Survey Concerning Citation Practices in Intellectual Property Offices

Response ID:145 Data

2. Section 1: Identification page

1. Please enter the ST.3 code of the member state or inter-governmental organization you represent.

IN - India

2. Please enter the name of the office or organization you represent. For instance, International Bureau of WIPO.
If your organization name is the same as your ST.3 code name, you may put "n/a".

INDIAN PATENT OFFICE

3. Questions about citation references provided by your Office: Sections 2 to 4

Section 2: Citation reference availability

5. Does your Office publish citation references associated with your Office's patent documents?

Yes
Please comment if necessary:

6. Select one option describing the availability, to the public, of your Office's citation references.

Available to the public

7. In which of the following location(s) associated with patent documents, published by your Office, can citation references be found?

Preliminary search report
Substantive search and/or examination report
Please comment on any of the above mentioned locations, if appropriate: In IPO, Search and Examination Report is in a single report

8. If citation references are part of the bibliographic front page information, are they included in INID code (56)?

No

9. Beyond the locations listed as options in question 7 above, select the location(s) outside the patent document where citation references can be found:

E-Dossier/File wrapper

10. Are hyperlinks included for the above Internet locations?

Not applicable
Please comment if necessary: Citation references are given only in the search and examination reports which are part of E-dossier.

11. Does your Office give information about a patent document that cites the specific patent document the user is looking at (i.e., a forward citation)?

No

12. Are hyperlinks to the citing document provided?

No
Please comment if necessary:

13. Does your Office follow the recommendations set out in WIPO Standard ST.14 for the identification of citation references?

Partially (please specify/provide further details):
Please comment if necessary:

14. Does your Office provide indications, to the general public, informing about who suggested or decided on including the citation references?

No

If available, where can indications of who created a citation reference be found by the general public?

Please comment if necessary:

4. Section 3: Search Report Information

15. Does your Office prepare international search reports (ISRs) in the capacity as an International Searching Authority under the PCT?

Yes

5. Section 3: Search Report Information

16. Do you have quality control on citation references entered on search reports?

Yes (Please provide examples in detail): CN119307657A (SHANGHAI BANGXIAN MEDICAL TECH CO LTD), 14 JANUARY 2025 (14-01-2025) Example 1 and claim 1;WO2023187810A1 (TVS MOTOR CO LTD) 05 Oct 2023 (05-10-2023) Abstract, Figs. 1-4 and 6-7, and their description reference numeral (158);Para 18

Please comment if necessary::

17. Do your citation references include online URLs?

Yes

18. Are unique document identifiers used, e.g., DOI?

Sometimes (Specify when): where available in case of NPL

If applicable, which unique document identifiers are used?

Digital Object Identifier (DOI)
ISBN and ISSN

6. Section 3: Search Report Information

19. Does your Office prepare Office-specific national/regional search reports (non PCT)?

No

7. Section 3: Search Report Information

Do you have quality control on citation references entered on search reports?

Are relevance indicators stated?

Do your citation references include online URLs?

Are unique document identifiers used, e.g., DOI?

If applicable, which unique document identifiers are used?

8. Section 3: Search Report Information

Please comment on any major differences between the provision of ISR and other search report citation references if any

9. Section 4: Centralizing/Tagging Citation References

20. Do you (intend to) add tags to identify citation references?

No

21. Does your Office have a centralized database containing citation reference identification data elements?

No

If possible, please specify any structural elements on which the database is founded, for example:

Is the information in the database technically and legally exchangeable e.g., with other Offices?

22. Are citation references from your Office searchable by the general public?

Sometimes (please specify the location where the references are searchable e.g., http://www.): public url is given

23. Please add any further comments you may have about any of the questions in section 4 above:

10. Questions about your Office's published documents that may be cited (within a citation reference): Sections 5 to 7

Section 5: Location of published patent documents which can be considered to be an (or the) authentic source

24. Which mediums represents the (or an) authentic legal rendition (authoritative source) of your Office's published patent application?

Website (if multiple website separate each address with a semi- colon ";"): https://search.ipindia.gov.in/IPOJournal/Journal/Patent

25. Which mediums represents the (or an) authentic legal rendition (authoritative source) of your IPO's published granted patents?

Website (if multiple website separate each address with a semi- colon ";"): https://iprsearch.ipindia.gov.in/PublicSearch/
Other (please specify): granted specification published as part of E-dossier from 01.01.2026

26. Regarding the medium indicated above, is there one or more (file) formats that should be looked at (in preference to other formats)?

No

If yes, please select all formats that should be considered in preference to other formats

27. Is your Office using commercial providers for publishing patent documents?

No

11. Section 6: Availability of location identifiers

28. Which, if any, text- based identifiers do your published patent documents contain:

Page numbers
Other (Please specify): Line numbers and paragraph numbers are available in some publications

29. Which, if any, identifiers of non-textual elements occur within the description part of your published patent document:

Image/figure numbers within the description:
Chemical formula numbers:
Tables:
Gene sequences:
Mathematical formulas:
Computer programs:
Webpage identifiers (URL with heading/section reference):

12. Section 7: Paragraph number details

30. Does your published patent documents include paragraph numbers?

No

13. Section 7: Paragraph number details

Paragraph numbers are typically created by:

Paragraph numbers are recreated:

Describe any special treatment you give to long paragraphs:

Describe how you treat numbered paragraphs that are subsequently amended:

If necessary, please provide additional comment on any part of the questions or answers given above in this section.

14. Section 8: Citing documents based on machine translations

31. Does your Office currently allow to cite machine-translated documents in search or examination reports?

Yes

15. Section 8: Citing documents based on machine translations

32. When citing a document without paragraph numbering, how does your Office identify the relevant passage in the machine translation?

Machine translated documents are cited as 'whole document'.

33. How does your Office ensure that applicants can access the exact machine translation used by your Office?

Other (Please specify): Shared only when the applicant requests for the translation.

34. Does your Office record or store the machine translation used by the examiner for internal or public reference?

Yes, for internal use only

35. Does your Office have a preferred format for citing machine translations in search or examination reports?

No

36. Has your Office encountered cases where an applicant disputed the relevance of a citation based on a machine translation?

No

37. Should there be a standardized method for referencing the machine translation engine and date of translation in the international search report?

Yes

38. Should WIPO Standard ST.14 be revised to include recommendation on how references to machine translations should be cited in a patent document?

Yes

16. General questions about Citation Practices: Sections 9-10

Section 9: Examples of citation references published by your Office, if this information is available.

39. If possible, please provide a patent (application) number and a publicly available internet address that contains one or more typical examples of patent and non-patent literature citation references.

Specify application number and kind code, e.g., WO 2005/110961 A1 : IN202511050089
Specify Internet address and any instructions helpful to find patent (application) number, e.g., IA=IB2005001265&REF=RSS : Search using application number "202511050089" as search field on https://iprsearch.ipindia.gov.in/PatentSearch/PatentSearch/ViewApplicationStatus
Specify where in the document the citation references can be found, e.g., page 1, lines 19 and 25, search report at end of document : click on "view documents" and open "202511050089-FER.pdf";pages 2-3/8

17. Section 10: Additional comments about citation practices

40. If applicable, please make any further comments, e.g., you may wish to comment on difficult aspects of citation practices for your IPO:

e.g., users are confused about the part of a document a citation reference was referring to : whole document has to be cited when relying on machine translation.