ASSIGNMENT 7

A. MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTION
CHOOSE THE CORRECT ANSWER [1X12=12]

1. Integrated Circuit performs
   (a) Electrical circuitry function
   (b) Mechanical function
   (c) Electronic circuitry function
   (d) None of the above

2. IC layout consists of layout of
   (a) Capacitor
   (b) Transistor
   (c) Lead wire
   (d) All of the above

3. Mask work is
   (a) Two dimensional
   (b) Three dimensional
   (c) Uni-dimensional
   (d) All of the above

4. Mask work protection is available in
   (a) India
   (b) China
   (c) Bangladesh
   (d) USA

5. SCPA was in-acted in
   (a) 1999
   (b) 1984
   (c) 1989
   (d) 1994

6. Semiconductor IC Layout Design act was in acted in
   (a) 2000
   (b) 2005
   (c) 1995
   (d) 1990

7. IPIC treaty deals with
   (a) IC
   (b) IC Layout
   (c) Chip
   (d) All of the above

8. In order to register, IC layout Design in India the layout should be
(a) New or Original
(b) Distinct
(c) Novel
(d) Both (a) and (b)

9. IC layout design can be registered, even after commercial exploitation
   (a) Yes
   (b) Yes, upto some times
   (c) No

10. The protection of IC Layout design is available for
    (a) 10 years
    (b) 15 years
    (c) 20 years
    (d) Perpetual

11. Trade-secret means
    (a) Information
    (b) Confidential information
    (c) Confidential information having business value
    (d) Trade information

12. Trade-secret is protected in India by
    (a) UTSA
    (b) Contract Act
    (c) Common Law
    (d) Both (b) and (c)

B. SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS [2X8=16]

1. “IC Layout Design cannot be protected by trade-secret”. Analyze

A: Reverse engineering is considered as valid defense in respect of trade-secret infringement. IC layout Design can be easily reverse engineered. Hence, Trade-secret is not suitable for protection of IC layout design

2. Why protection of IC Layout design is required?

A. To create IC layout and its design, huge investment is required but it is easy to do reverse engineered. To provide return on investment, it is required to be protected.

3. How do you create an IC layout?

A: In order to create IC layout, you should know the functionality first. Further, based on functionality, you decide the components and their interconnection.

4. How do you protect trade-secret and ic layout in India?
A: Trade secret is protected by following means:

(a) Contract Act- Restraint of trade
(b) Common Law- Undue-enrichment
(c) Criminal law-Theft

IC layout is protected by Semiconductor IC Layout Design Act 2000.

5. What is mask work? Whether Mask work protection is available in India?

A: Mask Works are defined as a series of related images, however fixed or encoded. (1) having or representing the predetermined three-dimensional pattern of metallic, insulating, or semiconductor material present or removed from the layers of a semiconductor chip product;

It is not protected in India.

6. Discuss the criteria’s to register IC Layout Design in India.

A: Layout design that is:

- Original
- Not commercially exploited anywhere in India or convention/reciprocal country
- Inherently distinctive
- Inherently capable of being distinguishable from any other

7. Whether importation of an electronic device may leads to infringement of IC Layout Design in India? Analyze

A: Yes, it leads to infringement of IC layout as the physical component is made using that design.

8. Whether attributes of patented product can be protected by trade-secret? Analyze

A: Yes. The some features of patented product like specific composition and properties can be kept as trade-secret.

C. ANALYTICAL QUESTIONS [3.5X2=7]

1. “Patent can protects IC Layout Design” Analyze

A: Patent protects functionality of any object. The IC layout is designed for specific functionality. IC layout is decided based on functionality and layout is embodied on the physical
object in layer wise manner. Hence, patent can be used to protect IC layout Design but specification drafting will be challenge to claim literal or non-literal infringement of patent in the form of copying/un-authorized using of layout.

2. “Patent provides better protection than trade-secret” Analyze

A: This statement is true in case of product which can be easily reverse engineer but may be not true for the products which are difficult to reverse engineer as the attributes of product may be protected for longer times than patent.