



## CENTRAL INSTITUTE OF HIGHER TIBETAN STUDIES

(Deemed University)

SARNATH, VARANASI

---

### Research Promotion Policy

#### **Background, Vision and Purpose of Research at CIHTS**

The Central Institute of Higher Tibetan Studies was established for the preservation of Tibetan Buddhist tradition which is primarily the legacy of ancient Nalanda monastic university. This tradition maintains a profoundly rich system of knowledge pertaining to a wide range of disciplines exploring into the realities of external and internal world. The focal emphasis of this tradition is to explore reality of external and internal world on the ground of which transformative measures of mind training through the mechanism of meditation is developed for the purpose of cultivating an integrated progressive life.

This tradition has immensely contributed to raise the horizon of the knowledge systems of wide range of disciplines through research, particularly in the fields of philosophy, metaphysics, epistemology, logic, psychology and medicines. To give an example, the “Quantum mechanism”, is regarded to be the greatest achievement of physics in modern science in terms of understanding the reality of the world. The greatest Buddhist philosopher after Buddha, Nagarjuna of 1st century, expounded the theory of emptiness which draws the same conclusion of non-existence of substantiality in the object. There is a huge literature produced by the subsequent scholars of the schools with further explorations. Similarly, there are many findings which brought new dimensions in many other fields of studies.

Being a lineage holder of this tradition and being in a time where the modern science and ancient wisdoms meet through meaningful and sound interaction, the scope of our research is tremendously wide.

We have a clear vision and mission for our research. There are five domains of our research to cover:

**Domain:**

1. Researches in the fields of traditional Buddhist and Tibetan knowledge systems:
  - a. Further researches should be undertaken in the areas of philosophy, hermeneutics, epistemology, logic, psychology, science of mind, medicine, literature, poetry, grammar, astronomy, language and others.
    - i. Such researches must be carried out to explore new areas and push the frontiers of the disciplines horizontally and vertically.
    - ii. With the massive literature and profound knowledge system, researches should be done on the critical issues in the respective disciplines applying both the ancient and new research methodologies.
    - iii. Researches should be done in various areas of traditional knowledge system considering the other knowledge systems of
      1. other schools of Indian traditions,
      2. western philosophical traditions and
      3. modern sciences.
  2. Researches of textual studies:
    - a. Restoration of the lost Sanskrit treatises belonging to the above fields of studies from Tibetan language to Sanskrit language is work of great challenge which requires expertise in multiple-languages, enodation concerned subject with sound knowledge of research methodology.
    - b. Translation of treatises in Tibetan languages into Hindi and English language to make them available for the general readers, students and scholars.
    - c. Sanskrit manuscripts so far not published require critical editing equipped with multiple skills of language, scripts, sound knowledge of the subject and research methodology to bring out an authentic edition of the texts.
    - d. Lexicographical works are necessarily required for the above works for which dictionaries of general and technical nature of various fields are compiled.
  3. Researches in the Tibetan medical system is seen as a high potential in various areas such as herbs and drugs, diseases, diagnosis and treatment.

Antiviral evaluation for HIV, HBV, DenV and HCV were carried out at collaborative studies with Emory University. With those bio-guided assays, we have seen some potential to further characterize and scale up synthesis bioactive compounds. It is also planned that genome sequencing of those plants be studied in parallel to conserve their genes for future reference and purposes.

4. Researches in the fields of other disciplines such as social science, language, arts and the like are undertaken.
5. Interdisciplinary researches with sciences, particularly, with neuroscience, cognitive science, clinical science and physics, which have become prominent areas of research with fast development in the western world over a decade should be explored

### **Strategic Directions**

1. Constitution of Research Coordination Council, Boards of Studies in Research, Research Advisory Committee, and Doctoral Committee.
2. Establishment of Special Interest Group (SIG) to promote interdisciplinary and translational research.
3. Creation of University Research Fund that supports students registered for the Ph. D. program with fellowship and young faculty with start-up grant.
4. The university shall allocate funds in its budget for promotion of research activities and research facilities.
5. Establish collaboration and partnership with renowned scholars and prestigious institutions of national and international level.
6. Organize seminars, workshops, and training programs for young faculty for submission of research projects and publications in peer reviewed journals.
7. Recognize faculty and students who have distinguished themselves in research by incentivizing their efforts in the form of awards, grants and recognitions.
8. Establish chairs and fellowships that can help nurture research in various departments.
9. Allocate resources and incentivize research that attract distinguished faculties and research scholars for further advancement of researches.

\*\*\*\*\*