



PIC Newsletter

Quarterly newsletter of Patent Information Centre-Kerala, KSCSTE

WIPO celebrates World Intellectual Property Day

Every April 26, celebrated as World Intellectual Property Day to learn about the role that intellectual property rights play in encouraging innovation and creativity. This year's World Intellectual Property Day campaign celebrates the brilliance, ingenuity, curiosity and courage of the women who are driving change in our world and shaping our common future

The fields of biotechnology, pharmaceuticals and chemistry show the highest rates of women named as inventors in international patent applications filed via WIPO, new figures indicate, as World IP Day 2018 celebrates women driving positive change across the globe

New data reveal that in total, women were listed in 31 percent of the 2,43,500 international patent applications published by WIPO in 2017, up from 23 percent a decade earlier. WIPO Director General Francis Gurry said these new data show positive trends and underlined this year's World IP Day theme "Powering Change: Women in Innovation and Creativity." But he noted that a pronounced gender gap exists.

Fifty percent of applications from the Republic of Korea listed at least one woman inventor, the highest among the 152 user countries of WIPO's Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT), followed by China (48 percent), Belgium (36 percent), Spain (35 percent) and the United States of America (33 percent)

Mr. Gurry said he was heartened by the comparatively high rates of women participating in the research-intensive areas of biotechnology (58 percent of all WIPO international patent applications in 2017), pharmaceuticals (56 percent), organic fine chemistry (55 percent) and food chemistry (51 percent). Of the top 30 biggest corporate users of the PCT, Republic of Korea's LG Chemicals had the highest rate of women listed as inventors with 73 percent, followed by Switzerland's F. Hoffman -La Roche (69 percent), L'Oreal of France (67 percent), USA's Dow Global Technologies (63 percent)

and Germany's Henkel Kommanditgesellschaft Auf Aktien with 62 percent.

Among academic institutions, Republic of Korea's Electronics and Telecommunications Research Institute of Korea ranked first with 83.3 percent, followed closely by four Chinese organizations: Shenzhen Institute of Advance Technology (82.7 percent), Jiangnan University (82.5 percent), Tsinghua University (80 percent) and Jiangsu University (80 percent)

www.businessworld.in, February 08, 2018

CSIR awarded National Intellectual Property Award 2018

A The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) was awarded the National Intellectual Property (IP) Award 2018 in the category 'Top R&D Institution/Organisation for Patents and Commercialisation'. Union Commerce and Industry Minister Suresh Prabhu gave out the award to CSIR.

The CSIR S&T domains range from environment to health and drinking water, from food, housing, energy to specialty chemicals and petrochemicals, glass and ceramics to mining, metals and minerals, medicinal plants, leather to machinery, instrumentation and strategic sectors including aerospace. It is contributing for the Missions such as Swachh Bharat, Swasth Bharat, Samarth Bharat, Make in India, Innovate for India, Startup India and Skill India.

The CSIR has been ranked ninth in the world among the 1,207 government institutions, with an overall global ranking of 75 in the world, covering 5,250 institutions. The Indian Intellectual Property Office confers IP Award on outstanding innovators, organisations and companies in the fields of patents, designs, trademarks and geographical indications on the occasion of World IP Day every year.

www.economictimes.indiatimes.com April 26, 2018

Suresh Prabhu launches Intellectual Property mascot 'IP Nani'

Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Suresh Prabhu on May 16, 2018 launched the Intellectual Property (IP) mascot 'IP Nani'. The mascot was launched during a conference on the National Intellectual Property Rights Policy in New Delhi.

This IP mascot will spread awareness about the importance of Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) among people, especially children, in an interesting manner. It is also in line with the World Intellectual Property Organization's (WIPO) campaign for the World IP Day 2018 which celebrated the brilliance, ingenuity and courage of the women who are driving change in our world.

It also depicts that a strong IP system can support innovative women and everyone in their quest to bring their amazing ideas to the market. The first and foremost objective of the National IPR Policy is "IPR Awareness: Outreach and Promotion", aimed at raising awareness on IPR for school children to nurture creativity and the ability to innovate from a very young age.

In this context, the Cell for IPR Promotion and Management (CIPAM), a professional body under the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) produced a series of animated videos on IPRs for children with IP Nani as their central character. For creating such inspirational videos, CIPAM collaborated with the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EU-IPO).

www.jagranjosh.com, May 18, 2018

China, Russia back India on protecting traditional knowhow.

China and Russia have backed India's move to revive talks at the World Trade Organization (WTO) to strengthen global norms to protect traditional knowledge from bio piracy and reckless patenting by corporates.

The two major economic powers are among those that gave their go ahead during a brainstorming session on the rampant commercial exploitation of natural products by obtaining patents without fairly compensating the communities from which these knowledges originate. "There was strong support for India's initiative on this issue from China, Brazil, Indonesia and Russia," said an official in the know of the development.

While China has a keen interest in the subject, Brazil is said to be open to a plurilateral agreement on this issue. The United States, Korea and Japan are opposed to stronger norms to protect traditional knowledge and folklore. "Many options were suggested. Some were of the view that countries should go ahead even without the US," the official added. The session which took place on June 7-8, was led by India to revive discussions at the World Trade

Organization (WTO) to prevent theft of traditional knowledge. It was cosponsored by Brazil, Indonesia and South Africa.

Developing countries have sought mandatory disclosure of source or origin of biological resources and evidence of prior informed consent and benefit sharing from patent applicants to avoid exploitation of traditional knowledge. They are pushing for an amendment to the WTO's Trade Related Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) Agreement to make these two disclosures mandatory

www.economictimes.indiatimes.com, June 18, 2018

Taking steps to protect IPR, promote innovation: Prabhu.

The Commerce and Industry Ministry has taken several steps to protect intellectual property rights (IPRs) and promote innovation in the country, Union Minister Suresh Prabhu said. He said the ministry is engaging enforcement agencies including police department for proper administration of IPR laws.

"Innovation needs legal protection. We are now working on administrating the laws properly. We are modernising patent offices," the commerce and industry minister said at a CII function.

He said the ministry is undertaking a series of awareness programmes on IPR related issues. "We have called police officers from states to sensitise them about IPRs," he added. The minister also awarded special citations for significant achievements in IPR. Those who received the citations included Ghaziabad District Magistrate Ritu Maheshwari; Vijaywada City Police for combating network of drug mafia engaged in manufacturing and selling counterfeit medicines; and Sabyasachi Couture for designs. Kanthi Rana, an IPS officer posted in Vijaywada, said that they are taking steps to increase awareness about crimes related to IPRs.

www.indiatoday.in April 26, 2018

Kerala to safeguard IP rights of Navara rice.

The state government has raised objection to the move of a man in Palakkad to get intellectual property (IP) rights over the Navara variety of rice.

Agriculture minister V. S. Sunilkumar said as per the information received by the government, this person had applied for IP rights under the farmers' right clause of the Protection of Plant Variety and Farmers Right Act, 2001 (PPV&FR Act). "He is known to have applied for the IP rights by floating an organization. Both the Agriculture Department and the Kerala Agricultural University (KAU) have written to the related authorities that Navara rice is a traditional variety of Kerala and it is being cultivated in different parts of the state," said the minister.

The minister pointed out that the rice variety is also commonly used in ayurvedic health care system in Kerala due of its medicinal value. "So, the government has informed the authorities in charge of implementing the PPVFR Act that the ownership rights of the Navara belongs to the farmer community of Kerala and not to a particular individual," Sunilkumar said.

Earlier there were attempts to get geographical indication tag to Navara saying that this was a rice variety exclusively being cultivated in Palakkad. Then government and the KAU had objected this, saying it was being produced in different parts of the state, he added. Sunilkumar said some NGOs were also making efforts to wrest the IP rights of germplasms of the crop varieties of Kerala, through dubious means.

www.timesofindia.indiatimes.com, May 28, 2018

Sabyasachi Couture wins National Intellectual Property Award 2018.

ASabyasachi Mukherjee's label Sabyasachi Couture has been awarded the National Intellectual Property (IP) Award 2018 as the Top Indian company/organisation for Designs and Commercialisation.

This is the first time an Indian design house has bagged the title, which is conferred on outstanding organisations and innovators in the field of patents, designs and geographical indications.

www.indiatoday.in, April 27, 2018

Pendency of patent applications down to 1.72 lakh.

Pendency of patent applications at the examination stage has come down to 1.72 lakh as of February end this year on account of measures such as hiring of manpower and use of IT, said the government.

The ministry has taken multi-pronged approach to increase disposal of patent applications, Minister of State of Commerce and Industry C R Chaudhary said in a written reply to the Lok Sabha.

As on March 2017, the pendency of applications was 2.04 lakh. He said that 6,235 applications were examined in February alone as against 3,925 during the same month last year. "The pendency of patent applications at examination stage has come down from 2.04 lakh as on March 31, 2017 to 1.72 lakh as on February 28, this year," he said. The minister informed that necessary physical and IT infrastructure is established in all patent offices - Delhi, Chennai, Kolkata and Mumbai.

www.economictimes.com, April 2, 2018

Delhi HC Recognizes Copyright on Photos Uploaded On Facebook

The Delhi High Court has recently recognized copyright on photos uploaded on Facebook. The order was passed by Justice Manmohan on a suit for permanent injunction filed by Fairmount Hotels Pvt. Ltd., demanding that one Mr. Bhupendra Singh be restrained from infringing their copyright. It had alleged that Mr. Singh, who was managing their Hotel for about 4 years, opened a hotel and posted photographs of Fairmount as his own hotel on his Facebook page. Fairmount had now sought removal of the photos from Mr. Singh's Facebook page. While an interim injunction had been passed against Mr. Singh in August 2015, during a recent hearing he undertook not to repost the photos on his Facebook page.

In view of this undertaking, the Court disposed of the suit after imposing costs of Rs. 50,000 to be paid by Mr. Singh to the Plaintiff within four weeks. Advocates Arun Kumar Sinha and Shrey Sinha appeared for the Plaintiff.

www.livelaw.in April 12, 2018

Apple patents design for wearable BP monitor, equipped with a sensor and touchscreen.

Apple has patented a design for a wearable blood pressure monitor -- a cuff, equipped with a sensor that is expected to be Bluetooth compatible and sport a touch screen. "These devices work through a collection of tiny airbags, or 'cells', to exert pressure on the wearer's arm and cut off blood flow. From there, the device gets a measure of the heart's maximum output before releasing to get a measure of the heart's resting output,"

The proposed product would reportedly eliminate the need for cardiac concerned users to go through other third parties. However, the company's first full-on medical device would have to get approvals from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) before hitting the markets.

According to the US Trademark and Patent Office, the description of the patented wearable said: "A low-profile blood pressure measurement system and methods of use are disclosed. The system includes an expandable member or structure that has a multi-compartment structure and/or is mounted on a rigid surface or structure." An "actuator" to measure how much pressure is needed to get a good reading without crushing the user's arm entirely is also part of the patented design for Apple's blood pressure monitor.

www.economictimes.com, June 8, 2018

Indian Singers Rights' Association distributes royalty

In a first, the Indian Singers Rights' Association (ISRA) distributed Rs 51 lakh in royalties to singers on Friday. The beneficiaries included popular playback singers KS Chitra, P Susheela, KJ Yesudas, SP Balasubrahmanyam and Srinivas.

Speaking to The Hindu, ISRA CEO Sanjay Tandon said, "This 51 lakh royalty money will grow 10 fold if and when radio channels, television channels and mobile companies start paying us. Right now, only IPL teams, amusement parks and few other establishments have paid the royalty money."

Speaking to media persons at the event, singer SP Balasubrahmanyam said, "The government has given a rule saying that royalty should reach the singers as well. This programme is organised to give a part of the shares to singers in South India. This is a good thing to be welcomed."

In March last year, SPB and others were slapped with legal notices by renowned music director Ilaiyaraaja over performing his compositions without his explicit permission and a payment of royalty to him. While this took the singers by surprise, experts had clarified that Ilaiyaraaja was right in asking for royalty as long as he owned the copyright to the music.

Speaking to PuthiyaThalaimurai channel, singer Chitra said, "Everyone knows a singer doesn't have pension or anything. After they sing, if the song is a hit, they will get a few shows here and there. We know a lot of people who are struggling to live. This will definitely help them, especially when they are aged and cannot go to work. This royalty will really be useful. We welcome this."

www.thenewsminute.com, April 14, 2018

Samsung must pay Apple \$539 million in patent lawsuit: US court

A US court has finally asked Samsung to pay \$539 million to Apple for copying patented iPhone designs, after the two giants got entangled in a legal battle in 2011.

According to a report in Fortune, Samsung was found liable in the initial verdict in 2012 and was initially asked to pay over \$1 billion to Apple but the amount was later reduced in further court hearings. Under the US patent law, infringement of a design patent can result in a plaintiff receiving total profits made through the product

Samsung's lawyers appealed the case, bringing down the compensation of \$1 billion to \$400 million in 2015 at the US Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. This time, a jury in a northern California US district court in San Jose deliberated for five days to decide the fresh penalty in a case that alleged that Samsung's Android handsets used design elements stolen from the iPhone maker.

"We're grateful to the jury for their service and pleased they agree that Samsung should pay for copying our products," Apple said.

www.economictimes.com, May 25, 2018

Motorola's Foldable Device Patent Approved

Chinese Smartphone maker Motorola's patent for a foldable device, which includes a rectangular screen that can be folded like a phone or unfolded to work like a tablet, has been approved by the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO).

The phone patent shows a flexible display that wraps around a hinge along with a cover that can protect the display or prop the phone up like a tent.

"No surprise that Motorola apparently wants in and has actually been scheming for years. A recently awarded patent reveals its idea for a smartphone that folds out into a tablet, pretty much like other foldable phone patents out there," SlashGear reported. "What makes this one a bit more interesting, however, is not the phone itself but the addition of a case cover that actually adds some value to the device," the report added.

The patent was originally filed in September 2016 but was only granted this March and only surfaced recently. Notably, Motorola's parent company Lenovo started working on foldable device prototypes before anyone else.

www.businessstandard.com May 12, 2018

Black Berry sues Snapchat over alleged patent violation

Software major Black Berry has sued Snap for allegedly infringing its patented messaging technology in the Snapchat app, media reported.

According to the Verge, the 71-page complaint accused Snap of infringing six patents, including map improvements for mobile devices, advertising techniques and user interface improvements for mobile devices. "It also cites Snap Maps and the display count of unread messages on a notification dot as infringing activities," the report said.

The development comes a month after BlackBerry filed a lawsuit in a Los Angeles court against Facebook and its subsidiaries -- photo sharing app Instagram and messaging service WhatsApp -- alleging that the social media giant infringed on some of its patents including security features, mobile notifications and combining gaming with messaging.

The complaint against Snap includes two patents that also appear in the Facebook suit. While one patent referred to the display count notification dot, the other patent disclosed time data in messaging conversations. BlackBerry said that Snap used the company's intellectual property to compete with it in the messaging space, diverting users from BlackBerry toward Snapchat

www.economictimes.indiatimes.com April 5, 2018

Disclaimer:

The views expressed in the IPR News of the newsletter are not necessarily those of the KSCSTE or its Institutions.

India continues to figure in US' intellectual property priority watch list

India continues to figure in the US' Priority Watch List that identifies trade barriers to US companies due to intellectual property (IP) laws of other countries. The United States Trade Representative on Friday said that India remains on the list this year for "longstanding challenges in its IP framework and lack of sufficient measurable improvements, particularly with respect to patents, copyrights, trade secrets, and enforcement, as well as for new issues that have negatively affected US right holders over the past year".

In its annual Special 301 report, the USTR has placed India, along with China and ten others in the list for not adequately or effectively protecting and enforcing IP rights ordenying market access to US innovators and

creators. "These countries will be the subject of particularly intense bilateral engagement during the coming year," the USTR said in a statement. Earlier in the day industry secretary Ramesh Abhishek said the government has accorded the highest priority to capacity building and enforcement of IP laws.

Another issue relates to enforcement action and policies that are insufficient to curb the problem, copyright policies that do not properly incentivize the creation and commercialization of content, and an outdated and insufficient trade secrets legal framework. It also cited new and growing concerns with respect to reductions in transparency by India's pharmaceutical regulator through the removal of a requirement that applicants submit information about a product's patent status and positions that India supports and voices in multilateral fora on IP issues

www.economictimes.indiatimes.com April 28, 2018

Seminars/ Workshops/ Exhibitions/ Lectures/ Talks organized

Title of the Programme	In association with	Date & Venue	Resource Persons
Seminar on 'Role on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) in Technology Transfer'	Adi Shankara Institute of Engineering and Technology, Kalady	20 th April 2018 Adi Shankara Institute of Engineering and Technology, Ernakulam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr. Lawwellman Adv. Febin James Shri. Arun Alfred
Exhibition on IPR as part of Rural Innovators Meet of KSCSTE 2018	M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation, Kalpetta, Wayanad.	14 th -16 th May, 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talk on IPR by Shri.V.P.Balagangadharan
Exhibition on IPR as part of 'Technology Sourcing Fest for MSME'	MSME - Development Institute, Thrissur	12 th June 2018 CSIR-NIIST, Trivandrum	
National Seminar on 'Intellectual Property Rights'	St. Berchmans College, Changanassery	21 st June, 2018 St. Berchmans College, Changanassery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shri.V.P.Balagangadharan Shri. Shri. Ajith M. Shri. Arun Alfred
Two Day Training Workshop on 'Intellectual Property Rights for IPR Cell Co-ordinators'	Amal Jyothi College of Engineering, Kanjirapally	22 nd &23 rd June 2018 Amal Jyothi College of Engineering, Kanjirapally	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shri.V.P.Balagangadharan Shri. Lakshminarayanan Adv. Benoy K Kadavan Shri. Ajith M

Seminar on 'Role on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) in Technology Transfer' at Kalady

PIC-Kerala in association with Adi Shankara Institute of Engineering and Technology, Kalady, organized a one day Seminar on 'Role on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) in Technology Transfer' on 20th April, 2018 at Adi Shankara Institute of Engineering and Technology, Kalady. The Principal of the College inaugurated the Workshop. Three technical sessions on various topics of IPR were handled by Experts in the Seminar. Around 75 participants including students and faculty members from the Institution as well as from nearby Institutions attended the Seminar.



Dr. Lawwellman, Assistant Professor, Govt. Law College, Kozhikode delivering his lecture..



Adv. Febin James, Trademark Attorney handling his session..



Shri. Arun Alfred, Project Scientist, PIC-Kerala making his presentation.



View of participants

IPR Exhibition at Wayanad.

In connection with Rural Innovators' Meet of KSCSTE 2018 held at M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation, Wayanad from 14th-16th May, 2018, PIC-Kerala arranged a Patent Clinic to provide IPR related information and services to the rural innovators. The display boards on IPR were exhibited and the publications on IPR were distributed to the visitors. Around 800 people including Grass root Innovators, Students & Faculty from various Engineering/Polytechnic/ITIColleges/Schools, Govt. Officials, Scientists, Researchers and General Public visited the Stall.



Views of Patent Clinic



IPR Exhibition at Thiruvananthapuram.

As part of Technology Sourcing Fest for MSME conducted by MSME Development Institute, Thrissur, held at CSIR-NIIST, Trivandrum on 12th June 2018, PIC-Kerala arranged a stall to provide IPR related information and services to the visitors. The publications on IPR were distributed to the visitors. Around 200 people including Entrepreneurs, Scientists, Researchers, Grass root Innovators, Students, Faculty, General Public, etc, visited the Stall.



Views of the Exhibition stall of PIC-Kerala



National Seminar on 'Intellectual Property Rights' at Changanassery

PIC-Kerala in association with St. Berchmans College, Changanassery organized a National Seminar on 'Intellectual Property Rights' on 21st June, 2018 at St. Berchmans College, Changanassery. The Managing Director of the College inaugurated the Seminar. Three Technical sessions on IPR were handled in the Seminar by eminent speakers. Around 80 participants including students, researchers and faculty attended the Seminar.



Shri .V. P. Balagangadharan, Former Brahmaprakash Scientist, VSSC delivering his lecture.



Shri. Ajith. M, Deputy Controller of Patents & Designs, Patent Office, Chennai, handling his session.



Shri Arun Alfred, Project Scientist, PIC-Kerala making his presentation.



View of participants.

Training Workshop on 'Intellectual Property Rights for IPR Cell Co-ordinators' at Kanjirapally

Patent Information Centre – Kerala in association with the IPR Cell of KSCSTE in Amal Jyothi College of Engineering, Kanjirapally jointly organized a two day Training Workshop on 'Intellectual Property Rights' for the Co-ordinators of IPR Cells established by KSCSTE in Universities, Engineering Colleges and in District Industries Centre at Amal Jyothi College of Engineering, Kanjirapally, on 22nd & 23rd June 2018. Dr. Z.V. Lakaparampil, Principal of the College inaugurated the Workshop.

Nine Technical sessions covering various topics on IPR including IP Auditing, Software Patenting, Practical sessions on patent searching and hands on session on Patent Drafting were handled in the Workshop. The sessions were led by IPR Experts of national repute. 18 IPR Cell Co-ordinators from Universities, Engineering Colleges and District Industries Centre attended the Workshop. The review of the activities of IPR Cells established by KSCSTE for the past five years was also conducted during the Workshop. The IPR Cell Co-ordinators presented the activities of their IPR Cells before the Expert panel and the Experts offered suggestions, recommendations and advice for strengthening the IPR Cells.



A view from the inaugural function.



Shri .V. P. Balagangadharan, Former Brahmaprakash Scientist, VSSC delivering his lecture.



Shri. Lakshminarayanan, Director, IPR Management, Samsung Electronics, Bangalore handling his session.



Shri .Ajith.M, Deputy Controller of Patents & Designs, Patent Office, Chennai, delivering his lecture.



Adv. BenoyKadavan, Trademark Attorney delivering his lecture.



A view of participants

Editorial Board

Chief Editor:

Dr. Suresh Das

Executive Vice President, KSCSTE

Executive Editor:

Dr. S. Pradeep Kumar

Member Secretary & Director (i/c), KSCSTE

Editors:

Dr. Ajit Prabhu V.,

Chief Scientist, KSCSTE &
Nodal Officer, PIC-Kerala

Shri. Safikh.S

Technical Officer, KSCSTE

**If undelivered, please return to
Dr. Ajit Prabhu V, Nodal Officer, PIC-Kerala,
KSCSTE, Sasthra Bhavan, Pattom,
Thiruvananthapuram – 695 004**

Published by

Patent Information Centre – Kerala
Kerala State Council for Science, Technology &
Environment, Sasthra Bhavan, Pattom P. O,
Thiruvananthapuram – 695004, Kerala State
Tel: 0471- 2543234, 2548315
Fax: 0471 – 2543234
Email: patentcentre@gmail.com
Website www.patentcentre.kerala.gov.in

To,