



VIGNAN'S

FOUNDATION FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & RESEARCH

(Deemed to be University) - Estd. u/s 3 of UGC Act 1956



R25

Regulations for THE DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY PROGRAMME

Ph.D.

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PREFACE

Nobel laureate George Bernard Shaw, remarked, You see things, and you say ‘Why?’. But I dream things that never were, and I say ‘Why Not?’

The VIGNAN’s vision to create a platform and an infrastructure which could enthuse the creative minds to dream ‘why not?’, and explore ‘why not?’; happens to be the pivot in the new research regulations R25.

The regulations are very supportive to a researcher, provides the means to the researcher to self assess his/her own progress through the mentors- the guide and the doctoral committee, and navigates the researcher to culminate in to submitting a thesis for the award of the research degree, which marks the birth of a researcher.

R25 provides a researcher-friendly regulation that either a fresh graduate or even an experienced working professional could find equally the frame work of formal research studies very convenient, invigorating and enthusiastic. The frame work of R25 has been built to translate the ideals and ideas presented in National education policy NEP 2020 into ensuring the blossoming of the research culture as visualized therein.

There cannot be, to be precise shall not be, an Engineer/ a Scientist /a Practitioner/ a Teacher who lacks the intrinsic potential to imagine and who inhibits to give a shape to his imagination into a creative happening. R25 of VIGNAN is a vent to all such inquisitive thinkers, in whatever form they could be-either novice beginners or experienced working professionals.

Honourable Abdul Kalam’s opinion- ‘Love for research and Experience in research are vital for the growth of institution’ stands a good support to the stride.

Abdul Kalam & Arun K Tiwari in their book ‘You are born to blossom’ quote that ‘the key characteristics required for societal transformers and entrepreneurs are desire, drive discipline and determination’. The agenda of VIGNAN is to present societal transformers and entrepreneurs through its sincere and hopeful effort -R25



Dr. LAVU RATHAIAH
Chairman, Vignan Group

Reflection on R-25 Ph.D. Regulations by Hon'ble Chairman

I am happy to note that the new R-25 Research Regulation departs from the conventional framework followed by most universities in India to propose some bold initiatives for building a more robust research ecosystem at VFSTR.

I can see that the Regulation has the laudable goal of providing a liberal framework to further the spirit of research and innovation across disciplines at the University. It will, I am confident pave the way for greater inter-disciplinary and collaborative research at the school as well as department level.

In terms of outcomes, I am hoping to see not only the contribution of new knowledge but also an improvement in academic practices at all levels, i.e., a movement towards a discovery-based style of Teaching -Learning. A natural corollary it would be improved Industry-Institute exchange, increase in sponsored research projects, solutions to address regional needs of industry and agricultural sector, more consultancy, increase in number of patents as well as higher output of impactful research publications.

Of course, for this to happen, the University will need to augment the required infrastructure through increased spending for creation of new research facilities besides strengthening the existing research labs. For this, we will be happy to commit an annual expenditure of 8-10% of the total university budget. We will encourage, through grant of seed money, young scientists among faculty members and budding student researchers who are curious, enterprising and dedicated to pursue their innovative ideas and make them work. Added to this, attractive incentives will continue to be offered for researchers who are contributing outstanding and impactful research in the identified thrust areas of the university.

I hope the new R-25 Research Regulation will give a fresh impetus for research on the campus and pave the way to further improving the credentials of our University at national level.

Best Wishes

Dr. Lavu Rathaiah

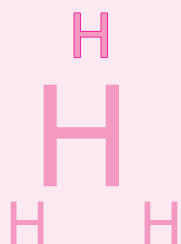
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Ph.D. Regulations

1 PREAMBLE

A University becomes academically accomplished if it richly contributes to the corpus of knowledge through its academic practitioners who shall portray the amalgamation of critical and creative thinkers, potential innovators and skillful performers. The mentor academic practitioners, namely the faculty shall impart and implant the said characteristics deep in the upcoming future techno-scientific performers namely the present learners i.e students. A University could rise to this status, if and only if the researchers teach and guide the learners. Therefore, a research rich culture in the University ensures that the learners learn to learn all though their lives.

The Doctoral Degree (Ph.D.) is awarded to candidates who has submitted a thesis that contributes to the advancement of knowledge, based on original research in a particular field or in several fields (interdisciplinary research), approved by a duly constituted Examination Committee and meets the requirements as per the UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedures for the Award of Ph.D. Degrees) Regulations 2009/2016/2022. Thus, the degrees awarded by Vignans' Foundation for Science, Technology & Research (VFSTR) are in compliance with UGC Regulations 2009/2016/2022

2. EXECUTIVE ABSTRACT

The objective of the Regulation 2025 is to come out with regulatory mechanisms that ensure a flexible and conducive passage for the research scholars towards completing Ph.D. requirements and getting awarded with the degree. The attempt is synonymous to the phrase 'Light but tight' as in the document NEP-2020 and compliance with UGC Regulations 2009/2016/2022. The academic objective is to create independently capable researchers who would be bestowed with deep knowledge in their fields of research and who would have assimilated research skills that promote practically viable and critically analytical mindset which would enable them to make significant, original and innovative contributions to their respective fields.

The document NEP-2020 is the source of inspiration for this revised Regulations-2025. It advocates for development of holistic and independent thinking capability and incorporation of technology blend for effective utilization of the expertise of good researchers as resource persons while judiciously managing time. It aims at creating opportunities for all deserving aspirants to enhance and acquire higher qualifications.

The widely visible agenda under NEP-2020 is to enhance the Gross Qualification Index(GQI) of the nation and develop the nation into a global knowledge super power. The salient features of the regulation are listed below:

- i. Research field specific course work comprising of Research Methodology, Documentation, Breadth and Depth studies.
- ii. Creation of policy making and monitoring bodies such as University Research Board (URB), School Research Board (SRB) and the Doctoral Committee (DC) to ensure progression in research study of the research scholar.
- iii. Flexible admission opportunity to the serious aspirants of research, both candidates who are fresh graduates and post graduate scholars and in-service professionals.





- iv. Adaptable scope to transform logically imaginative ideas of the novice and cogent ideas originating from the experience of serving professionals into a research frame work for Ph.D.
- v. Providing honorable exit option to alleviate possible disappointment arising out of inability to complete research work due to unforeseen exigencies.
- vi. Opportunity to receive expert reviews and observations through submission of research work for publication.

3. SHORT TITLE AND COMMENCEMENT

- i. The regulations shall be called “Regulations governing the Ph.D. program of VFSTR (Deemed to be University) - 2025”.
- ii. Provisions are made for candidates enrolled under previous/ earlier regulations to horizontally migrate into Regulation 2025.
- iii. These regulations shall come into force from the date of approval by the competent authorities.

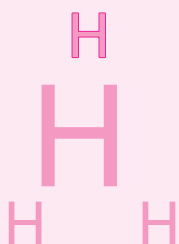
4. DEFINITIONS

- i. **“Research”** means a systematic study or investigation to discover new knowledge in the form of facts/patterns or new interpretation of ideas or inventions of new devices or exploration of a unified theory to explain diverse facts.
- ii. **“Doctor of Philosophy (Ph. D.)”** signifies that the awardee of the degree has undertaken a substantial piece of original research, which has been conducted and reported by the holder under proper academic supervision, and in a constructive research environment for a prescribed period.
- iii. **“Research Scholar”** means a candidate who is admitted to the Ph.D. Program of VFSTR through procedures adopted by the University.
- iv. **“Research Supervisor”** means a member of the faculty of VFSTR or a person recognized by VFSTR and authorized to be a guide who supervises the research work carried out by the research candidate for award of Ph.D. degree.
- v. **“Co-Supervisor”** means a person who may or may not be a member of the faculty of VFSTR, who is recognized and approved by VFSTR to supervise the research work of a candidate jointly with a Research Supervisor.
- vi. **“Care taker Supervisor”** means a member of the faculty of VFSTR, who temporarily holds the role of Research Supervisor for administrative purpose.
- vii. **“University Research Board (URB)”** is the apex body to set standards and directions for Research, Development and Consultancy activities of the University.
- viii. **“School Research Board (SRB)”** is the research monitoring body for respective schools that ensures standards and quality sustenance.
- ix. **“Doctoral Committee (DC)”** is the body that monitors and steers the progress of the research candidate.
- x. **“Board of Research (BoR)”** is the body that coordinates various research activities at the department level.
- xi. **“Research Points”** is the points awarded for publication of research work in Journals /conferences/patents.

5. RESEARCH BODIES

The Research activities in the University are administered by

- i. University Research Board (URB)
- ii. School Research Board (SRB)
- iii. Doctoral Committee (DC)



- iv. Office of the Dean Research for Research Facilitation
- v. Board of Research (BoR) at Department level (Chaired by HoD)
- vi. Research supervisor, Co-supervisor

The composition of each committee is given below.

5.1. University Research Board (URB)

Vice Chancellor	-	Chairman
Dean AAA	-	Ex-officio member
Dean R&D	-	Member Secretary

Experts (National/International) from Academic Institutions / R&D organizations / Industries (a min. of 5 in number) - Members

The period of membership shall be for three years. The URB shall meet at least once in a year.

5.1.1 Functions of the University Research Board

- To identify activities that strengthen, promote, and support research within the University.
- To consider and make recommendations on matters of policy related to research including matters referred to it by competent authorities.
- To set targets in relation to key elements of the Research Strategy.
- To monitor internal and external developments and trends, by taking them into consideration in the development of strategy and policies.

5.2. School Research Board (SRB):

Dean R&D	-	Chairman
Dean AAA	-	Co-chairman
School Dean	-	Member Secretary
International Expert	-	Member

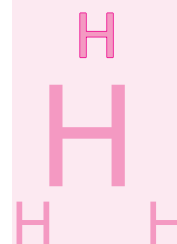
External experts from Academic Institutions/
Industry at least one to represent the research

theme of every department	-	Members
Heads of the Departments	-	Members
Senior Professors, one representing each department	-	Members

The period of membership for external members shall be three years. The SRB meets preferably once in a semester

5.2.1 Functions of the School Research Board

- i. To create a conducive environment for promotion of Research & Innovation activities.
- ii. To help in setting the Department wise research priorities in line with the thrust areas at national and international level.
- iii. To monitor policies on all research activities concerned with the promotion of advanced Research.
- iv. To provide suitable directions regarding matters referred by Doctoral Committee pertaining to research scholars.
- v. To promote collaborative research.
- vi. To encourage faculty members and research scholars to explore and apply prospective funding of Major, Minor Research Projects from external funding agencies.
- vii. To strengthen industry institute interaction by promoting consultancy, testing and need based research & innovation activities.





- viii. To support and steer the faculty members to identify the requirements and gaps in the Industry practices and transform them into Industry Sponsored Research activities.
- ix. To identify and approve the list of top-notch conferences at two levels to encourage the faculty and scholars to publish research in quality conferences.

5.3 Doctoral Committee (DC):

- a. *A Senior Professor/Professor/ Associate Professor of the Department (An expert member related to the proposed area of research within the thrust area/ cluster) (to be nominated by the School Dean) - Chairman
- b. Head of the Department - Ex-officio member
- c. Research Supervisor - Member secretary & Convener
- d. Research Co-Supervisor (In case, any) - Member
- e. School Dean nominee-one Inter-School expert - Member
- f. An Expert from outside the University (especially INIs) - Member
- h. **An International Expert /Industry / Govt.Research Labs / Research centres. - Member

* If Senior Professor/Professor/ Associate Professor in the proposed area of research is not available even in the concerned School/ University, an Expert from outside the University may be nominated as the Chairman of the DC.

** Participation is optional, as this member belongs to the DC research area.

5.3.1 Functions of the Doctoral Committee

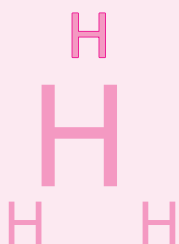
- i. Prescribes coursework for the Breadth and Depth courses for the candidate.
- ii. Considers appeal for credit equivalence by the candidate, and grant the credit equivalence after duly examining and assessing the candidate through interaction with him/her.
- iii. Shall formally accept the research proposal, after successful defense of the topic of research by the research candidate.
- iv. Shall periodically review the progress of research candidate, certify the research progress and provide the corrective, constructive and suggestive feedback.
- v. Shall formally permit the candidate to attend the Pre-Thesis Colloquium, subject to satisfactory completion of all the requirements including publications.
- vi. Shall meticulously go through the adjudication reports provided by the thesis examiners and advise the candidate accordingly.
- vii. Shall convene the final thesis open defence.

5.4 Office of the Dean Research and Development for Research Facilitation

The office of the Dean, Research and Development is an exclusive offshoot of the office of Dean AAA to explicitly promote research and development activities in the university. The Office of the Dean R&D drives strategic planning and provides guidance across academic and research programs, fostering new and interdisciplinary research initiatives and collaborations. The R&D office is headed by the Dean – R&D and composed of Joint Deans, Associate Deans and Assistant Deans and support staff for facilitating various research activities of the University. The roles and responsibilities of the office bearers are captured in Annexure I.

5.4.1 Functions of the Office of Dean Research and Development

- i. Shall work to facilitate and promote quality research in the University and recognized research centers / laboratories.



- ii. Shall coordinate, supervise and recommend to the Vice Chancellor for approval of the admission of students into Ph.D. programs.
- iii. Allocate facilities, space, equipment and other resources to research personnel/projects.
- iv. Oversee research scholars funding, in particular Research Assistantships and Fellowships.
- v. Promote the School areas of priority for research funding with internal and external funding agencies
- vi. Interact with the Industries to establish advanced research labs in the thrust areas of research
- vii. Enable research Entrepreneurship by encouraging incubation of startups.



5.5 Board of Research (BoR) at the Department level

Board of Research at the department level is chaired by the HoD. It consists of a coordinator and two or more members as per the requirement of the department. It acts as the primary administrative point of contact through its coordinator for internal research staff and as the principal operational liaison for other research organizations, funding agencies and regulating bodies.

5.5.1 Functions of Board of Research at Department level

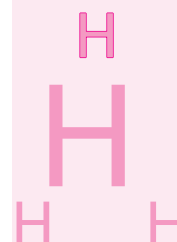
- i. Channelize all the departmental research requirements to Dean R&D office.
- ii. Promote research capacity building among faculty and student groups.
- iii. Coordinate the day-to-day activities of faculty specifically engaged in carrying out research.
- iv. Monitor the progress of research activities being carried by both faculty and research scholars.
- v. Develop and maintain records of research activities, and prepare periodical reports, as required by administrators, accreditation bodies like NAAC/NBA and regulatory bodies like UGC/AICTE

5.6 Research supervisor / Co-supervisor

- i. Supervisor acts as Member Secretary of the Doctoral Committee. Supervisor provides specific technical support, broader intellectual support, administrative support, management, and personal support to the research scholar.
- ii. A Co-Supervisor becomes a member of the Doctoral Committee (DC) only after being formally accepted by the Supervisor

5.6.1 Duties of Research Supervisor

- i. A Research Supervisor shall be the single point of contact for all academic administration logistics of his/her research scholar.
- ii. Supervisor shall be responsible for providing help, support and mentoring in order to enable the candidate to complete his/her proposed research work and produce a thesis to the best of the his/her ability.
- iii. The principal role of the Research Supervisor is to help and guide candidates achieve their scholastic potential and to conduct Research Progress Colloquium. The Research Supervisor shall interact with the candidate ensuring reasonable commitment, accessibility, professionalism, guidance and consistent encouragement
The Research Supervisor shall be available to help and guide candidates at every stage, from formulation of their research problems through establishing methodologies and discussing results, to submission of thesis that meets the standards of the University and academic discipline.





6. CATEGORIES, ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION & SELECTION PROCESS

6.1 CATEGORIES OF Ph.D ADMISSION

- i. VFSTR shall admit students to the research program leading to Ph. D degree under three categories internal, external and extramural.
- ii. NRI/PIO/Foreign nationals who hold valid passport/visa, clearance from agencies as mandated by GOI are also eligible to apply.

6.1.1 Internal

- i. Candidates under this category shall work full time dedicated to research in the University.
- ii. All those candidates who are placed within the VFSTR campus as research scholars/ faculty members to carryout both teaching assignment and research studies/ teaching cum research assistants with suitable financial support as offered by the VFSTR/ research scholars who receive research fellowships or research grants from Government/Industry/Professional bodies/as research scholars permitted to continue to be in the Institution/ organization where he has been serving in case such an Institution/ organization that has an MoU with VFSTR to this effect, will be identified as internal candidates. However, the fees will be reduced depending on their research.
- iii. Candidates pursuing PG in Engineering/Technology at VFSTR or other reputed* institutes, who have completed all the courses prescribed for the first 2 semesters with a minimum of 60% or equivalent CGPA are eligible to admit. For such candidates, a faculty mentor is allocated after the provisional admission. Mentor could become a Research Supervisor for the Ph.D program after confirmation of Ph.D admission at VFSTR. The Master's Project of the candidate must be in line with the proposed research topic for Ph.D and he/she needs to present a detailed, comprehensive Literature Review to the Doctoral Committee within one year of provisional admission, however candidate is required to hold a Master's degree in Engineering / Technology with a minimum of 60% or equivalent CGPA before being formally admitted into the program.
- iv. Candidates admitted through the Direct Ph.D. Program after B.Tech./B.E. must have secured a minimum of 60% marks or equivalent CGPA in their undergraduate degree. Such candidates shall complete the prescribed coursework as recommended by the Doctoral Committee. Continuation in the Ph.D. program shall be subject to satisfactory academic performance and approval by the Doctoral Committee as per university regulations.

6.1.2 External

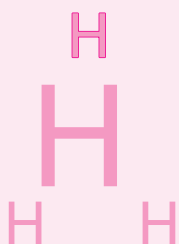
- i. Candidates under this category will normally carry out part or all of his/her research work in the parent Industry / R&D Organization / Academic Institutions / Universities / Organizations employing the candidate.
- ii. Candidates from Industry / R&D organizations are encouraged to take up the problems faced by Industry as their research problem for pursuing the Ph.D.
- iii. Candidates need to interact frequently with their Research Supervisors through a suitable blended mode.

6.1.3 Extramural

Candidates with PG qualification in respective disciplines of Engineering/Technology/ Sciences/Humanities/Management with more than a decade of relevant experience are eligible for admission into research program leading to a Ph.D degree. Details are provided in Annexure I.

6.2 Eligibility criteria for Ph.D admissions

- i. Candidates with PG qualification in respective disciplines of Engineering/Technology/ Sciences/Humanities/Management.



- ii. Candidates with UG qualification in Engineering/Technology in respective discipline with a minimum of 60% or an equivalent CGPA of 6.0 on a 10-point scale.
- iii. Candidates pursuing PG in Engineering/Technology at VFSTR or other reputed institutes, who have completed all the courses prescribed for the first 2 semesters with a minimum of 60% or equivalent CGPA are eligible to admit. For such candidates, a faculty mentor is allocated to the candidate after he/she is given a provisional admission. Mentor could become a Research Supervisor for the Ph.D program after confirmation of Ph.D admission at VFSTR. The Master's Project of the candidate must be in line with the proposed research topic for Ph.D and he/she needs to present a detailed comprehensive literature review to the Doctoral Committee within one year of provisional admission, however candidate is required to hold a Master's degree in Engineering / Technology with a minimum of 60% or equivalent CGPA before being formally admitted into Ph.D program.
- iv. SSLC + HSC + UG + PG (i.e., 10 + 2 + 3(4) + 2) (or)
with 11-years SSLC + PUC + UG + PG (i.e., 11 + 1 + 3(4) + 2) (or)
with 10-years SSLC + 3 years Diploma + 2 years UG degree + 2 years PG (i.e., 10 + 3 + 2 + 2) (or)
with 10 years SSLC + HSC + 4 years UG degree and 1 year PG degree (i.e., 10 + 2 + 4 + 1).
PG degree with 17 years of total duration of study alone are eligible for admission to the Ph. D., programme.

6.3. Admission Process

- i. Applications for the Ph.D. program shall be opened and shall be considered round the year and admissions being made are aligned with the commencement of odd or even semester.
- ii. Any eligible candidate who desired to seek admission in to Ph.D. program may apply offline / online through University website round the year.
- iii. All eligible candidates have to appear for an Analytical Ability and Research Aptitude Test (AARAT), Prescribed syllabus is provided on the University website.
- iv. The candidates will be called for interview based on the performance in AARAT.
- v. Candidates who are qualified in the GATE/CSIR/UGCNET/SLET/CAT/ GMAT/GPAT/ GRE/JEST/NBHM/JGEEBILS etc. may be exempted from appearing for the AARAT. However, they should appear for the Ph.D interview.
- vi. Candidates from Industry/ R&D Organizations/ Academic Institutions/ Govt. organizations with a minimum of three years of relevant experience related to the proposed area of research will be exempted from appearing in the Analytical Ability and Research Aptitude Test (AARAT). In addition to this candidate qualified tests (conducted by respective state Govt.) are also exempted from AARAT. However, they should appear for the Ph.D interview. This is applicable for both UG qualification (Direct PhD) and with PG Qualification.
- vii. Subsequent to the interview, the candidates provisionally selected by the committee (School Dean, Head of the Department, Senior Professor(s), Associate Professor(s) and eligible supervisors in the department) will be notified in the website.
- viii. The prospective candidates shall be called for one-to-one interaction with the research supervisor(s) in a combined meeting or individually as convened by the Dean-R&D.
- ix. At the time of admission, the department should inform to the candidates about the available guides, their areas of research and their vacant slots. After allocation of a supervisor by the department and acceptance of the supervisor, the student admission process will be officially completed.

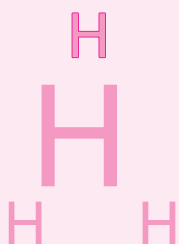




- x. The students should submit copy of the allocating guide to the Dean R&D office for verification and approval.
- xi. The selected candidates complete the admission process through the office of Dean R&D.
- xii. The candidate reports to the assigned Research Supervisor and finalize the area of research.
- xiii. In case of inter-disciplinary research, the Supervisor may suggest a suitable co-supervisor from within or outside the University.
- xiv. A candidate registered for Ph.D program under external mode, shall submit the No Objection Certificate (NoC) on his / her employment from the employer to the University(Dean R&D office and Dean Admission office) once in every two years through the research supervisor and the concerned Head of the Department.

6.3.1 Eligibility, Recognition of Research Supervisors

- i. Professors or Industry experts holding a Ph.D degree from a reputed Institution (INI), who demonstrate a strong interest in the University's research activities, they may be co-opted as a Distinguished Visiting Professor also they will be eligible to serve as Research Co-Supervisors upon the formal sign-off of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with VFSTR deemed to be university.
- ii. Faculty from sister concern institution(s) of Vignan's Group (where Research Centres were setup by VFSTR deemed to be university) are eligible to supervise the PhD scholars those who got PhD admission under external mode in VFSTR.
- iii. Any expert identified by VFSTR.
- iv. Only internal and regular faculty and additionally those who are identified by the University shall act as Research supervisors
- v. An Assistant Professor at Vignan's Foundation for Science, Technology & Research (VFSTR) may be recognized as a Research Supervisor if they meet the following criteria
 - a. Post-Ph.D. Research Output: The candidate should have earned (beyond the scope of their Ph.D. work) a minimum of 6-points(from 1 to 4) as specified in section 7.6 (Publication of research work) of R25 regulation book.
 - b. Authorship Criteria: The candidate should be the first author or corresponding author of the publication, with a maximum of four authors listed.
 - c. Exclusion of Student Projects: The papers should not be based on undergraduate (UG) or postgraduate (PG) project work.
 - d. Experience: After PhD, the candidate should have atleast one-year experience. also complete the Provisional Confirmation From VFSTR.
- vi. In case a Co-Supervisor is warranted, then a new Co-Supervisor may be allowed in inter-disciplinary areas from the University or from other institutions with the approval of the DC.
- vii. An external expert suitably qualified /experienced may be considered as a Co-Supervisor with proper MoU from that Institute/Organization, to which the external Ph.D candidate is allowed to pursue his research.
- viii. Administrative responsibilities of research scholar lies with the Internal Research Supervisor.
- ix. A Research Supervisor/Co-supervisor who is a Professor, normally at any given point of time, can guide up to Eight (8) Ph.D. candidates. An Associate Professor can guide up to a maximum of six (6) Ph.D candidates and an Assistant Professor can guide up to a maximum of four (4) Ph.D. candidates as Research Supervisors. Under special circumstances, the research supervisor may be allowed to have additional Ph.D candidates.



- x. The Research Supervisor/Co-supervisor can take fresh candidates subsequent to the submission of the thesis by the existing Scholars.
- xi. Faculty members with less than one year of service before superannuation shall not be allowed to take new research scholars under their supervision. However, such faculty members can continue to supervise Ph.D scholars who are already registered until superannuation and as a co-supervisor after superannuation.
- xii. The eligible supervisor can guide up to two International research scholars over and above the norms (8:6:4) prescribed the university.
- xiii. Declaration By the Research Supervisor statement attached in Annexure X.



7. ACADEMIC PROCESS

A candidate provisionally admitted to the Ph.D. program of the University shall lead his/her research studies following stages as listed hereunder. The TimeLine of PhD Programme indicating various stages towards award of Ph.D. degree is provided in Annexure-I.

- I. Formation of DC
- II. Course work
- III. Research Proposal
- IV. Research Progress
- V. Publication of research work
- VI. Finalization of the focused title for the research thesis
- VII. Synopsis submission
- VIII. Pre-Thesis Colloquium
- IX. Thesis submission

7.1. Formation of DC

- i. For every scholar there shall be a doctoral committee to ensure the progress in research.
- ii. Subsequent to the allocation of a candidate to a Research Supervisor which by itself is based on the interest expressed by the research candidate with regard to the area of research, the supervisor will initiate steps to get the DC formulated in consultation with the HoD and School Dean.
- iii. The members of DC as described in section 5.3 shall be by name on the committee all through for a candidate except the HoD.
- iv. A Chairman can be nominated for about 8-10 scholars.
- v. In case the Chairman does not happen to be the internal expert, at least one expert should be invited from outside the University relevant to the the disciplines.
- vi. If the affiliation of any member changes, the remaining DC members can resolve the issue by bringing it to the notice of the Dean R&D and Vice Chancellor.
- vii. The DC interaction may optimally deploy the technology enabled blended mode for course work and interaction.
- viii. All the members of the committee are expected to present in offline/Technology enabled mode
- ix. The DC shall convene a formal meeting at least once in every six months to assess the progress of candidate.
- x. The duly approved proceedings of the committee (as per format in appendix) will be communicated to the School Dean and the Dean R&D by the research supervisor.



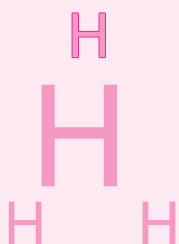


- xi. The DC shall be responsible for reviewing and monitoring the research progress of the candidate from the date of its constitution till the completion of Open Defense.
- xii. After successful registration to the PhD program, the Zeroth Research Progress Presentation for the candidate will be convened with the DC by the Research Supervisor within a month from the date of registration. During this meeting, the course work of the candidate will be finalized and complete the coursework registration process in the VIMS portal by the guide.

7.2. Coursework

The coursework shall be treated as a mandatory stage towards the partial fulfillment of requirement for the Ph.D. program

- i. Course work will be prescribed to the candidate depending upon his/her research area and approved by the DC.
- ii. Candidates from Industry can claim their experience and their role in technology in working on respective research problem for credit equivalence by furnishing proper documented evidence and justification.
- iii. A candidate may undertake a research internship for a duration of 6 to 12 months during course work period, subject to DC approval. During this period, he/she may identify the objectives of his/her research work.
- iv. The DC shall identify and suggest suitable L-T-P-SL structure for every course in-line with R25 academic regulation of the university.
- v. The DC may also suggest a candidate to take up online courses and advanced summer/ winter schools and programs conducted by premier institutions as components of the course work.
- vi. For every candidate/for a group of candidates suitable faculty may be assigned by the HoD for conducting the coursework. If required in consultation with the DC members, such resource persons could be even in external candidates.
- vii. A candidate can register for a minimum of 12 credits and a maximum of 20 credits per semester for carrying out the coursework.
- viii. Research candidates may attend classes along with PG students of the respective department or allied departments if the subjects prescribed to them are offered in the ongoing PG programs.
- ix. Candidates, who have been provisionally considered for admission to Ph.D. program after the end of II semester M.Tech., may provisionally be permitted to pursue the Ph.D. coursework along with their M.Tech. project work. The evaluation parameters will be similar to that of R25 academic regulations of the University.
- x. The assessment consists of two components (as per R-25 Regulations):
- xi. Formative Assessment (Continuous Assessment): 60 Marks
- xii. Summative Assessment: 40 Marks
- xiii. Term Paper/ Survey work / Capstone Project: 20 Marks
- xiv. Written Examination/ Interaction: 20 Marks
- xv. The course instructor awards the marks out of 100 based on the assessment pattern said above, which will be placed before the DC.
- xvi. The DC may fix up the relative threshold value (as per R25regulation) and may arrive at GPA.
- xvii. The minimum GPA required is 6.0 in all the individual courses.
- xviii. Ph.D. scholars may register for the Pre-Ph.D. coursework through the NPTEL platform or any other Government-approved online platform to earn the required credits.





- xix. It is observed that NPTEL certificates generally award 3 or 4 credits. However, only a minimum of 3 credits shall be considered. For the remaining one credit, the concerned scholar must submit four assignments (or) project work (or) research paper related to research work. Each submission will be evaluated for 25 marks, totalling 100 marks. The project work and the research paper will each be evaluated for 100 marks. The scholar must secure a minimum of 60 marks to be awarded one credit. Finally, the marks obtained for the three credits and the one additional credit will be combined and treated as a four-credit course.
- xx. Research students admitted to the programme shall obtain at least an overall CGPA 6.5.
- xxi. Students who fail to satisfy the grade requirement, may attempt other prescribed courses or rewrite.
- xxii. If the DC recommends that the scholar should take more than 4 courses, then the credits of extra courses need not be taken for calculating grade.
- xxiii. Candidates are advised to complete the course work prescribed by the DC during the initial one or two semesters of their research program. If DC recommends additional one semester can consider. Failure students have to leave the Programme.
- xxiv. Dean R&D shall coordinate with the office of the Dean AAA in implementing the conduct of coursework and assessment activities in-line with R25 academic regulations.
- xxv. On successful completion of the prescribed course work, a Ph.D. candidate shall become eligible to appear for Research Proposal Presentation upon expressed consent by the DC.

7.2.1. Coursework for Candidates with PG Qualification:

Candidates admitted with PG qualification must acquire at least 18 credits as described in the table below.

Type of Course	Credits
Foundation Course	4
Area Specific Breadth Course	4
Area Specific Depth Course	4
Research Methodology	3
Research Documentation	2
Communication Skills	1
Total	18

Foundation Course: The relevant course shall be designed specific to the theme of research.

Area Specific Breadth Course: A course covering all essential and supporting academic studies which will enable the candidate to carry out advanced research, in the identified area of research.

Area Specific Depth Course: A high level focused course work appropriate to the chosen area of research.

Research Methodology: A course which contains research orientation aspects pertaining to the specific area of research.

Research Documentation: A course containing aspects pertaining to the documentation of research starting with proposal writing to the thesis writing and beyond.

Communication Skills : This course is compulsory for all Ph.D. students and Ph.D. students are normally

required to clear the Communication Skills course within the first two semesters.

7.2.2. Coursework for Candidates with UG Qualification:

Candidates admitted with UG qualification must acquire at least 40 credits, out of which 18





credits need to be earned from the courses mentioned in section 7.2.1 are mandatory and the remaining course work as defined in the table below.

Type of Course	Credits
Area Specific Breadth Courses	14
Area Specific Depth Course	8
Total	22

7.3. Research Proposal

- i. A candidate is allowed to submit a research proposal only after the completion of his/her prescribed course work, however the candidate has to attend review process and periodic research meetings as and when the DC convenes the meetings.
- ii. The candidate is expected to defend his/her research proposal after gaining the formal consent of the DC for finalizing the topic of research by generating a report covering the possible statement of the problem, related literature, relevance, importance, and a research plan in the open research proposal presentation.
- iii. If the candidate feels that, he/she would like to change the topic of research, he/she may be allowed to do so. However, coursework specific to the topic of research and Research Proposal Presentation may have to be registered afresh. Only one restart option could be made available in the entire duration of program. The credit carryover benefit for certain courses/cases may be considered by the DC.
- iv. Special Provision: If a candidate thinks that area of research itself should be changed, his/her case could be considered, under expressed request to the Dean R&D through Head of the concerned department for the approval of the Vice Chancellor to that effect. Only one such re-start may be provided. However, the candidate has to start afresh from the beginning of the first semester. The credit carry over may be considered by the DC

7.4. Research Progress Reviews

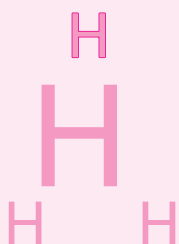
- i. The topic of the research work shall be decided and presented in the Research Proposal Presentation (RPP).
- ii. A research candidate shall submit and present a progress report of research work done by him/her in the prescribed format (Annexure-IV) through the supervisor to the DC every semester. The DC will review the progress of the research candidate and give its feedback.
- iii. The status of the research progress of a Research Scholar is then forwarded to Dean R&D for necessary action. The progress status may be informed to SRB from time to time. If the research progress is found unsatisfactory for two consecutive DC meetings, the matter shall be reported to SRB which in turn will assess the case individually to decide the continuity of the candidate.

7.5 Duration of the Program

- i. Candidates admitted with PG qualification may submit the thesis only after completing a minimum of two and half years (five semesters) from the date of registration (That is the candidate may submit the thesis in his/her VI semester).
- ii. Candidates admitted with UG qualification may submit the thesis only after completing a minimum of three and half years (seven semesters) from the date of registration (That is the candidate may submit the thesis in his/her VIII semester)

7.5.1 Calendar for Submission

The earliest completion of submission	After 2 ½ Years/ 5 semesters
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The earliest completion of submission	By 4 Years/ 8 semesters
The recommended optimal period of submission	On or before 5 Years/ 10 semesters
Conventional spillover of one year after 4th year (to be recommended by DC and approved by SRB)	On or before 6 Years / 12 semesters
Special spillover of one year after 5th year (to be recommended by DC, endorsed by SRB and approved by Vice Chancellor)	

Extraordinary spillover of two years beyond 6 years may be considered for deserving cases in case of unforeseen disabilities (including maternal complications). However, such cases shall be referred to the Academic Council.

7.5.2 Re-registration:

Instead of considering the grant of special extension beyond 6 years, Re- registration may be considered with the same title, however with revised research work plan. In such a case benefit of transfer of completed course work credits will be allowed. In such cases, he/she may be allowed to submit the thesis after some minimum duration as decided by the DC, provided he/she satisfies all the requirements of the thesis submission..

7.6 Publication of research work

The final synopsis shall be accepted only when the candidate acquires at least 12 cumulative research points. The suggested distribution of research points is given below.

Sl.	Publication	Research points
1	SCI / SCIE / Social Science Citation Index (SSCI) / ABDC (Level A*, A and B- (Q1 and Q2 Category)) / NAAS (Rating > 6 Indexed Journals)	5
2	Top-Notch Conferences/Book chapters (First Level) (To be approved by SRB)	4.5
3	Top-Notch Conferences/Book chapters (Second Level) (To be approved by SRB)	4
4	SCOPUS / ESCI / Arts & Humanities Citation Index (AHCI) / ABDC (Level C(Q3 Category)) / NAAS (Rating 4-6) Indexed Journals	4
5	a) Patents Published (To be decided by the DC) and it should be part of PhD thesis. b) Patents Granted (To be decided by the DC) and it should be part of PhD thesis.	2 3 or 3.5
6	Refereed International Conferences with proceedings containing full version of the paper/Book chapter published by high-class publishers. (To be decided by the DC)	3
7	Other refereed Journals of Repute (To be decided by the DC)	2.0 or 2.5
8	Refereed International Conferences (To be decided by the DC)	1.5 or 2.0
9	Refereed National Conferences (To be decided by the DC)	1 or 1.5

The research scholar should at least have one minimum research point of 4.

The final synopsis of a Ph.D. candidate will only be accepted under the following conditions:

1. Cumulative Research Points Requirement: The candidate must acquire at least 12 Cumulative Research Points (CRPs) from their publications.
2. Minimum Research Point for a Single Publication: At least one publication must have





a minimum research point of 4, with 5 being the most preferred.

3. Multiple Authors Adjustment: Any research paper with more than four authors receives only 50% of the allocated research points towards a candidate's CRPs. However, it is considered for the minimum research point criteria for a single publication (condition 2), provided the research scholar is the first or sole corresponding author of the publication.
4. DC Approval: In case of multiple authors (papers with five or more than five authors), DC should certify the percentage contribution of the research scholar in the paper and also should explicitly mention the role of every other author in the paper. Based on the assessment, research scholar author may even receive more than 50% weightage.

Research Supervisors are requested to ensure that their respective research scholars adhere to these guidelines. This will be crucial for the timely and successful submission of their Ph.D. thesis.

Details of indexes :

The Social Sciences Citation Index (SSCI) and Arts & Humanities Citation Index (AHCI) are two prestigious citation databases maintained by Clarivate Analytics as part of the Web of Science (WoS) Core Collection.

Social Sciences Citation Index (SSCI):

Scope: Focuses on high-quality journals in the social sciences.

Disciplines Covered:

- Sociology
- Psychology
- Economics
- Political Science
- Education
- Communication Studies
- Anthropology
- Law
- Public Health, and more.

Arts & Humanities Citation Index (AHCI):

Scope: Focuses on journals and materials in arts and humanities.

Disciplines Covered:

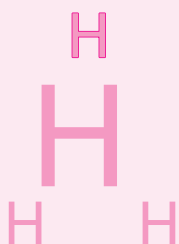
- Literature
- Philosophy
- History
- Religion
- Music
- Fine Arts
- Linguistics
- Theater
- Film Studies, and more.

NAAS Ratings (National Academy of Agricultural Sciences):

The NAAS Rating system is specific to Indian journals, providing a score based on their quality and impact, particularly in agriculture and allied sciences.

NAAS Rating 4.0 – 6.0:

- These journals are considered to have a moderate impact and quality.



- They are suitable for early-career researchers or regional publications.

NAAS Rating > 6.0:

- Journals with ratings above 6.0 are of higher quality and often have a more substantial national and international reputation.
- These journals are more impactful for career advancements and funding considerations.
- ABDC (Australian Business Deans Council) Rankings:

The ABDC Journal Quality List ranks journals in business, management, and related disciplines, categorizing them into four tiers:

1. A* Level (Top Standard):

The most prestigious journals, with exceptional academic quality and impact.

2. A Level (High Standard):

Highly reputable journals that are well-cited and widely recognized.

3. B Level (Good Standard):

- Journals at or above the mid-tier of quality and reputation.
- They have a stronger international presence and higher citation impact.
- Publications in Level B journals are valued for academic promotions and institutional rankings

7.7 Finalization of the Specific Research Title

- On Successful completion of the research work, the research scholar in consultation with supervisor and DC shall finalize the Research Title.
- The Research Title summarizes the main idea or ideas of the research work.

7.8. Synopsis Submission

The synopsis report may be submitted after fulfilling the following conditions:

- Acquired at least 12 Cumulative Research points, as per the requirement, certified by the DC, Supervisor, along with the Co-Supervisor, (if applicable).
- Draft thesis should be ready at the time of synopsis submission.
- Holistic completion of research work as evidenced by the draft report.
- If any Research Paper resulting out of the research work contains those names which are other than the names of the Candidate/ Supervisor / Co-Supervisor, then it is obligatory for the candidate to produce a No Objection Certificate from the concerned persons for inclusion of the paper for 12point count.
- If there are more than 4 co-authors, the ratio should be 5/4.5/4/3.5/3. However, only 50% of the weightage should be assigned to the candidate when calculating the cumulative 12 points and research scholar should at least have one minimum research point of 4.
- If any Research Paper resulting out of the research work contains those names which are other than the names of the Candidate/ Supervisor / Co-Supervisor, then it is obligatory for the candidate to produce a No Objection Certificate from the concerned Co-authors for inclusion of the paper for 12 points count.
- Joint Certificate from the Candidate and the Supervisor, stating that the work being submitted is original and has NOT been submitted elsewhere by them (or any other co-authors involved) for the award of Ph.D. Degree or any other Degree / Diploma.
- The synopsis report (format provided in Annexure-V) should mainly concentrate on the candidate's work/contribution.
- The synopsis report, i.e the presentation must cover the following aspects.
 - Objectives and scope of the study





- b. Literature survey
- c. Identified research gaps based on literature review
- d. Problem formulated
- e. Research methodology identified
- f. Experimentation/ Data collection/Analysis performed
- g. General conclusions drawn
- h. Specific contributions and conclusions made
- i. Details of publications in journals and conferences
- j. Proposed chaptalization of thesis layout
- k. Further scope of research
- l. References
- x. The candidate shall submit synopsis report of the Ph.D. work carried out in the prescribed format along with application form to the Dean R&D through the HoD and School Dean..

7.9. Pre-Thesis Colloquium

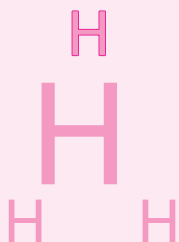
- i. It is mandatory for every candidate, prior to the submission of thesis, to make an open presentation in the Department before the Doctoral Committee, to which all faculty members and other research candidates are to be invited. The feedback and comments obtained during the Pre-Thesis Colloquium may be suitably incorporated in the synopsis report /thesis in consultation with the Research Supervisor, after due deliberations with the DC.
- ii. The DC may call for a repeat pre-thesis colloquium if required.
- iii. After successful presentation of the Pre-Thesis Colloquium and incorporating all the suggestions made, the research candidate may be allowed to submit the Thesis.

7.10. Preparation of Ph.D. Thesis

- i. The thesis shall be prepared in an organized fashion with an account of the original research work of the candidate leading to new techniques or correlation of facts already known (analytical, experimental etc.) and demonstrating a quality as to make a definite contribution to the advancement of knowledge. It should as well exhibit the candidate's ability to undertake independent research and present the findings in an appropriate manner with actual accomplishments of the work, plainly stated and honestly appraised.
- ii. The thesis shall be submitted for plagiarism check and the similarity index will be within the acceptable limits.
- iii. The thesis shall include a certificate from the concerned Research Supervisor (and co-supervisor, if any) to the effect that the thesis is a record of bonafide research work carried out by the candidate under his / her / their supervision and guidance and that the work reported in the thesis has not been submitted elsewhere for a degree or a diploma. A similar certificate from the candidate is also included in the thesis regarding the authenticity of the work.

7.11. Submission of Thesis

- i. Each Candidate, after completing the necessary formalities, is required to submit his/ her e-thesis containing 3D-visualizations/animations/videos along with the duly filled in prescribed application form (Annexure-VI) and the evaluation fee (as fixed by VFSTR) within one month after the date of approval of Pre-Thesis Colloquium.
- ii. Two hard copies of the thesis shall be submitted to the Dean R&D in accordance with



the format (Annexure-VII) and specifications prescribed.

- iii. The candidate shall submit a no dues certificate from all concerned during the submission of the thesis.
- iv. Regulation R25 is designed to uphold the principles of fairness and flexibility outlined in NEP 2020, allowing for rebuttals and the acceptance of wildcard PhD submissions. It provides a transparent pathway for addressing disputes at various stages of the thesis submission, ensuring a balanced approach in cases of disagreement between research scholars, supervisors, doctoral committees, and other academic authorities.



8. ADJUDICATION PROCESS, OPEN DEFENSE AND AWARD OF PH.D. DEGREE

8.1 Adjudication Process

- i. The Supervisor in consultation with DC shall constitute panel of adjudicators as follows.
 - a. A total of nine names shall be suggested, each of whom shall be of an expert in the area of the thesis to be evaluated. Their expertise should be well evidenced by the documents in support (and kept available with the Supervisor, for perusal if so required by the Vice Chancellor).
 - b. Out of the nine suggested panelists a minimum of four shall be from out of India and the remaining from within India.
 - c. Of the suggested panelists from India, not more than two could be from the combined states of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.
- ii. While approving the names for the evaluation panel, the Vice Chancellor shall indicate order of priority in which Dean R&D shall approach them for their acceptance to evaluate the thesis under consideration, based on the synopsis communicated.
- iii. The thesis shall be forwarded by the Dean R&D to two examiners (one from within India and other from out of India), selected by the Vice Chancellor from the suggested panel of examiners.
- iv. The Dean R&D shall take necessary steps to get the reports from the examiners as quickly as possible. The examiners are expected to send their reports in the prescribed format within eight weeks from the date of receipt of the thesis. Dean R&D shall remind the concerned examiner beyond which the thesis may be sent to alternate examiner approved/ appointed by Vice Chancellor.
- v. The examiner shall include in his/her report, an overall assessment, in the prescribed format (Annexure-VIII), placing the thesis in one of the following categories:
 - a. Recommended in present form.
 - b. Recommended in edited form (points for editing should be suggested).
 - c. Recommended with minor corrections with addendum after the approval of DC.
 - d. Recommended with major corrections and re-submission after the approval of DC.
 - e. Recommended with major corrections and advised re-submission for the re- adjudication by the concerned examiner.
 - f. Fresh Submission in the time frame as adjudicated by the examiners and as recommended by the DC.
- vi. The comments of the external thesis adjudicators shall be sent to the research supervisor as soon as they are received, for necessary action and to prepare an Action Taken Report (ATR).
- vii. The Action Taken Report prepared by the candidate for the comments / queries made by the external thesis adjudicators are to be addressed during the Oral Defense for their approval. The revised copies of the thesis with the approval of the Indian adjudicator shall be submitted by the Research Scholar to the HoD, Library and Dean R&D for





records.

- viii. Individual cases not covered by the above clauses shall be referred to the SRB. On deemed fit reasons, the SRB in turn shall refer to the DC, if necessary.

8.2 Open Defense

Open Defense (OD) presentation is the final requirement. The Open Defense Committee (ODC) shall conduct the oral examination of the candidate, after the completion of the public presentation of the thesis work by the candidate. ODC shall have the following composition:

Dean, R&D	- Chairman
Adjudicators of the thesis (At least one of them should also participate in OD presentation)	- Member(s)
Dean R&D or his/her nominee	- Member
Members of the Doctoral Committee	- Member/(s)

Research supervisor will be the ex-officio member secretary.

After the completion of the OD, Adjudicators of the thesis shall formally declare the release of the Ph.D. thesis.

8.3 Award of Ph.D. Degree

- Subsequent to the formal consent by the DC, the acceptance of Ph.D. thesis for the award of Ph.D. degree will be approved by the Vice Chancellor.
- Upon the formal approval by the Vice Chancellor, provisional result will be notified by the office of Dean, AAA.
- The candidate will be eligible to receive the Ph.D. degree in the convocation thereof.

9. FEE PARTICULARS, FINANCIAL SUPPORT AND LEAVE RULES

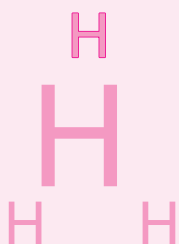
9.1 Fee particulars

- To be decided by the Institute from time to time, but to be the same for all categories of candidates. Timely deposition of the same to the Institute and maintenance of No Dues at all times, shall be the responsibility of candidate till submission of thesis or cancellation of the admission as is the case maybe. If the fee is not paid within the stipulated due date, a late fee will be levied. Nonpayment of the prescribed fee beyond the extended due date will lead to the cancellation of admission.
- A semester of minimum 16 weeks' duration and of 20 weeks including all semester- end requirements is a full semester.
- A semester is called an Active Semester if a candidate enrolls for the semester and registers for full load of credits assigned for that particular semester.
- If a candidate does not register for any credits during a semester and would like to avail leave of absence, then such a semester is referred as 'Blank Semester'. Expressed Permission for availing a Blank Semester, is however required to be taken a priori, by the candidate from the Supervisor and get registered with the AAA section of the Institute for records purposes. However, for the registration to remain valid and continuous, the candidate shall be required to pay the prescribed fees. Blank Semester Fees is same as the Semester Fees admissible as the Semester Fees admissible.

9.2 Financial Support

All Internal candidates will be considered for suitable financial support –

- Those considered for contractual Assistant Professor(CAP) positions while pursuing Ph.D studies on a regular basis will be asked to participate in Teaching and Learning process in the department concerned and in a specific 11 hours in a week.
- Those considered for TRA (Teaching cum Research Assistantship) will be assigned



with only Teaching responsibility in a stipulated slot of 9 hours in a week.

- iii. Those who are exclusive research assistantship (ERA) will also participate in Teaching and learning process and in a specific 7 hours in a week.
- iv. The financial support schemes will be notified by the university from time to time.

The detailed ERA, TRA and CAP workload, contingency amount and other financial support is attached Annexure X

Contingency expenses and other administrative matters of Research scholars enrolled under different categories

The detailed ERA, TRA and CAP workload, contingency amount and other financial support is attached Annexure XI

9.3 Leave Rules

- i. All the Research Candidates are eligible for 15 days of casual leave in a calendar year on pro-rata basis. The total period of absence through casual leave should not be more than 10 days at a time. Head of Department, through concerned Supervisor would be the competent authority to sanction the leave.
- ii. Medical leave up to 10 days in a calendar year is admissible to Research Candidates on valid medical grounds, with the production of medical certificate issued by authorized medical authority. Registrar, with the recommendation from Supervisor and Head of the Department, would sanction medical leave for a stretch of maximum 6 days continuous.
- iii. Academic Leave of 15 days in a calendar year is permissible to Research Candidates for attending conferences and workshops, with due approval from the Supervisor, Head of the Department and Dean (R&D). 'On Duty' leave may be granted to Candidates for visit / work at other Institutions for carrying out the approved researchwork, with due approval from the Supervisor, Head of the Department and Dean R&D.
- iv. Female PhD Scholars may be provided Maternity Leave / Child Leave for upto 180 days in the entire duration of the Ph.D programme without pay.

10. CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES

10.1 Honorable Exits

- i. Honorable exit option is provided to alleviate the possible disappointment due to incompleteness of research work because of unforeseen exigencies.
- ii. Candidates admitted with UG qualification can exit with PG Diploma / M.Tech. after five semesters from the date of registration, if he/she fulfills respective credit and publication requirements, subject to the recommendation by the DC in consultation with School Dean, Dean R&D and approval of Vice Chancellor.
- iii. Candidates admitted with PG qualification can exit with PG Diploma / M.Tech. after three semesters, if he/she fulfills respective credits and publication requirements, subject to the recommendation by the DC in consultation with School Dean, Dean R&D and approval of Vice Chancellor.
- iv. In such cases, all the remaining credit requirement of the PG Diploma/ M.Tech. may have to be completed in a span of one semester. No scholarship will be paid during such duration.
- v. After a due course of time, if the candidate wishes to re-join the Ph.D. program he/she can do so by surrendering the PG Diploma/M.Tech. degrees to VFSTR based on the recommendations of the committee constituted by Vice Chancellor.
- vi. On case to case basis either special extension or re-registration may be considered.

10.2. Transfer / Migration of Candidates





- i. Transfer / Migration from a Ph.D. program of other recognized universities / institutions to VFSTR shall be possible only for an eligible candidate, as approved by Vice Chancellor. The School Dean in consultation with concerned head of the
- ii. Department shall establish the equivalence of the credits that is eligible to be transferred from the existing University. For such transfer/migration, only the credits for the coursework shall be transferable. Further, such a candidate shall submit a “No Objection Certificate” from the previous University / Research Centre including the Research Supervisor.
- iii. Any candidate interested in transferring out or discontinuing the Ph.D. program of the University, before the completion of duration, shall be liable to pay the balance tuition fee for the remaining minimum period of the program. After fulfilling these requirements, the Registrar shall make arrangements to issue a “No Objection Certificate” to such a candidate on the recommendation of the Dean R&D and with the approval of the Vice- Chancellor.
- iv. Converting a PhD program from internal (full-time) to external (part-time), or vice versa, is generally possible but subject to specific university regulations and conditions. The candidate must provide an offer letter confirming employment. The process typically requires approval from the Doctoral Committee (DC) panel members. Additional requirements may include completing coursework within two semesters, fulfilling a minimum period of enrollment (such as two years for an internal to external transfer), and paying a status change fee.

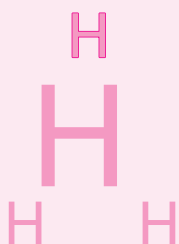
10.3 Termination of Registration

The registration of a research candidate may be cancelled by the Dean R& D, under any one of the following conditions, based on the recommendation of the DC and school Dean with the approval of Vice Chancellor.

- i. Involvement in anti-social activities.
- ii. Fails to clear prescribed course work
- iii. The progress is not satisfactory for a period of two semesters consecutively.
- iv. He/she has not submitted the thesis by the end of the extended period as per prescribed norms.
- v. He / she has not duly registered for any semester.
- vi. In case of relocation of Ph.D.. woman candidate due to marriage or otherwise, the research data shall be allowed to be transferred to the University to which the candidate intends to relocate provided all the other conditions in these regulations are followed in letter and spirit and the research work does not pertain to the project secured by the parent institution/ supervisor from any funding agency. The candidate will however give due credit to the parent guide and the institution for the part of research already done.

10.4 Change of Research Supervisor

- i. Any change of Research Supervisor (s) under appropriate request (Format provided in Annexure-IX), either from the Research Supervisor or from the candidate, the DC will evaluate the merit of the case and may recommend the same to the concerned School Dean for approval.
- ii. When a Supervisor of a candidate happens to be away from the University for more than six months, he/she shall continue to guide the candidate, but a Caretaker Supervisor shall be appointed by the School Dean in consultation with HoD for administrative purpose only.
- iii. The Supervisor who retires from service shall continue to guide a candidate already registered under him/her provided the provisional registration of the candidate is confirmed, upto a maximum period of one year from the date of his/her retirement on his/her written request.



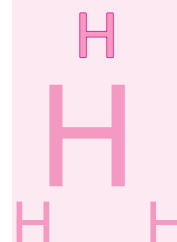
- iv. When a Supervisor migrates to other University / Institution, such Supervisors shall be permitted to guide the candidates already registered under him/her provided their provisional registration(Course Work Completed) is confirmed, otherwise an alternate Supervisor shall be nominated by the School Dean based on the request of the Supervisor and the recommendation of the HoD and report the same to Dean, R &D.
- v. When a supervisor expires, a new supervisor will be appointed, if necessary, on recommendation of the DC.



10.5 Change of PhD Supervisor at a Late Stage

Guiding PhD students by a supervisor is one of the longest and strongest associations between a student and faculty. It is based on mutual trust and respect, in which a student expects the supervisor to protect his/her interests, and supervisor expects high quality research work. While change of supervisor at early stages is not uncommon and there is a standard process for it, sometimes, due to various reasons, the student-supervisor relationship is formally terminated even at a late stage. If the change of supervisor happens at a late stage when some research has been already done, The guidelines are as follows.

- i. Change of the supervisor at a later stage of the Scholar's PhD should be avoided and all attempts should be made to take the relationship to its logical conclusion – namely submission of the thesis. The possibility of having the previous supervisor continue as a co-supervisor should also be explored. Change of supervisor at a later stage should happen only as the last resort.
- ii. If the scholar continues in the Institute with some other supervisor and does not want to use previous work (e.g., start on a new problem), then this is like the normal change of supervisor, which can follow existing process.
- iii. If the scholar continues in the Institute with some other supervisor and wishes to use some of the past works in his/her thesis, the following steps will be taken:
 - a. A meeting shall be called between the previous supervisor, new supervisor and the student. They may invite any other faculty member of the department as well. If they can reach an agreement regarding use of previous work and role of previous supervisor (including, for example, him/her remaining as a co-supervisor without being an examiner for the thesis), that agreement will be recorded and followed.
 - b. If the meeting does not result in any agreement, then in the final thesis certificate, contribution of the previous supervisor will be explicitly recorded (e.g., it may be stated that Prof. X was supervisor from date1 to date2, and Prof. Y from date2). If the previous work included in the thesis is substantial, the previous supervisor can also have a claim to be a co-supervisor, without any administrative rights and without being an examiner for the thesis.
- iv. In case change of supervisor becomes unavoidable, only then will another faculty member who has successfully supervised at least one Ph.D. scholar will be considered as the supervisor.
- v. If the scholar leaves the Institute, and wishes to use past work in his/her thesis and continue with another supervisor in any university/institute, he/she may approach and seek permission through the new university/institute for use of the works. The Institute will take a view based on IP protection and approval of the previous supervisor.
- vi. In case of the unprecedented exit of the supervisor, the possibility of him/her continuing as a supervisor or co-supervisor can be explored. If such an arrangement is not possible or fails for any reason, the scholar can use the previous work in the thesis. In this case, it will be explicitly recorded in the final thesis certificate that the outgoing faculty member was the supervisor from Date 1 to Date 2.
- vii. Other cases not covered by the above, or any exceptions to the above, or any disputes arising in implementing these guidelines, will be brought to the notice of the Vice Chancellor by the Dean R&D. The decision of the Vice Chancellor will be final and





binding.

10.6 Regarding IPR issues in Ph.D. Thesis (Arising because of the change of Supervisor)

- i. The problem conceptualization, methodology adopted and work flow formalization along with the research output in the form of publications, concept note, review paper and patent and product, is the sole intellectual properties of the researcher (candidate and the supervisor).
- ii. In case of change of supervisor; the problem statement, the methodology adopted and work flow involved in solving the existing research problem and the results and intellectual outcomes in the form of publications, patents, models and product cannot be used by the researcher with the new supervisor.
- iii. However, in such a case the candidate may continue with the same topic after getting NO OBJECTION CERTIFICATE from the Supervisor. Whilst submitting the thesis the work carried out with the earlier supervisor should be acknowledged.

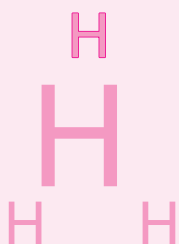
10.7. Handling of Conflict

- i. In case of any conflict between the Research Supervisor and/or Research Co-Supervisor and the candidate, the School Dean, on receipt of request letter from either of the parties or both, shall refer the matter to the Dean R&D. The Dean R&D shall constitute a Conflict Handling Committee duly approved by the Vice Chancellor to examine the case and submit its report to Dean R&D.
- ii. The committee shall make every effort to salvage the academic program of the candidate while ensuring due credits to the current supervisor in publications, patents and thesis. The same is informed to Vice Chancellor for possible action. The decision of the Vice Chancellor shall be final and binding.

10.8 Discipline and Ethics

- i. Every candidate for the Ph.D. programme shall maintain discipline and decorous behaviour both inside and outside the Campus and shall not indulge in any activity that could compromise the reputation of the University. Any act of indiscipline of a candidate shall be referred to the University Discipline Committee for inquiry and necessary disciplinary action, if any.
- ii. The Registrar, with the approval of the Vice- Chancellor, may suspend a candidate from the programme, pending inquiry based on prima facie evidence.
- iii. Any act of unethical practices including plagiarism by the candidate (as determined by the concerned Doctoral Committee, School Dean, Dean R&D, the Registrar and the like) shall automatically result in the dismissal of such a candidate from the programme and his/her admission will stand cancelled.
- iv. Further, such a candidate shall not be eligible to apply for any programme of study offered by the University.
- v. He /She shall be debarred from registering for any other program in VFSTR. Also, the recognition of his/her guide shall be withdrawn for a period of five years and the guide and co-guide (if any) shall be debarred from guiding the research candidates for any research program in VFSTR till such a period completed
- vi. In the event of complaints from any source and the Thesis being proved to be copied, plagiarized, misrepresented academically or the result of any other unethical practices, the University shall have the right to rescind the degree at any time. Such candidates shall not be considered eligible for registering for any programme at the University in the future.
- vii. A candidate may appeal against the disciplinary action taken against him/her to the Vice Chancellor, whose decision shall be final and binding.

10.9 Change of Registration status



A candidate admitted to External Registration program may be allowed to change his/her registration to Internal mode on the recommendations of DC in consultation with School Dean and Dean R&D with the approval of Vice Chancellor.

- i. Similarly, a candidate admitted to a Internal Ph.D. Program may be permitted to change his/her registration to External Category based on a request from him/her, provided:
 - a. He/she has completed the prescribed course work.
 - b. The request is endorsed by the supervisor(s) and the DC.
- ii. A No Objection Certificate' to be obtained from the Head / Dean of the Institutions / University / Organization in which he / she proposes to join.

Conversion from Internal to External & Vice-versa of Ph. D., Programme

Converting a PhD program from internal (full-time) to external (part-time), or vice versa, is generally possible but subject to specific university regulations and conditions. The research scholar seeking conversion must provide an offer letter confirming his/her employment. The process typically requires approval from the supervisor, HoD, School Dean and Dean R&D. Additional requirements may include completion of course work within one or two semesters, fulfilling a minimum period of stay in the campus for course works.

10.10. Intellectual Property

A candidate shall not publish his/her Thesis as a whole without specific written permission from the University. Any intellectual property resulting from the research work of the candidate shall be the claimed joint ownership by the candidate, Research Supervisor or Co-Supervisor where applicable, and VFSTR.

10.11. International Standard Book Number (ISBN) attribution

If authorized by the DC members and Thesis evaluators, scholars may request an ISBN code for their thesis

10.12. Protection of Action Taken in Good Faith

No suit or other legal proceedings shall lie against any Officer or other employee of the University for anything, which is done in good faith or intended to be done in pursuance of the provisions of these Regulations.

10.13. Bar to Claim damages for Delay

No candidate shall be entitled to claim any damages, whatsoever from the University on the account of late declaration of result, delay in the issue of grade sheets or any other certificates, Thesis evaluation or any other process associated with the examinations or evaluation, or other like cases.

10.14. Interpretation

Any question that may arise regarding the interpretation of these Regulations, shall be decided by the Vice Chancellor, whose decision shall be final and binding. The University shall have the power to issue clarification to remove any doubt, difficulty or anomaly which may arise during implementation of the provisions of these Regulations.\

10.15. Power to Modify

Not with standing what is mentioned in the above said regulations, the Vice Chancellor reserves the right to modify any part or all of the above from time to time.

The detailed PhD Timeline map Attached in Annexure III.



**Regulations for
THE DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY
(Ph.D) PROGRAMME**

ANNEXURES

OFFICE OF DEAN R&D
Dr. D.Venkatesulu - Dean R&D

Ph.D.
ANNEXURE
2025



Area	Name of the Professor assigned with	Responsibilities
Academic Research	Joint Dean Dr. P. Ashok Kumar Professor, Dept. of Chemical Engineering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Recognition of Research Supervisors ✓ Monitoring the process of Pre-Synopsis, Synopsis and Thesis ✓ Arrangement of Pre-Synopsis and Synopsis meetings ✓ Plagiarism check ✓ Research Awards- Incentive verification ✓ Monitoring of Research Admissions process- Ph.D- B.Tech admission, M.Tech by Research, ✓ M.B.A by Research Admissions , PDF Admission
Research Promotion	Joint Dean Dr. M. Pachiyanaan, Assoc. Professor, Dept. of ECE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Conduction and monitoring of Pre. Ph.D. Course works ✓ Monitoring of DC meetings ✓ Monitoring PhD Scholars ✓ PhD Regulation ✓ Monitoring of Research Facilities - COEs, RCs- Engineering Department ✓ Preparation of IQAC Report - Various Ranking
Seed Grants	Assoc. Dean Dr. CH. Anjani Devi, Assoc. Professor, Dept. of BT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Seed Grants / Advanced SEED grants / Research Incentive Grants for UG, PG Students & Research Scholars ✓ University research Journals ✓ Coordinating the Conduction of SRB and URB Meetings ✓ Research magazine
Sponsored Research and Consultancy	Assistant Dean, Dr. P. Vijaya Lakshmi, Assistant Professor, Dept. of ECE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Monitoring the progress of consultancy projects ✓ Monitoring the progress of Govt and Non-Government projects (faculty project submitted/ presented/ granted through VIMS) ✓ Monitoring patent details ✓ Updating University website on all R& D Activities ✓ communicate with Media section ✓ Monitoring Monthly Research News Bulletin
Publications & Events	Assistant Dean, Dr. Jawad Ahmad Dar, Assistant Professor, Dept. of ACSE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Research Awards- Incentive verification ✓ Coordinating the conduction of National / International Conferences, Seminars, Webinars, Workshops and FDPs ✓ Monitoring of Research Publications (Faculty / students/ Scholars) through VIMS ✓ Research Communications (H-index, Citations)
Finance & General Administration	Assistant Registrar (Research) Dr.Sayyad Imtiyaz	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Monitoring the progress of consultancy projectsTo summarize the research and development information at the institute level for each academic year. ✓ To analyze the research data towards qualitative as well as quantitative assessments. ✓ To facilitate coordination with internal committees for promoting research & development at departmental level. ✓ To summarize research directions in which various events may be organized to facilitate awareness & learning about emerging domains. ✓ Any other issues relating to research activities and fellowships from time to time. ✓ Taking care of Seed Grant, CDF, NAAC/NIRF/NBA related database updating time to time. ✓ Any other tasks of administrative in nature purely pertaining to R&D including liaisons related works connected with industry /academic/R&D in close coordination with the office of Dean PCF. ✓ Issuance of NOC for staff/students as regards CDF/Seed Grant etc.. at their time of relieving from the university





EXTRAMURAL CATEGORY OF PH.D. ADMISSION

A. PREAMBLE:

The Extramural Research programme in VFSTR offers an opportunity for self-creative and self-motivated working professional to submit their research work for the grant of the Ph.D degree. This programme supports to fulfil the doctorate dreams of researchers, scientists and administrative executives working in various public and private organizations. The employees who have an experience of more than a decade in any priority sector can avail this facility without being away from their professional responsibilities. VFSTR recognizes their contributions in their field of research and facilitates to convert their work into a doctoral research Thesis. Their expertise in their field of study will be valued and the eligible research work can be permitted to submit as a thesis for Ph.D.

B. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

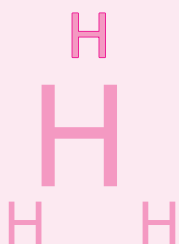
- i. Candidates with UG qualification in the disciplines with a minimum of 4 years of UG program such as Engineering/Technology/Agriculture/Medical in respective discipline with a minimum of 60% or equivalent CGPA.
- ii. Candidates with PG qualification in respective disciplines of Engineering / Technology / Sciences / Humanities / Management.
- iii. Candidates under this category should have a minimum of 12 years of experience in Industry / R&D Organization/ Academic Institutions / Universities / Organizations.
- iv. Candidates should be working in the proposed area of expertise predominantly during the recent 8 years out of 12 years and are eligible to submit Thesis for Ph.D in self mode

C. SCREENING OF APPLICATIONS:

- i. i. The candidate who desires to be considered under the extramural category shall submit detailed synopsis report of the research work carried out during the recent 8 years of his/her professional life along with the application form to the screening board appointed by the Vice-Chancellor.
- ii. The synopsis shall be accepted for consideration only if the candidate has acquired at least 14 cumulative research points (Refer section 7.6) in the recent 4-5 years on the theme of the research as brought out in the synopsis.
- iii. The candidates while furnishing the documents pertaining to the compliance of at least 14 cumulative research points, should also submit the letter from the co-authors of the research papers/patents conveying the volunteer willingness in recommending the said joint work in getting the research paper/patent as major contribution by the candidate; and therefore he/she has all appreciation to consider the thesis for submission of Ph.D degree in the self-mode.
- iv. The screening committee will assess the quality of research work as evidenced by the synopsis, publications/patents and would declare if the application is fit enough to be considered to get the thesis adjudicated for the award of Ph.D in the self-mode.
- v. The candidate has to submit the thesis in the format specified with in a period of maximum of six months from the date of approval conveyed by the Dean R&D.

D. ADJUDICATION PROCESS:

- i. For the adjudication process, a total of nine names shall be suggested by the screening committee constituted, each of whom shall be an expert in the area of the thesis to be evaluated. Their expertise should be well evidenced by the documents in support (and kept available with the Supervisor, for perusal if so required by the Vice Chancellor).
- ii. Out of the nine suggested panel lists a minimum of four shall be from out of India and the remaining from within India.



- iii. Out of the suggested panel lists from India, not more than two could be from the combined states of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.
- iv. While approving the names for the evaluation panel, the Vice Chancellor shall indicate order of priority in which Dean R&D shall approach them for their acceptance to evaluate the thesis under consideration, based on the synopsis communicated.
- v. The thesis shall be forwarded by the Dean R&D to four examiners (at least one from out of India), upon their acceptance selected by the Vice Chancellor from the suggested panel of examiners.
- vi. Out of 4 examiners, at least three examiners should recommend the thesis for awarding the Ph.D Degree.
- vii. If only two examiners have recommended the acceptance of the thesis, then the thesis will be sent to two more examiners for adjudication. Overall, at least three examiners should recommend the acceptance of the thesis for the award of Ph.D degree. Otherwise, the candidate may be given a suitable time extension, as suggested by the examiners to revise the thesis and resubmit the same as a fresh thesis. The evaluation details are in accordance with section 8.1 of R22 Ph.D regulations.

✓ **E. FEE STRUCTURE:**

The application and processing fee will be decided from time to time. However at this point of time they are stated as below.

S. No.	Particulars	Amount (Rs.)
1	Application Fee (at the time of submitting the synopsis for consideration)	Rs. 50,000/-
2	Processing Fee (after the acceptance is conveyed by the screening committee)	Rs. 1,00,000/-
Total		Rs.1,50,000/-

* Fee is subject to revision from time to time as decided by the University.





REBUTTAL AND WILD CARD Ph.D ADMISSION ENTRY

A. PREAMBLE:

In alignment with the vision of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, Vignan's Foundation for Science, Technology and Research (VFSTR) is dedicated to fostering an inclusive, fair, and transparent academic ecosystem that encourages critical thinking, creativity, and integrity in research. NEP 2020 emphasizes the importance of cultivating a research environment that is not only rigorous and high-quality but also supportive of individual scholars' intellectual freedom and academic expression. In this spirit, VFSTR has developed the Thesis Submission Rebuttal and Wild Card Submission Regulations to provide a structured framework for resolving conflicts that may arise in the thesis submission process.

This regulation is designed to uphold NEP 2020's principles of fairness and flexibility in academic assessment. It provides a transparent pathway for addressing disputes at various stages of the thesis submission, ensuring a balanced approach in cases of disagreement between research scholars, supervisors, doctoral committees, and other academic authorities.

KEY PROVISIONS INCLUDE

Conflicts Between Scholar and Supervisor: When there is a disagreement between the scholar and supervisor regarding the thesis's readiness, these regulations offer a formal rebuttal process. This includes mediation to ensure both viewpoints are respected and, if necessary, an independent "wild card" review by an external examiner. This empowers scholars to advocate for their research, a core tenet of NEP 2020's commitment to academic freedom.

Conflicts with Doctoral Committee Members or Academic authorities: In cases where the doctoral committee or academic authorities raises objections despite agreement between the scholar and supervisor, the regulations provide for an impartial Review Subcommittee to evaluate and mediate the issue. The wild card option, if pursued, provides an additional layer of fair, unbiased assessment in keeping with NEP's vision of flexibility and integrity.

Conflicts Arising After Submission: Recognizing the evolving nature of academic standards and feedback, these regulations outline procedures for managing objections that arise post-submission. Through structured rebuttal and independent review options, these regulations honor the scholar's right to a fair evaluation of their work while ensuring that the university maintains high academic standards.

The wild card submission option embodies NEP 2020's emphasis on equity and autonomy, providing an external review mechanism to support an objective and unbiased resolution. By introducing these regulations, VFSTR seeks to build an environment where academic pursuits are assessed on merit, promoting an ethos of mutual respect, fairness, and academic excellence.

These regulations reaffirm VFSTR's commitment to the ideals of NEP 2020, creating a doctoral research environment that supports intellectual rigor, ethical standards, and flexibility in academic assessment. This document is a guiding framework for all stakeholders involved in doctoral research at VFSTR, underscoring our shared commitment to nurturing an academic community where scholarly work is evaluated equitably and transparently.

1. Rebuttal and Wild Card Submission Cases

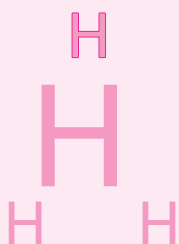
This section defines potential conflict scenarios and the processes for addressing them, including options for rebuttal and a "wild card" submission for independent review in exceptional cases.

Case 1: Conflict between Scholar and Supervisor

- ✓ Scenario: The scholar believes the thesis is ready for submission, but the supervisor disagrees.

1.1 Rebuttal Process

- ✓ The scholar or supervisor must formally document their perspective, providing specific reasons for their stance on the thesis readiness.
- ✓ The rebuttal, along with supporting documents, should be submitted to the Dean R&D.





1.2 Doctoral Committee Mediation

- ✓ The Doctoral Committee will review the rebuttal upon request from the Dean R&D and may convene a meeting with the scholar, supervisor, and any other relevant members to discuss the conflict.
- ✓ The committee will attempt to mediate and reach a consensus. A recommendation on the thesis status will be issued within 10 working days.

1.3 Wild Card Submission Option

- ✓ If mediation fails, the scholar may request a “wild card” submission. In this case, the thesis will undergo an independent review by an external examiner, appointed by the Dean of R&D and approved by the Vice Chancellor, who has not been previously associated with the scholar’s research.
- ✓ This examiner will evaluate the thesis and provide an independent recommendation to the University. The decision of Vice Chancellor is final and binding.

Case 2: Conflict with Doctoral Committee Members or Academic authorities

Scenario: Objections are raised by a doctoral committee member or Academic authorities regarding the submission, even though the scholar and supervisor agree on its readiness.

she has all appreciation to consider the thesis for submission of Ph.D degree in the self-mode.

2.1 Rebuttal Process

- ✓ The scholar and supervisor must submit a formal rebuttal to the Dean of R&D, detailing the rationale for the thesis’s submission readiness and addressing any objections raised.
- ✓ The Dean of R&D will constitute a Review Subcommittee, with the approval of the Vice Chancellor, to examine the rebuttal. The Review Subcommittee may include faculty members from outside the scholar’s immediate department within the University.

2.2 Review Subcommittee Evaluation and Recommendation

- ✓ The Review Subcommittee will examine the rebuttal, objections, and relevant thesis sections. Meetings may be called with the involved parties to clarify any outstanding issues.
- ✓ Within 15 working days, the Review Subcommittee will issue a recommendation on whether the thesis is ready for submission, or if further revisions are needed.

2.3 Wild Card Submission Option

- ✓ If the scholar and supervisor disagree with the Review Subcommittee’s decision, they may invoke a “wild card” submission. The thesis will then be reviewed by a qualified external examiner, appointed by the Dean R&D and approved by the Vice Chancellor, who will make an independent assessment.
- ✓ This examiner will evaluate the thesis and provide an independent recommendation to the University. The decision of the Vice Chancellor is final and binding.

Case 3: Conflicts Arising After Submission

Scenario: An academic authority raises objections regarding the thesis after it has been submitted for evaluation.

3.1 Objection Documentation and Preliminary Review

- ✓ The objecting party must document their concerns and submit them to the Dean R&D within 5 working days of raising the objection.
- ✓ A Preliminary Review Committee, comprising faculty members independent of the original doctoral committee constituted by Dean R&D with the approval of Vice Chancellor, will assess the validity of the objection.





3.2 Decision by the Preliminary Review Committee

- ✓ If the committee determines that the objection has merit, they will recommend specific revisions or additional clarifications to the thesis.
- ✓ If the objection is deemed minor or not impactful on the thesis's overall quality, the submission process will proceed without changes, subject to the approval of the Vice Chancellor

3.3 Wild Card Appeal Option

- ✓ If the scholar or supervisor disagrees with the committee's decision to revise the thesis, they may request a wild card appeal.
- ✓ The thesis will then undergo a review by an external academic expert with relevant expertise appointed by Dean R&D and approved by Vice Chancellor.
- ✓ This examiner will evaluate the thesis and provide an independent recommendation to the University. Based on this assessment, the submission will either proceed as is or be modified accordingly. The decision of the Vice Chancellor is final and binding.

2. Finality of Wild Card Decisions

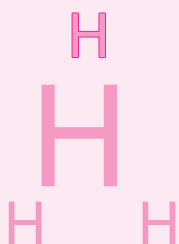
All recommendations resulting from wild card reviews are final and binding. These decisions ensure objectivity and fair assessment, protecting both the university's academic standards and the rights of the research scholar.

3. Confidentiality and Integrity

All materials and discussions related to thesis submission conflicts will be kept confidential. The university expects all participants to act with integrity, respecting the scholarly and academic process throughout.

4. AMENDMENTS

The university reserves the right to amend these regulations to reflect best practices and evolving academic standards.



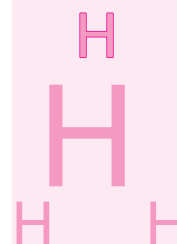


TIMELINE OF PHD PROGRAMME

**Ph.D.
ANNEXURE
2025**



Sl.No.	Event	Action	Time
1	Web advertisement of Ph.D. admission	Admission office	Throughout year
2	Selection to Ph.D programs	Respective Schools through office of R&D and Admission office	At least one month before the date of joining
3	Issue of offer letter	Admission office	At least 15 days before date of joining
4	Registration/admission	Admission office and office of R&D	Date of Joining as per data
5	Joining of Ph.D. Scholar in School	Office of R & D and Respective School Offices	Same day of Registration
6	Appointment of Supervisor	Respective School and Office of R & D	One week of joining
7	Formation of DC	Respective School	Within two weeks of joining
8	Issue of DC Panel members	Office of R & D and Respective School Offices	Within two weeks of receiving DC forms from the Schools
9	Allotment of Courses	DC	Within one month of joining
10	Approval of courses allotment	DC	Within one month of joining
11	Enrolment of Course work	Head of School	Within one month of joining
13	Course Work	Dean Academics	Normally within one year of enrolment
14	Summative -Examination	Dean Academics	After the completion of the Course work
15	Submission of Doctoral Research Progress Review Report	DC	After one year of joining and every six months once- AY. Cycle 1- Aug-Sep and Cycle 2-Feb- Mar.
16	Pre synopsis	DC	Before two months of submission of thesis
17	Pre synopsis	DC	Before two months of submission of thesis
18	Approval of Examiners	DC	Before two months of submission of thesis
19	Sending of thesis to external examiners	Dean R&D	Within one month from the date of submission of thesis
20	Receipt of thesis evaluation report	Dean R&D	Normally within three months from the date of approval of examiners
21	Defense Viva-voce	Dean R&D , DC , External Examiner (Indian)	Within one month from date of receipt of external examiner report.
22	Recommendation for award of Ph.D. degree	Dean R&D , DC , External Examiner (Indian)	Within one month from date of receipt of external examiner report.
23	Approval of award of Ph.D. degree	Chancellor/ Vice Chancellor	For reporting in the Dean R&D and Dean Academics
24	Issue of Provisional Certificate	Dean (Academics)	After the approval of CA
25	Conferred of Ph.D. degree	Chancellor/ Vice Chancellor	Annual Convocation





**OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT
VIGNAN'S FOUNDATION FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY
AND RESEARCH**

School of _____

Department of _____

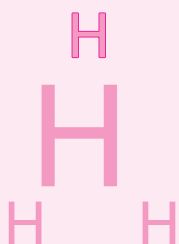
R-25 PhD Scholars DC Meeting Panel Lis

Sl.No	Regd. No	Name of the Research Scholar	Name of the Supervisor Research Scholar	Research Area	DC Members Name with Affiliation	DC Panel Member Signature with date
					A Senior Professor / Professor/ Associate Professor of the Department (An expert member related to the proposed area of research within the thrust area/ cluster) -Chairman (to benominated by the School Dean)	
					Head of the Department -(Ex-officio member)-	
					Research Supervisor Member secretary & Convener	
					Research Co-Supervisor (if any) - Member	
					School Dean nominee/one inter School expert - Member	
					External expert from outside the University (especially INIs) -Member	
					**An International Expert /Industry/ Govt. Research Labs / Research centres- Member	

Note:

*If Senior Professor/Professor/ Associate Professor in the proposed area of research is not available even in the concerned School/ University, an Expert from outside the University may be nominated as the Chairman of the DC.

** Participation is optional, as this member belongs to the DC research area.



Annexure-IV-A--R25-PG-Zeroth DC Form



Ph.D.
ANNEXURE
2025

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R25-DOCTORAL RESEARCH PROGRESS REVIEW REPORT ZEROth RESEARCH PROGRESS REVIEW- REPORT

PART-A

(To be filled by student and verified by supervisor)

BRANCH	
Date of meeting	

1. Name of the Student : _____
2. Registration Number : _____
3. Mode of registration (Internal (ERA/TRACRA/CAP/HTRA/PT)/External): _____
4. Month & Year of Joining : _____
5. Name of the Supervisor : _____
6. Proposed Research Area : _____
7. Fee dues _____
8. Details of the course work (Total 18 Credits for PG)

Sl. No.	Type of Course	Course Code	Course Name	L-T-P=C	Mode of Study- Regular/ NPTEL
1	Foundation Course/(s)				
2	Area Specific Breadth Course/(s)				
3	Area Specific Depth Course/(s)				
4	Research Methodology				
5	Research Documentation				
6	Communication Skills				
Total Credits					

Signature of the Scholar

Signature of the Supervisor

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**PART-B****ZEROTH RESEARCH PROGRESS REVIEW- REPORT**

Name of the Research Scholar & Registration Number :

Performance Rating of the Scholar Excellent / Good / Satisfactory / Not Satisfactory

Remarks of DC members:

Sl. No.	Type of Course	Course Code	Course Name
1	A Senior Professor/Professor/ Associate Professor of the Department – Chairman Name:		
Comments:			
2	Head of the Department-Ex-officio member Name:		
Comments:			
3	Head of the Department-Ex-officio member Name:		
Comments:			
4	Research Co-Supervisor (if any) – Member Name:		
Comments:			
5	School Dean nominee/one inter School expert- Member Name:		
Comments:			
6	External expert from outside the University-Member Name:		
Comments:			
7	An International Expert /Industry/ Govt. Research Labs / Research centres- Member Name:		

Head of the Department

(**Note:** Two copies of the progress report submitted to supervisor, department and scanned copy of Part A and part B of the report should be submitted to R&D office.)



Annexure-IV-B--R25-UG-Zeroth DC Form



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ANNEXURE
2025

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R25-DOCTORAL RESEARCH PROGRESS REVIEW REPORT ZEROTH RESEARCH PROGRESS REVIEW- REPORT

PART-A

(To be filled by student and verified by supervisor)

BRANCH	
Date of meeting	

1. Name of the Student :
2. Registration Number :
3. Mode of registration (Internal (ERA/TRA/CRA/CAP/HTRA/PT)/External):
4. Month & Year of Joining :
5. Name of the Supervisor :
6. Proposed Research Area :
7. Fee dues
8. Details of the course work (Total 40 Credits for UG)

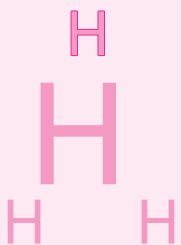
Sl. No.	Type of Course	Course Code	Course Name	L-T-P=C	Mode of Study- Regular/ NPTEL
1	Foundation Course/(s)				
2	Research Methodology				
3	Research Documentation				
4	Communication Skills				
5	Area Specific Breadth Course/(s)				
	Course 1:				
	Course2:				
	Course 3:				
	Course 4:				
	Course 5:				

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Ph.D.
ANNEXURE
2025



	Course 6:				
	Course7:				
	Course8:				
6	Area Specific Depth Course/(s)				
	Course 1:				
	Course 2:				
	Course 3:				
	Course 4:				
	Course 5:				
	Course 6:				
Total Credits					



PART-B**ZEROth RESEARCH PROGRESS REVIEW- REPORT**

Name of the Research Scholar & Registration Number :

Performance Rating of the Scholar

Excellent / Good / Satisfactory / Not Satisfactory

Remarks of DC members:

Sl. No.	Type of Course	Course Code	Course Name
1	A Senior Professor/Professor/ Associate Professor of the Department – Chairman Name:		
Comments:			
2	Head of the Department-Ex-officio member Name:		
Comments:			
3	Head of the Department-Ex-officio member Name:		
Comments:			
4	Research Co-Supervisor (if any) – Member Name:		
Comments:			
5	School Dean nominee/one inter School expert- Member Name:		
Comments:			
6	External expert from outside the University-Member Name:		
Comments:			
7	An International Expert /Industry/ Govt. Research Labs / Research centres- Member Name:		

Head of the Department

(Note: Two copies of the progress report submitted to supervisor, department and scanned copy of Part A and part B of the report should be submitted to R&D office.)

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2025**





R25-DOCTORAL RESEARCH PROGRESS REVIEW REPORT

PART-A

(Ist / II nd/ IIIrd/ IVth/ Vth/ VIth / VIIth / VIIIth)

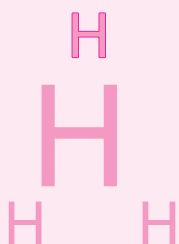
BRANCH	
Date of meeting	

1. Name of the Student :
2. Registration Number :
3. Mode of registration (Internal (ERA/TRA/CRA/CAP/HTRA/PT)/External):
4. Month & Year of Joining :
5. Name of the Supervisor :
6. Proposed Research Area :
7. Fee dues
8. Details of the course work (Total 18 Credits for PG)

S.No.	Course Code	Course Name	Result (Pass / Fail)	Grade
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				

9. No. of 'Doctoral Committee' meetings attended till now :
10. Previous 'Doctoral Committee' meeting performance : Excellent / Good / Satisfactory / Not Satisfactory
11. Progress report (as per enclosed format) attached: Yes / No

Signature of the Supervisor



R25- Doctoral Research Progress Review Report**PART-B**

(Ist / II nd/ IIIrd/ IVth/ Vth/ VIth / VIIth / VIIIth

Name of the Research Scholar & Registration Number :

Performance Rating of the Scholar Excellent / Good / Satisfactory / Not SatisfactoryNumber of Research points earned till current DC (on a Scale of 0 to 12): **Remarks of DC members:**

Sl. No.	Name, Designation of the DC member and Comments	Designation & Affiliation	Signature of the DC member
1	A Senior Professor/Professor/ Associate Professor of the Department – Chairman Name:		
Comments:			
2	Head of the Department-Ex-officio member Name:		
Comments:			
3	Head of the Department-Ex-officio member Name:		
Comments:			
4	Research Co-Supervisor (if any) – Member Name:		
Comments:			
5	School Dean nominee/one inter School expert- Member Name:		
Comments:			
6	External expert from outside the University-Member Name:		
Comments:			

Head of the Department**Ph.D.
ANNEXURE
2025**

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R25-DOCTORAL COMMITTEE REPORT

PART C

PROGRESS REPORT

Branch: Registration No:

Research Scholar Name:

- A. Brief Summary of work completed prior to the present doctoral committee meeting.

- B. Detailed Report of work completed (Previous DC to current DC) .

- C. Details of papers communicated, papers revised, papers accepted and papers published

Receipt to be given to candidate by D.E.O

Received the application along with fee challan from student bearing Regd. No:.....
on

Fee paid :

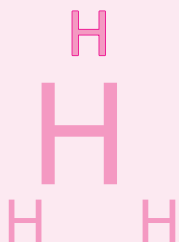
Challana No. :

Date :

Jr. Asst. Signature :
(R&D Section)

Signature of the Supervisor

(Note: Two copies of the progress report submitted to supervisor, department and scanned copy of part B of the report should be submitted to R&D office.)



**R25- Research Points Progress Score Card (RPPSC)**

Regd. No:

Name of the Scholar:

Name of the supervisor:

Tentative Title of the Thesis:

Dept./Specialization:

Part A Completed (Y/N):

Course Work Completed (Y/N):

Table B -Details of the Patents							
S.No.	Title of the Patents	Type of Patent (Design/ Utility)	Patent Appl No	Date of Publication	Date of Granted	Patent Granting Agency/ Country	Research Point
1							
2							

Table A -Publication Details						
S.No.	Title of the Patents	Name of the Journal	Indexing (SCI/ SCIE/Scopus/ WoS/ESCI/ ABDC)	Quartile of Journals (Q1/Q2/ Q3/Q4)	URL/DoI	Research Point
1						
2						





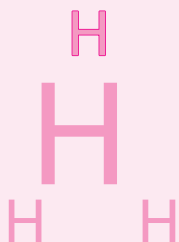
Table B -Details of the Patents												
Sl. No	Name of the Conference	Name of the Institute	Place	Top Notch Conference First level / Second Level Conference	Type of the Conf. (Int./ Nat.)	Cert. Encl. (Y/N)	Research Points (A)	Book Chapter /Conf Proceedings (other than Research \ Points (A)	URL /DoI/ ISBN	Name of Publisher	Research Points (B)	Total Points (A+B)
Total Points												

Grand Total of Research Points (Table A+ B+ C)=

Eligibility for Pre-Colloquium: (Yes/No)

DC Panel Members signature:

DC Members	DC Panel Member Signature with date
*A Senior Professor/Professor/ Associate Professor of the Department (An expert member related to the proposed area of research within the thrust area/ cluster) -Chairman (to be nominated by the School Dean)	
Head of the Department -(-Ex-officio member)-	
Research Supervisor Member secretary & Convener	
Research Co-Supervisor (if any) – Member	
School Dean nominee/one inter School expert - Member	
External expert from outside the University (especially INIs) -Member	
**An International Expert /Industry/ Govt. Research Labs / Research centres- Member	



Guidelines for preparation of Synopsis Report

Annexure-V

Ph.D.
ANNEXURE
2025

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SYNOPSIS OF

<Title of the work – TNR – 16 font size - Bold>

**A THESIS
to be submitted by**

<Name of the student – TNR – 12 font size -Bold >

for the award of the degree of

Doctor of Philosophy



<Name of the School – TNR – 12 Font size – All caps – Bold>

<Name of the Department – TNR – 12 Font size – All caps – Bold>

**VIGNAN'S FOUNDATION FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & RESEARCH
(Deemed to be University), VADLAMUDI GUNTUR – 522 213, ANDHRA PRADESH,
INDIA**

<Month, Year>

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<Name of the School – TNR – 12 Font size – All caps – Bold>

<Name of the Department – TNR – 12 Font size – All caps – Bold>

VIGNAN'S FOUNDATION FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & RESEARCH

(Deemed to be University), VADLAMUDI

GUNTUR – 522 213, ANDHRA PRADESH, INDIA

<Month, Year>

1. INTRODUCTION

<sample text is given here. Use Times new Roman Font with 12 size>.

In general, any component failure starts at the surface due to either an isolated manufacturing discontinuity or gradual deterioration of the surface quality. One of the important parameters contributing to the surface integrity of components is the surface roughness. Surface roughness is an important indicator of product quality in addition to dimension and form. In manufacturing, surface finish must be maintained very much within the designer's specifications as it has direct influence on many of the fundamental requirements such as the load bearing strength of the assemblies, fatigue strength, coating/plating of surfaces etc. Surface roughness is a vital indication of the quality of machined work pieces and the manufacturing process as well (Al-Kindi et al, 1992).

But there are certain disadvantages of this contact mechanical stylus instrument which include the possibility of surface/stylus damage due to wrong handling and longer inspection time etc. (Kiran et al, 1998, Gupta et al, 2001).

A computer is then used to process and analyze the images based on the intended application, often by trying to recognize a pattern or by making a measurement

2. MOTIVATION

<sample text is given here. Use Times new Roman Font with 12 size>.

Over the years, the non-contact optical methods have attracted researchers' attention for the assessment of surface roughness. Most of the methods are based on statistical analysis of grey-level images in the spatial domain.

3. OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF THE PRESENT WORK

The objectives of the present work are

1. <Objectives are mentioned here. Use TNR Font with 12 size, all objectives numbered>.
2. Estimation of optical surface roughness parameters of inclined components using images.
3. Prediction of surface roughness of inclined component using ANN, ANFIS and GMDH.
4. Use of shadow detection and removal algorithm on images of inclined components.
5. Analysis of effect of shadow on smooth and rough surfaces with particular reference to inclined components.





4. DESCRIPTION OF THE RESEARCH WORK

4.1. <Sub heading – TNR – 12 font size – capitalize each word - bold>

<sample text is given here. Use Times new Roman Font with 12 size>.

A rough surface in general is expected to have more shadows in the image. It causes the light to scatter in all directions. While a perfectly smooth surface is likely to have more brightness and less shadow, reflect light more uniformly in the same direction confining to a small narrow region. Shadows occur either at places where the path from the light source is blocked or on the surfaces which are oriented away from the light source.

4.1.1 <SUB-SUB HEADING – TNR – 12 FONT SIZE – SENTENCE CASE - BOLD>

<sample text is given here. Use Times new Roman Font with 12 size>.

The schematic diagram of the machine vision system is shown in fig. 2. The basic experimental set-up consists of a vision system (CCD camera: Pulnix -TM6, 768 x 565 pixels) and an appropriate lighting arrangement. Illumination of the specimens was accomplished using a diffused white light source, which is kept at an angle of approximately 45° incidence with respect to the specimen surface as shown in fig. 2

4.1.2 <SUB-SUB HEADING – TNR – 12 FONT SIZE – SENTENCE CASE - BOLD>

<sample text is given here. Use Times new Roman Font with 12 size>.

The most important requirement in roughness assessment using machine vision is to extract the roughness parameters of surfaces using images. In this work, surface roughness parameters are extracted based on statistical parameters using histogram, spatial frequency domain, grey level co-occurrence matrix etc.

4.1.2.1.<SUB-SUB-SUB HEADING – TNR – 12 FONT SIZE – SENTENCE CASE - BOLD>

<sample text is given here. Use Times new Roman Font with 12 size>.

The intensity distribution of the pixels (grey level histogram) of images is plotted. Based on the statistical parameters associated with each histogram, calculations were made to determine the roughness parameters were estimated.

4.1.3. <SUB-SUB HEADING – TNR – 12 FONT SIZE – SENTENCE CASE - BOLD>

<sample text is given here. Use Times new Roman Font with 12 size>.

With nine test samples and twelve varying angles of inclinations as indicated, 117 combinations are possible and all of them have been used for estimation. Roughness parameters are then calculated for all the 9 test specimens at different angles of inclination (0°-12°). The input and output data are separated into training and testing sets. Out of 117 images 94 are used for training and remaining 23 are used for testing. The selection of testing and training data is based on the work done and the results obtained by earlier researchers.

4.2. <SUB HEADING – TNR – 12 FONT SIZE – CAPITALIZE EACH WORD - BOLD>

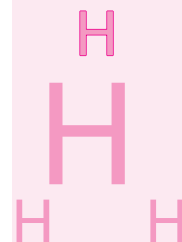
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Traditional pre-processing algorithms do not specifically consider shadows present in an image. But this is particularly crucial for the roughness estimation of the specimens as they are likely to have an inclination with the horizontal during imaging. Therefore, it is essential to possibly remove shadows present, if any, due to such inadvertent inclinations or due to high/low illumination. Several algorithms for shadow detection and removal exist in the literature (Finlayson et al, 2002 and Levin et al, 2005). While removing the shadow from an image, it is important to consider the application for which the pre-processing is carried out. In this case, the requirement is to extract meaningful information from an image representing the surface texture. It is necessary to obtain the resulting image, which is shadow free and contains the details present in the original image without any loss of information

5. CONCLUSIONS

<sample text is given here. Use Times new Roman Font with 12 size>.

In general, it has been observed that imaging of surfaces to evaluate the surface finish of components





have problems such as illumination, inclination of the components etc.

Therefore, it is understood that the proposed methodology in this work can be applied for evaluation of surface roughness using machine vision approach in a much-improved fashion.

REFERENCES

<All references should be alphabetically arranged. A few examples of formats of references are given below and the student should be consistent in following the style>

JOURNALS

Exner, H.E. (1979). Physical and Chemical Nature of Cemented Carbides, *International Metals Review*, 24, 149-173.

Spriggs, G. E. (1970). The Importance of Atmosphere Control in Hard Metal Production, *Powder Metallurgy*, 13 (26), 369-393.

Conference Proceedings

Fischmeister, H. F. (1982). Development and Present Status of the Science and Technology of Hard Materials, *Science of Hard Materials*, R.K. Viswanadham, D.J. Rowcliffe, and J. Gurland (eds.), Plenum Press, New York, NY, USA, 1-45.

Baek, W. H, Hong, M. H, Lee, S and Chung, D T. (1995). A Study on the Shear Localization Behavior of Tungsten Heavy Alloy, *Tungsten and Refractory Metals*, A. Bose and R.J. Dowding (eds.), Metal Powder Industries Federation, Princeton, NJ, USA, 463-471.

BOOKS

German R. M. (1994). *Powder Injection Molding*, Metal Powder Industries Federation, Princeton, NJ, USA, 1990.

Thesis

Johnson, J. L. (1994). *Densification, Microstructural Evolution, and Thermal Properties of Liquid Phase Sintered Composites*, Ph.D. Thesis, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA, USA.

Technical Reports

Zukas, E.G, Rogers, P. S. Z and Rogers, R. G. (1992). *Experimental Evidence for Spheroid Growth Mechanisms in the Liquid Phase Sintered Tungsten Based Composites*.

Patents

Oenning, V and Clark, I. S. R. (1991). Tungsten skeleton structure fabrication method, U. S. Patent No. 4988386.

JOURNALS IN NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Weihong, L and Xiuren, T. (1988). Tungsten Matrix in Cu-W Contact Materials by Impregnation Process, *Powder Metallurgy Technology*, 6 (8), 1-4. (in Chinese)



PROPOSED CONTENTS OF THE THESIS

<The chapter headings with sub/sub-sub headings to be mentioned here. A sample is provided>

- 1.2 Surface roughness evaluation
- 1.3 Machine vision approach
- 1.4 Objectives and scope of the present work
- 1.5 Organization of the thesis
- CHAPTER 2 Literature review
 - 2.1. Introduction
 - 2.2. Brief literature review
 - 2.3. Problem identified from literature review
- CHAPTER 3 Surface roughness evaluation of inclined components
 - 3.1. Introduction
 - 3.2. Experimental procedure
 - 3.3. Estimation of surface roughness parameters
 - 3.4. GMDH
 - 3.5. ANN
 - 3.6. ANFIS
 - 3.7. Conclusions
- CHAPTER 4 Roughness estimation using improved quality images
 - 4.1. Introduction
 - 4.2. Illustration of formation of shadow
 - 4.3. Shadow detection and removal
 - 4.4. Influence of shadow on smooth and rough surface
 - 4.5. Results and discussion
 - 4.6. Conclusions
- CHAPTER 5 Analysis of components inclined on both sides
 - 5.1. Introduction
 - 5.2. Experimental Procedure
 - 5.3. Estimation of Surface Roughness Parameters
 - 5.4. Edge enhancement
 - 5.5. Result and discussion
 - 5.6. Summary and conclusions
- CHAPTER 7 Conclusions and scope for future work

REFERENCES
BIBLIOGRAPHY

Ph.D.
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PUBLICATIONS BASED ON THIS RESEARCH WORK

Refereed International Journal:

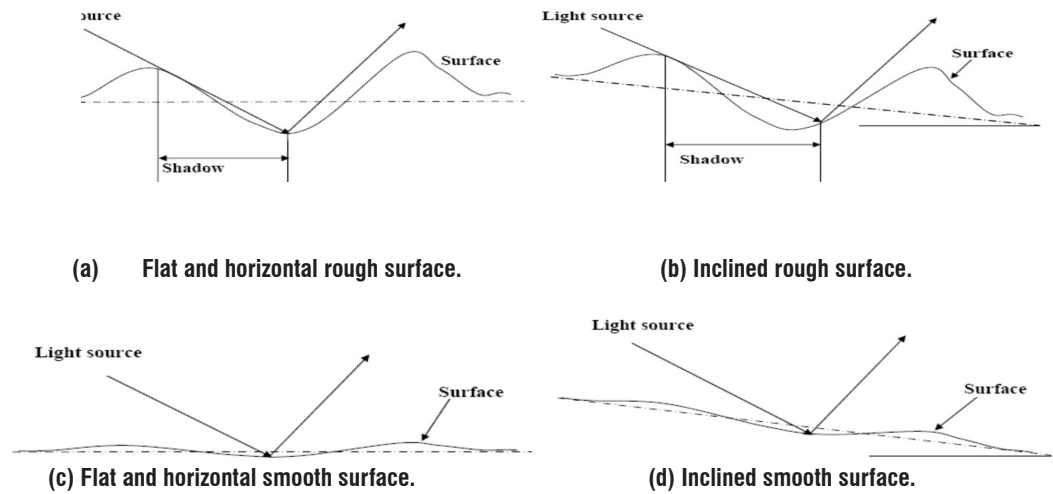
<Publications came out of the thesis (only the published and accepted papers) to be mentioned here. Example is shown below>

- ✓ Nevin, A. (1990). The changing of teacher education special education. Teacher Education and Special Education: The Journal of the Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children, 13(3-4), 147-148.

International Conference:

- ✓ Priya, P and Ramamoorthy, B. (2006). Surface Roughness Analysis of Inclined Components Using Machine Vision, International Conference on Global Manufacturing and Innovation (GMI-2006), CIT Coimbatore, INDIA.
- ✓ Priya, P and Ramamoorthy, B. (2006), Roughness Estimation of Inclined Surfaces Using Artificial Intelligence, 18th IMEKO World Congress, Metrology for Sustainable Development, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
- ✓ Priya, P and Ramamoorthy, B. (2006), Surface Roughness Assessment of Inclined Components Using Machine Vision and Adaptive Neuro Fuzzy Inference System, 22nd AIMTDR Conference, IIT Roorkee, INDIA, pp 163-168.

<All figures and tables to be kept after the text. Figures to be named below and tables above.>



(a) Flat and horizontal rough surface.

(b) Inclined rough surface.

(c) Flat and horizontal smooth surface.

(d) Inclined smooth surface.

Fig. 1 Illustration of creation of shadow on rough and smooth surfaces.

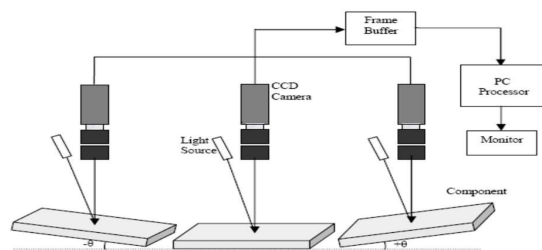


Fig. 2 Schematic diagram of the machine vision system.

(a) 10° (b) 8° (c) 4° (d) flat surface

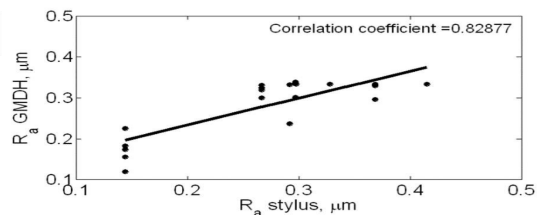
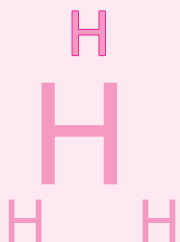


Fig. 3 Relationship between calculated Ra vision values using GMDH and stylus Ra values



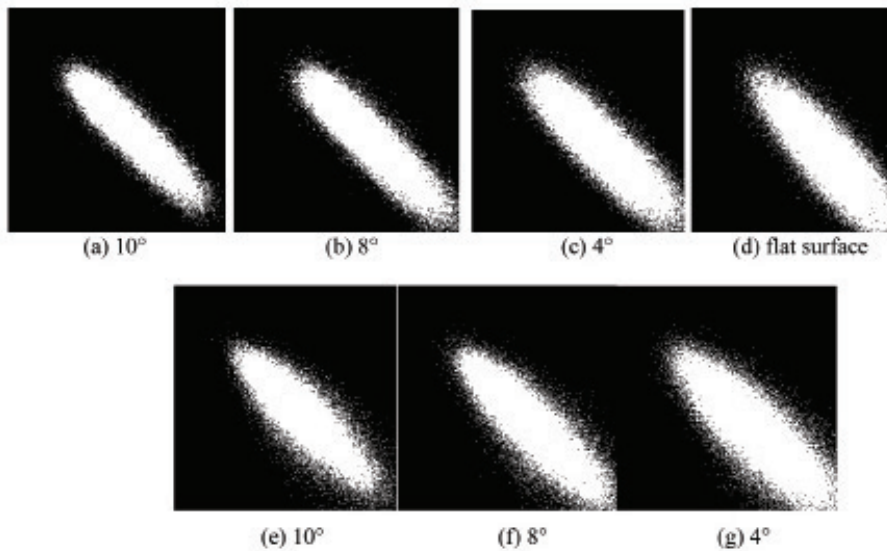
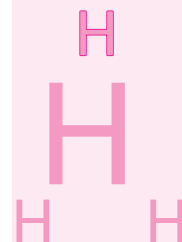


Fig. 4 2D plots of GLCM (a), (b), (c), (d) before shadow removal and (e), (f), (g) after shadow removal at varying inclination

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

- a. Letters type - Times Roman, Font size 12, single spacing
- b. Number of pages 14 to maximum of 20.
- c. The first page to be precisely followed as shown.
- d. Literature survey – must contain points related to the thesis and suitably added with comments.
- e. Reference of the literature has to shown in the text as given – to be followed as a standard.
- f. References in the end are to be given in the alphabetical order. All the references MUST be referred in the text.
- g. All the Equations, figures, graphs, charts and tables are to be numbered, Fig 1, Fig 2... Table 1, Table 2, ... and referred in the text.
- h. All the figures, graphs, charts and tables titles must be self-explanatory, Figure titles should appear at the bottom and the Table titles at the top.
- i. At the time of Synopsis meeting, rough draft of the thesis must be presented to the committee. The thesis MUST be submitted within one month from the date of approval of the synopsis.
- j. It is suggested that the Tables, figures etc are to be given in the end to adjust and minimize the space and number of pages.
- k. Guide MUST present the list of examiners (5 Indian and 5 foreign examiners) to the committee for approval.
- l. Synopsis report in the prescribed format to be stapled and taped with green color for submission.





Ph.D

**APPLICATION FORM FOR SUBMISSION OF PH.D. THESIS
FOR EXAMINATION**

Name of the Candidate:

Reg No.

Branch:

Title of the Thesis:

Address of the candidate:

Signature of the candidate:

E mail:

Phone No.

The student has

Signature of Co-guide & address

E mail:

Phone No

Please affix your
photograph duly
attested by the
HOD

Signature of the Guide & address

E mail:

Phone No.

Enclosures:

1. Synopsis viva minutes and Action Taken Report.
2. Copies of marks memos.
3. Thesis copies – 2 nos.
4. Synopsis copies – 2 nos.
5. Panel in sealed cover.
6. Thesis Evaluation fee receipt.
7. Approved No dues form

Receipt to be given to candidate by D.E.O

Received the application along with fee challan from student bearing Regd. No. _____ on

Fee paid :

Date :

Challana No:

Jr. Asst. Signature (R&D Section):



Guidelines for preparation of Thesis

Annexure-VII

<Title of the thesis – all caps - Times New Roman 15 font size>

A THESIS

submitted by

<Name of the student – Times New Roman – 15 font size>

for the award of the degree

of

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Under the guidance of

<Name of the Guide – Times New Roman – 15 font size>

A THESIS

to be submitted by

<Name of the student – TNR – 12 font size -Bold >

for the award of the degree of

Doctor of Philosophy



VIGNAN'S

FOUNDATION FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & RESEARCH

(Deemed to be University) - Estd. u/s 3 of UGC Act 1956

<Name of the School – TNR – 12 Font size – All caps – Bold>

<Name of the Department – All Caps – Times New Roman – 12 Font size>

VIGNAN'S FOUNDATION FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH (Deemed to be

University), VADLAMUDI

GUNTUR – 522 213 ANDHRA PRADESH, INDIA

<Month Year – Times New Roam – 15 Font Size>

Ph.D.
ANNEXURE
2025

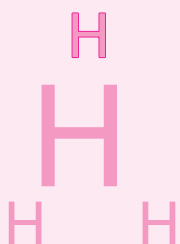
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Ph.D.
ANNEXURE
2025



**DEDICATED
TO
<CANDIDATE'S CHOICE!>**



DECLARATION

Ph.D.
ANNEXURE
2025



I certify that

- a. The work contained in the thesis is original and has been done by myself under the general supervision of my supervisor.
- b. I have followed the guidelines provided by the Institute in writing the thesis.
- c. I have conformed to the norms and guidelines given in the Ethical Code of Conduct of the Institute.
- d. Whenever I have used materials (data, theoretical analysis, and text) from other sources, I have given due credit to them by citing them in the text of the thesis and giving their details in the references.
- e. Whenever I have quoted written materials from other sources, I have put them under quotation marks and given due credit to the sources by citing them and giving required details in the references.
- f. The thesis has been subjected to plagiarism check using a professional software and found to be within the limits specified by the University.
- g. The work has not been submitted to any other Institute for any degree or diploma.

(<Name of the scholar>)

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2025



CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the thesis entitled <Title of the thesis – Times New Roman – 12 Font size – all caps> submitted by <Name of the students - Times New Roman – 12 Font size – all caps> to the Vignan's Foundation for Science, Technology and Research (Deemed to be University), Vadlamudi. Guntur for the award of the degree of Doctor of Philosophy is a bonafide record of the research work done by him under my supervision. The contents of this thesis, in full or in parts, have not been submitted to any other Institute or University for the award of any degree or diploma.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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2025



I would like to acknowledge my deep sense of gratitude to my supervisor _____
Department of _____, Vignan's Foundation for Science, Technology and Research
(Deemed to be University), Vadlamudi, Guntur, for his constant valuable guidance and encouragement.
He gladly accepted all the pains in going through my work again and again and gave me opportunity
to learn essential research skills. This thesis would not have been possible without his insightful and
critical suggestions, his active participation in constructing right models and a very supportive attitude.
I will always remain grateful to him for giving direction to my life.

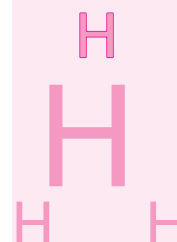
I express my sincere thanks to _____, Vice Chancellor, _____, Head of the
Department of _____ for providing the necessary facilities for carrying out the research work.
I would like to thank the doctoral committee panel, _____, _____,
_____ for providing me with their suggestions.

I would like to express my heartiest thanks to my colleague _____ for valuable comments,
suggestions and discussions. I am grateful to _____ for his uncountable help
during the hardware implementation in cadence Lab despite of his numerous duties and busy schedule.

I would like to acknowledge the support of my parents and my sisters for their continuing support and
encouragement.

<Name of the candidate>

(This is just a sample only. The candidate is free to include his acknowledgement)





ABSTRACT

<TITLE OF THE THESIS – TIMES NEW ROMAN – 14 FONT SIZE – ALL CAPS>

<Brief description of the work – Times New Roman – 12 Font Size> Not to be more than 1.5 pages. A sample is given below:

Surface topography of cylinder liner surface plays a major role in determining friction, wear, lubrication and sealing tightness of the piston assembly which in turn affects the running performance, emissions and longevity of the automotive engines. The cylinder liner surfaces can be considered as engineered surfaces as the 'run-in' engine surface behaviour is generated during the manufacturing stage itself using a three-stage honing process. Plateau honing process is used to generate different layers of surface geometric structure with deep valleys which are meant for oil retention and relatively smooth surface geometry on the top that serves as the bearing contact for the piston ring sliding. The cross hatched honing angle generated on the surface as a consequence of the honing process mechanics is also a tribologically significant parameter. The resultant surfaces are currently characterized using multiple surface topographical parameters such as Abbott-Firestone curve parameters namely reduced peak height (Rpk), core roughness depth (Rk), reduced valley depth (Rvk), material ratio at the peak zone (Mr1) and material ratio at the valley zone (Mr2) and honing angle.

KEYWORDS: <Times New Roman – 12 Font Size – minimum 4 key words>



PROPOSED CONTENTS OF THE THESIS

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	3.3.2 <Sub-sub Heading – TNR – 12 Font Size – Sentence case>	29
	3.3.3 <Sub-sub Heading – TNR – 12 Font Size – Sentence case>	31
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CHAPTER X: <HEADING – TNR – 12 FONT SIZE – ALL CAPS>		
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X.2.2	<Sub Heading – TNR – 12 Font Size – Capitalize each word>	110
X.3	<Sub Heading – TNR – 12 Font Size – Capitalize each word>	115
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LIST OF SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS		
Table No	Title	
°	Degree	
ω	Angular Velocity, rad/s	
S	Second	
σ	Horizontal Stress, N/m ²	
CC	Current Conveyor	
CC-CDBA	Current controlled Current Differencing Buffered Amplifier	
CCCDTA	Current controlled Current Differencing Transconductance Amplifier	
CCII	Second-Generation Current Conveyor	
CDBA	Current Differencing Buffered Amplifier	
CDTA	Current Differencing Transconductance Amplifier	



CHAPTER I

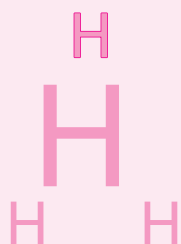
INTRODUCTION

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<text matter in times new roman font – 12 size>
- 1.1.1 <Sub-sub heading – Times New Roman – 12 Font Size – Sentence case-bold>
<text matter in times new roman font – 12 size>
- 1.2 <Sub heading – Times New Roman – 12 Font Size – each word capitalized -bold>
<text matter in times new roman font – 12 size>
- 1.X Thesis Objectives
<text matter in times new roman font – 12 size>
- 1.XX Organization of Thesis
<text matter in times new roman font – 12 size>

CHAPTER II

<NAME OF THE CHAPTER – TNR-16 FONT SIZE-ALL CAPS-BOLD>

- 1.3 <Sub heading – Times New Roman – 12 Font Size – each word capitalized -bold>
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- 1.3.1 <Sub-sub heading – Times New Roman – 12 Font Size – Sentence case-bold>
<text matter in times new roman font – 12 size>
- 1.4 <Sub heading – Times New Roman – 14 Font Size – each word capitalized -bold>
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CONCLUSIONS AND SCOPE FOR FUTURE WORK

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REFERENCES

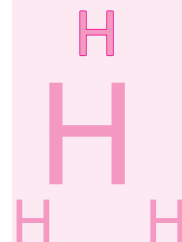
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All references need to be mentioned in the text.>

- [1] Nevin, A. (1990). The changing of teacher education special education. *Teacher Education and Special Education: The Journal of the Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children*, 13(3-4), 147-148.
- [2] Priya, P and Ramamoorthy, B. (2006), Roughness Estimation of Inclined Surfaces Using Artificial Intelligence, 18th IMEKO World Congress, Metrology for Sustainable Development, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
- [3] Priya, P and Ramamoorthy, B. (2006), Surface Roughness Assessment of Inclined Components Using Machine Vision and Adaptive Neuro Fuzzy Inference System, 22nd AIMTDR Conference, IIT Roorkee, INDIA, pp 163-168.
- [4] Priya, P and Ramamoorthy, B. (2006). Surface Roughness Analysis of Inclined Components Using Machine Vision, International Conference on Global Manufacturing and Innovation (GMI-2006), CIT Coimbatore, INDIA.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

<All bibliography to be formatted as shown below examples.
They need not be mentioned in the text. It should be arranged alphabetically.>

- Baek**, W.H., Hong, M. H., Lee, S and Chung, D. T. (1995). A Study on the Shear Localization Behavior of Tungsten Heavy Alloy, Tungsten and Refractory Metals, A. Bose and R.J. Dowding (eds.), Metal Powder Industries Federation, Princeton, NJ, USA, 463-471.
- German**, R. M. (1994). Powder Injection Moulding, Metal Powder Industries Federation, Princeton, NJ, USA, 1990.
- Spriggs**, G. E. (1970). The Importance of Atmosphere Control in Hard Metal Production, *Powder Metallurgy*, 13 (26), 369-393.
- Zukas**, E. G., Rogers, P. G. Z and Rogers, R. S. (1972). Experimental Evidence for Spheroid Growth Mechanisms in the Liquid Phase Sintered Tungsten Based Composites.





APPENDIX A

<Table/data in TNR Font – 12 size>

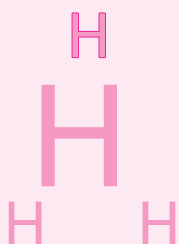
SPECIFICATIONS OF TRACTOR AND IMPLEMENTS

A1. Major specifications of the selected tractor

Parameter	Specification
Model	E 3.342, Water cooled
Operation cycle	Three cylinder, 4 stroke
Rated power, hp	47 (35 kW)
Speed at rated power, rpm	2200
Maximum torque at engine, kg-m	18 at 1400-1600 rpm
Bore and stroke, mm	110 x 120
Displacement, cc	3420
Steering type	Bevel pinion with sector gears
No of forward speeds	Ten
No of reverse speeds	Two
Mass of tractor without ballast, kg	1890
Seat	Adjustable, parallelogram suspension

A2. Major specifications of the selected implements

Parameter	Specification
MB Plough	
Type of Implement	Mounted type
No. of plough bottom	2
Width of cut, mm	400
Depth of operation, mm	180
Weight of implement, kg	215
Disk harrow	
Type of Implement	Mounted type
No. of gang	02
No. of disk per gang	07
Width of cut, mm	240
Diameter of disc, mm	510
Depth of operation, mm	90
Weight of implement, kg	285
Rotavator	
Type of Implement	Mounted type
No. of Tynes	30
Type of rotary Blade	L shape
Width of cut, m	1.3
Weight of implement, kg	260



PUBLICATIONS BASED ON THIS RESEARCH WORK

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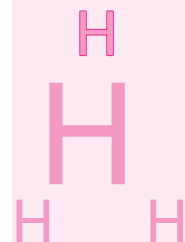
Refereed International Journal:

- ✓ Priya, P and Ramamoorthy, B. (2007). The Influence of Component Inclination on Surface Finish Evaluation Using Digital Image Processing, International Journal of Machine Tools and Manufacture, 47, 570-579.

International Conference:

- ✓ Priya, P and Ramamoorthy, B. (2006), Surface Roughness Analysis of Inclined Components Using Machine Vision, International Conference on Global Manufacturing and Innovation (GMI-2006), CIT Coimbatore, INDIA.
- ✓ Priya, P and Ramamoorthy, B. (2006), Roughness Estimation of Inclined Surfaces Using Artificial Intelligence, 18th IMEKO World Congress, Metrology for Sustainable Development, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

(Published / accepted papers only should be mentioned here)





ADJUDICATOR'S CHECK SHEET – Ph.D

(Sign on every page of the report)

Name of the candidate :
 Department :
 Register No :
 Title of the thesis :

(Please tick wherever appropriate)

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| 1. Recommended in present form | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Recommend in edited form (points for editing should be suggested) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Recommend with minor corrections with addendum after the approval of DC | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Recommend with major corrections and re-submission after the approval of DC | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Recommended with major corrections and advised re-submission for the re-adjudication by the concern examiner. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Fresh Submission in the time frame as adjudicated by the examiners and as recommended by the DC. | <input type="checkbox"/> |

I grade the thesis as:

HIGHLY COMMENDED COMMENDED

Signature with date :

Name and address of the examiner :

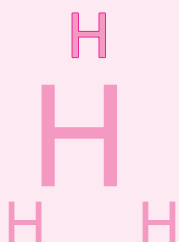
Report on the thesis (attach additional sheet, if necessary) Name

of the candidate :

Title of the thesis :

Date of receipt of the thesis :

Detailed report :



ADJUDICATOR'S CHECK SHEET – Ph.D

Kindly furnish the following details correctly, for in time payment of remuneration and submit along with the evaluation report\

Ph.D.
ANNEXURE
2025



Account holders Name	:
Address	:
Account Number	:
Bank Name	:
Branch	:
Bank Locality	:
Bank Area	:
Swift code	:
City Name	:
State Name	:
Country Name	:
IFSC Code	:
Zip Code	:
Country	:
IBAN	:
Any other relevant details\	:
Signature of Examiner	:
Date	:
Name & Address of Examiner	:

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OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

APPLICATION FOR CHANGE OF SUPERVISOR

1. Name of the Research Scholar : _____
2. Address : _____
3. Reg No. : _____
4. Date of admission into Research Program : _____
5. (a) Name of the Research Program : Ph.D./M. Phil/ M.S (tick relevant one)
- (b) Faculty in which Candidate Registered :
6. Name of the existing Supervisor with designation & address :

7. Name of the new Supervisor with designation & address:

8. Brief of progress of Research work : Attach separate Sheet, to be signed by candidate and Supervisor(s)
9. Bio-data of the New Supervisor : Enclosed / Not enclosed
10. Reasons for Change of Supervisor :

I hereby accept to work under the new Supervisor and I understand that any further request for change of supervisor will not be permitted by the University.

The following enclosures are to be submitted along with this application in addition to the above.

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| a) Admission letter | b) Fee Receipts |
| c) Pre-Ph. D. Mark Memo | d) Resume of Proposed to be Supervisor and (his/ her) Publications. |

Signature of the Research Scholar

I have No objection for change of Supervisor

Signature of existing Supervisor
with seal

I accept to act as Supervisor

Signature of New Supervisor
with seal

Approved by

Head of the Department

School Dean

Dean (R&D)



OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

APPLICATION FOR CHANGE/ ADDITION OF CO-SUPERVISOR

**Ph.D.
ANNEXURE
2025**

g

1. Name of the Research Scholar : _____
2. Address : _____
3. Reg No. : _____
4. Date of admission into Research Program : _____
5. (a) Name of the Research Program : Ph.D./M. Phil/ M.S (tick relevant one)
- (b) Faculty in which Candidate Registered :
6. Name of the existing Co-Supervisor with designation & address :

7. Name of the new Co-Supervisor with designation & address:

8. Brief of progress of Research work : Attach separate Sheet, to be signed by candidate and Supervisor(s)
9. Bio-data of the New Supervisor : Enclosed / Not enclosed
10. Reasons for Change of Supervisor :

I hereby accept to work under the new Supervisor and I understand that any further request for change of supervisor will not be permitted by the University.

The following enclosures are to be submitted along with this application in addition to the above.

- a) Admission letter
- b) Fee Receipts
- c) Pre-Ph. D. Mark Memo
- d) Resume of Proposed to be Supervisor and (his/ her) Publications.

Signature of the Research Scholar

**I have No objection for change
of Co-Supervisor**

I accept to act as Co-Supervisor

Signature of existing Co-Supervisor
with seal

Signature of New Co-Supervisor
with seal

Approved by

Head of the Department

School Dean

Dean (R&D)

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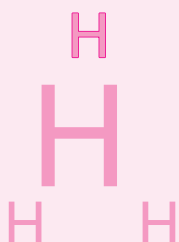
DECLARATION BY THE RESEARCH SUPERVISOR

I hereby declare to the best of my knowledge and belief that the total number of candidates registered for Ph.D., research programme under my guidance does not exceed the maximum number as stipulated in the Ph.D., Regulations of Vignan's Foundation for science, Technology and Research (Deemed to be University). I further furnish the following list of candidates pursuing the research programme under my guidance and declare that they have not submitted their dissertations for the award of Ph. D., as on date.

S.No.	Registration No	Name of the Candidate	Full-time/ Part-time	From which Institute, University, Place / Industry
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
		Total		

Date:

Signature of the Research Supervisor



Annexure-X1-NPTEL-R25 PhD- Course Registration

**NPTEL REGISTRATION FORM**

BRANCH	
Date of meeting	

1. Name of the Student :
2. Registration Number :
3. Mode of registration (Internal (ERA/TRACRA/CAP/HTRA/PT)/External):
4. Month & Year of Joining :
5. Name of the Supervisor :
6. Proposed Research Area :
7. Details of the NPTEL course work

S. No.	Type of Course	Course Code	Course Name	No.of weeks	L-T-P=C
1	Foundation Course/(s)				
2	Area Specific Breadth Course/(s)				
3	Area Specific Depth Course/(s)				
Total Credits					

Signature of the Scholar

Signature of BoR Member

Signature of the Supervisor

Signature of SPoC- NPTEL
Coordinator- Central LevelPh.D.
ANNEXURE
2025

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Annexure-X1A - NPTEL-R25 PhD- Course Registration

VIGNAN'S FOUNDATION FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH
DEPARTMENT OF XXXXXXXXXXXX
R25 PRE PH.D. COURSE WORK ASSESSMENT- NPTEL COURSES

S.No.	Regd. No	Name of the Student	Subject Code	Subject Name	Whether Minimum Attendance Criteria met ? (Yes / No)	"Module- 1 (60M)"	"Module- 2 (60M)"	"FA Marks (60M)"	"Intracation / Written exam (20M)"	"Capstone Project/ Term Paper/ Survey work (20M)"	SA Marks (40M)	"Total Marks (100 M)"	Thres hold	GPA	Additio nal Credits for NPTEL	Total Credits	Pass / Fail
1	25x xx		NOC 24GE41	Research Methodology													
			NOC 24PH26	XXX XX													
			NOC 24MM05	XXX XX													

Signature of the Scholar

Signature of BoR Member

Signature of the HoD, ECE

Signature of Dean, SEECE

Annexure-X1A1 - NPTEL-R25 PhD- Course Registration

Ph.D.
ANNEXURE
2025



VIGNAN'S FOUNDATION FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH
DEPARTMENT OF XXXXXXXXXXXX
R25 PRE PH.D. COURSE WORK ASSESSMENT- REGULAR COURSES

S.No.	Regulation	Regd. No	Name of the Student	Subject Code	Subject Name	Whether Minimum Attendance Criteria met? (Yes / No)	"Module- 1 (60M)"	"Module- 2 (60M)"	FA Marks (60M)	Intraction / Writtene (20M)	Capst one Project/ Term Paper/ Survey work (20M)	SA Marks (40M)	Total Marks (100M)	Thes hold	GPA	Pass / Fail
1	R25	25xx xx				Yes										
2						Yes										
3			Fundamental of Semiconductor Devices			Dr. Axxxxxx										
4			Fundamental of Semiconductor Devices			Dr. Axxxxxx										

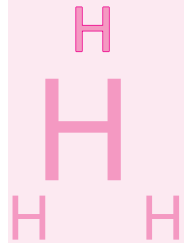
Note : Subject Handled by VFSTR Faculty

Signature of the Scholar
Member

Signature of BoR

Signature of the HoD, ECE

Signature of Dean, SEECE





NPTEL AND ADDITIONAL ONE CREDIT COURSE COMPLETION SUBMISSION FORM

BRANCH	
Date of meeting	

1. Name of the Student :
2. Registration Number :
3. Mode of registration (Internal (ERA/TRA/CRA/CAP/HTRA/PT)/External):
4. Month & Year of Joining :
5. Name of the Supervisor :
6. Details of the NPTEL course work

Regular Four Credit Course

S. No.	Type of Course	No.of Credit	Name of the Course	No.of weeks	Regular Credit Total Marks in (X) %
1	Foundation Course (or) Area Specific Breadth Course (or) Area Specific Depth Course	4		3	

Additional one Credit

S. No.	Type of Course	No.of Credit	No.of assignments / project work / research paper / any other research-related work and Marks (100)	Additional one Credit Total Marks in (Y) %
1		1		

Final GPA calculation:

S. No.	Name of the Course	No.of Credit	Regular three Credit Total Marks in (X) %	Additional one Credit Total Marks in (Y) %	Total Marks in % (3 × X+ 1× Y)/4	Total GPA
1		4				





Signature of the Scholar

Signature of BoR Member

Signature of the Supervisor

Signature of HoD

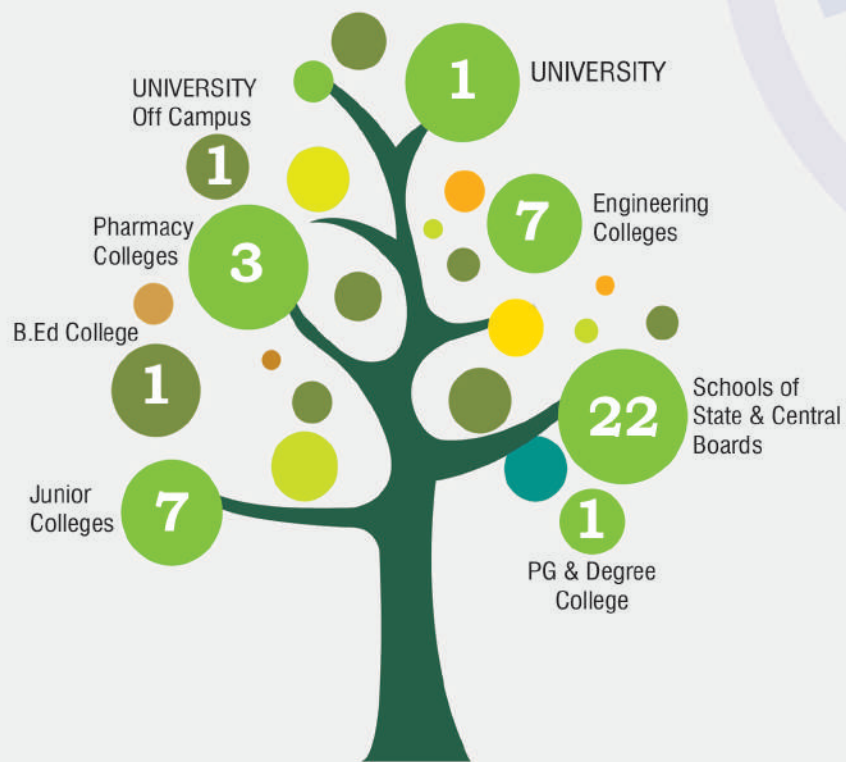
Signature of School-Dean

**Signature of SPoC- NPTEL
Coordinator- Central Level**

Enclosed:

- 1. NPTEL Registration Form (Annexure I)**
- 2. NPTEL Certificate Copy**





VIGNAN'S

FOUNDATION FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & RESEARCH

(Deemed to be University) - Estd. u/s 3 of UGC Act 1956