**Patents -The Patents Act O(1970), object definitions, salient features**

The Patents Act of 1970 is an important legislation in India that governs the protection and grant of patents. It provides a framework for inventors and innovators to protect their inventions and promotes scientific and technological advancement. Here are the key object definitions and salient features of the Patents Act of 1970:

1. Object Definitions:

* Invention: The Act defines an invention as a new and useful process, product, or any improvement thereof, capable of industrial application.
* Patent: A patent is an exclusive right granted to the inventor for a limited period, which enables them to prevent others from making, using, selling, or importing the invention without their consent.
* Patentability: The Act outlines the criteria for patentability, including novelty, inventive step, and industrial applicability. The invention must be new, involve an inventive step that is not obvious to a person skilled in the relevant field, and have industrial utility.

1. Salient Features:

* Patentable Subject Matter: The Act allows for the patenting of inventions in various fields of technology, including processes, products, substances, and methods. However, certain subject matters, such as discoveries, scientific theories, mathematical methods, and computer programs per se, are specifically excluded from patentability.
* Exclusive Rights: The Act grants the patent holder exclusive rights over the invention, giving them the power to prevent others from making, using, selling, or importing the patented invention without their authorization. This encourages innovation by providing inventors with incentives and rewards for their creations.
* Duration of Patent Protection: The Act provides for a fixed duration of patent protection, typically 20 years from the date of filing the patent application. After the expiry of the patent term, the invention enters the public domain, allowing others to use and benefit from it.
* Patent Application and Examination: The Act establishes the process for filing patent applications with the Indian Patent Office. The applications undergo examination to determine their compliance with the patentability criteria. The examination may include evaluating prior art and conducting a search for similar inventions. The Act also allows for filing international patent applications under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT).
* Compulsory Licensing: The Act includes provisions for compulsory licensing, which allows for the grant of licenses to third parties to use the patented invention in certain circumstances. This is aimed at ensuring that the invention is adequately exploited and made available to the public in cases of non-working or unreasonably priced patented inventions.
* Rights of Patent Holders: The Act provides patent holders with rights to enforce their patents, including the right to initiate legal proceedings against infringement and claim damages. It also allows patent holders to assign or license their patent rights to others.

These salient features of the Patents Act of 1970 create a legal framework to encourage innovation, protect inventors' rights, and promote the progress of science and technology in India. The Act aims to strike a balance between providing incentives for innovation and ensuring that inventions are made available to the public for the benefit of society as a whole.