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MINISTRY OF
TEXTILES



HANDLOOM EXPORT
PROMOTION COUNCIL



Development
Commissioner
(Handloom)

Seminar Report

Handloom to Export
Awareness & Facilitation

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Report on Seminar held at Bhagalpur

EXPORT AWARENESS AND FACILITATION

Date : 07 February 2026
Venue : Hotel Raj Hans International, Bhagalpur, Bihar
Organised by : Handloom Export Promotion Council (HEPC)



The Handloom Export Promotion Council (HEPC) organised a seminar on “Handloom to Export – Awareness and Facilitation” at Bhagalpur, Bihar on 07th February 2026 with the objective of creating awareness among handloom weavers and entrepreneurs about export opportunities, export procedures, and the institutional support available for facilitating exports.

Bhagalpur is a well-established handloom cluster with a large base of skilled artisans engaged in traditional handloom production. Despite the availability of quality products and craftsmanship, export activity from the cluster remains limited. Keeping this in view, the seminar was organised to familiarize the handloom stakeholders with the export ecosystem and to strengthen their understanding of the role of HEPC and other Government institutions in enabling access to international markets.

The seminar was attended by a total of 65 participants, out of which 49 participants were handloom weavers. The response from the participants was encouraging, and several attendees showed keen interest in understanding export facilitation and the services offered by HEPC.



The programme commenced with registration and welcome of participants, followed by an introductory address outlining the objectives of the seminar and the relevance of export awareness for the Bhagalpur handloom cluster. Shri Rajesh Chatterjee, Deputy Director, Weavers Service Centre (WSC), Bhagalpur, made a presentation on the various schemes implemented by WSC and explained the technical, design, and capacity-building support available for handloom weavers.



Shri Chandan Mani Tripathi, Manager, National Handloom Development Corporation (NHDC), made a presentation on the schemes of NHDC, including raw material support and other facilitation measures aimed at strengthening the handloom sector.



A presentation was also made by Shri Tripurari Chaudhary, Scientist 'C', Central Silk Board (CSB), highlighting the institutional support framework and developmental initiatives relevant to the handloom and allied sectors.

Further, Shri Biswajeet Kumar, Assistant Professor, NIFT Patna, delivered a presentation focusing on design intervention, product development, and the importance of adopting a market-oriented approach to enhance product appeal and competitiveness for global market.



A presentation on the role of Handloom Export Promotion Council (HEPC) was made by Ms. Preeti Sharma, Deputy Director, HEPC, covering export procedures, the importance of DGFT registration, and HEPC membership as a gateway for export facilitation and access to international markets.



The sessions were highly interactive and well received by the participants. Several queries were raised regarding export documentation, market access, and institutional support. Following the seminar, representatives from WSC and NHDC encouraged the participants to consider HEPC membership in order to avail export-related facilitation and guidance provided by the Council.

Participants also expressed a strong desire for continued engagement with HEPC and requested periodic virtual interaction for guidance and handholding support, as they wish to gradually explore export opportunities and develop their capabilities.

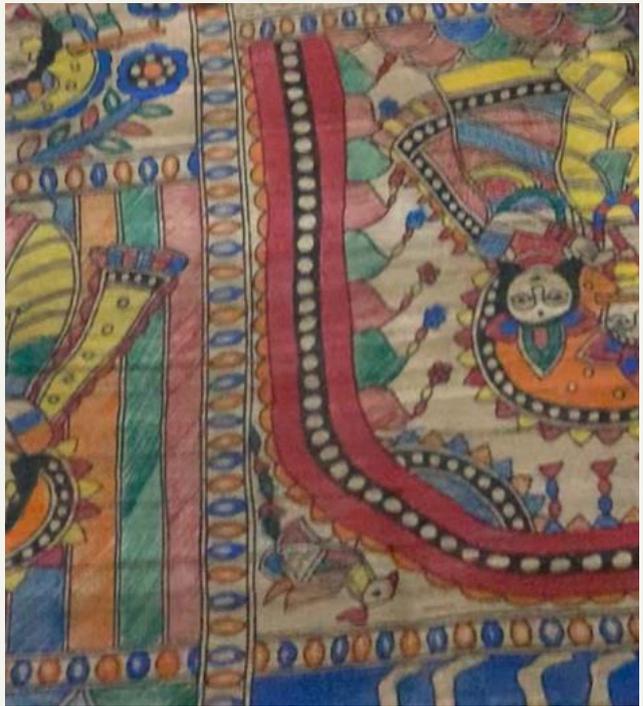
Note on Bhagalpur Cluster Visit



A cluster visit was undertaken on 06 February 2026, prior to the seminar, to engage directly with handloom weavers in the Bhagalpur cluster. During the visit, Nath Nagar and Karadi Tola were covered, and extensive interactions were held with a large number of weavers at their respective worksites.

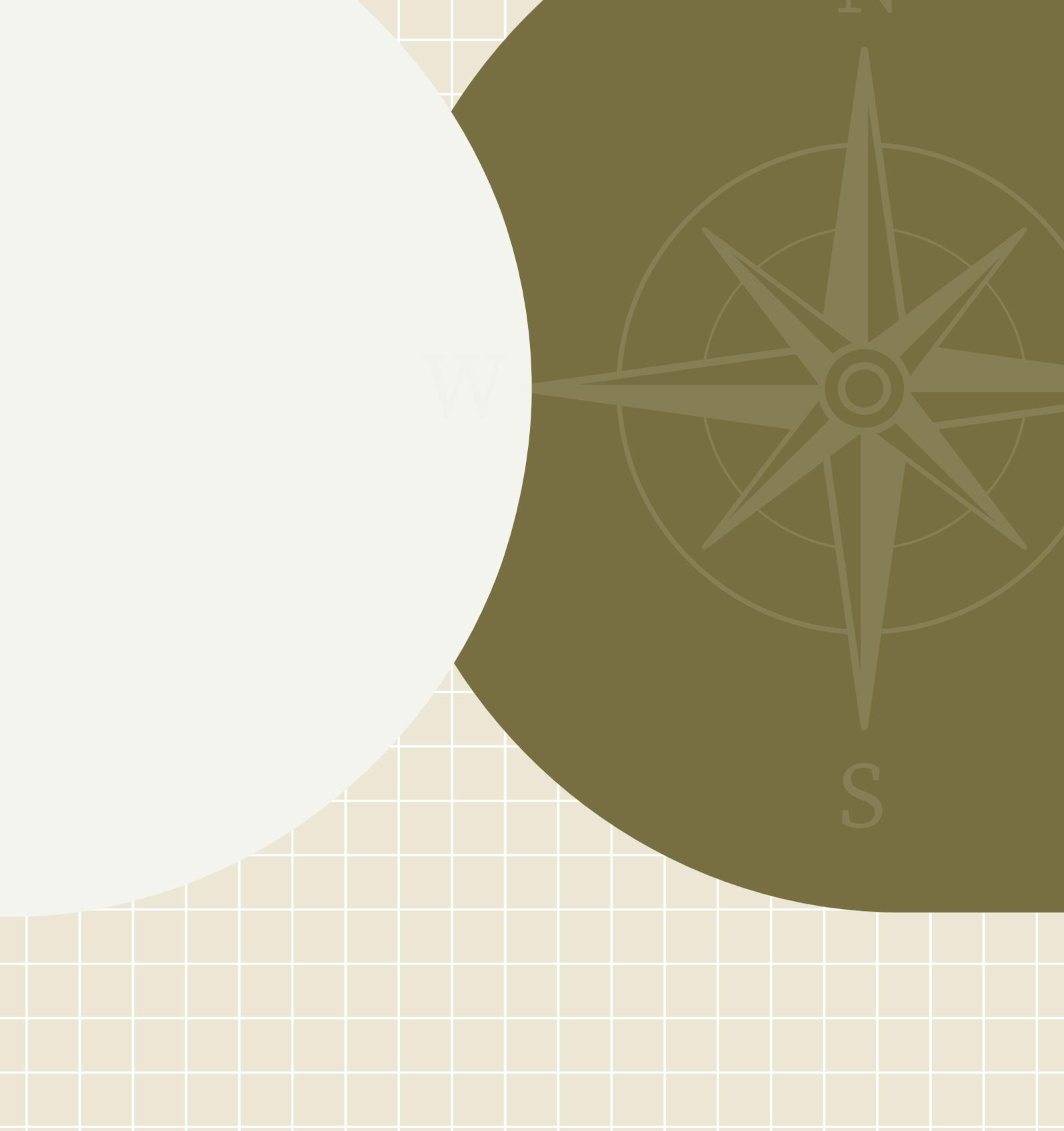


The visit provided an opportunity to understand the production practices, challenges, and aspirations of the weavers, and to explain the role of HEPC in supporting handloom exports. The discussions focused on export awareness, the importance of DGFT registration, and the benefits of HEPC membership.



As an outcome of these interactions, a few weavers opted for HEPC membership during the cluster visit itself. The visit also contributed positively to participant engagement during the seminar held the following day.





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