JIT - National Innovation and Startup Policy - NISP

2025-26

INSTITUTION'S INNOVATION COUNCIL (Ministry of HRD Initiative)

MHRD Govt. of India

MHRD'S INNOVATION CELL (GOVERNMENT OF INDIA)

Jayalakshmi Institute of Technology

NH-7, Salem Main Road, T.Kanigarahalli, Thoppur,
Dharmapuri, Tamil Nadu - 636 352.
www.jit.net.in, email:jit.thoppur@gmail.com, principal@jit.net.in
Mobile No.: 9087666100, 101,151.

Jayalakshmi Institute of Technology (JIT), Thoppur, Dharmapuri District, has consistently promoted creativity, innovation, and entrepreneurial thinking among its students and faculty. The institution provides a vibrant ecosystem where ideas are nurtured, research is encouraged, and innovation is translated into impactful solutions for society.

JIT is committed to implementing the National Innovation and Start-up Policy (NISP) in its true spirit. Through structured governance, measurable goals, and strategic partnerships, JIT aims to become a hub of innovation, entrepreneurship, and technology-driven societal transformation.

Faculty members are actively engaged in knowledge creation and dissemination, while students are increasingly exploring entrepreneurial pathways to address real-world challenges. Although significant R&D activities are proposed and undertaken in cutting-edge science and technology domains, many research outcomes remain un-commercialized due to factors such as limited industry interest and regulatory constraints on entrepreneurial engagement.

To bridge this gap, JIT encourages students, faculty, alumni, and prospective entrepreneurs to establish enterprises that emerge directly from research, innovation, and creative activities, in line with global best practices in higher education.

The policy framework of JIT is aligned with:

- All India Council for Technical Education – Start-up Policy for AICTE Approved Institutions (2016).
- Tamil Nadu Start-up and Innovation Policy 2018-2023 – Government of Tamil Nadu.
- National Innovation and Start-up Policy 2019 (NISP 2019) – Released by MHRD, AICTE & MIC.
- Anna University – Start-up Policy Guidelines for affiliated institutions.

Based on these national and state initiatives, JIT has formulated its JIT Innovation and Start-up Policy to create a robust innovation-driven entrepreneurial ecosystem within the campus.

VISION:-

To be a leading promoter of innovation and entrepreneurship that fosters synergy among innovators, academia, and industry to create a sustainable and globally competitive start-up ecosystem.

MISSION:-

- To groom Science and Technology-driven start-ups and entrepreneurs by providing a supportive ecosystem, infrastructure, mentoring, financial facilitation, and networking opportunities.
- To motivate and promote out-of-the-box thinking and development of innovative ideas.
- To create a campus ecosystem that nurtures innovation and entrepreneurship through industry collaborations and incubation support for greater societal impact.
- To promote ideation, pre-incubation, and incubation activities to support start-ups.
- To build entrepreneurial competencies through regular training programs, workshops, competitions, and hackathons.
- To create necessary infrastructure for prototyping and product development.
- To encourage students, faculty, and staff to engage in innovative product development.
- To promote interdisciplinary final-year projects focused on innovation and commercialization.
- To strengthen in-house innovation practices.
- To participate in national and global innovation platforms to understand competitive landscapes.
- To establish structured processes for validation and conversion of business ideas into sustainable start-ups.
- To develop professional networks that support various aspects of innovation, funding, mentorship, and commercialization.

Institutional Commitment

JIT commits to:

- Supporting entrepreneurial leave policies as per regulatory norms.
- Facilitating technology transfer and commercialization.
- Encouraging collaboration with industry, investors, and start-up ecosystems.
- Integrating innovation and entrepreneurship into the academic framework.

Objectives of the Start-ups Policy

The main objectives of the Start-ups Policy of Jayalakshmi Institute of Technology (JIT) are as follows:

- To provide a structured and enabling platform for faculty and students to pursue innovative ideas and become active partners in the economic development process.
- To cultivate and strengthen an entrepreneurial culture within the institution.
- To promote knowledge-based, technology-driven, and innovation-oriented enterprises.
- To generate employment opportunities by encouraging students to become job creators rather than job seekers.
- To create a dynamic start-up ecosystem by motivating educated youth to consider entrepreneurship as a preferred and viable career option.
- To support early-stage entrepreneurship development, including pre-start-up, start-up, early post start-up, and growth phases of enterprises.
- To ensure adequate availability and smooth flow of information to aspiring entrepreneurs regarding funding, mentoring, incubation, and regulatory support.
- To reduce entry and exit barriers by creating a business-friendly institutional environment within applicable regulatory norms.
- To simplify institutional procedures and minimize compliance challenges to facilitate ease of doing business.
- To encourage commercialization of research outcomes and innovation-driven product development.

Thrust Areas – Innovation, Incubation & Start-ups

JIT identifies the following thrust areas for promoting innovation, incubation, and start-up activities. These areas are indicative and not exhaustive, and may expand based on emerging technological trends and national priorities.

1. Sector-Specific Thrust Areas

- **Renewable Energy Technology:** Solar, Wind, Bio-energy, Energy Storage, Smart Grids.
- **Automation Technology:** Industrial Automation, Robotics, IoT, AI-based Systems.
- **Water Resource Engineering and Management:** Water Conservation, Smart Irrigation, Wastewater Treatment, Sustainable Water Systems.
- **Agro Technology and Allied Sectors:** Agri-Tech Solutions, Precision Farming, Food Processing, Supply Chain Innovations
- **Emerging Areas & Social/National Importance:** Healthcare Technologies, Sustainable Development, Smart Cities, Digital Transformation, Climate Change Solutions

2. Strategic Innovation & Ecosystem Development Areas:

- Creating an Innovation Pipeline and Pathways for Entrepreneurs from Ideation → Prototype → Incubation → Commercialization.
- Building Organizational Capacity, Skilled Human Resources, and Incentive Mechanisms to support innovation.
- Promoting Collaboration, Co-creation, Business Relationships, and Knowledge Exchange with industry, research institutions, and start-up ecosystems.
- Establishing Norms for Faculty & Student-Driven Innovations and Start-ups as per institutional and regulatory guidelines.
- Incentivizing Faculty and Students through recognition, awards, academic credits, and financial support.
- Defining Norms for Faculty Start-ups, including leave policy, conflict of interest guidelines, and equity participation.

- ❖ Providing structured Pre-Incubation and Incubation Support, including mentoring, infrastructure, and investor connect.
- ❖ Establishing clear IP Ownership Rights for technologies developed at JIT in alignment with institutional IPR policy.
- ❖ Integrating Pedagogy and Learning Interventions such as innovation-based courses, project-based learning, hackathons, and industry internships.
- ❖ Conducting Entrepreneurial Performance and Impact Assessment, including startup survival rate, revenue generation, funding mobilization, patents filed, and employment created.

Governance Structure of Innovation & Start-up Cell

The Innovation and Start-up Ecosystem at JIT shall function under a structured governance model to ensure transparency, accountability, and effective implementation.

1.1 Apex Body – Innovation & Start-up Governing Council (ISGC):

Sl. No.	Name of Steering Committee Members	Internal / External Expert Organization	Key Role Institute NISP
1.	Dr. K. Tamizharasu	Principal, JIT	Chair Person
2.	Dr.P.Mohan Kumar	Prof. & Head (Mech.)/ Innovate TN lab,Coordinator JIT, Thoppur	NISP Coordinator
3.	Mr.M.P.Prem Kumar	Asst. Prof/ECE, IIC, Coordinator, JIT, Thoppur	Member
4.	Dr.V.Dinesh kumar	Professor (Mech.)/ Convener – Head-R&D, Innovation & Start-up Cell JIT, Thoppur	Member
5.	Dr.C.Sugumaran	Professor (Mech.)/ IQAC - Director JIT, Thoppur	Member
6.	Mr.K.Jaganathan	Professor Academic Director	Member
7.	Dr.S.Muniraj	Professor Director - HR	Member
8.	Mr.C. Suresh	Professor (EEE)/ EDC, Coordinator JIT, Thoppur	Member

9.	Mr. B. Karthik	Assistant Professor(Mech.)/ Website &Social Media Coordinator JIT, Thoppur	Member
10.	Mr. P. Muniyappan	Munzen Software Solution India Pvt Ltd., Dharmapuri.	Alumni Entrepreneur
11.	Dr. Guru Selvaraj	Sri Ranganathar Industries Pvt. Ltd., Thadagam Road, Edayarpalayam, Coimbatore-25	Industrialist
12.	Mr. J. Mayilsamy	Netzon Tech India Pvt Ltd, Salem & Chennai.	Entrepreneur
13.	Mr.K. Manigandan	Stackpos IT Solution India Pvt. Ltd., Hosur	Entrepreneur
14.	Mr. Parthasarathy S	Student Representative	Member
15.	Mr. Manobala M	Student Representative	Member
16.	Mr. Kamaraj	Legal / Financial Expert	Member
17.	Dr.M.Harsha Vardhana Balaji	Faculty Representatives	Member
18.	Mr.P.Rajaram	Faculty Representatives	Member

Functions:

- Approve policies and strategic directions.
- Monitor implementation of Innovation & Start-up Policy.
- Review incubation progress and funding proposals.
- Facilitate industry collaboration and partnerships.
- Ensure compliance with AICTE/NISP/University norms.

1.2 Innovation & Start-up Cell (ISC)

The Innovation & Start-up Cell acts as the **central coordinating body** for all entrepreneurial and innovation-related activities.

Roles & Responsibilities:

- Implementation of JIT Innovation & Start-up Policy.
- Coordination with IIC, EDC, and Incubation Centre.
- Organizing ideation programs, hackathons, boot camps.
- Mentorship and startup evaluation support.
- Documentation and reporting for NAAC/NBA/AICTE.

2. Institutional Innovation Council (IIC)

Roles & Responsibilities:

- ❖ Promote innovation culture on campus.
- ❖ Conduct innovation activities (Idea competitions, Hackathons, Workshops).
- ❖ Identify and mentor innovative student projects.
- ❖ Facilitate participation in national innovation programs.
- ❖ Create innovation ambassadors among students and faculty.
- ❖ Submit periodic reports to MIC Portal.

3. Entrepreneurship Development Cell (EDC)

Roles & Responsibilities:

- ❖ Conduct entrepreneurship awareness programs.
- ❖ Organize business plan competitions and startup conclaves.
- ❖ Provide training on business modeling, finance, and marketing.
- ❖ Connect students with successful entrepreneurs and alumni.
- ❖ Facilitate internship opportunities in start-ups.
- ❖ Encourage interdisciplinary entrepreneurial projects.

4. Incubation Centre:

The Incubation Centre shall provide infrastructural, mentoring, and networking support to early-stage startups.

Roles & Responsibilities:

- ❖ Provide co-working space and basic infrastructure.
- ❖ Support prototype development and product testing.
- ❖ Facilitate seed funding and investor connect.
- ❖ Assist in company registration and statutory compliance.
- ❖ Support Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) filing.
- ❖ Monitor startup progress and performance metrics.
- ❖ Provide legal, financial, and technical mentorship.

Scope and Implementation Framework:

1. Scope of the Policy:

The institutional ecosystem shall play a key role in converting innovation into commercially viable ventures that contribute to societal and economic development. This policy covers and guides all innovation, incubation, and entrepreneurial activities undertaken by:

- Bona fide Undergraduate and Postgraduate students
- Research Scholars
- Faculty Members
- Alumni Entrepreneurs

The policy aims to:

- Build, streamline, and strengthen the innovation and entrepreneurial ecosystem within the campus.
- Leverage scientific knowledge through students' creative problem-solving abilities and entrepreneurial mindset.
- Promote strong intra- and inter-institutional partnerships with ecosystem enablers and stakeholders at regional, national, and international levels.
- Identify, mentor, and nurture innovative potential among faculty and students.
- Transform innovative ideas into sustainable start-ups through funding support, investment facilitation, and professional networking.

Short-Term Plans and Goals for Implementation of NISP at JIT (1–3 Years)

To effectively implement the National Innovation and Start-up Policy 2019 (NISP 2019), JIT proposes the following short-term action plan for a period of 1–3 years:

- To support student groups in developing and prototyping their innovative ideas through institutional facilities and mentoring support.
- To promote creative, novel, and design-thinking approaches among students and faculty by conducting at least one hackathon & Design Thinking Promotion per year.
- Each department shall promote at least one prototype-based innovative project per year with commercialization potential.

- To provide incubation facilities for faculty-driven start-ups, student start-ups and alumni start-ups
- To offer enhanced incubation and mentoring support to **at least one alumni start-up per year**.
- To nurture entrepreneurial culture through FDPs (Faculty Development Programs), STTPs (Short-Term Training Programs), Seminars, Workshops, and Distinguished Talks
- Each department shall organize at least one entrepreneurial activity per semester.
- To reinforce industry collaboration by ensuring that each department arranges one industry lecture per semester on recent industrial trends and innovation practices.
- To enhance the effectiveness of the Industry Interaction Cell and channel its outcomes toward innovation promotion, mentorship support, internships, consultancy, and start-up development.

Long-Term Goals (3–5+ Years)

- Minimum 2 Indian IPR filings per year
- Convert at least 2 academic projects into startups annually
- 5% commercialization of innovation-based projects
- 20% UG/PG/PhD projects in collaboration with Government/Industry
- Promote at least 1 innovation-based startup per year
- Strategic collaborations with:
  - Department of Science and Technology
  - Confederation of Indian Industry
  - Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
  - Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India
  - National Innovation Foundation

The National Innovation and Startup Policy Document for JIT, Thoppur, Dharmapuri Dist.,

The National Innovation and Startup Policy Document for JIT, Thoppur, Dharmapuri District has been finalized based on the framework components recommended under the National Innovation and Start-up Policy (NISP) and incorporates practical measures for promoting innovation, technology

commercialization, incubation, and start-up development in the academic ecosystem.

This document provides clarity on governance structure, operational guidelines, funding mechanisms, intellectual property management, and student/faculty engagement in entrepreneurial activities.

Definitions:

For the purpose of this Policy Document, the following definitions shall apply:

1. Accelerators: Start-up Accelerators design structured programs (usually in cohorts/batches) to transform promising business ideas into viable enterprises under the guidance of mentors, industry experts, and institutional resources.

2. Angel Fund: An angel investor is a high-net-worth individual who invests personal capital in a start-up in exchange for equity. Apart from funding, angel investors often provide mentoring, business networks, and strategic guidance. They are typically accredited investors.

3. Co-Creation: Co-creation refers to collaborative development of business models, products, or services involving customers, clients, industry partners, academic stakeholders, or intra-organizational teams.

4. Equity: An equity share (ordinary share) represents fractional ownership in a company. Equity holders bear entrepreneurial risk and possess voting rights in the enterprise.

5. Entrepreneurial Culture: A culture that promotes entrepreneurial attributes, values, beliefs, risk-taking behaviour, innovation, leadership, and opportunity recognition.

6. Entrepreneur: An individual possessing an entrepreneurial mindset who strives to transform ideas into sustainable and scalable ventures.

7. Entrepreneurship Education: A structured academic and experiential learning approach that equips students with knowledge, skills, mentoring, and exposure required for entrepreneurial success.

8. Fab Lab / Prototype Lab: A small-scale digital fabrication laboratory equipped with computer-controlled tools and machinery enabling rapid prototyping and product development across multiple materials and design scales.

9. Hackathon: A time-bound collaborative innovation event where programmers, designers, engineers, and domain experts work intensively to develop technological solutions, software applications, or prototypes.

10. Incubation: A structured support mechanism combining infrastructure, mentorship, business development services, funding access, and networking to nurture start-ups during their early growth stages.

11. Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Licensing: A formal agreement between an IP owner (licensor) and another party (licensee) authorizing the use of intellectual property in exchange for royalty or fee.

12. Pre-Incubation: An early-stage support program assisting innovators who possess ideas or preliminary prototypes in refining business models before formal incubation.

13. Prototype: An early functional model or sample of a product developed to test feasibility, validate concepts, and refine design.

14. Seed Fund: An early-stage investment where capital is provided to a start-up in exchange for equity, enabling proof-of-concept validation and initial market entry.

15. Start-up: An entity developing a scalable and replicable business model based on product or service innovation, as defined under Gazette Notification No. G.S.R. 127(E) dated February 19, 2019.

16. Faculty / Staff / Student Start-up: A start-up initiated by faculty members, staff, or students enrolled in an AICTE-recognized academic institution.

17. Technology Business Incubator (TBI): An institutional entity that supports technology-driven start-ups by providing infrastructure, mentorship, networking, funding linkages, and commercialization assistance.

18. Technology Commercialization (TC): The process of transferring innovations and research outcomes from laboratory development to market-ready products or services.

19. Technology Licensing: A contractual agreement in which a technology owner permits another party to use, modify, or commercialize technological intellectual property in exchange for compensation.

20. Venture Capital: Professional investment provided by venture capital firms in high-growth start-ups, often accompanied by strategic mentorship, business scaling assistance, and follow-up funding rounds.

Technology Readiness Level (TRL):

Technology Readiness Level (TRL) is a systematic metric used to assess the maturity level of a particular technology. It enables institutions like JIT to evaluate innovation progress from idea stage to full commercialization.

- **TRL 0: Idea** Unproven Concept, No testing has been performed.
- **TRL 1: Basic Research** Principles postulated and observed but no experimental proof of concept available.
- **TRL 2: Technology Formulation** Concept and application have been formulated.
- **TRL 3: Applied Research** First Laboratory test completed; Proof of Concept (PoC).
- **TRL 4: Small Scale Prototype** built in a laboratory environment ("Ugly" Prototype).
- **TRL 5: Large Scale Prototype** tested in intended environment
- **TRL 6: Prototype System tested in intended environment** close to expected performance.
- **TRL 7: Demonstration System** operating in operational environment at pre-commercial scale
- **TRL 8: First of kind commercial system-** Manufacturing issues resolved.
- **TRL 9: Full Commercial application**- Technology available for consumers.

KPI Monitor & Evaluation:

Sl. No.	Hierarchy of Objectives	Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)	Means and Verification
1.	**Vision**	❖ 5% Increase in Self-Employment Rate. ❖ 5 Established Start-ups.	➢ ARIIA, NIRF Rankings
	Goal/Impact	❖ Enable Environment with multiple level of support for innovation & Entrepreneurship in JIT. ❖ 5% of Graduate students will choose Entrepreneurship as career. ❖ 10% of Student and Graduates Practice Entrepreneurship.	➢ Biannual Survey ➢ ARIIA, NIRF Rankings
	Outcomes	❖ 25%of student & faculty mass with entrepreneurship Orientation. ❖ 12% of Student & faculty motivated to start any entrepreneurial activity. ❖ 5 of IPR/Innovations developed for commercialization. ❖ 5 of Student/Early Stage Start-ups formed. ❖ 12% of In-house Expert Capacity available for Advisory Services. ❖ 12% of Satisfaction over Advisory services offered to Innovators & Early Stage Entrepreneurs. ❖ Network Established with connecting multiple stakeholders & Ecosystem Enablers.	➢ Biannual Survey ➢ Quarterly News Letter

	Outputs	❖ 25% of Student & faculty mass exposed to awareness/orientation building programs. ❖ 25% of Students covered through entrepreneurship Education; MOOC, Class Room, Experiential learning programs etc. ❖ 250 of beneficiaries are accessing the infrastructure & facilities per day, month & Year. ❖ 50 of innovators identified; 25 of awarded/recognized; 25 of Supported. ❖ 5 of Student projects turns to (commercialize) Innovations. ❖ 5 of IPR based product/services generated and registration filed. ❖ 12% of in-house trained professional developed for advisory services. ❖ 5 of Research Studies on Entrepreneurship published. ❖ 2 of Regional, National and International linkages established for the start-up & innovation. ❖ 5% Representatives of experts & entrepreneurial students across Dept. & Disciplines. ❖ 5 of Beneficiaries Referred to Incubators/investors for further support through Start-up Cell. ❖ 10 of Beneficiaries generated under various schemes and programs	➢ Biannual Survey ➢ Monthly progress report

		leveraged and converged at Start-up Cell.	
	Activities	❖ 5 Education/Skill certification program on Entrepreneurship, IIPR, Innovation etc. ❖ 25 of workshops, awareness, market outreach events, orientation, advocacy meetings etc. ❖ 12 of networking event (Intra and Inter institutional, enablers, stakeholders) organized ❖ 5 of skill and competency development training programs/FDPs/EDPs organized. ❖ 5 of research studies related to Entrepreneurship conducted ❖ 01 of national and regional award and campus Hackathon like events organized ❖ Incentivizing Entrepreneurship and Innovation; services and facilities; Start-up Manual, policies, tool kits etc. ❖ 1% of total budget/year spend against total institution revenue for start-up ❖ Budget allocation and Spend ratio for the start-up mandate in institute	❖ Biannual Survey ❖ Quarterly News Letter ❖ Monthly progress report ❖ Review Meetings

	Equity	❖ Incubation support and facility with an exchange of equity (approximately 5-15%) for startups based on TRL level and market potential of the products.	❖ Biannual Survey ❖ Quarterly News Letter ❖ Monthly progress report ❖ Review Meetings

Tentative plan for the next 3 years:

S. No.	Activity	Frequency
1	One Day Workshop on "Entrepreneurship and Innovation as Career Opportunity"	One per Year
2	One Day Workshop on Problem Solving/Design Thinking/Ideation Workshop/ Campus Hackathon etc	Two per Year
3	Field/Exposure Visit to Village/Society /School/Industry/Market – Identity real Life Problem	Two per Year
4	Special Talk on My Story - Entrepreneur's Life & Crossroad – Motivational Speak - To be Share by Entrepreneurs	Two per Year
5	Product Development Phases - Story Telling - (Innovators in Campus)	Two per Year
6	National Conference/workshop on Start-up/Social Innovation & Entrepreneurship	One per Year
7	Demo Day – Exhibition Cum Demo for PoCs & Mentorship Session for Innovators (or) Student Entrepreneurs	One per Year
8	Internship at Innovation & Start-up entre/Startups/Incubation Unit etc. during Semester Break	One per Year
9	Field/Exposure Visit to Incubation Unit/Patent Facilitation sentre/Technology Transfer Centre	Two per Year
10	Business Plan Contest	One per Year
11	One Day Awareness/Mentoring Session on IPR & IP Management for Innovation and Start-ups	One per Year
12	Field/Exposure Visit to Design Centre/Makers' Space/Fab Lab/Prototype Lab/Tinkering Lab etc.,	Two per Year
13	Seminar on Accelerator/Incubation - Opportunity for Student Faculty - Early Stage Entrepreneurs	One per Year
14	Seminar on Understanding Angel and Venture Capital Funding - What is there for Early Stage Innovator & Entrepreneurs	One per Year
15	Bootcamp for Innovation product development	One per Year
16	Innovation Day Celebrations	One per Year
17	National Science Day	One per Year

18	Workshop Funding Opportunities for Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development	Two per Year
19	JIT- Hackathon	
20	Short Term Training course on Innovation /Start-up & Entrepreneurship	