



# Sadakathullah Appa College

\*An Autonomous Institution, Re-Accredited by NAAC at an 'A' Grade, \*ISO 9001 : 2015 Certified\*

## INSTITUTION INNOVATION AND STARTUP POLICY



# **INSTITUTION INNOVATION AND STARTUP POLICY**

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

The policy on innovation and startups has been framed with a view to promoting innovation and initiating a startup ecosystem at Sadakathullah Appa College for Higher Level Learning. This policy provides guidelines on how to promote and encourage the entrepreneurship culture and spirit of innovation among the students and the faculty of Sadakathullah Appa College.

The policy will assist Sadakathullah Appa College in achieving its mission of creating industry-ready professionals with the requisite skill sets, social / moral responsibilities and the ability to address the current issues with innovative solutions. The policy will reflect on the Institution's Vision of emerging as an Institution of Excellence for research, teaching and learning.

## **2. SCOPE OF THE POLICY**

- a. The policy shall be applicable to all the stakeholders of Sadakathullah Appa College who are involved with the purpose of knowledge creation, innovative research, novel technologies, and developing new solutions. The term 'stakeholders' here refers to students, research scholars, faculty, staff or anyone else associated with Sadakathullah Appa College.
- b. The primary focus of the policy shall be developing and encouraging the stakeholders to participate in the pre-incubation processes which could lead to innovation and in the long term, creation of startups and entrepreneurs.
- c. In the short term, the policy shall focus on intermediate goals like capacity building, orienting the relevant stakeholders towards an innovative-ecosystem/-entrepreneurship, development of technologies and creation of patentable properties relevant to the industry and the society.



- d. This policy is subject to change to keep in pace with national, regional and institutional visions.

### **3. GOVERNANCE AND RESOURCES**

#### **a. Governance:**

- I. Implementation of this policy will be the prerogatory of the Institution's Innovation Council (IIC), chaired by the Head of the Institution.
- II. The governance of the policy and all entrepreneurship/innovation activities shall be under the supervision of the Coordinator of the IIC.
- III. The roles and responsibilities of the Coordinator shall be as briefly outlined below:
  - a) The Coordinator shall ensure that the policy is implemented in accordance with its letter and spirit.
  - b) The Coordinator shall ensure planning and execution of Innovation and Entrepreneurship (I&E) related activities in achieving the policy's stated objectives.
  - c) The Coordinator shall maintain all records pertaining to I&E activities.
  - d) The Coordinator shall represent Sadakathullah Appa College in all external interactions with other institutions and other Parties where Innovation and Entrepreneurship (I&E) activities are concerned.
- IV. The Coordinator of the Institute Innovation Council (IIC) shall plan and execute various activities that shall be considered as appropriate to encourage the growth of entrepreneurial and innovative spirit among the faculty and students.

#### **b. Monitoring and evaluation of the policy:**

- I. The IIC shall ensure that the Ministry of Education's activity calendar for IICs is carried out and complied with every Academic Year.

II. The IIC shall ensure that the policy implementation is carried out based on the following activities. The activities will closely match those indicated in the framework of Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation Achievements (ARIIA):

- a) Conduct activities to enhance the innovative and entrepreneurial culture.
- b) Encourage and work closely with the Curriculum Development Cell and Chairpersons of different boards of Sadakathullah Appa College to design courses and electives related to innovation and entrepreneurship.
- c) Create and maintain dedicated infrastructure and facilities for aiding innovation and entrepreneurship.
- d) Encourage innovations and ideas through participation in innovation challenges and hackathons – both within Sadakathullah Appa College and outside of Sadakathullah Appa College.
- e) Facilitate pre-incubation programmes to take ideas to startup stage and to encourage them to participate in contests.
- f) Facilitate filing and obtaining of IPRs and encourage their commercialization.

c. **Resources:**

I. The IIC of Sadakathullah Appa College may prepare an operational budget for the academic year based on the activities that it plans to conduct.

II. Apart from the activities, funding support to student innovators working on their ideas may also be provided.

- a) For this purpose, student-teams may make a presentation of the Project Proposal to the IIC committee with their projected expenses.
- b) The IIC Committee shall then consider the quantum and duration of support, based on the presentation and periodic reviews. The funds sanctioned to student- teams working on innovative ideas may be used only for mentoring fees, use of lab equipment, consultancy charges, use of technology and a few other contingencies, as will be decided by the IIC of Sadakathullah Appa College.



- III. Apart from its own resources, Sadakathullah Appa College may consider mobilizing additional resources through conducting Management Development Programmes (MDPs) and other training programmes related to Entrepreneurship Development (EDPs).
- a) In this case, different departments have the freedom to plan and conduct their own MDPs and training programmes as per their individual expertise.
  - b) They may also decide to do it jointly. It is advised that the departments together plan the calendar of events so as to avoid repetition of similar programmes in short durations.
  - c) Revenue sharing shall be as decided by the Head of the Institution.
- IV. External funding through government (state and central) such as DST, DBT, MoE, AICTE, TDB, TIFAC, DSIR, CSIR, BIRAC, NSTEDB, NRDC, Startup India, Invest India, MeitY, MSDE, MSME etc., may also be tapped to explore support funding at the appropriate time.
- V. Private and corporate sectors may be approached to generate funds, under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR).
- VI. Sponsorship and donations may be obtained from business entities and also alumni networks.

#### **4. INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES**

The policy shall focus on infrastructure facilities and support innovation and entrepreneurship activities leading up to the pre-incubation phase.

- a. A Pre-incubation Facility comprising of work-benches, desktops, Wi-fi facility, Audio- Visual equipment and discussion facility shall be established. This Facility can be minimal (about the size of a classroom) and may be expanded as per necessity. Technology show- case facilities shall also be created.
- b. The dedicated Facility will encourage students to meet, plan, discuss and work on their ideas. The facility can also be used to encourage virtual interaction with external mentors on matters related to ideas being worked on.
- c. Laboratory Facilities will be shared with the IIC as per the prescribed regulations.

## **5. NURTURING INNOVATIONS AND STARTUPS**

Students and faculty will be encouraged to participate in innovation and entrepreneurial activities.

- a. Support will be provided within the scopes of this policy to pre-incubate startups for licensing of and filing of IPR, business planning, feasibility studies, technology mentoring and other services through the parent institution or the partnering institution/incubator.
- b. Students who wish to work on their ideas for startups may opt to defer their academics by a prescribed period of time. A committee shall be established by the IIC which shall examine the merit of the request and recommend the same to the head of the institution. Students wishing to avail this facility may apply to the relevant authorities, once recommended by the IIC. Student may also be given credit of attendance for the participation in MDPs/ EDPs.
- c. Student entrepreneurs may earn academic credits while working on their startup ideas and/or developing their Minimum Viable Product (MVP). The credit transfer mechanism will have to be framed by office of the COE of Sadakathullah Appa College.
- d. Faculty who are working on their startup ideas, participating in EDPs etc. and are involved with innovation and entrepreneurial activities may be given leave as per the existing rules of Sadakathullah Appa College.
- e. Services lent by faculty members towards mentoring / providing consultancy to the pre-incubates / startups or involvement in innovation and entrepreneurial activities may be considered for the API of the faculty.

## **6. COLLABORATION, CO-CREATION AND KNOWLEDGE SHARING**

The IIC of Sadakathullah Appa College shall seek to create active collaborations with established incubators, R&D institutions, recognized organizations, other academic institutions and any other body which may help further its pursuit of establishing an entrepreneurial spirit. The purpose could be as indicated below, though it may not be



restricted to the same. The actual mode of operation of the collaboration shall be decided by mutual MoUs entered into separately.

- a. To encourage free bi-directional flow of knowledge, ideas and resources.
- b. To mentor the faculty and students of Sadakathullah Appa College through various pre-incubation and incubation related activities either through virtual processes or through physical interactions.
- c. Jointly organize workshops, training programmes and other forms of collaborative activities which shall encourage networking for mutual benefits in the domain of innovation and entrepreneurship.
- d. Work on the development of knowledge base and research and innovation output related to contemporary and emerging technologies.
- e. Together undertake sponsored projects leading to the development of innovative ideas and technologies.
- f. Provide internship opportunities for the students of Sadakathullah Appa College.
- g. Permit teaching and research exchange programmes.

## **7. PROMOTING THE POLICY**

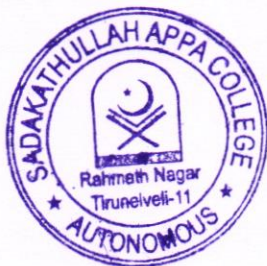
- a. The IIC shall organize several activities as per Institution's self-driven initiatives as well as per the MoE's annual calendar of events prescribed for IICs in the Country.
- b. Awareness / Training Programmes, conferences, workshops, hackathons, ideation camps, and competitions may be organized regularly to kindle and stoke the spirit of entrepreneurship.
- c. Annual Awards may be constituted to recognize stakeholders under various categories like:
  - i. Most Outstanding Idea of the Year
  - ii. Most Innovative Practice of the Year (innovation champion of the year)
  - iii. Most Successful Enterprise/Startup of the Year

## 8. IMPLEMENTATION

- a. A pool of mentors will be diligently roped in to various areas of activities to help support the activities promoted by the policy.
- b. Ideation camps shall be conducted in which students will be encouraged to participate and propose solutions / ideas for identified problems.
- c. Problem statements / challenges for the Ideation camps can be sourced from industry or other partners. This will equally encourage idea-oriented students as well as idea-following students.
- d. Selected ideas will be curated and mentored through various processes in a pre-incubation camp so that they are fine-tuned based on financial, technical, domain, customer and other relevant perspectives. This pre-incubation mentoring shall be through virtual or physical interaction by partnering incubators, faculty and alumni.
- e. Ideas proceeding through the Pre-Incubation Camp shall be facilitated to proceed for the incubation as deemed appropriate.

## 9. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

The Institutional Innovation and Startup Policy is subject to modification from time to time based upon the requirements after internal discussions and with the approval of the appropriate authorities of Sadakathullah Appa College .



  
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