

## STRATEGIC SECTOR COOPERATION BETWEEN INDIA & DENMARK ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS, Annual report for 2019

Danish Authorities in International Cooperation



Head of IP Office in Mumbai, Dr. Patil, is demonstrating India's newly developed online hearing system for patent examinations to Director General of DKPTO, Mr. Sørensen.

### Project description

The Prime Minister of India has set a goal of turning India into a \$5 trillion economy by 2025. The aim is i.a., to tackle income inequality and reduce poverty as well as to create jobs for the one million young people who join India's workforce every month.

In the recent past, there has been a larger awareness of the role played by technology and innovation in spurring economic growth which has led to the adoption of India's progressive National IPR Policy that seeks to bolster the vision of "Creative India; Innovative India".

The SSC project seeks to strengthen the protection of intellectual property rights (IPR) in India for the benefit of innovation and sustainable economic growth. The project will support realization of the National IPR Policy through collaboration on:

1. Exchange of best practices and mutual capacity building, with the objective of strong institutional, technical and administrative capacity for intellectual property examination and registration
2. Awareness raising and outreach, with the objective of increased intellectual property generation and strengthened IP enforcement
3. Commercialisation of intellectual property, with the objective of rise in entrepreneurship and technology transfer enabled by an

improved framework for commercialisation of IP

### Key activities in year 2019

Delegations from the Danish Patent and Trademark Office (DKPTO) has frequently visited the Indian IP authorities and other prospective project partners. The key purpose of these visits was to identify areas of common interest and assessment of possible areas for cooperation. A high level visit by the Director General of DKPTO was carried out in October which had a very positive effect on the commitment of the Indian intellectual property authorities' top management. The Office of Controller General for Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks and the Cell for IPR Awareness and Management under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry have confirmed their desire to enter into a strategic sector cooperation with Denmark.

A Sector Counsellor for intellectual property rights joined the Danish Embassy in New Delhi in September.

The Office of Controller General for Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks and DKPTO have also conducted 'pilot activities' in the form of knowledge exchange sessions on domestic regulations and practices within several technical fields as well as workshops on quality management and customer support.

A MoU with a three-year work plan as an annex has been approved by the Danish and Indian partner agencies, and has been sent to formal clearance by the Indian Government in accordance with Indian protocol. This process has proved to be lengthy and will most likely delay the application process for a full SSC project.

### Main achievements and lessons learned in 2019

As a result of the proactive and consistent cooperation throughout the inception project, Denmark is now considered an important partner to India in the field of IPR. The SSC project is recognised by the Indian Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks as being able to make a difference for India's IPR regime.

Status: Inception phase

Project period: April 2019 – March 2020 (extension of inception project until October 2020 is expected)

Partners: The Danish Patent and Trademark Office, Ministry of Industry, Business and Financial Affairs of Denmark, The Office of Controller General for Patents, Designs and Trademarks and Cell for IPR Awareness and Management, Ministry of Commerce and Industry of India

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