

**National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam
DPIIT-IPR Chair**

Educational Tour cum Awareness Camp on Geographical Indication (GI), Traditional Knowledge (TK) and other Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)



The DPIIT-IPR Chair and Centre for Research on Intellectual Property Rights (CERIP) of National Law University and Judicial Academy (NLUJA), Assam organised an **Educational Tour cum Awareness Programme on Geographical Indication (GI), Traditional Knowledge(TK) and other Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)** on **March 22nd 2023** at Sualkuchi in collaboration with Rural and Tribal Development Foundation (NGO), Sualkuchi and Mazbat College, Udalguri BTR Assam. The aim of the awareness camp was to sensitize the local people who are involved in various stages of Muga Silk production to commercialization, to realize their Intellectual Property (IP) potential vis-à-vis Geographical Indications (GI) as well as how to protect it by means of legal tools. The programme was attended by the local producers of Muga Silk of Assam. The DPIIT-IPR Chair Professor Dr. Pankaj Kumar discussed about Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs), GI as well as Traditional Knowledge (TK) and the need to preserve their rights by means of legal mechanism. He then appraised the people about the Muga Silk authorised user registration and in what way can the

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DPIIT-IPR Chair facilitate it. Additionally, Ms. Kaberi Talukdar, Assistant Professor, Mazbat College, Udalguri also explained the people in Assamese language about TK and knowledge-sharing as well as protecting the rights of the local Muga Silk producers. She also informed the people about the authorised user registration process to be facilitated by the DPITT-IPR Chair of NLUJA, Assam which is the need of the hour in order to protect their rights. The programme successfully ended with an interactive session wherein Ms. Sharmistha Baruah and Ms. Dolly Kumar, Research Assistants of DPIIT-IPR Chair apprised the people about the requirements and eligibility criteria for authorised user registration. The programme was attended by around 79 participants including 27 students of NLUJA, Assam whose attendance list is annexed herewith.

An educational tour for around 27 nos. of students having IPR specialization from BA.LL.B. 10th semester and LLM 2nd semester of NLUJA, Assam has been also undertaken in the programme wherein the students visited Muga Silk two (02) nos. of weaving centres at Sualkuchi. They were acquainted with the reeling and weaving process of Muga Silk items apart from understanding the IP potential of the region in the awareness programme. An exploration of the Hajo Brass Metal workshops on the way back was also undertaken wherein the students and the DPIIT-IPR Chair team discussed the challenges and issues of the local brass metal artisans.

PHOTOS



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