बौद्धिक संपदा भारत
Intellectual Property INDIA

सत्यमेव जयते
भारतसरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
कार्यालय महानियंत्रक एकस्व, अभिकल्प और व्यापार चिह्न
Office of The Controller General
Patents, Designs & Trade Marks
वाणिज्य और उद्योग मंत्रालय
Ministry of Commerce & Industry
उद्योग संवर्धन और आंतरिक व्यापार विभाग
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PUBLIC NOTICE

Subject: Clarification Regarding Non-Issuance of Any "Certificate of Excellence" or Similar Certificate of Recognition, Approval or Empanelment by this Office to Any Private Person or Entity.

It has come to the notice of the Office of the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks (O/o CGPDTM) that certain private individuals, intellectual property consultancies, legal-tech platforms and other entities are displaying, publishing and circulating, on their websites, social media and professional networking platforms, documents styled as a **"Certificate of Excellence"** or similar certificate, bearing the official name, logo and a signature block purporting to be that of the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks, and are representing themselves, on the strength thereof, as **"Government Registered", "Government Certified", "Registered & Approved"** or otherwise recognised, empanelled, certified or endorsed by this Office.

All concerned stakeholders and the public are hereby notified as follows:

1. **Clarification:** This Office does not issue any "Certificate of Excellence", or any certificate of recognition, approval, empanelment or similar instrument, to any private individual, firm, company, legal practitioner, patent agent, trademarks agent or intellectual property consultancy, certifying or acknowledging such person as a qualified, approved or Government-recognised provider of intellectual property services. No such certificate has at any time been issued by this Office to any private person or entity, and no record of any such certificate exists with this Office.

2. **Prohibition:** No person shall display, publish, circulate or rely upon any document bearing the name, logo, seal or purported signature of this Office or of the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks, or represent, in any manner, that such person is "Government Registered", "Government Certified", "Registered & Approved" or otherwise recognised, empanelled, certified or affiliated with this Office, unless such recognition has been expressly granted in writing by the competent authority of this Office.

3. **Compliance:** All persons presently displaying, publishing or circulating any such certificate or representation shall cease the same and remove the offending material within seven (7) days of issuance of this Notice.

4. **Consequences:** Any contravention of this Notice, including the fabrication, publication or circulation of any such certificate or representation, shall render the person liable to appropriate civil, criminal and administrative action, without further notice, including under the Emblems and Names (Prevention of Improper Use) Act, 1950, the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, the Trade Marks Act, 1999, and all other laws for the time being in force.

5. **Verification:** Applicants, start-ups, MSMEs and members of the public are advised to independently verify, by written reference to this Office, any claim of Government recognition, registration, certification, approval or empanelment made by an intellectual property service provider, and to rely only on *www.ipindia.gov.in* for official information, statutory filings and communications.

6. **Public Advisory:** The general public, applicants, start-ups and MSMEs are cautioned not to be misled by any certificate, badge, seal or representation of Government recognition displayed by private intellectual property service providers, the authenticity of which has not been independently verified with this Office.

Issued in public interest with the approval of the Competent Authority.

Sd/-
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