

## Madhya Pradesh launches Science, Technology and Innovation Policy 2022

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**Science cannot progress until it gets support of good policy and funding for innovation: Shivraj Singh Chouhan**



Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan unveiled the Madhya Pradesh Science, Technology and Innovation Policy 2022 on 26th December 2022.

The main objective of this policy is to rank Madhya Pradesh as the top science, technology and innovation (STI) destination in the country, and to strengthen factors such as human resources, investment and knowledge-based labour force to position Madhya Pradesh in the top 5 states in the 'India Innovation Index' (from its current 13<sup>th</sup> rank) by the year 2030.

The policy will also focus on developing an effective STI ecosystem and help Madhya Pradesh to increase knowledge-based production in the state by strengthening indicators such as research publications, innovations, startups, industrial design innovations and patents.

There are plans to increase the enrollment ratio in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) courses at undergraduate, masters and PhD levels by promoting STEM education right from the elementary level, especially among girl students, by enriching the curriculum with STEM experiments and competitions.

Further, in order to promote contextual innovation and science education, top institutions such as IITs, IIMs, will be encouraged to adopt a district in Madhya Pradesh and promote science and innovation locally in that district.

Innovation clusters, incubators and accelerators will be set up in leading institutions to help startups take advantage of early funding mentorship, training and best practices through coordination with the private sector.