

## Report on Awareness Program on "Importance of Quality Trade Data"

The Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council organized awareness program on 'Importance of Quality Trade Data' jointly with CHEMEXCIL and PLEXCONCIL on 24 th November 2005 at Shree Mumbai Patidar Samaj Hall, Mafatlal Baug, 6, French Bridge, Mumbai – 400 007.

Shri. S. K. Das, Director General and Mrs. Mita Roychoudhary, Director from the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics (DGCI&S), Kolkata visited Mumbai specially for this sensitization programme. **Smt. Usha Suresh Director (Statistics), Customs, Mumbai** accompanied the speakers. Ms. Meena Dharod, Acting Executive Director, GJEPC, Shri R. P. Kalyanpur, Executive Director, PLEXCONCIL and Smt Smita Samant, Executive Director, CHEMEXCIL represented the respective Councils.

Council had received a communication from DGFT, Delhi regarding need for Improvement in the quality of international trade data. A meeting chaired by Commerce Secretary in August 2005 outlined the importance of accurate reporting of international trade data.

Council was directed to arrange a Sensitization Program for the Trade and to impress upon the exporters/ importers on the need to correctly reflect the ITC HS codes, quantities, etc. while preparing Shipping Bill & Bill of Entry.

Reliable and timely trade data is a fundamental requirement for trade promotion and frames favorable Import – Export Policy. Government is very concerned about the quality of trade data. An analysis conducted by the DGCI&S, Kolkata brought out the fact that there were errors in the filling up of ITC(HS) code in shipping bills that affected the quality of the trade data.

Shri. S. K. Das, Director General, Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics (DGCI&S), Kolkata addressed the gathering and stressed upon the importance of accurate trade data. He also informed the participants about the detailed list available on the website of DGCI&S ([www.dgciskol.nic.in](http://www.dgciskol.nic.in)) for locating the correct HS code.

Mrs. Mita Roychoudhary, Director from the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics (DGCI&S), Kolkata gave a presentation enlightening the members of the three Councils with regard to the working of DGCI&S.

She emphasized on the need for the quality trade data to facilitate better understanding of the international market and the share of India. She requested the exporters to be more careful in declaring the HS code number and the Unit of quantity in future. Around 75 participants were present including CHAs and Custom officials from DPCCC and SEEPZ-SEZ for this program.

The main areas of concern are correct HS Codes for the item description and standard Unit of Quantity. It is observed that the Item description and the HS Code does not match. In case of quantity, it is difficult to convert the given data into KG etc.

Mrs. Mita Roychowdhury informed that exporters can write both the quantities – standard unit of quantity and what the importer / buyers asking for.

After the meeting, GJEPC's website for "Career Centre" was launched by Shri S K. Das, DG, DGCI&S. This website would help youngsters who want to make career in the gem & jewellery industry.

Members can visit GJEPC's website at [www.gjepc.org](http://www.gjepc.org) for the detailed list of ITC HS codes for Chapter 71.