


# NATIONAL INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE OF SRI LANKA


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NATIONAL IP OFFICE OF SRI LANKA

# INTRODUCTION TO NATIONAL IP OFFICE OF SRI LANKA

- ▶ The National Intellectual Property Office of Sri Lanka was established under the Intellectual Property Act No 36 of 2003 is mandated with the administration of the Intellectual Property System in Sri Lanka .
  - ▶ It was first established in the year 1980 with the same mandate under the provisions of Code of intellectual property Act no 52 of 1979.
  - ▶ Ministry -Industry and Commerce
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# OBJECTIVES:

Objectives of introduction of the IP Law and the establishment of the IP office are;

- Promotion of national creativity
  - Facilitation and rationalization of trade
  - Enhancement of investment
  - Protection of consumer interests
  - Integration of the national economy into the knowledge driven global scenario
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## **Mission:**


To actively contribute to the development of the country by ensuring that the Intellectual Property System fosters an environment conducive to innovative and creative activity, investment and entrepreneurship.


## **Vision:**

To become a leading development oriented government agency offering quality based services with enhanced productivity.



# Functions:

- Administration of intellectual property including the activities relating to registration and post registration of marks, patents, industrial designs, layout designs of integrated circuits and collective societies.
  - Collection and dissemination of Intellectual property information.
  - Promotion of awareness in the subject of intellectual property.
  - Promotion of the use of intellectual property system in the development process by the intellectual property owners, enterprises & industries.
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- Fulfillment of international obligations of Sri Lanka relating to intellectual property and promotion of international and regional cooperation on Intellectual property.
  - Proposing policies on Intellectual Property.
  - Facilitation of enforcement of IP rights including dispute resolution in the field of copyright and related rights.
  - Registration and administration of Intellectual Property Agents.
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# The Act covers various items of Intellectual Property:

Patents ,marks ,industrial designs, unfair competition, layout designs of integrated circuits, Copyright and related rights.

Act provides for administration and enforcement of the protected intellectual property rights.




## ADMINISTRATION OF IP:


- The administration of IP includes the copyright related activities and the registration of marks, patents, industrial designs, Intellectual property Agents and collective societies
  - Post registration activities such as renewals of registrations, assignments and license contracts
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# COPYRIGHT

- Protection is accorded without any formality such as registration in Sri Lanka.
  - The office promotes the protection of copyright and related rights.
  - Attends to the resolution of disputes referred it by the owners of the protected rights
  - Registration and administration of collective societies.
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# PATENTS:

- ▶ The office examines patents (domestic and foreign) and grants patent protection for qualified inventions.
  - ▶ Administration of post-registration activities: renewals, assignments and license contracts
  - ▶ Responsible for the collection and disseminating information for the use of scientific and trade communities, R & D Institutions, Industries and other concerned.
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# STATISTICS – PATENTS

Year	Applications			Registrations		
	Resident	Non Resident	Total	Resident	Non Resident	Total
1995	75	114	189	64	95	159
1996	50	114	164	98	107	205
1997	81	193	274	65	96	161
1998	54	158	212	44	97	141
1999	119	248	367	78	101	179
2000	71	250	321	59	169	228
2001	120	236	356	71	104	175
2002	123	202	325	59	54	113
2003	95	189	284	63	52	115
2004	120	195	315	103	85	188
2005	149	211	360	64	116	180
2006	153	270	423	68	69	137
2007	151	279	430	54	37	91
2008	209	241	450	89	70	159
2009	203	200	403	111	255	366


# MARKS

- ▶ The office examines the marks—trade marks, collective marks and certification marks of which the registrations sought as to form, substance and legality.
  - ▶ Grants the registration for qualified marks
  - ▶ Post registration activities : renewals, assignments and license contracts.
  - ▶ Collects and disseminates information relating to marks.
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# STATISTICS – MARKS

Year	Applications			Registrations		
	Resident	Non Resident	Total	Resident	Non Resident	Total
1997	2891	2035	4926	656	1109	1765
1998	2982	1397	4379	700	974	1674
1999	3114	1906	5020	264	708	972
2000	3317	2321	5638	294	761	1056
2001	2818	1705	4523	186	585	771
2002	3745	1613	5358	155	549	704
2003	3623	2139	5762	359	601	960
2004	2343	3600	5943	853	975	1828
2005	4587	1900	6487	544	992	1536
2006	4821	2392	7213	741	901	1642
2007	3382	2835	6217	212	499	711
2008	2895	3012	5907	907	1001	1908
2009	2274	2653	4927	940	1353	2293


# INDUSTRIAL DESIGNS

- ▶ THE OFFICE EXAMINES FOR THE APPLICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION OF IDS
  - ▶ GRANTS REGISTRATION TO QUALIFIED DESIGNS
  - ▶ POST REGISTRATION ACTIVITIES INCLUDING RENEWALS, ASSIGNMENTS AND LICENCE CONTRACTS
  - ▶ COLLECTS AND DISSEMINATES THE INFORMATION RELATING TO IDS
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# STATISTICS – INDUSTRIAL DESIGNS

Year	Applications			Registrations		
	Resident	Non Resident	Total	Resident	Non Resident	Total
1997	175	24	199	172	20	192
1998	297	30	327	268	15	283
1999	154	25	179	150	19	169
2000	187	10	197	179	6	185
2001	520	26	546	482	11	493
2002	345	40	385	253	13	266
2003	386	42	428	365	23	388
2004	254	50	304	224	40	264
2005	257	47	304	269	88	357
2006	477	39	516	422	45	467
2007	328	24	352	8	6	14
2008	333	56	389	85	4	89
2009	273	40	313	244	36	280

## AUTOMATION PROJECT:

- ▶ WIPO IPAS system has been introduced in 2006.(IPAS –Intellectual Property Administration System)
  - ▶ Automated workflow for Patents ,Industrial designs and Marks.  
From reception to registration, post registration and all documentation activities are done through the system.
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- ▶ 75% data validation completed.
  - ▶ Electronic search facility for marks, designs, patents
  - ▶ Better office environment  
The office premises have been re-portioned to suit the computerized environment.
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# STREAMLINED INFORMATION SERVICES:

- Information desk –for quick dissemination of information and advice.
- Website: [www.nipo.gov.lk](http://www.nipo.gov.lk)
  - Provides basic information on IP and IP administration
  - Facilities to download application forms
  - Fee structures
  - Act and Regulations
  - Links to government gazette(e-gazette)
  - information on registered Agents and etc.

## PROMOTING AWARENESS:

Promoting awareness on IP benefits both users and owners.

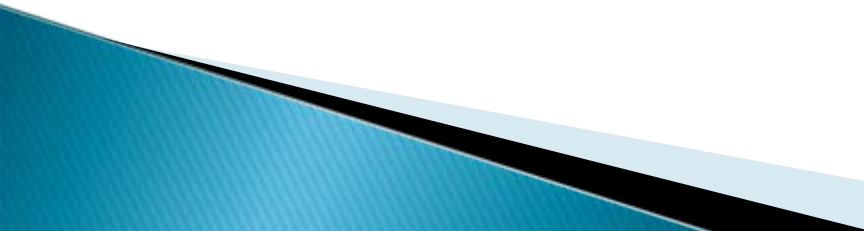
- Organization of seminars for various target groups– private sector and public sector
  - TV programs on IP–  
Officers from IP office, Experts from other related institutes
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- Stores and disseminates information relating to IP for the use of those concerned :  
enterprises, industries ,R & D Institutions and Inventors
- Expertise and advisory services to inventors ,Industries, Authors of literary and artistic works and R & D Institutions on request.
- Co-operation with government and non-governmental organizations on HR development (related to IP) :  
Universities, National Science Foundation, Industrial Technology Institute, Sri Lanka Customs, Library Services Boards etc.


# INTERNATIONAL ARENA

Sri Lanka is a member of the following international conventions on IP

- The Berne Convention for the protection of literary and artistic works (since 1959)
- The Paris Convention for the protection of industrial property (since 1952)
- The Patent Co-operation treaty (since 1982)
- The Trademark Law Treaty (since 1996)
- The Universal Copyright Convention (since 1983)

- ▶ **The Agreement on Trade Related Aspect of IP Right ( since 1995)**
  - ▶ **Madrid Agreement for the Repression of False or Deceptive Indication of Source on goods (since 1952)**
  - ▶ **Nairobi Treaty for the protection of Olympic Symbol (since 1984)**
  - ▶ **Convention establishing the World Intellectual Property Organization (since 1978)**
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- ▶ Provide facilities to Universities, Research Institutes, Companies and Individuals to improve the quality and quantity of inventions
  - ▶ Inventions to be protected in other countries.
  - ▶ Plans to conduct programs to build awareness on PCT filing and activate PCT filing system in the community.
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# Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks:


- Still not a contracting party

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# NEW LAWS IN MAKING

Finalization of the proposals relating to proposed laws for :


- ▶ Traditional knowledge
  - ▶ Breeder's rights:
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▶ IMPROVEMENTS TO THE EXISTING INFORMATION SYSTEM ON IP:

Improve web based dissemination of Information.

- Online searching facilities for Patents, Marks & Industrial Designs
- Online filing facilities.

## IP FACILITATING CENTERS:

- Establishment of IP facilitating centers in each city/ village with the cooperation of National Science Foundation.
  - Provide information and advice on IP & build awareness on IP in the society specially in rural areas with less facilities.
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**THANK YOU**

