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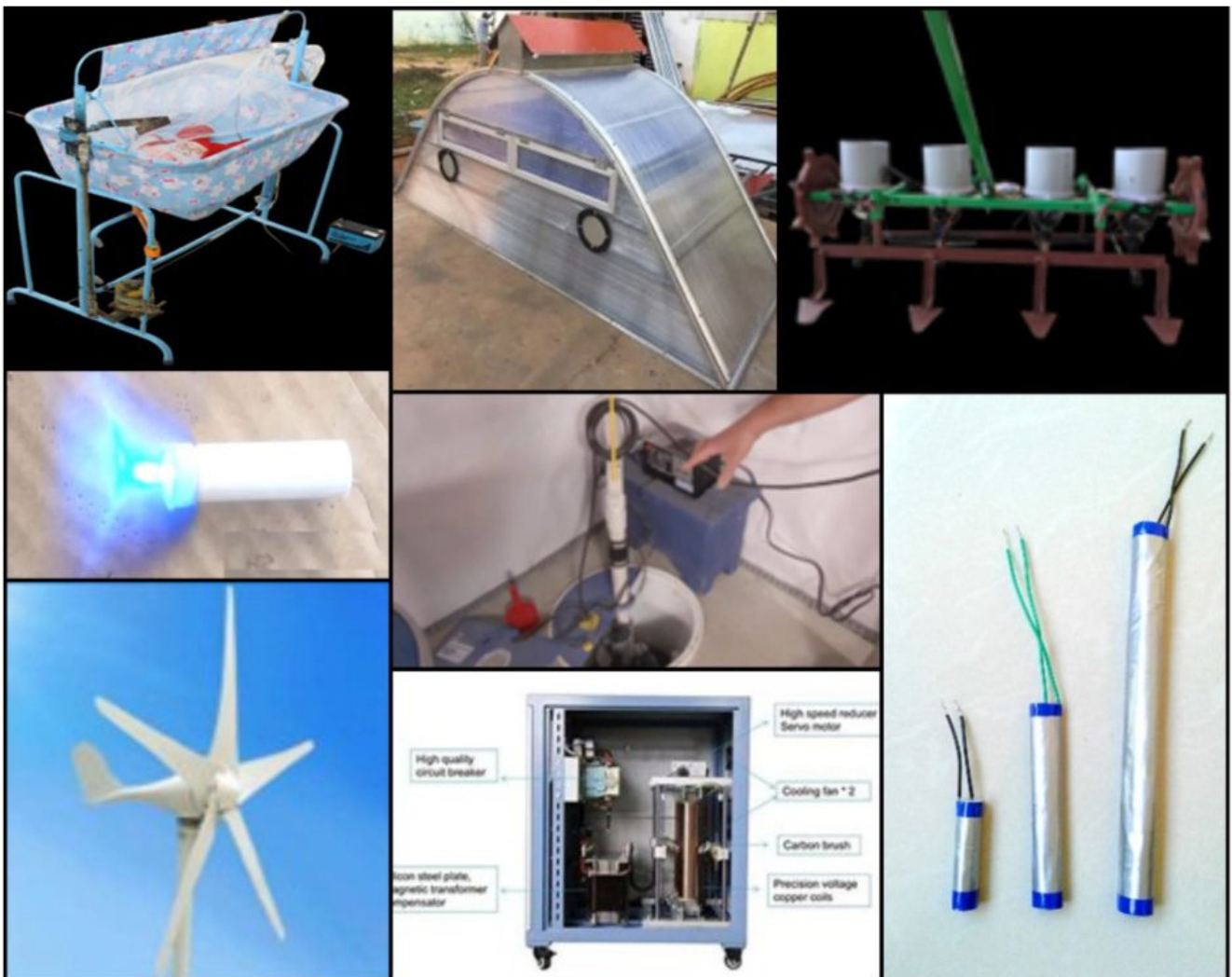
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RESEARCH POLICY

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

S.NO.	CONTENT	PAGE NO.
	Vision	2
	Mission	2
1.	Code Of Ethics for Research	2
	1.1. Preamble	2
	1.2. Ethical Principles of Research	3
	1.3. Duties Of Ethics Committee	4
2.	Research Promotion	7
	2.1. Preamble	7
	2.2. Research Promotion Policy	7
3.	Consultancy	9
	3.1. Objective	9
	3.2. Rules and Regulations	9
	3.3. Revenue Sharing	10
4.	Seed Money Policy	10
	4.1. Preamble	10
	4.2. Purpose	11
	4.3. Objectives	11
	4.4. Eligibility	12
	4.5. Nature of Support	12
	4.6. Selection Criteria	13
	4.7. Terms and Conditions	13
	4.8. Outcome and Incentives	13
	4.9. Review and Amendment	14
	4.10.Proposal Format for Seed Money Support	15



Vision

- To become an Internationally Renowned Institution in Technical Education, Research and Development by Transforming the Students into Competent Professionals with Leadership Skills and Ethical Values.

Mission

- Providing the Best Resources and Infrastructure.
- Creating Learner-Centric Environment and continuous Learning.
- Promoting Effective Links with Intellectuals and Industries
- Enriching Employability and Entrepreneurial Skills
- Adapting to Changes for Sustainable Development

1. Code Of Ethics for Research

1.1.Preamble

- A culture of honesty and transparency is a principle that Kongunadu College of Engineering and Technology is keen to embed and support in all of its institutional activities. The college is dedicated to nurturing and sustaining high standards of integrity and accountability in the conduct of Research and Development Activities. The objective is to advance the research initiatives like projects, publications, patents, and intellectual property, as well as to avoid misconduct like plagiarism in research and developmental activities.
- All academic staff and students adhere to Anna University's publication requirements when they submit work to any of the UGC-recognized journals that are properly indexed in Scopus and Web of Science (SCI/SCIE). A Quality journals, Electronic journals, and Electronic books from various subjects are available in our library. It aids in offering a solid foundation for high-caliber research. Before submitting their final thesis for graduation, each student and research fellow at the institute must run it through a plagiarism detector.
- The college is dedicated to keeping the standards of innovative research, ideas, and representation that are made possible through review committees established at the institutional level.
- A transparent academic environment that supports the application of the high professional and ethical standards of good practice for academic research must be



promoted and endorsed by the Principal, Dean(R&D), Dean (Project & Consultancy), Head IPR, heads of various departments, research coordinators, and teaching staff. Faculty Members are supposed to establish and maintain an environment of mutual cooperation that encourages free discussion and the growth of academic research abilities. They must also make sure that the right supervision and guidance are provided for researchers according to the specific academic discipline's nature and the associated research methodology.

- All researchers should receive appropriate training in research plan, design, methodology, ethical consents and approvals, equipment's usage, confidentiality, management of research data, maintenance of records, protection of data, usage of licensed resources, and respect for third parties' intellectual property rights, according to the departments.

1.2. Ethical Principles of Research

- The researcher should adhere to the professionalism guideline, which involves honesty and excellence in the research methodology, in order to preserve professional standards in the research work. Integrity is the capacity to rely on the correctness, dependability, and level of excellence in the research process and related activities, as well as the truth and objectivity of the research effort.
- As the researcher is responsible for the originality of research work and the reporting of research, the notion of accountability should not be ignored or disregarded. The research shouldn't be a copy of other works, although, the benchmarking innovations in the research process are appreciated.
- Ethical research is characterized as adhering to the principles of honesty, trust, alertness, openness, respect, confidentiality and legality.

i. Honesty:

In order to enhance the exploration of knowledge, truth, wisdom, and understanding, an academic community should require intellectual and personal integrity in all aspects of learning, teaching, and research.

ii. Trust:

In order to facilitate the free flow of ideas and enable everyone to realize their full potential, an academicians should cultivate a climate of mutual trust.



iii. Alertness:

Avoid making thoughtless mistakes and being negligent; thoroughly and critically evaluate both your own and your colleagues' work. Record your research activities thoroughly.

iv. Openness:

A community of academics should work to assure fairness in institutional norms, practices, and policies as well as in interactions among community members. Exchange information, findings, concepts, and tools among colleagues and be receptive to ideas and criticism.

v. Respect:

An academic environment should foster respect for oneself, others, scholarship and research, the educational process, and intellectual heritage among students, faculty, staff, and administration.

vi. Confidentiality:

Protect private communications, including papers or grants submitted for publication, information, research records, and personal data or observer opinions.

vii. Legality:

An academic community should adhere to legitimate legal standards when conducting and publishing research, especially when it comes to copyright, third parties' intellectual property rights, the terms and conditions governing access to research materials, and libel laws.

1.3. Duties Of Ethics Committee:

- The Ethics Committee's duties include advising academics on ethical matters pertaining to teaching, research, and other academic activities.
- The ethical committee should advise about the minor and major offences
 - Minor offences may happen due to inexperience or ignorance of the rules of academic integrity, and they are frequently characterized by the lack of malice on the part of the offender.
 - ❖ Examples:
 - ❖ Minor plagiarism is characterized as a minimal amount of paraphrasing, quotation, or the unauthorized use of schematics, charts, etc. Poor

scholarship may lead to minor plagiarism (i.e. when a student fails to properly cite or correctly identify the source of the content they use due to inexperience or negligence).

- ❖ false representations of knowledge, expertise, or contributions in circumstances when the violator cannot reasonably be expected to gain significantly from the violation (such as succeeding in a contest to obtain a prize)
 - ❖ incorrect presentation of results without intentional falsification
carelessness in disclosing material conflicts of interest
- When opposed to light violations, major violations are offences against academic integrity that are more severe in character or that significantly affect a larger part or area of the academic work.
- ❖ Examples
 - ❖ Excessive paraphrasing or quoting without properly attributing the source; straight borrowing without referencing from a text or other academic source;
 - ❖ Using essays from essay banks that have been downloaded from the internet or acquired from other sources, in whole or in part;
 - ❖ Passing off someone else's ideas or designs as one's own;
 - ❖ Notwithstanding warnings, instances of what was previously thought to be minor plagiarism persisted.
- Potentially unethical behavior can take the following forms:
- ❖ Conflict of interest: Any action that might give rise to a conflict of interest must be thoroughly disclosed. The activity should be avoided or stopped if impartiality and effectiveness cannot be maintained.
 - ❖ Authorship disputes: The parties involved should typically work out the proper authorship representation.



- ❖ Submission duplication: Submission duplication is inappropriate and unprofessional. It wastes the materials used by all impacted journals, as well as the staff members' and editors' priceless time.
 - ❖ Data or result fabrication: Any instance of data or result fabrication shall be regarded as a serious breach of professional conduct, with potentially serious ethical and legal ramifications. The organization examines the online sources used for research thesis for plagiarism.
- Punishment/Action Against Defaulters:
- The Ethics Committee could do:
- ❖ a preliminary investigation to see whether the claim has enough substance to do a more complete investigation;
 - ❖ a formal inquiry that, as necessary, may involve consulting with or involving external experts.
 - ❖ Committee will prepare a report outlining the steps taken to undertake the official investigation, how material was obtained, who provided it, and the basis for it, the committee's conclusions, the respondent's points of view, and any recommendations that were made.
 - ❖ The claim will be evaluated by the Principal to see whether it is serious enough for the Ethics Committee to look into it. The Principal may also assign this duty to the department head if the claim involves a PhD researcher (s). The allegation's initiator will be required to provide the reason for the claim in writing.
 - ❖ Copy of the investigation's findings will be given to the responder, who will then have the chance to comment on it. The Ethics Committee will receive any comments, which will be included in the investigative report as an addendum. If disciplinary measures are suggested, the Ethics Committee will let the internal Disciplinary Committee know what, if any, action has to be taken as a result of the inquiry.
 - ❖ The Disciplinary Committee may determine punishment based on the findings of the investigation and the Ethics Committee's recommendations



- Plagiarism complaints and other rule violations are grounds for disciplinary action, which must be taken by the committee within a month of the complaint date. The review committee shall suggest an appropriate penalty or punishment against defaulters based on the types of acts and code of ethics violations.

2. Research Promotion

2.1. Preamble:

Research is the cornerstone of knowledge which creates cutting-edge facilities, encourages research publications, fosters collaborations, and becomes a part of a vibrant community that supports the institutions mission and vision. The main aim of Kongunadu Research and Development (R&D) Cell is to promote the research activities in the field of Science, Engineering and Technology among the students and faculty members by providing necessary facilities and infrastructures required by them. The R&D cell provides support and guidance to its beneficiaries on their research activities based on the thrust areas of socially relevant research. Research and development activities aid in the creation and dissemination of new knowledge networks, encourage innovation, and they will stimulate faculty members and students to study and teach more effectively.

2.2. Research Promotion Policy:

- All the faculty members are motivated to do research in Science, Engineering and Technology.
- Faculty members with a master's degree are allowed to do Ph.D. under part time mode in the Anna University or any other University.
- Research Coordinator is allocated for each department and they should apply a minimum of 2 funded research project per semester to various funding agencies.
- Every faculty member shall apply for a minimum of one seminar/workshop proposal per year
- Faculty members are informed to publish minimum one Web of Science (SCI/ SCIE) per year.
- Faculty members insisted to publish in Conferences like IEEE/ Springer/Any Scopus indexed conferences or any one Publication in SCI/SCIE/Scopus/UGC care listed journals
- Faculty members are appreciated with appropriate monetary incentives for publishing their research articles in SCI/SCIE indexed journals.



- The management will provide seed money for the research projects if the proof of concept is developed by the faculty and students.
- The faculty members will receive appropriate monetary incentives from Management for the research grants received from various National/International funding agencies.
- The Institution partially covers the cost of registration and travel for participants in conferences, workshops, seminars, FDPs, STTPs and other professional development activities.
- Faculty members shall be encouraged to undergo relevant certificate courses on Innovations, Product Development, Entrepreneurship & Intellectual Property Rights
- Faculty members are informed to motivate the students to participate in various Hackathons for developing an innovative product.
- The College shall provide required support to the faculty for filing applications under IPR law such as patents / trademarks / copyright when it has been proved by the faculty that such a filing is necessary to protect the value of the research done.
- The UG and PG projects are focused on innovative product development/Industry based projects and this should be published in conferences/ journals
- Management will provide necessary infrastructure, resources and seed funding for faculty and students product development.
- Sponsorship will be given for any additional initiatives that a faculty member/student can do for his/her research work.
- All the faculty members are motivated to do consultancy work to the respective company's/Industry and required facilities and incentives to be provided by our management.

3. Consultancy

3.1. Objective:

To develop a framework that will support consultancy work at Kongunadu College of Engineering and Technology Consultancy is an effective approach for colleges to share knowledge and have a direct, beneficial effect on society for solving various industrial problems. However, it is important to manage the relationship between academic staff's regular tasks and consulting work, as well as to maintain the institution's interests. This Policy outlines guidelines for conducting consulting to make sure that the expenditures are manageable and staff consultations are in line with the College's strategic and operational goals.

The institution has the chance to tackle issues encountered by the industry and provide solutions. In this process, consulting services are supporting and enhancing both the academicians and the business sector. When a problem is discovered by the industry and is being worked on by a subject expertise, the institution's resources are used to help solve the problem.

3.2. Rules and Regulations:

- All the faculty members are motivated to do consultancy work to the respective company's/Industry.
- The institution will permit the faculty members to undergo any training relevant to recent technologies for doing various consultancy work and required incentives will be paid by the management.
- The principal must receive a letter from the industry requesting consulting services from faculty or department is required and also outlining the domain of expertise needed to complete the consultancy work.
- When choosing whether or not to provide permission for consulting activity, the panel members will consider aspects such as whether the consultancy work is appropriate with the roles and obligations of the faculty member's expertise areas, potential conflicts of interest, and the use of institutional resources.
- The faculty must make sure that the consulting role won't interfere with any ongoing academic tasks they are working on.



- Depending on the nature of the consulting work and the commercials involved, an MoU may be signed between the industry and the department with the approval of principal.
- The faculty or a group of faculties engaged in the consultancy work shall periodically report the progress to the principal through Head of the Department.
- Publications resulting from consulting work must mention the faculty affiliation of the college and recognize the utilization of its facilities.

3.3. Revenue Sharing:

- In order to encourage the faculty members, the management distributes the income from consulting services to the faculty members according to the Table 1 provided.

Table 1. Revenue Sharing of Consultancy work

S.No	Particulars	Faculty	Management
1.	Use of institute space and equipment	40%	60%
2.	Without use of institute space and equipment (Human Resources)	60%	40%

4. Seed Money Policy

4.1. Preamble:

In pursuit of academic excellence and aligned with our vision to become a globally recognized institution in technical education, research, and innovation, Kongunadu College of Engineering and Technology (Autonomous) is deeply committed to fostering a vibrant research and entrepreneurial ecosystem.

To support this mission, the **Seed Money Policy** has been introduced as a strategic initiative to nurture early-stage research and innovation. This policy provides essential initial funding to both faculty members and students, helping bridge the critical gap between ideation and execution. By enabling the transformation of innovative ideas into concrete outcomes—such as prototypes, patents, publications, and start-up ventures—the Seed Money Policy plays a pivotal role in translating creativity into impact. Furthermore, the policy actively encourages interdisciplinary collaboration and aims to position the institution as a significant contributor to societal progress and industrial development at regional, national, and global levels.

More than just a funding mechanism, the Seed Money Policy is a catalyst that



empowers our academic community to explore bold, interdisciplinary ideas and take calculated risks in pursuit of solutions to real-world challenges. It bridges the critical gap between ideation and execution, enabling innovators to convert raw concepts into tangible advancements that contribute to technological, societal, and industrial progress.

4.2.Purpose

The Seed Money Policy is established to foster a dynamic ecosystem of research, innovation, and entrepreneurship within the institution. By providing strategic financial assistance, this policy empowers faculty and students to initiate pioneering research projects, develop innovative products and prototypes, and incubate early- stage startups. It serves as a crucial enabler in transforming creative ideas into impactful solutions with societal and industrial relevance.

This Facilitating hands-on innovation in campus labs, makerspaces, and incubators using the allocated funds. Encouraging faculty-student collaboration to translate academic learning into problem-solving.

4.3. Objectives

- To provide financial support for preliminary research initiatives that have the potential to attract substantial external funding from national and international agencies.
- To encourage interdisciplinary and collaborative research efforts that transcend traditional departmental boundaries.
- To stimulate innovation-led activities including the development of novel products, proof-of-concepts, and functional prototypes.
- To facilitate strategic partnerships with industry, academia, and research institutions for knowledge exchange and technological advancement.
- To empower faculty members to pursue high-impact research leading to publications in reputed journals or the filing of intellectual property rights (IPRs).
- To nurture student and faculty-led startups by offering seed funding and incubation support through institutional mechanisms.

4.4. Eligibility

- **Faculty Members:** Permanent or long-term contractual faculty with a research or innovation proposal endorsed by the Head of Department or Dean.
- **Students:** Undergraduate and postgraduate students working under the mentorship of a faculty advisor, with clearly defined project roles.
- **Interdisciplinary Teams:** Proposals involving collaboration across multiple departments or disciplines are strongly encouraged and may receive prioritization.

4.5. Nature of Support

To ensure the successful initiation and execution of research and innovation projects, the Seed Money Policy offers structured financial assistance tailored to the needs of both faculty and students. This support is intended to cover essential early-stage expenses that are often difficult to fund through conventional means.

- **Grant Limit:**
 - ❖ Up to ₹2,00,000 for faculty-led projects or student-led projects or student-faculty collaborative initiatives
- **Project Duration:** Typically ranges between **6 to 12 months**, depending on the scope and deliverables.
- **Eligible Expenditures Include:**
 - ❖ Procurement of consumables and minor laboratory equipment
 - ❖ Materials and tools required for prototype or product development
 - ❖ Software licenses, data acquisition, and analytical tools
 - ❖ Conference registration and travel (research dissemination purposes)
 - ❖ Patent search and filing charges
 - ❖ Market research, customer validation, and feasibility studies (for startups)
 - ❖ Technical consultancy or expert services
 - ❖ Training and capacity-building workshops
 - ❖ Prototype testing and certification costs

4.6. Selection Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated by the Research and Development Cell based on the following criteria:

- Originality and degree of innovation in the proposed idea or solution
- Technical soundness, feasibility, and scalability of the project
- Alignment with regional, national, or global challenges and priority sectors
- Potential to secure competitive external funding or attract industry interest
- Track record and credentials of the applicant(s), including past research contributions, patents, or entrepreneurial activities

4.7. Terms and Conditions

- Awardees are required to submit quarterly progress reports to the Research and Development Cell outlining technical and financial milestones.
- Intellectual property developed under this scheme will be governed by the institution's prevailing IPR Policy, with due credit to contributors.
- Funds must be utilized strictly as per the approved budget; any deviation requires prior approval.
- Unutilized or misused funds must be returned or appropriately reallocated at the discretion of the R&D Cell.
- A comprehensive final project report detailing outcomes, learnings, and future scope must be submitted within one month of project completion.

4.8. Outcome and Incentives

The Seed Money Policy is not only a funding mechanism but also a strategic initiative to drive measurable outcomes in research, innovation, and entrepreneurship. Projects supported under this scheme are expected to yield tangible and high-impact results that align with the institution's vision of excellence and societal relevance.



- Faculty recipients are encouraged to utilize preliminary results and prototypes as a foundation to apply for prestigious external grants from national and international funding bodies such as DST, AICTE, UGC, DRDO, and SERB within one year of project initiation.
- Student innovators demonstrating significant potential will receive continued incubation support, mentorship, and business development assistance through the Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development Cell (IEDC) to scale their ideas into viable startups.
- Successful projects will be showcased during institutional research symposiums, expos, and pitch events. Select outcomes will be recommended for publication in peer-reviewed journals, presentation at reputed conferences, or submission to innovation contests and funding challenges.
- Recognition and incentives such as certificates of merit, awards, and recommendation letters will be provided to high-performing teams, enhancing their academic and professional profiles.
- Institutional support may be extended for patent filing, technology transfer, and establishing industry collaborations, wherever applicable.

4.9. Review and Amendment

To maintain its effectiveness and ensure alignment with evolving research priorities and national innovation agendas, the **Seed Money Policy** will undergo a structured review process:

- The policy shall be reviewed annually by the Research and Development (R&D) Cell, in consultation with department heads, industry experts, and innovation ecosystem stakeholders.
- The review will assess key performance indicators such as fund utilization rate, project completion outcomes, publication/patent count, startup conversions, and faculty/student engagement levels.
- Feedback from grant recipients and evaluators will be solicited to identify gaps, streamline processes, and introduce new mechanisms of funding if needed.
- Based on the findings, amendments may be introduced to improve clarity, enhance impact, or adapt to emerging technological and societal challenges.



4.10. Proposal Format for Seed Money Support

“Title of the Project”

Date:

Submitted by Faculty Team Head:

1 Faculty Member

Team Member: 1 Faculty member only + 2 Students [OR]

Submitted by Student Team Head:

Team Members: 3 member's only + 1 Faculty Mentor

Kongunadu College of Engineering and Technology, (Autonomous)

Namakkal-Trichy Main Road , Tholurpatti (Po), Thottiam (Tk), Trichy (Dt)- 621215,

Tamil Nadu.

Theme: Sustainable Solutions to Societal Issues



The following Thematic Area Problems may be chosen but not restricted to the below
(Select your Own Thematic Areas also)

1. Automation in College Campus/Hostel/Transport etc.,
2. Agriculture & Rural Development.
3. Smart Vehicles/ Electric vehicle/ Electric vehicle motor and battery technology.
4. Food Processing.
5. Robotics and Drones.
6. Waste management.
7. Clean & Potable water.
8. Renewable and affordable Energy.
9. IoT based technologies (e.g. Security & Surveillance systems etc.)
10. ICT, cyber-physical systems, Block Chain, Cognitive computing, Cloud computing, AI, ML & DL.
11. Material Science.
12. Healthcare & Bio Medical Devices.
13. Augmented Reality/Virtual Reality etc.,



Selected Thematic Area:

Title of the Project :

1. Problem Statement:

2. Existing Solutions:

3. What is your proposed solution?

4. What is the methodology of product/process? (Include diagram/ Process flow)

5. Where you are going to implement your process/product?

- College
- Home
- Office
- Mess
- Transport,
- Industry,
- Domestic
- School
- Others

6. Budget

	Heads of Expenditure	1-6 Months (Amount in Rs.)	7-12 Months	Total
A	Recurring			
1	Consumables			
2	Travel			
3	Contingencies			
B	Non-Recurring (Permanent Equipment)			
1				
2				
3				
C	Grand Total (A+B)			



7. What is outcome of the proposed project, whether in the form of?

- Product
- Process
- Patent/copyright/design/trademark
- Testing results
- Journal

8. What is the support expecting from us apart from financial support?

- Mentoring
- Laboratory (Testing)
- Industrial linkage
- Subject matter expert
- Certification of your product or process
- Any other support



Kongunadu

College of Engineering & Technology
[Autonomous]



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