

India

Section 126 of the *Indian Evidence Act 1872* provides that no barrister, attorney, pleader or *vakil* shall be permitted to disclose communications made by his client or advice given by him in the course of his employment except if there is an illegal purpose or showing a crime or fraud after commencement of his employment. Further, section 129 states that no one shall be compelled to disclose to a court any confidential communication between him and his legal professional adviser except when he offers himself as a witness, to the extent necessary to explain evidence given. According to *Wilden Pump Engineering Co. v. Fusfield*, a patent agent was not regarded as a variety of lawyer and was held to be outside the common law privilege under English law.