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**INSTITUTION'S
INNOVATION
COUNCIL**

(Ministry of HRD Initiative)

Sarvajani Education Society



Sarvajani College of Engineering & Technology

Dr. R. K. Desai Marg, Opp. Mission Hospital, Athwalines, Surat-395001

Report for a Session on "India's IPR Policy and Provisions for Startups, Inventors and Innovators: Accelerating the IP Landscape in Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs)"

Date: 24th August 2026

Time: 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM

In association with

Institution's Innovation Council (IIC), SCET

Introduction

The Institution's Innovation Council (IIC), SCET, participated in the MIC-driven session on **“India's IPR Policy for Startups, Inventors & Innovators: Strengthening IP in Higher Educational Institutions.”** The session focused on creating awareness about India's evolving Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) ecosystem and the role of higher educational institutions in promoting innovation, startups, research, intellectual property creation, and commercialization. The session provided valuable insights into the importance of developing an institutional culture where students and researchers are encouraged to identify problems, create innovative solutions, protect their intellectual property, and take their innovations towards entrepreneurship and global deployment. 58 students, along with 13 faculty members from our institute, joined the webinar and gained valuable insights into IPR policy, innovation and the startup ecosystem.

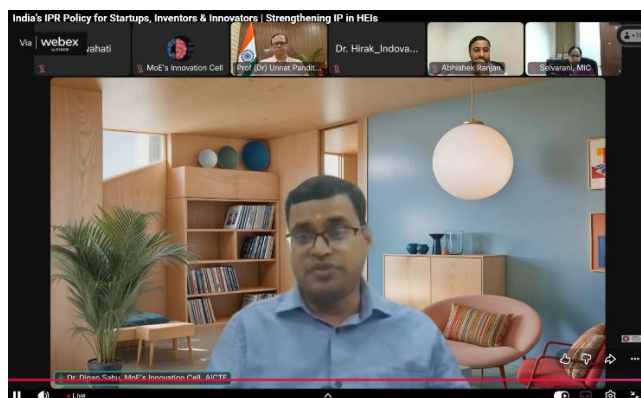
Key Highlights of the Session

Opening Remarks by Dr. Dipen Sahu:

The session was hosted and opened by Dr. Dipen Sahu, Ministry of Education Innovation Cell, AICTE, who welcomed faculty members, students, and representatives from IIC institutions. He highlighted the rapid growth of India's startup and innovation ecosystem over the last decade, with a particularly significant transformation observed in the post-COVID period. He also emphasized the increasing patent-filing activity and the growing role of Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) in contributing to the country's innovation and startup ecosystem.

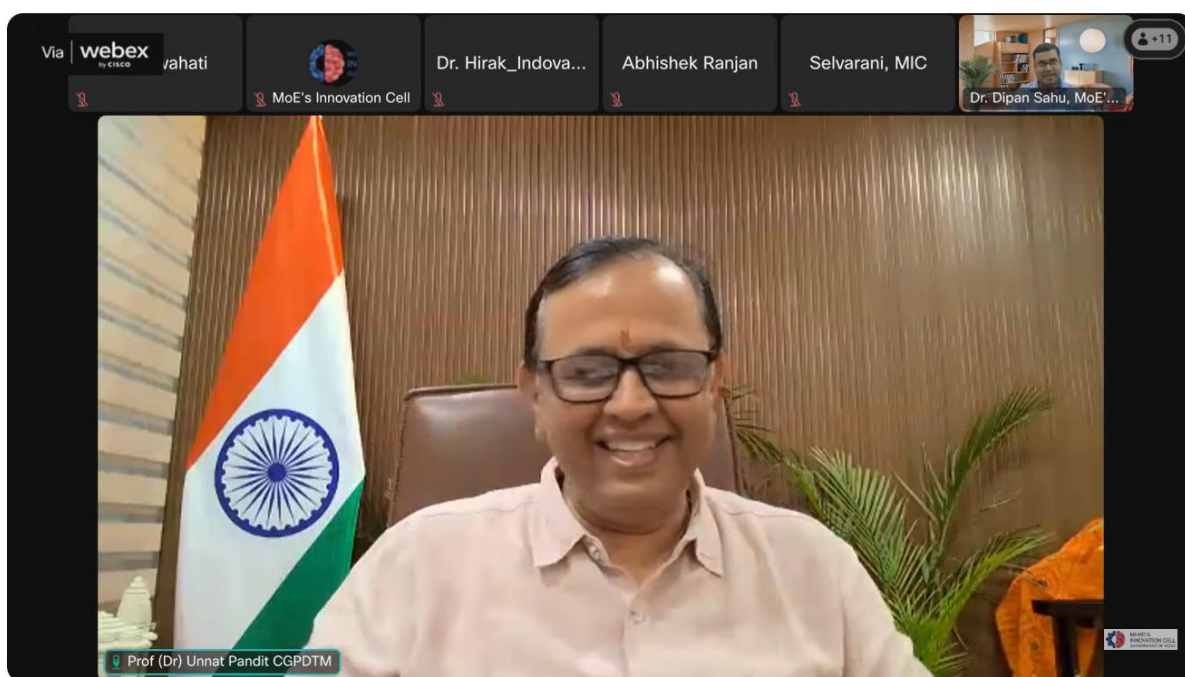
The major points highlighted during the opening remarks included:

- Significant growth in startups, especially in the post-COVID period.
- Substantial increase in patent filings.
- More than 35% contribution to innovation and startups from the higher education sector.
- Need for IICs and HEIs to strengthen innovation, entrepreneurship, and IPR awareness.



Main Address by Prof. (Dr.) Unnat P. Pandit:

The main address was delivered by Prof. (Dr.) Unnat P. Pandit, Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks (CGPDTM), Government of India. He emphasized strengthening the link between innovation, IPR, startups, and Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) and highlighted the need to guide students from research and idea generation towards IP protection, entrepreneurship, and global deployment.



Key Highlights:

1. **Innovation and Startups:** Innovation should address real-world problems and translate research into useful products, services, and startups.
2. **National IPR Policy:** The seven-stage National IPR Policy framework has strengthened awareness, IP creation, protection, commercialization, and human-resource development.
3. **Growth in Patent Filing:** India has crossed 1,00,000 patent filings, while 69% of patent applications in 2025–26 were filed by Indian applicants, reflecting the growing impact of the IPR ecosystem.
4. **Student Innovation Journey:** Research aptitude and innovation should begin from the first year and progressively develop through the four years, enabling students to identify innovations, file patents, and explore startup funding by graduation.

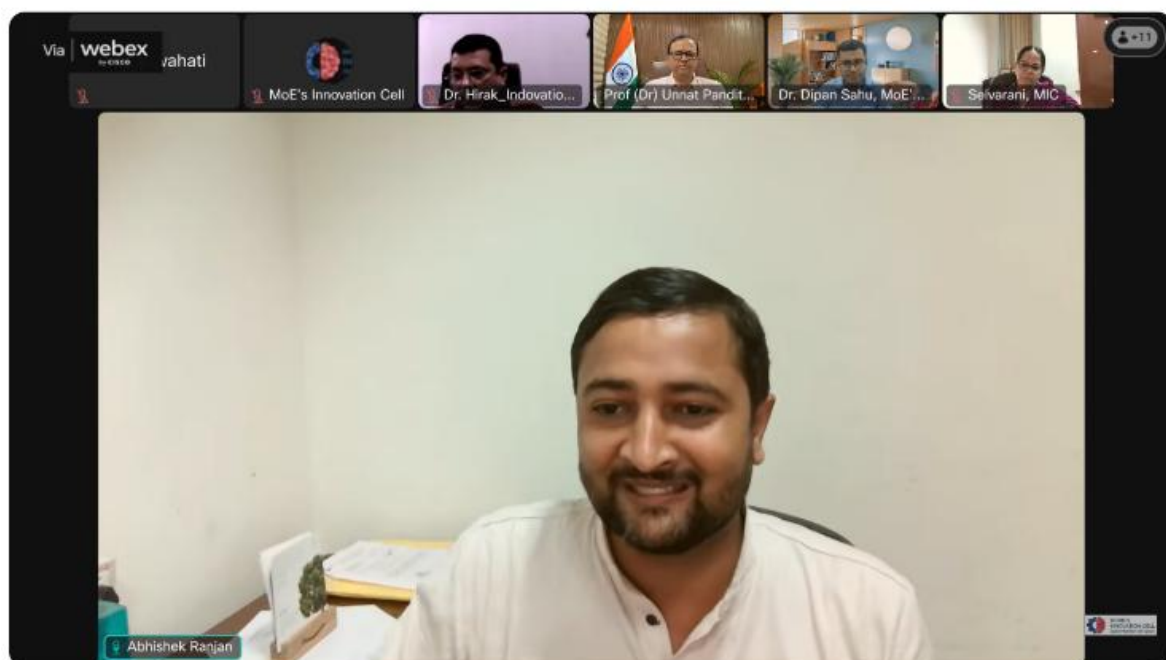
5. **Institutional Innovation Funnel:** HEIs should provide a pathway from idea → research → IP protection → incubation → funding → commercialization → deployment.
6. **Leadership and Global Reach:** Students should develop leadership qualities and aim to take Indian IP and innovative solutions beyond India for global deployment.
7. **Role of HEIs and IICs:** HEIs were highlighted as powerhouses of innovation, while IICs serve as important connecting points for innovation, mentoring, entrepreneurship and IP creation.
8. **Viksit Bharat and KAPILA:** Innovation and IP creation were emphasized as important contributors to Viksit Bharat, with KAPILA supporting IP literacy and awareness among students and faculty.

Question & Answer Session

The session was followed by an interactive question-and-answer session covering various aspects of patent filing, institutional support, international patent protection, and guidance for students and innovators.

Q1. Are there any initiatives to reduce the time required for patent filing, examination, and grant, particularly for universities?

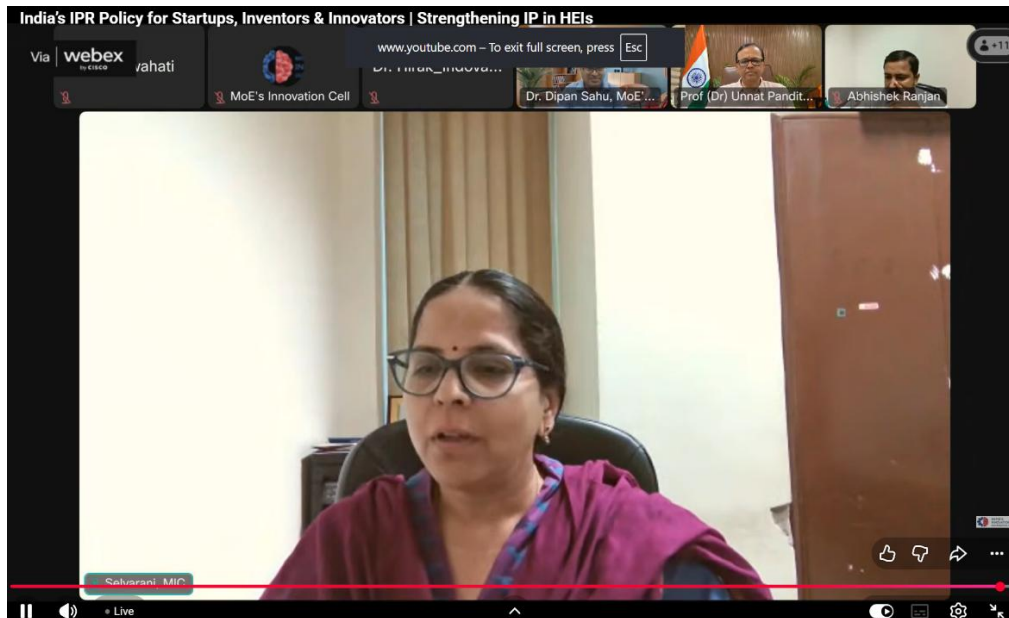
Answer: The speaker highlighted the role of the institute's R&D and IIC support mechanisms in assisting faculty and students with the patenting process and providing institutional support.



India's IPR Policy for Startups, Inventors & Innovators... 1,333 watching now Started streaming 43 minutes ago

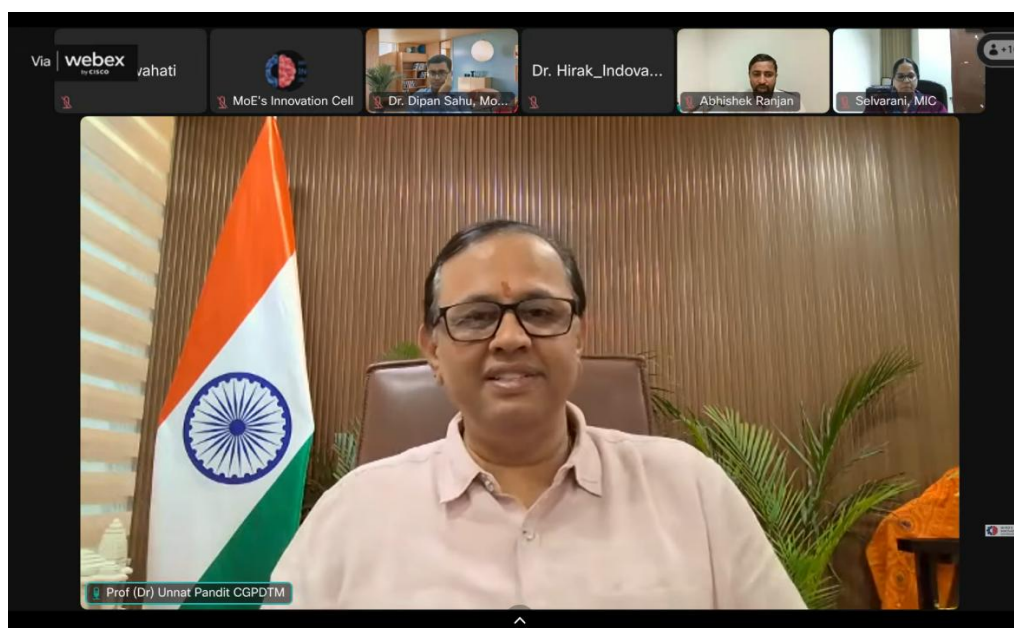
Q2. Are there any programmes to support international or PCT patent filing for universities seeking global protection?

Answer: The speaker referred to MSME-related support and other available government initiatives that can help institutions and innovators pursue international patent filing and protection.



Q3. How should students approach a patent attorney, and is there a standard framework they can follow for patent filing?

Answer: The speaker advised students to seek guidance from qualified patent professionals and follow a systematic process for evaluating the innovation, preparing the required documentation, and proceeding with patent filing.



Conclusion

The MIC-driven session on “India’s IPR Policy for Startups, Inventors & Innovators: Strengthening IP in Higher Educational Institutions” provided valuable insights into India’s growing innovation and intellectual property ecosystem. The opening remarks by Dr. Dipen Sahu highlighted the remarkable growth of startups and patent filing in India and the increasing contribution of Higher Educational Institutions to innovation.

The address by Prof. (Dr.) Unnat P. Pandit provided a comprehensive understanding of the importance of IPR policy, patenting, institutional innovation mechanisms, student development, and entrepreneurship. His emphasis on developing research aptitude from the first year and progressively guiding students towards innovation, IP protection, patent filing, startup funding, and commercialization provided a practical direction for strengthening innovation within HEIs.

The interactive Q&A session further addressed practical concerns related to institutional IP support, patent examination and grant, international/PCT patent filing, and professional patent guidance. The session reinforced that Higher Educational Institutions should function as powerhouses of innovation and IICs should serve as important connecting points for nurturing ideas, developing leadership, protecting intellectual property, and converting innovations into solutions with national and global impact.

The session was highly informative and motivated students and faculty members to actively participate in innovation, intellectual property creation, entrepreneurship, and the larger vision of Viksit Bharat.

We express our heartfelt gratitude to the Provost, Principal, faculty members, speakers, organizers, and all the participating students for making the session informative and meaningful. The session provided valuable insights into innovation, intellectual property, and entrepreneurship. We look forward to participating in and supporting such initiatives to strengthen awareness and encourage greater participation in innovation, intellectual property, and entrepreneurship.
