APAA 2026, in Hong Kong
Trademark Committee
Group Report - Pakistan

A. Developments

- No changes in the Trade Marks Ordinance, 2001 and Trade Marks Rules 2004.
- IPR Enforcement Rules, 2025 have been notified.

B. Statistics

1. The number of new applications

Year	No. of new applications	Increase/Decrease
2024	**53,300**	**-**
2025	**66,600**	**About 25 % increase**

Comments and /or additional statistics:

2. Average timeframe from filing up to registration

Year	Average timeframe from filing up to registration (months)
2024	**12 months**
2025	**10 months**

Comments and /or additional statistics:

C. CASES

(Note: At least two (2) representing cases are advisable)

Muhammad Abdullah v Sanofi Aventis & Another

The High Court of Sindh at Karachi has overturned an order passed by the Registrar of Trade Marks in opposition proceedings initiated by Sanofi Aventis against registration of PROGREL by Muhamad Abdullah

Facts

On 4th March 2026, the Sindh High Court, exercising its appellate jurisdiction, allowed an appeal filed by my client and set aside the order of the Registrar of Trade Marks in the opposition proceedings.

The Applicant had applied for registration of the trademark PROGREL in Class 5 in respect of pharmaceutical preparations for heart diseases.

The application was opposed by Sanofi-Aventis, France, on the following grounds:

i. The mark PROGREL is similar to the INN CLOPIDOGREL;
ii. The mark incorporates the common stem "GREL."

The Registrar of Trade Marks had upheld the opposition and refused the application. Aggrieved by this decision, the Applicant preferred an appeal before the Hon'ble Court.

While allowing the appeal, the Hon'ble Court observed:

"In light of the above discussion, it is evident that the refusal of registration by the Registrar of Trade Marks was overly cautious and not fully in accordance with the statutory principles, and that the applicant is entitled to registration of the mark. The applicant has fulfilled all statutory requirements, including distinctiveness, non-deceptiveness, and compliance with the relevant class specifications."

Decision

The High Court held that under Section 16 of the Trade Marks Ordinance, 2001, registration of only INN are prohibited and stems of INN can be registered.

The High Court allowed the Appeal and overturned the order of the Registrar of Trade Marks.