

New items from India received GI tags

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In news— 9 new items from various states of India have been given the coveted GI Tags. With this the total number of GI Tags of India comes to 432.

The new items with GI tag-

- Some of the items include Gamosa of Assam, Tandur Redgram of Telangana, Raktsey Karpo Apricot of Ladakh, Alibag White Onion of Maharashtra etc.
- The top 5 states holding maximum number of GIs are Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka and Kerala.

The 'Gamosa' from Assam-

- This **traditionally woven handloom product is known for its distinctive red border and floral motifs**. The gamosa is a symbol of Assamese culture.
- It is **mostly woven out of white threads with colourful and intricate inlays in red**. There are different varieties woven for religious and auspicious occasions.
- Gamocha is **also known as Bihuwaan, as it is an essential part of the Bihu festival of Assam**.

Tandur Red Gram of Telangana-

- It is a **local variety of pigeon pea** which is **mainly grown in the rainfed areas of the Tandur and nearby places** in the state.
- As per the researchers, the **fertile deep black soil with clay minerals specifically in Tandur Region along with huge limestone deposits can be attributed to the specific quality traits** of Tandur Redgram.
- It **contains about 24 percent protein**, which is **almost**

three times that of cereals, and is popularly known for its very good taste, and better cooking quality.

- The GI tag will help in increasing demand for the processed red gram dal that is Toor Dal in international markets.

Raktsey Karpo- the organic sweetness from Ladakh-

- Raktsey Karpo, **from the family of apricot, packed with vitamins and low on calories** is **rich in sorbitol – a natural glucose substitute** that **can be consumed by diabetics**.
- The **oil from its seed** is known to **relieve back aches and joint pain**.
- These apricots are grown organically as individual on trees or in clusters without using any chemical fertilisers.

Alibag White Onion of Maharashtra-

- It is known for its **unique sweet taste, no-tear factor**, and medicinal properties.
- The soil of Alibaug taluka **has low sulphur content** & its geo-climatic conditions make it unique compared to other white onion-producing areas.
- **White onions are an excellent source of antioxidants** that contain more than 25 different types of flavonoids which lowers the risk of developing chronic diseases like diabetes, cancer, and heart disease.

What is a GI Tag?

- A geographical indication or 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.
- GI part of the intellectual property rights that comes under the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property.

- In India, Geographical Indications registration is administered by the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act of 1999.
- The registration of a geographical indication shall be for a period of ten years, but may be renewed from time to time in accordance with the provisions of this Act.
- The first product to get a GI tag in India was the Darjeeling tea in 2004.
- Geographical indications are typically used for agricultural products, foodstuffs, wine and spirit drinks, handicrafts, and industrial products