

## Rs 4.53-cr handicraft clusters coming up in Srinagar

22/12/2018. The CEO ERA / JTFRP, Dr. Raghav Langer, visited Solina Silk Factory wherein Officer was shown various sections of the Filature which has been established way back in 1939.

Jammu and Kashmir Government is developing projects for the development of two handicraft clusters for embroidery and papier mâché at Noor Bagh and Zadibal at a cost of Rs 2.39 crore and Rs 2.18 crore..

The project has been taken up under restoration and strengthening of livelihood component of the World Bank funded Jhelum Tawi Flood Recovery Project and Department of Industries and Commerce is the project implementation agency for the component.

Dr. Raghav Langer was informed that so far comprehensive skill assessment of the artisans skilled in the traditional crafts of embroidery (crewel, chain-stitch) and papier mâché has been done and artisan have been categorised according to their level of skill by the consultants. It was revealed that the department now focuses on the upgradation of the skills of the artisans, for which recently a workshop was organised wherein the artisans were imparted latest trainings on product design and colour schemes to be adopted while designing a product. It will be followed by providing artisans with improved market linkages with assured supply order worth Rs 3 crores for each to provide them with platforms to participate and exhibit their crafts in major exhibitions. The creation of artisan database and creation civil infrastructure in the handicrafts clusters areas is also included in the overall project.

Later, the CEO ERA / JTFRP also visited Solina Silk Factory wherein Officer was shown various sections of the Filature which has been established way back in 1939. A consultancy services for preserving the heritage value of the unit its landscaping and exploring opportunities for setting up of the Haat in the premises is also being carried out under the project.