

PROFESSOR OF PRACTICE – ARCSET (FULL-TIME POSITION):

About the Centre

Sustainability, clean energy, and allied technologies are central to addressing the pressing challenges of climate change, energy security, and environmental degradation. To advance these frontiers, BITS Pilani established the Advanced Research Centre for Sustainable Energy Technologies (ARCSET) on 28 January 2025, inaugurated by Padma Vibhushan Prof. J. B. Joshi, Chancellor, ICT Mumbai. Conceived as a platform for transformative and interdisciplinary research, ARCSET aims to drive cutting-edge research, innovation, technology development and policy integration in clean energy, decarbonisation, climate change mitigation and sustainable resource management. The Centre seeks to accelerate national and global transitions toward sustainable energy by developing scalable technologies, fostering industry–academia collaborations and nurturing talent.

Call for Applications

Applications are invited for a full-time position of Professor of Practice (PoP) to lead the activities of ARCSET, strengthen industry and government partnerships, and drive innovation and technology translation in energy and sustainability.

Role Overview

The PoP will serve as the “strategic leader and industry bridge” for the Centre. Unlike conventional academic positions, this role prioritises “practical experience, applied research, and industry engagement”. The PoP will be responsible for the regular activities of the centre, building partnerships, securing industry and government grants aligned with the centre, and assisting in the successful completion of the projects. The ideal candidate will have a relevant background, a proven record of leadership in energy and sustainability, and the ability to mentor faculty, researchers and students.

Key Responsibilities

1. Strategic Leadership & Centre Development

- Provide vision and leadership for the Centre’s growth and impact.
- Build and nurture collaborations with industry, government bodies, and international institutions.
- Identify priority research areas aligned with national energy and sustainability goals (e.g., National Hydrogen Mission, Net Zero targets, renewable integration, circular economy).

2. Industry Engagement & Resource Mobilisation

- Act as the primary interface between ARCSET, the industry, and the government bodies.
- Secure funding from industry, CSR, government agencies, and international organisations
- Drive joint projects, sponsored research, and consultancy assignments. Facilitate the project execution and aligning resources to ensure successful project completion.

3. Innovation & Technology Translation

- Facilitate technology development and transfer from lab to market
- Promote commercialization activities in energy and sustainability through existing platforms of the BITS and industry partners.
- Enable pilot demonstrations, scale-up activities, and commercialization.

4. Policy, Advocacy & Outreach

- Provide thought leadership in shaping policies at state, national, and international levels
- Organize workshops, conclaves, and policy dialogues.
- Represent the Centre in government and industry forums.

- Build international partnerships with leading universities and organisations.

Appointment & Mode of Engagement

The Professor of Practice (PoP) is a non-tenured appointment. The offer will initially be for a period of three years and may be extended based on performance and contribution. However, an industry professional may apply for a short-term (1 to 2 years) PoP position at BITS Pilani by availing appropriate leave from his/her regular role in the industry. Normally, up to 10% of the total faculty strength may be inducted as PoP. A Professor of Practice with a PhD may be absorbed as a full-time Professor if he/she has demonstrated evidence of scholarly research with both academic rigor and industrial applicability (including, but not limited to, high-impact publications, patents and product incubation) and pedagogical experience (teaching courses both in academia and industry labs, and mentorship of significance). However, for appointment to a full-time tenured professorship, the incumbent must go through the laid-down faculty selection process for a regular tenured position, although the criteria for selection may differ depending on the Institute's needs in a particular area of expertise.

Eligibility

Professionals such as CEOs, CTOs, Vice Presidents, Principal Scientists, and Senior Research Scientists with at least a Master's degree in engineering, science, humanities or a related field can be considered for the position of Professor of Practice. A PhD is desirable but not essential. However, the lack of a PhD must be offset by strongly demonstrated domain knowledge obtained from extensive experience in the field. Individuals with an appropriate Bachelor's degree but having exceptional achievements in entrepreneurship and start-ups may also be considered for the role of PoP.

- **Preferable age 45 and above.**

Compensation

The compensation of a Professor of Practice will depend on the nature of the appointment, the expertise he/she brings in, and prevailing market trends for such expertise. An appropriate set of guidelines will be laid down for determining their compensation.

Approval Process

The non-tenure appointment of a PoP will be done through the Campus Level Review committee, based on recommendations of relevant departments and centres, as it is normally done for all non-tenure appointments.

Why Join Us?

- Opportunity to shape a first-of-its-kind "Centre of Excellence in Energy & Sustainability".
- Lead India's transition towards clean energy, decarbonisation, and net-zero pathways.
- Access to a vibrant academic and research ecosystem of BITS Pilani, an Institute of eminence
- Platform to influence policy, industry, and next-generation talent.

Application Deadline

Interested candidates are requested to submit their applications on or before May 15, 2026