

ABSTRACT

Since the emergence of TRIPS treaty, IPRs are changing the growth patterns of all the countries. IPRs assert to bring economic prosperity but how these affect the social conditions, were nevertheless ambiguous. Human capital is also considered as catalyst to pull economic growth which implies investment, but it entails IPR protection to uplift the social growth. This study has endeavoured to reveal the impact of IPRs on socio-economic performance which has been picked up through technology transfer, brain gain/ drain and human rights' nexus. The major hindrance in this regard was unavailability of the IPR data in consistency. Therefore, Indigenous intellectual property right (IIPR) index has developed for 156 member states of WTO for time period; 1990-2015. Index has revealed that IIPR of upper middle income countries are growing with highest pace, high income countries were already TRIPS compliant while rest of the countries are striving the same gradually. The models of technology transfer, brain gain/drain and human rights for high income (H.I), upper middle income (U.M.I), lower middle income (L.M.I) and low income (L.I) countries were estimated separately through ARDL technique. It's evident from results that H.I countries are fulfilling the obligation of technology transfer and by producing advanced commodities increasing their share in international markets. U.M.I countries are acquiring technology partially through licensing and more through local innovation, while L.M.I countries import less and imitate more, whereas, L.I countries are attaining technology marginally because of low absorptive capacity. In brain gain model IPR regime is stimulus for human capital to come and settle in H.I countries because at source countries they do not get required IPR protection on their Sui genres and innovative work. Although U.M.I countries have significantly strengthened IPR regimes and improving research and innovative capacity which are gradually reversing the brain drain. However, brain drain is highest in L.I countries owing to weakest IPR regimes. Human rights in H.I countries are unthreatened due to optimal level of IPRs, technology dissemination, brain gain moreover, corresponding social and economic growth. The similar scenario has revealed by U.M.I countries' model. L.M.I countries' IPRs though positively affect the human rights but low level of technological advancement is posing negative repercussions and L.I countries' IPRs have depicted disassociation with native human rights. The contemporary landscape is allowing H.I countries to

recently sustain the growth, giving leverage to U.M.I countries to make socio-economic growth swiftly with highest pace and spill over is also enjoyed by the masses in from of more human rights (access to food, health and education). In most of the L.M.I countries income inequality is exacerbating which is affecting social growth. Therefore it is inferred that IPRs treaties are fundamental to trigger socio-economic growth because it's highest in the H.I and U.M.I countries, where human capital __ "the engine of social and economic growth" is receiving more research opportunities and IPR protection.

Key words: Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs), Technology Transfer, brain gain, brain drain, human rights and socio-economic growth