



उद्योग संवर्धन और आंतरिक व्यापार विभाग
DEPARTMENT FOR
PROMOTION OF INDUSTRY AND
INTERNAL TRADE



Gujarat National Law University



NATIONAL CONFERENCE
ON
WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DAY, 2025
April 25, 2025

“IP AND MUSIC: FEEL THE BEAT OF IP”



Overview

Music is more than just sound, it is way of storytelling, identity, and imagination. It reflects who we are, where we come from, and how we connect with the world around us. As music continues to evolve through technology and culture, intellectual property (IP) rights remain essential in supporting the people behind the art.

World Intellectual Property Day, 2025 invites us to explore how IP fuels the music industry by encouraging creativity and ensuring that creators are recognized and rewarded. This year's theme, "IP and Music: Feel the Beat of IP", celebrates the vibrant exchange between music and the legal systems that protect it. This session brings together experts and stakeholders to explore and examine key issues including the impact of AI on music copyright, streaming platforms, and fair monetization, the recognition and protection of traditional knowledge and cultural expressions in music, and the delicate balance between fair use and infringement.

Objectives of the Conference

The contemporary music landscape is undergoing a profound transformation driven by technological innovation, evolving modes of distribution, and the increasing intersection of cultural expression and commerce. This conference seeks to critically engage with the complex interplay between IP law and the music industry, addressing emergent challenges such as authorship in AI-generated music, equitable remuneration in digital licensing, and safeguarding traditional cultural expressions. In furtherance of these aims, the conference will focus on the following specific objectives:

- To explore the legal implications and copyright challenges arising from AI-generated music and automated composition tools.
- To assess the adequacy and fairness of digital music licensing models in ensuring equitable compensation for creators.
- To delve into the recognition, protection, and commercialisation of traditional music and folk expressions within national and international legal frameworks.
- To examine the nuances of fair use in music in relation to transformative creations.
- To analyse the role of digital platforms in influencing how music is accessed, distributed and monetised in today's landscape.

MINUTE TO MINUTE PROGRAMME
INAUGURAL SESSION

Arrival of Chief Guest

Hon'ble (Mr.) Justice Ujjal Bhuyan
Judge, Supreme Court of India

09:25 AM

Lightning of Ceremonial Lamp

Felicitation of Dignitaries

09:30 – 09:35 AM

Welcome Address

By Sr. Prof. (Dr.) V.K. Ahuja
Director, ILI

09:35 – 09:40 AM

Special Address

By Prof. (Dr.) Annamma Sammuel
DPIIT, IPR- Chair, GNLU

09:40 – 09:45 AM

Keynote Address

By Prof. (Dr.) Manoj Kumar Sinha
President, ISIL & Vice-Chancellor, DNLU Jabalpur
Former Director, ILI

09:45 – 09:50 AM

Inaugural Address

By Hon'ble (Mr.) Justice Ujjal Bhuyan
Judge, Supreme Court of India

09:50 – 10: 20 AM

Vote of Thanks

By Dr. Parineet Kaur
Assistant Professor & Head, Centre for IP & Tech Law, ISIL

10:20 – 10:25 AM

SESSION I- THE FUTURE OF MUSIC COPYRIGHT: AI, STREAMING, AND MONETIZATION

The first session will delve into how factors such as AI and dominance of streaming platforms are reshaping the rules around ownership, creativity, and compensation. A key area of concern is the emergence of AI-generated music, which raises complex legal questions such as ownership, ethical debates regarding AI, and infringement. The panel shall discuss digital music licensing and revenue models. It will also include a discussion on the role of collective management organizations (CMOs) in facilitating rights administration and fair compensation, as well as their potential evolution in future policy frameworks. This panel will bring together diverse perspectives to unpack these pressing issues, encouraging dialogue around the future of music, law, and creative equity in the digital age.



Mr. Nishchal Anand
(Partner, Panda Law)



Mr. Neel Mason
(Managing Partner, Mason & Associates)



Mr. Partha Chakraborty
(Vice- President, RMPL)

SESSION II - TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE & CULTURAL EXPRESSIONS IN MUSIC: RECOGNITION, PROTECTION AND CHALLENGES

Traditional Knowledge and Cultural Expressions in music such as tribal chants, folk songs, ritual melodies, and indigenous instruments represent the living heritage of communities. However, they are increasingly vulnerable to exploitation due to globalization and commercialization, often being appropriated without proper acknowledgment or benefit to their creators.

Session II shall entail discussion on ethical issues regarding commercialization of indigenous music without consent or compensation, and challenges faced by indigenous communities in asserting their rights due to lack of legal literacy and marginalization. The recognition of Traditional Knowledge must be paired with respect, ensuring that cultural expressions are preserved not only as artistic assets but as living, evolving legacies.



Dr. Shikhar Ranjan
Director, Asian - African Legal
Consultative Organisation



Mr. V.C. Mathews,
Partner, Fox Mandal & Associates



Dr. Jupi Gogoi
Assistant Professor,
Faculty of Law, University of Delhi



Dr. Archa Vashishtha
Assistant Professor
Faculty of Law, University of Delhi

SESSION III - FAIR USE VS. INFRINGEMENT IN MUSIC: STRIKING THE RIGHT BALANCE

As the music industry continues to transform in the digital age, the intersection of intellectual property law and creative expression has become increasingly intricate. The panel discussion will critically examine the concept of fair use and its application to transformative works, including parodies, covers, remixes, and fan-made content. These forms of expression often challenge conventional notions of authorship and originality while raising critical legal and ethical considerations. The panel will explore the extent to which such works may be protected under fair use or conversely, deemed infringing. Moreover, Session III will entail discussion on role of digital platforms in shaping the landscape of music content, wherein they play a dual role as both facilitators of creative innovation and enforcers of intellectual property law, raising crucial questions about responsibility, algorithmic content moderation, and fair compensation for creators.



Prof. Dr. Raman Mittal
Professor, Campus Law Center,
Faculty of Law, University of
Delhi



Dr. Vikrant Narayan
Advocate on Record, Supreme
Court of India



Dr. Annamma Sammuel
DPIIT IPR- Chair Professor, GNLU

VALEDICTORY SESSION



Prof. V.G. Hegde
Executive President, ISIL &
Professor, Center for International Legal Studies,
Jawaharlal Nehru University



Dr. James J. Nedumpara
EC Member, ISIL &
Head, Center for Trade and Investment Law

Additional Information:

Venue: Plenary Hall, The Indian Law Institute, Bhagwan Das Road, opp. Supreme Court of India, New Delhi.

Faculty Coordinators:

- **Prof. (Dr.) Annamma Sammuel, DPIIT IPR- Chair Professor, GNLU**
- **Dr. Arya Kumar, Assistant Professor (SG), Indian Law Institute**
- **Dr. Parineet Kaur, Assistant Professor, Indian Society of International Law**

INDIAN LAW INSTITUTE, NEW DELHI WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DAY, 2025

On IP AND MUSIC: FEEL THE BEAT OF IP

Time: 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM | Date: April 25, 2025

Venue: Indian Law Institute (ILI), New Delhi

TECHNICAL SESSION I

Topic: The Future of Music Copyright : AI, Streaming and Monetisation

11.00 AM – 12.00 PM

| Time | Name and Designation of the Speaker | Sub-topic |
|---------------------|--|---|
| 11.00 – 11 :20 AM | Mr. Nishchal Anand Partner, Panda Law | AI - Generated Music and Copyright Challenges |
| 11:20 – 11:40 AM | Mr. Neel Mason Managing Partner, Mason & Associates | Digital Music Licensing and Fair Compensation |
| 11:40 AM – 12.00 PM | Mr. Partha Chakraborty Vice President, RMPL Registered Copyright Society | Role of Collective Management Organisations |

TEA BREAK

12.00 – 12:15 PM

TECHNICAL SESSION II

*Topic: Traditional Knowledge & Cultural Expressions in Music :
Recognition, Protection and Challenges*

12:15 – 01:30 PM

| | | |
|------------------|--|---|
| 12:15 – 12:35 PM | Dr. Shikhar Ranjan Director, Asian – African Legal Consultative Organisation (AALCO) | Role of International Treaties and National Laws in the Promotion of Traditional Cultural Expressions |
| 12:35 – 12:55 PM | Mr. V. C. Mathews Partner, Fox Mandal Solicitors & Advocates | Recognition of Folk and Indigenous Music in IP |
| 12:55 – 01:15 PM | Dr. Jupi Gogoi Assistant Professor (SG) Faculty of Law, University of Delhi | Commercial use of Traditional Knowledge (folk music): Fair use or Misappropriation |

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| 01:15 – 01:30 PM | Dr. Archa Vashishtha Assistant Professor Faculty of Law, University of Delhi | Protecting Our Musical Heritage through Intellectual Property : An Analysis of Conundrum between Individual and Community Rights |
| LUNCH BREAK 1:30 – 2:15 PM | | |
| TECHNICAL SESSION III <i>Topic: Fair Use vs. Infringement in Music: Striking the Right Balance</i> 02:15 – 03:15 PM | | |
| 02:15 – 02:35 PM | Prof. (Dr.) Raman Mittal Professor, Campus Law Centre, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi | Understanding Fair Use & Transformative Works - Parodies, Covers and Fan-made Content |
| 02 : 35 – 02:55 PM | Dr. Vikrant Narayan Vasudeva Advocate-on-Record, Supreme Court of India | Role of Digital Platforms |
| 02:55 – 03:15 PM | Dr. Annamma Samuel DPIIT IPR-Chair Professor, GNLU | Balancing Artists Rights & Public Creativity - Future Policy Consideration |

ORGANISING COMMITTEE



Sr. Prof. (Dr.) V.K. Ahuja
Director, Indian Law Institute,
New Delhi



Prof. (Dr.) S. Shanthakumar
Director, Gujarat National
Law University, Gujarat



Prof. (Dr.) Manoj Kumar Sinha
President, ISIL
Vice Chancellor, DNLU,
Jabalpur

FACULTY COORDINATORS



Dr. Annamma Samuel
DPIIT IPR-Chair Professor,
Gujarat National Law
University



Dr. Arya A. Kumar
Assistant Professor (SG) Indian Law
Institute, New Delhi



Dr. Parineet Kaur
Assistant Professor, Indian
Society of International
Law, New Delhi

PANEL DISCUSSION ON: WORLD IP DAY 2025

“FEEL THE BEAT OF IP”

Concept Note

Music is more than just sound, it is storytelling, identity, and imagination. It reflects who we are, where we come from, and how we connect with the world around us. As music continues to evolve through technology and culture, intellectual property (IP) rights remain essential in supporting the people behind the art, those who compose, perform, produce, and innovate.

World Intellectual Property Day 2025 invites us to explore how IP fuels the music industry by encouraging creativity and ensuring that creators are fairly recognised and rewarded. This year's theme, “**IP and Music: Feel the Beat of IP**” celebrates the vibrant exchange between music and the legal systems that protect it.

The panel discussion celebrates World Intellectual Property Rights Day, 2025 under the theme “**IP and Music: Feel the Beat of IP**”. The session brings together experts and stakeholders to explore how intellectual property shapes the evolving world of music. We'll examine key issues including the impact of AI on music copyright, streaming platforms and fair monetization, the recognition and protection of traditional knowledge and cultural expressions in music, and the delicate balance between fair use and infringement.

Session I- The Future of Music Copyright: AI, Streaming, and Monetization

In today's evolving music ecosystem, copyright law is facing fresh challenges brought on by artificial intelligence and the dominance of streaming platforms. The first session, “**The Future of Music Copyright: AI, Streaming and Monetization**,” will delve into how these forces are reshaping the rules around ownership, creativity, and compensation. A key area of concern is the emergence of AI-generated music, which raises complex legal questions. Legal ambiguities around attribution and royalties threaten to stifle creativity, while the potential for AI to replicate artist's styles sparks ethical debates about infringement. Hopefully, the deliberations will turn to digital music licensing and revenue models. Despite the global reach of platforms like Spotify and YouTube, many artists continue to struggle for fair pay. Licensing frameworks often lag behind technological innovation, leading to disputes over streaming royalties and the equitable treatment of rights holders. It will also include a discussion on the role of collective management organizations (CMOs) in facilitating rights administration and fair compensation, as well as their potential evolution in future policy frameworks. The panel will bring together diverse perspectives to unpack these pressing issues, encouraging dialogue around the future of music, law, and creative equity in the digital age.

Session II - Traditional Knowledge & Cultural Expressions in Music: Recognition, Protection and Challenges

Traditional knowledge and cultural expressions in music such as tribal chants, folk songs, ritual melodies, and indigenous instruments represent the living heritage of communities. These musical forms carry deep cultural, spiritual, and social significance. However, they are increasingly vulnerable to exploitation due to globalization and commercialization, often being appropriated without proper acknowledgment or benefit to their creators. One of the primary ethical concerns lies in the commercialization of indigenous music by corporations or artists who repackage it for profit without seeking informed consent or sharing revenue with the source communities. It not only leads to economic injustice but also erodes cultural meaning and spiritual value. The unauthorized use of sacred or ceremonial music in commercial settings can amount to cultural disrespect or even desecration.

International efforts like the *UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage* (2003) and ongoing negotiations under the *WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore* seek to address these issues. Yet, these international instruments face limitations in enforcement and harmonization with domestic laws. The copyright regimes based on individual authorship and fixed duration, often fail to protect collectively held and orally transmitted traditions. Indigenous communities also face challenges in asserting their rights due to lack of legal literacy, linguistic barriers, and systemic marginalization. Effective protection requires the development of sui generis legal frameworks, community participation in policymaking, ethical benefit-sharing agreements, and international cooperation. The recognition of Traditional Knowledge must be paired with respect, ensuring that cultural expressions are preserved not only as artistic assets but as living, evolving legacies.

Session III - Fair Use v. Infringement in Music: Striking the Right Balance

As the music industry continues to transform in the digital age, the intersection of intellectual property law and creative expression has become increasingly intricate. The panel discussion **“Fair Use vs. Infringement in Music: Striking the Right Balance”** will critically examine this complex relationship, aligning with this year’s World IP Day theme: **“IP and Music: Feel the Beat of IP.”** Central to the discussion is the concept of fair use and its application to *transformative works*, including parodies, covers, remixes, and fan-made content. These forms of expression often challenge conventional notions of authorship and originality while raising critical legal and ethical considerations. The panel will explore the extent to which such works may be protected under fair use or conversely, deemed infringing. The role of digital platforms is essential in shaping the landscape of music content. Platforms such as YouTube, Instagram and Spotify play a dual role as both facilitators of creative innovation and enforcers of intellectual property law, raising crucial questions about responsibility, algorithmic content moderation, and fair compensation for creators. The session aims to foster informed dialogue among legal scholars, policymakers, industry stakeholders and creators to identify pathways toward a balanced approach that safeguards intellectual property while supporting artistic innovation.

The Indian Law Institute (ILI), NEW DELHI

Indian Law Institute (ILI) was founded in 1956 primarily with the objective of promoting and conducting legal research. The objectives of the Institute as laid down in its Memorandum of Association are to cultivate the science of law, to promote advanced studies and research in law so as to meet the social, economic and other needs of the Indian people, to promote systematization of law, to encourage and conduct investigations in legal and allied fields, to improve legal education, to impart instructions in law, and to publish studies, books, periodicals etc. The Institute is an autonomous body registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. ILI has the requisite independence and academic freedom to carry out its objectives. The membership of Institute is now nearly three-thousand representing the persons interested in the study and advancement of law. Hon'ble Chief Justice of India is the ex-officio President of the Institute. The Union Minister of Law & Justice is its Ex-officio Vice-President. The Attorney General for India, some Judges of the Supreme Courts and High Courts, Solicitor General of India, Chairman, Law Commission and University Grants Commission, with other prominent lawyers and law professors etc. are the members of the Governing Council of ILI. The ILI Library is one of the best libraries in the country. It has more than 75000 titles and subscribes to 270 current legal periodicals. JILI (Journal of Indian Law Institute) is one of the leading law journals, while ASIL (Annual Survey of Indian Law) contains surveys written by well reputed academicians and practitioners. The Indian Law Institute has been granted Deemed University Status in 2004 vide Government of India, Ministry of Human Resource Development.

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DPIIT, IPR Chair, Gujarat National Law University (GNLU)

The DPIIT IPR Chair at Gujarat National Law University (GNLU), Gandhinagar, was established in 2018 under the Scheme for Pedagogy & Research in IPRs for Holistic Education & Academia (SPRIHA) by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India. This initiative aligns with the National IPR Policy 2016, aiming to strengthen intellectual property (IP) education, research, and awareness across India. It is established with the primary objective of promoting intellectual property (IP) education, awareness, and research in India, in line with the National IPR Policy 2016. It aims to build a strong IP ecosystem by integrating IP learning into academic curricula and fostering a culture of innovation. The Chair is committed to encouraging scholarly research and producing quality academic output in the field of IP law. Moreover, the Chair works towards forging interdisciplinary collaborations with institutions and industry stakeholders to explore the evolving dynamics of IP rights in sectors such as fashion, design, and technology. Dr. Annamma Samuel serves as the DPIIT IPR-Chair Professor at GNLU. She holds a Ph.D. in Intellectual Property Law and has over 12 years of teaching experience, along with 13 years in the industry. Her areas of interest include IP law and its application in various sectors.

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The Indian Society of International Law (ISIL), New Delhi

The Indian Society of International Law (ISIL or Society), a premier national institution for teaching, research and promotion of international law, was established in 1959, primarily due to the efforts of the late V.K. Krishna Menon. It has indeed been a long and fulfilling journey for the ISIL that it has earned a pride of place among the community of international lawyers. In six decades of its existence, the ISIL, under the dynamic leadership and guidance of distinguished persons, has grown into a prestigious research and teaching centre of international law in India. At present it enjoys the able stewardship of its President Prof. (Dr.) Manoj Kumar Sinha.

In its endeavour to disseminate international law, the ISIL has traditionally received the whole-hearted support and cooperation from the various Ministries, particularly External Affairs, Finance, and Environment and Forests, of the Government of India. The ISIL has benefited from the guidance and support of many judges - present and former - of the Supreme Court of India and Delhi High Court.

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