WORLD IP DAY 2021

Celebrating Innovations Amidst Pandemics

A report

APRIL 26, 2021

TUIPR CELL
Tezpur University

Human endeavour to struggle and survive unfavourable situations makes our race superior and stronger. Thus, Intellectual Property Day-2021 was organised amidst the second wave of Covid-19 pandemic to celebrate the spirit of **innovation for survival** of human beings on 26th April 2021. This time the entire programme was organised on online mode. Even with limitations, the Cell organized the IP Day lectures, IP Quiz and Innovative Idea competition with a good number of participants from Tezpur University and nearby institutions. The IP Day lectures were delivered by two eminent experts of the field **Dr. A. K. Garg, Senior Director, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology**, Govt. of India and **Shri Sanjay Bhattacharya, Deputy Controller of Patent and Design, Indian Patent Office,** Kolkata, whose lectures on the event have inspired the participants of the program. The theme of this year's celebration was **IP & SMEs: Taking your ideas to market.** This year entire discussion was oriented on the critical role of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the economy and how they can use intellectual property (IP) rights to build stronger, more competitive and resilient businesses.

Inaugurating the programme, IPR Chair Professor, Prof. P. Deb reiterated the importance of IPR for SMEs to advance their business. IPRs encourage innovation and creativity. He further expressed that this day needs to be celebrated to highlight the importance of IPRs among the general masses, besides the researchers, artists, and innovators. He apprised the participants about the achievements of the Cell in past 10 years and contributions made at various levels of society. He also informed about the various events that were organised as part of the IP Day celebrations in 2021.

In the first technical session Sri Sanjay Bhattacharya, Deputy Controller of Patent and Design, Indian Patent Office, Kolkata, apprised briefly about the history behind celebration of IP Day every year. Later coming back to the theme of the celebration **IP & SMEs,** he discussed how every business started with an idea and took shape in someone's mind and made way to market. He expressed how the contributions of the creative people in the form of various Intellectual Property are making a difference in our lives and how these are so important for growth of the society. So, on IP Day one can pay tribute to the numerous creative people who have made and still making our lives more convenient. Describing the role played by the IP Offices in making the journey of innovations from Start-Ups to market easier and safer, he described the assistance provided by Government of India. He informed that IPR assistance from 'filing till disposal' is now made available free of cost through an empanelled board of IPR agents and attorneys, who can advise on and execute the formalities in the Indian Patent Office for the start-Ups. The young entrepreneurs can get benefitted from the IPR protection like Patents, Design and Trademarks etc. as they commercialise their product/ process and face various market forces. Regarding MSMEs and university, he apprised that the fee structure has been restructured at the Indian Patent Office which has been brought down from 'institution' to the 'individual' level. He also apprised about the online filing processes which was very fruitful in the pandemic situation. It was extended to the Trademark and the Design filing also. He encouraged all the students to file for the IPs they create.

During the second technical session, Dr. A. K. Garg, Senior Director, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Govt. of India stressed on the need to have technologies for rebuilding human-to-human trust that got hugely affected due to the contagious nature of the pandemic. He described the world scenario which was prevalent prior to the pandemic. It was divided into three distinct blocks: (i) Technology Evolution from west or Silicon Valleys, (ii) Technology Manufacture in China and (iii) Technology Services catered by India. The 'services economy' largely represented by IT Services Industry was in the tune of 190 to 200 billion dollars, employing more than 4 million people. In the process of creating these service sector jobs, India missed out its presence across the world in the manufacturing of the technologies. This caused increased dependence on technology, especially electronics, from outside world. If we continue at the same pace, it is anticipated that by 2025, India will be importing electronics in the tune of 400 billion dollar, which is much more than the total oil imports of the country. Discussing the scenario of trade associated with electronics and auxiliary technologies, he stated how the trend of imports of electronic gadgets in India is basically indicating our over dependence on one country i.e., China. It is believed that such unsustainable dependence on one country, with which we share our borders, does not depict a very secured situation of existence in the global environment. To balance this dependence in such geography, we need to develop our 'internal self-reliance' or "Atmanirvar Bharat' with the help of trusted partners of trade. This will help us to minimize the dependence on outside world by creating our own IP that provide alternate technical solutions so far provided by Silicon Valley. These solutions should be according to the Indian ethos and requirements, low cost, robust and according to the need of local people. At the same time as part of the WTO system, we cannot be dissociated with global market, where India does not have any import as well as any export, a scenario prevalent in 1990s. Ideally, if we have imports, we should have equitable exports in global market. This is possible only if Indian companies are innovative, state-of the-art, where they have technical solutions at price points, quality and features comparable to the global leaders. This is where innovations can become part of the economic system. Speaking on the Pharma Sector in the light of Post TRIPs agreement in 1995, he discussed the hardship of Indian Drug companies due to restrictions caused by introduction of the Product Patent. With this new system of patent protection, the end product is protected irrespective of the process applied. This caused the Indian pharma companies to migrate from as standalone companies to contract manufactures. This scenario, though challenging initially, became an advantage in due course as India became a Global Bowl for drug manufacture. So, most of the vaccines for handling Covid -19 pandemic in the world has a manufacture base in India today. In terms of SMEs, Indian enterprises do not merely comprise of the Service Industry today, but is ready to move into the Global Product Ecosystem, to create their own intellectual property and become large MNCs. Giving example of the global leaders Apple, Google, and Tesla, he reiterated the need of Indian companies like TCS and Infosys to graduate from 'Service' to 'Product' sector and use their own IPR. This is realised by Govt of India with the Software Policy in 2019. It is anticipated that these industries shall grow in the rate of 10X as IT industry itself has evolved in the last 2 years and that evolution has been accelerated in the Pandemic. He gave various examples from other sectors where digitalization and incorporation of Artificial Intelligence has helped in accelerating growth. According to him, the 'digital solutions' has moved from enhancing 'consumer experience' to 'solving problems'

in various sectors. In his concluding remarks, he expressed hope that India, being a store house of problems, together with the necessary talent to provide solutions to these problems, can create new opportunities of growth. He reiterated his faith on the young generation of India, owing to a very strong educational system. Combining the talents of Indian youth and the technological necessities, more economic opportunities can be created in India around value added manufacture section.

The results of the winners for the 'innovative idea' competition were announced and featured in the TUIPR Cell webpage during the event. This time, Mr. Rahul Sarma, from the Department of Energy, was adjudged winner for his innovative idea on "Microbial fuel Cell integrated Biogas Digester". Runners up was Mr. Ashraful Aman from the Department of Civil Engineering, Tezpur University, for his innovative idea on "Underwater barricades to help prevent erosion of river islands and char areas by destructive water currents". Prizes were given to the winners with the annual IPR grant from ASTEC.

The programme concluded with the vote of thanks. Later, virtual open house quiz was conducted by the renowned Quiz Master, Mr. Ashutosh Das. 50 participants were present in the entire programme. We acknowledge support received from DPIIT and ASTEC for conducting the programme.

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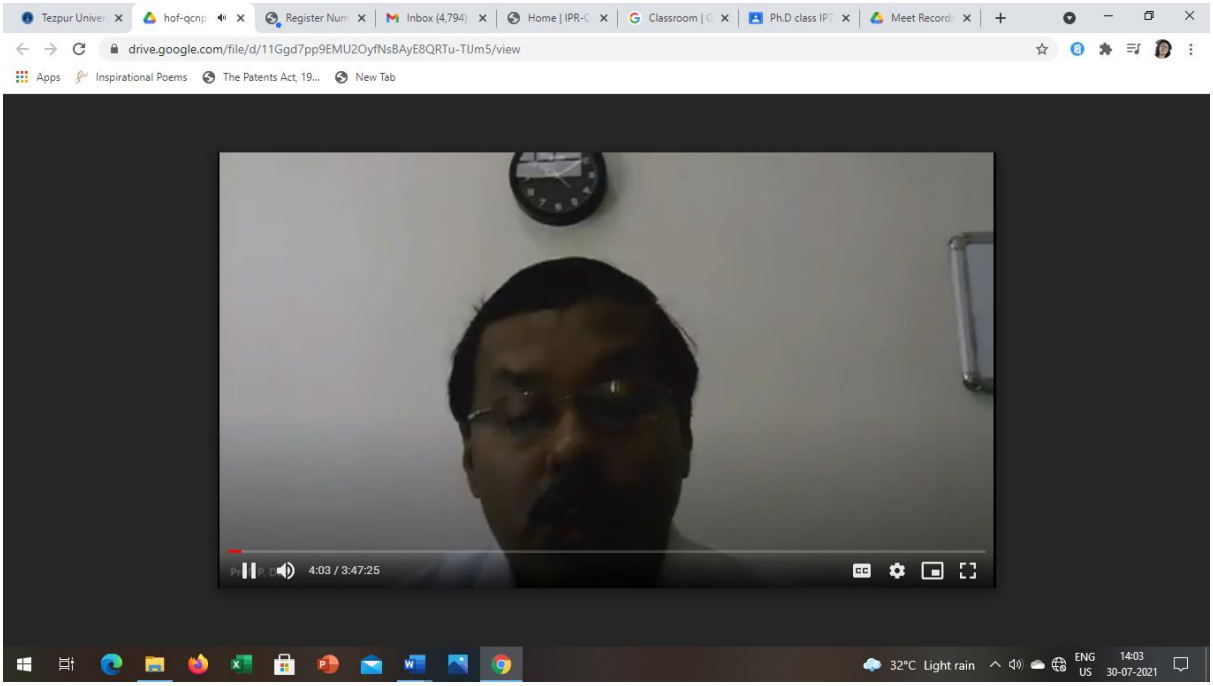
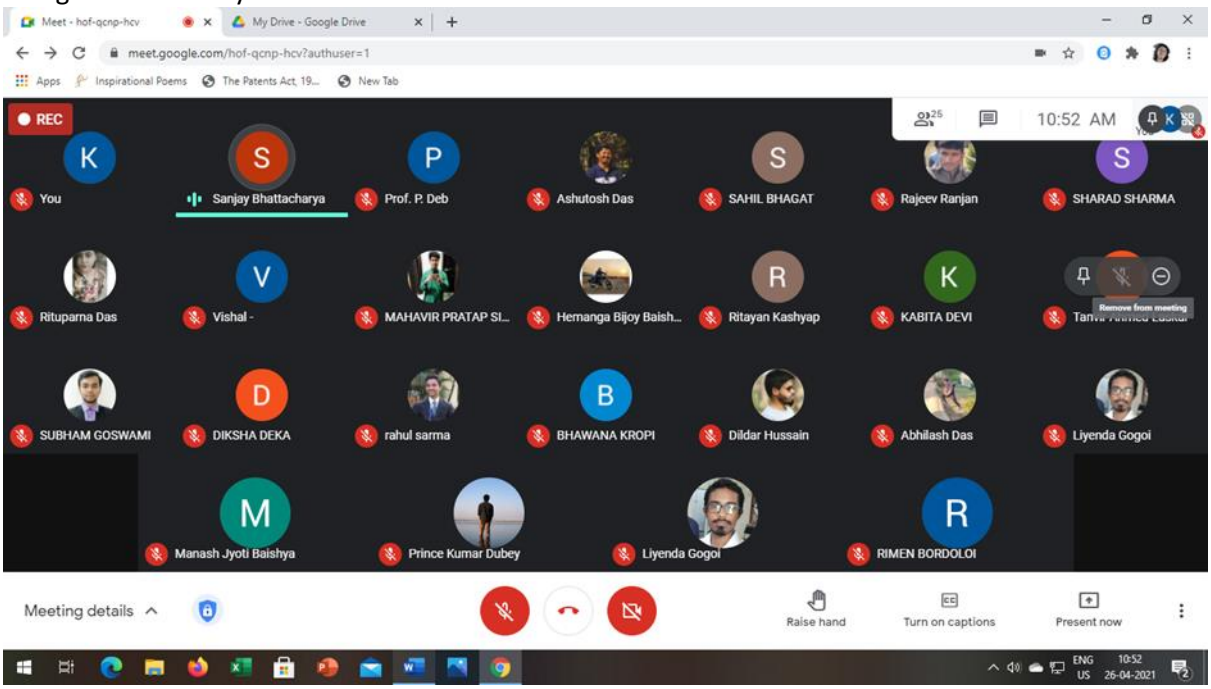
Screen sorts of virtual celebration of the IP Day 2021

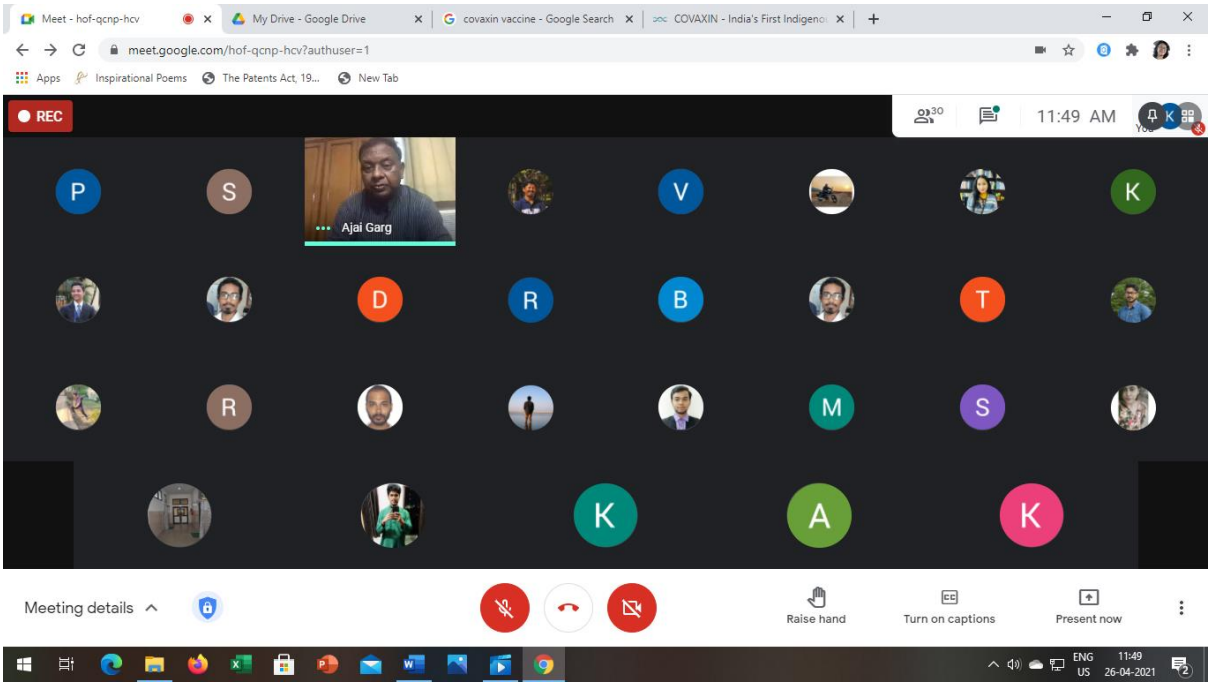


Inaugural Session by the IPR Chair Professor. P.Deb

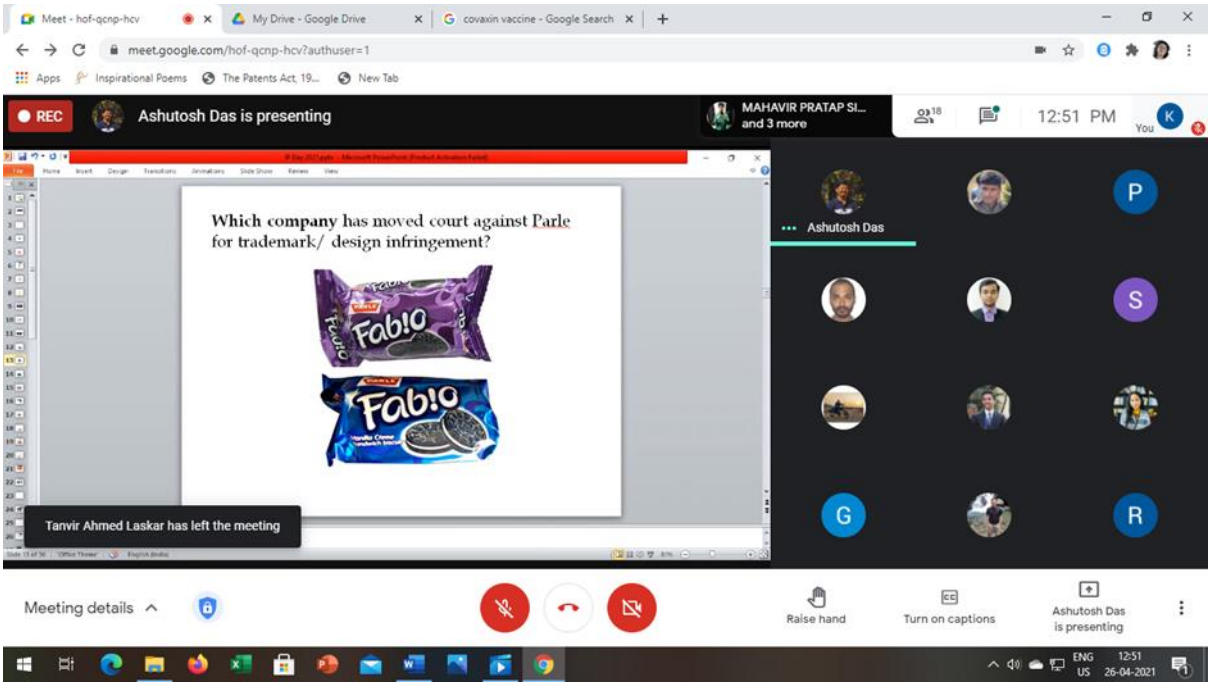


Technical Session-I by Mr. Sanjay Bhattacharya, Deputy controller of Patent & Design, Patent office, Kolkata

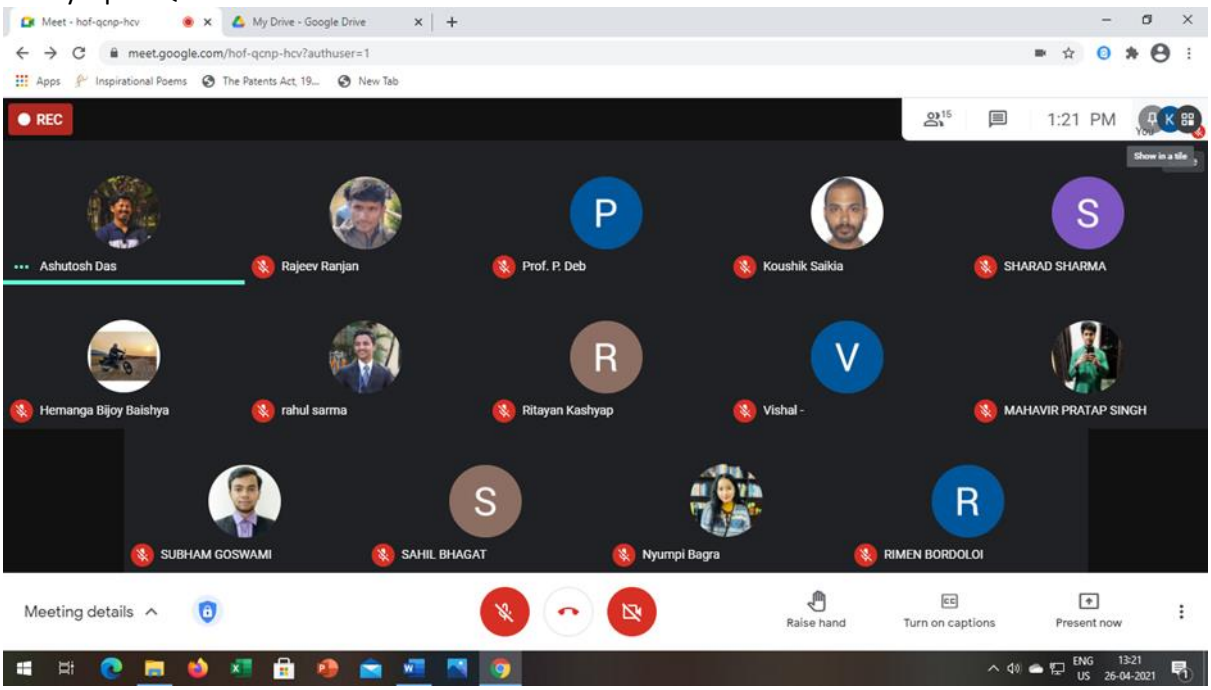
Technical Session II by Dr. A.K. Garg



IP Day Quiz 2021



IP Day Open Quiz Session



Quiz Participants

List of Partcipants

Sl.No	Name of the Participants	Designation	Department/ Section	Affiliation (Name of University, College)
1	Himanshu Sharma	Student	Chemical Sciences	Tezpur University
2	Biswajit Dutta	Student	Physics	Tezpur university
3	Koustuv Moni Bora	Student	Chemical Sciences	Tezpur University
4	Rajibul Awal	Student	Civil engineering	Tezpur University
5	Trideep Borsaikia	Staff	Business Administration	Tezpur University
6	Liyenda Gogoi	Student	Physics	Tezpur University
7	Bikram Bikash Das	Student	Computer Science and Engineering	Tezpur University
8	Probit Jyoti Kalita	Student	Department of Physics	Tezpur University
9	Diksha Deka	Student	Commerce	Tezpur University
10	Md Tousif Asghar	Student	Food Engineering and Technology	Tezpur University
11	Rituparna Das	Student	Food Engineering and Technology	Tezpur University
12	Prince Kumar Dubey	Student	Food engineering and technology	Tezpur University
13	Abhilash Das	Student	Mathematics	Tezpur University
14	Sharad Sharma	Student	Commerce	Tezpur University
15	Sasanka Sarma	Student	Civil Engineering	Tezpur University
16	Priyanuj Kandali	Student	Chemical Sciences	Tezpur University
17	Dildar Hussain	Student	Law	Tezpur University
18	Nilutpal Timsina	Student	Mass Communication and Journalism	Tezpur University
19	Gaurav Gautam Saha	Student	Department of Mass Communication and Journalism	Tezpur University
20	Arpita Deb	Student	Mass Communication and Journalism	Tezpur University
21	Ritayan Kashyap	Student	Electronics and Communication Engineering	Tezpur University
22	Nibedan Pathak	Student	Education	Gauhati University
23	Sahil Bhagat	Student	Civil Engineering	Tezpur University
24	Alok kumar	Student	Electronics and Communication Engineering	Tezpur University
25	Alok kumar	Student	Electronics and Communication Engineering	Tezpur university
26	Sarat Mili	Student	Electronics and communication Engineering	Tezpur University
27	Mahavir Pratap Singh	Student	Civil Engineering	Tezpur University
28	Rishav Raj Verma	Student	Civil engineering	Aryabhatta knowledge University,Patna
29	Tanvir Ahmed Laskar	Student	Food Engineering and Tech.	Tezpur University.
30	Rajendra Pratap Singh	Student	Food Engineering and Technology	Tezpur University

31	Hemanga Bijoy Baishya	Student	B.Tech. (Food Engineering and Technology)	Tezpur University
32	Sanjeev Kumar	Student	Food engineering and Technology	Tezpur University
33	Rahul Sarma	Student	Energy	Tezpur University
34	Dimpal Das	Student	Mechanical engineering	Tezpur University
35	Nyumpi Bagra	Student	Molecular Biology and Biotechnology	Tezpur University
36	Manash Jyoti Baishya	Student	Mathematical Sciences	Tezpur University
37	Subham Goswami	Student	Mass Communication and Journalism	Tezpur University
38	Kamalika Sarkar	Student	Food Engineering and Technology	Tezpur University
39	Mayuri Bora	Student	Physics	Tezpur University
40	Sayoree Purakayastha	Student	Physics	Tezpur university
41	Vishal	Student	Food Engineering and Technology	Tezpur University
42	Dr. Rimen Bordoloi	Faculty	Zoology, D R.College, Golaghat	Dibrughar University
43	Partha Pratim Kalita	Student	Food Engineering and Technology	Tezpur University
44	Smriti Basumatary	Student	Food Engineering and Technology	Tezpur University
45	Debarun Chakraborty	Student	Electronics and Communication Engineering	Tezpur University
46	Bhawana Kropi	Student	Commerce	Tezpur University
47	Rajeev Ranjan	Student	Food Engineering and Technology	Tezpur University
48	Arohan Neog	Student	Mechanical Engineering	Tezpur University
49	Arnab Sarker	Student	Physics	Tezpur university
50	Niyar pathak	Student	English and Foreign Languages	Tezpur University