BOOK PIRACY IN PAKISTAN: ISSUES, CHALLENGES AND STRATEGIES

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Abstract

Piracy is generally known as the deliberate infringement of copyright laws. This colossal phenomenon stems from social, economic and legal backgrounds. The idea of originality and authorship is inviolable and must be protected from pirates. Consequently, if this unlawful and illegal activity was not contained then it would mean “serving a death warrant to creativity”. The objectives of the current study were to examine issues and challenges of book piracy in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK), Pakistan and suggest strategies to control this heinous act. Based on qualitative approach an interview technique was designed to carry out the study. The population of study included registered publishers, legal professionals and academicians in KPK. A total of 10 publishers, 15 legal professionals and 28 legal academicians participated in the survey. The study identified various factors that contribute to book piracy in KPK. These factors include high prices of original editions of local and foreign books, and low costs of their counterfeited copies, lack of awareness on the part of general public, publishers and those who are involved in this criminal act, lack of training for the staff of investigation agencies, legal professionals and prosecutors, lack of educational background, and non-existence of foreign book publishers in Pakistan. They study suggests training courses for law enforcement agencies, prosecutors and judges, the establishment of foreign book publishing houses in Pakistan, the organization

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of information literacy programs for publishers and all those involved in the business of printing to educate them about copyright and book piracy. The study further suggests that the government should provide financial and legal assistance to the quarter concerned to control the menace of book piracy in Pakistan.

Keywords: Book piracy, Copyright, Copyright law, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan

Introduction and Background of the Study:

Copyright is private property and any unlicensed use is “piracy”\(^1\). The warnings against the sins of copyright violation emit from every direction in order to ingrain into people the importance and inviolable nature of copyrighted works. The idea of originality and authorship is inviolable and it is therefore more important to protect it from pirates who use these works for personal gains. Consequently, if we could not stop this unlawful and illegal activity then it would mean that we are serving a death warrant on creativity. Today we are living in a world that has changed immensely. Modern technological developments have made possibilities to reproduce original works easily\(^2\). Book piracy is an illegal and illegitimate reproduction of others’ work for any reason without the consent or authorization of the owner of intellectual property\(^3\).

The history of piracy is as old as the publishing industry itself and is rapidly increasing since the mid of previous century\(^4\). It is generally believed that the piracy phenomenon stems from social, economic and legal backgrounds. In the recent years the higher education sector in Pakistan has grown rapidly and so has increased the need of reading materials in educational institutions. The textbook boards are trying to overcome the deficiency at school level however, there is dearth of books on professional subjects such as engineering, medical, business etc. Haider in his study of acquiring foreign
materials in Pakistan noted that to meet the educational requirements of local institutions 90% of books are imported from abroad especially from U.K and U.S.A.

In Pakistan the state of institutionalized education is hardly any better. Students largely depend on a teacher’s ability enabling them to grip the difficulties of subjects mostly from cheap photocopied versions of foreign books. The teachers of most of the public and private sector educational institutions, rely on foreign editions of pirated books. Under normal circumstance an average Pakistani student cannot afford to buy the copyright protected version of foreign books, and resultantly their dependency on the pirated versions of these books have increased.

The branches of foreign publishing houses are almost nonexistent in Pakistan. In the absence of domestic publishing houses the price we pay is parallel in monetary terms to international level, which in turn gives birth to book piracy. Oxford University Press is the only foreign publishing house operating in Pakistan, providing an alternative for the people of Pakistan to get foreign books legally.

The exorbitant costs of foreign books have made them out of the reach of a common Pakistani. An original edition of a foreign book may cost a reader in thousand but its counterfeit version may be in hundreds. Since, there are no economic incentives for foreign publishers in Pakistan; therefore they have opened their franchise in Pakistan to provide books to local population. The minimum wage of normal Pakistani is 3500 rupees a month which is hardly sufficient for their livelihood. High prices of imported books have placed them outside the economic grasp of most Pakistanis people, making counterfeit copies of foreign books affordable to access them for their various educational needs.
The academic reading material imported from abroad is expensive and Pakistani buyers cannot afford to purchase them. An effort was made by the government of Pakistan in 1972 by establishing National Book Foundation under a special act to facilitate the students, researchers and academicians in their study and research related endeavors. National Book Foundation was tasked to reproduce renowned national and international reading material in a limited range to cover the cost factor of foreign and local materials. However, this objective was not achieved in its true letter and spirit because of high demand and low supply of reading material.

The gap created in the industry was filled by book pirates and they established a very strong industry. Piracy of published material is rampant in Pakistan and its markets are considered worst markets for books. Large scale photocopy piracy and good quality print piracy have decimated the market for most legitimate publishers. There are many causes of increase in book piracy in Pakistan such as import restrictions leads to the increase of prices of the books and it becomes difficult for a common man to purchase them, secondly there are misconceptions about piracy as public often considers piracy as a means of having access to cheaper just as good version of books but they totally ignore the effects of piracy on creativity, thirdly there is a very low level of public awareness, people don’t realize that it is a criminal activity and how a common man is contributing to the spread of unlawful practices, fourthly access to legitimate work is difficult and fifthly pirates find it easy to make huge and easy profits through book piracy.

Pakistan, being a signatory to Berne Convention, Universal Copy Right Convention 1952 and TRIPS agreement is bound to comply with rules and regulations as envisaged in these conventions. There has been a tremendous pressure from European Union and U.S.A upon Pakistan to look into the issue of piracy being a signatory to the conventions and to protect the interests of foreign authors, some of
the companies in U.S.A and European Union are sustaining a loss of around $80 million per annum because of sale of pirated books in Pakistan.

The central question of this discussion is to find out major issues and challenge regarding book piracy in Pakistan and to suggest strategies to reduce this menace.

**Scope of the Study:**

The scope of this study is limited to the province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK) only. The population of the study covers registered publishers in KPK, legal practitioners who are well experienced in the areas of copyright laws and are members of Pakistan Bar Council (PBC), and legal academician who are engaged in teaching the subject of intellectual property laws in the legal academic institutions of the province.

**Aims and Objectives:**

1: To exam issues and challenges of book piracy in Pakistan with special reference to Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

2: To suggest strategies to contain this criminal act.

**Review of Relevant Literature:**

Government of Pakistan loses billion of rupees every year due to the thriving piracy business. Markets, like Urdu Bazaar in Karachi, serve as a hub of plagiarized and pirated material on engineering, medicine, commerce, accounting and literature. The major cause of widespread book piracy in Pakistan is the striking prices of international books, which are beyond the reach of most of the students. Therefore, entire books are photocopied and sold on stalls and book stores. The alternative of pirated books should come at low prices and with easy
availability. To eradicate book piracy and copyright issues, the government should take steps to provide foreign books at low prices in the country.

The US has urged Pakistan to strictly implement copyright laws to control book piracy\textsuperscript{11}. There has been a tremendous pressure from European Union and U.S.A upon Pakistan to look into the issue of piracy being a signatory to the conventions and to protect the interests of foreign authors. According to reports, book piracy in Pakistan has led US book industry to sustain a trade loss of 30 million USD in 1994 which increased to 52 million USD in 2004\textsuperscript{12}.

The basic legal instrument governing the copyright law of Pakistan is the copyright ordinance, 1962. Different provisions have been made available in this ordinance which determines when a work is in violation of copyright\textsuperscript{13}. The Copyright Rules 1967 was framed for proper working of the ordinance. Major changes were made in it through the Copyright (Amendment) Act 1992 and the Copyright (Amendment) Ordinance 2000, Pakistan intellectual property right organization 2005.

The amendments made in 2000 to the Copyright Ordinance provide a much more stronger platform and tools to control piracy i.e. the registrars authority was broadened, the amount of fine was raised to 1680$ although one amendment was criticized by the international publishing industry and that is the permission given by the government to any institution in Pakistan including National Book Foundation to reprint without permission of the author and without paying royalty\textsuperscript{14}.

The review of literature depicts that book piracy has been a persistent phenomenon in Pakistan\textsuperscript{15}. Habiba Younas (2011) is of the opinion that this phenomenon has become more persistent mainly because of our disregard for copyrights. Apart from it she also admits that the
high prices of foreign books is among the factors which has stimulated piracy in Pakistan. She explained that since pirated books are cheap and brings great temptation for book lovers, therefore an average reader is always inclined towards buying an affordable priced book, though, may even be a pirated copy\textsuperscript{16,17}.

Oxford University Press Pakistan (OUP) Managing Director Ameena Saiyid is of the view that piracy is promoted through non-implementation of law against those who are involved in such activities. In an exclusive interview with Pakistan Today, she expressed astonishment at the sentence of Rs 500-1,000 for those who violate Copyright Act of Pakistan. “The government is doing nothing for the publishers, which means that publishing houses like OUP have to bear losses worth millions of rupees every year.” “Whenever our publishing house prints a high profile book in the country, other publishers and printers copy and release a pirated book, which affects the sales of our book directly in the market.” She said that many people purchase these books as they are cheaper compared to the actual release. In this connection, she said, when her publishing house complained to the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) and the agency booked the culprits, the local magistrates and courts released them after a fine of Rs 500-1,000.

She further expressed that recently, the FIA took action to prevent the sale of some pirated medical books, which were copied by some of the publishers in Karachi. FIA did a great job in this regard and arrested them, confiscating books worth millions of rupees. Publishers spend millions of rupees compiling a book, pay royalty to writers on every edition and then someone just makes copies of the book, she said. The government should take strict action against those who are involved in this trade in Pakistan and implement the Copyright Act if it really wants to promote a book culture in Pakistan, she said\textsuperscript{18}.
Different experts have given various reasons of book piracy in Pakistan. Among the most common contributing factors are lack of public awareness, lack of vigilance and enforcement mechanism of copyright laws, high prices of foreign books, high profit, technological factors and difficulties in the import of foreign editions of books. Mirza (1992) suggests that there is a grave need of a public awareness campaign about piracy and its effects. Apart from it, special training is required for law enforcement agencies to enable them to play their role in controlling book piracy. Haider (1993) discusses that the price of foreign books is helping book pirates to fit in the gaps. He mentioned that 80% of foreign books sold in Pakistan are pirated. Sethi (1994) discusses that legislation in Pakistan related to intellectual property is very clear and strict but the enforcement mechanism is weak and legal redress is time consuming and expensive. He is also of the view that the cost factor of foreign books has encouraged piracy in Pakistan. Foreign books are expensive and not easily available and are out of the reach of an average person. Therefore, people prefer low priced books and which are easily available in the market. Haider (1996) stated that availability of pirated books is a convenience for the buyers and on the other hand is an easy way of money making.

The foreign publishers are incurring great financial loss because of book piracy in Pakistan. But they are least interested in spending money on litigation and chasing pirates.

The International Intellectual Property Alliance represents as many as 1300 U.S companies producing and distributing materials protected by copyright laws throughout the world and in their annual review report it was concluded that due to book piracy in Pakistan in 1995 the loss suffered by U.S companies was 30bn$ which raised to 52bn$ in 2004. This mounted much pressure on Pakistan from international community to establish a designated organization to protect the rights of the international authors and control book piracy.
so that their economic loss could be minimized. Looking to this situation Pakistan in 2005 established Pakistan Intellectual Property Right Organization (PIPRO) with the aim to safeguard rights of the authors and other intellectual property related issues and control book piracy. PIPRO will be the sole body to deal with all the Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) in Pakistan. It aims to consolidate issuance and enforcement of trademarks, patents, copyrights in one governmental body.

Controlling and preventing book piracy in Pakistan is a serious issue having economic and political impact. Implementing laws in Pakistan is very difficult and making it difficult to control piracy. This is the reason that Pakistan has been on the special 301 watch list since 1989.

Keeping in view all the factors, this study has been undertaken to look into the real situation and find out the main causes of book piracy and propose guidelines to improve the current situation.

Methodology:

The nature of this study is qualitative its scope is limited to the province of KPK only. To achieve objectives of the study survey research method was used. The population of the study were the registered publishers in the province of KPK, legal academicians and professionals. The rationale behind selecting this group was to study the question in focus in theory and practice. The survey followed a qualitative design based on an interview technique for data collection.

To develop an interview schedule, extensive literature review and consultation with the experts were conducted. Looking to the nature of the study interview technique was deemed appropriate to discover
information regarding the main causes of book piracy in the province.

Selection of Publishers:

The list of registered publishers in KPK was obtained from the office of the Director, National Book Foundation (NBF), Phase 5, Hayatabad, and Peshawar. According to the provided information by NBF, there are 14 registered publishers in KPK which are working under different names and insignias. An effort was made to record and conduct interviews in the offices of the publishers. This technique was also considered important, because in this way respondents are open to talk about the real situation. All registered publishers of the province were requested to participate, however, out of 14 only 10 gave their consent to participate in the survey which constituted 71.4% response rate. The rest of publishers were contacted, however, on repeated requests they always declined to participate in the survey.

In selecting legal academicians and legal professionals, purposive sampling technique was adopted. It is a kind of non-probability sample in which the researcher relies on his or her judgment while choosing members for a study. It can include all members which might fulfil the requirements and support the objective of the study. All legal professionals and academicians were requested to participate in the study. Population of both groups very graciously accepted requests for interview. The response rate in both cases were 100%. All interviews were conducted in work places.

Selection of Legal Professionals:

Legal practitioners were identified who had an experience of copyright related case in their professional careers. Based on this formula a total of 15 legal professionals were selected.
In order to avoid any controversy and ensure anonymity the names of the publishers were kept concealed.

Selection of Legal Academicians:

In KPK there are 28 public and 9 private universities and DAIs. Out of 28 public and 9 sector universities, 10 in the public and one university in the private sector offer degrees in the subject of law that include LLB 5 years, LLB 3 years and LLM 2 year programs. Apart from it, there are 18 affiliated legal institutions in the whole province which are affiliated with the University of Peshawar. Legal academicians were selected from all those universities and affiliated institutions in KPK where intellectual property subject was offered and included in curriculum. Since one university was not offering the subject of intellectual property therefore, a total of 28 academicians were selected for the study.

The summary of analysis was extracted from the interview transcripts. Themes from interview guides were used to organize the matter.

The Structure of Interviews Schedule

Interview Schedule for Publishes

The interview schedule for the publishers comprised of different sections including, name of firm/publishing house, city, contact number and gender. Apart from it, specific questions related to objectives of the study were also asked. These questions included publishers’ knowledge of copyright laws in Pakistan, international copyright conventions and treaties, and the effectiveness of existing copyright laws in Pakistan in curbing piracy. They were also asked questions regarding honoring copyright laws in Pakistan and their satisfaction with the legal provisions provided in these laws. All
publishers were also asked to give their expert opinions regarding the main causes of book piracy in KPK and remedial measures for it.

Analysis and Interpretation of Data

The analysis and interpretation of data in the order of questions asked from the respondents are as under:

The Copyright Laws of Pakistan: The Level of Literacy of Publishers about it?

After analyzing the content of the responses of publishers it was discovered that more than 50% of the publishers were unaware of local copyright laws. There was a genuine response of surprise. It is generally believed that those who are engaged in the business of publishers would definitely know about the copyright laws of the land. Some of the publishers expressed the idea that even though they were aware of copyright laws but never thought that these laws are so important in the field of publishing. This is a very disturbing idea to emerge out of any population of publishers.

One specific question regarding honoring copyright laws in Pakistan was also put forward to the respondents. The response of this question was given by 40% publishers who expressed that the foremost cause of piracy in Pakistan is lack of information literacy about copyright laws on the part of publishers and copyright owners.

The review of relevant literature show that piracy problem in Pakistan is colossal. This can be ascertained in the words of managing director of Oxford University Press Ameena Saiyid. She while giving interview to International Publishing Association in 2014 expressed that the market of pirated books in Pakistan is bigger than that of genuine books. The level of literary about copyright laws on the part of the publishers is very low. This low level of
literacy might be a reason of book piracy in Pakistan. The study recommends publishers’ awareness campaign through mass media about the importance of copyright laws.

**Book Piracy: Possible Main Causes**

The review of relevant literature depict various causes of book piracy. It include economic benefits and high profits, weak copyright laws, high prices of books, high profit, non-availability of original editions of foreign books and their inclusion in our curriculum, technological factors which case easily reproduce books in short time, legal actions is not taken in time, legal procedures are complicated, lack of awareness among the masses/general public, lack of awareness among the legal community and difficulties in importing foreign books. Intellectual Property Rights are vital to human creativity which offer incentives and recognition to its creators. Looking to this point all publishers were asked to mention the main causes of book piracy in the province of KPK. The answer to this question received different views of publishers. A major finding in the study came to fore was that the absence of international publishing houses which has led to the piracy of foreign books. Habiba Younus in 2011 reported that due to the absence of international publishing houses, the prices of imported books are high and is equal to that of international level. She further expressed that this act encourages book piracy. All publishers further expressed that pirated books are cheaper and attracts books lovers. They articulated that most of the educated communities in Pakistan are interested in books of cheap material than standard. Therefore they are always inclined towards buying pirated copies of books.

Publishers accepted openly that lack of awareness on their part has been among the major reasons of piracy followed by outdated copyright laws, economic benefits and complications in legal procedures about registration of a work are the stimulants of piracy in
KPK. They further expressed that the education system of Pakistan is either based on British or U.S pattern. Educational institutions recommend and approve foreign editions of books in their curriculum which are not available in local market. These are among the basic reasons of book piracy in Pakistan they said.

In order to tackle this issue Habiba Younas (2011) suggested that the import of foreign editions of books should be facilitated. She further suggested that international publishing houses should be encouraged to establish their offices in Pakistan which will bring down the cost of foreign books.

Interview Schedule for Legal Professionals: Data Analysis and Interpretation

All legal practitioners were from Peshawar, male and had an experience of more than 5 years, dealing with the cases of copyrights in KPK.

Regarding the number of courts dealing with copyright issues, all legal professionals expressed that since it is an offence “violation of copyright law” therefore no matter whether criminal or civil in nature, any type of cases can be taken up in any court of the country.

Some of the legal professionals expressed that though by the time they were students, there was no provision of intellectual property subject in courses which could help them really understand this subject. However being professionals lawyers they can handle such cases without requiring any academic background on legal grounds. They further expressed that since such cases are less in numbers therefore a small number of legal professionals are involved in it.

Regarding the status of copyright laws in Pakistan, all legal practitioners expressed that the rampant piracy in our country is
mainly because of our disregard for copyrights. Some legal professionals also share their observation that sometimes judges neglect the cases of copyright considering them of petty matters. All of them unanimously suggested that there is need of greater awareness among the general public and legal community including judges, prosecutors and legal practitioners about the intellectual property rights.

Regarding the disposition of book piracy related cases in KPK. They stated that they would rather take a wider view of this question; in talking about not only the disposition of such cases, but also their prevalence. They expressed that book publishers and printers in KPK often get involved in shady deals with their clients and customers where most of the business are carried out through undocumented and oral arrangements. They also expressed that the publishers, in order to avoid taxes, often do not register themselves making them easier to evade the eye of the law.

Bashir and Khan (2016) in their study found that the disposition of copyright related case are referred to prosecution agencies. In the first instance, the cases are poorly investigated. The courts have to deal with a severe lack of evidence. Secondly, the prosecution ends up delaying the case by not completing the investigation on time and it takes a severely long time for the case to be put up before the court. Even when it is eventually put in court, the case suffers from poor evidence and a lackluster prosecution performance. The judge in such cases has no choice but to set the accused at liberty without as much as a slap on the wrist.

Steps to prevent book piracy in Pakistan

All legal practitioners unanimously agreed that necessary that steps have been taken but more needs to be done. It was extracted from this discuss the laws enacted to prevent such offences but there is still a
lot to talk about the enforcement mechanisms. The weak state machinery regarding the prosecution of crimes in Pakistan is one of the biggest hurdles in the prevention of such offences.

Regarding the question of what measures needs to be taken to prevent book piracy in Pakistan. All of them suggested that all printers and publishers in the province should be registered and monitored for any illegal activity. Apart from it books stores/stockiest/sellers must also be kept in check so as to prevent the sale of pirated books.

**Main causes of book piracy in Pakistan?**

All legal professionals expressed various causes of book piracy which included economic benefits and high profits, out dated copyright laws, expensive books, unavailability of foreign editions of books in the local market, delay in taking legal action against the law violators, complicated legal procedures, and lack of general public awareness.

**Interview schedule for Legal Academicians:**

**What is the structure of Legal Education in KPK, Pakistan?**

All legal academicians unanimously expressed that in KPK legal education is generally provided through public sector universities and also by private institutions. These institutes follow the curriculum and standards prescribed by the Higher Education Commission (HEC) in consultation with the Pakistan Bar Council (PBC), a statutory body which regulates the legal profession and legal education in Pakistan. They further expressed that to meet the increasing demands for legal education; the government has encouraged the private sector to share the responsibility with the universities and higher education institutions, where a number of
students are enrolled on regular basis. Admissions in such colleges are strictly on the basis of merit and in accordance with the PBC Legal Education Rules. They further shared their views that presently in KPK, three kind of law degrees are offered to students. The three-year LLB degree program where students are enrolled after their bachelor degrees. LLB (Hons) which is a five-year degree program where students are enrolled after their intermediate and the Master of Laws (LLM) is a postgraduate academic degree, pursued by those either holding an undergraduate academic law degree, or a professional law degree.

**What is the Status of Intellectual Property across Law Curriculum?**

A specific question regarding the status of Intellectual Property across law curriculum was asked from the legal academicians. They replied that the importance of intellectual property as a core subject has not yet been recognized in its true sense in Pakistan. 20 out of 28 legal academicians narrated that despite scarcity of literature on the subject of intellectual property at local level, this subject has been making room in the area of legal research and literature. Regarding a question of its inclusion in the law curriculum, all legal academicians expressed that the subject of intellectual property has been included in law curriculum on the recommendation of HEC.

During the course of this survey, it was found that the status of the subject of intellectual property in the law curriculum was either “optional” or “elective” at both LLB and LLM levels. Now it is up to the choice of students or the availability of teachers who might teach the subject of intellectual property. Apart from it was also noted that each law school had own teaching schedules and mods feasible or convenient to them. All legal academicians also showed their concern that curriculum related to intellectual property lacks standardization and varies from school to school. Apart from it, they also showed
their concern that this subject is relatively a newer one in the curriculum and those who are teaching it may lack practical experience. Under such circumstances not only the quality of teaching suffers but graduates too. 20 legal academician observed that there is scarcity of reading materials on the subject. 15 out these 20 believed that the up to date editions of books on intellectual property are not available in the market. These issues might be generating compatibility problems for the law graduates in market place. According to 10 legal academics, because of weak curriculum related to intellectual property law professionals in Pakistan are not fully conversant with the changing development of this subject. This situation indicates an urgent need to review law curriculum related to intellectual property in Pakistan. All universities should unanimously implement HEC prepared law curriculum to ensure standardization. This would also help to fulfill the demands of market in accordance with new trends.

What are the main causes of book Piracy in Pakistan?

When asked what are the main causes of book piracy in Pakistan. One legal academic quoted the words of Ram D. Gopal and G. Lawrence Sanders that “In the fight against piracy, the legislative and educational weapons may win a few battles, but the overall war against piracy cannot be won without addressing the current draconian pricing policies”. All legal academicians expressed that piracy of books is a profitable business. They further expressed that the prices of foreign editions of books are beyond the purchasing power of an average Pakistani involved in research and academics. Therefore buying expensive books is always a financial burden on them. On the other hand pirated copies of books, having lower prices, are always of great attraction to them.

Another reason legal academicians mentioned was the inclusion of foreign books in law curriculum, their high prices and unavailability
in local market. All mentioned that the prices of foreign books are high and therefore help book pirates to fit in the gaps. Some legal academicians (n=12) mentioned that controlling book piracy in Pakistan is a herculean job. They expressed that the implementation of copyright laws is very difficult and thus making it more difficult to control piracy. 10 respondents mentioned that the branches of foreign publishing houses in Pakistan are non-existent which has been among the main causes of foreign book piracy. The same fact was noted by Habiba Younus in 201. She observed that in the absence of international publishing houses, the price of an imported book we pay is equal to that of international level which encourages book piracy.

On the question of how book piracy can be controlled in Pakistan all legal academicians stressed on the launching of public awareness programs with the help of media about the importance of copyrights. Furthermore, readers should be informed about disadvantages of pirated books, especially its impact on the health of their eyes.

They further stressed that vigilance and enforcement mechanism of copyright laws should be improved in Pakistan. Apart from it, training courses should be designed and arranged for FIA, Police, Customs staff, prosecutors and judges. Foreign book publishing houses should be encouraged to establish their office in the federal and provincial capitals of Pakistan. Information literacy programs should be arranged for publishers and all those involved in the business of printing to educate them about copyright and book piracy. They further suggested that the government of Pakistan should provide financial and legal assistance to the quarter concerned to control the menace of book piracy.
Conclusion, recommendations and suggestions.

Pakistan had signed the Intellectual Property Rights Protocol, which required countries to set minimum standards for the protection of intellectual property. However, Pakistan has not effectively implemented these standards and protocols effectively. Laws against piracy are weak, but their enforcement is weaker. Apart from it, laws in Pakistan do not ensure a minimum punishment for piracy which is why this has become an industry. This study indicated many issues and challenges related to piracy in Pakistan which include high prices of original editions of foreign books, and low costs of their pirated copies, lack of awareness on the part of the general public and those who are involved in this criminal act, lack of training for the staff of investigation agencies, legal professionals and prosecutors, lack of educational background, and non-existence of foreign book publishers are the main issues and challenges.

In order to overcome this menace the following recommendations and suggestions can help to improve to the current situation.

1. There is a need of creating awareness about Intellectual Property Rights and relevant laws among the general public and the intellectual property owners.

2. There is a need of improving legislation relating to intellectual property rights to cope with the socio-economic and current technological developments.

3. The courts of competent jurisdiction may be designated to adjudicate cases under Intellectual Property Rights.

4. The judicial academies and centers of legal education should arrange courses on Intellectual property laws. In addition to
it, conferences, seminars, workshops and symposia may also be organized in this regard.

5. There is need of translating intellectual property right laws in local languages including Urdu, Pasho, Baluchi, Punjabi and Sindhi for a better understanding and dissemination of information on intellectual property and related laws.

6. Provisions should be made for ensuring compliance/obeying court orders, judgments and decrees.

7. Minimum punishment for imprisonment and fine for violation of court orders/decrees be provided through summary proceeding to determine violation of court orders/decrees in place of lengthy execution proceeding.

8. Piracy can be made less rewarding by raising awareness about its disastrous effects on publishing and by making the original books cheaper.

9. The government should lower the price of paper by reducing import duties on it as well as on the raw material required for its production.

10. The most important step to be taken to provide good quality books at a less price is to let the private publishers print the text books. In this way the market would be expanded and will lead to a competition between the private publishers and it would drive up standards and reduce prices.

11. The prices of foreign books are very high and the foreign publishers are not ready to reduce the prices to an affordable extent for a third world country market.
12. The branches of foreign publishing houses are close to nonexistent. In the absence of domestic publishing houses the price we pay is parallel in monetary terms to international level, which in turn gives birth to book piracy.

13. The foreign publishing houses should establish sub offices in Pakistan.

14. The laws related to copyright are weak in Pakistan and usually the penalty imposed by judges upon the pirates is very nominal which instead of deterring pirates strengthens them more.

15. It is important and necessary to strengthen the law related to copyright by imposing heavy monetary penalty, imprisonment etc.

16. Coordination between Police and FIA is important to control book piracy.

17. Training law enforcement agencies personnel is very important and essential to curb book piracy.

18. Good laws, strong and effective enforcement mechanism is important to control book piracy.

19. The people lack awareness and as a result they get attracted by the low price of the books rather than the quality of the paper or the book.

20. The government of Pakistan should establish a publishing city on the pattern of industrial state of Hayatabad, KPK this would help the government to oversee their activities and would ultimately result in low piracy rate.
21. The current study found that most of the publishing firms are located in the farflung areas of district Peshawar. It was also noted that the publishing house owners are carrying out their business the way feasible and convenient to them, there is an apprehension that under this situation it is difficult for the government to monitor their activities.

22. Measures should be taken by the government to ensure registration of unregistered publishing houses. Certain incentives should be announced and legislation be done to encourage them to register their publishing houses.

23. National Book Foundation should be allowed through legislation to reproduce those expensive foreign books which are high in demand and either rare or unavailable in the local markets.

24. Major steps should be taken to enhance the role of National Book Foundation to extend its services to the educational institutions which would help user community to get reading materials of good quality at lower price.

25. The legal academic institutions in Pakistan should include intellectual property right laws in their curriculum in compulsory subject so that it may be studied by every law student. This would ultimately help to establish their background about these laws.
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