Banganapalle mangoes, 6 others get GI tag

Tulapanji rice of Bengal also listed

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Famous Banganapalle mangoes of Andhra Pradesh and Tulapanji rice of West Bengal are among the seven commodities that have been granted Geographical Indications this fiscal year by the Indian patent office.

A Geographical Indication (GI) is primarily an agricultural, natural or a manufactured product (handicrafts and industrial goods) originating from a definite geographical territory.

Typically, such a name conveys an assurance of quality and distinctiveness, which is essentially attributable to the place of its origin.

Darjeeling Tea, Tirupathi Laddu, Kangra Paintings, Nagpur Orange and Kash-



mir Pashmina are among the registered GIs in India.

Other products

The other five products which have received this tag

this year include Pochampally Ikat of Telangana; Gobindobhog Rice of West Bengal; Durgi Stone Carvings and Etikoppaka Toys of Andhra Pradesh; and Chakshesang Shawl of Nagaland, according to the Indian patent office website.

In 2016-17, as many as 33 items got GI registration.

Experts said that award of GI tag gives protection to the producer of those genuine products, which commands premium pricing in the domestic and international markets.

"Once the GI protection is granted, no other producer can misuse the name to market similar products. It also provides comfort to customers about the authenticity of that product," National Intellectual Property Organisation (NIPO) President TC James said.

The Commerce and Industry Ministry has also launched a contest for designing a common logo and tagline for Geographical Indications to increase awareness about intellectual property rights.

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