

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**QUESTION NO 21.04.2010**  
**ANSWERED ON**  
**. DECLINE IN PATENT APPLICATIONS .**

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SHRI B.S. GNANADESIKAN

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :-

(a) whether it is a fact that the recent data of World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) reveals that Indian companies and scientists filed one tenth of the patent applications compared to their Chinese counterparts as they filed 7946 patent applications last year followed by 761 by India;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Indian performance in patent filing came down sharply from 1070 in 2008 and a long way behind other developing nations; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and steps taken by Government to improve the situation?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

(SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

(a) to (c) : The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), in a press release reported the number of international patent filings under the Patent Cooperation Treaty administered by WIPO by applications from India in the year 2009 at 761 compared to 7,946 by applications from China. The international patent filings by Indian applicants declined from 1,070 in 2008 to an estimated 761 in 2009. It is also mentioned that the overall international patent filings under the Patent Cooperation Treaty fell by 4.5% in 2009.

Intellectual Property Rights are private rights which are sought and utilised by individuals or companies. The Government has a facilitating role in encouraging innovation and in establishing a robust IPR infrastructure in the country. In order to strengthen the intellectual property system in the country, inter alia, to facilitate filing of applications, Government has taken the following measures:

(i) A scheme of Modernisation of Intellectual Property Offices at a cost of Rs.153.00 crore was implemented during the 9th and 10th Five Year Plans for infrastructure development, computerization, human resource development, training and awareness generation.

(ii) Four new integrated Intellectual Property Offices were set up in Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai and Mumbai.

(iii) Electronic filing of Patent applications was made operational.

(iv) To further strengthen and upgrade the Intellectual Property Offices, the Government has launched a scheme in the 11th Five Year Plan for Modernisation and Strengthening of Intellectual Property Offices at an estimated cost of Rs.300 crore.

(v) The National Institute of Intellectual Property Management, Nagpur, as a national centre of excellence for training, education, research, and think tank in the field of Intellectual Property related issues has been established.

(vi) 414 new posts have been created in the Intellectual Property Office.

(vii) Seminars/Conferences/Workshops at national and international level have been organized for creating awareness and promotion of Intellectual Property Rights.

(viii) Memoranda of Understanding have been signed between India and Australia, European Patent Office, France, Germany, Japan, Switzerland, United Kingdom, and United States of America and the World Intellectual Property Organization for cooperation in awareness generation, capacity building and human resource development in the field of Intellectual Property Rights.

(ix) The website of the Office of the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks has been

revamped to make it more informative, dynamic and user friendly.

(x) Helpdesks have been established at all the branches of the Patent Office to provide guidance for filing of applications.