

Design Resource

## Dilli Haat

Food and Craft Bazaar

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/dilli-haat>

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Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/dilli-haat/introduction>

## Introduction

Today, there is an interesting situation confronting the handicrafts scenario in India. There is an effort to take the beautifully and painstakingly created crafts out into the midst of the people, to make them more accessible as it were. Yet, the ironic part is that these handicraft traditions which were part and parcel of our culture and society have moved from an integral part of our life to a state of neglect and now presently to a perceived inaccessible elitist pedestal.

Dilli Haat is like an answer to this situation. It provides a platform for bringing the traditional crafts to a mainstream audience - the common man. This Food and Craft Bazaar is a treasure house of Indian culture, handicrafts and ethnic cuisine, located right in the heart of the city.



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<http://www.dsource.in/resource/dilli-haat/story>

## Story

The credit for the beautiful concept of Dilli Haat goes to Jaya Jaitly. She has done enormous good to the handicrafts scenario in India. Dilli Haat, located opposite INA market in South Delhi is her brainchild. It was set up in 1994, jointly by Delhi Tourism, Government of Delhi and NDMC, D.C. (Handicrafts) and D.C. (Handlooms), Ministry of Textiles and Ministry of Tourism, Government of India. It was created for the middle classes and students, not really the elite. It is (deliberately) made as a place for equalization of customers and crafts people. The immense popularity of the concept can be gauged from the tremendous public interest it receives even today with youngsters, families, tourists and foreigners thronging the place and patronizing the various products on display. So, another one was set up in Pitampura (North Delhi) in 2008.

These Haats not only give the artisans a good boost monetarily but emotionally as well and make them want to carry the tradition forward. Unlike the traditional weekly markets, this Bazaar has permanent food stalls representing each state of India and the craft stalls change every 15 days.

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Jaya Jaitly talking to the craftswomen of India and Pakistan during a skill exchange workshop.



Jaya Jaitly with students from other countries.

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## Place

The credit for the beautiful concept of Dilli Haat located in South Delhi can be accessed through 'INA' station of the Delhi Metro. There are craft stalls with sellers from all over India, food stalls dishing out sumptuous delicacies from different states and union territories, an exhibition hall, a souvenir shop selling an assortment of small gift items, an open stage for cultural programmes and a playing area exclusively earmarked for children. The Haat is fully wheelchair-accessible, including the washrooms.

Dilli Haat actually transports you to the magical world of Indian art and heritage presented through a fascinating panorama of craft, cuisine, workshops and cultural activities. These are (sometimes) cross-country as well. A recent one was conducted with the craftswomen of India and Pakistan. It celebrated embroideries of both the countries and facilitated their skill exchange.



INA station of the Delhi Metro.



Outside Dilli Haat.

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Flags made from fabric for decoration.



Multi colored drapes.

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Wheelchair-friendly Haat.



India-Pakistan skill exchange workshop banner.

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Discourage bargaining poster.



India-Pakistan skill exchange workshop banner.

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Folk dancers from Rajasthan.



Ratna Pathak Shah with the craftswomen of the India-Pakistan workshop.

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Outside Dilli Haat.



Craft Bazaar organized by Dastkari Haat Samiti.



India-Pakistan skill exchange workshop banner.



Flower decoration.

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Flag decoration.



Visitors during the Craft Bazaar.

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Folk dancer from Rajasthan.



Folk dancer from Rajasthan.

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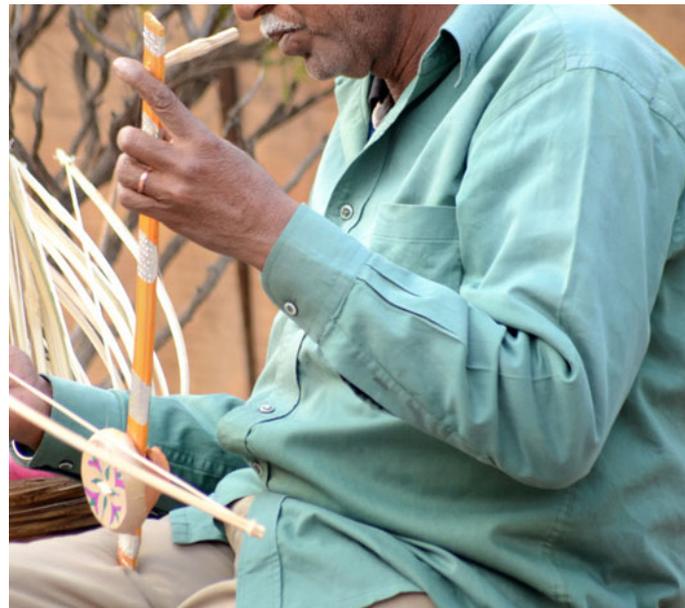
<http://www.dsource.in/resource/dilli-haat/place>



A man playing the Bioscope for young kids.



Toy maker.



A man playing and selling music-instrument-toys.



A man making glass beads.

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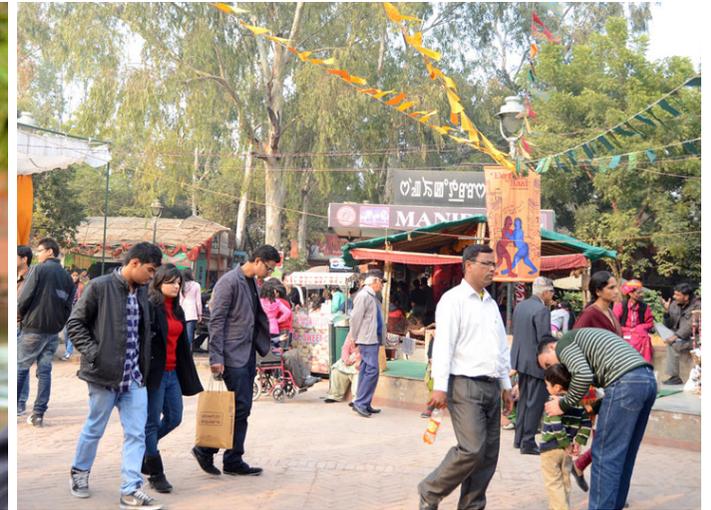
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Foods of India signage.



Food stalls.



The bioscope.

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A stall and its well displayed products.



A man weaving a shawl on the loom.



A woman applying mehndi.

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## Products

Since the sellers come to the Haat on a rotation basis, products vary from time to time. But one can get to witness handicrafts from all parts of India under one roof. These include rosewood and sandalwood carvings, embellished camel hide footwear, sophisticated fabric and drapery, gems, beads, brassware, metal crafts, basketry, ceramics, silk and wool fabrics.



A man playing the Bioscope for young kids.

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Pattachitra on bottles, from Odisha.



Pattachitra on bottles, from Odisha.



Pattachitra on a paper-mache parrot, from Odisha.



Brass bangles.

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Brass artifacts.



Brass artifacts.



Multi colored basketry.



Multi colored basketry.

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Multi colored basketry.



Wood carving.



Ganesha carved in wood.



Black clay Hookah.

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Miniature ceramics.



Glazed terracotta tableware.

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Glazed terracotta tableware.



Necklace.

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Door hangings.



Painting.

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Door hangings.



Bird chimes, from Bastar.

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Terracotta fish, garden accessory.



Metal wall hangings.



Necklaces.



Keychains.

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Wireframe cycles and rickshaws.



Garden accessories, from NGO Beeja.



Toys for children.



Multi colored chappals, from Bhuj.

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Multi colored chappals, from Bhuj.



Multi colored chappals.



Kites.



Sling bags.

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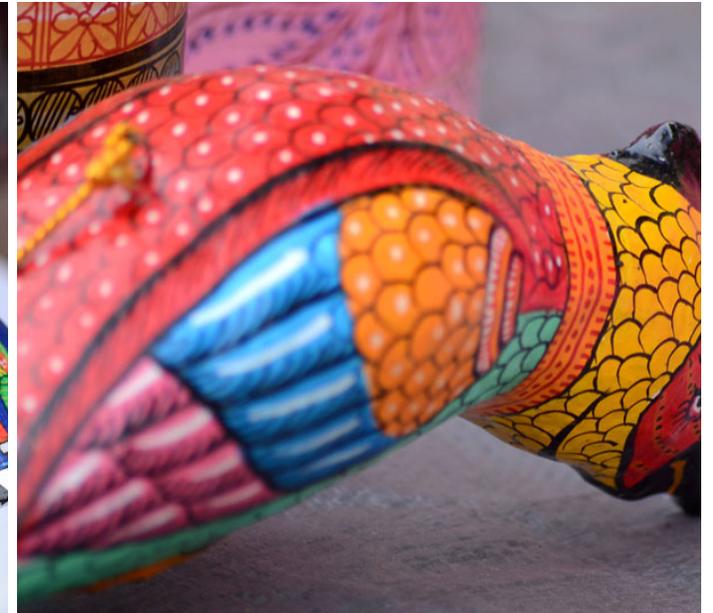
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Lampshade with hand painting.



Pattachitra on a paper-mache parrot, from Odisha.



Pattachitra on bottles, from Odisha.



Shadow puppet made of leather.

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Hair accessories.



Door hangings.



Puppets, from Rajasthan.



Piggy banks, from NGO Beeja.

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Madhubani paintings on paper-mache.



Wooden spatulas.

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Kaavad, with its maker.



Brass Buddha.

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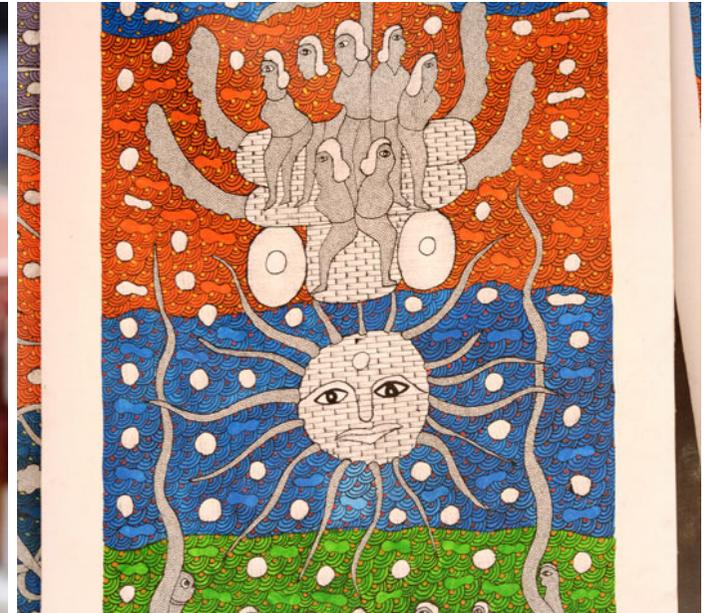
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Glass mask, from Jaipur.



Gond painting.



Terracotta door hangings.



Clay toy figures, from Lucknow.

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Bags.



Jackets.



Glass beads, from Firozabad.



Nimbu-mirchi door hanging.

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Madhubani painting on paper-mache.



Cane lampshade.



Coconut shell candles.



Tables.

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Chairs.



Necklaces.

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Brass necklaces.



Multi colored belts.

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Gond painting.



Wooden bangles.



Bangles.



Paper-mache boxes, from Kashmir.

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Ceramic tableware, from Khurja.



Wallets, from NGO Jugaad.



Music instruments.



Clay decorations.

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Garden accessories made of clay.



Glass fishes, from Firozabad.



Lampshades.



Blue pottery.

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## Contact Details

This documentation was done by Sakshi Gambhir at **IDC, IIT Bombay**

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