ODISHA
NEW OPPORTUNITIES

BIOTECHNOLOGY POLICY 2018

Government of Odisha

Science & Technology Department

Biotechnology Policy 2018

PREAMBLE

Technological and business innovations drive economic growth and create societal wellbeing. Biotechnology is one of the emerging technologies which has the potential to alleviate many of the challenges that we face. The biotech sector positively influences several areas of human endeavour including health, food and nutrition, industrial processes for materials and textiles, renewable energy, environment and climate change. The sector is one of the fastest growing sectors globally and leadership position in this sector is the desired goal of many developed and developing countries.

The biotech industry including the med-tech (devices and diagnostics) sector is multidisciplinary and it is driven by innovations in several domains including biological sciences, engineering and informatics. Odisha houses several leading academic and research institutions including IIT Bhubaneswar, AIIMS Bhubaneswar, NIT Rourkela, NISER Bhubaneswar, IIM Sambalpur, IISER Berhampur, Institute of Life Sciences Bhubaneswar (DBT), Institute of Physics, Bhubaneswar (DAE), Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture (ICAR), National Rice Research Institute, Cuttack (ICAR), Institute of Material and Mineral Technology (CSIR) and a host of highly reputed state and private universities, medical, engineering and science colleges. These institutions produce a set of highly skilled and motivated graduates, post graduates and research scholars in the fields of physical, biological, mathematical and applied sciences, technology, medicine and management. Odisha has now reached a cusp from where it can take a big leap and leverage its knowledge base to build an innovation driven economy.

The State is advantageously positioned to harness Biotechnology applications owing to its rich natural and bio-resources. The State possesses a rich biological diversity, both terrestrial and marine in its forests, agriculture, mangroves, wetlands and marine areas, both in the number of species and their abundance. The State has a long coastline covering 480 km. In addition, the Chilika lake - the largest brackish water lake in Asia, harbours more than 900 species of flora and fauna such as algae, protozoa, vascular plants, molluscs, nematodes, fish, prawn, other vertebrates, migratory and resident birds. The forest area of 5.72 million hectares constitutes 37 percent of the geographical area of the State, with varied and diverse physiographic and climatic conditions. These forests are rich sources of medicinal plants. Approximately, 130 species of commercially relevant medicinal plant species are found in the State. The State has a rich floristic wealth with an estimated 2,754 plant species. Out of the estimated 1,200 orchid species in India, 129 rare species are reported to occur exclusively in Odisha.

It is in this context, Odisha can emerge as a destination for Biotechnology innovation not just in the country but in Asia and globally. Recognizing the potential, Government of Odisha has identified Biotechnology as a priority sector in its Industrial Policy Resolution (IPR-2015).

However, the sector faces unique issues, chief amongst them is the long gestation period for product development extending up to a decade, high capital and infrastructure cost and the regulations as it impacts human and animal health. This necessitates the need for holistic support by the government for the nurturing & growth of the sector. The State has come up with the Biotechnology Policy, 2018 to address these challenges and promote translational research, spur innovation, support both early stage and late stage product development in Biotechnology sector. The State's industry-friendly policy measures and world class investment facilitation eco-system make it the destination of choice for investments in Biotechnology sector.

1.Framework for Government Support

Establishing and nurturing a technology intensive sector, such as Biotechnology needs focused approach and a framework for action. Many developed countries such as USA, UK, Germany as well as Asian countries such as Malaysia, Singapore and South Korea have used focused policy tools and support mechanisms to develop a vibrant and strong biotech industry. The Indian Biotechnology sector has been growing rapidly over the last decade propelled by the focused policies of Government of India especially through the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) and Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC). Department of Science & Technology (DST), National Science & Technology Entrepreneurship Development Board (NSTEDB), Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR)- a network of 38 leading laboratories have also played a significant role in building the Biotechnology ecosystem in the country.

The long gestation period for product innovations in Biotechnology sector makes it imperative to have focused and continued government support. The framework for the Government support proposed in the policy would touch upon the following points:

- Vibrant academic and entrepreneurial culture.
- Funding encompassing all stages of product development from ideation to commercialization.
- Industry-academia linkages and collaborative research.
- Technology Business Incubators & Technology Transfer Offices.
- Connected "complementary" industries: IP & law firms, design vendors.
- Network of angel and venture capital firms.
- Enabling regulatory environment.
- World class industrial facilitation.

Vision

To emerge as a world class centre of biotechnology education, research and innovation, entrepreneurship, product development and manufacturing and to create positive economic spill overs as well as health, environmental and social benefits.

Mission

- Build a holistic Biotechnology ecosystem in Odisha to enable the State to become one of the top biotech innovation and investment destinations in the country.
- Create a vibrant bio-entrepreneurial culture in academia and research institutions.
- Provide support for product development by biotech start-ups and MSMEs.
- Create a conducive environment for biotech manufacturing across several areas such as vaccines, medical devices, agriculture and industrial biotech.
- Provide fiscal and non-fiscal incentives in a transparent and time bound manner.
- Streamline rules, regulations and legislations to create an innovation friendly environment.
- Implement a supportive regulatory framework and robust governance structure that enables hassle-free, time bound statutory clearances and monitoring of this policy.

2. Objectives

- Prioritizing the thrust areas for basic as well as applied research and technology development with industry-academia-social interface.
- Promoting innovation in R&D by encouraging public-private partnership (PPP) for R&D for sustained growth and international competitiveness.
- Establish regional biotechnology parks, bio-clusters, thematic biotechnology parks in the priority areas like agriculture, animal husbandry, human health & marine biotech.
- Establish translational research centres, establish dedicated institutes/strengthen existing facilities for bioinformatics, bio-similar, bio-markers, applied biotechnology, bioengineering, systems biology & genomics etc.
- Support establishment of bio-incubation centres, and technology business centres
- Support finishing schools for development of industry-ready skilled human resource in various areas of Biotechnology.
- Capacity building on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) and Bio-safety.
- Establish Immersion Fellowships, Innovation Grants, Equity Seed Funds etc.
- Create a conducive business ecosystem, encourage entrepreneurship & private sector investment.
- Create a strong institutional framework/network for effective implementation, monitoring and evaluation of this policy.

3. Scope of the Policy

This policy covers all aspects of Biotechnology including biopharma, bio-services, agri-biotech, industrial-biotech and systems and synthetic biology. The policy covers both fiscal and non-fiscal incentives that can be leveraged by biotech enterprises in the state to develop, validate and test, conduct clinical trials and manufacture the products.

In case this policy does not provide for any specific incentives and support, the Biotechnology units and start-ups will be eligible for those incentives and support provided under the Industrial Policy Resolution, MSME Development Policy, Odisha Start-up Policy and other sectoral policies in force.

The policy will follow the definition of biotechnology start-up notified by Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion, Government of India.

4. Policy period

This Policy will be co-terminus with IPR 2015.

5. Biotechnology Unit

To be eligible for incentives and support, a Biotechnology unit means a biotechnology start up and an industrial unit as defined in IPR 2015 engaged in following activities in the areas of Agricultural Biotechnology, Medical and Health Biotechnology, Industrial Biotechnology, Animal Biotechnology, Aquaculture & Marine Biotechnology, Environmental Biotechnology, Bio-fuel & Bio-energy and Biodiversity & Conservation.

- Developing a product or offering a service related to "Living Systems".
- Research & Development and/or manufacture, which use or are derived by using specific living systems, and/or information or materials derived there from, such as bioinformatics products & services, clinical trials and contract research, bioinformatics, manufacturing of precision tools, equipment and instruments.

6. Bio-safety

The increasing awareness on the possibilities of exploiting Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) and products derived from them for commercial purposes has also led to considerable concern about their bio-safety. The Government would ensure setting up of adequate institutional mechanisms for implementation as well as monitoring of GMO development and applications programmes as per the National Bio-safety Guidelines. Safety guidelines laid down by Government of India towards research in the field of Biotechnology shall be adhered to strictly and provisions for augmenting security arrangements as required from time to time shall be made in addition. The Government shall endeavour to create adequate institutional capacity in this sector.

7. Research & Development,Innovation, Human Resources & Skill Development

The Government will work collaboratively with organisations and institutions both within the State as well as outside to strengthen the R&D base. It will play a catalytic role in propelling innovations & creating world class skilled human resources for Biotechnology sector. Through optimal policy tools, the Government would encourage academia, research institutions, not-for-profits and industry to collaboratively work together in creating a world class eco system for research, innovation, product development and manufacturing.

7.1 Biotech Finishing School (BFS)

Biotech Finishing School (BFS) program will support training and skilling of biotech students to be "industry ready". The program would provide a fellowship to students for a period of 8-12 months. The program will contain components of "hands-on" training in different aspects of Biotechnology as well as working as "interns" in industry and solving real laboratory problems through experimental design and implementation. Government will proactively seek industry inputs to design the curricula of the BFS. In this regard 5 to 8 top academic institutions (universities and colleges) would be selected to implement the program.

7.2 Establishment of Translational Research Centres

With the vision to achieve excellence in biotech innovation, the Government will establish several translational research centres in focus areas of biotechnology that align with existing strengths of the State as well as building new strengths in emerging areas. These centres could be nested within the existing research and academic institutions in the State. Some potential areas could be as follows.

- Centre for Systems Biology & Bioinformatics.
- Centre for Synthetic Biology.
- Centre for Bioresource Management.
- Centre for Bio-environmental Engineering.
- Centre for Biomedical Innovation including Regenerative Medicine.

The Government will request Department of Biotechnology, Government of India to establish a "Translational Technology Platform" along the lines of Centre for Cellular and Molecular Platforms (C-CAMP), Bengaluru in Institute of Life Science, Bhubaneswar.

7.3 Establish Funding Across the Value Chain of Biotech Innovation

Funding at each stage of biotech product development is an essential element for building the biotech eco-system in Odisha.

In the realm of biotech enterprise funding, the Government will establish "grant funding" and "equity funding" programs that will fund innovative biotech products that will deliver commercial success and create impact on the ground. These will include:

7.3.1 Grant Funding Programs

Early Stage Grant Funding

- The Government will establish "Bio- Innovation Grant" along the lines of BIRAC's BIG kind of grants. BInG will fund innovative ideas from ideation to proof-of-concept (POC)- a crucial stage in the product development. These ideas will have commercial potential and potential for future impact. The Government will select promising biotech start-ups each year and provide each a support of up to INR 50 lakhs in a phased manner over a period of 18 to 24 months. This will help build the pipeline of biotech innovation in the state. BPIG would kickstart biotech led entrepreneurship in a major way.
- The Government will establish "Biotech Bridge Grant" with maximum support of INR 35 lakhs each post BInG/ BIG to help entrepreneurs continue their activities while they seek the next round of funding especially private funding.
- It is crucial that the seeds of innovations are laid from very early stage, the Government will launch "Immersion Fellowships" in Biotechnology for innovators to identify gaps in biotech product development. This fully mentored fellowship over a duration of 12-18 months will have a monthly grant up to INR 70,000 and a mini-grant support as per need. This will encourage the earliest stages of biotech innovation through need identification.

An important element in building a vibrant ecosystem is to facilitate collaborative opportunities between industry and academia. The Government will set up "Industry Academia Collaborative Research Funding" program which will provide funding for collaborative R&D projects between industry and academia. Government funding will be limited to 50% of the project cost limited to INR 30 Lakhs per project.

7.3.2 Equity Funding

The private venture funding in biotech is considered to be risk averse due to long gestation period for product development and uncertainties associated with such long product cycles. As a policy instrument, many governments proactively establish a tranche of funding for "equity funding" which is managed by a professional fund manager.

The Government will establish "Biotech Startup Seed Fund" with an initial corpus of INR 15 Crore. The seed amount can be leveraged to raise 2 to 4 times private capital (similar to BIRAC's AcE Fund).

7.3.3 Odisha Technology Acquisition Fund

The Government will establish a "Technology Acquisition Fund"& "Biomanufacturing Fund" to identify cutting edge technologies in biotech and med-tech domains and use licensing models to help start-ups and SMEs in Odisha leverage the technologies in further technology development and manufacturing. This fund will be modelled on Technology Development Board (TDB) of Government of India.

7.4 Build Partnerships

The global scientific enterprise is a collaborative effort and increasingly innovation goes beyond borders and hence it is essential that Odisha builds strong partnerships nationally as well as internationally. These partnerships could be with national level agencies such as with DBT, BIRAC,CSIR Laboratories including NCL's Venture Centre, Centre for Cellular and Molecular Platforms (C-CAMP), Bengaluru, Department of Science & Technology (DST), NSTDEB and NITI Aayog as well as with international agencies & trusts.

7.5 Networking Platforms, Knowledge Corridors and Biotechnology Awards

The Government will proactively connect with the Odia Diaspora across the globe especially in USA (Bay area and East Coast), Europe and Singapore.

The Government will fashion a top level "Biotech Conclave" each year which will be a platform for the start-ups, innovators and MSMEs, academic and research institutions to share knowledge, network and explore collaborative opportunities.

The Biotech Industry Facilitation Cell (BIFC) will also conduct roadshows on biotech opportunities across the country as well as facilitate participation of startups & MSMEs in trade shows both nationally and internationally.

The Government will establish "Biotech Excellence Awards" to recognize and felicitate innovators, start-ups, MSMEs and large industry, incubators, academic & research organisations in the realm of biotechnology.

7.6 Intellectual Property Rights

The Government will extend financial support to universities, industries and research institutes for protection of Intellectual Property Rights through filing of patents.

It is also important that the complementary services should be present in Odisha. The Government will actively partner with IP firms to raise awareness of patenting and other methods of securing intellectual property.

The Government will also establish a mechanism to help biotech start-ups and innovators for filing intellectual property applications outside of India.

8. Social and Rural Development

The Government will promote simple and affordable agricultural biotechnology to generate rural employment and medical biotechnology to promote affordable healthcare products and services. The following initiatives are proposed.

- Activities such as tissue culture, mushroom cultivation, hardening facilities for plant tissue culture, vermi-composting and organic farming etc. will be promoted with the objective of generating employment and to improve the quality of farm produce. Separate financial support will be provided along with assistance from National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), etc.
- Support will be given to farmers cultivating medicinal plants and tissue culture raised plants under contract with medicinal plant extraction units and tissue culture units.
- NGOs and private institutes will be encouraged to conduct farmers training programmes to educate them on the benefits of Biotechnology.
- Academic and research institutes, industries both in public and private sector will be given financial support for building infrastructure for developing new and innovative affordable health care products and services and food & non-food crops.

9.Biotechnology Incubators, Research Parks and Cluster Development

Biotech incubators play a catalytic role in development of the ecosystem by helping nurture innovators, entrepreneurs and start-ups.

The Government will support establishment of Technology Business Incubators (TBI)in highly reputed academic and research institutions. These TBIs shall be provided matching grants and performance capital grant as per the provisions of Odisha Startup Policy. Further "Technology Transfer Offices" (TTOs) will be set up either in the TBIs or in academic institutions which will pro-actively work to assess and transfer technologies emerging from the research institutions.

The following research and development incentives and support already available under the Biotechnology Policy Resolution 2016 shall continue.

- One time grant up to Rs.2 Crore for setting up of or upgrading of Biotechnology Centres of Excellence in Universities/Institutes.
- One time grant up to Rs.2 Crore for setting up of or upgrading of Biotech Enterprise and Skill Development Schools by Universities/ Institutes.
- One time grant up to Rs.2 Crore for setting up of or upgrading of Biotechnology Incubators.

The Government shall also match the funding raised by the biotechnology incubators from Government of India on a 1:1 basis, up to a limit as stated above.

The incubators besides providing a panoply of services will also conduct business plan competitions, bootcamps and product hackathons which will also be supported by the Government.

The Odisha Biotech Park at Andharua, Bhubaneswar will be operationalized at the earliest. It would be eligible for infrastructure support as per this policy. The Government will also establish other thematic parks such as Marine Biotech Park, Agri-Biotech Park and Medtech Park. IDCO shall identify land for these parks and select the developer through a transparent mechanism.

The best practices followed by biotech parks in Malaysia, Singapore and other emerging hubs will be incorporated in the implementation plan.

The Government may take equity stakes in such projects by providing funds or by allotment of land for the projects. The parks will also facilitate all statutory and regulatory approvals for the units setup within the park.

The parks shall have dedicated zone for R&D, contract research, clinical trials, etc. and have necessary facilities and support infrastructure, such as:

- Demarcated zones for pilot manufacturing units, R&D/ process development etc. with dedicated areas earmarked for MSMEs.
- Value chain zones for industries such as packaging, raw-material supply etc.
- Common Effluent Treatment Plant, Incinerator for hazardous waste disposal, Pre-treated water, Boiler etc.
- Common testing laboratories, design laboratories, printing & packaging units, trade centre, marketing support, supply chain, training centre etc.
- Uninterrupted power supply, water supply, waste disposal, environmental infra and critical utilities, telecom facility etc.
- Residential facilities and shared social infrastructure for residents like schools, hotels, cafeteria, bars & restaurants, banking services, shopping mall, convenience stores, conference facilities, childcare facilities etc.

10. Self-Certification and Compliance under Labour Laws

The Biotechnology Units shall be exempted from regular inspections, barring inspections arising out of specific complaints in view of implementation of Voluntary Compliance schemes for Industries & Commercial Establishments notified vide Resolution No.4870 dated 30/05/2015 of Labour & ESI Department, covering the following Acts:

- Industrial Disputes Act, 1947.
- Trade Unions Act, 1926.
- Building and Other Constructions Workers' (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996.
- Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946.
- Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979.
- Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972.
- Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970.
- All other Labour Laws covered under the Voluntary Compliance Scheme of State Labour & ESI Department.

New Start-Ups in Biotechnology Sector shall be allowed exemption from inspection for a period of five years under the specified Acts including the following Acts on submission of self-certified returns as per the advisory issued by Ministry of Labour & Employment on 6th April, 2017.

- Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952.
- Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948.

The Biotechnology Units shall get relaxation with respect to 3-shift operations, employment of women workers during night as applicable to IT & ITES sector contained in Notification No.1967 dated 01/03/2014 of Labour & ESI Department.

11. Industrial Infrastructure Development Fund

Government of Odisha has set up an Industrial Infrastructure Development Fund (IIDF) with an initial corpus of Rs. 100 Crore. The fund will be utilized for development of quality infrastructure such as roads, power, water, waste management etc. The fund would also be used to assist development of other infrastructures in Biotechnology sector in order to achieve objectives of this policy.

12. Incentives

Allotment of Land and Land Conversion

All Biotechnology units shall be allotted land at concessional rate as per IPR. Additional subsidy of 25% shall be available to reputed anchor tenants. Biotechnology units shall be exempted from payment of premium under Sec-8(A) of OLR Act 1960 as per the provisions in IPR.

Infrastructure Support for Biotechnology Parks

Infrastructure support of 50% with ceiling of Rs.10 crore shall be provided for creating physical infrastructure including ETP as per IPR.

Additional support of 50% with a ceiling of Rs. 5 crores shall be provided for creating specified biotech infrastructure like kill tank, animal house, water for Injection etc. and establishment of Incubation Centres.

Stamp Duty

Stamp duty paid to the State exchequer for specified transactions shall be reimbursed as per IPR provisions.

Capital Investment Subsidy

Micro & small biotech units shall be eligible for capital subsidy @25% of plant & machinery cost limited to Rs.1 crore. Similarly, capital subsidy @ 20% limited to Rs.5 crore shall be available for investment in plant & machinery costing more than or equal to Rs.5 crore but up to Rs.25 crore. For investment in plant & machinery more than Rs.25 crore subsidy shall be @10% with minimum amount of Rs.5 crore and maximum amount Rs.50 crore.

Interest Subsidy

All biotech units shall be eligible for subsidy @5% per annum on term loan availed from PFI/Banks for a period of 5 years for timely payment subject to limits specified in IPR, MSME Development Policy, Startup policy.

Electricity Duty

All biotech units shall be reimbursed the amount of Electricity Duty up to a contract demand of 5MVA for a period of 5 years. All MSMEs in biotech sector shall be eligible for reimbursement of energy audit cost as per IPR 2015.

Environmental Protection Infrastructure Subsidy

Biotech units shall be eligible for subsidy @20% of the capital cost or Rs.20 lakh whichever is lower for adopting zero effluent/waste water discharge.

Training Subsidy

The biotech units shall be eligible for availing training subsidy up to Rs.4000/- per trainee subject to fulfilment of specified conditions.

Employment Cost Subsidy

The biotech units shall be eligible for 100% reimbursement of ESI and EPF dues for 3 years for skilled & semi-skilled domicile workers. All biotech units employing persons with disabilities (PWD) and in backward districts shall be eligible for employment subsidy for additional 2 years as per IPR 2015.

Reimbursement of State GST

New units shall be eligible for reimbursement of 100% net State GST paid by them for 7 years limited to 200% of cost of plant & machinery as per IPR 2015.

New pioneer units and anchor tenants in Biotechnology Park shall be eligible for State GST reimbursement for additional 2 years i.e. up to 9 years subject to maximum 200% of cost of Plant & Machinery.

Patent Registration

Government shall provide assistance to entrepreneurs for patent and IPR registration up to maximum of Rs.10 lakhs for foreign patent and Rs.2 lakh for Indian Patent. This shall be paid in two tranches

Quality Certification

Government shall provide assistance subject to maximum limit of Rs.3 lakh for obtaining quality certification from recognised institutions.

Floor Area Ratio (FAR)

Biotech units shall be eligible for FAR at par with IT/ITES sector.

Branding and Marketing Incentive

Government shall provide marketing support assistance to biotech start-ups and MSMEs for marketing and brand building as well as attendance in international events. The support shall be provided @30% of the actual cost incurred limited to Rs.5 lakh per company.

Promotional Assistance

The Government would encourage special funding support up to Rs 50 lakh per annum to University/Institutes/State Promotional Agencies/Recognised Industry Associations to:

- Conduct annual Workshop "Catch Them Young" to attract Biotechnology innovators for Start-up in Biotechnology.
- Bring out theme based bi-annual publications in Biotechnology Sector to generate awareness among students, researchers, entrepreneurs and innovators.
- Undertake promotional measures like publicity, propaganda, production of Information, Education & Communication (IEC) materials, exposure visits, preparation of model project reports, investment proposals, business meets and events by engaging special agencies, consultants etc.
- Undertake promotional measures to make Biotechnology a'Focus Sector' for investment, facilitate creating special hubs for resources like credit, capital, skilled human resource, raw materials etc.

NB:- Any eligible unit can avail a particular incentive either under this Policy or IPR, 2015 or MSME Policy or Startup Policy or any other State Policy.

13. Governance

Science & Technology Department will be responsible for smooth implementation of the provisions of the policy.

All projects to be covered under this policy shall go through the State Level Single Window Clearance Authority (SLSWCA) for clearance as per the prevailing practice.

The Government shall constitute a Special Single Window Clearance Committee for promotion and development of industries and investment in Biotechnology and Bio-similar related projects for the investment which are less than Rupees Fifty Crore. The Committee shall be chaired by the Principal Secretary/ Secretary of Science & Technology Department consisting of ex-officio members from concerned departments of the Government. The Committee may co-opt other members as special invitees as and when required for seeking expert opinion and/or evaluation of project proposals.

Biotech Industry Facilitation Cell

It is recognised that the biotech sector in Odisha will require a 360 degree support from the Government. Hence, a Biotech Industry Facilitation Cell (BIFC) will be established in Science & Technology Department. The BIFC will be the nodal agency for interface with the biotech industry in the state and will work catalytically to attract talent, industry and funding agencies from across the world. BIFC will also have a "Regulatory Facilitation Unit" which will help biotech entrepreneurs understand and navigate regulatory landscape in the State as well as in other geographies.

Biotech Industry Facilitation Cell shall serve as the Secretariat for the Single Window Clearance Authority.

13.1 Policy Advisory Vision Group

The Government Shall constitute a Policy Advisory Vision Group (PAVG), to act as a think tank and key advisor on diverse policy related issues. It shall also recommend policy advice to the Government on various programs and initiatives that are relevant to expand and strengthen the Biotechnology sector.

The PAVG would facilitate proper and timely implementation of this policy and will ensure that the social and economic benefits of Biotechnology are made available widely. In order to accomplish this, the PAVG will develop, in phases, systems & mechanisms to bring a paradigm shift in the approach of Biotechnology education & research, commercialization of products & services, investment, collaboration, skill development through wide range of programs and tasks. The Group will also be responsible for reassessment of priority areas for growth, constitution of Special Task Forces from time to time.

The PAVG will be a body of intellectuals, professionals and practitioners from various fields in the academia, research, industry, commerce, administration, finance, marketing etc.

Biotech Industry Facilitation Cell shall serve as the secretariat for the Policy Vision Advisory Group.

13.2 State Level Policy Implementation Committee

The Government shall constitute a State Level Policy Implementation Committee (SLPIC), under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary. The SLPIC will review the utilisation of funds available in the State for various components of this policy. It will identify key areas for investments in research and technology development as is necessary for the State. It will promote research in the emerging and nascent technologies by inviting proposals from different institutions and industries and providing financial assistance.

14. General Terms and Conditions

- Doubts relating to interpretation of any term and/ or dispute relating to the operation of any provision under this policy shall have to be referred to the Science and Technology Department, Government of Odisha for clarification/ resolution and the decision of Government in this regard shall be final and binding on all concerned.

- Government may issue further guidelines & clarifications within the overarching framework and goals of this policy.
- No right or claim for any incentive under this policy shall be, deemed to have been conferred merely on the ground of provision in this policy. Implementation of various provisions covering the incentives, concessions, etc. will be subject to the issue of detailed guidelines/ statutory notifications, wherever necessary in respect of each item by the concerned administrative department.
- The incentives and concessions laid down in this policy will be administered by Science & Technology Department. Director, Biotechnology shall be the Nodal Officer in Science & Technology Department for implementation of this policy, administration of fiscal incentives and issue of detailed operational guidelines & notifications.
- Government may, if need be, notify special incentives over & above those specified in this policy for attracting mega investments. Government may at any time amend any provision of this policy.
- The operational guidelines issued under the Biotech Policy Resolution, 2016 shall continue to be effective until the same are amended. The Committees constituted under the aforesaid Resolution shall be deemed to be constituted under this policy.
- Government 'means' the Government of Odisha. Terms & expressions not defined/ elaborated in this policy shall be interpreted as per the IPR, MSME Development Policy, Startup Policy of the Government.

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