



सत्यमेव जयते

भारत सरकार
Government of India

भौगोलिक उपदर्शन पत्रिका

GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS JOURNAL



बौद्धिक सम्पदा
भारत
INTELLECTUAL
PROPERTY **INDIA**

भौगोलिक उपदर्शन पंजीकृति,
बौद्धिक सम्पदा अधिकार भवन,
जी.एस.टी. रोड, गिण्डी,
चेन्नै - ६०० ०३२.

**Geographical Indications Registry,
Intellectual Property Rights Building,
G.S.T. Road, Guindy, Chennai - 600 032.**



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS
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MARCH 23, 2020 / CHAITRA 03, SAKA 1942

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OFFICIAL NOTICES

Sub: Notice is given under Rule 41(1) of Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration & Protection) Rules, 2002.

1. As per the requirement of Rule 41(1) it is informed that the issue of Journal 133 of the Geographical Indications Journal dated 23rd March, 2020 / Chaitra 03, Saka 1942 has been made available to the public from 23rd March, 2020.

NEW G.I APPLICATION DETAILS

App.No.	Geographical Indications	Class	Goods
650	Kumaon Chyura Oil	30	Agricultural
651	Munsyari Razma of Uttarakhand	31	Agricultural
652	Uttarakhand Ringal Craft	27	Handicraft
653	Uttarakhand Tamta Product	27	Handicraft
654	Uttarakhand Thulma	27	Handicraft
655	Goan Khaje	30	Food Stuff
656	Manjusha Art	16	Handicraft
657	Tikuli Art	16	Handicraft
658	Sohrai Painting	16	Handicraft
659	Soh-Shang	31	Agricultural
660	Kuttiattoor Mango (Kuttiattoor Manga)	31	Agricultural
661	Agra Stone Craft	19 & 20	Handicraft
662	Edayur Chilli (Edayur Mulaku)	31	Agricultural
663	Chinnor Rice	30	Agricultural
664	Aligarh Lock	6	Handicraft
665	Bakhira Metal Product	21	Handicraft
666	Banda Shazar Patthar Craft	14	Handicraft
667	Nagina Wood Craft of Uttar Pradesh	20	Handicraft
668	Pratapgarh Aonla	31	Agricultural
669	Nagri Dubraj	30	Agricultural
670	Amroha Dholak	15	Handicraft
671	Mahoba Gaura Patthar	14	Handicraft
672	Hathras Hing	30	Food Stuff

673	Mainpuri Tarkashi	20	Food Stuff
674	Sambhal Horn Craft	20	Food Stuff
675	Kanyakumari Cloves	30	Agricultural
676	Bengal Muslin	24 & 25	Textiles
677	Patchwork of Rampur	24, 25 & 26	Textiles
678	Bareilly Terracott	21	Handicraft
679	Kovai Kora Cotton Sarees (Logo)	24 & 25	Textiles
680	Myndoli Banana	31	Agricultural
681	Morena Gajak	30	Food Stuff
682	Assamese Gamocha	24 & 25	Textiles
683	Osmanabadi Goat	31	Agricultural
684	Spiti Chharma (Seabuckthorn)	31	Agricultural
685	Alibag White Onion	31	Agricultural
686	Attappady Aattukombu Dolichos Bean [Attappady Aattukombu Avara]	31	Agricultural
687	Attappady Thuvara (Attappady red gram)	31	Agricultural

PUBLIC NOTICE

No.GIR/CG/JNL/2010

Dated 26th February, 2010

WHEREAS Rule 38(2) of Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Rules, 2002 provides as follows:

“The Registrar may after notification in the Journal put the published Geographical Indications Journal on the internet, website or any other electronic media.”

Now therefore, with effect from 1st April, 2010, The Geographical Indications Journal will be Published and hosted in the IPO official website www.ipindia.nic.in free of charge. Accordingly, sale of Hard Copy and CD-ROM of GI Journal will be discontinued with effect from 1st April, 2010.

Registrar of Geographical Indications

G.I. APPLICATION NUMBER – 663

Application Date: 03-10-2019

Application is made by Balaghat Chinnor Utpadak Sakhari Samiti Maryadit Balaghat at Jodapat, Kaydi, Waraseoni, District: Balaghat – 481 331, Madhya Pradesh, India for Registration in Part A of the Register of Balaghat Chinnor under Application No. 663 in respect of Rice falling in Class –30 is hereby advertised as accepted under Sub-section (1) of Section 13 of Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999.

- A) Name of the Applicant : Balaghat Chinnor Utpadak Sakhari Samiti
Maryadit Balaghat
- B) Address : Balaghat Chinnor Utpadak Sakhari Samiti
Maryadit Balaghat
Jodapat, Kaydi, Waraseoni, District: Balaghat –
481 331, Madhya Pradesh, India

Facilitated By:
College of Agriculture, Balaghat,
JNKVV Jabalpur (MP)

- C) Name of the Geographical Indication :

BALAGHAT CHINNOR



- D) Types of Good : Class 30 - Rice
- E) Specification:

“Balaghat Chinnor” is a ceremonial traditional rice native of Balaghat district of Madhya Pradesh. Because of its unique taste, aroma and softness Chinnor rice is popular in the feasts in the marriage celebrations and religious ceremonies. The cooked rice is sweet in taste with strong aroma and little stickyness that does not loose its softness and retain water even after 8-10 hours of cooking. Due to its pleasant aroma, sweetness and the ability to make milk thick because of stickiness, it is widely used for making *Kheer* in homes and in temples of Balaghat. The priests of the Balaghat temples have been offering the god Chinnor *Kheer* as Prasad Bhog. The cropping location and weather conditions of Balaghat highly contribute to its high aroma with softness after cooking and other quality attributes.

- F) Description:

According to the farmers, the name “Chinnor” has been derived from “*Chiknaiyukt Nokdaar Sugandhit Chavur*”. The morpho-agronomic and grain quality traits of Balaghat Chinnor are as follows:

A. Morphological and Agronomical Characteristics of BalaghatChinnor:-

Sl. No.	Particulars	Attributes	Sl. No.	Particulars	Attributes
1	Basal: leaf sheath colour	Green	15	Awn colour	Yellowish white
2	Leaf blade colour	Green	16	Lemma and Palea: Colour	straw
3	Collar colour	Green	17	Spikelet: Density of pubescence of lemma	Medium
4	Leaf :ligule	Present	18	Sterile lemma palea colour	Straw
5	Ligule colour	White	19	Panicle: Curvature of main axis	Deflexed
6	Leaf : auricle	Present	20	Panicle: Secondary branching	Strong
7	Auricle colour	Pale green	21	Panicle: Attitude of branches	Erect
8	Leaf angle	Horizontal	22	Days to 50 % flowering	120-125 days (photo sensitive)
9	Culm internode colour	Green	23	Tillering ability	Medium (12-14 Tillers/hill)
10	Spikelet: colour of stigma	White	24	Aroma in Plant	Scented
11	Panicle length	Very long	25	Panicle length	28-30cm
12	Panicle: exertion	Well exerted	26	Plant height	155-160cm
13	Apiculouscolour	White	27	Panicle/m ²	250-260
14	distribution of awns	Whole length	28	Days to maturity	155-160 days (photo sensitive)

B. Grain quality Characters of BalaghatChinnor

Sl. No.	Particulars	Attributes	Sl. No.	Particulars	Attributes
1	Kernel Length	5.34 mm	9	Alkali Value	4.0
2	Kernel Breadth	1.84 mm	10	Volume Expansion Ratio	4.5
3	L/B ratio	2.9	11	Gel Consistency	44mm
4	Grain types	Medium slender	12	Amylose Content	23.64%
5	1000 grain weight	15.00-17.00 gm	13	Grain chalkiness	Absent
6	Hulling%	75.6%	14	Water Uptake	180g
7	Milling%	66.90%	15	Aroma in Grain	Strongly Scented
8	Head Rice	53.3%			

C. Cooking characteristics: The cooked rice is soft, white in color, slightly-sticky, sweet and easily digestible with strong pop-corn like aroma. Although the uncooked rice is aromatic; its aroma significantly increases after cooking.

G) Geographical area of Production and Map as shown in page no: 15

The origin of the rice “Balaghat Chinnor” is confined to the Balaghat district of Madhya Pradesh state ecology. Geographical area of production of Chinnor rice, which is in Balaghat district of Madhya Pradesh comes under the Chhattisgarh Plains Agro-climatic region. Balaghat District is located in the southern part of Jabalpur Division. It occupies the south eastern portion of the Satpura Range and the upper valley of the Wainganga River.

The district extends from 21°19' to 22°24' North Latitude and 79°31' to 81°3' East Longitude. The total area of the district is 9,245 km². Balaghat District is bounded by Mandla District of Madhya Pradesh to the north, Dindori District to the northwest, Rajnandgaon District of Chhattisgarh state to the east, Gondia and Bhandara districts of Maharashtra state to the south, and Seoni District of Madhya Pradesh to the west.

Area under cultivation of Chinnor rice in the Balaghat district:

Sl.No.	Name of the Block	Name of Villages
1	Balaghat	Aawlajhari, Bhagholi, Hirapur, Budiagaon, Changotola, Magardarra, Moriya, Nagarwada, Aurma, Padriganj, & etc.
2	Lalburra	Lendejhari, Koppe, Chillod, Nevargaon, Lohara, Pathari, Behrai Phogaltola, Tekadi, Katanghari, Pipariya, Naitra, Badgaon, Nilji, Kosmi, Beharai, Chandrapuri, Garra, Labaada, Pathersahi & etc.
3	Waraseoni	Kaydi, Koste, Maharajpur, Dongargaon, Mehndiwada, Rajegaon, Ekodi, Rengatola, Umertola, Kashpur, Aalejhari, Madanpur, Sikandra and etc.
4	Khairlanjhi	Khurshipar, Phogaltola, Kumhli, Bhandarbodhi, Mohagaonbaiju, Pindkepar, Khairlanjhi, Bhaourgarh, Chicholi, Kouthurana, Bhajiadand, Chikla, Navegaon, Pipariya, Ghubadgondi, Chutia, Dongariya, Lawni & etc.
5	Katangi	Singhodi, Koylari, Devri, Naveganon, Bisapur, Samatpuri, Katera, Kohaka, Kodmi, Nandora, Lakhanwada, Chakaheti, Mohangaon, Jamunia, Sitapathore, Kousumba, Sawangi, Bhajiapar, Pipariya, Lingapaunar, Varud, Aanjanbihari, Chikmara, Kharpadia, Sirpur, & etc.
6	Kirnapur	Borgaon, Gulaba, Kinhi-1, Salhe, Kinhi, Mohagaon-1, Khara, Piparjhari, Magolikhurd, Mohagaon-2, Chikhala, Sihora, Mangolikala, Digodha, Bagadmara, Nevargaonkala, Kesha, Singodhi, Sulva, Batkari, Godri, Seonikala, Dharapuri, Chindgaon, Borundakala & etc.
7	Lanjhi	Poorvatola, Manpur, Thanegaon, Khandaphari, Junewani, Ghoti, Walegaon, Khursitola, Sulsuli, Nandora, Pausera, Sarra, Gharmara, Satona, Kansuli, Nevarwahi, Devalgaon, Khandwa, Belgaon, Lodhama, Dulapur, Badgaon, Kochewahi, Temni & etc.
8	Baihar	Aamgaon, Bhanderi, Bithali, Daldala, Garhi, Gowari, Jatta, Latri, Larni, Pondhi, Sonpuri & etc.
9	Paraswada	Manegaon, Paraswada, Bori, Lohara, Arandia, Chandna, Chinee, Kharpadia, Gudma, Pongarjodhi, Sarekha, Tema & etc.
10	Birsa	Paunia, Bakal, Chichgaon, Dabri, Kachnari, Manegaon, Samnapur, Ringopur & etc.

H) Proof of Origin (Historical records):

The reports regarding the relatedness of Chinnor rice with Balaghat are available in different literatures. For convenience, the literature has been divided into different headings-

Gazetteers and Old Folklores, Collections

1. According to the old folklore "*SurasFaag*" written in 1946, rice variety "Chinnor" was grown in the "*Kaidi*" village of the Balaghat district.pp-18.
2. In 1974, the famous rice germplasm collector of India, Dr. R.H. Richaria collected "Chinnor" from the *Kaidi* village of Balaghat. He later published the rice collection in 1977 in his book "A strategy for Rice Production to Ensure Sustained Growth in Madhya Pradesh". pp-14.
3. Catalogue on Indigenous Rice Germplasm of Madhya Pradesh Part-1 Collection- 1974, CGR689, IC-123725 pp 10. Collection from village *Kaidi*.
4. Catalogue on Indigenous Rice Germplasm of Madhya Pradesh Part-II, CGR689, IC-123725.pp-20.
5. Mention that the "Chinnor rice" belongs to the Balaghat - in Dr.Richaria publication "*Dhansampada*" in 1978. pp-25.
6. According to the 1992 Gazetteer, Chinnor rice was cultivated in the *Kaidi* village of Balaghat.pp 107-108.
7. Evidence available in the Central Provinces District Gazetteer, 1907, that Chinnor rice was grown in the Central Provinces of India.pp-85.

Historical Books

1. Cultivation of Chinnor in Waraseoni – A tehsil of Balaghat is mentioned in an old Book entitled "*Aravli to Satpuda Yatra*" written in 1992. pp-17
2. The origin of the Chinnor rice from the Balaghat region has been acknowledged in the book "A Treatise on the Scented Rices of India" by R.K. Singh, U.S. Singh, Kalyani's Publishers, 2003.pp-329.
3. In the Book "Aromatic Rices", By R.K. Singh, U.S. Singh and G.S. Khushpp-159.
4. In the Booklet entitled "Balaghat –*Bagh BaigaaurDhan – VikasPanthHaritParidhan*" published under the supervision of Shri Bharat Yadav, Collector Balaghat.pp-16.
5. In the Book "*Paddy through the years*" – selected writings from the Save our Rice Campaign – that Chinnor rice belongs to Madhya Pradesh.pp-137.

Papers

1. In the paper "Molecular Characterization of Aromatic Rice *Oryza sativa*, Using Simple Sequence Repeats (SSR) Markers. NirmalaBharti Patel, NamrataDhirhi, Rajeev Shrivastava and MayuriSahu, *Plant Archives* Vol. 15 No.2, 2015 pp1151-1156.
2. In the paper entitled "Genetic diversity among some traditional aromatic Rice (*Oryza sativa*L.) landraces of Chhattisgarh. NirmalaBharti Patel, Rajeev Shrivastava, Vikas Kumar and NamrataDhirhi. *Electronic Journal of Plant Breeding*. 6(1): 204-209 (Mar 2015).
3. In the study entitled "Scented Rices of India", by Uma Ahuja, SC Ahuja, RashmiThakrar, and N Shobha Rani, in *Asian Agri, History*, Vol. 12, No. 4, 2008, (267-283).pp 272.
4. In the article "Processing of Improved rice: A Movement towards the prosperity. UttamBisen, S.B. Agarawal, N.K. Bisen and Mohammad Imran (Communicated)

Others: As Chinnor is a highly popular rice of Balaghat, it is cited in the news papers on several occasions.

I) Method of Production:

Balaghat Chinnor rice is photosensitive, tall, medium slender grained, late maturing landrace grown in irrigated midland to rainfed lowland of the Balaghat district of Madhya Pradesh. The cultivation of Balaghat Chinnor rice requires well prepared fields and extra care to maintain purity of the grains. Organic manure is applied for its cultivation to maintain its aroma and softness. Its yield potential is around 2.5-3 tons per hectare. The details are given under the following heads.

Soil

Clay loam soil yellow to red in color are favorable for its cultivation which are found in Balaghat district.

Seed Selection

In order to maintain the originality and purity of Chinnor rice variety, the farmers of the Balaghat generally select and pick the panicles of the crop from the field before harvesting and put them for drying. The dried bulk is threshed and kept for future use as seed. True Chinnor seeds are ascertained by looking at the physical appearance of the seeds. The shape of the apex of seed as well as the grain of Chinnor is similar to the tip of a sword.

Seed rate

Farmers generally use 45-50kg seed material for one hectare of land to grow nursery. For growing nursery, seedbed is prepared by ploughing and levelling field in the corner of the main field. The nursery is grown at the onset of monsoon at around 25-30 June. Chinnor is a long duration crop that needs cool weather at dough and maturity stage. Planting Chinnor rice nursery between 25-30th June results in crop maturation in the last week of November to first fortnight of December when the weather is cool, which is best for obtaining high quality Chinnor rice.

Field Preparation

The field is prepared after the onset of monsoon using desi plough locally known as *Chiratha*. Before transplantation of Chinnor seedlings, the field is puddled using desi plough and subsequently levelled using *patha*. Traditional Chinnor farmers use the desi plough, *datari* and *patha* for field preparation and avoid the use of tractor drawn equipments such as rotavator, cultivators etc. The farmers believe that these equipments make the soil compact that becomes unfit for Chinnor cultivation.

Transplanting

In the puddled field 20-25 days old seedlings are transplanted at a distance of 15x10 cm or 10x10 cm with 2-3 seedling per hill. The traditional Chinnor farmers believe that the high density planting of Chinnor is desirable as it results in fine grained rice. Close growing plants support each other against lodging and prevents the direct touching of panicles to ground. High density planting also reduces weed development.

Nutrient source

The farmers place heaps of compost (about 5-7 tonnes/ha) to the field before the onset of monsoon and spreads it manually after sowing of nursery. The farmers spread the compost manually throughout the field. Neem/Karanj/Mahua cake could be added to soil as basal dose and top dressing. Some farmers also practice additional manuring of Dhaincha that gives approximately 10-12 t biomass/ha.

Weed Management

The high density plantation of Chinnor seedlings results in low incidence of weeds. Traditionally, weeds are removed by hand weeding at 25-35 days after transplanting. During hand weeding work the farmer moves in the field that breaks the roots of the plant. The breaking of roots enhances more rooting thereby increasing the number of tillers.

Plant Protection

Chinnor is a traditional rice variety it is there is low incidence of diseases and pests. However, the farmers perform the following agricultural practice -

Stem Borer - Farmers generally cut the upper portion of seedling leaf at the time of transplantation. This practice helps to remove the eggs of stem borer as it lay eggs on seedling leaves. The farmers also throw the leaves of a locally grown tree known as *Garadi* (*Cleistanthus collinus*) that repels the insect and pests.

Sheath blight & Blast (Leaf, Panicle) - The field is alternatively wetted and dried. Cow dung ash is also dusted/sprayed on the affected plants. Seed and Seedling treatment with *Pseudomonas* (10ml/lit of water) followed by two Spraying may also be done at tillering and before flowering.

Water management

As Chinnor is a long duration traditional rice variety, the farmers plants the crop in the field which is low lying area where water is available for longer duration in the soil.

Harvesting, Threshing and Winnowing

Harvesting is done in the first fortnight of December. Generally farmers harvest the crop when the panicles have turned yellow in color and the plants are still green in color (*her-her suthi*). The crop is harvested manually by sickles. The seeds are traditionally recovered either by moving a bullock cart on the harvested crop placed on a temporary threshing floor or by tying the animals to a central pole to stir in a circle trampling the harvested panicles. Subsequently, winnowing is done with the help of *desi supa* in order to remove dust and unwanted materials. Harvesting Chinnor crop at the *her her suthi* stage results in high aroma, increase in shining on the grain and head rice recovery.

J) Uniqueness:

i. Natural Factors:

The climatic condition of the Balaghat district region is such that during maturity of the Chinnor crop season the temperature ranges between 26-28°C during the day and 18-20°C at night (temperature of night is cooler) with 11-12 hrs day periods. The grain filling occurs during hazy sunshine of about 10.30-11.15 hrs day period when the average relative humidity is around 55-60% in the month of November. It is tolerant to cold but sensitive to rain at flowering. Average rainfall of the Balaghat district is 1447 mm. The cropping situation and weather conditions of Balaghat district has contributed greatly to its high aroma and softness in cooking and other quality attributes. The special quality characteristics based upon the unique production technique and characteristics of Chinnor is unique to the said geographical condition.

ii. Morphological-Quality traits:

- The name “Chinnor” in the GI product “Balaghat Chinnor” rice is an acronym of “*Chiknaiyukt Nokdaar Chavur*”;
- “Balaghat Chinnor” rice is strongly scented;
- Aroma of both cooked and uncooked rice is strongly scented;
- The cooked grains are soft, shiney after cooling and slightly sticky in nature;
- The shape of the apex of grain of Chinnor is similar to the tip of a sword;
- Taste of this rice variety is very unique;
- The Kheer made by Balaghat Chinnor rice has creamy texture with a peculiar rice flavour and there is no need of adding any flavouring to it;
- The Chinnor rice knead is very smooth with warm water as the dough is used for making Poori, Anarsa (both sweet and sour), roti and cooked chawal known as bhatt;
- Cooking time is less;
- The cooked grains are soft after cooling and slightly sticky in nature.

K) Inspection Body:

An Inspection structure is constituted to oversee the standards and quality assurance system for inspection of every step of production of “Balaghat Chinnor” rice and statutory compliances thereof.

The quality of Balaghat Chinnor rice will be monitored by a committee under the supervision of Collector, Balaghat in order to maintain the original physical and chemical characteristics post GI as per GI registration.

The committee will consist of following committee members:

SNo.	Member
1.	Deputy Director, Department of Farmer Welfare and Agriculture Development, Balaghat
2.	Representative, Madhya Pradesh State Seed Certification Agency, Bhopal
3.	Representative, Madhya Pradesh State Seed and Farm Development Corporation, Bhopal
4.	Representative, Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishvavidyalaya, Jabalpur
5.	Representative, College of Agriculture, Balaghat, Madhya Pradesh
6.	Representative, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Balaghat
7.	Chairman, ATMA, Balaghat
8.	Two Chinnor growing farmers belonging to the area under GI nominated by the Deputy Director Agriculture, Balaghat
9.	Representative, "Balaghat Chinnor Utpadak Sahkari Samiti Maryadit Balaghat", M.P.

This committee will also help to regulate the use of Geographical Indication for the welfare of local producers community. The committee will frame the terms and conditions to use brand name of "Balaghat Chinnor" by any of the marketing agency. The logo of Balaghat Chinnor rice GI will be used to create brand image.

L) Others:

- **Development of package of Practices for Organic Chinnor cultivation**
As Chinnor is a very popular rice of Balaghat, scientists of College of Agriculture, Balaghat has designed a package of practices for production of Organic Chinnor crop.
- **Chinnor rice by-product – high rice bran oil content**-Other than the excellent eating qualities of Chinnor rice, the oil content of the Chinnor rice bran is highest (20-21%) compared to the oil content of the bran of the normal rices (18-19%).

जिला बालाघाट

मापमान १ इंच = ४ मील

जिला मंडला

जिला सिवनी

जिला राजनांदगांव

राज्यराष्ट्र

संकेत

जिला विभाग
मंडला
तहसील
पंचायत समिती
ग्राम
राज्यमार्ग
राज्यमार्ग संकेत
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जिला बालाघाट नं ३२२ मंडला संकेत ७७ ४० ४०

General Information

What is a Geographical Indication?

- It is an indication,
- It is used to identify agricultural, natural, or manufactured goods originating in the said area,
- It originates from a definite territory in India,
- It should have a special quality or characteristics unique to the geographical indication.

Examples of possible Geographical Indications in India:

Some of the examples of Geographical Indications in India include Basmati Rice, Darjeeling Tea, Kanchipuram silk saree, Alphonso Mango, Nagpur Orange, Kolhapuri Chappal, Bikaneri Bhujia etc.

What are the benefits of registration of Geographical Indications?

- It confers legal protection to Geographical Indications in India,
- It prevents unauthorized use of a registered Geographical Indication by others.
- It boosts exports of Indian Geographical indications by providing legal Protection.
- It promotes economic Prosperity of Producers.
- It enables seeking legal protection in other WTO member countries.

Who can apply for the registration of a Geographical Indication?

Any association of persons, producers, organization or authority established by or under the law can apply.

The applicant must represent the interest of the producers.

The application should be in writing in the prescribed form.

The application should be addressed to the Registrar of Geographical Indications along with prescribed fee.

Who is the Registered Proprietor of a Geographical Indication?

Any association of persons, producers, organization or authority established by or under the law can be a registered proprietor. Their name should be entered in the Register of Geographical Indications as registered proprietor for the Geographical Indication applied for.

Who is an authorized user?

A producer of goods can apply for registration as an authorized user, with respect to a registered Geographical Indication. He should apply in writing in the prescribed form along with prescribed fee.

Who is a producer in relation to a Geographical Indication?

A producer is a person dealing with three categories of goods

- Agricultural Goods including the production, processing, trading or dealing.
- Natural Goods including exploiting, trading or dealing.
- Handicrafts or industrial goods including making, manufacturing, trading or dealing.

Is registration of a Geographical Indication compulsory?

While registration of Geographical indication is not compulsory, it offers better legal protection for action for infringement.

What are the advantages of registering?

- Registration affords better legal protection to facilitate an action for infringement.

- The registered proprietor and authorized users can initiate infringement actions.
- The authorized users can exercise right to use the Geographical indication.

Who can use the registered Geographical Indication?

Only an authorized user has the exclusive rights to use the Geographical indication in relation to goods in respect of which it is registered.

How long is the registration of Geographical Indication valid? Can it be renewed?

The registration of a Geographical Indication is for a period of ten years.

Yes, renewal is possible for further periods of 10 years each.

If a registered Geographical Indications is not renewed, it is liable to be removed from the register.

When a Registered Geographical Indication is said to be infringed?

- When unauthorized use indicates or suggests that such goods originate in a geographical area other than the true place of origin of such goods in a manner which misleads the public as to their geographical origins.
- When use of Geographical Indication results in unfair competition including passing off in respect of registered Geographical indication.
- When the use of another Geographical Indication results in a false representation to the public that goods originate in a territory in respect of which a Geographical Indication relates.

Who can initiate an infringement action?

The registered proprietor or authorized users of a registered Geographical indication can initiate an infringement action.

Can a registered Geographical Indication be assigned, transmitted etc?

No, A Geographical Indication is a public property belonging to the producers of the concerned goods. It shall not be the subject matter of assignment, transmission, licensing, pledge, mortgage or such other agreement. However, when an authorized user dies, his right devolves on his successor in title.

Can a registered Geographical Indication or authorized user be removed from the register?

Yes, The Appellate Board or the Registrar of Geographical Indication has the power to remove the Geographical Indication or authorized user from the register. The aggrieved person can file an appeal within three months from the date of communication of the order.

How a Geographical Indication differs from a trade mark?

A trade mark is a sign which is used in the course of trade and it distinguishes good or services of one enterprise from those of other enterprises. Whereas a Geographical Indication is used to identify goods having special Characteristics originating from a definite geographical territory.

THE REGISTRATION PROCESS

In December 1999, Parliament passed the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act 1999. This Act seeks to provide for the registration and protection of Geographical Indications relating to goods in India. This Act is administered by the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks, who is the Registrar of Geographical Indications. The Geographical Indications Registry is located at Chennai.

The Registrar of Geographical Indication is divided into two parts. Part 'A' consists of particulars relating to registered Geographical indications and Part 'B' consists of particulars of the registered authorized users. The registration process is similar to both for registration of geographical indication and an authorized user which is illustrated below:

