MITS

MADANAPALLE INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY & SCIENCE

(Deemed to be University under section 3 of UGC Act, 1956)

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Regulations for the Ph.D. Programs-AY 2026-27

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1. Introduction

1.1 Madanapalle Institute of Technology & Science (MITS) Deemed to be University strictly adheres to the University Grants Commission Regulations, 2022 (Minimum Standards and Procedures for Award of Ph.D. Degree) for Ph.D. Program both in letter and spirit.

1.2 These regulations shall be called MITS Deemed to be University Regulations for Ph.D. Program and govern the policies and procedures including selection, admission, imparting of instructions, conduct of examinations, evaluation and certification of candidate's performance and all amendments thereto.

1.3 The regulations shall come into effect from the academic year 2026-27 and shall be binding on all the candidates undergoing the said Degree Program until further revision.

1.4 These regulations may be modified from time to time as mandated by the statutes of the University and the Regulatory Authority of the Government/s.

1.5 All disputes arising from this set of regulations shall be addressed to the Executive Council. The decision of the Executive Council is final and binding on all parties concerned. Further, any legal disputes arising out of this set of regulations shall be limited to the jurisdiction of the Courts of Madanapalle only.

2. Admission Category

2.1 **Full-Time**

i) With Fellowship:

Monthly Fellowship for Full-Time Research Scholars will be provided as per the details given in the Table (Subject to fulfilment of the University regulations):

Ph.D. Program	GATE/NET Qualified Candidates	Others
1st Year	₹ 30,000	₹ 25,000
2nd year	₹ 35,000	₹ 30,000
3rd Year	₹ 35,000	₹ 30,000

a) The Full-Time category candidates shall be present in the campus throughout their Fellowship period.

b) Ph.D. scholars may also be assigned teaching/research assistantship for conducting tutorial or laboratory work and evaluations.

ii) Without Fellowship

a) Sponsored Candidates

Candidates with an excellent academic record and sponsored by institutions/research organizations/industries are eligible under this category.

b) Self-Financed Candidates

Candidates with an excellent academic record and self-financed candidates are eligible under this category.

2.2 **Part-Time**

a) Candidates working in institutions/research organizations/industries are eligible without fellowship.

b) Ph.D. programmes through part-time mode will be permitted, provided all the conditions stipulated in these Regulations are met.

c) "No Objection Certificate" shall be submitted by the candidate for a part-time Ph.D. programme from the appropriate authority in the organization where the candidate is employed, clearly stating that:

i. The candidate is permitted to pursue studies on a part-time basis.

ii. His/her official duties permit him/her to devote sufficient time for research.

iii. If required, he/she will be relieved from the duty to complete the course work.

3. Eligibility

3.1 Ph. D in Engineering

3.1.1. Candidates who have completed a 10+2+4+2 academic pattern, or an equivalent qualification such as B.Tech. with M.Tech. or B.Tech. with M.S., as well as those who have pursued a 10+2+5 integrated M.Tech. or integrated M.S. programme in Engineering, are eligible to apply. Applicants must have obtained a minimum of 55% aggregate marks (or a CGPA of 6.0 on a 10-point scale) in either their Master's programme for the general category.

3.1.2. Candidates who have completed a 10+2+3+2+2 academic pattern and hold qualifications such as MCA and M.Tech (CSE/IT), or M.Sc. (Mathematics/Computer Science) along with M.Tech (CSE/IT), are also eligible to apply for a Ph.D. in Computer Science and Allied Engineering. Applicants must have obtained a minimum of 55% aggregate marks (or a CGPA of 6.0 on a 10-point scale) in either their Master's programme for the general category.

3.1.3. A relaxation of 5% marks or its equivalent grade is allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/Differently-Abled, Economically Weaker Section (EWS) for all categories of admissions mentioned above.

3.1.4. A valid Madanapalle Institute of Technology & Science Doctoral Admission Test (MITSDAT) score is mandatory for both full-time and part-time admissions. However, the candidates with valid score in UGC-NET/UGC- CSIR NET/GATE/CEED and similar National level tests are exempted from MITSDAT.

3.1.5. For candidates working in government recognized Research and Development (R&D) institutions at Scientist Level with minimum two

years of experience may be exempted from MITSDAT.

3.2 **Ph.D. in Sciences/Management/Humanities**

3.2.1. Candidates who have completed a 10 + 2 + 3 + 2 academic pattern and hold qualifications such or equivalent in Sciences/Humanities/ Management.

3.2.2. Applicants must have obtained a minimum of 55% aggregate marks (or a CGPA of 6.0 on a 10-point scale) in either their Master's programme for the general category.

3.2.3. A relaxation of 5% marks or its equivalent grade is allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/Differently-Abled, Economically Weaker Section (EWS) for all categories of admissions mentioned above.

3.2.4. A valid MITSDAT score is mandatory for both full-time and part-time admissions. However, the candidates with valid score in UGC-NET/UGC-CSIR NET/GATE/CEED and similar National level tests are exempted from MITSDAT.

3.2.5. Preference will be given to candidates with valid GATE score for selection.

3.2.6. For candidates working in government recognized R&D institutions at Scientist Level with minimum two years of experience may be exempted from MITSDAT based on the recommendations of Vice-Chancellor.

4. Selection Procedure

4.1 Admission notification will be published in University website/News Paper by the Director of Admissions.

4.2 All candidates should register for admission as per the notification issued.

4.3 The schedule of admission test and test pattern including the syllabus will be made available in the website. The Entrance Test syllabus shall consist of 50% of research methodology, and 50% shall be subject specific.

4.4 The admission test will be conducted by the Controller of Examinations.

4.5 It is mandatory for all candidates who fulfil the eligibility criteria to appear for the MITSDAT.

4.6 Students who have secured 50 % marks in the admission test are eligible to be called for the interview.

4.7 A relaxation of 5 % marks will be allowed in the admission test for the candidates belonging to SC/ST/OBC/differently-abled category, Economically Weaker Section (EWS).

4.8 The selection of candidates is based on the admission test and interview. A weightage of 70 % for the admission test and 30 % for the performance in the interview shall be given.

4.9 However, the candidates with valid score in UGC-NET/UGC-CSIR NET/GATE/CEED and similar National level tests are exempted from MITSDAT. The test score (percentile) will be converted to the weightage of 70% and remaining 30% for the performance in the interview shall be given.

4.10 Each department shall have Departmental Research Committee (DRC) with the following composition.

SI. No	Designation	Position
1	HOD	Chairman
2	Professor	Convener
3	Three Senior Faculty member with Ph.D	Member

4.11 The Shortlisted candidates should appear for a personal interview on the University Premises and submit their research plan.

4.12 A merit list will be submitted for approval by the DRC through the CoE, Dean (R &D), Director of Admissions to the Vice-Chancellor.

4.13 The selection procedure for Ph.D. admission of international students shall be decided by the University, keeping in view the guidelines/norms issued by statutory/regulatory bodies of MITS-Deemed to be University. However, the decision of the Vice Chancellor shall be final in the admission procedure of the international students.

4.14 The selected candidates will be offered admission to the program by the University. In all matters relating to selection, the decision of Centralized Doctoral Committee shall be final.

4.15 The selected candidates will be intimated.

5 Centralized Doctoral Committee (CDC)

The Centralized Doctoral Committee (CDC) acts as apex body to oversee and approve the conduct of all PhD Programmes of the University. The CDC shall be responsible for all policy decisions and approvals concerning the doctoral programmes (Ph.D.) of the University duly supported by scholar-wise Research Advisory Committees.

1. The Vice-Chancellor (Chairman)
2. The Deans of the faculties of the University,
3. Director, Admissions
4. Dean, Academics
5. Controller of Examinations
6. Registrar
7. Dean, R&D (Member Secretary).

6 Orientation Program

An orientation program shall be conducted for the admitted candidates in the concerned School/Department to familiarize with the research program.

7 Research Supervisor

7.1 At the end of the orientation program, each research scholar will be assigned to a Research Supervisor by the concerned DRC keeping the following in view.

i. The preference and research interests of the student.

ii. The interest of the concerned faculty member and his/her availability.

iii. The student will choose the topic of his/her research based on the advice of the Research Supervisor.

7.2 There shall not be more than TWO Supervisors for a research scholar.

7.3 In the case of topics that are interdisciplinary/multidisciplinary and where

the Department concerned feels that the expertise in the Department has to be supplemented from outside, the Department 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 of the University or outside Institutions/Organizations, such terms and conditions as may be specified and agreed upon by the consenting Institutions/Organizations.

8 Eligibility Criteria for Research Supervisor/Co-Supervisor

Any faculty member of the University who satisfies the following requirements is eligible for the appointment as a Research Supervisor/Co-Supervisor.

8.1 Permanent faculty members working as Professor/Associate Professor of the Higher Educational Institution with a Two-year post Ph.D. experience in which one year from MITS and at least five research publications in peer-reviewed or refereed journals. Permanent faculty members working as Assistant Professors in Higher Educational Institutions with a Two-year post Ph.D. experience in which one year from MITS and at least three research publications in peer-reviewed or refereed journals may be recognized as a Research Supervisor in the University. Such recognized research supervisors cannot supervise research scholars in other institutions, where they can only act as co-supervisors. However, the decision of the Vice Chancellor shall be final in qualifying a supervisor.

8.2 The areas/disciplines where there is no, or only a limited number of peer-reviewed or refereed journals, the Higher Educational Institution may relax the above condition for recognition of a person as Research Supervisor with reasons recorded in writing. Co-Supervisors from within the same department or other departments of the same institution or other institutions may be permitted with the approval of the competent authority.

8.3 Adjunct faculty are not permitted to be Research Supervisors except being co-supervisors.

8.4 The allocation of a Research Supervisor for a selected research scholar shall be decided by the concerned Research Advisory Committee (RAC) depending

on the number of scholars per Research Supervisor, the available specialization among the Supervisors, and the research interests of the scholars as indicated by them at the time of interview.

8.5 An eligible Professor/Associate Professor/Assistant Professor can guide up to eight (8)/six (6)/four (4) Ph.D. scholars, respectively, at any given time.

8.6 In case of relocation of a female Ph.D. scholar due to marriage or otherwise, the research data shall be allowed to be transferred to the Institution/University to which the scholar intends to relocate, provided all the other conditions in these Regulations are followed, and the research work does not pertain to a project sanctioned to the parent Institution/Supervisor by any funding agency. Such scholar shall, however, give due credit to the parent institution and the supervisor for the part of research already undertaken.

8.7 The Research Supervisor should declare the number of Ph.D. scholars registered with him/her periodically to the University. He/she cannot increase the number by using recognition from multiple universities.

8.8 In case any research supervisor resigns from his/her job, it is his/her responsibility to suggest a list of three faculty members who are experts in the same domain. The head of the department will review the list of recommended faculty members and select one as the new research supervisor to replace the resigning supervisor in consultation with Research Advisory Committee (RAC) members.

8.9 Faculty members with less than three years of service before superannuation shall not be allowed to take new research scholars under their supervision. However, such faculty members can continue to supervise Ph.D. scholars who are already registered until superannuation and as a co-supervisor after superannuation, but not after attaining the age of 70 years.

8.10 Faculty who resigned and left the University will forfeit his/her claim as a research supervisor unless otherwise recommended by the Research Advisory Committee.

8.11 Each supervisor can guide up to two international research scholars on a supernumerary basis over and above the permitted number of Ph.D. scholars.

9 Admission of International students in Ph.D. programme

Applicants must have a Master's or equivalent postgraduate degree with at least 55% marks (Grading systems are assessed on an equivalent UGC 10-point scale). Foreign degrees must be recognized by the Association of Indian Universities (AIU).

10 Research Advisory Committee (RAC)

A Research Advisory Committee (RAC) will be constituted for each research scholar.

10.1 Composition of RAC:

1. Head of the Department in which the Research Scholar is enrolled	- Chairman
2. Research Supervisor (s)	- Convener
3. Two eligible faculty members to be nominated by the Vice-Chancellor from the list suggested by the Supervisor. The list may comprise of faculty members from any department within the University based on research area of the research scholar	- Members

In case any member goes on long leave or resigns or retires from the University, the Vice-Chancellor will nominate another member.

10.2 Committee Responsibilities:

10.2.1 To review the research proposal and finalize the topic of research and identify the courses that he/she may have to do.

10.2.2 To periodically review and assist in the progress of the research work of the research scholar.

10.2.3 A research scholar shall attend the research review meeting (RRM) conducted by the RAC once in six months to make a presentation of the progress of his/her work for evaluation and further guidance. The six-monthly progress reports shall be submitted by the RAC to the Controller of Examinations (CoE) with a copy to the research scholar.

10.2.4 In case the progress of the research scholar is unsatisfactory, the RAC shall record the reasons for the same and suggest corrective measures. If the research scholar fails to implement these corrective measures, the RAC may recommend the cancellation of Ph.D. admission.

11 Pre-Ph.D. Course Work

11.1 All research scholars admitted to the PhD programme shall be required to complete the course work, as prescribed by the RAC. The guidelines regarding minimum credit requirements are given in Table - 1.

Table 1. Minimum Credit Requirements for the PhD Programme.

Sl. No.	Qualification	Minimum Credit Requirements	Remarks
1	2-year master's degree programme after a 3/4-year bachelor's degree programme in Science, Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences, Liberal Arts and Management programmes	12 credits	The course work is expected to be completed during the first two semesters and, in any case, not more than 18 months for full-time and 24 months for part-time from the date of joining.
2	2-year master's degree programme after a 4-year bachelor's degree in B.E/B.Tech.		
3	1-year master's degree programme from one of the top 300 QS World Rankings Universities after a 4-year bachelor's degree in B.E/B.Tech (or) Integrated M.Tech. programme.	18 credits	The course work is expected to be completed during the first three semesters and, in any case, not more than 24 months for full-time and 30 months for part-time from the date of joining.

11.2 In a course work, courses like "Research and Publication Ethics" and a "Research Methodology" are mandatory along with the courses in subject domain. The Research Advisory Committee can also recommend UGC recognized online courses as part of the credit requirements for the Ph.D. programme.

11.3 The full time scholars who do not comply with these requirements specified in the Table 1 can re-register for the part time PhD program with the prevailing

fee structure. The Full Time scholars transferred to part time must repay 50% of the fellowship paid to the scholar before the transfer. If extension required for the course work, the research scholar needs to be take approval from CDC members.

11.4 Candidate admitted under part time/Full time category should have a minimum of 75 % attendance for the course work.

11.5 Full-time Ph.D. scholars are eligible for 15 days of casual leave in a calendar year. In addition, they may avail up to 15 days of On-Duty (OD) leave for purposes such as data collection, visit to research laboratories, and participation in conferences, workshops, training programs, or other approved research-related activities conducted outside MITS.

11.6 A Ph.D. scholar must obtain a pass grade with 55 % marks (Table. 2 of section 11.7) in the course work to be eligible to continue in the programme and submit his/her thesis. Each course shall be assessed for a maximum of 100 marks. There shall be Continuous Internal Assessment (CIE) for 40 marks and End Semester Examination (ESE) for 60 marks. The assessment pattern for Continuous Internal Evaluation (CIE) for theory courses shall comprise 25 marks for Mid-Term Tests, 10 marks for Assignments, and 5 marks for Quiz/Seminar/Project-Based Learning (PBL). The first mid-term test covers Units I & II syllabus and second mid-term test covers Unit III, IV & V syllabus. Each mid-term test shall be conducted for 50 marks for a duration of 2 hours. There shall be in total 6 questions of 10 marks each. Out of the six questions any five shall to be answered. Final Mid-term marks shall be arrived by taking the average of the two mid test marks. Further the final mid-term test mark is multiplied with (1/2) or 0.5 for scaling it down to 25 marks. The end semester examination shall be conducted for a maximum of 100 marks for a duration of 3 hours. There shall be 5 compulsory questions. Each of these questions from 1 to 5 shall cover one unit of the syllabus. In each of the questions from 1 to 5, there shall be either-or type questions of 20 marks each. Generally, two sets of the question paper are set by external experts for the end semester examination. Out of the two papers one is randomly selected by the CoE for printing and distribution to the examination halls. Double

evaluation system shall be followed for evaluating the theory course answer scripts. While one evaluator shall be from within the University the other shall be from outside the University. If the obtained difference between the marks of the two evaluators is less than or equal to 15% of the maximum marks, the final mark shall be arrived by taking the average of the two marks. In case, the obtained difference of the marks awarded by the two examiners exceeds 15% the Controller of Examinations shall appoint the third evaluator for evaluating the answer script. Of the three marks available thereafter, the average of the closet mark to the third evaluator mark and third evaluator mark shall be taken as final mark. If the mark of internal evaluator and external evaluator are at equal difference with the third evaluator mark, then the highest two shall be considered for average. After the average mark is computed, the final end semester examination mark is multiplied with (3/5) or 0.6 for scaling it down to 60 marks. All examinations of course work will be conducted under the supervision of Controller of Examinations of the University as per the University norms. The scholar on the recommendation of the RAC may opt for SWAYAM NPTEL courses with a duration of 8/12 weeks. For NPTEL course, the credit transfer is considered if and only if the scholar obtains 55 % of marks or its equivalent grade.

11.7 For all skill enhancement courses in One theory lecture and two practical hours (1-0-2-2) type the assessment shall be as follows;

11.8 Internal assessment shall be for 40 marks with the following distribution;

a) 40 marks: There shall be two Mid-Term Tests of 40 marks each. Mid-Term Test-I shall be conducted for Units I & II. Mid-Term Test-II shall be conducted for Units III, IV & V. The duration of the test shall be 2 hours. Question paper shall be set for three questions of 20 marks each. Out of these three questions, a student needs to answer any two. The final Mid-Term Test mark shall be arrived by taking average of the two mid-term test marks.

b) 10 marks: Two assignments evaluated for 5 marks each.

c) 10 marks: Record & Observation.

The End Semester Examination shall be purely in practical mode. The weightage is for 100 marks and it shall be jointly conducted and evaluated by two internal examiners who are appointed by the Controller of Examinations. End Semester Examination Question paper shall comprise of 3 questions of either-or choice. Q.No.1 & 3 shall be for 35 marks and Q.No. 2 shall be for 30 marks. The distribution of the questions across the syllabus is as follows;

Question-1 shall have one question each from Unit I & II respectively. (35 marks)

Question-2 shall have both questions from Unit-III. (30 marks)

Question-3 shall have one question each from Unit IV & V respectively. (35 marks)

11.9 Based on the student's performance in each course, the appropriate Letter Grade and Grade Point is awarded as per the below table. 2.

Letter Grade	Grade Point	Absolute Marks
O (Outstanding)	10	90 - 100
A+ (Excellent)	9	80 - 89
A (Very Good)	8	75 - 79
B+ (Good)	7.5	70 - 74
B (Above Average)	7	65 - 69
C (Average)	6.5	61 -64
P (Pass)	6	55 - 60
F (Fail)	0	< 55
Ab (Absent)	0	-

11.10 Along with the secured letter grade and credits, CGPA shall be displayed on the grade sheet.

11.11 All the courses shall be of P.G or equivalent level and will be largely related to the Ph.D. research to advance candidate knowledge in the area of research chosen.

12 Progress Reports

12.1 The Research Scholars, both full-time and part-time, shall submit Progress Reports duly endorsed by the RAC once in six months to the Controller of Examinations

until they submit their synopsis.

12.2 Failure to submit the progress reports shall entail cancellation of registration.

12.3 The minutes of the meeting of the RAC along with enclosures will be sent to the Controller of Examinations and R&D cell.

13 Break-in-Studies

13.1 Any Research Scholar can be permitted to break his/her studies on medical grounds with the Vice-Chancellor's approval in writing. The break is for a maximum period of one year.

13.2 If prior permission is not sought and obtained, it will be considered as a case of discontinuation and action will be taken to cancel the registration of such candidates.

13.3 For permitting a break in studies on medical grounds, a certificate from the Chief Medical Officer (CMO) is essential. For the resumption of studies, such a candidate should produce a fitness certificate from the CMO.

14 Publication of Research Papers

14.1 At least two research articles published as First Author with Madanapalle Institute of Technology & Science (MITS) affiliation in (Sci/Scopus/Web of Science) indexed Q1/Q2 journals or A*/A/B journals as per the ABDC list with the data accrued from the objectives of the proposed Ph.D. research project. In each publication, the research scholar must be the first author, and the research supervisor may be listed as the second or corresponding author with MITS affiliation.

14.2 The RAC shall certify the quality and authenticity of the publications and ensure that both the candidate and the Research Supervisor are listed as authors of the papers with the correct affiliation.

15 Duration of the Programme

15.1 Ph.D. Programme shall be for a minimum duration of three (3) years, including course work, and a maximum duration of six (6) years from the date of admission to the Ph.D. programme.

15.2 A maximum of an additional two (2) years can be given through a process of re-registration as per the Statute/Ordinance of University; provided, however,

that the total period for completion of a Ph.D. programme should not exceed eight (8) years from the date of admission in the Ph.D. programme.

15.3 Female Ph.D. scholars and Persons with Disabilities (having more than 40% disability) may be allowed an additional relaxation of two (2) years; however, the total period for completion of a Ph.D. programme in such cases should not exceed ten (10) years from the date of admission in the Ph.D. programme.

15.4 Female Ph.D. Scholars may be provided Maternity Leave/Child Care Leave for up to 240 days in the entire duration of the Ph.D. programme subject to the submission of the appropriate documents.

16 Pre-submission Presentation

16.1 The pre-submission presentation of the thesis is a mandatory requirement to enrich the scholar's research work and to fine-tune his/her research presentation.

16.2 A scholar, having pursued the research work for the minimum specified length of period, at least five satisfactory RRM reports and publications as per the University requirements may inform to the RAC through his/her supervisor along with a summary on the research work done by him/her and request for arranging Pre-Submission Presentation.

16.3 The supervisor shall convene a RAC meeting upon receipt of the request from the scholar and make a review and forward the review recommendation to Dean (R&D) for verification.

16.4 Dean (R&D) shall verify and issue NOC for conduction of Pre-submission Presentation.

16.5 Dean (R&D) will fix the date and release the circular from Registrar office for the conduction of Pre-Submission Presentation to the RAC committee appointed.

16.6 The chairman, RAC shall then organize the Pre-Submission Presentation and submit report to Dean R&D for the approval.

16.7 Based on the recommendations given by the RAC by checking the answers to the comments and revised synopsis, Dean (R&D) office will inform the scholar regarding furtherance of the work.

16.8 The Research Supervisor shall forward a report on this event with an endorsement of chairman RAC to the Controller of Examinations.

17 Submission of Synopsis

17.1 The submission of a synopsis may be permitted 3 months before the completion of the stipulated duration.

17.2 The Research Scholar shall submit 3 copies of the synopsis approved by the RAC along with a soft copy to the Controller of Examinations through the Research Supervisor, the HOD, and Dean R&D.

18 Submission of Thesis

18.1 The candidate shall submit five copies of the thesis along with the prescribed fee within three months after the submission of the synopsis. A grace period of 30 days is allowed to submit the thesis after the prescribed duration. If the thesis is not submitted even after the grace period, the candidate has to pay the tuition fee for the next semester.

18.2 Under extraordinary circumstances warranting an extension of the period beyond six years for submission of the thesis, the student should submit an application to the Registrar through the Supervisor/Guide, who in turn will refer the same to the CDC for its opinion, which in turn will be submitted to the Vice-Chancellor. The decision of the Vice-Chancellor in the matter shall be final. The Thesis document should be prepared as per the guidelines in the University Ph.D. Style Manual which will be available to the candidate.

18.3 No dues certificates from the Department, Research Centre, Central Libraries, Hostel, etc., must be submitted along with the thesis copies. The Research Supervisor shall forward the thesis copies with the enclosures to the Controller of Examinations through the HoD and the Dean R&D. A soft copy of the thesis in PDF format inline with Shodhganga, shall also be submitted.

18.4 The similarity of the thesis report verified by a licensed plagiarism software should be checked before final submission as per the University norms.

19 Procedure for Selection of Panel of Examiners

19.1 A panel of examiners shall be provided by the Research Supervisor to evaluate the thesis from the following subsections (a), (b), (c), and (d).

a) Four examiners from reputed Foreign Universities.

b) Four examiners from IITs/NITs/IIITs/Central Universities, reputed public/private/deemed-to-be universities in India.

c) Examiner(s) should be academicians with a good record of scholarly publications in the field and not below the designation of Associate Professor.

d) If the Research Scholar has carried out part of his/her work in another institution/organization, then the panel of examiners should not be from that institution/organization.

19.2 The supervisor through proper channel shall send the panel of 8 examiners in sealed cover to the CoE.

19.3 The Vice-Chancellor will select one Foreign Examiner and one Indian examiner from the panel of examiners. He will also indicate the order of priority of Examiners from 1 to 3 out of 4 for the foreign and Indian examiners.

19.4 Once the Vice-Chancellor has approved the Panel of Examiners, the Controller of Examinations shall forward/dispatch the Synopsis to the examiners and seek their acceptance for evaluation of the thesis.

19.5 Once the examiner agrees to evaluate the thesis, the Controller of Examinations shall arrange to send the thesis for evaluation along with all the necessary documents and guidelines of assessment.

19.6 If any Examiner denies the invitation to evaluate the thesis, the synopsis shall be sent to another Examiner in the list approved by Vice-Chancellor.

19.7 In the case of rejection of the invitation, the process will be continued till the acceptance of the third foreign examiner and third Indian examiner.

19.8 If the acceptance from the first panel is not received within 45 days, the CoE shall request the Research Supervisor to submit an additional panel members list.

20 Adjudication of Thesis/Evaluation of Ph.D. Thesis

There shall be two external examiners out of whom one shall be from outside the country and one Indian examiner shall be out of the state of the University. Hereafter they are called the Board of Examiners.

20.1 The appointed board of examiners shall evaluate the thesis and submit a report on the originality and merit of the thesis for the award of the Ph.D.

degree. Each examiner is expected to give a detailed report on the thesis as per the guidelines of the assessment and send it to the controller of examinations.

20.2 Each examiner shall be requested to send his/her report to the CoE within two months from the date of receipt of the thesis.

20.3 If an examiner(s) fails to send the reports within the stipulated time, the CoE shall send a reminder to him/her after the deadline (two months) and request him/her to send the report within fifteen days. If the concerned Examiner still fails to comply even within the extended period, the CoE shall cancel the appointment forthwith and invite the next Examiner as per the order of preference from the approved panel, to evaluate the thesis.

20.4 Decisions may be taken based on the two reports according to the following:

Sl. No.	**Recommendation of Examiners**		**Decision**
	1	**2**	
1.	Accept	Accept	The scholar will be asked to appear for a public viva-voce examination
2.	Reject	Reject	The thesis will be rejected
3.	Accept	Reject	The thesis will be sent to 3rd Examiner of the same category who rejected
4.	Reject	Accept	The thesis will be sent to 3rd Examiner of the same category who rejected
5.	Accept	Revise	Revise & send to same Examiner who recommended revision (if requested by the Examiner)
6.	Revise	Accept	Revise & send to same Examiner who recommended revision (if requested by the Examiner)
7.	Revise	Revise	Revise & send to both Examiners (if requested by the Examiners)

21 Public Viva-voce/Thesis Defence

21.1 Notification pertaining to the Viva-Voce shall be issued by the CoE and disseminated in the notice boards and website at least 15 days prior to the conduct of the Viva-Voce.

21.2 The viva-voce Board shall consist of the Research Supervisor, one of the examiners (External), and the Head of the Department (Internal). The Research Supervisor shall be the Convener of the viva-voce Board. The reports of the examiners shall be made available to the Convener (Research Supervisor) of the viva-voce board and the Co-Supervisor (if any). The viva-voce examination shall be conducted before the audience comprising of RAC, Faculty members, Research Scholars, and P.G. Students. The Research Supervisor must consolidate the results of the viva-voce Examination.

21.3 An appointed examiner is unable/unavailable to conduct the viva-voce examination in person, the viva-voce examination may be conducted in online mode with due approval from Vice-Chancellor. Still if he/she is not able to attend even in online mode, one of the Examiners from the Panel of Indian Examiners submitted shall be appointed to conduct the examination either through offline/online mode with the due approval from the Vice-Chancellor.

21.4 If the Head of the Department happens to be the Research Supervisor, one of the senior faculty from the respective department shall be appointed by the Vice Chancellor as an Internal Examiner.

21.5 The viva-voce Board shall decide the award of the degree.

22 Award of Ph.D. Degree

The Centre for Research will consolidate the Viva-Voce Report and present the same to the Controller of Examinations with recommendation for award of the Degree subject to favorable comments by the External Examiners.

On fulfilment of the requirements for the award of the degree, the Controller of Examinations on the approval of the Vice Chancellor shall release a notification for the award of the degree.

Following the issuance of the Notification and pending formal ratification of the Degree by the Academic Council/Board of Management, the Controller of

Examinations of the University shall issue a Provisional Certificate to the Research Scholar.

23 Depository with UGC

On successful completion of the evaluation process and issue of notification of the award of PhD, the University shall submit a soft copy of the PhD thesis to the UGC within a period of 2 days for hosting the same on INFLIBNET (Information and Library network) to be accessible to all institutions in the country. Later, the scholar will be permitted to submit an application to CoE for issue of PC enclosed with all the requisite documents.

24 Revisory Authority/Advisory Authority

The Academic Council has the right to modify any of the above Regulations from time to time subject to ratification by the Executive Council.

25 Cancellation of Registration

a) The PhD Registration of the candidate shall be cancelled forthwith under any one or more of the following circumstances:

i. Unsatisfactory progress and failure to implement corrective measures suggested by the RAC. In such a case, the RAC may recommend, with specific reasons, the cancellation of the registration of the PhD scholar from the programme.

ii. False declaration or fraudulent claims in respect of eligibility.

iii. Any direct or indirect attempts by candidates or CDC members to influence the selection of examiners (or) DC members are strictly prohibited.

iv. Non-completion of the coursework.

v. Indulging in unethical research practices or academic dishonesty, including plagiarism.

vi. Failure to comply with mandatory requirements under this Regulation.

vii. Failure to submit the Thesis for Evaluation within the specified/extended time.

b) Plagiarism is a serious academic offence and will be dealt with as guided by the

University Grants Commission (Promotion of Academic Integrity and Prevention of Plagiarism in Higher Educational Institutions) Regulations, 2018. (UGC Regulation on Plagiarism) duly adopted by the University as 'Regulation for the Promotion of Academic Integrity and Prevention of Plagiarism, 2019.'

c) If the candidate is proved to be guilty of repeated offense of plagiarism at any time during the PhD Programme in respect of his/her PhD Research, not only will it lead to cancellation of Admission but also the candidate may be disqualified to apply in future for any PhD Programme of the University.

d) If the PhD Thesis of the candidate is proved to be inflicted by plagiarism after award of the PhD, the University may decide to cancel and withdraw the Degree awarded by an Official Notification in which case the Supervisor/s concerned may be stripped of eligibility for continuation of existing supervision and/or to supervise in future the PhD Programme of the University.

e) Any suo-motu observation by the University or its Examiners or by any complaint received from other sources about plagiarism concerning the PhD Research or the Thesis shall be examined by an Expert Committee appointed by the Vice Chancellor in accordance with the UGC Regulation on Plagiarism. The findings of the Committee shall be adjudicated and decided by the Vice Chancellor or his nominated Official in the presence of the candidate and the Supervisor/s concerned, and any decision taken shall be binding on the candidate and the Supervisor/s concerned with no appeal thereon.