

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

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 388.  
TO BE ANSWERED ON MONDAY, THE 5<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2018.**

**INDO-US MEETING ON IP**

**388. SHRI DHARAM VIRA:**

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

**वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री**

- (a) whether the USA and India High Level Working Group on IP met in 2017;
- (b) if so, the details of the issues raised by the US in the working Group and issues mentioned by the Indian delegation in the working group; and
- (c) the main outcome or decision taken in the said meeting of the High Level working Group?

**ANSWER**

**वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्यमंत्री (श्री सी.आर. चौधरी)**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY  
(SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY)**

- (a) to (c):**The Working Group on Intellectual Property (IP) met in 2017 under the aegis of India-US Trade Policy Forum (TPF). The issues raised by the two sides pertained to copyright, trade secrets, patents, trademarks, genetic resources, traditional knowledge and Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL). The U.S. side inter alia, raised the issues of guidelines for examination of Computer Related Inventions (CRI) patent applications, protection of trade secrets, functioning of Intellectual Property Appellate Board (IPAB) and the WIPO Copyright Internet Treaties. The Indian side inter alia, raised the issues of inclusion of TKDL as part of PCT Minimum documentation and blocking of copyright infringing websites. The steps undertaken by the Government of India to strengthen the administration of IPRs in India, such as augmentation of manpower, clearing the backlog in Patent and Trademark applications and IPR awareness programmes, were also highlighted during the meeting. Both sides reiterated the goal of providing their respective populations, especially the vulnerable sections, with access to quality healthcare. The two sides also agreed to a workshop on Copyright issues, as also the need to work together to tackle the problem of online piracy.

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