

Ph. D. Regulations for year 2022-2024

1	PREAMBLE
	<p>These Regulations Governing the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) have been framed on this subject with a view to fulfilling the provisions in the UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of Ph.D. Degree) Regulations, 2022 and UGC Gazette Notification (Specification of Degrees), 2014.</p> <p>The Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) is awarded to a candidate who has submitted a thesis on the basis of original work done in any particular discipline/inter-discipline that makes a contribution to the advancement of knowledge, which is approved by suitably appointed examiners and prerequisites, as per regulations.</p>

2	SHORT TITLE AND COMMENCEMENT
A	<p>The regulations shall be called the "Regulations Governing the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy for all Doctoral Program leading to the Ph.D. degree" offered by the Swami Vivekananda University.</p> <p>These shall apply to every candidate applying for admission, registration, conduct and conferment of the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) of this University.</p>
B	<p>The regulations hereunder are subject to amendments by the Research Advisory Committee (RAC) of the University, from time to time, after considering the recommendations of the Board of Research Studies.</p> <p>Such amendments will come into force from the date of their notification by the University and apply to such batches of candidates, including those already undergoing the programme, as may be determined by the RAC.</p>

3	DEFINITIONS
3.1	"University" means the Swami Vivekananda University established and incorporated under section 3 of this Act ;
3.2	"Higher Educational Institution" means a university or institution specified under Section 2 (f) of the UGC Act 1956 ;
3.3	"Act" means the University Grants Commission Act, 1956 (3 of 1956);
3.4	"Adjunct Faculty" means a part-time or contingent instructor, but not full-time faculty member ;
3.5	<p>"Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA)" means a measure of the overall cumulative performance of a student over all semesters.</p> <p>The CGPA is the ratio of total credit points secured by a student in various courses in all semesters and the sum of the total credits of all courses in all semesters.</p> <p>It is expressed up to two decimal places;</p>
3.6	<p>"Credit" means the number of hours of instruction required per week over the duration of a semester.</p> <p>A three-credit course in a semester means three one-hour lectures per week, with each one-hour lecture counted as one credit;</p>

3.7	"Commission" means the University Grants Commission established under Section 4 of the UGC Act 1956;
3.8	"Course" means one of the specified units which go to comprise a programme of study;
3.9	"Course Work" means courses of study prescribed by the Research Advisory to be undertaken by a student registered for the Ph.D. Degree;
3.1	"Degree" means a degree awarded by the University in accordance with the provisions of section 36 of The Swami Vivekananda University Act 2019 and Section 22 of the UGC Act 1956 ;
3.11	"External examiner" means an academician/researcher with published research work who is not part of the Higher Educational Institution/University where the Ph.D. scholar has registered for the Ph.D. programme;
3.12	"Foreign Educational Institution" means— (i) an institution duly established or incorporated in its home country and offering educational programmes at the undergraduate, postgraduate and higher levels in its home country and (ii) which offers programme(s) of study leading to the award of a degree through conventional face-to-face mode, <i>but excluding distance, online, ODL mode</i> ;
3.13	"Grade Point" means a numerical weight allotted to each letter grade on a 10-point scale
3.14	"Guide/Research Supervisor" means an academician/researcher recognized by The University to supervise the Ph.D. scholar for his/her research.
3.15	"Interdisciplinary Research" means research conducted by a Ph.D. scholar in two or more academic disciplines;
3.16	"Open and Distance Learning Mode" shall have the same meaning as defined under the UGC (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations 2020;
3.17	"Online Mode" shall have the same meaning as defined under the UGC (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations 2020;
3.18	"Plagiarism" means the practice of taking someone else's work or idea and passing them as one's own;
3.19	"Programme" means a higher education programme pursued for a degree specified by the Commission under sub-section (3) of section 22 of the Act;
3.20	"Prospectus" means any document, whether in print or otherwise, issued for providing fair and transparent information relating to a Higher Educational Institution/University and Programmes, to the general public (including to those seeking admission in such Higher Educational Institutions) by the Higher Educational Institutions/University ;
3.21	"Research Proposal" means a brief write-up giving an outline of the proposed research work which the Ph.D. scholar shall submit along with the application for registration for Ph.D. programme;
3.22	"Caretaker Supervisor" shall mean a member of the academic staff who is a recognized research supervisor appointed to look after the candidate's research interests in the absence of the Supervisor.

	3.23	"Co-supervisor" shall mean an additional supervisor recommended by the Research Advisory Committee to help in the accomplishment of such research work which is of the interdisciplinary nature as envisaged in the relevant clause;
	3.24	"Sponsored Research Student / Candidate" shall mean a full time research student/candidate except that, he /she, receives complete financial support from the sponsoring organization or his/ her employer;
	3.25	"Residency" shall mean the minimum period for which a student/ candidate must attend the University on full-time/part-time basis.

4	Eligibility criteria for admission to the Ph.D. Programme	
	Subject to the conditions stipulated in these Regulations, the following persons are eligible to seek admission to the Ph.D. Programme:	
	4.1	Candidates who have completed:
	(i)	A 1-year / 2-semester Master's degree programme after a 4-year / 8-semester Bachelor's degree programme OR a 2-year/4-semester master's degree programme after a 3-year bachelor's degree programme OR qualifications declared equivalent to the Master's degree by the corresponding statutory regulatory body, with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed;
		OR equivalent qualification from a Foreign educational institution accredited by an assessment and accreditation agency which is approved, recognized or authorized by an authority, established or incorporated under a law in its home country or any other statutory authority in that country to assess, accredit or assure quality and standards of the educational institution.
	(ii)	A relaxation of 5% marks or its equivalent grade may be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/Differently-Abled, Economically Weaker Section (EWS) and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the Commission from time to time.
	(iii)	Provided that a candidate seeking admission after a 4-year/8-semester bachelor's degree programme should have a minimum of 75% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade on a point scale wherever the grading system is followed. A relaxation of 5% marks or its equivalent grade may be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/Differently-Abled, Economically Weaker Section (EWS) and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the Commission from time to time.
	(iv)	SC/ST/OBC/PWD applicants from other states will not get reservation facility.

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	4.2	<p>Candidates who have completed the M.Phil. programme with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed or equivalent qualification from a foreign educational institution accredited by an assessment and accreditation agency which is approved, recognized or authorized by an authority, established or incorporated under a law in its home country or any other statutory authority in that country to assess, accredit or assure quality and standards of educational institutions, shall be eligible for admission to the Ph.D. programme.</p> <p>A relaxation of 5% marks or its equivalent grade may be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/Differently-Abled, Economically Weaker Section (EWS) and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the Commission from time to time.</p>
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5		Duration of the Programme :
	5.1	<p>Ph.D. Programme shall be for a minimum duration of three (3) years, including Course Work, and a maximum duration of Six (6) years from the date of admission to the Ph.D. programme.</p> <p>The minimum duration of three (3) years may be relaxed and allowed to submit in case of work conducted for more than two (2) years before the registration.</p> <p>It should be endorsed by the Supervisor and approved by the relevant Research Board.</p>
	5.2	A maximum of an additional Two (2) years can be given through a process of Re-registration as per the Rules of the University; provided, however, that the total period for completion of a Ph.D. programme should not exceed Eight (8) years from the date of admission in the Ph.D. programme.
	5.3	Provided further that, female Ph.D. scholars and Persons with Disabilities (having more than 40% disability) may be allowed an additional relaxation of two (2) years; however, the total period for completion of a Ph.D. programme in such cases should not exceed Ten (10) years from the date of admission in the Ph.D. programme.
	5.4	Female Ph.D. Scholars may be provided Maternity Leave/Child Care Leave for up to 240 days in the entire duration of the Ph.D. programme.

6		Procedure for Admission
	6.1	The admission shall be based on the criteria notified by the University, keeping in view the guidelines/norms in this regard issued by the UGC and other statutory/regulatory bodies concerned, and taking into account the reservation policy of the Central/State Government from time to time.
	6.2	Admission to the Ph.D. programme shall be made using the following methods:
	(i)	The University may admit students who have qualified for fellowship/scholarship in UGC-NET/UGC- CSIR NET/GATE/CEED and similar National level tests based on an interview / viva voce.

And/or		
		(i) The University may admit students through a "Research Entrance Test" (RET) conducted at the level of the individual University, through the Doctoral Committee of the respective Departments. The Entrance Test syllabus shall consist of 50% of research methodology, and 50% shall be subjectspecific.
		(ii) Students who have secured 50 % marks in the entrance test are eligible to be called for the interview
		(iii) A relaxation of 5 % marks will be allowed in the Research Entrance Test for the candidates belonging to SC/ST/OBC/differently-abled category, Economically Weaker Section (EWS), and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the Commission from time to time.
		(iv) Provided that for the selection of candidates based on the Research Entrance Test conducted by the University, a weightage of 70 % for the Research Entrance Test and 30 % for the performance in the interview/viva- voce shall be given.
		(v) Students who have qualified for UGC-NET/UGC-CSIR/NET/GATE/ CEED and similar National level tests without fellowship/scholarship, may have to appear for the Research Eligibility Test, as per discretion of the University.
		(vii) The University may decide the number of eligible students to be called for an interview based on the number of Ph.D. seats available.
	6.3	Swami Vivekananda University shall:
		(i) Notify a prospectus well in advance on the University's website specifying the number of seats for admission, subject/discipline-wise distribution of available seats, criteria for admission, the procedure for admission, and all other relevant information for the candidates;
		(ii) Adhere to the National/State-level reservation policy, as applicable.
	4	The Swami Vivekananda University shall maintain a list of Ph.D. supervisors (specifying the name of the supervisor, his or her designation, and the department/school/centre), along with the details of Ph.D. scholars (specifying the name of the registered Ph.D. scholar, the topic of his/her research and the date of admission) admitted under them on the website of the institution and update this list every academic year .

7	Allocation of Research Supervisor :
	Eligibility criteria to be a Research Supervisor, Co-Supervisor AND Number of Ph.D. scholars permissible per supervisor, etc.
7.1	Permanent faculty members working as Professor/Associate Professor of the University with a Ph.D., and at least FIVE research publications in peer-reviewed or refereed journals and permanent faculty members working as Assistant Professors in the University with a Ph.D., and at least THREE research publications in peer-reviewed or refereed journals may be recognized as a Research Supervisor in the university where the faculty member is employed. Such recognized research supervisors cannot supervise research scholars in other institutions, where they can only act as co-supervisors. Ph.D. awarded by the University under the supervision of a faculty member who is not an employee of the university, would be in violation of these Regulations.
7.2	For Ph.D. scholars working in Central government/ State government research institutions whose degrees are given by the University, the scientists in such research institutions who are equivalent to Professor/Associate Professor/Assistant Professor can be recognized as supervisors if they fulfill the above requirements.
7.3	Provided that in areas/disciplines where there is no, or only a limited number of peer-reviewed or refereed journals, the University may relax the above condition for recognition of a person as Research Supervisor with reasons recorded in writing.
7.4	Co-Supervisors from within the same department or other departments of the same institution or other institutions may be permitted with the approval of the competent authority.
7.5	Adjunct Faculty members shall not act as Research Supervisors and can only act as Co-supervisors.
7.6	In case of interdisciplinary/multidisciplinary research work, if required, a Co-Supervisor from outside the Department/Centre/University may be appointed.
7.7	An eligible Professor/Associate Professor/Assistant Professor can guide up to eight (8) / six (6) / four (4) Ph.D. scholars, respectively, at any given time.
7.8	A seat shall be considered to be vacant only after a registered research scholar submits his / her thesis for Ph.D.
7.9	In case of relocation of a female Ph.D. scholar due to marriage or otherwise, the research data shall be allowed to be transferred to the Higher Educational Institution to which the scholar intends to relocate, provided all the other conditions in these Regulations are followed, and the research work does not pertain to a project sanctioned to the parent Institution/Supervisor by any funding agency. Such scholar shall, however, give due credit to the parent institution and the supervisor for the part of research already undertaken.

	7.10	Faculty members with less than three years of service before superannuation shall not be allowed to take new research scholars under their supervision. However, such faculty members can continue to supervise Ph.D. scholars who are already registered until superannuation and as a co-supervisor after superannuation, but not after attaining the age of 70 years.
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8	Admission of International students in Ph.D. programme :	
	8.1	Each supervisor can guide up to TWO International Research Scholars on a supernumerary basis over and above the permitted number of Ph.D. scholars as specified in clause 7.7 above.
	2	The University may decide their own selection procedure for Ph.D. admission of international students keeping in view the guidelines/norms in this regard issued by Statutory/regulatory bodies concerned from time to time.
	N.B.	At any point, the total number of Ph.D. scholars under a faculty member, either as a supervisor or a co-supervisor, shall not exceed the number prescribed in clause 7.7 and clause 8.1.

9	Course Work : Credit requirements, number, duration, syllabus, minimum standards for completion, etc.	
	9.1	The Credit requirement for the Ph.D. coursework is a minimum of 12 credits , including a "Research and Publication Ethics (RPE)" , a TWO Credit Course, as notified by UGC vide D.O. No. F.1- 1/2018(Journal/CARE) in 2019 and a research methodology course. The Research Advisory Committee can also recommend UGC recognized online courses as part of the credit requirements for the Ph.D. programme.
	9.2	All Ph.D. scholars, irrespective of discipline, shall be required to train in teaching /education /pedagogy/writing related to their chosen Ph.D. subject during their doctoral period. Ph.D. scholars may also be assigned 4-6 hours per week of teaching/research assistantship for conducting tutorial or laboratory work and evaluations.
	9.3	A Ph.D. scholar must obtain a minimum of 55% marks or its equivalent grade in the UGC 10-point scale in the course work to be eligible to continue in the programme and submit his or her thesis. The Course Work undertaken will remain valid for Two (2) years.
	9.4	All candidates admitted to the Ph.D. programmes shall be required to satisfactorily complete the course work prescribed by the Board of Research Studies during the initial one semester.
	9.5	Unsuccessful candidates, due to not appearing for the examination or not obtaining the qualifying marks in the examination are eligible to appear once in the next chance for the said purpose to qualify the Ph.D. course work examination.

	9.6	All candidates admitted to the Ph.D. programme shall be required to complete the Ph.D. course work prescribed by the Department.
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10 Research Advisory Committee, its Constitution and Functions :		
	10.1	There shall be a Three (3) Member Research Advisory Committee of the University Department concerned for each Ph.D. scholar consisting of the Head of the department / TIC having Ph.D Degree of the Department, ONE External expert to be nominated by the Board of Research Studies not below the rank of Professor and the Supervisor / Guide. The Research Supervisor of the Ph.D. scholar concerned shall be the Convener of this committee, and this committee shall have the following responsibilities:
		(i) To review the research proposal and finalize the topic of research
		(ii) To guide the Ph.D. scholar in developing the study design and methodology of research and identify the course(s) that he/she may have to do.
		(iii) To periodically review and assist in the progress of the research work of the Ph.D. scholar.
	10.2	Each semester (once in six months) the Research Supervisor shall convene a meeting of the Research Advisory Committee . A copy of the Notice convening the meeting shall be sent to the Ph.D. scholar for information. The Ph.D. scholar shall appear before the Research Advisory Committee to make a presentation and submit a brief report on the progress of her/his work for evaluation and further guidance. The Research Advisory Committee shall submit its recommendations to the University. A copy of such recommendations shall also be provided to the Ph.D. scholar.
	10.3	In case the progress of the Ph.D. scholar is unsatisfactory, the Research Advisory Committee shall record the reasons for the same and suggest corrective measures. If the Ph.D. scholar fails to implement these corrective measures, the Research Advisory Committee may recommend, with specific reasons, the cancellation of the registration of the Ph.D. scholar from the Ph.D. programme. If the Ph.D. scholar does not submit any report on the progress of her/his work for evaluation, once every six months and / or, does not appear for the meeting of Research Advisory Committee, the Research Supervisor shall submit to the university the minutes of the meeting mentioning the same. Non-appearance of the Ph.D. scholar in two consecutive Research Advisory Committee meetings shall lead to the cancellation of the registration of the Ph.D. scholar from the Ph.D. programme.

	10.4	The meeting of the Research Advisory Committee can also be conducted online / in hybrid mode.
	10.5	Constitution of the Research Advisory Committee (RAC) for reviewing the work of the Ph. D. Scholar - (i) Supervisor (Convenor) (ii) Head of the Department (iii) ONE external expert (iv) Senior most faculty of the Department concerned

11	Doctoral Committee and its functions:	
	11.1	To determine the manageable number of seats available in the Departments/Centres for Ph.D. programme, and specializations related thereto;
	11.2	To conduct the Research Eligibility Test of the Ph.D. Programme;
	11.3	To prepare and finalize the list of the qualified candidates of the Research Eligibility Test and submit it to the appropriate authority.
	11.4	To conduct and finalize the result of Ph.D. Course Work Examination and submit it to the appropriate authority.
	11.5	To consider and approve the name of supervisors who have applied from Post Graduate Departments of the University, as per recommendation of the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) in consultation with the Doctoral Committee of the Department concerned.
	11.6	On the basis of the recommendation of the Doctoral Committee, the authority concerned will issue the course work completion certificate to the candidate concerned.
	11.7	Constitution of the Doctoral Committee (DOC) for reviewing the work of the Ph. D. Scholar - (i) THREE members from the department having Ph.D. Degree, (ii) ONE External expert not below that rank of Associate professor, (iii) Chief Executive Director (Academics) as Chairman of the Committee,

12	Board of Research Studies and its functions:	
	<p>There shall be a Board of Research Studies, as defined in the Rules / Regulations of the Swami Vivekananda University for the Ph.D. Programme.</p> <p>This Board shall have the following responsibilities:</p>	
	12.1	To prepare and recommend the names of the Ph.D. candidates for Registration and allot Ph.D. supervisors after reviewing the presentation and viva voce relating to the research proposal and provisionally approve the topic and title of research.
	12.2	To recommend the name of new / joint supervisor(s) in case of death / resignation / retirement of the supervisor.
	12.3	To recommend the name of a new supervisor in case of Re-registration when an existing supervisor is no longer an employee of the university.
	12.4	To frame / revise all courses / modules of coursework for Ph. D. programme, which has to be subsequently approved by the Vice Chancellor.
	12.5	To perform any other duties related to the Ph.D. programme as desired by the University authority.
	12.6	<p>Constitution of the Board of Studies (BRS) for reviewing the work of the Ph. D. Scholar - (i) Supervisor (Convenor) (ii) Head of the Department (iii) ONE external expert (iv) Senior most faculty of the Department concerned</p>

13	Evaluation and Assessment Methods, minimum standards/credits for award of the degree, etc.-	
	13.1	Upon satisfactory completion of course work and obtaining the marks/grade prescribed in clause 9.3 above, the Ph.D. scholar shall be required to undertake research work and produce a draft dissertation/thesis.
	13.2	Before submitting the dissertation/thesis, the Ph.D. scholar shall make a pre-submission Seminar before the Research Advisory Committee of the University Department concerned, which shall be open to all faculty members and research scholars/students.
	13.3	Scholars must publish at least one (1) research paper relating to her/ his Ph.D. topic in a refereed journal and make two (2) paper presentations in conferences / seminars before the submission of the thesis for adjudication, and produce appropriate evidence of the same.
	13.4	In normal course, the language of the thesis shall be English, unless the Board of Research Studies concerned permits to write the thesis in a language other than English on the prayer of the Ph.D. scholar on valid grounds and in compliance with UGC and The Swami Vivekananda University Regulations in this regard.

13.5	A Ph.D. scholar shall submit four (4) typed / printed copies of the Ph.D. thesis containing the results of her / his research along with an undertaking of the Ph.D. scholar and her / his Supervisor (s). At the time of submission of the thesis, the Ph.D. scholar shall also submit four (04) copies of an Abstract (of about 500 words) of the Ph.D. thesis, two (02) CDs containing the entire Ph.D. thesis in pdf file format, photocopies of the research article(s) / proof of publication of the research article(s) published in any refereed journal and the Certificates of academic papers presented in Conferences / seminars / exhibitions related to the Ph.D. topic of the scholar.
13.6	Along with her / his thesis, the Ph.D. scholar shall be required to submit a clearance Certificate of the Department concerned and the Central Library to the Research Office or the appropriate authority.
13.7	The University shall have a mechanism using well-developed software applications as per UGC / University guidelines to detect Plagiarism in research work and the research integrity shall be an integral part of all the research activities leading to the award of a Ph.D. degree.
13.8	A Ph.D. scholar shall submit the thesis for evaluation, along with (a) an undertaking from the Ph.D. scholar that there is no plagiarism and (b) a certificate from the Research Supervisor attesting to the originality of the thesis and that the thesis has not been submitted for the award of any other degree/diploma to any other Higher Educational Institution.
13.9	The Ph.D. thesis submitted by a Ph.D. scholar shall be evaluated by her/his Research Supervisor and at least two external examiners, not below the rank of Professors, who are experts in the field and not in employment of Bankura University. Such examiner(s) should be academics with a good record of scholarly publications in the field and one of the external examiners may be chosen from outside the State.
13.10	The Board for viva - voce shall consist of the Research Supervisor and at least one of the two external examiners and may be conducted online / in hybrid mode. The viva voce shall be open to the members of the Research Advisory Committee, all Faculty members, research scholars and students of the department.
13.11	The Dean of the Faculty concerned shall place the panel of examiners submitted by the Board of Research Studies to the Vice Chancellor for his / her nomination. The Vice Chancellor shall nominate one external examiner within the State of West Bengal and one external examiner from outside the State from the panel of experts as suggested by the Supervisor and approved by the Board of Research Studies in order of his/her preference for adjudication / examination of the thesis.

	13.12	The viva voce of the Ph.D. scholar to defend the thesis shall be conducted if both the external examiners recommend acceptance of the thesis after incorporating any corrections suggested by them. If one of the external examiners recommends rejection, the University shall send the thesis to an alternate external examiner from the approved panel of examiners, and the viva voce examination shall be held only if the alternate examiner recommends acceptance of the thesis. If the alternate examiner does not recommend acceptance of the thesis, the thesis shall be rejected, and the Ph.D. scholar shall be declared ineligible for the award of a Ph.D. degree.
	13.13	The University shall complete the entire process of evaluating a Ph. D. thesis, including the declaration of the viva voce result, within a period of six (6) months from the date of submission of the thesis.
	13.14	The date of the open viva voce examination, as mentioned in the satisfactory viva voce report of the concerned Viva Voce Board shall be the date of award of Ph.D. Degree.

14	Ph.D. through Part-time Mode :	
	14.1	Ph.D. programmes through part-time mode will be permitted, provided all the conditions stipulated in these Regulations are fulfilled.
	2	The University shall obtain a "No Objection Certificate" through the candidate for a Part-time Ph.D. programme, from the appropriate authority, in the organisation, where the candidate is employed, clearly stating that:-
		(a) The candidate is permitted to pursue studies on a part-time basis.
		(b) His/her official duties permit him/her to devote sufficient time for research.
		(c) If required, he/she will be relieved from the duty to complete the course work.
	3	Notwithstanding anything contained in these Regulations or any other law, for the time being in force, no Higher Educational Institution or research institution of the Central government or a State Government shall conduct Ph.D. programmes through distance and/or online mode.

15	Grant of M.Phil. Degree
	Universities / Higher Educational Institutions, shall not offer the M.Phil. (Master of Philosophy) programme.

16	Issuing a Provisional certificate
	Prior to the actual award of the Ph.D. degree, the degree- awarding University shall issue a provisional certificate to the effect that the Ph.D. is being awarded in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations.

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17	Depository with INFLIBNET
	Following the successful completion of the evaluation process and before the announcement of the award of the Ph.D. degree(s), the University shall submit an electronic copy of the Ph.D. thesis to INFLIBNET, for hosting the same so as to make it accessible to all the Higher Educational Institutions and research institutions.

18	FEES :
	Non-refundable fees related to the Ph.D. Programme may be determined by the appropriate authority of the University from time to time.

In case of any dispute that may arise in connection with the above regulations, the decision of the University Academic Council shall be final and binding. Further, the University Authority shall have the right to amend any provisions of these regulations, as necessary, at any time.