

SIKKIM UNIVERSITY

RE – 10

Regulation for conduct of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Programme
[Approved by the Executive Council in its 35th meeting held on 11.09.2020
vide resolution No. EC 35.5.2]
(Under Ordinance OC-7)

1. Preamble:

Sikkim University shall offer research programmes in different subjects and also in inter-disciplinary studies leading to the award of the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD). The Departmental Council (DC) consisting of all regular faculty members who are eligible to guide research scholars at Ph.D. level in a department shall oversee the selection procedure.

2. Eligibility Criteria for Admission:

Applicants seeking admission in the Ph.D. programme of the university

- a. Shall be a Post Graduate with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent CGPA at the PG level in the relevant or its allied subject or an equivalent degree from a foreign educational institution accredited by an approved Assessment and Accreditation agency established or incorporated under a law in its home country or any other similarly authorized statutory authority in that country as may be on offer at the university as per its annual prospectus.

A relaxation of 5% of marks from 55% to 50% or an equivalent grade may be allowed for candidates belonging to ST/SC/OBC (non-creamy)/DA and any other category as per the provision of Govt. of India notified from time to time
or

- b. Shall be a person working in a national laboratory - institutes/government/private organization and nominated or sponsored by respective employer provided that such a person has a postgraduate degree and is holding the rank of Assistant Director or above **or**
- c. Shall be a person of exceptional abilities who had passed graduate degree examination having scored 55% marks in aggregate and has at least 15 years' of work experience after graduation in related fields. The DC concerned shall decide on what attributes of the applicant shall count and would be treated as exceptional abilities **or**
- d. Shall have to be a fellow/associate member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants or Institute of Cost Accountants of India provided further that the applicant must also be a first class graduate in any discipline having at least 5 years' of professional experience **or**
- e. Shall be a graduate in any discipline who has been credited for developing any new and innovative technique of national importance or designing and fabricating special instruments or apparatus which are accepted by competent judges at national/international fora as valuable contribution to innovative technology **or**
- f. Shall be a person having been awarded an M.Phil. degree from a recognized university with at least 55% marks or its equivalent Grade point average for General which shall be relaxed by 5% or equivalent GPA for SC/ST/OBC candidates **or**
- g. Shall be a first class B. Tech degree holder having at least 5 years of professional experiences.

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3. Duration:

- a) The duration of Ph.D programme shall be for a minimum period of three years, including course work and a maximum of six years from the date of admission/commencement of session or as notified by Govt. of India from time to time.
- b) However, women and PWD candidates with at least 40% disability shall be given an additional two years over and above the normal extension of one semester permissible on the recommendation of the Departmental Council (DC) and approval of Board of Studies (BoS) and School Board (SB).
- c) In addition to above, women candidates shall be entitled to Maternity Leave/ CCL for up to 240 days once in the entire duration of Ph.D programme.

4. Admission:

Admission to PhD programme shall be in the beginning of each academic year and shall be done once in a year along with admission to other programmes of the University.

- a. All applicants for Ph.D programme shall appear in the written entrance test followed by an interview to be conducted by the concerned Department.
A weightage of 70% to the written test and 30% to the performance in the interview shall be given while preparing the merit list. *(2nd Amendment, 2018)*
- b. A candidate who has qualified UGC-NET (including JRF)/CSIR-NET (including JRF) / SLET / GATE / Teacher Fellowship or a candidate with M.Phil degree shall be given weightage of 10% on the maximum marks obtained *in written test*.
- c. The merit list for admission shall be drawn up taking into consideration the combined score of both the written test and personal interview.
- d. In case of a tie, the score of the qualifying examination of the concerned candidates shall be considered.
- e. Colleges having PG programme may be considered eligible to offer PhD programme only if it satisfies the following:
 - i. It must have at least two eligible teachers with PhD in the concerned department.
 - ii. Post- Graduate departments in the college must have adequate infrastructure, research laboratories and Library.
 - iii. It must also have the necessary recognition from the affiliating university or body.
 - iv. Adherence to National / State level policies regarding reservation of seats for ST/SC/OBC (non-creamy)/DA or any other category as notified by Govt. of India from time to time.

5. Research Advisory Committee:

- i) There shall be a Research Advisory Committee (RAC) for each scholar in the department with Research Supervisor as Convener. The Research Supervisor may co-opt a maximum of four eligible members from his/her department and other departments.
- ii) The Research Advisory Committee (RAC) shall have following functions.
 - a) To review the research proposal and suggest suitable topic/title of research and suggest change of topic/title.

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- b) To guide the scholar to develop the study design, methodology and identification of the course.
- c) To periodically review and assist the progress of the research work of the scholar.
- iii) A scholar shall make presentation in six months on the progress of work before RAC.
- iv) In case the progress is unsatisfactory, the RAC shall record the reasons for the same and suggest corrective measures.
- v) If the scholar fails to implement the correction, the RAC may recommend to the Departmental Council (DC) for cancellation of registration with specific reason with a copy to the scholar.

6. Departmental Council:

There shall be a Departmental Council (DC) consisting of all eligible regular faculty members of the department.

The Departmental Council (DC) functions as the administrative facilitator and takes decision in administrative matters, including allocation of supervisor, change of supervisor, extension of fellowship, extension of the date of submission of thesis, cancellation of registration etc. pertaining to research scholars and submit the proposal to Board of Studies (BOS).

7. Procedure for Conduct of Entrance Test:

The admission test for Ph.D programme shall be of 100 marks. The admission test shall be conducted in two parts - written test and interview/viva-voce.

A. The Written Test:

The duration of written test shall be of 120 minutes (two hours) for which the concerned departments shall set question papers which shall be evaluated against 70 marks. DC shall decide on the type and number of questions to be put in the written test.

The qualifying mark for entrance examination is 50% [45% for SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy)/ DA or any other such category as notified by Govt. of India from time to time]. In spite of above relaxation, if seats allotted for above category remain unfilled, a special admission drive will be launched within one month from the closure of date of admission. *(1st Amendment)*

The syllabus of written Test shall consist of 50% of research methodology and 50% subject specific.

B. The Interview:

- i. The personal interview shall be evaluated against a total of 30 marks.
- ii. The Departmental Council (DC) shall conduct the interview of the qualified candidates in written test with at least three members of which the HoD/IC of the concerned department shall be the Chairperson.
- iii. In case of a department where HoD/IC shall not be available, the Dean of the concerned school shall preside over the proceedings of the interview panel.
- iv. In case, a particular department has less than three eligible members who could sit in the panel, the HoD/IC of the department shall inform the same to the Dean of the school who shall then nominate adequate

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number of member(s) from within the school to enable the department duly constitute the panel.

- v. Any regular faculty members with a Ph.D degree shall be eligible to act as member in such interview panels.

8. Admission Process:

A merit list of candidates based on the performance in the Interview and written examination shall be drawn by the Head/In Charge of the Department immediately after the evaluation is over. The merit list shall be sent to the Chairman of the Working Committee on Admission for approval of competent authority and uploading on University website.

- a. On the basis of the approved merit list, the selected candidates shall take provisional admission to Ph.D programme by paying the prescribed fee within the stipulated date.
- b. While drawing merit list of candidates to be considered for provisional admission, the Department shall pay due attention to the reservation policy of the Government of India as may be on force on the date of such selection.
- c. Employed candidates, if selected for provisional admission, shall produce written evidence to show that they have been granted by their employer leave for at least one semester for non-lab based departments and two years for laboratory based departments.
- d. A maximum of 10 % of the available seats may be allotted to foreign candidates to be admitted against supernumerary seats.

Since it is usually not possible for foreign students to come and appear in the written test cum interview, the selection of such applicants may be carried out only if the DC finds their testimonials satisfactory and compliant to the provisions of the university rules and regulations. In case of more applicants, the DC shall draw up a merit list of all such applicants on the basis of their academic records.

- e. Foreign nationals shall be granted admission as per relevant guidelines of Govt. of India notified from time to time or on recommendation of the Indian Council of Cultural Relations, GoI under exchange programmes. In case selected for admission, they shall be allowed to take admission only on production of student visa valid for the entire tenure of the course of study along with a certificate indicating that they are not suffering from any infectious diseases and that, the source of funding for their studies in the university is duly approved. They may, however, be issued Provisional Admission Certificate on request if they need it for facilitating procurement of the required student visa.

9. Course Work:

A one-semester course work of 12 credits is mandatory for all entrants on joining the programme. The distribution of these credits shall be as under:

- a. Four (4) credits for Research Methodology. This is a compulsory course and may include quantitative techniques and knowledge of computer use.
- b. Four (4) credits shall be assigned for a paper on recent advances in the area of research work to be undertaken by the new entrant.
- c. Four (4) credits shall be assigned to a non-lecture based non taught paper in which the candidates shall review the literature and write a research proposal covering the area of their research interest and, shall have to give a seminar at

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the end of the semester. Neither any sessional tests shall be held nor there shall be any attendance requirement in this paper but for the other two papers 75% attendance is essential.

A maximum of 5% shortfall in attendance may be condoned by the concerned Dean on the recommendation of the HoD / IC of the concerned department against production of valid documents to establish the reason for shortage of attendance.

- d. Only candidates who have already obtained an M. Phil degree from a recognized university shall be exempted from doing the course work again.

Further, candidate whose M.Phil dissertation has been evaluated and the viva-voce is pending may be exempted from doing course work again, if admitted to Ph.D in the same university.

10. Coursework Evaluation:

- a. The evaluation of the course work shall be done by the concerned faculty members in the Department. The selected scholars are expected to develop critical thinking and learn the skill to communicate in academic language during the course work and, this shall form the basis for such evaluation.
- b. In order to be eligible for registration, a student must score at least 55% marks or its equivalent Grade/CGPA as the case may be, failing which, the student shall have to drop out and/or seek readmission.
- c. A candidate failing to secure 55% marks or its equivalent Grade/CGPA in the course work may be given one additional chance to repeat either Paper-I or Paper-II in the immediate relevant semester if they duly request in writing for availing such a chance subject to the condition that such a request must have to be made within a calendar month counting from the date of declaration of the Course Work result and provided further that the applicant pays the requisite fee as may be fixed by the university from time to time.
- d. Unsuccessful students shall not be permitted to register themselves for the degree but they shall be provided with a certificate, if requested for, showing the actual grade or SGPA secured by them in the coursework.
- e. Only those students who would satisfy the stipulated registration requirements shall be allowed to register as regular scholars.
- f. Scholars admitted to Ph.D programme shall be eligible to draw fellowships / scholarships etc. as may be relevant.

11. Registration Procedures:

- a. A candidate who has successfully cleared the course work shall have to submit a synopsis of the proposed research work that shall then be duly examined and endorsed by the DC, the BoS and finally the School Board to enable the student complete the registration process.
- b. The registration process shall have to be completed within a maximum period of three (3) semesters from the date of admission/commencement of classes failing which the candidate shall not be allowed to continue.

The date on which the School Board accepts the proposal for registration shall be the effective date of registration of the scholar for the purpose.

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12. Allotment of Supervisor:

A supervisor shall be allotted by the Departmental Council (DC) for each of the candidates admitted strictly in adherence to the following:

- a. Any regular Professor of the University/College with at least five research publications in referred journals and any regular Associate/Assistant Professor of the University/College with a Ph.D. degree and at least two research publications in refereed journals as notified by the competent authorities from time to time to her/his credit and with at least two years of service left in University/College shall be recognized as Research Supervisor. External Supervisors are not allowed. However, a joint/co-supervisor may be allowed in inter-disciplinary areas from other departments of the University or from other related institutions with the approval of the DC

In areas/disciplines where there is no or only limited number of refereed journals/publications approved by Academic Council on the recommendation of DC through proper channel may be relaxed the aforesaid condition for recognition of a person as Research Supervisor with reasons for providing such relaxations recorded in writing.

- b. Allotment of Supervisor for a selected candidate shall be done by the DC. While deciding on such allotment, the DC shall consider the number of seats available under the concerned faculty member in strict adherence to the UGC guidelines as may be applicable at the time of such selection, his/her area of specialization and the research interest of the candidates as was indicated during the interview.
- c. The allotment of such Supervisors shall not be left to the individual choice of the candidate or a faculty member. Provided there is a need, the DRC may also decide to allot a Joint Supervisor, who shall ordinarily be from outside the department but having specialization in the area of research proposed by the scholar.
- d. The Head/IC of Department will ensure that the process of allotting a supervisor is completed within a month from the date of declaration of the course work results.
- e. If any scholar makes a request to the HoD in writing for a change of the Supervisor giving specific reasons, the DC may act appropriately on the merit of the case. Such option shall, however, be available to a scholar only once during the entire programme.
- f. If the Supervisor avails lien / long leave, the Departmental Council (DC) shall appoint a co-supervisor from the same / allied departments in consultation with the Supervisor.

If the Supervisor chooses not to continue in the service of the University, he / she may be allowed by DC to continue as Co-Supervisor for such candidate (s).

- g. At any given time, a Supervisor shall not have more than the UGC prescribed number of registered M.Phil./Ph.D. scholars working under her/his supervision except under circumstances when DC shall be constrained to allot a Supervisor more candidates exceeding the prescribed limit for such purpose on account of sudden faculty shortage consequent upon the suspension, termination or proceeding on long leave by members of the faculty.
- h. A supervisor may be allowed to continue as Supervisor of a doctoral research scholar till the actual date of submission by that scholar or six months post her/his retirement whichever takes place earlier. No fresh student shall be

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allowed to get registered under the Supervisor after s/he proceeds on retirement.

- i. A Supervisor may be allowed to continue as Supervisor of a doctoral research scholar till the actual date of submission of thesis or her/his retirement. A co-supervisor from the department concerned may be allotted immediately by DC following due process after the retirement of the Supervisor if thesis could not be submitted till then.
- j. A teacher who is otherwise qualified to supervise a Ph.D. research work but is on probation shall be permitted to act as Supervisor.
- k. No supervisor/Co-Supervisor shall be allowed to guide her/his own close relatives as defined and understood as per provisions of the relevant Government of India rules in such matters.
- l. The Department shall allocate Research Supervisor for a selected research scholar on the basis of specialization among the supervisors and research interest of the scholars expressed during the interview/viva-voce.
- m. A woman Ph.D scholar may be relocated due to marriage or otherwise on submission of NOC from the host university and her research data shall be transferred, provided it does not pertain to the project secured by the parent institution/supervisor from any funding agency and arise no conflict of interest. Provided further that compliance of all other conditions of Ph.D programme has been taken care of. The Scholar will give due credit to the parent guide and the institution for the part of research already done.

13. Monitoring of Work Progress:

- a. The RAC shall regularly monitor the progress of the research work of the scholar. If the RAC finds that the progress of the work of the Scholar is not satisfactory, a report to that effect shall be submitted to the School Board through the Departmental Council (DC) for appropriate action.
- b. A registered candidate shall be required to submit to the Head of Department an elaborate progress report of their work duly endorsed by the Supervisor and make oral presentation for 10-15 minutes in the concerned department in every six months. A candidate failing to submit two such consecutive reports in the scheduled time may be deregistered by the Vice-Chancellor on the recommendation of the DC.
- c. Any dereliction on the part of the candidate that may be noticed by the Supervisor, if ignored even after repeated cautioning, shall be reported to the DC for further necessary action. Provided if the DC is convinced that the concerned candidate is ignoring his research activity without any valid reason, it shall issue the candidate a warning and keep him under observation for three months. At the close of three months since issuance of the warning, the DC shall review the candidate's performance during the period under watch. In case, the DC still remains unsatisfied with the performance of the candidate during the period under watch, it may recommend deregistration of the candidate. In case the recommendation is duly accepted by the authorities, the fellowship of the candidate shall forthwith stand terminated.

14. Pre-submission:

When the Supervisor is of the opinion that the thesis is in the final stage of completion, the scholar shall be required to give a pre-submission seminar on her/his research findings.

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15. Modification of Title:

If there is a need for modification of the research topic/title, the candidate shall submit an application to that effect to the Departmental Council through Research Advisory Committee (RAC) at least six months before the date of submission of the thesis.

16. Submission of Thesis:

- a. A scholar shall be allowed to submit the Ph.D. thesis ordinarily after completion of three years and/or within six years from the date of admission/commencement of session. The thesis shall be submitted to the office of the Controller of Examinations.
- b. In exceptional circumstances, the School Board (SB) on the recommendation of the Departmental Council (DC) and Board of Studies (BoS), may extend the date of submission of her / his thesis for a maximum period of one semester (six months). The UGC non-NET fellowship, however, shall not be available to such a candidate beyond 4 years counting from the date of admission/commencement of classes.

If the candidate fails to submit her / his thesis within the extended period, her/his registration shall stand cancelled automatically.

Application for extension duly forwarded by the Supervisor shall reach DC at least six months before the expiry of due date for thesis submission.

- c. A PhD candidate shall publish at least one research paper in an approved journal as notified by competent authority from time to time and make two paper presentations in conferences / seminars before the submission of her / his thesis, and produce evidence of the same in the form of acceptance letter or reprint.
- d. All thesis shall be subjected to mandatory plagiarism test as per norms before accepting the same for evaluation. Certificate of plagiarism test, with report indicating less than 10% tolerance rate and generated by any standard plagiarism test software giving name of the software used, duly signed by the candidate and countersigned by the Supervisor and, also duly vetted by the Librarian should accompany the thesis at the time of its submission. In case, a thesis fails the plagiarism test, it shall be returned to the candidate for needful action. In such cases, the candidate shall be allowed to resubmit the thesis after making necessary changes in it within a period of three months from the date of such return. In case, the candidate fails to resubmit the thesis within the stipulated timeframe, the thesis would be deemed as withdrawn and no further action shall be taken for getting the thesis evaluated.
- e. Failing to submit the thesis in time (including the extended time if any) shall result in automatic deregistration of the candidate and s/he, in such case, shall no more remain eligible for award of the degree. To pursue the degree, such candidate shall have to seek fresh admission.
- f. As and when ready, the candidate shall be required to give a pre-submission seminar that shall be arranged by the Head of the Department on a written request from the candidate duly recommended by the Supervisor. The pre-submission seminar shall be evaluated by a committee comprising of the Supervisor, an internal expert from within the department and an external expert from an allied department of the same school and evaluation report of this committee shall be on record. The candidate may suitably revise the thesis

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prior to its final submission in the light of the discussions held during the seminar.

Candidate may initially submit the soft bound copies of the thesis. After approval or incorporation of the suggestions, if there is any, from the examiners, the final version in hard bound in quadruple shall be submitted to the Controller of Examinations.

- g. Four copies of hard bound; neatly typed-written thesis shall be submitted along with soft copy of the same.
- h. The final thesis must have to be submitted along with the following documents:
 - i. A declaration from the candidate that the thesis is a work of his own and that it has not been submitted earlier to this or any other university for any degree.
 - ii. A plagiarism test certificate duly signed by the candidate and countersigned by the Supervisor
 - iii. Copy of the Registration Certificate
 - iv. No due certificate from the Librarian.
 - v. No due certificate from the Finance Department.
 - vi. No due certificate from the Warden of the hostel concerned, if applicable.
 - vii. Clearance from Academic Section of the University for closure of Fellowship
- i. The hard bound type copy of the thesis shall have to conform to the following specifications:
 - i. It has to be typed in A4 size paper.
 - ii. Type font used shall be Times New Roman, 12 point and text printing shall be double spaced, and only on one side of the paper.
 - iii. Left margin shall be one-and-a half inches while right, top and bottom margins shall only be of one inch.
 - iv. The shin of the thesis shall indicate, from top to bottom, year of submission, family name of the candidate and the word Ph.D.
 - v. The cover page shall have the (title of the thesis) at the top followed by a line stating “(A thesis submitted) to (Sikkim University) (logo) (In partial fulfillment of the requirement for the) (Degree of Doctor of Philosophy)”, by (name of the candidate), (name of the Department), (name of the School), (month and year) of submission. (Sample Cover Page at Annexure)
 - vi. The thesis shall be written in English except when it is related to a language other than English.

17. Appointment of Examiners:

- a. The Supervisor shall, in the prescribed format, submit a panel of five external examiners having expertise in the relevant field of work and is working at least at the level of Associate Professor or equivalent position (Scientist E if serving in a research institution) to the Vice-Chancellor through the concerned Dean of the School.
- b. The Supervisor shall provide complete and up to date postal addresses of all the proposed examiners giving in full their PIN code, email ID and cell phone number.
- c. As in the UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of M.Phil./Ph.D. Degrees) Regulations, 2016 and its amendments.
- d. The examiners empanelled shall ordinarily be selected from within the country. In case, the Supervisor considers it desirable to send one copy of the thesis abroad, s/he may submit a separate panel of foreign experts for consideration

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of the Vice-Chancellor but in such cases, the international speed post cost shall have to be borne by the scholar.

18. Evaluation:

- a. The office of the Controller of Examinations shall establish contact and seek acceptance of the relevant examiners from the empanelled list as shall be approved by the Vice-Chancellor within a fortnight counting from the date submission of the thesis.
- b. In case, an examiner declines to accept the examinership offer, the next member in the empanelled list of the examiners shall be approached.
- c. Once the Examiner accepts the examinership, the office of the CoE shall forward the thesis along with other necessary supporting papers such as the evaluation form, remuneration form etc., to the examiner within a week from the date of receipt of the acceptance.
- d. The examiner shall be requested to send hardcopy of the report complete in all aspect to the office of the CoE within 45 days counting from the date of their receiving the thesis. A reminder may be sent to the examiner from the office of the CoE a week prior to the expiry of the deadline.
- e. If an examiner fails to submit the report within the deadline, the CoE shall send him a final reminder extending the time by another 15 days. If any examiner is still fails to send the report, the CoE shall invite the next examiner from the approved panel to evaluate the thesis after seeking approval for the same from the Vice-Chancellor.
- f. In case, the external examiner gives an unfavourable report, the CoE shall send the thesis to another examiner from the approved panel of examiners after seeking approval for the same from the Vice-Chancellor and, if the report of this second examiner also remains unfavourable, the candidate shall be deemed to have failed.
- g. If one of the examiners recommends the award of the degree subject to revision of the entire or part of the thesis along the suggestions made by him, the candidate shall be required to revise the thesis in consultation with the concerned supervisor and would have to resubmit the same within a period of six months from the date of communication by the CoE. The thesis shall then be sent once again to the examiner who had suggested revision in it for his final approval.

19. Viva Voce and Defense of the Thesis:

- a. Once the reports received from both the examiners are found favourable, the office of the CoE shall inform the concerned HoD to initiate steps for conducting the viva voce in consultation with the concerned Supervisor/Co-supervisor. The CoE shall sent examiner's report to the concerned HoD for sharing with the supervisor at least 15 days prior to the date of viva-voce so that scholar gets enough time for preparation.
- b. The evaluation Committee to be entrusted with the responsibility to conduct the viva-voce shall consist of the concerned Supervisor as the Chairman, the external examiner and one faculty member from the School to be nominated by the Dean. The HoD of the concerned department shall request the Dean to nominate a member in the committee under intimation to the office of the CoE.

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- c. Office of the CoE shall take at least three feasible dates from the external examiner on which the examiner can take part in the viva-voce proceeding and pass on the information to the HoD concerned for the needful at his/her end.
- d. The HoD, in consultation with the Chairman and nominated member of the committee, shall finalise the actual date for holding the viva voce.
- e. The evaluation committee shall submit, through the HoD concerned, its report to the office of the CoE on the same day the viva-voce was held.
- f. The day, date, time and the place for holding the viva voce shall be notified by the concerned department at least seven days in advance. Such a notice shall be circulated to all the departments under the School and shall also be uploaded in the University's website.
- g. In case of successful defense, the office of the CoE shall compile the final result and submit the same along with all attendant reports including that of viva voce to the Vice-Chancellor for approval of the same. Once approved the office of the CoE shall formally notify the result.
- h. If the defense is not satisfactory the committee would record the reasons for the same and suggest an appropriate date for a repeat viva voce after 30 days from the date of the first viva voce subject to the condition that the date so fixed must not exceed a period of two months at the most.
- i. If again the second defense is also not satisfactory, the comments of the Committee shall be submitted to Vice-Chancellor for his guidance on the matter and direction for further needful action.

20. Depository with the University:

Post successful completion of the evaluation process and notification of the award, the University shall upload the thesis in its D-Space Repository and one hard copy shall be sent to the Central Library of the University for record and referential use.

21. Award of Degree:

- a. The result shall be officially notified by the CoE within seven days from the approval of the Vice-Chancellor. The result notification shall clearly mention the date of such notification, the name of the candidate, registration number of the candidate and the date of registration, title of the thesis, degree awarded, name of the Supervisor, name of the Joint Supervisor(s) if any, name of the Department and name of the School. The notification shall also be uploaded in the University website.
- b. Formal award of the degree shall only be made on the day the university holds its next Convocation.

22. Removal of Difficulties:

Notwithstanding anything contained as at above, the Vice-Chancellor shall have the powers to remove any difficulty arising in interpretation of the above guidelines as he may deem fit and shall take appropriate action accordingly