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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION DIGITAL ACCESS SERVICE (WIPO DAS)

The priority document exchange program includes two modes of exchange: Direct Bilateral Exchange and World Intellectual Property Organization Digital Access Service (WIPO DAS) Exchange. The European Patent Office (EPO), the Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO), the State Intellectual Property Office of the People’s Republic of China (SIPO), and the USPTO exchange priority documents via Direct Bilateral Exchange. The USPTO also exchanges priority documents with other foreign IP offices via the WIPO DAS Exchange. The two modes of exchange are mutually exclusive.

The WIPO DAS is an electronic system allowing priority documents and similar documents to be securely exchanged between participating intellectual property (IP) offices. The system enables applicants and offices to meet the requirements of the Paris Convention for certification in an electronic environment. At present, the WIPO DAS service is operational for patent documents only. Documents relating to other IP rights, such as industrial Designs and trademarks will be exchanged through the system once the participating offices have made the necessary operational and technical changes.

There are two different types of notification possible:

- **Depositing Office** (paragraph 10 of the Framework Provisions): The Office, which is usually acting as the Office of first filing, allows applications to be made available to the Service.
- **Accessing Office** (paragraph 12 of the Framework Provisions): The Office, acting as an Office of second filing, allows the applicant to request that a priority document be retrieved from the Service instead of having to file a certified copy.

As of July 1, 2012, a new procedure has been introduced for accessing offices to retrieve priority documents from the service by using access codes. Applicants provide the access code directly to the office of second filing. Offices which have implemented the necessary operational and technical changes to offer this new procedure include AU, BR, DK, CN, EAPO, EE, ES, FI, GB, IN, IB, JP, KR, MA, NL, NZ, SE, and US.

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**Issue 172**

**Chief Editor:** డాక్టర్ శ్రీనివాసరావు వేపచేదు | Dr. Sreenivasarao Vepachedu

**Publication Date:** 1 SEPTEMBER 2018
Effective 1 September 2018, the WIPO DAS Exchange Service will manage electronic retrievals of priority documents between the USPTO and the State Intellectual Property Office of the People’s Republic of China (SIPO), in accordance with the WIPO DAS agreement established on April 20, 2009.
Multiparent Advanced Generation Inter Cross (MAGIC) descended from eight high-yielding rice cultivars in Japan using haplotype-based allele mining (HAM) is called the Japan-MAGIC (JAM)\(^5\). An instant rice available in Assam is called Komal Chaul or instant soft rice, which is similar to parboiled rice. Komal Chaul is prepared using Bora or Chokuwa varieties of rice\(^6\).

This MAGIC rice or soft rice is not to be confused with the Magic Rice of Assam aka Boka Chaul\(^7\), a rice variety grown in Nalbari, Barpeta, Goalpara, Kamrup, Darrang, Dhubri, Chirang, Bongaigaon, Kokrajhar and Baksa areas in the Indian State of Assam\(^8\), which dates back to 17th Century and requires no cooking but just soaking the rice in cold water for about an hour to swell to eat. Accordingly, it is recognized as instant or soft rice, and as there is no need for cooking involving fuel usage, it is also known as zero fuel rice. According to a study by the Guwahati University's Biotechnology Department, boka chaul has 10.73\% fiber and 6.8\% protein\(^9\).

Nalbari has around 70,000 hectares of agricultural land of which 3,500 hectares (about 5\%) is dedicated to the cultivation of boka chaul. Around one ton of boka chaul or 1.2-1.3 tons of other rice are cultivated in a hectare.

In 2016, Lotus Progressive Center (LPC) of Nalbari and Center for Environment Education (CEE) of Guwahati, applied for and obtained Geographical Indication (GI) tag for Assam’s BOKA CHAUL rice variety\(^10\).
A GI is a sign used on products that have a specific geographical origin and possess qualities or a reputation that are due to that origin. In order to function as a GI, a sign must identify a product as originating in a given place. In addition, the qualities, characteristics or reputation of the product should be essentially due to the place of origin. Since the qualities depend on the geographical place of production, there is a clear link between the product and its original place of production.

The GI right enables those who have the right to use the indication to prevent its use by a third party whose product does not conform to the applicable standards, for example, in the jurisdictions in which the Darjeeling geographical indication is protected, producers of Darjeeling tea can exclude use of the term Darjeeling for tea not grown in the tea gardens of Darjeeling or not produced according to the standards set out in the code of practice for the GI.

GIs are not only a right deterring free-riding, forestalling registration of the geographical indication as a trademark by a third party, limiting the risk of the geographical indication becoming a generic term, but also differentiating tools in marketing strategies, rural development, and preserving traditional knowledge and cultural expressions.

Traditionally, GIs have been considered to be Intellectual/Industrial Property Right (IPR), e.g., Article 1(2) of the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property of 1883 refers to indications of source and appellations of origin as objects of industrial property. Paragraph (3) of the same article specifies that the term industrial property is not limited to industry and commerce proper, but applies...
also to agricultural and extractive industries and to all manufactured or natural products, such as wines, grain, tobacco leaf, fruit, cattle, minerals, mineral waters, beer, flowers, flour, etc. Since the adoption of the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) containing GIs in 1994, more and more nations beyond the rather restricted list of countries that have traditionally pursued active GI policies.
US TAXPAYERS OF US TO PAY $4.7 BILLION TO US FARMERS

Even a US vegan, vegetarian, Jew, or Muslim tax payer is forced to buy an estimated $1.2 billion pork products. The Trump administration pledged to pay farmers $4.7 billion to offset losses from trade disputes with foreign buyers of US agricultural products. Prices have fallen for soybean 18%, corn 12%, wheat 5%, and lean hog 29% as China and Mexico, levied duties on those products in retaliation to Trump tariffs. Soybean farmers are in line to get roughly three-fourths of the direct payments, or $3.6 billion, followed by producers of pork, cotton, sorghum, dairy and wheat. Yet, his plan provides virtually no relief to farmers, and cannot pay their bills with simple patriotism and MAGA slogan.

REFERENCES AND NOTES

3 Description of Routes http://www.wipo.int/das/en/previous_routes.html
4 Participating Offices http://www.wipo.int/das/en/participating_offices.html;
8 Haplotype-based allele mining in the Japan-MAGIC rice population https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-018-22657-3
10 Chaul, a variation of the Hindi word chawal, and pronounced saul in Assamese. Similarly, Chokuwa is pronounced sokuwa.

Chief Editor: Dr. Sreenivasarao Vepachedu

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All business is illuminated by His Illumination!
The whole Universe is enlightened by His light!

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Assam, state of India. It is located in the northeastern part of the country and is bounded to the north by the kingdom of Bhutan and the state of Arunachal Pradesh, to the east by the states of Nagaland and Manipur, to the south by the states of Mizoram and Tripura, and to the west by Bangladesh and the states of Meghalaya and West Bengal. The south-central hills between Meghalaya, Nagaland, and Manipur include the North Cachar Hills and form part of the Meghalaya Plateau of India.

The main rivers of the state are the Brahmaputra, which divides into two channels—the northern Kherkutia channel and the southern Brahmaputra channel in Dibrugarh and Lakhimpur districts. These two channels join to form Majuli island.

In addition to the primary sources cited above, additional references include:


Disclaimer: Every effort has been made to verify the accuracy of items in the Quarterly IP Law Update. However, readers are urged to check independently on specific matters from their corresponding foreign agents. For further information or support, please contact the editor.

"Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high, Where knowledge is free Where the world has not been broken up into fragments, By narrow domestic walls." Rabindranath Tagore (1861-1941), Gitanjali, 1912

Ome World One Family
AUM! SWASTII!

Om! Asatoma Sadgamaya, Tamasoma Jyotirgamaya, Mrityugama Amritgamaya, Om Shanthi, Shanthih, Shanthih! (Aum! Lead the world from wrong path to the right path, from ignorance to knowledge, from mortality to immortality, and peace!)

SWASTII! AUM!

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**Issue 172**

Chief Editor: Dr. Sreenivasarao Vepachedu

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*O San Gopal Santri!
Then dazzling burst of life-permeating light!
Solitude mystery spreading from afar!
Swift became that burst too potent on the sight!
This radiant type of strength and youth!
GLOWING ETERNALLY!*

---

*May the golden-eyed Santri come hither!
Shining forth he rose from the tip of the dome!
Praised by singers, my God Santri!
Strangely forth and never missed his place!
He steeps forth the ambrosia of the sky the wold!
Eoming, fer-shining, the shining massacre!*

---

*In whose shine?
All luminaries get illuminated by His Illumination!
The whole Universe is enlightened by His lights!
– Kathopanishad*

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*ॐ असतो मा सद्गमय।
तमसो मा ज्योत्वर्गुमय।
मृत्योमाु अमृतं र्गमय।
ॐ शाव्तः शाव्तः शाव्तः॥*