

Indians prepare for Mexican ventures

FIEO organized a meeting with Mr Aldo Ruiz, Investment & Trade Commissioner, PROMEXICO, on April 24, 2012 in Mumbai.

Mr Amit Goyal, Regional Chairman (WR), welcomed Mr Ruiz and briefed him about the Federation's activities and profile of membership of the Western Region.

Mr Goyal discussed India's strength in sectors like automotive, engineering, agriculture, textiles and garments in which there is more scope to expand trade with Mexico. He emphasized the need to arrange awareness seminars on "Potential in Mexico" jointly with PROMEXICO in selective cities. This would help the Indian business community know more about the opportunities available in Mexico and also expand bilateral trade.

Mr Aldo informed that Mexican was increasing investments in India in multiplexes, housing and infrastructure, automobile parts, cement, and food processing. He also spoke about PROMEXICO's plans in India and the activities focused on increasing Mexican investment in India and offering opportunities for Indian investment back in Mexico.

Mr Aldo spoke about his country's



Mr Amit Goyal, Regional Chairman (WR) (left) welcoming Mr Aldo Ruiz, Investment & Trade Commissioner, PROMEXICO.

own sizable market and investment friendly policies. Mexico is well placed to offer the strategic advantage of the world's largest NAFTA market, already drawing large FDIs from the US and elsewhere. He said Indian cinema has immense potential in Mexico and Latin America yet it remains to be exploited. It is already gaining rapidly in popularity with demand for activities and courses in new areas like Bollywood dancing, Indian languages and cuisine, and Ayurveda, etc.

In response to Mr Goyal query regarding Mexican visas to Indian businessmen, Mr Aldo informed that the Mexican Consulate in Mumbai is likely to open by the year 2013. This will cater for the increasing interest for Mexico in India.

Concluding the meeting, Mr Goyal expressed his thanks to Mr Aldo for visiting the FIEO office and discussing the areas for future co-operation. ■

Deregulation of PCFC interest rate to hit MSME exporters: FIEO

Expressing his disappointment at the RBI's move to deregulate export credit in foreign currency, Mr M. Rafeeqe Ahmed, President, FIEO, said this would give a jolt to exporters, particularly the tiny, small and medium players who contribute to over 60% of the country's exports. The exporters will be at the mercy of the banks, added the FIEO Chief, and added that the banks will dictate terms as there is always a mismatch between demand and supply. Indian exporters are outpriced in the inter-

national market due to high differential in interest rates and PCFC was helping them to reduce their cost of borrowing.

The FIEO Chief said the RBI should ensure that the deregulation should not lead to hike in interest rates which will be a double blow as exports are already witnessing a slowdown and in such a scenario competitiveness has become all the more relevant.