INDIALAW

Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)

Intellectual Property Law Firm in India for Patents and IP Litigation

PRACTICE PROFILE • OCTOBER 2026

Overview

IndiaLaw LLP is an intellectual property law firm handling registration, enforcement and commercial use of IP in India. Our work runs from trademark filing, opposition and portfolio management through copyright and industrial design protection to infringement and passing off actions before the commercial divisions of the High Courts, including injunctions, damages and anti-counterfeiting work.

We provide comprehensive legal services to protect, enforce, and commercialize intellectual property assets in India and globally. Our Intellectual Property practice combines deep technical knowledge with strategic business insight to help clients build, manage, and defend valuable IP portfolios. From startups to multinational corporations, we assist organizations across sectors in navigating India's evolving IP landscape offering solutions that transform intellectual assets into competitive advantages. With expertise spanning patents, trademarks, copyrights, designs, and trade secrets, we deliver tailored strategies that align with our clients' commercial objectives and industry contexts.

Our Services

IP Enforcement & Litigation

- Anti-counterfeiting programs and customs recordal
- Civil enforcement actions before District Courts, High Courts, and the Supreme Court
- Criminal enforcement through police complaints and raids
- Administrative actions before the IP offices and appellate boards
- Border enforcement measures and customs seizures
- Online enforcement and takedowns from e-commerce platforms and social media
- Pre-litigation strategies including cease and desist notices and settlement negotiations
- Representation in revocation, rectification, and cancellation proceedings
- Anton Piller orders, John Doe orders, and other interim injunctive relief

Patent Services

- Strategic patent filing and prosecution before the Indian Patent Office
- Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) applications and national phase entries
- Drafting and review of patent specifications, claims, and amendments
- Patent searches: patentability, freedom-to-operate, invalidity, and landscape analyses
- Handling pre-grant and post-grant oppositions
- Patent revocation proceedings and infringement litigation
- Pharmaceutical patent strategies including Form 27 (working statement) compliance
- Standard Essential Patents (SEPs) licensing and FRAND negotiations
- Patent term extensions and restoration strategies
- Compulsory licensing matters and government use provisions
- Patent pooling arrangements and cross-licensing strategies
- Technical opinions and expert witness services in patent litigation

Trademark Services

- National and international trademark registration strategies
- Madrid Protocol applications and international portfolio management
- Trademark searches, clearance, and watching services
- Prosecution before the Registrar of Trademarks
- Opposition, rectification, and cancellation proceedings
- Well-known trademark protection and enforcement
- Trademark licensing, franchising, and merchandising agreements
- Trade dress protection and enforcement
- Comparative advertising and unfair competition matters

- Trademark litigation before Commercial Courts and High Courts
- Non-traditional trademarks (sounds, smells, shapes, colors) registration
- Bad faith registration challenges and defensive filings

Copyright Services

- Copyright registration and portfolio management
- Literary, artistic, musical, and dramatic works protection
- Software and computer program copyright registration and enforcement
- Digital content protection and anti-piracy measures
- Copyright licensing, assignment, and royalty structures
- Copyright infringement litigation and John Doe orders
- Collective management organization (CMO) interface and licensing
- Fair use/fair dealing advisory and content clearance
- Publishing, production, and distribution agreements
- Performer’s rights and related rights protection
- Copyright issues in digital platforms, OTT services, and social media
- Notice and takedown procedures under IT Act and platform policies
- Copyright board proceedings and compulsory licensing matters

Design Services

- Strategic filing of industrial designs in India and internationally
- Design searches, clearance opinions, and portfolio management
- Design prosecution before the Controller of Designs
- Protection of GUI, icons, and digital interfaces
- Design cancellation proceedings and infringement actions
- Design licensing and commercialization strategies
- Coordination with global design protection (Hague System)
- Interface between design protection and other IP rights
- Design validity opinions and freedom-to-operate analyses
- Design enforcement and customs recordals
- 3D printing and additive manufacturing design protection

Trade Secrets & Confidential Information

- Development of trade secret protection programs and policies
- Confidentiality and non-disclosure agreements
- Know-how licensing and technology transfer arrangements
- Employee confidentiality obligations and exit protocols
- Trade secret litigation and breach of confidence actions
- Inevitable disclosure doctrine applications
- Digital information security measures for trade secret protection
- Supply chain and third-party confidentiality management
- Reverse engineering protection strategies
- Interface between trade secrets and patents for optimal protection

Geographical Indications & Traditional Knowledge

- Geographic Indication (GI) registration and enforcement
- Protection of traditional knowledge, cultural expressions, and genetic resources
- GI user authorizations and licensing
- GI infringement actions and border measures
- Interface with agricultural products and food safety regulations
- Advisory on Biodiversity Act compliance and benefit-sharing

- Representation before the GI Registry and appellate authorities
- International protection strategies for GIs

IP Transactions & Commercialization

- Drafting and negotiation of IP licensing agreements, technology transfer arrangements, and R&D collaborations
- Structuring of franchise agreements, merchandising deals, and distribution arrangements
- IP aspects of joint ventures, strategic alliances, and technical collaborations
- Patent pooling, cross-licensing, and standard essential patent (SEP) licensing
- IP securitization, valuation, and monetization strategies
- Content licensing, publishing agreements, and entertainment contracts
- Software licensing, SaaS agreements, and open source compliance
- Trade secret protection programs and confidentiality frameworks

Sector-Specific IP Advisory

- Industry-focused IP advice for specialized sectors:
- Technology & Software (AI, blockchain, cloud computing, SaaS, fintech)
- Pharmaceuticals & Life Sciences (drug patents, regulatory data protection, biosimilars)
- Media & Entertainment (content rights, music licensing, film production, streaming platforms)
- Manufacturing & Engineering (process patents, industrial designs, utility models)
- Retail & Consumer Goods (brand protection, trade dress, packaging, advertising)
- Agriculture & Food (plant varieties, geographical indications, traditional knowledge)
- Fashion & Luxury (design protection, counterfeiting, brand enforcement)

Digital IP & Emerging Technologies

- AI-generated works and inventions: ownership, protection, and licensing
- Data protection strategies and database rights
- Blockchain, NFTs, and digital assets: ownership and enforcement
- Software copyright, code protection, and technology licensing
- Interface between IP and IT Act/DPDP Act, 2023
- IP issues in cloud computing, IoT, and digital platforms
- Online content protection, digital rights management, and platform liability
- Social media policies and influencer marketing rights management

IP Strategy & Counselling

- Development of IP policies, protection protocols, and innovation incentive programs
- Freedom to operate analyses, clearance searches, and risk assessments
- Competitor monitoring and market intelligence
- Trade secret protection programs and confidentiality frameworks
- Employee IP assignments, invention disclosure processes, and inventor compensation
- IP due diligence for mergers, acquisitions, and investments
- Regulatory interface with Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Controller General of Patents, Designs & Trademarks, and other authorities

Key Professionals



Shiju P V
Managing Partner



Vinod P.V.
Senior Partner



Abha Shah
Partner



Geetanjali Mehlwal
Senior Legal Consultant



Arpita Dutta
Partner

Frequently Asked Questions

Q1 **What does an intellectual property rights practice cover in India?**

An IPR practice covers the creation, registration, enforcement, and commercialization of patents, trademarks, copyrights, industrial designs, and trade secrets. It also includes licensing, anti-counterfeiting programs, IP portfolio management, and litigation before courts and IP tribunals.

Q2 **When should a business engage an IP lawyer rather than filing on its own?**

Early engagement is critical, ideally before launching a product, brand, or technology. Poorly drafted patent claims, weak trademark classifications, or missed filing deadlines can result in loss of rights that are difficult or impossible to recover later.

Q3 **Which Indian statutes and offices govern intellectual property rights?**

Key statutes include the Patents Act 1970, Trade Marks Act 1999, Copyright Act 1957, Designs Act 2000, and the Geographical Indications of Goods Act 1999. The Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks, under DPIIT, administers registrations through the Indian Patent Office and Trade Marks Registry.

Q4 **How long does it typically take to register a patent or trademark in India?**

Trademark registration generally takes 8 to 24 months if unopposed. Patent grants can take 3 to 5 years depending on examination backlog and objections. Expedited examination is available in certain categories, including startups, small entities and women applicants.

Q5 **What documents are needed to start an IP registration or enforcement matter?**

For trademarks, you need the mark, applicant details, goods or services description, and prior use evidence. Patents require a complete specification with claims and drawings. Enforcement matters need proof of ownership, evidence of infringement, and details of the infringing party.

Q6 **What common IP mistakes can weaken a company's position in India?**

Frequent pitfalls include filing trademarks in incorrect classes, publishing inventions before patent filing (destroying novelty), failing to record IP assignments, and not monitoring renewal deadlines. Each of these can erode rights or create gaps that competitors exploit.

Q7 **Do I need a registered trademark to take action against a copier in India?**

A suit for infringement under the Trade Marks Act, 1999 needs a registered mark. An unregistered mark can still be protected through a passing off action, which requires proof of goodwill, misrepresentation by the other party and resulting damage. Most enforcement suits plead both where the plaintiff holds a registration.

Q8 How long does IP protection last in India?

A patent lasts 20 years from the filing date, subject to annual renewal fees. A trademark registration lasts 10 years and can be renewed indefinitely in 10-year blocks. Copyright in a literary, artistic or musical work lasts for the author's lifetime plus 60 years, and a registered design is protected for 10 years, extendable once by 5 years.

Related Practice Areas

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