

**MINUTES OF THE SIXTY SECOND MEETING
OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL**

**VENUE :VIVEKANANDA HALL
GANDHIGRAM RURAL INSTITUTE (DTBU)
GANDHIGRAM**

DATE : 18.03.2026

TIME : 10.30 A.M.



**THE GANDHIGRAM RURAL INSTITUTE
(Deemed to be University)
GANDHIGRAM - 624 302, DINDIGUL DISTRICT
TAMIL NADU**

**THE GANDHIGRAM RURAL INSTITUTE
(Deemed to be University)
GANDHIGRAM**

**MINUTES OF THE 62nd MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL
HELD ON 18.03.2026 AT 10.30 A.M. AT VIVEKANANDA HALL
GANDHIGRAM RURAL INSTITUTE (DTBU), GANDHIGRAM**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sl.No.	Name	Membership
1.	Dr.N.Panchanatham Vice-Chancellor Gandhigram Rural Institute (DTBU) Gandhigram.	Chairperson
2.	Dr.S.Balasundari Dean, School of English and Foreign Languages	Member
3.	Dr. S.Shaji Dean, School of Tamil, Indian Languages and Rural Arts	Member
4.	Dr.K.S.Nakkeeran Dean, School of Social Sciences	Member
5.	Dr.R.Venkataravi Dean, School of Health Sciences and Rural Development	Member
6.	Dr.M.Sundaramari Dean, School of Agriculture and Animal Sciences	Member
7.	Dr.P.Kalavathi Dean, School of Computer Science & Technologies & Director i/c., Centre for Rural Technology	Member
8.	Dr.B.Tamilmani Dean, School of Management Studies & Head, Department of Cooperation	Member
9.	Dr.P.U.Mahalingam Head, Department of Biology and Director, IQAC	Member
10.	Dr.G.Mahadevan Head, Department of Mathematics	Member
11.	Dr.K.K.Satheeshkumar Head, Department of Chemistry	Member
12.	Dr.R.I.Sathya Head, Department of Home Science and Director, DDU-KK	Member
13.	Dr.K.Marimuthu Head, Department of Physics	Member
14.	Dr.P.Kalavathi Head, Department of Computer Science and Applications	Member
15.	Dr.L.Rathakrishnan Head, Department of Rural Industries and Management	Member
16.	Dr.B.Tamilmani, Head, Department of Cooperation	Member
17.	Dr.M.Hilaria Soundari Head, Department of Applied Research	Member

18.	Dr.P.Anandakumar Head, Department of Tamil	Member
19.	Dr.Sonkhogin Haokip Head, Dept. of Political Science & Development Administration	Member
20.	Dr.K.Manikandan Head, Department of Economics	Member
21.	Dr.R.Venkataravi Head i/c., Department of Lifelong Learning and Extension	Member
22.	Dr.P.S.Sreedevi Head, Department of Education	Member
23.	Dr.Khandare Chandu Laxman Head, Department of Hindi	Member
24.	Dr.P.Anandharajakumar Head in-charge, Department of Rural Development	Member
25.	Dr.R.Kumaran Head in-charge, Department of Sociology	Member
26.	Dr.R.Mani Head in-charge, Dept. of Gandhian Thought & Peace Science	Member
27.	Dr.M.R.Rajan Head in-charge, Department of Rural Health and Sanitation	Member
28.	Dr.V.Kirubakaran Director In-charge, Centre for Rural Energy	Member
29.	Dr.S.Shaji Director in-charge, Centre for Malayalam Studies	
30.	Dr.B.Gurugnanam Director In-charge, Centre for Applied Geology	Member
31.	Dr.M.Muthukumar Director In-charge, Centre for Geoinformatics	Member
32.	Dr.R.Venkataravi Director i/c., Centre for Lifelong Learning	Member
33.	Dr.N.Devaki, Director in-charge, Centre for Future Studies	Member
34.	Dr.B.Sangeethavani Director in-charge, Centre for Rural Technology	Member
35.	Dr.P.Vickraman Professor, Department of Physics	Member
36.	Dr.G.S.Kannan Senior Professor, School of Agriculture & Animal Sciences	Member
37.	Dr.K.Ravichandran Senior Professor, Department of Cooperation	Member
38.	Dr.K.Raja Pranmalai Senior Professor, Department of Rural Industries & Management	Member
39.	Dr.G.Baskaran Senior Professor, School of English and Foreign Languages	Member
40.	Dr.K.P.Elango Senior Professor, Department of Chemistry	Member
41.	Dr.O.Muthiah Senior Professor, Department of Tamil	Member
42.	Dr.R.Uthayakumar Senior Professor, Department of Mathematics AndDirctor(Academic), GRI.	Member
43.	Dr.P.Shanmugavadivu Senior Professor, Dept. of Computer Science & Applications	Member

44.	Dr.H.Samuel Thavaraj Associate Professor, Department of RIM	Member
45.	Ms.G.Vidya Assistant Professor, School of English and Foreign Languages	Member
46.	Dr.K.Tharanikkarasu Professor Department of Chemistry Pondicherry University Pondicherry – 605 014.	Member
47.	Dr.M.Sundaramari Registrar in-charge Gandhigram Rural Institute Gandhigram.	Ex-Officio Secretary
48.	Dr.K.S.Pushpa, Controller of Examinations i/c., GRI	Special Invitee
49.	Dr.S.Meenakshi, Director, Research and Development	Special Invitee
50.	Dr.R.Uthayakumar, Director (Academic)/Coordinator, CBCS/NEP	Special Invitee
51.	Dr.S.S.Vijayanchai, Director i/c., Centre for Women Studies	Special Invitee
52.	Dr.R.I.Sathya, Director, DDU-KK	Special Invitee
53.	Dr.N.Palaniappan, Director, Computer Centre	Special Invitee
54.	Dr.C.Sugumar, Director of Physical Education and Yoga Centre	Special Invitee
55.	Dr.C.Pitchai, Professor incharge of Library	Special Invitee
56.	Dr.A.Balakrishnan, OSD to Vice-Chancellor	Special Invitee
57.	Dr.T.David Jeyaraj Franklin, Associate Professor	Special Invitee

The following members could not attend the meeting of the Academic Council:

1	Dr.P.Balasubramaniam Dean, School of Sciences	Member
2	Dr.S.Manivel, Senior Professor, Department of Cooperation	Member
3	Dr.B.Baskar Associate Professor, Dept. of Cooperation	Member
4	Dr.R.T.Balamurali Assistant Professor, Centre for Rural Technology	Member
5	Prof.G.Ravi Vice-Chancellor Alagappa University Karaikudi – 630 003.	Member
6	Prof.V.Bharathi Harishankar Vice-Chancellor Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women Coimbatore – 641 043.	Member

The meeting started with one minute prayer at 10.30 a.m.

The Registrar i/c., welcomed the Vice-Chancellor and members for the meeting.

The Chairperson welcomed the members and thanked them for being available for the meeting for interaction during the meeting. He introduced the external member to the council and also he welcomed both internal and external members to the meeting.

The Vice-Chancellor presented the report of activities held between the previous Academic Council and the present Academic Council. He highlighted various achievements of the Institute such as historical achievement of A++ Grade by GRI from NAAC (4th Cycle of accreditation), awards won by our faculties, MoUs signed, CSR Funds received, Endowment fund received etc.

The agenda for the meeting was taken up for discussion.

1. **Item No.1108/AC.2026.III**

To confirm the minutes of the Sixty First (61st) meeting of the Academic Council held on 15.07.2025.

The Academic Council confirmed the minutes of the Sixty First meeting of the Academic Council held on 15.07.2025.

2. **Item No.1109/AC.2026.III**

To consider and approve the report of the Registrar on the action taken on the resolutions passed by the 61st Academic Council at its meeting held on 15.07.2025.

The Academic Council considered and resolved to approve the report of the Registrar on the action taken on the resolutions passed by the 61st Academic Council at its meeting held on 15.07.2025.

3. **Item No.1110/AC.2026.III**

To consider and ratify the action taken on the Minutes of the meeting of the Selection Committee for GRI Research Fellowship for the academic year 2025-2026.

The Academic Council considered and ratified the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor on the minutes of the meeting of the Selection Committee for GRI Research Fellowship for the academic year 2025-2026 held on 03.11.2025.

4. **Item No.1111/AC.2026.III**

To consider and approve the minutes of the meeting of the Committee constituted to decide the status of the Centre for Indian Culture & Rural Arts as Statutory or Non-Statutory held on 03.12.2025.

Dr.P.Anandakumar, Head, Department of Tamil presented the minutes of the meeting of the Committee.

The Academic Council directed to place a separate agenda in the ensuing Board of Management.

5. **Item No.1112/AC.2026.III**

To consider and approve the minutes of the Prospectus-cum-Fee Revision Committee held on 05.08.2025 & 21.11.2025 with ratification for implementation of the revised fee structure in the academic year 2026-27.

Dr.R.Uthayakumar, Director (Academic) presented the agenda.

The Academic Council considered and ratified the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor on the minutes of the Prospectus-cum-Fee Revision Committee held on 05.08.2025 and approved the minutes of the meeting of the Prospectus-cum-Fee Revision Committee held on 21.11.2025 for revising the fee structure for the Academic Year 2026-27.

Further, the collection of Course Development Fee is exempted for the M.A. Tamil and Indian Literature programme.

Further, the Academic Council authorized the Vice-Chancellor to constitute a committee to decide about the implementation of collection of discontinuation fee of Rs.3,00,000/- from those who discontinue the B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture programme 45 days after the commencement of the programme.

6. Item No.1113/AC.2026.III

To consider and approve the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies of the Centre for Applied Geology held on 07.01.2026.

Dr.B.Gurugnanam, Director, Centre for Applied Geology presented the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies of the Centre for Applied Geology held on 07.01.2026.

The Academic Council resolved to entrust item No.1 & 2 of the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies of the Centre for Applied Geology to a Committee to be constituted to look into the reorganization of Schools/Departments/Centres, but approved the change in Eligibility Condition for admission to B.Sc. Geology (Hons.).

7. Item No.1114/AC.2026.III

To consider and approve the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies of the Centre for Rural Technology held on 07.01.2026.

Dr.B.Sangeethavani, Director i/c., Centre for Rural Technology presented the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies of the Centre for Rural Technology held on 07.01.2026 and seconded by Dr.K.S.Nakkeeran, Dean, School of Social Sciences, GRI.

The Academic Council considered and approved the minutes of the meeting of Board of Studies of the Centre for Rural Technology held on 07.01.2026 for implementing the same from 2025-26.

8. Item No.1115/AC.2026.III

To consider and approve the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies of the School of Agriculture and Animal Sciences held on 26.12.2025.

Dr.M.Sundaramari, Senior Professor & Dean, School of Agriculture and Animal Science presented the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies of the School of Agriculture and Animal Science held on 26.12.2025 and it was seconded by Dr.B.Gurugnanam, Senior Professor, Centre for Applied Geology, GRI.

The Academic Council considered and resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting of Board of Studies of the School of Agriculture and Animal Science held on 26.12.2025.

9. Item No.1116/AC.2026.III

To consider and approve the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies for the Department of Education held on 18.12.2025.

Dr.P.S.Sreedevi, Head, Department of Education presented the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies of the Department of Education held on 18.12.2025 and it was seconded by Dr.K.Marimuthu, Head, Department of Physics, GRI.

The Academic Council considered and resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting of Board of Studies of the Department of Education held on 18.12.2025.

10. Item No.1117/AC.2026.III

To consider and approve the Minutes of the meeting of the School of English and Foreign Languages for Restructuring of the School of English and Foreign Languages held on 07.01.2026.

Dr.T.David Jeyaraj Franklin, Assistant Professor, School of English and Foreign Languages presented the minutes of the meeting of the School of English and Foreign Languages held on 07.01.2026.

The Academic Council resolved to refer the above minutes to a Committee to be constituted to look into the reorganization of Schools/Departments/Centres.

11. Item No.1118/AC.2026.III

To consider and approve the minutes of the meeting of the Committee to fix modalities for awarding medals and rank certificates to the students held on 11.02.2026 during convocation.

Dr.K.S.Pushpa, Controller of Examinations i/c., presented the minutes of the meeting to fix modalities for awarding medals and rank certificates to the students held on 11.02.2026.

The Academic Council considered and approved the minutes of the meeting of the committee to fix modalities for awarding medals and rank certificates to the students held on 11.02.2026.

12. Item No.1119/AC.2026.III

To consider and approve the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies for the Department of Rural Health and Sanitation held on 04.02.2026 through phone discussion and email circulation.

Dr.M.R.Rajan, Head i/c., Department of Rural Health and Sanitation presented the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies of the Department of Rural Health and Sanitation held on 04.02.2026 and it was seconded by Dr.R.Venkataravi, Senior Professor & Dean, School of Health Sciences and Rural Development, GRI.

The Academic Council considered and resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting of Board of Studies of the Department of Rural Health and Sanitation held on 04.02.2026.

13. Item No.1120/AC.2026.III

To consider and approve the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies for the Diploma in Two Wheeler Mechanism and Maintenance held on 16.02.2026 through hybrid mode.

Dr.R.Venkataravi, Head i/c., Department of Lifelong Learning and Extension presented the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies of the Diploma in Two Wheeler Mechanism and Maintenance held on 16.02.2026 through hybrid mode and it was seconded by Dr.S.S.Vijayanchali, Professor, Department of Home Science, GRI.

The Academic Council considered and resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting of Board of Studies of the Diploma in Two Wheeler Mechanism and Maintenance held on 16.02.2026.

14. Item No.1121/AC.2026.III

To consider and approve the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies for the Department of Gandhian Thought and Peace Science held on 21.01.2026.

Dr.R.Mani, Head in-charge, Department of Gandhian Thought and Peace Science presented the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies of the Department of Gandhian Thought and Peace Science held on 21.01.2026 and it was seconded by

Dr.K.S.Nakkeeran, Senior Professor, Department of Political Science & Development Administration, GRI.

The Academic Council considered and approved the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies of the Department of Gandhian Thought and Peace Science except the nomenclature of the programme which has to be renamed as per UGC eligible listed programmes by conducting the Board of Studies and getting approval for the minutes of the Board of Studies from Chairperson i.e. Vice-Chancellor & ratification in the ensuing Academic Council meeting.

Based on the resolution of Academic Council, it was referred and verified. Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University of UGC approved & is offering B.A. Gandhian Social Work. Therefore, B.A. Gandhian Social Work is approved to be re-introduced from this 2026-27 academic year.

15. Item No.1122/AC.2026.III

To consider and approve the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies for the Department of Applied Research held on 18.02.2026.

Dr.M. Hilaria Soundari, Head, Department of Applied Research presented the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies for the Department of Applied Research held on 18.02.2026 and it was seconded by Dr.R.I.Sathya, Senior Professor, Department of Home Science, GRI.

The Academic Council considered and resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting of Board of Studies of the Department of Applied Research held on 18.02.2026.

16. Item No.1123/AC.2026.III

To consider and approve the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies in Physical Education and Yoga held on 23.01.2026.

Dr.C.Sugumar, Director & Head, Department of Physical Education & Yoga presented the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies for the Department of Physical Education & Yoga held on 23.01.2026 and it was seconded by Dr.K.Raja Prannmalai, Senior Professor, Department of Rural Industries and Management, GRI.

The Academic Council considered and resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting of Board of Studies of the Department of Physical Education & Yoga held on 23.01.2026.

17. Item No.1124/AC.2026.III

To consider and ratify the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor on the minutes of the meeting of Examination Reforms Advisory Committee (ERAC) held on 17.02.2026 & 23.02.2026.

Dr.K.S.Pushpa, Controller of Examinations i/c., presented the minutes of the meeting of the Examination Reforms Advisory Committee (ERAC) held on 17.02.2026 & 23.02.2026 and it was seconded by Dr.S.Meenakshi, Senior Professor, Department of Chemistry, GRI.

The Academic Council considered and resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting of Examination Reforms Advisor Committee (ERAC) held on 17.02.2026 & 23.02.2026.

Further, the Academic Council resolved to constitute a committee to compare all other Universities and frame new pattern of question paper for End Semester Examination.

18. Item No.1125/AC.2026.III

To consider and approve the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies in Physical Education and Yoga held on 06.03.2026.

Dr.C.Sugumar, Director & Head, Department of Physical Education & Yoga presented the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies for the Department of Physical Education & Yoga held on 06.03.2026 and it was seconded by Dr.K.Manikandan, Professor, Department of Economics, GRI.

The Academic Council considered and resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting of Board of Studies of the Department of Physical Education & Yoga held on 06.03.2026.

19. Item No.1126/AC.2026.III

To consider and approve the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies for the Department of Tamil held on 24.02.2026.

Dr.P.Anandakumar, Head, Department of Tamil presented the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies for the Department of Tamil held on 24.02.2026 and it was seconded by Dr.R.Uthayakumar, Director (Academic), GRI.

The Academic Council considered and resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting of Board of Studies of the Department of Tamil held on 24.02.2026.

20. Item No.1127/AC.2026.III

To consider and approve the minutes of the meeting of the Institute Research Advisory Council (IRAC) held on 13.02.2026 and the Ph.D Programme Regulations - 2026.

Dr.R.Uthayakumar, Director (Academic) presented the minutes of the meeting of the Institute Research Advisory Council (IRAC) held on 13.02.2026 and the Ph.D Programme Regulations-2026.

The Academic Council considered and resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting of the Institute Research Advisory Council (IRAC) held on 13.02.2026 and the Ph.D. Programme Regulations-2026.

21. Item No.1128/AC.2026.III

To consider and approve the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee constituted to frame the rules and regulations for Doctor of Science (D.Sc.) / Doctor of Literature (D.Lit.) held on 18.09.2025.

The Academic Council considered and resolved to approve the reframed Regulations 2025 for the Doctor of Science (D.Sc.) / Doctor of Literature (D.Lit.) as suggested by Committee.

Further, in future the Heads of Departments may also be included as a member of the Board of Research Studies (BoRS).

22. Item No.1129/AC.2026.III

To consider and approve the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies for the Department of Biology held on 13.03.2026.

Dr.P.U.Mahalingam, Head, Department of Biology presented the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies for the Department of Biology held on 13.03.2026 and it was seconded by Dr.M.R.Rajan, Senior Professor, Department of Biology, GRI.

The Academic Council considered and resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting of Board of Studies of the Department of Biology held on 13.03.2026 except the item No.9 in the above said minutes.

Further, a Committee may be constituted to decide about nature of Ph.D. degree the degree issued to Ph.D Scholars mentioning the specialization including the Department.

23. Item No.1130/AC.2026.III

To consider and approve the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies for the School of English and Foreign Languages held on 16.03.2026.

Dr.T.David Jeyaraj Franklin, Assistant Professor, School of English and Foreign Languages presented the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies of the School of English and Foreign Languages held on 16.03.2026.

The Academic Council considered and resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting of Board of Studies of the School of English and Foreign Languages held on 16.03.2026.

24. Item No.1131/AC.2026.III

To consider and approve the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies for the Department of Education held on 12.03.2026.

Dr.P.S.Sreedevi, Head, Department of Education presented the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies of the Department of Education held on 12.03.2026 and seconded by Dr.P.Shanmugavadivu, Senior Professor, Department of Computer Science and Applications, GRI.

The Academic Council considered and resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting of Board of Studies of the Department of Education held on 12.03.2026.

25. Item No.1132/AC.2026.III

To consider and approve the Guidelines for Book Publication under GRI Publication Grant

Dr.G.Baskaran, Publication Officer, GRI presented the Guidelines for Book Publication under GRI Publication Grant and seconded by Dr.K.Ravichandran, Senior Professor, Department of Cooperation, GRI.

The Academic Council considered and resolved to approve the Guidelines for Book Publication under GRI Publication Grant.

26. Item No.1133/AC.2026.III

To consider and approve the Minutes of the committee meeting to decide on the continuation of the programmes with minimal strength/stagger held on 11.03.2026.

Dr.R.Uthayakumar, Director (Academic) presented the minutes of the committee meeting to decide on the continuation of the programmes with minimal strength/stagger held on 11.03.2026.

The Academic Council considered and resolved to approve the staggering of the following programmes from academic year 2026-27.

- 1. Diploma in Yoga**
- 2. Post Graduate Diploma in Yoga**
- 3. Diploma in Two Wheeler Mechanism and Maintenance**
- 4. D.Voc. Software Development**
- 5. M.Ed.**
- 6. P.G. Diploma in Gerontology**

27. Item No.1134/AC.2026.III

To consider and approve the Minutes of the meeting of the Feasibility Committee held on 13.03.2026 to decide about the trifurcation of Department of Biology.

Dr.P.U.Mahalingam, Head, Department of Biology presented the minutes of the meeting of the Feasibility Committee held on 13.03.2026 to decide about the trifurcation of Department of Biology.

The Academic Council directed to refer the matter to the committee to be constituted to look into the reorganization of Schools/Departments/Centres.

28. Item No.1135/AC.2026.III - Any other Matter:

The Academic Council gave principal approval to Starting Shift System, Starting of Distance and Online Education Programmes and Starting of Collaborative Programmes.

The meeting came to an end at 2.55 p.m with thanks to the Chair and members.

Gandhigram
18.03.2026

Dr. M.Sundaramari
Registrar i/c.

Dr. N.Panchanatham
Vice-Chancellor


REGISTRAR i/c
Gandhigram Rural Institute (DTBU)