

## Piracy: A threat to Academicians and Publishers

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In educational fields, misconducts are common now-a-days and one of the academic misconduct is piracy, which discourages the real owners, real creators, real researchers and real inventors. Greed for earning more money in a short duration of time and application of technologies are the major factors of piracy. Technology makes every work faster and easier in one side and in other side misconducts are increasing tremendously because of these technologies, which are enough to threaten the educational systems. Piracy is a global issue, so the Government of various countries is trying to amend the existing laws and also trying to enforce some new laws to trace and to punish the pirates. Piracy is growing in the world academic community very severely. Hence, a proper knowledge on piracy is important. This review discusses on various aspects of piracy including its origin, definitions, limitations, consequences, causes, detection etc. In view of piracy for commercial and non-commercial purposes, it is tried to discuss certain circumstances under which one pirates a book or similar works. This review would help academicians, researchers and students to stay away from piracy as well as to overcome piracy.

**Keywords:** Federation of Booksellers and Publishers Association of India, Inter-American Publishers Group, piracy, academics, publishers, economy, copyright, reprography

In academia, book, journal, article, research papers etc. are the written means of communication through which ideas are transferred from one person to another or from a group to another. These sources are media for transmission of ideas, reading materials for education, as well as are the ways for spreading and understanding of knowledge in every academic and research field. They also act as a media to describe human conditions, the problems of human relationships, new findings, discoveries, creativities, comedies, tragedies etc. The person who is solely responsible for the intellectual content of these sources is known as the real owner. As a creator or owner of the property, he or she reserves the right to enjoy the proceeds of his/her work.

So, almost in every country laws are there to protect these intellectual contents. In India, Copyright Act gives this right to the creator of the work and it usually lasts for a period of time depending on the provisions of the law that guaranteed this right. Copyright is defined as a person's exclusive right to reproduce, publish or sell his or her original creativity, passing the ideas/works to public by communicating with the public or by creating a new version or by modifying his/ her own work and recasting it etc. This act covers

various fields like literary, musical, dramatic, artistic or architectural works. Copyright protection is available only to original works, irrespective of whether it is published or unpublished. The primary objective of copyright law is to protect the time, effort, and creativity of the creator.<sup>1</sup>

Piracy, on the other hand, is the unauthorized reproduction, distribution or illegal use of a copyrighted work. That means piracy is 'the infringement of copyright act'. In academic field, industrial field, research field, everywhere piracy exists from decades. In earlier times there was no provision for detection of piracy of research papers, articles, journals, thesis etc. but, nowadays it has become possible due to technological advancement. At the same time, the number of offences of stealing someone's work are also increasing. Technology has its own "good" and "bad" effects. In this context, piracy and plagiarism are the bad effects and the good outcome is that, techniques are available nowadays to detect these misconducts. Many people get confused between piracy and plagiarism and think that both the terms are having same meaning; but factually, piracy is copying something and selling it to earn money whereas, plagiarism is copying something but not selling for the sake of money. Indian Government is focusing on this serious issue and planning to bring

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more provisions under laws against the piracy in academia, with punishment like deregistration, warning, fines. On the other hand, UGC has made it mandatory for all universities to use anti plagiarism, anti piracy software to check Ph.D. thesis or report of research works etc.<sup>2</sup>

As piracy is more prevalent these days, a proper knowledge and understanding can help everyone to stay away from these kinds of misconducts. So, in this article many important points of piracy mainly focusing the educational sectors are discussed. This will help an academicians to get a proper understanding of piracy in educational fields and it will also help them to avoid the use of fabricated, falsified sources of information.

### Definition of Piracy

Definition of piracy is given in various dictionaries in similar way. For example, Oxford dictionary explains piracy as *'the unauthorized use or reproducing another's work'*,<sup>4</sup> Merriam Webster online dictionary defines piracy as *'the unauthorized use of another's production, invention, or conception especially in infringement of a copyright'*.<sup>5</sup> So, overall we can say that piracy is the act of copying others findings, ideas, work and reselling or redistributing them without permission for the purpose of making money in common. In addition to the dictionaries, regulatory bodies like UNESCO (2007) has defined piracy as *'the reproduction and distribution of copies of copyright protected material or the communication to the public and making available of such on online communication networks without the authorization of the right owner(s), where such authorization is required by law'*. Piracy concerned the unauthorized reproduction (like printing) and distribution of physical copies or in digital format of protected works for a commercial purpose.<sup>6</sup>

### Views on Piracy

Piracy has been defined by many people in different occasions. A few are summarized below for better understanding. Nally (2000) highlighted as *"the greatest evil of piracy has always been its debilitating onslaught on creative and intellectual output and pursuit"*.<sup>7,8</sup> In the same context, Parson (2001) wrote *"unless the interests of artists of all kinds-including creators of literature-are suitably protected that fountain is liable to dry up at the source and the world will be the poorer"*.<sup>7,9</sup> In the same way, Ojiji

(2000) warned that *"blatant violation of sanctity of the author's intellectual property is bound to create a major difference to the nation's pool of creative works"*. According to him, such a situation would not only spell the demise of creative arts, but will also have a negative impact on the overall development of the nation.<sup>7,10</sup> On the other hand, Dada (2000) described piracy as *"a flagrant infringement of copyright on intellectual property and an utter disregard for ownership or authorship of literary works which include textbooks, essays, articles, encyclopedias, dictionaries, law reports and enactments, tables or compilations among many others"*.<sup>7,11</sup> Laminating on the same topic, Akinwumi (2000) further defined piracy as *"the total removal, duplication or reproduction and other biblio-vices that are connected with the printed word"*.<sup>7,12</sup> Adebayo (2002) defined piracy as *"the infringing act"* because it is carried out by persons other than the creators and/or owners of the copyright without authorization from the creators and/or owners.<sup>7,13</sup>

Ekweozoh (1986) said *"the unpatriotic acts of some Nigerians, who engage in the illegal reproduction, on commercial bases, of publisher's/author's works without any authorization or license"*. It amounts to copyright theft, which is the right of control that an author exercises in law over the use, which others make of his works. This means that book piracy is the unlawful production and fraudulent sale or distribution of intellectual works of an author. Owing to the nature of the activities of pirates who have continued to make an unmerited living out of the sweat, creative talents, art and investment of authors and publishers, future generations might not be partakers in nourishing knowledge of these exceptionally talented authors.<sup>7,14</sup> Olagunju (2001) has a different view on piracy, that a person who reproduces or causes to be reproduced without permission from the original work of another person in defiance of the copyright law, then he is a thief of another person's intellectual property. In Olagunju's view, *"the major agents of this crime in the book industry are printers and booksellers"*. He reasoned that the present level of technological advancement has made reprography both cheap and easy for pirates to reproduce identical forms as the original such that, it is sometimes difficult to identify pirated works in most cases.<sup>7,15</sup> Ashaolu (2003) pointed out the piracy existing fields and he explained about the involvement of some school teachers, heads,

lecturers and even proprietors in piracy to a quest for quick money. He lamented that this is extremely a condemnable practice, which should be limited.<sup>7,16</sup>

Asagwa (2002) has also given his view in piracy and he said that book piracy exists due to “*weak infrastructure in book publishing and marketing, which according to him developed as a result of the inability of publishers to meet the high demand for books in our society*”. According to him, it is a situation that created a large scale business for the pirates.<sup>7,17</sup>

### Causes of Piracy

There are several causes of piracy in academic field, the most common causes, which encourage piracy are:<sup>23</sup>

- (i) It exists where demand exceeds the supply
- (ii) Book piracy exists as a result of high cost of books
- (iii) People indulge in piracy in greed of quick money
- (iv) It exists as a result of the high unemployment rate
- (v) The cost of originating a book far exceeds the cost of reproduction
- (vi) Availability of means of reproduction such as photocopy encourages piracy
- (vii) Legal protections of copyrighted works are non-existent or weakly enforced
- (viii) Usually occurs in books that are popular and of high demand in the school system
- (ix) Piracy generally occurs where unauthorized reprints can suppress the authorized version in terms of price and availability
- (x) Sometimes results from lack of knowledge and education
- (xi) Unaware of piracy and the consequences of piracy

Many good papers, journals, books are of too high price to subscribe, most of the people cannot afford that much so they follow the pirated sites on the internet to get a copy of that paper of interest either at low cost or for free and researcher prefer those pirated sources of information because at less price they get the same information as the original work contains. In India, maximum universities are having access to various authenticate research papers, journals, articles for free of cost and have restrictions on the use up-to educational purpose only. Pirating these informations outside the institution is against the copyright law, which is punishable. But many educational institutions do not

have access to many required journals due to financial constraint or due to some other reasons. For example, a Ph.D. scholar at Amirkabir University of Technology (Tehran) while writing research paper was only getting the abstract of searched paper along with the tag of purchase at price \$28-30 for each paper. Though, Amirkabir university is on top in the list of top research universities in Iran, but the poor economic conditions and international fund sanctions left this university with very minimal access to the popular and important journals.<sup>24</sup> Also, many journals do not provide author's reprint to the authors if the research article is not published under open access policy. Such an author would naturally like to have his own publication from other sources and in such situation, use of the term piracy, how far would be appropriate, is questionable.

### Role of Digital Technology in Piracy

Due to the development of digital technology, piracy has now become much easier. Earlier, people used to photocopy the books or journals and transport it to various places of the world through sea routes. The transportation cost of sea route is less than that of other routes, which ultimately reduce the price of the books. We all know that internet is the easiest and fastest way of communication, where researcher can get thousands of free books, journals, articles and research works as a source of information, but this information can be a pirated one. E-books, e-journals used in educational fields are most often pirated by the fraudsters. Nowadays most of the people don't want to do hard works and want to save money and time, so they follow the shortcut way to lower the investment in collecting the information. People don't want to waste their time by searching for a book in market, if they are getting it in internet as e-book. The level of technology in modern printing in film and color has made it both cheap and easy for infringer to reproduce identical form as the original one. This advancement in technology has made it more difficult to identify the pirated works. Technical development has made these processes even simpler and their use more widespread, as they increase the flow of information throughout the society. The temptation to make unauthorized use of copyright materials has increased due to the development of new techniques of reproduction.<sup>25</sup>

### Effect of Piracy in Book Industries

Book piracy is becoming a silent killer for book industries. In India, approximately 70,000 books are

published every year in 22 languages by approximately 15,000 publishers. As per the Federation of Booksellers and Publishers Association of India (FBPAI), about 7000 crores publishing industries are menaced by piracy of books. As a result of which, the publishers in India have to face a loss of 400 crores per year. Book piracy doesn't give them the benefits of their hard works. It discourages creativity and decreases the enthusiasm of authors to write. Pirated copies of books are of low prices as compared to the prices of the original copies and obviously, people run for such low priced copies. This results in drastic fall in the sale of the original and authentic works. Analysis of this situation, however, revealed that book piracy does not have negative impact on the future of the educational sectors around the world.<sup>26</sup> This perhaps may be interpreted as the increase in the number of readers of a book, which ultimately contributes to knowledge acculturation.

#### Effect of Book Piracy on the Economy

Piracy results in loss of revenue to respective governments, as infringers do not pay taxes to government or to any other body. It also constitutes a trade barrier to legitimate copyright business interest. Book piracy discourages up-coming authors by giving a fear that any work originated by them would be a victim of piracy very soon. It affects the development and preservation of our cultural heritage, as they are not properly recorded as they should be. Piracy encourages the breakdown of law and order in the society. This affects the image of the country especially on its dealings with the outside world. A huge economic loss will be there after few years if piracy continues.<sup>7</sup>

#### Effect of Piracy in Educational Field

In academic fields to meet the requirements of the degree, students or researchers often use pirated informative sources. In developing countries trade in pirated books often exceeds the legitimate market. Educational institutions are primary target market of pirates. Piracy exists at all levels, right from faculty to students and in all kinds of public, private, central universities. Infringing activities include both illegal commercial photocopying or printing and reproduction of books and other printed material in digital form, as well as distribution in hard copy or digital format. So proper investigation of piracy should be there, which will encourage those, who

truly care about research. In the current system, it is very discouraging for honest researchers, when fraudsters get rewarded for publishing half a dozen papers in journals, whereas, their genuine efforts are often unacknowledged and even unrewarded.<sup>27</sup>

#### The Extent of Piracy<sup>21</sup>

Piracy on literary works can be extended up to many forms:

(i) Conversion or transmutation of original work in unauthorized way.

(ii) Reproduction of books either by reprinting or by other possible ways for wholesale rate.

(iii) Making Xerox of books and journals for business / Commercial/ money making purposes.

(iv) With the progressive evolution in the digital technologies, piracy is taking a new direction and dimension. Piracy in the field of literary works is more pronounced than that of in magazines, article, newspapers etc.

(v) In the field of book piracy, the novels, text books and other study materials are much more susceptible of piracy due to its high demand in the society.

The extent of book piracy can be estimated by overseeing the total sale. However, we can predict only the value of the production which comes out from the publishing industry. But to find the extent of pirated work we will have to focus on pirated sales, which is practically not easy. During the years 1994-1995 to 1996-1997 the average piracy limits as per the publishers and booksellers are represented in tables (1 & 2). Estimations of these two groups are not much more different from each other. The piracy level varies between 15% to 24% during the time period under ruminations. Approximately 33% of the

Table — 1 The average piracy level in literary works as per the National Productivity Council survey<sup>21</sup>

| Year    | Piracy level as perceived by |             |
|---------|------------------------------|-------------|
|         | Publishers                   | Booksellers |
| 1994-95 | 15.03                        | 14.64       |
| 1995-96 | 19.23                        | 18.37       |
| 1997-97 | 20.76                        | 23.60       |

Table — 2 Book piracy types as per the National Productivity Council survey<sup>21</sup>

| Forms/Ranks                    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4 |
|--------------------------------|----|----|----|---|
| Unauthorized printing /selling | 68 | 43 | 2  | - |
| Unauthorized translation       | 8  | 19 | 53 | 2 |
| Large scale photocopying       | 42 | 43 | 24 | 1 |
| Others                         | 7  | -2 | -  | 3 |

publishers are having knowledge that their original works are being pirated. About 31% of the legal book sellers also know that their original books are pirated by the pirates. About 28% of the buyers accepted the fact that they are not buying the original books from the market. Out of these buyers, 82% bought the pirated version of books still knowing about the piracy. End users are found to buy 37 numbers of books annually, out of which 7 books are pirated. Thus it shows the extent of pirated work at about 19% level.<sup>21</sup>

According to the above survey reports, both the publishers and buyers in India felt that piracy of novels are on the top of the book piracy list, followed by the books for professional courses, and further it is followed by text books of other courses. According to the sellers, among different forms through which piracy takes place, the illegal reprinting and selling of pirated books is above all others. Next important form of large scale piracy is photocopying.

### **Software Piracy and its Impact on Educational Fields**

As the technologies are upgrading, educational software are also coming to the market every day. Software is used right from school level to university levels for making the education system easy and understandable. Softwares help us to get coloured 2D, 3D structures, drawings or models and educational videos, which give an extra impact on the education system. They also help in visualizing the study materials. Audio visual learning helps the students to remember the things for a longer duration of time. Research based software are also available, where piracy can exist largely. Pirated version of research based software are used by research fellows, teachers, academicians, students etc. some of which gives online services and some can be used offline after installing it in the computer. From this point of view it is helping the academicians, but these pirated versions always may not give the true information. Wrong information will result into a submission of false research work.<sup>28, 29</sup>

### **Techniques to Identify and Avoid Pirated Software<sup>29</sup>**

There are various types of punishments given for infringing the copyright law, it may be in the form of fine or in the form of imprisonment. There is no excuse for these kinds of misconducts whether it is done knowingly or unknowingly. In case of software

purchasing also one must prefer some reputed and legal sellers. To keep ourselves safe from pirates, one should always keep the following points in mind while purchasing any software:

1. Always avoid the software, whose price is too less than that of the original software.
2. May avoid the purchase of software, if the company gives lengthy explanations about how their software is better than that of others, and give much more time in convincing the customers to buy their product.
3. Nowadays, most of the software comes with activation codes, which are important to activate the software for use. If instead of this we get some special procedures to be followed for activating the software without the code, then one must avoid it.
4. Should always avoid handwritten packaging or packaging with no instructions, no activation codes.
5. Most of the illegal copies of softwares have a description that claims that they are full version but only CDs will be received by the buyer
6. Legal companies always gives warranty, returning time period for any manufacturing defects etc.
7. Should not prefer an online seller, who do not give their full address, helpline number, etc.
8. Should always be aware of virus attack warnings given by our computer system while installing the purchased software, it is better to return these kinds of software
9. If one encounters selling of pirated software anywhere, we can easily inform it to the software developer,<sup>29</sup> for example Adobe, Corel, Microsoft, Macromedia, etc.

### **Piracy: Ethical or Unethical**

We cannot directly blame piracy as a big crime in the field of education especially in developing countries, where the number of people who can't afford to buy books or other related information sources is much higher than the number of people, who can afford it. Some people think that it is not wrong in pirating the educational information, which are helpful for researchers, students, teachers etc. As per their views, there should not be any boundaries for information it should be free for everyone, because education is an essential part of mankind and society as well. On the other side, some people think that piracy is not a victimless crime because piracy hurts the original owner and upcoming writers or creators. If the real owner will not get any profit for

their hard work then they will lose their avidness to create anything new or to write anything new. This will be great loss for the upcoming generation in this modern world.<sup>31</sup>

Although it is an offence, piracy even helps the author or the publisher to sell more books because of the popularity due to piracy. Based on many reasons piracy is more accepted than plagiarism. If a book or journal is published in one part of the world, it may not be available throughout each and every part of the world within a short period of time. If demand of that book is more and supply is not meeting the demand then people turn for the pirated versions of that book (that is the exact copy of the original one). Piracy is fulfilling the demand of supply. So we exactly can't blame pirated versions of knowledge as major crime if we consider educational section in developing or under-developed countries. Because a huge number of poor students are depending on photocopies of books, journals, articles for their academics, researches etc. As already discussed above that piracy helps dissemination of idea of the author and readers get interested and become curious if they know that pirated version of a specific book is available; they buy the pirated version and read it. However, it is only applicable to books not to all.

Piracy is illegal, it is a federal crime to make copies of some original work. People who are found guilty of the crime can be fined or sentenced for imprisonment. Piracy is risky and unproductive because pirated internet versions are likely to be infected with serious computer viruses, which can damage user's computer system. Many academicians are unaware of piracy they might be caught for photocopying and fined for the offence of pirating. Buyers who prefer low priced versions are inclined to purchase pirated books or software. They gradually become psychical and always search only the pirated version of any product. This negative attitude is more harmful to society than the financial loss.

### Steps Against Piracy

1. Avoiding purchase of illegal copies
2. Not helping others to disobey the law
3. Searching for books, journals from authenticated sources
4. Avoiding visit to sites, mainly which are advertising for free or less price versions of products
5. Keeping a good record of the site from where information is collected
6. Not pirating/copying any original work unless it is allowed by license agreement

7. Enforcing our right by contacting the book or journal dealer or appropriate authority for any suspects of piracy.

For information to the readers, a list<sup>32</sup> of few websites hosting pirated books is given in Table 3. Blocking these websites or avoiding these websites will minimize the availability or circulation of pirated books.

### Role of Government on Discouraging Pirated Books

Government can play a vital role on discouraging piracy by reducing the cost of the books (especially educational books), by offering tax concession to the publishers, or by decreasing the selling tax, or by reducing the income tax of publishing houses. Reduction of book price will encourage more readers to read books, which in turn will lead to increase the production of books and ultimately publishers will make profit from it. Government can establish some public libraries with various collections, which will help to collect attention of book readers. People nowadays don't prefer libraries as it was in past, it may be due to less numbers of modern book collections, therefore, committed programmes should

Table — 3 Websites hosting pirated books

| Website hosting pirated e-books | Percentage of Piracy |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| badongo.com                     | 0.40%                |
| midupload.com                   | 0.40%                |
| truly-free.org                  | 0.40%                |
| bitroad.net                     | 0.40%                |
| rapidshare.de                   | 0.40%                |
| box.net                         | 0.40%                |
| kewlshare.com                   | 0.50%                |
| ioffer.com                      | 0.60%                |
| sharingmatrix.com               | 0.60%                |
| letitbit.net                    | 0.60%                |
| docstoc.com                     | 0.60%                |
| ziddu.com                       | 0.80%                |
| easy-share.com                  | 1.00%                |
| ifile.it                        | 1.10%                |
| wattpad.com                     | 1.10%                |
| filefactory.com                 | 1.20%                |
| depositfiles.com                | 1.50%                |
| scribd.com                      | 2.00%                |
| hotfile.com                     | 2.10%                |
| megaupload.com                  | 2.10%                |
| mediafire.com                   | 2.40%                |
| uploading.com                   | 3.70%                |
| esnips.com                      | 7.40%                |
| 4shared.com                     | 32.70%               |
| rapidshare.com                  | 35.60%               |

be conducted promising the people for providing each and every book/journal they want at reduced price. Advertisements for commercial purposes can be included in books but it should not increase the cost of the books rather it should decrease the price for the buyers. The regulatory authorities should direct all school managements/colleges/universities to keep various types of books for each and every field. NGOs can also support the government to eliminate piracy by supplying free books to the poor students.<sup>26</sup>

### Consequences of Piracy

(i) Authors are not paid money for their works because of the bootlegged downloading of books of favourite authors

(ii) Illegal downloads may have spyware and viruses capable of destroying hard drives and ruining the computers.

(iii) In the case of end users, or counterfeit software, or users without a legal copy are unable to receive program supports or updates from the manufacturer.

(iv) Piracy has threatened the foundation of the book industry in the whole world.

The criminal penalties for copyright infringement in some countries are given in Table 4. In this competitive world to succeed in different areas, we need to gather more and more knowledge, which can be acquired from books. It is not possible for everybody to purchase all books he or she requires because of financial constraints. Some people can't afford to buy books, hence, free e-Books can be a good option for those who want to read more but can't spend more money.

### Indian Scenario on Book Piracy

In India, a survey was conducted by Human Resource Development Ministry (HRD), which has reported that there are three types of piracy, which are most common in India. The first one is illegal reprinting of books followed by illegal publishing of books by using the name of some popular writers/authors and the last one is the illegal production of translated versions of foreign-language books. Pirates neither have to pay to the government nor to the author or publisher, which makes the pirates more confident about their misconduct day by

Table — 4 The criminal penalties for copyright infringement in some countries

| Country   | Offence   | Penalties (up to)                                     | Imprisonment term (up to)  |
|-----------|---|---|----------------------------|
| USA       | First offence by an individual done for commercial purpose                                | \$ 250,000  | 5 years                    |
|           | Second offence by an individual   | \$ 250,000  | 10 years                   |
|           | First offence by an organization  | \$ 50,000   | 5 years                    |
|           | Second offence by an organization   | \$ 500,000  | 10 years                   |
| France    | First offence   | 6,000 - 120,000 Francs                                | 3 months - 2 years         |
|           | Second offence  | 12,000 - 240,000 francs                               | 3 months - 2 years         |
| Poland    | For offence of infringement of law for economic profit                                    | Fine not mentioned                                    | 2 years                    |
|           | If the person turns the above mentioned offence to a source of earning                    | Fine not mentioned                                    | 6 months - 5 years         |
|           | For unauthorized reproduction of copies of original works                                 | Fine unspecified<br>Maximum fine of 250 million zloty | 2 years<br>3 years maximum |
| Hungary   | For misconducts causing no severe damage  | Fine unspecified                                      | 3 years                    |
|           | For misconducts causing severe damage   | Fine unspecified                                      | 5 years                    |
| Greece    | For infringement of act   | 1 - 5 million Drachmas                                | At least 1 year            |
|           | If misconduct is intended for profit purpose  | 2 - 10 million Drachmas                               | At least 2 years           |
| Portugal  |   |   | 3 years                    |
| Singapore | For the article infringement  | \$ 10,000 - \$ 100,000                                | 5 years                    |
|           | For unauthorized reproduction and selling illegal copies                                  | \$ 6,666 or \$ 66,000                                 | 3 years                    |
|           | For violation of the distribution right   | \$ 50,000   | 3 years                    |
|           | For pirating the sound recording or any audiovisual works or copying the performance arts | \$ 20,000   | 2 years                    |

day. According to international book publishers, in Latin American countries and in Asian countries piracy has been taken as warning alarm for future generations. As per Inter-American Publishers Group estimation, globally at an average fifty billion pages of books are reprinted every year in an unauthorized way. Technologies are becoming right hand of pirates because, to reprint a book unlawfully a pirate only need is the original book from which photocopying will be done, a scanner to scan the content of the book, a computer having a facility of optical recognition, and a press (a small rotary press is sufficient for reprinting the books). With these few facilities, a book can be reproduced within a short period of time. Original books contains a warning "reproduction is forbidden!" pirates shockingly copies this portion of the original book also. Due to the fast development of technologies and its application in pirating the books results in reproduction of books, which are exactly similar to the original one, it is hard to differentiate between the original and pirated one even it is difficult for the publisher and author to identify the pirated version of their work, because pirates copies each and every content of a book, they not only copy the texts but also the colour of the book, design of cover page, even the bar code also, which is unique for each and every original book. There are various types and forms of piracy but the unauthorized reproduction either by photocopying or reprinting is the most menacing one for the publishers. The pirates always reprint the book and sell it on a lower price than that of the original, which is the prime trick for attracting the readers and buyers of books. Pirates offer an unfair competition to genuine publications in the market. Few decades earlier, identification of pirated book was quite easy because of its poor quality, but nowadays it is becoming tougher to differentiate between real and fraud one due to the development of book reproduction technologies. pirated books looks exactly same as the original one and these pirated versions are sold through small book stalls, small wholesalers, who either do not care about the copyright law or they don't have the knowledge of this kind of misconducts. Book piracy is a large extent business form in poor and developing countries, where the profits from pirated versions are greater than that from original book. The process of getting photocopies is known as reprography and this process is very common in almost all institutions of our

country. Because of this reprography the publishers cannot meet the target of selling. Sometimes these misconducts are done knowingly, and sometimes unknowingly. Selling and purchasing the pirated books is a criminal offence in our country under Section 63 of the Copyright Act, 1957. In developing countries, the rate of increase in piracy is faster because large numbers of students in developing countries are from poor financial background and cannot afford to buy books for their education. In India the expensive books like medical books are mostly pirated because those books are generally written by foreign writers and generally unavailable in every part of our country. The main cause for infringement of copyright laws in case of books is the high book prices and poor economic health of students of our country.<sup>26</sup>

### Conclusion

The book industry has been affected by the activities of pirates. The implication of this is that the book industry around the world will be heading for gradual destruction if the activities of pirates are not abstained. The non-payment of taxes to government by pirates implies that government has lost much more revenue and will continue to lose huge amount of derivable revenue if the activities of these pirates are not eliminated. There will be scarcity of good authors everyday if their work doesn't give them financial benefits. However, complete removal of piracy from our societies is not an easy task. We cannot depend only on laws to eliminate piracy, we ourselves should take initiative to stop it. We should say no to pirated versions of knowledge to support the real creativity of people. On the other hand, publishers should also reduce the prices without harming their business and Publisher should provide sample copies to the authors. In this way we can minimize the piracy at least in educational systems.

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