

IMPORTANT DECISIONS

GUJARAT BIOTECHNOLOGY POLICY (2016-21) & GUJARAT BIOTECHNOLOGY POLICY (2022-27)

Abstract

Note: IMPORTANT DECISIONS are the Decisions taken by the State Level Empowered Committee of Department of Science & Technology in various meetings and they clarify interpretations, as needed at specific instances for execution and implementation of Biotechnology Policies

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Important Decision # 1: Clarification for items/ categories eligible for the purpose of calculation of expenditure under marketing assistance

(As decided by the Empowered Committee dated: 19.05.2017)

Clarity towards items/ categories eligible under marketing expenditure was needed in the policy. Empowered Committee discussed the matter and has approved expenditure for the following items/ categories under marketing expenditure for the purpose of calculation of marketing assistance:

- a. Brochure Designing and Printing
- b. Print and electronic media advertising including social media
- c. Website designing, hosting and management etc.
- d. Actual expenditure of travelling for marketing purpose after self-certification and production of evidence including lodging and boarding.
- e. Participation of Start-up in national/ state trade fair, exhibition, technology demonstration, business meeting, seminars etc.
- f. Manpower expenditure for the marketing purpose by way of contract/ outsourcing/ regular employment.
- g. Product designing and product packaging.

Committee also suggested that the list is illustrative and not exhaustive and decision for any additional category can be taken based on the submission of the claim by MD GSBTM on case-to-case basis.

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Important Decision # 2: Clarification for considering indirect employees for the purpose of calculating lease rental subsidy in the case of Start-up.

(As decided by the Empowered Committee dated: 19.05.2017)

Clarity towards considering indirect employees in the case of Start-up for the purpose of calculating lease rental subsidy was required.

Empowered Committee discussed that Start-up may not have direct employees. The Empowered Committee discussed that when few persons join together to form a start-up, they may not employ persons other than themselves. Hence in the true spirit of the policy, the Empowered Committee decided that such persons who have formed a start-up and working for the same can be considered as indirect employees for the purpose of calculating lease rental subsidy.

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Important Decision # 3: Clarification towards expenses admissible under Capital Assistance & Operating Expenses admissible to Finishing Schools

(As decided by the Empowered Committee dated: 08.03.2018)

Clarity towards which expenses shall be admissible under the Capital Assistance and Operating Expenses was needed.

The Empowered Committee discussed the matter and approved the following Non- Recurring and Recurring expenses under Capital Assistance and Operating Expenses respectively:

Non-Recurring Expenditure approved by the Empowered Committee under financial head of Capital Expenses of Finishing School:

Procurement of Equipment, Instruments, Accessories, and Spares

Furniture and Refurbishing of the Spaces required for Finishing School

Recurring Expenditure approved by the Empowered Committee under financial head of Operating Expenses of Finishing School:

- i. Remuneration to the Project Staff for the duration of module; Honorarium & Travel Assistance to Resource Persons;
- ii. Repairs and Maintenance of the Instruments, for which Capital expenses have been borne;
- iii. License fees for softwares/ databases;
- iv. Consumables towards training of trainees;
- v. Contingent expense
- vi. Industry Visit for trainees.
- vii. Expenses towards Study Material, resources, stationary items.
- viii. Advertisements, Fees towards Professional Services.
- ix. Utility expenses for Electricity, Water, Drainage and Waste management limited to the space of Finishing School
- x. Procurement of Books, periodicals, Journals, including e-journals

Important Decision # 4: Clarification regarding the disbursement schedule of Capital Assistance and Operating Expenses to Finishing Schools eligible under BT policy 2016- 21

(As decided by the Empowered Committee dated: 08.03.2018)

The Empowered Committee discussed the matter and decided that the following clarity be provided to the applicants regarding the Disbursement Schedule. The same is essentially, in the same spirit of the Disbursement Schedule approved by the Government, i.e. in three tranches viz. 25%, 50% & 25% on approval, 60% expenditure & on commissioning respectively.

Existing Provisions or Disbursement Schedule as per the Scheme Document vide 7.7.b	
Assistance for R & D Institute/ Shared Industrial testing Facilities / Finishing School	<p>Three Tranches:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25% on acquisition of land, approval of building plan • 50% after expenditure of 60% of the eligible project cost • 25% on commissioning of R & D Institute/Finishing School
Clarification provided by the Empowered Committee towards disbursement of Capital Assistance and Operating Expenses to Finishing Schools	
Capital Assistance for Finishing School	<p>Three Tranches:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25 % on approval, if space for Finishing School is available • 50% after expenditure of 60% of the eligible project cost towards Capital Expenses for that year. • 25% on commissioning of Finishing School (on starting of first batch for that year).
	The disbursement towards second and third tranche, if applicable, shall be subsequent to submission of claim documents evidencing actual payments/ bills, installations/ commissioning and physical inspection by GSBTM Team (if needed).
Operating Expenses for Finishing School	<p>Three Tranches:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25 % on starting of a particular batch/ module • 50% after completion of half duration of that particular module • 25% on completion of that particular batch/ module
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The applicant is expected to run the proposed modules for five years, from the date of award of the Final approval with minimum 2 modules each year. • The minimum number of participants should be 20 as prescribed in the Policy. If the number of participant falls much below the prescribed i.e. below 15, No Operating Expenses shall be admissible for that module, whatsoever. However, if the number of participants are more than prescribed, the Operating Expenses admissible shall be subject to the ceiling.

Important Decision # 5: Clarification Regarding calculation of GFCI for eligible BT Units Biotechnology Policy 2016-21

(As decided by the Empowered Committee dated: 28.02.2019)

For deciding eligible GFCI for the purpose of incentives in case of eligible Units (i.e. New and/ or those undertaking expansion/ diversification); as provided in Scheme Document Para 1.10, the eligible GFCI is to be calculated in a manner that the expenditure on buildings cannot be more than 20% of the eligible GFCI. Hence, if the expenses proposed for other than buildings¹ is say, 'Y'; then the expenses on buildings cannot be more than 'Y/4' for the purpose of calculation of eligible GFCI. Accordingly, the calculation of total eligible GFCI would be done. The Empowered Committee decided that the applicant has to submit item-wise detailed proposal along with supporting documents, certificates, bills, payment receipts, etc. and its calculations for obtaining capital subsidy to GSBTM for final approval of the Empowered Committee. On such approval, GSBTM will disburse the subsidy to the applicant as per the disbursement schedule. Also expenses towards Computers & Software, Furniture & Fixtures, Office Equipment, Vehicles, etc. (movables items) will NOT be considered towards eligible GFCI. This principle shall be applicable to all previous & future decisions of the Empowered Committee.

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¹ Expenses other than buildings include Plants & Machinery, Electricals, etc., and would be 80% of the eligible GFCI



Important Decision # 6: Clarification regarding incentives towards Skill certification to eligible BT Start-Ups under Biotechnology Policy 2016-21

(As decided by the Empowered Committee dated: 27.07.2020)

The presently approved and future Start-Up applicants should consider the following and submit their claims along with the bills/ evidences towards expenses made, while claiming assistance towards Skill Certification:

- a.* The promoters of Start-Ups shall be deemed to be employees for the purpose of this assistance.
- b.* 90% of the Course fees borne by the Start-Up towards training/ skill certification of the employees, when the training is imparted for at least 3 full days or 5 part-time days in a month at institutes recognized by UGC/ State Government/ AICTE/ DSIR/ CSIR shall be considered towards Skill Certification Grant for Start-Ups within the ceiling and duration specified in the Scheme Document for the said Grant.

This principle shall be applicable to all previous & future Start-Up Applicants under the Biotechnology Policy 2016-21.

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Important Decision # 7: Clarification regarding Interest Subsidy incentive to Eligible BT Units/ Start-Ups under Biotechnology Policy 2016-21

(As decided by the Empowered Committee dated: 28.09.2021)

The presently approved and future BT Unit and Start-Up applicants should consider the following and submit their claims along with the supporting documents towards expenses made, while claiming assistance towards Interest Subsidy:

- a) Interest Subsidy be only considered on Term Loans from a bank or financial institutions based in India and is in Indian Rupee denomination, not exceeding interest liability of eligible unit.
- b) No Interest Subsidy be considered for Cash Credit Loan or Loan taken towards Working Capital or any other purpose.

This principle shall be applicable to all previous & future BT Unit and Start-Up Applicants under the Biotechnology Policy 2016-21.

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Important Decision # 8: Clarification regarding Employment Generation Incentive to the Eligible BT Units under Biotechnology Policy 2016-21

(As decided by the Empowered Committee dated: 28.09.2021)

The presently approved and future BT Unit applicants should consider the following and submit their claims along with the supporting documents towards expenses made, while claiming assistance towards Employment Generation Incentive on EPF:

- a) No Employment Generation Incentive on EPF be considered for Outsourced/ Contractual Employees.

This principle shall be applicable to all previous & future BT Unit Applicants under the Biotechnology Policy 2016-21.

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Important Decision # 9: Clarification for consideration of number of employees for the purpose of calculation of lease rental subsidy for BT Start-ups and BT Units.

(As decided by the Empowered Committee dated: 28.09.2021)

While admitting claims for the Lease Rental Subsidy to the BT start-ups or BT units for specific month (that are a function of employee count for that specific month); the headcounts of the employees that have served for at least 23 days for that specific month (as evident through documents submitted for either joining date or relieving date) shall be considered.

This principle shall be applicable to all previous & future BT Unit and BT Start-Up Applicants under the Biotechnology Policy 2016-21.

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Important Decision # 10: Clarification regarding the Mechanism for Incentive Disbursement to the Eligible Applicants under Biotechnology Policy 2016-21 & Biotechnology Policy 2022-27 during their Overlapping Claim Period

(As decided by the Empowered Committee dated: 16.08.2024)

The presently approved and future BT Unit applicants should consider the following and submit their claims along with the supporting documents towards expenses made, while claiming assistance under the Gujarat Biotechnology Policy 2016-21 & Biotechnology Policy 2022-27 during their Overlapping Claim Period in case of an expansion:

The total duration of operational assistance, as specified by the old and new Biotechnology Policies is five (5) years. The base count method will be applicable to the disbursement under the old BT Policy, i.e. BT Policy 2016-21, and the disbursement under the new BT Policy 2022-27 for the expansion claims will be according to the incremental count beyond the base value. This mechanism of calculation will be applicable to all other BT Unit/ Claims under the old and new Biotechnology Policies, which might have overlapping period of OPEX incentives.

This principle shall be applicable to all previous & future BT Unit Applicants under the Biotechnology Policy 2016-21 and Biotechnology Policy 2022-27 which might have overlapping period of OPEX incentives.

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Important Decision # 11: Clarification regarding the Mechanism for Incentive Disbursement to the Eligible Applicants for GFCI linked incentives (Capital Subsidy, Interest Subsidy) under Biotechnology Policy 2016-21 & Biotechnology Policy 2022-27

(As decided by the State Level Empowered Committee of Gujarat State Electronics Mission dated: 28.02.2023)

The presently approved and future BT Unit applicants should consider the following and submit their claims along with the supporting documents for expenses made (on Interest paid to the financial institution on Term Loan) towards Interest Subsidy, while claiming assistance under the Gujarat Biotechnology Policy 2016-21 & Biotechnology Policy 2022-27:

Interest Subsidy should be considered only for the eligible Gross Fixed Capital Investment (e-GFCI) components, verified at the time of the site inspection. So, the interest subsidy has to be calculated in proportionate manner against eligible GFCI according to the Policy and is to be disbursed accordingly. Any other Term Loan component which is actually not related to the core investment in the project/ BT Unit should be excluded from the calculation of interest subsidy. Subject to this condition, disbursements for this component are to be made.

Also, GFCI linked incentives such as Capital Subsidy, Interest Subsidy shall be disbursed only after the clarification/ due approvals from Department of Science & Technology, Government of Gujarat.

This principle shall be applicable to all previous & future BT Unit Applicants under the Biotechnology Policy 2016-21 and Biotechnology Policy 2022-27.

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Important Decision # 12: Interest Subsidy Incentive to the Eligible BT Unit/ Mega/ Special/ Ecosystem Strengthening Projects under Biotechnology Policy 2022-27

(As decided by the State Level Empowered Committee (SLEC) of Gujarat State Biotechnology Mission dated: 20.11.2025)

The presently approved and future BT Unit applicants should consider the following and submit their claims along with the supporting documents for expenses made (on Interest paid to the financial institution on Term Loan) towards Interest Subsidy, while claiming assistance under the Gujarat Biotechnology Policy 2016-21 & Biotechnology Policy 2022-27:

The Interest Subsidy shall be calculated under BT Policy 2022-27 as follows:

Assistance Type	Current Provision under BT Policy 2022-27 Vide Para 9.6 of IG	Approved Provision as Per SLEC dated 20.11.2025
Interest Subsidy on Term Loan	Beneficiary shall choose any one option amongst quarterly or half-yearly or annual Operational Assistance Claim, which shall be applicable for the duration of 5 years from Commercial Operations Date.	Beneficiary shall choose any one option amongst quarterly or half-yearly or annual Operational Assistance Claim, which shall be applicable for the duration of 5 years from the date of start of actual repayment to the lending financial institution.

This principle shall be applicable to all previous & future BT Unit Applicants under the Biotechnology Policy 2022-27 and subsequent Policies thereof.

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