

50 Days Design and Technology Development Workshop (DDW) on Kondapalli Wooden Toys Craft

Kondapalli, NTR District, Andhra Pradesh; 18th November 2025 - 6th January 2026



The inauguration of the workshop saw the presence of Mr. K.N. Tulasi Rao, COA Member & Southern Regional Convenor, EPCH; Mrs. Aparna Lakshmi, Assistant Director, DC(H), Vijayawada; Mr. Purna Chandra Rao, the Master Crafts person and Mr. Prasanjeet Mahanty, the Designer

EPCH's Southern Regional Office, Narsapur commenced a Design and Technology Development Workshop (DDW) at the Kondapalli Wooden Toys Craft cluster in Kondapalli, NTR District, Andhra Pradesh on 18th November 2025. This 50-days workshop trained 30 open-category artisans.

The inauguration took place at the Kondapalli Toys Society, Kondapalli, NTR District, Andhra Pradesh. It was attended by Mr. K.N. Tulasi Rao, COA Member & Southern Regional Convenor, EPCH; and Mrs. Aparna Lakshmi, Assistant Director, DC (H), Vijayawada.

Mr. Tulasi Rao motivated the artisans, emphasising that such workshops help them develop new designs that are in high demand in both domestic and international markets.

The Assistant Director, Vijayawada, also addressed the trainees.

Mr. Purna Chandra Rao, the Master Crafts person and Mr. Prasanjeet Mahanty, the Designer, actively participated in the program.

The program concluded with a closing ceremony on 19th January 2026 at the Kondapalli Wooden Toys Craft Cluster. Addressing the artisans through an online interaction, Mr. K. N. Tulasi Rao, COA Member & Southern Regional Convenor,

EPCH, encouraged the participants, noting that such design development workshops enable artisans to create new designs aligned with both domestic and international market demand.

During the ceremony, Mr. Ravindra Gautam, Handicrafts Promotion Officer, O/o DC (Handicrafts), Vijayawada, commended the creativity and skills displayed by the artisans and lauded the prototypes developed as exemplary blends of traditional Kondapalli art with innovative design expressions.

The program was also attended by Dr. A. Lajwanti Naidu, Assistant Director (Capacity Building), Andhra Pradesh Tourism Authority, Vijayawada; Designer Mr. Prasanjit Mohanty; Master Craftsperson (Trainer) Mr. K. Purna Chandra Rao; EPCH Narsapur Representative; and the 30 trained artisans of the program.



One Month Design and Technology Development Workshop (DDW) on Kinnouri Shawl as an artware

Kinnaur, Himachal Pradesh; 22nd December 2025 - 19th January 2026

EPCH, with the support of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts), successfully conducted a one-month Design and Technology Development Workshop (DDW) on Kinnouri Shawls as artware in Kinnaur, Himachal Pradesh. The programme commenced on 22nd December 2025 and was inaugurated by Mr. Guru Lal Negi, GM, DIC Kinnaur, in the presence of Mr. Deepak Kumar Saini, Programme Designer, and Ms. Basanti Devi, Master artisan.

Mr. Santosh Kumar, Assistant Director, HSC Kullu, addressed the gathering virtually and encouraged the artisans to fully utilise this training opportunity. The programme aimed to upgrade artisan skills by fostering design innovation and enhancing marketability of traditional crafts. With a focus on sustainable, modern and



cost-effective methods, the workshop trained 30 artisans in new techniques and prototype development to improve income generation and economic impact.

The programme concluded on 19th January 2026 with a closing ceremony attended by Mr. Guru Lal Negi, GM, DIC Kinnaur, along with Mr. Deepak Kumar Saini and Ms. Basanti Devi.



Mr. Guru Lal Negi, GM, DIC Kinnaur, along with Mr. Deepak Kumar Saini, Programme Designer, and Ms. Basanti Devi, Master Artisan, in a commemorative photograph with the artisans on successful completion of the program

Exporter's Clinic: Speak with Experts & Get Your Export Queries Answered Online

Virtual sessions in expert-led knowledge-sharing series; 16th January 2026

On 16th January, 2026 - As part of ongoing series of Exporters Clinics initiative, EPCH organised another session of Exporter's Clinic on 'Protecting Business Data: Strategies for Email, Cloud & File Security'.

The session aimed to equip exporters with practical knowledge and best practices for protecting business data and strengthening cyber hygiene across daily operations. The discussion focused on email security, cloud storage security and file security. The session also highlighted practical steps to reduce risk. The session addressed common issues and challenges faced by the exporters and expert faculty provided solutions through face to face interaction.

During the interaction, Session Expert, Dr. Rakshit Tandon, Cyber Security Evangelist; Mr. Rajesh Singh, Deputy Director, EPCH and member exporters from pan India basis were present and joined online.

The session focused on Q&A and speaker addressed the queries received from the members and concluded their interaction on a positive note. ■

