

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1937
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2002
GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS ACT , 1999
GUNIPATI RAMAIAH

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Geographical Indications Act, 1999 has been notified;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government to notify the Act, immediately?

Answer

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Dr. Raman Singh)

(a) to (c) Yes sir. The geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999 was notified on 30th December, 1999. The operationalisation of the Act is contingent upon the finalization of the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Rules and also upon the establishment of the Intellectual Property Appellate Board (IPAB). Steps are underway to expedite operationalisation and these include notification of the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Rules, 2002 and establishment of the IPAB. The formalities relating to IPAB are nearing completion.