SHILPSUTRA
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राष्ट्रीय डिज़ाइन संस्थान
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DESIGN
AHMEDABAD

Flexible Brass Metalwork

Bellaguinta, Ganjam, Odisha

Seats Available 13

OE26B15
Bengaluru Campus



Renowned for its intricate engineering, the art form is celebrated for its ability to mimic the fluid, life-like movement of a real fish despite being made entirely of metal.

In Bellaguntha, Ganjam, artisans have been crafting these incredible moving brass fish for over 300 years. Made entirely by hand using traditional casting and metalworking techniques, each fish has dozens of interlocking brass scales that let it bend and move just like a real fish—without any springs or modern machinery.

This rare craft has been lovingly preserved by generations of artisans and stands as a remarkable example of Odisha's rich metalcraft heritage.



Pradeep Kumar Maharana

Pradeep Kumar Maharana is a master craftsperson from Bellaguntha in the Ganjam district of Odisha, known for his traditional flexible brass craft, particularly the famous moving brass fish (pitala macha).