

JOINT STATEMENT OF INTENT ON BILATERAL COOPERATION BETWEEN INDIA AND THE UNITED KINGDOM ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

1. The UK-India Joint Declaration of September 2004 committed India and the UK to establish a UK-India Joint Economic and Trade Committee (JETCO). JETCO's purpose is to help develop a strategic economic relationship between the UK and India and to identify ways of increasing bilateral trade and investment. The JETCO's terms of reference were agreed at its inaugural meeting at the Ministerial level under the joint chairmanship of the Indian Minister of Commerce and Industry, Shri Kamal Nath, and the then British Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, Ms. Patricia Hewitt in January 2005.

2. At this meeting, a series of key areas were identified as offering particular potential for increased trade and/or investment: agriculture, infrastructure (including energy), services and knowledge-based industries, including research and development. One of the areas identified for cooperation activity was:

“...to examine IPR issues under government leadership, with regard to the concerns of business from both countries, and adopt practical measures to address these.”

3. The following is a non-exclusive list of potential areas for future cooperation:

- i) The training and management of patent and trademarks officials.
- ii) Development of the profession of patent and trademarks attorneys.
- iii) Sharing of experiences and best practices for investigation of Intellectual Property infringements and their resolutions.
- iv) The teaching of Intellectual Property law at law schools and universities including strengthening academic/ teaching/ training facilities in India in the field of Intellectual Property. This may include collaborative academic programmes between Indian teaching institutions and their counterparts in the UK.
- v) Increasing the awareness and understanding of use of Intellectual Property by industry.

Implementation

4. These areas of co-operation could be furthered by means of a joint programme implemented by the UK Patent Office and the Indian Office of the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trademarks.

Signed on 27 June, 2006

Representative of
Government of India

Representative of
Government of the United Kingdom of Great
Britain and Northern Ireland