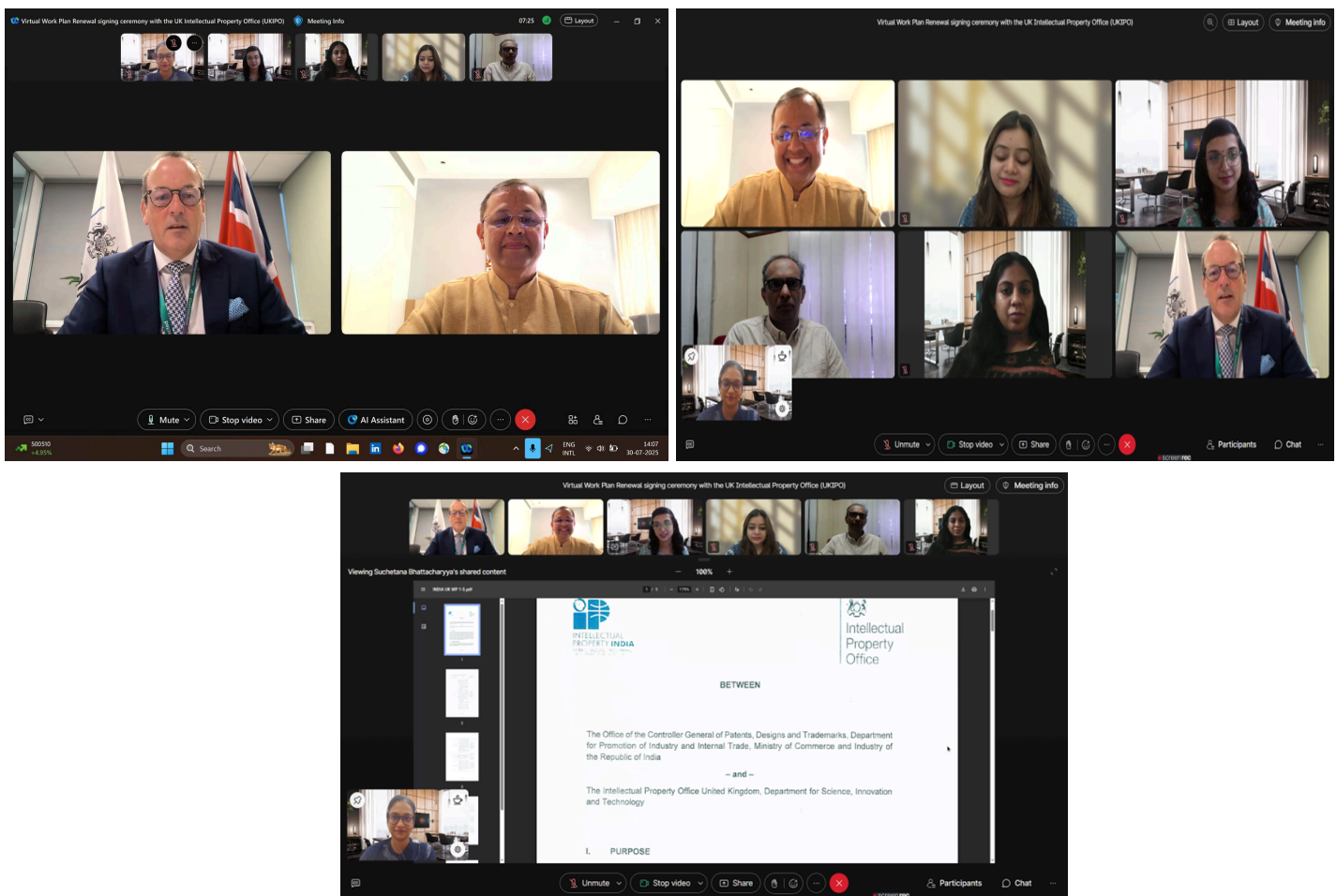


India-UK Deepen IP Ties: Work Plan Signed to Enhance Bilateral Cooperation

Marking a key milestone in enhancing bilateral ties in the field of Intellectual Property (IP), the Office of the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks (O/o CGPDTM), India, and the United Kingdom Intellectual Property Office (UKIPO) formally signed a Work Plan on July 30, 2025. The documents were exchanged virtually in the presence of Prof. (Dr.) Unnat P. Pandit, Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks, and Mr. Adam Williams, Chief Executive and Comptroller General, UKIPO.

The Work Plan builds upon the existing Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Government of India, and UKIPO, which was originally signed on November 7, 2016. The Work Plan outlines the specific collaborative activities for the upcoming biennium and ensures continuity of successful engagements under the previous Work Plan, which concluded on July 6, 2025.

Building on the India-UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), renewed IP cooperation may foster stronger bilateral trade through periodic mutually-agreed stakeholder consultations. This partnership will also boost the efficiency of IP application prosecution and enable crucial knowledge exchange in emerging technologies such as AI and quantum computing, improving examiners' expertise in these evolving fields.





BETWEEN

The Office of the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trademarks, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry of the Republic of India

–and –

The Intellectual Property Office United Kingdom, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy

I. PURPOSE

In accordance with the provisions of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), signed on the 7th day of November 2016 between the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry of the Republic of India and the Intellectual Property Office United Kingdom (IPO UK), the Office of the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks (CGPDTM), Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry of the Republic of India on one hand and the IPO UK on the other hand, hereinafter collectively referred to as the “Offices”, and individually the “Office”, agree to this “Work Plan” for the Calendar Years 2025 – 27.

II. PROGRESS AND REVIEW

The Joint Committee set up under the MOU will interact as and where required to review the progress in respect of the current year under the work plan and agree to the activities for subsequent years’ work plans and submit a report annually before the meeting of Heads of IP Offices.

III. ACTIVITIES FOR CALENDAR YEARS 2025-2027

S. No.	Area of Cooperation	Activities	Mode of Implementation
1.	Patents	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Offices to share best practices in the field. Through the exchange of training of patent examiners. particularly: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> assessing the training needs of the human resources engaged in examination. designing training programs for human resources engaged in examination having different levels of training and experience. Offices to share best practices of examination, invalidation/ cancellation/ revocation proceedings and overall quality management, to understand each other's practices in matters related to, inter alia, search, examination and related matters, as mutually agreed between the Offices. Offices to share information on: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> using digital services for gaining insight into user experience IT systems; and Patent and non-patent databases used by patent examiners. Offices to work together to understand how TK is protected and to exchange best practices in this regard, including TK related databases and awareness generation of existing IP systems. 	Through exchange of documents, and video or teleconferencing to be organised between the Offices.

2.	Designs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Offices to share best practices in the field of training design examiners, particularly, assessing their training needs and designing training programmes for different levels of training and experience. 2. Offices to share best practice concerning examination processes and overall quality management, to understand each other's practices in matters mutually agreed between the Offices. 3. Offices to share information on using digital services for gaining insight into user experience; and IT systems. 	Through exchange of documents, and video or teleconferencing to be organised between the Offices.
3.	Trademarks	Offices to share information and best practices in respect of examination of trademark applications and registration of domestic and international (Madrid) systems.	Through exchange of documents, and video or teleconferencing to be organised between the Offices.
4.	Copyrights	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Offices to share information and best practices in respect of administration of the law of Copyrights within their jurisdictions. 2. Offices to share information and best practices in relation to international treaties and protocol. 3. Offices to share information and best practices in relation to remuneration and protecting copyrights owners. 	Through exchange of documents, and video or teleconferencing to be organised between the Offices.

5.	Awareness Raising and Outreach	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Offices to share information regarding approaches followed in raising awareness of IP, including use of social media and mobile applications, educational and practical courses or modules, especially online courses or modules. 2. Offices to share best practices in formulating strategies on creating awareness through social media, mobile applications and other online platforms. Other methods employed in this regard will also be shared. 	Through exchange of documents, and video or teleconferencing to be organised between the Offices.
6.	Commercialisation and Tech Transfer	Offices to share experiences and best practices in the field of IP commercialisation and technology transfer, especially the experience regarding academia, R&D institutions, small entities and start-ups.	Through exchange of documents, and video or teleconferencing to be organised between the Offices.
7.	Enforcement	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Offices to share best practices regarding the various aspects involved in enforcement of IPRs and practices followed within their jurisdictions 2. Offices to share the details regarding the technical tools and guidelines/policies with reference to online and physical piracy & counterfeiting. 3. Offices to share details regarding adjudication of IPR disputes, including, the strategies adopted to resolve IP disputes through alternate dispute resolution mechanisms. 	Through exchange of documents, and video or teleconferencing to be organised between the Offices.

IV. FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

The implementation of this Work Plan will be subject to the availability of funds devoted to cooperative activities and the availability of other necessary means and resources with the Offices. Each Party will bear its own costs for the implementation of various activities under this work plan, unless otherwise mentioned specifically in this work plan.

V. FINAL PROVISIONS

- (a) This Work Plan will come into effect on the day of its signature by the representatives of the Offices.
- (b) This Work Plan may be amended by the joint decision of the Offices, formalised by an exchange of written communications, specifying the date of its coming into effect.
- (c) Either Office shall communicate with the other, within at least ninety (90) days prior notice, of its decision to end its participation in this Work Plan.
- (d) The termination of this Work Plan will not affect the completion of any cooperation activity which has been formalised while it was in effect.
- (e) This Work Plan is not intended to create any legally binding obligations or corresponding rights for the Offices under domestic or international law.

Signed on the 10th of July 2025 (*in two original copies in English*).

FOR CGPDTM

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PROF. (DR.) UNNAT P. PANDIT, CONTROLLER GENERAL OF PATENTS,
DESIGNS, AND TRADEMARKS

FOR THE IPOUK

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ADAM WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, INTERNATIONAL POLICY DIRECTORATE