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**The Ministry of Commerce and Industry  
issues Press Release for SIPP Scheme,  
revising the Professional Charges for  
Facilitators**

TRADEMARK

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry, on 02nd December 2022, issued a Press Release in regard to a Scheme for Intellectual Property (IP) protection which was revised to upgrade the professional charges for the facilitators. The Press Release headlines that the Patent Applications filed by Startups have increased from 179 in 2016-17 to 1500 in 2021-22, and Trademark Applications filed by Startups have increased from 4 in 2016-17 to 8649 in 2021-22.

For the purpose of protecting and promoting the Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) of Startups and for encouraging innovation and creativity, the Government of India launched the Start-Ups Intellectual Property Protection (SIPP) Scheme in 2016. The scheme focuses on facilitating startups in filing and processing their patent, design or trademark application through the assistance of IP Facilitators, whose fee is borne by the Office of the Controller General of Patents Designs and Trademarks, the Department of Production of Industry and Internal Trade, under the authorisation of the Government of India. As a result of successful implementation with a significant increase in IP Filings by Startups, the SIPP Scheme was extended for three years till 31st March 2023.

The Press Release further states that for encouraging IP Facilitators to provide quality services to Startups and to increase the number of IP Applications filed by startups, the scheme is now revised, and the facilitation fees have been notably increased by a minimum of 100%. The applicability of the revised scheme is deemed effective from 02nd November 2022, which is stated as follows -

<b>STAGE OF PAYMENT</b>		<b>PATENTS</b>		<b>TRADEMARKS</b>		<b>DESIGNS</b>	
<b>FEE (in INR)</b>		<b>2016</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>At the time of filing of Application</b>		10000	15000	2000	3000	2000	3000
<b>At the time of final disposal of Applications</b>	<b>Without Opposition</b>	10000	25000	2000	5000	2000	5000
	<b>With Opposition</b>	15000	35000	4000	10000	4000	10000

Additionally, IP Filings by startups are also encouraged by providing fee rebates in accordance with the respective IP legislations. The Startups are provided with a 80% fee rebate for filing patent applications and a 50% fee rebate for filing trademark applications. Along with that, there are provisions for fast-tracking examinations of patent applications.

Lately, there has been a significant rise in IP Activities by Startups in the past six years -

- Patent Applications filed by Startups have increased from 179 in 2016-17 to 1500 in 2021-22.
- Trademark Applications filed by Startups have increased from 4 in 2016-17 to 8649 in 2021-22.
- 7430 Patent Applications and 28749 Trademark Applications have been filed by Startups from 2016-17 to October 2022.

On 30th September 2022, INR 390.80 Lakhs were dispersed as fees for the facilitators assisting Startups with IP filings. The revised fee structure is to further augment the IP application filings by Startups through the assistance of IP facilitators, which offer effective and quality services.

Official Notification Attached - [here](#)



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