

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

650+ registered GIs and
numerous unregistered GIs
existence in India

Prevents counterfeiting and
ensures genuineness of
products

Preservation of local Culture,
Tradition, and Legacy



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THANJAVUR DOLL

Thanjavur dolls, also known as Tanjore dolls or Thanjavur thalaiyatti bommai in Tamil Nadu. These are traditional handmade bobblehead dolls crafted from clay and adorned with vibrant colors. They are renowned for their detailing and traditional attire, often depicting mythological characters, deities, and local village scenes. These dolls are popular as decorative items and cultural artifacts, embodying the rich artistic heritage of Thanjavur.

UNIQUENESS

Thanjavur Dolls are unique creations crafted by artisans, incorporating the principles of gravitational force well before Sir Isaac Newton's discovery. The use of alluvial soil and clay from the banks of the River Cauvery enhances the utility and distinctiveness of these dolls, reflecting both traditional craftsmanship and an intuitive understanding of gravity. Furthermore, these dolls are known for their bobbling heads and depiction of mythological characters, reflect the rich cultural heritage and skilled craftsmanship of Tamil Nadu, cherished both as decorative items and cultural artifacts.

RAW MATERIALS

Sheesham Wood, metal sheets, tools, cutting & buffing machines.

Price
Approx.
Rs. 500 to Rs. 1000

Class of Goods
28

Proof of Origin
Since 16th Century



No. of Families Involved
Approx.
2000 artisans

Type of Goods
Handicrafts

Geographical Location
Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu

METHOD OF PRODUCTION

The process of making Thanjavur dolls starts with kneading locally sourced clay into a smooth texture, which is molded into the desired shape and left to partially dry. Artisans then meticulously add intricate details by hand, including facial features, clothing patterns, and accessories. Natural colors from minerals and vegetable dyes are applied, followed by a protective varnish. Some dolls may be further embellished with gold leaf before the final step of attaching the head, creating the characteristic bobblehead effect.