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# THE IP PRESS HOT SHORTS

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**DECEMBER 2021- JANUARY 2022**

## *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 fourteenth edition of The IP Press Newsletter! Best wishes to the team always!



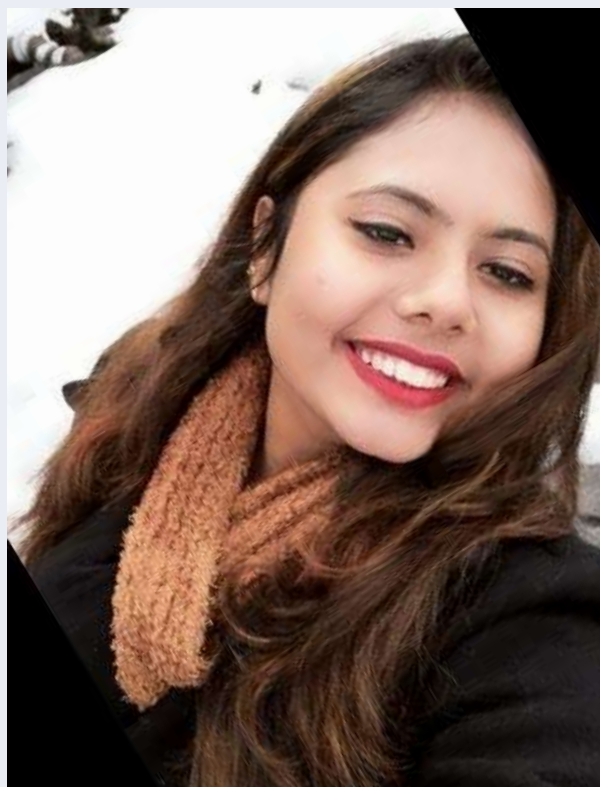
## *Message from the Author's Desk!*

**Tanya Sharma**

Content Writer  
The IP Press

It gives me immense pleasure to welcome you all to The IP Press Newsletter. This newsletter will cover the full range of IP laws related to hot shorts across the globe! It includes recent "legal updates" in the fields of Patents, Trade Marks, E-Commerce, Copyright, Designs 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 fourteenth edition of the newsletter and we look forward to hearing from you all



# PATENT HIGHLIGHTS

## 5G Patent Dispute- Apple countersues Ericsson

Earlier this month, Ericsson filed a lawsuit against Apple for infringing on its 5G patent. The companies entered into an agreement in 2015, which has since expired, and the parties have yet to reach an agreement in relation to the new licence, which is the impetus for the current action. Ericsson says that Apple is now exploiting its patents for 2G, 3G, and 4G technologies without its authorization, and that Apple is no longer permitted to licence Ericsson's wireless connectivity patents in its devices because the 2015 agreement has expired. The company does not directly claim anything in relation to preventing Apple from adopting their technologies, but it is currently demanding compensation. Currently, Apple has filed a countersuit to Ericsson's action, seeking a US import restriction on Ericsson's mobile base stations. Apple argues that those items violate three of its patents. Apple also argues that if Ericsson withdraws its suit, it is willing to withdraw its own.

**To read further, click here:**

<https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/technology/ericsson-sues-apple-again-over-5g-patent-licensing/article38288244.ece#:~:text=Sweden's%20Ericsson%20has%20filed%20another,5G%20wireless%20patents%20in%20iPhones.&text=Apple%20did%20not%20immediately%20respond%20to%20a%20request%20for%20a%20comment>

## Toyota tops the list of automakers to receive the highest patents from USPTO in the year 2021

According to the Intellectual Property Owners Association, Toyota will have received the most patents in 2021 than any other carmaker. In 2021, the firm received a total of 2,753 patents, with several in battery research to enable car electrification, as well as other areas such as automated driving systems, hardware, software, AI, materials, and other mobility-related inventions. It is worth noting that Toyota has been the highest ranked automaker for the eighth straight year, according to the IPOA survey.

**To read further, click here:**

<https://www.automotiveworld.com/news-releases/toyota-earns-most-rd-patents-among-automakers-in-intellectual-property-owners-association-rankings-for-8th-consecutive-year/>

## EcoFactor Inc. accuses Amazon of Patent Infringement

The Delhi High Court has published the final drafts of the 'High Court of Delhi Rules Governing Patent Suits, 2021' and the 'Delhi High Court Intellectual Property Rights Division Rules, 2021,' for which recommendations were accepted until December 17, 2021. The draft was produced following the formation of the Intellectual Property Division (IPD) of the High Court to handle all Intellectual Property Rights-related disputes (IPR).

**To read further, click here:**

<https://www.livelaw.in/news-updates/delhi-high-court-finalizes-patent-suits-rules-ipr-division-rules-suggestions-invited-187493#:~:text=The%20Rules%20consist%20of%202017,summmary%20adjudication%20and%20general%20clause>

## Apple granted another series of Patents, One Plus Patent application on foldable smartphone

The United States Patent and Trademark Office has officially published a series of 63 newly granted Apple patents, including a method and system for representing a virtual object in a view of a real environment, a retractable MacBook Keyboard, and Smart Fabric patents for smart clothing, wearables, and vehicle fabrics. The smart fabric items are the most anticipated, as their arrival contributes to Apple's wearables portfolio expansion. OnePlus patent applications suggest the introduction of foldable smartphones with asymmetrical hinges. Apple's recently patented devices, as well as the OnePlus folding phones, are expected to hit the market in the near future.

**To read further, click here:**

<https://www.mysmartprice.com/gear/apple-patents-foldable-device-notebook/>

## Unilever files Patent for metal free antiperspirant formula

Two patents have been filed for this composition, which is intended to be used as underarm deodorant and does not contain any traditional metal-based components or salts, such as aluminium, but instead employs a blend of polymers, solvents, and plasticizers as an alternative. The formula is now available in aerosol form, but it is possible that it will be available in gel or stick form in the future.

**To read further, click here:**

<https://www.cosmeticsdesign-europe.com/Article/2021/11/24/Unilever-files-patents-on-metal-free-antiperspirant-blends-for-better-efficacy>



## Canada's IP Office introduces new online tool for patent national entry request

The CIPO's online tool is used to submit national entry requests under the Patent Cooperation Treaty, and the system offers faster verification and instant receipt of an application number. There was formerly a waiting period for confirmation that the applications had been received, which has been eliminated by the online mechanism. The CIPO spokesperson also added that the launch of the new online tool is part of the CIPO's broader information technology modernization push to offer more services online in order to simplify the application process for intellectual property registration.

**To read further, click here:**

<https://www.canadianlawyermag.com/practice-areas/intellectual-property/canadas-ip-office-launches-new-patent-national-entry-request-online-tool/362089>

## Nike initiates new lawsuit against Adidas for patent infringement

Nike alleges Adidas infringed on its patent in regard to the "game-changing Flyknit technology," which utilizes less materials and generates less waste in the creation of one-piece knitted uppers for sneakers. It is also claimed that the defendant has used the technique in a number of products and has petitioned the United States International Trade Commission to investigate the rival company for infringing its patents and has petitioned to block the import or sale of products found to violate them as it would be detrimental to their sales, business, and reputation. Adidas, on the other hand, claims that the technique used in the creation of their products is the result of years of focused research and demonstrates their dedication to sustainability, and that they will defend themselves with credible documentation that they have not violated the rival's patents.

**To read further, click here:**

<https://www.fibre2fashion.com/news/apparel-news/nike-files-patent-lawsuit-against-adidas-in-us-court-277884-newsdetails.htm#:~:text=Accusing%20Adidas%20of%20infringing%20on,designs%20and%20pay%20monetary%20damages.>



## Delhi HC finalizes Draft Rules for Patent Suits & Intellectual Property Rights Division Rules

EcoFactor, a Smart Home Energy Management Company, has accused Amazon of infringing on two patents related to home energy management solution technology. The two patents that the corporation claims to have violated are named "System and technique for employing a wireless device as a sensor for an energy management system" and "System and Method for Using a Mobile Electronic Device to Optimize an Energy Management System." Amazon's servers, backend systems, online portals, APIs, Alexa mobile app, and remote sensor accessories that support these thermostats, according to EcoFactor, infringe on their patents. In its lawsuit, the company seeks an injunction to prevent further infringement of its patents as well as an order ordering Amazon to pay the damages.

**To read further, click here:**

<https://lawstreetmedia.com/news/tech/smart-home-energy-management-company-accuses-amazon-of-patent-infringement/>

## Acer's patent infringement accusation on Volkswagen

Acer has filed a patent infringement lawsuit against Volkswagen in a Virginia court, accusing the company of infringing on mobile network patents. According to Acer, Volkswagen only pays for 2G and 3G patents while employing 4G processors in vehicles sold in the last two years. Volkswagen, on the other hand, has refuted these assertions and argues that Acer's charges are false. Both firms have been quite eager on preserving their intellectual property in recent times, and VW has specifically stated that the company would defend its stance by jointly investigating the matter.

**To read further, click here:**

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/auto/news/volkswagen-says-patent-suit-by-taiwans-acer-is-unfounded/articleshow/88446772.cms#:~:text=BERLIN%3A%20Volkswagen%20said%20allegations%20made,on%20its%20mobile%20network%20patents>

# TRADE MARKS AND DESIGN BULLETIN

## Huawei's Trademark applications for 'Petal Search' rejected

The company applied for the trademark 'PETAL SEARCH' in connection with search engine services and delivering localized search services depending on user search behaviors. The search engine was deployed in 2020, and trademark registration applications were filed in 2021. The applications were initially rejected on the basis that there were similar marks that were already registered, containing the term 'PETAL' in relation to identical services. As a result, the company applied for re-examination, which resulted in another rejection stating that the similarities in the cited marks can easily cause consumer confusion because they are being used in relation to identical services.

**To read further, click here:**

<https://www.huaweicentral.com/huawei-trademark-applications-for-petal-search-again-got-rejected/>

## CNIPA's Measures for Rapid Examination of Trademark Applications

The China National Intellectual Property Administration has established a 20-day rapid examination programme for trademark applications. As a result, it has offered certain measures and grouped markers to quickly detect and assess the same. This programme will assess marks involving important projects, marks applied in relation to serving high-quality economic and social development, and marks with the approval of all applicants that are applied electronically and consist simply of words. Furthermore, no registration of collective trademarks or certification trademarks should be sought, and no priority claim should be asserted. If a mark meets all of these requirements, it will be investigated and processed within 20 working days.

**To read further, click here:**

<https://www.natlawreview.com/article/china-s-national-intellectual-property-administration-announces-rapid-20-day>

## Marks & Spencers sued for infringement of shape trademark

Lacoste has filed an infringement claim against M&S for using crocodile shapes as patterns in their items such as bed coverings and children's hats. Lacoste claims that it sent a cease-and-desist notice to the company to stop advertising and selling products shaped like crocodiles, which they ignored. Lacoste further claims that the shape is one of their registered trademarks, and that the purchasing public immediately associates this shape mark with their firm. M&S, on the other hand, says that the products were designed independently by the corporation and are unique. The claim has currently been filed in the London Court, seeking an injunction against advertising and selling products wearing the mark, as well as an order to destroy all objects bearing the mark at its own expense.

**To read further, click here:**

<https://news.bloomberglaw.com/ip-law/lacoste-snaps-back-at-m-s-in-suit-over-crocodile-trademark-spat>

## Approval of The Intellectual Property (Amendment) Bill- Singapore

The Intellectual Property (Amendment) Bill, that streamlines the processes involved in intellectual property protection, has been adopted by the Parliament in order to encourage enterprises to make more use of intangible assets. The bill includes the concept of partial approval of trademark applications, even if a component of the trademark is refused. This notion has already been accepted for international trademark applications, and it is now being applied to national trademark applications as well. The measure also aims to improve public access to patent documents. According to the modifications, the IP registration procedure in Singapore will be refreshed and updated which will benefit business and contribute to legal and procedural clarity.

**To read further, click here:**

[https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=e2badcd6-ec5f-4b2a-90ae-7cd1ab570f4d#:~:text=The%20Intellectual%20Property%20\(Amendment\)%20Bill,and%20legislative%20and%20procedural%20clarity](https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=e2badcd6-ec5f-4b2a-90ae-7cd1ab570f4d#:~:text=The%20Intellectual%20Property%20(Amendment)%20Bill,and%20legislative%20and%20procedural%20clarity)



## AWS Music marks opposed by Amazon

Amazon Technologies Inc. is challenging the registration of the mark "AWS MUSIC," arguing that consumers will be confused, or misled into assuming that the items sold under the recently registered AWS MUSIC mark are supported in any way by Amazon. The Opponent also claims that the company owns 50 domestic registrations and pending trademark applications for its AWS Marks, which cover a wide range of goods and services, and that the AWS Marks are famous and consumers recognize them as uniquely associated with Amazon due to the company's prior adoption and continuous use of the marks since 2002, as well as its substantial investment in advertising and promotion. Amazon also claims that the items and services that AWS MUSIC will deal with are comparable to those given by the corporation, which would cause more misunderstanding among the public.

**To read further, click here:**

<https://lawstreetmedia.com/news/tech/amazon-opposes-registration-of-aws-music-trademark/>

## Food Panda v Hungry Panda

Food Panda has charged Hungry Panda of trademark infringement, claiming that the term "Panda" and the panda logo/icon used in both marks are conceptually similar, and that the services offered under both marks are comparable in nature. Food Panda is suing for the destruction of the Hungry Panda trademark as well as monetary damages. According to Hungry Panda, many businesses in the food and beverage industry utilize trademarks with Panda pictures or gadgets, and the simple inclusion of the term or image does not constitute infringement. It is worth noting that both firms were founded in 2016, although the mark was previously used by Food Panda prior to Hungry Panda's adoption.

**To read further, click here:**

<https://www.techinasia.com/foodpanda-hungrypanda-brawl-trademark-dispute#:~:text=Foodpanda%2C%20one%20of%20the%20largest,own%20trademark%20in%20August%202012>



## GSK Asia Pvt Ltd to acquire Trademarks of 'Iodex' and 'Ostocalcium' brands in India

The acquisition agreement between GSKAPL, GSK Overseas Ltd., and GSK UK Trading Ltd. granted rights to the acquisition of the IODEX and OSTOCALCIUM trademarks, as well as the legal, economic, commercial, and marketing rights to such brands and other associated assets (GSK Consumer Brands) from GlaxoSmithKline Pharmaceuticals. The transaction has been approved by the Competition Commission of India (CCI), which also includes the Acquirers together acquiring 100% of GSKAPL.

**To read further, click here:**

[https://www.biospectrumindia.com/news/43/20434/gskapl-to-acquire-trademarks-pertaining-to-iodex-ostocalcium-brands-in-india.html#:~:text=Further%2C%20before%20the%20proposed%20combination,Consumer%20Brands\)%20from%20GlaxoSmithKline%20Pharmaceuticals.](https://www.biospectrumindia.com/news/43/20434/gskapl-to-acquire-trademarks-pertaining-to-iodex-ostocalcium-brands-in-india.html#:~:text=Further%2C%20before%20the%20proposed%20combination,Consumer%20Brands)%20from%20GlaxoSmithKline%20Pharmaceuticals.)

## ITC v Nestle- Magic Masala v Magical Masala

Nestle was sued by the ITC for using the phrase Maggi Xtra Delicious Magical Masala, which it claimed was deceptively similar to its own phrase Magic Masala. ITC first used the expression in 2010, and Nestle used a modified version of it in 2013. ITC also contends that the expression is an integral part of its composite trademark, and Nestle's use of it amounts to infringement. The Madras High Court rejected ITC's arguments, ruling that no one can have exclusive rights or monopoly on a certain term, and dismissed the action. Currently, the Supreme Court has dismissed ITC's petition contesting the Madras High Court's decision.

**To read further, click here:**

<https://www.livelaw.in/top-stories/supreme-court-itc-nestle-trademark-passing-off-use-of-expressions-petition-dismissed-186592#:~:text=Nestle%20India%20Ltd.,from%20using%20expressions%20'Magic%20Masala'%2C%20'Magical%20Masala',it%20amounted%20to%20passing%20off>

## CNIPA to launch special campaigns to promote IPR during upcoming 2022 Beijing Winter Olympic Games

The China National Intellectual Property Administration established techniques and mechanisms for monitoring the usage of emblems, designs, and trademarks for the 2022 Winter Olympics and Paralympics. The administration intends to take down on unlawful e-commerce platforms and persons involved in the manufacturing and sale of products that infringe on intellectual property rights. It is also worth noting that CNIPA is already running a campaign against rogue IP registrations of all types, with approximately 8 lakh incidents of irregular IP registrations found and reported.

**To read further, click here:**

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202112/1241009.shtml>

## UpGrad files trademark infringement suit against Scaler

The EdTech Company Scaler was sued in the Delhi High Court for utilising the brand name 'UpGrad' through Google Ads to appear at the top of the page on the Google Search Engine. The corporation has asked for more than 3 crores in damages. At the meantime, the Delhi High Court has granted an ad-interim injunction in favour of upGrad and directed Scaler not to utilize UpGrad's registered marks and other variations in relation to Google Ads Programs or any other keyword programme.

**To read further, click here:**

<https://www.businessinsider.in/advertising/brands/news/upgrad-files-trademark-infringement-suit-against-scaler-demands-rs-3-crore-in-damages/articleshow/88025376.cms>





## CNIPA releases English Language Guidelines on Trademark Protection and Enforcement

The English-language Guidelines for the Legal Protection and Enforcement of Chinese Trademarks were published by the China National Intellectual Property Administration. The Guidelines thoroughly introduce and explain China's trademark protection system, including the whole registration application, review, opposition, infringement, and relief process, among other things. These Guidelines were published to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the commencement of the collaboration between the UK Intellectual Property Office and CNIPA. The authorities also claim that this act will improve applicants' and members' comprehension of the Chinese and British intellectual property systems, as well as provide better services to innovators in both nations. In addition, the UK IPO provided comparable instructions on UK intellectual property in both Chinese and English.

**To read further, click here:**

<https://www.natlawreview.com/article/china-s-national-intellectual-property-administration-releases-english-language>



# COPYRIGHT AND E-COMMERCE BULLETIN

## Vietnam becomes signatory to WIPO Copyright Treaty

On November 25, 2021, Ambassador Le Thi Tuyet Mai, Vietnam's Permanent Representative in Geneva, handed over the signed treaty document to WIPO. He further stated that "WCT not only meets the country's obligation in a number of new-generation free trade agreements to which it is a party, but it also provides an adequate legal foundation for the protection of copyrights on digital platforms." This treaty accession is intended to help Vietnam build its software sector and digital platforms, as well as the country's creative and cultural industries, which will help Vietnam further enhance its economic growth.

**To read further, click here:**

<https://vietnamlawmagazine.vn/vietnam-becomes-signatory-to-wipo-copyright-treaty-38079.html>

## Vardhman Music Company accused of Copyright Infringement

Simran Goraya, lyricist, has filed a complaint against Vardhman Music Company for infringement of the song "Shoot Da Order's" copyright and claims that the music was utilised in a film without his permission. VMC is also accused of selling the music to MP3 Music Company without his knowledge. The complaint alleges that the sale and use of the music without the Lyricist's knowledge and approval constitutes copyright infringement.

**To read further, click here:**

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/cities/chandigarh-news/ludhiana-music-company-owners-booked-under-copyright-act-for-selling-songs-without-lyricist-s-consent-101641327064876.html>

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**TIGER KING**  
MURDER, MAYHEM AND MADNESS98% Match 2020 TV-MA Limited Series **AD****TOP 10** Watch the Aftershow Now

S1-E1 "Not Your Average Joe"

## Exclusive Copyright deals not allowed in China

China's copyright authorities have announced that digital music platforms are not permitted to enter exclusive copyright agreements unless there are exceptional conditions resulting from monopolistic behaviour in the country's technology private sector. Following a meeting with important digital music platforms in the country, as well as record and songwriter copyright businesses, the National Copyright Administration of China imposed a prohibition on exclusive copyright treaties.

**To read further, click here:**

<https://www.reuters.com/world/china/chinas-copyright-authority-bans-digital-music-platforms-signing-most-exclusive-2022-01-06/>

## Netflix hit with Copyright suit over 'Ace Ventura' clips used in 'Tiger King'

The makers of "Ace Ventura" have filed a copyright infringement action against Netflix and the producers of "Tiger King" in Los Angeles over the use of clips from the hit documentary series. The 'Ace Ventura' producers claim that Goode Films used two clips from "Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls" in the first episode of "Tiger King" without permission, in violation of federal copyright law, and that the use of the clips serves to increase the commercial value of "Tiger King" by falsely implying that the makers of "Ace Ventura 2" are promoting the Netflix series, and seeks at least \$300,000 in damages.

**To read further, click here:**

<https://www.nbclosangeles.com/news/local/netflix-hit-with-copyright-suit-over-ace-ventura-clips-used-in-tiger-king/2786828/>



# Tencent

## **Tencent claims \$126 Million from Douyin in relation to copyright dispute**

Tencent sued Douyin in June 2021, saying that content submitted by users using Douyin's platform infringed on their copyright. It was alleged that Douyin was required to erase all infringement videos immediately and to take effective measures to filter other infringing videos uploaded and by users. They also asked the court to force Douyin to pay a 61.6 million yuan compensation charge. Tencent also asked the court to require Douyin to pay a 61.6 million yuan compensation charge. The company's claim for the copyright issue has now been boosted from 61.6 million yuan to 800 million yuan. On the basis of copyright infringement, the corporation has already sued Douyin 168 times in 18 courts across the country in 13 provinces. It is worth noting that in 2020, the Beijing Court issued a verdict on another similar infringement case involving "Soul Land," in which the corporation was awarded 80,000 yuan in compensation.

**To read further, click here:**

<https://www.techinasia.com/tencent-sues-douyin-126m-copyright-issue#:~:text=Tencent%2C%20which%20had%20sued%20ByteDance's,June%20before%20the%20Chongqing%20No.>

## **YouTube publishes first Copyright Transparency Report**

The streaming platform has taken several initiatives to balance and secure the interests of content providers and users. According to the initial publication of the Copyright Transparency Report, among around 700 million copyright and takedown requests, incorrect requests accounted for 1%, with the remainder coming from authentic Content IDs and Youtube's automatic copyright enforcement tool. Approximately 60% of all complaints were settled in favour of the content provider/uploader of the specific content. According to the research, YouTube's standards regarding copyright protection need to be updated, as a simple takedown request or copyright claim will result in the specific content being restricted and a loss of revenue, including ad revenue.

**To read further, click here:**

<https://musically.com/2021/12/07/youtube-copyright-transparency-report/>

## Amendment to the Malaysian Copyright Act 1987 (Act 332)

The Malaysian Ministry of Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs has proposed amending the Copyright Act 1987 (Act 332) to include penalties for offences solely linked to streaming technologies. According to the proposal, no one shall engage in any conduct that constitutes copyright infringement in any work by creating a streaming technology for sale or rent, distributing the streaming technology, making it available to the public, or importing a streaming technology. Those found guilty of copyright infringement by any of these methods shall face a punishment of no less than RM 10,000 and no more than RM200, 000, as well as a maximum of 20 years in prison, or both.

**To read further, click here:**

<https://www.freemalaysiatoday.com/category/nation/2021/12/15/copyright-laws-now-cover-offences-on-streaming-content/>

## Changes to The Singapore Copyright Act

The Amended Singapore Copyright Act went into effect on November 21, 2021, with the main goal of improving copyright protection in light of current technological changes. Among the significant changes are the following: the creator will possess the copyright for all types of works done under commission. Similarly, anytime the work of a particular creator is utilised in public, the authors of the work have a right to be identified and in case of public broadcasting of sound works, the copyright owners can collect royalties on the same. The amendment also provides some exclusion that cannot be limited by the parties' contracts.

**To read further, click here:**

<https://www.natlawreview.com/article/changes-to-singapore-copyright-act-come-force>



## Instagram once again seeks dismissal of Derivative Liability Copyright Infringement Suit

Two photographers have submitted an amended case accusing Instagram of secondary copyright infringement. Previously, the Court ruled that Instagram was not responsible secondly because the Plaintiffs did not meet the Ninth Circuit's "Server Test," which limits copyright infringement to circumstances in which party stores copyrighted work on a server. Instagram now contends that the complainants should not be permitted to waste the Court's limited resources by filing serial modified complaints that are subject to dismissal for the same reasons, and it also cites the court's previous decision.

**To read further, click here:**

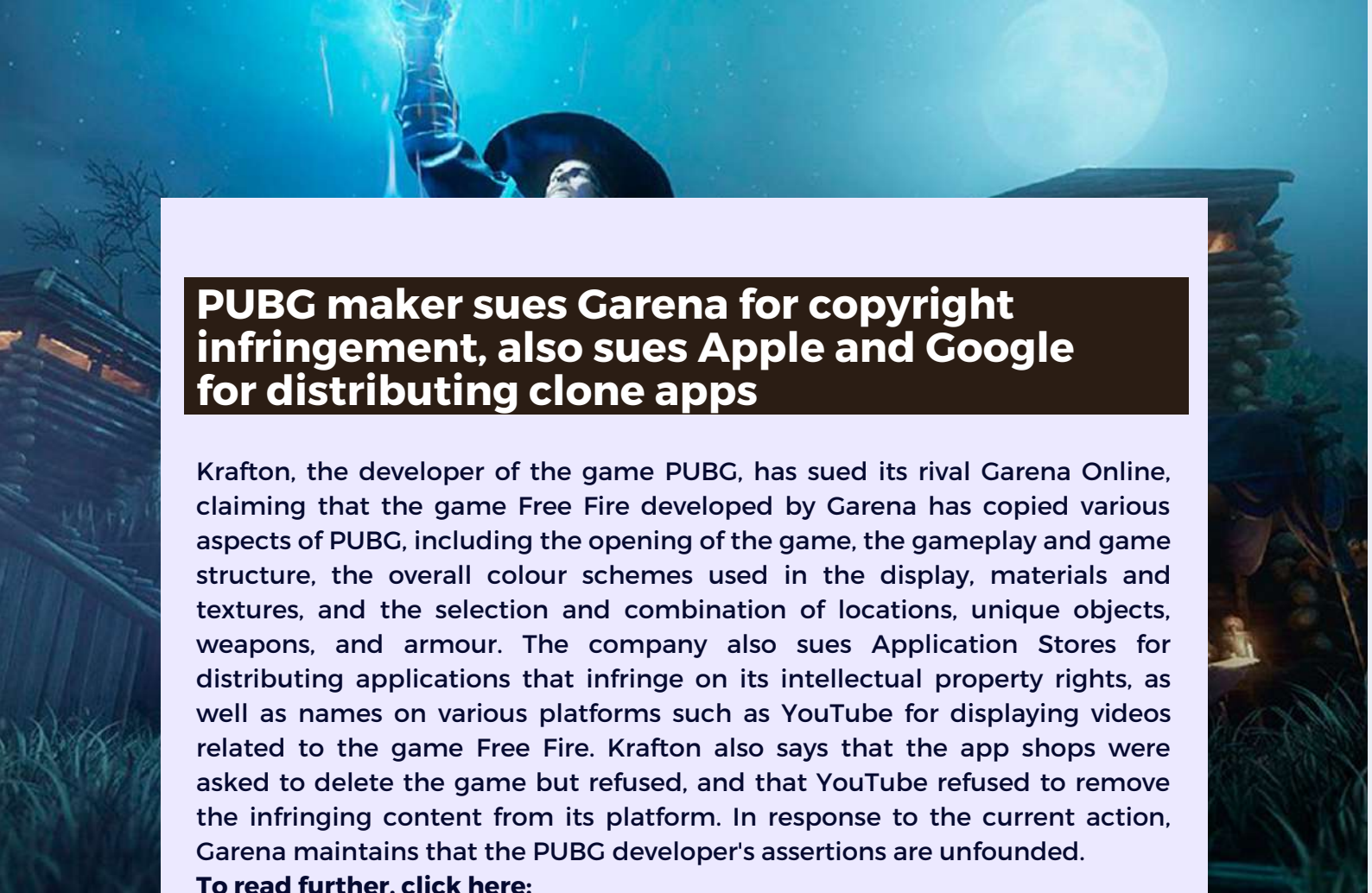
<https://lawstreetmedia.com/news/tech/instagram-once-again-seeks-dismissal-of-derivative-liability-copyright-infringement-suit/>

## SVF slaps Eskay Video Private Limited and Zee Entertainment with 'copyright infringement' charge

TSVF has challenged Feluda; a Zee series set to air on its digital platform, and has obtained an injunction against its creators Ashok Dhanuka, Eskay Video Private Limited, and Zee Entertainment until January 5, 2022. Satyajit Ray developed one of the most famous Bengali detective fictional characters, Feluda, through multiple stories written by him, and SVF alleges that it retains exclusive rights to Feluda stories through an assignment agreement for valuable value, thereby initiating the current dispute.

**To read further, click here:**

<https://www.indiablooms.com/showbiz-details/T/14786/-feluda-trapped-in-legal-battle-as-svf-slaps-eskay-zee-entertainment-with-copyright-infringement-charge.html>



## **PUBG maker sues Garena for copyright infringement, also sues Apple and Google for distributing clone apps**

Krafton, the developer of the game PUBG, has sued its rival Garena Online, claiming that the game Free Fire developed by Garena has copied various aspects of PUBG, including the opening of the game, the gameplay and game structure, the overall colour schemes used in the display, materials and textures, and the selection and combination of locations, unique objects, weapons, and armour. The company also sues Application Stores for distributing applications that infringe on its intellectual property rights, as well as names on various platforms such as YouTube for displaying videos related to the game Free Fire. Krafton also says that the app shops were asked to delete the game but refused, and that YouTube refused to remove the infringing content from its platform. In response to the current action, Garena maintains that the PUBG developer's assertions are unfounded.

**To read further, click here:**

<https://www.financialexpress.com/industry/technology/pubg-maker-sues-garena-over-alleged-copyright-infringement-apple-and-google-for-distributing-clone-apps/2407302/>

## **Amazon revising internal processes following false copyright strike**

TA YouTuber discovered a glitch in an Amazon Game Studios game, which he explained in a video and reported to Amazon Games support. Surprisingly, the video and channel were both given a manual copyright strike. Amazon authorities apologized for the incident and explained that the intended target for the strike was a YouTube advertisement for a gold selling website, but this video was mistakenly reported instead. It has also claimed that it will revise its internal processes to avoid such blunders in the future.

**To read further, click here:**

<https://www.dailyadvent.com/gb/news/4637a3910ce8c80a4431b206baf842f8-Amazon-revising-internal-processes-following-New-World-YouTuber-copyright-strike>



# GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS AND PLANT VARIETIES BULLETIN

## Odisha to promote intellectual property rights culture

The Odisha government's Science and Technology Department has set aside approximately Rs 50 lakh per year to promote Intellectual Property (IP) culture in the state, particularly in relation to IP public awareness, GI registration, registration of all forms of IP, and all other IP-related activities. On December 14, 2021, the printed and digital editions of the Intellectual Property Rights Management Guidelines were launched for the promotion of IP Culture in the state.

**To read further, click here:**

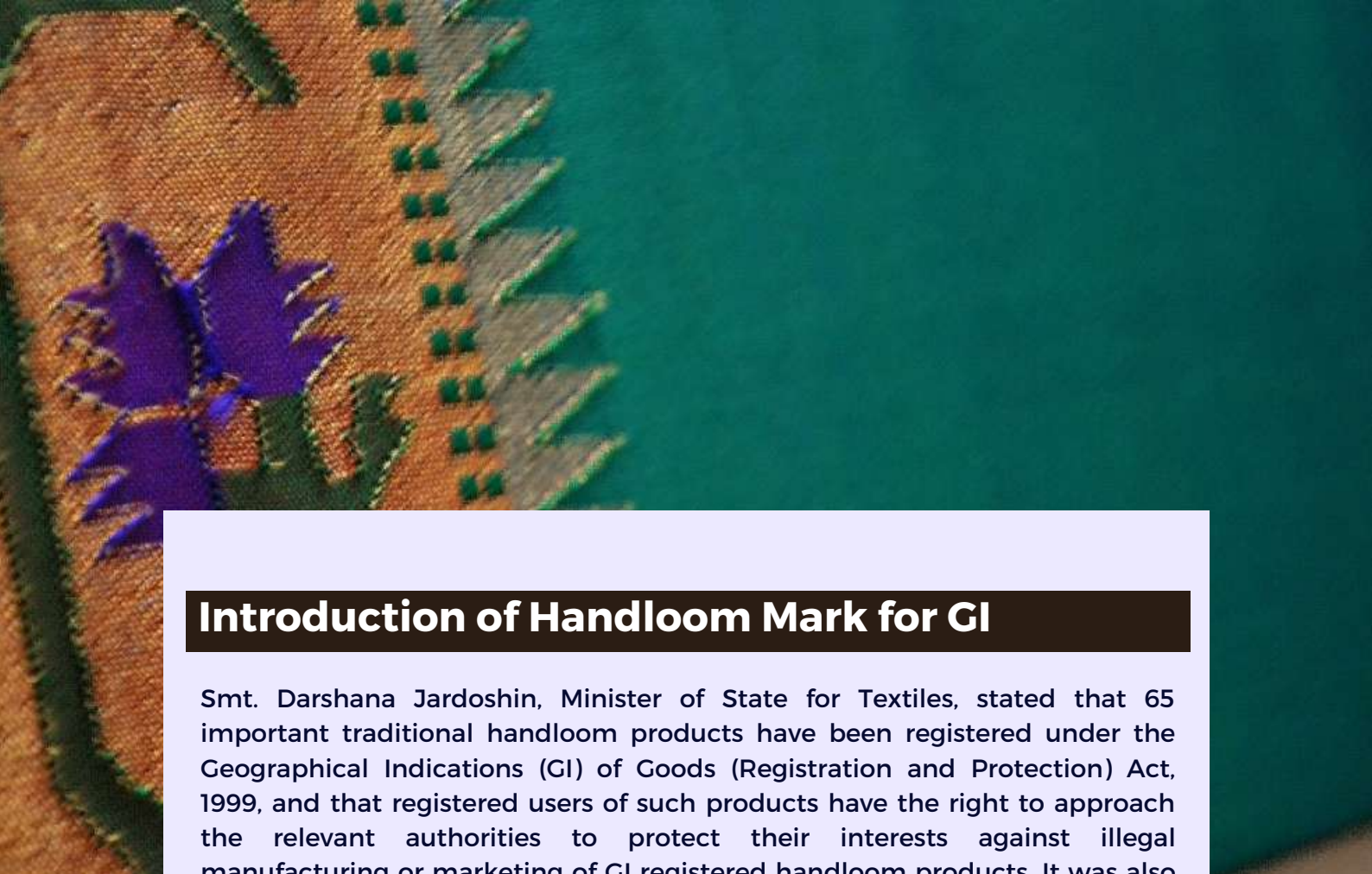
<https://www.thestatesman.com/cities/bhubaneshwar/odisha-moves-promote-intellectual-property-rights-culture-1503030511.html>

## PepsiCo's plant variety protection over FC5 potatoes revoked

PepsiCo filed a lawsuit against farmers in Gujarat in 2019 for cultivating a specific type of potato with less moisture for the purpose of producing chips and related snacks for which the company had obtained a patent. Following that, the corporation desired an amicable resolution of the matter and withdrew the action. Later, a petition was filed with the Protection of Plant Variants and Farmer's Rights (PPVFR) authority, stating that patenting seed varieties is not permitted under Indian law. It has now been determined that the patenting of a specific variety of potato cannot be accepted, and thus the certificate of registration has been revoked.

**To read further, click here:**

<https://www.theippress.com/2022/01/13/pepsicos-plant-variety-protection-over-fc5-potatoes-revoked/>



## Introduction of Handloom Mark for GI

Smt. Darshana Jardoshin, Minister of State for Textiles, stated that 65 important traditional handloom products have been registered under the Geographical Indications (GI) of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999, and that registered users of such products have the right to approach the relevant authorities to protect their interests against illegal manufacturing or marketing of GI registered handloom products. It was also said that the government has introduced the "Handloom Mark" to distinguish products woven on handlooms, adding that the step is being made to protect and promote traditional handloom products.

**To read further, click here:**

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1779317>

# ABOUT THE IP PRESS

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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