

Kendu Leaf

April 24, 2026 • vajiramandravi.com



Kendu Leaf Latest News

Recently, it was observed that tribal communities in Odisha's Koraput fight for their legal rights over kendu leaves for a third consecutive year.

About Kendu Leaf

- Kendu leaf (Tendu Leaf, *Diospyros Melanoxylon*) is also called **"Green Gold of Odisha"**.
- It is a **nationalized product** like Bamboo and Sal seed. Kendu leaf is one of the most important **non-wood forest products of Odisha**.
- **Characteristics:**
 - It has a matching aroma with tobacco.
 - It is **hygroscopic in nature** which helps drying leaves to withstand crack.
- **Primary use:** Used to roll tobacco into bidis (local cigarettes); also holds medicinal value.
- **Key Producer States:** Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Jharkhand, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat.

- **Odisha is the third-largest producer** after MP and Chhattisgarh.
- The uniqueness of Odisha Kendu leaves **is its processed form**. No state produces processed kendu leaves except Odisha.
- **Legal Status:** Kendu Leaf is covered under **Minor Forest Produce (MFP)** as **per Forest Rights Act (FRA), 2006**.

Source: DTE

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/what-is-the-kendu-leaf/>

© Vajiram & Ravi. For personal use only.