**Annual Report 2021 Progress Report**

# Research and other Project related activities

1. **University Research Grant (URC)-Academic Branch**
2. **Accelerating Higher Education Expansion and Development (AHEAD) Operation – World Bank Assisted Project- Director/OTS**

University of Jaffna has secured a number of grants under the World Bank funded AHEAD (Accelerating Higher Education Expansion and Development) Project. Grants made available from June 2018 under three different categories are given below in rupees:

**Results Area 1:** Funds are allocated for certain STEM faculties to be utilised to procure teaching equipment to increase the enrollment. Faculty of Medicine (Round 1 - 30 million), Faculty of Engineering (Round 1 - 25 million, Round 2 - 25 million, Round 3 - 25 million), Department of Civil Engineering (Round 3 - 20 million), Faculty of Technology (Round 1- 40 million, Round 2 - 60 million, Round 3 - 50 million) and Technology – Stream – Vavuniya Campus (Round 2 - 40 million, Round 3 - 40 million) are the recipients of this grant. Grants under Round 1 & 2 are fully utilised and 90% of the funds under Round 3 are utilised. Under this result area, the university has secured a grant of 247.7 million for the Construction of Building for the Department of Computer Science (70% work completed) and a 265 million grant for a building for the Faculty of Technology (Consultant appointed, building design completed and the Bidding document prepared).

**Result Area 2:** Faculties and Departments secured competitive grants to improve the relevance of the degree programs they offer. Under this, the Faculty of Arts, Faculty of Agriculture, Faculty of Science and Faculty of Applied Science secured grants of 120 million each from 2019. Further the Department of Chemistry, Department of Human Resource Management, Department of Zoology and Department of Bio Science secured grants of 18 million each. The projects are progressing well. Under Result area 2 - Human resource development, academic staff are provided with grants to pursue PhD in foreign universities, upto 9 million per person. Altogether 22 academics have secured the grant and commenced their Phd studies and progressing well.

**Result Area 3:** Research teams secured DOR (Development Oriented Research) grants and RIC (Research Innovation and Commercialization) grants under this category. Under DOR, a team from Faculties of Engineering, Agriculture and Science secured a secured 40 million grant for the Cultivation of Microalgae for Bio lipid Production: Optimization of Net Energy and Mathematical Modeling of Bioprocesses. A team from the Faculty of Science secured a 40 million grant for the Development of novel Electrolyte and Electrode Materials for Secondary Sodium – ion and Magnesium - ion Batteries. A team from the Faculty of Medicine and Library secured a grant of 10 million for the Development of a Trans – Disciplinary, Multi – Stakeholder Approach for Water Security in Northern Province – Sri Lanka. Under RIC a team from the Faculty of Engineering secured a grant of 38 million for Developing Speaker Verification and Speaker Diarization Technologies for Real World Applications”. All the projects are progressing well. Further, the University Business Linkages (UBL) Cell of the University of Jaffna has secured a grant of 9 million.

1. **Detail of meetings**
2. **Outreach activities**
3. **Future plan**
4. **Failures and Justification**
5. **Any other Activities**