Report on Guest Lecture on "Copyrights & Films" by Mr. Rajesh Kumar

On 13th April 2024, Symbiosis Law School, Pune, organized a guest lecture on the topic "Copyrights & Films," delivered by Mr. Rajesh Kumar, Head of Legal at Bhansali Films Pvt. Ltd. The lecture, held from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM, was attended by over 70 students, offering them valuable insights into the intersection of copyright law and the film industry.

Mr. Kumar, with his vast experience in the legal aspects of the film industry, began the session by introducing the fundamental concepts of copyright law, emphasizing its importance in protecting creative works, particularly in the context of films. He discussed how copyright serves as a vital tool for safeguarding the intellectual property rights of creators, filmmakers, and production houses. He elaborated on the process of acquiring copyright for films, including the protection of scripts, dialogues, music, cinematography, and even the storyline.

The lecture provided a deep dive into various aspects of film copyright, such as the legal challenges filmmakers face in protecting their work from infringement. Mr. Kumar highlighted some prominent cases in the film industry where copyright issues had led to significant legal battles. He discussed the nuances of licensing agreements, royalties, and the role of legal teams in negotiating and drafting contracts for film production, distribution, and adaptation.

Mr. Kumar also spoke about the balance between creativity and legal protection, explaining how copyright law helps to encourage innovation while ensuring that creators are fairly compensated for their work. He addressed key issues like piracy, unauthorized adaptations, and the protection of film content in the digital age, stressing the importance of legal frameworks in ensuring that filmmakers' rights are respected in both national and international markets.

The session concluded with an interactive Q&A, where students asked insightful questions regarding the practical application of copyright law in film production and distribution. The lecture was a valuable learning experience for the students, enhancing their understanding of copyright law's crucial role in the film industry.