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**INSTITUTION'S
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(Ministry of HRD Initiative)



Sarvajani Education Society

Sarvajani College of Engineering & Technology

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Report for a Inauguration of
**“IP UTSAV and Celebration of World
Creativity and Innovation Day 2025”**

Date: 21th April 2024

Venue: Online Mode

In association with

Institution's Innovation Council (IIC), SCET

Students Council, SCET

The Inauguration of IP UTSAV and Celebration of World Creativity and Innovation Day was held on April 21, 2025, marking the commencement of a week-long series of events aimed at fostering innovation and raising awareness about intellectual property (IP) rights. This initiative was organized by the Ministry of Education's Innovation Cell (MIC) in India.

About the event

The event brought together distinguished leaders and experts from national and international innovation ecosystems to celebrate and promote creativity, innovation, and intellectual property rights. Organized as a collaborative initiative between AICTE and the Ministry of Education's Innovation Cell (MIC), the event was inaugurated with inspiring addresses from Dr. Unnat Pandit, Controller General of Patents, and Dr. Abhay Jere, Vice Chairman of AICTE and Chief Innovation Officer. Dr. Sacha Vincent from the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) joined as a keynote speaker, highlighting India's significant strides in the Global Innovation Index and applauding its grassroots, education-led innovation model. The event also launched IP UTSAV 2025, a week-long celebration featuring master classes and workshops on various facets of IP—ranging from patents and copyrights to trademarks and design rights. With over 15,000 participating institutions and thousands of students and faculty members joining virtually, the event set the tone for a nationwide movement to build an IP-aware and innovation-driven academic ecosystem.

Welcome Address

The event commenced with a warm welcome from the organizing team on behalf of AICTE and the Ministry of Education's Innovation Cell (MIC). The welcome note highlighted the significance of celebrating Intellectual Property Utsav alongside World Creativity and Innovation Day, underscoring India's commitment to fostering a robust innovation ecosystem. Attendees were greeted by Dr. Yogesh Bankar, who emphasized the nationwide impact of the event, with participation from over 10,000 Institution's Innovation Councils (IICs) involving students, faculty, and researchers. He outlined the structure of the week-long celebration, which includes expert-led masterclasses on diverse IP topics such as copyrights, trademarks, and design rights—moving beyond the traditionally popular patent focus. The welcome also acknowledged key dignitaries, including Dr. T.G. Sitharam (Chairman, AICTE), Dr. Abhay Jere (Vice Chairman, AICTE & CIO, MIC), Dr. Unnat Pandit (Controller General of Patents), and Dr. Sacha Wunsch-Vincent (WIPO), whose presence added global and policy-level significance to the event.



Address by Dr. Unnat Pandit, Control General of Patents

Dr. Unnat Pandit delivered a powerful address emphasizing the crucial role of intellectual property in building a self-reliant and innovation-led India, or Viksit Bharat. He urged academic institutions and innovators to adopt a more comprehensive approach to IP—not just focusing on patents, but also embracing copyrights, trademarks, and design rights. Highlighting India's IP potential, he pointed to the Smart India Hackathon as an example of how student-led innovations can be a rich source of intellectual property, provided proper mechanisms for protection and commercialization are in place. Dr. Pandit stressed the importance of systematically designing academic research to ensure that it results in tangible, protectable, and marketable innovations. He cited a remarkable 236% increase in patent filings and a 100% rise in granted patents from academic institutions in recent years, attributing this growth to focused government interventions like the KAPILA initiative.



Encouraging collaboration and sustained efforts, Dr. Pandit emphasized that the true spirit of innovation lies in working collectively to solve national challenges through IP-driven solutions. He concluded with a message of optimism, asserting that a strong IP ecosystem is essential for India to lead globally in technology, innovation, and sustainable development.

Address by Dr. Abhay Jere, Vice Chairman, AICTE & Chief Innovation Officer, MIC

Dr. Abhay Jere's address offered an in-depth reflection on India's journey in building a sustainable, scalable innovation ecosystem within academic institutions. He began by thanking dignitaries, particularly Dr. Unnat Pandit and Dr. Sacha Wunsch-Vincent, for their support, and emphasized the significance of celebrating World Creativity and Innovation Day in a structured, impactful manner through IP UTSAV. Dr. Jere traced the evolution of the Ministry of Education's Innovation Cell (MIC), established in 2018, noting that at its inception, innovation and entrepreneurship were scarcely discussed in technical institutes. Today, however, MIC has transformed that landscape through its four-fold focus: Promoting a problem-solving mindset, Creating a multi-layered and sustainable innovation ecosystem, Transforming ideas into entrepreneurship, Building platforms for funding and scaling student innovations. He proudly highlighted achievements such as: A 266% increase in patent filings from Tier 2 and 3 institutions, over 14,000 Institute Innovation Councils (IICs) established, generation of 1.4 lakh+ innovative ideas, with thousands progressing to **startup phases**.



Large-scale initiatives like the Smart India Hackathon, now the world's largest open innovation model. Dr. Jere underscored the uniqueness of India's homegrown innovation model, supported by initiatives like KAPILA, Idea Labs, and Innovation Design Bootcamps. He stressed the need for formal entrepreneurship degree programs and institutional-level handholding to ensure innovation doesn't remain a one-time activity, but becomes a culture within academia. He concluded with optimism, affirming that through continued collaboration and focus on nurturing young talent, India is well on its way to becoming a global hub for innovation and IP-driven growth.

Address by Dr. Sacha Vincent, WIPO

Dr. Sacha Wunsch-Vincent delivered a compelling and globally contextualized address, lauding India's remarkable progress in innovation and intellectual property. Representing the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), he began by congratulating India and AICTE for launching a full week of activities in celebration of World Creativity and

Innovation Day, referring to it as a “pre-celebration” of World IP Day with a global significance.



He highlighted India’s impressive climb in the Global Innovation Index, moving from rank 81 in 2015 to rank 39 in 2024, and noted that India continues to outperform expectations relative to its income level. Particularly praiseworthy were India’s top global science and technology clusters in cities like Bengaluru, Delhi, Chennai, and Mumbai, which stand out even among high-income economies. Dr. Sacha emphasized the uniqueness of India’s “bottom-up innovation model”—an ecosystem built organically through educational reforms, grassroots tinkering, and student-led problem solving. He remarked that the culture of creativity and intellectual property awareness in Indian youth is unparalleled and largely unheard of in many advanced economies. He also provided thoughtful suggestions for India’s innovation future, including: Increasing public and private R&D expenditure relative to GDP, Promoting greater international collaboration in higher education, Scaling up innovation finance and venture capital in deep-tech sectors.

Address by Dr. T.G. Sitharam, Chairman, AICTE

Dr. T.G. Sitharam, Chairman of the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), delivered an inspiring and forward-looking address during the inauguration of IP Utsav and the celebration of World Creativity and Innovation Day. He began by extending his heartfelt congratulations to all participants and highlighted the significance of fostering a culture that extends beyond traditional teaching, focusing on innovation, creativity, and entrepreneurship. Emphasizing India’s rise in the Global Innovation Index—from rank 81 to 39—Dr. Sitharam expressed confidence that India could reach the top 10 in the near future. He stressed the alignment of AICTE’s efforts with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, which promotes hands-on learning, interdisciplinary thinking, and innovation-driven education.



He showcased initiatives spearheaded by AICTE, including: Establishment of over 400 Idea Labs to promote design thinking and prototyping, KAPILA program, which has led to significant growth in patent filings across institutions, creation of 12 Regional Innovation Centers, acting as hubs for student innovation and mentorship, Launch of productization fellowships to support student teams in continuing their innovation journeys post-graduation, faculty-industry fellowships to embed real-world industrial challenges into academic research. Closing his speech, he encouraged all attendees to celebrate ideas and turn them into impactful solutions, asserting that “creativity fuels growth, and knowledge powers change.”

Conclusion:

The Inauguration of IP UTSAV and celebration of World Creativity and Innovation Day 2025 concluded with a strong message of collaboration, innovation, and empowerment. The event highlighted India's growing influence in the global innovation landscape and emphasized the importance of protecting and nurturing intellectual property. Through initiatives like KAPILA, Idea Labs, and Smart India Hackathon, academic institutions are being transformed into vibrant hubs of creativity and entrepreneurship.

We express our heartfelt gratitude to the Provost, Principal, faculty members, and all the participants and students for making this World Intellectual Property day a truly memorable and meaningful event. As we look forward to the coming years, we aspire to continue this tradition of spreading the importance of creativity and Innovation among our students with enthusiasm and dedication.
