

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:498

ANSWERED ON:03.12.2004

NORMS FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

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**Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether a three day international symposium on emerging issues of copyright protection in the digital environment was held recently;
- (b) if so, the views made by participants;
- (c) the Government's response thereto;
- (d) whether the Government wants to establish a system for consistently evolving new norms for dealing with intellectual property rights issue; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E. V. K. S. ELANGO VAN)

- (a): Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of Secondary and Higher Education organized an Asia Pacific Regional Symposium on Emerging Issues of Copyright Protection in the Digital Environment at New Delhi from 13th to 15th October, 2004 in cooperation with World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) with the assistance of Japan Copyright Office.
- (b): The participants expressed views on various issues relating to copyright protection in the digital environment including, inter alia, on International Framework of Copyright and Related Rights in the Digital Environment, Emerging Issues of Copyright and Related Rights in the Digital Environment, the Challenges of Implementing the WIPO Copyright Treaty (WCT) and WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty (WPPT): National experiences, Legislative Trends in Japan and the United States of America: Increasing Copyright Protection or Expanding the Rights of Consumers and Users, Copyright Intermediaries in the Digital Environment: New and Traditional Roles - from the viewpoints of Collecting Societies/Agencies, Industry sector, consumers/users, Collaborative Creativity and Copyright: Proprietary, Open Source and Free Software Movements, Emerging Online Business Models in the Music Field, Effective Management of Copyright in Digital Networks: Digital Rights Management, Private Copying and Levies and Policy and Strategy Options for Enhancing Copyright Protection in the Digital Environment. The challenges for ratifying WIPO Copyright Treaty and WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty were also discussed.
- (c): Views and experiences would be used to develop the approach to be taken by the Government in addressing the issues that might arise related to copyrights in a digital environment including amendments to existing legislations.
- (d)&(e): Initiatives consistent with domestic requirements and international developments, as appropriate, would be taken for dealing with evolving intellectual property rights issues.