

6. Measures to Enhance IPR Ecosystem through Lower Fees

Prelims: Economics- Industries

Mains: GS-III- Issues relating to Intellectual Property Rights; changes in Industrial Policy and their effects on Industrial Growth.

Why in News?

- ▶▶ The Ministry of Commerce and Industry has proposed to reduce the fees for various IPRs (Intellectual Property Rights).

Highlights:

- ▶▶ The fee structure reduced is for both e-filing and physical filing.
- ▶▶ The reduction in fees ranges from a 50% decrease to a 100% reduction (waiver of fees) for different sectors.
- ▶▶ Geographical Indications have been given a 100% reduction in the fees.
- ▶▶ Domestic filing for patents has increased from 22% in 2013-14 to 34% in 2018-19.
- ▶▶ Awareness programmes for IP are being conducted at schools, colleges, universities, R&D institutes and industry clusters.
- ▶▶ To address the issue of pendency in IP applications, the government has streamlined the process, and also increased manpower in this field.