

**UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION
BAHADUR SHAH ZAFAR MARG
NEW DELHI-110 002**

**PROFORMA FOR SUBMISSION OF EXPERT COMMITTEE REPORT -
STATE PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES**

Part – I – Preliminary:

(i)	Constitution of the Expert Committee	1. Prof. Vishnukant S. Chatapalli Former Vice Chancellor KSRDPR University Gadag, Karnataka	Chairperson
		2. Prof. R. P. Singh Department of English and Modern European Languages, University of Lucknow, Lucknow, UP	Member
		3. Prof. Kuruvilla Joseph Registrar and Dean (Academics) Indian Institute of Space Sciences and Technology, Tiruvananthapuram	Member
		4. Prof. Sreevalsa Kolathayar Associate Professor NIT Surathkal, Mangalore, Karnataka	Member (Nominee of AICTE)
		5. Prof. S. Kavimani Professor in Pharmacy Mother Theresa PG and Research Institute of Health Sciences, Puducherry	Member (Nominee of PCI)
		6. Mr. R.I.S Bhardwaj Under Secretary, UGC, New Delhi	Coordinating Officer
(ii)	Date(s) of the visit	1 st and 8 th June, 2024	
(iii)	Any other information (Non-participation of members, any special factor or situation/ difficulties relevant to the report	Nil	

Part – II – Introduction:

(i)	Brief introduction of the University (refer 1.1 of the format)	<i>The University has been established under the JSPM University Pune Act 2022 (Mah. Act No. IV of 2023) Dated 16th January 2023.</i>
(ii)	Date of establishment of the University (refer 1.4 of the format)	<i>The JSPM University Pune was made operational on 28th February 2023, vide notification No. SFU 2022/C.R26/Uni-4 by the Govt. of Maharashtra.</i>

(iii)	Brief description of the University and its faculties/courses	<i>The Trust, which has established the university, is in the field of education for more than two decades.</i> <i>The university was established by the JSPM group through the Act enacted by the State Government of Maharashtra (Act no. Mah. IV of 2023) dated 16th January 2023 and subsequently the JSPM University Pune was declared operational on 28th February 2023.</i> <i>The name of university is included in the UGC list of universities under Section 2(f) of the UGC Act, 1956 as a self-financed State Private University.</i> <i>The university is offering 17 UG , 16 PG and 20 Doctoral programmes. It has 169 regular teachers.</i>
(iv)	Brief description of the Trust/Society that governs the University	<i>The JSPM University Pune is promoted by the Jayawant Shikshan Prasarak Mandal Pune which is registered under Bombay Public Trust Act 1950 vide registration no. F/14907/98 dated 1st September 1998.</i>

Part – III – Summary Report

A. Legal Status:

(i)	Is the University duly established under the law and as required in the UGC Regulations? (refer 1.10 and 1.11 of the format)	Yes. <i>The JSPM University Pune has been established as a State Private University enacted by the Maharashtra State legislation through a JSPM University Act 2022 (Mah. Act No. IV of 2023) dated 16th January 2023.</i>
(ii)	Is the Trust/Society involved in promoting the University sufficiently focussed on educational activities and independent of their business or any other interest, if any?	Yes.

B. Organization Description:

(i)	Does the University abide by UGC Regulations on off-campus centres Yes No Not applicable (refer 2.4 of the format)	<i>The JSPM University Pune does not have any off Campus Centres.</i>
(ii)	Does the University abide by UGC Regulations on off-Shore campus centres Yes No Not applicable (refer 2.5 of the format)	<i>The JSPM University Pune does not have any off-Shore Campus.</i>

(iii) Does the University offer courses under distance mode with the approval of competent authority of the Government of India? Yes No Not applicable (refer 2.6 and 2.7 of the format)	<i>The JSPM University Pune does not offer courses under distance mode.</i>
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C. Academic Activities:

(i) Are the courses offered by the University narrowly focussed or adequately diverse?	<i>The courses offered by the JSPM University Pune are sufficiently diverse and the university offers 41 distinct programmes under 5 different Faculty's namely: Faculty of Science and Technology, Faculty of Health Sciences, Faculty of Education and Humanities, Faculty of Business Management and Commerce and Faculty of Skills and Professional Development.</i> <i>As informed, from the coming academic year 2024-25, the University intends to start B.Voc. courses in Healthcare in association with Tech Mahindra as the Industry partner for skills component. Also courses in B.Tech Food Technology and B.Tech in Fire Technology and Safety are proposed from the ensuing 2024-25 academic session.</i>
(ii) Are the list of courses for the award of degree as per the Section 22 of the UGC Act, 1956?	<i>Yes.</i>
(iii) Is the sanctioned intake is as per the norms/intake sanctioned by the concerned Statutory Council(s)/UGC?	<i>Yes.</i> <i>The sanctioned intake is as per norms of respective statutory Council and approved by the Academic Council and the Governing Body of the JSPM University Pune.</i>
(iv) Whether courses run are approved by concerned Statutory Council(s)?	<i>The university did not provide approvals of PCI and NCTE for programmes in Pharmacy and Education.</i> <i>The remaining courses do not fall under the purview of any other regulatory Council.</i>
(v) Are there adequate support facilities for students, especially for disadvantaged students? (refer 4.5 of format)	<i>Yes.</i>
(vi) Are the students adequately informed? (refer 4.7 and 4.8 of the format)	<i>Yes.</i> <i>The notice regarding the programs offered, their corresponding fees structure, rules and regulations, faculty profiles, facilities available, have been displayed on University's website and adequately displayed on notice boards/sign boards at the University.</i>

		<i>The JSPM University Pune has a Guardian Faculty Mentor Scheme through whom all students and parents are kept informed of the events/circulars through WhatsApp groups.</i> <i>The JSPM University Pune has also given every student and faculty email ids for effective communication. The students are notified over emails, by the concerned Deans of faculty, Director's of the Schools and also by the administration.</i> <i>The student handbook and brochures carry most of the information required by the students, including the code of conduct.</i>
(vii)	Is there a Grievance Redressal Mechanism and is that working properly? (refer 4.9 of the format)	Yes. <i>The Grievance Redressal Committee has been notified for students and staff separately by the JSPM University Pune. The university has appointed Ombudsperson.</i> <i>As informed there have been no complaints from inception of the University till date.</i>
(viii)	Is the University following proper procedure for formulation and revision of curriculum on periodic basis? (refer 5.1 to 5.4 of the format)	Yes. <i>The JSPM University Pune is following proper procedure for formulation and revision of curriculum on periodic basis with the suggestions given by the industry persons and experienced academicians from the recognised institutions.</i> <i>The JSPM University Pune with the introduction of various UG, PG programmes became functional in August 2023.</i> <i>The Academic Council is the principal academic body for setting and maintaining the standards of instruction, education at the University. In the very first year, the University has held 3 Academic Council meetings.</i> <i>B.Tech Computer Science programmes run by the JSPM University Pune are in association with IBM and the curriculum for AI-ML, Data Science, Syber Security, Cloud Computing, Devops, IOT is designed with help of IBM experts.</i> <i>Likewise, B. Tech programme in Robotics and AI, Mechanical Engineering is run in association with ARAI. A one year post graduate Diploma Programme is run in partnership with SAP India.</i> <i>Curriculum is designed by taking into account – multidisciplinary, holistic approach, with practical exposure aligned to NEP 2020 and the notification issued by the Department of Higher and Technical Education, Government of Maharashtra.</i>

		<i>All students in the first year take a course on design thinking and creativity. In the second-year, a course on Innovation is planned for all students at the University. In the third year of the curriculum a course on Entrepreneurship is planned.</i> <i>Also, experiential learning is included in the curriculum. Mandatory internships are provided for in the curriculum each summer.</i>
(ix)	How regular, fair and transparent is the examination system? (refer 5.7 to 5.14)	<i>The JSPM University Pune has an Academic Calendar in place and the academics including internal Tests, and End Semester Examinations are held as per the announced dates in the calendar.</i> <i>The performance of a student in a course is assessed through a process of Continuous Internal Evaluation (CIE) and End Semester Examination (ESE).</i> <i>3 sets of "Question Papers" are drawn for each course. One set is set by the concerned course instructor while two sets are obtained by two different academicians/experts from outside the University. One set of Question Paper from among 3 sets is given to students for the End Semester Examination.</i> <i>The Board of Examinations decide the panel of paper setters. The Controller of Examinations prepares the schedule of invigilators from all course teachers to facilitate smooth conduct of examinations.</i> <i>In-house faculty members evaluate answer sheets and external members are invited for final practical examinations and oral/viva exam. All answer papers [ESE, Test 1, Test 2] are shown to students on notified dates in the calendar, prior to grading students.</i> <i>The assessment is based on the course outcomes which have direct linkage with course objectives which are derived on the basis of blooms taxonomy levels.</i> <i>Student feedback is taken twice in a Semester; once in the middle of the Semester and the other before the End Semester Examination.</i>

D. Admission Process:

(i)	Does the University follow fair and transparent procedure for admission? (refer 6.1 and 6.7 of the format)	<i>Yes.</i> <i>The admissions to the University are merit based and as per the guidelines of State Government of Maharashtra.</i> <i>Admission for UG and PG Programmes in Professional streams are based on Maharashtra State / Central</i>
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		<i>Entrance, PERA, JEE, Examination scores.</i> <i>For non-professional streams both at the UG and PG level, admissions are merit based.</i>
(ii)	Do any special reservation on quota follow clearly laid down policy?	Yes. <i>The JSPM University Pune is following the reservation policy declared by the State Government of Maharashtra.</i>

E. Fee Structure:

(i)	Are the students sufficiently informed about the fees and charges payable?	Yes. <i>The approved fees structure is published on the JSPM University Pune's website and also given in hard copy to students at the time of admission.</i> <i>Fee is charged as per fee structure displayed on the University website and mentioned in the prospects.</i>
(ii)	Does the University follow its own declared policy in collecting any fees or charges or are there some charges over and above the publicly stated fee structure?	Yes. <i>The Fee Review Committee has been constituted for finalizing the fees for all courses every year and duly approved by the Academic Council, Board of Management and The Governing Body of the JSPM University Pune.</i>
(iii)	Is the mode of fees collection transparent or are there complaints of payments without receipts?	Yes. <i>The fee is collected through net banking or through the cheque/demand draft issued in the name of the University.</i>
(iv)	Are the fees reasonable compared to costs involved in running the programmes and to other similar institutions?	Yes.

(v)	Is the fee structure based on a policy or guidelines laid down by the Government?	Yes. <i>The fees review committee has considered the policy/guidelines issued by the State Government from time to time.</i>
(vi)	Is there any indication of the University being run solely or primarily for commercial gains?	No.

F. Faculty:

(i)	Does the University follow Pay Scales and service conditions laid down by the UGC?	Yes. <i>The university and teachers have informed that university is paying as per UGC norms.</i>
(ii)	Is the faculty well qualified and well trained for the courses? (if required, please make comments separately for each faculty/department)	Yes. <i>The University has recruited qualified and trained faculties.</i>
(iii)	Is the proportion of permanent faculty adequate or is the University being mainly run by deploying contractual faculty /guest faculty/ Part-time faculty?	Yes. <i>There are adequate regular teachers.</i>
(iv)	Has the University followed due process for recruitment of faculty?	Yes.

G. Infrastructure:

(i)	Are the following infrastructure facilities adequate? ➤ Land and Buildings ➤ Class Rooms ➤ Laboratories and equipment ➤ Library ➤ Sports facilities ➤ Residential accommodation including hostels	Yes. <i>Land and Buildings are adequate. The University is spread over 10 acres of land earmarked for the JSPM University.</i> <i>University offers exquisite infrastructure and lush green campus ambiance with latest teaching aids and rich library.</i> <i>The University has well equipped laboratories with latest IT tools and technologies, computer lab with latest hardware configuration and software setup.</i> <i>All Laboratories and equipment are available as per the norms and requirements of the University.</i> <i>Yes, the Central Library is available with required infrastructure, books, journals, as per the norms. The library uses Koha Software equipped with comprehensive functionalities and is a member of DELNET consortium.</i> <i>The JSPM University Pune has its own cricket ground, basketball court, volleyball court, gymnasium, and indoor games facilities.</i> <i>The JSPM University Pune has a girls hostel of 600 capacity. However, there is no hostel for boys. A boys hostel for 500 students is under construction.</i>
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		The university also has a small guest house for 10 persons.
		The university has no staff quarters.

H. Financial Viability

(i)	Does the University have adequate and independent funds?	Yes.
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I. Governance System:

(i)	Are various authorities and bodies responsible for the governance of the University in place and working regularly and properly?	Yes. <i>The Governing Body, the Board of Management, Finance Committee, The Board of Examination, Internal Quality Assurance Cell, Academic Council, Anti-ragging Committee, Internal Complaints Committee, Separate Committees for Students, Faculty and Staff Grievances, are all in place and functioning effectively.</i>
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J. Research Profile:

(i)	How would you rate the research profile of the University in terms of Research orientation, environment, facilities and output? (please give comments separately on faculties and departments)	<i>The JSPM University Pune in its very first year has conducted two rounds of Research Program Entrance Test (RPET). In the first round of the RPET, of the 928 applicants, 99 candidates were selected of whom 77 have been admitted to the PhD program in various disciplines.</i> <i>While in the 2nd round of the RPET, of the 342 aspirant applications, 41 were selected of whom 34 candidates have registered for PhD programme.</i> <i>The JSPM University Pune has a "University Research Recognition Committee" which has approved 55 full time research Supervisors among recruited faculty and 12 Co-Supervisors from industry and academia.</i> <i>The JSPM University has also launched its first volume of "Journal of Innovation and Translational Research" (JITR) in March 2024.</i> <i>The JSPM University Pune has also announced seed grant of Rs. 2 lakhs and 10 lakhs from its own resources as seed funding for research projects, promoting a culture of research.</i> <i>The faculty of the JSPM University Pune in their first year have 21 publications in referred journals and 20 patents have been obtained by the faculty with JSPM University Pune as the tagged institute. Faculty have contributed to 8 books chapters.</i>
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K. Miscellaneous:

(i)	Is the Non-teaching staff adequate, well qualified and paid as per the norms of the concerned State Government?	Yes.
(ii)	Do the academic results show evidence of independent and rigorous evaluation prior to the issue of degrees?	Yes,
(iii)	Has the University obtained necessary and desirable accreditations?	<i>The JSPM University Pune is established in the year 2023. Thus the university and its programmes are not eligible for accreditation at this stage.</i>

L. Strength and Weaknesses of the University:

(i)	Strengths of the University	1. Promoted by JSPM Group of Institutions Pune that has a Legacy of more than two decades in the field of higher education. 2. Unique Academic Model that lays emphasis on Synthesis Oriented Education. 3. Student Centric initiatives undertaken. 4. Collaborative teaching with industry experts alongside university faculty. 5. Guardian Faculty Mentor is assigned to batch of 20 students who maintain log of students journey at the university and provide mentorship and assistance to the students from time to time.
(ii)	Weaknesses of the University	1. Industry-supported Labs 2. Internal Revenue Generation through Consultancy and sponsored research. 3. Quality Publications, Technology transfer. 4. International Collaborations. 5. Hostel facility for boys is not available. 6. Staff quarters are also not available.

Part – IV – Recommendations**A. Observations of the Committee:****LAND & BUILDINGS:**

- The State Government of Maharashtra through its Legislative enactment has announced the establishment, incorporation and regulation of the JSPM University Pune (self-financed) for the development and advancement of higher education in the State of Maharashtra (Mah. Act IV of 2023) which came into force through a notification by the Department of Higher and Technical Education, Maharashtra State, on 16th January 2023 and subsequently the JSPM University Pune was declared operational on 28th February 2023.

- Following three institutions located at Wagholi, Pune were merged to form the JSPM University Pune.
 - (i) Imperial College of Engineering and Research (established in 2006),
 - (ii) Charak College of Pharmacy (established in 2006) and
 - (iii) Kautilya Institute of Management (established in 2006).
- Land of 10 acres is earmarked for the JSPM University Pune.
- 7 building belonging to these institutions are now a part of the JSPM university Pune with total constructed area of 32,938.1 sq.m.
- Adequate class rooms and laboratories exist.
- The campus is clean, green and well maintained.

ACADEMIC PRACTICES:

- The JSPM University Pune maintains website (www.jspmuni.ac.in).
- The JSPM University Pune has infrastructure and the society is having good educational and financial background.
- The JSPM University Pune offers diverse UG and PG programmes including PhD programmes.
- JSPM University Pune is "Nodal Centre of NPTEL" and the university encourages students to take courses in MOOCS mode through SWAYAM Platform. Focus is also made in providing Soft Skills training to students.
- Internships are made mandatory for all students during the summer and 2 credits assigned for the same.
- At present there are 75 Ph.D. holders out of 169 faculty members.
- All Faculty encouraged to take NPTEL courses as part of their FDPs.
- Seed money from Rs. Two to Rs. Ten lakhs is provided to faculty for furthering research.
- The JSPM University has published its first Journal of Innovation and Translational Research.
- The Grievance Redressal Mechanism, Women's Protection Cell (Internal Complaints Committee) and IQAC is established at the University level.
- The JSPM University Pune has a Guardian Faculty Mentor Scheme through whom all students and parents are kept informed of the events/circulars through WhatsApp groups from time to time.
- Few professional clubs and professional body chapters are in place.
- Language laboratory is well equipped and structured training is provided to students.
- JSPM University Pune has shown adequate preparedness for being run as a unitary university with Rules and Regulations are in place, however, approval of the first statutes and first ordinances is awaited from the Government of Maharashtra.
- Present Curriculum is NEP 2020 aligned, flexible with multiple entry/exit options.
- The JSPM University Pune has a good gender ratio among faculty members (Male to Female- 52:48), with average 10 years of teaching experience.
- Scholarships are given to needy students by the JSPM Trust.

COMPUTERS:

- Computing facilities are reasonably good.
- Separate computer laboratories are also maintained for each department/discipline with internet and Wi-Fi connectivity.
- Computers, peripherals are more than adequate.
- JSPM University Pune has 1 Gbps leased line internet connectivity.

LIBRARY:

- Library is equipped with e-resources and subscription of reputed international/national journals, etc. in addition to reasonable number of hard copies of books, magazine, journals etc.
- Printing and reprographic facilities are made available to the students.
- The Library is kept open from 8.00 am until 8.00 pm.

FACULTY:

- JSPM University Pune has sufficient faculty strength.
- The faculty are quite enthusiastic and academically proactive.
- All Faculty are provided with LAPTOPS.
- The faculty members are paid as per UGC seventh pay commission scale, however cadre ratio needs to be maintained for each discipline/program.

OTHER FACILITIES:

- The JSPM University Pune has limited hostel facilities for boys and girls. Presently, it has provision for approximately 500 boys and 600 girl students.
- Sports facilities, e.g., gymnasium, playgrounds, courts for various outdoor/indoor games are excellent
- Substantial initiatives towards energy conservation, sporadic rain water harvesting, Sewage treatment plant, cleanliness drive and plantation are visible.
- Canteen, food court, power backup with use of renewable energy sources (20 KW of Solar panels), firefighting equipment's, CCTVs, bank, ATM etc. are available.
- Technical, curricular, co-curricular, extra-curricular activities are encouraged.
- Medical facilities and ambulance round the clock is available.

B. Suggestions of the Committee which require satisfactory compliance by the University:

- JSPM University Pune requires to put in an initiative to strengthen learner mobilization through pre-admission counselling. The overall admissions in various UG and PG programmes is encouraging, but could be increased to match the intake strength.
- The faculty needs to publish in SCI/Thomson Reuter database journals. Also, efforts can be made to obtain patents.
- Faculty members should organize conferences / workshops / STTPs etc.
- Though Entrepreneurship development activities exist, efforts need to be taken to incubate start-ups among student communities.
- Faculty need to write proposals for Research Funding. Research and Development activities need to be strengthened.
- Resource generation through consultancy services is inadequate, thus, Resource generation through various modes is desirable for improving the financial health of the University.
- University has couple of MoU/Collaborations with Industries and Institutions of repute in relevant fields at national level, however they need to be further leveraged and augmented.
- It is suggested that Ph.D programme in Education Deptt. may be continued only after establishing PG programme in Education.
- Approvals of Statutes, Ordinances and Regulations may be sought at the earliest.
- The approvals of NCTE and PCI to be sought immediately before commencing the academic programmes.

C. Final Recommendations:

The committee assessed the infrastructure and other academic facilities, interacted with the students, faculty in the virtual mode. The Committee recommends the proposal of the university submitted to UGC.

Name and Signature of the Expert Committee

Prof. Vishnukant S. Chatapalli

Chairperson

Prof. R. P. Singh

Member

Prof. Kuruvilla Joseph

Member

Prof. Sreevalsa Kolathayar

Member (Nominee of AICTE)

Prof. S. Kavimani

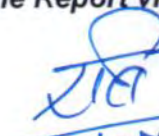
Member (Nominee of PCI)

Mr. R.I.S Bhardwaj

Coordinating Officer, UGC

NOTE:

The Expert Committee has approved the Report via email.


11/07/2024
(R.I.S Bhardwaj)
Coordinating Officer, UGC
