

Ref No.: SSU/REG/10/2025/225 Date: 16 October, 2025

Research Department & Innovation and Incubation Centre (IIC)

1. Introduction

The Research Department of Sikkim Skill University is dedicated to promoting innovation, applied research, and entrepreneurship in alignment with the University's vision to integrate skills with academics. Recognizing that research is the cornerstone of progress and innovation, the University fosters an environment that encourages creativity, problemsolving, and evidence-based learning.

The Innovation and Incubation Centre (IIC) at SSU serves as a catalyst to transform ideas into practical solutions, startups, and social enterprises. It acts as a bridge between academia, industry, and society, helping students and faculty to develop innovations that address local and global challenges.

2. Objectives

A. Research Department

- To promote research-oriented learning and problem-solving among faculty and students.
- To facilitate multidisciplinary and applied research projects relevant to skill development and industry needs.
- To build collaborations with government agencies, industries, and research institutions.
- To establish research policies, ethics, and intellectual property rights (IPR) frameworks.
- To encourage faculty publications, patents, and participation in conferences.

B. Innovation & Incubation Centre (IIC)

- To identify innovative ideas and entrepreneurial potential among students and faculty.
- To provide mentoring, infrastructure, and funding support to incubate startups.
- To conduct entrepreneurship development programs (EDPs), hackathons, and innovation challenges.
- To connect innovators with industry partners, investors, and policy makers.
- To foster a culture of entrepreneurship and social innovation across all disciplines.

3. Research Areas

The University promotes both basic and applied research in diverse domains, particularly aligned with skill-based and vocational disciplines, including:

- Engineering and Emerging Technologies
- Agriculture, Forestry, and Rural Development

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- Tourism, Hospitality & Sustainable Development
- Healthcare and Allied Sciences
- Entrepreneurship, Business, and Management
- Renewable Energy and Environmental Studies
- Information Technology, AI, and Data Science
- Arts, Education, and Social Sciences
- Handloom, Handicraft, and Traditional Skills

4. Facilities and Support

The Research Department and IIC provide:

- Research guidance and proposal writing support
- Access to laboratories, workshops, and maker spaces
- Mentorship from industry experts and researchers
- Funding assistance through grants, CSR, and government schemes
- Access to online journals, research databases, and digital libraries
- Legal and technical support for patent filing and IPR protection

5. Research Ethics and Policy Framework

Sikkim Skill University is committed to maintaining the highest standards of academic and research integrity.

Key principles include:

- Plagiarism-free research and originality of work
- Ethical approval for projects involving human or environmental impact
- Transparent evaluation and publication practices
- Promotion of open access and collaborative research

The University Research Council (URC) oversees research planning, policy formulation, and monitoring of all research activities.

6. Innovation & Incubation Centre (IIC) Activities

The SSU-IIC organizes and supports:

- Startup Boot Camps and Ideation Workshops
- **Innovation Challenges & Hackathons**
- Industry-Academia Roundtables
- **Technology Transfer and Commercialization Programs**
- **Student Innovation Fellowship Schemes**
- Women Entrepreneurship Initiatives
- Rural Skill Innovation Projects focusing on local sustainability

7. Collaborations & Partnerships

The Research Department and IIC collaborate with:

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- Department of Science & Technology (DST)
- Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE)
- National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)
- AICTE IDEA Lab / IIC Network
- MSME & Startup India initiatives
- Sikkim State Council of Science and Technology
- National and International Universities and Research Centers

These partnerships enhance research quality, provide access to funding, and promote entrepreneurial growth in the region.

8. Future Vision (2025–2035)

Sikkim Skill University envisions establishing:

- A Center for Excellence in Skill-Based Research and Innovation
- Technology Business Incubator (TBI) recognized by MSME / DST
- Annual Research and Innovation Conclave
- SSU Research Journal for publishing interdisciplinary work
- SkillTech Startup Fund to support student entrepreneurs
- Integration of AI, IoT, and Green Technology research labs

9. Governance and Structure

Chief Patron: Hon'ble Chancellor
Chairperson: Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor

Director (Research & Innovation): Appointed by University

Members: Deans, Faculty Representatives, Industry Experts, and Startup Mentors

10. Conclusion

Through its **Research Department** and **Innovation & Incubation Centre**, Sikkim Skill University is building a vibrant ecosystem of *knowledge*, *creativity*, *and entrepreneurship*. By integrating skill-based education with research and innovation, SSU aims to empower learners to become *creators*, *innovators*, *and leaders* in the knowledge economy.

Thanks & Regards,

Sikkim Skill University

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Copy to:

Sikkim

- Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor
- Director (Research & Innovation)
- All Deans / Department Heads
- University Website & Notice Board

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