

Ajeenkya DY Patil School of Engineering, Charholi (Bk.), Pune.



Innovation and Ecosystem Policy

Promotes Innovation and Ecosystem

POLICY No: APN/ 2021/3.5

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Vision

Empowerment through quality technical education

Mission

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- M1: To achieve excellence in teaching, learning and research
 - M2: To impart skill-based education to meet the needs of industry and Society
 - M3: To excel as a center of excellence in technical education
 - M4: To inculcate social & ethical values among the students

Quality Policy

We strive to impart the quality technical education through academic excellence and provide best of facilities to satisfy the need & expectations of the students & stakeholders.



INNOVATION ECOSYSTEM POLICY

1. INTRODUCTION:

1.1 PREAMBLE

Intellectual property plays an important role in providing a competitive edge to an organization. The imperceptible assets of an organization - such as knowhow, inventions, brands, designs, and various innovative products - are, today, often more valuable than its physical assets and need to be protected from malpractice. In view of this, Intellectual Property Rights Policy Document is framed to provide guidelines to academic and non-academic staff, students, scholars, and various stakeholders or outside agencies on the practices. This policy document consists of the rules and obligations which include the nature of intellectual property (IP), its ownership, exploitation, technology transfer and confidentiality requirements of the Institute regarding intellectual property rights (IPR).

1.2 OVERVIEW

This policy document has been framed to encourage an ethical environment to carry innovative research, assisting innovators to convert their innovative ideas into products, processes, and services. Further these products could be utilized for the benefits of society and the Institute as well as the innovators involved. Such innovations and inventive research may lead to the evolution of intellectual property know-how, copy-rights, designs, instruments, devices, processes, specimens, software, and other inventions having potential for commercialization with or without the registration under different Acts enacted by the Government for protection of intellectual properties.

1.3 PURPOSE:

Institute has formulated this Policy for the awareness and regulation of intellectual property right to:

- (a) Safeguard the intellectual property asset of the organization.
- (b) Encourage innovation, creativity, and research and development efforts.
- (c) Promote awareness for intellectual property rights.
- (d) Ensure compliance with national and international laws and regulations pertaining to IPR.
- (e) Provide clarity on ownership, protection, and use of IPR within the organization.

1.4 Definitions

1.4.1 Intellectual Property: Intellectual property refers to intangible creations of the human mind, such as inventions, literary or artistic works, designs, symbols, names, and images.



1.4.2. Copyright: Copyright is a legal protection provided to the authors of original works, granting exclusive rights to reproduce, distribute, and display their works.

1.4.3. Patent: A patent is a government-granted exclusive right that gives inventors the ability to prevent others from making, using, selling, or importing their inventions.

1.4.4. Trademark: A trademark is a distinctive sign, symbol, or logo that distinguishes goods or services from others in the market.

1.4.5. Trade Secret: A trade secret is confidential business information that provides a competitive advantage and is not generally known or easily accessible.

2. VISION, MISSION & OBJECTIVES

2.1 VISION:

To develop an innovation ecosystem for entrepreneurship to train and motivate students to transform their innovative ideas into viable enterprises.

2.2 MISSION

- 1 To create Entrepreneurial culture in the Institution.
- 2 To act as an institutional mechanism for providing various facilities to budding student entrepreneurs.
- 3 To catalyst and promote employment opportunities and contribute in Socio-economic development.
- 4 To motivate and guide the inventors and researchers to obtain the IPRs for their inventions and to provide support for the technology transfer and commercialization within the framework of the IPR policy.
- 5 To prepare the students to face the real-world business scenarios.

2.3 OBJECTIVES:

The objectives of the Policy are as follows, namely:

1. To create awareness and to disseminate knowledge on patenting to the stakeholders of the Institute.
2. To conduct Workshops, Seminars and Training courses on IPR.
3. To motivate Innovators to come up with new ideas and help them to protect the innovation.
4. To protect and promote commercialization of intellectual property with legal support at the Institute:

3 INNOVATION ECOSYSTEM

3.1 THE INCUBATION CELL

This policy aims to provide the necessary resources, infrastructure, mentorship, and funding to nurture and accelerate the growth of early-stage ventures within the institute. The framework

outlines key components and strategies to facilitate the establishment and operation of a successful incubation program. It supports specialized areas for prototyping, testing, and collaboration to meet the unique needs of different startups. The incubation cell is accessible to incubates during flexible working hours, fostering a vibrant and conducive working environment.

- **Application and Selection Process:**

The incubation cell has a transparent selection process for startups to enter the incubation program. Various eligibility factors will be considered factors such as innovation, market potential, scalability, and team capability. A selection committee is comprised of experts from relevant domains to evaluate and shortlist the most promising startups.

- **Incubation Support Services:**

Provides comprehensive support services to incubates, including business development, mentorship, legal and financial guidance, marketing, and access to specialized workshops and training programs. It also offers mentorship and coaching from experienced entrepreneurs, industry experts, and faculty members who can provide guidance and domain-specific knowledge.

- **Funding and Investment Support:**

It will help to seek partnerships with venture capitalists, angel investors, and industry partners to create funding opportunities for incubates. Also assist startups in accessing external funding sources, including government grants, loans, and competitions, by providing guidance and support in the application process.

- **Monitoring and Evaluation:**

A system is established to monitor and evaluate the progress and impact of incubates, to assess the growth, revenue generation, job creation etc. The cell conducts regular reviews and provide feedback to incubates to achieve their milestones and goals.

3.2 STARTUP CELL:

This Startup cell is designed to promote and support entrepreneurial activities within Institute and to create an ecosystem to develop the entrepreneurial potential, transform innovative ideas into viable startups, and contribute to economic growth and job creation.

This policy framework outlines key components and strategies for supporting startups within the institute.

- **Entrepreneurship Education:**

Offer courses, workshops, and seminars on entrepreneurship, startup management, business planning, and innovation. Also encourage interdisciplinary collaboration and knowledge-sharing among students from different faculties to foster a holistic approach to entrepreneurship.

- **Seed Funding and Grants:**

Establish a seed funding program that provides financial support to promising startups, enabling them to develop prototypes, conduct market research, and validate their business models.



- **Industry Collaboration and Partnerships:**

Foster collaborations with industry partners to provide startups with real-world exposure, access to market insights, and potential customers to gain practical experience and industry exposure.

- **Alumni Engagement:**

Engage the institute's alumni network to support and provide funding opportunities and mentoring for early-stage startups. Also, to organize networking events, startup showcases, and alumni entrepreneurship forums to facilitate connections and knowledge exchange among alumni and current students.

3.3 ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT(ED) CELL

The ED Cell aims to provide the necessary resources, infrastructure, mentorship, and funding to nurture and accelerate the growth of early-stage ventures within the institute. The ED cell is actively engaged in below activities like.

- **Awareness and Outreach:**

Conduct awareness campaigns, guest lectures and workshops to promote entrepreneurship educate the community about the opportunities and challenges in entrepreneurship among students, faculty, and staff.

- **Entrepreneurship Education and Training:**

- Integrate entrepreneurship education through elective programs, and workshops on startup management, business planning, and innovation.
- Collaborate with external trainers, incubators, and industry experts to provide specialized training programs on relevant topics, including ideation, market research, business modelling, and funding strategies.
- Encourage students to participate in national and international entrepreneurship competitions, hackathons, and boot camps to enhance their skills and gain exposure.
- Engage alumni who are successful entrepreneurs to mentor and support current students in their entrepreneurial journeys.

- **Funding and Financial Support:**

- Establish a funding mechanism to provide seed funding or grants to promising startups.
- Develop partnerships with venture capitalists, angel investors, and government funding agencies to connect startups with potential sources of investment.
- Assist startups in preparing business pitches, financial projections, and investor presentations to enhance their chances of securing funding.

Monitoring and Evaluation:

- Establish a system to monitor and evaluate the progress and impact of incubates.
- Establish a monitoring and evaluation system to assess the progress, growth, and impact of supported startups.
- Track key performance indicators (KPIs) such as revenue, job creation, market traction, and fundraising success.
- Conduct regular reviews and feedback sessions with startups to identify areas for improvement and provide necessary support.

3.4 INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS (IPR) CELL

This cell refers to intellectual property that is patent-able or protectable by confidentiality agreements like Patents, copyrights, Designs, and trademarks/service marks.

3.4.1 Patents

- a) The Institute will not require to be assigned to it the intellectual property created by the creator(s) where there is use of usual Institute resources only.
- b) The Institute will require to be assigned to it such intellectual property as is created by the creators using Institute-supported resources. Where a patent is applied for, the creator shall agree to maintain all relevant details of intellectual property secret and confidential until the patent application is filed and has commercial value.
- c) The creators of Institute-owned intellectual property shall retain their right to be identified as such unless they specifically waive off this right in writing.
- d) Royalty accruing or any type of payment received from the commercialization of the Institute-owned intellectual property will be mutually shared between the Institute and the creators.

3.4.2 Copyrights

The Institute will not own the rights in copyrightable works such as books, articles, monographs, lectures, speeches, and other communications produced by the staff during research and teaching using Institute resources.

Ownership of copyright of all copyrightable work shall rest with the author(s) with the following exceptions:

- a) If the work is produced during sponsored and/or collaborative activity, specific provisions related to IP, made in contracts governing such activity, shall determine the ownership of IP.
- b) The Institute shall be the owner of the copyright of work, including software, created by the Institute personnel with significant use of Institute resources.



3.4.3 Invention(s), Design(s), and other creative work(s) :

- a) Invention(s) including software, design, created by the Institute personnel without significant use of the Institute resources shall be owned by the creator(s).
- b) For invention(s) including software, design, produced during sponsored and / or collaborative activity, specific provisions related to IP made in contracts governing the collaborative activities shall determine the ownership of IP.

3.4.4 Trade mark(s)/ Service mark(s):

The ownership of trademark(s)/ service mark(s) created for the Institute shall be with the Institute.

4 DISCLOSURE

When the creators/inventor believe that they have generated patentable or commercialisable intellectual property using Institute-supported resources, they shall report it promptly in writing along with relevant documents, data, and information, to the Institute through the appropriate authority using the Invention Disclosure Form of the Institute. The information shall constitute a full and complete disclosure of the nature,

particulars and other details of the intellectual property, identification of all persons who constitute the creator(s) of the property, and a statement of whether the creator believes he or she owns the right to the intellectual property disclosed, or not, with reasons.

5 PROTECTION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & CONFIDENTIALITY:

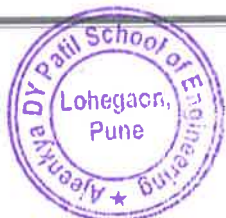
All employees (faculty/scientists /staffs) and students desirous of filing a patent application in connection with an innovative work done by them shall follow the procedure outlined below:

- Submit a proposal prepared by the concerned investigator to IPR Cell outlining their request to file a patent application. An Invention Disclosure Form should accompany this proposal on the Intellectual property to be protected.
- The application will be processed by as per the Intellectual Property Rights Policy of the Institute.
- The IP Assessment Committee will assess the application and A report/recommendation by the will be given to IPR Cell within 1-2 weeks by assessment committee.

If the work is recommended for patenting by the IPR Cell, the applicant will be requested to have further discussion with the patent attorney for completing formalities for filing the application.

All Institute and non-Institute personnel associated with any activity of the Institute shall treat all IP related information which has been disclosed to the IPR Cell, as confidential.

Other forms of intellectual property generated during research and development, such as



Copyrights, design registrations, trademarks, etc. will essentially follow the same procedure as above.

5.1 INFRINGEMENTS, DAMAGES, LIABILITY, AND INDEMNITY INSURANCE

The organization shall take necessary legal action to protect its intellectual property rights against unauthorized use, reproduction, distribution, or infringement. Employees shall report any suspected or known intellectual property infringement to the designated authority within the organization.

5.2 EVALUATION AND EXPLOITATION DECISIONS:

IPR Cell will screen requests for patents and selection of potential proposals on the prescribed IPR disclosure form after getting inputs (preferably prior art search) from area experts. The authorized committee of the Institute will evaluate the disclosure made by the creator on the prescribed

Invention Disclosure Form and determine whether the intellectual property has economic value and it needs IPR protection.

5.3 COMMERCIALISATION OF INSTITUTE-OWNED IP

There would be a time frame in which the institute-owned property would be commercialized, which would be decided by the IPR group of the institute either on case-to-case basis. The costs of transfer of interest

/right/ ownership or exclusive marketing right of the Institute-owned intellectual property will be borne exclusively by the licensee, assignee, or person acquiring such rights.

In circumstances wherein the assignee or the licensee has not taken adequate steps for commercialization of the institute owned intellectual property: the institute would be free to revoke the license and assign it to another party.

6. REVENUE SHARING

The revenue earned through Incubation Entrepreneurship and startups will be shared in

- a) As per the existing Innovation and start up policy of Institute as per equity share is concern, it has been reduced to 9.5% of the total profit generated with mutual concerned between the institute and Entrepreneur in return of services and facilities and support.
- b) 70:30 ration i.e. 70% to the Principal Investigator and team and 30% to the institute in case college facilities are used. The 30% share of the college will be distributed as per the revenue Distribution policy of the Institute.
- c) Any revenue generated by the exploitation of IPR, will be shared between the

creator/inventor, his or her faculty or department/center and Institute after deduction of agreed costs borne by the Institute on the prescribed terms and conditions. The creator's share will continue to be paid irrespective of whether the individual continues as an employee/student/scholar of the Institute.

- d) In case the patent filing costs are not borne by the Institute, the inventor can first deduct the costs incurred in this regard and maintenance of such patents, till licensing, from income accruing from the commercial exploitation of the patent. Excess income beyond such recovered costs will be shared with the Institute.
- e) Co-inventors of IP should sign at the time of disclosure or file for IP protection, a distribution of the IP earnings agreement, which should specify the proportional percentage distribution of earnings from IP to each co-inventor. The inventor(s) may, at any time, by mutual consent, revise the distribution of the IP earnings agreement.
- f) If there is only one inventor of the IP, the whole amount of the inventor's share will be retained by the inventor. If there is more than one inventor, the inventor's share will be distributed among the co-inventors on the mutually agreed terms and conditions.
- g) In case of compulsory equity model, Startup may be given a cooling period of 3 months to use incubation services on rental basis to take a final decision based on satisfaction of services offered by the institute/incubator. In that case, during the cooling period, institute cannot force startup to issue equity on the first day of granting incubation support.
- h) The institute should also provide services based on mixture of equity, fee-based and/or zero payment model. So, a startup may choose to avail only the support, not seed funding, by the institute on rental basis.
- i) Participation in startup related activities needs to be considered as a legitimate activity of faculty in addition to teaching, R&D projects, industrial consultancy and management duties and must be considered while evaluating the annual performance of the faculty. Every faculty may be encouraged to mentor at least one startup.

6.1 Product Ownership Rights for Technologies Developed at Institute

- When institute facilities / funds are used substantially or when IPR is developed as a part of curriculum/ academic activity, IPR is to be jointly owned by inventors and the institute.
- If one or more of the inventors wish to incubate a company and license the product to this company, the royalties would be no more than 4% of sale price, preferably 1 to 2%, unless it is pure software product. If it is shares in the company, shares will again be 1% to 4%.
- For a pure software product licensing, there may be a revenue sharing to be mutually decided between the institute and the incubated company.
- On the other hand, if product/ IPR is developed by innovators not using any institute



facilities, outside office hours (for staff and faculty) or not as a part of curriculum by student, then product/ IPR will be entirely owned by 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.

7. Dispute Resolution

In case of any disputes between the Institute and the inventors regarding the implementation of the IP policy, the aggrieved party may appeal to the Head of the Institute. Efforts shall be made to address the concerns of the aggrieved party. The decision of head of the Institute in this regard would be final and binding.

8. Entrepreneurial Impact Assessment

Impact assessment of institute's entrepreneurial initiatives such as pre-incubation, incubation, entrepreneurship education should be performed regularly using well defined evaluation parameters.

- i. Monitoring and evaluation of knowledge exchange initiatives, engagement of all departments and faculty in the entrepreneurial teaching and learning should be assessed.
- ii. Number of startups created, support system provided at the institutional level and satisfaction of participants, new business relationships created by the institutes should be recorded and used for impact assessment.
- iii. Impact should also be measured for the support system provided by the institute to the student entrepreneurs, faculty and staff for pre-incubation, incubation, IPR protection, industry linkages, exposure to entrepreneurial ecosystem, etc.

Impact assessment for measuring the success should be in terms of **sustainable social, financial and technological impact in the market.**

9. Review and Amendment

This policy shall be reviewed periodically to ensure its continued relevance and effectiveness. Amendments to this policy may be made by the designated authority within the organization, with appropriate communication and training provided to employees.

10. Conclusion

This policy serves as a framework for the protection, management, and enforcement of intellectual property rights within our organization. It emphasizes the importance of intellectual property, encourages innovation, and ensures compliance with relevant laws and regulations. By adhering to this policy, we aim to create an environment that fosters creativity, respects intellectual property rights, and drives the success and growth of our organization.



1. Policy Details:


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Superseding Authority	Principal
Date of last revision	
References	The National Innovation and Startup Policy (NISP) 2019, https://mic.gov.in/start-up-policy/implementation_plan

Version History				
Version	Approved By	Revision Date	Description of change	Author
4.3.1	Dr. Sushant Patil			Dr. Saniya Ansari


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