

Title: *Intellectual Property (IP): Importance for Research, Innovation, and Startups*

Date: 06 December 2025

Time: 02:30 PM

Venue: GBU Auditorium

Organised by: Innovations Cell, Gujarat Biotechnology University (GBU)

Speaker Profile

Gujarat Biotechnology University organised an expert lecture delivered by **Mr. Amit Patel**, Founder & Managing Director, **PATectual IP Law Services LLP**. Mr. Patel is a distinguished Intellectual Property professional with over **15 years of experience** in IP law, advising researchers, startups, academic institutions, and industries on patents, trademarks, copyrights, and IP strategy.

Objective of the Session

The objective of the lecture was to create awareness among students and faculty about the **importance of Intellectual Property rights** in academic research, innovation-driven projects, and startup development. The session aimed to familiarise participants with IP protection mechanisms essential for converting innovative ideas into protected and commercially viable outcomes.

Session Highlights

The speaker provided an overview of various forms of Intellectual Property, with a special focus on **patents relevant to biotechnology and biomedical research**. Key topics included patentability criteria, prior art search, patent filing procedures, timelines, cost aspects, and common mistakes made by innovators. The session also highlighted the significance of IP in attracting funding, industry collaboration, and technology transfer. Practical examples and case studies made the session highly interactive and informative.

Participation and SSIP Awareness

The lecture witnessed **active participation of 103 students**, including teams participating in **BioQuest Hackathon 2025**. The session was particularly valuable for hackathon participants, as it provided guidance on how innovative ideas developed during the hackathon can be legally protected before public disclosure.

Students were also informed about the **Student Startup and Innovation Policy (SSIP)**, including eligibility, funding support, and the importance of integrating IP planning within SSIP-supported projects. The session helped participants understand how SSIP serves as a structured pathway for nurturing student innovations, startups, and translational research.

Outcome and Conclusion

The expert lecture successfully enhanced awareness about Intellectual Property rights and their role in research and innovation. It strengthened participants' understanding of aligning innovation with IP protection and SSIP guidelines. The session contributed to GBU's mission of promoting **innovation, entrepreneurship, and research-driven education**, and provided BioQuest Hackathon teams with valuable inputs for advancing their ideas towards commercialization.