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Sitalpati Gets Place in UNESCO'S Intangible Cultural Heritage (Download PDF)

(March 17, 2017)

Sitalpati from the Cooch Behar district of Bengal has been recognized as an '**Intangible Cultural Heritage**' by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO). It has found a place in the UNESCO-sponsored Rural Craft Hub project.

UNESCO recognizes Sitalpati as Intangible Cultural Heritage

UNESCO Recognizes Sitalpati as Intangible Cultural Heritage

Highlights

- Sitalpati has found a place in the UNESCO-sponsored Rural Craft Hub project.
- Under this project training and marketing centers and museums have been set up in 10 locations across nine districts of the state to help promote and market crafts indigenous to those regions, to national and international tourists.
- These mats are used for sitting or to hang on doors or windows during summer.
- The gradual decline of sitalpati weaving was arrested by the proactive efforts of **chief minister Mamata Banerjee** who helped this traditional product gain global recognition.

Map of Cooch Behar district

Map of Cooch Behar District

About Shital pati

Image of Shital pati

Image of Shital Pati

- Shital pati, also called sital pati and sittal pati.
- It is a kind of mat which feels cold by nature.
- The mats are made up of weaved green cane slips of murta plants which are indigenous to the region.
- It is usually used in **Bangladesh** and **some parts of India**.
- Mats with decorative designs as called nakshi pati.

Intangible Cultural Heritage

Logo of Convention for Safeguarding of ICH

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- Intangible Cultural Heritage means the practices, representations, expressions, knowledge, skills - as well as the instruments, objects, artifacts and cultural spaces associated therewith - that communities, groups and, in some cases, individuals recognize as part of their cultural heritage.
- Intangible cultural heritage (ICH) is promoted by UNESCO as a counterpart to the World Heritage focusing mainly on intangible aspects of culture.

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