

The logo for Corpbiz, featuring a stylized 'C' with a yellow and blue gradient, followed by the word 'orpbiz' in a black sans-serif font. The logo is centered within a white circular background.

Corpbiz

A graphic illustration of the words 'INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY' in large, glowing blue 3D block letters. Above the text is a glowing blue lightbulb icon. The background is a dark blue and black space filled with a complex network of red and green lines, resembling a data network or circuit board, with various numbers scattered throughout.

INTELLECTUAL
PROPERTY

**The Ministry of Commerce & Industry
Issues Press Release for Initiatives Taken
by DPIIT for Fast Tracking Patent
Applications to Eliminate Pendency**

On 16th December 2022, the Ministry of Commerce & Industry issued a Press Release in regard to the initiatives taken by the Department of Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) to speed up patent applications and eliminate pendency. The Department has taken initiatives to expedite the process of patent applications to serve the purpose of eliminating pendency which includes workforce augmentation from time to time, which sets up feedback mechanisms along with appropriate legislative amendments. This also results in the modernisation of Intellectual Property (IP) Offices with a steady switchover from manual to a computerised system in regard to -

- The processing of applications
- Improved management of IP-related information
- Creating a more robust public interface
- Revamping the routine functioning of IP Offices

In consideration of the Covid-19 Pandemic, the IP Officers were provided with VPN access for avoiding delays in the examination process. Along with that, to serve the purpose of facilitating early disposal of applications, the hearing of all contested cases was conducted via video conferencing, removing the requirement of visiting the office by the applicant.

The Ministry further stated that, for the Patent Office International Patent Classification Tool, the WIPO-IPCCAT had been implemented, which assists the examiners and controllers in categorising the patents accurately and consistently into their "main" and "sub-group levels" in IPC. The appropriate classification results in an effective and efficient prior art search. For Trademarks, India has attained to Treaties on International Classification (for trademarks and designs), which includes the Nice Agreement, Vienna Agreement, and Locarno Agreement, that helps harmonise the classification systems for the examination of trademark and design applications in accordance with the classification systems being followed globally.

Excluding the initial induction, regular training is provided to the Technical Manpower of Patent Office at Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Intellectual Property Management (RGNIIPM), Nagpur and foreign IP Offices for improving their skills needed for the speedy examination and grant/registration of IP applications.

The DPIIT regularly reviews the workforce strength of Patent Offices with the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trademarks Office. Additionally, with the existing workforce of 936 Officers, 500 additional posts in the Patent Office have been created. The Department had further approved the recruitment of 200 Contractual Manpower, which assists the Patent Officers in expediting the examination of the application that has been given.

Official Notification Attached [here](#)



Sushree Dash
Legal Researcher