

Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) programme

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Source: PIB

The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister has approved the proposal for adoption of Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) programme **by the Indian Patent Office (IPO)** under the Controller General of Patents, Designs & Trade Marks, India (CGPDTM) with patent offices of various other interest countries or regions.

PPH Pilot programme

- The said programme will initially commence **between the Japan Patent Office (JPO) and the Indian Patent Office** on a pilot basis for a period of **three years only**.
- Under this Pilot programme, **Indian Patent Office may receive patent applications in certain specified technical fields only, namely,** Electrical, Electronics, Computer Science, Information Technology, Physics, Civil, Mechanical, Textiles, Automobiles and Metallurgy while JPO may receive applications in all fields of technology.

Benefits

PPH programme would lead to the following benefits for the Indian IP office:

- Reduction in time to dispose patent applications.
- Reduction in pendency of patent applications.
- Improvement in quality of search and examination of patent applications.
- An opportunity for Indian inventors including MSMEs and Startups of India to get an accelerated examination of

their patent applications in Japan.

The ambit of the programme may be extended in future, as decided by the Commerce & Industry Minister. The patent offices will frame their own guidelines for implementation of the programme.