

# Intellectual Property Rights and Digital Rights Management Role in Library Science

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**Abstract:** Intellectual property rights (IPR) safeguard valuable outputs of human intellect, just as physical property is protected from robbery or unauthorized copying. DRM technologies, for instance, deny illegitimate users' access to the content through user ID and password licensing, among other methods. Technical Protection Measures (TPM) also play a part in preserving digital material. Digital rights management plays an integral role in the modern digital world, educating users about copyright and IPR by clarifying expectations and protecting creators' financial and creative investments.

**Keywords:** Intellectual property rights, IPR, DRM, Digital Rights Management.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Intellectual property encompasses intangible goods such as ideas, designs, symbols, writings, and creations. Additionally, digital media like audio and video clips that may be downloaded online are also considered intellectual property. Being intangible, if stolen, recovery of stolen intellectual property is often difficult. Take for example an individual who has conceptualized an innovative invention: the Latin root of intellect is "intellectus" which signifies the capacity to know in contrast with the ability to feel. Man has the aptitude to attain knowledge and broaden his knowledge base by gathering facts throughout his lifetime. An intellectual product symbolizes the inventor's original idea — a creative thought — which is a unique kind of asset known as intellectual property; thus legally protected right to ownership of something intangible. [1]

Once a manuscript has been produced, the story and composition take tangible form. The creator is then entitled to copyright protection for their work; this safeguards the expression of the tale within its physical manifestation. Nevertheless, a query emerges: if the manuscript were destroyed, would the copyright still hold? Although no physical copy remains, the intangible idea still lives within the author's mind and can be re-written. [1] By publishing the manuscript in printed form, the author creates a complete copy of the intellectual product, which can be used by the user as follows: [2]

- It is possible for them to read a book and transfer the intellectual component of the intellectual product to their minds.
- They may quote short sections of the intellectual product for fair use.
- The book must be destroyed.
- Overwrite the page with your writing
- Under the first scale rule, they can lend or sell the book. [2]

Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) are recognized by society, granting individuals and organizations protection over their creative works used in trade. Over the coming decades, IPR will be an integral component of developmental progress. Reflective of this, the Government of India has made alterations to its handling of IPRs with regards to international commitments such as the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS). As a result of these changes, problems have arisen within economic sectors including research and development, industry, trade, administration and governance which require an accurate comprehension of IPRs. R&D establishments are essential for creating new technologies and playing a crucial role in growth; therefore it is imperative that these establishments be properly educated on the subject matter. [3]

The role of CSIR, a publicly-funded R&D organization, is evolving in response to economic liberalization. As one of the leading research institutes in India, it is increasingly tasked with increasing technological intensity of products and processes in industry. In 1995, a new mission was developed to maximize economic (industrial), environmental and social benefits for the people of India. This new direction puts an emphasis on adding value through intellectual property rights such as patenting. R&D scientists in CSIR are the pivotal figures who create technical information, disseminating it, publishing it in research journals or leveraging it to make new products, processes, etc. To do this effectively they must access various kinds of IPR information, such as patents. No study in the literature has explored this phenomenon with regards to R&D scientists at CSIR and so this organisation was chosen to conduct the present investigation. [3]

A person's intellectual property rights (IPR) cover the commercially valuable products of their human intellect, just as physical property rights protect product or service from being copied or stolen by others. Human intellect creations, such as inventions, designs, trademarks, or artistic works, such as music, books, films, dances, sculptures, and photographs, are protected under intellectual property rights. Law students and research scholars can use this resource guide to start their research on Intellectual Property Rights. As well as providing access to print and e-resources available in a variety of formats at our Global Library, it also offers some other related sources. [3]

## II. BENEFITS OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS (IPR) IN LIBRARY SCIENCE

University libraries are essential for research, granting access to copyrighted books, journals and online materials for underprivileged students located in developing countries. Yet, the majority of these libraries remain in dire conditions. Fortunately, many agencies have committed to helping improve these libraries by providing funds for modernization and restocking their inventories which include internet connections and photocopying machines. Despite this assistance, more help is necessary as current systems are too slow and bureaucratic to enable the necessary upkeep of book collections. The situation is particularly grave in parts of Africa as documented by recent UNESCO reports. The past decade has seen a dramatic decrease in the economic stability of African countries, leading to dire consequences for library services at academic institutions. Most of these, which are largely reliant on public funding, have been unable to purchase additional books or renew periodical subscriptions. This lack of access to modern information also means that African university libraries and academics will face a bleak future. [4]

In developing countries such as South Africa, university libraries often face issues when trying to acquire copyright clearance and pay royalties for materials requested by teachers and students. Our research has revealed that, even with the best financial resources, a decrease in journal subscriptions had to be implemented in order to keep up with current collections. In developed nations too, the extreme rise of subscription prices for academic journals, combined with consolidation in the publishing industry, has made it hard for researchers to gain access to the books and papers they need. This has led to an ongoing dialogue on how people can get the resources they require and new forms of online publishing. [4]

Developing countries require more freedom to loosen international copyright statutes in order to attend to their educational and research needs. The Stockholm conference delegates proposed an array of amendments to the Berne Convention back in 1967, but developed countries refused these since they were deemed overly extreme restrictions on copyright protection. Thirty years on, it is evident that the additional provisions allocated for developing nations within the 1971 Berne Convention's appendix have ineffectual. Therefore, new reforms must be enforced, with distinct measures being more or less relevant depending on each nation's unique needs. As a commentator stated: In the variety of circumstances in which access to books is limited by cost, copyright can play a part. In some cases, carving out a period for subsidized prices for scientific journals and books may be helpful. Local publishers with restricted markets may benefit from an uncomplicated and inexpensive route to accessing foreign books for translation into their local language. There are also scenarios where permission to reprint books from industrialized countries in the native language is needed in order to provide access to an indigenous population that speaks English or French but cannot afford imported literature. Finally, some countries lack the necessary elements for producing an indigenous publishing industry and need aid in constructing one. [4]

For social and economic growth in developing countries to be achieved, improved accessibility to copyrighted works is a must. To do so, pro-competitive measures should be adopted under copyright laws that permit broad exemptions for educational, research and library uses. International copyright standards still need to be established in the developing world with an appreciation of the pressing need for these products. [4]

## III. DIGITAL RIGHTS MANAGEMENT (DRM) IN LIBRARY SCIENCE

Using technologies to limit the copying and use of copyrighted works and proprietary software, digital rights management (DRM) protects copyrights for digital media. Digital rights management enables publishers or authors to control what paying users can do with their works in a certain way. Companies can avoid legal issues arising from unauthorized use by implementing digital rights management or processes that prevent users from accessing or using certain assets. A growing role of DRM in data security is being played by it today. [5]

As peer-to-peer file sharing services have grown, online piracy has been the bane of copyrighted material. Instead of catching those who commit piracy, DRM technologies prevent it from happening in the first place. Codes used in digital rights management usually prevent copying, or limit the time or number of devices on which a certain product can be accessed. Publishers, authors, and other content creators use an application that encrypts media, data, e-books, content, software, or any other copyrighted material. Only those with the decryption keys can access the material, and they can also use tools to limit or restrict what their users can do with them. [5]

Using DRM, you can protect your content, software, or product in the following ways:

- You can restrict or prevent users from editing or saving your content. [5]
- Your product or content should be restricted or prevented from being shared or forwarded by users.

- Print restrictions or prevent users from printing your content. Some documents or artwork can only be printed a certain number of times.
- Make it impossible for users to create screenshots or screen grabs of your content. [5]
- In the event that your document or media expires, the user will no longer be able to access it. A document could also be revoked after the user has listened ten times or opened and printed the PDF 20 times. This could also be done by limiting how many times it can be used.
- If you restrict access only to certain IP addresses, locations, or devices, then other countries won't be able to access your media. [5]

#### IV. BENEFITS OF DRM

By using digital rights management solutions, you can share data/files while maintaining control over who has access to them and what they can do. It is essential that companies of any size, in any industry, share files with sensitive information securely with third parties. DRM's benefits include: [6]

- Users are educated about copyright and intellectual property through digital rights management. Most people are not concerned with copyrights and passive when it comes to DRM. Companies that implement DRM can communicate what users can and cannot do with respect to digital content to users as long as they can access the content they like. [6]
- DRM helps to make way for better licensing agreements and technologies. A digital rights management technology restricts the ways in which a user interacts with content, such as listening to music on multiple devices or sharing content with friends and family. In order to encourage vendors to look for alternatives to DRM that are more efficient at licensing than DRM, users can support vendors offering and selling DRM-free content. [7]
- Digital rights management helps authors retain ownership of their works. It is very easy for a company or user to copy content from someone else's e-book and rebrand it as their own. The use of DRM makes it impossible for anyone else to modify content. This is also true for scientists whose inventions are protected by DRM. [7]
- Digital rights management aids in defending profit sources. Video and moviemakers invest money to make their videos with the expectation that they will be able to make a return on investment once it is released, or when it is streamed or distributed via the internet. DRM guarantees that only those who paid to view the film can do so. In addition, it ensures that the content can only be accessed by an intended audience. For example, videos with content tailored for adults should only viewed by those who can attest to being of age. [8]
- In addition, digital rights management (DRM) can help secure files and keep them private. DRM is effective at preventing unauthorized users from gaining access to sensitive information. [9]

Digital content is a significant component of the digital environment that people experience on an everyday basis. It provides an array of opportunities for safeguarding confidential data, like intellectual property. Gone are the days when authors had to only focus on individuals making copies of books with a photocopy machine. Nowadays, digital rights management has become necessary for companies in any field so that they can preserve their digital possessions. [10]

#### V. CONCLUSION

Using print material and allowing reasonable reproduction for personal study, research or education is well established. However, when it comes to digital information which can be shared among a larger audience, understanding "fair use", preventing copyright infringement and obtaining permission and financial compensation becomes extremely difficult. This means that modifications are needed to copyright laws. Librarians are responsible for collecting data, providing assistance and making electronic information available; all of their roles should be recognised and maintained. In addition, copyright protection should aid creativity, not hinder it. It is also imperative that librarians act as a mediator between the authors of copyrighted material and its potential users by promoting the flow of knowledge amongst them both. Although it is possible for everyone to benefit from Digital Rights Management (DRM), an 'all encompassing' answer may not exist here either. Libraries have an important part in disseminating and preserving information; DRM-embedded e-books are one example of this today. Nevertheless, there may be instances where created liberties are so unsuitable for libraries that they choose not to acquire those materials.

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