

Report of the

Workshop

On

Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)

(13th December, 2018)

Organised by

Under the aegis of Institution's Innovation Council (IIC)



National Centre for Innovation in Distance Education (NCIDE)

Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU)



Introduction

Intellectual Property (IP) is the idea in its intangible form generated in a person's mind. It is the result of an individual's creativity. These creative works could be:

1. inventions,
2. literary works,
3. artistic works, and
4. symbols, names, images, etc., used in commerce.

Intellectual property is divided into two groups:

1. Industrial Property (includes patents for inventions, trademarks, industrial designs and geographical indications), and
2. Copyrights and related rights: Copyright covers literary works (such as novels, poems and plays), films, music, artistic works (e.g., drawings, paintings, photographs and sculptures) and architectural design. Rights related to copyright include those of performing artists in their performances, producers of phonograms in their recordings, and broadcasters in their radio and television programs.

Intellectual property is an important asset that drives innovation in the society. Intellectual property is seen as extremely essential for the overall growth and development of the society and economy. Intellectual Property has both moral and commercial value.

Intellectual property is protected by law. The creator gets certain rights to use his/her creation and can exclude others to use his/her creation freely for a limited period of time. These rights are called Intellectual Property Rights (IPR). The IPR ensures that the creator gets the benefit of his/her creation. This protection encourages people to create for the benefit of all. It also encourages investors in research and development a fair return on their investment.

When the work protected by IPR is used, copied or exploited without the permission of the creator, it is infringement of the IPR. Plagiarism, counterfeiting, piracy are examples of IPR infringement. Infringement of IPR attracts severe penalties.

The Universities are the hub of intellectual creativity. Through their creativity, the student innovators and research scholars generate a lot of Intellectual Property that need to be protected. Creation also occurs during the generation of academic content in the form of text, graphics, audio, and video during the teaching- learning process. In the Open and Distance Learning system, where multiple media are used to generate and deliver content, copyrights and related rights come into immediate effect. Also, research and development activities in the Universities generate various forms of Intellectual Property, such as patents. Therefore, it is important that the stakeholders in the Universities, such as the students teachers, and the administration be made aware of the different types of intellectual property. They also should be made aware of the different aspects of IPR infringement, such as plagiarism, and how to keep away from it.

Keeping the above background in view, the Institute's Innovation Council (IIC) at IGNOU held a "Half-day workshop on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) for Students and Faculty Members".

Objectives

The objectives of the workshop were to:

1. Generate awareness among the participants about the various aspects of IPR.
2. Sensitize the participants about the role of IPR in innovation and invention.

Methodology

The workshop was held on 13th December, 2018, Thursday, from 10.00 AM to 01.30 PM. The participants included teachers and academic members for various Schools and Divisions. The student participants included the research scholars, who are pursuing MPhil and PhD Programmes. The workshop included sessions by internal experts Dr. Suneet Srivastav, Assistant Professor, School of Law, IGNOU and Prof. Shubha Gokhale, Professor, School of Sciences. Dr. Srivastav took a session on "Copyrights and Related Rights", which was very interactive. She touched upon the various aspects of Copyrights and Related Rights, their duration, fair use etc. Prof. Gokhale took a session on "Patents: Importance in Research and Innovation" where she mentioned about what is patentable subject, duration, infringement etc. This session was also very interactive with the students asking questions about patents.

1. Participants

A total of 39 students and faculty members participated in the workshop.

- a. *Students*: The student participants included the research scholars, who are pursuing MPhil and PhD Programmes. A total of 26 students participated. There were 17 female and 09 male students.
- b. *Faculty*: The participants also included teachers and academic members for various Schools and Divisions. A total of 13 faculty members participated. There were 08 female and 05 male faculty members.

2. Schools/Division/Centre

- a. The student participants were from five Schools of Studies and one Institute at IGNOU. These are School of Social Sciences, School of Journalism and New Media Studies, School of Management Studies, School of Sciences, School of Social Work and Staff Training Research Institute for Distance Education.
- b. The faculty members were from five Schools, two Divisions, and two Centres of IGNOU. These are School of Sciences, School of Education, School of Journalism and New Media Studies, School of Social Work, School of Health Sciences, Inter University Consortium, Computer Division, Electronic Media Production Centre and National Centre for Disability Studies.

Feedback from the Participants

Thirty four out of thirty nine participants responded with their feedback. The following is the feedback about the workshop.

The participants were highly satisfied with the workshop, and the session on Copyrights and Related Rights was found to be very useful. The knowledge about plagiarism was useful.

Quotes from the students

-- “Discussion on copyright issues proved very useful to me as it will considerably help me in the process of research”-- *Ubaid Ahmad Dar, PhD Scholar in Anthropology*

-- “Innovation today is indispensable for development of any country. I feel such type of workshops are extremely important for research scholars.” *Karishma Kapoor, PhD Scholar in Economics.*

---“ Thanks for a fab workshop. I came away feeling very educated and inspired to get creative.”
Mamta Anand, PhD Scholar in Distance Education



The various sessions of the workshop.



Awarding certificates to the students.

Resource Persons

1. Prof. Shubha Gokhale, Professor, School of Sciences, IGNOU
2. Dr. Sunee K. Srivastava, Assistant Professor, School of Law, IGNOU

Coordinator

Dr. Moumita Das, Assistant Director, NCIDE and Convener IIC, IGNOU

Report prepared by:

Dr. Moumita Das
Assistant Director, NCIDE and
Convener IIC, IGNOU