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

In the past month, the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, witnessed many exciting developments.

India’s very first Geographical Indications Store was launched at the Goa International Airport, the Business Reform Action Plan 2019 has been released and the exercise of ranking States on the basis of ease of doing business for this year has already begun.

The Commerce and Industry Minister held a direct interaction with trade organisations through video conferencing.

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

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

Thank You.
In May 2017, the DPIIT had introduced Industrial Information System (IIS) – a GIS-enabled database of industrial areas/clusters across the country. The portal serves as a one-stop solution to easy and free accessibility of all industrial information. Recently, to further enrich the IIS, DPIIT developed the Industrial Park Rating System (IPRS) to assess industrial parks on parameters under four primary categories which are Internal Infrastructure, External Infrastructure and connectivity, Environment & Safety Management and Business Support Services.

The rating system has been developed in a bid to increase competitiveness of industries and promotion of the manufacturing sector. It is expected that IPRS will encourage competition among States with respect to development of Industrial Parks. It is expected that developing the industrial parks by equipping them with required infrastructural facilities and state-of-the-art technology will attract investors and businesses. Going forward, the IPRS would become a ready to refer database for prospective investors in these industrial parks. On November 19, 2018, a national workshop was organised in New Delhi to share the learning from assessment of 202 industrial parks that cover an area of 2.0 lakh acres and share best practices.

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With the issue of MHA Notification No. S.O. 6203 (E) dated 14.12.2018, and DPIIT Press Note 1(2019 Series) dated 01.01.2019, rationalisation of requirement of licenses for defence items has taken place. The revised lists take out items like defence aircrafts, drones, warships, armoured vehicles etc. out of the definition of arms and are now subject to a more liberal scheme of licensing. Till now, any investor intending to start an industrial undertaking engaged in manufacture of parts of defence aircrafts, drones, armoured vehicles, warships, gliders, helicopters and similar items were required to obtain license under Arms Act.

Though the Arms Rules required license for manufacturing of pressure bearing parts, it was difficult to apply this definition to above items as the concept applies only to conventional arms. Removal of these items from the purview of the Arms Act has therefore simplified the procedure for entrepreneurs intending to take up manufacturing of parts only.
The DPIIT has released its Business Reform Action Plan (BRAP) 2019 which are to be implemented by States and Union Territories before March 31. The Ministry of Commerce and Industry has started its exercise of ranking the States and UTs for this year in terms of ease of doing business with the aim of creating a conducive business environment and an investor-friendly business climate. For this purpose, an assessment will be carried out on the reform measures under the BRAP. The exercise was undertaken by DPIIT for the first time in 2014. Last year, these rankings were announced in July. Andhra Pradesh had then topped the chart, followed by Telangana and Haryana.

The reforms mentioned in the plan include 12 areas such as access to information and transparency enablers, online single window system for approvals, land administration, labour regulation, construction permit enablers and obtaining utility permits amongst others. The guidelines will help States and UTs to understand requirements for implementation of reforms and help them in identifying the measures that should be taken to achieve the objectives of the action plan.


India’s first GI store launched at Goa International Airport

Sh. Suresh Prabhu, Minister of Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation launched India’s very first Geographical Indications (GI) Store on January 28, 2019 at the departure terminal of Goa International Airport. The store has been set up by the Cashew Export Promotion Council of India (CEPCI) as part of an action plan being implemented by DPIIT for promoting India’s GI products along with the Airport Authority of India.

Geographical Indications (GI) are primarily agricultural, natural or manufactured product (such as handicrafts and industrial goods) that originate from a specific geographical territory. Till date, 330 products from India have been registered as GIs. The recently inaugurated store will showcase and sell authentic products recognised as GIs under the Geographical Indication of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999.

Sh. Suresh Prabhu stated that GIs not only reflect our rich cultural heritage, but also have the potential to strengthen our economy as a whole, especially the incomes of our rural farmers and artisans producing these GI products. State Governments and UT Administration are also being encouraged to setup such GI outlets at airports under their jurisdiction.

Picture Credits: indiatoday.in
On January 20, 2019, the Cell for IPR Promotion and Management, organised an interactive workshop on "Content Protection in Digital Age" in collaboration with Maharashtra Cyber Digital Crime Unit (MCDCU) at the Grand Hyatt, Mumbai. This was the first ever workshop wherein key stakeholders of the country’s digital ecosystem were present to discuss issues pertaining to the rights of content owners and deliberate upon ways to curb piracy.

Sh. Rajiv Aggarwal, Joint Secretary, DPIIT highlighted the initiatives taken by the Government of India to desist piracy. He also said that the GoI would like to join hands with the creative industry to fight against the menace of piracy. Sh. Brijesh Singh, Special Inspector General, Maharashtra Cyber said that the digital space has made the enforcement of IP rights more complex.

Amendments are proposed to the Cinematograph Act, 1952 to impose strict penalties against film piracy. Illegal recording of films in cinema halls, leading to release of pirated versions on the internet, is a cause for huge financial losses to the film industry as well as the national economy.

The amendment seeks to make offences related to film piracy punishable with imprisonment of up to three years and fine that may extend to ₹ 10 lakh or both. The amendment augurs well for a stronger IP enforcement in the country.

Photo Credits: The Hindu


DPIIT launches second edition of States’ ranking on Startup initiatives

After the successful first edition of States’ Startup Ranking in 2018, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) released second edition of Startup Ranking on February 18, 2019.

The Ranking Framework 2019 comprises of 7 pillars and 30 action points. The pillars will assess States’/UTs efforts across institutional support, simplifying regulations, easing public procurement, incubation support, simplifying regulations, easing public procurement, incubation support, seed funding support, venture funding support and awareness and outreach related activities. The ranking framework is available at Startup India portal.

The States’ Startup Ranking framework aims to rank States/UTs for establishing a conducive ecosystem for supporting Startups. The framework also encourages States and UTs to identify, learn and replicate good practices from each other. The framework has evolved distinctly as compared to last year with major emphasis on collecting feedback from Startups and other important stakeholders from the Startup ecosystem. The Startup Ranking 2019 is expected to advance the Startup ecosystem in the country and aid in the vision of becoming the Startup Nation.

Read More: https://www.startupindia.gov.in/content/dam/invest-india/Template/public/States27%20Startup%20Ranking%20Framework%202019_Final.pdf

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For any queries or inputs, you may write to us at:

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