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## 1. Indian Patent Office to create awareness programme for new IPR policy

**PROMOTION OF IPR IS  
IMPERATIVE TO BRING  
EQUILIBRIUM BETWEEN  
KNOWLEDGE AND  
WEALTH CREATION.**

*The Indian Patent Office plans to put in place a detailed annual plan in consultation with all stakeholders to spread awareness about the new Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) policy by conducting workshops and seminars in schools, universities and other such institutions.*

*"As part of awareness program, we as Indian Intellectual Property office are interacting with all possible stakeholders and working out a detailed programme so that we may conduct workshops in schools, colleges, universities, seminars together with industry and academia and specific programs for specific industries like SMEs and certain other specialised fields," said O P Gupta, Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trademarks, at an Assocham event held in New Delhi on Friday. [Read more](#)*

## 2. Patent Exhaustion Doctrine before SCOTUS again?

**THE CONDITIONAL SALE  
DOCTRINE COVERS U.S.  
SALES AND THE  
FOREIGN SALE  
EXCEPTION COVERS  
FOREIGN SALES**

*An interesting patent case that may be picked up by the Supreme Court is *Lexmark International, Inc., v. Impression Products, Inc.* which questions two aspects of the patent exhaustion doctrine. The Supreme Court has recently decided two cases related to the first sale doctrine, one in 2015 (*Bowman v. Monsanto*) and one in 2008 (*Quanta Computers v. LG Electronics*). However, the questions in this case are slightly different but crucial to the understanding and application of the doctrine.*

*The patent exhaustion doctrine is codified at 35 U.S.C. 271(a) and provides that a patentee's rights to a product are exhausted by the first sale of each individual product. [Read more](#)*

## 3. BCI drafts proposal for amendments to Advocates Act, wants to regulate foreign law firms, conduct CLAT, etc

**THIS PROPOSAL SECURES  
LAW FIRMS AND  
FOREIGN LAWYERS WITH  
THE RIGHT TO PRACTICE  
BEFORE COURTS AND  
TRIBUNALS IN INDIA**

*The Bar Council of India has proposed to amend the Advocates Act 1961, through an internally regulated circular, as reported by Legally India. If implemented, the set of proposals could very well overhaul the regulation of legal profession in the country. The move follows the recent observations made by the Supreme Court of India in Mahipal Singh Rana vs. State of Uttar Pradesh, wherein the Court had noted an urgent need to review the provisions of the Advocates Act dealing with regulatory mechanism for the legal profession. A three Judge Bench comprising Justice Anil R. Dave, Justice Kurian Joseph and Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel had also requested the Law commission and Government of India to take appropriate steps in this regard. [Read More](#)*

## 4. USPTO seeks further public input on Patent subject matter eligibility

**THE FIRST ROUNDTABLE  
WILL BE  
HELD NOVEMBER 14,  
2016, AT THE USPTO  
HEADQUARTERS IN  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA.**

*The U.S. Department of Commerce's United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) today announced that as part of its effort to solicit input from the public regarding the legal contours of patent subject matter eligibility, it will be holding two roundtables, one in November and one in December.*

*"In recent years, the jurisprudence on the very basic issue of what is patent eligible subject matter has been evolving requiring adjustments by innovators, businesses, lower courts and administrative agencies such as the USPTO," said Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office Michelle K. Lee. [Read more](#)*

### 5. Final FDA Rule clarifies pharma Patent process with aim of reducing unnecessary litigation

**AN OVERBROAD USE CODE... THROWS A WRENCH INTO THE FDA'S ABILITY TO APPROVE GENERIC DRUGS AS THE STATUTE CONTEMPLATES.**

*With the intent to cut back on the type of litigation that can delay the approval and marketing of generic drugs under 505(b)(2) applications and abbreviated new drug applications (ANDAs), the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on Wednesday released a final rule that revises and clarifies its regulations on a number of different parts of the pharmaceutical patent process.*

*The 289-page final rule amends FDA's regulations to facilitate better compliance with and enforcement of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FD&C Act), which is the over-arching legislation that gives FDA its authority to regulate and oversee food, drugs and cosmetics. [Read more](#)*

### 6. WIPO launches global program to help boost access to Patent system for inventors with limited means

**OPPORTUNITY TO TURN GREAT IDEAS INTO ECONOMIC ASSETS IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF CREATING SOCIETIES**

*The World Intellectual Property Organization has launched a first-of-its kind global program in which patent attorneys provide pro bono help to inventors in developing countries who want to file a patent for their invention but lack the means to do so.*

*WIPO, in cooperation with the World Economic Forum, officially unveiled the Inventor Assistance Program on October 17, 2016 in Geneva, following a successful pilot effort in Colombia, the Philippines and Morocco. The program aims to help inventors and small enterprises with limited finances to pursue the patent protection that is key to successful commercialization of a product or new solution. Qualified attorneys help by providing free legal advice to inventors who would otherwise be unable to afford the legal costs of obtaining a patent. [Read more](#)*

## 7. Brazil, China, India, South Africa put UN high-level panel on medicines access on TRIPS council

**"INTELLECTUAL  
PROPERTY AND  
INNOVATION:  
REGIONAL INNOVATION  
MODELS"**

*For next week's World Trade Organization intellectual property committee meeting, the major developing economies have submitted a request to discuss the recently released report of the United Nations Secretary General's High-Level Panel on Access to Medicines, according to Knowledge Ecology International (KEI). A key element of the UN report was to make it harder for countries deter or discourage other countries from trying to use patent flexibilities built into the WTO Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) – something the major developing economies have been discouraged from doing in the past.*

[Read more](#)

## 8. USPTO publishes amendments to Trademark Rules of Practice

**THE AMENDED RULES  
REQUIRE THAT ALL  
FILINGS BE MADE  
THROUGH THE TTAB'S  
ONLINE FILING SYSTEM  
"ESTTA"**

*On October 7, 2016, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office ("USPTO") published a Federal Register Notice of Final Rulemaking amending the Trademark Rules of Practice that govern practice before the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board ("TTAB"). The amendments are directed to reducing the burden on the parties, increasing the speed and efficiency of TTAB proceedings, and conforming the rules to current practice. They include administrative changes, as well as new limitations to discovery requests and a new unilateral option to submit trial testimony by affidavit or declaration. The rules do not alter any substantive criteria used to decide cases.*

*The amended rules will be effective on January 14, 2017. They will apply to all opposition and cancellation proceedings pending on January 14, 2017 as well as any subsequently filed proceedings.*

[Read more](#)

## 9. Patent office calls meeting to make things user-friendly

**TO STREAMLINE THE  
PROCEDURE AND MAKE  
IT MORE USER-FRIENDLY,  
CGPDTM PLANS TO  
HAVE FEEDBACK FROM  
PATENT PROFESSIONALS  
AND STAKEHOLDERS**

*The Indian Patent Office has decided to hold meetings with stakeholders here and in Mumbai to take feedback on making examination and processing more user-friendly.*

*In view of the emphasis led by the government on reducing pendency in patent examination/processing and implementation of recent amendments in patent rules, certain changes about application processing have been effected in the office.*

*With induction of a number of examiners of patents, the number of applications processed by the Patent Office has also significantly increased. [Read more](#)*

## 10. Philippines joins TM class

**TMCLASS OFFERS USERS  
THE OPPORTUNITY TO  
SEARCH AND TRANS-  
LATE TERMS TO AND  
FROM ANY OF THE 42  
AVAILABLE LANGUAGES.**

*As of 24 October 2016, the Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines (IPOP HL) joins TMclass.*

*This last addition brings the total number of national and regional IP Offices, including OAPI, WIPO and EUIPO, in the tool to 62.*

*IPOP HL was already part of ASEAN TMclass that was developed by the Intellectual Property Offices of the ASEAN Member States with the support of the EU-ASEAN Project on the Protection of Intellectual Property Rights (ECAP III Phase II), for which EUIPO is the implementing agency.*

*IPOP HL's decision to join TMclass is a result of EUIPO's International Cooperation framework in collaboration with its international partners. [Read more](#)*

## 11. The International Trademark Association announces the 2016 President's and Volunteer Service Award recipients

**THE VSAs HONOR THOSE WHO GO BEYOND THEIR REGULAR DUTIES AS INTA VOLUNTEERS IN SERVICE OF THE ASSOCIATION AND THE BROADER PUBLIC**

*The President's Award is presented to the most distinguished and deserving INTA volunteers for a career dedicated to trademarks and intellectual property protection and advancement, and whose contribution has advanced INTA's mission and had a lasting impact on the Association.*

*"It is an honor to recognize the achievements of INTA's most active and dedicated volunteer members," said INTA President Ronald van Tuijl. "Without such dedicated members, we would not be able to undertake such meaningful and impactful work around the world. Thank you to all of this year's award recipients for the pivotal role they play in advancing the Association's mission and for their contribution to the global trademark community."*

[Read more](#)

## 12. WIPO members close Assemblies opening two new WIPO offices in Africa

**INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PLAYS AN INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE GLOBAL ECONOMY**

*WIPO member states and other stakeholders organized a series of events during the WIPO Assemblies meetings, including those by Algeria, Brazil, Hungary, Israel, Slovakia, South Africa, Turkey and others.*

*Member states agreed to expand a network of overseas offices that promote WIPO services and cooperation around the world, ending the 2016 Assemblies meetings by approving new external offices in Algeria and Nigeria while agreeing to continue discussions on the opening four other offices by the end of 2019.*

[Read more](#)