

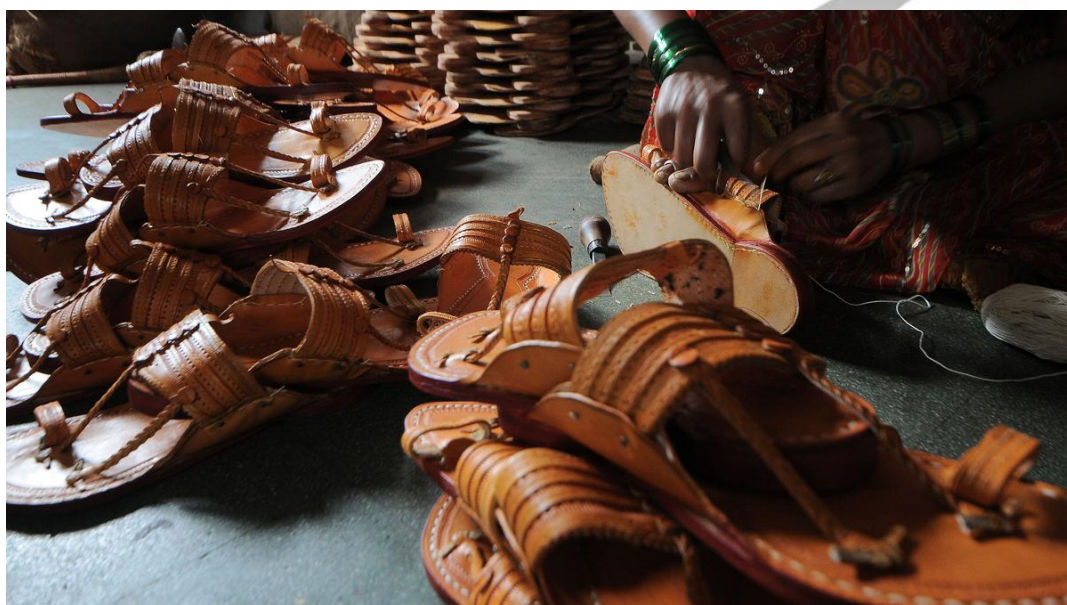


Kolhapuri Chappals

Why in News?

Italian luxury fashion brand Prada has admitted drawing inspiration from [traditional Indian handcrafted footwear](#) for its **Men's Spring/Summer 2026 sandals**, after facing backlash for not crediting the resemblance to India's [GI-tagged](#) Kolhapuri chappals.

- **Maharashtra Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (MACCIA)**, in collaboration with artisans, decided to [patent](#) Kolhapuri chappals to protect them internationally.



Key Points

- **About Kolhapuri Chappals:**
 - It is **handcrafted** in **Kolhapur (Maharashtra)** and nearby districts like **Sangli, Satara, and Solapur**, dating back to the **12th-13th century**, and was originally made for **royalty**.
 - It is made using **vegetable-tanned leather** from **cow, buffalo, or goat**, and is **fully handmade** without **nails or synthetic components**
 - It is recognised for its **T-strap shape, detailed braiding**, and **open-toe design**, mostly in **tan or deep brown** shades.
 - It was granted [Geographical Indication \(GI\)](#) status in **2019**, covering **eight districts** in **Maharashtra and Karnataka**.
- **Other GI Tagged Products of Maharashtra:**
 - Kasti Coriander (**2023**)
 - Sangli Raisins (**2016**)
 - Mangalwedha Jowar (**2016**)

Geographical Indication (GI) Tag

- **About:** A GI tag is a **name or sign used on certain products** that correspond to a specific geographical location or origin.
 - The GI tag ensures that only authorised users or those residing in the geographical territory are **allowed to use the popular product name.**
 - It also protects the product from being copied or imitated by others.
 - A registered GI is **valid for 10 years and can be renewed.**
 - GI registration is **overseen by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade** under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- **Legal Framework:**
 - [Geographical Indications of Goods \(Registration and Protection\) Act, 1999](#)
 - [WTO Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights \(TRIPS\).](#)

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