

MINUTES

18th MEETING OF IQAC

Held on 28-01-2021



UNIVERSITY OF KERALA

Minutes

18th Meeting of IQAC, University of Kerala

Date: 28.01.2021

Day: Thursday

Time: 3.00 p.m.

Venue: Syndicate Room

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Members (Present)

1. Prof. (Dr.) V. P. Mahadevan Pillai, Vice - Chancellor (Chairman)
3. Dr. S. Nazeeb, Member, Syndicate
4. Dr. K.G. Gopchandran, Member, Syndicate
5. Dr. P. Raghavan, Registrar (i/c)
7. Dr. A. Bijukumar, Vice - Chairman, Credit and Semester System
8. Dr. Vinod Chandra S.S., Director, Computer Centre
9. Sri. Ramshad Khan R., Chairman, Department Students' Union
10. Smt. Ilfa K. M., Chairman, Research Students' Union
11. Dr. Unnikrishnan S. M., Associate Vice – President, International Business & Strategic Planning, HLL Life care Ltd, Poojappura.
13. Dr. A. K. Prasad, Professor, Department of Economics
15. Dr. B. Hariharan, Professor and Head, Institute of English
16. Dr. Jayachandran R., Professor and Head, Department of Hindi
18. Dr. S. Mini, Professor and Head, Dept. of Biochemistry
19. Dr. S. R. Sheeja, Professor, Department of Economics
20. Dr. S. Aji, Associate Professor, Department of Computer Science
22. Dr. Gabriel Simon Thattil, Director, IQAC

Members (Absent)

1. The Pro- Vice - Chancellor (Vice-Chairman)
2. The Finance Officer
3. Dr. Biveesh U. C., Research Officer & Nodal Officer, RUSA State Office, Thiruvananthapuram.
4. Dr. K. S. Chandrasekhar, Professor and Head, Institute of Management in Kerala
5. Dr. R. B. Binoj Kumar, Professor and Head, Department of Geology
6. Dr. E. Shaji, Associate Professor, Department of Geology (Joint Director, IQAC)

Items for Consideration

Item No. XVIII.01: Approval of the minutes of 17th meeting of IQAC held on 21.10.2020

The minutes of the meeting were circulated via email through IQAC office and the members have confirmed the same.

Item No. XVIII.02: Action Taken Report on decisions of the 17th meeting of IQAC held on 21.10.2020

Decision	Action Taken
<p>Item No.XVII.03: Thesis of the Decade Award in Linguistics</p> <p>The Head, Department of Linguistics, University of Kerala vide letter dated 27/05/2020, has submitted a proposal for the best thesis of the decade award in Linguistics.</p> <p>The matter was placed before the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Academics and Research. The Standing Committee recommended to refer the matter to IQAC for specific remarks on the proposal submitted by the HOD, Department of Linguistics. The Syndicate in its meeting held on 14/08/2020 resolved to approve the recommendation of the Standing Committee.</p> <p>---IQAC Decision---: The proposal was discussed and resolved not to approve the same.</p>	<p>IQAC decision intimated to section concerned.</p>
<p>Item No.XVII.04: Academic Audit- Department of Hindi - Release of payment</p> <p>An amount of Rs. 40,000/- (Rupees Forty Thousand only) was released as Provisional advance to Dr. Jayachandran R., Professor and Head, Department of Hindi for the conduct of Academic Audit in the department. The Audit section has verified the original bills and vouchers amounting to Rs. 43,725/- (Rupees Forty Three Thousand Seven Hundred and Twenty Five only) and found to be in order. The section has admitted the regularization of Provisional advance of Rs. 40,000/- (Rupees Forty Thousand Only). The section has also admitted the excess expenditure of Rs. 3,725/- (Rupees Three Thousand Seven Hundred and Twenty Five only). The Finance section has endorsed the regularization of Provisional advance of Rs. 40,000/- (Rupees Forty Thousand only) sanctioned to Dr. Jayachandran R., Professor and Head, Department of Hindi. The Finance has also endorsed the reimbursement of additional amount expended of Rs. 3,725/- (Rupees Three Thousand Seven Hundred and Twenty Five only), as admitted by the Audit VI section.</p> <p>As directed by the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, the matter is placed before the IQAC meeting for approval on the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. to regularize the Provisional advance of Rs. 40,000/- (Rupees Forty Thousand only) sanctioned to Dr. Jayachandran R., Professor and Head, Department of Hindi in connection with the conduct of Academic Audit in the department. 2. to reimburse the additional amount expended of Rs. 3,725/- (Rupees Three Thousand Seven Hundred and Twenty Five only) to Dr. Jayachandran R., Professor and Head, Department of Hindi. <p>---IQAC Decision---: Resolved to approve the same.</p>	<p>In Progress</p>
<p>Item No.XVII.05: Academic Summit</p> <p>It was proposed to conduct the Academic Summit on March 11,2020. However, as per the orders of the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, the programme was postponed due to the Covid-19 pandemic. In the 15th meeting of IQAC held on 13.08.2020, the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor suggested to reinstate the programmes which was approved and subsequently postponed due to the Covid Pandemic. Prof. K. G. Gopchandran, Member, Syndicate suggested that considering the SSR uploading and NAAC preparedness, IQAC members and NAAC Directorate should be spared from all other activities and should be engaged in the assessment process alone. Dr. S. Nazeeb, Member, Syndicate suggested that the proposals need not be kept pending</p>	<p>In Progress</p>

and a committee (not involving IQAC members and NAAC Directorate members) to be constituted for each programme with the Pro-Vice-Chancellor as its convener for the conduct. The meeting resolved to approve the same.

An amount of Rs.32,760/- (Rupees Thirty Two thousand Seven Hundred and Sixty only) was expended towards the conduct of Academic Summit scheduled for March 5th 2020, however the programme was postponed due to Covid 19 pandemic. It may also be noted an amount of Rs. 9,038/- and Rs. 7,295/- towards the cancellation charges of air tickets for Dr. N. V. Varghese, Vice-Chancellor, NIEPA and Dr. M. Ramachandran, Professor, Pondicherry University respectively is to be paid to Jet Set Travel and Holders, Pattom.

As directed by the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, the matter is placed before the IQAC meeting for approval on the following:

1. to pay the cancellation charges of air tickets of Rs. 9,038/- and Rs. 7,295/- towards the cancellation charges of air tickets for Dr. N. V. Varghese, Vice-Chancellor, NIEPA and Dr. M. Ramachandran, Professor, Pondicherry University to Jet Set Travel and Holders, Pattom .
2. to constitute a committee with the Pro-Vice-Chancellor as its convener (not involving IQAC members and NAAC Directorate members).

---IQAC Decision---: Resolved to approve the same.

Item No.XVII.06: Procedure for patent filing - constitution of committee

The meeting of the Syndicate held on 24.08.2020 resolved to entrust the Deans Council to prepare a format for patent filing as per the methodology adopted in Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Biotechnology & Institute for Scientific and Engineering Research (ISER) and place the same before the IQAC meeting.

The Standing Committee of the Academic Council(Deans Council) in its meeting held on 28.09.2020 resolved to constitute a committee consisting of Dean Faculty of Sciences/ Management Studies/ Oriental Studies/Applied Sciences/ Director, IQAC under the convenership of Dean, Faculty of Sciences to suggest the procedure to be adopted by the University for patent filing on the basis of a study of procedure adopted by the prominent institutions and submit a report within 15 days.

The meeting of the subcommittee of the Deans for patent filing through University of Kerala was held on 09.10.2020. The following decisions were taken during the meeting:

1. The existing IPR policy of the University of Kerala to be made contemporary and better ease of filing for patent filing.
2. An online three days workshop on the IPR policy with experts from the field of IPR to be conducted at the earliest and the convenor will submit the proposal for the same to IQAC.
3. IQAC will conduct the online workshop at the earliest.

---IQAC Decision---: Resolved to approve the proposal on revising the IPR policy and conduct of workshop on IPR by IQAC.

In progress

Item No.XVII.07: University website updation – NAAC requirements

University website updation is in progress; however certain requirements as per NAAC guidelines including Vision, Mission etc need to be added.

---IQAC Decision---: Prof. P. P. Ajayakumar, Hon'ble Pro-Vice-Chancellor suggested on the need to have a common University level committee to capture and upload all University activities which need to be showcased through the website. Dr. Shaji E. suggested on the need to have a link for NAAC related disclosures. Resolved to form a committee to examine website updation and uploading issues with the following constitution.

1. Prof. P. P. Ajayakumar, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Convener)
2. Dr. Shaji E., Joint Director, IQAC
3. Prof. A. Gangaprasad, Dean, Faculty of Sciences
4. Dr. Meena T. Pillai, Professor, Institute of English

Committee constituted, as resolved.

Other Items approved by the Chair	
<p>Item No.XVII.13:- Budget Proposals – Initiating Action</p> <p>The Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor suggested to initiate the following proposals</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Meet the Scholar- Examine the possibility to inaugurate October 27 or 28, 2020 2. Academic Summit – Initiate the proposal in November 2020 in the online mode and after a gap of 3-4 week examine possibility for continuing the remaining sessions in the offline mode. 3. Performance Audit –resolved to accept the same 4. Travel through Nobel Laureates <p>---IQAC Decision---: Resolved to approve the same.</p>	In Progress
<p>Item No.XVII.14:- Campus Cleaning Drive Programme</p> <p>The Hon'ble Pro-Vice-Chancellor stated that there was need for an urgent campus cleaning drive as well as initiating infrastructure maintenance services and campus beautification projects.</p> <p>---IQAC Decision---: Resolved to authorize the Campus Director, Prof. K. S. Chandrasekhar to initiate the same. The campus cleaning drive to be initiated from November 1- 6, 2020. Department level involvement to be ensured.</p>	Conducted Campus Cleaning Drive Programme during first week of November 2020
<p>Item No.XVII.15: Workshop on National Education Policy</p> <p>The Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor suggested having a workshop on National Education Policy 2020.</p> <p>---IQAC Decision---: Resolved to approve the same.</p>	Workshop conducted on 20.12.2020
<p>Item No.XVII.16: Research and Publication Ethics – Course work for Ph.D</p> <p>Dr. Shaji E. suggested to incorporate Research and Publication Ethics as part of Course work for Ph.D. as mandated by UGC. The course structure, scheme and syllabi would be as prescribed by UGC.</p> <p>---IQAC Decision---: Resolved to approve the same and considering the urgency in implementation, resolved to place the same for approval before the Syndicate.</p>	Matter placed before Syndicate, resolved to entrust the CSS Academic Committee to prepare and submit a suitable proposal for Research and Publication Ethics (RPE) and place the same before the forthcoming Academic Council.

Item No.XVIII.03: NAAC Accreditation - Filing of fresh IIQA with assessment period 2015-2020

IQAC is preparing itself to file a fresh IIQA in the third week of January 2021 with the assessment period 2015-2020, approval for which was given by the Syndicate in its meeting held on 23.10.2020.

NAAC had brought a notification dated 31.12.2020 providing for inclusion of data for 2019 -2020 in the SSR for Higher Education Institutions who are filing SSR in the near future. University of Kerala had sought a clarification on including University of Kerala under this notification with due consideration of our IIQA filed on February 2020. We received a reply to this stating that IIQA data and SSR data should be the same. Under such circumstances, we are compelled to file a fresh IIQA with assessment period 2015-2020(Appendix I)

---IQAC Decision---: Resolved to file IIQA in the last week of February 2021.

Item No.XVIII.04: Numbering of all rooms of the teaching departments

Report submitted by Dr. K. S. Chandrasekar on progress of display boards on all rooms of the teaching departments **(Appendix II)**

---IQAC Decision---: Discussed the proposal of Dr. K. S. Chandrasekar. Resolved to accept boards for numbering of rooms based on the following specification:

8 X 3 Aluminium Coating Panel(ACP) inclusive of all charges Rs. 140 per board.

The expense in this regard to be met by each department from Department Development Fund.

Item No.XVIII.05: Use of services of Computer Assistants for NAAC Directorate

The meeting of the Syndicate held on 01.10.2020 resolved to appoint three Computer Assistants for a period not exceeding thirty days (based on the requirement) on existing wages of the University

---IQAC Decision---: Resolved to recommend appointment of Computer Assistant based on existing wage rules up to the completion of SSR uploading.

Item No.XVIII.06: Orientation Course under NAAC PARAMARSH Scheme.

Orientation Course for unaccredited colleges to be hosted jointly by IQAC with PARAMARSH institute-Mar Ivanios College under NAAC PARAMARSH Scheme **(Appendix III)**

---IQAC Decision---: Resolved to consider the proposal only after completion of SSR uploading.

Item No.XVIII.07: Proposal- Starting four CACEE courses at NIMS-Child Development Research centre (CDRC), NIMS Medicity, Neyyatinkara, TVPM

Dr. M. K. C. Nair, former Vice Chancellor of Kerala University for Health and Allied Sciences(KUHAS) and the present Director of Child Development Research Centre(CDRC) NIMS Medicity, has submitted a proposal for starting four PG Diploma courses at NIMS-CDRC in collaboration with CACEE. It is proposed that University may kindly grant permission to start the following courses:

- (1) P. G. Diploma in Developmental Neurology (PGD-DN)
- (2) P. G. Diploma in Adolescent Paediatrics (PGD-AP)
- (3) P. G. Diploma in Health Science Research (PGD-HSR)
- (4) P. G. Diploma in Child Adolescent and Family Counselling (PGDCAFC) .

It may be noted that the CACEE is conducting above mentioned courses in collaboration with the Child Development Centre(CDC), Medical College, Thiruvananthapuram.

M/s NIMS Medicity has requested permission to start the above mentioned courses, recognizing NIMS-CDRC as a study centre on the same terms and conditions as for CDC Kerala.

As per orders of Vice Chancellor, the proposal for starting four new P.G. Diploma courses at NIMSCDRC in collaboration with CACEE was placed before the CACEE Monitoring committee for consideration and appropriate decision. The committee resolved to refer the matter to Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Academics and Research. The Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Academics and Research considered the matter and recommended to obtain a detailed report from IQAC. The meeting of the Syndicate held on 01-10-2020 resolved to approve the above recommendation of the Standing Committee.

---IQAC Decision---: The courses proposed by Dr. M. K. C. Nair may be considered for implementation in association with Advanced Centre for Regenerative Medicine and Stem cell in Cutaneous Research (AcREM-Stem), Department of Zoology, University of Kerala.

Item No.XVIII.08: Research Policy Handbook

A draft Handbook on the Research Policy of the University is prepared; the same is placed for approval.

---IQAC Decision--- *The draft Research Policy prepared was discussed and resolved to have a committee to review suggestions on the handbook. The committee consists of:*

1. **Dr. K. G. Gopchandran, Member, Syndicate**
2. **Dr. S. Nazeeb, Member, Syndicate**
3. **Dr. A. Biju Kumar, Professor, Department. of Aquatic Biology & Fisheries**
4. **Dr. A. K. Prasad, Professor, Department of Economics**
5. **Dr. Girish kumar R., Professor, Department of Political Science**

Item No.XVIII.09: Budget proposal for the production of video lessons under the KU Padasala

Dr. Lal C.A., Director, KU Padasala has forwarded the proposal for the production of video lessons under the KU Padasala project along with budget estimate.

The details of the proposal are furnished below:

Objective:

To create educational video content (of 20 to 30 minutes duration) on various disciplinary areas, both as part of MOOC courses and as standalone video lessons/lectures, that shall be openly accessible on the University website.

The expenses are expected under the following divisions:

1. Remuneration to the teachers and researchers of the University of Kerala who create the content. For producing videos, the Studio facility available either in the Department of Linguistics or the Department of Journalism may be used.
2. Hiring professional video camera and crew as needed.
3. Payment for the service of a video editor. The video editor who will be able to offer on-site editing support, visiting the teachers who worked on the videos in their departments with the editing console.
4. Remuneration to the assistance to create a short video introduction to each MOOC course, which will involve outdoor photography and graphics.
5. An amount to be set aside for unforeseen expenses as this is a venture hitherto unattempted.

Budget Speech

Camera and Crew (Rent and Charges)	Rs. 3000 x 100 videos	: 300,000/-
Editing charges	Rs. 2000 x 100 videos	: 200,000/-
Remuneration to content creators	Rs. 2000 x 100 videos	: 200,000/-
Stationery and consumables		: 50000/-
Creation of graphics and animation		: 30000/-
Travel, miscellaneous and contingent expenses		: 20000/-

(Total: Rs 8,00,000/- (Rupees eight lakh only))

As per orders of the Vice Chancellor the proposal for the production of video lessons under the KU Padasala project along with budget estimate submitted by Dr. Lal.C.A, Director, KU Padasala is placed before the meeting of the IQAC for consideration and appropriate recommendation.

---IQAC Decision--- *Resolved to recommend the proposal with the budget with a clause that funding will be allowed only for services provided by parties external to the University.*

Item No.XVIII.10: Inter University Centre for Evolutionary and Integrative Biology (iCEIB) – Proposal for Five year integrated MS – Ph.D Degree Programme

The Director, Inter University Centre for Evolutionary and Integrative Biology (iCEIB) submitted a proposal for starting up Innovative, Interdisciplinary and Integrated teaching programme on **‘Five year Integrated MS – Ph.D degree programme in Bioscience and Bioinstrumentation in iCEIB’**. The proposal was placed before the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Academics and Research

held on 09.11.2020. The Standing Committee considered the matter and recommended to ***entrust the IQAC for detailed study of the proposal and to submit the same to UGC for getting the sanction for starting MS - Ph.D Programme.*** The Syndicate held on 10.11.2020 approved the above recommendation of the Standing Committee on Academics and Research (**Appendix IV**).

---IQAC Decision---: Resolved not to recommend the proposal.

Item No.XVIII.11: Dr. Sony George, Department of Chemistry- Interaction with Eminent Scholar -Regularization of Provisional Payment

An amount of Rs. 1,10,000/- (Rupees One Lakh Ten Thousand Only) was sanctioned to Dr. Sony George, Assistant Professor and Head, Department of Chemistry for inviting Dr. Madhava B Mallia, Scientific Officer 'G', & Professor, HBNI (Homi Bhabha National Institute), Radiopharmaceuticals Division (RPhD), Isotope Wing, RLG Building, Research Centre, Trombay, Mumbai and Dr. Natesan Ramamoorthy, Retired from Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) - Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC), Mumbai under the Scheme "Interaction with Eminent Scholar" during March 2019. The programme was conducted in the Department and detailed statement of expenditure and bills and vouchers were submitted by the Head, Department of Chemistry for audit verification.

The Audit section verified the bills and vouchers and sought clarifications on following:

	Objection	Clarification from the Head, Dept of Chemistry
1.	Prior sanction was not obtained for change of date of programme from March 2019 to April 2019.	The Scheduled interaction dates with Dr. Ramamoorthy was postponed to the second week of April 2019 due to the development of severe Disc problem inflicting severe pain for Dr. Ramamoorthy, disabling him to travel by road and Air travel means in accordance with his Doctors Advice. In these compelling circumstances it was not pragmatically possible to get prior sanction from the Hon'ble Vice - Chancellor as the convenient dates were continuously changing and itinerating
2.	An amount of Rs. 14,913/- was claimed towards airfare for Dr. Madhava B. Mallia, however the sanctioned amount towards airfare was Rs. 10,000/-	It was not pragmatically possible to restrict the air fare of Dr. Madhava P Mallia within the stipulated Rs. 10,000/- as the Air fare in Air India was exorbitantly high during the said period. More over Government Servant in service are restricted to travel in Air India only
3.	An amount of Rs. 3,000/- each was charged towards taxi fare for Dr. Madhava B. Mallia and Dr. Natesan Ramamoorthy. However the Govt. rate for taxi fare was Rs. 17/- per Km	Taxi for FULL one day spanning 12 hours was hired. Rs. 3,000/- is the standard prevailing rate in Kazhakootam. Hiring the taxi in this fashion was quite requisite to meet the demands and convenience of Eminent invited Scholars.
4.	Prior sanction was not obtained for claiming Rs. 5,600/- towards road travel expense for Dr. Natesan Ramamoorthy.	Dr. Ramamoorthy had used his own car with rented driver for the travel from his residence in Mysore to Bangalore airport.

Based on the clarifications furnished by the Head, Dept. of Chemistry, the Finance admitted the objections detailed in serial no. 1 and 2. For objections detailed in serial no. 3 and 4, as Finance could not admit the claim, the ratification by the competent authority was sought in this regard.

As directed by the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, the matter is placed before the IQAC meeting for ratification of actions taken by the Head as detailed in serial no. 3 and 4.

---IQAC Decision---: Considering the status of the guest and nature of the programme, it was observed that payment of Taxi fare on kilometer basis is not practical and prior sanction in the case of Dr. Ramamoorthy could not be obtained under unavoidable circumstances. IQAC

recommends that the objections raised may be treated as rectified and the bills may be accepted for regularisation based on clarification submitted by Dr. Sony George, Head, Department of Chemistry.

Items for Reporting

Item No.XVIII.12: Conduct of International Webinar - Department of Sociology

Dr. Antony Palackal, Associate Professor & Head, Dept. of Sociology, conducted International Webinar on the topic 'Art of Academic Writing and Publishing in Social Sciences'. The Webinar brought together a minimum of 100 participants, comprising of mainly research scholars and young teachers and from various universities and colleges across the country. The webinar was conducted during October 20-24, 2020.

---IQAC Decision---:Noted

Item No.XVIII.13: Inauguration of Meet the Scholar Programme 2020

Dr. T. M. Thomas Isaac, Hon'ble Minister for Finance and Coir inaugurated and delivered the inaugural address for the flagship programme 'Meet the Scholar' initiated by the University of Kerala on 28th October 2020 at 5 p.m. through video conference. The inaugural address was followed by an online interactive session where students, researchers and faculty interacted with the Hon'ble Minister on the theme 'Covid-19 and the Kerala Economy'.



The Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Prof. V. P. Mahadevan Pillai presided over the function. Felicitations were offered by Hon'ble Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Prof. P. P. Ajayakumar, Members of the Syndicate Adv. K. H. Babujan and Dr. K.G. Gopchandran. The programme was organized in the virtual mode complying with Covid-19 guidelines. Prof. Gabriel Simon Thattil, Director, IQAC welcomed the gathering while Prof. C. R. Prasad proposed the vote of thanks.

---IQAC Decision---: Noted

Item No.XVIII.14: Meet the Scholar Lecture Series- Department of Demography

Department of Demography, University of Kerala in association with IQAC conducted a public lecture under the Meet the Scholar lecture series on 30th October 2020. The lecture by Dr. Giridhar Babu, Professor of Epidemiology at Public Health Foundation of India and Member of Epidemiology, Surveillance, & Research group, ICMR National Task Force for COVID-19 on the topic ***"Epidemiology of Covid-19 in India: Learnings and Way Forward"*** was conducted through online video conference.

---IQAC Decision---: Noted

Item No.XVIII.15: Two day Add on Programme on LMS

In continuation to the Online training programme on LMS conducted during 2020, a two-day Add-on online training programme on LMS was conducted on 2-3, November 2020. Dr. Ashkarali P., FLAIR international intern 2015, Assistant Professor of Electronics, Govt. Arts and

Science College, Tanur and Dr. Ramesh A. R., FLAIR international intern 2014, Asst Professor of Chemistry, Govt. Victoria College, Palakkad engaged the sessions. The focus was on student enrolment and initiating semester one courses. This was also a Gap filling session on the left outs.

---IQAC Decision---: Noted

Item No.XVIII.16: Clean Campus Drive programme

The Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor resolved in the meeting of Heads of Teaching Departments and IQAC, launched a Clean Campus Drive Programme during 2- 6 November 2020. The Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor inaugurated the programme on 2nd November 2020 at Kariavattom Campus. The objective was to keep the campus clean and maintain cleanliness and hygiene.



---IQAC Decision---: Noted

Item No.XVIII.17: Google Meet ID for IQAC

IQAC purchased Google Meet ID with Business Plus Plan for the conduct of 250 participant video meetings with recording, attendance tracking features.

---IQAC Decision---: Noted

Item No.XVIII.18: Inauguration of Travel through Nobel Winners Programme

Prof. C. Vijayan, Professor of Physics, IIT Madras delivered the inaugural talk on the theme “Raman Effect and Raman’s Effect” as part of the innovative lecture series “Travel through Nobel Winners” organised by IQAC, University of Kerala on 11th December 2020 through video conference. He spoke on the need to dwell deeper into nature and draw inspiration from understanding nature in order to make learning complete.



The Hon'ble Vice - Chancellor Prof. V. P. Mahadevan Pillai presided over the function in which felicitations were offered by Hon'ble members of the Syndicate Adv. K.H. Babujan, Dr. S. Nazeeb, Dr. K. G. Gopchandran as well as Shri. Ramshad Khan R., Chairman, Kerala University Departments' Union and Smt. Ilfa K.M. Chairperson, Kerala University Research Students' Union. Prof. A. Bijukumar, Vice - Chairman, CSS welcomed the gathering, while Prof. Gabriel Simon Thattil, Director, IQAC, proposed the vote of thanks.



---IQAC Decision---: Noted

Item No.XVIII.19: Conduct of Student Induction Programme 2020

University of Kerala hosted a 3 - tier induction programme for its newly admitted students in the 2020 batch. The 3 tier programme had a university level induction, school level induction as well as department level induction. Over 600 students were admitted to the 43 teaching departments representing disciplines in Sciences, Social Sciences, Arts, Humanities and Commerce. The University

level induction programme was formally inaugurated by Prof. C. Vijayan, Professor of Physics, IIT Madras on 11th December, 2020. The inaugural function was chaired by Prof. V. P. Mahadevan Pillai, Hon'ble Vice – Chancellor, University of Kerala, Hon'ble members of the Syndicate Adv. K.H. Babujan, Dr. S. Nazeeb, Dr. K. G. Gopchandran as well as Shri. Ramshad Khan R., Chairman, Kerala University Departments' Union and Smt. Ilfa K.M. Chairperson, Kerala University Research Students' Union.



On 12th December 2020, the second induction lecture was delivered by Padmabhushan Prof. P. Balaram on the theme "Science and Nature". The Hon'ble Pro – Vice – Chancellor Dr. P. P. Ajayakumar, urged students to take advantage of the unique opportunity that was bestowed upon them on securing admission to the University departments for higher learning. Dr. C. R. Prasad, Registrar-in-charge formally welcomed the newly inducted students on behalf of University of Kerala.

The final induction lecture was delivered by Prof. V. Madhusoodhanan Nair, Poet and Critic of Malayalam literature. Poet appealed requested students to love their mother tongue so as to understand our own identity. The concluding session was chaired by Prof. V. P. Mahadevan Pillai, Hon'ble Vice – Chancellor. Prof. R. B. Binojkumar, Research Director, Dr. E. Shaji, Joint Director, IQAC, Prof. S. Shifa, Head, Department of Malayalam were present.

---IQAC Decision---: Noted



Item No.XVIII.20: Meet the Scholar Lecture Series– Department of Philosophy

Department of Philosophy, University of Kerala in association with IQAC conducted a public lecture under Meet the Scholar lecture series on 15th December 2020. The lecture by Lydia Amir, Visiting Professor, department of Philosophy, Tufts University, USA on the topic "*Philosophy of Humor*" was conducted through online video conference. Dr. Gabriel Simon Thattil, Director, IQAC welcomed the online gathering while Prof. P.P. Ajayakumar, Hon'ble Pro-Vice-Chancellor proposed the introductory note.

---IQAC Decision---: Noted

Item No.XVIII.21: Meeting of NAAC Directorate held on 18th November 2020

A meeting of NAAC Directorate Convenors and Coordinators as well as other members was held on 18th November 2020 in the online mode. Each Convenor made a presentation on the criterion assigned giving: Status reporting on each criteria, Upload for SSR, Use of services of Assistants designated for the purpose.

---IQAC Decision---: Noted

Item No.XVIII.22: Meeting of NAAC Directorate held on 15th December 2020

A meeting of NAAC Directorate Convenors and Coordinators as well as other members was held on 15th December 2020 at Seminar Hall, Department of Aquatic Biology and Fisheries. Each Convenor or member nominated made a presentation on the criterion assigned giving: Criteria-wise presentation on data compiled with details on GAPS, indicating SOP Manual point where it exists and Point from which collection is due.

---IQAC Decision---: Noted

Item No.XVIII.23: Discussion on Action Plan on NEP 2020 held on 19th December, 2020

With an objective to elicit action points and activities under NEP 2020 considering aspects of the policy which the State considers amenable to implementation, a meeting for University of Kerala was convened on 19th December, 2020 at 10:30 a.m. The objective of the meeting was to have a para-wise discussion on the NEP 2020.

---IQAC Decision---: Noted

Item No.XVIII.24: Annual Quality Assurance Report (AQAR) for 2019-2020

The Annual Quality Assurance Report (AQAR) for the period July 2019 to June 2020 is being compiled under the coordination of Dr. Sheeja S. R., Professor, Department of Economics.

---IQAC Decision---: Noted

Other items**Item No.XVIII.25: Discussion on Budget Proposals (Item No.XVII.13)**

While discussing the action taken report item no. 17. 13, IQAC Director expressed the difficulty in completing the Academic Summit as well as Performance Audit within the financial year considering the numerous IQAC activities pending as well as the SSR uploading to take place. The Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor suggested that the programs need to be conducted in the current financial year itself and separate committees were constituted for this purpose.

The committee for Academic Summit and Performance Audit consists of:

1. Prof. P. P. Ajayakumar, Pro. Vice Chancellor (Chairman)
2. Dr. Aji S., Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science (Convenor)
3. Dr. Meena T. Pillai, Professor, Institute of English
4. Dr. Sam Solomon, Professor, Department of Optoelectronics
5. Dr. Hubert Joe, Associate Professor, Dept. of Physics
6. Dr. Swapna T. S., Professor, Dept. of Botany
7. Dr. Sajin Kumar K. S., Assistant Professor, Department of Geology
8. Dr. Girish Kumar R., Professor, Department of Political Science
9. Dr. Santhosh Kumar T. K., Assistant Professor, Department of Malayalam

A committee was also constituted for the programme Travel through mobile laureate:

1. Dr. A. Biju Kumar, Professor, Department of Aquatic Biology & Fisheries (Convenor)
2. Dr. Shiburaj S., Professor, Department Of Botany
3. Dr. Sreejith P., Assistant Professor, Department of Zoology
4. Dr. Viji Vijayan, Assistant Professor, Department of Bio-Chemistry
5. Dr. R. Jayakrishnan, Associate Professor, Department of Physics
6. Dr. Christabell P J, Associate Professor, Department of Economics
7. Dr. Meena T. Pillai, Professor, Institute of English
8. Dr. Ani Deepthi, Assistant Professor, Department of Chemistry

Committee for the programme Meet the Scholar

1. Dr. Mini S., Professor, Department of Bio-Chemistry (Convenor)
2. Dr. Deepa K.G., Assistant Professor, Department of Physics
3. Dr. Suneesh C.V., Assistant Professor, Department of Chemistry
4. Dr. S. M. Rafi, Associate Professor, Department of Aquatic Biology and Fisheries
5. Dr. Bindu R. Nair, Associate Professor, Department of Botany

6. Dr. Suresh R., Professor, Department of Political science
7. Dr. Manju S. Nair, Professor, Department of Economics
8. Dr. Herman P J., Associate Professor, Department of Hindi
9. Dr. Santhosh Kumar T. K., Assistant Professor, Department of Malayalam

The Committee constituted for Performance audit and travel through mobile laureates to meet on 4th February 2021.

Item No.XVIII.26: Proposal for establishing Community Radio for the University

---IQAC Decision--- *Resolved to seek a detailed proposal with financials.*

Item No.XVIII.27: Conduct of Merit Day

---IQAC Decision--- *Resolved to recommend conduct of Merit Day to recognize the contributions and meritorious achievements of teachers, students and scholars. Merit Day to be hosted on 28th February 2021.*

Item No.XVIII.28: Delay in thesis evaluation and Checking Plagiarism

Department Students Union chairman Sri. Ramshad raised the issue of inordinate delay in thesis evaluation and the need for improving system. Dr. S. Nazeeb spoke on various steps taken to improve the system and also the process of automation in the functioning of the research wing by 2022. It would be possible to speed up work on research thesis evaluation and award. Sri. Ramshad stated the problem of checking plagiarism in research thesis in Indian languages based on absence of enabling software in the University.

---IQAC Decision--- *Resolved to recommend that thesis submitted in case of Indian languages (Hindi, Malayalam, Tamil, Sanskrit) may be accepted for valuation without the stipulated software plagiarism check after obtaining an affidavit from the supervising teacher that the research work is original and work undertaken is genuine. University need to examine purchase of appropriate software for plagiarism check in Indian languages. To examine this, a committee is to be constituted with the following members:*

1. *Dr. Vinod Chandra S.S., Professor, Department of Computer Science*
2. *Dr. Aji S, Associate Professor, Department of Computer Science*
3. *Dr. A. Biju Kumar, Professor, Department of Aquatic Biology & Fisheries*
4. *Dr. Jayachandran R., Professor, Department of Hindi*
5. *University Librarian*

The meeting came to an end by 5 p.m.

Dr. Gabriel Simon Thattil
Director
Internal Quality Assurance Cell
University of Kerala

Dr. V. P. Mahadevan Pillai
Chairman
Internal Quality Assurance Cell
University of Kerala

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SYNDICATE HELD ON 23.10.2020

Item No.19.44 **NAAC Accreditation – Assessment Period – Clarification Sought – Consideration of-Reg.**

(IQAC)

This note is prepared based on the NAAC Directorate, Core Committee meeting held on 18.10.2020 (Sunday) at 5 pm, with the following members:

Prof. Simon Thattil, Director, IQAC

Prof. Binof Kumar R. B., Director, NAAC Directorate

Prof. Jayachandran R., Joint Director, NAAC Directorate

Dr. Shaji E., Joint Director, IQAC

University of Kerala filed its IQA for NAAC accreditation on 29th February 2020 and accordingly are in the process of submission of SSR. However, considering the fresh faculty appointments that took place in March–April, 2020, implementation of OBE syllabus in all programmes of the teaching departments and projecting best practices like 'Harithalayam', it was brought to the notice of Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Hon'ble Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Syndicate members and IQAC members that we would possibly attain a better grade by incorporating data of 2019-20 in the assessment period. The data up to June 2020 could be included only if we file a fresh IQA after 30th June 2020. The Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor had approved of this vide file No. 8564/2020/UoK dated 23.04.2020 and the same was reported to the Syndicate vide Item No.12.14 of the 12th meeting of the Syndicate held on 04.06.2020.

The 13th meeting of IQAC held on 19.05.2020 had also approved the proposal for filing fresh IQA after 30th June 2020. The matter was placed before the meeting of the Syndicate held on 15-06-2020. The meeting of the Syndicate resolved to grant permission to file the proposed fresh IQA after 30th June 2020.

In the combined meeting of NAAC Directorate and Special Purpose Action Committee held on 29.06.2020, it was decided that the SSR is to be submitted after June 2020 and to include data for the assessment year 2019-20 as well. Based on the above decision, the NAAC Directorate has been consolidating data from 2014-15 to 2019-20, keeping both options open.

As directed by the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, the committee consisting of Director, IQAC, Joint Director IQAC, Director NAAC Directorate and Joint Director NAAC Directorate made an assessment of probable weightage in the assessment score considering 2014-19 and 2015-20 as two alternate assessment periods. A relative benefit was seen for the assessment period 2015-20 considering filling of vacant faculty positions and other projects carried out during 2019-20.

The NAAC Directorate had sought clarification and permission from the NAAC office to incorporate data including the year 2019-20 based on the original IQA, (filed on 29.02.2020) considering the lockdown in Thiruvananthapuram. This matter was placed before the 15th meeting of IQAC held on 13.08.2020. The meeting of IQAC resolved to have further study on the possible advantage which University of Kerala would have if fresh IQA is filed and its impact on the possible grade. The NAAC Directorate, core Committee consisting of Director, IQAC, Joint Director, IQAC, Director and Joint Director of the Directorate had separate sittings with support from Dr. S. V. Sudheer, Director, HRDC, University of Kerala. Efforts were also made to discuss and seek NAAC permission for inclusion of data relating to 2019-20 based on IQA of 29.02.2020, considering the continuous lockdown. Meanwhile, a suggestion was put forth by the syndicate members to explore the possibility of visiting NAAC office, Bangalore to seek permission for including data for the year 2019-20 in the assessment period considering the long time-lag between IQA and SSR. Several rounds of discussions were held with the Assistant Advisers of NAAC, Dr. Vinitha Sahu and Dr. Shyam Singh Inda and Adviser, NAAC, Dr. M. S. Shyamsundar in this regard, both over telephone and through virtual meets. This was undertaken considering the NAAC shut down due to COVID pandemic. However, no formal consent has come from NAAC so far. They are of the opinion that University of Kerala can file a fresh IQA and submit the SSR accordingly, as many universities follow the same due to this COVID pandemic. It is presumed that NAAC considers this to be a policy issue on which common guidelines need to be formulated. Therefore, we believe that clarity on this can only be expected after January 2021.



REGISTRAR



PRO-VICE-CHANCELLOR



VICE-CHANCELLOR

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SYNDICATE HELD ON 23.10.2020

Considering the above facts, we seek clarification from the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor on whether:

1. University of Kerala should go ahead with submission of SSR as per IIQA filed on 29-02-2020 with assessment period 2014-19, or

2. Submit fresh IIQA with assessment period 2015-20

A decision on this is urgent as we are fast moving to normalcy after the COVID pandemic lockdown and would be asked to file our SSR in continuation of the current IIQA.

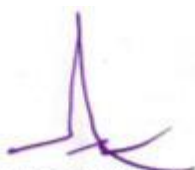
As per the orders of the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor the matter is placed before the syndicate for consideration and approval.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED to submit, fresh IIQA with assessment period 2015-20.



REGISTRAR



PRO-VICE-CHANCELLOR



VICE-CHANCELLOR

**NATIONAL ASSESSMENT AND ACCREDITATION COUNCIL**

Date: 31st December 2020

Notification to all Higher Education Institution's**Consideration of 2019-2020 Academic data for A&A (Covid-19)**

"In view of COVID-19 the academic year data for metrics of all institution types which have submitted SSR and not pre-qualified and will be submitting SSR in the coming future, academic year 2019-20 data will be considered from 1st June 2019 to 31st December 2020 for all DVV verifications purposes."

Sd/-

Director, NAAC

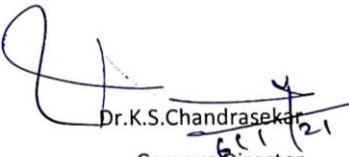
REPORT ON THE PROGRESS OF BOARDS IN ALL DEPARTMENTS

Based on the IQAC decision, it was decided to contact those vendors who can prepare the boards for all rooms at each department of the University. Initially a team of teachers and research scholars at IMK and other departments were entrusted with the job of identifying the rooms in each department and then assigning numbers to them. Based on their submission, a meeting of the sub committee consisting of the Director, IQAC, Joint Director, IQAC, Campus Director and the team of students were held at the Kariyavattom office of IQAC. During the meeting, M/s Vinayak Agencies, Kazhakuttam gave the following proposal:

1. 8 X 3 size board in foamsheet material inclusive of all charges : Rs.110.00
2. 8 X 3 size aluminum coating panel (ACP) board inclusive of all charges: Rs.140.00

In each board, based on floor and the department (as in CSS code) numbers will be given.

Forwarding this proposal to IQAC for further decision.


Dr.K.S.Chandrasekar
Campus Director

Dr. K. S. CHANDRASEKAR
Professor and Head
Institute of Management in Kerala
University of Kerala, Kariavattom
Thiruvananthapuram - 695 581

ORIENTATION COURSE

For the faculty of private unaided colleges

Abstract

This is a draft proposal submitted to the IQAC University of Kerala for holding a joint Orientation Course for the faculty of private unaided colleges.

UGC-PARAMARSH, Mar Ivanios College (Autonomous)

paramarsh@mic.ac.in

UGC-PARAMARSH SCHEME

MAR IVANIOS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS)

Draft Proposal for Conducting Orientation Course (OC) for Teachers of Private Unaided Colleges in Association with IQAC, University Of Kerala.

Background: By virtue of the nature of governance, the three main classifications of colleges in India are Government, private aided and private unaided colleges. As per the latest AISHE report, in India, out of the total 38179 colleges, 64% are private unaided colleges. In Kerala also the proportions are similar. Nationwide and in Kerala approximately 45% of student enrollments are in private unaided colleges. These statistics show that private unaided colleges play a pivotal role in the higher education scenario of the nation as well of the state.

It is agreed beyond doubt that the quality of higher education depends considerably on the quality and efficiency of teachers. It is with the objective of maintaining the quality of teachers that constant training and recharge programmes are conducted for them. The UGC-HRDC/Academic Staff Colleges in Universities have been conducting Orientation Courses for the faculty of University departments/Government/Aided colleges in connection with their CAS promotions. However, such Orientation Courses are very rarely, if not nil, conducted for teachers working in private unaided colleges, though as mentioned above, they form a critical component of the higher education scenario.

UGC has launched the scheme of PARAMARSH and selected some NAAC A+ colleges as mentor colleges in order to guide mentee colleges to their first NAAC Accreditation. Mar Ivanios College (Autonomous) is the only college affiliated to the University of Kerala which has been selected as a mentor college under this UGC scheme. There are seven mentee colleges under the guidance of Mar Ivanios College, four of which are in the University of Kerala, one each affiliated to the Mahatma Gandhi University, Kannur University and Nagaland University. Through their interactions, teachers in these colleges have been constantly requesting for

Orientation Courses for them in the model of the ones conducted by UGC-HRDC for teachers of Government and Aided colleges.

Proposal: The proposal is for conducting a 7 day long ONLINE Orientation Course for the faculty members of private unaided colleges. The OC will be jointly coordinated by the UGC – PARAMARSH scheme, Mar Ivanios College (Autonomous) and the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), University of Kerala. **It may be discussed to seek the joint collaboration of the UGC-HRDC, University of Kerala, and the Kerala State Higher Education Council, if necessary.**

Participants: The participants will be select faculty from the private unaided colleges, preferably those with less than 10 year of teaching experience. Selection will be based on Principal's recommendation. Principals, while recommending may give priority to those teachers who will continue to serve the institution at least for 5 more years. Maximum number of participants will be 150, out of which 50 seats will be reserved for the mentee colleges of Mar Ivanios College (Autonomous).

Schedule: The OC will consist of 7 working days, each day having 4 sessions of one and a half hour each, thus totaling 42 hours of training. Full time attendance is compulsory. The dates may be mutually discussed and fixed. Mar Ivanios College recommends the programme to be conducted in February 2021.

Registration Fee: Registration fee will be Rs. 1000/- per head. Teachers from the mentee colleges of Mar Ivanios College (Autonomous) will be sponsored by the UGC- PARAMARSH scheme. Teachers from other colleges will remit the registration fee in advance. Director, IQAC University of Kerala may make suggestions for handling the financial part of the OC. The honorarium for the resource persons and printing/stationery expenses can be met from the Registration fees.

Budget: The expected income from Registration fee is Rs. 1, 50, 000/- (Rs.1000*150). For the 28 sessions in the course, the estimated honorarium to resource persons is Rs. 56000/- (Rs.2000*28). Rs. 10000/- may be set apart for printing, stationery and incidental expenses.

Topics and Resource Persons: Most relevant topics and resource persons will be drawn from the data base of UGC-HRDC, University of Kerala and Kannur University.

Certification: There shall be an online test (multiple choice) at the end of the course. Certificates in the name of the IQAC, University of Kerala, and Mar Ivanios College (Autonomous) will be issued to those who successfully complete the programme. The signatories in the certificate will be Director, IQAC, University of Kerala and the Principal, Mar Ivanios College (Autonomous) and the Coordinator. If the collaboration of KSHEC or UGC-HRDC is obtained, authorized signatories of those also will be given prominence as per protocol.

Organizing Committee: Director, IQAC, University of Kerala will be the Convener of the programme and the Accreditation Ambassador, Mar Ivanios College (Autonomous) will be the Coordinator. Principal and IQAC Coordinator, Mar Ivanios College (Autonomous) will also be members of the Organizing Committee.

Proposal for starting up Innovative, Interdisciplinary and Integrated teaching programme of “Five-Year Integrated MS-PhD programme in Bioscience and Bioinstrumentation”

Submitted by Inter-University Centre for Evolutionary and Integrative Biology (iCEIB) School of Life Science

1. About iCEIB

The Inter-University Centre for Evolutionary and Integrative Biology (iCEIB) of the University of Kerala at Kariavattom North campus was established in October 2013. The Centre explores teaching, research and training in various areas of Modern Biology in an innovative way utilizing trans-disciplinary approaches. As an ambitious centre, CEIB started a master's degree programme in Integrative Biology in 2014 for first time in India. Four Batches of students have already passed out and 30% of them are involved in research and teaching activities in Biology. This Centre offers research and training programs with a curriculum ranging from studies on the evolution of structure and function of life-forms to advanced studies on modern molecular technologies. The Centre provides opportunity for students to interact with leading scientists and academicians of our country and abroad through National and International seminars, workshops and conferences. We encourage our students to do educational activities including Nature campus and visits to fields and National Institutes to learn about cutting edge research and training in Integrative Biology and also to know about Inter- institutional work culture. We organize interactive sessions regularly, in which students present and discuss common scientific topics and thus promote their scientific communication and management skills. Furthermore, the Centre also serves as a platform for students to perform well in competitive exams and also equip them to pursue their scientific dreams in India and abroad.

a) Objectives of iCEIB

- Implement and explore cutting edge research and innovative teaching and research in Integrative Biology.
- Impart innovative approaches among the students and teachers in the state of Kerala to generate new understanding on fundamentals and applied aspects of modern biology.
- Generate advanced employment opportunities among students and teachers as part of Human Resource Development.

b) Mandate of iCEIB

- Promote innovative approach among biology students and researchers to understand the advances in modern Biology.
- Train the students and teachers in the higher educational institutions across Kerala to develop expertise in innovative sciences.

c) Details of current Programs in iCEIB

- | | | |
|--------------|---|--|
| A. Teaching | - | Programme
M.Sc in Integrative Biology- 14 seats (started since 2014) |
| B. Research | - | Integrative Physiology, Stress Physiology
(Exchange student/faculty) |
| C. Extension | - | Providing Laboratory and consultancy services to the academic institutions across the state and country. |

d) Action Plan of iCEIB

- iCEIB provides the infrastructure that include class room, faculty room, seminar hall for running M.S-Ph.D programme.
- Thrust areas have been identified, formulated and implemented in the current M.Sc Integrative Biology programme to intensify the teaching, research and extension activities.
- iCEIB encourages faculty to obtain external funds from DST, DBT, DoE, KSCSTE, MHRD, etc.
- Students are encouraged to collaborate with external faculty and are given exposure to external laboratories.
- Student/Faculty exchanges are initiated within the country and CEIB has collaboration with Bharathidasan University and University of Calgary, Canada for undertaking teaching programs/research in Integrative Biology.

- Periodic workshops, conferences and seminars are initiated to encourage students to train in scientific communication and management.
- Newsletter entitled “Integrative Biology” are being published regularly.
- Students and trainees are given opportunity to organize and manage their own programme such as seminars, symposia and workshops.
- Institutional/Laboratory visits and Nature camp are regularly being done.

e) Infrastructure facility available

- The CEIB has now 3000 Sq. feet building with minimum space for office, laboratory, computer lab
- Well-equipped laboratories with equipments worth 3 crores.
- Library books 1300 books.
- However, additional workshops and classrooms are required. The above mentioned infrastructure and facility can be used for starting MS-PhD programme in iCEIB.

2. Proposal for starting up “Five-year Integrated MS-Ph.D programme in Bioscience and Bioinstrumentation”.

a) Why this programme

1. Replaces the pre-doctoral M.Phil programme and is ideal to train Ph.D. scholars with an interdisciplinary Masters programme (Master of Science in Interdisciplinary science; MS) together with their PhD programme that provides a platform for them to do integrative science.
2. To induct research orientation and initial training in Interdisciplinary and Integrative Science, there is a need for inducting an Integrated MS.Ph.D programme which would provide trained research aspirants for doing interdisciplinary research.
3. To provide new career opportunity and employment in Interdisciplinary research, this MS-Ph.D teaching programme is very essential.

b) Target group

This proposed MS-PhD programme targets master's degree holders of physical, chemical, mathematical and biological sciences (M.Sc degree in Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, Zoology, Botany and Integrative Biology) who wish to do advanced and breakthrough research and are involved in teaching/research in their respective fields.

c) Major Objective of the MS-PhD programme

- The proposed Five-Year integrated teaching programme is aimed to generate highly skilled professional scientists and teachers in the state of Kerala who can fully fill the need of future academic expectations of the state of Kerala and the country in general.
- The induction of this innovative programme would boost up the academic activity of the University which would fetch iCEIB as a National Academic Centre in the University of Kerala for providing trained manpower for generating highly motivated and professional teachers and scientists in the State of Kerala.

d) Employability of the proposed MS-PhD programme

- Bioscience covers all domains of modern Biology and will provide students on fundamental and applied aspects of Life and Life-form.
- In addition, Bioinstrumentation component in the programme will offer advanced training in clinical diagnostics to trainees in the area of health care like clinical analysts who are in high demand. This would generate highly skilled teachers and researchers and professionals in state of Kerala.
- The student will be trained to undertake independent scientific entrepreneurship including startups in Bioscience.
- Generation of highly skilled manpower in learning and teaching Modern Biology.
- The students will be able to disseminate their innovative ideas and knowledge through societally relevant scientific projects which would thus address the societal issues of our state.

e) Major outcome of Integrated MS-PhD programme in Bioscience and Bioinstrumentation

- The proposed Innovative and interdisciplinary teaching programme “Five-Year Integrated MS-PhD in Bioscience and Bioinstrumentation” programme would generate highly qualified and motivated scientists and teachers who can generate innovative ideas and knowledge in the varied frontline areas of modern Biology.
- The programme would facilitate and encourage and active interaction among the students and teachers of the State of Kerala which would bring confidence in aspiration.
- The proposed programme would bring strong enthusiasm and scientific awareness among the state holders and would provide new employment opportunity in higher education sector.
- The cutting edge research facility and training opportunity at iCEIB would be extended to the aspirants of proposed programme and other users in the higher education institutions across the State of Kerala.
- Periodic workshops and Conferences on thrust areas will be held to provide updated knowledge to all the potential beneficiaries.
- It is also envisaged that the proposed programme can bring financial support from external funding agencies of National and International origins.

f) Structure of the MS-PhD Programme in Bioscience and Bioinstrumentation

The proposed Five-Year Integrated MS-PhD teaching programme will have two training phases. First phase is two year MS programme and a second phase of three year Ph.D programme. The candidate, who wishes to leave the MS-PhD programme after acquiring minimum qualification in MS programme, will receive MS degree in their branch of science and those candidates who continue for Ph.D programme will get a dual degree of MS-Ph.D in their respective faculty of science.

In this Interdisciplinary Masters programme (MS), all candidates who have already acquired a master’s degree will be offered two semester teaching, covering with basic and fundamental principles and application of physical, chemical, mathematical and biological Sciences. All the candidates are to undergo two subsequent semesters in Advanced Bioresearch methods and Bioinstrumentation. For, interdisciplinary Ph.D programme, each candidate do research under two mentors who are specialized in their own different disciplines. These candidates are to be registered for Ph.D programme of the University after clearing their Ph.D course work. These candidates are also exempted in writing Paper 1 Research Methodology of their Ph.D. Course work.

g) Qualification for admission to MS-PhD programme.

Master’s degree in any of the branch of physical, chemical or biological sciences with minimum of 60% marks. Those candidates who possess NET or GATE clearance with minimum score of 60% aggregate are also eligible for admission.

h) Scholarships availability.

All candidates will be offered scholarships during the entire period of programme. They will be given Rs. 5000 p.m for first two years and subsequently they will be offered University Ph.D fellowship for three years.

3. Financial support required

a) Salary and Wages for Contract Faculty and visiting Faculty are required

Five teachers on contract for first year and additional five teachers on contract for second year are required. In addition, a team of visiting/ Emeritus faculty of various disciplines is needed to engage in classes and they will be provided with honorarium and TA/DA.

b) Proposed Contingent grant to iCEIB

1. Non-plan allocation for each year for teaching faculty and supportive staff (Rs. 50 lakh per annum)
2. State plan allocation for running programmes, purchase of equipments and accessories per year (minimum 100 lakh).

Total Rs: 150 lakh required per year for running this programme

3. Collection of fees (As per University regulations)
 - i. M.S - Total 4 Semesters (two years)
 - ii. Ph.D. - Total 6 semesters (three years)