

Industry Institute Interaction (IIIC) and Institution's Innovation Council (IIC)

A report on “COPYRIGHTS UNCOVERED”

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As part of the **World Book and Copyright Day celebrations**, an insightful session titled “**COPYRIGHTS UNCOVERED**” was organized by **AICTE** on **23rd April 2025**. The event is witnessed by the distinguished speakers of **Ms. Anooja Padhee**, *KS Partners*, and **Dr. Hemanth Khola**, Deputy Registrar of Copyrights, Government of India.

The session commenced with a presentation by **Ms. Anooja Padhee**, a highly talented person in the field of Intellectual Property (IP) law. **KS Partners**, is one of India's leading IP law firms, Ms. Padhee brought to the discussion her extensive expertise in **trademarks, copyrights, and Geographical Indications (GIs)**. Her insights provided a valuable understanding on the nuances of copyright law, its practical implications, and the importance of protecting creative works in today's digital era.



At the outset, first speaker, Ms. Anooja Padhee, provided a detailed explanation of the procedures involved in filing a copyrights uncovered. She has worked with clients across

diverse sectors like FMCG, clothing, textiles, and beauty. She's an expert in managing IP portfolios, prosecution, enforcement, and complex cases like oppositions and infringements. Beyond that, she's skilled in drafting and negotiating IP license agreements and plays a pivotal role in the registration and prosecution of GIs in India.



Ms. Anooja Padhee presentation is an introduction to copyright. She'll discuss the law, enforcement aspects, and current challenges, supported by legal provisions and case laws, old and new. She has also provided a detailed explanation of the procedures involved below points:

What is Copyright?

Copyright is the right to copy. The owner or authorized parties are the only ones with the right to reproduce any work. It protects the expression of an idea, not the idea itself. The first question that comes to mind when you hear the word "copyright" is: what is copyright? Copyright is exactly what the word says—it's the right to copy. The owner of the copyright and anyone authorized by the owner are the only ones with the right to reproduce any work.

Copyright protects the expression of a particular idea, the manner in which it is made. The work has to be an expression, a combination of things, and copyright does not protect an idea per se. You may have an idea, and four people may have the same idea, but if the manner in which the idea is expressed by these four people differs and there is originality in each of the four works, then each of the four works can be protected, even though the idea may be similar.

Copyright is automatically created as soon as the work is created. If an original copyrightable work is created, then automatically copyright vests in it by virtue of creation. Registration of copyright is not mandatory, but it is recommended because it acts as prima facie evidence of your ownership in the work and provides legal evidence in case of infringement or a court case.

Creation and Registration

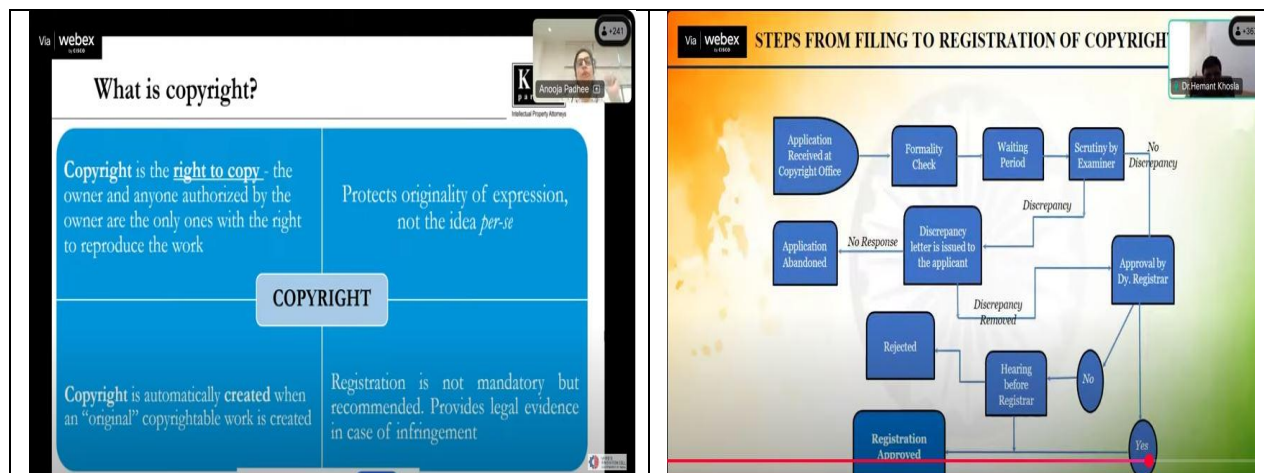
Copyright is automatically created when the work is created. Registration isn't mandatory but is recommended as it serves as prima facie evidence of ownership and is useful in legal disputes.

Legal Framework in India

Governed by the Copyright Act of 1957 (last amended in 2012), administered by the Copyright Office under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. India is a signatory to major treaties like TRIPS and the Berne Convention, which ensure minimum IP protection standards and national treatment (protection in member countries as if it were domestic).

Types of Works Protected

1. **Literary works** (books, computer programs).
2. **Dramatic works** (plays, screenplays).
3. **Musical works** (compositions).
4. **Artistic works** (paintings, sculptures, photographs).
5. **Cinematograph films** (movies, videos).
6. **Sound recordings** (audio songs).



Rights of Copyright Owners

1. **Economic rights:** Reproduction, distribution, public performance, translation, adaptation.
2. **Moral rights:** Right of attribution (paternity) and right to integrity (objection to derogatory treatment).

Copyright Societies:*

Copyright societies help owners license their works. In India, registered societies include:

- Indian Performing Right Society (IPRS) for musical works.
- Indian Reprographic Rights Organization (IRRO) for photocopying.

- Others for sound recordings, films, etc.

Recent Issues: AI and Copyright (ANI vs. Open AI)

A key issue is whether AI-generated works can be copyrighted. The Delhi High Court is considering questions like:

1. Does storing data for AI training infringe copyright?
2. Does using copyrighted data to generate AI responses infringe copyright?
3. Does AI use qualify as fair use?
4. Do Indian courts have jurisdiction over foreign AI companies?

THE FUTURE OF IPR IN INDIA

- Informed and Engaged Public**
 - Aware Public on protecting their intellectual property rights.
 - Unleashing Innovation and creativity, as well as increased numbers of copyright applications
- Stronger Legal Protection**
 - Robust judicial support in place for stronger protection for authors and creators.
 - Progressive judicial approach towards upholding the sanctity of copyright laws in India .
- Modernized IP Offices**
 - IP management system in India with focus on modernized infrastructure and recruiting new talent pool.
 - Streamlined process for registering and managing intellectual property.
- International Collaboration**
 - Building international alliances and harmonize IP norms.
 - Boost India's image as a country that respects and values intellectual property.

Conclusion:

Copyright is a vital tool for protecting creative works. As technology evolves, new challenges like AI-generated content are emerging, requiring updates to copyright laws.

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