

Himachal Pradesh University
(NAAC Accredited "A" Grade University)
Office of the Dean Studies
H.P. University, Shimla-171005

No.1-10/2024-HPU(DS)-RUSA & PM-MERU

Dated : 12-11-2025

Call for Research Projects under the NEP-MERU Scheme (2025-26) – 2nd Call.

Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla (HPU), invites proposals for Research Projects/ activities of Entrepreneurship /Ideation/Research & Development, from teachers of HPU with a PhD under the NEP-MERU scheme (2025-26) on the prescribed proforma attached herewith. The research proposals should be multidisciplinary or interdisciplinary, closely related to the NEP-MERU scheme and its mandate, preferably with a local context. The proposals may be submitted in collaboration with/under the mandate of following centres (through Directors):

1. Centre for Green Energy and Nanotechnology.
2. Centre for AI on Cyber Physical System.
3. Pahadi Culture and Heritage.
4. Himalayan Centre for Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience (HIM-DR).
5. Ramānujam Centre for Indian Knowledge System (IKS) and Indian Mathematics.

The budget for joint proposals is up to two lakhs, while individual proposals can have a budget of up to one lakh. The duration is nine months with an option to extend by two months. In the event of Joint proposals, the co-principal investigator must be from a different discipline, department, and institute.

The proposal (in prescribed proforma) through respective HoDs must reach in the office of the Dean of Studies on or before 30th November, 2025.

The proforma with instructions/ guidelines must be brought to the notice of all concerned.

Note : Teachers who have already been awarded a project under MERU (2025) are not eligible.

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Dean of Studies

Dated : 12-11-2025

Endst. No. Even

Copy to : -

1. All the Chairpersons/Directors, Teaching Departments/Institutes, H.P. University, Summer Hill, Shimla – 5, for information and circulation among teachers.
2. The Director, CDOE(ICDEOL)/UIT, H.P. University, Summer Hill, Shimla – 5, for information and circulation among teachers.
3. The Director, UILS, UCBS, Ava-Lodge, Chaura Maidan, Shimla-4 for information and circulation among teachers.
4. The Principal, Department of Evening Studies, The Mall, Shimla-1, for information and circulation among teachers.
5. The Director, H.P. University Regional Centre, Dharamshala, District Kangra, H.P., for information and circulation among teachers.
6. The Dean Planning & Teacher Matters, H.P. University, Summer Hill, Shimla – 5, for information.
7. The PRO, H.P. University, Shimla-5 for wide publicity.
8. The Web Admin, H.P. University, with the request to upload the same on H.P.U. website.
9. SPS to the Hon'ble Vice- Chancellor/ Pro Vice-Chancellor, H.P. University, Summer Hill, Shimla – 5, for kind information of the later.

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Dean of Studies





HIMACHAL PRADESH UNIVERSITY
(NAAC Accredited "A" Grade University)
OFFICE OF THE DEAN OF STUDIES
SUMMERHILL, SHIMLA-171005

PROPOSAL FOR RESEARCH PROJECT
MERU Component of PM-USHA (2025-26) - 2nd Call

Department/Institute/Centre	
Title of the Research Proposal	

PART-A
PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

1. Details						
a. Name						
b. Designation						
c. Department						
d. Contact No.						
e. Email						
2. Educational Qualifications						
Name of the Degree	Name of the University	Year of Passing Award	% of Marks	Main Discipline		
Master's						
M. Phil.						
Ph. D.						
PhD title						
3. Teaching & Research Experience						
	Years/Number	Title, role/capacity, and details of funding Institution				
a. Teaching						
b. Research Projects						
c. Fellowships						
d. Ph.D. Guidance						
4. Details of 3 Best Research Papers/Books/Chapters (attach-title pages) during last three years						
Title of the Publication	Name of the Journal / Book / Publisher	Month, Year and Vol.	Accredited Publications			
a						
b						
c						
5. Whether the Principal Investigator received any financial assistance for research projects from any agency during the last three years					Yes	No
If yes:						
Name of awarding agency						
Name of the PI						
Year of Award						
Amount sanctioned						
Date of Completion, if completed						
Date of Report submission, if submitted						
6. At present, whether you have any project approved by any Agency?						

* Note: Insert additional rows wherever necessary

CO-PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

1. Details						
a. Name						
b. Designation						
c. Department						
d. Contact No.						
e. Email						
2. Educational Qualifications						
Name of the Degree	Name of the University	Year of Passing Award	% of Marks	Main Discipline		
Master's						
M. Phil.						
Ph. D.						
PhD title						
3. Teaching & Research Experience						
	Years/Number	Title, role/capacity, and details of funding Institution				
a. Teaching						
b. Research Projects						
c. Fellowships						
d. Ph.D. Guidance						
4 Details of 3 Best Research Papers/Books/Chapters (attach-title pages) during the last three years						
Title of the Publication	Name of the Journal / Book / Publisher	Month, Year and Vol.	Accredited Publications			
a						
b						
c						
5 Whether the Co-Principal Investigator received any financial assistance for research projects from any agency during the last three years					Yes	No
If yes:						
Name of awarding agency						
Name of the Co-PI						
Year of Award						
Amount sanctioned						
Date of Completion, if completed						
Date of Report submission, if submitted						
6 At present, whether you have any project approved by any Agency?						

PART - B

FORMAT FOR RESEARCH PROPOSAL¹

1.	Project Title	:	
	Introduction	:	
	Multidisciplinary/ Interdisciplinary relevance	:	
	NEP-MERU relevance	:	

¹ About 1500 words excluding references.

	Regional relevance, if any	:	
	Review of Literature	:	
	Significance of the Study	:	
	Objectives	:	
	Methodology	:	
	Outcome expected from the project	:	
	Trimester-wise plan	:	
	Details of collaboration, if any intended	:	
2.	Any other information that the investigator may like to give in support of this proposal that may be helpful in evaluation		
3.	Budget required		
	Heads of Expenditure		Value (Rs.)
1.	Research Assistant/ Investigator Qualification: Postgraduate in a relevant discipline (55% Minimum) preferably with NET /M.Phil. / Ph.D.)		Not exceeding 35% of the total Budget
2.	Fieldwork: Travel/Logistics/Boarding, etc.		Not exceeding 15% of the total budget
3.	Research Equipment and study material		Not exceeding 10% of the total budget
4.	Report writing, etc.		Not exceeding 15% of the total budget
5.	Accredited Publication		Not exceeding 5% of the total budget
6.	Contingency		Not exceeding 10% of the Total Budget
7.	Miscellaneous		Approx. 10% of the total budget
	Grand Total		100%

*A re-appropriation of 15% of the total Budget is permissible between heads, once during the course of the project, with prior approval of the Research Project Approval Committee.

Declaration

I hereby declare that:

1. General physical facilities, such as furniture/space, etc., are available in the Department/Institute/Centre.
2. I am not a defaulter of any previous grant.
3. I have neither been subjected to any disciplinary action nor found guilty of any offense in my career.
4. The Research Proposal and its contents are entirely original as per the standard ethical practices and no AI-generated proposal has been submitted.
5. I/we shall abide by the rules/ guidelines/instructions governing the project in case assistance is provided

to me/us from the HPU for the above project.

6. I/we shall complete the project within the stipulated period. If I/we fail to do so and if the HPU is not satisfied with the progress of the research project, the HPU may terminate the project immediately and ask for a refund of the amount received by me/us with interest.
7. The above Research Project is not funded by any other agency.
8. I have not concealed any information in my application. If HPU finds any contrary information at any stage, it may cancel the study out rightly and/or impose any penalty as it deems fit

Place:

Date:

Name and Signature

Name and Signature

(a) Principal Investigator

(b) Co-Investigator

HIMACHAL PRADESH UNIVERSITY
(NAAC Accredited "A" Grade University)
Office of the Dean of Studies, Shimla-171005

INSTRUCTIONS/GUIDELINES FOR RESEARCH PROJECT MERU Component of PM-USHA

1. **Eligibility:**
 - Teachers of H.P. University with a Ph.D.
2. **Thrust Area:**
 - Proposals must be multi-disciplinary or interdisciplinary, closely related to NEP-MERU scheme & its mandate, preferably with local context.
3. **Budget:**
 - The budget for joint proposals is upto 2.00 lakhs, while individual proposals can have a budget upto 1.00 lakh.
 - In the event of joint proposals, the Co-PI must be from different discipline, Department & Institute.

Headwise Budget

	Heads of Expenditure	Value (Rs.)
1.	Research Assistant/ Investigator Qualification: Postgraduate in a relevant discipline (55% Minimum) preferably with NET /M.Phil. / Ph.D.)	Not exceeding 35% of the total Budget
2.	Fieldwork: Travel/Logistics/Boarding, etc.	Not exceeding 15% of the total budget
3.	Research Equipment and study material	Not exceeding 10% of the total budget
4.	Report writing, etc.	Not exceeding 15% of the total budget
5.	Accredited Publication	Not exceeding 5% of the total budget
6.	Contingency	Not exceeding 10% of the Total Budget
7.	Miscellaneous	Approx. 10% of the total budget
	Grand Total	100%

A re-appropriation of 15% of the total Budget is permissible between heads, once during the course of the project, with prior approval of the Research Project Approval Committee.

4. **Duration of Project :**
 - Nine months, with an option to extend by two months with prior approval of the designated committee.
5. **Procedure for Approval :**
 - The proposals for Projects will be considered and evaluated by the Expert Committee, and the HPU authorities will make the final decision, keeping in mind the committee's recommendations and the availability of funds for the scheme.
6. **Procedure for release of grants :**
 - The first installment of the grant shall comprise 70% after joining the project, 15 % after submission of the project, and the remaining 15 % after approval of the report and publication of an accredited Research Paper/Book/Chapter, along with submission of Utilization certificate.
 - Before considering the release of the final installment, approval of the final report by the expert(s) and an accredited publication from the project is mandatory condition for Principal Investigator & Co Principal Investigator. **The PIs must publish their research paper in a peer reviewed/ reputed journals. The proof of review process actually followed for publication need to be submitted.**
 - If the researchers do not submit the requisite documents and the final report in time or the project is not completed in the stipulated period, the teachers will be blacklisted and legal recourse will be initiated for recovery of the released grant.
 - The amount of grant sanctioned is to be utilized within the stipulated duration of the project. Any amount of the grant remaining unspent shall be refunded to the HPU immediately on the expiry of the duration of the project.
 - If the teacher fails to utilize the grant for the purpose for which the same has been sanctioned/or fails to submit the audited statement of expenditure within the stipulated period, he/she will be required to refund the amount of the grant with interest thereon @ 10% per annum.
7. **Completion of the Study :**

On completion of the study, the PI should submit:

 - Two hard copies of the Final Report along with softcopy in both PDF and Word formats;
 - Hard copy of abstract in 500 words along with softcopy in both PDF and word formats;
 - A plagiarism and AI content detection reports for the final report.

If the expert suggests any changes in the reports at the time of evaluation, the PI shall

incorporate the changes within the stipulated time and should submit the following:

- Soft copy of the modified final report in both PDF and Word formats along with two hard copies

8.

Declaration by the Principal Investigator / Co- Principal Investigator

- General physical facilities, such as furniture/space, etc., are available in the Department/Institute/Centre.
- I am not a defaulter of any previous grant.
- I have neither been subjected to any disciplinary action nor found guilty of any offense in my career.
- The Research Proposal and its contents are entirely original as per the standard ethical practices and no AI-generated proposal has been submitted.
- I/we shall abide by the rules/instructions/guidelines governing the project in case assistance is provided to me/us from the HPU for the above project.
- I/we shall complete the project within the stipulated period. If I/we fail to do so and if the HPU is not satisfied with the progress of the research project, the HPU may terminate the project immediately and ask for a refund of the amount received by me/us with interest.
- The above Research Project is not funded by any other agency.
- I have not concealed any information in my application. If HPU finds any contrary information at any stage, it may cancel the study out rightly and/or impose any penalty as it deems fit.

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