



JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research
(Deemed to be University) Accredited "A++" Grade by NAAC
Sri Shivarathreeshwara Nagara, Mysuru- 570 015, Karnataka, India



JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research

Minutes of 26th IQAC Meeting

15th September, 2026, 11.00 AM
Board Room, JSS Medical College,
JSS AHER, Mysuru-570015



Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) Minutes of the 26th IQAC Meeting

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Date: 15th September 2026, Tuesday

Time: 11.00 AM

Venue: Board Room, JSS Medical College, Mysuru

Members Present (as per attendance and proceedings)

1. Dr. Basavanagowdappa H, Vice Chancellor, JSS AHER, Mysuru - Chairman
2. Dr. Manjunatha B, Registrar, JSS AHER, Mysuru - Member
3. Dr. Pushpalatha K, JSS AHER, Mysuru - Member Secretary
4. Dr. Sudheendra Bhatt, Controller of Examinations, JSS AHER, Mysuru - Member
5. Dr. Suma MN, Vice Principal, JSS Medical College, Mysuru - Member
6. Dr. Nayana Sabadi, Coordinator, IQAC, JSSMC&H Mysuru - Member
7. Dr. Deepa BV, Coordinator, IQAC, JSSDC&H, Mysuru - Member
8. Dr. Sheshagiri Dixit, Member Secretary, IQAC, JSSCP, Mysuru - Member
9. Dr. Divya A Kurthukoti, Coordinator, IQAC, DHSMS, JSS AHER, Mysuru - Member
10. Dr. Priya S. Darshini, Coordinator, IQAC, JSSCPO, Ooty - Member (ONLINE)

Current IQAC External Members

1. Dr. Shekar MA, Former Vice Chancellor, Adichunchanagiri University (ACU), B G Nagara - 571448, NH-75, Nagamangala, Mandya District, Karnataka State, India - External Member.
2. Dr. Hemanth Kumar, Former Vice Chancellor, University of Mysore, Manasagangothri, Mysuru - External Member (ONLINE).
3. Dr. Vandhana B Patrawale, Professor of Pharmaceutics, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Technology, Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai - External Member (ONLINE).
4. Dr. Kishore Ginjupalli, Head, Dept. of Dental Materials, Manipal College of Dental Sciences, Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Manipal - External Member (ONLINE).
5. Dr. N. Haraprasad, Professor, Department of Biotechnology, Sri Jayachamarajendra College of Engineering, Mysuru - External Member.

Invities

1. Dr. Vishal Kumar Gupta, Dean (Academics), JSS AHER, Mysuru - Member
2. Dr. Prashanth M Vishwanath, Dean (Research), JSS AHER, Mysuru - Member
3. Mr. Hiremath CC, Finance Officer, JSS AHER, Mysuru - Member
4. Dr. Sunil Kumar D, Dean (Student Welfare), JSS AHER, Mysuru - Member
5. Dr. Vijaya Vageesh, Dean (Allied Health Sciences), JSS AHER, Mysuru - Member
6. Dr. Narayanappa D, Dean, Faculty of Medicine & Principal, JSS Medical College, Mysuru- Member
7. Dr. Dhakshaini M R, Dean, Faculty of Dentistry & Principal, JSS Dental College & Hospital, Mysuru - Member
8. Dr. Pramod Kumar TM, Dean, Faculty of Pharmacy & Principal, JSS College of Pharmacy, Mysuru - Member



9. Dr. Dhanabal SP, Dean, Faculty of Pharmacy, Ooty & Principal, JSS College of Pharmacy, Ooty - Member (ONLINE)
10. Dr. Raveesha KA, Dean, Faculty of Life Sciences & Head, School of Life Sciences, JSS AHER, Mysuru - Member
11. Dr. Chandrashekar MN, Dean, Faculty of Life Sciences, Ooty & Head, School of Life Sciences, Ooty - Member (ONLINE)
12. Dr. Mamatha HK, Dean, Faculty of Management Studies & Head, DHSMS, Mysuru - Member
13. Dr. Chandrashekar BR, Associate Dean (Academics), JSS AHER, Mysuru - Member
14. Dr. Mahalakshmi AM, Deputy Dean (BQS), JSS AHER, Mysuru - Member
15. Dr. Chandan S, Deputy Dean (Research), JSS AHER, Mysuru - Member
16. Dr. Balamuralidhara V, Deputy Dean (IPR), JSS AHER, Mysuru - Member
17. Dr. Sheeba Pakkan, Bibliometrician, JSS AHER, Mysuru - Member
18. Mr. Mukunda HS, Deputy Chief Information Officer, JSS AHER, Mysuru - Member
19. Dr. Vikram Patil, Vice Principal, JSS Medical College, Mysuru - Member
20. Dr. Jaishankar HP, Vice Principal, JSS Dental College & Hospital, Mysuru - Member
21. Dr. Gurubasavaraj V. Pujar, Vice Principal, JSS College of Pharmacy, Mysuru - Member
22. Dr. Arun Kanniyappan Parthasarathy, Vice Principal, JSS College of Pharmacy, Ooty - Member (ONLINE)
23. Dr. Shwetha K, Member Secretary, IQAC, JSSMC&H, Mysuru - Member
24. Dr. Sanjay CJ, Member Secretary, IQAC, JSSDC&H, Mysuru - Member
25. Dr. Venkatesh MP, Coordinator, IQAC, JSSCP, Mysuru - Member
26. Dr. Kiran Kumar MN, Coordinator, IQAC, SLISM & LSD, JSS AHER, Mysuru - Member
27. Dr. Mahesha DB, Member Secretary, IQAC, SLISM & LSD, JSS AHER, Mysuru - Member
28. Dr. Vanitha Bose, Coordinator, IQAC, JSSSL, Ooty - Member (ONLINE)
29. Dr. Shivaraju HP, Coordinator, Department of Environmental Sciences, SLISM, JSS AHER, Mysuru - Member

Ex-officio External members

1. Dr. Rajiv Desai, Technical Advisor IPA, Former Executive VP Global Head Lupin Ltd., Mumbai - External Member
2. Dr. Rama Kondapalli, Former Advisor, National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), Bangalore - External Member
3. Dr. Arun Kumar Khanna, Director, VIVALDIS Health & Foods Pvt Ltd, (Sun Pharma Holding), Pune - External Member
4. Dr. Pratosh Bansal, Professor (IT), Institute of Engineering & Technology, Devi Ahilya Vishwavidyalaya, Indore - External Member



Officers sought leave of absence

1. Dr. Suresh B, Pro-Chancellor, JSS AHER, Mysuru - Member (ONLINE)

The meeting commenced with humble salutations at the **Lotus Feet of His Holiness Jagadguru Dr. Sri Shivarathri Rajendra Mahaswamiji**, invoking the **divine blessings and guidance of His Holiness Jagadguru Sri Shivarathri Deshikendra Mahaswamiji**.

Dr. Pushpalatha K, Dean (IQAC) extended a cordial welcome to the Pro-Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor, Registrar, External members, Deans, Principals, IQAC Coordinators, member secretaries, AO's & AAO's and other invitees for the 26th IQAC meeting.

Opening Remarks

Dr. Basavanagowdappa H, Chairman, appraised the institution's quality journey and continuous pursuit of excellence underscoring the significance of such meetings as platforms to review, acknowledge and celebrate the quality initiatives undertaken. He highlighted the importance of collective reflection in shaping the roadmap for future quality enhancement, enriched by the insights and perspectives of both external and internal members. He further emphasised the active engagement of coordinators from the constituent colleges and departments in translating these deliberations into meaningful, sustainable and institution wide quality initiatives.

The Dean (IQAC) expressed sincere gratitude and appreciation to the Ex-officio Members VIZ., **Dr. Rama Kondapalli**, Former Advisor, National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), Bangalore, **Dr. Arun Kumar Khanna**, Chairman & MD, Uth Healthcare Ltd. Pune, **Dr. Rajiv Desai**, Technical Advisor IPA, Former Executive VP, Global Head, Lupin Ltd., Mumbai, **Dr. Pratosh Bansal**, Professor (IT), Institute of Engineering & Technology, Devi Ahilya Vishwavidyalaya, Indore, for their continued support and valuable contributions to the quality initiatives of the University.

The Dean (IQAC) also extended a warm welcome to the newly inducted External Members of IQAC, acknowledging their distinguished academic, administrative and professional expertise. The new members include **Dr. M. A. Shekar**, Former Vice-Chancellor, Adichunchanagiri University, **Dr. Hemanth Kumar**, Former Vice-Chancellor, University of Mysore, **Dr. Vandana B. Patravale**, Professor of Pharmaceutics, Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai, **Dr. Kishore Ginjupalli**, Head, Department of Dental Materials, Manipal College of Dental Sciences, Manipal Academy of Higher Education, **Dr. N. Haraprasad**, Professor, Department of Biotechnology, Sri Jayachamarajendra College of Engineering, Mysuru. Their expertise was acknowledged as a valuable addition to the IQAC deliberations and institutional quality-enhancement processes.



The Dean (IQAC) apprised the members of the **major quality initiatives and Capacity Building programmes undertaken by IQAC**. The **Quality Conclave held on 1 June 2026** brought together internal stakeholders and eminent experts, with deliberations on building a quality culture, relevance of rankings, quality versus expansion and growth, sustainable quality in higher education, and quality frameworks across academics, research and outreach.

The Dean (IQAC) further highlighted the **three - batch Capacity-Building Programme for Non-Teaching Staff (22.4.2026; 23.05.2026; 19.08.2026)**, covering communication skills, roles and responsibilities, ranking processes, record keeping and documentation, leave and service rules, Data Security and Handling Sensitive Information, Responsible use of ChatGPT and digital tools, including hands-on training in Google Docs, Forms and Drive. The sessions were delivered by subject experts through interactive presentations, practical demonstrations and hands-on exercises, reinforcing continuous professional development and a culture of quality among non-teaching staff.

The Dean (IQAC) highlighted on the **Orientation Programme on Health and Hygiene for Hostel and Canteen Staff** was conducted in two batches (**20.06.2026 & 2.07.2026**), in association with the Department of Nutrition and Dietetics, School of Life Sciences. The programme focused on strengthening awareness and adherence to **personal hygiene, food safety, sanitation and safe food handling practices** contributing to a healthy, hygienic and safe campus environment.

The Dean (IQAC) highlighted key quality and institutional achievements, including the Turnitin Onsite Interaction Programme on 'Academic Integrity in the World of Research' held on 28 July 2026. She highlighted that JSS AHER also became the ninth institution in India to receive DASCA accreditation, covering B.Sc. (Hons.) Artificial Intelligence & Data Science, B.Sc. (Hons.) Statistics & Data Analytics, and M.Sc. Health Technologies and Data Science. The Skill and Simulation Centre secured dual accreditation from HSSC, Government of India, and ASPIH, UK. Further, JSS AHER received Outstanding Institution recognition for SDG Implementation and Research at the Educational Quality Conclave 2026, IIT Madras Research Park, Chennai.

Dr. Manjunatha B, Registrar, JSS AHER on his opening remarks appreciated the commendable initiatives undertaken by IQAC over the past six months to strengthen a culture of quality, responsibility and continuous improvement. He particularly acknowledged the capacity-building efforts promoting the judicious, responsible and ethical use of Artificial Intelligence, emphasising the importance of technology aligned with integrity and institutional values. He also appreciated the initiatives for hostel and canteen staff on food safety, hygiene and safe food-handling practices, recognising their vital role in safeguarding student health and well-being. He commended IQAC for translating quality principles into impactful practices that foster institutional excellence, responsible innovation and a safe, supportive campus environment.



Dr. Sudheendra Bhat, Controller of Examinations, appreciated the quality initiatives undertaken by IQAC particularly in strengthening examination processes. He emphasised the effective integration of CO-PO mapping and Outcome-Based Education (OBE) across academic curriculum development and assessment practices, highlighting the importance of outcome-oriented approaches in enhancing the quality, transparency and effectiveness of academic evaluation.

Dr. Pramod Kumar, Dean, Faculty of Pharmacy, highlighted the notable achievement of JSS College of Pharmacy, Mysuru and JSS College of Pharmacy, Ooty in undergoing the Quality Council of India (QCI) grading process. The B.Pharm programme at JSSCPM, and the B.Pharm and Diploma programmes at JSSCPO, secured an 'A' Grade, a distinction achieved by only a limited number of institutions in Karnataka. The Chairman appreciated and congratulated the Principals and faculty of both colleges for this commendable accomplishment, recognising their sustained commitment to academic quality and excellence.

Dr. Vandana Patrawale, External Member, complimented IQAC for its diverse quality initiatives and activities. She suggested organising safety awareness workshops and basic electrical-safety training for non-teaching staff, along with practical demonstrations on the safe handling and operation of equipment and devices. The Chairman appreciated the suggestions and advised the IQAC team to incorporate them into the forthcoming capacity-building and training initiatives for non-teaching staff.

Agenda Wise Key Observations and Action Taken Report

Agenda 26.1: To consider Action Taken Report (ATR) of the 25th IQAC Meeting held on 24th November 2025 11.00 AM Board Room, JSS Medical College.

The Dean (IQAC) presented ATR on the decisions of the 25th IQAC meeting held on November 24, 2025 and sort the approval from the Chairman, Deans, External and Internal members. The members approved the minutes of the meet of 25th IQAC meet.

The Dean (IQAC) presented the ATR on the observations of 25th IQAC meeting, they are as follows:

Agenda 26.2: Action Taken Report

- 1. Academic, Research and Administrative Audit Report, 2024-25:** All Principals and Heads of Institutions/Departments were suggested to enforce strict compliance with the official letterhead format ratified by the IQAC. The letterhead was circulated to all deans the same is followed from all institutions.



2. **Value Added Courses (VAC):** The Dean (Academics) was requested to undertake a thorough review of all ongoing VAC's across University divisions, departments and constituent colleges, the consolidated report on VAC data were received from the same.
3. **Curriculum Feedback and Action Taken Report:** The Pro-Chancellor expressed concern over the low student response rate and advised the adoption of credible engagement measures to enhance participation and prevent data distortion. Heads of Institutions were directed to implement strategies to improve response rates and to ensure that feedback analyses and corresponding ATR's are presented in Governing Body meetings and maintained as AQAR evidence. Feedback on curriculum was collected through QR code during issue of Course Completion Certificate. Dean (IQAC) highlighted that it is been implemented and is receiving the response from the institutions upto 90%. The Chairman suggested to ensure to reach 100% in receiving the curriculum feedback from all the institutions.
4. **Mentor-Mentee System:** Heads of the Institutions were sensitised to ensure the initiation of the mentorship diary system and its periodic monthly review. The same is initiated and process of creating dashboard in LMS is under process with pilot testing in AHS and FLS.
5. **Identification of Slow and Advanced learners:** The Chairman advised IQAC to lead the formulation and execution of institutional quality mandates. The Pro-Chancellor further directed IQAC to develop standardised templates applicable across institutional and individual levels in the five domains viz., Teaching Quality, Research & Innovation, Student Experience, Governance (including circular and feedback systems) and Community Engagement. IQAC has created a SOP for the same and approval is awaited for the implementation.
6. **Clinical Workload & Digital Outpatient Data (OPD):** A joint committee comprising Medical, Dental and IT teams was constituted to standardize digital clinical workload capture. A formal proposal was submitted through the Registrar for appointing BCA qualified technical staff to capture hospital data accurately. Clinical data metrics have been formulated, leadership approval is awaited. The Chairman oriented the newly inducted members about the integration of OPD data and the systematic quantification of clinical credentials. He highlighted that data generated by laboratory-related departments constitutes nearly one-third of the data contributed by clinical departments, and that its accurate integration and documentation significantly contribute to the overall institutional credentials and clinician performance profile.
7. **Reports of Conferences/ Symposia/ Workshops:** IQAC enforced a uniform reporting template, submission timelines and ensure timely upload on the University website (with approval, participants, outcomes, photos, and supporting documents). The IT team will enable approvers to access post-conference records through validation controls that permits only compliant document submissions. A standardized event



reporting template was finalized and circulated to all the Deans. IT validation controls were implemented to ensure timely submission and automated website upload.

8. **Research Publications in Indexed Journals:** The Chairman had recommended the targeted measures viz., structured awareness initiatives and capacity-building sessions on the Researgence portal led by the Bibliometrician to ensure compliance with established publication standards. The Bibliometrician and the IPR cell have conducted the workshops on a phased manner.
9. **Copyrights and Patents:** It was recommended to the IPR Cell to conduct a structured orientation programme on these procedures to ensure compliance and sensitise faculty. Capacity building programme has been conducted in phased manner by bibliometrician & IPR Cell, almost all the departments of Medical College are covered.
10. **PBAS Submissions:** The Chairman suggested that periodic orientation to the faculty may be ensured for an accurate and benchmarked submissions at a defined timeframe. The new format is being framed and once finalised shall be shared to the concerned.
11. **Website Updates:** The Chairman directed all the Heads of Institutions and Departments to perform website audits monthly and coordinate with the IT division for required updates followed by subsequent monitoring by the IQAC. Designated departmental web coordinators were nominated and suggested to work in coordination with the IQAC.
12. **Hostel and canteen quality audits:** All Administrative Officers were directed to ensure adherence to hostel and canteen standards, including staff health check-ups, vaccination, water-quality testing and hygiene protocols. They were also suggested to organise periodic orientations on nutrition, health and hygiene for residents and staff. IQAC was further advised to conduct regular audits to monitor hygiene, safety, nutrition and compliance with institutional food-service norms. IQAC organised an orientation programme in coordination with Nutrition & Dietetics department.
13. **Data-Driven Decision Making (DDDM) Using AI and Data Analytics:** The Pro-Chancellor opined that rather than maintaining fragmented digital modules (attendance, mentorship, feedback, OBE, research, etc.), the University is directed to progress towards a unified, IT-enabled architecture that integrates all academic and administrative data to enable systematic analytics and evidence-based decision-making. All the dashboards are created, integration is in process. OBE is coordinated by Dr Sheshgiri Dixit.
14. **University Annual Theme Initiative Aligned with SDGs:** The Chairman directed IQAC to circulate a draft framework for the SDG-aligned annual theme, obtain institutional inputs and compile a consolidated calendar of thematic activities. The Pro-Chancellor proposed that the 2026 institutional theme may encompass Digital Health and Precision Medicine, Artificial Intelligence in Health Sciences, Sustainable Healthcare Systems, One Health approach and advised that these domains be embedded across relevant academic and literary platforms of the University. IQAC circulated the



Annual theme 2026 'ONE WORLD. ONE HEALTH. INTELLIGENT SOLUTIONS' in consultation with the leadership. All the programmes have aligned towards the theme. The Chairman appreciated the IQAC team, and Dr. Mahalakshmi, Deputy Dean, BQS, for the systematic planning, coordination and execution of initiatives contributing to the University's SDG performance and impact rankings. He acknowledged the University's No. 1 position in India for SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being) in 2024 and its subsequent performance in the 2025–26 rankings, including recognition among the Top 100 globally based on the aggregate score across five SDGs. The Chairman noted the changes across individual SDGs, particularly the relative decline in SDG 3, while other SDGs showed improvement and emphasised the need for continued strategic planning and focused interventions to strengthen performance across all indicators. Dr. Mahalakshmi acknowledged the University's 2026 THE Impact Rankings performance, including its **overall SDG standings, JSS AHER stood 91st** in the world and only three Indian universities featured, individual **SDG 3, 11th** in the world, In India 3rd and among top 50 in other SDG's 6, 7 etc category. A detailed presentation on the SDG performance and ranking outcomes was proposed for further deliberation.

15. **NAAC Reforms - Binary Accreditation System (10 Criteria):** IQAC was directed to serve as the policy and SOP audit body ensuring compliance and alignment with updated NAAC criteria. IQAC, JSS AHER team are awaiting for final draft from NAAC.
16. **Establishment of Student Councils across all faculties of JSSAHER:** Dr. Sunil Kumar, Dean, Student Welfare, is mandated to prepare a university-wide SOP detailing the constitution and functioning of Student Councils and Student Welfare Officers at the institutional level and submit the same to IQAC for approval. A university-wide policy/SOP for the establishment of Student Councils and the functioning of Student Welfare Officers has been prepared and submitted to the competent authority for approval.
17. **Appointment of Student Welfare Officers (SWO's) in all faculties to strengthen student support mechanisms:** The Chairman recommended the Dean, Student Welfare to operationalize the appointment of SWOs across all Faculties to strengthen and standardise student support services. All Heads of the Institutions are directed to identify suitable faculty members for the SWO role and submit their nominations to the Office of the Dean, Student Welfare within the stipulated time window. University wide SOP for Student Councils were subjected for approval and Student Welfare Officers were appointed across all constituent faculties under Dr. Sunil Kumar.

Dr. Vandana Patrawale, External Member enquired whether student feedback was linked to the **Best Teacher Award**, as such linkage could enhance the seriousness and



significance of the feedback process. The Dean (IQAC) clarified that **student feedback is included as one of the criteria for the Best Teacher Award.**

Agenda 26.3: Inclusion of Clinical data in Technology Assisted Performance Appraisal System (TAPAS)

The proposal for inclusion of clinical workload and service-related data in the online TAPAS performance appraisal system was placed before the Committee. It was noted that the existing framework covers Teaching - Learning, co-curricular/administrative activities and research, while clinical workload requires appropriate representation.

The discussion emphasised that clinical contribution should not be assessed solely on the basis of patient numbers. The proposed framework should consider the nature and complexity of clinical work, time spent, inpatient and emergency responsibilities, procedures/interventions, case mix, unit/departmental contribution, quality and patient outcomes.

Indicative metrics discussed included:

- Average OPD patients per month per faculty and related clinical service contribution.
- Average inpatient admissions and responsibilities associated with inpatient care.
- Average Emergency and critical-care workload, wherever applicable.
- Average Procedures/interventions and their complexity.
- Laboratory investigations/tests per faculty per month, wherever applicable.
- Clinical time, case mix, complexity and productivity.
- Quality, patient safety, outcomes and contribution to the unit/department.
- Appropriate differentiation of indicators across medical, dental and other clinical departments.

Dr. Shekar, External Member, opined that clinical work is essentially considered as a group activity and may be assessed at two levels. Key measures at the individual level include clinical time, procedures, complexity and productivity, while the departmental level may consider staffing, case complexity and outcomes, thereby supporting an outcome-based assessment of clinical services and their contribution to hospital performance. Dr. Kishore, External Member, sought the clarification on the distribution of the workload, Dr. Dakshayini, Dean, clarified that the format varies between the departments and the faculties.

The Chairman suggested that the clinical data proposed for TAPAS would be validated through the appropriate institutional hierarchy, including Unit Chief/HOD, Principal and IQAC as applicable. The proposed indicators and weightages are to be refined based on inputs from the clinical faculties and incorporated into the system after due approval.



Agenda 26.4: Proposal for Digitization of Academic, Research, & Administrative Audit (ARAA)

Dr. Supreeth M, Assistant Dean (IQAC) shared the views and thoughts about the digitisation of the ARAA process was proposed to streamline data entry and validation, enhancing efficiency and accuracy across 85 departments viz., JSS Medical College (44), JSS Dental College & Hospital (9), JSS College of Pharmacy, Mysuru (5), JSS College of Pharmacy, Ooty (7), School of Life Sciences, Mysuru (13), School of Life Sciences, Ooty (5), Department of Health Studies and Management Sciences (1), and Yoga Department (1). The initiative seeks to address the limitations of the existing manual, error-prone process through a centralised digital system.

A dedicated ARAA Dashboard integrated with the JSS AHER, ERP was proposed, with controlled access for Department Heads and Programme Coordinators. Users would select the audit year and college/department and respond to the prescribed Key Performance Indicator (KPI) questions. The data entered would undergo validation by IQAC and the Registrar, following which the approved departmental performance percentile would be made visible, strengthening efficiency, data accuracy, transparency and accountability.

The proposed JSS AHER 5-Point Quality Index will evaluate departmental performance across **Teaching Quality** (syllabus coverage, innovative teaching, OBE implementation, student feedback), **Research & Innovation** (publications, impact factor, research grants, IPR/patents), **Student Experience** (mentorship, learner support, career guidance, grievance redressal), **Governance & Compliance** (timely reporting, data accuracy, policy compliance, department meetings), and **Community Engagement** (outreach programmes, NGO partnerships, student involvement and impact projects).

Dr. Vishal Kumar Gupta, Dean (Academics), opined that internationalisation, integration of AI and technology in teaching-learning should be considered as parameters of teaching quality. He suggested considering curriculum development, flagship programmes and alumni experience as additional indicators. He further emphasised that encompassing the overall student experience within the five-point Quality Index would enable a more robust and comprehensive evaluation of institutional quality. The Chairman reiterated about the feedback and the experience of the students to be considered in the key point indicators.

Dr. Haraprasad, opined that the proposed parameters and internal matrix should be mapped comprehensively with NAAC and the various assessment, accreditation and ranking frameworks, considering the collective perspectives of the University personnel and the overarching objective of total quality improvement. He highlighted that several platforms assess university quality through assessment and accreditation processes, with considerable



commonality among their parameters, however, the extensive matrix, comprising nearly 130 parameters across different frameworks, needs to be rationalised and consolidated into the broader five KPIs without losing essential requirements. He cautioned that unique parameters and data requirements of individual accreditation and ranking processes should not be overlooked. He particularly emphasised the need to systematically capture, maintain and retrieve the extensive data required for various ranking and accreditation processes, noting that data acquisition and documentation are often cumbersome and resource-intensive, yet constitute an essential component of effective quality assurance.

Dr. Vikram Patil, Vice-Principal, JSSMC opined that, considering the clinical component, Clinical Engagement may be considered in place of Community Engagement as a quality parameter, particularly to reflect departmental clinical contributions, including specialised services such as transplant programmes. He further highlighted that industry engagement has become an important institutional mandate and suggested incorporating it within the quality framework, particularly under the research component, with appropriate weightage for industry collaboration, technology transfer and the translation and commercialisation of research outputs and products.

Dr. Haraprasad, reiterated that the institutional performance and outcomes of research and innovation should also be assessed through commercialisation, particularly by considering the translation of research outputs into products, technologies and services with measurable institutional impact.

The Dean (IQAC) informed the members that the Vice-Chancellor had suggested the clustering of departments for systematic validation of clinical data and its appropriate incorporation into the respective departmental audits, thereby ensuring greater accuracy, consistency and comprehensiveness in the assessment process.

Dr. Prashanth Vishwanath, Dean (Research) informed that the comprehensive document has been prepared and will be shared at the end of the discussion that addresses most of the concerns of the external members.

Dr. Pramod Kumar, Dean (Faculty of Pharmacy), opined that the contribution and impact of Professors of Practice and Adjunct Faculty should be considered within the quality parameters, particularly in relation to their role in strengthening teaching-learning and research and innovation. He emphasised the need to assess on their industry and professional expertise that contribute to meaningful improvements in educational quality and institutional outcomes.

Dr. Raveesha K.A, Dean (Faculty of Life Sciences), opined that the data should be vetted by the BQS to avoid repetitive data collection and duplication of efforts. He further highlighted



that, in view of the large number of new programmes, the concerned faculty members should be specifically identified and highlighted.

Dr. Mahalakshmi, Deputy Dean (BQS), suggested that the proposed parameters and data may be reviewed collectively from Academic, Research and BQS perspectives, enabling a more holistic assessment and facilitating coordinated efforts towards continuous quality enhancement.

Dr. Dakshayini, Dean (Faculty of Dental Sciences) highlighted the need of IQAC support for the teaching-learning processes enhancement for CO - PO mapping and the activities related to rankings and accreditation.

Dr. Supreeth with the assistance of the IT team, informed the members about the ERP system developed to capture and manage data pertaining to all the NAAC Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), thereby facilitating systematic data collection, documentation, monitoring and reporting for quality assessment and accreditation processes for the departmental audit.

The Chairman suggested to have comprehensive industrial collaboration data to be incorporated in the ERP model.

Dr. Shekar opined that the PDSA cycle and micro-level monitoring in each cycle enables consistent data repository and retrieval. He suggested reviewing and streamlining the process to minimise duplication while retaining the essential components of the Plan Do StudyAct (PDSA) approach for effective quality improvement.

Dr. Prashant Vishwanath opined that the required data are already being collected through the ERP system, with appropriate segregation based on the prescribed criteria. He suggested that the proposed micro-level plan clearly defines the individual who provides each category of data. He further noted that the institution is presently in a transition phase, necessitating systematic coordination and clarity in data ownership and reporting responsibilities.

The Chairman suggested that the data needs to be validated quarterly a year. The external member Dr. Shekhar suggested to have a strategic paradigm shift in institutional quality management in transitioning from mere compliance heavy documentation (termed 'I-QUACK') to an agile, outcome driven, continuous quality improvement framework (termed 'I-QUICK'). This approach is built upon Micro Plan Do Study Act (PDSA) cycles, real-time executive dashboard monitoring, and data-driven decision-making across all constituent faculties. The Chairman suggested to adopt to the suggestion compliant towards the institutional norms.



Dr. Manjunatha B, Registrar, suggested that the concerns related to repeated sharing and collection of data across various requirements should be addressed through an integrated mechanism. He emphasised the need to avoid duplication of data collection and repeated requests to departments, thereby reducing the time and effort involved in data compilation, validation and reporting.

Dr. Vikram Patil suggested that, as the lead for Digital and AI initiatives under the Varuna Task Force, a holistic and integrated approach may be adopted to address the recurring requests for similar data from various departments and thereby minimize duplication of effort. He informed the members that a small internal committee has already been constituted and preliminary discussions have been held in this regard. He proposed that the initiative be designed to address the requirements of JSS AHER while also being scalable to the Varuna Campus. He further suggested that IQAC may take the lead, supported by a small backend team comprising representatives from all departments to provide the necessary inputs and facilitate coordination. He suggested that, subject to the approval of the Chairman, the initiative may be taken up on priority and the concept developed further for implementation.

Dr. Nayana Shabadi, Coordinator (IQAC), JSSC opined that the data collected should undergo systematic validation, and wherever discrepancies or deficiencies are identified, the concerned departments should be informed and requested to resubmit the revised data for further verification and finalisation. Physical audit helps to address the concerns from each of such departments. Dr. Supreeth clarified that the data shall be collected prior the physical audit process that ease validation process in data submission and data validation by both the departments and the auditors respectively.

Dr. Shekar suggested conducting an external audit of the data collection and validation process to minimise potential blind spots from both the data provider and receiver perspectives. Dr. Supreeth informed the members that an external audit is scheduled once every three years for validation. The Chairman suggested that, instead of conducting a comprehensive audit, frequent external audits of specific sub-components may be undertaken periodically to ensure continuous validation and minimise gaps in the data collection process.

Dr. Sunil Kumar, Dean (Student Welfare), opined that digitalisation should be integrated across departments and institutional systems. He emphasised that such integration would enable Heads of the Institution and Departments to visualise performance gaps, assess progress against benchmarks and identify areas requiring improvement, thereby supporting data-driven decision-making and continuous quality enhancement.

Dr. Vandana sought clarity on the frequency of data collection from faculty. It was clarified that data are collected monthly, with faculty members uploading the required data in the ERP. The Chairman clarified that, once the data on attending the conference or the seminar are uploaded, an ERP checkpoint is activated, whereby the subsequent upload can be made only after the required data for the preceding period have been furnished, thereby ensuring timely and systematic data submission.



Agenda 26.5: Environment and Sustainability

The ISO 14001:2015 Environmental Management System and ISO 50001:2018 Energy Management System Surveillance Audit-II was conducted by external auditing agencies from 4–9 May 2026.

Dean (IQAC) requested Dr. Shivaraju HP, Coordinator, Department of Environmental Sciences to brief about Environment and Energy Audit process. He shared the status of ISO 14001 Environmental Management System and ISO 50001 Energy Management System and the Surveillance Audit-II, originally scheduled for January 2026 but completed in May 2026 due to issues related to Pollution Control Board permissions. The external audit had raised concerns regarding the required permissions for the Medical College and School of Life Sciences, following which corrective actions were initiated by the University. During Surveillance Audit-II on 4 May 2026, non compliances related to biomedical waste management were identified and subsequently audit report was approved.

Concerns were also raised regarding resource management, particularly the procurement and non-utilisation of chemicals, with more than 100 chemicals reportedly expired, proper planning, distribution and utilisation of resources were recommended with the resource management tool that are being practiced by JSS Dental College, the same can be extended to all the institutions for the proper distribution of resources.

As ISO 14001 also addresses environmental, health and safety aspects, building fitness for all JSS AHER buildings was recommended. With recertification of both systems scheduled for January 2027, the complete audit cycle will need to be initiated including the required Environmental and Energy Audit through JSS Consultancy, a request has been submitted to the IQAC Cell. The Quality Cell also suggested exploring Sustainability Certification, considering its relevance to institutional quality and sustainability-related rankings. The concerned certification body has been approached for details, and the information received will be submitted to the IQAC Cell for further action.

The Chairman sought an update on the action initiated and completed against the major observations of the ISO audit, particularly regarding the Pollution Control Board permission and resource management of unused chemicals. It was clarified that Environmental Clearance (EC) from the Ministry of Environment and Forests is required first, following which the application for Pollution Control Board permission can be submitted, the EC has already been submitted and the inspection is awaited.

The Chairman specifically sought clarification on the large quantity of unused chemicals and the measures taken to prevent recurrence. Dr. Shivraju expressed that the resource management



requirement has been communicated to all colleges. The Chairman suggested that the observations should be physically revisited and verified for rectification, rather than merely reporting an Action Taken Report (ATR). He emphasised that all major observations must be addressed and preventive measures implemented before proceeding with further assessment/re-audit, particularly with January 2027 recertification approaching, so that the complete action cycle is completed. Dr Shivaraju explained about the existing resource management tools used by the JSS Dental College could be extended to other colleges to facilitate proper distribution and utilisation of chemicals. He reiterated that, following the EC inspection, the Pollution Control Board application would be initiated.

The Chairman suggested that the concerned team should conduct physical internal visits, verify and satisfy all identified shortcomings, and ensure their rectification and prevention of recurrence before proceeding with the next audit.

Agenda 26.6: Digitalisation and Data Management of Research Activities

The Dean (Research), JSS AHER, presented the initiatives undertaken by the Research Division to strengthen research capacity, academic excellence, research visibility and institutional impact through digital innovation, technology assessment and strategic partnerships. He acknowledged the support of the IT team for implementation of the digitisation in research processes. The presentation covered the following agenda.

Agenda 1: Digitisation of the Institutional Research Management System

1. **Article Processing Charges:** Digitise the end-to-end process for submission, tracking, approval and reimbursement of Article Processing Charges.
2. **JSS AHER JRF & SRF:** Enable online application, status tracking, review, approval, claim processing, records and reporting for JRF and SRF.
3. **Travel Grants:** Digitise the process for online application, status tracking, approval, claim processing and disbursement of travel grants.
4. **JSS AHER Research Grants:** Establish a digital system for grant application, tracking, review, approval and research fund management.
5. **Patents and Intellectual Property:** Develop a digital platform to record, track and analyse patents and intellectual property and strengthen IP management.
6. **Innovation and Technology Transfer Office:** Digitally facilitate, manage and monitor innovation, collaboration, technology transfer and commercialisation activities.
7. **USIC Facility Booking:** Enable online browsing of instruments, availability checking, slot booking and confirmation for USIC facilities.
8. **I-STEM Portal:** Facilitate discovery of research facilities, availability checking, booking, access, collaboration and optimal utilisation through the I-STEM Portal.

Agenda 2: Advancing Research through Digital Innovation and Strategic Partnerships

1. **EBSCO Clinical Suite:** Strengthen access to evidence-based clinical information and resources through the EBSCO Clinical Suite.



2. **Pure:** Enhance integrated management and visibility of institutional research profiles, outputs and expertise through Pure.
3. **SciVal:** Enable research performance analysis, benchmarking, collaboration mapping and strategic research planning through SciVal.
4. **Scopus AI:** Leverage AI-enabled discovery, analysis and synthesis of research information through Scopus AI.
5. **DGCM:** Strengthen research support and digital capabilities through the DGCM platform.
6. **Research Connect:** Facilitate identification of research opportunities, funding prospects and potential collaborations through Research Connect.
7. **ClinicalKey and ClinicalKey AI:** Support evidence-based clinical learning, decision-making and research through ClinicalKey and ClinicalKey AI.
8. **JMP Learning Library:** Strengthen statistical learning and data-analytics capabilities through the JMP Learning Library.
9. **BioRender:** Enable professional scientific illustration and visualisation for research, teaching and scholarly communication through BioRender.
10. **Image Twin:** Facilitate advanced imaging, visualisation and digital research applications through Image Twin.
11. **XLSCOUT:** Support technology intelligence, patent analytics and innovation through XLSCOUT.
12. **Springer Nature:** Strengthen access to high-quality scholarly publications, research resources and publishing support through Springer Nature.
13. **BMJ Publication Support:** Facilitate research publication and scholarly communication through BMJ publication support services.
14. **Web of Science and Journal Citation Reports:** Support research evaluation, citation analysis, journal assessment and strategic publication planning through Web of Science and JCR.
15. **Researgence:** Strengthen research discovery, collaboration and institutional research visibility through Researgence.
16. **Turnitin:** Strengthen academic integrity through digital similarity checking, plagiarism prevention and responsible scholarly writing.
17. **Complete Anatomy:** Enhance anatomy education, visualisation and learning through an interactive digital anatomy platform.

Dr. Prashanth emphasised that these resources are intended to support faculty, clinicians, research scholars and students in evidence-based research, collaboration, publication and institutional research planning. Further, the role of technology assessment and research commercialisation in translating research outcomes into societal and institutional value was discussed. It was informed that two patents had been commercialised and that royalty had commenced. The Technology Assessment team is being strengthened to assess the value of intellectual property and facilitate appropriate technology translation and industry/agency linkages.

The Committee was also apprised of the first draft of the JSS AHER Faculty Excellence and Performance Linked Incentive Policy, which is being developed in association with IQAC. The proposed framework is based on a 100-point assessment scale comprising:



Domain	Proposed Weightage
Academic Excellence	30
Research & Innovation	35
Clinical Excellence	20
International / Institutional Contribution	10
Leadership & Professional Development	5
Total	100

It was explained that the framework is intended to provide a comprehensive assessment of faculty contribution. For non-clinical departments, the weightage allocated to Clinical Excellence may be appropriately redistributed to other relevant domains based on the nature of faculty responsibilities.

Under Research & Innovation, the proposed metrics included publications and citation impact, extramural research funding, innovation and intellectual property, commercialisation, research leadership and capacity building, clinical and translational research, national and international recognition, research integrity and open science. The Dean (Research) clarified that the framework is still at the draft stage and that intramural research funding would also be incorporated.

The Committee was informed that the proposed publication-related metrics would consider the quality and impact of publications, including journal quartiles, authorship contribution, multidisciplinary publications and citation impact. Additional consideration may be given to publications falling within the highly cited category, wherever appropriate. The objective is to ensure that research assessment captures the quality, contribution and impact of research rather than relying solely on the number of publications.

Under Clinical Excellence, the proposed framework included clinical service delivery, quality, patient safety and clinical governance, patient experience and community engagement, clinical teaching and mentorship, clinical research and innovation, and professionalism, ethics and continuous improvement. Clinical service indicators included OPD/IPD contribution, speciality clinics, advanced procedures and the complexity and case mix of clinical work. The Committee noted that evaluation should consider speciality requirements, faculty designation and departmental workload, and should recognise both individual and team/departmental contributions.

The Committee noted and appreciated the initiatives presented by the Dean (Research) towards strengthening digital research support, technology assessment, research translation and institutional research impact.



The Committee advised that the JSS AHER Faculty Excellence and Performance Linked Incentive Policy may be further refined by incorporating the suggestions received during the deliberations, including:

- appropriate differentiation of indicators across clinical, non-clinical and other departmental clusters
- consideration of individual, departmental and institutional contributions
- appropriate recognition of industry engagement, research translation and commercialisation
- inclusion of intramural research funding
- consideration of the contribution of adjunct faculty and Professors of Practice
- recognition of faculty contributions towards new and interdisciplinary programmes
- appropriate weightage for research quality, citation impact and meaningful research outcomes
- alignment of research activities with SDGs and societal/community impact and
- integration with existing institutional data systems to minimise repetitive data collection.

The Dean (Research), in coordination with IQAC, BQS and other concerned stakeholders, shall further refine the metrics, rubrics, weightages and evidence requirements and place the revised framework before the appropriate institutional authority for consideration and approval.

Dr. Shekar opined that research and publications should be assessed at the individual, departmental and institutional levels, considering their value and recognition at the national and international levels. He emphasised that research outcomes should contribute to the reputation and visibility of the institution, with due consideration to commercialisation and translation of research outputs. He further highlighted the need to align research with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and assess its tangible impact on the community, society and patients.

Dr. Sunil Kumar highlighted the importance of strengthening GBD-related publications, systematic studies, EMBAS/Cochrane reviews and meta-analyses to enhance the quality, evidence base and impact of institutional research.

The Chairman opined that publications in The Lancet have made significant contributions to Global Burden of Disease (GBD) research, however, in earlier years, publications involving many authors were not always considered in institutional assessment. He noted that publication charges and royalty-based models had previously influenced perceptions regarding the impact of paid publications. He further observed that the research publication landscape has evolved, with article processing charges and paid publication models now being widely adopted and emphasised the need to ensure that high-quality research is published in appropriate, credible and impactful journals.



Agenda 26.7: To consider the various rankings, ratings, and awards achieved by JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research (JSS AHER)

The Dean (IQAC) apprised of recent institutional rankings, ratings and recognitions. The following achievements were placed on record:

Ranking / Recognition	Reported Position / Recognition
Sustainability Impact Ratings 2026	Overall world rank 74 and India rank 3; SDG-specific positions were also reported, including SDG 3 (world 11; India 3), SDG 1 (world 14; India 2), SDG 6 (world 53; India 6), SDG 7 (world 61; India 8) and SDG 15 (world 99; India 6).
QS World University Rankings by Subject 2026	Pharmacy & Pharmacology – world rank 91 and India rank 4; Medicine – rank band 551–600 and India rank 10.
THE Asia University Rankings 2026	Rank band 351–400 among 1,405 institutions; India rank 50 among 163 institutions.
Sustainable Institution of India Green Rankings 2026	Platinum Plus recognition and 7th position, with the institution retaining the recognition for the third consecutive year.

The Chairman emphasised that rankings and awards should be considered alongside substantive academic quality, research impact, institutional performance, student experience, community engagement and demonstrable outcomes. The focus should remain on sustained quality improvement rather than rankings alone.

Agenda 26.8: Any other matter with the permission of chair

The Chairman called for the discussion on any other matter.

Dr. Vishal Kumar Gupta emphasised the need for timely and accurate AQAR submissions and approvals. The Dean (IQAC) clarified that, in accordance with NAAC directions, data are being collected in the prescribed format followed from 2024 onwards, including consolidated feedback analysis on curriculum and other quality-related information. It was further discussed that teacher quality, curriculum effectiveness, student experience, alumni engagement and other quality initiatives should be consolidated and reviewed systematically through IQAC



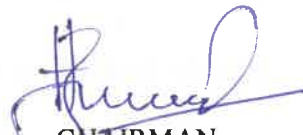
mechanisms and appropriate meetings. Dr. Prashanth Vishwanath emphasised the need to capture the comprehensive student experience including academic and institutional initiatives. Dr. Shekar opined that assessment on the alumni and their contribution to the society as an outcome after graduation and their impact on the community at large.

Dr. Vandana opined that the initiatives undertaken by the University are progressing well and emphasised the need for continuous efforts towards further improvement. She suggested that the guiding motto should be stronger, faster and higher reflecting the commitment to sustained quality enhancement and institutional excellence.

Concluding Remarks: The Chairman concluded by emphasising continuous quality enhancement, integrated digitalisation, impactful research, stakeholder engagement and measurable institutional outcomes.

Vote of Thanks: Dr. Sumana K, Deputy Dean (IQAC) proposed the vote of thanks, sought the blessing from His Holiness and expressed gratitude to the leadership the Pro-Chancellor in his absentia, and expressed heartfelt gratitude to the Vice-Chancellor and Registrar for their administrative guidance. She extended humble gratitude to all the external members Dr. Shekar MA, for his insights on the quality perspectives, Dr. Haraprasad N for his guidance on the rubrics for key performance indicators, Dr. Hemanth Kumar, Dr. Kishore Ginpalli and Dr. Vandana Patravale for their inputs to enhance the quality culture, and thanked all the Deans, Deputy Deans, Assistant Deans, Officers, Principals, HoDs, IQAC Coordinators and participants for their active participation, insights and inputs.

These minutes are submitted for approval in the next 27th IQAC meeting.


CHAIRMAN
VICE CHANCELLOR
JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research
Mysuru