

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 of Natural Goods, Food Stuff
Manufactured Goods, Handicrafts or
Agricultural Goods

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

Authorized User Registration For
GI Community Members

Legal protection from
unfair usage

A Community Right

GI Logo
indicating Geographical
Origin or location

Economic Empowerment to
Artisans, Producers, and
Manufacturers

Social Upliftment and
continuing the
Legacy of the Nation

650+ Registered GIs and
Numerous Unregistered GIs
Existing in India

Prevents counterfeiting and
ensures genuineness of
products through "GI Tags"

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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ARUNACHAL PRADESH APATANI TEXTILE

The Apatani traditional textiles are handwoven fabrics produced by the indigenous Apatani tribe of Ziro Valley, Arunachal Pradesh. These textiles are known for their unique and vibrant designs, often made from cotton and wool. The weaving process is performed exclusively by women using a backstrap loom. The designs of the textiles are characterized by geometric patterns such as diamond and zigzag lines, with contrasting colors and simple, straight lines. The Apatani tribe uses these textiles for traditional clothing and ceremonial purposes, with some textiles having cultural and supernatural significance.

UNIQUENESS

The Apatani textiles stand out due to their distinctive and culturally specific patterns, which reflect the tribe's deep connection to nature and their spiritual beliefs. The Jwekhe and Jillang designs are particularly famous, representing a unique blend of geometric abstraction and symbolism. These textiles are highly valued for their intricate designs, natural dyeing methods, and the traditional weaving process that has been passed down through generations. Apatani textiles are now being recognized on international fashion platforms, highlighting their global appeal.

RAW MATERIALS

Cotton, Natural Dyes (from Plants and Minerals), and Occasionally Wool

Price
Approx. 500/- to 2,500/-
depending on quality

Geographical Location
Ziro Valley, Arunachal Pradesh

Class of Goods
24

Type of Goods
Handicraft

Proof of Origin
16th Century

Number of Families Involved
Approx. 800 families



METHOD OF PRODUCTION

The production of Apatani textiles begins with cotton spinning, where raw cotton is transformed into yarn. The yarn is then dyed using natural dyes derived from local plants. Women weavers use backstrap looms to weave the fabric, a skill that has been passed down through generations. The patterns are typically geometric, incorporating designs like diamond shapes, zigzag lines, and simple stripes. The weaving process is time-consuming and requires great skill, with each textile piece often taking weeks to complete.