

Office of the Controller General of Patents, Designs & Trademarks, Mumbai

Public Notice

Dated this on 26th day of December, 2022

All the stakeholders are hereby informed that due to large number of pending patent applications awaiting disposal with or without pre-grant oppositions as well as post-grant opposition matters against the grant of patents, the practice of giving four weeks' time from the date of hearing intimation/notice is dispensed with and the earlier practice of 10 days' time from the date of hearing intimation/notice, which is also prescribed under rule 129 of the Patents Rules, 2003 (as amended), will be followed by all the Controllers of Patents with immediate effect. It has been decided keeping in view the public interest involved in timely disposal of long pending applications/matters and also the benefits of Patent rights conferred upon the applicants under Chapter VIII of the Patents Act, 1970 (as amended).

It is also informed that no party shall be given more than two adjournments and it is advisable that each adjournment shall not be for more than 10 days (although 30 days are prescribed in rule 129A of the Patents Rules, however in the public interest instant directions are issued and looking at the exigencies and priorities with respect to time bound disposal of long pending applications/matters). Nevertheless, these timelines shall be implemented for mutual convenience and in true spirit so that the applicants enjoy the benefits of patent rights on time.

All the stakeholders are therefore, requested to support the Indian Patent Office in this regard for expeditiously disposing such long pending applications/matters.

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Controller General of Patents, Designs & Trade Marks**