

IMPARTING KNOWLEDGE ON LATEST CORPORATE LEGAL AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY MATTERS

**PLANTATION DRIVE AT HANSRAJ COLLEGE ON WOLRD EARTH DAY
Monday, 24.04.2023**



Team Knowledgentia planted more than 50 tree saplings in collaboration with Smiling Tree at Hansraj College, New Delhi to mark commemoration of World Earth Day. We are grateful to Smiling Tree and Garden Committee of Hansraj colleges for tremendous support in organizing the plantation drive smoothly and effectively.

**WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DAY AT PANJAB UNIVERSITY
Wednesday, 26.04.2023**



Knowledgentia Consultants in collaboration with DST-Centre for Policy Research, DPIIT-IPR Chair and Department of Computer Science & Applications at Panjab University (PU), Chandigarh organized a national seminar to commemorate the World Intellectual Property Day on 26th April 2023 (Wednesday) at Panjab University, Chandigarh. The event revolved around the theme “Women and IP: Accelerating Innovation and Creativity” and highlighted the role, contribution and challenges faced by women in the field of IP. Sitting Judge of Punjab

and Haryana High court Hon’ble Mr. Justice Aman Chaudhary graced the event as chief guest. Eminent women speakers, Dr. Sanchita Chaudhary, Vice president (Projects), Startup Incubation and Innovation Centre-IIT Kanpur and Er. Sonia Dosanjh, Joint director and Head of AI and Analytics Group, Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), Mohali engaged with the audience with their intriguing presentations on basics of IPR. The session finally culminated with Prize Distribution Ceremony organized for felicitating winners of essay competition held for tricity college students towards world IP Day 2023.

GOI GRANTS GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATION TAGS TO 33 NEW PRODUCTS

Ref: affairscloud.com, Wednesday, 05.04.2023



Government of India has recently given GI tag to 33 new products from different states including Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Tamil Nadu, Union Territory of Ladakh and Jammu & Kashmir. This move has led to total number of GI tags in India rising to 465. Some notable products include – Banaras Pan, Banaras Langda Aam, Hathras Hing from Uttar Pradesh; Marthandam Honey from Tamil Nadu; Ramban Anardana, Basohli painting from Jammu and Kashmir; Mircha Rice from Bihar; Sundarja Mangoes from Madhya Pradesh; Nagri Dubraj from Chattisgarh; Ladakh Shingskos from Ladakh.

IMPARTING KNOWLEDGE ON LATEST CORPORATE LEGAL AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY MATTERS

IMPROVING ACCESS TO COVID-19 TREATMENTS

Ref: who.int, Tuesday, 11.04.2023



World Health Organisation along with Unitaidd have recently published a briefing document in order to support country access to affordable covid-19 treatments. Existing voluntary licenses for novel COVID-19 treatments do not include many middle-income countries hence they cannot benefit from affordable generic versions of therapeutics recommended by WHO. This document contains background information and resources on the therapeutics landscape and WHO recommendations (Section 2); an overview of the Medicines Patent Pool licenses for oral antivirals and the implications for country access (Section 3); the WHO COVID-19 Technology Access Pool (Section 4); other licenses relevant to COVID-19 therapeutics (Section 5); and guidance on the use of TRIPS flexibilities (Section 6). This document explains how WHO member states can access legal instruments to promote public health and access to Covid 19 therapeutics in framework of their multilateral trade obligations and rights. Challenges at the intersection of public health and IP, increasing access to novel Covid-19 therapeutics and facilitation of more affordable treatments with countries can now be easily addressed. Voluntary licenses to overcome barriers relating to IP are easily spelt out. Moreover, countries that are not covered by voluntary licenses are encouraged to use to the full flexibilities under TRIPS Agreement and the

Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health.

KERALA AGRI VARSITY NOTIFIED AS AUTHORITY FOR PLANT PROTECTION VARIETIES

Ref: thehindubusinessline.com, Tuesday, 11.04.2023



Ministry for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has designated Kerala Agricultural University as a centre for protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers Rights Authority. The main objective is to protect the rights of Kerala farming communities and prevent bio-piracy. Any person, group of persons or any governmental or non-governmental organization can file claim for compensation on behalf of those communities who have contributed significantly in the evolution of any registered plant variety. If any farmer or farmers cluster in Kerala have a claim on contribution in the evolution of any registered variety, they can approach Kerala Agricultural University. Kerala Agricultural University will then verify the claims relating to field crops, fruits, vegetables, trees, spices, flower crops and plantation crops in the State and report to PPV and FR Authority and no fee will be claimed from the farmer or farming communities for such claim.

IMPARTING KNOWLEDGE ON LATEST CORPORATE LEGAL AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY MATTERS

LIABILITY OF ONLINE AGGREGATORS UNDER POSH ACT 2013-INDIA

Ref: livelaw.in, Wednesday, 12.04.2023



Aggregators act as intermediaries connecting service providers with their customers via technology i.e. digital media platforms who must ensure that all parties involved in their platform, be it service providers or customers are protected from acts of sexual harassment. Aggregators being digital platforms are considered as principal employers under the POSH Act. Further as employer, it is their responsibility to provide full assistance, to create a redressal mechanism and to initiate strict actions against perpetrators. Online aggregators have made significant amendments in their policies such as Uber has made it mandatory for all employees including drivers to spread awareness of sexual harassment and for prevention and reporting of such incidents. A confidential reporting system, a 24*7 hotline has also been established for employees to report any incidents of sexual harassment, discrimination, bullying and unprofessional behavior. Uber has also been conducting stringent background checks of all its drivers from time to time implementing zero tolerance policy in cases involving sexual harassment. Amazon has also implemented a code of conduct setting out basic guiding principles, including no retaliation or victimization, zero tolerance policy on any kind of harassment, discrimination, intimidation or inappropriate language towards any employee.

HARYANA TO FRAME NEW LAW TO SETTLE FAMILY LAND DISPUTES

Ref: ndtv.com, Tuesday, 18.04.2023



State of Haryana is all set to introduce a new legislation to ensure quick solution of family land disputes that remain pending in courts for years due to absence of any proper redressal mechanism. Strengthening grievance redressal mechanism is utmost priority of state government and for this maximum utilization of IT is being ensured. Further, programs like Jan Samvad talk about evaluating ground reality regarding the benefits of government schemes reaching at grassroots level. Every plan being formulated by the government has the core of “5S mantra” – Shiksha, Swasthya, Suraksha, Swavalamban and Swabhimaan. Sixth pillar of good governance has also been added to it now.

INDIA AMONG WORLD’S TOP 10 COVID PATENT FILERS

Ref: timesofindia.indiatimes.com, Tuesday, 25.04.2023



As per the data released by patent landscape, reported by World Intellectual Property Organisation; India has emerged as one of the top 10 patent filers globally in three different

IMPARTING KNOWLEDGE ON LATEST CORPORATE LEGAL AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY MATTERS

categories- therapeutics, vaccines as well as traditional medicines related to Covid. Further, in terms of vaccines, Indian Patent office has received 65 vaccine patent applications thus becoming seventh highest recipient globally. Top applicant locations include China, US, Germany, Korea and Russia.

UH RANKS AMONG TOP 100 GLOBAL UNIVERSITIES FOR PATENTS

Ref: uh.edu, Wednesday, 26.04.2023



A list published by National Academy of Inventors has ranked University of Houston among top 100 global universities basis number of utility patents issued. The National Academy of Inventors is a member organization comprising U.S. and international universities, and governmental and non-profit research institutes, with over 4,000 individual inventor members and Fellows spanning more than 250 institutions worldwide. It recognizes and encourages inventors with patents issued from the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), enhance the visibility of academic technology and innovation, encourages the disclosure of intellectual property, educates, and mentors' innovative students, and translates the inventions of its members to benefit society. Utility patents are among the most valuable assets in the world because they give inventors exclusive commercial rights to producing and utilizing the latest technologies. Apparently the university was granted around 32 patents last year. Some noteworthy inventions include new electric vehicle battery charger, ultra-thin superconducting tape, and a weather-resistant,

fungal-resistant and stain-resistant coating for wood, masonry or other porous materials.

HARMONISED EU PATENT RULES BOOST INNOVATION, INVESTMENT AND COMPETITIVENESS

Ref: ec.europa.eu, Thursday, 27.04.2023



European Commission has proposed new rules to help companies especially SME's to leverage new technologies and contribute to EU's competitiveness and technological sovereignty. The regulations are primarily proposed for standard essential patents and compulsory licensing of patents in crisis situations and is going to complement the Unitary patent system that shall be operational from June 1 onwards. All these changes are being proposed to make functioning of patent system more effective, eliminate single market fragmentation, reduce red tapism and empower competent authorities to protect innovation ensuring fair access.

DELHI HIGH COURT RESTRAINS SAMAIRA JEWELS FROM COUNTERFEITING JEWELRY

Ref: scconline.com, Friday, 28.04.2023



IMPARTING KNOWLEDGE ON LATEST CORPORATE LEGAL AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY MATTERS

In the case titled Bvlgari Spa v. Samaira Jewels Private Limited, 2023 SCC OnLine Del 2161, the Delhi High Court restrained the defendants from advertising or referring in any manner to plaintiff's designs and marks on any location virtual or physical, holding this to be a classic case of counterfeiting where goods sold by the defendants turned out to be prima facie imitations of plaintiff's registered designs. Plaintiff's registered wordmark BVLGARI had also been embossed by the defendants on the jewelry sold by them.

EU PROPOSES NEW COPYRIGHT RULES FOR GENERATIVE AI

Ref: [indianexpress.com](https://www.indianexpress.com), Friday, 28.04.2023



As per the world's first comprehensive law, EU agreement, governing technology; companies deploying generative AI tools such as ChatGPT, will have to disclose any copyrighted material used to develop their system. Under the agreement and new laws, AI tools will be classified according to their perceived risk level: from minimal through to limited, high and unacceptable. Though high-risk tools are not banned but those using them will need to be highly transparent in their operations. Though Microsoft backed open AI chatbot- ChatGPT has been provoking great controversy across jurisdictions, the never ending race among tech companies will make it harder for the legal systems to adapt changes at the same speed.



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