

# Student Startup and Innovation Policy

## SSIP 2.0 Scheme of Govt. of Gujarat

- ☞ Government of Gujarat has developed a policy for providing assistance to Startups/Innovation. Under this scheme, any individual/group of individuals having innovative idea/ Concept will be eligible and/or Universities/HEIs, Incubation Centre/ PSUs/R&D Institutions/Private and other establishments will be eligible as an institution to support and mentor to innovators as approved by the Special Committee formulated for the same.
- ☞ **Student Startup & Innovation Policy**, popularly abbreviated as **SSIP**, is a flagship policy initiative of Government of Gujarat with primary objective of creating an integrated, university-based innovation ecosystem to support innovations and ideas of young students. Its goal is to provide a conducive environment to facilitate and pre-incubate innovative ideas to go through a stage of proof of concept, prototype, product, testing & trial, redesign and development of utility. This policy addresses the need of creating a strong pipeline of innovations out of research and allied efforts across institutes, helping students convert ideas into opportunities, that later can be supported as startups through various existing institutional mechanisms.
- ☞ **The Student Startup and Innovation Policy (SSIP) 2.0** is the updated version of the SSIP 1.0 policy launched by the Government of Gujarat in January 2022. The policy period is of 5 years (January 2022 – March 2027). The aim of SSIP 2.0 is to build on the success of the previous policy and take it to the next level by providing more comprehensive support to the startups and entrepreneurs in the state. The policy provides funding assistance, mentorship, incubation, and accelerator support to the student startups, along with access to industry networks and global markets.
- ☞ *The SSIP 2.0 policy has also introduced a new concept of Innovation and Entrepreneurship (iHub), which is acting as a one-stop-solution for sector-wise startups and entrepreneurs. These hubs will provide state-of-the-art facilities, including co-working spaces, labs, and incubation centers, to the startups.*
- ☞ The policy aims to create an innovation-driven ecosystem in the state and develop a culture of entrepreneurship among students. It seeks to foster innovation, creativity, and collaboration among startups, industry, academia, and government.
- ☞ Overall, the SSIP 2.0 policy is a step towards creating a robust startup ecosystem in Gujarat and providing a platform for young entrepreneurs to realize their dreams. It is expected to have a significant impact on the economic growth of the state by creating job opportunities, promoting innovation-led development, and attracting investments in the startup sector.

- ☞ Our Navsari Agricultural University, Navsari has been recognized as the “**Nodal Centre for SSIP 2.0**” under the “**Student Startup & Innovation Policy (SSIP) 2.0 Scheme**” since 2022 by the SSIP Cell, Gujarat Knowledge Society, Directorate of Technical Education, Govt. of Gujarat.
- ☞ Further, as the leading and pioneering Agribusiness Management Institute of the State and a constituent college of NAU, our *ASPEE Agribusiness Management Institute (AABMI)* has been given the responsibility of the “**Implementing Institute**” for the **University Nodal Centre for SSIP 2.0**.
- ☞ Under this, we train and inspire the students and faculty members through carefully designed Sensitization & Outreach Training Programmes. We also support the students and innovators by providing mentorship, incubation facilities, financial assistance, prototype development support, and startup guidance, encouraging the transformation of innovative ideas into scalable agri-business startups.
- ☞ The TOP TRIO of our **Principal Dr. Jayesh J. Pastagia** as the *University Advisor, Professor & Head of ABM* **Dr. Swati S. Sharma** as the *University Coordinator & Training Director* and **Professor & Head of HRM Dr. Mehul G. Thakkar** as the *University Co-Coordinator & Training Co-Director*; have been serving as the SSIP 2.0 Officials on the part of AABMI.
- ☞ Presently, the following stalwarts are serving as the Officials of this “**University Nodal Centre for SSIP 2.0**” under the “**Student Startup & Innovation Policy (SSIP) 2.0 Scheme**”.

| Sr. No. | Name & Designation of the Official                                                               | Role in the SSIP Scheme @ NAU                    |
|---------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| 1)      | <b>Dr. Timur R. Ahlawat</b><br><i>Director of Research &amp; Dean-PG Studies</i><br>NAU, Navsari | SSIP Chairman<br>&<br>Training Convener          |
| 2)      | <b>Dr. Jayesh J. Pastagia</b><br><i>Principal</i><br>AABMI, NAU, Navsari                         | SSIP Advisor<br>&<br>Training Co-Convener        |
| 3)      | <b>Dr. Swati S. Sharma</b><br><i>Professor &amp; Head in ABM</i><br>AABMI, NAU, Navsari          | SSIP Coordinator<br>&<br>Training Director       |
| 4)      | <b>Dr. Mehul G. Thakkar</b><br><i>Professor &amp; Head in HRM</i><br>AABMI, NAU, Navsari         | SSIP Co-Coordinator<br>&<br>Training Co-Director |
| 5)      | <b>Dr. Mahantappa S. Sankanur</b><br><i>Asso. Professor in FBTI</i><br>CoF, NAU, Navsari         | SSIP Co-Coordinator<br>&<br>Training Co-Director |