



# **Refresher Course on Developmental Perspectives of Intellectual Property Law**

*on*

## **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS, ACCESS, AND JUSTICE**

*at*

**Inter University Centre for IPR Studies  
Cochin University of Science and Technology (CUSAT)**

**Conference Hall, IUCIPRS  
June 27- July 03, 2026**



**INTER UNIVERSITY CENTRE FOR IPR STUDIES**

## **About IUCIPRS**

The Inter University Centre for IPR Studies (IUCIPRS) is an autonomous institution established by the Government of Kerala in Cochin University of Science and Technology (CUSAT). The objective of IUCIPRS is to evolve into a research hub and resource centre of international repute and to act as a think tank in the area of IPR and related subjects. The main activities of the Centre include policy research support to both Central and State Governments, supporting/assisting the Government of India in international negotiations, conducting extensive research in intellectual property-related areas, and offering various academic programmes. It is meant to be a place facilitating interaction among researchers from different universities and research institutions in India and abroad. IUCIPRS aims to facilitate multidisciplinary teaching and research in IPR and related subjects.

## **Background of the Programme**

Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) have emerged as a significant area of legal, economic, and social governance in today's knowledge-driven global economy. Designed to incentivize innovation, creativity, and technological advancement, IPR frameworks grant exclusive rights over inventions, artistic works, designs, and other forms of intellectual output that contribute to economic, cultural, and scientific development. At the same time, these exclusive rights often intersect with broader concerns of access, equity, inclusion, and social justice. The relationship between intellectual property and social justice has therefore become a subject of considerable academic and policy debate. On one hand, IP protection encourages innovation, safeguards the interests of creators and inventors, and promotes investments in research and development. On the other hand, excessive monopolistic protection may restrict equitable access to knowledge, medicines, technology, educational resources, cultural goods, and scientific advancements, particularly for vulnerable and marginalized communities. This tension between proprietary rights and public interest obligations remains central to contemporary intellectual property discourse. In recent years, debates surrounding access and justice within IP law have gained relevance due to concerns about patent monopolies, access to medicines, biodiversity conservation, protection of traditional and indigenous knowledge, digital copyright, open innovation, climate technologies, and the equitable dissemination of scientific knowledge. Regulatory frameworks emphasise equal access to justice for all, especially for vulnerable

groups, through fair, transparent, effective, and non-discriminatory legal systems. However, developing countries such as India, which are balancing innovation incentives with social welfare objectives and developmental priorities, face a major legal and institutional challenge.

Within this framework, critical questions continue to shape contemporary scholarship and policymaking: How do IP regimes intersect with principles of social justice? To what extent do IP laws influence equitable access, inclusion, and fairness? How can policymakers reconcile private intellectual property protection with larger societal interests and developmental goals? Addressing these questions is essential for building balanced IP systems that foster innovation while ensuring inclusivity, distributive justice, and sustainable development. Against this background, the discourse on access, justice, and intellectual property rights seeks to promote critical engagement with the evolving intersections between innovation, human rights, public welfare, and equitable knowledge governance in a rapidly transforming global society.

**The programme aims to:**

1. Examine the conceptual foundations of Intellectual Property Rights and their relationship with access, justice, equity, and public interest.
2. Analyse the tensions between exclusive IP protection and equitable access to knowledge, medicines, technology, education, and innovation.
3. Explore the role of intellectual property law in promoting social justice, inclusive growth, and sustainable development.
4. Discuss contemporary legal and policy issues relating to patents, copyright, trademarks, geographical indications, biodiversity, and traditional knowledge.
5. Develop interdisciplinary perspectives on the intersection of intellectual property, human rights, innovation, and access to justice.
6. Enhance teaching, research, and academic engagement capacities of faculty members and research scholars in emerging areas of IP law.
7. Promote scholarly dialogue, collaborative research, and policy-oriented discussions among academicians, legal professionals, researchers, and policymakers.

The refresher course will also offer a unique session and on-hand training on the theme '*access to health*' lead by Prof. Dr. Biswajith Dhar, (Retd Professor, Centre for Economic Studies and Planning (CESP) at Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi in association with Experts from Third World Network.

## **Who can participate?**

The programme is open to: Faculty members of Law, Management, Social Sciences, and Humanities; Research scholars and doctoral candidates; legal practitioners and policy researchers.

## **Registration Details**

- **Mode:** Hybrid
- **Registration Fee:** INR 1500- (Offline Participation) & INR 1000 (Online Participation)
- **Programme Dates:** 27 June -03 July 2026
- **Venue / Platform:** Conference Hall, IUCIPRS & Google Meet

## **How to Apply?**

The participants are requested to register through the Google Form link provided below:

**Registration Link:** <https://forms.gle/vbLwm29c9ToobRXv7>

## **Payment Details**

Name: Director, Inter University Centre for IPR Studies

Account number: 40029890504

IFSC: SBIN0070235

Branch: Cochin University Campus Branch

**Last Date for Registration: 24 June 2026**

## **Contact**

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*We warmly invite scholars and educators to join this FDP and contribute to meaningful academic discussions on balancing innovation, access, and justice within intellectual property regimes.*