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India-EU FTA: Copyright Provisions Concerns

The European Commission formally requested EU member states to approve the signing and conclusion of the India-EU Free Trade Agreement, revealing details of its Intellectual Property (IP) chapter.

The India-EU Free Trade Agreement (FTA) is a proposed pact between India and the European Union, including provisions on intellectual property rights like copyright.

KEY EXAM POINTS

- The draft **Intellectual Property (IP) Chapter** of the **India-EU Free Trade Agreement** includes detailed commitments on intellectual property.
- **Copyright provisions** in the draft FTA risk undermining **India's digital policy** and educational exceptions.
- These provisions could require changes to **India's Copyright Act** and weaken **existing exceptions**.
- Existing exceptions for **students**, archivists, and **Internet service providers** may be negatively impacted.
- Negotiators must seek to restore the **WIPO Copyright Treaty** to the **National Treatment clause**.
- It is crucial to preserve the country's **digital copyright flexibilities** to foster **innovation and access to knowledge**.

DID YOU KNOW..!?

India's **Copyright Act** was enacted in **1957**, providing legal protection for original literary, dramatic, musical, and artistic works.

The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Copyright Treaty (WCT) was adopted in **1996** to address copyright issues in the digital environment.

A **Free Trade Agreement (FTA)** is a pact between two or more countries to reduce or eliminate barriers to trade, such as **tariffs and quotas**.

Intellectual Property (IP) refers to creations of the mind, such as **inventions**, literary and artistic works, designs, and symbols, protected by law.

The **National Treatment clause** in international agreements ensures that **foreign goods and services** are treated no less favorably than domestic ones.

The **European Union (EU)** is a political and economic union of **27 member states** located primarily in Europe.

REVISION FLASHCARD

India-EU FTA's copyright provisions may impact India's Copyright Act and digital policy.

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