
Topic 6-3: Awareness Raising and Training of Copyright in Bangladesh

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Intellectual property is basically product or new ideas of mind or intellect.

The Intellectual Property like any other form of property can be owned, bought and sold.

The major forms of Intellectual property are patents. Designs, Trade Marks, Copyright, Trade Secrets know how and Geographical indication etc.

The protection of these rights may bring economic growth, provides incentives for creative innovation and generate employment opportunities in the long run.

The creative people have right to prevent the unauthorized use or transfer of their creations just like any other of ordinary properties.

The Intellectual property plays an important role in the overall development of the Country. The protection of Intellectual property rights is essential for unfolding of the creative faculty of human beings.

The Principles of Intellectual property law is substantially the same in all countries, with variations to suit the national requirement of each country.

Since the establishment of Asia/Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO (ACCU) it has been working to create awareness about copyright among the creators through different methods.

Intellectual property has assumed the international proportion.

Intellectual property right is in fact a national as well as international issue and as such World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), a UN agency based in Geneva is taking care of this issue.

Awareness : By awareness we understand to know some thing, knowing that some thing exists and is important; to create interest in some thing. Who are stakeholders to be made aware? The stakeholders are creators, authors, inventory producers, transferees of the rights, assignees, dealers and persons responsible for enforcement.

Awareness may be created through different ways and training is one of ways.

Education is for overall development of the personality in the society but training is imparted to the stakeholders to perform certain job efficiently and effectively.

Training means process of acquiring knowledge and skill to perform certain job and knowledge and skill need to be supplemented by motivation.

Primarily the persons responsible for the enforcement of the provisions of copy right Act should undergo training. In course of time creators,

authors, producers, Transferees assignees, success in interest may take part in the training.

Copy Right office under copyright Act, 2000 has been established in Bangladesh and the office is headed by the Copyright Registrar.

The people of Bangladesh should be made aware of the importance of protecting copy right and they should be conversant with the basic knowledge about operation of the copy right.

The Government of Bangladesh attaches importance to the creative work Vis-à-vis economic development.

In order to boost up creative effort suitable legal frame work needs to be established.

The civil and criminal laws are in place to protect the rights of the creators, inventors and authors under the provisions of Copy right Act and other laws.

Copy right Registrar has been working under the provisions of Copyright Act 2000 with its amendments.

In order to make the provisions of the Copyright Act effective/functional the office of the Registrar need to be strengthened and number of the officials with up-to-date knowledge about the subject may be increased.

The Bangla version of the Copyright Act is not easily understandable and as such the provisions of the law may be made clear and unequivocal.

The training courses may be organized for the officials of the Copyright Office and those of other related organizations.

With this end in view the Intellectual Property Training Institute may be set up in Bangladesh. The Institute will impart training and education and conduct research.

Bangladesh Public Administration training Centre, Savar, Dhaka conducts foundation training for the young officers of all cadres. The Centre also organizes training for mid level officers and Seminar officers. The topic on Intellectual property rights may mandatory be included in the modules of these training courses.

Seminar, Workshop and discussion meeting should be organized in the University particularly departments of law should take initiative in this respect.

Media, both print and electronic can play a pivotal role in creating public awareness and public opinion about the Intellectual properly Rights.

Topic on Intellectual property rights may find place in the Syllabus of the business related courses in education Institution of the tertiary level.