



Dr. Rakesh Kumar

Key architect for conceptualisation and setting up of several important organizations in India with an aim to promote livelihood to artisans and small entrepreneurs through India Expo Centre & Mart, Greater Noida, Handicrafts & Carpet Sector Skill Council (HCSSC), also being the Chairman of Indian Exhibition Industry Association (IEIA), Founder Chairman of Buying Agents Association of India (BAA) and founder governing committee member of Network for Certification and Conservation of Forest (NCCF) and Co-Founder of Expo Digital India Private Limited. Mr. Kumar has done a tremendous work in the field of promotion and export of Indian Handicrafts and known as “**Iron Man of Handicrafts**” in export industry. He has also promoted crafts person of remote areas such as “Manna Village” Uttarakhand, Jodhpur & Barmer Rajasthan, areas of Himachal Pradesh, Moradabad, Saharanpur in Uttar Pradesh.

Current positions

- Chairman - India Exposition Mart Ltd (IEML) popularly known as India Expo Centre & Mart, Greater Noida
- Chairman – Expo Digital India Private Limited
- Chief Mentor in the role of Director General - Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts (EPCH), New Delhi
- Director- Bharat Tex Trade Federation, New Delhi
- Director - Uttar Pradesh Export Promotion Council (UPEPC)
- Director - Jammu and Kashmir Trade Promotion organization (JKTPO)
- Governing Board Member of The Council of EU Chambers of Commerce
- Founder Chairman of Buying Agent Association of India (BAA)

Former positions & Leadership

- First Chairman of Buying Agent Association of India (BAA)
- Former President of Indian Exhibition Industry Association (IEIA)
- Founder Secretary Handicrafts & Carpet Sector Skill Council (HCSSC)
- Founder Secretary of the National Centre for Design & Product Development (NCDPD)

Important Landmark Achievements

- Concept to commissioning of IEML (India Expo Centre & Mart, Greater Noida) as Managing Director and Chairman.
- The multilateral growth of Handicrafts sector globally.
- Concept to Start the First UP International Trade Show (UPITS), featuring over 2000 exhibitors at the India Expo Centre & Mart, Greater Noida. (First trade show of its kind organized by any state government and inaugurated by Hon’ble President of India)
- Started and organized world-renowned Indian Handicrafts & Gifts Fair in 1994 which is recognized as ‘World’s largest congregation of handicrafts exhibitors under one roof’ by “Limca Book of World Records”.
- India’s first standard & Traceability of wooden products accepted by 186 countries i.e. Vriks certification.

Leadership

- Set up 900 Permanent Showroom of Exporters and 18 Exhibition halls, Convention Centres on SPV model in 60 acres land at India Expo Centre Greater Noida with no cost to government by kitty of small exporters of handicrafts and allied SME sector.

- Set up warehouse and Supply Chain Management in the United States of America (North Carolina) in 2023-24 and also in Holand, which is being utilized by a large number of Exporters under the tile Expo Bazaar -India Curated
- Secretary General of Bharat Tex 2024 & 2025 inaugurated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi.
- Organized UP International Trade Show on self-financing basis which is inaugurated by Hon'ble Prime Minister of India.

Awards and Honors

- First Indian to receive **JETRO'S COMMENDATION AWARD** for outstanding contribution of Indian Handicrafts to Japan by Ministry of Industry & Trade, Government of Japan.
- In recognition of ground-breaking work in the handicrafts & export sector over past three and a half decades, was conferred a **Honorary Doctorate by Hon'ble Chief Minister of UP, Shri Yogi Aditya Nath**, during a convocation ceremony of Teerthanker Mahabeer University held at Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh on 17 March 2023
- Received Prerna Strot Samaan (Highest Civilian award of Govt. of Himachal Pradesh) **by Hon'ble Chief Minister of HP** on 15th August 2024
- **SUPER ACHIEVER AWARD** for contribution to the Handicrafts sector by Indiasgreatest.com
- Acknowledge as **"Business Icon of the Year"** and conferred with **Atal National Award**
- Awarded several times such as **The Best Professional** in MICE, **"THE IRON MAN"** of The Exhibition Industry, **'Lifetime Achievement Award'** for tremendous contribution to the handicrafts sector by various reputed organisation.
- From time to time, covered by several magazines, newspapers, press & Media including India Today Impact feature recently.

Social Responsibilities Associated with

- Artisans Welfare Trust to health and education to artisans and their children etc.
- Gautam Budha Welfare Society, Greater Noida,
- Divya Seva Mission, Haridwar
- Network for Certification and Conservation of Forests – for tree outside forest
- Associated with RSS, ABVP & Swadeshi Jagran Manch

Education

- Post Graduate in Public Administration and International Foreign Trade
- Diploma in International Foreign Trade

Contact Details:-

Mobile - +91- 9818251778

email – dg@epch.com, chairman@indiaexpocentre.com