



Honoured to welcome the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi, at Bharat Tex 2025. Dr. Rakesh Kumar, Chief Mentor in role of Director General EPCH, Chairman, IEML & Secretary General, Bharat Tex, had the privilege of receiving him, accompanied by captains of the textiles industry. The occasion was graced by the esteemed presence of Hon'ble Union Minister of Textiles, Shri Giriraj Singh; Union Minister of State for External Affairs and Textiles, Mr. Pabitra Margherita; Smt. Neelam Shami Rao, Secretary (Textiles); and Smt. Amrit Raj, Development Commissioner (Handicrafts).

# Bharat Tex 2025 - Handicrafts

Handicrafts | GI Products | Traditional Toys | Live Craft Demonstrations | Start-ups

Handicrafts showcase organised by EPCH with a tapestry of experiences, seamlessly weaving together India's rich and diverse handicraft heritage with the strengths of modern, sustainable manufacturing.

12th to 15th February 2025; India Expo Centre & Mart, Greater Noida

The 2nd edition of Bharat Tex 2025 - Handicrafts took place from 12th to 15th February 2025 at the India Expo Centre & Mart, Greater Noida. This prestigious event brought together industry leaders, international buyers, artisans and policymakers to honour India's centuries-old traditions while showcasing modern advancements.

Bharat Tex 2025 - Handicrafts was a significant part of the prestigious global textiles event organised by the Bharat Tex Trade Federation (BTTF) and supported by the Ministry of Textiles, Government of India. This mega event was held across two prominent venues- India Expo Centre & Mart, Greater Noida (12th-15th February 2025),

which focused on handicrafts, garment machinery and dyes & chemicals, and at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi (14th-17th February 2025), which showcased the entire textile value chain.

Organised by a consortium of 12 Textile Export Promotion Councils, including EPCH, and supported by the Ministry of Textiles, Bharat Tex was a tapestry of tradition and technology. The event featured over 5,000 exhibitors, providing a comprehensive showcase of India's textile ecosystem. More than 1,20,000 trade visitors, from 120+ countries including global CEOs, policymakers and industry leaders, attended the event.



## Shri Giriraj Singh, Hon'ble Minister for Textiles, Govt. of India, opens 2nd edition of Bharat Tex 2025 with lamp lighting, applauds event's scale and sector's growth and potential

The 2nd edition of Bharat Tex 2025 was held at India Expo Centre, Greater Noida, from 12th to 15th February 2025, and at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, from 14th to 17th February 2025. The fair at India Expo Centre & Mart was declared open by Shri Giriraj Singh, Hon'ble Minister for Textiles, Government of India.

The lamp lighting and ribbon-cutting ceremony was graced by Mr. Pabitra Margherita, Union Minister of State for External Affairs and Textiles; Dr. Mahesh Sharma, Hon'ble Member of Parliament from Gautam Buddha Nagar; Smt. Neelam Shami Rao, Secretary, Ministry of Textiles; Mr. Rohit Kansal, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Textiles; Ms. Shubhra, Trade Advisor, Ministry of Textiles; Smt. Amrit Raj, Development Commissioner (Handicrafts); Mrs. Manisha Sensarma, Economic Advisor, Ministry of Textiles, along with other dignitaries from the Government of India.

Present at the occasion were Mr. Dileep Baid, Chairman, EPCH; Mr. Naren Goenka, Chairman, Bharat Tex 2025; Mr. Bhadresh Dhodia, Co-Chairman, BTTF; Mr. Sudhir Sekhri, Chairman, AEPC; Mr. Vijay Kumar Agarwal, Chairman, TEXPROCIL; Dr. Rakesh Kumar, Secretary General, Bharat Tex 2025, Chairman, IEML, and Chief Mentor in the role of Director General, EPCH; Mr. Neeraj Khanna and Mr. Sagar Mehta, Vice Chairmen, EPCH; Members of the Committee of

Administration, EPCH, including Mr. O P Prahadka, Mr. Ravi K. Passi, Mr. K N Tulasi Rao, Mr. Avdesh Agarwal, Mr. Girish Kumar Agarwal, Mr. Pradeep Muchhala, Ms. Jesmina Zeliang; Mr. R K Verma, Executive Director, EPCH, and organising members of the Bharat Tex Trade Federation.

Addressing the gathering, Hon'ble Minister of Textiles, Shri Giriraj Singh, reiterated the Hon'ble Prime Minister's visionary leadership and welcomed all buyers to the fair, embodying the spirit of 'Atithi Devo Bhava.' He commended the organisers of Bharat Tex 2025 for scaling up this first-anniversary event into the world's largest textile trade fair, attracting buyers from across the globe. Encouraging the sector to aim higher, he urged industry leaders to set ambitious goals for growth and exports.

The Hon'ble Minister also interacted with exhibitors and craftspeople showcasing live demonstrations of various craft skills such as wood carving, basket making and dhurrie making. Appreciating their expertise and products on display, Shri Giriraj Singh emphasised 'local for global' and the market potential of these products.

Mr. Pabitra Margherita, Union Minister of State for External Affairs and Textiles, stated that after the success of its inaugural edition,



this edition had grown significantly, embracing greater inclusivity and a stronger commitment to sustainability. It highlighted eco-friendly textiles and allied products while celebrating India's rich artisanal heritage. With a focus on innovation, sustainability and global collaborations, it set the stage for a future-driven textile industry.

Dr. Mahesh Sharma, Hon'ble Member of Parliament from Gautam Buddha Nagar, praised the sector for its visionary growth and dynamism, where 'grandeur meets innovation.' He commended Dr. Rakesh Kumar for conceptualising the India Expo Centre & Mart three decades ago, a milestone that had enabled global events at the venue. He highlighted its role in boosting business and tourism while also setting the tone for infrastructure development in the region, especially with Asia's largest airport set to open in Jewar, UP.

Smt. Neelam Shami Rao, Secretary, Ministry of Textiles, welcomed all dignitaries, exhibitors and buyers, highlighting the presence of the entire textiles value chain integrated under one umbrella through Bharat Tex 2025—spread across two grand venues in Delhi NCR. She envisioned that through effective feedback from all stakeholders, the show was certain to grow 'faster, higher, and stronger.'



Mr. Rohit Kansal, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Textiles, shared that this 2nd edition of Bharat Tex was remarkable as it brought three key arms of the industry under its umbrella along with India Sourcing Conclave 2025. He stated that Bharat Tex had now become a globally recognised 'go-to place' and a one-stop shop for textiles.

Dr. Rakesh Kumar, Secretary General, Bharat Tex 2025, Chairman, IEM and Chief Mentor in a role of Director General, EPCH, said, "I sincerely thank and appreciate the Ministry of Textiles for its guidance and support for organising this prestigious global textile event, highlighting India's rich heritage. Bringing in ancillary segment shows - GTE and DyeChem World under the Bharat Tex umbrella made the show more holistic and inclusive."

## EPCH's Participation at Bharat Tex-Handicrafts 2025

EPCH brought together 600 participants in this show, including 60 exporters at Bharat Mandapam, Pragati Maidan. These EPCH members are leading manufacturer-exporters who have established market linkages across the world. Their products reach store shelves in over 100 nations through wholesalers, importers and retailers. Besides, there were 160 GI Handicrafts producers, 36 traditional toy makers, 100 artisans, 44 young designers in a start-up showcase and five institutions contributing to industry growth and development.

During the fair, there were interactive sessions on ESG in quality parameters, cross-border trade financing, logistics and supply chain management, seamless GST refunds for exporters, as well as a panel discussion on design strategies for business. The 2nd India Sourcing Conclave 2025, organised by Buying and Sourcing Consultants of India, was well attended.

Mr. Dileep Baid, Chairman, EPCH, shared, "This event was a perfect blend of our rich textile heritage and cutting-edge technology. It was not just about showcasing our industry but also about demonstrating our commitment to sustainability, innovation, and expanding global trade. With around 600 exhibitors, including well-established exporters, young designers, startups, and artisans, the event showcased 15 categories, including gifts and decorative items, furniture & accessories, home furnishings, houseware, fashion jewellery & accessories, lamps and lighting, textile machinery, bathroom accessories, garden & outdoor décor, handmade paper products & stationery, leather bags & cases, candles, incense & potpourri, GI products, traditional toys, spa & wellness products, and carpets & rugs."

Speaking about the event, Dr. Rakesh Kumar, Chief Mentor in the role of Director General, EPCH, Chairman - IEML & Secretary General, Bharat Tex, said, "Rooted in India's glorious textile legacy and exquisite handicrafts, the Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts (EPCH) takes pride in being a pillar of both tradition and innovation. Our mission is to seamlessly blend creativity, craftsmanship and commerce, weaving

together a vibrant tapestry that reflects the essence of Indian textiles. With unwavering commitment, we strive to foster a dynamic synergy within this showcase, celebrating cultural richness while advancing the economic growth of the textile industry."

He further emphasised, "Handicrafts and textiles are intertwining complementaries, bringing out the best in one another—be it in furniture and upholstery or handcrafted accessories. In a home, textiles often serve as a base with handicrafts providing accentuation and vice versa. Bharat Tex 2025 provided buyers with this unique opportunity to see the best of both worlds—the entire kaleidoscope—helping them figure out the 'Look' and 'Feel' they wanted to create and propose. Bharat Tex 2025 at IEML also featured concurrent events, including Garment Technology Expo 2025, DyeChem World 2025, and the 2nd India Sourcing Conclave 2025, organised by Buying and Sourcing Consultants, making it a comprehensive platform for the textile and handicrafts industry."

Dr. Neeraj Khanna, Vice Chairman, EPCH, shared, "At Bharat Tex 2025, visitors had the opportunity to source Geographical Indication (GI) certified handicrafts and textiles. GI products possess qualities, reputation, or characteristics inherent to a specific region, and this event provided an excellent opportunity for GI producers to gain recognition on a global scale." He further highlighted the special attractions, including Traditional Toys, Live Craft Demonstrations, and a Designers' Showcase. Mr. Sagar Mehta, Vice Chairman-II, EPCH, stated, "As a B2B fair with a strong focus on the export market, the event successfully attracted overseas buyers, importers, domestic volume retail buyers, and their representatives."

Mr. R K Verma, Executive Director, EPCH, added, "The event brought together policy makers, industry leaders, international buyers and entrepreneurs, united by shared passion for India's rich textile heritage and the dynamic evidence of its modern and sustainable manufacturing." ■