New GI tag products of Tamil Nadu

Prelims: *Current events of national and international importance*

Why in News?

Five products from Tamil Nadu have secured the Geographical Indications (GI) tag, spotlighting the State's diverse craftsmanship and agricultural heritage.

- **Total Products –** With this 5 products, Tamil Nadu now has ***74 products*** with GI tags.

  As of now, Uttar Pradesh (77) has the highest number of GI tags products followed by Tamil Nadu (74), and Karnataka (around 45).

New 5 products

1. **Woraiyur cotton sari**
   - **Category –** Handloom textile (Handicraft).
   - It is known for lightness, durability, and intricate borders.
   - **Place of weaving** - Manamedu village, on the banks of the Cauvery in Tiruchi district.
   - **Raw material sourcing –** Cotton yarn comes from Coimbatore and Rajapalayam, and Dyes are procured from Jayamkondam, linking another local economy into the process.



2. **Kavindapadi nattu sakkarai**
   - **Category –** Agricultural product.

- It is a country sugar made from locally cultivated cane; valued for purity and traditional processing.
- **Location –** Kavindapadi village in Erode district.
- **Distinctiveness –** Known for its granular texture, natural sweetness, and long shelf life and free from chemical additives.

3. **Thooyamalli rice**
   - **Category –** Agricultural product.
   - It is a traditional rice (non-hybrid variety) prized for nutritional and cultural value.
   - High fiber content aids digestion, Source of protein, fiber, iron, zinc, and minerals.
   - **Name & Meaning –** Thooyamalli translates to "pure jasmine", reflecting its pearly shine and subtle fragrance.
4. **Namakkal 'kalchatti'**
   - **Category –** Handicraft.
   - It is a ***soapstone utensils*** from Namakkal; eco-friendly, and part of local artisanal tradition prized for heat retention and slow cooking.



5. **Ambasamudram 'choppu saman'(wooden toys)**
   - **Category –** Handicraft.
   - **Location –** Ambasamudram, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu.
   - **Historical Roots –** Practiced for over two centuries, tracing back to the 18th century.
   - **Craft Tradition –** Miniature wooden toys replicate everyday household objects — kitchen utensils, tables, chairs — sparking children's imagination and role-play learning.
   - **Materials Used –** Traditionally carved from indigenous trees such as:
     - Manjal Kadamba (Neolamarckia cadamba)
     - Teak
     - Rosewood

- **Distinctiveness –** Eco-friendly, hand-painted, durable, and deeply tied to Tamil Nadu's cultural heritage of toy-making.



Reference

The Hindu | 5 products from TN got GI tag

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