The 21st century Libraries vis-à-vis Information centres & the Professional find themselves at the threshold of an explosive revolution. The world has entered into an era of instant communication. A person sitting in the remotest corners of India can enjoy live performance taking place in the far away places like America or Africa, thanks to Electronic media. It is an era of fast technology (IT). In recent times, techniques for reproducing documents and access to documents through faster communication has become reality. Simply, inexpensive and readily available magnetic tape reproduction equipments with low cost tapes, cassettes have made copying of phonograph records simple. New computer technology has brought a revolutionary change. These technologies are providing unlimited opportunities for communication between people and helped many people to reproduce documents and other materials illegally on a large scale causing problems to copyright owners and Government agencies. There is an urgent need to study the Laws related to printing and other media at different levels.

Laws are responses to challenges. The challenges can be social, economic and/or technological copyright law is no exception to this general rule as it emerged as a response to technological challenges. Every time a new technology that had an impact on the reproduction distribution and transmission of works protected under copyright.

Copyright are mainly concerned with authors, publishers, librarians, person related to film industry and music industry. Patients, trademarks, information sources, movies, gramophone records, cassettes and computer software are directly related to Intellectual products. Librarians are deeply concerned with these rights as their work is closely related to the acquisition storage and retrieval of Information.
Over the year’s copyright law under went a number of changes, not a small number of which were responses to technological advancements. The technological development that has concerned the greatest challenge to publishing industry is the emergence of the digital technologies in the nineties. Apart from the possibilities that this new technology has opened up for individuals in copying and manipulation of works, it has spawned a new kind of publishing, that is, e-publishing and new kind of work, that is, multimedia work, both of these have raised a multitude of challenges to the copyright regimes in India and in other countries.

The Intellectual Property Rights and copyrights are important not only at National but also at International level. We are facing many challenges in this field. However, the people are not adequately aware about the Intellectual Property Rights and copyrights. The present study discusses all these issue in depth and present the scenario properly.

The whole thesis is divided into seven chapters, numbered as chapter one to seven. The chapters are further divided into sections and sub-sections, numbered using decimal fraction notation. The content of the chapters are summarized as follows –

**Chapter- 1**

The first chapter is an introduction of this research study. After giving general background, it introduces ‘Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs)’ and ‘Copyright’, explain the problem being studies, pronounces the importance, need, objectives and overview of related study and research strategy of the present study.

**Chapter-2**

Described the Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs), its main branches, nature, protection to IPRs, Emerging trends in IPRs and Economic development, New Bills
Chapter-3

Deals with the emergence of electronic publication issues and Trends. It describes the historical background of e-publication, copyright issues in e-publication, need and Importance, Existing publication Routes and their drawbacks, advantages and disadvantages of Non-print media and differentiation between print document and electronic documents. Further discusses the role of librarian and publishers in e-publication. It also provides the future trends in E-publishing.

Chapter – 4

This chapter explains the concept of copyright and its impact on electronic information environment. The problem that is worrying scholars, researchers, educators and consumers of modern information is the possible impact that new technologies may have on the copyright law and consequent burdens on the Information users. It has been described the copyrights in computer programmes, piracy issues, protection of Software and data, copyright at national and international level and FAQ for web creators.

Chapter- 5

Describes the role of copyright societies and publishing Industry in the protection of copyright in this electronic information age. It deals with need, power and procedure of Copyright Societies, Piracy picture in music showing the raids carried out in India, how to recognize pirated version, checklist for publishers and challenges that lie ahead for libraries and publishers. It also discusses some random tips and thoughts in this direction.
It contained observations and suggestions for amending the copyright act, 1957 for the protection of Electronic Information.

Chapter 7

Last chapter deals with the summary and conclusion formulated during the course of present study.

A select bibliography/Webliography of books, periodicals and other sources consulted is given at the end. For reference and bibliography ISI Standard is followed.
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(Joginder Singh Burman)