



# Dr. B. R. AMBEDKAR OPEN UNIVERSITY

Prof. G. Ramreddy Marg, Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad - 500 033  
Centre for Internal Quality Assurance (CIQA)

## RESEARCH PROMOTION POLICY



# B R A O U

## ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY

The University, initially known as Andhra Pradesh Open University, was set up on 26th August 1982 through an Act of the A.P. State Legislature (APOU Act 1982). Subsequently, the University was renamed as Dr. B.R.Ambedkar Open University on 26 October, 1991 by the Government of Andhra Pradesh. The establishment of this University, the first of its kind in India, heralded an era of affirmative action on the part of the Government of Andhra Pradesh to provide opportunities of higher education to all sections of society to meet the changing individual and social needs. The University offers services to defense personnel, prison inmates and learners from remote and tribal areas who are not having access to education. All the programmes offered by the University are recognised by the University Grants Commission, New Delhi. The motto of the University is "EDUCATION FOR ALL". The university is adapting all the latest ICTs regarding teaching, learning and evaluation to reach the unreached.



- ◆ Enrichment of ongoing academic programs.
- ◆ Competency building through education and training programs. Interactive individual-based teaching-learning processes.
- ◆ Reliable and credible student evaluation systems.
- ◆ Result-oriented, accountable, and transparent administrative and logistic support systems. and
- ◆ Research, innovation, training, and networking for system development and staff development.



Dr. B. R. Ambedkar's social philosophy of education as a means of creating an egalitarian society is the vision of this University. Access to relevant, quality education and training programs for diverse sections of society with a focus on hitherto deprived sections at lower costs by using modern technologies in teaching-learning processes as well as in administrative and support services is the goal of this University. The University programs aim at making education and training instruments for living and for making a living.

# RESEARCH PROMOTION POLICY

## ■ 1. PREAMBLE

- ✦ Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Open University as a leading public institution in distance learning is committed to the cause of research proactively furthering the culture of research, among Faculty, research scholars, academic associates, and students. This commitment to further research is drawn from the University's vast experiences in ODL and post-graduate education, This provides opportunities for the university to enhance its reputation globally, among leading institutions offering open distance education.
- ✦ The distinguishing feature of this university is to promote systemic research apart from discipline-specific research. Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Open University has been in the service of higher education for the last forty years and had established an evaluation research wing right from its inception. Subsequently, the evaluation research wing was made into a Directorate called GRADE (Prof. G. Ram Reddy Research Academy of Distance Education) which is named after the founder and Vice-Chancellor of the University. GRADE has been instrumental in promoting research on different aspects of the functioning of the University and system-based research in Distance Education.
- ✦ To support research activities, the University provides infrastructure, which includes an advanced computing lab, science lab, instrumentation lab, etc. A very large library of published work, much of which appears in reputed journals, and books, as well as in the form of diverse outputs, form the fulcrum of ODL activities of the University.
- ✦ The University recognizes that research outputs are wide-ranging and that it is through the research activities that the Faculty, students and all others involved become agents of change and excellence.

## ■ 2. PURPOSE

The Research promotion policy envisages the creation of a congenial atmosphere for the Faculty and researchers and the enhancement of the research output of the Institution. The policy framework ensures credibility for Research by adhering to the rules and regulations prescribed for the conduct of research by the University Grants Commission, the apex body of higher education in India.

### ■ 3. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Research Promotion Policy are to –

- ✦ Promote a culture of research among Faculty, research scholars, academic associates
- ✦ Provide the required infrastructure such as laboratories, reference library, internet connectivity, computers, printers, and software to support research
- ✦ Implement equal opportunities and social justice goals laid down in the constitution and policies of the Government of India
- ✦ Ensure academic integrity and academic freedom of research scholars and Faculty
- ✦ Promote collaboration and consultancy to bring interdisciplinarity in research and promote partnerships with other research organizations of repute.
- ✦ Facilitate funding for research in the form of fellowships, publication grants, etc
- ✦ Encourage research scholars and Faculty to produce publications in quality journals indexed in Scopus / Web of Science or peer-reviewed journals with good impact factor
- ✦ Provide guidelines for ethical code of conduct in Research

### ■ 4. CONDUCT OF RESEARCH

The University seeks to promote, support, and regulate all research activities involving Faculty, research scholars, and students. More specifically, the University, while expecting professional self-regulation, also expects all researchers to adhere to the principles of ethical conduct in research, of this University.

#### **The University :**

- ✦ Will review and seek approval for research proposals through competent authorities appointed by the University including Research Coordinator and the advisory committee, Institutional Ethics Committee and Safety Committee, and other relevant committees that may be duly constituted. Besides seeking approvals, the guidelines issued by the University from time to time will also be complied with. These include Guidelines for externally-funded project implementation, the undertaking of consultancy services/projects, the appointment of project staff, and Guidelines for fixing minimum remuneration for project staff.





- ✦ Will safeguard the rights, Research privacy, and confidentiality of participants in research;
- ✦ Will periodically update with the reviewed, revised, and recommended best practices in research.
- ✦ All researchers have to undertake research activities under the University policies and rules.

## ■ 5. AREAS OF RESEARCH

The University's priority shall be to promote research in Open and Distance Learning and also Interdisciplinary Research that have contemporary relevance across the disciplines. The university shall promote research on –

- ✦ Systemic Research – Conduct research studies on various aspects such as - the use of Audio-Visual Programmes by the learners; Learner satisfaction regarding the implementation of CBCS; Compile Success Stories of the learners; Evaluation of the Counseling (both online and offline) provided to the learners, etc.
- ✦ Research on Distance Education – research the developments and directions of change taking place in Open and Distance Learning, keeping pace with the National and Global research in the field.
- ✦ Disciplinary Research – Conduct research in various subjects leading to the award of Degree "Doctorate in Philosophy". The Faculty of Arts, Faculty of Sciences, Faculty of Social Sciences, Faculty of Commerce & Management, and Faculty of Education; shall notify the eligible guides, and the number of vacancies and follow the research guidelines adopted by the university for the conduct of research.

- ♦ Research in Developmental Studies - Development studies (DS) is an important field of study for anyone looking forward to working in the social sciences sector. It encompasses studies on political, social, economic, and technological issues faced by developing countries. Dr.B.R. Ambedkar Open University, committed to the cause of providing educational opportunities to the underprivileged sections of the society shall also focus on developmental studies and for this purpose may collaborate with other National Organizations.

## ■ 6. RESEARCH FUNDING

### ***Support for Researchers holding Fellowships from UGC, ICSSR, and other National bodies***

The University shall from time to time notify the availability of research grants to the Faculty and researchers.

The University shall fulfill all the requirements such as creating PFMS accounts for depositing the research grants obtained by the Researchers, release of research grants to the scholars on time, submission of Utilization certificates, and would take all measures to facilitate research.

University shall maintain a record of all the grants awarded / research completed utilizing such grants.



### ***Funding for Research Projects, Seminars, Conferences & Workshops***

The university shall explore the possibility of sponsoring minor and major research projects. Apart from the projects obtained by the Faculty from UGC and other sponsoring bodies, University shall allocate special grants for research on Distance Education with a particular focus on Online Education.

### ***Grants for Organizing Seminars / Workshop / Conferences***

The university shall encourage the Faculty to organize seminars and conferences at the Local, Regional, National, and International levels. The University shall provide a matching grant to the department/s organizing the seminars (National & International). The following conditions shall be met for a matching grant.

- ♦ The Faculty seeking a matching grant should provide evidence of receiving the grant from the external agency for organizing the seminar.
- ♦ The Faculty should work out and present the probable expenditure details for the seminar/workshop/conference

- ✦ Submit a detailed proposal to the university, at least 2 months in advance. The proposal should highlight the importance of the seminar, expected outcomes, a tentative program, and the names of resource persons. The proposal should indicate the sources from which funding is expected and the need for a matching grant. The proposal should also include the organizing committee members and the credentials of the organizer to conduct the seminar/workshop/conference.

The University should provide all the proformas required for the release of the matching grant and the Utilization certificate and maintain a record of the grants provided in a particular year.

### ***Grants for Participation in Seminars / Workshop / Conferences***

To encourage the participation of the Faculty in National and International Seminars and conferences, the University shall provide incentives in the form of a travel grant, Dearness Allowance, and grant to meet Registration and hospitality costs. The University shall decide to provide a full or partial grant depending on the availability of the funds, the number of Faculty members applying for the grant, and the fulfillment of the eligibility criteria.

The following criteria may be considered for allocation of the grants.

- ✦ Faculty seeking the grant should have published at least one research paper in Scopus Indexed / WOS/ICI journals in the same or preceding year to be entitled to a Seminar participation grant
- ✦ Faculty seeking the grant should submit the accepted paper two (2) months in advance for review by the expert committee. The expert committee should comprise two external experts in the relevant discipline, who will review the manuscript keeping in view the level of the seminar, originality of research, methodology, and findings of the study and recommend the article for presentation.
- ✦ The Faculty receiving the grant should share their experiences of seminar participation before the academic Faculty of the University and researchers.

### ***Other Incentives for Research***

#### ***Publication Grant***

To promote quality publications by the Faculty and researchers, the University shall extend support by providing publication charges (up to 50%) for papers accepted for publication by a Scopus / WOS / UGC-CARE listed journal / Book published with a

reputed publisher with ISBN. The upper limit of the financial support for publication charges shall not exceed Rs. 2000/ per paper, subject to the condition that the work must have implications for the development of subject knowledge and the university.

### ***Grant for Staff Exchange Programmes***

The university shall facilitate the exchange of expertise with other International / National / State Open Universities. The Faculty visiting the university shall be given a stipend to the extent of Rs. 25,000/ per month and accommodation in the University Guest House and access to all the research facilities. The maximum period of Research will be 6 months from the date of commencement of the program. The number of Faculty exchanges may be decided by the University depending on the funds and other requirements. The consenting institutions should sign an agreement laying down mutually- agreed upon conditions.

## **7. RESEARCH COLLABORATION & CONSULTANCY**

### **Research Collaboration**

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Open University strongly believes in sharing resources, expertise, research and innovation, and knowledge acquired through research for the benefit of society. This is achieved by taking up research in collaboration with other National / State level organizations and institutions such as CESS



(Centre for Economic and Social Studies) involved in research, in the areas of research as mentioned in section 5 of this policy. To foster collaboration with other Open Universities, it is also envisaged to provide Faculty exchange programs.

### **Research Consultancy**

Research and Consultancy go hand-in-hand. University Faculty who are qualified in their subject specializations and also possess rich experience in distance education can provide consultancy to other institutions and organizations. The areas of consultancy would include Distance Education, Online Education, Skill Development, and Research Methodology, apart from other disciplinary and contemporary topics of relevance.

## **8. INNOVATIONS**

The University shall establish a Centre for Innovation to promote innovations by the Faculty, researchers, and learners. The center will function with the following objectives.



- ✦ To act as a catalyst for innovators and to create a vibrant innovation environment in the University and surrounding regions
- ✦ To report and publish innovations by the Faculty, researchers, learners, and Alumni of the University
- ✦ To strengthen linkages with other institutions and act as an incubator for the innovation ecosystem in the region.
- ✦ To act as a network between academics, R & D institutions, industries, and financial institutions.



## ■ 9. PUBLICATION GUIDELINES AND RESEARCH ETHICS

Researchers, authors, editors, and publishers are important stakeholders in the process of scholarly communication. They have an ethical obligation to publication and dissemination of research findings. Researchers are accountable for the completeness and accuracy of their reports. Researchers must showcase their research for the dissemination of ideas and inventions and at the same time should adhere to ethical principles.

Some important publication ethics for authors and researchers are laid down as follows:

### **i) Approval and Consent**

Researchers should document the approval and consent obtained from the subjects involved in the research study and the persons from whom the data for the study has been collected

### **ii) Data Accuracy, Falsification, and Fabrication**

Researchers must double-check the data for accuracy before publication. Manipulation of data, processes, and equipment should be eliminated.

### **iii) Plagiarism and Self-Checks for Plagiarism**

There should be a mechanism to check the extent of Plagiarism in the publications. Checks should be conducted to what extent the material has been original or reproduced concerning data, tables and figures, acknowledgments and citations, etc. The university shall provide plagiarism software and checking of the research publications for plagiarism before publication. The Thesis should enclose the certificate of plagiarism check before the submission process.

#### **iv) Submission of research**

A declaration should be submitted by the researcher stating that the publication either in its entirety or in part has not been submitted elsewhere or has not been published earlier in other journals/books. Publishing the same text in two different journals also should not be encouraged.

#### **v) Ethics of Authorship**

Due credit should be given to the collaborating authors. Co-authors should be informed about the details of the publication and should agree to be held responsible for the content and data interpretation.

#### **vi) Funding**

Researchers should give due credit to the funding agencies and declare the nature of funding received for research and publication.

#### **vii) Conflict of Interest**

In case of any kind of conflicts arising in Research, publication, funding-they should be referred to the Publication and Ethics Committee.

The University shall have a Publication and Ethics Committee comprising of the Academic Director as Chairperson and Deans of all the faculties, Senior Professors from different faculties,

Director GRADE and others as members. The Committee shall hold meetings every quarter to discuss various ethical issues involved in Research and Publication.

#### **Monitoring and Review Committee**

1. Director, Academic
2. Director, UGC-DEB
3. Director, GRCD&D
4. Director, CIQA
5. Dean, Faculty of Arts
6. Dean, Faculty of Commerce
7. Dean, Faculty of Education
8. Dean, Faculty of Sciences
9. Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences
10. Deputy Director, Learning Support Services





# Dr. B. R. AMBEDKAR OPEN UNIVERSITY

Prof. G. Ram Reddy Marg, Road No. 46, Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad - 500 033,  
Website: [www.braou.ac.in](http://www.braou.ac.in), [www.braouonline.in](http://www.braouonline.in)

Recognised by University Grants Commission, New Delhi.

## PROGRAMMES ON OFFER - 2023-24



(A) Bachelor's Degree Programmes			(D) Diploma Programmes		
<b>B.A.</b> - Bachelor of Arts (English, Telugu & Urdu Medium)	Course Duration	Tuition Fee Rs.	Diploma in Marketing Management (English Medium)	Course Duration	Tuition Fee Rs.
<b>B.Com.</b> - Bachelor of Commerce (Telugu & English Medium)	3 years	2,700/- 1st Yr	Diploma in Financial Management (English Medium)	1 year	8,000/-
<b>B.Sc.</b> - Bachelor of Science (English, Telugu & Urdu Medium) (Lab. Fee Rs. 1600/- for each Science & Psychology Subjects)	3 years	2,500/- IInd Yr	Diploma in Human Resource Management (English Medium)	1 year	8,000/-
(B) Master's Programmes			Diploma in Operations Management (English Medium)	1 year	8,000/-
<b>M.A.</b> English, <b>M.A.</b> Hindi, <b>M.A.</b> Telugu, <b>M.A.</b> Urdu,	Course Duration	Tuition Fee Rs.	Diploma in Business Finance (English Medium)	1 year	5,200/-
<b>M.A.</b> Economics, History, Political Science, Public Administration, Sociology - (Telugu Medium)	2 years	5,300/- 1 year 5,000/- 2 year	Diploma in Writing for Mass Media in Telugu	1 year	5,200/-
<b>M.A.</b> Journalism and Mass Communication (English Medium)	2 years	5,300/- 1 year 5,000/- 2 year	Diploma in Environmental Studies (Telugu Medium)	1 year	5,200/-
<b>M.Sc.</b> Mathematics & Applied Mathematics (English Medium)	2 years	7,800/- 1 year 7,500/- 2 year	Diploma in Human Rights (English Medium)	1 year	4,000/-
<b>M.Sc.</b> Botany, <b>M.Sc.</b> Environmental Science (English Medium)	2 years	7,800/- 1 year 7,500/- 2 year	Diploma in Women's Studies (English Medium)	1 year	4,000/-
<b>M.Sc.</b> Physics, <b>M.Sc.</b> Zoology, <b>M.Sc.</b> Psychology (English Medium)	2 years	15,300/- 1 year 15,000/- 2 year	Diploma in Culture & Heritage Tourism (English Medium)	1 year	5,200/-
<b>M.Sc.</b> Chemistry (English Medium)	2 years	15,300/- 1 year 15,000/- 2 year	(E) Certificate Programmes		
<b>M.Com.</b> (English Medium)	2 years	18,300/- 1 year 18,000/- 2 year	Certificate Programme in Food and Nutrition (Telugu Medium)	Course Duration	Tuition Fee Rs.
(C) Professional Programmes (Post Bachelor's Level)			Certificate Programme in Literacy & Community Development (Telugu Medium)	6 months	1600/-
<b>M.B.A.</b> - Master's Degree in Business Administration (English Medium)	Course Duration	Tuition Fee Rs.	Certificate Programme in NGO's Management (Telugu Medium)	6 months	2100/-
<b>M.B.A.</b> - (Hospital and Health Care Management) with AHERF, KIMS & DET (English Medium)	2 years	7,800/- 1 year 7,500/- 2 year	Certificate Programme in Early Childhood Care & Education (English Medium)	6 months	2100/-
Master's Degree in Library & Information Science (MLISc) (English Medium)	2 years	15,300/- 1 year 15,000/- 2 year	(F) Research Programmes (Ph.D in)		
Bachelor's Degree in Library & Information Science (BLISc) (English & Telugu Medium)	1 year	1,20,000/-	English, Hindi, Education, Economics, History, Political Science, Public Administration, Sociology, Commerce, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Environmental Science (English Medium)	Course Duration	Tuition Fee Rs.
Bachelor's of Education (B.Ed - ODL) (Telugu Medium)	1 year	10,300/-		3 years	15,000/- 1 year 15,000/- 2 year 15,000/- 3 year
Bachelor's of Education (B.Ed - Special Education - ODL) (English & Telugu Medium)	2 years	5,300/-			
	2 years	40,000/-			
	2 ½ years	40,000/-			

**BRAOU CALL CENTRE NO : 18005990101**

