

National Innovation and Intellectual Property Policy 2018



Ministry of Industries

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Index

Chapter	Subject	Page
Chapter -1	Introduction	1-2
Chapter -2	Vision, Mission, Objectives	2-3
Chapter -3	Policy Guiding Principles	4
Chapter -4	Goals and Strategies	4-11
Chapter -5	Implementation of National Innovation and Intellectual Property Policy 2018	11-16
Annex -1	Action Plan	17-23

Abbreviation

CMO	Collective Management Organization
DPDT	Department of Patent, Design and Trade Marks
FBCCI	Federation of Chamber of Commerce and Industries
LDC	Least-Developed Country
NIIP	National Innovation and Intellectual Property Policy
RIIP	Regional Innovation and Intellectual Property Policy
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
TRIPS	Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights
TISC	Technology and Innovation Support Centres
TTO	Technology Transfer Office
TK	Traditional Knowledge
TCE	Traditional Cultural Expressions
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organisation

Chapter- 1

Introduction

Protection and promotion of Innovation and Intellectual Property (IP) Rights is an effective policy tool for unlocking and fostering creativity as well as innovative potentials in order to attract and stimulate ingenious works. It encourages fair competition and fosters social, cultural and economic development of the country. The importance of IP has significantly increased in the present knowledge economy, in which knowledge assets rather than natural resources have been considered the primary sources of wealth creation and sustainable growth.

In the context of Bangladesh's graduating process from Least Developed Country (LDC) to a developing economy, implementation of SDGs, aspiration to become a developed country by 2041 and adopting to the 4th Industrial Revolution, IP has been considered relevant and necessary.

The Government of Bangladesh also recognizes that the broad development vision and goals articulated in national and sectoral development including both in the five year and perspective plans, policies and strategies can effectively be met using IP.

Bangladesh has IP laws as well as administrative and regulatory framework to administer these laws. But it needs further actions to facilitating protection and exploitation of innovative and creative works as the contribution of IP in the development of the country has been negligible. One of the reasons may be the absence of a National IP policy framework that guides the integration of IP into national development plans, policies and strategies. Thus, Government has undertaken to formulate IP Policy to ensure meaningful contribution to the realization of national development goals.

This National Innovation and Intellectual Property Policy 2018 has been developed with the support from WIPO and relevant stakeholders taking into account the development aspirations and goals of the country, reflected in various development plans, policies, strategies, laws and the relevant international treaties to which Bangladesh is and will be a party.

The Policy will be used as a framework in creating awareness, promotion and protection of innovation and creativity; development of appropriate, inclusive and balanced IP infrastructure; further integration of IP into national and sectoral development plans and strategies; and linking the national IP regime with the international IP system.

Priority of the Policy

This policy shall remain valid until the new policy on national innovation and intellectual property is approved by the Government. But the time bound action plan of this policy will be subject to amend, modify and change time to time.

Chapter 2

I. Vision

The vision of the National Innovation and Intellectual Property Policy 2018 is to transform Bangladesh into a knowledge and technology based innovative country and to use IP as a tool for social, cultural and economic development of Bangladesh in line with the Visions 2021 and 2041.

II. Mission

The mission of the National Innovation and Intellectual Property Policy 2018 is to establish development-oriented pro-stakeholders and balanced IP infrastructure in the country and to make IP an integral part of the national development plans and strategy by declaring 2018-2028 as Innovation Decade.

III. Objectives

- a) Develop a clear vision on the part of the Government on promotion and protection of IP issues, such as patent, design, trade mark, copy rights, trade secret, geographical indications, lay-out design, utility model, plant varieties etc. and integrate those issues in relevant policies and strategies;
- b) Encourage and foster creativity and innovation for the generation, management and use of IP assets, by including through a market-based system, for the benefit of economic growth and development;
- c) Reorganise and strengthen IP offices and institutions in both public and private sectors, in terms of capacity building, transparency, and services for promotion, protection, administration and enforcement of intellectual property rights (IPR);

- d) Support implementation of the innovation related targets of SDGs enshrined for fostering innovation for growth and development through foreign investment, technology transfer, and export growth;
- e) Promote increased awareness, skills and knowledge about IP among the people of the country;
- f) Establish an appropriate, adequate, pro-stakeholder oriented, balanced and inclusive IP infrastructure in order to make Bangladesh resilient towards Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs), innovation and technology transfer related compliances while it has been graduating as a developing country;
- g) Integrate all stakeholders e.g. business chambers, trade bodies, associations, organisations, entrepreneurs, innovators, professional bodies, research and development centres, technology and innovation establishments in an inclusive manner to create understanding on the importance and benefits in the process of promotion and protection of IP issues for all and development of the country;
- h) Support generation of revenue through reform and rejuvenation of the IP regime and infrastructures;
- i) Establish and strengthen appropriate, balanced and meaningful linkages between the national innovation eco-system and market;
- j) Build national capacity to facilitate meaningful integration of the national IP system with global IP processes;
- k) Establish a regime for cooperation and support mechanism among national IP institutions and the IP offices of partner countries, international organizations, and development partners for skill development, capacity building and required services to the stakeholders;
- l) Create awareness and promote the interests of professionals, researchers and innovators and facilitate their access to the global data base and strategic information wherever available, particularly from WIPO.

