs for Design prototype.

2. Human Resource Development Scheme
   (i) To increase the stipend from existing Rs. 150/- to Rs. 300/- in respect of Training through Established Institutions, Handicrafts Training Programme, Training through Guru Shishya Parampara Scheme for all the artisans including SC/ST artisans.
   (ii) Under Training the trainers (ToT) programme to enhance the wage compensation from existing Rs. 150/- to Rs. 400/- appreciating the fact that under this programme only the skilled artisans and mastercraftpersons participate as trainees who's wage earnings will be generally high.
   (iii) The eligibility criteria under NHDP has been relaxed to include the State Awardees under Guru Shishya Parampara to take up training programmes in crafts registered under Geographical Indication act (GI Act) and languishing crafts etc.
3. **Direct Benefit to Artisans Scheme**

(i) To increase Financial Assistance to the artisans under indigent circumstances from existing Rs.3000/- to Rs. 3500/- per month.

(ii) To avail the Financial Assistance under indigent circumstances, the limit of annual income of the artisans is raised from Rs.30,000/- to Rs. 50,000/-.

(iii) To enhance interest subvention from 3% to 6 % with a maximum ceiling of Rs. 1,00,000/- at par and in parity with other departments like Handlooms and Powerloom etc. within Textiles Ministry.

4. **Marketing Support & Services Scheme**

(i) To enhance the DA to the artisans under Domestic marketing programmes like Gandhi Shilp Bazaar, Craft Bazaar, Exhibitions, Hiring of built-up space etc. from existing Rs. 100/- to Rs.150/-.

(ii) Reimbursement of freight charges has been enhanced from Rs.1000/- to Rs. 1500/- for all the artisans.

5. **Research and Development Scheme**

(i) To enhance the DA to the artisans to attend the Seminars/Workshops from Rs. 100/- to Rs. 150.

National Handicrafts Development Programme is a Central Sector Scheme, assistance made available to implementing agencies such as Central/State Handicraft Corporations, NGO’s etc. It is requested that a wide publicity may be given to new guidelines so that the benefit of this scheme can reach to artisans located in various parts of the country. The details of the National Development Programme guidelines can be seen at the website: www.handicrafts.nic.in.

(Alok Kumar)

Development Commissioner (Handicrafts)

To,

i) All State Principal Secretaries/ as per list enclosed
   ii) Managing Director of Corporation as per list enclosed

Copy to:
1. PS to Hon’ble Minister of Textiles, Ministry of Textiles, Udyog Bhavan, New Delhi.
2. APS to HMOST, Ministry of Textiles, Udyog Bhavan, New Delhi
3. Sr.PPS to Secretary (Textiles), Ministry of Textiles, Udyog Bhavan, New Delhi.
5. AS(PS), Ministry of Textiles, Udyog Bhavan, New Delhi.
6. PA to DC (HC)/PS to ADC(HC)/PA to Sr. Director (HC)/PA to Dir. (HC)/Asst. Sec. (Hc).
7. The Regional Directors/Deputy Director (In-charge) (NR, CR, ER, SR, WR and NER) with the request to forward the same in their field formations.
8. All DDs/Sr. ADs/ADs/AOs at Headquarter office, O/o DC (Handicrafts) New Delhi.
9. Shri Sandeep Khurana, Scientist ‘D’ NIC, O/o DC (Handicrafts) with the request to upload the same on our official website.
10. The Managing Director (CCIC) Janpath, New Delhi.
11. The CMD, HHEC, Janpath, New Delhi.
12. The Executive Director (EPCH, CEPC, NCDPD, COHANDS), New Delhi.
13. Director IICT, Bhadohi,