



Curtain Raiser - IHGF **DELHI FAIR SPRING 2020**

A Curtain Raiser for the 2020 IHGF Delhi Fair was organised and the show's new dates-15-19 April 2020, were announced to an audience of exporters, industry stalwarts and the overseas as well as Indian buyer community, who welcomed the change. IHGF Delhi Fair-Spring, that has traditionally occupied five days of February each year, now moves to a more favourable April sourcing season. It coincides with the popular shows in Asia and strategically falls in place amidst the Asian sourcing climate, especially for European buyers.

IHGF-the Indian Handicrafts & Gifts Fair was started way back in 1994 and the first show was held in the month of January, heralding the beginning of India's own international show for the sector that was gradually embraced by the trade in India and world over. After a few years, the dates were changed to February to coincide with prime sourcing shows in Europe. IHGF gained international acclaim as a one stop sourcing destination





for home, fashion, lifestyle and textiles, popular among buyers as the Spring fair. Years later, IHGF's name was changed to IHGF Delhi Fair-Spring-an apt name for the location and timing. Having evolved over the years, IHGF Delhi Fair became larger and more successful. Now once again it's time for a change and the show moves to April. The dates have been decided in consultation with overseas buyers, buying agents in India as well as IHGF's regular exhibitors.

Announcing the new dates, Mr. Rakesh Kumar, Director General EPCH shared that the prime reason is the timing and the business transacted. In 1994 when IHGF was conceptualised, Asia was not so powerful for sourcing as it is today. Trade visitors flocked to European shows like Ambiente in Germany, Spring Fair in UK, etc. for all their sourcing requirements. Mr. Kumar emphasised, "now is the time for Asia as India, Vietnam, Phillipines and other Asian nations have emerged as sourcing destinations and most of the fairs in this region are held in April. This brings several European buyers to Asia during this month. In January and February, most buyers are busy at European fairs." He



further added, "besides, after the IHGF Autumn show, a lead time of six months allows our exhibitors to prepare their collections for upcoming seasons."

IHGF Delhi Fair

Evolution Milestones

- 1994** Spring Edition begins - January
- 1996** Autumn Edition added
Show becomes biannual
- 2000** Spring – dates shifted to February
Aligned with major European shows
- 2006** Venue shifted to India Expo Centre & Mart
A world class facility, welcomed by buyers & exhibitors
- 2016** Certified as the World's Largest Congregation of Handicraft Exhibitors
- 2020** Spring – Dates to be shifted to April
To begin the sourcing season and align with other Asian sourcing shows