

**Joint Statement during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Review meeting between Ministries of the Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) on Industrial Property between Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP), Ministry of Commerce of Industry of the Republic of India and the Japan Patent Office (JPO), Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, Japan**

1. The Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP), Ministry of Commerce and Industry of the Republic of India and the Japan Patent Office (JPO), Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan (hereinafter referred to as 'the Ministries') held the 2nd Review meeting in Tokyo, Japan on 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2018.
2. At the meeting, the Ministries reviewed the progress under the Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) on industrial property between India and Japan and the Action Plan between the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trademarks (CGPDTM) of India and the JPO (hereinafter referred to as 'the Offices') based on the MoC, as well as exchanged views on matters of interest for both the Offices.
3. The Ministries recognized the important contribution of intellectual property (IP) in achieving socio-economic development goals, stimulating innovation and promoting creativity.
4. The Ministries recognized that cooperation between India and Japan in the field of IP has been strengthened through various cooperation activities under the Action Plan, as well as confirmed their commitment to continue and strengthen this partnership between India and Japan.
5. The Ministries acknowledged the importance of transparency, predictability, speed, clarity and streamlining of procedures for the IP system, strengthening IP enforcement, enhancing capacity building, raising IP awareness and encouraging innovation to promote their goals.
6. The JPO welcomed the Indian IP Office's efforts to reduce pendency in patent and trademark examination.
7. The DIPP thanked the JPO's cooperation in conducting follow-up training of more than 300 newly recruited patent examiners in FY 2017, in addition to JPO's training courses conducted in FY 2017. The DIPP also welcomed the JPO's cooperation in training new patent examiners it plans to hire in 2019.
8. The Ministries discussed the Joint Report compiled by the PPH working group, which was composed of experts from the Offices based on the agreement at the last Review Meeting, which presented an in-depth analysis of PPH. After deliberations, the two Ministries agreed in principle to start a bilateral PPH program on a pilot basis in certain identified fields of inventions, subject to completion of necessary formalities in the first quarter of FY2019.
9. The DIPP shared information with the JPO that a proposal has been submitted in WIPO for opening of External Office in India in its national capacity.
10. The Ministries agreed to have discussion on making TKDL a part of PCT minimum documentation.
11. The Ministries noted that their Offices are functioning as ISA/IPEA for their respective applicants.
12. The Japanese industry appreciated the effort to reduce pendency at the Indian patent and trademark office and hoped the same would continue. It also gave suggestions regarding more grounds for expedited examination, which DIPP agreed to examine.
13. The Ministries agreed to continue to exchange information related to IT infrastructure in the respective IP offices.
14. The Ministries agreed that the Offices will start the exchange of their official IP Gazettes/Journals within the year of 2018.
15. The Ministries welcomed sharing of best practices and activities through JPO's training courses, etc., conducted after the last Review Meeting, as cooperation in the field of IP awareness. Furthermore, the Ministries agreed to jointly hold a workshop on raising awareness of IP for Japanese and Indian primary/middle school students in Delhi within the year of 2019.
16. Recognising the importance of industrial designs as intellectual property, the Ministries agreed to discuss cooperation in design education.

17. Recognising the importance of IP commercialisation, both Ministries agreed to discuss cooperation in this regard.
18. The Ministries agreed to hold the next Review Meeting between the Ministries in Delhi at a time as may be decided mutually.

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