

## LOST AROMA

### NEWS

A seven-member consultative group, headed by the controller general of patents, design and trade marks, recently rejected an application for geographical indication (GI) status for basmati, citing flaws and lack of relevant data.

### BACKGROUND

A GI is a product name associated with a certain region. Getting a GI status would mean that only the Indian variety can be called 'basmati'.

### IMPACT

The decision will make the premium rice variety vulnerable to patent claims elsewhere.