

Enrollment No./Seat No.:

GUJARAT TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY
MBA - SEMESTER - III EXAMINATION - WINTER 2025

Subject Code: N2539402

Date: 17-12-2025

Subject Name: Startup laws & IPR

Time: 10:30 AM TO 01:30 PM

Total Marks: 70

Instructions

- 1. Attempt all questions.**
- 2. Make suitable assumptions wherever necessary.**
- 3. Figures to the right indicate full marks.**
- 4. USE of SIMPLE calculators AND non-programmable scientific calculators are permitted.**

	Marks
Q.1 Attempt ANY 6 Questions.	18
(1) Co-Founder Agreement	
(2) Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA)	
(3) Intellectual Property	
(4) Patent	
(5) Copyright	
(6) Trademark	
(7) Geographical Indication (GI)	
Q.2 (a) Explain the legal checklist for startups with reference to business structuring, finance laws, and statutory registrations.	07
(b) Discuss the importance of safeguarding intellectual property for startups at an early stage.	07
OR	
(b) Explain the role and key clauses of a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA) in startup ecosystem.	07
Q.3 (a) Explain the Indian Contract Act and its relevance to startup agreements.	07
(b) Discuss the Companies Act provisions relevant to incorporation and compliance of startups in India.	07
OR	
(a) Explain the role of SEBI in regulating startup funding and investment.	07
(b) Write a note on compliance laws applicable to startups with reference to Labour and Environmental Laws.	07
Q.4 (a) Explain the concept, need, and nature of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) with suitable examples.	07

- (b) Describe the types of Intellectual Property with special reference to Patents, Copyrights, and Trademarks. **07**

OR

- (a) Explain the patenting process in India for startups. **07**

- (b) Discuss international treaties and conventions on IPR, including TRIPS and PCT. **07**

Q.5 Attempt any one case study

- (a) A fintech startup registered as a private limited company launched a mobile-based payment solution. The founders entered into verbal agreements with early employees and outsourced software development without executing any Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA) or Intellectual Property Assignment Agreement. Within a year, one of the developers claimed ownership over the source code and demanded royalty. **10**
- (a) Identify the legal issues involved in the case with reference to startup laws and IPR. and
- (b) Suggest legal safeguards and agreements that should have been implemented to avoid this dispute.

OR

- (a) A startup engaged in manufacturing eco-friendly packaging filed a patent application in India. Before filing, the founders showcased the product at an international exhibition and published technical details on their website. Later, the patent application was opposed on the ground of prior publication. **10**
- (a) Analyze the IPR issues involved in this case with reference to patent law and disclosure.
- (b) Advise the startup on best practices for IP protection while marketing and scaling its innovation.
