

GI APPLICATION No.

372

(REGISTRATION AND PROTECTION) ACT, 1999

(To be filled in triplicate 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

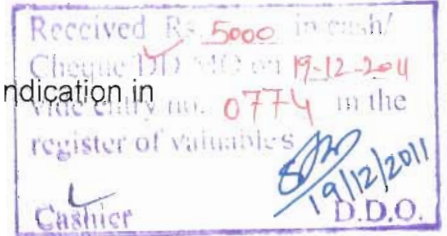
FORM GI-1

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. 1A 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 : Department of Commerce & Industries, Govt. of Manipur.

Address : Lamphelpat, Imphal, Manipur (INDIA), PIN 795 004

List of association of persons/producers/organization/authority : Whole weavers of Manipur represented by Government.

Type of goods : Handloom Fabrics (Clothing)

Name of the geographical indication [and particulars] : WANGKHEI PHEE

Class : 25

Introduction	-	4
Name of the geographical indication	-	6
Description of the goods	-	6
Location and area	-	20
Geographical area of production and map	-	21
Proof of origin [Historical records]	-	23
Uniqueness/Traditional Value and Popularity	-	40
Method of Production	-	41
Raw Material	-	51
Dyeing materials & method of preparation	-	59
Data of the Studies conducted	-	67
Bibliography of the references	-	71
Name of expert committe members	-	73
Name & signature of applicant	-	74

Introduction

Manipur lies on the eastern frontier of India. It was an ancient kingdom which had enjoyed the fortune and glory and experienced sorrow and vicissitudes of her long history. Manipur is a cradle of human civilization and creativity which has come under the influence of many cultures of many different ethnic groups who came at various times and contributed to the growth of the civilization in this hilly State in India's north eastern frontier. Manipur, a small State surrounded by ranges of hills, is one of the beauty spot on the earth and rightly called "**The Jewel of India**". Its velvety green fields, transparent lakes, zigzag streams and temperate climate induce a visitor to feel as if he is in Kashmir. The merit of Manipur does not lie in size and population. In these respects, it is smaller than an average district of the large States of India. It has made its mark by her valuable contributions in the field of Indian dances. The game of **Polo** is originated in this land. Agriculture and cottage industry are the main occupations of the majority. While the men work in the field, women weave at home. The embroidery works of the Manipuri women are diverse and excellent. The women of Manipur enjoy a fair amount of freedom. They are very hard workers and share the burden of the family with the male members.



Name of Manipur

The present name of the land as "**Manipur**" is of comparatively recent origin dating from the eighteenth century only and it lost its independence to the mighty British in 1891. The history of its people had run a long course of two thousand years is evident from the chronicles and manuscripts. According to manuscripts like "*Sanamahi Laikan*" and "*Miyat*", the name of Manipur was first officially introduced in the early eighteenth century during the reign of king Garibaniwaja (1709 - 48). The indigenous name of Manipur before introducing as "Manipur" in the eighteenth century, according to the above two manuscripts "*Sanamahi Laikan*" and "*Miyat*", was "*Poirei Sana Leipak*". According to the manuscripts like "*Sakok Lamlen*", "*Kangbalon*" etc. the name of Manipur was called in the *Hayi Chak* (the first epoch) as "*Tilli Koktong Ahanba*", in the 2nd epoch, *Khunung Chak* "*Mira Pongthoklam*", in the 3rd epoch "*Langba Chak*" as "*Hanna Semba Konna Loiba*" and in the last and 4th epoch "*Konna Chak*", *Muwa Palli*.

In early day, Manipur was known by the neighbouring States by different names given by them. In Rennell's Memoir and maps of India, it was called "Mecklay". In the Narrative of Symes and in maps of that period, Manipur was called "Cassy". To the Shans, it was known as "Kase" and to the Burmese (at present Myanmar) as "Kathe", the Ahoms called it Makeli and the Cacharies "Magli", while the old Assamese name for it was Moglan (J. Roy).

Name of the Geographical Indication**Description of Goods & Specification : Wangkhei Phee****Wangkhei Phee:**

The "*Wangkhei phee*" is also one of the designs among the proposed designs to be registered under the Act. Wangkhei is a name of place within the Imphal East area. This special type of cloth is known as "*Wangkhei phee*" because of the design was developed first in the area by skill weavers and many weavers are still woven this special type of cloth in a wide scale.

This kind of wrapper is a very delicate one which attires a delicate muslin in white, woven of fine cotton thread. This special type of cloth is so delicate that any two adjacent strings of the weft and the warp in the series are woven far apart from each other, and as such the cloth is fully transparent. A fine variety of this kind of muslin, but of close-knit texture of the weft and the warp are also used by female weavers. Patches of a uniform design are woven on the cloth at wide intervals throughout the body of the cloth. Originally, this piece of muslin was uniformly made in white and this muslin survives noticeably in developed form till date in a variety of designs both on the body of the cloth and at the borders in various colours.

The Meitei weavers had been weaving this kind of cloth by using the extra weft technique designs of *Kheiroithek* (Zig Zag pattern), *Thangjing Tangkhai* (Triangle pattern), *Kabok Chaiba* (Spotted pattern) and in the border *Moirangphijin* (Long head triangle pattern). This kind of cloth is very popularly adorned by the Meitei women and girls on the occasions of marriage ceremony in a wide scale in Manipur.



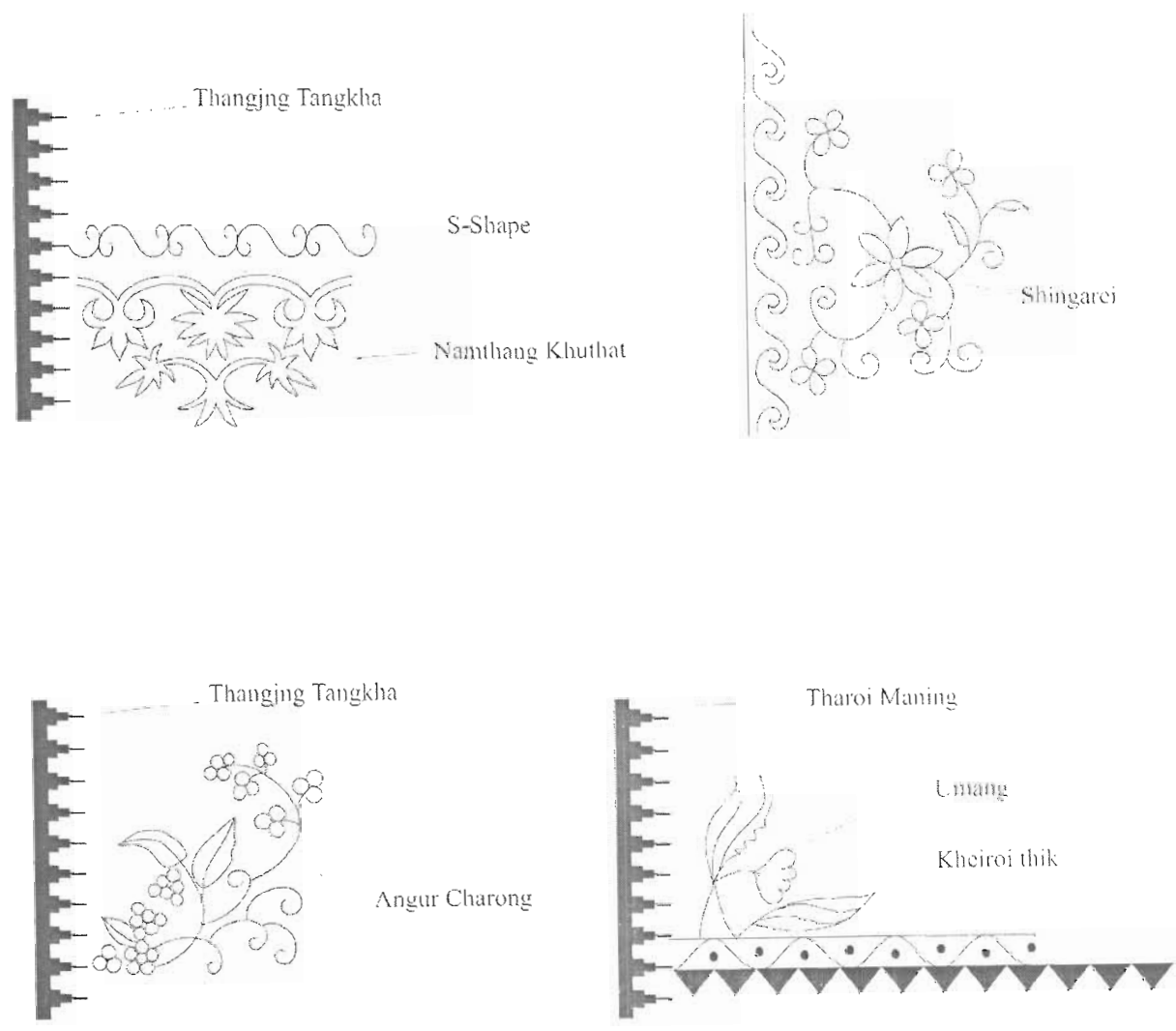
Wangkhei Phee

The design of Moirang thokpa was earlier known as *yarong mayek*. It is used on "*Wangkhei phee*" and others. It was around 1892 when Maharajah Churachand had his state capital at Wangkhei under Imphal East district, that weavers from around the palace started producing clothes for the use of royalty. Because of the fact this exclusive clothes were woven by the weavers of Wangkhei, the cloth is came to be known as *Wangkhei Phee*.

WANGKHEI PHEE PATTERNS

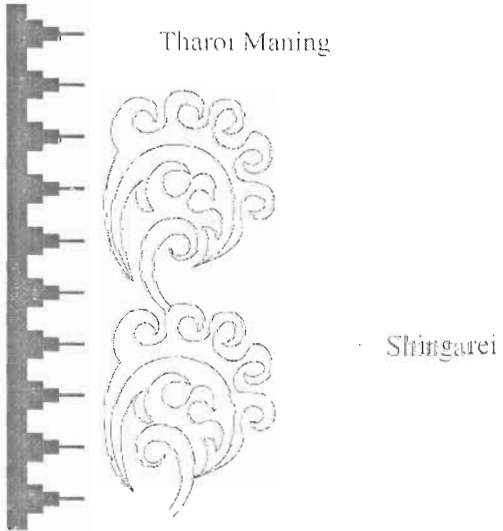
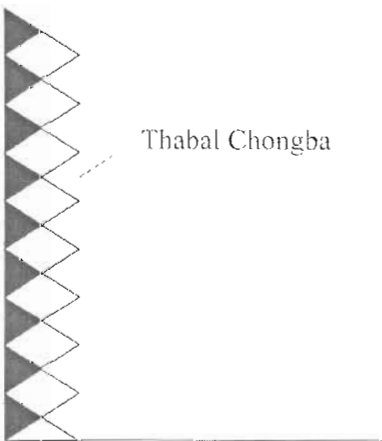
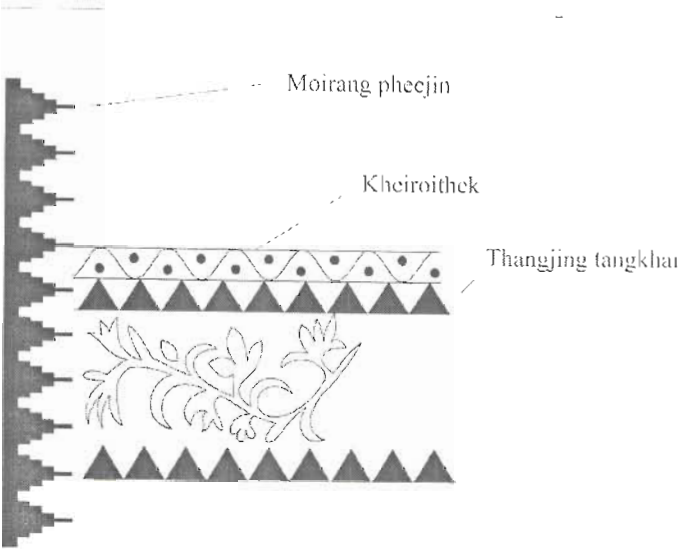
The Wangkhei Phee or literally means the art of weaving various design from the area of Wangkhei, Imphal East District of Manipur which is situated on the northern bank of the main Imphal River. It lies on the vicinity of the famous Govindajee Temple and the largest tank of the state known by the name of Ningthem Pukhri.

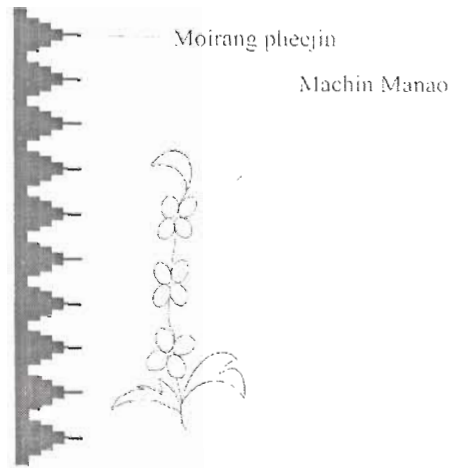
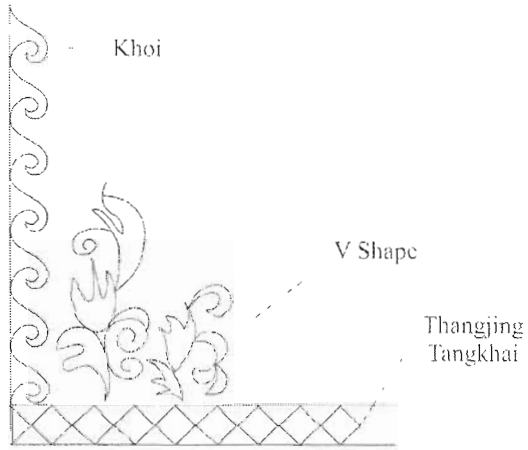
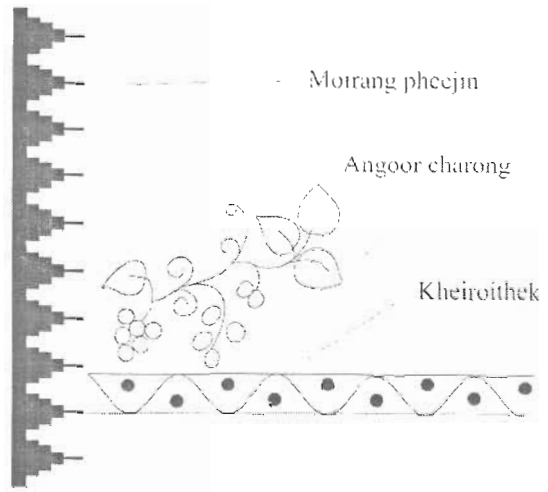
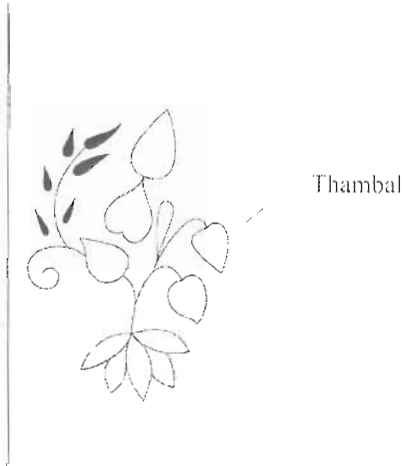
The main technical detail of the design is the border design. On the main body weave, the main emphasis is the design made by the weft design on the border. The design are of different steps, they are made into odd numbers, they are i) 3 (three) steps ii) 5 (five) steps iii) 7 (seven) steps iv) 9 (nine) steps and v) 11 (eleven) steps and higher up etc. respectively.



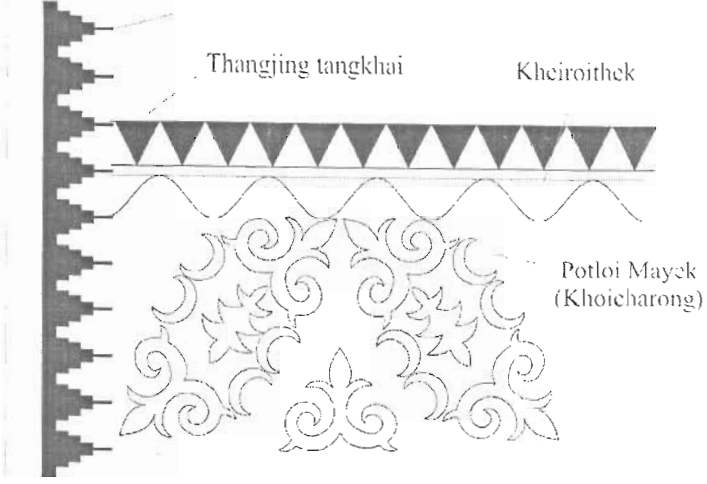
WANGKHEI PHEE PATTERNS

GI APPLICATION No.
372





Moirang pheejin

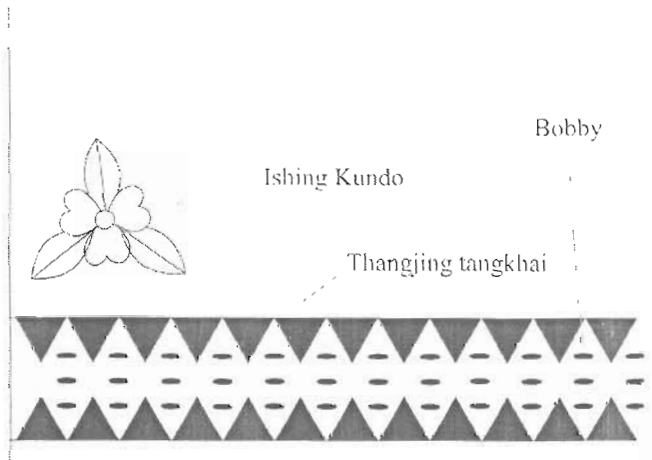


Pung Mapal
Shatpi lei

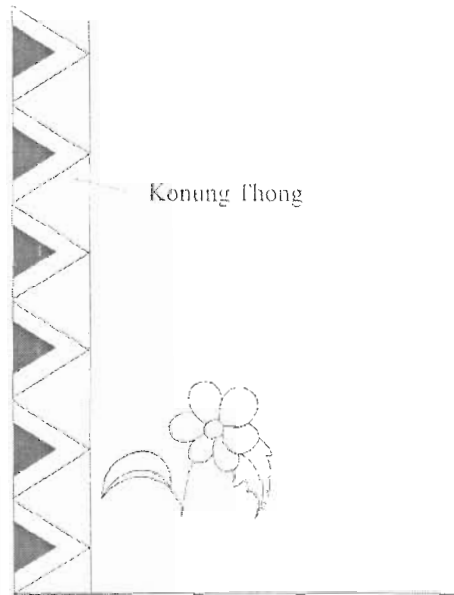


Moirang pheejin

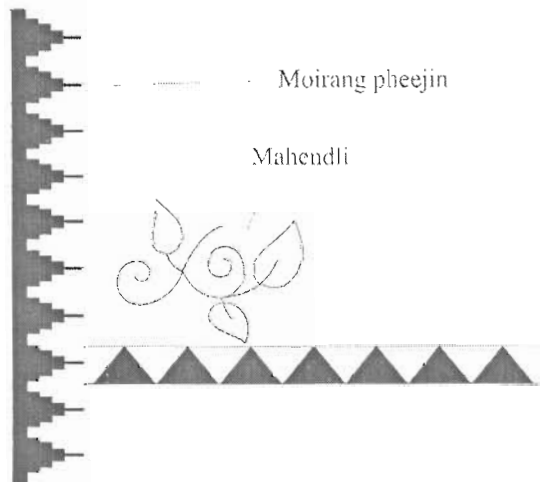
Bobby



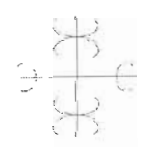
Konung Thong



Moirang pheejin

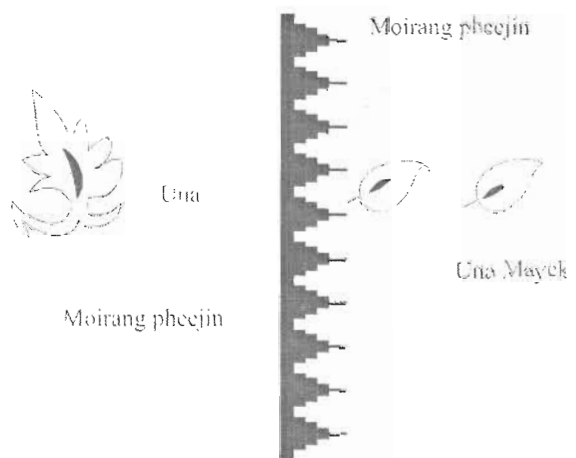
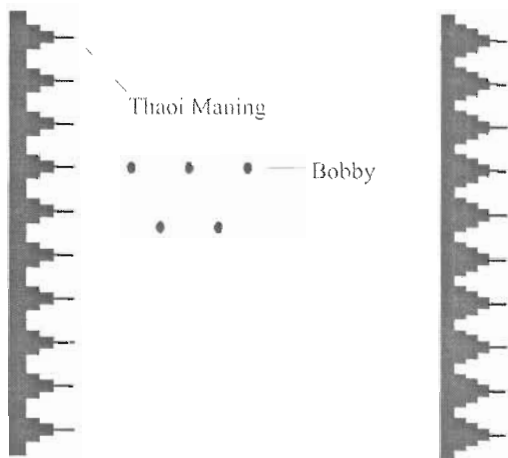
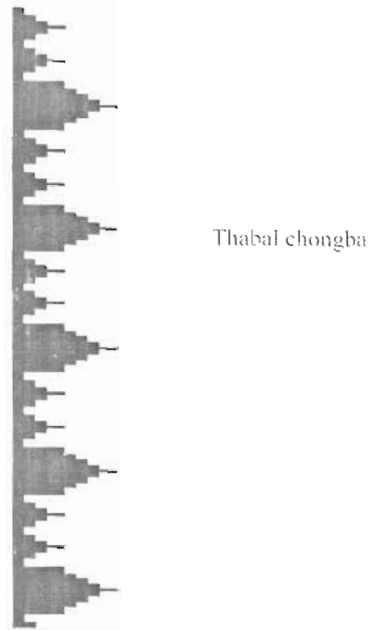
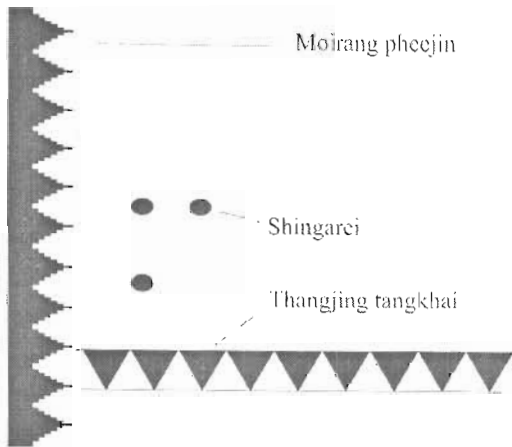
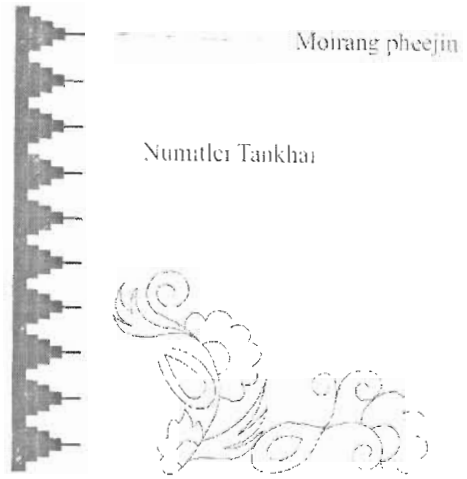
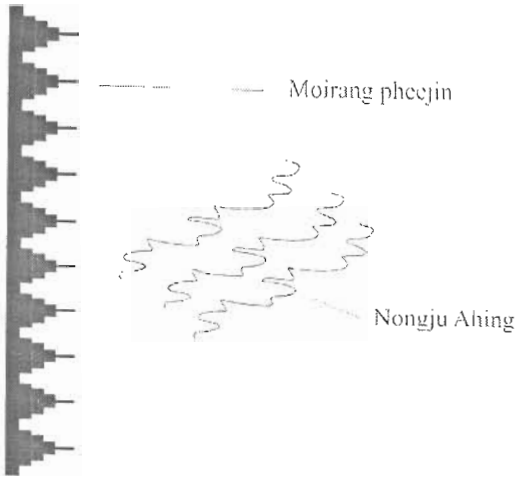


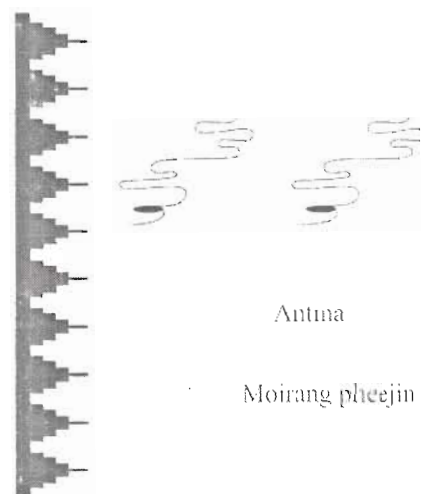
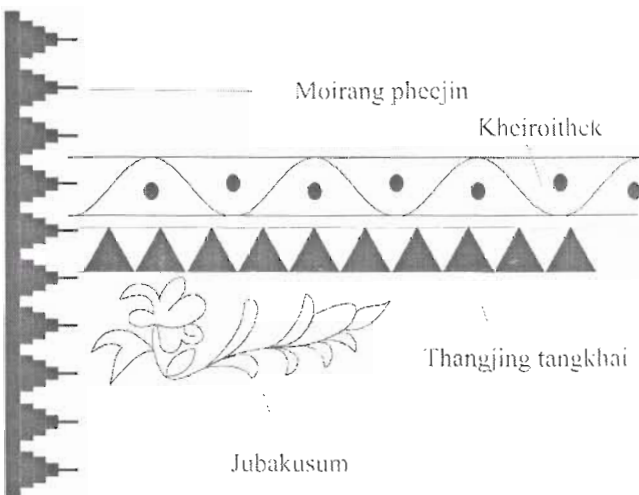
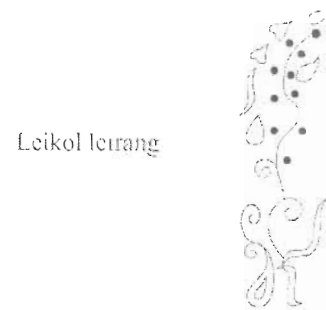
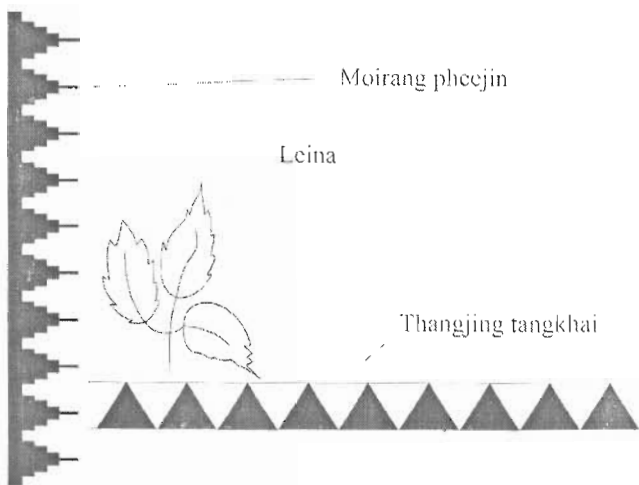
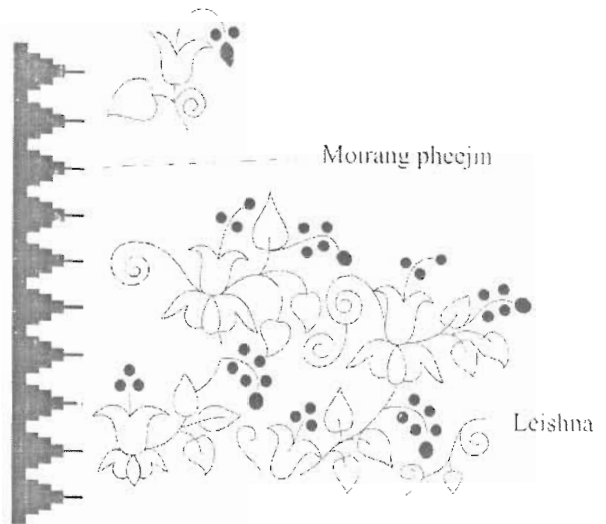
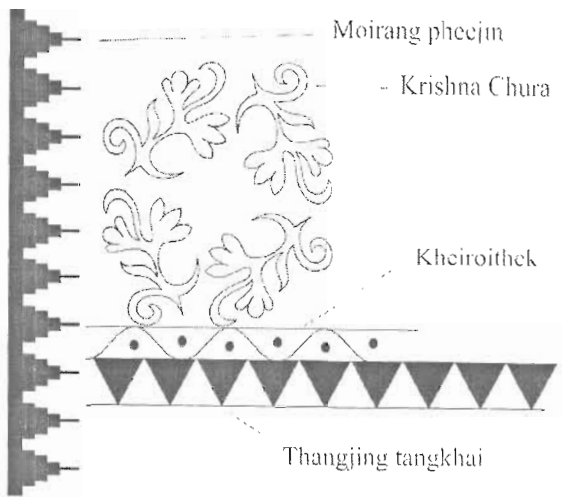
Kabok

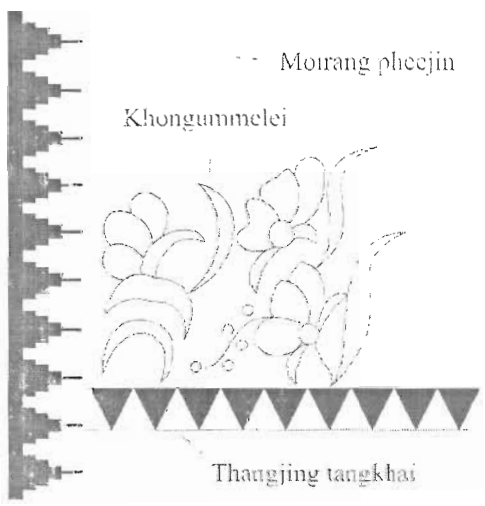
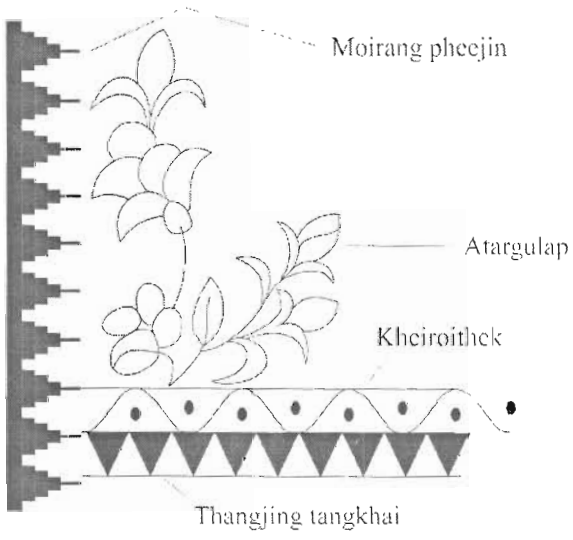
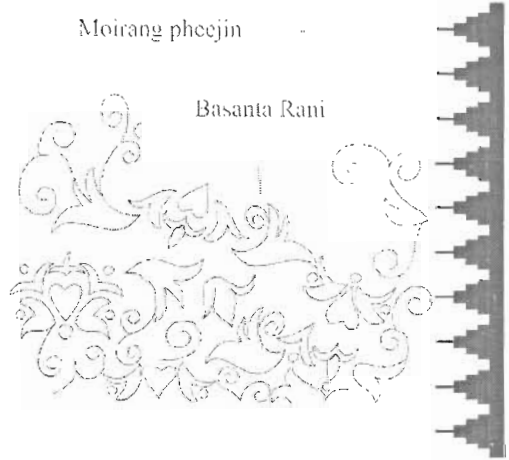
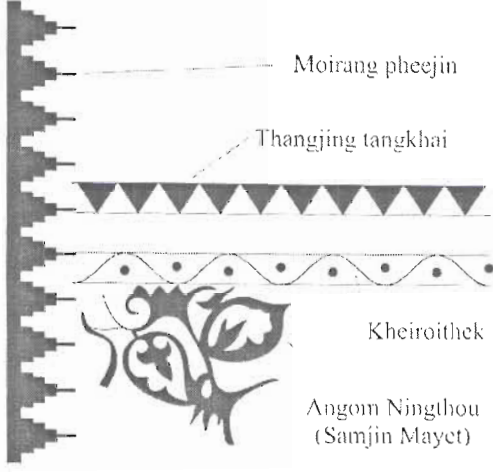
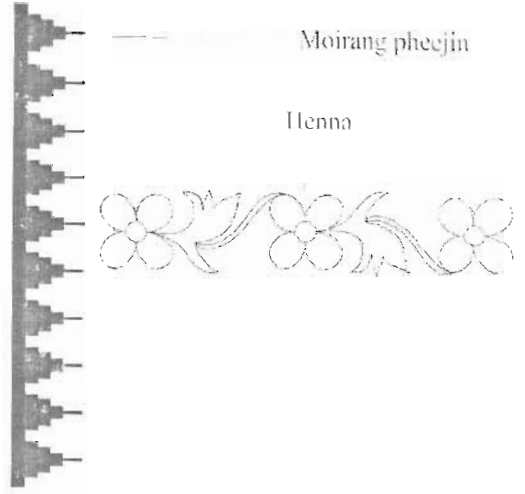
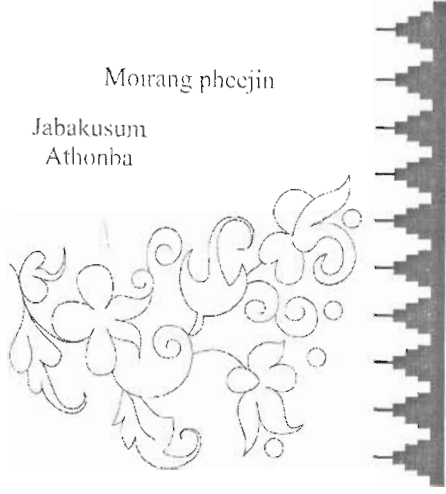


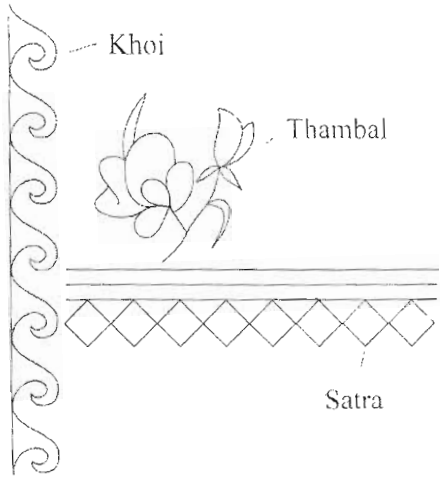
Namthang Khuthat

Moirang pheejin

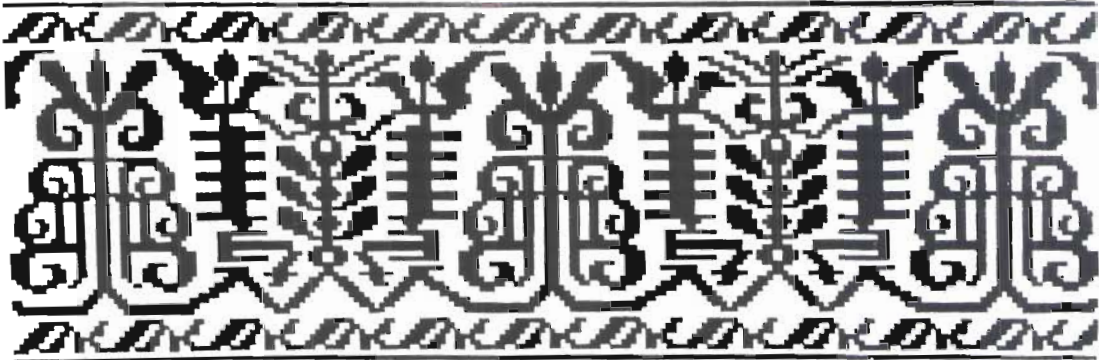




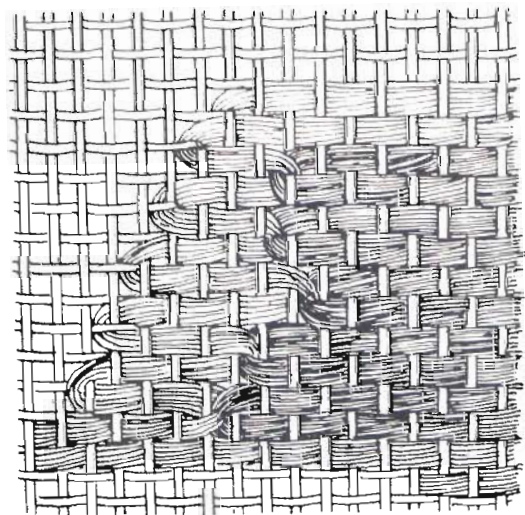
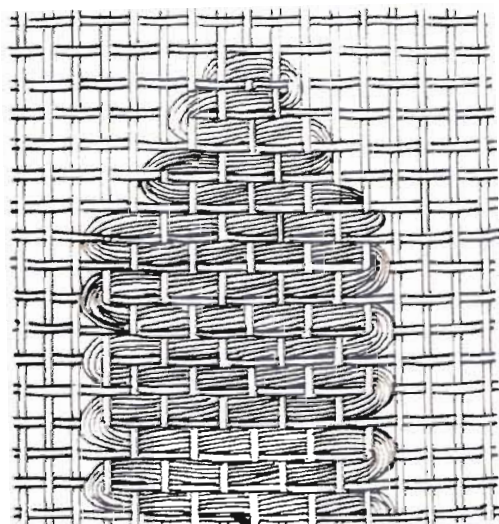




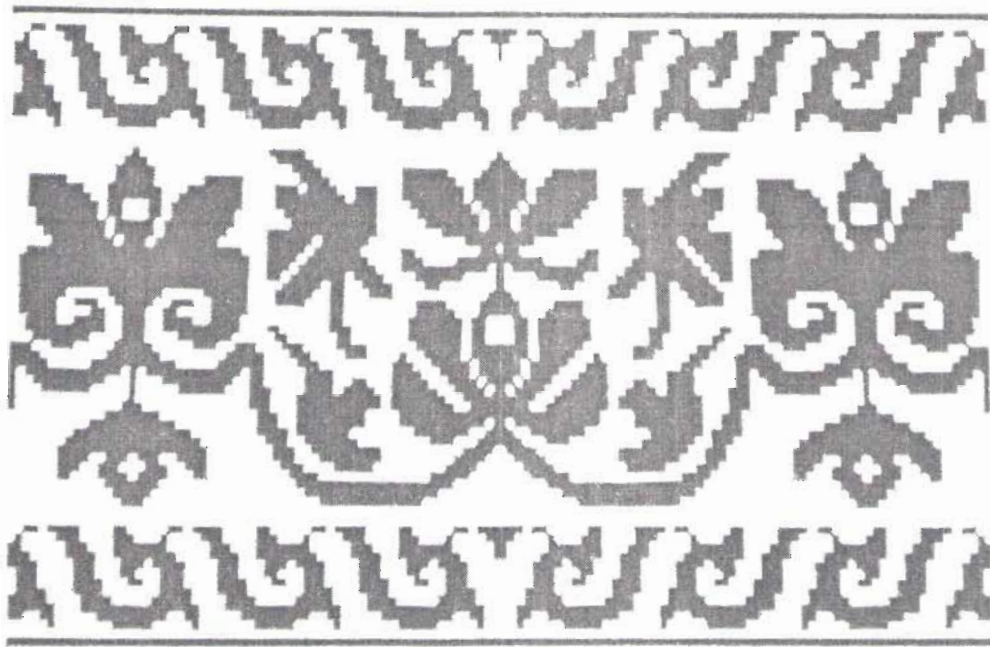
Numit Chura



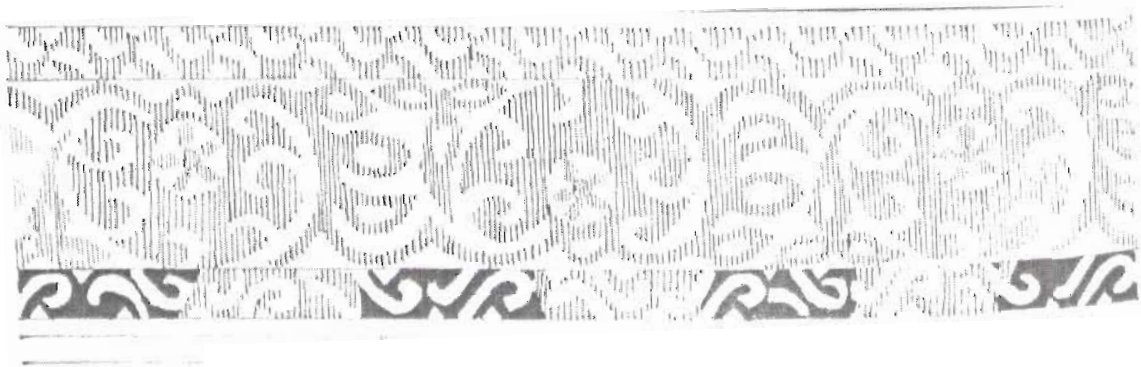
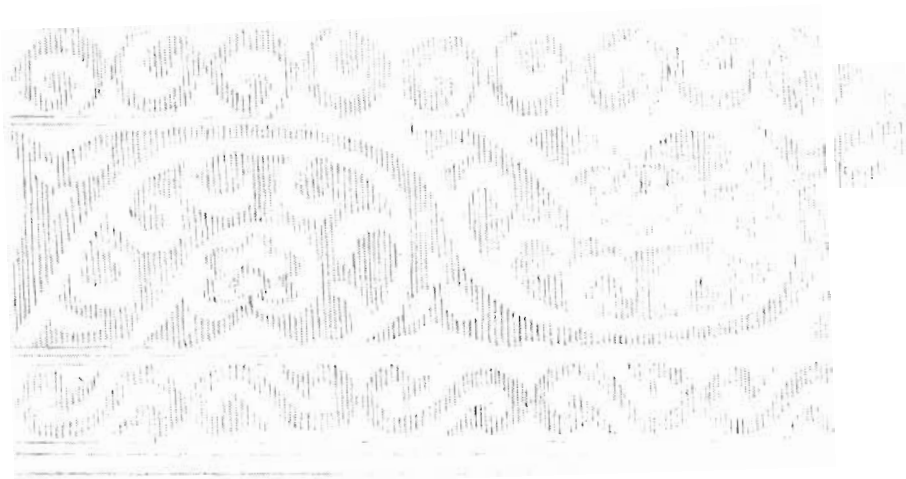
Namthang Khuthat weave



Extra weft design



Namthang Khuthat weave



GI APPLICATION No.

372 -



Namthang Khuthat design & weave



Location and area

Geographically the physical feature of Manipur is that the territory of Manipur lies within the latitude of $23^{\circ}.50'$ N. to $25^{\circ}.41'$ N and the longitude of $93^{\circ}.2'$ E to $94^{\circ}.47'$ E. It is fixed on the eastern frontier of India. The extent of Manipur depended upon the ability of the kings of Manipur. Though the present size of the modern Manipur is small, ancient Manipuri literatures state that Manipur had a larger area. In the east it touched the borders of China and Burma (Myanmar). The Kabow valley of Burma was a part of Manipur upto the period of 1834 from the period of king Kyamba (1467 - 1508). In the south, the boundary of Manipur extended upto the sea. In the north and north-east its boundary extended upto the kingdoms of Hidimbapur and Moran respectively. (J. Roy).

The present boundary of Manipur with an area of 22327 sq. km. more or less remained fixed since the controversial transfer of Kabow valley to Burma in 1834. The valley is in reality a plateau, its height above the sea level varies at different points but may be taken to be about 2,600 ft. Imphal; the capital of Manipur is almost intersected by the 25th parallel north latitude and 94° E longitude (N. Ibobi). Manipur is bounded in the north by Nagaland, in the east and the south by Burma (Myanmar), in the south-west by Mizoram and in the west by Cachar valley of Assam.

