

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RESEARCH CELL (IPR Cell) of USLLS, GGSIPU

Objective

Intellectual property protection is critical to fostering innovation and creativity. Without protection of ideas, businesses and individuals would not reap the full benefits of their inventions and would focus less on research and development. Similarly, artists would not be fully compensated for their creations and cultural vitality would suffer as a result. UGC and Government of India are attaching increasing importance to effective implementation of IPR laws in the country in the contemporary times reiterating the immense potentialities of IPRS. IPR Awareness in Institutions of Higher Educations is seriously undertaken by GOI partnering with Universities.

IPRS has gained unparelled significance nationally and internationally in the past decade. GOI has presented an Intellectual Property Policy to the country underlining the importance of IPR for the country as a whole. Adequate knowledge of IPR is inevitable for anyone in the field of academics to protect one's own intellectual creations and also to respect others' intellectual creations. Intellectual property law is a subject prescribed by Bar Council of India in the LLB curriculum. Hence, IPR is taught as mandatory paper in both BA. LLB and BBA LLB in USLLS, an IP Specialisation is also offered in LL.M; there are several Ph.D Research Scholars undertaking Research in the diverse area of IPRS in USLLS; hence the work of the Cell shall feed into these courses of the University.

However, the students need to have a practical exposure of the subject and also need to familiarise its industrial application. For this interaction with people from industry, bench, Bar and leading practitioners in IPR is very much required. With the objective of enhancing the intellectual property knowledge base and research capabilities of students, the present proposal aims to set up an Intellectual Property Research Cell in the University School of Law and Legal Studies. This would be an academic activity monitored and closely supervised by the USLLS faculty with IPR specialisation and expertise and also student-driven initiative with the main objective to initiate research and discussions on contemporary issues relating to Intellectual Property Law.

Vision

The vision of the IPR Cell is to constitute a research-centric Cell that inculcates the skills of research and training in the field of intellectual property rights among USLLS students, promotes and undertakes IPR extension activities. The long-term vision would be to take high-level research projects that can assist in the government's IPR policy of promoting knowledge creation and protection of innovations & creativity.

Functions

The IPR Cell undertake and encourage cutting-edge research into contemporary and comparative domestic and international IPR issues through the constitution of research teams; spread awareness with respect to the aforementioned IPR issues through events and webinars; and conduct outreach programmes in the form of training programmes, conferences; and organise skill-building workshops pertaining to governmental and non-governmental IP research databases.

To this end, the Cell would organise competitions, including quizzes and essay-writing competitions; provide a toolkit of resources related to IP law, such as potential internships, research assistantships, and other opportunities to students; and set up a blog dedicated to publishing IP law articles by jurists, legal practitioners, experts, academicians, and students. The Cell would also encapsulate latest IP news and prominent case laws (domestic and foreign) and make the same available on the website of the IP Cell. Senior students of USLLS would be mentoring their juniors in the field of IPR as well.

Mandate

The mandate of the Intellectual Property Research Cell encompasses the promotion and conduction of a wide array of intellectual property research relevant to today's legal scenario. The objective is to provide a conducive environment for the advancement of interest among students. They will learn how to manage complex interactions between IPR and related fields.

There will be sessions on legal entrepreneurship, legal career planning, governance and soft skills. The resource persons include eminent lawyers, academicians, journalists, bureaucrats and trainers. Retired judges will also be involved in the process, and the students will have interactive sessions with them. The working of the Cell will also include training programmes, conferences, and organise skill-building workshops pertaining to governmental and non-governmental IP research databases, as well as competitions. The Intellectual Property Research Cell, works towards developing a congenial environment for students and researchers to further their interest in IPR.

Scope of Activities

1. Integration: Integration of a multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary research-based intellectual property system that builds both the understanding of IPR and creates a demand for the same among the students.
2. Collaboration: We bring our practical experience and expertise in IPR in the country and match it with local expertise and professionals as well as to collaborate with other organisations/institutions/law firms in academic and research matters.
3. Discipline: We will take a disciplined approach to each project, with an aim to provide training to students for enhancing practical knowledge and skills, and also conduct

panel discussions, roundtables, seminars and conferences to further enhance practical knowledge.

4. Outcome Orientation: We are committed to securing real results and outcomes in our engagements with students.

Learning Outcomes

By participating in the activities of IPR Cell, the students will be able to:

1. Describe, analyse and apply the substantive legal rules of IPR;
2. Conduct research into Intellectual Property issues;
3. Gain critical thinking capacity in matters related to IPR
4. Learn to use national and international IP databases; and
5. Learn about IPR enforcement and the protection of IPR.
6. Make 'profession ready' IPR people with sufficient practical knowledge of IPR

Structure of the Cell

The Cell consists of the Dean USLLS, The Faculty Convenor, The Faculty Coordinators, Student Coordinators and Members.

Patron: Prof. (Dr.) Mahesh Verma (Hon'ble Vice Chancellor - Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University)

Director: Prof. (Dr.) Amar Pal Singh (Dean - University School of Law and Legal Studies, GGSIPU)

Faculty Convenor: Prof. (Dr.) Lisa P. Lukose (Professor - University School of Law and Legal Studies)

Faculty Coordinators: Dr. Vandana Singh, Asst. Professor, USLLS, GGSIPU
Dr Gurujit Singh, Asst. Professor, USLLS, GGSIPU
Dr M Sakthivel, Asst. Professor, USLLS, GGSIPU

The Cell functions with the help of Student Coordinators Student Members