

## EXPERT COMMITTEE REPORT (STATE PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES)

S R University, Warangal, Telangana

Part-I-Preliminary

(i) Constitution of the Expert Committee			
1	<b>Prof. S. A. Kori</b> Vice Chancellor Central University of Andhra Pradesh Ananthapuramu – 515002 (A.P) 9008754545, <a href="mailto:vc.cuap@gmail.com">vc.cuap@gmail.com</a>		Chairman
2	<b>Prof. Satish Kumar</b> Dept. of Political Science, Indira Gandhi National Open University New Delhi – 110 068 9313487857, <a href="mailto:satishkumar@ignou.ac.in">satishkumar@ignou.ac.in</a>		Member
3	<b>Prof. Anil K Singh</b> Prof. & Ex Head Dept. of Horticulture, Institute of Agricultural Sciences, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi-221 005, India 7318008764, 9450237065 <a href="mailto:anilksingh_hort@rediffmail.com">anilksingh_hort@rediffmail.com</a>		Member
4	<b>Prof. Subodh Kumar Jain</b> PhD, FZSI, FIAN, FNASc Head, Dept. of Biotechnology, Dr. Harisingh Gour (Central) University Sagar, 470 003 M.P, India 9406519485, 7974671818, <a href="mailto:subjain@gmail.com">subjain@gmail.com</a>		Member
5	<b>Prof. Rajasree M. S</b> Vice Chancellor APJ Abdul Kalam Technological University Thiruvananthapuram 9497720277, <a href="mailto:vc@ktu.edu.in">vc@ktu.edu.in</a>		AICTE Team Lead
6	<b>Prof. Mukul S Sutaone</b> Dy. Director Dept. of Electronics and Telecommunication Engg. College of Engineering, Pune 9923560608, 00225507141, <a href="mailto:mssutaone.extc@coep.ac.in">mssutaone.extc@coep.ac.in</a>		Member, AICTE
7	<b>Prof. Gunwant Sharma</b> Professor, HAG and Dean (R&C) Ex-Head, Department of Civil Engineering MNIT, Jaipur 9829681954, 9549654183 <a href="mailto:gunwantsharma2010@gmail.com">gunwantsharma2010@gmail.com</a> , <a href="mailto:gunwantsharma@yahoo.com">gunwantsharma@yahoo.com</a>		Member, AICTE

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	8	Prof. Phalguni Gupta* Former Director, NITTTR, Kolkata Vice Chancellor, GLA University, Mathura, Delhi 9433134280, <a href="mailto:vc@gla.ac.in">vc@gla.ac.in</a>	Member, AICTE* (*regretted due to health reasons)
	9	Dr. Salil S Education Officer, UGC 9048087110, <a href="mailto:salil.ugc@gmail.com">salil.ugc@gmail.com</a>	Coordinating Officer UGC
(ii)	Dates(s) of the visit		10 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> , and 12 <sup>th</sup> September 2021
(iii)	Any other information (Non-Participation of members, any Special factors or situation/difficulties relevant to the report.		Prof. Phalguni Gupta, member of AICTE could not attend the programme due to health reasons. Communication with him is documented.

### Part-II Introduction

(i)	Brief Introduction of the University (refer 1.4 of the format)	SR University, Ananthasagar, Hasanparthy, Warangal – 506 371 is promoted by Sri Rajeshwara Educational Society. The University is established under the Telangana State Private Universities (Establishment and Regulation) Act No. 11 of 2018.																						
(ii)	Date of establishment of the University (refer 1.4 of the format)	20.05.2020																						
(iii)	Brief description of the University and its Faculties/Courses  SR University is promoted by Sri Rajeshwara Educational Society. The University is established under the Telangana State Private Universities (Establishment and Regulation) Act No. 11 of 2018. The University is offering 12 UG, 7 PG and 1 Integrated program apart from PhD program across three faculties, viz engineering, management and agriculture sciences																							
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>S.No</th> <th>Program / Program with Specialization</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>B.Tech (Electronics and Communication Engineering)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>B.Tech (Electronics and Communication Engineering) - Artificial Intelligence &amp; Machine Learning</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>B.Tech (Electronics and Communication Engineering) - Internet of Things</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>B.Tech (Electrical &amp; Electronics Engineering)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>B.Tech (Mechanical Engineering)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6</td> <td>B.Tech (Civil Engineering)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td>B.Tech (Computer Science and Engineering)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8</td> <td>B.Tech (Computer Science and Engineering) -Artificial Intelligence &amp; Machine Learning</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9</td> <td>B.Tech (Computer Science and Engineering) - Cyber Security</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10</td> <td>B.Tech (Computer Science and Engineering) - Data Science</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		S.No	Program / Program with Specialization	1	B.Tech (Electronics and Communication Engineering)	2	B.Tech (Electronics and Communication Engineering) - Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning	3	B.Tech (Electronics and Communication Engineering) - Internet of Things	4	B.Tech (Electrical & Electronics Engineering)	5	B.Tech (Mechanical Engineering)	6	B.Tech (Civil Engineering)	7	B.Tech (Computer Science and Engineering)	8	B.Tech (Computer Science and Engineering) -Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning	9	B.Tech (Computer Science and Engineering) - Cyber Security	10	B.Tech (Computer Science and Engineering) - Data Science
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11	B.Sc. (Hons) - Agriculture
12	Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA)
13	Master of Business Administration (Integrated)
14	M.Tech (Electronic Design Technology)
15	M.Tech (Embedded Systems)
16	M.Tech (Power Electronics)
17	M.Tech (Advanced Manufacturing Systems)
18	M.Tech (Construction Technology and Management)
19	M.Tech (Computer Science and Engineering)
20	Master of Business Administration (MBA)
21	Ph.D (Electronics and Communication Engineering)
22	Ph.D (Electrical Engineering)
23	Ph.D (Mechanical Engineering)
24	Ph.D (Civil Engineering)
25	Ph.D (Computer Science and Engineering)
26	Ph.D (Management)

(iv) Brief description of the Trust/Society that governs the University

The members of the Sri Rajeshwara Educational Society and their designations are as mentioned in the Table below.

S.No	Name	Designation in the Society/Trust
1	A. Varada Reddy	President
2	Ch. Narsimha Reddy	Vice-President
3	A. Madhukar Reddy	General Secretary
4	A. Santhosh Reddy	Treasurer
5	A. Sumathi	Joint Secretary
6	B. Suma	Member
7	C. Sadhana	Member

**Part-III – Summery 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. The University is established under Telangana State Private Universities (Establishment and Regulation) Act No. 11 of 2018
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(ii)	Is the Trust/ Society involved in promoting the University sufficiently focused on educational activities and independent of their business or any other interest if any?	The primary focus of Sri Rajeshwara Educational Society is to promote educational activities and is not involved in running any other businesses.
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### 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)	Not Applicable. The University has neither any off-campus centres nor is it allowed to do so at present.
(ii)	Does the University abide by UGC regulations on off-Shore campus centres Yes No Not Applicable (refer 2.5 of the format)	Not Applicable. The University has neither any off-shore campus/centres nor is it allowed to do so at present.
(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)	Not Applicable. The University has neither any distance mode courses nor is it allowed to do so at present.

### C. Academic Activities

(i)	Are the courses offered by the University narrowly focused or adequately diverse?	The programs offered by the University are adequately diverse and also addressing the current industry needs. The University is offering programs in engineering, management and agriculture sciences.
(ii)	Are the list of courses for the award of degree as per the Section 22 of the UGC Act, 1956?	Yes, the programs offered for the award of degree are as per the Section 22 of the UGC Act, 1956
(iii)	Is the sanctioned intakes as per the norms/intake sanctioned by the concerned Statutory Council(s) UGC	Yes. The sanctioned intake is as per the Ordinance passed in the Gazette notification of the State Government / Relevant Statutory Council(s)
(iv)	Whether courses run are approved by concerned Statutory Council(s)?	SR University has started new programmes after taking due approvals from Board of Management, Board of Governors and the State Government of Telangana. The University is an upgradation of an autonomous engineering college. The courses of the engineering courses of this college is approved by AICTE.
(v)	Are there adequate support facilities for students, especially for disadvantaged students?	Yes, the University provides scholarships to socially disadvantaged students. An amount of Rs. 3,16,72,670/- was given towards

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	(refer 4.5 of format)	scholarships to socially disadvantaged students for the academic year 2020-21. In most blocks of the University, adequate support facilities are provided to disadvantaged students for easy access.
(vi)	Are the students adequately informed? (refer 4.7 and 4.8 of the format)	Yes. Students are informed about admission criteria, rules and regulations, and facilities available through University website, advertisements through print and electronic media, and through the programmes of the admission cell.
(vii)	Is there a Grievance Redressal Mechanism and is that working properly? (refer 4.9 of the format)	Yes. The university has well established mechanism for addressing the grievances.  An online portal is available on University website, wherein students / faculty can post their grievances and the same will be addressed by the concerned University authorities.
(viii)	Is the University following proper procedure for formulation and revision of curriculum of periodic basis? (refer 5.1 to 5.4 of the format)	Yes. The University follows proper procedures for the formulation and revision of curriculum. The curriculum recommended by Board of Studies is approved by Academic Council and Board of Management. The revision of the curriculum will be done once in two years.  Board of Studies members review the curriculum continuously by taking inputs from various stakeholders.
(ix)	How regular, fair and transparent is the examination system? (refer 5.7 to 5.14)	The examination system is regular, fair and transparent. The University follows both theoretical and practical based examination system with a weightage of 40% for continuous internal evaluation and 60% for semester end examination. The evaluation of answer scripts is carried out by the internal examiners, scrutinizers, and chief examiners. Board of studies proposes a panel of question paper-setters and examiners for end-semester examinations and recommends the same to the Controller of Examinations. The University follows a well-defined academic calendar.

#### D. Admission Process

(i)	Does the University follow fair and Transparent procedure for admission? (refer 6.1 and 6.7 of the format)	The applications received are scrutinized by the admission committee. One batch of students were admitted into various
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		UG and PG programs. They are selected based on merit obtained in the qualifying examination. The admission of Ph.D scholars is conducted through written test and interview.
(ii)	Do any special reservation on quota follow clearly laid down policy?	The University follows the relevant reservation policies as per the State Government norms.

### E. Fee Structure

(i)	Are the students sufficiently informed about the fees and charges payable?	The fee structure of all the programmes offered by the University is displayed on the university's website. Students are sufficiently informed.
(ii)	Does the University follow its own declared policy in collecting any fees or charges or are there some charges over and above the publically stated fee structure?	The Board of Management of the university decides the fee structure of all the programs from time-to-time and is displayed on the University's website. There are no charges collected over and above the publically stated fee structure.
(iii)	Is the mode of fees collection transparent or are there complaints of payments without receipts?	The fee collection is through cheque / DD / Online payment and is acknowledged through a receipt. The fee collection is transparent.
(iv)	Are the fees reasonable compared to costs involved in running the programmes and to other similar institutions?	Yes. The fee structure is reasonable and comparable with other Telangana State Private Universities.
(v)	Is the fee structure based on a policy or guidelines laid down by the Government?	Yes. The fee structure is finalised by the University's Board of Management and is approved by Telangana State Government.
(vi)	Is there any indication of the University being run solely or primarily for commercial gains?	No such indication is observed.

### F. Faculty

(i)	Does the University follow Pay Scales and service conditions laid down by the UGC?	The University follows VI pay Commission.
(ii)	Is the faculty well qualified and well trained for the courses? (if required, please make comments separately for each faculty/department)	There are 16 faculty members with PhD from IITs and 11 with PhD from NITs and 53 with PhD from Central & State Universities. More than 40 of the faculty are trained by Indo-Universal Collaboration for Engineering Education. Overall, the faculty is qualified and well trained. Yet, there is a need to recruit more senior faculty members as the University progresses.
(iii)	Is the proportion of permanent faculty adequate or is the University being mainly run by deploying contractual faculty / guest faculty / Part-time	All faculty working in the University are regular.

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	faculty?	
(iv)	Has the University followed due process for recruitment of faculty?	Yes. The recruitment is done as per the statutes of the University.

### G. Infrastructure

(i)	<p>Are the following infrastructure facilities adequate?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Land and Buildings</li> <li>➤ Class Rooms</li> <li>➤ Laboratories and equipment</li> <li>➤ Library</li> <li>➤ Sports facilities</li> <li>➤ Residential accommodation including hostels</li> </ul>	<p>Yes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 51.37 acres of land is available for the University.</li> <li>• The classrooms are adequate and equipped with LCD projectors.</li> <li>• Sufficient number of laboratories and equipment are available as per the curriculum.</li> <li>• The central library has 8983 titles and 45835 volumes.</li> <li>• The digital library is available with access to online journals and learning material. DELNET, J-Gate and IEEE digital resources are available apart from the NDL.</li> <li>• The University has play Grounds for outdoor sports (for Athletics, Football, Hockey, Cricket, etc.) basketball courts and Track for Athletics. Indoor Sports Facilities including Gymnasium, Tennis, Yoga, etc are available.</li> <li>• The University has on-campus hostel with separate accommodation for girls (with 440 capacity) and boys (with 189 capacity).</li> </ul>
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### H. Financial Viability

(i)	Does the University have adequate and independent funds?	<p>The University has already a campus and good infrastructure. The sponsoring body continue to invests for various activities like construction of buildings, infrastructure and campus development.</p> <p>Corpus fund of 1.15 crores in the form of FDR is available in the name of the University. Corpus fund of 28.75 crores is available as FDR in the name of the society.</p>
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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?	<p>The University constituted various statutory bodies viz., Governing Body, Board of Management, Academic Council and Board of Studies are as per the provisions of the first statutes of the University.</p> <p>The meetings of these bodies are conducted regularly through online platforms due the pandemic situation.</p>
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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)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The University established multi-disciplinary research centers with adequate facilities.</li> <li>• Faculty published 380 research papers indexed in Scopus/SCI in the year 2020.</li> <li>• During the last five years, 25 Research Projects were sponsored by various funding agencies.</li> <li>• More than four dozen patents are submitted by the faculty. Three are granted.</li> </ul>
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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. The non-teaching staff are adequate, well-qualified and paid as per University norms.
(ii)	Do the academic results show evidence of independent and rigorous evaluation prior to the issue of degrees?	Yes. The evaluation is rigorous and transparent. Yet, there is possibility to be more innovative in engineering evaluation.
(iii)	Has the university obtained necessary and desirable accreditations?	Five (05) Undergraduate Programmes are accredited by NBA (while being a College) in Tier-I and valid for 3 years i.e., up to 30.06.2022.

## L. Strength and Weaknesses of the University

(i)	Strengths of the University	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Many credentials such as, All India 1st Rank among Private colleges in ARIIA-2020, 160th NIRF Rank in Engineering category and in the Rank band of 150-200 in overall category for the year 2020 etc</li> <li>• NBA Tier-I accreditation for 5 B.Tech programs</li> <li>• One of the first five private universities approved by Telangana Government</li> <li>• The University is upgraded from the Engineering college and therefore has an experience of running the institution over 18 years.</li> <li>• The programs are designed to foster Innovation, Creativity &amp; Entrepreneurship (ICE) through interdisciplinary activity-based learning.</li> <li>• On-Campus Technology Business Incubator (TBI)</li> <li>• Partnerships with industries like Microsoft, Siemens, Cyient, Arm, AWS etc.</li> </ul>
(ii)	Weaknesses of the University	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of good industries in the region</li> <li>• Self-Financing University</li> <li>• Lack of diversity of student body</li> </ul>



## Part – IV – Recommendations

### A. Observations of the Committee

#### Context

1. The institution is an upgradation of SR Engineering College (Autonomous) into a University and thus comes under the category of *Brownfield Private University* as stated in the Letter from State Government No.6093/UE/A2/2019.
2. Out of the technical programmes offered by the institution, in its College format, five B.Tech programmes are accredited by NBA and valid upto 2022. Similarly, the college was accredited by NAAC with 3.04 score on 2015. The institution is placed at 134<sup>th</sup> rank in the NIRF 2021 with rank band of 151-200 in overall category.
3. S R University comes to existence through Ordinance Number 1 of 2020 dated May 20<sup>th</sup> 2020 from Telengana State and Private Universities (Amendment) Act No. 11 of 2018 (Establishment and Regulation), 2018 dated September 19, 2020.
4. The University is backed by a visionary founder and a committed educational society.
5. The Committee visited the campus, classrooms, office & administrative area, academic departments, laboratories, libraries, examination section, auditoriums, sports facilities, Hostels and other facilities available in the University. The Committee has interacted with the Management, faculty, students and Non-Teaching staff in direct, online and blended modes. The visit was conducted as per the COVID-Protocol issued by the Central Government, UGC and State Government.

#### Courses and collaborations

6. The University has 12 UG programmes 7 PG programmes, one integrated programme and PhD offered in 6 areas. Courses are offered through five schools, viz, School of Engineering, School of Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence, School of Business Management, School of Sciences and School of Agriculture.
7. The institution has significant number of active academic collaborations with academic organisations like Purdue University, UMass, Lowell, University of Missouri, Deakin University, etc.
8. The institution has worked closely with Indo-Universal Collaboration for Engineering Education (IUCEE) for faculty development and more than 40 faculty members are recognized by IUCEE.

#### Innovation, Incubation and Centres

9. The current focus of the institution is in developing an entrepreneurial ecosystem in the campus with anchoring in engineering education. The institution is largely successful in this as evidenced from the initiatives such as SRiX, design centres and innovation initiative such as NEST, institution innovation cell. Forty four start-ups are nurtured in the campus and 13 academic institutions collaborated in this process.



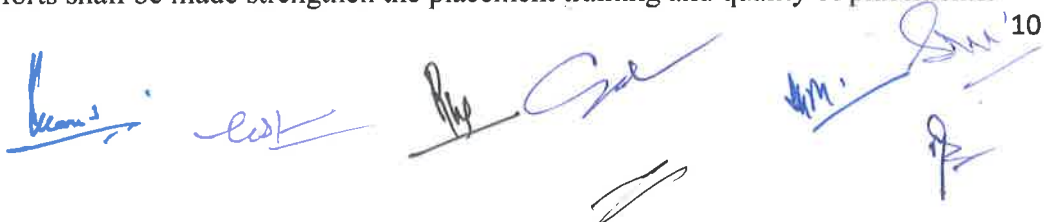
10. There are considerable opportunities for students in experiential learning. There is a network of mentors and produce development facilities such as maker space, IoT and prototyping.
11. Most of the events conducted in the institution very well support the focus on the innovation. This include ideation camp, Tinker camp, Make 'n' Market workshop, innovation challenges, boot-camps and similar events.
12. NEST initiative in the campus has generated a total of 75 lakh funding through different sponsored projects. Innovation and incubation initiatives bagged the attention of media and industry as evidenced from National Entrepreneurship Award, State Level awards such as best E-Cell award, WES etc.
13. The institution has centres on themes such as creative cognition, design, collaboratory for social innovation, centre for AI & Deep Learning, Construction Materials & Methods etc.
14. Centre for Creative Cognition has a Computational Neuroscience Lab and has considerable research, publication attempts and futuristic work in progress. The work of this centre can be scaled up in future to national and international level with more visibility. Similarly, Centre for Design has a Product Design Studio, Product Innovation Lab, and Design Thinking Lab.

#### **Infrastructure and Schools**

15. The University has good infrastructure for running the courses.
16. The society running the institution has considerable level of commitment, vision and leadership to lead the institution.
17. There is adequate teaching staff and facilities to run the agricultural courses. Proper labs are in place for agronomy, horticulture, entomology, plant pathology, genetics and plant breeding, agriculture engineering, plant physiology and related areas.
18. Farm implements and tools are in place. Well-equipped agriculture and horticultural farms are available for practical training.
19. The school of agricultural sciences implements courses as per the recommendation of Fifth Deans' Committee report.
20. School of business has an integrated programme, apart from BBA. Faculty student ratio in school is commendable.

#### **General suggestions**

1. First statute approved by the State Government is yet to be fully implemented in the University.
2. Though there is a policy for seed money for conducting research by faculty members, the number of beneficiaries covered can be expanded.
3. Senior faculty members are required in all schools for guidance and succession planning.
4. As the eligibility time approaches in the coming years, the institution shall apply for NAAC/NBA/other approved/empaneled accreditation agencies.
5. Efforts shall be made strengthen the placement training and quality of placements.


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6. Certain aspects of campus timings such as lunch break, library timings etc needs to be fine-tuned as per the student convenience.
7. Coaching for competitive exams like GATE, TOEFL and IELTS needs to be initiated.
8. Considering the area and geographic access, accommodation facilities may be expanded to more students and faculty. The same can be extended to the non-teaching staff also.
9. University may equip itself better for curated blended learning with right mix of online simulations, interactive pedagogy.
10. Sensitization programmes and institutional level implementation plan of the provisions in NEP can be taken up on priority.

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

1. Faculty governance and promotion policies shall be more transparent and inclusive of parity in pay-scale.
2. The land area of 51 acres 37 Guntas is in the name of the society. A resolution is passed by the sponsoring society to effect the free, unconditional and undisturbed use of the land by the University. However, the resolution shall be registered under the Registration and Stamps Department, Telangana.
3. More opportunities for coding practices by way of coding labs and remote coding shall be provided to the students.
4. Student requirements such as transportation facility, enhancing the cleanliness of the University buses and increasing the wi-fi facility are to be taken care of.
5. Alumni relations shall be optimally utilized by developing an updated alumni database, linking it with the University ERP and by registering the alumni society.

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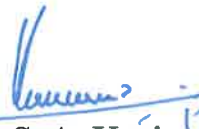
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**C. Final Recommendations**

Based on the visit to the campus and examination of the infrastructure, practices and vision of the University, verification of documents and also based on the interaction with stake holders, the joint-visiting Committee unanimously recommends UGC for conferring Private University status to S R University, Warangal, Telengana, subject to the compliance of point B (1 to 5), above.

(Name and Signatures of the Expert Committee Members)



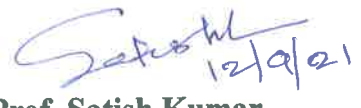
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**Prof. S. A. Kori**  
*Chairman of the Committee*



12.09.21

**Prof. Rajasree M. S**  
*AICTE Nominee heading AICTE team*



12/9/21

**Prof. Satish Kumar**  
*Member, UGC*




**Prof. Anil K Singh**  
*Member, UGC*



12.9.2021

**Prof. Subodh Kumar Jain**  
*Member, UGC*



12/9/2021

**Prof. Gunwant Sharma**  
*Member, AICTE*



12.9.21

**Prof. Mukul S Sutaone**  
*Member, AICTE*



**Dr. Salil S**  
*Co-ordinating Officer, UGC*