

REPORT OF WEBINAR ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

Intellectual Property Awareness Mission (NIPAM) in collaboration with Intellectual Property Rights Information Centre Kerala (IPRICK)- Kerala State Council for Science, Technology and Environment (KSCSTE) and the IQAC, Government Victoria College Palakkad and Mercy college, Palakkad collectively organized a webinar on the topic Intellectual Property Rights on 23rd February 2022. The webinar was organized as a part of "Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav" programme. The objective of the webinar was to impart awareness about Intellectual Property Rights to students. All the post-graduate and final year degree students of both colleges attended the webinar.

The webinar started at 11:00 am. The resource person of the webinar was Ms.Devika R. Nair, Examiner of Patents and Designs Electrical Group, Patent Office, Chennai. The webinar was a part of National Intellectual Property Awareness Mission. The programme began with a welcome address by Dr.Girija, coordinator of the webinar, Mercy college.

Ms Devika R.Nair began the presentation by giving a brief outline about the whole session. She explained that Intellectual property (IP) refers to creations of the mind such as inventions, literary and artistic works, designs and symbols, names and images used in commerce. Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) are the legal rights that protect creations and/or inventions resulting from intellectual activities.

The various aspects of IPR such as Patents, Trademarks, Designs, Copyrights, Geographic indications and Semiconductor Integrated Circuit Layout Designs were explained in great detail. She clarified how IPR guarantees protection from utilizing one's original piece of work by others.

The most important IPR, namely, the Patent, was described covering details about the time period, criteria for patency, non patentable innovations, filing procedure of a patent application in India, criteria for expedited examination etc. She introduced the Comprehensive e-filing portal under the government of India. The various stages of patent processing along with its time period were also mentioned.

Other IPRs including designs, trademarks and copyrights were explained separately with sufficient examples thereby enabling the listeners to clearly distinguish among them. Geographic indications in Kerala were specially mentioned. NIPAM initiatives provide funding assistance for the patent filing and the IPRIC- Kerala's schemes have provision for filing patents online without any application fee.

After the talk, a small quiz session was conducted. This session made the webinar more interesting. Most of the students eagerly answered the questions about IPR without any confusion. The session ended with a round of discussion.

The vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. Rasmi A R, Associate Professor, Department of Botany, Government Victoria College, Palakkad and the co-ordinator of the webinar. The webinar ended by 12:15 pm. Around 190 participants attended the programme. All participants were issued e-certificates.