

PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMME

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS – LAW & PRACTICE

IPRs are becoming more significant on a worldwide scale, however there is a need to raise knowledge of IPRs in India, whether it be in regards to one's own IPRs or respect for others' IPRs. In general, the term "intellectual property rights" refers to a group of intangible assets, such as inventions, works of art, and contributions to the current body of knowledge, that are held and legally shielded from unauthorised use by a person or organisation.

Timely and pertinent updates relating to Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) is of paramount significance, as it assist the entrepreneurs, professionals, management of organisations etc. to keep track of latest developments in IPRs of various assets and accordingly formulate plans, policies and approaches to obtain IPRs for their products. Further, as latest updates on IPRs makes the stakeholders conversant with different forms of IPRs entering into the industry / market, it fosters innovation and higher earnings, thereby providing an impetus to a nation's economic growth.

With the tremendous rate of technical, scientific, and medical innovation that we are currently witnessing, intellectual property has come to play an increasingly important role. Intellectual property has become one of the largest and fastest-growing legal disciplines in the world, necessitating the need for IP specialists who possess requisite knowledge, expertise and experience in the field of IPRs to deal with various IPR related matters both at national and global levels.

It is heartening to note that IPR has opened up new vistas of opportunities for the Company Secretaries who as Governance Professionals are competent to take up IPR assignments. Moreover, their robust grasp on various pertinent laws and regulations assist them prodigiously in deciphering various IPR Laws and provide optimum solutions.

The Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI), which has consistently played a crucial role in helping its members to develop their capacities, has made the decision to give students a comprehensive education and in this regard, the study material has made sincere endeavours to capture the most recent developments in the field of intellectual property rights and how they are being implemented.

As a result, this study material has been created to give students a broad perspective and in-depth understanding of intellectual property in order to give them a solid foundation on various forms of IPRs- patents, trademarks, copyrights, designs, and geographical indications. The course materials in this study guide have been created in a way that, in addition to meeting the requirements for a future profession in this field, it will help the students to build specialised skills on various areas of IPR.

Intellectual property has broad applications. IPR laws that have a direct bearing on company secretaries' careers have been covered extensively. A self-contained resource has been provided with every effort, and an integrated methodology has been used throughout.

This study material has been published to aid the students in preparing for the Intellectual Property Right Law and Practice which is an Elective Paper of the CS Professional Programme under ICSI Syllabus 2022.

The legislative changes made upto May 31, 2025 have been incorporated in the study material. In addition to the study material, students are advised to refer to the updates provided at the Regulator's website, supplements relevant for the Paper published online by ICSI, Chartered Secretary Journal of ICSI and other relevant publications. Specifically, students are advised to read "Student Company Secretary e-Journal" which covers

regulatory and other relevant developments relating to the Paper which is available at academic portal <https://www.icsi.edu/student-n/academic-portal/>. In the event of any doubt, students may contact the Directorate of Academics at **academics@icsi.edu**

The amendments to law made upto 31st May of the Calendar Year for December Examinations and upto 30th November of the previous Calendar Year for June Examinations shall be applicable.

Although due care has been taken in publishing this study material, the possibility of errors, omissions and/or discrepancies cannot be ruled out. This publication is released with an understanding that the Institute shall not be responsible for any errors, omissions and/or discrepancies or any action taken in that behalf.