

# ANNOUNCEMENT

**Dated: 15th November, 2023**

## **JAWAHARLAL NEHRU ALUMINIUM RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT AND DESIGN CENTER, NAGPUR**

(An autonomous body under Ministry of Mines, Government of India)

### **Invites Proposals from Startups, MSMEs and Individual Innovators under S&T-PRISM**

Proposals are invited from **Startups, MSMEs and Individual Innovators** for up to 2 years duration, which have direct bearing on mineral sector, applied and sustainable aspect of mining and industrial applications, for funding under “Promotion Of Research and Innovation in Startups and MSMEs in Mining, Mineral Processing, Metallurgy and Recycling Sector (S&T-PRISM)” under Science and Technology Programme of Ministry of Mines so as to enable them to graduate to a level where they will be able to raise investments from angel/Venture Capitalist or they will reach a position to seek loans from commercial banks/financial institutions. The funding is positioned to act as a bridge between development and commercialization of innovative technologies/products/services in a relatively hassle free manner.

Preference will be given to Startup/MSMEs of North East Region and women led enterprises.

The main idea of the S&T-PRISM is translation of research into technology (product/process/services) but not to carry out open ended fundamental research. Investigations must lead to innovation or new product/process ready for demonstration or pilot scale deployment (not only publication/ patent).

Funding support will be in the form of a grant of up to Rs. 50 lakhs for Startup, Rs. 1 Cr. for MSME and grant up to Rs. 2 Cr. may be considered for technology products requiring higher funding on the recommendation by TEC and approval by Apex Committee.

## **2. THRUST AREAS**

The broad thrust areas are given below:

- i. Prospecting/exploration for strategic rare and rare earth minerals.
- ii. Development of new technology for mineral exploration and mining on land and deep sea to locate and exploit new mineral resources.

- iii. Research in mining methods. This includes rock mechanics, mine designing, mining equipment, energy conservation, environmental protection and mine safety.
- iv. Improve efficiency in process, operations, recovery of by-products and reduction in specification and consumption norms.
- v. Research in metallurgy and mineral beneficiation techniques to utilize lower grade and finer size ores.
- vi. Extraction of value added products from mine waste, plant tailings etc.
- vii. Development of new alloys and metal related products, etc.
- viii. Evolve low capital and energy saving processing systems.
- ix. Production of materials of high purity.
- x. Cooperative research among organizations associated with the mineral sector.
- xi. Decarbonisation and development of green technology in mineral based industries
- xii. R&D to establish circular economy and use of recycled materials in mineral based industry
- xiii. Focus on extraction of strategic, critical and REE at elemental level

**3.** Under the S&T-PRISM, financial support will be provided to those projects/ideas who have reached at least "Proof of Concept (POC)" level. Financial support will be provided to the beneficiary in the form of grants. However, the implementing agency will work with other venture funds to get them more funding on mutually agreed entry-exit terms.

#### **4. Eligibility Criteria**

##### **4.1 Eligible Beneficiaries:**

**4.1.1** Startups, as defined and recognized by Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India, working towards innovation, development or improvement of products or processes or services, or if it is a scalable business model with a high potential of employment generation or wealth creation.

**4.1.2** Any Indian company incorporated under the Companies Act 1956/2013, primarily a Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) as defined in the MSME Act, 2006 having over 51% stakes by the Indian Citizen / NRI / OCI and Head Quarter in India.

**4.1.3** Individual Innovators will also be encouraged to apply (research & academic institutions can use this category to apply). However, release of the fund shall be subjected to compliance of eligibility conditions for either Startup or MSME before agreement signing.

**4.2** More than one organization can jointly submit the application in partnership with consortium, registered societies & Academia

**4.3** Collaboration with Academia / R&D Organization will be encouraged

**4.4** Every proposal must clearly identify a Project Lead (PL) who will take responsibility for

the technical and managerial aspects of the project execution. If an application is selected for funding support, then its Project Leader will be required to sign the project Agreement on behalf of the applicant(s).

**5. Name of the Implementing Agency for S&T-PRISM: Jawaharlal Nehru Aluminium Research Development and Design Center, Nagpur**

**6. Evaluation Criteria**

The indicative evaluation criteria for applicants under S&T-PRISM is as follows:

<b>S N</b>	<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Indicative Weightage (%)</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Technical Feasibility</b>	Feasibility & reasonability of the technical claims, methodology used/to be used for validation, roadmap for technology development	20
<b>2</b>	<b>Potential Impact</b>	Environmental sustainability, Market size, customer demographic & the technology's effect on these	20
<b>3</b>	<b>Novelty</b>	USP(s) of the technology, associated with the technology, national importance if any	15
<b>4</b>	<b>Commercialization Strategy</b>	Utilization of technology to create a product/service, its positioning & value addition for the intended customers, plan forgo-to-market, challenges executed	25
<b>5</b>	<b>Team</b>	Technical & business expertise, mentors	20
<b>TOTAL</b>			100

Selected beneficiaries will be offered funding over a period of maximum 24 months in installments against agreed milestones.

**7. Milestone based Fund releases**

7.1 Successful applicants will be offered funding support in the form of a grant of up to Rs. 50 lakhs for Startup and Rs. 1 Cr. for MSME. However, the grant up to Rs. 2 Cr. may be considered for technology products requiring higher funding on the recommendation by TEC

and approval by Apex Committee. The fund disbursement will be milestone-based and will be released in 4 installments:

<b>Installment</b>	<b>Milestone</b>	<b>Release</b>
1st Installment	Signing of Contract	40% of Total Grant
2nd Installment	Completion of 1st Milestone	20% of Total Grant
3rd Installment	Completion of 2nd Milestone	20% of Total Grant
4th Installment	Completion of project & submission of final report with prototype/product (focusing on Technology Completion of the project and outcome could be Technical Success or Failure)	20% of Total Grant

7.2 Timelines for milestones of the project shall be decided between the beneficiary and Implementing Agency after due-diligence approval.

### **8. Eligible expenditures for funding:**

Since the focus of S&T-PRISM is to facilitate creating of prototypes and bringing of products /technologies to market, applicants will be encouraged to spend on: -

- a) Research & Development (It includes the expenditure on manpower capitalized in the books of account for the development of product)
- b) Prototyping
- c) Testing, Trials and Piloting
- d) Commercialization

While, expenses on following are not permissible under the funding

- a) HR manpower expenses (Administrative expenses of Startups/MSMEs not included)
- b) Tools & Machineries
- c) Office expenses

**9. Procedure:** A Technical Expert Committee (TEC) will be constituted by the Implementing Agency to select beneficiaries, recommend release of grants/continuity/extension/short- close, periodically steer and review the technical and financial progress of the grant under S&T-PRISM. Final grant approval will be accorded by Apex Committee of the Ministry. After the approval of the Apex Committee, an agreement will be signed between the implementing agency and the beneficiary, defining terms of association.

### **10. Pilot Opportunity**

10.1 Piloting opportunity for supported Startup and MSME, shall be provided in the mining, mineral processing, metallurgy and recycling sector.

10.2 The pilot opportunities will be provided to startups and MSMEs in the following manner:

- a) Any Startup/ MSME desirous of availing the opportunity for pilot, shall be required to submit a detailed proposal outlining their requirements, scope of work, location for the pilot, timelines, potential impact, success metrics, etc.
- b) This proposal will be presented to Apex Committee for review & inputs.
- c) Apex Committee shall hold a one-on-one meeting with each interested team to discuss the proposal and finalize requirements.
- d) JNARDDC, NIRM and Startup India can provide strategic inputs in the Apex Committee evaluations and provide pilot opportunities to the shortlisted startups and MSME. R&D support from these organizations may be provided to shortlisted startups and MSME for at least 3 months to help these startups fine-tune their products and services,
- e) All finalized B2B proposals will be presented to a panel of corporate from mining, mineral processing, metallurgy and recycling sector on a 'Demo Day'. Apex Committee will facilitate all experimental licenses and other resources within 30 days of proposal review.

## **11. Procurement Opportunity**

Implementing Agency shall make appropriate mechanisms to ensure that products/ services developed by startups/MSMEs funded under S&T-PRISM, find market and become financially viable over a period of time. Ministry of Mines shall try to work with PSUs for getting them educational orders and also make available and work with them for technology trials. As per the Public Procurement Policy for Micro and Small Enterprises (MSMEs) every Central Ministry/Department/PSU shall set an annual goal of minimum 25 percent of the total annual purchases from the products or services produced or rendered by MSMEs. Ministry of Mines will sensitize the concerned agencies about the products/services developed by startups/MSMEs and request for consideration of their proposals, submitted i.r.o. their tenders, as per due rules and procedures.

## **12. Assistance and Support**

### **12.1 Incubation /Mentoring Support**

Selected Startup and MSMEs will be provided mentorship or incubation support and technical advisory support during entire project development period and additionally for two years from the date of Technical Completion, by a Facilitation & Mentorship Team under the Implementing Agency Team along with panel of Experts consisting of Technical, Financial, Market Development, Legal & Compliance etc and with the use of various dedicated government portal such as MAARG Portal of Startup India, DPIIT . The objective of this coaching/mentorship is to create success stories in the mining, mineral processing, metallurgy and recycling sector by offering focused and detailed support individually to each selected projects. This incubation support shall be provided by Incubator Partners, Industry Partners, etc.

## 12.2 Scope of Mentoring Support

- a) **Advisory:** Strategic support for scaling up of operations & expansion in new geographies, and product building & enhancement.
- b) **Network:** Reach out to relevant individuals/entities to enable R&D, specialized mentorship, partnerships, marketing, etc.
- c) **Tapping Resources:** Enable startup's participation in grand challenges, Government Schemes, incubation/acceleration programs, relevant events, etc.
- d) **Pilots:** Enabling pilots with corporate, Government, universities, etc.
- e) **Business Plan:** Guidance on raising capital
- f) **Funding Raising:** Startup can raise the fund from various sources depending on the nature of business, viz Grant from other Ministry/Dept, Conditional Grant, Award, Soft Loan, Loan etc.

Besides the above, to further strengthen innovation and entrepreneurial development, startup beneficiaries may also leverage the MAARG portal, the Startup India international bridges, Startup India's corporate programs and the Startup India Investor Connect Portal.

**13.** The S&T-PRISM Guidelines, details of terms and conditions and the prescribed proforma are available at SATYABHAMA Portal which may be accessed at [research.mines.gov.in](http://research.mines.gov.in). Project Leaders (PLs) are requested to go through the S&T guidelines and terms and conditions available on the portal.

**14.** The proposals should be emailed to [startups-mines@gov.in](mailto:startups-mines@gov.in) in pdf format alongwith all the enclosures. **Last date of submission of proposals is 15.12.2023.** The PLs need not send the hard copy of project proposals. Project proposals submitted in physical mode will not be accepted. The PLs of those projects, which are shortlisted shall be directed to present their proposal either physically (in Delhi or in any other city in India) or through video conferencing, which will be communicated to them. The timelines are as under:

Details	Date
<b>Last date of Project Submission by email</b>	<b>15.12.2023</b>
Conduct of TEC Meeting	<b>By December 2023</b>
Conduct of Apex Committee Meeting	<b>By December 2023</b>

**15.** The Grants-in-aid will be governed by the S&T-PRISM Guidelines of the Ministry of Mines, Government of India's terms and conditions as amended from time to time.

**16.** For further queries, please email us at: [startups-mines@gov.in](mailto:startups-mines@gov.in)

# FORMAT OF APPLICATION FOR S&T PRISM PROGRAM

**Last date of submission: 15<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

**Email for submission: [startups-mines@gov.in](mailto:startups-mines@gov.in)**

**For Guidelines visit: <https://research.mines.gov.in/>**



सत्यमेव जयते

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF  
**M I N E S**

**Implementing Organization for S&T-PRISM**  
**Jawaharlal Nehru Aluminium Research Development and Design Center**  
**Autonomous body, Ministry of Mines, Government of India**  
**<https://jnarddc.gov.in>**

### Part - I

1.	Applying as an (Tick whichever is applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Startup</a> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">MSME</a> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Consortium</a> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Individual</a>
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### Part. II Details of the Project Lead(PL):

1.	Name	
2.	Mobile No	
3.	Email ID	
4.	Organization	
5.	Organization Type (Tick whichever is applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/> Academia <input type="checkbox"/> Startup <input type="checkbox"/> MSME <input type="checkbox"/> Registered Society
6.	Name of the organizations in the consortium	

### Part. III Company Details

1.	Name of the Organization	
2.	Organization's Registration No	
3.	Organization's GST number	
4.	Organization's PAN number	
5.	Certificate of Incorporation	<i>To be attached with the application form</i>
6.	Date of Incorporation	
7.	Legal Status	
8.	Are you incubated with any Incubator? IF YES,	YES / NO
	6.1. Incubator Name	
	6.2. Certificate from Incubation Centre / Park / Association	
9.	Latest Audited Balance sheet:	<i>To be attached with the application form</i>
10.	Have you bootstrapped (Own contribution) in your startup	YES / NO
11.	Have you raised/Received any funds/investment from external sources	YES / NO
12.	Please provide turnover details for last two years certified by CA (if applicable) Amount (In ₹)	Year 1 ₹      Year 2 ₹



13.	Registered office Address 1.City 2.State 3.Phone 4.Postal Address	
14.	Current Office address 1.City 2.State 3.Phone 4.Postal Address 5.Website Link	

### Part. IV PL's Company Team Details

#### 1. Founding Team Details (Fill in details of each member)

Name of the Company	
Name of Founder	
Gender	
Qualification	
Role in the Company	
Professional Experience	
Date of Birth	
Mobile No	
Email ID	
% of the shareholding in the company	

#### 2. Directors Information of the company

Name of the Director	IN No.

#### 3. Key Employee Details of the Company

Name of the Company	
Gender	
Category	
Qualification	
Role in the Company	

#### 4. Advisor/Mentor details of your company (max 3 nos)

Name of Advisor/Mentor	
Gender	
Professional experience	
Qualification	
Role in the Company	

5. Team Size:

### Part. V Technical Details

1.	Domain/Trust Area	
2.	Brief about your product/solution	
3.	Attach the Note on technical Details or work/process flow of production solution	<i>To be attached with the application form</i>
4.	Please provide the Power Point Presentation / two minutes product video	<i>To be attached with the application form or provide link</i>
5.	Stage of Product	
6.	Proof of PoC (Video/Picture etc)	<i>To be attached with the application form or provide link</i>
7.	Have you filed a patent for your product/solution? If yes, please provide details*	YES / NO
	Application Number	
	Date of Filing	
	Country	
8.	Have you validated/tested your product? If yes, then attach the details.	YES / NO <i>To be attached with the application form</i>
9.	Approval and required certifications to sell in India?	YES / NO
10.	Does your solution have all the necessary regulatory approvals and required certifications to sell in India?	YES / NO
11.	Please provide the deployment roadmap of your company for next one year A. Provide the list of prospective/existing buyers B. Go to Market Strategy C. Go to Market Strategy- Timelines and detailed plan to reach the customer D. Details of raw materials and manufacturing facility to supply solution at large scale? Please provide	<i>To be attached with the application form</i>

	<p>some details of vendors for manufacturing/ raw materials/ service providers etc.</p> <p>E. Any other significant information related to roadmap</p>	
12.	<p>Is there any similar product solution available in market writ your solutions.</p>	YES / NO
	<p>If Yes does your proposed products has advantage over other existing solutions</p> <p>a. List the competition</p> <p>b. List out possible advantages your product/solution has over your competition. Please compare the uniqueness and cost of your product</p>	

## Part VI Financial Details

<p>Request for the Grants From S&amp;T PRISM Program  <b>Since the focus of the programme is to facilitate creating of prototypes and bringing of products/ technologies to market, applicants will be encouraged to spend on: -</b></p> <p>a) <b>Research and development (It includes the expenditure on manpower capitalized in the books of account for the development of product)</b>  b) <b>Prototyping</b>  c) <b>Testing, Trials and Piloting</b>  <b>Expenses on following are not permissible under the funding</b>  a) <b>HR manpower expenses (Administrative expenses of Startups/MSMEs not included)</b>  b) <b>Power</b>  c) <b>Tools &amp; Machineries</b>  d) <b>Office expenses</b></p>	
Item	Amount (₹)
Research and Development	
Prototyping	
Testing trials and Piloting	
<b>TOTAL Amount</b>	
Funding required for argumentation /deployment of your proposed product/solution from above	
Please attach the milestones along with the timelines and the fund requirement towards each eligible funding heads as per S&T PRISM Program and total expenses anticipated in 4 stages	<b><i>To be attached with the application form</i></b>
What is the proposed usage of funds for funds for your proposed solution?-Please provide breakup for Capital Expenditure/ operational Expenditure	
Have you applied to any other agency for your proposed solution? If-Yes-Provide the a) Funding agency name b) Purposed c) Amount Sought (₹) d) Status of application	YES / NO
Proposed Revenue model	

**Part VII**  
**DECLARATION**

I declare that all the information given by me in this application and documents attached hereto are true to the best of my knowledge and that I have not willfully suppressed any material facts. I accept that if any of the information given by me in this application is in any way false or incorrect my application may be rejected, any offer of the grant may be withdrawn, or my candidature may be rejected at any time during the scheme period.

I will utilize the grant for the specific project as approved by Ministry of Mines (MoM)

I agree that “Terms and conditions” and guidelines may be modified by the concerned authorities of MoM/Apex committee as or when required.

I will provide the other necessary information related to the project to the Implementing Agency as or when required by them on a timely basis.

Grants will not be used for the following expenses :-

- a. HR manpower expenses (Administrative expenses of Startups/MSMEs not included)
- b. Power
- c. Tools & Machineries
- d. Office expenses

(Signature of Project Lead)

Name of Project Lead

**Part VIII List of Attachments.**

1	51% Shareholding by Indian Citizen or Indian Entity	
2	Declaration by Individual that he will fulfill all the criteria of selection as startup/MSME under the scheme before getting any tranche of the grant if he gets shortlisted by the committee	
3	Legal document of the companies such as Agreement/T&C/Moan/MoU for working together	
4	Copy of passport of Project Leader(PL)	
5	If IP owned by third party confirmation of freedom to operate	
6	No pending litigation towards the company Founder Co-founders	
7	NOC for IP if not owned by the company	
8	Business Plans to present the case for Product Solution Venture Scaling	
9	Provide the details of your client segment	
10	List of customers and competitors	
11	Competitive advantage/ Differentiation w.r.t the competition if any	
12	GST	
13	PAN	

(Signature of Project Lead)

Name of Project Lead

\*\*\*\*\* End of the document\*\*\*\*\*