

Science, Technology and Innovation Policy, 2020

July 4, 2020

The government has initiated a consultation process for formulation of a new national Science, Technology and Innovation Policy (STIP 2020). The Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India (Office of PSA) and the Department of Science and Technology (DST) have jointly initiated a **decentralised, bottom-up and inclusive process for the formulation of the new policy.**

STIP 2020

The **5th S&T policy** of the country is being formulated at a crucial juncture when India and the world are tackling the COVID-19 pandemic. This is only the latest among the many important changes in the past decade that have necessitated formulation of a new outlook and strategy for Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI). As the crisis changes the world, the new policy with its decentralized manner of formation will reorient STI in terms of priorities, sectoral focus, the way research is done, and technologies are developed and deployed for larger socio-economic welfare.

The STIP 2020 formulation process is organised into 4 highly interlinked tracks:

- **Track I involves an extensive public and expert consultation** process through **Science Policy Forum**-a dedicated platform for soliciting inputs from larger public and expert pool during and after the policy drafting process.
- **Track II comprises experts driven thematic consultations** to feed evidence-informed recommendations into the policy drafting process. 21 focused thematic groups have been constituted for this purpose.

- **Track III involves consultations with Ministries and States.** Nodal officers are being nominated in states and in ministries, departments and agencies of Government of India for extensive intra-state and intra-department consultation.
- **Track IV** constitutes apex level multi-stakeholder consultation. Consultation with **institutional leadership, industry bodies, global partners** and inter-ministerial and inter-state consultations represented at the highest levels are being carried out.

The STI Policy for the new India will also integrate the lessons of COVID-19 including building of an Atmanirbhar Bharat (self-reliance) through ST&I by leveraging our strengths in R&D, Design, S&T workforce and institutions, huge markets, demographic dividend, diversity and data.

A **Secretariat with in-house policy knowledge and data support unit**, built with a cadre of DST-STI Policy fellows, has been set up at DST (Technology Bhavan) to **coordinate the complete process** and interplays between the four tracks.