REPORT

Outreach Programme on Geographical Indication (GI), Indigenous Resources & Associated Traditional Knowledge (TK) of Arunachal Pradesh

Dated: 29/03/2023

28th of March, 2023 - Outreach Programme on Geographical Indication (GI), Indigenous Resources & Associated Traditional Knowledge (TK) of Arunachal Pradesh

The DPIIT-IPR Chair, NLUJA, Assam comprising of the Chair Professor (Dr. Pankaj Kumar), Research **Assistants** (Ms. Sharmistha Baruah and Ms. Dolly Kumar), Office Assistant cum Data Entry Operator (Mr. Priyanko Mahanta) and Field Assistant



Pranjal Baishya) conducted an **Outreach Programme on Geographical Indication (GI), Indigenous Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge (TK) of Arunachal Pradesh** on **28**th **of March, 2023** at **Itanagar**, Arunachal Pradesh in collaboration with State Institute for Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (SIRD&PR), Arunachal Pradesh. The aim of this activity was to identify the IP potential of the region vis-à-vis the challenges that thwart the same, so as to consolidate and support the grass root level stakeholders (*producers, artisans, innovators and others*) towards protection and sustenance of their Intellectual Properties.

The programme commenced with a detailed deliberation by Dr. Pankaj Kumar, **DPIIT-IPR** Chair Professor, NLUJA, Assam who extensively discussed on the meaning and significance of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) and Traditional Knowledge (TK). Dr. Kumar discussed about various kinds of IPRs thereby emphasizing on Geographical **Patents** and particularly **Indications** of



North-Eastern Region. Sir also elaborated on the indigenous and patented use of plants as well as the bio-resources. He focused on the interrelation between Ayurveda and the IPR regime and stressed about issues of patenting. Sir also underlined the subject of patentability of applications based on bio-resources as well as the associated TK. He further highlighted the options for fair and equitable benefit-sharing and the means of preservation of the indigenous TK by means of TKDL. Finally, he discussed about India's TKDL impacts on patent applications in the field of bio-resources and the associated TK and the outcome of the impact of TKDL against bio-piracy.

Dr. Narayan Sahoo, Dy. Director and Senior Faculty, SIRD&PR, Arunachal Pradesh, gracing the occasion provided a few valuable suggestions based on the deliberation of the DPIIT-IPR Chair Professor, which include the following in brief:

- a) Documentation of local herbs of Arunachal Pradesh;
- b) Audio-Visual presentation consisting of the opinion of the tribes of Arunachal Pradesh in their local dialects; and
- c) Collaborative research on medicinal plants and practices of the region and their entry in TKDL.

The programme then proceeded with an interactive session wherein Ms. Sharmistha Baruah and Ms. Dolly Kumar, Research Assistants of DPIIT-IPR Chair, NLUJA, Assam interacted with the participants with regard to the TK and TCEs of their respective tribes. The informative and

insightful session concluded with on a positive note thereby paving a path for a concerted endeavour in the near future.

The programme was attended by 30 participants including officers and staff of SIRD&PR, Itanagar.





The DPIIT-IPR Chair of NLUJA, Assam team was then led by Mr. Tabin Mara, Research Assistant, SIRD&PR, Itanagar to visit the Directorate of Textile and Handicrafts, Itanagar wherein Dr. Pankaj Kumar alongwith Ms. Sharmistha Baruah and Ms. Dolly Kumar interacted with the staff of the organisation and explored the traditional handicrafts of the state as



exhibited in the organisation. Mr. Mara further took the team of DPIIT-IPR Chair to visit a well-known local NGO named **Oju Welfare Association** at Naharlagun area of Itanagar, wherein Dr. Pankaj Kumar and the Chairperson of the organisation Ms. Ratan Anya discussed on various issues concerning the IP potential of the state. The Research Assistants also interacted with Ms. Anya who strongly suggested a collaborative activity in this regard.

The list of participants is provided below:

National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam DPIIT-IPR CHAIR

Outreach Programme on Geographical Indication (GI), Indigenous Resources & Associated Traditional Knowledge (TK) of Arunachal Pradesh

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