

ADVANCE RESEARCH JOURNAL OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

Volume 7 | Issue 1 | June, 2016 | 129-135 🔳 e ISSN-2231-6418



DOI: 10.15740/HAS/ARJSS/7.1/129-135

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Approach to intellectual property rights in India

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ARTICLE INFO :		<u>KEY WORDS</u> : Intellectual property rights, Patent, Copyright, Trademark, Geographical
Received Accepted	: 23.12.2015 : 23.05.2016	indication HOW TO CITE THIS ARTICLE :
*Author for co	rrespondence	Chopkar, Rita and Mannade, Ajit (2016). Approach to intellectual property rights in India. <i>Adv. Res. J. Soc. Sci.</i> , 7 (1): 129-135, DOI: 10.15740/HAS/ARJSS/7.1/129-135.

INTRODUCTION

The Indian government has taken several initiatives to create a conducive environment for the protection of intellectual property rights of innovators and creators by bringing about changes at legislative and policy level. In addition, specific focus has been placed on improved service delivery by upgrading infrastructure, building capacity and using state-of-the-art technology in the functioning of intellectual property offices in the country. This measure has resulted in sweeping changes in IP administration within the country (Ramanna, 2003). One of the primary steps towards the development and evolution of the national IPR regime could be building the institutions and capacity in various fields related to the IPR area, such as, research and development, enterprise, industry, general administration, and judiciary. A harmonious, efficient and effective institutional mechanism for building capacity and trained human resource would be desirable so to derive full advantage of the Indian IPR regime. There are five central ministries/ departments besides two national authorities that oversee the implementation of various IPR legislations in the country (Manchikanti and Mahasweta, 2011). The largest nodal point is the Intellectual Property India, administered by the Patent Office and controlled by the Ministry of

Commerce and Industry. The Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights in the country is at a juvenile stage and requires building its institutional mechanism and capacity.

Why IPR need :

- Establishing a vibrant IP regime in the country.
- Efficient processing of IP applications by inducting additional manpower, augment IT facilities and automation in intellectual property offices.
- Adopt best practices in IP processing.
- Strengthening public delivery of IP services.
- Highest levels of transparency and userfriendliness.

Benefits of Indian IPR :

- The IPR framework in India is stable and well established from a legal, judicial and administrative point of view and is fully compliant with the Agreement on trade-related aspects of intellectual property rights.
- India is committed to wide range of international treaties and conventions relating to intellectual property rights.