



Kalanamak Rice

Why in News?

Recently, [Indian Agriculture Research Institute \(IARI\)](#) successfully tested two new dwarf varieties of Kalanamak rice i.e., Pusa Narendra Kalanamak 1638 and Pusa Narendra Kalanamak 1652 in Uttar Pradesh that give double the yield.

- This will address the problem of lodging responsible for low yield seen across the traditional variety.



KALANAMAK RICE

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What is Kalanamak Rice?

- **About:**
 - Kalanamak is a traditional variety of paddy with a black husk and a strong fragrance.
 - It is considered a 'gift from Lord Buddha' to the people of the Sravasti when he visited the region after enlightenment.
 - It has been awarded under '[One District One Product \(ODOP\) scheme](#)' as an ODOP product of Siddharthnagar which is an aspirational district located in Terai belt of Uttar Pradesh.
 - It is grown in 11 districts of the Terai region of northeastern Uttar Pradesh and in Nepal.
 - It is protected under the [Geographical Indication \(GI\) tag](#) system.

- **Farmer's Benefits from Kalanamak Rice:**
 - **Natural Cultivation:** Kala Namak rice is grown mainly without using fertiliser or pesticide residues, making it perfect for crop production.
 - **Cost-effective factor:** Since pesticides and fertilisers are not used, the expense is lowered and the grower saves a lot of money.
- **Health Benefits of Kalanamak Rice:**
 - Kala Namak rice acts as an antioxidant like anthocyanin, which assists in the **prevention of cardiovascular disease and the advancement of skincare.**
 - Kalanamak rice includes a lot of **micronutrients like zinc and iron.** As a result, eating this rice is also said to **protect against illness caused by zinc and iron deficits.**
 - It is claimed that eating Kalanamak rice on a regular basis can help prevent **Alzheimer's disease.**
 - Kala Namak rice can also help **strengthen, regrow, and galvanise the body, as well as help regulate blood pressure, diabetes, and skin damage.**
- **Issue with the Traditional Variety:**
 - The problem with the traditional variety of Kalanamak paddy is that **it's tall and prone to lodging**, which badly impacted grain filling and quality.
 - **Lodging is a condition** in which the **top of the plant becomes heavy because of grain formation, the stem becomes weak, and the plant falls on the ground.**

UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Question

Q. India enacted the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999 in order to comply with the obligations to (2018)

- (a) ILO
- (b) IMF
- (c) UNCTAD
- (d) WTO

Ans: D

Exp:

- Geographical indications (GIs) are a type of intellectual property (IP). The World Trade Organisation (WTO) recognises intellectual property rights under TRIPS (TradeRelated Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights) Agreement.
- Under Article 22(1) of the TRIPS Agreement, the GIs are defined as “indications which identify a good as originating in the territory of a Member, or a region or locality in that territory, where a given quality, reputation or other characteristic of the good is essentially attributable to its geographic origin”.
- **Therefore, option D is the correct answer.**

Source: TH