## **EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL FOR HANDICRAFTS**

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 No. EPCH-4/2(2)/2020-IHGF(S)
 Dated 14.03.2020

Subject: 49th IHGF Delhi Fair (Spring) 2020 (15 - 19 April, 2020) - reg.

Dear Exhibitor(s),

This refers to the 49<sup>th</sup> IHGF Delhi Fair (Spring) 2020 scheduled to be held from 15-19 April, 2020 at the India Expo Centre & Mart, Greater Noida.

Given the escalating situation with regards to the Corona Virus – Covid 19 threat worldwide, the Council invited the opinions from the participants. The opinions received are mix and not conclusive as a large number of participants have suggested to postpone the 49<sup>th</sup> IHGF Delhi Fair (Spring) 2020 to the end of May 2020 / early June 2020, where as a sizeable number has suggested to cancel the fair.

The IHGF Delhi Fair has been the fulcrum and the catalyst for the growth of the Indian Handicrafts Exports to all parts of the world and this show is meaningful not only for the business opportunities but also for employment generation and livelihood of millions of craft persons.

However, with the ongoing and rapidly evolving Corona Virus threat, the Council's focus is on the health, safety and wellbeing of it's stakeholders as a whole. In the meantime, Government of India has imposed severe travel restrictions and all existing visas to visit India stand suspended till the 15<sup>th</sup> April 2020.

In view of the above, it has now been decided that the 49<sup>th</sup> IHGF Delhi Fair (Spring) 2020 will not be held on due dates i.e., 15 -19 April 2020.

Further, we are very closely monitoring the developments and also announcements being made by our competing shows in the Far-east and USA. You may be aware that the High-point Market in USA has now been postponed from April 2020 to early June 2020 and the Hong Kong Houseware Show from April 2020 to 25 – 28 July 2020. The Canton Show in Guangzhou, China has not yet postponed but is likely to announce fresh dates soon. We are of the opinion that a final assessment about postponement or cancellation shall be made after careful consideration of all aspects related to health, safety and business in the next few days.

Thank you for your support during this time. We do need your continued support and appreciate your patience.

Best Regards,

Yours sincerely

(R. K. Verma) Executive Director