



Agenda

IP AND FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS DEMYSTIFYING THE IPR CHAPTER IN THE INDIA-UK CETA

**15 September 2025 | 2:15 pm to 5:30 pm IST
Room 22, Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi**

Sr. No.	Panel Session/ Theme	Speaker & Time
1.	Registration	2:15 PM
2.	Opening Ceremony	DPIIT/CTIL 2:25 PM
3.	Introductory/Opening Remarks	Dr. James J. Nedumpara (Prof. & Head, Centre for Trade and Investment Law 10 minutes, 2:30 PM)
5.	Special Address	Shri V. Lakshmikumaran (Legal Adviser, DoC; Founder & Managing Partner, Lakshmikumaran & Shridharan) (10 minutes, 2:40 PM)
6.	Keynote Address	Ms. Himani Pande (Additional Secretary, DPIIT) (15 Minutes, 2:50 PM)
7.	Presentation on the IPR Chapter under the India - UK CETA <i>Gains from the IP Chapter: Innovation, Growth, and Public Value</i>	Shri Karan Thapar (Director, DPIIT; Track Lead, IPR Chapter, India – UK CETA) (20 minutes, 3:05 PM)
Tea and Coffee Break (10 minutes)		
8.	Panel I <i>Rethinking IP in Trade Policy: India's Balancing Act in the CETA Framework</i> (45 minutes, 3:35 – 4:20 PM (including Q & A))	



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	<p><i>This panel explores how intellectual property rights are shaping India's evolving trade strategy, with the India-UK CETA as a focal point. It will highlight the importance and relevance of IP in India's trade policy and that of the Global South. Further, it will discuss how the IPR chapter modernizes India's trade framework, aligns with global standards on copyrights, trademarks, designs, and enforcement, and strengthens GI protections (including for non-agricultural goods). The session will also examine cooperation mechanisms that support startups and MSMEs, showcasing how the Chapter advances innovation, traditional sectors, and India's global trade presence</i></p>	<p>Panellists:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Dr. V.G Hegde (Professor & Chairperson, Centre for International Legal Studies, JNU)2. Prof. Antony Taubman (Former Director, IP, GP and Competition Division, WTO (virtual))3. Dr. G. R. Raghavender (Senior Consultant, DPIIT)4. Dr. Niharika Sahoo Bhattacharya (Asst. Professor, RGS IPL, IIT-Kharagpur)5. Mr. Vipul Kumar Gupta (Vice President and Head, Corporate Affairs and Policy, Cipla) <p>Moderator: Dr. James J. Nedumpara (Professor & Head, Centre for Trade and Investment Law)</p>
9.	<p>Questions and Answers Open floor for audience to ask questions</p>	<p>5 minutes (Moderated)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Tea and Coffee Break (10 minutes)</p>		
10.	<p style="text-align: center;">Panel II <i>Setting the Record Straight: Myth Busting in the IP Chapter</i> (4:30 pm – 5:25 PM, 55 minutes (including Q & A))</p>	<p>Panellists:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Prof. (Dr.) Unnat P Pandit (Controller General, Office of The Controller General of Patents, Designs & Trademarks, Mumbai; DPIIT)2. Mr. Eashan Ghosh (In-charge IPR Chair, NLU-D)3. Dr. Pratyush Nath Upreti (Reader in Law, Queen's University Belfast, UK) (virtual)4. Dr. Manisha Shridhar (Regional Advisor, World Health Organization-South-East Asia Regional Office WHO-)
	<p><i>This panel will explore the legal and policy implications of the IPR Chapter under the India-UK CETA, with a view to promoting a clearer and more informed understanding of its overall framework. It will address emerging concerns particularly regarding patents and provide context on how the Chapter balances international commitments with domestic priorities.</i></p>	



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		<i>SEARO, India)</i> 5. Mr. Munish Sudan (Chief IP Counsel and Technology Intelligence, Tata Steel Limited) 6. Mr. Nishant Sharma (Legal Counsel, (India) Patent Licensing, Dolby) Moderator: Dr. Santanu Mukherjee (Founder & Head, Ex Lege Chambers; Advocate, Supreme Court of India)
11.	Questions and Answers <i>Open floor for audience to ask questions</i>	5 minutes (Moderated)
End of Panel Discussions		
12.	Vote of thanks	[DPIIT] (5 minutes, 5:25-5:30 PM)
High Tea Audience and speakers to have informal discussions		
