INDIALAW

Copyright

Copyright Law Firm in India for Registration, Licensing, and Infringement Actions

PRACTICE PROFILE • OCTOBER 2026

Overview

Our Copyright Services practice protects the expression of creative ideas across traditional and digital media. We help creators, publishers, and businesses secure, manage, and enforce copyright protection for literary, artistic, musical, dramatic works, and software. Our expertise extends to digital content protection, licensing strategies, and infringement actions in an evolving media landscape.

Our Services

Copyright Registration

- Registration of literary, artistic, musical works
- Software and computer program registration
- Database and compilation protection
- International copyright coordination

Licensing & Commercialization

- Copyright licensing agreements
- Assignment and transfer documentation
- Royalty structure development
- Revenue sharing arrangements

Content Clearance

- Fair use/fair dealing advisory
- Rights clearance for new works
- Derivative work permissions
- Public domain analysis

Media & Entertainment

- Publishing agreements
- Production and distribution contracts
- Performance rights management
- OTT and streaming platform issues

Enforcement

- Copyright infringement litigation
- John Doe orders for digital piracy
- Notice and takedown procedures
- Platform liability issues

Specialized Rights

- Performer’s rights protection
- Related rights management
- Collective management organization interface
- Compulsory licensing matters

Key Professionals



Shiju P V
Managing Partner



Vinod P.V.
Senior Partner

Frequently Asked Questions

Q1 **What does a copyright practice cover for creators and businesses in India?**

A copyright practice handles registration of original works, licensing and commercialization, content clearance, enforcement against infringement, and management of performer and related rights. It covers literary, artistic, musical, dramatic works, software, databases, and digital content across all media formats.

Q2 **When should a business seek copyright advice rather than handling it internally?**

Early engagement is important when launching content platforms, entering licensing or publishing deals, commissioning creative work, or expanding into digital distribution. Infringement situations, especially online piracy, require immediate legal action such as John Doe orders, where delays can cause irreversible harm.

Q3 **Which Indian laws and authorities govern copyright protection?**

The Copyright Act, 1957 and the Copyright Rules, 2013 form the primary framework. The Copyright Office under the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade handles registrations. The IT Act, 2000 is relevant for digital piracy and platform intermediary liability issues.

Q4 **How long does copyright registration typically take in India?**

A straightforward registration with the Copyright Office generally takes six to nine months from filing, assuming no objections are raised. If a third party files an objection during the mandatory 30 day waiting period, the timeline extends. Registration is not mandatory for protection but is prima facie evidence of ownership.

Q5 **What documents are needed to file a copyright registration application?**

You will need copies of the work, proof of authorship, details of first publication if applicable, an NOC from the author if the applicant is different, and a power of attorney. For software, source code excerpts and a description of functionality are typically required alongside the application.

Q6 **What is a common copyright mistake that businesses in India overlook?**

Many businesses assume that commissioning or paying for creative work automatically transfers copyright to them. Under the Copyright Act, 1957, ownership vests in the author unless there is a written assignment or the work was created under a contract of service. Without proper documentation, disputes over ownership are frequent and costly.

Related Practice Areas

Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) | Intellectual Property Disputes | IP Transactions & Commercialization | Geographical Indications & Traditional Knowledge | Trade Secrets & Confidential Information | Design Services | Trademark | IP Enforcement & Litigation