

## **Workshops for Development of Skills and Use of Appropriate Technology**

### **Vision**

Craft as vibrant tradition and a continuously evolving industry.

### **Background**

Evolution and growth are essential to a vibrant industry. Without these, industry is bound to saturate and stagnate until it becomes irrelevant to society. Traditional Indian crafts have lasted this far because of their intrinsic strength to adapt. Yet they face the threat of stagnation and irrelevance in the face of negligence to research and development, which is a basic need of any industry.

The Crafts Council of India has been working tirelessly in the areas of skill, technique and technology upgrades since its inception. The latest series has been in power tools for stone carvers, finishing techniques for wood carvers, natural dyes on natural fibres and product design and presentation for non-conventional jewellery.

### **Objective**

To upgrade the skills and technology used by the craftsman, combining both traditional and modern knowledge.

### **The plan**

To continue to address the need for crafts to upgrade themselves, and to provide learning opportunities for craftspeople through relevant workshops.

### **The process**

- Take up skill development for the craftspeople in all the geographical pockets in which a craft is practiced.
- Identify and appoint the resource persons (Indian and international) required for each of the crafts.
- Draw up a strategy for spreading the particular new skill in all the pockets including a strategy to increase the participation of the craftspeople.
- Plan one workshop for each selected craft every year. The process of the workshop will include survey of the region and identification of the craftspeople willing to attend the workshop.

**Invitation**

We invite individuals and organisations like you to participate in the development of the traditional crafts of our country. You can sponsor a candidate for a workshop with a donation of Rs.2,500, or a whole workshop for 15 days for 30 craftspeople with Rs.10,00,000.

For more information, contact us at...

**For Box item**

This is what Narendra Kumar Verma, a stone carver from Agra had to say about the workshops organized by CCI for stone craft: "Until some years back stone carvers have been doing traditional work. People had got tired of seeing traditional work. Carvers did not know about international taste. When CCI organized the Stone Tech Programme, carvers learnt new things." CCI has completed 7 workshops introducing power and pneumatic tools to the stone carvers to reduce the drudgery portion of their work.