

POLICY FOR PROMOTION OF RESEARCH

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Sathyabama Institute of Science and Technology
(Deemed to be University)

Rajiv Gandhi Salai, Chennai – 600119, Tamil Nadu, India

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DOCUMENT CONTROL SHEET

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DOCUMENT CLASSIFICATION : This document constitutes an official policy of the Deemed to be University. The provisions of this policy shall be implemented and interpreted in accordance with the applicable statutory and regulatory requirements, and in conjunction with other relevant policies, regulations, ordinances, and guidelines of the Institution.



SATHYABAMA

INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
(DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY)

CATEGORY - 1 UNIVERSITY BY UGC

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1. PREAMBLE

Sathyabama Institute of Science and Technology recognizes research, innovation, and knowledge creation as fundamental pillars for academic excellence and societal advancement. The Institution is committed to fostering a dynamic research ecosystem that promotes scientific inquiry, interdisciplinary collaboration, technological innovation, and entrepreneurship. Through sustained investments in human resources, research infrastructure, industry partnerships, and intellectual property development, the Institution seeks to generate impactful research outcomes that address regional, national, and global challenges. This policy provides a framework for promoting ethical, high-quality, and outcome-oriented research among faculty members, research scholars, and students.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE POLICY

The objectives of this policy are to:

- Promote a culture of research excellence, innovation, and scholarly engagement across all academic disciplines.
- Encourage the generation of new knowledge through fundamental, applied, translational, and interdisciplinary research.
- Enhance the quality and visibility of research publications in reputed national and international journals.
- Facilitate the acquisition of externally funded research projects from government agencies, industries, and international organizations.
- Promote innovation, intellectual property generation, technology transfer, and entrepreneurship.
- Strengthen collaborations with industries, research laboratories, universities and societal stakeholders.
- Support research initiatives aligned with national priorities and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- Develop competent researchers capable of contributing to scientific, technological, and socio-economic development.

3. EXTENT AND APPLICABILITY:

This policy shall apply to all research – related activities undertaken within the Institution and shall be applicable to:

- Faculty members employed on permanent, contractual, adjunct, or visiting appointments.
- Full-time and part-time research scholars registered under the doctoral programmes.
- Undergraduate and postgraduate students engaged in research, innovation, consultancy, or project activities.
- Research associates, post-doctoral fellows, project staff, and technical personnel involved in sponsored research projects.
- External collaborators, consultants, and industry partners participating in research activities conducted under the auspices of the Institution.

4. ACADEMIC RESEARCH

- The Institution shall promote academic research as an integral component of teaching, learning, and knowledge dissemination.
- Faculty members shall be encouraged to undertake research in identified thrust areas and emerging domains of science, engineering, technology, management, humanities, and social sciences.
- Research outcomes shall be disseminated through publications in peer-reviewed journals indexed in Scopus, Web of Science, SCI, SCIE, ESCI, and other recognized databases.
- Faculty members, research scholars, and students shall adhere to the highest standards of academic integrity, research ethics, and responsible conduct of research.
- Students shall be encouraged to undertake research-oriented projects leading to quality publications, patents, prototypes, products, and innovative solutions.
- Faculty members shall be encouraged to establish national and international research collaborations with academic institutions, research organizations, and industries.
- The Institution shall facilitate faculty exchange programmes, collaborative research initiatives, and post-doctoral research opportunities to enhance research competency and global engagement.
- Research activities shall be aligned with societal needs, sustainable development goals, and emerging technological advancements.
- The Institution shall provide necessary research support through access to laboratories, advanced instrumentation facilities, digital resources, and research databases.
- Outstanding research contributions shall be recognized through institutional awards, incentives, and research excellence schemes as provided in the rules and norms.

5. SPONSORED RESEARCH:

- The Institution shall actively encourage faculty members to secure research funding from national and international funding agencies, industries, corporate organizations, and philanthropic foundations.
- Sponsored research activities shall focus on addressing scientific challenges, technological advancements, industrial requirements, and societal needs.
- Faculty members shall be encouraged to establish interdisciplinary research teams and collaborative networks for undertaking large-scale and multidisciplinary research initiatives.
- The Institution shall promote collaborative research with industries, academic institutions, research laboratories, and international organizations.
- Administrative, financial, and technical support shall be provided for proposal preparation, project submission, project execution, and compliance management.
- Faculty members shall be encouraged to undertake consultancy services, contract research, and technology development projects to address industry-specific challenges.
- The Institution shall facilitate industry-academia partnerships to strengthen knowledge exchange, innovation, and technology transfer.
- Research projects resulting in publications, patents, prototypes, products, and commercialization opportunities shall be actively promoted.
- Faculty members shall be encouraged to participate in national and international research consortia and collaborative funding programmes.
- The Institution shall establish mechanisms for effective monitoring, evaluation, and dissemination of outcomes from sponsored research projects.

6. RESEARCH ADDRESSING SOCIETAL ISSUES

- The Institution recognizes the transformative role of research in addressing societal challenges and improving the quality of life.
- Research initiatives focusing on sustainability, environmental conservation, climate resilience, water and wastewater treatment, renewable energy, healthcare technologies, rural development, waste management, circular economy, digital transformation, and social equity shall be accorded priority.
- Faculty members and students shall be encouraged to develop innovative, affordable, and scalable technological solutions that contribute towards sustainable development and community well-being.
- Research activities aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and national development priorities shall be actively promoted.

7. RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

- The Institution shall continuously strengthen and modernize research infrastructure to support advanced scientific investigations, innovation-driven activities, and interdisciplinary research.
- Adequate financial resources shall be allocated for establishing and upgrading state-of-the-art laboratories, advanced instrumentation facilities, computational resources, research databases, and shared central facilities.
- Proposals for procurement of research equipment, laboratory modernization, and infrastructure augmentation shall be evaluated by the Research Advisory Committee based on strategic relevance, utilization potential, and long-term research impact.
- The Institution shall promote shared access to research facilities and specialized equipment to maximize resource utilization, foster interdisciplinary collaboration, and enhance research productivity.

8. INCENTIVES FOR OUTSTANDING RESEARCH

To recognize and encourage excellence in research, the Institution shall provide incentives, awards, and recognition to faculty members, research scholars, and students demonstrating exceptional research performance.

Research achievements eligible for recognition may include:

- Publications in high-impact journals.
- Highly cited research outputs.
- Granted patents and technology transfers.
- Sponsored research projects.
- Product development and commercialization.
- Startup creation and innovation achievements.
- Significant societal and industrial impact generated through research activities.

Institution level awards shall be conferred periodically to acknowledge outstanding contributions to research and innovation.

9. SEED FUND

The Institution shall provide Seed Funding support to promote innovative and high-potential research ideas at their early stages of development. The Seed Fund scheme aims to facilitate proof-of-concept studies, prototype development, pilot investigations, translational research, and technology validation activities that may subsequently attract external funding or commercialization opportunities.

Priority shall be accorded to projects demonstrating novelty, interdisciplinary relevance, societal impact, sustainability, and alignment with the strategic research priorities of the Institution.

9.1 Eligibility

Applications for Seed Funding may be submitted by:

- Full-time faculty members of the Institution.
- Research scholars and students under the supervision of an eligible faculty mentor.
- Interdisciplinary research teams comprising members from multiple departments.

Applicants shall demonstrate the scientific merit, feasibility, innovation potential, and expected outcomes of the proposed research work.

9.2 Guidelines for grant of seed fund

Seed Fund proposals shall be evaluated by an Expert Advisory Committee constituted by the Institution. Evaluation criteria shall include novelty, technical feasibility, scientific significance, societal relevance, commercialization potential, intellectual property prospects, and alignment with institutional priorities.

Approved projects shall receive financial support based on predefined milestones and deliverables. Grant recipients shall submit periodic progress reports, utilization certificates, and outcome reports. Research outputs generated under the scheme shall appropriately acknowledge the support received from the Institution.

10. SUPPORT FOR PROTECTION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

The Institution shall encourage the protection, management, and commercialization of intellectual property arising from research and innovation activities. Faculty members, researchers, and students shall be supported in filing patents, copyrights, trademarks, industrial designs, and other forms of intellectual property protection.

The Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Cell shall facilitate awareness programmes, patentability assessments, prior-art searches, drafting support, filing assistance, and commercialization initiatives. Revenue generated through technology transfer and licensing shall be governed by the Institution's Intellectual Property Policy.

11. RESEARCH COMMITTEE

A Research Advisory Committee shall function as the apex body responsible for planning, monitoring, evaluating, and strengthening research activities within the Institution. The Committee shall provide strategic direction for research development, identify emerging opportunities, review institutional research performance, and recommend measures for enhancing research quality and productivity.

The Committee shall periodically review funded projects, research outputs, infrastructure requirements, innovation activities, and policy implementation.

11.1 Constitution of research advisory committee

The Research Advisory Committee shall comprise:

- Vice Chancellor–Chairperson
- Director (Research)–Member Secretary

- Senior faculty members nominated by the Vice Chancellor
- Industry expert/research scientist from a reputed organization
- Representative from the Innovation and Entrepreneurship Cell

The Committee shall meet at least twice during an academic year and may convene special meetings whenever required.

G. Sundari

Issued by
Dr.G.Sundari
(Registrar)

Dr. G.SUNDARI, M.E., Ph.D.,
REGISTRAR
SATHYABAMA
INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
(DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY)
Jeppiaar Nagar, Rajiv Gandhi Salai,
Chennai-600 119.

S. Srinivasan

S. SRINIVASAN
ADVOCATE-HIGH COURT
&
COMMISSIONER OF OATHS
Chamber No: 13, Law Chambers,
High Court Buildings, Chennai-600 104
Ph: 044-25587404, Cell: 98402 40091

B. Sheela Rani

Recommended by
Dr.B.Sheela Rani
(Vice Chancellor)

Dr.B. SHEELA RANI, M.S. (By Research), Ph.D.,
VICE-CHANCELLOR
SATHYABAMA
INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
(DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY)
Jeppiaar Nagar, Rajiv Gandhi Salai,
Chennai - 600 119.