

**THE GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATION OF GOODS
(REGISTRATION AND PROTECTION) ACT, 1999**

(To be filled in triplicate along with the statement of Case accompanied by five additional representation of the Geographical indication)
One representation to be fixed within the space and five others to be send separately

FORM GI-1

A	Application for the registration of a geographical indication in Part A of the register Section 11 (1), Rule 23 (2) Fee: Rs. 5,000 (See entry No. 1 B of the First Schedule)
B	Application for the registration of a geographical indication in Part A of the register from a convention country. Section 11 (1), 84 (1), Rule 23 (3) Fee: Rs. 5,000 (See entry No. 1 B of the First Schedule)

1. Application is hereby made by for the registration in Part A of the Register of the accompanying geographical indication furnishing the following particulars:-

- Name of the applicant :-
- Address :-
- List of association of persons / producers / organization/authority :-
- Types of goods :- **Handicraft Product- Hat**
- Specification :-

Lepcha hat or (*Sumok Thyaktuk*) in Lepcha is one of the oldest hat known to be exist with the tribe till today. The word "Sumok" in Lepcha is pertaining to self-protective or defensive war items; *thyaktuk* refers to hat or cap. It is one of the unique craft produce by the tribe and is the master piece of its own. Significantly, Sumok thyaktuk is amongst one of the most durable hat. The process of weaving a complete hat required

minimum of 1-2 months time by an expert craftsman. Putting on the Sumok thyaktuk in marriage party, worships, festivals etc. is a customary duty of Lepcha tribe.

The hat is originally knitted by the craftsmanship belong to Dzongu Tribal Reserve Area.



Figure 1 : Lepcha traditional hat



Figure 2 : Lepcha man in traditional outfit

- Name of the Geographical Indication:- **Sikkim Lepcha Dzongu Hat**
- Proof of origin :-

HISTORY OF THE SUMOK THYAKTUK

The Sumok thyaktuk is one of the oldest craft (hat) belongs to Sikkim (India). The literature in the form of reports, articles or research papers etc. is comparatively limited except few published in Lepcha Language. However, this hat was very popular during the reign of Sikkim Chogyal. The durability and its perfect strapping enhanced to introduce as war armor (helmet) for the Sikkimese National Army during Chogyal's reign. The Lepchas believes that their king Thekung Mun-Solung during 14th century owned the best "Sumok thyaktuk" in his time.

During *Namgyal dynasty Choogyal king* personel guard has been seen wearing *Sumok Thyaktuk* along with traditional dress. *It gives strong evidence in the history of Sumok Thyaktok/ Dzongu Lepcha Hat* that this hat has been associated with Lepcha community for the time immemorial.



Fig.12 Lepcha soldier wearing sumok with King of Sikkim along with J.C white.
(*Supports history of Sumok Thyakyuk from time immemorial*)

- Method of Production :-

Sumok thyaktuk is made up of *Ru* or cane (*Calamus acanthospathus* Griffith) and *Poyoung* or small bamboo (*Cephalostachyum capitatum*) and other essential items like stone and leaves. It required 1-2 month of continues attention, and quantum of patient for mastercraftsmen to convert, cane strings into a hat. It required extraordinary attention while making the hat. This hat is further beautified by dyes, extracted from a common climber plant "*Rubia manjith*". The *Sumok thyaktuk* consists of four different layers. The design seen over in each individual layers signify its own respective meaning and significance.

Pictures of making Sikkim Dzongu Lepcha Hat (*Sumok Thyaktuk*)