

VIDYASAGAR UNIVERSITY
REGULATIONS
Relating to
THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY
(Ph. D.)
IN ARTS, COMMERCE AND SCIENCE

CSR Notification No :- CSR/01/2009

Introduction

The Ph.D. (Doctor of Philosophy) Programme of the university is intended towards the achievement of new insights, new findings and conclusions, and new methods of analysis of relationships. The Ph.D. Degree shall be awarded to a candidate on the basis of original contributions incorporated in his/her thesis, adjudicated and recommended by a Board of Experts and successfully defended by the candidate in a Viva-Voce.

1. TITLE AND COMMENCEMENT

- 1.1 These Regulations may be called 'Regulations Relating to The Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Arts, Commerce and Science, 2009' or the 'Ph.D. Regulations, 2009'.
- 1.2 These Regulations shall come into effect from the date of CSR Notification issued by the University and shall apply to all such cases coming under the purview of Vidyasagar University and covered by these Regulations (2009).
- 1.3 'Research Scholar' shall mean and also be known as a student or a candidate engaged in Research with or without scholarship and registered as such by the appropriate authority under these Regulations.
- 1.4 Notwithstanding anything contained in these Regulations, modifications and regulations received from the UGC from time to time in this regard shall be applied and incorporated suitably in these Regulations with necessary notifications.

2. BOARD OF RESEARCH STUDIES

- 2.1 The Ph.D. Programme of the University shall be monitored by the Executive Council through the Board of Research Studies constituted for a period of four years in each of the faculties.
- 2.2 The Board of Research Studies (BRS) in each of the faculties shall consist of:
 - (i) The Vice-Chancellor – Chairman
 - (ii) The Dean of the Faculty concerned
 - (iii) Two Senior Professors of the Faculty concerned to be nominated by the Executive Council
 - (iv) Two outside experts (not below the rank of Professors) to be nominated by the Vice-Chancellor.
 - (v) The Registrar – Secretary
 - (vi) The Secretary, Faculty Council for P.G. Studies – Joint Secretary

- 2.3 Under the overall supervision and guidance of the Vice-Chancellor, a joint meeting of the Board of Research Studies shall be held at least once a year to make policy decisions for planning, promoting, coordinating and monitoring research activities at the university. Each of the Board of Research Studies shall meet at least twice in a year to review the progress and execute the plans and programmes for realizing the objectives. The programme for organizing Course Work and related matters thereof including preparation of academic calendar shall be decided at such joint meetings of the Board of Research Studies.
- 2.4 Without prejudice to the following regulations, Acts, Ordinances and Statutes, the respective Board of Research Studies shall discharge the following functions for smooth and effective implementation of the Ph.D. Programme of the University:
- (i) Review the progress of research activities at the university on the basis of reports to be submitted by the respective Ph.D. Committee at an interval of six months;
 - (ii) Consider names of institutions or research organizations and recommend to the Executive Council for their recognition by the University;
 - (iii) Consider the prayer for re-registration and make necessary recommendations;
 - (iv) Consider reports of examination/adjudication and make suitable recommendations to the Vice-Chancellor in case of rejection of a Thesis as mentioned herein under; and
 - (v) Deal with all such matters as may be referred to it by the Vice-Chancellor for advice and Ph.D. Committees for direction from time to time.

3. Ph. D. COMMITTEE

- 3.1 There shall be a Ph.D. Committee in each of the Post-graduate Departments of the University to implement the programme, which shall include:
- (i) The Vice-Chancellor, Chairman
 - (ii) The Dean of the Faculty to which the Post-Graduate Department belongs
 - (iii) The Head of the Post-Graduate Department concerned
 - (iv) All Professors of the Department concerned
 - (v) Two teachers of the Department concerned having a doctoral degree and at least five years experience in Post-graduate teaching and research to be nominated by the Departmental Committee
 - (vi) Two experts, not below the rank of Professor of a university or scholar of eminence from outside the Vidyasagar University to be nominated by the Vice-Chancellor out of a panel of five experts recommended by the Departmental Committee.
- 3.2 The Head of the Post-Graduate Department concerned shall act as the Secretary of the Ph.D. Committee. The Supervisor(s) concerned shall be invited to participate as invitee member(s) without voting right in connection with the supervision work of the scholar(s) concerned.
- (i) A Ph.D. Committee shall function for a term of four years from the date of its constitution. In case of any vacancy in the position(s) referred to in sub-clauses (v) and (vi) of Rule 3.1 the same procedure as specified here above shall be adopted to fill in the vacancy within a period of three months. The presence of 50% of the members in a meeting of the Ph. D. Committee including at least one external expert but excluding the supervisor(s), invitee members, shall constitute the quorum.
Provided that the presence of external members in a meeting shall not be mandatory for consideration of routine matters like determination of number of available positions /seats in a year, scrutiny of application forms, organizing Entrance Test and Interviews, finalization of panel including merit list, and preparation of list of

paper setters, moderators and examiners for Entrance Test and Semester (end) Examinations.

- (ii) In absence of the Vice-Chancellor, the Dean of the Faculty concerned shall chair the meeting. In absence of both the Vice Chancellor and the Dean, the members shall select a Chairman not below the rank of a Professor from amongst themselves.
- (iii) The Ph. D. Committee shall meet at quarterly intervals in a year or more frequently, if necessary.

3.3 **The functions of the Ph.D. Committee shall be:**

- (i) To recommend the number of seats available in the department for Ph.D. Programme under (a) University Research Scholarships/Fellowships, (b) without Fellowships in a year before the commencement of an academic session to the respective Board of Research Studies for publication of notification in the University website and in national dailies;
- (ii) To consider the applications for admission to the Ph.D. Programmes after proper scrutiny and prepare a list of eligible candidates and to organize the written Entrance Test and Interview thereafter for admission to the programme as announced at the time of determining the number of available positions for doing Ph.D. in a year;
- (iii) To decide the allocation of a Supervisor for a selected student in consideration of the proposed topic for research and the available specialization in a department concerned.
- (iv) To prepare a Panel including merit list after the Entrance Test and Interview of the candidates and to recommend such names to the Registrar for admission into the programme;
- (v) To recommend the change of supervisor in case of death of the Supervisor or for other reasons, if it is satisfied that the change is necessary only on academic ground;
- (vi) To prepare and recommend a list of adjudicators for adjudication of the thesis to the Vice-Chancellor; and
- (vii) To discharge such functions and responsibilities as may be entrusted to it by the Vice-Chancellor or the Board of Research Studies from time to time.

3.4 The Panel including merit list and a list of eligible candidates shall remain valid till the publication of such lists in the succeeding year.

4. **ALLOCATION OF SUPERVISOR**

4.1 Supervisor means a person having a doctoral degree or equivalent research publications of the following categories:

- (i) A teacher other than Professor or a Reader or an associate Professor of the Vidyasagar University or of a recognized university having at least three years experience in post-graduate teaching; or of an affiliated college (not below the rank of a reader) or an eminent person (not below the rank of an associated Professor) of an institute deemed to be university and/or of a research and development institute of national/international repute.
- (ii) A scholar of eminence may also act as a Supervisor, provided that the concerned Ph.D. Committee recognizes such person as a Supervisor. If the Supervisor does not belong to Vidyasagar University or college(s) affiliated to Vidyasagar University, any Faculty of the Vidyasagar University or of the concerned department having specialization in the area under study may be included as a Joint Supervisor.
- (iii) Subject to the approval of the Ph. D. Committee, a Ph. D. work may be supervised jointly by not more than two persons including one from the faculties of this University.

- (iv) A teacher of Vidyasagar University may supervise not more than five scholars at a time but in case of joint supervision the number may be ten.
 - (v) A teacher of an affiliated college under Vidyasagar University may supervise not more than two scholars at a time.
 - (vi) A retired teacher of the Vidyasagar University (not below the rank of a reader) is also eligible to supervise scholars independently.
- 4.2 One who has enrolled himself/herself as a scholar for doing Ph.D. work at this university or elsewhere, shall not be eligible to act as a supervisor.
- 4.3 The allocation of Supervisor for a selected student shall be decided by the Ph.D. Committee in a meeting in consideration of the proposed topic for research vis-à-vis the available specialization among the eligible faculties.
- 4.4 While deciding the allocation of the Supervisor for a candidate due emphasis shall be given to the research interests and preferences as indicated during interview by the candidate.

5. ELIGIBILITY FOR ADMISSION

- 5.1 An application for admission to the Ph.D. Programme of the University shall be made to the Registrar within the stipulated date in the prescribed form along with two copies of photographs and attested copies of testimonials of the candidate.
- 5.2 A person who has obtained master's Degree or a degree deemed equivalent from any university or institution recognized by this university or such other degree as may be considered sufficient for this purpose shall also be eligible for admission, if obtained fifty per cent marks at least. Provided that –
- (i) a candidate who has completed at least a total 5 years of UG and PG study in a recognized institution or university;
 - (ii) the candidate is not currently admitted as a student in any course of studies or registered for doing Ph.D. in any university;
 - (iii) a candidate who have M.Phil./M.Tech./ or a degree deemed to be equivalent by the Board of Research Studies (on the recommendation of the Ph.D. Committee concerned) shall be exempted from appearing at the written Admission Test for this purpose and will have to appear only at an interview to be conducted by the Ph.D. Committee;
 - (iv) Candidates qualified at the NET/GATE/SET/UGC (JRF)/CSIR (JRF) or any other examinations that considered equivalent by the BRS shall also be exempted from appearing at the Written Admission Test and will have to appear at an interview.
 - (v) In all other cases, the candidates will have to appear at the Written Admission Test and if qualified, have to appear at an interview to be conducted by the respective Ph.D. Committee. Provided that the candidates obtaining fifty percent marks at the Written Test shall be eligible to appear at the Interview.
- 5.3 The Written (Entrance) Test shall be conducted for 100 marks and the Interview be held for 50 marks and the merit list shall be prepared taking into consideration only the scores at the interview.
- 5.4 The candidates intending to do the Ph.D. work are expected to discuss their research interest/area at the time of interview.
- 5.5 The reservation policy of the Government with regard to admission into Post-graduate Courses shall be followed in admitting the students into Ph.D. Programmes.

- 5.6 Those candidates who qualify at the Entrance Test and or Interview (as the case may be) shall be eligible for admission against available seats/positions within one year from the date of publication of the Merit List after which the validity of the merit list shall be deemed to have expired.
- 5.7 There shall be only one Written Entrance Test in a year.
- 5.8 The result of the Written (Entrance) Test shall remain valid for one year and the qualified candidates shall be required to appear at the interview only, if they desire admission, next year.
- 5.9 In case of any dispute relating to the conduct of Entrance Test, Interview and publication of merit list thereof, the decisions of the Vice-Chancellor shall be final and binding on all concerned.

6. REGISTRATION

- 6.1 The selected candidate shall apply to the Registrar in the prescribed proforma tendering an amount of non-refundable registration fee of Rs. 2000.00 only within one year.
- (i) Every such application must include (a) a proposal for Ph.D. work (Plan of work) consisting of around 1000 words; (b) Supervisor's consent (c) bio-data of the candidate along with supporting documents and (d) bio-data and research experience of the supervisor, if from outside of the university. Provided that a candidate eligible to work independently need not enclose supervisor's consent letter.
 - (ii) Any whole-time teacher of Vidyasagar University or any scholar having three years' teaching experience in P.G. Courses and adequate research publications may apply for Ph.D. registration for working independently;
 - (iii) Each application submitted to the Registrar shall be sent to the Secretary of the Ph.D. Committee within ten days by the Registrar for consideration of the Ph.D. Committee and for organizing a seminar for approval of the plan of work;
 - (iv) All applications in connection with Ph.D. should be placed before the Ph.D. Committee within two months from the date of receipt by the Secretary, Ph.D. Committee.
 - (v) A candidate shall deliver one lecture on his/her Ph. D. proposal in a Seminar within three months from the date of submission of application for registration before the members of the Ph.D. Committee and other faculty members of the department(s) concerned to benefit himself/herself from the collective wisdom. The participants of such seminar may give suggestions to the candidate. The candidate may incorporate the suggestions in his/her Ph. D. proposal and a revised proposal may be submitted to the Secretary, Ph.D. Committee. The Scholar shall not be required to deliver the Seminar again but will have to produce a certificate from the supervisor to be submitted to the Registrar through the Secretary of the Ph.D. Committee that necessary suggestions have been included in the revised proposal. The Secretary of the Ph.D. Committee shall submit a report to the Registrar informing the decision of the Ph.D. Committee on the proposal (plan of work) within one month from the date of the seminar. The presence of a supervisor at the Seminar is compulsory.
 - vii) The Registrar shall issue a Certificate of Provisional Registration within 30 days from the date of receiving the recommendation of the Ph. D. Committee. The Registration shall remain valid initially for a period of four years in case of a full-time scholar and for a period of five years for the part-time scholars from the date of issue of the certificate of Registration.

- 6.2 The Provisional Registration for Ph.D. work shall be effective from the date of delivery of the Seminar by the candidate concerned. The Provisional Registration shall *ip so facto* be converted into Registration after the completion of the Course Work successfully by the candidate.
- 6.3 If the scholar fails to complete the Ph.D. work within the initial period of registration, the period may be extended by the Vice-Chancellor on recommendation of the Supervisor for a period of one year on payment of a fee of Rs. 3000.00 and on request of the candidate duly forwarded by the supervisor. If the candidate fails to complete the work within the extended period, he/she may, however, apply for re-registration. Completion of work means submission of the thesis.
- 6.4 The candidate shall work under the guidance of the supervisor(s) and shall submit progress report on his/her research to the supervisor(s) at an interval of every six months.
- 6.5 The Ph. D. registration of any candidate may be cancelled on the expiry of the registration period or if the Ph. D. Committee is of the opinion as per the report of the supervisor that the candidate's progress is not satisfactory. The registration of the candidate shall, however, be cancelled on the expiry of the extended period of registration or for rejection of the thesis.

7. ATTENDANCE OF FULL-TIME Ph.D. SCHOLARS

- 7.1 A scholar who enjoys research fellowship shall be treated as full-time scholar and must attend the department concerned on all working days unless his/her absence is justified for reasons of research and other exigencies and duly permitted by his/her supervisor(s) to that effect.

8. COURSE WORK

- 8.1 All Research scholars must successfully complete a Course Work of one Semester (comprising 16 credits equivalent to 200 marks in the conventional mode) consisting of 4 courses of 4 credits each within a period of one year from the date of provisional registration as a part of the Ph.D. Programme. Provided that if a scholar fail to pass at the end-semester examination after completion of the course work, he will be given a second chance. However, the total period shall not exceed two years for a scholar to successfully complete the course work.
- 8.2 The Course Work shall be divided into the following Courses:
- (i) Course I : Research Methodology including Thesis and Assignment Writing = (04 Credits) 50 marks.
 - (ii) Course II : Computer Applications and Statistical Methods – Relevant to the research work in the faculty concerned = (04 Credits) 50 marks.
 - (iii) Course III : Advance Topics in Frontier Areas – covering the whole subject = (04 Credits) 50 marks
 - (iv) Course IV : Special topics related to the Core Areas of Research = (04 Credits) 50 marks
- 8.3 The specific subjects and syllabus of study for the Third and Fourth courses may be decided by the Ph.D. Committee on the recommendation of the Supervisor(s) concerned. The fourth course may include Review of Literature/Investigation, Seminar, etc. The

second course may also include collection and analysis of data relevant to the area of research.

- 8.4 The scholars who have successfully completed the regular M.Phil. Programme from a recognized university may be exempted from doing the Course Work by the Ph.D. Committee for the Ph.D. Programme. However, they may be required to attend the classes to be organized to cover the Third and Fourth courses by the respective Ph.D. Committees, if necessary.
- 8.5 The scholars who have completed the course requirements from one university/institution and moves to this university for doing Ph.D., the candidates may be allowed by the BRS to get requisite credit and exemption from doing the course work at this university subject to the recommendation of the Ph.D. Committee concerned.
- 8.6 The Course Works on First and Second Courses shall be organized faculty-wise by the respective Board of Research Studies and the Course Works on Third and Fourth Courses shall be organized by the respective Ph.D. Committees. The syllabi shall be prepared by the Board of Research Studies (Course no. I & II) and the respective Ph.D. Committees (Course no. III & IV) in terms of Regulations 8.2 here above.
- 8.7 After the completion of the Course Works examinations shall be conducted by the Controller of Examinations with necessary and active assistance from the BRS (for the first and second courses) and the respective Ph.D. Committees (for the third and fourth courses). The Board of Research Studies and the respective Ph.D. Committees are authorized take all necessary steps relating to paper setting, moderation, evaluation, and tabulation of results in their respective areas pertaining to the Course Work. However, the preparation of schedules for examination, holding of examinations and the publication of results thereof shall be decided by the Controller in consultation with the Board of Research Studies.
- 8.8 The Joint-Secretary of the Board of Research Studies (Secretary of the P.G. Faculty Councils) shall act as the link between the Controller of Examinations on the one hand and the Board of Research Studies and the Ph.D. Committees on the other in respect of matters included in Regulation 8.7.
- 8.9 The Course Work shall be evaluated for an internal assessment of fifty per cent and a final examination of fifty per cent. The candidates shall be required to obtain fifty per cent marks or equivalent grade (comprising both the internal assessment and final examination) to pass the semester examination after the completion of the Course Work. The Controller will issue mark sheets to the candidates appearing at the examination.
- 8.10 After successful completion of the stipulated Course Work, the Registrar shall issue a Certificate to the scholar confirming his/her registration for Ph.D. Programme.

9. PRE-SUBMISSION SEMINAR

- 9.1 A Research Scholar shall deliver one lecture on his/her Ph.D. work in a seminar prior to the submission of the thesis, before the members of the Ph. D. Committee and other faculty members of the department(s) concerned. The application submitted by the candidate to the Registrar for pre-submission seminar must include ten copies of the synopsis on the work i.e. the summary of work comprising of around 5000 words.

- 9.2 On receipt of such an application from the candidate, duly forwarded by the supervisor, the Registrar shall forward the application to the Secretary, Ph.D. Committee immediately who shall arrange the pre-submission seminar within one month from the date of receipt of application from the Registrar.
- 9.3 The participants of such seminar may give suggestions to the candidate. The candidate may incorporate such suggestions in his/her Ph.D. thesis. The candidate shall submit a report on the proposals of inclusion of such suggestions to the Secretary, Ph. D. Committee through the supervisor concerned. If the candidate disagrees to incorporate such suggestions, he/she will have to explain his/her points to the supervisor whose considered views shall be binding on the candidate and the matter shall be reported to the Secretary for record.
- 9.4 The Secretary shall send the report on the pre-submission seminar within a month to the Registrar who shall issue a certificate to the candidate on the pre-submission seminar if approved. The presence of at least one external member and a supervisor is compulsory in the pre-submission seminar.
- 9.5 The pre-submission seminar cannot be permitted before one and half years from the date of registration.

10. CHANGE OF TITLE OF THE THESIS

If the candidate thinks it necessary to change the title of the thesis in view of the new dimensions of the work, either on his own or at the suggestion of the Ph. D. Committee after the pre-submission seminar, he/she may apply to the Registrar, before presentation of the pre-submission seminar, along with the supervisor's approval. The Ph.D. Committee may permit such a change.

Provided that no scholar shall be entitled to change the title of the work (registered title) without written permission from the Registrar.

11. SUBMISSION OF THE THESIS

- 11.1 On receipt of the permission from the Registrar after Pre-submission seminar, the candidate shall submit his/her thesis for adjudication within a period of one year from the date of pre-submission seminar. Before submission of his/her thesis the candidate shall apply to the Registrar together with (a) Supervisor's certificate, wherever applicable and (b) the letter containing the permission. The Registrar shall give permission within seven days, if the candidate complies with the Ph. D. Regulations.
- 11.2 The candidate shall submit five copies of the thesis (with two soft copies before the viva-voce in MS Word/Latex), six copies in case of joint supervision, together with six copies of synopsis. The Supervisor's certificate shall be submitted separately in an envelope with the thesis, wherever applicable. The scholar shall submit the synopsis (6 copies) consisting of 250-300 words on the summery and findings of the work and stating how the work contributes to the general advancement of knowledge.
- 11.3 The thesis shall be in typed or printed form and bound with a cover page inscribing only the title of the thesis, the name of the Researcher, Department, University and the year of submission. The name of the Supervisor shall not be inscribed or printed anywhere in the thesis.
- 11.4 The candidate shall tender the prescribed submission fee of Rupees three thousand (Rs 3000.00) only at the time of submission of the thesis.

- 11.5 The candidate shall not be allowed to submit the thesis earlier than two years from the date of registration.
- 11.6 The candidate cannot submit any work as his thesis for which a Degree/Diploma/other academic award has been conferred on him/her by this University or any other University or Institute. The candidate must make a declaration to this effect in his/her thesis.
- 11.7 The Registrar or in his absence the Deputy Registrar shall communicate with the adjudicators for their consent within a fortnight after receiving their name. The Registrar shall dispatch the thesis to the adjudicators within a month from the date of receiving the consent of the adjudicators. It shall be the responsibility of the Registrar to keep the names and addresses of the adjudicators confidential.
- 11.8 A scholar must have at least one publication in a referred or in a professional journal (recognized by the University) out of his/her doctoral research work prior to the submission of his thesis and shall produce evidence for the same in the form of acceptance or reprint.
- 11.9 The thesis shall be an original contribution to knowledge and must therefore bear evidence of the scholar's have carried out individual investigations in her/his chosen field.
- 11.10 The University shall have the liberty to revoke any Ph.D. degree conferred duly, if subsequently charged with plagiarism.

12. LANGUAGE OF THE THESIS

- 12.1 The thesis shall ordinarily be in English unless situation warrants otherwise. This is not applicable if the work is related to vernacular or regional languages. If the situation demands, the thesis in other subjects may be written in regional languages provided the Vice-Chancellor permits the same on the specific recommendation of the Board of Research Studies on a prayer from the candidate concerned.
- 12.2 The application as above (under Regulation 12.1) needs to be duly recommended by the Supervisor and the prayer shall be considered on merits only.

13. ADJUDICATORS

- 13.1 For the purpose of adjudicating the thesis a panel of adjudicators (not below the rank of Professors) prepared by the Supervisor(s) shall be considered and recommended by the Ph.D. Committee which shall consist of:
 - (i) The supervisor(s) as specified in Regulation 4.1.
 - (ii) Six experts from outside the Vidyasagar University (two from within the state, two from outside the state and two from abroad)
- 13.2 The panel shall be prepared at the same meeting of the Ph.D. Committee in which the pre-submission seminar is organized.
- 13.3 The Adjudicators shall be finally selected by the Vice-Chancellor and shall comprise the Supervisor/Supervisors, one examiner from outside the University and another from outside the State. It shall be up to the Vice-Chancellor to have one examiner from outside the country on grounds of academic reasons, if recommended by the Supervisor.
- 13.4 Electronic media (Computer, Internet etc) shall be used for communication with the adjudicators, experts and candidates by the Registrar's Office in order to expedite the

process of adjudication for which the scholar may be asked to reimburse the actual expenses, if necessary

14. ADJUDICATION REPORT

- 14.1 An adjudicator on evaluation of the thesis shall furnish a report confidentially to the Registrar stating therein *inter-alia*, the following:
- (i) Whether the award of the Ph.D. degree to the candidate is recommended, and whether the thesis is fit for publication by the candidate in the form in which it was presented or with modification(s), if any or whether the thesis is considered to be of outstanding merit so that it would be advisable for the University to get it published at its own cost, provided the candidate agrees or;
 - (ii) Whether the thesis though not acceptable in the present form for the award of the Ph.D. degree is likely to be acceptable after revision along with the lines as indicated in the report or;
 - (iii) Whether the thesis is lacking in merit so as to render it liable to be rejected.
- 14.2 If the thesis is revised in the light of the recommendations of the adjudicators, the adjudicators concerned shall thereafter furnish report either of the type mentioned in clause (i) or the type mentioned in clause (iii) of Regulation 14.1.
- 14.3 If the thesis is adjudicated by more than one internal adjudicators a joint report is to be submitted by them.
- 14.4 The office shall make necessary efforts to dispatch report on adjudication within three months from the date of receipt of the thesis. However awarding of the degree/completion of evaluation should be ensured within six months from the date of submission of the thesis.

15. APPRAISAL OF THE ADJUDICATION REPORT

- 15.1 The adjudication reports shall be placed before the Vice-Chancellor immediately. If all the reports are of the type mentioned in Regulation 14.1 (i), the Registrar shall fix up a date for viva-voce in consultation with the Supervisor.
- 15.2 In the event of two of the examiners recommending the award of the degree and the third recommending rejection of the thesis, the thesis shall be referred to a fourth examiner to be selected by the Vice-Chancellor from out of the original panel of examiners. The fourth examiner so appointed shall not be informed of the recommendations of the other three examiners. The recommendation of the fourth examiner shall be final.
- 15.3 In case of any ambiguity in the said reports, the entire matter is placed before the Board of Research Studies for appropriate decision within a period of two months.
- 15.4 If two of the examiners, other than the Supervisor(s), recommend the rejection of the thesis, the thesis shall be rejected by the Vice-Chancellor and the Supervisor(s) is informed accordingly.
- 15.5 If the thesis of the candidate is rejected, the registration of the candidate shall stand *ip so facto* cancelled.

16. VIVA-VOCE

- 16.1 If the adjudicators recommend the thesis for the award of the degree as specified in Regulations here above, the candidate shall be asked to appear for the viva-voce, which shall be openly defended by the candidate.
- 16.2 The Supervisor (s) and the expert preferably out of the panel prepared under Regulation 13.1 shall be appointed by the Vice-Chancellor to act as Oral Examiners at the Viva-Voce. In case of non-availability of an expert for viva-voce from the panel, the Vice-Chancellor shall nominate an expert from a panel of three experts suggested by the Supervisor.
- 16.3 Viva-Voce examination for Ph.D. may be held normally at the University with information to the Secretary, Ph.D. Committee concerned.
- 16.4 If the oral examiners are satisfied with the performance of the candidate at the viva-voce and submit a written report to that effect, the Vice-Chancellor shall recommend the award of the Degree to the candidate in the next Convocation and shall report the Executive Council the award of such degree. A Provisional Certificate shall be issued to the candidate to that effect within seven days after the Viva-voce examination. In the provisional certificate the university shall also certify to the effect that the Degree has been awarded in accordance with the provisions of the Regulations, 2009 of the UGC. This declaration shall also be incorporated in the Degree (final certificate) in an appropriate manner.
- 16.5 If the candidate fails to satisfy the Oral-examiners in the viva-voce, he/she shall be given two more chances to defend his / her thesis within one year from the date of such meeting. If the candidate fails to satisfy both the viva examiners on all the occasions, his/her thesis shall be rejected and his/her registration shall stand cancelled. In an eventually that the thesis is rejected at the viva-voce finally, the examiners shall give specific reasons in writing on the basis of which the examiner(s) recommends rejection of the thesis provided (i) that the viva-voce examination have been conducted by the same examiners again unless his/ her services were not available (ii) that in case of rejection as above, the matter be reported to the Board of Research Studies to recommend further action in the matter on the merit of the case.
- 16.6 In the event of a scholar proceedings/staying in abroad after the submission of his/her thesis, a competent expert in the field abroad may be appointed by the Vice-Chancellor as a special case on the recommendation of the Supervisor(s) from a panel of three foreign experts submitted by the Supervisor(s), if video conferencing is not possible.
- 16.7 The scholar shall have to pay Rs. 1,000/- as additional fee each time, if he/she is directed to appear again at the Vice-voce examination after the original one.

17. RESUBMISSION

- 17.1 If a candidate is required to re-submit the thesis vide Regulation 15.2, the candidate may submit the revised thesis after a period of six months but not later than one year from the date of communication issued by the Registrar on payment of prescribed fee. of Rs. 1000.00.
- 17.2 If the candidate fails to resubmit the thesis within one year as stated above, his/her registration shall be cancelled.

18. AWARD OF THE DEGREE

The award of the Ph.D. Degree shall be made at the Convocation of the University, which is a meeting of the Court, if all the procedures as stated hereinbefore are fulfilled.

19. PRESERVATION OF THE THESIS

19.1 After the degree of Ph.D. is awarded, a soft copy of the thesis shall be submitted to the UGC within 30 days from the date of issues of provisional certificate for hosting the same in INFLIBNET.

19.2 The thesis may also be preserved in the following manner:

- (i) One copy at the Central Library, both hard copy and in electronic form.
- (ii) One copy at the Departmental Library, and if there is no Departmental Library, with the Ph.D. Section of the university.

20. INTERPRETATION / MODIFICATION OF RULES

The powers of interpretation and modification of the Regulations here above are vested in the Executive Council of the University. Provided that any of the powers mentioned above (excluding those relating to modifications or changes in Rules) may be delegated to the Vice-Chancellor by a specific resolution of the Executive Council and subsequent notification and inclusion in CSR Notification to give effect to the changes.

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