NOTICE

The 'Tribunals Reforms (Rationalisation and Conditions of Service) Ordinance, 2021', notified on 4 April 2021 (Ordinance), abolished the Intellectual Property Appellate Board (IPAB) while also transferring the jurisdiction of the IPAB under various IP statutes to the High Court.

The Hon'ble Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court constituted a Committee to comprehensively review the situation (**Committee**) in view of the Ordinance. Based on the Committee's suggestions, the Intellectual Property Division (**IPD**) of the Delhi High Court was established in July 2021. The Committee was further tasked with the framing of Rules for governing the procedure and functioning of the IPD.

Subsequently, the Ordinance was replaced by the '*Tribunal Reforms Act*, 2021' in August 2021.

The Delhi High Court published the draft of the 'Delhi High Court Intellectual Property Rights Division Rules, 2021' on 8 October 2021, inviting comments/suggestions from the Bar and other stakeholders 'from the IP community. In view of several requests, the deadline to receive such comments was extended from 22 October 2021 to 10 November 2021.

The Committee was pleased to receive wide ranging and detailed comments from practitioners, law firms as well as industry organizations. The Committee has considered the comments/suggestions received and has finalised the Rules.

The draft of the 'Delhi High Court Intellectual Property Rights Division Rules, 2021' so finalised is uploaded on the website of the Delhi High Court at the following link:

'Delhi High Court Intellectual Property Rights Division Rules, 2021'

Final comments/suggestions, if any, be sent to <u>ir-rules.dhc@gov.in</u> by 17 December 2021 (Friday). The earlier comments/suggestions have already been considered and the same be not repeated.

Registrar General High Court of Delhi