



NEW HORIZON COLLEGE

Affiliated to Bangalore North University, Recognized by Govt. of Karnataka
Recognized under section 2(f) of the UGC Act, 1956



Human Resources

HR POLICIES

FOREWORD

Dear Colleague:

We are pleased to present to you a HR Policies Handbook related to the staff detailing all the updated policies of New Horizon College

We request you to read and get familiar with the policies.

You may feel free to contact the undersigned for any clarifications.

We wish you a very fulfilling association with NHC.

With Warm Regards,

Head – Human Resources

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DESIGNATIONS

The Designation Structure for Teaching and non-teaching are as under:

Principal	System Administrator
Sr. Executive Director	Programmer
Executive Director	Foremen
Director	Lab Instructor
Dean	Lab Assistant
Registrar	Asst. Lab Instructor
Head of the Department	Lab Technician
Controller of Examination	Education Program Analyst
Chief Librarian	Physical Education Director
Senior Professor	Physical Education Instructor
Professor	Data Entry Operator
Sr. Associate Professor	Front Office Executive
Associate Professor	Warden - Boys Hostel
Sr. Assistant Professor	Warden - Girls Hostel
Assistant Professor (2)	Training & Placement Officer
Assistant Professor (1)	Asst. Training & Placement Officer
Life Skills Trainer	Sr. Training & Placement Officer
Assistant Registrar	Manager - Placement & Training
Deputy Controller of Examinations	Staff Nurse
Senior Office Executive	Web Developer
Office Executive	Graphic Designer
HR - Generalist	Secretary
HR - Recruitments	Personal Assistant
Student Counsellor	Chief Security Officer
Sr. Admission Officer	Security Officer
Admission Officer	Assistant Security Officer
Admission Counsellor	Project Manager
Admission Executive	Quantity Surveyor
Library Officer	Estate Manager
Library Executive	Purchase Officer
Sr. Accountant	Executive - Facilities
Sr. Accounts Executive	House Keeping Supervisor
Accounts Executive	Gym Trainer
Administrator	Store Keeper
	Out Door Assistant

Chapter I RECRUITMENT POLICY

- 1.1 **Objective**
Effectiveness of an institution depends on the competence and quality of its human resources. The objective of this policy is to ensure a streamlined recruitment process in identifying and hiring best qualified candidates for all given positions.
- 1.2 **Applicability**
All new recruits in all grades
- 1.3 **Policy & Procedure**
 - 1.3.1 The approved recruitment policy will be a pre-requisite for all recruitment in the institution.
 - 1.3.2 Any departure from the Recruitment policy, will need special approval from the appropriate approving authority. The concerned HOD is to get in touch with HR Department with the details of the manpower required. HR will then seek approval of the Chairman, and only then proceed with the process of recruitment. HR shall prepare a detailed job description for the position to be filled up, in consultation with the concerned department.
 - 1.3.3 HR shall source the profiles for the required position, through various sources viz., advertisements (newspapers, portals...), consultants, internal reference etc.
 - 1.3.4 HR shall screen and shortlist the profiles depending on their suitability for the position. The list of shortlisted profiles will be communicated to the concerned HOD and Principal.
 - 1.3.5 HR will coordinate the entire process of conducting the interviews.
 - 1.3.6 Depending on the grade/level of the position being recruited, the interview panel / selection committee will consist of the concerned department HOD, Principal, Subject experts and HR - Head. The selection panel evaluates the candidate based on a set of predefined criteria. Acceptance or rejection of candidates is at the sole discretion of the institution.
- 1.3.7 At the time of appointment, the selected candidates are required to submit all relevant academic certificates and testimonials in original. They will be in the safe custody of the institution and will be returned to them when they leave the institution.

Chapter II PROBATION POLICY

2.1 Objective

To assess the potential and suitability of the candidate selected and hired for the vacant post.

2.2 Eligibility & Coverage

2.2.1 All new recruits of the institution on regular rolls.

2.2.2 Policy & Procedural Formalities for Completion of Probation.

2.2.3 All new employees will be on probation for a period of 12 months from the date of joining.

2.2.4 While the formal probation appraisal shall be at the end of 11 months, the concerned Principal / Director / ED/ Registrar/Dean/ HOD will review the performance of the probationer on completion of 1st month, 3rd month, 6th month and 11th month. These assessments will be on the broad parameters of Discipline, Attitude, Application, **Job Knowledge**, and group values. The final role fitment report will be submitted to HR Department.

2.2.5 The Principal / Director / HOD/ Registrar/Dean will discuss the performance of the probationer and record the employee's strengths and required areas of improvement in the personal file of the employee.

2.2.6 Duly completed Probationary Role Fitment report with the recommendations of the Principal / Executive Director / Director / Registrar/ Dean / HOD for confirmation, will be sent to HR Department at least two weeks before the completion of the probation period.

2.2.7 During the period of probation, an employee shall be liable to be discharged from the service without assigning any reason, at the sole discretion of the Management without giving any notice.

2.2.8 During probation, no request for resignation will be entertained. In case, the probationary staff leaves the job then the notice period pay will be applicable.

2.2.9 The management may, at its sole discretion, accept notice pay in lieu of the notice period. Notice pay shall mean gross salary of the employee including allowances, if any.

2.3 Extension of Probation Period

2.3.1 Instances where an employee does not meet the required standards of performance, the Principal / Executive Director / Director / Dean / HOD may recommend extension of the probation for a maximum of six months.

2.3.2 Probation period may be extended under any of the following circumstances:

2.3.3 Performance of the probationer is not up to expectations, but showing interest in improving

2.3.4 The role and the skills of the probationer are not aligned

2.3.5 A mutually agreed and detailed Role Fitment Report involving counselling and training will be documented and areas of improvement clearly communicated to the employee.

2.3.6 The probation may be extended only once. When probation is extended for an employee, the Principal / Executive Director / Director / Dean / HOD shall send the Probationary Role Fitment report to HR Department at least 15 days before the expiry of probation, clearly stating the reasons for extension. HR will send necessary reminders in time.

2.3.7 Based on the recommendation of the Principal / Executive Director / Director / Dean / HOD, HR Department will formally communicate the extension of the probation through a letter to the employee through the Principal / Executive Director / Director / Dean / HOD.

2.3.8 The performance will be reviewed once again at the end of the extended probation period. The probationer's services may be confirmed subject to satisfactory performance.

- 2.3.9 If the probationer's performance remains unsatisfactory after the extended probation, his or her services may be summarily terminated, without assigning any reason.
- 2.4 Confirmation of services**
- 2.4.1 On successful completion of the probation, the services of the probationer will be confirmed as per the terms of appointment.
- 2.4.2 Upon confirmation, the notice period on either side will be two months for teaching, non teaching, library and technical staff, three months for Principal / Executive Director / Director / Dean / Heads of the Department. It is mandatory to serve the notice period and the option of offsetting the notice period, partly or fully will be at the sole discretion of the management. The Management may also, at its sole discretion, accept notice pay in lieu of the notice period. Notice pay shall mean gross salary of the employee.
- 2.4.3 In case, any permanent faculty wishes to resign / desire to get relieved, he / she shall give two months advance notice, for Principal / Sr. Executive Director / Executive Director / Director / Dean / Registrar / HODs of Academic and Non Academic department it shall be three months notice period, for technical, library and non teaching staff members it shall be two months notice period in such a way it is coinciding with the end of the semester.
- 2.4.4 If any staff member resigns within two months of semester beginning and wants to get relieved immediately, he / she needs to pay notice period gross salary to the institution and also has to pay the equal amount of salary drawn during semester break.
- 2.4.5 The working hours of the staff members shall be eight hours from Monday to Friday. First and Third Saturday of every month will be a holiday and second and fourth Saturday is full working day and fifth Saturday will half a day working. The working hours may be amended by the Head of the Institution / Management as and when required, suiting the needs of the institution.
- 2.4.6 In case, the work or conduct of a staff member is found to be unsatisfactory or if he / she absents himself / herself without prior intimation or disobeys the rules and regulations of the institution or violates the instructions issued by the Principal / Management, he / she is liable to be terminated from the service, without any prior notice.

Chapter III INDUCTION POLICY

- 3.1 Objective**
To facilitate smooth assimilation of *new employees* into the institution and help them understand the institution as a whole, develop a sense of belonging, getting to know one's extended colleagues, make them familiar with all aspects of their job, their responsibilities, setting clear their expectations, familiarizing them to the available resources and applicable policies, procedures, and traditions of the institution.
- 3.2 Applicability**
All new employees of the institution
- 3.3 Policy**
- 3.3.1 The HR Department shall ensure that every employee, irrespective of grade, goes through an Orientation Program, which will be mandatory for the employee to attend.
- 3.3.2 The duration and scope of Orientation program may vary with the grade of the employee and the depth of information that needs to be shared during induction.
- 3.3.3 The Orientation program shall include the following:
- 3.3.4 Introduction to the Institution
- 3.3.5 Institution Vision, Mission, Values and Quality Policy
- 3.3.6 Introduction to HR Policies
- 3.3.7 Introduction to key officials
- 3.3.8 Welfare measures
- 3.3.9 Work culture

Chapter IV MEDICLAIM AND PERSONAL ACCIDENT INSURANCE

4.1 Objective

To provide employee welfare through basic assurance of healthcare to employees and help them meet unforeseen personal expenses arising from medical emergency.

4.2 Eligibility & Applicability

4.2.1 All regular employees of the institution, including probationers will be covered.

4.2.2 Mediclaim Insurance coverage is applicable for the teaching and non teaching / technical employees.

4.3 Policy & Procedure

4.3.1 Mediclaim Insurance

4.3.2 A minimum hospitalization of 24 hours is a pre-condition for any claim, for ailments as covered under the Mediclaim Policy.

4.3.3 Annual entitlement of Medical Insurance is Rs.2,00,000/- (Rupees Two Lakhs only). This can be used only by the individual employees.

4.3.4 All claims are governed by the terms & conditions agreed between the Insurance company and the employee under the Mediclaim Insurance Policy.

4.3.5 In all disputes arising in respect of medical insurance, the decision of the Management shall be final.

4.4 Personal Accident Insurance

4.4.1 Applicability: To all the Drivers, Purchase Officers and Outdoor assistants.

4.4.2 Annual entitlement of Personal Accident Insurance is Rs.10,00,000/- (Rupees Ten Lakhs only) and also eligible for Mediclaim of Rs. 2,00,000/- This can be used only by the individual employee.

4.4.3 All claims are administered / settled as per the terms & conditions between the Insurer and the institution under the Personal Accident Insurance Policy.

Chapter V ESI BENEFIT

5.1 All Employees who are drawing a gross salary of INR 21000 and below, covered under ESI Act , are entitled for the benefits as mentioned below, administered by ESI Corporation:

5.1.1 Medical Benefit

5.1.2 Sickness Benefit

5.1.3 Extended Sickness Benefit

5.1.4 Temporary and Permanent Disablement Benefit

5.1.5 Dependents Benefit

5.1.6 Maternity benefit

5.1.7 Rajiv Gandhi Shramik Kalyana Yojana

5.1.8 Funeral Expenses

5.1.9 Confinement expenses

5.1.10 Medical care to retired insured persons

Chapter VI
TUITION FEE CONCESSION AT NEW HORIZON

- 6.1 Objective**
To provide employee welfare through tuition fee concession to the dependent children of employees who opt for admission into the Institution.
- 6.2 Eligibility & Applicability**
All regular employees who have completed two years of service in New Horizon are eligible for fee concession for a maximum of two children.
- 6.3 Policy & Procedure**
- 6.3.1** The child will be entitled for 50% concession in the tuition fees for all the years.
- 6.3.2** Those seeking this concession shall apply in the prescribed format with requisite details and supporting documents to Senior Executive Director – Accounts and Finance.
- 6.3.3** Accounts Department will check all the relevant documents for processing and approval and will arrange for the disbursement of the amount. The reimbursement shall be made annually.
- 6.3.4** In the event of separation of an employee from the institution, the fee concession will be stopped with immediate effect. However, the Financial Assistance already extended shall be waived, provided the separation is not on disciplinary grounds.

Chapter VII
REIMBURSEMENT OF TELEPHONE EXPENSES

- 7.1 Objective**
- 7.1.1** To facilitate communication for employees where such facilitation is considered necessary for greater effectiveness in one's official role.
- 7.1.2** To provide for reimbursement of such expenses.
- 7.2 Eligibility & Applicability**
- 7.2.1** Regular employees of New Horizon, working in Administration, Accounts, Training & Placement, other shared services, etc., depending upon work exigency and special approval of Chairman.
- 7.2.2** The eligibility limits specified for each grade shall be decided by the Management from time to time and is subject to changes at the sole discretion of the management.
- 7.3 Policy & Procedure**
- 7.3.1** The mobile allowance is provided strictly on need basis with special approval of the Chairman.
- 7.3.2** All mobile phone bills shall be settled directly by the employees and reimbursement claimed at actual or based on eligibility, whichever is lower.
- 7.3.3** In case the bill amount exceeds the grade-wise eligibility approved, the reimbursement shall not exceed the specified limit mentioned against each grade, unless there is a special approval.
- 7.3.4** Any exception to the reimbursement limit would be approved only upon proper justification and will be done as an exception and not resorted to as a routine practice.
- 7.3.5** Employees shall settle their phone bill on a monthly basis & claim eligible reimbursement from the Accounts Department.
- 7.3.6** This facility is provided to a few employees, based on their need and nature of work.

8.9 Faculty Development Programme (FDP)/Staff Development Programme (SDP)

- 8.9.1 Members of the staff are encouraged to participate in Workshops/SDP/FDP, as may be decided by the Institution from time to time.
- 8.9.2 Faculty members attending a program of more than three days duration shall plan their participation in the semester break/summer vacation so that the academic schedule of the students remains undisturbed. Members of the faculty pursuing their PhD part time are also encouraged to attend summer training programs organized by reputed institutions.
- 8.9.3 Eligibility for such programs shall be restricted to two staff members per semester from a department. In general, programmes sponsored by AICTE/ISTE/DST and other instances where the host institution takes care of significant portion of the training cost shall be given priority, and the faculty will be given Academic Leave (OOD) for the period.

**Chapter IX
STAFF REFERRAL INCENTIVE POLICY**

9.1 Objective

To provide incentive to existing staff members to refer and bring in external candidates to New Horizon

9.2 Eligibility

All staff members on rolls

9.3 Policy and Procedure

- 9.3.1 Staff referring (Referee) a candidate for appointment to New Horizon shall ask the referred candidate to attach the Staff Referral Form to his or her application form when applying to the Institution.
- 9.3.2 The referral incentive shall be paid to the Referee, after the referred candidate completes at least three months of service with New Horizon.
- 9.3.3 The referral incentive shall be :
- 9.3.4 Rs.5000/- per candidate to the Referee who refers any candidate for the post of teaching staff.
- 9.3.5 Rs.2000/- per candidate to the Referee who refers any candidate for the post of non teaching staff.

Chapter X LAPTOP POLICY

- 10.1 Objective**
To provide a more technology-enabled work culture, and move towards a paperless work environment.
- 10.2 Eligibility & Applicability**
- 10.2.1** All teaching faculty, with a service of at least six months at New Horizon.
- 10.2.2** All key positions from Non-teaching staff on special approval of Chairman.
- 10.3 Policy & Procedure**
- 10.3.1** New Horizon will provide interest free loan for procurement of a new laptop, subject to a maximum of Rs. 30,000/- (Rupees Thirty Thousand only).
- 10.3.2** The facility will be available once every four years for the faculty, meaning, the gap between availing of one loan and the next under this head shall be at least four years.
- 10.3.3** The loan shall be recovered in 10 equal instalments from the end of the month in which the loan is availed.
- 10.3.4** Until the loan has been discharged fully, the laptop shall be considered the property of the Institution.
- 10.3.5** Approval of the loan will be at the sole discretion of the Management.

Chapter XI LOCAL CONVEYANCE REIMBURSEMENT

- 11.1 Objective**
To govern the reimbursement of local conveyance expenses.
- 11.2 Eligibility & Applicability**
All employees on regular rolls of New Horizon.
- 11.3 Policy & Procedure**
- 11.3.1** Employees using taxis for official purpose are entitled to claim reimbursement at actual.
- 11.3.2** Reimbursement should be claimed on a weekly basis.

Chapter XII
TRAVEL AND DEARANCE ALLOWANCES POLICY

- 12.1 Employees are entitled to travelling allowances (TA) & daily allowances (DA) based on the basic pay range category as indicated below:

Gradation of Employees (Excluding Sports department)	
Category	Description
A	Management, Executive Director, Director, Principal, Dean , Registrar, Heads of Academic departments, Controller of Examination
B	Professor, Associate Professor, Heads of non-academic Departments, Deputy Registrar, Assistant registrar, Training & Placement Officer
C	Assistant Professor, Sr. Asst. Professor
D	Technical & Non - Teaching

- 12.2 The deputation for the college/school on duty purpose can claim these benefits.

ITEMS	Category			
	A	B	C	D
Travelling Allowance				
1.Travel by air within state & outside state	Eligible	*	-	-
2. Travel by train	I Class AC	II AC	III AC	II Class Sleeper
3.Travel by bus	Highest grade	AC Volvo	Deluxe	Ordinary
4.By taxi/own vehicle	As per actual	Rs.10/- per KM	Rs .5/-per KM	-
Daily allowance				
(a)Within Karnataka				
Bangalore	Rs.350/-	Rs.275/-	Rs.225/-	Rs.150/-
Cities**	Rs.275/-	Rs.225/-	Rs.175/-	Rs.100/-
Other Places	Rs. 225/-	Rs. 175/-	Rs .150/-	Rs.100/-
(b) Outside Karnataka				
Cities**	Rs. 450/-	Rs.350/-	Rs. 300/-	Rs. 225/-

Other Places	Rs. 300/-	Rs. 275/-	Rs.225/-	Rs. 175/-
Lodging				
(a)Within Karnataka				
Cities**	Rs.2000/-	Rs.1500/-	Rs.1000/-	Rs. 750/-
Other Places	Rs. 1500/-	Rs. 1000/-	Rs. 750/-	Rs. 500/-
(b)Outside Karnataka				
Cities***	Rs.3000/-	Rs.1500/-	Rs. 1000/-	Rs. 1000/-
Other places	Rs. 2000/-	Rs. 1000/-	Rs. 750/-	Rs. 750/-

For Physical Education Department Staff

Daily Allowance

(a) Within Karnataka	
Bangalore	Rs. 150/-
Cities**	Rs. 100/-
Other Places	Rs. 100/-
(b) Outside Karnataka	
Cities**	Rs. 225/-
Other Places	Rs. 175/-

Travelling Allowance

1. Travel by train	III AC
2. Travel by bus	Deluxe
3. By taxi / own vehicle	Rs. 5/- per KM

Lodging

(a) Within Karnataka	
Cities**	Rs. 750/-
Other Places	Rs. 500/-
(b) Outside Karnataka	
Cities**	Rs. 1000/-
Other Places	Rs. 750/-

Note:

- 12.3 Travelling allowance/Daily allowance/Lodging is not additional income but only the reimbursement of expenses to norms. Wherever the expenses are less than the maximum indicated, the institution shall pay only actual.
- 12.4 All hotel stay shall be supported by vouchers/bills and reimbursement to actual subjected to the above limits. DA need not be supported with bills.
- DA is paid as follows in a day of 24 hours:
 - Up to 6 hours – Nil
 - 6 to 12 hours – 50%
 - More than 12 hours – 100%
- 12.5 Journey from Institution and return to Institution is part of the DA entitled period.
- 12.6 TA & DA is for deputation to higher studies /training/ Seminar/ conference/
- 12.7 workshop/tour for student counselling/ official works with VTU, AICTE or other controlling authorities. The period spent on the above purpose will be treated as on duty & eligible for TA & DA as mentioned above. TA & DA is only admissible, if the organizing authority is not ready to pay.
- 12.8 Wherever possible, staff members are to share transport and also to use transport if provided by outside agencies. In case of sharing, only one of the staff will claim the conveyance charges.
- 12.9 DA is not permissible for the days the staff member is on leave while on tour.
- 12.10 The claim with the supporting vouchers and letters should be submitted within one week on return to headquarters.

Chapter XIII POLICY ON PERSONAL USE OF OFFICIAL VEHICLE

13.1 Preamble

Certain key employees are permitted free use of official vehicle by the management for personal use. While use of official vehicles for personal use is not encouraged in general, occasionally such requests keep coming. This policy lays down the conditions for such use.

13.2 Objective

To provide for the use of office vehicles, subject to availability, for personal use by certain *Key employees* from time to time.

13.3 Eligibility and coverage

- 13.3.1 The Key Employees for the purpose of this policy shall be Principal, Director, Registrar and Heads of the Departments. Eligible employees may be permitted at the rate of Rs. 12/- per km.
- 13.3.2 Such use is not a matter of right and the eligible employees are advised to use the facility sparingly.
- 13.3.3 The approval authority shall be Chairman.
- 13.3.4 The relevant charges will be paid by the eligible employee directly to Accounts Department.
- 13.3.5 The charges will be settled within 7 working days. When seeking payroll deduction, the deduction must be effected in the same month or, (in case the travel happened in the last five days of a month) in the immediately following month.
- 13.3.6 The rate specified is subject to revision from time to time.
- 13.3.7 While the main log book will reflect all movements of a vehicle, a separate log book recording all personal use by eligible employees will also be maintained in each vehicle.
- 13.3.8 Employee shall email a soft copy of the Vehicle Requisition Form to Chairman's office with all the required details. After the vehicle is used, Transport department will fill in the meter reading at the time of start and end of the journey, and then forward the requisition to the Accounts Departments.

Chapter XIV LEAVE POLICY

- 14.1 Objective**
To communicate the leave entitlements and provide guidelines for availing these leave.
- 14.2 Eligibility & Applicability**
All employees on regular rolls of the Institution.
- 14.3 Policy & Procedure**
- 14.3.1 Categories of leave available to the employees are: Casual Leave, Maternity Leave, Earned Leave, Compensatory Off, Vacation, and Leave without Pay.
- 14.3.2 For the purpose of leave, "Year" shall mean the Calendar Year commencing 1st January and ending 31st December.
- 14.3.3 All leaves shall accrue effective 1st January of every Year on real time basis.
- 14.3.4 Employees shall apply for leave on prescribed formats or on-line or by uploading the information in the online platform on the institution.
- 14.3.5 Holidays and weekly-offs between the leaves will be treated as a part of leave only.
- 14.3.6 Entitlement & Procedure for availing Leaves:
- 14.4 Casual Leave (CL)**
- 14.4.1 All Employees are eligible for 12 days of CL in a calendar year, which shall be credited to them upon joining, on pro-rata basis, until the completion of one year of service.
- 14.4.2 Employees may avail CL for half-day also.
- 14.4.3 CL may be prefixed or suffixed to intervening holidays or weekends but not on both the sides.

- 14.4.4 Un-availed CL will automatically lapse at the end of the calendar year.
- 14.4.5 All permanent teaching, technical and non-teaching staff members are entitled to twelve days of Casual leave (C.L.) in a calendar year.
- 14.4.6 Six days of CLs will be credited in advance on Jan 1st and remaining Six CLs will be credited in advance on July 1st of each calendar year.
- 14.4.7 Part - time employees are not entitled for any kinds of leave.
- 14.4.8 The permanent employee can avail Casual leaves up to 3 days at a time.
- 14.4.9 The Competent Authority can sanction up to 3 days of casual leave to staff members. The casual leaves beyond 3 days shall be the approved by the Chairman in case of extreme emergency.
- 14.4.10 C.L. shall not be availed without prior sanction of the sanctioning authority. The sanctioning authority may refuse to grant C.L., if he /she feel that the work cannot be managed due to functional reasons. In exceptional cases such as, an emergency caused due to **sudden** illness or death in the family, information shall be sent to the respective leave sanctioning authority in time enabling them to arrange a substitute.
- 14.4.11 Casual leave availed on Saturday will be considered as one full casual leave.
- 14.4.12 If the casual leave is both prefixed and suffixed to general holidays, then one side of the holiday is included as a casual leave. If a casual leave is not available, then the leave will be considered as leave **without pay**.
- 14.4.13 Leave without pay shall be granted in continuation of casual leave on special Occasions / Emergencies.
- 14.4.14 Staying away from duty without prior permission in the normal circumstances will be construed as absence without leave, resulting in loss of pay. Each day of unauthorised shall be liable to **two days of pay deduction**.

Attendance Certificate from the concerned institute / association is compulsory for considering OOD.

14.8.4 Casual leave to the credit of the employees can be clubbed with the OOD.

14.9 ON EXAMINATION DUTY (OED)

14.9.1 The faculty is entitled for 14 days of OED in a calendar year.

14.9.2 Casual leave to the credit of the employees can be clubbed with the OED.

14.9.3 Affiliated University/the concerned Board/the University, with whom New Horizon Educational Institution is having collaboration, may ask faculty members for their examination work. Faculty members may take up the same work up to 14 days in a year and it will be considered as On Examination Duty Leave. Attendance Certificate from the University / Board is compulsory for considering OED.

14.10 EARNED LEAVE (EL)

14.10.1 Administrative officers including Principal, Executive Director, Director, Registrar, Deans, HODs of Non Academic departments are eligible for 21 days of Earned leave in a calendar year after completion of one year of continuous service in NHC.

14.10.2 Deans and HODs of Academic departments are eligible for 30 days of Earned leave in a calendar year after completion of one year of continuous service in NHC.

14.10.3 Earned leave must be utilized in that calendar year only. It will be decided by the Chairman or the Head of the Institution from time to time.

14.10.4 In respect to those who joined during the middle of the calendar year, earned leave shall be credited at the proportionate rate for each completed month of service.

14.10.5 The credit for the half year in which an Administrative Officer is due to retire or resign from service shall be afforded at 2 ½ days for each month of service up to the date of retirement or resignation, subject to a maximum of 30 days in case of HODs and Chief librarian and 1 ½

days for Principal, Executive Director, Director, Registrar, Deans subject to maximum of 21 days. When an administrative officer is removed from the service or dies while in service, the credit of earned leave shall be allowed at 2 ½ days for each month of service up to the date of retirement or resignation or death, subject to a maximum of 30 days in case of HODs and Chief librarian and 1 ½ days for Principal, Executive Director, Director, Registrar, Deans subject to a maximum of 21 days.

14.10.6 The Management of the institution is employee friendly and would like employees to have proper work life balance. Therefore, all the Administrative Officers should avail compulsory one week of Earned leave during semester break and balance leaves can be utilized as and when required.

Chapter XV

VACATION LEAVE

15.1 Preamble

As per the Calendar of Events for the academic year the last working day and the first day of every Semester will be as per University notification. Based on this and keeping in tune with the Leave Policy, the following Vacation Policy will be implemented.

15.2 Vacation Policy

15.2.1 The following vacation can be availed:

- Permanent faculty / Student counsellors / Life Skill Trainers can avail 02 vacation slots
- Probationary faculty / Students counsellors / Life Skill Trainers can avail 01 vacation slot.
- Permanent non-teaching and technical staff can avail 01 vacation slot.
- Probationary Non Teaching and Technical Staff are eligible for 03 days of Vacation.

15.2.2 Vacation slots will be assigned as Sunday-Sunday slots. Vacations cannot be taken in any other ways except the Sunday-Sunday slots. No exceptions! Comp. offs may be clubbed with the Vacation Leave with prior approval of their respective Dept. Heads.

15.2.3 If a general holiday is in a given slot, the general holiday will be considered as vacation day. In other words, no additional vacation day will be given for the general holiday.

15.2.4 If a staff takes vacation from Sunday to any other day (e.g: Thursday) he/she loses the remaining vacation days of that slot (e.g: Friday & Saturday)

15.2.5 Faculty members are to compulsorily do the assigned Invigilation / Valuation duties even if it comes in between / during their vacation slots. If a faculty is found not doing his/her assigned duties even on one day, he/she will forfeit all the vacation slots. If a vacation is taken, it will be considered as loss of pay.

15.2.6 Any staff resigning or planning to resign before the beginning of the Semester cannot avail any vacation. If a staff resigns after availing any amount of vacation, those days will be considered as loss of pay.

15.2.7 Faculty Members can avail the vacation after the minimum academic duties have been fulfilled. Please read the Academic Duty Policy for further information. Dept Heads are to ensure that the faculty members have fulfilled their academic duties including Internal Assessment & filling OMR sheets before allotting the vacation slot.

15.2.8 Department Heads are to discuss the vacation policy with their faculty members and with the help of their Department Executives, prepare a dept. matrix indicating the staff name and his/her vacation slots. Keep in mind that at least 60% of the faculty members are to be present at any given time to run the department. This information should be put in the Staff Attendance register and given to the HR department. No changes in the vacation assignment will be entertained as this will lead to complications and extra 'wasteful' work.

Chapter XVIII PROMOTION POLICY

18.1 Preamble

This policy governs the promotions for the faculty so as to encourage them through high quality teaching, research and Institutional commitment.

18.2 Eligibility

18.2.1 From Assistant Professor to Associate Professor, and Associate Professor to Professor, in all disciplines

18.2.2 PhD Qualification

18.2.3 Required number of years of experience

18.2.4 Prescribed research output

18.2.5 Acceptable teaching feedback

18.2.6 Demonstrated academic administration

18.2.7 Performance / Self Appraisal system

18.2.8 The Eligibility shall stand modified in the following cases:

18.2.9 For those whose probation may have been extended.

18.2.10 The Eligibility conditions may be extended at the discretion of the Management, in the following cases:

18.2.11 Faculty whose annual increments are on hold/delayed/deferred for want of fulfilment of academic commitments

18.2.12 Faculty with track record of misconduct

18.3 Policy and Procedure:

18.3.1 When PhD is just completed, completion shall mean possessing certificate of completion of PhD from the degree awarding Institution (or provisional degree certificate).

18.3.2 Indicated Output (Assistant Professor (1) to Assistant Professor (2))

- Should have minimum 3 years of teaching experience.
- Should have minimum 2 paper publication, workshop / seminar conference and one online MOOC / NPTEL every year.
- Teaching feedback from the students
- Results
- Proactive and enthusiastic participation in such tasks of academic administration tasks as may have been asked, required or expected of the faculty by the Management.

18.3.3 Indicated Output (Assistant Professor (2) to Senior Assistant Professor)

- Should have minimum 5 years teaching experiences and should have registered for Ph.D/ minimum 8 years of teaching experience.
- Should have minimum 2^{or} paper publication, workshop/seminar/conference and one online MOOC / NPTEL every year.
- Teaching feedback from the students
- Results
- Proactive and enthusiastic participation in such tasks of academic administration tasks as may have been asked, required or expected of the faculty by the Management.
- Requisite appraisal score.

18.3.4 Indicated Output (Senior Assistant Professor to Associate Professor)

- Should have acquired Ph.D

- Should have minimum 5 years of teaching experience and 2 years post Ph.D experience.
- Should have minimum 2 paper publication, workshop/seminar/conference and one online MOOC / NPTEL every year.
- Minimum 2 paper publication every year.
- Teaching feedback from the students
- Should give an undertaking for 3 years.
- Results
- Requisite appraisal score.
- Proactive and enthusiastic participation in such tasks of academic administration tasks as may have been asked, required or expected of the faculty by the Management.

18.3.5 Indicated Output (Associate Professor to Senior Associate Professor)

- Should have acquired Ph.D
- Should have minimum 5 years of teaching experience and 4 years post Ph.D experience
- Should have minimum 2 paper publication, workshop/seminar/ conference and one online MOOC / NPTEL every year.
- Should give an undertaking for 3 years.
- Teaching feedback from the students
- Results
- Proactive and enthusiastic participation in such tasks of academic administration tasks as may have been asked, required or expected of the faculty by the Management.

- Requisite appraisal score.

18.3.6 Indicated Output (Senior Associate Professor to Professor)

- Qualification and experience as required by the AICTE.
- Should have minimum 2 paper publication, workshop/seminar/ conference and one online MOOC / NPTEL every year.
- Should give an undertaking for 3 years
- Should have minimum 10 years of teaching experience and 2 years post Ph.D experience.
- Teaching feedback from the students.
- Results.
- Requisite appraisal score.
- Proactive and enthusiastic participation in such tasks of academic administration tasks as may have been asked, required or expected of the faculty by the Management.

18.3.7 Indicated Output (Professor to Senior Professor)

- Qualification and experience as required by the AICTE
- Should be very active in research, institute development and P G programme along with student development activities.
- Should be guiding atleast 3-4 students for Ph.D programme.
- Should have minimum 2 paper publication, workshop / seminar / conference and one online MOOC / NPTEL every year.
- Should give an undertaking for 3 years.
- Teaching feedback from the students.
- Results

19.5 Promotion Process

- 19.5.1 The process governing the promotion cycle is as under:
- 19.5.2 List of eligible employees (LEE): HR Department shall prepare LEE by May / June 30th.
- 19.5.3 Communicate LEE to HODs: The LEE shall be sent to the respective HODs for their Recommendation.
- 19.5.4 Promotion Recommendation Form (PRF): The Head shall fill in the PRF for the employee recommended for promotion and send it to the HR department by specified timeline.
- 19.5.5 Verification and submission of PRFs by HR Department to Principal: In order to ensure due justification for a promotion, new job description shall be entered in the PRF. HR shall then submit the PRFs to the Principal.
- 19.5.6 HR department, under intimation to the Principal, shall bring any exceptional cases recommended for promotion to the notice of the Chairman.
- 19.5.7 Review of PRFs: A duly constituted Promotion Recommendation Committee (PRC) shall review all the LEE cases and submit their final recommendations to the Chairman for approval. The PRC will comprise the following:
- Chairman
 - Principal
 - Director – Accounts and Finance
 - Registrar
 - Dean – Academics
 - Head – Human Resources
 - Head of the Department to which the staff belongs

- 19.6 **Approving Authority:** The Chairman will be the approving authority for all promotions. A proper statement giving all the details of the employee being recommended for promotion, together with the justification for the promotion, shall be submitted to the Chairman. Upon approval, Chairman shall review and approve the PRFs. All the promotion letters will be then signed by Chairman.

19.7 Responsibility of the Promotion Recommendation Committee

- 19.7.1 To scrutinize, review and discuss all PRFs diligently in terms of eligibility, ascertain the staff member's ability to take up higher responsibility in the promoted position, before making the final recommendation.
- 19.7.2 HR shall verify the job description and the new JD provided by the HOD.

19.8 Implementation

- 19.8.1 Promotions shall be taken up only once in a year during the PMS cycle.
- 19.8.2 As a rule, all promotions shall be effective from August 1st. Exceptions, if any, shall be approved by the Chairman. Promotion letter along with the JD shall be prepared by HR and handed over to the HOD.
- 19.8.3 All promotions letters shall be handed over to the employee by the respective Head of the Department through Human Resource Department.

- Requisite appraisal score.
- Proactive and enthusiastic participation in such tasks of academic administration tasks as may have been asked, required or expected of the faculty by the Management.

18.4 Grievance Redressal

18.4.1 Staff shall have the right to represent their grievance to their Director / Dean / HOD.

18.4.2 The Director / Dean / HOD shall redress the grievance within 7 working days, failing which the grievance may be escalated to the Principal and Head – Human Resources.

18.5 Administration of the Promotions:

18.5.1 Promotions Recommendation Committee, shall be constituted and the Committee shall comprise :

- Chairman
- Principal
- Sr. Executive Director – Accounts and Finance
- Registrar
- Dean – Academics
- Head – Human Resources
- Head of the Department to which the faculty / staff belongs

Note: The above are only eligibility criteria. Mere eligibility to promotion does not entitle one to promotion.

18.6 The Management may in exceptional circumstances relax or extend the eligibility criteria, at its discretion. Administration of this policy is within the sole discretion of the Management of the institution.

**Chapter XIX
PROMOTION POLICY FOR NON TEACHING STAFF**

19.1 Objective

To provide a detailed framework for advancement of career for the staff in a manner that shall incentivize superior work performance and provide for greater recognition of efforts

19.2 Eligibility

All non-teaching, library and technical staff.

19.3 Policy & Procedure

19.3.1 Pre-requisites for promotion

19.3.2 Promotions shall always be subject to appropriate vacancy in the higher grades, except when the management, at its discretion, enhances a job at a given grade to a higher grade.

19.3.3 A promotion must always lead to an enhanced responsibility in the institution.

19.3.4 The Employee shall have the potential, beyond mere eligibility, to take up higher role / responsibility.

19.4 Eligibility for promotion

19.4.1 Requisite performance rating in the previous years.

19.4.2 No adverse remarks/reprimand in the personal file in the preceding three years.

19.4.3 Requisite educational qualifications as per Job Description

19.4.4 No. of years of experience in the existing grade

19.4.5 However, mere eligibility is not a criteria for promotion.

Chapter XXII GRIEVANCE MANAGEMENT POLICY

22.1 Introduction

22.1.1 Individual Employee grievances and complaints which are primarily a manifestation of their dissatisfaction about working conditions, managerial decisions, if not promptly attended to, may affect morale and productivity.

22.1.2 There is a need for formal grievance process to address such matters.

22.2 Objectives:

22.2.1 The objectives of the grievances process is to settle/redress:

22.2.2 Grievances of the employees in the shortest possible time

22.2.3 At the lowest possible management level

22.2.4 With appellate stages so that it is fair, transparent and reasonable.

22.3 Eligibility & Applicability

All employees on regular rolls of the institution including part time employees

22.4 Scope and Coverage

22.4.1 Grievance for the purpose of this policy would mean dissatisfaction arising out of the decision of the Management concerning the employee.

22.4.2 Grievances for the purpose of this policy will cover individual grievances such as:

22.4.3 Payment of Salary

22.4.4 Recoveries of dues etc.

22.4.5 Increment

22.4.6 Working conditions/Health & Safety

22.4.7 Leave

22.4.8 Medical Insurance / facilities

22.4.9 Non-extension of benefits under rules

22.4.10 Promotion

22.4.11 Administration or Academic issues

22.4.12 HR Policy administration

22.4.13 Compensation & Benefits

22.4.14 Related to Appraisals

22.4.15 Reimbursements

22.4.16 Interpersonal Conflicts/Issues with the HOD or team members

22.4.17 Role fit

22.4.18 Only grievance affecting an individual employee may be raised.

22.4.19 Separation/Retention

22.4.20 The grievance arising out of the following will not come under the purview of the grievance procedure:

22.4.21 Terms of appointment settled prior to joining

22.4.22 Matters relating to disciplinary enquiry / action

22.4.23 Where the grievance does not relate to an individual employee

22.5 Procedure for handling Grievances

The individual can raise grievance according to following procedure:

22.6 STAGE-I

22.6.1 The aggrieved employee may take up the grievance in writing with the HOD, who must try to resolve the grievance at that level immediately.

- 22.6.2 In case any grievances need more number of working days to resolve, the respective employee should be informed.
- 22.6.3 In case the employee is not satisfied with the redressal of the grievance he/her may submit the grievance, in writing, to the Principal with a copy to HR.
- 22.6.4 The HR will record comments on the grievance form after making necessary enquiries along with Principal.
- 22.6.5 In case of any delay in resolving the grievance, the Head - HR will inform the aggrieved employee with a copy to Principal of such a delay with reason.
- 22.7 STAGE- II :**
- 22.7.1 The aggrieved employee who is not satisfied with the decision of the Committee will have an option to appeal to Chairman with the detailed reasons for the appeal.
- 22.7.2 The Chairman will take a decision and communicate the same to the aggrieved employee and the decision will be final and binding.
- 22.8 GENERAL CONDITIONS:**
- 22.8.1 If the grievance is against the Director / Dean / HOD then employee can skip one level and escalate her/his grievance to next level.
- 22.8.2 The executive shall bring up the grievance immediately within a reasonable period of time.
- 22.8.3 Only an aggrieved employee can raise the grievance.
- 22.8.4 If the grievance is arising out of an order passed by the Management, the said order shall be complied with before the executive concerned invokes the procedure laid down for redressal of the grievance.
- 22.8.5 Quarterly MIS will be recorded in HR department on the various grievances raised by employees of the institution.

Chapter XXIII POLICY ON QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

- 23.1 Preamble**
The policy is aimed at supporting the existing faculty in pursuing full time Ph.D. with a study / special leave.
- 23.2 Applicability**
- 23.2.1 Only for pursuing Ph.D. with premier institutions (IITs, NITs etc.) or Universities as approved by the management.
- 23.2.2 Ordinarily, only one faculty per 10 faculty in a department shall be eligible (on first come first served basis) to avail the facility of study leave under this policy.
- 23.2.3 However, depending upon other considerations, the Management may entertain more candidates than indicated above.
- 23.2.4 Faculty should have completed at least 2 years of service in New Horizon to be eligible for study leave under this policy.
- 23.3 Procedure**
- 23.3.1 Faculty planning to proceed for their PhD will inform the HOD of the Department and the time frame over which they plan to pursue their PhD.
- 23.3.2 The faculty shall submit a formal application to the HOD, who shall forward the application to the Principal with his comments. The Principal and Head - HR will take the final decision in this regard, keeping in mind the overall faculty situation.
- 23.3.3 Based on the recommendations, the study leave would be sanctioned one day per week off from class room teaching facility will be granted as Special leave for research work
- 23.3.4 They shall submit a copy of the progress report duly signed by the guide to the Principal for every six months till the submission of the thesis.

- 23.3.5 Before proceeding, the faculty shall sign an agreement with New Horizon to serve the Institution, upon their return from leave, for a period of 3 years from the date of award of degree.
- 23.3.6 If any faculty member wants to resign or terminate his / her service within the Bond period, he / she has to refund six months gross salary in one instalment.
- 23.3.7 The period to complete Ph.D will be three and a half years and additional six months may be extended provided the case is recommended by Principal and HOD subject to the approval of the Chairman.
- 23.3.8 A faculty member enrolled for Ph.D program will be on regular rolls and entitled to get all the benefits like other existing faculty members.
- 23.3.9 The beneficiary employee will execute an indemnity bond to bind and abide by terms of a Bond as indicated below:
- 23.3.10 They shall submit a copy of the progress report duly signed by the guide to the Principal for every six months till the submission of the thesis.
- 23.3.11 All the terms and conditions of the bond will expire on the date when the beneficiary employee completes his / her service in the Institution.

Chapter XXIV CODE OF CONDUCT

24.1 Preamble

- 24.1.1 New Horizon College believes that for an institution to succeed, grow and excel, it needs to be anchored to its Values and Beliefs and motivate all its employees to consistently display these values in the course of their interactions.
- 24.1.2 The Code of Conduct and Ethics, articulated below, embodies the Institution's Values and Beliefs and endeavors to lay down guidelines for employees to follow in their day to day work life.
- 24.1.3 All employees are requested to read and imbibe the Code of Conduct and Ethics and follow it in letter and spirit, so as to maintain the highest standards of values in their conduct to achieve institution's objectives.
- 24.1.4 The Institution's Values and Beliefs shall act as the guiding principle in the enumeration, interpretation and periodic review of the Code of Conduct and Ethics.

24.2 Objective

- 24.2.1 The Institution's prides itself on the high standards embodied in its working principles. The institution expects its employees to adhere to these in their day to day activities.
- 24.2.2 The following Code of Conduct and Ethics is intended to provide guidelines for the Professional, Ethical, Legal and Socially Responsible behaviour that the institution expects from its employees.

24.3 Applicability

- 24.3.1 All employees on regular rolls of the institution including employees on Part time are governed by this Policy.
- 24.3.2 Employees are the representatives of the institution and hence are expected to demonstrate high degree of discretion and astute judgment in their dealings.

- 24.5.3 **Unethical Transaction:** No employee shall assist in the misuse of Institution's funds, irrespective of the amount involved, including, the misappropriation of such funds for her/his personal benefit, or customers.
- 24.5.4 All payment and transfers of premium and other items of value shall be made openly and must be disclosed and duly authorized by the concerned authority.
- 24.5.5 **Gifts and Entertainment:** Except in connection with and specifically pursuant to programs officially authorized by the institution, no employee shall accept, directly or indirectly take any money, objects of value, or favors / discounts from any person or other company/institute/organization that has or is doing or seeking business with the Institution. All employees must disclose authorized transactions of this nature to the higher authorities.
- 24.5.6 All payments or transactions must be consistent with applicable laws and accepted practice and must be accurately recorded in the institution's books and records.
- 24.5.7 **Relationship with Government and Public officials:** An employee of New Horizon may occasionally contact government and regulatory officials to keep them informed about her/his operations and positions on issues. She/he is responsible for these contacts and must understand and obey the laws governing lobbying activities and reporting requirements. She / he should also be familiar with specific rules set by individual agencies or other governmental bodies.
- 24.5.8 **Public Representation:** No employee shall, without the express consent of the /Management/ Competent Authority, call for Press meets, brief the Press or speak to the Media or participate in discussions, forums etc. in the media, to discuss any issues related to the activities of the institute or future prospects or projections of the Institution.
- 24.5.9 **Charitable Contributions:** Although employees are encouraged to be socially responsible and politically active, Employees may not contribute the institution's funds or assets to any Charitable Institution or similar Institution, unless such contribution is expressly permitted by law and has been pre-approved by the appropriate, authorized representative of the Institution.

- 24.5.10 **Political Activity:** No employee shall involve in any political activity directly or indirectly.
- 24.5.11 **Regulatory Compliance:** Every employee shall, in her/his business conduct, comply with all applicable laws and regulations, both in letter and spirit, in all the areas in which one operates.
- 24.5.12 **Third Party Representation:** Third Parties which have business dealings with New Horizon but are not members of the New Horizon Group, such as Consultants, Agents, Contractors and Suppliers are not authorized to represent a New Horizon Group without the written permission.
- 24.5.13 **Sexual Harassment and other harassment policy:** New Horizon Group recognizes that Sexual Harassment violates fundamental rights of gender equality, right to life and liberty and right to work with human dignity as guaranteed by the Constitution of India. To meet this objective, measures shall be taken to avoid, eliminate and if necessary impose punishment for any act of sexual harassment, which includes unwelcome sexually determined behaviour as per the Group's policy against Sexual Harassment.
- 24.5.14 **Other Harassment:** The Group prohibits harassment of one employee by another employee or group of employees or supervisor on any basis including but not limited to race, colour, religion, marital status, national origin, physical or mental disability and/or age.
- 24.5.15 The purpose of this policy is not to regulate our employees' personal morality. It is to assure that in the workplace, no employee harasses another.
- 24.5.16 Harassment includes but is not limited to slurs, epithets, threats, derogatory comments, unwelcome jokes and teasing.
- 24.5.17 **Whistle Blower policy:** The New Horizon Group provides a platform for employees to disclose information internally, which she/he believes shows serious malpractice, impropriety, abuse or wrong doing within the institution without fear of reprisal or victimization.

- 24.5.18 **Ethical Conduct:** New Horizon Group expects its employees to maintain high moral and ethical standards. These standards are characterized by honesty, fairness, equity in interpersonal and professional relationships as well as in our day-to-day activities. A GMR employee is supposed to inform in case, if he deviates from the above standard.
- 24.5.19 No New Horizon employee shall engage himself in any business activity. Further, if he directly or indirectly recommends any of his friends / relatives for any business dealing with New Horizon Group, he must disclose the nature of such relationships and transactions beforehand.
- 24.5.20 **Dress Code:** New Horizon Group's expects its employees to follow a dress code which helps them to work comfortably at the workplace and at the same time project a professional image for our customers, potential employees and the community we are a part of. Hence, it is essential that all employees take pride in her/his appearance and maintain proper dress code and general appearance during office hours. Employees are expected to dress neatly and in a manner consistent with the nature of the work performed.
- 24.5.21 **Substance Abuse-** To meet our responsibilities to Employees, the Group shall maintain a healthy and productive work environment. Misusing controlled substances or selling, manufacturing, distributing, possessing, using or being under the influence of illegal drugs and alcohol on the job is absolutely prohibited.
- 24.5.22 **Threats and Physical Violence-** No employee shall use threatening words, or assault or commit acts of violence or possess weapons, firearms, ammunition, explosives or incendiary devices in the workplace, on work premises or in work vehicles or elsewhere.
- 24.5.23 The list of behaviours, while not inclusive, provides examples of conduct that is prohibited by this policy:
- 24.5.24 Causing physical injury
- 24.5.25 Making threatening remarks
- 24.5.26 Aggressive or hostile behaviour that creates a reasonable fear of injury to another person or subjects another individual to emotional distress

- 24.5.27 Intentionally damaging employer property or property of another employee
- 24.5.28 Committing acts motivated by or related to sexual harassment or domestic violence.
- 24.5.29 **No Smoking-** Smoking is strictly prohibited in the premises of the workplace. Appropriate actions shall be initiated against any person found contravening with the policy of this code.
- 24.5.30 **Disciplinary Actions :** All employees covered under this Code of Conduct and Ethics are required to adhere to the principles and rules laid down in this code. Failure to do so will attract appropriate action including disciplinary action against the employee who is found to violate these principles.
- 24.5.31 Disciplinary action may include immediate separation of employment or any other action as deemed fit at the Institute's sole discretion. The Institution will recover any loss suffered by it due to violation of the provisions of this code by any employee.
- 24.5.32 Disciplinary Proceedings against the delinquent employee shall be conducted in accordance with the principles of natural justice.

Chapter XXV RETIREMENT

- 25.1 The date of compulsory retirement of a College employee shall be the afternoon of the last day of the month in which he/she attains the age of superannuation of 60 years for teaching and non teaching.
- 25.2 Provided further that where the date of compulsory retirement of a College employee is a general holiday or the date of compulsory retirement and the days preceding thereto are general holidays, he may be permitted to hand over charge on the afternoon of the last working day before the date of such retirement and may be allowed pay and allowances for the holidays.
- 25.3 College may grant re employment to any college employee beyond the date of his/her compulsory retirement if he/she is physically fit such that reemployment can be granted, except in very special circumstances, with the prior and specific sanction of college. They will be appointed on contract basis.
- 25.4 Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-rule a competent authority may remove or dismiss any college employee or may require him/her to retire compulsorily, on the ground of misconduct or insolvency or inefficiency.
- 25.5 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this rule or any other rule made or in the contract, or the terms and conditions of retention of any college employee in service after the date of compulsory retirement, the services of a college employee so retained shall be liable for termination at any time by a notice in writing given either by the college employee to the appointing authority or the appointing authority to the college employee and the period of such notice shall be one month.
- 25.6 Management is empower to exercise its right, over and above the conditions stipulated in the matter of retirement age and / or appointing such retired personnel on contract basis the rules and regulations will vary from time to time for such entrant appointments or as the case may be, for the period by which such notice falls short of one month.

- 25.7 The authority Competent to sanction terminal benefits shall prepare every six months i.e. on the 1st January and 1st July of each year a list indicating the names, designations, date of birth and date of retirement of all employees of college employees who are due to retire within the next 12 to 18 months. He/she shall send the list to Principal's office not later than 31 January and 31st July respectively.
- 25.8 Note: In the case of a college employee retiring for reasons other than superannuating, the Head of Human Resources shall promptly inform the college office as soon as the impending retirement becomes known to him / her.

Chapter XXVI R&D Cell

Operational Guidelines for a Sponsored Research Projects

26.1 Principal Investigator (PI):

26.1.1 PI of a sanctioned project is considered to be the prime interface between the funding agency and R & D Cell and is operational head of the project. The PI is advised to keep the whole project team (including the respective HoDs) aware about the progress of the project and involve the Co-PIs in all related project activities. In his/her absence, the PI may request any of the Co-PI to take-over the responsibility of running the project and inform the change to R&D Cell using prescribed form. However, if the responsibility is being handed over to another faculty member other than Co-PI, prior approval of Research & Development Committee (RDC) consists of HoDs/Dean (R&D)/ Principal is required.

26.1.2 *(In case of other than PI, originates/writes the Proposal for any Project, if submitted by other than the person who have generated/written the proposal for various reasons (limitations of handling more than 1 or 2 projects at a time etc as PI), then financial/non-financial incentives will be shared between them as decided by the HoD/Dean (R&D)/Principal as per the norms of NHC)*

26.1.3 The primary objective of New Horizon College (NHC) and R&D Cell is to encourage and nurture an environment to carry out research activities in the chosen professional fields/areas of interest. Accordingly, the members take initiative to work on local, regional, national and global challenges and to try to find logical/harmonious solutions to mitigate them by using efficient tools or techniques or methodologies.

26.2 Research & Development Committee (RDC):

26.2.1 RDC has been constituted with approved mandate and responsibilities of providing impetus to the College research and development activities and to provide support, advice and assist the Dean: Research and Development. It has representation from all departments and inter-disciplinary programs. The body has become a vibrant entity to discuss policy issues and the NHC receives the first level feedback from the faculty. RDC members

highlight shortcomings in procedural matters and thus sharpen the performance of the R&D Cell.

26.2.2 The NHC's R&D activity aims at innovation and technological progress/growth through academic and research collaborations with various Universities, Ministries of Central/State Governments, R&D Establishments and Industries to meet the immediate as well as futuristic needs of the society and industry. The scope and scale of research has been envisaged from the era of student projects/theses and academic researches to sponsored research/funded research projects to interdisciplinary and multi-disciplinary research programs.

26.2.3 The NHC faculty members, research staff and students conduct research with goals and objectives ranging from intellectual curiosity/creative exploration addressing contemporary challenges, developing technology, or writing scholarly publications. The NHC gains enormously from these activities and in fact, flourishes on faculty member quest. The NHC wishes to position itself in the world in near future as one of reputed and prestigious Institution known for its academic pursuit along with performance in the research domain. Consequently, the NHC has facilitated a healthy ambience for research – both in terms of sustained motivation, state-of-the-art infrastructure and scholastics.

26.2.4 **Research Idea:** Generate a list of best ideas from your research area (topics which are closest to your heart) in which you are really interested. As a Principal Investigator (PI), you should take into account your professional interest/passion in identifying new and important research questions. Organisation of brainstorming with a group (among peer at department) helps in terms of idea mapping. Moreover, identifying ideas that are innovative in which you will be comfortable requires refinement of your research idea in terms of its implement ability within the availability of scarce resources. One could establish an internal review panel as a team to discuss the efficacy of the proposed study. The team will concentrate on the improvement of scientific content of the proposal.

26.2.5 **Funding Agency:** One needs to learn about the funding agency in terms of its mission, research priorities, available financial resources, recent awards and current announcements. Faculty

should initiate interaction with the programme manager and seek required information on matching of the research idea and objectives of the agency. Faculty should visit the funding agency, if necessary and volunteer to serve on the review panel. Faculty needs to read and analyze the solicitation of the agency's grant application.

- 26.3 A General Format for Sponsored Research Project Proposal is provided below:**
- 26.3.1 Proposal Description: Title:** It is the summary of the proposed study. It shall be a good match to the proposed themes of the funding agency. Moreover, it should be easily remembered by the reader cum reviewer.
- 26.3.2 Summary of the Proposal:** One needs to highlight the aims and overview of the research plan. It should demonstrate the importance of the study and generate interest to the reviewer.
- 26.3.3 Research Statement:** Faculty should incorporate the relevance of the proposed study, the focus of the study and a rational plan to achieve the study goal(s).
- 26.3.4 Objectives:** The proposal should establish the overall direction of the proposed study. In the case of several objectives faculty should state the action, the behaviour and the standard against which it will be measured.
- 26.3.5 Literature Review:** Faculty needs to incorporate important work in a concise manner in the proposed study. In addition, faculty should try to advance the knowledge.
- 26.3.6 Study Design:** It shall be simple and clear. Moreover, the design should be based on the study objectives. You may need to discuss with the expert in research methods, if necessary, to obtain suggestions on sample design, data measurement, collection and analysis.
- 26.3.7 Ethics/IPRs:** Funding agencies are concerned with ethical issues of the scientific experimentation on humans, animals, etc. PIs are responsible for upholding academic integrity.

26.3.8 Viable Research Budget and Term: It consists of direct and indirect costs of the proposed study. Moreover, provide rationale for each budget item within the lines of the objectives of the study. It is advisable to seek assistance from the concerned department staff of the NHC, in case of interdisciplinary/multi-disciplinary studies. It is necessary to check your calculations before you submit it to the funding agency:

26.3.9 Benefits to the Academia and the Society: The proposed study should contribute to the knowledge base and find solutions to the society's problems. The relevant design and finding of the study should be disseminated to the targeted groups of the society. The information sharing strategy could be worked out in consultation with stakeholders. The funding agencies provide incentives (in such a way to attend conference/seminar/publications etc) to the PIs to share the findings of the study.

26.3.10 Thus, the investigator could incorporate the cost of the dissemination in proposed budget of the study.

26.4 Type of Research Projects

26.4.1 Initiation Grant for Innovative Projects of Students/Faculty Members:

26.4.2 To encourage Innovative Projects which will have scope for incubation and lead to potential enterprises, the R&D Cell will provide financial support to students of BE and M.Tech/MBA/MCA and Faculty Members. Funding will be for a maximum of Rs. 1 Lakh per project. No major equipment can be purchased or staff appointed out of this grant. Every year, the R&D Cell will issue circular inviting project proposals from students/faculty members through the Guide and concerned HoDs for financial support of R&D Cell.

26.4.3 The NHC funds grant to interested faculty member(s)/student(s)/Teaching Research Associates (TRAs) for initiating sensible research project(s). The proposal should include a description of research that he/she wishes to conduct over the next 1-2 years. It is a platform meant to help interested faculty

member(s)/student(s)/TRAs to prepare for subsequent proposal submissions.

26.5 Guiding Notes

26.5.1 The initiation grant is for an amount of Rs. 50,000/- to Rs. 1 Lakh at present to procure components, consumables, testing/hiring research equipments/facilities, reference books, miscellaneous items and domestic travel for the purpose of initiating projects. It does not include:

26.5.2 Appointing Staff;

26.5.3 Conference Travel (for which other sources are available).

26.5.4 Proposal is presented by the interested faculty member(s)/student(s)/TRAs before an RDC, consisting of HoDs/Dean (R&D), Experts and Principal.

26.6 Sponsored Research Projects

Sponsored project refers to one in which the PI does not charge honoraria/consultation fee. For a project sponsored by a government agency, no honorarium in any form can be claimed. Amount may be used by the PIs as approved in the respective budget head by the funding agency.

26.7 Individual Projects

The NHC encourages investigation of basic and applied areas of science and technology, high end technology development in the form of sponsored projects. Research grants for such projects are given by government agencies and industries (both national and international). These projects are usually of 2-5 years duration with periodic appraisals, while research objectives and goals may be refined along the way.

26.8 Collaborative Projects

26.8.1 Faculty may also participate in collaborative projects with other domestic (individuals/institutions/ professional bodies) or foreign partners (individuals/ institutions). In such projects, even though there may be an overall project, there must be a separate budget and scope of work statement to be done by the faculty and staff of the NHC. The summary statement provided to the NHC should be based primarily on the portion to be done by the NHC. The NHC will treat this like any other sponsored project.

26.8.2 The NHC soon after receiving the sanction letter from the Sponsoring Agency allows the Project Investigators to initiate the project work by duly hires the personnel, spending on consumables, using the infrastructure and resources of the NHC, in anticipation of the release of the Funds.

26.8.3 The money received through Grants is parked in the Current Account held by the NHC and the NHC does not earn any interest on the Grants received. Neither the NHC charges any interest from the Funding agencies in case of delay in reimbursement of expenditure or transfer of the Funds pledged by the agency towards the execution of the Projects by the PIs of NHC.

26.9 Guiding Notes

26.9.1 **Project Responsibility:** These projects are headed by a Principal Investigator (PI), and may have Co-Principal Investigators (Co-PIs)/administrative PI (to operate the project, in case PI is out of station) and the deliverables are the responsibility of the PIs.

26.9.2 For each sponsored project, the entire expenditure for the operation of the project is required to be met out of funds provided by the sponsoring agency.

26.9.3 The responsibility for operation of the project lies with the PI.

26.9.4 **Preparation and Submission of the Proposal:** The project proposal should be formulated according to the format prescribed by the concerned funding Agency. The format is available at the respective website of each Funding Agency. Project proposal forms for major

funding agencies are available at R&D Cell/HoDs of each Department/R&D Coordinators at each Department.

- 26.9.5 **Project Proposal Format:** Please refer 2 c) above.
- 26.9.6 While making an estimate of the funds required for a project, the following budget heads should be taken into account:
- 26.9.7 Salary of Project Staff (Research Associates) including PhD Scholars/TRAs.
- 26.9.8 Equipment
- 26.9.9 Consumables
- 26.9.10 Travel (domestic, international)
- 26.9.11 Contingency
- 26.9.12 Overheads (normally @20% of project cost; however, many funding agencies are allowing 10-15% of overheads only to self-financing colleges like NHC. Considering the nature of expenditure and contingencies, it is always suggested to have sufficient cushion (15-25%) in the budget proposal for negotiations/ optimization / liaison / cost escalation/ smooth implementation of project without any financial strains etc). Kindly discuss with HoDs/Dean (R&D) regarding the total project cost before sending to the funding agency.
- 26.9.13 **Overheads:** Overheads are presently calculated @15% of the total project cost.
- 26.9.14 Endorsement is printed on the HoD's/Dean's letterhead, and is signed by the PI.
- 26.9.15 A proposal that satisfies all the conditions, particularly of the overheads, will be forwarded by the HoD/Dean (R&D). Any deviation from the norms (e.g. reduction of overhead) will have to be discussed and explicitly approved. The approving authority for any relaxation is the HoD/Dean (R&D).

- 26.9.16 The respective Department Office will make a suitable record of the proposal, and then courier the project proposal to the concerned agency along with the NHC's cover letter duly signed by Head of the Institution (Principal). Alternatively, it may be given to the PI for forwarding it to the agency with due entry in dispatch register of NHC

26.10 c. Consultancy Projects

The Institute has expertise in various research areas to provide knowledge and intellectual inputs which are of interest to the industry. It encourages its faculty to undertake consultancy work which is an important tool in industrial growth of the Country.

26.11 Guiding Notes:

- 26.11.1 A consultancy project/task/work is one, where faculty and research staff provides knowledge and intellectual knowledge to industry (within India/outside India), primarily for their purposes. This is effectively a contract work in which all outputs belong to the sponsor.
- 26.11.2 All know-how developed as part of the consultancy assignment will be the property of the client as long as it is used by the client. Patent for any new development can be taken jointly between the client and the NHC. If the knowhow is transferred to a third party, royalty will be shared equally between the client and the NHC unless otherwise agreed upon. Wherever necessary, a Memorandum of Understanding can be signed between the NHC and the client in which the terms and conditions for the award and execution of the project have to be explicitly stated.
- 26.11.3 It is desirable that payments for consultancy be routed through the NHC. This means, that whenever payments are done, they should come in the name of the NHC, which will then do the needful for complying with statutory laws and then give the honorarium to the faculty/staff as the case may be.
- 26.11.4 The requirement originates from the industry concerned. The faculty is expected to estimate the time and cost required to accomplish the task.

- 26.11.5 **Preparation and Submission of the Proposal:** In case of a consultancy project, normally based on the requirement, proposal is prepared by the PI. It should specifically mention breakage of funds, normally consultancy fee as the primary component. It may also have budget for supporting manpower, equipment, travel contingency and other such costs to execute the consultancy project. Also consider the cost of availing of external assistance and subcontracting, if required.
- 26.11.6 Students can be employed on a part time basis and remuneration may be given based on the request from the PI/consultant.
- 26.11.7 **Overheads and Service Tax:** At the stage of proposal submission, the budget will reflect project costs (X), 25% overheads (0.25X) and service tax (10.3% of 1.25X). Service tax is subject to periodic revision by the Government of India. Service tax is not deducted on projects, if the funds are received in foreign currency. Service tax on equipment is not chargeable, in case equipment is to be returned to the funding agency/organization after completion of the project. This should be clearly spelt out in the MoU/proposal itself.
- 26.11.8 **In International Project:**
- 26.11.9 Funds are received in foreign currency;
- 26.11.10 service tax is not applicable;
- 26.11.11 The research collaboration of NHC with the other party/funding agency should be in conformity with the laws of both the Countries and/or International laws as the case may be.
- 26.11.12 A MoU/agreement that satisfies all the conditions, particularly of the overheads, service tax will be approved by the NHC. Any deviation from the norms (e.g. reduction of overhead) will have to be discussed and explicitly approved. The approving authority for any relaxation is the HoD/Dean: R&D.
- 26.11.13 The softcopy of the proposal will be sent to the Office for records.

- 26.11.14 **IPR Issues:** All IPR related issues are agreed between the Institute and the funding agency. Preferably, IPR will be jointly shared by NHC and the funding agency. For Board approved IPR policy of the Institute, please refer IPR Policy of NHC.
- 26.11.15 **MoU/Agreement Preparation:** NHC has approved guidelines for drafting MoU/Agreement of any Departments of NHC. For preparation of MoU/agreement, please contact: R&D Cell/HoDs of each Department/R&D Coordinators at each Department. Some template/model MoUs of different types are available with them.
- 26.11.16 When MoU is clear from all angles and acceptable to both the parties, it is sent to the Principal/Registrar for approval through HoD, along with the Note File (Summary of MoU).
- 26.11.17 After approval, PI/HoD/Dean (R&D)/Principal as the case may be along with witness sign the MoU.
- 26.11.18 **Project Responsibility:** These projects are headed by a Principal Investigator (PI), and may have Co-Principal Investigators (Co-PIs)/administrative PI (to operate the project, in case PI is out of station) and the deliverables are the responsibility of the PIs. The NHC provides the PIs necessary support.
- 26.11.19 After the project is sanctioned, for registration, operation of the Project, Contact: R&D Cell/HoDs of each Department/R&D Coordinators at each Department.
- 26.11.20 After completion of the project, final report should be submitted to the funding agency.
- 26.11.21 A completion certificate should be obtained from the funding agency for successful completion of the project based on which project account will be closed.
- 26.11.22 Payment of honorarium to all those associated with the assignment is made through, after deduction of service tax, and meeting other expenditures as envisaged in the project, the balance receipt of consultancy is distributed as: 34% to NHC Corpus, 33% to Department Development Fund (DDF), 33% to Personal Contingency Fund (PCF) for Professional Development of PI.

26.11.23 **Function of the Respective Department Office/R&D Cell during R&D Projects:** The Department Office/R&D Cell acts as a liaison between the NHC and industry/government bodies/professional bodies to undertake consultancy projects with specific problem, which are generally of short duration.

26.12 Testing Projects

26.13 The word refers to examining a component or a product against a standard. Examples could be testing the strength of concrete in a construction, compaction strength of soil, calibration of pressure gages, and chemical identification of unknown species. Testing is commonly accomplished in general-purpose laboratories and does not require elaborate preparation or data analysis.

26.14 Guiding Notes

26.14.1 The procedure for overall operation of the project is similar like that of consultancy project.

26.14.2 The MoU/agreement should be submitted to the Dean (R&D), after getting it forwarded by the HOD/Head of the Lab/Center where the facilities are available, for signature. Forwarding is required to ensure that sufficient resources are available, and the project can be executed.

26.14.3 A MoU/agreement that satisfies all the conditions, the service tax will be approved immediately. Any deviation from the norms will have to be discussed and explicitly approved. The approving authority for any relaxation is the HoD/Dean (R&D)/Principal.

26.14.4 The respective Department Office will make a suitable record of the proposal, and then courier the project proposal to the concerned agency along with the NHC's cover letter. Alternatively, it may be given to the PI for forwarding it to the agency with due entry in dispatch register of NHC.

26.14.5 The softcopy of the proposal will be sent to the Department Office of records. The HoD/Dean (R&D)/Principal is the competent authority for approving all project proposals.

26.14.6 **Overheads and Service Tax:** Overheads are not deducted on testing projects. Service tax at applicable rates is deducted. Service tax is not deducted on projects funded by agencies outside India and funds are received in foreign currency.

26.14.7 After deduction of service tax, the balance receipt of testing is distributed as: 34% to NHC, Corpus, 33% Department Development Fund (DDF), 33% Distribution (among participating employees).

26.15 Travel

26.15.1 Visits under projects are permitted with the approval of HoD/Dean (R&D)/Principal. The total number of days permitted to be away from duty for industrial consultancy or sponsored research work by any faculty member shall not exceed four days in a month. The number of days for consultancy and sponsored research projects together can be six days.

26.15.2 The staff member who will be undertaking the travel has to fill up the Proforma for sanction of TA/DA/Registration Fee from Project Funds. PI and Head of Department/Center have to countersign the form. The travel of Project staff can be approved by the R&D Coordinator of the respective Department. This is forwarded to the HoD/Dean (R&D), for approval. Care must be taken by the PI that the total expenditure on travel does not exceed the amount allotted for the purpose. After performing the journey the final TA bill has to be forwarded to the Accounts Section directly.

26.15.3 International travel in projects can be permitted only with the concurrence of the funding agency.

26.15.4 The proforma for short and long visits abroad by the Project Investigators requires a certification by HoD/Dean (R&D)/Principal that they have made alternate arrangements for carrying out the projects during their absence. Therefore the PIs are to take note of the following, before sending the request to HoD/Dean (R&D)/Principal.

26.16 For short leave (30 days to 90 days)

When one of the investigators goes on short leave, the other investigator(s) should also give his concurrence in writing that he will be available to carry out the project. If by chance all investigators are absent they must get a written concurrence from another faculty member to carry out the project in their absence.

26.17 For long leave (more than 90 days)

26.17.1 Under the normal circumstances, the project investigators should not proceed on long leave without completing the project and submitting the final report to the sponsoring agency.

26.17.2 In case there is more than one investigator, the remaining investigator(s) should give their written concurrence that they will carry out the project during the long absence of the one of the investigators.

26.17.3 However, the long absence of the investigator should have the concurrence of the funding agency. Also, the concurrence of the sponsoring agency should be obtained to nominate any other faculty as an investigator.

26.18 2. Incentives (Financial & Non-financial) to the PIs

26.20.1 The Project Investigators (PIs) can attend Conferences/ Seminars workshops in related areas utilizing the project grants. There is no ceiling for registration fee for attending National or International Conference held in India or abroad. Specific approval of the funding agency is required to utilize the travel grant for foreign trip.

26.20.2 Membership (life or annual) of a professional body and subscription to journals is permitted from projects. The ceiling 200 USD (Approx. Rs.12,000/- to Rs.13,000/-) in a year /per project.

26.20.3 The investigators of the projects shall be reimbursed from the contingency grants of the project (subject to availability of funds under this head) expenditure incurred for use of telephone for project activities. No reimbursement from projects funded by CSIR, AICTE and MHRD.

26.20.4 The above telephone reimbursements can include expenses incurred through cell phones (subject to production of certified bills) and to be claimed by submitting written request.

26.20.5 The consultants / investigators can be permitted to purchase cell phones only from their "PCF for Professional Development" account.

26.20.6 Health Insurance coverage, during visits abroad and personal accident insurance for both PI and project staff on work relating to projects is permitted.

26.20.7 PIs can incur, from project funds, expenditure of Rs.1000/- per bill as refreshment expenses towards meetings, interviews, connected with the projects subject to a ceiling of Rs. 5000/- per year per project. For amounts exceeding this limit, approval of the HoD/Dean (R&D) has to be obtained.

26.20.8 One annual credit card membership fee can be reimbursed from Sponsored or Consultancy projects.

26.19 Personal Contingency Fund (PCF) For Professional Development

26.19.1 The amount marked for PCF for Professional Development under each project is maintained for individual faculty through an identification number (Individual NHC Remittance A/c). This number will be the Employee Identification number (Four digit number) given by the NHC.

26.19.2 Following are the eligible items of expenditure under PCF approved by the RDC:

26.19.3 Travel expenses both national and international.

26.19.4 Membership in Professional bodies.

26.19.5 Reimbursement of taxi, telephone, health & accident insurance during visits in India and abroad.

- 26.19.6 In addition to the above, the following expenditure under PCF may also be included.
- 26.19.7 Purchase of Equipment through normal NHC Project Purchase procedures. Such equipments should be brought under Departmental Stock Register.
- 26.19.8 Expenses towards maintenance of the equipments purchased. If a permanent equipment is involved, such equipment should be brought under Stock Register.
- 26.19.9 Purchase of technical & scientific books, journal & software for personal professional use.
- 26.19.10 Expenditure for support services with the prior approval of the HoD/Dean (R&D)/ Principal.
- 26.19.11 *Travel:* Travel expenses including air/train fare, per diem expenses, insurance, etc. for both national & international travel as per NHC norms including advances. Approval of the HoD/Dean (R&D)/Principal and other administrative approvals wherever necessary, to be followed, as at present.
- 26.19.12 Membership of professional (scientific & technical only) bodies both National and International without any limit.
- 26.19.13 Boarding, lodging & entertainment expenses of the visitors for official purposes only.
- 26.19.14 Institution of awards/prizes within NHC.
- 26.20 General Information**
- 26.20.1 Reimbursement of the expenses can be claimed using prescribed proforma.
- 26.20.2 Reimbursement will be made to the concerned faculty member in all cases except for purchase of equipment.
- 26.20.3 The coordinators may consolidate their reimbursement claims and the claims can be sent to Accounts section once a month.

- 26.20.4 The Project Accounts will maintain and furnish funds availability position to the coordinators as and when required.

26.21 Receipt of Funds/Grants

Nowadays most of the grants (start or subsequent) are being released through RTGS/e-payment. PIs are requested to coordinate with Funding Agency to obtain a written communication (or email) of release of funds and convey this information to R&D Cell so that the grant may be credited to their project without any delay. In case of extraordinary delays in release of subsequent grants, where funds are required for payment of staff salary and very necessary expenses, PI may request R&D Cell to extend small loans using online form on IRIS to meet such expenses.

26.22 Project Staff Recruitment

- 26.22.1 *R&D Cell provides following options of recruiting project staff to kick-start the project activities:*

26.22.2 **Casual Appointments:** The PIs can immediately exercise this option and offer a contract of work on casual basis (informal selection) to anyone with suitable qualifications starting from the date of their choice using online form. However such awards are restricted to 3 months only for each individual. These may be given against sanctioned positions or for one-time requirement of a special nature. In the meantime, the process for Project Appointments (renewable on yearly basis) against the sanctioned posts in the project can be initiated.

26.22.3 **Project Appointments:** These appointments are contractual and renewed every year maximum up to the duration of the project or 5 years whichever is less. The request for the same may be initiated by filing offline Form.

26.22.4 The PI has two options for holding these selections in consultation with HoD:- Option I - Walk in test/ Interview; and Option II – Short listing followed by test and / or Interview. The composition of Selection Committee is to be sent to R&D Cell in offline Form.

26.22.5 R&D Cell will post the advertisement on R&D Cell website and a general notice will be published in a National Newspaper twice in a

- month indicating the availability of advertised posts under various projects on R&D Cell website.
- 26.22.6 **Assistantships:** Pls are encouraged to select full-time M.Tech/Ph.D. students through M.Tech. & Ph.D. selection process of the Department/Centre and extend assistantship through the Project against sanctioned staff positions. Use online form for sending requests for new assistantships and their renewals.
- 26.22.7 **Engagement on Honorarium:** Honorarium for providing assistance in project activities can be paid to full-time PhD/M.Tech/MS (R)/MBA/MCA/BE Degree students of NHC and students appointed under assistantship mentioned above as per approved norms using online form. The full time students from outside (during vacations)/casual students registered at NHC/other working professionals can be engaged for project activities with or without honorarium basis as per R&D Cell norms. The requests for such engagements are forwarded using online form. NHC supporting staff may also be engaged for specific project and consultancy activities and paid honorarium with the approval of HoD/Dean (R&D)/Principal. The requests for such payments using offline Form need to be forwarded through HoD/HoC in offline Form with justification of work being assigned. No honorarium can be paid to project staff employed in sponsored projects/consultancy jobs.
- 26.22.8 **Hiring of Casual Labour:** Casual labour for special needs of the project can be hired for specific work on contracted amount (normally based on daily wage norms of the NHC) for a maximum period of 3 months using online form for casual appointment. Beyond this period, such hiring is subjected to the recommendations of the Committee constituted by HoD/Dean (R&D), for which a online "General Request" be forwarded.
- 26.22.9 **Appointing Visiting Scientists:** The Pls can appoint visiting scientists by invitation against a sanctioned post in a project with the prior approval of HoD/Dean (R&D).
- 26.22.10 The detailed norms for recruitment of project staff are available on R&D Cell.1. **Day to Day Expenses**
- 26.22.11 You may draw a permanent imprest up to Rs. 15,000/- for day to day expenses/petty purchase using online form. Approval of

HoD/Dean (R&D) is required for drawing imprest beyond this limit. The accounts must be settled at the end of the financial year and can be drawn again in next financial year.

- 26.23 **Purchase of Equipments/Consumables**
- 26.23.1 The equipment purchase takes time and needs planning.
- 26.23.2 Please ensure the availability of sufficient funds in the project during the purchase process.
- 26.23.3 Please ensure to follow the Comprehensive Stores & Purchase Rules of the NHC available at Stores & Purchase Department to avoid any audit objection. Breach of purchase rules may lead to cancellation of order. These purchases can include Purchase/up gradation/buyback of equipments, fabrication, components, office equipments, consumables, stationery, Annual Maintenance Contracts, Annual Rate Contracts for goods and services.
- 26.23.4 **Minor Purchases:** The PI is authorized to make purchases up to Rs. 2 Lacs (minor purchase) himself/herself by means of Purchase Committees/Stores. Purchase up to Rs. 15,000/- may be made without forming purchase committee with the approval of Director (Accounts)/Principal. The purchases for a total value of more than Rs. 15,000/- and up to Rs. 1 Lakh can be done through a Purchase Committee approved by PI/Director (Accounts)/Principal ensuring and certifying the reasonability of the price. If necessary, the buyer may draw an advance up to Rs.1 Lakh using online form for making cash purchases while ensuring no single payment will exceed Rs.15,000/- subject to timely adjustment. Advance payments to vendors or payment against delivery through cheque can be done by taking prior approval of competent authority through HoDs/Director (Accounts)/R&D Cell/Principal.
- 26.23.5 **Bills:** For all purchases kindly make sure that the bills have Sl.No., Date and TIN/PAN no. of the vendor/supplier.
- 26.23.6 **Imports:** As per current rules, all imports (equipment, spare parts or consumables) regardless of their value should be processed through Central Stores & Purchase Section. In case of urgency, prior approval of the competent authority is required to make any

purchase in foreign currency through internet/credit card etc. We are in the process of modifying imports under minor purchase.

26.24 Organising Seminars/Workshops/Inviting Visitors

26.24.1 The project may require to arrange/organize Seminars/Workshops/Meetings etc. PIs are empowered for staging such events where such provision exists and the expenses are within the approved budget from Funding Agency. In case no specific provision exists in the project, expenses within a limit of Rs. 15,000/- may still be sanctioned by HoDs in consultation with PI, however, expenses beyond Rs. 15,000/- require prior approval of Principal.

26.24.2 Visitors from within country: You can invite outside scientist/expert to the NHC under a project for short duration (up to one week) for project related work with expenses limited to their entitlement. For visits exceeding one week and for any relaxation in entitlement, prior approval of the HoD/Dean (R&D) is required using online form.

26.24.3 Air travel requires the approval of HoD/Dean (R&D) using online form.

26.24.4 Visitors from abroad: You may also invite Students/Researchers/Visitors for project activities from abroad that will require the approval of HoD/Dean (R&D) using online form. In some cases, prior approval of MHRD/Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India is also required and the PI is required to submit additional details in offline Form No. available on R&D Cell.

26.25 Entertainment Expenditure

You may spend an amount limited to 10% of the contingency amount or Rs. 20,000/- per annum whichever is lower on entertainment expenditure. For any relaxation, approval of Associate Dean (R&D) is required.

26.26 Professional Provisions to enable efficient functioning of the Project

26.26.1 R&D Cell provides specific provisions that may be charged to the project if required for its smooth functioning.

26.26.2 You may purchase Data Card for mobile internet while travelling within the country for project related activities.

26.26.3 You may install telephones, faxes, broadband connections for project related activities with the approval of HoD/Dean (R&D) and claim reimbursement from project funds.

26.26.4 Part of the overhead charges is credited to the Personal Contingency Fund (PCF) for Professional Development of PIs and Co-PIs as described in the R&D Cell. These are governed by PCF rules available at R&D Cell. The bills within approved norms related to the expenditure out of PCF can be submitted directly to HoD/R&D Cell Accounts along with prescribed offline authorising the purchase.

26.26.5 You may purchase professional books. These books need to be entered in department library records before claiming reimbursement. Also publishing Monographs/ Compendium/ White Papers are permitted under this head.

26.26.6 PIs or Co-PI may avail the internet facility at home if residing outside NHC Campus with the approval of HoD/Dean (R&D)/Principal.

26.26.7 PIs may opt for Membership of Association/Professional body from the project funds up to a membership fee of Rs.15,000/- for each membership expense. The approval of HoD/Dean (R&D)/Principal is necessary in case the membership amount exceeds this limit.

26.27 OODs

You are permitted to go outside the NHC on OODs, as per NHC norms, for work related to Projects, but without affecting your classes or other academic work in the NHC. The detailed guidelines can be referred at R&D Cell.

26.28 Revision of Budget/Extension of duration:

26.27.1 *Revision of Budget:* The expenses under the project are booked under specific budget heads sanctioned by the funding agency in their sanction letter. At times, due to change in nature of activities, reallocation of funds may become necessary. Such changes are

possible only after written sanction/approval of funding agency, particularly, in the case of Govt. funded projects.

- 26.27.2 *Extension:* The extension of duration of a project is possible only with the concurrence of concerned Funding Agency. It must be requested well in time using online form.

26.29 IPR issues

- 26.29.1 The information generated under the projects is usually the joint property of the Funding Agency and the NHC unless otherwise stated in the Contract/Agreement with a funding agency or a collaborative partner with whom the ownership issue is mutually decided beforehand. The same may be protected by means of filing of copyrights/patents etc. through IPR Cell.

- 26.29.2 The applications for filing Copyright/Patents etc. and subsequent know-how/technology transfers are submitted in consultation with IPR Cell Office. More details are available at IPR Cell.

26.30 Relaxations and Prior Approvals

- 26.30.1 Occasionally, you may require relaxation in provisions because of the special nature of the project activity or special circumstances necessary for smooth functioning of a project; you may request such relaxations from Competent Authority (HoD/Dean (R&D)/Principal/Chairman) by sending your request along with justification to R&D Cell Unit through "Special Request".
- 26.30.2 Competent Authority may vary from HoD/Dean (R&D), Dean (R&D) to the Principal/Chairman depending upon the nature of provision.
- 26.30.3 All requests for prior approvals from any of the competent authority should be sent directly to HoD/R&D Cell office.

26.31 Do's And Don'ts

- 26.31.1 PI is the prime interface between the Funding Agency and Principal/R&D Cell. All correspondences from Principal/R&D Cell regarding the project are routed/approved through PI unless mentioned/requested otherwise by the funding agency.
- 26.31.2 The sanctions in a project and spending norms of funding agency are considered supreme, and in cases, where funding agency has

explicit provisions or restrictions with reference to any of the above, those must be followed. For example,

- 26.31.3 Qualifications and salaries of project staff (such as JRF/SRF/RA) sanctioned by various Funding agencies are bound by their respective circulars. PIs cannot, at their discretion, recruit project staff in such projects at NHC scales without obtaining prior sanction from the funding agency.
- 26.31.4 Under CSIR funded projects, all appointments are required to be sent to CSIR for their approval.
- 26.31.5 Some funding agencies do not permit certain kinds of expenditure such as furniture etc. from the project. PIs are advised to read such provisions from the website of funding agencies, a list of prominent funding agencies along with their website addresses is also available at R&D Cell.
- 26.31.6 For timely release of yearly grants, it is important and necessary to submit progress report/ completion report, contingent bills, utilization certificates, statements of expenditures etc. in time to the funding agency. HoD/R&D Cell helps in preparing all financial statements on the request of the PI at the end of a financial year. Provisional statements may be requested in between the financial years as needed. Please provide sufficient time for such requests to avoid inadvertent errors.
- 26.31.7 In case of CSIR projects, NHC is entitled to claim an overhead of 5% from CSIR when such reports are submitted in a timely manner.
- 26.31.8 Do not incur expenses after the sanctioned duration of the project. Request for extension of projects should be made to funding agencies well in advance.
- 26.31.9 While making a purchase, make sure not to pay Excise Duty as NHC is exempted from paying it.
- 26.31.10 Under unavoidable circumstances, project positions can be downgraded but within the same cadre. For any alteration in sanctioned position, prior approval of HoD/Dean (R&D) and/or Funding agency is necessary.

26.32 Note:

The above guidelines have been drawn to acquaint the Pls/Co-Pls of the existing provisions for running of the projects. However these are subject to certain restrictions and conditions and are constantly revised to enhance the smooth functioning of projects at NHC.

26.33 Removal of Difficulties

26.33.1 Notwithstanding anything in the above guidelines, the Principal/RDC may take such measures/modify the guidelines as may be necessary in respect of protecting the interest of NHC and smooth conduct of sponsored research projects. The NHC reserves the right to change the guidelines from time to time and only the latest rules will be applicable to all the ongoing projects irrespective of the year of sanction of the project(s).

26.33.2 *Courtesy: IITs/Anna University/PSG College of Technology/National design and Research Foundation*

26.33.3 *References:*

<http://ird.iitd.ac.in/content/intellectual-property-rights-ipr>

<http://ird.iitd.ac.in/policy/IPRPoly-IITD.pdf>

http://ird.iitd.ac.in/fulltext/OperationalGuidelines_RP_05122014.pdf

http://www.iitk.ac.in/olddord/R&D_%20manual.pdf

http://www.iitmandi.ac.in/administration/files/officialdocs/Rules_Regulations_SRIC_IITMandi.pdf

<https://www.iitm.ac.in/icsr>

<https://icsr.iitm.ac.in/project.php#box7>

Chapter XXVII BUSINESS INCUBATION GUIDELINES AND POLICY

27.1 Preamble: The need to support business incubation activities

In tune with the global trends in higher technological education, New Horizon College (NHC) encourages entrepreneurship among the Faculty, Staff, Research Scholars, and Students. NHC will directly and actively support the incubation of "NHC Incubated Companies" by its Faculty/ Staff/Research Scholars/Students. Some of these companies may be founded based in part or in full on technologies/IP developed by the College, or jointly with it in collaborative mode. NHC may also provide incubation support to external Start-ups with which Faculty/Staff/Research Scholars/Students are associated as consultants or mentors. Such external Start-ups may sometimes license technology/IP developed by NHC a priori. The commercialization of advanced technologies developed at the College as a result of incubation will greatly benefit the College as well as society at large and will contribute to the economic resurgence of our country.

27.2 Definitions

27.2.1 **NHC Member(s) (Henceforth called MEMBER):** Any permanent faculty/staff on duty or on short/long leave, research scholars and students having live registration.

27.2.2 **NHC Incubation Society (Henceforth called -SOCIETY):** A Society registered by and in NHC, under the Societies Act, for the primary purpose of promoting and fostering Incubation of Start-up companies involving one or more NHC Member(s), by administering and implementing NHC's policies on incubation.

27.2.3 **NHC Incubated Company (Henceforth called COMPANY):** A registered Company promoted and/or invested in by NHC Member(s) singly or jointly with others, or those incubated by any of the NHC incubators located in NHC premises or elsewhere, and declared by the SOCIETY as such, or an external start-undeclared by the SOCIETY as such.

27.2.4 **External Start-up (ESU):** A registered Company promoted and invested in by non-NHC Member(s) and not located in the NHC/SOCIETY/incubator premises.

27.2.5 **Incubator:** A physical and/or virtual unit that extends various forms of support for Start-ups and engages in specified relationships with them on behalf of NHC and/or SOCIETY.

27.3 Types of Start-ups with NHC involvement

27.3.1 SOCIETY may be actively involved in pre-incubation and incubation of a Start-up company promoted by one or more MEMBER, or by others.

27.3.2 MEMBER may promote an NHC Incubated Company (COMPANY).

27.3.3 MEMBER can be involved with an External Start up (ESU).

27.3.4 SOCIETY through its incubators may be involved with a COMPANY or ESU.

27.4 SOCIETY's Governance Structure

27.4.1 The SOCIETY will have a Governing Council (GC). The GC may have the following composition:

27.4.2 *Principal, NHC- Chairperson.*

27.4.3 *Registrar, NHC*

27.4.4 *Professor-in-charge - an NHC Professor to be nominated by the Principal, NHC.*

27.4.5 *Dean (R&D), NHC.*

27.4.6 *Dean (Student Affairs) and/or Dean (Academics) of NHC.*

27.4.7 *An external Expert having a good track record in incubating companies.*

27.4.8 *An external Expert with experience in IPR and Licensing.*

27.4.9 *An external Expert with experience in Venture Capital/Private Equity.*

27.4.10 *An NHC faculty member, preferably below the age of 40 and with familiarity of Start-ups and intellectual property legal and commercial transactions including Patenting, Technology Transfer, Licensing.*

27.4.11 Except the ex-officio members, the remaining members will serve for a period of up to three years, and can be re-appointed for further periods. The Principal, NHC, will nominate the initial GC, which will make subsequent appointments.

27.4.12 In addition to its above members, the GC may invite experts in finance, audit, IPR, and other such areas, to its meetings as needed. It may also constitute sub-committees including such outside experts for specific tasks when needed.

27.5 SOCIETY's active support to COMPANY

27..1 The SOCIETY will carry out on behalf of the College all dealings with Start-ups directly and/or through its incubators. It will also determine whether a Start-up is to be designated as an "NHC Incubated Company" (COMPANY). SOCIETY will actively support the COMPANY with a combination of inputs, which could include:

27..2 *Permission to Use Branding in the form of "Incubated By NHC",*

27..3 *Advice Pertaining to Legal and Commercial IPR Transactions,*

27..4 *Office and Operational Space,*

27..5 *Permission to Use Laboratories, Workshop Facilities and Equipment,*

27..6 *Logistics Support,*

27..7 *Business Management Advice,*

27..8 *Networking Support,*

27..9 *Mentoring,*

27..10 *Seed-Fund When Possible,*

27..11 *Monitoring,*

27.16 Research Scholars'/Students' Involvement

27.17 Full Time: A Research Scholar/Student can seek permission from NHC to take special leave for a semester, or an additional period for which formal permission is granted by NHC, to work for a Start-up on a fulltime basis. This may be treated as withdrawal/ additional academic work/similar to internships etc under permission from NHC for the specified period for which such special leave is formally granted. The Research Scholar/Student, on returning, has to satisfy all norms (including maximum duration norms of his/her respective programme of study) in order to earn a degree. If the Research Scholar/student is compensated by the Start-up in the form of cash and/or shares he/she must assign to the SOCIETY 5% of the total cash/shares allotted to him/her by the Start-up.

27.18 Part Time: A Research Scholar/Student can seek permission from NHC to work for a Start-up on a part time basis. The NHC part-time engagement norms in projects during a semester/vacation period will apply. If the Research Scholar/student is compensated by the Start-up in the form of cash and/or shares he/she must assign to the SOCIETY 7.5% of the total cash/shares allotted to him/her by the Start-up. In this case, the courses that he/she registers for will be regulated by the respective Faculty Advisor(s) or Training and Placement Department or RDC/DC, as applicable.

27.19 Role of MEMBER in Start-up

The MEMBER may play an executive role/non-executive role in a Start-up depending on whether they will be engaged fulltime or part-time. The MEMBER may be involved full time only after obtaining permission from the College for the appropriate type of leave. The part-time engagement will be as per existing NHC consultancy norms. The MEMBER can take up an executive role only if they are engaged fulltime with the Start-up.

27.20 Conflict of interest

27.21 When a MEMBER utilizes leave of absence (Sabbatical/EOL, or any applicable equivalent) for direct, active participation in a COMPANY /ESU, it is obligatory that the concerned Head(s) of Department be informed at least three months in advance. Shorter notice needs to be specifically approved by the Head of Department. This is to ensure that

the academic programmes of NHC are not affected at any point in time.

27.22 It is essential that the MEMBER must avoid any conflict of interest between their roles in NHC and in the COMPANY/ESU. This is particularly important if there are NHC resources in their control which are also sought by the Start-up with which they are involved. A similar situation arises if they are developing IPR in research activity/project in NHC that is closely related to the IPR they may be developing when on leave and working in the Start-up. Another situation arises when the relative shareholding of the MEMBER and SOCIETY is sought to be changed by infusion of fresh capital in the Start-up by the MEMBER. While such a move could be a bona-fide move on the part of the MEMBER to support the Start-up, it could potentially have a mala-fide motive of changing the relative shareholding pattern prior to some anticipated upward evaluation and infusion of investment by other parties. Yet another potential conflict of interest arises when shares are allotted by a Start-up to a close relative (spouse, children, and parents) of a MEMBER who is involved with the Start-up.

27.23 The SOCIETY will determine the potential areas/activities where there is conflict of interest in the case of each MEMBER who applies for approval for engaging with a Start-up, and arrive at an agreed upon methodology for ensuring transparency in decision making in respect of these activities/areas. The SOCIETY may, if it chooses to, set up an oversight committee of faculty/staff for specific relationships to ensure that conflicts of interest do not arise. The SOCIETY may also require the MEMBER to declare their financial interests, and those of their close relatives, in the Start-up, at the time of engagement, as well as whenever a change in such interests takes place due to additional investment in the Start-up, or payment/share allotment by the Start-up. In any case, every MEMBER involved with a Start-up must file a declaration periodically with the SOCIETY irrespective of whether there is a change in their financial interests in the Start-up or not. The required periodicity will be determined by the SOCIETY. The SOCIETY reserves the right to obtain a third-party evaluation of the value of the start-up's shares before an MEMBER or their close relative(s) makes additional investments in the Start-up. Such an evaluation will be carried out in a reasonable time-frame. If the SOCIETY deems it fit, it may choose to make an investment in the Start-up of its own at the same price applicable to the MEMBER and obtain shares for the corresponding amount. The SOCIETY reserves the right to make the

acceptance by the Start-up of the additional investment by the MEMBER or their close relative(s) conditional on the acceptance of the corresponding additional investment by the SOCIETY.

27.24 In case a member of the SOCIETY Governing Council has shares in a COMPANY, the Governing Council will determine whether the said member should resign from the Council, in order to avoid potential conflict of interest, or only recues himself/herself when matters pertaining to the Start-up with which he/she is involved are discussed.

27.25 Withdrawal of Support

27.25.1 NHC reserves the right to withdraw its support to any Start-up that it engages with, following a due process of notice. This may involve withdrawal of access to NHC's facilities, and/or withdrawal of permission to MEMBER to engage further with the Start-up in any manner, though they and the SOCIETY can continue to hold the shares they already possess in the Start-up. It will also involve withdrawal of the status of the Start-up as a COMPANY, from which point the Start-up will be required to desist from advertising itself as such thereafter.

27.25.2 Should the need arise; the SOCIETY may also seek modifications to the agreement signed with the Start-up through an amendment, in order to protect NHC's fair name and its interests.

27.26 Protection of NHC's Fair Name

When a Start-up is designated as a COMPANY, it is permitted to advertise itself as such wherever such advertisement is appropriate. However, such advertising carries with it the risk that in case the COMPANY indulges in improper behaviour or dealings, NHC's fair name will be tarnished by association with the COMPANY. In order to protect itself from such risks, NHC, through the SOCIETY, may seek a seat on the Board of the COMPANY, without liability, in order to ensure transparency in all its dealings. The SOCIETY may seek access to the un-audited and audited balance sheets of the COMPANY. In certain cases, the SOCIETY may even seek visibility of payments above a specified value made by the COMPANY, before such payments are made. All such requirements will be specified in the agreement that will be entered into by the SOCIETY with the COMPANY.

27.27 Removal of Difficulties

Notwithstanding anything in the above guidelines, the Principal/RDC/SOCIETY may take such measures/modify the guidelines as may be necessary in respect of protecting the interest of NHC/MEMBER/COMPANY/ESU/Incubate (as a Win-Win Model) and smooth conduct of activities related to Start ups. The NHC reserves the right to change the guidelines from time to time and only the latest rules will be applicable to all the ongoing activities irrespective of the year of sanction of the activities.

28.16.5 In case of patentable IP, it is desirable to obtain the patent protection at least in the form of a provisional application before such an IP is either published or exchanged so that both academic and commercial value of the IP is protected.

28.16.6 In order to protect the commercial value of an IP without affecting the exchange of information, a special confidentiality agreement may be signed between interacting parties before exchanging the information about any IP.

28.17 Agreements and Contracts

28.17.1 Agreement categories and authorized signatories

28.17.2 All agreement including but not limited to the following categories, are to be approved by College:

28.17.3 Confidentiality Agreement, Classified Information Nondisclosure (specific) Agreement, only to enable the College to ensure that the Agreement does not render the College liable in any manner for breach of the agreement.

28.17.4 Since such agreements often need to be entered into quickly to enable progress in collaboration/ interaction, College will respond promptly if the Agreement is entirely between the external party and the employee or student, and the College is not directly or indirectly made liable by the Agreement in any manner.

28.17.5 Revenue Sharing Agreement, Indemnity agreement.

28.17.6 Evaluation Agreement, Consultation Agreement, Research and Development Agreement (R&DA/MoU)

28.17.7 Technology Transfer Agreement, License Agreement, IP assignment agreement

28.17.8 Alternative Dispute Resolution Agreement

28.17.9 Dean (R&D), as designated by the Principal, acts as the final signing authority in all the categories of agreements listed above, except confidentiality agreement which may be signed by the creator with the consent of Dean, (R&D).

28.18 Infringements, Damages, Liability and Indemnity Insurance

28.18.1 In any contract with the licensee, College shall obtain indemnity from legal proceedings against the College including its employees, without limitation, due to reasons including but not limited to manufacturing defects, production problems, design guarantee, upgradation and debugging obligation.

28.18.2 Generally College shall obtain, through appropriate agreement, indemnification from the organization to which IP is transferred, against any direct or third party legal liability arising out of commercial exploitation of IP.

28.18.3 Any computer software developed and distributed by the College either through public domain or commercially, shall have explicit disclaimer against any liability arising out of the use of software by any user.

28.18.4 College shall retain the right to engage in any litigation concerning patents and license infringements.

28.19 Conflict of Interest

28.19.1 The creator(s) are required to disclose any conflict of interest or potential conflict of interest. If the creator(s) and/or their immediate family members have a stake in a licensee or potential licensee company then they are required to disclose the stake they and/or their immediate family have in the company.

28.19.2 A license or an assignment of rights of any IP to a company in which the inventors have a stake shall be subject to the approval of the Dean (R&D) taking into consideration this fact.

28.20 Dispute Resolution

In case of any dispute with regard to IPR policy, the decision of the College shall be deemed final and binding.

28.21 Jurisdiction

As a policy, all agreements to be signed by the College will have the jurisdiction of the courts in Chennai and shall be governed by appropriate laws in India. Exceptions to this may be allowed in certain cases by the College.

28.22 Removal of Difficulties .

Notwithstanding anything in the above policy/guidelines, the Principal/IPR Cell may take such measures/modify the guidelines as may be necessary in respect of protecting the interest of NHC and smooth conduct of IPR activities/sponsored research projects. The NHC reserves the right to change the guidelines from time to time and only the latest rules will be applicable to all the ongoing projects irrespective of the year of sanction of the project(s).

**Chapter XXIX
DRESS CODE INSTITUTION POLICY**

29.1 Our dress code Institution policy outlines how we expect our employees to dress at work. Employees should note that their appearance matters when representing our Institution in front of students, parents or other visitors. An employee's appearance can create a positive or negative impression that reflects on our company and culture.

29.2 These dress code rules always apply:

29.2.1 All employees must be clean and well-groomed.

29.2.2 All clothes must be work-appropriate. Clothes that are worn in workouts and outdoor activities aren't allowed.

29.2.3 All clothes must be professional. Clothes that are too revealing or inappropriate aren't allowed.

29.2.4 All clothes must be clean and in good shape. Discernible rips, tears or holes aren't allowed.

29.2.5 Employees must avoid clothes with stamps that are offensive or inappropriate.

29.2.6 Institution ID card must be worn at all times.

29.3 For male members :

29.3.1 Must wear formal attire and shoes.

29.3.2 Should be neatly shaved at all times.

29.4 For female members :

29.4.1 Formal western / Indian wear.

29.4.2 The saris must be formal and sober and suited to the working environment.

29.5 When an employee disregards the Institution's dress code, they may face severe consequences if they repeatedly violate the Institution's dress code. The above policy is with immediate effect.