



Biotechnology Policy (2022-27)

Gujarat State Biotechnology Mission
Department of Science & Technology
Government of Gujarat



Government of Gujarat
Department of Science & Technology
Government Resolution No: BTP/022022/446/BT
Sachivalaya, Gandhinagar
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Read: GR of DST dated 26th December, 2016, No: BTP/102016/391/BT

1 Preamble

Biotechnology industry has emerged as a force multiplier in creating growth opportunities with a potential to provide an array of solutions for challenges in sectors such as health, agriculture, environment, energy and industrial processes. Gujarat leads the efforts and has achieved the distinction of being a leader in manufacturing sector including Pharmaceuticals, Chemicals, Petrochemicals, Cement and Power. Capitalizing on the well-established industrial ecosystem, State intends to exert concerted efforts to drive innovation, create inter-sectoral synergy and make Gujarat a globally competitive destination for development of biotechnology products, processes and services with a strong and targeted New Biotechnology Policy.

2 Industry Overview

The biotechnology sector is recognized as one of the key drivers contributing to India's USD 5 trillion economy target by 2024 and had witnessed a period of immense growth with the total industry value doubling from USD 35.2 billion to USD 70.2 billion during 2015-20. India is amongst the top-12 destinations for biotechnology in the world, with approximately 3% share in the global biotechnology industry.

India's biotechnology industry comprises of about 760 core companies and 4,240 start-ups, divided into four major segments: Biopharma, Bio-agriculture, Bio-industrial, and the combined segment of Bio-services comprising of Bio-IT (Bioinformatics), Contract Research Organizations (CROs) & Research Services. As of 2020, Biopharmaceuticals is the largest segment, contributing 62% to the Indian Bioeconomy followed by Bio-agriculture, which accounts for 16%, and Bio-services and Bio-industrial that account for 15% and 7% respectively. The Bio-

services and Bio-industrial segments, which accounted for a combined 22% of the industry in 2020, are expected to grow at rapid rates. The former segment has witnessed India becoming a leading destination for clinical trials, contract research, and manufacturing activities and the latter is flagged as 'the next big opportunity'.

The COVID-19 pandemic and investments in Research & Development has allowed the biotechnology sector to build upon its traditional strengths in vaccine manufacturing, agricultural sciences, and clinical research while creating urgent capacity for industrial applications and bio-services. It also has paved a way for biotechnology-driven, socially-relevant innovation and technology development.

Gujarat's Biotechnology sector has more than 200 biotechnology companies and a thriving start-up ecosystem that includes prominent R&D and educational institutes as well. Gujarat also holds the distinction of having maximum number of patents among all Indian states, with 3,637 licensed units engaged in drug manufacturing. Gujarat has exported drug formulations worth USD 3,054 million in 2019-20 and USD 2,790 million in 2020-21.

In order to provide further support to the sector, Government of Gujarat has announced plans to establish a Bulk Drug Industrial Park in Jambusar Taluka of Bharuch District and a Medical Device Industrial Park at Viramgam/ Rajkot.

3 Creating Synergy

Biotechnology as an industry transcends State and National boundaries and thereby necessitates strong synergy between National and State Policies in tandem with International markets.

National flagship programmes such as 'Make in India', 'AatmaNirbhar Bharat' and 'Atal Jai Anusandhan Biotech UNaTI (Undertaking Nationally relevant Technology Innovation) Mission' have brought back the limelight to creating products and services by Indian manufacturing houses with standards at par with the global standards/ leaders.

Mission COVID *Suraksha* with its success in vaccine development, Start-Ups developing COVID19 Solutions, development of therapeutics from natural products in partnership with Ministry of AYUSH, GoI and regional clusters aiding in the rapid scale-up of manufacturing has established India in the Global Biotechnology Market.

Government of India has set dual targets of launching novel indigenous biotech products worldwide along with driving India towards a \$150 Billion bioeconomy and a \$100 Billion biomanufacturing hub by 2025. National Biotechnology Development Strategy 2020-25 identifies the focus areas to be Development of Skilled Workforce, Nurturing of a strong research & innovation-driven ecosystem, Facilitation of Knowledge transference and commercialization, Encourage PPP models of co-development, Knowledge and Marketization.

Government of Gujarat through this New Biotechnology Policy intends to leverage the National Policies for the economic development of the State; forging an alliance between capital intensive research and modern knowledge; and promoting partnerships between various stakeholders that include local & State administrations, Non-Government Organizations, scientific establishment and industry.

3.1 Leveraging Infrastructure

Government of Gujarat established Gujarat State Biotechnology Mission (GSBTM) in 2004 under the Department of Science and Technology to facilitate the development of biotechnology in the state by promoting research & development, generating quality human resources and supporting the development of biotechnology sector by taking effective measures at policy & planning level.

The Biotechnology Policy 2016-21 and its predecessor policies have consistently tried to complement and dovetail National Development Strategies & flagship programmes while considering the State needs and priorities.

During the last policy period, State has enabled transformative changes in the sector by establishing Research Infrastructures such as Gujarat Genomics Initiative, Virtual Institute of Bioinformatics, Marine Bioresource Centre, Savli BioIncubator, Network of Biotech Capacity Cells, Biotechnopreneur Programme, etc.; Clinical initiatives such as Shivrath Centre of Excellence in Clinical Research, Stem Cell Training Programme and Genetic Diagnostic Centre, etc. that eventually led to restructuring of GSBTM and formation of three newer organizations viz. Gujarat Biotechnology Research Center (GBRC), Savli Technology & Business Incubator (STBI) and Gujarat Biotechnology University (GBU). GSBTM has also augmented the equity-based venture financing of Biotech Start-Ups & MSMEs by formation of Gujarat Biotech Start-Up Venture Fund (GBSVF).

Leveraging on the strengths of these initiatives, this Biotechnology Policy shall be an instrument which not only gives direction to biotechnology growth in State but also reflects a declared commitment of State Government for the sector.

4 Fostering an Ecosystem

4.1 Vision

Leveraging biotechnology for building Gujarat as an innovative, socially - responsible sustainable bioeconomy

4.2 Mission

To make Gujarat a preferred and globally competitive destination for development of biotechnology products and services

4.3 Objectives

- a) To promote ecosystem strengthening projects
- b) To develop strategic and emerging sectors in biotechnology
- c) To encourage sustainable living by promoting adoption of bio-technologies, biotechnology products and services

4.4 Targets

To achieve the following in next five years:

- a) Support at least 500 Units/ Businesses in biotechnology sector
- b) Attract more than INR 20,000 crores of investments
- c) Create more than 1.2 lakhs employment in biotechnology sector
- d) Make Gujarat the leading state in Biotechnology

5 Definitions

5.1 Biotechnology

“The application of Science & Technology to living organisms as well as parts, products and models thereof, to alter living or non-living materials for the production of knowledge, goods and services” or as modified by Department of Biotechnology, Govt. of India or its agencies from time to time.

5.2 A Biotechnology Product

Manufacturing of Products/ Development of Technologies/ Products such as:

- a. Vaccines including recombinant vaccines for use in humans or animals
- b. Recombinant gene therapy products including nucleic acids, proteins and combinations thereof, viruses, or genetically engineered micro-organisms
- c. Molecular and Genetic Diagnostics (providing Business to Business services)
- d. Biochips, Biosensors and Biomedical Devices based on biotechnology
- e. Stem Cell and Cell-Culture
- f. RNA Interference (RNAi)
- g. Products of Synthetic Biology
- h. Probiotics and other Biotechnology-based nutraceuticals
- i. Bio-fertilizer, Bio-pesticides and similar products
- j. Bioplastics
- k. Biofuels
- l. Nano-Biotechnology
- m. Any product/ technology deemed eligible by the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
- n. 'Biotechnology (BT) Product' which uses or is derived by using (a) Living systems, (b) Enzymes, (c) Proteins (d) Biocatalysts (e) Biomolecules and any of the following processes:

- i. Genetic Engineering, Gene Editing
- ii. Protein engineering, Tissue Engineering
- iii. Genomics, Proteomics, Bioinformatics, Synthetic Biology, Pharmacogenomics, Metabolomics
- iv. Nano-Biotechnology based processes
- v. Bio-process Engineering, Fermentation
- vi. Enzymatic processes, Biotransformation
- vii. Tissue Culture
- viii. Molecular Breeding
- ix. Contract Research by CROs using Biotechnology process or products (providing Business to Business services)
- x. Any process deemed eligible by the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

In case of any new/ emerging technology-based or a project not falling in any of the above categories or in case of any ambiguity; advice shall be sought from Technical Advisory Committee [TAC] of GSBTM.

5.3 Biotechnology Unit

'Biotechnology (BT) Unit' means a unit or an undertaking engaged or engaging in manufacturing of Biotechnology products or in delivery of Biotechnology related services to any industrial unit. Companies registered under the Companies Act, 1958/ 2013 (or) LLP Act 2008 excluding Sole Proprietorship Companies and Partnership Companies shall be recognized as BT Unit.

5.4 Expansion/ Diversification

An expansion and/or diversification implies investment carried out by a Biotechnology unit with an objective of increasing production or service capability for Biotechnology products or services with or without forward/ backward integration, in Gujarat. For computing additional GFCI, the eligible investment at the site of existing production facility where expansion/ diversification is carried out, will be considered; provided that relocation of the plants from anywhere within Gujarat will not be allowed.

5.5 Existing Biotechnology Unit

Existing Biotechnology unit would mean a Biotechnology unit that existed as a Legal Entity (Registered under Companies Act, 1958/ 2013 (or) LLP Act 2008) and was engaged in manufacturing of products or delivery of services before the date of announcement of this Policy anywhere in Gujarat. A sole proprietorship is not eligible to apply for recognition. For the purposes of this Policy, if a sole proprietorship changes its type of entity into a type permissible for recognition, then the recognition will be granted from date of change of entity type.

5.6 Eligible Units

A Biotechnology unit undertaking investment to begin manufacture or service of Biotechnology Products or an existing unit undertaking expansion or diversification will be eligible for incentives under this Policy. An existing unit, making a separate investment in a new geographical location, not amounting to any relocation of its plants or other assets from anywhere within the state, will be eligible as a new eligible unit.

5.7 Gross Fixed Capital Investment (GFCI)

Gross Fixed Capital Investment (GFCI) for applicant units, means the investment made in building, plant & machinery and other related fixed assets including common infrastructure such as effluent treatment plant, testing facilities, shared data center, etc. required to manufacture end-products or provide services by eligible unit for setting up new unit or for undergoing expansion/ diversification but excluding cost of land.

5.8 Eligible Gross Fixed Capital Investment (eGFCI)

Eligible Gross Fixed Capital Investment (eGFCI) is to be calculated in a manner that the expenditure on buildings cannot be more than 20% of the eligible GFCI. Also, expenses towards Computers & Software, Furniture & Fixtures, Office Equipment, Vehicles, etc. (movables items) will NOT be considered towards eligible GFCI.

5.9 Mega Projects

Any eligible Biotech Unit with GFCI more than or equal to INR 200 Crores or providing Direct Employment of more than or equal to 500 will be considered as Mega Projects.

5.10 Special Projects

Projects of strategic importance, in challenging areas and in emerging technologies will be considered as Special Projects. Indicative projects under this category, are as given below:

- (a) Vaccine Production
- (b) Gene Splicing
- (c) Stem Cell Therapy
- (d) Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)
- (e) Molecular Breeding of Animals
- (f) Bioplastics
- (g) Biofuels
- (h) Ecosystem Strengthening Projects

In case of any new/ emerging technology-based or a project not falling in any of the above categories or in case of any ambiguity; the decision of the State Level Empowered Committee [SLEC] shall be final. Advice may be sought by SLEC from Technical Advisory Committee [TAC] of GSBTM.

5.11 Ecosystem Strengthening Projects

Indicative list of Ecosystem Strengthening Projects, is as below:

- (a) Clinical Testing including Animal Testing Facilities

- (b) Genome Sequencing
- (c) BSL-3 Labs
- (d) Plug and Play Facilities
- (e) Accreditation, Testing & Certification Laboratories

Plug and Play Facility: Plug and Play Facility shall mean ready to use built spaces with infrastructure established in an Industrial site/ building with spaces for office use, conference rooms, air conditioning system, ICT facilities, heavy duty lifts, weigh bridge and/ or other facilities as required. Further, the facility shall have obtained pre-requisite statutory clearances viz., Building plan approval & Environment clearance from competent Authority, approval from Chief Inspector of Factories, Fire safety clearance, Consent to Establish (CTE) & Consent to Operate (CTO) and other applicable clearances/ approvals as per the requirements. The site shall have basic infrastructure facilities like connectivity, internal roads, parking, water supply, storm water drains, power supply, streetlights and/ or other required amenities.

In case of any ambiguity, the decision of the State Level Empowered Committee [SLEC] shall be final. Advice may be sought by SLEC from Technical Advisory Committee [TAC] of GSBTM.

5.12 Eligible Applicant

New Biotechnology Units, Biotechnology Units undertaking diversification/ expansion and Business Enterprises/ Institutes/ Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs)/ Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) undertaking projects identified under Special Projects can be eligible applicants. Industrial associations/ Institutes/ PSU undertaking any projects identified under Special Projects would be required to constitute an SPV to become an eligible applicant.

'Institution or Institute' in the Policy shall include R&D institutions setup by State or Central Government; or colleges, universities, institutions approved by UGC/ AICTE/ by an act of Central or State Government.

5.13 Plant and Machinery

Plant and Machineries means new plant and machinery and pre-used/ pre-owned plant and machinery having usable life for at least further ten years which is duly

certified by Chartered Engineer including cost of transportation, foundation, erection, installation and electrification, capitalized under the head of plant and machinery. The electrification cost will include the cost of sub-station and transformer installed by the industrial unit at the site.

Plant and machinery shall include:

- 1 Plant for non-conventional energy
- 2 Vehicles used for transportation only within the premises of the industrial unit and material handling equipment exclusively used in transporting goods within such premises
- 3 Plant for Captive Power generation/ Co-generation
- 4 Plant for desalination of sea water or purification of water
- 5 Plant for pollution control measures, including facility for collection, treatment, disposal of effluent or solid/ hazardous waste
- 6 Diesel Generator (DG) sets
- 7 Technology, Design & Drawings, Patents

6 Developing State's Strategic Competencies

Gujarat has created an enabling ecosystem with substantial investments in creating infrastructures such as Gujarat Biotechnology University (GBU); Gujarat Biotechnology Research Center (GBRC) including the Shared Laboratory Facility for Students/ researchers, Academicians, Start-Ups and Industry; a Bio-Cluster in the form of Savli Biotech Park and Savli Technology & Business Incubator (STBI) at Vadodara and is further developing Biosafety Level 3+ facilities for acceleration of drug discovery & vaccine development. GSBTM has also augmented the equity-based venture financing of Biotech Start-Ups & MSMEs by formation of Gujarat Biotech Start-Up Venture Fund (GBSVF). The state shall leverage these strengths with renewed commitment for growth of Biotechnology sector in the state.

The assistance towards Capital Expenditure has been increased, widened and bundled; and similarly, the assistance towards Operating Expenditure has also been bundled to improve efficiency, and address the diverse requirements of different types of industries within the biotechnology sector. Special and Mega Projects shall be supported including the ones in challenging areas, of strategic importance, in emerging technologies, and/ or those strengthening the biotechnology ecosystem of the state.

7 Package 1 - Incentives for Units with GFCI less than INR 200 Crores

Role of Medium and Small-scale BT units is significant in biotechnology sector which not only help realizing potential opportunities, but also attract talent to the State. Owing to overall distribution of BT units in the State, a slew of incentives is brought in under this Policy to encourage and strengthen the biotechnology ecosystem. The State after taking cognizance of the hardships faced by the applicants during the previous policy period due to diverse requirements of the establishments covered under biotechnology sector and their contribution towards bioeconomy and socio-economic growth, no ceiling shall be imposed on any single head within Capital Assistance allowing flexibility in claiming the incentives applicable. The BT units will have an option to avail incentives under the overall cap of Capital and Operational categories.

7.1 Capital Assistance

Overall incentives under Capital Assistance shall be 25% of eGFCI with a ceiling of INR 40 Crores. Capital Assistance shall be disbursed in Twenty (20) Quarterly installments spread over Five (5) years. The following incentives are included under Capital Assistance.

7.1.1 Capital Cost

Procurement and installation of various equipment, instrumentation, plant & machinery, building construction and other related fixed assets.

7.1.2 Registration/ Stamp Duty

Stamp Duty & Registration Fee paid towards purchase/ lease/ transfer of land and/ or office space and fee paid towards conversion of land use from agriculture to non-Agriculture shall be eligible. Premium paid to Government for conversion of land use from agriculture to non-Agriculture shall not be eligible.

7.1.3 Technology Upgradation & Acquisition Support

In order to keep pace with the global manufacturing trends, the manufacturing sector needs to adopt latest technologies. With an aim to encourage innovation and adoption of sophisticated technologies under biotechnology, the State will provide fiscal support to eligible applicants in acquiring technologies from organizations within India and/ or outside India.

7.1.4 Utilities

The Policy will support installation of various necessary utilities including Gas connection, Solar unit or any other captive power generation unit. Effluent Treatment Plant (ETP) or Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD) Plant; Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning Systems (HVAC) and Captive Solar Power Plant are eligible for claims under Utilities.

7.2 Operational Assistance

Eligible applicants shall be entitled to avail overall assistance at 15% of Operational Expenditure with a ceiling of INR 5 Crores per annum on account of below mentioned items:

7.2.1 Power Tariff

Power purchased from State Electricity distribution companies or power distribution licensees shall be considered for a period of five years. Existing units undertaking expansion/ diversification will be entitled only for additional power consumed, attributable to such expansion/ diversification. Captive Power consumed will not be considered eligible.

7.2.2 Patent Assistance and Market Development

- (a) Expenditure incurred for obtaining National/ International patents
 - i. Assistance at the rate of 50%, subject to a ceiling of INR 2 lakhs per patent for domestic patents and INR 5 lakhs per patent for international patents, for meeting with the expenditure for obtaining patents
 - ii. Total quantum of assistance for obtaining such patents shall be limited to INR 25 lakhs for international and INR 10 lakhs for domestic patents per applicant
 - iii. Fees paid to patent attorney and patent service center will be eligible expenditure towards cost for assistance
 - iv. The assistance will be in the nature of reimbursement

- (b) Expenditure incurred from participation in National/ International Trade Fairs towards (i) total rent of stall or rent of space and amount paid to organizer towards creation of stall and on rented space (ii) product literature/ catalogue and (iii) display material subject to maximum INR 50,000 will be provided per event. Eligible applicant will be entitled to avail this assistance maximum two times during the operative period of this Policy. The assistance would be in the nature of reimbursement.

7.2.3 Lease Rental

Expenditure incurred from leasing of space for operations.

7.2.4 Bandwidth Leasing

Expenditure incurred on buying or leasing bandwidth from a recognized Internet Service Provider.

7.2.5 Assistance to Quality Certifications

Cost incurred for procurement of Non-mandatory Certifications covering quality, exports, processes, etc.

7.3 Employment Generation Incentive (AatmaNirbhar Gujarat Rojgar Sahay)

Eligible applicants will be given the benefit for claim upto 50% of CTC with a ceiling not exceeding INR 50,000 per male employee and not exceeding INR 60,000 per female employee. The incentive will be available to the applicant for local employees that have joined the applicant/ BT Unit as a permanent/ contractual employee and has successfully completed term of 1 year.

The EGI assistance is tied to each employee and can only be claimed once for each employee in their lifetime. Therefore, if a Unit claims this incentive for any individual employee, and thereafter the same individual employee moves to another Unit, this subsequent Unit cannot claim the EGI assistance for this employee.

7.4 EPF Assistance

Eligible applicants will be given the benefit of reimbursement of the EPF contribution made for their incremental employees, operating out of their facilities

in Gujarat for a period of five years. This reimbursement would be made subject to the following criteria:

- (a) 100% of EPF amount paid in case of female employees
- (b) 75% of EPF amount paid in case of male employees
- (c) The ceiling of EPF amount per employee will be 12% of Employee's basic salary plus applicable DA and retaining allowance
- (d) For expansion/ diversification projects, the assistance will be available for incremental/ allocated employee count beyond the count that existed before undertaking expansion or diversification, occurring during the Policy period for a period of five years for each of such projects. For this purpose, average employee count of previous one year before commencement of operations from new setup/ expansion/ diversification shall be treated as base employee count and incremental count, which will be computed over such base count, happening every year during the Policy period will be entitled to such benefit for duration of five years
- (e) For this benefit, reference to word 'operating out of their offices in Gujarat' would mean that the employee is physically operating out of that office and staying in Gujarat
- (f) This benefit shall also be applicable to contractual employees & employees on outsourcing basis

7.5 Interest Subsidy on Term Loan

- (a) Assistance shall be eligible for a maximum duration of five years to the respective eligible BT unit.
- (b) Eligible applicants shall be entitled to an interest subsidy on Term Loan at the rate of 7% for borrowings up to INR 100 Crores within a ceiling of INR 7 Crores per annum, plus additional 3% for borrowings above INR 100 Crores within an overall ceiling of INR 20 Crores per annum or the actual interest paid whichever is lower.

- (c) Eligible applicants will be entitled to Interest Subsidy assistance for the duration of operational assistance period.
- (d) Interest Subsidy as mentioned above shall be given only if the borrowing is from a bank or a financial institution based in India and is in Indian Rupee denomination. The amount of assistance so given as Interest Subsidy shall not exceed interest liability of eligible applicant.
- (e) Interest on Cash Credit Loan or Working Capital or Loan taken for any other purpose shall not be considered.

Detailed terms and conditions for incentives shall be provided in the Scheme Document.

7.6 Electricity Duty

Electricity Duty on power purchased from State Electricity distribution companies or power distribution licensees shall be on 100% reimbursement basis for a period of five years. Existing units undertaking expansion/ diversification will be entitled only for electricity duty on additional power consumed, attributable to such expansion/ diversification.

8 Package 2 - Incentives for Mega & Special Projects

Mega and Special Projects have an important role in development of overall Biotechnology ecosystem in the State. Besides generating revenue for the State Government and creating local employment, Mega and Special Projects are also beneficial in bringing high-end technologies. They also aid in generation of ancillary industry around them thereby having a multiplier effect on employment, revenue and overall growth.

Biotech Units aiming at developing newer & Innovative products/ services based on emerging technologies, substituting imports, of strategic importance, addressing challenging areas including a well-established Proof-of-Principle leading to development of a solution/ product/ technology (or its equivalent) of state relevance with commercial potential (and NOT basic/ exploratory research, without well-established Proof of Principle or with no/ low commercialization potential) with or without an Academic partner shall be supported for this purpose.

8.1 Capital Assistance

Overall incentives elaborated under 'Package 1' will be eligible, under Capital Assistance at 25% of eGFCI with ceiling of INR 200 Crores. Capital Assistance shall be disbursed in Twenty (20) Quarterly installments spread over Five (5) years.

8.2 Operational Assistance

Eligible applicants are entitled to avail overall assistance as elaborated under 'Package 1' at 15% of the eligible expenditure with the ceiling of INR 25 Crores.

8.3 Employment Generation Incentive

As per Package 1

8.4 EPF Assistance

As per Package 1

8.5 Interest Subsidy on Term Loan

As per Package 1

8.6 Electricity Duty

As per Package 1

8.7 Facilitation Support

Officer would be appointed as Specific Point of Contact (SPOC) for each project approved under this package. Further, as part of this package, support will be provided through inter-departmental co-ordination for land identification/mobilization & Trunk infrastructure (approach road, water supply, power, sewerage, etc.).

Detailed terms and conditions for incentives shall be provided in the Scheme Document.

9 Policy Implementation

1. The office of Mission Director, GSBTM will implement this Policy in consultation with the Department of Science and Technology (DST).
2. Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) constituted by the State Government, shall be referred in case of ambiguity and/ or inputs in case of any new or emerging technologies/ products/ services etc. not listed in the Scheme document.
3. Any eligible BT unit will have the option of availing incentives either under this Biotechnology Policy or the Industrial Policy of Government of Gujarat. However, eligible units will be entitled to incentive under only one Policy of the Government and not out of both policies for individual items.
4. Incentives under this Policy will be in addition to any incentives that the unit/ institutes might avail from any agency outside the Government of Gujarat. Provided, that total incentives for every item head cannot be more than 90% of actual expenditure undertaken by that unit under that item head from all Government sources.
5. The incentives for expansion/ diversification will be computed for the actual investment newly made for the expansion/ diversification and historical investment prior to undertaking expansion/ diversification will not be considered.
6. The Government shall withhold further disbursements and the beneficiary shall return to the Government all assistance it has availed under this policy with Eight per cent (8%) per annum interest in the event of
 - 6.1. Carry out any change of use at the facility (Change of product/ operation within Biotechnology Sectors will not be considered change of use)
 - 6.2. Discontinuation operations for the purpose for which Government Assistance under this policy have been availed
 - 6.3. Violation of terms and conditions notified as per the approval of assistance issued to the applicant
7. The recoverable amount by the Government under Clause 6 shall have priority over all other dues of the Entity.

8. Any issue of interpretation of this Policy will be dealt by the Department of Science and Technology and the decision of such shall be final.
9. IP Policy: All IP belongs to applicant and in case, the applicant does not undertake commercialization within 3 years from its initial IP filing; GoG or its appointed agency shall have the right to commercialize in whichever way it deems appropriate.
10. HR Policy: All Biotechnology Stakeholders undertake to abide to the highest gold standards of integrity, equality, equity, inclusivity and comradeship.
11. Special and Mega Projects shall be approved by a High-Powered Committee [HPC] chaired by the Chief Secretary. Rest other projects shall be approved by the State-Level Empowered Committee [SLEC], chaired by ACS/ PS/ Secretary, Dept. of Science & Technology.

A. High-Powered Committee [HPC]

- (a) Chief Secretary, Gujarat –Chairman
- (b) ACS/ PS/ Secretary, Finance Department – Member
- (c) ACS/PS/Secretary, Industries & Mines Department –Member
- (d) ACS/ PS/ Secretary, Health – Member
- (e) ACS/ PS/ Secretary, Agriculture – Member
- (f) ACS/PS/Secretary, Dept. of Science & Technology (DST) – Member
- (g) Industries Commissioner – Member
- (h) AS/JS/DS (BT), Science & Technology Department – Member
- (i) Mission Director - Gujarat State Biotechnology Mission (GSBTM) – Member Secretary
- (j) One (1) Expert from a Financial Institution/ Banking/ Venture Funding – Member

B. State-Level Empowered Committee [SLEC]

- (a) ACS/PS/Secretary, Dept. of Science & Technology (DST) – Chairman
- (b) Secretary (Expenditure), Finance Department – Member
- (c) Commissioner of Health, Govt. of Gujarat – Member
- (d) Director, Agriculture, Govt. of Gujarat – Member
- (e) Joint Industries Commissioner – Member

- (f) FA to DST- Member
- (g) AS/JS/DS (BT), Dept. of Science & Technology – Member
- (h) Mission Director - Gujarat State Biotechnology Mission (GSBTM) – Member Secretary
- (i) Three (3) Relevant Technical Experts (Techno-commercial from Non-Conflicting Organizations) - Members
- (j) One (1) Expert from a Financial Institution/ Banking/ Venture Funding – Members

10 Investor Facilitation

- 1 The role of Government of Gujarat will primarily be that of a facilitator. An empowered 'Single Window Clearance Mechanism' will be set up and operationalized for granting approvals and clearances for establishing New Units in the State. It will be supported by a 'state-of-the-art centralized helpdesk call centre.
- 2 Gujarat State Biotechnology Mission will act as a Nodal Agency for hand holding and providing effective liaison with various Government Departments/ agencies/ bodies.

11 Policy Implementation Guidelines

The Department of Science and Technology will issue a Scheme document containing detailed implementation guidelines in consultation with the concerned Department in order to achieve the goals and objectives of this Policy.

12 Power to amend the Policy

Notwithstanding anything contained in the foregoing paras, the Government holds the right to review and amend various aspects of the Policy from time to time.

13 Operative Period of Policy

- 1 This Policy shall come into force with effect from the date of issuance of Policy GR and shall remain in force till 31st March, 2027 or till the declaration of a new or revised Policy, whichever is earlier. Only those applicants which commence production/ operations either during the operative period or

having applied for assistance under this Policy during the operative period, shall be eligible for incentives.

- 2 This policy is issued with the concurrence of Finance Department vide its note on this department's file of even number.

sd/-

(Vijay Nehra)

**Secretary to the Government of Gujarat,
Department of Science and Technology**



Gujarat State Biotechnology Mission

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