Patent Drafting for Beginners Prof. Feroz Ali Department of Humanities and Social Sciences Indian Institute of Technology, Madras

Lecture - 09 How Inventions Look

How inventions look? This may look like a simple question; an invention will look how it is meant to look.

Textualise your invention Textualised version Physical Embodiment Physical form (words and figures)

But the question is from a patenting perspective, when you patent an invention, the object of patent drafting is not to simply describe the invention. The invention will exist in time and space, and an invention can have physical embodiments.

So, in a pattern specification, when you draft a patent, you will not merely describe the invention in words. You would not describe the physical embodiments; rather, what you would do is you would describe the invention, and what we call you would textualise the invention.

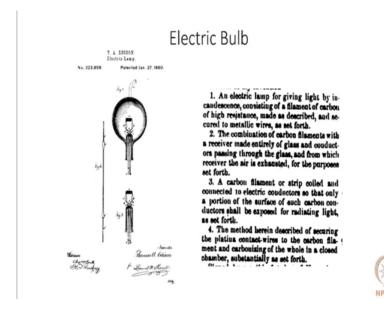
Now, there is a physical embodiment, and the physical embodiment is what you are able to see and perceive of an invention. Say, an inventor walks into your room with this gadget which he has newly invented. So, the way the invention looks to a layman or a layperson is the physical embodiment. But in patent drafting, we are concerned about the

(Refer Slide Time: 00:26)

physical embodiment, but we are more concerned about capturing the physical embodiment inverts.

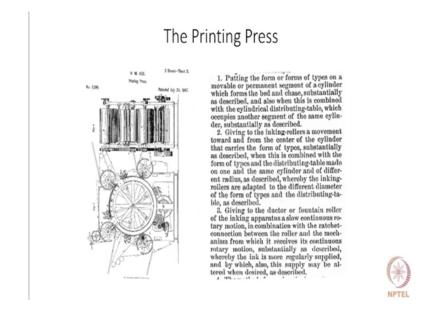
So, this is what we refer to as textualizing the invention. So, the invention is textualized when you draft a patent. Now why is this important? This is important because, in drafting you are representing the invention in a textual form. So, the physical embodiment now gets converted into words and figures. Now to give you an overview of how this looks.

(Refer Slide Time: 02:06)



The electric bulb we saw the patent, and there was a description or drawing in the patent. But the way in which the electric bulb is described in a claim is as an electric lamp for giving light by incandescent consisting of a filament of carbon of high resistance made as described and secured by metallic wires as set forth.

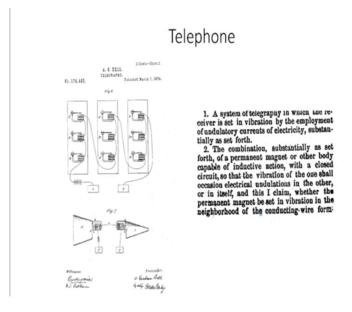
So, you see that an invention in reality the physical embodiment may look like any electric bulb. But in patent parlance when you draft a patent, you are not going to merely describe it is appearance. You are going to textualize the invention and present it in a determined manner.



Printing press. Again, we had seen this invention. Now the printing press would for a layperson, it will just look like a machine; which is capable of performing certain functions, but when you draft a patent a claim for a printing press, and this is the printing press that we had quoted the claim will read as we have described here. That the elements of the claim have been captured here.

So, the descriptive part, when a patent is described would be in words and figures.

(Refer Slide Time: 03:26)



Telephone again, and here is the claim of the telephone. A system of telegraphy in which the receiver is set in vibration by the employment of undulatory currents of electricity substantially as set forth. So, for a layperson a telephone is how it looks to him. But for the purposes of patenting, you need to textualize the invention in a determined manner in such a way that you can convey what has been invented and what has been protected.