

Backgrounder

Training Programme on Technology Diplomacy

May 31- June 04, 2010
Hotel Country Inn & Suites, Jaipur

Background

Technology has played a vital role not only in the economic development of countries from time immemorial but has also been an important part of international relations. In recent years, the pace of technological development has increased manifold and today it is at the root of many trade controversies/disputes. Advancement in science and technology has led to increasing demand for expert inputs, especially as a prerequisite for successful negotiation of international agreements.

The two important ground realities crucial for international negotiations are: First

- scientific and technological knowledge calls for specialised knowledge and second
- international diplomacy caters to demand for application of science and technology to development, leading to specialisation integration in/of divergent areas.

Unlike their counterparts in developed countries, negotiators and policy makers in developing countries often lack understanding the underpinnings of science and technology agreements and thereby, effective negotiation techniques. One reason is the relative inadequacy of education and training in technology diplomacy.

In view of this gap and realising the vacuum existing in terms of relevant institutions in developing countries for training/education in technology diplomacy and related aspects, the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India, has supported CUTS International in undertaking such a training programme on technology diplomacy for Indian government officials especially scientists and technologists who are often exposed to negotiations relating to diverse technology agreements.

Objectives

This training programme endeavours to imbue government officials/scientists/technologists at various departments/organisations with necessary skills. Such skill formation would facilitate effective participation in trade and technology negotiations for international agreements and their implementation.

The programme

The methodology involves lectures, case analyses, simulation exercises, interactions with experts, group discussions etc. It will provide strategic understanding, develop core skills and create in-depth knowledge of the dynamics involved in technology diplomacy.

Venue Country Inn & Suites, Jaipur-302 016

Date and Time: Monday May 31 - June 04, 2010