



SELF STUDY REPORT

FOR

2nd CYCLE OF ACCREDITATION

NOORUL ISLAM CENTRE FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

NOORUL ISLAM CENTRE FOR HIGHER EDUCATION, KUMARACOIL - 629180

KANYAKUMARI DISTRICT TAMIL NADU

629180

www.niuniv.com

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NATIONAL ASSESSMENT AND ACCREDITATION COUNCIL

BANGALORE

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 INTRODUCTION

The Campus of Noorul Islam Centre for Higher Education (NICHE) is comprising of 47 acres of land enjoying the fresh rural environmental with eco-friendly and pleasant climatic conditions and is located in the Kanyakumari District at the foothills of Veli Malai.

In 1989, the Noorul Islam Educational Trust started an Engineering College named Noorul Islam College of Engineering (NICE) with two departments and 80 students under the Madurai Kamaraj University. In 1991, the NICE was affiliated to the Manonmaniyam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli with two more departments. In 2005, the NICE was affiliated to the Anna University, Chennai.

In 2006, NICE was ranked by the Anna University as the 19th best Engineering College out of then affiliated 226 colleges in Tamil Nadu. All eight eligible courses of the institution got AICTE (NBA) accreditation in 2007. NICE was approved as a Scientific and Industrial Research Organizations (SIRO) in 2008 and renewed by the Ministry of Science & Technology.

NICE was declared as a Deemed-to-be-University on 8th December 2008 as Noorul Islam Centre for Higher Education (NICHE). NICHE was accredited with “A” Grade in the first cycle in November 2015 and subsequently accredited in the second cycle by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC). As per NIRF Ranking 2016, NICHE secured 66th Rank under the Engineering Stream and 75th Rank under University Stream.

As of now, NICHE has 11 faculties and 24 departments offering 28 UG programmes and 19 PG programmes in Engineering, Arts, Science, Multimedia, Aviation, Maritime and Management and Ph.D. Programmes in all the disciplines.

NICHE campus has 1 GBPS National Knowledge Network (NKN) connectivity under the National Mission on Education, Government of India. The NICHE campus and Hostel premises are Wi-Fi enabled and will be connected with cloud computing facilities shortly. NICHE has 13 blocks (9 for gents and 4 for ladies) of hostel accomodation.

Vision

To be recognized by the Government and society at large as an institution able to deliver excellence with relevance in the field of higher education and research focusing on the needs of the nation in tune with the technological revolution to cope with the knowledge explosion and global competence.

Mission

To develop the institution as a Centre of Excellence, keeping pace with the advances in the field, so as to provide quality higher education to the students and instill in them high standards of discipline and ethics so that they become enlightened individuals in the service of humanity and to carry out focused research in the

frontier areas of science and technology.

1.2 Strength, Weakness, Opportunity and Challenges(SWOC)

Institutional Strength

- Excellent infrastructure facilities with a built-up area of 80755.60 sq. m, 139 ICT enabled class rooms; 48 well equipped laboratories, 17 Centres of Research, Central Library of 1654.77 sq. m, Computer Technology Centre of 2046.60 sq. m, Intuition Innovation Council, Media Centre and a sports arena, all catering to 28 UG, 19 PG and 17 Ph.D. programmes under 11 faculties.
- 72 percent of the faculty members of the University Teaching Departments have Doctoral degrees.
- Green, energy-efficient, and disabled-friendly campus with outstanding facilities like high-speed internet, Wi-Fi, library, Incubation centre, medical centre, facilities for cultural and sports activities, registered staff welfare association, ATM, store, cafes, canteens, etc and scope for future expansion of infrastructure and academics.
- State-of-Art facilities with an investment of Rs.418 lakhs for augmentation of infrastructure, Rs.135 lakhs for maintenance of support facilities, Rs.75 lakhs/year on an average for laboratory equipment, Rs.14 lakhs/year for library infrastructure and learning resources, Rs.30 lakhs to upgrade audio-visual facilities for developing e-learning resources at the Media Centre.
- Vibrant Teaching Learning Ecosystem with emphasis on project and product-based learning, innovation, incubation and entrepreneurship following the guidelines of GoI and National Education Policy 2020.
- Research and Consultancy Culture is in practice leading to research projects and consultancy assignments to the tune of Rs.52.73 lakhs. 1934 research papers in Scopus /WoS journals with a h-index of 61.
- Innovation and Incubation Centre has mentored 01 start-ups. 137 patents filed through IPR Cell, 47 granted.
- A full-fledged Centre named Centre for Satellite Technology and Applications (CSTA) is operating at the University Campus for 24x7 satellite tracking operations and research purposes.
- Extension activities have been initiated to sensitize students to the community service and 105 activities have been initiated in hamlets/villages.
- Eco friendly campus with energy park, green belts, bio-gas plant, and green-house.
- Through e-governance, university ERP has automated key processes, promoting efficiency and effectiveness. Strategic Plan aligned with Vision, Mission and Core Values and defined organizational structure, leading to decentralised and participative governance.
- Eleven Clubs offer students creative avenues NCC, NSS and UBA work for community development and gender-sensitization.
- Decentralized Administration empowering Deans of Schools, Directors, Heads and faculty members to shoulder administrative and academic responsibilities.

Institutional Weakness

- With aspiration of attaining excellence in academics the University faces challenges in acquiring the much-needed funding/grants from governmental agencies.
- In terms of gaining consultancy and collaborative projects from governmental and non-governmental organizations.

- Being in southern end, offering placements in MNCs are quite difficult.
- Difficulty in student admissions from other states and countries to add to the student diversity on campus. Also difficulty to fill up SC/ST vacancies in study programmes.
- Alumni base is small and passed-out students are in starting phase of their job hence; their contribution towards the university in skills and funds is limited.

Institutional Opportunity

- The vast campus of NICHE offers great opportunity to expand and introduce multi-disciplinary programmes in the emerging areas in arts, sciences and technology as envisioned by NEP 2020. As per NEP guidelines, NICHE is implementing NEP 2020.
- Can provide a platform for students to grow in a holistic manner through cultural, intellectual, co-curricular, and extra-curricular exposure in a healthy environment. NICHE can provide opportunities to marginalized sections of the region to grow and acquire self-esteem.
- Laboratory facilities including a iOS lab, Robotics Lab, Cloud Computing Lab, Language Lab, CAD CAM Lab, Multimedia Lab, Cyber Security Lab, Business Lab, Bio Medical Engineering Lab, NANO Material Lab and the research centres at NICHE can cater to large scale Incubation, Testing and Consultancy Projects in the areas of Nano Science & Engineering, Robotics Technology, Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, Data Science, Aerospace Engineering, Nanotechnology and Waste Management to name a few.
- University has opportunities to offer to its budding citizens in terms of Exposure to community development and welfare and scope for professional consultancies.
- Planned efforts for attracting foreign students.
- Increasing the placements by having more collaboration with industries. All the Departments now have industry representatives in their Boards of Studies.
- Scope for expansion of Physical Infrastructure in the future towards establishing new departments in emerging disciplines.
- Benefitting society through governmental grants and bringing about development in the five villages adopted by the university under the 'Unnat Bharat Abhiyaan'.
- A plan to adopt tribal villages soon to enhance community outreach.
- Enhance Alumni, PTA and CSR/corpus/endowment fund. Systematic efforts are going on.
- Enhanced green campus drive. Trees are planted, waste-water recycling is done, and efforts to reduce carbon footprint by restricting the movement of fuel-vehicles within the campus is going on.

Institutional Challenge

Illustrated here in are some Challenges which NICHE is attempting to convert into key development areas:

- To increase the diversity of students with representations from other states and countries.
- Attract more industries for placement, in-plant training & project work.
- To motivate students to take up national and international level examinations.
- Improving infrastructure and labs to match current and futuristic fields of knowledge and research
- Ensuring dedicated financial support from the government and non- government agencies for campus development, and research labs.

- Enhancing international collaboration, exchange of students/faculty, joint/twinning programmes, joint research projects, etc.
- Improving the functioning of the Innovation Council, and IPR cells.
- Ensuring the filling up of SC/ST vacancies in its programmes
- Creating an ecosystem for advanced research and entrepreneurship.
- Securing the status of one of the best deemed universities as envisioned in its strategic goals
- Responding to the changing needs in the academics and prospective employers.

1.3 CRITERIA WISE SUMMARY

Curricular Aspects

NICHE has incorporated all the core values indicated by NAAC in its curricular design and development. The core values integrate national development, global competency, value systems, use of modern technology and quest for excellence as reflected in the POs, PSOs and COs.

NICHE has followed CBCS for all its programmes right from its inception. All the programmes have well-structured curricula to address real-life problems with regional/global development needs reflected in programme/programme-specific/course outcomes, with 927 new courses and 398 of courses emphasizing employability, entrepreneurship, and skill development. The curriculum of all departments are framed to reflect professional ethics, gender equality, peace, human rights and values, sustainability and environmental studies.

Courses and syllabi of different programmes of the Institution are developed and evaluated at different levels by department level meeting, Board of Studies, Academic Council and Board of Management consisting of industrial experts, eminent academicians and alumni.

Sufficient flexibility is built into the course structure to permit learners to take multiple electives. Besides, students have the freedom to choose courses from MOOC, NPTEL and other online courses. 70 value-added courses were offered during the assessment period. All departments have either internships or field projects, and some have both contributing to experiential learning.

NICHE has a centralized and systematic mechanism to take feedback on the quality of the curriculum and teaching and feedback on programme/institution by alumni/parents. University has initiated the National Education Policy, and started implementing the same.

Teaching-learning and Evaluation

Students are admitted through Common Entrance Test by university in a transparent manner, ensuring student diversity and following reservation policies of the Central Government.

Faculty members with experience, required qualification and diversity are the academic strength and research asset of NICHE. There are 180 faculty members constituting an STR of 9:1. 72% have Ph.D. with an average career experience of 15 years in NICHE. On an average, 15 students are assigned to a faculty mentor.

University adopts a student-centric teaching method, using ICT tools, aiming to cultivate original thinking with experimental learning, participatory learning, and problem-solving methodologies. University's wide collection

of library resources enriches the teaching-learning process. To motivate slow and rapid learners, workshops are organized to address their differential needs. Slow learners are supported with remedial coaching, tutorials, and academic counselling by Mentors. Advanced learners are encouraged to do challenging tasks like projects, seminars, and paper presentations. Field trips, internships, weekly discussions, clubs, group discussions, and open debates are organized for augmenting learning outside classroom.

Evaluation process is transparent. Students are evaluated in a continuous assessment system, comprising written examinations, class seminars, and assignments (PG Courses). In the evaluation process, regulations incorporate 25% internal assessment for undergraduate courses and 40% for postgraduate courses. Students have the option to go for re-totalling or revaluation, in case of grievance. There is provision for getting the photocopies of the answer scripts of the end semester examinations as in vogue in certain leading universities.

Research, Innovations and Extension

A statutory body, Board of Research, Development and Consultancy (BRDC), is the apex body to take care of research by regulating and encouraging promotion activities. This body motivates faculties to publish research findings in high-impact factor journals and obtain extramural funding for research. BRDC promotes industry-institute, institute-institute collaboration in research and motivates researchers for patenting the research products/processes.

Funded research projects to the tune of Rs. 133 lakhs are in operation. The teaching-learning process is supplemented by intensive research. Ph.D. Programme of NICHE is offered in strict compliance with the UGC Regulations. In total 453 scholars are currently pursuing their research under 93 guides. One scholar is receiving the Savitribai Jyotirao Phule Fellowship for Single Girl Child (SJS GC) and three scholars are getting INSPIRE Fellowship. Other eligible full-time scholars are paid monthly stipends by NICHE.

Over the years, sustained efforts have improved the quantity and the quality of research publications. Publications listed in the SCOPUS Database have increased with a total number of publications to 1934, 'h index' to 61 with 21496 citations as on 31-05-2024.

137 patent applications are filed, and 47 patents are granted, of which 5 are international patents, 32 applications are examined, 50 applications are published and the remaining are pending as on 31-05-2024.

International/ national conferences/webinars are organized by the University. Short-term courses on research methodology, academic writing are conducted. University also provides monetary support to the faculty member for organizing conferences/workshops and participating in international/national conferences.

Innovation cell and Intellectual Property Rights Cell are constituted to inculcate values of innovation. The Institute innovation cell (IIC), provides orientation towards innovation and entrepreneurship. An incubation policy has been adopted recently for encouraging startups. Community outreach or service-learning is a strength of the University. NICHE has carried out several extension activities to reach out to the community needs. NSS units on the campus also have made vital contributions to the society.

Infrastructure and Learning Resources

University is ideally located in a sprawling 47 acres of land engulfed with greenery. The atmosphere is peaceful

and congenial for making the teaching-learning process effective. The built-in area of 80755 sq.m provides the right ambiance for academic and research activities to flourish. There is regular augmentation of infrastructure keeping in pace with academic growth.

NICHE has iOS Lab which stands first in southern part of Tamil Nadu. iOS development labs serve as incubators for aspiring app developers. These labs provide students with hands-on experience in coding, debugging, and deploying applications for Apple's ecosystem.

NICHE's Cloud computing Lab stands first place in Southern India and equipped with 1 GBPS internet facilities, three servers with 48TB storage.

Campus is networked and 24x7 internet access is made available. Every department in the university has a separate self-contained building with well-equipped laboratories and each department is provided with an adequate number of classrooms, cubicles for the faculty, smart classroom, and discussion room to facilitate the academic programs.

University has a separate Administrative block. A Health Centre manned by two qualified and experienced doctors and supported by competent paramedical staff is functioning effectively on the campus for the benefit of students and staff.

NICHE provides facilities for cultural and sports activities of the students which includes a 600 seating capacity air-conditioned convocation hall, open air theatre, 300 seating air-conditioned multipurpose AC Auditorium, conference and seminar halls.

NICHE has a well-established spacious central library with an area of 1,654.77 square meters with a pleasant environment. Total library collection includes 83,405 books and 79 national and international journals and magazines.

Separate UG and PG hostels for the girl students are located inside the campus and PG & UG hostels for boys are situated very near and within the vicinity of the main entrance to the university. There are nine boys hostel blocks and four girls hostel blocks. Facilities such as indoor games, gym, reading rooms, common prayer/recreation halls, television, and telephones are provided.

University has adequate number of canteens to serve food and refreshment to the staff as well as students. A book shop and photocopying facilities at various locations are available inside the campus.

Student Support and Progression

NICHE has a student-centric approach in all its endeavors. Student mentoring and support are the primary focus of the University and a mentor is assigned for a group of fifteen students.

Students are mentored from the time of admission till completion of the programme. The main role of the mentor is to provide advice and guidance to the students on a wide range of issues throughout the year.

University mentoring system promotes academic success and builds student confidence, informs students about career fields/disciplinary areas, and offers students an arena to receive advice and counsel about the emerging technology, positive aspects, how to succeed, potential pitfalls, misconceptions, etc.

University grievance cell is functioning effectively with a motive to promote and maintain a conducive and harmonious educational environment among the students. This Cell focuses on the redressal of the problems reported by the students of the University.

The office of the Director, Students' Affairs, and the Office of International Affairs provide guidance and support for domestic and international student activities.

University placement cell and department-specific cells hash various career counseling and guidance programmes. Remedial coaching and special coaching for various competitive examinations are organized. Moreover, students are made aware of the employment and higher education opportunities through departmental WhatsApp groups. University has Institute Innovation cell (IIC) and NICHE Innovation and Startups (NISP) to explore students to innovation and develop entrepreneurial skill.

Students can make use of both the Central and departmental libraries for reference work, and computer and internet services for browsing.

Scholarship section provides information on various financial support schemes. Students from economically weaker section are supported with institution/ state/central/minority scholarships. In the last five years, Rs.98 lakh has been made available as scholarship, and 988 students benefited under merit-cum-means and sports quota respectively.

Students enthusiastically participate in many extracurricular activities organized by NCC, NSS, Arts and Literary club, Cultural Club and other clubs; 105 such activities are organized and 92 medals are won.

Alumni have contributed Rs.7.12 lakh for welfare activities. Students are connected to the alumni network through social media platform - AlmaConnect and NICHE Alumni Network.

Governance, Leadership and Management

Chancellor, Pro-Chancellors, Vice-Chancellor, Pro Vice- Chancellors and members of the Board of Management evince keen interest in fulfilling the goals envisaged in the Vision and Mission statements of the University by providing ideal work culture, conducive atmosphere, good infrastructural facilities, and highly qualified staff and play a key role in developing the perspective institutional plan.

Vice-Chancellor is the academic head officer of the University and presides over the meetings of all the authorities of the University and with the help of the various Staff Committees / Cells and Officers of the University ensures proper implementation of the decisions of the authorities.

NICHE follows a decentralized system of management wherein the HoDs prepare the budget in consultation with faculty and operate the same.

The curricula are developed jointly by the department, and BoS, constituting of members as academicians, industrialists and alumni. Decisions of BoS are presented at the Academic Council. The apex statutory body of NICHE is BoM chaired by the Vice Chancellor. There is also a Planning and Monitoring Board.

The research activities are coordinated by departmental research committees. Board of Research and Consultancy is the apex body to draft policies, monitor and evaluate research.

110 faculty members were supported for their academic/research performance in the form of professional incentives, awards, travel grants, and industrial exposure.

Authorities and Staff are provided accommodation on campus. 45 professional development and administrative training programmes are conducted.

Funding is obtained from industries for developing products, processes, and equipments.

NICHE has a vibrant IQAC with Director and faculty coordinators. An IQAC advisory committee is constituted as per NAAC norms. All quality initiatives are audited by IQAC.

The finance section is headed by a chartered accountant. Internal and external audits as per statutes are conducted and placed before finance committee.

Institutional Values and Best Practices

NICHE firmly believes in academic freedom and encourages innovation in teaching-learning process and research.

With determination to protect lives, properties and infrastructure during natural disasters, NICHE, ventured, built, and launched a Nano-Satellite into space with the support of ISRO.

The generic Nano Satellite called NIUSAT is developed by the faculty and students of NICHE in collaboration with ISRO, incorporating all the features of an operational satellite with full redundancy and with the capability to accommodate any kind of payload on the payload deck.

NICHE has organized several gender sensitive programmes during the assessment period under the aegis of the Centre for Women's Studies and the Women's Cell. The institution observes and celebrates all important national and memorial days.

The campus is highly disabled-friendly with facilities like wheelchairs, ramps and disabled-friendly washrooms.

The campus has been made green, rich in flower-plants and pollinator-friendly. The greenery of the campus is being maintained through demarcated forest areas and a variegated tree-plantation drive, including a good number of fruit-bearing trees.

University also has small-scale water-recycling facility, biogas plants, waste disposal units, rainwater harvesting to recharge wells, solar power for one building with an ambitious expansion plan, energy-efficient bulbs, and electric scooters for on campus transport.

The institution has undertaken several outreach programmes such as legal literacy campaigns, village adoption schemes, voter awareness campaigns, entrance coaching for disadvantaged students, and other forms of social engagement through the NSS and UBA.

2. PROFILE

2.1 BASIC INFORMATION

Name and Address of the University	
Name	NOORUL ISLAM CENTRE FOR HIGHER EDUCATION
Address	Noorul Islam Centre for Higher Education, Kumaracoil - 629180 Kanyakumari District Tamil Nadu
City	Kumaracoil Tamil Nadu
State	Tamil Nadu
Pin	629180
Website	www.niuniv.com

Contacts for Communication					
Designation	Name	Telephone with STD Code	Mobile	Fax	Email
Vice Chancellor	Tessy Thomas	04651-225900	9363797458	04651-250266	vc@niuniv.com
Dean	A. Shajin Nargunam	04651-250566	9486856113	04651-250266	pvcac@niuniv.com

Nature of University	
Nature of University	Deemed University

Type of University	
Type of University	Unitary

Establishment Details	
Establishment Date of the University	01-01-1989
Status Prior to Establishment, If applicable	

Recognition Details		
Date of Recognition as a University by UGC or Any Other National Agency :		
Under Section	Date	View Document
2f of UGC		
12B of UGC		

University with Potential for Excellence	
Is the University Recognised as a University with Potential for Excellence (UPE) by the UGC?	No

Location, Area and Activity of Campus							
Campus Type	Address	Location*	Campus Area in Acres	Built up Area in sq.mts.	Program mes Offered	Date of Establishment	Date of Recognition by UGC/MHRD
Main campus	Noorul Islam Centre for Higher Education, Kuma racoil - 629180 Kanyak umari District Tamil Nadu	Rural	47	87450	BE / B.Tech, / B.Sc/ B.Com / BBA / BCA / BASLP / ME / M.Tech / MBA / MCA / M.Sc. / Ph.D.		

2.2 ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Furnish the Details of Colleges of University

Type Of Colleges	Numbers
Constituent Colleges	0
Affiliated Colleges	0
Colleges Under 2(f)	0
Colleges Under 2(f) and 12B	0
NAAC Accredited Colleges	0
Colleges with Potential for Excellence(UGC)	0
Autonomous Colleges	0
Colleges with Postgraduate Departments	0
Colleges with Research Departments	0
University Recognized Research Institutes/Centers	0

Is the University Offering any Programmes Recognised by any Statutory Regulatory Authority (SRA)		: Yes
SRA program	Document	
AICTE	107440_5998_1_1633081892.pdf	
AICTE	107440_15671_1_1719159243.PDF	
AICTE	107440_15671_1_1719159243.PDF	
RCI	107440_5998_19_1612514152.pdf	

Details Of Teaching & Non-Teaching Staff Of University

Teaching Faculty												
	Professor				Associate Professor				Assistant Professor			
	Male	Female	Others	Total	Male	Female	Others	Total	Male	Female	Others	Total
Sanctioned	23				60				110			
Recruited	14	6	0	20	27	28	0	55	65	40	0	105
Yet to Recruit	3				5				5			
On Contract	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Non-Teaching Staff				
	Male	Female	Others	Total
Sanctioned				198
Recruited	112	82	0	194
Yet to Recruit				4
On Contract	0	0	0	0

Technical Staff				
	Male	Female	Others	Total
Sanctioned				72
Recruited	44	22	0	66
Yet to Recruit				6
On Contract	0	0	0	0

Qualification Details of the Teaching Staff

Permanent Teachers										
Highest Qualification	Professor			Associate Professor			Assistant Professor			
	Male	Female	Others	Male	Female	Others	Male	Female	Others	Total
D.sc/D.Litt/LLD/DM/MCH	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Ph.D.	13	6	0	25	27	0	32	26	0	129
M.Phil.	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	4	0	8
PG	1	0	0	1	0	0	31	9	0	42
UG	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Temporary Teachers										
Highest Qualification	Professor			Associate Professor			Assistant Professor			
	Male	Female	Others	Male	Female	Others	Male	Female	Others	Total
D.sc/D.Litt/LLD/DM/MCH	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ph.D.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
M.Phil.	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	0	5
PG	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	20	0	26
UG	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Part Time Teachers										
Highest Qualification	Professor			Associate Professor			Assistant Professor			
	Male	Female	Others	Male	Female	Others	Male	Female	Others	Total
D.sc/D.Litt/LLD/DM/MCH	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ph.D.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
M.Phil.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PG	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
UG	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Distinguished Academicians Appointed As

	Male	Female	Others	Total
Emeritus Professor	0	0	0	0
Adjunct Professor	0	0	0	0
Visiting Professor	0	0	0	0

Chairs Instituted by the University

Sl.No	Name of the Department	Name of the Chair	Name of the Sponsor Organisation/Agency
1	Management Studies	Steve Job Chair	Noorul Islam Educational Trust

Provide the Following Details of Students Enrolled in the University During the Current Academic Year

Programme		From the State Where University is Located	From Other States of India	NRI Students	Foreign Students	Total
UG	Male	530	398	0	0	928
	Female	157	221	0	0	378
	Others	0	0	0	0	0
PG	Male	154	26	0	0	180
	Female	89	11	0	0	100
	Others	0	0	0	0	0
Doctoral (Ph.D)	Male	98	71	0	0	169
	Female	161	123	0	0	284
	Others	0	0	0	0	0

Does the University offer any Integrated Programmes?	No
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Details of UGC Human Resource Development Centre, If applicable

Year of Establishment	Nil
Number of UGC Orientation Programmes	0
Number of UGC Refresher Course	0
Number of University's own Programmes	0
Total Number of Programmes Conducted (last five years)	0

Accreditation Details

Cycle Info	Accreditation	Grade	CGPA	Upload Peer Team Report
Cycle 1	Accreditation			
A	3.06			
B	2.47			
	NAACPeerTeamReport.pdf			
Cycle 2	Accreditation	6		View Document

2.3 EVALUATIVE REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENTS

Department Name	Upload Report
Aeronautical Engineering	View Document
Aerospace Engineering	View Document
Aircraft Maintenance Engineering	View Document
Allied Health Sciences	View Document
Automobile Engineering	View Document
Biomedical Engineering	View Document
Chemistry	View Document
Civil Engineering	View Document
Computer Applications	View Document
Computer Science And Engineering	View Document
Electrical And Electronics Engineering	View Document
Electronics And Communication Engineering	View Document
Electronics And Instrumentation Engineering	View Document
English	View Document
Fire Technology And Safety	View Document
Information Technology	View Document
Management Studies	View Document
Marine Engineering	View Document
Mathematics	View Document
Mechanical Engineering	View Document
Nanotechnology	View Document
Physics	View Document
Software Engineering	View Document

Institutional preparedness for NEP

1. Multidisciplinary/interdisciplinary:	Noorul Islam Centre for Higher Education (NICHE) provides holistic and multidisciplinary education aiming at developing all capacities of Students - intellectual, aesthetic, social, physical, emotional and moral in an integrated manner. NICHE offers a wide
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	range of academic programmes across different fields of study, such as Engineering, the Natural Sciences, Allied Health Sciences, Humanities, and Business Studies. Programmes often integrate perspectives and methods from multiple disciplines and are taught through integrated teaching allowing students to understand complex topics. NICHE often prioritizes problem-solving and encourages students and faculty to work together to address real-world challenges. NICHE is already offering four years of Engineering Programmes, and in future, will create a modular structure to offer Certificate, Diploma and Degree programmes with 3 or 4 years of duration. This has already been approved by the Academic Council and the Boards of Management of NICHE.
2. Academic bank of credits (ABC):	Noorul Islam Centre for Higher Education registered in the Academic Bank of Credits Portal on 19-03-2022. Dr. Jeyakumar, Controller of Examinations, NICHE, acts as Nodal Officer. As per the directions of the University Grants Commission the Noorul Islam Centre for Higher Education has already uploaded 1767 numbers of student's credentials in the Digi-Locker of the 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023 passed-out batch students. The students were already informed to register in the Academic Bank of Credits through www.abc.gov.in and the same has been updated in the NICHE University website. As part of the Academic Bank of Credits, the University has already implemented the Credit Transfer System. The University incorporates the credits of the other Department subjects of a student. The credits earned by the student from other universities/Institutions are also considered in the academic certificates, if a candidate is transferred to NICHE from other institutions.
3. Skill development:	Finishing School is an initiative launched in July 2017 by the Department of Placement & Training of NICHE with the aim to increase the employability quotient of the students. It was observed that students, though intelligent and technically sound, are unable to impress the industry when industry people come for recruitment. The main objective of the Finishing School Program is to prepare the students to face the challenges of the placement process and also equip them with skills required once they enter the corporate world. Master Trainers who have vast experience in the corporate environment impart

	training to the final year students focusing on: • Communication - Presentation Skills, Email Writing, CV Writing, Telephonic Interviews, Attitudes and Behaviour, Corporate Culture and Etiquette • Life Skills - Time and Stress Management, Goal Setting, Negotiations and many other skill sets required in day to day operations. An eighty hour module of Skill Development has been designed and at the end of which the student receives a Certificate from the Education Department of Placement & Training, NICHE.
4. Appropriate integration of Indian Knowledge system (teaching in Indian Language, culture, using online course):	NICHE gives due importance to Cultural Activities, Yoga, Sports and Games. Cultural Activities include Competitions such as Solo Song, Group Song, Dance Performances like Western Dance, Folk Dance etc. Such Cultural Activities are held in Hill-Top Auditorium Multipurpose Hall, furnished with an audience capacity for 600 occupants and another Multipurpose Air-Conditioned Hall with a capacity for 300 people located in the Main Block of the university. Many of NICHE 's students are prolific in cultural activities and are torch bearers of the rich cultural legacy of Tamil Nadu and Kerala. Vibrant cultural programs are presented frequently on occasions like International Women's Day, University Day, Arts Day, Teachers Day, Onam Festival etc. The yearly NICHE Talent Search Competition is conducted by Students Union, focusing on cultural activities and community out-reach programs, and they provide a platform to the culturally-proficient students to showcase their talents. Intra-university competitions Include solo Western, Folk Dance, instrumental Music, Painting, Drama, Rangoli are quite often conducted. Cultural events like Folk Songs, Folk Orchestras, Folk Dance, and Street play at the Inter-University competitions would require displaying the fundamental values of Indian cultural heritage, oriented towards unity and national integration, integrity, truth, devotion, loyalty, and eradication of obscurantism, violence, obscenity superstition, fatalism, and religious fatalism .The Cultural Ambience of NICHE build the moral character of the students and a sense of commitment to the society and nation in them.
5. Focus on Outcome based education (OBE):	NICHE is successfully deploying Outcome Based Education (OBE) strategy. Outcome Based Education is a student-centric teaching and learning

	methodology in which the course delivery and assessment are planned to achieve stated objectives and outcomes. It focuses on measuring student performance, knowledge and skills outcomes at different levels. The OBE Model measures the progress of the graduate in terms of five parameters. They are: • Graduate Attributes (GAs) as exemplars of the attributes expected out of a graduate from an accredited program • Program Educational Objectives (PEOs) as broader objectives that are aligned with the Vision-Mission statement of the Departments. • Program Outcomes (POs) as expertise developed after completion of the program, POs are expected to be aligned closely with Graduate Attributes. • Program Specific Outcomes (PSOs) as statements that describe what the graduates of a specific program should be able to do. • Course Outcomes (COs) as the description of knowledge and skills acquired via course/curriculum/syllabi . OBE is implemented at NICHE based on the following steps. Step 1: Specification of PEOs, POs, PSOs and COs Step 2: CO Attainment Step 3: PO Attainment
6. Distance education/online education:	Noorul Islam Centre For Higher Education (NICHE) (Deemed to be University u/s 3 of the UGC Act 1956) has applied for Online Courses in the DEB Portal during the academic years 2020-2021, 2021-2022 and 2022-23, as per the NAAC requirement

Institutional Initiatives for Electoral Literacy

1. Whether Electoral Literacy Club (ELC) has been set up in the College?	Yes
2. Whether students' co-ordinator and co-ordinating faculty members are appointed by the College and whether the ELCs are functional? Whether the ELCs are representative in character?	Yes. Mr. Sidharth of Final Year Bio –Medical Engineering is the campus ambassador who took Initiatives to make other students becoming the club members. Dr. M. Sankaranayana Pillai, Professor, Department of Chemistry, was appointed the Nodal Officer for the academic year 2023-2024. The ELC is functional and representative in character.
3. What innovative programmes and initiatives undertaken by the ELCs? These may include voluntary contribution by the students in electoral	Initiatives were taken primarily to make eligible voters to enroll E.C Forms obtained from the Election Commission Office, Nagercoil and distributed to the

processes-participation in voter registration of students and communities where they come from, assisting district election administration in conduct of poll, voter awareness campaigns, promotion of ethical voting, enhancing participation of the under privileged sections of society especially transgender, commercial sex workers, disabled persons, senior citizens, etc.	students and the public who are yet to register collected. The duly filled in applications were sent item to the Office concerned. Voters Day (Jan 25) was observed. A Voters Day Rally was held from the R.D.O office, Thuckalay and it went round the town. Mr. Sidharth and Dr. M. Sankaranayana Pillai were awarded Certificates of Appreciation by the Chief Electoral Officer on 25.01.24.
4. Any socially relevant projects/initiatives taken by College in electoral related issues especially research projects, surveys, awareness drives, creating content, publications highlighting their contribution to advancing democratic values and participation in electoral processes, etc.	Surveys and awareness programs were conducted
5. Extent of students above 18 years who are yet to be enrolled as voters in the electoral roll and efforts by ELCs as well as efforts by the College to institutionalize mechanisms to register eligible students as voters.	About 2% of the students are yet to enroll. Every possible step is being taken to enroll their names. Not only for the students, our students interact with the general public also in this regard.

Extended Profile

1 Students

1.1

Number of students on rolls year wise during last five years

2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
1586	1883	2183	2188	2162
File Description		Document		
Institutional Data in prescribed format		View Document		

1.2

Number of final year outgoing students year wise during last five years

2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
486	588	675	550	552
File Description		Document		
Institutional data in prescribed format		View Document		

2 Teachers

2.1

Number of full time teachers in the institution year wise during the last five years

2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
180	183	192	269	287
File Description		Document		
Institutional data in prescribed format		View Document		

2.2

Total number of full time teachers worked/working in the institution (without repeat count) during last five years:

Response: 180

File Description	Document
Institutional data in prescribed format	View Document

3 Institution

3.1

Total expenditure excluding salary year wise during the last five years (INR in lakhs)

2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
1293.18	729.63	547.07	602.73	1043.24

4. Quality Indicator Framework(QIF)

Criterion 1 - Curricular Aspects

1.1 Curriculum Design and Development

1.1.1

Curricula developed and implemented have relevance to the local, regional, national, and global developmental needs, which is reflected in the Programme outcomes (POs), and Course Outcomes(COs) of the Programmes offered by the University

Response:

Noorul Islam Centre for Higher Education (NICHE) was established with the motto "Lighted to Lighten," symbolizing its commitment to illuminating knowledge that fosters professional, moral, social and economic well-being, particularly in the rural areas of southern India.

NICHE's vision, mission, and quality policy are aligned with this motto, focusing on instilling high standards of discipline, ethics and providing quality education that meets the needs of the nation and adapts to global technological advancements.

The curriculum at NICHE is revised every four years to incorporate new subjects based on industry changes. Before each academic year, the detailed syllabus is finalized, ensuring it reflects the evolving local and global needs. Industry experts on each board of studies provide immediate feedback on challenges arising from technological advancements, enabling NICHE to refine its syllabus content accordingly.

Local Developmental Needs: Recognizing local health challenges, such as minor speech disabilities, NICHE has tailored the Bachelor of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (BASLP) course to address these issues. Allied health-related courses have been introduced to meet the specific health care needs of the region. The growing demand for trained biomedical engineers due to the increased use of biomedical equipment in healthcare led NICHE to introduce the Biomedical Engineering course.

Global Developmental Needs: As technology evolves towards interdisciplinary skill development, NICHE has made open electives mandatory in all undergraduate programs to equip students with interdisciplinary skills. To ensure all engineering and technology graduates have a foundational understanding of Artificial Intelligence, NICHE has included fundamentals of AI as a common subject across all undergraduate engineering and technology courses. Additionally, the curriculum integrates industry-oriented technological insights.

NICHE boast excellent well established infrastructure, which supports the implementation of skills in emerging technologies and the facilities include an Apple iOS Lab, NICHE Private Cloud Infrastructure, Cyber Security Lab, Robotics Lab, High-End Intel AI Lab, Material Characterization and Synthesis Lab, CNC Lab, 3D Printing and on-campus Aircrafts and Ship-in-campus.

To provide industry exposure and foster entrepreneurship, internships are mandatory in the curriculum. Courses on professional and business ethics and environmental studies are included in all undergraduate

engineering programs to instill ethical values and environmental consciousness from a young age.

NICHE also emphasizes skill development in areas like aptitude, reasoning, and professional development, incorporating these into the curriculum to meet national workforce demands.

NICHE adheres to higher education policies and directives from the Ministry of Education (MoE), University Grants Commission (UGC) and All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), upholding the highest standards of academic and professional excellence. The curriculum is carefully crafted in alignment with NICHE's vision and mission, guided by Program Objectives and Program Outcomes, to address the rapidly changing needs of local industries and global technological advancements. The Program Outcome ensures that students acquire the knowledge and skills needed to meet international standards, making them competitive in the global job market. Each Course Outcome is carefully aligned with the corresponding Program Outcomes to maintain this focus.

File Description	Document
Upload Additional information	View Document
Provide Link for Additional information	View Document

1.1.2

The Programmes offered by the institution focus on employability/ entrepreneurship/ skill development and their course syllabi are adequately revised to incorporate contemporary requirements

Response:

Noorul Islam Centre for Higher Education (NICHE) is dedicated to empowering rural students in South India by offering a diverse array of programs that focus on technological and healthcare skills. With a clear emphasis on meeting current job market demands, NICHE's curriculum is designed to ensure that students are well-prepared to succeed in an increasingly competitive and dynamic professional landscape.

NICHE's student-centric, choice-based curriculum maintains a careful balance between fundamental subjects and advanced topics in emerging fields which ensures that students acquire the essential knowledge and competencies needed to navigate the changing demands. Each year, the detailed syllabus content is finalized by the Boards of Studies before the academic year begins. This process allows for incorporating changes that reflect industry needs. Feedback from industry experts, along with their presence on each BoS, ensures the syllabus is continuously refined to align with current industry demands.

Recognizing the growing importance of emerging technologies, NICHE has integrated cutting-edge subjects into its curriculum. For example, Fundamentals of Artificial Intelligence has been made a mandatory course for all students, reflecting the institution's commitment to equipping its graduates with the skills needed to thrive in a technology-driven world. In addition to core subjects, NICHE offers industry-oriented electives in collaboration with leading technology companies such as Infosys, IBM,

Apple, iOS and Amazon AWS. These electives are supported by NICHE's robust infrastructure, which is designed to provide students with hands-on experience in the latest technologies.

Over 30% of teaching hours are devoted to hands-on learning, with mandatory internships integrated into all programs. This ensures that students gain real-world experience that complements their academic studies. Specialized on-the-job training opportunities are also provided to the students. Marine Engineering students receive training with international shipping companies, Fire Technology and Safety Engineering students gain experience at Cochin Shipyard, Mechanical Engineering students are trained at BrahMos Aerospace Limited in Thiruvananthapuram and allied health science students complete internships in reputable hospitals. Additionally, the curriculum provides students with the option to earn credits for certification courses completed on platforms like SWAYAM, allowing them to explore emerging areas based on their interests.

To cultivate entrepreneurial skills, NICHE regularly organizes workshops and training sessions that guide students through the process of product development, from idea pitching to achieving technology readiness. This initiative has already resulted in the registration of one company, with two more in the pipeline, demonstrating the institution's commitment to fostering innovation and entrepreneurship.

NICHE also actively supports the development of soft skills through courses in aptitude, reasoning and personality development, which are integrated as intramural courses. Selected pre-final and final-year students benefit from advanced training under the **Steve Jobs Scholarship program**, which is delivered by industry experts.

Furthermore, NICHE encourages students to enroll in skill-based courses offered by the National Skill Development Corporation. By continuously refining its curriculum and course content focusing on employability, entrepreneurship and skill development, NICHE ensures that its graduates are equipped with the skills necessary to excel in their chosen careers and make meaningful contributions to society and the nation.

File Description	Document
Upload Additional information	View Document
Provide Link for Additional information	View Document

1.2 Academic Flexibility

1.2.1

Percentage of new courses introduced out of the total number of courses across all programmes offered during the last five years

Response: 29.29

1.2.1.1 Number of new courses introduced during the last five years:

Response: 927

1.2.1.2 Consolidated number of courses offered by the institution across all Programmes (without repeat count) during the last five years :

Response: 3165

File Description	Document
Subsequent Academic Council meeting extracts endorsing the decision of BOS	View Document
Provide the relevant information in institutional website as part of public disclosure	View Document
Minutes of Board of Studies meeting clearly specifying the syllabus approval of new courses	View Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

1.3 Curriculum Enrichment**1.3.1**

Institution integrates cross-cutting issues relevant to Professional Ethics, Gender, Human Values, Environment and Sustainability and other value framework enshrined in Sustainable Development Goals and National Education Policy – 2020 into the Curriculum

Response:

NICHE is deeply committed to instilling human values and ethics in its students, particularly those enrolled in undergraduate engineering and technology programs. Recognizing the importance of these principles in shaping well-rounded professionals, NICHE has integrated fifteen courses focused on professional ethics and human values across various undergraduate and postgraduate programs. In addition, the common subject on Professional and Business Ethics offered in the fifth semester of all undergraduate engineering and technology programs, these courses emphasize the significance of ethical conduct in both personal and professional life. To further promote ethical awareness, NICHE has established the Gandhian Peace Club, which actively engages students in understanding the benefits of practicing human values and ethical principles. This initiative is part of NICHE's broader effort to create a campus culture that prioritizes integrity, respect and social responsibility.

Environmental consciousness is another core focus at NICHE. Institution's Eco Club plays a vital role in raising awareness about environmental issues among students. NICHE offers eight courses related to environment and sustainability across various undergraduate and postgraduate programs, ensuring that students are well-versed in these critical areas. Moreover, a common course on Environmental Studies is mandatory for all undergraduate engineering and technology programs, fostering environmental awareness in young minds.

NICHE's commitment to sustainability is further demonstrated by its curriculum offerings in renewable energy and alternative fuels. Five subjects in this domain are available in undergraduate and postgraduate programs, equipping students with the knowledge to contribute to a more sustainable future. Starting in the academic year 2024- 2025, NICHE plans to introduce an MSc program in Environment and Climate Change. Additionally, the institution has successfully implemented net-zero emission projects, including the conversion of petrol cars to electric vehicles, solar energy harvesting and waste-to-energy conversion initiatives.

The Women Empowerment Cell at NICHE is another crucial initiative, focusing on gender sensitization and empowering marginalized sections of society. The cell conducts awareness programs regularly, providing insights into contemporary solutions available in the technological world.

Aligned with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, NICHE is transitioning towards a student-friendly and outcome-based education system. The institution has adopted several NEP 2020 provisions, including the Academic Bank of Credits (ABC) portal, where students' credentials are uploaded for seamless credit and certification verification. Credit based Multiple Entry options are provided for the students who have earned the necessary credits in other Higher Education Institutions. An Induction Program is conducted for freshers to provide them the importance of Higher Education and to prepare them for pursuing the higher studies.

From the academic year 2024-2025, NICHE is introducing three four-year undergraduate programs related to Multimedia and Animation Technology. Additionally, the institution is implementing a Major-Minor degree concept to enhance employability and interdisciplinary skills. This framework promotes interdisciplinary learning, enabling students to connect knowledge from different fields and apply it innovatively across disciplines. By integrating these diverse elements into its educational offerings, NICHE ensures that its students are well-prepared to meet the challenges of the modern world while maintaining a strong foundation in ethics and sustainability.

File Description	Document
Upload Additional information	View Document
Provide Link for Additional information	View Document

1.3.2

Number of certificate/value added courses/Diploma Programme offered by the institutions and online courses of MOOCs, SWAYAM/e Pathshala/ NPTEL and other recognized platforms (without repeat count) where the students of the institution have enrolled and successfully completed during the last five years

Response: 70

File Description	Document
Provide the relevant information in institutional website as part of public disclosure	View Document
List of students and the attendance sheet for the above mentioned programs	View Document
Institutional programme brochure/notice for Certificate/Value added programs with course modules and outcomes	View Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
Evidence of course completion, like course completion certificate etc.	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

1.3.3

Percentage of programmes that have components of field projects / research projects / internships during the last five years.

Response: 93.62

1.3.3.1 Total Number of programmes that have components of field projects / research projects / internships (without repeat count) during the last five years

Response: 44

1.3.3.2 Total Number of programmes offered (without repeat count) during the last five years

Response: 47

File Description	Document
Sample Internship completion letter provided by host institutions	View Document
Provide the relevant information in institutional website as part of public disclosure	View Document
Program and course contents having element of field projects / research projects / internships as approved by BOS	View Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

1.4 Feedback System

1.4.1

Structured feedback for curriculum and its transaction is regularly obtained from stakeholders like Students, Teachers, Employers, Alumni, Academic peers etc., and Feedback processes of the institution may be classified as follows:

Response: A. Feedback collected, analysed, action taken & communicated to the relevant bodies and feedback hosted on the institutional website

File Description	Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
Feedback analysis report submitted to appropriate committee/bodies	View Document
At least 4 filled-in feedback form from different stake holders like Students, Teachers, Employers, Alumni etc.	View Document
Action taken report on the feedback analysis and its report to appropriate committee/bodies	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document
Link of institution's website where comprehensive feedback, its analytics and action taken report are hosted	View Document

Criterion 2 - Teaching-learning and Evaluation

2.1 Student Enrollment and Profile

2.1.1

Enrolment percentage

Response: 54.86

2.1.1.1 Number of sanctioned seats year wise during last five years

2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
1098	1098	1068	1431	1413

2.1.1.2 Number of seats filled year wise during last five years (Only first year admissions to be considered)

2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
563	688	774	688	638

File Description

Document

Provide the relevant information in institutional website as part of public disclosure

[View Document](#)

Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)

[View Document](#)

Document relating to sanction of intake as approved by competent authority

[View Document](#)

Admission extract signed by the competent authority (only fresh admissions to be considered)

[View Document](#)

Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)

[View Document](#)

2.1.2

Percentage of seats filled against reserved categories (SC, ST, OBC etc.) as per applicable reservation policy for the first year admission during the last five years

Response: 54.43

2.1.2.1 Number of actual students admitted against the reserved categories in the first year of the programme year-wise during the last five years

2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
316	328	307	324	370

2.1.2.2 Total number of seats earmarked for reserved category as per GOI or State Government rule year-wise during the last five years

2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
543	543	528	708	700

File Description	Document
Provide the relevant information in institutional website as part of public disclosure	View Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
Final admission list indicating the category as published by the HEI and endorsed by the competent authority.	View Document
Copy of the letter issued by the State govt. or Central Government Indicating the reserved categories(SC, ST, OBC, Divyangjan, etc.) to be considered as per the state rule (Translated copy in English to be provided as applicable)	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

2.2 Catering to Student Diversity**2.2.1**

The institution assesses the learning levels of the students and organises special Programmes to cater to differential learning needs of the student

Response:

The NICHE initiative is dedicated to uplifting students by systematically assessing their learning levels,

identifying needs and implementing targeted interventions to support their educational growth. This approach includes a structured technique to evaluate students, distinguishing between advanced and slow learners. The assessment is based on various criteria, including entry-level test marks, twelfth-grade marks, and the results of an aptitude test conducted after a 10-day orientation program for first-year students. This orientation focuses on enhancing communication skills, familiarizing students with the latest technologies and promoting gender sensitization and yoga. The learning levels of first-year students are further assessed through their performance in the first series test and class participation after a month into the program. For second, third, and final-year students, learning levels are determined by their series test marks, class performance, previous CGPA, and mentor reports.

Advanced learners are placed on a fast track to explore beyond the curriculum. They are encouraged to register for online courses in platforms like SWAYAM, NPTEL, edX, and Coursera, with 100 students benefiting from these programs in the 2023-2024 academic year. The "Padma Shri P. Gopinathan Nair Civil Service (IAS) Academy of NICHE" guides advanced learners interested in civil service exams, benefiting over 50 students. The "Steve Jobs Scholarship Programme" offers rigorous training and career guidance to final-year students, equipping them to be industry-ready. This program has supported 43 students so far.

NICHE also provides advanced learning opportunities to those aspiring for postgraduate and doctoral programs. For students interested in defense services, NICHE offers specialized training programs. Additionally, guidance on the patent procedure is provided, helping students navigate the steps of filing, protecting, and commercializing the innovations. Participation in Hackathons and Ideathons is highly encouraged, resulting in nearly 100 students taking part in various Hackathons. Through their innovative ideas, 19 students have successfully published patents. An Internal Hackathon conducted on campus had the participation of 90 students. These activities are part of MHRD (Ministry of Human Resource Development) innovation initiatives that foster entrepreneurship and innovation, further developing skills such as problem-solving, critical thinking, creativity, teamwork, communication and time management.

To address the needs of slow learners, NICHE has developed targeted strategies that include remedial classes organized additional to regular class hours. These sessions provide opportunities for students to strengthen their subject knowledge and bridge gaps in understanding. NICHE offers comprehensive academic and personal counseling services through dedicated mentorship programs. Mentors work closely with slow learners, offering personalized guidance, encouragement, and strategies to improve their learning outcomes and overall well-being. Peer tutoring is also employed, with communication skill sessions conducted regularly to overcome language barriers.

NICHE provides simplified and standardized lecture notes, small group discussions, clarification of doubts, and tailored course materials to aid slow learners. These resources are specifically designed to facilitate the learning process by breaking down complex concepts into more manageable formats, ensuring that slow learners can grasp the subject matter more effectively and achieve academic success alongside their peers.

File Description	Document
Upload Any additional information	View Document
Provide link for additional information	View Document

2.2.2**Student - Full time teacher ratio (Data for the latest completed academic year)****Response:** 8.81

File Description	Document
List showing the number of students in each of the programs for the latest completed academic year across all semesters	View Document
Certified list of full time teachers along with the departmental affiliation in the latest completed academic year.	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

2.3 Teaching- Learning Process**2.3.1**

Student centric methods, such as experiential learning, participative learning and problem solving methodologies are used for enhancing learning experience and teachers use ICT- enabled tools including online resources for effective teaching and learning process

Response:

NICHE adopts a student-centric approach to enhance the learning experience, integrating ICT-enabled tools as a core component of effective teaching practices. Faculty members utilize online resources and multimedia aids, such as LCD projectors, laptops, and smart rooms, to create an interactive classroom environment. The institution emphasizes the use of its Learning Management System (LMS) and Google Classroom for sharing study materials, distributing assignments and conducting online quizzes and webinars, ensuring students have continuous access to learning resources. Audio-visual aids are used to simplify complex concepts, and links to advanced learning materials through audio-video lectures are provided to further support student understanding. The university library offers 24/7 remote access to an extensive range of resources and students are encouraged to register for online courses on platforms like MOOC, NPTEL, and Swayam. NICHE's integrated Academic Management System manages the Choice-Based Credit System (CBCS), covering course registration, attendance and timetable management, ensuring a smooth and effective teaching-learning process.

Experiential Learning: NICHE prioritizes the practical application of knowledge by offering a wide range of experiential learning opportunities. These include internships, laboratory work, case studies, project-based learning, workshops, seminars, study abroad programs, entrepreneurship initiatives, research opportunities, competitions, hackathons, service learning, field trips and excursions. For example, students in the Allied Health Science department receive regular hands-on training at NIMS Medicity.

These experiences bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and real-world application, equipping students to face professional challenges and apply their learning in practical contexts. Additionally, specialized labs such as the Apple iOS Lab, Intel AI Lab, NICHE AWS Academy and the IBM Centre for Excellence provide exposure to the latest emerging technologies, further enhancing students' skills and industry readiness.

Participative Learning: NICHE fosters active engagement through participative learning methodologies that promote collaboration, critical thinking, and problem-solving. Group discussions and activities are central to this approach, where students explore topics of academic and practical relevance in assigned groups. This method encourages reading, reflective thinking, and questioning. Participation in the University magazine and various industrial visits further supports this learning model. For example, students from the Electrical and Electronics Engineering department visited a 110 KV substation to gain hands-on experience in transformer operation and maintenance, while Civil Engineering students explored historical construction sites and industrial parks to understand real-world engineering challenges.

Problem-Solving Methodologies: NICHE embeds problem-solving throughout its curriculum with diverse learning methods such as classroom teaching, laboratory experiments, mini and major projects, assignments and quizzes. Critical thinking is encouraged through tasks like mind mapping, which help students analyze and synthesize information. Participation in competitions like the Smart India Hackathon and various boot camps provides opportunities to test and enhance problem-solving skills in competitive environments.

By integrating experiential learning, participative learning, and problem-solving methodologies, NICHE cultivates a dynamic and comprehensive learning environment. This holistic approach ensures that students are not only academically prepared but also equipped with the critical thinking, collaboration, and problem-solving skills necessary to excel in their careers and tackle complex challenges in the real world.

File Description	Document
Upload any additional information	View Document
Provide Link for Additional Information	View Document

2.3.2

The institution adopts effective Mentor-Mentee Schemes to address academics and student-psychological issues

Response:

NICHE adopts an effective mentor-mentee system to create strong confident students to deal with emotional situations. The mentor-mentee system practiced at NICHE provides a comprehensive support to the students in their academic pursuits and psychological well-being. Further the mentor-mentee scheme helps to foster a nurturing and supportive learning environment. The mentor mentee interaction

starts from the very first day of student joins the university. A Mentor is allocated for each student in a ratio of 1:20. Immediately after admission students are guided and advised about proper course selection, study techniques, time management, hostel accommodation and information about the library and other campus amenities. This can help mentees for preparation of challenging coursework and to develop effective learning strategies. This is a continuous process until completion of the degree at the university. Mentors monitor the concerned student's activities and counsel them for better performance of the students. For under graduate programme, the mentor helps the students in such a way that their stay at the campus is comfortable and safe.

This facilitates close relationships between faculty mentors and their assigned group of students from the same academic program or year. Mentors guide students on course selection, career planning and overall academic progress. Crucially, they also identify and address student psychological issues that may arise. The confidential mentor-mentee relationship allows students to freely express concerns, seek advice and receive support in navigating personal challenges.

Key focus is to address issues impacting student engagement and academic performance like inattention in class, absent from tests, irregular attendance, poor test performance, late to classes, improper dress code and assessment malpractices.

Student's psychological stresses such as depression, anxiety, home sickness and emotional disorders are noticed and counseled by mentor and university counselor by one-on-one meetings. This helps the mentees to recover from stresses easily.

Further to improve the involvement of students in other social and environmental friendly activities, various clubs are functioning and weekly activities in these clubs helps to improve the mental ability and overall professional growth.

The Structured Peer Mentorship Program at NICHE facilitates systematic and guided interactions between students and their peers, promoting academic excellence and personal growth through collaborative learning. Regular training equips faculty with skills like active listening, empathy, conflict resolution, and identifying mental health concerns. Collaborations with counselors provide additional professional support. Mentors give proper counseling and discusses the matters with parents, if need arises.

The emphasis on regular mentor-mentee meetings enables open dialogue and proactive problem-solving. Students discuss progress, voice concerns, and seek guidance on academic or personal challenges. Peer support groups facilitated by mentors provide a safe space for students to share experiences and encouragement.

The Collaborative Learning and Mentorship Framework at NICHE integrate peer mentorship with cooperative learning strategies to enhance students' academic performance and foster a supportive educational environment.

By addressing academic and psychological needs, we aim to equip students with skills and resilience to navigate their educational journey successfully and emerge as fully equipped individuals prepared to face future challenges.

File Description	Document
Upload any additional information	View Document
List of Active mentors	View Document
Provide Link for Additional Information	View Document

2.4 Teacher Profile and Quality

2.4.1

Average percentage of full time teachers appointed against the number of sanctioned posts year wise during the last five years

Response: 97

2.4.1.1 Total Number of Sanctioned year wise during the last five years

2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
193	193	223	260	277

File Description	Document
Sanction letters indicating number of posts sanctioned by the competent authority (including Management sanctioned posts).	View Document
Provide the relevant information in institutional website as part of public disclosure	View Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template merged with 2.4.3 and 2.4.4)	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

2.4.2

Percentage of full time teachers with Ph.D./D.M/M.Ch./D.N.B/ Superspeciality/L.L.D/D.S.C/D.Litt. during the last five years

Response: 72.22

2.4.2.1 Number of full time teachers with Ph.D./D.M/M.Ch./D.N.B/ Superspeciality/L.L.D/D.S.C/D.Litt Superspecialist during the last five years

Response: 130

File Description	Document
Provide the relevant information in institutional website as part of public disclosure	View Document
List of faculty having Ph.D./D.M/M.Ch./D.N. Superspeciality/ along with particulars of the degree awarding university, subject and the year of award per academic year.	View Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
Copies of Ph.D./D.M/M.Ch./D.N.B Superspeciality awarded by UGC recognized universities	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

2.4.3

Average teaching experience of full time teachers (Data to be provided only for the latest completed academic year, in number of years)

Response: 15.89

2.4.3.1 Total teaching experience of full-time teachers as of latest completed academic year

Response: 2860

File Description	Document
Provide the relevant information in institutional website as part of public disclosure	View Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

2.5 Evaluation Process and Reforms**2.5.1**

Average number of days from the date of last semester-end/ year- end examination till the last date of declaration of results during the last five years

Response: 8.2**2.5.1.1 Number of days from the date of last semester-end/ year- end examination till the last date of declaration of results year wise during the last five years**

2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
5	8	6	6	16

File Description	Document
Provide the relevant information in institutional website as part of public disclosure	View Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

2.5.2**Percentage of student complaints/grievances about evaluation against total number of students appeared in the examinations during the last five years****Response: 1.93****2.5.2.1 Number of complaints/grievances about evaluation year-wise during the last five years**

2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
73	169	43	30	58

2.5.2.2 Number of students appeared in the examination conducted by the institution year wise during the last five years

2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
3034	3619	3988	4593	4066

File Description	Document
List the number of students who have applied for re- valuation/re-totalling program wise and the total certified by the Controller of Examinations year-wise for the assessment period.	View Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

2.5.3**Status of automation of Examination division along with approved Examination Manual/ordinance**

Response: A. 100% automation of entire division & implementation of Examination Management System (EMS)

File Description	Document
The screenshot should reflect the HEI name and the name of the module.	View Document
The report on the present status of automation of examination division including screenshots of various modules of the software.	View Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
Copies of the purchase order and bills/AMC of the software.	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

2.6 Student Performance and Learning Outcomes**2.6.1**

The institution has stated learning outcomes (Program and Course outcomes)/graduate attributes which are integrated into the assessment process and widely publicized through the website and other documents and the attainment of the same are evaluated by the institution

Response:

NICHE's vision and mission are intricately aligned with the Program Educational Objectives (PEOs),

Program Outcomes (POs), and Program Specific Outcomes (PSOs), forming the foundation of its Outcome Based Education (OBE) system, in practice since 2017. The institution emphasizes entrepreneurship by organizing Entrepreneurship Awareness Camps and offering value-added certificate courses and training programs that promote self-employment. Management-based subjects are integrated into the regular curriculum to provide insights into managing and running entrepreneurial ventures.

Publicized Practices:

NICHE ensures transparency and accessibility by prominently displaying the Program Outcomes (POs), Program Specific Outcomes (PSOs), and Course Outcomes (COs) of each academic program on departmental web portals and the Head of Department's office. These outcomes are also included in the academic handbook, teaching plans and question papers, allowing students to easily access syllabi and COs within their respective departments. During the induction program, students are briefed on the PSOs, POs, and COs, including details about the curriculum, learning outcomes, and assessment patterns. Newly appointed faculty members receive orientation programs to understand the learning outcomes.

To maintain consistency in the OBE approach, NICHE conducts annual training programs for faculty members. These programs focus on developing Bloom's Taxonomy-based teaching methods and crafting question papers aligned with desired learning outcomes. The POs, aligned with graduate attributes, assess the knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes students acquire by the end of the program. Cognition-based POs are evaluated through COs, which cover all syllabus modules and are framed using Bloom's Taxonomy to measure learning outcomes effectively.

Course Articulation Matrix (CAM):

The CAM maps the correlation between COs, POs, and PSOs and integrates this mapping into teaching plans. The correlation index is graded as S (Strong), M (Medium), L (Low), and N (Not Relevant), ensuring that teaching and assessment strategies align with educational outcomes. Learning outcomes are assessed through direct methods, including Continuous Internal Assessments (CIA), end-semester examinations (ESE), real-time projects, presentations, internships and seminars. Question papers for these assessments are designed according to Bloom's Taxonomy and are mapped to specific COs. CO attainment is calculated based on student performance in internal and external examinations, ensuring a thorough evaluation process.

Attainments:

CO attainment involves structured assessments throughout the academic term. Three Continuous Internal Assessments (CIAs) or Series Tests, along with a Quality Assessment (QA), are conducted over 90 working days. The CIAs are administered by the department, while the CoE conducts the End Semester Assessment (ESA). The marks from both CIA and ESA are mapped to COs to accurately calculate attainment levels.

The finalized marks of CIA for 25 and ESA for 75 totaling to 100 shall be converted to the corresponding letter grades to be awarded to each Course. NICHE's systematic approach to developing and assessing POs, PSOs, and COs aligns with its mission of academic excellence. By incorporating industry feedback, societal considerations, and rigorous assessment methods, NICHE equips graduates with the knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes necessary to excel in their fields and positively contribute to society.

File Description	Document
Upload COs for all courses (exemplars from Glossary)	View Document
Upload any additional information	View Document
Provide links as Additional Information	View Document

2.6.2

Pass percentage of students (excluding backlog students) (Data to be provided only for the latest completed academic year)

Response: 83.54

2.6.2.1 Total number of final year students who passed the examination conducted by Institution.

Response: 406

File Description	Document
percentage of students of the final year (final semester) eligible for the degree program-wise / year wise	View Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
Certified report from the Controller of Examinations indicating the pass	View Document
Annual report of COE highlighting the pass percentage of students	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

2.7 Student Satisfaction Survey

2.7.1

Online student satisfaction survey regarding teaching learning process

Response:

Criterion 3 - Research, Innovations and Extension

3.1 Promotion of Research and Facilities

3.1.1

The institution's Research facilities are frequently updated and there are well defined policy for promotion of research which is uploaded on the institutional website and implemented

Response:

NICHE gives great emphasis on advancing quality research and has established a well-defined policy to support and promote research activities. University continuously updates and enhances its research infrastructure to foster a robust research environment.

To enhance research activities at the departmental level, NICHE encourages departmental research colloquiums, fostering collaboration and facilitating the ongoing projects. University ensures quality and progress of research through regular Doctoral Committee meetings, providing scholars with necessary guidance and support to advance the research work effectively.

NICHE's research facilities are equipped with the following cutting-edge technology labs:-

iOS development lab

NICHE iOS Lab stands first in southern part of Tamil Nadu and provides students with hands-on experience in coding, debugging, and deploying applications for Apple's devices.

Intel Unnati AI Lab

Equipped with Intel Xeon-Gold 6530 2.1GHz 32-core 270W Processor and Intel Xeon-Silver 4510 2.4GHz 12-core 150W Processor with 512 GB DDR5 RAM.

Material Characterisation Lab (Nanotechnology)

Nanotechnology Lab is equipped with Surface Area Analyzer, Thermo Gravimetry Differential Thermal Analyzer, Particle Size Analyzer, UV – Vis Spectrophotometer, Fourier Transform

Infrared Spectrometer, Raman Spectrometer, Atomic Force Microscope, X-Ray

Diffractionmeter and Ball Mill.

Robotics lab

Robotics lab provides a basis for the researchers and students in development of fully functional Humanoid Robots.

CNC Production Lathe and 3D Printing

Mechanical Engineering Department Laboratory is equipped with Flash Forge 3D printing, CNC Production lathe, CNC lathe and milling trainer kit, Micro hardness machine, Universal Testing Machine with plotter.

Cloud computing lab

Equipped with three dedicated servers with 48TB storage. Cloud Computing Lab is configured with Open Nebula, OpenStack, VMware, Hadoop, Microsoft Imagine License and MongoDB which facilitates online classes, also provides data centres for research activities, online education portal etc.

Centre for Satellite Technology and Application with ground station, clean room and mission control centre.

These advanced labs offer students and researchers valuable opportunities to do cutting edge research in emerging technologies.

The institution has established a well-defined set of policies to guide its research endeavors.

These include:

- Research Promotion Policy
- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism Prevention Policy
- Consultancy Policy
- Intellectual Property Rights Policy
- Institutional Code of Ethics for Responsible Conduct of Research
- Incentive Programs
- Scheme for Research Seed Money

To further promote research activities, NICHE has established several specialized research centers:

NICHE emphasizes faculty development by encouraging post-doctoral research, offering fellowships and providing seed money for research projects. The institution supports consultancy activities, patent filing and collaborative research with other universities and industries. Noorul Islam Centre for Higher Education (NICHE) is working to strengthen its research capabilities by continuously establishing Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with foreign universities. By fostering international partnerships, NICHE aims to enhance the quality and impact of its research output, making it more globally competitive. Faculty members are recognized for their research contributions through awards, financial incentives and opportunities for national and international collaborations.

File Description	Document
Upload COs for all courses (exemplars from Glossary)	View Document
Upload any additional information	View Document
Provide links as Additional Information	View Document

3.1.2

The institution provides seed money to its teachers for research (average per year)

Response: 2.2

3.1.2.1 Amount of seed money provided by institution to its teachers for research year wise during last five years (INR in lakhs)

2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
10	0	1	0	0

File Description	Document
Sanction letters of seed money to the teachers is mandatory	View Document
List of faculty who have been provided with seed money for research along with the title of the project, duration and amount year-wise	View Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
Audited Income-Expenditure statement highlighting the expenditure towards seed money endorsed by the Finance Officer	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

3.1.3

Percentage of teachers receiving national / international fellowship / financial support by various agencies for advanced studies / research during the last five years.

Response: 2.22

3.1.3.1 Number of teachers who received national/ international fellowship/financial support from various agencies, for advanced studies / research; year-wise during the last five years

Response: 4

File Description	Document
List of teachers who have received the awards along with the nature of award, the awarding agency etc.	View Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
E-copies of the award letters of the teachers.	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

3.1.4**Percentage of JRFs, SRFs among the enrolled PhD scholars in the institution during the last five years**

Response: 16.13

3.1.4.1 The Number of JRFs, SRFs among the enrolled PhD scholars in the institution during the last five years

Response: 5

3.1.4.2 Number of PhD Scholars enrolled during last five years

Response: 31

File Description	Document
List of JRFs, SRFs, Post Doctoral Fellows, Research Associates and other research fellows along with the details of the funding agency is to be provided.	View Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
E copies of fellowship award letters (mandatory)	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

3.2 Resource Mobilization for Research

3.2.1

Total Grants research funding received by the institution and its faculties through Government and non-government sources such as industry, corporate houses, international bodies for research project, endowment research chairs during the last five years (INR in Lakhs)

Response: 133.41

File Description	Document
List of Extramural funding received for research, Endowment Research Chairs received during the last five years along with the nature of award, the awarding agency and the amount.	View Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
E-copies of the letters of award for research, endowments, Chairs sponsored by non-government sources	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

3.2.2

Number of research projects per teacher funded by government, non-government, industry, corporate houses, international bodies during the last five years

Response: 0.04

3.2.2.1 Number of research projects funded by government and non-government agencies during the last five years

Response: 7

File Description	Document
List of project titles with details of Principal Investigator, amount sanctioned and sanctioning agency etc.	View Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template merged with 3.2.1)	View Document
E-copies of the grant award letters for research projects sponsored by government agencies.	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

3.3 Innovation Ecosystem

3.3.1

Institution has created an ecosystem for innovations, Indian Knowledge System (IKS), including awareness about IPR, establishment of IPR cell, Incubation centre and other initiatives for the creation and transfer of knowledge/technology and the outcomes of the same are evident

Response:

NICHE's Innovation Council (IIC) plays a pivotal role in promoting entrepreneurship and innovation among students and faculty. The council organizes a wide range of activities, including:

- **Entrepreneurship Awareness Programs:** This program helps to understand entrepreneurship fundamentals and inculcate interest towards entrepreneurship.
- **Field Visits:** Practical exposure through educational tours to industries and research centers.
- **Hackathon Competitions:** Providing a platform for innovative ideas and problem-solving.
- **Workshops:** Technology Readiness Levels, Entrepreneurship Development, Design Thinking, Problem Solving, and Intellectual Property Rights.
- **Motivational Sessions and Leadership Talks:** Inspiring the NICHE community through interactions with successful entrepreneurs and thought leaders.

NICHE is in the process of establishing a Pre-Incubation Centre under the name **TBI-NICHE, in collaboration with Start-up TN**. TBI-NICHE provides seed funding and grants to support start-ups in key technology domains such as Energy, Healthcare, Manufacturing, and Information Technology. NICHE is an approved Host Institution by the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), Government of India. This initiative aims to foster innovation and entrepreneurship by providing a supportive ecosystem for aspiring entrepreneurs and early-stage start-ups.

Ecosystem of Innovation

NICHE offers full financial assistance for faculty and students to patent their innovative ideas, particularly in emerging research areas such as:

- **Security Architecture for Mobile Cloud Computing**
- **AI-based 3D Printing Devices**
- **Nano satellite**
- **Smart Food Feeder**

Student Clubs and Indian Knowledge System

NICHE has developed diverse student clubs that complement academic learning with a focus on the Indian knowledge system. These include:

1. **Yoga Club:** Promotes physical and mental well-being through traditional Indian practices.
2. **Millets (Nature Club):** Educates on the benefits of millets and sustainable farming.
3. **Eco Club:** Encourages environmental sustainability through various activities.
4. **Gandhian Peace Club:** Instills values of non-violence and ethical living, inspired by Mahatma Gandhi.

Green Initiatives

In collaboration with the Green Energy and Eco Club, NICHE has embarked on a project to establish a medicinal plant garden based on Ayurveda principles. This initiative has led to the planting of 100,000 plants, enhancing biodiversity and serving as a resource for education and research.

Incubation Centre

First start-up incubated by NICHE is **Khadi Boutique**, initiated by management students, registered under the MSME sector. This startup specializes in eco-friendly, handmade clothing and has gained recognition for its commitment to sustainability. The business made its first business at Gandhi Jaivotsav-II in Trivandrum, generating Rs. 10,000 in its first sale.

Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)

NICHE has established an IPR cell, sponsored by the Tamil Nadu State Council for Science and Technology. This cell has significantly boosted patent filings, fostering a research-intensive environment in areas like AI, IoT, and Satellite Technology.

Technology and Knowledge Transfer

NICHE has implemented several initiatives aimed at creating and transferring technology and knowledge, resulting in substantial contributions to education, research, and societal impact. These efforts include training on the extraction of fiber from waste banana trees, which can be used to create various handicraft products. This initiative is designed to empower women through self-employment opportunities, promoting both economic independence and creativity.

File Description	Document
Upload any additional information	View Document
Link for Additional Informationa	View Document

3.3.2

Total number of awards received for *research/innovations* by institution/teachers/research scholars/students during the last five years

Response: 108

File Description	Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
e- Copies of award letters issued by the awarding agency	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

3.4 Research Publications and Awards**3.4.1**

The institution ensures implementation of its stated Code of Ethics for research

The institution has a stated Code of Ethics for research and the implementation of which is ensured through the following:

- 1. Inclusion of research ethics in the research methodology course work**
- 2. Presence of institutional Ethics committees (Animal, chemical, bio-ethics etc.,)**
- 3. Plagiarism check through software**
- 4. Research Advisory Committee**

Response: A. All of the above

File Description	Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
Copy of the syllabus of the research methodology course work to indicate if research ethics is included	View Document
Constitution of the ethics committee and its proceedings as approved by the appropriate body.	View Document
Constitution of research advisory committee and its proceedings as approved by the appropriate body.	View Document
Bills of purchase of licensed plagiarism check software in the name of the HEI.	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

3.4.2**Total number of Patents awarded during the last five years****Response:** 47

File Description	Document
Patents granted / published in the name of the faculty with the institutional affiliation to the university working during the assessment period only to be given.	View Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
e-copies of letter of patent grant	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

3.4.3**Number of Ph.Ds awarded per recognized guide during the last five years****Response:** 4.14**3.4.3.1 How many Ph.D s were awarded during last 5 years**

Response: 269

3.4.3.2 Number of teachers recognized as guides during the last five years

Response: 65

File Description	Document
PhD Award letters to PhD students.	View Document
Letter from the university indicating name of the PhD student with title of the doctoral study and the name of the guide.	View Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

3.4.4**Number of research papers published per teacher in the Journals as notified on UGC CARE list during the last five years**

Response: 10.74

3.4.4.1 Number of research papers published in the Journals as notified on UGC CARE list during the last five years

Response: 1934

File Description	Document
List and links of the papers published in journals listed in UGC CARE list and	View Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
Link to the institutional website where the first page/full paper (with author and affiliation details) is published	View Document
Link re-directing to journal source-cite website in case of digital journals	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

3.4.5

Number of books and chapters in edited volumes published per teacher during the last five years**Response:** 4.77**3.4.5.1 Total Number of books and chapters in edited volumes published during the last five years**

Response: 859

File Description	Document
List of chapter/book with the links redirecting to the source website	View Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
E-copy of the Cover page, content page and first page of the publication indicating ISBN number and year of publication for books/chapters	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

3.4.6***E-content is developed by teachers :***

- 1. For e-PG-Pathshala***
- 2. For CEC (Under Graduate)***
- 3. For SWAYAM***
- 4. For other MOOCs platform***
- 5. Any other Government initiative***
- 6. For institutional LMS***

Response: A. Any 5 of the above

File Description	Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
Give links to upload document of e-content developed showing the authorship/contribution	View Document
For institution LMS a summary of the e-content developed and the links to the e-content should be provided	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

3.4.7

Bibliometrics of the publications during the last five years based on average Citation index in Scopus/ Web of Science

Response: 0

3.4.8

Bibliometrics of the publications during the last five years based on Scopus/ Web of Science – h-index of the Institution

Response: 0

3.5 Consultancy**3.5.1**

Revenue generated from consultancy and corporate training during the last five years

Response: 52.73

3.5.1.1 Total amount generated from consultancy and corporate training year-wise during the last five years (INR in lakhs).

2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
35.92	6.72	3.28	1.85	4.96

File Description	Document
Letter from the beneficiary of the consultancy along with details of the consultancy fee.	View Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
CA certified copy of statement of accounts as attested by head of the institution.	View Document
Audited statements of accounts indicating the revenue generated through and corporate training/consultancy.	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

3.6 Extension Activities

3.6.1

Outcomes of extension activities in the neighborhood community in terms of impact and sensitizing the students to social issues and holistic development, and awards received if any during the last five years (Showcase at least four case studies to the peer team)

Response:

NICHE is committed to societal development, involving staff and students in community activities that promote holistic growth. Contributing to India's "Viksit Bharat" vision, NICHE focuses on education, technology, and social responsibility through various outreach initiatives. Some of its notable initiatives include:

1. **Student Connect Programs:** NICHE conducts programs like the Student Connect Program, Young Student Scientist Program (TNSCST-funded), and PMKVY 4.0 (NSDC-funded) to enhance rural and tribal students' understanding of science and technology. These initiatives boost skillsets in areas like satellite technology, robotics, 3D printing, and cloud computing, supporting India's development goals.
2. **Healthcare Initiatives:** NICHE, in association with NIMS Medicity, Govt. Hospitals, HDFC Bank, actively organizes healthcare camps that benefit local communities.
3. **COVID vaccination camp and other essential services to local community:** NICHE organized COVID-19 vaccination camps in collaboration with local healthcare authorities, ensuring easy access to vaccines for staff, students, and the community. These efforts, along with distributing essential supplies, providing accommodation for affected individuals, and offering scholarships, showcased NICHE's commitment to addressing the pandemic and supporting the underprivileged, in line with the vision of a self-reliant India.
4. **Community Welfare Initiatives:** NICHE is deeply involved in community welfare through various initiatives. It offers relief funds to cancer patients, and supports societal programs like old age homes and aid for blind individuals. These activities reflect NICHE's commitment to improving the well-being of the local community and addressing critical health and social needs.
5. **UBA- Village Adoption and Social Responsibility:** Under Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA), NICHE promotes rural development through initiatives in skill development, healthcare, sanitation, and education. NICHE's efforts aim to improve the quality of life in rural areas with sustainable solutions, supporting national development goals.
6. **Govt. Schools adoption (Primary and Middle schools) by NICHE:** As part of its extension activities, NICHE has adopted government primary schools to improve infrastructure, provide resources, and enhance students' skills. Through faculty and student volunteer support, NICHE fosters a better learning environment for rural students, aligning with its mission of community development and education.
7. **Blood Donation Camps-** NICHE actively promotes blood donation drives as part of its social responsibility initiatives. Students of NICHE participate enthusiastically in these drives, contributing to

the welfare of the local community. NICHE's students' active participation in these blood donation programs reflects the institution's ethos of contributing to society and promoting humanitarian values.

8. **NICHE's development and installation of a Biogas plant at DM Convent:** NICHE's development and installation of a Biogas plant at DM Convent underscores its role in promoting sustainable energy, waste management, and supporting global climate change mitigation efforts. This initiative reflects its dedication to both community welfare and environmental sustainability.

Noteworthy Contributions

NICHE has contributed ₹1 crore to the Kerala Chief Minister's Relief Fund and has committed to offering full fee concessions to students affected by the Wayanad landslide disaster. In the first phase of this initiative, 127 students have been admitted into various programs under the freeship scheme.

File Description	Document
Upload any additional information	View Document
Provide the link for additional information	View Document

3.6.2

Number of extension and outreach programs conducted by the institution through organized forums like NSS/NCC with involvement of community year wise during the last five years

Response: 124

3.6.2.1 Number of extension and outreach programs conducted by the institution through organized forums including NSS/NCC with involvement of community year wise during the last five years.

2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
38	27	16	11	32

File Description	Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
Geo-tagged Photographs and any other supporting document of relevance should have proper captions and dates.	View Document
Detailed list and report for each extension and outreach program to be made available, with specific mention of number of students participated and the details of the collaborating agency	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

3.7 Collaboration

3.7.1

Number of functional MoUs/linkages with institutions/ industries in India and abroad for internship, on-the-job training, project work, student / faculty exchange and collaborative research during the last five years

Response: 56

File Description	Document
Summary of the functional MoUs/linkage/collaboration indicating start date, end date, nature of collaboration etc.	View Document
List of year wise activities and exchange should be provided	View Document
List and Copies of documents indicating the functiona MoUs/linkage/collaboration activity-wise and year-wise	View Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

Criterion 4 - Infrastructure and Learning Resources

4.1 Physical Facilities

4.1.1

The institution has adequate infrastructure facilities for

- a. teaching - learning. viz., classrooms, laboratories,*
- b. ICT enabled facilities such as smart classes, LMS etc.*
- c. Facilities for cultural and sports activities , yoga centre, games (indoor and outdoor) gymnasium, auditorium etc.*

Describe the adequacy of facilities within a maximum of 500 words

Response:

Class Rooms and Laboratories

NICHE features 139 ICT-enabled classrooms with Wi-Fi access, including 75 classrooms equipped with LCD projectors, 7 seminar halls, and 21 smart rooms to support both undergraduate and postgraduate programs.

NICHE has well equipped laboratory facility to provide practical training to UG and PG students. Additionally, to provide exposure to emerging technologies specialized laboratories and facilities are made available. The specialized laboratories include:

- IOS development lab

NICHE has iOS Lab which stands first in southern part of Tamil Nadu. These iOS lab provides students with hands-on experience in coding, debugging, and deploying applications for Apple's ecosystem.

- Intel Unnati AI Lab

Equipped with Intel Xeon-Gold 6530 2.1GHz 32-core 270W Processor and Intel Xeon-Silver 4510 2.4GHz 12-core 150W Processor with 512 GB DDR5 RAM.

- Material Characterisation Lab (Nanotechnology)

Nanotechnology Lab is fledged with Surface Area Analyzer, Thermo Gravimetry Differential Thermal Analyzer, Particle Size Analyzer, UV – Vis Spectrophotometer, Fourier Transform Infrared Spectrometer, Raman Spectrometer, Atomic Force Microscope, X-Ray Diffractometer and Ball Mill.

- Robotics lab

Robotics lab provides a basis for the researchers and students in development of fully functional

Humanoid Robots.

- CNC Production Lathe and 3D Printing

Mechanical Engineering Department Laboratory is equipped with Flash Forge 3D printing, CNC Production lathe, CNC lathe and milling trainer kit, Micro hardness machine, Universal Testing Machine with plotter.

- Cloud computing lab

Equipped with three high end dedicated servers with 48TB storage. Cloud Computing Lab is configured with Open Nebula, OpenStack, VMware, Hadoop, Microsoft Imagine License and MongoDB which facilitates online classes, also provides data centres for research activities, online education portal etc.

- Centre for Satellite Technology and Application with ground station, clean room and mission control centre.

Other facilities

Ship in Campus

Marine Engineering Department is provided with a built-in ship-in-campus, which feels like a real floating ship with typical engine room and accessories. A simulator and automation laboratory, applied mechanics laboratory in the ship helps to test and simulate all the operational conditions of a ship on voyage.

Hangars and Aircrafts

NICHE has 3 Hangars to house its 5 aircrafts and the Hangars are well lit and airy. Aircrafts namely Pushpak and Stinson L-5 sentinel aircrafts, Cessna 150 Commuter aircraft, Beechcraft Queen Air 80 aircraft, and Learjet 25B aircraft adds effective learning in Aeronautical Engineering.

Facilities for cultural and sports activities

NICHE provides facilities for cultural and sports activities of the students which includes a 600 seating capacity air-conditioned convocation hall, open air theatre, 300 seating air-conditioned multipurpose AC Auditorium and conference halls.

Library

NICHE library is fully automated and has spacious reading section, digital library and sections for reference books, journals and thesis.

Support Facilities

- ERP system
- Health Center
- 24x7 ATM

- Transportation
- Cafeterias
- Photocopy and printing
- Boys and Girls Hostel
- Yoga room

University has 1000 sq.m. area ground for multipurpose sports.

- 200m track for Athletic,
- 4 volleyball courts,
- 2 basketball courts,
- 2 kabaddi courts
- 4 badminton courts
- Football field
- Cricket ground

The indoor games:

- Table Tennis
- Chess
- Carrom
- Gymnasium

File Description	Document
Upload any additional information	View Document
Provide the link for additional information	View Document

4.1.2

Percentage of expenditure excluding salary, for infrastructure development and augmentation year wise during the last five years

Response: 42

4.1.2.1 Expenditure for infrastructure development and augmentation, excluding salary year wise during last five years (INR in lakhs)

2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
532.69	281.91	210.29	228.57	517.27

File Description	Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
Audited income and expenditure statement of the institution to be signed by CA and counter signed by the competent authority (relevant expenditure claimed for infrastructure augmentation should be clearly highlighted)	View Document

4.2 Library as a Learning Resource

4.2.1

Library is automated with digital facilities using Integrated Library Management System (ILMS), adequate subscriptions to e-resources and journals are made. The library is optimally used by the faculty and students

Response:

NICHE has well-established spacious central library with a pleasant environment and an area of 1,654.77 square meters with a pleasant environment. The library is fully automated through AutoLib OPAC (Online Public Access Catalog) for complete digitization and computerization. Autolib OPAC allows users to search the library's online catalog by author name, title, subject, and keywords on the campus LAN. It has separate collections of reference books and old magazine volumes, technical reports and CDs.

Additionally the library activities are fully computerized with the help of open source Integrated Library Management Software 'KOHA'. It includes modules for classification as well as access to books and journals. Koha offers a user-friendly OPAC that allows students to search the library catalog, place holds, renew items and manage their accounts online. As an open-source system, Koha is highly customizable and can be integrated with other library systems and services. It supports APIs for further extensions and integrations.

Functions

- Student and Staff Membership Entries
- Books Entries
- Books Issue and Returns
- Collection of Dues
- OPAC
- Viewing reports

The total library collection includes 83,405 books and 79 national and international journals and magazines. Library has open shelf facility which facilitates students to visit, browse, read and explore any document available on the shelves.

A well-equipped dedicated Digital Library with computer facility and internet connectivity is provided in the Central Library to access e-resources. The library has a comfortable and spacious reading area with 180 seats.

- The Central library is heading towards complete computerization and automation of all its operations. The database of library books is available on OPAC for bibliographical search. OPAC can also be searched over the library's LAN.
- The library's resources are accessible to all university departments.
- Top of Form
- Bottom of Form
- The library offers printing and photocopying services, thereby offers all necessary service to the staff, researchers and students.
- To make it easier to obtain materials, there are sections such as the Book Section, Reference Section, Periodicals Section, Back Volumes Section, Theses Report Section, and Digital Library.
- Libraries carry a wide range of publications in the areas of Engineering, Science, Management, Computer Science, Biotechnology, Applied Sciences, Architecture along with the collections in Humanities and Sciences etc.
- The Digital Library has 77 PCs with multimedia facility and NDL access.
- Publications and reference materials are accessible through the digital library with institutional IEEE, Knimbus, and DELNET subscriptions.
- Library provides various teaching-related teaching materials, reference books, e-books, periodicals, electronic journals, project reports and NPTEL video projects and Related disciplines.
- In addition to the central library, departmental libraries provide resources focused on specific areas of specialized knowledge.
- The university library also offers a well-balanced collection of books for general reading and reference purposes.

FACILITIES AND SERVICES

- OPAC
- Locker facility to keep the personal belongings of the users while in library
- Reference Facility
- Internet facility
- Library membership
- Newspaper Clippings

File Description	Document
Upload any additional information	View Document

4.2.2

Percentage of expenditure for purchase of books/ e-books and subscription to journals/e-journals year wise during the last five years

Response: 1.42

4.2.2.1 Annual expenditure for purchase of books and journals year-wise during the last five years (INR in Lakhs)

2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
17.81	12.08	1.79	12.99	15.29

File Description	Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format	View Document
Audited income and expenditure statement of the institution to be signed by CA and counter signed by the competent authority (relevant expenditure claimed for purchase of books/ e-books and subscription to journals/e-journals should be clearly highlighted)	View Document

4.3 IT Infrastructure

4.3.1

Institution frequently updates its IT facilities and provides sufficient bandwidth for internet connection

Describe IT facilities including Wi-Fi with date and nature of updation, available internet bandwidth within a maximum of 500 words

Response:

NICHE offers an essential ICT services including a state-of-the-art data center, hosting of servers including university and department websites, computing services, online teaching-learning services, Internet Access, Email, e-Governance services, IT security, campus Wi-Fi, problem diagnostics and troubleshooting, etc. through a network comprising with 9 physical servers, 5 core switches, and 120 distribution switches. The Centre administers a 1Gbps link to National Knowledge Network (NKN) to provide smooth internet facility and access to online learning materials.

A connected campus with ubiquitous access of internet is the backbone of ICT infrastructure. The entire University campus has a Fiber Optic LAN providing network to over 1100 PCs/ Workstations/Thin Clients/Laptops and Wi-Fi connections across the campus. Nine Wi-Fi towers are erected at different locations to create wireless hotspots and campus is 100% Wi-Fi enabled, providing secured access to all

the students, faculty and other staff through a state-of-the art hardware firewall system.

The computing facility is distributed across the University campus in various locations, such as A.I. Lab, iOS Lab, Language Lab, Robotics Lab, CAD CAM Lab, Cloud Computing Lab, Computer Engineering Lab, CFD Lab, Satellite Centre, Campus Network Facility, Admin Computer Centre, Cyber Security Centre, Automated Academic office, Automated Admission Office, Automated Exam Cell, and e-Governance Cell to tap inherent potential.

The NICHE Computing Centre maintains the infrastructure and IT resources based on a well-defined, comprehensive IT policy. The policy describes the protection of information and information technology resources to assure the utility and availability of the resources to the user. The following are the salient features of the IT policy:

- Policy statements are framed in line with the guidelines of the Government of India and the existing IT laws of the country.
- The policy covers systems usage, Internet usage and all IT resources.
- The policy enforces the use of proper authentication and authorization mechanisms. The policy practices the usage of only legal and licensed software.
- Data and information related aspects including content creation, ownership, transfer, usage, storage, backup, recovery, retention, disposal, security and privacy are given importance.
- Privacy and security features are outlined. Guidelines for online examinations are provided.
- Purchase and replacement procedure for IT equipment and accessories are defined. Policies on video surveillance are detailed.
- Provision is made for disciplinary and legal action in case of violation.

Implementation and Adherence to the Policy:

The IT Policy applies to students and all employees working at NICHE. This policy applies to all equipment that are owned by NICHE and also to any privately owned equipment that may be connected to the network services. The policy is enforced by way of:

- Centralized authentication and authorization servers
- Enterprise-grade firewall with Unified Threat Management features such as Gateway Antivirus, Anti-malware, Intrusion Prevention, Web Filtering and Content Filtering
- Centralized logging of user activity.
- Students, employees, project staff, contractors, consultants, temporary and other workers at NICHE shall log into the University network only with their respective Username and Password. Anyone trying to login on a different user shall have his privileges canceled. User Login attempts to all computers are constantly monitored.

File Description	Document
Upload any additional information	View Document

4.3.2

Student - Computer ratio (Data for the latest completed academic year)**Response:** 2.86**4.3.2.1 Number of computers available for students usage during the latest completed academic year:****Response:** 554

File Description	Document
Stock register/extracts highlighting the computers issued to respective departments for student's usage	View Document
Purchased Bills/Copies	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

4.3.3**Institution has the following Facilities for e-content development and other resource development**

- 1.Audio visual center, mixing equipment, editing facilities and Media Studio**
- 2.Lecture Capturing System(LCS)**
- 3.Central Instrumentation Centre**
- 4.Animal House**
- 5.Museum**
- 6.Business Lab**
- 7.Research/statistical database**
- 8.Moot court**
- 9.Theatre**
- 10.Art Gallery**
- 11.Any other facility to support research**

Response: A. Any 7 or more of the above

File Description	Document
Videos and geo-tagged photographs of each of the facilities available in the HEI. Details of the structures of each of the facilities available in the HEI.	View Document
Purchase Bill / stock register, entry for lecture capturing system, mixing equipment, software for editing	View Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
Copy of the subscription letter for database is essential for Option Research/Statistical Databases	View Document

4.4 Maintenance of Campus Infrastructure

4.4.1

Percentage expenditure incurred on maintenance of physical facilities and academic support facilities excluding salary component, during the last five years

Response: 33.64

4.4.1.1 Expenditure incurred on maintenance of physical facilities and academic support facilities excluding salary component year - wise during the last five years (INR in lakhs)

2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
425.13	320.07	182.70	163.64	326.85

File Description	Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
Audited income and expenditure statement of the institution to be signed by CA and counter signed by the competent authority (relevant expenditure claimed for maintenance of infrastructure should be clearly highlighted)	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

4.4.2

There are established systems and procedures for maintaining and utilizing physical and academic support facilities – laboratory, library, sports complex, computers, classrooms etc.

Describe policy details of systems and procedures for maintaining and utilizing physical, academic and support facilities within a maximum of 500 words

Response:

Introduction

NICHE has an established system and procedure for maintenance and utilization of computers, classrooms, equipment and laboratories in the campus.

The main objective of this maintenance is to preserve building, machinery, in good operating condition, restore it back to its original standards and to improve the available facilities.

Classrooms

- For effective teaching and learning 139 ICT enabled classrooms are available.
- Classrooms are effectively utilized based on the timetable uploaded in the ERP.
- The Heads of the Departments ensure that the classrooms have adequate furniture, proper ventilation, lighting facility and multiple electrical points, and are effectively used.
- All furniture, green/white boards, smart class rooms and overhead projectors are effectively used for academic activities and research.

Maintenance Procedure

- The Heads of Departments ensure proper maintenance of the classrooms, smart rooms, equipment and furniture.
- Stock registers are maintained and annual stock verification is conducted by a committee constituted by the Registrar.
- Any damage if detected is reported to the Maintenance Department for repair works and service

Laboratories:

- Heads of Department and faculty in charge of laboratories are accountable for effective utilization of the laboratories for teaching-learning, research and innovation.
- Laboratory manuals are made available and time tables are prepared to achieve effective utilization of the facilities.
- Utilization of the various gadgets are entered in the logbooks.

Maintenance Procedure

- The laboratories are maintained by qualified Lab assistants, they do calibration of machines
- Details of repairs and maintenance documented in records.

Computing Center:

- The iOS development labs serve as incubators for aspiring app developers. These labs provide students with hands-on experience in coding, debugging, and deploying applications for Apple's ecosystem.
- Cloud computing is equipped with 1GBPS computing facilities, three servers with 48 TB storage.

Maintenance Procedure

- Stock registers are verified, updated and maintained.
- The systems in the computer labs are checked by the technicians under the supervision of the Head.
- Internet and Wi-Fi facilities for the entire campus are maintained by skilled technician.

Physical Facility

- Academic and administrative blocks, auditoriums, seminar halls and apartment complexes satisfy needs of faculty, staff and students.
- All the buildings are effectively utilized for academic, research, administrative and residential purposes.
- The campus is well secured using surveillance cameras.

Maintenance Procedure

- The overall maintenance of the University including the buildings and garden and playgrounds carried out by maintenance division, which comprises competent civil engineer, Mechanical and electrical engineers.
- All civil and electrical repair/service/works are carried out under the overall supervision of the competent engineers and technical staff.
- Periodical preventive measures for the maintenance of the buildings include white-washing/painting the buildings, plumbing works, rectifying leakages in pipe lines, providing uninterrupted water facility, maintenance of generator and other electrical works, replacing fire extinguishers and ensuring a clean environment in the whole campus are carried out with the support of technical and housekeeping staff.

Maintenance of sports facility

The sports complex is maintained under the leadership of the Head of Physical Education.

File Description	Document
Upload any additional information	View Document
Provide the link for additional information	View Document

Criterion 5 - Student Support and Progression

5.1 Student Support

5.1.1

Percentage of students benefited by scholarships and freeships provided by the institution, government and non-government bodies, industries, individuals, philanthropists during the last five years

Response: 30.99

5.1.1.1 Number of students benefited by scholarships and freeships provided by the institution, Government and (NGOs)non-government bodies, industries, individuals, philanthropists year-wise during the last five years

2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
988	339	521	561	691

File Description	Document
Year-wise list of beneficiary students in each scheme duly signed by the competent authority	View Document
Upload Sanction letter of scholarship and free ships (in English).	View Document
Upload policy document of the HEI for award of scholarship and freeships.	View Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

5.1.2

Efforts taken by the institution to provide career counselling including e-counselling and guidance for competitive examinations during the last five years

Response:

Noorul Islam Centre for Higher Education (NICHE) has developed an all-encompassing and well-structured mechanism to support career guidance and placement for its students, aiming to provide the essential training and motivation needed to pursue research and higher studies, spearheaded by the Centre for Placement and Training.

Structured Training Initiatives

- The Centre for Placement and Training at NICHE organizes regular training sessions that are tailored to focus on industry related aptitude, interpersonal skills, communication abilities teamwork and leadership qualities.
- Pre placement training programmes are provided to make the students ready for the upcoming placement drives.
- Steve Jobs scholarship programmes are offered to students who excel in academics to further improve their skillset.

Practical Exposure and Industry Interaction

To ensure that students are well-versed with current industry trends and requirements, NICHE integrates practical exposure through:

- Industrial visits to ISRO, BrahMos Aerospace, Power plants, automobile industries and RS Wind Tech allow students to observe and understand the real-world applications of theoretical knowledge.
- Expert Training from Industry Professionals: A hands on training session in SOLID WORKS was given by CAD point to the students of Mechanical Engineering. A workshop by Networkz systems was done on Embedded Intelligence.
- Regular lectures and seminars by industry experts from BrahMos Aerospace and other leading professionals are organized to provide students with exposure to current technologies, industry trends, and real-world applications, enhancing their understanding and preparing them for careers in cutting-edge fields..

Specialized Coaching for Competitive Examinations

- Recognizing the importance of competitive examinations for career advancement, NICHE offers specialized coaching for the following key exams:
- GATE (Graduate Aptitude Test in Engineering): Focused coaching to help engineering students succeed in this crucial exam, opening doors to advanced studies and prestigious job opportunities.
- State and Central Government Exams: Padmashri Dr.P. Gopinathan Nair Civil Service Academy was established in August 2023 to prepare our students aspiring to become civil servants.
- A Defence Academy academy aims to provide preparatory training and coaching to all aspiring students from various engineering streams and outstanding NCC cadets in higher education.
- The Department of Fire Technology and Safety Engineering has conducted preparatory sessions for NEBOSH.

Emphasis on Communication Skills

The NICHE Language Laboratory plays a crucial role in enhancing students' communication skills through practical, hands-on learning. The dedicated lab provides an interactive environment where students can improve their listening, speaking, reading and writing abilities.

Collaboration and Networking Opportunities

NICHE promotes a culture of collaboration and engagement with both international and national universities and institutions, providing students with opportunities to pursue internships and higher education.

Impact of Career Counselling and Guidance Programs

Due to the successful implementation of career counseling, e-counseling, and guidance programs at NICHE, we have been able to place over 56% of our students in reputable companies, with a significant number also pursuing entrepreneurial ventures. This ensures that students of Noorul Islam Centre for Higher Education are well-prepared to face the challenges of the professional world, equipped with the necessary skills, knowledge and confidence to achieve their career aspirations and excel in their chosen fields.

File Description	Document
Upload any additional information	View Document
Provide the link for additional information	View Document

5.1.3

Following capacity development and skills enhancement activities are organised for improving students' capability

- 1. Soft skills**
- 2. Language and communication skills**
- 3. Life skills (Yoga, physical fitness, health and hygiene, self-employment and entrepreneurial skills)**
- 4. Awareness of trends in technology**

Response: A. All of the above

File Description	Document
Report with photographs on soft skills enhancement programs	View Document
Report with photographs on Life skills (Yoga, physical fitness, health and hygiene) enhancement programs	View Document
Report with photographs on Language & communication skills enhancement programs	View Document
Report with photographs on ICT/computing skills enhancement programs	View Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

5.1.4

The institution adopts the following for redressal of student grievances including sexual harassment and ragging cases

- 1.Implementation of guidelines of statutory/regulatory bodies**
- 2.Organisation wide awareness and undertakings on policies with zero tolerance**
- 3.Mechanisms for submission of online/offline students' grievances**
- 4.Timely redressal of the grievances through appropriate committees**

Response: A. All of the above

File Description	Document
Report of Organisation wide awareness and undertakings on policies with zero tolerance	View Document
Proof related to Mechanisms for submission of online/offline students' grievances	View Document
Proof for Implementation of guidelines of statutory/regulatory bodies	View Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
Details of statutory/regulatory Committees (to be notified in institutional website also)	View Document
Annual report of the committee monitoring the activities and number of grievances	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

5.2 Student Progression

5.2.1

Percentage of placement of outgoing students during the last five years

Response: 56.98

5.2.1.1 *Number of outgoing students placed year wise during the last five years*

2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
325	451	265	265	213

File Description	Document
Number and List of students placed along with placement details such as name of the company, compensation, etc and links to Placement order (the above list should be available in institutional website)	View Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

5.2.2

Percentage of graduated students who have progressed to higher education year-wise during last five years

Response: 13.89

5.2.2.1 Number of outgoing students progressing to higher education

2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
22	32	50	40	41

File Description	Document
List of students progressing for Higher Education, with details of program and institution that they are/have enrolled along with links to proof of continuation in higher education. (the above list should be available in institutional website)	View Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

5.2.3

Percentage of students qualifying in state/ national/ international level examinations out of the graduated students during the last five years

(eg: NET/SLET/ Civil Services/State government examinations etc.)

Response: 2.07**5.2.3.1 Number of students qualifying in state/National/International level Examination during last five years (eg. SLET, NET, UPSC etc)**

Response: 59

File Description	Document
List of students qualified year wise under each category and links to Qualifying Certificates of the students taking the examination	View Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

5.3 Student Participation and Activities**5.3.1**

Number of awards/medals won by students for outstanding performance in sports/cultural activities at inter-university/state/national/international events (award for a team event should be counted as one) during the last five years

Response: 90

5.3.1.1 Number of awards/medals won by students for outstanding performance in sports/cultural activities at inter-university/state/ national/international level (award for a team event should be counted as one) year-wise during the last five years

2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
82	8	0	0	0

File Description	Document
list and links to e-copies of award letters and certificates	View Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

5.3.2

Presence of an active Student Council & representation of students on academic & administrative bodies/committees of the institution.**Describe the Student Council activity and students' role in academic & administrative bodies within a maximum of 500 words****Response:**

Noorul Islam Centre for Higher Education (NICHE) prioritizes extensive student involvement across academic and non-academic realms, fostering holistic growth among its student body. It ensures active participation and representation of students in various bodies of the university and is the voice of student body. This is basically aimed at empowering the students by giving opportunity to develop leadership qualities in organising & carrying out University activities and build a sense of responsibility among the students.

At NICHE, student engagement is facilitated through the Student Council, a pivotal platform comprising elected representatives who oversee diverse portfolios. These positions include General Secretary, Joint Secretary, Treasurer, and secretaries for Academic Affairs, Research Affairs, Cultural Affairs, Science and Technical Affairs, Hostel Affairs, Alumni Affairs, Career and Placement Affairs, Chief Editor, Library Affairs, and Sports. Each role is instrumental in addressing specific issues and enhancing student welfare.

Complementing the Student Council there are several committees dedicated to curricular, co-curricular, and extra-curricular activities. These include the Cultural Committee, Sports Committee, Responsibility Committee, and Core Coordinators Team, which collectively organize events ranging from cultural festivals to sports competitions and social responsibility initiatives.

Additionally, student representatives serve on various committees such as the Internal Complaints Committee, Anti-Ragging Committee, Hostel Committee, Mess Committee, and Placement Coordinators, ensuring that student voices are heard in matters concerning their welfare and discipline.

Beyond governance and committees, NICHE encourages social responsibility through initiatives like the National Service Scheme (NSS), National Cadet Corps (NCC), and Social Service Club (SSC). These bodies engage in activities such as blood donation camps, environmental awareness drives, and community outreach programs, fostering a spirit of civic duty among students.

The university's dedication to holistic education is vividly illustrated through a diverse array of activities and events. These include academic endeavors such as debates, essay writing competitions, and technical fests, alongside cultural celebrations, sports tournaments, and free medical camps for villagers. NICHE also supports national campaigns like Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan, fostering civic responsibility and social awareness. Our extensive range of events features traffic awareness programs, interactive illusionist shows, tree plantation drives, voter awareness rallies, hospital visits, Swadesi soap production workshops, plastic awareness initiatives, and peace day celebrations. Additionally, we host photography workshops, talent shows, competitions, and numerous environmental initiatives, all designed to engage students and promote a well-rounded educational experience.

Student welfare measures at NICHE encompass scholarships based on academic performance, opportunities for global internships, maritime training, alumni meets, and a spectrum of training courses, conferences, seminars, and workshops. These initiatives not only enrich students academically and professionally but also cultivate leadership skills and a sense of citizenship.

In essence, NICHE stands as a beacon of inclusive education, where students not only excel academically but also thrive through comprehensive personal development and community engagement. By nurturing a vibrant student life anchored in responsibility and participation, NICHE prepares its graduates to contribute meaningfully to society and embrace future challenges with confidence and competence.

File Description	Document
Upload any additional information	View Document

5.3.3

The institution conducts / organizes following activities:

- 1. Sports competitions/events**
- 2. Cultural competitions/events**
- 3. Technical fest/Academic fest**
- 4. Any other events through Active clubs and forums**

Response: A. All four of the above

File Description	Document
Report of the Technical fest/academic fests along with photographs appropriately dated and captioned year- wise.	View Document
Report of the Sports competitions/events along with photographs appropriately dated and captioned year- wise.	View Document
Report of the Cultural competitions/events along with photographs appropriately dated and captioned year- wise.	View Document
Report of the Any other events through active clubs and forums along with photographs appropriately dated and captioned year- wise.	View Document
List of students participated in different events year wise signed by the head of the Institution.	View Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
Copy of circular/brochure indicating such kind of activities	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

5.4 Alumni Engagement

5.4.1

Alumni contribution during the last five years to the University through registered Alumni Association

Response: 712614

5.4.1.1 Total Amount of alumni contribution during the last five years (INR in lakhs) to the institution year wise through registered Alumni association:

2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
642614	70000	0	0	0

File Description	Document
List of alumnus/alumni with the amount contributed year-wise	View Document
Annual audited statements of accounts of the HEI highlighting the Alumni contribution duly certified by the Chartered Accountant/Finance Officer.	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

5.4.2

Alumni contributes and engages significantly to the development of institution through academic and other support system

Describe the alumni contributions and engagements within a maximum of 500 words

Response:

Noorul Islam Centre for Higher Education fosters a lifelong relationship between the institution and its alumni, celebrating their successes, and providing opportunities for continued growth. **Noorul Islam Alumni Association (Regn. No. SRG/Kanniyakumari/85)** plays a pivotal role in upholding this legacy. It provides a platform for former students to reconnect, contribute and continue fostering a strong, supportive community that benefits current and future generations.

Alumni Engagement and Gatherings

Each year, we host a grand gathering organized by the Alumni Association, where alumni from various batches come together to reconnect, share memories and celebrate their journey since leaving the university. In addition to this central event, each academic department organizes its own annual alumni meet. These departmental reunions offer a more focused setting for alumni to engage with their peers and faculty members from their respective fields, fostering a sense of community and shared purpose.

To name a few of our illustrious alumni, Mr. Riyas Ahamed, Senior Executive, Adani Group, Trivandrum International Airport, an alumni of Aircraft Maintenance department interacted with the students on September 25, 2023. Mr. Jithin Raj R.S, Senior Sales Accounts Manager, Reliance Broadcast (Big FM), Trivandrum, alumnus of MBA department interacted with the department students on 28th February 2024.

Contributions and Support

The Alumni Association serves not just as a social network, but also as a significant support system for the university. Our alumni have consistently demonstrated their generosity and commitment through various forms of support:

Financial Contributions

Alumni have provided substantial financial assistance to fund various initiatives aimed at improving campus infrastructure.

Mentorship and Knowledge Sharing

One of the most impactful ways our alumni give back is through mentorship and knowledge sharing. By drawing from their professional experiences and personal journeys, they provide present batch of students with invaluable insights and guidance. Alumni visit the campus to deliver motivational speeches, sharing the success stories and challenges. These talks inspire students to persevere and strive for excellence in their academic journey.

Professional Development and Networking

Alumni play a crucial role in enhancing the career prospects of current students through various initiatives. Leveraging professional networks, alumni assist in securing internships, job placements and other career opportunities for graduates. Their advocacy and connections help open doors in diverse industries, ensuring that students have access to a wide range of employment options. On March 26,2024, Mr. Ronnie Robin Garwin, CEO, Petrostax LLC FZ, Dubai an alumni came for recruiting students.

Building a Strong Community

The efforts of our Alumni Association go beyond individual support and mentorship. They help build a strong, cohesive community that celebrates the achievements of its members and reinforces their connection to the university. By participating in the alumni activities, former students help maintain a vibrant network that benefits all members of the Noorul Islam Centre for Higher Education family.

Through these initiatives, we strive to foster a strong sense of community among our alumni, celebrating their achievements and reinforcing commitments to Noorul Islam Centre for Higher Education.

File Description	Document
Upload any additional information	View Document
Provide the link for additional information	View Document

Criterion 6 - Governance, Leadership and Management

6.1 Institutional Vision and Leadership

6.1.1

The institutional governance and leadership are in accordance with the vision and mission of the Institution and it is visible in various institutional practices such as NEP implementation, sustained institutional growth, decentralization, participation in the institutional governance and in their short term and long term Institutional Perspective Plan.

Response:

Vision

To be recognized by the Government and society at large as an institution able to deliver excellence with relevance in the field of higher education and research focusing on the needs of the nation in tune with the technological revolution to cope with the knowledge explosion and global competence.

Mission

To develop the institution as a Centre of Excellence, keeping pace with the advances in the field, so as to provide quality higher education to the students and instill in them high standards of discipline and ethics so that they become enlightened individuals in the service of humanity and to carry out focused research in the frontier areas of science and technology.

Quality Policy

We offer value-added professional education and promote intensive and innovative research with emphasis on a continual measurable improvement in all our services.

NICHE's governance and leadership are deeply rooted in the university's vision of fostering academic excellence and holistic development. The mission emphasizes providing quality education, promoting research and nurturing innovation. These guiding principles are reflected in every aspect of institutional governance, ensuring that all strategies and actions contribute towards achieving these overarching goals.

The governance of NICHE is overseen by the Board of Management (BOM), which includes the Chancellor's Nominee, Pro-Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor, Pro Vice-Chancellor and other members with extensive academic and administrative experience. They are deeply committed to realizing the goals outlined in the institution's vision and mission statements. The BOM ensures that NICHE remains a center of excellence in higher education and provides a conducive work environment, excellent infrastructure and highly qualified, dedicated faculty, all working in unison to contribute to the development and implementation of the institution's strategic plan.

The Academic Council at NICHE plays a pivotal role in aligning the university's academic policies and plans with its vision and mission. As the primary body responsible for shaping academic policies, the council ensures that every decision contributes to NICHE's goal of excellence in higher education. The council regularly reviews and approves academic programs, curricula, and assessment methods to

maintain high standards of education.

In keeping with the university's mission, the Academic Council ensures that all policies promote innovation, employability, entrepreneurship, and research-driven learning. By holding regular meetings, the council facilitates smooth institutional functioning, ensuring that all academic initiatives are effectively implemented and continuously improved to meet the evolving needs of students and industry.

- In line with NICHE's vision, the university promotes discipline, ethics, and service to humanity through initiatives such as NSS, NCC, career development programs, sports, cultural activities, and various clubs.
- Student representation in various committees and clubs ensures their requirements are met and empowers to actively participate in the university's governance through a participatory approach.

The NEP 2020 policy emphasizes multidisciplinary education, research, value-added courses, and skill development, aligning closely with NICHE's mission. In accordance with NEP 2020:

NICHE follows an outcome-based curriculum to ensure that learning outcomes are clearly defined and achieved.

A credit transfer system is in place, allowing for the mapping and transfer of credits earned at other institutions.

Starting from the academic year 2024-2025, NICHE will implement the major-minor degree concept, offering students a multidisciplinary approach to academics.

File Description	Document
Upload any additional information	View Document
Provide the link for additional information	View Document

6.2 Strategy Development and Deployment

6.2.1

The institutional perspective plan is effectively deployed and functioning of the institutional bodies are effective and efficient as visible from policies, administrative setup, appointment, service rules, and procedures, etc

Response:

Noorul Islam Centre for Higher Education (NICHE) has the institutional perspective plan meticulously deployed, ensuring that all institutional bodies operate with high efficiency and effectiveness.

Functioning of the Institutional Bodies

The key institutional bodies such as the Board of Management, the Academic Council and specialized committees work collaboratively to implement the perspective plan, ensuring that strategic decisions are executed with precision and efficiency.

- The Board of Management (BOM) is the principal executive body of the University with powers to make rules of the Institution and is the final decision making body related to academic, administrative, personnel, financial and developmental matters
- The Academic Council (AC) is the principal academic body of the Institution and is responsible for the maintenance of standard of teaching, research and training, approval of syllabus, co-ordination of research activities and examinations.
- The Board of Studies (BoS) is the basic constituent of the academic system of the Institution which includes framing the content of various courses, reviewing and updating the syllabus from time to time, introducing new courses of study etc.
- The Board of Research, Development and Consultancy (BRDC) takes care of the research promotion activities by encouraging and regulating the research activities.
- The Institution's Innovation Council (IIC) of NICHE inculcates the spirit of innovation among the students, encourage and support innovations through guidance and mentorship.

Empower the Underprivileged: NICHE enduring goal is to extend the reach of education to underprivileged and socially disadvantaged communities, empowering them with the knowledge and skills needed to improve their lives and contribute positively to the society. The University functions in a rural setting, also caters to the development of the local community by providing quality education and training to the marginalized communities for their socio-economic upliftment. NICHE fosters an inclusive educational ecosystem. Learners from diverse backgrounds find a welcoming environment. The institution promotes multiculturalism, fairness, respect, and holistic education. Gender equity is embedded in the curriculum and campus culture.

Administrative Setup

The administrative structure at NICHE is designed to foster seamless coordination and communication among various departments and units.

- All the institutional bodies of the institution are constituted as per UGC norms.
- The administrative structure at NICHE is designed to foster seamless coordination and communication among various departments and units.
- The well-defined hierarchy delineates roles and responsibilities, promoting accountability and transparency.
- The various committees and boards constituted are the Board of Management, High-Power Committee, Advisory Committee, Academic Council, Finance Committee, Planning and Monitoring Board, Boards of Studies, Examination Committees, Board for Research and Consultancy, Anti Ragging Committee, Internal Complaints Committee, Grievance Redressal Committee, Committee against Sexual Harassment, Committee for SC/ST and Hostel Advisory and Monitoring Committees.

The service rules and regulations at NICHE are clearly defined and effectively communicated to all employees. It encompasses a broad range of aspects including the code of conduct, performance evaluations and disciplinary procedures. The structured framework helps maintain a professional and harmonious work environment.

File Description	Document
Upload any additional information	View Document
Strategic Plan and deployment documents on the website	View Document
Provide the link for additional information	View Document

6.2.2

Institution implements e-governance in its operations. e-governance is implemented covering the following areas of operations:

- 1.Administration including complaint management**
- 2.Finance and Accounts**
- 3.Student Admission and Support**
- 4.Examinations**

Response: A. All of the above

File Description	Document
Screen shots of user interfaces of each module reflecting the name of the HEI	View Document
Institutional expenditure statements for the budget heads of e-governance implementation ERP Document	View Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
Annual e-governance report approved by the Governing Council/ Board of Management/ Syndicate Policy document on e-governance	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

6.3 Faculty Empowerment Strategies

6.3.1

The institution has performance appraisal system, effective welfare measures for teaching and non-teaching staff and avenues for career development/progression

Response:

The Noorul Islam Centre for Higher Education (NICHE) is committed to fostering a supportive and dynamic working environment for both teaching and non-teaching staff. To achieve this, NICHE has implemented a comprehensive performance appraisal system, developed promotional avenues and established effective welfare measures.

The performance appraisal of faculty members will be based on the following key areas:

1. Teaching Effectiveness

- Quality of course content, delivery methods, and innovation in teaching.
- Student feedback and outcomes.
- Adherence to course schedules, evaluation standards, and mentoring students.
- Development and use of teaching aids, including ICT-enabled methods.

2. Research and Scholarly Contributions

- Number and quality of research publications in peer-reviewed journals.
- Participation in national/international conferences, seminars, and workshops.
- Research projects undertaken (funded by external agencies or the university).
- Supervision of student research at undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral levels.

3. Contribution to Institutional Development

- Participation in curriculum development and revisions.
- Administrative roles (e.g., head of the department, committee leadership).
- Contribution to accreditation processes and quality assurance initiatives.

4. Professional Development and Community Engagement

- Pursuit of continuing education, certifications, and training programs.
- Involvement in community outreach, extension activities and industry collaborations.
- Contributions to professional bodies, academic societies or expert committees.

The Appraisal Mechanism follows a structured and conducted in a transparent manner, with annual reviews based on the **Appraisal Report** submitted at the end of each academic year. Subsequently, as an outcome of the Appraisal System, Incentives, additional allowances and Increments are given. In the year 2023-2024, 64 Faculty Members received Incentives.

Promotional Avenues:

The promotions are given based on the performance and the promotion to the next level is made as and when the performance is proved and the experience is gained as per the norms of the regulatory bodies.

Welfare Measures:

The teaching and non-teaching staffs have all the statutory welfare schemes as given below:-

- The staff members are provided with extended welfare benefits of Pension Scheme, Gratuity, Employee State Insurance and other insurance schemes as may be applicable in accordance with the law.
- The staff are also provided with extended health benefits at *Noorul Islam Institute of Medical Science* (NIMS) hospital, a sister institution at subsidized costs or nil costs.
- The children of the staff members are provided with extended benefits of concessional fee

concession.

- Maternity Leave is granted to female employees
- Access to in-campus bank ATM facility
- Well-stocked Central as well as Department Libraries
- Health Centre with two doctors.
- Transport Facilities
- Medical Insurance facilities
- Staff Welfare Association - NISWA (Noorul Islam Centre for Higher Education Staff Welfare Association)
- Free Staff Quarters for the staff

Empowerment Strategies:

- Campus-wide Wi-Fi connectivity (24x7)
- Access to National Digital Library Resources
- Facility for undertaking projects with the financial assistance of funding agencies
- Encouraging faculties to becoming members of professional bodies
- Providing seed money for young faculty members to apply for funded research projects
- Providing incentives to increase their involvement in research and innovation
- Conducting orientation and training programmes

File Description	Document
Upload any additional information	View Document
Provide the link for additional information	View Document

6.3.2

Percentage of teachers provided with financial support to attend conferences/workshops and towards membership fee of professional bodies during the last five years

Response: 9.27

6.3.2.1 Number of teachers provided with financial support to attend conferences/workshops and towards membership fee of professional bodies year wise during the last five years

2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
72	12	0	0	19

File Description	Document
Policy document on providing financial support to teachers	View Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
E-copy of letter/s indicating financial assistance to teachers and list of teachers receiving financial support year-wise under each head	View Document
Audited statement of account highlighting the financial support to teachers to attend conferences/workshops and towards membership fee for professional bodies.	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

6.3.3

Percentage of teachers undergoing online/ face-to-face Faculty Development Programmes (FDPs)/ Management Development Programmes (MDPs) during the last five years

Response: 42.57

6.3.3.1 Total number of teachers who have undergone online/ face-to-face Faculty Development Programmes (FDP)/ Management Development Programs (MDP) during the last five years

2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
161	71	58	78	105

File Description	Document
Refresher course/Faculty Orientation or other programmes as per UGC/AICTE stipulated periods, as participated by teachers year-wise.	View Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
E-copy of the certificates of the program attended by teachers.	View Document
Annual reports highlighting the programmes undertaken by the teachers	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

6.4 Financial Management and Resource Mobilization

6.4.1

Institutional strategies for mobilisation of funds other than salary and fees and the optimal utilisation of resources

Describe the resource mobilisation policy and procedures of the Institution within a maximum of 500 words

Response:

Noorul Islam Centre for Higher Education (NICHE) employs a planned strategic approach to fund mobilization and resource utilization, ensuring its financial stability and supporting its mission of delivering high-quality education and advancing research.

Primary Funding Source: Tuition Fees

The primary source of NICHE's financial support comes from tuition fees paid by students. These funds are critical to the institution's operations and are allocated across various institutional needs. This includes covering faculty salaries, maintaining and upgrading infrastructure, providing academic resources and offering a range of student services. The institution's priority is to utilize these funds effectively to improve areas that directly impact the student experience and the overall quality of education. A strategic allocation of resources ensures that NICHE's day-to-day functions run smoothly and that students receive the highest possible academic standards.

Additional Avenues for Fund Mobilization

To supplement the primary revenue from tuition fees, NICHE actively seeks to mobilize funds from a variety of sources.

- **Research Grants:** NICHE fosters a research-driven culture by encouraging faculty members to apply for research grants from government bodies, private companies and other organizations. These grants enable the institution to undertake cutting-edge research projects, enhancing its academic reputation and contributing to societal development.
- **Collaborations and Partnerships:** NICHE partners with industries, other educational institutions, and international bodies to secure funding for joint academic and research projects. These partnerships not only provide financial support but also contribute to NICHE's academic and infrastructural growth, fostering a dynamic environment for innovation and learning.
- **Government and NGO Funding:** The institution leverages funding from various government schemes and non-governmental organizations to support educational programs, infrastructure projects, and research initiatives. By tapping into available governmental and non-governmental resources, NICHE ensures that its programs remain well-funded and continue to grow.
- **Alumni Support:** NICHE actively engages its alumni community through structured networks and fundraising events, encouraging them to contribute to the institution's goals. Alumni contributions play a significant role in supporting scholarships, infrastructure development, and student services.

Resource Management Practices

NICHE emphasizes efficient resource management to ensure that its funds are used optimally. This includes:

- **Budgeting and Financial Planning:** Each year, NICHE develops a carefully planned budget that aligns with its mission and strategic goals. Priority is given to academic programs, research initiatives, infrastructure improvements and student support services.
- **Monitoring and Evaluation:** The institution conducts regular audits and evaluations to track expenditures and assess the effectiveness of fund utilization. Key performance indicators (KPIs) are used to ensure that funds are directed toward impactful areas.
- **Cost Control Measures:** NICHE implements various cost-saving initiatives, such as bulk purchasing, energy-saving practices and efficient resource management, to reduce unnecessary expenses and ensure financial efficiency.
- **Policy Framework:** NICHE operates within a clear policy framework that governs all aspects of fund mobilization and resource allocation. This framework promotes transparency, accountability, and effective decision-making.

By implementing these strategies, NICHE ensures financial sustainability, enabling it to continue providing high-quality education, promoting innovation, and fulfilling its mission of contributing to societal progress.

File Description	Document
Upload any additional information	View Document
Provide the link for additional information	View Document

6.4.2

Funds / Grants received from government bodies/non government and philanthropists during the last five years for development and maintenance of infrastructure (not covered under Criteria III and V)

Response: 107

6.4.2.1 Total Grants received from government and non-government bodies and philanthropists for development and maintenance of infrastructure (not covered under Criteria III and V) year-wise during the last five years (INR in Lakhs)

2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
30	0	0	0	77

File Description	Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
Copy of the sanction letters received from government/ nongovernment bodies and philanthropists for development and maintenance of infrastructure	View Document
Annual audited statements of accounts highlighting the grants received.	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

6.4.3

Institution regularly conducts internal and external financial audits regularly

Enumerate the various internal and external financial audits carried out during the last five years with the mechanism for settling audit objections within a maximum of 500 words

Response:

The institution ensures financial transparency and accountability by conducting both internal and external financial audits on a regular basis. These audits are essential to maintaining financial discipline, compliance with legal standards and effective resource management.

Internal Financial Audit

The internal financial audit is a continuous process carried out by designated staff members throughout the financial year. The purpose of the internal audit is to review the institution's financial transactions, identify any discrepancies or irregularities and implement corrective measures promptly.

- **Transaction Verification:** The internal audit team regularly verifies all financial transactions, including receipts, payments, receivables, and payables. Thorough reviews ensure that all entries are accurate and supported by proper documentation. Any errors or fake found, are addressed immediately with the responsible authorities, and corrections are made in the financial records.
- **Clarification and Corrections:** Cases where transactions are found to be incorrect or not properly documented, the audit staff clarifies the situation with relevant departments or authorities.
- **Monitoring of Student Demand Register:** The Internal Audit Team also monitors the Students Demand Register, ensuring that all student fees and other related financial matters are accurately recorded and reconciled.
- **Budgetary Control:** Planned expenditures, particularly for the purchase of infrastructure items, are approved in alignment with the department's requirements and the institution's budget. The internal audit team ensures that all purchases and expenditures adhere to the approved financial plans and budgets.

External Statutory Financial Audit

In addition to internal audits, the institution undergoes an external statutory financial audit every year. This audit is performed by a qualified Chartered Accountant in compliance with the legal provisions of the Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act and the Income Tax Act.

- **Audit Standards:** The external audit is conducted following Indian Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), along with the Accounting Standards and Auditing Standards prescribed by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI). This ensures that the institution's financial statements are prepared and reviewed in accordance with national accounting and auditing standards.
- **Examination of Financial Transactions:** The external audit team reviews institution's entire range of financial transactions, ensuring all financial activities are properly recorded and supported by appropriate documentation. The audit is conducted periodically throughout the financial year to monitor and assess the accuracy and authenticity of financial records.
- **Resolving Objections:** If any doubts or objections arise during the audit, the issues are addressed and resolved before the audit for the financial year is closed. This ensures accurate reflection of the institution's financial statements.
- **Audit Report:** Upon completion of the audit, external auditor submits an Audit Report. The report includes a detailed assessment of the institution's financial statements, including Balance Sheet, and

provides a certified account of net surplus or loss for the financial year.

Through internal and external audit processes, the institution ensures its financial management practices are transparent, accountable, and in compliance with all legal and regulatory requirements

File Description	Document
Upload any additional information	View Document
Provide the link for additional information	View Document

6.5 Internal Quality Assurance System

6.5.1

Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC)/ Internal Quality Assurance System (IQAS) has contributed significantly for institutionalizing the quality assurance strategies and processes, by constantly reviewing the teaching-learning process, structures & methodologies of operations and learning outcomes, at periodic intervals

Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) has contributed significantly for institutionalizing the quality assurance strategies and processes visible in terms of –

- **Incremental improvements made for the preceding five years with regard to quality (in case of first cycle)**
- **Incremental improvements made for the preceding five years with regard to quality and post accreditation quality initiatives (second and subsequent cycles)**

Describe two practices institutionalized as a result of IQAC initiatives within a maximum of 500 words

Response:

Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) was established in 2012 in accordance with NAAC guidelines and has a highly significant role in achieving academic excellence. It implements various measures to assess and improve the quality of teaching, learning, research, and governance at the University. IQAC prepares the Annual Quality Assurance Report (AQAR) in accordance with NAAC guidelines and parameters. It is supported by departmental-level IQAC Nodal Officers to promote awareness, disseminate IQAC activities, and establish necessary processes and systems within the departments. IQAC consistently organizes workshops/seminars related to quality assurance. University employs both internal and external mechanisms for academic auditing, coordinated by IQAC. These audits aim to evaluate the teaching-learning process, operational structures, methodologies and learning outcomes.

Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) conducts periodic internal academic audits for all departments to ensure compliance with institutional standards and promote continuous improvement in academic practices. A dedicated audit team comprising senior faculty members and IQAC representatives, are

responsible for overseeing the entire audit process, from planning to reporting.

In accordance with IQAC guidelines, each department is required to prepare an analytical report based on student feedback regarding courses and teachers, consolidating relevant observations. IQAC directs departments to regularly collect and analyze feedback from various stakeholders. After thorough analysis, necessary guidance are provided to faculty members, particularly in areas where improvements are needed.

IQAC was instrumental towards formation of University level Alumni Association and preparation of guidelines for functioning of University level as well as department level alumni associations.

In 2023, a new "SEED Money" scheme for faculty research initiatives accelerated research activities, resulting in 1,802 journal publications, 174 books and chapters, and 765 PhD awards over the past five years. The university's h-index rose from 23 in 2021 to 59 in 2024. Awards and recognitions were established to incentivize high-quality research and innovative teaching practices. Additionally, a scheme providing financial assistance for staff attending conferences, workshops, seminars, and Faculty Development Programs (FDPs) was introduced, benefiting 84 staff members to date.

NICHE-IQAC has recommended Value Added Courses to students to elevate their standards beyond the academic curriculum. These courses help students and faculty updated with knowledge and stay connected with the latest technologies in the fields of study. Through these programs, students gain expertise to advancements in technologies and effectively tackle future challenges.

The University has streamlined the process of signing MoUs with various organizations and established regulations accordingly. The MoUs are verified by the IQAC for observing academic and research interests of the University.

Energy Audit, Environment Audit and Green Audit are conducted for exploring the opportunities to improve the energy efficiency of the campus and for the evaluation of biodiversity, water management practices and indoor air quality in the campus.

IQAC conducts seminars and workshops on various quality enhancement measures, including the implementation of OBE, NAAC assessment, vision for excellence, start-ups, and orientation sessions for newly recruited faculty members.

File Description	Document
Upload any additional information	View Document
Provide the link for additional information	View Document

6.5.2

Institution has adopted the following for Quality assurance:

1.Academic and Administrative Audit (AAA) and follow up action taken

2. Conferences, Seminars, Workshops on quality conducted
3. Collaborative quality initiatives with other institution(s)
4. Orientation programme on quality issues for teachers and students
5. Participation in NIRF and other recognized ranking like Shanghai Ranking, QS Ranking Times Ranking etc
6. Any other quality audit recognized by state, national or international agencies

Response: A. Any 5 or more of the above

File Description	Document
Supporting documents pertaining to NIRF (along with link to the HEI's ranking in the NIRF portal) / NBA / ISO as applicable and valid for the assessment period.	View Document
List of Orientation programmes conducted on quality issues for teachers and students along with geotagged photos and supporting documents	View Document
List of Conferences / Seminars / Workshops on quality conducted along with brochures and geo-tagged photos with caption and date.	View Document
List of Collaborative quality initiatives with other institution(s) along with brochures and geo-tagged photos with caption and date.	View Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

6.5.3

Incremental improvements made for the preceding five years with regard to quality (in case of first cycle NAAC A/A)

Post accreditation quality initiatives (second and subsequent cycles of NAAC A/A)

Response:

Internal Quality Assurance Cell has brought significant improvements to achieve academic excellence. IQAC takes various measures for assessing and enhancing the quality at the University and provides suggestions for the improvement.

Since inception, IQAC has been instrumental in improving the quality aspects of various processes of the university. Some of the initiatives are listed below:

- Directorate of International Affairs has been established for coordinating activities related to students and international collaborations, and accelerated academic and research activities with the international institutions. Presently, 15 MoU collaborations are active with international institutions.
- University promotes student's entrepreneurship through Intuition Innovation Council (IIC). NICHE IIC started incubating start-up companies from February 2024 by mothering 1 start-up.
- NICHE initiated Steve Job Scholarship in the academic year 2022-23 in honour of Steve Jobs, a global icon with qualities like dedication, honesty and hard work. Recipients are selected based on merit, technical skill development and general knowledge and provides free specialized training under the guidance of experts from respective fields.
- Apple iOS Lab in the Department of CSE helps developing applications for iPhone and iPad, thereby bridging the gap between academia and industry for the students. iOS lab focuses on providing students with knowledge of the Apple macOS environment.
- IBM ICE Integrated Graduate Programme offers extensive career development opportunities designed to enhance students' industry alignment. Participants gain exposure to diverse projects across multiple IBM business units, providing insights into various industry facets.
- Faculty recruitment has become a continuous process now and 44 well qualified faculty members have been recruited since 2022. 75% of permanent faculty members have Ph.D.
- Awards and recognitions are established to incentivise high-quality research and innovative teaching practices. A scheme providing financial assistance for staff attending conferences, workshops, seminars and Faculty Development Programs (FDPs) are introduced.
- To promote holistic development of students and inculcate social values, NICHE has adopted five villages under the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan. NCC and NSS teams regularly visit the surrounding areas for interfacing and educating the rural population on cleanliness, hygiene, education etc. Mask and sanitizer indigenously developed by NICHE were distributed during covid-19 pandemic.
- Formation of PTAs and a registered alumni association at the University level with department-level units is another significant development.

In accordance with NEP 2020:

NICHE follows an outcome-based curriculum to ensure that learning outcomes are clearly defined and achieved.

A credit transfer system is in place, allowing for the mapping and transfer of credits earned at other institutions.

Starting from the academic year 2024-2025, NICHE is in the process of implementing the major-minor degree concept, offering students a multidisciplinary approach to academics.

File Description	Document
Upload any additional information	View Document
Provide the link for additional information	View Document

Criterion 7 - Institutional Values and Best Practices

7.1 Institutional Values and Social Responsibilities

7.1.1

Institution has initiated the Gender Audit and measures for the promotion of gender equity during the last five years.

Describe the gender equity & sensitization in curricular and co-curricular activities, facilities for women on campus etc., within 500 words

Response:

Gender Audit is the process of assessing policies, programs, and procedures in an organization to identify gender biases and determine how equally women and men are treated and represented. The following initiatives argue for the Gender Audit and the promotion of gender equity in the institution.

Noorul Islam Centre for Higher Education (NICHE) has a strong ethical work culture based on inclusivity. It observes ethical standards in all its activities. Equal opportunities are provided to all individuals in the university irrespective of gender.

Safety, security, friendly working atmosphere and well-being along with gender equity are ensured for all at NICHE. Women faculty members are encouraged to take up academic and administrative positions in the institution. Vice Chancellor and six Heads of Departments of the University are women. They also serve as conveners and members of various Boards and Committees in the university. Various Departments of NICHE encourage girl students to enroll in NCC, NSS and in Clubs and take part enthusiastically in their activities.

Women's Empowerment Cell has been constituted at the university level and it is initiating measures that would empower women, especially staff, students and scholars of the university. It also handles matters related to women's welfare and safety. Many Awareness and Empowerment programmes (like Prevention of Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace, Awareness on Protection of Women in Society) are regularly conducted for women by the Cell with Women Chief Guests invited to address women's issues. Women's Day is celebrated every year with renowned Advocates, Professors, Sub-Inspectors of Police being invited to deliver talks on Women empowerment and Women's issues. Female faculty members and students play a very active role in organizing the events and festivals planned by the various Committees and Clubs of the institution.

Safety and Security:

Constitutional Committees like Anti-Ragging and Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) established at NICHE to ascertain the safety and security of the girl students of the University. Members of the Committees interact regularly with the girls and resolve issues, if any.

University is under surveillance with CCTV cameras installed at prominent locations for the safety and security of all, especially women.

COUNSELLING:

Institution has a well-defined Students Mentoring System for all the programmes for effective counselling. 15 to 20 students are assigned to a faculty member who acts as a mentor. The students are guided by such mentors through proper counselling irrespective of gender. Students Mentoring System at NICHE obliterates any possibility for gender bias. Each faculty who mentors the students tries to help the individual students, especially the girls, in their academic and personal growth as well.

i. Mentoring System, Women Empowerment Cell, Anti-Ragging Committee , Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) and Women Empowerment Programmes develop confidence among the girls and ensure a conducive and gender equitable learning environment.

ii. Girls Waiting Halls , Restrooms, Health Centre with qualified physicians and female nurses, Canteens with separate space for girls to avoid inconvenience during working hours are some of the facilities for women on Campus .

File Description	Document
Upload any additional information	View Document
Provide the link for additional information	View Document

7.1.2

The Institution has facilities for alternate sources of energy and energy conservation measures

- 1. Solar energy**
- 2. Biogas plant**
- 3. Wheeling to the Grid**
- 4. Sensor-based energy conservation**
- 5. Use of LED bulbs/ power efficient equipment**
- 6. Wind mill or any other clean green energy**

Response: A. Any 4 or more of the above

File Description	Document
Permission document for connecting to the grid from the Government/ Electricity authority.	View Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
Geo-tagged photographs of the facilities.	View Document
Bills for the purchase of equipment's for the facilities created under this metric	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

7.1.3

Describe the facilities in the Institution for the management of the following types of degradable and non-degradable waste (within 500 words)

- Solid waste management
- Liquid waste management
- Biomedical waste management
- e-Waste management
- Waste recycling system
- Hazardous chemicals and radioactive waste management

Response:

NICHE is always sensitive towards nature and environment. Hence, many efforts are taken to keep the campus clean and green and maintain eco-friendly. These measures include energy conservation, rainwater harvesting, waste management, tree planting, green lawns, e-waste management, proper waste disposal measures etc. The university has banned the use of plastics and is promoting e-governance in academics and administration to reduce the use of paper in its day-to-day functioning. NICHE has adequate facilities and an effective Waste Management System.

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

Each classroom and each department has been provided with separate garbage can to collect biodegradable and non-biodegradable wastes. The non-biodegradable waste will be collected separately and handed over to the Thuckalay Municipality. Biodegradable waste is used as feed material in the Waste Management System built inside our university campus.

Two Solid Waste Management systems have been installed in our University campus to dispose of solid wastes:

Biogas plant

A 6 cubic meter biogas plant has been installed at boy's Hostel for solid waste management. Biodegradable solid wastes like food waste, vegetable waste from hostels and university campus and cow dung are provided as feed material.

- **Vermi Composer**

A vermicompost of size 3m x 3m x 2m has been installed near the marine block exclusively earmarked for organic solid waste management. Biodegradable solid waste like food waste from hostel and canteen is dumped in vermicompost unit to make organic fertilizer. The most commonly used species of earthworm (or composting worms) are red wigglers.

LIQUID WASTE MANAGEMENT

NICHE has a proper liquid waste management system. Due to high water consumption in hostels, two sewage treatment plants of 100KLD and 150KLD size have been installed in boy's Hostel and one sewage treatment plant of size 200KLD have been installed in girls hostel to manage waste water. Waste water is treated by these plants and is used to water the trees and plants in the campus.

BIO-MEDICAL WASTE MANAGEMENT

The Health Centre of NICHE is the only source inside the university campus for the biomedical waste. The generated waste is very meagre which includes needles, unused drugs, medicines and creams. Needles, after usage, are destroyed by the syringe and needle destroyer in the health centre itself.

E-WASTE MANAGEMENT

NICHE is having proper E-waste management system. E-waste such as electrical and electronic waste management is a very challenging task as these devices are manufactured using plastics, glass and metals. In our university, e-waste from various departments is collected and stored in a store room. These wastes are periodically disposed of through authorized and licenced vendors.

WASTE RECYCLING SYSTEM

NICHE is equipped with proper waste recycling system.

- **Liquid Waste Recycling**

Three waste water recycling plants in the boy's and Girl's hostels, treat waste water that is fully recycled and used for watering plants and trees on campus.

Solid Waste Recycling

Biodegradable solid waste is used as feedstock in biogas plant and the biogas thus produced is used as secondary cooking fuel in gent's hostel.

HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS AND RADIOACTIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT

These are limitedly used and are diluted with plenty of water.

File Description	Document
Any other relevant information	View Document
Relevant documents like agreements/MoUs with Government and other approved agencies	View Document
Geo-tagged photographs of the facilities	View Document

7.1.4

Water conservation facilities available in the Institution:

1. Rain water harvesting
2. Borewell /Open well recharge
3. Construction of tanks and bunds
4. Waste water recycling
5. Maintenance of water bodies and distribution system in the campus

Response: A. Any 4 or more of the above

File Description	Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
Green audit reports on water conservation by recognised bodies	View Document
Geo-tagged photographs of the facilities.	View Document
Bills for the purchase of equipment's for the facilities created under this metric.	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

7.1.5

Green campus initiatives include

Describe the Green campus initiative of the institution including Restricted entry of automobiles, Use of Bicycles/ Battery powered vehicles , Pedestrian Friendly pathways , Ban on use of Plastic, landscaping with trees and plants etc in 500 words

Response:**GREEN CAMPUS INITIATIVES**

Noorul Islam Centre for Higher Education (NICHE) is located at the foot hills of Vaelimalai, (a mountain by name Vaeli) and known for its eco-friendly lush green atmosphere campus ever since its inception. The campus is blessed with full of trees except the lay out area meant for buildings and roads. It has been enriched with various environment friendly factors such as Flora & Fauna, Land, Water, Waste Treatment, Solar Systems, Wind Energy, Fire Safety and Parking space. As they fairly contribute in making the campus eco-friendly, a virtuous care of all these factors is taken scrupulously and recurrently in the following ways.

Restricted entry of Automobiles

The institution enforces restrictions on the entry of vehicles into its premises. There are separate parking lots near the main entrance for parking university transport and the vehicles of students and staff. A check post was set up after this parking lot and vehicles were not allowed to enter. Securities are available near the check post and will allow vehicles in some special cases. This practice has been followed since its inception to maintain greenery in our campus and to reduce pollution within the campus.

Pedestrian Friendly Pathways

Roads inside the campus are well maintained with pedestrian friendly pathways. Pedestrians can walk safely inside the campus through walk friendly pathways.

Ban on use of Plastic

NICHE campus is declared as a plastic free campus and usage of the Plastic is strictly banned inside the campus. Students and staffs are encouraged to use the Biodegradable materials for their use. Awareness is created among students by pasting posters on plastic pollution throughout the campus and is monitored by the NSS volunteers.

Landscaping with trees and plants

The campus is fully blessed with trees and plants. NICHE has a proper landscaping with trees and plants. On world environmental day, a mega tree plantation will be conducted by NSS volunteers and Green energy and Eco club members, within the university campus with the aim of planting more than 500 trees.

Moreover the principle of the NICHE is to phase out the CFL and conventional light sources such as bulbs, tube lights and mercury street/campus lights with LED lights. These steps will not only save the money but also make the institute self- sustainable.

Every three year we conduct green audit by counting the trees and establishing the green cover area. Continuous monitoring of the biodiversity is carried out by green energy and eco club members.

University with Green Belt

The purpose of green belt is to provide a barricade between the source of pollution and the areas surrounded by it. Soil erosion and washing away of top soil are taken care to have a stabilised ecosystem. Water balance is also focussed while cultivating the plant species. Efforts are made to have a bio-climate. Planting and protecting the saplings are carried out with utmost care. Thus, the landscaping and green belt is designed with saplings planted in open areas, along the footpaths and around the built in areas. Trees are grown as a routine affair. All these activities make the campus eco-friendly.

File Description	Document
Policy document on the green campus/plastic free campus.	View Document
Geo-tagged photographs/videos of the facilities.	View Document
Circulars and report of activities for the implementation of the initiatives document	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

7.1.6

Quality audits on environment and energy are regularly undertaken by the institution

The institutional environment and energy initiatives are confirmed through the following

- 1.Green audit / Environmental audit**
- 2.Energy audit**
- 3.Clean and green campus recognitions/awards**
- 4.Beyond the campus environmental promotion and sustainability activities**

Response: A. All of the above

File Description	Document
Report on environmental promotional activities conducted beyond the campus with geo-tagged photographs with caption and date	View Document
Policy document on environment and energy usage Certificate from the auditing agency.	View Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
Green audit report of all the years from recognized bodies	View Document
Certificates of the awards received from recognized agency (if any).	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

7.1.7

The Institution has Differently-abled (Divyangjan) friendly, barrier free environment

Write description covering the various components of barrier free environment in your institution in maximum of 500 words

- **Built environment with Ramps/lifts for easy access to classrooms**
- **Divyangjan friendly washrooms**
- **Signage including tactile path, lights, display boards and signposts**
- **Assistive technology and facilities for Divyangjan accessible website, screen-reading software, mechanized equipment**
- **Provision for enquiry and information: Human assistance, reader, scribe, soft copies of reading material, screen reading**

Response:**DISABLED-FRIENDLY, BARRIER FREE ENVIRONMENT**

NICHE ensures differently-abled, barrier free environment to differently-abled students and provide opportunities to them to access the benefits, rights and privilege of services.

Environment with ramps for easy access to classrooms:

Ramps and rails are provided for easy access to various locations. Ramps are built with handle on both sides to suit for the need. The slope of the ramps is maintained to ensure the safe and easy access of

places. The surface of the ramp also built as non-slippery. All classroom doorways are free from doorframe so that wheelchairs can able to move in and out of the classroom.

Divyangjan Friendly washrooms:

Wash rooms are provided with clean and hygienic conditions. It contains handle for them to support. Entry is provided with ramp and rail with ample space so that wheel chair can be used. Doors are also provided with enough width

to support wheel chair assistance and equipped with western style toilets. Proper care is taken by the University to maintain the washrooms neat and clean.

Signage and Signpost:

Signboards ensure that visually impaired people are well aware of the roads and pathways. In our campus, Signposts for differently-abled person are installed in various places like parking, washrooms to facilitate the access and mobility for *differently-abled people* with functional diversity.

Scribes for Examination:

When a candidate taking test is unable to write an exam due to visual impairment or due to any valid reason NICHE has given the option of hiring a scribe to assist the particular student for writing examinations as per the rules and regulations stipulated by UGC. The scribe may have a practice session with the student before the exams. This practice session is an opportunity for the writer to listen to the students' needs and preferences.

Human Assistance

- Differently-abled persons can skip the queue and assistance will be given as per their needs.
- Persons with disabilities will be assisted in filling the forms.
- Signage and signpost are available for easy identification of the facilities available.
- Attenders are available to assistant the differently-abled persons to use the available facilities.
- Wheelchair facility will be provided to the students who need wheel chair assistance.
- In classes, the students with disabilities are provided with soft copies of various reading materials in the form of word, pdf and power point.

File Description	Document
Upload supporting document	View Document

7.1.8

Describe the Institutional efforts/initiatives in providing an inclusive environment i.e., tolerance and harmony towards cultural, regional, linguistic, communal socioeconomic and such other diversities (within 500 words).

Response:**Inclusive Environment:**

NICHE gives great importance ensuring the students of the university a sense of tolerance and harmony towards cultural, regional, linguistic, communal, socioeconomic and other diversities. An inclusive environment is created inside the university wherein students engage in learning with acceptance of and respect to the diverse cultures, languages, rationalities and socio economic factors.

The university organizes various activities wherein students and staff come together freely and generate a harmonious environment for the exchange of knowledge, experience and expertise among them.

Departments of the university organizes Conferences, Seminars, Symposiums, Workshops and Festivals to create a harmonious environment for socialization where the students and staff and people from outside the campus come together to interact, exchange and benefit from each other. This promotes tolerance and harmony among them.

NICHE brings in an all-inclusive environment inside the campus by providing a platform to celebrate the diverse religious, regional, cultural and linguistic festivals of the nation and the States of India. Festivals such as Pongal, Onam, Pooja, Deepavali, Ramzan and Chrishmas are celebrated with great enthusiasm and fervour and promote positive interactions among people of different cultural, linguistic and religious backgrounds. These celebration fosters harmony towards cultural, regional, linguistic, communal, socio-economic diversities. Festive occasions are celebrated by all in the campus regardless of any sectarian outlook and also upholding the unity in diversity of the country. The celebrations of various festivals are organised in the Department/ University level and are usually accompanied by cultural programmes in which the students and scholars of the Departments actively participate with much joy and harmony.

Further, Independence Day, Republic Day, Voters Awareness Day, Vigilance Day and Mathru Bhasha Diwas (Mother Tongue Day) etc. are celebrated by students and staff with enthusiasm that brings in an inclusive environment for sharing care and concern .

National Service Scheme (NSS) activities of NICHE connect the students to the socio-economic factors and serve as a bridge between the institution and the communities around.

Matru Bhasha Diwas (Mother Tongue Day) is observed every year inside the campus and this provides a platform to the students of different linguistic groups to give expression in their mother tongue and which, in turn, promotes linguistic harmony.

Regular Healthcare Camps and Blood Donation Camps are organised by NICHE and for the rural areas in and around the Kanyakumari District of Tamil Nadu.

In total, the various efforts taken by NICHE to promote cultural, regional, linguistic, socioeconomic, and other diversities in and around the campus at large and outside the campus quite often create an inclusive and harmonious environment for the student community inside the campus and the people around.

File Description	Document
Supporting documents on the information provided (as reflected in the administrative and academic activities of the Institution)	View Document

7.1.9

Sensitization of students and employees of the Institution to the constitutional obligations: values, rights, duties and responsibilities of citizens

Describe the various activities in the Institution for inculcating values for being responsible citizens as reflected in the Constitution of India within 500 words.

Response:

NICHE lays great significance on the Constitution of India and the institution's moral responsibility to groom students as responsible citizens and contribute to the progress and development of the nation. Constant endeavour to sensitize the students and employees of the university to constitutional rights and duties characterizes the institution. The students and employees of the Institution are sensitized of the constitutional obligations such as values, rights, duties and responsibilities which every Indian citizen will have to uphold. The salient features of Indian Constitution are highlighted through lectures and speeches to the students citizens of India.

Upholding of Human Rights, Protection of Public Property, and Performing Duties and Responsibilities of citizens enshrined in the Constitution of India are inscribed in the hearts of the students through various efforts. NICHE **hosts** NCC and NSS Wings and encourages the students to take part in such extra-curricular which would mould their character as disciplined citizens of India. The NSS students demonstrate the message of citizen rights and duties through their discipline and decorum. Independence Day and the Republic Day are celebrated with great vigour and with patriotic fervour. Every year Women's Day, Voters Day, **Women Empowerment Programmes** etc. are celebrated with commitment and resolve to be responsible citizens.

Study Tours are organized to make the students understand the importance of Indian cultural heritage and diversity. **Students** participate in various extracurricular activities and events and play a positive role in contributing both towards the nation and society.

In all events, programmes and functions organized inside the campus, the National Anthem is sung at the end to instill a sense of patriotism among the students and the employees and the others. NICHE undertakes every year Planting of Saplings to make the campus greener and create a green environment and positively vibrant ecosystem. The **Anti-Plastic Awareness Rallies and e-waste Management Programmes** cleanliness drives and water conservation and ecosystem protection efforts by the different department students and faculty sensitize everyone regarding the duties values, rights, duties and responsibilities of citizens

All these mark the moulding of the young students of the institution into responsible citizens. The students have taken up health camp activities in nearby villages, considering it as a responsibility of

every citizen. Swachh Bharat Abhiyan has also been an important initiative taken up by the university to create awareness about sanitation and hygiene. The University has also conducted a voter awareness programme for all the students and sensitised them about their constitutional rights and duties.

File Description	Document
Details of activities that inculcate values necessary to nurture students to become responsible citizens	View Document

7.1.10

The Institution has a prescribed code of conduct for students, teachers, administrators and other staff and conducts periodic programmes in this regard.

- 1. The institutional Code of Conduct principles are displayed on the website**
- 2. There is a committee to monitor adherence to the institutional Code of Conduct principles**
- 3. Institution organizes professional ethics programmes for students, teachers, administrators and other staff**
- 4. Annual awareness programmes on Code of Conduct are organized**

Response: A. All of the above

File Description	Document
Report on the student attributes facilitated by the Institution	View Document
Policy document on code of ethics.	View Document
Institutional data in the prescribed format (data template)	View Document
Handbooks, manuals and brochures on human values and professional ethics	View Document
Document showing the Code of Conduct for students, teachers, governing body and administration as approved by the competent authority.	View Document
Constitution and proceedings of the monitoring committee.	View Document
Circulars and geo-tagged photographs with date and caption of the activities organized under this metric for teachers, students, administrators and other staff.	View Document
Provide Links for any other relevant document to support the claim (if any)	View Document

7.2 Best Practices

7.2.1

Describe two best practices successfully implemented as per NAAC format provided in the Manual.

Response:

1. Title of the Practice

Empowering Innovation through Application Development and Fostering Cutting-Edge Research and Skill Development in Robotics and Artificial Intelligence

2. Objectives of the Practice

iOS Developer University Program

- 1.Enhance Mobile App Development Skills:** To provide students with hands-on experience in developing innovative iOS applications, fostering their technical skills in Swift programming, UI/UX design, and mobile architecture.

2. **Promote Innovation and Entrepreneurship:** To encourage students to develop creative solutions for real-world problems through mobile applications, cultivating an entrepreneurial mindset and opening pathways for startups.
3. **Bridge Academia and Industry Needs:** To align curriculum and projects with industry standards, preparing students for career opportunities in iOS app development by offering specialized training and certifications.

Robotics, Artificial Intelligence and NICHE AWS Academy:

1. **Develop Expertise in Robotics and AI:** To provide students with comprehensive knowledge and hands-on experience in designing, building, and programming humanoid robots.
2. **Promote Multidisciplinary Collaboration:** To promote collaboration across various disciplines like mechanical engineering, computer science, electronics, and artificial intelligence.
3. **Bridge Academia and Real-World Applications:** To provide opportunities for students to work on practical humanoid robot projects aligned with real-world industry needs.

3. The Context

These best practices exemplify NICHE's commitment to equipping students with the tools, knowledge, and experience needed to excel in the Fourth Industrial Revolution, driving innovation and contributing to societal advancement.

The Humanoid Robots Program at NICHE is designed to immerse students in the exciting world of robotics, emphasizing the creation of humanoid robots that interact with and assist humans in various industries.

The **Intel Unnati AI Lab** at NICHE stands as a beacon of excellence in Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) research. This lab provides a world-class platform for students and faculty to explore the transformative potential of AI.

The **iOS Developer University Program** at NICHE is a strategic initiative designed to enhance students' skills in mobile application development, specifically for Apple's iOS platform.

4. The Practice

The **NICHE AWS Academy** integrates Amazon Web Services (AWS) education and cloud technologies to provide students with the knowledge and skills required for careers in cloud computing.

The AWS Academy offers a curriculum designed by AWS experts, covering topics such as **cloud architecture**, **serverless computing**, **AI/ML integration**, and **data analytics**. Students gain hands-on experience using AWS services through lab sessions and projects, preparing them for industry-recognized certifications like **AWS Certified Solutions Architect** and **AWS Certified Developer**.

The **Humanoid Robots Development Program** at NICHE focuses on creating and programming robots capable of interacting with humans, addressing real-world challenges in industries such as healthcare, education, and customer service.

5. Evidence of Success

One faculty member has successfully attained AWS certification, enhancing the quality of instruction and guidance available to students within the program.

Students from the **BE AI and ML program** have successfully completed the **AWS Machine Learning Foundations course**, gaining valuable skills in machine learning and its application using AWS technologies.

Embedded Robotics Program at NICHE has yielded tangible success in both student development and technological innovation.

Seven students successfully completed **Certificate Course in Embedded Robotics**.

Students developed **two fully functional humanoid robots**, showcasing their ability to apply theoretical knowledge to practical, real-world robotics projects.

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required

High-Performance Computers: Systems with high processing power (preferably with NVIDIA GPUs) to support cloud computing simulations, AI/ML tasks, and practical labs.

Network and Internet Connectivity: High-speed internet to facilitate real-time access to cloud resources and data for both instructors and students.

AI and ML Tools: Software platforms like **MATLAB**, **TensorFlow**, and **ROS (Robot Operating System)** for designing and simulating AI-based robot interactions.

BEST PRACTICE 2:

Title of the Practice

Empowering Society through Distinctive Health Awareness Programs

Objectives of the Practice

- Primary objectives of health awareness programs are to educate individuals on healthy lifestyles, preventive health measures, and specific health conditions.
- To encourage practices such as vaccination, regular screenings, and early detection of diseases to prevent health complications
- Inform individuals about available healthcare services and resources.
- Educate the community about prevalent health conditions, such as diabetes, cardiac issues, cancer and infectious diseases, including symptoms and management.

The Context

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic also affected local communities. NICHE recognized these issues and sought to bridge the gap with comprehensive health awareness programs. Given the diverse socio-economic backgrounds of the local population, tailored approaches are essential for effectively disseminating health information and promoting healthy practices.

The Practice

1. Prevention and Treatment of Tinnitus: The ASLP Department produced an awareness video educating the public about tinnitus, highlighting its causes and management techniques. This initiative helped demystify a lesser-known condition.

2. Cardiovascular Health Awareness: On World Heart Day, the Department of Allied Health Sciences organized a poster presentation themed "Use Heart for Every Heart." Students presented on cardiovascular health, underscoring the importance of heart health while recognizing outstanding contributions in cardiac care and renal dialysis technology.

3. Immunization for Dialysis Patients: Renal Dialysis Technology students conducted an awareness program on immunization, visiting local homes to educate dialysis patients on the importance of vaccines. This initiative was executed in collaboration with the local panchayat.

4. Hearing and Kidney Health Camps: The Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Department organized a two-day free camp focused on preventing hearing loss, while the Allied Health Sciences Department concentrated on kidney disease prevention and management.

Evidence of Success

- **Increased Health Literacy:** Community awareness of tinnitus, cardiovascular health, and immunizations has notably risen, indicating better understanding among participants.
- **Higher Participation:** The campaigns resulted in increased attendance at health screenings and events, particularly in the hearing and kidney health camps, reflecting greater community engagement.
- **Improved Health Practices:** Participants reported adopting healthier lifestyles, including regular check-ups, vaccination adherence, and improved hygiene.
- **Enhanced Collaboration:** Partnerships with local panchayats have strengthened ties, facilitating ongoing health initiatives and support.
- **Student Empowerment:** Involvement in these programs provided students with valuable experience and recognition, fostering responsibility in health advocacy.

Problems Encountered and Resources Required

The support from sister institution, NIMS Medicity, for resources was essential as the University is located in a remote place.

File Description	Document
Best practices as hosted on the Institutional website	View Document

7.3 Institutional Distinctiveness

7.3.1

Portray the performance of the Institution in one area distinctive to its priority and thrust within 1000 words

Response:

Noorul Islam University Student Satellite-NIUSAT

The Noorul Islam Centre for Higher Education (NICHE), located in Tamil Nadu, India, is a prominent institution known for its commitment to fostering technological innovation and excellence. In times of calamity, the total lack of preparedness to tackle and manage the ravages caused by such disasters was a matter of concern. Disaster preparedness, disaster prediction and disaster management became all the more important to countries like India in the wake of the large scale destruction and devastation caused by Tsunami. Therefore, an earnest investigation into the possibilities of prediction of natural calamities became a disturbing botheration with the institution Noorul Islam Centre for Higher Education. The same was discussed with Sri. A. E. Muthunayagam, an expert in Propulsion Technology in Indian Space Programme, ISRO, and the Advisor to NICHE. With such high goals as to protect the lives and properties and even infrastructure during natural disasters, the NICHE, ventured into building and launching a Nano Satellite into space with the support of space organizations of the Indian Government. And this has resulted in the NICHE Nano Satellite Project in alliance with ISRO, Govt. of India. The purpose of building the nano satellite is for disaster mitigation and for developing a disaster management support system to aid the coastal people of the Kanyakumari District of Tamil

NICHE initiated the vital program for Satellite Technology development in association with ISRO and Industries, and established facilities like Clean Room for assembly, integration, testing and check out of the satellite, Ground Station for command and control of orbiting satellite, Mission Control Center for monitoring the health of the orbiting satellite, controlling and receiving data from it, R & D Laboratories for a few subsystems development, and interface with ISRO for launching the Satellite. The students and the members of faculty of NICHE are associated with these activities.

With the able guidance, effective support and direct involvement of Prof. Krishna Swamy, the Project Director of NIUSAT (Former Director ISRO), the NIUSAT MARK I Nano Satellite was designed and developed under ISRO Student Nano Satellite Program for Agriculture and Disaster Monitoring support applications. The imagery from the NIUSAT MARK I would be used for identifying potential agricultural diseases affecting crops in the Kanyakumari District and to provide timely information for the Disaster Management Support Programme.

The Flight Model and Qualification Model were fully integrated and Integrated Functional Test was done in the presence of ISRO experts. The Qualification Level Sine and Random Vibration Test were completed at ISAC, Bangalore and the post Vibration Solar Panel and Antenna Deployment Test was also completed. The Sensors and Actuators were made ready and the AOCS Software was integrated with the OBC and simulations under progress for various modes using the OBC integrated software. The Satellites Communication System UHF, VHF and S Band Antennae were fabricated and realized with the guidance of experts from the ISRO. The payload was realized with the guidance of experts from

SAC, Ahmadabad, and Payload Performance Evaluation Test was completed. The Ground Station at NICHE was also setup with effective Checkout System and the Mission Control Centre was also established.

Through its collaboration with ITCA's Indo-Israeli Nano-satellite Programme, NICHE will be able to leverage the end-to-end life-cycle expertise including design, development, manufacture, integration, testing, launch services facilitation and satellite operations, thereby building a high performance Space-Tech ecosystem at NICHE.

The NIUSAT Qualification Model was successfully completed the Qualification Level Vibration and Thermo Vacuum Testing was successful at ISAC, Bangalore. The Flight Model of the NIUSAT was tested at NICHE Clean Room. The Critical Design Review of the NIUSAT was done.

The satellite was handed over to the then Honourable Governor of Kerala, Justice P. Sadasivam by Dr. A. P. Majeed Khan, Chancellor, NICHE, for launch by ISRO in a Handing Over Ceremony held on 08-10-2016 at Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. It was launched into space from Sri Harikotta, Andhra Pradesh, on 23 June 2017 and put into orbit and started functioning then onwards.

The various subsystems like EPS, PDM, OBC, VHF_Rx, UHF_Tx, S-band_Tx etc. were assembled together to build the complete NIUSAT system. The final fully-assembled NIUSAT was subjected to electrical and functional tests during the integration phase. Various test cases were performed on NIUSAT to confirm that the system was meeting its mission requirement specifications. During the course of testing, test observations/ deviations were logged and analyzed to find the root cause of each issue/deviation. Finally, the suitable corrective actions were carried out in the corresponding subsystems to meet the required specifications.

Union Minister of state for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Electronics and Information Technology and Jal Shakti Dr. Rajeev Chandrasekhar inaugurated the new project NANAJISAT an Environment Pollution Monitoring Satellite on 13th March 2024. It is a Make in India Initiative. It uses State-of-the-art Technology for Environmental Monitoring. NANAJISAT is a reliable space-based observation system to monitor environmental pollution and to predict, mitigate climate change.

The satellite Centre installed in NICHE acts as a research centre for training the faculty and students of NICHE in using Satellite Technology for Agricultural Crop Monitoring and for Disaster Management Support Applications and to impart training to the students in the continuously-evolving areas of satellite technology. NICHE satellite centre provides a globally renowned central research facility to the students at NICHE in the field of Satellite Technology, Satellite Image Processing and Utilizing Satellite Data for Disaster Management Support. One of the center's key initiatives is the development of a series of nanosatellites designed to address societal needs related to disaster monitoring and management. This project will enhance capabilities in real-time data collection and analysis, ultimately supporting timely interventions and more effective disaster response strategies. Through this innovative approach, the center not only advances academic research but also contributes to community resilience and safety.

File Description	Document
Appropriate webpage in the Institutional website	View Document

5. CONCLUSION

Additional Information :

NICHE has been recognized by the Times of India as the 6th Top University and the Best University for Placement in Tamil Nadu in 2023 and 2024. Times of India has recognised the B.B.A programme as the 44th best in the whole of India in 2023.

Funded research projects to the tune of Rs. 133 lakhs are in operation. Teaching-learning process is supplemented by intensive research. Ph.D. Programme of NICHE is offered in strict compliance with the UGC Regulations. In total 593 scholars are currently pursuing their research under 93 guides. One scholar is receiving the Savitribai Jyotirao Phule Fellowship for Single Girl Child (SJS GC) and three scholars are getting INSPIRE Fellowship. Other eligible full-time scholars are paid monthly stipends by NICHE.

NICHE Placement Team has achieved a remarkable 76.7% placement rate, in 2022-23. This incredible achievement was recognized by the Honorable Minister of Water Resources, Kerala State, Shri Roshy Augustine, and the Honorable Minister for Ports, Kerala State.

NICHE has signed 112 MoUs of which 97 are national and 15 were International. During years 2022 to 2024, seventy-six national and eight International MoUs were signed to collaborate with the industries, institutions and HEIs.

In the academic year 2023-24 number of scholarships have been instituted by the management in addition to the central and state Government Scholarships to encourage the talents of the young minds like

- Steve Jobs Scholarship instituted from November 2022 onwards by providing value-added training for eligible students.
- Academic Excellence Scholarship provides 30% of the tuition fee concession.
- NCC, NSS, Scout, and Sports scholarship provides 10 per cent of the fee concession.
- COVID-19 crisis relief scholarship provides with 50 to 100 per cent of the fee concession.
- Differently Abled Student Support scholarship provides fee concessions depending on the need and disabilities.
- A Regional Scholarship of 10 per cent fee concession is provided.
- Sister Institution Scholarship 10% fee concession is provided to the students from sister institutions.
- NICHE also provides support to financially poor / economically challenged +2 students from Jamad offering a scholarship upto 30% tuition fee reduction for eligible +2 students facing financial challenges.

100% scholarship is provided to the students of Waynad whose families were affected by the land slide.

Concluding Remarks :

NICHE has started 11 student clubs to cater to the Literary, Adventure, Music, Dance, Peace, Yoga, Science, Photo, Digital, Coding, Innovation and Environmental interests of the students.

School Connect programme was inaugurated on 4-1-2023 and nearly 12,000 school students visited the campus

to learn about the latest developments in science and technology.

IBM has recognised NICHE as a centre of excellence, Infosys - for the Campus Connect Programme, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) - for add-on training, and Information Communication Technology Academy of Tamil Nadu (ICTACT) - for skill development.

Ms. Aiswarya Krishnan, a postgraduate student in Human Genetics and Molecular Biology, secured an international research internship at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center, USA. Mr. Aadith B Roshan, Mr. Abi Sam, and Mr. Abinesh, third-year B.E. Automobile Engineering students, earned international internships with the Automotive Research Group (ARG) at Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia (UTHM).

On 26-8-2021 NICHE was accredited as a Green University in Platinum Ranking. On 24th September, 2022 NICHE was awarded the International Green University award at the Green School Conference 2022 held in New York USA.

NICHE is a member of the International Association of Universities (IAU), the Association of Indian Universities (AIU) National Academic Depository (NAD) and of National Digital Library (NDL).