

Vinayaka Mission Sikkim University

(Established by the Government of Sikkim & Recognized as per Section 2f of UGC Act 1956)

Ordinances on the Doctor of Philosophy Program

RESEARCH POLICY

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 These ordinances shall be called the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) ordinances of Vinayaka Mission Sikkim University.
- 1.2 The degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) of Vinayaka Mission Sikkim University shall be awarded to those fulfilling the conditions as laid down in these ordinances.

2. RESEARCH SUPERVISOR AND GUIDANCE (Allocation of Research Supervisor)

- 2.1 A Ph. D. candidate shall work for his/her doctoral degree under the guidance of a supervisor.
- 2.2 The allocation of the supervisor for as elected candidate shall be decided by the DRC in a formal manner depending on the available specialization among the eligible supervisors and the research interest of the candidate as indicated during interview by the candidate. The same shall not be left to the individual candidate or any supervisor.
- 2.3 Any regular Professor of the University with at least five research publications in refereed journals (Refereed Journals as notified by the UGC) and any regular Associate/Assistant Professor of the university with a Ph.D. degree and at least two research publications in refereed journals can become a supervisor; Provided that in areas/disciplines where there is no or only a limited number of refereed journals, the University may relax the above condition for recognition of a person as Research Supervisor with reasons recorded in writing by the DRC and forwarded by the Dean of the school to the Vice-chancellor.
- 2.4 Only a full-time regular teacher of the University can act as a supervisor. External supervisors shall not be allowed. However, Co-Supervisor may be allowed in inter- disciplinary areas from other Departments of the University or other institutions with the approval of the RAC/DRC
- 2.5 In case of topics which are of inter-disciplinary nature where the DRC concerned feels that the expertise in the Department has to be supplemented from outside, the DRC may appoint a Research Supervisor from the Department itself, who shall be known as the Research Supervisor, and a Co-Supervisor from outside the Department/Faculty on such terms and conditions as may be specified and agreed upon by the consenting university.
Similarly, The eligible supervisors of the University can also act as co-supervisor for Ph.D. students admitted in other Universities, provided that

- There is a vacancy with the supervisor under whom the student in tends to work.
- The concerned DRC approves it.

The details of such external Ph.D. supervision must be given by supervisors to the Dean of the School through Head of the Department. Such supervisors must take care of the limit of maximum number of Ph.D. students under them.

- 2.6 Any supervisor, who is a Professor, in the capacity of either (supervisor and/or Co- supervisor), shall not have, at any given point of time, more than Eight (08) Ph.D. students working under him/her for the award of Ph.D. Degree. Similarly, An Associate Professor as Research Supervisor can guide up to a maximum of six (6) Ph.D. scholars and an Assistant Professor as Research Supervisor can guide up to a maximum of four (4) Ph.D. scholars.

- 2.7 An eligible faculty member cannot become the supervisor of a newly admitted Ph.D. student if time left for his/her tenure/contract/ superannuation / retirement is less than three years.
- 2.8 Cases of dispute and/or requests for change of supervisor/s by the student shall be considered by the DRC. If the matter remains un resolved, the DRC shall forward it to the Dean of the concerned School and thereafter if required, Dean may forward it to the Vice-Chancellor for final decision.
- 2.9 In case of relocation of a Ph.D. woman scholar due to marriage or otherwise, the research data shall be allowed to be transferred to the University to which the scholar intends to relocate; Provided all the other conditions as per UGC regulations 1113 are followed. The scholar will however give due credit to the parent guide and the institution for the part of research already done.

3. APPOINTMENT OF NEW SUPERVISOR

- 3.1 In case of demise of the supervisor/co-supervisor / Joint supervisor of Ph.D. scholar, the DRC shall recommend a suitable supervisor/co-supervisor (on receiving a formal request from the scholar) to the Board of Studies and higher bodies for approval.
- 3.2 In case of superannuation, of supervisor/co-supervisor/ joint supervisor the following will be taken in to consideration;

A supervisor / co-supervisor superannuating from the University services will continue as the supervisor/co-supervisor if thesis is submitted within the six months. However, if the submission of thesis needs more than six month and the supervisor supervisor/co-supervisor has guided the scholar for more than two years, he may be considered as joint supervisor/co-supervisor.

A supervisor/ co-supervisor joining the University as professor Emeritus/ Scientist or in any other capacity, after superannuation from the service of this University, he may continue to be sole supervisor/co-supervisor for the scholar already registered under him/her till the end of his/her re-employment period.
- 3.3 In case, where guidance has been given for less than two years (residential period of the scholar), the following shall be taken into consideration.

A supervisor superannuating from the University or proceeds on leave for more than six months but not more than one-year, existing co-supervisor will look after research progress of the scholar. If co-supervisor is not there, a co-supervisor be appointed by the DRC. However, if the period of leave is more than one year, the supervisor/co-supervisor on leave shall cease to be a supervisor/co- supervisor and DRC shall recommend a suitable supervisor/co- supervisor to the Board of Studies and higher bodies for approval
- 3.4 In cases where the supervisor/co- supervisor has supervised the scholar for two years or more, the following shall be taken into consideration;

If the supervisor proceeds on leave for more than six months, it will be his/her responsibility to suggest supervisors (from within the centre/department), in consultation with concerned scholars, for all scholars registered under him/her. The DRC, on receiving a formal request from the scholar, duly endorsed by supervisor/co-supervisor and (wouldbe) Internal supervisor/co-supervisor

Should forward the name of Internal supervisor/ co-supervisor to Board of Studies and

higher bodies for approval. In all such cases, the written consent of (would be) Internal supervisors/co-supervisors is mandatory. However, if the leave is more than one month but less than six months, the Chairman RAC or his nominee shall look after the responsibility of the Internal supervisor/co-supervisor during the absence of the supervisor/co-supervisor, on receiving a formal request from the Scholar/Guide.

A supervisor resigning from the University service will cease to be the sole guide of the scholar. Such a supervisor, in consultation with his/her scholar (s), shall suggest a supervisor (from within the centre/department) for each scholar to the chairman of DRC/RAC for approval by the Board of Studies and higher bodies. Such supervisor may continue as a joint supervisor provided he/she has supervised the scholar at least for two years from date of scholar's registration in Ph.D. Programme, otherwise, he/she ceases to be the joint supervisor as well.

4. COURSE WORK

- 4.1 After admission, every Ph.D. student shall be mandatorily required to undertake Course Work.
- 4.2 The entire course work shall be of a minimum of 08 credits and a maximum of 16 credits (one paper of maximum of four credits). The coursework shall be treated as Ph.D. preparation and should include research methodology (quantitative and qualitative). The course shall also include other relevant content (at least of PG level) as deemed fit for the research work.
A minimum of four credits shall be assigned to one or more courses on Research Methodology which could cover areas such as quantitative methods, computer applications, research ethics and review of published research in the relevant field, training, field work, etc. Other courses shall be advanced level courses preparing the students for Ph.D. degree.
- 4.3 All courses prescribed for Ph.D. course work shall be in conformity with the credit hour instructional requirement and shall specify content, instructional and assessment methods. They shall be duly approved by the authorized academic bodies.
- 4.4 A Ph. D Scholar has to obtain a minimum of 55% of marks or its equivalent grade in the UGC 10-point scale (or an equivalent grade/CGPA in a point scale wherever grading system is followed) in the course work in an order to be eligible to continue in the programme and submit the dissertation/ thesis. A candidate, who has cleared appearing the course work, shall not be allowed to re-appear for improvement.

The marks will be determined from 60% weight age of End Semester Examination and 40% weight age of best two sessional marks out of three sessional.
- 4.5 If found necessary, after seeking approval from the RAC, a Ph.D. student may study some or all his/her course work papers in any of the cognate Departments within or outside of the University.
- 4.6 After successful completion of the course work (duly checked/verified by the RAC and DRC), the Ph.D. student shall be notified of the same by the competent authority of the University.
- 4.7 All candidates admitted to the Ph.D. programme shall be required to complete the course work during the initial one or two semesters from the date of admission, failing which the admission shall be cancelled.
- 4.8 Candidates already holding M. Phil. degree and admitted to the Ph.D. programme, shall be exempted by the Department from the Ph.D. course work.

- 4.9 Grades in the course work, including research methodology courses shall be finalized after a combined assessment by the Examination section/RAC and the final grades shall be communicated to all concerned.
- 4.10 The concerned Department Head along with the supervisor shall be responsible for conducting and coordinating all the formalities of the course-work classes as well as evaluation/examination.

5. Ph.D. DURATION

- 5.1 Full-time candidates shall be permitted to submit the thesis for Ph.D. degree only after completion of at least three years from the date of admission.
- 5.2 The name of a candidate shall be removed from the rolls of the University if she/he fails to submit her/his thesis within six years from the date of his/her admission, provided in exceptional circumstances, the Board of Studies (BOS) of the Department, on the recommendation of the RAC and DRC can extend the time-limit for a maximum period of one more year. During this extension period no financial assistance/fellowship shall be provided from the University. If the candidate fails to submit her/his thesis even within the extended period her/his registration as well as admission shall be cancelled automatically.
- 5.3 The women candidates and Persons with Disability (more than 40% disability) may be allowed a relaxation of two years for Ph.D. in the maximum duration.

6. COURSE FEE

- 6.1 Students are required to submit the fees regularly, as applicable in the University, till the submission of Ph.D. thesis.
- 6.2 A fine as decided by appropriate authorities shall be charged in addition to the existing fees, if the fees are not submitted within the notified period.
- 6.3 Failure in deposition of fees for three consecutive semesters in a row shall lead to cancellation of the admission as well as registration.
- 6.4 Fees once paid to the University shall not be refunded except the amount under refundable category. It shall be refunded to the Ph.D. student within one year from the date of award of the Ph.D. degree or cancellation of admission.
- 6.5 Revision in fees, if any shall be applicable from the date of notification by the University.

7. LEAVE RULES

- 7.1 All the leaves shall be sanctioned by the Department Head on recommendation of the Supervisor of the concerned student. All the students need to sign in attendance register daily. Respective Head shall be responsible to maintain the attendance record of student.
- 7.2 The women candidates may be provided Maternity Leave/ Child Care Leave once in the entire duration of Ph.D. for up to 150 days.

8. CANCELLATION OF ADMISSION

The admission of a Ph.D. candidate shall be cancelled in any one of the following eventualities after recommendation of the DRC through RAC:

- 8.1 If the candidate is absent for a continuous period of four weeks without prior sanction of leave.
- 8.2 Recommendation of the RAC based on the lack of satisfactory progress for two consecutive duration of six months as reported by the supervisor.
- 8.3 If the candidate fails to submit the thesis within the maximum stipulated time as provided in these ordinances.
- 8.4 If the candidate voluntarily withdraws his admission from the Ph.D. programme and his withdrawal is approved by supervisor.
- 8.5 If the candidate does not submit the progress report to the RAC for two consecutive periods of six months.
- 8.6 If the candidate is found involved in an act of misconduct and/or indiscipline and his/her termination has been recommended by the competent authority.

9. TEMPORARY WITHDRAWAL FROM THE PROGRAMME

- 9.1 A candidate admitted to the Ph. D. Programme may be permitted by the Controller of Examinations, on the recommendations of the DRC, to temporarily withdraw from the programme for a maximum period of two years on some specific/valid reasons, and later allowed to join back to complete the research and submit the thesis
- 9.2 In any circumstance a student need to complete minimum residential period of two years and completion of the course work.
- 9.3 Temporary withdrawal may be permitted on any one of the following reasons:
 - 9.3.1 If the candidate is suffering due to prolonged illness, supported by medical certificates.
 - 9.3.2 On the event of illness/ death of candidate's parents/guardians/spouse.
 - 9.3.3 If the candidate gets a professional employment.
 - 9.3.4 Any other event, in which the Vice-Chancellor is convinced that the situation faced by the research scholar warrants his/her temporary withdrawal from the programme without exceeding the maximum time-limit provided in these Ordinances for submission of Ph.D. thesis.
- 9.4 The concerned candidate shall have to pay the requisite fee of the programme for the withdrawal-period. The due fee must be deposited within 60 days of joining back; failing which fine per semester shall be levied upon the student.
- 9.5 During the period of withdrawal, the candidate shall not be entitled for any financial assistance or fellowship.

10. REVIEW OF PROGRESS AND SUBMISSION OF THESIS

- 10.1 Every Ph. D. student shall undertake research under the mentorship of the supervisor allotted to him/her by the DRC for production of Ph.D. thesis.

- 10.2 He/she shall come up with a research proposal within six months from the date of completion of the course work. The presentation shall be made in RAC for getting feedback and comments, which thereafter may be suitably incorporated in proposal and approved by RAC.
- 10.3 Upon satisfactory progress as indicated by the RAC meetings, the draft thesis shall be presented by the student in the form of a Pre-Ph.D. submission seminar in front of the RAC. The seminar shall be open to all. The feedback and comments obtained from them may be suitably incorporated into the draft dissertation/thesis in consultation with the RAC.
- 10.4 Within six months of the Pre-Ph.D. submission seminar, the candidate shall submit the thesis and a synopsis of the thesis (one hard copy with a soft copy) to the Controller of examinations duly forwarded by the supervisor and Head of the Department/Centre.
- 10.5 Before submission every candidate must publish at least Two (2) research paper in UGC approved/listed refereed journal and make two paper presentations in conferences/seminars before the submission of the thesis for adjudication, and produce evidence for the same in the form of presentation certificate and/or reprints.
- 10.6 Every thesis shall mandatorily have a plagiarism check certificate (see 15 also) and a certificate from the supervisor stating that it is a record of original research work done by the candidate during the period of study under his / her supervision and that the thesis has not previously formed the basis for the award to the candidate of any Degree, Diploma, Associateship, Fellowship or other similar titles and that the thesis represents independent work on the part of the candidate.
- 10.7 Consequent upon submission of thesis along with the requisite Ph.D. Thesis Processing Fee, the student shall receive a written acknowledgement of thesis submission by the Controller of Examination.

11. EVALUATION OF THESIS

- 11.1 A panel of not less than 4 external examiners shall be recommended by the RAC for evaluating the thesis and for conducting the public viva-voce examination to be held later. The examiner shall be requested to submit their individual reports within two months of the receipt of the thesis.
- 11.2 The thesis submitted by the candidate for the Ph.D. Degree shall be examined by Three examiners appointed by the University. Out of the three examiners, one shall be the supervisor, whereas the other two shall be external experts.
- 11.3 The two External experts shall be decided by the Vice Chancellor from the recommended panel. If the Vice Chancellor desires, he/she may seek fresh panel or nominate two External Experts from the relevant research field in the interest of student.
- 11.4 The controller of examinations shall get in touch with the two examiners decided by the Vice-Chancellor with a copy of the abstract to secure their acceptance of the examination. For this purpose, if e-mail address of the examiner is available, he/she shall be contacted through e-mail to get his/her consent at the earliest. If, however, no information is received from an examiner within four-week period from first communication to the examiner, his/her appointment shall be cancelled and a new examiner shall be appointed by the Vice-Chancellor from the existing panel of examiners. Controller of examination should also convey the name of examiners who had agreed to evaluate the thesis to the Vice-chancellor as the case may be.

- 11.5 A person/ Supervisor shall not serve as an examiner for the first consanguine and affine kin i.e., where a candidate is a wife or husband, son (including step-son), daughter (including step-daughter), brother (including step-brother), brother's wife, wife's brother/sister, husband's brother/sister, sister (including step sister), sister's husband, son's wife, or daughter's husband].
- 11.6 In case, an examiner after receipt of thesis does not send his/her report within the two months period, a reminder shall be sent to him/her. This shall be followed by a subsequent reminder after a fortnight.
- 11.7 In the event of the report not being received from the examiner within twelve weeks, his/her examiner ship shall be cancelled and a new examiner shall be appointed, from the existing panel of examiners.
- 11.8 The examiners shall examine the thesis to give one of the Specific Recommendations mentioned below
 1. Viva-voce examination may be conducted for the award of Ph.D. degree.
 2. The thesis is acceptable subject to clarification of certain point sat the time of viva- voce (please enclose the list of the points in the comments below)
 3. The thesis is acceptable subject to modification/clarification/revision (please enclose your suggestions for the modification etc. in the comments below). After modification the thesis should not be referred to me.
 4. The thesis is acceptable subject to modification/ clarification/ revision (please enclose your suggestions for the modification etc. in the comments below). After modification the thesis should be referred to me for final assessment.
 5. The thesis is rejected (Please enclose your detailed comments below)

12. EXAMINEE'S REPORTAND VIVA-VOCE

- 12.1 Each examiner shall, after examining the thesis submitted by the candidate for the award of the Ph.D. Degree, submit reporting prescribed Performa to the University.
- 12.2 Once positive reports of examiners reach the office of the Controller of Examinations, he/she shall request the vice-chancellor to choose either or any of the two external examiners for final (public) viva-voce. He/she also forward the reports to RAC in a sealed cover. The RAC thereafter fix the date of public viva-voce in consultation with the external examiner/s chosen by the Vice-chancellor and inform about it to the Controller of Examinations.

Public viva-voce shall be open to be attended by Members of the RAC, all faculty members of the Department, other research scholars and other interested experts/researchers. The public viva-voce of the research scholar to defend the dissertation/thesis shall be conducted only if the evaluation report(s) of the external examiner(s) on the dissertation/thesis is/are satisfactory and include a specific recommendation for conducting the viva-voce examination.

- 12.3 If the thesis is approved, each examiner may seek clarification questions, if any, to be answered at the time of public viva-voce.

12.4 Difference in opinion while valuating the thesis;

12.4.1 In case, both the external examiners do not commend, the thesis shall be rejected and the registration cancelled.

12.4.2 In case, one of them has not commended, then the thesis shall be referred to another examiner out of the panel already approved He/she shall be selected from the

recommended panel by the Vice-Chancellor.

If one of the evaluation reports of the external examiner of Ph.D. thesis, is unsatisfactory and does not recommend viva-voce, the Institution shall send the dissertation/ thesis to another external examiner out of the approved panel of examiners (selected from the recommended panel by the Vice-Chancellor). If the report of the latest examiner is also unsatisfactory, the dissertation/ thesis shall be rejected and the research scholar shall be declared ineligible for the award of the degree.

12.4.3 The viva-voce examination shall be held only if the report of the latest examiner is satisfactory.

12.4.4 If the report of the latest examiner is also unsatisfactory, the dissertation/ thesis shall be rejected and the research scholar shall be declared ineligible for the award of the degree.

12.4.5 If the external examiner/s insists on any correction / revision to be made in the thesis, the same shall be made by the candidate before the viva-voce examination and certified by the Supervisor and the RAC.

12.4.6 If one or both the examiners explicitly report that the thesis needs to be revised and resubmitted for evaluation, then the revised thesis duly certified by the supervisor as well as the RAC shall be sent to the same examiner/s for re- evaluation within one year from the date of such a communication from the University. If the examiner concerned specifically instructs that the revised thesis need not be sent back to him/her, the revised thesis duly certified by the Supervisor, RAC and the Dean of the concerned school shall be accepted and the candidate shall be allowed for viva-voce.

The date of thesis submission (as in records) in such cases shall be revised accordingly.

12.4.7 In case the candidate fails to submit the revised form of the thesis within one year, the process of thesis evaluation gets cancelled. Then, the candidate shall once again go for Pre-Submission seminar to start the process of thesis evaluation.

13. OPEN DEFENCE OF THE Ph.D. THESIS

13.1 In cases where the thesis has been approved by the examiners, the Head shall coordinate the conducting of open (public) defense for the candidate.

13.2 The maximum time limit for conducting the open defense shall be, in general, three months from the date of obtaining consent from the Controller of Examinations.

13.3 At least one external examiner who had earlier evaluated the thesis along with the RAC members of the concerned candidate shall conduct the open defense.

13.4 In case of unavailability of both the external examiners who evaluated the thesis, the Vice-Chancellor/ Pro Vice-Chancellor shall appoint an alternative examiner, preferably from the panel previously submitted, for conducting the open defense.

13.5 The head shall fix the date and time of the open defense in consultation with the examiner/s, RAC members and the COE.

- 13.6 In the open defense, the Supervisor shall introduce the external examiner/s and thereafter the candidate will be required to make a presentation of the thesis. After the presentation, the student shall defend his/her thesis by replying to the points/observations raised by the examiner/s, RAC members, faculty present.
- 13.7 If the candidate fails to perform satisfactorily in the open defense, a second chance maybe given to him/her on recommendation of the RAC and approval of the Dean of the concerned school. If the candidate fails to perform again for the second time, his/her registration shall be referred to the Board of studies.
- 13.8 Consequent upon the open defense, the consolidated recommendations as mentioned below shall be submitted by the Head to the Controller of Examinations through the Dean of the concerned school.
- 13.8.1 The reports of the examiners who evaluated the thesis
- 13.8.2 The evaluation report of the candidate's performance in the open defense, as endorsed by the examiners.
- 13.9 A candidate whose thesis has been referred for revision shall re-submit it for the award of the Ph.D. Degree within one year of the intimation of the decision of the University. A thesis which has been re-submitted shall be examined by the same external examiner(s). In case the examiner(s) is/are unwilling/ unavailable to act as such, other examiner(s) may be appointed by the Vice Chancellor from the panel of examiners approved earlier.

14. AWARD OF DEGREE

- 14.1 Based on the reports of the examiners and the Viva-Voce of the student, the Controller of Examinations shall recommend to the AC for the award of the degree or otherwise.
- 14.2 After the approval of the AC, the candidate shall be declared to have passed for the Ph.D. or failed.
- 14.3 Following the successful completion of the evaluation process and announcement of the award of Ph.D. Degree, the candidate shall submit a soft copy of his final thesis in the form of a single PDF (Portable Document Format) file to the Librarian of the University.
- 14.4 Simultaneously, the University shall issue a Provisional Certificate certifying to the effect that the student has completed all the requirements for the award of Ph.D. degree (as on the date of viva-voce) in accordance with the provisions of the UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Awards of M. Phil. /Ph.D. Degree) Regulation 2022 or any other guidelines as in force. NRI candidates (who got admission without the entrance test) will get Provisional Certificates without any mention of UGC 2022 regulation.
- 14.5 Simultaneously, a certificate shall be provided to the concerned supervisor by the COE to the effect that the concerned student has completed all the requirements for the award of Ph.D. degree (as on the date of viva voce). Degree has been awarded to the student in accordance with the provisions of the UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Awards of M.Phil./ Ph.D. Degree) Regulation 2022 or any other guidelines as in force.
- 14.6 Candidates, who qualify for the Ph.D. Degree, shall be awarded the Degree in the discipline of the respective Department/ Centre.

- 14.7 The University shall develop appropriate methods to complete the entire process of evaluation of Ph.D. thesis within a period of six months from the date of submission of the dissertation/thesis.

15. PLAGIARISM AND UNFAIRMEANS

- 15.1 Plagiarism in any form would be viewed seriously and suitable disciplinary actions shall be taken by the University to uphold the sanctity and the integrity of the examination system/research work, and the credibility of the University.
- 15.2 The Ph.D. thesis must undergo a Plagiarism Check with the software available in the University Library. The scholars must certify that software was used for checking against Plagiarism. Plagiarism check should be done twice first check is to be done at the time of Pre Ph-D submission seminar and second at the time of thesis submission.
- 15.3 The guide must ensure checking against plagiarism through with software available in the University Library before submission of PhD thesis and endorsed by the undertaking of the scholar.
- 15.4 Regarding Self Plagiarism or cases where published work of the student is shown as Plagiarism in the check, a certificate must be issued by the Supervisor specifying and attaching the articles that have been published by the student from thesis work. Only these articles should be excluded from the check. No other article of the Supervisor or the student should be excluded from the check.
- 15.5 The plagiarism check shall be applied from first chapter to the end of the thesis
- 15.6 The difference of the % mentioned in the Similarity index and percentage corresponding to the published papers (if any, by the candidate himself or herself either independently or along with supervisor or co-supervisor, being used as a part of the thesis work and have not been used for any other degree elsewhere) should not exceed beyond 20%. The candidate and the supervisor shall have to sign a declaration mentioning that "the published papers is a part of the thesis work and has not been used for any other degree elsewhere"

16. DEPOSITORY WITHIN FLIBNET

- 16.1 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 the INFLIBNET, for hosting the same to make it accessible to all Institutions/Colleges.
- 16.2 Prior to the actual award of the degree, the University shall issue a provisional Certificate to the effect that the Degree has been awarded in accordance with the provisions of UGC Regulations, 1116/1109.

17. ACADEMIC, ADMINISTRATIVE AND INFRASTRUCTURE REQUIREMENT TO BE FULFILLED BY DEPARTMENTS/CENTRES FOR OFFERING PH.D.PROGRAMMES

- 17.1 Departments with Ph.D. qualified teachers/ scientists/ other academic staff along with required infrastructure, supporting administrative and research promotion facilities, stipulated under sub-clause, shall be considered eligible to offer Ph.D. programmes.
- 17.1.1 In case of science and technology disciplines, exclusive research laboratories with sophisticated equipment with provision for adequate space per research scholar along

with computer facilities and essential software, and uninterrupted power and water supply.

17.1.2 Earmarked library resources including latest books, Indian and International journals, e-journals, extended working hours for all disciplines, adequate space for research scholars in the Department/ library for reading, writing, and storing study and research materials.

17.1.3 Department may also access the required facilities of the neighboring Institutions/ Colleges, or of those Institutions/Colleges/R&D laboratories/ Organizations which have the required facilities.

18. REMOVAL OF DIFFICULTIES

18.1 Any doubt or dispute about the interpretation of these Ordinances shall be referred to the Vice-Chancellor, whose decision, in his capacity as the Chairman, Academic Council, shall be final and binding.

18.2 The Vice-Chancellor is authorized to:

18.1.1 Modify, amend and/ or delete any of the clauses given in the Ordinances or add any clause(s) to these Ordinances, which shall be reported to the Academic Council at its next meeting for approval.

18.1.2 Order a special procedure for the evaluation of a Ph.D. thesis to deal/protect the work of classified nature involving national security, sovereignty and/or to protect the intellectual property rights of the candidate, the supervisor, and the University.

18.1.3 Add provisions in these Ordinances for handling circumstances not covered by these Ordinances.

18.3 Notwithstanding anything contained in these Ph.D. Ordinances, the Vice-Chancellor may take such measures as may be necessary for removal of difficulties.

18.4 These Ph.D. ordinances shall revoke the existing Ph.D. ordinances and shall be implemented from the date of notification by the University. However, this revocation shall not affect anything done under any previous Ordinances or affect any right, privilege, obligation, or liability acquired, arrived, or incurred due to the revoked ordinances.

19. LEGAL AND OTHER MATTERS

19.1 All other cases, not covered by the above, shall be referred to the BRS.

19.2 Any legal matter relating to Rules and Regulation under the ordinance shall be subjected to jurisdictions of Court(s) in Gangtok - Sikkim only.

19.3 This is only a guideline and subject to change from time to time as per the recommendations and advice of the statutory Bodies of the Vinayaka Mission Sikkim University.