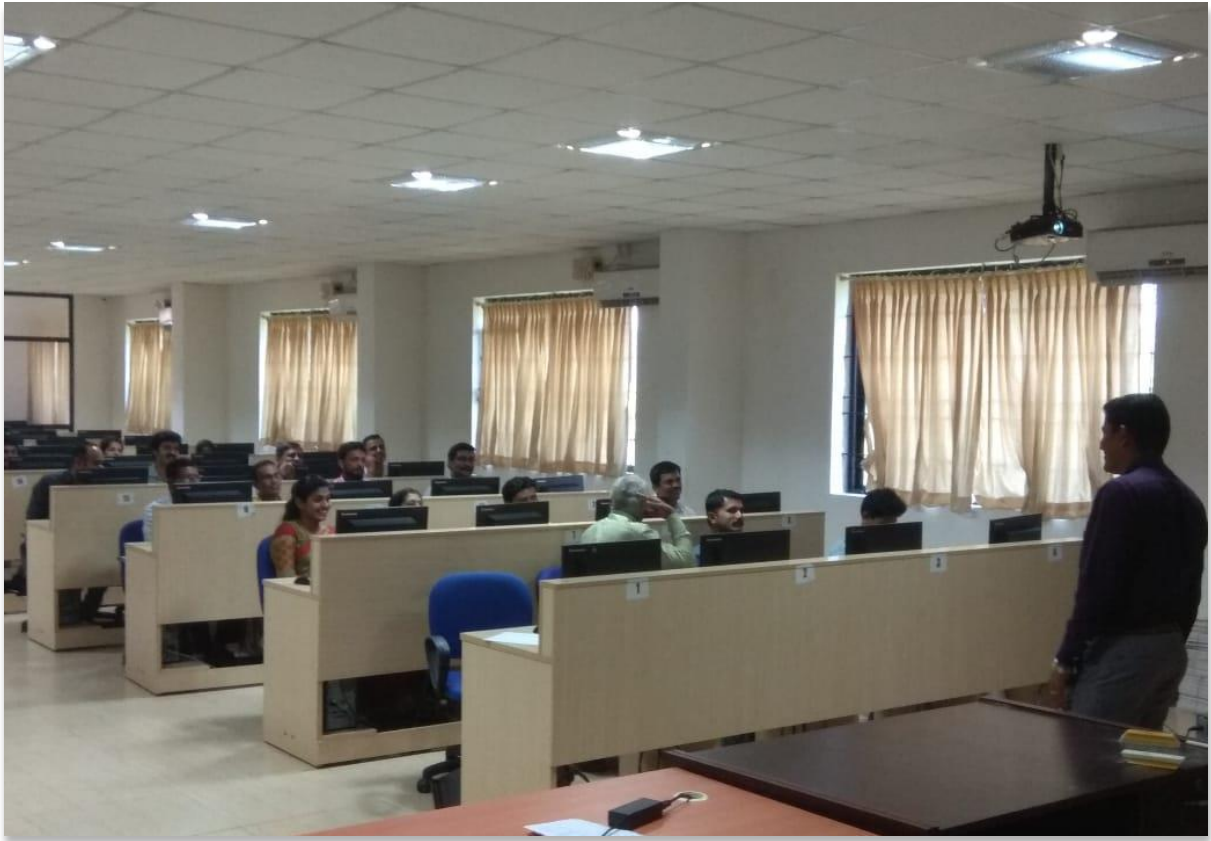


## **A Report on “Patents and Trademarks”**



### **During the Session**

A talk on “*Patents and Trademarks*” was conducted by the department of Mechanical Engineering as a part of IPR awareness on 23rd September 2016 by Mr. Ajith, Advocate and Professor. The talk was conducted as a volunteered awareness programme by Mr. Ajith Kumar which focussed on making the research and teaching faculties about the importance of Protecting the acquired rights like IPR and mainly the trademarks and patents and to give information regarding the miss use of the same in different places which may lead to the legal issues. Talk was done on institute level and at different sessions for different departments.

The term "intellectual property" broadly refers to ideas and concepts that are unique and potentially valuable, such as an invention or a work of fiction, and the determination of who (or which entity) owns these ideas or concepts. If you own intellectual property, it means you have the rights to manufacture or license an invention, use a certain distinguishing marks on your packaging or commercials, or publish copies of creative works (such as sound recordings or

books). Businesses and individuals also may license intellectual property from the owner without owning it.



**Mr. Ajith Kumar during the session**

He gave enormous examples of the patents and trademarks and discussed about the patents from USPTO (U.S. Patent and Trademark Office). A patent holder may exclude others from using, making, or selling an invention for a limited time. As long as the applicant pays the applicable maintenance fees, the exclusive right for utility and plant patents lasts for a term of 20 years from the application date. The exclusive rights granted for a design patent lasts for 14 years from the date of the grant. There are three types of patents: utility, design, and plant.

- Utility patent definition: Granted for new, nonobvious, and useful inventions for processes, machines, manufactures, composition of matter, or if the invention makes an improvement on a previous invention.
- Design patent definition: Granted for new and original ornamental designs of a manufactured product. The appearance of the object receives protection instead of its functionality.
- Plant patent definition: A patent for the invention or discovery of an asexually reproducible plant that is distinct and new.



### **A sample of United States Patent**

#### **Difference between Patents and Trademarks**

Patents prevent others from making or selling an invention, but trademarks protect the words, phrases, symbols, logos, or other devices used to identify the source of goods or services from usage by other competitors. Trademarks give the owner exclusive use of certain images and phrases, and the right to prevent others from using a similar mark that would confuse consumers about who was producing the goods or services the consumer was buying. Typically, overlap does not occur, but in some cases, when a design patent protects the ornamental design of the product and the design is also used as an identifying symbol, both trademark and patent protection may apply.

The talk was informative to all the people present especially those who are mostly involved in research activities.