Office of the
Research & Development Cell
MIT Art, Design & Technology University, Pune

MIT-ADT UNIVERSITY
PUNE, INDIA
A Leap Towards World Class Education

Ref. No.:- MIT-ADTU/Director/RDC Admin/   Date: - 08/02/2024

Approval Note

To: - Hon. Executive President, MIT ADT University

From: - Director, Research & Development Cell

Subject: Approval for addendum of Funding Support for Research, Innovation & Entrepreneurship MITADTUs "Policy for Research & Consultancy 2020"

Respected Sir,

For expanding the funding support across Research, Innovation & Entrepreneurship ecosystem at University so as to align with Anusandhan Research Foundation Act 2023 (ARF2023) following addendum in appropriate section of "Policy for Research & Consultancy 2020" is hereby submitted for your approval.

The addendum has following 3 sections,

Section I: Funding Support for Research (Under Research & Development Cell)
       1. Seed Grant 2. Minor & Major Research Project Grant
Section II: Funding Support for Innovation (Under IIC, CRIEYA & ID Innovation)
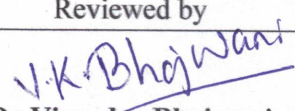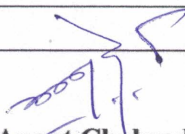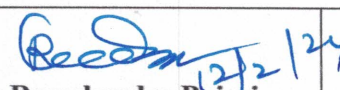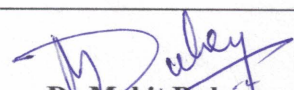Section III: Funding Support for Entrepreneurship (Under AIC)

The detailed policy document is enclosed with this application as per the mentioned sections and it will be incorporated in the policy booklet and the updated booklet will be prepared and published soon.
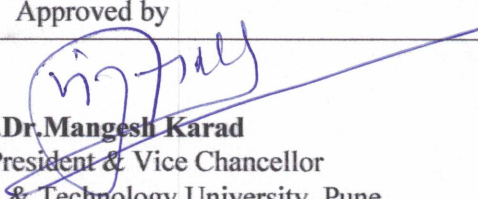Kindly request for your approval.

Thanking you

Encl: Funding Support Policy 2024

Prepared by	Reviewed by
Asst.Prof.Ashwinkumar Mahindrakar Head, Office of Sponsored Research	**Dr.Virendra Bhojwani** Director, RDC

Recommended by		
Dr.Anant Chakradeo Pro-Vice Chancellor (Creative & Humanities Cluster)	**Dr.Ramchandra Pujeri** Pro-Vice Chancellor (Technology Cluster)	**Dr.Mohit Dubey** Pro-Vice Chancellor (RIE&IR Cluster)

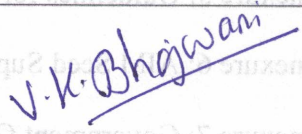| Approved by |
|---|
| **Prof.Dr.Mangesh Karad**
Executive President & Vice Chancellor
MIT Art, Design & Technology University, Pune |
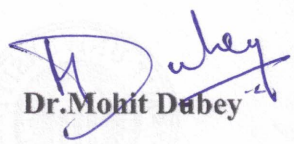
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Funding Support Policy

(Research – Innovation – Entrepreneurship)

Compiled by	Reviewed by
Asst.Prof.Ashwinkumar Mahindrakar	**Dr.Virendra Bhojwani**
Head, Office of Sponsored Research	Director, RDC

Recommended by		
Dr.Anant Chakradeo	**Dr.Ramchandra Pujeri**	**Dr.Mohit Dubey**
Pro-Vice Chancellor	Pro-Vice Chancellor	Pro-Vice Chancellor
(Creative & Humanities Cluster)	(Technology Cluster)	(RIE&IR Cluster)

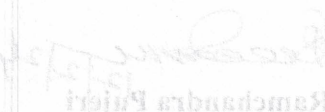| Approved by |
|---|
| **Prof.Dr.Mangesh Karad** |
| Executive President & Vice Chancellor |
| MIT Art, Design & Technology University, Pune |

Contents

Overview of Research, Innovation & Entrepreneurship Ecosystem

MIT Art, Design & Technology University (MIT ADTU) has embarked upon a journey to become 'A new age University for Innovation and Entrepreneurship'. Aligning with the Anusandhan National Research Foundation Act, 2023 (*Annexure 1*), MIT ADTU is expanding the funding support across Research, Innovation & Entrepreneurship ecosystem at university. The policy may be called ***Funding Support Policy, 2024 (FSP 2024)***.

MIT ADTU has established a structured layer to cover the entire ecosystem as below:

1. Research (Research & Development Cell - RDC)

As per UGC guidelines (*Annexure 2*), MIT ADTU has established the Research & Development Cell (RDC). RDC is divided as:

I.   Office of Doctoral Research
II.   Office of Sponsored Research
      i.   Government funding
      ii. Corporate funding
      iii. Funding by International agencies
      iv. University funding
III.   Office of Consultancy & Corporate Training
IV.   IPR Cell
V.   Technology Transfer Office
VI.   Outreach and Collaborations Cell

2. Innovation (IIC, CRIEYA & MIT ID Innovation)

I.   **Institution's Innovation Council (IIC):** IIC at MIT ADTU is dedicated to engage, encourage and channelize the creative energy and entrepreneurial potential of students/faculty/staff to build innovations and enterprises. IIC follows the guidelines as per Ministry of Education (MoE) Innovation Cell (MIC).

II. **Centre for Research, Innovation and Entrepreneurship for Young Aspirants (CRIEYA):** A Pre-incubation hub for converting *projects to products*.

III. **MIT ID Innovation:** An academic unit of MIT Institute of Design to offer various programmes related to Innovation & Entrepreneurship.

3. Entrepreneurship (AIC MIT ADT Incubator Forum)

Atal Incubation Center (AIC MIT ADT) is a section -8, *not-for-profit* organization supported by Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog, Govt. of India and hosted by MIT ADT University to strengthen the innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem.
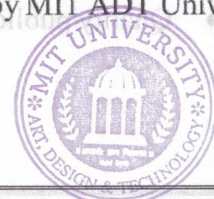
Section I: Funding Support for Research

With reference to the Research and Consultancy Policy, 2020 (Section #8.3 & 8.4) and subsequent Addendum (dated 20 Jan 2023) to support research initiatives, below changes are added:

1. Seed Grant

To encourage and support the research scholars and early career faculty/staff, a seed grant support of up to Rs. 2.0 Lakhs will be awarded. The duration of the grant will be a maximum of 2 years from the date of sanction with a provision for extension of 1 year.

Objectives:

- To support the faculty to initiate research activities on joining MIT ADTU
- To promote multidisciplinary/interdisciplinary research among the scholars/faculty
- To encourage scholars/faculty to develop innovative products and processes.
- To inspire scholars/faculty to generate Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)
- To support competitive research in emerging areas of national and international importance.

Eligibility:

- Full-time student in the PG/Doctoral program of the University.
- Regular faculty who has completed 1 year in the University.

Disbursement and Monitoring Guidelines:

- The Office of Sponsored Research will invite 'Call for Proposal' every quarter.
- PI/Co-PIs shall submit the proposal within 15 days from the date of call.
- Proposals will be evaluated by the screening committee (chaired by Dean – Faculty) and PI/Co-PIs may be asked to present before the committee.
- An expert evaluation committee (chaired by Director – RDC) will Evaluate/Approve the seed fund.
- A project review committee (chaired by HoD/HoI) will review the progress on a quarterly basis and submit the milestone report/utilization certificate to RDC. It is a mandatory requirement for the disbursement of subsequent tranches if the grant is sanctioned in multiple tranches.
- PI would submit the three copies of closure report along with Utilization certificates, related documents & invoices to RDC
- RDC would submit the Final project report (Milestones achieved and Utilization report) to CAFO office for the project closure.

Expected Outcomes/Deliverables:

- Quality publications in reputed journals/books.

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- Quality Dissertation/Thesis.
- Internships for UG students.
- IPR with MIT ADTU as the applicant and investigators as an inventor(s).
- A detailed report that can further lead to Minor/Major projects/Startup.

2. Minor and Major Research Project Grant

To enable faculty/staff of the University to work on projects of national and international importance, a grant support of up to Rs. 5.0 Lakhs (for minor research projects) and Rs. 20.0 Lakhs (for major research projects) will be awarded. The duration of the grant will be a maximum of 2 years (for Minor) and 3 years (for Major) from the date of sanction with a provision for extension of 1 year.
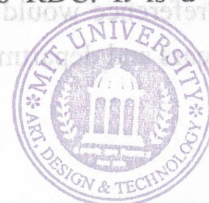
Objectives:

- To support the faculty to write minor and major projects aligned to various National Missions
- To strengthen multidisciplinary/interdisciplinary research by collaborating with National/International R&D organizations
- To develop innovative products and processes leading to commercialization
- To generate IPR
- To augment the objectives of National Deep Tech Startup Policy (*Annexure 3*)
- To support projects aligned to India AI 2023 report (*Annexure 4*)
- To support projects aligned towards Viksit Bharat@2047

Eligibility:

- Regular faculty who has completed 2 years in the University (preferably PhD).
- Any faculty who has worked on similar projects in the past or has exceptional contribution in the field of research.
- Preference would be given to Multidisciplinary/Interdisciplinary teams (PI/Co-PIs).

Disbursement and Monitoring Guidelines:

- The Office of Sponsored Research will invite 'Call for Proposal' every quarter.
- PI/Co-PIs shall submit the proposal within 30 days from the date of call.
- Proposals will be evaluated by the screening committee (chaired by Dean – Faculty) and PI/Co-PIs will present before the committee.
- An expert evaluation committee (chaired by Director – RDC) will Evaluate/Approve the proposals for minor/major project funding.
- A project review committee (chaired by HoD/HoI) will review the progress on a quarterly basis and submit the milestone report/utilization certificate to RDC. It is a mandatory

requirement for the disbursement of subsequent tranches if the grant is sanctioned in multiple tranches.

- PI would submit the three copies of closure report along with Utilization certificates, related documents & invoices to RDC
- RDC would submit the Final project report (Milestones achieved and Utilization report) to CAFO office for the project closure.

Expected Outcomes/Deliverables:

- Quality publications in reputed journals (minimum 2)/book/Thesis.
- Internships for UG/PG students.
- Post Doc Fellowship.
- IPR with MIT ADTU as the applicant and investigators as an inventor(s).
- Startup through AIC MIT ADT.

Section II: Funding Support for Innovation

With reference to the:

(a) IIC Guide as prescribed by MoE

(b) CRIYA's circular (dated 19 January 2021) and subsequent notifications (CRIEYA Execution Policy, Guidelines for disbursement of Funds and Utilization and Operational guidelines for PI/Co-PI)

(c) Various programmes offered by MIT ID Innovation

Innovation ecosystem at university provides comprehensive opportunities for student/faculty/staff to create '*Problem Solving*' mindset. To augment the existing support system, below changes are added for funding support:

Objectives:

- To create a learning platform for Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Venture Development.
- Support projects from Idea stage to Proof of Concept (PoC)/Prototype stage.
- Inspire 10% of enrolled students to explore '*Entrepreneurship as a career choice*'.
- To generate IPR
- NIRF ranking in Top 50

Eligibility:

- Regular UG/PG/PhD student at the University.
- Regular faculty as PI/Co-PI is mandatory.
- Preference would be given to Multidisciplinary/Interdisciplinary team of students (across years and departments/schools).
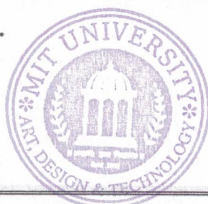
Disbursement and Monitoring Guidelines:

- CRIEYA office will invite 'Call for Proposal' every quarter. It would also accept applications from (a) Idea Power Hour (b) Rolling basis on strong references from department/ school.
- PI/Co-PIs shall submit the proposal within 30 days from the date of call or anytime directly to CRIEYA office.
- **Level-1 Screening**: Proposals will be evaluated by the screening committee (chaired by HoD/HoI/Dean/Director). PI/Co-PIs will make the presentation before the committee. The main objective of this phase is to assess the fitment of overall objective of the project with that of department/school/university strategic plan.
- **Level-2 Screening:** Evaluation committee (chaired by COO – CRIEYA) will assess the proposal on (a) Desirability (b) Feasibility (c) Viability aspects by engaging corporate mentors/partners.
- **Level-3 Screening:** CRIEYA Seed Management Committee – CSMC (chaired by Pro VC – RIE&IR) will Evaluate/Approve the proposals for project funding as:

    - **TRL 0 – 1**: Upto Rs 1.00 Lakh (duration 6-12 months)
    - **TRL 1 – 2**: Upto Rs 3.00 Lakhs (duration 12-18 months)
    - **TRL 2 – 3**: Upto Rs 5.00 Lakhs (duration 12-18 months)

- A project review committee (chaired by HoD/HoI) will review the progress on a quarterly basis and submit the milestone report/utilization certificate to CRIEYA office. It is a mandatory requirement for the disbursement of subsequent tranches if the grant is sanctioned in multiple tranches.
- PI would submit the three copies of closure report along with Utilization certificates, related documents & invoices to CRIEYA office.
- CRIEYA office would submit the Final project report (Milestones achieved and Utilization report) to CAFO office for the project closure.

Expected Outcomes/Deliverables:

- 250 – 300 projects in TRL 0 – 1 level.
- 150 – 200 projects in TRL 1 – 2 level.
- 50 – 100 projects in TRL 2 – 3 level.
- 100 quality projects in Smart India Hackathon (SIH).
- Internships for UG/PG students.
- IPR with MIT ADTU as the applicant and investigators as an inventor(s).
- Startup through AIC MIT ADT.

Section III: Funding Support for Entrepreneurship

With reference to the:
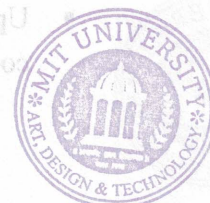
(a) Guidelines for Startup India Seed Fund Scheme (*Annexure 5* - section 8.1)

(b) Atal Innovation Mission's Seed Support guidelines (*Annexure 6*)

(c) Various other Govt schemes for funding support to startups (*Annexure 7*)

The entrepreneurship ecosystem at university provides comprehensive support for founders to create '*Investor Ready*' ventures. To expand the support system at university, below changes are added for funding support:

Objectives:

- To attract, nurture and build investor ready ventures.
- Support ventures from Proof of Concept (PoC)/Prototype stage to MVP stage.
- Channelize 10% of RDC/CRIEYA supported projects to AIC.
- To generate IPR
- To bridge funding gap for startups through various Govt/ Non- Govt agencies
- Among Top 10 Incubators in the country
- Add Accelerator programs (3-6 months) and a dedicated Accelerator in 3 years.

Eligibility:

- A registered entity (CIN number)/DPIIT registered startup.
- Must be at PoC/Prototype stage.

Disbursement and Monitoring Guidelines:

- Office of RDC/CRIEYA can directly recommend the venture to AIC for startup support.
- Based on the prescribed parameters, Incubator Screening Committee will Approve the startup for Incubation.
- Onboarding formalities (signing the Incubator- Incubatee Agreement, orientation etc.) will be completed.
- Depending upon the stage/phase of the startup, quantum and type of funding support can be provided according to the guidelines of respective schemes:
  - o **Under SISFS Scheme**:
    - Up to Rs. 20 Lakhs as grant for validation of Proof of Concept, or prototype development, or product trials. The grant shall be disbursed in milestone based installments. These milestones can be related to development of prototype, product testing, building a product ready for market launch, etc.
    - Up to Rs. 50 Lakhs of investment for market entry, commercialization, or scaling up through convertible debentures or debt or debt-linked instruments.
  - o **Under Seed Support of AIM Scheme**:
    - Up to Rs. 25 Lakhs of investment for PoC, Prototype, MVP, market entry, commercialization, or scaling up through debt or equity-linked instruments.

- Funding support to startups is provided by AIC after the Screening cum Approval from ISMC (for SISFS scheme) and SSIC (for Seed Support under AIM)
- A Project Mentoring and Monitoring Committee - PMMC (duly constituted by AIC) will review the progress on a quarterly basis and submit the milestone report/utilization certificate to AIC. It is a mandatory requirement for the disbursement of subsequent tranches.

Expected Outcomes/Deliverables:

- Strong Mentor network specific to domains/focus areas
- Strong Corporate/Academic partner network.
- Investor partner network (Angel/Seed/Pre-Series rounds only).
- Network of other Incubators/Accelerators at National/International level
- Portfolio of 100 startups in 3 years.
- Internships for UG/PG students.
- IPR with AIC MIT ADTU as the applicant and investigators as an inventor(s).

Annexures

Annexure 1:

https://dst.gov.in/sites/default/files/NRF.pdf

Annexure 2:

https://www.ugc.gov.in/pdfnews/6347789_RDC-Guideline.pdf

Annexure 3:

https://psa.gov.in/CMS/web/sites/default/files/process/NDTSP.pdf

Annexure 4:

https://www.meity.gov.in/writereaddata/files/IndiaAI-Expert-Group-Report-First-Edition.pdf

Annexure 5:

Guidelines for Startup India Seed Fund Scheme.pdf

Annexure 6:

AIM Seed Support Fund Guidelines

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Ms0BYfgIGuax6T59ZPITrqsgL3BlzO6c/view?usp=drive_link

Annexure 7:

Government Grants and Opportunities _Startups

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1j-hCzq92Xpqx5T-vcaA9PdEjNVyjFF3o/view?usp=drive_link