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NRDC-Vizag emerges go-to destination for IP rights

Centre Offers All Its Services Free Of Cost

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Visakhapatnam: The National Research Development Corporation Intellectual Property Facilitation Centre (IPFC) and Technology Innovation Support Centre, Visakhapatnam, has transferred and commercialised several innovative technologies in recent times.

This includes India's first saline water-based lantern, which was launched by the Union government a few weeks ago under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Ujala Mission. From underwater drifters and unmanned buoys to PCR kit for detecting virulent genes of *Enterococcus faecalis* in water and sea food and tsunami buoy system, the Vizag Centre has transferred tens of technologies to both government and private organisations - be it defence, oceanographic or environmental technologies.

A government body is currently working on an integrated deep-sea mining technology. The technology, which is in the process of patenting, will be transferred

INNOVATION AT ITS BEST

Some of innovative technologies transferred by NRDC, Visakhapatnam:

Robo coastal observer:

RCO is a low-cost buoyant apparatus indigenously developed for remote data collection in water bodies such as river, lake, pond, and coast



Autonomous underwater profiling drifter:

It has got a real-time capability for measurement of temperature and salinity with reference to depth through the upper 2,000 m of ocean depth

India's first saline water lantern:

It uses the sea water as the electrolyte between specially designed electrodes to power the LED lamps

Marine oil spill bioremediation:

This low cost and environment-friendly technology has wide application in marine surface oil spill, deep sea oil plumes and sludge treatments in refineries

The Centre protected three different types of intellectual property for a Vizag-based smart electric two-wheeler maker

The Centre also patented an isolation chamber that addresses the safety concerns of the doctors amid the Covid-19 pandemic

through NRDC Vizag centre for commercialisation. This is expected to have a large-scale international impact as a 'green technology for blue economy'. The marine oil spill bioremediation technology is another green technology aimed at propelling the blue economy.

Regional manager and head, NRDC-IPFC & TISC, Innovation Valley, Visakhapatnam, Dr BK Sahu, explained how the NRDC Vizag centre is empowering the startup community, research and development institutions, innovators, academic institutions, etc. with their mentoring, IP assistance, funding, and other allied services.

"The technologies developed by the individuals and institutions are being promoted and commercialised for the larger good of the society. NRDC provides all its services at free of cost to anyone. The aspiring or established innovators can reach out to NRDC Vizag centre for handholding support, mentoring, technology development validation, funding, techno-commercial survey, etc. I want to thank Andhra Pradesh Innovation Society for their cooperation and support on various fronts," said Dr Sahu.

Dr Sahu added that they are working closely with Hindustan Shipyard Limited and RINL-Vizag steel in

IP landscaping and getting IP rights/patents for their industrial designs, know-how, trademarks, etc.

NRDC Vizag Centre scientists K Preethi Niharika and Dr Bhavya Manjeera explained the project evaluation process, which includes internal due diligence, funding, and progress evaluation at regular intervals, reaching predetermined milestones, etc. "The Vizag centre is empowering the startup community and others by conducting various training programmes. For instance, 350 minority and tribal people have been recently trained in sanitary napkin making in Nellore," said Niharika and Dr Bhavya.