

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

STATEMENT OF CASE

DESCRIPTION OF THE GOODS:

The traditional crafts have a long history because of their inherent value, perfection of design and the distinctive style, which is unique to each particular region. **Meerut scissors is one of the finest and most ancient cutting tools of India, dating back to more than 140 years. One such famous ancient cutting tool is the Meerut scissors,** the manufacture of scissors is a rigorous precision work. The selection of materials is just as important as the actual production process on precision equipment. Specialists highly skilled in their field of work are required. Meerut Scissors are among the top specialists in India for Handmade scissors.

The scissors manufactured in Meerut can be resharpened and have a long life. The scissors manufactured in Meerut are comparatively inexpensive. 50,000 people are directly involved in the Industry. 20,000 people are involved indirectly in the Industry.

Therefore, it can be said that Meerut scissors are the above goods made of scrap, carved out of hand by the artisans or metalworkers based in Meerut villages in Meerut District of Uttar Pradesh in India.

Types of Scissors manufactured in Meerut

Main types of products are Barber scissors, Tailor scissors, General scissors and Paper scissors. Some Manufacturing has been switched over from handwork to mechanized processes.

PROOF OF ORIGIN:

The below given informative data obtained from:

- Uttar Pradesh District Gazetteers Meerut, 1965
- Meerut District -Industry Outlook Report, 1956
- Census Of India,1951-District Census Handbook, UP, Meerut District

Modern Industries

The district has been of some industrial importance in the State for the last thirty years or so. A number of large-scale, small-scale and cottage industries were started by displaced persons who came to the district at the time of the partition of the country. The diversified and rapid development of small-scale and other industries in the district has been appreciable after the attainment of independence in 1947. Important focal points are Ghaziabad, Sahibabad, Hastinapur, Modinagar, Govindpuri, Hapur and Meerut itself in addition to the large industrial units dotted all over the district. The important industries are concerned with the manufacture of diesel oil-engines and their parts, sanitary fittings, electrical and radio goods, transistors and their parts, hair clippers, sewing machines and their parts, door fittings, razors and scissors, agricultural and leather goods and sports goods. About 16.2 per Cent of the population of the district earns its livelihood through employment in different types of industries engaging 25,000 units in which about 1, 50,000 people work. The capital investment in these industries in 1958 was Rs 10, 76, 73,000, the raw materials consumed were evaluated at approximately Rs 13, 87.67,000 and goods worth Rs 30, 92, 20,000 were produced. *Source: Uttar Pradesh District Gazetteers Meerut, 1965*

Small-scale industries

At the end of 1960 there were 1,173 small-scale industrial units in the district having a capital investment of Rs 528 crores and providing employment to about 20,000 workers, the total output being of Rs 16-75 crores. During 1961 new units numbering 277 were established, the capital investment going up to Rs 7 00 crores and the turnover being Rs 20-18 crores. The development of these industries is being undertaken by means of financial assistance given by the government, distribution of raw materials at reasonable rates, marketing and quality control, technical supervision (through the co-ordinated efforts of the State directorate and the Small Industries Service Institute at Meerut) and facility for hire and purchase of equipment, etc. Many industries are organised on a small scale in the district, a brief account of the important ones being given below:

Cutlery—The industry for the manufacture of scissors, razors and betel nut crackers is the oldest in the district. The scissors industry is about ninety years old. It was first started by a dexterous blacksmith, Muhammad Akhon. He was able to produce three or four pairs of scissors of good quality in a day. His method was copied and gradually the industry grew as did its reputation. The workmanship was improved by successive generations of blacksmiths and the industry here dealt a death-blow to that at other places. In 1958 fifty units were engaged in

the work. Approximately Rs 2, 25,000 is invested in this industry and it provides employment to about 900 workers. It is carried on in the villages of Lisari, Loya and Hasanpur. **After the Second World War, it had to face a stiff competition from scissors manufactured in other parts of India and abroad but with the assistance provided by the Government Heat Treatment Workshop which was established particularly for this industry, it is now regaining lost ground. The total output is evaluated at Rs 22, 35,000 in a year.** *Source: Uttar Pradesh District Gazetteers Meerut, 1965*

Cutlery Scheme—The old and established cottage industry making scissors and razors (an allied industry) came into importance during the Second World War but later the razor industry suffered a set-back. In order to improve the quality of the articles produced and to extend the scope of the industry to the making of agricultural implements and small machine parts, a workshop (called the Government Heat Treatment Workshop) was established in Meerut in 1951 and different types of tools and implements are being produced in this institution, technical advice also being forthcoming in the foundry machine shop and electroplating and forging sections. **The implementation of the scheme has rendered considerable service to the local units and has been instrumental in supplying scissors, razors, punch docket, paper-knives, etc., to a number of State Governments and the Government of India (Ministry of Defence).** *Source: Uttar Pradesh District Gazetteers Meerut, 1965*

Scissors cluster, Meerut (India) is an approx. 300 years old cluster. Main types of products are Barber scissors, Tailor scissors, General scissors and Paper scissors. **Before India's partition in 1947 and even later, Meerut's scissors were exported to Burma and Singapore.**

Meerut's artisans manufacture scissors for tailors and barbers, zigzag scissors for designers, and even scissors for cutting bangles. The artisans boast that by just laying their hands on any kind of scissor, they can make an exact replica in next to no time.

Meerut is a world-class producer of Scissors and Cricket sports goods and hence sometimes called as City of Scissors and Sports Capital of India. *Source: Meerut District -Industry Outlook Report, 1956*

The Scissors cluster has 225 small-scale units employing around 1500 people. In addition, the cluster has around 300 household units employing another 2000-2500 people. The estimated turnover of the cluster is around Rs 15 crores. The cluster is located around Peeramal market, Kanch ka phool, Khair Nagar, Ghantaghar, Kareem Nagar, Kotla and Kareemwala areas. Scissors manufacturers are also present in nearby villages like Mawana, Vahasuma, Parikhitarh adi, Bara Gaon and Chota Gaon. The major products are 8" to 18" copper and silver scissors.

Copper, steel and silver are the main raw materials required for manufacturing of scissors, which are available near Meerut city. There are two associations of scissors manufacturers. The cluster has been growing at a slow rate of about 3-4 percent. **The only association in the cluster is Scissor Manufacturers Association**

METHOD OF PRODUCTION:

Raw Material

Steel scissors exist in two basic forms. Carbon steel is used to make scissors in which the blade and the handle form one continuous piece. Carbon steel is manufactured from iron and about 1% carbon. It has the advantages of being strong and staying sharp. Scissors made from carbon steel are usually plated with nickel or chromium to prevent them from rusting.

Stainless steel is used to make scissors in which a plastic handle is fitted to the metal blade. Stainless steel is manufactured from iron, about 1% carbon, and at least 10% chromium. It has the advantages of being light and rustproof. Stainless steel is not used in Meerut. The Plastic handles of scissors are made from a strong, light substance such as ABS (acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene) plastic as well as PVC.

The Meerut scissor manufactures use scrap steel bought from the railways or automobile Industries. As these are cheaper than buying fresh metal stocks. (Stainless Steel Scissors production need a different scale and technology, and can be manufactured in large Industrial set ups.) The scrap metal is collected and roller machines used to make them into plates. These metal plates are then used for either Press cutting, or hand forging. Where brass handles have to be added for increasing the weight and give finishing, the handles are casted after the steel blade ends are fitted into the moulds.

Scrap Carbon steel

Scissors are generally made from Steel but as per the requirement of uses, it may be manufactured with other metals too. Steel Scissors are manufactured using three kinds of materials.

- Carbon Steel
- Mild steel
- Stainless steel

Carbon Steel Scissors are made with single piece. Carbon Steel Scissors handles and blades are made with an undivided slice of carbon steel bar. Carbon Steel Scissors are robust and its blade

has long lasting sharpness. Application of a layer of nickel or chromium increases their rust resistance.

Steel Scissor is also sometimes fitted with plastic handles. Stainless steel Scissors have high rust resistance. The use of chromium makes them highly rustproof. Stainless steel Scissors are light in weight and offer a comfortable handling weight

Metal scrap

Old utensils are melted as Brass scrap and used for making Handles kind of Scissors, which are produced in Meerut.

Production

The manufacture of scissors is a rigorous precision work. The selection of materials is just as important as the actual production process on precision equipment. Specialists highly skilled in their field of work are required. Meerut Scissors are among the top specialists in India for Handmade scissors. What is needed is greater ongoing development of products and production methods which needs to be brought about a know-how that is yet to improve the present product.

Making the blanks

1. Before they are sharpened and attached, the two halves of a pair of scissors are known as blanks. A blank may consist of a blade and a handle in one piece or it may consist of only the blade. In the latter case, a metal handle will be welded to the blade or a plastic handle will be attached to it.
2. Inexpensive scissors may be made from blanks formed by cold stamping. In this process, a sharp die in the shape of the blank is stamped into a sheet of unheated steel. The die cuts through the steel to form the blank.
3. Blanks may also be made by molding. Molten steel is poured into a mold in the shape of the blank. The steel cools back into a solid and the blank are removed.
4. Most quality scissors are made from blanks formed by drop forging. Like cold stamping, this process involves shaping the blanks with a die. This die, known as a drop hammer, pounds into a bar of red-hot steel to form the blank. The pressure of the drop hammer also strengthens the steel.

Processing the blanks

- The blanks are trimmed to the proper shape by cutting away excess metal. A hole is drilled through the blank. This hole will later allow two completed blades to be attached to each other.
- The trimmed blanks are hardened by heating them, then cooling them quickly in cold air, water, oil, or another substance. The temperature to which they are heated and the medium in which they are cooled varies depending on the type of steel from which they are made and the desired characteristics of the blade.
- The hardened blanks are heated again and allowed to cool slowly in air. This second heating, known as tempering, gives the blank a uniform hardness. If the blades of a pair of scissors did not have uniform hardness, the harder places on one blade would soon wear out the softer places on the other blade.
- The repeated heating and cooling causes the blanks to warp. They are straightened by being placed on an anvil and lightly tapped with a hammer. This process is known as peening.

Grinding and polishing

The blank is ground into a blade by applying the edge to a rapidly moving sanding belt or abrasive wheel. The surface of the belt or wheel is covered with small particles of an abrasive substance and works in the same way as sandpaper. The hard abrasive grinds away enough steel to form a sharp edge. During this process, the blade is cooled with water or various liquids known as cutting fluids to prevent it from heating and warping. The sharpened blade is then polished in a similar manner using belts or wheels, containing much smaller particles of abrasive.

Making the handles

For many scissors, the handles are formed from the start as part of the blank. If not, they may be made of a metal alloy or from plastic. If they are metal, they are made in the same way as the blanks and then welded to them. If they are plastic, they are made by injection moulding. In this process, molten plastic is forced under pressure into a mold in the shape of the handles. It is allowed to cool and the mould is opened to remove the handles. The handles contain hollow slots into which the end of the blanks can be inserted. A strong adhesive is used to keep the handle firmly attached.

Assembling the scissors

Two polished blades are attached to each other by a rivet or screw through the previously drilled holes. Rivets, which cannot be adjusted by the consumer, are used to make less expensive scissors. Adjustable screws are used in more costly scissors. The scissors are adjusted to ensure that the two blades work together correctly. They may be painted or plated with nickel or chrome to protect them from rust.

The most important aspect of quality control for scissors is the proper alignment of the two blades. In order for scissors to cut smoothly, the blades must meet at two points only. These two points are the swivel (the point where the rivet or screw connects the blades) and the cutting point. The cutting point moves from just beyond the swivel to the tip as the scissors are closed. The blades are prevented from meeting at any other points by giving them a slight horizontal and vertical curve away from each other during manufacture.

In order to ensure that the blades meet correctly, the holes must be drilled to within one ten-thousandth of an inch (about one four-hundredth of a millimeter) of the correct position. The position of the blades is inspected visually to see if the blades meet evenly. If not, a portion of one blade will overlap the other. This defect is known as a wing. The tips are also inspected to ensure that they meet evenly, without a gap between them or any overlap.

Electroplating

Some of the scissors are Gold electroplated while some others are chromium or nickel-plated.

- Gold plated Scissors
- Containers for plating
- Nickel plating

Labeling and Packaging

Labeling and Packaging is done once the scissors are ready after polishing and Finishing. The Scissor blades are oiled for retaining the sharpness of the blades in a packed state.

UNIQUENESS:

The uniqueness of "Meerut scissors Metal Craft" is based on all the three parameters:

- a. Handmade
- b. Reputation,
- c. Quality, and/or
- d. Other characteristics.

INSPECTION BODY:

The MESMA SPV proposes to form a Standard and Quality committee under the Trust from amongst the original family members. This committee shall be responsible for ensuring high standards of quality by members of the Society manufacturing the Meerut Scissors.

The Committee would have the MESMA SPV to check the process of manufacture of Meerut Scissors.

An Inspection Committee of following members is already under formation for Inspection of Meerut scissors once formed would inform formally to the concerned G.I authority

OTHER

FISME-IPFC is an organization established to promote Intellectual Property Rights for MSMEs in India. The centre is sponsored by the Development Commissioner (MSME), Ministry of MSME, Govt. of India. We have initiated steps to register Geographical Indications which projects the pride and glory of India, In order to safeguard the rights of manufacturers of Meerut scissors, FISME-IPFC has conducted research and supported the manufacturers of Meerut scissors community in facilitating the GI Application for Meerut Scissors.



FISME-IPFC

Council for applicant