



**Mahatma Gandhi University  
Meghalaya**

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# **Research Policy**

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### **PREAMBLE**

Mahatma Gandhi University (MGU), Meghalaya, is one of the premier universities in the region, recognized for its commitment to academic excellence, interdisciplinary research, and a holistic approach to higher education. Located in Meghalaya, a state known for its rich cultural heritage and diversity, the university promotes a research culture that integrates indigenous knowledge with modern academic practices.

In accordance with the University Grants Commission (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of Ph.D. Degree) Regulations, 2021, Mahatma Gandhi University, Meghalaya hereby establishes its comprehensive Ph.D. Research Policy to ensure rigorous academic standards and procedural clarity in the pursuit of doctoral research.

To institutionalize research and innovation, MGU has established a **Research and Development Cell (RDC)**, which functions as the principal body responsible for advancing research excellence, facilitating national and international collaborations, and promoting consultancy projects.

### **Objectives of the Research and Development Cell (RDC)**

The primary objectives of the RDC at MGU are as follows:

#### **1. Promoting Research Excellence**

The university provides an enabling environment for high-quality research across various disciplines. It encourages faculty and students to engage in research that contributes to knowledge creation, innovation, and societal development.

#### **2. Strengthening Interdisciplinary Research**

Recognizing that modern challenges require multi-faceted solutions, MGU promotes interdisciplinary research by integrating diverse fields such as social sciences, humanities, natural sciences, technology, and management.

#### **3. Encouraging National and International Collaborations**

MGU actively seeks partnerships with foreign universities, research institutes, industries, and funding agencies to create opportunities for knowledge exchange, joint research projects, and faculty-student exchange programs.

## **4. Promoting Consultancy Projects**

The university encourages faculty members to engage in consultancy projects by offering their expertise to industries, government organizations, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). These initiatives help bridge the gap between academia and practical applications.

## **5. Ensuring Sustainable Research Practices**

MGU aligns its research policies with principles of sustainability, focusing on eco-friendly, socially responsible, and ethically sound research practices that contribute to the well-being of local communities.

# **Functions of the Research and Development Cell (RDC)**

To achieve its objectives, the RDC performs the following key functions:

### **1. Research Facilitation**

- Develops research policies in line with University Grants Commission (UGC) guidelines and international standards.
- Provides research grants and funding opportunities for faculty and students.
- Assists in the publication of research papers in reputed journals.

### **2. Managing Consultancy and Sponsored Research Projects**

- Collaborates with industries, government organizations, and NGOs for consultancy assignments.
- Encourages faculty members to take up research projects funded by agencies like ICSSR, UGC, and other national/international bodies.

### **3. Enhancing Foreign and Industry Collaborations**

- Develops partnerships with global universities for joint research initiatives.
- Works closely with industries to promote applied research and innovation.
- Establishes incubation centers and startup programs to foster entrepreneurship.

### **4. Capacity Building and Skill Development**

- Organizes workshops, conferences, and training programs to enhance research skills.
- Conducts specialized training on advanced research methodologies, data analysis, and scientific writing.

### **5. Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) and Commercialization**

- Supports researchers in patent filing and intellectual property protection.
- Encourages the commercialization of research outcomes for societal and economic benefits.

## **Research Policy Framework**

MGU's **Research Policy** provides an overarching framework to ensure a structured and ethical approach to research. The key highlights of the policy include:

### **1. Ethical Standards in Research**

- All research activities must comply with ethical guidelines to ensure integrity and professionalism.
- Researchers must adhere to plagiarism prevention protocols and maintain academic honesty.

### **2. Quality Assurance in Research**

- Research projects must undergo rigorous peer review processes.
- The university maintains a repository of research publications for knowledge dissemination.

### **3. Interdisciplinary and Applied Research**

- Research must contribute to the practical resolution of societal problems.
- Indigenous knowledge and traditional practices are integrated into modern research methodologies.

### **4. Student and Faculty Engagement**

- Students are encouraged to participate in research through dissertation work, internships, and collaborative projects.
- Faculty members receive incentives for publishing in high-impact journals.

### **5. Contribution to Regional and National Development**

- Research themes align with national priorities such as sustainable development, digital transformation, rural empowerment, and social justice.
- Special emphasis is placed on the socio-economic development of Meghalaya and the Northeast region.

## **Conclusion**

Mahatma Gandhi University, Meghalaya, is committed to fostering a vibrant research ecosystem that not only advances academic knowledge but also contributes meaningfully to regional and national development. Through its interdisciplinary approach, strong ethical standards, and collaborative initiatives, the university ensures that research remains a cornerstone of its academic framework.

By integrating cultural heritage, indigenous knowledge, and cutting-edge research methodologies, MGU stands as a model institution driving innovation and societal transformation in Meghalaya and beyond.