DIPP is now Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, with enhanced mandate

With the approval of the Hon’ble President of India, the Cabinet Secretariat has amended the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961, changing the name of the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) to Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade. The notification dated January 27, 2019 also changes the name in Hindi from अद्योगिक निति और समवर्धन विभाग to उद्योग समवर्धन और अंतरिक व्यापार विभाग.

The amendment has also resulted in an enhanced mandate for the department with the inclusion of the following new subjects under ‘Productivity in industry’:

4B. Promotion of Internal Trade, including Retail Trade
4C. Welfare of Traders and their Employees

The notification also includes the following tasks already being undertaken by the department:

4D. Matters relating to facilitating “Ease of Doing Business”
4E. Matters relating to Startups

The benefit of this move for the industry comes in terms of the opportunity for better coordination between internal and external trade, both now coming under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry; this will help promote growth in both the segments.

CURATOR’S NOTE

It is a pleasure to bring about the second issue of DPIIT On The Move!

In the past month, we at Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, witnessed thrilling developments specially in the landscape of Startups in the nation. The Startup India movement completed three years, the first ever State Startup Ranking was announced and the government issued a critical notification regarding Tax Exemption for Startups and their angel investors.

Apart from these significant happenings, we also saw the engagement of the department in events of international significance.

With our promise to keep you updated on the latest occurring in the industry, here we are, with the second issue of our newsletter which would curate news from around the world that are related to our Department.

We would love to have your feedback and suggestions as to how we can make the newsletter more relevant for all of you.

And lest we forget, the recent enhanced mandate of the department speaks volumes of the working of team DPIIT.
DIPP announced results of the first ever States’ Startup ranking on December 20, 2018 at an event in New Delhi. As per Startup Ranking 2018, Gujarat was the best performing state in the country. The event saw participation from top officials from different state governments and departments responsible for nurturing the startup ecosystems in their respective states.

In February 2018, DIPP outlined the objectives and parameters of evaluation. Since the launch of the Startup India initiative on January 16, 2016, 801 reforms have been undertaken by state governments across India. A total of 27 States and 3 Union Territories participated in the exercise, which aimed at strengthening the Startup ecosystem in the States and UTs by creating a healthy competition amongst them.

Sh. Ramesh Abhishek, Secretary, DIPP, speaking on the occasion emphasised on the importance of startups for the country in creation of jobs. Startups with their innovative ideas, can offer solutions to social, agricultural and service sector problems.

The Startup India initiative has completed an amazing 3 years journey. Since the launch of the Startup India Action Plan on January 16, 2016, over fifteen thousand Startups have been recognised under the programme across 492 districts in 29 States & 6 UTs. 13,176 Startups have reported 1,48,897 jobs, with an average number of 11 employees per Startup. In just 3 short years, the Startup India hub has witnessed a total of 2,88,615 registered users.

The movement has been a major confidence booster for entrepreneurs by providing assistance in setting up Startups and addressing related queries. Startups can now seek expedited examination of patent applications, and are benefited through income tax exemption. Enabling infrastructure, access to funds through the ‘Fund of Funds’ are just some of the far-reaching initiatives in this mission. Recognising the imperative need of State involvement in the Startup movement at the grassroot level, 21 States and UTs have also adopted Startup Policies.
The cast and makers of the film “Uri: The Surgical Strike” have given a befitting reply to the people who attempted to promote piracy of the newly released film. The marketing team of the film came up with an innovative idea to desist online piracy of films and uploaded a fake copy of the film on torrent. On downloading the fake copy, which was of 3.8 GB and 2.5 hours long, the viewers instead got a special message against piracy. In the innovative message, Vicky Kaushal and Yami Gautam could be seen telling the viewers about the impact of piracy on the performance of films and requesting them to go to the theatres and watch the film.


Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation Limited (GCMMF), which owns dairy brand Amul, has sent a legal notice to Google India claiming that certain fake websites are using Google Search ads since September 2018 for circulating series of fake business-to-business (B2B) campaigns regarding "Amul Parlors, Distributors". The notice further said that Google Ads platform is allowing such miscreants to use its paid promotion services repeatedly without any background checks, and in the process earning revenues from the click-based ads on their page. According to Amul, such unauthorized use of trademark and creation of fake website amounts to infringement of their Intellectual Property Rights.

Photo credits: Business Today
Read More: https://www.businesstoday.in/current/amul-sends-legal-notice-to-google-india-for-displaying-fake-and-fraudulent-websites/story/311205.html

On January 16, 2019, post serious deliberations, the government issued a notification to ease the process for availing the Angel Tax Exemption for Startups. The scope of the Angel Tax exemption extends to all past and future investments, and applies for Startups incorporated before April 2016 as well. Startups will now make an application to DIPP, which will be forwarded to the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) with the required documents.

For the Startup to be eligible for Angel Tax Exemption, it must be recognised by the DIPP and its aggregate amount of paid up share capital and share premium after the proposed issuance of shares, must not exceed ₹10 Crores. The investor must have a returned income of ₹ 50 lakh or more in the financial year preceding the year of investment and its net worth should be more than ₹ 2 crores or the invested amount, whichever is higher. To ensure quick processing of Angel Tax exemption application, the CBDT will evaluate and respond within 45 days of receiving applications from DIPP.
2596 Startups have filed trademark applications; startups get 50% fee rebate in trademark filings. For the benefit of Startups, the office of Controller General of Patents, Designs & Trademarks (CGPDTM) has empanelled 425 facilitators for patents and designs and 606 facilitators for trademarks.

As of December 31, 2018, 361 Startups had requested expedited examination of patent applications, out of which 321 applications have already been examined, and 80 patents already granted.

On January 22, 2019, the Controller General of Patents, Designs & Trademarks (CGPDTM) invited submissions for the National Intellectual Property (IP) Awards 2019. The National IP awards are conferred with the aim of rewarding individuals and enterprises for their creations and commercialization of Intellectual Property. The awards recognise their efforts in harnessing the country’s intellectual capital and creating IP eco-system that boosts creativity and innovation.

The last date of submission of entries for the awards is February 28, 2019. The results for the same will be announced on World IP Day on April 26, 2019. More details are available at www.ipindia.nic.in.