M.O.U WITH FEDERAL BOARD OF REVENUE:-

Intellectual Property Organization of Pakistan (IPO-Pakistan) is the focal body of Federal Government for registration and protection of IP rights i.e. Copyrights, Trademarks, Patents and Industrial Designs. Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) through its enforcement arm Pakistan Customs is responsible for border measures including eradication of piracy and counterfeiting at Pakistani borders. Both the organizations recognize the need for mutual cooperation and coordination to effectively carry out their respective statutory responsibilities, and maintain the highest level of oversight in IPR enforcement, in line with the Government of Pakistan's policy of trade facilitation and the imperatives of compliance with international treaties to which Pakistan is a party. Accordingly, IPO-Pakistan and FBR entered into this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), for data sharing and further cooperation, as required in the areas of common regulatory supervisory interests, and in furtherance of their operational objectives.

The MOU was signed by Director General IPO-Pakistan Engr. Aamir Hasan and Director General IPR Enforcement FBR, Mr. Imtiaz Ahmad Khan in Islamabad on 27th October, 2015.

Addressing the signing ceremony Chairman IPO-Pakistan, Mr. Shahid Rashid said that IPO-Pakistan has close collaboration with IPR Enforcement agencies including FBR to effectively address issues of piracy and counterfeiting in the country. Signing of this MOU with FBR is a milestone towards relentless enforcement drive at our borders. IPO-Pakistan is working to make such type of arrangements with other enforcement agencies for development of genuine businesses in the country.

Mr. Tariq Bajwa, Chairman FBR, addressing at the occasion said that FBR is committed for effective border measures. Pakistan Customs is the guardian of Pakistan's borders against movement of contra band goods and is a facilitator of bona fide trade. It provides a major source of revenue to the Government of Pakistan in the form of taxes levied on the goods traded across the borders. It also helps to protect the domestic industry and movement of genuine goods through borders. Customs and Regulatory duties amount up to 15% of the total receipts collected by the Federal Board of Revenue. MOU will help not only to detect original and fake Consignments but also provide an opportunity to genuine exporters and importers to register with FBR for protection of their businesses.
This MOU is not limited to sharing of data between two organizations but it will also open doors for creating awareness and imparting training about intellectual property issues and taking such other actions as may be necessary for the protection and enforcement of intellectual property rights; Coordinating with trade associations and other related organizations or fora for awareness of intellectual property rights; and mutual facilitation in initiating and conducting inquiries, investigations and proceedings related to IPR offences.

### IMPORTANT EVENTS

1. **Heads of IP Offices Conference (HIPOC) for South and Southeast Asia on November 30, 2015 followed by 12th Shanghai, China International IP Forum (SIIF) from December 1 to 2, 2015.**

   The Chairman IPO-Pakistan attended the WIPO “Heads of IP Offices Conference (HIPOC) for South and Southeast Asia” on 30th Nov, 2015 in Shanghai, China followed by “Shanghai International IP Forum (SIIF)” 01-02, December 2015.

   HIPOC, an executive level forum, aims to facilitate valuable exchange of knowledge and information among the Heads of IP offices. It represents eighteen countries of the south and Southeast Asia including Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Brunei Darussalam.

   The theme of third HIPOC was to achieve coherence in country-level intellectual property policies and strategies to support national priorities. WIPO Director General Francis Gurry also attended the event and separately met with the Heads. The Chairman IPO-Pakistan also had meetings with Mr. Shen Changyu, Commissioner State IP Office of China and Mr. Andrew Michael ONG, Director, Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific, WIPO and discussed the matters of mutual interest and future collaboration.

   At the 12th Shanghai International IP forum (SIIF), Mr. Yang Xiong, Shanghai Mayor shared the tremendous progress of Shanghai as a center of IP in China. It was an excellent platform to interact with various stakeholders of Chinese IP ecosystem to exchange views on global trends in IP and technology development.

2. **Consultative Meetings on Madrid Protocol for Trademarks, Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) and Geographical Indications (GIs) with Experts from Turkish Patent institute, Tuesday, December 15, 2015.**


   Director General, IPO-Pakistan emphasized the need for bilateral cooperation to streamline IP systems in both countries, learning from each other’s experiences and ultimately achieving the goal of economic development in the region. Ms. Umme Salma, Assistant Director (Trademarks) explained the Trademark legislation and registration system in Pakistan. She also shared the current status of preparations by IPO Pakistan for accession to Madrid Protocol.
Mr. Onder Erol Unsal, Member of Board of Appeal, Trademark Examiner, Turkish Patent Institute (TPI) presented elaborative presentation about Trademark system in Turkey and Madrid System for Trademark registration under World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

Mr. Ghulam Mujtaba, Assistant Director (Patents) gave presentation on Patent registration system in Pakistan and current status of preparations by IPO Pakistan for accession to PCT. Mr. Serkan Ozkan, Patent Examiner, Turkish Patent Institute (TPI) highlighted the Patent system in Turkey and Patent Cooperation Treaty system under World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

A comprehensive presentation was given by Ms. Gonca Ilıcählı, Trademark Examiner (GI Expert) on Geographical Indication Protection system of Turkey. Presentations were followed by consultative discussions among the stakeholders and a mutual consensus was developed to pursue actively towards accession to Madrid Protocol and devising an exclusive GI protection mechanism in the country.

3. Meeting with the representatives of Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP) for Updation of IP Laws, from November 6 to 8, 2015, Istanbul, Turkey

The Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP) is a program of the US Department of Commerce (USDOC) that is tasked for providing technical assistance in the commercial law arena to the governments and private sectors of transitional countries in support of their economic development goals. As part of the ongoing collaboration between the two governments, CLDP has been coordinating with IPO-Pakistan to identify potential amendments in the existing IP laws of Pakistan that would make Pakistan's IP laws consistent with the IPO-Pakistan's Act, 2012, in the first phase and with the international standards and best practices of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) protection and enforcement, in the second phase.

In this regard, a meeting between representatives of IPO Pakistan and CLDP was held from November 6 to 8, 2015 in Istanbul to discuss in detail the IP laws of Pakistan and important areas of amendment. Engr. Aamir Hasan, Director General, IPO Pakistan along with Mr. Aftab Muhammad Khan Director (Law), senior representatives of CLDP, Pakistani and U.S IP lawyers attended the meeting. Vice Consul, Consulate General of Pakistan at Istanbul represented the Consulate General at the meeting.

The meeting was held in the form of a marathon brainstorming session which continued for three days during which all the IP laws and IPO Act, 2012 were discussed in detail.

4. Meeting of Director General IPO-Pakistan with MD PTV

Director General, IPO-Pakistan Engr. Aamir Hasan met with Managing Director PTV Mr. Mohammad Malick on Friday, the 16th October, 2015 at PTV HQs, Islamabad. In the meeting discussions were made about the Public Awareness Campaign on PTV about respect of Intellectual Property Rights (Copyrights, Patents, Designs, Trademarks etc.) by assigning 20-30 minutes on periodic basis in talk-shows, panel discussions, interviews etc. Copyright Protection of PTV programs and mechanism of royalty sharing with writers, singers, musicians, artists etc. by establishment of Collective Management Organizations (CMOs) was also discussed. Cooperation for telecasting IP related news in the form of news items and tickers on PTV was decided to be done.
MD PTV agreed with the proposals of IPO-Pakistan and nominated Mr. Agha Masood Shorish, Director Current Affairs to coordinate with IPO-Pakistan. He assured full support of PTV for the cause of IP rights respect among general public.

6. Meeting of the Chairman-IPO Pakistan with Incharge, Regional Office Lahore

The Chairman IPO-Pakistan held a meeting with Mr. Rafiq Tahir, Deputy Registrar/Incharge, IPO-Pakistan Regional office, Lahore on 27th Nov, 2015 to discuss the administrative, technical and legal measures necessary to initiate trademark examination at Regional office, Lahore. During the meeting it was decided that Deputy Registrar, Trademarks, IPO-Pakistan Regional office, Lahore would be delegated with statutory powers to carry out examination and provide certain other services to trademark applicants and agents. Moreover, additional human resource and IT infrastructure needed to deliver these services was discussed.

7. Director General’s visit to Civil Service Academy, Lahore and IPO-Regional Office, Lahore

Mr. Aamir Hasan Director General, IPO- Pakistan along with Mr. Meesaq Arif, Director Admin visited IPO-Regional Office, Lahore on 31st December, 2015 to discuss important administrative measures to enable Trademark application examination and other services at IPO-Regional Office, Lahore.

D.G, IPO-Pakistan visited the Civil Service Academy and delivered a talk about “Why IP rights Protection and enforcement is an ignored area in Pakistan?: a strategy to strengthen the IP regime in Pakistan” to the Syndicate group of newly recruited probationary civil officers. The syndicate members shall carry out research and share their report with IPO-Pakistan.

IMPORTANT NEWS

1. Enhanced Services at IPO Regional Office, Lahore

IPO Pakistan is committed to establish a modern, customer oriented and easily accessible IP system in the country. In a drive to expand the operations of IPO Pakistan across country, measures were taken to empower the Regional office, Lahore for trademark application examination and providing multiple services to trademark applicants and owners. These operational improvements would contribute in reducing the current Trademark backlog, enhancing the timeliness of TM examination and speeding up the overall TM registration process.

Since IPO Pakistan Regional Office, Lahore, under the supervision of Mr. Rafiq Tahir, Deputy Registrar TM is providing following trademark services to business community, attorneys, entrepreneurs and other TM applicants:
Important News

i. Issuance of acknowledgement receipts;
ii. Issuance of Search reports (TM-55);
iii. Issuance of Examination reports;
iv. Conducting hearings of under process TM applications;
v. Issuance of acceptance orders for advertisement of mark in TM journal;
vi. Correction of clerical errors or amendment of application before acceptance (TM-16);
vii. Issuance of certified copies (TM-46)

Moreover, a few post Trade mark registration matters would be examined at Regional office, Lahore and final certificate in following matters would be issued after the approval of Registrar TMR,

i. Assignment of a registered trade mark or any right in it (TM-24);
ii. Registration of registered licensee (TM-28);
iii. Change of name or proprietor of registered mark(TM-33) and;
iv. Alteration of trade or business address in the Register(TM-34).

2. Promotion of IPO Officers

The long awaited promotions of the IPO employees took place on 30th October and 12th November, 2015. A total of twenty employees were promoted to the respective next grades in the TMR, Patent Office and Copyright office Karachi, which include officers as well as staff. The promotions were done from BPS 1-18.

On 12th November 2015, Departmental Promotion Committee (DPC) under the chairmanship of Secretary, Cabinet Division considered promotion cases of Civil Servants working against various positions in BS-17 & 18 at IP Registries, Karachi. Four officers got promoted in the DPC.

On 30th October, 2015, The Departmental Promotion Committee (DPC) under the chairmanship of the Director General, IPO-Pakistan considered promotion cases of BS-11 to BS-16 employees of IP Registries, Karachi. Ten (10) staff members were promoted in this category. Moreover, another Departmental Promotion Committee (DPC) chaired by Director (Admin/HR) recommended the promotion of six (6) employees of BS-10 and below were promoted.

3. Constitution of Copyright Board

The Copyright Board, is an appellate forum against the decision of the Registrar of Copyrights. The jurisdiction of the Copyright Board extends to the whole of Pakistan. The Board is entrusted with the task of adjudication of disputes pertaining to copyright registration, assignment of copyright, grant of Licenses in respect of works withheld from public, unpublished works, production and publication of translations and works for certain specified purposes. It also hears cases in other miscellaneous matters instituted before it under the Copyright Ordinance, 1962. The board has been constituted after a lapse of two and half years on 13th October, 2015. The composition of board is as follows:-

- Justice (R) Mrs. Qaisra Iqbal, Chairperson (Sindh)
- Mr. Haroon Rashid, Member (Islamabad)
- Mr. Jamal Shah, Member (Balochistan)
- Mr. Jamshed Zafar, Member (Punjab)
- Mr. Aziz Khalid, Member (Sindh)
- Dr. Nazeer Tabassum, Member (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa)
- Registrar of Copyrights, Ex-officio Member

The Board will dispose off the long standing pending issues of the stakeholders.

4. Notification for Enforcement of Sections to Pave the Way for Establishment of IP Tribunals

Law and Justice Division issue a notification on 29th December, 2015 for the enforcement of sub-section (3) of section 1 of the Intellectual Property Organization of Pakistan Act, 2012 (XXII of 2012). This will enforce sections 15 as well as sub-sections (2), (3), (8), (9), (10), (11) and (12) of section 16 and sections 17, 18 and 19 of the said Act with immediate effect. With the enforcement of these provisions, now all the IP infringement cases shall be instituted and tried in the concerned IP Tribunal.

5. Electronic Publication of Patent Journal

The Patent Office, Karachi publishes information of patent
application on weekly basis in Official Gazette (part-V) in hard printed form. This process takes a considerable time to access to patent information to the public. IPO Pakistan intends to publish patent information in electronic form it will improve accessibility and circulation of information.

To enable the electronic publication of patent journal, the proposed amendment Bill in Patent Ordinance, 2000 was presented for discussion in the National Assembly which referred it to the Standing Committee on Cabinet Secretariat. On 07 December 2015, the Standing committee unanimously approved the bill recommended to refer it to the Senate.

**IP AWARENESS AND CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES AT NATIONAL LEVEL**

One of the objectives of IPO Pakistan is to enhance awareness regarding the significance and role of IPR in the social, economic and cultural development of the country. IPO Pakistan with the collaboration of its national and international partners focuses universities, research institutes, Chambers of Commerce, Industry, Trade associations and Enforcement agencies among other stakeholders for awareness activities. During the last quarter following important awareness activities were conducted by the IPO-HQs and its field offices across the country.

1. **A Series of National IP Awareness Seminar and Training Workshop on Patent Drafting, Licensing and Valuation, Under TRTA-II Program.**

To promote the public Intellectual Property Awareness and strengthen the Patent regime in the country, IPO-Pakistan in collaboration with Higher Education Commission (HEC), Ministry of Science & Technology, National Textile University, COMSAT and United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) under TRTA-II program sponsored by European Union (EU), has planned a series of National IP Awareness Seminar and Training Workshops on Patents.

The first event of “National IP Awareness Seminar and Training Workshop on Patent Drafting, Licensing and Valuation”, was held from November 23-26, 2015 at Higher Education Commission (HEC), Islamabad. The Chairman, IPO-Pakistan; Director General, IPO-Pakistan; Chairman, HEC; and senior representatives of EU and UNIDO participated in the seminar and shared their views on the significance of the event and Intellectual Property.

In the follow up of the seminar, a training workshop on “Patent Drafting, Licensing and Valuation” was successfully conducted by two US based international experts and a national expert whereas 24 participants from public and private sectors participated in the workshop. The workshop ended with distribution of certificates to the participants by the Director General, IPO-Pakistan.

The second event of “National IP Awareness Seminar and training workshop on Patent Drafting, Licensing and Valuation”, was held from December 21-23, 2015 at NTU, Faisalabad. A number of stakeholders from public and private sectors attended the National Seminar. The president & Vice President of Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce & Industries (FCCI); Director, IPO-Pakistan; and senior representatives of private sector also participated and shared their views on the significance of the event and IP.

The training workshop was successfully conducted by three US based international experts and a national expert. Whereas 32 participants from public and private sectors participated in the workshop. The workshop ended with distribution of certificates to the participants by the Rector, National Textile University, Faisalabad.
The third activity of the series was held from December 28-31, 2015 at PCSIR Laboratories Complex, Karachi. A huge number of stakeholders from public and private sectors attended the National IP Awareness Seminar. The Chairman PCSIR; Director, IPO- Pakistan; Executive Director, Ministry of Science & Technology, C.E.O, Brand Foundation; and senior representatives of PIPRA also participated and shared their views on the significance of the event and IP.

The training workshop was successfully conducted by three international experts from USA, one from Canada and two national experts on the Patent Drafting, Licensing and Valuation whereas 55 participants from public and private sectors participated in the workshop. The workshop ended with distribution of certificates to the participants.

2. Presentation to Minister Planning and Development.

Upon a request from the office of Minister Planning and Development for briefing on the functioning and overview of IPO-Pakistan, Mr. Meesaq Arif, Director, IPO-Pakistan, delivered a presentation on 6th November, 2015 at the Auditorium of Planning Commission. A large number of public and private organizations including PCSIR, Atomic Energy High Commission, Numerous Law Firms, Business Community and R&D Institutes were among the audiences. Director, IPO discussed the importance of IPRs, working and challenges faced by the IPO Pakistan.

Mr. Ahsan Iqbal, Minster P&D emphasized the need for exploiting IP system to protect traditional knowledge and enhance the economic viability of agricultural assets of the country. He assured cooperation of Planning Commission in strengthening the IP system to sustain innovation, business and entrepreneurship in Pakistan.

3. Workshop on Intellectual Property Rights and Entrepreneurship in Pakistan

A workshop was jointly organized by the Patent Office, and International Center for Chemical and Biological Sciences (ICCBS) University of Karachi In collaboration with Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FPCCI) on October 5, 2015 (World Teacher’s Day) at the L.E.J. National Science Information Center, International Center for Chemical and Biological Sciences (ICCBS), University of Karachi. The workshop was broadcasted to different regions of Pakistan through video conferencing facilities of the institute. The welcome address was delivered by Dr. Atta ur Rehman and The Keynote speaker was Mr. Syed Azhar A. Rizvi, Mr. Syed Nasrullah, Controller of Patents & Registrar of Designs, Dr. Abdul Qadir Orakzai, Registrar of Trademark & Copyright, Mrs. Tafseer Fatima, Patent Examiner, Mr. Ghalib Hussain, Examiner of Copyright delivered presentations on multiple aspects of intellectual property right system in Pakistan.

The key objectives of the workshop were to raise the awareness to research scholars about the concept of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) and to emphasis the importance of entrepreneurship trainings for bringing innovation driven products into the market place.


A seminar on “Intellectual Property Management and
Patent Development in Pakistan” was jointly organized by Office of Research, Innovation & Commercialization (ORIC), Mehran University of Engineering & Technology, and Intellectual Property Organization of Pakistan, Patent office on December 07, 2015 at Mehran University of Engineering and Technology, Jamshoro. A team of officials from the Patent office, Trademark registry including Mr. Waheed Ahmed Shaikh, Deputy Director TMR, Mrs. Shams-un-Nisa Hashmi, Examiner of Patents and Designs, Ms. Urooj Fatima, Examiner of Patents, Tajumal Haider, Trademark Examiner and Mr. Muhammad Rizwan, Asst. Director (IT) participated in the seminar. The IPO officials delivered presentations on the significance of intellectual property rights in engineering and technology sector. They also highlighted the registration systems of multiple IP rights in Pakistan.

Mr. Zahoor Ahmed, Patent Examiner delivered presentation on “The Importance of Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs)” and highlighted the importance and registration process of Copyrights, Trademarks, Industrial Design and Patents, how to evaluate the research outcomes and when exploited for commercialization. At the end a very effective question answer session was held between the presenter and participants.

6. One Day Workshop on “Intellectual Property Rights System in Pakistan” at Govt. College University Faisalabad

A one day workshop on “Significance of Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) for Academia” was organized by IPO Regional office in collaboration with Pakistan Scientific and Technological Information Centre (PASTIC), Govt. College University, Faisalabad (GCU-Fsld) and Pakistan Science Foundation at Govt. College University Faisalabad on 6th November, 2015.

Mr. Zahoor Ahmed, Patent Examiner delivered two presentations one on “Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs)” and the 2nd one on the “Importance of Patent Information and Drafting/filing Process of Patent Application”. He highlighted the importance and registration process of Copyrights, Trademarks, Industrial Design and Patents. He also explained with various examples and case studies that how to draft and file the patent application. At the end a very effective question answer session was held after each presentation.

5. Workshop on “the Role of IPRs in Commercialization of R&D Work” at University of Haripur

A workshop on “The Role of IPRs in Commercialization of R&D Work” was organized by IPO-Regional Office, Lahore in collaboration with Directorate of Office of Research Innovation & Commercialization (DORIC), University of Swat at University of Haripur on 4th November, 2015.
7. **One day Seminar on "The Role of Intellectual Property Rights in Knowledge Economy" at National College of Business, Administration & Economics (NCBAE), Lahore**

One day seminar on "The Role of Intellectual Property Rights in Knowledge Economy" was organized by the IPO Regional Office, Lahore at National College of Business, Administration & Economics (NCBAE), Lahore on 11th November, 2015.

Mr. Zahoor Ahmad, Patent Examiner, IPO-Regional Office, Lahore conducted delivered a talk on “The role of Intellectual Property Rights in Knowledge Economy” and explained in detail the importance of Intellectual Property Rights, Types of IPRs, how to protect the Intellectual Property, the role of IPRs in knowledge economy and how to adopt the IP system for protecting and exploiting the IP assets.

**CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES AT INTERNATIONAL LEVEL**

1. **WIPO Inter-Regional Workshop on “Free and Open Source Tools for Patent Analysis” at Manila.**

WIPO Inter-Regional Workshop on “Free and Open Source Tools for Patent Analysis” was held at Manila, Philippine on November 25 to November 27, 2015. Mr. Zahoor Ahmad, Patent Examiner, IPO-Regional Office, Lahore attended This workshop was jointly organized by World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) in cooperation with the Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines (IPOPHL) with the support of the Japan Patent Office (JPO).

The objective of the workshop to provides an overview of the open source and free software tools that are available for patent analytics and to identify some of the most accessible and useful tools used for cleaning and visualization of patent data.

2. **Regional Conference On Technology Innovation Support Centers (TISCs) In The Asian Region.**

The Regional Conference on Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISCs) in the Asian Region was jointly organized by WIPO in cooperation with the Singapore Cooperation Programme (SCP) and with the assistance of the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore (IPOS), held on December 2 to 3, 2015 in the WIPO Singapore Office (WSO). Ms. Saima Kanwal, Assistant Director (TMO) was nominated to attend the conference.

One of the primary objectives of the Conference was to exchange information and expertise among Asian countries to enable them to further enhance their innovation support services for the benefit of its stakeholders. The Conference included both ASEAN and non-ASEAN member states. Sixteen (16) representatives from ASEAN member states, namely Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam, and fourteen (14) representatives from other Asian countries, namely Bangladesh, Fiji, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea and Sri Lanka participated in the Meeting.

During the Conference detailed examples were presented of well-established national innovation support networks and lessons learnt in their development and functioning in Colombia and Germany, as well as the example of regional cooperation and the European network of PATLIBs.
Intellectual Property Education in Pakistan

Mrs. Humaira Shakeel, Assistant Director (IP Awareness), IPO-HQs, Islamabad.

Intellectual property education, i.e. how intellectual property should be taught or more importantly how intellectual property is learnt, is an important area of concern. The regulation, acquisition and management of Intellectual Property Rights presents economic, ethical and policy challenges across the international academic and business communities. Intellectual property is also the starting point of interesting academic cross-disciplinary collaborations in learning, teaching and in research. It will probably always be primarily a law subject taught by lawyers to law students hoping to practice. At the same time there is a growing array of disciplines demanding an awareness of and a competence in handling intellectual property concepts and regulations. Protecting rights of one’s intellectual creations appropriately should be a top priority. Yet too many people embark on their chosen professions without even a basic awareness of intellectual property. This is where the universities come into play. In developed countries students, who are tending more and more to select a university course on the basis of how it enhances their future employability, now want exposure to content on intellectual property rights. IPO-Pakistan being a focal agency on dealing Intellectual Property Rights is responsible for creating awareness about IPRs and finding its current state in the country.

A research has been conducted by IPO-Pakistan in which 151 institutes of all over Pakistan including the Public and Private Universities, Law Colleges have been approached. Out of 151 letters issued to these academic institutes of Pakistan response from 77 academic institutes was received. After filtration and

![Fig: 1.1 Pie Chart showing the statistics of data collection.](image)

- Letters sent to Academic Institutes
- Response Received to IPO-Pakistan
- Universities/Institutes offering IP as a subject
- Universities/Institutes Not offering IP as a subject
- No response received from Universities / institutes
- Reminders issued
- Response after Reminder
Pakistan is poor. Due to lack of awareness about the IP rights and ignorance in this field it has also been seen that the universities and institutes which used to offer IP in the past as a subject, have now stopped offering this course. Students seem uninterested and unwilling to opt for courses on IP because they do not know how important it is to have a firm knowledge about this very important subject. There is a dire need to create awareness about IPRs and their contributory role towards building a knowledge-based economy.

Being a Focal Government agency IPO-Pakistan has to undertake this most daunting challenge of creating awareness about the intellectual property rights. We have to play a key role in promoting and protecting IPRs. This lack of awareness and understanding of the concept of IP in both public & private sectors is the major reason for the present status of IP Education in Pakistan. Moreover, Pakistan also faces a funding crisis when it comes to creating programs on IP awareness. Additionally, our national agendas are more focused on core and basic issues, where IP stands a secondary option. However we need to make a conscious effort to work through the education system in order to impart an understanding of the need for IP and the rights of owners. There is no doubt that the enormous potential of Pakistan’s intellectual property rights has remained largely untapped and if appropriately utilized it can contribute to an IP Aware Pakistan.

In this context IPO-Pakistan has circulated the IP Curriculum prepared by an international consultant under a project to the institutes/universities who teach IP as a subject. The purpose of circulation of the IP curriculum is to prepare a standardized curriculum for IP teaching. The comments, suggestions and valuable inputs have been sought from these institutes. Once comments received the curriculum document will be shared with H.E.C. it can then be incorporated as a mandatory element in the curriculum of university students in collaboration with H.E.C.
### Copyright Office

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