From the Desk of Director:

Locked units, dead stock, no sales, uncollected payments, demanding vendors and mounting expenses - Covid-19 has been the last nail in the coffin for a host of MSMEs who were reeling already under gloomy economic situation due to national and global economic slow down. We are facing an unprecedented challenge. The crisis between life and livelihood looming large, day by day. But we must not forget that the world only exists for us if we’re alive.

With over 100 million people employed — nearly 40 per cent of India’s workforce — the urgency of addressing the needs of the MSME sector can hardly be overstated. Central Government, all the State Government, all the stakeholders are aligning among themselves to resist the fatal blow.

We in MSME-DI, Kolkata are also trying hard to help MSMEs out in this situation. Already DC(MSME)trying to identify entrepreneurs who can help the nation to get out of the crisis by manufacturing sanitisers, masks, PPEs etc. SIDBI extends financial help to those enterprises. The situations in the US and Europe are horrifying. The Pandemic has the ability to change the world order, but as a proud Indian, I am confident that India will overcome the crisis and Indian MSMEs will turn around the game towards them once again.

In this grave situation I must express my heartfelt gratitude to the Doctors, Nurses, Health Workers of Public Health facilities, Police forces, Media friends for leading the fight from the front. I appeal to fellow MSME fraternity to stay safe and stay indoor. Obey official advisories. We are fighting hard, We shall overcome!

Krishnadas Bhattacharjee
Editorial:

As I start to write this Editorial, nothing comes to my mind except the severe psycho-physico-finacio uncertainties we all are undergoing due to sudden pandemic attack of COVID-19 that gripped the country. It has been a particularly hard pressed time for the entire MSMEs and small businesses as well across the country who have been reeling under the impact of the attack, facing severe losses and shutdowns in uncertain times that loom large for the days to come. The attack struck just when we are expecting reclassification of MSME in this parliament session, thereby ushering a major policy change from the investment-based classification to turnover-based classification. We are also awaiting for the commerce ministry to announce new Export promotion policy (2020-25) considering rationalising and simplifying certain export promotion schemes including new chapters for services, and e-commerce sectors, as the validity of the old one ends on March 31, 2020.

As per a quick survey by FICCI, up to 53% of businesses in India have specified a certain amount of impact of shutdowns caused due to COVID-19. Sectors ranging from travel and tourism to retail and hospitality are taking a hit as social distancing becomes the norm to tackle the corona virus outbreak. Following the lockdown, certain essential supply chains broke down. It is hard time to streamline the process, causing a disruption to supply chains. Although interstate travel has been banned, it doesn’t apply to essentials. The Finance Minister made a number of announcements related to the economy such as extending last dates for filing GST returns and income tax returns. In order to bring some relief to the cash strapped MSME sector amid the Coronavirus pandemic, Finance Ministry on 24th March raised the threshold of default to Rs 1 crore from the existing Rs 1 lakh to prevent triggering of insolvency proceedings against MSMEs.

The Govt. announced the world’s largest food security scheme across the country. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) made a number of announcements including EMI being put on hold for three months and reducing repo rates. The Prime Minister launched a new fund called PM CARES fund for combating such situations.

At the time of reaching out to our readers, we all are working from Home and not in a position to tell you when can we serve you the way as we have been doing so far. Still our Website, Facebook and Email links are active and at your service. Stay indoors, Stay safe and let us believe firmly that together we shall overcome and win over this evil too, keeping aside the setback over the passage of time.

No more handshakes allowed but who can stop us to bid adieu now without saying the Indian way of NAMASKAR.

Debabrata Mitra

Editor : Sri Debabrata Mitra, Deputy Director (G&C)
Sub Editor : Sri Chitresh Biswas, Asstt. Director (Stat)
Cover : Tribute to the TEAM INDIA against COVID19.
In the wake of this National Emergency people of India needs to be disciplined:

Covid-19 pandemic has already created a havoc in several countries. Countries like Italy, France, Britain who are much developed than India in all respect losing the battle against this deadly virus. We Indians fighting a hard battle and we need to be united amongst us to win this battle.

Electronic Certificate of Origin (e-CO):

For the majority of certificates of origin created around the world most of them are completed manually, i.e. filled out by hand. Exporters then have to take them to the Chambers of Commerce who would then stamp them to be certified. But in business environment that is forever changing, the need for modernizing the certificate of origin has led to the development of the electronic certificates of origin e-CO.

Some thoughts shared in the MEGA TRADE FAIR held at Kolkata:

Mega Trade Fair held in Kolkata during 4th to 7th March 2020 was not only a confluence of entrepreneurs, but also confluence of thoughts shared by different experts of the sector. Following are some of the thoughts shared during the National Seminars held during the Mega Trade Fair.

Inauguration of Trade Fair & Speech of Sri Biplab Roy Chowdhury, Chairman, WBSIDCL

Speech of Sri K. D. Bhattacharya, Director I/C, MSME-DI, Kolkata

Speech of Sri Ajoy Bandopadhyaya, Ex-Director I/C, MSME-DI, Kolkata

Speech of Sri J.P. Tirkey, GM, FIDD, RBI, Kolkata
HOWRAH

EXPORT ORIENTED NATIONAL SEMINAR ON GEMS & JEWELLERY PRODUCTS

MSME-DI, Kolkata have organized One day Export Oriented National Seminar / Work shop on Gems and Jewellery products on 27.02.2020 at Park Terrace, Kadamtala Howrah in partnership with Gems and Jewellery Export promotion Council (GJEPC) and in association with Howrah Jewellery Traders Welfare Association. The programme was inaugurated by Shri Arup Roy, Hon'ble Minister In Charge, Deptt. of Co-operation, Govt. of West Bengal as Chief Guest. The Director, GJEPC, Mumbai, has described elaborately the various export promotional schemes, problems faced by the units and their remedies of the Export Business. ECGC, IIP, ITPO, ICC, MSME-DI, NSIC etc delivered the lecture. About 100 units / participants took part of the above programme.

DARJEELING

AWARENESS PROGRAMME & B2B REGISTRATION FOR SC ST CATEGORY MSMES

An Awareness Programme & B2B Registration was conducted on 06-02-2020 at Siliguri Industrial Estate Development Association Hall from 11.00 A.M to 2.30 P.M.by NSSHO, NSIC Ltd, Kolkata in association with Sub-DIC, Siliguri and Branch MSME-DI, Siliguri.

Mr. H.K. Saha, Deputy Manager, Finance & Accounts, NSIC Ltd., Kolkata & Mr. S. Prakash, In- charge, NSSHO, Kolkata given a talk on objective of organising this programme. Mr. Manab Saha, Manager, Sub DIC, Siliguri discussed about the schemes of Department of MSME, Govt of West Bengal.

Mr. T.K.Banerjee, Assistant Director, Branch MSME-Development Institute, Siliguri delivered a presentation on the schemes of DC(MSME). In the programme 37 nos of participants were present out of which SC-22 Nos, Women -13 and Gen-2.

AWARENESS PROGRAMME ON DIGITAL MSME

An Awareness Programme on Digital MSME was organised by Enterprise Development Institute of India on 17-02-2020 at Siliguri Industrial Estate Development Association Hall.

Mr. Subir Roy, Cluster Development Manager, EDI, given a talk on objective of organising this programme and also about the digital MSME scheme and its benefits to the entrepreneurs.
Mr. Biswajit Goswami, Manager, Sub DIC, Siliguri discussed about the schemes of Department of MSME, Govt of West Bengal.

Mr. T.K.Banerjee, Assistant Director, Branch MSME-Development Institute, Siliguri delivered a presentation on the schemes of DC(MSME). In the programme 40 nos of MSMEs participants were present.

JALPAIGURI
FINANCE CLINIC

One Finance Clinic was organised by District Industries Centre, Jalpaiguri on 25.02.2020 at DIC Hall. In the clinic the officers from Pollution Control Board, Siliguri, District Land Reforms office, Jalpaiguri Mr. Bivas Dutta, Manager, DIC, Jalpaiguri, GM, DIC Mr. Chandan Paul and Mr. T. K. Banerjee, Assistant Director, Br.MSME-DI, Siliguri was present. Some cases of Land dispute were taken up with the Land Reforms officer. Some participants were given guidance about the formation of Self Help Group. One participant were guided and told to apply for PMEGP scheme.

ONE DAY AWARENESS PROGRAMME ON ZED CERTIFICATION SCHEME

An One Day Awareness Programme on ZED Certification Scheme has been organised by Br. MSME-DI, Siliguri in association with Siliguri Industrial Estate Development Association, Siliguri Industrial Estate, Siliguri on 16.03.2020 at the Association Hall in Siliguri.

The programme was participated by agencies like Siliguri Industrial Estate Development Association(SIEDA), Siliguri, Dist-Jalpaiguri, Federation of Chamber of Commerce & Industries of North Bengal, Siliguri, Kawakhali Sangini Dress Designing Cluster Industrial Cooperative Society Limited, Kawakhali, Dist- Darjeeling and other MSMEs from Darjeeling & Jalpaiguri districts.

In the Inaugural Session, at first felicitation of Guests were done. The Welcome address was delivered by Shri Tapan Kumar Banerjee, Assistant Director, Br. MSME-DI, Siliguri. During deliberation of welcome address Shri. T.K. Banerjee, Assistant Director, AD welcomed all participants and dignitaries and briefed about role of Ministry of MSME, Govt. of India for the development & promotion of MSME.

During the programme, Sri Biswajit Das, General Secretary, Federation of Chambers of Commerce & Industries of North Bengal, Siliguri told that in the era of globalisation for sustaining in today’s competitive world, the MSEs should learn about ZED Scheme and reap the benefits of this programme. Mr.Utpal Sarkar, Gen. Secretary, SIEDA requested the participants to concentrate on the lectures to be delivered by the subject expert as this is an extremely relevant topic for MSMEs. Mr. Firoj Ahmed, Assistant Director, MSME-DI, Kolkata was also present in the programme and delivered a brief talk on the importance of ZED certification scheme.
During technical session Mr. Debanu Das Mahapatra, Guest Faculty for One day awareness Programme on ZED scheme delivered lectures on various aspects of ZED scheme very elaborately. After the lectures of Guest Faculty in the technical session, there was an interactive session with the participants. After interactive session the program was closed with a vote of thanks by Mr. T.K. Banerjee, Assistant Director, Br. MSME-DI, Siliguri. In the programme 55 Nos of MSMEs and approximately fifteen numbers of Guests/officials/Association office bearers/MMSME-DI officials were present.

NORTH 24 PARGANAS

IN-SERVICE TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR IEDS OFFICERS

MSME Development Institute, Kolkata conducted fourteen days In-service Career progression training programme for IEDS Cadre officers from 8th March to 21st March 2020 at this Institute. The module of the programme was as per the guideline of DC, MSME, New Delhi and faculties were resourced from various government Institutes, Ministries and Universities. Nineteen Participants (19) from various MSME-DO field offices, viz, MSME-DI, Guwahati, Patna, Dhanbad, Odisha, Kolkata, MSME-TC, Kolkata and Mumbai participated in this training programme. In this training programme, daily four sessions of one and half hour duration each were conducted and content of the sessions covered on technology, administration, IT, CCS rules, Procurement process, GeM, Patent Law, GST, RTI, Court matter, GFR/SFR, RTI and field Visit.

The programme was inaugurated by Sri Satyen Lama, IES, Director (Admn), O/o DC (MSME), New Delhi. Sri K D Bhattacharya, Director In –charge, and Sri D. Mitra, Dy. Director, MSME-DI, Kolkata were also present. Sri Lama, Director (Admn) spoke on the purpose and important of this training and left some guideline for conduct of this training. The participants were provided with Bag and Stationeries. Arrangement for breakfast, Lunch, Tea/Hi-tea was done for conducting this training programme in smooth and seamless manner. Most of the faculties were resourced from Amity University, Calcutta University, NACIN, ZTI-GeM, NSDL, Calcutta High Court, INGAF- Kolkata, Ministry of Statistics Programme Implementation, Institute Hygiene and Public Health, DGFT, CBDT etc.

The programme was concluded on 21.3.2020 at 2.00 PM where Sri A. K. Verma, Ex DDG, Administration, Ministry of Statistics Programme Implementation, GOI was present as Guest. Sri K D Bhattacharya, Director In –charge, and Sri D. Mitra, Dy. Director, MSME-DI, Kolkata were
reviewed the training and had taken feedback from the participants. Training course material was provided in soft copy through pen drive data traveller and Training certificates were distributed to all the participants.

**KOLKATA**

**FINANCIAL LITERACY WEEK 2020 AT RESERVE BANK OF INDIA**

RBI, Kolkata observed the Financial Literacy Week 2020 from 10-02-2020 to 15-02-2020 to emphasize the importance of Financial Literacy among the MSME entrepreneurs and create mass awareness about the various financial products and services, standard financial practices, etc. of the Public Sector Banks. The programme was inaugurated on 10-02-2020 at RBI Auditorium by the FIDD (Financial Inclusion & Development Department) Division of RBI, Kolkata.

The theme of the Financial Literacy Week was “Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises” and the topics of discussion centred around collateral free loans, Trade Receivables Discounting System (TReDs), formalization and timely repayment of loans. Senior officials and dignitaries of local banks, financial institutions, Govt. organizations, Associations and officials of RBI were present in the meeting. The Financial Literacy Week was inaugurated with the lighting of the ceremonial lamp by the Dignitaries present.

The inaugural address was delivered by Sri J. P. Tirkey, General Manager, FIDD, RBI, Kolkata. He welcomed all participants and explained the need for organizing financial literacy week and creating awareness about the same. The following speakers deliberated on the occasion and highlighted about the major topics of discussion mentioned above.

1. Smt. Manisha Chakraborty, CGM, RBI
2. Sri P.R. Rajagopal, ED, Allahabad Bank
3. Sri Sanjay Kumar, ED, UBI
4. Sri A. K. Goyel, ED, UCO Bank
5. Sri C. S. Ghosh, CEO & MD, Bandhan Bank
6. Sri D. Mitra, Dy. Director, MSME-DI, Kolkata
7. Sri R. K. Middya, Jt. Director, Dte. Of MSME, Govt. of West Bengal
8. Sri Mukti Ranjan Ray, GM & SLBC Convener, UBI
9. Sri Goutam Ray, Vice President, FOSMI

Explaining about the implications of the flagship MSME schemes like CLCSS, MSE CDP, SFURTI, etc. for the development of the MSME sector, Sri D. Mitra, Dy. Director, MSME-DI, Kolkata requested the participants to avail the benefits of the various schemes implemented through the banks and adopt good financial practices which will help them to expand and diversify their business. He also requested the bankers to conduct more awareness programmes on MSME schemes among the bankers in the rural and semi-urban areas so that the objective of inclusive growth could be achieved.

The programmes concluded with the Vote of Thanks delivered by Sri R. K. Das, DGM, FIDD, RBI.
Purba Bardhaman district is in West Bengal. Its headquarters is in Bardhaman. It was formed on 7 April 2017 after the division of the previous Bardhaman district. Purba Bardhaman district has rich literary and cultural traditions. Kashiram Das well known for his Bengali adaptation of the Mahabharat was born in and lived in Purba Bardhaman district. Maladhar Basu, the author of *শ্রীকৃষ্ণবিজয়*, the Triumph of Lord Krishna, as well as poets of the Mangal-Kavya fame, such as Kavi Kankan Mukunda Ram Chakravarty, Ghanaram Chakrabarty and Rupram Chakrabarty belonged to Purba Bardhaman district. Vaishnava poets and saints such as Krishnadasi Kaviraj, author of *Chaitanya Charitamrita*, Brindabandha, Locandra and Jnandas were born in this district. Purba Bardhaman district was home to such great scholars as Raghunandan Goswami, the famous logician, Ganga Kishore Bhattacharya of Bengal Gazette fame and Lal Behari Dey of Bengal Peasant Life fame. Modern Bengali poets such as Kalidas Roy and Kamal Ranjan Mullick also made this district proud.

**Introduction:** Purba Bardhaman is a newly formed district. The district was formed in 2017 cutting out 4 Sub-Divisions of erstwhile Burdwan or Bardhaman District. The town of Bardhaman is the district headquarters which is a major communications centre located on the banks of the Damodar River. Burdwan has been a district capital since the time of the Mughals. During the Mughal period, the city was known as Sharifabad. It was later renamed as “Bardhaman”, literally meaning “ever augmenting” given the prosperity of the region.

**Brief History of Purba Bardhaman:** The history of the district dates back to 5000 years. Various relics of Stone Age have been found in this district, and they are similar to the finds of the stone weapons and other relics discovered in Singhbhum, Purulia, Dhanbad and Bankura districts. This will suggest that portions of this entire zone had been in one and the same culture zone. The very name Bardhaman suggests a close association with Mahavira Bardhaman, the twenty-fourth and the last Jain Tirthankar (pathfinder). There is a theory that the name Bardhaman is based on the contact this area had with Mahavira Bardhaman and Jainism.
Parasnath hill in Dhanbad district is very important and holy to the Jains. It is close to the border of Burdwan. Parasnath is associated with most of the Tirthankar. It is quite likely that in the course of his preaching in the Rarh Desha, which comprises portions of this district as well, Mahavira may have visited this district. It is said that the rude inhabitants of Rarh Desha had even assaulted Mahavira Bardhaman and let loose dogs against him.

One of the totems of the Bauris who were the original inhabitants of this area and are still a formidable so-called lower caste have dog as their totem. The Bauris are supposed to be rough and rude. A large number of stone images of the different Tirthankar have been discovered in Burdwan district. There can be no doubt that even if Mahavira had not actually visited any of the portions of this district, some of his followers did and preached Jainism.

Burdwan also played an important role in the Gupta age and during the rule of the Sena kings. During the later Muslim and Mughal period Burdwan was an important administrative headquarters. It is here that Sher Afghan, the unfortunate husband of Nurjehan lived as a Jagirdar. Jehangir was anxious to bring over Nurjehan to his harem and had deputed Kutubuddin to Burdwan as his Subedar.

Ultimately both Sher Afghan and Kutubuddin were killed in a fight somewhere near the present Burdwan railway station. The two graves of Sher Afghan and Kutubuddin lying side by side in Burdwan not only recall history but remind us rudely as to what man can do to satisfy his lust. It is again Burdwan that gave sanctum to the intellectual and spiritual divine, Pir Baharam when he had to leave Delhi due to the machinations of Abul Fazal and Faizi in Akbar's time. A Hindu divine Jaipal came in close touch with Pir Baharam and both enjoyed a mutual spiritual companionship.

Even today both the Hindus and the Muslims of Burdwan recall Pir Baharam and Jaipal with great regard. There is also a large mango garden in Burdwan town known as Satir Math [the field of the Satil]. This field saw hundreds of devoted wives voluntarily immolating themselves on the funeral pyre of their husbands.

During the period of Jahangir this place was named Badh-e-dewan (district capital). The city owes its historical importance to being the headquarters of the Maharajas of Burdwan, the premier noblemen of lower Bengal. Bardhaman Raj was founded in 1657 by Sangam Rai of a Hindu Khatri family of Kotli in Lahore, Punjab, whose descendants served in turn the Mughal Emperors and the British government. The East Indian Railway from Howrah was opened in 1855. The great prosperity of the raj was due to the excellent management of Maharaja Mahtab Chand (died 1879), whose loyalty to the government especially during the "Hul" (Santhal rebellion) of 1855-56 and the Indian rebellion of 1857 was rewarded with the grant of a coat of arms in 1868 and the right to a personal salute of 13 guns in 1877. Maharaja Bijaychand Mahtab (born 1881), who succeeded his adoptive father in 1888, earned great distinction by the courage with which he risked his life to save that of Sir Andrew Fraser, the lieutenant-governor of Bengal, on the occasion of the attempt to assassinate him made by freedom fighters of Bengal on 7 November 1908. Mahtab Chand Bahadur and later Bijoy Chand Mahtab struggled their best to make this region culturally, economically and ecologically healthier. The chief educational institution was the Burdwan Raj College, which was entirely supported out of the maharaja's estate. Sadhak Kamalakanta as composer of devotional songs and Kashiram Das as a poet and translator of the great Mahabharata were possibly the best products of such an endeavour. The society at large also continued to gain the fruits. We find, among others, the great rebel poet Kazi Nazrul Islam and Kalai-azar-famed U. N. Brahmacari as the relatively recent illustrious sons of this soil. Batukeshwar Dutt an Indian revolutionary and independence fighter in the early 1900s was born on 18 November, 1910 in a village Oari in Burdwan district.

Incidentally the handover treaty of the three villages of Sutanuti, Gobindapur and Kolkata were signed between the East India Company and the Mughals at Bardhaman. Later the East India
Company went on to rule India. These three villages grew up to today’s Kolkata or Calcutta as it better known.

The Permanent Settlement ultimately led to the dismemberment of the Bardhaman estate. As the rajas often failed to pay the rent demands, some parts of the estate were auctioned off. However, there were bright spots. Mahatab Chand was appointed additional member of the Viceroy’s Executive Council and in 1877 was allowed to use the title of His Highness before his name. Bijoy Chand Mahatab was conferred the title of Maharajadhira by Lord Minto in 1908. Uday Chand Mahatab took over in 1941 and served till abolition of the zamindary system in 1954, after independence of the country.

Bardhaman district was bifurcated into two districts, Purba Bardhaman and Paschim Bardhman, on 7 April 2017.

The District at a Glance:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Particulars</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Geographical Location of Purba Burdwan</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latitude</td>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Sq. Km.</td>
<td>7024.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Longitude</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Number</td>
<td>777563</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Density of Population</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Per Sq. Km.</td>
<td>1099</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of Population</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td></td>
<td>per cent</td>
<td>51.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
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<td>48.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
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<tr>
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<td><strong>Administrative set up:</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sub-divisions</td>
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<td>Number</td>
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<tr>
<td>Police Stations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inhabited Villages (Burdwan)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mouzas</td>
<td>2001</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panchayat Samity</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gram Panchayat</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gram Sansad</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total workers</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>per cent</td>
<td>37.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-workers</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>62.28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Agriculture and Irrigation:

- Cropped area: 2016-17, 000 Hectares 400.03
- Percentage of Irrigated area to Cultivated area: " per cent 86.62
- Yield rate of Rice: " Kg. per hect. 3069

Medical facilities:

- Hospitals, Health Centres etc.: 2017 Number 253
- Sub-centres: 2016-17 " 592
- Family Welfare Centres: " " 8
- Total beds: 2017 " 5150
- **Beds per lakh of Population (Census 2011): " 107

Education:

- Primary School: 2016-17 " 3009
- Middle School: " " 134
- High School: " " 373
- Higher Secondary School: " " 245
- General College: " " 23
- University (Gen. & Tech.): " " 1
- *Literates : Male: 2011 per cent 82.42
- Female: " " 69.63
- Total: " " 76.21

Industry:

- Registered Working Factories: 2017 Number 1409 (R)
- Micro & Small-Scale Enterprises: 2020 " 27535

Employment in:

- State Government Offices: As on 31.01.2016 " 
- Registered Working Factories (Daily Average): 2017 " 122618 (R)
- Micro & Small-Scale Enterprises: 2016-17 " 73954

Employment situation:

- Applicants on Live-register: 2017 " 307023

Electricity:

- Mouzas Electrified: 2016-17 " 277
- Consumption of Electricity: " 000 K.W.H. 947362

Co-operative Societies:

- Societies: " Number 1499
- Members: " " 685099
- Working Capital: " 000 Rs. 30344845

*Banking:

- Commercial Bank: June, 2017 Number 738

Transport & Communication:

- Post Offices: 2016-17 Number 770
- Surfaced Road: " Km. 8228.76
- Unsurfaced Road: " " 3704.83
- *Registered Motor Vehicles (Burdwan): " Number 1179343

Finance:

- Net Collection from Small Savings: " 000 Rs. 23887687(Gross)
- *Total Revenue Receipt: " " 40512820

**The Data of Population (Table No.- 2,2) for 23 Blocks have been collected from Census- 2011 and rest 8 Blocks were being omitted. It is being separated for Purba Bardhaman.**


Bardhaman was one of the most developed districts in West Bengal both in industrial respect as well as in agricultural front before bifurcation of Purba Bardhaman. Purba Bardhaman is an agriculturally prosperous district of West Bengal. The soil and climate of the district favour the production of food grains. This district is called as the ‘Granary’ of West Bengal for its high yield
rate in agricultural production. The undivided Bardhaman district was the largest producer of rice in West Bengal, and bulk of it was produced in what is now Purba Bardhaman district. Rice, the major crop has three varieties – Aus (in autumn), Aman (in winter) and Boro (in summer). Other than cereals and pulses, cash crops such as mustard, til, jute and potatoes are also grown.

The year 1953 was a major turning point for agriculture in the district. Prior to 1953, cultivation was largely monsoon-dependent. In 1953, the irrigation projects of Damodar Valley Corporation were implemented. Irrigation and intensive cropping pattern provided the real momentum to agriculture. The undivided Bardhaman district topped the state with maximum irrigated land. The district utilises both surface water and groundwater for irrigation. In 2003-04, 27.07% of the gross cropped area was under irrigation. 65.51% of the reported area was net sown area.

Operation Barga provided tenurial security and increased the share of produce in favour of the tenants. In the 1980s agricultural production reflected robust growth rates against stagnation in the previous decades. Horticulture, pisciculture, dairy etc. have successfully emerged as economically rewarding viable options for diversifying.

At the time of bifurcation of Bardhaman district in 2017, the mining and industrial areas of the district were placed in Paschim Bardhaman district and the Purba Bardhaman district was composed of rural/ agricultural areas.

### ADMINISTRATIVE SET UP:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sub-Division</th>
<th>Police Station</th>
<th>C.D.Block/M.C./M</th>
<th>Panchayat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Samity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burdwan (N) Sub-Division</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7/0/2</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burdwan, Burdwan Woman</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Burdwan(M)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dewandighi</td>
<td>Burdwan-I</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saktigarh</td>
<td>Burdwan-II</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ausgram</td>
<td>Ausgram-I</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ausgram-II</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Guskara(M)</td>
<td>-</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Galsi</td>
<td>Galsi-I</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Galsi-II</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bhatar</td>
<td>Bhatar</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burdwan (S) Sub-Division</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>8/0/1</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memari</td>
<td>Memari-I</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Memari-II</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
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<td>Memari (M)</td>
<td>-</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jamalpur</td>
<td>Jamalpur</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raina</td>
<td>Raina-I</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madhabdihi</td>
<td>Raina-II</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Khandaghash</td>
<td>Khandaghash</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katwa Sub-Division</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5/0/2</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mongalkote</td>
<td>Mongalkote</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ketugram</td>
<td>Ketugram-I</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ketugram-II</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katwa</td>
<td>Katwa-I</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>9</td>
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<td>Katwa-II</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
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<td>Katwa(M)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dainhat(M)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Purba Bardhaman district has some medium scale enterprises. Since it is an agro-based area, it has many rice mills. The other industries are: rice bran oil, cold storage, oil mill, chira mill, bakery, L.P.G. gas filling plant, transformer manufacturing/repairing, automobile spare parts etc.

**INDUSTRIAL SCENARIO OF THE DISTRICT**

Purba Bardhaman is traditionally an agricultural stronghold. Industry took a back seat here. Though there is huge scope of growth in agro-industrial sector, warehousing, food processing industries, handicraft sector etc. There is an industrial estate at Saktigarh. As per the study report of MSME-DI, Kolkata, the degree of excellence of products like, sola craft of Bankapasi and dhokra of Dwariapur is now acceptable to European markets. There are rural wood carving artisans who are maintain the continuity of their traditional art. Amongst the other crafts in Purba Bardhaman district are: clay craft, including terracotta work and idol making, wooden dolls, stone carving, bamboo and cane craft and kantha designing. There is a vibrant weaving network around Kalna, Dhatrigram and Samudragarh.

**Industrial Estate in the District:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the Estate</th>
<th>Type of Industries</th>
<th>Pollution Category</th>
<th>Land / Modules Available</th>
<th>Area of plot</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SHAKTIGARH INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, P.O. Barsul, Dist. Burdwan, Pin- 713124</td>
<td>Electronics goods etc.</td>
<td>Non-Polluting</td>
<td>Plot-1, Shed-20, Stall/Floor Area-4</td>
<td>3.1 Acres</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Registered MSMEs in the District:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Micro</th>
<th>Small</th>
<th>Medium</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PURBA BARDHAMAN</td>
<td>27935</td>
<td>26401</td>
<td>1466</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Additional Information:** Market analysis forms an important part of the industrial potentiality survey of a district because it provides some information on indicators such as nature of exchange, the level of economic activities, the possible extent of forward and backward linkages, the overall dynamics of wholesale and retail centres and the extent and quality of sales promotion and marketing efforts of various agencies, etc. which prove to be very useful to planners, financial agencies and individual entrepreneurs in promoting small scale, cottage and village industries in a given region. As such, while planning the development of a district, considerable stress should be given on the creation of market infrastructure.

This district enjoys a comfortable position as far as marketing is concerned because it is very well connected with the huge market of Kolkata on the one hand and the towns of Durgapur, Asansol, Bolpur, Bankura and also the North Indian States on the other. Purba Burdwan district...
serves as a centre from where different types of grains and pulses are supplied to the state of Bihar and to the neighbouring districts. Birbhum, Bankura and the coal belt of Bihar serve as ready markets for the myriad products of Burdwan district.

Moreover, the district itself provides a large market for its own products. The aggregate size of the consumer goods market of the district is significantly large. Field investigation also reveals that the urban centres, viz. Durgapur, Burdwan, Asansol, Raniganj, Chittaranjan, Kalna and Katwa have a large and growing middle class and upper middle-class population and provide an attractive market for various consumer durables and non-durables. These urban centres also serve as wholesale markets as far as consumer goods are concerned and another basic function of these markets is to act as intermediate points for procuring consumer products from Kolkata and Burdwan and other parts of the State and for distributing the same to various markets both in the urban and rural areas in and outside the district.

Besides the urban centres, the rural areas of Burdwan district which are agriculturally well developed also provide a large market for consumer goods and agricultural implements.

Moreover, the large and medium scale industries provide a large market for numerous MSE units, leading to a large degree of anciliarisation.

Purba Burdwan is a newly formed district. Data and information available for Bardhaman district needs to be separated. The process is going on. Thus, a detailed report on industrial potential of the district is yet to be made possible.

MSME-DI, Kolkata promotes MSEs through its various programmes. For any queries regarding MSMEs in Purba Bardhaman, feel free to contact:

**Shri Tapash Roy**
District Nodal Officer,
Purba Bardhaman
Investigator (CNF)
MSME-DI, Kolkata
+91 9432457026;
tapasroy@dcmsme.gov.in
Provision for Quarterly Payment of GST by MSMEs

The Small and Medium sector companies now get the benefit of the new return model under GST which ensures quarterly filing of returns for those taxpayers whose annual aggregate turnover in the preceding Financial year does not exceed Rs.5 crore.

Department of Revenue have informed that there is no such proposal at this stage.

Quarterly payment of GST is available to those MSMEs who opt for composition levy under section 10 of CGST Act, 2017.

This information was given by Shri Nitin Gadkari, Union Minister for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises in written reply to a question in Rajya Sabha on 2nd March 2020.

Products Worth Rs 22 Lakh Sold in State Level KVIC Exhibition Under P.M.E.G.P.

A sale of worth Rs 22 lakhs was recorded in an exhibition organised by Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) New Delhi state office under Prime Minister Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) during 16-29 February 2020.

Twenty-five stalls of Khadi clothes, handicraft products, pickle, honey, millet biscuits, leather goods, embroidery etc from many States and Union Territory units of KVIC viz Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Maharashtra and COIR Board participated in the exhibition.

The exhibition was inaugurated by Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh Shri R.K. Mathur and Joint Secretary, MSME Ministry Shri Sudhir Garg was present in the closing function today. Joint Secretary, MSME Ministry Smt. Alka Arora, senior officials from KVIC and Ministry and huge number of people visited the stalls during the exhibition. Khadi rumals stitched by J&K militancy affected women were in good demand. Products made from handmade paper, carpets from Mirzapur and organic healthy food items were also centre of attraction.

National MSME Awards Function Held

Shri Nitin Gadkari, Union Minister for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and Road Transport & Highways has stated that Government of India is working on reducing restrictions in order to increase ease of doing business in MSME Sector. Praising the contribution of MSME industries in the economic development of the country, Shri Gadkari said that there is a huge potential in the sector for creating more jobs, contributing to more export earnings by the sector. Shri Gadkari was speaking at a function after giving away awards to MSMEs for excellent performance in various areas yesterday in New Delhi. He said that excellence shown by awardees will motivate entrepreneurs all over the country to strive for higher standards of performance and will be emulated by many more entrepreneurs.

The Minister also stated that Government is working on enhancing availability of finance to the sector and the banks have done better in terms of providing loans this year. He also suggested that better performing MSMEs should go into capital market and get investments from the public which will increase their share value providing returns to the investors and making availability on investments to such enterprises.
Complementing the efforts of the National MSME Awards, Shri Gadkari said that such recognition provides greater motivations to those who render excellent performance. He assured that Government stands by the MSME sector and will work towards their betterment. Shri Gadkari said, “Considering the importance of your contribution to the economy, exports and employment, I believe that the wellbeing of the country can be secured through the wellbeing of the MSMEs. It is in this light that I have asked my officers to design the Schemes and initiatives to be growth oriented, inclusive and environment friendly”. He added that “we are in the process of redirecting our schemes towards empowerment of MSMEs through creation of infrastructure, enabling access to finance, technology, market and skilling. All this has to be done in an atmosphere conducive to ease of doing business”.

Minister of State for MSME & Ministry of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries Shri Pratap Chandra Sarangi while complementing the winners of National Awards, said that MSME sector is playing an important role in the development and growth of the country. He called upon the winners to motivate more people to turn into employers and create more valuation in the MSME sector. Referring to the significant role of MSME sector in the exports from India, he called for greater direct exports by the MSME enterprises.

Speaking on the occasion Dr. Arun Kumar Panda, Secretary, MSME stated that the Government is working on facilitating the MSME sector in the country. He informed that GST is leading to maximum formalization of the economy and the biggest chunk in this regard is coming from MSMEs. He informed that a single portal in 22 languages is being developed which will provide information to all schemes for MSMEs at a single platform. A global market intelligence system is also being developed which will provide information related to exports to the MSME sector industries.

National MSME Awards were instituted in 1983 to felicitate the outstanding performers in the MSME sector in the areas of Entrepreneurship (Manufacturing & Services), Product Quality, Innovation, Exports and Lean Manufacturing Techniques. The awards are also conferred to the Department of the States / UTs Government, dealing with the MSME sector, for their outstanding efforts for the promotion & development of the MSMEs in their jurisdiction. So far, since 1983, 24 number of National MSME Award function have been organized and awardees have been conferred awards.

The Winners of the National Award have the privilege of using the symbol of the Award in their respective letter heads and their employees can wear labels, pins, ties or other distinctive badges with Award symbol. During the event, 46 awardees were conferred awards under various categories and 4 awards were given to different States and UTs for Outstanding Performance.

Click here for the List of Awardees

80,000 Micro Enterprises to be Assisted in Current Financial year under PMEGP

In a meeting held on 26th February chaired by Shri Nitin Gadkari, Minister of MSME, and Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Finance Minister with senior management of all Banks, some of the key schemes of Ministry of MSME which generate large number of jobs with low capital investment were reviewed. The focus of the meeting was on the Prime Minister’s Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), a flagship scheme of the Ministry of MSME, and Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE). In addition, the issue of restructuring of stressed loans to MSMEs was also discussed to find a way forward to support MSMEs.
PMEGP is a credit linked subsidy scheme which promotes self-employment through setting up of micro enterprises, where subsidy up to 35 percent is provided by the Government through Ministry of MSME for loans up to Rs. 25 lakhs in manufacturing and Rs 10 lakhs in service sector.

Both the Union Ministers commended the work done by the Banks in supporting setting up large number of enterprises under PMEGP over the past years, which has particularly seen a two-fold increase in last Financial Year when more than 73,000 micro enterprises were assisted.

To give further boost to the scheme, the target in the current year has been increased to support the establishments of 80,000 units. In the current year, more than 46,000 units have already been provided with loans by the various Banks and additionally 22,000 loan applications have also been sanctioned and are awaiting disbursement. Banks were requested to release the loans in such approved cases immediately. Besides, the Banks were requested to take up about 1.18 lakh pending loan applications latest by 15th March, with special emphasis on North Eastern Region (NER). CMDs of the Banks, while supporting the scheme, confirmed that they will clear all pending cases by 15th March.

Data analysis of applications rejected by Banks revealed that 11% of the proposals are rejected because the targets given to local banks under PMEGP are met. To address this issue, Banks were requested to increase lending under the scheme and revise their policy of fixing minimum targets so that all eligible applications can be considered for sanction. Similarly, it was found that 11% of the applications are also rejected since the applications received by the banks were outside their service jurisdiction. Accordingly, Banks were also asked to devise a mechanism whereby such application can be automatically transferred to other appropriate branches in the area. A simple procedural change will now ensure that these applications will get considered on merit instead of being rejected summarily. The endeavour of the government is to grant a fair opportunity to every aspiring entrepreneur.

Discussions were also held with Banks on increasing the reach of Credit Guarantee scheme. Government has set a target of increasing credit guarantee to Rs. 50,000 crores under this scheme, which is a jump of about 67% over the last year. The Banks brought out that there is a huge demand under this scheme and they are confident of achieving this target.

One of the major challenges faced by MSMEs is in restructuring stressed loans due to sector related problems or issues with the large industries to which they supply. Finance Minister and Minister of MSME emphasised upon the need for providing support to the MSMEs by suitably restructuring the stressed loans at an early stage. All CMDs agreed to support MSMEs in restructuring their stressed loans. Further they confirmed that in accordance with the Budget announcement, the cut-off date for restructuring of loans to MSMEs has been already extended up to 31st December 2020.

The meeting concluded with the optimism that these initiatives taken for the MSME sector will go a long way in providing support to the sector, thereby increasing employment opportunities. The meeting with Bankers clearly indicates the resolve and efforts of the Government in supporting the MSME sector which is the backbone of the economy.
Ministry of MSME conducted a National Level Awareness Programme (NLAP) 2020 across the Country (17-28 February, 2020)

The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises has launched a National Level Awareness Programme (NLAP) 2020 from February 17, 2020 to February 28, 2020. The main objective of NLAP is to spread awareness about the schemes and activities undertaken by the Ministry and its attached organisations - Office of Development Commissioner (MSME), Khadi & Village Industries Commission, Coir Board, National Small Industries Corporation Limited, National Institute of MSME, MSME Technology Centres, and Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Rural Industrialization.

A total of 126 field offices of the Ministry and its organisations are conducting the awareness programmes across the country to disseminate information amongst students of colleges and educational institutes. During the fortnight awareness drive will be conducted in more than 600 colleges covering almost 60,000 students from all parts of the country.

Through the awareness programme, an attempt is being made by the Ministry of MSME to encourage students/ youth to take up entrepreneurship as their career. Interactive sessions are being held with the students, taking up their queries, doubts about the schemes, and programmes as well as providing solutions to their enquiries. Along with the interactive sessions, the students are also shown audio-video films and presentation on the activities of the Ministry and its organisations, as well as provided details of schemes implemented by the Ministry.
THE HUMAN RACE IS FIGHTING WITH A VIRUS FOR EXISTANCE

The fight against this invisible enemy is though simple but very difficult!

1. **Social Distancing – Washing Hands – Using Mask – Not touching Face**
2. These four simple sounding steps to be taken

**Let us learn to make and use of Homemade Protective Cover for Face & Mouth**

1. We are aware that social distancing and personal hygiene are keys to prevent COVID 19 infections. Certain countries have claimed benefits of homemade face cover for the general public. Such homemade face cover is a good method for maintaining personal hygiene. Such usage certainly will help in maintaining overall hygienic health conditions.

2. Therefore, it is suggested that such people who are not suffering from medical conditions or having breathing difficulties may use the handmade reusable face cover, particularly when they step out of their house. This will help in protecting the community at large.

3. This face cover is not recommended for either health workers or those working with or in contact with COVID 19 patients or are patients themselves as these categories of people are required to wear specified protective gear.

4. It is advised that two sets of such face covers be made so that one can be washed while the other is used. Hand washing would still remain essential criteria and hand should be washed before wearing the face cover. Such face covers should also not be thrown anywhere but kept safely, washed properly with soap and hot water and dried properly before they are used.

5. These face covers could be made out of clean cloth available at home, which needs to be thoroughly cleaned and washed before a face cover is stitched/made. The face cover should be prepared in such a manner that it can cover the mouth and nose completely and can be tied over the face easily.

6. There must not be a sharing of face covers and a face cover must be used by only one individual. So, in a family of several members, each member should have a separate face cover.
Proposed guide is meant to provide a simple outline of best practices to make, use and reuse face covers to enable NGOs and individuals to make face protection themselves.

The key criteria for proposed designs are Ease of Access to Materials, Ease of Making at Home, Ease of Use and Reuse. The homemade face cover should be prepared in such a manner that it can cover the mouth and nose completely and can be tied over the face easily.

This face cover is not recommended for either health workers or those working with or in contact with COVID-19 patients or are patients themselves as these categories of people are required to wear specified protective gear.

Wearing of face covers is especially recommended for people living in densely populated areas across India.

**You can easily make a face cover at home to protect yourself.**

**OPTION 1: MAKE A FACE COVER USING A SEWING MACHINE**

**Things you will need:**

1. **100% cotton material**

   Any used cotton cloth can be used to make this face cover. The colour of the fabric does NOT matter but you must ensure that you wash the fabric well in boiling water for 5 minutes and dry it well before making the face cover. Adding salt to this water is recommended.

2. **Four pieces of cloth strips**

3. **Scissors**

4. **Sewing Machine**

**Begin with cutting fabric:**

1 (a) – Cut cloth for the face cover at the following sizes as required: Adult: 9” x 7”; Child: 7” x 5”

1 (b) – Cut 4 strips for tying and piping from cloth: Two pieces at 1.5” x 5” and Two pieces at 1.5” x 40”.
Your face cover is now ready. Ensure that the face cover fits around your mouth and nose and there is no gap between it and your face. When wearing the face cover, the side facing you
should show the pleats as facing downwards. You must never reverse the face cover for reuse. Always thoroughly wash it after every use following process shown further.

Make sure the face cover fits your face well and there are no gaps on the sides...

1. 
2. 
3. 
4. 
5. 
6. 
7. 
8. 

Remember to still maintain up to 2 meter distance from others at all times, wash your hands thoroughly when back home and do not touch your face or eyes!

Demonstrated by Dr. Gargi Goel, Pediatrician, Rajasthan

OPTION 2: MAKING A FACE COVER AT HOME WITHOUT A SEWING MACHINE

Things you will need:

1.  
   100% Cotton material or a Men’s cotton handkerchief
2.  
   Two rubber bands

Step 1
Fold the handkerchief from one side to little above the middle of the cloth

Step 2
Now fold over the other edge to go above the first fold

Step 3
Fold this again evenly from the middle as shown
IMPORTANT PRECAUTIONS:

Before using the handmade face cover remember:

1. Thoroughly wash and clean the face cover (as shown in next page) before wearing it.
2. Wash your hands thoroughly before wearing the face cover.
3. As soon as the face cover becomes damp or humid, switch to another face cover and clean the used face cover.
4. Never reuse a face cover after single use without cleaning it.
5. Never share the face cover with anyone. Every member in a family should have separate face cover.

When removing the face cover:

- Do not touch the front or any other surface of the face cover, remove it only with strings behind
- For string face cover, always untie the string below and then the string above
- After removal, immediately clean your hands with 65% alcohol-based hand sanitizer or with soap and water for 40 seconds
- Drop it directly into a soap solution or boiling water to which salt has been added

How to Clean and Sanitize your Homemade Face Cover Everyday

1. Thoroughly wash the face cover in soap and warm water and leave it to dry in hot sun for at least 5 hours.

   If you do not have access to the sun, follow Option 2:
2. Place the face cover in water in a pressure cooker and pressure boil it for at least 10 minutes and leave it to dry. Adding salt to the water is recommended. In the absence of a pressure cooker, you may boil the cloth face cover in hot water for 15 minutes.

   If you do not have access to a pressure cooker/boiling water, follow Option 3:

3. Wash and clean with soap and apply heat on the face cover for up to five minutes. (You may use an iron).

   Homemade reusable face covers only reduce the chances of inhaling droplets still in the air from an infected person, they do not give full protection.

   Homemade reusable face covers must be washed and cleaned each day, as instructed.

   Reuse without washing should NEVER be done.

   Never share your face cover with anyone.

   Social distancing must still be maintained.

   **REMEMBER TO WASH YOUR HANDS FREQUENTLY WITH SOAP FOR 20 SECONDS**

   Wearing of face covers is particularly useful in crowded areas.
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA FIGHTS BACK

STEPS TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT OF INDIA TO SUPPORT MSME SECTOR IN FIGHT AGAINST COVID-19 PANDEMIC

1. Portals created by various Ministries and Departments for dissemination of COVID-19 related information for the MSME sector
   i. A dedicated page for COVID-19 related information has been created on DCMSME website: http://dcmsme.gov.in/Awareness_corona.htm
   iii. The Invest India Business Immunity Platform (BIP) for business issues redressal by Ministry of Commerce and Industry is created on: https://www.investindia.gov.in/bip?utm_source=popup

2. Notification by Ministry of Finance on Taxation and other Laws

   In order to give effect to the announcements made by the Union Finance Minister vide Press Release dated 24.03.2020, regarding several relief measures relating to statutory and regulatory compliance matters across sectors in view of COVID-19 outbreak, the govt has brought in an Ordinance on 31.03.2020 which provides for extension of various time limits under the Taxation and Benami Acts. It also provides for extension of time limits contained in the Rules or Notification which are prescribed/issued under these Acts.

   It may be noted that the outbreak of Novel Corona Virus (COVID-19) across many countries of the world has caused immense loss to the lives of people, and accordingly, it has been termed as pandemic by the World Health Organisation and various Governments including Government of India. Social distancing has been unequivocally accepted to be the best way to contain its spread, leading to announcement of complete lockdown in the country. Keeping in view the challenges faced by taxpayers in meeting the compliance requirements under such conditions, the Union Finance Minister had announced several relief measures relating to statutory and regulatory compliance matters across sectors in view of COVID-19 outbreak on 24.03.2020 vide a press release.

   Some of the important features and time limits which get extended by this Ordinance are as under:-

   2.2 Direct Taxes & Benami:
   I. Extension of last date of filing of original as well as revised income-tax returns for the FY 2018-19 (AY 2019-20) to 30th June, 2020.
   II. Extension of Aadhaar-PAN linking date to 30th June, 2020.
   III. The date for making various investment/payment for claiming deduction under Chapter-VIA-B of IT Act which includes Section 80C (LIC, PPF, NSC etc.), 80D (Mediclaim), 80G (Donations), etc. has been extended to 30th June, 2020. Hence
the investment/payment can be made up to 30.06.2020 for claiming the
deduction under these sections for FY 2019-20.

IV. The date for making investment/construction/purchase for claiming roll over
benefit/deduction in respect of capital gains under sections 54 to 54GB of the IT
Act has also been extended to 30th June 2020. Therefore, the investment/
construction/ purchase made up to 30.06.2020 shall be eligible for claiming
deduction from capital gains arising during FY 2019-20.

V. The date for commencement of operation for the SEZ units for claiming
deduction under deduction 10AA of the IT Act has also extended to 30.06.2020
for the units which received necessary approval by 31.03.2020.

VI. The date for passing of order or issuance of notice by the authorities under various
direct taxes& Benami Law has also been extended to 30.06.2020.

VII. It has provided that reduced rate of interest of 9% shall be charged for non-
payment of Income-tax (e.g. advance tax, TDS, TCS) Equalization Levy, Securities
Transaction Tax (STT), Commodities Transaction Tax (CTT) which are due for
payment from 20.03.2020 to 29.06.2020 if they are paid by 30.06.2020. Further, no
penalty/ prosecution shall be initiated for these non-payments.

VIII. Under Vivad se Vishwas Scheme, the date has also been extended up to
30.06.2020. Hence, declaration and payment under the Scheme can be made
up to 30.06.2020 without additional payment.

2.3 Indirect Taxes

I. Last date of furnishing of the Central Excise returns due in March, April and May
2020 has been extended to 30th June,2020.

II. Wherever the last date for filing of appeal, refund applications etc., under the
Central Excise Act, 1944 and rules made thereunder is from 20th March 2020 to
29th June 2020, the same has been extended to30th June 2020.

III. Wherever the last date for filing of appeal, refund applications etc., under the
Customs Act, 1962 and rules made thereunder is from 20th March 2020 to 29th
June 2020, the same has been extended to30th June 2020.

IV. Wherever the last date for filing of appeal etc., relating to Service Tax is from 20th
March 2020 to 29th June 2020, the same has been extended to30th June 2020.

V. The date for making payment to avail of the benefit under Sabka Vishwas Legal
Dispute Resolution Scheme 2019 has been extended to 30th June 2020 thus giving
more time to taxpayers to get their disputes resolved.

In addition to the extension of time limits under the Taxation and Benami Acts as above,
an enabling section has got inserted in the CGST Act, 2017 empowering the Government
to extend due dates for various compliances inter-alia including statement of outward
supplies, filing refund claims, filing appeals, etc. specified, prescribed or notified under the
Act, on recommendations of the GST Council.

2.4 PM CARES FUND

A special fund “Prime Minister’s Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situations Fund
(PM CARES FUND)” has been set up for providing relief to the persons affected from the
outbreak of Corona virus. The Ordinance also amended the provisions of the Income-tax
Act to provide the same tax treatment to PM CARES Fund as available to Prime Minister
National Relief Fund. Therefore, the donation made to the PM CARES Fund shall be eligible
for 100% deduction under section 80G of the IT Act. Further, the limit on deduction of 10%
of gross income shall also not be applicable for donation made to PM CARES Fund.
As the date for claiming deduction u/s 80G under IT Act has been extended up to 30.06.2020, the donation made up to 30.06.2020 shall also be eligible for deduction from income of FY 2019-20. Hence, any person including corporate paying concessional tax on income of FY 2020-21 under new regime can make donation to PM CARES Fund up to 30.06.2020 and can claim deduction u/s 80G against income of FY 2019-20 and shall also not lose his eligibility to pay tax in concessional taxation regime for income of FY 2020-21.

3. Notification by Ministry of Corporate Affairs on “Companies Fresh Start Scheme, 2020”

3.1 Ministry of Corporate Affairs introduces the “Companies Fresh Start Scheme, 2020” and revised the “LLP Settlement Scheme, 2020” to provide relief to law abiding companies and Limited Liability Partnerships (LLPs) in the wake of COVID 19

In pursuance of the Government of India’s efforts to provide relief to law abiding companies and Limited Liability Partnerships (LLPs) in the wake of COVID 19, the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA), has introduced the “Companies Fresh Start Scheme, 2020” and revised the “LLP Settlement Scheme, 2020” which is already in vogue to provide a first of its kind opportunity to both companies and LLPs to make good any filing related defaults, irrespective of duration of default, and make a fresh start as a fully compliant entity.

The Fresh Start scheme and modified LLP Settlement Scheme incentivise compliance and reduce compliance burden during the unprecedented public health situation caused by COVID-19. The USP of both the schemes is a one-time waiver of additional filing fees for delayed filings by the companies or LLPs with the Registrar of Companies during the currency of the Schemes, i.e. during the period starting from 1st April, 2020 and ending on 30th September, 2020.

The Schemes, apart from giving longer timelines for corporates to comply with various filing requirements under the Companies Act 2013 and LLP Act, 2008, significantly reduce the related financial burden on them, especially for those with long standing defaults, thereby giving them an opportunity to make a “fresh start”. Both the Schemes also contain provision for giving immunity from penal proceedings, including against imposition of penalties for late submissions and also provide additional time for filing appeals before the concerned Regional Directors against imposition of penalties, if already imposed.

However, the immunity is only against delayed filings in MCA21 and not against any substantive violation of law.

Details of the both the Schemes may be perused from the Circulars dated 30.03.2020, issued by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs.

4. Notification by Ministry of Food Processing Industries on Task Force

4.1 Food Processing ministry forms Task Force in the wake of Covid-19 to resolve problems of industry: Harsimrat Kaur Badal

Union Food Processing Industries Minister Smt. Harsimrat Kaur Badal assured industry representatives that a dedicated Task Force had been established to resolve all problems being faced by the food processing and ancillary industries during the current Covid-19 lockdown.

In a video conference with major industry associations such as CII, FICCI, ASSOCHAM, PHDCCI, AIFPA, ICC, FINER and DICCI today, the Union minister said the Task Force included all senior officials of the food processing ministry and members of Invest India. She said the team had already received 222 issues out of which 98 had been resolved and the rest were under process of resolution.
During the video conference, industry representatives told Smt. Harsimrat Badal that though directions had been sent to all State governments about the need for allowing the manufacturing and movement of essential items, they were being interpreted in different ways by the State governments. They stressed the need for uniform format for all States regarding manufacture and movement of food products. The representatives shared the problems related to factory shutdown, permission to operate warehouses, personnel movement and logistic disruption. The industry representatives said that required labour was not available for smooth manufacturing and that there was a shortage of transport also. They further urged that ‘kirana stores’ be allowed to open across the country to ensure the forward linkage was established.

FPI Minister said talks would be initiated with the transport unions to ensure smooth supply of food material and access to raw materials by the food processing industry.

She assured industry representatives that she would review all suggestions and grievances submitted by them to the task force.

5. Notification by Ministry of Corporate Affairs on CIRP Regulations

5.1 IBBI amends CIRP Regulations to provide relief in corporate insolvency resolution process due to COVID-19 outbreak

To address this difficulty faced by the lockdown due to COVID-19, the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) amended the CIRP Regulations to provide that the period of lockdown imposed by the Central Government in the wake of COVID-19 outbreak shall not be counted for the purposes of the time-line for any activity that could not be completed due to the lockdown, in relation to a corporate insolvency resolution process. This would, however, be subject to the overall time-limit provided in the Code.

The IBBI amended the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (Insolvency Resolution Process for Corporate Persons) Regulations, 2016 (CIRP Regulations) on 29th March 2020.

The Government of India has declared a lockdown of twenty-one days with effect from 25th March, 2020 as a measure to combat and contain the spread of COVID-19. It is difficult for the insolvency professionals to continue to conduct the process, for members of committee of creditors to attend the meetings, and for prospective resolution applicants to prepare and submit resolution plans, during the period of lockdown. Therefore, it may be difficult to complete various activities during a corporate insolvency resolution process within the timelines specified in the CIRP Regulations.

The amended regulations are effective from 29th March 2020. These are available at www.mca.gov.in and www.ibbi.gov.in.

6 Notification by Ministry of Home Affairs on Movement of Essential Goods & Services

6.1 MHA to States: Unhindered Movement of Essential Goods & Services to be ensured during Nationwide Lockdown to fight COVID19

Union Ministry of Home Affairs has written to the States/UTs to ensure unhindered movement of essential goods & services during the nationwide lockdown to fight COVID—19.

All States/UTs have been advised to set up 24*7 control rooms/helplines to protect essential service providers from any unwarranted stigmatization.

Official communication to States provided on: [Click the Link]
7 Notification by Ministry of Labour and Employment on Amendment in EPF Scheme

7.1 Union Labour Ministry notifies amendment in EPF Scheme to allow withdrawal of non-refundable advance by EPF members in the event of outbreak of pandemic

EPFO directs its field offices to process claims promptly

Union Ministry of Labour and Employment has issued notification GSR 225(E) amending EPF Scheme 1952 to allow withdrawal of non-refundable advance by EPF members/subscribers in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic in the country. The notification permits withdrawal of upto the amount of basic wages and dearness allowance for three months or upto 75% of the amount standing to member's credit in the EPF account, whichever is less, in the event of outbreak of epidemic or pandemic.

COVID-19 has been declared pandemic by appropriate authorities for the entire country and therefore employees working in establishments and factories across entire India, who are members of the EPF Scheme, 1952 are eligible for the benefits of non-refundable advance. A sub-para(3) under para 68L has been inserted in the EPF scheme,1952. The amended scheme Employees Provident Fund (Amendment) scheme,2020 has come into force from 28 March,2020.

Following the notification, EPFO has issued directions to its field offices for promptly processing any applications received from EPF members to help them fight the situation. In its communication EPFO has stated that officers and staff must process claims of EPF subscribers promptly so that relief reaches the worker and his family to help them fight with COVID-19.

8 Notification by Ministry of Commerce & Industry on Business Immunity Platform

8.1 Platform is helping businesses get real-time updates on India’s response to COVID-19

The Invest India Business Immunity Platform, hosted on the website of Invest India, (https://www.investindia.gov.in/bip?utm_source=popup), India’s National Investment Promotion & Facilitation Agency, under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry is working 24X7 as a comprehensive resource to help businesses and investors get real-time updates on India’s active response to COVID-19 (Coronavirus). The platform launched on 21st March, 2020 has received over 1.75 lakh visitors from 50+ countries by 10 A.M. today. There are 423 Government advisories and notification on the website, along with 205 Blogs, info-graphics, videos and resources. Most searched term on the website was “donations for COVID”.

The Business Immunity Platform (BIP) is the active platform for business issue redressal, with a team of dedicated sector experts who respond to queries at the earliest. Invest India has also announced a partnership with SIDBI (Small Industries Development Bank of India) for responding and resolving queries for MSMEs.

This dynamic and constantly updating platform keeps a regular track on developments with respect to the virus, provides latest information on various central and state government initiatives, gives access to special provisions, and answers and resolves queries through emails and on WhatsApp. So far, it has received 845 business support queries, out of which 614 have already been resolved. The queries were mostly on Logistics, notifications, Customs issues, plant shutdowns and clarifications.

BIP has launched ‘Joining the Dots’ campaign to procure essential healthcare supplies. It is also facilitating matchmaking to fill the demand-supply shortages of essential equipment to combat COVID-19. In its Stakeholder outreach activities, about 2000 Global and domestic corporates and stakeholders have been contacted. On the website, 120+ applications have been received from 17 states on ‘Startup challenge: Solutions to combat COVID-19’. It
organized special conference call with US Financial Services Companies, with focus on identification and resolution of business continuity issues due to lockdowns in the country. Webinar has been organized on ‘Business Continuity for Startups amidst COVID19’ with a panel of industry stalwarts and other stakeholders. Discussion was held on prospective funding and support: opportunities for startups during COVID19, and shift to Work from home model. A special conference call was held with the American Life Sciences Companies to discuss issues faced by them during the lockdowns, and how to resolve them.

9 Notification by Ministry of Power on Major Relief Measures for Power Sector

9.1 Union Power Ministry committed to ensure 24×7 electricity supply during lockdown. Payment security to be reduced by 50 percent. Directions issued to CERC to provide three months’ moratorium on Discoms to make payment to Gencos and transmission and no penalty on late payment; States requested to issue similar directions to SERCs.

Despite the lockdown imposed to contain the spread of the COVID 19 pandemic, the whole workforce of the power sector – generation, transmission, distribution and system operations - is working round the clock to keep all homes and establishments lighted. Shri R.K.Singh, the Union Minister of Power, has said that in this time of crisis, the Ministry of Power is committed to provide 24x7 supply of electricity to all consumers.

Around 70% of power generation is from coal-based power plants. In order to maintain the continuity of supply of coal by domestic coal companies and transportation by railways, the ministry is in touch with the Ministries of Railways and Coal.

Due to the lockdown, consumers are unable to pay their dues to the Distribution Companies (Discoms). This has affected the liquidity position of the Discoms thereby impairing their ability to pay to the generating and transmission companies. In this context, Shri Singh has approved significant relief measures for power sector. The following decisions have been taken to ease the liquidity problems of the Discoms –

i. CPSU Generation / Transmission Companies will continue supply/ transmission of electricity even to Discoms which have large outstanding dues to the Generation / Transmission companies. During the present emergency there will be no curtailment of supply to any DISCOM.

ii. Till 31st May 2020 the payment security mechanism to be maintained by the Distribution Companies with the Generating Companies for dispatch of power shall be reduced by fifty percent.

iii. Directions have been issued to the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission to provide a moratorium of three months to Discoms to make payments to generating companies and transmission licensees and not to levy penal rates of late payment surcharge. State Governments are being requested to issue similar directions to State Electricity Regulatory Commissions.

10. Notification by Ministry of Commerce & Industry on Control Room to Monitor Status of Transportation and Delivery of Goods, Manufacturing and Delivery of Essential Commodities

10.1 DPIIT sets up a Control Room to monitor the status of transportation and delivery of goods, manufacturing, and delivery of essential commodities.

Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, has set up a control room to monitor in real time the status of transportation and delivery of goods, manufacturing, delivery of essential commodities
to common man and the difficulties being faced by various stakeholders during the lockdown period from 25.3.2020 to 14.4.2020. In the event of any manufacturing, transporter, distributor, wholesaler or e-commerce companies facing ground level difficulties in transportation and distribution of goods or mobilization of resources, the same may be informed to the Department at the following telephone number/email:

Telephone : + 91 11 23062487
Email : controlroom-dpiit@gov.in

The telephone number will be functional from 8 AM to 6 PM. The issues reported by various stakeholders will be taken up by the Department with the concerned state government, district and police authorities, and other concerned agencies.

During the lockdown period because of Covid-19 (Coronavirus) epidemic, you are requested to stay wherever you are. In case you are stranded or you are not able to manage food, you may call the Call Centres below:

[Please call the local call centre numbers like 104 from within the state]

West Bengal Districts

1. ALIPURDUAR 03564257081 / 03564253637
2. BANKURA 03242254735
3. BIRBHUM 03462255572
4. CDODCHBEHAR 0359227114
5. DAKSHIN DINAJPUR 03522255020
6. DARJEELING 03542255749
7. HODGOHY 03326812652 / 03326800115
8. HOWRAH 03326413393 / 03326413398
9. JALPAIGURI 03561230780 / 03733936815
10. JHARGARM 03221258228
11. KALIMPONG 03552256353 / 03123784375
12. MALDA 03512252058
13. MURSHIDABAD 03482250135
14. NADIA 03772252106
15. NORTH 24 PARGANAS 03325840280 / 03325846287
16. PACHIM BURDWAN 03412254545
17. PASCHIM MEDINIPUR 03222257589 / 03163021465
18. PURBA BURDWAN 03422665092 / 0333333452
19. PURBA MEDINIPUR 03228263728 / 03073939804
20. PURULIA 03252223875
21. SOUTH 24-PARGANAS 03324399247 / 03324795029 / 03324795030
22. UTTAR DINAJPUR 03523246153 / 03438379424
23. KOLKATA 03322261212 / 03322261313 / 0332363572

West Bengal Health Department Helpline No. 1800313444222 / 03323412600
Traffic Head Quarters Control Room 9073980144
Lalbazar Traffic Control Room 9836994814
Control room for Agriculture, vegetables & fish 03324430037
Transport Department Control Room (for Emergency Service staff only)
North Bengal 6290246556
South Bengal 7699939303
Kolkata area 03322360463 / 03322488023
COVID-19 – Regulatory Package from RBI

(i) **Rescheduling of Payments – Term Loan (TL)**
   b. Repayment schedule will be shifted across the board by 3 months after the moratorium period.
   c. Interest shall continue to accrue on the outstanding portion of the TL during Moratorium Period

(ii) **Rescheduling of Payments – Working Capital (WC) Facilities (CC/OD)**
   a. Deferment of the recovery of interest during the period from March 1, 2020 upto May 31, 2020.
   b. The accumulated accrued interest shall be recovered immediately after the completion of this period.

(iii) **Easing of Working Capital Financing**
   a. Relief in recalculation of the ‘drawing power’ by reducing the margins and/or by reassessing the working capital cycle (effected up to May 31, 2020)
   b. Accounts provided relief shall be subject to subsequent supervisory review with regard to their justifiability on account of the economic fallout from COVID-19.

(iv) **Classification as Special Mention Account (SMA) and Non-Performing Asset (NPA)**
   a. Moratorium / Deferment / Recalculation (as above) shall not result in asset classification downgrade of the borrower.
   b. The asset classification of term loans shall be determined on the basis of revised due dates and the revised repayment schedule.
   c. Working capital facilities where relief is provided, the SMA and the out of order status shall be evaluated considering the application of accumulated interest immediately after the completion of the deferment period as well as the revised terms.
   d. The rescheduling of payments, including interest, will not qualify as a default for the purposes of supervisory reporting and reporting to Credit Information Companies (CICs).
   e. CICs shall ensure that the actions taken by lending institutions pursuant to the above announcements do not adversely impact the credit history of the beneficiaries.
Managing Cashflows

i. **Addressing your immediate payment and servicing of OD/WC concern:**

a. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has come with a regulatory package on March 27, 2020 to address similar problems. Since yours is an OD facility, in such cases, lending institutions are permitted to defer recovery of interest applied for March 01 – May 31, 2020 in all such cases and accumulated interest shall be recovered after the completion of the period. Further, those borrowers with WC/OD facing stress from economic fallout of the pandemic, lending institutions are guided to recalculate the drawing power by reducing the margin and/or by reassessing the WC cycle.

b. Please also note that such rescheduling of payments do not qualify as default for supervisory reporting and reporting to credit information companies.

c. In case you have any EMIIs, etc. those too can be looked at under these guidelines.

ii. **Liquidity management:**

a. The primary challenge in such times is to manage available cash and create avenues to generate cash.

b. To manage available cash, streamline your expenses. Reduce or postpone expenses which are not essential now – one way could be to draw out a list of expenses and put them in buckets like ‘expenses that can’t be postponed’, ‘expenses that can be postponed’, ‘expenses that can be reduced’ and try to ration the available resources.

c. Cash is generated from existing resources and from existing small assets as well (FDs, NSCs, gold, etc.) which businesses and individuals create active economic times when there are surplus incomes. The point is once the initial period is handled and situations stabilise, your regular cash flows shall enable you to once again create such assets. Please remember all of us create assets in times of surplus only to handle emergencies and this is a unique emergency.

d. You can request some of your service providers for staggered payments or for a postponement of payments.

e. You can also approach a lending institution (your existing lender or a small finance bank which specialise in lending to small businesses) for emergency cash flow – but please bear in mind that while a new loan will bring in cash, it will also bring the interest burden which demands cash outgo. Be also very clear about the loan servicing required and your ability to take care of it. Ideally, this is best resorted to – if at all - when situation becomes clearer and activities restart and are stable.
f. You may also explore [www.psbloansin59minutes.com](http://www.psbloansin59minutes.com) where, if eligible, you can gain from multiple bank options. You can also try some other Fintech platforms also.

g. Please note that the most important thing is to control cash outgo while finding ways to generate new cash.

iii. **Look at new avenues:**

a. While your industry may have been affected, once the lockdown is over, there will be a gradual return to economic activities with movement of people/goods for emergencies, migration, etc. Even during lockdown certain emergency services are required and small enterprises that provide them will continue to have access to some income flow. Providing streamlined and affordable services in such times to targetted sections could be a way to generate incomes.

iv. **Start-ups looking for Funds**

a. Govt cannot directly fund start-ups as they will be then co-owners with the promoters which is not permitted under constitution.

b. Govt has therefore created fund of funds for start-ups which is administered through SIDBI. Under this venture funds are provided support which is used for providing equity to start-ups.

c. **The list of supported funds along with contact details are available in SIDBI website.** [http://www.sidbivcf.in/en/commitments](http://www.sidbivcf.in/en/commitments)

d. You may go through the list and find from their respective site as to their objective and reach them directly with a copy to SIDBI.

e. SIDBI also conducts regular interaction with the venture funds through its program (Investor Day / LetsPartner). You may also participate in such meets for finding potential investors.

f. You may also reach out to Indian angel network whose fund has also been supported by SIDBI.

g. If after writing to such funds and you don’t get response you may reach out to SIDBI for possible intervention as the decision is independently taken by funds based on merits,

We certainly wish you the very best in overcoming the situation and that at the end of it, your enterprise will only grow stronger than earlier.
• Weekly Roster of 50% of Gr. “B” and Gr. “C” staff made prior to Lock down

• Awareness was created among the staff including contractual staff and security personnel on the importance of maintaining social distancing and maintaining hygiene by washing hands and wearing masks. To make the same effective, masks, sanitizers, tissues were distributed among all staff members including contractual staff. Sufficient handwash lotion was ensured in all wash rooms

• The three very important directives from GeM have been disseminated to all DNOs for further transmission to MSE level. The directives are :- A] Creation of more than 50+ categories related to health emergency items and swift on-boarding of sellers under these categories B) Enabling shorter bid duration in these categories and C) Facilitating a higher order conversion and decline in rates of non-delivery in direct purchase and L-1 orders by forcing sellers to update both their stock position and delivery locations.

• Massive Awareness campaign started through E- mode of communication viz. WhatsApp, Facebook, Twitter, Emails and E newsletter

• “MSME handbook” published by SIDBI covering Regulatory package from RBI widely circulated.

• We also circulated COMPENDIUM OF STEPS TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT OF INDIA TO SUPPORT MSME SECTOR IN FIGHT AGAINST COVID-19 PANDEMIC published by DC (MSME)

• A brief of measures (Including GST) recently announced by Hon’ble FM has been circulated through E modes.

• Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (IOCL), Haldia requested us to provide details of at least 5 quality manufacturers for the essential items. A list of some MSE units/vendors (10 Nos. collected so far) engaged in manufacturing masks, sanitizers, soap, detergent etc. was forwarded to them for Procurement from MSEs.

• 8 NOS questionnaires as received from Exporters are forwarded to ASSOCHAM for WEBINAR being arranged on 11/4/20 to be attended by Sri Vinit Kumar, Chairman, Port Trust and Sri P K Agarwal, Chief Commissioner, Kolkata Customs Zone

• Podcast attended online with 7 nos. of Enterprises to clarify UAM & PP policy. Delayed payment taken up with Andrew Yule (CPSU) for 1 unit.

• Database updated up to 39 units so far related to supply of COVID19 related items.
OUR APPEAL TO ALL MSMEs, ASSOCIATIONS and OTHER STAKEHOLDERS

- We invite proposals from MSMEs/Associations willing to contribute or market their products & services and further assistance and/or Handholding needed. At this hour of crisis.

- Based on this initiative, we are already receiving responses from the Enterprises. We appeal for your quick responses. We are now preparing a database of MSEs for urgent supply of various medical and healthcare Products & Services.

- We appeal to all PSUs to release outstanding payments to the MSEs to save them from acute crunch of Capital.

- We appeal to Banks and Financial Institutions to expedite loan proposals based on the merit of the cases.

- We appeal to all concerned to fully utilise online platforms where ever available for mitigating problem areas and issues of Market, Finance, Technological assistance, Reimbursements etc.

- We appeal all to have positive mental framework and work in unison to tide over this crisis. Together we hope to win over.
District Level Artisan Awardees with Sri Satyen Lama, Director (Admn.), O/o DC(MSME), New Delhi along with Officers of MSME-DI, Kolkata.

Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises - Development Institute
111-112, B. T. Road, Kolkata –700108
Phone 033-25770597/98
director@msmedikolkata.gov.in, dcdi-kolkatta@dcmsme.gov.in
www.msmedikolkata.gov.in