KARMAVEER BHAURAO PATIL UNIVERSITY, SATARA

Policy for Promotion of Research

Karmaveer Bhaurao Patil University, Satara

Policy for Promotion of Research

INDEX

Sr. No.	Content	Page No.
1.	Brief Statement	1
2.	Objectives	2
3.	General Principles	3
4.	Planning the Research	3
5.	Conducting the Research	4
6.	Openness	6
7.	Professional Guidance and Legislation	6
8.	Leadership and Cooperation	7
9.	Supervision	8
10.	Training	8
11.	Primary Data / Samples / Equipment	9
12.	Intellectual Property	10
13.	Dissemination and Publication of Results	11
14.	Conflict of Interest	12
15.	About Misconduct	13
16.	Promotion for Research	13

1. Brief Statement

The Karmaveer Bhaurao Patil University, Satara (KBPU, Satara) recognizes research as a fundamental academic function, essential for knowledge creation, innovation, societal development, and academic excellence. As a State Public University with a strong regional and social commitment, the University will promote research that is ethically sound, socially relevant, academically rigorous, and aligned to sustainable development goals (SDGs). The University will actively support basic, applied, interdisciplinary, and translational research across Fundamental Sciences, Technology, Social Sciences, Humanities, Commerce, Management, and allied disciplines. Research shall be integrated with teaching, invention, innovation, extension, and community engagement.

This policy establishes a structured institutional framework to guide the planning, execution, supervision, dissemination, evaluation, and promotion of research, ensuring accountability, transparency, quality assurance, and compliance with national regulations.

2. Objectives

The University will pursue the following objectives through clearly defined institutional actions:

- To create and sustain a research ecosystem through governance structures, financial support, and infrastructure development.
- To encourage faculty members, research scholars, and UG, PG students to actively engage in meaningful research.
- To promote interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary research addressing regional, national, and global challenges which will be aligned with SDGs.
- To enhance the quality, visibility, and impact of research publications, patents, and innovations.
- To strengthen industry, government, and community collaborations.
- To facilitate external funding through Government organizations (GOs), non-government organizations (NGOs), research outreach through consultancy, and technology transfer.
- To ensure ethical conduct, research integrity, and regulatory compliance.
- To build research capacity through inhouse, outfield and industrial training, mentoring, and continuous professional developments.

The University shall review these objectives periodically through the University Research and Development Cell to ensure relevance and effectiveness.

3. General Principles

The University will implement a set of guiding principles that form the foundation of all research activities. The University will support academic freedom with responsibility, allowing researchers to pursue innovative and original research ideas while ensuring strict adherence to approved research protocols, ethical standards, and institutional regulations. Such freedom will be exercised within a framework that promotes the accountability.

The University will follow a quality-centric approach to research, placing greater emphasis on originality, methodological rigor, reproducibility, and societal or academic impact rather than the mere volume of publications, projects, or outputs. Research quality and relevance will remain the primary criteria for evaluation and recognition.

To ensure inclusivity and equity, the University will provide equal research opportunities across all disciplines, genders, constituent colleges, and career stages. Institutional mechanisms will be developed to encourage participation of researchers and promote balanced representation across academic units.

Research undertaken by the University will be guided by public interest and societal relevance, with a clear focus on contributing positively to society, the environment, policy development, industry, agriculture, health, education, and other areas of national and regional and SDGs relevance.

The University will maintain transparency and accountability in all research activities by ensuring systematic documentation, continuous monitoring, and periodic review through clearly defined procedures and institutional oversight mechanisms.

4. Planning the Research

All research initiatives undertaken by the University shall be conceptualized, designed, executed, and reviewed in accordance with the highest standards of academic rigor, integrity, and social responsibility. To ensure excellence, transparency, and sustainability in research activities, the following framework shall guide all research endeavors:

1. The University shall foster enabling environment that encourages the rapid generation of innovative research ideas and ensures their efficient progression

through structured planning, review, and implementation mechanisms through Institutional Innovation Council.

2. Research projects shall be supported by inviting proposals detailing objectives, methodology, timelines, expected outcomes, and justifications in prescribed formats given by the University.
3. In collaborative research, there shall be clearly defined roles and responsibilities for all researchers and participating entities. The policy shall also ensure transparent mechanisms for sharing credit, benefits, and outcomes arising from the research.
4. The University shall maintain a clear and robust policy for the identification, protection, ownership, and commercialization of intellectual property, ensuring equitable recognition of contributors while safeguarding institutional and societal interests.
5. All research activities shall strictly adhere to established ethical principles, biosafety norms, environmental safeguards, and occupational safety standards, in line with national and international regulations.
6. All required ethical clearances, statutory permissions, and regulatory approvals from competent authorities, as applicable should be taken wherever necessary.
7. All research-related SOPs shall be periodically reviewed and updated to incorporate best practices, technological advancements, and regulatory changes, ensuring continuous improvement in research governance.
8. The University shall establish mechanisms for regular monitoring and review of research progress to identify gaps, address challenges, and enhance research processes. Achievements and exemplary research outcomes shall be recognized and celebrated to promote a culture of excellence.

5. Conducting the Research

1. All individuals participating in the study should be well-versed in the legal and ethical requirements relevant to the research.
2. Use of common Facility Centre Equipment should be as per SOP and Guidelines.
3. The equipment used for investigation must be suitable for the intended purpose and of adequate capacity; all equipment should be calibrated at regular intervals.
4. Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) must be established for all equipment, including clearly accessible instructions for safe operation and emergency shutdown. The Do's and Don'ts should be explicitly mentioned.

5. SOPs should also be properly documented for all methods and techniques to ensure accurate, consistent, and reliable data collection.
6. All instructions and SOPs should be written in simple, clear language, be easily accessible, and preferably presented in a standardized format for uniform implementation.
7. Clear definitions of roles, responsibilities, and accountability should be established for all individuals involved in the research programme, wherever applicable.
8. Explicit assignment of ownership and responsibility should be specified for:
    - Data and samples generated or used during the course of the research
    - Research outcomes and results
    - Intellectual Property (IP) generated from the research activities
9. Responsibilities and procedures for the storage, retention, and disposal of data and samples must be clearly defined at the beginning of the research project.
10. All research collaboration agreements should include clauses specifying roles, responsibilities, and necessary declarations of the collaborating parties.
11. Researchers must maintain clear, accurate, and complete records of research procedures, approvals, interim findings, and final outcomes to ensure transparency and accountability.
12. Properly maintained laboratory logbooks may serve as evidence in establishing the ownership of inventions and intellectual property.
13. Data should be recorded in a prescribed format that allows for complete retrospective auditing, if required.
14. All original data, samples, and images must be safely stored and retained; when data or images are enhanced, both original and processed versions should be preserved.
15. Over-enhancement or misinterpretation of data and images must be avoided, and confidentiality should be maintained, particularly when there is potential for commercial exploitation.
16. Primary research data must be retained in its original form even after publication; researchers leaving the institution must obtain prior approval to retain any data for personal use.
17. Raw data should be recorded in indexed, permanently bound laboratory notebooks or in approved electronic notebooks, with supporting materials stored separately and cross-referenced.

18. Supervisors should periodically review and endorse research records to ensure accuracy and completeness.
19. Electronic data must be backed up regularly, with secure duplicate copies maintained; important data should also be preserved in hard copy, and relevant software versions used for data processing should be retained.

6. Openness

1. The University promotes open sharing of research findings with the academic community and the public to enhance knowledge dissemination and ensure high-quality research.
2. At the same time, the university recognizes the importance of protecting Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) arising from research activities.
3. After publication, researchers are expected to make relevant research data and materials available to other researchers upon request.
4. Such sharing must comply with applicable ethical approvals, informed consents, and IPR obligations.
5. Transfer of research materials into or out of the university shall be carried out only through standardized and approved procedures.
6. Publication of research outcomes may be briefly delayed when necessary to safeguard intellectual property.
7. Any such delay should be kept to a minimum and normally should not exceed three months.
8. During this period, researchers are encouraged to file provisional patent applications to protect their inventions.

7. Professional Guidance and Legislation

1. The University expects all researchers, including undergraduate and postgraduate students, research scholars, and faculty members, to maintain the highest standards of integrity, ethics, and professionalism in all research activities.
2. All research must be conducted in accordance with guidelines, codes of conduct, and best practices prescribed by recognized scientific bodies, learned societies, and relevant professional organizations.
3. Researchers must be fully aware of and comply with all applicable legal, regulatory, and institutional requirements governing research activities.

4. Strict adherence to regulations related to health and safety, data protection, ethical approvals, and intellectual property rights is mandatory.
5. Researchers receiving financial support from government agencies, national or international funding bodies, industry partners, or other external sources must comply with the specific terms and conditions of the sanctioned grants.
6. Proper utilization of research funds in accordance with approved budgets and objectives is required.
7. Accurate maintenance of financial records and supporting documentation for all expenditures must be ensured.
8. Timely submission of technical progress reports, financial statements, utilization certificates, and completion reports to funding agencies and the University is mandatory.
9. Funding sources must be appropriately acknowledged in all research publications, presentations, and reports.
10. Researchers must cooperate with audits, reviews, and monitoring processes conducted by funding agencies or the University.
11. Non-compliance with ethical, legal, or funding-related requirements may lead to disciplinary action in accordance with University rules and applicable laws.

8. Leadership and Cooperation

1. The Vice-Chancellor will provide strategic direction for research development and will ensure that research remains a priority in institutional planning and decision-making.
2. Deans and Heads of Departments will:
    - Encourage a collaborative and supportive research environment
    - Facilitate interdisciplinary research initiatives
    - Mentor early-career faculty and young researchers
    - Ensure availability and optimal use of departmental research infrastructure
3. The University will actively promote cooperation by:
    1. Encouraging interdepartmental research teams
    2. Facilitating collaborative research projects with other universities, research institutions, industries, and government agencies

3. Supporting faculty participation in national and international research networks

4. Institutional Support Mechanisms
    1. Administrative and academic support will be provided through the R&D Cell of the university to ensure smooth coordination among collaborating partners and timely execution of research activities.

9. Supervision

1. Eligibility and Allocation
    a. Research supervision, particularly for doctoral research, will strictly adhere to UGC regulations regarding supervisor eligibility, workload, and scholar allocation.
2. Research Advisory Committees (RACs)

   For each Ph.D. scholar, the University will constitute a Research Advisory Committee to:
    a. Review research progress periodically
    b. Provide academic and methodological guidance
    c. Ensure adherence to ethical standards
3. Responsibilities of Supervisors

   Supervisors will:
    a. Provide regular academic guidance and mentoring
    b. Ensure originality and quality of research work
    c. Guide scholars in publication, presentation, and propagation of research
    d. Monitor ethical compliance throughout the research period
4. Monitoring and Accountability
    a. Supervisory effectiveness will be considered in academic appraisal and quality assurance processes of the University.

10. Training

1. Structured Capacity-Building Plan
    a. The University will implement a structured training framework to enhance research competencies among faculty members, research scholars and students.
2. Training Areas
    a. Training programmes will cover, but not be limited to:

i. Research methodology and design
ii. Research, publication ethics and integrity
iii. Literature review and hypothesis formulation
iv. Data analysis and statistical tools
v. Academic writing and publication practices
vi. Intellectual Property Rights and patent filing
vii. Tools for research

3. Mandatory and Optional Training
    a. Orientation programmes will be mandatory for newly appointed faculty and newly admitted research scholars and students. Advanced training modules will be offered periodically for experienced researchers.
4. External Collaboration for Training
    a. The University will collaborate with external experts, funding agencies, national and International research institutions, and industry partners through MOUs, Collaborations and Linkages to deliver specialized training programmes.

11. **Primary Data / Samples / Equipment**

1. Data Management Responsibility
    a. The University will ensure that all research data generated is:
    b. Accurately recorded
    c. Securely stored
    d. Retained for a prescribed period
    e. Researchers will be responsible for maintaining data confidentiality and integrity.
2. Data Storage and Access
    a. Both physical and electronic data will be protected against loss, damage, or unauthorized access. Backup mechanisms will be mandatory for digital data.
3. Sample and Material Handling
    a. Biological, chemical, and physical samples will be handled, stored, and disposed of in accordance with approved safety and ethical norms.
4. Equipment Utilization and Sharing
    a. The University will promote optimal use of research equipment by:
    b. Maintaining a centralized inventory of major instruments

c. Encouraging interdepartmental sharing
d. Establishing access protocols to ensure equitable usage

12. Intellectual Property

Idea to Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property, and Benefit Sharing

1. Research scholars shall be regularly sensitized to Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), innovation, technology transfer mechanisms, and benefit-sharing principles through structured awareness and training programs organized by the University.
2. Upon achieving proof of concept, researchers should assess the novelty, utility, scalability, and commercialization potential of their research outcomes, with the objective of facilitating effective transfer of ideas from laboratory to societal and industrial application.
3. Researchers must discuss such outcomes within their research groups and in consultation with their research supervisors and, where applicable, the sponsoring or funding agency, to determine suitable strategies for intellectual property protection, technology transfer, and commercialization.
4. With support from the University's IPR Cell, a provisional intellectual property application shall be filed at an early stage to protect promising inventions and enable safe disclosure for technology transfer activities.
5. Following the filing, researchers shall inform the Intellectual Property Cell (Program Coordinator or Director) and may seek guidance on subsequent procedures related to patent prosecution, technology valuation, licensing, startup formation, or collaborative transfer models.
6. Where required, the sponsoring or funding agency shall be duly informed in accordance with its intellectual property and technology transfer guidelines.
7. Once comprehensive experimental data, validation, and evaluation results are available, a complete intellectual property application with full specifications shall be filed in consultation with the IPR Cell.
8. Research conducted within the University, particularly that supported by government funding, is primarily intended for public benefit and societal advancement. However, researchers are encouraged to responsibly transfer technologies to industry, startups, or public institutions to maximize impact, usability, and sustainability.

9. Technology transfer may take place through licensing, assignment, collaborative research agreements, startup or spin-off creation, or other mechanisms approved by the University in consultation with the IPR Cell.
10. Benefits arising from the commercialization or transfer of University-owned intellectual property, including revenue, royalties, equity, or other financial or non-financial gains, shall be shared in a fair and transparent manner among the inventors, the University, and other stakeholders, in accordance with the University's IPR and benefit-sharing policy and the terms of the funding agency.
11. The University shall ensure that benefit sharing recognizes the contributions of researchers while also supporting institutional research development, infrastructure creation, and future innovation initiatives.
12. All technology transfer and benefit-sharing arrangements shall comply with applicable laws, funding agency norms, ethical standards, and University regulations.

13. Dissemination and Publication of Results

The University promotes the publication and dissemination of high-quality research outcomes, while emphasizing that such activities must be undertaken responsibly and with due awareness of their broader implications. Researchers are encouraged to share their work on widely recognized national and international platforms such as SCOPUS, Web of Science, PubMed, Indian Citation Indexed journals, and reputable books with ISBN/ISSN numbers at the national or international level.

Researchers should take into account the following guidelines when publishing or disseminating their research or research findings including any plans they may have to publish or publicise research in conferences, seminars or workshops.

1. The sponsoring agency should be acknowledged if the research is intended for publication, publicity, or wider dissemination.
2. Researchers should discuss their findings within the respective research groups and obtain internal review before submitting the work for publication.
3. Issues related to intellectual property rights and the distribution of benefits should be resolved within the research group prior to submission.
4. Researchers must ensure that plagiarism checks are completed before submission and that any identified issues are appropriately addressed.

5. All sources of literature and data must be clearly and appropriately cited in all publications, reports, presentations, and any form of public communication.
6. Research outcomes should be published in an appropriate format, typically as articles in peer-reviewed journals such as SCOPUS, Web of Science, PubMed, or Indian Citation Indexed journals.
7. All individuals listed as authors must take responsibility for the content of the paper and be able to clearly identify their specific contributions.
8. Contributions from formal collaborators and others who have directly or indirectly supported the research should be clearly stated and properly acknowledged.
9. Research should generally be published as a coherent and complete body of work rather than in fragmented parts, unless early publication of preliminary data is justified to establish priority of discovery.
10. Emphasis should be placed on the quality of research outputs rather than the quantity, and the practice of increasing publication numbers through unnecessary multi-authorship should be discouraged.
11. Authors must avoid publishing the same data or results in more than one journal.
12. If an error is identified that diminishes the value or accuracy of published findings, the principal author should promptly take steps to issue a correction.
13. When research findings are found to be seriously questionable, a formal retraction should be issued without delay.
14. Any suspicion of research fraud should be addressed in accordance with the established procedures for handling research misconduct.

14. Conflict of Interest

1. A conflict of interest arises when a researcher's decisions or judgments in research may be influenced, or appear to be influenced, by personal benefit, financial gain, or career advancement.
2. All researchers are required to submit a declaration stating that they have no conflict of interest at the start of any research project.
3. Any identified conflict of interest must be properly managed, reduced, or removed in accordance with University policies.
4. Common examples of conflicts of interest include:
    - Financial interests related to the research outcomes.

- Personal or professional benefits that depend on the results of the research.
- Situations where personal or professional gains from the research are greater than what is normally expected in academic work.

15. About Misconduct

1. The University is committed to upholding research integrity and ensuring fair, transparent, and timely investigation of all allegations of research misconduct.
2. All members of the research community are required to cooperate with investigations, and individuals accused of misconduct shall be informed in writing and given a fair opportunity to respond.
3. Research misconduct includes fabrication, falsification, plagiarism, fraud, and deliberate violations of accepted research practices; honest errors or differences in interpretation are not considered misconduct.
4. If research misconduct is proven, strict action will be taken as per University rules, and the University will also protect individuals from false or malicious complaints.

16. Promotion for Research

1. The University shall promote a strong research and innovation ecosystem through its Innovation and Incubation Centre by organizing orientation programmes, hands-on training, IPR awareness workshops, and start-up support activities to encourage translation of laboratory research into socially and commercially useful technologies.
2. The University shall provide access to high-quality scholarly literature and research databases through the One Nation One Subscription (ONOS) facility, enabling faculty members, research scholars, and students to access national and international journals, databases, and e-resources for teaching and research.
3. Researchers, particularly PhD scholars, shall be encouraged to use the INFLIBNET Shodhchakra portal for effective research data management, including monitoring research progress, thesis submission processes, plagiarism checking, compliance with regulatory requirements, and access to institutional and national research repositories.
4. Financial assistance shall be provided to faculty members for conducting Proof of Concept (PoC) studies and pilot projects to facilitate applications for extramural funding from Government agencies and industry.

5. Under the University's Research Strengthening Scheme, Minor and Major Research Projects shall be initiated and supported to encourage early-career and mid-career researchers to develop independent research capabilities and enhance research output.
6. Seed funding shall be provided to faculty members of its constituent colleges for the establishment, modernization, and strengthening of research laboratories and facilities.
7. Seed funding and innovation grants shall also be extended to research scholars and students for novel ideas with clear potential for commercialization, societal application, or start-up creation.
8. Financial support shall be provided for patent filing, copyright registration, and other forms of intellectual property protection arising from innovative research outcomes.
9. Special study leave and institutional support shall be granted to faculty members for postdoctoral research, visiting fellowships, or academic engagements at reputed national and overseas universities and research institutions.
10. Performance-based incentives shall be awarded for quality research publications in peer-reviewed and indexed journals such as Scopus, Web of Science, SCI, PubMed, and Indian Citation Index, with additional incentives for high-impact publications (Q1–Q4 categories).
11. Special incentives shall be provided to faculty members who secure research grants from Government agencies (UGC, DST, DBT, CSIR, ICSSR, DRDO, BRNS, etc.) and reputed non-Government funding organizations.
12. Research Excellence Awards, Best Teacher Awards, and other recognition schemes with financial incentives shall be instituted to acknowledge outstanding achievements in research publications, funded projects, citations, innovation, and national or international recognition.
13. University constituent colleges need to be supported for inviting proposals for Post-Doctoral Fellowships through different government schemes like ANRF-NPDF and also to be encouraged to submit collaborative proposals for infrastructure development under schemes such as UGC-SAP, DST-FIST, DBT-STAR and UGC-CPE etc.

14. The University shall actively promote national and international collaboration through MoUs with universities, research institutions, and industries to support joint research projects, faculty and student exchange, joint publications, and academic events.
15. UG and PG students, as well as research scholars, shall be encouraged and supported to undertake short-term research internships or semester-long study and research programmes at national and overseas institutions, with appropriate academic flexibility to address curriculum requirements.
16. The University shall motivate and support students to participate in national and international innovation, research, and entrepreneurship competitions to foster creativity, problem-solving skills, and start-up culture.