

Introduction

The **Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999** is a *sui generis* Act of the Parliament of India for protection of geographical indications in India. Under Articles 1 (2) and 10 of the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property, geographical indications are covered as an element of IPRs. India, as a member of the World Trade Organization (WTO), enacted the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration & Protection) Act, 1999 to comply with the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) which has come into force with effect from 15th September 2003. The Act is three fold, firstly by specific law governing the geographical indication of goods in the country which could adequately protect the interest of producers of such goods, secondly, to exclude unauthorized persons from misusing the geographical indications and to protect the consumers from deception and thirdly, to promote goods bearing Indian Geographical Indications in the export market.

Typically, such a name conveys an assurance of quality and distinctiveness which is essentially attributable to the fact of its origin in that defined geographical locality, region or country.. A Geographical Indication (GI) is registered for an initial period of ten years, which may be renewed from time to time. Infringement can be caused by use of the GI on such goods which indicates that such goods originate in such place other than its true place of origin or due to unfair competition. Registration acts as a prima facie evidence of validity of the indication and ownership.

H.P became the 1st State to Formulate “Policy for the Registration and Protection of Geographical Indications of Goods in Himachal Pradesh”. H.P Patent Information Centre files application on behalf of any association of persons, producers, organization in the State of H.P

Chamba Rumal

The Rumal is a Persian word for handkerchief, a square piece of cloth, and the term Chamba Rumal is associated with for the embroidered work done on the hand spun 'khaddar' or a fine muslin cloth, which is in square and oblong format. '**Chamba Rumal**' is a pictorial craft that represents unique embroidery, which originated and flourished during 17th –18th centuries in Chamba town in the State of Himachal Pradesh. In fact '*Rumal*' is a Persian word which means a handkerchief. However, the embroidery work done on a hand spun khaddar or a fine muslin cloth which is in square format, is known as Chamba Rumal. The Chamba Rumal derives its inspiration from Paintings in their general layout and themes, there is a predominance of figures of deities, especially of Vishnu in his different forms.



The “dorukha-tanka” the double satin stitch that is used in the Chamba Rumal embroidery is unique, which is not noticed in anywhere else in Indian embroidery tradition. This stitch placed closely side by side brings such extraordinary effect that the embroidery comes out strikingly identical on either side of the Rumal. Knot does not appear in the threads used in embroidery. The drawing is done in the outline with fine charcoal and brush by painters well – versed in Pahari painting. Chamba Rumal was registered Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act,1999 on 22 January 2007.

Kangra Painting

Kangra art is the visual expression of a cultural movement with roots in a great spiritual upsurge. The principal centre of Kangra paintings was *Kangra Valley* where the artists worked under the patronage of the hill Rajas of *Guler, Kangra* and *Nurpur*. The new arrivals mingled with the local artists and were greatly influenced by the atmosphere of the hills and adopted themes of eternal love between Radha and Krishna. Verdant greenery of the landscape, brooks, springs were the recurrent images on the miniatures.

Bhakti cult was the driving force and the love story of Radha and Krishna was the main source of spiritual experience, which was also the base for the visual expression. In some miniatures, the blue-god Krishna is seen dancing in the lush woodlands and every maiden’s eye are drawn to him. The sentiment of love remained the inspiration and the central theme of Kangra painting. The paintings were naturalistic and employed cool, fresh colors. The colors were extracted from minerals,vegetables and possessed enamel-like luster.



Kangra Painting was registered under Geographical Indication of goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999 on 2nd April 2012 obtaining Geographical indication No. 381.

Kangra Tea

Kangra tea industry occupied prime position with respect to its quality from the last quarter of nineteenth century to beginning of twentieth century. Tea made in Kangra during this period was comparable with that of any part of India. The mention of quality of Kangra tea in the #Gazetteer of Kangra district (1882-83) is like this *"The tea now made is probably superior to that produced in any other part of India. The demand for it has been steadily increasing and much is now bought up by natives for export via Peshawar to Kabul and Central Asia"*. The gold and silver medals won by the Kangra tea in London and Amsterdam markets in the late



nineteenth century (1886 to 1895) bear testimony of its quality at international level. The tea made in the hot weather used to be second to none and was sold as well as any. The Kangra valley during 1920's produced nearly half the green tea manufactured in India, and it was exported to Afghanistan and Iran.

Kangra tea with perfect blend of liquor and flavour has bountiful of health nourishing natural products. Kangra tea leaves have up to 13 % catechins that are saved with high efficiency whole leaf - orthodox manufacture. These polyphenols are proven antioxidant, hypolipidimic, hypotensive, anticarcinogenic, diuretic, antidentalcariatic and antimicrobial. It also has 3 % caffeine and amino acids like theanine, glutamine, and tryptophan - the important vitalizers.

Kangra tea is derived from the leaves, buds and tender stems of plants the botanical name of tea plants is *Camellia sinensis* or *Thea sinensis* grown in Kangra Valley & Jogindernagar area of Mandi District and Bhatiyat Tehsil of Chamba District is mainly produced in the southern slopes of Dhauladhar ranges of western Himalayas within the altitude range of 900m to 1400 m. Kangra Tea was registered under Geographical Indication of goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999 on 2nd April, 2012

Kinnauri Shawl

The woolen art fabric of Kinnaur is very old and it flourished in the erstwhile state of Rampur Bushehar. Due to traditional designing on woolen shawls and caps the products are recognizably Kinnauri. It has been the nesting place of Hinduism and Budhism. Kinnauri Shawl is known as Chhali in local dialect. Its average size is 42"x96" and it can vary as per body structure of ladies and gents. Ladies wear chhali toparoo (Shawl of designing pattern) whereas gents wear plain chhali.





The Kinnauri decorative designs are largely geometrical, executed in very soft and pleasing pastel shades. In Kinnauri Shawls, there is intricate use of the stylized Buddhist symbols and complex graphic patterns, consisting of hexagons (gyatongor tank) and square (palpe) etc. These devices are so profusely executed on brick red colour overwhelms the senses. The Buddhist symbols executed in the five primary colours – white, yellow, red, green and blue represent five elements viz., water, earth, fire, ether and air respectively, while all the five colours are used in the ornamentation, reds, yellows and blues usually dominate.

Kinnauri Shawl was registered under Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999 on 4 December 2008.

Kullu Shawl

Kullu Shawls are originated in Kullu Valley particularly along the river valley of Beas situated at the Himachal Pradesh. The Kullu Shawl is well known for its unique texture, yarn and typical traditional design patterns. Kinds of materials used to manufacture the Shawls are local wool, Merino wool, Angora, Pashmina, synthetic yarn, Yalk wool, cotton and other handcrafted



material. The manufacture of Kullu Shawl requires winding, warping, Drafting, fitting, weaving, clipping, and fringing labeling finishing and marketing.

A distinctive feature of Kullu shawls is the stripes or band running horizontally widthwise at the lateral ends. These bands, a few centimeters wide and varying from two to seven centimeters on each side, are decorated with a variety of patterns woven in brilliant colours like yellow, green, white of red on a black background or orange and green on a brown base. Some shawls display a flying bird motif scattered over the surface Kullu Shawl was registered under Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act,1999 on 10 December 2004.