



GI Status for Kerala's Five Agricultural Products

Why in News?

Five agricultural products of Kerala- Attappady Attukombu Avara, Attappady Thuvara, Onattukara Ellu, Kanthalloor-Vattavada Veluthulli, and Kodungalloor Pottuvellari have been granted [Geographical Indication \(GI\) status](#).

- The Gamosa (traditional cloth) of Assam, Alibag White Onion from Maharashtra, Ladakh Raktsey Karpo Apricot and Tandur Redgram of Telangana also got GI tag recently.

What are the Key Facts about the Latest GIs?

- **Attappady Attukombu Avara (Beans):**
 - It is **curved like a goat's horn** as its name indicates.
 - Its **higher anthocyanin content** compared to other dolichos beans **imparts violet colour in the stem and fruits.**
 - Anthocyanin is **helpful against cardiovascular diseases** along with its **antidiabetic properties.**
 - The **higher phenolic content** of Attappady Attukombu Avara imparts **resistance against pest and diseases**, making the crop suitable for organic cultivation.
- **Attappady Thuvara (Red Gram):**
 - It is having **seeds with white coat.**
 - Compared to other red grams, Attappady Thuvara **seeds are bigger and have higher seed weight.**
- **Onattukara Ellu (Sesame):**
 - Onattukara Ellu and its oil are famous for its **unique health benefits.**
 - Relatively **higher antioxidant content** in Onattukara Ellu helps in **fighting the free radicals, which destroy the body cells.**
 - Also, the **high content of unsaturated fat** makes it **beneficial for heart patients.**
- **Kanthalloor-Vattavada Veluthulli (Garlic):**
 - Compared to the garlic produced in other areas, this garlic contains **higher amount of sulphides, flavonoids, proteins and also rich in essential oil.**
 - It is **rich in allicin**, which is **effective against microbial infections, blood sugar, cancer, etc.**
- **Kodungalloor Pottuvellari (Snapmelon):**
 - This snap melon, which is **harvested in summer**, contains **high amount of Vitamin C.**
 - Compared to other cucurbits, nutrients such as **calcium, magnesium, fibre and fat content are also high** in Kodungalloor Pottuvellari.

UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Years Questions (PYQs)

Q1. Which of the following has/have been accorded 'Geographical Indication' status? (2015)

1. Banaras Brocades and Sarees
2. Rajasthani Daal-Bati-Churma
3. Tirupathi Laddu

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans: (c)

Exp:

- A Geographical Indication (GI) is a sign used on products that have a specific geographical origin and possess qualities or a reputation that are due to that origin.
- Darjeeling tea was the first product in India to get a GI tag.
- Banaras Brocades and Sarees and Tirupathi Laddu have got GI tag while Rajathan's Daal-Baati-Churma does not. **Hence, 1 and 3 are correct. Therefore, option (c) is the correct answer.**

Q2. India enacted the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999 in order to comply with the obligations to (2018)

- (a) ILO
- (b) IMF
- (c) UNCTAD
- (d) WTO

Ans: (d)

Exp:

- Geographical indications (GIs) are a type of intellectual property (IP). The World Trade Organisation (WTO) recognises intellectual property rights under TRIPS (TradeRelated Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights) Agreement.
- Under Article 22(1) of the TRIPS Agreement, the GIs are defined as "indications which identify a good as originating in the territory of a Member, or a region or locality in that territory, where a given quality, reputation or other characteristic of the good is essentially attributable to its geographic origin".
- **Therefore, option (d) is the correct answer.**

[Source: TH](#)

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