

India, US ink pacts on Intellectual Property Rights

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India [[Images](#)] and United States on Monday signed two inter-governmental agreements on Intellectual Property Rights to help prevent misappropriation of traditional knowledge through mistaken issuance of patents.

A [Traditional Knowledge Digital Library \(TKDL\)](#) Access Agreement signed between the [Council of Scientific & Industrial Research \(CSIR\)](#) and US Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO).

The agreement will enable the USPTO to search the extensive database of India's traditional knowledge compiled under [TKDL](#).

[CSIR](#) would provide training to the USPTO examiners and staff to help them use [TKDL](#) tools for search and examination. This would help prevent misappropriation of traditional knowledge through mistaken issuance of patents.

Another Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the office of the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks, Department of Industrial Policy and India's Commerce Ministry.

The MoU between patent offices of the two countries would facilitate comprehensive bilateral cooperation on a range of Intellectual Property Right (IPR) issues focusing on capacity building, human resource development and raising public awareness of the importance of IPR.

A Memorandum of Intent was also signed to promote two-way investments between 'Invest in America' of the US Department of Commerce and 'Invest India', a joint venture between the Indian government and Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) for the promotion of investment in the US and India.

This MOI seeks to accelerate the growing investment flows in both directions, which are benefiting both countries.

Betwa Sharma in Washington