



PONDICHERRY UNIVERSITY
(A Central University established under an Act of Parliament 1985 and
accredited "A" Grade by the National Assessment and Accreditation
Council)

Prof. S. BALAKRISHNAN, PhD
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PU/Dir (Res) /2013/ 1127

21th January 2013

CIRCULAR

To

The Deans and HODs of the following Schools

1. School of Management
Management Studies, Commerce, Economics, Tourism Studies, Banking
Technology, International Business
2. School of Humanities
English, French, Hindi, Samskrit, Philosophy
3. School of Social Sciences & International Studies
Anthropology, Sociology, History, Politics & International Studies
4. Centre for Women Studies

A letter was received from the Chairman, University Grants Commission, New Delhi dated 18th January, 2013 requesting the University to assess its strength and to identify 4-5 key areas of Research and Innovation.

The areas identified, preferably, need to focus on creation of new knowledge and its application which becomes asset to the society. Hence, multidisciplinary approach involving researchers from different Departments and Schools may be necessary.

In this regard, a meeting is called to discuss and finalize the key areas of Research and Innovation which we would like to pursue in an intensive manner during the current plan period. You may kindly discuss this with your colleagues and come up with suggestions on formulation of key areas of Research and Innovation.

The meeting is scheduled on 25th February, 2013 at 11.30 am in the EC hall and will be chaired by the Vice Chancellor.

With best regards,

Yours truly,

(S. Balakrishnan)

Encl.: UGC letter

विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग

बहादुर, शाह ज़फर मार्ग, नई दिल्ली-110 002

UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION

BAHADUR SHAH ZAFAR MARG,

NEW DELHI-110 002

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प्रो. वेद प्रकाश

उपाध्यक्ष

Prof. Ved Prakash

Vice-Chairman

&

Chairman (Actg.)

17th January, 2013

18 JAN 2013

PONDICHERY UNIVERSITY	
Vice-Chancellor	
Date of receipt	12/2/13
Entry No.	01

D.O.No.F.1-1/2013 (CM)

Dear Vice-Chancellor,

As you are aware, higher education in the country has been greatly influenced by a number of national and international developments. Globalization is one such major influencing factors of the present era, which has given rise to both challenges and opportunities. It has also increased manifold the risk of marginalization especially for those who are not keeping pace with the advancements that are taking place in the sector.

Seen in this context, 'Research and Innovation' are the two critical areas which stand at the centre-stage and thus require urgent attention of the university system. Realizing the importance of these two key areas, the Government of India has aptly declared 2010-2020 as the 'Decade of Innovation'. It has stressed the need to enunciate a policy to synergize between research and innovation. The Innovation required today calls us not only to create new knowledge but also to make unique application of that knowledge culminating into meaningful assets for the society. It is relevant to quote from the National Innovation Council the scope and the content of innovation. "*Innovation today is increasingly going beyond the confines of formal R&D to redefine everything. Today innovation can mean new and unique applications of old technologies, using design to develop new products and services, new processes and structures to improve performance in diverse areas, organizational creativity.....Innovation is being seen as a means of creating sustainable and cost effective solutions for the people at the bottom of the pyramid, and is being viewed as an important strategy for inclusive growth in developing economies*".

The UGC, for long, has recognized the importance of promoting 'Research and Innovation' in our university system. Accordingly, it has launched many schemes to support institutions of higher learning in these areas. It is also formulating a scheme to support institutions being envisioned as Innovation Universities.

I am writing this letter to request you to assess the strength of your university and let us know 4-5 key areas wherein you would like to pursue research and innovation in an intensive manner during the current Plan period. This exercise is being undertaken by the UGC with a view to mapping the real potential of our universities in carrying forward this 'agenda and to support them to achieve excellence of global standards in some chosen knowledge domains.

Looking forward to receiving an early response.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Ved Prakash)

The Vice-Chancellor
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