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Avinash Kumar



Avinash Kumar has completed his Ph.D. in International Investment Law from the Dept. of Law & Governance, Central University of South Bihar. His research work is on "International Investment Agreement and State's right to regulate Foreign Investment." He qualified UGC-NET and has been selected for the prestigious ICSSR Doctoral Fellowship. He is an alumnus of the Faculty of Law, University of Delhi. Formerly he has been elected as Students Union President of Law Centre-1, University of Delhi. Moreover, he completed his LL.M. from the University of Delhi (2014-16), dissertation on "Cross-border Merger & Acquisition"; LL.B. from the University of Delhi (2011-14), and B.A. (Hons.) from Maharaja Agrasen College, University of Delhi. He has also obtained P.G. Diploma in IPR from the Indian Society of International Law, New Delhi. He has qualified UGC – NET examination and has been awarded ICSSR – Doctoral Fellowship. He has published six-plus articles and presented 9 plus papers in national and international seminars/conferences. He participated in several workshops on research methodology and teaching and learning.

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INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS IN AGRICULTURAL INNOVATIONS.

AUTHORED BY - DR. SHRUTI N. JADHAV.

Purpose:

The future of agricultural innovations in India will require a focus on sustainability. Innovations that promote eco-friendly farming practices, reduce pesticide use, and improve crop resilience to climate change will be critical. Protecting such innovations through IPR can boost their development and adoption.

Collaboration between farmers, research institutions, and businesses will help ensure the appropriate use of IPR in agriculture. It will be important to create partnerships that respect farmers' rights while incentivizing innovation.

Protecting traditional agricultural knowledge, along with recognizing the contributions of local communities, will require more focused efforts to prevent bio-piracy and ensure that farmers receive the benefits of innovations they have contributed to over generations.

The Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights (PPV&FR) Act, 2001 was enacted in India to provide legal protection for new plant varieties while safeguarding farmers' rights.

Patents:

Patents are crucial for protecting new agricultural inventions, such as genetically modified crops, new plant varieties, and innovative farming tools or machinery. In India, the Patents Act, 1970 provides the framework for granting patents.

Geographical Indications (GI):

GIs are used in agricultural products like Basmati rice, Darjeeling tea, Alphonso mangoes, and Coorg coffee. These tags help protect the unique identity and marketability of these agricultural products while promoting regional economic growth.

Copyright:

Agricultural research publications, farming manuals, and agricultural software can be protected under copyright law. This allows agricultural innovators to control the distribution and use of their work.

Trademarks:

Agricultural companies can trademark their products, such as fertilizers, seeds, and farm machinery, to build brand identity. Similarly, trademarks can be used by farmers or producers of specific agricultural products.

Methodology:**Major Findings:**

Intellectual property rights play a vital role in encouraging agricultural innovations in India, careful attention needs to be paid to ensuring that the rights of farmers, local communities, and the environment are also protected. Balancing innovation with sustainability, equity, and inclusivity will be key for the agricultural sector's growth in the coming years.

Keywords: