

# JAWAHARLAL NEHRU UNIVERSITY

## Office of Director (R&D)

PAC-EC-873

18<sup>th</sup> January 2018

### Notification

Establishment of technology start-ups policy for JNU faculty and students was approved in the EC meeting held on 23.11.2017 at item No 6.8.

The Competent Authority has further accorded the approval on 17.01.2018 for uploading the start-up policy in JNU website.

The approved policy is attached for information & necessary action.

  
22-1-2018  
(Dr. Rupesh Chaturvedi)  
Director (R&D)

### Copy to:

1. All Deans/Chairpersons/ Special Centre/Directors
2. PS to Vice Chancellor
3. PS to Rector-I/ Rector-II/ Rector-III
4. PS to Registrar/ FO
5. Director CIS, with the request to upload the policy in JNU website
6. SO (Acad)
7. Office on Special Duty w.e.f letter on Acad III/4(12)2017 dated 30.11.2017

### JNU Start-ups policy for it's faculty and students

This draft proposes the process and mechanism for establishment of technology start-ups by Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) faculty and students. These start-ups should be based on research efforts carried out by JNU faculty & students, and later operate them as full-fledged companies.

#### **1. Who can form companies?**

(1.1) Companies jointly owned by at-least one faculty member and/or graduating students/alumni/along with possibly definition required.

(1.2) Companies owned by the graduating students, alumni along with possibly other entities. A JNU Faculty member should be on the board as non-executive member or should be a mentor in the company.

(1.3) The faculty members and students of JNU who form the company will be known as founding members of the board of the company.

(1.4) If the company involves third party or other entities, the application for Start-ups Company will be examined after due diligence and should be approved by a committee constituted by Vice-Chancellor for this purpose.

#### **2. Role of Faculty**

(2.1) It is expected that the faculty members would be owners of such companies and be a non-executive director on the Board. The faculty members will dedicate part or all of the days allocated for consultancy work to the business. However, under no circumstance the total number of days of non-JNU activities would exceed the JNU norms.

(2.2) It should be noted that the faculty must ensure that his/her duties and responsibilities of JNU take precedence over all other activities.

(2.3) A faculty member is expected to balance his outside managerial responsibilities with his academic responsibilities on full-time active duty in the JNU. This will also apply to the students involved in these activities.

(2.4) Faculty member can undertake projects that could be conducted at JNU, and managed through their companies provided that the University overhead charges are duly paid as per the norms of the JNU.

### **3. IP Rights related to startups and Usage of JNU Resources**

(3.1) It is expected that the IP rights for the technology/processes/products developed by the faculty startup company shall be submitted to JNU to apply for Indian/PCT/Country specific patent(s) as per the IPM Cell guidelines in force. The assignees will be the inventors and JNU jointly.

(3.2) Such companies will have the freedom to enter into collaboration with other companies, sell, share, or buy IP rights from other companies only with the knowledge and prior written permission of the competent authority of JNU.

(3.3) During the incubation period use of laboratories of various Schools and Centers, AIRF, animal house, green house, internet, library and other supporting facilities will be restricted to the founding faculty members & students of the company that have sought IPR under the aegis of JNU. The sole responsibility of procuring required ethical/environmental clearance would be that of the company through its designated faculty member. Normal service charge(s) as applicable will be levied for this purpose. In lieu of this, the institute will retain a blanket liability free equity of 5% for all cases without exception. This equity will enable the concerned company to exploit the IP developed by the patent assignees, in full or in parts.

(3.4) Utilization of lab/instrument facilities will be subject to the priority ladder decided by the head of the department or the unit concerned. The department/unit will have the right to levy a suitable user charge from case-to-case basis. It is expected that in the larger interest of the University's startup program, departments shall extend their support to this endeavor as far as is practicable.

(3.5) A periodic review of the progress will be made and an empowered committee will monitor the IPR exploited by the startup company, which may be setup for this purpose.

(3.6) The usage of space and facilities of Innovation & Incubation Centre's by the faculty companies will be paid as per existing norms.

### **4. Disclosure and Compliance**

Financial and non-financial disclosure agreement will be signed as per the existing JNU

norms by the concerned parties prior to such engagements.

#### 5.Support from other faculty

Support from other faculty members of the JNU during and after the incubation period would be treated under the JNU's consultancy norms.

#### 6.Support from students

Any support received from students for the faculty company would be as per the existing guidelines of the JNU.

#### 7.Outsourcing of sponsored research/consultancy assignment

Outsourcing of full/part of sponsored projects to faculty companies would be undertaken on a case-by-case basis by a committee nominated by vice Chancellor.

#### 8.Funding for the company

The company will have its funding and accounting procedures in line with the existing industry norms.

#### 9.Methodology

A student must incubate in JNU. However, in the exceptional cases, where faculty wants to open the company outside JNU, a sufficient justification has to be provided, which will be evaluated by a committee nominated by Vice Chancellor of JNU. The recommendation of the committee will be final and binding. For the incubation of the faculty company, JNU would take a liability free equity of 5 % in the company for a period of ten years. Against this equity, the JNU shall permit the use of IP developed within JNU by the founding faculty members and students. For the incubation in JNU the company will abide by incubation policy of JNU.

The founding faculty member(s) may be permitted to take sabbatical etc. for operating the company.

The money (in form of honorarium, salary or consultancy) paid to the founding members of the company will be counted entirely as income of the involved faculty members during the incubation period within the campus. After the company moves out of the campus, the faculty member may take long leave and work with the

company as per the existing rules of the JNU or may earn in form of consultancy as per the applicable rules of the JNU.

The faculty member will be the nodal person for all communications with JNU for all such purposes.

#### **10. Resolution of conflicts**

In situations in which the objectivity of a faculty member could reasonably be questioned, the JNU Vice Chancellor may establish an independent committee to take steps including (but not limited to) the following: to review the appropriateness of the proposed research to be conducted at JNU, to oversee the conduct of the research, and to ensure open and timely dissemination of the research outcome.

#### **11. Jurisdiction Clause**

In case of dispute arising between the parties, the same will be settled through Grievances handling mechanisms and the civil law/court shall have exclusive jurisdiction to try the matter/dispute.