Ref No: KMCT/DC/C/2026/131 Date: 01-06-2026

RESEARCH ETHICS POLICY

Introduction

Research and scientific inquiry are essential to economic and societal development. The Institution recognizes the growing contribution of research in India and seeks to strengthen its engagement with national and international scholarship. It is committed to supporting the creation of new knowledge and the effective dissemination and application of existing knowledge among students, faculty, and the wider research community.

Objectives

The Institution shall:

1. **Facilitate access to research resources**
   Provide students and faculty with access to laboratories, libraries, research tools, and other relevant facilities beyond regular working hours, subject to institutional rules, availability, and safety requirements.
2. **Support research funding and dissemination**
   Provide financial assistance for research activities from institutional funds, subject to availability and applicable approval procedures. The Institution shall also support researchers in identifying and applying for external grants; publishing research in high-quality, Scopus-indexed journals and reputable books or book chapters; and participating in national and international conferences and workshops.
3. **Promote research excellence and collaboration**
   Foster a collaborative research environment that encourages academic excellence, knowledge sharing, and research with the potential to contribute to social and economic progress.

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Core Principles of Ethical Research

All research conducted under the auspices of the KMCT Group of Institutions shall be planned, undertaken, reviewed, and disseminated in accordance with the following principles:

1. **Honesty**

Researchers shall accurately and transparently report research data, methods, and findings. Fabrication, falsification, concealment, or misrepresentation of information is prohibited.

2. **Objectivity**

Researchers shall strive to maintain impartiality throughout the research process, including the design of studies, collection and analysis of data, interpretation of results, and reporting of findings. Potential biases and conflicts of interest shall be appropriately disclosed.

3. **Integrity**

Researchers shall uphold ethical and professional standards, act consistently with their commitments, and conduct themselves responsibly in dealings with colleagues, collaborators, participants, and the Institution.

4. **Carefulness**

Researchers shall exercise due diligence at every stage of their work to prevent avoidable errors and inaccuracies. They shall critically review their research activities and maintain complete, accurate, and reliable records.

5. **Openness**

Researchers shall promote transparency and, where appropriate, share findings and relevant data with the scientific community. They shall remain receptive to new perspectives, constructive criticism, and scholarly discussion, subject to legal, ethical, confidentiality, and intellectual-property requirements.

6. **Respect for Intellectual Property**

Researchers shall acknowledge the contributions of others and comply with applicable copyright, patent, licensing, and other intellectual-property requirements. All sources and contributions shall be properly attributed.

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7. **Confidentiality**

Researchers shall protect confidential information, unpublished research materials, sensitive data, and the privacy of research participants. Information shall be accessed, used, stored, and disclosed only as authorized and in accordance with applicable requirements.

8. **Responsible Publication**

Research findings shall be disseminated responsibly, with the primary aim of advancing knowledge and contributing to societal benefit. Duplicate, redundant, or otherwise unnecessary publication is prohibited, and authorship and contributions shall be represented fairly.

9. Membership

Faculty members and research supervisors shall provide appropriate guidance, encouragement, and professional support to students and early-career researchers. Mentorship shall promote academic development, critical thinking, ethical conduct, and increasing research independence.

10. . **Respect for Colleagues**

Researchers shall treat colleagues, collaborators, and members of the research community fairly and respectfully, and shall promote professionalism, cooperation, and constructive communication.

11. Social Responsibility

Research shall be conducted with due regard for its potential effects on society and the public interest. Researchers are encouraged to address societal challenges and advance scientific knowledge in alignment with the research priorities and thrust areas identified by the KMCT Group of Institutions.

12. **Non-Discrimination**

Research-related opportunities, decisions, and interactions shall be fair and non-discriminatory. No person shall be treated adversely on grounds

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unrelated to professional competence, research merit, or legitimate institutional requirements.

13. **Competence**

    Researchers shall undertake work within the limits of their relevant knowledge and expertise and shall continually develop their research knowledge, methodological skills, and professional competence through appropriate learning and training. They shall encourage similar development among colleagues and students.

14. **Legal and Regulatory Compliance**

    Researchers shall comply with all applicable laws, regulations, institutional policies, approvals, and recognized ethical guidelines governing their research activities.

15. **Ethics in Human and Animal Research**

    Research involving human participants or animals shall receive the required ethical review and approvals before it begins. Researchers shall protect the rights, safety, dignity, and welfare of human participants; minimize foreseeable risks and harm; respect autonomy; and safeguard privacy and confidentiality. Animals used in research shall be treated humanely, and their welfare shall be protected in accordance with applicable laws, approvals, and institutional requirements.

PRINCIPAL

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