

## FIR AGAINST GOOGLE CEO



### Issue

A case was registered against Google CEO Sundar Pichai and the managing director of YouTube for copyright infringement.

### Background

YouTube is infamous for hosting movies and contents that violate copyright. There are complaints usually filed against uploaders.

### Details

The complaint against Pichai was registered by a filmmaker, who says that his movie was illegally uploaded on YouTube, violating copyright laws.

### The complaint

- Initially, the police had refused to register FIR but were forced to do so after the complainant approached magistrate with a private complaint.
- The complaint was registered under sections 51, 63, and 69 of the Indian Copyright Act, 1957 against Google, YouTube, Google India, Pichai, and others.
- He adds that illegally uploaded film garnered billions of views but he did not receive any monetary benefits from it.

### Procedure during copyright

- YouTube policy states that the original owner has to approach them with a complaint to remove the copyright material.

- The platform removes the content in accordance with the law, and terminates the accounts of users with multiple copyright strikes.

### Way ahead

- Many people make such complaints regarding copyright violation against intermediary platforms but majority of them are resolved in initial stages.
- The platforms usually remove the copyright content and on some occasions, also offer monetary compensation.
- For the complaint to proceed, the complainant has to show that they have experienced monetary losses as their material has been uploaded illegally.
- The case can go to even Supreme Court if the company decides against settling the case and fights based on its policy rules.

### NOTES

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