

State level seminar on Intellectual Property Rights in Academic Scenario: needs and Opportunities:

Report of the session on ‘Overview of the Indian Intellectual Property System’

Ms Anjana Girish, IPR cell, CUSAT

The session began with an introduction to copyright given to authors and trademarks like Bajaj, Keltron etc. Intellectual Property rights are given to products of inventive thought, mental or creative thought. They are tangible rights. There are two types of intellectual rights: copyrights and related rights. There are Intellectual property rights which are based on geographical indications(Aranmmula mirror, Pochampilly saree)Industrial designs, protection of plant varieties, trade secrets are certain copyright attributes. Then she stated the history of copyright law. Copyright Act began in 1914 based on English copyright act of 1911. Rights are exclusively granted to authors over their works for a limited period of time, that is until death plus fifty years. Copyrights are negative thoughts, statutory thoughts, economic and moral right. Registration is not mandatory for copyrights. The subject matter must be original, literary, dramatic or musical for authorcentredcopyrights. The concept of originality prevents existing works from being the subject matter of further copyrights protection. Creativity is applicable in choice and arrangement of words. She cited the example of two persons writing two poems at two locations eligible for copyright. Copyright law protects the author’s work, not idea. For literary, dramatic or musical work in internet the person who creates the work forms the original creator. This act is exclusively to prevent copying and reproduction, which is the cardinal right to prevent. For every other use of the work additional permission and agreement is needed. There are exceptions to copyright in the sense that every new creation is based on something that has been created in the past. Academic integrity is avoidance of plagiarism.

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Report of Second Session

The post noon session was on 'Patent Technology Commercialization and Entrepreneurship' by the resource person Dr. Sheeja T E (Principal Scientist, Biotechnology and Member Secretary ITM-BPD Unit, ICAR-IISR Kozhikode). She began the session with an introduction on the impact of patent and different types of properties like real, personal, easements and intellectual. She explained in detail about terms and conditions to receive patent and various steps involved in it. Like any genuine research patent gives prominence to novelty and promotion of technological innovation. Patent act 1970 is the governing act prevalent in India. She made it clear that the prior act of applying for patent is a patent search. She also added one more fact that there are two types of patent one is product patent and the other process patent. She concluded by adding particulars regarding those things which are not patentable like traditional knowledge/ indigenous knowledge or any design vital for the functioning, artistic creations etc. and especially in India plants cannot be patented. Towards the end of the session she clarified in detail of how ICAR functions to support the upcoming entrepreneurs in Kerala.
