

One-Day International Workshop on “The Promotion and Development of Geographical Indication (GI): A Tool for Regional Promotion and Protection of Heritage”

**Organised by Centre for IPR Studies (CIPRS), School of Law, Galgotias University
in association with
Great Mission Group Consultancy (GMGC), Pune & Odita Trust, Odisha**

July 3, 2021 Time: 10:00 AM – 04:00 PM IST

About the Workshop

Every region has its claim to fame. Christopher Columbus sailed from Europe to chart out a new route to capture the wealth of rich Indian spices. English breeders imported Arabian horses to sire Derby winners. China silk, Dhaka muslin, Venetian glass all were much sought after treasures. Each reputation was carefully built up and painstakingly maintained by the masters of that region, combining the best of Nature and Man, traditionally handed over from one generation to the next for centuries. Gradually, a specific link between the goods and place of production evolved resulting in growth of Geographical Indications (GIs).

Darjeeling Tea was the first item authorised for Geographical Indications (GI) in India, it was originally safeguarded by a certification mark. After India signed on to the WTO's Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights agreement, and in compliance with the TRIPS Agreement of the WTO, India has also enacted *'The Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, (GI Act) on 15th September 2003* to provide protection to the goods registered under the Act. In India as of now till February, 2020, 347 plus GIs under the Geographical Goods Indications Act, 1999 are protected. GI protection is provided for three distinct categories of commodities: agricultural commodities, natural products, and manufactured products. In addition to textiles and food products, handicrafts including leather goods, textiles, and foodstuffs (such as wine and spirits) are included under the term "manufactured goods."

Examples of possible Indian Geographical Indications.

- Basmati Rice
- Darjeeling Tea
- Kanchipuram silk saree
- Nagpur orange
- Kolhapuri chappal
- Bikaneri bhujia
- Agra petha

Thus, GI Act recognized the role of the geographical/ climatic/ natural factors or human knowhow in the end quality and reputation of the products, helping the producers stand distinct and the consumers to differentiate the GI products from competing products in the market.

The objective of the workshop is to identify the different aspects of GI which has high potential for capturing global market, to learn experiences of successful global GI products and to initiate a time bound program to create a roadmap for all the participants to achieve high level experiential learning.

In addition, this workshop is designed to enhance awareness on the challenges related to protection of GI and probable solutions thereof. In order to raise understanding of the operation of GI systems, the workshop is intended to bring the GI holders, members of the GI communities, legal fraternities, and scholars together. Experts in the field will discuss and share their experience. Further to understand from the stakeholders the ground realities of the pre- and post-registration scenarios on GIs and emphasise on the various approaches on the ways forward for the better working of GIs system in India.

This international workshop is organized in association with **GMGC** (Great Mission Group Consultancy) and **Odita Trust**.

GMGC is a group of legal professionals, scientist and academicians established in Pune, India, to promote Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) and World Trade Organization (WTO) related areas. GMGC has been established with an objective of providing a concrete platform for Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) with a special focus on protection, promotion, and enforcement of Geographical Indications. GMGC works for awareness in the field of Patents, Designs, Trademarks, & GI and motivates the stakeholders for the creation and protection of IPRs.

GMGC has created a niche identity in the area of Geographical Indication registration and is equipped to offer services to help farmer's community an opportunity to explore international markets.

GMGC has successfully applied twenty-eight (28) Geographical Indications (Community IP Right) from the State of Maharashtra out of which twenty-six (26) GIs have been registered. Founder of GMGC Adv. Prof. Ganesh Hingmire has received the "National IP Award for Best Facilitation of Registration of GI and Promotion of Registered GI in the country" in 2016 conferred by Hon'ble Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Minister of Commerce and Industry, Govt. of India, at a function jointly organized by Indian Intellectual Property Office and Confederation of Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industry (CII). In 2015, Prof. Hingmire has conferred a Special Mention Award in the category for Best Facilitation of Registration of GI and Promotion of Registered GI in the country.

Odita Trust is a registered non-profit organization set up to protect, preserve and promote art, culture, heritage and environment. ODITA stands for- ODisha & BharaTA. Established during Rath Yatra 2019, Odita Trust represents community interests, and works for the stakeholders. It endeavours to connect the weavers, artisans, and farmers and bring them on the same platform.

Odita Trust's efforts have ensured representation of some of the GIs of Odisha in the virtual all-India GI Exhibitions and fairs, having facilitated participation of artisans, farmers and producer groups of Odisha, by being Vocal for Local and Vocal for GI.

With proactive advocacy, persistent efforts and activism, Odita Trust has been relentlessly raising GI issues striving to ensure awareness, proper representation, communication, information, and action, and implementation.

The event is a full-day program being curated by Centre for IPR Studies (CIPRS), School of Law, Galgotias University with an audience across the nation on **3rd of July, 2021, from 10:00 A.M.** onwards.

Schedule and Theme

Session I: *Protection of Geographical Indications and its relevance in Sustainable and Economic Development (10:00 AM – 01:00 PM) (IST).*

- **Adv. Prof. Ganesh Hingmire**, Founder GMGC (Great Mission Group Consultancy) National IP Award Winner-Importance of Geographical Indications: Indian Perspective.
- **Shri. Hemant Khosla**, Deputy Registrar of Copyright, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry- Registration Procedure of Geographical Indications (GI).
- **Dr. C.R. Elsy**, Professor (Rtd.) (Plant Breeding & Genetics) Convenor IPR Cell, College of Horticulture, Kerala Agricultural University-The Relevance of Geographical Indications (GI) in Indian Agriculture.
- **Prof. Irene Calboli**, Professor of Law Texas A&M University, School of Law, Academic Fellow University of Geneva, Senior Fellow of Melbourne Law School- The Importance of GI for Economic & Sustainable Development.

Session II: *Management of Geographical Indications: Key Challenges (01:30 PM- 04:00 PM) (IST)*

- **Dr. Anita Sabat**, Managing Trustee, Odita Trust, Director, Sabat Exports Pvt. Ltd.- Awareness, Proper Representation & Promotion of GIs.
- **Ms. Namrata Pahwa**, Advocate High Court of Delhi, Founder: Chambers of Namrata Pahwa- Importance of GI with regard to Local Artists.
- **Mr. Hansel Vaz**, Founder, Cazulo Premium Feni, Partner Vaz Enterprises, GI Representative- Limitations of the present form of GI.
- **Advocate Aparna Gaur**, Senior Member of IP & TMT Team, Nishith Desai Associates- Misuse of GI law: Lessons from Past Registrations & Refusals.

Registration Details

Open to:

- a) Law Students
- b) Academicians & Researchers
- c) GI stakeholders
- d) Practicing advocates & Professionals.

Registration for the International Workshop is Free.

Registration link: <https://forms.gle/MMearTT25Pdvr9KB6>

All the Participants will receive a joining link to attend the virtual One Day International Workshop on 02.07.2021, via email from Centre for IPR Studies (CIPRS).

Instructions for Participants:

Please follow the instructions given below for the smooth conduct of the Online Programme.

- 1) Kindly Login with the same name as registered in the Registration forms and avoid mobile/brand names etc.
- 2) Please join 10-15 minutes before the program starts.
- 3) All the Mics should be on Mute.
- 4) Please avoid moving with the camera, if the video is on. If you are talking or moving with a camera, ensure that both audio and video are off.
- 5) Questions can be asked in the Chat box.
- 6) *E-Certificate of Participation shall be provided only to those Registered Participants who will attend and attempt the assessment and thereby submit the feedback form.*
- 7) Feedback form shall be circulated during the session in the Chat box on the **Zoom Platform**.

Contact Details

Faculty Convenor

Ms. Paramita Choudhury,
Coordinator, Centre for IPR Studies (CIPRS)
School of Law, Galgotias University
ciprs@galgotiasuniversity.edu.in

Faculty Co-Convenors

Mr. Robin Jaiswal
Ms. Ashmika Agrawal
Ms. Sugandha Chaudhary
Members, Centre for IPR Studies (CIPRS)