

Report on

FICCI's Buyer Seller Meets with SC/ST Entrepreneurs

held on 15th February 2019 between 9.30am and 2.00pm at Hotel GRT Convention Centre (Gulmour Hall), T. Nagar, Chennai

FICCI in association with Ministry of MSME and National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) organised the Buyer Seller Meets with SC/ST entrepreneurs held on 15th February 2019 at Hotel GRT Convention Centre (Gulmour Hall), T. Nagar, Chennai wherein some of the top Public Sector Enterprises like Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited (CPCL), The Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India Limited (ECGC), Instrumentation Ltd, Integral Coach Factory (ICF), Central Cottage Industries Corporation of India Limited, Southern Railway, The Shipping Corporation of India Ltd, Vizag Steel, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited, Madras Fertilizers Limited, Heavy Vehicles Factory, Avadi, HPCL participated in the BSM and interacted with over 120 SC/ST Entrepreneurs over one to one business meetings to assess procurement viability.

- **Dr. Rajendra Kumar I.A.S.,** Principal Secretary/Industries Commissioner and Director of Industries and Commerce, Department of Industries and Commerce, Government of Tamil Nadu said Tamil Nadu has emerged as a leader in terms of promoting the activities of the MSMEs across all spectrums and there is enormous scope for the immense growth of the state economy in so many ways as a result of that handholding efforts. He said the state government has been taking all measures to help connect with micro, medium and small enterprises owned by SC/ST Entrepreneurs and promote their links with PSUs and private players in matters relating to procurement of materials and manufactured products, all based on the parameters of transparency and a host of ethical business systems.
- **Mr. Krishna Rajaraman**, Business Head iDigital (Digital Banking Technologies), Intellect Design Arena Ltd said that selling products to government is so easy all because of the transparent e-commerce system with the online and faceless registration through integration with Aadhaar, PAN and GST databases.
- **Mr. T. Venkateswaran**, Zonal Head South III, The National Small Industries Corporation Ltd (NSIC Ltd) wanted the involvement of more SC/ST Entrepreneurs in the sale of their products to public sector undertakings as also the women entrepreneurs. He said the NSIC would lend all types of support such as marketing, technical, credit and tender, all with the enlistment of the NSIC certificate, MSME Global Mart Portal and National SC/ST Hub. He also called for the creation of an ecosystem to help the SC/ST entrepreneurs and the women's group as their contribution remained abysmally low with the help of several handholding support systems to them, besides the use of the existing public procurement policy to the maximum.
- **Mr. M. Nandakumar**, Convener, Energy Panel, FICCI TNSC & Managing Director, EDAC Engineering Limited also spoke at the event.
- Mr. Ruban Hobday Head, FICCI Tamil Nadu State Council proposed the vote of thanks.