Manipur – Manipur Startup Scheme 2.0 Policy 2022

Introduction and Vision

The Manipur Startup Scheme 2.0 Policy 2022 updates the earlier 2016 policy to further strengthen the startup ecosystem in the state.

Aligns with the Startup India Mission launched by the Government of India.

The vision is to empower youth to become job creators by fostering entrepreneurship and innovation, establishing Manipur as a leading startup destination in the Northeast region.

Mission

Inspire youth to consider entrepreneurship as a viable career, targeting at least one entrepreneur in every family.

Support and strengthen incubators and accelerators, aiming for about 40% women-led startups in five years.

Foster greater social acceptance and recognition of startups.

Encourage new incubators in both government and private sector.

Provide continuous enabling mechanisms such as training, capacity building, networking, access to knowledge.

Implement a supportive regulatory framework for hassle-free, time-bound statutory clearances.

Provide necessary infrastructure to enable rapid startup growth.

Create platforms for access to financial support including venture funds, grants, and bank loans.

Policy Scope and Period

Policy provides incentives and exemptions additional to central government policies.

Effective for five years from the date of notification, subject to extensions or revisions.

Startup Definition

Based on DPIIT’s notification:

Incorporated/registered in India as private limited company, partnership, or LLP within 10 years.

Turnover less than ₹100 crore at any year.

Working on innovation, scalable business models with high potential for employment or wealth generation.

Excludes startups formed by splitting or reconstruction of existing businesses.

Enabling Environment and Support

Incubation:

State facilitates creation and strengthening of incubators across government, private sector, and institutes of higher learning.

Preferential lease land to recognized incubators.

Co-working spaces provided in industrial estates.

Access to government R&D labs and state-of-the-art technology provided.

Sector-specific Incubators: Encouraged in IT, ESDM, waste management, healthcare, agriculture, tourism, textiles, and allied areas.

Departments to set up specific startup cells and policies.

Digital platforms to connect ecosystem stakeholders, funding, and services.

Plans for Startup/Innovation parks with facilities like testing labs, shared services (legal, patents, banking), community events, and enterprise software.

Startup Incentives

Idea/Proof of Concept Stage:

Seed grant up to ₹3 lakhs per innovative idea for prototype development, proof of concept, and market entry.

Seed funding routed through state/central recognized incubators post-mentoring.

Incubators provide access to labs, mentoring, and ensure prudent use of funds.

Free access to university, government labs, centers of excellence, PSU infrastructure.

Corpus fund for startup funding and support.

Reimbursement of patent application and prosecution costs up to ₹2 lakh domestic, ₹5 lakh international.

Revenue Stage:

Financial assistance up to ₹100 lakhs including 30% grant by Startup Manipur for scaling mature businesses.

Mentorship, incubator/accelerator, and other incentives continue.

Stand Up Category (SC/ST/Women/Minorities):

At least 51% ownership by specified groups.

Financial assistance up to ₹100 lakh including 30% grant.

Other incentives as per state and central schemes.

Priority Sectors for Support

Social impact, waste and water management, financial inclusion, education, agriculture, food processing, biotechnology, healthcare, energy, mobility, defense, space, railways, oil and gas, textiles, etc.

Promotion and Outreach

Promote Manipur as a startup destination nationally and internationally.

Support participation of local startups in events outside the state.

Organize idea fests, startup festivals, state-wide business plan competitions.

Special incentives dedicated to IT sector startups.

Eligibility and Selection Procedure

Promoters must be domiciled in Manipur (at least one member if group).

Entity owners must be above 18 years.

Incubation completion compulsory before registration.

Selection by a committee comprising startup cell, incubators, entrepreneurs, financial institutions, and government representatives.

Ease of Public Procurement

Preference for startups in government procurement.

Exemption from Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) for DPIIT and Manipur recognized startups.

Relaxation of prior turnover and experience requirements in government tenders.

Incubation and Funding Support

Encouragement to set up government/private incubators including PPP mode.

Performance-based incentives for incubators.

State to establish venture fund in collaboration with NEDFI for investment in startups.

Credit Guarantee Fund to be set up with CGTSME and SIDBI collaboration.

Fiscal Incentives

100% reimbursement of stamp duty, registration fee, and conversion fees for first transactions on sale/lease deeds.

Patent filing cost reimbursement: 100% of expenses up to ₹2 lakh (domestic) and ₹5 lakh (international), payable 75% on filing and 25% on grant.

Non-fiscal Incentives

Market access facilitation.

Self-certification for compliance with relevant state laws, aligned with Startup India.

Exemption from EMD in government tenders.

Awareness and Capacity Building

Encourage entrepreneurship cells in universities and colleges.

Bootcamp workshops and startup weekends across all districts.

Organization of hackathons, grand challenges, and investment workshops.

Promote participation in national and international startup events.

Governance Structure

Manipur Startup Council: Chaired by the Chief Minister, includes ministers, administrative secretaries, department heads, industry, and legal experts.

Manipur Startup Committee: Chaired by Chief Secretary, responsible for planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation.

Startup Cell: Headed by Director (Planning), manages day-to-day operations, beneficiary selection, fund monitoring, and policy execution.

Review Mechanism: Annual policy review by a monitoring and review committee including government officials and industry experts.

Nodal Department

Planning Department of Manipur is the nodal agency responsible for policy implementation.

A dedicated startup team coordinates facilitation, mentorship, awareness, portal management, and participation in events.

Source: Manipur Startup Scheme 2.0 Policy 2022

Issued by: Government of Manipur – Planning Department

Policy Period: 5 years from notification