

**THE GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS OF GOODS  
(REGISTRATION & PROTECTION) ACT, 1999**

*(To be filed 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**

C

**A single application for the registration of a geographical indication in Part A of  
the Register for goods falling in different classes**

Section 11(3), rule 23(5)

Fee: Rs. 5,000 for each class (See entry No. 1C of the First Schedule)

I. Application is hereby made by (a) Directorate of Textile, GoWB for the registration in Part A  
of the Register of the accompanying geographical indication furnishing the following particulars:

i. Name of the Applicant: **Directorate of Textile,  
Office of the Commissioner of Textile  
Department of Micro & Small Scale Enterprise & Textile  
Government of West Bengal**

ii. Address: **Directorate of textiles,  
Office of the Commissioner of textile  
New Secretariat Buildings  
6<sup>th</sup> Floor, 'A'- Block  
1, Kiran Sankar Roy Road  
Kolkata - 700001**

**Baluchari Saree****(iii). List of association of persons/producers/organization/authority.***Salient Statistical Information on Handloom Industry at Bishnupur, Bankura*

Sl.No.	Item	Description
1.	Total no. of Handlooms	14,473
2.	Total no. of persons engaged in weaving activities (full & part time)	36,183
	a) Total no. of registered pry. Handloom Weavers Co-op. Societies	132
	b) Total no. of looms under registered H-Weavers Co-op. Societies	11,213
	c) Total no. of weavers under registered Hl. Weavers Co-op. Societies	14,226
3.	i) S.C. weavers	a) Men - 150 b) Women - 35
	ii) S.T. weavers	a) Men - 40 b) Women - 18
	iii) O.B.C. Weavers	a) Men - 9925 b) Women - 2695
	iv) M.C. weavers	x
	v) General	a) Men- 1000 b) Women - 363
		<b>Total -14,226</b>

4	a) Total no. of active Hl. Coop. Societies.				18
	b) Total no. of looms under active handloom Coop. Societies.				4129
5	No. of weavers benefited under Old age pension Scheme (Cumulative)				
		SC	ST	Other	Total
	Up to 2010-2011	02	x	416	418
6	No. of Weavers benefited under Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Yojana				
		SC	ST	Other	Total
	Up to 2010-2011	14	x	1498	1512
7	No. of weavers covered under Health Insurance Scheme				
		SC	ST	Other	Total
	Up to 2010-2011	221	x	8,859	9080

There are good numbers Handloom Cooperative Societies at Bishnupur and one to two blocks surrounding the municipality, produce exquisite variety of Baluchari Saree. Of them, the following have been functioning quite satisfactorily

- Bishnupur Bayan Silpi Samabay Samiti Ltd.
- Bishnupur Co - operative Weavers Society Ltd.
- Bishnupur Tanthin Tantsramik Samabay Samiti Ltd.

Existence of any N.G.O has not been recorded, which has ever worked with the weavers engaged in production of Baluchari Saree. For all over development of Baluchari Saree and development of the associated handloom weavers, Cluster Development approach is being presently persuaded by the State Directorate of Textiles in association with office of the Development Commissioner for Handlooms, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India under Integrated Handloom Development Scheme .One such Handloom Cluster Development Project is now under implementation at Bishnupur.

**(iv) Types of goods:** Class 24, 25, 26

**(v) Specification**

- **Product Name – Baluchari saree**
- **Length-** Range varies from 5 Mts. to 6.5 Mts.
- **Width –** Range varies from 116cms. To 122cms.
- **Weight –** The weight of the saree depends upon the quantity of Silk/Tassar Yarns used, along with the extent of Zari(Metallic thread) work done. However, the weight of each saree is not less than 400 gms.
- **Body –** The body of the saree has many designs woven into it. The designs, their orientation & layout are given by the Master Weaver. The Border & Body of the saree are woven in traditional dramatic colors i.e. the colors are mostly bright &/or dark vibrant colors. The saree gives a shiny appearance. The woven designs contain Flora &/or Fauna in it. The volume & use of the floral designs are more when compared to the design

of fauna. Floral designs include leaves, flowers & plants. The designs of Fauna that are woven have more swans & peacocks & less of elephants, deer, parrots & ducks.

- **Border** – The saree have rich brocaded golden Border. The Border & Pallu have rich & more Zari works when compared to Body. The saree has large Kalka Motifs on the center surrounded by narrow ornamental borders. These are framed by a series of figural motifs worked in rows around the Kalkas. These motifs are woven diagonally and are worked in four alternating colors – white, blue, yellow, red & green on a shaded ground.
- **Pallav** – The Pallu or Pallav has also elaborate designs. This is the main and significant part of Baluchari saree. The work of Akshay Kumar Das, like his creations & designs of Baluchari saree is famous all over the world. He divided a field in the square or rectangular form in the saree's Anchla(Pallu). He brought some difference in the Baluchari's subject. He brought the designs of Ajanta, Flora, and paintings of Rajputana's Miniachar etc. for Baluchari's subject. Baluchari of current days basically consists of the design collected from different mythologies or epics like the Puranas, the Ramayana or the Mahabharata in a narrative way. The entire motif at a particular saree in combination narrates a specific story. The Baluchari is a unique phenomenon both in concept & technique. It consists of a combination of Islamic & Hindu spirits and others in its visual imagery & the most elaboration at extra weft techniques in Body, Borders & end piece.

**Various designs depicting narrative folktales in the Pallu of the sarees are as follows:**

- ❖ A woman riding a horse, holding a rose in one hand with her plait flying behind her
- ❖ Pleasure howl, with two lovebirds on top.
- ❖ Traditional muslim court scenes.
- ❖ Women smoking hookah.
- ❖ Duranic takes or legends of Ramayana & Mahabharata are also depicted on the classic Baluchari sarees etc.

***The most distinctive feature of Baluchari sarees is its elaborate Borders & Pallu.***



- **Others:** Sarrees are exclusively hand woven, no machine or power is used in the production process.



*1) Specification of Naksha Paar (Designed Border) Baluchari Saree: -*

- Length : 5.50 Meters + 90 Cms Blouse piece.
- Width : 120 Cms.(Including border not less than 8 Cms).
- Warp : 18/20 D .2 ply Twisted Silk Yarn.
- Weft : 15/16 D 3 ply Filature Silk Yarn.
- Reed Count : 100'
- Piks/inch : 72 to 80
- Size of Anchal (Pallu): Not less than 90 Cms. (36")
- Weight of Saree : Not less than 400 Grams.

*2) Specification of 'Chhoto Anchol' (Small Pallu) Baluchari Saree*

- Length : 5.50 Meters + 90 Cms Blouse piece.
- Width : 116 to 122 Cms. .(Including border not less than 8 Cms).
- Warp : 18/20 D .2 ply Twisted Silk Yarn.
- Weft : 15/16 D 3 ply Filature Silk Yarn.
- Reed count : 100s
- Picks/ inch : 72-80
- Jacquard Capacity : Not less than 150 Hooks.
- Size of Anchol(Pallu) : Not less than 36" (90 Cms.)
- Weight of the saree : 410 to 415 Gms.

3) *Specification of 'Mina Baluchari' Saree*

- Length : 5.50 meters + blouse piece 90 cms.
- Width : 116 to 122 Cms including border not less than 10 Cms.
- Warp : 20 / 22 D 2 ply Twisted Silk yarn of Bangalore.
- Weft : 22 / 24 D 3 ply Filature Silk yarn .
- Extra warp : 20 / 22 D 2 ply Twisted Silk yarn.
- Extra weft : 20 / 22 D 2 ply Twisted Silk yarn.
- Reed count : 100s
- Picks / inch : 72 to 80
- Jacquard capacity : 150 to 400 hooks.
- Size of Anchal (Pallu) : Not less than 36" (90cms.)
- Weight of Saree : 425 to 450 gms.

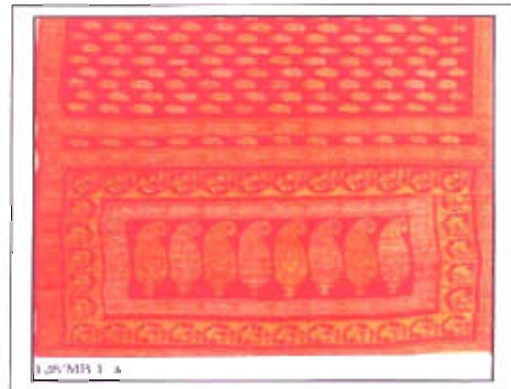
4) *Specification of 'Swarnachari ( A kind of Baluchari' ) Saree*

- Length : 5.50 Meters + blouse piece 90 Cms.
- Width : 116 to 122 cms including border not less than 10 Cms.
- Warp : 20 / 22 D 2ply Twisted Silk yarn.
- Weft : 22 / 22 D 2 ply Filature Silk yarn .
- Extra warp : 20 / 22 D 2 ply Twisted Silk yarn - Zari threads.
- Extra weft : 20 / 22 D 2 ply Twisted Silk yarn + Zari threads.
- Reed count : 100 s
- Picks / inch : 72 to 80
- Jacquard Capacity : 150 to 400 hooks.
- Size of Anchal (Pallu) : Not less than 48"
- Weight of Saree : 575 to 600 gms.



FEW SAMPLES OF OLD BALUCHARI SAREES

❖ <u>Accession No.</u>	- 128 / MB 1
<b>Description</b>	- Baluchari saree.
<b>Length</b>	- 5.00 meters.
<b>Width</b>	- 1.22 meters.
<b>Material</b>	-- Silk
<b>Count</b>	- 20 / 22 D X 3 ply untwisted.
<b>Reed / Pick</b>	- 90s / 55



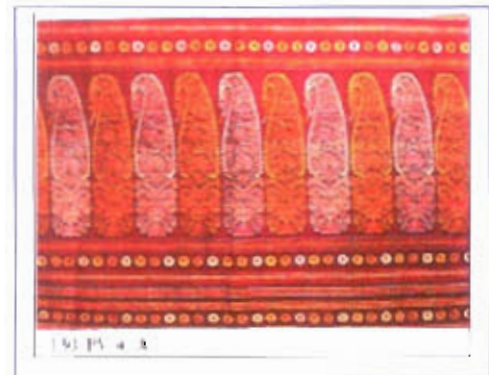
It is a fine example of the Baluchari Saree in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, both in its elaborate layout & its intricate in-lay brocading. Beginning from the body side, we see the fully enunciated Kalka paisley was found in the body closing in as it near the end piece. The end piece begins with a row of the paisley held between two patterned border bands. These border bands are unique as they end at either corner in exactly the same segment of the border motif that is used as a kind of full stop, before it joins the borders running down the length of the Saree. This clever adjustment of the Jala Pattern of harnessing for border motif is the characteristic and typical of the Baluchari range.

As we move further into the end piece, we find yet another play of technical skill in the sited figure of a lady of mixed identity with an Indian style bun, wearing short skirt, leggings & shoes and smoking from a Hukka (Water Pipe). The figure maintains an outward-facing stance at all times, changing her direction at the corners. For this the weaver had to undo the leashes of the pattern harness and re-tie them for the directional change. This procedure was repeated at either end of the rectangular arrangement of the figures. Such spontaneous ingenuity is the most remarkable feature of the Baluchari Saree, apart from its sheer weight and the richness of its untwisted silk.

❖ **Accession no.** - 129 / SR 1  
**Description** - Baluchari Saree  
**Length** - 5.10 Mts.  
**Width** - 1.20 Mts.  
**Material** - Silk.  
**Count** 22 D X 2ply untwisted  
**Reed / Pick** --80s / 60



❖ **Accession no.** 130 / PV 4  
**Description -** -Baluchari Saree  
**Length** - 5.25 Mts.  
**Width** - 1.22 Mts.  
**Material** - Silk  
**Count** - 20 Dn.  
**Reed / Pick** -75s /70

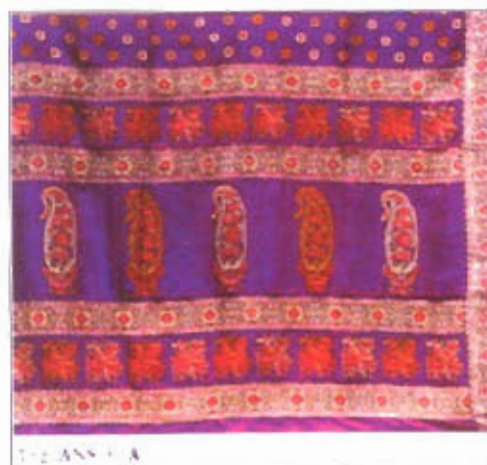


❖ **Accession no.** - 131 / ID 8  
**Description** -- Baluchari Saree  
**Length** - 5.20 Mts.  
**Width** - 1.25- Mts.  
**Material** -- Silk  
**Count** - 22 / 22 Dn. X 3 ply  
Untwisted  
**Reed / Pick** - 80s /44



❖ **Accession no.** 132 / ANS 2

<b>Description -</b>	-Baluchari Saree
<b>Length</b>	- 5.10 Mts.
<b>Width</b>	- 1.20 Mts.
<b>Material</b>	- Silk
<b>Count</b>	- 18/20 DnX 3 ply untwisted
<b>Reed / Pick</b>	-90s /60



From saree no. 129 /SR 1, 130 /PV 4, 131 /ID 8, 132 / ANS 2 and 133 / PV 5 we see similar versions of Baluchari woven until the 1930's. A movement towards greater rigidity is clearly visible both in the concept and execution of the layout. Yet beginning with 129 / SR 1 with its extremely large and elaborate end piece they find unending variation of compositions, inlay binding and colour balance. No. 133 /PV 5 paache pere (three border saree) saree is not strictly a Baluchari Saree, yet its fabric structure was so similar that it compiled us to include it in this category. The patterning in this case reveals a greater affinity to Benaras and the use of gold zari sets it apart from the entirely silk-by-silk Baluchari

**Accession no.** -- 134 / DN 1

<b>Description</b>	-- Baluchari Saree
<b>Length</b>	-- 5.50 mt.
<b>Width</b>	-- 1.25 mt.
<b>Material</b>	-- Mulberry silk
<b>Count</b>	-- 18/20 Dn. Single twisted
<b>Reed / Pick</b>	-- 80s to 90s/70 to 80







❖ **Accession no.** 135 / ANS 4

**Description -** -Baluchari Saree  
**Length** - 5.50 mt.  
**Width** - 1.25 Mts.  
**Material** - Mulberry Silk  
**Count** -18/20 Dn single twisted  
**Reed / Pick** - 80s to 90s /70 to 80





❖ **Accession no.** -- 136 /ANS 1  
**Description** -- Baluchari Saree  
**Length** -- 5.50 mt.  
**Width** -- 1.25 mt.  
**Material** -- Mulberry silk  
**Count** -- 18 /20 Dn. Single  
twisted  
**Reed / Pick** -- 80s to 90s / 70  
to 80





❖ *Accession no.* 137 / ANS 3

**Description -** -Baluchari Saree  
**Length** - 5.50 mt.  
**Width** - 1.25 mts.  
**Material** - Mulberry Silk  
**Count** -18/20 Dn single twisted  
**Reed / Pick** - 80s to 90s /70 to 80



137/ANS 3 A Detail

❖ **Accession no.** -- 138 / GM 1  
**Description** -- Baluchari saree  
**Length** -- 5.50 mt.  
**Width** -- 1.25 mt.  
**Material** -- Mulberry silk  
**Count** -- 18 / 20 Dn. Single  
twisted  
**Reed / pick** -- 80s to 90s / 70  
to 80



138/GM

❖ **Accession no.** 139 / GM2  
**Description -** -Baluchari Saree  
**Length** -- 5.50 mt.  
**Width** -- 1.25 mts.  
**Material** - Mulberry Silk  
**Count** -18/20 Dn single twisted  
**Reed / Pick** - 80s to 90s / 70 to 80



139 / GM 2

From saree no. 134 / DN 1 to 139 / GM 2 it is seen the past 1940s evolution of Baluchari till today. They reveal a complete elimination of the outline & inner binding of weaving technique, a cutting down of in-lay colours & further simplification of lay out & design.

A cheap Baluchari Butidar Saree can be woven in a week, but a valuable one takes three or four months for weaving. Some times these sarees are made without Anchlas, but only with four kaps or kunjias (conventional lotus beads) at the four corners. Such sarees of the same size are somewhat cheaper.

**(vi) Name of Geographical Indication and particulars: Baluchari Saree**

**(vii) Description of goods:**

Baluchari Sarees are the Sarees are often regarded as Pooja Sarees by local women who wear them specially during traditional festivals , marriages , auspicious functions and other traditional celebrations . These Sarees are made of pure silk/ pure tussar or a combination of two of these, along with Zari works.

These Sarees are hand woven. No machine or power is used in the production process. Length of Saree varies from 5 to 6.5 meters. Width of Ssaree varies from 116 cms to 122 cms. Weight of saree depends upon the silk/tussar used along with the amount of Zari works done . However, the weight of saree is not less than 400 grams. No upper limit can be fixed, as the same is a variable component which varies in accordance with the quantity of the raw material used and the nature of design works done.

Baluchari saree consists of three parts namely:

- a) Body of the saree
- b) Border, and
- c) Pallu/Anchal

These sarees were originally used to be woven for the royal family and the family of nobles . Its use gradually spread to the entire women folk of the region .The body of the saree has many designs woven into it. The designs, its orientation and layout are given by the master weaver . These sarees have a rich brocaded gold border . The pallu also has elaborate designs The border and pallu have rich and more zari works when compared to the body . The border and the body of the saree are woven in traditional dramatic colours i.e the colour are mostly bright and/or dark vibrant colours. The saree gives a shiny appearance. However the correct choice of colour , design , and the intricacy of work are given by the master weaver based upon the market requirement.

Baluchari of current days basically consist of design collected from different mythologies or epics like the Puranas, the Ramayan, or the Mahabharata in a narrative way. The entire motif at a particular saree in combination narrates a specific story.



Silk brocaded narrative figurative motifs were inspired by the Persian style, Hindu mythology & floral kolka or kunjās. The Flora kolka and hindu mythology related to flora and mythology of the geographical region

### **(viii) Geographical area of Production and Map:**

**Geographical location** – Bishnupur, a sub-divisional town with the head quarter of the sub- of the same name, is regarded as a temple town of the Bankura district. It located between 23°05' north latitude and between 87°23' east longitude, beside the Joypur forest and a few miles south of the river Dhalkisor. It is located at a distance of 205 kilometers south-west of Kolkata, the State capital & covers an area of about 22.01 square kilometers. Bishnupur, the capital of old Mallabhum kingdom is 34 kms. away from the district head quarter, Bankura & 78km. away from nearest industrial city Durgapur. It is note worthy that weaving of "Baluchari saree" is now not limited at Bishnupur only but also being produced at Panchmura & Sonamikhi and throughout the Bankura district situated 23°15' north latitude and between 87°4' east longitude.

### **(ix) Proof of Origin:**

*Some speak of my Baluchari*

*Bought with such joy*

*Some talk of my Baranasi*

- Dosarathi Roy (1806 - 57 )

Baluchari is an exquisite silk saree of West Bengal origin, produced by highly skilled designers & weavers having generations of experience in draw-boy-loom. It hails originally from a place of the same name in **Murshidabad District, West Bengal**. The name Baluchari is derived from the word 'Baluchar', an area comprising of several villages namely Belepur, Ranasagar, Baligram, Baghdhara, Dubrokhali, Amuipara etc. approx **16 km. away from Behrampur in the Dist. of Murshidabad in West Bengal**. The present name of **Baluchar is Jiaganj**. Around the middle of the 16<sup>th</sup> century, a group of experienced weavers from Varanasi migrated to Bengal and settled in Baluchar village near Jiaganj in Murshidabad district of West Bengal. They were famous for their weaving skill.

They weaved beautiful designs on silk fabrics mainly used as sarees exclusively patronized by the Muslim Nawabs and aristocrats of the society, which enabled them to create rare and memorable art form on fabric.

With the abolition of the 'Nawabs' rule in Bengal, the British came and Baluchari perished. Baluchari was too costly for the common people, so its production failed to be economically viable in the absence of royal support. On the other hand, the weavers from Baluchar kept the craft confined to their own community, thereby leading to its extinction. Thus the Baluchari art and its artists from Murshidabad were eventually erased from the textile map of India during the British rule.

After independence, around 1956, Baluchari was re-introduced in Bishnupur of Bankura district due to the initiative of two well-known Bengali personalities, **Shri Subho Tagore** and **Smt. Kamala Devi Chattopadhyay**. In fact, Shri Tagore of the legendary Tagore family rediscovered some old samples of such sarees from a private collector. He first encouraged the local artist, **Shri Akshay Kumar Das** and a weaver **Gorachand Diasi** to start making this famous saree again in Bishnupur, after the concept was almost forgotten for ages. Since then, the popularity of the modern Baluchari Saree has steadily grown and it has now been established as a symbol of the artistic language of Bengal as well as India.

Silk weaving of Baluchar continues to be an important landmark of Bengal's handloom tradition. Baluchari Sarees are woven in Bengal silks, which are much acclaimed in the whole world, since ancient times. Like silk, cotton Baluchari Sarees are also woven in a fascinating & exquisite range. The cloth is fine & transferred with a soft drop.

The first weaver and designer of the famous Baluchari saree of Bisnupur are Gora Chand Disai and Akshay kumar Das (Patranga) respectively.





**(x) Method of Production:**

Baluchari sarees are what dreams are made of design in silk & woven with contrasting colours with detailed figures, motifs, flowers or scenes from mythology. These sarees with their colours & alluring designs are the prized possessions of most Bengali woman & are worn for special occasions & religious ceremonies.

Two varieties of silk threads, Bangalore & Bengal varieties, are used for production of baluchari sarees. Bangalore Variety is used in warp and Bengal variety is used in Weft.

**a) The processing of silk yarn:**

It starts with the winding of the yarn (better known re-Hanking). The Hanks are then dipped in an alkaline solution for about an hour for degumming & are thereafter washed, dried & re-winded.

***Dyeing of silk yarn***

Previously the art of dyeing silk with a true black dye seems to be known, the dye being obtained from Haritaki (Myrobollan), filings and a small proportion of ferrous sulphate. A blue dye is made of Indigo, Haritaki, soap & a few other ingredients. A red dye is obtained from Lac, which is finely powdered & boiled with tamarind, alum & khaer(Catechu. An orange colour, called Jarad, is made of

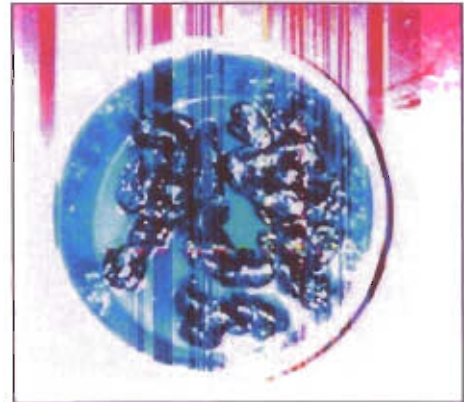


Kamala powder, khaer & alum. Now, they use Acid Dyes are used for dyeing purpose. The weavers of Bishnupur dye the silk yarn themselves in their house.

***Yarn preparation***

The technique used for yarn preparation is simple but the process is lengthy. Generally women and children of the weavers' family prepare the yarn for Baluchari Saree.

For warp yarn, the dyed silk yarn is wetted in plain water and then squeezed. In wet condition the hank is re-hanked into small form. Then it is dried in sunlight. Now the warp yarn is ready for warping.



The weft yarn preparation process is also lengthy & time consuming. There are 3 steps of Pirm winding. They are (1) Transformation of hank or re hanking (2) Plying & (3) Pirm winding

***(1) Transformation of hank or re-hanking*** – In this process the yarn is transformed or re hanked into small hank form. Before winding in the small hank form, the hank is dipped in a solution prepared by water & rice starch, and left for overnight, that is for about 10 -12 hours. In the morning it is squeezed & wind & dried.



***(2) Plying*** – One important of the distinguished features of the Baluchari saree with other sarees is its texture due to its 3 plied picks. In this process 3 ply weft yarn is prepared by winding 3 separate pick of 3 short hanks simultaneously.



3) *Pirn winding* – The pirn is used into the shuttle during weaving. In this process the 3-ply yarn is wound on the pirn using pirn winding machine or charkha.

### *Warping*

Warping is a process by which the required no. of warp ends is placed side by side of required width. Generally 13 to 15 pairs of Saree -length are drawn at a time. In case of Baluchari Saree "Peg Warping" process is followed. Two rectangular frames are used-one is the Creel and another is the Peg holder. The warp yarn, in short hank form, is mounted on the swift and the required number of swifts is set on creel. The ends are collected & passed through heck. Here lease is formed in the heck. Next according to the length of the warp the yarn is drawn & tied in the peg. At last, after drawing the calculated warp length the ends are cut.



### *Sizing of Warp*

Sizing is the process of binding the filament of the silk together to withstand the tension of the warp yarn during weaving. In case of Baluchari saree the two beams are set keeping a distance 2 to 2.5 meters between them. One is the warp beam & the other is the empty beam. Rice starch is then applied with the help of a brush to the warp, stretched lengthwise with proper denting between wooden stands & when it dries up, the warp is wound round a wooden beam which is then fixed to the loom & the warp adjusted suitably for weaving.

### *Warp cleaning*

It is a process by which the warp is made suitable for weaving. In this process rock end, weak end, wrong lease, etc are removed & wound in warp beam. During beaming a sufficient amount of tension is applied.



**C) Motif Making:**

Making the motifs for 'Pallus' & other parts of Baluchari Saree, is itself an intricate process. It consists of

- Drawing of the specimen of unique pattern on plain paper. These designs are collected from epics & the temples etc.
- Placement of the Anchal(Pallu), Border & Body accordingly.
- Calculation related to jacquard & frame of the loom.
- Enlargement or refinement of the patterns & drawing it on graph papers.



**D) Preparation of Cards:**

- Punching of cards in a stack according to the graph paper pattern.
- Placement of cards according to the design.
- Lacing the card.
- For an average design 20,000 to 30,000 cards are needed that take five to six months



**E) The thread:**

- Warp is basically of Bangalore silk.
- Weft is of Maldah (West Bengal) silk variety (3 ply)
- Supplementary yarns (for creating designs & motifs)

***F) Loom Preparation:***

A month before it is put in the loom, the thread is prepared according to the no. of Baluchari Saree to be woven in that design while the no. of shuttles to be used depends on the no. of times the motifs will be used all over the Saree. Selecting of coloured thread is done according to design & these threads are set up on the loom.



***G) Weaving:***

The Saree is woven by using two or more shuttles depending on the intricacy of motifs. Mainly metallic shuttles are used as Weft carrier. After jacquard loom has been introduced, weaving of a Baluchari Saree takes five to six days to be completed. Controlling of Warp is done by Jacquard M/C of 150 – 400 hooks capacity.

**The unique feature of the Baluchari Saree is the way in which it uses a no. of 'Talas' for its various elements to create a homogenous whole.** Its elaboration of the floral fine borders interspaced with the pictorial depiction of human and animal motifs in active and



animated configuration, aspired to heights of narrative story telling. In the finest examples of the Baluchari, the figurative motifs faced inwards form either of the borders, integrating the layout and building up certain motif in the end piece. Often there were varieties of scale or the introduction of new motifs when required by the layout of end piece, body or borders. This attempt at spontaneity in silk within a most complex grid of 'Talas' distinguishes Balucharis from all other Sarees in not only Bengal but also other Brocade traditions in the country.



Weaving these Sarees is a delicate art”, says 60 years old Manikchanda, who had started his career at the age of seven, by helping his father. “If you do not have it in your blood, not a single design will come out. The threads are more delicate than a woman’s hair. In inexperienced hands, they will get entangled”, he says.

The weaving of Baluchari fabric is an elaborate & complicated process involving as many as a dozen of weavers manipulating the loom for richer patterns. Even fourteen nakshas were employed at a time.

Baluchari thus prepared becomes the sign at aristocracy, the attire of the status. Maintenance of variety of Baluchari Saree is taken care of. Precisely the quality is checked from the stage of dyeing of the yarn to the packaging of the Saree.

- **Human skill** – Human skill & labour play a very vital role in the weaving of Baluchaari sarcea. This is because the entire process right from conception of the design, layout, Orientation, intricacy, color & the actual weaving especially when performing the fourteen nakshas were employed at a time, require special & high degree of skill & experience weavers so as to weave the saree.

#### **(xi) Uniqueness:**

The famous Baluchari silk saree of Bishnupur, Bankura district, West Bengal has a rich tradition. It is the crop of the weaver’s artistic mind, which is unique in character. Its specialty lies in the design of the *Pallu or Anchal, Border and Buti* on the ground and the purity of the raw material i.e. the silk.

Baluchari Saree, the traditional textile of Bishnupur region is also unique for its richness of colours, textures and elegance. It is note worthy that weaving of “Baluchari saree ” is now not limited at Bishnupur only but also being produced at Panchmura , Sonamikhi and throughout Bankura district. Baluchari saree has acquired an international fame for its unique feature in design.

- **Human skill involved unique Baluchari Saree prod:**

Baluchari saree , one of the unique traditional textile product of Bengal emanating in the region of greatest heritage due to its specialty in *designing and weaving* with very fine silk yarn. Designing and weaving is an important part which required skilled weaver.

The weaving of “Baluchari saree” involved operating two high capacity Jacquard—one for ground designing and other for “Anchal” or “pallu” designing and ground weaving with

treadle. The weaving thus required skilled weaver to operate two jacquard simultaneously with patience. The weaving involved special human skills in characteristic designing of epic, temple, local folk in "Anchal" and "Pallu" by skilled weaver.

**Special quality, reputation and other characteristic for geographical region related to**  
**Characteristic Feature of geographical environment:**

In the design part, the complex motifs of 'Nawabs and 'Begums' in relaxing or commanding poses (Persian Style) are seen. Dancing figure motifs collected from different hindu mythologies or epics like the Puranas, the Ramayana or the Mahabharata and motifs of 'Terracotta' art, social life and floral patterns are used. Another speciality is in its Anchal or Pallu. The weaving design and motif part of "Anchal" and "Pallu" generally comes from mythologies or epics like Purans, the Ramayana, the Mahabharata, local artistic terracotta engraved in historical temple, social life, characteristic local floral patterns, folk, regional culture, Radha Krishna story, unidirectional pattern, motif. The weaving involved special human skills in characteristic designing of epic, temple, local folk in "Anchal" and "Pallu" by skilled weaver. Bishnupur & whole Bankura district being full of historical Court, Palace & Temple and wall of those architectural temple has beautified by engraving different wonderful figure. The most distinctive feature of Baluchari Saree is that in the 'Anchal' and the 'Border' all the motifs are placed in *rectangular form or square form*.

In the middle of the Pallu the main motif is woven in a *large rectangle and other motifs are woven around the main motif* in small rectangular form. Another important character of the Baluchari motif is that the motifs are presented sidewise i.e. in a side view and not face-to-face. And all the motifs do not change their vertical direction and are placed in the same direction. The border of the Baluchari is decorated by extra warp i.e. either mina (coloured thread) or zari or both simultaneously. And the motif form is small rectangular, taken from one of the motifs of Anchal. Sometimes the Buti of the Ground is rectangular also. In "**Mina Baluchari**" saree, the extra warp used for decorating border or par is sized with "khai" to withstand tension during weaving.

**(xii) Inspection body:** The Baluchari saree that are inspected for their quality by the master Weaver. The master weaver is a person who has expert Knowledge in all aspects relating to this process of making Baluchari saree Which include the critical art of visualization of design, their layout orientation & intricacy in the body, border & pallu of the saree. Only upon the personal inspection by the Master Weaver the saree are made ready for the market. Further, steps are being taken by the applicants to the set up a suitable, independent & effective inspection body involving external members.

❖ **Constitution of G.I Inspection Body:**

G.I Inspection Body has been constituted with the following members:

1. The Director of Textile ( Handlooms, Spinning Mills,  
Silk Weaving & Handloom based Handicrafts Division) - **Chairman**
2. The Managing Director of Tantuja - **Member**
3. The Joint Director (Technical), Directorate of Textile  
(Handlooms, Spinning Mills, Silk Weaving &  
Handloom Based Handicrafts Division) West Bengal -**Convener**  
**Member**
4. One representation from the West Bengal Patent  
Information Center (WBPIC) West Bengal Council of  
Science & Technology Department of Science & Technology - **Member**  
Government of West Bengal.
5. The Deputy & Assistant Directors Handloom & Textiles  
of the concerned region. - **Member**
6. The Development Officer of the concerned region - **Member**



**(xiii) Others:**

**❖ Socio-economic Profile:**

Main aim of any country is the development of the society. From mid-seventies the State and Central Govt. have given vigorous thrust towards organization of scattered Handloom Weavers under co-operative fold providing raw materials, marketing facilities and financial

assistance under NABARD scheme. Bankura district, especially Bishnupur area is renowned for the production of versatile production of silk, Baluchari saree. Other traditional textile products are bed-sheet, bed-cover, gamchha, towel, cotton saree, silk saree, silk shirting Tussar shirting and Tussar scarf etc.

About 900 looms (in each loom 2 weavers' work) are engaged in the production of Baluchari Saree weaving in the Bishnupur area. Two weavers work in one loom (one fully skilled and another semi-skilled) in a shift. Most of them are under the control of the Mahajan. About 300 looms are controlled by the Weavers' Co-operative Society.

At present, the earnings of a Baluchari weaver per day are not more than Rs. 80 – 90. Other family members especially the women are also engaged for the preparatory work.

<b>Year</b>	<b>2007-08</b>	<b>2008-09</b>	<b>2009-10</b>
Sale	46.50 lakh	51.20 lakh	52.00 lakh

*Action taken by the State Government in association with the Government of India for its development.*

For over all development of Baluchari Craft of weaving and the weavers associated with it one project namely Bishnupur Handloom Cluster Development Project and another Group Approach Project under the Integrated Handloom Scheme are in operation at Bishnupur.

*Through implementation of the above projects the following objectives will fulfilled:*

- Cluster Development
- Formation of Weavers' Self Help Groups
- Creation of Common Facility Centers for common services such as Yarn Dyeing, creation & supply of Modern Designs, formation of Consortium of SHG(S), Market Information Center & supply of Market Information etc.
- Skill up gradation training.
- Supply of modern looms & accessories.
- Margin Money for Credit Linkage
- Construction of Work-shed
- Market Survey & Scientific production planning.
- Development of Market Awareness & Product Knowledge amongst the stake holders of handloom sector.
- Development of marketing channels through Exhibition/Buyers' & Sellers' Meet/Participation in national & International Fairs /Exhibitions.

Along with the statement of Case in Class (a) 24 in respect (b) Textile and Textile goods a) 25 in respect of b) Clothing (a) 26 in respect of b) lace and Embroidery in the name(s) of (d) Directorate of Textile , West Bengal whose address is (e) Office of the Commissioner of Textile,



The Statement of Case in Class b in respect of 'Baluchari Saree' in the name of Directorate of Textiles, West Bengal whose address is Office of the Commissioner of Textiles, West Bengal, New Secretariat Buildings, '6<sup>th</sup>' Floor, 'A'-Block, 1, Kiron Sankar Roy Road, Kolkata-700001, who claims to represent the interest of the producers of the said goods to which geographical indication relates and which is in continuous use since 1940, in respect of the said goods is enclosed.


2. The application includes such other particulars called for in rule 32(1) in the Statement of Case.

3. All communications relating to this application may be sent to the following address in India.

**Office of the Commissioner of Textiles, West Bengal**  
**New Secretariat Buildings, '6<sup>th</sup>' Floor, 'A'-Block**  
**1, Kiron Sankar Roy Road**  
**Kolkata-700001**

**Phone: (033)2262-2914 /2262-3941**

**Fax No: (033) 2262-1812**

Handwritten signature and date: 28/3/2011

(H.Mohan)  
Commissioner of Textiles  
West Bengal  
Department of Micro & Small Scale Enterprises  
and Textiles  
Government of West Bengal