

ABOUT GI

Geographical Indications (GIs) are associated with the legacy of a product connected with a specific location having unique blend of nature, culture, tradition, and artisan. In India, there are several registered GIs and there are numerous GIs which are not yet registered officially, but are potential registerable GIs.

GI based on classes to Natural Goods, Food Stuff
Manufactured Goods, Handicrafts
or Agricultural Goods

GI based on uniqueness,
weather, and
terrain of the place of origin

Legal Protection from
unfair usage

Registered by the
Authorized
community of the GI

GI Sign or symbol
indicating
Geographical Origin
or location

Economic empowerment
to Artisans, Producers,
and Manufacturers

Social Uplifting and
continuing the Legacy of
the Nation

512+ registered GIs and
numerous unregistered GIs
existence in India

Prevents counterfeiting
and ensures
genuineness of products

Preservation of local Culture,
Tradition,
and Legacy



VARANASI WOODEN LAQUERWARE AND TOYS

India has a glorious tradition in toys. Historically Indian toys date back to 5000 years. The excavated toys and dolls found in Harappa and Mohenjodaro have been carefully preserved by the museums in India. Varanasi or Banaras in Uttar Pradesh was once one of the largest toy producing centres in India. It is an ancient craft where the toys are made in wood with sets of birds, animals, orchestras and dance ensembles available packed in boxes.

Number of families involved More than 3000 artisans The wooden toys of Varanasi are also famous for their intricate designs and craftsmanship. The toys are made from locally sourced wood, such as mango, rosewood, and sandalwood, and are carved and painted by skilled artisans. The toys come in a variety of shapes and sizes, from animals and birds to human figures and religious icons.

Uniqueness

These toys may be divided into four major categories- viz. religious, cultural, animals & birds, and traditional and modern toys, and every toy has their uniqueness of their own.

Price

Rs. 150/- to more than
Rs. 3000/-

Years they have started
5000 years ago (Approx.)

Number of families involved
More than 3000 artisans



Type of Goods
Handicraft

Class of Goods
27

Geographical Location
Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh

Method of Production

1. Wood logs are brought from nearby areas and are stored generally outside the houses, in the narrow lane.
2. Wood turning involves using a lathe to create objects from wood. As the lathe turns, the wood remains in the same position and slowly is shaped by the operation of the lathe.
3. Lacquering is done on a lathe. In the lac turning method, lac is applied in a dry state that is the lac stick is pressed against the woodenware to be lacquered. While the latter keeps revolving, the heat generated by friction softens the lac, making the colour stick to the surface of the wood. Lacquer ware toys are produced in this way. Thus, the craftsmen manipulate the stick where several colours are used.