

# Manamadurai pottery

April 26, 2023

**In news**– The Manamadurai pottery recently earned a Geographical Indication (GI) tag.

## **How are these pots made?**

- **The Vaigai river enriches the clay used for the Manamadurai pottery.** Pot making requires expertise as the bottom has to be perfectly round.
- The circumference of the pot and the neck should be proportionate so that the pot sits flat on the ground.
- **The right proportion of mud, clay and heating makes this product very strong.** The main raw materials for making these pots are soil and water.
- The sand, collected from different places of the district, is used for making pottery and dried for two days. The particles of the mud get separated by sieving.
- The slurry is mixed with the **sand and lead and graphite are added to the mixture to improve the quality.** This mixture is now rich in **calcium lime, ash, red lead, sodium silicate, manganese, iron, and plasticizing.** The pot is also painted in different colours.
- **A unique type of clay is sourced from water bodies** like Nedunkulam, Nathapurakki, Sundaranadappu, Seikalathur to make these pots.
- While making these pots, **the five elements of nature namely earth, water, fire, sun and air are used.**