Mizoram – Mizoram Entrepreneurship & Startup Policy 2019

Preamble

Mizoram lags behind in industrialization and technological advancements due to geographic and historic factors.

Recognizes entrepreneurship as a key driver for economic and social development, employment generation, and bridging rural-urban divides.

The policy aims to harness the youth’s potential amid a demographic dividend phase, encouraging entrepreneurship for economic growth.

Vision

To build a vibrant entrepreneurial ecosystem nurturing startups and fostering innovation in Mizoram.

Mission

Spread awareness and instill entrepreneurial spirit among all, especially youth.

Provide necessary skills for successful entrepreneurship.

Promote small and micro enterprises with innovative potential.

Facilitate networking and mentoring.

Implement supportive regulatory frameworks conducive to business.

Objectives

Disseminate entrepreneurship knowledge through events and media.

Recognize entrepreneurs via awards.

Publish entrepreneurship manuals in local language (Mizo).

Provide skill development training and exposure.

Build institutional support like entrepreneurship cells and incubation centers.

Enable microfinance and promote ease of doing business.

Policy Scope & Period

Policy provides additional incentives beyond Government of India initiatives.

Effective from policy notification till amended or replaced.

Definitions

Clear definitions for terms such as entrepreneur, innovation, startup, incubator, accelerator, and others as per international and national frameworks.

Governance Structure

Entrepreneurship Development Scheme (EDS) is the core implementation vehicle.

Mizoram State Entrepreneurship Development & Monitoring Committee (MEDMOC) constituted with senior government officials and experts for policy oversight.

Planning Department is the nodal agency with a dedicated secretariat managing day-to-day execution.

Ecosystem Building

Awareness & Outreach: Workshops, local TV programs, and NGO participation promoting entrepreneurship.

Skill Development: Master Trainer programs, entrepreneurship manuals, exposure tours.

Institution Building: Establishment of Entrepreneurship Development Centres, Knowledge Cells, and incubation hubs.

Microfinance: Programs like Micro Startup Competition (Rahbi) to provide seed funding, requiring matched funds or loans from winners.

Events: Hackathons, Grand Challenges for problem-solving innovations.

Support & Infrastructure

Creation of incubation centers with mentoring, office spaces, networking, and technical support.

Facilitate additional mentoring via partnerships with existing incubators and academic/economic institutions.

Funding

Formation of angel networks and social investor groups.

Proposed Innovation Fund for research and commercialization support.

Incentives

Fiscal Incentives:

GST reimbursement capped at ₹7 lakh per year for seven years.

Stamp duty and registration fee reimbursement.

Digital upgradation subsidy covering 50% of expenditure (up to ₹2 lakh).

Lease rental reimbursement of 50% for three years (up to ₹2 lakh per year).

Power subsidy of 50% up to ₹10 lakh per annum for five years.

100% patent filing cost reimbursement (up to ₹2 lakh domestic, ₹5 lakh international).

Non-fiscal Incentives:

Market access facilitation including government procurement benefits.

Exemption from Earnest Money Deposit during government tenders.

Self-certification in labor and employment related compliances.

Capacity Building & Education

Academic curriculum updates to include entrepreneurship education.

Support to create Entrepreneurship Development Cells in colleges and universities.

Development of training manuals and dissemination in local language.

Organize training workshops, bootcamps, and industry exposure programs.

Promotion & Events

Organize awards for outstanding entrepreneurs.

Host start-up summits, conclaves, and interactive forums.

Facilitate networking between entrepreneurs, investors, industry, and government.

Monitoring and Review

Startup Council: Chaired by Chief Secretary, includes key secretaries, industry, and academic representatives overseeing certifications, approvals, and policy reviews.

Task Force Committee: Reviews policy implementation, approves incentives, meets biannually.

Policies revisited and revised based on feedback and changing needs.

Procedure and Legal Framework

Certified incubators and nodal agencies coordinate startup certifications.

Innovators submit proposals to mentor institutes for recommendation and certification.

Decision on disputes or clarifications rests with Commerce & Industries Department.

The state government reserves the right to amend or repeal the policy provisions.

Source: Mizoram Startup Policy 2018

Issued by: Government of Mizoram – Planning Department