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CSL Assignment 2

Intellectual property rights are customarily divided ed into two main areas:

(i) copyright and rights related to copyright back to top

The rights of authors of literary and artistic works (such as books and other writings, musical compositions, paintings, sculpture, computer programs and films) are protected by copyright, for a min imum period of 50 years after the death of the a uthor.

Also Protected through copyright and related (som etimes refer ved to as "neighbouring") rights are the rights of performers (e.g. actors, singers and musicians), producers of phonograms (sound recordings) and broadcasting organizations. The main social purpose of protection of copyright and related rights is to encourage and reward creative work.

(ii) Industrial property back to top

Industrial property can usefully be divided into two main areas:

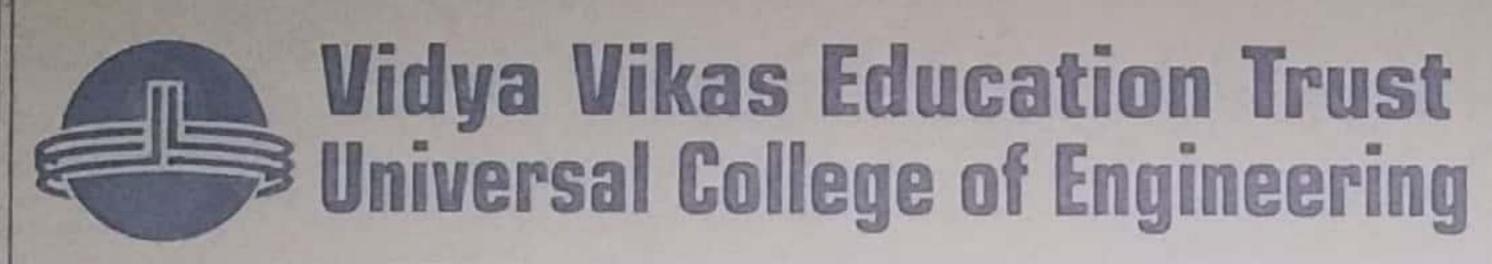
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One area can be characterized as the protection of distinctive signs, in Particular trademarks (which distinguish the goods or services of one under taking from those of other undertakings) and geographical indications (which identify a good as originating in a place where a given characteristic of the good is essentially attributable to its geographical origin).

The protection of such distinctive signs aims to st imulate and ensure fair competition and to protect consumers, by enabling them to make informed cho ices between various goods and services. The protection may last indefinitely, provided the sign in question continues to be distinctive.

other types of industrial property are protected primarily to stimulate innovation, design and the creation of technology. In this category fall inventions (protected by patents), industrial designs and trade secrets.

The social purpose is to provide protection for the results of investment in the development of new technology, thus giving the incentive and means to finance research and development activities.



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A functioning intellectual property regime should also facilitate the transfer of technology in the form of foreign direct investment, joint ventures and licensing.

The protection is usually given for a finite term (
typically 20 years in the case of patents).

While the basic social objectives of intellectual pr
operty protection are as outlined above, it should
also be noted that the exclusive rights given are g
enerally subject to a number of limitations and exc
eptions, aimed at fine-tuning the balance that has
to be found between the legitimate interests of ri
ght holders and of users.