



**APRIL 2021**

**THE  
IP PRESS  
HOT SHORTS**

*from the pens of IPHolics*

# Message from the Editor's Desk!

**Neha Singh**  
**Associate Editor**  
**The IP Press**

It has been a constant and collective effort of The IP Press Team to bring to its readers the most recent news in the field of IP not just stated but analyzed and thought provoked. Whilst the blog also discusses traditional IP concepts time and again, we bring to you The IP Press Newsletter to keep you up to the minute with the events happening in the IP world ranging from trade marks to patents and everything in between. We hope our readers will enjoy this endeavor and find it informative. With a lot of happiness and excitement, we present to you the ninth edition of The IP Press Newsletter! Best wishes to the team always!



# Note from the Author's Desk!

**Sushmita Ray**  
**Content Writer**  
**The IP Press**

It gives me immense pleasure to welcome you all to the ninth edition of The IP Press Newsletter, for the month of April 2021. This newsletter will cover full range of IP Laws related hot shorts across the globe! It includes recent "legal updates" in the fields of Patents, Trade marks, Copyright and Geographical Indications.

However, this is very much your newsletter. Therefore, please provide feedback to our team at [theippress@gmail.com](mailto:theippress@gmail.com) as to what more you would like to see in this newsletter. We trust that you will enjoy our ninth edition of the newsletter and we will look forward to hearing from you all!



# PATENTS HIGHLIGHTS

## Patent infringement suit: Intel wins patent trial involving VLSI Technology!

Recently, the US District Court for the Western District of Texas ruled in favor of Intel Inc. in a patent infringement suit filed against it by VLSI Technology, which was seeking \$3.1bn in damages. The dispute arose in April 2019 when VLSI sued Intel, accusing the latter of infringing three patents covering data processing system technology. VLSI has yet another opportunity after this setback as a third trial before US District Judge which seems to begin soon in June.

**To read further click here:**

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-04-21/intel-wins-billion-dollar-patent-trial-over-former-nxp-chips>



## Patent dispute: Nokia and Lenovo settle over video compression technology!

Nokia and Lenovo recently have announced that they have decided to settle a long-standing patent dispute relating to video compression technology. The dispute which began in 2019 with Nokia suing Lenovo across multiple jurisdictions around the world, has come to an end after Lenovo agreed to pay an undisclosed sum to Nokia. Also, the parties have reportedly arrived at a cross-licensing agreement as part of the settlement deal.

**To read further click here:**

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/tech/technology/nokia-lenovo-settle-patent-dispute-over-video-compression-technology/articleshow/81945901.cms?from=mdr>



# TRADE MARKS HIGHLIGHTS

## The Tribunals Reforms (Rationalisation and Conditions of Service) Ordinance, 2021 got notified!

On April 4, 2021, the Government of India, notified 'The Tribunals Reforms (Rationalisation and Conditions of Service) Ordinance, 2021'. The Ordinance has effectively dissolved several appellate bodies, including the Intellectual Property Appellate Board, Airport Appellate Tribunal, etc. and transferred their functions to District and High Courts. The Ordinance also provides for selection, appointment, and tenure of chairpersons and members of existing tribunals.

**To access the ordinance click here:**

<http://egazette.nic.in/WriteReadData/2021/26364.pdf>

**To read further click here:**

<https://www.theippress.com/2021/04/05/india-to-render-ipab-dysfunctional/>

Intellectual Property Appellate Board



## Data breach: Facebook suffers by massive revealing of sensitive data!

Facebook has once again fallen victim to a massive data breach that compromised sensitive data of 533 Million of its users from 106 countries. Out of 533 Million, 32 million records were leaked from the US alone, and nearly 11 million from the UK, which included 6 million Indians. The data was posted on a “hackers Forum”, in the form of a huge database.

**To access the news click here:**

<https://www.wired.com/story/facebook-data-leak-500-million-users-phone-numbers/>

**To read further click here:**

<https://www.theippress.com/2021/04/07/facebooks-massive-data-breach-is-your-data-now-available-on-the-internet/>

## Fashion houses: Gucci and Balenciaga team up for a new collection!

Gucci and Balenciaga have teamed up for the very first time to launch their new collection ‘Aria’, in celebration of Gucci’s 100th anniversary. The Aria collection was virtually unveiled worldwide through a short film released on a multitude of platforms online. This is Gucci’s first collection after it vowed to deviate from the regular fashion calendar to reduce its ecological footprint.

**To read further click here:**

<https://wwd.com/fashion-news/fashion-scoops/gucci-balenciaga-said-teaming-up-1234799098/>



## Licensing deal: Godzilla and King Kong to feature in PUBG!

Legendary Entertainment and Toho, the creators of 'Godzilla vs. Kong', have penned a deal with PUBG. The partnership would bring significant changes to the PUBG game, with the main characters from the Godzilla vs. Kong movie becoming playable characters in PUBG, and a variety of Godzilla themed game modes and other features being introduced.

To read further click here:

<https://www.indiatoday.in/technology/news/story/pubg-mobile-1-4-beta-now-available-brings-the-awaited-godzilla-vs-kong-theme-1790468-2021-04-13>

## TM bulletin: Supreme and Dr. Martens pen footwear collaboration!

Recently, Supreme partnered with footwear company Dr. Martens for a line of limited-edition shoes. The coveted collection, which has been named the '5-eye shoes', come in three designs, zebra print, brick red, and classic black. The zebra print shoes also feature an inner lining of pony hairs, with the other two iterations featuring leather linings. While the cushioning and the split-toe stitching are completely done by Dr. Martens, the insoles will be co-branded by both Supreme and Dr. Martens.

To read further click here:

<https://footwearnews.com/2021/focus/collaborations/supreme-dr-martens-spring-21-collection-release-info-1203128144/>



## Partnership deal: H&M collaborates with Rocha for new collection.

H&M has partnered with Irish fashion designer Simone Rocha to bring a new spring collection. The H&M X Simone Rocha line designed for women, men, and children, includes bubble silhouettes, romantic prints, traditional plaid and silky hair ribbons. This deal marks a milestone for the designer as it is her first venture into childrenswear and menswear.

**To read further click here:**

<https://www.ldnfashion.com/news/simone-rocha-collaborates-with-hm-on-new-collection/>





# COPYRIGHT HIGHLIGHTS

## Copyright claim: Copa sues Craig Wright over Bitcoin!

The Cryptocurrency Open Patent Alliance (COPA) is suing nChain Chief Scientist Craig Wright before a UK High Court to allege that Craig Wright does not have any copyright ownership over the Bitcoin white paper. Whereas, Wright has been claiming ownership over the Bitcoin White Paper and had sent a cease and desist notice to Square to takedown the same from their website, in response to which, COPA sought some clarifications.

The opposition from COPA, claims to bring this action on behalf of the entire crypto community to protect the open source spirit of the same, by ensuring that all resources, such as the white paper, remain in the open source realm and not become protected works.

**To read further click here:**

<https://www.nasdaq.com/articles/square-led-copa-sues-craig-wright-over-bitcoin-white-paper-copyright-claims-2021-04-12>

**To read more click here:**

<https://www.coindesk.com/copa-square-sues-craig-wright-bitcoin-white-paper-copyright>



## Copyright infringement: Google wins against Oracle's Code theft claim

The US Supreme Court decided in favor of Google in a case filed by Oracle accusing Google of copying their software code that is used to make Apps. The code was written in Java, a software programming language owned by Oracle and used by Google to create the Android Operating System. Google contested that such copying was a standard practice in the industry while Oracle accused Google of theft. The Supreme Court held that Google's copying fell under 'the Fair Use' exception, which allows copying another's work without authorization if some conditions are met.

**To read further click here:**

<https://www.cnet.com/news/cleanup-in-the-dyson-aisle-save-up-to-120-on-vacuums-and-fans/>

## Ministry of Commerce and Industry: Copyright (Amendment) Rules, 2021 got notified!

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry has notified Copyright (Amendment) Rules, 2021 under section 78 of the Copyright Act, 1957 that is effective from March 30, 2021. One of the significant changes that the Amendment Rules has made is that it has substituted the 'Copyright Board' with the 'Appellate Board'

To access the public notice click here:

<http://egazette.nic.in/WriteReadData/2021/226253.pdf>



## Copyright infringement: Xinuos Inc. sues IBM and Red Hat.

In March, 2021, Xinuos, Inc., has filed a copyright infringement and antitrust lawsuit against IBM and Red Hat, Inc. alleging unauthorized use of their software code and subsequent engagement in anti-competitive behaviour, claiming punitive damages as well as injunctive relief.

Further, with the illegally obtained software code, IBM and Red Hat decided to split the relevant market unfairly and use their growing market leverage against customers, rivals, and other stakeholders.

As alleged by Xinuos, this collaboration between IBM and Red Hat resulted in Xinuos' product OpenServer 10 being unfairly eliminated from the market.

**To read further click here:**

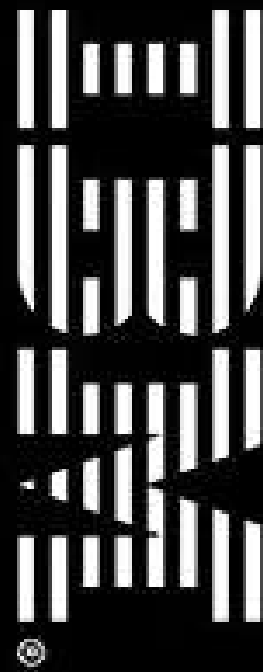
<https://lawstreetmedia.com/tech/ibm-red-hat-sued-by-xinuos-for-allegedly-stealing-code-using-it-to-crush-competition/>

## Registration/ renewal of copyright/performers' society: e-filing facility got introduced!

The Copyright Office vide public notice dated March 19, 2021, has introduced an e-filing facility for registration and renewal of Copyright and Performers' societies. The facility became active on the Copyright Office's website at <https://copyright.gov.in/> on the date of the notification.

**To access the public notice click here:**

<https://copyright.gov.in/Documents/PublicNotice49.pdf>



Red Hat

# GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS HIGHLIGHTS

## GI Tag: Madhya Pradesh's tribal dolls applied for it!

Recently, the tribal dolls, or the 'Adivasi Gudiya Hastshilp', which have been produced in Madhya Pradesh's Jhabua district for decades, has applied for geographical indication tagging by the Tribal Co-Operative Marketing Development Federation (TRIFED). The dolls, which are made using cloth, cotton, and iron wires, feature a combination of Rajasthani puppet-making and Gujarati ethnic art, which uses beads and jewellery. The granting of this GI would be a major step towards the recognition of tribal art forms in the country

**To read further click here:**

<https://www.indiatimes.com/news/india/hand-made-dolls-from-mps-tribal-heartland-jhabua-to-soon-get-gi-tag-to-preserve-their-heritage-535356.html>



## Karnataka Government: GI Products at airports!

In a bid to attract more customers and generate additional revenue, the Karnataka Government has planned on showcasing the state's Geographical Indication (GI) products at state airports, railway stations and bus stands. Karnataka has more than 42 GI's granted to it, including GI such as Mysore silk, Dharwad pedha amongst others. The government is also planning on expanding the plan to other states as well depending on the response it receives from the home state.

**To read further click here:**

<https://www.deccanherald.com/state/gi-products-to-be-available-at-airports-bus-stands-state-government-944982.html>

## Himachal Pradesh's Salooni Maize preparing for GI Tag!

Himachal Pradesh is preparing to obtain a Geographical Indication ("GI") tag for white maize grown in the Salooni district of the State. The application for the GI tag was forwarded by the Salooni Safed Makka Sangathan, for three varieties of the white maize that are unique to Salooni. This specific strain of maize is high in protein content and resistant to a wide variety of diseases.

**To read further click here:**

<https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/himachal/salooni-maize-to-get-gi-tag-229530>



## GI Tagging: Vilachery Clay toys has applied!

The famous clay toys found at Vilachery in Thiruparankundram, Madurai, have recently been applied for geographical indication (“GI”) tagging. The toys are hand crafted with mud, and painted by the local artisans of the Vilachery village and surrounding villages, whose handicrafts have been featured in the local temples for hundreds of years. The application for GI tagging was made by the Kulala Handicraft Artisan Welfare Association, and was facilitated by the MSME Intellectual Property Facilitation Centre, and NABARD’s Madurai Agri Business Incubation Forum.

**To read further click here:**

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/tamil-nadu/gi-tag-sought-for-vilachery-clay-toys/article34397212.ece>



# ABOUT THE IP PRESS

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We believe writing and digitalisation are two ultra-modern weapons of today and torch bearers for tomorrow. With our thoughts penned down on this blog, we bring you our opinion on the emerging issues in the intellectual property (IP) laws.

The IP Press is a team of IP-Holics, who started this blog to ensure access to the latest intellectual property (IP) issues for all the IP hopefuls. Our focus would be to address IP concerns of stakeholders, students, academicians, researchers, start-ups, etc. and guide them to attain and enforce their IP rights.

We, not only hold expertise in law and IP, but our team of technically-skilled professionals, IP specialists and patent agents gives us a better understanding to deal with technical issues in IP. To focus on national and international issues, we are supported with international IP experts as well.

Below is an insight into the objectives of starting this initiative:

- Spread awareness on the latest IP issues;
- Conduct workshops for the IP professionals;
- Seminars and video lectures for the IP aspirants;
- Review and comment on the IP policies;
- Encourage and foster the IP culture;
- Career counselling for students who are interested in building their career in IP;
- A team of academicians and practitioners to research and advice on the IP disputes.

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## CONTACT US



# NOTE FROM THE IP PRESS

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We at the IP press would like to extend our immense gratitude to all the frontline workers and volunteers alike who are at the forefront of battling this raging pandemic. Our hearts and prayers go out to all those affected by the pandemic as we find solace in the words **“This too shall pass”**.

Covid times have been really difficult and now with the second wave hitting our homes, things have been challenging! Let us all do our part to make a difference in the world, whether it's by lending a helping hand to a stranger or just sitting at home to break the cycle.

The fight against COVID-19 is not very far from over now, Get yourself vaccinated and protect your family, community and yourself. **COVID-19 vaccines** are safe, effective and built to save lives.

WE CAN and WE WILL beat this together by supporting each other with grace and positivity.

We pray that you stay safe and take care of each other.

Kindness is essential.

## FOLLOW ALL THE COVID ADVISORIES

***Stay Home, Stay Safe!***

