

The legal status of geographical indications in India

Sujit Kumar and Seweta Srivastava

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ABSTRACT : Geographical Indications (GI) have emerged as a significant form of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) issue in the Indian context. Every geographical region has its name and fame. In view of their commercial potential, adequate legal protection of GIs becomes necessary to prevent their misappropriation. Mostly the qualities and characteristics of certain goods attributable to some geographical locations and reputable to “as produce of certain region” come under Geographical Indications (GI). The protection of Geographical Indications has over the years, emerged as one of the most contentious intellectual property rights issues in the global level assumes enormous significance for a country like India. This review provides an overview of the past and current scenario of Geographical Indications in India with its challenges. It also provides a list of important Geographical Indications in India registered till today.

Key Words : IPR, TRIPS, WTO, protection, registration.