



Report on IPR Workshop



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CONTENTS OF THE REPORT

S. No.	Title	Pg. No.
1	PROGRAM OBJECTIVE	2
2	ABOUT PATENT INFORMATION CENTRE-TNSCST	3
3	REPORT ON THE PROGRAM	4
4	PROGRAM SCHEDULE	11
5	PARTICIPANTS	12
6	BENEFICIARIES	12
7	KEY RESULTS	13
8	WORKSHOP OUTCOME	13
9	PHOTO GALLERY	14
10	MEDIA	18
11	CERTIFICATE	19
12	FEEDBACK FROM PARTICIPANTS	19

Title of the Program: Inauguration of IPR cell & Faculty Development Program on IPR

1. PROGRAM OBJECTIVE:

The primary aim of the inauguration ceremony was to formally establish and launch the Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Cell within our organization. This initiative is designed to foster a culture of innovation, creativity, and protection of intellectual property assets.

The Faculty Development Workshop on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) was organized to enhance the awareness and understanding of IPR among faculty members. The workshop aimed to equip participants with knowledge on various aspects of intellectual property, including patents, copyrights, trademarks, and Geographical Indicators. This workshop was intended to help the participants to get a thorough understanding of IPR, patenting processes and the significance of geographical indications in product development.

The workshop had the following objectives:

- a. To provide an overview of intellectual property and its significance in academic and research environments.
- b. To familiarize participants with the legal frameworks and regulations related to intellectual property rights.
- c. To enhance understanding of the participants in the process of patenting, copyrighting, and trademark registration.
- d. To discuss the role of intellectual property in technology transfer and commercialization.
- e. To facilitate discussions on ethical considerations and conduct research related to intellectual property.

2. ABOUT PATENT INFORMATION CENTRE- TNSCST

Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) are granted to creations stemming from human creativity and ingenuity. Safeguarding intellectual property is pivotal in securing a competitive edge in technological advancement, fostering the growth of technology, industry, and economy within a nation. IPR encompasses patents, copyrights, trademarks, geographical indications, industrial designs, layout designs of integrated circuits, as well as the protection of know-how and undisclosed information.

Patents serve as legal safeguards for novel inventions, offering solutions to scientific and technological challenges granted by the government for a specified duration. The significance of patent information is increasingly acknowledged worldwide, with the number of patents filed serving as an indicator of a country's technological progress.

Tamil Nadu boasts diverse geographical, climatic, and cultural landscapes, along with a robust network of institutions and abundant resources. IPR frameworks incentivize entrepreneurship and innovation by providing a means to reward entrepreneurs for their intellectual prowess and innovation potential. Hence, fostering the generation of more IPRs and strengthening the IPR ecosystem in the state is vital to drive economic growth. Consequently, scientists, technologists, and researchers require access to information, guidance, and resources to safeguard the fruits of their intellectual labour.

To cater to these needs, the Patent Information Centre (PIC) in Tamil Nadu operates under the Council of Science & Technology, Tamil Nadu, in collaboration with the Patent Facilitating Cell (PFC) of the Technology Information, Forecasting & Assessment Council (TIFAC), under the Department of Science & Technology, Government of India, New Delhi. Its mission is to provide localized facilitation services for intellectual property protection, particularly to the science and technology community, by fostering innovation, promoting awareness about Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), and facilitating IP protection.

3. REPORT ON THE PROGRAM

HIGHLIGHTS ON THE INAUGURATION OF IPR CELL:

- ✚ The event commenced with a welcome address by Dr. Renuga Devi T. S., Convenor of Institutional Innovation Council (IIC), emphasizing the significance of intellectual property in today's competitive landscape. She gave a brief introduction to the objectives, functions and scope of the IPR Cell.
- ✚ Principal Dr. Lilian I Jasper addressed the gathering and outlined the need for managing, protecting, and commercializing intellectual property assets.
- ✚ The lighting of the lamp is considered an auspicious beginning or inauguration for any endeavor. It signifies purity, positivity, and auspiciousness, setting the tone for a successful and fruitful journey ahead. Lamps were lit by all members present on the dias.
- ✚ Inaugural address was delivered by a renowned expert, Dr. Srinivasan R, Member Secretary, Tamilnadu State Council for Science and Technology (TNSCST) in the field of intellectual property, providing insights into global trends, best practices, and the importance of safeguarding intellectual property rights.
- ✚ Special address was delivered by an expert in Patents, Shri S Udhaya Shanker, Deputy Controller of Patents & Designs, Patent Office, Chennai on the need for protecting Intellectual Property Rights.
- ✚ Dr. Christina Nancy, Head, Department of Physics, Convenor of Faculty development Program on IPR was presenting a memento is to express gratitude, recognition, and appreciation.
- ✚ Representatives from TNSCST Patent Information Centre Ms. Gomati Padma Thilaga S, Project Scientist and Ms. Hema P, Project Associate were also at the event extending their encouragement and support.

- ✚ The event concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Jancy Merlin R, IPR cell Coordinator, expressing gratitude to all participants, speakers, and organizers for their contributions towards making the inauguration ceremony a success.

REPORT ON THE FACULTY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME ON IPR:

About the Organizing Committee:

The workshop was jointly organized by Institutional Innovation Council, Women's Christian College, Chennai and Department of Physics, Women's Christian College, Chennai.

Dr. Renuga Devi T.S., Convenor of IIC and Dr. Christina Nancy, Head, Department of Physics were the Convenors. Dr. Jancy Merlin R, Coordinator – IPR cell, Women's Christian College was the Organizing Secretary. The organizing committee included members from Institutional Innovation Council and Department of Physics.

Glimpse of the Resource Persons:

Eminent experts and professionals in the field of intellectual property from TNSCST were invited to facilitate sessions during the workshop. Resource persons included legal experts, patent examiners, and experienced researchers with a strong background in intellectual property. Details of the Resource persons are given under each session.

Reports of Sessions 1 – 8 and Field Visit:

Day 1:

Session 1: Importance of IPR filing and Best Practices

The importance of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) filing and best practices provided attendees with a deep understanding of the pivotal role intellectual property. The

speaker, Mr. Thangapandian, shared insights into the significance of protecting innovations through proper filing strategies and adhering to best practices.

The Key Points discussed were on the basic understanding of intellectual property rights, importance of IPR filing, different types of IP's, protection against infringement and unauthorized use. Best Practices in IPR Filing- highlighting the need for timely filing of patent, trademark, and copyright applications to secure priority rights. Real-world examples illustrating how innovations are made in commonly used products in order to solve a particular problem that exists, were discussed. The interactive nature of the session, including Q&A segment allowed for a deeper exploration of specific concerns and practical applications, making it a highly beneficial event for all participants.

Session 2: Patent and Design

On the patent and design system in India was delivered by Mr. S. Udayashankar, an expert in Indian patent and design law. He shared insights into the legal frameworks, application processes and recent developments shaping innovation protection in India.

Key Points discussed were on the Indian Patent System, the legal foundations for patent protection, patentable subject matter, explaining the criteria for patentability, including novelty, inventive step, and industrial applicability. He instated on the Patent application process providing a step-by-step explanation of the patent application process in India, importance of drafting a clear and comprehensive patent specification, patent examination and grant, emphasizing the role of the patent office in examining patent applications. He also gave examples about how descriptions and claims have to be written to obtain patents for products. The scope of protection for registered designs were also discussed. The Q&A session allowed for further clarification on specific aspects, making the event a valuable resource for the participants.

Day 2:

Session 3: Technology transfer and Commercialization Strategies

The session on technology transfer and commercialization strategies provided attendees with valuable insights into the critical intersection of innovation, patents and bringing technologies to the market. The speaker, Dr. Puthilibai, an esteemed expert in technology transfer and patent strategy, shared in-depth knowledge on how businesses and researchers can effectively leverage patents to commercialize their inventions.

Key Points Discussed were on the role in converting research and innovation into practical applications, importance of collaborative efforts between academia and industry in technology transfer. She also mentioned about licensing and purchasing from the inventor and also about royalty. Types of claims and types of forms that need to be filled in to complete the procedure were also addressed. The interactive Q&A session further enriched the discussion and was a motivation for all participants.

Session 4: Copyrights and Plagiarism

The session on copyrights and plagiarism offered a comprehensive exploration of the legal frameworks surrounding creative works, emphasizing the importance of protecting intellectual property. The speaker, Ms. Hema shared valuable insights on securing copyrights and strategies for preventing plagiarism.

Key Points Discussed were on protecting original works of authorship, Categories of creative works eligible for copyright protection, including literary, artistic, and musical creations, Copyright Registration Process, cases of infringement, the exclusive rights granted to copyright holders, including reproduction, distribution, and public performance, Fair Use and Exceptions where she gave insights about the balance between protecting creators' rights and allowing for the free use of copyrighted material in certain contexts. Effective strategies to prevent plagiarism were also discussed.

Enforcement and Legal Remedies were informed to the attendees. The session was followed by a Q & A session.

Day 3:

Session 5: Significance of Geographical Indication (GI) registration

Significance of Geographical Indications (GIs) focused on empowering Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) by providing insights into the identification, filing, and commercialization of GIs. The speaker, Ms. Gomati Padma Thilaga, an expert in intellectual property law, shed light on the strategic advantages that GIs offer to MSMEs in terms of market access, branding, and economic sustainability.

Key Points Discussed were on identification and recognition of GIs, Criteria for identifying products eligible for GI protection. The role of uniqueness, distinctive qualities, reputation to a specific geographical origin in the identification process. She discussed the Importance of collaboration among local stakeholders and MSMEs and the government in the filing process. Benefits of GI Protection for MSMEs, like market differentiation and enhanced value for products associated with a specific region were discussed. Case Studies were shared and Overview of government schemes and incentives for MSMEs seeking GI protection were also discussed.

The talk successfully conveyed provided attendees with a roadmap for identification, filing, and commercialization. The insights shared by the speaker, combined with real-world case studies, offered a good understanding on GIs. Interactive Q&A session allowed for further exploration on unlocking the full potential of geographical indications.

Session 6: Tools for Patent Search

Session on tools for Patent Search was focused on the need for patent search and significance of it. The Resource Person was Ms. Gomati Padma Thilaga provided insights in patent search based on three areas: Research, Invention and Commercialisation. Out of the three, the emphasis was more on commercialization. The search could be further narrowed down to compositions, geographical locations, components etc. This search is necessary to check the validity and to claim copyright. Moreover, the purpose of patent search is to avoid duplication, infringement and exploiting technology from non-granted or invalid patents, along with determining the patentability of the inventions.

Day 4:

Field Visit to Sri Sai Ram Engineering College, Chennai

The fourth day of the FDP was a field trip to Sri Sai Ram Engineering College, Chennai. The field trip introduced the participants to the best practices of the college in terms of innovation. The first session was led by Dr. Rene Robin (Professor of CSE and Dean of Innovation, Sri Sai Ram Engineering College, Chennai). He spoke about the possible areas where attention is needed while discussing innovation in higher education. He emphasised on the significance of innovation. According to him, innovation is “invention multiplied by commercialisation”. Furthermore, he spoke about the requirements for innovation which included: collaboration, ideation, implementation and value creation. Out of these four, more emphasis was laid on ‘collaboration’ and ‘value creation’. He also discussed how all these four requirements are interlinked as one leads to another. For instance, collaboration through interaction leads to ideation which leads to implementation and finally there is value creation. The key takeaway of the trip, apart from the designs that the participants got to witness was the Innovation Eco-System which is a step by step process that encourages students to do research and be innovators. Within this initiative there are several steps (Immersion, Project

Development, Live-in Lab and Mini-Project) that help the students get acquainted gradually with the process of research and innovation, as each step is dealt separately within individual semesters. During the end of the trip, Dr. Swagatha (Head, Department of Artificial Intelligence and in charge of Incubation Cell) spoke about the ways in which we can nurture start-ups and entrepreneurship. The trip came to an end with a tour of their innovation centre as well as their designs.

Day 5:

Session 7: Role of Government in IP promotion and facilitation

Ms. Sincy Mary from Patent Information Centre was the Resource Person for the Session. She emphasized the significance of IP protection in encouraging innovation, creativity, and economic growth. She highlighted how patents, trademarks, copyrights, and trade secrets contribute to fostering a competitive marketplace and incentivizing investment in research and development. The speaker elucidated various ways in which the government can promote IP awareness and utilization among businesses and individuals.

Ms. Mary discussed the role of government agencies, such as patent offices and trademark registries, in facilitating the registration process for intellectual property rights. She emphasized the importance of streamlining procedures and providing support services to simplify the registration process for inventors, creators, and entrepreneurs. Additionally, the talk touched upon the need for robust enforcement mechanisms to deter infringement and protect the rights of IP holders. She discussed how governments can collaborate with international organizations, such as the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), to harmonize IP laws, promote cross-border trade, and address global challenges, such as counterfeiting and piracy.

Session 8: Case Studies – Discussion of sample patent applications

Mr. Srinivasan, Director, and Patent Attorney, delivered a talk on "Case Studies – Discussion of Sample Patent Applications." The session aimed to provide attendees with practical insights into the patent application process by analyzing real-world examples. The speaker began by providing a comprehensive overview of patent applications, emphasizing the importance of thorough research, documentation, and legal compliance. He explained the various components of a patent application, including the specification, claims, drawings, and abstract, and discussed their significance in securing patent protection.

Mr. Srinivasan highlighted the importance of addressing both legal and technical aspects in patent applications. He discussed how patent attorneys collaborate with inventors and technical experts to accurately describe the invention, define the scope of protection, and anticipate potential objections or challenges during the examination process.

4. PROGRAM SCHEDULE:

The five-day workshop was divided into thematic sessions, covering the following topics:

Day 1:

Session 1: Importance of IPR filing and Best Practices

Session 2: Patent and Design

Day 2:

Session 3: Technology transfer and Commercialization Strategies

Session 4: Copyrights and Plagiarism

Day 3:

Session 5: Significance of Geographical Indication (GI) registration

Session 6: Tools for Patent Search

Day 4:

Field Visit to Sri Sai Ram Engineering College, Chennai

Day 5:

Session 7: Role of Government in IP promotion and facilitation

Session 8: Case Studies – Discussion of sample patent applications

On each day, two sessions were conducted:

Forenoon Session: 11.30 am to 1.00 pm

Afternoon Session: 1.30 pm to 3.00 pm

5. PARTICIPANTS:

Students and Staff members across various departments and Members of Institutional Innovation council.

Participant details for the Inauguration:

No.of Students	32
No.of External Participants	02
No.of faculty Participants	19
Total	53

Participant details for the FDP:

No.of Research scholars	10
No.of faculty Participants	42
Total	52

6. BENEFICIARIES:

The workshop catered to a diverse audience comprising senior faculty members, early-career faculty researchers, and enthusiastic research scholars eager to explore the realm of intellectual property. Through a series of interactive sessions, expert speakers delved

into the fundamentals of patents, copyrights, trademarks, and other forms of intellectual property protection.

7. KEY RESULTS:

Participants gained insights into the intricacies of the patenting process, learned about the importance of conducting prior art searches, and discovered strategies for effectively drafting patent applications. One of the key beneficiaries of the workshop was the faculty members who found the knowledge gained invaluable in their research endeavors. Armed with a deeper understanding of intellectual property, they could identify innovative aspects of their work, explore avenues for commercialization, and protect their intellectual assets. For early-career researchers and research scholars, the workshop served as a springboard for honing their skills in innovation and entrepreneurship. They gained practical insights into transforming their research findings into tangible products or services, thereby contributing to societal welfare and economic development.

8. WORKSHOP OUTCOME:

IPR workshop for faculty and research scholars emerged as a transformative experience, empowering participants to harness the power of intellectual property for driving innovation and research excellence. Moreover, the interdisciplinary nature of the workshop fostered collaboration and knowledge exchange across departments. Participants had the opportunity to engage in meaningful discussions, share best practices, and forge partnerships for future research projects. This cross-pollination of ideas not only enriched the learning experience but also laid the foundation for interdisciplinary research initiatives with the potential to address complex societal challenges. By investing in capacity-building initiatives such as

this, institutions can foster a conducive environment for innovation, propel academic research to new heights, and contribute to the socio-economic development of the nation.

9. PHOTO GALLERY

Inauguration of IPR Cell







Faculty Development Program on IPR for five days



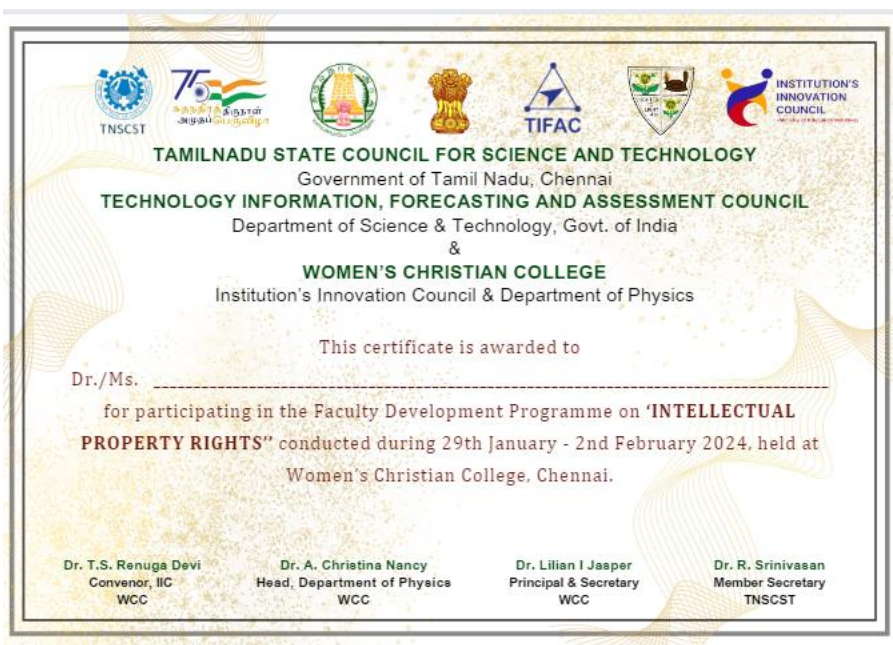




10. MEDIA

Social Media	URL
Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/wcc.edu
Instagram	https://www.instagram.com/wccinfo.chennai/

11. CERTIFICATE:



12. FEEDBACK FROM PARTICIPANTS:

At the end of each session and finally during the Valedictory Program of the FDP, Participants were requested to share their feedback. They provided positive feedback on the workshop, citing increased awareness and understanding of intellectual property. They appreciated the practical insights provided by the resource persons and found the group discussions & field trip beneficial for sharing diverse perspectives of their peers.

Video & Photo links:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1JXCZf8IkhHJ5-p-UUaCF7PxxkckQ7JWW/view?usp=drive_link

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1JXEW3c5c9tbY9tykNPF7tGVfXX4kkohO/view?usp=drive_link

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