Considering substantial tax-payers' funds are being expended on research and development in the public sector, especially in the manufacturing sector, it is high time to enquire what innovations are being made and how these are being recorded, maintained and commercialised under the Australian Intellectual Property protection system.

It is somewhat perturbing to note that the Global Innovation Index for 2021 (GII 2021) released a few days back by the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO, Geneva) has revealed that Australia is continuing to slide down in global rankings for innovation from 23 last year to 25 in 2021.

I believe that Australia's global standing is being brought down by our weakness in commercialising our ideas or innovation.  In essence, this is due to our failure to produce innovation outputs relative to Australia's level of Research and Development (R&D) or innovation investment.

The imbalance between Australia's innovation input and output highlights the urgent need for a holistic, national approach to innovation not only in the private sector but also in the public sector.

I would suggest that the Australian Government needs to pay urgent attention to intellectual property strategy to drive an innovation-led economy in the country.

In my experience (having worked in the Queensland Government for 8 years) the Australian government's approach to intellectual property commercialisation is too fragmented and the timeframes are too short to achieve full potential.

In sum, the Government (both Federal and State) needs to inquire whether or not we are commercialising our innovations in the manufacturing field.

Kind regards.

Kamal

P.S.  I give consent to my submission being made publicly available, thanks.

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