



Bey pore Uru

Why in News?

Recently, the District Tourism Promotion Council, Kozhikode has **applied for a [Geographical Indication \(GI\)](#) tag for the famous Bey pore Uru (boat).**

- The Bey pore Urus are a **symbol of Kerala's trade relations and friendship with the [Gulf countries](#).**

What is Bey pore Uru?



▪ About:

- It is a **wooden dhow (ship / sailing boat / sailing vessel) handcrafted by skilled artisans and carpenters in Bey pore, Kerala.**
- The Bey pore Urus are purely **made of premium wood, without using any modern techniques.**
- The wood used to build the Uru is **still sawed the traditional way which requires immense expertise.**
- It **takes anywhere between 1-4 years to build each Uru** and the entire process is done **manually.**
- This traditional handicraft **has been in existence for 2000 years.**

▪ Communities Involved in Uru-making:

- The prominent people associated with Uru-making are Odayis and Khalasis.
 - **Odayis:**
 - They manage the **technical matters of ship building.**
 - Their family name comes from **Odam (a type of small ship previously**

used in interactions/trade between the Malabar coast and Lakshadweep).

▪ **Khalasis:**

- They are also referred to as **Mappila Khalasis** as majority of them are [Mappila Muslims](#).
- They are **world-famous for their skill and expertise** in launching the completed Urus into the water by using only traditional methods.
- The Khalasis are **considered as pioneers in the ship-building industry** and the **Arab traders** were especially enamoured of them, and were among the **first major patrons of these vessels**.

UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Questions (PYQs)

Q. Which of the following has/have been accorded 'Geographical Indication' status? **(2015)**

1. Banaras Brocades and Sarees
2. Rajasthani Daal-Bati-Churma
3. Tirupathi Laddu

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

1 only

2 and 3 only

1 and 3 only

1, 2 and 3

Ans: (c)

Exp:

- A Geographical Indication (GI) is a sign used on products that have a specific geographical origin and possess qualities or a reputation that are due to that origin.
- Darjeeling tea was the first product in India to get a GI tag.
- Banaras Brocades and Sarees and Tirupathi Laddu have got GI tag while Rajasthan's Daal-Baati-Churma does not. Hence, 1 and 3 are correct. **Therefore, option (c) is the correct answer.**

Q. India enacted the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999 in order to comply with the obligations to **(2018)**

ILO

IMF

UNCTAD

WTO

Ans: (d)

Exp:

- Geographical indications (GIs) are a type of intellectual property (IP). The World Trade Organisation (WTO) recognises intellectual property rights under TRIPS (Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights) Agreement.
- Under Article 22(1) of the TRIPS Agreement, the GIs are defined as "indications which identify a good as originating in the territory of a member, or a region or locality in that territory, where a

given quality, reputation or other characteristic of the good is essentially attributable to its geographic origin”.

- **Therefore, option (d) is the correct answer.**

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