





WORKSHOP ON SAMRIDDHI- Vocal for Local

Social ASSET Management for Resources of Indigenous People's Demographic Development for Heritage of India

Organised by

CENTRE FOR REGULATORY STUDIES, GOVERNANCE AND PUBLIC POLICY
AND
DPIIT IPR CHAIR
THE WB NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF JURIDICAL SCIENCES, KOLKATA

CONCEPT NOTE:

The world has acknowledged the importance of Social-Cultural Heritage not just in the individual's social development but for the whole community's economic development. In today's technologically advanced age, the cultural heritage of developing and least developing countries provides them with a unique position at global economic platforms. In the global market, IPRs are an essential mechanism for IP owners against exploitation and survival in competitive markets. Geographical Indications are equally crucial in IPR that have been proven effective for the economic development of rural economies. Gls, owing to their nature of collective brands that a community of individual producers can use, the success of geographical indication products will depend primarily on effective governance and quality control structures. What could be the probable structure of developing countries like India to effectively use its administrative system to regulate the Gls' quality and global outreach?

Further, understanding the non-availability of a system like TSG to protect India's traditional knowledge, what sort of actions the Indian government should take? While is noted that, if the EU institutions, policymakers, and civil society are really interested in and serious about making progress on GIs at the multilateral and bilateral levels, it is imperative to enlarge the vision and strategy beyond promoting and protecting European GIs as "living cultural and gastronomic heritage. It has to be recognized that such "living cultural and gastronomic heritage" also exists, albeit at different levels and in different forms, in developing countries and LDCs. This is the only way possible to generate the notion that GIs as much as traditional knowledge are part of IPRs and not a peripheral agricultural trade issue.

Furthermore, LDCs exceptionally lacks in exportations and other forms of IPRs, however, GIs and TM provides these countries substantial potential to become an active participant of the TRIPS agreement owing to their invaluable array of products linked to their culture, tradition, and biodiversity belonging to rural communities. Also, the EU is one of the most important Aid for Trade (AfT) donors and the most vocal proponent of GIs, but it is also contested that much negotiating EU capital has been invested in inserting GI protection into EU FTAs with developing countries, including LDCs, with no corresponding efforts in assisting these countries in developing their GIs. Where some progress has been recorded, it has been late and isolated. In that scenario, what sort of collaborative efforts can India and EU take to mitigate this lacunae and design effective GI strategies for developing countries and LDCs.

There must be a substantial scaling-up of aid policies to promote the use of GIs as rural development tools, and to this effect, significant coordination efforts by the European Commission among its different directorates – DG TRADE, DG AGRI and DG DEVCO – should be undertaken. Therefore, this workshop will discuss effectively managing India's indigenous cultural heritage, which can apply to other developing and least developing countries.

Date
17th AUGUST 2023

Time 3 PM-6PM

VENUE
WBNUJS CAMPUS
(Room 328)

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