



# Letter of Intent between AIM and WIPO

[Source: PIB](#)

## Why in News?

Recently, [World Intellectual Property Organization \(WIPO\)](#) signed a **Joint Letter of Intent (JLoI)** with [Atal Innovation Mission \(AIM\)](#). The JLoI is aimed at building **programs for Innovation, Entrepreneurship & Intellectual Property (IP)** for countries in the [Global South](#).

- This partnership aims to enhance understanding and awareness about [intellectual property rights \(IPR\)](#) from the school level and unlock the innovation potential of the world, **fostering inclusive and sustainable economic growth**.

## Note:

- **India's Innovation Ecosystem:** India has made significant strides in its entrepreneurial journey and is positioned as a global leader in innovation, leveraging its vast talent pool and dynamic market to attract international investments.
  - As per the [Global Innovation Index 2023 report](#), India retained the 40th position out of 132 economies featured.

## What is Atal Innovation Mission (AIM)?

- AIM, launched in 2016, is Government of India's flagship initiative set up by the [NITI Aayog](#) to promote a **culture of innovation and entrepreneurship** in the country.
  - Its objective is to develop new programmes and policies for fostering innovation in different sectors of the economy, provide platform and collaboration opportunities for different stakeholders, create awareness and create an umbrella structure to oversee the innovation ecosystem of the country.
- **Major Initiatives:**
  - **Atal Tinkering Labs:** Creating **problem solving mindset** across **schools** in India.
  - **Atal Incubation Centers:** Fostering world class **startups** and adding a new dimension to the **incubator model**.
  - **Atal New India Challenges:** Fostering **product innovations** and aligning them to the needs of various sectors/ministries.
  - **Mentor India Campaign:** A **national mentor network** in collaboration with the public sector, corporates and institutions, to support all the initiatives of the mission.
  - **Atal Community Innovation Center:** To stimulate **community centric innovation and ideas** in the unserved /underserved regions of the country including Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities.
  - **Atal Research and Innovation for Small Enterprises (ARISE):** To stimulate **innovation and research in the MSME industry**.

# INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS (IPRs)

**IP refers to intangible assets owned/legally protected by an individual/company from outside use or implementation without consent.**



## NEED FOR IPR

- ↳ Encourages Innovation
- ↳ Economic growth
- ↳ Safeguard rights of creators
- ↳ Enhances ease of doing business



## RELATED CONVENTIONS/TREATIES (INDIA SIGNATORY TO ALL)

- ↳ **WIPO Administered (first recognised IPR under):**
  - ↳ Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property 1883 (**Patents, Industrial Designs**)
  - ↳ Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works 1886 (**Copyrights**)
- ↳ **WTO - TRIPS Agreement:**
  - ↳ Ensures adequate standard of protection
  - ↳ Argues for incentives for technology transfer to developing countries
- ↳ **Budapest Treaty 1977:**
  - ↳ International recognition of the deposit of micro-organisms for the purposes of patent procedure
- ↳ **Marrakesh VIP Treaty 2016:**
  - ↳ Facilitate access to published works by visually impaired persons and persons with print disabilities
- ↳ IPR also outlined in **Article 27** (Universal Declaration of Human Rights)



## INDIA AND IPRS - INITIATIVES

- ↳ **National IPR Policy 2016:**
  - ↳ **Motto:** "Creative India; Innovative India"
  - ↳ Compliant with TRIPS Agreement
  - ↳ Brings all IPRs to single platform
  - ↳ Nodal Dept - Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion (Ministry of Commerce)
- ↳ National (IP) Awareness Mission (**NIPAM**)
- ↳ Kalam Program for Intellectual Property Literacy and Awareness Campaign (**KAPILA**)

**World Intellectual Property Day: 26th April**

Intellectual Property	Protection	Law in India	Duration
Copyright	Expression of Ideas	Copyright Act 1957	Variable
Patent	Inventions- New Processes, Machines, etc.	Indian Patent Act 1970	20 years Generally
Trademarks	Sign to distinguish business goods or services	Trade Marks Act 1999	Can last Indefinitely
Trade Secrets	Confidential Business Information	Protected without Registration	Unlimited time
Geographical Indication (GI)	Sign used on specific geographical origin and possess qualities due to site of origin	Geographical Indications of Goods (R & P) Act, 1999	10 years (Renewable)
Industrial Design	Ornamental or aesthetic aspect of an article	Design Act, 2000	10 years



# UN SPECIALISED AGENCIES

UNSAAs are 15 autonomous international organizations working with the UN

**WIPO**



- Estd. - 1967 (joined UN in 1974)
- Headquarters - Geneva, Switzerland

*World Intellectual  
Property Day - 26<sup>th</sup> April*

- Functions -
  - » Encourage creative activity, promote the protection of intellectual property (IP) throughout the world
  - » Shape balanced intl. IP rules
- Members - 193 (India joined in 1975)

- WIPO Treaties that India has ratified/acceded-
  - » Paris Convention (industrial property)
  - » Berne Convention (for Literary and Artistic Works)
  - » WIPO Performance and Phonograms Treaty
  - » Budapest Treaty
  - » Madrid Protocol for the International Registration of Marks
  - » Marrakesh Treaty (for Published Works by Visually Impaired Persons)
  - » WIPO Copyright Treaty
  - » Washington Treaty (IP for Integrated Circuits)
  - » Nairobi Treaty (for Olympic Symbol)
- Publication - Global Innovation Index

## UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Question (PYQ)

**Q. Atal Innovation Mission is set up under the (2019)**

- (a) Department of Science and Technology
- (b) Ministry of Labour and Employment
- (c) NITI Aayog
- (d) Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship

**Ans: (c)**

**Q. With reference to the 'National Intellectual Property Rights Policy', consider the following statements: (2017)**

1. It reiterates India's commitment to the Doha Development Agenda and the TRIPS Agreement.
2. Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion is the nodal agency for regulating intellectual property rights in India.

**Which of the above statements is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Ans: (c)**

