

Craft



News

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28th AGM of FHAN

FHAN organized its 28th Annual General Meeting (AGM) on January 7, 2008 in Kathmandu. Honorable Minister for Industry, Commerce & Supply, Mr. Shyam Sundar Gupta inaugurated the AGM. On that occasion, he pointed out that FHAN has to focus on activities for development of quality product as well as export market promotion of handicrafts. He also distributed certificates and awards to, best association, top exporters, best entrepreneur, best artisan and best staff of FHAN for the fiscal year 2063/64. Nepal Handmade Paper association was declared as the best association of the year.



Glimse of Inaugural Session of FHAN 28 AGM

promotional activities for overall enhancement of Nepalese handicraft business. He also apprised the designing & product development initiatives of HANDECEN in Pashmina, Handmade Paper Product, Silver Jewelry, Metal craft, Wood craft and other sector. He also asked the government to cooperate for establishing Handicraft Village with priority. Furthermore, he also urged the government to adopt proper policy for the promotion of export of handicrafts. Mr. Surendra Bir Malakar, President, Nepal Chamber of Commerce expressed the view that government should give priority for sustainable development of handicraft sector and facilitate the concerned traders and exporters. Apprising with the present status of cottage and small industry, First Vice President of Federation of Nepalese Chamber of Commerce & Industry (FNCCI), Mr. Diwakar Golchha asked the Government to execute the concept of Export Trading House for the development of handicraft export.

At the beginning, Mr. Pushkarman Shakya, President of FHAN welcomed all in the program. Stating the important contribution of handicraft sector in employment generation and promotion of national economy, he shed light on FHAN role and its major

At the end of inaugural session, Mr. Bikash Ratna Dhakhwa, First Vice President of FHAN delivered vote of thanks. On that occasion, he opined that proper infrastructure is needed for the development of handicraft sector (Contd. in Page 2)

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Observation study visit on Banana fiber

In a bid to observe and study the production of natural fiber from leaf and stem of banana plant, a team, led by Mrs. Divytara Tuladhar, Chairperson of FHAN Natural Fiber Product Development Committee visited Kawasoti, Nawalparasi during November 30 - December 2, 2007. The team had 5 members comprising an expert and other members of the committee. During the visit, the team acquired information on commercial plantation of banana, fiber extraction process and fiber processing activities, present business status of banana fiber and handicraft products made by banana fiber. According to the team, the visit was useful for promoting the natural fiber products in future.

(28th AGM..... Contd. Page 1)

Top Exporters FY 2063/2064 (2006-07)

S.No.	Firm/ Company Name	Export Sector
1	Everest Pashmina Knitting & Weaving Industry	Top Exporter Pashmina too
2	Bagmati Art & Craft	Top Exporter Felt Products too
3	New Himalaya Akash Exports	Top Exporter Silver Goods & Jewellery too

Top Exporter in Different Product Category

S.No.	Firm/ Company Name	Product Group/ Category
1	Lumana Knit Craft	Woolen Products
2	The Shangrila Trade Concern	Cotton Products
3	Laxmi Wood Craft Industry	Bone & Horn Products
4	Kailash Exports	Metal Craft Products
5	Nepal Craft Trading	Ceramic Products

Business Session

The business session included President's Policy Statement, adoption of Annual Report and Financial Report, appointment of auditor and proposals. The meeting formed a proposal committee to evaluate various proposals from members and FHAN Board.

Gold / Silver Jewellery, Buyer Seller Meet, 2007

With a view to help establish business linkage between producers, dealers and exporters FHAN organized Buyer Seller Meet - 2007, at its premises on gold/Silver Jewelry and products on December 9, 2007. FHAN President inaugurated the program. On that occasion, elaborating on the importance of the program, he asked to establish business relations with the producers and exporters to enhance mutual trade. Mr. Yagya Man Shakya, Chairperson of Gold/ Silver Product Development Committee highlighted on the objective of the program. The program had 15 participants comprising of manufacturers and firms dealing in jewelry products. On that occasion, useful modern tools and technology used in the production of jewelry products were also displayed.

The participants suggested to continue such events in the future with new design, products and flavor. Delivering vote of thanks Mr. Bikash Ratna Dhakhwa



FHAN President Shedding Light on Importance of the programme

stressed that exhibitors should present qualitative and innovative products for long run business promotion.

According to the participants, the program was fruitful to extend good business links and publicise their products for business promotion in future.

HANDECEN : Its Importance & Sustainability

Around three years ago FHAN established Handicraft Design and Development Center (HANDECEN). Since then, HANDECEN has been organizing various design development activities. In one hand, there is growing demand for HANDECEN services. At the other end, sustainability of HANDECEN services has been growing concern for FHAN. Therefore, FHAN organized workshop on Role of HANDECEN in the development of handicraft on November 7, 2007 at FHAN premises. The program was attended by 30 participants comprising FHAN Officials, Past Presidents, Executive Members, representatives of its Institutional Members, Best Exporters and Entrepreneurs.

The workshop discussed on the ways and means to sustain HANDECEN services. Assessing the demand for services, various service packages and the pricing



The participants discussing on the subject matter

strategy of such services were discussed in depth. The workshop unanimously felt the need for continuing HANDECEN services. However for sustainability, HANDECEN needs to explore external funding resources.

Exhibition of Modern Tools for Woodcrafts



The visitors observing modern tools useful in wood craft sector

With a view to help the enhancement of wooden products, FHAN organized an Exhibition on Modern tools useful for quality production of woodcraft products on December 25, 2007 in Lalitpur. At the inaugural

program, explaining the need of quality products to secure market and promote export in global market, FHAN President urged the concerned producers to apply modern tools and technology. He also opined that use of modern tools blended with conventional skill leads to quality improvement and higher productivity. Exhibitors also demonstrated the uses of displayed tools. More than 30 different modern tools and applications of Bosch company in Germany useful for producing woodcraft products were also displayed. More than 60 entrepreneurs from Lalitpur, Bungamati and Nepal Woodcraft Association observed the tools displayed and found them useful. After observing the tools display, the visitors as well as entrepreneurs, had expressed that it would be better to supply the tools on installment basis in reasonable basis to the producers.

Training on Costing & Pricing

Sustainable business growth requires customer satisfaction. Customer satisfaction is related with, among others, price of the product too. Reasonable pricing of product largely depends upon the costing practices. Therefore, FHAN organized Costing and Pricing training for traders and entrepreneurs involved in handmade paper products on November 16, 2007 in Lalitpur. This training was conducted by Dr. Milan Dev Bhattarai. The training had 26 participants involved in production of handmade paper and products.

Similarly, with a view to impart the skill and knowledge on costing and pricing of woodcraft products and help promote the market of such products, FHAN organized training on



Glimpse of conduction of training on costing and pricing



A Resource Person briefing on the subject matter

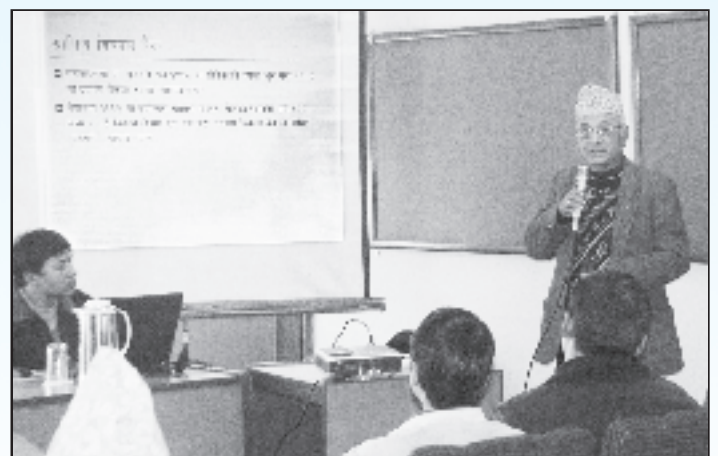
Costing, Pricing and Marketing of woodcraft product on December 21, 2007 in Kathmandu. The training was conducted by Mr. Sanuraja Silpakar and Mr. Rabindra Nath Shrestha. During the program, the participants were introduced with principle of costing, procedures, product development, product life cycle and marketing process.

In the program, President, 1st Vice President and Chairpersons of concerned product development committees in FHAN had also shed light on the importance and implication of the programs.

Interaction on Micro Credit Program

With a view to apprise with the provision of micro credit in Nepal, its development status, various projects, link with cottage and small industry and its related rules and policy, FHAN organized an interaction program on Micro Credit on December 31, 2007 in Kathmandu.

Highlighting on the objective of the program, FHAN President said that micro credit and micro credit programs would be better way out for generating self employment and poverty alleviation. The program had 40 participants comprising FHAN officials, executive members and handicraft entrepreneurs. During the program, participants were apprised with development of micro credit, micro credit program & projects, loan flow procedures and existing practical problems in this sector. At the end, delivering vote of thanks, First Vice President of FHAN assured that FHAN would try its best for granting micro credit facilities to its members in days to come. Mr. Bijayram Mathema,



Resource Person presenting on the topic

expert of Microcredit Program, presented on the subject matter. Most of the small and medium entrepreneurs are involved in handicraft sector. So, it is expected that micro credit and relevant events could be beneficial to such entrepreneurs.

Orientation on Forestry Certification

International trading of wooden products is always affected by various certification schemes and changing rules and regulations. So, the concerned traders and exporters should be aware with related international provisions and rules. In this regard, with a view to introduce FHAN members and concerned entrepreneurs with the process of forestry certification, its importance and present practice as well as activities, FHAN organized an Orientation Program on Forestry Certification on December 9, 2007 in Kathmandu. The program conducted by Mr. Kumud Shrestha had 40 participants.



Resource person presenting on the topic

At beginning, explaining on the role and activities of FHAN, the President expressed the hope that the program would be informative to help promote export of the woodcraft products. Mr. Anil Kumar Silpakar, Chairperson of Woodcraft Product Development Committee highlighted on

the importance of the program. At the end, delivering vote of thanks, General Secretary of FHAN pointed out that concerned traders and entrepreneurs should always be aware with trade related concurrent rules and regulation to promote their business.

Orientation on Skill Standard & Skill Testing program



Glimpse of orientation programme on skill testing

With a view to certify the skill of different handicraft entrepreneurs and provide skill certificates to them, FHAN has been endeavoring since three years back. As a result, it was possible to prepare skill standards in Metal Craft, Embossing Art and Paubha (Thanka) Paintings. So, FHAN with joint effort of CTEVT are also planning to conduct skill testing programs in these sectors in near future. In this regard, FHAN and Mahabauddha Occupational Cooperative Ltd. jointly organized an orientation program on Skill Standard & Skill Testing Program in the area of Metal Statue Craft on November 26, 2007 in Lalitpur. The Program was participated in by 45 artisans & entrepreneurs involved in producing metal statue. Mr. Mahendra Ratna Shakya, Member of Skill Testing Implementation Working Team briefed in details on the subject. Mr. Siddhi Ratna Shakya, Executive Member of FHAN highlighted on the

objective of the program.

Similarly, FHAN also organized an orientation program on Skill Standard & Skill Testing Program in the field of Embossing art on December 27, 2007 in Lalitpur. Mr. Raj Kumar Shakya apprised the participants on the subject matter. The program had participation of 25 participants involved in producing embossing artifact products.

In this series, FHAN also organized an orientation program on Skill Standard & Skill Testing Program for Paubha (Thanka) Paintings on January 3, 2008 in Lalitpur. Mr. Lok Chitrakar made presentation on the subject matter. The program had participation of 19 participants involved in Paubha (Thanka) Paintings.

In addition to this, FHAN also organized an orientation program on skill Standard & Skill Testing Program in the area of Woodcraft on December 12, 2007 and January 26, 2008 in Bungamati and Pulchowk in Lalitpur. During these programs, Mr. Sanuraja Silpakar and Mr. Anil Kumar Silpakar respectively briefed on the subject matters of Skill Standard and Skill Testing Procedures. Altogether these programs had participation of 40 participants involved in the production of woodcraft products.

It is expected that with this provision of skill testing will help systematic upgrade of skill of concerned handicraft entrepreneurs and further promote their profession career.

Orientation on Clean Production

With a view to apprise on impacts to workers and environment during metal casting and gold plating and aware for clean production, FHAN and Industrial Environment Management Project (IEMP) jointly organized an orientation on Clean Production on December 7, 2007 in Kathmandu. The program had 50 participants involved in metal craft. Dr. Uttam Kunwar and Mr. Bishma Pandit of IEMP made presentation on the subject matter.

Welcoming all the participants in the program, Mr. Hem Ratna Shakya, 2nd Vice President of FHAN asked all for active participation and implement the learned skill practically. Mr. Siddhi Ratna Shakya, Chairperson of Metal Statue Development Committee briefed on the objective and importance of the program. At the end, General Secretary of FHAN delivered vote of thanks to all for their cooperation to make the program successful.

Lobbying for easy supply of Raw Stone

With a view to discuss on existing problems and arrange for smooth supply of raw stone, a delegation led by Mr. Dharma Raj Shakya, FHAN General Secretary had meeting with Mr. Baburaja Aryal, Deputy Director of Department of Mine & Metrology on December 27, 2007. The team comprised of Mr. Nabin Shakya, Coordinator of Stone Craft Product Development Sub-Committee, committee members and concerned traders. The team

apprised about existing problems and asked the department for easy supply of raw stone. In course of meeting, Deputy Director of the Department said that due to lack of proper policy, concerned entrepreneurs are facing problems of raw stone and pointed out the need for mutual coordination between concerned departments and institutions.

New Publication



Handicraft Design and Development Centre, an undertaking of Federation of Handicraft Associations of Nepal has compiled and brought out a booklet and CD named "Traditional Nepalese Design Vol.1" to popularize, inform and enlighten concern stakeholders. *This book is a collection of available art and artistic designs, pattern, motifs etc of the historical monuments of Kathmandu Valley.*

Price: Rs. 300.00

FHAN PUBLICATIONS

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| 1. The Iconography of Nepalese Buddhism | US\$ 10.00 |
| 2. The Iconography of Nepalese Buddhism (German) | US\$ 15.00 |
| 3. Short Description of Gods & Goddesses | US\$ 03.00 |
| 4. Product Catalogue (8 Sheets per set) | US\$ 03.00 |
| 5. Artistic Heritage of Nepal | US\$ 10.00 |
| 6. Sacred Art of Nepal | US\$ 30.00 |
- (All price include mailing charges)

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