

DEFINITION OF HANDICRAFTS

1. Handicrafts are mostly defined as “items made by hand, often with the use of simple tools, and are generally artistic and for traditional in nature. They are also object of utility and object of decoration.

Source: O/o DC (Handicrafts)

2. “It must be predominantly made by hand. It does not matter if some machinery is also used in the process.
3. It must be graced with visual appeal in the nature of ornamentation or in-lay work or some or some similar work lending it an element of artistic improvement. Such ornamentation must be of a substantial nature and not a mere pretence.”

Source: Hon'ble Supreme Court in Louis Shoppe
Judgment decided on 12.3.1995

4. “Articles which are not classified elsewhere in this policy shall be deemed to be Handicraft if such articles besides being hand-made are of some artistic value of the articles need not necessarily come out of any art work, engraving or decoration done on the article but the very form, shape or design of the article could be artistic or traditional or suggestion of the fact that the article is a item of handicraft”

Source: Chief Controller of Imports & Exports Circular
No. 6/160/90-EFC dated 26th December, 1990



List of Major Craft Categories

SN	Name of the craft
1	Bidri
2	Cane & bamboo
3	Carpet
4	Conch-Shell
5	Doll & toys
6	Filigree & Silverware
7	Folk Painting
8	Furniture
9	Grass, leaf, reed & fiber
10	Horn & Bone
11	Jewellery
12	Leather (footwear)
13	Leather (other articles)
14	Metal ware
15	Metal images (classical)
16	Metal images (folk)
17	Musical instrument
18	Pottery and clay objects
19	Rugs & durries
20	Stone (carving)
21	Stone (inlay)
22	Terracotta
23	Theatre, Costumes & Puppet
24	Textile (handloom)
25	Textile (Hand embroidery)
26	Textile (hand printed)
27	Wood (carving)
28	Wood (inlay)
29	Wood (turning and lacquer ware)
30	Zari
31	Coir twisting
32	Miscellaneous craft

