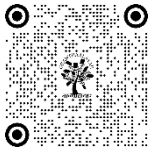


AN ANALYTICAL STUDY OF THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK GOVERNING NFTS IN INDIA

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ABSTRACT

Non-Fungible Tokens (NFTs) have emerged as a significant innovation in the digital economy, particularly in India, where the intersection of art, technology, and finance is evolving rapidly. NFTs are unique digital tokens secured through blockchain technology, representing ownership of digital or physical assets such as art, music, collectibles, and virtual real estate. Their rise in India is marked by increasing participation from creators, investors, and technology platforms.

Despite their growing popularity, NFTs operate within a fragmented and ambiguous legal environment. India currently lacks specific legislation dedicated to NFTs, leading to reliance on existing laws such as the Indian Contract Act, 1872; the Information Technology (IT) Act, 2000; intellectual property laws; and provisions in the Finance Act, 2022 concerning virtual digital assets. However, these frameworks offer limited clarity on issues such as copyright ownership, contract enforceability via smart contracts, taxation, and consumer protection.

This research paper undertakes a comprehensive examination of the legal standing of NFTs in India. It evaluates the applicability of current legal instruments, identifies regulatory and operational gaps, and explores international best practices. The study also emphasizes the need for a clear, forward-looking legal framework that fosters innovation while ensuring adequate safeguards against fraud, misuse, and environmental concerns. A balanced regulatory approach is essential for India to harness the full potential of NFTs and position itself as a leader in the digital asset economy.

Keywords: NFTS (Non-Fungible Tokens), Blockchain Technology, Digital Assets, Cryptocurrency Intellectual Property Rights, Copyright Infringement, Trademark Law, Cybersecurity, Data Privacy

1. INTRODUCTION

The concept of Non-Fungible Tokens (NFTs) represents a revolutionary shift in how digital content is owned, valued, and traded. Unlike traditional cryptocurrencies such as Bitcoin or Ethereum, which are fungible and can be exchanged one-to-one, NFTs are distinct and irreplaceable. Each NFT contains unique metadata and is recorded on a blockchain, making it a verifiable proof of ownership and authenticity for a specific digital or physical asset.

NFTs are created through a process known as minting, where digital files are converted into tokens stored on a blockchain platform. Popular blockchains supporting NFTs include Ethereum, Polygon, and Solana. Once minted, these tokens can be bought, sold, or traded on specialized marketplaces like OpenSea, Rarible, and WazirX NFT Marketplace.

In India, the rise of NFTs has coincided with increased digital literacy, growing internet penetration, and a vibrant ecosystem of digital creators. Indian artists, musicians, celebrities, and brands are increasingly exploring NFTs as a means of monetization and fan engagement. This shift is further supported by a tech-savvy youth population and the mainstream adoption of cryptocurrencies and decentralized platforms.

However, the novelty of NFTs raises several legal and regulatory questions. Issues such as who owns the intellectual property linked to an NFT, how smart contracts are enforced, and how NFT transactions are taxed remain unclear. Moreover, there is growing concern over the environmental impact of blockchain platforms, especially those that rely on energy-intensive proof-of-work mechanisms.

This research aims to delve into these complexities by examining the legal, economic, and social implications of NFTs in India. It seeks to analyze the existing legal landscape, highlight potential gaps, and propose a comprehensive framework for governing NFTs in a manner that is sustainable, inclusive, and innovation-friendly.

2. WHAT ARE NFTS?

A Non-Fungible Token (NFT) is a unique cryptographic asset that exists on a blockchain and represents ownership of a specific item—whether digital (like art or music) or physical (such as documents or merchandise). The term “non-fungible” denotes that each token is distinct and cannot be exchanged on a one-to-one basis with another token.

2.1. KEY FEATURES OF NFTS

- **Uniqueness and Scarcity:** Each NFT carries unique metadata that differentiates it from other tokens. This uniqueness is often what gives NFTs their value, especially in art, music, and collectibles.
- **Proof of Ownership:** Ownership is transparently recorded on a blockchain, ensuring tamper-proof records of provenance.
- **Indivisibility:** Most NFTs cannot be divided into smaller units, unlike cryptocurrencies. They are transacted in whole units only.
- **Programmability via Smart Contracts:** NFTs use smart contracts—self-executing codes stored on the blockchain—that can automate transactions such as royalty payments to the original creator whenever the NFT is resold.
- **Interoperability:** NFTs can often be used or displayed across different platforms and virtual environments that support the underlying blockchain protocol.

2.2. NFT MINTING AND TRADE PROCESS

- 1) **Creation (Minting):** The creator uploads digital content (image, audio, video, etc.) to a blockchain-supported platform.
- 2) **Listing and Sale:** The NFT is listed on a marketplace, where it can be bought using cryptocurrencies like ETH or MATIC.
- 3) **Ownership Transfer:** When a buyer purchases the NFT, the smart contract records the transaction and updates ownership on the blockchain.

3. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Academic and Policy Discourse on the Legal Perspective of NFTs in India

The academic exploration of Non-Fungible Tokens (NFTs) within the Indian legal context is still emerging. However, a growing body of literature has begun addressing various components of the NFT ecosystem—from intellectual property to taxation and consumer protection. This review highlights the key contributions from legal scholars, policymakers, and regulatory discussions.

1) Conceptual Understanding

Kumar and Verma (2022) discuss NFTs as digital representations of ownership embedded in blockchain, with implications for traditional legal frameworks. They emphasize the transformation in asset authentication and the increasing need for legal definitions of digital property.

Sharma (2021) differentiates between the ownership of an NFT and the ownership of the underlying content, highlighting public misconceptions and legal implications of such confusion.

2) Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)

Basu (2022) explores copyright concerns in NFT transactions, especially regarding the lack of clarity on whether a token sale includes IP rights transfer. He advocates for embedding licensing clauses within the smart contract metadata to safeguard rights.

Joshi and Singh (2023) analyze the risk of trademark infringement through unauthorized use of brand assets in NFTs. They call for proactive brand protection mechanisms on NFT platforms and enhanced cross-jurisdictional enforcement.

3) Taxation and Financial Compliance

Chakraborty (2022) evaluates the impact of India's Finance Act, 2022 on the taxation of virtual digital assets (VDAs), noting that while NFTs are now taxable, the legal definitions remain ambiguous.

Gupta and Mehta (2023) focus on the difficulty of ensuring tax compliance in decentralized environments. Their work underlines the need for clearer guidelines on GST applicability and classification of NFTs as goods or services.

4) Contractual Frameworks and Smart Contracts

Patil (2022) investigates the legal enforceability of smart contracts under the Indian Contract Act, 1872. He notes that while smart contracts meet basic criteria for enforceability, their decentralized nature raises challenges in attributing liability and interpreting terms in court.

Rao (2023) introduces the concept of blockchain-based dispute resolution systems, suggesting their potential integration into Indian legal infrastructure to manage conflicts arising from NFT transactions.

5) Consumer Rights and Protection

Mishra (2023) critiques the absence of consumer protection laws that adequately address digital assets. He identifies vulnerabilities such as lack of transparency, fraud, and absence of recourse for buyers who receive misrepresented or defective NFTs.

Chatterjee (2021) proposes a dedicated digital asset regulatory framework that incorporates consumer rights, drawing comparisons from the U.S. and EU to highlight existing safeguards elsewhere.

6) Cross-Border Regulation

Sengupta (2022) examines the applicability of the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) to NFT transactions, particularly in scenarios involving international payments or investors. He highlights the absence of mechanisms to monitor or control foreign NFT transactions.

Roy (2023) suggests that India must harmonize its policies with global standards and explore bilateral cooperation to regulate NFT exchanges that operate beyond national boundaries.

7) Ethical and Environmental Aspects

Das (2022) raises ethical questions regarding carbon emissions from NFTs minted on energy-intensive blockchains. He calls for India to incentivize platforms that use sustainable models, such as proof-of-stake consensus.

Khan (2023) explores digital piracy and cultural appropriation in NFT minting. He emphasizes the need for ethical frameworks to guide responsible content creation, particularly when dealing with indigenous and traditional artworks.

8) Policy Recommendations and Future Direction

Reddy (2023) advocates for a dedicated regulatory framework that classifies NFTs and provides specific guidelines for taxation, enforcement, and consumer rights.

Mukherjee and Sharma (2023) suggest a sandbox model where NFT startups can test innovations under regulatory supervision before entering the mainstream market. This approach allows legal adaptability without stifling innovation.

3.1. GOVERNMENT AND INSTITUTIONAL REPORTS

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), in its 2024 consultation paper on "Blockchain and Emerging Digital Assets", emphasized the urgent need to categorize NFTs either as digital commodities or as intellectual property-linked assets. The paper recommends a dedicated legal classification of NFTs to distinguish them from cryptocurrencies and reduce regulatory confusion.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI), while not directly regulating NFTs, in its 2024 statement on digital finance, indirectly highlighted that any asset relying on blockchain must be brought under a comprehensive financial surveillance framework. It proposed that a joint regulatory sandbox involving SEBI, RBI, and MeitY be developed for NFT-related platforms and marketplaces.

4. REVIEW ON ACADEMIC CONTRIBUTIONS

In their 2024 article, Chatterjee and Bansal (NLUJ Law Review) provided a detailed doctrinal analysis of how India's current intellectual property laws fail to address the digital transferability and licensing of NFTs. They proposed amendments to the Copyright Act, 1957, to include a "digital-first clause" for copyright ownership of tokenized works.

R. Venkatesan (Indian Journal of Cyber Law, 2024) raised concerns about the lack of clarity around jurisdiction and dispute resolution in NFT transactions involving cross-border buyers and sellers. He recommends the development of an NFT Code of Conduct overseen by a central Digital Asset Authority.

Shraddha Mehra (IIT-Kanpur Policy Research Series, 2024) explored taxation models for NFTs and proposed a tiered tax system based on the utility and commercial nature of the NFT — distinguishing between artistic tokens and investment-grade NFTs. She emphasized the importance of harmonizing tax treatment across state jurisdictions.

4.1. REVIEW ON LEGAL AND INDUSTRY COMMENTARY

Legal commentary in 2024 focused heavily on the consumer protection and fraud risks associated with NFTs. KPMG India's Legal Technology Report (2024) recommended introducing mandatory disclosure norms for NFT platforms, including smart contract audits and transparent pricing mechanisms.

Ernst & Young (EY), in its white paper "NFTs and Regulatory Pathways in India" (2024), stressed the necessity of self-regulatory bodies modelled after IRDAI or TRAI to ensure industry compliance and consumer trust. EY also called for a "Digital Asset Bill" that would consolidate laws on cryptocurrency, NFTs, and decentralized applications.

4.2. REVIEW ON INTERNATIONAL INFLUENCE AND COMPARATIVE STUDIES

India's policy directions are increasingly being informed by global trends. A comparative 2024 study by WIPO and the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT) reviewed NFT laws in the EU, Japan, and Singapore, recommending that India should:

- Establish a national registry for NFT platforms;
- Recognize NFTs as digital property under civil law; and
- Develop a cross-border legal framework to handle multi-jurisdictional disputes.

5. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Approach and Framework of the Study

The legal analysis of NFTs in India, given its multidisciplinary nature, requires a combination of doctrinal research, comparative legal review, and analytical reasoning. This section outlines the research design, objectives, sources, and limitations.

1) Research Design

The study employs an exploratory and analytical framework, aiming to examine the legal implications of NFTs in India while identifying regulatory gaps and proposing suitable frameworks. It integrates qualitative analysis of legal documents, policies, and academic writing.

2) Research Objectives

- To assess the current legal status of NFTs under Indian law.
- To evaluate how laws related to intellectual property, taxation, and contract apply to NFTs.
- To highlight regulatory ambiguities and enforcement issues.

- To suggest reforms for a comprehensive legal framework.
- To compare India's legal position with international standards.

3) Sources of Data

Doctrinal (Secondary) Sources:

- Statutes such as the Indian Contract Act, IT Act, Copyright Act, and Finance Act.
- Judicial decisions (where available) relevant to digital asset disputes.
- Scholarly articles, policy papers, and reports from Indian and international sources.
- Publications from regulatory bodies such as the Ministry of Finance, RBI, and MeitY.
- Comparative Sources:
 - Legal frameworks from the United States, European Union, and Singapore.
 - Reports from global institutions like FATF, WIPO, and the SEC.

4) Analytical Tools

- **Legal Interpretation:** Assessment of statutory provisions and how they extend (or fail to extend) to NFTs.
- **Comparative Analysis:** Cross-border comparison of legal treatments to identify best practices.
- **Case-Based Reasoning:** Exploration of real-world disputes or controversies to extract practical insights.

5) Ethical Considerations

- The study avoids biases in legal interpretation and maintains neutrality regarding policy positions.
- Any secondary data used has been cited properly.
- Where real-world disputes are discussed, personal or sensitive information is anonymized.

6) Limitations

- The absence of Indian judicial precedents directly related to NFTs limits empirical legal analysis.
- Rapid technological evolution may render some findings outdated.
- Lack of government clarity on crypto and blockchain policy introduces uncertainty into legal interpretation.
- Cross-border legal conflicts are hard to predict due to jurisdictional complexity.
- Enforcement of smart contracts and consumer protections remains largely theoretical in India.

5.1. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

Clarifying the Purpose and Legal Scope

The aim of this research is to critically examine the legal dimensions of Non-Fungible Tokens (NFTs) within the Indian regulatory framework. The study seeks to explore existing laws, identify key challenges, and propose structured solutions for better governance and innovation in the NFT space.

1) Examine the Legal Classification of NFTs

- Understand how NFTs are defined or interpreted under Indian law.
- Investigate whether NFTs fall under existing categories such as digital assets, commodities, or intellectual property.

2) Analyze Intellectual Property Implications

- Investigate how copyright, trademark, and patent laws intersect with NFT transactions.
- Examine common conflicts regarding unauthorized use, ownership rights, and royalty mechanisms.

3) Evaluate Contractual Validity

- Assess the legal enforceability of smart contracts used in NFT sales.
- Examine whether Indian contract law provisions are sufficient to handle digital agreements without human intervention.

4) Explore Taxation and Compliance Mechanisms

- Understand how the Finance Act, 2022 and the Income Tax Act apply to NFT transactions.
- Analyze the implications of GST, capital gains tax, and TDS on creators and buyers.

5) Study Consumer Protection Challenges

- Identify risks such as fraud, misrepresentation, and data breaches.
- Evaluate whether the Consumer Protection Act or the IT Act provides adequate safeguards for NFT participants.

6) Examine Cross-Border and Jurisdictional Complexities

- Analyze the role of FEMA in international NFT trades.
- Study the challenges of enforcing rights and resolving disputes when parties reside in different jurisdictions.

7) Address Environmental and Ethical Considerations

- Investigate the ecological footprint of NFT platforms, especially those reliant on proof-of-work consensus mechanisms.
- Assess legal tools to promote sustainability and protect cultural heritage.

8) Recommend Regulatory Reforms

- Propose balanced legal interventions that support innovation while preventing misuse.
- Suggest policy frameworks inspired by international best practices, adapted for the Indian context.

9) Promote Awareness and Legal Literacy

- Encourage knowledge dissemination among creators, buyers, platforms, and regulators.
- Support the development of educational resources to reduce legal ignorance and market vulnerabilities.

5.1. LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

Constraints in Scope, Data, and Legal Infrastructure

While this research strives to provide a comprehensive legal overview of NFTs in India, it is subject to several inherent limitations due to the evolving nature of the technology and legal infrastructure.

1) Absence of NFT-Specific Legislation

India lacks a dedicated law that addresses NFTs, resulting in reliance on interpreting unrelated or outdated statutes. This creates interpretive uncertainty.

2) Rapid Technological Advancements

NFT technology and its applications are evolving at a fast pace. Some findings may become outdated as new platforms, consensus mechanisms, or NFT standards emerge.

3) Lack of Judicial Precedents

As of this writing, Indian courts have not ruled on any major NFT-related cases. The absence of precedents makes it difficult to predict how legal principles will be applied in practice.

4) Cross-Jurisdictional Legal Conflicts

NFT transactions often involve buyers, sellers, and platforms from different countries. Enforcing Indian laws in such cases is problematic due to international jurisdictional limitations.

5) Inconsistent Crypto Regulation

Since most NFTs are traded using cryptocurrencies, the lack of clarity on the legal status of crypto assets in India introduces further ambiguity and affects compliance with tax, KYC, and AML norms.

6) Limited Consumer Awareness

A significant portion of NFT participants—especially first-time buyers and artists—may not fully understand the legal implications of their transactions. This undermines informed consent and legal compliance.

7) Environmental and Ethical Oversight

India has yet to incorporate environmental regulations into blockchain and NFT policy. Ethical issues like cultural appropriation and unauthorized minting of indigenous works remain under-discussed.

8) Empirical Data Gaps

Due to the anonymity of blockchain users and the decentralized nature of NFT platforms, obtaining reliable transaction data and user demographics is challenging.

6. HYPOTHESIS AND ANALYSIS OF LEGAL FRAMEWORKS

Evaluating Existing Laws in the Context of NFTs

This section hypothesizes that while India's existing legal frameworks—such as those governing contracts, intellectual property, and taxation—provide partial coverage for NFTs, they are insufficient for holistic regulation. Below is a breakdown of the applicability and shortcomings of each major legal domain.

1) Intellectual Property Laws

Copyright Act, 1957

- **Applicability:** NFTs associated with art, music, or literature fall under copyright law. However, buying an NFT does not automatically confer copyright ownership unless explicitly transferred.
- **Challenges:**

Unclear whether minting an NFT counts as reproduction or distribution under the Act.

Unauthorized minting can result in infringement, but detection and enforcement are difficult on decentralized platforms.

- **Recommendation:** Amendments should clarify how copyright applies to digital tokens and require licensing terms to be embedded within NFTs.

6.1. TRADE MARKS ACT, 1999

- **Applicability:** NFTs using brand logos or names without consent may constitute trademark infringement.
- **Challenges:**

NFTs can easily replicate branded content, leading to confusion or dilution of trademark value.

- **Recommendation:** Introduce NFT-specific protections to prevent brand misuse and facilitate takedown mechanisms on marketplaces.

2) Information Technology (IT) Act, 2000

- **Applicability:** The IT Act governs digital records and cybercrimes, offering partial coverage for NFT transactions.
- **Challenges:**

The Act does not formally recognize blockchain-based smart contracts.

It lacks provisions for resolving frauds specific to NFTs.

Recommendation: Update the IT Act to include blockchain and NFT-specific clauses, especially for transaction integrity, identity verification, and fraud detection.

3) Indian Contract Act, 1872

- **Applicability:** Smart contracts governing NFT sales are conceptually valid under the Act, provided they meet requirements of offer, acceptance, consideration, and lawful object.
- **Challenges:**

Lack of human-readable terms may lead to ambiguity.

Enforcement of decentralized, code-based agreements in courts remains untested.

- **Recommendation:** Provide legal recognition and guidelines for smart contracts and standardize terms for digital asset sales.

4) Taxation Laws

- **Finance Act, 2022:** NFTs are taxed under the umbrella of Virtual Digital Assets (VDAs).

30% tax on income from NFTs.

1% TDS on every transfer.

- **Challenges:**

Ambiguity regarding classification—are NFTs “goods”, “services”, or “assets”?

GST applicability remains uncertain.

- **Recommendation:** Issue detailed guidance on tax treatment, including input credits, valuation, and international transactions.

5) Consumer Protection Framework

- **Consumer Protection Act, 2019:** Applies to goods and services but lacks clarity on digital asset sales.

- **Challenges:**

No explicit protections for misrepresented NFTs or marketplace scams.

Buyers often unaware of their limited rights in NFT transactions.

- **Recommendation:** Extend consumer protection to include digital assets and mandate disclosures on NFT platforms.

7. ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

Legal Synthesis and Future Outlook on NFTs in India

The legal ecosystem surrounding Non-Fungible Tokens (NFTs) in India is still in its formative stage. As these digital tokens redefine ownership, creativity, and commerce in the digital age, the absence of a comprehensive legislative framework presents both an opportunity and a challenge. India currently relies on a fragmented application of existing laws such as the Indian Contract Act, the Information Technology Act, intellectual property legislation, and recent taxation provisions under the Finance Act, 2022. While these statutes offer partial guidance, they were not designed with the digital complexities and decentralized nature of NFTs in mind.

NFTs operate primarily on blockchain networks, often using cryptocurrencies such as Ethereum or Polygon for transactions. However, the Indian legal system does not yet recognize NFTs or cryptocurrencies as legal tender or digital securities. This creates ambiguity regarding their classification, taxation, and enforceability. For instance, the legal status of smart contracts—a foundational mechanism in NFT transactions—remains unclear under Indian law. Although these contracts fulfill many elements required by the Indian Contract Act, 1872, their automatic, code-based nature poses challenges for interpretation, enforcement, and dispute resolution within traditional judicial systems.

Intellectual property rights further complicate the legal picture. Most NFT buyers wrongly assume they own the copyright or commercial rights to the digital asset associated with their token. In reality, unless the creator has explicitly transferred such rights, the purchaser only owns the token, not the underlying intellectual property. This distinction is often poorly communicated, leading to widespread confusion and legal vulnerability. Unauthorized minting of content, particularly involving copyrighted or trademarked material, raises significant concerns, yet enforcement mechanisms are limited due to the decentralized nature of blockchain platforms.

Taxation has seen slightly more progress. The Finance Act, 2022 classifies NFTs as Virtual Digital Assets (VDAs), subjecting them to a flat 30% tax on income earned and a 1% Tax Deducted at Source (TDS) on every transfer. However, this provision lacks granularity. There is no clarity on whether NFTs should be treated as goods, services, or financial instruments, nor are there clear GST guidelines for NFT creators and platforms. This vagueness may deter compliance and create legal exposure for both creators and investors.

Consumer protection is another area of concern. Current Indian laws do not explicitly extend to digital assets like NFTs, leaving buyers vulnerable to fraud, misrepresentation, and hacking. Many users may purchase NFTs without

adequate understanding of their legal implications, and there is no robust redressal mechanism in place. Environmental and ethical concerns, such as the high energy consumption of proof-of-work blockchain systems and the unauthorized use of indigenous art or cultural expressions, remain largely unaddressed in legal discourse.

Despite these challenges, the future of NFTs in India is promising. A growing population of digital creators, rising blockchain literacy, and increasing government interest in digital infrastructure suggest that the NFT ecosystem could play a significant role in India's digital economy. However, this potential can only be realized if legal reforms keep pace with technological advancements. A proactive, adaptive, and inclusive legal framework is essential to protect stakeholders, encourage innovation, and integrate NFTs into mainstream economic and cultural systems.

8. FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1. TOWARD A BALANCED LEGAL AND POLICY FRAMEWORK

Given the novelty and complexity of NFTs, India must approach regulation with both caution and creativity. It is imperative that lawmakers and regulators develop a legal infrastructure that not only addresses current gaps but also anticipates future use cases. A robust and adaptive framework would benefit creators, platforms, consumers, and investors while preserving the ethical, environmental, and cultural dimensions of NFT usage.

The first step should be the formal recognition of NFTs within Indian law. This would involve defining NFTs as a unique digital asset class, separate from traditional goods, services, or securities. Such recognition would provide the foundation for clear tax guidelines, consumer protection rules, and intellectual property protocols. Additionally, India should update its IT and contract laws to formally accommodate smart contracts and blockchain-based agreements. Clear standards for the validity, enforceability, and transparency of these contracts would reduce legal uncertainty and facilitate dispute resolution.

Intellectual property law must also evolve to reflect the realities of digital art, music, and media. Legislators should mandate the inclusion of licensing terms within NFTs and ensure that platforms are held accountable for facilitating the minting or sale of unauthorized content. Establishing clear procedures for IP holders to issue takedown requests and initiate legal action would serve as a strong deterrent against misuse.

From a tax perspective, the government should issue detailed circulars clarifying how NFTs are to be classified and taxed. This includes guidance on the applicability of GST, the treatment of royalty payments, and the tax obligations of foreign buyers or sellers. Simplifying compliance procedures for small creators and individual investors would encourage wider participation in the market.

Consumer protection must also be prioritized. Regulatory bodies such as the Ministry of Consumer Affairs should work alongside technology experts to draft NFT-specific guidelines. These should include standards for disclosure, refund policies, fraud prevention, and grievance redressal mechanisms. Awareness campaigns and educational resources should be launched to improve digital and legal literacy among creators and consumers alike.

Finally, India must adopt a global outlook in its policy-making. Given the international nature of NFT transactions, domestic laws should align with international treaties and standards, such as those set by WIPO, FATF, and the Berne Convention. Bilateral and multilateral cooperation can help harmonize cross-border enforcement and build trust in India's NFT ecosystem.

A forward-thinking, inclusive, and flexible legal regime will allow India to fully harness the cultural, economic, and technological potential of NFTs while minimizing the risks associated with this powerful new medium of digital ownership.

CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

None.

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None.

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