

<http://www.risingkashmir.com/news/jk-bank-edc-launch-skill-development-programs>

<http://www.risingkashmir.com/news/jk-bank-edc-launch-skill-development-programs>

<https://www.streettimes.in/15-innovators-scouted-at-nif-cell-jk-edc-ku-awarded/>

<https://kashmirobsrver.net/2018/business/entrepreneurship-workshop-held-ku-37033>

<http://www.skillreporter.com/2017/09/regional/jammu-kashmir/jk-bank-sponsor-skill-development-training-entrepreneurship-development-cell-university-kashmir/>

<https://m.greaterkashmir.com/news/business/ku-s-entrepreneurship-cell-to-hold-skill-development-training/260929.html>

<https://kashmirvision.in/2018/10/16/one-day-workshop-cum-boot-camp-held-at-ku/>

<https://kashmirreader.com/2018/10/16/one-day-workshop-cum-boot-camp-held-at-ku/>

## JKEDI, KU organise one day workshop-cum-boot camp

### RIISING KASHMIR NEWS

Srinagar, Oct 15: University of Kashmir and J&K Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI) jointly organised a 'One day Workshop-cum-Boot Camp' for idea pitching at KU on Monday in which large number of students, entrepreneurs and innovators from various parts of the valley participated.

The objective of workshop-cum-Boot Camp was to scout innovative business ideas from students, innovators and entrepreneurs so that the ideas could be incubated as startups and awarded under Startup initiative of the State of J&K.

The workshop was attended by faculty members, students and officers of the University as well as innovators, entrepreneurs and faculty members of other Valley based institutions and organizations.

Vice-Chancellor KU Prof. Talat Ahmad presided over the inaugural function of the Workshop while Dean Academic Affairs KU Prof. M. A. Sahaf was the Guest of Honor.

Delivering his presidential address at the occasion, Prof. Talat Ahmad said that there is a scope to empower local



The poster for 'Startup India Jammu & Kashmir Yatra' features logos for the Government of India, Invest India, Startup India, and the J&K Entrepreneurship Development Institute. It includes a colorful illustration of a train carrying various startup-related icons. Below the illustration, it lists 'Boot Camp Locations' (Jammu, Srinagar, Baramulla, Anantnag, Kupwara, Baramulla, Anantnag, Kupwara, Baramulla, Anantnag, Kupwara) and 'Yatra Van Locations' (Jammu, Srinagar, Baramulla, Anantnag, Kupwara, Baramulla, Anantnag, Kupwara, Baramulla, Anantnag, Kupwara). At the bottom, it states 'Boot Camps - Idea Pitching - Prize Money - Incubation offers' and provides contact information: 'For more information visit www.startupindia.gov.in | Toll Free Number 1800 115 565'.

youth through innovative efforts like Startup India.

He said that Kashmiri youth are highly innovative and very receptive to new initiatives. He assured the organizers of the Workshop of his support for all efforts leading to IPR generation and entrepreneurship growth.

Prof. M. A. Sahaf delivered an insightful lecture on various facets of Startup policy. He said that Govt. should tailor the existing policy to suit the local entrepreneurs. He said that a startup is based on an inno-

vation and leads to problem solving in the society.

While presenting the introductory remarks at the occasion, Prof. G. Mohiuddin Bhat, Director Institute of Technology and Advisor EDC signified the importance of technology innovation and IPR with regard to Startup initiative. He said that with the support of National Innovation Foundation, the NIF Cell at University of Kashmir has filed 65 patents in favour of Kashmiri innovators.

He said that the Govt. of J&K should strengthen the platform

of technology innovation and IPR at University of Kashmir. Prof. Bhat was critical about lack of support from the State Govt. for innovation eco-system and IPR facilitation in the State.

An Innovation Exhibition of many innovative technologies developed by local youth, organized in the lawns of Gandhi Bhavan, KU was a special event at the occasion. The Vice Chancellor and other dignitaries and delegates later visited the Innovation Exhibition. The Exhibition was a great source of inspiration for the students and entrepreneurs.

# Encouraging local innovations to help generate employment: KU V-C

SAQIB MALIK

**Srinagar, Oct 15:** Highlighting the importance of providing a commercial platform for local grassroots innovators to help them launch their innovations, vice chancellor of Kashmir University Talat Ahmed on Monday said creating commercial viability of these ideas can help generate employment in Kashmir.

Addressing innovators from across Kashmir at a daylong workshop-cum-boot camp exhibition of 'Startup India, J&K Yatra', the VC said Kashmir University is ready to extend support to grassroots innovators.

"A lot of employment can be generated by adapting innovation to markets. I am glad that several innovations from Kashmir are witnessing a commercial viability and marketability," said Talat.

The VC said that there is scope to empower local youth through innovative efforts like "Startup India". "Kashmiri youth are highly innovative and very receptive to new initiatives. I assure the organisers of our support for all efforts leading to Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) generation and entrepreneurship growth," he said.



The VC stressed on encouraging local level innovations saying that innovations can come with novel products to suit local needs. "You must keep innovating and find new things that can help to solve local day-to-day daily life problems," he said.

"There is an important need to bring technology and knowledge together. We have a great role to help innovators especially from far flung areas," Prof Talat.

Talat also appreciated Entrepreneurship Development Cell, National Innovation Foundation, Kashmir University and JKEDI for jointly organised the 'One day Workshop-cum-Boot Camp' for idea pitching in which large number of students, entrepreneurs and innovators from valley participated. The objective of workshop-cum-Boot

camp was to scout innovative business ideas from students, innovators and entrepreneurs so that the ideas could be incubated as startups and awarded under startup initiative of J&K. The workshop was attended by faculty members, students and officers of the Kashmir University as well as innovators, entrepreneurs and faculty members of other valley based institutions and organizations.

Dean Academic Affairs, Kashmir University, MA Sahaf spoke on various facets of startup policy.

"Government should tailor the existing startup policy to suit the local entrepreneurs. A startup is based on an innovation and leads to problem solving in the society," Sahaf said.

GM Bhat, Director,

Institute of Technology and advisor EDC signified the importance of technology innovation and IPR with regard to startup initiative. "With the support of National Innovation Foundation, the NIF Cell at University of Kashmir has filed 65 patents in favour of Kashmiri innovators. J&K government should strengthen the platform of technology innovation and IPR at University of Kashmir," said Bhat who was critical about lack of support from the state government for innovation ecosystem and IPR facilitation in the state. An innovation exhibition was also held in which creative innovations such as walnut peeler and cracker, a diaper that makes a sound when a child urinates and several innovations on road safety were showcased.

## **Report of the Events**

<http://edc.uok.edu.in/Main/EventView.aspx?Event=c8a4075a-fd1d-4a33-b58b-e743c9939640>

<http://edc.uok.edu.in/Main/EventView.aspx?Event=2eb6882b-4355-4fb0-b93d-ad6bb0fd2778>

<http://edc.uok.edu.in/Main/EventView.aspx?Event=36be0a5c-880e-4c87-8d51-c4b54ed43dc2>

<http://edc.uok.edu.in/Main/EventView.aspx?Event=7baed2d9-5f68-4810-a261-0a26efbc864f>

<http://edc.uok.edu.in/Main/EventView.aspx?Event=c5543221-e260-4f14-96b6-911fedab23ff>

<http://edc.uok.edu.in/Main/EventView.aspx?Event=bddea6d1-b75a-4458-9e83-e01deefef0cb>

<http://edc.uok.edu.in/Main/EventView.aspx?Event=9bdba184-5619-4573-90cf-5ac4c7ddd8cd>

<http://edc.uok.edu.in/Main/EventView.aspx?Event=7e52863b-d188-408a-924d-8c13f16bd013>

<http://edc.uok.edu.in/Main/EventView.aspx?Event=cd417c5e-7b7e-48bc-93c7-b3747a0a0ba0>

<http://edc.uok.edu.in/Files/9f7f4199-12b5-49d1-8e41-260b35d9650c/Event/PDFc060c1f5-5167-4204-a2aa-de4219a1595d.pdf>

<http://edc.uok.edu.in/Main/EventView.aspx?Event=55d60eb8-780c-43fb-9d9c-c6420f96a2c3>

<http://edc.uok.edu.in/Main/EventList.aspx>



**Shr. Pranab Mukherji, Hon'ble President of India honoring the Kashmiri Innovator Mr. Mushtaq Ahmad Dar, incubated by GIAN Cell-JK, University of Kashmir.**





**Shri. Prof. Mashelkar, Chairman National Innovation Foundation (NIF), Ahmadabad Honoring Prof. G. Mohiuddin Bhat, Director USIC/Chairman GIAN Cell-JK, at National Grassroots Innovation & Outstanding Traditional Knowledge Award Function.**



### **Kashmir University bags IGNITE-13 Award:**

Two students Mahirah Akhter and Morifat Wani, of Maryam Memorial Institute, Kupwara, scouted and incubated by GIAN Cell-JK, University of Kashmir have made it among the 44 winners of IGNITE-13 Award.

The innovators were awarded for their innovation entitled '**Printing ink for keeping students fresh while reading**'.

Former President of India Bharat Ratna Dr A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, conferred the awards to the 44 winners at IIM, Ahmadabad.

**INNOVATORS AWARD FUNCTION AT IARI, PUSA COMPLEX, NEW DELHI ORGANIZED  
BY NATIONAL INNOVATION FOUNDATION (NIF), AHMADABAD:**





**AWARD OF ACHIEVEMENT BY THE HON'BLE VICE CHANCELLOR**  
**UNIVERSITY OF KASHMIR:**





## ❖ Outstanding Traditional Knowledge Award Function:



## Dream big: VC tells innovators

Listen



Font Size



GK NEWS NETWORK



Srinagar: The vice-chancellor of University of Kashmir, Riyaz Punjabi, on Saturday asked the young entrepreneurs to dream big.

Speaking at the inaugural function of "Innovators Meet" here, organized by KU's Entrepreneurship Development Cell and Grass root Innovation Augmentation Network J&K, Prof Punjabi said, "The young

innovators should dream big and need to have determination to realize these. KU is there to help you in fine-tuning your skills."

Prominent innovators of the state and formal sector submitted their project proposals to a committee, comprising experts from KU, NIT, RRIUM and IIIM.

The VC listened to all presentations and showed keen interest in various innovations presented by the young innovators to the experts.

# 30-day skill dev program begins at KU

Participants to get training in mobile phone repairing

GK NEWS NETWORK

Srinagar, May 25: A month-long training programme on mobile phone repairing was today kick-started at the Kashmir University. The programme which is being organized by the Entrepreneurship Development Cell (EDC), KU, was inaugurated by Prof Syed Fayaz Ahmad, Registrar and Dean Students Welfare, KU.

The programme is aimed to help the unemployed youth of the Valley gain skill in mobile repairing to establish their units.

Prof Fayaz congratulated the organizers for organizing a skill development programme for the unemployed youth.

While maintaining that the government could provide sufficient grant in this regard, he urged the academia to concentrate over short-term skill generation programmes.

He appreciated the EDC for "working on novel ideas to equip young boys and girls with skill and inspiring them to take up entrepreneurship challenges in future."

He said EDC had made its presence felt in a short span of time and "we expect more from it in days to come."



Among others who spoke on the occasion included Prof G. Mohiuddin Bhat, Director USIC and Advisor EDC, Dr. Mehrajuddin Dar, Director IT & SS, Layeeq Ahmad of J&K Bank, Mackmoor Gowher, Publicity Secretary, Federation Chamber of Industries, Kashmir (FCIK), Dr. Syed Musaffar Ahmad Andrabi, Er Bilal Ahmad Malik and other faculty and staff of USIC and EDC.

Prof Bhat on the occasion said the unemployment was one of the major problems faced by "our society and the present programme is an endeavour to convert the job seekers into job providers."

He said, "The EDC had

been consistently discharging its duties to empower the unemployed youth of the state for self employment generation."

Layeeq Ahmad spoke about various financial schemes offered by J&K Bank for the participants of the training programme which come under service sector.

He said the participants could avail loans from the bank for establishing income giving units.

Mackmoor Gowher offered every assistance and help from FCIK to "serious and motivated entrepreneurs among the participants of the training programme."



## 'Innovators meet' held at Gandhi Bhawan

MERC News Network

**B**elieve it or not but it is true, that for the first time in the history of Jammu and Kashmir, Technopreneurship Promotion Programme (TePP), in collaboration with Grass root Innovation Augmentation Network J&K and EDC, University of Kashmir has organised an innovators meet at Gandhi Bhawan to provide grants, technical guidance and mentoring support to independent innovators so that the innovators emerge as successful entrepreneurs by incubating their ideas and enterprise.

Vice chancellor Kashmir University Prof Riyaz Punjabi inaugurated this "Innovators Meet" at Gandhi Bhawan, University of Kashmir which was Organized by Entrepreneurship Development cell (EDC) Kashmir University and Grass root Innovation Augmentation Network J&K (GIAN Cell J&K). Prominent innovators of J&K State from grass

root and formal sector submitted their project proposals to an expert committee constituting of experts from Kashmir University, NIT, RRIUM and IIM who evaluated the proposals received for financial assistance under TEPP. Vice chancellor Kashmir University Prof Riyaz Punjabi expressed happiness over the holding of the meeting and asked the young innovators to dream big and have determination for realizing these dreams. "Kashmir University is there to help you in fine tuning your skills and realize your dreams" said VC to the young innovators. "I appre-

ciate your imagination. Said VC to innovators advising them to learn launch and market their product in the competitive world of today. VC felt the need for launching of a cooperative effort thought India to launch the produces of our young innovators. Prof Punjabi personally listened to all presentations and showed keen interest in various innovations presented by the young innovators to the committee of experts. Director EDC, KU Prof Gh Mohi-u-din Bhat, Dr. A.S Rao, Scientist, Advisor, department of science and technology (DST) Govt. of India and Chairman Technopreneurship Promotion Pro-



gramme (Tepp) of the Govt. of India, and Shri L.Chinzah, Business Development Officer NIF,IIM Ahmadabad were present during the day meet. KU Prof Gh Mohi-u-din Bhat in his welcome address, said that the objective of the meet is to provide financial support to the technology innovators of the J & K State and encourage Techno-preneurship development to address unemployment problem in J & K State. Dr.A.S Rao, Scientist, Advisor, department of science and technology (DST) Govt. of India and Chairman Technopreneurship Promotion Programme (Tepp) of the Govt. of India, was highly appreciative of KU for its role in encouraging innovative skills among youth. Dr. A. S. Shawl Director, Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine (IIM). Prof. A. H. Mir Head, Department of Electronic Engineering (NIT) Srinagar also spoke on the occasion.

The meeting was also attended by the NIF, Collaborators Syeed Nadeem and Sheikh Fayaz who are also TePP, members.

Patron: Prof. (Dr) Riyaz Punjabi

Editorial team: Ronaq Zahoor, Rafiq Ahmad Wani, Isra Amin Bhat, Owais Mushtaq Wani, Mehmooda Bashir,

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The opinions expressed in the write ups are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the policy of MERC Times or the department of Media Education and Research Center

# 'PATENT IS LATENT FOR VALLEY INNOVATORS'

BILAL HUSSAIN

**Srinagar, July 11:** Less than twenty applications have been filed for grant of patents from the Valley and less than ten have been approved. Reason: Awareness level is so poor in Kashmir that entrepreneurs in the Valley don't know much about Intellectual Property Rights or IPR.

This was revealed in a two-day workshop aimed to create awareness among the Valley-based innovators/entrepreneurs.

Entrepreneurs Development Cell (EDC) in collaboration with Department of Science and Technology (DST) organised the workshop at Kashmir University campus here.

Director USIC, GM Bhat in the workshop said, "We have organised this kind of workshop in 2004 and in

that workshop we floated the idea of formulation of an institute on entrepreneurship at KU."

He said the present EDC was the outcome of that exercise.

He said the EDC was going to provide a platform for all the innovators of the valley. "There is no eligibility criterion. Anyone having the innovative idea is welcome."

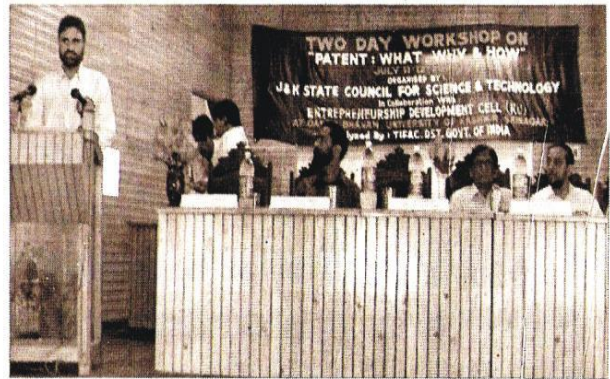
"Over the years we have seen there is very little amount of awareness among the youth of the valley on patent, which is evident by the number of the applications filed by entrepreneurs/innovators from Kashmir," he said.

Advisor, Department of Science and Technology, R Saha in his address said, "Globalization has created large markets leading to col-

lapse of geographical barriers. New market players are emerging in short-time, so one needs to patent his/her innovations and it is the need of the time to safeguard one's products and innovations."

"IPRs are monopoly rights and it can be renewed after a stipulated time period. Unlike copyright which is a global right, patents are largely territorial rights. There are so many benefits for getting an IPR like business promotion, becoming more visible globally and there is no chance your products or innovation are illegally used or copied by anyone," Saha, added.

"In Kashmir different associations can apply for patents on products like Pashmina, Handicrafts and many other innovations," he



added.

Mushtaq Ahmad an innovator from the valley said, "I have filed application for getting patents for two of my innovations, one is for tree climber and other for walnut crusher. I am quite hopeful for getting patents for both of these products."

"So far I have got local order for 12 lakhs units worth Rs forty lakhs. The product tree climber is a great success as I am being asked for the product from other states as well," Mustaq added.

Several experts and resource persons from the concerned institutions

across India deliberated extensively on the subject much to the benefit of the participants.

Prof. Syed Fayaz, Dean Academics KU, Dr. VK Koul Add. DST and Altaf Ahmad Bhat Joint Director DST, Prof. Khurshid Bhat HOD Department of Commerce were present on the occasion.



## Valley youth's tryst with innovation

A Kashmiri youth unveils his innovative genius through several simple devices addressing ordinary man's daily needs.

Mushtaq ul Haq Ahmad Nihandaz

Srinagar: His persona does not reveal all that genius he possesses. The woolen Kashmiri cap that he dons, makes him just another face in the crowd. But Mushtaq Ahmad Dar is no ordinary youth from the Valley. Under the warm cap, he has a mind that works on 24/7 basis, ever churning out new ideas that could be turned into products that people need and use.

Mushtaq works with a passion to come up with new implements that would ease hardships of life by ordinary people. He has so far come up with small devices which speak of his innovative zeal buried under the plain exterior. Mushtaq has devised a walnut cracker, an almond cracker and a tree climber. Tools, implements and devices fascinated him since his childhood. He even looked around to find out as to what the people were looking for in order to carry on their life. The fruit plucking in walnut and almond orchards attracted his attention. The cumbersome process of extracting kernels of these fruit from hard shell set him on a quest. The shell breaking process often resulted in kernel getting minced and crushed which led to low yield.

First, he came up with a walnut cracker. It was a box like device where fruit is fed through the top feeder. The fruits fall between two round wooden bolsters that are mechanically wound from outside. The shell gets crushed between the bolsters that revolve in opposite directions. However, the dry kernel comes out uncrushed from the output slit.

Mushtaq demonstrated his crackers at the University Science and Instrumentation Centre (USIC) of the Kashmir University. Initially the crude device had only 25 per cent efficiency. But subsequent effort has enabled him to achieve 85 per cent efficiency. It can even peel off skin from green (raw) walnuts. Walnut cracker is in great demand in Australia, China and Greece. Mushtaq has the dream of manufacturing his devices with a brand name and marketing them.



Impressed with his genius, National Innovation Foundation (NIF), Ahmedabad offered him a monthly fellowship of Rs. 10,000 for one year. Since USIC of the Kashmir University took notice of the youth's innovative zeal and Centre Director G. M. Bhat got him another fellowship of Rs. 2,500 a month from the Cyber Cell. But for Bhat's interest and effort, perhaps Mushtaq may have been fiddling with his devices in obscurity.

Mushtaq recently came up with another amazing device that he has named 'tree climber'. It is light, and easily portable. It can be used on any round or flat surface, be it a pole or tree trunk. The simple device is capable of dispensing with the cumbersome ladder that workers in telephone or electricity departments have to often carry. Orchard owners can also deploy them for plucking of fruits.

The tree climber consists of two metal platforms that are fixed on either side of the trunk or pole. The user has to rest his feet on them by tying them to the platform by the help of straps. He is supposed to drag up each of them alternately while resting his feet on the other. In the process, he attains height with each move. A large leather belt allows him to provide rest to the body at frequent intervals against the trunk. It also serves as a safety belt that protects against falling off the pole or tree. The tree climber is being presently produced on a commercial scale by Indian Innovations.

Mushtaq has a word of advice for budding innovators: Believe in yourself, be confident, accept assistance from wherever it comes and ease the hardship of the humanity. Mushtaq Ahmad Dar can be contacted at: 0985523-57847.

## KU's 2-day entrepreneurship camp begins

GNK NEWS NETWORK

Srinagar, Sep 24: Kashmir University authorities on Wednesday asserted that there was need to introduce entrepreneurship in the curriculum of colleges and schools in the Valley to enable prospective entrepreneurs to earn decent living.

"One of the prime objectives of education is that students should earn a decent living at the end. I believe that entrepreneurship can help in this regard. It is therefore necessary that entrepreneurship should be an important component of curriculum in colleges and schools so that the prospective entrepreneurs can learn about the field and its benefits," KU registrar, Prof S Fayyaz Ahmad said while inaugurating "Entrepreneurship Awareness Camp" at the Gandhi Memorial College (GMC) this afternoon.

The two-day camp is being organized jointly by the KU's Entrepreneurship Development Cell (EDC) and the GMC.

Prof Fayyaz, who was chief guest on the occasion, highlighted the importance of entrepreneurship in the present world. "Entrepreneurship can help tackle the problem of unemployment to a great extent," he said. "The field is a creative approach to solving problems. We are living in a global world where our youth need to meet the challenges posed by globalization. So in all sectors of life, the spirit of entrepreneurship is

essential."

The awareness camp, which was attended by the staff and students of the GMC, is being organized to create awareness about entrepreneurial opportunities among the qualified science and technology youths of the Valley.

Advisor, EDC, Prof GM Bhat, said the basic objective of the camp is to create awareness among youth on how the problem of unemployment can be tackled through entrepreneurship.

"Today everybody seems to be aspiring for a government job whatever that be. But this camp is being organized to inform the youth that there is a world beyond the government jobs," Prof Bhat said.

"Our youth must opt for entrepreneurship so that they can become the job providers and not the job seekers."

Prof Bhat said there was need to aware people about the entrepreneurial opportunities available to them in the government, private and corporate sectors of the Valley. "There is a huge scope of science and technology based entrepreneurship. Those who'd opt for it, will not only get money, but recognition as well," he said.

In her presidential address, principal GMC, Prof Rabia Firdous, asserted that entrepreneurship should be a compulsory subject in final year of any 3-year degree course.

"The purpose should be to imbibe creativity among the prospective innovators," she

said. "There is need to sensitize youths that the government jobs are not the end of the world."

Chairman, Federation Chamber of Commerce and Industries (FCCI), Shakeel Qalandar, in his address stressed that in near future, people shall be left with no option but to opt for entrepreneurship. "Entrepreneurship is becoming a necessity and youth should come forward to opt for it," Qalandar said while highlighting the entrepreneurial potentialities of Jammu and Kashmir in the sectors like agriculture, horticulture, natural resources, livestock and minerals.

Qalandar said the need of the hour was to change from a consumer state to producer state.

"Unfortunately we have not been able to change from a consumer state to producer state which we could have easily done. For self reliance and sustenance, we got to become a producer state," he added.

Prof Javid Kamili of GMC welcomed the guests. "Experts who would be deliberating on different aspects of entrepreneurship in two days include Prof Khursheed Ahmad Bhat of KU's commerce department, Professors Mufeed Ahmad and M A Sahaf of KU's Business School, Dr Younis Munshi of RRIUM, KU, Layek Ahmad of JK Bank, Fayyaz Ahmad of SIDCO, and Masarat Islam, directorate of Industries and Commerce, J and K," said an official spokesperson.



# Patent, GI essential to end duplication of made-in-Kashmir

**2-day workshop  
on patents  
concludes**

**BILAL HUSSAIN**

**Srinagar, July 12:** There is still long way to go ahead for the innovators and entrepreneurs from Kashmir to get patents and Geographical Indications (GI) for their products and innovations. People from the Valley are not much acquainted with the IPRs (Intellectual Property Rights).

This was revealed on the second and last day of the 2-day workshop, 'Patent: What, Why and How'.

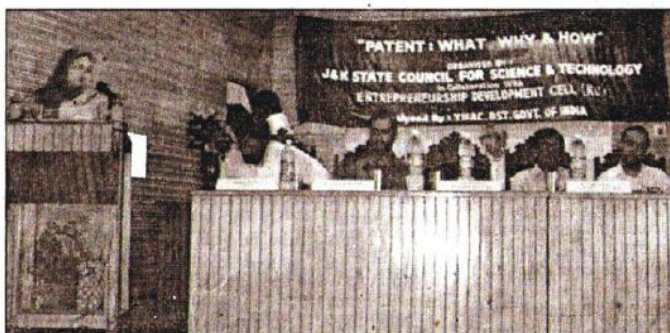
The speakers at the workshop laid much emphasis on making workshops like the present one a permanent feature so that more and more people become aware of the patents, even as maintaining that most of the

Kashmir indigenous products are yet to get patent or GI.

Joint Director, Patent Information Center, Chandigarh, Dr Neelima Jeerath, said, "GI is a patent protection obtained for a product known to belong to a particular geographical area or a community. Individuals and organizations should keep their mystique and aura to preserve its quality and elevate them to a pedestal where they have become synonym with the area."

She said, "In Kashmir Pashmina Shawls, Wood Crafts etc can apply for GI protection. The GI registration of these products can be done with Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trademarks for a tenure of ten years. Any individual, community, association of producers can apply."

Shri Manoj Menda, a Mumbai-based advocate,



briefed the participants about the copyrights management and principles of trademarks.

Advisor Department of Science and Technology, New Delhi, R Saha, delivered two lectures on protection of computer software and protection of traditional knowledge.

Director USAIC, G M Bhat said, "This workshop provided general awareness among the educated youth and to

other participants as well. We have some peculiar products from Kashmir like Pashmina Shawl, Saffron and lots more that can be patented."

"A vendor from Ludhiana has launched a website and put Pashmina Shawl for just US\$ 5 but we can not proceed legally against him as no one from Valley has sought GI for it. We can sue him as he is exploiting our brand name but only when we get the product regis-

tered under GI. Govt can find the ways to patent saffron as well."

The two-day workshop was organised by Entrepreneurs Development Cell (EDC) in collaboration with Department of Science and Technology (DST).

Prof G M Bhat, Advisor EDC, Dr V Koul, Additional Director, Science and Technology, J&K, Dr Altaf Ahmad Bhat, Joint Director S&T, J&K were also present at the occasion.



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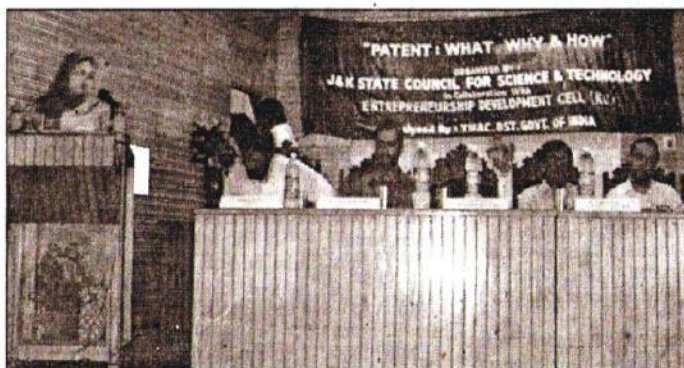
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