

Rajiv Gandhi School of Intellectual Law Graduates 40 Lawyers

The Rajiv Gandhi School of Intellectual Law graduated a record number of IP lawyers this year. Not only did they graduate, but all students received multiple job offers. Vinod Gupta provided an endowment of \$1 million through Vinod Gupta Charitable Trust (VGCT) to set up the school.

In the modern world, there is a lot of awareness of intellectual property rights (IPR). There are many cases in India but not enough lawyers who deal with IPR issues. Therefore there is an imperative need for institutes like IIT to introduce such courses, Gupta

In these times of outsourcing, he added, a lot of work related to IPR is being given to Indian lawyers, who are more affordable than their US counterparts. If there were more lawyers dealing with IPR issues, it would be beneficial for India. Due to the strong demand the law school plans to expand from 60 students to 90 students next year.

IIT Kharagpur director Dr. Shishir Dube said that a task force is currently drawing up a detailed project report (DPR) for formulating the curricula. The DPR would be ready by this year-end, and then an advisory council, consisting of lawyers and IIT alumni would fine-tune the curricula.

The academic program would start from the next academic year i.e. July 2006, while the end of 2007 would complete the entire infrastructure.

Dr. Dube also said that they would also be consulting the Bar Council of India to finalize the number of courses. They are looking at various options like a one-year post-graduate diploma course, a two-year PG degree course or a three-year LLM.

Dr. Lube also pointed out that IITs have the necessary infrastructure to run such schools under their aegis. As Kolkata is considered a hub of IP-related activity, the school would enhance opportunities for students taking up the course.

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