

Two-Day intensive training on “Understanding Regulatory Regimes for SMEs” for District Heads of Bangladesh Women Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Based upon the request from President of BWCCI, Ms. Selima Ahmad, a two-day intensive training was organised on “Understanding of Regulatory Regimes for SMEs”, for 30 district heads of BWCCI, in Cox’s Bazar from 7th to 8th October 2016. This two-day training particularly focused on loan application procedures and approval and the required documentations targeting the district heads of BWCCI.

This particular training was requested as there is a need to develop the knowledge of the district heads of BWCCI on regulatory issues pertaining to bank loan approvals, required documentation from the banks vis-à-vis the potential SME borrower, and how and where to obtain the documentation, current tax legislations, fiscal incentives, and company registrations. The course was delivered by Mr. Khurshed Alam, Senior Short Term Expert.

The main objective of delivering this two-day intensive training programme was to provide the district heads of BWCCI with holistic understanding and knowledge of the main characteristics of the regulatory regimes pertinent to how to apply for a loan, SME lending operations and practices, banks’ information requirements during the loan origination phase (documentation requirement for loan application), fiscal incentives, rules and procedures of VAT and income tax, so that the district heads would be able to support the women entrepreneurs (general body of BWCCI).

The training was inaugurated by Mr. Sushen Chandra Das, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Industries, and INSPIRED Project Director, as the Chief Guest, with the presence of Mr. Khairul Kabir Menon, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Industries, and INSPIRED Deputy Project Director, as the Special Guest, with Ms. Selima Ahmad, President, BWCCI, as the presiding Chair.

The training programme concluded with a certificate distribution ceremony where Ms. Selima Ahmad, President, BWCCI, distributed the certificates to the trainees.

This two-day training course was delivered on cost sharing basis, where BWCCI covered the transport costs of all participants from different districts to Cox’s Bazar, the rental charge of the venue, and part of the costs related to the accommodation expenses of the participants.