

Report of Workshop

on

Patent Search and Analysis

...An initiative of the Tezpur UNIVERSITY IPR Cell

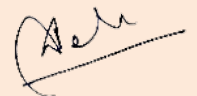
25 February, 2017

Organised by

Tezpur University Intellectual Property Rights Cell

Tezpur University (A Central University)

Napaam, Tezpur-784028

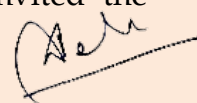


Prof. P. Deb
Chair Professor
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The innovation value chain is an integration of processes that transforms ideas into realities, of which a few find their way into the market place for commercialisation. One of the initial steps in this process is to identify a relevant problem, contextualise it, map it into the existing knowledge domain and then exploit the known space to venture into the pursuit of plausible new and non-obvious solutions to the identified problem.

Academicians generally search the standard literature sources such as journals, books, conference proceedings, and diverse e-sources and their like, to prepare a literature review prior to embarking on their research trajectory. Patent literature is seldom referred to by the academic researchers. It has been established that a significant portion of knowledge, especially the portion that is of potential utility value finds their way only into patent literature and do not get documented in other place. The implication of this is that most academicians are therefore basing their research only on 30% to 40 % of the global knowledge base. Such approaches to research often lead to “reinventing the wheel” and/or arriving at solutions that are already protected by patents and/or design registrations. Such solutions are not only of very low scientific and technical significance but also lack substantive value, thereby find no takers in the industrial sector. Understanding the importance of a systematic and designed search of patent literature, the IPR Cell, Tezpur University, has organised a patent search and analysis workshop for faculty/researchers to familiarise and train them on search of patent databases and also to initiate patent analysis so that the researchers can develop a base-level competence to conduct patent searches, analyse the patents for their technical content, prepare technical landscapes and design meaningful research proposals and approaches to their research prior to embarking on their research path. The workshop on **February 25, 2017** is the 3rd step in this direction and all faculty/researchers in Tezpur University were urged to register for this workshop to take full advantage of the practical sessions that have specially been designed for them. This was done to ensure better quality of research in Tezpur University, enhance the possibility of patentable output and improve the prospects of commercialisation of the output of researchers from Tezpur University.

The Coordinator, TUIPR Cell Prof. Pritam Deb welcomed the participants and introduced the theme of the workshop. In his introductory remarks, he explained how TUIPR Cell has been facilitating the faculty and researchers of the university with the process of IP filings. He, however, expressed his concern about the fact that as most inventors are not properly exposed to a systematic literature searches, their patent applications suffer from an analysis of prior art. This causes a lot of difficulty in the prosecution of the patent applications. He also highlighted that in certain fields more than 60% of the knowledge base is disclosed in patents and they do not find their way into academic publications. Therefore, if the researchers do not refer to patent literature while conducting their research, they would not be able to access what is already known and in some cases what is already protected by patents. This could lead to a situation of researchers unknowingly repeating what is known or even conducting research on the obvious. He emphasized that the patent search workshop would highlight the issues with effective results. Simultaneously, he also invited the participants to conduct patent searches a regular practice of academic research.



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Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Prof. Mihir Kanti Chaudhuri deliberated the Inaugural Address. In his address he elaborated on the significance of generating sufficient IPs including patents in today's research activities and how it helps in technology development and transfer. In this context he stressed on the significance of this workshop and urged all researchers to take full advantage of the hands-on training in this workshop so that the researchers can make it a habit to conduct patent searches routinely as part of their research activities. The first technical session titled "*Introduction to Patent Search and Landscaping*" was conducted by Prof. Prabuddha Ganguli. He introduced the concept of IPR, its diverse tools such as patents, trademarks, industrial designs registration, copyright and geographical indications. He showed how disclosures are made in a patent specification, how the relevant prior art is discussed in the context of the technical problem, how technology gaps are identified and how the objects of the invention as elaborated in the patent specification aim to fill the technology gaps by virtue of the invention for which the patent application is made. He then discussed the significance of the disclosures made by way of figures, formulae, tables and finally the claims.



Photo (left):
Prof. P. Ganguli
in one of the
technical
sessions.

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Photo (below):
Participants of
the workshop



He also demonstrated how the international patent classification actually helps to conduct focused searches in specific technology fields. Patent landscaping was also introduced at a very basic level.

Second technical session conducted by Shri. Yaswant Dev Panwar, Head, Patent Facilitating Centre (PFC), TIFAC, Department of Science & Technology (DST), Govt. of India, involved an elaborate discussion on *Patent Searching-----Practical Approach to exercising databases and Patent Information*. He illustrated diverse approaches to patent searching. He also showed how patent documents cover technical aspects of an invention. Using smart phones as an example, he indicated how a range of features get protected by a portfolio of patents and how it becomes essential to search the entire family of patents to derive appropriate information in a specific problem field. He then went on to explain the importance of the selection of key words, use of synonyms in the selection of key words, using appropriate Boolean Operators and creating a syntax of the selected key words to search patent databases. He also introduced the participants to various “free databases” and also mentioned that details would be illustrated during the hand-on session in the afternoon when each participant would be sitting with a computer in the computer centre.

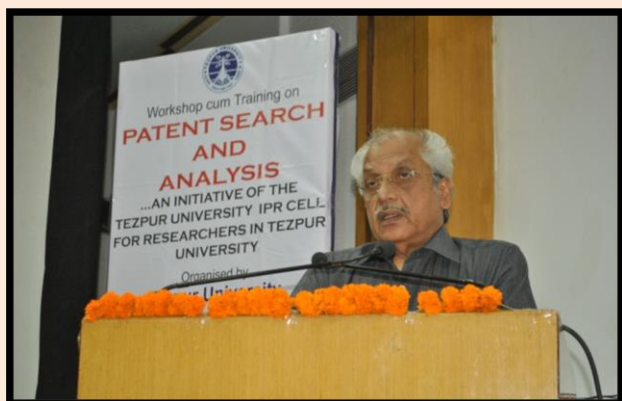
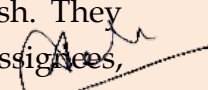


Photo: Former VC, Prof.M.K.Chaudhuri addressing the gathering



Photo: Shri Y. D. Panwar during one of the technical sessions.

Third and fourth technical sessions (of 4 hours) were *“Practical on Patent Searching and Analysing Patents*, jointly conducted by Prof. P. Ganguli and Shri Y. D. Panwar. During this session, each participant with their laptop computers did hands-on experience on accessing and manipulating various free databases such as the USPTO, EPO, SIPO (Chinese), Indian Patent Office, WIPO (for PCT Publications). The participants were exposed to the power of these databases and how they could search and access patents in a targeted manner. All the features that were introduced in the two technical sessions in the morning of the workshop were actually experienced by the participants in these. The participants also downloaded patents in Chinese and then machine translated to English in the SIPO database. Selection of key words, preparing appropriate syntax of the key words and strategizing searches were also done. Participants also conducted family searches, in which they learnt that if there was a patent in any non-English language, they could do identify some patent in the same family which was filed in an English speaking country so that they got direct access to the patent specification in English. They searched patents using key words, patent numbers, application numbers, inventors, assignees, and also combined them with patent classifications, etc. The workshop ended with Vote of Thanks from the organizers


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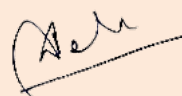
PROGRAMME FOR WORKSHOP ON PATENT SEARCH AND ANALYSIS

Organised by
TEZPUR UNIVERSITY IPR CELL

25 FEBRUARY, 2017

Venue: Council Hall, Tezpur University

Time	Programme
9.30 am—10.00 am	Registration and Inaugural Tea
10.00 am--10.30 am	Inaugural Session
10.30 am--11.30 am	<i>Introduction to Patent Search and Landscaping”</i> by Prof. Prabuddha Ganguli
11.30 am --12.30 pm	<i>Patent Searching-----Practical Approach to exercising databases and Patent Information.....</i> by Shri Y. D. Panwar
12.30 pm --1.30 pm	Lunch Break
1.30 pm –5.30 pm	<i>Practical on Patent Searching and Analysing Patents...</i> jointly by Prof. P. Ganguli and Shri Y. D. Panwar
5.30 pm -- 6.00 pm	Valedictory and Tea



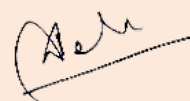
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A brief profile of the resource person:

Shri Yashawant Dev Panwar , Scientist-E and Head, Patent Facilitating Centre (PFC), TIFAC, DST, Government of India, New Delhi.

Shri.Yashawant Dev Panwar is M.Sc. Physics from MDS University, Ajmer, Rajasthan specialised in Microwave Electronics and M. Tech in Future Studies and Planning from Devi Ahilya University, Indore. His doctoral research is in progress at IIT Delhi on Management of Intellectual Property. He is working with Patent Facilitating Centre (PFC) of TIFAC since 1997. In PFC he is responsible for filing and prosecuting patents in India and other countries on behalf of Indian academic institutions and Government R&D institutions. He also supervises patent searches in all subject areas for ascertaining the novelty of the inventions, freedom to operate searches as well as state of art searches. His responsibilities also include organising patent awareness workshops on IPR across the country. He had been coordinating and guiding the activities of the Patent Information Centres (PICs) opened by PFC/DST in the State capitals in association with State S&T Councils. He is also involved in other activities of TIFAC such as study on S&T Manpower, IP policy issues, foresight studies etc. He did an internship on IP Management and Technology Transfer at the National Institute of Health (NIH), USA and has taken training on Patent Searches at the European Patent Office, Vienna, Austria. He also had undergone training of trainers of IPR at JIII, Tokyo. He is also a registered patent agent in India.

Dr. Prabuddha Ganguli is a renowned scholar in the field of IPR. Actively involved in IPR Capacity Building Programmes, Formulation and implementation of National IPR Policies in several developing and least developed countries, Dr. P. Ganguli is an international consultant to the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), Geneva. A Ph.D. in Chemistry from the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai, Dr. Ganguli pursued his postdoctoral research in Germany as an Alexander von Humboldt Foundation Fellow and later in Canada as a Research Associate. Dr. Prabuddha Ganguli has over 50 publications in technical fields, over 60 publications in IPR and 5 books in his credit. "Gearing up for Patents--The Indian Scenario" Universities Press (1998), "Intellectual Property Rights--Unleashing the Knowledge Economy", Tata McGrawHill (2001), "Shaping the Future", UNIDO-WIPO-IMTMA(2005), "Technology Transfer issues in Biotechnolog-- A Global Perspective" co-edited with Dr Ben Prickril and Dr Rita Khanna published by Wiley-VCH (Germany) (2009) and "Geographical Indications--its evolving contours" (2009) published by the Institute of Intellectual Studies, to name a few amongst his publications.

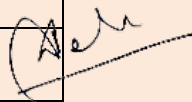


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LIST OF PARTICIPANTS IN THE WORKSHOP

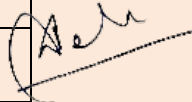
ANNEXURE-III

SL.NO	NAME OF THE PARTICIPANT	DEPARTMENT
1	Dr. Hitesh Sharma	Dept of Edu (TU)
2	Satyajit Dey Baruah	Chemical Sciences(TU)
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9	Biplab Gogoi	Physics(TU)
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11	Duyi samyor	FET(TU)
12	Abhishek Borborah	Chemical Science(TU)
13	Niranjan Ligira	Chemical Science(TU)
14	Tapubrat Changmai	Physics(TU)
15	Shivaneer Borpatra Gohain	Chemical Science(TU)
16	Nabadweep Chamuah	Physics(TU)
17	Singamayum Khurshida	FET(TU)
18	Babli Khatun	Chemical Science(TU)
19	L V Makinei	FET(TU)
20	Nakiam Tangu	FET(TU)
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22	Probit Jyoti Kalita	Physics(TU)
23	Ankur Nath	Physics(TU)
24	Rajesh Saikia	Physics(TU)




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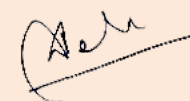
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31	Maibam Baby Devi	FET(TU)
32	Jyotisikha Deka	ECE(TU)
33	Diganta hatiboruah	Physics(TU)
34	Vishal I.J. Gogoi	Physics(TU)
35	Sidharth Sarmah	Mechanical Eng(TU)
36	Lachit Dutta	ECE(TU)
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59	Somesh Roy	MBBT(TU)
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62	Kaushal Bhardwaj	CSE(TU)
63	Dr. Sougata Saha	MBBT(TU)
64	Dhruba Jyoti Gogoi	PHY(TU)
65	Dr. Vijay Kumar Das	Chemistry(TU)
66	Pooja Dasgupta	EVS(TU)
67	Sheetal Ramani	MBBT(TU)
68	Padmini Dutta Hazarika	MBBT(TU)
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70	Chandali Bogoi	MBBT(TU)
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