



**MAHARASHTRA NATIONAL LAW  
UNIVERSITY, NAGPUR**

**DPIIT- IPR Chair at Maharashtra National Law  
University, Nagpur**

**organises**

**An Expert Lecture by Prof. V.K. Unni  
on**

**‘Significance of Trade Secret Protection in  
Contemporary Era’**

**December 28, 2020**

## **VIRTUAL EXPERT LECTURE ON SIGNIFICANCE OF TRADE SECRET PROTECTION IN CONTEMPORARY ERA**

Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India) Chair on IPR and Centre for Intellectual Property Rights, Maharashtra National Law University, Nagpur under the Expert Lecture Series is organizing a virtual lecture on **‘Significance of Trade Secret Protection in Contemporary Era’** on December 28, 2020.

### **ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY**

Maharashtra National Law University, Nagpur, was established by the Government of Maharashtra by way of an enactment known as the Maharashtra National Law University Act (Maharashtra Act No. VI of 2014). The University is the nineteenth National Law University in India. The University is a residential University engaged into promoting quality legal education and conducting cutting-edge research on thriving issues of law, social science and humanities. The University is presently offering B.A. LL.B. (Hons.) Five-Year Integrated Degree Course; LL.M. One-Year Postgraduate Degree Course; Ph.D. interface with law.

### **ABOUT THE DPIIT IPR CHAIR**

The Scheme for Pedagogy & Research in IPRs for Holistic Education & Academia (SPRIHA) was launched in the year 2016 by the Department for Promotion of Industries and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India. The IPR Chair was established under the scheme at selected Universities in India and MNLU, Nagpur takes pride in being one for them. The chair was established to fulfill one of the objectives of the National IPR Policy of the Government of India which was to ‘Strengthen 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’. The Objective of the National IPR Policy is to strengthen the IPR framework of the country. The plan under the initiative of ‘AatmaNirbhar Bharat’, is to create more local brands and take them at a global outreach and Intellectual Property Rights play a key role in it. To achieve the objective of ‘Aatma Nirbhar Bharat,’ the DPIIT-IPR Chair is organising several activities such as launching

online programmes to increase awareness, seminars, expert lectures for imparting knowledge on the process of acquiring IPR, etc. with an intention to help the participants become self-reliant.

### **CONCEPT NOTE**

Trade secrets are a key ingredient of IP Portfolios that help businesses to protect their secret formulas, know-how and other major information that gives them a competitive edge over the others. In order to qualify as a trade secret, the information must be commercially valuable as it is a secret, it should be only known to a limited group of people, and be subject to reasonable steps taken by the rightful holder of the information to keep it secret, including the use of confidentiality agreements for business partners and employees. If such secret information is used or disclosed in a manner that is contrary to the honest commercial practices and it would be regarded as an unfair practice and also a violation of the trade secret protection.

Trade secrets are extremely valuable to the company's growth and that is the main reason as to why the businesses must ensure that they protect their business processes, technical know-how and confidential information from the competitors. The trade secret protection and its importance has been upheld by the Indian courts on the basis of principles of equity and there is no specific legislation for the same. Hence, India being a developing nation must have a robust law for protecting the trade secret. Trade Secrets in itself is a special IP that needs protection. The expert lecture would examine the present practices of Trade Secrets. The focus of the expert lecture is to examine the issues and challenges faced by Trade Secrets right holders.

### **THE OBJECTIVES OF THE EXPERT LECTURE**

To promote awareness on intellectual property rights and its importance, it becomes of paramount importance to help people understand the interface of IPR with other domains. For the same, the DPIIT-IPR Chair aims to organize a series of lectures which would focus on the IPR and its relation with other domains like Space law, Entertainment and Music Industry, Sports law, Trade Secrets, Traditional Knowledge, Geographical Indications, Energy and Telecom Industry, Pharmaceuticals, etc. One of the main objectives is to make public aware about the economic, social and cultural aspects of the IPR. In pursuance of the same this second lecture in the Expert Lecture Series is being organized.

## **Schedule For Expert Lecture**

The Expert Lecture by **Prof. (Dr.) V.K. Unni**, Professor, Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta is scheduled on December 28, 2020 at 6.30 pm

### **Registration Details:**

The registration to the expert lecture is open to

- Law students
- Academicians and Researchers
- Stakeholders
- Practising advocates and professionals

**Registration Fee** –There is no registration fee for the expert lecture. Prior registration to the expert lecture is **mandatory**.

**Registration Link** - <https://forms.gle/cStVe9ocrScBotGS6>

\* All participants will receive a link to the Expert Lecture which will be held using the online platform ‘**Cisco Webex**’ and all participants who have registered using the above link will receive the link by November 28, 2020.

\*All participants of the round table will receive an Electronic certificate (e-certificate)

## **PATRON**

Prof. (Dr.) Vijender Kumar  
Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor,  
Maharashtra National Law University, Nagpur.

## **Coordinator**

Dr. Ragini Khubalkar,  
In-charge, DPIIT-IPR Chair,  
Assistant Professor of Law.

## **Co-coordinators**

- Shweta Kulkarni  
Research Assistant,  
DPIIT-IPR Chair, MNLU Nagpur
- Srijan Mishra  
Research Assistant,  
DPIIT-IPR Chair, MNLU Nagpur

## **Student Members:**

- Aman Bahl +91 98704 52616
- Yashi Agarwal +91 90135 16099
- Srishti Nigam +91 70079 65869
- Dhruva Bahety +91 98365 63001

## **Contact**

For any queries, feel free to send an email to – [iprchair@nlunagpur.ac.in](mailto:iprchair@nlunagpur.ac.in)

**MAHARASHTRA NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY, NAGPUR**

**[www.nlunagpur.ac.in](http://www.nlunagpur.ac.in)**