

New GI-Tagged Tribal Crops of Madhya Pradesh

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In a significant milestone for biodiversity conservation and traditional agriculture, four unique traditional crops of Madhya Pradesh have been recently granted the prestigious Geographical Indication (GI) Tag.

About New GI-Tagged Tribal Crops of Madhya Pradesh

- The four crops recognised are **Sitahi Kutki (Sitahi Minor Millet)**, **Nagdaman Kutki (Nagdaman Minor Millet)**, **Baigani Arhar (Baigani Pigeon Pea)** and **Chhatriya Dhan (Chhatriya Paddy)**.
- These crops have been traditionally preserved for generations, particularly by the **Baiga tribe** from the Dindori region of **Madhya Pradesh**.
- **Sitahi and Nagdaman Kutki:**
 - They are **highly nutritious minor millets**, rich in dietary fiber, minerals and antioxidants, making them health-promoting.
 - These two specific varieties are inherently **climate-resilient**.
- **Baigani Arhar:**

- Deeply integrated with the heritage of the **Baiga tribe**, this **local variety of pigeon pea (toor dal)** is completely cultivated using **organic, age-old tribal practices**.
- It stands out for having a notably **higher natural protein content** and a **distinct sweet flavor** compared to commercial varieties.
- It has a **shorter maturation cycle** (5–6 months) and requires significantly **less cooking time**, **retaining its high concentration of dietary fibre, iron, calcium**, and B-complex vitamins.

- **Chhatriya Dhan:**

- Cultivated across the fertile wetlands of Jabalpur and Katni, this **traditional rice variety** is historically **revered for its hardiness** and culinary excellence.
- It is famous for its **distinct aroma, taste**, and local adaptability.
- Unlike heavily processed white rice, Chhatriya Dhan **retains its vital bran layer, providing a rich source of vitamin B1** (thiamine), **essential minerals**, and healthy fats.
- It offers clean, easily digestible energy with a balanced amino acid profile, making it a wholesome staple.

News: HIT

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