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**A HAND BOOK OF COPYRIGHT LAW**



**Government of India  
Ministry of Human Resource Development  
Department of Secondary Education and Higher Education**

**This book is not a substitute for the Copyright Act and Rules. It is intended to serve as an information booklet for enforcement agencies as well as the general public. Government officers and general public are requested to refer to the Copyright Act, 1957 (as amended from time to time) and the Copyright Rules, 1958 (as amended from time to time) before taking any action with reference to copyright registration and infringement. Copies of the Act and Rules may be obtained from the Controller of Publications, Government of India, Civil Lines, Delhi-110 054.**

**INTRODUCTION**

There is an acute lack of awareness on various issues relating to copyright and related rights amongst stakeholders, enforcement agencies, professional users like the scientific and academic communities and members of the public. The questions put forth by the representatives of these sections of society vary from those relating to the very fundamentals of intellectual property rights to those which relate to practical applications. The Ministry of Human Resource Development has for some time been contemplating a publication to answer such queries. In this booklet, an attempt has been made to provide clarifications on most of the issues relating to copyright law and its enforcement in a question – answer format. The language used is jargon free and user friendly.

2. I deeply appreciate the efforts put forth by Smt. P.V. Valsala G. Kutty, Deputy Secretary and Shri T.C. James, Under Secretary in bringing out this publication.

3. I hope that this handbook will prove useful to enforcement agencies and the general public.

**S**

**Secretary to Government of India,  
Department of Secondary Education and Higher Education**

## Logo

**A HAND BOOK OF COPYRIGHT LAW**

## URL

<http://copyright.gov.in/documents/handbook.html>

## Subject

Copyright-- Law and legislation—India--Handbooks, manuals, etc.

## Accessibility

Free

## Language

English

## Publisher

Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India

## Brief History

The printed copy of this handbook was published on July 24, 1999.

## Scope and Coverage

The Handbook of Copyright Law covers various issues relating to copyright and

related rights amongst stakeholders, enforcement agencies, professional users like the scientific and academic communities and members of the public. In this booklet, an attempt has been made to provide clarifications on most of the issues relating to copyright law and its enforcement in a question – answer format.

### ***Kind of Information***

Through answering various questions, the handbook provides important knowledge regarding the copyright law and other related issues, like, the concept of copyright law; how one can protect this law, the scope of protection; concept about different kind of works which are protected through copyright law, like- work of joint authorship, artistic work, musical work; authorship and ownership; different kind of rights of literary works; registration of copyright and its necessity; the procedure for registration of a work under the Copyright Act, 1957; the guidelines regarding registration of a work; term of copyright law; administration of copyright law; "Performer" includes an actor, singer, musician, dancer, acrobat, juggler, and their copyright law; the rights of a performer and protection; rights of a performer in a cinematograph film; broadcaster's rights and protection; copyright of foreign works protected in India; collective administration of copyrights and copyright society, their functions, name of the registered copyright society in India; the moral rights of an author; copyright infringements.

The appendix provides information on:

Composition of Copyright Enforcement Advisory Council

Composition of Copyright Board

List of Countries included in the International Copyright Order, 1999

### ***Special Features***

This handbook represents its information on copyright law in the question answer form which make possible the general public to get clear idea about the different aspects of this law in India and as well as in world.

### ***Arrangement Pattern***

The resource of this handbook is presented through the answering the related questions on copyright law and related issues. The questions are arranged under broad headings and the broad headings are arranged topic wise one after another to give clear concept on copyright law. As for example, under the broad heading "WORK" the handbook provides answers of the questions like What is a work?, What is a work of joint authorship?, What are the classes of works for which copyrights protection is available in India? What is an artistic work? What is a musical work? etc. and the broad heading "AUTHORSHIP AND OWNERSHIP" gives answers of the questions like Whose rights are protected by copyright? Who is the first owner of copyright in a work? Who is an author? Etc.

**Remarks**

This handbook is a very much helpful tool for those who have no idea about this law. Moreover the handbook provides important knowledge regarding the law and other rights in a very simple way by answering questions which make it easy for the amateur. If one needs the detailed information on copyright law in India this handbook is an appropriate for them.

**Comparable Tools**

- Handbook on the Economics of Copyright  
(<http://www.elgaronline.com/view/9781849808521.xml>)
- Copyright for librarians: the essential handbook  
(<http://apo.org.au/resource/copyright-librarians-essential-handbook>)
- The Law Handbook 2016  
(<http://www.lawhandbook.org.au/>)

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