Let NO- CUPB/MC/24/10AC/34

INTERNAL QUALITY ASSURANCE CELL शैक्षणिक एवं अनुसंधान लेखापरीक्षा रिपोर्ट-2024 Academic and Research Audit Report-2024

The Academic and Research Audit of 31 departments was conducted from **9th April 2024 to 22nd April 2024** as per the attached schedule. The departments were grouped as per the availability of the external expert and for each group following members were in the Committee:

- 1. Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Chairperson
- 2. External Experts
- 3. Dean In-charge Academics
- 4. Director, R & D Cell
- 5. Dean of the Concerned School
- 6. Member, IQAC
- 7. Director IQAC Convener

The academic and research audit started on 09 April, 2024 with a welcome address by Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor. In his address he shared that university is performing very well in research further he emphasized that the university believes in sharing of resources for which two multi-institutional MoU: Consortium MoU with HEIs of Bathinda region and Consortium MoU with Central Universities of North India and IIT Ropar has been initiated. The university has established DST iTBI-NIDHI incubator. Later the Director IQAC introduced the experts and with their permission the audit presentation was started.

School of Basic Sciences

Date: 09 April 2024

Department of Applied Agriculture

The department of Applied Agriculture which has 06 Faculty (04: regular & and 02:Contractual) and 07 PhD students was represented by Dr. Patil, where he showcased the achievements of the department.

Strengths of the Department

• Training and processing of millet products (Kulfi, Pudding, Biscuit)

Expert suggestions

- Department must plan to develop processed food.
- Coordinate with local famers and work on new varieties of Millets and their nutritive value.
- The faculty should try to collaborate and visit ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad which has a well-established Incubation Center

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DIA Office

S. No. 1037 Date 22/H24

M. Joskman 1/2/bom

- The work overlaps with well recognized agricultural universities, department may collaborate with PAU/HAU to get more focused approach.
- The department does not have molecular biology expert hence the validation of the basic work is difficult, must collaborate with other departments.
- Niche area to be identified, young faculty hence built up slowly, collaborate among themselves and work together.
- The department can also focus on cereals and pulses research.
- The number of research papers and extramural grants are low.
- The department has the potential for consultancy which must be explored.

Overall Suggestions

The faculty needs to narrow down their research and focus on some specific niches. At the moment the department is not in a position to offer something new or be competitive with the PAU, which has a strong centre at Bathinda and also with other local or nearby colleges/universities so better to collaborate.

Department of Botany

Strengths of the Department

Good number of students qualify NET/JRF

Expert suggestions

- Work on Heat shock proteins, waste to wealth and other translational research.
- Research also required about food habits and adaptation towards environmental toxins.
- Inter disciplinary research to be explored.
- The aquatic flora from North India should also be explored.
- Dr. Pankaj should collaborate with textile engineering department from IIT-D for further validation of his research.
- Focused research required.

Overall Suggestions

The department is doing good work in the areas of arsenic metabolism; identification and characterization of sea-weeds; exploiting the utilization of "AKK" plant for its fiber utilization; and on microalgae.

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Central University of Punjab

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Two faculty members, working on the microalgae need to concentrate on some specific area of interest, currently they are thinly spread out.

Prof. Felix has done good work on sea-weeds, maybe he can also devote sometime to explore the weeds in the lakes and water-bodies of North-West India.

The work on arsenic metabolism by Prof. Sanjeev is good and needs to be further strengthened.

Department of Microbiology

Dr. Somesh, Head of the Department presented the department achievements and progress.

Expert suggestions

Social media and other platforms to showcase department. Prof. Monisha

- Clinical sample must be utilized to see the interaction between host/pathogen and role of innate immune responses.
- Collaborate with human Genetics and other allied subjects to understand the genetics of *H pylori* pathogenesis.

Dr. Mukesh

- The research must be specific and focused.
- In depth research required where the dynamics of microbes can be studied.

Dr. Pramod

- Attention required for the non-specific interaction of GBP protein which may affect non-immune cells as it has many sub types.
- Prof TP Singh offered to collaborate.

Dr. Amit

- Work only on mycobacterium requires well established facilities.
- Work can be focused on the limited topics.
- Focus on MT protein purification and kits to identify mycobacterium.

Dr. H. Nakibapher Jones Shangpliang

- Need to enhance publications.
- Can work on generating the Library of microbes which can act as Probiotics.
- Identify the metabolites present in fermented products.

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M. Jakman

Overall Suggestions

Microbiology department is on the whole doing good work. While the work of senior teachers is focused, some of the junior teachers need to focus their research on specific areas. The work of Dr. Baranwal, leading to the submission of new sequences, needs to be further continued. Prof. Monisha's work on bacteria-host-interaction is also significant and her proposal to initiate antimicrobial activity as consultancy project is a good idea but needs further refinement. The other teachers working on micro bio-films, cell autonomous immunity, recombinant protein expression, fermented milk products, and RNA polymerase transcription need to be more specific and focused.

Department of Biochemistry

- A lot of cancer related work is going on but fundamental biochemistry research is also required in the department.
- More focus on required in the basic research rather than exploratory research.

Overall Suggestions

On the whole, the department is doing good work. The initial observation of Dr. Baljinder Singh on the anti-cancerous properties of "Kortumma" is important and needs to be investigated in detail using animal models. The work on nanoparticle coated bacteria for increasing nutrient uptake is also important. The work on disease associations need to be more precise, especially autoimmune diseases, multidrug resistance and platelets.

Department of Zoology

- Very limited basic zoology research work is being conducted in the department.
- Create some good model organism which can be used by everyone in the university Zebrafish Model for a disease or Xenotoxic model of nematode.
- Department faculty are collaborating widely.

Prof. Anil Mantha

• Try to explore more bioinformatics tools to see the role of specific protein (remove single protein from nodes and see if any change is overall, it will tell in the role of the specific protein).

M. Hollowar

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Dr. Balachandar

Repurposing the drug is good approach.

Overall Suggestions

Good work is being undertaken by senior teachers on DNA damage and repair; role of APE1 enzyme; and biomarkers of some cancers.

The data of Parkinson's disease in Punjab and Tamil Nadu needs to be better refined to have any conclusions.

The majority of the faculty is working on human genetic diseases; they should also collaborate with their colleagues in human genetics.

The only person currently working in real zoology is doing research on nematodes and vermiculture.

General comments for all Life Sciences Departments

- The research audit is a very good exercise and its very good to see the young faculty progressing so well.
- The Post-Doctoral fellows should be engaged in the research who can be trained in the lab to guide students and can also support the faculty for securing good grants and getting publications.
- Mentoring and hand-holding required for some of the departments where there is no senior faculty.
- The faculty is involved in peripheral research, more focus and deep research required.
- Collaboration and more interactions between faculty required. More informal interactions must happen between the research groups.
- The research in most of the departments is diffused, more focused research required, must try to explore an area for which the department can be known worldwide.
- The research in frontier areas is driven by need, problem solving or market driven so all must look into these aspects.
- The future research plan has to be long term planning for the department.
- Cancer and neurodegenerative diseases are the most common fields in the university, the researcher must come together to work together.

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M. Hollower

School of Health Sciences

Date: 10 April 2024

Department of Human Genetics and Molecular Medicine

- Department has good number of research projects and one Mission program on Rare Genetic Disorders where collaborator from all over India are working together.
- Very impressive publications.
- In depth research for the functional role of the genes is required.
- The etiology of microcephaly, macrocephaly and dwarfism must have done and their correlation (if any) must be explored.
- Faculty should also explore the global phenomenon of the genetic diseases.
- Department as a team should plan to provide genetic services to local population.

Overall Suggestions

The department is undertaking good work on various diseases including Type-2 diabetes and rare genetic disorders.

The research on microcephaly, PCOS and other diseases if also good but needs to be correlated with local conditions.

It will be better if Dr. Senapati continues to focus on Celiac disease instead of spreading to other areas.

Dr. Ujjawal should focus on some specific area of research.

The department has great potential to make an impact, but they need to consolidate, concentrate and plan for joint projects. The patient services for genetic diagnostics should be further strengthened.

Department of PSNP

- Department must explore the consultancy projects.
- Faculty can mentor and collaborate with industry.
- The department has three PG programs which due to which the teaching load of the faculty high.
- Basic knowledge about the pharmaceutical molecules is must.
- The faculty must interact and collaborate with other groups.
- Focus on taking few compounds for commercialization.

W. J. Silmon

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Overall Suggestions

The work on the computer-aided drug designing of novel chemicals for breast cancer, PCOS and also on EFGR inhibitors is significant; so is the work on the isolation of phytochemicals from *P. fulgens*.

The senior teachers are doing good work but the junior teachers need to focus on good research, instead of spreading out thinly. The best could be if they join hands with the senior teachers.

School of Basic Sciences

Department of Chemistry

Faculty are engaged in research in various fields such as Thalassemia, Alzheimer's disease, synthesis of pure compounds, removing silica from rice straw and detection of heavy metals from environment.

- The department must plan for a scale-up facility for the characterized compounds for commercialization.
- The department faculty must plan to prepare and commercialize the library of compounds.
- The value addition can be done by adding fluorescence probes to the isolated molecules.
- Courses may be offered on chemical bonding.

Overall Suggestions

The faculty's work on multi-target drug discovery, cytochrome structures, green chemistry, environmental remediation and medicinal chemistry is of significant value. Some teachers are also engaged in the synthesis of organic chemicals for their anti-cancerous properties.

There is good amount of similarity between the research being undertaken in the pharmaceutical sciences and chemistry. If the faculties of both the departments pool their intellectual resources, significant scientific output can be expected.

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M. Horkman

School of Health Sciences

Department of Pharmacology

- The thrust area of the department must be focused.
- Role of medicinal plants must be explored well in disease model systems.
- Short term long term goals for the department must be identified.
- Most of the faculty are working on neurological disorders.
- It would a novel work if some animal model for toxic heavy metals is established.
- Faculty must develop cardiovascular research facility.
- Some of the future plans of the department are over ambitious, plan the achievable objectives.
- The faculty must discuss their research in the department for horizontal research.

Overall Suggestions

The faculty is doing research on varied range of topics, thus thinly spreading their resources. The work on traditional medicinal plants, animal models for metabolic syndromes, and studies neurological disorders, or on gut-brain axis are all important but any significant breakthroughs will be difficult to achieve unless the faculty thinks on intra- and inter-departmental collaborations.

M. Mollman

School of Environment and Earth Sciences

12 April 2024

Department of EVST

Strengths of the Department

- ePG Pathshala content prepared.
- MOOCs for "Solid Hazard Waste Management" being offered for the 9th time.
- Good amount of Consultancy projects.
- One patent filed.

Overall Suggestions

- A good number of Govt. aided project from Haryana Govt such as analysis of, Yamuna pollution, Solid Waste Management and Fluoride analysis being handled by the senior faculty of the department.
- The consultancy projects should somehow help the departments.
- The research of the department should focus on local issues such as water quality, water recycling, ground water quality and Re-habitation of dumping sites.
- The department faculty are working in small group and for tangible outcome the faculty must collaborate.
- The department has many research areas hence the thrust area and focus of the department not very clear.
- In the Solid Waste Management many faculty working on bio-remediation which has to be improved further with cost effective and sustainable solutions.
- For bio fertilizer work faculty may collaborate with other departments for impactful research.
- Management of microplastic is emerging area of research and should be focused.
- Collaboration with JNU is proposed.
- International collaborations can be explored.

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M. Hollemin

Department of Geography

Strengths of the Department

- The faculty of the department has vast expertise such as physical geography, human geography, GIS, Natural Resource Management and Geoheritage.
- Good amount of Consultancy projects.

Overall Suggestions

- The thrust area of the department not focused.
- Faculty must bring some new concepts of AL/ML to their research.
- Faculty should plan some Unmanned Aerial Vehicle for getting the data from extreme geographical zones.
- The geohealth is an upcoming field where faculty can collaborate with life sciences departments for impactful research.
- The department plans to establish a geochronology lab for dating of earth materials (rocks, minerals, fossils) and geologic events.

Department of Geology

Strengths of the Department

- The faculty of the department has vast expertise such as paleontology, hydrogeology, oregeology and paleomagnetism.
- Dr Vamdev has been part of International Ocean Discovery Program (IODP) Arctic Expedition-399 from 12 April -12 June 2023.
- One MOOCs on "Arctic studies" has been awarded to Prof. J.K. Pattanaik.
- Department has significant amount of consultancy projects.

Overall Suggestions

- The research thrust of department should be focused.
- The research of the faculty should focus on the local issues too.
- While studying geomorphological characters, some basins from Punjab should also be selected.
- Work on Himalaya should be explored more for the metamorphic petrology.
- More interdisciplinary collaborations are required.
- Department must identify the gap areas in the field of seismology and Geoarcheology.

M. Horkman

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School of Languages, Literature and Culture

Date: 15.04.2024

Department of English

Strengths of the Department

- Many old PhD students' submission pending will be submitted during the year 2024.
- Good number of students qualify UGC NET (21) and 2021 batch 10 NET.
- Organize annual English Literacy Fest.
- The department has its own magazine named "The Ornate Circle".
- The department is involved in taking classes for UGC preparation.

Overall Suggestions

- The research thrust of the department should be broader which can be discussed in the AAC.
- The department does not have any external funding.
- Faculty has published a Book and few manuscripts are under preparation.
- The research of the department is very diverse and some of the very advances fields such as Digital image processing etc is being explored.
- The text of Bhai Gurudas, Nirmal Panth, Sikhi theories, Punjabi authors/freedom fighters etc. should also be studied.
- The department should explore the possibilities of getting a Literary Chair or Full Bright fellow.

Department of Hindi

Strengths of the Department

- Department offering various short term courses such as Diploma in Hindi translation.
- Faculty have received few awards/ recognition from various NGOs and Hindi Patrika.
- New courses associated with local needs and environment has been proposed (Punjab ka hindi sahitya and Pryavaran vimarsh).
- Department plans to establish a Hindi Computational Centre and Gorakhnath chair.

The low admission in the MA program is the biggest challenge of the department.

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M. Jokemen

The department is trying to support the students through Endowment funds as most of the students drop due to their poor economic condition.

Overall Suggestions

- Collaborations required.
- More research on Malwa Malwai literature required.
- Socially weak students can work under the EWYL of the department.
- The thrust Area of Department to be made broader.
- No extramural grant in the department.
- The creative writing must be encouraged in the department, the wall magazine is good initiative which must be continued.
- To enhance the skills of the students and their employability, they may be taught script writing, advertisement writing etc.
- Publications are not Scopus indexed.

Department of Performing and Fine Arts

PhD Scholars: 07

Strengths of the Department

- The department has won the running trophy during the Foundation week celebrations.
- The department is coordinating the participation of university students at various state and national level competitions.
- Theatre Fest is organized as an annual event.

Overall Suggestions

- The research Thrust area should be more creative and relevant to Punjab & Indian Culture.
- Time to time department must organize workshops for Production, makeup etc.
- The department may try to apply for extramural grant from NSD.
- The department must try to attain expertise in one field of Theatre and Music for which they should be known for after ten years.
- The department should maintain the high quality of the theatre and music performances.
- Professional theatre should be focused.

Prof. Sunita Dhir very generously has agreed to donate books to the department.

M-Harland

Department of Punjabi

Ph.D. Scholars: 17

Strengths of the Department

- Department is conducting Punjabi classes for non-Punjabi speakers.
- Department has a Wall Magazine for creative writing.

Overall Suggestions

- The research thrust of the department is repetitive hence 2-3 area can be merged to make a broader thrust area.
- Emerging issues of Punjab must in taken up for research.
- The department is facing a big challenge regarding the admission for MA program which has to be critically discussed.

Interdisciplinary Centre for Languages and Literary Studies

- Centre is offering Diploma in French which has a very high demand.
- Plan to offer two PhD.

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M. Haran

School of Social Sciences

Date: 16.04.2024

Department of Economics

Ph.D. Scholars: 14

Strengths of the Department

- Good publications and grants.
- ICCSR sponsored workshops organized.
- The faculty has vast expertise.

Overall Suggestions

- The research topics must be relevant to the present scenario so that the students are trained for the global plateform.
- The Books and suggested readings must be updated time to time.
- The research thrust of the department has too many topics hence the focus is missing.
- Contact can be established in NABARD for funds and training for the students.

Department of History

Overall Suggestions

- The research thrust area of department and vision do not match.
- Gender studies missing in the curriculum.
- In the curriculum after Medieval history it cover Left movement, there is gap in between.
- The research must be carried on history of Punjab, Indian traditional sports etc.
- Faculty must collaborate and explore inter-disciplinary research.

Department of Sociology

Ph.D. Scholars: 19

Strengths of the Department

- MOOCs being developed by the department faculty.
- Department has Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Centre (Sept 2023 14 lakhs).

M. Horaman Jampson

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- Department organised ICCSR sponsored workshops.
- Department has consultancy projects.
- Deaprtment also has Dr Ambedkar Centre for Excellence (October 2023 October 2025, 75 lakhs).

Overall Suggestions

- The research thrust area of the department should be focused in 1-2 core area.
- The faculty must try to get few areas of expertise, too many research themes diffuse the research expertise.
- Collaboration and inter-disciplinary research must be explored.
- The department can try to secure extramural grants from UN or NEPA.

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M. Harman

Lawrent

School of Management

Department of Financial Administration

Ph.D. Scholars: 22

Overall Suggestions

- Thrust of department has to be focused.
- Department should explore to collaborate with NABARD, RBI etc for research grants.
- Prof. Charan Singh has offered to collaborate with the department.
- The faculty must work of the contemporary issues such as Digital banking services, AI in Accounts, Pension & retirement plan, Old age pension where there is no concrete data. The department can propose important policies for the same.
- The department should try to find the solution to real life problems.

School of International Studies

Department of South and Central Asian Studies

Ph.D. Scholars: 20

Strengths of the Department

• Good Publications by Prof Bawa Singh.

Overall Suggestions

W. Hollmin

- Thrust of department has to be focused.
- The long term future research plan for the department required.
- Young faculty with good research focus but must try to collaborate to showcase the strengths of the department.
- Department may sign MoU for national and international collaborations
- Some faculty have really low publications.
- The department can propose Visiting Professor who can mentor overall.

Janupath

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School of Basic Sciences

Date: 17.04.2024

Department of Physics

Strengths of the Department

• DST FIST received recently.

Overall Suggestions

- The Department thrust area should be 1-2 focused fields.
- Faculty must collaborate with other department faculty such as computational science.
- Send student for training outside India.
- Funds can be generated through industry.
- The department is conducting good research on Energy storage devices, meta-materials etc.
- The department must plan for installing a fabrication unit in CU Punjab.
- The bio polymer work is very interesting and has high scope.

Department of Mathematics and Statistics

Overall Suggestions

- The Department thrust area should be in 1-2 focused fields.
- The expertise of crypography can be used for Medical crypography.
- Mathematical modelling for infectious diseases is an emerging field.
- The plant diseases should be explored using Mathematical modelling.
- Consultancy project may be explored.
- The department is doing good application based research.

Department of Computational Sciences

Ph.D. Scholars: 07

Overall Suggestions

- DST-FIST grant to be submitted.
- The Department thrust area should be focused.

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M-Hollman

School of Engineering and Technology

Department of Computer Science and Technology

- One Patent in process.
- Department has submitted two MOOCs proposals.

Overall Suggestions

- AI Intelligence and data Science is the thrust area of the department.
- Precision medicine and agriculture are the emerging field with high potential.
- Some new programs may be initiated.
- To establish IOT Laboratory.
- The AI/ML data and information must be verified.
- The research being done has to be Utility based.
- The faculty are working on too many research themes so do not lose the focus.
- Collaborative research is must.

School of Education

Date: 18.04.2024

Department of Education

Ph.D. Scholars: 18

Strengths of the Department

- ITEP program for BA-BEd and BSc BEd to be started from the 2024 session.
- Good publications by the faculty.
- Two Patents has been filed.

Overall Suggestions

- The research thrust of the department is not focused, the vision and mission of department must match with thrust area.
- The faculty should not publish in non-peer reviewed journals.
- The research paper from the Ph.D. must be in Scopus or high impact international journal.

M. Horkman

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- The topic of research must be chosen very rigorously and it should be original work.
- No compromise with quality of research.
- Emerging technologies such as AI integrated pedagogy & assessment should be added in the curriculum.
- The teachers should be knowledge creator and reflective teaching is crucial.

Department of Physical education

Ph.D. Scholars: 09

Strengths of the Department

08 students – getting industry fellowship for PhD.

Overall Suggestions

- The Thrust area of the department not focused.
- Explore the Consultancy projects.
- There is no long term future plan for the department.
- Identify your strength and focus on indigenous games.
- The faculty must collaborate with other science departments for tangible outcome based research.

School of Social Sciences

Department of Psychology

Strengths of the Department

- It is a New Department with potential, good future.
- Being interdisciplinary in nature and having potential to contribute to academic, social and cultural spheres of life the teaching and research in psychology assumes great significance. In particular, it has scope of collaboration with areas like health, counselling, education, law, community life, and personality development and personal growth.

Overall Suggestions

- Thrust of the Department is diffused, it may be discussed in AAC.
- Faculty must offer highly specialized courses.

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M forman

- The young faculty has potential to do good research but they need mentoring.
- To get the exposure the faculty and PhD scholars must attend international conferences and meetings.
- The research should be focused on the local issues such as Drug addiction, migration.
- New course/paper must be introduced such as cultural psychology.
- Research should focus on the Emerging areas.
- The faculty and students need to orient their diverse academic programs and activities focusing on quality by connecting with:
 - 1. cultural processes,
 - 2. indigenous knowledge systems,
 - 3. contemporary ecological context, and
 - 4. nurturance of academic and life skills.

School of Information and Communication Studies

Date: 22.04.2024

Department of Mass Communication

Ph.D. Scholars: 13

Strengths of the Department

- Highly skill based program where students are trained by covering all the university events.
- Department has their own Media lab.
- Good consultancy projects.
- Good publications and grants.

Overall Suggestions

- E-content generation must be done here in media lab.
- The department must organize events for Media Literacy, debunk misinformation etc.
- Proposal & preposition must be viable Indonesia.
- Certified courses can be planned.
- Long term future plan for the department is missing.
- Research has to be meaningful not only documentation.

M. Halkman

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Department of Library Sciences

PhD scholars 12

Strengths of the Department

• The scope of this program is high.

Overall Suggestions

- Department must work to procure and preserve the ancient manuscripts.
- The research thrust of the department is not focused.
- Most of the faculty of the department are new hence collaboration is must.
- Publication is low and focus to publish in ABDC and SCOPUS journal.
- Skill based courses such as internship, library visits should be included in the curriculum.
- Few Certificate courses can be started.

School of Legal Studies

Department of Law

Ph.D. Scholars: 30

The Thrust Areas of the department are Environment Law & Human Right Corporate law & IPR.

Strengths of the Department

- Consultancy from NHRC.
- Coordinating the National Youth Parliament.
- Fully functional legal Aid Cell which provides free legal services.
- Pro-Bono Club.
- Constitutional Club which is being managed by PhD scholars.

Overall Suggestions

- The environmental Law in Coastal region/marine environment must be incorporated in the curriculum.
- The research thrust of the department is not focused.
- The PhD scholars must read the National legal rules and Judgements of the famous cases and Tribunals.

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- Legal Aid Cell must be strengthened, where the faculty can connect with state legal bodies.
- Do not publish in non-peer reviewed journals.
- Collaborate with nearby Law universities for interdisciplinary research.
- Consumer law based-work must be enhanced in the department.

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Prof. Vinod Kumar

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