

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

Report on Awareness Program cum Facilitation Camp on Registration of 'Authorised Users' For GI Muga Silk of Assam held on June 9, 2023 at Government Eri Seed Grainage, Barduar, Kamrup District, Assam

The DPIIT-IPR Chair of National Law University and Judicial Academy (NLUJA), Assam had organised an Awareness Program cum Facilitation Camp on Registration of 'Authorised Users' for GI Muga Silk of



Assam at Government Eri Seed Grainage, Barduar, Kamrup District, Assam on June 9, 2023. The programme was organised in collaboration with Office of the Assistant Director of Sericulture, Kamrup, Assam and North Eastern Development Finance Corporation Ltd. (NEDFi).

The DPIIT-IPR Chair comprising of the Chair Professor (Dr. Pankaj Kumar), Research Assistant (Ms. Sharmistha Baruah), Office Assistant cum Data Entry Operator (Mr. Priyanko Mahanta) conducted the Awareness Program cum Facilitation Camp on Registration of 'Authorised Users' for GI Muga Silk of Assam in order to sensitise the Muga Silk producers about the Muga Silk of Assam GI. The locals of Barduar of the Kamrup District are mostly engaged in Muga Cocoon cultivation and they were encouraged to enroll themselves under the umbrella of Authorised Users of the same.

Mr. Binod Prasad, IP Attorney, Guwahati graced the program as the Keynote Speaker. He dealt with the basics of GI in the local language, thereafter focussing on the importance of GI and benefits of using the GI tag. He also illustrated about the various registered GIs from India including the North East Region and lastly he highlighted about the recently granted GI from Assam – Gamosa. Dr. Pankaj Kumar provided an easy understanding of GI and the need to

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accord protection to the producers of GI products, particularly Muga Silk in this case. Ms. Sharmistha Baruah discussed in brief the objective of the facilitation camp for Muga Silk GI Authorised Users and the formalities and steps involved in the registration of Authorised User.

The Awareness Program was attended by more than **50 participants** including local Muga farmers, Sericulture Officers, Sericulture Field Staff and potential applicants for Muga Silk of Assam GI. The Registration Camp provided on-site assistance for the Muga farmers of Barduar area to enroll as Authorised Users of Muga Silk of Assam GI. Several local Muga Silk farmers took advantage of the on-site registration facilitation. The Authorised Users Registration facilitation was provided by the DPIIT-IPR Chair staff (Ms. Sharmistha Baruah, Research Assistant and Mr. Priyanko Mahanta, Office Assistant cum Data Entry Operator. They were also assisted by the Field officials of Sericulture Department of Kamrup district in filling up the application forms. **33 applications** have been received by the DPIIT-IPR Chair from the camp and further applications are yet to be received from the Field Officials of Barduar in due course.



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