<u>Vishwakarma Research Promotion Scheme (VRPS) 2021</u>

The management of BRACT promotes research and budgeted funds for research projects to be undertaken by the faculty pursuing research in various areas. The aim of the VRPS is to strengthen the research activity especially among the young faculty members which will act as a catalyst for them to apply to the various funding agencies for major grants develop labs and upgrade equipment and setup towards state-of-art, in order to use it for research and consultancy works.

The VRPS is broadly categorized in three areas. **Available grant for each project under these categories is up-to THREE lakhs.** Number of research proposals to be sanctioned per department in a year would be as per faculty strength of the department as a guideline, however number of projects to be selected are based on the strength. In the academic year 2021-22, no. of projects to be shortlisted for funding are as follows:

1) E & TC Engg: 3   **2) Comp Engg: 4 (3+1)**   **3) Civil Engg: 2**
4) Mech Engg: 2   **5) Info. Tech Engg: 1**   **6) Engg Sciences: 2**

The VRPS is basically aiming at providing seed money for research, which shall be of a types like **A**.

<u>A. Proof of Concept (POC),</u> which after POC can be extended with external funding, where PI is expected to write a proposal for funding research / contract research or collaboration with research institute. Preferred duration of project is anytime less than **ONE year**. Senior faculty with doctoral qualifications is encouraged to apply under this category.

<u>B. Young Researchers:</u> Faculty members below age of 40 are encouraged to apply. Collaboration with faculty from within and other departments (intra and inter department) involving interdisciplinary research areas are preferred. Preferred duration of project is up-to **TWO years**.

<u>C. Development for Consultancy / Modernization of Laboratory</u>: Faculties or group of faculties, wish to actively involve into providing consultancies based on available resources by adding value to it and modernize / upgrade the existing resources for matching it with industry standards, so that VIIT can offer consultancies to industry for development and test purpose or usage of equipment and setups. Proposals from inter-departmental group of faculties is preferred with a time-frame of the project is not more than **ONE year.**

<u>Guidelines for preparation of proposal:</u>

1. The proposal should clearly state the objectives; indicate current national and international status, methodology to be employed, plan of the research work, expected results and outcome of the project along with the budget estimate for two years or one year as the case may be.

2. The budget estimate should provide the details under different heads such as equipment, consumables/ chemicals/ reagents/ supplies, contingency, books etc.

Important Dates:

Sr. No.	Activity	Deadline
1	Submission of online proposal from faculties to research wing	17th July 2021
2	Shortlisting of proposals for online presentation	24th July 2021
3	Presentation schedule (will be communicated to selected participants.)	First Week of August
4	Presentation for Financial approval	12th to14th August 2021
5	Award of grant	25th to 30th August 2021
6	Project duration	Sep. 2021 to June 2023 (for category B) Sep. 2021 to June 2022 (for category A and C)

WHO SHALL APPLY ?

For Category A & C

1. All approved faculties (Assistant Professors / Associate Professors / Professors with minimum **THREE** years' experience at VIIT are eligible to apply under this category.

For Category B:

1. All approved / faculties working at VIIT and **pursuing doctoral studies or wish to enroll for doctoral studies**, **below age of 40** shall apply under this category

Conditions of Grant and utilization

Award of Grant:

1. The selection of the projects will be based on peer review and presentation of short-listed proposals in front of Expert Committee.

2. The **maximum grant available for each project is Rs THREE lakhs** and the duration of the project is for **two years** for category A, whereas, it is one year for category B & C.

3. Research proposals from young faculty and in collaboration with faculty from within and other departments (intra and interdepartmental) involving interdisciplinary research areas are given preference.

Monitoring of Grant Utilization:

1. The Principal Investigator should submit six monthly progress report. Annual report shall be submitted along with the statement of accounts and utilization certificate at the end of

financial year for the release of the subsequent grant.

2. All assets generated out of the fund for the project will become the property of the institution and an entry in the dead stock/consumable stock/library is mandatory for sanctioning the bills

3. For category A & C: The budget estimate shall provide the details of equipment only. Consumables/chemicals/raw materials for test, travel, books etc. are not supported under these grants. However, PI is advised to get it through administrative channel.

Expected outcomes:

1. A bound copy of the final report of work done on the project along with softcopy to be submitted with research wing on completion of the research project. A copy of the final report shall be kept in the library of the respective department(s) and to central library as a reference material.

2. A publication of a research paper in an intl. peer reviewed, indexed journal is mandatory.

3. **For category A:** Submission of a research proposal to external funding agencies, on the basis of preliminary results obtained within six months from award of grant is mandatory. (All proposals shall be submitted after proper scrutiny and approval by research wing)

4. **For Category C:** Proposal for consultancy based on available resources and modernization / upgradation through VRPS grants shall be forwarded to Research Wing and Industry Interaction Cells, Trust office for publicity of the offerings, with duly approved services and charges for the same. In case of lab development activity, it must take care of requirements of future syllabus, PG and doctoral students on campus.

POLICY FOR EXECUTION

Researchers received grants under VRPS shall adhere to following rules and procedures during execution and final submission of the project.

1. For purchase of equipment, follow the procedure as per QMS (institute purchase procedure).

2. Every bill must be signed by Head of the concerned dept and the Director before submission of Research project for audit.

3. Expenditure towards the purchase of air-conditioners, or renovation of laboratories or the purchase of Mother Board, DVD writer, Hard Disk, RAM, Antivirus, Pen drive, Computer, Laptop, Mobile, DVD, Steam Oven, Home Theatre, Mixer, Handy cam, Printer, Scanner, Fridge, Cupboard, Books rack, Furniture, stationary items any such items which are not exclusively required for the final product will be not allowed to purchase.

4. Dead stock/consumable stock entry of items purchased, is mandatory.

5. Library's accession is important on purchased books.

6. Air ticket & other expenditure will not be sanctioned for attending National & Intl conference.

7. Traveling expenditure, excluding field visit, if any will not be sanctioned.

8. The PI shall present their project work annually in front of the project evaluation committee

9. The release of funds for second Installment will depend on the performance of work done at first stage.

10. Minimum two students from UG or one student from PG are must be associated with the project.

11. In category A scheme, every PI has to submit six monthly report of project (one copy) to the research wing, every PI should submit final report of project (one copy) to the research wing at the end of the project duration (six months or one year).

12. On publication in International Journal, one copy of the paper to be submitted to the research wing. The affiliation of the institute is MUST in the research paper.

13. The final report of research project should include

     (i)   Technical Report along with conclusions (two hard bound copies) / and published, presented, accepted paper(s) (A soft copy)

     (ii)   Statement of accounts (iii) Utilization certificate

14. The central audit will be organized at the end of financial year for financial assessments of research projects for category A and C.

15. In addition to terms and conditions in the document, governing rules of the institute and trust will govern the execution of the projects and these will be binding to all investigators.

16. The Professors are discouraged from writing proposals albeit they can be Co-PI/adviser with an Assistant / Associate professor as PI.

Dean (R&D)

                      Director