

DR. D. Y. PATIL VIDYAPEETH (DPU), PIMPRI, PUNE

(Deemed to be University)

(Accredited (3rd Cycle) by NAAC with a CGPA of 3.64 on four point scale at 'A++' Grade) (Declared as Category - I University by UGC Under Graded Autonomy Regulations, 2018) (An ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001:2015 Certified University)

ANNUAL REPORT OF NON-RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEES



Academic Year 2023-24

ANNUAL REPORT OF NON-RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEES ACADEMIC YEAR: 2023–2024

I. Introduction:

Dr. D.Y. Patil Vidyapeeth (DPU), Pimpri, Pune, a premier higher education institution accredited with an 'A++' grade by NAAC and granted Category–I status by the UGC, has always prioritized ethical, inclusive, and transparent governance across all its academic and administrative functions. Aligned with national regulatory frameworks (UGC, AICTE, and other statutory bodies), DPU has constituted several Non-Research Ethics Committees to safeguard stakeholder rights, promote equality, and ensure a harassment-free, nondiscriminatory academic environment.

This annual report presents a comprehensive overview of the constitution, initiatives, meetings, and outcomes of these statutory bodies functioning across DPU and its constituent colleges during the academic year 2023–24.

II. Committees Covered Under the Report:

- 1. Bioethics Unit
- 2. Students' Grievance Redressal Committee (SGRC)
- 3. Grievance Redressal Committee for Staff
- 4. Internal Committee for Students with Disabilities
- 5. Internal Committee for Prevention of Sexual Harassment (POSH)
- 6. Gender Sensitization Committee & Equal Opportunity Cell (EOC)
- 7. Vidyapeeth Anti-Ragging Committee & Anti-Ragging Squad
- 8. Anti-Discrimination and SC/ST/OBC Committee (ADC)
- 9. Minority Committee

III. Detailed Committee-Wise Reports

1.Bioethics Unit

The Bioethics Unit of Dr. D. Y. Patil Vidyapeeth, Pimpri, Pune, functions under the auspices of the International Chair in Bioethics (WMA Cooperation Centre). As a recognized member of the global bioethics network, it promotes awareness, sensitivity, and ethical education across all health science disciplines.

- **Objective**: To foster ethical awareness and professional responsibility among students, faculty, and healthcare providers.
- Meetings Conducted: Six meetings (June 2023 and August 2024)

Key outcomes:

- o Orientation and training sessions for UG and PG students in medicine, nursing, physiotherapy, dentistry, and Ayurved.
- o Webinars and lectures by national and international bioethics experts.
- o Curriculum integration of bioethical principles in clinical and academic settings.
- o Interdisciplinary forums to discuss ethical challenges in modern healthcare.
- o Observation of World Bioethics Day and institutional campaigns.

2. Students' Grievance Redressal Committee (SGRC)

- **Objective**: To resolve academic and administrative grievances of students in a time-bound and transparent manner as per UGC's Redressal of Grievances Regulations, 2023.
- Meetings Conducted: Two official meetings (June 2023 and August 2024)

• Key Outcomes:

- o Complete implementation of grievance handling through ERP dashboards.
- Strengthening mentor-mentee channels and surprise inspections for informal grievance mapping.
- o Committee information displayed prominently in all campuses.
- o Zero major grievances reported; minor issues resolved promptly.

Constituent Unit Example:

Dr. D. Y. Patil College of Nursing conducted multiple grievance redressal meetings, planned annual awareness programs, and structured a detailed grievance resolution flowchart for student clarity.

3. Grievance Redressal Committee for Staff

- **Objective**: To provide staff members with a fair platform to voice concerns and receive redressal.
- Chairperson: Dr. D. B. Sharma
- Key Resolutions:
 - o Implementation of ERP-based email grievance mechanism.
 - o Creation of physical grievance submission points across colleges.
 - Zero pendency status maintained.
 - Staff sensitization via periodic awareness drives.

4. Internal Committee for Students with Disabilities

- **Objective**: To ensure accessible infrastructure, assistive learning tools, and inclusivity for students with disabilities.
- Chairperson: Dr. G. H. Yeola
- Key Initiatives:
 - o Collaboration with NGOs for awareness and training.
 - o Audits for ramps, lifts, signage, and audio-visual aids across campuses.
 - o Inclusion of stakeholders (disabled students and parents) in committee reconstitution.

5. Internal Complaint Committee (ICC) for Prevention of Sexual Harassment (POSH)

- **Objective**: To create and maintain a safe and respectful environment, free from sexual harassment.
- Chairperson (University Level): Dr. Minal Wani
- College-Level Committees: Example Optometry (Dr. Neeta Mishra); Nursing (Dr. Khurshid Jamadar)
- Key Actions:
 - o Mandatory POSH orientation for freshers and faculty.
 - Anonymous reporting and escalation through ERP.
 - o Monthly monitoring and feedback analysis.
 - No sexual harassment complaints reported during the period.

6. Gender Sensitization Committee & Equal Opportunity Cell

- **Objective**: To promote gender equity, awareness, and inclusion of underrepresented groups.
- Monitoring Body: IQAC with institutional nodal officers.
- Activities Conducted:
 - Observance of International Women's Day, Women's Health Awareness, and Gender Equity Seminars.
 - o Appointment of gender champions (student leaders) in every college.
 - Collection of department-wise reports on sensitization efforts.
 - No gender-based grievances recorded.

7. Vidyapeeth Monitoring Cell on Ragging

A. Anti-Ragging Committee

B. Anti-Ragging Squad

- Objective: To prevent any form of ragging and maintain psychological safety on campus.
- **Structure**: Includes administrative staff, faculty, police representatives, parents, senior and junior students.

• Major Activities:

- o Biannual formal meetings and regular surprise visits by squads.
- o Affidavits of anti-ragging compliance collected online from students and parents.
- o Ragging awareness sessions conducted during orientation week.
- o Zero ragging incidents reported; all campuses maintain strict compliance.

8. Anti-Discrimination and SC/ST/OBC Committee (ADC)

 Objective: To prevent caste-based, community-based or religion-based discrimination and support marginalized groups.

• Activities:

- o Committee contact information prominently displayed in departments.
- o No discrimination complaints received during the year.
- o Celebrated Constitution Day and Ambedkar Jayanti to foster awareness.
- o Student and staff sensitization sessions on constitutional rights and dignity.
- Integration with ERP system for grievance submission and tracking.

9. Minority Committee

- Chairperson: Dr. Veshal Madan
- **Objective**: To ensure representation, welfare, and grievance redressal of minority students.
- Major Activities:
 - o Interaction meetings with minority students held biannually.
 - No complaints reported.
 - Feedback collected to improve representation and inclusivity.

IV. Summary Table of Committee Activities (2023–24)

Committee	Meetings Held	Major Outcomes
Bioethics Unit	6	Integration of bioethical principles
SGRC (Students)	2+	ERP grievance system, zero pendency
Staff GRC	1	Awareness, ERP escalation mechanism
Disability Committee	2	Infrastructure audits, inclusive policies
POSH	2+	Policy visibility, ERP-based reporting
Gender Sensitization	3+	Gender equity events, student champions
Anti-Ragging	2 per college	Affidavits filed, surprise inspections
Anti-Discrimination	1+	No grievances, awareness sessions
Minority Committee	2	Student support and representation

V. Recommendations for AY 2024–25

- 1. **Central Dashboard Monitoring**: Unified ethics dashboard for all committee reports and complaint logs.
- 2. Quarterly Compliance Reviews: Mandate each committee to submit quarterly action reports.
- 3. Cross-Committee Collaboration: Annual Ethics Confluence for sharing best practices.
- 4. **Annual Ethics Awareness Week**: Celebrate a university-wide event promoting ethics and dignity.
- 5. **Outreach to Local Communities**: Partner with NGOs for extended sensitization initiatives.

VI. Conclusion

Multi-committee approach of Dr. D.Y. Patil Vidyapeeth (DPU), Pimpri, Pune has proven instrumental in nurturing a safe, ethical, and inclusive environment across its diverse academic landscape. The University remains steadfast in its commitment to upholding the dignity, rights, and well-being of its students and staff through participatory governance and proactive ethics enforcement.

