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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 seafood 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 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 B K 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.