OFFICE OF DEAN ACADEMICS

Policy Document

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Title: **Inclusion of Indian Knowledge Systems and Promotion of Regional Languages at KL University**

KL University is dedicated to creating a holistic educational framework that integrates the profound heritage of Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS) and promotes the inclusivity of regional languages within its academic structure. This policy establishes guidelines to embed Indian Knowledge Systems into the curriculum and facilitate accessibility through regional language support, ensuring that students from diverse backgrounds achieve equitable and meaningful learning outcomes. By embracing India's intellectual legacy and linguistic diversity, KL University aims to prepare students as culturally rooted, globally competent individuals.

Outcomes:

- Enhanced Awareness: Students will gain a comprehensive understanding of Indian Knowledge Systems and their relevance in addressing contemporary issues.

- Cultural Integration: A sense of pride and connection to India's intellectual heritage will be cultivated among students.

- Equitable Access: Students from rural and non-English-medium backgrounds will have greater opportunities to succeed in their academic pursuits.

- Innovation and Sustainability: Students will leverage ancient Indian knowledge to develop innovative and sustainable solutions to modern problems.

1. **Policy on Inclusion of Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS)**

    1.1 Special Courses on Indian Knowledge Systems

    - Departments shall introduce specialized courses focusing on ancient Indian knowledge systems as an integral part of the curriculum. These courses will be categorized under:

- Basic Sciences: Courses exploring topics such as Vedic mathematics, Ayurveda, and Indian astronomical systems.
- Professional Core: Courses on ancient Indian contributions to engineering, architecture, and governance.
- Professional Elective: Courses that delve into Indian philosophy, sustainable practices, and ethical frameworks derived from ancient texts.

- The purpose of these courses is to provide students with a deep understanding of the relevance of Indian knowledge in addressing contemporary global challenges.

1.2 Integration of IKS into Existing Courses

- Every department shall identify opportunities to integrate Indian Knowledge Systems into existing courses by:
  - Drawing comparisons between ancient Indian methodologies and modern systems to highlight their evolution and relevance.
  - Demonstrating how traditional practices such as water management, urban planning, or agricultural methods can offer sustainable solutions to current issues.
  - Embedding inter-disciplinary approaches by connecting IKS with cutting-edge technologies and sciences.

1.3 Inclusion of IKS in Practical, Tutorial, and Skill Components

- Practical and skill-oriented components of the curriculum will incorporate Indian Knowledge Systems where feasible. Examples include:
  - Developing engineering solutions inspired by ancient Indian scientific practices.
  - Conducting tutorials that analyze historical case studies of problem-solving methodologies from Indian texts.
  - Organizing workshops and hands-on projects to build prototypes based on traditional Indian technologies.

1.4 IKS in Capstone Projects

- Students' final-year capstone projects shall actively integrate Indian Knowledge Systems by:

- Encouraging explorations into ancient Indian methods to address modern challenges, aligned with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- Promoting interdisciplinary research that combines IKS with modern technology, such as AI for preserving manuscripts or heritage conservation.
- Facilitating innovation projects that demonstrate how ancient systems can complement contemporary engineering and management practices.

2. Policy on Promotion of Regional Languages

2.1 Examination Options in Regional Language (Telugu)

- Departments shall offer students the choice to write examinations in Telugu for specific courses where English may act as a barrier to expressing their understanding.
- Examination question papers and evaluation criteria will be prepared and made available in both English and Telugu, ensuring equitable assessment opportunities.
- Faculty members evaluating Telugu-written exams will receive adequate training to ensure fair and accurate grading.

2.2 Video Lectures in Regional Language (Telugu)

- Complex concepts, especially those that students from rural or Telugu-medium backgrounds find difficult to grasp, shall be supported by video lectures in Telugu.
- These lectures will explain technical concepts in a simple and comprehensible manner, making education accessible to a wider audience.
- A dedicated team shall oversee the production, quality assurance, and dissemination of these lectures, ensuring consistency with academic standards.

2.3 Workshops and Mentorship Programs in Telugu

- Departments shall organize workshops and mentorship sessions in Telugu to address the academic needs of students requiring additional support.
- Peer mentorship programs will be encouraged, where proficient students assist their peers in understanding complex topics through their native language.

3. Implementation and Oversight

3.1 Curriculum Development Guidelines

- Every academic program designed by departments must:
  - Clearly identify areas for the integration of IKS within the curriculum.
  - Align course objectives and learning outcomes to reflect the inclusion of Indian Knowledge Systems.

- Assess the feasibility of offering course materials, assessments, and instructional support in Telugu.

4.2 Faculty Development Programs

- Faculty members shall participate in periodic professional development sessions to:
  - Enhance their understanding of Indian Knowledge Systems and their relevance to modern education.
  - Develop skills to evaluate assessments conducted in regional languages.
  - Gain expertise in using tools and platforms for creating multilingual teaching resources.

4.3 Monitoring and Evaluation

- A dedicated IKS and Regional Language Committee shall oversee the implementation of this policy. Responsibilities include:
  - Reviewing the inclusion of IKS across academic programs.
  - Ensuring the availability of regional language support mechanisms, such as Telugu examination options and video lectures.
  - Collecting stakeholder feedback to continuously improve the policy's effectiveness.
  - Publishing an annual impact report on the integration of IKS and regional languages in the curriculum.

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