

ARUNACHAL PRADESH



Ashtalakshmi
Mahotsav
2024

GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS

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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NEHDC

FOREWORD

It gives me immense pleasure to introduce this comprehensive series of eight whitepapers on Geographical Indications (GIs) of the North-Eastern States of India, namely, **Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura** on the occasion of **Ashtalakshmi Mahotsav 2024**. This initiative is undertaken by the Reinforce Intellectual Property Association (RIPA) in collaboration with North Eastern Handicrafts and Handlooms Development Corporation (NEHHDC), which represents a significant milestone in our collective efforts to preserve, protect, and promote the rich cultural & natural heritage of these vibrant regions.

The North-East with its unparalleled diversity is home to countless traditional crafts, agricultural products & indigenous knowledge systems that reflect the ingenuity & resilience of its people. These white papers meticulously captured registered GIs, the progress of filed applications & the vast untapped potential GIs. They serve not only as a repository of information but as a guiding framework to unlock the economic & cultural value of these unique assets.

GIs are far more than intellectual property tools. They are testament to the legacy of the artisans, farmers & communities who have dedicated their lives to creating products that are deeply intertwined with the identity of their regions. By promoting and protecting these GIs, we empower these communities, ensure their economic growth and preserve their traditions for future generations.

This work is an attempt to call policymakers, industry leaders & citizens to recognize the transformative potential of GIs in fostering sustainable development. It is a tribute to the artisans of the North-East, whose unmatched creativity & craftsmanship have put this region on the global map.

I extend my heartfelt appreciation to RIPA for their dedication and diligence in producing these white papers and to all those who contributed to this monumental effort. Together, let us strive to ensure that the North East's cultural & natural heritage continues to thrive, bringing pride & prosperity to its people and the nation.



Brigadier Rajiv Kumar Singh (Retd)
Managing Director
NEHHDC

A close-up photograph of several ripe, bright orange fruits hanging from a tree branch. The oranges are surrounded by lush green leaves, and the background is a clear blue sky. The lighting is bright, suggesting a sunny day.

REGISTERED GIs

ARUNACHAL ORANGE

Arunachal orange or wakro orange (sometimes referred as Khasi Mandarin) is a type of orange fruit with some distinctive qualities because of specific agro-climatic conditions. It has a medium thick peel over it which attains orange colour at full ripening. It is easily peeled with fingers, starting at the thick rind covering the depression at the top of the fruit, and can be easily split into even segments without squirting juice. The fruits have high vitamin C and refreshing juice. It has high content of TSS and medium acidity which gives it a special taste.

Uniqueness

Arunachal Orange has a relatively good size of fruit with high amount of Juice content. The fruit also have a high TSS % and medium acidity which provides it a unique sweet sour taste. The thickness of peel is quite less which is preferred by consumers because this makes it easy to peel off the fruit and less weight of fruit goes waste because of peeling.

Raw Materials

Suckers, Organic Manures and Natural Resources

Price

Approx. ₹100/- to ₹130/- per kg
depending on the quality

Geographical Location
Arunachal Pradesh

Class of Goods
31

Type of Goods
Agriculture

Proof of Origin
11th Century

Number of Families Involved
Approx. 4000 families



Method of Production

The Arunachal Orange is traditionally grown using organic farming methods, with farmers employing rainfed irrigation and manual harvesting. The region's temperate climate, coupled with the use of natural fertilizers, results in a high-quality, chemical-free product.

IDU MISHMI TEXTILE

Idu Mishmi Textiles are traditional handwoven textiles made by the Idu Mishmi community in Arunachal Pradesh. The textiles are primarily used for making clothing and ornamental items like shawls, scarves, and headgear. The textiles are made from natural fibers such as wool, silk, and cotton, and are woven using traditional handloom techniques. They are known for their intricate designs and use of natural dyes. The designs often feature geometrical patterns and symbolic motifs representing nature, animals, and cultural motifs.

Uniqueness

Known for intricate designs, natural dyes, and handwoven techniques, passed down through generations, using organic fibers and traditional looms. The textiles are characterized by their durability, soft texture, and complex weaving patterns that require significant skill and knowledge of the craft, passed down through generations.

Raw Materials

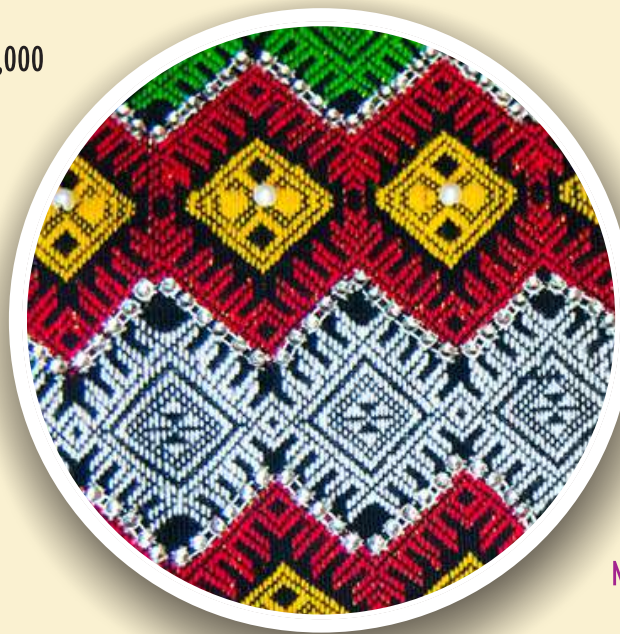
Wool, Silk, Cotton, Natural Dyes from Plants and Minerals

Price

Approx. ₹1,000 to ₹15,000

Class of Goods
24

Proof of Origin
Since 1959



Geographical Location

Mishmi Hills (Anjaw, Tawang, Dibang Valley, Lohit districts) in Arunachal Pradesh.

Type of Goods
Handicraft

Number of Families Involved
Approx. 500–600 families

Method of Production

Handwoven using backstrap looms and pit looms with natural fibers and dyes sourced locally.

ARUNACHAL PRADESH KHAW TAI (KHAMTI RICE)

Khaw Tai is an indigenous rice variety grown by the Tai Khamti tribe in Arunachal Pradesh, particularly in the Namsai district. The rice is known for its high nutritional value, including fiber and lower phytate content, making it a healthy option compared to other high-yielding varieties. It is traditionally cultivated through shifting cultivation in the hills and wet rice cultivation in the foothills. It is often paired with local boiled vegetables and spices, creating a staple meal for the community. The rice plays an essential role in sustaining local diets, with variations like khaulam (rice in bamboo tubes) and khaupuk (sticky rice with sesame) being popular traditional dishes.

Uniqueness

Khaw Tai is prized for its genetic diversity, contributing to improved rice breeding. It is culturally significant to the Tai Khamti tribe, with its cultivation deeply tied to their traditional farming practices. The rice is often used in traditional dishes like Tongtep (rice cakes) and Khau-tongtep (rice pancakes wrapped in leaves). Its distinct texture, taste, and the methods of preparation, such as steaming in bamboo tubes, make it unique.

Raw Materials

Wool, Silk, Cotton, Natural Dyes from Plants and Minerals

Price

Approx. ₹ 60/- to ₹ 200/-

Class of Goods
31

Proof of Origin
14th Century



Geographical Location

Namsai district and surrounding foothill regions in Arunachal Pradesh, predominantly inhabited by the Tai Khamti tribe.

Type of Goods
Agricultural

Number of Families Involved
Approx. 1000 families

Method of Production

The rice is cultivated using traditional farming methods such as shifting cultivation in hilly areas and wet rice cultivation in the foothills. The landrace rice is grown using organic farming practices, without the use of modern fertilizers or pesticides. Traditional preparation techniques include steaming rice in bamboo tubes (khaulam) or wrapping rice in leaves to create various dishes, often with locally grown herbs and spices.

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.

ARUNACHAL PRADESH YAK CHURPI

Yak Churpi is a traditional, naturally fermented dairy product made from yak milk and consumed mainly in the Himalayan region of Arunachal Pradesh. There are two main varieties: the soft and hard types. Hard Yak Churpi is particularly valued for its ability to last for years, with proper storage in yak skin (mongnang) potentially extending its shelf life to up to 20 years. The product is made by separating whey from buttermilk solids, curing the curds for 2-3 days at room temperature, then drying them in the sun or at low heat in an oven. The soft variety is used in cooking, while the hard variety is used as a chewable gum.

Uniqueness

Yak Churpi is unique to the Eastern Himalayan region and plays an essential role in the dietary practices of local tribes in Arunachal Pradesh. It is highly nutritious, rich in protein, and serves as a staple food and energy source for people in high-altitude regions. The hard variety of Churpi is particularly valued for its long shelf life, making it suitable for long journeys, including by mountaineers and high-altitude travelers. It is also used medicinally for stomach aches in certain tribal communities, where it is mixed with barley or millet beverages to ease digestive issues.

Raw Materials

Yak milk, Natural Fermentation, Sunlight or Low Heat Drying

Price

Approx. ₹ 500/- to ₹ 800/-
per kg depending
upon quality

Geographical Location

Arunachal Pradesh, particularly
in the Himalayan and
high-altitude regions

Class of Goods
29

Type of Goods
Food Stuff

Proof of Origin
19th Century

Number of Families Involved
Approx. more than 500 local
tribal families



Method of Production

Yak Churpi is made through a process of milk churning, where yak milk is churned to separate the whey from the curds. The curds are then allowed to cure for a few days at room temperature. Once hardened, they are sliced and either sun-dried or oven-dried. The hard variety, after drying, becomes extremely tough and is stored in yak skin to preserve it for long periods. In some cases, the hard Churpi is consumed after being softened by saliva, making it chewable.

ARUNACHAL PRADESH TANGSA TEXTILE PRODUCT

Tangsa textiles are handcrafted fabrics made by women of the Tangsa tribe in Arunachal Pradesh. They include lungis (skirts), waist wraps, shawls, and shirts, often featuring intricate geometric patterns and vibrant colors like red, black, green, and blue. These textiles are crafted from cotton and are traditionally worn during festivals, ceremonies, and everyday life.

Uniqueness

The Tangsa textiles are unique for their geometric designs such as zigzags, cross-hatching, and lozenges, which carry symbolic meanings. The colors and patterns are culturally significant and reflect the artistic heritage and tribal identity. Each piece is traditionally handwoven on a backstrap loom, showcasing skilled craftsmanship passed down through generations.

Raw Materials

Cotton, Natural Dyes, Yarn

Price

Approx. ₹500/- to ₹5000/- or more based on quality

Geographical Location

The Tangsa tribe resides in the Changlang District of Arunachal Pradesh

Class of Goods
24 & 25

Type of Goods
Handicraft

Proof of Origin

Over 1000 years old

Number of Families Involved

Approx. more than 500 families



Method of Production

Women of the Tangsa tribe spin and dye cotton yarn using natural dyes from plants, berries, and tree bark. The yarn is then woven into fabric on a backstrap loom, with the weaving process often involving intricate designs that require precise skill. Traditional designs are repeated, creating vibrant patterns that reflect tribal symbolism.

ARUNACHAL PRADESH MONPA TEXTILE

Monpa textiles are handwoven by women and include woolen cloaks, jackets, endi silk gowns, and traditional headgear. They are primarily worn by the Monpa people of Arunachal Pradesh, especially during festivals and ceremonies. These textiles reflect the region's cold climate with intricate designs and layers.

Uniqueness

The Monpa textiles stand out for their use of yak wool and endi silk, offering warmth and durability in cold climates. Their headgear, made from yak hair, is highly unique, with variations like the Ngama-shom and Seir-sha caps specific to regions within the Monpa community.

Raw Materials

Yak Wool, Endi Silk, Cotton, Natural Dyes from Local Plants

Price

Approx. ₹30,000/- to ₹50,000/-
(for a complete traditional outfit
including woolen garments
and headgear).

Class of Goods
24 & 25

Proof of Origin

7th to 9th Century

Geographical Location

Tawang and West Kameng
districts,
Arunachal Pradesh

Type of Goods
Handicraft

Number of Families Involved

Approx. 50-100 households



Method of Production

The Monpa people use traditional handlooms to weave fabrics, typically incorporating five colors: red, yellow, white, black, and green. Yak wool is used for headgear and outer garments, while endi silk is woven into gowns and jackets. Women are the primary weavers, and their skills are passed down through generations.

ARUNACHAL PRADESH HANDMADE CARPET

Handmade carpets from Arunachal Pradesh, particularly from the Monpa community, are crafted with intricate designs, representing the region's rich biodiversity and cultural ethos. These carpets are made using wool and are classified based on their intended use and the social status of the user, with distinct categories like Khatan, Thrisu-tan, and Maksu-maktan. The designs often feature geometric patterns, animals, and mythical symbols.

Uniqueness

The carpets are highly symbolic, each design representing not only functional utility but also the social status of the user. The use of bright, rich color combinations and geometric motifs adds to their distinctiveness. Special varieties like Khatan (for seating), Thrisu-tan (decorative), and Maksu-maktan (for horseback) showcase the craftsmanship and cultural relevance of each piece.

Raw Materials

Wool (from local sheep), Natural Dyes (from Local Plants), Cotton Threads for Weaving

Price

Approx. ₹ 20,000/- to ₹ 50,000/-
(depending on size and intricacy)

Class of Goods
27

Proof of Origin
20th Century



Geographical Location
West Kameng and Tawang
districts, Arunachal Pradesh

Type of Goods
Handicraft

Number of Families Involved
Approx. 200-300 households

Method of Production

Monpa women weave these carpets using traditional hand-weaving techniques on looms. Wool is the primary material, and the carpets are woven in specific patterns, using natural dyes derived from local plants. Carpets are classified by their use, with each category having distinct designs that signify the status and culture of the wearer.

ARUNACHAL PRADESH WANCHO WOODEN CRAFT

The Wancho wooden craft is a traditional art form originating from the Longding district of Arunachal Pradesh. These wood carvings are intricately created from Pongmo wood, a soft and durable material, and include a range of objects such as log drums, animal figures, and ritualistic items. The designs are influenced by the daily life, nature, and mythology of the Wancho people, and the carvings are often used in rituals, celebrations, and as decorative gifts.

Uniqueness

The Wancho wooden crafts are deeply intertwined with the socio-cultural practices of the Wancho tribe, often used in rituals and festivals. The carvings, particularly log drums (Kham), are highly symbolic, representing community events, and include detailed motifs of animals, birds, and human figures. The use of Pongmo wood, known for its smooth texture and durability, makes these crafts distinct and prized.

Raw Materials

Pongmo Wood (from the Pongmo tree), Natural tools Like Dao, Natural Finishes (polish and burnish)

Price

Approx. ₹ 5,000/- to ₹ 25,000/-
depending on quality

Geographical Location

Longding district,
Arunachal Pradesh

Class of Goods
20

Type of Goods
Handicraft

Proof of Origin
18th Century

Number of Families Involved
Approx. 100-150 households



Method of Production

The carving process involves cutting Pongmo wood from the wild, with the youth of the village involved in the preparation. The wood is then carved using traditional hand tools like the Dao, with designs drawn based on ritualistic themes and daily life. The entire process can take 20-25 days to complete, depending on the complexity of the piece, and the carving is finished with sunlight drying and polishing.

ARUNACHAL PRADESH NYISHI TEXTILE

Nyishi textiles, especially gales (traditional cloths), are an integral part of the tribe's cultural identity. Women weave these garments using eri silk and cotton, with motifs representing traditions, nature, and community life. The fabrics include Pomo, Dumping, Jeku, and Luch gales, each with distinct symbolic motifs, worn on important festivals like Nyokum Yullo and for everyday rituals.

Uniqueness

Nyishi textiles are highly symbolic and reflect the tribe's cultural diversity through their motifs. The Jekum gale, considered the most expensive, is woven using eri silk and takes up to 25 days to complete. Each gale has specific motifs tied to the wearer's status and the occasion, such as Pomo gale for tradition and Dumping gale for dance performances. These textiles represent unity within the Nyishi tribe, symbolized by their communal weaving.

Raw Materials

Eri silk (locally sourced), Cotton, Loin loom, Natural dyes (for weaving motifs)

Price

Approx. ₹ 1,000 to ₹ 60,000
depending on quality

Geographical Location

East Kameng and Lower
Subansiri districts,
Arunachal Pradesh

Class of Goods
24 & 25

Type of Goods
Handicraft

Proof of Origin
18th Century

Number of Families Involved
Approx. 200-250 households



Method of Production

Nyishi textiles are traditionally woven using a loin loom, a technique that involves hand-weaving eri silk or cotton into fabrics. The motifs, which are sometimes embroidered, are intricately added during the weaving process. Gales take between 15 to 25 days to complete, depending on the complexity of the motifs. The Pomo gale is often considered the oldest and holds the highest traditional value.

ARUNACHAL PRADESH ADI KEKIR (GINGER)

Kekir, also known as Ginger (*Zingiber officinale*), is a tropical herb grown in the foothill districts of Arunachal Pradesh, particularly in the Dibang Valley. The variety found here, *Amomum riwatchii*, is known for its high medicinal and aromatic value. It is used in traditional cooking, medicinal treatments, and the production of ginger beer and ginger wine.

Uniqueness

Adi Kekir is prized for its distinct aroma and bioactive properties, especially its essential oil, which is extracted for use in perfumes and medicinal treatments. The Adi tribes have cultivated this ginger for generations, and it plays a significant role in their herbal remedies, notably for nausea, indigestion, and menstrual pain.

Price

Approx. ₹100 to ₹300 per kg
depending on quality

Geographical Location

Dibang Valley,
Arunachal Pradesh

Class of Goods
31

Type of Goods
Agricultural

Proof of Origin
Early 19th Century

Number of Families Involved
Approx. 250-500 households



Method of Production

The ginger is cultivated using traditional farming methods in the foothills of Arunachal Pradesh, where it grows to a height of 30-50 cm. The rhizomes (underground stems) are harvested, dried, and processed to extract essential oils and oleoresins. These are then used for flavouring in food, medicinal applications, and aromatic products.

ARUNACHAL PRADESH MONPA HANDMADE PAPER

Monpa Handmade Paper (Mon-Shug) is a traditional paper produced by the Monpa tribe of Arunachal Pradesh, primarily in the Tawang and West Kameng districts. Made from the bark of the Shugu Sheng tree (Daphnie Paperacia), this paper has significant cultural and religious value, especially in Buddhist rituals. The paper is used for writing Buddhist scriptures, prayer flags, and scrolls.

Uniqueness

Monpa paper, known as Mon-Shug, is unique for its fine texture and historical significance. It has been produced for over 1000 years and remains integral to the Monpa culture. The production method is labor-intensive and involves harvesting bark from a shrub-like tree, sun-drying, boiling, and grinding the bark to form a pulp, which is spread on a frame to create sheets of paper.

Raw Materials

Shugu Sheng Bark (Daphnie Paperacia), Water, Fine cloth for frame.

Price

Approx. ₹50 to ₹60 per kg
depending on quality

Class of Goods
16

Proof of Origin
7th Century

Geographical Location

Tawang and West
Kameng districts,
Arunachal Pradesh

Type of Goods
Handicraft

Number of Families Involved

Approx. 200-250 households



Method of Production

The Shugu Sheng tree bark is harvested from the remote mountains of Arunachal Pradesh. The bark is sun-dried, boiled in water, and ground into a paste. The paste is spread on a rectangular frame with a fine cloth screen and dried again in the sun to form the final paper.

ARUNACHAL PRADESH ADI TEXTILE

The Adi textile is an important traditional craft of the Adi tribe in Arunachal Pradesh, known for its intricate weaving, vibrant colors, and rich cultural symbolism. The fabrics are primarily woven by Adi women using loin looms, and the motifs and designs used in these textiles reflect the tribe's cultural beliefs, social status, and ethnic origins. Materials like deerskin, bearskin, and cane skin are used, with organic dyes derived from local plants.

Uniqueness

The Adi textiles are unique for their deep cultural connections, with designs often reflecting spiritual beliefs and social standing. The weaving technique involves the use of natural resources, including indigenous cotton varieties and silkworms. The colors and patterns have symbolic meanings, and weaving is a vital livelihood for Adi women, passed down through generations.

Price

Approx. ₹ 1,000 to ₹ 60,000
per kg
depending on quality

Class of Goods
24 & 25

Proof of Origin
17th Century



Geographical Location

Adi Tribe, Arunachal Pradesh,
specifically in the regions of
Upper Siang, East and
West Siang, Dibang Valley,
and Upper Subansiri.

Type of Goods
Handicraft

Number of Families Involved
Approx. 800-1000 households

Method of Production

Adi women use loin looms to weave textiles, primarily relying on locally sourced materials like cotton and silkworm thread. Dyes are made from local plants, and the weaving process involves spinning, dyeing, and weaving skills that require years of experience. The textiles are used for making traditional garments, often worn during cultural and ceremonial occasions.

ARUNACHAL PRADESH GALO TEXTILE

The Galo textile is a traditional handwoven garment worn by the Galo tribe in Arunachal Pradesh, particularly Jese Kooree, a lower garment worn by women during ceremonial occasions. Made from cotton harvested from cleared virgin forests, the fabric is intricately woven with symbolic motifs that tell the mythological story of the Galo people. The textile features alternating thicker and thinner threads, representing the bond between mother and child, and is often used in marriage ceremonies.

Uniqueness

The Galo textile stands out for its rich mythological significance and symbolic motifs, especially the Jese Kooree, which is designed to represent a ladder for the bride during marriage ceremonies. The intricate weaving technique and the use of natural fibers and organic dyes give the textile both cultural and aesthetic importance. The Galo women are the primary custodians of this weaving tradition, passing it down through generations.

Price

Approx. ₹2,000 to ₹3,000
per kg depending
on quality

Class of Goods
24

Proof of Origin

Before the 17th Century



Geographical Location

The Galo tribe primarily resides in the regions of Upper Subansiri, West Siang, and East Siang districts of Arunachal Pradesh.

Type of Goods
Handicraft

Number of Families Involved

Approx. 200-400 households

Method of Production

The Galo textiles are woven using traditional looms, with hand-spun cotton. The production process includes spinning, dyeing, and weaving, using organic cotton and locally available threads. The designs, such as the Jese Kooree, require careful weaving of thick and thin threads, often with green and red borders. The textiles are produced for ceremonial purposes, especially for weddings, and reflect the tribal culture and spiritual beliefs.

ARUNACHAL PRADESH ADI APONG

Adi Apong is a traditional rice beer brewed by the Adi tribe of Arunachal Pradesh. The beverage is made by fermenting boiled rice with burnt rice husk and Kshai starter culture for 20 days, using bamboo mats and locally available oko leaves for fermentation. The resulting liquid is filtered using bamboo funnels and consumed as a mildly alcoholic drink. Apong is culturally significant, often used in religious ceremonies, social rituals, and as a respectful offering to guests.

Uniqueness

Apong is unique to the Adi tribe and is integral to their social, cultural, and spiritual life. Its preparation involves the use of natural ingredients like rice, rice husk, and specific wild plants, creating a distinct flavor and nutritional profile. Apong's fermentation process and its role in both ceremonial and festive contexts make it a revered beverage. Additionally, its use in spiritual practices where it is offered as a fragrant essence highlights its cultural importance.

Price

Approx. ₹1000 to ₹300 per kg
depending on quality

Class of Goods
32

Proof of Origin

Long before the 17th Century.
as early as the Ijo Kaaqo era.



Geographical Location

The Adi tribe resides in
the Upper Siang, East Siang,
and West Siang districts
of Arunachal Pradesh

Type of Goods
Manufactured

Number of Families Involved

Approx. 200-300 households

Method of Production

To make Apong, boiled rice is mixed with burnt rice husk in a 1:1 ratio, then combined with Kshai powder and kept in a bamboo container for fermentation. After 20 days, the mixture is filtered using Perpur, a bamboo funnel. The fermented liquid is squeezed out using Lngiak fruit and stored. The quality improves with time, and the drink can be stored for 1-2 weeks before consumption. If further fermented, Rakshi, a stronger variant, can be distilled from the fermented stock.

ARUNACHAL PRADESH ANGYAT MILLET

Angnyat Millet, also known as Job's Tears or Tanyak, is a tall, annual grass native to Arunachal Pradesh, particularly the Siang belt. This millet is valued for its nutritional properties, including high protein, iron, and zinc content. The grains are used in a variety of food preparations, from porridge and roasted snacks to being brewed into a light beer. It is considered a superior alternative to rice, offering greater health benefits, including antioxidant properties.

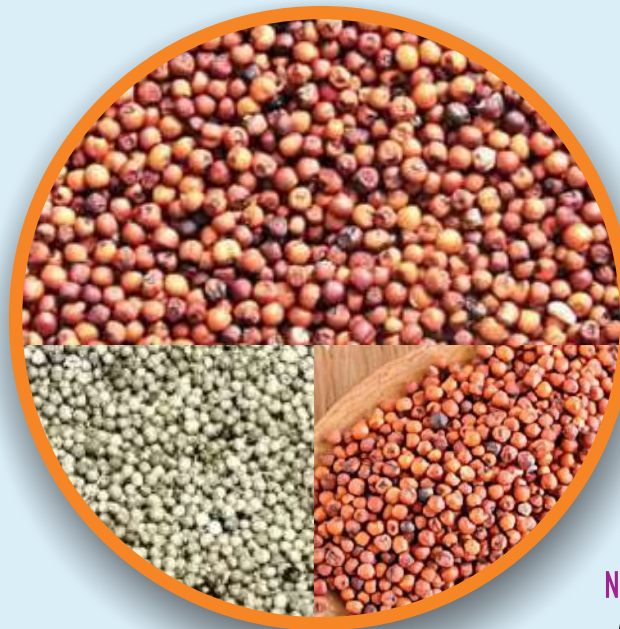
Uniqueness

Angnyat is known for its high nutritional value, particularly its protein-to-carbohydrate ratio, which makes it a healthier alternative to other grains like rice and wheat. The plant is resilient, able to withstand drought and biotic stress. It grows near water sources in Arunachal Pradesh and has traditionally been used for food, medicine, and brewing. Its grains are also used for making ornaments and its foliage serves as fodder for livestock.

Price
Approx. ₹250 to ₹400
per kg depending
on quality

Class of Goods
31

Proof of Origin
16th Century



Geographical Location
Arunachal Pradesh

Type of Goods
Agriculture

Number of Families Involved
Approx. 200-300 households

Method of Production

Angnyat is grown in wilderness areas near water sources, typically cultivated during the summer. The grains are harvested from the plant, which reaches a height of 3-6 feet, and are then processed into flour, porridge, or snacks. The grains are also fermented to make a mild beer. The plant's hard seed coat makes it difficult to process, but the grain's higher protein content makes it valuable. The leaves and stems are used as fodder, and the grains can be roasted, boiled, or ground into flour for baking.

ARUNACHAL PRADESH MARUA APO (MARUA MILLET BEVERAGE)

Marua Apo, also known as a traditional millet beverage, is an alcoholic drink prepared from Marua millet (finger millet). It is typically produced by fermenting Marua millet using a traditional fermentation process. The beverage is often golden yellow in color, has a sweet taste, and emits a sweet alcoholic aroma during saccharification, signaling successful fermentation. Marua Apo is widely consumed in Arunachal Pradesh during festivals, ceremonies, and rituals by various tribes, especially the Tai Khampti community

Uniqueness

Marua Apo is known for its unique fermentation process, where the fermented millet mass is mixed with lukewarm water, and the resulting filtrate is consumed as a beverage. The drink is highly valued for its nutritional content, including higher levels of protein, iron, and zinc. Unlike commercial alcoholic beverages, Marua Apo is made traditionally, often in small quantities for special occasions, making it a significant part of local cultural and spiritual practices

Price

Approx. ₹180 to ₹400

Geographical Location
Arunachal Pradesh

Type of Goods
Manufactured

Class of Goods
32

Proof of Origin
2000 BCE

Number of Families Involved
Approx. 300-350 households



Method of Production

To prepare Marua Apo, Marua millet is first fermented in a traditional manner. The millet is transferred into a perforated bamboo basket, and lukewarm water is poured onto it at a specific rate. The mixture is left to ferment, and the resulting liquid, known as Madua Apong, is collected and consumed. This beverage is typically home-made and prepared using natural fermentation techniques passed down through generations, without the use of modern machinery or artificial additives. The process is time-consuming, labor-intensive, and results in a product with a short shelf life unless processed further for preservation.

ARUNACHAL PRADESH TAI KHAMTI TEXTILE

The Tai Khamti textiles are traditional handwoven fabrics that are deeply rooted in the cultural and religious traditions of the Tai Khamti community. These textiles are known for their vivid colors, distinctive patterns, and fine craftsmanship. The men wear a chequered lungi made of cotton or silk, while women wear embroidered wristcloths, skirts (Scin), and long-sleeved jackets (Khenyao). The textiles are also characterized by intricate embroidery and distinctive color combinations such as green, red, white, and black.

Uniqueness

The Tai Khamti textiles are unique due to the combination of traditional weaving techniques, hand embroidery, and the use of locally sourced fibers. The lungi, Scin, and Khenyao garments are often worn during cultural and religious ceremonies, making them not only a part of daily attire but also of significant cultural importance. The Khampti men's dress includes a tight-fitting jacket (Chyn), a white turban (Fal kr), and a multi-colored sarong (Phanoi), while the women's hair is styled in an elaborate knot, encircled by an embroidered band, which showcases the beauty of the textile craftsmanship.

Price

Approx. ₹ 500 to ₹ 10,000
depending on quality

Geographical Location
Arunachal Pradesh

Class of Goods
24

Type of Goods
Handicraft

Proof of Origin
18th Century

Number of Families Involved
Approx. 200-300 families



Method of Production

The Tai Khampti textiles are produced using traditional handloom weaving techniques passed down through generations. The process involves manual weaving of cotton and silk threads to create vibrant, multi-colored patterns. Embroidered wristcloths and skirts are made with intricate hand-stitching techniques. These garments are often created for festivals and cultural rituals, making them an important part of the community's heritage. Natural dyes derived from local plants and minerals are used to achieve the distinctive colors.

ARUNACHAL PRADESH DAO (SWORD)

In Arunachal Pradesh the federal state of India there are approx. 100 ethnic groups are living and nearly all have daos as their weapon. The dao is 19.5" long with a blade. Handle is from wood with a cross piece from bone. Dao blade from 16", handle is complete from bone with a fenule from brass wire and the open scabbard is also brass braided. The blade is marked with different tribes wearing similar daos.

Uniqueness

Dao machet, a single-edged sword, /blade used in the Northeast India for chopping, slicing, etc. The swords are shaking in each recess of the room; spears pierce the walls. The handle is embellished with the locally found shells and the bamboo case if further coated with the fur of a monkey or a bear. The Nyishi Iribe is one of the principal inhabitants of Arunachal Pradesh. They carry a doo (uriuk, chiighee in Nyishi) (short sword) and a knife (Ryukchak) in a bamboo sheath.

Raw Materials

Cane, Bamboo, Fur, Leather. Wood, Organic natural colour, langoor tails. cowries (tahn), shell, Quenching oil.
Iron Rod. Iron rod used for sword making are imported from Assam, and forged by local blacksmiths.

Price

Approx. ₹2,500 to ₹5,000
depending on quality

Class of Goods
08

Proof of Origin

500 BC to 600 AD



Geographical Location
Arunachal Pradesh

Type of Goods
Manufactured

Number of Families Involved

Approx. 500-1,000 families

Method of Production

At first cut out the sword's shape on a long sheet of steel stock. Once the rough shape is cut, then sharpen and smooth the edge to make a simple handle, punch holes at the edge of the blade for attaching to flat pieces of wood on either side of the blade. Sand down the wooden handle.



FILED Gls

BOPA / BOPIA

Bopa/Bopia is a traditional headgear worn by the Nyishi tribe of Arunachal Pradesh during important socio-cultural events. The headgear symbolizes tribal identity and is crafted from locally sourced materials, including cane (Oso), wooden hornbill beak (from *Gmelina arborea* and *Alnus nepalensis*), and feathers. It is a symbol of the tribe's cultural heritage and is used in various rituals and ceremonies.

Uniqueness

The Bopa/Bopia is a distinctive piece of attire, known for its wooden hornbill beak, feather accents, and artificial hair attachments. The use of local materials like cane and wood, along with the unique combination of elements like Dumso (artificial hair wrapping) and Dumko/Dumkyo (copper or aluminum fasteners), makes it a culturally rich and highly symbolic item in the Nyishi community.

Raw Materials

Cane, Bamboo, Fur, Leather. Wood, Organic natural colour, langoor tails. cowries (tahn), shell, Quenching oil. Iron Rod. Iron rod used for sword making are imported from Assam, and forged by local blacksmiths.

Price

Approx. ₹150 to ₹250
depending on quality

Geographical Location
Arunachal Pradesh

Class of Goods
25

Type of Goods
Handicraft

Proof of Origin
17th Century

Number of Families Involved
Approx. 200-250 households



Method of Production

The Bopa/Bopia is hand-crafted using locally available materials such as cane (Oso), wooden beak from the hornbill (*Gmelina arborea*, *Alnus nepalensis*), and feathers. Handmade tools are used in its production, with particular attention to wrapping artificial hair (Dum) with yellow, green, and red yarns (Dumso) and securing the headgear with Dumko/Dumkyo fasteners.



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YAK CHAMAR

Yak Chamar is a traditional ceremonial fan made from the tail hair of the yak, commonly used in Hindu, Jain, Buddhist, and Sikh religious rituals. The fan is used to wave at deities during worship, offering coolness and keeping away insects. The yak tail hair used in these fans is known for its coarseness and lustrous quality, making it highly valued in both ritualistic and royal contexts. The hair is mounted on a decorative handle, often made of silver or other metals, and is used in religious ceremonies, processions, and royal settings.

Uniqueness

Yak Chamar is unique because it uses tail hair from yaks, which is considered ritually pure and is highly regarded for ceremonial purposes. The Chamar has deep cultural significance in the Himalayan region, especially in Ladakh, Arunachal Pradesh, and other trans-Himalayan areas, where it is integral to religious worship. The plume of the yak tail, with its distinctive luster and softness, is a symbol of royalty, divinity, and honor, especially during religious festivals and rituals.

Price

Approx. ₹3,000 to ₹10,000
depending on quality

Class of Goods
21

Proof of Origin
14th Century

Geographical Location
Arunachal Pradesh

Type of Goods
Handicraft

Number of Families Involved
Approximately 150-200 families



Method of Production

The production of Yak Chamar involves collecting hair from the yak's tail, which is then carefully cleaned, sorted, and mounted on a metallic holder (often silver or brass). The hair is selected for its length, strength, and appearance, and it is then woven or arranged into the desired form. The holder is often elaborately designed, reflecting the cultural and artistic traditions of the region.

MONPA MAIZE

Monpa Maize is a distinct variety of maize cultivated by the Monpa tribe in Arunachal Pradesh, India, renowned for its adaptation to hilly terrain and unique agro-climatic conditions. The maize plants are characterized by their height of around 200 cm, single robust cobs, and vibrant yellow to reddish-yellow kernels. The tassel is notably white, contributing to the maize's aesthetic and cultural significance. It is integral to the Monpa tribe's dietary traditions, used in traditional dishes like "Zan" (maize porridge) and "Putu" (fermented maize cakes).

Uniqueness

The Monpa maize has evolved through centuries of cultivation by the Monpa people, resulting in well-formed cobs that are 15-16 cm in length, with 10 rows of kernels on average. Its extended maturation period (105-115 days) ensures high kernel filling (80%-85%), making it nutritious and sustainable. The distinctive white tassel and colorful kernels also set this maize apart from other varieties.

Price
Approx. ₹ 30 to ₹ 15
per kilogram

Class of Goods
31

Proof of Origin
17th Century

Geographical Location
Arunachal Pradesh

Type of Goods
Agriculture

Number of Families Involved
Approximately 3,000-5,000 families



Method of Production

The Monpa maize is traditionally grown using indigenous farming techniques passed down through generations. The Monpa people carefully select maize varieties suited to their specific altitudes and microclimates. The maize is typically cultivated in hilly terrains with a focus on maintaining soil fertility and water conservation. The tribe continues to use traditional knowledge to guide the selection of seeds and timing of planting, ensuring high yields and quality.



ARUNACHAL PRADESH SINGPHO TEXTILE

The Singpho textiles are known for their unique, intricate designs and vibrant color combinations, woven by Singpho women in Arunachal Pradesh. Using backstrap looms, they create multicolored garments featuring floral and geometric patterns inspired by nature, such as mountains and seeds. The textiles are traditionally dyed with natural, environment-friendly materials like plants, seeds, and barks. These garments are integral to the tribe's cultural identity and daily life, with distinct designs for different age groups.

Uniqueness

The Singpho textile tradition stands out for its natural dyeing techniques, creating vibrant colors using local plants. Women's clothing often includes multicolored motifs, showcasing the tribe's creativity and strong connection to nature. Their skillful weaving techniques passed through generations, and customary weaving sets gifted during marriages underscore the cultural importance of textile arts in the Singpho community.

Price

Approx. ₹ 500 to ₹ 4,500
depending on quality.

Geographical Location
Arunachal Pradesh

Type of Goods
Handicraft

Class of Goods
24

Proof of Origin

The early 19th Century

Number of Families Involved

Approximately 1,500-2,000 families



Method of Production

Singpho textiles are traditionally woven on backstrap looms, a method practiced primarily by Singpho women. The process involves extracting dyes from natural sources like barks, leaves, and seeds, making the textiles completely eco-friendly. Weaving is a key household industry, and women begin training in their childhood, honing their skills over years. The designs are often influenced by natural elements and cultural symbolism.



ARUNACHAL PRADESH WANCHO BEADS CRAFT

Wancho beadwork is a traditional jewelry craft made by the Wancho tribe of Arunachal Pradesh, utilizing glass, bone, shell, and metal beads to create intricate necklaces, bracelets, earrings, and headgear.

Uniqueness

The craft is distinctive for its geometric patterns and vibrant colors, with each design representing cultural beliefs, tribal identity, and social status. The beads also hold spiritual significance and are used in marriage rituals and ceremonial events.

Raw Materials

Glass Beads, Bones, Shells, Metal (brass/copper), Cotton or Silk Thread

Price

Approx. ₹ 500 to ₹ 5,000
per piece, depending on quality

Class of Goods
20

Proof of Origin
16th-17th Centuries



Geographical Location

Primarily from the Tirap district of Arunachal Pradesh, especially Longding, Laju, and Chongkham.

Type of Goods
Handicraft

Number of Families Involved
Approximately 300-500 families

Method of Production

Beads made from glass, bone, shell, and metal are carefully threaded into elaborate patterns. The beadwork is handwoven by artisans, with designs often passed down through generations, used for creating necklaces, bracelets, headgear, and other accessories.

KAMAN & DIGARU MISHMI TEXTILE OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH

Kaman & Digaru Mishmi textiles are traditional woven fabrics made by the Mishmi tribe of Arunachal Pradesh, primarily used for making shawls, scarves, and blankets. These textiles feature bold, geometric designs and are created using wool and cotton.

Uniqueness

The textiles are known for their distinctive geometric patterns and vibrant colors such as red, black, and yellow, which represent the tribe's cultural heritage and spiritual beliefs. The designs are rich with symbolic meaning, often relating to nature and tribal identity.

Raw Materials

Cotton, Wool, Natural Dyes (from plants and minerals).

Price

Approx. ₹ 500 to ₹ 5,000
per piece, depending on quality

Class of Goods
24

Proof of Origin
16th Century



Geographical Location

The Kaman & Digaru Mishmi communities are primarily located in the Tawang and Upper Subansiri districts of Arunachal Pradesh

Type of Goods
Handicraft

Number of Families Involved
Approximately 200-300 families

Method of Production

The weaving process uses traditional handlooms where artisans carefully weave cotton and wool fibers into intricate geometric patterns. Natural dyes from plants and minerals are used to color the yarn, giving the textiles their vibrant hues

YAK WOOL FABRIC & PU CHUPPA

Yak wool fabric is a warm, insulating textile made from the wool of domesticated yaks, primarily used to make Pu Chuppa, a traditional jacket. The wool is renowned for its softness, warmth, and thermal insulation properties, ideal for cold, high-altitude regions.

Uniqueness

Yak wool fabric is highly valued for its lightweight warmth and insulating properties, making it especially suited for extreme cold weather in the high-altitude regions of Arunachal Pradesh. The Pu Chuppa jacket, traditionally worn by the Monpa tribe, is uniquely crafted with yak wool, embodying both cultural heritage and functional design.

Raw Materials

Yak wool, primarily sourced from domesticated yaks found in the high-altitude regions of Arunachal Pradesh, is the primary raw material, dyestuffs for colouring the wool and fibres from local plants used for weaving.

Price

Approx. ₹4,000 to ₹6,000,
depending on the quality

Geographical Location

The Monpa community in
Tawang and West Kameng
districts of Arunachal Pradesh

Class of Goods
22

Type of Goods
Handicraft

Proof of Origin
17th Century

Number of Families Involved
Approximately 500-1,000 families



Method of Production

The process involves harvesting yak wool from the animals, followed by spinning the fibres into yarn. The yarn is then woven into fabric, which is used to make Pu Chuppa jackets. The jackets are handcrafted with intricate designs, often using traditional weaving and tailoring techniques by local artisans.

YAK CHITPA JAAMU

The Yak Chitpa Jaamu is a traditional cap made from the coarse outer hair of the yak, predominantly crafted by the Monpa tribe in Arunachal Pradesh. The cap serves as essential headgear, providing insulation against the cold, and is characterized by its robust, natural texture.

Uniqueness

The Yak Chitpa Jaamu stands out for its use of yak's coarse hair, a material well-adapted to the harsh climates of the Himalayan region. The cap's making process is deeply rooted in the traditional craftsmanship of the Monpa people, combining natural materials with indigenous techniques that have been passed down through generations.

Raw Materials

The primary material used is the coarse outer hair of the yak, which is sheared, cleaned, and processed into the cap.

Price

Approx. ₹300 to ₹500 per cap

Class of Goods
25

Proof of Origin
17th Century



Geographical Location

The cap is primarily produced in the Tawang and West Kameng districts of Arunachal Pradesh, predominantly by the Monpa tribe.

Type of Goods
Handicraft

Number of Families Involved
Approx. 100-150 families

Method of Production

The production begins with shearing the yak's coarse hair, followed by washing, sorting, and laying out the fibres. The strands are then wetted with whey, rolled together for adhesion, and shaped into a cap, which is later felted and sun-dried to finalize its form and durability.

ARUNACHAL PRADESH YAK CHURKAM

Yak Churkam is a traditional cheese product made from yak milk, commonly produced by the Brokpa community in Arunachal Pradesh. It is a fermented milk product with a unique texture, often consumed as a snack or used in cooking.

Uniqueness

Yak Churkam is distinct for its production process, which involves the use of chhurpi (hard cheese) and churku (buttermilk). The product is known for its high nutritional value and authentic preparation method passed down through generations. It holds cultural significance in local customs and is rarely produced outside the Himalayan regions.

Raw Materials

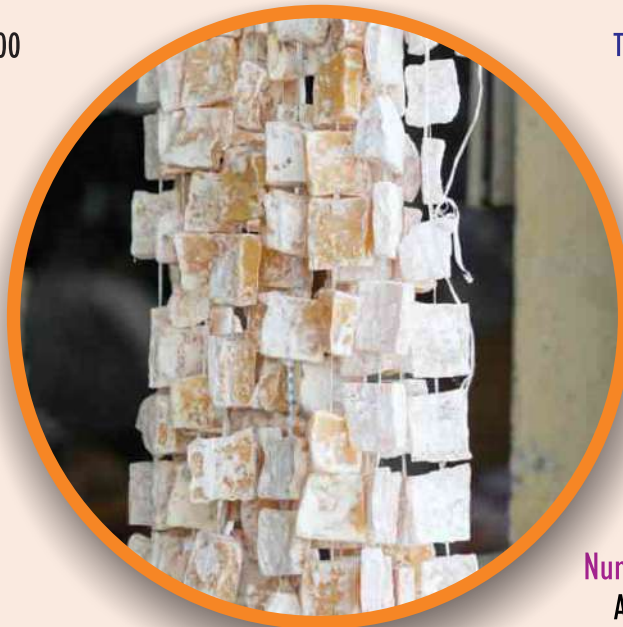
Yak milk and natural fibers for sewing the pieces together.

Price

Approx. ₹800 to ₹2,000
per kg

Class of Goods
29

Proof of Origin
19th Century



Geographical Location

Primarily produced in the
Tawang and West Kameng districts
of Arunachal Pradesh,
particularly by the Brokpa
community who practice
yak herding

Type of Goods
Food Stuff

Number of Families Involved
Approx. 300-400 families

Method of Production

To make Yak Churkam, chhurpi is first boiled and drained of excess liquid. The product is then cut into small cubes and boiled again with churku (buttermilk). After drying, the pieces are sewn into rolls and hung for further drying at room temperature for several days.



YAK WOOLEN BLANKET AND FLOOR COVERING (LUEI)

Luei is a traditional yak hair-based carpet or blanket, woven by the Monpa community of Arunachal Pradesh. These carpets serve as floor coverings or blankets, prized for their warmth and durability, and are made using yak hair sheared during the summer months.

Uniqueness

Luei is unique for its use of yak hair, a rare and sustainable material. The carpets feature intricate designs and vibrant colors that reflect the cultural significance of the Monpa community. Entirely handcrafted using traditional techniques, Luei is a symbol of the region's craftsmanship.

Raw Materials

The raw materials used are yak hair (coarse fibres from the body, tail, and abdomen of the yak) and sometimes cotton yarn for certain designs.

Price

Approx. ₹2,000 to ₹10,000

Geographical Location

Luei is primarily made in the Tawang and West Kameng districts of Arunachal Pradesh

Class of Goods
27

Type of Goods
Handicraft

Proof of Origin
16th Century

Number of Families Involved
Approx. 300-400 families



Method of Production

The production involves several steps: shearing yak hair, sorting, cleaning, and drying the fibres. These fibres are then carded, hand-spun into yarn, and woven into carpets on handlooms. The final pieces are hand-stitched together to form the completed Luei.



BEBO LARGE CARDAMOM

Bebo Large Cardamom is a premium variety of cardamom grown in the high-altitude regions of Arunachal Pradesh. It is known for its large size, strong aroma, and distinctive flavor, making it highly sought after in the spice market. It is primarily cultivated in the districts of Tawang, West Kameng, and East Kameng.

Uniqueness

The Bebo Large Cardamom is unique for its large pods, rich fragrance, and robust flavor, which is ideal for use in culinary dishes and traditional medicine. The unique climatic conditions of Arunachal Pradesh, with its cool temperatures and organic farming practices, contribute to the cardamom's superior quality.

Price

Approx. ₹1,200 to ₹2,500
per kilogram

Geographical Location

West Siang district of
Arunachal Pradesh

Class of Goods
30

Type of Goods
Agriculture

Proof of Origin
Around 3000 BC

Number of Families Involved
Approximately
2,000 to 3,000 families



Method of Production

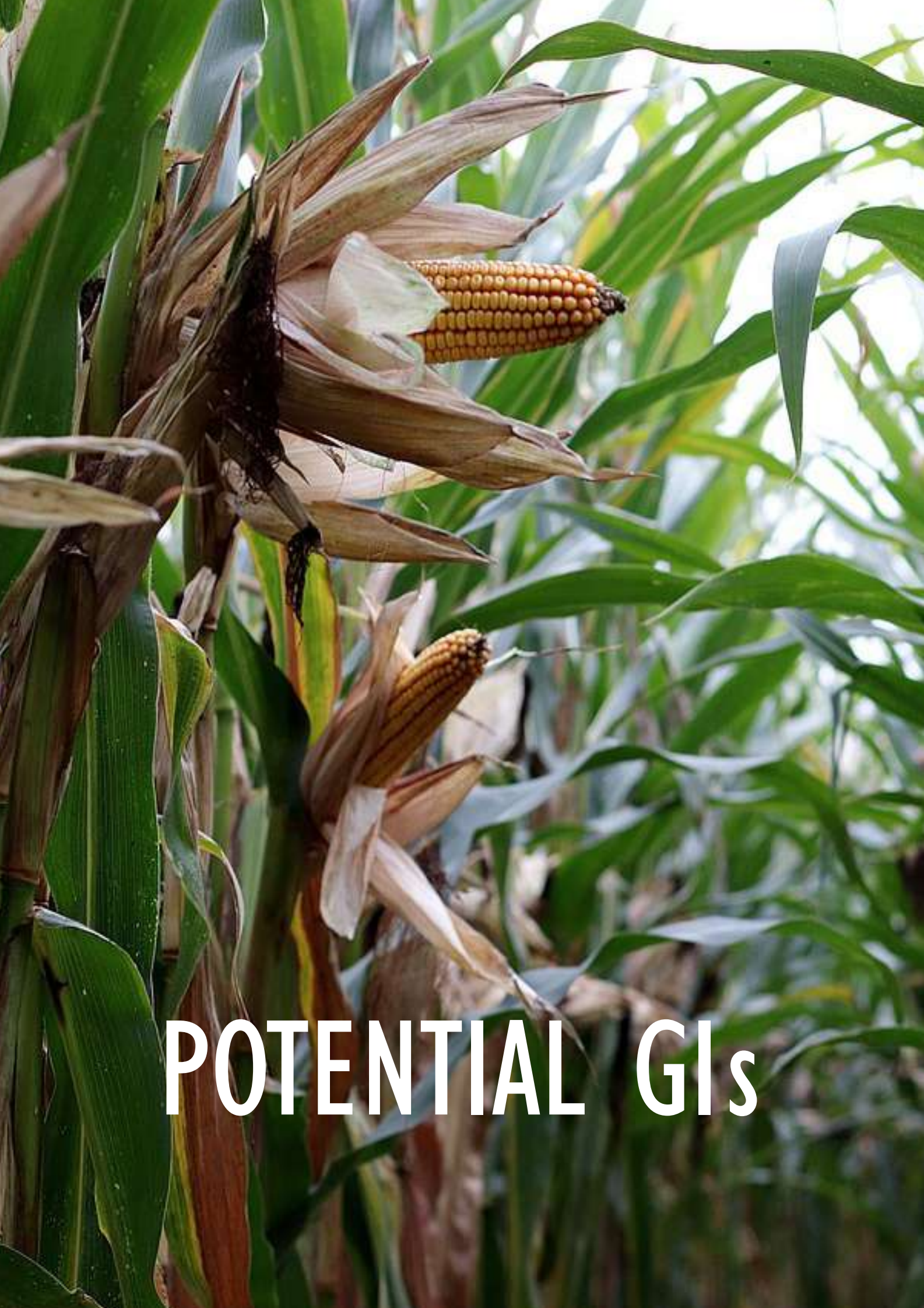
The cardamom is grown using organic farming methods in the high-altitude regions of Arunachal Pradesh. Farmers harvest the pods manually, and the cardamom is then dried carefully to preserve its flavor and aroma. It is traditionally cultivated without the use of chemical fertilizers.



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A close-up photograph of two corn cobs on a stalk. The top cob is partially husked, revealing its golden-yellow kernels. The bottom cob is still mostly covered by its brown, papery husk. The background is filled with green corn leaves, some of which are slightly out of focus.

POTENTIAL GIS

ARUNACHAL PRADESH THANGKA PAINTING

Thangka paintings are traditional Tibetan Buddhist artworks that are hand-painted on fabric, typically depicting Buddhist deities, mandalas, and religious symbols. In Arunachal Pradesh, particularly in the Tawang region, these Thangkas are known for their intricate detailing, fine gold leaf work, and rich iconography that are used for spiritual and educational purposes in Buddhist monasteries. They play a significant role in religious rituals, teachings, and meditation.

Uniqueness

Arunachal Pradesh's Thangkas are distinct due to their fine craftsmanship and intricate iconography, often reflecting local cultural elements such as the Monpa people's folklore and regional landscapes, which are not commonly seen in Thangkas from other regions like Ladakh. While Ladakhi Thangkas are characterized by bold outlines and graphic simplicity, Arunachali Thangkas are known for their elaborate detailing, use of vibrant mineral pigments, and rich gold leaf decoration. The artwork incorporates symbolic features unique to Arunachal's Buddhist heritage, blending Tibetan Buddhist practices with local artistic expressions.

Raw Materials

Cotton or Silk fabric, Mineral Pigments, Gold Leaf, Natural Brushes, Gesso

Price

Approx. ₹ 5,000 to ₹ 50,000 or more.

Class of Goods
16

Proof of Origin
12th Century



Geographical Location

Primarily produced in the
Tawang district of
Arunachal Pradesh

Type of Goods
Handicraft

Number of Families Involved

Approximately 50-100 families

Method of Production

Thangka paintings are created by first sketching the design onto a cloth canvas, which is then covered with a mixture of gesso to make it smooth. The outline of the painting is done using fine brushwork, and the details are filled in with natural mineral pigments, with gold leaf often used for embellishment. The paintings typically take several weeks or months to complete, depending on their size and complexity. Artists follow traditional iconographic rules and may also incorporate local symbols and motifs in the artwork.



ARUNACHAL PRADESH BENYOP

The Benyop waist ornament is a traditional brass ornament crafted by the Adi-Minyong community of Arunachal Pradesh. It is a ceremonial piece, typically worn around the waist, with intricate brasswork and often embellished with geometric patterns, carvings, and symbolic designs that hold cultural and spiritual significance. This ornament is worn by women during festivals, weddings, and other important cultural events.

Uniqueness

The Benyop waist ornament is uniquely tied to the Adi-Minyong community of Arunachal Pradesh. Unlike similar ornaments from other tribal regions in India, it uses brass as its primary material, which is intricately handcrafted with fine engravings, unique symbolic patterns, and often dangling metal pendants. This gives it a distinctive visual appeal and cultural significance that is not found in similar ornaments from states like Nagaland or Assam, where silver or other materials may dominate. The geometric and symbolic carvings on the Benyop reflect the community's spiritual beliefs and tribal identity.

Raw Materials

The primary raw material used for the Benyop waist ornament is brass, sometimes mixed with copper. Other materials like beads, bones, or shells may also be used for additional embellishments or pendants. The brass is sourced locally, and the raw metal is shaped through traditional casting and engraving processes.

Price

Approx. ₹2,000 to ₹15,000

Class of Goods
I4

Proof of Origin
12th - 18th Century

Geographical Location
Arunachal Pradesh

Type of Goods
Handicraft

Number of Families Involved
Approximately 100-150 families



Method of Production

The production of the Benyop waist ornament involves traditional handcrafting techniques. Brass is sourced locally, and artisans melt, mold, and engrave the metal to create intricate designs. The ornament is then polished and shaped by hand using simple tools passed down through generations. These techniques ensure that each piece is unique and made with great attention to detail. The carvings on the ornament represent spiritual beliefs and tribal symbolism.



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MONPA WOODEN MASK

Monpa Wooden Masks are traditional hand-carved masks made by the Monpa community in Arunachal Pradesh. These masks are used in ritualistic dances and festivals, representing deities, spirits, and animals. The craftsmanship involves detailed carving, painting, and ornamentation.

Uniqueness

Known for their intricate carvings and vibrant colors, Monpa wooden masks are unique for their ritualistic significance and symbolic representations of local folklore, deities, and natural elements.

Raw Materials

Wood (pinewood, cedar), Natural Pigments, Traditional Carving Tools

Price

Approx. ₹1,500 to ₹5,000
depending on quality

Class of Goods
27

Proof of Origin
17th Century

Geographical Location
Tawang and West Kameng
districts of
Arunachal Pradesh

Type of Goods
Handicraft

Number of Families Involved
Approx. 200–300 families



Method of Production

Made from local wood (such as pinewood and cedar), the masks are carefully carved by hand using traditional tools, followed by painting with natural pigments. The process requires skilled artisans, often passed down through generations.

SHERDUKPEN HANDLOOMS & TEXTILES

Sherdukpen Handlooms & Textiles are traditional handwoven fabrics made by the Sherdukpen community in Arunachal Pradesh. The textiles include shawls, blankets, and garments, known for their geometric patterns and bold motifs, typically in bright colors like red, blue, and yellow. They are traditionally worn during festivals and cultural ceremonies.

Uniqueness

The textiles are distinguished by their unique motifs, which are symbolic of the Sherdukpen culture, often reflecting nature, animals, and daily life. The handwoven fabrics are also known for their durability, colorfastness, and rich cultural heritage, passed down through generations.

Raw Materials

Wool, Cotton, Natural Dyes, Pit Looms, and Backstrap Looms

Price

Approx. ₹ 1,000 to ₹ 5,000
depending on quality

Class of Goods
24

Proof of Origin
20th Century



Geographical Location
West Kameng and Tawang
Districts,
Arunachal Pradesh

Type of Goods
Handicraft

Number of Families Involved
Approx. 300–400 families

Method of Production

Sherdukpen textiles are woven using traditional pit looms and backstrap looms, with wool and cotton as primary materials. The process includes manual spinning, dyeing with natural dyes, and weaving using intricate techniques specific to the community.

MONPAS HANDLOOMS & TEXTILE GOODS

Monpas Handlooms & Textile Goods are traditional handwoven textiles made by the Monpa community in Arunachal Pradesh. These textiles include woolen shawls, blankets, and garments, known for their intricate patterns and rich colors. The fabrics are often used in traditional attire and rituals.

Uniqueness

These textiles are renowned for their symbolic designs, natural wool, and the use of local dyes. The unique combination of geometric and floral patterns represents the Monpa culture and their connection with nature, animals, and spirituality.

Raw Materials

Wool, Natural Dyes, Backstrap Looms, Pit Looms

Price

Approx. ₹1,500 to ₹6,000
per textile
depending on quality.

Class of Goods
24

Proof of Origin

Between 17th to 18th
Centuries

Geographical Location

Tawang and West Kameng
districts,
Arunachal Pradesh

Type of Goods
Handicraft

Number of Families Involved

Approx. 300–400 families



Method of Production

Monpas handlooms are woven using traditional backstrap looms and pit looms. Wool is spun, dyed with natural plant-based dyes, and woven into fabrics using intricate, traditional techniques passed down through generations.





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RIPA is not for profit organization, with an aim to promote and facilitate indigenous Intellectual Property (IP) at national and international level. RIPA aims at meeting the present and future requirement for growth and development of indigenous IP. RIPA further strengthen and complements the efforts of indigenous R&D and innovations.

About NEHDC

North Eastern Handicrafts and Handlooms Development Corporation (NEHDC), under the administrative control of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), Government of India, is an organisation that attempts to develop and promote the indigenous crafts of all the eight North Eastern states namely Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura, by connecting craftsmen to prospective markets and consumers and generating economic, cultural and social opportunities for creators while adding cultural value for consumers. To know more, visit: www.nehdc.com.

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RAJESH KUMAR VERMA

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A Campaign to Recapture the Legacy



Handicraft



Manufactured
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ARUNACHAL PRADESH



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