



National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam

Hajo Road, Amingaon, Guwahati-781031, Assam (India).

3.3.1 Institution has an ecosystem for Knowledge Creation, including Advanced Research Centre and other initiatives for the creation and transfer of knowledge

List of Advanced Research Centres of NLUJA, Assam

1. Centre for Law Public Policy and Governance
2. Centre for Disability Studies & Health Laws
3. Centre for Environmental Law, Advocacy and Research (CELAR)
4. Centre for Child Rights
5. Centre for Gender Justice
6. Centre for Clinical Legal Education and Legal Aid Cell (CCLELAC)
7. Centre for Advanced Research on Corporate Law
8. Centre for Research on Intellectual Property Rights Law
9. DPIIT-IPR Chair

RESEARCH CENTRES AND THEIR ACTIVITY REPORTS

**Extracts from Annual Reports of National Law university and Judicial Academy,
Assam**

Continued...



NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY AND JUDICIAL ACADEMY, ASSAM



**ANNUAL
REPORT**

2018-19

12. UNIVERSITY CENTRES' ACTIVITIES

12.1. CENTRE FOR CLINICAL LEGAL EDUCATION AND LEGAL AID CELL

March 20, 2018

The Centre for Clinical Legal Education and Legal Aid Cell of the National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam has organized a Child Legal Awareness Programme on March 20, 2018 at the Amingaon High School, Guwahati. The agenda of the programme was to create awareness among the students about the use and misuse of various laws in our country. The session was organized in the presence of the school teachers and members of the Centre for Clinical Legal Education and Legal Aid Cell, NLUJA, Assam.

November 10, 2018

The Centre has organized 1st National Law Quiz Competition, 2018 on November 10, 2018. A positive response was seen among the students across the country. A total of around 20 teams participated in the programme from various national and regional colleges and universities.

November 14, 2019

Centre for Clinical Legal Education and Legal Aid Cell, NLUJA Assam has organised Legal Service Awareness Programme on 14 Nov, 2018 at the Singimari High Madrassa School, Guwahati.

November 26, 2018

The Centre for Clinical Legal Education and Legal Aid Cell of the National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam had organized 1st National Essay Competition, 2018 in the month of November 2018. A positive response was seen among the students across the country. The essay competition was organized in collaboration with UNICEF, Assam. The topic for the competition was "Access to Justice for Children" one of the sensitive issues of the day. The top 3 ranks were awarded to Shashank Saurabh from NLU Ranchi, Archit Mishra and Neha Choudhary from Symbiosis Law School, Pune, and Eesha Bisht and NiharikaTanwar from Symbiosis Law School, Pune.

12.2 CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

December 22 - 23, 2018

Two Day Regional Workshop on Biodiversity Related Laws was held in the University under the aegis of the Centre for Environmental Law, Advocacy and Research (CELAR).

March 09 - 10, 2019

The Centre for Environmental Law, Advocacy and Research (CELAR), organised a Two-Day International Conference on Climate Change on 9th and 10th March 2019. It was co-sponsored by the prestigious Shastri Programme Development Grant (SPDG) of the binational Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute, New Delhi. The focal area of the Conference was



to explore the multidisciplinary contours of climate change. As such, the conference witnessed the presentation of research made by seventy select people across various academic disciplines, like law, economics, technology, geography, sociology, business, commerce and technology. It also witnessed the scholarly presence of over fifty delegates. The participants hailed from Assam and other places across the length and breadth of India as well as from several foreign countries like Bhutan, Nepal, Bangladesh and Mexico.

The Conference dwelled on three primary themes namely, the international dimension on climate change, focussing specially on the Indo-Canadian dimension and the national and north east Indian dimension on climate change. To stimulate discussions and debates, eminent personalities and experts in each of the thematic dimensions were present. The luminaries included judges like Chief Justice A.S. Bopanna, Justice S. Shyam and Justice U. Bhuyan of Gauhati High Court, Justice P.M.M. Peires, former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Sri Lanka and Dr. Ranjan Chatterjee from the National Green Tribunal. It also included lawyers like Mr. Sanjay Upadhyay and Mr. Sudhir Mishra of the Supreme Court of India, academicians like Prof. (Dr.) Armin Rosencraz from Stanford University, Prof. (Dr.) Phillip Cullet from SOAS University of London, Prof. (Dr.) M.K. Ramesh from NSLIU, Prof. (Dr.) Chandan Mahanta from IIT-G and activists like Ms. Rama Rauta, Pioneer of the Save Ganga Movement, Mr. Jadav Payeng, the Forest Man of India and Mr. Rajendra Singh, the Waterman of India. Led by such personalities, the technical sessions of the Conference witness some intense deliberations on how best to combat climate change, especially the peculiar climate vulnerabilities of Assam and North East India. The deliberations will soon be consolidated in the form of principles and published as the 'Guwahati Declaration on Climate Change'. The Guwahati Declaration will be presented to the state and other non-governmental stakeholders in order to assist policy and action making aimed to combat change. The Conference will become an annual event and the Guwahati Declaration will be annually amended as and when necessary. The research proceedings of the Conference will be published in the form of a book and be made available to the public.

12.4 CENTRE FOR DISABILITY STUDIES & HEALTH LAWS

October 27-28, 2018

The Centre for Disability Studies and Health Laws, NLUJA Assam organised National Seminar on “New Paradigms in Disability Studies and Health Laws: Meta-narratives and Realities” at NLUJA Assam. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Peter Mohan MaithreePeiris, former Chief Justice of Sri Lanka; Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ujjal Bhuyan, Judge, High Court; Shri Kausar Jamil Hilaly, ACS, Commissioner, Persons with Disabilities, Govt. of Assam; Dr. Abha Agarwal, Founder, A4 Clinics, Indore and Prof. (Dr.) Sarasu Esther Thomas, NLSIU, Bangalore headed the various Technical Sessions of the Seminar.

12.5 CENTRE FOR GENDER JUSTICE

September 06-07, 2018

The Centre for Gender Justice of the University in collaboration with Brotherhood, New Delhi organised a Two Day Workshop on September 6 and September 7 on the topic “Women and Disability” at the Seminar Hall, Administrative Block, NLUJA Assam. Differently abled women are saddled with multiple disadvantages. As women in traditional patriarchal societies women have to negotiate life through a string of challenges. With the burden of disability women are further beset with difficulties. Differently abled women are the most marginalized in Indian society. They are deprived of political, social, economic, and health opportunities. Through this workshop, the Centre aspired to bring to fore the issues faced by the differently abled women in terms of the social space they can lay their claim on, the opportunities of life they can explore, basically their trials and tribulations. Media narratives have been consciously chosen as an integral part of this exercise, for such narratives have the potential, to mirror up to nature the social realities as they exist in our times. Narratives have the potential to emote, to make the right pitch, to strike the right cord and resonate with the experiential reality of the audience. Therefore, these narratives provide good learning. With this intent, the centre has forged collaboration with the Delhi based NGO – Brotherhood who conduct International Film Festivals on issues related with disability as a part of their awareness raising campaign. The resource persons of the workshop included eminent personalities like, Mr. Arman Ali, Executive Director, National Centre for Promotion of Employment for Disabled People (NCPEDP), Shishu Sarothi - Centre for Rehabilitation & Training for Multiple Disability, Ms. Amvalika Senapati, Disability Law Unit, Shishu Sarothi and Dr. Shabeena Yasmin Saikia, Associate Professor of Sociology, Gauhati University.

February 16, 2019

Regional Consultation on Review of the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 was organized by the Centre for Gender Justice, NLUJA, Assam in collaboration with the National Commission for Women. This exercise is a flagship of the National Commission for Women and through the collaboration

the intent has been to create a forum where representatives from the eight states of NE India could lend their inputs towards reviewing the POSH Act; mulling the pros and cons of the provisions of the Act and in light of the same proposing recommendations towards enhanced protection of the rights of women at workplace. The POSH Act is an important milestone towards ensuring prevention, prohibition and redressal of harassment of women in their workplaces. However, six years since it has become a statute, it is about time a seasoned critique of the provisions of the Act is undertaken. In this pursuit, resource persons and consultants from all over the region have lent their support. Academicians, administrators, activists, legal professionals from the NE Region have contributed their insights towards reviewing and improvising the scope and applicability of the existing POSH Act. NCW Member, Ms. Soso Shaiza and Chief Programme Coordinator Ms. Lilabati were present during the consultative exercise.



12.6 CENTRE FOR ADVANCED RESEARCH ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

August 18-19, 2018

International Conference on Intellectual Property Rights was organised by NLUJA, Assam. In which more than 100 people from across the nation presented their valued Research Papers. Mr. G. R. Raghavender, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Law and Justice, Government



of India; Ms. Sunita K. Shreedharan, CEO of SKS Law Associates which is among the top IP Law Firms in India; Dr. Raman Mittal, Associate Professor of Law, University of Delhi headed the various Technical Sessions throughout the Conference. The Centre for Advanced Research on Intellectual Property Rights was inaugurated in presence of Prof. (Dr.) J. S. Patil, Vice-Chancellor, NLUJA Assam; Mr. Miftahuddin Ahmed, Registrar, NLUJA, Assam; Mr. G. R. Raghavender, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Law and Justice, Government of India; Ms. Sunita K. Shreedharan, CEO of SKS Law Associates; Dr. Raman Mittal, Associate Professor of Law, University of Delhi; Dr. Topi Basar, Associate Professor of Law, NLUJA Assam. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ujjal Bhuyan, Judge, Gauhati High Court was the Chief Guest in the Valedictory Ceremony.



**NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY
AND JUDICIAL ACADEMY,
ASSAM**

2019

ANNUAL REPORT



12. UNIVERSITY CENTRES' ACTIVITIES

12.1. Centre for Clinical Legal Education and Legal Aid Cell

September 20, 2019

Legal Awareness Programme was held at Hajo Monikut High School.

November 15, 2019

Organised the 2nd NLUJA ASSAM National Law Quiz Competition, 2019.

November 23, 2019

In collaboration with North Guwahati College, organised Legal Awareness Camp at North Guwahati College, Kamrup (Rural).

12.2 Centre for Environmental Law

August 23, 2019

Sri Debajit Kumar Das, Advocate, Gauhati High Court, Guwahati delivered a special lecture on "Judiciary & Environmental Justice" during third session of CEL's Enviro-Legal Lecture Series

May 21, 2019

Dr. Ranjan Chatterjee, Retd. IAS Officer and former Expert Member, National Green Tribunal delivered a special lecture on Forest Act during second session of CEL's Enviro-Legal Lecture Series

12.3 Centre for Advanced Research on Intellectual Property Rights

May 03 -04, 2019

The Centre for Advanced Research on Intellectual Property Rights (CARIP) a research centre of National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam, organised a two day Seminar on Traditional Knowledge and Cultural Expressions in collaboration with North East Centre, New Delhi and sponsored by Indian Council Of Social Science Research (ICSSR).

12.4 Centre for Child Rights

Publication of the Handbook “Role of Duty Bearers in Child Protection”

To improve the awareness level of stakeholders working in the field of child protection and child rights, Shri Surendra Kumar (IPS), Inspector General of Police, CID Assam in collaboration with Centre for Child Rights had written a book titled “Role of Duty Bearers in Child Protection”. The book analyses the pivot laws framed for children and lays down the role of various Government Department as mandated in those legislations to ensure protection and development of children. There are eight chapters in the book; each chapter is dedicated to a government department, defining their roles and responsibilities under various laws dealing with children. In the book, the author has also suggested set of recommendations to ensure effective execution of their responsibilities.

On 20th July, 2019 at Assam Administrative Staff College, Hon’ble Chief Minister of Assam, Shri Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated the book in the presence of senior government officials of the State.

Publication of Journal Volume 1 Issue 2

Centre for Child Rights, NLUJA ASSAM has published its third Journal which covers 8 scholarly papers submitted by students, scholars, professors etc. on emerging issues concerning children. The aim of having a standard newsletter and journal is to provide space to the students and other professionals to express their opinions on various subject pertaining to child protection and child rights pertinent to present time.

Training Need Assessment of Child Protection Workforce in Assam (State Child Protection Society & District Child Protection Unit)

In the State of Assam, the service delivery structure of child protection is functional and human resource under the ICPS is recruited. The in-service officials at the DCPU and SCPS play a crucial role in effective rollout of this flagship programme and its components. As such, every official is expected to have a nuance idea of his/her duties and the thematic knowledge that is required to perform their roles to the highest of standards. The purpose of the study is to ascertain the present capacities of different cohorts within this workforce and identify areas where knowledge needs to be supplemented. The TNA activity was conducted in 6 regions across the state comprising 5-6 districts in each region.

The Primary objective of the Training Need Assessment are as follows

- To understand the present capacities of the ICPS Workforce at the State and District Level.
- To identify areas where technical knowledge/capacities needs to be supplemented.
- To list down areas and prepare a training framework/outline: cohort specific, wherein capacities need to be enhanced.

Stakeholders Consultation of the Four States of Gauhati High Court on Alternative Care and Child Protection Systems

Centre for Child Rights had provided technical support in documentation and preparation of Report on the “Stakeholders Consultation for Four States (Assam, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland) of Gauhati High Court on Alternative Care and Child Protection System”. The consultation was organised by the Juvenile Justice Committee of Gauhati High Court in collaboration with State Child Protection Society and UNICEF Office for Assam.

Diploma Course in Child Rights and Law

Centre for Child Rights had launched a Diploma Course on Child Rights and Law for students, advocates and stakeholders working in the area of child rights and with children. The course is designed in a manner to make sure that that all participants have a nuanced idea of various international human rights and child rights instruments and mechanism, policies and conventions. It also aims to impart knowledge about children’s right under Indian Constitution and other legislations pertaining to children, understanding of child psychology and child development along with exposure visit for direct interaction with children to bring them closer to working children.

The Course is divided in 5 Modules which takes care of all these aspects.

- a. Development of International Jurisprudence on Child Rights
- b. Development of Child Rights Jurisprudence in Indian Context
- c. Child Psychology and Child Development
- d. Field Visit
- e. Dissertation and Viva-Voce

Development of Training Module for PO-IC and PO-NIC (ongoing)

Centre for Child Rights has received a formal request from State Child Protection Society to develop training modules for ICPS functionaries of the District Child Protection Units. CCR has undertaken the activity to develop 2 training modules of Protection Officer – Institutional Care and Protection Officer – Non-Institutional Care. The training module will focus on enhancing the capacities of workforce of these 2 cohorts of ICPS functionaries. The module will encompass the following:

Protection Officer – Non- Institutional Care

- a. Role in Adoption process, PAP registration, legally free for Adoption and Follow up
- b. Role to ensure data feeding in ‘track the missing child’ portal & CARINGS
- c. Role in identifying Foster family and placement of CNCP in Foster family and follow-up
- d. Role in linkages of Child Care Institutions and Specialized Adoption Agency
- e. Identifying families in distress, broken family for “Sponsorship Programme
- f. Advocacy, Awareness and Roles under various Child Protection Committees
- g. Liaison with other line departments viz. education, health, police, social welfare, district judiciary and P&RD
- h. Maintenance of records and registers
- i. Maintenance of monthly & quarterly reports
- j. Maintaining case files and other registers

Protection Officer – Institutional Care

- a. Role while dealing with CNCP All categories
- b. Role while dealing with CICL
- c. Role under POCSO Act, 2012
- d. Role in referral services (CICL transferred to CNCP)
- e. Role in case of Preliminary Mental Assessment
- f. Role in case of Missing children

- g. Role in cases of Trafficked children
- h. Role in case of data feeding in 'track the missing child portal' and 'CARINGS'
- i. Role in preparation of 'Individual Care Plan' and 'Social Investigation Report'
- j. Role in preparation of Rehabilitation Card (Form-XIV of JJ Act, 2015)

Study on Implementation of the POCSO Act in Assam (ongoing)

7 years have passed from the day of enforcement of the POCSO Act in 2012. The idea behind this progressive piece of legislation was to create a separate structure and system within the existing framework of the Judicial Setup in order to provide special assistance to children who are victim of sexual abuse. Various child friendly processes and approaches were introduced to ensure that there is no re-victimization of a child in the complete process of seeking justice. A lot of impetus was also given in with respect to the time frame within which a case has to be reported, investigated and judicial pronouncement should be done.

Centre for Child Rights has undertaken a short study on critical provisos of the POCSO Act and understand where we stand with respect to the implementation of those provisions in functionality and in principle. The study will be an advocacy tool for bringing about necessary changes within the system id required and will also capture best practices. The key areas the study will focus on are:

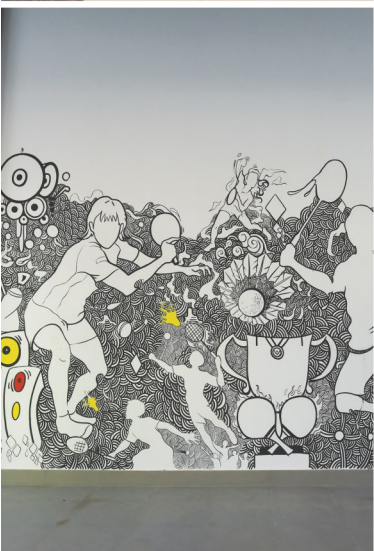
- a. Recording of Statement as per the requirements of Section 26
- b. Whether Child Friendly Atmosphere is available and maintained in the Court Room as per Section 33 (4)
- c. Whether a victim is called upon to repeatedly testify in the court, contrary to the proviso of Section 33 (5)
- d. Recording of Evidence of within a period of 30 days after taking cognizance as mandated under Section 35 (1)
- e. Completion of Trail within One Year from the date of taking cognizance as mandated under Section 35 (2)
- f. Practice of granting compensation as per Section 33 (8)

- g. Whether investigation is completed within 2 months from the date of receiving information for the cases registered under Section 4 (penetrative sexual assault) and 6 (aggravated penetrative sexual assault) of the POCSO Act
- h. Whether trial in cases of Penetrative Sexual Assault (Section 4) and Aggravated Penetrative Sexual Assault (Section 6) is completed within 2 months from the date of receiving charge-sheet.(Section 309 CrPC)



National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam

ANNUAL REPORT 2020



12. UNIVERSITY CENTRES' ACTIVITIES

12.1 CENTRE FOR GENDER JUSTICE



A. Regional Consultation on Female Labour Force Participation in India: National Commission for Women (NCW) and V. V. Giri National Labour Institute in collaboration with Centre for Gender Justice, NLUJA, Assam organised Regional Consultation on Female Labour Force Participation in India on February 06, 2020.

Within the South Asian context, India has witnessed a decline in the female labour force participation (LFP) which has been a matter of serious concern or policy makers, planners, gender advocates and scholars working in this area. The female LFP was recorded as 34.1 per cent in 1999-00 which declined to 27.2 per cent in 2011-12 as per the National Sample Survey Organisation. The recently released Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) for 2017-18 reported a further decline in female labour force participation in usual status (ps+ss) in 15 years and above age group which was 23.3 percent for females while for males it was 75.8 percent. In rural areas female labour force participation in this age group was 24.6 percent while for males it was 76.4 percent. In urban areas, LFP was 20.4 percent for females and 74.5 percent for males. In rural areas nearly one-fourth of the females of

age 15 years and above were in the labour force while in among urban females of age 15 years and above, nearly one-fifth were in the labour force (GoI,2019)[1]. While on one hand, the employment trends for women in India have been discouraging, on the other hand, women's participation in domestic duties has increased which is again an important area of concern. According to a recent report of the National Sample Survey Organisation on 'Participation of Women in Specified Activities Along With Domestic Duties' 2014, the domestic duties participation for women in rural areas has increased from 53.4 percent in 2004-2005 to 61.6 in 2011-12. While in urban areas it has remained constant at 65.0 percent (GoI, 2014)[2]. Further, time-use surveys of 26 OECD countries and three OECD enhanced engagement countries (China, India and South Africa) show that women devote, on average, more than twice as much time to household work as men (OECD 2012)[3].

In this background, the National Commission for Women in collaboration with the V.V.Giri National Labour Institute proposed to conduct five regional consultations on matters relating to working women, especially those in the unorganized sector to understand the factors affecting female labour force participation. The regional consultations were held in Cuttack, Guwahati, Bengaluru, Gandhinagar and Delhi in collaboration with respective National Law Universities (NLUs). The regional consultations deliberated on issues related to women's participation in the labour market and the constraints which women face to continue in paid employment. The attempt was to understand the relationship between female labour force participation (FLFP) with informality, unpaid care work, gender based violence including workplace harassment, marriage, socio-cultural norms, social protection, labour regulations etc. The consultations brought to light a range of factors with a focus on region specific factors affecting women's paid work and highlighted the necessary policy interventions/action plans that need to be undertaken at a regional level for addressing the issues related to declining female labour force participation.

Objectives:

- To understand employment trends for women in India and factors responsible for declining female LFP.
- To explore the inter-relationship of crimes against women, gender based violence, workplace harassment, issues of safety, security and dignity of women with FLFP

- To understand the impact of marriage, pregnancy, child birth, child care and other care responsibilities of women on FLFP.
- To understand the issues of women in the unorganized sector and identify the impact of prevailing laws on FLFP.
- To understand the challenges of women in transition from informal to formal sector and the specific scenarios prevailing in these sectors vis a vis women in STEM and in position of higher responsibility.
- To provide a platform for sharing of good practices from national/regional and state-level experiences addressing FLFP.
- To develop a set of recommendations for informing policy and programme to address declining female labour force participation across sectors and identify action plans to counter and mitigate them at the regional level.

B. Regional Consultation on Reviewing Laws Related to Inter-State Women Migrant Workers: National Commission for Women (NCW) in collaboration with Centre for Gender Justice, NLUJA, Assam organised **Regional Consultation on Reviewing Laws Related to Inter-State Women Migrant Workers** on June 19, 2020.

COVID-19 epidemic has affected many countries and the World Health Organization has declared it 'Pandemic'. Government of India (GOI) has been taking several proactive preventive and mitigating measures to contain the spread of this virus early on. The Announcement of 21-day national lockdown and its subsequent extension till 3rd May by the Hon'ble Prime Minister came in the wake of this outbreak to enable 'social distancing', an effective non-pharmaceutical prevention and control intervention. The far-sighted and unprecedented step of lockdown however saw a large scale movement of migrant workers across the country due to lack of livelihood, food, shelter and transport. This has brought forth problems faced by thousands of inter-state migrant workers, particularly women, and

NCW has initiated consultations at regional and national level to examine the legal framework for migrant workers and make suggestions so as to provide them prescribed minimum social security and welfare. India is established as a welfare state by the Constitution and is responsible for social security of its citizens through Directive Principle of State Policy. Article 39, 42 and 47 of the Constitution are dedicated to ensure social

security including appropriate healthcare, food, shelter and safety to its citizens especially women workers. Impact of migration on women in India has been largely un-assessed. They are, many a time, the primary wage earners of their families and make essential contributions to their family and society. National Commission for Women with its mandate to review legal and constitutional safeguards available to women; identify inadequacies and suggest remedial measures thereto, feels that it imperative to take up the cause of inter-state migrant women workers and ensure that their rights are secured.

Need for Consultation and Outcomes Expected

- Assessing ways in which the present legal framework relating to Inter State Migrant Workers can be made more gender aware.
- Identifying Inadequacies in the present legal framework and suggesting remedial measures so as to improve the condition of inter-state migrant workers as a whole and women migrant workers in particular.
- Gathering information related to the present status of implementation of provisions relating to wage payments, displacement allowance, journey allowance, crèche, medical facilities, health services and anti-sexual harassment and measures to improve effectiveness for women workers.
- Reviewing the ISMW Act along with other beneficial legislations to understand inconsistencies and whether the new 2019 Code is an improvement over it as regards welfare of women.
- Understanding the nature of migrant women workers in Indian labour workforce so that different issues related to different groups are addressed.
- Devising ways to mainstream migrant women workers in developmental plans and programmes.



National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam



ANNUAL REPORT 2021

12. UNIVERSITY CENTRE ACTIVITIES

12.1 Center for Child Rights

12.1.1. Lecture on Juvenile Justice Act, 2015: Implications and Efficacy

The Centre of Child Rights of National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam on September 07, 2021, in collaboration with UNICEF Assam & North-East, organized an online lecture on Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 and its implementations and efficacy. Children's rights are human rights that are associated exclusively with children- their wants, needs and well-being. The lecture organized by CCR focused on the implications of the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 along with the efficacy of the Act with regards to child rights in India because we here at NLUJA, Assam believe that all children deserve equality, despite their difference. They are entitled to all of these rights, no matter what race, colour, religion, language, ethnicity, gender or abilities define them. The lectures were delivered by **Mr. Laxminarayan Nanda and Prof. Ved Kumari**, two of the most prominent personalities in the fields of Juvenile Justice in India.

The session started with an opening note from **Prof. (Dr.) V.K. Ahuja**, the Vice-Chancellor of National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam. He gave an insight into his former associations with both our esteemed speakers.

Prof. Ved Kumari, who is also the Vice-Chancellor of National Law University, Odisha. She started her lecture by asking "Who is a child?" which generated responses and intrigued the participants to think about the legal definition of a child. Her lecture was an interactive session where she was putting forward her points after asking and evaluating responses from the participants. She talked about her contributions in the field of juvenile justice. She presented a PowerPoint, with important aspects of the field of juvenile justice and child rights wherein she also discussed offences as classified under the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015. This was followed by an interactive session wherein participants were to answer whether a sequence of events would constitute an offence under different circumstances.

After the lecture was delivered by Prof. Ved Kumari, the floor was opened for questions. Participants put in all their queries and the same were addressed.

The two speakers had effectively put forward their points and their contributions towards the field of Juvenile justice in India. The vote of thanks was given by **Dr. Gitanjali Ghosh**, Assistant Professor of Law of National Law University, Assam.

The session was eventful and successful, with over 600 registrations and two successful personalities delivering two speeches which helped everyone further their knowledge and interests in the field of child rights.

12.1.2. Implication of Juvenile Justice (Amendment) Act, 2021: Opportunities and Challenges



The Centre for Child Right, National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam on 19th November, 2021 with **Mr. Anant Kumar Asthana** a renowned child rights lawyer and Advocate, High Court of Delhi and **Dr. Madhulika Jonathan** Chief of Field Office, UNICEF Assam conducted a session Implication of Juvenile Justice (Amendment) Act, 2021 with great responses from the attendees. The session was attended by more than 100 students. The event was moderated by **Ms. Swarna** from 3rd year B.A.,LL.B.(Hons.).

The session started with Dr. Madhulika's speech on role of UNICEF in protection and promotion of rights of children. She gave insights on the working of UNICEF in strengthening systems and bridging gaps technical gaps related to skills and knowledge among duty bearers. Its work with the civil society to strengthen community based mechanism through participatory approach. She shared the examples of its working with adolescent groups, child protection committee etc.

The session continued with the speech of Mr. Anant Kumar Asthana speech on the amendment and its challenges and opportunities in improving the child protection which already exists in the country. He gave the brief about the basics of the Juvenile Justice (Amendment) Act, 2021. He spoke about the evolution of this act and the reasons behind implementation of the previous acts. He spoke about the applicability of the act and told about the importance of Juvenile Justice Act as the backbone of all the laws which have been created for the purpose of taking care of different facets of children's rights. He also spoke about the specifics of the act.

This was followed by an interactive session wherein participants put forward their views and questions to the speaker.

Towards the end, he addressed the questions of the attendees and the event was concluded with **Dr. Geetanjali Gosh's** vote of thanks.

12.2 Centre for Environmental Law, Advocacy and Research

12.2.1. Book on Environmental and Natural Resources Management Laws with Special Emphasis on North-East India

The biodiversity-rich North-East India has always been in an enigmatic absence in the history of India. These socio-economic, cultural, and traditional subtleties of this region that are considered to be marginal, have mostly not engrossed the kind of attention that they should have. However, time is changing and its status as terra incognita is also changing. Several pieces of literature from diverse disciplines have started highlighting its environmental significance and associated diverse challenges. This unexplored melting pot of biological and natural resources-rich region has now drawn significant attention in legal literature as well but the dearth still remains.

To fill this gap, CELAR, on October 30th, 2021 called for book chapters that highlight some of the existing and emerging challenges pertaining to the enviro-legal aspects of the management and sustainable utilization of its natural and biological resources. Submissions were invited from jurists, academicians, law practitioners, research scholars and students. The scholastic book is aimed to be published in the year 2022 by a renowned international or national publisher with ISBN.

12.2.2. Lex Terra

Lex Terra (ISSN: 2455-0965) is an initiative undertaken by CELAR. Through Lex Terra, the Centre strives to provide a voice to various aspects of the environment, published every month, to create a community of environmentally conscious individuals from the legal and non-legal fraternity. Each issue of Lex Terra features important environmental news from across the world and from within the nation. This bulletin is meticulously compiled by CELAR members dedicated enviro-legal enthusiasts. Lex Terra's Patron-in-Chief, **Prof. (Dr.) V.K. Ahuja** also contributes a message for each issue of the webzine. All publications of Lex Terra can be found here: <http://www.nluassam.ac.in/celar.php>

CELAR has brought out four (04) issues of Lex Terra.

Issue 33 (July 2021)

Issue 33 was the first issue published by the Lex Terra Editorial Board (2021-2022). This issue includes three articles and one case comment. The articles talk about topics concerning various aspects of the Indian Environmental Law including but not limited to citizen suits under Indian Environmental Law, the emerging trend of the Rights of

Nature Movement and the Supreme Court's responsibility to balance ecological interests with economic development.

Patron-in-Chief:

Prof. (Dr.) V.K. Ahuja

Editors	Design Editors
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. Chiradeep Basak (Assistant Professor of Law, NLUJA, Assam)• Mranal Sharma (V Year Student, NLUJA, Assam)• Abhishree Kashyap Baruah (IV Year Student, NLUJA, Assam)• Deepika Nandagudi Srinivasa (IV Year Student, NLUJA, Assam)• Shrey Goyal (III Year Student, NLUJA, Assam)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Abhishree Kashyap Baruah (IV Year Student, NLUJA, Assam)• Deepika Nandagudi Srinivasa (IV Year Student, NLUJA, Assam)

Issue 34 (September 2021)

Issue 34 highlights topics concerning various aspects of Environmental Law from an Indian perspective. The four articles of this issue analyse a variety of topics that include but is not limited to the much-debated Draft Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) notification issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) in 2020. In addition, the intersectionality of the relationship amongst culture, religion and environment was explored. Further, proliferation in climate variability was underscored in this issue. Lastly, assessing the awareness of the hazards of a lifestyle based on plastic is recognized by the various wings of governance and judiciary.

Patron-in-Chief:

Prof. (Dr.) V.K. Ahuja

Editors	Design Editors
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. Chiradeep Basak (Assistant Professor of Law, NLUJA, Assam)• Mranal Sharma (V Year Student, NLUJA, Assam)• Abhishree Kashyap Baruah (IV Year Student, NLUJA, Assam)• Deepika Nandagudi Srinivasa (IV Year Student, NLUJA, Assam)• Disha Mohanty (III Year Student, NLUJA, Assam)• Saumya Shreya (III Year Student, NLUJA, Assam)• Shrey Goyal (III Year Student, NLUJA, Assam)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Abhishree Kashyap Baruah (IV Year Student, NLUJA, Assam)• Deepika Nandagudi Srinivasa (IV Year Student, NLUJA, Assam)

Issue 35 (October 2021)

The September issue includes four articles. The issue provides a critique of **Professor Abhishek Chakravarty's** article titled 'Covid-19: India Must Act Quickly to Open the Eyes of Its Laws to Exotic Species', along with other articles explaining the interwoven relationship between Common Property Resources (CPRs) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and one that addresses the plight of manual scavengers in India while assessing the 'Right to Healthy Environment' as guaranteed by the Indian Constitution.

Patron-in-Chief:

Prof. (Dr.) V.K. Ahuja

Editors	Design Editors
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. Chiradeep Basak (Assistant Professor of Law, NLUJA, Assam)• Mranal Sharma (V Year Student, NLUJA, Assam)• Abhishree Kashyap Baruah (IV Year Student, NLUJA, Assam)• Deepika Nandagudi Srinivasa (IV Year Student, NLUJA, Assam)• Disha Mohanty (III Year Student, NLUJA, Assam)• Saumya Shreya (III Year Student, NLUJA, Assam)• Shrey Goyal (III Year Student, NLUJA, Assam)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Abhishree Kashyap Baruah (IV Year Student, NLUJA, Assam)• Deepika Nandagudi Srinivasa (IV Year Student, NLUJA, Assam)

Issue 36 (November 2021)

This was a special issue on Climate Change and Sustainability that featured four articles. The articles highlighted varied topics such as Climate Refugees, Sustainable Menstruation, Sustainable Development Goals and India's approach towards the same.

Patron-in-Chief:

Prof. (Dr.) V.K. Ahuja

Editor-in-Chief	Deputy Editor-in-Chief	Design Editors
Dr. Chiradeep Basak (Assistant Professor of Law, NLUJA, Assam)	Deepika Nandagudi Srinivasa (IV Year Student, NLUJA, Assam)	Abhishree Kashyap Baruah (IV Year Student, NLUJA, Assam) Deepika Nandagudi Srinivasa (IV Year Student, NLUJA, Assam)
Managing Editors		Associate Editors
Moon Mishra (V Year Student, NLUJA, Assam) Abhishree Kashyap Baruah (IV Year Student, NLUJA, Assam) Agniva Das (IV Year Student, NLUJA, Assam) Ananya Gogoi (IV Year Student, NLUJA, Assam)	Mranal Sharma (V Year Student, NLUJA, Assam) Disha Mohanty (III Year Student, NLUJA, Assam) Saumya Shreya (III Year Student, NLUJA, Assam) Shrey Goyal (III Year Student, NLUJA, Assam)	
Copy Editors		Design Editors
Aditya Jha (II Year Student, NLUJA, Assam) Ritu Raj (II Year Student, NLUJA, Assam) Shivang Mishra (II Year Student, NLUJA, Assam) Utkarsh Jha (II Year Student, NLUJA, Assam) Zara Hannah Kabir (II Year Student, NLUJA, Assam)	Abhishree Kashyap Baruah (IV Year Student, NLUJA, Assam) Deepika Nandagudi Srinivasa (IV Year Student, NLUJA, Assam) Utkarsh Jha (II Year Student, NLUJA, Assam) Zara Hannah Kabir (II Year Student, NLUJA, Assam)	

12.2.3. Peer Review Orientation (October 22nd, 2021)

Under the aegis of the Centre Coordinator, **Dr. Chiradeep Basak**, the Lex Terra Editorial Board organised an orientation for the peer review board of Lex Terra. The primary outcomes of the meeting were:

1. Guiding the peer review team on how to navigate through the revamped peer review system and scoring guide.

2. Introducing the reviewers to the new Editorial Board structure.
3. Establishing the Editorial Boards' expectations on how manuscripts ought to be reviewed.
4. Highlighting the best review practices that must be followed while assessing manuscripts.
5. Engaging with the reviewers to gain their insights on how their peer reviewer experience could be improved.

The Centre also adopted a quantitative approach to the review of manuscripts by articulating a crisp 'marking mechanism' to raise the benchmark of enviro-legal publications and help reviewers to formulate a uniform system of scholastic assessment of research papers for Lex Terra. This measure is the first of its kind peer review methodology in this Law School. A '*good practice*' that other research outfits of the University may opt to follow.

Lastly, a 'Feedback Form' was devised by the Editorial Board of Lex Terra. The form enumerated parameters such as '*Use of Language*', '*Style and Structure*', '*Referencing and Research*' and '*Relevance and Contribution to Analysis*' to assess the quality of a manuscript. This form was sent along with the manuscripts that reviewers needed to scrutinize.

12.3 Centre for Clinical Legal Education and Legal Aid Cell (CCLELA)

12.3.1. Free Legal Aid to Beneficiaries: A Significant Step Towards Access to Justice

Centre for Clinical Legal Education and Legal aid cell (CCLELA) and NSS Unit of National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam organized a special lecture on Free Legal Aid to Beneficiaries: A Significant Step Towards Access to Justice on November 09, 2022. The keynote speaker was **Hon'ble Mr Justice N. Kotiswar Singh** who is the senior-most Judge of the Gauhati High Court and Executive Chairman of Assam State Legal Services Authority. He was the former Judge of Manipur High Court and has also served as an Acting Chief Justice of Gauhati High Court and Manipur High Court.

The event was held on the occasion of National Legal Services Day. This day is marked across the country annually on 9th November to commemorate the enactment of the Legal Services Authority Act, 1987 and to spread awareness about the concerned provisions of the Act.

12.3.2. Intra University Dispute Resolution Competition

Centre for Clinical Legal Education and Legal Aid Cell, NSS unit and the Moot Court Committee of NLUJA, Assam in collaboration with the Bharat Ka Amrut Mahotsav Committee NLUJA, Assam, organized the Intra University Competition named as the '1st Intra University Dispute Resolution Competition'.

The competition was inaugurated by the Vice-Chancellor **Prof. Dr. V. K. Ahuja** of NLUJA, Assam. He congratulated the Bharat ka Amrut Mahotsav Committee (BAMC), for professionally managing and organising the Intra-University Dispute Resolution Competition, 2021. He stressed the importance of arbitration and informed the students how the Arbitration and Reconciliation Act had made the dispute resolution process much less expensive and expeditious, with the parties being able to retain their confidentiality. He explained the importance of mediation and negotiation before the process of arbitration, and how they can prevent unnecessary loss of time, money, and effort to the parties.

The Competition, which was first of its kind was conducted on December 12, 2021, with great enthusiasm. Twenty teams participated in the competition. The final evaluation of the scores was conducted on the December 12, 2021, in which winner team was Tc 01 comprising Shivang Mishra, Hrishikesh Reddy Kothwal and Shrey Goyal. Shivang Mishra and Hrishikesh Reddy Kothwal also received the award for best client counsel pair. Furthermore, the award for the best mediator was given to Siddhant Makhloga of team M2.

12.3.3. Camp under e-Shram



The Government recently launched the e-Shram Portal on August 26, 2021 and the government also provides e-Shram cards to the workers. The aim of which is to

provide social security benefits to the unorganised workers. Therefore, in order to address this concern and include them as beneficiaries of this government initiative, the Centre for Clinical Legal Education and Legal Aid Cell (CCLELAC) on December 11, 2021 had set up a Registration Camp to achieve the said goal. Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor **Prof. Dr. VK Ahuja** NLUJA, Assam and the Registrar **Dr. Indranoshee Das**, had attended the said camp. Dr. Diptimoni Baruah Chairperson, CCLELAC and Dr. Kasturi Gakul, Member CCLELAC along with few tenth semester students of the University were part of the Camp and more than 20 unorganized workers of the University were registered under e-Shram.

12.4. Centre for Gender Justice

12.4.1. Capacity Building and Personality Development Programme

In concurrence with the vision of the National Commission for Women (NCW), the Capacity Building and Personality Development Programme was organized by the Centre for Gender Justice, NLUJA, Assam in collaboration with NCW, Delhi on December 07, 2021. The programme aimed at reaching out to the female students of the University in order to hone their capacity for effective communication and interpersonal skills. It is an acknowledged fact that the end goal of education is a rewarding career; however, to excel in professional life the persona of the students and their professional skills ought to be conditioned properly.

The programme was inaugurated by Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam **Prof. (Dr.) V.K. Ahuja**. Prof. Ahuja, in his discourse, emphasized on the fact that personality development programmes groom an individual and aids her/ him to carve a niche for herself/himself in the competitive world.

Session I on 'Professional Career Skills' was taken up by **Mr. Neil Dutta**, Advocate, Mumbai High Court and **Ms. Rashmi Patowary**, Faculty Member, Jindal Global Law School. Session II on 'Personal Capacity Development' was taken up by **Ms. Loya Agarwal**, National Author and Personality Development Consultant. Session III on 'Digital Literacy and Effective Use of Social Media' was taken up by **Mr. Preetam Dutta Chowdhury**, Sr. Engineering Project Manager, Apple Inc., Cupertino, USA

The programme concluded with closing words from the Coordinators of the Centre for Gender Justice, National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam. The Coordinators, **Dr. Kasturi Gakul** and **Dr. Nandarani Choudhury**, in their remarks, noted that women of developing nations, such as India are historically disempowered owing to the prevailing prejudices of the society. Affirmative actions, targeting the women, could go a long way in building their participation in economically productive activities and decision-making roles.

Female students of the University had whole-heartedly participated in the Capacity Building and Personality Development Programme and had immensely benefitted from the same as was evident from their positive response. Students lauded the effort of the National Commission for Women, Delhi in realising the need for such capacity building and personality development programme. They viewed that in addition to academics, the collaboration of the University with NCW in orienting female students in career skills, personality development and digital literacy is innovative and a very enriching learning experience

12.5. Centre for Career Counselling (CCC)

12.5.1. Seminar on Law School to LBSNAA: Journey Made Easy

A Seminar on Civil Services Career, 'Law School to LBSNAA: Journey Made Easy', by **Mr. Jasbir Singh Bajaj**, IAS (VRS), Director of BE N BY IAS, as the speaker, was conducted on November 27, 2021 in order to acquaint students of the University with the career in the civil services.

12.5.2. Capacity Building Programme for Provincial Judicial Service Examinations

A series of classes on several law subjects by regular teachers was organised in order to build the capacity of the students for provincial judicial services examinations.

12.6. Centre for Law Public Policy and Governance (CLPPG)

The Centre created a blog to boost awareness-building effort vis-à-vis law, public policy and governance. Further, the centre is also engaged in contribution to NLUJA, Assam Lecture Series on relevant issues of contemporary concern, delivered by in-house members of the faculty and senior members of the faculty elsewhere.

13. DPIIT-IPR CHAIR OF NLUJA, ASSAM

13.1. About DPIIT-IPR Chair

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion vide office order dated 16th October 2018 had granted the approval for the establishment of the IPR Chair under the Scheme for Pedagogy & Research in IPRs for Holistic Education & Academia (SPRIHA) at the National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam (NLUJA, Assam).

Since its inception, the DPIIT-IPR Chair is involved in: (a) Sensitizing and training the various stakeholders of IPR, like faculty members, students, lawyers, artisans, craftsmen, producers / creators of knowledge-based products, farmers etc. (b) Assisting the above stakeholders for searching, drafting, filing, prosecuting (1) Patents (2) Designs (3) Trade marks (4) Trade secrets (5) Copyrights (6) Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers Rights (7) Geographical Indications (8) Topography of Integrated Circuits and (c) Researching the IP rights of Regional / National / International importance.

13.2. Activities

The following activities have been conducted by the DPIIT-IPR Chair in the period under report:

13.2.1. February 02, 2021 - Webinar on Ask Me Anything About Patents

Webinar on Ask Me Anything About Patents was held with **Dr. Sankar Sundaram**, DPIIT-IPR Chair Professor of National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam as the Resource Person. The webinar was held in a question-answer format. The resource person was asked several practical questions on patents such as, which inventions can or cannot be patented, who could apply for patents, benefits of securing patents, modes of application filing, forms to be filled in a Patent Application, fees to be paid along with the application, post filing procedures done by the patent office, situations for submission of Divisional Patents, Patent of Addition and Bolar Provisions of the Indian Patent Office, circumstances for surrender of patents and revocation of Patents, Pre-grant and Post-grant opposition, Compulsory Licensing and export of Pharma Products, Patent Infringement, Patent Search, Legend of Claim Recitals. Landmark patent litigations were also discussed. A few questions were also put forward by the participants on how to pursue a career as a Patent Attorney, how

to simplify the patent application procedures for a layperson and protection of patents through treaty systems. Participants from various educational institutions of Assam participated in the webinar. A feedback form was sent to the participants and an overall positive response was received.

13.2.2. February 13th, 2021 - Webinar on Basics of Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights

Webinar on Basics of Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights was held wherein **Dr. Kalpana Sastry Regulagedda**, Managing Director, AgHub Foundation, Centre for Innovation and Agri-entrepreneurship at **Prof. Jayashankar Telangana State Agriculture University, (PJTSAU)**, Hyderabad was invited as the Resource Person. Dr. Sastry deliberated on the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act, 2001 (PPVFR). The informative and brief discussion was held to discuss why protection of plant varieties is essential and also about the uniqueness of the PPVFR Act and what it covers. The Novel, Distinct, Uniform and Stable (NDUS) criteria for registration and the process of applying for plant varieties and new plants were discussed with examples. Rights provided under the Act to Breeders, Researchers and Farmers were also talked through. The webinar was attended by participants from several educational institutions and various professions from across India. A feedback form was also sent to the participants and an overall positive response was received.

13.2.3. February 24 to 26, 2021 - Field Visit to Sarthebari, Assam

Field Visit to Sarthebari was undertaken to conduct a preliminary survey on the Sarthebari Bell Metal Industry. Through this field study, interviews with the owners/artisans and stakeholders engaged with Sarthebari bell metal industry were conducted. Further various data consisting of articles and write-ups (in Assamese language) on Sarthebari bell metal industry were also accumulated for the research work. The collected data were compiled, translated and interpreted for preparing a research paper.

13.2.4. February 27, 2021 - Webinar on Protecting Regional Products: Geographical Indications of Goods

A webinar was held with Resource Person **Dr. Suchibrata Goswami**, Assistant Professor in Centre for Distance and Online Education, Tezpur University. Dr. Goswami elaborately discussed on the various aspects of the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration & Protection) Act, 1999 and the ways of protecting the regional products with special reference to North-East India, thereby sharing some of her practical experiences in this regard. The resource person offered an in-depth presentation of the fundamentals of Geographical Indications (GI), its significance, criteria for registration, protection value, the technicalities of the registration process, stages of application, infringement of GI and so on. Dr. Goswami concluded her presentation

with a discussion on some of the GI registered products of India. The informative session came to an end with a discussion on the questions put forward by the participants. Participants from various institutions all over India participated in the webinar and an overall positive response was received.

13.2.5. March 2nd, 2021 - Webinar on Protection of Semi-Conductor Integrated Circuit Layout Designs

A webinar was held with **Mrs. Ojeswini Bondalapati**, Patent Agent, Hyderabad as the Resource Person. The basics of electronic terminologies with respect to Diode, Transistor, Semi-Conductor, Layout, Topography, Circuit and Integrated Circuit were introduced by the speaker. The principle which led to India's sui generis stem, viz, unfair market access as the driving force to stay away from extending the patent protections to layout designs was presented. The same position in US which led to the USA enacting its 1984 Semi-Conductor Protection Act (SCPA) was discussed. The requirements, procedures and the final effect when protected by a design registration in the Semi-Conductor Integrated Circuit Layout Design Registry (SICLDR) of India was discussed. Licensing, assigning, appealing against Registrar's orders and the ensuing Offenses and Penalties for transgression and innocent infringement were discussed. Finally, the preference of the inventors to stay away from their design registration and trending case laws were discussed. Participants from a number of institutions across India participated in the webinar. The event received an overall positive response.

13.2.6. March 11th, 2021 - Webinar on Protection of Industrial Designs in India

A webinar was held whereby **Dr. Ashwini Siwal**, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi was invited as the Resource Person. The session commenced with the introduction of Industrial Designs and its significance in the present era. The speaker extensively discussed about the need for protection of the designs which have industrial application and also distinguished it from copyright protection. He elaborately presented the various aspects of the law on protection of Industrial Designs in India which is the Designs Act, 2000. Dr. Siwal therefore, discussed about the registration process of Industrial Designs vis-à-vis the prohibitions thereof, persons eligible to file for design protection, design rights and its infringement, piracy of designs and also liability of the infringers. Apart from the above, the speaker offered a deep insight into the aspect of overlap of Design and Copyright and thereby concluded the session with a broad discussion on Indian litigations on Industrial Designs. The informative session concluded with a discussion on the questions put forward by the participants. The programme received a good number of participations from students and professionals from various institutions and organizations from all over India.

13.2.7. March 18th and 19th, 2021 - Field Visit to Sarthebari, Assam

This field visit was in furtherance of the three-day field visit conducted from 24th to 26th February, 2021 for further research on the Bell metal Industry of Sarthebari. Through this field visit the IPR team was able to gather further data relevant to Sarthebari bell metal craft. The team interviewed the artisans as well as the bell metal industry owners regarding the historical origin of the bell metal craft, process of making the bell metal items, availability of raw materials, bell metal market scenario, problems and the challenges faced by them and various other relevant questions which were put to them based on the questionnaire which had been prepared after preliminary research.

Further, the team visited the Assam Cooperative Bell Metal Utensils Manufacturing Society Limited where the team interacted with the Secretary, members and also the employees of the Cooperative Society who also provided the team with significant data on how these items are made, impact of the factory-made items upon the market, export of the bell metal items, government initiatives and other relevant questions in this regard. Based on the entire research work, a research paper titled 'The Traditional Bell Metal Craft of Sarthebari and The Need to Accord Legal Protection: Re-Applying the Geographical Indication Tag' has been prepared for publication in University Publication. While preparing the above cited paper, the accumulated data were compiled, translated/ transcribed and interpreted so as to represent and reflect the available data adequately in the research paper.

13.2.8. April 26th, 2021 - An Awareness Programme on “World Intellectual Property Day - 2021”

An awareness programme was held wherein the programme commenced with the introduction to the World Intellectual Property Day by **Dr. Partha Pratim Medhi**, the Guest Faculty Member at NLUJA, Assam. This was followed by an IP Awareness sensitization address by **Ms. Nuzhat Nasreen Islam**, Research Assistant of the DPIIT-IPR Chair at NLUJA, Assam. Thereafter, **Ms. Sharmistha Baruah**, Research Assistant of the DPIIT-IPR Chair at NLUJA, Assam explained the CIPAM Schemes by the Government of India for Entrepreneurs, Faculty Members and Students to the audience. A quiz programme was next conducted by **Dr. Sankar Sundaram**, the DPIIT-IPR Chair Professor at NLUJA, Assam. Finally, Mr. Saurav Baishya, the Field Assistant, DPIIT-IPR Chair at NLUJA, Assam proposed the Vote of Thanks. The event was attended by the students of NLUJA, Assam.

13.2.9. June 30th, 2021 - Lecture delivered on Comprehending the Indian Patent Law

DPIIT-IPR Chair Professor of NLUJA, Assam, **Dr. Sankar Sundaram** delivered a lecture at Dispur Law College, Guwahati by the. In the programme several important topics covering the objectives and provisions of the Indian Patents Act, 1970 and landmark

patent litigations contested both in India and abroad were discussed. The programme was attended by the students and staff of Dispur Law College, Guwahati.

13.2.10. August 16th, 2021 - Webinar on Protection of Geographical Indications in India (With Special Focus on North-East Region)

A webinar was held with **Dr. Gargi Chakrabarti**, IPR Chair Co-ordinator of National Law University, Jodhpur as the Resource Person. The programme started with a welcome note by Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, NLUJA, Assam, **Prof. (Dr.) V.K. Ahuja**, followed by the welcoming and introductory session by the DPIIT-IPR Chair Professor, NLUJA, Assam. The respected speaker, Dr. Gargi Chakrabarti, initiated the session with an introduction to Geographical Indication (GI) and their significance in the present era. The speaker extensively discussed about the justification for protection of the GIs from three perspectives – equity considerations, conservative concerns and preservation of traditional practices and culture with practical examples.

The speaker elaborately discussed on the GIs of North-East Region of India and lauded the efforts of the people of North Eastern region towards upholding their traditional know-how and practices. Dr. Chakrabarti offered a deep insight into the ground realities of the law on GI in India, particularly stressing on the aspect of non-maintenance and non-assurance of quality of the GI certified products. She cited example of the European Union GI law which provides for a much stronger mechanism for protecting their GIs. The speaker concluded the session with a broad discussion on the need to revisit the Indian GI law so as to ensure stringent protection and quality assurance of the GI certified products in India in line with that of the European Union and urged the IPR Chairs to collaboratively take up steps towards proposing amendment to the present law on GI in our nation.

13.2.11. September 3rd, 2021 - Webinar on Intellectual Property Management

A webinar was held with **Mr. Ravi Shankar Prasad**, Member of Parliament, Former Union Minister, Law and Justice as the Chief Guest and **Prof. (Dr) Rajat Agrawal**, Associate Dean (Innovation and Incubation), Co-ordinator IPR Cell, IIT Roorkee as the Keynote Speaker by the DPIIT-IPR Chair and IQAC Cell of the National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam in collaboration with Delhi School of Public Policy and Governance (Institution of Eminence), University of Delhi. **Prof. Pooran Chand Joshi**, Vice-Chancellor, University of Delhi welcomed the guests and Prof. V.K. Ahuja, Vice-Chancellor, National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam presided over the function.

Mr. Prasad emphasised on the need to accord recognition, protection and encouragement to the creators of Intellectual Property under an effective Intellectual

Property Management regime or Intellectual Property ecosystem. He also discussed about digitalisation and its limitless potential in the present era. He further harped on the importance of data protection while stressing upon its immense role in promoting IP creation. He also suggested to create a separate ecosystem of India's data which is related to IP Management.

Prof. Rajat Agrawal explained the objectives of IP Management and offered a deep insight into the chain of activities in IP Management in the form of its creation, protection, commercialisation and enforcement. Prof. Agrawal suggested that North-East India has a rich scope for Geographical Indication Registrations and hence advised the University to take up steps towards realising it. The webinar received a huge participation from students and professionals from various Institutions and Organisations across India. The informative session finally came to an end with a discussion on the questions put forward by the participants. A laudable response was received.

13.2.12. 27th September, 2021 - Webinar on Collective Administration of Copyright in India

A webinar was held with **Mr. Pankaj Udhas**, Padma Shri Awardee, Indian Ghazal Maestro as the Chief Guest and **Mr. Sanjay Tandon**, CEO, Indian Singers' Rights Association as the Keynote Speaker. **Prof. (Dr.) V.K. Ahuja**, the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam welcomed the guests and emphasised on the need for obtaining license from Copyright Societies before playing any copyrighted music in public.

Shri Pankaj Udhas inaugurated the session by recounting his experience with the copyright regime at the start of his singing career. He harped upon the significance of understanding copyright by those who are at the threshold of their careers in performing arts. Shri Udhas highlighted that copyright in today's era has become the most important aspect of a performer's life and it encompasses a wide variety of creativity, thereby focusing on the need to disburse the deserving royalties to the rightful owners. The Ghazal maestro concluded his note with a soulful rendition of his famous song '*Chithi Aayi Hain*'.

Mr. Sanjay Tandon stated that the artists are performers and are not mere vocal instruments, hence every artist ought to be paid his due royalty. He depicted the role of collective administration of copyright vis-à-vis the establishment of ISRA and the role which it plays in protecting the rights of the singers. ISRA is the bridge between the user and the singer, thereby playing an outstanding role in the society and the copyright regime. IPR Chair Professor **Dr. Sankar Sundaram** proposed the vote of thanks. The webinar was attended by a huge number of students and professionals from various institutions and organisations across India. The informative and

entertaining session finally came to an end on a very positive note with a discussion on the questions put forward by the participants.

13.2.13. Preparation of a book titled Handbook on the Geographical Indications (With Special Focus on North-East Region)

The research and the compilation for the 'Handbook on the Geographical Indications (With Special Focus on North-East Region)' was conducted by the DPIIT-IPR Chair of NLUJA, Assam since June, 2021 under the supervision of Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of NLUJA, Assam, **Prof. (Dr.). V. K. Ahuja**. It was successfully completed by December, 2021. The Handbook is scheduled to be published in the first half of the upcoming year (2022). The Handbook is intended to apprise readers about the procedures involved in attaining Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) protection in the form of Geographical Indication in India and aims to offer guidance to the laymen in understanding the concept of Geographical Indications and its applicability in the North Eastern region of India.

Report of Activities and Events of DPIIT-IPR Chair

Summary of Activities and Events carried out by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade – Intellectual Property Rights (DPIIT-IPR) Chair of the National Law University and Judicial Academy (NLUJA), Assam, Guwahati for the period of January – December 2021:

Academic Year 2020 - 2021

- 1. November 7th, 2020** - Webinar on “**BASICS OF THE IP PROTECTION: PATENTS**” was organised by the DPIIT-IPR Chair of NLUJA, Assam, wherein Dr. Sankar Sundaram, DPIIT-IPR Chair Professor of National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam was the Resource Person. The learned resource person provided a detailed deliberation on patents. He focused on issues such as, the scope of primary patents, secondary patents, requirements for patent filing, procedure for patent filing and many controversial patents issued in the USA. Many questions were put forth like the putative cost of a patented polio vaccine, the mode of claiming damages arising due to patent infringement, what is the criterion for patenting life-science inventions, bio-piracy of traditional knowledge, the strength of the Indian Patent Act - 1970, Exploitation of patents by some patentees, Claim-drafting techniques and methods of claiming patent protection for a unique blend of tea preparation. The session was attended by about 85 numbers of participants.
- 2. November 10th, 2020** - The DPIIT-IPR Chair of NLUJA, Assam organised a webinar on “**INTERPRETATION OF LEGALESE JARGON IN PATENT SUITS**”. Dr. Sankar Sundaram was the resource person who provided an extensive discussion on topics, such as, hard IP, soft IP, mosaicking, Reissue patents, Patents Drip-feeding, patent priority date, patent family, Patent Term Extension, Paris-Convention / Patent Cooperative Treaty country, Drucexemplar, Risk Evaluation & Mitigation Strategies Patent, common citation document of the five IP offices, “March in” Right, Divisional Patent, Patent of Addition, Continuation Patent, Attorney-Client Privilege, Duty of Fidelity, Duty of Candour, Compulsory License, Para 6 of the Doha Declaration under TRIPS, Patent Invalidity, Patent Unenforceability, Cease and Desist Letter, Gillette defence, Passing Off / Palming Off, Inverse / Reverse Passing Off, Extended Passing Off, Estoppel, Laches, Spring-board doctrine, Jump cutting, Garden Leave,

Literal/Equivalent Infringements, Contributory / Vicarious Infringement, Wilful Infringement, Patent White Space, “kitchen sink” pleadings, Swiss-type Claims, Jepson claim, Mobil type claim, Tying / tie-in agreement, Doctrine of Equivalents & the Reverse Doctrine of Equivalents, and about Claim construction in patents. Around 49 participants attended the webinar.

3. November 21st, 2020 - Webinar on “**TRADE MARKS PROSECUTION IN INDIA**”

was held by the DPIIT-IPR wherein Dr Radhakrishnan Nair, Director-Institute of Patent Attorneys India, New Delhi was invited as the resource person. The learned expert discussed broadly on a range of topics covering various aspects of trademarks and its prosecution in India, thereby covering issues pertaining to beneficiaries of Trademark TM, Importance of TM, Nomenclature for TM involving various goods and services including sensory TM, Qualities of a good TM especially pertaining to its uniqueness, devoid of any Dictionary meanings, suitability to goods/services, similarity in names to another TM, Arbitrary TM, Fanciful TM, Suggestive TM, Descriptive TM, Generic TM, Absolute grounds for refusal of TM registration under Sec - 9, Relative grounds for refusal of TM under Sec-11, Prohibited TM under the Emblems and Names(Preventive of Improper Use) Act, 1950, Prohibited TM under the International Non-Proprietary Names, Prohibited TM under the Well-known TM, TM searching under Word Class, NICE Class for the 34 Goods class and 10 Services class, Location of TM Offices in India, Jurisdiction for foreign clients to get a TM, Application Form TM-A for applying, Application Form TM-M for miscellaneous purposes, Application Form TM-R for renewal, Application Form TM-C for certification to Copyright office, Application Form TM-O for opposition, Application Form TM-P for proprietorship assignment, Application Form TM-U for communications, Application Form TM-G for use by TM agent, Civil and Criminal Remedies for TM infringement, Certification TM, Collective TM, Series TM and Procedure for practising as a Trade Mark Agent. The webinar was attended by 29 Participants

4. December 5th, 2020 - Webinar on “**COPYRIGHT AND NEIGHBOURING RIGHTS**”

was conducted by the DPIIT-IPR Chair of NLUJA, Assam. Mr. GR Raghavender, Joint Secretary, Department of Justice, Ministry of Law and Justice, New Delhi graced the programme as the Resource Person who provided an extended lecture on various aspects of copyright pertaining to Copyright-protected subject matter under

the Indian Copyright Act 1957 which includes the Reproduction Rights, Derivation Rights, Distribution Rights, Public Display Rights, Performance Rights and the Sound-recording & Cinematographic film Performance Rights for the Original Literary Work, Dramatic work, Musical work, Artistic Work; Idea and Expression dichotomy, Definition of a Computer Programme under the Act, Literary & Non-Literary part of a Computer Software, Case Law in Software Piracy dictate in Computer Associates Vs Altai Case in SCOTUS, procedure for securing protection for a website, Authorship Vs Ownership, Assignment procedures, Voluntary Licenses, Statutory Licenses for Cover Versions, Compulsory Licenses, Term of the 60 year protection for Literary, Dramatic, Musical, Artistic Sound-recordings, Cinematograph film-works, the 50 year protection for Performers and the 25 year protection for Broadcasters - from the Publication date, Moral Rights, Exhaustion of Copyright Case Law pertaining to Penguin Books Ltd. Vs India Book Distributors, Resale royalties, Neighbouring Rights, Broadcasting Rights, Concept of Copyright Societies under Section 33(3), Synchronization Rights for Cinema-songs, Limitations and Exception to Copyrights under Article 10(1), 10(2) and 10(3) of the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works – 1886, Section 52 of the Indian Copyright Act, Fair Use in Civil Law countries, Fair Dealing in Common Law countries, Library Exceptions, Exceptions to persons with disabilities, Civil and Criminal Remedies for Copyright owners. About 17 participants were present in the webinar.

- 5. December 28th, 2020** - Seminar entitled “**ASK ME ANYTHING SESSION ON PATENTS**” was conducted by the Royal Global University, Guwahati. Dr. Sankar Sundaram, DPIIT-IPR Chair Professor of National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam was invited as the Resource Person, wherein he discussed various issues pertaining to patents, such as, Primary patents, Secondary patents, Statutory requirements for patent filing, Drafting the Specifications for a patent, the Recitation in Claims of a patent, Searching for Novelty, Prosecution procedure for patent filing, Publication of the Patent Specification, Request for Examination at the Intellectual Property Office, First Examination Report, Paris Convention patent filing, PCT patent filing, National phase of a Patent, Pros and Cons of Weak Patent Regulations, Patent and Marketing Approval Linkage, Standard Essential Patents / FRAND terms in Patent Licensing and various Landmark patent Case Laws in India. The programme was attended by around 70 Staff & students of the Royal Global University.

6. **February 2nd, 2021** - Webinar on **“ASK ME ANYTHING ABOUT PATENTS”** was held with Dr. Sankar Sundaram, DPIIT-IPR Chair Professor of National Law University and Judicial Academy,



Assam as the Resource Person. The webinar was held in a question-answer format. The resource person was asked several practical questions on Patents such as, which inventions can or cannot be patented, who could apply for patents, benefits of securing patents, modes of application filing, forms to be filled in a Patent Application, fees to be paid along with the application, post filing procedures done by the patent office, situations for submission of Divisional Patents, Patent of Addition and Bolar Provisions of the Indian Patent Office, circumstances for surrender of patents and revocation of patents, Pre-grant and Post-grant opposition, Compulsory Licensing and export of pharma products, Patent Infringement, Patent Search, legend of claim recitals. Landmark patent litigations were also discussed. A few questions were also put forward by the participants on how to pursue a career as a Patent Attorney, how to simplify the patent application procedures for a layperson, and protection of patents through treaty systems. 39 Participants from 7 institutions in Guwahati, Assam participated in the webinar. A feedback form was sent to the participants and an overall positive response was received.

7. **February 13th, 2021** - Webinar on **“BASICS OF PROTECTION OF PLANT VARIETIES AND FARMER’S RIGHTS”** was held wherein Dr. Kalpana Sastry Regulagedda, Managing Director, AgHub Foundation, Centre for Innovation and Agri-entrepreneurship at Prof. Jayashankar Telangana State Agriculture University, (PJTSAU), Hyderabad was invited as the Resource Person. Dr. Sastry deliberated on the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers’ Rights Act, 2001 (PPVFR). The informative and brief discussion was held to discuss why protection of plant varieties is essential, about the uniqueness of the PPVFR Act and what it covers. The novel, distinct, uniform and stable (NDUS) criteria for registration and the process of applying

for plant varieties and new plants were discussed with examples. Rights provided under the Act to Breeders, Researchers and Farmers were also talked through. There were some specific questions from the participants on the necessity of plant varieties in the current age and the advantages of the Act which were answered by Dr. Sastry. The webinar was attended by around 80 participants from 30 educational institutions and various professions across India. A feedback form was also sent to the participants and an overall positive response was received.

8. **February 24th to 26th, 2021 - FIELD VISIT TO SARTHEBARI, ASSAM** was organised with a view to carry out a preliminary survey on the Sarthebari Bell Metal Industry. Through this field study, interviews with the owners/artisans and stakeholders engaged with Sarthebari bell metal industry were conducted. Further various data consisting of articles and write-ups (in Assamese language) on Sarthebari bell metal industry were also accumulated for the research work. The collected data were compiled, translated and interpreted while writing the paper on the concerned topic titled **“The Traditional Bell Metal Craft of Sarthebari and the Need to accord legal Protection: Re-applying the Geographical Indication Tag”**.
9. **February 27th, 2021 - Webinar on “PROTECTING REGIONAL PRODUCTS: GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS OF GOODS”** was held wherein Dr. Suchibrata Goswami, Assistant Professor in Centre for Distance and Online Education, Tezpur University was invited as the Resource Person. Dr. Goswami elaborately discussed on the various aspects of the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration & Protection) Act, 1999 and the ways of protecting the regional products with special reference to the North-east India, thereby sharing some of her practical experiences in this regard. The resource person offered an in-depth presentation of the fundamentals of Geographical Indications (GI), its significance, criteria for registration, protection value, the technicalities of the registration process, stages of application, infringement of GI and so on. Dr. Goswami concluded her presentation with a discussion on some of the GI registered products of India. The informative session finally came to an end with a discussion on the questions put forward by the participants. About 50 participants from 34 institutions from all over India participated in the webinar and an overall positive response was received.

10. March 2nd, 2021 - Webinar on “**PROTECTION OF SEMI-CONDUCTOR INTEGRATED CIRCUIT LAYOUT DESIGNS**” was held with Mrs. Ojeswini Bondalapati, Patent Agent, Hyderabad as the Resource Person. The basics of electronic terminologies with respect to Diode, Transistor, Semi-conductor, Layout, Topography, Circuit and Integrated Circuit were introduced by the speaker. The principle which led to India’s sui generis stem, viz, unfair market access as the driving force to stay away from extending the patent protections to Layout designs was presented. The same position in US which led to the USA enacting its 1984 Semi-conductor Protection Act(SCPA) was discussed. The requirements, procedures and the final effect when protected by a design registration in the Semi-Conductor Integrated Circuit Layout Design Registry(SICLDR) of India was discussed. Licensing, assigning, appealing against Registrar’s orders and the ensuing Offenses and Penalties for transgression and innocent infringement were discussed. Finally, the preference of the inventors to stay away from their design registration and trending case laws were discussed. 53 participants from 38 institutions pan India participated in the webinar. The event received an overall positive response.

11. March 11th, 2021 - Webinar on “**PROTECTION OF INDUSTRIAL DESIGNS IN INDIA**” was held wherein Dr. Ashwini Siwal, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi was invited as the Resource Person. The session commenced with the introduction of Industrial Designs and its significance in the present era. The speaker extensively discussed about the need for protection of the designs which have industrial application and also distinguished it from Copyright protection. He elaborately presented the various aspects of the law on protection of Industrial Designs in India which is the Designs Act of 2000. Dr. Siwal therefore, discussed about the registration process of Industrial Designs vis-à-vis the prohibitions thereof, persons eligible to file for design protection, design rights and its infringement, piracy of designs and also liability of the infringers. Apart from the above, the speaker offered a deep insight into the aspect of overlap of Design and Copyright and thereby concluded the session with a broad discussion on Indian litigations on Industrial Designs. The informative session finally came to an end with a discussion on the questions put forward by the participants. The programme received a good number of participation with 146 students and professionals from 108 Institutions and Organizations from all over India.

12. March 18th and 19th, 2021 - FIELD VISIT TO SARTHEBARI, ASSAM was carried out for further research on the Bell metal Industry of Sarthebari. This field visit was in furtherance of the three-day field visit conducted from 24th to 26th February, 2021. Through this field visit the IPR team was able to gather further data relevant to Sarthebari bell metal craft. The team interviewed the artisans as well as the bell metal industry owners regarding the historical origin of the bell metal craft, process of making the bell metal items, availability of raw materials, bell metal market scenario, problems and the challenges faced by them and various other relevant questions which were put to them based on the questionnaire which had been prepared after much research.

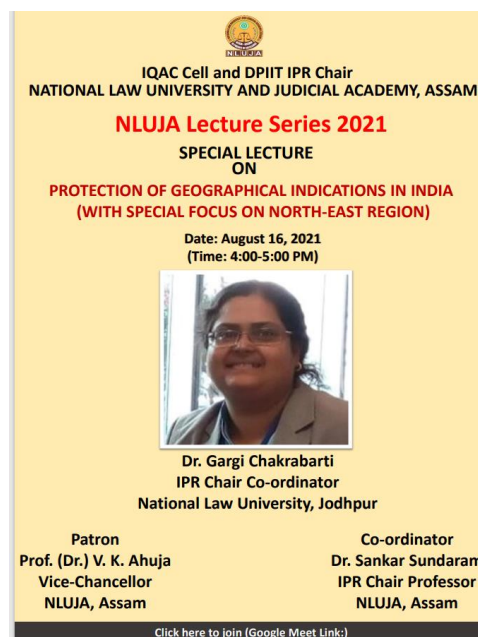
Further, the team visited the Assam Cooperative Bell Metal Utensils Manufacturing Society Limited where the team interacted with the Secretary as well as the members and also the employees of the Cooperative Society who also provided the team with significant data on how these items are made, impact of the factory made items upon the market, export of the bell metal items, government initiatives and other relevant questions in this regard. Based on the entire research work, a research paper titled **“The Traditional Bell Metal Craft of Sarthebari and the Need to accord legal Protection: Re-applying the Geographical Indication Tag”** has been prepared for publication in University Publication. While preparing the above cited paper, the accumulated data were compiled, translated/transcribed and interpreted so as to represent and reflect the available data adequately in the research paper.

13. April 26th, 2021 - An Awareness Programme on **“WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DAY – 2021”** was held wherein the programme commenced with the introduction to the World Intellectual Property day by Dr. Partha Pratim Medhi, the Guest Faculty Member at NLUJAA. This was followed by an IP Awareness sensitization address by Ms. Nuzhat Nasreen Islam, Research Assistant of the DPIIT-IPR Chair at NLUJAA. Thereafter, Ms. Sharmistha Baruah, Research Assistant of the DPIIT-IPR Chair at NLUJAA explained the CIPAM Schemes by the Government of India for Entrepreneurs, Faculty Members and Students to the audience. A quiz programme was next conducted by Dr. Sankar Sundaram, the DPIIT-IPR Chair Professor at NLUJAA. Finally, Mr. Saurav Baishya, the Field Assistant, DPIIT-IPR Chair at NLUJAA proposed the Vote of Thanks. The event was attended by the students of NLUJAA.

14. June 30th, 2021 - Lecture delivered on “Comprehending the Indian Patent Law” at Dispur Law College, Guwahati by the DPIIT-IPR Chair Professor of NLUJA, Assam, Dr. Sankar Sundaram. In the programme various topics, namely, benefits of securing patent protection, Significance of the Indian Patents Act-1970, Section-3 (What are not Inventions under the Act), procedure to file a Patent Application and the flowsheet of its prosecution, the types of Patent infringements, Pre-grant Opposition’s Section-25(1), post-grant Opposition’s Section-25(2), Revocation of patents’ Section-64, Compulsory Licensing’s – 84, Procedure for Patent suits [Section-104 to Section- 115], Offences and Penalties [Section—118 to Section-124] and Landmark Patent Litigations contested both in India and abroad were discussed. The programme was attended by around 100 students and staff of Dispur Law College, Guwahati.

Academic Year 2021- 2022


1. August 16th, 2021 - Webinar on “**PROTECTION OF GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS IN INDIA (WITH SPECIAL FOCUS ON NORTH EAST REGION)**” was held with Dr. Gargi Chakrabarti, IPR Chair Co-ordinator of National Law University, Jodhpur as the Resource Person. The programme started with a welcome note by Hon’ble Vice-Chancellor, NLUJA, Assam, Prof. (Dr.) V.K. Ahuja, followed by the welcoming and introductory session by the DPIIT-IPR Chair Professor,



IQAC Cell and DPIIT IPR Chair
NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY AND JUDICIAL ACADEMY, ASSAM

NLUJA Lecture Series 2021
SPECIAL LECTURE
ON
**PROTECTION OF GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS IN INDIA
(WITH SPECIAL FOCUS ON NORTH-EAST REGION)**

Date: August 16, 2021
(Time: 4:00-5:00 PM)



Dr. Gargi Chakrabarti
IPR Chair Co-ordinator
National Law University, Jodhpur

Patron
Prof. (Dr.) V. K. Ahuja
Vice-Chancellor
NLUJA, Assam

Co-ordinator
Dr. Sankar Sundaram
IPR Chair Professor
NLUJA, Assam

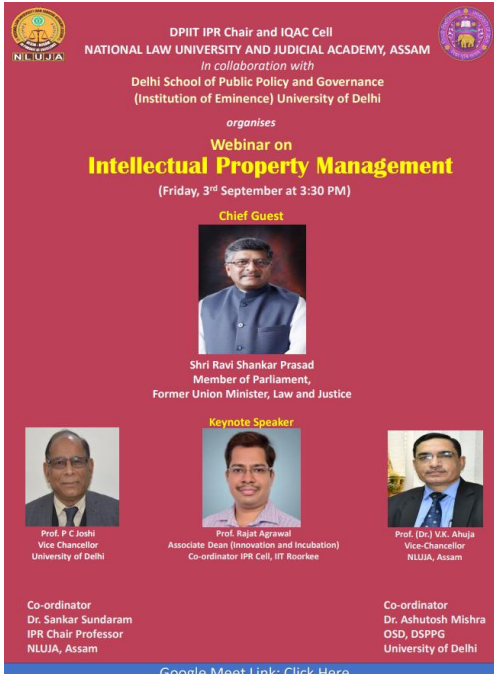
[Click here to join \(Google Meet Link\)](#)

NLUJA, Assam. The respected Speaker, Dr. Gargi Chakrabarti, commenced the session with an introduction of Geographical Indication (GI) and their significance in the present era. The speaker extensively discussed about the justification for protection of the GIs from three perspectives – equity considerations, conservative concerns and preservation of traditional practices and culture with practical examples.

The Speaker elaborately discussed on the GIs of North East region of India and lauded the efforts of the people of North Eastern region towards upholding their

traditional know-how and practices. Dr. Chakrabarti offered a deep insight into the ground realities of the law on GI in India, particularly stressing on the aspect of non-maintenance and non-assurance of quality of the GI certified products. She cited example of the European Union GI law which provides for a much stronger mechanism for protecting their GIs. The speaker concluded the session with a broad discussion on the need to revisit the Indian GI law so as to ensure stringent protection and quality assurance of the GI certified products in India in line with that of the European Union and urged the IPR Chairs to collaboratively take up steps towards proposing amendment to the present law on GI in our nation. Around 68 Participants from 53 institutions and organisations from all over India participated in the webinar.

2. **September 3rd, 2021** - Webinar on **“INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT”** was organised wherein Mr. Ravi Shankar Prasad, Member of Parliament, Former Union Minister, Law and Justice graced the event as the Chief Guest and Prof. (Dr) Rajat Agrawal, Associate Dean (Innovation and Incubation) Co-ordinator IPR Cell, IIT Roorkee was invited as the Keynote Speaker by the DPIIT-IPR Chair and IQAC Cell of the National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam in collaboration with Delhi School of Public Policy and



The poster is for a webinar titled "Intellectual Property Management" held on Friday, 3rd September at 3:30 PM. It is organized by the DPIIT IPR Chair and IQAC Cell at the National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam, in collaboration with the Delhi School of Public Policy and Governance (Institution of Eminence) at the University of Delhi. The Chief Guest is Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad, Member of Parliament and Former Union Minister, Law and Justice. The Keynote Speaker is Prof. Rajat Agrawal, Associate Dean (Innovation and Incubation) and Co-ordinator IPR Cell, IIT Roorkee. Other participants include Prof. P. C. Joshi, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Delhi, and Prof. (Dr) V.K. Ahuja, Vice-Chancellor of NLUJA, Assam. The event is co-ordinated by Dr. Sankar Sundaram, IPR Chair Professor at NLUJA, Assam, and Dr. Ashutosh Mishra, OSD, DSPPG at the University of Delhi. A Google Meet link is provided at the bottom.

Governance (Institution of Eminence), University of Delhi. Prof. Pooran Chand Joshi, Vice-Chancellor, University of Delhi welcomed the guests and Prof. V.K. Ahuja, Vice-Chancellor, National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam presided over the function.

Mr. Prasad emphasised on the need to accord recognition, protection and encouragement to the creators of Intellectual Property under an effective Intellectual Property Management regime or Intellectual Property ecosystem. He also discussed about digitalisation and its limitless potential in the present era. He further harped about the importance of data protection while stressing upon its immense role in promoting

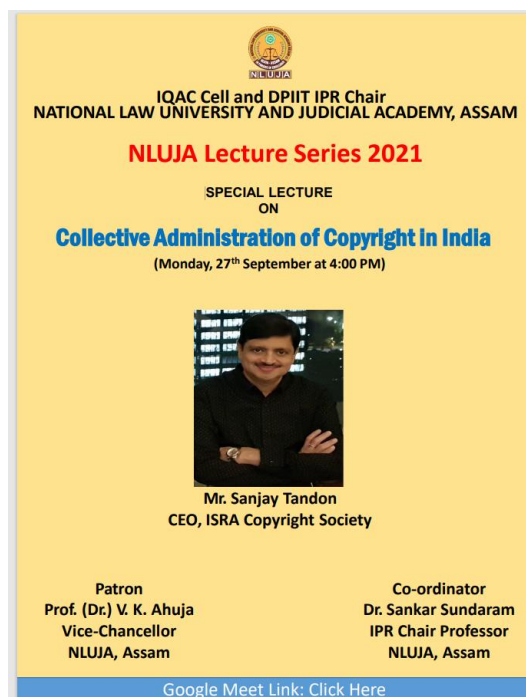
IP creation. He also suggested to create a separate ecosystem of India's data which is related to IP Management.

Prof. Rajat Agrawal explained the objectives of IP Management and offered a deep insight into the chain of activities in IP Management in the form of its creation, protection, commercialisation and enforcement. Prof. Agrawal suggested that North-East India has a rich scope for Geographical Indication Registrations and hence advised the University to take up steps towards realising it. The webinar received a huge participation consisting of 219 participants from 117 institutions and organisations from across India. The informative session finally came to an end with a discussion on the questions put forward by the participants. A laudable response was received.

3. **27th September, 2021** - Webinar on **“COLLECTIVE ADMINISTRATION OF COPYRIGHT IN INDIA”** was held with Mr. Pankaj Udhas, Padma Shri Awardee, Indian Ghazal Maestro as the Chief Guest and Mr. Sanjay Tandon, CEO, Indian Singers' Rights Association as the Keynote Speaker. Prof. (Dr.) V.K. Ahuja, the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam welcomed the guests and emphasised the need for obtaining license from Copyright Societies before playing

any copyrighted music in public. Prof. Ahuja while praising the Ghazal maestro compared him with Tansen, as his famous song *“Chithi Aayi Hain”* brought tears to the eyes of the listeners. He discussed the role of copyright societies in collecting fee and distributing royalties.

Shri Pankaj Udhas inaugurated the session by recounting his experience with the copyright regime at the start of his singing career. He harped upon the significance of understanding copyright by those who are at the threshold of their careers in performing arts. Shri Udhas highlighted that copyright in today's era has become the most important aspect of a performer's life and it encompasses a wide variety of creativity,

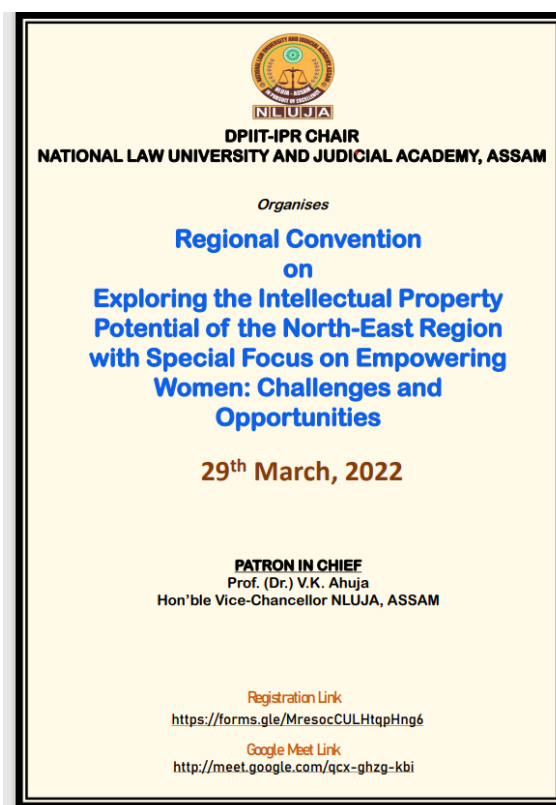



The poster is yellow with a blue border. At the top center is the NLUJA logo. Below it, the text reads: 'IQAC Cell and DPIIT IPR Chair NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY AND JUDICIAL ACADEMY, ASSAM'. The main title is 'NLUJA Lecture Series 2021' in red, followed by 'SPECIAL LECTURE ON' in black. The topic is 'Collective Administration of Copyright in India' in blue, with the date and time '(Monday, 27th September at 4:00 PM)' below it. A photo of Mr. Sanjay Tandon is in the center, with his name and title 'Mr. Sanjay Tandon, CEO, ISRA Copyright Society' below. At the bottom, the Patron is 'Prof. (Dr.) V. K. Ahuja, Vice-Chancellor, NLUJA, Assam' and the Co-ordinator is 'Dr. Sankar Sundaram, IPR Chair Professor, NLUJA, Assam'. A blue bar at the very bottom contains the text 'Google Meet Link: Click Here'.

thereby focusing on the need to disburse the deserving royalties to the rightful owners. The Ghazal maestro concluded his note with a soulful rendition of his famous song “Chithi Aayi Hain”.

Mr. Sanjay Tandon stated that the artists are performers and are not mere vocal instruments, hence every artist ought to be paid his due royalty. He jokingly stated that they should not be provided ‘Royal Tea’ rather they should be given ‘Royalty’. He dwelled about how people praise the artists for their performances but forgets to assign them their dignity in the form of adequate payments and royalties, thereby quoting that “it’s not applaus and wows which runs the kitchen of an artist, it is their due payment which runs their lives”. He depicted the role of collective administration of copyright vis-à-vis the establishment of ISRA and the role which it plays in protecting the rights of the singers. ISRA is the bridge between the user and the singer, thereby playing an outstanding role in the society and the copyright regime. IPR Chair Professor Dr. Sankar Sundaram proposed the vote of thanks. The webinar was attended by a huge number of students and professionals from various Institutions and Organisations across India (around 222 Participants from 146 institutions and organisations from all over India). The informative and entertaining session finally came to an end on a very positive note with a discussion on the questions put forward by the participants.

4. **March 29th, 2022** – An online Regional Convention on “**EXPLORING THE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY POTENTIAL OF THE NORTH-EAST REGION WITH SPECIAL FOCUS ON EMPOWERING WOMEN: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES**” was organised by the DPIIT-IPR Chair of NLUJA, Assam. The Convention was an endeavour of the University to get on board the stakeholders of the North-East region to join forces with NLUJA, Assam in order that the IP related




NLUJA
DPIIT-IPR CHAIR
NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY AND JUDICIAL ACADEMY, ASSAM

Organises

Regional Convention
on
Exploring the Intellectual Property Potential of the North-East Region with Special Focus on Empowering Women: Challenges and Opportunities

29th March, 2022

PATRON IN CHIEF
Prof. (Dr.) V.K. Ahuja
Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor NLUJA, ASSAM

Registration Link
<https://forms.gle/MresocULHtqPHng6>

Google Meet Link
<http://meet.google.com/qcx-ghzg-kbi>

services of the University could be made accessible to the grass-root level women creators, innovators and entrepreneurs sparsed across the region. As such, the programme commenced with an Inaugural Session wherein Prof. (Dr.) V.K. Ahuja, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, NLUJA, Assam provided the welcome address which was followed by the speech of the Keynote Speaker by Prof. (Dr.) Prabuddha Ganguly, CEO, Vision-IPR and Honorary Professor, Homi Bhaba National Institute, Department of Atomic Energy, Govt. of India, Mumbai, India. Prof. Ganguly is a renowned IP expert and has worked closely at the grassroots level in the NER. He provided an elaborate understanding on the topic on "Innovations for Inclusive Social Transformations" wherein he extensively stressed on the need for innovations in order to usher in social transformations in the society. The session thereafter proceeded with the speech of the revered Chief Guest His Lordship Justice Dipak Misra who emphasised on protection of traditional knowledge and the rights of the holders of traditional knowledge of our nation. The learned Justice encouraged and appreciated NLUJA, Assam for education and propagation of IPR in the NE region, especially focussing on the women and stated that it is of immense significance. His Lordship stressed about promotion of women's rights and protection of their dignity. The session ended with the vote of thanks delivered by respected Registrar of NLUJA, Assam Dr. Indranoshee Das, ACS.

The Convention then proceeded with the 1st technical session wherein Mr. Manoj Das, Director, NERAMAC was invited as the Keynote Speaker. This was followed by the deliberations by the speakers. Dr. Topi Basar, Associate Professor, Rajiv Gandhi University, Arunachal Pradesh was the first speaker who deliberated on the topic "**Role of Women in Augmenting the IP resources of the NE region: Some Reflections**". Thereafter, discussion on the topic "**Unveiling the Entrepreneurial Potentialities of NE Women**" was provided by Ms. Shabnam Mohan Raj, CEO and Chief Advisor, Voluntary Association for Social Upliftment [VASU] and by Dr. Jupi Gogoi, Associate Professor, NLUJA, Assam on the topic "**Implications of GI Registration on Women in North East India**".

The second technical session commenced in the afternoon wherein Dr. Samir Baruah, Chairperson Banking & MSME Indian Chamber of Commerce North-East India and Former General Manager Indian Overseas Bank was invited as the Keynote Speaker, which was followed by the discussions of the speakers. Dr. Sriparna B. Baruah, Faculty and Head, Centre for Industrial Extension and Consultancy, Indian

Institute of Entrepreneurship discussed on the topic “**Status, Issues and Challenges of Women Led Enterprises and the Need of Creating Awareness on IPR Related Issues**” and Mrs. Chandrani Sharma, Entrepreneur from North-East deliberated on the topic “**Mobilising Women Entrepreneurs to Optimally Exploit IP: Perspectives from NE Region**”.

The online Regional Convention ended with the Valedictory Session which commenced with a Welcome Address by Prof. (Dr.) V.K. Ahuja, Hon’ble Vice-Chancellor, NLUJA, Assam. Mr. Vinod Kumar, Hon’ble President, India SME Forum was invited as the Guest of Honour and Prof. (Dr.) Unnat P. Pandit, Professor of IP, Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Intellectual Property Management Cell, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. The Vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. Indranoshee Das, ACS, Registrar, NLUJA, Assam.

5. April 26th, 2022 -

On the occasion of **WORLD IPR DAY**, 26th April 2022, the DPIIT-IPR Chair of NLUJA, Assam along with the student volunteers from BALLB VIth semester of the University



organised an awareness programme on the theme of World IP Day 2022 “**IP AND YOUTH: INNOVATING FOR A BETTER FUTURE**” among the young women weavers associated with ENHANSE Foundation at Madeligaon LP School, Udalguri District. The Research Assistants of the DPIIT-IPR Chair of NLUJA, Assam, Ms. Sharmistha Baruah and Ms. Dolly Kumar deliberated on the concept of Intellectual Property Rights and the significant role played by the people at the grassroots level such as artisans, weavers etc., in creation of intellectual properties. The Programme was an endeavour towards orienting young women weavers of Madeligaon village on protection of their IPs by means of various IP components such as, Geographical

Indications, Industrial Designs, etc. This initiative has been towards supporting the young women weavers of the region in enhancing the market potential and credibility of their produce.

The Programme was attended by 36 women weavers of Madeligaon Village. The weavers showed the DPIIT-IPR Chair team their hand-woven Mekhla-Chadars displaying various kinds of splendid designs and the team advised them to approach the IPR Facilitation Centre at National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam for free legal assistance in IP related matters. Thereafter, an interactive session was held wherein the team was informed about the constraints faced by the weavers in marketing and promoting their produce. The weavers stated that some of them weave Assamese traditional garments for livelihood but the earning is meagre as they are unable to access the market and moreover the area lacks a weaving centre despite being a hub of weavers. The interactive session was followed by singing of traditional songs by the weavers. The event ended with a vote of thanks and on a positive note.

6. May 25th, 2022 - Publication of a handbook titled “HANDBOOK ON THE GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS (WITH SPECIAL FOCUS ON NORTH-EAST



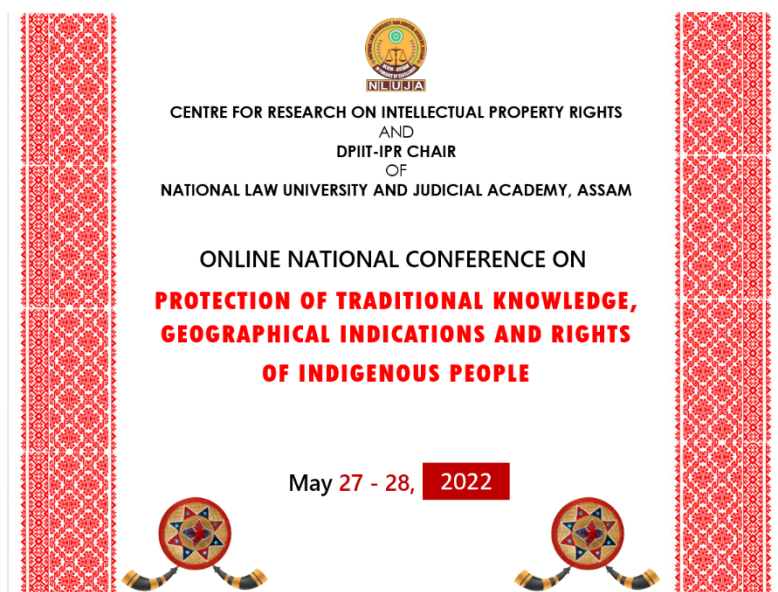
REGION)” under the aegis of National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam. The research and the write-up work for the handbook was conducted by the DPIIT-IPR Chair of NLUJA, Assam since June, 2021 under the supervision of Hon’ble Vice-Chancellor of NLUJA, Assam, Prof. (Dr.). V. K. Ahuja. It was successfully completed by December, 2021. The Handbook is scheduled to be published in the first part of the upcoming year (2022). The Handbook is intended to apprise readers about the procedures involved in attaining Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) protection in the form of Geographical Indication in India and aims to offer guidance to the laymen in

understanding the concept of Geographical Indications and its applicability in the North Eastern region of India.

The Handbook was released on May 25th, 2022 in the august presence of His Excellency Prof. Jagdish Mukhi Hon'ble Governor of Assam and Nagaland, Hon'ble Mr. Justice N. Kotiswar Singh, Chief Justice (Acting), Gauhati High Court in the premises of NLUJA, Assam.

7. May 27th & 28th, 2022

- The Centre for Research on Intellectual Property Rights (CERIP) and the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)-IPR Chair of National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam



(NLUJAA), under the guidance of its Patron-in-Chief, Prof. (Dr) V.K. Ahuja, the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of NLUJAA, and Patron, Dr. Indranoshee Das, ACS, the Hon'ble Registrar of NLUJAA organised an **ONLINE NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PROTECTION OF TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE, GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS AND RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLE** on May 27-28, 2022. A total of 256 people attended the Conference.

The two-day Conference commenced with the inaugural session on 27th of May, 2022, wherein **Prof. (Dr.) Unnat P. Pandit**, Controller General of Patents, Designs & Trade Marks and **Prof. (Dr.) Prabuddha Ganguli**, CEO of Vision IPR were invited to deliver the inaugural address as well as the special address respectively. This was followed by the 1st Technical Session on the theme “Need for a Special Regime on TK” in which Dr. K.S. Kardam, Former Senior Joint Controller of Patents & Designs & Former Head, Patent Office, Delhi was invited as the Chair and Dr. Irwin Lalmuanpuii Hnamte, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi were invited as the

Co-Chair cum Keynote Speaker. There were nine paper presentations on various aspects of TK and the need for a sui generis law to protect the indigenous knowledge.

The 2nd day of the online National Conference (May 28th, 2022) began with the 2nd Technical Session on “Traditional Knowledge, Intellectual Property Rights and Community Rights” in which Prof. T.C. James, President, NIPO & Visiting Fellow, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS) was invited as the Chair and Dr. Topi Basar, Associate Professor, Department of Law, Rajiv Gandhi University, Arunachal Pradesh was invited as the Co-Chair cum Keynote Speaker. The session composed of five paper presentations surrounding the theme.

This was followed by the 3rd Technical Session on the theme “Using TK and GI to Protect Cultural Practises”. Dr. Indrani Barpujari, Principal Advisor, Centre for Social Sector Development AIGGPA, Bhopal and Dr. Nidhi Buch, Assistant Professor, Gujrat National Law University was invited as the Chair and the Co-Chair cum Keynote Speaker respectively. Around six paper presentations were conducted based on the theme of the session.

The 4th Technical Session was based on the theme “Geographical Indications in India: Prospects and Challenges”. Prof. Pritam Deb, DPIIT-IPR Chair Professor, Tezpur University and Dr. Gargi Chakrabarti, Associate Professor of Law, National Law University, Jodhpur were invited as the Chair and the Co-Chair cum Keynote Speaker respectively. This session held six paper presentations concerning the theme.

The two day Online National Conference ended with the Valedictory Session wherein Shri G.R. Raghavender, Joint Secretary, Department of Justice, Ministry of Law & Justice graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. A vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. Jupi Gogoi, Associate Professor, NLUJA, Assam.

- 8. NLUA Journal of Intellectual Property Rights** - The NLUA Journal of Intellectual Property Rights has been introduced in the year 2022 which is a peer reviewed bi-annual online journal of the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade – Intellectual Property Rights Chair (DPIIT-IPR) of National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam. The Journal seeks to serve the purpose of promoting research in legal, economic, socio-legal, social, technological and entrepreneurial aspects of new and emerging areas of IPR at all levels – regional, national and

international, in view of the National IPR Policy and the Scheme for Pedagogy and Research in IPRs for Holistic Education and Academia (SPRIHA). The Journal aims to publish scholarly articles, research papers, book reviews, case studies on various aspects of IPRs from students, scholars, academicians, legal practitioners, and activists having interest and zeal in reinforcing and uplifting the prospects of IPR research and development.

- 9. CBCC CURRICULUM ON IPR** - Preparation and submission of Syllabus for IPR CBCC programme (2 Credit Course) for the undergraduate students of the University. The curriculum has been introduced in three semesters (1st, 3rd and 5th semesters) of the Odd Semester Session 2022-2023 starting from August 2022.

ANNUAL REPORT 2022



**National Law University and
Judicial Academy, Assam**

13. UNIVERSITY RESEARCH CENTRE ACTIVITIES

13.1 Center for Child Rights

November 28, 2022 - In order to commemorate World Children's Day, the Centre for Child Rights, National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam in collaboration with NALSAR University of Law, Hyderabad organised a special lecture in the blended mode on the topic 'Age of Marriage and its implications on the girl child' on 28.11.2022 from 12:00 P.M. to 1:00 P.M. The esteemed resource person was Prof. (Dr.) Sarasu Esther Thomas, Professor of Law, National Law School of India University, Bengaluru.

13.2 Centre for Gender Justice

February 16, 2022 - National Commission for Women in collaboration with Centre for Gender Justice, National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam organised a Regional Consultation on Review of Criminal Law - Improvement in Status of Women.

June 07, 2022 - Orientation Programme on Gender Sensitization was organized by the Centre for Gender Justice on the 7th June, 2022 at 4.00 p.m. in the Seminar Hall, 2nd Floor, Administrative Block, NLUJA, Assam. The students of first year (Second Semester) of the B.A.,LL.B.(Hons.) FYIC course had attended the programme. The Session was conducted by Dr. Kasturi Gakul, Academic Co-ordinator, Centre for Gender Justice. Tahneek Rahman's award winning short film 'Different' was screened during the said programme.

July 08, 2022 - National Commission for Women, New Delhi in Collaboration with Centre for Gender Justice, NLUJA, Assam organised the Regional (North East) Consultation on Review of Family Court Act, 1984.

September 14, 2022 --- Gender Sensitization Programme was organized by the Centre for Gender Justice, NLUJA, Assam on 14th September (Wednesday), 2022 at 4:00 pm in the Seminar Hall, 2nd Floor, Administrative Block, NLUJA, Assam. The programme was attended by the First year B.A.,LL.B.(Hons.) FYIC students of the

University. Questionnaire were distributed at the beginning of the programme and responses of the participants were analysed and discussed at the end. Issues relating to gender and sex, gender equality, anti-ragging laws and protection against sexual harassment was discussed by the student volunteers of the centre along with Academic Co-ordinator. A short film 'Juice' by Neeraj Ghaywan was also screened.

November 18, 2022 - Dr Gitanjali Ghosh, Assistant Professor of Law, NLUJA, Assam in collaboration with Centre for Gender Justice and IQAC, National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam and Hidayatullah National Law University, Raipur organized a special lecture in blended mode on the topic 'Succession and Matrimonial Property Laws of Goa' on 18.11.2022 from 10:00 am to 11:30 am. The esteemed resource person was Dr. Albertina Almeida, Advocate, Goa and Member, Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development.

November 25, 2022 - Programme on International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women was organised by the Centre for Gender Justice and IQAC, NLUJA, Assam on 25th November 2022 from 11:00 am in the Seminar Hall, 2nd Floor, Administrative Block, NLUJA, Assam. Prof Kalpana Sarathy, Deputy Director, TISS, Guwahati had delivered a special lecture on 'Gender-based violence and impact on mental health of women'. Patron of the Centre, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor Prof V.K. Ahuja, NLUJA, Assam had emphasized upon generating awareness among all for eliminating violence against women and had also interacted with the students. Dr Indranoshee Das, Registrar, NLUJA, Assam had also graced the occasion and encouraged students to work towards eliminating gender-based violence. A documentary titled 'From Fear to Freedom' was screened. Poster making and slogan writing competition was also organised. The programme was attended by First, Second and Third Year B.A.,LL.B.(Hons.) FYIC students of the University. Student volunteers of the Centre Ms. Sneha, Mr. Prince, Ms. Nandini, Mr. Ayush and Mr. Priyanshu had actively participated in the programme. Mr. Satyajit Deb, System Operator, had provided the IT support.

13.3 Centre for Environmental Law, Advocacy and Research

November 12-13, 2022 - Centre for Regulatory Studies, Governance and Policy, The West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences, Kolkata and Centre for Environmental Law, Advocacy and Research, National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam organised International e-Conference on 'Taking Stock of Stockholm (1972-2022)'.

13.4 Centre for Career Counselling and Capacity Building

November 4, 2022 - IQAC and Centre for Career Counselling and Capacity Building for NLUJA, Assam in collaboration with S.R.M. University Delhi-NCR, Sonapat, Haryana and University of Science and Technology Meghalaya organised 'One Day Training Programme on Criminal Trial Advocacy' under patronage of Prof. (Dr.) Paramjit S. Jaswal Vice-Chancellor SRM University Delhi-NCR, Sonapat, Haryana; Prof. (Dr.) Gauri Dutt Sharma Vice-Chancellor USTM, Meghalaya and Prof. (Dr.) V. K. Ahuja Vice-Chancellor NLUJA, Assam. The resource person for the training programme Sri Roushan Lal, (AJS), Judge, Motor Accident Claim Tribunal, Nagaon enlightened students on the topic.

November 06, 2022 - IQAC and Centre for Career Counselling and Capacity Building for NLUJA in collaboration with S.R.M. University Delhi-NCR, Sonapat, Haryana and University of Science and Technology Meghalaya organised One Day Training Programme on Criminal Trial Advocacy under patronage of Prof. (Dr.) Paramjit S. Jaswal, Vice-Chancellor, SRM University Delhi-NCR, Sonapat, Haryana; Prof. (Dr.) Gauri Dutt Sharma Vice-Chancellor USTM, Meghalaya and Prof. (Dr.) V. K. Ahuja Vice-Chancellor NLUJA, Assam. The resource person for the training Sri Roushan Lal, (AJS), Judge, Motor Accident Claim Tribunal, Nagaon deliberated extensively on the mentioned topic.

13.5 Centre for Clinical Legal Education and Legal Aid Cell (CCLELA)

June, 02, 2022 - Centre for Clinical Legal Education and Legal Aid Cell organized a 'Legal Awareness and Legal Literacy Camp' at D.K. College, Mirza. Dr. Diptimoni Baruah, Dr. Kasturi Gakul and Dr. Thangzakhup Tombing along with student volunteers of the Centre had sensitized the students of D.K. College on topics relating to Consumer Protection and Cyber Law.

October 19-20, 2022 - The Centre for Clinical Legal Education and Legal Aid Cell (CCLELAC) conducted 'Legal Awareness Campaign and Poster Drive' in localities like Kadamtal, Mariapatti, and areas near Amingaon Post Office and the IIT Guwahati. CCLELAC continued the Legal Awareness Campaign and Poster Drive on October 20, 2022 and visited Container Corporation of India and other nearby localities.

November 09, 2022 - Pro Bono Club and the Centre for Clinical Legal Education and Legal Aid Cell (CCLELAC), NLUJA, Assam, in collaboration with the Judicial Academy, Assam and the Office of the Circle Officer, North Guwahati Revenue Circle, Amingaon organized a 'Legal Awareness Program' on 9th November 2022 at the premises of Lachit High School, Jalah, Changsari.

November 15, 2022 - A 'Legal Awareness Programme' was organised by the Center for Clinical Legal Education and Legal Aid Cell of NLUJA, Assam at Saraighat College, Changsari, Kamrup to spread legal literacy among the students and villagers.

13.6 Centre for Human Rights and Humanitarian Law

December 10, 2022 - To commemorate 'International Human Rights Day', the Centre for Human Rights and Humanitarian Laws in collaboration with IQAC and Pro Bono Club, NLUJA, Assam organized an online special lecture on 'Human Rights' on 10th December, 2022. The esteemed resource person was Hon'ble Mr. Justice U.U. Lalit, Former Chief Justice of India and Distinguished Professor, NLUJA, Assam.

13.7 Centre for Advanced Research in Corporate Law, National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam

August 27, 2022 - Centre for Regulatory Studies, Governance and Public Policy, The WB National University of Juridical Sciences, Kolkata in association with Centre for Advanced Research in Corporate Law, NLUJA, Assam, organised a 'One Day National e-Seminar on Contemporary Corporate Governance in India' on August 28, 2022. The e-seminar was graced with the presence of Keynote Speaker, Prof. (Dr.) N.L. Mitra (Former Chancellor, KIIT University, Former Director, NLSIU Bangalore, Former Vice-Chancellor, NLU Jodhpur); Chief Guest, Justice Sanjib Banerjee (Chief Justice of Meghalaya High Court); Resource Persons - Prof. (Dr.) Indrajit Dube (Professor at Rajiv Gandhi School of Intellectual Property Law, Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur) and Prof. (Dr.) V.K. Unni (Professor, Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta). With the support of Dr. Jayanta Ghosh, Head and Research Fellow of CRSGPP, WBNUJS; Prof Debasis Poddar, Advisor, Centre for Advanced Research in Corporate Law, NLUJA, Assam and Ms. Monmi Gohain, Centre Coordinator, Centre for Advanced Research in Corporate Law, NLUJA, Assam. The programme was smoothly conducted by Ms. Sanghamitra Baladhikari and Mr. Vijoy Kumar Sinha (Research Assistants, CRSGPP, WBNUJS).

14. DPIIT-IPR CHAIR OF NLUJA, ASSAM

14.1. About DPIIT-IPR Chair

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion vide office order dated 16th October 2018 had granted the approval for the establishment of the IPR Chair under the Scheme for Pedagogy & Research in IPRs for Holistic Education & Academia (SPRIHA) at the National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam (NLUJA, Assam).

Since its inception, the DPIIT-IPR Chair is involved in: (a) Sensitizing and training the various stakeholders of IPR, like faculty members, students, lawyers, artisans, craftsmen, producers / creators of knowledge-based products, farmers etc. (b) Assisting the above stakeholders for searching, drafting, filing, prosecuting (1) Patents (2) Designs (3) Trade marks (4) Trade secrets (5) Copyrights (6) Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers Rights (7) Geographical Indications (8) Topography of Integrated Circuits and (c) Researching the IP rights of Regional / National / International importance.

14.2. Activities

The following activities have been conducted by the DPIIT-IPR Chair in the period under report:

March 29, 2022 - DPIIT - IPR Chair of National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam organised a Regional Convention on 'Exploring the Intellectual Property Potential of the North-East Region with Special Focus on: Challenges and Opportunities' on March 29, 2022. The Convention was an endeavour of the University to get on board the stakeholders of the North East region to join forces with NLUJA, Assam in order that the IP related services of the University could be made accessible to the grass-root level women creators, innovators and entrepreneurs spread across the region.

April 26, 2022 - DPIIT-IPR Chair, National law University and Judicial Academy, Assam, organised an 'Awareness Programme on IP and Youth: Innovating for a Better Future Among the Young Weavers of Enhance Foundation' on the occasion of World IPR Day at Madeligaon LP School, Udalguri, Assam.

May 25, 2022 - A handbook titled 'Handbook on the Geographical Indications (With Special Focus on North-East Region)' was released by His Excellency Hon'ble Governor of Assam Prof. Jagdish Mukhi under the aegis of IPR Chair, National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam.

May 27-28, 2022 - Centre for Research on Intellectual Property Rights Law (CeRIP) organised an Online National Conference on 'Knowledge, Geographical Indications and Rights of Indigenous People'.

July 2022 - The first issue of NLUA Journal of Intellectual Property Rights was introduced in the year 2022 which is a peer reviewed bi-annual online journal of the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade - Intellectual Property Rights Chair (DPIIT-IPR) of National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam.

August 2022 - Introduction of three Multi Disciplinary Courses (2 credit) on IPR for the first, third and fifth semesters of undergraduate students of the University. The three papers are *Intellectual Property Rights Regime: Theory to Praxis (First semester)*; *Protection of Copyright: A Practical Approach (Third semester)* and *Protection of Geographical Indications: A Practical Approach (Fifth semester)*.

September 21, 2022 - DPIIT-IPR Chair and Centre for Research on Intellectual Property Rights Law of National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam in association with Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Intellectual Property Management (RGNIPM) Government of India, Nagpur (under National Intellectual Property Awareness Mission) organised an online workshop on 'Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) and Patents & Design Filing'. Shri Nirmalya Sinha, Joint Controller of Patents & Designs, RGNIPM, Nagpur enlightened participants on the topic.

October 21, 2022 - DPIIT-IPR Chair, NLUJA, Assam organised Seminar on 'Ayurveda related Patent Issues'.

October 23, 2022 - DPIIT-IPR Chair, NLUJA Assam organised a Webinar on Ayurveda, Traditional Knowledge and the IPR Issues with an objective to generate awareness amongst the stakeholders about the correlation between Ayurveda, Traditional Knowledge and IPR.

November 09, 2022 - DPIIT-IPR Chair, Centre for Research on Intellectual Property Rights (CeRIP) and IQAC of National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam organised a Knowledge Series on 'Practical Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights'. Dr. Pankaj Kumar, DPIIT-IPR Chair Professor, NLUJA, Assam and Dr. Jupi Gogoi, Associate Professor, NLUJA, Assam enlightened participants on the topic 'Trademark: from Filing to Registration' in blended mode.

November 16, 2022 - DPIIT- IPR Chair, Centre for Research on Intellectual Property Rights (CeRIP) and IQAC of National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam organised a Knowledge Series on 'Practical Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights'. Dr. Pankaj Kumar, DPIIT-IPR Chair Professor, NLUJA, Assam and Dr. Jupi Gogoi, Associate Professor, NLUJA, Assam enlightened participants on the topic 'Registration of Copyright and Industrial Designs' in blended mode.

November 23, 2022 - DPIIT- IPR Chair, Centre for Research on Intellectual Property Rights (CeRIP) and IQAC of National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam organised a Knowledge Series on 'Practical Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights'. Dr. Pankaj Kumar, DPIIT-IPR Chair Professor, NLUJA, Assam and Dr. Ginish George, Director, Operations at Relecura enlightened participants on the topic 'Patent Registration Process and AI-Powered Tools for Analytics' in blended mode.