Sling Bags and Laces







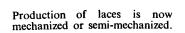


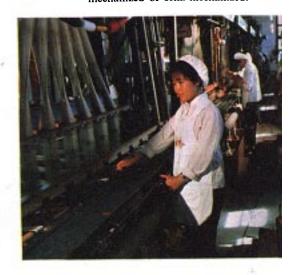
Sling bags.



Laces.











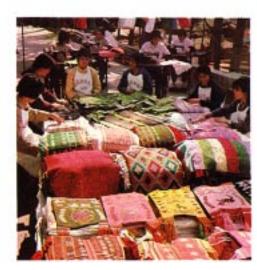
Sling bags and laces made by the Nationality Articles Manufacturing Plant in Kunming are very popular among the minority nationalities. Plant personnel soliciting clients' opinions in a minority village.





Checking finished sling bags.





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BACK COVER Forests by the Chinsha River.

THE Tai people of Yunnan have been making sling bags for more than a thousand years. First they used hemp and cotton, then a blend of wool and cotton. The minority women like to decorate their collars, cuffs, belts and skirt borders with laces. Both are favourites among the Tai, Lisu, and other minority people.

Yunnan has many nationalities. The Party and the government have been doing everything to raise their political level and improve their economic and cultural lives. Care has been taken to arrange for the production and supply of special articles needed by them. A number of handicraft cooperatives and state-run factories have been set up to promote the output of sling bags and laces. Raw materials, technical personnel and production equipment are supplied by the state. Carrying out technical reform and making production equipment themselves in the spirit of self-reliance and hard struggle, the workers have succeeded gradually in mechanizing or semi-mechanizing production, raising output and improving quality.