**JILTA - a new look:**

“Our monthly magazine JILTA has been given thorough change of face. Pages have been upgraded in gloss, texture and look. Formats inside JILTA have also undergone changes. We have started giving spaces to commercial organizations for write up on their events, product launch or any other R&D activities. The organizations can express their happenings with commercial product names in JILTA. The spaces for that organization will be labeled as “organization corner”. We do believe that all chemical or tanning organizations do strive for commercialization of their innovative products but their intents are based on realistic positive changes of the culture of our leather industry. Therefore, we do welcome all organizations to share their product innovations, R&D activities to our leather and allied industry through JILTA. We would also fervently appeal to every commercial organizations associated with leather industry for choosing JILTA as one of the valued medium for reaching customer base. Therefore, I do wish to thank all JILTA team members for their sincere efforts to get JILTA a renewed look”.

**LEXPO - XXXX at Kolkata :**

The Inaugural Ceremony took place at 05.30 PM on Saturday the 11th March, 2017 at the Geetanjali Stadium, Kasba.

The programme commenced with the Welcome Address of Mr. Arnab Jha, President, ILTA which followed presentation of a bouquet by Mr. B. C. Jana to the Chief Guest, Mr. Firhad Hakim, Hon’ble Minister - in - Charge, Municipal Affairs & Urban Development Department, Govt. of West Bengal.

Mr. Susanta Mallick, General Secretary, ILTA then addressed the gathering which was followed by offering of thanks to all concerned by Mr. Aloke Kr. Dey, Co-Ordinator, LEXPO Reshaping Sub-Committee.

Mr. Firhad Hakim, the Chief Guest then delivered his inaugural address appreciating the efforts made by ILTA in continuing the promotional activity. He then declared the fair open by lighting the Inaugural Lamp.

The programme was anchored by Mr. Prabir Kr. Dasgupta.

**6th Moni Banerjee Memorial Lecture**

This was organized at the auditorium of Indian Science Congress Association at 03.00 PM on Wednesday the 15th March, 2017.

The programme commenced with Mr. Susanta Mallick, General Secretary, ILTA briefly touching upon why we have gathered today and inviting the following to garland the portrait of Late Moni Banerjee:

Mr. Amab Jha, President, ILTA, daughter of Late Moni Banerjee, Editor of JILTA, General Secretary, Alumni Association, GC ELT, Alok Kr. Basu, Ex-Editor of JILTA, Mr. Abhijit Dutta & Dr. Samir Dasgupta.

Mr. Amab Jha, President, ILTA then delivered his welcome address briefly touching upon the life and achievement of Late Moni Banerjee.

Presentation of bouquet to Mr. Abhijit Dutta by Mr. Sanjay Dasgupta and to Dr. Samir Dasgupta by Mr. Ranjit Bhusan Guha followed.

Mr. Susanta Mallick stated that about a month and a half ago principals of some ten institutes running Diploma Courses in Footwear / Leather Goods spread all over India were requested to provide us contact details of toppers in 2016 from their Institutes followed by a no. of reminders. Only two institutes responded.

Mr. Izhar Ahmed, the Topper from University Polytechnic, Aligarh Muslim University regretted his inability to come due to semester exam and requested for his medal & certificate to be forwarded to his home address. G. S. stated that his request will be complied with.

Mr. Soumyakanti Khanrah, the Topper of Diploma in Footwear Technology exam of CFTC, Budge Budge in 2016 was presented the Certificate by Mr. Amab Jha and to Mr. Jabed Ali Mia, the Topper of Diploma in Leather Goods exam of CFTC, Budge Budge in 2016 by Dr. Samir Dasgupta. Since the names were received only last night, Medals will be ordered and sent on receipt.

Mr. Aloke Kr. Basu, Ex-Editor, JILTA then read out from a brief write up on Late Prof. Moni Banerjee.
Mr. Abhijit Dutta was then introduced to the gathering by Mr. Arnab Jha and requested to deliver the 6th Moni Banerjee Memorial Lecture titled “Techniques of Finishing of Upholstery Leather: Furniture vis-à-vis Automotive”. After the lecture, Mr. Susanta Mallick presented a memento to Mr. Abhijit Dutta.

Just about 10/12 days prior to today’s function, General Secretary, ILTA and Secretary, Alumni Association, GCELT met Dr. Samir Dasgupta at a gathering in GCELT and requested him to deliver, if possible, lecture on “Future of Leather Industry”. Dr. Samir Dasgupta kindly consented. Mentioning the background and thanking Dr. Dasgupta, Mr. Susanta Mallick, General Secretary, ILTA requested him to deliver the lecture. The lecture which was most informative lasted for about an hour.

Above was followed by Mr. Susanta Mallick thanking all concerned for help and co-operation received in successfully organizing today’s function and requested all present to help themselves to Tea & Refreshments served just outside the auditorium.

LEXPO – XXIII at Siliguri:

The Inaugural Ceremony of LEXPO Siliguri – XXIII is scheduled to take place at 06.00 PM on Friday 31st March, 2017 at the Kanchanjungha Krirangan adjacent ground, Siliguri. The fair will continue till 16th April, 2017.

Mr. Goutam Deb, Hon’ble Minister - in - Charge, Department of Tourism, Govt. of West Bengal has been approached to kindly grace the occasion as the Chief Guest and inaugurate the fair.

Mr. Deba Prasad Ray, Hon’ble Ex-MP & MLA, Alipurduar Constituency and an eminent social activist has been approached to kindly grace the occasion as the Guest of Honour.

Election Schedule for reconstitution of Executive Committee of ILTA for the term 2017 - 2019:

The Executive Committee of ILTA at its 498th Meeting held on 14.03.2017 approved the following schedule for Election of Executive Committee of ILTA and the Regional Committees for the term 2017 - 2019.

BEREAVEMENT

With profound grief and a heavy heart we announce the sad demise on 9th March, 2017 of Ranjan Gupta and of Sambhu Das Set on 13th March, 2017.

May their Souls rest in peace and May God give strength to the Members of the bereaved families to bear the irreparable loss.
You are requested to :-

a) Kindly inform us your ‘E-Mail ID’, ‘Mobile No’, ‘Phone No’, through E-Mail ID: admin@iltaonleather.org or over Telephone Nos. : 24413459 / 3429 / 7320. This will help us to communicate you directly without help of any outsiders like Postal Department / Courier etc.

b) Kindly mention your Membership No. (If any) against your each and every communication, so that we can locate you easily in our record.

(Susanta Mallick)
General Secretary

Executive Committee Members meet every Thursday at 18-30 hrs. at ILTA Office. Members willing to participate are most welcome.