



Ladakh Challi Textiles Receive GI Tag

Ladakh Challi Textiles have been granted **Geographical Indication (GI)** status, providing legal protection to this unique Himalayan handloom tradition and supporting the livelihoods of local artisans.

Challi is a coarse, handwoven woollen fabric traditionally produced by the **Changpa Community** of the Changthang Plateau. The textile is specially designed to withstand the extreme cold and harsh climatic conditions of the high-altitude region.

The fabric is made entirely from natural fibres sourced from indigenous livestock:

- **Yak Hair (Khullu):** Provides warmth, density, and weather resistance.
- **Goat Hair (Raal):** Enhances durability and strength of the yarn.

The GI tag is expected to preserve Ladakh's traditional weaving heritage, prevent imitation, and improve market opportunities for indigenous artisans.

APSC Relevance: Geographical Indications (GI), traditional textiles, Himalayan culture, and artisan livelihoods.