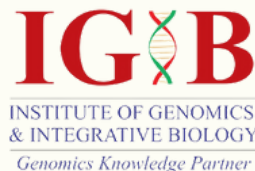


# Innovation, Technology Transfer, and Entrepreneurship



## SYMPOSIUM

January 28, 2025  
CSIR-IGIB, Mathura road, Delhi

## Theme:

Building Bridges Between  
Academia and Industry: A  
Researcher's Path to Innovation

## Welcome and Introduction

- Welcome Address by Dr Souvik Maiti (Director, CSIR-IGIB)
- Inauguration by Dr Vibha Malhotra Sawhney (Head, CSIR-IPU & TMD)

## TIME

09:30 AM - 10:00 AM

## KEYNOTE ADDRESS

- Dr Anil Wali (CEO, BITS BioCyTiH Foundation)  
"Scientists – IP and Impact"

10:00 AM - 10:45 AM

## TEA BREAK 10:45 AM - 11:00 AM

## SESSION 1 : Entrepreneurship in Academia

11:00 AM – 12:10 PM

- Dr Avinash Thakur (Startup Mentor and IP Advisor, Former CEO– Atal Incubation center pune)  
"Leveraging IP for Commercial Success"

11:00 AM – 11:30 PM

- Dr Kashmir Singh (Professor, Biotechnology Coordinator, DST Centre for Policy Research Panjab University)

11:35 AM – 12:05 PM

"Supporting Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Academia"

## Talk by Sponsor: Premas Life sciences

12:10 PM – 12:30 PM

Dr Kriti Kaushik : Advancing human health through multi-omics insights

## LUNCH 12:30 PM - 2:00 PM

## SESSION 2 : Industry Perspectives on Innovation

02:00 PM – 03:30 PM

- Komal Talwar (Founder, XLSCOUT & TT Consultants)  
“Accelerating Innovation & IP Generation using AI”
- Abhishek Jain (Assistant Vice President, TATA Industries Ltd)  
“Corporate Innovations in the Indian Context”
- Surbhi Ashri (Director, Intelacia)  
“Maximizing the Value of Patents: Strategies for Start-ups and Researchers”

02:00 PM – 02:30 PM

02:30 PM – 03:00 PM

03:00 PM – 03:30 PM

## NETWORKING TEA BREAK 03:30 PM - 3:45 PM

## SESSION 3: PANEL DISCUSSION

03:45 PM – 04:45 PM

### Challenges and Opportunities in Commercializing Research in India

Moderator: Dr. Avinash Thakur (Startup Mentor and IP Advisor, Former CEO– Atal Incubation center pune)

#### Panelists:

- Reema Sahni Mediratta (Head, Innovation–Technology Transfer Office (i-TTO))
- Amitabh Mishra (DGM (BD) NRDC)
- Dr. Indrani Ghosh (Pr. Technical Officer, CSIR-IPU)
- Abhishek Jain (Assistant Vice President, TATA Industries Ltd)

(Discussion followed by audience Q&A)

## CLOSING SESSION AND TRANSITION TO WORKSHOP 04:45 PM - 5:00 PM

Workshop and Interactive Q&A: From Idea to Patent & Is Your Research Patentable?

HOSTED BY INTELACIA

5:00 PM – 6:30 PM

**January 29, 2025**

**CSIR-IGIB, Mathura road, Delhi  
Auditorium**

## **Invited talks**

**DR. DJ (DIPANJAN) NAG**

**10:00 AM – 10:45 AM**

**PRESIDENT, INNOVAITO  
PROFESSOR, RUTGERS UNIVERSITY & SOFIA UNIVERSITY  
EXPERT, USPTO, USA**

**“GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES ON TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AND  
INNOVATION”**

**DR. ABHIJIT BANERJEE**

**10:50 AM – 11:30 AM**

**ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT,  
INNOVATION & ENTREPRENEURSHIP  
UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT, USA**

**"Concept to Commercialization: Imagining an Innovation Future"**

## **Q&A SESSION**



**Don't miss this unique opportunity to engage with global experts in  
innovation and technology transfer!**

# **About the speakers**



## **Dr. Anil Wali**

***CEO, BITS BioCyTiH Foundation***

Dr. Anil Wali has extensive experience in the chemical industry, having worked with ATIC Industries Ltd. (formerly a Zeneca UK affiliate) and IPCL (later merged with RIL). He recently concluded a successful tenure as the Managing Director of FITT at IIT Delhi, one of India's leading technology transfer setups. Currently, he serves as the CEO of BITS BioCyTiH Foundation of the renowned BITS Pilani system. Dr. Wali has multifaceted expertise in industrial R&D, open innovation, IPR management, entrepreneurship development, and business strategy. He has been instrumental in scaling FITT's operations, fostering industry partnerships, establishing the Research and Innovation Park at IIT Delhi, and supporting skill development, accelerators, and IP licensing programs. Dr. Wali has been an active member of academic councils, TBIs, and industry associations and continues to oversee research translation, strategic partnerships, and startup ecosystems within academia.

Dr. Avinash Thakur is a distinguished Startup Catalyst and Intellectual Property Advisor with over a decade of experience in fostering innovation, entrepreneurship, and ecosystem development. He has guided over 80 startups, contributing to their growth, sustainability, and funding, resulting in a combined valuation exceeding ₹200 crores. He has facilitated more than 500 IP initiatives, shaping IP and innovation policies for over 50 academic institutions. As the former CEO of Atal Incubation Center Pinnacle Industries, Dr. Thakur led impactful initiatives under NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission. His contributions include mentoring startups, securing over ₹10 crores in funding, and collaborating with multiple government ministries. Dr. Thakur has established 20+ Section 8 companies and conducted 350+ training sessions, inspiring students, researchers, and professionals in innovation and entrepreneurship. A recipient of the Fitis Asia Award for Excellence in Government Leadership, Dr. Thakur continues to drive impactful programs as a Mentor of Change under the Atal Innovation Mission.



## **Dr. Avinash Thakur**

***Startup Mentor and  
IP Advisor***



## **Dr. Kashmir Singh**

*Professor, Panjab  
University*

**Prof. (Dr.) Kashmir Singh is a Professor of Biotechnology at Panjab University, Chandigarh, and Coordinator of the DST-Centre for Policy Research. With over 20 years of teaching and research experience, he has worked internationally as a Marie Curie Postdoctoral Fellow at Adam Mickiewicz University, Poland, and as a Research Associate at Missouri State University, USA. Dr. Singh has authored over 150 publications, holds three patents, and has successfully transferred technology to the industry. He has completed 14 research projects funded by prominent agencies like DBT, DST, SERB, CSIR, and ICAR, and supervised 25 Ph.D. students. His primary research interests include Plant Genetic Engineering, Biotechnology, Intellectual Property, Technology Transfer, and Public-Private Partnerships. Dr. Singh's work has significantly contributed to strengthening the Science, Technology, and Innovation ecosystem.**

**Ms. Komal Talwar is a tech entrepreneur and the founder of TT Consultants, an international IP and technology consulting firm with a global presence. She is also the co-founder of XLSCOUT, an AI-based innovation platform that is widely licensed by Fortune 500 companies and universities worldwide. Komal has been featured in Forbes Japan and NIKKEI NEWSPAPER for her contributions to innovation through AI. She has received multiple international entrepreneurship awards, including the TIE Woman of the Year Award, and has been a CNBC Young Turk twice. She served as a member of the C4IR World Economic Forum and played a key role in drafting India's IP policy for the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. She has represented India at prestigious platforms, including the World Economic Forum in Davos and the United Nations.**



## **Komal Sharma Talwar**

*Founder, XLSCOUT &  
TT Consultants*



## **Abhishek Jain**

*Assistant Vice  
President, TATA  
Industries Ltd*

**Mr. Abhishek Jain leads incubation and investment projects at Tata Industries, focusing on building ventures in emerging technologies. He heads the Connected Health division, which is developing smart healthcare devices for at-home chronic condition monitoring. He also serves as President of 915 Labs, which commercializes food sterilization technology, and as a Director on the Board of Impetis Biosciences. Previously, Mr. Jain was Senior Vice President at Allied Inventors, managing a portfolio of over 5,000 patents. His expertise includes technology commercialization, business incubation, and developing new business hypotheses for emerging technologies.**





**Surbhi Ashri**

*Director, Intelacia*

***Ms. Surbhi Ashri is the founder of Intelacia, a global IP consulting firm specializing in life sciences, cross-domain projects, and patent portfolio monetization. With over 15 years of experience in the patent industry, she has worked on innovations in stem cells, industrial enzymes, vaccines, robotics, and sustainable energy. Before founding Intelacia, Surbhi held leadership roles at UnitedLex Corporation and other global firms. Intelacia focuses on building high-value patent portfolios and maximizing client returns on intellectual property investments.***



**Reema Sahni Mediratta**

*(Head, Innovation-Technology Transfer Office (i-TTO))*

***Ms. Reema Sahni Mediratta heads the Innovation-Technology Transfer Office (i-TTO) at FITT, IIT Delhi. With over 14 years of experience, she specializes in intellectual property and technology transfer strategies. A recipient of the Women Scientist-C Scholarship under the KIRAN-IPR program, she has been recognized as an Innovation Ambassador by the Government of India. Her journey has been featured in success stories published by the Department of Science & Technology. Reema has also received a scholarship from the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs for fostering innovation and commercialization of IP.***



**Amitabh Mishra**

*(DGM (BD) NRDC)*

***Mr. Amitabh Mishra is the Deputy General Manager at NRDC and has over 25 years of experience in project management, business development, and healthcare startup mentoring. He has been involved in more than 50 technology transfers in biotechnology and healthcare, including clinical trial approvals. Mr. Mishra holds an M.Tech in Biotechnology from IIT Kharagpur and specializes in technology evaluation and marketing.***



***Dr. Indrani Ghosh is a Ph.D. in Biotechnology and a Registered Patent Agent with two decades of experience. She has worked extensively on patent applications for CSIR and provides strategic IP counseling. With research experience in molecular biology and microbiology, she has trained with reputed organizations worldwide, including WIPO and the US Patent and Trademark Office. Dr. Ghosh is a recognized facilitator for startups and frequently delivers lectures and training sessions on patents and innovation.***

***Dr. Indrani Ghosh***  
***(Pr. Technical Officer, CSIR-IPU)***





**DR. DJ (DIPANJAN) NAG**

**PRESIDENT, INNOVAITO  
PROFESSOR, RUTGERS UNIVERSITY &  
SOFIA UNIVERSITY  
EXPERT, USPTO, USA**

*Dr. DJ Nag is the President of Innovaito, an IP strategy advisory company, and serves as an independent board member at Crown Electrokinetics Inc. He has successfully led technology transfer offices at Rutgers University, Ohio State, and the University of Nebraska. Dr. Nag was a Director at Ocean Tomo, where he played a pivotal role in creating patent auctions. He has received the IAM300 award as one of the world's top global IP strategists in 2019 and 2022-24. Dr. Nag holds a Ph.D. and MBA from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and a Bachelor's degree in Pharmaceutical Engineering from Jadavpur University, India. He is widely recognized for his expertise in IP strategy and technology transfer, having worked globally in Poland, Bulgaria, Japan, India, Turkey, Brazil, South Korea, Chile, and Ukraine. He also teaches IP strategy at Rutgers University, ITQB NOVA, and Sofia University in Bulgaria.*

*Dr. Abhijit (Jit) Banerjee is the Associate Vice President of Research, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship at UConn. He brings decades of experience in industry, management consulting, and university leadership, driving research enterprise and catalyzing university-based innovation for community impact. Dr. Banerjee holds a Ph.D. in Biological Chemistry from the Indian Institute of Chemical Biology and an MBA from Suffolk University. He is an expert in technology transfer, patent monetization, corporate strategic alliances, and building new strategic initiatives. Dr. Banerjee is deeply passionate about fostering inclusivity, empowering people, and cultivating talent to drive impactful research and innovation.*



**DR. ABHIJIT BANERJEE**

**ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT,  
INNOVATION & ENTREPRENEURSHIP  
UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT, USA**