

Bangalkata Handloom Weavers Co-operative Society

The fabric woven in Garo Hills is well known for its unique designs, and colour combinations. Today, with modern inputs, gifted artisans produce colourful fabrics for furnishing bed spreads, shirts, as well as silk kota saris, cotton jamdani saris, buti saris, buti long length dress material, lungis, pachra, laisumphi, acrylic shawls, which are in demand both within and outside the state. The scale of production varies, depending on the type of loom used, type of cloth produced, materials used, and the pattern involved.



In 1964, weavers from Bangalkata, Kalapani, Chandigiri and Khakaimari villages came together and registered the Bangalkata Handloom Weavers Co-operative Society for their economic and social growth. Their area of operation now covers twelve villages. In 1982, they became a member of the Meghalaya Supervision and Cadre Management Co-operative Society, Shillong. Anima Mann was appointed Secretary of the co-operative by them, and she has held this office till date.





The co-operative started with just two looms; now they have thirteen looms distributed among eighty five members. Earlier, the co-operative produced mekhla chadar, gamchcha, daksari, bedcover and the like. With time, the demand for other traditional fabric and clothing arose and weavers began to additionally produce dakbandha, traditional waistcoats, neckties, woolen shawls, baby-wear and more. The co-operative purchases necessary raw-materials from the local markets and

government approved dealer at Tura. Their products are exhibited at different district and state level exhibitions. They feel the demand for traditional hand woven fabric is decreasing with modern technology and the introduction of acrylic fabric. The co-operative however holds on to the tradition of hand-woven fabric and promotes it. It specializes in the traditional patterns and designs of Garo Hills. The co-operative has an elected managing committee which determines their business plan and other activities. They are staffed by one salaried woman employee.

Name	:	Bangalkata Handloom Weavers Cooperative Society Ltd.,		
		Bangalkata, West Garo Hills		
Year of Formation:		1964		
Membership	:			
		Male	Female	Total
		0	90	90
Chairman	:	Smt. R. Rava		
Secretary	:	Smt. A. Mann		
Total Share Capital:		₹ 9,57,656		
Business Turnover:		₹ 77,079		
Working Result:		₹ 4,704		