

Adamantan & Nicobar Islands



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

700+ 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.



REGISTERED GIs



NICOBARI MAT (CHATRAI / HILEUOI) OF ANDAMAN & NICOBAR



Nicobari Mat (Chatrai/Hileuoi) is a GI-tagged handwoven floor mat crafted from Pandanus leaves and coconut stems by the Nicobari tribe. Known for its durability and eco-friendly design, it's used for sleeping, sitting, and ceremonial gatherings. Each mat reflects the tribe's deep-rooted connection to nature and cultural identity.

UNIQUENESS

The Nicobari Mat (Chatrai/Hileuoi) is eco-friendly, having dual-layered design offers comfort and therapeutic value, used for sleeping, sitting, and ceremonial hospitality.

RAW MATERIALS

Screw Pine Leaves or Pandanas Leaves

Price
Approx.
Rs. 90 onwards

Class of Goods
27

Proof of Origin
It is a centuries-old craft.



No. of Families Involved
Approx.
100s of women

Type of Goods
Handicrafts

Geographical Location
All districts
of Andaman & Nicobar
Islands - UT

METHOD OF PRODUCTION

The Nicobari Mat (Chatrai/Hileuoi) is handcrafted by women using sun-dried screw pine leaves, carefully cleaned and stripped of thorns. The leaves are scraped to a whitish hue, then woven in a crisscross pattern to form textured sheets. Two sheets are stitched together to create a soft, double-layered mat ideal for sleeping or sitting.



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ANDAMAN KAREN MUSLEY RICE

Andaman Karen Musley Rice is a traditional, short-grained aromatic variety cultivated since 1925 in Mayabunder by the Karen community. Known for its high yield, good taste, and adaptability, it's used widely for lunch and dinner. Over 50% of rice fields in the islands still grow this heritage crop.

UNIQUENESS

It is cultivated by the Karen community, thriving in saline soils with natural farming methods. Its small grains, rich flavor, and high yield make it a staple across the Andaman Islands.

RAW MATERIALS

Musley Rice Seed

Price

It is not readily available online as it's a locally grown variety.

No. of Families Involved

Approx.
over 250 families

Class of Goods
31

Type of Goods
Agricultural

Proof of Origin
Since 1925

Geographical Location
Andaman of Andaman and
Nicobar Islands



METHOD OF PRODUCTION

Musley Rice is cultivated using traditional organic methods by the Karen community, starting with seed sorting and sun-drying. Seedlings are raised in wet, dry, or MAT nurseries, then transplanted into clay-rich fields during monsoon. Natural inputs, manual weeding, and careful timing ensure high yield and ecological harmony.

NICOBARI TAVI-I-NGAICH (VIRGIN COCONUT OIL) OF ANDAMAN & NICOBAR



Nicobari Tavi-i-Ngaich Virgin Coconut Oil is a pure, handmade oil crafted by tribal communities of the Nicobar Islands using traditional cold-pressed methods. Extracted without chemicals or heat, it retains natural antioxidants, lauric acid, and vitamins, offering immunity, digestion, and heart health benefits. Used for cooking, skincare, baby care, and healing, it's a multi-purpose oil with cultural and spiritual significance. Sustainably produced from sun-dried coconuts, this GI-tagged oil reflects indigenous wisdom and eco-friendly practices.

UNIQUENESS

Extracted from native coconuts in pristine island ecosystems, it offers exceptional nutritional, medicinal, therapeutic benefits and made using chemical free methods.

RAW MATERIALS

Coconuts

Price
Approx.
Rs. 1000 onwards
per litre

Class of Goods
30

Proof of Origin
Since 1891



No. of Families Involved
Approx.
dozens of families

Type of Goods
Manufactured Goods

Geographical Location
Nicobar Island of
Andaman and Nicobar Islands

METHOD OF PRODUCTION

Virgin Coconut Oil in the Nicobar Islands is made by grating fresh, ungerminated coconut kernels and extracting milk through cloth pressing. The milk is fermented in warm, dark conditions for 16–18 hours, allowing natural separation without heat or chemicals. The second layer is carefully harvested as pure virgin oil. For commercial use, techniques like centrifugation and filtration refine and package the oil while preserving its natural qualities.



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NGUAT—KUK’—‘KHAWTHA’ COCONUT OF ANDAMAN & NICOBAR



The Andaman & Nicobar Giant coconut cultivar thrives in humid tropical zones, producing large, round fruits with high water and copra content. Its robust palms are drought-hardy and yield up to 140 nuts annually. Preferred for tender coconut due to its impressive size, it supports both local consumption and Virgin Coconut Oil production.

UNIQUENESS

Nguat—Kuk’—‘Khawtha’ coconut is a rare Nicobari variety known for its horned and beaked fruits, high copra yield, and rich tender water. It thrives in rainfed, organic conditions with minimal input.

RAW MATERIALS

Coconut Seedlings, Organic compost & Farmyard Manure, Coconut Husk Layers

Price
Approx.
Rs. 55 onwards per piece

Class of Goods
31

Proof of Origin
Since 7th Century



No. of Families Involved
Approx.
dozens of families

Type of Goods
Agricultural

Geographical Location
Nicobar Island of
Andaman and Nicobar Islands

METHOD OF PRODUCTION

Nguat—Kuk’—‘Khawtha’ Coconut of Andaman & Nicobar is cultivated using traditional, zero-tillage methods in naturally segmented plantations. Farmers select robust seedlings, manage soil organically, and irrigate minimally. Mature nuts are harvested, sun-dried, and processed into copra or virgin coconut oil, preserving indigenous practices and ecological balance.



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PADAUK WOOD CRAFT OF ANDAMAN & NICOBAR

Andaman Padauk Wood Craft is a celebrated art form using locally sourced *Pterocarpus dalbergioides*, prized for its durability and rich reddish hue. Artisans create intricate home décor, toys, and carvings, including driftwood sculptures and traditional crossbows. The craft blends cultural heritage with eco-conscious practices, supporting local livelihoods. Exhibited in museums and sought by tourists, it reflects the islands' timeless artistry.

UNIQUENESS

Andaman Padauk Wood Craft is unique for its use of richly colored, termite-resistant timber shaped into intricate art and utility items by skilled local artisans. Driftwood naturally sculpted by sea currents is transformed into vibrant carvings, reflecting island traditions. Its eco-friendly production and cultural symbolism make it a globally admired craft.

RAW MATERIALS

Padauk Wood, Natural Paint and Polish, Putty

Price
Approx.
Rs. 1000 onwards

Class of Goods
20

Proof of Origin
Since 1880



No. of Families Involved
Approx.
more than 100s of families

Type of Goods
Handicrafts

Geographical Location
Nicobar Islands of
Andaman and Nicobar Islands

METHOD OF PRODUCTION

Padauk Wood Craft from the Andaman Islands begins with manually cutting and drying Padauk logs, followed by intricate hand carving using simple tools and paper patterns. The pieces are then sanded, polished, and assembled with precision to highlight the wood's natural beauty. Each item reflects collaborative craftsmanship and eco-conscious artistry.

NICOBARI HUT OF ANDAMAN & NICOBAR

The Nicobarese hut is a circular, elevated structure with a domed roof, built from timber, bamboo, and local vegetation like bhent grass. Designed to withstand waves and earthquakes, it features a trapdoor entrance, bamboo ladder, and integrated storage within its perforated floor mat. Beneath the hut, a swing and cane lounge reflect its multifunctional, community-centered design.

UNIQUENESS

Nicobari huts are uniquely circular, elevated structures crafted. Their trapdoor entrances, domed roofs, and multifunctional spaces reflect indigenous engineering and cultural symbolism.

RAW MATERIALS

Timber Wood/ Bamboo, Stiff Mat, Palm Leaf, Palm Wood, Coconut, Melon Tree Wood, Thick Dry Bushes and Grass (locally known as Bhent), Bushes, Stems, Lalang Grass, Coco Palm, Nipa Palm, Sand, Clay

Price
No data available

Class of Goods
20

Proof of Origin
Since
1st Century BC



No. of Families Involved
Approx.
hundreds of families

Type of Goods
Handicrafts

Geographical Location
Nicobar Islands of
Andaman and Nicobar Islands

METHOD OF PRODUCTION

Nicobarese huts are constructed using locally sourced materials like timber, bamboo, palm leaves, and bhent grass, shaped into circular or rectangular forms elevated on stilts. Artisans manually assemble the framework, weave mats for walls and floors, and thatch roofs using Nipa or lalang grass. Each hut type - residential, kitchen, birth, or death -serves a distinct cultural function and reflects indigenous, disaster-resilient architecture.

NICOBARI CANOE - HODI CRAFT OF ANDAMAN & NICOBAR



The Nicobari Hodi is a traditional outrigger canoe, handcrafted from a single tree using indigenous techniques passed down through generations. The Hodi is a traditional fishing boat used by the Nicobari tribe. The Hodi holds immense cultural significance and is intricately connected to the Nicobarese way of life, particularly for fishing, transportation, and community activities.

UNIQUENESS

The Nicobari hut stands out for its eco-friendly design. It's raised, circular structure offers resilience against tropical storms and floods while promoting airflow. Deeply rooted in community living and spiritual traditions, it reflects the Nicobari people's harmonious bond with nature and culture.

RAW MATERIALS

Cane, Bamboo, Palm Leaves (especially coconut palm fronds), Grass or Other Durable Leaves, Sticks and Wooden Planks

Price
Approx.
Rs. 50,000 onwards

Class of Goods
12 & 14

Proof of Origin
Since mid
of 19th Century



No. of Families Involved
Approx.
300 families

Type of Goods
Handicrafts

Geographical Location
All districts
of Andaman & Nicobar
Islands - UT

METHOD OF PRODUCTION

The Nicobari Hodi is crafted from a single aged tree trunk, carefully selected and shaped using traditional tools and indigenous techniques. The hull is carved, burned, and widened, then fitted with structural supports like kuian and ritlo. Final assembly ensures seaworthiness, preserving both function and cultural legacy.



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A close-up photograph of a woven basket filled with several bright red, glossy apples. The apples are piled together, with some showing green stems. The basket's rim, made of light-colored woven straw, is visible at the bottom. The entire image is framed by a thin orange border. Overlaid on the upper left portion of the apples is the text 'POTENTIAL Gl's' in a large, white, sans-serif font.

POTENTIAL Gl's

PAPOI DRESS OF ANDAMAN & NICOBAR

The Papoi dress is a traditional wrap-around skirt worn by Nicobarese women, made from cotton or bark fiber. It is lightweight, breathable, and ideal for the humid island climate. Simple in design yet culturally rich, it reflects the indigenous identity and sustainable lifestyle of the Nicobari tribes.

UNIQUENESS

Lightweight, eco-friendly, and suited to the tropical climate; reflects indigenous identity and cultural heritage of Nicobari tribes.

RAW MATERIALS

Cotton Fabric, Bark Fiber, Natural Dyes, Thread

Price

No data available

No. of Families Involved

Approx.
150 to 200 families

Class of Goods
25

Type of Goods
Handicrafts

Proof of Origin
Since
19th Century

Geographical Location
Andaman and Nicobar Islands



METHOD OF PRODUCTION

The Papoi dress is traditionally handcrafted by Nicobarese women using cotton or bark fiber, cut into wrap-around lengths. The fabric is dyed with natural or synthetic colors and tied at the waist without tailoring. This simple, eco-friendly process reflects indigenous knowledge and suits the tropical island climate.

JAVA APPLES OF ANDAMAN & NICOBAR

Java Apples are bell-shaped tropical fruits with thin skin and spongy white flesh, found in shades of red, pink, and green. Mildly sweet and crisp, they're consumed fresh or pickled. Indigenous to the islands, they thrive in humid coastal forests and are cherished for their refreshing taste.

UNIQUENESS

Indigenous to coastal forests of the islands; thrives in humid climates; high moisture content and delicate texture make it ideal for tropical consumption.

RAW MATERIALS

Java Apple Saplings



Price
Approx.
Rs. 300 onwards per kg

No. of Families Involved
Approx.
300 to 400 families

Class of Goods
31

Type of Goods
Agricultural

Proof of Origin
After 1857

Geographical Location
Andaman and Nicobar Islands

METHOD OF PRODUCTION

Java Apples are grown from seeds or grafted saplings in loamy, well-drained soil with high humidity. Farmers use organic manure and hand-harvest the fruits during dry seasons to prevent fungal damage. Minimal pruning and natural pest control ensure sustainable cultivation.

ANDAMAN MANGO OF ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS

Andaman mangoes are also known as *Mangifera andamanica*. They are juicy, aromatic fruits with vibrant yellow-orange flesh and smooth skin. They are rich in vitamins A and C, and commonly used in juices, pickles, and desserts. Their tropical sweetness and low fiber content make them a local favourite across the islands.

UNIQUENESS

Indigenous to the islands, these mangoes thrive in humid coastal climates and are known for their rich flavor, low fiber content and high nutritional value.

RAW MATERIALS

Mango Saplings



Price
Approx.
Rs. 150 onwards per kg

No. of Families Involved
Approx.
500 to 600 families

Class of Goods
31

Type of Goods
Agricultural

Proof of Origin
Since mid
18th Century

Geographical Location
Andaman and Nicobar Islands

METHOD OF PRODUCTION

Andaman mangoes are grown from seeds or grafted saplings in well-drained loamy soil with a pH of 6.0–7.5. Trees require 6–8 hours of sunlight daily and weekly deep watering. Organic manure and seasonal pruning ensure healthy growth and high-quality fruit.

NICOBAR BREADFRUIT OF ANDAMAN & NICOBAR

Nicobar Breadfruit also known as Pandanus leram, is an edible fruit. It is a globose, compound fruit with orange-yellow pulp, rich in carbohydrates and oil. The fruit, which is orange or yellow-orange when ripe, is made up of multiple carpels, and the pulp and seeds are both consumed, with the seeds being particularly nutritious. Traditionally consumed cooked, its flavor resembles apple marmalade.

UNIQUENESS

Indigenous to Nicobar Islands; grows in coastal lowlands with high humidity. The fruit is traditionally cooked and pressed into cakes or mixed with local ingredients like pig fat and sugar.

RAW MATERIALS

Pandanus leram Seeds

Price
Approx.
Rs. 50 onwards
per piece

Class of Goods
31

Proof of Origin
Since late
18th Century



No. of Families Involved
Approx.
200 to 300 families

Type of Goods
Agricultural

Geographical Location
Andaman and Nicobar Islands

METHOD OF PRODUCTION

The fruit is harvested manually from wild or semi-domesticated Pandanus leram trees in swampy lowlands. It is boiled for 1-2 hours, then scooped and pressed into edible paste or cakes. Traditional wrapping with Macaranga leaves enhances flavor and preserves the pulp.

TRIBAL SHELL CRAFTS OF ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR

Tribal Shell Crafts include ashtrays, jewelry, lamps, buttons, and decorative boxes made from polished marine shells like conch, turbo, and tortoise shell. These items are luminous, lightweight, and culturally symbolic. Each piece reflects the coastal beauty and craftsmanship of island communities.

UNIQUENESS

Crafted from naturally abundant shells found along the islands' coasts; known for their luminous finish, intricate inlay work, and cultural symbolism.

RAW MATERIALS

Marine Shells (Conch, Tortoise, Turbo), Polishing Agents, Silver Foil (for inlay), Adhesives, Hand Tools

Price
Approx.
Rs. 250 onwards
(depending on size, and
detailing)

Class of Goods
20

Proof of Origin
Since
thousands of years



No. of Families Involved
Approx.
300 to 400 families

Type of Goods
Handicrafts

Geographical Location
Andaman and Nicobar Islands

METHOD OF PRODUCTION

Shells are collected from beaches, cleaned, and polished to reveal their natural shine. Artisans carve, shape, and sometimes inlay silver into the shells to create utility and decorative items. The process is entirely manual, preserving traditional techniques passed down through generations.

ARECANUT LEAF PLATE CRAFT OF ANDAMAN & NICOBAR

Arecanut leaf plates are biodegradable, sturdy, and naturally elegant tableware made from fallen areca palm leaves. Available in various shapes and sizes, they are used for serving food. These plates are chemical-free, microwave-safe, and a sustainable alternative to plastic disposables.

UNIQUENESS

Crafted from naturally shed leaves without cutting trees; 100% organic, compostable, and ideal for tropical climates. Promotes zero-waste and women-led rural entrepreneurship.

RAW MATERIALS

Areca Palm Leaves (specifically the leaf sheaths)



Price
Approx.
Rs. 20 onwards
per piece

No. of Families Involved
Approx.
150 to 200 families

Class of Goods
21

Type of Goods
Handicrafts

Proof of Origin
No data available

Geographical Location
Andaman and Nicobar Islands

METHOD OF PRODUCTION

Fallen areca palm sheaths are collected, pressure-washed, sun-dried, and pressed into shape using heated molds. No chemicals or adhesives are used. Finished plates are graded, trimmed and packed manually.



About Reinforce Intellectual Property Association

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.

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ANKIT KUMAR

FINDING GI

A Campaign to Recapture the Legacy



Handicraft



Manufactured
Goods



Food Stuff



Agricultural Goods



Natural Goods



**If you know any GI products in your locality,
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ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS



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