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Awantipora, March 17: The Intellectual Property Rights Cell, one of the seven verticals of IUST's Centre for Innovation & Entrepreneurship Development (CIED) conducted a National level workshop on *Fundamentals of Patenting for Entrepreneurs*' Thursday which was attended by innovators and young entrepreneurs from different districts of the valley.

Vice Chancellor IUST and Chief Patron of the workshop, Prof. Shakil Ahmad Romshoo congratulated CIED and IPR Cell for conducting these training programmes that are helping develop entrepreneurship in the JKUT and supporting research at large. He underlined the synchronisation of goals between IUST's CIED and objectives enshrined in NEP 2020. "IUST will conduct more outreach programmes as our university has taken an initiative to safeguard the innovative creations of the human intellect by making people of the UT conscious about the IPR frameworks," added Prof. Romshoo.

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Chief Guest of the workshop and Professor of Law at KU, Prof. Mohammad Ayub Dar discussed the intellectual property rights with respect to the indigenous medicinal plants and biological diversity in his presentation and briefed the participants about various regulations of IPR.

Dean Academic Affairs, IUST Prof. Manzoor A. Malik also discussed the urgency to create more awareness about the intellectual property rights and also about the process of patenting so that Innovators could be benefitted.

Co-convener of the workshop and Registrar IUST Prof. Naseer Iqbal noted the significance of CIED and said, "IUST has taken a leading step in the JKUT for registering of patents with about 15 patents and we hope to see a good number of patents in coming months as well".

Co-convener of the workshop and Dean Research Prof. A. H. Moon pointed out the number of recent workshops conducted by IUST on Research Methodology which helped generate an awareness about research, as well as IPR and process of patent filing. He also talked about the increase in Research Output during the past few years.

During the workshop, Assistant controller of Patents and Designs, Patent Office, New Delhi, Dr. Jitendra Sharma delivered a special lecture on '*Patents and Academic Research as a state of the Art*' while Scientist Patent Information Centre DST, Haryana Dr. Rahul Taneja, presented a detailed presentation about '*Copyright and trademark and applying for IPR rights*'. He also briefed the audience about filing applications for trademark and copyrights and shared the statistics about Patents in India.

Earlier, Director, CIED and Chairman of the workshop Dr. Parvez A. Mir highlighted that the motive behind the creation of CIED was to make students of the valley job providers rather than job seekers and that the centre was completely focussed on industry driven education policy as per NEP 2020.

Later, Coordinator IPR Cell (CIED) Dr. Asifa Baba proposed the vote of thanks. Professor, School of Business Studies, IUST Prof. Shabir Ah Bhat also spoke during this National workshop which was conducted in two sessions and had an interactive session with the experts.