



MAHARASHTRA NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY, NAGPUR
DPIIT-IPR CHAIR
ORGANISES
TWO DAY VIRTUAL NATIONAL CONFERENCE
on
REFORMS IN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAWS IN INDIA
(February 27-28, 2021)

Challenges to the enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights in today's globalised world have shown that, there are many unanswered questions and grey areas in the prevalent Intellectual Property laws in India. IPR in this technologically advanced era is pluralistic in nature, i.e., they are a culmination of different theories that have been developed with time. There have been numerous disputes about the interpretation, scope, and justifications of intellectual property. These disputes raise variety of legal, moral, economic, political issues, most of them also touch on the fundamental issue in IP law and policy. Last three decades have seen many new facets of Intellectual Property and many issues have been seen with regards to them. Fields of Intellectual properties like Artificial Intelligence, Traditional Knowledge, Traditional Cultural Expressions, protection of Geographical Indications, patenting of DNA, plants, etc. have seen more rising issues and have opened the doors for protection to many new fields of Intellectual Properties.

The IPR regime in India has developed with the international developments and India has tried to maintain the development with the same pace as the other developing and developed countries have done. India is aiming to fight at the global level to be at par with developed countries. It becomes of major importance for India to strengthen its soft power at the International platform. Strengthening the IPR regime would give India the edge at such International platform. Although, we have observed significant changes in the National Laws, we still have a long road ahead to stand with countries like, US, China and Japan. The changing nature of Intellectual Property due to technological advancement, globalisation has resulted in new issues and challenges. The Indian IPR regime needs to focus not only on the legal regime but also on the organisational structure of the IP Offices in the country. Challenges like delay in examination needs be addressed and at the same time the focus needs to be shift towards the nomenclature of the Office of Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks (CGPDTM).

The DPIIT-IPR CHAIR at MNLU, Nagpur takes this opportunity to provide a platform for the intellectual discourse by organising Two Day Virtual National Conference on "Reforms in Intellectual Property Laws in India". This Conference poses to revisit the laws related to Intellectual Property and to discover and explore suggestions to overcome existing lacunas in the laws.

BROAD SUB-THEMES OF THE CONFERENCE

- Need for Reforms in the Patents Act 1970;
- Need for Reforms in the Copyright Act 1957;
- Need for Reforms in the Trade Marks Act 1999;
- Need for Reforms in the Designs Act 2000;
- Need for Reforms in the Geographical Indication of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act 1999;
- Need for Reforms in the Semiconductor Integrated Circuits Layout-Design Act 2000;
- Protection of Traditional Knowledge and Traditional Cultural Expressions; and,
- Protection of Undisclosed Information, including Trade Secrets and Test Data.

ABOUT THE DPIIT -IPR CHAIR

‘The Scheme for Pedagogy & Research in IPRs for Holistic Education & Academia’ (SPRIHA) was launched in the year 2016 by the Department for Promotion of Industries and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India. The IPR Chair was established under the scheme at selected Universities in India and MNLU, Nagpur takes pride in being one of them. The Chair was established to fulfil one of the objectives of the National IPR Policy of the Government of India, which was to “*strengthen IP Chairs in educational institutes of higher learning to provide quality teaching and research, develop teaching capacity and curricula and evaluate their work on performance based criteria*”.

ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY

The Maharashtra National Law University, Nagpur, an Institution with a students’ centric outlook, was established by the Government of Maharashtra in 2015. The University started its academic activities from August 1, 2016 and is currently in its fifth year of academic pursuits with five batches of undergraduate degree course [B.A.LL.B.(Hons.) Five-Year Integrated Degree Course]; fifth batch of postgraduate degree program [One-Year LL.M.]; and three batches of Ph.D. programme. The University is pursuing excellence in legal and justice education under the dynamic leadership of the Chancellor, Hon’ble Shri Justice S.A. Bobde, Chief Justice of India. The University is recognised by the University Grants Commission (UGC) and the Bar Council of India (BCI), New Delhi. It is also a member of Association of Indian Universities (AIU), New Delhi and Consortium of National Law Universities of India. The University has launched B.A.LL.B. (Honours in Adjudication and Justicing) Five-Year Integrated Degree Course, the first-of-its-kind in India; it aims to train and equip students for the entry level of Judiciary.

PROCEDURE FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

An abstract (250-350 words) should be submitted as an attachment in a word file. Abstracts will be peer reviewed before they are accepted. The following information, in the given format, should be sent along with the abstract;

Name of the Participant

Official Designation / Institution Details

Address and Email ID

Title of Abstract

Mobile No.

Note- The Submission of abstract and final paper will be through

<https://sites.google.com/view/virtual-national-conference/home>

GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSION OF PAPERS

- Full papers should be prepared (1) in the MS-Word format, (2) Font: Times New Roman, (3) Title of the paper: Font 14, (4) Subtitles: Font 13, (5) Body text: Font 12, (5) Spacing: 1.5 lines, and (6) should not exceed 6,000 words (including footnotes). Exceeding the word limit may lead to rejection of papers.
- Submission of a paper amounts to consent to such publication and transfer of copyright to The Maharashtra National Law University (MNLU), Nagpur and consent to edit the paper as may be required. The author shall cooperate with the editor, in respect of such editing.
- All references must be in the form of footnotes with font size 10 and should be according to the Bluebook 19th Edition.
- The work should be original, previously unpublished and must not be in the stage of submission/ consideration elsewhere.

PUBLICATION OPPORTUNITY

All the final submission shall be subjected to blind peer review and plagiarism check, subsequent to which the selected papers will be considered for publication in an Edited Book (with ISBN).

RULES FOR THE PARTICIPANTS

- **The abstracts will be peer reviewed by the organising committee and only shortlisted abstracts will be invited to submit final papers. The final paper should be submitted after the intimation of acceptance of abstract. The final submission shall be concluded within the prescribed *deadline*.**
- No abstract or full paper shall be accepted after the last dates of submission, respectively.
- Participants/Paper Presenters have to register after the acceptance of abstract with payment of required fees.
- For participation, registration is mandatory on confirmation of the participation.
- Only registered participants will be allowed to take part in the Conference.
- All the registered participants will be provided with participation certificates

Registration Fee – The Registration is free for all the participants.

IMPORTANT DATES	
Deadline for Submission of Abstract	January 20, 2021
Confirmation of Abstract Selection	January 22, 2021
Deadline for Submission of Full Paper	February 22, 2021
Last Date for Registration	February 22, 2021
Conference Date	February 27-28, 2021

Note:

- All registered candidates will get certificates but, the organiser reserves right to choose the quality papers for presentation.
- The conference will be held online through '**Cisco WebEx**'

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE

Research papers are invited from Academicians, Professionals, Advocates/Practitioners, Research Scholars and Students etc.

Patron

Prof. (Dr.) Vijender Kumar
Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor,
Maharashtra National Law University, Nagpur.

Coordinator

Dr. Ragini Khubalkar,
In-charge, DPIIT-IPR Chair,
Assistant Professor of Law,
Maharashtra National Law University, Nagpur.

Co-coordinators

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