<u>Jalandhar Buyer Seller Meet cum Exhibition</u> <u>28th & 29th September-2016</u>

After the year 2000, IFCOMA organized its second Buyers Seller Meet cum Exhibition at Jalandhar on 28th & 29th September-2016. This was the 41st BSM in the series of events conducted by IFCOMA so far. The BSM was conducted at Hotel Kings, GT Road, Jalandhar with the esteem support of Council for Leather Exports, Punjab Leather Federation and Sports Goods Manufacturers & Exporters Association Jalandhar.

The BSM was inaugurated on 28th September by Shri Harbhupinder Singh Nanda, IAS, Commissioner Jalandhar along with Shri JS Paul, President Punjab Leather Federation (PLF) and Shri Ajaya Mahajan, Chairman Sports Goods Manufacturers & Exporters Association (SGMEA) Jalandhar along with Shri Vipin Mahajan, Secretary General of SGMEA and Industrialists from Jalandhar Footwear & Sports Goods Industry.

In his key note address to the BSM gathering the Chief Guest Shri Nanda appreciated the initiative taken by IFCOMA and expressed that the Footwear and leather Industry needs to be encouraged with better infrastructure and introduction of a footwear park in Jalandhar with active participation of the local industry. He assured that he will recommend to the State Govt for taking adequate steps to improvise on the facilities required by the Industry at large. He emphasized that the Industry in Jalandhar has to play a vital role to bring up the issues that are hampering the growth and the administration will look into the remedy.

The Guests of honour Shri JS Paul & Shri Ajaya Mahajan appreciated the idea of the Buyer Seller meet introduced by IFCOMA. Shri JS Paul stressed that Industry will be more active is such events are held frequently. Shri Ajaya Mahajan said that he was moved by the initiative of IFCOMA to conduct the Buyer Seller meet at Jalandhar. He felt that this event will also benefit the Sports goods manufacturers as a number of components on display are being used the Sports Industry as well. He wished good luck to all the participants.

The Second Buyer Seller meet cum exhibition was inaugurated by lighting of the lamp by the Chief Guest and the dignitaries present. The event was declared open by cutting of ribbon by the Chief Guest Shri Harbhupinder Singh Nanda.

The BSM was highly appreciated by the Local Industry and they felt that the event will be of immense help to the local manufacturers as they could see the technical upgradation that has taken place in the component Industry. The BSM gave the Industry a wide exposure on newly developed components and machinery.

About 40 companies took part in this BSM and exhibited their products/components during the event. More than 300 Shoe manufacturers form Jalandhar, Ludhiana, Amritsar, Chandigarh and adjoining areas came to the see the exhibition and around 200 artisans were attracted to the two days event .The visitors were highly impressed by the Quality of the Components that were on display and requested IFCOMA to make arrangements on frequent basis so that the Industry is benefitted with the latest developments taking place in the Industry.

Overall the exhibition drew a handsome response and the Jalandhar Footwear manufacturers appreciated the initiative of IFCOMA. PLF & SGMEA supported the cause whole heartedly and insisted that this event should become an annual affair in the city with more participation from Leather & Sports goods Industry.