

BIRLA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY & SCIENCE (BITS), PILANI ("INSTITUTE")

Ref. No. S/1/23 Date: 6th Nov. 2013

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS (IPR) POLICY

"Intellectual property (IP)" refers to creations namely inventions, literary and artistic works, symbols, names, images, and designs with potential use in commerce.

"Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)" refers to rights over Industrial property which includes- patents, industrial designs, know-how, trademarks over the trade names of the Institute, logos and together with fonts and color combination, and geographical indications of sources; copyrights over literary and artistic work; integrated circuit (IC) layouts; and trade secrets which includes any confidential business information like the method and style of managing the Institute, teaching methods, sales methods, distribution methods, advertising strategies, etc.

1. OBJECTIVE:

This Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Policy ("IPR POLICY") aims to harness, guide and assist creativity that emanates from faculty, staff and students and to establish principles and standard procedures for the creation, ownership, protection, management and securitization of the Intellectual Property (IP) across the Institute. The objective of this IPR Policy is:

- To promote research and development of IP within the Institute;
- To develop and inculcate culture of respecting other's intellectual property amongst members of the Institute;
- To create a standard procedure for creation, ownership, protection, commercialization and management of IP;
- To obtain and enforce IPR, and to safeguard the interests of the Institute and the inventor(s); and
- To create awareness amongst its faculty members, staff and students on protection and management of IPR through conducting regular seminars, workshops and training programs.

2. SCOPE:

This IPR Policy applies to all forms of IPR and know-how developed or acquired by the Institute. This IPR policy shall apply to all personnel- faculty, staff, contract employees, students, and members related to the Institute, as well as to all IPR and know-how where the institute is involved.

3. CONSTITUTION OF THE INSTITUTE'S IP COMMITTEE (IIPC):

To facilitate assessment of creation and protection of IP, an Institute IP Committee (IIPC) shall be constituted by Vice Chancellor as per guidelines.

4. OBLIGATIONS:

- Institute will file for the IP and bear all expenses in this regard.
- All applications in relation to intellectual property, whether for registration, amendment or cancellation will be made in accordance to applicable laws and regulations;
- Creation of licenses or assignment of rights relating to intellectual property will be in accordance with this policy;
- No legal action relating to intellectual property shall be commenced without consultation with the IIPC.

5. OWNERSHIP:

- Any IP generated by the faculty members, researchers, students, or any other person
 directly or indirectly associated with the Institute by the "use of the Institute's resources"
 and any rights obtained on such IP shall normally be owned by the Institute.
- In case of sponsored projects, funded by agencies or industries etc, ownership of the IP will
 be decided by the agreement between the parties or as per guidelines of the funding
 agencies.
- However, the Institute shall ensure that any IP generated as a result of sponsored projects and the rights obtained on it shall be owned by the Institute unless otherwise expressly agreed between the parties to co-own or not own such IPR.
- The expression "use of the Institute resources" includes use of funds, laboratories and equipment, Information Processing Center, etc.

6. DISCLOSURE AND CONFIDENTIALITY:

Faculty members, staff, researchers, students, members of the Institute, IIPC members, and any other personnel not part of the Institute but associated/engaged with the Institute directly or indirectly shall maintain confidentiality of IP till such time the IP is made available in the public domain.

7. COMMERCIALIZATION:

The Institute shall execute such license agreements for optimum commercialization of the IP generated. The terms and conditions of such licenses shall be as mutually agreed between the parties and beneficial to the interest of the Institute.

8. ROYALTY/REVENUE SHARING:

The licensing fee and/or royalty arising out of licensing of IP, less expenses towards protecting or maintaining IP, will be shared between the institute, the inventors, and other parties as mentioned in guidelines.

9. BREACH:

Any breach of this IPR Policy should be immediately notified to the Management of the Institute and all questions in relation hereto should be addressed to the Vice chancellor.
