Summary of Findings

Over the last decade intellectual property has taken centre stage around the world as countries realize the value of having a consistent and enforceable patent business. The increase in patent activity has resulted in a number of new laws being created. Patent is a form of Industrial Property or as it is now called Intellectual property. Patents are a goldmine of information. About 80 per cent of the information in a patent is never published elsewhere. In many cases, patents are the earliest source of information on research work. Patent is a set of exclusive rights granted by a sovereign state to an inventor or their assignee for a limited period of time, in exchange for the public disclosure of the invention. An invention is a solution to a specific technological problem, and may be a product or a process. The procedure for granting patents, requirements placed on the patentee, and the extent of the exclusive rights vary widely between countries according to national laws and international agreements. Typically, however, a patent application must include one or more claims that define the invention. These claims must meet relevant patentability requirements, such as novelty and non-obviousness. The exclusive right granted to a patentee in most countries is the right to prevent others from making, using, selling, or distributing the patented invention without permission.

Patent as an Intellectual Property plays an important role in economic, industrial, social and cultural development of a nation. Patent literature consists of both patents and non-patent literature. The patent system owes its origin to the 15th Century and patents were granted in Venice (Italy) and the period of protection was 10 years by awarding inventors with granting of Open Letters patent for monopolies. Later the statues on patents were developed in various other countries. The statue law relating to Intellectual Property in India is undergoing changes so as to bring them to harmonize with the corresponding laws in the developing countries. Patent system emerged as a result of industrial revolution, advancement of Science and Technology, International Trade Practices amended globally as the result of setting up of Patent Co-operation Treaty (PCT). This has become necessary after India signing the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs (GATT) and Trade Related Intellectual Property Systems (TRIPS) and becoming a
member of World Trade Organizations (WTO). The Internationalization of Commerce in late 19th Century lead to the development of patent applications filing process. Thus, patent information is being grown globally and exponentially and hence searching for the needed information is a complex process. The growth of Research & Development (R&D) activities in personal care industry has been increasing tremendously in the Indian Patent filing system for the past one decade.

Considering the importance of patents in personal care, an analytical study of published applications in India filed and granted top ten assignee as well as World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO-PCT). International India’s patent activity (World Intellectual Property Organization) through (PCT/IN) study is also being investigated here. Thus, the study deals with all possible and feasible ways of search strategies are carried out in this survey. The purpose of this investigation is to assess the patent trends in personal care industry and using the appropriate statistical tools and techniques and the study covers during the period 1993 to 2012. This study concludes signifying the contribution of various Corporate Assignee of India as well as International India’s patenting activity (World Intellectual Property Organization) through PCT /IN and analyzing the patenting trend activity in the Personal care industry.