

NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY AND JUDICIAL ACADEMY, ASSAM

DPIIT-IPR CHAIR

REPORT ON THE WORKSHOP ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS - OCTOBER 25, 2024



The poster features the logos of NLUJA and Cotton University at the top. Below them, the text reads: 'Department of Law, Cotton University in collaboration with DPIIT-IPR Chair, National Law University and Judicial Academy Assam Organize WORKSHOP ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS'. The venue is 'Seminar Hall Room No-311, MCB Building, Cotton University' and the date is '25th October 2024, 10 AM Onwards'. A section titled 'Resource Persons' lists three individuals: Prof. Dr. Debasis Poddar (Professor of Law, NLUJA, Assam), Dr. Pankaj Kumar (DPIIT IPR Chair Professor, NLUJA, Assam), and Dr. Sharmistha Baruah (Research Officer, DPIIT IPR Chair, NLUJA, Assam).

A workshop on Intellectual Property Rights was conducted by the Department of Law, Cotton University in collaboration with the DPIIT-IPR Chair of National Law University and Judicial Academy (NLUJA), Assam on 25th October, 2024 from 10.00 am onwards at the Seminar Hall, MCB Building, Cotton University. The workshop started with the Inaugural session followed by the technical session. The technical session was scheduled for three resource persons covering the topics of patent, geographical indication & traditional knowledge and copyright.

The Inaugural Session commenced with the welcoming of the dignitaries followed by the felicitation of the dignitaries of Inaugural session and Resource Persons of the technical session. Prof. Ramesh Chandra Deka, Vice Chancellor of Cotton University, Dr. Arindam Garg, Registrar of Cotton University and Dr. Bedanta Bora, Academic Registrar of Cotton University were invited as guests for the Inaugural session. Dr. Hiraj Ranjan Deka, Innovation Manager, Indovation Cell, Guwahati, AICTE Ministry of Education's Innovation Cell, Govt. of India also graced the workshop as special guest.



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The Inaugural Session started with the welcome address delivered by Dr. Smita Sarmah, Assistant Professor & Head (i/c), Department of Law, Cotton University. Dr. Sarmah pointed out the objective of the programme besides deliberating upon the concept of IPR, importance of IPR and the lack of consciousness among the people on this aspect and the need to generate awareness about the same. She believed that such collaborative efforts will help in generating awareness on the various traits of IPR.



The welcome address was followed by the keynote address delivered by Dr. Arindam Garg, Registrar, Cotton University. Dr. Garg while giving a basic idea of IPR highlighted the nexus of IPR with the academicians. He mainly stressed upon the patent rights and issues related to copyright in connection with academics. Further he appreciated the efforts of the department in organising the workshop and advised about drawing of an MoU with National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam so that collaborative events can be organised in formal manner in the near future.



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Dr. Garg's speech was followed by the speech of the Chief Guest, Prof. Ramesh Chandra Deka, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Cotton University. He focused on the significance of IPR in recent times. While giving the example of turmeric, Prof. Deka discussed about the issue of patent filing and the trend of patent filing in India. Further he highlighted about the concept of Geographical Indication



and mentioned about some of the GI tags of Assam, namely, gamusa, kaji nemu, indigenous rice varieties of Assam etc. He also stressed about the ethics followed by the Rishi-Munis of earlier times which is not found in present times. He ended his speech by encouraging everyone to be ethically strong and to appreciate the rights possessed by the creators/inventors of new and original work.

The inaugural session was followed by the technical session and Dr. Pankaj Kumar, Chair Professor, DPIIT-IPR Chair, NLUJAA was the first resource person of the session. Dr. Pankaj Kumar discussed on the topic "From Idea to Patent: Filing Process, Documentation and Legal Requirements" wherein he spoke about the types of IPR, importance/benefits of IPR and the need of



generating awareness about it. He pondered upon the life cycle of IPR and working of the IP offices. By giving illustrations on the various components and aspects of IPR, Dr. Kumar finally discussed about the Government schemes helpful for establishing startups, MSMEs and also for educational institutions.

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The second session was delivered by Prof. (Dr.) Debasis Poddar, Professor of Law, NLUJAA on the topic “Traditional knowledge and Geographical Indications”. Prof. Poddar started his session by giving the concept of property and rights from the jurisprudential context. Then he discussed about whether intellectual property can be considered as public property, types of Intellectual property – private intellectual property & public intellectual property, geographical indications as public IP etc. He also stated the difference between public IP and private IP. Prof. Poddar further highlighted the salient features and research gaps in geographical indications and finally the legislative mechanism covering GI and institutional regime covering traditional knowledge.



Dr. Hiraj Ranjan Deka, Innovation Manager, Indovation Cell, Guwahati, AICTE Ministry of Education’s Innovation Cell, Govt. of India was thereafter invited to deliver a short speech. Dr. Deka briefly discussed about the Indovation Cell, its aims, funding facilities available, its initiatives undertaken in recent times. He also enlightened the participants about the schemes available under the Government of



India for protecting and commercialising patents. He also shared some of the success stories from different States which have helped individuals to earn monetary profits.

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Dr. Sharmistha Baruah, Research Officer, DPIIT-IPR Chair, NLUJAA presented the third session on the topic "Copyright in Academics." She focused on the role of copyright in academic work and academic integrity. Dr. Baruah discussed about performers right, economic rights, infringement and remedies. She also illustrated the concepts of moral right and fair use with relevant case laws and also highlighted about plagiarism and research ethics.



The programme successfully ended with a vote of thanks. The programme was attended by around 50 number of participants comprising of faculty, research scholars and students from various institutions such as Department of Law, Cotton University; J. B. Law College; Mahatma Gandhi University; NEF Law College; Royal Global University and also advocates from Gauhati High Court and Subordinate Court.

Registration of Participants for the
Workshop on Intellectual Property Rights
25/10/2024, 10 A.M, Room No. MCB 311

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