



Vidyasagar University

Midnapore, West Bengal

721102



7.2. Institutional Best Practices

Institutional Best Practices

1. Title of the practice:

RESEARCH AND PUBLICATION AWARD

- i) **Objectives:** The university introduced “The Research and Publication Award” annually to
- a. Encourage all the faculty members to promote their academic endeavors.
 - b. Enhance quality publication
 - c. To apply for more projects, Patent,
 - d. Encourage faculties to prepare e-content for MOOC courses.

- ii) **Context:** The Vidyasagar University is committed to promoting quality research activities in the schools of Science, Arts and Commerce, and the Research Centers. With this view, the university introduced “The Research and Publication Award” to be conferred annually on distinguished faculty members. The practice was initiated in 2021 to promote faculties for research work and publication in SCOPUS / Web of Science/ PubMed Indexed journals, Research projects, research consultancy, Ph.D. Supervision, Patent, etc... In 2022, twenty-five (25) faculties received this award. In 2023, Forty-two (42) Faculty members of science, commerce, and Arts were awarded the "Research and Publication Award" under the Platinum/Gold/Silver Club member category based on the following criteria.

- iii) **Practice:**
- The proposals are invited from the faculties for research and publication awards. The applications are invited by the Director (Internal Quality Assurance Cell, VU) in the stipulated time window in the given format for a specific assessment year. Points will be calculated on the basis of stipulated criteria- Publication of Article, Authored Book / Edited Book, Book Chapter, Patent, Research Project, Consultancy Projects, Ph.D. Awarded, Preparation of Video lecture for ILMS and preparation of e-Text for ILMS during the assessment year.

Point Distribution

The publication should be in SCOPUS / Web of Science / PubMed indexed Journal/ Book.

- Article published in SCOPUS / Web of Science/ PubMed Indexed Journal – 2 points
- Book chapter published in SCOPUS / Web of Science / PubMed Indexed Edited Book – 1 point
- Authored Book published by reputed publishers – 2 points
- Edited Book published from reputed publishers – 1 point
- Patent filing/patent granted – 5 points
- Research project/ Consultancy/ Consultancy project
- PhD awarded - 1 point, per candidate.
- Preparation of video lecture for ILMS (VU only) - 1 point

- Preparation of e-Text (course material) for ILMS (VU only)- 1/2 point

For the faculty from the departments of Santali, Sanskrit, Bengali and Hindi only

- Article published in SCOPUS / Web of Science/ PubMed Indexed/UGC care listed Journal – 2 points
- Book chapter published in SCOPUS / Web of Science / PubMed Indexed Edited Book – 1 point
- Authored book published from reputed publishers – 2 points
- Edited Book published from reputed publishers – 1 point
- Article published in SCOPUS / Web of Science/ PubMed Indexed Journal – 2 points
- Book chapter published in SCOPUS / Web of Science / PubMed Indexed Edited Book – 1 point
- Authored Book published by reputed publishers – 2 points

Points required for a club:

Name of Club	Faculty of Science	Faculty of Arts and Commerce
Silver	Club 05 ≤ points <10	Club 05 ≤ points <10
Gold Club	10 ≤ points <15	10 ≤ points <15
Platinum	Club 15 ≤ points	Club 15 ≤ points

The application is evaluated by a committee comprising the Director, IQAC, the Dean of the School concerned, and two external subject experts.

Prize money of Rs. 5000, 10000, and 15000 along with certificates awarded to the Silver, Gold, and Platinum Club Members respectively by the Vice-Chancellor of the University.

Evidence of Success:

2022: In **Scopus Indexed** Journals: 414

In **WoS Indexed** Journals: 253

2023: In **Scopus Indexed** Journals: 473

In **WoS Indexed** Journals: 354

iv) Problems Encountered and Resources Required:

- Criteria for the humanities department need rethinking
- The number of applicants compared to the total number of faculties for the awards is not satisfactory
- Financial Resources required to promote extended research works
- The faculty awareness programme/orientation is to generate interest among faculty members in participating in the Research and Publication award.

Note (150 words):

Vidyasagar University introduced the **Research and Publication Award** in 2021 to promote high-quality research and academic excellence among faculty members. The award encourages **publications in SCOPUS/Web of Science/PubMed Indexed journals, patents, research projects, consultancy, Ph.D. supervision, and e-content development** for MOOC courses.

Faculty members apply through IQAC, and points are awarded based on research contributions. Winners are categorized into **Silver (5–9 points), Gold (10–14 points), and Platinum (15+ points) Clubs**, receiving cash prizes of **₹5,000, ₹10,000, and ₹15,000**, respectively. In **2023, 42 faculty members received awards**, with **473 SCOPUS and 354 WoS-indexed publications**.

The initiative has increased research output, but challenges remain, including **low participation, financial constraints, and the need to refine criteria for humanities research**. Efforts are underway to improve faculty engagement through awareness programs and orientation sessions, strengthening the university's research ecosystem.

2. Title of the best practice : MATRISHAKTI: SHARAD SAMMAN

In West Bengal, Goddess Durga is a symbol of women's empowerment. This festival is



recognised by the UNESCO as an Intangible Heritage. The involvement of the community in all Socio-Economic and Cultural spheres makes this festival an example of Unity in diversity. The story and the festival of Durga Puja inspire women to be strong, and compassionate, and to overcome obstacles and Shakti manifests through women's embodiment, and creativity. The worship of Durga symbolizes holistic strength and facing fear. Keeping in view the community involvement and social and cultural responsibility of the academic institution, the Vidyasagar University takes this opportunity to initiate the Matri

Shakti Sarad Samman programme for all pujas held in the town of Midnapore and surrounding rural areas of Midnapore town. Winners are awarded prizes and certificates in a grand program in the University Auditorium after the PUJA.

i) **Objectives:** Along with fulfilling social responsibilities in various ways across jungle mahal encircled Midnapore, Vidyasagar University took the initiative to honour the puja committees with the Matri Shakti Sarad Samman award to commemorate women empowerment and motivate, acknowledge, and honour the artists and artisans of this region.

- Extend Social communication after the Covid period
- Promote the cultural heritage of West Bengal, especially among the young generations.
- Honour women with the title 'Matrishakti'
- Motivate, acknowledge, and honour local artists and artisans
- Promote performing art of the Region
- Promote Visual art and artistry, creative arts

ii. Procedure:

- All pujas held in the town of Midnapore fall under the Urban category
- All pujas are held outside of Midnapore town but within a 15-kilometre radial distance of VU—that is, up to Bhadutala (in the north), Nayagram (in the north-west), Gurguripal (in the west), and Chaurangee More (in the south), Pathra, Lachhmapur fall under the Rural category.

- There will also be an Overall Category where the best three Puja of the Year in Midnapore [rural and urban separately] are awarded 1st, 2nd and 3rd Prize

Registration: Puja Committee wish to participate in the award need to submit the Registration form (download from the university website [www.vidyasagar.ac.in /BetarVidyasagar](http://www.vidyasagar.ac.in/BetarVidyasagar), along with filled in form, Profile of Puja, coupled with the registration fees of Rs. 301/- in cash may be submitted to the office of Betar Vidyasagar at Vidyasagar University within the stipulated date.

Participation: The Puja Committees who will register their Puja with this Sharad Samman- in response to the Vidyasagar University invitation, only be able to participate in this competition.

Judgement: The Betar Vidyasagar Puja Parikrama Team along with the Judges visit the registered Puja Pandals. The Puja Committee will extend full support during the visit of the Team along with judges and dignitaries.

Result: The result is published on Betar Vidyasagar FM 90.8. It is also published on the official Facebook Page of Betar Vidyasagar. Media Partner: Betar Vidyasagar visits and records (both Audio and Video) and broadcasts it on both Betar Vidyasagar FM 90.8 and its social media platforms. Betar Vidyasagar provides banners for publishing at prominent positions in the Pandals.

(iii) Evidence of Success: Increased number of participants in 2021, 2022 and 2023 competition.

- A total of 22 pujas participated in Puja Parikrama 2023. Out of the 22 Puja Committees who participated in the Puja Parikrama, a total of 14 Puja committees were honoured with the Puja Parikrama 'Matrishakti' Sharad Samman 2023 by Betar Vidyasagar in various categories in theme, Idol, Environment and Safety and Security category
- Use of environment-friendly materials in puja pandals as a result of environmental awareness.



iii. Problems encountered and resources required:

Difficulty in selecting the best puja among a large number of participants. Managerial experts are required to handle the entire event.



iv. Notes (150 words)

Vidyasagar University has initiated the **Matri Shakti Sarad Samman** to honor Durga Puja committees in and around Midnapore, recognizing the festival's role in promoting women's empowerment and cultural heritage. This initiative fosters community involvement, acknowledges local artists, and encourages environmental sustainability.

The program categorizes pujas into **Urban, Rural, and Overall** awards, with puja committees registering via **Betar Vidyasagar**. A panel of judges evaluates the pujas based on theme, artistry, safety, and environmental consciousness. Winners are announced on **Betar Vidyasagar FM 90.8** and social media.

The growing participation—from **22 pujas in 2023**, with **14 committees honoured**—reflects its success. The initiative has also increased the use of **eco-friendly materials** in puja decorations. By extending social engagement post-COVID-19 and celebrating local talent, Vidyasagar University strengthens its commitment to cultural and social responsibility.