



Mahatma Gandhi University

महात्मा गांधी विश्वविद्यालय

(Established by State Govt. of Sikkim, U/S 2(f) of the U.G.C Act, 1956, Govt of India)
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Research and Development Cell

Introduction

The Research and Development Cell (R&D Cell) at Mahatma Gandhi University, Sikkim, is established in alignment with the University Grants Commission (UGC) Guidelines for Establishment of R&D Cells in Higher Education Institutions and the vision of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. The R&D Cell serves as the central hub for promoting quality research, innovation, and technology development, fostering collaborations with industry, government, international partners, and research organizations.

Our mission is to create a vibrant research ecosystem that generates impactful knowledge, addresses societal challenges, and contributes to the goal of Atmanirbhar Bharat (Self-Reliant India).

Vision

To establish MGU, Sikkim, as a leading research-intensive university that fosters innovation, multidisciplinary collaboration, and sustainable development through high-quality research and strategic partnerships.

Mission

Promote a culture of research excellence among faculty, students, and research scholars.

Facilitate funding, resources, and infrastructure for research and innovation projects.

Foster collaboration with industry, national/international institutions, and government agencies.

Encourage translational research that addresses real-world problems and contributes to societal welfare.

Ensure ethical, transparent, and impactful research practices.

Objectives

Research Promotion: Encourage faculty and students to undertake cutting-edge research in diverse disciplines.

Funding Support: Facilitate access to external funding from national and international agencies.

Industry Collaboration: Build strong partnerships with industries for joint R&D, consultancy, and technology transfer.

International Partnerships: Foster collaborations with foreign universities and research institutions for joint research, student/faculty exchange, and capacity building.

Consultancy Services: Provide expert consultancy to industries, government bodies, and NGOs.

IPR & Innovation: Promote intellectual property creation, patents, and innovation among researchers.

Capacity Building: Organize training, workshops, and seminars to enhance research skills.

Quality Assurance: Maintain high ethical standards and integrity in research practices.

Structure & Composition

As per UGC guidelines, the R&D Cell comprises:

Chairperson: Vice Chancellor

Coordinator: Dean (Research & Development) or Senior Professor

Members:

- Faculty representatives from various departments
- Registrar or nominee
- Finance Officer
- Industry representative
- External expert from research organization
- Representative from innovation/incubation center
- Student representative (Ph.D. scholar)

Key Functions

1. Research and Consultancy Projects

The R&D Cell facilitates the identification, development, and execution of research and consultancy projects by:

Assisting faculty in proposal writing and grant applications.

Coordinating with funding agencies like DST, DBT, ICMR, CSIR, AICTE, UGC, ICSSR, and international bodies.

Monitoring project progress, fund utilization, and timely submission of reports.

Providing administrative and technical support to Principal Investigators (PIs).

Current Focus Areas:

- Healthcare and pharmaceutical research
 - Sustainable agriculture and rural development
 - Information technology and AI applications
 - Engineering innovations
 - Environmental science and climate change
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2. Industry Collaborations

In line with UGC's Guidelines for Sustainable University-Industry Collaboration, MGU's R&D Cell has established an Industry Relations Cell (IRC) to:

Identify research problems relevant to industries, particularly MSMEs.

Facilitate joint R&D projects between university faculty and industry professionals.

Promote technology transfer, product development, and commercialization.

Coordinate internships, apprenticeships, and skill development programs.

Onboard industry experts as Professors of Practice for specialized teaching and mentorship.

Industry Partners: [List of current industry partners, if any]

3. Foreign Collaborations

The R&D Cell actively promotes international collaboration for enhanced research quality and global exposure. Activities include:

Academic Collaborations:

Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with foreign universities for joint research, dual degree programs, and faculty/student exchange.

Compliance with UGC Regulations on Academic Collaboration between Indian and Foreign Higher Educational Institutions.

Research Partnerships:

Collaborative research projects with international institutions.

Participation in global conferences, seminars, and workshops.

Access to international funding agencies and research networks.

Student Mobility:

Study abroad programs, research internships, and credit transfer arrangements.

At least 30% course credits completed at partner foreign universities (as per UGC norms).

Eligibility for Foreign Collaboration:

MGU is eligible for foreign partnerships as it meets UGC criteria (NAAC accreditation/NIRF ranking/international ranking).

Partner institutions must be in the top 1000 of Times Higher Education or QS World University rankings.

4. Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) & Innovation

- Assistance in filing patents, copyrights, trademarks, and design registrations.
 - Support for commercializing research outcomes.
 - Collaboration with incubation centers and startup initiatives.
 - Organizing workshops on IPR awareness and entrepreneurship.
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5. Funding & Grants

The R&D Cell actively seeks funding from:

- National Agencies: UGC, DST, DBT, ICMR, CSIR, AICTE, ICSSR, ICAR, DRDO
 - International Agencies: World Bank, WHO, UNESCO, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
 - Industry: CSR funds, collaborative R&D grants
 - State Government: State innovation councils and research schemes
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6. Capacity Building & Training

- Regular workshops on research methodology, data analysis, and scientific writing.
 - Training on grant proposal preparation and project management.
 - Seminars on emerging research trends and interdisciplinary collaboration.
 - Faculty Development Programs (FDPs) on research ethics and quality standards.
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7. Research Ethics & Integrity

- Establishment of Institutional Ethics Committee (IEC) for human and animal research.
 - Adherence to ethical guidelines for plagiarism prevention and data integrity.
 - Promotion of responsible conduct in research.
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Research Facilities

- Well-equipped laboratories for healthcare, pharmacy, engineering, IT, and agriculture research.
- Access to e-journals, databases, and digital libraries.
- High-performance computing and data analysis tools.
- Collaborative research spaces and innovation labs.