

# **Nallamuthu Gounder Mahalingam College**

(An Autonomous Institution, Affiliated to Bharathiar University) 90, Palghat Road, Pollachi - 642001, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, India. 95<sup>th</sup> Rank in NIRF – 2023 - Among Colleges in India.



### IPR POLICY

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#### 1. Policy Statement

NGM is dedicated to fostering, safeguarding, overseeing, and capitalizing on Intellectual Property (IP) in alignment with its fundamental objectives of teaching, Research and community service. Embracing the ethos of supporting commercialization and utilization of IP, NGM acknowledges the potential for garnering recognition and generating revenue for both the institution and the Innovative minds behind the creations. This commitment is undertaken with due regard for traditional academic values and expectations, ensuring a balance between advancing commercial interests and upholding the core principles of academic pursuit and societal contribution. Intellectual property serves as a crucial factor in gaining a competitive advantage, encompassing tangible assets such as inventions, designs, software, brand identity, and innovative concepts. Safeguarding these creations is essential to facilitate organizations in gaining acknowledgment and financial gains. The foundation of this intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Policy rests on the necessity to cultivate understanding regarding the significance of IPRs as valuable financial assets and economic instruments among the researchers, faculty, and students of this institution. Furthermore, an effective IPR policy fosters a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship by incentivizing individuals to invest in research and development activities, knowing that their intellectual assets will be protected and commercially viable.

This, in turn, can lead to the creation of new products, services, and industries, driving economic growth and competitiveness. It serves as a cornerstone for building a knowledge-based economy where intellectual property rights are respected, valued and leveraged for sustainable development.

### 2. Scope of the policy

The scope of this policy encompasses all individuals affiliated with NGM, including both internal personnel (regular or contractual) and external personnel engaged in any NGM-related activities. This includes, but is not limited to, research outcomes, consultancy projects, or continuing education programs. The policy applies to various categories of Intellectual Property (IP), including Patents, Designs, Trade Marks/Service Marks, Copyright, Trade Secrets, and Undisclosed Information. This broad applicability ensures that all stakeholders involved in NGM's endeavors adhere to the principles and guidelines outlined in the policy regarding the creation, protection, and management of intellectual property assets.

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### 3. Need for IPR Policy

- 1. Encouraging Innovation: An IPR policy encourages innovation among students, faculty, and researchers by providing a framework for protecting and commercializing their creative works.
- 2. Protection of Intellectual Property: It ensures that the intellectual property generated within the institution, such as research findings, inventions, and creative works, is properly protected from unauthorized use or infringement.
- 3. Fostering Collaboration: Clear guidelines on intellectual property rights promote collaboration between academia and industry by delineating ownership and rights to jointly developed intellectual property.
- 4. Attracting Funding and Talent: Institutions with robust IPR policies are more attractive to funding agencies and talented individuals, as they provide assurance that intellectual property rights will be respected and managed effectively.
- 5. Contributing to Economic Growth: By facilitating the commercialization of intellectual property, educational institutions can contribute to economic growth and societal development through the creation of new products, services, and technologies.
- 6. Educational Awareness: An IPR policy also serves an educational purposely raising awareness among students, faculty, and staff about the importance of intellectual property rights, fostering a culture of respect for creativity and innovation.

### 4. Objectives

Foster an environment at NGM conducive to the development of intellectual properties (IPs), nurturing innovation and creativity among students, faculty, and researchers. Establish a streamlined reference system serving as a single point of access for all IP related activities originating from both internal and external endeavors on behalf of NGM. Ensure the protection of inventors' intellectual property while promoting a culture of fair IP management, providing appropriate incentives to stakeholders involved. Offer legal assistance as needed or feasible to uphold and defend the intellectual property rights secured by NGM against any instances of infringement or unauthorized usage.

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Implement protocols to safeguard confidential information pertaining to IP exploration, requiring inventors to disclose such endeavors to the institute while maintaining confidentiality until patent applications are in progress. Facilitate the advantageous utilization of developed IPs by NGM for the benefit of inventors, the institution, and the broader national interests, promoting innovation driven Progress and societal welfare.

#### 5. Proprietorship of IP

#### Self-funded Research

All investigations are conducted at NGM utilizing the resources, the intellectual property rights resulting from such research shall be owned solely by NGM. Exceptions to this ownership occur when the investigations involve joint efforts with other institutions or agencies, or when conducted under the sponsorship of an external agency, where the utilization of NGM resources may not be explicitly evident.

#### Collaborative Research

In the case of collaborative research endeavors undertaken jointly by NGM with external industries, organizations, agencies, or individuals, the Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) pertaining to inventions resulting from such collaborations shall be jointly owned by NGM and the respective collaborators. However, the ownership of IP shall be subject to the specific provisions outlined in contracts or agreements governing the collaborative activities. The costs associated with filing for IPR, maintaining IPR, and generating revenue from its commercial exploitation shall be shared between NGM and the collaborators based on a predetermined formula agreed upon. If collaborators are unwilling or unable to share the associated costs, NGM reserves the discretion to independently fund the filing and maintenance of IPR. In such cases, the distribution of revenue derived from the commercialization of IP shall be determined based on the terms agreed upon in the respective agreements. Intellectual Property (IP) generated during undergraduate or postgraduate project work and Ph.D., research will involve joint filing for IP rights by the inventors (faculty guide and students) in collaboration with NGM. In cases where project work, Ph.D., research, or internships are conducted collaboratively with external industries, organizations, agencies, individuals, or startups, the IP rights will be jointly owned by the inventors (faculty guide and students) along with NGM and the respective collaborators. Under special circumstances, determined on a case-by-case basis and subject to recommendations from the Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Management

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Committee, ownership of IP technology owned by NGM may be conditionally transferred to inventors or startup companies. This transfer aims to leverage government incentives promoting innovation and entrepreneurship culture, thereby facilitating the utilization of benefits for the advancement of innovation initiatives.

The Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Evaluation Committee will be responsible for determining whether and where to file an IP. Upon the decision to protect the creative work, the Committee will appoint an IPR Advisor/Patent Attorney to draft the IP application. The inventor(s) will collaborate by providing essential inputs to aid in the drafting process. NGM will cover the expenses associated with drafting and filing the Indian IP application.

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