



Introduction on Intellectual Property Rights (DoMCIIP, MoICE and WIPO)

2nd September 2025
Presenter: KD



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Introduction





Constitution of the Kingdom of Bhutan



Fundamental Rights - Article 7 (13) states:

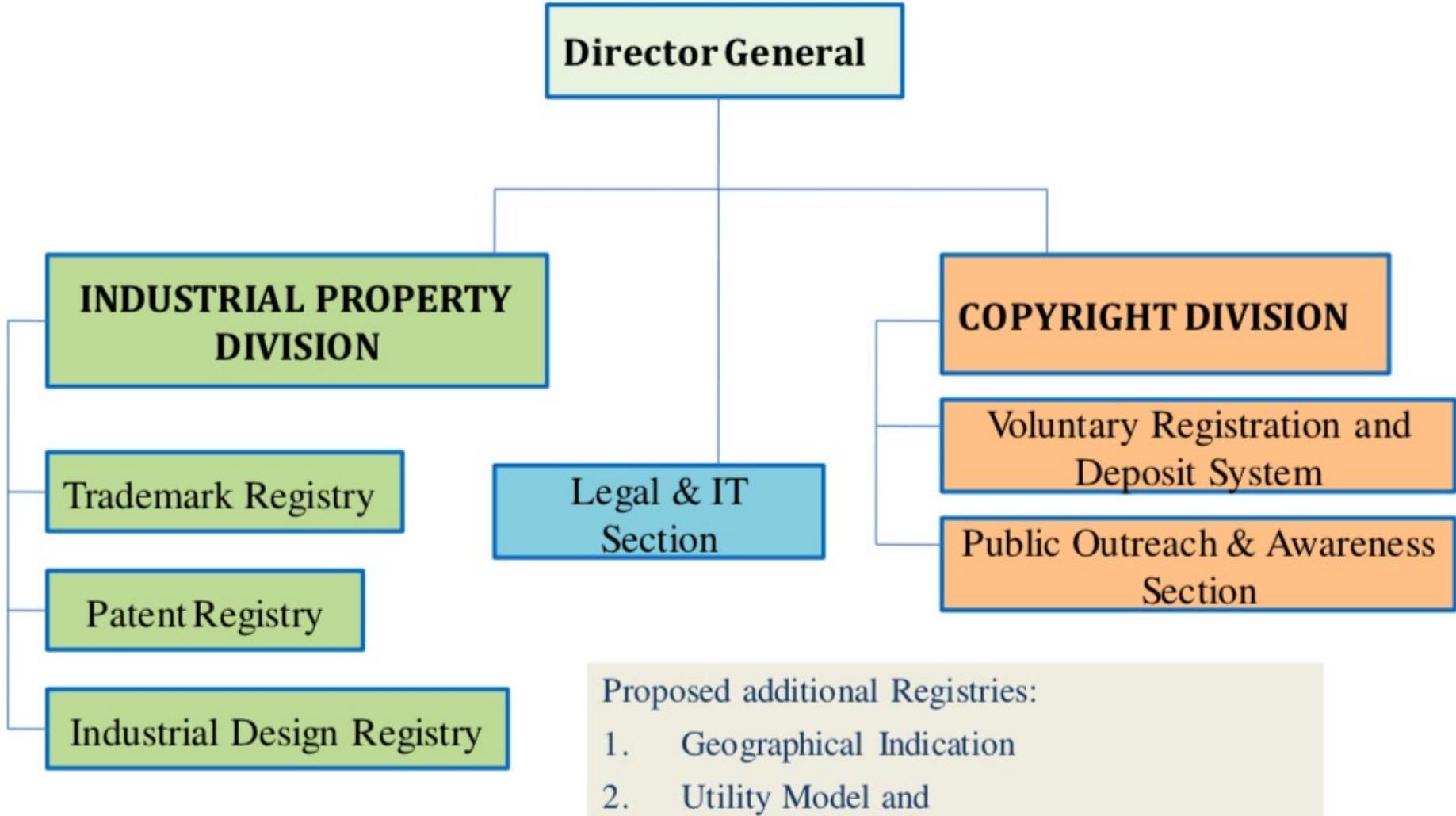
- ✓ Every person in Bhutan shall have the **right** to material interests resulting from any **scientific, literary or artistic** production of which he or she is the **author or creator**.

Principles of State Policy - Article 9(23)

- ✓ The State shall **encourage** free participation in the cultural life of the community, promote **arts and sciences** and foster technological **innovation**.



Department of Media,Creative Industry and Intellectual Property (DoMCIIP)



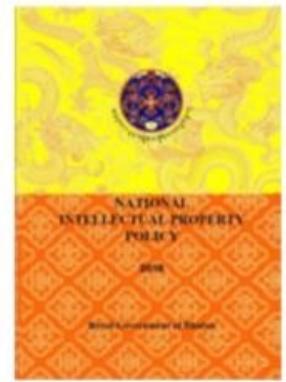
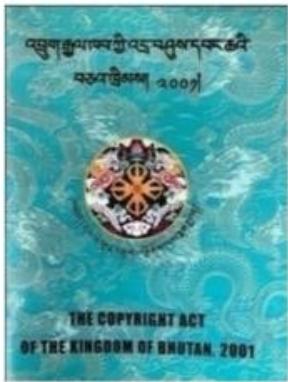
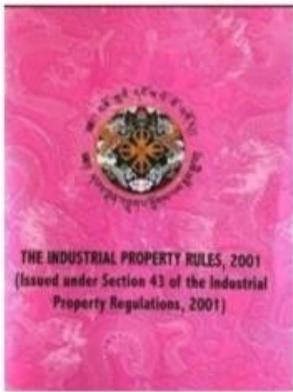
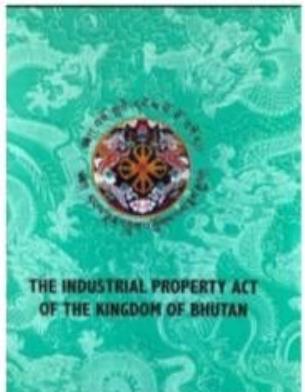


Mandates of DoMCIIP

1. To establish a comprehensive well-balanced and effective IP protection and enforcement.

Legislations:

- Industrial Property Act, 2001
- Industrial Property Rule, 2001
- Copyright Act, 2001
- The National IP Policy, 2018 (Endorsed in March 2018)





Mandates of DoMCIIP



2. To establish a system of grant of titles and rights of IP.

Setting up of Registration System:

- Trademark Registry (1997)
- Industrial Design Registry (2009)
- Patent Registry (2012)
- Copyright Voluntary Registration and Deposit (2012)



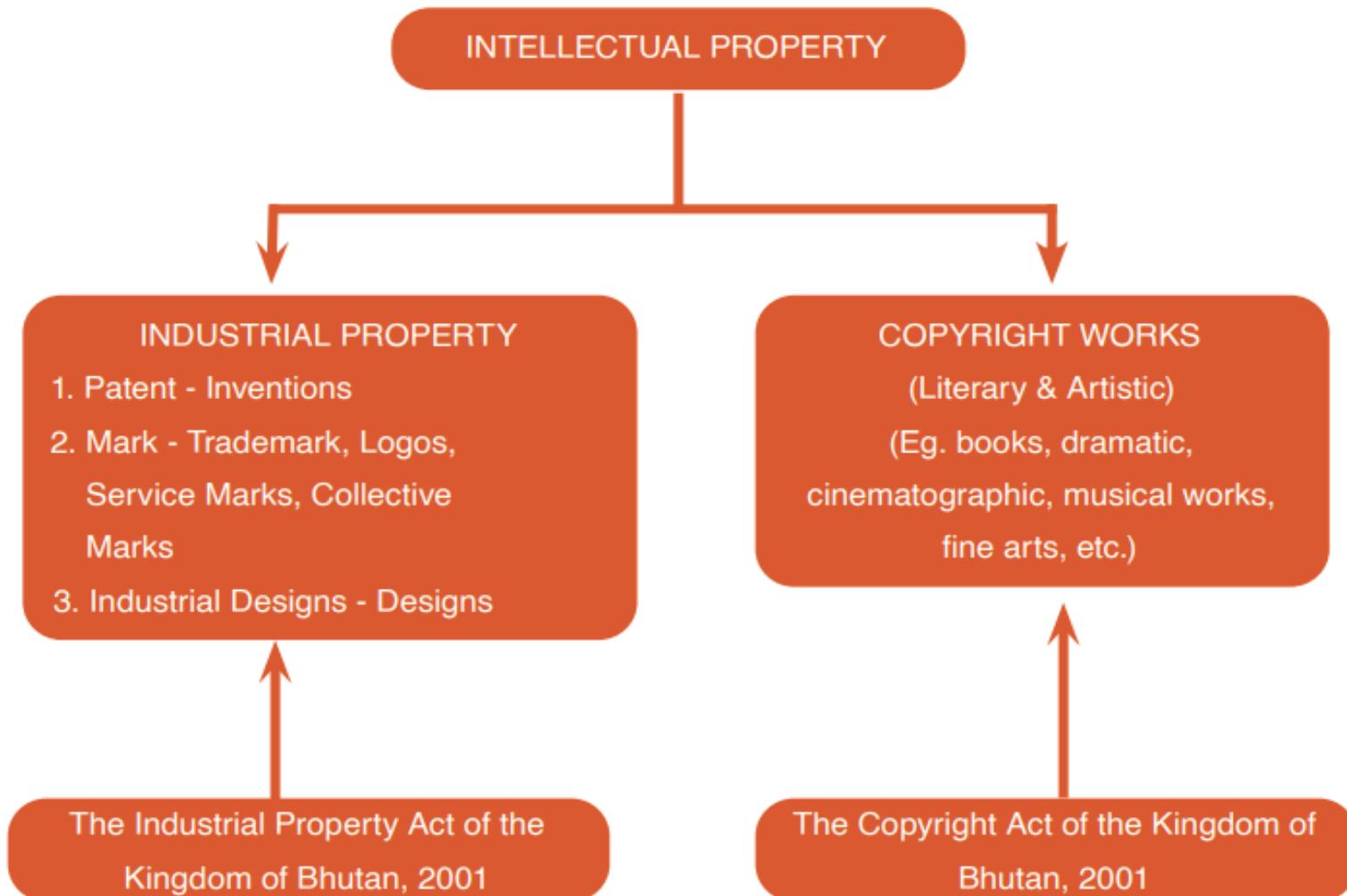
Mandates of DoMCIIP

- To formulate and update laws in accordance with international standards on all subjects of intellectual property.
- To establish a system for the grant of titles and rights to intellectual property.
- To promote knowledge and understanding of intellectual property among the general public.
- To assist the right holders in commercializing their works and maximizing the economic utilization of their intellectual property assets.
- To strengthen and improve the mechanisms for the enforcement of intellectual property rights,(IPRs).
- To undertake exploratory groundwork on the role of IPRs in the protection of cultural heritage and Traditional Knowledge, (TK).
- To build up an international network of treaty relationships for protecting and safeguarding IPRs of Bhutanese nationals abroad.
- To strengthen the institutional and professional capacity of the Division to fulfill its mandate.



Mandates of DoMCIIP

Annual Magazine 2020.pdf





Application Statistics (March 2020)



Figure 1: Statistical illustration of the registered works



Bhutan IP Member Status

SL. No.	Instrument	Year of Accession
1.	The WIPO Convention	1994
2.	Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property	2000
3.	Madrid Agreement Concerning the Int'l Registration of Marks	2000
4	Protocol Relating to the Madrid Agreement Concerning the Int'l Registration of marks	2000
5.	Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works	2004

Milestones of the DoMCIIP

- 1994 – Bhutan becomes a member of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).
- 1997 – Creation of a Legal Section in the erstwhile Ministry of Trade and Industry.
- 1997 – Promulgation of the Industrial Property Regulation.
- 1997 – Bhutan becomes a member of the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property.
- 2000 – Bhutan becomes a member of the Madrid Agreement concerning international registration of Marks.
- 2000 – Bhutan becomes a member of the Madrid Protocol concerning international registration of Marks.
- 2000 – Legal Section of the Ministry upgraded as the Intellectual Property Division
- 2001 – Bhutan enacts the Copyright Act and Industrial Property Act of the Kingdom of Bhutan.
- 2004 – Bhutan becomes a member of the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works.
- 2016 – The IP Division is upgraded to a Department.
- 2018 – The National Intellectual Property Policy (NIPP) is endorsed.
- 2018 – Three Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISCs) are established in two technical colleges and Thimphu TechPark.
- 2018 – The annual National Trademark Award is instituted.
- 2018 – The first Annual Magazine of the Department is published.
- 2019 – The online Bhutan IP Search System is launched.
- 2020 – The IP Theme Song and Musical Videos published.



- ***WIPO : World Intellectual Property Organization***
- ***Forum for Intellectual Property Services, Policy, Information and Cooperation***
- ***Self-funding agency of the United Nations***
 - ***191 Member States***
 - ***26 Administered Treaties***





WIPO's Milestone

<i>Paris Convention</i>	1883
<i>Berne Convention</i>	1886
<i>United International Bureaux for the Protection of IP (BIRPI)</i>	1893
<i>BIRPI moved to Geneva</i>	1960
<i>Convention Establishing WIPO</i>	1967
<i>Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)</i>	1970
<i>WIPO – UN Agreement</i>	1974
<i>WIPO Internet Treaties</i>	2002
<i>Beijing Treaty</i>	2012
<i>Marrakesh Treaty come into force</i>	2013
<i>Marrakesh Treaty</i>	2016



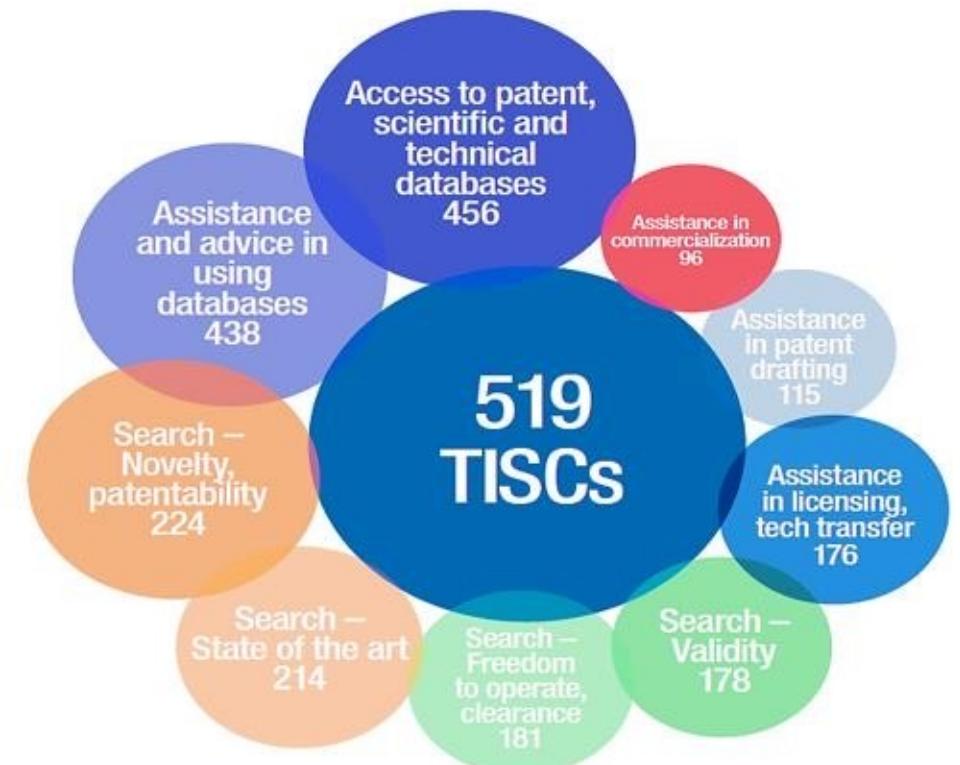
What does WIPO do?

- ***Global IP Systems***
- ***Normative Development of IP***
- ***Global IP Infrastructure***
- ***Policy Studies & Research***
- ***Development Cooperation***





Technology Innovation Support Centers (TISC)



> Core Services

- ✓ Access to patent & non-patent databases
- ✓ Assistance in using database

> Additional Services

(based on user need and office capacity)

- ✓ Technology Search Services
- ✓ Patent Analytical Services
- ✓ Awareness-raising & Training Services

There are 2 TISCs in Bhutan:

- 1. CST (Rinchending)***
- 2. JNEC (Dewathang)***



TISCs in Bhutan

- ❖ Greater use of patent information by universities, R&Ds & entrepreneurs

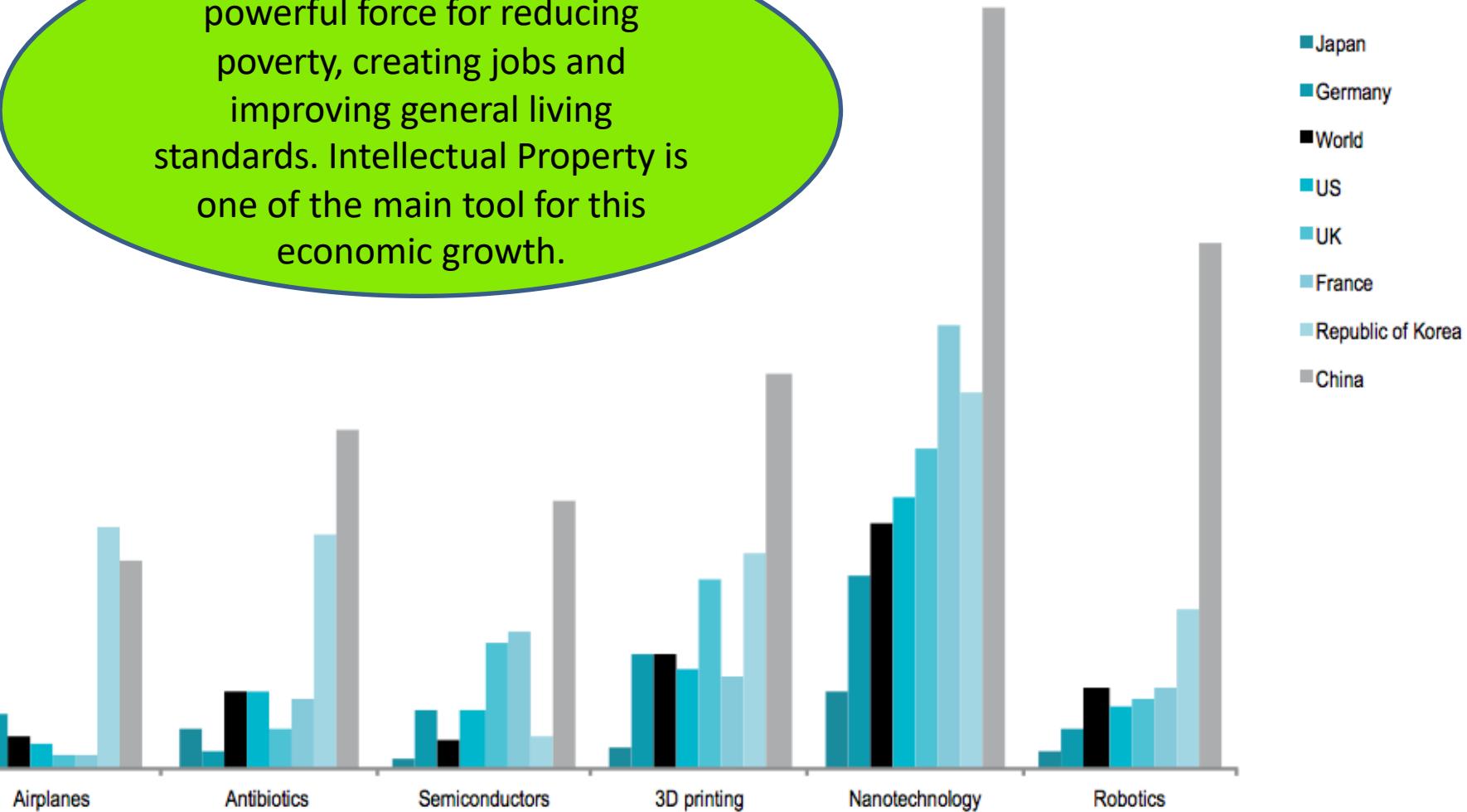
- ❖ Improved quality of patent applications by local enterprises



Conclusion



Economic growth has been a powerful force for reducing poverty, creating jobs and improving general living standards. Intellectual Property is one of the main tool for this economic growth.





Kadrinchhey la



“The essence of the philosophy of Gross National Happiness is the peace and happiness of our people and the security and sovereignty of the nation.”

His Majesty the Fifth King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck