

MAHARASHTRA NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY, NAGPUR



CIPR & DPIIT-IPR CHAIR
ORGANISES
ONE-DAY NATIONAL SEMINAR
ON

**‘COPYRIGHT AND DATABASES IN THE DIGITAL AGE:
BALANCING PROTECTION, INNOVATION, AND ACCESS
FOR VIKSIT BHARAT 2047’**

November 11, 2025
ONLINE MODE



ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY

Maharashtra National Law University, Nagpur, an Institution with a students' centric outlook, was established by the Government of Maharashtra in 2015. The University started its academic activities from August 1, 2016 and is currently in its eighth year of academic pursuits with seven batches of B.A.LL.B.(Hons.) Five-Year Integrated Degree Course; four batches of B.A.LL.B. (Honours in Adjudication and Justicing) Five-Years Integrated Degree Course; second batch of B.B.A.LL.B. (Hons.) Five-Year Integrated Degree Course; eight batches of One-Year LL.M. (Postgraduate) Degree Course; and five batches of Ph.D. Programme. The University is recognised by the University Grants Commission under 12(B) of University Grants Commission (UGC) Act, 1956 and the Bar Council of India (BCI), New Delhi. It is also a member of Association of Indian Universities (AIU), New Delhi and Consortium of National Law Universities. The University is making rapid progress towards the dream of achieving excellence in the field of legal and justice education with its dedicated faculty members, research associates, research scholars, students and staff under the dynamic guidance of the Chancellor, Hon'ble Shri Justice Bhushan R. Gavai, Judge, Supreme Court of India and Vice Chancellor, Prof. (Dr.) Vijender Kumar.






ABOUT THE CENTRE FOR IPR

The Centre for Intellectual Property Rights (CIPR) is one of the Advanced Legal Research Centre of the University intending to promote the Human, Social and Commercial values through exclusive socio-legal research in the field of Intellectual Property Rights. IPR is an evolutionary field. IPR provides an incentive for creativity and the disclosure of information and plays a significant role in encouraging innovations in the form of product/process development leading to technical advancement. Therefore, knowledge about IPR becomes essential in all the fields. Effective Intellectual property (IP) protection has been a critical factor; however, academia is playing a serious catch-up to create awareness of IP.

ABOUT THE DPIIT-IPR CHAIR

The department for promotion of industry and internal trade (DPIIT) under the ministry of industry and commerce, selected Maharashtra National Law University, Nagpur for the establishment of the DPIIT IPR Chair, under the scheme for pedagogy & research in IPR's for holistic education & academia (SPRIHA). National intellectual property rights (IPR) policy, 2016, a vision document that promotes a holistic and conducive ecosystem to catalyze the full potential of intellectual property for India's economic growth and socio-cultural development. The chair was established to fulfill one of the several objectives of strengthening IP chairs in educational institutes of higher learning to provide quality teaching and research, develop teaching capacity and curricula and evaluate their work on performance based criteria. Maharashtra National Law University, Nagpur takes pride in achieving approval to set up the IPR chair to promote intellectual property (IP) education and foster IP research.





ABOUT THE SEMINAR :

In the 21st century, data has emerged as a vital economic, social, and technological resource. Databases whether in the form of scientific research repositories, business analytics systems, AI training datasets, or public information archives constitute the backbone of digital innovation. With the increasing reliance on data-intensive technologies such as artificial intelligence, machine learning, and big data analytics, the legal protection of databases has gained unprecedented significance.

For India, this conversation is particularly timely. The Government of India's vision of Viksit Bharat 2047 to make India a fully developed nation by the 100th anniversary of Independence places digital transformation, knowledge economy, and innovation-driven growth at the heart of national development. Databases, data sovereignty, and their legal governance form critical pillars in this roadmap. Protecting and facilitating innovation in the database ecosystem will not only enhance India's competitiveness in AI, science, healthcare, agriculture, and digital governance but also ensure equitable access to knowledge for inclusive growth.





ABOUT THE SEMINAR:

This Seminar seeks to provide a platform for academics, policymakers, legal practitioners, technologists, and industry leaders to critically examine the intersection of copyright, database rights, and national development. By contextualizing database governance within the framework of Viksit Bharat 2047, the Seminar aims to foster actionable insights that align with India's vision of becoming a global innovation leader.

OBJECTIVES OF THE SEMINAR:

- To examine the adequacy of copyright and sui-generis database protections in a data-driven world.
- To situate database governance within the national vision of Viksit Bharat 2047, emphasizing data sovereignty, innovation and inclusive growth.
- To analyze the impact of emerging technologies (AI, cloud computing, blockchain and the metaverse) on database rights.
- To identify the research gap and policy recommendations for strengthening India's Knowledge economy.





SUGGESTED SUB-THEMES / SESSIONS

Sub-theme 1:

Copyright and Databases – Foundations and Emerging Challenges

- Originality and creativity in databases: Where does copyright begin and end?
- The sui generis database right (EU model) vs. traditional copyright protection.
- Indian jurisprudence on database rights: Current state and reform needs.


Sub-theme 2:

Databases for Viksit Bharat 2047 – Innovation and Data Sovereignty

- Role of copyright in India's knowledge economy and digital transformation.
- Data sovereignty and national security: Protecting strategic databases.
- Indigenous innovation, startups, and India's position in the global database economy.

Sub-theme 3:

Databases in the Age of AI and Big Data

- Text and Data Mining (TDM) exceptions and their implications for copyright.
 - AI training datasets: Who owns the database, and who benefits?
 - Ethical considerations in automated use of databases.
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Sub-theme 4:

Open Access, Public Interest, and Inclusive Growth

- Open data and public sector information for governance and development.
- Role of databases in education, healthcare, and agriculture for inclusive growth.
- Balancing proprietary rights with equitable access to knowledge in India.

Sub-theme 5:

International and Comparative Perspectives

- The EU Database Directive: Lessons for India.
- Cross-border enforcement of database rights in global digital trade.
- Positioning India as a global leader in database governance by 2047.

Sub-theme 6:


Future of Database Protection in the Digital Economy

- Databases in the metaverse and Web 3.0 environments.
- Blockchain and smart contracts in managing database rights.
- Roadmap for harmonized governance of databases in line with Viksit Bharat 2047.





GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACT AND FULL PAPER

- The Abstract shall not exceed 300 words. The length of the full paper including tables, diagrams, illustrations, references, etc. shall not be less than 3000 words and shall not exceed 6000 words.
 - The abstract and full paper should be in Times New Roman, font size 12, with 1.5-line spacing, and footnotes in Times New Roman, font size 10, with single-line spacing.
 - The texts and footnotes must conform to the ILI Citation Style.
 - The Abstract should be followed by an outline of the Article with a brief Discussion.
 - The submission of abstract must be in (.doc) or (.docx) only. The submission should contain a disclaimer to the effect that the piece is original and has not been published or is under consideration, for publication, elsewhere. All submissions are subject to a Plagiarism check.
 - Upon selection, the participants shall submit the full paper. The abstracts will be peer-reviewed by the organizing committee and only shortlisted abstracts will be invited to submit final papers.
- 



- Participants/Paper Presenters have to register on the given link after the acceptance of abstract with payment of required fees.
- The final paper should be submitted after the intimation of acceptance of abstract. No abstract or full paper shall be accepted after the last dates of submission, respectively.
- For participation, registration is mandatory on the acceptance of abstract. Only registered participants will be allowed to take part in the Seminar.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

- The abstracts will be peer-reviewed by the organizing committee and only shortlisted abstracts will be invited to submit final papers.
- The final paper should be submitted after the intimation of acceptance of the abstract.
- Co-authorship is permitted to maximum two authors. Each author is required to register and pay the registration fee individually.
- The selected papers will be published in a peer-reviewed e-journal of MNLU, Nagpur.
- Registration is mandatory to participate or attend the Seminar.
- Certificate will be awarded to the registered participants and Seminar attendees who attend all the sessions of the.





IMPORTANT DATES :

- Abstract Submission: **October 11, 2025**
- Confirmation of abstract selection: **October 15, 2025**
- Full paper submission: **November 5, 2025**
- Date of Presentation: **November 11, 2025**

REGISTRATION FEE :

- Academicians and Professionals : Rs. 2100/-
- Students and Research scholars : Rs. 1200/-
- MNLUN Students: Rs. 550/-
- MNLUN Teachers: Rs. 1050/-
- Registration fee for attending the Seminar is Rs. 600/-

(INCLUDING GST)





IMPORTANT LINKS FOR PARTICIPANTS:

Registration link and abstract submission link:
<https://forms.gle/x2FwjWwZx98SgaMw8>

Payment Link:

<https://www.onlinesbi.sbi/sbicollect/icollecthome.htm>

(The submission link for the full paper will be shared through email only for the selected abstracts)



PATRON



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THANK YOU



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