

राष्ट्रीय औषधीय शिक्षा एवं अनुसंधान संस्थान्
National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER)
Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers
Govt. of India

Startup & Innovation Policy

NIPER Hajipur

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Abstract

The Government of India (GoI) has directed the higher education institutes (HEI) to enunciate a policy to synergize science, technology, innovation, and entrepreneurship to create a robust innovation culture. The application of both science and technology has to go hand in hand to develop our nation. The Innovation and Startup Policy of NIPER Hajipur will enable the institute to actively engage the students, staff, and faculties in innovation and entrepreneurship-related activities. This document will empower them to work on new ways for developing ideas and converting them into successful entrepreneurs. This framework will also facilitate the institute in terms of Intellectual Property ownership management, and technology licensing, thus enabling the creation of robust innovation and startup ecosystem.

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Preamble

The Ministry of Education, and the All India Council of Technical Education, have recently provided the guidelines on National Innovation and Startup Policy for students and faculty members of Higher Educational Institutions to streamline and strengthen the innovation and startup ecosystem in the HEIs.

NIPER Hajipur constituted an expert committee according to The Ministry of Education's instructions to develop an Innovation and Startup Policy to address the need for innovation and entrepreneurial culture in the institute. This committee deliberated on various facets for nurturing innovation and startup culture in NIPER Hajipur, and after thorough discussion, “NIPER Hajipur Innovation and Startup Policy 2022-23” was prepared.

Expert Committee for NIPER Hajipur Innovation and Startup Policy

The Competent Authority of NIPER Hajipur has constituted the following Expert Committee for the formulation and implementation of the Innovation and Entrepreneurship Policy of the NIPER Hajipur following the guidelines of the NISP Policy of the Ministry of Education, GOI.

Sl. No	Committee member	Designation
1	Dr. Debabrata Mandal	Associate Professor, Department of Biotechnology, NIPER Hajipur. In charge of the IPR/Technology Transfer Cell.
2	Dr. P. Ramalingam	Associate Professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Analysis, NIPER Hajipur. In charge of Research Park.
3	Dr. Nitesh Kumar	Assistant Professor, Department of Pharmacology & Toxicology, NIPER Hajipur. Co-ordinator of IIC
4	Dr. Vinod L. Gaikwad	Assistant Professor, Department of Pharmaceutics, NIPER Hajipur. In charge of the Innovation and Entrepreneur Development Cell.
5	Dr. Abhishek Sahu	Assistant Professor, Department of Biotechnology, NIPER Hajipur. In charge of the Incubation and Pre-incubation Unit & NISP coordinator of the institute.

1. Strategies and Governance

The Innovation and Startup Policy of the NIPER Hajipur is set up to promote innovation and provide startup opportunities to the students, staff, and faculties to create an entrepreneurial environment in the institute.

- This policy will facilitate institutional startup policy, technology licensing, and IPR management, and thereby facilitate the creation of robust innovation and entrepreneurial ecosystem in the NIPER Hajipur.
- To facilitate the development of research and innovation in the NIPER Hajipur, specific objectives and key performance indicators (KPI) will be defined for assessment. The policy and the KPIs are subject to periodical review, assessment, and amendments.
- Collaborative efforts with other NIPERs and key institutes in the nearby area will be encouraged.
- The already existing centers/units such as the Incubation and Pre-incubation Unit, Innovation and Entrepreneur Development Cell, IPR/Technology Transfer Cell, and Research Park will coordinate their efforts to implement the policy.
- The NISP Coordinator along with the Expert Committee for the Startup Policy will take responsibility for the overall implementation of the policy and startup/entrepreneurial program in the NIPER Hajipur.
- For startups, where research activities involve the use or handling of Microbial/Animal/Human subjects, proper ethical clearance from the respective ethics committee of NIPER Hajipur shall be obtained.

2. Resource Mobilisation

Resource mobilization plans will be prepared to support the activities of the pre-incubation, incubation infrastructure, and other facilities. A financial strategy that is sustainable and viable in the long term will be defined to reduce the organizational constraints and promote the startup/entrepreneurial agenda.

- NIPER Hajipur will provide research infrastructure and associated facilities to promote innovation and startups related activities. Investment in entrepreneurial activities will be a part of the institutional financial strategy.
- In the future, the institute will allocate a minimum of 1% of the total annual budget to support innovation and startup-related activities as per guidelines of the National Innovation and Startup Policy (NISP).
- Faculties, scientists, and students will be encouraged to raise funds through diverse government sources such as DST, DBT, AICTE, CSIR, UGC, BIRAC, MSME, TIFAC, *etc.* They will be encouraged to participate in the government campaigns such as Startup India, Invest India, MeitY, *etc.*
- NIPER Hajipur will approach private and corporate sectors, and pharmaceutical/biotechnology industries to generate funds through collaborative projects under Corporate Social Responsibility as per Section 135 of the Company Act 2013.
- NIPER Hajipur will also raise funding through sponsorships and donations. The alumni network of the institute shall be engaged to promote Innovation & Entrepreneurship.

3. Institutional Infrastructure Support

NIPER Hajipur has established the following infrastructures to enable innovation, startups, and entrepreneurship –

- i. Incubation and Pre-incubation Unit
- ii. Innovation and Entrepreneur Development Cell
- iii. IPR/Technology Transfer Cell
- iv. Research Park

Apart from these specific facilities, all the Departments of NIPER Hajipur will provide the required instrumentation and research facilities to promote and implement the startup policy.

4. Nurturing Innovations, Startups and Entrepreneurship

NIPER Hajipur will establish processes and mechanisms for the easy creation and nurturing of startups/enterprises by students, staff, and faculties.

- The interested students will be enrolled in the Incubation and Preincubation unit to ‘test’ their ideas under the mentorship of a faculty or scientist of the NIPER Hajipur.
- They will be given 3 to 6 months to validate their ideas and establish “proof of concept”.
- Some seed funds could be provided after examining the merit of the ‘idea’ by the expert committee and approval by the competent authority of the NIPER Hajipur. The committee also will review the progress periodically.
- The details data of any research that may lead to patent/product development, may not be published in international or national journals until the patent application is filed.
- Every year an innovation award shall be given to the student with the most innovative idea for startup/product development. An institutional committee shall be created to judge the awardee as per NIPER Hajipur guidelines.

- Similarly, the best mentor award for innovation can be given to a faculty/scientist/staff as per institute guidelines.
- The faculties/scientists/staff of NIPER Hajipur shall be involved as mentors to provide technical expertise to the students. The involvement of a faculty/scientist/staff in the startup/innovation projects shall not compromise their existing academic and administrative duties.
- Alumni of NIPER Hajipur may approach the institute to facilitate their innovation/startup 'idea'. Only the best candidates will be selected by a committee based on the project submitted to the incubation and pre-incubation unit.
- Seminars from experts on IPR, entrepreneurs, industry experts, and eminent scientists shall be conducted periodically to inculcate innovation and entrepreneurship knowledge across the faculty and students.
- To encourage and nurture the innovations and entrepreneurs amongst the students, staff and faculty with proper guidance and mentoring as needed.
- The students shall be encouraged to participate in national-level startup/innovation idea projects/challenges, hackathons, *etc.*
- Entrepreneurship development clubs and ideation clubs shall be encouraged through incubation/preincubation units to foster innovation and entrepreneurial spirit among the students.
- NIPER Hajipur will host National level workshops and conferences to promote innovation and startups.

5. Technology/Product/IPR Ownership Rights

- Technologies/products/IPR developed through the substantial use of NIPER Hajipur infrastructure or funds or when IPR is developed as a part of curriculum/academic activity, IPR is to be jointly owned by the inventors and NIPER Hajipur.
- Inventors and the institute may jointly license any technology/product/IPR to any company for commercialization purposes. License fees should be mix or both –
 - i. Upfront fees or one-time technology transfer fees
 - ii. Royalty as a percentage of the sale price

iii. Shares in the company licensing the product

- When NIPER Hajipur is paying for patent filing, the institute may constitute a committee that can examine whether the IPR is worth patenting. The committee should consist of faculty members or experts with technology translation experience.
- If the inventor developed the technology/product not using NIPER Hajipur facilities/funds, outside office hours (for staff and faculty), or not as a part of the curriculum by the student then the technology/product/IPR will be entirely owned by the inventors in proportion to the contributions made by them. In this case, inventors can decide to license the technology to third parties or use the technology the way they deem fit.
- If there is a dispute in ownership, the competent authority of NIPER Hajipur will constitute an expert committee consisting of faculty members (having experience with translation/commercialization), industry experts, and a legal advisor with experience in IPR, to examine the issue after meeting the inventors and help them settle the dispute, hopefully to everybody's satisfaction.

Amendment

NIPER Hajipur holds every right to change, make additions or deletions to improve a text, or amend the policy from time to time if necessary.

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