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A Study on Intellectual Property Rights Balancing **Innovation and Public Interest in India**

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Abstract: This study examines the intricate balance between promoting innovation through the protection of intellectual property and ensuring public access to essential knowledge and technologies. While strong IPR protections incentivize creativity and innovation, they may also lead to monopolies, limiting accessibility and affordability, particularly in critical sectors like healthcare, agriculture, and technology. The objective of the study is To analyze the existing legal framework of intellectual property rights (IPR), To assess the impact of IPR laws on innovation in critical sectors, To evaluate the effectiveness of judicial decisions and policy interventions, To explore the challenges faced by innovators and industries in navigating IPR laws. Research method followed is descriptive research. The Independent variables are the age, gender, educational qualification, occupation and place of living .The dependent variables are Did India's IP policy balance innovation incentives with public access, India's patent system encourage innovation without stifling public access to essential medicines, Are you satisfied that the Indian government play in balancing IP protection and public interest. Important findings is that The enforcement of patent rights in the pharmaceutical sector, particularly in life-saving drugs, often limits affordability and access for the public. However, compulsory licensing provisions under the Indian Patent Act have been instrumental in balancing innovation incentives for pharmaceutical companies and public health needs (e.g., the Natco-Bayer case on cancer drugs).concludes that while India has made significant strides in balancing IPR protection with public interest, continued legal reforms, policy adjustments, and international cooperation are needed to ensure that innovation serves the larger goal of equitable economic and social development. Moving forward, India must strengthen its public interest safeguards while encouraging an innovation-friendly environment that benefits both creators and society at large.

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