

St. Vincent Pallotti College of Engineering & Technology, Nagpur
College Development Committee (CDC)
Minutes of the Meeting

A meeting of the **College Development Committee (CDC)** was held on **7th March 2026 at 2:00 pm** in the Conference Room, Academic Block A at college campus.

1. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous CDC Meeting

The minutes of the previous CDC meeting were read by **Dr. G. Boob**. The same were confirmed by **Prof. R. B. Gowardhan** and seconded by **Dr. H. Rajurkar**. Minutes were approved unanimously.

2. Discussions on Action Taken Report of previous meeting and Suggestions:

a. Utilization of NABL Facility

Fr. Paul suggested widening the scope of testing and increasing the number of parameters covered. He also recommended utilizing the facility for testing requirements of Pallottine churches, schools, and other associated institutions, and preparing an estimate of expenses for adding additional parameters in water testing and annual renewal of NABL certification.

Prof. R. B. Gowardhan expressed concern regarding revenue generation and suggested reviewing further investments in the facility. He also recommended leveraging the existing structural engineering testing facilities and preparing a document outlining future expenses related to CRM, calibration, and expansion of scope.

Prof. Akash Kale informed about approximate investment to include additional testing parameters and annual NABL renewal.

Fr. Siju Jose emphasized the importance of aligning business potential with investment while considering expansion.

b. PG Admissions in Mechanical and ETC

Dr. Sushant Satputaley shared that guest lectures are continuously being organized under the GATE Club and that 16 Mechanical Engineering students appeared for the GATE. He also mentioned that students who appeared for GATE at college centre will be contacted to inform them about the M.Tech programs. He further informed that efforts to explore collaboration with industries to promote PG programs are ongoing.

Prof. R. B. Gowardhan suggested collaborating with industries such as Mahindra & Mahindra and noted that M.Tech admissions require specialized counselling.

Dr. Harish Rajurkar informed that the department has done MoUs with the industries for PG admission.

Prof. R.B. Gowardhan noted that PG program VLSI and Embedded Systems has the strong market demand and suggested that rigorous marketing efforts be undertaken to fill all seats.

Dr. Nitin Dhote suggested that M.Tech admissions should be coordinated through the admission cell.

Fr. Paul suggested undertaking serious promotional activities and devising a mechanism to effectively tap the potential of the M.Tech programs. He also recommended that the Media and Publicity team support the promotion of these courses, while the departments take responsibility for the front-end engagement with prospective students.

Fr. James suggested circulating concise and informative flyers to promote the programs.

Fr. Siju observed that the admission scenario may improve for the academic year 2026–27, as approvals for admissions in 2025–26 had been delayed.

3. Placements, R&D, Activities & Achievements

A. Placements

Fr. James enquired whether students from the Computer Science and Business Systems (CSBS) program were being hired by Tata Consultancy Services (TCS).

Dr. Koshore Borakhade informed that CSBS students are being placed in TCS as well as other companies. He further mentioned that no offer letters were issued by TCS in the previous year.

B. R&D

i. Commercialization of Granted Patents

The committee discussed the commercialization of granted patents.

Dr. Minhaj Ahmed informed that he is in the process of identifying a patent attorney or agency to support the institute in assessing commercialization possibilities and economic feasibility.

Fr. Paul noted that sustainability of patents is a concern as no commercialization interest has been received so far. He suggested focusing on wildlife, environmental, or utility-based patents that may have better commercialization potential and emphasized the need for financially viable models for patent filing and retention.

Dr. P. B. Maheshwari observed that without commercialization, maintaining patents may become an additional burden for the institute, especially paying retention fees to retain the patent mainly for rankings such as the NIRF. He suggested identifying patent lapse timelines

Dr. Nitin Dhote noted that patent filing is important for frameworks such as the NBA and NIRF. Faculty members should be trained to file the patent, assistance from patent attorney may be taken

only for replying the first enquiry report . Patent retention fees need not to be paid for the patents having no commercial value. The patent validity will not get lapsed even after not paying retention fees for 3 years and NBA & NIRF need data for last 3 years only.

ii. New PhD Research Centers:

Dr. Minhaj Ahmad informed the committee that new PhD Research Centers have been approved in Electrical Engineering and Electronics & Telecommunication Engineering.

Dr. Prashant Maheshwari informed that RTMNU relaxed the requirement of eligibility of PhD supervisor . All eligible faculty members should apply for PhD supervisor recognition and follow up for approval.

Fr. Siju Jose suggested that a central PhD Coordinator should be appointed to maintain uniformity and quality across research centers.

Dr. Sushant Satputaley stated that the Associate Dean, R&D should coordinate the PhD centers to ensure quality and proper maintenance of research activities.

Dr. Minhaj Ahmed suggested that an SOP will be submitted to the University for conducting the PET.

4. Information about various audits:

The audit reports were presented by **Dr. Nitin Dhote**.

Prof. R. B. Gowardhan suggested that annual research targets should be presented and properly documented, including status of compliance and areas for improvement.

5. NBA Status

The **NBA status** was presented by **Dr. Nitin Dhote**.

It was informed that the Mechanical Engineering (MECH) and Electronics & Telecommunication (ETC) departments will submit the NBA Pre-Qualifier on 10 March 2026. The Self-Assessment Report (SAR) will be submitted by 30 April 2026.

6. Establishment of New Labs/Centers

Details regarding the following facilities were presented:

- **Robotics & AI Lab** – Details were shared by **Dr. Amit Bhende**.
- **VLSI & Embedded System Lab** – Details were presented by **Dr. Harish Rajurkar**.
- **AI Learning Center** – Details were presented by **Dr. Vikas Bhowate**.

Dr. Amit Bhende and Dr. H. Rajurkar informed that a pre-purchase technical review was conducted, following which decisions regarding the required software procurement were finalized.

The members appreciated the programs offered by the AI Learning center and suggested to extend the facility for the training of faculty members.

Prof. R. B. Gowardhan suggested that the both Labs should propose lab utilization plan, as the labs are being shared with other departments.

The meeting was concluded by **Fr. Paul** with thanks to all the members present.