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

700+ registered GIs and numerous unregistered GIs existence in India

Prevents counterfeiting and ensures genuineness of products

Preservation of local Culture, Tradition, and Legacy

A GI reflects a shared heritage that has evolved over generations, deeply influenced by local knowledge, distinctive environments, and cultural traditions. It highlights that certain products are far more than just items of trade; they represent the history, narratives, and dedication of the artisans, farmers, and communities who have kept these practices alive. By recognizing this inherent value, the GI system establishes a structure to safeguard and encourage these traditions, ensuring they thrive and adapt in today's competitive landscape.

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VARANASI GLASS BEADS

Varanasi Glass Beads are handcrafted ornamental beads made in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, known for their vibrant colors, intricate designs, and cultural significance. Used in jewelry, garments, and religious adornments, these beads are crafted using lampworking techniques, making them a vital part of India's decorative arts and ceremonial traditions.

UNIQUENESS

Varanasi Glass Beads are unique for their handmade precision, narrow uniform holes, and flame-based shaping using hydrocarbon lamps. No two beads are identical, yet they maintain remarkable uniformity. The craft is passed down through generations, with artisans producing transparent, opaque, millefiori, foil, and painted beads using minimal tools and maximum skill.

RAW MATERIALS

Colored Glass Rods, Hydrocarbon Lamps, Chalk-Coated Metal Sticks, Gold/Silver Foil, Dyes, Kilns

Price
Approx. Rs. 50 to 1900

Number of Families Involved
Approx. 6000 families

Proof of Origin
11th Century

Class of Goods
21

Type of Goods
Handicraft

Geographical Location
Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh

METHOD OF PRODUCTION

Glass rods are melted using hydrocarbon-fueled lamps, then wound onto chalk-coated metal sticks to form beads. Artisans shape the molten glass using hand tools, adding colors, foils, or painted designs. Beads are annealed in kilns to enhance strength and finish. Each bead is crafted entirely by hand, ensuring uniqueness.

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