LEGISMITH PARTNERS LLP

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PATENT PLAYBOOK | INDIA & GLOBAL

Protect Your Invention

Process, requirements and the full investment, in plain words. Read it in 5 minutes.

15 years of IP prosecution | 2,500+ IP matters handled | Exclusively IP | Clients across India & overseas

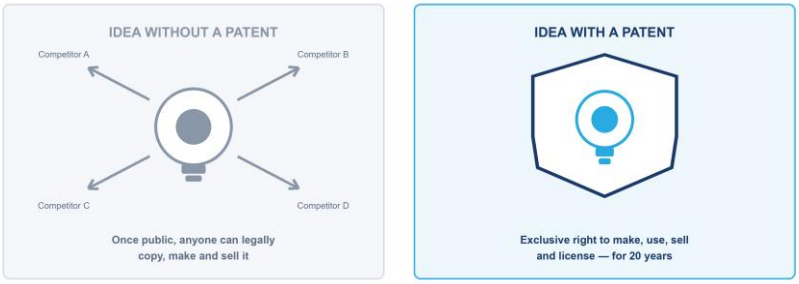
Patent Pending	About 12 months	₹1,45,000	NDA first
from the day we file, typically within 30 days	target to grant on the expedited route, if eligible	fixed professional fee, search to hearing, no surprise bills	your invention stays confidential from Day 1

Prefer to talk first?

Speak to our patent attorney **Amar Gite** for free: Book a 30-minute patent consultation | or WhatsApp us.

01 WHAT IS A PATENT, AND WHY IT MATTERS

A patent is a legal right granted by the Government of India that gives you the **exclusive right to make, use, sell and license your invention for 20 years**. Nobody can copy, manufacture or profit from your invention without your permission. A granted patent can be sold, licensed for royalty income, shown to investors, and adds directly to your company's valuation.



An unpatented invention belongs to everyone.

The moment your idea becomes public (a product launch, a pitch deck, even a social media post) anyone can legally copy it. India is **first-to-file**, not first-to-invent: if two people have the same idea, the one who files first wins.

02 CAN YOUR INVENTION BE PATENTED? THREE SIMPLE TESTS

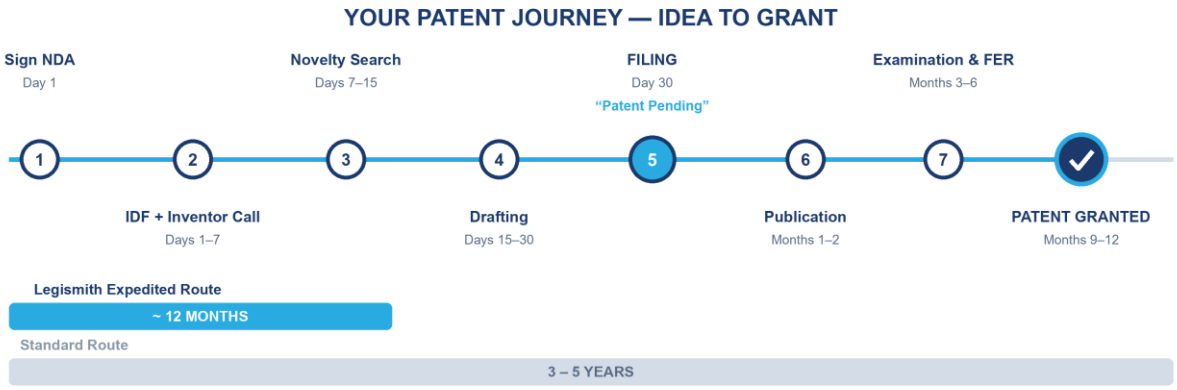
Test	In plain words
New (Novelty)	Not disclosed anywhere in the world before your filing date: not in a product, paper, video or website.
Inventive step	It involves a technical advancement, not an obvious next step for an expert in your field.
Industrial use	It can actually be made or used in an industry. It works in the real world.

Not sure whether your idea qualifies? That is exactly what our Novelty Search & Patentability Opinion answers, before you spend anything on filing.

03 PROVISIONAL OR COMPLETE: WHICH ONE FIRST?

	Provisional application	Complete application
Purpose	Locks your priority date TODAY at low cost	Full legal protection; starts examination
Best when	The invention is still evolving, funds are limited, or you need "Patent Pending" fast	The invention is finalised and ready for grant
Claims required	No	Yes, the legal heart of the patent
Deadline	Complete application must follow within 12 months	Not applicable
"Patent Pending"	Immediately on filing	Immediately on filing

04 YOUR JOURNEY: IDEA TO GRANT



Step and timeline	What happens
Step 1: Day 1	Sign the NDA. Your invention stays 100% confidential. Sign the NDA online
Step 2: Days 1 to 7	Share your Invention Disclosure Form (IDF) and drawings; we schedule a call to understand your invention and its scope.
Step 3: Days 7 to 15	**Novelty Search & Patentability Opinion.** We search global databases and tell you clearly: file, refine, or rethink. We file only what can be granted.
Step 4: Days 15 to 30	Drafting to global standards, grant-ready in India and in other countries if you expand later. You review and approve the final draft before filing.
Step 5: Day 30	**Filing at the Indian Patent Office. You are "Patent Pending" from this day.**
Step 6: Months 1 to 2	Early publication in the official journal.
Step 7: Months 3 to 6	Expedited examination and our reply to the First Examination Report (FER).

Step and timeline	What happens
Step 8: Months 9 to 12	Hearing (only if required), followed by **GRANT** of your patent.

The Legismith speed advantage

The standard route takes 3 to 5 years. Under the expedited examination provisions of Rule 24C, **startups, MSMEs (small entities), female applicants and government institutions** can target grant in about 12 months, with publication within 1 to 2 months of filing. If you are not eligible for the expedited route, we tell you so at Step 3, before you commit to it.

Every deadline is tracked on **LegiDesk**, our case-management system, and you receive a WhatsApp and email update at every stage. You never have to chase us for status.

05 DOCUMENTS REQUIRED: TEMPLATES INCLUDED

Step one: sign the NDA

Sign the NDA before sharing invention details with anyone. **Click here to sign our NDA**. Fill the short form and a signed copy arrives in your email.

Document	What it is	Download / action
Invention Disclosure Form (IDF)	Describe your invention in your own words; no legal language needed.	**Download IDF template**
Power of Attorney (POA)	Authorises us to file on your behalf. Signed by the applicant.	**POA template (.docx)** **POA filling guide (.pdf)**
MSME / Startup certificate	Cuts government fees by up to 80% (see Section 6).	**Udyam registration** **Startup India**
Proof of Right	Inventor signature confirming your right to file.	We prepare it for you

Unsure about any of these? Share what you have. Our team guides you through the rest.

06 YOUR INVESTMENT: TWO OPTIONS, ONE HONEST TOTAL

Your total investment has two parts. **Professional fees** are paid to Legismith for the legal-technical work. **Government fees** are the Patent Office's statutory charges, charged at actual with no margin. Choose one of two options:

Option A: Fixed Package (most clients choose this)

Description	Professional fee
Novelty Search & Patentability Opinion, Provisional (if needed), Complete Specification drafting + filing, FER reply, Hearing & Written Submissions. **No additional professional fees at any of these stages, whatever objections the Examiner raises.**	₹1,45,000 + 18% GST
Government fees	At actual (table below)

Option B: Stage-wise (pay as each stage arrives)

Stage	Professional fee
Novelty Search & Patentability Opinion (optional, strongly recommended)	₹20,000
Stage 0: Provisional Patent (optional, strongly recommended)	₹25,000
Stage 1: Complete Specification, drafting + filing	₹60,000
Stage 2: Reply to First Examination Report (FER)	₹30,000
Stage 3: Hearing & Written Submissions	₹30,000
Stage-wise total + government fees	**₹1,65,000 + GST**

The package saves you ₹20,000 and locks your professional fee today.

No separate invoices on the package route, whatever objections the Examiner raises.

Search credit: on the stage-wise route, proceed to the Complete Specification within 60 days of our opinion and the full ₹20,000 search fee is adjusted against Stage 1. **Payment terms:** package as per your engagement letter; stage-wise, each stage is paid as it begins. For businesses, GST is fully claimable as input tax credit.

Why the professional fee is the larger part, and worth it

The government fee buys you a filing; the professional fee buys you **a patent that stands**. The claims decide everything: one loosely worded sentence can let a competitor make a small tweak and legally bypass your entire patent. A well-drafted application needs a global prior-art search, invention analysis with the inventor, and 30+ pages of technical-legal drafting. Redrafting after filing is not permitted, so you pay once for quality or repeatedly for corrections.

Government fees (e-filing, at actual | calculate your exact government fee online)

Item	Individual / Startup / MSME (₹)	Large entity (₹)
Filing: Provisional / Complete (up to 30 pages, 10 claims)	1,600	8,000
Request for Early Publication (Form 9)	2,500	12,500
Request for Examination (Form 18)	4,000	20,000
Expedited Examination (Form 18A, if eligible)	8,000	60,000
Extra pages above 30 / extra claims above 10	160 / 320 each	800 / 1,600 each

Terms: 18% GST applies on professional fees only; government fees are GST-exempt and charged at actual. Power of Attorney stamp and incidental charges: ₹550. After grant, annual renewal fees are payable from the 3rd year, starting at ₹800 per year for individuals, startups and MSMEs; we track every renewal on LegiDesk. Pre-grant opposition proceedings, if any, are quoted separately in writing before any work begins.

The Legismith Refund Promise

Opinion says don't file? No filing money is taken. If our Novelty Search & Patentability Opinion advises against filing and you stop there, no filing-stage fee is charged. If you proceed with a refined version, the search fee is credited as above.

48-hour filing promise. Once drafting is complete and you approve the final draft, we file within 48 hours,

provided your complete documents and payment are in. If we miss this and the delay is ours, that stage's professional fee is refunded.

Our error, our cost. If your application suffers because of an error or a missed deadline on our side, we redo the stage at no professional fee and refund the fee charged for it.

Government fees are the one exception. Fees paid to the Patent Office belong to the Patent Office and cannot be refunded by anyone. Every filer in India works under the same rule.

07 GO GLOBAL: YOUR 12-MONTH INTERNATIONAL WINDOW

Your Indian filing date is a global asset. From that date you have **12 months to file in 150+ countries** (via the PCT route or direct filings) while claiming the same priority date, as if you had filed there on day one. Because we draft to global standards, your specification is grant-ready abroad too, with no expensive redrafting when you expand.

08 WHY INVENTORS CHOOSE LEGISMITH PARTNERS LLP

Typical IP firm	Legismith Partners LLP
Low initial quote, then separate invoices for search, objection response, hearing and every follow-up: often two to three times the original quote.	**One transparent price.** Flat, predictable pricing, stage-wise or fixed package. No surprise additions.
Applications filed without a proper search. Objections arrive as a surprise; refusals and long prosecution follow.	**Search first, file smart.** A thorough search and a clear legal opinion precede every filing.
Examination reports go unnoticed, deadlines lapse, the application is quietly abandoned.	**Active tracking on LegiDesk.** Every deadline docketed, every stage updated to you on WhatsApp and email.
General practice, with IP handled occasionally alongside other legal work.	**Exclusively IP.** Engineers-turned-patent-attorneys across software, IoT, defence, telecom and more; 15 years of prosecution and 2,500+ matters.
Oppositions and enforcement are outside their scope; you find new counsel mid-dispute.	**End-to-end protection.** The same team handles oppositions, rectification and enforcement.

09 WHAT HAPPENS ON YOUR FREE CONSULTATION

A free, no-obligation 30-minute call with Amar Gite, our patent attorney. You leave the call knowing exactly where you stand, even if you never hire us.

- We sign an NDA first if you want to share technical detail.
- We tell you honestly whether your idea is likely patentable, or what to check first.
- We recommend provisional vs complete, and whether you qualify for the 12-month expedited route.
- You get a written fee estimate for your case. No pressure, no obligation.

Book your free slot now. Pick any time that suits you and you get an instant calendar confirmation.

10 HOW TO START: FOUR SIMPLE STEPS

1 Sign the NDA and share your Invention Disclosure Form.

2	We raise your invoice on Zoho Books with our bank details.
3	You pay the first stage (or the Fixed Package) by bank transfer and reply with the UTR / screenshot.
4	Work begins the same day. Your priority-date clock starts on filing, so every day counts.

11 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. Can I talk about my invention before filing?

No. Public disclosure before filing destroys novelty and can permanently kill your patent. Discuss it only under NDA; we sign one with you first.

Q. Is my idea safe with you?

Yes. Everything is covered by a signed NDA before you share details, and our attorneys are bound by professional confidentiality. Sign the NDA here.

Q. My invention is software or an app. Is it patentable?

Software with a technical effect or a hardware implementation can be patented in India. Our patentability opinion tells you exactly where you stand before you spend anything on filing.

Q. How long until my patent is granted?

Standard route: 3 to 5 years. With expedited examination for eligible applicants (startups, MSMEs, female applicants, government institutions): about 1 year.

Q. What if the Examiner raises objections?

Relax. The FER reply and hearing are already part of your plan. In the Fixed Package there are no additional professional fees at these stages.

Q. What if your search says my invention is not patentable?

Then we tell you before filing money is spent. An honest "no" at the search stage is far cheaper than a refusal three years later.

Q. I am outside Pune. Can you still help?

Yes. We work with clients across India and overseas entirely online: calls, e-signatures and e-filing.

Your invention is only yours after you file.

Every day it stays unfiled is a day a competitor can file it first. Book a free 30-minute call with our patent attorney.

Book free patent call | **WhatsApp us** | **Email us**

Patent enquiries: Amar Gite | +91 81491 23580 | patent@legismith.com

Trademark, design, copyright or DPDP question as well? Book a free call with Santosh Sangle.

Prices valid until 31 March 2027. Government fees follow the current IP India schedule and are charged at actual, with no margin. 18% GST applies to professional fees only.