

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

(To be filled 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 sent separately.

FORM GI-1(A)

Application for the registration of Geographical Indication in Part-A of the Register Section 11(1), Rule 23(2).

Application is hereby made by **THE DINDIGUL LOCK, HARDWARE AND STEEL FURNITURE WORKERS INDUSTRIAL CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LTD., IND.NO.150.**, for registration in Part A of the Register of the accompanying geographical indication furnishing the following particulars:

A. Name of the Applicant : THE DINDIGUL LOCK, HARDWARE AND STEEL FURNITURE WORKERS INDUSTRIAL CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LTD., IND.NO.150.
Facilitated by Tamil Nadu State Council for Science & Technology, Chennai – 600 025

B. Address : THE DINDIGUL LOCK, HARDWARE AND STEEL FURNITURE WORKERS INDUSTRIAL CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LTD.,
16-A, Soundararaja Mills Road,
Dindigul – 624 003.

C. List of Association of Persons / Producers / Organization / authority : To be provided on request.

D. (i) Class : Class 6
(ii) Type of Goods : Metal Lock

E. Name of geographical Indication (and particulars) : Dindigul Locks



F. SPECIFICATION:

Lock making is a very old and popular cottage industry in India. The lock industry in Dindigul is more than 100 years old and is spread over 5 villages in the district. It has evolved its own unique craftsmanship distinct from other lock making hubs, such as Aligarh in Uttar Pradesh, and Das Nagar in West Bengal. Earlier the number of units in each village was approximately around 50 but now only a total of 43 units exist in the entire cluster. All the locks made in this cluster are hand-made and each lock is unique in its design and system. ~~There is no documentation of the method of manufacturing and even the drawings of the locks do not exist.~~ ^{many} The entire process is based on the craftsmen's memory, most of whom have been engaged in this business for many years. The Dindigul locks are in demand because of their special attributes like quality, re-processing facility, key facility and attractiveness. They are designed to protect against some degree of forced and surreptitious entry. Even though different locks in different prices are available in market, Dindigul lock manufacturing industry has the high level of brand image. Dindigul locks were famous for their traditional design, safety and quality raw materials.

G. DESCRIPTION OF GOODS:

There are over 50 varieties of locks made by the artisans. The major raw materials used are MS flat plates and Brass Plates. These materials are procured from the nearby towns of Madurai, Salem etc. They are usually picked up by the moulding units of the cluster and are converted into lock components before supplying them to the village artisans. Twin keys or three keys for single lock and locks with multi-locking system were some specialties. Every single lock that is designed possesses a unique style and it has its own special name. The kind of locks are Mango Lock, Door Lock, Almirah Lock, Export Lock, Excise Lock etc.

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES:

Some of the special features in the Dindigul Locks are as follows,

1. The craftsmen claim that the precision lever mechanism of their locks is unpick able.

2. The shackles are meticulous in design and offer greater resistance to anyone who tries to break in.
3. The levers are so designed that they have a greater degree of non-interchange ability of keys. There is a combination of proper key-holes to suit male, female, round or flat type of keys.
4. A few locks are designed with unique and remarkable synthesis of traditional design and compatibility with foreign keys.
5. The motto of the lock manufacturing units in the cluster is, "Our customers are trustful and thieves are fearful".
6. Complete manual assembling with each lock having its own unique key code.

H. GEOGRAPHICAL AREA OF PRODUCTION AND MAP:

The Dindigul Lock manufacturing is limited to an area of 5kms in and around Dindigul, in Dindigul District, Tamil Nadu. There are above 3125 units engaged in the manufacture of locks. They are concentrated in Nagelnagar, Nallampatti, Kodaiparailpatti, Kamalapatti and Yagappanpatti. The abundance of Iron in this region is the reason for the growth of the lock making industry.

Location: 10° 22'N. 78° 00'E.

Only these areas have the artisans that have been producing the Dindigul Locks from memory for decades. The making of the locks is done start to finish by these craftsmen by hand and they are unaided by any machines or written instruction. Their knowledge and skill is responsible for the image and high quality of the Dindigul Locks and thus, granting of a Geographical Indication will distinguish the work of these craftsmen from any other lock manufacturers. The Geographical Indication will also serve to assure consumers of the authenticity and conformity of the Product to the territorial area of Dindigul.

I. PROOF OF ORIGIN:

The Dindigul Lock Industry has been flourishing since more than 150 years according to authenticated reports. The District Manual by Francis, in its 1906 edition, mentions that the lock making industry was set up by Sankaralingachari Brothers and was known outside the state even then.

In 1930's there is evidence of Parattai Achari making a mango sized lock and also designing Drawer Lock and Square Lock.

Further, these locks have been used in temples since time immemorial which proves their long and continuous existence.

DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE, SOURCES:

1. Information regarding history is available in the tamil newspaper, "Dina Mani", under the special journal named, "50 Dinamani Thanga Tamilagam" during the year 2007.
2. Madura District by Sir Francis, 1906 Edition mentions the origin of the Lock Industry.
3. Madurai Gazetteers by Dr. B.S. Baliga, 1960 Edition, mentions the strong presence of metal industry in Dindigul District.
4. The Economic Weekly of the November 28, 1959, mentions that the lock making industry has been flourishing since a century.
5. "Lock and Iron Safety Box Manufacturing Units in Dindigul District, Tamil Nadu: An appraisal of the Cluster", by Dr. L Rathakrishna in his book Innovation and Competitiveness of Small and Medium Enterprises, stating history, geographical location and other financial statistics.

J. METHOD OF PRODUCTION:

There is little or no record of the actual method of production as the information regarding the methodology is passed down from generation to generation by apprenticeship. The method of production is a three step process involving moulding, welding and assembling. Materials include Iron Sheets, Brass Sheets, key blanks, side plates and rods. Then objects like base rod and levers are individually manufactured and assembled, these then arc-welded to the iron sheet. Finally the

lock is given a lustrous finish by coating with Nickel polish. The whole process is done by hand and no machinery is used.

The lock units receive raw material such as iron, brass, lever, steel, key, paint and brush and iron plate from two sources. They receive raw material from government as well as private agencies. They also receive material from within as well outside the district. 88% of the users receive raw materials from within the district only. Iron and Steel are principle raw materials for this industry.

THE FOLLOWING ARE SOME OF THE TYPES OF DINDIGUL LOCKS

- 1) **Door Locks:** Door Locks in pure brass and in mild steel are available with ordinary models to high tech, trick and bell security systems.
- 2) **Almirah Locks:** Almirah Locks are available in pure brass from 50mm to 75mm.
- 3) **Export Locks:** Export Locks are wonderfully designed for ease and comfort coupled with high security mechanism. These are available in antique style and finish and attractive designs.
- 4) **Excise Locks:** It is a marvelous high security lock with triple safety arrangement to avoid outer sealing. The inbuilt sealing arrangement provides high security to lock the doors in banks and offices. These high security locks are so designed by experienced craftsman in lock making. This Lock-in-Lock double locking mechanism provides caution and warning by a seal-breaking mechanism.
- 5) **Trick Locks:** A special type of pad lock in various sizes with moveable hold plate with tricky arrangement to be operated and to be locked by a known person.
- 6) **Mango Seven Lever Locks:** These locks have vertically sliding shackle with chromium plating to resist rust. These locks possess 7 levers with flat keys. Available in mild steel painted, plated, galvanized in pure brass.
- 7) **Mango Nine Levers Locks:** Available in various sizes ranging from 25mm to 10mm in complete brass, mild steel painted chromium plated and galvanized. They are available

with Double Locking, Triple Locking, Master Locking, Super Locking and Trick Locking system of non-interchangeable keys, up to 9 levers.

The levers are so designed that they have a greater degree of non-interchange ability of keys. There is also complete manual assembling with each lock having its own unique key code.

Twin keys or three keys for single lock and locks with multi-locking system are some more specialties. The locks have an antique look and finish.

K. UNIQUENESS:

The Handcrafted locks are totally different in style and method of production than any other locks in the country. The customers can order locks customized to their requirements. They do not make use of any machine-made processes and each lock has a unique key code. Firstly, they are very different from the Aligarh Locks. Many parts and processes of Aligarh locks are machine made while the Dindigul locks are completely made by hand. Further, each lock has a unique key code making each lock totally different. Further, the Mango Lock is known worldwide for its shape, which resembles a mouse. For instance, Delo locks especially cannot be opened by another key and has to be broken. The lock making industry does not use child labour and only men are employed in the making of locks. The knowledge of lock making is traditional knowledge and only the artisans know of it.

The Locks are also different from the Rajapalayam Locks, another type of lock famous in Tamil Nadu. Regionally known as 'Thitti pootu', Rajapalayam lock is made out of waste iron and has a traditional rectangle shape. The Dindigul Locks on the other hand are of different shapes and use pure raw materials in manufacture and are made manually. They do not use any harmful or dangerous raw materials. The shackles which are meticulously designed offer greater resistance to anyone who tries to break it. Few locks are designed with unique and remarkable synthesis of traditional design and compatibility with foreign locks. They have a full manual assembling with unique key code for each lock.

REPUTATION:

Dindigul Locks are known throughout the world for their superior quality and durability, so much so that even the city is called Lock City. Even though other machine made locks are available, government bodies like prisons, godowns, hospitals and even temples use the locks.

L. INSPECTION BODY:

The applicant undertakes to set up an inspection body with a minimum of seven members from several sectors and departments in order to inspect, assess and attest the quality of the product. The members of this body will comprise of one representative each of the District Industries Centre, Department of Industry and Commerce (Government of Tamil Nadu), Intellectual Property Rights Association, the local artisan body and other related sectors. This Body will work independently to, ensure fairness and will be established shortly.

M. OTHERS:

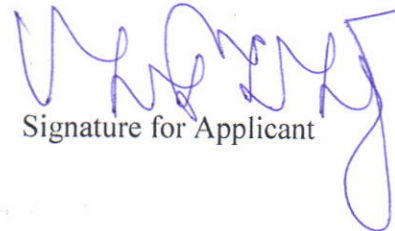
1. The Lock Making Industry provides employment to over 3000 families in Dindigul.
2. Further, the industry employees only male adults and no child labour is utilized.
3. Foreign customers can order locks which will be manufactured according to their specifications and requirements.
4. On an average each artisan produces 3-4 locks per day, which shows the immense care and high standards followed by these artisans.
5. A composite unit, which makes locks from start to finish and generally has 3-4 units of 4-8 workers each produces 500 locks per day.

Along with the Statement of case in classes and in respect of **Dindigul Lock** in the name(s) of **The Dindigul Lock, Hardware and Steel Furniture Workers Industrial Co-operative Society Ltd., IND.NO.150** whose address is producers of the said goods to which the geographical indication relates and which is in continuous use since time immemorial in respect of the said goods.

1. The application shall include such other particulars called for in Rule 32(1) in the Statement of case. = **Enclosed**.
2. All communications relating to this application may be sent to the following address in India, P.Sanjai Gandhi, Advocate, YMIA Building, New No.49, Moore Street 1st Floor, Second Line Beach Road, Chennai - 600 001.
3. In the case of an application from a convention country the following additional particulars shall also be furnished. = **Not Applicable**
 - a. Designation of the country of origin of the geographical indication.
 - b. Evidence as to the existing protection of the geographical indication in its country of origin, such as the title and the date of the relevant legislative or administrative provisions, the judicial decisions or the date and the number of the registration, and copies, of such documentation.

Date:

18/03/2019


Signature for Applicant