

ITMU/NAIF Component-II

Under the ITMU/NAIF Component-II, the Intellectual Technology Management Unit (ITMU) of the Centre, has made significant progress in technology management, intellectual property protection, and technology commercialization. The Centre has filed two patent applications, which are currently under examination, reflecting its commitment to promoting innovation and safeguarding novel technologies developed through research. In addition, a trademark application for the word mark *‘‘Licchvika’’* has been filed to establish a unique brand identity for value-added products developed from litchi.

A major achievement of the ITMU has been the successful commercialization and dissemination of litchi-based processing technologies. The Centre has granted licenses to *32 entrepreneurs* for the preparation and commercialization of value-added beverages from litchi pulp, thereby facilitating technology transfer and promoting entrepreneurship in the litchi sector. These licensing initiatives have contributed to creating livelihood opportunities, enhancing value addition, and strengthening the agri-processing ecosystem.

The ITMU has also played a pivotal role in fostering collaborative research and institutional partnerships. It has facilitated the execution of Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs), contract research agreements, and collaborative engagements with State Agricultural Universities, agri-business firms, and private nursery enterprises. These partnerships have strengthened research-industry linkages, promoted technology validation and dissemination, and expanded the outreach of Centre-developed technologies to diverse stakeholders across the horticultural sector.

Through these initiatives, the ITMU has significantly contributed to intellectual property management, technology commercialization, entrepreneurship development, and stakeholder engagement, thereby advancing the mandate of the Centre in promoting innovation-led growth in the litchi sector.