

# KNOWLEDGATE® -APRIL 2025

IMPARTING KNOWLEDGE ON LATEST CORPORATE LEGAL AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY MATTERS

**WORLD IP DAY – MUSIC AND IP CELEBRATED  
BY KNOWLEDGENTIA CONSULTANTS 26.04.2025**



On World IP Day, Knowledgentia Consultants marked the occasion by hosting a workshop led by Mr. Purnoor Bhan Singh Brar, under the expert guidance of Ms. Aparna Jain and Ms. Harinder Narvan, aimed at inspiring the next generation of student creators at DAV College, Yamunanagar. The workshop provided valuable insights into the importance of intellectual property (IP) in the music industry. The evolution of music and creative works can be traced back to the oral traditions and handwritten manuscripts of early times. The invention of the printing press in the 15th century gave rise to protection for creative works through print media. The Statute of Anne and the Berne Convention of 1886 laid the groundwork for safeguarding the rights of composers and ensuring royalty payments. Over time, copyright societies and new technologies have reshaped the landscape, offering new opportunities for artists, producers, composers, and lyricists to protect their rights and monetize their creations. With the growth of OTT platforms, licensing has become a crucial part of the music industry, enabling artists to share their work globally while retaining control over their intellectual property. Knowledgentia Consultants continues to be at the forefront of assisting the industry, helping artists secure their rights through copyright, patents, and trademark filings. The firm also provides legal guidance for licensing agreements and royalty negotiations, ensuring that artists maintain creative control and financial benefits. A few of the significant contributions to the music sector include advising singers, composers, OTT producers and musicians, as well as handling legal issues related to PPL notices. Notable individuals in the music industry who have collaborated with Knowledgentia include:

- Geeta Jhala of Agnifly,
- Musician Mohan Kannan,
- Victor Tango Entertainment's Tabassum Modi and Vaibhav Modi,
- Creator and author Indu Jain – Key2Practice,
- Music innovators Shubhendra Rao and Saskia de Haas of Musikul Education Private Limited,
- Poet and songwriter Aman Mann (Vicky).

**IPR WORKSHOP AT GOVERNMENT PG COLLEGE,  
PANCHKULA BY KNOWLEDGENTIA 09.04.2025**

**WORKSHOP ON-  
INTELLECTUAL  
PROPERTY RIGHTS  
AND IP  
MANAGEMENT  
FOR STARTUPS**



Knowledgentia Consultants in collaboration with the Innovation Cell of Government P.G. College for Women, Sector 14, Panchkula, successfully conducted a workshop on "Intellectual Property Rights and IP Management for Startups" on April 9, 2025. The workshop focused on providing a comprehensive understanding of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) and their strategic management, especially tailored for startup ventures. The workshop was hosted by Ms. Aparna Jain & Ms. Harinder Narvan (Founding Partners of Knowledgentia Consultants). The session was interactive, informative and received an enthusiastic response from students and faculty members. The event reinforced the importance of early-stage IP education for students and startups, empowering them to safeguard their creative and technological advancements.

**BRANDS PENALIZED FOR UNLICENSED USE**

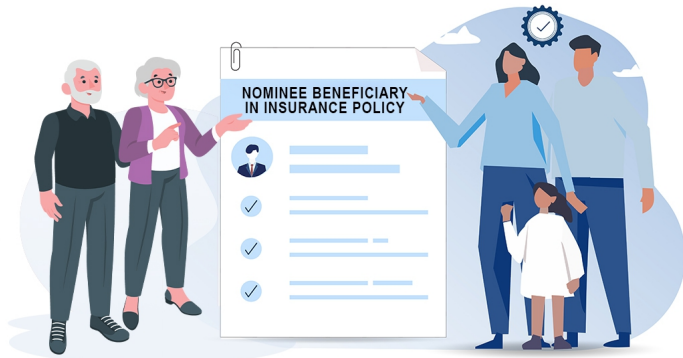
Ref: 01.04.2025, Tuesday, Hindustan Times



Music rights holders in India are intensifying enforcement against unauthorized use of their content, with a sharp focus on brands and influencers leveraging songs in digital marketing without appropriate licenses. Recent legal actions such as the Delhi High Court's interim order restraining One8 Commune from using Phonographic Performance Limited's catalogue, and Sony Music's notice to the Marriott Group underscore the seriousness of the crackdown. Industry experts caution that such violations not only result in hefty fines ranging from ₹20 lakh to ₹5 crore but also inflict reputational damage and financial losses due to content takedowns and reduced visibility. Such enforcement also encourages a more responsible content ecosystem, benefiting the creative community and consumers alike.

## NOMINEE VISAVIS BENEFICIARY AS PER SUCCESSION – INSURANCE LAWS

Ref: 01.04.2025, Tuesday, Hindustan Times



Despite the aim of ensuring a hassle-free transfer of life insurance benefits, nominations often become the subject of legal contention when succession laws intervene. A recent case in Karnataka has spotlighted this conflict, where a policyholder's outdated nomination led to a dispute between his widow, child, and mother. The 2015 amendment to the Insurance Act introduced the concept of a "beneficial nominee" immediate family members with direct entitlement to policy proceeds. However, courts have interpreted this amendment differently. The Karnataka High Court ruled that legal heirs still hold priority under succession laws, even when a nominee is named, contradicting earlier rulings from other High Courts. The ambiguity surrounding life insurance nominations and succession laws poses significant challenges for grieving families. Educating policyholders to regularly update nominations and synchronize them with their wills can prevent legal disputes and ensure rightful access to benefits, promoting both legal clarity and family harmony.

## 'NO CONTEST' CLAUSE IN WILL

Ref: 02.04.2025, Wednesday, Business Standard

### NO CONTEST' CLAUSE



The will of late Ratan Tata, former chairman of Tata Group, reportedly contains a 'no contest' clause aimed at deterring legal disputes among beneficiaries by disqualifying any challenger from receiving inheritance benefits. However, such clauses must be drafted with utmost clarity to avoid confusion and unnecessary litigation. Public awareness about proper estate planning, including legal safeguards like probate and arbitration, is essential for ensuring smooth wealth transfer and maintaining family harmony. Notably, former Chief Justice of India SA Bobde has been appointed as arbitrator among the beneficiaries.

## LODHA TRADEMARK DISPUTE DEEPENS

Ref: 03.04.2025, Thursday, Hindustan Times



The dispute between the Lodha siblings highlights the critical importance of transparency, ethical corporate governance and strict enforcement of intellectual property laws. Allegations of forgery and misuse of trademarks not only erode public trust but also set a troubling precedent for business practices. Swift and impartial legal intervention is essential to uphold accountability and protect the integrity of brand ownership in India's real estate sector. The legal feud underscores ongoing tensions between the brothers despite mediation efforts, with Macrotech already having initiated legal action in the Bombay High Court.

## ADR IN INDIA STRUGGLES

Ref: 03.04.2025, Thursday, Hindustan Times

### CHALLENGES OF ADR IN INDIA



Strengthening India's alternative dispute resolution (ADR) framework is essential for attracting and retaining investor confidence. Streamlining arbitration processes, minimizing judicial interference, and ensuring enforcement of awards can significantly reduce legal bottlenecks and foster a pro-business environment. A robust ADR system not only enhances ease of doing business but also alleviates the burden on the judiciary, contributing to faster justice delivery for all stakeholders. Unlike global arbitration hubs like Singapore and Dubai, India struggles with judicial interference, lack of cohesive policies, and a weak ADR infrastructure. Enforcement of arbitration awards remains a major challenge, often leading to prolonged delays even after rulings are passed. Experts stressed the need for cultural and policy reforms to position India as a viable arbitration destination.

## CENTRE PLANS EPR EXPANSION

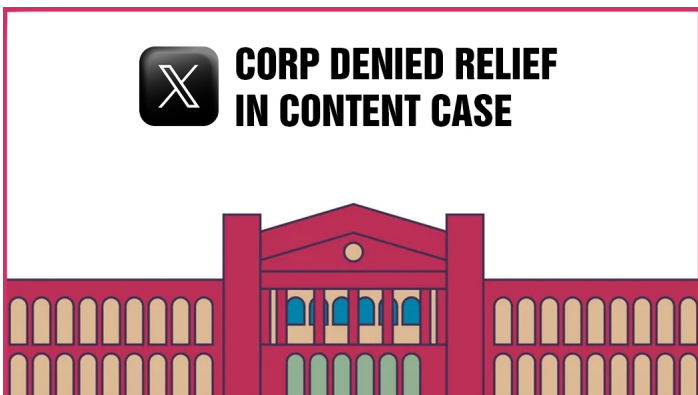
Ref: 02.04.2025, Wednesday, Business Standard



The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change is preparing to broaden its Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) framework to include construction and demolition (C&D) waste, used cooking oil, and toxic and hazardous waste, as part of its ongoing drive to promote circular economy practices. The upcoming rules aim to make producers accountable for managing waste throughout a product's lifecycle. Expanding the EPR framework to include construction, hazardous and cooking oil waste is a progressive and much-needed step toward sustainable waste management and circular economy practices in India. By holding producers accountable and creating market-driven incentives, these reforms can significantly reduce environmental harm and promote resource efficiency. Ensuring timely implementation and industry compliance will be crucial for achieving long-term ecological and economic benefits.

## KARNATAKA HC REJECTS X CORP'S PLEA IN CONTENT DISPUTE

Ref: 04.04.2025, Friday, Business Standard



The Karnataka High Court has declined to grant temporary relief to Elon Musk's X Corp, noting that the Centre assured there was no threat of coercive action against the platform at present. The Karnataka High Court's approach reflects a cautious and balanced stance, allowing judicial recourse while avoiding premature interference. X Corp's challenge underscores the vital need for transparency and due process in digital governance, particularly concerning content moderation. Strengthening procedural safeguards under Section 69A is essential to ensure that censorship mechanisms are not misused, preserving both national security and fundamental rights like freedom of expression.

## MUSIC LABELS STRUGGLE TO MONETIZE

Ref: 11.04.2025, Friday, Hindustan Times



Music labels are grappling with declining revenues from Bollywood music rights as consumer preferences shift away from traditional music to other entertainment forms like podcasts and stand-up comedy. The challenges faced by music labels reflect broader shifts in consumer entertainment preferences, pushing the industry to adapt and innovate. As streaming platforms reduce payouts and traditional revenue sources decline, labels must find new ways to stay relevant, such as by embracing regional and indie music. However, the continued influence of big producers and inflated music rights prices could hinder sustainable growth. The evolving landscape calls for a more balanced approach to pricing and greater collaboration between stakeholders to ensure the survival and growth of the music industry in this digital age.

## PRODUCERS SEEK STUDIO IP DEALS

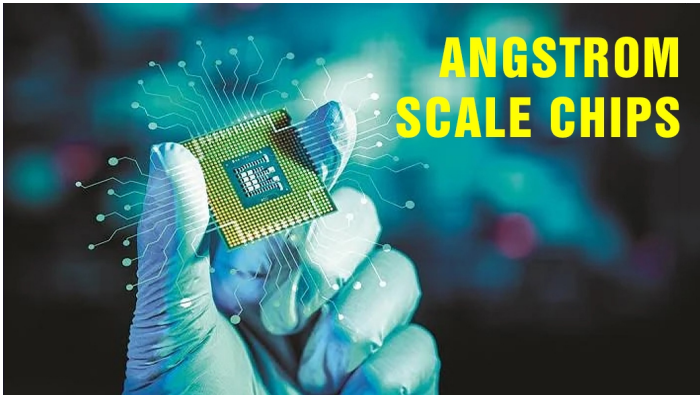
Ref: 16.04.2025, Wednesday, Hindustan Times



The growing trend of collaborations between independent filmmakers and major studios offers a pragmatic solution to the financial challenges facing the Indian film industry. These partnerships not only help mitigate risk but also ensure the preservation and growth of beloved franchises, benefiting both producers and audiences. Such collaborations can foster creativity while providing a sustainable business model that supports local talent and intellectual property, ensuring the future of Indian cinema in a rapidly evolving entertainment landscape. Notable examples include filmmaker Rakesh Roshan, who has teamed up with Yash Raj Films to co-produce the next installment of the popular Krrish series, and director J.P. Dutta, who is collaborating with T-Series to revive his 1997 hit Border.

## IISC PROPOSES ANGSTROM-SCALE CHIPS

Ref: 21.04.2025, Monday, Hindustan Times



revolutionary project to the government aimed at developing angstrom-scale chips, which would be significantly smaller than the smallest chips currently in production worldwide. The proposed development of angstrom-scale chips by IISc marks an exciting leap in semiconductor technology that could position India at the forefront of global innovation. By embracing cutting-edge 2D semiconductor materials, this project has the potential to revolutionize industries ranging from electronics to telecommunications. If successful, it could not only enhance India's technological capabilities but also contribute to reducing reliance on traditional silicon-based chips, fostering greater self-sufficiency and driving economic growth.

## PATENT EXPIRY TRIGGERS PRICE FALL FOR DRUGS

Ref: 25.04.2025, Friday, Business Standard



India's ₹20,700 crore anti-diabetic drug market is experiencing significant changes following the expiration of patents for key drugs. The entry of affordable branded generics into India's anti-diabetic drug market marks a transformative step toward equitable healthcare. Dramatic price reductions for vital drugs like empagliflozin will greatly benefit millions of diabetic patients, especially in low- and middle-income groups. This shift exemplifies how patent expirations can foster healthy competition, reduce out-of-pocket expenses, and enhance public health outcomes across the country.

## AR RAHMAN TO PAY FOR COPYRIGHT VIOLATION - 'VEERA RAJA VEERA'

Ref: 26.04.2025, Saturday, Mint



Music legend AR Rahman has agreed to pay ₹2 crore as part of a settlement to resolve a copyright infringement case related to the song 'Veera Raja Veera' from the 2018 film Rai. The amicable settlement between AR Rahman and P. Jayachandran underscores the critical importance of respecting intellectual property rights in the creative arts. By choosing resolution over prolonged litigation, both artists have set a positive precedent for ethical practices in the music industry. It reinforces the message that originality and attribution are essential pillars of artistic integrity, benefiting both creators and audiences alike. However, on May 6, 2025 the Delhi High Court has stayed this order in the interim.



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