

Research Policy and Ethics

1. Preamble

The institution recognizes research, innovation, consultancy, and extension activities as integral components of higher education. The college is committed to promoting a vibrant research culture among faculty and students while ensuring integrity, transparency, accountability, and ethical conduct in all research-related activities.

This Research Policy and Ethics document provides a framework for planning, conducting, monitoring, and promoting ethical and quality research in the institution.

2. Objectives of the Research Policy

The objectives of the policy are to:

1. Promote research culture and academic inquiry.
2. Encourage quality publications and funded research.
3. Facilitate interdisciplinary and collaborative research.
4. Ensure ethical standards in research practices.
5. Prevent plagiarism and research misconduct.
6. Encourage student participation in research activities.
7. Establish transparency and accountability in research.
8. Promote societal and community-oriented research.
9. Promote innovation, patents, consultancy, and entrepreneurship.
10. Align institutional research practices with national and international standards.

3. Research Promotion Strategies

The institution shall encourage:

- Faculty publications in peer-reviewed/UGC recognised journals
- Minor and major research projects
- Interdisciplinary research
- Industry collaborations
- Consultancy activities
- Student research projects
- Participation in conferences and seminars
- Patent filing and innovation
- Community-based research

4. Faculty Research Responsibilities

Faculty members are encouraged to:

1. Undertake research relevant to their discipline.
2. Publish in quality journals indexed in recognized databases.
3. Apply for external funding agencies.
4. Guide student research projects.
5. Participate in conferences and workshops.
6. Maintain research integrity and ethics.
7. Avoid predatory journals and unethical publishing practices.

5. Student Research Policy

Students shall be encouraged to:

- Undertake mini-projects and field studies.
- Participate in exhibitions, seminars, and competitions.
- Develop innovative and problem-solving approaches.
- Follow ethical guidelines in data collection and reporting.
- Acknowledge all sources appropriately.

Faculty mentors shall guide students in responsible research practices.

6. Research Ethics Policy

The institution is committed in maintaining the highest standards of ethics in research.

6.1 Principles of Research Ethics

Research conducted in the institution shall adhere to:

- Honesty
- Integrity
- Transparency
- Accountability
- Objectivity
- Respect for intellectual property
- Respect for participants and environment

7. Ethical Guidelines for Research

Researchers shall ensure:

1. Originality in research work.
2. Proper citation and referencing.
3. Authentic data collection and reporting.
4. No fabrication or falsification of data.
5. Confidentiality of sensitive information.
6. Informed consent in surveys/interviews.
7. Respect for human and environmental safety.

8. Compliance with legal and institutional regulations.

8. Plagiarism Policy

8.1 Definition

Plagiarism refers to the use of another person's ideas, words, data, or work without proper acknowledgment.

8.2 Institutional Guidelines

- The institution adopts a zero-tolerance approach toward plagiarism.
- All research papers, dissertations, and project reports should undergo plagiarism checking before submission/publication.
- Similarity limits shall be followed as per UGC or university guidelines.

9. Publication Ethics

Researchers shall:

1. Publish only original work.
2. Avoid duplicate submissions.
3. Avoid predatory journals.
4. Acknowledge contributors appropriately.
5. Declare conflicts of interest.
6. Maintain accuracy in authorship and data reporting.

The institution encourages publications in:

- UGC-CARE listed journals
- Scopus indexed journals
- Web of Science indexed journals
- Reputed peer-reviewed journals

10. Consultancy Policy

Faculty members may undertake consultancy assignments with prior approval from the institution.

Consultancy Objectives

- Promote industry-academia interaction
- Utilize institutional expertise
- Generate societal impact
- Encourage professional development

Guidelines

- Consultancy shall not affect regular academic duties.
- Revenue sharing shall be governed by institutional norms.
- Institutional facilities may be used with approval.

11. Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)

Institutional Support

- IPR awareness programs
- Patent guidance support
- Innovation and incubation initiatives

12. Research Funding and Grants

Faculty members are encouraged to apply for grants from agencies such as:

- UGC, DST, DBT, CSIR, ICSSR, SERB, AICTE
- State Government Agencies
- NGOs and Industries

The institution shall provide administrative support for proposal submission and project execution.

13. Collaboration and MoUs

The institution promotes collaborations with:

- Universities
- Research institutes
- Industries
- NGOs
- Government organizations

Collaborative activities may include:

- Joint research
- Internship programs
- Consultancy
- Faculty exchange
- Student projects

14. Research Infrastructure Support

The institution shall strive to provide:

- Laboratories
- Library resources
- E-journals and databases
- Internet and ICT facilities
- Seminar and conference facilities

15. Incentives and Recognition

Recognition may include:

- Certificates
- Awards
- Financial incentives

- Appreciation during institutional events

16. Research Misconduct

Research misconduct includes:

- Fabrication of data
- Falsification of results
- Plagiarism
- Misrepresentation
- Unethical experimentation

Any misconduct shall be investigated by the Research Committee and appropriate action shall be taken.

17. Monitoring and Review

The Research Policy shall be reviewed periodically by the Research Committee and IQAC to ensure relevance, effectiveness, and compliance with evolving academic standards.

18. Expected Outcomes

Implementation of this policy is expected to result in:

- Enhanced research culture
- Increased quality publications
- More funded projects
- Better industry collaboration
- Ethical and responsible research practices
- Improved institutional reputation
- Greater student participation in research