



Goa Start-up Schemes



IPR Reimbursement Scheme

Goa Start-up Policy 2017

1. Preamble to the Policy

Government has approved and notified the Goa Start-up Policy 2017 with a vision to make Goa one of the most preferred start-up destinations of India. The objective of the policy is to make Goa an aspirational geographical and human resource base for Start-ups. The objective is to invite the best entrepreneurial minds and build a robust start-up eco-system in the State. The policy contains various incentives for Start-ups and to avail the benefits of these incentives, the Government has proposed many schemes under the policy.

2. Short title and commencement-

This scheme shall be called “Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Reimbursement Scheme”.

3. Benefits under the scheme-

- 3.1. For start-ups registering national and international IP, the Start-up Promotion Cell will reimburse up to 50% of the cost incurred by the start-up in fees and all other costs associated with IP application, if the IP is registered successfully, subject to a cap of INR 2 lakh for national IP and INR 5 lakh for international IP.
- 3.2. This benefit can be availed by maximum 200 startups each year.
- 3.3. Under no circumstance shall the benefits under this scheme be considered an entitlement. The SPC shall reserve the sole right to accept or reject applications.

4. Eligibility-

- 4.1. All the Start-ups certified by the Start-up Promotion Cell (SPC) having a valid start-up certificate number are eligible to apply for this scheme.
- 4.2. IP that is created for a technology based service or product or uses technology for enhancing functionality or reach of an existing product or service are eligible.
- 4.3. The applicant should have already filed or been granted an IP with the concerned authority.
- 4.4. The applicant should have paid the mandatory government fees and attorney fees in this regard.
- 4.5. Reimbursement amount will be released/ disbursed on the seniority basis/ SPC recommendation depending upon the budget allotment of the State Government.
- 4.6. The reimbursement will be in the nature of a one-time payment and the applicant cannot apply under this provision more than once for the same IP application.
- 4.7. If the applicant has applied for the reimbursement benefits/ grant for the same IP in any other scheme of Centre or other State Government, then the application will be rejected.
- 4.8. The bank accounts of the Directors of the company should be linked to Aadhaar.
- 4.9. Only expenditure incurred after notification of Goa Start-up Policy 2017 within the validity of this policy and paid for digitally would be considered. In case digital payments are not possible then it shall be up to the decision of SPC as per its due diligence to admit the expenditure.

Provided that for the purpose of this scheme IPR means Intellectual Property Rights.

5. Procedure for filing and disbursement of claims-

- 5.1. Start-ups who desire to claim incentives under this scheme shall submit the application form to SPC along with requisite set of documents. The form and the documents are to be e-mailed or to be submitted on the web portal to the SPC.
- 5.2. Based on the evaluation by the SPC, the approved amount shall be reimbursed.
- 5.3. The evaluation process is as follows-
 - 5.3.1. On receipt of the complete application the SPC shall inspect and verify the contents of the application.
 - 5.3.2. Based on the received documents, SPC will scrutinize and perform necessary due diligence on the expenses incurred by the applicant.
 - 5.3.3. The SPC shall recommend the application for the sanction of reimbursement of the costs incurred towards filing or grant of IP as the case may be.
- 5.4. The SPC shall be the competent authority to solely accept or reject any claims filed by the Start-ups. The decision of the SPC shall be final and binding.
- 5.5. The applicant can apply for this scheme at any time of the financial year but only within 6 months of incurring the relevant expenditure.
- 5.6. The applications received by the SPC under this scheme shall be evaluated and approval or rejection shall be notified within 45 days from receipt of the application by the SPC. Once the application is approved by the SPC, the approved amount shall be disbursed within 60 days from the date of approval.

Matching Grant Scheme

Goa Start-up Policy 2017

1. Preamble to the Policy

Government has approved and notified the Goa Start-up Policy 2017 with a vision to make Goa one of the most preferred start-up destinations of India. The objective of the policy is to make Goa an aspirational geographical and human resource base for Start-ups. The objective is to invite the best entrepreneurial minds and build a robust start-up eco-system in the State. The policy contains various incentives for Start-ups and to avail the benefits of these incentives, the Government has proposed many schemes under the policy.

2. Short title and commencement-

This scheme shall be called “Matching Grant Scheme”.

3. Benefits under the scheme-

- 3.1. Start-ups that raise funds from a registered/recognized funding source prior to the product launch phase will be provided 25% of the matching funds or a maximum benefit of INR 25 lakh, at proportionate ownership of stock, subsequent to due diligence by the Start-up Promotion Cell (SPC).
- 3.2. This benefit can be availed by 20 start-ups each year which shall be selected by the SPC as per its due diligence and guidelines.
- 3.3. Under no circumstance shall the benefits under this scheme be considered an entitlement. The SPC shall reserve the sole right to accept or reject applications.

4. Eligibility-

- 4.1. All the Start-ups certified by the Start-up Promotion Cell (SPC) having a valid start-up certificate number are eligible to apply for this scheme.
- 4.2. The product for which the benefit is being claimed should not have been made available in the market previously.
- 4.3. The applicant has to apply at least 1- 3 months prior to product launch.
- 4.4. The bank accounts of the Directors of the company should be linked to Aadhaar.
- 4.5. Only expenditure incurred after notification of Goa Start-up Policy 2017, being within the validity of this policy and paid for digitally will be considered for reimbursement under this scheme. In case digital payments are not possible then it shall be up to the decision of SPC as per its due diligence to admit the expenditure.

5. Procedure for filing and disbursement of claims-

- 5.1. The applicant shall submit the application form to SPC along with requisite set of documents. The form and the documents are to be e-mailed or to be submitted on the web portal to the SPC.
- 5.2. Based on the evaluation of the SPC, the approved amount shall be disbursed.
- 5.3. The SPC shall be the competent authority to solely accept or reject the applications. The decision of the SPC shall be final and binding.
- 5.4. The applicant can apply for this scheme at any time of the financial year.
- 5.5. The applications received by the SPC under this scheme shall be evaluated and approval or rejection shall be notified within 45 days from receipt of the application by the SPC. Once the application is approved by the SPC, the approved amount shall be disbursed within 60 days from the date of approval.

R&D Reimbursement Scheme

Goa Start-up Policy 2017

1. Preamble to the Policy

Government has approved and notified the Goa Start-up Policy 2017 with a vision to make Goa one of the most preferred start-up destinations of India. The objective of the policy is to make Goa an aspirational geographical and human resource base for Start-ups. The objective is to invite the best entrepreneurial minds and build a robust start-up eco-system in the State. The policy contains various incentives for Start-ups and to avail the benefits of these incentives, the Government has proposed many schemes under the policy.

2. Short title and commencement-

This scheme shall be called “R&D Reimbursement Scheme”.

3. Benefits under the scheme-

- 3.1. In order to promote innovation amongst the Goans and local start-ups, 50% of R&D expenses, including salaries of PhD holders employed by start-ups will be reimbursed for a period of two years, subject to a cap of INR 5 lakh per annum but salary component must not be in excess of INR 2 lakh under this scheme.
- 3.2. This benefit can be availed by maximum 100 startups each year.
- 3.3. Under no circumstance shall the benefits under this scheme be considered an entitlement. The SPC shall reserve the sole right to accept or reject applications.

4. Eligibility-

- 4.1. All the local start-ups certified by the Start-up Promotion Cell (SPC) having a valid start-up certificate number are eligible to apply for this scheme.
 - 4.2. This is applicable only for Goans and local start-ups.
 - 4.3. The bank accounts of the Directors of the company should be linked to Aadhaar.
 - 4.4. The employees whose salary are to be reimbursed should be hired for a period of at least 12 months.
 - 4.5. The employee whose salary is to be reimbursed should have a PhD or equivalent from a Government recognized institute.
 - 4.6. The bank accounts of said employees should be linked to Aadhaar.
 - 4.7. For the purpose of determining eligible expenses towards R&D Expenditure, Accounting Standard 18¹ on Research and Development by Institute of Cost Accountants of India would be used.
 - 4.8. The benefit of this scheme can be availed by the startups who are in in the R&D stage and developing technology/ products in the domains specified in the Policy.
 - 4.9. The start-ups will be eligible to avail the benefits of the scheme under the following conditions-
 - 4.9.1. They should have a working prototype of the technology/ product.
 - 4.9.2. Preference will be given to the startups who are working on a technology/ product that have successfully applied for patent or have obtained a patent.
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- 4.10. Only expenditure incurred after notification of Goa Start-up Policy 2017, being within the validity of this policy and paid for digitally will be considered. In case digital payments are not possible then it shall be up to the decision of SPC based on its due diligence to admit the expenditure.

Local start-up means start-up in which at least 50% equity/share is held by one or more Goans continuously since the time of inception.

Goans refers to the persons satisfying at least one of the following criteria:

- 1. Born in the State of Goa; or,*
- 2. Person having domicile for 10 years or more in the State; or,*
- 3. Spouse of a person covered under any of the conditions mentioned in (1.) and (2.), through marriages registered in Goa.*

For the purpose of this scheme 'employees' shall mean PhD or equivalent employees for whom a reimbursement is being claimed.

5. Procedure for filing and disbursement of claims-

- 5.1. Start-ups who desire to claim incentives under this scheme shall submit the application form to SPC along with requisite set of documents. The form and the documents are to be e-mailed or to be submitted on the web portal to the SPC.
- 5.2. The applicant shall take prior-approval from SPC for this scheme in the application format mentioned in Annexure 2.
- 5.3. Based on the evaluation of the SPC, the approved amount shall be reimbursed.
- 5.4. The SPC shall be the competent authority to solely accept or reject any claims filed by the Start-ups. The decision of the SPC shall be final and binding.
- 5.5. The applicant can apply for this scheme at any time of the financial year but only within 6 months of incurring the relevant expenditure.
- 5.6. The applicant can avail the benefits of this scheme bi- annually/ annually.
- 5.7. The applications received by the SPC under this scheme shall be evaluated and approval or rejection shall be notified within 45 days from receipt of the application by the SPC. Once the application is approved by the SPC, the approved amount shall be disbursed within 60 days from the date of approval.

Skill Development Promotion Scheme

Goa Start-up Policy 2017

1. Preamble to the Policy

Government has approved and notified the Goa Start-up Policy 2017 with a vision to make Goa one of the most preferred start-up destinations of India. The objective of the policy is to make Goa an aspirational geographical and human resource base for Start-ups. The objective is to invite the best entrepreneurial minds and build a robust start-up eco-system in the State. The policy contains various incentives for Start-ups and to avail the benefits of these incentives, the Government has proposed many schemes under the policy.

2. Short title and commencement-

This scheme shall be called “Skill Development Promotion Scheme”.

3. Benefits under the scheme-

- 3.1. Retail educational institutes that impart programming and technical skills will be encouraged to establish learning centres in Goa. Institutes listed by the start-up promotion cell and providing courses at pre-fixed rates, will be provided following benefits:
 - 3.1.1. Internet subsidy (up to INR 5 lakh per year) for two years
 - 3.1.2. Power subsidy (up to INR 1 lakh per year) for two years
 - 3.1.3. 25% capital investments reimbursement up to INR 5.0 lakh (on all capital procurement for a period of two years)
 - 3.1.4. 10% salary cost subsidy up to INR 3 lakh for a period of two years
- 3.2. The maximum benefits aggregating all the benefits in this scheme should not exceed INR 10 lakh per year.
- 3.3. The benefits to this scheme can only be availed by up to 10 institutes per year offering courses under the technical areas/ sectors outlined in Annexure 2.
- 3.4. Under no circumstance shall the benefits under this scheme be considered an entitlement. The SPC shall reserve the sole right to accept or reject applications.
- 3.5. The eligibility and disbursement of incentives shall be reviewed at the end of each year based on the performance of the institute.

Provided that for the purpose of this scheme ‘capital procurement’ shall mean money spent on purchase of capital goods such as computer hardware, networking devices, and ICT for the institute.

Provided that for the purpose of this scheme ‘retail educational institute’ shall mean a learning center located in Goa listed by the SPC as such for the purpose of Goa Start-up Policy 2017.

4. Eligibility-

- 4.1. All the educational institutes listed by the Start-up Promotion Cell (SPC) having a valid Startup Cell Registration Number are eligible to apply for this scheme.
- 4.2. The applicant institute/offered course must have at least one established learning centre in Goa be recognized by an authorized Government body such as AICTE, UGC, NBA, etc. as applicable.
- 4.3. Preference will be given to institutes with tie-ups with OEMs.
- 4.4. The bank accounts of employees should be linked to Aadhaar.
- 4.5. The bank accounts of the Directors of the institute should be linked to Aadhaar.
- 4.6. Only expenditure incurred from one year before the notification of Goa Start-up Policy 2017, being within the validity of this policy and paid for digitally would be considered for reimbursement under this scheme. In case digital payments are not possible then it shall be up to the decision of SPC as per its due diligence to admit the expenditure.

5. Procedure for filing and disbursement of claims-

- 5.1. Educational institutes which desire to claim incentives under this scheme shall submit the application form to SPC along with requisite set of documents. The form and the documents are to be e-mailed or to be submitted on the web portal to the SPC.
- 5.2. Based on the evaluation of the SPC, the approved amount shall be disbursed.
- 5.3. The SPC shall be the competent authority to solely accept or reject any claims filed by the educational institutes. The decision of the SPC shall be final and binding.
- 5.4. The applicant can apply for this scheme at any time of the financial year but only within 6 months of incurring the relevant expenditure.
- 5.5. The applicant can take the benefit of this scheme only one time in whole of the policy period for a period of two consecutive years.
- 5.6. The applicant can avail the benefits of this scheme quarterly/ bi- annually/ annually.
- 5.7. The applications received by the SPC under this scheme shall be evaluated and approval or rejection shall be notified within 45 days from receipt of the application by the SPC. Once the application is approved by the SPC, the approved amount shall be disbursed within 60 days from the date of approval.

Trademark Reimbursement Scheme

Goa Start-up Policy 2017

1. Preamble to the Policy

Government has approved and notified the Goa Start-up Policy 2017 with a vision to make Goa one of the most preferred start-up destinations of India. The objective of the policy is to make Goa an aspirational geographical and human resource base for Start-ups. The objective is to invite the best entrepreneurial minds and build a robust start-up eco-system in the State. The policy contains various incentives for Start-ups and to avail the benefits of these incentives, the Government has proposed many schemes under the policy.

2. Short title and commencement-

This scheme shall be called “Trademark Reimbursement Scheme”.

3. Benefits under the scheme-

- 3.1. For start-ups which have successfully entered the production/service delivery phase, and want to trademark their company name and logo, 50% of the cost of trade-mark registration of their company name and logo will be reimbursed up to INR 25,000/-.
- 3.2. The benefits of this scheme can be availed by up to 200 applicants per year which shall be selected by the SPC as per its guidelines.
- 3.3. Under no circumstance shall the benefits under this scheme be considered an entitlement. The SPC shall reserve the sole right to accept/reject applications.

4. Eligibility-

- 4.1. All the Start-ups certified by the Start-up Promotion Cell (SPC) having a valid start-up certificate number are eligible to apply for this scheme.
- 4.2. The bank accounts of the Directors of the company should be linked to Aadhaar.
- 4.3. The start-up must have successfully registered its trademark.
- 4.4. Only expenditure incurred after notification of Goa Start-up Policy 2017, being within the validity of this policy and paid for digitally would be considered for reimbursement under this scheme. In case digital payments are not possible then it shall be up to the decision of SPC based on its due diligence to admit the expenditure.

5. Procedure for filing and disbursement of claims-

- 5.1. Start-ups who desire to claim incentives under this scheme shall submit the application form to SPC along with requisite set of documents. The form and the documents are to be e-mailed or to be submitted on the web portal to the SPC.
- 5.2. Based on the SPC's evaluation of the application and documents submitted, the approved amount shall be reimbursed.
- 5.3. The SPC shall be the competent authority to solely accept or reject any claims filed by the Start-ups. The decision of the SPC shall be final and binding.
- 5.4. The applicant can apply for this scheme at any time of the financial year but only within 6 months of incurring the relevant expenditure.
- 5.5. The applications received by the SPC under this scheme shall be evaluated and approval or rejection shall be notified within 45 days from receipt of the application by the SPC. Once the application is approved by the SPC, the approved amount shall be disbursed within 60 days from the date of approval.

Reimbursement of Expenses for Startups Operating from Leased/ Privately Owned Premises Scheme Goa Start-up Policy 2017

1. Preamble to the Policy

Government has approved and notified the Goa Start-up Policy 2017 with a vision to make Goa one of the most preferred start-up destinations of India. The objective of the policy is to make Goa an aspirational geographical and human resource base for Start-ups. The objective is to invite the best entrepreneurial minds and build a robust start-up eco-system in the State. The policy contains various incentives for Start-ups and to avail the benefits of these incentives, the Government has proposed many schemes under the policy.

2. Short title and commencement-

This scheme shall be called “Reimbursement of Expenses for Startups Operating from Leased/Privately Owned Premises Scheme”.

3. Benefits under the scheme-

3.1. For start-ups that operate from privately owned premises-

3.1.1. The cost towards internet connectivity, software license fees, and cloud services fee, will be reimbursed subject to an upper limit of INR 1 lakh per quarter for a period of one year. This benefit can be availed by 20 start-ups each year which shall be selected by the SPC as per its guidelines.

3.2. For start-ups that operate from rented premises,

3.2.1. The cost towards internet connectivity, software license fees, and cloud services fee, will be reimbursed subject to an upper limit of INR 1 lakh per quarter for a period of one year. This benefit can be availed by 20 start-ups each year which shall be selected by the SPC as per its guidelines.

3.2.2. For local start-ups which operate out of rented premises, a lease rental subsidy of up to INR 20/- per square foot per month will be reimbursed quarterly for a period of up to two years. This incentive is subject to a cap of INR 3 lakh per annum and can be availed by 25 start-ups each year which shall be selected by the SPC as per its guidelines.

3.3. A start-up can only avail the benefits either as per clause 3.1 or clause 3.2 at any given time.

3.4. Under no circumstance shall the benefits under this scheme be considered an entitlement. The SPC shall reserve the sole right to accept or reject applications.

4. Eligibility-

- 4.1. All Start-ups certified by the Start-up Promotion Cell (SPC) having a valid start-up certificate number which are not using any government developed co-working spaces/ incubators/ accelerators for their operations are eligible to apply for this scheme.
- 4.2. The bank accounts of the Directors of the company should be linked to Aadhaar.
- 4.3. The benefits of lease rental subsidy are applicable only for Local start-ups and only for a period of two years.
- 4.4. Only expenditure incurred after notification of Goa Start-up Policy 2017, being within the validity of this policy and paid for digitally will be considered for reimbursements under this scheme. In case digital payments are not possible then it shall be up to the SPC to admit the expenditure as per its guidelines.

Provided that for the purpose of this scheme "Local start-up" shall mean a start-up in which at least 50% equity/share is held by one or more Goans continuously since the time of inception.

Provided also that for the purpose of this scheme the term "Goan" shall mean:

- 1. Person born in the State of Goa; or,*
- 2. Person having domicile for 10 years or more in the State; or,*
- 3. Spouse of a person covered under any of the conditions mentioned in (1.) and (2.), through marriages registered in Goa*

5. Procedure for filing and disbursement of claims-

- 5.1. Start-ups who desire to claim incentives under this scheme shall submit the application form to SPC along with requisite set of documents. The form and the documents are to be e-mailed or to be submitted on the web portal to the SPC.
- 5.2. Based on the evaluation of the SPC, the approved amount shall be reimbursed.
- 5.3. The SPC shall be the competent authority to solely accept or reject any claims filed by the Start-ups. The decision of the SPC shall be final and binding.
- 5.4. The applicant can apply for this scheme at any time of the financial year but only within 6 months of incurring the relevant expenditure.
- 5.5. The applicant can avail the benefits of this scheme bi- annually/ annually.
- 5.6. The applications received by the SPC under this scheme shall be evaluated and approval or rejection shall be notified within 45 days from receipt of the application by the SPC. Once the application is approved by the SPC, the approved amount shall be disbursed within 60 days from the date of approval.

Grant for Incubation Centers within Educational Institutes Scheme

Goa Start-up Policy 2017

1. Preamble to the Policy

Government has approved and notified the Goa Start-up Policy 2017 with a vision to make Goa one of the most preferred start-up destinations of India. The objective of the policy is to make Goa an aspirational geographical and human resource base for Start-ups. The objective is to invite the best entrepreneurial minds and build a robust start-up eco-system in the State. The policy contains various incentives for Start-ups and to avail the benefits of these incentives, the Government has proposed many schemes under the policy.

2. Short title and commencement-

This scheme shall be called “Grant for Incubation Centers within educational Institutes Scheme”.

3. Benefits under the scheme-

- 3.1. All educational institutes in Goa, affiliated to a recognized public university, can avail a one-time grant of up to INR 10 lakh towards capital expenses, for setting up of an incubator within their institute campuses. The educational institutes with existing incubation facilities can also avail the grant for capital expenses for further expansion of incubation facilities. Maximum number of institutes to avail this benefit cannot exceed 15 per year. The institutes claiming the benefits under this scheme cannot restrict the incubation facilities only to the students of their institute.
- 3.2. The educational institutes with existing incubation facilities will also be provided a grant of up to INR 3 lakh per year, for a period of three years, towards operational expenses. The preference will be given to well performing applicants.
- 3.3. Under no circumstance shall the benefits under this scheme be considered an entitlement. The SPC shall reserve the sole right to accept or reject applications.

4. Eligibility-

- 4.1. All the educational institutes in Goa, affiliated to a recognized public university are eligible to apply for this scheme.
- 4.2. The bank account of the Principal/ Director of the institute should be linked to Aadhaar.
- 4.3. For the purpose of determining eligible expenses towards capital expenses, Accounting Standard 10² for Fixed Assets by Institute of Cost Accountants of India would be used.

² http://www.mca.gov.in/Ministry/notification/pdf/AS_10.pdf

5. Procedure for filing and disbursement of claims-

- 5.1. The educational institutes that desire to claim incentives under this scheme shall submit the application form to SPC along with requisite set of documents. The form and the documents are to be e-mailed or to be submitted on the web portal to the SPC.
- 5.2. Applicants applying within first 3 years of the policy period only will be considered for one time grant.
- 5.3. The SPC shall be the competent authority to solely accept or reject any claims filed by the incubators. The decision of the SPC shall be final and binding.
- 5.4. The applications received by the SPC under this scheme shall be evaluated and approval or rejection shall be notified within 45 days from receipt of the application by the SPC. Once the application is approved by the SPC, the approved amount shall be disbursed within 60 days from the date of approval.

Interest Subsidy Reimbursement Scheme

Goa Start-up Policy 2017

1. Preamble to the Policy

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2. Short title and commencement-

This scheme shall be called “Interest Subsidy Reimbursement Scheme”.

3. Benefits under the scheme-

- 3.1. Up to 3 projects which show immense promise and potential, as recommended by the Startup Promotion Cell, will be eligible for grant of 30% of loan interest amount, for the purpose of repayment of the interest component of a loan availed, up to INR 5 lakh per annum, for an initial period of two years only.
- 3.2. Other Start-ups shall be eligible for an interest repayment grant of 10% of the interest amount of a loan availed, up to INR 2 lakh per year, for a period of two years. This benefit can be availed by 40 start-ups each year which shall be selected by the SPC as per its guidelines.
- 3.3. This amount will be in addition to any other interest subsidy or loan provided under Chief Minister Rojgar Yojana (CMRY).
- 3.4. Under no circumstance shall the benefits under this scheme be considered an entitlement. The SPC shall reserve the sole right to accept or reject applications.

4. Eligibility-

- 4.1. All the Start-ups certified by the Start-up Promotion Cell (SPC) having a valid start-up certificate number are eligible to apply for this scheme.
- 4.2. The bank accounts of the Directors of the company should be linked to Aadhaar.
- 4.3. Only expenditure incurred after notification of Goa Start-up Policy 2017 within the validity of this policy and paid for digitally would be considered for reimbursements under this scheme. In case digital payments are not possible then it shall be up to the decision of SPC as per its due diligence to admit the expenditure.

5. Procedure for filing and disbursement of claims-

- 5.1. Start-ups who desire to claim incentives under this scheme shall submit the application form to SPC along with requisite set of documents. The form and the documents are to be e-mailed or to be submitted on the web portal to the SPC.
- 5.2. Based on the evaluation of the SPC, the approved amount shall be reimbursed.
- 5.3. The SPC shall be the competent authority to solely accept or reject any claims filed by the Start-ups. The decision of the SPC shall be final and binding.
- 5.4. The applicant can apply for this scheme at any time of the financial year but only within 6 months of incurring the relevant expenditure.
- 5.5. The applicant can avail the benefits of this scheme bi- annually/ annually.
- 5.6. The applications received by the SPC under this scheme shall be evaluated and approval or rejection shall be notified within 45 days from receipt of the application by the SPC. Once the application is approved by the SPC, the approved amount shall be disbursed within 60 days from the date of approval.

Seed Capital Scheme

Goa Start-up Policy 2017

1. Preamble to the Policy

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2. Short title and commencement-

This scheme shall be called “Seed Capital Scheme”.

3. Benefits under the scheme-

- 3.1. Start-ups with a promising idea can get a one-time grant of up-to INR 10 lakh, as determined by the Start-up Promotion Cell (SPC).
- 3.2. This incentive can be availed by 100 start-ups each year which will be selected by the SPC as per its due diligence and guidelines.
- 3.3. Under no circumstance shall the benefits under this scheme be considered an entitlement. The SPC shall reserve the sole right to accept or reject applications.

4. Eligibility-

- 4.1. All the Start-ups certified by the Start-up Promotion Cell (SPC) having a valid start-up certificate number are eligible to apply for this scheme.
- 4.2. The bank accounts of the Directors of the company should be linked to Aadhaar.

5. Procedure for filing and disbursement of claims-

- 5.1. Start-ups who desire to claim incentives under this scheme shall submit the application form to SPC along with requisite set of documents. The form and the documents are to be e-mailed or to be submitted on the web portal to the SPC.
- 5.2. Based on the evaluation of the SPC, the approved amount shall be disbursed.
- 5.3. The SPC shall be the competent authority to solely accept or reject any claims filed by the Start-ups. The decision of the SPC shall be final and binding.
- 5.4. The applicant can apply for this scheme at any time of the financial year.
- 5.5. Upon successful completion of MVP, the applicant will notify the cell of the same and submit feedback from 100 first users within 3 months from completion.
- 5.6. The applications received by the SPC under this scheme shall be evaluated and approval or rejection shall be notified within 45 days from receipt of the application by the SPC. Once the application is approved by the SPC, the approved amount shall be disbursed within 60 days from the date of approval.
- 5.7. In order to obtain further benefits, the applicant will document the journey to the MVP, user feedback, obstacles faced during the journey and means to overcome the same, and furnish the same before the SPC within 5 months from the date of availing the incentive under this scheme. This document will be used by the SPC to conduct a performance evaluation of the applicant.

Skill Development Fee Reimbursement Scheme Goa Start-up Policy 2017

1. Preamble to the Policy

Government has approved and notified the Goa Start-up Policy 2017 with a vision to make Goa one of the most preferred start-up destinations of India. The objective of the policy is to make Goa an aspirational geographical and human resource base for Start-ups. The objective is to invite the best entrepreneurial minds and build a robust start-up eco-system in the State. The policy contains various incentives for Start-ups and to avail the benefits of these incentives, the Government has proposed many schemes under the policy.

2. Short title and commencement-

This scheme shall be called “Skill Development Fee Reimbursement Scheme”.

3. Benefits under the scheme-

- 3.1. Startup Promotion Cell (SPC) will reimburse 50% of the fees up to INR 50,000/- (Fifty Thousand Only) to the students who have successfully completed an SPC approved technical skill training program in any of the domains mentioned in the Goa Start-up Policy 2017 and outlined in Annexure 2 to this scheme document, attended in a Goan educational institute.
- 3.2. The benefits of this scheme can be availed by up to 1000 students per year. However, this cap can be reviewed and revised based on the need in future.
- 3.3. A student can avail the benefits of this scheme for any two courses in a year.
- 3.4. Under no circumstance shall the benefits under this scheme be considered an entitlement. The SPC shall reserve the sole right to accept or reject applications.

Provided that for the purpose of this scheme “Goan educational institute” means an institute registered or operating in Goa.

Provided also that for the purpose of this scheme the term “student” refers to a person satisfying at least one of the following criteria:

- 1. Person born in the State of Goa and studying in Goa or outside Goa; or,*
- 2. Person having domicile for 10 years or more in the State and studying in Goa or outside Goa; or,*
- 3. Person who is not a State domicile but is studying in the educational institutes in the State.*

4. Eligibility-

- 4.1. The educational institute must be incorporated in Goa or have a registered place of business in Goa.
- 4.2. The technical skill training program must be approved by SPC and should fall under any of the technical domains mentioned in Goa Start-up Policy 2017 and outlined in Annexure 2 to this scheme document.
- 4.3. Students, who are currently pursuing their graduation or are within two years from receiving their graduate degree within the original stipulated period of study, can enroll for these programs.
- 4.4. Only expenditure incurred after notification of Goa Start-up Policy 2017, being within the validity of this policy and paid for digitally will be considered for reimbursements under this scheme. In case digital payments are not possible, then it shall be up to the decision of SPC as per its due diligence to admit the expenditure.

5. Procedure for filing and disbursement of claims-

- 5.1. The students who desire to claim incentives under this scheme shall submit the application form to SPC along with certificate of course completion and other requisite set of documents. The form and the documents are to be e-mailed or to be submitted on the web portal to the SPC.
- 5.2. Based on the evaluation of the SPC, the approved amount shall be reimbursed.
- 5.3. The SPC shall be the competent authority to solely accept or reject any claims filed by the students. The decision of the SPC shall be final and binding.
- 5.4. The applicant can apply for this scheme at any time of the financial year but only within 6 months of incurring the relevant expenditure.
- 5.5. The applications received by the SPC under this scheme shall be evaluated and approval or rejection shall be notified within 45 days from receipt of the application by the SPC. Once the application is approved by the SPC, the approved amount shall be disbursed within 60 days from the date of approval.

Stamp Duty Reimbursement Scheme

Goa Start-up Policy 2017

1. Preamble to the Policy

Government has approved and notified the Goa Start-up Policy 2017 with a vision to make Goa one of the most preferred start-up destinations of India. The objective of the policy is to make Goa an aspirational geographical and human resource base for Start-ups. The objective is to invite the best entrepreneurial minds and build a robust start-up eco-system in the State. The policy contains various incentives for Start-ups and to avail the benefits of these incentives, the Government has proposed many schemes under the policy.

2. Short title and commencement-

This scheme shall be called “Stamp Duty Reimbursement Scheme”.

3. Benefits under the scheme-

- 3.1. In case of land/ developed area purchased/ leased by Start-ups/ incubators/ accelerators, the stamp duty for land area lease/ sale transaction for start-ups / incubators/ accelerators will not exceed INR 100/-, and the excess amount paid to the authorities concerned will be reimbursed.
- 3.2. A start-up is eligible only once to avail the benefits of this scheme.
- 3.3. In case of incubator/accelerator, this amount shall be paid after a period of three years of successful operation. This can be relaxed in case of a company that is in the business of making incubators.
- 3.4. Up to 100 start-ups can avail the benefits of this scheme per year. These start-ups will be selected by the SPC as per its guidelines.
- 3.5. Under no circumstance shall the benefits under this scheme be considered an entitlement. The SPC shall reserve the sole right to accept or reject applications.

4. Eligibility-

- 4.1. All the Start-ups certified by the Start-up Promotion Cell (SPC) having a valid start-up certificate number, and incubators & accelerators enlisted with Start-up Promotion Cell (SPC) are eligible to apply for this scheme once in their lifetime.
- 4.2. The bank accounts of the Directors of the company should be linked to Aadhaar.
- 4.3. Only expenditure incurred from one year before the notification of Goa Start-up Policy 2017, being within the validity of this policy and paid for digitally would be considered for reimbursement under this scheme. In case digital payments are not possible then it shall be up to the SPC as per its due diligence to admit the expenditure.

5. Procedure for filing and disbursement of claims-

- 5.1. Applicants shall submit the application form to SPC along with requisite set of documents. The form and the documents are to be e-mailed or to be submitted on the web portal to the SPC.
- 5.2. Based on the evaluation of the SPC, the approved amount shall be reimbursed.
- 5.3. The SPC shall be the competent authority to solely accept or reject any claims filed by the applicants. The decision of the SPC shall be final and binding.
- 5.4. The applications received by the SPC under this scheme shall be evaluated and approval or rejection shall be notified within 45 days from receipt of the application by the SPC. Once the application is approved by the SPC, the approved amount shall be disbursed within 60 days from the date of approval.

Salary Reimbursement Scheme

Goa Start-up Policy 2017

1. Preamble to the Policy

Government has approved and notified the Goa Start-up Policy 2017 with a vision to make Goa one of the most preferred start-up destinations of India. The objective of the policy is to make Goa an aspirational geographical and human resource base for Start-ups. The objective is to invite the best entrepreneurial minds and build a robust start-up eco-system in the State. The policy contains various incentives for Start-ups and to avail the benefits of these incentives, the Government has proposed many schemes under the policy.

2. Short title and commencement-

This scheme shall be called “Salary Reimbursement Scheme”.

3. Benefits under the scheme-

- 3.1. For start-ups hiring local talent, 50% of the salary of fresher will be reimbursed, subject to a cap of INR 10,000 per month per recruit. A start-up can claim salary of maximum 25 people per month for a period of 3 years. This benefit can be availed by 100 start-ups each year which shall be selected by the SPC as per its guidelines.
- 3.2. For start-ups whose work force comprises of 60% of locals, up to 25% of salary of the local workforce subject to cap of INR 25 lakh per year will be reimbursed for 3 years. A start-up can claim salary of maximum 25 people. This benefit can be availed by 100 start-ups each year which shall be selected by the SPC as per its guidelines.
- 3.3. Under no circumstance shall the benefits under this scheme be considered an entitlement. The SPC shall reserve the sole right to accept or reject applications.

4. Eligibility-

- 4.1. All the Start-ups certified by the Start-up Promotion Cell (SPC) having a valid start-up certificate number are eligible to apply for this scheme.
- 4.2. The employees should be hired for a period of at least 12 months.
- 4.3. For availing the benefit under clause 3.1, the employee/s whose salary is being claimed for reimbursement must be an IT professional/s.
- 4.4. The bank accounts of employees should be linked to Aadhaar.
- 4.5. The bank accounts of the Directors of the company should be linked to Aadhaar.
- 4.6. Only expenditure incurred after notification of Goa Start-up Policy 2017, being within the validity of this policy and paid for digitally will be considered for reimbursements under this scheme. In case digital payments are not possible then it shall be up to the decision of SPC as per its due diligence to admit the expenditure.

Provided that 'employees' shall mean all employees for whom a reimbursement is being claimed.

Provided further that 'freshers' shall mean IT professionals who have completed their graduation within the stipulated period of study and not more than two years have elapsed since the completion of study.

Provided further that 'IT professional' shall mean any person directly involved in developing any Information Technology enabled product/s or service/s.

Provided further that the term 'Local' refers to a person satisfying at least one of the following criteria:

- 1. Person born in the State of Goa; or,*
- 2. Person having domicile for 10 years or more in the State; or,*
- 3. Spouse of a person covered under any of the conditions mentioned in (1.) and (2.), through marriages registered in Goa.*

5. Procedure for filing and disbursement of claims-

- 5.1. Start-ups who desire to claim incentives under this scheme shall submit the application form to SPC along with requisite set of documents. The form and the documents are to be e-mailed or to be submitted on the web portal to the SPC.
- 5.2. Based on the evaluation of the employment documents, the approved amount shall be reimbursed by the SPC.
- 5.3. The SPC shall be the competent authority to solely accept or reject any claims filed by the Start-ups. The decision of the SPC shall be final and binding.
- 5.4. The applicant can apply for this scheme at any time of the financial year after incurring the relevant expenditure.
- 5.5. The applicant can avail the benefits of this scheme bi-annually/ annually.
- 5.6. The applications received by the SPC under this scheme shall be evaluated and approval or rejection shall be notified within 45 days from receipt of the application by the SPC. Once the application is approved by the SPC, the approved amount shall be disbursed within 60 days from the date of approval.

Co-working Space Subsidy Scheme

Goa Start-up Policy 2017

1. Preamble to the Policy

Government has approved and notified the Goa Start-up Policy 2017 with a vision to make Goa one of the most preferred start-up destinations of India. The objective of the policy is to make Goa an aspirational geographical and human resource base for Start-ups. The objective is to invite the best entrepreneurial minds and build a robust start-up eco-system in the State. The policy contains various incentives for Start-ups and to avail the benefits of these incentives, the Government has proposed many schemes under the policy.

2. Short title and commencement-

This scheme shall be called “Co-Working Space/ Incubators/ Accelerators Subsidy Scheme”.

3. Benefits under the scheme-

- 3.1. Start-ups will be reimbursed a fixed amount for the seats occupied by them at co-working spaces/ incubators/ accelerators listed by the SPC. The benefits at the co-working spaces can be availed maximum for a period of two years per startup, at incubators can be availed maximum for a period of 1 year per startup and at accelerators will be for a period of 3 months per startup.
- 3.2. The startup will be reimbursed 50% per seat cost offered by the co-working spaces listed by the SPC or a maximum benefit of INR 3000 per seat and can claim this benefit for a maximum cap of 8 seats only.
- 3.3. The startup will be reimbursed 50% per seat cost offered by the incubators listed by the SPC or a maximum benefit of INR 5000 per seat and can claim this benefit for a maximum cap of 8 seats only.
- 3.4. The startup will be reimbursed 50% per seat cost offered by accelerators listed by the SPC or a maximum benefit of INR 6000 per seat and can claim this benefit for a maximum cap of 8 seats only.
- 3.5. The reimbursement in this scheme can be claimed on any of the plans offered by the co-working spaces/ incubators/ accelerators listed by the SPC.
- 3.6. A total of 100 seats in co-working, 50 seats each in incubator and accelerator will be subsidized under this scheme each year.
- 3.7. For certain deserving startups determined through the internal guidelines of the SPC, the SPC may choose to reimburse up to 100% of the amount paid to co-working/incubator/accelerator by the startups.
- 3.8. Under no circumstance shall the benefits under this scheme be considered an entitlement. The SPC shall reserve the sole right to accept or reject applications.

4. Eligibility-

- 4.1. Start-ups certified by the Start-up Promotion Cell (SPC) are eligible for the benefits of subsidized seats offered by the co-working spaces/ incubators/ accelerators listed by the SPC.
- 4.2. All the startups have to pay digitally to co-working spaces/ incubators/ accelerators listed by the SPC. In case digital payments are not possible then it shall be up to the decision of SPC as per its guidelines to admit the expenditure.
- 4.3. The bank accounts of the start-ups should be linked to Aadhaar.

5. Procedure for filing and disbursement of claims-

- 5.1. Start-ups who desire to claim incentives under this scheme shall submit the application form to SPC along with requisite set of documents. The form and the documents are to be e-mailed or to be submitted on the web portal to the SPC.
- 5.2. Based on the evaluation of the SPC, the approved amount shall be reimbursed to the startups.
- 5.3. Admission to incubator/ accelerator will be governed by the rules set by the incubator/ accelerator.
- 5.4. The SPC shall be the competent authority to solely accept or reject any claims filed by the Start-ups. The decision of the SPC shall be final and binding.
- 5.5. The applicant can apply for this scheme at any time of the financial year but only within 6 months of incurring the relevant expenditure.
- 5.6. The applications received by the SPC under this scheme shall be evaluated and approval or rejection shall be notified within 45 days from receipt of the application by the SPC. Once The application is approved by the SPC, the approved amount shall be disbursed within 60 days from the date of approval.

Technology Fellowship and Patent Promotion Scheme

Goa Start-up Policy 2017

1. Preamble to the Policy-

Government has approved and notified the Goa Start-up Policy 2017 with a vision to make Goa one of the most preferred start-up destinations of India. The objective of the policy is to make Goa an aspirational geographical and human resource base for Start-ups. The objective is to invite the best entrepreneurial minds and building a robust start-up eco-system in the State.

2. Short title and commencement-

This scheme shall be called “Technology Fellowship and Patent Promotion Scheme”.

3. Benefits under the scheme-

- 3.1. The Start-up Promotion Cell (SPC) shall run a technology fellowship program to identify technology educators in technical educational institutes in Goa who are keen to further their expertise in the following areas:
 - 3.1.1. Internet of things
 - 3.1.2. Artificial intelligence
 - 3.1.3. Machine Learning
 - 3.1.4. Interaction Design
 - 3.1.5. Big Data Analytics
 - 3.1.6. Robotics
 - 3.1.7. 3-D Printing
 - 3.1.8. Data Science
 - 3.1.9. Drones
 - 3.1.10. Virtual Reality/Augmented Reality/Merged Reality
 - 3.1.11. Others (subject to approval from SPC)
- 3.2. The selected educators/fellows would be sent to Centres of Excellence within the country and abroad to undertake summer school and short term training programs to further their learning in their area of specialization.
- 3.3. For the purpose of this fellowship, the SPC shall identify and enlist institutes/universities and their programs/courses.
- 3.4. The Department of IT will endeavor to set-up Centres of Excellence/ Advanced Maker Labs, in the technologies outlined above, in select technical educational institutes. Such selected educators/fellows will be required to function as Master Trainers/Principal Mentors to students and student start-ups that would be incubated in such facilities.
- 3.5. Such selected educators/fellows will submit a work plan to execute the statement of purpose.
- 3.6. The educators/fellows upon selection would receive an educational grant of INR 10 lakh per year, for a period of five years.
- 3.7. The benefit of this scheme can be availed by up to ten educators/ fellows per year with one person in each focus area, who will be selected by the SPC as per its guidelines.

- 3.8. In case such educators/fellows generate and get any business and value driven patents registered, in her/his area of specialization, either through individual research or in collaboration with students, such fellows shall be eligible to receive a patent specific grant of up to INR 15 lakh, subject to certification by the Start-up Promotion Cell (SPC).
- 3.9. Under no circumstance shall the benefits under this scheme be considered an entitlement. The SPC shall reserve the sole right to accept or reject applications.

4. Eligibility-

- 4.1. All technology educators in technical educational institutes in Goa.

5. Procedure for filing and disbursement of claims-

- 5.1. For the purpose of availing the benefits of this scheme, interested educators may apply directly to the SPC under this scheme in the prescribed format along with a statement of purpose and a work plan to execute the same.
- 5.2. The applications will be then evaluated by the SPC and a panel of evaluators constituted for the purpose. Upon evaluation, applicants will be shortlisted for interview and presentation before the SPC and the panel of evaluators.
- 5.3. The applicants should make themselves available for interview before the SPC on the date communicated by the SPC.
- 5.4. Based on evaluation, the SPC shall select one educator in each of the focus areas who will be granted the fellowship.
- 5.5. The applicants who have been so selected by the SPC should apply and secure admission to a recognized summer/winter/FPD course in any of the areas mentioned in clause 3.1 hereto, by whatsoever name called, and offered by any of the institutes/ universities/ programmes listed by SPC.
- 5.6. The SPC shall be the competent authority to solely accept or reject any claims filed by the applicants. The decision of the SPC shall be final and binding.
- 5.7. The right to take suo moto cognizance of a research thesis and/or educator for the purpose of this fellowship shall vest in the SPC.
- 5.8. The applicants can apply for this scheme at any time of the year, however, the application must be submitted in alignment with the deadlines of the programme for which the applicant wishes to secure admission to provide adequate time to the SPC to make its evaluations and release funds.
- 5.9. The applicants shall submit a grant utilization certificate within 3 months of course completion and return all unutilized amount to the SPC, if any.
- 5.10. In the event of acceptance of the educator to a follow-up course or session of the original program attended by them under this fellowship scheme, the educator shall apply to the SPC again in the prescribed format to avail the permissions to attend the program. The further funding in this case if required under this scheme shall be disbursed based on special permission from the high powered State Committee.
- 5.11. The benefits under this scheme shall be available to the applicants for follow-up courses up to a duration of five years, however, the right to grant recurring benefits shall lie solely with the SPC.
- 5.12. An applicant can avail the benefits of this scheme for the purpose of patent registration only one time in the entire policy period.
- 5.13. In the event that the educators/fellows generate and get any business and value driven patents registered, in her/his area of specialization, either through individual research or in collaboration with students, they shall apply to the SPC in the prescribed format to avail benefits of the patent promotion scheme. The SPC shall release funds to the applicants based on its evaluation of the application, and the relevance and profitability of the patent.

- 5.14. Along with the application for the fellowship, the applicants shall furnish the bond mentioned in Annexure 3 with the SPC.
- 5.15. The applications received by the SPC under this scheme shall be evaluated and approval or rejection shall be notified within 45 days from receipt of the application by the SPC. Once the application is approved by the SPC, the approved amount shall be disbursed within 60 days from the date of approval.

