

## 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.



## TAWLHLOHPUAN

Tawlhlohpuan is a high-quality, medium to heavy fabric, traditionally woven on a loom. The design features breadth-wise stripes, skillfully created by interchanging colored yarns in the weft, with special attention to ensure the warp colors don't show against the bands. Historically, homespun cotton dyed with natural dyes was used, but synthetic yarns have gradually replaced local cotton due to their availability. The process involves starching warp yarns, warping, weaving, hand-inserting designs, and sewing two cloth pieces together. Today, Tawlhlohpuan is also crafted into shawls, waistcoats, and neckties for Mizo men.

### Uniqueness

Tawlhlohpuan features stripes with no warp yarns showing against the red and white bands, always in odd-numbered groups. "Tawlhloh" means "to stand firm," and the cloth was historically worn by courageous Mizo warriors as a symbol of bravery and steadfastness.

### Raw Materials

Initially, locally produced cotton yarns, homespun and dyed with natural dyes, were used. Nowadays, synthetic yarns widely available in the market are commonly used.

**Price**  
Approx. ₹ 1200 onwards

**Class of Goods**  
24, 25

**Proof of Origin**  
Around 1740 A. D.



**Geographical Location**  
McDonald Hill, Zarkawt,  
Aizawl, Mizoram

**Type of Goods**  
Handicraft

**Number of Families Involved**  
No data Available

### Method of Production

The traditional Mizo puan, originally made from homespun cotton and natural dyes, is woven on a loom. Yarns for warps are starched by boiling in rice water, dried, and set on the loom using a warp beam and breast beam. The weaver uses a bamboo stick to separate odd and even yarn sets, creating space for the weft yarns to slide through with a bobbin. Most Mizo textiles are warp-faced plain weaves, with Tawlhlohpuan now produced on handlooms for mass production, though traditional methods are still practiced. Synthetic yarns have largely replaced local cotton due to their market availability.