



SECRETARY OF STATE
AND PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF TRADE

Shri Piyush Goyal
Honourable Minister of Commerce and Industry
Government of the Republic of India
Vanijya Bhawan, 16 Akbar Road
New Delhi - 110001

24th July 2025

Dear Minister Goyal,

In connection with the signing on this date of the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of India ("the Agreement"), I have the honour to confirm the following understanding reached between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland ("the United Kingdom") and the Government of the Republic of India ("India") (together "the Participants") during the course of the negotiations of the Agreement with regards to Section D (Geographical Indications) of Chapter 13 (Intellectual Property Rights):

Fees

1. India will as part of its domestic process substantially reduce, by at least 50%, the fees in connection with the protection of Geographical Indications ("GIs") in its territory compared to what they were on 23 September 2023, for the following:
 - (a) an application to register a GI;
 - (b) an application to renew the registration of a GI; and
 - (c) an application for the registered GI to receive additional protection, i.e., protection against the use of the GI in relation to goods or classes of goods not originating in the place indicated by such GIs even where the true origin of such goods is indicated, or the GI is used in translation or accompanied by expression such as "kind", "style", imitation or the like expressions.
2. All applicants, including from the United Kingdom, seeking protection of GIs in the territory of India will benefit from the reduced fee as referred above.

Early examination

3. The Participants will continue to engage in consultations and use their best endeavours to decide on geographical indications to be included in the Annex

to this letter as soon as possible following the date on which the Agreement is signed.

4. For each of the GIs of the other Participant referred to in the Annex to this letter, each Participant will start the examination process of the GI as soon as practically possible after the signature of the Agreement.
5. For the purpose of carrying out the examination process, each Participant will, for each of the GIs referred to in the Annex to this letter for which it seeks protection under the Agreement, provide the information referred to in subparagraph 1(a) of Article 13.38 (Procedures for Geographical Indications Submitted for Protection – Intellectual Property Rights) of the Agreement to the other Participant.
6. Each Participant will examine the GIs within a reasonable period of time, in accordance with its domestic requirements.¹

Additional Protection

7. Before entry into force of the Agreement, as soon as practically possible after the signature of the Agreement, India will commence the process to consider whether to issue a formal notification for additional protection (within the meaning of subparagraph 1(c) of this letter) in respect of the goods or classes of goods which relate to the GIs of the United Kingdom referred to in the Annex to this letter. India will complete this process within a reasonable period of time.² Where a formal notification for additional protection is not issued in respect of a good or class of goods, India will provide reasons and India and the United Kingdom will discuss under the Working Group on Intellectual Property Rights established under Article. 13.15 (Working Group on Intellectual Property Rights – Intellectual Property Rights) of the Agreement.
8. When a GI of the United Kingdom protected under the Agreement relates to a good or class of goods for which India has issued a formal notification for additional protection, and an application has been made for additional protection to be extended to that GI,³ India will, within a reasonable period of time, process the application. Where the application is refused, India will provide reasons for the refusal in writing and India and the United Kingdom will have an exchange of information under the Working Group on Intellectual Property Rights established under Article. 13.15 (Working Group on Intellectual Property Rights – Intellectual Property Rights) of the Agreement.

Status and Progress

9. The United Kingdom and India will provide regular updates, on request of the other Participant, on the overall status and progress of the processes referred to

¹ For greater clarity, this does not provide for a commitment to complete the examination process before entry into force of the Agreement.

² For greater clarity, this does not provide for a commitment to complete this process before a GI of the United Kingdom relating to that good or class of goods is protected under the Agreement.

³ This application will be made in accordance with the law of India.

in paragraphs 3 (Early Examination), and 7 and 8 (Additional Protection) of this letter.

Authorised Users

10. For the purposes of seeking protection in India, under Section D (Geographical Indications) of Chapter 13 (Intellectual Property Rights) of the Agreement, of a GI of the United Kingdom:
 - (a) a public authority of the United Kingdom will be permitted to act as proprietor of the GI;
 - (b) the United Kingdom will provide India with a list of producers to be registered as authorised users of the GI; and
 - (c) the proprietor of the GI will be permitted to apply for the registration of a producer as authorised user, if authorised to do so by that producer.

Legislation on the relationship between GIs and Trade Marks

11. The United Kingdom will keep India updated of the progress of its proposed legislative provisions to implement the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Transpacific Partnership concerning the relationship between its *sui generis* system for the protection of geographical indications, in its territory, for wines, spirits, agricultural products, and foodstuffs and the protection of trade marks.

Final provisions

12. For the avoidance of doubt, this letter does not give rise to legally binding obligations. The Participants will treat the content of the Annex to this letter in confidence until entry into force of the Agreement. The Participants acknowledge that following entry into force of the Agreement, the content of the Annex to this letter may be published as part of the Participants opposition procedures.

I have the honour to propose that this letter and your letter in reply, confirming that your Government shares this understanding, will constitute an understanding between our two Governments, which will enter into effect on the date on which the Agreement is signed.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J Reynolds', is written over the typed name.

THE RT HON JONATHAN REYNOLDS MP

Secretary of State for Business and Trade and President of the Board of Trade

Annex to the Letter
GIs to be considered for protection under the Agreement

Part 1
Indian GIs to be considered by the United Kingdom

Geographical Indication	Class/Category of the Good

Part 2
United Kingdom GIs to be considered by India

Geographical Indication	Class/Category of the Good