

Patent Literacy Mission of HRDG

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The Human Resource Development Group (HRDG) of the Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) provides financial assistance to promote research work in the fields of Science & Technology, including agriculture, engineering and medicine. The assistance is provided by way of the grants to professors/experts in the universities, IITs, postgraduate institutions, recognized R&D laboratories both in public and private sectors.

There are three types of schemes under this programme— (i) General Scheme (ii) Sponsored Scheme and (iii) Emeritus Scientist Scheme.

The General Scheme is open to all professors/ scientists working in universities and R&D laboratories in India. The Sponsored Scheme is a special category of general scheme wherein a university submits collaborative projects with CSIR laboratories. There is also a concept of trilateral scheme, wherein a university department, a CSIR laboratory and an industrial R&D centre join hands to pursue an R&D project. The Emeritus Scientist Schemes are for outstanding

retired scientists who have done good work during the last 5 years before their retirement. This scheme is tenable upto 65 years of age of the scientist.

With the new awareness about patents, HRDG took special interest in harnessing the potential of creativity and innovativeness of the university sector and was guiding the researchers/Principal Investigators (PI) for patenting their findings, whenever possible. This was done through a mechanism of project monitoring workshops where every PI is called to present the work at the end of 1½ —2 years. The expert committee listens to his findings and gives advice whenever the possibility of a patent manifests. The primary consideration is not to publish the results before filing a patent as publication will make a patent infructuous/invalid. The slogan "patent - publish - prosper" is effectively conveyed to the groups of PIs. HRDG follows it up for the next 1 year or so and gives advice on patenting. Patentable cases are also picked up from the final technical report submitted by the PI and followed up by HRDG. A contact is always established be-

List of Patents arising out of EMR Schemes

File No/ Ref.No.	Name & address of inventors	Title of patent
1612/Del/94	DIPANKAR CHAKRABORTI, DIPANKAR DAS, AMIT CHATTERJEE, GAUTAM SAMANTA School of Environmental Studies Jadavpur University, Calcutta 700 032	A COMPOSITION USEFUL FOR REMOVAL OF ARSENIC FROM WATER AND TABLETS/CAPSULES MADE FROM THE SAID COMPOSITION
1618/Del/94	DIPANKAR CHAKRABORTI, DIPANKAR DAS, AMIT CHATTERJEE, GAUTAM SAMANTA School of Environmental Studies Jadavpur University, Calcutta 700 032	A COMPOSITION FOR MAKING A WATER FILTER CANDLE AND A WATER FILTER CANDLE MADE THEREOF
1621/Del/94	DIPANKAR CHAKRABORTI, DIPANKAR DAS, AMIT CHATTERJEE, GAUTAM SAMANTA School of Environmental Studies Jadavpur University, Calcutta 700 032 (Patents have been filed in Bangladesh on these)	AN IMPROVED PROCESS FOR THE REMOVAL OF ARSENIC FROM WATER
1136/Del/90	DR(MRS) KAMAL SINGH Department of Physics Nagpur University Nagpur 440 010	AN IMPROVED PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF $\text{LiSO}_4\text{-Ag}_2\text{SO}_4$ SOLID STATE BATTERIES
1793/Del/95	G S SIDHU, P SHARMA, J K GUPTA & T CHAKRABARTI Department of Microbiology Panjab University Chandigarh 160 014	A PROCESS FOR THE ISOLATION OF A NOVEL THERMOPHILIC STRAIN WHICH PRODUCES A THERMOSTABLE AMYLASE
1792/Del/95	G S SIDHU, P SHARMA, J K GUPTA & T CHAKRABARTI Department of Microbiology Panjab University Chandigarh 160 014	A PROCESS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A RECOMBINANT STRAIN OF BACILLUS WHICH PRODUCES A THERMOSTABLE ALPHA-AMYLASE.
1795/Del/95	G S SIDHU, P SHARMA, J K GUPTA & T CHAKRABARTI Department of Microbiology Panjab University Chandigarh 160 014	A PROCESS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF THERMOSTABLE ALPHA- AMYLASE BY USING A NOVEL RECOMBINANT STRAIN
1726/Del/94	DR R NATH Department of Physics University of Roorkee Roorkee	AN IMPROVED PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATIONS OF PIEZOELECTRIC POLYMER FILMS
NF 216/95	DR (MISS) KAMAL SINGH Department of Physics Amravati University	SOLID STATE SILVER BATTERY
28(4)/90	DR B BABUJI et al. COSTED, 24 Gandhi Mandap Road, Madras 600 025	DIGITAL ELECTRONIC KIT

tween the Intellectual Property Management Division (IPMD) of CSIR and the PI through the HRDG.

With the efforts of HRDG it has been possible to file about 10 patents during the last 1½ years. Much more could be achieved if literacy about patent is pursued with the university teachers, through the EMR schemes.

Total vacuum of knowledge regarding patent, patent laws, patentable findings, knowledge generated, can be filled with a little guidance from IPMD experts. Also university infrastructure does not have other facilities for filing patents. Often a faculty member is asked to contact a private patent attorney for writing and filing the patent resulting in heavy cost. At present HRDG is pursuing the filing of patent with the following main guidelines:

(i) Inventors are recognized as per patent laws i.e. those who have contributed in the R&D project are included in the application form as 'Inventors'. It is absolutely necessary to ensure that no name is included in the inventors' list, who has not contributed to the R&D work.

(ii) The patent right is assigned to CSIR for further action with regard to the filing, payment of fees, writing of patent application, etc. Since the funding of the scheme is by CSIR, there is no difficulty in assigning the right as per the funding rules.

Recently an international patent has been filed arising out of an EMR scheme. The IPMD of CSIR provides facilities for contacting the attorney at the foreign country and then filing the patent. In most cases these are not possible for the university. It will take some time in universities to gear up and set up their own IPM unit.

(iii) The profit, if any, arising out of the utilization of the patent or selling of the technology is shared by the university and CSIR at a suitable proportion which is mutually agreed through an MoU. Normally it is 50:50. However, looking at the interest of the university, this proportion can be anything between 0 to 100 per cent where 100 goes to university. CSIR as the assignee is very important because there is a lot of follow-up action to be taken before and after filing the patent till it comes to a stage when the product/process/knowledge can be commercially exploited.