

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
DEPARTMENT FOR PROMOTION OF INDUSTRY AND INTERNAL TRADE
RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 199.
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 21ST JULY, 2023.**

ENCOURAGEMENT TO SCULPTURE MAKERS OF BIHAR

199. Shri Rakesh Sinha:

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that the tradition of making beautiful clay idols, toys etc., has been going on for hundreds of years in Mansoorchak, situated in Begusarai district of Bihar;
- (b) if so, whether Government would consider to encourage the artists making sculptures of excellent quality; and
- (c) whether Government would also consider to take initiative for providing Geographical Indicator (GI) tag to such beautiful and popular products?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
(SHRI SOM PARKASH)**

- (a) to (c):** The definition of Geographical Indication (GI) describes an indication which identifies such goods as agricultural goods, natural goods or manufactured goods as originating, or manufactured in the territory of a country, or a region or locality, where a given quality, reputation or other characteristic of such goods is attributable to its geographical origin.

GI tags are granted on the basis of application made by the Association of persons or producers or any organization or authority established by or under any law representing the interest of the producers of the concerned goods. Any such organization who desires registering a GI in relation to such goods can apply to the Registrar of GIs. However, the GI Registry does not have any suo-moto power to register any product as GIs.

As on date there is no application pending in the office of Controller General of Patents Designs and Trademarks (CGPDTM) in respect of idols, toys etc. of Mansoorchak, Begusarai district of Bihar.

Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) has set up the Cell for Intellectual Property and Management (CIPAM) to undertake focused action on issues related to IPRs including GI. CIPAM has also been entrusted for conducting IPR awareness campaign across the country in schools, colleges/universities and the industry, training and sensitization programmes for enforcement agencies and Judiciary, coordination for effective enforcement of IPR rights.

Furthermore, the Government has earmarked Rs. 75 crore under the IPR Policy Management Scheme for period of three years i.e., FY 2022-23 to 2024-25 to undertake initiatives and activities aimed at creating awareness about significance of GIs, promoting registered Indian GIs, identify potential GIs and encourage stakeholders towards registration.

GI Registry regularly conducts Awareness programmes for stakeholders on GI at various places in the country and also provides necessary handholding facility to the applicants in the filing and processing of their GI applications.
