

JAWAHARLAL NEHRU UNIVERSITY

Right to Information Act, 2005 Manual 1

Particulars of University's organization, functions and duties

[Section 4 (1) (b) (i)]

Jawaharlal Nehru University is a body corporate set up by an Act of Parliament called the Jawaharlal Nehru University Act, 1966 (53 of 1966). The University was formally inaugurated on 14th November 1969. The University is primarily an Institution of higher learning devoted to teaching and research, focusing on a multidisciplinary approach. The very Nehruvian objectives embedded in the founding of the University, viz., national integration, social justice, secularism, the democratic way of life, international understanding and scientific approach to the problems of society has built into it constant and energetic endeavour to renew knowledge through self questioning. The University has adopted as its Moto the famous visionary statement by Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru, after whose name the University has been named as a befitting tribute in his memory that clearly brings out the role of a University, viz.:

“A University stands for humanism, for tolerance, for reason, for the adventure of ideas and for the search of truth. It stands for the onward march of the human race towards ever-higher objectives. If the Universities discharge their duties adequately, then it is well with the nation and the people”.

The University draws students from every nook and corner of the country and from every group and stratum of society, ensuring representation of underprivileged and weaker sections of the society. It also attracts students from around the globe. The University also serves as a think tank for the country.

Objects

The objects of the University shall be to disseminate and advance knowledge, wisdom and understanding by teaching and research and by example and influence of its corporate life and in particular the objects set out in the First Schedule, namely:

The University shall endeavour to promote the study of the principles for which Jawaharlal Nehru worked during his lifetime, national integration, social justice, secularism, democratic way of life, international understanding and scientific approach to the problems of society.

Towards this end, the University shall: –

- (i) foster the composite culture of India and establish such departments or institutions as may be required for the study and development of the languages, arts and culture of India;
- (ii) take special measures to facilitate students and teachers from all over India to join the University and participate in its academic programmes;

- (iii) promote in the students and teachers an awareness and understanding of the social needs of the country and prepare them for fulfilling such needs;
- (iv) make special provision for integrated courses in humanities, science and technology in the educational programmes of the University;
- (v) take appropriate measures for promoting interdisciplinary studies in the University;
- (vi) establish such departments or institutions as may be necessary for the study of languages, literature and life of foreign countries with a view to inculcating in the students a world perspective and international understanding;
- (vii) provide facilities for students and teachers from other countries to participate in the academic programmes and life of the University.

Powers/functions of the University

The University shall have the following powers, namely:

- (1) to provide for instruction including the method of correspondence courses in such branches of learning as the University may from time to time determine, and to make provision for research and for the advancement and dissemination of knowledge;
- (2) to establish within the Union Territory of Delhi or outside that territory such Special Centres and Specialised Laboratories and such other units for research and instruction as are necessary for the furtherance of its objects;
- (3) to organize and to undertake extramural teaching and extension services;
- (4) to hold examinations and grant diplomas or certificates to, and confer degrees and other academic distinctions on, persons and to withdraw any such diplomas, certificates, degrees or other academic distinctions for good and sufficient cause;
- (5) to confer honorary degrees or other academic distinctions in the manner laid down in the Statutes;
- (6) to create such teaching, administrative and other posts as University may deem necessary, from time to time, and to make appointments thereto;
- (7) to appoint or recognize persons as Professors, Readers or Lecturers or otherwise as teachers of the University;
- (8) to institute and award Fellowships, Scholarships, Exhibitions and prizes;
- (9) to establish and maintain Colleges and Halls, to recognize, guide, supervise and control Halls not maintained by the University and other accommodation for students, and to withdraw any such recognition;
- (10) to regulate and enforce discipline among students and employees of the University and to take such disciplinary measures in this regard as maybe deemed necessary;

- (11) to make arrangements for promoting health and general welfare of students and employees of the University;
- (12) to determine and provide for examinations for admission into the University;
- (13) to recognize for any purpose, either in whole or in part, any institution or members or students thereof on such terms and conditions as may from time to time, be prescribed and to withdraw such recognition;
- (14) to cooperate with any other University, authority or association or any other public or private body having in view the promotion of purposes and objects similar to those of the University for such purposes as may be agreed upon, on such terms and conditions as may from time to time, be prescribed;
- (15) to enter into any agreement for the incorporation in the University of any other institution and for taking over its rights, properties and liabilities and for any other purpose not repugnant to this Act;
- (16) to demand and receive payment of such fees and other charges as may be prescribed, from time to time;
- (17) to receive donations and to acquire, hold, manage and dispose of any property movable or immovable, including trust or endowed property within or outside the Union territory of Delhi, for the purposes or objects of the University, and to invest funds in such manner as the University thinks fit;
- (18) to make provision for research and advisory services; and for that purpose to enter into such arrangements with other institutions or bodies as the University may deem necessary;
- (19) to provide for the printing, reproduction and publication of research and other work which maybe issued by the University;
- (20) to borrow, with the approval of the Central Government, on the security of the University property, money for the purposes of the University;
- (21) to do all such things as may be necessary, incidental or conducive to the attainment of all or any of the objects of the University.

Administrative Structure:

The administrative structure of the University is decentralized. The academic autonomy rests with Schools and Centres; overall decision making on course contents, curriculum, academic matters, rests with Boards of Studies, Special Committees, and Committee for Advanced Studies and Research (CASR) subject to approval by the Academic Council wherever prescribed. There are Nine Schools, viz.

- (i) School of Social Sciences
- (ii) School of Language, Literature and Culture Studies
- (iii) School of Life Sciences
- (iv) School of Computer and Systems Sciences
- (v) School of Environmental Sciences
- (vi) School of Arts and Aesthetics (SA&A)
- (vii) School of Physical Sciences
- (viii) School of International Studies

- (ix) School of Computational and Integrative Sciences (SC&IS)
- (x) School of Biotechnology and

Four Special Centres i.e.:

- (i) Centre for Molecular Medicine
- (ii) Centre for Sanskrit Studies
- (iii) Centre for the Study of Law and Governance
- (iv) Special Centre for Nano Sciences

Barring Science Schools and SA&A, each school is having Centres. For smooth functioning, schools are under the administrative & academic control of Dean at the School level and Chairperson of Centre including Special Centre at Centre level.

The Vice Chancellor is the Chief Executive and Academic Officer of the University exercising overall control on Administration, Finance and Academic activities through Deans of Schools/Chairpersons of Special Centres/Chief Proctor/Registrar/ Librarian/Finance Officer/Coordinator (Evaluation)/Director Academic Staff College, and so on. The Organizational Chart of the University is given in Annexure I.

Location:

The University is located in a serene locale of hills, valleys and ravines of Aravallies; part of the Delhi ridge in South Delhi, outer boundaries marked by Baba Gangnath Marg on the North, Aruna Asaf Ali Road on the East and Nelson Mandela Road on the West. Entry for general public to the University is through its North Gate opposite to Munirka Village. Telephone Nos. of various functionaries of the University are given in the Telephone Directory in Manual 9.

Office timing and Vacations:

The University has adopted 5 days a week office functioning having office hours from 9.00 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays are off days. The University observes holidays as per Central Govt. Calendar. The University has Semester System, Monsoon Semester (22 July to 5 December) and Winter Semester (6 January to 12 May). The vacations are observed as follows:

Summer Vacation : 13th May to 21st July

Winter Vacation : 06th December to 05th January

Redressal of Grievances

For redressal of grievances of its employees & students, separate grievance redressal machinery is provided by the University. The issues regarding Gender Sensitisation are looked into by a committee on GSCASH. (For details, please see Manual 5 under Right to Information Act). The matter relating to welfare of SC/STs is looked after by 'Equal opportunity office'.

Public Interface:

The Public interface is available through the Public Relations Officer of the University, who can be contacted on telephone number 26704046; email pro@mail.jnu.ac.in

JNU Map: The Map of the University placed at [AnnexureII](#)

Organisation Chart