## India Serves

A Monthly Newsletter by

SEPC

SERVICES EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL
Setup by Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India

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SERVICES EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL

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Legal Services CPC Codes covered under SEIS



#### Industry NEWS



## India Serves

A SEPC NEWSLETTER

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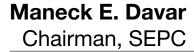
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t gives me great pleasure to present to you February edition of India Serves, SEPC's monthly newsletter. The focus in this edition is on Legal Services which has not been deliberated much with trade and export point of view. However, it has been included in the 12 champion services sectors identified by the government of India for promoting their development and realising their potential.

India has great potential of offering legal services to the international market but it is not being fully utilized because of the restrictions both under domestic laws and foreign regulations. The only mode of supply that is working in favour of Indian legal professionals is Mode - 1 (Cross-Border Supply). Big law firms and consultancy firms from USA, Europe and Russia, outsource processes and services to India to avail the benefit of low-cost and quality services from the country.

Indian advocates are not allowed to practice law in the U.K., U.S.A., Australia and other foreign nations except after fulfilling burdensome restrictions like qualifying tests, experience, work permit and more.

Legal services are one of the most restricted sectors in the world including India. Indian law doesn't allow foreign lawyers and law firms to establish office in India and practice litigation or non-litigation services in Indian courts. As per the verdict of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, foreign lawyers/firms are not entitled to practice law in India either on the litigation or non-litigation side unless they fulfill the requirement of the Advocates Act, 1961, and the Bar Council of India Rules.

Without amendment, it is very difficult to negotiate mutual recognition of law degrees or liberalisation of legal services with any country or region in the world because it mostly happens on reciprocity basis.

To allow foreign professionals to enter into Indian market, the government would have to make amendment in the Advocates Act, 1961. Without amendment, it is very difficult to negotiate mutual recognition of law degrees or liberalisation of legal services with any country or region in the world because it mostly happens on reciprocity basis.

SEPC as partner extended its full support to Quality Council of India and Department of Commerce in organising Udyog Manthan-series of Webinars on services sectors focusing on quality and productivity of services. The session on Legal Services was held on January 25, 2021. The recommendations which emerged in the session will be submitted to the ministry for policy interventions.

On the most pertinent issue of SEIS and pending release of notification SEPC has submitted representations to the Ministry of Finance besides holding meetings with the DGFT. Further, we have also concluded the study to recommend alternatives to SEIS for the forthcoming Foreign Trade Policy (2021-26) and the recommendations are being submitted to the Department of Commerce. We will keep you updated on the same.

Please feel free to write back to us.

Yours Sincerely

Maneck Davar





Services Export Promotion Council set up in 2006 by Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India is an apex trade body to promote exports of services from India.

#### Overview of Services offered by SEPC

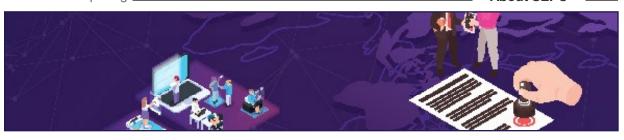
**Trade Intelligence** 

Export Development

Export Promotion/Investment

Enabling
Business
Environment

## Nodal organisation of Service Export Promotion Key role in Foreign Trade Policy, Export Strategy formulation by Department of Commerce and related Govt Departments. Interface between Services Sector and Government Provides inputs on Trade Negotiations Represents Services Sector in various Joint Trade Committees, Joint Business Councils and Joint Working Groups of Government of India to facilitate export. Creates Business opportunities in global market place for services exporters Providing commercially useful information and assistance to members in increasing exports. Organising visits of delegation of its members abroad to explore overseas market opportunities. Organising participation of Services exporters in specialised International Trade Fairs. Dissemination of government notification, orders, information on trade and other relevant information to members. Facilitates execution of Government Schemes like SEIS.



#### Services Covered under SEPC

In order to enhance the competitiveness of services exports and enable services industry to generate employment Union Cabinet chaired by Honourable **Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi** in 2018 identified 12 Champion Services Sector.

The following table provides the mapping of identified Champion Services vis-a vis the services covered under SEPC.

| Services covered under SEPC   | Champion Services  |
|---|--|
| Hotel and Tourism related Services  | Tourism and Hospitality Services                                 |
| Healthcare services including services by nurses, physiotherapist and paramedical personnel | Medical Value Travel Services                                    |
| Maritime Transport Services   | Transport and Logistics Services                                 |
| Accounting/Auditing and book keeping services   | Accounting and Finance Services                                  |
| Entertainment services including<br>Audio-Visual Services                                   | Audio - Visual Services  |
| Legal Services  | Legal Services   |
| Architectural Services and related services   | Construction and Related Engineering Services                    |
| Environmental Services  | Environmental Services   |
|   | Information Technology & Information Technology Enabled Services |
| Others Services   | Communication Services   |
|   | Financial Services   |
| Educational Services  | Education Services   |
| Consultancy Services  |  |
| Distribution Services   |  |
| Advertising Services  |  |
| Marketing Research and Public Opinion Polling Services/Management Services                  |  |
| Printing and Publishing Services  |  |



#### SERVICE EXPORTS FROM —India Scheme (Seis)—

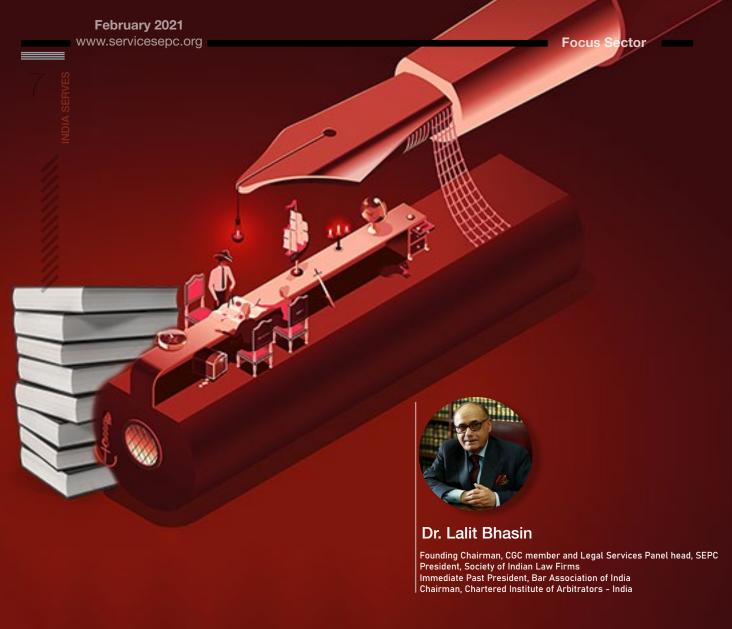
Sector coverage

**Legal Services** 



| Champion<br>Sectors | SEPC<br>Sectors | GATS (WTO) Classification   | UN CPC<br>Provisional<br>CODE | Services Description   | Covered<br>under<br>Appendix 3D<br>of SEIS? |
|---------------------|-----------------|---|-------------------------------|--|---|
|                     | Legal Services  | Legal advisory and representation services in the different fields of law                                   | 86111                         | Legal advisory and representation services concerning criminal law   | Covered                                     |
| Legal Services      |                 |   | 86119                         | Legal advisory and representation services in judicial procedures concerning other fields of law             | Covered                                     |
|                     |                 | Legal advisory and representation services in statutory procedures of quasi-judicial tribunals, boards, etc | 86120                         | Legal advisory and representation services in statutory procedures of quasi-judicial tribunals, boards, etc. | Covered                                     |
|                     |                 | Legal documentation and certification services  |                               | Legal documentation and certification services   | Covered                                     |
|                     |                 | Other legal advisory and information services   | 86190                         | Other legal advisory and information services  | Covered                                     |





echnology is an incredibly powerful and versatile tool that constantly pushes the boundaries of human potential. It has become truly ubiquitous in the 21st century, permeating every facet of life as we know it. The law is no exception. Advances in technology have translated to many paradigm-shifts in the legal space, forcing lawmakers and legal practitioners to rethink some long-standing notions about how the law works.

For instance, geo-political boundaries are often blurred in the digital world, and this poses serious challenges to the enforcement of sovereign law. When the provider of an electronic service is located in a different jurisdiction than its recipient, whose law will prevail in the event of a dispute? How

tions, and procedure be reconciled in cross-border disputes? How will determinations made in one sovereign jurisdiction be given effect in another? On a Electronic evidence is anothseparate note,

In the courtroom, emerging technologies like Artificial Intelligence and robotics will muddy legal waters by making it difficult to assign liability, say in tortious claims involving autonomous machines. Traditional models of fault and liability may not be equipped to handle scenarios involving thousands of complex components and algorithms working together to make real-time decisions without human involvement. When a self-driving car causes an accident, who should be held liable? Is it the manufacturer of the vehicle, In the legal sector, where re-

will conflicting rights, obliga- the manufacturer of the malfunctioning component, the creator of its algorithms, or the owner of the vehicle?

> er area that will be impacted by advancing technology. It is now possible to fabricate any kind of multi-media content to such levels of perfection that it is all but impossible to tell the authentic from the doctored. "Deepfakes" that very convincingly superimpose faces on videos, making people say and do things they never said or did, is an example. Existing certification protocols will prove entirely insufficient for electronic evidence going forward, introducing another layer of complexity to judicial proceedings.

delays and heavy backlogs, automation nance. If courtroom technologies fail or is an attractive value proposition. Some are compromised by malicious actors, it categories of low-value legal work, like could result in serious violations of pridrafting standard contract agreements, vacy and confidentiality. Highly sensiis already being automated. Automation tive personal information could be made is being considered for certain aspects of public, compromising the integrity of the adjudication as well, for instance in areas courtroom. Digitalizing judicial processlike traffic fines, where the law is more or less clear and straightforward. However, this raises the question– will software ever be a substitute for human intellect, especially in interpreting and applying the law with appropriate nuance? Will algorithms be able to make contextual decisions in in meaningful ways that do not introduce line with human values and ethics?

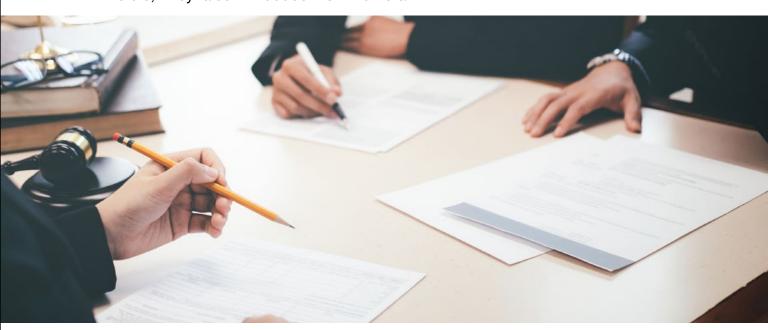
Traditional models of fault and liability may not be equipped to handle scenarios involving thousands of complex components and algorithms working together to make real-time decisions without human involvement.

> Technology has also entered courtrooms in other respects like electronically filed case documents, arguments made over video-call, and live-streamed proceedings to name a few. While such developments on the one hand make the judicial dian professionals and firms. process more streamlined and accessible, they also introduce new vulnera-

petitive paperwork often causes long bilities into a critical function of goveres could also deepen the divide between the digital haves and have-nots, leaving those without technological resources or knowledge far behind. How can these limitations be overcome, and technology be used to strengthen the judicial process a disproportionate amount of risk into the equation?

> To make Indian legal more competitive and Al savvy it is important that the profession he opened for healthy competition from foreign lawyers and law firms.

> Indian government also needs to make amendments in the law and allow foreign law firms and professionals to practice legal services in India. It will create healthy competition in the Indian market and help in further improving the quality of services and on reciprocity basis; doors to the huge international market will open for



# LAW OF THE LAND

## A PARADIGM SHIFT IN TRADE OF LEGAL SERVICES

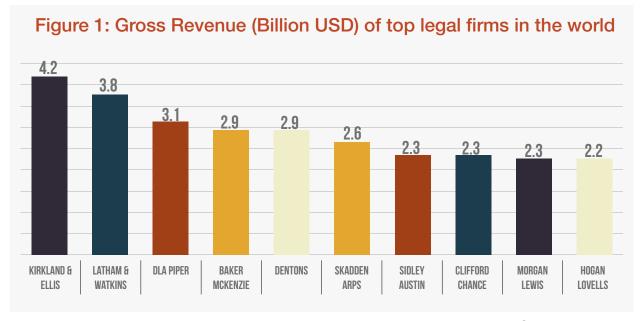
country law, home country tracts lead to demand for more and/or third country law, in- inter country exchange of legal ternational law, legal docu- services. The global legal sermentation and certification, vices market was USD 734.1 other advisory and information billion in 2019 which is expectservices. It includes a diverse ed to decline to USD 728.4 range of activities of economic billion in 2020 due to decline and social consequences both in demand for professional in the developed as well as in services as a result of trade the developing world. It has a restrictions and lockdowns national character because it is imposed across countries owformed in accord with the local ing to the COVID-19 outbreak. culture and values associat- The market is then expected ed in the respective countries to recover and grow at around creating the main obstacle to CAGR of 5 per cent from 2020 cross-border trade which is to reach USD 845.6 billion by where the legal counsels are 2023. (marketresearch.com) required for their expertise.

Legal services have a huge vices is on rise, with the expoglobal market and it has a nentially increased quantum and advice in more than one strong potential of growth due of trade and service exchange jurisdiction.

egal services include ad- to expansion of international between nations, which comvisory and representa- businesses, trade and investtions services for host ment. More inter country con-

The demand for the legal ser-

pels businesses to create contracts in writing and make the terms of agreement as per international laws, which requires a legal counsel who are well aware of the laws, not only existent in their domestic region where they practice, but also across the globe. Leading to an increasing need of trained lawyers in specific areas of law, like cross border Mergers and Acquisition, Corporate Law, Intellectual Property Law, new financial instruments and competition law have generated demand for specialised legal services. Increasingly, lawyers are faced transactions involving multiple jurisdictions and are required to provide services



Source: Law.com

According to the leading websites for legal services, the Global top 100 law firm's gross revenue grew by 4.7 per cent in 2019, bringing the collective earnings of these firms up to USD 119.6 billion primarily dominated by US law firms.

There is huge potential in the sector of Legal services for trade and investment but unfortunately this sector is one of the most restricted services sectors in the world. Legal services is a domain where localised knowledge and experience becomes very important including knowledge of local language, tradition and culture, etc. Now with expansion of some predominant languages, globalisation of cultures and growing international business, investment and human resource exchanges, cross country exchange of legal services has become a need of the time.

Thanks to technology, the mode under which most of the trade in legal services is taking place is under mode-1 which is not restricted in most of the countries. It is in the form of Legal Process Outsourcing (LPO). India is one of the top destinations for foreign law firms to outsource the process of their business to Indian firms for services like litigation support, patent services, paralegal support, etc.

#### Legal Process Outsourcing covers the following main services:

| Litigation Support           | Patent Services                       | Paralegal support         |  |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Extensive Contract Review    | Prior Art Search                      | Image and document coding |  |
| Due diligence                | Product clearance investigation       | Legal Transcription       |  |
| Legal Research               | Patents and technology<br>Landscaping | Archiving                 |  |
| Memorandum and brief writing | Patent data mining                    | Evidence Review           |  |

#### **Trade Statistics**

fication codes.

According to Mordor Intelligence, the mamand the highest market share. More than

As per the WTO's Services Sectoral Clas- 60 per cent of the legal services spend is sification List legal services are listed un- concentrated in the developed legal marder division 86 further corresponds to the kets of North America and Europe. The CPC number 861 in the United Nations APAC has the highest growth potential, Provisional Central Product Classification with many legal service providers in the and further subdivided into various classi- fray. Increasing demand for transactional practice areas such as corporate work, real estate, and tax work is driving demand for legal services. There is also a turity of legal service providers in North trend to adopt Alternative Fee Arrange-America and Europe is high as they comments (AFAs) to introduce billing models.

Figure 2: Top importers of legal services 2015-18 (Million USD)

| Importers<br>(USD<br>Million) | 2015  | 2016  | 2017  | 2018  | Share<br>in world<br>imports<br>(2018) | CAGR<br>(2015-<br>2018) |
|-------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--|-------------------------|
| World                         | 14937 | 15649 | 17263 | 19297 |  | 7%                      |
| USA                           | 2418  | 2921  | 3584  | 3969  | 21%                                    | 13%                     |
| Netherlands                   | 1461  | 1974  | 2207  | 2490  | 13%                                    | 14%                     |
| Germany                       | 1652  | 1696  | 2214  | 2231  | 12%                                    | 8%                      |
| UK                            | 1286  | 1177  | 1158  | 1961  | 10%                                    | 11%                     |
| South Korea                   | 1379  | 1435  | 1365  | 1425  | 7%                                     | 1%                      |
| France                        | 1544  | 1427  | 1576  | 1351  | 7%                                     | -3%                     |
| Canada                        | 585   | 672   | 714   | 787   | 4%                                     | 8%                      |
| Belgium                       | 581   | 522   | 522   | 733   | 4%                                     | 6%                      |
| Russia                        | 736   | 631   | 597   | 672   | 3%                                     | -2%                     |
| Italy                         | 606   | 525   | 508   | 532   | 3%                                     | -3%                     |

Source: Trade Map

The constant growth of international trade upon them in legal services. and emergence of new fields of practice imports is growing at a compound annual rate of 7 per cent.

The US and the UK legal services markets represents nearly 61 per cent of the legal services exports however they are also amongst the top importers along with Germany and Netherlands which primarily have a negative trade balance registered markets.

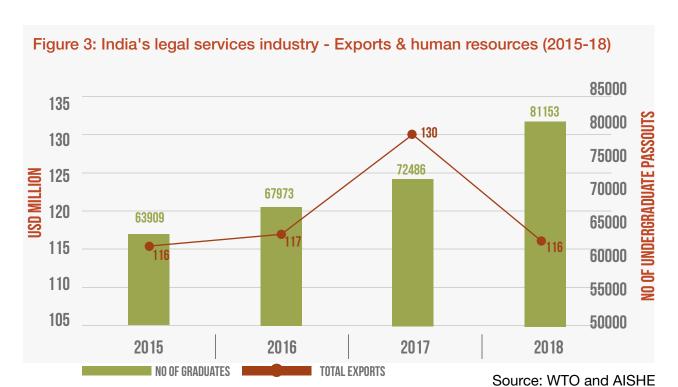
have ensured that trade in legal services With the changing international business dynamics comprising factors such as cost outlay, mergers and acquisition, markets expansion, focusing more on core competency are the prime drivers for the Indian legal services to emerge in the arena by supporting several low-level and high-level works generally providing para-legal as well analytical support to these concerned

#### India in Legal services

identified by the governand development. Country has many advantages in the sector besides low cost and good quality of services. India has a very strong human resource base in the form of legal services professionals and majority of them have the ability to offer their services using multiple languages including English which is one of widely used languages in the world giving Indian professionals an advantage in the international market. India being a part of common wealth nations, the legal system and edumatches with many countries in the world especially the Commonwealth nations members.

Indian government has a There are currently over a special focus on legal ser- million lawyers in India and vices. This is one of the 12 an average of 75,000 more champion services sectors passing out every year from Indian law schools. India ment of India for promotion with its crop of intellectual lawyers has the relevant skill-set to handle even high value legal tasks like legal research, drafting contracts and making determination regarding responsiveness of the document and privilege. India's legal services are affordable, efficient. and above all, skilled. Outsourcing legal work to India costs almost 80 per cent less than the cost of using the services of American law firms. Top of all, Indian legal system is constituted from various developed countries legal systems making it easier for the procation curriculum of India fessionals to comprehend notes from their client's legal landscape.

India being a part of common wealth nations, the legal system and education curriculum of India matches with many countries in the world especially the Commonwealth nations members.



Despite having rich resources and infrastructure, India is not able to tap its potential in the export of legal services mainly because this sector is highly restricted globally. India also has strong restrictions on market entry of foreign law firms and professionals. According to WTO's Services Trade Restrictiveness Index (STRI), India is one of the most restricted markets for trade of legal services. A comparative table of the index has been provided for reference. High score means more restrictions in the index.

Figure 4: Services Trade Restrictiveness Index (STRI) Scores for Legal Services - 2016

|                            | Legal services:<br>host country<br>advisory services | Legal services:<br>host country<br>representation<br>services | Legal services: home country law and/or third country law (advisory/ representation) | Average score |
|----------------------------|--|---|--|---------------|
| AUSTRALIA                  | 42.20  | 42.20   | 39.00  | 41.13         |
| BRAZIL                     | 54.10  | 54.10   | 63.00  | 57.07         |
| CANADA                     | 34.20  | 34.20   | 30.20  | 32.87         |
| CHINA                      | 88.10  | 88.10   | 52.00  | 76.07         |
| FRANCE                     | 57.10  | 46.80   | 52.10  | 52.00         |
| GERMANY                    | 46.20  | 46.20   | 41.50  | 44.63         |
| INDIA                      | 88.10  | 88.10   | 90.50  | 88.90         |
| INDONESIA                  | 88.10  | 88.10   | 90.50  | 88.90         |
| JAPAN                      | 69.80  | 57.30   | 40.00  | 55.70         |
| NEW ZEALAND                | 47.90  | 47.90   | 44.20  | 46.67         |
| PAKISTAN                   | 38.70  | 38.70   | 22.50  | 33.30         |
| RUSSIA                     | 41.80  | 41.80   | 38.70  | 40.77         |
| SOUTH AFRICA               | 71.00  | 71.00   | 29.60  | 57.20         |
| TURKEY                     | 88.10  | 88.10   | 42.30  | 72.83         |
| UK                         | 44.40  | 44.40   | 41.90  | 43.57         |
| USA                        | 44.50  | 44.50   | 25.70  | 38.23         |
| AVERAGE<br>GLOBAL<br>SCORE | 57.63  | 58.63   | 47.04  | 54.43         |

Source: World Trade Organisations (WTO)

Figure 5: Definition of determinants used for STRI Index

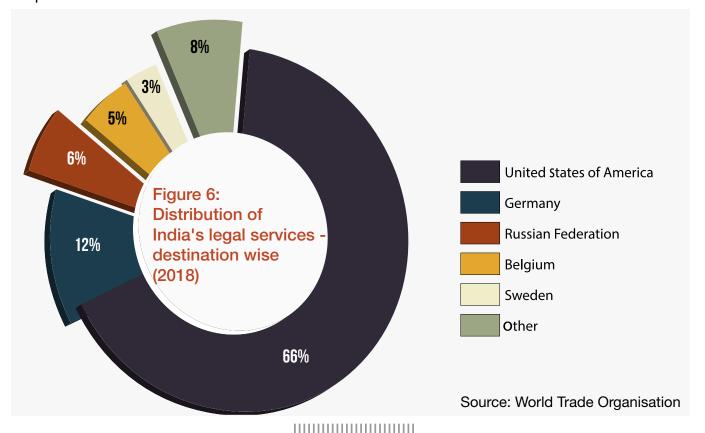
General counseling, advice and drafting of documents and other related legal services concerning domestic law (i.e. the law of the jurisdiction under review), whether criminal law or other than criminal. Also covered are advisory services in statutory procedures of quasi-judicial bodies. The following are excluded: activities in relation to the administration of public justice (such as judges); and notaries who typically perform their activities as public officials and are subject to a different regulatory regime.

Court appearances/oral arguments: Legal representation of one

Legal services: Host country representation services: Court appearances/oral arguments: Legal representation of one party's interest against another party, before the courts or other domestic judicial or quasi-judicial bodies, whether concerning criminal law or other than criminal. Also covered are representation services in statutory procedures of quasi-judicial bodies. The following are excluded: activities in relation to the administration of public justice (such as judges); and notaries who typically perform their activities as public officials and are subject to a different regulatory regime.

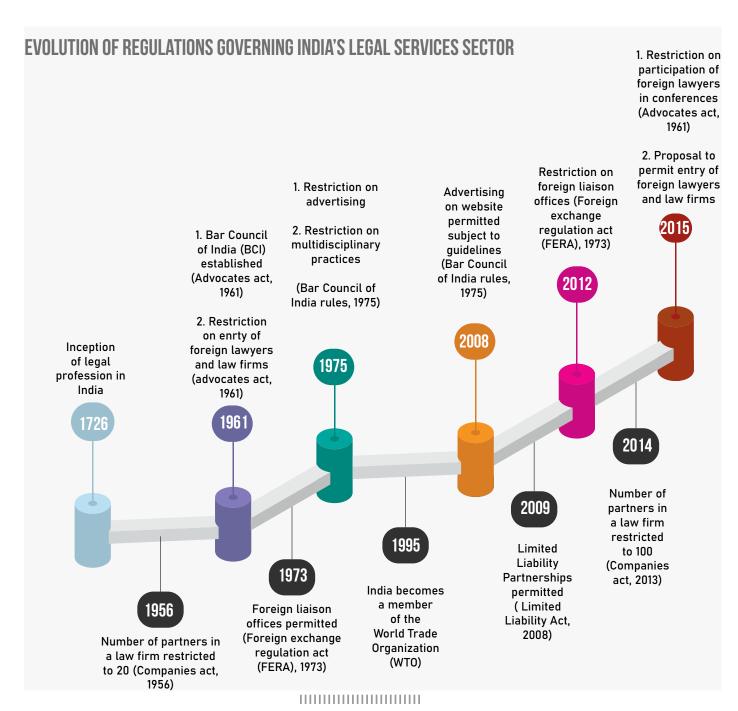
Legal services: Home country law and/or third country law (advisory/ representation): General counseling, advice and drafting of documents and other related legal services concerning foreign or international law. International law includes advisory services in home country law (i.e. law of the country of the foreign supplier or foreign law), third country law, international law, as well as a right to appear in international commercial arbitration. It also covers advisory services in statutory procedures of quasi-judicial bodies. Excluded are activities in relation to the administration of public justice (such as judges); and notaries who typically perform their activities as public officials and are subject to a different regulatory regime.

The legal services exports from India have not grown in the last five years being stagnant at 116 million USD. However, human resources in the country are multiplying each year with an average growth of around six per cent. India's export of legal services is highly concentrated in terms of destinations. USA, Germany, and Russia are the prime destinations for Indian legal services exports in the year 2018 constituting almost 80 per cent of the India's legal services exports.



The advantage of outsourcing legal processes to India is that being a common law country, it can easily relate to the processes of the other common law country that prove to be the key outsources of legal processes. India has huge potential in legal services exports with undergraduates pass out students to be around 81 thousand, growing annually at the rate of 6 per cent which compounds a huge base of trained personnel in the sector.





#### **Trends and Developments**

- Kira, is developed by a Canada-based technology company, Kira uses AI to identify, analyse, and extract clauses and other information from contracts and other types of legal documents. There are machine learning models for a range of requirements across practice areas. The tool is also capable of identifying different clauses across a large volume of legal contracts, with a high degree of accuracy
- Al tool is developed by the Berlin startup 'Leverton'. The tool from Leverton is used for fully automated contract analysis. Its automated abstraction process eliminates error-prone, manual data entry while also helping to identify and eliminate data discrepancies. The software extracts key data from the document and links each extracted data point to the source information. The start-up offers solutions for compliance, invoice reconciliation, lease abstraction, legal Al for due diligence, regulatory compliance and tax compliance.
- With most proceedings now taking place remotely via video-conferencing, it's important that the proceeding is recorded in order to procure a legal transcription. Court reporters can now generate transcripts from recordings of online proceedings with a little helping hand from legal transcription software. Specializing in legal transcripts, The American company Verbit ensures transcripts are accurate (99.9 per cent) and cancels out factors that could

- interfere with audio quality. The biggest added value of using software for transcription purposes is the speed at which a transcript can be generated. Technology drastically reduces the turnaround time to receiving completed legal and court transcripts from weeks to days. A first draft can be ready in as little as four hours leaving more time and money to focus on other areas of work.
- Chinese Al software 'Fa Xiaotao' help assist lawyers in the preliminary search and analysis of a case. Based on the description of the facts of the case, it can analyse and calculate the proportion of winning or losing for similar cases, the number of similar cases involved, the number of similar cases handled in different courts, and the number of similar cases that were successful or unsuccessful and their judgments. 'Fa Xiaotao' uses AI to identify the case, and uses Big Data to retrieve and feedback the above information. To a certain extent, it reduces the pressure of lawyers' analysis and retrieval at the early stage of the case, which helps lawyers to analyse the case more effectively and faster.
- Singapore's Ministry of Law has launched a 10-year plan, called the Technology and Innovation Roadmap (TIR), aimed at encouraging and supporting its legal industry and aspiring law students in their embrace of technology and innovation.

#### **Success Stories**

LegalMind offer 'Al powered search'. The company also offers solutions such as 'Litigation Analytics' and 'Brief Analyser'. As the name suggests, Litigation Analytics enables users to analyse trends and patterns across judgments and tries to 'predict' the behaviour of courts, judges and so on. It is a strategy building tool that is now being used in the market. Further, 'Brief Analyser' helps lawyers to summarise judgments without missing out on any details. The tool 'understands' the important elements of a judgment, such as arguments, facts and issues raised, and provides the user with a comprehensive summary. There is no formal data to confirm the extent and reach of these tools.

LawRato.com comprises 1,000 rated and reviewed lawyers in more than 150 cities across India. It's based out of Delhi and allows users to reach out to lawyers via email, phone, video calling and personal meetings. Users can post queries online, get them answered by lawyers and book a consultant for detailed opinion. They have a revenue of around 40 Lakhs a year and have recently received funding of USD 100,000.

IndiaFilings provides services such as registration of companies, preparation of legal documents and Intellectual Property related help and has become extremely popular in the recent past. On an average, it helps in the incorporation of over 400 companies and filing of 900 trademark registration each month.

### GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION

- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed on Scientific and Technical Cooperation between National Centre of Meteorology (NCM), United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) India. The MoU provides for sharing of knowledge, data and operational products for meteorological, seismological and oceanic services, such as Radar, Satellite, Tide gauges, seismic and Meteorological stations.
- A Memorandum of Cooperation has been signed between India and Japan, on a
  Basic Framework for Partnership for Proper Operation of the System Pertaining
  to "Specified Skilled Worker" from fourteen sectors viz. Nursing care; Building
  cleaning; Material Processing industry; Industrial machinery manufacturing industry; Electric and electronic information related industry; Construction; Shipbuilding
  and ship-related industry; Automobile maintenance; Aviation; Lodging; Agriculture; Fisheries; Food and beverages manufacturing industry and Food service industry enhancing job opportunities to work in Japan.
- FDI equity inflow received during FY 2020-21 (April to November, 2020) is USD 43.85 billion. It is also the highest ever for first 8 months of a financial year and 37 per cent more compared to first 8 months of 2019-20 (USD 32.11 billion).
- India and Japan have signed an MoU to enhance cooperation in the field of Information and Communications Technologies. The MoU will enhance mutual cooperation in the field of 5G technologies, telecom security, submarine optical fibre cable system to islands of India, spectrum management, smart cities, high altitude platform for broadband in unconnected areas, disaster management and public safety etc.
- The Framework for Strategic Partnership between the International Energy Agency (IEA) members and the Government of India to strengthen mutual trust and cooperation & enhance global energy security, stability and sustainability. This partnership will lead to an extensive exchange of knowledge and would be a stepping stone towards India becoming a full member of the IEA.
- Agreement for the financial support of the implementation of Strengthening Teaching-Learning and Results for States (STARS) project of Ministry of Education was signed between Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) and World Bank along with Ministry of Education.

## INDUSTRY NEWS

- Asia Pacific nations lead all emerging market regions with China, India and Indonesia being the world's top emerging markets in the 12th annual Agility Emerging Markets Logistics Index, a broad gauge of competitiveness based on logistics strength and business fundamentals. (Indian Transport and Logistics News)
- India will overtake the European Union as the world's third-largest energy consumer by 2030, the International Energy Agency (IEA) as it forecast India accounting for the biggest share of energy demand growth over the next two decades. IEA saw primary energy consumption almost doubling to 1,123 million tonnes of oil equivalent as the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) expands to USD 8.6 trillion by 2040. India at present is the fourth-largest global energy consumer behind China, the United States and the European Union. (Financial Express)
- The Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) is offering its globally recognised internal auditor certification through a single exam, against the more comprehensive three-part certified internal auditor (CIA) exam. The certification enhances domain knowledge in the areas of governance, risk, and internal controls and is expected to provide global job opportunities to certified professionals. (Financial Express)
- The Indian service sector enjoyed good levels of activity in January, with new business volumes rising for the fourth successive month a sub-index tracking new business rose last month primarily due to a continued recovery in domestic demand. (Money Control)

- Weeks after the formal Brexit agreement, India has revived dialogues with the EU and launched talks with the UK in a bid to expedite trade deals and aid economic growth in the post-Covid era. (Financial Express)
- The trade between India and Bangladesh will improve with the Indo-Bangladesh Protocol on Inland Water Transit and Trade. It will promote better connectivity with other neighbouring countries. (Business Lines)





MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY GOVERNMENT OF INDIA





A marathon of focused webinars on promoting Quality and Productivity in Indian Industry

#### Partnering with QCI for Udyog Manthan

Udyog Manthan is a Marathon of Focused Webinars on Promoting Quality and Productivity in Indian Industry and Services. This collaborative exercise is an initiative of the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) in association with Department of Commerce (DoC), Quality Council of India (QCI), National Productivity Council, Bureau of Indian Standards, Industry chambers and various concerned ministries

**Objective:** To identify issues and find solutions for promoting productivity, quality, & their inter -linkages in Indian industry

**Agenda:** Focused discussion on productivity and quality (and their interlinkages) in the Indian industry across sectors

Timeline: January 04, 2021 to 2 March 2021

#### **SEPC** contribution

SEPC was actively involved with Udyog Manthan and has contributed in following ways:

- DDG, SEPC, Dr. Abhay Sinha was a speaker at the session Travel and Tourism on 19th January, 2021 and contributed to the discussion. His suggestions have been incorporated as part of the Compendium as follows:
  - » Assistance can be provided by SEPC in export of tourism/hospitality service
  - » SEPC can assist the Tourism and Hospitality Industry in creating business opportunities through various available platforms
  - » Create minimum guidelines for travel agencies and tour operators before commencing operations

SEPC team was actively involved with QCI team and DoC to make these sessions fruitful and contributed by:

- Participating in prep meetings with DoC
- Preparing speaker notes for SEPC speakers
- Promoting in social media and amongst SEPC member base
- Rapporteur Reports

#### Contribution by SEPC speakers

## LEGAL SERVICES JANUARY 25<sup>TH</sup>, 2021 OPPORTUNITIES: BOARD OF IN HOUSING COUNSELLING IS QUALITATIVELY VERY SUPERIOR." - DR. LALIT BHASIN, BHASIN & COMPANY - MS. UPA

## MEDICAL VALUE AND TRAVEL S

JANUARY 28<sup>TH</sup>, 2021

WAY FORWARD: END-TO-END ACCREDITATION REQUIRED FOR ALL FACILITIES & FACILITATORS"

- MS. UPASANA ARORA

#### ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

JANUARY 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021

SHRI HANS RAJ CHUGH MODER-ATED THE SESSION. CHALLENGES: "EMPLOYMENT & SKILL DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGICAL UPGRADATION & INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVE-MENT "- CA. MR. SUNIL TALATI

WAY FORWARD: COMPETITIVE-NESS, TIMELY DELIVERY, DATA PRIVACY, PARTICIPATION IN GLOBAL EVENTS & MASTERING International English" - CA. MR. SUNIL TALATI

#### COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

JANUARY 30TH, 2021

CHALLENGES: "HIGH COST OF SPECTRUM, DIFFICUL-TIES IN FIBERIZATION & TOWER INSTALLATION"- LT. GEN. DR. S.P. KOCHHAR

WAY FORWARD: "REACH & CAPACITY TO REACH NEED TO BE FOCUSED UPON"
-LT. GEN. DR. S.P. KOCHHAR

#### ENVIRONMENT SERVICES

FEBRUARY 2<sup>ND</sup>, 2021

CHALLENGES: "LACK OF EDU-CATION ON ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS & THEIR IMPLEMENTA-TION" - MR. ATUL KANSAL "ABSENCE OF CLARITY FROM MINISTRY OF FINANCE ON CARBON CREDITS"-MR. MANISH DABKARA

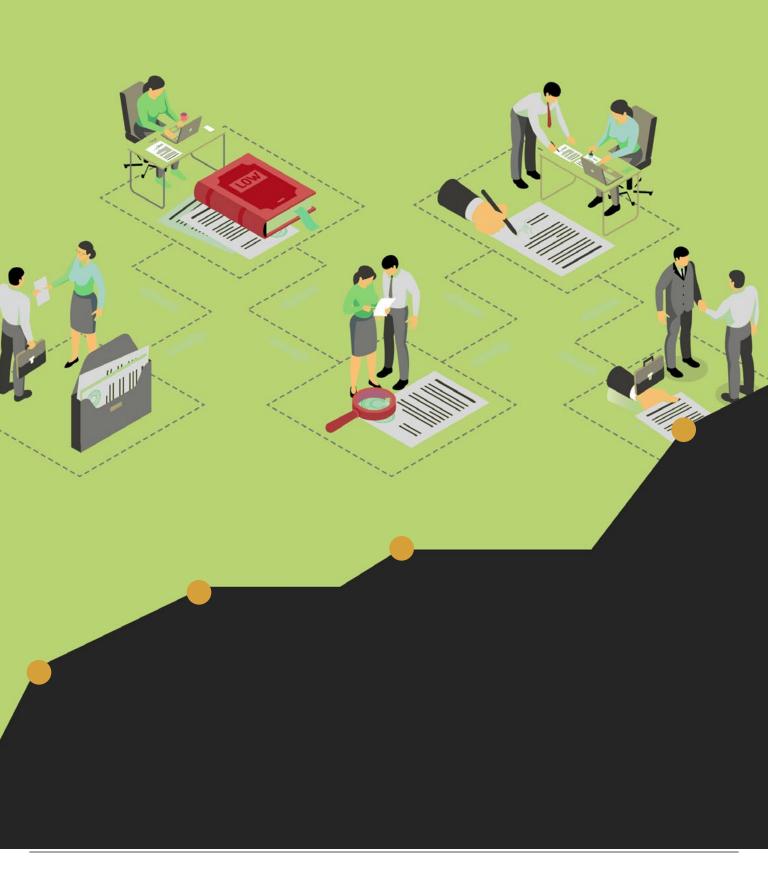
WAY FORWARD: "HAVING Indian Standards of Train-Ing, Equivalent to Global Standards"-Mr. R.K. Gupta

#### EDUCATION SERVICES

FEBRUARY 4<sup>TH</sup>, 2021

DR VIDYA YERAVDEKAR Was the moderator For the session.

CHALLENGES: "NEED TO ENSURE THAT THE EDUCATIONAL INSTI-TUTES ARE MEETING THE REQUIRED STANDARDS"-DR. VIDYA YERAVDEKAR





#### **SERVICES EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL**

Setup by Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India

#### SERVICES EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL

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