Subject: Participation of Cultural Troupes/Artisans of Foreign Countries for 32nd Surajkund International Crafts Mela 2nd - 18th Feb. 2018

Dear [Name]

I take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude for the continuous initiative, support and cooperation of the various Divisions of MEA, GOI for having recommended and facilitating the participation of Cultural Troupes and Artisans in the 31st Surajkund International Crafts Mela held from 1st to 15th Feb. 2017.

With the cordial association and contribution by the Ministries of Tourism, External Affairs, Culture and Textiles, GOI. The Mela is scaling new heights year by year. This year 22 foreign countries contributed to a good number of 224 foreign participants which would not have been made possible without your considerate support. The participation of foreign countries has now become the integral part of Surajkund Mela. This year the mela was visited by 1.2 million visitors.

The Surajkund Mela Authority is gearing up for the 32nd Edition of the Mela which will now be organised from 2nd to 18th, February, 2018 as per revised schedule. To begin with I would like to make a timely request so as to provide sufficient lead time to institutionalise the participation of the potential countries interested to participate. Your further support is solicited to recommend the participation by writing to the concerned Indian Missions abroad and High Commissions/ Embassies in Delhi falling under your jurisdiction. A background note on Surajkund International Crafts Mela is attached for reference.

It is proposed that each participating country may sponsor a Cultural Troupe consisting of 10-15 artistes to perform in the open stage especially designated for the cultural performances. In addition 3-4 artisans along with 1 helper each having different craft to showcase and sell their crafts in the specially created working huts (8ft x 10ft area approximately).

contd......2/-
As per the prevailing practice, the Surajkund Mela Authority/ Haryana Tourism would be happy to provide Boarding, Lodging and Local Transportation for Airport transfers Free of cost during the participation. Needless to say that due courtesies and protocol would be extended to the visiting dignitaries of the participating Nations. Adequate publicity will be done through the Electronic and Print Media for the promotion of Crafts, Culture and Cuisine of the participants.

It is requested that the communications forwarded by your good office to the Indian Mission abroad recommending the participation may kindly be shared so as to follow up with them at your end and also to respond to the queries and informations from time to time directly with the Indian High Commissions abroad through our Delhi Office. In order to keep a speedy follow up all the communications may kindly be shared among the concerned Officers of the Surajkund Mela Authority as mentioned below.

1. Managing Director, Haryana Tourism cum Chief Administrator, Surajkund Mela Authority, SCO 17-19, Sector 17-B, Chandigarh-160017 (U.T). Tel. 0172-2704889 Fax 0172-2702783. Email: mctourismhry@gmail.com, haryanatourism@gmail.com

2. Mukesh Rao, Divisional Manager, Haryana Govt. Tourist Bureau, Chanderlok Building, 36-Janpath, New Delhi-110001 Mobile No. 09953415406 Tel. 011-23710420, 23324910-11, Fax 011-23713373. Email: haryanatourism74@gmail.com.

3. Rajesh Joon, Nodal Officer, Surajkund Mela Grounds, Faridabad-121009 (Delhi-NCR) Mobile No. 09818183030, 09311113333. Landline 0129-2512200, 2512054-57, Tele-Fax 2512842 Email: surajkundmelaauthority@gmail.com, joonrajes@gmail.com.

Warm Regards.

Yours sincerely,

(Sameer Pal Srow)

Sh. Randhir Kumar Jaiswal, IFS
Joint Secretary(EW)
Ministry of External Affairs
# 161 C, South Block
New Delhi