

Celebrating World Intellectual Property Day at ICAR-NBFGR: Instilling creativity and Inspiring Innovation with Out-of-the-Box Thinking

ICAR-National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources (ICAR-NBFGR) staff and researchers gathered to celebrate World Intellectual Property (IP) Day with a series of engaging and thought-provoking activities aimed at fostering innovative ideas and exploring unconventional perspectives. The Chief Guest of the celebration Dr. S.P.S. Khanuja, Former Director CIMAP a distinguished researcher, entrepreneur, and transformative figure in the field of research and entrepreneurship shared a captivating story about a deaf frog, illustrating the power of perseverance and positive attitude towards innovation. The anecdote highlighted the importance of overcoming obstacles and leveraging unique qualities to achieve success in scientific endeavours. He spoke about overcoming challenges by transformative research and connection with farmers. He highlighted the importance of working in laboratory and connecting with farmers with output from research relinking from land to lab. He also expressed the importance of adapting new technology and upgrading oneself with new skills. He spoke about unleashing creativity of human mind by working on new challengeable ideas with a product that is novel and useful with potential of Patent, hedging it with smaller innovations to secure rights of innovator for market foothold and dominance. Dr S.P.S. Khanuja also gave insight of unique models of finding solutions in research relevant to end-users and bringing in innovations to convert challenges into opportunities of IPR and economic impact with sustainability.

An interactive studio session led by Dr Poonam Jayant Singh, OIC ITMU, encouraged participants to generate out-of-the-box ideas and delivered a presentation on Thinking Out of the Box for generating creative ideas and embracing unique approaches to problem-solving by drawing inspiration from the natural world. The presentation resonated with Researchers and students for promoting a deeper understanding of creativity and innovation in research and development. Her analogy from a book by Jim Collins, of being a 'hedgehog' focusing deeply on a specific idea or strategy and not a fox, scattering attention across multiple areas encouraged attendees to adopt a more focused and intentional approach to their work. Dr U K Sarkar, Director ICAR-NBFGR appreciated the efforts of ITMU and encouraged researchers to challenge themselves for new ideas. The programme was coordinated by Dr U K Sarkar, Director, ICAR NBFGR, Dr Poonam Jayant Singh OIC ITMU, Dr L K Tyagi I/C PME Cell and Dr Mahender Singh

The message of WIPO Director General Mr Daren Tang was played for celebrating World Intellectual Property Day 2024, reflecting on the importance of intellectual property as a catalyst to unleash the power of innovation and creativity to address our common global challenges.

The event underscored the significance of fostering a culture of out-of-the-box thinking and embracing nature's wisdom to drive meaningful progress in research and development. Participants left the event inspired and equipped with fresh perspectives, ready to apply innovative strategies and lessons learned to their ongoing projects and future endeavours. The celebration at ICAR-NBFGR was a testament to the institution's commitment to promoting excellence in scientific research and fostering a dynamic ecosystem for intellectual exploration and growth





