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NEWSLETTER MAY 2015

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1. Supreme Court extends stay order in Glenmark case

MERK SHARP &
DOHME

Vs

GLENMARK

Supreme Court extends Delhi High Court's stay order restraining generic drug maker Glenmark Pharmaceuticals from manufacturing and selling sitagliptin an anti-diabetes drug. US drug major Merck Sharp and Dohme (MSD), which manufactures sitagliptin under the brand names Januvia and Janumet, approached High Court in April 2013 to restrain Glenmark from manufacturing the drug. "It is submitted that the impugned judgment suffers from blatant errors and is contrary to legal provisions along with well-settled principles of law as per which no interim injunction is granted in favour of a party if there is an alternative efficacious remedy available," Glenmark had stated in its petition. Read more

2. Kraft Foods wins trademark battle over Mello Jello brand

Vs
FROSTEE ICE CREAM,
Mumbai.

Kraft Foods, an US based company, wins a trademark battle over Mello Jello brand owned by Mumbai based firm Frostee Ice Cream. Kraft Foods Group owns a brand Jell-O, which include multiple offerings of gelatin, pudding and non-bake desserts. Kraft Foods Group is North America's largest consumer packaged food and beverage company, with annual revenues of more than \$18 billion. The company's iconic brands include Kraft, Capri Sun, Jell-O, Kool-Aid, Lunchables, Maxwell House, Oscar Mayer, Philadelphia, Planters and Velveeta. Kraft has 22,000 employees in the US and Canada. Read more

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3. A queen size trademark feud, put to bed

HYPNOS, UK Vs HOSUR COIR FOAM,

INDIA

UK-based luxury bedding and upholstery firm Hypnos, which supplies beds to the British royal family, has lost a trademark battle against India's Hosur Coir Foam over the mark 'Hypnos'. The IPAB bench comprising Chairman Justice KN Basha and technical member Sanjeev Kumar Chaswal dismissed the rectification of trademark petition. The bench said "We are in our considered view that the applicant (Hypnos) has failed to make out any ground for rectification, except making some lofty statements, which are not sufficient to consider the claim of the applicants at this stage. Therefore, in view of the aforesaid reasons, we are constrained to dismiss the rectification application, as it is devoid of merits." Read more

4. DIPP hopes to finalize new IPR policy in few months

INDIA'S

NEW IPR POLICY

COMING SOON

The Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion will, in the next few months, finalize new IPR policy. "The final draft on the IPR policy submitted by the think-tank on IPR has just been sent to various ministries and departments for their comments and inputs. We hope to bring the policy in the public domain in the next few months," Rajiv Aggarwal, Joint Secretary, DIPP, said speaking at a seminar on IPR issues organised by industry body FICCI on Wednesday. A think-tank headed by Justice Prabha Sridevan was commissioned last year by the Government to address the current issues in IPR legislations and to advise the DIPP on possible solutions. Read more

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5. Podcast 'Patent troll' faces blow after US ruling

PERSONAL AUDIO LLC

Vs

ELECTRONIC FRONTIER
FOUNDATION

In a landmark case between Personal Audio LLC and Electronic Frontier Foundation, the US Patent and Trademark Office has invalidated critical claims of the Patent related to Personal Audio LLC. The ruling would stop the company from threatening and extracting license fee from media groups. The media groups which were earlier targeted include some major broadcasting companies like CBS, NBC and Fox. Electronic Frontier Foundation, to cover its legal costs in this battle, had raised \$76,000 from the public via a crowd-funding campaign. "[The decision] significantly curtails the ability of a Patent troll to threaten podcasters big and small," the EFF said in a statement. "But unfortunately, our work to protect podcasting is not done. Personal Audio continues to seek Patents relating to podcasting. We will continue to fight." Read more

6. Ready to pay 'Reasonable' royalty to Novartis AG: Cipla

NOVARTIS AG

Vs

CIPLA

India pharma major Cipla, said to Delhi High Court that it is ready to pay "reasonable" royalties to Swiss drug major Novartis AG, if it is allowed to manufacture respiratory disease drug 'Indaflo', which could serve 66,000 patients in India, at a lower cost. On the other hand, Novartis counsel did not show any interest in the proposal made my Cipla and disagreed to it. "A company, which does not manufacture drug in India and was importing it in limited quantities which is also not completely sold out, could not claim to be working on its Patent," senior advocate P Chidambaram, who appeared for Cipla, told the bench. Read more

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7. India's GI list gets longer with 20 new products

INDIA

GETS 20 NEW GI

REGISTRATIONS

Wooden lacquer wear and toys from Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Varanasi, Bengaluru rose onion, Naga tree tomato, Mizo chilli, Makrana marble from Rajasthan, Nendran banana from Kerala and Meerut scissors - the Geographical Indications (GI) Registry has just got longer. The Office of the Geographical Indications Registry, Chennai, has registered 20 more agriculture produce, handicrafts, manufactured goods, food stuff and natural material from across the country. Read more

8. Mrs. Nirmala Sitharaman gives away National IP Awards on the eve of World Intellectual Property Day

NATIONAL
INTELLECTUAL
PROPERTY

AWARDS 2015

IIT Bombay, Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), Samsung R&D Institute India – Bangalore Pvt. Ltd.,
Aditya Birla Retail Limited, Larsen & Toubro (Electrical & Automation), Textiles Committee were among winners of National Intellectual Property Awards for 2015. IIT Bombay won the awards for the top India Academic Institution for Patents, best commercialization of Patent(s) based in India and the WIPO Users trophy. The award for top R&D institution/organization for Patents was won by DRDO. Samsung R&D Institute India – Bangalore Pvt. Ltd. was felicitated with the award for Top Indian Public Limited Company/Private Limited Company/Indian subsidiary of a transational corporation for Patents as well as the WIPO IP Enterprise Trophy. Read more

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9. INTA and WIPO to collaborate on dispute resolution.

INTA and WIPO
COLLABORATE

INTA and the WIPO arbitration and mediation center have entered into a collaboration to facilitate the use of alternate dispute resolution(ADR), in particular mediation. The ideas is to harness the special expertise of INTA's Panel of Trademark and Mediators and the international case administration experience of the WIPO center. Increased use of mediation by parties the negative impact of disputes in the productive use of trademark rights . Read more