

Status Report on AYUSH Related Inventions IN INDIA



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FOREWORD

Intellectual Property has an important role to play in fostering innovation, encouraging research and development, and translating knowledge into solutions that contribute to economic and societal progress. In a diverse knowledge system such as India, the intellectual property framework also has the important responsibility of recognising the relationship between traditional knowledge and contemporary innovation, while ensuring that protection is accorded in accordance with the applicable legal framework.

The Ayush sector represents a distinctive and important component of India's traditional knowledge and innovation landscape. Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, Homoeopathy and Sowa Rigpa draw upon a rich body of traditional knowledge, while contemporary research and technological developments have opened new avenues for innovation in formulations, extraction techniques, delivery mechanisms, devices, nutraceuticals and other applications.

The Status Report on Ayush Related Inventions in India provides a comprehensive, data-driven account of the evolution of Ayush-related patent activity in India from FY 2014-15 to FY 2025-26. During this period, 4,077 Ayush-related patent applications were filed and 711 patents were granted. Annual filings increased from 63 in FY 2014-15 to 590 in FY 2025-26, reaching a peak of 606 applications in FY 2022-23.

Of particular significance is the marked change in patent activity between the pre-COVID and COVID/post-COVID periods. During FY 2014-15 to FY 2019-20, 1,223 Ayush-related patent applications were filed. This increased to 2,854 applications during FY 2020-21 to FY 2025-26, with the COVID/post-COVID period accounting for approximately 70 per cent of all filings examined in the report. A similar increase is visible in patent grants, with 54 grants in the pre-COVID period compared with 657 grants during the COVID/post-COVID period.

This increase reflects an important phase in the development of Ayush-related innovation and intellectual property activity. The period surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic was accompanied by increased research and innovation activity in the Ayush sector, alongside wider institutional and policy developments. The report places these developments within the broader evolution of India's intellectual property ecosystem and examines the changing patterns of filing, examination and grant activity over time.

The report also highlights the growing participation of individual innovators, educational institutions, research organisations, startups, small entities and industry in Ayush-related patenting. Natural persons and educational institutions together accounted for approximately 76.3 per cent of the patent applications during the period under review, demonstrating the important contribution of individual and academic innovation to this sector.

At the same time, the intellectual property landscape surrounding Ayush has continued to develop. The Traditional Knowledge Digital Library remains an important component of India's defensive protection framework, while the Guidelines for Examination of Ayush Related Inventions, 2025 provide focused guidance for examination of patent applications



relating to Ayush products, equipment, devices and other relevant inventions. The Guidelines further reinforce the importance of assessing each application on its individual merits under the Patents Act, 1970 and the Patents Rules, 2003.

A strong intellectual property ecosystem requires not only effective protection but also reliable data, informed examination and greater awareness among innovators and institutions. By bringing together patent filing and grant trends, applicant profiles, geographical distribution, institutional participation and relevant legislative and policy developments, this report provides a consolidated picture of the evolving relationship between Ayush and intellectual property in India.

I appreciate the efforts of all those who have contributed to the preparation of this report and to the systematic documentation and analysis of Ayush-related intellectual property activity. I am confident that the report will serve as a useful reference for policymakers, researchers, innovators, educational and research institutions, industry, IP professionals and other stakeholders working towards strengthening India's innovation ecosystem.

As India advances towards a knowledge-driven and innovation-led economy, the continued interaction between traditional knowledge, scientific research and intellectual property will remain important. The growth in Ayush-related patent activity, particularly during the COVID/post-COVID period, provides an important indicator of the increasing engagement of innovators and institutions with intellectual property in this field. Continued collaboration among stakeholders can further contribute to the responsible development, protection and dissemination of innovations emerging from India's rich Ayush knowledge systems.

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Status Report on **AYUSH** **Related Inventions** **IN INDIA**

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

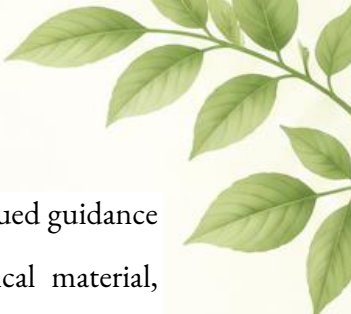
1. Background and Objective of the Report

Intellectual property (IP) plays an important role in documenting, protecting and facilitating the development of innovation across diverse sectors of the Indian economy. The patent system, in particular, provides a legal framework for protecting inventions that satisfy the requirements of novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability under the Patents Act, 1970. Within this broader intellectual property landscape, inventions relating to traditional and complementary systems of medicine present particular questions of documentation, patentability, research and development, and the interface between traditional knowledge and contemporary innovation.

The Ayush sector occupies a distinctive position in this context. The term Ayush refers to Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy. The Government of India granted the Department of Ayush the status of a full-fledged Ministry on 9 November 2014. The institutional framework has since developed to encompass policy formulation, research, education, standards, quality assurance and the wider development and propagation of Ayush systems (Ministry of Ayush, 2021). The broader present framework of the Ministry also includes Sowa Rigpa (Ministry of Ayush, 2025).

The policy context also developed during this period. The National Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Policy was approved by the Government of India on 12 May 2016. The Policy brought the different forms of intellectual property within a unified policy framework and expressly recognised traditional knowledge and biodiversity as part of its vision. It also identified the Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) as a mechanism to prevent misappropriation of Indian traditional knowledge and to examine its use for further research and development (Cell for IPR Promotion and Management [CIPAM], 2016).

The relationship between Ayush and intellectual property is not confined to the protection of traditional knowledge. Indian patent law expressly excludes certain subject matter associated with traditional knowledge from patentability. Section 3(p) of the Patents Act, 1970 excludes an invention which, in effect, is traditional knowledge or which is an aggregation or duplication of



known properties of traditionally known components. The Patent Office has also issued guidance for processing patent applications relating to traditional knowledge and biological material, recognising the importance of prior-art identification and the prevention of erroneous patent grants in this area (Office of the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks [CGPDTM], 2012). At the same time, innovations involving new products, processes, formulations, extraction techniques, delivery mechanisms, analytical technologies or other technological applications may raise distinct questions of patentability, which must be determined in accordance with the applicable law and the facts of each case.

The present report has therefore been prepared from an intellectual property perspective to examine patenting activity associated with Ayush in India. It seeks to establish an evidence-based picture of patent applications filed in Ayush-related fields over the period 2014-2026, with particular attention to the period preceding and following the COVID-19 pandemic. The analysis is intended to identify changes in filing activity, applicant composition, geographical distribution, examination and grant outcomes.

The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the relevance of Ayush systems and stimulated increased interest in Ayush-related research and innovation. Accordingly, based on Patent Office data, the report examines the observed changes in Ayush-related patent filings in the context of the pandemic, while recognising that any increase cannot be attributed solely to COVID-19.

2. Scope and Review Period

The review covers the period from FY 2014-15 to 2025-2026, providing a thirteen-year period for examining the evolution of Ayush-related patent activity. For analytical purposes, the period will be considered in relation to two broad phases: the pre-COVID period, 2014-2019, and the COVID/post-COVID period, 2020-2026. The precise treatment of individual years will correspond to the format and coverage of the data supplied by the Office of the CGPDTM.

The report examines the number of Ayush-related patent applications filed during the review period, together with available information. It further analyses the distribution of applicants by relevant categories, including natural persons, start-ups, small entities, educational institutions and

other applicants. State-wise and foreign filing patterns are also examined to identify geographical dimensions of Ayush-related inventive activity.

The report further identifies leading academic institutions, universities and scientific research and development organisations participating in Ayush-related patenting activity. The report incorporates a brief review of significant legislative, regulatory and policy developments during the period that may have a bearing on Ayush-related intellectual property activity.

3. Ayush and Intellectual Property

The role of the TKDL has likewise continued to develop. The latest Government information available in 2026 states that the TKDL contains information on more than 5.2 lakh formulations and practices from Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha, Sowa Rigpa and Yoga, translated into five international languages (Press Information Bureau [PIB], 2026b). Following the access agreement with Brazil in February 2026, 18 patent offices worldwide have access to the database, and more than 375 patent applications worldwide have been revoked, rejected, amended, withdrawn or abandoned on the basis of prior-art evidence from the TKDL (Council of Scientific & Industrial Research [CSIR], 2026b). In July 2026, India also signed an access agreement with IP Australia, while the Government continued to report the database at more than 5.2 lakh formulations and practices and 18 patent offices. Thus, the earlier TKDL figures may be retained, but the 2026 developments should be noted as the latest institutional update (CSIR, 2026a).

The commercial context has also developed over time. Government data recorded exports of Ayush products and value-added extracts of medicinal herbs at US\$352.93 million in 2014-15, US\$358.60 million in 2015-16 and US\$ 403.59 million in 2016-17 (Ministry of Ayush, 2017b). More recent Government data report Ayush and herbal product exports of US\$ 649.2 million in 2023-24 and US\$ 688.89 million in 2024-25 (PIB, 2026a).

During FY 2025-26, the Ayush Research Councils undertook 693 research studies, including 340 by Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS), and published 653 research papers in peer-reviewed journals, including 232 by CCRAS. Three patents were granted to the Research Councils during the same financial year, including two to CCRAS and one to Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy (CCRH) (PIB, 2026c).



The historical development of institutional research provides additional context. According to a Government of India Parliamentary response, CCRAS published 77 research papers in 2014-15, 82 in 2015-16 and 63 in 2016-17. The same response records four patents filed during the period from 2012-14 to 2014-15 and one patent filed in 2016-17. These figures are retained here as historical reference points rather than as current measures of CCRAS activity (Ministry of Ayush, 2017a).

Ayurveda, in particular, is not limited to classical textual knowledge but is also the subject of contemporary research and product development. Ayush-related innovation may extend to standardisation, extraction and isolation of active ingredients, new formulations and dosage forms, nutraceuticals, cosmeceuticals, devices and other technological applications. The current CGPDTM Guidelines for Examination of Ayush Related Inventions-2025 expressly cover Ayush products and equipment or devices, as well as certain value-added food recipes and nutraceutical applications (CGPDTM, 2025).

The intellectual property dimensions of Ayush are shaped by the coexistence of traditional knowledge and contemporary research-driven innovation. Traditional knowledge documented in sources such as the TKDL has an important defensive role in patent examination because it assists in identifying prior art and preventing erroneous claims over knowledge that is already known. The Patent Office's guidance on traditional knowledge and biological material recognises the relevance of such resources in the examination of applications in this area (CGPDTM, 2012).

The intellectual property framework has also evolved to address the specific characteristics of Ayush-related inventions. The CGPDTM's Guidelines for Examination of Ayush Related Inventions-2025 provide focused guidance for the examination of Ayush-related patent applications. The Guidelines identify six guiding principles for assessing commonly received categories of Ayush-related inventions, while expressly stating that the principles are not exhaustive and that the patentability of each application depends on the individual merits of the invention under the Patents Act, 1970 and the Patents Rules, 2003 (CGPDTM, 2025). The Guidelines therefore provide an important contemporary examination framework for understanding Ayush-related patent activity during the latter part of the review period.

This distinction is particularly relevant to the interpretation of the filing data presented in this report. A patent application is an indicator of an attempt to obtain statutory protection for an

invention; it is not, by itself, evidence of clinical efficacy, safety, commercial success or therapeutic effectiveness. Similarly, the grant of a patent reflects the Patent Office's determination, following examination and applicable proceedings, that the statutory requirements for grant have been satisfied; it does not constitute regulatory approval of a medicinal product or therapeutic intervention. The quantitative and qualitative findings of this report are therefore confined to the intellectual property dimension unless otherwise expressly stated.

4. Overall Trends and Analytical Approach

AYUSH patent activity in India demonstrates a clear expansion between FY 2014-15 and FY 2025-26, with patent filings increasing from 63 to 590 applications over the period and reaching a peak of 606 applications in FY 2022-23. Overall, 4,077 patent applications were filed during the period, alongside 711 patent grants. The growth in patenting activity is accompanied by increasing participation from natural persons, educational institutions, small entities, startups and other applicants, with Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Karnataka emerging as the leading states in patent filings.

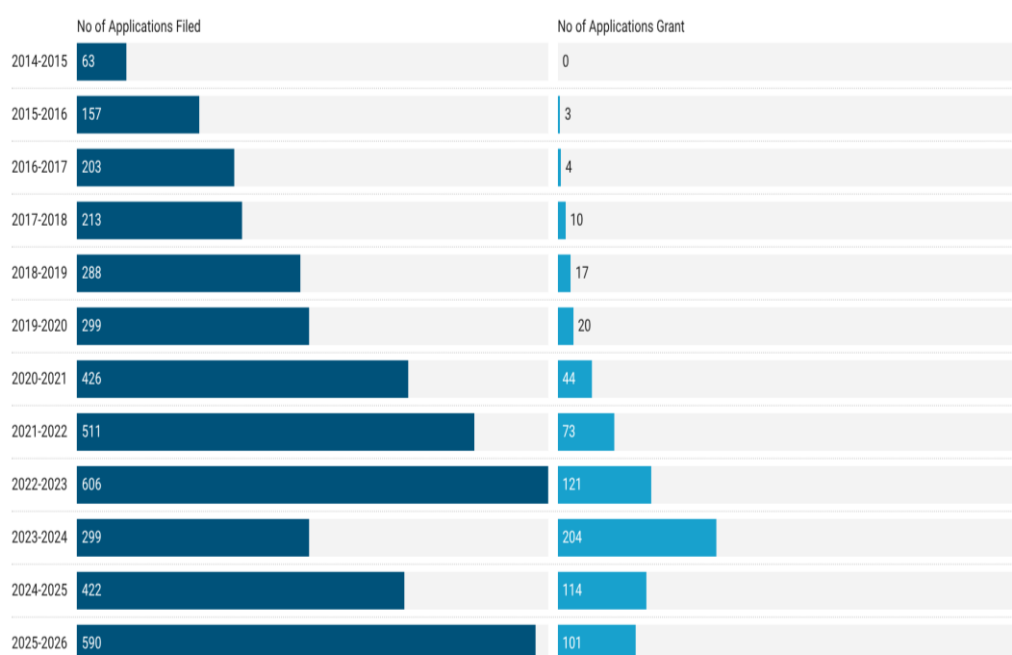


Figure 1.1: Trends in Ayush Patent Applications and Grants

The wider Ayush research environment has also expanded during the review period. As of July 2026, the Ministry of Ayush reported that its Ayush Research Portal contained 43,722 evidence-based



research articles covering the Ayush systems. This figure provides a contemporary research-context indicator and is distinct from the patent data examined in this report (Ministry of Ayush, 2026).

The present report accordingly does not interpret changes in Ayush filings in isolation. Instead, it considers them against the wider trajectory of patenting in India and examines whether Ayush-related activity has changed in scale, composition or character during the review period. Particular attention is given to the years surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic. During the pandemic, the Ministry of Ayush undertook and supported research initiatives concerning Ayush interventions, including clinical, pre-clinical and epidemiological studies and collaborations with institutions involved in health and scientific research (Ministry of Ayush, 2021). These developments provide relevant policy and research context for examining patent activity during and after the pandemic, but do not by themselves establish a causal relationship between COVID-19 and patent filings.

Accordingly, the report proceeds from quantitative measurement to contextual interpretation. It first establishes the year-wise trajectory of Ayush-related patent applications; subsequently examines examination, grant and disposal patterns; analyses applicant, institutional and geographical characteristics; and maps relevant legislative and policy developments. The report then considers whether observable changes in patent activity coincide temporally with major developments in Ayush policy, research and the COVID-19 period. The selected patent profiles provide a qualitative complement to this analysis by illustrating the types of inventions represented in the patent record.

The objective is to provide a consolidated, data-led account of Ayush-related patent activity in India during 2014-2026. By bringing together filing trends, prosecution outcomes, applicant profiles, geographical distribution, policy developments and selected patent records, the report seeks to contribute to a clearer understanding of how Ayush-related innovation has evolved within India's patent ecosystem.

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CHAPTER II

AYUSH PATENT FILING & GRANT TRENDS (2014-2026)

1. Ayush Patent Activity by Number of Applications Filed

Ayush patent filings show a substantial overall increase between FY 2014-15 and FY 2025-26, with total filings reaching 4,077 applications over the twelve-year period. Annual filings increased from 63 in FY 2014-15 to 590 in FY 2025-26, an increase of approximately 836.5%. The growth was broadly consistent through FY 2022-23, when filings reached a peak of 606 applications.

A notable decline occurred in FY 2023-24, when filings fell to 299 applications, a decrease of approximately 50.7% from the previous year. This was followed by a recovery to 422 applications in FY 2024-25 and 590 in FY 2025-26. Overall, despite fluctuations, the data indicate a marked expansion in Ayush-related patent filing activity over the period.

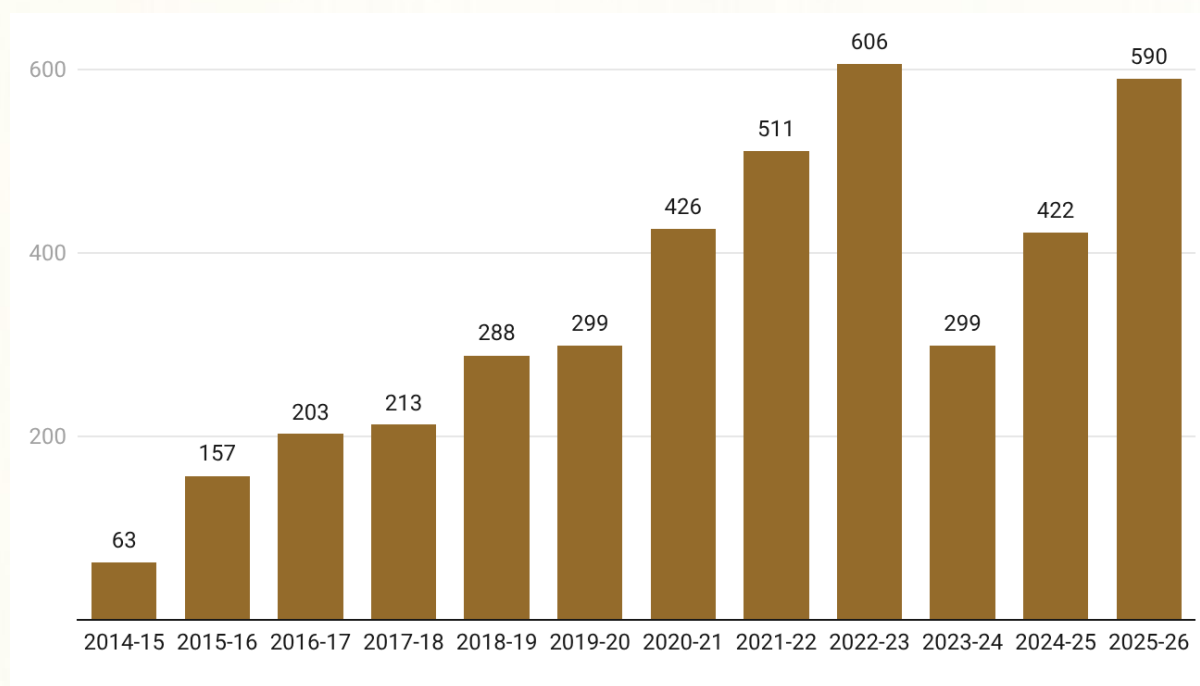
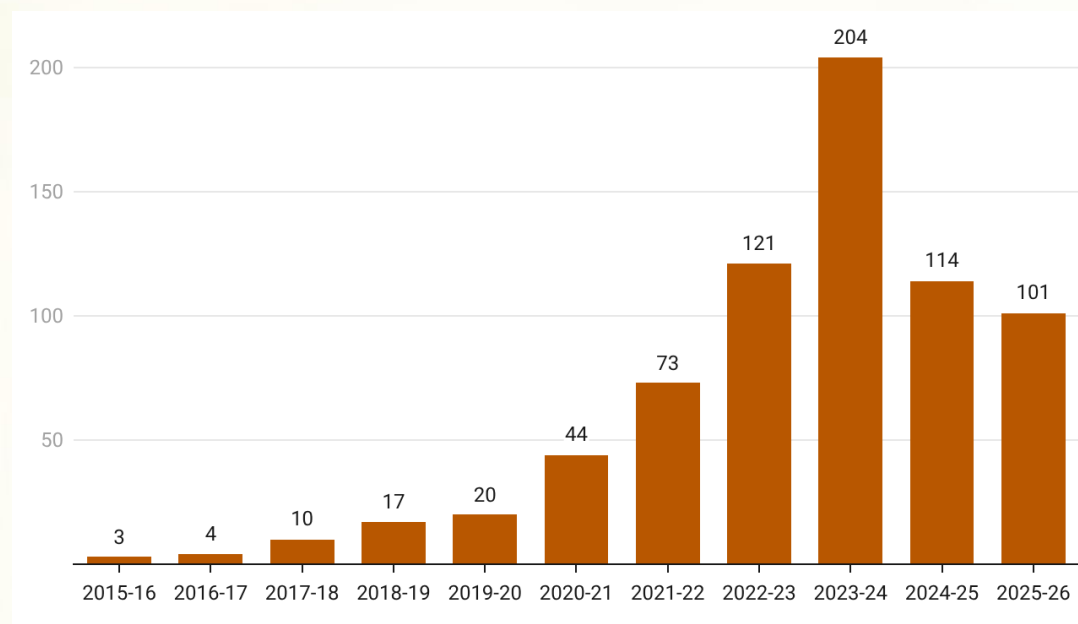


Figure 2.1: Ayush Patent Activity by Number of Applications Filed

2. Ayush Patent Activity by Grant

Ayush patent grants show a strong upward trend from FY 2015-16 to FY 2023-24, with the number of patents granted increasing from just 3 to a peak of 204 applications. Over the period shown, a total of 711 patents were granted. The increase was particularly pronounced after FY 2019-20, with

grants rising from 20 in FY 2019-20 to 44 in FY 2020-21, 73 in FY 2021-22, 121 in FY 2022-23, and 204 in FY 2023-24.



Figure

2.2 : Ayush Patent Activity by Number of Applications by Grant

Following the peak in FY 2023-24, grants declined to 114 in FY 2024-25 and 101 in FY 2025-26. Despite this recent decline, the overall data indicate a significant expansion in Ayush patent grants, particularly during FY 2020-21 to FY 2023-24, reflecting a substantial increase in the number of Ayush -related patents granted compared with the earlier years.

3. Pre-COVID vs Post-COVID Ayush Patent Activity

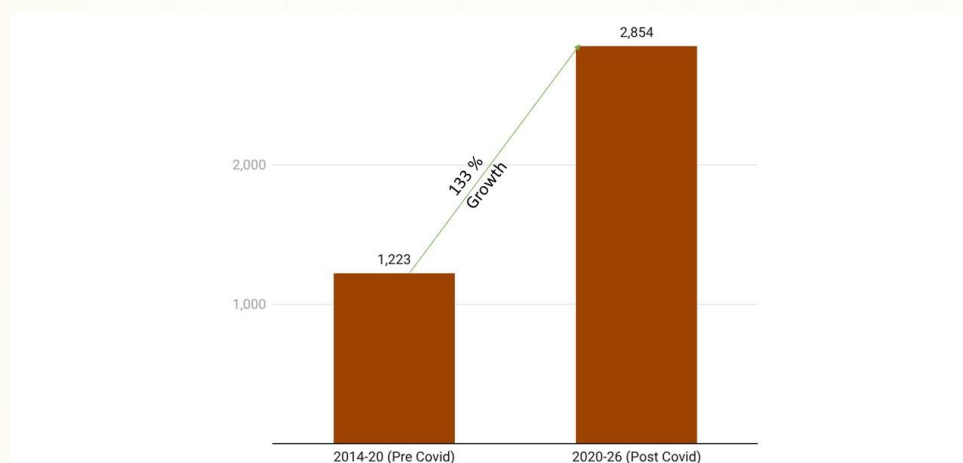


Figure 2.3: Pre-COVID vs Post-COVID Ayush Patent Activity by Filing

The comparison shows a substantial increase in Ayush patent filings in the post-COVID period. During the pre-COVID period (FY 2014-15 to FY 2019-20), 1,223 patent applications were filed, compared with 2,854 applications in the post-COVID period (FY 2020-21 to FY 2025-26). Thus, post-COVID filings accounted for approximately 70.0% of all filings in the dataset, compared with 30.0% during the pre-COVID period.

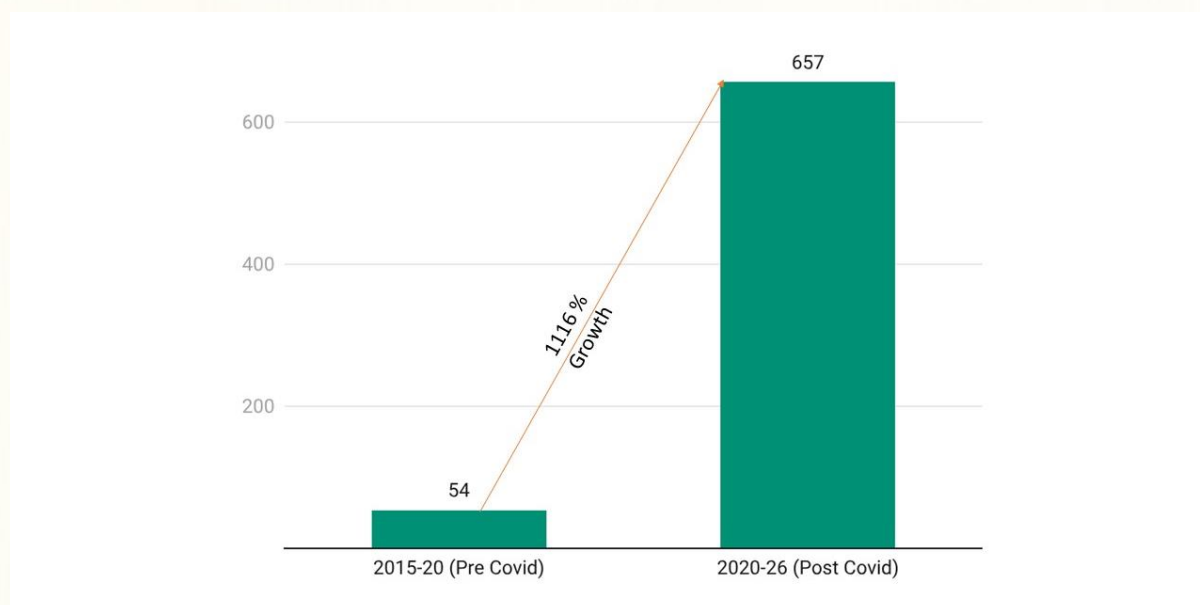


Figure 2.4: Pre-COVID vs Post-COVID Ayush Patent Activity by Grant

A similar pattern is observed for patent grants. Only 54 patents were granted during the pre-COVID period (FY 2015-16 to FY 2019-20), while 657 were granted post-COVID (FY 2020-21 to FY 2025-26). Consequently, approximately 92.4% of the 711 total grants occurred during the post-COVID period. The data therefore show a marked increase in both Ayush patent filings and grants in the post-COVID period, although the grant figures should also be interpreted considering the time lag between filing and grant.

4. Top Filing Applicant Types

Natural persons, that is, individual applicants, were the largest applicant category, accounting for 2,113 applications (51.9%) of the total 4,077 filings. This was followed by educational institutes, with 995 applications (24.4%), and other than natural persons, with 700 applications (17.2%). Small entities (3.5%) and startups (3.1%) constituted relatively smaller shares, with 144 and 125 applications, respectively. Overall, the data indicate that natural persons and educational institutions together accounted for approximately 76.3% of all Ayush patent filings during the period.

Number of Applications Filed (2014-26) Applicant Type

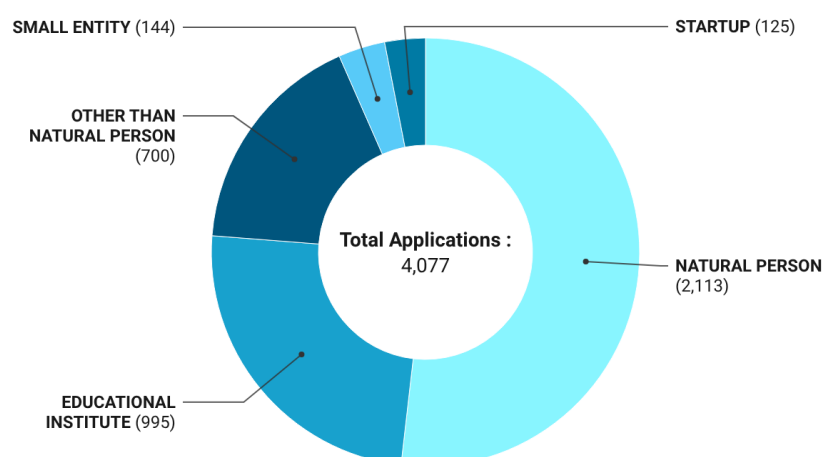


Figure 2.5 Number of Applications Filed (FY 2014-26) by Applicant Type

5. Top Grant Applicant Types

Natural persons accounted for the largest share of Ayush patent grants, with 398 grants (56.0%) out of the total 711. This was followed by other than natural persons, with 176 grants (24.8%), and educational institutes, with 88 grants (12.4%). Small entities (3.9%) and startups (3.0%) accounted for relatively smaller shares. Overall, natural persons and other than natural persons together accounted for approximately 80.8% of all Ayush patent grants during the period.

Number of Applications Grant (2014-26) Applicant Type

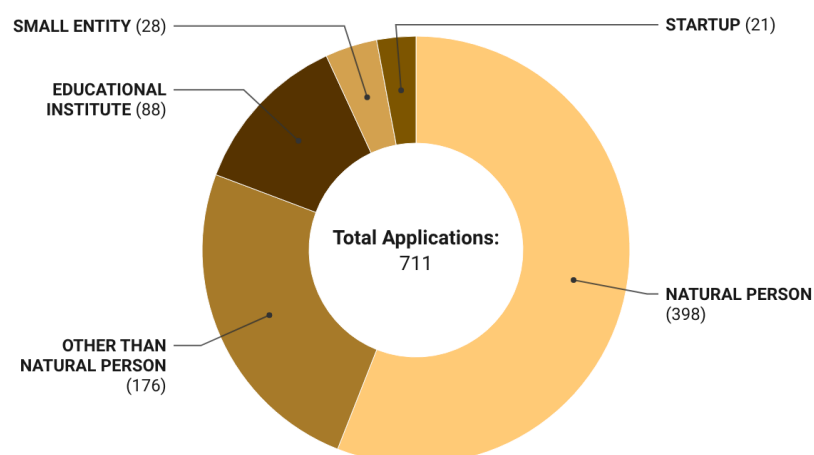


Figure 2.6 Number of Ayush Patents by Grant (FY 2014-26) by Applicant Type

6. Country-wise Ayush Patent Filings

Among foreign countries, the United States of America recorded the highest number of Ayush patent filings, with 37 applications during FY 2014-15 to FY 2025-26. This was followed by the Netherlands and Saudi Arabia, with 4 applications each. Germany, Japan, Republic of Korea, Switzerland and the U.K. each recorded 3 applications.

A further six countries recorded 2 applications each, namely Denmark, France, Malaysia, Taiwan, Thailand and the U.A.E., while Canada, China, Ethiopia, Hong Kong (China), Iran, Italy, Singapore, Sweden and Turkey recorded 1 application each. Overall, foreign filings were distributed across a diverse set of jurisdictions, although the number of applications from individual countries remained relatively small.

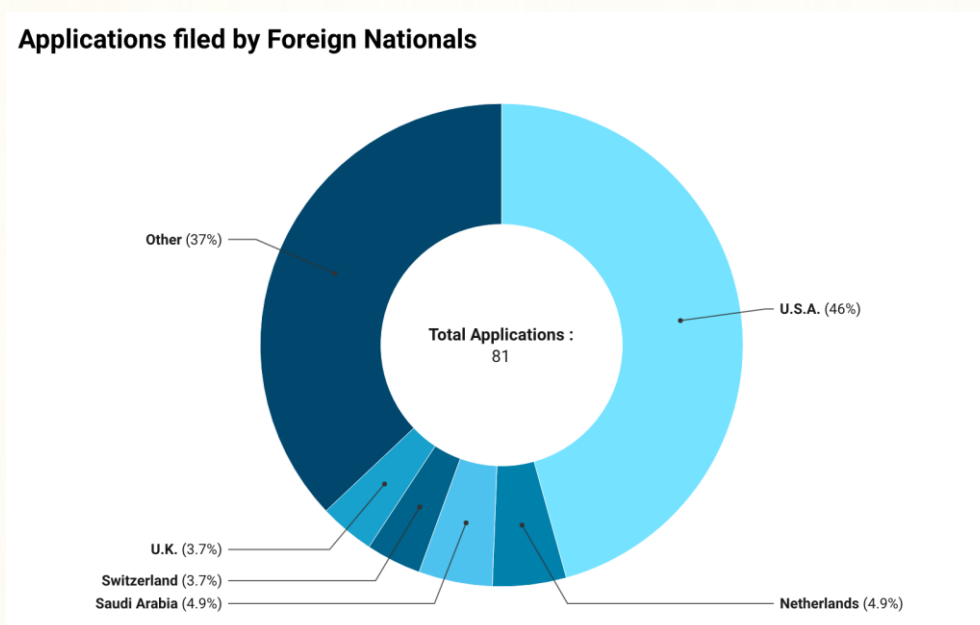


Figure 2.7 : Share of Applications Filed by Foreign Applicants

7. State-wise Ayush Patent Filings

Ayush patent filings during FY 2014-15 to FY 2025-26 were concentrated in a relatively small number of states. Maharashtra recorded the highest number of filings with 744 applications, followed by Tamil Nadu (670), Uttar Pradesh (354), Punjab (295) and Karnataka (273). Together, these five states accounted for approximately 57.3% of the 4,077 total filings. Other states with comparatively high filing activity included Andhra Pradesh (197), Delhi (187), Gujarat (146), Telangana (126), Himachal Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh (124 each), and Rajasthan (122).

The distribution also shows considerable regional variation. Several northeastern and smaller states recorded relatively few filings, including Andaman & Nicobar, Sikkim (1 each), Meghalaya and Nagaland (2 each), and Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur and Tripura (3 each). Overall, the data indicate that Ayush patent filing activity was strongly concentrated in Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Karnataka, while filings from several smaller states remained limited during the period.

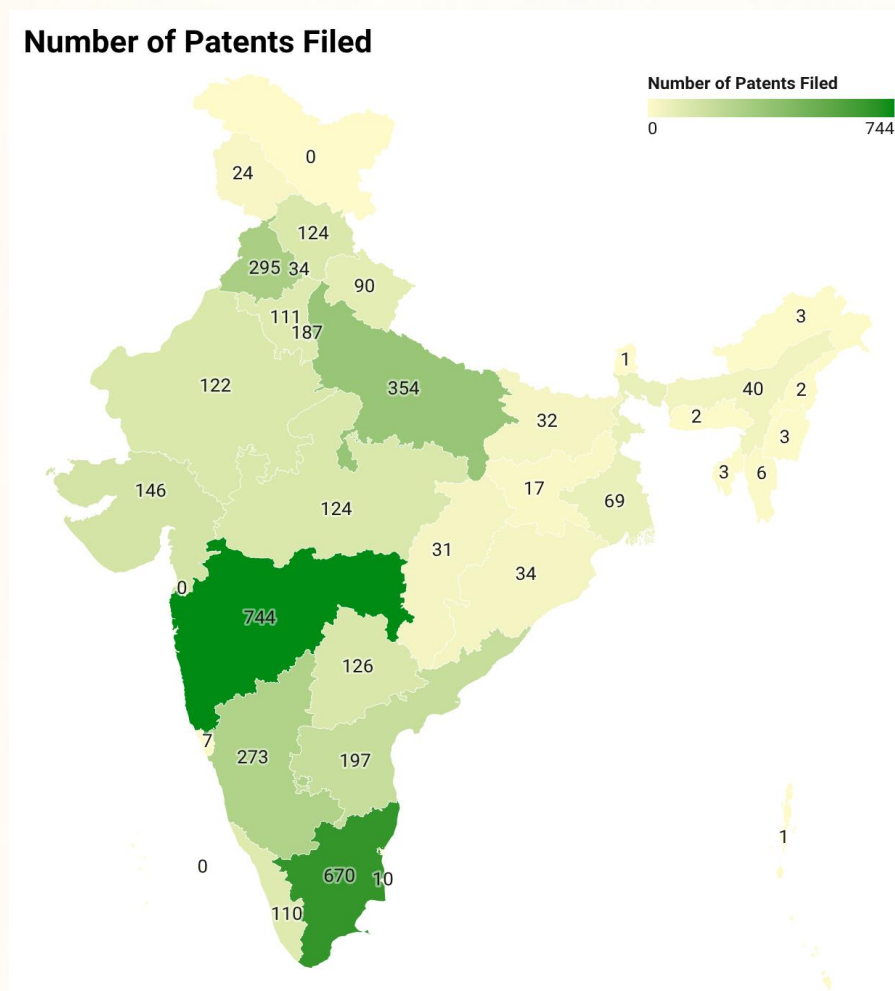


Figure 2.8: State-wise No. of Patent Applications Filed

Note: 85 patent applications fall under the “Not Applicable” category, comprising 81 applications filed by foreign applicants and 4 applications associated with India for which no specific State/UT could be identified in the available data.

8. State-wise Ayush Patent Grants

Ayush patent grants during FY 2015-16 to FY 2025-26 were concentrated in a few states, with Maharashtra recording the highest number of grants at 142, followed by Tamil Nadu (81), Uttar Pradesh (57), Gujarat (56), and Karnataka (48). These five states together accounted for approximately 54.2% of the 711 total grants. Delhi (43), Kerala (28), Andhra Pradesh (25), West Bengal (24), and Bihar (23) were among the other states with comparatively higher numbers of grants.

The distribution was considerably lower across several states, particularly in the northeastern region and smaller Union Territories. Andaman & Nicobar, Meghalaya, Pondicherry and Tripura recorded one grant each, while Manipur, Mizoram and Nagaland recorded two each. Overall, the state-wise distribution indicates that Ayush patent grants were predominantly concentrated in Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat and Karnataka, broadly reflecting the concentration observed in patent filings.

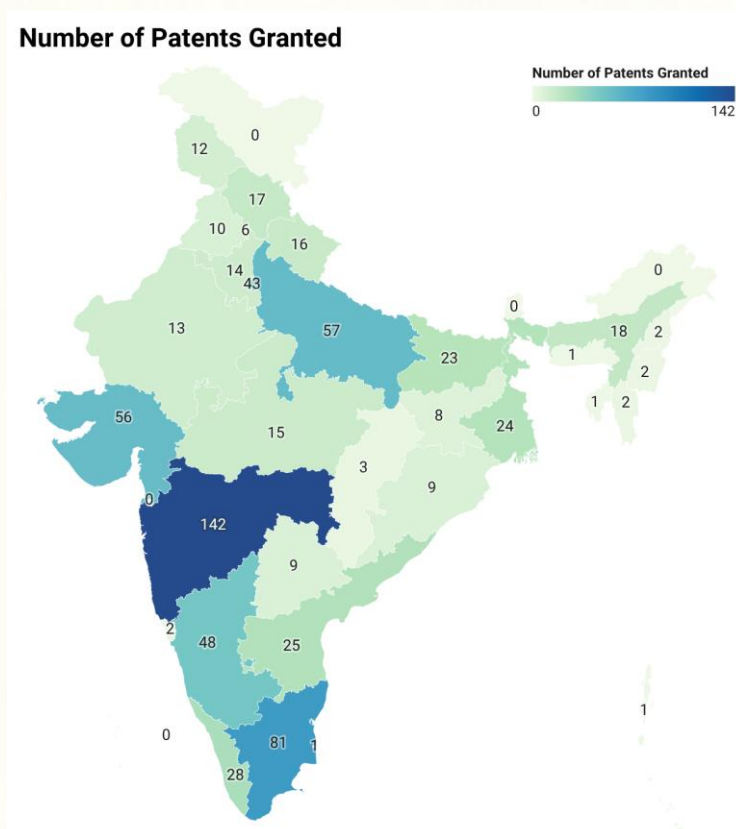


Figure 2.9: State-wise No. of Ayush Patents Granted

Note: 22 patent grants fall under the “Not Applicable” category and have not been attributed to any specific State/UT.

9. Top 10 Indian Applicants for Ayush Patents by Filing

Among the leading institutional applicants for Ayush patents, Lovely Professional University recorded the highest number of filings, with 195 applications, followed by Shoolini University of Biotechnology and Management Sciences (71) and Saveetha Institute of Medical and Technical Sciences (63). Other major institutional filers included Chitkara University (55), Amity University (49), and Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education and Research (43). The top 10 institutions together accounted for 587 applications, with Lovely Professional University alone contributing approximately 33.2% of the filings among these top 10 institutions.

Top Applicants

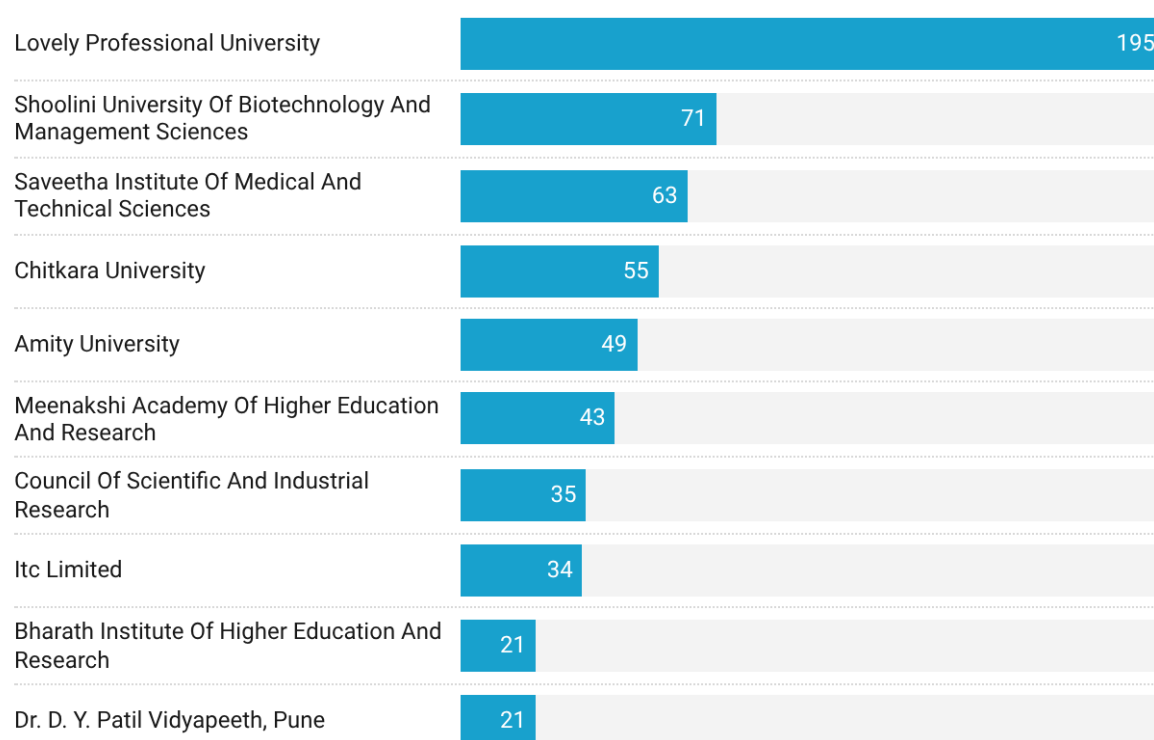


Figure 2.10: Top 10 Indian Applicants for Ayush Patents by Filing

The presence of several universities and higher-education institutions among the leading applicants indicates a significant role of academic and research institutions in Ayush-related patenting activity. CSIR also appears among the leading applicants with 35 filings, while ITC Limited recorded 34 applications, showing participation from both public research organisations and industry alongside universities.

10. Top 10 Applicants by Patent Grants

Among the top applicants receiving Ayush patent grants, Amity University recorded the highest number with 24 grants, followed by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (13) and Shoolini University of Biotechnology and Management Sciences (11). Other leading recipients included the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (10), ITC Limited (7), and Chitkara University (6).

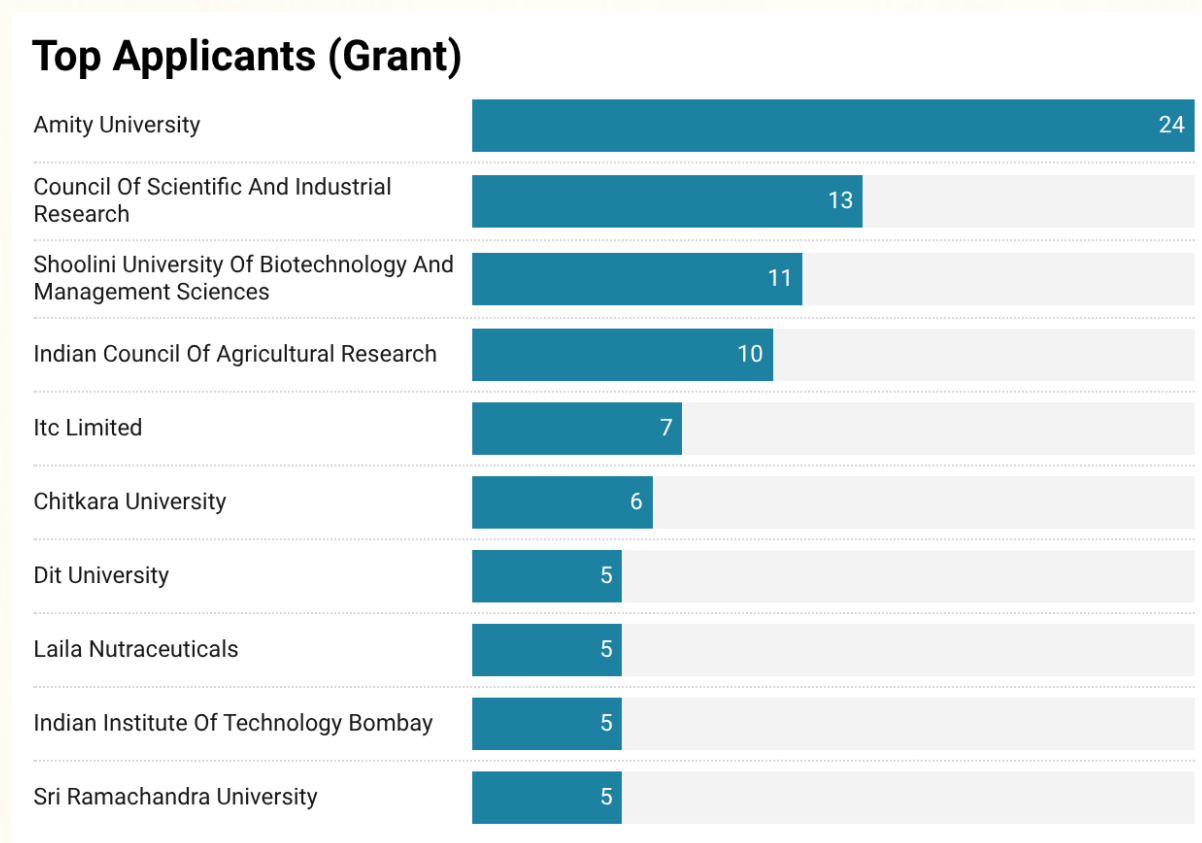


Figure 2.11: Top 10 Indian Applicants for Ayush Patents by Grant

The list reflects participation from universities, public research organisations, and industry, with educational and research institutions accounting for a substantial share of the leading applicants. Notably, several institutions appearing among the leading filing applicants also feature among the leading grant recipients, indicating sustained activity in Ayush-related patenting.

11. Top 10 Educational Institution Applicants by Patent Filed

Among educational institutions, Lovely Professional University recorded the highest number of Ayush patent filings, with 168 applications, followed by Saveetha Institute of Medical and Technical Sciences (57) and Shoolini University of Biotechnology and Management Sciences (46). Other

leading institutions included Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education and Research (37), Chitkara University (25), and Dr. D. Y. Patil Vidyapeeth, Pune (21).

Top Educational Institute Applicants

Lovely Professional University	168
Saveetha Institute Of Medical And Technical Sciences	57
Shoolini University Of Biotechnology And Management Sciences	46
Meenakshi Academy Of Higher Education And Research	37
Chitkara University	25
Dr. D. Y. Patil Vidyapeeth, Pune	21
Bharath Institute Of Higher Education And Research	18
Swami Vivekanand Subharti University	17
Maharishi Markandeshwar (Deemed To Be University)	15
Amity University	14

Figure 2.12: Top 10 Educational Institution Applicants by Patent Filed

The top 10 educational institutions collectively accounted for 418 Ayush patent applications. The predominance of universities and higher-education institutions among the leading filers highlights the significant contribution of the academic sector to Ayush-related patenting activity during the period.

12. Top 10 Educational Institution Applicants by Patent Grant

Among educational institutions, Shoolini University of Biotechnology and Management Sciences recorded the highest number of Ayush patent grants, with 11 grants, followed by DIT University (5) and Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (4). Motilal Nehru National Institute of Technology Allahabad, Sam Higginbottom Institute of Agriculture, Technology and Sciences, and Sharda University each recorded 3 grants. H.N.B. Garhwal University (Srinagar), Lovely Professional University, and National Institute of Technology Kurukshetra each recorded 2 grants, completing the Top 10 institutions shown in the graph.

Top Educational Institute (Grant)

Shoolini University Of Biotechnology And Management Sciences	11
Dit University	5
Indian Institute Of Technology Bombay	4
Motilal Nehru National Institute Of Technology Allahabad	3
Sam Higginbottom Institute Of Agriculture Technology And Sciences	3
Sharda University	3
Chettinad Academy Of Research And Education	2
H.N.B. Garhwal University&Nbsp; Srinagar (Garhwal)&Nbsp; (A Central University)&Nbsp;	2
Lovely Professional University	2
National Institute Of Technology&Nbsp; Kurukshetra	2

Figure 2.13: Top 10 Educational Institution Applicants by Patent Granted

Note: Three additional educational institutions also recorded 2 patent grants each but are excluded from the Top 10 graphical presentation due to the tie at the cutoff. These are Dr. D. Y. Patil Unitech Society's Dr. D. Y. Patil Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences & Research, Indian Institute of Technology (Banaras Hindu University), Varanasi, and Panjab University.

CHAPTER III

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY DEVELOPMENTS RELEVANT TO AYUSH AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY (2014 TO 2026)

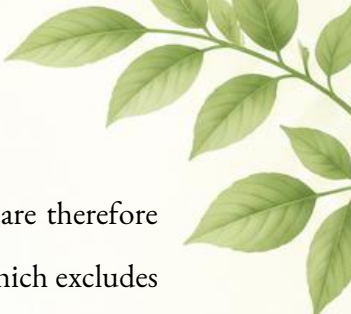
1. Introduction and Scope

This chapter traces the legislative and policy architecture through which the Government of India has connected the Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (Ayush) sector with the domestic and international IP regime. Its purpose is to place patent filing and grant trends in the Ayush sector against the institutional decisions, statutes, rules and international instruments that shaped them.

The chronology covers the period from 2014 to 2026. Within that period the chapter records only those developments that bear directly on the creation, protection, examination or commercialisation of IP in the Ayush systems. Measures of a purely clinical, educational or service delivery character are noted only where they establish the regulatory, evidentiary or biodiversity compliance conditions on which an Ayush patent application depends.

The account relies on primary government and inter-governmental sources: press releases and year end reviews of the Press Information Bureau (PIB), the annual reports and notifications of the Ministry of Ayush, the examination guidelines, rules and annual reports of the Office of the CGPDTM, the publications of the CSIR and the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), the Gazette of India, and the official records of the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) and the World Health Organisation (WHO).

The developments are grouped into phases that track the institutional history of the sector: institutional foundation and defensive architecture (2014 to 2016); quality standardisation and clinical evidence building (2017 to 2019); pandemic era acceleration and institutional overhaul (2020 to 2022); biodiversity law reform and patent procedure modernisation (2023 to 2024) and Institutional and Treaty-Level Consolidation (2025 to 2026). Within each phase the developments are set out year by year. A consolidated year-wise chronology appears later in this chapter, which closes with a short synthesis.



Two instruments that predate the review period frame everything that follows and are therefore stated here as baseline. The first is the Patents Act, 1970, in particular Section 3(d), which excludes new forms of a known substance that do not enhance known efficacy; Section 3(e), which excludes mere admixtures resulting only in aggregation of properties; and Section 3(p), which excludes an invention that in effect is traditional knowledge (TK) or an aggregation or duplication of known properties of traditionally known components. The second is the Guidelines for Processing of Patent Applications relating to Traditional Knowledge and Biological Material, issued by the CGPDTM on 8 November 2012, which direct examiners to screen and classify TK related applications and to search the TKDL and other TK databases for anticipation (CGPDTM, 2012). Every subsequent development discussed below operates on this statutory and administrative base.

2. Institutional Foundation and Defensive Architecture (2014 to 2016)

The years 2014 to 2016 established the institutional scaffolding within which all later Ayush and IP policy would operate. Three things happened in this window: the sector acquired a ministry with its own budget and administrative authority; the patent office issued examination guidance that applied Sections 3(d), 3(e) and 3(p) to pharmaceutical and plant-based claims; and India adopted its first comprehensive national statement of IP policy, which made expansion of the TKDL an explicit national objective.

2.1 2014

On 9 November 2014 the erstwhile Department of Ayush, until then functioning under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, was upgraded into an independent Ministry of Ayush (Ministry of Ayush, 2024). The Department had itself been created as the Department of Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy in March 1995 and renamed in November 2003. The upgrade gave the sector its own budgetary line, its own administrative leadership and, for the first time, a single point of accountability for research, standardisation, drug regulation and IP related policy across all the Ayush systems. It also made the new Ministry the institutional counterpart of CSIR in the TKDL, the prior art database of Indian traditional knowledge established jointly in 2001 by CSIR and the then Department of Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy (PIB, 2022b). The TKDL is not itself an IP asset. It is a defensive instrument, compiled from classical texts



and traditional formularies and rendered into five international languages, that patent examiners abroad can search before granting a patent, so as to prevent the erroneous grant of patents over knowledge already in the Indian public domain.

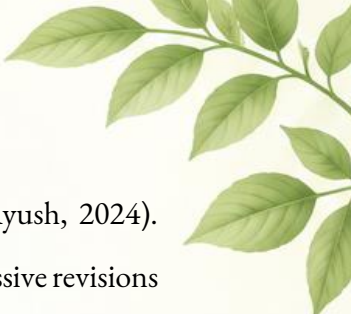
In the same year the Government launched the National Ayush Mission (NAM) as a centrally sponsored scheme, with quality control of Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathy (ASU&H) drugs and sustainable availability of raw materials among its obligatory components (Ministry of Ayush, 2024). The Mission funded the upgrading of State drug testing laboratories, State ASU&H pharmacies and enforcement machinery. Its relevance to this chapter is indirect but real: reliable drug testing infrastructure and documented quality standards are the evidentiary base on which claims of novelty, efficacy and reproducibility in a patent specification ultimately rest.

The most directly IP relevant development of 2014 came from the patent office itself. In October 2014 the CGPDTM issued the Guidelines for Examination of Patent Applications in the Field of Pharmaceuticals, following stakeholder consultation (CGPDTM 2014). The Guidelines set out how examiners should assess novelty, inventive step, industrial applicability and sufficiency of disclosure in pharmaceutical claims, and they deal expressly with the exclusions under Section 3 of the Patents Act, 1970, including Section 3(d) on new forms of known substances, Section 3(e) on admixtures and Section 3(p) on traditional knowledge. They also reiterate the applicant's obligation under Section 10(4) to disclose the source and geographical origin of biological material used in the invention. Together with the 2012 traditional knowledge guidelines, this instrument supplied the examination framework against which herbal, mineral and formulation-based Ayush claims were assessed for the next decade.

Finally, in October 2014 the then Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP), now DPIIT, constituted an IPR Think Tank to draft a national IP policy, and the first draft was released for public comment in December 2014. That process produced the National Intellectual Property Rights Policy adopted in 2016 and discussed below.

2.2 2015

The year 2015 was one of consolidation rather than new instruments. The Ministry of Ayush, in its first full year of operation, began disbursing funds to States and Union Territories under NAM and



worked toward ISO certification of its quality management system (Ministry of Ayush, 2024). Consultation on the draft National IPR Policy continued through the year, with successive revisions circulated by DIPP.

Internationally, the first International Day of Yoga was observed on 21 June 2015, following the United Nations General Assembly resolution of 11 December 2014. The significance for this chapter is that CSIR had already extended TKDL documentation to yoga, recording asanas from classical texts precisely so that they could be cited as prior art against claims to yoga postures and sequences filed abroad.

2.3 2016

On 12 May 2016 the Union Cabinet approved, and on 13 May 2016 DIPP released, India's first National Intellectual Property Rights Policy under the slogan "Creative India; Innovative India" (DIPP, 2016). The Policy sets out seven objectives covering IP awareness, IP generation, a strengthened legal and administrative framework, commercialisation, enforcement and human capital development. Three of its recommendations bear directly on Ayush. First, the Policy recommends that the ambit of the TKDL be expanded beyond Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani and Siddha. Second, it recommends that public research institutions be given access to the TKDL for further research and development. Third, it directs that the possibility of extending such access to the private sector, subject to safeguards, be examined. These recommendations converted the TKDL from a purely defensive database into a stated instrument of innovation policy, and they set the direction that culminated in the Union Cabinet decision of August 2022.

Three days later, on 16 May 2016, the Patents (Amendment) Rules, 2016 came into force. The Rules created a separate "Startup" applicant category eligible for reduced official fees, inserted Rule 24C to formalise expedited examination, introduced provision for refund of examination fees on withdrawal, and tightened the timelines for responding to examination reports. For an Ayush sector applicant, typically an individual practitioner, a small enterprise, an academic department or a research council rather than a large corporate filer, the reduction in fees and the availability of expedited examination materially lowered the cost and time barriers to seeking patent protection.

In pursuance of the National IPR Policy, DPIIT also established in 2016 the CIPAM as a dedicated professional body to implement the Policy's seven objectives. CIPAM carried forward the Policy's specific commitments on traditional knowledge, including its work on the TKDL, and ran the IP awareness and facilitation programmes through which institutional applicants in sectors such as Ayush were reached.

The cumulative effect of this phase on the defensive side can be seen in the growth of the TKDL access network. Access is granted to foreign patent offices under non-disclosure agreements, which permit examiners to use the database for search and examination only. The table below sets out the documented expansion of that network across the review period.

Table 3.1: Documented expansion of the TKDL access network, 2014 to 2026

Documented position	Offices with access	Offices named in the government source
Access agreements recorded by CSIR before 2014	Eight (including Indian Patent Office)	European Patent Office (EPO); United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO); German Patent and Trademark Office (DPMA); United Kingdom Intellectual Property Office (UKIPO); Canadian Intellectual Property Office (CIPO); Patent and Trade Mark Office; IP Australia and Japan Patent Office (JPO)
Position stated by the Union Cabinet, 17 August 2022	Fourteen	The Cabinet note records that complete access was at that date restricted to fourteen patent offices for search and examination
On conclusion of the agreement with the Danish Patent and Trademark Office, the number of patent offices worldwide that have access to the TKDL database rises to fifteen.	Fifteen	INPI, France, added in September, 2022.
On conclusion of the agreement with the Eurasian Patent Organisation (EAPO), February 2023	Sixteen	The contracting states of the Eurasian Patent Convention include Eurasian Patent Office, Turkmenistan, Republic of Belarus. Republic of Tajikistan, Russian Federation, Republic of Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan Republic, Kyrgyz Republic, and the Republic of Armenia.

On conclusion of the agreement with the Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines (IPOPHL), January 2025	Seventeen	IPOPHL, Philippines, added; agreement concluded on the occasion of the TKDL's twenty fifth anniversary
On conclusion of the agreement with the National Institute of Industrial Property, Brazil (INPI, Brazil), February 2026	Eighteen	INPI, Brazil, added; agreement exchanged alongside the India AI Impact Summit 2026

Sources: Council of Scientific and Industrial Research; PIB (2022b); Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (2023); Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines (2025); Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (2026a, 2026b).

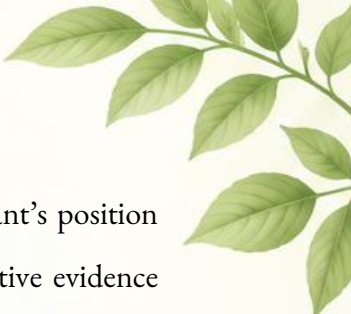
Note: The counts are those stated in the respective government sources at the dates shown.

3. Quality Standardisation and Clinical Evidence Building (2017 to 2019)

Having built the institutional and defensive architecture, the Government turned during 2017 to 2019 to the evidentiary foundations that a modern patent system expects of any applicant claiming therapeutic efficacy or a novel formulation. The instruments of this phase are drug safety monitoring, Pharmacopoeial standardisation, dedicated research institutions and the digitisation of drug licensing. None of them is an IP instrument on its face. Each of them produces the documentary record that an applicant must be able to put before an examiner, and that an examiner must be able to test, when a claim of enhanced efficacy under Section 3(d) or of synergy under Section 3(e) is made.

3.1 2017

In 2017 the Ministry of Ayush introduced a Central Sector Scheme for Pharmacovigilance of ASU&H drugs. The scheme established a three-tier network consisting of a National Pharmacovigilance Coordination Centre, five Intermediary Pharmacovigilance Centres located at national institutes, and a growing number of Peripheral Pharmacovigilance Centres, with the mandate of documenting adverse drug reactions and of monitoring misleading advertisements (Ministry of Ayush). The All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA), New Delhi was designated the National Pharmacovigilance Coordination Centre (AIIA). A systematic adverse event database of



this kind builds exactly the safety and tolerability record that strengthens an applicant's position when an examiner scrutinises claims of therapeutic effect, and it supplies the negative evidence against which exaggerated efficacy claims can be tested.

AIIA itself was established in New Delhi on 17 October 2017, on the second Ayurveda Day. Structured along the lines of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), AIIA combines tertiary care with postgraduate teaching and a cluster of interdisciplinary research laboratories.

3.2 2018

Two lines of work advanced in 2018. The first was Pharmacopoeial. The Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Medicine and Homoeopathy (PCIM&H), which had been constituted in 2010, continued its statutory function under Rules 163A to 163G of the Drugs Rules, 1945 of establishing Pharmacopoeial standards and formulary specifications for ASU&H drugs and of acting as the central drug testing and appellate laboratory for those systems (Ministry of Ayush, 2025). Published Pharmacopoeial monographs identify a drug substance by defined parameters of identity, purity and strength. They therefore serve a double function in patent practice: they reduce ambiguity in a specification that describes a herbal or mineral ingredient by name, and they constitute citable prior art fixing what is already known about that ingredient, which is the baseline against which an asserted improvement under Section 3(d) must be measured.

The scale of that reference base is now substantial. By the close of the review period the PCIM&H had published 2,259 monographs of single drug quality standards and 405 monographs of multi-ingredient formulation standards, and it had entered into a memorandum of understanding with the Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission to develop harmonised monographs under the "One Herb, One Standard" initiative, each carrying Indian standards alongside international quality requirements (Ministry of Ayush, 2024). A separate Ayush vertical in the Bureau of Indian Standards had notified 91 Indian standards on Ayush by the same date. For the purposes of this chapter the significance is evidentiary rather than proprietary: the larger and more precisely specified the published standard, the narrower the space in which an applicant can assert that a herbal or mineral preparation is new.



The second line of work was digital. In 2018 the Ministry of Ayush initiated the Ayush Grid project to create a comprehensive information technology backbone for the sector, covering healthcare delivery, research, education and drug regulation (PIB, 2020a). The Ayush Health Management Information System (A-HMIS) developed under the project embeds standardised national morbidity codes. Standardised, machine readable documentation of formulations, indications and outcomes is a precondition both for the evidence generation described above and for the disclosure obligations that attach to inventions derived from biological resources.

3.3 2019

On 13 February 2019 the Ministry of Ayush launched the e-AUSHADHI portal for online licensing of Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathy drugs (PIB, 2019). The portal, whose name is an acronym for Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy Automated Drug Help Initiative, introduced fixed processing timelines with status updates at each stage, and it made available in real time the particulars of licensed manufacturers and their products, together with records of cancelled and spurious drugs. For the purposes of this chapter, the portal has two consequences. It creates a searchable public record of licensed Ayush products, which is a source of prior art in its own right. It also shortens the regulatory pathway between a granted process or formulation patent and a marketable licensed product, which is the point at which an Ayush patent acquires commercial value.

Across this phase the TKDL access network continued to widen, with the Peru Patent Office and the Spanish Patent and Trademark Office appearing in the CSIR record of concluded access agreements.

4. Pandemic Era Acceleration and Institutional Overhaul (2020 to 2022)

The COVID-19 pandemic sharply increased public and governmental interest in traditional and complementary medicine. The years 2020 to 2022 saw Ayush related institutional reform proceed faster than in any preceding phase, and they brought the sector its most significant international recognition to date. This is also the phase in which the TKDL's function formally shifted from defence to enablement.

4.1 2020

From March 2020 the Ministry of Ayush, working with the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), established interdisciplinary research protocols and clinical studies on Ayush interventions and immunity supporting formulations. The concentrated applied research of this period is widely understood to have contributed to the subsequent rise in Ayush related patent filings in the immunity and respiratory support categories.

Two structural reforms of lasting significance were notified in 2020. First, by a decision of the Central Government dated 3 June 2020, notified in the Gazette of India on 6 July 2020, the erstwhile autonomous PCIM&H was re-established as a subordinate office of the Ministry of Ayush by merging into it the Pharmacopoeial Laboratory for Indian Medicine (PLIM) and the Homoeopathic Pharmacopoeial Laboratory (HPL) (Ministry of Ayush, 2020, 2025). The merger consolidated standard setting and central testing for the Ayush systems in a single office, which removed a long-standing fragmentation in the quality assurance chain on which efficacy claims depend.

Second, on 21 September 2020 the National Commission for Indian System of Medicine Act, 2020 (NCISM Act, 2020) and the National Commission for Homoeopathy Act, 2020 (NCH Act, 2020) were notified and published in the Gazette of India (Ministry of Ayush, 2025). The two Acts replaced the Indian Medicine Central Council Act, 1970 and the Homoeopathy Central Council Act, 1973 and provided for new regulatory commissions governing education, professional standards, assessment of institutions and ethical conduct. By overhauling the regulation of medical education and research ethics across these systems, the reform strengthens the institutional credibility that underpins downstream claims of clinical validation in patent applications originating from Ayush teaching and research institutions.

On 13 November 2020, on the occasion of the fifth Ayurveda Day, the Director General of the WHO announced that WHO would establish a Global Centre for Traditional Medicine (GCTM) in India (PIB, 2022a). The announcement set in motion the process that produced the Cabinet approval and host country agreement of 2022.

4.2 2021



With effect from 1 April 2021 the Ministry of Ayush began implementing two Central Sector Schemes, AYURGYAN and AYURSWASTHYA Yojana, sanctioned for the period 2021 to 2022 through 2025 to 2026. AYURSWASTHYA Yojana funds public health intervention projects and the upgrading of centres of excellence, while the Research and Innovation component of AYURGYAN is designed to fund standardisation, validation and new drug development in the Ayush systems (Ministry of Ayush, Ministry of Ayush, 2022). Because new drug development and formulation validation are precisely the activities from which patentable inventions arise, AYURGYAN represents one of the more direct fiscal links in this chronology between government scheme expenditure and the Ayush patent pipeline.

The regulatory overhaul begun in 2020 took effect during 2021. On 11 June 2021 the Indian Medicine Central Council Act, 1970 was repealed, the Central Council of Indian Medicine was dissolved, and the National Commission for Indian System of Medicine (NCISM) and its autonomous boards were constituted on the same day. On 5 July 2021 the Homoeopathy Central Council Act, 1973 was repealed, the Central Council of Homoeopathy was dissolved, and the National Commission for Homoeopathy (NCH) and its autonomous boards were constituted (Ministry of Ayush, 2025).

4.3 2022

On 9 March 2022 the Union Cabinet approved the establishment of the WHO Global Centre for Traditional Medicine at Jamnagar, Gujarat, through the signing of a host country agreement between the Government of India and WHO (PIB, 2022a). The host country agreement was signed on 25 March 2022 (WHO, 2022), and the Prime Minister laid the foundation stone at Jamnagar on 19 April 2022 in the presence of the Director General of WHO (PIB, 2022c). The GCTM is the first and only outposted WHO centre for traditional medicine anywhere in the world, and its mandate expressly includes developing norms, standards and guidelines, and building data and analytical capacity, for traditional medicine. By locating the global standard setting function for traditional medicine in India, the GCTM raises the evidentiary standing of Ayush derived scientific claims, which is the quality that determines whether such claims survive examination in a foreign patent office.



On 20 April 2022 the Prime Minister formally launched the Ayush Export Promotion Council (AYUSHEXCIL) at the Global Ayush Investment and Innovation Summit at Gandhinagar. The Council had been registered as a Section 8 company with the Registrar of Companies, New Delhi, on 4 January 2022, following a joint decision of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and the Ministry of Ayush announced in December 2020 (PIB, 2020b; PIB, 2026). AYUSHEXCIL's mandate covers capacity building of exporters, facilitation of export procedures and regulatory compliance, and market access. For Ayush enterprises holding process or formulation patents, the Council supplies the institutional channel through which patent backed products reach international markets, and it is at that point that the value of a granted Ayush patent is realised.

The most consequential IP decision of the phase came on 17 August 2022, when the Union Cabinet approved the widening of access to the TKDL database to users beyond patent offices (PIB, 2022b). The Cabinet note records that access had until then been restricted to fourteen patent offices worldwide for search and examination. Under the approved model, access is extended through a paid subscription with a phased opening to national and international users, and the intended user base includes herbal healthcare, pharmaceutical, phytopharmaceutical and nutraceutical companies, public and private research institutions, educational institutions, practitioners of the Indian systems of medicine, knowledge holders, and patentees and their legal representatives. The decision operationalised the direction first set out in the National IPR Policy 2016. It marks the point at which the TKDL ceased to be exclusively a shield against erroneous foreign patents and became, in addition, an affirmative research resource on which Indian researchers and industry may draw when developing new and potentially patentable formulations.

Two institutional mechanisms established during this phase bear directly on the ownership side of the same question. The Cabinet Secretariat constituted a Committee for Enabling Intellectual Property Rights Protection for the Traditional Systems of Indian Medicine (TSIM), and the Ministry of Ayush, together with the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR), the Department of Biotechnology and the Department of Science and Technology (DST), formed a National Ayush Research Consortium (NARC) whose stated purpose includes enabling researchers to take ownership of Ayush research and protecting traditional knowledge through robust IPR mechanisms (Ministry of Ayush, 2024). These are the first bodies in the chronology whose remit is



the affirmative acquisition of IP in the Ayush systems rather than its defensive exclusion. A concrete illustration from the same period is Ayush-64, the patented formulation of the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences, which was repurposed for the management of COVID-19 and evaluated in ten preclinical and clinical studies conducted with CSIR, the Department of Biotechnology and the ICMR (Ministry of Ayush, 2024).

5. Biodiversity Law Reform and Patent Procedure Modernisation (2023 to 2024)

The fourth phase of the review period brings together two strands that had developed in parallel since 2016. Reform of the domestic biodiversity access and benefit sharing framework, and modernisation of patent examination procedure. It also produced the international instrument that validates, at treaty level, the disclosure-based approach India had pioneered domestically through the TKDL.

5.1 2023

In February 2023 CSIR and the EAPO exchanged a TKDL access agreement on the sidelines of the Global Intellectual Property Convention, extending TKDL based defensive protection to the member states of the Eurasian Patent Convention and taking the number of patent offices with access to sixteen (CSIR, 2023). Later in the same year the National Industrial Property Institute of France (INPI) concluded a similar agreement, bringing the network to seventeen.

The principal domestic reform of 2023 was the Biological Diversity (Amendment) Act, 2023. The Bill was passed by the Lok Sabha on 25 July 2023 and by the Rajya Sabha on 1 August 2023, and received Presidential assent on 3 August 2023. The amendment makes several changes of direct relevance to Ayush linked patenting. It extends the IP related approval requirement in the parent Act, which had been framed in terms of research or information on a biological resource, so as to cover traditional knowledge associated with that resource. It distinguishes between applicants who are foreign or foreign controlled, who continue to require prior approval of the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) before applying for IP rights, and Indian applicants, who are required instead to register with the NBA before the grant of the IP right. It widens the exemption from prior intimation to the State Biodiversity Board so as to cover codified traditional knowledge, cultivated

medicinal plants and their products, and registered Ayush practitioners as well as vaidas and hakims practising indigenous medicine for sustenance and livelihood. It also decriminalises most offences under the parent Act, substituting monetary penalties for imprisonment. The changes that bear on patenting are summarised in the table below.

Two further developments of 2023 should be recorded. On 31 July 2023 the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) notified AYUSHEXCIL as the nodal Export Promotion Council (EPC) for the Ayush sector (PIB, 2026). And on 17 and 18 August 2023 the first WHO Traditional Medicine Global Summit was held at Gandhinagar, co-hosted by the Ministry of Ayush alongside the G20 Health Ministers' Meeting, producing the outcome document known as the Gujarat Declaration, which reaffirmed international commitments on indigenous knowledge and biodiversity and called for the application of rigorous scientific method to traditional medicine (WHO, 2023). Separately, DPIIT published the draft Patents (Amendment) Rules on 22 August 2023 for public comment, and the draft Patents (2nd Amendment) Rules on 2 January 2024, the two consultations that produced the 2024 amendments discussed below.

Table 3.2: Biological Diversity (Amendment) Act, 2023 and the Biological Diversity Rules, 2024: changes affecting Ayush patenting

Aspect	Position under the Biological Diversity Act, 2002	Position after the 2023 Amendment and the 2024 Rules
Scope of the IP related approval requirement	Framed in terms of an invention based on research or information on a biological resource obtained from India	Extended expressly to traditional knowledge associated with the biological resource
Requirement for an Indian applicant	Approval of the National Biodiversity Authority required before applying for the IP right	Registration with the National Biodiversity Authority required before grant of the IP right, removing the pre-filing bottleneck
Requirement for a foreign or foreign controlled applicant	Approval of the National Biodiversity Authority required	Prior approval of the National Biodiversity Authority continues to be required

Aspect	Position under the Biological Diversity Act, 2002	Position after the 2023 Amendment and the 2024 Rules
Codified traditional knowledge, cultivated medicinal plants and registered Ayush practitioners	Exemption from prior intimation to the State Biodiversity Board available only to specified categories, principally vaid and hakims	Exemption widened to codified traditional knowledge, cultivated medicinal plants and their products, and registered Ayush practitioners; for cultivated medicinal plants the exemption is conditional on a certificate of origin from the Biodiversity Management Committee
Offences	Punishable with imprisonment	Most offences decriminalised, with monetary penalties substituted and an adjudication mechanism provided
Procedure	Applications made under the Biological Diversity Rules, 2004	Applications made online on the portal of the National Biodiversity Authority under the Biological Diversity Rules, 2024, with intimation to the Authority within forty five days of grant of the IP right in India or abroad

Sources: Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (2023); Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (2024).

5.2 2024

On 15 March 2024 the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, through DPIIT, notified the Patents (Amendment) Rules, 2024 in the Gazette of India, with effect from the same date (Ministry of Commerce and Industry, 2025). These are the most substantial procedural changes to Indian patent practice since the Patents Rules, 2003 came into force. The principal changes are summarised in the table below. On 16 March 2024 the Patents (Second Amendment) Rules, 2024 were notified, inserting a new chapter into the Patents Rules, 2003 to provide for the adjudication of penalties and appeals (Ministry of Commerce and Industry, 2024b). Taken together, the two instruments shorten

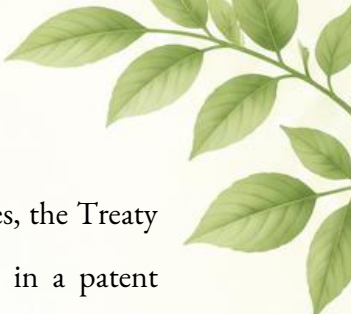


the examination timeline, relax several compliance obligations, reduce the frequency of working statement filings, and supply a structured adjudication route for contraventions.

For Ayush sector applicants the effects run in both directions. The reduction in the period for filing a Request for Examination, from forty eight months to thirty one months from the earliest priority date, compresses the window within which an applicant must commit to Indian examination, which is a real constraint for an individual practitioner or a small research group still gathering validation data. The relaxation of the statement and undertaking obligation, the extension of the period for responding to a First Examination Report, the express allowance of voluntary divisional applications and the shift of the working statement to a three yearly cycle all reduce the ongoing burden on the same applicants. The formalisation of the twelve months grace period through Rule 29A and Form 31 is of particular practical value in a sector where inventions are frequently presented at conferences, exhibitions and Ayurveda Day events before an application is filed.

The Biological Diversity (Amendment) Act, 2023 was brought into force with effect from 1 April 2024, and on 22 October 2024 the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change notified the Biological Diversity Rules, 2024 in supersession of the Biological Diversity Rules, 2004, to take effect sixty days later (Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, 2024). The 2024 Rules move applications for access and for IP related approvals onto an online portal of the NBA, prescribe separate procedures for Indian and foreign applicants in respect of inventions based on biological resources accessed from India or on associated traditional knowledge, require the applicant to inform the Authority within forty five days of the grant of an IP right in India or abroad, and prescribe the form of self declaration and certificate of origin through which the exemption for cultivated medicinal plants is claimed. For Ayush applicants the practical result is that the biodiversity compliance step, which formerly sat before filing, now sits before grant and is transacted online.

The landmark international development of 2024 was the adoption, on 24 May 2024, of the WIPO Treaty on Intellectual Property, Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge (WIPO GRATK Treaty) at the Diplomatic Conference held in Geneva from 13 to 24 May 2024. It is the first WIPO treaty to address the interface between IP, genetic resources and traditional knowledge, and the first to contain provisions specifically for Indigenous Peoples and local communities. On



entry into force, which requires ratification or accession by fifteen contracting parties, the Treaty will establish an international disclosure requirement: where a claimed invention in a patent application is based on genetic resources, the applicant must disclose the country of origin or source of those resources; and where it is based on traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, the applicant must disclose the Indigenous Peoples or local community that provided that knowledge. The Ministry of Commerce and Industry described the outcome as a significant win for India and for the countries of the Global South, noting that for the first time systems of knowledge and wisdom that have supported economies, societies and cultures for centuries are inscribed into the global IP system (PIB, 2024). The Ministry of Ayush participated as part of the core Indian team in the deliberations of the WIPO Intergovernmental Committee that led to the Treaty.

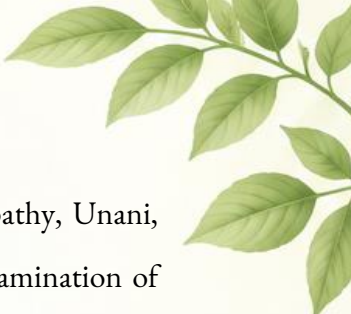
One further development of 2024 deserves record for its bearing on standardisation. On 10 January 2024 the International Classification of Diseases, Eleventh Revision (ICD-11) module for traditional medicine was introduced for country implementation in New Delhi (Ministry of Ayush, 2025). Internationally recognised morbidity codes for the Indian systems of medicine give Ayush clinical data a common vocabulary with the global evidence base, which is directly relevant to the quality of the clinical evidence an applicant can place before a patent examiner in support of a therapeutic claim.

6. Institutional and Treaty-Level Consolidation (2025 to 2026)

Between 2025 and 2026 a dedicated Ayush examination framework was finalised, the TKDL treaty network widened further, the WIPO Treaty adopted in 2024 received its first ratifications, and domestic patent procedure guidance was renewed. These developments are recorded below:

6.1 2025

On 24 January 2025, on the occasion of the TKDL's twenty fifth anniversary, CSIR concluded a TKDL access agreement with the IPOPHL, extending defensive protection of Indian traditional knowledge to a seventeenth patent office (Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines, 2025). On 31 January 2025 the CGPDTM released draft Guidelines for Processing Patent Applications of Ayush Systems and Related Inventions for stakeholder comment, closing on 28 February 2025, to complement the 2012 traditional knowledge guidelines and the 2014 pharmaceutical examination



guidelines with a framework addressed specifically to Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, Sowa-Rigpa and Homoeopathy claims. The finalised Guidelines for the Examination of Ayush Related Inventions were released on 23 September 2025, National Ayurveda Day, directing examiners to test novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability, to search the TKDL and other authoritative databases before grant, and to treat accurate disclosure of biological resources and their geographical origin as mandatory, non-compliance being a ground for refusal, opposition or revocation (Office of the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks, 2025b). Internationally, Malawi (December 2024) and Uganda (July 2025) became the first States to ratify the WIPO Treaty on Intellectual Property, Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge, adopted in May 2024; the Treaty requires fifteen ratifications or accessions to enter into force, and India had not ratified it by the close of the review period (WIPO, n.d.).

6.2 2026

The TKDL access network widened further in 2026. On 21 February 2026 CSIR exchanged a TKDL access agreement with the INPI of Brazil, during the State Visit of the President of Brazil and alongside the India AI Impact Summit 2026, taking the network to eighteen patent offices (Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, 2026a). On 9 July 2026, at the third India-Australia Annual Summit in Melbourne, CSIR concluded a further access agreement with IP Australia (Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, 2026b). On the patent procedure side, the CGPDTM published the Draft Manual of Patent Office Practice and Procedure, Version 4.0, 2026 on 19 August 2026, consolidating the 2024 procedural reforms, automation measures and revised timelines into a single practice manual for stakeholder comment, and followed this on 4 September 2026 with draft revised Guidelines for Examination of Patent Applications in the Field of Pharmaceuticals, updating the 2014 instrument that has framed the assessment of Ayush-adjacent pharmaceutical and nutraceutical claims throughout the review period.

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2014 instrument that has framed the assessment of Ayush-adjacent pharmaceutical and nutraceutical claims throughout the review period.

8. Year Wise Chronology of Legislative and Policy Developments, 2014 to 2026

The table below consolidates the developments discussed above into a single chronological reference, and records for each entry the nature of the instrument, the authority responsible and the specific bearing of the development on Ayush and IP. The 2012 traditional knowledge examination guidelines are shown as baseline because they remain the operative examination instrument throughout the review period.

Table 3.3: Year wise chronology of legislative and policy developments relevant to Ayush and IP, 2014 to 2026

Year	Development	Nature of instrument	Authority	Bearing on Ayush and IP
Pre-2014	Guidelines for Processing of Patent Applications relating to Traditional Knowledge and Biological Material	Examination guidelines	CGPDTM	Require screening and classification of traditional knowledge applications and mandatory search of the TKDL and other traditional knowledge databases for anticipation; remain the operative examination instrument throughout the review period
2014	NAM launched	Centrally sponsored scheme	Department of AYUSH, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare	Funds quality control of ASU&H drugs, State drug testing laboratories and pharmacies, building the quality evidence base that underpins efficacy claims

Year	Development	Nature of instrument	Authority	Bearing on Ayush and IP
2014	Guidelines for Examination of Patent Applications in the Field of Pharmaceuticals issued	Examination guidelines	CGPDTM	Set out the examination approach to novelty, inventive step and the Section 3(d), 3(e) and 3(p) exclusions, and restate the Section 10(4) obligation to disclose source and geographical origin of biological material
2014	IPR Think Tank constituted and first draft National IPR Policy released for comment	Policy consultation	DIPP	Begins the process that produces the National IPR Policy 2016 and its commitments on expanding TKDL access
2014	Ministry of Ayush established as an independent ministry	Administrative reorganisation	Government of India	Creates a dedicated budgetary and administrative authority for Ayush research, standardisation and IP policy, and makes the Ministry the institutional counterpart of CSIR in the TKDL
2015	First International Day of Yoga observed	International observance	United Nations General Assembly; Ministry of Ayush	Raises the global commercial profile of Ayush derived practices and products, increasing both the value of and the exposure to misappropriation of Indian traditional knowledge
2016	National Intellectual Property Rights Policy approved and released	National policy	Union Cabinet; DIPP	Commits to expanding the ambit of the TKDL, to giving public research institutions access to it, and to examining private sector access, converting the TKDL from a defensive database into an instrument of innovation policy

Year	Development	Nature of instrument	Authority	Bearing on Ayush and IP
2016	Patents (Amendment) Rules, 2016 come into force	Subordinate legislation	DPIIT and CGPDTM	Introduce the Startup applicant category with reduced fees, insert Rule 24C on expedited examination and tighten response timelines, lowering cost and time barriers for small Ayush sector applicants
2016	Cell for Intellectual Property Rights Promotion and Management established	Institutional mechanism	Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion	Implements the National IPR Policy, including its traditional knowledge commitments, and runs IP awareness and facilitation programmes reaching institutional applicants
2017	Central Sector Scheme for pharmacovigilance of ASU&H drugs introduced	Central Sector Scheme	Ministry of Ayush	Establishes a three tier adverse event reporting network and monitoring of misleading advertisements, generating the safety record that supports or tests claims of therapeutic effect
2017	AIIA established, New Delhi	Institution	Ministry of Ayush	Creates a tertiary care, teaching and research institution that is both the National Pharmacovigilance Coordination Centre and a significant originator of Ayush patent applications
2018	Ayush Grid project initiated	Digital infrastructure	Ministry of Ayush	Builds a sector wide information technology backbone with standardised morbidity coding, supporting structured documentation of formulations, indications and outcomes

Year	Development	Nature of instrument	Authority	Bearing on Ayush and IP
2018	Continued development of pharmacopoeial standards and formulary specifications	Standard setting under Rules 163A to 163G, Drugs Rules, 1945	Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Medicine and Homoeopathy	Published monographs fix identity, purity and strength parameters, serving both as drafting reference and as citable prior art establishing what is already known about an ingredient
2019	e-AUSHADHI portal launched for online licensing of ASU&H drugs	Regulatory digitisation	Ministry of Ayush	Creates a searchable public record of licensed Ayush products and shortens the regulatory pathway from granted patent to marketable product
2020	COVID-19 interdisciplinary Ayush research response and collaborative clinical studies	Research programme	Ministry of Ayush with ICMR	Concentrated applied research associated with the subsequent rise in Ayush patent filings in the immunity and respiratory support categories
2020	PCIM&H re-established as a subordinate office by merger of PLIM and HPL	Gazette notification	Ministry of Ayush	Consolidates pharmacopoeial standard setting and central drug testing for the Ayush systems in a single office
2020	National Commission for Indian System of Medicine Act, 2020 and National Commission for Homoeopathy Act, 2020 notified	Primary legislation	Parliament of India; Ministry of Ayush	Replaces the 1970 and 1973 Central Council Acts and reconstitutes regulation of Ayush education, professional standards and research ethics

Year	Development	Nature of instrument	Authority	Bearing on Ayush and IP
2020	WHO announces establishment of a Global Centre for Traditional Medicine in India	International announcement	WHO	Initiates the process leading to the host country agreement of March 2022
2021	AYURGYAN and AYURSWASTHYA Yojana take effect	Central Sector Schemes	Ministry of Ayush	The Research and Innovation component of AYURGYAN funds standardisation, validation and new drug development, the activities from which patentable inventions arise
2021	Indian Medicine Central Council Act, 1970 repealed; NCISM and its autonomous boards constituted	Commencement of legislation	Ministry of Ayush	Places regulation of Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Sowa-Rigpa education and practice on a new statutory footing
2021	Homoeopathy Central Council Act, 1973 repealed; NCH and its autonomous boards constituted	Commencement of legislation	Ministry of Ayush	Places regulation of homoeopathy education and practice on a new statutory footing
2022	AYUSHEXCIL registered as a Section 8 company	Institutional mechanism	Ministry of Ayush with Ministry of Commerce and Industry	Creates the corporate vehicle for the sector export promotion council
2022	Cabinet approves establishment of the WHO Global Centre for Traditional Medicine at Jamnagar	Cabinet decision	Union Cabinet; Ministry of Ayush	Locates the global standard setting and evidence function for traditional medicine in India, raising the evidentiary standing of Ayush derived scientific claims

Year	Development	Nature of instrument	Authority	Bearing on Ayush and IP
2022	Host country agreement for the WHO GCTM signed	International agreement	Government of India and WHO	Gives legal effect to the establishment of the first and only outpost WHO centre for traditional medicine
2022	Foundation stone of the WHO GCTM laid at Jamnagar	International event	Government of India and WHO	Marks commencement of the centre, with an interim office at the Institute of Teaching and Research in Ayurveda, Jamnagar
2022	AYUSHEXCIL formally launched at the Global Ayush Investment and Innovation Summit, Gandhinagar	Institutional mechanism	Ministry of Ayush with Ministry of Commerce and Industry	Supplies the institutional channel through which patent backed Ayush products reach export markets
2022	Cabinet approves widening access to the TKDL database beyond patent offices	Cabinet decision	Union Cabinet; CSIR and Ministry of Ayush	Extends TKDL access on a paid subscription basis to industry, research and educational institutions, practitioners, patentees and their representatives, converting the database into an affirmative research resource
2023	TKDL access agreement exchanged with the EAPO	Access agreement	CSIR and EAPO	Extends defensive protection of Indian traditional knowledge to the member states of the Eurasian Patent Convention; number of patent offices with access rises to sixteen

Year	Development	Nature of instrument	Authority	Bearing on Ayush and IP
2023	Biological Diversity (Amendment) Act, 2023 passed and assented to	Primary legislation	Parliament of India; Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change	Extends the IP approval requirement to associated traditional knowledge, replaces pre-filing approval with pre-grant registration for Indian applicants, and exempts codified traditional knowledge, cultivated medicinal plants and registered Ayush practitioners from benefit sharing intimation
2023	AYUSHEXCIL notified as the nodal export promotion council for the Ayush sector	Notification	Directorate General of Foreign Trade	Formalises the export promotion channel for Ayush products and services
2023	First WHO Traditional Medicine Global Summit, Gandhinagar; Gujarat Declaration issued	International summit and outcome document	WHO co-hosted by Ministry of Ayush	Reaffirms international commitments on indigenous knowledge and biodiversity and calls for rigorous scientific method in traditional medicine research
2023	Draft Patents (Amendment) Rules published for public comment	Consultation	DPIIT	Opens the consultation that produces the 2024 procedural reform of Indian patent practice
2023	TKDL access agreement concluded with the National Industrial Property Institute, France	Access agreement	CSIR and INPI, France	Number of patent offices with TKDL access rises to seventeen

Year	Development	Nature of instrument	Authority	Bearing on Ayush and IP
2024	Draft Patents (2nd Amendment) Rules published for public comment	Consultation	DPIIT	Opens the consultation producing the adjudication of penalties framework
2024	ICD-11 traditional medicine module introduced for country implementation	International classification	WHO with Ministry of Ayush	Gives Ayush clinical data internationally recognised morbidity codes, improving the quality of clinical evidence available to support therapeutic claims
2024	Patents (Amendment) Rules, 2024 notified and in force	Subordinate legislation	Ministry of Commerce and Industry through DPIIT	Reduces the Request for Examination period to thirty one months, formalises the Section 31 grace period through Rule 29A and Form 31, permits voluntary divisional applications, moves Form 27 to a three yearly cycle and introduces a fee and prima facie threshold for pre-grant opposition
2024	Patents (Second Amendment) Rules, 2024 notified	Subordinate legislation	Ministry of Commerce and Industry through DPIIT	Inserts Chapter XIVA into the Patents Rules, 2003 providing for adjudicating officers, procedure and appeals in respect of penalties
2024	Biological Diversity (Amendment) Act, 2023 brought into force	Commencement of legislation	Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change	Gives operative effect to the revised access, benefit sharing and IP approval framework

Year	Development	Nature of instrument	Authority	Bearing on Ayush and IP
2024	WIPO Diplomatic Conference on Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge, Geneva	International conference	WIPO	Negotiates the first WIPO instrument addressing the interface between IP, genetic resources and traditional knowledge, with Indian participation including the Ministry of Ayush
2024	WIPO Treaty on Intellectual Property, Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge adopted	International treaty	WIPO member states	On entry into force will require patent applicants to disclose the country of origin or source of genetic resources and the Indigenous Peoples or local community providing associated traditional knowledge, extending internationally the disclosure logic underlying the TKDL
2024	Biological Diversity Rules, 2024 notified in supersession of the 2004 Rules	Subordinate legislation	Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change	Moves access and IP related applications onto the National Biodiversity Authority portal, prescribes separate procedures for Indian and foreign applicants, requires intimation within forty five days of grant, and prescribes the certificate of origin for the cultivated medicinal plants exemption
2025	TKDL access agreement concluded with the IOPHIL	Access agreement	CSIR and IOPHIL	Marks the twenty fifth anniversary of the TKDL and extends defensive protection of Indian traditional knowledge to a seventeenth patent office

Year	Development	Nature of instrument	Authority	Bearing on Ayush and IP
2025	Draft Guidelines for Processing Patent Applications of Ayush Systems and Related Inventions published for stakeholder comment	Consultation	CGPDTM	Proposes a dedicated examination framework for Ayush claims addressing novelty of traditional knowledge, synergism, biodiversity compliance and prior art search obligations, ahead of finalisation
2025	Guidelines for the Examination of Ayush-Related Inventions finalised and released, National Ayurveda Day	Examination guidelines	CGPDTM	Supersedes the January 2025 draft; directs examiners to test Ayush claims for novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability, to search the TKDL before grant, and treats disclosure of biological resources as mandatory
2025	Malawi and Uganda become the first States to ratify the WIPO Treaty on Intellectual Property, Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge	International treaty ratification	WIPO member states	Begins the ratification process toward the fifteen instruments required for entry into force; India had not ratified the Treaty as of September 2026
2026	TKDL access agreement concluded with the INPI, Brazil	Access agreement	CSIR and INPI, Brazil	Exchanged during the State Visit of the President of Brazil, alongside the India AI Impact Summit 2026; extends TKDL access to an eighteenth patent office

Year	Development	Nature of instrument	Authority	Bearing on Ayush and IP
2026	TKDL further access agreement concluded with IP Australia	Access agreement	CSIR and IP Australia	Concluded at the third India-Australia Annual Summit, Melbourne, as one of the bilateral outcomes on traditional knowledge and intellectual property cooperation
2026	Draft Manual of Patent Office Practice and Procedure, Version 4.0, 2026 published for stakeholder comment	Consultation	CGPDTM	Consolidates the 2024 procedural reforms, automation and electronic filing changes into a single practice manual bearing on the examination pathway Ayush sector applicants follow
2026	Draft Guidelines for Examination of Patent Applications in the Field of Pharmaceuticals (2026) published for stakeholder comment	Consultation	CGPDTM	Proposes to update the 2014 pharmaceutical examination guidelines underlying the assessment of Ayush-adjacent pharmaceutical and nutraceutical claims

Sources: as cited above and listed in the references

9. Brief Note

Read as a whole, the decade from 2014 to 2026 shows movement along five axes.

The first is institutional consolidation. A standalone ministry in 2014, a dedicated tertiary research institution in 2017, statutory regulatory commissions from 2021, an export promotion council from 2022 and a WHO hosted global centre from the same year each narrowed the distance between Ayush practice and the apparatus of standard setting, regulation and international recognition that a modern IP system presupposes. A patent examiner assessing an efficacy claim in 2024 had available



a body of regulated clinical practice, pharmacovigilance data and pharmacopoeial standards that did not exist in comparable form in 2014.

The second is a change in the character of the TKDL. Its original 2001 purpose was defensive, to prevent the erroneous grant of foreign patents over Indian traditional knowledge. The National IPR Policy 2016 first proposed widening its role; the Cabinet decision of 17 August 2022 operationalised that proposal by opening subscription access to industry, researchers, educational institutions and patentees. The defensive function continued to expand in parallel, with the access network growing to seventeen patent offices and organisations by the end of 2023. The database is now simultaneously a shield and a source.

The third is procedural simplification along the patenting pathway itself. The Startup category and expedited examination introduced in 2016, the shortened examination request window and relaxed compliance obligations introduced in 2024, and the 2023 shift of the point at which National Biodiversity Authority clearance is required from before filing to before grant, together reduce friction for an Ayush innovator seeking to convert traditional knowledge adjacent research into a granted patent. The compression of the Request for Examination period cuts in the other direction and imposes a real discipline on applicants who are still assembling validation data.

The fourth is international convergence. The adoption of the WIPO Treaty on Intellectual Property, Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge in May 2024 validates at treaty level the approach India had pioneered domestically: that a mandatory disclosure obligation, rather than a prohibition on patenting, is the appropriate mechanism for reconciling the patent system with the protection of traditional knowledge. The Treaty had not entered into force at the close of the review period, since that requires fifteen ratifications or accessions, but its adoption fixes the direction of international practice.

The fifth, in full in the section immediately above, followed just after the formal close of the review period. Building on the 2012 traditional knowledge guidelines and the 2014 pharmaceutical examination guidelines discussed above, the CGPDTM finalised dedicated Guidelines for the Examination of Ayush-Related Inventions on 23 September 2025, and the TKDL access network continued to widen through 2025 and 2026 with the addition of the Philippines and Brazil.

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CHAPTER IV

OBSERVATIONS ON TREND vs. POLICY CORRELATION

1. Pre-COVID vs COVID/Post-COVID AYUSH Patent Activity

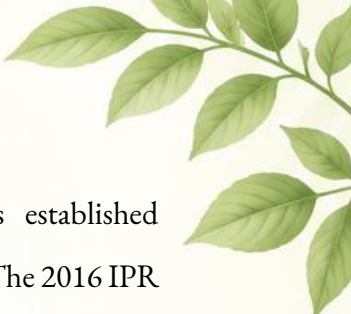
The comparison between the pre-COVID and COVID/post-COVID periods shows a substantial expansion in Ayush patent activity. During FY 2014-15 to FY 2019-20, a total of 1,223 patent applications were filed, compared with 2,854 applications during FY 2020-21 to FY 2025-26. This represents an increase of approximately 133%, with the COVID/post-COVID period accounting for approximately 70.0% of the total 4,077 applications filed during the twelve-year period. The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the relevance of Ayush systems and stimulated increased interest in Ayush-related research and innovation, with the pandemic representing an important period for the Ayush sector, during which the sector received increased attention and the Ministry of Ayush undertook and supported research initiatives relating to Ayush interventions.

A similar, but more pronounced, difference is observed in patent grants. The pre-COVID period recorded 54 grants, compared with 657 grants during the COVID/post-COVID period. This represents an increase of approximately 1,116%, with the COVID/post-COVID period accounting for approximately 92.4% of the total 711 grants recorded during the period. Annual grants increased from 20 in FY 2019-20 to 44 in FY 2020-21, 73 in FY 2021-22, 121 in FY 2022-23 and 204 in FY 2023-24, before declining to 114 in FY 2024-25 and 101 in FY 2025-26.

Overall, the comparison demonstrates a marked expansion of Ayush patent activity during the COVID/post-COVID period, both in terms of applications filed and patents granted. The data show a clear increase in patent activity during the COVID/post-COVID period, coinciding with the heightened relevance of Ayush and increased research and innovation activity during this period.

2. Policy and Institutional Correlation

The change in patent activity coincides with a period of significant development in the Ayush research and policy ecosystem. Before COVID-19, major developments included the establishment of the Ministry of Ayush in 2014, the National Ayush Mission, the 2014 pharmaceutical



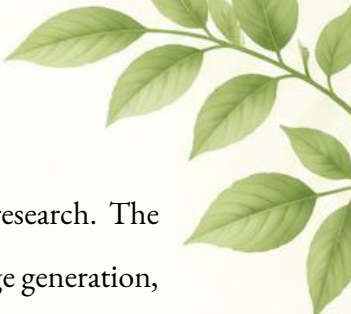
examination guidelines, and the National IPR Policy, 2016. These measures established institutional, quality-control and IP foundations for Ayush research and innovation. The 2016 IPR Policy also envisaged expanding access to the TKDL and using it as part of a broader innovation framework.

The COVID-19 period was accompanied by more intensive research and institutional interventions. From March 2020, the Ministry of Ayush, together with ICMR, undertook interdisciplinary research and clinical studies relating to Ayush interventions and immunity-supporting formulations. In 2020, PCIM&H was re-established within the Ministry of Ayush, while the NCISM Act, 2020 and NCH Act, 2020 introduced new regulatory commissions. From April 2021, AYURGYAN and AYURSWASTHYA Yojana were implemented, with AYURGYAN specifically supporting standardisation, validation and new drug development. These developments coincided with the period in which patent filings and grants increased substantially.

The post-COVID period also saw further strengthening of the Ayush-IP interface. The widening of TKDL access in 2022 extended its use beyond patent offices to research institutions, educational institutions, industry and other stakeholders. The WHO Global Centre for Traditional Medicine, established in India in 2022, further strengthened the international research and standardisation environment for traditional medicine. The Biological Diversity (Amendment) Act, 2023 and related 2024 rules also developed the framework governing biodiversity and IP. Finally, the CGPDTM Guidelines for the Examination of Ayush Related Inventions, 2025 provided a dedicated examination framework for Ayush-related inventions.

Overall, the data indicate that the COVID/post-COVID period was associated with a substantial expansion in both Ayush patent filings and grants, alongside a broader strengthening of research, institutional and IP mechanisms. The increase should therefore be viewed in the context of multiple developments occurring during the period, including pandemic-related research, AYURGYAN-supported innovation, institutional reforms, expanded TKDL access, biodiversity-related reforms and the eventual introduction of dedicated Ayush patent examination guidelines. The available data establish a temporal correlation between these developments and the expansion of patent activity, but do not attribute the increase to any single policy measure.

3. Public Research and Translation into IP



Patent ownership represents only one measurable output of public-sector Ayush research. The available research indicators point to a substantially broader contribution to knowledge generation, validation and technology development. Historical data show that CCRAS published 77 research papers in 2014–15, 82 in 2015–16 and 63 in 2016–17, while Government data also recorded four patents filed during the period from 2012–14 to 2014–15 and one patent filed in 2016–17 (Ministry of Ayush, 2017a). More recently, the scale of public research activity has expanded considerably. During FY 2025–26, the Ayush Research Councils undertook 693 research studies, comprising 340 by CCRAS, 142 by CCRH, 140 by Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine (CCRUM) and 71 by Central Council for Research in Siddha (CCRS). During the same period, the Councils published 653 research papers in peer-reviewed journals, comprising 232 by CCRAS, 84 by CCRH, 248 by CCRUM, 67 by CCRS and 22 by Central Council for Research in Yoga & Naturopathy (CCRYN). Three patents were granted to the Research Councils during FY 2025–26, including two to CCRAS and one to CCRH (PIB, 2026a).

The research base also extends beyond the annual output of the Research Councils. As of July 2026, the Ayush Research Portal contained 43,722 evidence-based research articles covering the Ayush systems of medicine (PIB, 2026b). The scale of this repository provides a broader indicator of accumulated evidence and research activity than patent counts alone. The research activity encompasses clinical research, drug standardisation, pharmacological and pharmaceutical research, medicinal-plant research, fundamental research, literary research and documentation, and public-health research (PIB, 2026b).

The COVID-19 period provides a particularly measurable example of the expansion of collaborative Ayush research. By July 2021, 126 studies had been initiated across 152 centres under Research Councils and National Institutes of the Ministry of Ayush. These comprised 42 prophylactic studies, 40 interventional studies, 11 observational studies, 22 pre-clinical or experimental studies, one systematic review, eight survey studies and two monograph-preparation studies. Of the 126 studies, 66 related to Ayurveda, 26 to Homoeopathy, 13 to Siddha, eight to Unani and 13 to Yoga and Naturopathy; 90 studies had been completed and 10 manuscripts had been published at that point (PIB, 2021a). By July 2022, the Government reported that a total of 150 clinical, pre-clinical



and epidemiological studies had been undertaken by the Research Councils and National Institutes under the Ministry of Ayush (PIB, 2022).

The research-to-IP pathway is also illustrated by AYUSH-64, a patented formulation developed by CCRAS. During the COVID-19 period, AYUSH-64 was repurposed for management of COVID-19 and subjected to interdisciplinary research involving institutions including CSIR, DBT and ICMR. Government information records its evaluation through pre-clinical and clinical studies, including a multi-centre clinical study, demonstrating how an invention originating within a public research institution can subsequently undergo scientific validation and repurposing (Ministry of Ayush, 2024; PIB, 2021b).

The relationship between research output and patenting is therefore not expected to be one-to-one. Research publications, clinical and pre-clinical studies, drug validation and standardisation may constitute stages preceding or supporting the development of patentable inventions, while only a subset of research outputs will satisfy the requirements for patent protection. The contrast between 693 research studies and 653 peer-reviewed publications undertaken or published by the Research Councils in FY 2025–26 and the three patents granted to those Councils in the same year illustrates the breadth of public research activity relative to direct patent output (PIB, 2026a). Public research contribution to the Ayush IP ecosystem is consequently better assessed through a combination of research generation, collaborative validation and translation into IP, rather than through patent ownership alone.

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CHAPTER V

RECOMMENDATIONS and WAY FORWARD

Ayush-related patenting expanded from 63 applications in financial year (FY) 2014-15 to 590 in FY 2025-26, with 4,077 filings and 711 grants over the review period. Educational institutions account for 24.4% of filings but only 12.4% of grants, while five States account for about 57.3% of filings. These patterns point to the need for stronger intellectual property (IP) capacity, greater support for research and protection, improved pathways to commercialisation, and more geographically balanced participation in the patent system. The recommendations below build on existing Government schemes, institutions and policy mechanisms.

1. Strengthen Institutional Intellectual Property Capacity in Ayush Universities

The Ayush patent landscape indicates a need to strengthen institutional capacity to identify, evaluate and protect innovations. Universities and research institutions could develop or strengthen dedicated IP support mechanisms that assist researchers from invention disclosure through prior-art assessment, filing, prosecution and technology transfer.

Such mechanisms could build expertise in Ayush-specific IP issues, including the exclusions under Sections 3(d), 3(e) and 3(p) of the Patents Act, 1970, prior-art searching in the TKDL, disclosure requirements relating to biological resources, and the Guidelines for Examination of Ayush Related Inventions, 2025. The Guidelines provide focused guidance for Ayush-related applications while emphasising that patentability must be determined on the individual merits of each invention under the applicable patent law (CGPDTM, 2025).

Institutions with significant Ayush research activity could therefore establish or strengthen Technology Transfer Offices, IP Cells or equivalent institutional mechanisms, with dedicated personnel trained in both patent practice and the technical characteristics of Ayush-related inventions.

2. Strengthen Intellectual Property Rights Chairs in Ayush Institutions

DPIIT launched the Scheme for Pedagogy and Research in Intellectual Property Rights for Holistic Education and Academia (SPRIHA) in line with the National IPR Policy, 2016 (DIPP, 2016). The



DPIIT IPR Chair network grew from 18 universities to 38 by December 2024, and includes National Law Universities (NLUs) and Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) (PIB, 2024).

The NIA, Jaipur provides a relevant Ayush example. NIA issued a vacancy notification in February 2026 for engagement of an IPR Chair under SPRIHA (NIA, 2026). The Chair is intended to support IPR study, education and research, develop IPR knowledge resources, facilitate internships and research, disseminate IPR knowledge, and support increased domestic IPR filings. This provides a practical institutional model for extending IPR Chair capacity within the Ayush ecosystem.

DPIIT and the Ministry of Ayush may consider extending this model to a wider set of regionally distributed Ayush institutions. Such Chairs could also serve as institutional bridges between Ayush universities, patent professionals, Patent Office officials, research organisations and industry.

3. Address Regional Disparities in Ayush Patent Applications

Patent activity remains geographically concentrated, with Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Karnataka accounting for approximately 57.3% of all Ayush filings. By contrast, several North-Eastern and smaller States recorded very limited filing activity during the review period.

The way forward could therefore include targeted capacity building in States and regions with lower levels of patent activity, rather than relying primarily on institutions that already possess established IP capabilities. This is particularly relevant for the North-Eastern States, where stronger institutional support could help translate regional research capabilities, traditional knowledge and available biological resources into documented and protected innovation.

The National IP Awareness Mission, which by December 2024 had reached about 2.25 lakh faculty members and 21.14 lakh students, can be used more systematically to build awareness and filing capacity in underrepresented regions (PIB, 2024). Targeted support could include regionally distributed training programmes, patent facilitation clinics, institutional mentoring, researcher workshops and linkages with IPR Chairs.

4. Build a Stronger Research-to-IP and Technology Transfer Pipeline



The expansion of patent filings could be accompanied by stronger mechanisms for translating research outputs into protectable and usable IP. The report shows that Ayush research activity extends considerably beyond patenting. During FY 2025-26, the Ayush Research Councils undertook 693 research studies and published 653 peer-reviewed research papers, while three patents were granted to the Research Councils during the same year (PIB, 2026a).

This difference should not be interpreted as a deficiency in research output, since research publications, clinical and pre-clinical studies, standardisation and validation can form stages in the development of an invention, and only some research outputs will satisfy patentability requirements. The policy focus could instead be on identifying research with potential for technological development at an early stage.

Ayush Research Councils, National Institutes and universities could therefore introduce structured research-to-IP pathways, including invention disclosure mechanisms, periodic IP audits of ongoing research, patentability assessments before publication, support for prototype development, and dedicated technology-transfer functions. The experience of AYUSH-64 demonstrates how a public-sector research output can move through patenting, interdisciplinary research, validation and subsequent application (Ministry of Ayush, 2025).

5. Improve Commercialisation and Industry Linkages

Patent filing could be accompanied by mechanisms that enable successful inventions to move beyond statutory protection towards development, licensing and commercial use. The presence of universities, public research organisations and industry among leading Ayush patent applicants provides an existing basis for stronger research-industry linkages.

The Ministry of Ayush and relevant research institutions could facilitate structured partnerships between Ayush researchers, pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, startups and technology-transfer organisations. Such partnerships could support prototype development, scale-up, licensing, validation and market assessment.

Technology-transfer offices could also maintain searchable portfolios of available Ayush technologies and patented inventions, enabling industry to identify technologies suitable for



licensing or collaborative development. This would help shift the emphasis from patent generation alone towards the broader utilisation of protected research outputs.

6. Increase Support for Startups and Small Entities

Startups and small entities together accounted for only 6.6% of Ayush patent filings during the review period, comprising 125 and 144 applications respectively.

Given the role that smaller enterprises can play in product development and commercialisation, dedicated IP support could be provided to Ayush startups and small entities through patent facilitation, prior-art searches, drafting assistance, reimbursement or financial support for selected IP-related costs, and mentoring on licensing and technology transfer.

Existing startup and small-entity mechanisms within the broader Indian IP ecosystem could be integrated with Ayush-specific programmes. Incubators associated with Ayush institutions could also include IP assessment as part of their support for research-based enterprises.

7. Strengthen Use of the TKDL and IP Compliance in Research and Innovation

The TKDL should continue to be integrated into the research and IP workflow of Ayush institutions. The database contains more than 5.2 lakh formulations and practices from Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha, Sowa Rigpa and Yoga, and access has expanded to 18 patent offices worldwide. Government information also records more than 375 patent applications worldwide that have been revoked, rejected, amended, withdrawn or abandoned on the basis of TKDL prior-art evidence (CSIR, 2026).

Ayush researchers could therefore be encouraged to conduct structured TKDL and prior-art searches before initiating patent filings and, where appropriate, before publication or commercial development. Institutional IP Cells could maintain standard operating procedures for such searches and for documenting the distinction between pre-existing traditional knowledge and genuinely new research-based developments.

At the same time, institutions could strengthen awareness of requirements relating to biological material, source and geographical origin, and applicable biodiversity law. This can reduce avoidable procedural difficulties while supporting responsible development of inventions involving biological resources.

8. Develop Targeted Support for Evidence Generation and Patent-Ready Research

Ayush innovation increasingly extends beyond traditional formulations to areas such as standardisation, extraction and isolation of active ingredients, new formulations and dosage forms, nutraceuticals, cosmeceuticals, devices and other technological applications. The 2025 Ayush examination guidelines expressly recognise several of these categories (CGPDTM, 2025).

Research funding and institutional programmes could therefore support the generation of the technical evidence needed to develop such inventions. This could include support for standardisation, reproducibility studies, formulation development, analytical characterisation, pre-clinical evaluation and other research necessary to establish the technical characteristics of an invention.

The objective need not be to increase patent filings as an end in itself. Rather, the focus could be on identifying research outputs with genuine technological potential and supporting them through the stages necessary for protection, validation and subsequent development.

Overall Way Forward

The Ayush patent landscape has expanded considerably during the review period, with filings increasing from 63 applications in FY 2014-15 to 590 in FY 2025-26. Educational institutions, individual innovators and research organisations have emerged as important contributors to this growth, although patent activity remains concentrated across a limited number of States and institutions.

The findings suggest that the next phase of Ayush IP development could focus on consolidating the institutional and policy foundations that have emerged during the review period. This includes strengthening access to IP expertise within Ayush institutions, expanding awareness and capacity in regions with comparatively lower patent activity, improving links between research and IP protection, and creating greater opportunities for technology transfer and collaboration with industry. The existing research base, institutional infrastructure and the more specific examination framework introduced through the Guidelines for Examination of Ayush Related Inventions, 2025 provide a foundation on which these efforts can build (CGPDTM, 2025).



The objective need not be to maximise patent filings as an end goal. Rather, a balanced approach would support the identification and protection of genuinely novel research-based innovations while maintaining appropriate safeguards for traditional knowledge and biological resources. In this way, the continued growth of Ayush-related patent activity can be accompanied by stronger institutional capacity, broader participation and more effective translation of research into protected and usable innovations.

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CHAPTER VI

CONCLUSION

The analysis of Ayush-related patent activity during FY 2014-15 to FY 2025-26 demonstrates a substantial expansion of the sector's engagement with the Indian intellectual property system. During the review period, 4,077 patent applications were filed and 711 patents were granted. Annual filings increased from 63 applications in FY 2014-15 to 590 in FY 2025-26, with the highest number of filings recorded in FY 2022-23 at 606 applications. Although filings declined to 299 in FY 2023-24, they subsequently increased to 422 in FY 2024-25 and 590 in FY 2025-26. Patent grants similarly increased from 3 in FY 2015-16 to a peak of 204 in FY 2023-24. These figures demonstrate that Ayush-related patenting has moved from relatively limited activity in the earlier years of the review period to a substantially larger component of the patent landscape.

The pre-COVID and COVID/post-COVID comparison further highlights this expansion. The pre-COVID period, covering FY 2014-15 to FY 2019-20, accounted for 1,223 filings, whereas 2,854 applications were filed during FY 2020-21 to FY 2025-26. Similarly, patent grants increased from 54 during the pre-COVID period to 657 during the COVID/post-COVID period. The post-COVID period therefore accounted for approximately 70% of total filings and 92.4% of total grants recorded in the dataset. The increase in grants should, however, be read alongside the time required for patent applications to proceed through examination and grant.

The growth in patent activity occurred alongside a progressive strengthening of the Ayush research, institutional and intellectual-property ecosystem. The establishment of the Ministry of Ayush in 2014, the National Ayush Mission, pharmaceutical examination guidelines, and the National IPR Policy, 2016 established important institutional and IP foundations. Subsequent developments in Pharmacovigilance, Pharmacopoeial standardisation, digitisation, research infrastructure and drug licensing contributed to the development of a more structured evidentiary environment for Ayush-related products and formulations.

The period surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic represents an important phase in this trajectory. From 2020 onwards, Ayush research included interdisciplinary studies and clinical work undertaken with ICMR, while institutional reforms strengthened standard-setting, testing and regulatory



structures. The implementation of AYURGYAN and AYURSWASTHYA Yojana from 2021 provided further support for research, standardisation, validation and new drug development. These developments occurred during the same period in which Ayush patent filings and grants increased substantially. The COVID-19 period also coincided with heightened public and governmental interest in traditional and complementary medicine and more intensive Ayush research, including interdisciplinary, clinical, pre-clinical and epidemiological studies, providing important context for the expansion in patent activity during the same period.

The analysis also demonstrates the continuing importance of traditional knowledge protection within the Ayush patent ecosystem. The TKDL has developed from primarily a defensive mechanism for preventing erroneous patents over traditional knowledge into a broader component of the innovation and research framework. By 2026, government information recorded more than 5.2 lakh formulations and practices in the TKDL, with access extending internationally. This development, together with the Biological Diversity (Amendment) Act, 2023 and subsequent rules, reflects the increasing interaction between traditional knowledge, biological resources and the patent system.

The applicant and institutional analysis further indicates that Ayush patenting is not confined to a single category of innovators. Natural persons accounted for 2,113 applications (51.9%), followed by educational institutions with 995 applications (24.4%) and other applicants with 700 applications (17.2%). Small entities and startups accounted for 144 and 125 applications respectively. Universities, research organisations and industry also feature prominently among leading applicants. This indicates a significant contribution from individual innovators as well as academic, research and institutional actors. The applicant composition shows that individual innovators and educational institutions, account for the largest shares of Ayush patent filings, together account for 76.3% of all filings during the review period. The institutional data also show prominent participation by universities, alongside public research organisations such as CSIR and industry such as ITC Limited, while startups and small entities account for comparatively smaller shares.

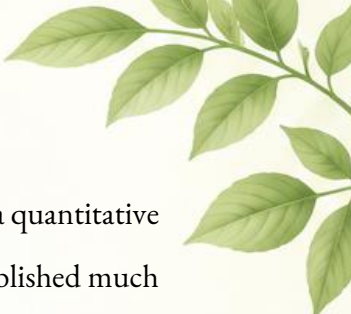
The analysis of public research activity further shows that patenting represents only one component of the broader Ayush research and innovation ecosystem. During FY 2025-26, the Ayush Research Councils undertook 693 research studies and published 653 research papers in peer-reviewed



journals, while three patents were granted to the Research Councils during the same financial year. As of July 2026, the Ayush Research Portal contained 43,722 evidence-based research articles covering the Ayush systems. These figures demonstrate that research generation, validation, standardisation and publication extend considerably beyond patent output. The example of AYUSH-64 further illustrates the research-to-IP pathway, with a patented formulation developed by CCRAS subsequently undergoing interdisciplinary research, pre-clinical and clinical evaluation and repurposing during the COVID-19 period. The relationship between research output and patenting should therefore not be understood as one-to-one. Research publications, clinical and pre-clinical studies, drug validation and standardisation may constitute stages preceding or supporting the development of patentable inventions, while only a subset of research outputs will satisfy the requirements for patent protection.

Geographically, patenting activity remains concentrated in a limited number of states. Maharashtra recorded 744 filings, Tamil Nadu 670, Uttar Pradesh 354, Punjab 295 and Karnataka 273, with these five states together accounting for approximately 57.3% of total filings. The grant distribution shows a broadly similar concentration, with Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat and Karnataka accounting for approximately 54.2% of the 711 grants. The concentration indicates that Ayush patenting activity is unevenly distributed across regions, with a substantial share of filings originating from states that also host several of the leading academic, research and institutional applicants identified in the report. This suggests that the location and activity of universities, research organisations and other institutional actors may contribute to regional differences in patenting activity. At the same time, the patent data alone do not establish differences in overall research capacity, indicating scope for strengthening Ayush-related research, technology transfer and patenting activity in states with comparatively lower levels of activity.

The legislative and administrative framework has also continued to evolve towards greater specificity. The CGPDTM Guidelines for Examination of Ayush Related Inventions, 2025 provide focused guidance for examining Ayush-related patent applications while retaining the requirement that patentability be determined on the individual merits of each invention under the Patents Act, 1970 and the Patents Rules, 2003. This is particularly significant in a sector where traditional knowledge and contemporary research-driven inventions coexist.



Taken together, the findings indicate that the Ayush patent landscape has undergone a quantitative and institutional transformation between 2014 and 2026. The pre-COVID years established much of the institutional, quality-control and defensive IP architecture, while the COVID/post-COVID period witnessed a marked increase in patent activity alongside expanded research support, institutional reforms, wider TKDL engagement, biodiversity-related reforms and a dedicated Ayush patent examination framework.

Finally, the patent data should be understood specifically as an indicator of intellectual-property activity, rather than as a measure of clinical efficacy, safety or commercial success. A patent application represents an attempt to obtain statutory protection, while a patent grant indicates satisfaction of the applicable patentability requirements following examination; neither by itself constitutes regulatory approval or establishes therapeutic effectiveness. Within this defined IP perspective, the findings of this report provide a consolidated picture of the increasing scale, institutional participation and policy integration of Ayush-related innovation within India's patent ecosystem. Accordingly, patent activity should not be treated as a direct measure of research or innovation performance, since the patent record captures intellectual-property activity rather than the quality, clinical relevance, commercial value or broader impact of the underlying innovation.

ANNEXURE

List of Abbreviations

A

A-HMIS	Ayush Health Management Information System
AIIA	All India Institute of Ayurveda
AIIMS	All India Institute of Medical Sciences
ASU&H	Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathy
AUSHADHI	Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy Automated Drug Help Initiative
AYUSHEXCIL	Ayush Export Promotion Council

C

CCRAS	Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences
CCRH	Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy
CCRUM	Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine
CCRS	Central Council for Research in Siddha
CCRYN	Central Council for Research in Yoga & Naturopathy
CGPDTM	Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks
CIPAM	Cell for IPR Promotion and Management
CIPO	Canadian Intellectual Property Office
CSIR	Council of Scientific and Industrial Research

D

DGFT	Directorate General of Foreign Trade
DIPP	Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion
DPIIT	Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade
DSIR	Department of Scientific and Industrial Research
DST	Department of Science and Technology

E

EAPO	Eurasian Patent Organisation
EPC	Export Promotion Council
EPO	European Patent Office

G

GCTM	Global Centre for Traditional Medicine
GRATK	Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge

H

HPL	Homoeopathic Pharmacopoeial Laboratory
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I

ICD-11	International Classification of Diseases, Eleventh Revision
ICMR	Indian Council of Medical Research
IIT	Indian Institutes of Technology

InPASS	Indian Patent Advanced Search System
INPI	National Industrial Property Institute
INPI, Brazil	National Institute of Industrial Property
IP	Intellectual Property
IPOPHL	Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines
IPR	Intellectual Property Rights

J

JPO	Japan Patent Office
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N

NAM	National Ayush Mission
NARC	National Ayush Research Consortium
NBA	National Biodiversity Authority
NCH	National Commission for Homoeopathy
NCH Act, 2020	National Commission for Homoeopathy Act, 2020
NCISM	National Commission for Indian System of Medicine
NCISM Act, 2020	National Commission for Indian System of Medicine Act, 2020
NLU	National Law University

P

PCIM&H	Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Medicine and Homoeopathy
PIB	Press Information Bureau
PLIM	Pharmacopoeial Laboratory for Indian Medicine

S

SPRIHA	Scheme for Pedagogy and Research in Intellectual Property Rights for Holistic Education and Academia
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T

TK	Traditional Knowledge
TKDL	Traditional Knowledge Digital Library
TSIM	Traditional Systems of Indian Medicine

U

UKIPO	United Kingdom Intellectual Property Office
USPTO	United States Patent and Trademark Office

W

WHO	World Health Organisation
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organisation

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List of Statutes, Treaties, Etc.

Statutes, Rules and Regulations

1.	Biological Diversity (Amendment) Act, 2023
2.	Biological Diversity Act, 2002
3.	Biological Diversity Rules, 2004
4.	Biological Diversity Rules, 2024
5.	Drugs Rules, 1945
6.	Homoeopathy Central Council Act, 1973
7.	Indian Medicine Central Council Act, 1970
8.	National Commission for Homoeopathy Act, 2020
9.	National Commission for Indian System of Medicine Act, 2020
10.	Patents (Amendment) Rules, 2016
11.	Patents (Amendment) Rules, 2024
12.	Patents (Second Amendment) Rules, 2024
13.	Patents Act, 1970
14.	Patents Rules, 2003

Treaties and International Agreements

1.	Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) Access Agreement with Canadian Intellectual Property Office (CIPO), 2010
2.	Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) Access Agreement with Chilean National Institute of Industrial Property (INAPI), 2014

3.	Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) Access Agreement with Danish Patent and Trademark Office (DKPTO), 2021
4.	Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) Access Agreement with Eurasian Patent Organization (EAPO), 2023
5.	Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) Access Agreement with European Patent Office (EPO), 2009
6.	Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) Access Agreement with French National Industrial Property Institute (INPI), 2022
7.	Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) Access Agreement with German Patent and Trademark Office (DPMA), 2009
8.	Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) Access Agreement with Intellectual Property Australia (IP Australia), 2011
9.	Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) Access Agreement with Intellectual Property Corporation of Malaysia (MyIPO), 2015
10.	Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) Access Agreement with Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines (IPOPHL), 2025
11.	Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) Access Agreement with Japan Patent Office (JPO), 2011
12.	Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) Access Agreement with National Institute for the Defence of Competition and Protection of Intellectual Property (INDECOPI), Peru, 2017
13.	Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) Access Agreement with National Institute of Industrial Property (INPI), Brazil, 2026
14.	Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) Access Agreement with Federal Service for Intellectual Property (Rospatent), Russia, 2017
15.	Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) Access Agreement with Spanish Patent and Trademark Office (OEPM), 2019
16.	Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) Access Agreement with United Kingdom Intellectual Property Office (UKIPO), 2010
17.	Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) Access Agreement with United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), 2009
18.	World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Treaty on Intellectual Property, Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge, 2024

-----REPORT ENDS-----

*The world is increasingly
looking towards preventive
healthcare, healthy
lifestyles, nutrition,
wellness and holistic health,
areas where India has a rich
tradition and experience.*



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