

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)
Ordinances



MK UNIVERSITY

———— Patan, Gujarat ————

**ESTABLISHED BY THE GUJARAT GOVT.
RECOGNIZED BY UGC UNDER SECTION 2(F) OF UGC ACT, 1956**



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Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Ordinances

From Academic Session: 2024-25

**(As per UGC Minimum Standards & Procedures for Award
of Ph.D. Degree Regulations, 2022)**

**Ordinance Governing Enrolment of Candidates for Research Leading to Ph.D. in
Various Departments/Schools**

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Preamble:

One of the highest academic degrees granted by a university is the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.), which necessitates substantial research and intellectual effort. It is given to a candidate who, in accordance with these regulations, has submitted a thesis or dissertation that is the result of original, independent research in one or more disciplines (inter-disciplinary) and that advances knowledge in the Viz.-humanities, social sciences, science engineering, technology, healthcare, commerce and management etc.

The Ph.D. degree shall be conferred and awarded to a candidate who fulfils all the requirements specified in these Ordinances and Regulations in the discipline of the department in which she/ he is registered.

O. Ph.D. 1: Short title, application and commencement:

1.1 This Ordinance shall be called “MK University Ph.D. Ordinance as per UGC Minimum standards and procedures for award of the PhD degree regulations 2022 with effect from academic session 2024-25.

1.2 This Ordinance shall apply to the Ph.D. programme conducted in different disciplines at the University Schools/ Departments .

1.3 The Regulations govern the conditions for imparting instructions for the courses, conduct of examinations and evaluation of scholars’ performance leading to Ph.D. degree. These Regulations will be effective for the batches of scholars admitted from the academic year 2024-25 onwards.

1.4 Doctoral Programme leading to the degree of Ph.D. shall be offered in the different disciplines and subjected of the university and inter-disciplinary Subjects of the University

1.5 The provisions of these Regulations shall be applicable to any new disciplines/subject that are introduced from time to time.

1.6 Notwithstanding any provisions contained in these Regulations, on the recommendation of the Academic Council (AC) shall exercise its powers to change/amend/interpret/ implement the decisions and actions concerned with academic matters, to change any or all parts of these Regulations at any time.

O. Ph.D. 2: Eligibility Criteria for Admission to Ph. D. Programme:

2.1 The following are eligible to seek admission to the Ph. D. programme:

Candidates who have completed:

- (i) A 1-year/2-semester master's degree programme after a 4-year/8-semester bachelor's degree programme or a 2-year/4-semester master's degree programme after a 3-year bachelor's degree programme or qualifications declared equivalent to the master's degree by the corresponding statutory regulatory body, with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed or equivalent qualification from a foreign educational institution accredited by an assessment and accreditation agency which is approved, recognized or authorized by an authority, established or incorporated under a law in its home country or any other statutory authority in that country to assess, accredit or assure quality and standards of the educational institution.

A relaxation of 5% marks or its equivalent grade may be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/Differently-Abled, Economically Weaker Section (EWS) and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the Commission from time to time.

Provided that a candidate seeking admission after a 4-year/8-semester bachelor's degree programme should have a minimum of 75% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade on a point scale wherever the grading system is followed. A relaxation of 5% marks or its equivalent grade may be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/Differently-Abled, Economically Weaker Section (EWS) and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the Commission from time to time.

- (ii) Candidates who have completed the M.Phil. programme with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed or equivalent qualification from a foreign educational institution accredited by an assessment and accreditation agency which is approved, recognized or authorized by an authority, established or incorporated under a law in its home country or any other statutory authority in that country to assess, accredit or assure quality and standards of educational institutions, shall be eligible for admission to the Ph.D. programme. A

relaxation of 5% marks or its equivalent grade may be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/Differently-Abled, Economically Weaker Section (EWS) and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the Commission from time to time.

2.2 Students those awarded UGC-CSIR (JRF) or Inspire Fellowship in last or current year [who has received fellowship] and students from foreign universities are exempted from the entrance test and they should be registered directly to the Ph. D. Programme and such seats are treated as super-numeri under the concerned research supervisor and would be adjusted against the maximum limit of seats of the supervisor as an when vacancy is created.

O. Ph.D. 3: Duration of the Program:

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

3.2 A maximum of an additional two (2) years can be given through a process of re registration as per the Statute/Ordinance of the Higher Educational Institution concerned; 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.

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

3.3 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.

O. Ph.D. 4: Admission Procedure:

The procedure for selection of candidates for admission shall be based on both entrance test and personal interview.

4.1 The Entrance Test syllabus shall consist of 50% of research methodology and 50% shall be subject- specific. The entrance examination will consist of 70 multiple choice questions of equal marks containing 35 questions each from research methodology and subject specialization. There is No Negative marking for incorrect answers.

4.2 The syllabus of examination for the Ph. D. Admission entrance test shall be same as for UGC/CSIR NET Examination.

4.3 Merely filling up an application form does not entitle the candidate for admission. The admission is purely based on the entrance examination and interview, subject to fulfilling the other requisite criteria.

4.4 Passing standard of the entrance examination shall be 50%.

4.5 A relaxation of 5% marks will be allowed in the entrance examination for the candidates belonging to SC/ST/OBC/differently-abled category, Economically Weaker Section (EWS), and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the Commission from time to time.

4.6 The following categories of candidates may be exempted from appearing in entrance test

- (i) Candidates with UGC-NET/UGC- CSIR NET/GATE/CEED and similar National level tests qualified are exempted from entrance examination
- (ii) Candidates with M.Phil. Degree as per Ph.D. Regulation 2009/2016 or equivalent as recognized by the University. However, candidate should attend for an interview for final selection for admission to Ph.D.

4.7 Interview/viva-voce shall be conducted for successful candidates in entrance test as well as candidate who are exempted from the entrance test. In case, the number of candidates who qualify the entrance test/Exempted students happen to be more than the number of seats available in the respective category, then as per the available seats in various categories, reasonable number of merit listed candidates shall be called for the interview/viva-voce. The decision of admission committee is final and binding to all the candidates.

The interview shall consider the competence, suitability, research interest and contribution to knowledge, by the candidate undertaking the research program.

4.8 A weightage of 70% for the entrance test and 30% for the performance in the interview/viva- voce shall be given in making final merit list.

4.9 There will be no allotment of supervisors to the candidates at the time of interview.

4.10 Candidates will be selected as per the number of vacancies in the department.

O. Ph.D. 5: Fees Payable by the Research Scholars:

5.1 The research scholar shall have to pay the requisite fee prescribed by the University failing which his/her registration shall be cancelled.

5.2 The fee may be charged under the heads like— Registration Fee (at the time of registration), Course Work fee (for those who are required to complete Course Work);

Semester/continuation/tuition fee; Laboratory fee for science subjects and other subjects involving laboratory work; Evaluation fee to be charged at the time of submission of Ph.D. thesis; Late fee for delayed payment of annual fee; and/or any other applicable fees as prescribed by the University from time to time.

5.3 The amount of fee shall be subject to change as decided by the University from time to time.

O. Ph.D. 6: Course Work – Credit, Content and Evaluation:

Each candidate including a part-time candidate after having being admitted, shall be required to undertake course work for a minimum period of one/two semester or as per the schedule decided by the university. The course work shall be treated as pre-Ph.D. requirement.

6.1 The Credit requirement for the Ph.D. coursework is a minimum of 12 credits (Maximum 16 credits), including a “Research and Publication Ethics” course and a research methodology course. The Research Advisory Committee also recommend UGC recognized online courses as part of the credit requirements for the Ph.D. Program.

6.2 All Ph.D. scholars, irrespective of discipline, shall be required to train in teaching /education /pedagogy/writing related to their chosen Ph.D. subject during their doctoral period. Ph.D. scholars may also be assigned 4-6 hours per week of teaching/research assistantship for conducting tutorial or laboratory work and evaluations.

6.3 A Ph.D. scholar must obtain a minimum of 55% marks or its equivalent grade in the UGC 10-point scale in the course work to be eligible to continue in the Program and submit his or her thesis.

6.4 The course work comprises of followings modules listed in the table given below.

Paper No.	Nomenclature	Credits
Paper-I	Research Methodology	04
Paper-II	Computer Application	02
Paper-III	Domain Specific-(subject)	04
Paper-IV	Research and Publication Ethics	02
	Total	12

6.5 A candidate who fails in the written examination may be permitted to reappear for the

examination but not for more than two additional occasions. If the candidate failed for the third time then he has to reappear in course work classes. All the candidates shall have to clear the examination within two years from the date of registration. During the reappearance the candidate shall be exempted from appearing for the papers in which he / she secured 55 % or more.

6.6 She/he has to deposit 1st year fees online in the university account before appearing in the course work examination.

O. Ph.D. 7: Allocation of Research Supervisor:

Eligibility criteria to be a Research Supervisor, Co-Supervisor, Number of Ph.D. scholars permissible per supervisor, etc

7.1 Permanent faculty members working as Professor/Associate Professor of the university with a Ph.D., and at least five research publications in peer-reviewed or refereed journals and permanent faculty members working as Assistant Professors in university with a Ph.D., and at least three research publications in peer-reviewed or refereed journals may be recognized as a Research Supervisor in the university. Such recognized research supervisors cannot supervise research scholars in other institutions, where they can only act as co-supervisors.

7.2 Co-Supervisors from within the same department or other departments of the same institution or other institutions may be permitted on recommendation of convener of concerned student's RAC

7.3 Adjunct Faculty members shall not act as Research Supervisors and can only act as co-supervisors.

7.4 In case of interdisciplinary/multidisciplinary research work, if required, a Co-Supervisor from outside the University/School/Department/College/ Centre may be appointed.

7.5 The allocation of Research Supervisor for a selected research scholar shall be decided by the RAC concerned depending on the number of scholars per Research Supervisor, the available specialization among the Supervisors and research interests of the scholars as indicated by them at the time of interview/viva voce.

7.6 A Research Supervisor/Co-supervisor who is a Professor, at any given point of time, cannot guide more than Eight (8) Ph.D. scholars. An Associate Professor as Research Supervisor can guide up to a maximum of six (6) Ph.D. scholars and an Assistant Professor as Research Supervisor can guide up to a maximum of four (4) Ph.D. scholars.

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

7.8 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.

7.9 No Supervisor shall guide any of his close relatives as specified by the university.

7.10 The University may permit, on the recommendation of DRC approved by the Provost appointment of a caretaker supervisor in special circumstances such as a supervisor proceeding on long leave of six months or more and the like.

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

7.12 At any point, the total number of Ph.D. scholars under a faculty member, either as a supervisor or a co-supervisor, shall not exceed the number above

7.13 A new supervisor may be appointed on the recommendation of the RAC/DRC in the event of death, or prolonged illness of the supervisor or if inability to guide is expressed by the supervisor on or after his superannuation or resignation from the services of the University.

7.14 Any request for change of Supervisor(s) is highly discouraged and may only be considered under exceptional circumstances. The request for change of Supervisor may be submitted through concern RAC Convener with his/her recommendations on the basis of statements of concerned Supervisor as well as Research Scholar.

O. Ph.D. 8: Research Scholar Category:

8.1 Full Time Research Scholars: Full-time research scholars are those who register for PhD at MK University, Patan on full-time basis. The full time scholars are expected to work on regular basis for entire Ph.D. programme in their respective subject departments. The scholars who are receiving assistantship/scholarship/fellowship from

UGC/ICSSR/DST/CSIR/DBT/ Industry or any other funding agency as RA/SRF/JRF/Project Fellow etc. shall be considered as full time scholars.

8.2 Part-Time Research Scholars: Part-time research scholars are those who are presently employed in any college/school/ institute/industry and are registered for PhD at MKU

- a. Part-Time -Internal: This category is only for the persons working in the MK University, Patan
- b. Part-Time - External: This category includes the candidates employed in any organization / university/institute and desirous of pursuing Ph.D. program while in employment as external candidates. These candidates shall be available to the Supervisor (internal) for interaction during weekends, holidays and vacations.

8.3 Ph.D. through Part-time Mode: Ph.D. Programs through part-time mode will be permitted, provided all the conditions stipulated in these Regulations are fulfilled. The MK University will obtain a “No Objection Certificate” from the candidate for a part-time Ph.D. Program 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.

O. Ph.D. 9: Procedure for Registration & Approval of Title or Topic:

Following are the guidelines for registration in Ph.D. Program:

9.1 For the registration, the candidate shall be required to present and defend a synopsis of his/her proposed research work before the RAC. The Research proposal shall be evaluated by the RAC consisting of:

- a. Dean/HOD-/ School/Department : Chairman
- b. Research Supervisor : Convener
- c. Co- supervisor (if any) : Member
- d. subject experts from the Department : Member
- e. One external experts* (If required) : Member

* nominated by the Provost from the panel proposed by Convener

The quorum of the RAC shall be not less than one half of its members.

9.2 RAC shall have the following responsibilities:

1. To review the research proposal and finalize the topic of research

2. To guide the Ph.D. scholar in developing the study design and methodology of research and identify the course(s) that he/she may have to do.
3. To periodically review and assist in the progress of the research work of the Ph.D. scholar.
4. To assess and approve the pre-submission presentation report.
5. To meet as and when required.
6. To monitor the compliance of Progress Reports.

9.3 The Research Advisory committee (RAC) after finalization of the topic will ask to the student for presentation and approval of Synopsis within 6 months of declaration of course work examination.

9.4 RAC may either approve or may ask the candidate to resubmit the synopsis based on the suggestions/modifications made by it. The RAC may allow not more than three attempts to a candidate for defending the synopsis of the proposed research work after that it may recommend for cancellation of admission of the candidate for Ph.D. program.

9.5 Upon approval of the synopsis by the RAC, the application for registration processed after being satisfied with the candidate's requisite qualification and the subject offered can be well pursued for the Ph.D. Program,

9.6 She/he is required to register himself/herself (in person) on the scheduled date of registration. There shall not be any provision of deputing any representative by him/her for registration purposes. Further, she/he shall be required to report in all subsequent semesters till the submission of Ph.D. thesis.

9.7 The act of non-depositing of fees and/or not-completing the registration process as mentioned above on the scheduled dates shall be treated as the 'Voluntary Discontinuation' of studies by the Research Scholar. In such case, she/he will cease to be a bonafide student with immediate effect. The above instructions for registration shall be applicable to all Research Scholars admitted in the university.

O. Ph.D. 10: Cancellation of Registration:

The admission of a PhD scholar shall be cancelled by the RAC in any one of the following eventualities:

- a. If the scholar is absent for a continuous period of four weeks without prior information/sanction of leave (full time scholars).
- b. If the scholar fails to renew his/her registration every semester by paying fees

- c. If two consecutive progress reports of the candidate are unsatisfactory.
- d. If the scholar's research plan/proposal is not approved even after the submission of revised proposal,
- e. If the scholar fails to submit the thesis within the maximum stipulated time as provided in these ordinances,
- f. If the scholar officially withdraws from the PhD program,
- g. If the scholar is found involved in an act of misconduct and/or indiscipline and his/her termination has been recommended by the competent authority ie RAC.
- h. In the event of not completing the Course work in the prescribed time.

O. Ph.D. 11: Change of Topic and Title:

A candidate ordinarily shall not be permitted to change his research topic during the course of the research work once it has been approved by the RAC. However, if an occasion arises due to technical difficulties, the Provost may, on the recommendation of the RAC and the Dean (Research), permit any modification of the topic within a period of one year (and not there after) from the date of registration. The University may permit the candidate to submit his/her thesis after two years of such modification or change of topic.

O. Ph.D. 12: Conversion of Registration:

The conversion of registration from PhD Full-time to PhD Part-time should be on the basis of guide lines to be decided by RAC/DRC.

O. Ph.D. 13: Progress Review:

Till the submission of the thesis each candidate registered for the Ph.D. program shall submit periodically six monthly progress report in the prescribed format to the Supervisor(s)/RAC. The candidate shall be registered in the next semester only if the progress report for the previous semester has been received.

The RAC shall evaluate the progress report of the Ph. D. candidate and submit the same to Dean (Research).

If the candidate does not submit his/her progress report in particular semester then his/her minimum period for the award of degree shall be extended by six month.

O. Ph.D. 14: Submission of Thesis:

Full time candidate for the Ph.D. Degree shall be normally eligible for submission of the thesis after a minimum period of three years from the date of provisional registration, while for the part time student it shall be a minimum of three & half years, subject to fulfillment of all the prescribed norms and requirements.

Candidates shall not be allowed to submit to the University the thesis produced by him for its evaluation unless she/he has:

14.1 Published at least two research papers in refereed journals mentioning the name of MK University, Patan before the submission of the thesis and produces evidence for the same in the form of acceptance letter or the reprint and also make two presentation in reputed conferences. At least one paper should be published jointly with the name of candidate and the research supervisor.

14.2 Each Ph. D. scholar has to make a Pre - Submission presentation to RAC at concerned department at the university before the final submission of Ph.D. thesis. This may be attended by the faculties of the Departments and the students interested.

14.3 The scholar has to incorporate the changes in final thesis as may be suggested by RAC during pre-submission presentation.

14.4 A certificate duly signed by the supervisor stating the suggestions (if any) given by the RAC have been incorporated in the draft thesis.

14.5 The thesis shall be put through a plagiarism/ similarity detection tool. If the similarity index falls below or equal to 10% then the thesis shall be allowed to submit.

14.6 The plagiarism due to self (scholar's own published work out of the dissertation) publications could be deducted from total plagiarism %.

14.7 The thesis shall have an undertaking from the research scholar and a certificate from the Research Supervisor attesting the originality of the work, vouching that there is plagiarism within prescribed limit and that the work has not been submitted for the award of any other degree of the same institute where work was carried out, or to any other institution.

14.8 The scholar has to submit Six Copies of his/ her thesis along with a soft copy. Students are permitted to print their thesis on both the side of page with proper margin on both the sides.

14.9 The thesis shall be in English/Hindi/Concerned language (in case of language subject) or as per the recommendation by the Research Advisory Committee (RAC).

14.10 The candidates shall also submit the following documents together with thesis:

- a. A 'no dues' certificate duly signed by the Account or other concerned Department,
- b. The thesis submission fees receipt.

O. Ph.D. 15: Evaluation of Thesis:

15.1 The supervisor shall prepare and suggest to the Provost a panel of six evaluators from outside the University from State/Central/Private University/Govt. or Private Colleges/National Laboratories/Research Centers established by ICAR/ICMR/CSIR etc. If necessary, the Provost may call for additional name(s) for the panel from the supervisor. The panel submitted should include relevant information of the evaluator like designation, field of expertise, full postal and e-mail addresses, basic and cell phone number etc. The supervisor shall give a certificate to the effect that the names suggested in the panel are not close relatives either of the supervisor himself or of the candidate and they are experts in the area of thesis.

15.2 The Provost shall appoint two external examiners, from the panel of six examiners submitted by the supervisor, out of which one may be from outside the state or even the country from out of the panel submitted as 15.1 above.

15.3 The university shall obtain the consent of the examiners so appointed by the Provost. (All communications are preferred by electronic media or mail to save time).

15.4 The University shall, after obtaining the consent of the examiners appointed by the Provost out of the panel submitted by the supervisor, dispatch a hard/soft copy of the thesis produced and submitted by the candidate to each one of them to send their evaluation report within a period of one month of the receipt of the thesis.

15.5 If no consent is received from the examiner within a month, a new examiner shall be appointed by the Provost out of the panel.

15.6 The examiner shall be required to send his/her report on the prescribed form clearly stating that the:

- a. Thesis is recommended for the awarded for the degree of the Ph.D. or
- b. Thesis is recommended for the awarded for the degree of the Ph.D. subjected to the candidate giving satisfactory answers to queries or
- c. Candidate be required to submit his thesis in the revised form or
- d. Thesis is rejected.

15.7 Accept the thesis if all the examiners recommend the acceptance of the thesis.

15.8 Reject the thesis if both examiners recommend rejection of the thesis.

15.9 Appoint a new examiner for evaluation if one of the two examiners recommends rejection of the thesis

15.10 If the thesis is suggested for re-submission after revision by any of the examiners, the scholar will be allowed to re submit the thesis after revision in the light of the comments of the examiners within six months and the revised thesis will be sent to only those examiners who have suggested revision. If the revised thesis is recommended, the reports and the recommendations will be considered along with the other report already received and will be processed.

15.11 In extra ordinary circumstances, if there is a need to change the examiner, the Provost shall be the final authority.

O. Ph.D. 16: Viva Voce Examination:

On receiving favorable recommendations from both the examiners the final *Viva-Voce* of the candidate for the award of Ph.D. Degree can be arranged

The Provost shall appoint:

- a. An external examiner from out of the two external examiners who evaluated the thesis for conducting the viva-voce examination. However, if both the examiners are not available, the Provost may, for reasons to be recorded in writing, appoint a new examiner from out of the existing panel.
- b. Generally, the external examiner to be invited for viva-voce examination should be from the nearest destination to avoid extra financial burden to the university.
- c. The supervisor shall fix a suitable date for the viva-voce examination with the external examiner. The Dean Research shall, on the request of the Supervisor, notify the day, time, and place at least Fifteen days in advance to all concerned.
- d. The viva-voce may be conducted online if any one out of (candidate, supervisor, and examiner) is not present physically due to convincing reason with approval of Provost
- e. At such viva-voce examination the candidate shall be required to openly defend his/her research work in presence of the examiner, Supervisor, teachers, research candidates of the University who may be invited to witness and make queries, if any, strictly relating and relevant to the topic of research. The Research department shall obtain signature of all the officers present at the time of viva-voce examination.
- f. The viva-voce examiner shall, at the very outset of the examination, will be informed about the comments and recommendations made by the examiner.

- g. The Viva-Voce board shall submit a comprehensive report on the performance of the candidate on the viva-voce examination and recommend that:
- i. the degree of Ph.D. be awarded; or
 - ii. the candidate be re-examined at a second viva-voce to be conducted not before three months but not later than six months; or
 - iii. The degree is not awarded and the thesis be rejected.

O. Ph.D. 17: Award of Doctorate (Ph.D.) Degree:

17.1 Provisional certificate: Prior to the actual award of the Ph.D. degree, the university issues a provisional certificate to the effect that the Ph.D. is being awarded in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations. The scholar is required to apply in the prescribed format after successful defense of the Viva-Voce.

17.2 Award of Ph.D. Degree: The reports of the examiners (including those of the Viva-Voce board) shall be placed before the Provost for acceptance or rejection, as the case may be, of the thesis on behalf of the Board. The Provost shall report the same to the Board of Management through Academic Council for confirmation.

O. Ph.D. 18: Deposit of thesis with the UGC & Library:

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

18.2 One copy of the thesis (both soft and hard copy) shall be placed in the University Library reference section and one copy in the concerned Department office/Library.

O. Ph.D. 19: Plagiarism Check of PhD Thesis:

The Library/Supervisor should carry out a plagiarism check with the appropriate software. The Supervisor should also certify that the plagiarism check has been carried out on the softcopy which is being submitted for final evaluation. The plagiarism check generated will be subject to norms as specified by the UGC.

O. Ph.D. 20: General Rules applicable:

20.1 A candidate becomes eligible for the award of the Ph. D. Degree after fulfilling academic requirements prescribed by the University.

20.2 The Ph. D. degree shall be awarded in the discipline of the school in which the student is registered for the Ph. D. programme.

20.3 Application for admission to Ph.D. courses shall be invited by the University through notification twice in a year or as notified by the University through the advertisement in leading newspaper with wide circulation and also through University website. A candidate has to appear in an Entrance Test conducted by the University either online or offline mode as decided by the University. The prescribed application form; either online or physical mentioned in the university advertisement, will be made available from the University website (www.mkuniversity.edu.in) or at the cash counter by paying prescribed form fee either online or cash. The incomplete application form/ any false information in the application form or application form not accompanied by the prescribed fee and required documents shall be rejected.

20.4 The University shall decide on biannual basis through their academic bodies, a predetermined and manageable number of Ph.D. scholars to be admitted, depending on the number of available seats with the Research Guides.

20.5 The University will notify well in advance, through the University website and/ or through advertisement in newspapers, regarding the Ph.D. admission process and all other relevant information for the benefit of the candidates.

20.6 Each student has to carry out his/her research work at his/her own risk and cost either in laboratory or field.

20.7 The existing rules of Government of Gujarat and the criteria defined by the UGC and University shall be applicable to the candidates.

20.8 In case of dispute/doubt about the interpretation of any Ordinance, the decisions of the Provost shall be final after taking into consideration the recommendations of the CASR.