

## *Summary*

---

The institute is a specialized organization with a mandate to collect, preserve/safeguard, project and disseminate the folk and traditional heritage of Pakistan.

### **1. Institutes Overview**

Following are some current goals of Lok Virsa.

- 1) Rediscovery and Research
- 2) Cultural Store House
- 3) Cultural Revival
- 4) Cultural Projection

Also, Lok Virsa has functions such as a research centre, sound archives, and a heritage library.

### **2. ICH Information Activities**

Lok Virsa is doing activities related to ICH information building and sharing such as:

- 1) Education about Cultural Heritage
- 2) Exhibitions
- 3) Cultural Night and Shows
- 4) Publication
- 5) Seminars and Workshops on Safeguarding Heritage
- 6) Publication: Children Folk Games of Pak, Norway
- 7) Workshop on the Protection of Endangered Kalash Heritage
- 8) Nauroz Festival
- 9) Other Folk Festivals
- 10) World Intellectual Property Day Celebrations
- 11) Etc.

### **3. IP Issues**

It was after the establishment of IP organization that Lok Virsa got registered most of the recorded programmes to safeguard their IP rights. However, Lok Virsa had to face strong issues of piracy. It also issued warning notices to few of the organizations and individuals involved in piracy but never fought a legal fight because of the rampant piracy cases.

IPO Pakistan is becoming more and more effective to put a strong check to upcoming piracy issues and to better safeguard the IP rights.

#### **4. Recommendations**

At present the institute does not have any IP legislation regarding traditional heritage and folklore. In order to evolve a strong IP legislation and its effective implementation the institute really needs to conduct field surveys on one hand and on other hand it needs to benefit from the world best practices in the field of IP issues regarding ICH.

#### **5. Conclusion**

Organizations and systems working for the safeguarding of general IP rights are even more nascent and least established. It is now that we see world developing IP legislation and policy for the ICH. An urge and understanding is developing in the relevant organizations of Pakistan and Lok Virsa needs to develop policy for the safeguarding of IP rights of folklore and traditional heritage.

At present, first Lok Virsa needs to raise awareness and needs to mobilise the all stakeholders on the subject. Then the institute needs to conduct national research studies involving all stakeholders for the identification of IP rights and related issues at all stages of information building and sharing.