

Copyright Registration in India: Safeguarding Intellectual Property

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ABSTRACT

Copyright is an important component of intellectual property law that protects original works of authorship, including literary, dramatic, musical and artistic works, cinematograph films, and sound recordings. In India, copyright protection is primarily governed by the Copyright Act, 1957 and the Copyright Rules, 2013. A significant feature of the Indian copyright regime is that protection arises automatically upon the creation of an original work; therefore, registration is not a prerequisite for acquiring copyright. Nevertheless, copyright registration provides substantial evidentiary and commercial advantages, as the certificate of registration and entries in the Register of Copyrights may serve as prima facie evidence of ownership in legal proceedings. This article examines copyright registration in India as a mechanism for safeguarding intellectual property. It analyses the conceptual foundations and legal framework of copyright, categories of protected works, the distinction between copyright protection and registration, registration procedures, evidentiary value, economic and moral rights, enforcement mechanisms, digital copyright challenges, and limitations of registration. It also examines significant judicial decisions, including R.G. Anand v. Delux Films, Eastern Book Company v. D.B. Modak, Amar Nath Sehgal v. Union of India, Super Cassettes Industries Ltd. v. MySpace Inc., and the Rameshwari Photocopy Services litigation. The article argues that registration does not create copyright but strengthens evidence, facilitates rights management, reduces legal risks, and supports creators in protecting and commercially exploiting their intellectual property.

Keywords: Copyright, Copyright Registration, Intellectual Property Rights, Copyright Act 1957, India, Digital Copyright, Intellectual Property Protection, Authors' Rights, Copyright Infringement.

INTRODUCTION

In the knowledge-driven economy, economic value is increasingly created by information, creativity, technology, artistic expression, software, research, media and digital content. Intellectual property (IP) has gained increasing importance. Copyright is one of the major branches of intellectual property law, as it protects original expressions of human creativity from unauthorized reproduction and exploitation. Indian copyright law serves the important dual purpose of protecting the legitimate economic and moral interests of creators, while at the same time, striving to preserve public access to knowledge, education, culture and information.

The main law governing copyright in India is the Copyright Act, 1957. The Act has been updated multiple times, the modifications of 2012 being particularly important for adapting the legal framework to technological developments and for increasing the rights of some authors and performers. The Copyright Rules, 2013 offer the procedural framework including the rules relating to registration. The Copyright Office is responsible for the registration system and offers electronic filing services. The Copyright Office's official position is that the existing framework comprises the Copyright Act, 1957 and the Copyright Rules, 2013 with later revisions and administrative processes (Copyright Office, Government of India, 1957) (Copyright Office, Government of India, 2013)

One of the biggest misconceptions is that you have to register to get copyright protection. But this is not the attitude of Indian law. Copyright normally comes into existence naturally when a work is created; registration is not necessary. According to the Intellectual Property India FAQ -it is necessary to registered a work to claim copyright?, its answered “no formality is required for acquisition of copyright.” Registration is also useful as the certificate and supporting entries in the Register of Copyrights can be used as prima facie evidence in disputes over copyright ownership. (Copyright Office, Government of India, 2026c).

Therefore, copyright registration should not be considered as the origin of copyright. Rather, it can be seen as an administrative and evidential device that boosts the author’s position in case of controversies over ownership, authorship, date or other aspects.

Concept and Nature of Copyright

Copyright is a legal privilege given to the author or owner of certain kinds of works. The idea itself isn’t protected; it’s the expression of the notion that is. The distinction is basic to copyright law. Generally, copyright protection does not extend to abstract ideas, such as a concept, topic, method, procedure, mathematical premise or general notion. Protection is given when a qualifying idea is expressed in a sufficiently creative way. (Kale, 2018)

According to the Intellectual Property India authorities, copyright protects original literary, dramatic, musical and creative works, cinematograph films and sound recordings and not ideas, procedures, methods of operation and mathematical concepts as such. (Copyright Office, Government of India, 2026d).

Copyright is therefore a compromise between private rights and the public interest. The inventiveness and further invention would be drastically limited if all ideas could be monopolized. Copyright is therefore intended to reward the inventor with an incentive, but to leave ideas and general information free for subsequent development.

The principle has been underscored by the Supreme Court of India in the landmark case of R.G. Anand v. Delux Films (1978) regarding charges of resemblance between a play and a film. The Court distinguished the idea or subject matter from the precise expression of the idea. The decision is still an important basis to decide the copyright infringement. Similarity in a wide sense is not necessarily an infringement. (R.G. Anand vs. Delux Films, 1978).

Copyright is also a collection of rights. These include commercial rights in regard to reproduction, communication, adaptation and other sorts of exploitation and moral rights protecting the link between the author and the work. The Delhi High Court in Amar Nath Sehgal v. Union of India, shows the significance of moral rights, especially the right to attribution and the right to the integrity of the work. (Amar Nath Sehgal vs Union Of India, 2005).

Legal Framework for Copyright in India

The main legislative framework is the Copyright Act, 1957. Chapter X of the Act deals especially with the registration. Section 44 provides for the maintenance of a Register of Copyrights and Section 45 provides for applications for inserting particulars of a work in the Register. (Copyright Office, Government of India, 1957).

The Act is supplemented by the Copyright Rules, 2013 which provide for procedural procedures. Applications for registration are particularly pertinent to Rule 70. An application is normally made in Form XIV and is for one work. The applicant shall give such necessary particulars and pay the applicable fee. The directions of the Copyright Office also deal with signatures, supporting documents, notices to interested parties and the requirements applicable to specific categories of works (Copyright Office, Government of India, 2013).

The Rules have been updated, including by the Copyright (Amendment) Rules, 2021. The 2021 modifications amended the institutional and procedural rules and reflected the wider adjustments made after reorganizing India's intellectual property adjudicatory framework. (Copyright Office, Government of India, 2021).

The present framework is therefore composed of three closely connected elements:

Copyright Act, 1957 – establishes substantive rights and remedies.

Copyright Rules, 2013, as amended – establish procedural mechanisms.

Copyright Office administration – provides registration, e-filing, status monitoring, and related services.

What Works Can Be Registered?

The Indian copyright system covers a number of creative works. (Copyright Office, Government of India, n.d.)

Literary Works

Literary works include books, articles, research papers, essays, poems, teaching materials, computer programs, tables, collections and certain databases. Academic researchers may be required to register research reports, original papers, instructional materials, and other qualified works.

It is important to distinguish the copyright in a research work from the protection of the underlying facts or ideas. Copyright may protect the author's original expression, arrangement, analysis or presentation, but it does not generally establish proprietary rights over facts themselves.

Dramatic and Musical Works

Dramatic works may comprise scripts and dramatic compositions. musical works are separately protected from sound recordings. This distinction is particularly important in the entertainment industry, where different rights may be owned by the composer, lyricist, performer, producer and sound-recording owner.

Artistic Works

Artistic works may be paintings, drawings, photographs, graphics, diagrams, maps and other eligible forms of artistic expression; When an artistic work is also used in connection with goods or services, copyright issues may overlap with trademark protection. Designers and companies should be especially cautious in this situation.

Cinematograph Films

Motion pictures are a different type of protected subject matter. Copyright registration may offer a documentary record of ownership and details, although ownership may entail multiple contractual relationships between producers, authors, composers, lyricists and other contributors.

Sound Recordings

Sound recordings are separately recognized by copyright law. Music companies, producers and recording owners may therefore integrate registration into their wider intellectual-property management strategy.

Computer Software

Computer programs are protected as literary works under the Indian Copyright Act. This is especially true of India's technology industry. The Copyright Office lays down certain documentary requirements in respect of computer programs including material relating to source code (Copyright Office, Government of India, 2026a).

Copyright Protection Versus Copyright Registration

It is essential to understand the difference between registration and protection.

Copyright is automatic but registration is voluntary. In most cases, copyright arises from the creation of an original qualifying work. Copyright exists from the moment of creation; the creator does not have to wait for registration certificate.

The administration and evidence are the main components that make registration valuable. The official FAQ by IP India states that registration and the subsequent entries in the Register of Copyrights may act as prima facie evidence in a court of law in cases of disputes relating to ownership (Copyright Office, Government of India, 2026b).

This distinction can be expressed as follows:

Copyright Protection	Copyright Registration
Arises automatically upon creation of qualifying work	Requires application to Copyright Office
No compulsory formality	Voluntary administrative process
Protects qualifying expression	Documents particulars of the work and claim
Does not depend on certificate	Certificate may strengthen evidentiary position
Exists even without registration	Useful for proving ownership/particulars

Registration should not be considered a legal requirement for copyright ownership. In its place, it ought to be considered as a safety associated with the procedure.

Evidentiary Importance of Registration

The most important practical benefit of registration is the evidence it gives. A dispute over copyright may include such questions as: Who made the work? When was this made? Who is the copyright owner? Did the copyright get transferred? Did it get published? Which version of the work was claimed? What rights were transferred by the contract?

Registration can establish an official record of the pertinent information. Registration will not make a noncopyrightable work copyrightable, but the official record may make it easier for a rights holder to create a documentary foundation for the claim.

This is especially helpful for independent authors, photographers, designers, researchers, software developers and small businesses that might not have large amounts of internal documentation. But the legal significance has to be understood with care. Registration does not solely confirm that the applicant is fundamentally entitled to each and every claim made. Courts may still inquire into the substance of the matter of originality, ownership, assignment, infringement, contractual arrangements etc.

Originality and the Importance of Independent Creation

Registration does not remove the requirement for originality. The Indian law of copyright protects the expression of the original, not just labor or investment in the concept.

In this context the Supreme Court judgment in *Eastern Book Company v. D.B. Modak* (2008) is of great importance. The Court considered the standard of originality in respect of edited law reports. The decision shifted Indian copyright principles away from the solely mechanical “sweat of the brow” approach and focused on the need for skill and judgment, as well as a certain amount of creativity. (*Eastern Book Company & Ors vs D.B. Modak*, 2007).

Here, registration is important. The applicant should not assume that registration is proof of originality. Copyright protection is available for works that are independently created and that have some minimal degree of creativity.

For academics, the principle also emphasizes the link between copyright and plagiarism. Academic plagiarism and copyright infringement are related but not identical. It is possible for unethical attribution practices to happen with a work even if the legal elements of copyright infringement are not fully established. On the other hand, a claim of copyright infringement can happen even if there is no academic misconduct.

Economic Rights and Commercial Exploitation

Copyright is about creators and rights holders making money. A copyright owner may exercise his rights or license them to others. These rights let you monetize the work by publishing, licensing, copying, adapting, distributing, broadcasting, streaming and other commercial exploitation.

The financial importance of copyright is particularly apparent in areas like: publication; movies and television; music; promotion; software; gaming; media digital; photography; education; research and academic publication.

Registration can then be part of an organization’s intellectual-property asset management strategy. A publisher might keep records of who owns the copyright of books; a software company might register its software; a media company might have copyright documentation for films and sound recordings; and an educational institution might have records of its original teaching materials. (Ficsor, 2005)

Moral Rights and the Protection of Authors

Copyright is not merely for economic interests. Indian law also recognizes authors’ special rights (Section 57).

The Delhi High Court in *Amar Nath Sehgal v. Union of India* (2005) also stressed the importance of moral rights. These are the right to be credited and the right to be free from any distortion, mutilation or other modification prejudicial to the author's honor or reputation

Moral rights are especially important in the case of works of culture, literature and art, because the creator of such works may retain a sentimental attachment to them even after the economic rights have passed to someone else. Both of these factors then need to be taken into account in a comprehensive copyright strategy.

- Economic rights include licenses, commercialization and financial exploitation of intellectual property.
- Moral rights include authorship, attribution and the maintenance of the integrity of the work. (Ricketson, 2005)

Ultimately, the protection of moral rights will depend on the substantive law of copyright as well as the particular facts of the dispute, but registration may be useful in recording the facts of authorship and ownership.

Copyright Enforcement and Remedies

It is possible for issues over copyright to have a significant impact on the economy, which is one reason why registration is valuable. When it comes to redress for infringement of copyright, the Copyright Act includes provisions for both civil and criminal remedies.

Section 55 stipulates that civil remedies can be pursued in the event of an infringement, whereas Section 63 stipulates that criminal liability can be attached to a breach in specific situations. This is Section 57. The provisions for infringement and the powers to seize are found in Sections 58 and 64 of the Copyright Act of 1957, which are referred to as special rights of an author. (India Code: Government of India, 1957)

Depending on the circumstances and the decision made by the court, examples of civil remedies include injunctions and pecuniary remedy. They are both available. Interim injunctions may be particularly important in situations when consistent illegal use poses a significant threat to a company's operations.

Even if registration has the potential to bolster a claimant's documentary case, it does not eliminate the requirement to demonstrate that the elements of infringement have been violated.

Copyright in the Digital Environment

Digital technology has changed the character of copyright infringement. A book can be scanned and sent all over the world, photographs can be duplicated in seconds, music can be uploaded to platforms, videos can be reproduced and streamed, and software can be copied or redistributed. (Rickatson, 2005) (Ganguli et al., 2021) These developments make copyright registration more important as a component of digital IP management. But registration alone will not prevent online infringement.

The Super Cassettes v MySpace case is an example of the challenges of digital copyright enforcement. The issue of online intermediary copyright infringement and the convergence of copyright law and intermediary liability was addressed by the Delhi High Court in MySpace Inc. v. Super Cassettes Industries Ltd., (2016). (My Space Inc. Vs Super Cassettes Industries Ltd., 2016) (Super Cassetes Industries Ltd. Vs Myspace Inc., 2011)

Digital enforcement therefore requires a combination of:

- copyright ownership documentation; registration where strategically appropriate; licensing agreements;
- technological protection measures; monitoring of online platforms; takedown and notice procedures;
- contractual controls; litigation where necessary.

The digital environment demonstrates that intellectual-property protection is not merely a registration exercise. It is an ongoing process of rights management.

Copyright and the Public Interest

Thus, the Copyright Act includes statutory exceptions and limitations. In this respect Section 52 is especially important.

One of the biggest examples is the litigation Rameshwari Photocopy Services decided by the Delhi High Court. The dispute involved the copying of portions of academic books in course packs for students. The court

examined the educational exception and how it relates to copyright protection. (The Chancellor, Masters & Scholars of University of Oxford vs Rameshwari Photocopy Services, 2016)

This leads to a key principle: registration of a copyright does not mean that there is unlimited control over every use of a work thereafter. statutory exceptions and limitations continue to apply to registered works.

This balance is of importance for India with its public interest in education, research and culture.

International Dimension of Indian Copyright

Indian copyright law is part of an international intellectual property regime. India is a signatory to major international copyright instruments such as the Berne Convention and TRIPS Agreement. The Copyright Office also points out India's membership of the Universal Copyright Convention and its accession to the WIPO Copyright Treaty and the WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty. (Copyright Office, Government of India, 2026e)

The Berne Convention is especially important because it is based on the principle that copyright protection should not be dependent upon mandatory registration formalities. WIPO also notes that in most countries that adhere to the Berne Convention, copyright protection is automatic and does not require registration; however, voluntary registration systems can offer important evidentiary and transactional advantages. (WIPO, 2026).

This international framework explains how India's system can acknowledge automatic copyright protection while having a voluntary registration system.

Advantages of Copyright Registration in India

The registration of copyright results in a number of advantageous practical outcomes.

Stronger Documentary Evidence

Registration provides an official record of the claim and its necessary details. This can be particularly helpful in ownership disputes.

Risk Management

Before entering into commercial, publishing, or licensing contractual arrangements, creators can avoid uncertainty by verifying ownership responsibilities and documentation of their work.

Commercial Transactions

Businesses often require evidence of ownership before acquiring or licensing intellectual property. Registration may therefore facilitate transactions involving copyright assets.

Support for Litigation

Although registration does not finally resolve all legal questions, the certificate and Register entry may be of assistance to a rights holder in establishing a prima facie case as to ownership.

Professional IP Management

Organizations with substantial intellectual-property portfolios can use registration records as part of systematic rights management.

Protection for Independent Creators

Individual artists, writers, researchers, photographers and software developers may benefit from maintaining formal evidence of their creative assets.

Limitations of Copyright Registration

Registration is not a substitute for a comprehensive intellectual-property strategy.

First, registration does not protect an idea. Secondly, it does not necessarily mean originality. Third, it does not assure you of a victory in an infringement suit. Fourth, registration is unable to stop all unauthorized use, particularly in the digital space.

There can be ownership issues as well. For example, where several contributors participate in creating a work, ownership may depend upon contracts and statutory provisions. Registration therefore should be supported by written agreements, assignment documentation, employment contracts, licensing arrangements and records showing creation.

For websites, the official IP India guidance is particularly instructive: a website may contain different types of copyrightable components, but the website as a whole is not necessarily treated as one copyright work. Depending upon the nature of the components, separate applications may be required (Copyright Office, Government of India, 2019).

Recommendations for Effective Copyright Protection

Creators and organizations should adopt a multi-layered strategy.

Maintain Creation Records

Drafts, source files, metadata, dated manuscripts, development histories and project records are to be retained.

Register Strategically

Registration is especially valuable where the work has significant commercial value or where there is a fair likelihood of ownership disputes.

Use Written Contracts

Agreements should clearly define ownership, license rights, assignment, royalties, term, territory, and allowed uses.

Protect Digital Assets

Creators should be alert to unauthorized uploads, copying, distribution and commercial exploitation.

Maintain an IP Portfolio

Organizations need to keep a list of books, software, designs, photographs, recordings, films and other copyright assets.

Understand Exceptions

Rights holders should be aware of the statutory exceptions before making claims of violations.

Seek Professional Advice for Complex Matters

The need for professional legal advice may arise in situations where there is a dispute over ownership, where there is more than one author, where substantial commercial rights are being assigned, or where litigation is being considered.

Copyright Workflow:

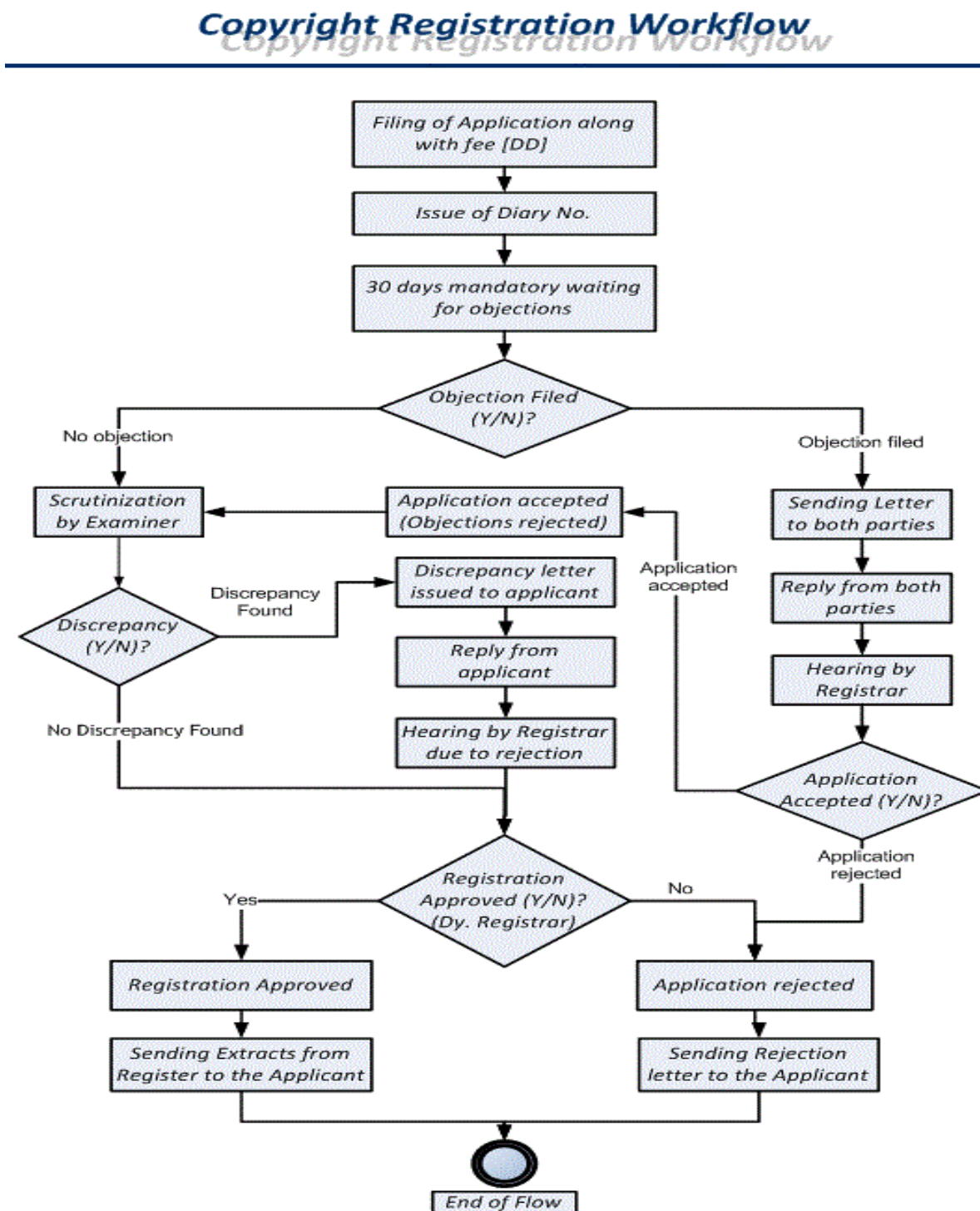


Fig. 1. Copyright Workflow Chart- <https://copyright.gov.in/frmWorkFlow.aspx>

Instruction to Filling up Copyright form Online: Step by Step Process:

For Literary/Dramatic & Artistic Work Upload Manual

Prerequisite:

Literary/Dramatic Work

- Submission of work specific document is mandatory.
- All the documents must be in PDF format.
- Maximum size of each document file is 5 MB.
- Multiple documents can be uploaded.

Artistic Work

- Submission of work specific document is mandatory.
- Work specific document must be in JPG/PNG/PDF format & while other related document must be in PDF format.
- Maximum size of each document file is 5 MB.
- Multiple documents can be uploaded.

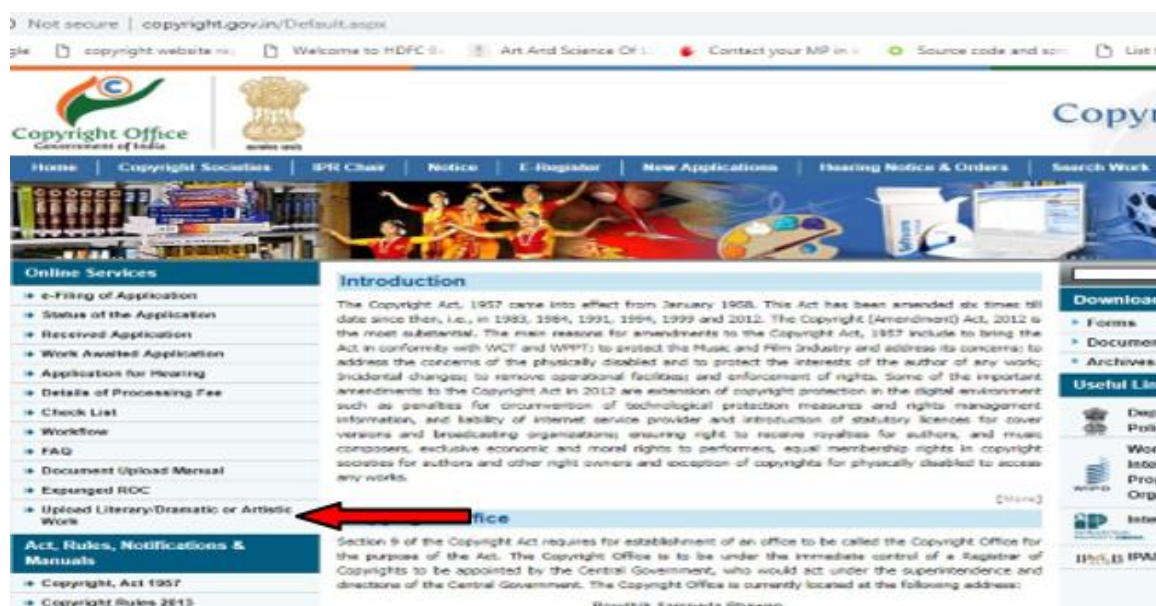
Procedure to upload work & related documents:

- Click "Upload Literary/Dramatic & Artistic Work" (Refer Screenshot-1)
- Login with valid credentials. (Refer Screenshot -2)
- Click "Select" link of respective Diary Number (Refer Screenshot -3)

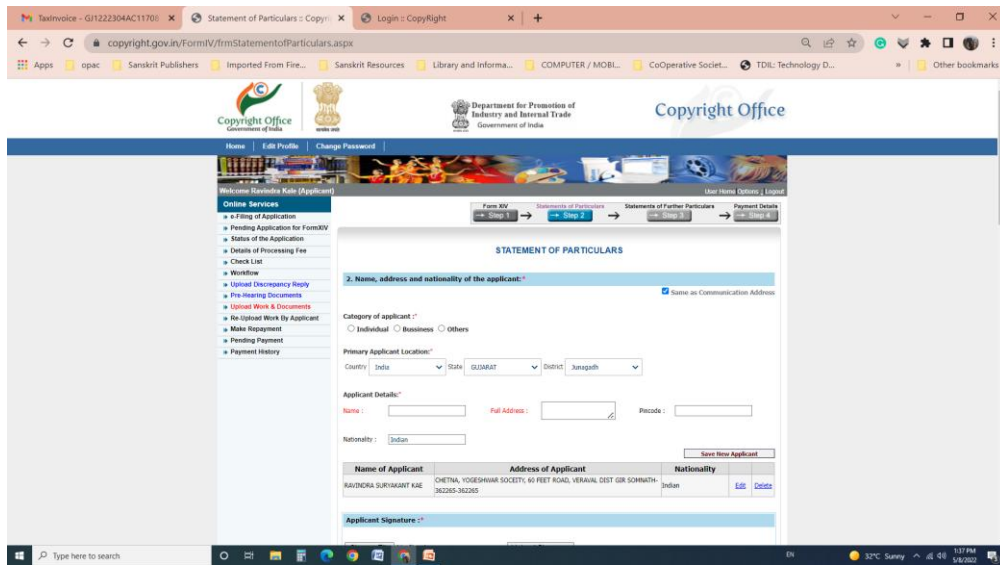
To attach the documents: -

- Select the Type of Document.
- Choose the appropriate file.
- Click "Add Attachment" button to attach file.
- Maximum size of each file is 5 MB. (Refer Screenshot -4)
- Verify attached documents in Documents Attached List. (Refer Screenshot -5)
- To delete the attached documents from the Documents Attached List, use "Delete" button, if required. (Refer Screenshot -5)
- Click "Upload Documents" button to upload the attached. (Refer Screenshot -6 & 7)

Screenshot-1



Screenshot-2



Screenshot-3



Sr. No.	Diary No.	Work Title	Date of Filing	Type of Work	Status	Upload Documents
1	17257/2018-CO/L	SHREEMAD DEVKRIT BRAHMANND GEETA	12/12/2018	Literary/ Dramatic	Work Awaited	Select
2	16490/2018-CO/A	Alphabet Design	29/11/2018	Artistic	Work Awaited	Select
3	16494/2018-CO/A	LOGO DESIGN	29/11/2018	Artistic	Work Awaited	Select
4	16486/2018-CO/L	Genique Lifesciences - Brand Identity Guidelines	29/11/2018	Literary/ Dramatic	Work Awaited	Select

Screenshot-4



Sr. No.	Diary No.	Work Title	Date of Filing	Type of Work	Status	Upload Documents
1	17257/2018-CO/L	SHREEMAD DEVKRIT BRAHMANND GEETA	12/12/2018	Literary/ Dramatic	Work Awaited	Select
2	16490/2018-CO/A	Alphabet Design	29/11/2018	Artistic	Work Awaited	Select
3	16494/2018-CO/A	LOGO DESIGN	29/11/2018	Artistic	Work Awaited	Select
4	16486/2018-CO/L	Genique Lifesciences - Brand Identity Guidelines	29/11/2018	Literary/ Dramatic	Work Awaited	Select

Diary No: 16486/2018-CO/L for Literary/ Dramatic work

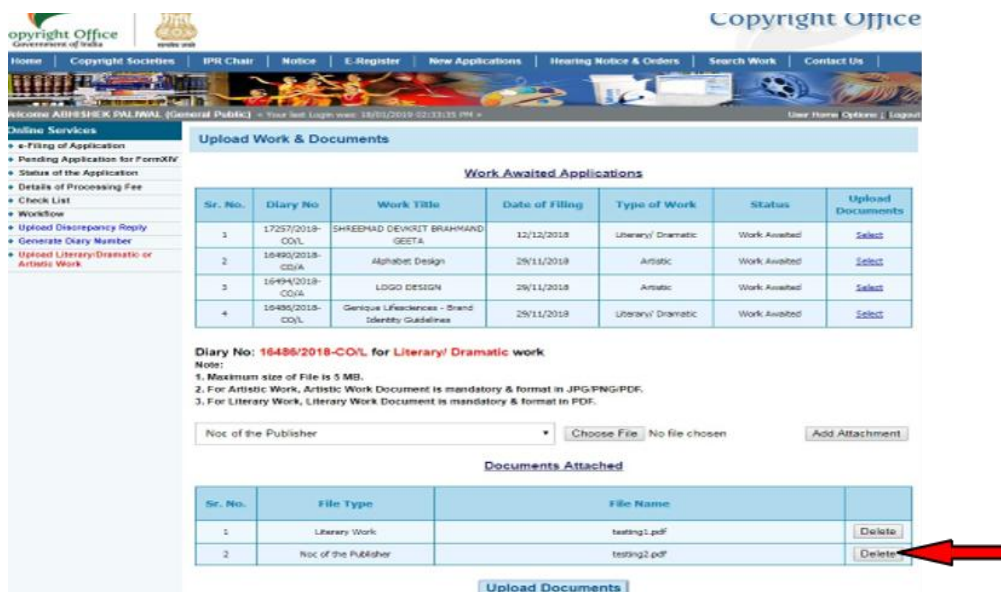
Note:

- Maximum size of File is 5 MB.
- For Artistic Work, Artistic Work Document is mandatory & format in JPG/PNG/PDF.
- For Literary Work, Literary Work Document is mandatory & format in PDF.

---Nature of Documents---

[Choose File](#) No file chosen [Add Attachment](#)

Screenshot-5



Copyright Office
Government of India

Home | Copyright Societies | IPR Chair | Notice | E-Register | New Applications | Hearing Notice & Orders | Search Work | Contact Us

Welcome ABHISHEK PALIWAL (General Public) - Your last login was: 16/01/2019 02:11:31 PM

Online Services

- e-Filing of Application
- Pending Application for FormXIV
- Status of the Application
- Details of Processing Fee
- Check List
- Workflow
- Upload Discrepancy Reply
- Generate Diary Number
- Upload Literary/Dramatic or Artistic Work

Upload Work & Documents

Work Awaited Applications

Sr. No.	Diary No	Work Title	Date of Filing	Type of Work	Status	Upload Documents
1	17257/2018-CO/L	SHREEMAD DEVKRIT BRAHMAN GEETA	12/12/2018	Literary/ Dramatic	Work Awaited	Select
2	16490/2018-CO/A	Alphabet Design	29/11/2018	Artistic	Work Awaited	Select
3	16494/2018-CO/A	LOGO DESIGN	29/11/2018	Artistic	Work Awaited	Select
4	16486/2018-CO/L	Genique Lifesciences - Brand Identity Guidelines	29/11/2018	Literary/ Dramatic	Work Awaited	Select

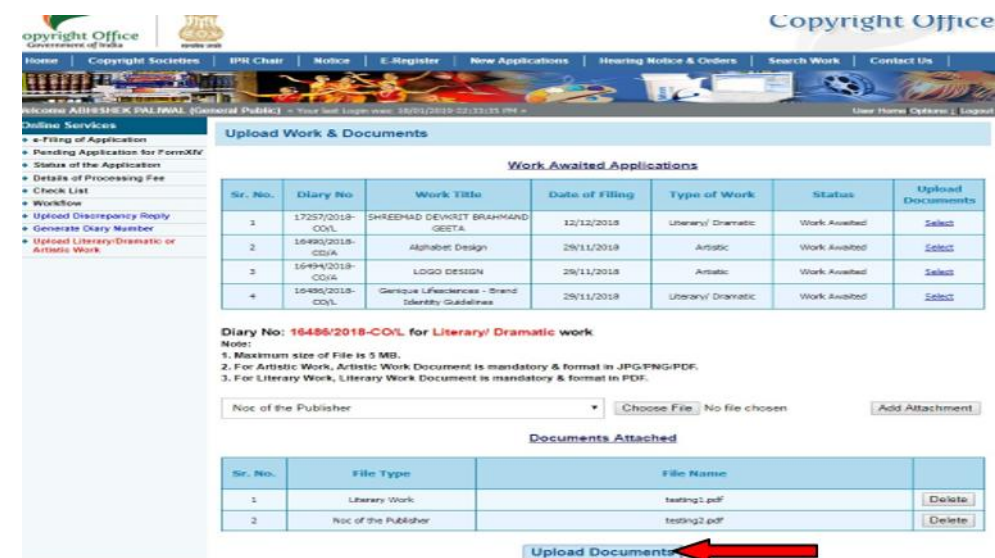
Diary No: 16486/2018-CO/L for Literary/ Dramatic work
Note:
1. Maximum size of File is 5 MB.
2. For Artistic Work, Artistic Work Document is mandatory & format in JPG/PNG/PDF.
3. For Literary Work, Literary Work Document is mandatory & format in PDF.

Noc of the Publisher Choose File No file chosen

Documents Attached

Sr. No.	File Type	File Name	
1	Literary Work	testing1.pdf	Delete
2	Noc of the Publisher	testing2.pdf	Delete

Screenshot-6



Copyright Office
Government of India

Home | Copyright Societies | IPR Chair | Notice | E-Register | New Applications | Hearing Notice & Orders | Search Work | Contact Us

Welcome ABHISHEK PALIWAL (General Public) - Your last login was: 16/01/2019 02:11:31 PM

Online Services

- e-Filing of Application
- Pending Application for FormXIV
- Status of the Application
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- Check List
- Workflow
- Upload Discrepancy Reply
- Generate Diary Number
- Upload Literary/Dramatic or Artistic Work

Upload Work & Documents

Work Awaited Applications

Sr. No.	Diary No	Work Title	Date of Filing	Type of Work	Status	Upload Documents
1	17257/2018-CO/L	SHREEMAD DEVKRIT BRAHMAN GEETA	12/12/2018	Literary/ Dramatic	Work Awaited	Select
2	16490/2018-CO/A	Alphabet Design	29/11/2018	Artistic	Work Awaited	Select
3	16494/2018-CO/A	LOGO DESIGN	29/11/2018	Artistic	Work Awaited	Select
4	16486/2018-CO/L	Genique Lifesciences - Brand Identity Guidelines	29/11/2018	Literary/ Dramatic	Work Awaited	Select

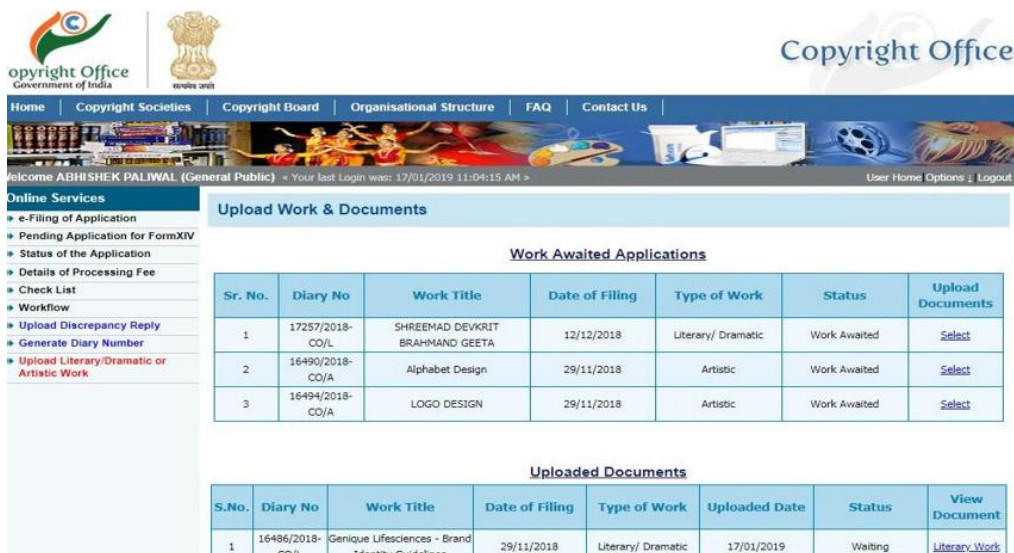
Diary No: 16486/2018-CO/L for Literary/ Dramatic work
Note:
1. Maximum size of File is 5 MB.
2. For Artistic Work, Artistic Work Document is mandatory & format in JPG/PNG/PDF.
3. For Literary Work, Literary Work Document is mandatory & format in PDF.

Noc of the Publisher Choose File No file chosen

Documents Attached

Sr. No.	File Type	File Name	
1	Literary Work	testing1.pdf	Delete
2	Noc of the Publisher	testing2.pdf	Delete

Screenshot-7



Copyright Office
Government of India

Home | Copyright Societies | Copyright Board | Organisational Structure | FAQ | Contact Us

Welcome ABHISHEK PALIWAL (General Public) - Your last login was: 17/01/2019 11:04:15 AM

Online Services

- e-Filing of Application
- Pending Application for FormXIV
- Status of the Application
- Details of Processing Fee
- Check List
- Workflow
- Upload Discrepancy Reply
- Generate Diary Number
- Upload Literary/Dramatic or Artistic Work

Upload Work & Documents

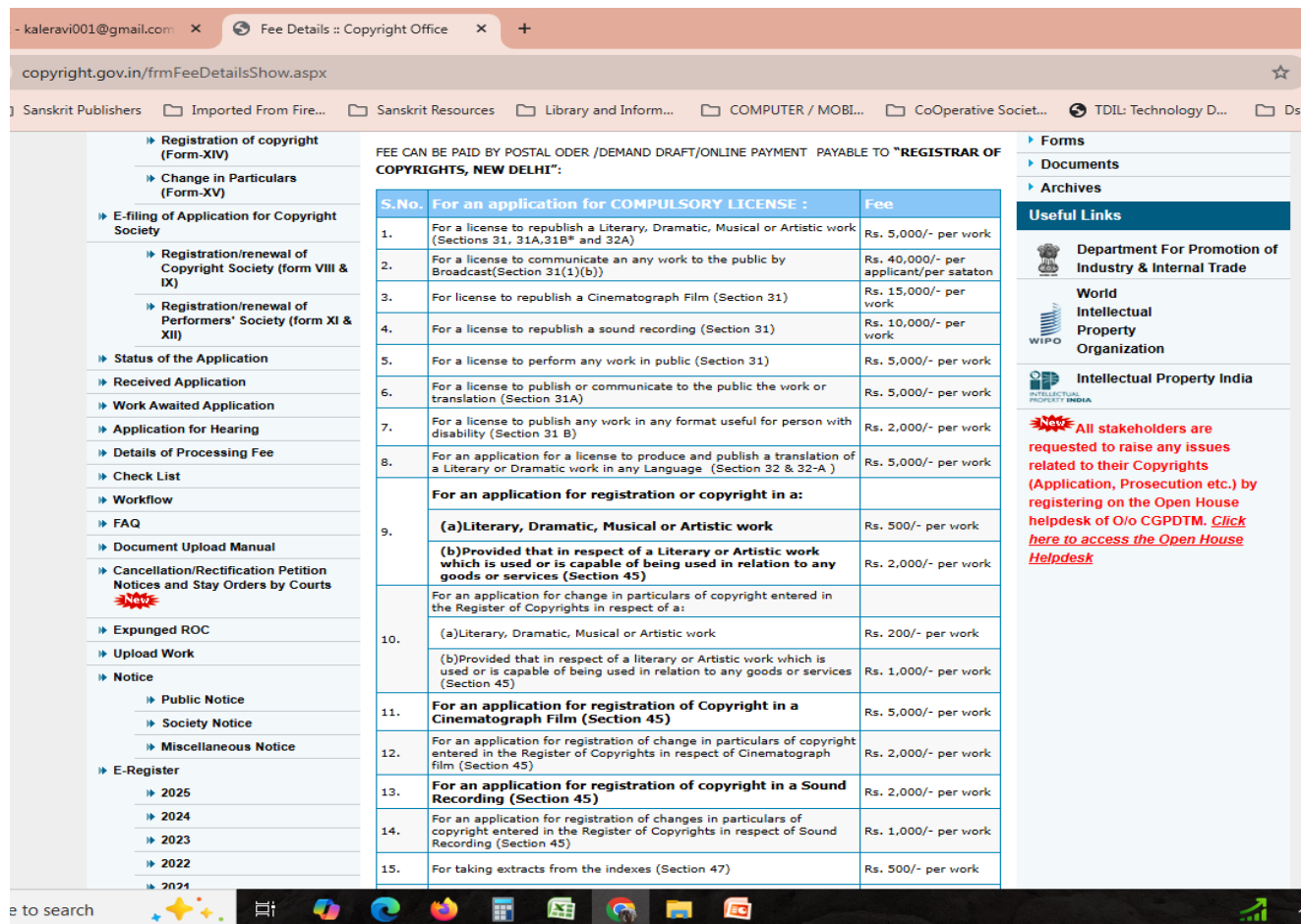
Work Awaited Applications

Sr. No.	Diary No	Work Title	Date of Filing	Type of Work	Status	Upload Documents
1	17257/2018-CO/L	SHREEMAD DEVKRIT BRAHMAN GEETA	12/12/2018	Literary/ Dramatic	Work Awaited	Select
2	16490/2018-CO/A	Alphabet Design	29/11/2018	Artistic	Work Awaited	Select
3	16494/2018-CO/A	LOGO DESIGN	29/11/2018	Artistic	Work Awaited	Select

Uploaded Documents

S.No.	Diary No	Work Title	Date of Filing	Type of Work	Uploaded Date	Status	View Document
1	16486/2018-CO/L	Genique Lifesciences - Brand Identity Guidelines	29/11/2018	Literary/ Dramatic	17/01/2019	Waiting	Literary Work

Copyright Fee Structure:



The screenshot shows the 'Fee Details' page on the Copyright Office website. It includes a table of fees for various copyright applications and a sidebar with navigation links.

S.No.	For an application for COMPULSORY LICENSE :	Fee
1.	For a license to republish a Literary, Dramatic, Musical or Artistic work (Sections 31, 31A, 31B* and 32A)	Rs. 5,000/- per work
2.	For a license to communicate an any work to the public by Broadcast (Section 31(1)(b))	Rs. 40,000/- per applicant/per sataton
3.	For license to republish a Cinematograph Film (Section 31)	Rs. 15,000/- per work
4.	For a license to republish a sound recording (Section 31)	Rs. 10,000/- per work
5.	For a license to perform any work in public (Section 31)	Rs. 5,000/- per work
6.	For a license to publish or communicate to the public the work or translation (Section 31A)	Rs. 5,000/- per work
7.	For a license to publish any work in any format useful for person with disability (Section 31 B)	Rs. 2,000/- per work
8.	For an application for a license to produce and publish a translation of a Literary or Dramatic work in any Language (Section 32 & 32-A)	Rs. 5,000/- per work
9.	For an application for registration or copyright in a:	
	(a) Literary, Dramatic, Musical or Artistic work	Rs. 500/- per work
	(b) Provided that in respect of a Literary or Artistic work which is used or is capable of being used in relation to any goods or services (Section 45)	Rs. 2,000/- per work
10.	For an application for change in particulars of copyright entered in the Register of Copyrights in respect of a:	
	(a) Literary, Dramatic, Musical or Artistic work	Rs. 200/- per work
	(b) Provided that in respect of a literary or Artistic work which is used or is capable of being used in relation to any goods or services (Section 45)	Rs. 1,000/- per work
11.	For an application for registration of Copyright in a Cinematograph Film (Section 45)	Rs. 5,000/- per work
12.	For an application for registration of change in particulars of copyright entered in the Register of Copyrights in respect of Cinematograph film (Section 45)	Rs. 2,000/- per work
13.	For an application for registration of copyright in a Sound Recording (Section 45)	Rs. 2,000/- per work
14.	For an application for registration of changes in particulars of copyright entered in the Register of Copyrights in respect of Sound Recording (Section 45)	Rs. 1,000/- per work
15.	For taking extracts from the indexes (Section 47)	Rs. 500/- per work

Useful Links:

- Department For Promotion of Industry & Internal Trade
- World Intellectual Property Organization
- Intellectual Property India

Notice: All stakeholders are requested to raise any issues related to their Copyrights (Application, Prosecution etc.) by registering on the Open House helpdesk of Olo CGPDTM. [Click here to access the Open House Helpdesk](#)

Critical Analysis

The Indian method of registration of copyright presents an interesting difference between the creation of a legal right and the recording of that right. The idea behind automatic copyright protection is that creators shouldn't have to go through extra steps to get protection. This is in line with an international principle. Voluntary registration, in contrast, offers an institutional mechanism for creators to generate stronger documentary evidence. The effectiveness of the registration therefore depends on the quality of the information submitted. A false registration application cannot settle a bona fide ownership dispute. Neither does registration of a work with too little originality turn unprotectable material into protected expression.

The best approach is therefore a combination of automatic statutory protection, registration, contractual documentation, technical safeguards, monitoring and effective enforcement. The integrated approach is more relevant with India's digital economy. The coming of software, online education, social media, digital publishing, streaming platforms and artificial intelligence has made the traditional notions of authorship, ownership and infringement increasingly blurred.

Future copyright policy will need to find a way to balance the need to maintain incentives for creators with the need for copyright not to unduly restrict educational opportunities, research opportunities, innovation opportunities and public access. Going forward, copyright policy will have to balance the need to protect incentives for creators with the need to ensure copyright does not unreasonably hinder education, research, innovation and public access.

CONCLUSION

In India, copyright registration is a significant mode of protecting intellectual property, but its legal role needs to be well understood. Copyright generally arises automatically with the creation of an original qualifying

work under the Copyright Act, 1957. Thus registration is no prerequisite to copyright protection. Its main value is that it produces an official documentary record which may have prima facie evidentiary value as to title and other particulars.

The Copyright Office has modernized the registration process with electronic filing, online payment, application tracking and digital administrative services. The system covers literary, dramatic, musical and artistic works, sound recordings, cinematographic films and computer programs. The procedural framework for registration is provided by the Copyright Rules, 2013, as amended.

Judicial decisions indicate that copyright protection is not absolute and unlimited. The case *Amar Nath Sehgal v. Union of India* focuses on moral rights, *Rameshwari Photocopy Services* on the importance of educational exceptions, *R.G. Anand* on the importance of separating ideas from expression, *Eastern Book Company* on the importance of originality and *MySpace* on the difficulties presented by online intermediaries.

Copyright registration, therefore, should be viewed as part of a broader strategy for the protection of intellectual property in the knowledge economy of today. Registration can provide valuable evidence, strengthen ownership documentation, facilitate commercial transactions and support enforcement for authors, researchers, educators, artists, software developers, publishers, filmmakers and businesses. But effective protection ultimately depends on combining registration with originality, proper contracts, preservation of evidence, licensing, digital monitoring, and knowledge of statutory exceptions.

The future of copyright in India will depend on maintaining a proper balance between protection of the creator and public interest. A strong copyright system should reward creativity while not creating unnecessary barriers to education, research, technological development and cultural participation. Within this balanced model, copyright registration continues to be a practical and strategically significant device for the protection of India's expanding intellectual-property resources.

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