

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CELL

Introduction

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 envisages the promotion of quality research within the Higher Education system. Research and innovation are important aspects to enhance quality education by the institution. Societal challenges of our country can only be addressed by having a strong and vibrant higher education ecosystem with an emphasis on research, innovation, and technology development. The integration of Research, Innovation and Technology Development is the foundation of Atma-Nirbhar Bharat (Self-reliant India). The establishment of Research and Development Cell (RDC) in institution would enable attainment of targets of Atma-Nirbhar Bharat and is expected to play a pivotal role in catalyzing multidisciplinary/transdisciplinary and translational research culture mandated in NEP 2020. To meet these targets, Mahatma Fule Mahavidyalaya in its staff council meeting dated 18th February, 2025 has decided to establish RDC in this institution in accordance with guidelines framed by UGC vide letter No. 1-5/2021 (NEP/DESK-PARL) dated 14th March 2022 of UGC.

Vision

To put in place a robust mechanism for developing and strengthening the research ecosystem within institution, aligned with the provisions of NEP-2020.

Mission

- To create a conducive environment for enhanced research productivity.
- To encourage collaboration across industry, government, community- based organizations, and agencies at the local, national, and international levels.
- To facilitate greater access to research through mobilization of resources and funding.

Objectives

- To create an organizational structure with role-based functions of RDC, formulate Research Policy for this institution, identify thrust areas of research, and form related cluster groups/frontline teams/consortia of researchers.
- To create enabling provisions in Research Policies for recruitment of research personnel, procurement of equipment, and financial management with adequate autonomy to the Principal Investigator(s) and disseminate research outcomes to stakeholders and the public at large.
- To establish a special purpose vehicle to promote researchers and innovators, identify potential collaborators from industry, research organizations, academic institutions & other stakeholders for cooperation and synergistic partnerships.
- To act as a liaison between researchers & relevant research funding agencies, extend guidance in preparation & submission of project proposals and post-sanctioning of the grants to oversee adherence to timelines.
- To have better coordination among other cells/centers dealing with University-Industry Inter Linkage, Incubation, Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development and Intellectual Property Rights (IPR).
- To develop an Institutional Research Information System for sharing the status of ongoing/ completed research projects/Programmes, expertise & resources, etc., making effective use

of Information & Communication Technology (ICT) for preparing the database of in-house experts to provide industrial consultancy and services.

- To engage & utilize the services of superannuated active faculty/scientists in research capacity building of talented young minds and promote mobility of researchers across institutions and R&D Labs.
- To serve as nodal center for ideation and conceptualization of research topics/themes by organizing workshops and training programs and ensuring the integrity and ethical practices in research activities including clearance of bioethical committee wherever required.

Functions of R & D Cell

- To prepare annual research plan, implement and monitor the research activities of the various departments.
- To formulate the rules and regulations related to policy framework for utilization of facilities and resources of various departments.
- To support in development of research proposals from the college teachers for the external funding.
- To promote quality publications and patents of the researchers of the various departments through incentives and prizes.
- To develop networking and collaborative research of university departments with national and or international institutes.
- To create seed fund, corpus fund to facilitate the research in the college.
- To monitor and maintain the integrity and ethics of the research activities of various departments.
- To keep everyone informed about announcements by various funding agencies like DST, DAE, DRDO, ISRO, CSIR, AICTE, UGC and University etc.
- To enlighten the state-of-art technologies to scholars through special lectures on contemporary research topics by renowned experts in key areas.
- Facilitating timely auditing and submission of utilization certificate.
- To obtain information once in three months in the prescribed format on faculty involvement on guiding students, paper publications, research projects from external funding agencies and involving in collaborative research activity.
- To organizing conferences, workshops, seminars, training program, Avishkar, Science Day and other research-oriented events.

COMPOSITION OF R&D CELL

The R & D Cell of Mahatma Fule Mahavidyalaya is composed of Research Advisory Council under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Principal that governs R & D Cell headed by the Director/Convenor and various sub-committees.

RESEARCH ADVISORY COUNCIL (RAC)

Sr. No.	Name and Address	Designation
1.	Dr. D. V. Hande, Principal	Chairperson
2.	Dr. S. V. Satpute, IQAC Co-ordinator	Member
3.	Dr. S. R. Kondulkar, Head, Faculty of Science & Technology	Member
4.	Dr. C. D. Pakhare, Head, Faculty of Humanities	Member
5.	Mrs. M. R. Umekar, Head, Faculty of Commerce & Management	Member
6.	Dr. Y. S. Tamgadge, Director/Convenor RDC	Member Secretary

Meeting frequency: biannual

Term: 2 years

Functions:

- To guide and govern the Cell/ Committees to fulfil the objectives
- Approve proposals of the Committees
- Approve annual budget of the Cell
- Perform such other functions as may be necessary and deemed fit for the proper research and development of the College

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CELL (RDC)

Sr. No.	Name and Address	Designation
1.	Dr. Y. S. Tamgadge , Assistant Professor, Department of Physics	Convenor -RDC (Convenor of all committees)

Functions:

- Convenor RDC will head various committees for establishing an effective and robust research governance
- To assure smooth functioning of different committees which ensures functional autonomy, transparency, accountability, adaptability by strengthening interlinkages to create a conducive research environment

Term: 2 years

Sub Committee 1: FINANCE & INFRASTRUCTURE

Sr. No.	Name and Address	Designation
1.	Dr. R. P. Ganorkar , Professor & Head, Department of Chemistry	Co-ordinator

2.	Mr. V. N. Gulhane, Assistant Professor, Department of Chemistry	Member
3.	Mr. P. V. Patil, Sr. Clerk & I/C Registrar	Member

Meeting frequency: quarterly

Functions:

- Resource mobilization from govt., industry and other funding agencies
- Recommending authority for all financial matters related to RDC.
- Strengthening of infrastructure
- Creating and managing Research Funds e.g. Seed Money, Corpus Fund, CSR Fund and other scholarships.

Sub Committee 2: RESEARCH PROGRAM, POLICY DEVELOPMENT

Sr. No.	Name and Address	Designation
1.	Dr. G. K. Reddy , Associate Professor & Head, Department of Electronics	Co-ordinator
2.	Dr. R. Y. Bakale, Assistant Professor, Department of Physics	Member
3.	Mr. V. R. Hiranwale, Assistant Professor, Department of Physics	Member

Meeting frequency: quarterly

Functions:

- To identify thrust areas of research
- To develop policies related to research funds allocation e.g. Seed Money, Corpus Fund, CSR Fund, etc.
- To develop policies and application proformas related to research awards/projects (faculties and students), financial assistance for participating in seminars and conferences (faculties and students)
- To develop policies related to research equipment purchase

Sub Committee 3: COLLABORATION & COMMUNITY

Sr. No.	Name and Address	Designation
1.	Dr. P. J. Deshmukh , Assistant Professor, Department of Botany	Co-ordinator

2.	Mr. S. R. Kolteke, Assistant Professor, Department of Chemistry	Member
3.	Dr. U. B. Sangolkar, Professor & Head, Department of Economics	Member

Meeting frequency: quarterly

Functions:

- To promote collaboration between govt., universities, research institutes and industries
- To strengthen inter-, trans- and multidisciplinary research
- Student and faculty exchange programme

Sub Committee 4: PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT, MONITORING & COMMERCIALIZATION

Sr. No.	Name and Address	Designation
1.	Dr. N. N. Sarkar , Assistant Professor & Head, Department of Physics	Co-ordinator
2.	Dr. M. B. Bobade, Associate Professor, Department of Botany	Member
3.	Dr. V. S. Panchawate, Assistant Professor, Department of Zoology	Member

Meeting frequency: quarterly

Functions:

- To foster technology development and business-centred facility
- Accountability for research development and innovation activities
- Circulating project proposals advertisements/guidelines/proforma from various agencies and inviting proposals from faculties, scrutinizing proposals and forwarding it to the chairman through RDC convener
- To monitor and oversee research progress (collecting information related to publications, patents, MoUs and displaying it on the website), coordinate programs, manage and facilitate optimizing resources
- To create central instrumentation facility for commercial purposes

Sub Committee 5: IPR, LEGAL & ETHICAL MATTERS

Sr. No.	Name and Address	Designation
1.	Dr. A. K. Wanjari , Assistant Professor, Department of Chemistry	Co-ordinator

2.	Mr. K. D. Ingle, Assistant Professor, Department of Zoology	Member
3.	Mr. S. S. Sakhare, Assistant Professor, Department of Botany	Member

Meeting frequency: quarterly

Functions:

- To oversee the compliance of ethical codes of research and publishing practices
- Plagiarism checking
- To facilitate filing patents, protection of research output
- Legal assistance
- To organize IPR and research popularization related programs