On November 18, 2020, DPIIT successfully organised a National Workshop for Toys that saw participation from over 65 senior officials from 15 Ministries/Departments of Government of India. The virtual meeting, which was focused on the National Action Plan for Toys, was attended by officials of 9 State Governments and 120 industry stakeholders.

In his inaugural address, Dr. Guruprasad Mohapatra, Secretary, DPIIT laid emphasis on the Hon’ble Prime Minister’s vision of making India a global manufacturing hub for sale & exports of domestically manufactured toys. The workshop provided an opportunity for knowledge sharing and several states, such as Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Telangana and Uttar Pradesh, presented initiatives being undertaken, plan of action, and best practices for the manufacturing & export of toys.

Andhra Pradesh has identified 114 Clusters for boosting industrial ecosystem for Indian toys. Goa is financing budding entrepreneurs and working towards extending incentives for manufacturing industries to toys industry as well. The Gujarat government has proposed 5 locations for setting up of Toy Manufacturing Clusters. Karnataka, has developed India’s first toy manufacturing cluster in Koppal, which is well-connected to major ports and cities. Maharashtra specializes in modern toy manufacturing and has identified potential land parcels for developing infrastructure. The Rajasthan government has launched Sports Goods and Toys Zone within the ‘Khuskhera Industrial Area’, spread over 825 acres and in close proximity to Delhi and Manesar.

In Tamil Nadu, 4 common facility centres that market traditional toys under brand name ‘Poompuhar’ have been established. Telangana is the first State in India to introduce a policy to help accelerate growth of gaming companies and plans to incubate new gaming startups. A Toy City has been developed in Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh and an International Toy City is being developed by Yamuna Expressway Authority.
The eighth meeting of the India-UAE High Level Joint Task Force on Investment was virtually hosted by India on November 3, 2020. The meeting was co-chaired by Shri Piyush Goyal, Minister of Railways, Commerce & Industry and Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution, Government of India and His Highness Sheikh Hamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Member of the Executive Council of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi. Senior officials from both countries participated in the meeting.

Discussions were held on a wide range of topics covering sectors and subjects of mutual interest. Issues relating to anti-dumping were discussed and both sides agreed to coordinate efforts to consider these issues promptly with the objective of seeking mutually beneficial solutions. The existing UAE special desk, UAE Plus, and the Fast Track Mechanism, created in 2018 to facilitate investments and to resolve any challenges experienced by UAE investors in India, were reviewed in the meeting. Further, recognising the critical importance of civil aviation between both the countries, both sides agreed on continuing to work together on a priority basis and ensuring speedy normalisation of air transport operations. Other key points of discussion at the meeting focused on opportunities for cooperation and potential investments in key sectors in India, including the healthcare and pharmaceutical industry, mobility and logistics, food and agriculture, energy and utilities and development and operation of UAE-based funds to invest in India.

Further to the MoU signed between India and Denmark in the field of Intellectual Property Cooperation, the Cell for IPR Promotion and Management (CIPAM), DPIIT collaborated with the Danish Embassy and Danish Patent & Trademark Office (DKPTO) to strengthen the IP relations between the countries by launching ‘India-Denmark IP Webinar Series’. Experts from DKPTO delivered sessions in the six-part webinar series that was held between November 5 – 18, 2020.

The webinar series focussed on startups, MSMEs, IP researchers and professionals, shared information on the best practices followed in Denmark to ensure a stronger IP system. A major focus of the webinars was on Patents, wherein in-depth discussion on European patent law, safeguarding patentable inventions in the region, protection of software-related technologies and digital products, patent filing procedures, protection of the medicinal and healthcare products in Europe, and opportunities for Indian entrepreneurs and researchers were discussed. The participants of the webinar series also learnt about trademark registration process in Europe, especially in Denmark, and discussed available opportunities that can be converted to the benefit of the trademark holder.
On November 24, 2020, the 7th Joint Trade Committee was virtually held between India and Myanmar. The Meeting was co-chaired by Dr. Than Myint, Union Minister for Ministry of Commerce, Myanmar and Shri Piyush Goyal, Commerce and Industry Minister of India. During the consultations, various bilateral issues were reviewed that included trade, investment, banking, connectivity, capacity building and upgradation of border infrastructure. Further, the preparedness to meet the COVID-19 challenges and expanding cooperation in pharma and health sector, including traditional medicines, were also reviewed by both sides.

Shri Piyush Goyal reiterated India’s commitment in enhancing its multifaceted cooperation with Myanmar, in several areas including trade and investment, oil & gas, power, insurance, pharmaceutical and infrastructure. Both sides acknowledged that mutual benefit exists in collaboration and cooperation amongst oil and gas companies of India and Myanmar especially in the field of petroleum products and refining.

Both countries also reviewed the status of connectivity projects and scaling up the infrastructure at the border for strengthening trade. The two sides expressed appreciation at the finalization of the Project Agreement on the establishment of a modern Integrated Check Post (ICP) at Tamu (Phase I) under Indian grant-in-aid that would enhance bilateral connectivity and trade. They further agreed to work closely for early establishment of border haats for the benefit of the local communities and promote people to people connect.

The meeting concluded with both countries expressing satisfaction over the commendable strides made in bilateral economic ties in the last few years and reiterated their commitment to further strengthening the trade and investment ties. Shri Goyal also extended an invitation to Dr. Than Myint for the next Joint Trade Committee meeting scheduled to be held in India in 2021.

On November 24, 2020, the Government of India launched the Industrial Information System (IIS) Mobile App which acts as a lite version of the IIS web platform and contains all the necessary information ready for access anywhere, anytime. Earlier, on August 24, 2020, hon’ble Minister for Commerce & Industry, Shri Piyush Goyal, had launched the Industrial Information Systems web portal, which is a Geographical Information System (GIS) that maps industrial infrastructure and industrial land availability in industrial parks, clusters, Special Economic Zones (SEZ) and National Investment & Manufacturing Zones (NIMZ) across the nation.

An area of 3500+ parks over 4.56 lakh hectare has already been mapped across 31 States and U.T.s. The platform aims to act as a tool that will aid in the decision-making process for policy makers & investors by providing them with crucial information such as distance from nodal points of connectivity, terrain, available raw materials & related information on industrial infrastructure.

The recently launched IIS Mobile App further facilitates investors for making industrial parks and increases the ease of accessibility to relevant information for them. The Mobile App has been conceptualized to provide maximum information without login or sign up. The first version of the Mobile App has been developed with features such as an inbuilt navigation system to find industrial areas by selecting State, District, Taluka from dropdown list and direct calling/e-mailing facility among others.
**Delhi High Court rejects plea on diabetes drug patent**

In a keenly watched court hearing on November 18, 2020, the Delhi high court rejected AstraZeneca’s application that sought a restraining order against marketing of an anti-diabetes drug Dapagliflozin by domestic companies like Zydus, USV, Torrent, Micro Labs and Eris Lifesciences. In the hearing, the court concluded that AstraZeneca’s patent is prima facie invalid as it lacks inventive merit. Rejection of the global pharma major’s plea has paved way for affordable diabetes drugs in the Indian market.

The growing ₹15,000 crore diabetes market will now become a stage for a price war between players launching generic versions at competitive prices.


Picture Credit: [www.pharmafile.com](http://www.pharmafile.com)

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**Google secures Indian patent for auto-expanded language search**

Global search engine major Google has been granted an Indian patent for its latest search method – the auto-expanded language search. The invention enables users globally to now enter their query in a single language but receive results that include content written in all possible languages. This significantly expands the volume of searched content with more relevant results.

Not only will the search present users with more authentic content available in other languages, it will also provide them with the translated version along with the original content for easy comprehension.

Read More: [https://www.financialexpress.com/industry/google-secures-indian-patent-for-auto-expanded-language-search/2120312/](https://www.financialexpress.com/industry/google-secures-indian-patent-for-auto-expanded-language-search/2120312/)

Picture Credit: [www.google.com](http://www.google.com)

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**India and Korea organize virtual session on counterfeit product identification**

Strengthening the India-Korea relationship in Intellectual Property, the Cell for IPR Promotion and Management, in collaboration with Korea Trade-Investment Promotion Agency (KOTRA) and Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO), organized a virtual session for the IP enforcement agencies in India on November 17, 2020. The subject of focus for the session was identification of counterfeit products where in representatives of four Korean companies spoke about their products and distribution in India. The session was organized to discuss in detail the practice followed in South Korea to keep in check the malpractice of counterfeiting and ways to differentiate between original and fake products. Twenty police and custom officials of India participated in the webinar.

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