



ABC of GI

What is a geographical indication?
It is an **intellectual property right given for a product traditionally grown or made in a particular region**, which makes it illegal for someone to sell a product from elsewhere under that name

How old is the concept?
It has **its origins in the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property in 1883** and is also covered under the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS)

How long has India had it?
India passed the **Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration & Protection) Act in 1999**, which came into force in **September 2003**

How many geographical indications has India granted so far?
303, including 11 foreign products like Scotch and Cognac. There are also products which have two geographical Indications, one for the name and another for the logo

Who is it given to?
An association of makers or growers of the product or an arm of the state or Central government which may apply on their behalf

How long is it valid?
For 10 years, after which it can be renewed

Source: Office of the Controller General of Patents, Designs & Trade Marks