

# SHIVAJI UNIVERSITY, KOLHAPUR

(NAAC Re-accredited A<sup>++</sup> Grade with CGPA 3.16)

## NOTIFICATION

### PM-USHA Scheme Grant to Strengthen Universities Soft Component Activities Innovative Research and Entrepreneurship

Applications are invited for Innovative Research, Startup and Entrepreneurship based projects under PM-USHA Soft Component Innovative Research and Entrepreneurship for the financial year 2024 – 2025 and 2025-2026.

Under this scheme of Innovative Research, Start-up and Entrepreneurship based projects are invited from Shivaji University Permanent / Regular / Temporary faculty, Research Scholars and UG/PG students through mentor teacher of the university departments, centres and chairs in the prescribed format (Annexure-I). The project proposal may please be prepared as per the Guidelines and SOP of PM-USHA Soft Component Innovative Research and Entrepreneurship. The proposals which meet the objectives of the scheme would be pursued further for consideration. The project proposal complete in all respects along with relevant documents may be sent in **soft copy along with three hard copies** through Head / Co-ordinator of the Department on E-mail [sciil@unishivaji.ac.in](mailto:sciil@unishivaji.ac.in) Phone No. : 0231-2609440 **on or before 5<sup>th</sup> September 2024**. Hard copies be submitted to SCIIL office B-3 quarters, opposite NSS office. Incomplete proposals will not be considered.

**Prof. (Dr.) S. D. Delekar**  
**Director, IIL**

**Shivaji University, Kolhapur**  
**Standard Operation Procedure (SOP) for Financial Assistance to Innovative**  
**Research and Startup Projects Under PM-USHA**

**Preamble :**

Education Ministry, Government of India has started Pradhan Mantri Uchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (PM-USHA) Component – 2 (Grants to Strengthen University); which is sanctioned to our University. Along with the different verticals, soft component is one of the verticals to be conducted under this project. It consists of the various activities such as capacity building of stakeholders, conduction of value added courses, organization of FDP/MDP/EDP, promotion of internalisation, e-content development on IKS and core courses, Innovative Research & Entrepreneurship development, and IPR related activities, etc. In connection to Innovative Research & Entrepreneurship development, the stakeholders will be trained through workshops, orientation program about innovative research leading to explore further into patent and startup. In addition, the financial support will be provided to the various innovative research project for fostering innovation and entrepreneurship endeavors solely through Shivaji University, Kolhapur under PMUSHA project. The fund will be allocated annually, depending on the quality and the potential for commercial production or patentability of the research and innovation projects submitted by the stakeholders. There are no restrictions on the number of projects that can be undertaken by an individual or a group of individuals per year, provided that the projects meet the required standards of quality.

**Funding :**

Funding Amount: Up to 5 Lakhs

Duration of Project: Max 1.5 years (progress evaluation after every 6 months)

**Selection Criteria :**

1. The Shivaji University will issue a call notice for inviting the proposals from **14<sup>th</sup> August 2024 ends up to 5<sup>th</sup> September 2024**. The University stakeholders such as i) individual faculty, ii) a group of faculties, iii) research scholars or UG/PG students along with Mentor (Ph.D. guide/teacher from University campus only), iv) Incubatee (associated with University department only) of the SUKCRDF/SCIIL with Mentor (Ph.D. guide/teacher from University campus) can submit the proposal as per the template provided (Annexure – I).

The selection of the projects will be made through the recommendation of scrutiny/screening committee followed by the project presentation before the selection committee. A screening committee will be established to scrutinize the proposals according to a predefined process. The selected scrutinized proposal will be presented before the selection committee for final recommendations for the projects. Scrutiny and Selection committee will be formed with prior approval from the University authority.

2. The approval/endorsement of an innovation project will depend on the innovation funds resulting in a solution for current technical and social challenges that eventually leads to the generation of a viable entrepreneurship/startups/ intellectual property/publication in Q1 journal that can be marketed and has potential for commercial success through technology transfer.

3. Research scholars/Students will be free to choose their mentor from among the faculty members of University campus for such projects. If required, the Shivaji University Center for Innovation, Incubation and Linkages will designate a faculty mentor for such projects, in consultation with the appropriate academic authority

**Conditions :**

1. The selection committee's decision will be considered as the final recommendation for granting funds. The funds must be utilized within the designated timeframe.
2. A student or group of students or research scholars must enlist the assistance of a faculty member as a mentor for the project, and the faculty mentor will be responsible for completing the project within the stipulated timeframe and submission of utilization certificate as per the University rules and regulations.

**Innovation/Startup Project Outcome:**

1. The innovation/Startup project funds must be used to initiate projects that have both technical and/or social significance.
2. The project ideas should be unique and not a replication of a previously proposed or utilized project unless there is a distinct value addition in the implementation or outcome.
3. The projects should be developed to a level where they have the potential to attract venture capital funding and enable the establishment of a startup.
4. The developed research / innovation product or prototype should be capable of being converted into intellectual property in the form of a patent, copyright, or trademark.
5. The developed research / innovation product or technology should have the potential to attract additional funding from external agencies like BIRAC, SERB, DST, DBT, ICMR, etc., to facilitate further development towards commercial success.
6. The research/innovation funds must be disbursed to projects whose findings have the potential to be published in peer-reviewed Q1 journals.

**Utilization of Innovative Research and Startup Projects Grant :**

1. The expenditure from the project fund must be strictly related to research or innovation work, such as purchasing materials and chemicals for manufacturing specific components, conducting research-specific surveys for gathering data, purchasing specific equipment or software, etc.
2. Every expenditure must be approved by the individual approving authority and the actual expenditure must be made through the procurement department following through rules and regulations of the University.
4. After the completion of the project, a utilization certificate with audited statement report in the format prescribed (Annexure – II) must be submitted to the University authority.

**Proposal Format of Financial Support for Innovative Research and Startup Project  
Grants under PM-USHA Grants**

1. Title of the **Innovation / Startup** Project :
2. Subject/Thrust Area of the Project : Chemical Sciences/Physical Sciences/Life Sciences/ Engineering & Technology /Humanities/Commerce & Management/Interdisciplinary Studies/Others
2. Name(s) of Principal Investigator :
3. Designation :
4. Department/ School / Chair :
5. E-mail :
6. Mobile number :
7. Name of the Co-Principal Investigator/s :
8. Name(s) of Mentor (If any) :
9. Designation of Mentor :
10. Department/ School / Chair :
11. E-mail :
12. Mobile number :
13. Detailed description of the project :
  - a. Introduction (A4 Size, Max. 1 Page):
  - b. Objectives (A4 Size, Max. 4-5 Bullet points):
  - c. Statement of Problem / Idea (A4 Size, Max. ½ Page):
  - d. Innovative Solution to the problem (A4 Size, Max. 1 Page):
  - e. Miniature prototype/product to be developed with methodology (A4 Size, Max. 2 Pages):
  - f. Proposed Financials Assistance:

Sr. No.	Recurring items	Total Rs.	Justification
1.			
2.			
3.			
<b>Total Rs.</b>			

(\* No project fellow and travel grant will be allowed in the financial requirements of the proposed project)

13. Proposed Outcome of the Innovative Research and Startup Project:

- a. Product/ service/process Development,  
Social innovation : Yes / No
- b. Start-up : Yes / No
- c. IPR, Trademark : Yes / No
- e. Employment Generations : Yes / No

Date :

Signature of Principal Investigator  
(Shivaji University Permanent / Regular faculty)

Signature of Co-Principal Investigator  
(Shivaji University Permanent / Regular / Temporary faculty)

Signature of Mentor  
(Only for UG/PG students/Research Scholar)

Forwarded through : Head of the Department / Director of the Department /  
Director, IIL

Annexure – II

**Utilization Certificate Format**

Certified that the grant of Rs..... (Rupees.....) out of the total grant of Rs..... Sanctioned to.....by the Shivaji University under PMUSHA project vide their letter No. F.....dated.....towards.....has been utilized for the purpose for which it was sanctioned and in accordance with the terms and conditions as laid down by the Commission. If as a result of check or audit objection, some irregularity is noticed at a later State, action will be taken to refund or regularize the objected amount.

**Date & Signature of the PI**

**Date & Signature of the Mentor (if any)**

**Date & Signature of Head of the Department**

**Date & Signature of Finance & Accounts officer of the University**