VEERMATA JIJABAI TECHNOLOGICAL INSTITUTE

MATUNGA, MUMBAI 400 019

Minutes of 4th Meeting of

ACADEMIC & RESEARCH COMMITTEE (ARC) MEETING

Held on

Saturday, 31st October 2026 AT 2.30 PM

at Boardroom, VJTI Mumbai-400019.

Confidential

VEERMATA JIJABAI TECHNOLOGICAL INSTITUTE
Minutes of 4th ARC MEETING

The 4th meeting of Academic & Research Committee was held on Saturday, 31st October 2026 at 2.30 p.m. in hybrid mode. The following members were present for the meeting:

1	Prof. Balkrishna Narkhede	Chairman (Present in physical mode)
2	Shri. Madhwa Kulkarni	Member (Present in physical mode)
3	Shri. Narayana Navilekar	Member (Present in online mode)
4	Shri. Sachinkumar Patil	Member (Present in online mode)
5	Prof. Sachin Kore	Member (Present in physical mode)
6	Dr. Arvind Deshpande	Member Secretary (Present in physical mode)

Mr. Mandar Bhatvadekar, Prof. K.K. Sangle, Prof. A.N. Bambole and Prof. V.M. Phalle participated in the meeting as invitee. Prof. Ganapati Shankarling had shared his observations on action taken report of 3rd ARC through email. Leave of absence was granted to Prof. Gulab Singh, Prof. Manjesh Kumar Hanawal and Prof. Ganapati Shankarling.

At the outset, Dr. Sachin Kore, Director VJTI welcomed the Chairman and the members of the Academic & Research Committee and apprised them of the agenda of the meeting.

With profound grief and sorrow, VJTI informed about untimely and sad demise of Mr Vedant Patil (First year Diploma student) because of suffering from dengue. ARC expressed heartfelt homage to the departed soul and pray to the Almighty to grant eternal peace to him and strength to the bereaved family to bear this irreparable loss.

The following points were discussed. The healthy deliberations took place on various matters and the respective decisions were taken accordingly.

VEERMATA JIJABAI TECHNOLOGICAL INSTITUTE

AGENDA OF

4th ACADEMIC & RESEARCH COMMITTEE (ARC)

<table>
<tr><td></td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>Item No.</td><td>Item Description</td></tr>
<tr><td>1.0</td><td>Confirmation of minutes of 3rd ARC meeting held on Saturday, 27th June, 2026 AT 10 A.M.
• Action taken report on 3rd ARC.</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>Discussion on data/ information requested by Chairman ARC
a) Complete and Verified (to be verified by the Director VJTI) data as per Items 1 to 13 requested earlier (individual items in detail)
b) Placement status report along with comparative report for last 03 years and supporting data/documents
c) Action taken regarding improving functioning of placement section
d) Academic Utilization of equipment's/instruments/software's in all departments purchased during last 03 years and revenue generated from it along with supporting documents –
e) Consultancy/Testing revenue for individual faculty for last 03 years and their academic contribution
f) Action taken regarding framing KPIs for faculty
g) Action taken regarding improving teaching-learning-discipline at VJTI
h) Detailed report regarding recovery of fees from students for last 03 years
i) Action taken report regarding focussed efforts for improving NIRF ranking and roadmap ahead - Pending
j) Action taken regarding NBA accreditation of all programs and roadmap ahead
k) Action taken regarding NAAC accreditation of VJTI and roadmap ahead, etc</td></tr>
<tr><td>Decision</td><td>The Academic & Research Committee (ARC) confirmed the minutes of 3rd ARC meeting held on held on Saturday, 27th June, 2026 AT 10 A.M.
The Chair ARC informed that, as per the instructions received from the BoG, following format shall be adopted for the action taken report henceforth:
<table>
<tr><td>Actionable Point</td><td>Date of ARC recommendation</td><td>Present Status (Completed/In-Progress mentioning clearly the milestones achieved/No Progress)</td><td>Likely Date of Completion mentioning major Milestones</td></tr>
</table>
It is unanimously decided that the minutes of the meetings of ARC shall be uploaded on VJTI website from time to time as per IQAC guidelines in order to promote transparency. The observations and recommendations of ARC are given below:
a) ARC had asked for data regarding Item 1-13 vide email dated 6th June 2026 followed by several gentle reminders. However, still ARC received partial data only.
b) Upon analysing placement data, it is evident that placement situation is not healthy and seeks immediate reforms in holistic manner on urgent basis.
c) Issues regarding placement section functioning have been discussed. VJTI informed that recruitment of TPO and Asst TPO is under progress. ARC appreciates the recent development and requested Director VJTI to ensure adequate manpower and their utilization for placement. ARC recommends to arrange behavioural training for few placement staff 'how to interact with recruiters/students' in order to improve placement situation and avoid conflicts with the stakeholders. It is also recommended that placement section should work for extended hrs beyond office timing including Saturday/Sunday by deploying manpower in a staggered manner.</td></tr>
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	d) The ARC observed inadequate utilization of equipment's/instruments/software's in all departments purchased during last 03 years and revenue generated. As the grant is received from Govt for UG programs, it is mandatory to utilize these resources for UG program strengthening and ensure maximum utilization of these sophisticated resources. e) The ARC had requested Director VJTI to provide data regarding Consultancy/Testing revenue for individual faculty for last 03 years and their academic contribution. Partial data is received regarding academic contribution. The ARC observed that although VJTI has highly qualified/experienced/award winning faculty, they are underutilized than their potential. It is also observed that, VJTI is reluctant to share data regarding consultancy/testing/training revenue of individual faculty. This is unacceptable and against the principle of transparency. f) Although, it was decided to frame KPIs for faculty during last ARC by constituting an external committee comprising IIT/IIM/NIT retired/serving Director/Professors, no progress has been observed. ARC expressed dissatisfaction over lack of action in this matter. g) The ARC appreciated some incremental improvement in teaching-learning and academic discipline at VJTI. However, no data is provided over actions initiated for lack of academic discipline. Grade penalty similar to other reputed institutes for poor attendance may be explored. It is recommended to implement Biometric attendance system for students from next semester (1st January 2027). Also, it is recommended to implement smart campus digital gate system to improve academic discipline amongst students/faculty/staff (1st January 2027). However, flexible timing may be adopted for faculty/staff by maintaining proper records and ensuring overall minimum weekly office hrs as per norms. ARC may verify digital records and hard copy of entry registers at security Gates from time to time. h) It is recommended to constitute an external committee to check and analyse recovery of fees from students for last 03 years and submit the detailed report to ARC/BoG before 15th December 2026 about total pending fees for all academic programs. i) The ARC observed that VJTI's performance in NIRF ranking is degrading over a period of time and it is adversely impacting the placement of students. It is strongly recommended that IQAC/Academics/Placement/Research/Infrastructure should work as a team in a strategic manner and holistic way for filling NIRF data. If required, an external consultant services may be hired. Immediate action is recommended under the leadership of Director. j) ARC appreciated the recent award of NBA accreditation to few programs. It is recommended to ensure the accreditation of other eligible programs at the earliest. k) Past MoM of BoG mentions about NAAC accreditation; however, no progress is observed. VJTI to ensure appropriate action in time bound manner.
1.1	Reasons for not signing of ARC-1/ARC-2 MoM by the then Chairman ARC
Decision	The ARC expressed concern over not signing of ARC-1/ARC-2 MoM by the then Chairman ARC as there are financial implications of that ARC decisions. The Director informed the ARC that the ARC meetings were held in a hybrid mode and the then ARC Chairman attended the meeting in online mode. The minutes of ARC were approved in the earlier BoG meetings where the then chairman ARC was present. The ARC suggested to refrain from such practices in future and ensure timely signing of MoM by respective authorities.
2.0	**Discussion Items (Academics)**
2.1	Non-Teaching staff requirements
Decision	Dean(Academics) presented the requirement of skilled non-teaching staff in laboratories of various departments and requested for tenure appointment of non-teaching staff similar to tenure appointment of teaching staff. The shortage of skilled manpower in laboratories is adversely affecting the teaching-learning process. The ARC understood the shortage of skilled supporting staff and unanimously recommended to hire the appropriate skilled manpower for laboratory

	through outsourcing from third party as per the earlier BOG resolution (in phase wise manner on pilot basis by adopting the hiring process in fair and transparent manner) and ratification in existing BoG. The ARC also suggested to do regular follow up with State Govt/DTE to expedite the regular appointments of non-teaching staff.
2.2	M .Tech. Admission Status
Decision	The M.Tech. admission status was presented to the ARC. Exhaustive and creative discussion took place about improvement in admissions/placement in BTech/MTech programs. The recommendations of ARC are: 1. M.Tech. course in Textile department may be made inter-disciplinary and eligibility criteria may be revised to allow students from different disciplines of Engineering subjected to approval of BoS/Academic Council/regulatory authorities. 2. M.Tech.(Production Engineering) may be renamed as M.Tech.(Industrial and Systems Engineering). Also, the B.Tech.(Production Engg) program may be renamed as B.Tech.(Production & Industrial Engg) at par with leading IITs/foreign universities subjected to approval of BoS/Academic Council/regulatory authorities. 3. B.Tech./M.Tech. syllabus for all the programs to be designed in collaboration with industry. AIML applications in respective engineering domain may be added in all the B.Tech./M.Tech. program curriculum.
2.3	Detailed report about External audit for applicable programs/subjects for last 03 years as per autonomy GR along with supporting documents/data and Action taken regarding improving functioning of IQAC
Decision	ARC noted the summary of external academic audits presented by VJTI. The institute could not show evidence of vibrant functioning of IQAC as per UGC guidelines. ARC is not convinced with the existing status of IQAC functioning. Detailed discussion took place about compliance of UGC guidelines for autonomy and urgency for performance improvement to ensure survival and growth. It is the need of an hour to improve the teaching-learning, academic discipline, academic infrastructure, research outcome, revenue generation, perception of the institute, etc considering fierce competition for NIRF ranking and stakeholder's feedback. It is strongly recommended that Director VJTI must lead from front to ensure compliance of UGC guidelines about IQAC. ARC members suggested following points to improve the functioning of IQAC: 1. Corrective steps need to be taken based on academic audit feedback. 2. The faculty feedback should be systematic and transparency shall be maintained. 3. All the Question papers must be audited by the IQAC. 4. External Experts from reputed institutes having NIRF ranking higher than VJTI only shall be nominated on IQAC. Corrective action is expected immediately.
2.2	Action taken regarding various complaints by VJTI students regarding academic issues
Decision	It has been understood from social media, newspapers, interaction with students, etc that various complaints were received from VJTI Students mentioning academic issues (shortage of instruments/components for practicals, sad demise of Mr Vedant Patil due to dengue, irregular conduct of lectures/practicals/make up mid semester test, inadequate opportunities for internship/placement, lack of discipline/failure to follow the established rules, guidelines, or code of conduct required during the invigilation of an examination, delayed result declaration, lack of transparency in evaluation/attendance, etc), inadequate hostel facilities, poor housekeeping, mess food issues like poor hygiene/contamination/poor nutritional quality, lack of transparency in hostel allotment & billing, shortage of water, student-faculty conflicts/alleged threatening from faculty members to students, etc. This has negatively impacted VJTI's standing and reputation among key stakeholders. Above mentioned complaints have been discussed in detail. Although, VJTI took some delayed initiatives to resolve the student issues partially, ARC is not satisfied with the justification given by VJTI about the resolution of student complaints. The ARC took the serious note of above issues and strongly recommended that the Director VJTI must lead from front in resolving the student complaints in transparent, fair way in a timely manner on proactive basis. It is also strongly recommended to nominate an external committee (involving members

	from appropriate reputed academic institutes) for framing revised rules and regulations for hostel allotment/conduct and submit the revised hostel policy to ARC/BoG before 15th December 2026. Involvement of all concerned faculty members is expected to ensure fair conduct of examination and evaluation in time bound manner. Director VJTI is requested to submit the Defaulter list of faculty for necessary action by ARC/BoG from time to time.
2.3	Matters to be routed through ARC as per recent meeting of BoG
Decision	a) **Pending CAS Promotions:** Long-pending Career Advancement Scheme (CAS) promotions should be prioritized and expedited by following norms and procedure. b) **Pending cases of faculty:** It is recommended to resolve the pending cases of Prof. Sanjay Patil (Textile Dept) and Prof. D.K. Shinde (Production Dept) at the earliest as per norms.
3	**Any other matter with the permission of chair**
	1. **Publication displayed on VJTI website:** For better perception of the institute, Director VJTI to ensure that papers published in reputed journals (Scopus/WoS/SCI/SCIE indexed/Q1/Q2) only shall be displayed on the VJTI website. 2. **Existing MoUs:** For the awareness of the stakeholders, it is recommended that information about various MoUs (objectives/deliverables, etc) signed by VJTI during last 3 years and their progress shall be published on VJTI website. 3. **Professors of Practice:** List of existing Professor of Practice, their domain expertise, and expected contribution to VJTI shall be published on VJTI website from time to time. Director VJTI is entrusted to devise the mechanism for monitoring the performance of Professor of Practice. 4. **Industry Academia collaboration:** It is strongly recommended that all the faculty members should strive hard to generate revenue through consultancy assignments based on live problem solving/training of industry persons, etc. This may help to improve the self-growth of the individual faculty leading to better internship/placement opportunities for VJTI students, perception improvement of the institute, etc. Director is entrusted to ensure that consultancy, testing, training activities should not adversely impact the regular academic duties of the faculty. 5. **Revision of Consultancy policy:** It is to be noted that the State Govt disburses the grants for salary of the faculty members at VJTI primarily for Diploma/UG programs. To ensure succession planning, transparency, fairness, equal opportunity to all faculty, professional ethics, cap on earnings/permitted office time (tenure)/number of projects for balanced academic contribution to Diploma/UG/PG/PhD students, etc it is strongly recommended that Director VJTI to nominate a 03 member external committee comprising Dean(R&D)/Professors preferably from IITB, VNIT Nagpur, immediately and submit the revised Consultancy, Testing and Training Policy to ARC/BoG before 15th December 2026 for approval. 6. **Mentoring of Tenure/Contract faculty:** Considering the various complaints received from the students about issues in teaching/evaluation, it is recommended that Director VJTI to ensure compulsory conduct of appropriate training sessions (classroom/on-job training) for Tenure/Contract/Jr regular faculty members by academic experts/industry experts at least twice in each semester. 7. **Nomination of academic expert:** To ensure better perception of the institute, it is strongly recommended that Director VJTI to nominate the academic experts on various committees (PhD Examiner/RPC/IQAC, etc) from reputed IITs, IIMs, IIITs, NITs, Govt/Govt-Aided Engineering/Management institutes, etc having better NIRF ranking than VJTI.

	8. **Stakeholder Engagement**: Parents, alumni, students, faculty, and non-teaching staff should be actively involved in initiatives to enhance the reputation, visibility, and overall development of VJTI. 9. **Motivation and Incentives**: To start with, Non-financial incentive plans should be developed to motivate and recognize the contributions of students, teaching faculty, and non-teaching staff. 10. **Action Plan and Monitoring**: A time-bound action plan with clearly defined targets, measurable performance indicators, and periodic reviews should be established to monitor progress and ensure effective implementation of the futuristic initiatives. 11. **Reforms in Administration Mechanism**: Considering the delays and inefficiencies causing dissatisfaction of the stakeholders, it is strongly recommended to rethink about the existing bureaucratic administration mechanism at VJTI. Lean and agile approach is recommended to improve academic excellence at par with reputed academic institutes.

As per the recommendation of the BOG, annexure-I comprising actionable points based on recommendations of the ARC, present status and likely date of completion is attached.

Dean (Academic Programmes)
Member Secretary,
Academic Research Committee (ARC)

Chairman 18.11.2026
Academic Research Committee (ARC)

Annexure-I

Sr	Actionable Point	Date of ARC recommendation	Present Status (Completed/In-Progress mentioning clearly the milestones achieved/No Progress)	Likely Date of Completion mentioning major Milestones
1	Complete and Verified (to be verified by the Director VJTI) data as per Items 1 to 13 requested earlier	31st October 2026	In-progress. Data was submitted to ARC and was revised based on recommendations of ARC.	15th December 2026
2	Placement status report and Action taken regarding improving functioning of placement section	31st October 2026	In progress. Placement status report and action taken regarding functioning of placement section was submitted to ARC.	15th December 2026
3	Academic utilization of equipment's/instruments/software's in all departments purchased during last 03 years and revenue generated from it	31st October 2026	In progress. Report on academic utilization of equipment's / instruments / software's in all departments purchased during last 03 years and revenue generated from it was submitted to ARC.	15th December 2026
4	Consultancy/Testing revenue for individual faculty for last 03 years and their academic contribution	31st October 2026	Is progress. Department wise consultancy data was submitted to the ARC.	15th December 2026
5	Framing KPIs for faculty	31st October 2026	In progress. Action taken report regarding framing KPIs was submitted to ARC.	15th December 2026
6	Biometric attendance system for students	31st October 2026	No progress	1st January 2027

7	Smart campus digital gate system	31st October 2026	No progress	1st January 2027
8	Recovery of fees from students	31st October 2026	In progress. Report regarding Recovery of fees was submitted to ARC.	15th December 2026
9	Focussed efforts for improving NIRF ranking and roadmap ahead	31st October 2026	In progress. Report regarding Focussed efforts for improving NIRF ranking was submitted to ARC.	15th December 2026
10	NAAC accreditation of VJTI	31st October 2026	In progress. Report regarding NAAC accreditation of VJTI was submitted to ARC.	May 2027
11	Hiring of non-teaching staff	31st October 2026	No progress	May 2027
12	Renaming of MTech courses and syllabus revision	31st October 2026	No progress	May 2027
13	Corrective steps based on academic audit feedback	31st October 2026	In progress. Heads of departments presented corrective steps on academic audit feedback.	31st December 2026
14	Actions based on faculty feedback	31st October 2026	In progress. Faculty members receiving good student feedback are rewarded on the occasion of teachers day.	31st January 2027
15	Question paper auditing by IQAC	31st October 2026	In progress. Question papers of tenure/ contractual faculty are reviewed by their respective mentors. Question papers of all faculty are reviewed by the controller of examination.	31st May 2027
16	Action taken based on students' complaints related to academic matters	31st October 2026	In progress. Few complaints of students related to academic matters were addressed by the institute.	31st May 2027

17	Publications/MoUs/ PoP information on VJTI website	31st October 2026	In progress. Some information is available on the website.	31st January 2027
18	Consultancy, Testing and Training Policy	31st October 2026	No progress	31st January 2027
19	Mentoring of Tenure/Contract faculty	31st October 2026	In progress. Mentors have been appointed in few departments.	31st January 2027