

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY & PROMOTION**

LOK SABHA

**STARRED QUESTION NO. 125.
TO BE ANSWERED ON MONDAY, THE 5TH MARCH, 2018.**

INTERNATIONAL INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY INDEX

***125. SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIYA:
SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA:**

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

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री

- (a) whether the sixth edition of the International Intellectual Property Index (IIPi) has been released by the Global Innovation Policy Center recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the criteria fixed for deciding the ranking for IIPi;
- (c) whether India's ranking has slipped in IIPi;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the number of the Intellectual Property Right awareness workshops/ seminars conducted so far along with the other steps taken/being taken by the Government to improve the ranking in IIPi?

ANSWER

**वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री (श्री सुरेश प्रभु)
THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
(SHRI SURESH PRABHU)**

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION
NO. 125 FOR ANSWER ON 5TH MARCH, 2018.**

(a) & (b): The sixth edition of the International Intellectual Property Index (IIPI) has been released by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Global Innovation Policy Centre (GIPC) recently.

The IIPI does not provide a composite view of the IP regime in the country. The 6th edition of the IIPI is based on 40 IP indicators that are selective, and are not a true reflection of the state of IP rights protection and innovation in India.

(c): The 6th edition report places India at the 44th rank out of a total of 50 countries, up from 45 countries in the 5th edition. India's ranking for past few years is as under:

Year	India's Rank	No. of countries
2018	44	50
2017	43	45
2016	37	38
2015	29	30
2014	25	25
2012	11	11

Since the number of countries covered has been increasing in every edition, India's relative ranking has not slipped. GIPC in its country report of India has stated that 'India's overall score has increased substantially from 25% (8.75 out of 35) in the 5th edition of the Index to 30% (12.03 out of 40) in the 6th edition. This reflects a relatively strong performance in the new indicators as well as positive reform efforts on patentability of computer-implemented inventions (CII) and registration procedures of well-known marks'.

(d): Question does not arise.

(e): As per available information, 880 workshops/ seminars have been conducted by various departments and organisations of the Government of India in 2016-17 and 2017-18 to spread awareness on IPRs.

India has a Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) compliant, robust, equitable and dynamic Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) regime. India has a well-established legislative, administrative and judicial framework to safeguard IPRs, which meets its international obligations while utilizing the flexibilities provided in the international regime to address its developmental concerns. While the Government of India undertakes various steps to strengthen the IPR regime in the country keeping in view our developmental needs, these

steps are not undertaken with the aim of improving the ranking in IIP. The steps undertaken include the following:

- (i) The National IPR Policy, 2016 was adopted on 12.05.2016 as a vision document to guide future development of IPRs in the country.
- (ii) To have synergy between different IP offices, the administration of Copyright Act, 1957 and Semiconductor Integrated Circuits Layout-Design Act, 2000, along with their associated Registries, has been transferred to the DIPP. Subsequently, under the Finance Act, 2017, the Copyright Board has also been merged in the Intellectual Property Appellate Board.
- (iii) The Patent Rules, 2003 and the Trademark Rules, 2002 have been amended whereby the IP processes have been re-engineered to streamline them and make them more user-friendly.
- (iv) Manpower in the Intellectual Property offices has been augmented significantly through creation of new posts. Recruitment has been completed for 459 posts of Examiners of Patents and Designs, in addition to the earlier 130. The number of Examiners of Trademarks and Geographical Indications has also been augmented through 59 examiners on regular basis in addition to the existing 63, as also 84 examiners on contract. This augmentation of manpower has already had a salutary effect on the examination and disposal of patent and trademark applications.
- (v) An IPR enforcement handbook has also been prepared, which is a ready reckoner for police officials across the country in dealing with IP crimes of counterfeiting and piracy.
- (vi) Special provisions have been made for startups and MSMEs.
