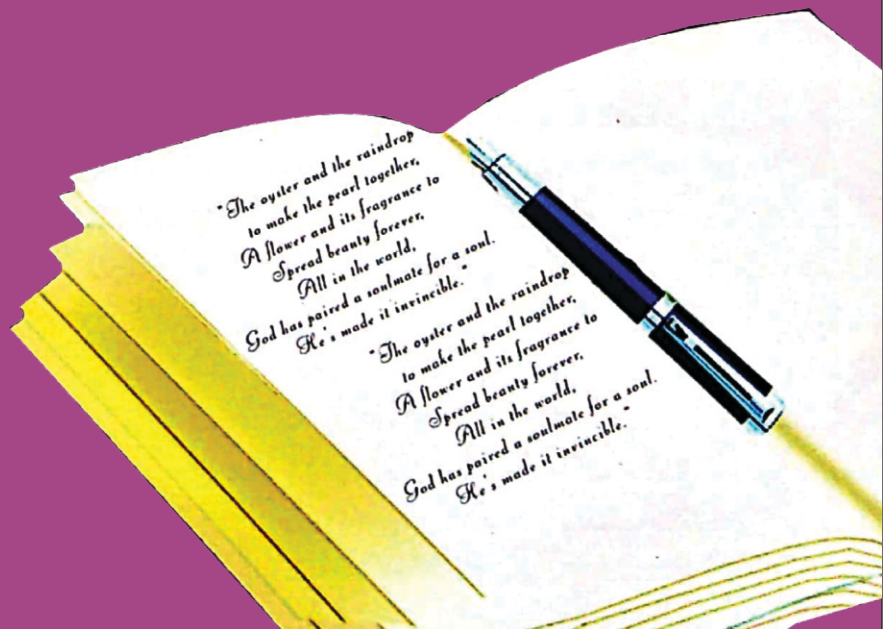


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# VIBGYOR

Bi-annual Multi Disciplinary Research Journal  
Special Issue : April 2018



# VIBGYOR

Bi-annual Multidisciplinary Research Journal  
**SPECIAL ISSUE - APRIL 2018**

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*The VIBGYOR, a plethora of gem studded writings by eminent scholars from across the globe would genuinely usher a new vigour among the intellectuals in the world. The National and International luminaries in the Editorial Board would synchronize the views penned by renowned scholars from far and wide for publication. The biannual Multi-disciplinary Research Journal extends its canvas to all qualitative writings.*

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# A study on Patent awareness among faculties of Engineering Colleges.

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## Abstract

Intellectual property is the creation of human mind, human intellect and hence called intellectual Property. A Patent is a monopoly right to the exclusive use of an invention, granted to the inventor or his assignee. This right is granted only for a limited period. The first objective is to create public awareness about the economic, social and cultural benefits of IPRs among all sections of society. Most of the researchers are unaware of the benefits of IP rights or their own capabilities to create IP assets. Nation-wide promotional programs are planned to increase the awareness of IPRs to the rights-holders and public. The result of explorative research used to identify the different factors responsible for awareness of IPR among engineering college faculty members of RTM Nagpur University, Nagpur. Following are the major findings of the research work. Patent filed by the faculty members and organization is very low compared to other academic institutions of excellence. Consultants and other information service providers and Staff in the library, were very much supportive and information scientists in IPR cell and colleagues of R&D and other miscellaneous sources also found to be highly important factors in IP awareness.

## Introduction :

### Intellectual property and its rights

Intellectual property is the creation of human mind, human intellect and hence called intellectual Property. Intellectual property reserved for types of property that result from creations of the human mind, the intellect.

(Hirwade & Hirwade, 2007). IP is generally consists of three branches i.e. Industrial Property, Copyright and neighboring rights and Emerging forms. The Industrial property consists of Patents (Inventions), Trademark, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications. Intellectual property rights (IPR) is being considered as an indispensable tool in today's knowledge economies and societies, and in particular in the context of economic globalization. IPR system is also a constituent of reliable legal environment, presumed as an important factor for decisions on investment and technology.

### Patent :

A Patent is a monopoly right to the exclusive use of an invention, granted to the inventor or his assignee. This right is granted only for a limited period. (Patent facilitating Centre)

### IPR Awareness : Outreach and Promotion

The first objective is to create public awareness about the economic, social and cultural benefits of IPRs among all sections of society. Most of the researchers are unaware of the benefits of IP rights or their own capabilities to create IP assets. Nation-wide promotional programs are planned to increase the awareness of IPRs to the rights-holders and public. Those programs shall enhance creativity and innovation in public and private sectors, R&D centers, industry and academia. Adopted the national slogan Creative India; Innovative India, (CIPAM) and formulate programs for specific needs of industries, MSMEs, start-ups, R&D institutions, science and technology institutes, universities and colleges, inventors and creators,

entrepreneurs. (Modernization and Strengthening of Intellectual Property Office (MSIPO))

User awareness studies have been conducted by several researchers in the recent times. The studies covered mostly the subjects like digital media, books, periodicals, library catalogue etc. In the present work the detailed study was undertaken to bring out the Intellectual property rights (IPR) awareness level of engineering college faculties and librarians of affiliated colleges of Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University, Nagpur.

1. The specific objectives of the study were to trace the awareness about Industrial Property and related rights among the faculties.

2. To study the prospective willingness regarding filing their inventions for patent.

3. To study the initiatives taken by the Engineering colleges regarding promoting use of IPR such as organization of workshops on IPR, establishment of IPR Cell, encouraging the faculties to attend the IPR Training programmes

#### Review of Literature

Intellectual Property differs from tangible property in one important respect i.e. Intellectual Property does not suffer from the scarcity problem because it makes use of a plentiful commodity in the form of information. IP becomes scarce because of artificial constraints which are imposed by a legal framework that restricts access to public dissemination and use of the intellectual work that is created. (Poolla, Murti, & Rani, 2008). By end of twentieth century, the things created and invented by the human mind were recognized as an intellectual property of the owner. The owners right over these properties was accepted and is known as an intellectual property right. A new set of laws called intellectual property right laws, were enacted to protect these property rights. (Kannan, 2010). Intellectual property rights (IPRs) like patents, copyrights, trademarks, industrial design, trade secret etc., plays a significant role in promoting innovation and sustaining economic growth.

Many products and technologies are simultaneously marketed and utilized in many countries. With the opening up of trade in goods and services intellectual property rights have become more susceptible to infringement leading to inadequate return to the creator of knowledge. (Saha R. , 2010). The lack of IPR awareness and its ineffective implementation and management may hamper the economic, technical and societal developments of nation. Hence dissemination of IPR knowledge and its appropriate management is utmost requirement for any nation. (Jajpura, Lalit, Singh, Bhupinder & Nayak, Rajkishore, 2017). In particular, the objectives of the study were assessment and identification of issues in creation of IP in technical institutions, and finding appropriate measures to address these issues. (Sinha, Babita, Joshi, Himanshu & Ghosh, P.K, 2009)

Intellectual property (IP) systems depend on awareness of intellectual property. Study and measurement of this has not been addressed properly. Components and measures for IP awareness are discussed and studied using a large scale survey of UK industry. This addressed three main issues of:

1. IP knowledge and understanding
2. IP management practices
3. Awareness and use of IP information and advice.

#### Methodology :

This study employed In-depth interviews and participative observation of the faculty to collect data from members of engineering departments of different colleges affiliated to RTM Nagpur University. An attempt is being done to extract additional information on multiple linkages and to explore the role of faculty members in IPR Awareness study. The interviews helped in sharpening the qualitative analysis of the study and make it focused. This approach is presumed to be useful for confirming all assumptions.

This study utilized a survey approach with a questionnaire or an instrument, which was distributed to faculty members basically from



affiliated engineering colleges of RTM Nagpur University, Nagpur. Survey observed faculties from different colleges with respect to multiple linkages with all stake holders, competitive behavior of faculties, technology and other relevant issues. It has explicitly considered social background because its relevance directly comes from its inter-connection with the economic and institutional aspects of the IPR sub systems. The respondents were chosen randomly from different departments of affiliated colleges of RTM Nagpur University, which consisted of all stake holders in IPR. To ensure proper representation of faculties regarding IPR awareness study, the samples were stratified.

The field work was conducted in four phases. Initial phase consisted of interviews of local sub-samples of respondents only. This information collected from interviews helped in ascertaining the relevance of questions for the Awareness questionnaire. It also helped in assessing the role of influential players in the awareness study among engineering faculty.

Second phase involved open-ended, moderately directed interviews and direct field observations in different stake holders. These methods were advantageous for this study because they provided data for conducting a detailed analysis of the inter linkage value chain players. These methods also brought out the qualitative analysis of this study.

In the third phase the author conducted a large survey with a closed questionnaire. The questionnaire was based on the five- point Likerts response scale. This measures the extent to which a person feels that given parameter is most important or not important.

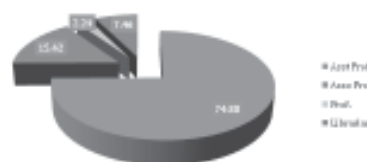
**Table: 1 Likerts Five Point Scale for Data collection**

1	2	3	4	5
Very low importance	Low importance	Medium importance	High importance	Very high importance
or	or	or	or	or
Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Very good

**Data Analysis and Interpretation**

It covered 402 respondents in varied faculties. The continuous follow up with the respondents resulted in receiving 402 valid responses with a response rate of 61.85 %. The researcher employed different mode like Google forms, e-mail and direct collection method to collect the data from respondents. The data analysis as in Fig. 1 revealed that the maximum respondents participated were Asst. Professors category followed by associate professor, librarian and professors respectively. The strength of asst. professors was higher in all colleges and they are young and enthusiastic to participate in the said survey.

**Fig. 1: Position wise Distribution of Respondents (%)**



Similarly the respondents are classified according to the department affiliation and found that the maximum respondents participated was found to be 130 from Mechanical engineering followed by Civil engineering (75) and Electronics and ETC (60) etc. the librarians are also contributed to the cause. The response of each department is encouraging and participation of maximum department is ensured to get a fair result.

In addition, as in many cases respondents have only knowledge of copyright and patent and not complete knowledge of other IPR issues and concepts; they do not have the ability to interpret a complex question with complicated answer options.

The objective of the question was to know the sources from which the respondents normally depend on gathering information on IP. The Fig. 3 indicated that the majority of respondents approached IP experts followed by RGNIPM, lawyers, IPR cell, and others respectively. The role of RGNIPM in IP matters is found to be very

important.

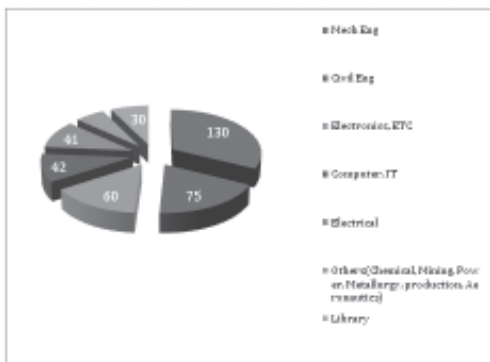


Fig. 2 Department wise distribution of respondents (Number of Responses)

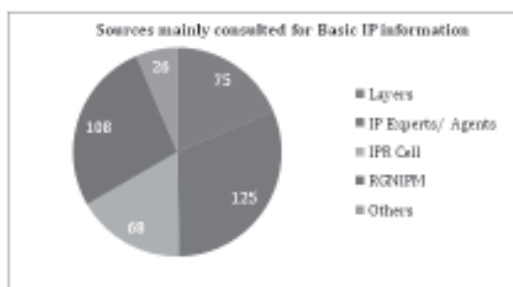


Fig.3 Sources mainly consulted for Basic IP information

Table 2 General Awareness of Basics of IPR among Engineering Faculties

	Awareness of Basic concepts of IPR (Avg. Score)	Appropriate time line of IPR discussed (Avg. Score)	Importance of training in IPR (Avg. Score)
Patent	4.5	4.51	4.51
Copyrights	4.5	4.45	3.53
Trademarks	3.53	3.55	3.57
Industrial Designs	3.57	2.65	4.28
Geographical Indications	4.19	4.41	4.4
Traditional Knowledge	4.28	4.44	4.4

The questions was used to measure the perception regarding awareness of basic concepts, approximate time line of IPR discussed in the institutions and the importance of training in IPR as represented in Table 2. The result indicated that respondents are more aware about patents, copyright, Geographical indicators (GI) and traditional knowledge.

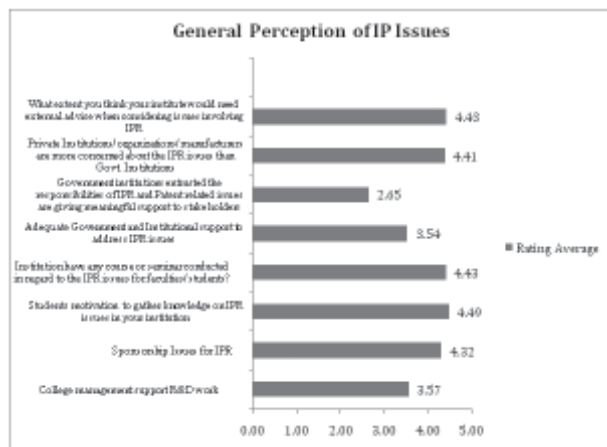


Fig. 4 General Perception of IP Issues

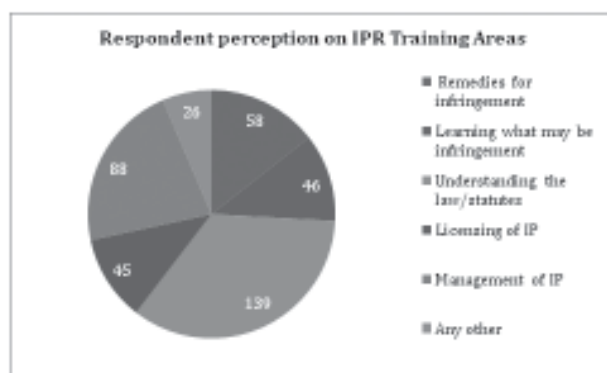


Fig. 5 Respondent perception on IPR Training Areas

Figure 5 shows the perception of respondents regarding requirement of training areas in IPR to faculties. The majority agreed that Understanding law and statutes recorded the maximum, Management of IP, Remedies for infringement, licensing of IP and learning what may be infringement recorded the least.

The most of the respondents were in agreement that the majority of the work was sponsored by the college management and the Government agencies are not very much dependable as it involves procedural delays. Now a days private organization are coming forward to support new projects and safe guarding the interest of researchers by providing protection to IP.

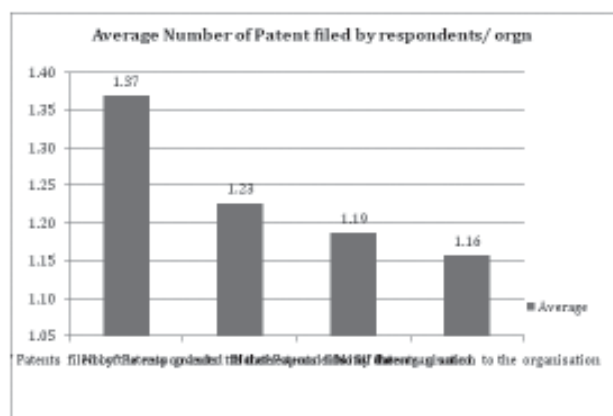
As far as the question of number of patent filed by the respondent and organization is concerned



the average value obtained indicates that the individuals filed the maximum patent in their own capacity than the organization. In both cases there exists a some gap as the grant of patent may be taking considerable time of 2-3 years from the date of application, examination and finally granting of the patent. The Fig.6 indicates that the number of patent filed by the faculty members and organization is 1.37 and 1.19 respectively is very low compared to other academic institutions. The reason may be lack of interest and motivation to faculty members and to a large extent due to lack of awareness to the faculty members.

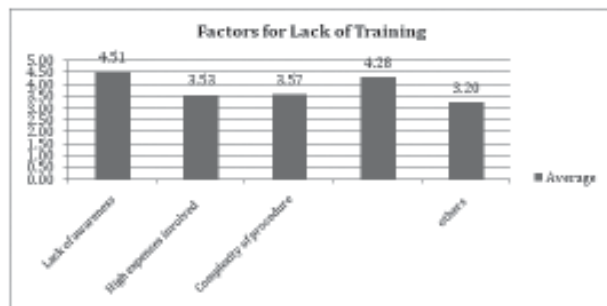
**Table 3 : The rating of score of average Number of Patent filed by respondents/organisation**

Scale value	1	2	3	4	5
No of Patent filed	None	1-5	6-10	11-15	16 and Above



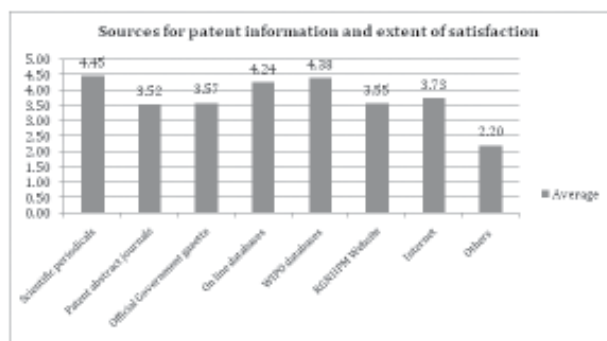
**Fig. 6 Average Number of Patent filed by respondents/ organization**

The result of analysis of data in Fig.7 indicated that almost all the factors contributing to lack of training in patent related matters. However the lack of awareness of IP, lack of guidance and service agents contributed more to deficiency of training than any other factors like high cost of training and complexity of procedures.



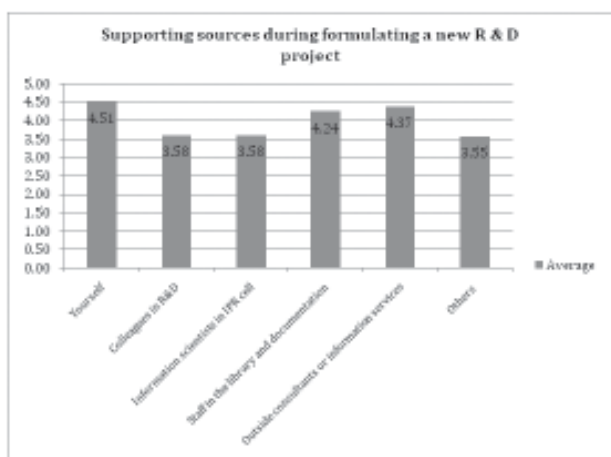
**Fig. 7 Factors for Lack of Training**

The sources for patent related information is shown in the Fig.8. The data indicated that RGNIPM, IP India and WIPO web sites were used extensively by the respondents for patent related information. The average value 4.25 of RGNIPM justified the role played by the organization in the field of IP and also confirmed hypotheses framed.



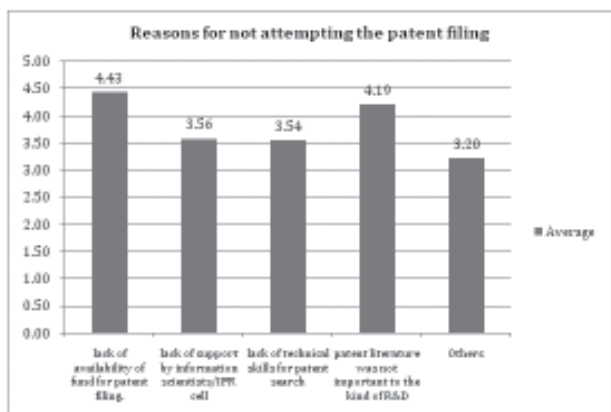
**Fig.8 Sources for patent information**

The figure 9 shows the average scores of different supporting sources during the formulation of a new R&D project. The maximum average score (4.51) indicated that the majority of respondents are self motivated and try to update themselves. Consultants and other information service providers (4.37) and Staff in the library (4.24), were very much supportive and information scientists in IPR cell and colleagues of R&D and other miscellaneous sources also found to be highly important to R&D project. The other sources are not specified fully to a meaningful conclusion.



**Fig. 9 Supporting sources during formulating a new R & D project**

The innovators are not attempting the patent filing resulting draining of intellectual property and economic loss to the individual, organization and in particular to the nation. Proper and judicious use of intellectual property might increase the peoples income and reputation or brand image. The Figure 10 shows that the major reason for not filing the patent is due to fund constraints(4.43) followed by patent literature(4.19), lack of support of information scientist/IPR cell (3.56), lack of technical skills(3.54) and other reasons.

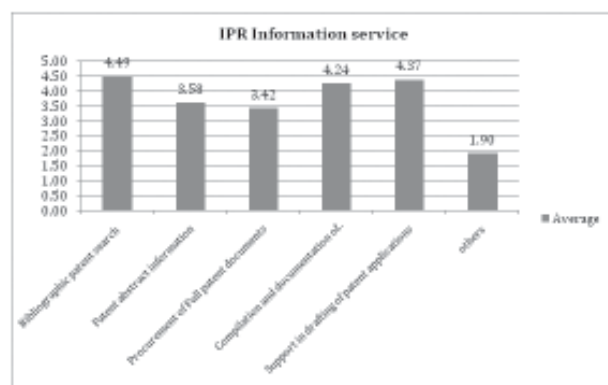


**Fig. 10 Reasons for not attempting the patent filing?**

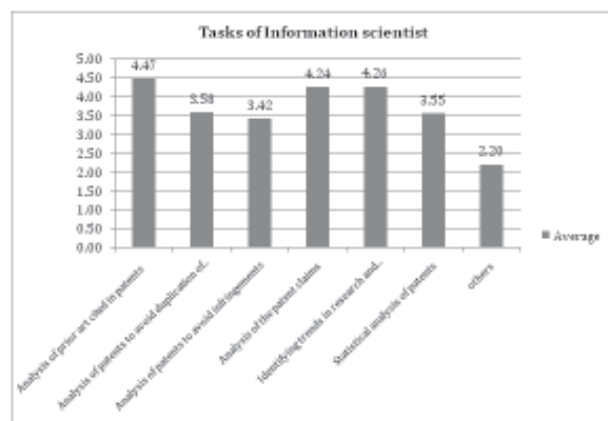
Please Indicate the IPR information services that you will be keen to receive from information

scientists/IPR

The analysis as shown in Fig. 11 revealed that the bibliographic patent search, compilation and documentation and drafting of patent applications recorded the very high importance viz. 4.49, 4.37 and 4.24 respectively to IPR information service. The analysis also showed that patent abstract information and procurement of patent documents (3.58, 3.42) indicated higher importance. There are some unspecified services(1.90) to support the R&D work.



**Fig. 11 IPR information services that you will be keen to receive from information scientists/IPR**



**Fig. 12 Tasks of Information scientist**

Analyze technical information in patent documents

The Fig.12 revealed that analysis of prior art cited in patents, Analysis of the patent claims, Identifying trends in research and technological

opportunities having average score values 4.47, 4.24, 4.26 respectively are considered to be most important and Analysis of patents to avoid duplication of research, Analysis of patents to avoid infringements, Statistical analysis of patents are considered as important task to be detailed to information scientist and IPR cell. Other tasks are not important to information scientist.

### Conclusion :

The result of explorative research used to identify the different factors responsible for awareness of IPR among engineering college faculty members of RTM Nagpur University, Nagpur. Following are the major findings of the research work.

- Patent filed by the faculty members and organization is very low compared to other academic institutions of excellence. The reason may be lack of interest and motivation to faculty members and to a large extent due to lack of awareness, fund constraints, patent literature, lack of support of information scientist/IPR cell, lack of technical to the faculty members. If look in to those aspects will help in boosting R&D work in the country.

- Perception of respondents regarding requirement of training areas in IPR to faculties. The majority agreed that Understanding law and statutes recorded the maximum, Management of IP, Remedies for infringement, licensing of IP and learning what may be infringement recorded the least.

- Consultants and other information service providers and Staff in the library, were very much supportive and information scientists in IPR cell and colleagues of R&D and other miscellaneous sources also found to be highly important factors in IP awareness.

- The sources like scientific periodicals, WIPO databases, online databases, Internet, official government Gazette, RGNIPM Website, patent abstract journals were used for patent information.

- The analysis also showed that patent abstract

information and procurement of patent documents indicated higher importance.

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