PATENTS COMMITTEE COUNTRY REPORT – Sri Lanka 2026

Statistics for 2026

01-01-2026 – 31-08-2026				
	National	**International**	**PCT**	**Total**
No of Applications	218	8	148	374
No of Substantive Examinations (Accepted)	26	8	77	111
No of Substantive Examinations (Defects and Refusals)	177	6	108	291
No of Publications	25	13	82	120
No of Registrations	41	10	81	132

The number of non-resident applications dropped in 2026 when compared to 2025. The number of patents granted in 2026 has increased when compared to 2025 & 2024.

Recent Changes in Patent Law & Regulations

No changes have been made.

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The Law relating to Intellectual Property is governed by the Intellectual Property Act No. 36 of 2003, as amended by (Amendment) Act No. 7 of 2018, (Amendment) Act No. 8 of 2021 and (Amendment) Act No. 8 of 2022.

Case Law

No recent case law relating to patents has been reported as of date (2026).

Developments in Practice

- On February 5th, 2026, The National Intellectual Property Office (NIPO) launched an online public search facility of the database of national patents/trademarks & designs. The WIPO supported the automation and digitization of IP records for this facility.

- The National Intellectual Property Office (NIPO) is continuing the practice of carrying out limited form of substantive examination on the PCT National Phase Entry applications which are accompanied by a favorable International Search Report (ISR) and Written Opinion (WO). The applications will also be examined under the provisions for patentability in terms of the IP Act No. 36 of 2003, but objections continue to be raised based on unfavorable ISRs. Applicants may yet file amendments and pursue the application.