

National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam

Dated: 26/10/2022

Report on Webinar held on 23/10/2022 by DPIIT- IPR Chair

- Activity : Webinar on ‘Ayurveda, Traditional Knowledge and the IPR Issues’.
- Date and Time : October 23rd, 2022 from 11.00 AM to 12 Noon.
- Venue : Google Meet
- Resource Person / Speaker : Dr. Pankaj Kumar, DPIIT-IPR Chair Professor, National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam (NLUJA, Assam).
- Audience : Around 101 Participants from various institutions and organisations from all over India participated in the webinar, the attendance sheet of which is enclosed below.
- Objective : Generate awareness amongst the stakeholders about the correlation between Ayurveda, Traditional Knowledge and IPR.
- Summary : The Webinar started with a welcome note by Mr. Pranav Gandhi, Student, NLUJA, Assam, followed by the introduction of the respected Speaker Dr. Pankaj Kumar, DPIIT-IPR Chair Professor was introduced to the participants. The DPIIT-IPR Chair Professor commenced the session by stating that according to Ayurveda, the world’s best pharmacy starts from the kitchen. It is the place wherein not only good food is prepared but also healthy ones by judiciously applying herbs and spices, such as, Triphala, Haritaki, Bibhitaki, Amalki, etc. The learned Speaker then discussed about the correlation between Ayurveda, Traditional Knowledge (TK) and Intellectual Property Rights (IPR). Ayurveda being the most ancient and oldest surviving continuous medical system in the world, it is deep-rooted from remote antiquity and history and has endured and grown from the transmutation and test of time through its scientific background. He then extensively discussed about the associated TK of the various tribal communities of India.

The learned Chair Professor also elaborated on the indigenous and patented use of plants as well as the bio-resources and went on to describe about the identified issues of Ayurveda and TK. Sir focused on the interrelation between Ayurveda and the IPR regime and stressed about issues of patenting. He then discussed about bioprospecting vis-à-vis bio-product value addition and demonstrated the participants some aspects of bioprospecting vide some news articles.

Sir further discussed at length about the particulars of patenting system and pointed out the essentialities of patents, such as novelty, inventiveness, utility and best mode. He then cited the relevant provisions of the Indian Patents Act, 1970 and discussed about some of the granted patents in India in the field of bio-TK. Sir also highlighted the options for fair and equitable benefit sharing as

well as the law relating to TK and biological material and the means of preservation of our TK. He then talked about India's TKDL impacts on patent applications in the field of bio-resources and the associated TK and the outcome of the impact of TKDL against bio-piracy. The learned speaker concluded the session with a brief discussion on IPR Laws and Policies on Bio-Resources and the Associated TK in India and by stating the observations made by him with regard to Ayurveda, TK and the IPR issues and.

The informative session finally came to an end with a discussion on the questions put forward by the participants. A feedback form was also sent to the participants and an overall positive response was received.

The image is a composite of three parts related to a webinar. The top-left part is a poster for a webinar titled "Ayurveda, Traditional Knowledge and the IPR Issues" organized by IOAC Cell, DPITT-IPR Chair and Centre for Research on Intellectual Property Rights Law (CERIP) at National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam. The speaker is Dr. Pankaj Kumar, DPITT-IPR Chair Professor, NLUJA, Assam. The event is on October 23, 2022, from 11:00 AM to 12:00 Noon. The top-right part is a screenshot of a Zoom meeting showing a speaker in a white shirt and glasses, with a gallery view of other participants. The bottom part is a screenshot of a presentation slide titled "Identified issues of Ayurved-Traditional Knowledge". The slide features a central orange box labeled "Ayurved, TK" with six surrounding boxes: "Prior-approval and ABS" (green), "Bioprospecting" (yellow), "Bio-piracy" (orange), "Patents" (green), "Codification of prior-art: TKDL" (blue), and "Oppositions: pre-grant & post-grant" (blue). The slide also includes the logo of National Ayurveda and the text "राष्ट्रीय आयुर्वेद दिवस".

