

Two-Day GSTF International Seminar Begins in Kishangarh

Kishangarh, January 9

The 10th edition of the Global Stone Technology Forum (GSTF) was inaugurated on January 9, 2025, at the Kishangarh Marble Association Auditorium. The event was inaugurated by lighting the ceremonial lamp by Rajasthan's Minister of Industries, Shri Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore, Minister of Water Resources, Shri Suresh Singh Rawat, Laghu Udyog Bharati's National Organization Minister Shri Prakash Chand, National Secretary Shri Naresh Pareek, Kishangarh Marble Association President Shri Sudhir Jain, GSTF Convener Shri Natwarlal Ajmera, CDOS Vice Chairman Shri Rakesh Gupta, and CDOS CEO Shri Mukul Rastogi. Guests were welcomed with bouquets, saplings, shawls, and mementos.

Key Points from the Minister of Industries:

Shri Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore announced that the practice of auctioning land in Rajasthan's industrial areas would be discontinued. Instead, land for businesses would now be directly allotted by RIICO. Highlighting the Investment Promotion Policy 2024, he said that the government aims to increase Rajasthan's economy from ₹15 lakh crore to ₹30 lakh crore. He emphasized the importance of digital transformation, research and development, and creating wealth from waste in advancing industries.

Key Points from the Minister of Water Resources:

Shri Suresh Singh Rawat stated that efforts are underway to bring water to Kishangarh and other parts of Rajasthan through the Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project (ERCP). He highlighted the historical and cultural significance of Kishangarh, renowned worldwide for its stone miniature paintings and craftsmanship.

Assurance from RIICO's Managing Director:

RIICO's Managing Director, Shri Inderjeet Singh, IAS, assured the industries of RIICO's support and stated that the government is committed to implementing all MoUs on the ground without compromise.

Details of the Technical Sessions:

1. First Session (12:15 PM to 1:30 PM):

The session, titled "Innovations in Value Creation: Transforming Stone Industry Waste into Opportunities," featured presentations by Shri Rajesh Kumar Sharma (CBRI, Roorkee) on "Sustainable Technology Innovation," Dr. Ravindra Nagar (MNIT) on "Utilization of Stone Waste for Sustainable Building Materials," and Shri Hari Mohan Sharma (Siri Maharaja Granites) on "The Art of Enhancing the Surface of Natural Stones."

2. Second Session (2:30 PM to 4:00 PM):

The session, titled “Advanced Technologies in Stone Processing: Tools for the Future,” included talks by Shri Yashwant Sharma (Shri Bhagwati Machines) on “Multi-Wire Machinery and New Processing Techniques,” Shri Emmanuel D. Walker (Celanese) on “Latest Surface Technologies,” and Italy’s Shri Piero Bettini and Shri Sam Javadi on robotic and advanced stone processing technologies.

3. Third Session (4:15 PM to 5:45 PM):

The session, titled “Global Growth: Export Promotion, Policies, and Skilling in the Stone Industry,” featured presentations by Shri Pankaj Rao (Rajasthan Export Promotion Council), Smt. Shilpa Gokhuru (Department of Industries), and Shri Mohammad Kalam (NSDC) on relevant policies and initiatives.

Special Presence and Conclusion:

The program was conducted by Laghu Udyog Bharati’s former National Treasurer, Shri Yogesh Gautam. The exhibition was inaugurated with a ribbon-cutting ceremony, showcasing 24 stalls featuring the latest technologies and government schemes. The event witnessed participation from 500 entrepreneurs from across the country. Distinguished guests included Kishangarh Municipality Chairman Dinesh Singh Rathore, Sub-Divisional Officer Nisha Saharan, and representatives from various units of Laghu Udyog Bharati.

The Global Stone Technology Forum 2025 serves as a significant platform for fostering innovation, technological advancement, and export promotion in the stone industry. For more details, contact the Center for Development of Stones (CDOS), Kishangarh.