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Special Issue on Innovation, IPR & Competition in India

FRAND in India: Emerging developments

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**Short title**: FRAND in India: Emerging developments

Keywords: Intellectual Property (IP), Standards, Standard Setting Organisations (SSOs),

Standard Essential Patents (SEPs), Fair Reasonable and Non Discriminatory (FRAND)

Abstract

There is an ongoing debate about the Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) policies of major

Standard Setting Organisations (SSOs) and how the licensing disputes related to Standard

Essential Patents (SEPs), subject to Fair Reasonable and Non-Discriminatory (FRAND)

licensing commitments should be resolved. At this time of intense global debate, India is in the

process of forming the jurisprudence on FRAND disputes. This article connects the legal and

economic issues underlying the global dialogue on SSO IPR policies and SEPs with the ongoing

FRAND-related disputes in India. What policies India implements and how the jurisprudence

evolves is of key importance towards the long-term prospects of the Indian

Introduction

Standard setting organisations (SSOs) are industry groups that set common industry standards

in a variety of important technological areas. In the Information and Communications

Technology (ICT) industry specifically, technology standards have enabled mobile phones, for

instance, to communicate with each other and to operate on the Internet. India itself has a

long history in the development of various types of standards via the Bureau of Indian

Standards (BIS) established in 1947, and has a growing interest in ICT standards, with the recent

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