

# Law School Coverage

## The Rajiv Gandhi School of Intellectual Property Law (RGSOIPL)

It is said that Law is organic. The Rajiv Gandhi School of Intellectual Property Law (RGSOIPL) at IIT Kharagpur moves several steps ahead to say that legal education is organic too. A brainchild of Mr. Vinod Gupta (former CEO of InfoUSA and life fellow of IIT Kharagpur), the school was setup in 2006. It is currently the only Law school in the country functioning under the IIT system. RGSOIPL has the unique feature of imparting traditional legal education along with contemporary law courses suited to match the demands of a global economy. The school has been engineered to embody excellence in techno-legal education. Fostered and fortified by IIT Kharagpur, the School is in academic collaboration with the George Washington University Law School, USA and offers an energetic and creative learning environment. Its friendly atmosphere encourages the students to make the most out of their potential.

The School seeks to cultivate a spirit of excellence within its students. The school equips the students to inculcate the intricacies of traditional law subjects and thereby capitalize this knowledge to excel in advanced technology law courses including those dealing with Intellectual Property Rights. RGSOIPL presently offers a Three-Year full-time residential LL.B(Hons.) Programme leading to the Degree of Bachelor of Laws with specialization in Intellectual Property Rights recognized by Bar Council of India. The graduates acquire skills in Intellectual property, Corporate laws, Criminal and Civil laws along with others in a rigorous course aimed at continuous performance enhancement. A series of seminars and the unique concept of dissertation submission is in itself a proof of quality management.

The school also offers a doctorate programme leading to Ph.D which is gradually overtaking the leading national law universities of the country. The secret to the strength of the school lies in the rigorous eligibility and selection criteria which includes only the B.E, B.Tech, M.Sc. and M.B.A degree holders followed by a written examination, a group discussion and personal interviews. This leads to the selection of a vibrant batch for further conditioning ultimately promoting the motto of IIT Kharagpur, i.e. 'Dedicated to the Service of the Nation'. The School also conducts a Doctoral Degree Programme in all areas

of law. In the three years (minimum) fully residential programme the students have to complete prescribed coursework under the guidance of the Doctoral Scrutiny Committee. Along with umpteen opportunities to showcase their research, the students get hands-on experience in the seminal projects undertaken by the faculty. Projects including Registration of Sambalpuri Bandha Sari



& Fabrics and Sonapur Saree & Fabrics, National River Ganga Basin Management Plan - Policy, Law and Governance, Protection of IP through the Instrument of Criminal Law, International Investment Laws, IICA projects to name a few. On completion of the doctoral thesis, students have to present the synopsis and finally, appear for the defense seminar. The essence of the acclaimed PHD Programme lies in the noetic guidance of the teachers. The Faculty adds a practical dimension to their teaching through cooperation, in particular, with members of the Bar. In addition, moot courts, projects and seminars in each semester provide hands-on experience thereby developing and enhancing legal research and pleading skills. Every student has to appear for a comprehensive viva-voce at the end of third year. A compulsory dissertation in the final year is a must to graduate. Thus, the young scholars acquire knowledge that prepares them astutely to enter the legal world.

The budding lawyers graduating from the school are well equipped for careers

in law and a number of our alumni have been successful in Law Firm careers in diverse areas such as Corporate Law, Mergers & Acquisitions, Patent Law and so on, in both prosecution as well as litigation along with a number of alumni starting their own law firms. Coupled with professional science and engineering backgrounds, the students are well-equipped to take on roles and responsibilities in in-house legal and IP cells in areas of IP management, Legal and Compliance, Corporate Law etc. Our students are also making their mark in

the outreach of Verdict has grown beyond imagination only in a span of three years. Students actively participate in national and international seminars and have had their work accepted in prestigious journals and conferences. With an eminent faculty and their constant support, the students have initiated a Knowledge club known as "AnuZruta". The school has recently initiated its own newsletter which is edited and managed by the Dean with the help and contributions from the students of the batch of 2015. The newsletter contains the recent significant legal developments as well as the activities and achievements of the students. The batch has initiated the publication of a biannual Law Journal- "IIT Kharagpur Law Review". Many students from the batch took part in the IIT Kharagpur Patents Drive 2014 in consonance with the Technology Transfer Group to help the students and faculties of various disciplines of IIT Kharagpur patent their inventions.

The students have won several accolades including prestigious moots like the Oxford University India Moot Court Competition, Amity National IP Moot Court, and moots organized by national law universities. Also the prestigious ATRIP Essay competition and VJOLT essay competition are not untouched by the dynamic students. The school has also been a host to several legal luminaries including Hon'ble Justice U. C. Banerjee, Hon'ble Justice A. K. Ganguli, Hon'ble Justice P.K.Ray, Dr. B.B Pande, Dr. M. P Singh, Dr. N. R. Madhava Menon, who have delivered lectures to the students on various occasions. Dr. N.L.Mitra, instrumental in developing the Law School, brings with him four decades of legal education experience in designing the curriculum and imparts hands on education through regular interactions with the students. Guest lectures by legal experts, partners of reputed law firms, IP experts and erudite lawyers ensure that the students are exposed to the technicalities of legal practice. The placement records of the school have been impeccable. Nation's leading law firms like Amarchand & Mangaldas, Remfry & Sagar and others and MNCs like Siemens Information Systems, TVS Motors, Honeywell Technology Solutions, Tata Consultancy Services, Wipro, Cognizant Technology Solutions, E-Value Serve to name a few have shown trust in the quality of education imparted by our college. The school is planning a post-graduate course along with a stipend which is unique in itself.

techno-legal consulting. The school takes pride in its state-of-the-art infrastructure. The school has an in-house law library with subscriptions to various law journals, texts and reference books. High speed internet complements access to major legal databases like Westlaw, HeinOnline, Manupatra and SCC Online. Students also access books and resources at the IIT Central Library, which boasts of being the largest among all IITs and the one of the largest in Asia. State of the art classrooms, video conferencing facility, discussion rooms, and a well-equipped moot court hall all make the school premises a positive learning environment. The School has a lively student community which makes the entire guild cosmopolitan. Along with a keen focus on academics, the students engage themselves in various activities involving numerous societies and clubs. The Moot Court Society conducts Verdict, a National Moot Court competition, in association with Kshitij- Asia's largest Annual Techno Management fest organized by IIT Kharagpur. Verdict is the flagship Moot Court Competition in the area of Intellectual Property Law in India and