## Vendors' Meet for SC / ST and Women Entrepreneurs



A Special Vendor Development Programme for MSE -SC / ST Vendors and MSE - Women Entrepreneurs was organised by MRPL at AJ Grand Hotel, Mangaluru on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023 in association with MSME-DFO, Mangaluru.

Dakshina Kannada Dist. SC/ST Industrialist Association (DKSC/STIA), Mangalore participated in the program as a special invitee.

MSME-SC/ST vendors and Women Entrepreneurs from all over Karnataka and other States participated in the programme. More than 90 vendor representatives and several officials from both MSME-DFO and DKSC/STIA were present.

Senior officials from MRPL, Shri TM Pai, GGM (Materials), Shri VNS Venkatramana, GGM (Projects), Shri Sanjay Meswani, CGM (Materials), Shri Devaraj K, Deputy Director (MSME), Shri. Mohanaggaya Swami, President, DK District SC / ST Industrialist Association were among the dignitaries who graced the occasion. MRPL's MSEWA members participated in the programme as special invitees.

The Programme was inaugurated by dignitaries and senior MRPL officials, subsequent to playing MRPL theme song followed by lighting of the lamp.

Smt. Deekshitha Jogi, Junior Officer (Materials) delivered the Welcome address. Shri. Sanjay Meswani, CGM (Materials) gave an overview of the meet and need to increase special category participation in Tenders.

Shri Devaraj K, Deputy Director (MSME), briefed on the benefits and opportunities available for the SC/ST Vendors and Women Entrepreneurs. Shri. Mohanaggaya Swami, President, DK District SC / ST Industrialist Association shared his experience in developing special category vendors.

Shri Shailendra Kumar Tiwari, Engineer (Procurement) and Ms Surekha, Officer (Materials) presented Overview & Initiatives at Material Management / Procurement procedures in MRPL. Shri. Anom Bhaskar Sontakke, Manager (Materials) and Shri Nagaraj Bhat, Chief Manager (Materials) gave a presentation on avenues for MSE SC/ST vendors, Shri Sampath Rai, Sr. Manager (Materials) gave presentation on GeM Procedures. All the presentations were done in bi/tri-lingual combinations of English, Kannada and Tulu languages, which was applauded by the audience, who were majority local vendors.

A Presentation session was also held by Smt. Shruthi GK, Asst. Director (MSME-DFO), Mangalore, wherein various schemes & opportunities available for MSME vendors, for participation in Public Tenders, were explained.

There was active participation by many vendors in an interactive Q&A session, during which several queries were clarified. Many of the vendors sought details / clarifications on facilities / advantages available to MSME – SC/ST/Women vendors.

Smt. Yogini, Manager (Materials) proposed the vote of thanks in Kannada and Shri Nagaraj Bhat, Chief Manager (Materials) compered the programme.

Materials in coordination with Administration and Corporate Communication departments organised the meet. Active participation by SC ST vendors and women entrepreneurs, some of them were Start-ups, together ensured the programme a grand success.

Please scroll below to watch the glimpses of this special vendor meet.







