

For office use only

THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF ADVANCED LEGAL STUDIES ACT 2005
(Incorporating amendments up to 26th February 2021)



THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF ADVANCED LEGAL STUDIES (NUALS)
Kalamassery, Kochi – 683 503

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**THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF ADVANCED
LEGAL STUDIES ACT, 2005**

(Incorporating amendments up to 26th February 2021)

Government of Kerala
കേരള സർക്കാർ
2005



Reg. No. റജി. നമ്പർ
KL/TV(N)12/2003-2005

KERALA GAZETTE
കേരള ഗസ്റ്റ്
EXTRA ORDINARY
അനുസാരം
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY
ആധികാരികമായി പ്രസിദ്ധീകൃതമായ

Vol. I	Thiruvananthapuram	13 th August 2005	No. 1844
വാല്യം 50	Saturday	2005 ആഗസ്റ്റ് 13	
	തിരുവനന്തപുരം	22 nd Sravana 1927	
	ശനി	1927 ശാവത്സരം 22	

GOVERNMENT OF KERALA
Law (Leg. Unification) Department
NOTIFICATION

13th August, 2005
No. 10837 Leg. Uni.3/05/Law Dated, Thiruvananthapuram, _____
22nd Sravana, 1927

The following Act of the Kerala State Legislature is hereby published for general information. The Bill as passed by the Legislative Assembly received the assent of the Governor on the 13th day of August, 2005

By order of the Governor
M. JEHANGEER

33/3299/2005/DTP

Special Secretary (Law)
(In charge)

Act 27 of 2005**The National University of Advanced Legal Studies Act, 2005**

An Act to establish and incorporate a University at Kochi on the lines of the National Law School of India University, Bangalore and to merge the National Institute for Advanced Legal Studies at Kochi established by the Bar Council of Kerala Trust for imparting high standard legal education and legal research in Kerala and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

Preamble – WHEREAS, the committee appointed by the Chief Justices, Conference on Legal Education and Training, 1993 has recommended the establishment in each State of an Institution on the model of the National Law School of India University at Bangalore;

AND WHEREAS, the All India Law Ministers' Conference, 1995 has resolved to set up in each State a law school modelled on the lines of the National Law School of India University, Bangalore for improving the quality of professional legal education;

AND WHEREAS, the Bar Council of Kerala established a public charitable trust called the Bar Council of Kerala Trust, the objects of which *inter alia* include the establishment, maintenance, running and development of a model institute of high standard for imparting legal education and legal research in Kerala;

AND WHEREAS, to carry out the said objects of the Trust, the Bar Council of Kerala Trust established an institute of higher learning in law recognized by the Cochin University of Science and Technology called the National Institute for Advanced Legal Studies in the year 2002;

AND WHEREAS, the Bar Council of Kerala, Bar Council of

Kerala Trust and National Institute for Advanced Legal Studies have requested the State Government to establish the National University of Advanced Legal Studies as a Self Financing University. To enable it to carry out its objects and functions efficiently;

AND WHEREAS, it is considered necessary to encourage the establishment of such a national level institution of excellence in higher learning of law in the State of Kerala;

AND WHEREAS, it is deemed expedient to establish the National University of Advanced Legal Studies ()* for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

BE it enacted in the Fifty-sixth Year of the Republic of India as follows: -

1. *Short title and commencement.* – (1) This Act may be called the National University of Advanced Legal Studies Act, 2005.
 (2) It shall be deemed to have come into force on the 18th day of June, 2005.
2. *Definitions.* – In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires –
 - (1) “Academic Council” means the Academic Council of the University;
 - (2) “Bar Council of India” means the Bar Council of India constituted under the Advocates Act, 1961 (Central Act 25 of 1961);
 - (3) “Bar Council of Kerala” means the Bar Council of Kerala constituted under the Advocates Act, 1961 (Central Act 25 of 1961);

* The words “on self finance basis” omitted by Section 3 of the National University of Advanced Legal Studies (Amendment) Act, 2008 (Act 6 of 2009)

- (4) “Centre or study centre” means a centre or study centre for higher education in law or legal research or allied discipline established by the University and includes an institution founded for the purpose by the University;
- (5) “Chancellor” means the Chancellor of the University;
- (6) “Executive Council” means the Executive Council of the University;
- (7) “Fund” means the University fund referred to in Section 32;
- (8) “General Council” means the General Council of the University;
- (9) “Government” means the Government of Kerala;
- (9A)[†] “Inter University Consultative Committee” means the Inter University Consultative Committee constituted under section 16A;”
- (10) “Managing Trustee” means the Managing Trustee of the Trust;
- (11) “National Institute for Advanced Legal Studies” means the National Institute for Advanced Legal Studies at Kochi established by the Trust;
- (12) “Pro-Chancellor” means the Pro-Chancellor of the University;
- (13) “Registrar” means the Registrar of the University;
- (14) “Regulations” means the regulations of the University made under the provisions of this Act;
- (15) “Search Committee” means a Committee constituted by the Chancellor under section 27;
- (16) “State” means the State of Kerala;
- (17) “Trust” means the Bar Council of Kerala Trust established by the Bar Council of Kerala;
- (18) “University” means the National University of Advanced Legal Studies established under Section 3;
- (19) “Vice-Chancellor” means the Vice-Chancellor of the University.
- (20) “Visitor” means the Visitor of the University.

[†] Inserted vide The University Laws (Amendment) (No.2) Ordinance, 2021

3. *Establishment and incorporation of the National University of Advanced Legal Studies.* – (1) With effect on and from the date of commencement of this Act, there shall be established a ()[‡] University by name “the National University of Advanced Legal Studies”.

(2) The University shall be a body corporate having perpetual succession and a common seal with power, subject to the provisions of this Act, to acquire and hold property, to contract and shall, by the said name sue and be sued.

(3) In all suits and other legal proceedings by or against the University, the pleadings shall be signed and verified by the Registrar and all process in such suits and proceedings shall be issued to and served on the Registrar.

(4) The headquarters of the University shall be at Kochi.

(5) Notwithstanding anything contained in any other law for the time being in force, the territorial jurisdiction of the University shall extend to the whole of the State of Kerala.

(6) The University may establish study centres within the State and also in other parts of India and abroad.

4. *The objects of the University.* – (1) The objects of the University shall be to advance and disseminate learning and knowledge of law and legal and judicial processes, professional legal education and their role in national development, to develop in the student and research scholar a sense of responsibility to serve society in the field of law by developing skills in regard to advocacy, legal services, legislation, law reforms and the like, to promote legal and judicial reforms as are needed to strengthen the administration of justice in India, to organize lectures, seminars, symposia, colloquiums and conferences on jurisprudence, current legislation, legal processes, rule of law and allied subjects on

[‡] The words “Self Financing” omitted by Section 3 of the National University of Advanced Legal Studies (Amendment) Act, 2008 (Act 6 of 2009)

which instruction is imparted or research is carried out by the University, to conduct research on civil rights and fundamental rights and to co-operate with industrial or any other infrastructure management, to promote legal knowledge so as to make the law and legal processes efficient instruments of social change and national development, to promote inter disciplinary study, research of law in relation to management, science and technology, International co-operation and development, to provide orientation and training to officers exercising judicial powers and to those who are involved in the administration of justice, to impart training and to conduct refresher courses for law teachers, officers exercising judicial powers, advocates and other persons engaged or interested in the legal field, to hold examinations and confer degrees, diplomas, certificates or titles and other academic or honorary distinctions, to endeavour for the well being of the society through the medium of law, to create an awareness of respect to law and lawful authorities among the general public, to instill a sense of Rule of Law among the students and citizens and to do all such things as are incidental, necessary or conducive to the attainment of all or any of the objects of the University.

- (2) The University shall be open to all persons irrespective of gender, race, creed, caste or religion and it shall be unlawful for the University to impose on any person any condition, whatsoever, of religious belief or profession in order to entitle him to be admitted thereto as a teacher or a student or to hold any office therein or to undergo any course of study there at or to enjoy or to exercise any privilege or to exercise any right thereof.
- (3) In making appointments to the teaching and non-teaching posts, the University shall, *mutatis mutandis*, observe the provisions of clauses (a), (b) and (c) of rule 14 and the provisions of rules 15, 16, 17 and -17A of the Kerala State and Subordinate Rules, 1958, as amended from time to time, and communal rotation shall be followed category-wise treating all the departments as one unit.[§]

[§] Sub-section (3) substituted by section (6) of The University Laws (Second Amendment) Act, 2014

- (4) The University shall reserve seats in the admission of students of Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes and Backward and Other Backward Classes as prevalent in the professional courses in the State.
- (5) The University shall also reserve three per cent of seats for the physically handicapped students while making admission to every course in the University.

5. *Powers and functions of the University.* – Subject to the provisions of this Act, the University shall have the following powers and functions, namely:-

- (i) to administer and manage the University and such other centres for study, research, education, professional training and instructions as are necessary for the furtherance of the objects of the University;
- (ii) to provide for instruction in such branches of legal knowledge or learning pertaining to law as the University may think fit, including legal and other disciplines, and to make provisions for research and for the advancement and dissemination of legal knowledge;
- (iii) to organize and undertake extra-mural and practice oriented teaching, distance learning and consultancy and extension services;
- (iv) to hold examinations and to grant titles, diplomas or certificates, and to confer degrees and other academic or honorary distinctions on persons subject to such conditions as the University may determine and to withdraw or cancel diplomas, certificates, degrees and other academic distinctions or other distinctions under conditions that may be prescribed by regulations after giving the persons affected thereby a reasonable opportunity to show cause why it shall not be withdrawn or cancelled;
- (v) to confer honorary degrees or other distinctions in the manner and subject to such conditions as may be laid down in the

- regulations;
- (vi) to fix, demand and receive fees and other charges;
- (vii) to institute and maintain halls and hostels and to recognize places of residence for the students of the University and to withdraw such recognition accorded to any such place or residence;
- (viii) to establish such special centres, specialized study centres or other units for research and instruction within Kerala and elsewhere as are, in the opinion of the University, necessary for the furtherance of its objects;
- (ix) to establish and maintain such departments, centres in various branches of study as it deems fit for the furtherance of its objects;
- (x) to supervise and control the residence and to regulate the discipline of the students of the University;
- (xi) to make such arrangements in respect of residence, discipline and teaching of women students;
- (xii) to create academic, technical, administrative, ministerial and other posts and to make appointments there to;
- (xiii) to regulate and enforce discipline among the employees of the University and to take such disciplinary measures as may be deemed necessary.
- (xiv) to institute professorships, associate professorships, assistant professorships, readerships, lectureships and any other teaching, academic or research posts required by the University;
- (xv) to appoint persons as professors, associate professors, assistant professors, readers, lecturers or other teachers and researchers of the University;
- (xvi) to institute and award fellowship, scholarship, prizes and medals;
- (xvii) to provide for printing, re-production and publication of periodicals, treatises, study books, reports, journals and other

literature on all subjects and organize exhibitions;

- (xviii) to sponsor and undertake research in all aspects of law, justice, other disciplines and social development and to promote inter disciplinary approach;
- (xix) to co-operate with any other organization including any Government in the matter of education, training and research in law, justice, national development, management, technology and allied subjects for such purposes as may be agreed upon on such terms and conditions as the University may, from time to time determine;
- (xx) to co-operate with institutes of higher learning in any part of the world having objects wholly or partially similar to those of the University, by exchange of teachers and scholars and generally in such manner as may be conducive to the common objects;
- (xxi) to regulate the expenditure and to manage the accounts of the University;
- (xxii) to establish and maintain within the University's premises or elsewhere, such class rooms and study halls as the University may consider necessary and adequately furnish the same and to establish and maintain such libraries and reading rooms as may appear convenient or necessary for the University;
- (xxiii) to receive grants, subventions, subscriptions, donations, endowments and gifts for the purposes of the University, consistent with the objects for which the University is established;
- (xxiv) to purchase, take on lease or accept as gifts or otherwise any property, movable or immovable, or building or works which may be necessary or convenient for the purpose of the University and on such terms and conditions as it may think fit and proper and to construct or alter and maintain any such building or works;
- (xxv) to sell, exchange, lease or otherwise dispose of all or any portion of the properties of the University, movable or

immovable, on such terms as it may think fit and proper without prejudice to the interest and activities of the University;

- (xxvi) to draw and accept, to make and endorse, to discount and negotiate, Government of India and other promissory notes, bills of exchange, cheques or other negotiable instruments;
- (xxvii) to execute conveyances, transfers, reconveyances, mortgages, leases, licences and agreements in respect of property, movable or immovable, including Government securities belonging to the University or to be acquired for the purposes of the University;
- (xxviii) to appoint in order to execute an instrument or transact any business of the University, any person as it may deem fit;
- (xxix) to give up and to cease from carrying on any classes or departments of the University;
- (xxx) to enter into any agreement with Central Government, State Governments, the Government of any Union Territory, the University Grants Commission or any foreign Government or Universities or institutions or other authorities for receiving grants;
- (xxxi) to accept grants of money, securities or property of any kind on such terms as prescribed by regulations made under this Act;
- (xxxii) to raise and borrow money on bonds, mortgages, promissory notes or other obligations or securities founded or based upon all or any of the properties and assets of the University or without any securities and upon such terms and conditions as it may think fit and to pay out of the funds of the University, all expenses incidental to the raising of money and to repay and redeem any money borrowed;
- (xxxiii) to invest the funds of the University or money entrusted to the University in or upon such securities and in such manner as it may deem fit and from time to time transpose any investment;

- (xxxiv) to make such regulations as may, from time to time, be considered necessary for regulating the academic matters, the affairs, administration, financial dealings and the management of the University and to alter, modify and to rescind them;
- (xxxv) to constitute subject to the provisions of any law in force for the benefit of the academic, technical, administrative and other staff, in such manner and subject to such conditions as may be prescribed by regulations, such as provident fund and gratuity as it may deem fit and to make such grants as it may think fit for the benefit of any employee of the University and to aid in establishment and support of the associations, institutions, fund, trusts and conveyance calculated to benefit the staff and students of the University;
- (xxxvi) to constitute a Students Council in such manner as shall be prescribed by the regulations to organize students, academic, sports, arts and cultural activities and for the overall well being and welfare of the students;
- (xxxvii) to delegate all or any of its powers to the Vice-Chancellor or to any committee or sub-committee or to any one or more members of its body or its officers;
- (xxxviii) to do all such other acts and things as the University may consider necessary, conducive or incidental to the attainment or enlargement of the aforesaid objects or anyone of them.

6. *Teaching in the University.* – (1) All teaching in connection with the degrees, diplomas and certificates of the University shall be conducted by the Executive Council in accordance with the Syllabus prescribed by regulations.

(2) The courses and curricula and the authorities responsible for organizing such teaching shall be such as may be prescribed by regulations.

(3) Subject to the provisions of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956 (Central Act 3 of 1956), there shall be such teaching staff as Professors, Associate Professors, Assistant Professors, Readers,

Lecturers, Visiting and Adjunct Professors and other incumbents as may be prescribed by regulations.

- (4) There shall be a head for each Department, Centre or any other institution under the University as may be prescribed by regulations.
7. *Visitor of the University.* – (1) Subject to his consent, the Chief Justice of India or a Senior Justice of the Supreme Court as nominated by him shall be the Visitor of the University.
 - (2) The Visitor shall have the right to call for report on any matter pertaining to the affairs of the University and to issue suggestions for improvements.
 - (3) The Visitor shall have the right to attend any meetings of the General Council, Executive Council or the Academic Council.
 - (4) The Visitor, if present, shall preside over the convocations conferring honorary degrees or other distinction of the University.
 - (5) In case the Visitor gives any direction to the University, it shall give effect to such direction within a period of ninety days or show cause why such direction could not be implemented, to the Visitor.
8. *Chancellor of the University.* – (1) The Chief Justice of the High Court of Kerala shall be the Chancellor of the University.
 - (2) The Chancellor shall preside over the Convocations of the University.
 - (3) The Chancellor shall appoint the Vice-Chancellor in accordance with the procedure prescribed under Section 27.
9. *Pro-Chancellor of the University.* – (1) The Minister for the time being holding the portfolio of Education in the Government shall be the Pro-Chancellor of the University.

(2) In the absence of the Chancellor or during his inability to act, the Pro-Chancellor shall exercise all the powers and perform all the functions of the Chancellor.

10. *The Powers of the Visitor and the Chancellor.* – (1) The Visitor and the Chancellor shall have the following powers, namely:–

- (a) to give direction, take action or do anything as required under the provisions of this Act and regulations made thereunder;
- (b) to cause an inspection by such person, as he may direct, of any work, activity or examination of the University, Department, Institution or Regional Centres;
- (c) to give his views or advice to the Vice-Chancellor in the matters wherein an inspection or inquiry has been made under clause (b) of sub-section (1).

(2) Where either the Visitor or the Chancellor of the University has ordered an inspection or inquiry under clause (b) of sub-section (1), the University shall render all assistance for the inspection or enquiry and may depute one of its officers to represent it in such inspection or inquiry.

(3) The person or persons who conducts or conduct the inspection or inquiry shall afford all opportunities to the officer or nominee representing the University for being heard or he or they shall consider all the records furnished by him.

(4) The Visitor or the Chancellor shall communicate the result of the inspection or inquiry and his advice to the Vice-Chancellor.

(5) The result and the advice referred to in sub-section (4) shall be communicated by the Vice-Chancellor to the Executive Council with his comments for such action and the Executive Council shall communicate through the Vice-Chancellor such action as it proposes to take or has been taken to the Visitor or the Chancellor, as the case may be.

(6) If, however, on considering the result together with the advice referred to in sub-section (4) and the comments of the Vice-Chancellor thereon with his suggestion for action, the Executive

Council is of the view that the result and advice be rejected, it may reject it and direct the Vice-Chancellor to give the Chancellor or the Visitor as the case may be, convincing grounds for such rejection.

- (7) Where the Executive Council does not, within reasonable time, comply with the advice to the satisfaction of the Visitor or the Chancellor, as the case may be, the Visitor or the Chancellor, after considering any explanation furnished or representation made by the Executive Council, may issue such directions as he may think fit and the Executive Council shall comply with such directions.

11. *Authorities of the University.* – The following shall be the authorities of the University, namely :–

- (i) The General Council;
- (ia)** Inter University Consultative Committee
- (ii) The Executive Council;
- (iii) The Academic Council;
- (iv) Such other bodies as may be declared by regulations to be the authorities of the University.

12. *The General Council.* – The General Council shall be the plenary authority of the University and shall consist of the following members, namely :–

- (i) The Chancellor;
- (ii) The Pro-Chancellor;
- (iii) The Vice-Chancellor;
- (iv) The Minister for Law, Government of Kerala;
- (v) The Member of Parliament representing the constituency where the headquarters of the University is located;

** Inserted vide The University Laws (Amendment) (No.2) Ordinance, 2021

- (vi) The Member of the Legislative Assembly representing the area in which the headquarters of the University is located;
- (vii) Three Members of the Legislative Assembly elected by the members of the Kerala Legislative Assembly;
- (viii) Mayor of the Kochi Corporation;
- (ix) Two sitting judges of the High Court of Kerala nominated by the Chancellor;
- (x) The Principal Secretary, Higher Education Department, Government of Kerala;
- (xi) The Law Secretary, Government of Kerala;
- (xi a)†† The Principal Secretary, Finance Department, Government of Kerala;
- (xi b)‡‡ A member nominated by the Executive Council of the Higher Education Council from among its members;
- (xii) The Advocate General of Kerala;
- (xiii) The Chairman, Bar Council of India or his nominee;
- (xiv) Five members of the Bar Council of Kerala nominated by the Chancellor;
- (xv) The Managing Trustee of the Trust;
- (xvi) The Dean of Faculty of Law, Cochin University of Science and Technology;
- (xvii) The Principal of a Government Law College in Kerala nominated by the Chancellor;
- (xviii) The President, Kerala High Court Advocates' Association;
- (xix) Not more than five members nominated by the Bar Council of Kerala Trust from among Advocates having ten years standing at the Bar of which one shall be a woman and one shall be from

†† Inserted vide Section 4 of the National University of Advanced Legal Studies (Amendment) Act, 2008 (Act 6 of 2009)

‡‡ Inserted vide Section 4 of the National University of Advanced Legal Studies (Amendment) Act, 2008 (Act 6 of 2009)

Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes and Ex-Bar Council members and not more than four members nominated by Government from among educational experts and technical experts of which one member shall be a woman and one shall be from Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes;

- (xx) One senior Advocate of the Supreme Court nominated by the Chancellor;
- (xxi) Two senior members of the Teaching Faculty of the University, nominated by the Vice-Chancellor;
- (xxii) Three students of the University, nominated by the Vice-Chancellor on the basis of academic merit, of which one shall be a woman and one shall be from Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes;
- (xxiii) Such other members of the Executive Council who are not otherwise members of the General Council.

13. *Term of office of the members of the General Council.* – (1) The term of office of the members of the General Council shall be four years: Provided that the member nominated from among the students as per clause (xxii) of section 12 shall hold office for a period of one year from the date of his nomination or till he ceases to be a student, whichever is earlier.

- (2) Where a member of the General Council becomes such member by reason of the office or appointment he holds or is a nominated member, his membership shall cease when he ceases to hold such office or appointment, as the case may be, or his nomination is withdrawn or cancelled.
- (3) If any casual vacancy arises in the General Council, that vacancy shall be filled up from the category in which the vacancy arose in the manner specified for that category in section 12 but he can continue in the General Council only for the remaining period as if the vacancy has not arisen.

14. *Reconstitution of General Council.* – On the expiry of every four years from the date of constitution of the General Council it shall be reconstituted in the manner specified in Section 12.
15. *Meeting of the General Council.* – (1) The General Council shall meet at least once in a year. One fourth of the total number of members of the General Council shall constitute the quorum for the meeting.
 - (2) The Chancellor or in his absence, the Vice-Chancellor shall preside over the meeting.
 - (3) When both the Chancellor and the Vice-Chancellor are absent, the members of the General Council present may choose one among them to preside over that meeting.
16. *Powers of the General Council.* – The General Council shall have the following powers, namely :–
 - (a) to review from time to time the policies and programmes of the University and suggest measures for the improvements and development of the University;
 - (b) to review the annual report and the audited accounts of the University presented to it by the Executive Council;
 - (c) to advise on matters relating to the functioning of the University which are referred to it by the Executive Council or the Academic Council;
 - (d) to perform such other functions as it may deem necessary for the efficient functioning of the University;
 - (e) to consider and pass resolution on the annual report and the annual accounts of the University and the audit report on such accounts;
 - (f) to advise the Visitor or the Chancellor in respect of any matter which may be referred to it for advice;
 - (g) to approve the regulations of the University or their alteration or amendment or repeal;

(h) to approve the budget of the University presented by the General Council;

(i) to recommend to the Chancellor regarding the honorary degree, if any, to be conferred on distinguished persons.

(16A) *Constitution of Inter University Consultative Committee.*—(1) There shall be an Inter University Consultative Committee consisting of the following members, namely:—

(a) The Pro-Chancellor Chairman;

(b) The Vice-Chancellors of Member;

other Universities established
by State law nominated by the
Pro-Chancellor

(c) The Secretary to Government Member.
in charge of the Higher Education
Department

(2) The Inter University Consultative Committee shall meet as decided by the Chairman.

(3) The Inter University Consultative Committee shall consider matters to be resolved at Government level in respect of matters mutually affecting the Government and the University.”. §§

17. *The Executive Council.* – (1) The Executive Council shall be the chief executive body of the University. The administration, management and control of the University shall be vested with the Executive Council. It shall control and administer the property and funds of the University.

(2) The Executive Council shall consist of the following members, namely :—

(i) The Vice-Chancellor, who shall be the Chairman;

(ii) A sitting Judge of the High Court of Kerala who is a member of the General Council nominated by the Chancellor;

^{§§} Inserted (16A) vide The University Laws (Amendment) (No.2) Ordinance, 2021.

- (iii) The Advocate General of Kerala;
- (iv) The Chairman of the Bar Council of India, or his nominee;
- (v) The Chairman, Bar Council of Kerala;
- (vi) The Principal, Secretary to Government, Higher Education Department *** (or an officer of the Higher Education Department not below the rank of Joint Secretary to Government nominated by him);
- (vii) The Law Secretary, Government of Kerala ††† (or an officer of the Law Department not below the rank of Joint Secretary to Government nominated by him);
- (viii) A member of the Bar Council of India representing Kerala Bar Council;
- (ix) The Managing Trustee of the Trust;
- (x) One member each from among the following members of the General Council nominated by the Chancellor, –
 - (a) a Member of the Legislative Assembly;
 - (b) a woman member;
 - (c) a member belonging to Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes;
- (xi) One member from among the members of the teaching faculty of the University in the General Council, nominated by the Vice-Chancellor by rotation for a period of two years;
- (xii) One member each from the following categories co-opted by the Chancellor, –
 - (a) an expert in industrial infrastructure management;
 - (b) a law teacher of national eminence;
 - (c) a student member of the General Council;

*** Inserted vide Section 5 (i) of the National University of Advanced Legal Studies (Amendment) Act, 2008 (Act 6 of 2009)

††† Inserted vide Section 5 (ii) of the National University of Advanced Legal Studies (Amendment) Act, 2008 (Act 6 of 2009)

- (xiii) ^{†††}The Principal Secretary to Government, Finance Department or an officer of the Finance Department not below the rank of Joint Secretary to Government nominated by him;
- (xiv) ^{§§§}A member nominated by the Executive Council of the Higher Education Council from among its members;
- (xv) ^{****}Two legal experts nominated by the Government of which one shall be a woman.

18. *Term of office of the members of the Executive Council.* – (1) The term of office of the members of the Executive Council, nominated or co-opted, shall be four years from the date of their nomination or co-option, as the case may be.

(2) Where a person has become a member of the Executive Council by reason of the office or appointment he holds, the membership shall cease when he ceases to hold that office or appointment or on removal by the nominating authority.

19. *Meeting of the Executive Council.* – (1) The Executive Council shall ordinarily meet once in two months and as and when required for the conduct of business of the University on dates and hours to be fixed by the Vice-Chancellor. Every meeting of the Executive Council shall be presided over by the Vice-Chancellor or in his absence, by a member chosen by the members present to preside over in that meeting.

(2) Eight members shall constitute the quorum for a meeting of the Executive Council.

(3) The Registrar shall be the ex-officio secretary of the Executive Council.

^{†††} Inserted vide Section 5 (iii) of the National University of Advanced Legal Studies (Amendment) Act, 2008 (Act 6 of 2009)

^{§§§} Inserted vide Section 5 (iii) of the National University of Advanced Legal Studies (Amendment) Act, 2008 (Act 6 of 2009)

^{****} Inserted vide Section 5 (iii) of the National University of Advanced Legal Studies (Amendment) Act, 2008 (Act 6 of 2009)

(4) The Executive Council shall take decisions or pass resolutions on the majority of members present and voting. If, however, there is an equality of votes the Vice- Chancellor or the person presiding shall have and shall exercise a casting vote.

20. *Powers and functions of the Executive Council.* – The Executive Council shall have the following powers subject to directions, if any, to be issued by the General Council, namely : –

- (i) To propose regulations and amendments or repeal thereof for the consideration of the General Council:

Provided that regulations relating to courses of studies and examinations, withdrawal of degrees, titles, diplomas or certificates or distinctions conferred by the University shall be made in consultation with or on the recommendation of the Academic Council and no such regulation shall be cancelled or amended by the Executive Council without giving the Academic Council an opportunity to state its opinion on the proposed cancellation or amendment;
- (ii) to establish, maintain and manage University Centres or other Institutions for higher learning or research as it may deem necessary from time to time and to abolish them when found necessary;
- (iii) to institute, on the recommendation of the Academic Council or otherwise, teaching and research posts required by the University;
- (iv) to appoint, from time to time, teachers, heads of departments and other employees in centres and other institutions of the University as may be necessary in accordance with the provisions of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956 (Central Act 3 of 1956) and the rules and the regulations made thereunder, on the recommendations of the Selection Committee constituted in accordance with the regulations for the purpose and to suspend, dismiss or otherwise punish any member of the establishment of the University including teachers after giving them an opportunity for defending their case;

- (v) it shall be competent for the Executive Council to appoint distinguished educationists, jurists, outstanding and eminent practising lawyers, and those practising lawyers with requisite academic qualifications and with requisite standing in the Bar as may be prescribed by regulations as Visiting and Adjunct Professors, Associate Professors, Assistant Professors and Lecturers on such terms and conditions otherwise than in accordance with the above procedure;
- (vi) to create administrative, ministerial and other necessary posts, to determine the number and emoluments for such posts, to specify minimum qualifications for appointment to such posts and to appoint persons to such posts on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by regulations made in that behalf;
- (vii) to direct the form, custody and use of the common seal of the University;
- (viii) to manage and regulate the finances, accounts, investments and properties both movable or immovable, business and all other administrative affairs of the University;
- (ix) to approve the financial estimates of the income and expenditure of the University;
- (x) to consider the annual accounts together with audit report thereon and take appropriate action thereof;
- (xi) to institute by regulations the degrees, diplomas and other academic distinctions which may be granted by the University;
- (xii) to award fellowships, scholarships, bursaries, medals and prizes;
- (xiii) to conduct University examinations and approve and publish the results thereof;
- (xiv) to withhold or cancel the result of any candidate at the University examinations;
- (xv) to appoint duly qualified examiners and question paper setters and to fix their remuneration and other allowances;
- (xvi) to prepare the annual report and annual budget of the University and to present the same for the consideration of the General

Council;

- (xvii) to delegate any of its powers to the Vice-Chancellor or to a Committee appointed from among its members or to any officer of the University and withdraw such delegation either in full or in part;
- (xviii) to exercise such other powers and to perform such other duties as may be conferred or imposed on the University by or under this Act;

21. *The Academic Council.* – (1) The Academic Council shall be the academic body of the University and shall have power of superintendence and control of and be responsible for the maintenance of standards of instruction, education, research, publication and examination of the University.

(2) The Academic Council shall consist of the following members, namely:–

- (i) The Vice-Chancellor;
- (ii) A nominee of the Chairman of the Bar Council of India from among the members of its Legal Education Committee;
- (iii) A nominee of the Chairman of the University Grants Commission from among its members of the Law Panel;
- (iv) A jurist of great eminence nominated by the Executive Council;
- (v) An educationist of great eminence drawn from a non-law discipline nominated by the Executive Council;
- (vi) All Heads of Departments of the Centres;
- (vii) Two senior members of the teaching faculty of the University, nominated by the Vice-Chancellor;
- (viii) Two distinguished law teachers other than teachers of the University, nominated by the Vice-Chancellor;
- (ix) A senior professor in law from any one of the National Law Universities in India, nominated by the Chancellor in consultation with the Vice-Chancellor;

- (x) Two senior professors in law from the Universities or Law Colleges in Kerala nominated by the Vice-Chancellor;
- (xi) Two practising lawyers having more than ten years' standing at the Bar with teaching experience and academic distinction, nominated by the Executive Council;
- (xii) One teacher each of every subject of study other than law, offered under the scheme and syllabus prescribed by the University to be co-opted by the Academic Council.

22. *Term of office of the members of the Academic Council.* – (1) The term of office of the members of the Academic Council, nominated or co-opted, shall be four years from the date of their nomination or co-option, as the case may be, or his nomination is withdrawn or cancelled by the nominating authority.

(2) Where a person has become a member of the Academic Council by reason of the office or appointment he holds, the membership shall cease when he ceases to hold that office or appointment.

23. *Meeting of the Academic Council.* – (1) The Academic Council shall ordinarily meet at least once in a year and the Vice-Chancellor may direct additional meetings to be held as and when necessary.

(2) One fourth of the total number of members of the Academic Council shall form the quorum for a meeting.

(3) The Vice-Chancellor shall be the Chairman of the Academic Council.

(4) Every meeting of the Academic Council shall be presided over by the Chairman and in his absence by a member chosen by the members present to preside over in that meeting.

(5) The Registrar shall be the Ex-officio Secretary of the Academic Council.

(6) The proceedings of the meetings of the Academic Council shall be prepared by the Registrar. The proceedings duly approved by the Vice-Chancellor shall be circulated among the members

within ten days after the date of the meeting.

(7) It shall be open to the Vice-Chancellor, in urgent cases, to obtain the opinion of the Academic Council by circulation. Such opinion together with the action taken thereon shall be communicated to all the members.

24. *Powers and functions of the Academic Council.* – Subject to the provisions of this Act and the regulations, the Academic Council shall have the following powers, namely:–

- (i) to advise the Executive Council on all academic matters;
- (ii) to report on any academic matter referred to it by the General Council or the Executive Council;
- (iii) to make recommendations to the Executive Council with regard to the creation, abolition or classification of teaching posts in the University and the duties and functions attached thereto;
- (iv) to formulate and modify or revise schemes for the organization of the various departments and to assign to such departments their respective subjects and also to report to the Executive Council as to the expediency of the abolition or sub-division of the department or the combination of one department with another;
- (v) to prescribe the scheme and syllabus for various courses of studies offered in the University and to constitute such committees as are necessary to make proposals in this regard;
- (vi) to promote research within the University and to require from time to time reports on such research;
- (vii) to recognize diplomas and degrees of other Universities and institutions and to determine their equivalence in relation to the diplomas and degrees of the University;
- (viii) to make recommendation to the Executive Council with regard to the appointment of examiners and if necessary their removal;
- (ix) to make proposals regarding the prescription of regulations relating to courses of studies and examinations;
- (x) to make proposals to the Executive Council regarding the

regulations relating to the qualifications of teachers;

- (xi) to prescribe the qualifications for admission of students to the various courses of studies of the University and to the examinations and the conditions under which exemption may be granted;
- (xii) to make proposals for research and advancement and dissemination of knowledge;
- (xiii) to exercise such other powers and perform such other duties as may be conferred or imposed on it by this Act or by regulations framed under this Act.

25. *Board of Studies.* – (1) There shall be a Board of Studies attached to the subjects of study in the University.

(2) The constitution and powers of the Board of Studies shall be such as may be prescribed by regulations framed under this Act.

25A. *Appellate Tribunal.*—(1) There shall be an Appellate Tribunal for the purpose of this Act .

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act or any other law for the time being in force, the Appellate Tribunal constituted under section 65 of the Kerala University Act, 1974 (17 of 1974) shall function as the Appellate Tribunal for adjudicating dispute on any of the matter provided in this Act.****

26. *Officers of the University.* – The following shall be the Officers of the University, namely:–

- (a) The Vice-Chancellor;
- (b) The Registrar;
- (c) The Controller of Examinations;
- (d) The Finance Officer;

**** Inserted vide The University Laws (Amendment) (No.2) Ordinance, 2021

(e) Such other officers as may be prescribed by regulations.

27. *Appointment and powers of the Vice-Chancellor.* – (1) The Vice-Chancellor shall be appointed by the Chancellor on the unanimous recommendation of the Search Committee appointed by him, consisting of the following members, namely:–

- (a) **** One nominee of the Bar Council of Kerala.
- (b) One nominee of the University Grants Commission.
- (c) One nominee of the State Government.

(2) The Committee shall make its recommendation within a period of three months of its appointment.

(3) In case the Search Committee is unable to recommend a name unanimously, the Vice-Chancellor shall be appointed by the Chancellor from among the panel of three names submitted to him by the Committee within the period specified in sub-section (2).

(4) In case the Search Committee fails to make a unanimous recommendation or to submit a panel as provided in sub section (3), the Vice-Chancellor shall be appointed by the Chancellor from among a panel of three names submitted to him by a majority of the members of the Search Committee within the period specified in sub-clause (2).

(5) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act or the regulations, the first Vice-Chancellor shall be appointed by the Government on such terms and conditions as may be specified by order.

(6) The term of office of the Vice-Chancellor shall be four years from the date on which he enters upon his office or until he attains the age of 65, whichever is earlier.

(7) The remuneration payable to and the other conditions of service

**** vide Section 6 of the National University of Advanced Legal Studies (Amendment) Act, 2008
(Act 6 of 2009)

of the Vice- Chancellor shall be such as may be determined by the Chancellor.

- (8) The Vice-Chancellor shall be the Chief Executive and Academic Head of the University and subject to the specific and general directions of the Executive Council and the General Council, the Vice-Chancellor shall discharge all the functions for the effective management and administration of the University.
- (9) The Vice-Chancellor shall, –
 - (a) ensure that the provisions of this Act and the regulations are duly observed, and he shall have all such powers as are necessary for that purpose;
 - (b) convene the meetings of the General Council, the Executive Council and the Academic Council and shall perform such other acts as may be necessary to give effect to the provisions of this Act;
 - (c) appoint examiners and other officials for the conduct of examinations from the panel approved by the Executive Council;
 - (d) have all such powers as are necessary for proper maintenance of discipline in the University.
- (10) If, in the opinion of the Vice-Chancellor any emergency has arisen and such emergency requires immediate action, he shall take such action as he deems necessary and shall report the same for confirmation to the next meeting of the authority which in the ordinary course would have dealt with the matter.
- (11) The Vice-Chancellor shall have the right of visiting and inspecting the departments, centers and other institutions maintained by the University.
- (12) The Vice-Chancellor shall exercise such other powers and perform such other functions as may be prescribed by regulations.
- (13) In the event of a temporary vacancy occurring in the office of the Vice- Chancellor or where the Vice-Chancellor is temporarily absent, the Executive Committee shall make necessary

arrangements for exercising the powers and performing the duties of the Vice-Chancellor.

28. *Appointment and powers of the Registrar.* – (1) The Registrar shall be a whole-time salaried officer of the University and shall be appointed by the Executive Council for a period of four years from the date on which he enters upon his office or till he completes the age of fifty-six years, whichever is earlier and on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the regulations.

(1A) The person appointed as Registrar shall be eligible for re-appointment for one more period subject to the provisions in sub-section (1)\$\$\$\$

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act or the regulations, the first Registrar shall be appointed by the Executive Council on such terms as may be specified by order.

(3) The Registrar shall be the Ex-officio Secretary of the General Council, the Executive Council and the Academic Council but shall not be deemed to be a member of any of these authorities.

(4) Suits or other legal proceedings by or against the University shall be instituted by or against the Registrar.

(5) The Registrar shall, –

(a) comply with all directions and orders of the Executive Council and the Vice-Chancellor;

(b) be the custodian of the records, common seal and such other property of the University as the Executive Council may assign to his charge;

(c) issue notices for convening meetings of the General Council, the Executive Council, the Academic Council and any of the committees appointed by the authorities of the University;

(d) keep the minutes of all meetings of the General Council, the Executive Council, the Academic Council and any

\$\$\$\$ Sub section (1) substituted vide section (7) of The University Laws (Amendment) Act, 2019

committees of the University;

- (e) conduct the official correspondence on behalf of the University;
- (f) supply the Chancellor copies of the agenda of the meetings of the authorities of the University as soon as they are issued and the minutes of the meetings of the authorities;
- (g) be directly responsible to the Vice-Chancellor for the proper discharge of his duties and functions;
- (h) perform such other duties as may be assigned to him, from time to time, by the Executive Council or the Vice-Chancellor;
- (i) exercise such powers and perform such functions as may be prescribed by regulations.

(6) In the event of the post of Registrar remaining vacant for any reason, it shall be open to the Executive Council to authorize any officer in the service of the University to exercise such powers and perform such functions and duties of the Registrar as the Executive Council deems fit.

29. *Appointment and powers of the Finance Officer.* – (1) The Finance Officer shall be a whole-time salaried officer of the University and shall be appointed by the Executive Council for a period of four years from the date on which he enters upon his office or till he completes the age of fifty-six years, whichever is earlier and on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the regulations.

- (1A) The person appointed as Finance Officer shall be eligible for re-appointment for one more period subject to the provisions in sub-section (1)^{*****}
- (2) The Finance Officer shall exercise such powers and perform such duties as may be prescribed by regulations.

^{*****} Sub section (1) substituted vide section (7) of The University Laws (Amendment) Act, 2019

30. *The Controller of Examinations.* – (1) Controller of Examinations shall be a whole-time salaried officer of the University and shall be appointed by the Executive Council for a period of four years from the date on which he enters upon his office or till he completes the age of fifty-six years, whichever is earlier and on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the regulations.

(1A) The person appointed as Controller of Examinations shall be eligible for re-appointment for one more period subject to the provisions in sub-section (1)†††††

(2) The Controller of Examinations shall exercise such powers and perform suchduties as may be prescribed by regulations.

31. *Other officers and employees.* – Subject to the regulations relating to the service conditions, every other officer or teaching and non-teaching staff of the University may be appointed under a written contract setting out the conditions of service as may be prescribed by regulations, which shall be lodged with the University and a copy thereof furnished to the officer or employee concerned.

32. *Funds of the University.* – (1) There shall be a fund for the University to be called the University Fund, which shall include, –

- (a) any contribution or grant made by the Central or State Government;
- (b) any contribution or grant made by the University Grants Commission;
- (c) any contribution made by the Bar Council of India;
- (d) any contribution made by the Bar Council of Kerala, the Trust orother State Bar Councils;
- (e) any bequests, donations, endowments or other grants made by private individuals and other Trusts, public or private;
- (f) income received by the University from fees and charges;

††††† Sub section (1) substituted vide section (7) of The University Laws (Amendment) Act, 2019

- (g) amounts received from any other source.
- (2) The amount in the Fund shall be kept in a scheduled bank or banks as may be decided by the Executive Council.
- (3) The Funds may be utilized for such purpose of the University and in such manner as may be prescribed by regulations.

33. *Execution of contracts.* – All contracts relating to the management and administration of the University shall be expressed as made by the Executive Council and shall be executed by the Vice-Chancellor when the value of contract is above rupees twenty lakhs and by the Registrar when its value does not exceed rupees twenty lakhs.

34. *Financial estimates and Annual Accounts.* – (1) The financial estimates and the annual accounts of the University may be prepared by the Vice-Chancellor and got approved by the Executive Council, before the financial year commences. No expenditure shall be incurred unless the budget is approved by the Executive Council.

- (2) The accounts of the University shall, at least once in a year, be audited by the auditors appointed by the Executive Council.
- (3) The accounts when audited shall be printed by the Executive Council and a copy of the accounts together with the audit report shall be submitted to the Chancellor and to the Government.
- (4) The financial estimates, the annual accounts and the audit report together with the comments of the Executive Council thereon shall be laid before the General Council at its next meeting.

35. *Annual Report.* – (1) The Executive Council shall prepare the annual report relating to the functioning of the University covering each financial year and submit it to the General Council for its review on or before such date as may be prescribed by regulations. The General Council may pass resolutions thereon and the Executive Council shall take action in accordance therewith.

- (2) Copies of the annual report along with the resolutions of the

General Council shall be submitted to the Chancellor and the Government. The Government shall lay the same before the State Legislature at its session immediately following such receipt.

36. *Eligibility for admission of students.* – No student shall be eligible for admission to a course of study in the University unless he possesses such qualifications as may be prescribed by regulations.
37. *Departments and Centres.* – (1) The Executive Council may on the recommendation of the Academic Council or otherwise, establish such departments and centres as may be necessary from time to time.
 - (2) The Heads of the departments and centres shall be Professors, Associate Professors, Adjunct Professors or Adjunct Associate Professors.
 - (3) The powers, functions, mode of appointment and conditions of service of the head of such institutions shall be such as may be prescribed by regulations.
38. *Regulations.* – (1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the Executive Council shall have, in addition to all the other powers vested in it, the power to frame regulations to provide for the administration and management of the affairs of the University;

Provided that the Executive Council shall not make any regulation affecting the status, powers or constitution of any authority of the University until such authority has been given an opportunity of expressing its opinion in writing on the proposed changes, and any opinion so expressed shall be considered by the Executive Council.

 - (2) All regulations made by the Executive Council shall be laid before the General Council at its next meeting and it may make such modifications in it as it may deem necessary.
39. *Award of Degree, Diplomas etc.* – Award of Degrees, Diplomas,

Certificates etc. shall be made in person or *in absentia* at Convocations or *in absentia* at a meeting of the Executive Council held after the publication of the results of the examinations concerned.

40. *Honorary Degree.* – (1) On the recommendation of the Academic Council or on its own motion, the Executive Council may confer an honorary degree on distinguished persons who by the reason of their eminent position and attainments or by virtue of their contribution to learning or eminent services to the cause of legal education, are fit and proper persons to receive such a degree.
(2) The honorary degree shall be conferred only at a Convocation and may be taken in person or *in absentia*. The procedure for holding Convocation, honorary degrees to be conferred shall be such as may be prescribed by regulations.
41. *Withdrawal or cancellation of Degree or Diploma.* – (1) On the recommendations of the Academic Council, the Executive Council may withdraw any distinction, degree, diploma or privilege conferred on or granted to any person by a resolution passed by the majority of the total membership of Executive Council and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of the Executive Council present and voting at the meeting, if such person has been convicted by a court of law for an offence which in the opinion of the Executive Council involves moral turpitude or if he has been guilty of gross misconduct.
(2) No action under sub-section (1) shall be taken against any person unless he has been given an opportunity to show cause against the proposed action to be taken.
(3) A copy of the resolution passed by the Executive Council shall be immediately sent to the person concerned.
(4) Any person aggrieved by the decision taken by the Executive Council may appeal to the Chancellor within thirty days from the date of receipt of such resolution.
(5) The decision of the Chancellor in such appeal shall be final.

42. *Discipline of students.* – The Vice-Chancellor shall be responsible for the maintenance of discipline among the students of the University. His directions in that behalf shall be carried out by the heads of departments, centres, hostels and other institutions.
43. *Action not invalidated merely on the ground of defect in constitution, vacancy etc.* – No act done, or proceedings taken by the General Council, the Executive Council, the Academic Council or any other authority or body of the University shall be invalidated merely on the ground that it is not duly constituted or there is a defect in its constitution or reconstitution, at any time or that there is a vacancy in the membership of any such authority or body and no act or proceedings of such authority or body not affecting the merits of the case shall be invalidated on any such ground or grounds.
44. *Institutions merged to the University.* – (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in the Cochin University of Science and Technology Act, 1986 (31 of 1986), the National Institute of Advanced Legal Studies at Kochi established by the Trust, from the date of commencement of this Act, shall stand merged to the University and shall cease to be an institution recognized by the Cochin University of Science and Technology.
 - (2) All properties possessed and all rights of whatever kinds used or, enjoyed by and all interests of whatever kind owned by or vested in the National Institute for Advanced Legal Studies referred to in sub-section (1) and all assets, liabilities, obligations etc. legally subsisting in the said institution shall pass to the University constituted under this Act.
 - (3) Notwithstanding anything contained in any other law for the time being in force, the Government, may, at any time, transfer to the University any institution or teaching department of a University subject to such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon between the Government and the institution or the University concerned as regard to its future maintenance and control.
 - (4) Any person in the employment of the National Institute for

Advanced Legal Studies shall, subject to such conditions and restrictions as may be specified by the Executive Council, be deemed to be employed by the University established under this Act.

- (5) All students enrolled in the National Institute for Advanced Legal Studies before the date of commencement of this Act shall be deemed to be students of the University established under this Act and they shall be permitted to complete the rest of the course of study and take the examinations under the University. The instructions and examinations taken by the students for the B.A., LL. B. (Hons.) degree course under the scheme and syllabus of the Cochin University of Science and Technology shall be deemed to have been taken by them under this University.
- (6) The scheme and syllabus for the B.A., LL. B (Hons.) degree course of the Cochin University of Science and Technology shall be followed by the University until the scheme and syllabus for the said course is framed or modified by the University as per the provisions of this Act.

45. *Constitution of the first Executive Council.* – Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act, the first Executive Council of the University shall be constituted by the Government.

46. *Power of Government to cause inspection of the University.* – (1) The Government shall have the right to cause inspections to be made by such person or persons as they may direct, of the University, its buildings; libraries etc; and of any institution maintained by the University and also of the work conducted by the University and cause inquiry to be made in respect of any matter connected with the University.

(2) The Government shall communicate to the Executive Council the result of any inspection or inquiry made under sub-section (1) and advise the University upon the action to be taken in the matter.

46 A. *Power of the Government to give direction*: The Government shall have the power to direct the University to consider the instructions of the Government made from time to time in respect of the determination of the fee and admission of the students to the University:

Provided that on such direction the decision of the Executive Council shall be final.”

47. *Indemnity*. – No suit, prosecution or other legal proceeding shall lie against and no damages shall be claimed from the University, the Vice-Chancellor, the authorities or officers of the University or any other person in respect of anything which is done in good faith or purporting to be done in pursuance of this Act or any regulation made thereunder.
48. *Act to have overriding effect*. – The provisions of this Act and any regulations made thereunder shall have effect notwithstanding anything inconsistent therewith contained in any other law for the time being in force or in any instrument having effect by virtue of any law other than this Act.
49. *Removal of difficulties*. – If any difficulty arises as to the first constitution of any authority of the University or otherwise in giving effect to the provisions of this Act, the Government may, by order, do anything which appear to them necessary for the purpose of removing such difficulty:

Provided that no order under this section shall be issued by the Government after the expiry of a period of two years from the date of commencement of this Act.

50. *Repeal and Savings*. – (1) The National University of Advanced Legal Studies Ordinance, 2005 (9 of 2005) is hereby repealed.

**** Inserted vide Section 7 of the National University of Advanced Legal Studies Amendment Act, 2008 (Act 6 of 2009)

- (2) Notwithstanding such repeal, anything done or any action taken under the said Ordinance shall be deemed to have been done or taken under this Act.

**THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF ADVANCED LEGAL STUDIES
(AMENDMENT) ACT, 2008**

[ACT 6 of 2009]

(Published in Kerala Gazette Extra Ordinary No. 34 dt. 5.1.2009)

An Act to amend the National University of Advanced Legal Studies Act, 2005.

Preamble. – Whereas, it is expedient to amend the National University of Advanced Legal Studies Act, 2005 for the purposes hereinafter appearing; BE it enacted in the Fifty-ninth Year of the Republic of India as follows;

- 1. Short title and commencement.** – (1) This Act may be called the National University of Advanced Legal Studies (Amendment) Act, 2008.
(2) It shall be deemed to have come into force on the 9th day of June, 2008.
- 2. Amendment of preamble.** – In the preamble of the National University of Advanced Legal Studies Act, 2005 (27 of 2005) (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act), the words “on self finance basis” in the last paragraph shall be omitted.
- 3. Amendment of Section 3.** – In sub-section (1) of Section 3 of the principal Act, the words “Self Financing” shall be omitted.
- 4. Amendment of Section 12.** – In Section 12 of the principal Act after item (xi), the following items shall be inserted, namely: –
 - “(xia) The Principal Secretary, Finance Department, Government of Kerala;
 - “(xib) A member nominated by the Executive Council of the Higher Education Council from among its members;”.
- 5. Amendment of Section 17.** – In sub-section (2) of Section 17 of the principal Act, –
 - (i) in item (vi), after the existing words, the following words shall be added,

namely; -

“or an officer of the Higher Education Department not below the rank of Joint Secretary to Government nominated by him;”;

(ii) in item (vii), after the existing words, the following words shall be added, namely: -

“or an officer of the Law Department not below the rank of Joint Secretary to Government nominated by him;”;

(iii) after item (xii), the following items shall be added, namely:-

“(xiii) The Principal Secretary to Government, Finance Department or an officer of the Finance Department not below the rank of Joint Secretary to Government nominated by him;

(xiv) A member nominated by the Executive Council of the Higher Education Council from among its members;

(xv) Two legal experts nominated by the Government, of which one shall be a woman.”.

6. Amendment of Section 27. – In sub-section (1) of Section 27 of the principal Act, for clause (a), the following clause shall be substituted, namely: -

“(a) One nominee of the Bar Council of Kerala.”.

7. Insertion of Section 46 A. – After Section 46 of the principal Act, the following Section shall be inserted, namely: -

“46A. Power of the Government to give direction. – The Government shall have the power to direct the University to consider the instructions of the Government made from time to time in respect of the determination of the fee and admission of the students to the University:

Provided that on such direction the decision of the Executive Council shall be final.”.

- 8. Repeal and Saving.** – (1) The National University of Advanced Legal Studies (Amendment) Ordinance, 2008 (21 of 2008) is hereby repealed.
(2) Notwithstanding such repeal, anything done or deemed to have been done or any action taken or deemed to have been taken under the principal Act, as amended by the said Ordinance, shall be deemed to have been done or taken under the principal Act, as amended by this Act.

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കേരള സർക്കാർ
Government of Kerala
2014



Regn. No. KERBIL/2012/45073
dated 5-9-2012 with RNI
Reg. No. KL/TV(N)/634/2012-14

കേരള ഗസറ്റ് KERALA GAZETTE

അമാധാരണം
EXTRAORDINARY

ആധികാരികമായി പ്രസിദ്ധീകൃതമാത്രം

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

വാല്യം 3 Vol. III	തിരുവനന്തപുരം, സായര് Thiruvananthapuram, Sunday	2014 ജൂലൈ 20 20th July 2014	നമ്പർ No.	1864
		1189 കർക്കാകം 4 4th Karkadakam 1189		

GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Law (Legislation-G) Department

NOTIFICATION

No. 20086/Leg. G2/2013/Law.

Dated, Thiruvananthapuram, 20th July, 2014.
4th Karkadakam, 1189.
29th Ashadha, 1936.

The following Act of the Kerala State Legislature is hereby published for general information. The Bill as passed by the Legislative Assembly received the assent of the Governor of Kerala on the 20th day of July, 2014.

By order of the Governor,

C. REMANI,
Special Secretary (Law).

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT OF GOVERNMENT PRESSES
AT THE GOVERNMENT CENTRAL PRESS, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, 2014.

ACT 26 OF 2014

THE UNIVERSITY LAWS (SECOND AMENDMENT) ACT, 2014

An Act further to amend the Kerala University Act, 1974, the Calicut University Act, 1975, the Mahatma Gandhi University Act, 1985, the Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit Act, 1994 and the National University of Advanced Legal Studies Act, 2005.

Preamble.—WHEREAS, it is expedient further to amend the Kerala University Act, 1974, the Calicut University Act, 1975, the Mahatma Gandhi University Act, 1985, the Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit Act, 1994 and the National University of Advanced Legal Studies Act, 2005 for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

BE it enacted in the Sixty-fifth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. *Short title and commencement.*—(1) This Act may be called the University Laws (Second Amendment) Act, 2014.

(2) Clause (a) of section 4 shall be deemed to have come into force on the 9th day of September, 2013, section 2, section 3, clause (b) of section 4 and sections 5 to 7 shall be deemed to have come into force on the 19th day of September, 2013 and the remaining sections shall come into force at once.

2. *Amendment of Act 17 of 1974.*—In the Kerala University Act, 1974 (17 of 1974), in section 6, for sub-section (2), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(2) In making appointments to the teaching and non-teaching posts, the University shall, *mutatis mutandis*, observe the provisions of clauses (a), (b) and (c) of rule 14 and the provisions of rules 15, 16, 17 and 17A of the Kerala State and Subordinate Services Rules, 1958, as amended from time to time, and communal rotation shall be followed category-wise treating all the departments as one unit.”.

3. *Amendment of Act 5 of 1975.*—In the Calicut University Act, 1975 (5 of 1975),—

(a) in section 6, for sub-section (2), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(2) In making appointments to the teaching and non-teaching posts, the University shall, *mutatis mutandis*, observe the provisions of clauses (a), (b) and (c) of rule 14 and the provisions of rules 15, 16, 17 and 17A of the

Kerala State and subordinate Services Rules, 1958, as amended from time to time, and communal rotation shall be followed category-wise treating all the departments as one unit.”;

(b) In section 17, under the heading “Other Members”, for item (5), the following item shall be substituted, namely:—

“(5) Not more than six members nominated by the Government from the field of Higher Education, of which one shall be a woman and one shall be from the Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes.”;

(c) in section 18, to sub-section (3), after the third proviso, the following proviso shall be added, namely:—

“Provided also that the members in the Senate nominated by the Chancellor or the Government under the heading “Other Members” shall hold their office during the pleasure of the Chancellor or the Government, as the case may be.”

4. *Amendment of Act 12 of 1985.*—In the Mahatma Gandhi University Act, 1985 (12 of 1985),—

(a) in section 11, for sub-section (4), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(4) The Pro-Vice-Chancellor shall hold office for a term of four years from the date on which he enters upon his office and shall be eligible for re-appointment.”;

(b) for section 78, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“78. *Reservation of appointments.*—In making appointments to the teaching and non-teaching posts, the University shall, *mutatis mutandis*, observe the provisions of clauses (a), (b) and (c) of rule 14 and the provisions of rules 15, 16, 17 and 17A of the Kerala State and Subordinate Services Rules, 1958, as amended from time to time, and communal rotation shall be followed category-wise treating all the departments as one unit.”.

5. *Amendment of Act 5 of 1994.*—In the Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit Act, 1994 (5 of 1994), for section 32, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“32. *Reservation of appointments.*—In making appointments to the teaching and non-teaching posts, the University shall, *mutatis mutandis*, observe the provisions of clauses (a), (b) and (c) of rule 14 and the provisions of rules 15, 16, 17 and 17A of the Kerala State and Subordinate Services Rules, 1958, as amended from time to time, and communal rotation shall be followed category-wise treating all the departments as one unit.”.

6. *Amendment of Act 27 of 2005.*—In the National University of Advanced Legal Studies Act, 2005 (27 of 2005), in section 4, for sub-section (3), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(3) In making appointments to the teaching and non-teaching posts, the University shall, *mutatis mutandis*, observe the provisions of clauses (a), (b) and (c) of rule 14 and the provisions of rules 15, 16, 17 and 17A of the Kerala State and Subordinate Services Rules, 1958, as amended from time to time, and communal rotation shall be followed category-wise treating all the departments as one unit.”.

7. *Special Provision.*—Notwithstanding anything contained in the Calicut University Act, 1975, on the date of commencement of the Calicut University (Amendment) Ordinance, 2013 (48 of 2013), the existing members in office nominated under item (5) under the heading “Other Members” in section 17 of the Calicut University Act, 1975, shall be deemed to have vacated their office by virtue of the provisions of the said Ordinance.

8. *Repeal and saving.*—(1) The University Laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 2014 (2 of 2014) is hereby repealed.

(2) Notwithstanding such repeal, anything done or deemed to have been done or any action taken or deemed to have been taken under the Mahatma Gandhi University Act, 1985 and the Calicut University Act, 1975 and anything done or taken under the Kerala University Act, 1974, the Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit Act, 1994 and the National University of Advanced Legal Studies Act, 2005 as amended by the said Ordinance shall be deemed to have been done or taken under the said Acts respectively as amended by this Act.



കേരള ഗസറ്റ്

KERALA GAZETTE

അമാധാരണം

EXTRAORDINARY

ആധികാരികമായി പ്രസിദ്ധീകരിച്ചതുന്ത്
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

വാല്യം 8
Vol. VIII

തിരുവനന്തപുരം,
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Thiruvananthapuram,
Saturday

2019 ഡിസംബർ 07
07th December 2019

1195 വ്യൂമികം 21
21st Vrischikam 1195
1941 അഗ്രഹായനം 16
16th Agrahayana 1941

നമ്പർ
No.

3014

GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Law (Legislation-G) Department

NOTIFICATION

No. 4969/Leg.G2/2019/Law

Dated, Thiruvananthapuram, 21st Vrischikam, 1195

16th Agrahayana, 1941

7th December, 2019

The following Act of the Kerala State Legislature is hereby published for general information. The Bill as passed by the Legislative Assembly received the assent of the Governor on the 6th day of December, 2019.

By order of the Governor,

ARAVINTHA BABU. P. K.,
Law Secretary.



ACT 21 OF 2019
THE UNIVERSITY LAWS (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2019

An Act further to amend the Kerala University Act, 1974, the Calicut University Act, 1975, the Mahatma Gandhi University Act, 1985, the Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit Act, 1994, the Kannur University Act, 1996 and the National University of Advanced Legal Studies Act, 2005.

Preamble. - WHEREAS, it is expedient further to amend the Kerala University Act, 1974 (17 of 1974), the Calicut University Act, 1975 (5 of 1975), the Mahatma Gandhi University Act, 1985 (12 of 1985), the Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit Act, 1994 (5 of 1994), the Kannur University Act, 1996 (22 of 1996) and the National University of Advanced Legal Studies Act, 2005 (27 of 2005) for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

BE it enacted in the Seventieth Year of the Republic of India as follows:-

1. *Short title and commencement.* - (1) This Act may be called the University Laws (Amendment) Act, 2019.

(2) It shall be deemed to have come into force on the 6th day of March, 2019.

2. *Amendment of Act 17 of 1974.* - In the Kerala University Act, 1974 (17 of 1974),-

(a) in section 12, for sub-section (1), the following sub-sections shall be substituted, namely:-

“(1) The Registrar shall be a whole-time salaried officer of the University and shall be appointed by the Syndicate for a period of four years from the date on which he enters upon his office or till he completes the age of fifty-six years, whichever is earlier and on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the Statutes.

(1A) The person appointed as Registrar shall be eligible for re-appointment for one more period subject to the provisions in sub-section (1).”;

(b) in section 13, for sub-section (1), the following sub-sections shall be substituted, namely:-

“(1) The Controller of Examinations shall be a whole-time salaried officer of the University and shall be appointed by the Syndicate for a period of four years from the date



on which he enters upon his office or till he completes the age of fifty-six years, whichever is earlier and on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the Statutes.

(1A) The person appointed as Controller of Examinations shall be eligible for re-appointment for one more period subject to the provisions in sub-section (1).”;

(c) in section 14, for sub-section (1), the following sub-sections shall be substituted, namely:-

“(1) The Finance Officer shall be a whole-time salaried officer of the University and shall be appointed by the Syndicate for a period of four years from the date on which he enters upon his office or till he completes the age of fifty-six years, whichever is earlier and on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the Statutes.

(1A) The person appointed as Finance Officer shall be eligible for re-appointment for one more period subject to the provisions in sub-section (1).”.

3. *Amendment of Act 5 of 1975.* - In the Calicut University Act, 1975 (5 of 1975),-

(a) in section 12, for sub-section (1), the following sub-sections shall be substituted, namely:-

“(1) The Registrar shall be a whole-time salaried officer of the University and shall be appointed by the Syndicate for a period of four years from the date on which he enters upon his office or till he completes the age of fifty-six years, whichever is earlier and on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the Statutes.

(1A) The person appointed as Registrar shall be eligible for re-appointment for one more period subject to the provisions in sub-section (1).”;

(b) in section 13, for sub-section (1), the following sub-sections shall be substituted, namely:-

“(1) The Controller of Examinations shall be a whole-time salaried officer of the University and shall be appointed by the Syndicate for a period of four years from the date on which he enters upon his office or till he completes the age of fifty-six years, whichever is earlier and on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the Statutes.

(1A) The person appointed as Controller of Examinations shall be eligible for re-appointment for one more period subject to the provisions in sub-section (1).”;



(c) in section 14, for sub-section (1), the following sub-sections shall be substituted, namely:-

“(1) The Finance Officer shall be a whole-time salaried officer of the University and shall be appointed by the Syndicate for a period of four years from the date on which he enters upon his office or till he completes the age of fifty-six years, whichever is earlier and on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the Statutes.

(1A) The person appointed as Finance Officer shall be eligible for re-appointment for one more period subject to the provisions in sub-section (1).”.

4. *Amendment of Act 12 of 1985.* - In the Mahatma Gandhi University Act, 1985 (12 of 1985),-

(a) in section 12, for sub-section (1), the following sub-sections shall be substituted, namely:-

“(1) The Syndicate shall appoint a person selected by the Government from among a panel containing the names of three persons furnished to the Government by a Selection Committee appointed by the Syndicate, consisting of three members headed by the Vice-Chancellor, as the Registrar of the University for a period of four years from the date on which he enters upon his office or till he completes the age of fifty-six years, whichever is earlier and on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the Statutes.

(1A) The person appointed as Registrar shall be eligible for re-appointment for one more period subject to the provisions in sub-section (1).”;

(b) in section 13, for sub-section (1), the following sub-sections shall be substituted, namely:-

“(1) The Syndicate shall appoint a person selected by the Government from among a panel containing the names of three persons furnished to the Government by a Selection Committee appointed by the Syndicate, consisting of three members headed by the Vice-Chancellor, as the Controller of Examinations of the University for a period of four years from the date on which he enters upon his office or till he completes the age of fifty-six years, whichever is earlier and on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the Statutes.

(1A) The person appointed as Controller of Examinations shall be eligible for re-appointment for one more period subject to the provisions in sub-section (1).”;



(c) in section 14, for sub-section (1), the following sub-sections shall be substituted, namely:-

“(1) The Syndicate shall appoint a person selected by the Government from among a panel containing the names of three persons furnished to the Government by a Selection Committee appointed by the Syndicate, consisting of three members headed by the Vice-Chancellor, as the Finance Officer of the University for a period of four years from the date on which he enters upon his office or till he completes the age of fifty-six years, whichever is earlier and on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the Statutes.

(1A) The person appointed as Finance Officer shall be eligible for re-appointment for one more period subject to the provisions in sub-section (1).”.

5. *Amendment of Act 5 of 1994.*- In the Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit Act, 1994 (5 of 1994),-

(a) in section 23, after item (iii), the following items shall be inserted, namely:-

“(iiiia) the Controller of Examinations;

(iiib) the Finance Officer;”;

(b) in section 28, for sub-section (1), the following sub-sections shall be substituted, namely:-

“(1) The Registrar shall be a whole-time salaried officer of the University and shall be appointed by the Syndicate for a period of four years from the date on which he enters upon his office or till he completes the age of fifty-six years, whichever is earlier and on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the Statutes.

(1A) The person appointed as Registrar shall be eligible for re-appointment for one more period subject to the provisions in sub-section (1).”;

(c) after section 28, the following sections shall be inserted, namely:-

“28 A. *The Controller of Examinations.*- (1) The Controller of Examinations shall be a whole-time salaried officer of the University and shall be appointed by the Syndicate for a period of four years from the date on which he enters upon his office or till he completes the age of fifty-six years, whichever is earlier and in such manner as may be prescribed by the Statutes.



(2) The person appointed as Controller of Examinations shall be eligible for re-appointment for one more period subject to the provisions in sub-section (1).

(3) The qualifications for, and the salary and allowances payable to the Controller of Examinations shall be such as may be prescribed by the Statutes.

28 B. The Finance Officer. - (1) The Finance Officer shall be a whole-time salaried officer of the University and shall be appointed by the Syndicate for a period of four years from the date on which he enters upon his office or till he completes the age of fifty-six years, whichever is earlier and in such manner as may be prescribed by the Statutes.

(2) The person appointed as Finance Officer shall be eligible for re-appointment for one more period subject to the provisions in sub-section (1).

(3) The qualifications for, and the salary and allowances payable to the Finance Officer shall be such as may be prescribed by the Statutes.”

6. Amendment of Act 22 of 1996. - In the Kannur University Act, 1996 (22 of 1996),-

(a) in section 14, for sub-section (1), the following sub-sections shall be substituted, namely:-

“(1) The Registrar shall be a whole-time salaried officer of the University and shall be appointed by the Syndicate for a period of four years from the date on which he enters upon his office or till he completes the age of fifty-six years, whichever is earlier and on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the Statutes.

(1A) The person appointed as Registrar shall be eligible for re-appointment for one more period subject to the provisions in sub-section (1).”;

(b) in section 15, for sub-section (1), the following sub-sections shall be substituted, namely:-

“(1) The Controller of Examinations shall be a whole-time salaried officer of the University and shall be appointed by the Syndicate for a period of four years from the date on which he enters upon his office or till he completes the age of fifty-six years, whichever is earlier and on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the Statutes.

(1A) The person appointed as Controller of Examinations shall be eligible for re-appointment for one more period subject to the provisions in sub-section (1).”;



(c) in section 16, for sub-section (i), the following sub-sections shall be substituted, namely:-

“(1) The Finance Officer shall be a whole-time salaried officer of the University and shall be appointed by the Syndicate for a period of four years from the date on which he enters upon his office or till he completes the age of fifty-six years, whichever is earlier and on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the Statutes.

(1A) The person appointed as Finance Officer shall be eligible for re-appointment for one more period subject to the provisions in sub-section (1).”

7. Amendment of Act 27 of 2005. - In the National University of Advanced Legal Studies Act, 2005 (27 of 2005),-

(a) in section 28, for sub-section (1), the following sub-sections shall be substituted, namely:-

“(1) The Registrar shall be a whole-time salaried officer of the University and shall be appointed by the Executive Council for a period of four years from the date on which he enters upon his office or till he completes the age of fifty-six years, whichever is earlier and on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the regulations.

(1A) The person appointed as Registrar shall be eligible for re-appointment for one more period subject to the provisions in sub-section (1).”

(b) in section 29, for sub-section (1), the following sub-sections shall be substituted, namely:-

“(1) The Finance Officer shall be a whole-time salaried officer of the University and shall be appointed by the Executive Council for a period of four years from the date on which he enters upon his office or till he completes the age of fifty-six years, whichever is earlier and on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the regulations.

(1A) The person appointed as Finance Officer shall be eligible for re-appointment for one more period subject to the provisions in sub-section (1).”

(c) in section 30, for sub-section (1), the following sub-sections shall be substituted, namely:-

“(1) The Controller of Examinations shall be a whole-time salaried officer of the University and shall be appointed by the Executive Council for a period of four years from the



date on which he enters upon his office or till he completes the age of fifty-six years, whichever is earlier and on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the regulations.

(1A) The person appointed as Controller of Examinations shall be eligible for re-appointment for one more period subject to the provisions in sub-section (1).”.

8. Special provision regarding the existing Registrars, Controllers of Examinations and Finance Officers.- Notwithstanding anything contained in the Kerala University Act, 1974 (17 of 1974), the Calicut University Act, 1975 (5 of 1975), the Mahatma Gandhi University Act, 1985 (12 of 1985), the Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit Act, 1994 (5 of 1994), the Kannur University Act, 1996 (22 of 1996), and the National University of Advanced Legal Studies Act, 2005 (27 of 2005) and the Statutes, Ordinances, Regulations, Orders or Rules made thereunder on and from the date of commencement of this Act, the existing Registrars or Controllers of Examinations or Finance Officers, as the case may be, of the Universities constituted as per the above said Acts shall be deemed to have vacated their offices where they have completed a period of four years in their offices or have completed the age of fifty-six years, whichever is earlier. In the case of the Registrars or Controllers of Examinations or Finance Officers who have not completed a period of four years in office or fifty-six years of age shall continue to hold office up to a period of four years or fifty-six years of age whichever is earlier. In the case of the Registrars or Controllers of Examinations or Finance Officers appointed from other departments and who have completed a period of four years in their offices or have completed the age of fifty-six years and have vacated their offices by virtue of the provisions of this Act, the law relating to the service conditions applicable to their parent departments shall be made applicable.

9. Repeal and saving.- (1) The University Laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 2019 (34 of 2019) is hereby repealed.

(2) Notwithstanding such repeal, anything done or deemed to have been done or any action taken or deemed to have been taken under the Kerala University Act, 1974 (17 of 1974), the Calicut University Act, 1975 (5 of 1975), the Mahatma Gandhi University Act, 1985 (12 of 1985), the Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit Act, 1994 (5 of 1994), the Kannur University Act, 1996 (22 of 1996) and the National University of Advanced Legal Studies Act, 2005 (27 of 2005) as amended



by the said Ordinance shall be deemed to have been done or taken under the Kerala University Act, 1974 (17 of 1974), the Calicut University Act, 1975 (5 of 1975), the Mahatma Gandhi University Act, 1985 (12 of 1985), the Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit Act, 1994 (5 of 1994), the Kannur University Act, 1996 (22 of 1996) and the National University of Advanced Legal Studies Act, 2005 (27 of 2005) respectively as amended by this Act.





കേരള ഗസറ്റ്

KERALA GAZETTE

അരസാധാരണം

EXTRAORDINARY

ആധികാരികമായി പ്രസിദ്ധീകരിച്ചതുന്ത്
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

വാല്യം 10
Vol. X

തിരുവനന്തപുരം,
തിക്കൽ
Thiruvananthapuram,
Monday

2021 മാർച്ച് 01
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1196 കൂംഡം 17
17th Kumbham 1196
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10th Phalguna 1942

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No. } 1030

GOVERNMENT OF KERALA
Law (Legislation-G) Department

NOTIFICATION

No. 2966/Leg.G2/2021/Law.

*Dated, Thiruvananthapuram, 1st March, 2021
17th Kumbham, 1196
10th Phalguna, 1942.*

The following Ordinance promulgated by the Governor of Kerala on the 26th day of *February*, 2021 is hereby published for general information.

By order of the Governor,
ARAVINTHA BABU P. K.,
Law Secretary.



ORDINANCE No. 48 OF 2021

**THE UNIVERSITY LAWS (AMENDMENT)
(No. 2) ORDINANCE, 2021**

Promulgated by the Governor of Kerala in the Seventy-second Year of the Republic of India.

AN

ORDINANCE

further to amend the Kerala University Act, 1974, the Calicut University Act, 1975, the Mahatma Gandhi University Act, 1985, the Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit Act, 1994, the Kannur University Act, 1996 and the National University of Advanced Legal Studies Act, 2005.

Preamble.—WHEREAS, it is expedient further to amend the Kerala University Act, 1974 (17 of 1974), the Calicut University Act, 1975 (5 of 1975), the Mahatma Gandhi University Act, 1985 (12 of 1985), the Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit Act, 1994 (5 of 1994), the Kannur University Act, 1996 (22 of 1996) and the National University of Advanced Legal Studies Act, 2005 (27 of 2005) for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

AND WHEREAS, the Legislative Assembly of the State of Kerala is not in session and the Governor of Kerala is satisfied that circumstances exist which render it necessary for him to take immediate action;

NOW, THEREFORE, in exercise of the powers conferred by clause (1) of Article 213 of the Constitution of India, the Governor of Kerala is pleased to promulgate the following Ordinance:—

1. *Short title and commencement.*—(1) This Ordinance may be called the University Laws (Amendment) (No. 2) Ordinance, 2021.
- (2) It shall come into force at once.



2. Acts 17 of 1974, 5 of 1975, 12 of 1985, 5 of 1994, 22 of 1996 and 27 of 2005 to be temporarily amended.—During the period of operation of this Ordinance, the Kerala University Act, 1974 (17 of 1974), the Calicut University Act, 1975 (5 of 1975), the Mahatma Gandhi University Act, 1985 (12 of 1985), the Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit Act, 1994 (5 of 1994), the Kannur University Act, 1996 (22 of 1996) and the National University of Advanced Legal Studies Act, 2005 (27 of 2005) shall have effect subject to the amendments specified in sections 3 to 8.

3. Amendment of Act 17 of 1974.—In the Kerala University Act, 1974 (17 of 1974),—

(a) in section 2,—

(i) clause (1) shall be omitted.

(ii) for clause (4A), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:—

“(4A) “Autonomous College” means a college conferred with autonomous status by the University Grants Commission and declared as such by the University by notification;”;

(iii) for clause (4B), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:—

“(4B) “autonomy” means a privilege given to a college to conduct programmes of study, to develop its curriculum and syllabus, to devise teaching, learning and evaluation and assessment methods, to conduct examinations leading to the award of a degree, diploma, certificate and such other titles and distinctions by the University after publication of the results of the respective programmes of study in accordance with the provisions of Chapter VIII B of the Act;”;

(iv) for clause (5A), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:—

“(5A) “Board of Studies of an Autonomous College” means the Board of Studies for a programme or group of programmes conducted by an Autonomous College constituted under section 69G;”;



(v) after clause (7), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

“(7A) “Complaint Redressal Committee of an Autonomous College” means the Complaint Redressal Committee of an Autonomous College constituted under section 69LB;

(7B) “Course” means one of the subjects which comprises a programme in accordance with the provisions of Chapter VIIIB of the Act;”;

(vi) after clause (9), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

“(9A) “Expert Committee of an Autonomous College” means the Expert Committee of an Autonomous College constituted under section 69 LC;”;

(vii) for clause (10A), the following clauses shall be substituted, namely:—

“(10A) “Finance Committee of an Autonomous College” means the Finance Committee of an Autonomous college constituted under section 69 LD;

(10B) “Governing Body” means the Governing Body of an Autonomous College;”;

(viii) after clause (12), the following clauses shall be inserted, namely:—

“(12A) “Internal Quality Assurance Cell of an Autonomous College” means the Internal Quality Assurance Cell of an Autonomous College constituted under section 69LA;

(12B) “Inter University Consultative Committee of an Autonomous College” means the Inter University Consultative Committee of an Autonomous College constituted under section 65A;”;

(ix) after clause (17), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

“(17A), “Programme” means higher education programme pursued for the award of a degree, diploma, certificate and such other titles and distinctions by the University of



specified duration conducted in an Autonomous College in accordance with the provisions of Chapter VIII B of the Act;”;

(x) after clause (19), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

“(20) “re-structured programme” means a programme approved by the University by incorporating or substituting inter disciplinary or multidisciplinary courses to the programme;”;

(xi) after clause (25), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

“(25A) “Students Grievance Redressal Committee of an Autonomous College” means the Students Grievance Redressal Committee of an Autonomous College constituted under section 69LE;”;

(b) in section 5,—

(i) for clause (ia), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:—

“(ia) to declare by notification conferment or extension of autonomous status to a college which has been conferred, granted or extended by the University Grants Commission;”;

(ii) clause (ib) shall be omitted;

(c) for section 65, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“65. *Constitution of Appellate Tribunal.*—(1) The Government shall constitute an Appellate Tribunal for the purpose of this Act at such place notified by the Government.

(2) The Government shall appoint a person who has been a Judge of the High Court or who has been a Judicial Officer not below the rank of District Judge as the Appellate Tribunal.

(3) The term of office of the Appellate Tribunal shall be three years from the date of its nomination.



(4) The Appellate Tribunal shall have the power to make regulation consistent with the provisions of this Act, with the previous sanction of the Government for regulating its procedure and disposal of its business. The regulations so made shall be published in the Gazette.

(5) The remuneration and other conditions of service of the Appellate Tribunal shall be such as may be fixed by the Government.

(6) The Government shall provide such facilities for the establishment and functioning of the office of the Appellate Tribunal including creation of required posts and appointment thereto.

(7) The Appellate Tribunal shall have the jurisdiction to adjudicate dispute on any of the matter provided in this Act.

(8) The decision of the Appellate Tribunal on a question as to whether a matter coming under this Act or not shall be final.

(9) The Appellate Tribunal shall, for the purpose of exercising the powers conferred by or under this Act, have all the powers of a Civil Court while trying a suit under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 (Central Act 5 of 1908), in respect of the following matters, namely:—

(a) summoning and enforcing the attendance of any person and examining him on oath;

(b) requiring the discovery and production of any document;

(c) receiving evidence on affidavit;

(d) issuing commission for the examination of witnesses or for local investigation;



(e) inspecting any property or thing concerning with any decision to be taken;

(f) requisitioning of any public record or copy thereof from any court, authority or office;

(g) any other matter which may be prescribed.

(d) after section 65, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“65A. *Constitution of Inter University Consultative Committee.*—(1) There shall be an Inter University Consultative Committee consisting of the following members, namely:—

(a) The Pro-Chancellor .. Chairman;

(b) The Vice-Chancellor .. Member;

(c) The Vice-Chancellors of other Universities established by State law nominated by the Pro-Chancellor .. Member;

(d) The Secretary to Government in charge of the Higher Education Department .. Member.

(2) The Inter University Consultative Committee shall meet as decided by the Chairman.

(3) The Inter University Consultative Committee shall consider matters to be resolved at Government level in respect of matters mutually affecting the Government and the University.

(e) section 69A shall be omitted.;

(f) section 69B shall be omitted.;



(g) in section 69C, in the marginal heading and in the section for the words “academic autonomy” the word “autonomy” shall be substituted.

(h) in section 69 D, in sub-section (1),—

(i) in item (iii) for the words, “Governing Council” the words “Governing Body” shall be substituted;

(ii) after item (iii), the following items shall be inserted, namely:—

(iv) The Internal Quality Assurance Cell of an Autonomous College;

(v) The Complaint Redressal Committee of an Autonomous College;

(vi) The Expert Committee of an Autonomous College;

(vii) The Finance Committee of an Autonomous College;

(viii) The Students Grievance Redressal Committee of an Autonomous College.;

(i) in section 69 E,—

(i) in sub-section (2),—

(a) for item (c), the following item shall be substituted, namely:—

“(c) four teachers of the college representing different categories of teaching staff, of whom two shall be nominated by the Principal of the college based on seniority and rotation and two shall be elected by the regular teachers of the college from among themselves.”;

(b) for item (d), the following item shall be substituted, namely:—



“(d) four experts from the field of industry, commerce, law, education, medicine, engineering, administration and finance, nominated by the Governing Body of the Autonomous College;”;

(c) for item (e), the following item shall be substituted, namely:—

“(e) three Professors who are academic experts nominated by the University;”;

(d) in item (f), the words, “with the approval of the Director of Collegiate Education” shall be omitted;

(ii) for sub-section (3), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(3) A member of the Academic Council shall hold office for a period of three years and shall be eligible for renomination for another term of three years:

Provided that, a person who has become a member of the Academic Council by virtue of his office shall cease to be a member of the same on the termination of such office or on the completion of his tenure of nomination, whichever is earlier.”;

(iii) after sub-section (4), the following sub-sections shall be inserted, namely:—

“(5) The quorum for a meeting of the Academic Council shall be two-third of its total members.

(6) The Member Secretary of the Academic Council shall intimate the members the place, date and time of the meeting along with the detailed agenda notes fourteen clear days in advance by registered post or by electronic means.

(7) The draft minutes of the meeting shall be prepared by the Chairman and communicate to all the members of the Academic Council within seven clear days, by registered post or by electronic means.



(8) A member of the Academic Council who attended the meeting shall be entitled to suggest such modification on the draft minutes within ten clear days of receipt of the same and the Chairman shall examine and take appropriate decision thereon and communicate the finalised minutes to all the members by registered post or by electronic means.”;

(j) in section 69 F,—

(i) in item (ii), the words “subject to the criteria and conditions prescribed by the Autonomy Approval Committee which shall be” shall be omitted;

(ii) in items (v), (vi), (vii) and (viii) for the words “Governing Council” the words “Governing Body” shall be substituted;

(k) for section 69 G, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“69G. *Board of Studies of an Autonomous College*.—(1) There shall be a Board of Studies for a programme or group of programmes conducted by an Autonomous College consisting of the following members, namely:—

(a) Head of the Department offering the programme concerned—Chairman;

(b) Faculty member teaching the course of the programme concerned;

(c) Two experts in the programme concerned from outside the University to be nominated by the Academic Council of the Autonomous College;

(d) One expert to be nominated by the Vice-Chancellor from a panel of six experts in the programme concerned recommended by the Principal of the Autonomous College;

(e) One representative from the field of industry, corporate sector or allied field related to the student placement, nominated by the Principal of the Autonomous College;

(f) One meritorious alumnus who has completed the Post Graduation of the University, nominated by the Principal of the Autonomous College;



(g) One representative of the Board of Studies of the University in the related or allied programme, nominated by the Syndicate;

(h) Special invitees, from the following categories co-opted by the Chairman of the Board of Studies of the Autonomous College with the approval of the Principal of the Autonomous College, namely:—

(i) experts from outside the Autonomous College whenever special or new programme are to be designed;

(ii) teachers from other departments of the Autonomous College who are experts in the programme concerned.”;

(2) The Governing Body of the Autonomous College shall decide the programme or group of programmes to be brought under a Board of Studies.

(3) The Governing Body of the Autonomous College may decide whether separate Board of Studies shall be constituted for programme or group of programmes at the Under Graduate and Post Graduate level.

(4) A member of the Board of Studies shall hold office for a period of three academic years and shall be eligible for renomination for another term of three academic years:

Provided that, in the case of a teacher who is a member of the Board of Studies shall cease to be a member on the date of retirement.

(5) The Principal of the college shall draw up the schedule for meeting of the Board of Studies of the Autonomous College for different departments.

(6) The Board of Studies shall meet as and when necessary:

Provided that, it shall meet at least twice in an academic year.



(7) The Chairman of the Board of Studies shall intimate the members the place, date and time of meeting along with the detailed agenda notes fourteen clear days in advance by registered post or by electronic means.

(8) The draft minutes of the meeting shall be prepared by the Chairman and communicate to all the members of the Board of Studies within seven clear days by registered post or by electronic means.

(9) A member of the Board of Studies who attended the meeting shall be entitled to suggest such modification on the draft minutes within ten clear days of receipt of the same and the Chairman shall examine and take appropriate decision thereon, and communicate the finalised minutes to all the members by registered post or by electronic means.

(10) The quorum for a meeting of the Board of Studies shall be two third of its total members.”;

(1) in section 69 H,—

(i) for item (i) the following item shall be substituted, namely:—

“(i) to prepare curriculum and syllabus for programmes conducted in the Department of the Autonomous College keeping in view of the objects of the college, interest of the stake holders of the programme and requirements of the nation and the State in particular and submit it for the consideration and approval of the Academic Council of the Autonomous College:

Provided that, the Board of Studies of the Autonomous College shall ensure that all existing programme, revision of existing programme and proposal for commencing new programme or restructured programme are in conformity with the duration of the programme, total credits for the programme, number of semester, minimum required credit for each semester and letter grading system prescribed for similar, allied or core programme approved by the University:



Provided further that the Board of Studies of the Autonomous College shall ensure that the proposal for new or restructured programme shall not have the effect of lowering the academic standards prescribed by the University:

Provided also that the Board of Studies of the Autonomous College shall have the discretion to distribute the percentage of marks between continuous assessment and end semester examination but however the percentage of marks for the end semester examination shall not be lower than sixty percent of the total marks.”;

(ii) in item (iv), for the words and symbol “for appointment of examiners; and” the words and symbol “for appointment of examiners and question paper setters;” shall be substituted;

(iii) after item (v), the following items shall be inserted, namely:—

(vi) to evaluate academic outcome of the assessment methods or tools adopted for each programme in respect of every batch of students admitted to the programme as and when such batch of students complete the programme;

(vii) to prepare continuous assessment methods or tools in respect of a programme in the Autonomous College before the commencement of the programme;

(viii) to review and modify as required on the basis of the academic outcome and submit the same to the Academic Council of the college for the consideration and approval.”;

(m) in section 69 I,—

(i) in the marginal heading and in sub-section (1), for the words “Governing Council” the words “Governing Body” shall be substituted;

(ii) for sub-section (2), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(2) The Governing Body of a Government College conferred with autonomous status, shall consist of the following members, namely:—



- (a) Three eminent persons of proven academic excellence who shall be an educationist, industrialist and professional nominated by the Government, of whom one shall be designated by the Government as the Chairman of the Governing Body;
- (b) One teacher of the college nominated by the Director of Collegiate Education or the Director of Technical Education, as the case may be;
- (c) One teacher of the college elected from among themselves;
- (d) One educationist or industrialist nominated by the Director of Collegiate Education or the Director of Technical Education, as the case may be;
- (e) One person nominated by the University Grants Commission;
- (f) The Secretary to Government, Higher Education Department or his nominee not below the rank of Joint Secretary to Government;
- (g) One representative of the Kerala State Higher Education Council, nominated by the Government;
- (h) One representative of the University, nominated by the Syndicate;
- (i) The Chairman of the College Union;
- (j) The Principal of the College, who shall be the *ex-officio* Secretary to the Governing Body.

(iii) in sub-section (3), for the words “Governing Council” the words “Governing Body” shall be substituted;

(iv) for sub-section (4), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(4) The Governing Body of a private college conferred with autonomous status, shall consist of the following members, namely:—



- (a) The Manager, Chairman, Director or President of the Educational Agency—Chairman;
- (b) Four persons of proven academic interest, nominated by the Educational Agency;
- (c) One teacher of the college nominated by the Principal of the private college on seniority by rotation;
- (d) One teacher of the private college elected from among themselves;
- (e) One educationist or industrialist nominated by the Educational Agency;
- (f) One person nominated by the University Grants Commission;
- (g) The Secretary to Government, Higher Education Department or his nominee not below the rank of Joint Secretary to Government;
- (h) One representative of the Kerala State Higher Education Council nominated by the Government;
- (i) One representative of the University nominated by the Syndicate;
- (j) The Chairman of the College Union;
- (k) The Principal of the College, who shall be the *ex-officio* Secretary to the Governing Body.”;
- (n) for section 69 J, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“69 J. *Tenure of office of the Governing Body.*—The term of office of the nominated members of the Governing Body shall be for a period of three years and shall be eligible for re-nomination for one more term:



Provided that, the tenure of the member of the Governing Body nominated by the University Grants Commission shall hold office for a period of five years from the date of nomination:

Provided further that a person who has become a member of the Governing Body by virtue of his office shall cease to be a member of the same on the termination of such office or on the completion of tenure of nomination, whichever is earlier:

Provided also that a student who has become a member of the Governing Body shall cease to be such member on cessation of the term of college union or cease to be a student of the college, whichever is earlier.”;

(o) for section 69 K, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“69 K. *Meetings of the Governing Body.*—(1) The Governing Body shall normally meet at least twice a year:

Provided that, the meeting of the Governing Body shall be convened by the Chairman within ten clear days on receipt of a written request of not less than one third members of the Governing Body.

(2) Two third of the members shall constitute the quorum of a meeting of the Governing Body.

(3) The Member Secretary of the Governing Body shall intimate the members the place, date and time of the meeting along with the detailed agenda notes to be placed before the meeting fourteen clear days in advance by registered post or electronic means.

(4) The draft minutes of the meeting shall be prepared by the Chairman and communicate to all the members of the Governing Body within ten clear days by registered post or electronic means.

(5) A member of the Governing Body who attended the meeting shall be entitled to suggest such modification on the draft minutes within ten clear days of receipt of the same and



the Chairman shall examine and take appropriate decision thereon, and communicate the finalised minutes to all the members by registered post or electronic means.”;

(p) in section 69 L, for item (v) and proviso, the following item shall be substituted, namely:—

“(v) to issue migration certificate and provisional degree certificate with the approval or concurrence of the University.”;

(q) after section 69L, the following sections shall be inserted, namely:—

“69LA *Internal Quality Assurance Cell of an Autonomous College*.—(1) There shall be an Internal Quality Assurance cell for every Autonomous College in accordance with the rules, orders, regulations and guidelines of the National Accreditation and Assessment Council.

(2) There shall be an external peer team for the Internal Quality Assurance cell for an Autonomous College under the jurisdiction of the University constituted by the Governing Body of the Autonomous College consisting of the following members, namely:—

(i) An eminent academician nominated by the Governing Body of the Autonomous College—Chairman;

(ii) Two academic experts nominated by the Academic Council of the Autonomous College.

(3) The term of External Peer Team shall be four years.

(4) The External Peer Team shall devise its own procedures for exercising its powers and performing its duties.

(5) The External Peer Team shall review the comprehensive performance of the Autonomous College in various fields of academic activities such as teaching-learning process, conduct of examination and achievement of academic outcomes. The External Peer Team shall send its report to the University. The University shall forward it along with its recommendation



to the University Grants Commission within one month of the receipt of the report. The review shall be conducted by the External Peer Team in every Autonomous College under its jurisdiction at least once in a year.

(6) The powers, duties and functions of the Internal Quality Assurance Cell shall be as laid down by the University from time to time.

69 LB. *Complaint Redressal Committee*.—(1) The University shall constitute a Complaint Redressal Committee for the purpose of Chapter VIII B of the Act consisting of the following members, namely:—

- (a) The Vice-Chancellor .. Chairman;
- (b) The Secretary to Government, .. Member;
Higher Education Department
or his nominee not below the rank
of Joint Secretary to Government
- (c) A member of the Executive Council .. Member;
of the Kerala State Higher Education
Council nominated by the Vice-
Chairman of the Kerala State Higher
Education Council
- (d) One Manager of an Autonomous .. Member.
College affiliated to the University
nominated by the Vice-Chancellor

(2) The term of the Complaint Redressal Committee shall be three years from the date of its constitution.

(3) The Complaint Redressal Committee shall be competent to hear and dispose of complaints relating to admission and fee in Autonomous Colleges affiliated to the University.

(4) The Complaint Redressal Committee shall devise its own procedures for the conduct of its business and proceedings.



(5) The decisions and orders of the Complaint Redressal Committee shall be binding on the parties.

69 LC Expert Committee.—The University shall constitute an Expert Committee with the following members, namely:—

- (a) The Pro-Vice-Chancellor - Chairman;
- (b) Two members of the Syndicate elected from among themselves;
- (c) Head of the department of the related or allied programme conducted by the University nominated by the Vice-Chancellor, as special invitee;
- (d) Dean of the Faculty concerned of the University related or allied to the new programme proposed by the Autonomous College as special invitee nominated by the Vice-Chancellor;
- (e) Two members of the Board of Studies of the University, related or allied to the new programme proposed by the Autonomous College, nominated by the Vice-Chancellor, as special invitees;
- (f) Three experts related or allied to the new programme proposed by the Autonomous College nominated by the Vice-Chancellor as special invitees;
- (g) The Registrar of the University who shall be the convenor of the Expert Committee.

(2) The term of the member of the Syndicate in the Expert Committee shall be co-terminus with the term of the Syndicate which elected them.

(3) The quorum for a meeting of the Expert Committee shall be two third of its total members other than special invitees.

“69 LD Finance Committee of an Autonomous College.—(1) There shall be a Finance Committee for an Autonomous College consisting of the following members, namely:—



(a) The Principal of the College - Chairman;

(b) Two persons of the Governing Body elected from among themselves;

(c) A teacher nominated by the Principal of the College;

(d) Finance Officer of the University.

(2) The term of the Finance Committee shall be three years. The Finance Committee shall meet as and when necessary, but shall meet at least twice a year. The Chairman of the Finance Committee shall intimate the members the place, date and time of the meeting along with the detailed agenda notes fourteen clear days in advance by registered post or by electronic means.

(3) The draft minutes of the meeting shall be prepared by the Chairman and communicate to all the members of the Finance Committee within ten clear days.

(4) A member of the Finance Committee who attended the meeting shall be entitled to suggest such modification on draft minutes within ten clear days of receipt of the same and the Chairman shall examine and take appropriate decision thereon, and communicate to the members.

(5) The quorum for a meeting of the Finance Committee shall be two third of its total members.

(6) The Finance Committee shall have the following powers and duties, namely:—

(a) To advise the Governing Body on such matters brought to its notice;

(b) To prepare budget estimates relating to the grants and other amounts received from the University Grants Commission, University and the Government;

(c) To prepare, scrutinize and approve audited statement of accounts pertaining to the college.



69 LE Students Grievance Redressal Committee of an Autonomous College.—(1)

There shall be a Students Grievance Redressal Committee of an Autonomous College consisting of the following members, namely:—

(a) The Principal of the College - Chairman;

(b) Three senior teachers of the College, nominated by the Principal, of whom one shall be a woman;

(c) The Chairman of the College Union;

(d) One parent nominated by Parent Teacher Association of the Autonomous College.

(2) The term of the Students Grievance Redressal Committee shall be two years. The Students Grievance Redressal Committee shall meet as and when necessary, but shall meet during the first month of every academic year.

(3) The quorum for a meeting of the Students Grievance Redressal Committee shall be two third of its total members.

(4) The Students Grievance Redressal Committee shall follow the procedures as laid down by the University from time to time by its regulations for redressal of grievance of students.

(5) The recommendation of the Students Grievance Redressal Committee shall be considered by the Principal of the College and shall take appropriate decision and communicate to the aggrieved student within a period of fourteen days from the date of receipt of the complaint. The report and recommendation of the Students Grievance Redressal Committee and the decision taken thereon by the Principal shall be communicated to the Vice-Chancellor.

(6) Any person aggrieved by the order under sub-section (5) may prefer an appeal to the Vice-Chancellor within fourteen days from the date of receipt of such order. The



Vice-Chancellor of the University shall take decision in such appeal within sixty days after affording an opportunity of being heard to the parties concerned.”;

(r) for section 69M, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“69M. *Procedure for conferment or extension of autonomous status to a college.*—

(1) Where a college intends to change its status to an autonomous one, it shall make an application to the University at any time during the year in the format specified by the University Grants Commission.

(2) On receipt of the application, the Syndicate or Executive Council shall constitute a committee consisting of five members of the Expert Committee, within seven days of receipt of the application. The committee shall verify whether the college satisfies the eligibility criteria fixed by the University Grants Commission from time to time, its academic performance, availability of infrastructure facilities, qualified faculty facilities for the conduct of assessment and evaluation with confidentiality and transparency, functional existence of various statutory committees under the Act and Statutes and the Committee shall submit its report to the Vice-Chancellor within seven days.

(3) The Vice-Chancellor shall consider the report of the Committee and forward the application to the University Grants Commission within thirty days of the receipt of application with such documents as required. Where the application is rejected by the Vice-Chancellor, his decision shall be communicated to the college and the University Grants Commission. The decision of the University shall be reported to the Government also.

(4) The University and the Government shall provide their nominees to the University Grants Commission Expert Committee for an on-spot visit as and when required by the University Grants Commission.

(5) Where the application of a college for the conferment or extension of autonomous status is rejected for any reason whatsoever, the college shall be eligible to reapply, one year from the date of such rejection of its earlier application.



(6) An Autonomous College shall apply in the format prescribed by the University Grants Commission for extension of autonomous status, six months prior to the expiry of the autonomy cycle.

(7) In case of expiry of accreditation cycle, prescribed by National Assessment and Accreditation Council or National Board of Accreditation, the college seeking extension of autonomous status shall submit a proof of having applied for accreditation by National Assessment and Accreditation Council or National Board of Accreditation to be eligible for extension of autonomy status.

(8) Where an Autonomous College desires to surrender their autonomous status, it shall follow the due process of forwarding the resolution by the Governing Body through the University concerned to the University Grants Commission for consideration of such resolution.

(s) in section 69N, for sub-section (1) and the proviso, the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(1) The Principal of the college shall constitute an examination cell for every Autonomous College headed by a teacher of the college.”;

(t) after section 69 O, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“69 OA. *Powers and duties of an Autonomous College.*—(1) An Autonomous College shall continuously maintain the academic quality and standards in accordance with the statutory guidelines, orders and regulations issued by the University Grants Commission or the University from time to time.

(2) The Autonomous College shall, without fail, upload in its website information regarding the live accreditation status, national ranking, programmes offered by it, prospectus for admission to programmes, the fee and all other amounts payable by students for the programmes, the profile of the faculty, the admission procedures, the details of relevant infrastructure, research activities of the college and hostel facilities.



(3) The Autonomous College shall put in its website the constitution of the Authorities referred in section 69 D and the profile of the members in the respective Authorities. The approved minutes of the authorities and the action taken on the same shall be also put in its website.

(4) The Autonomous College shall put in its website the detailed audited statement of accounts, annual budget and institution development plans.

(5) The Autonomous College may, review existing courses or programmes and restructure, redesign and prescribe its own courses or programmes of study and syllabus, subject to the provisions contained in this Chapter.

(6) The Autonomous College may formulate new courses or programmes within the nomenclature specified by the University Grants Commission as per the Specification of Degrees, 2014, subject to the provisions contained in this Chapter.

(7) The Autonomous College may, evolve methods of assessment of students performance, conduct of examination and notification of results, subject to the provisions contained in this Chapter.

(8) The Autonomous College may, announce results, issue mark sheets and other certificate, however, the degree shall be awarded by the University with the name of the college on the degree certificate, subject to the provisions contained in this Chapter.

(9) The Autonomous College shall pay one-time affiliation fee and such other amounts to the University at the time of conferment or extension of autonomous status, in accordance with the provisions contained in this Chapter.

(10) The Autonomous College shall constitute the Governing Body, Academic Council, Board of Studies, Finance Committee, Students Grievance Redressal Committee and Internal Quality Assurance Cell required to be constituted under this Chapter.



(11) The Autonomous College shall constitute an Anti- Ragging Committee as required under the University Grants Commission Regulations on curbing the menace of ragging in Higher Educational Institutions, 2009.

(12) The Autonomous College shall constitute a Committee as required under the University Grants Commission (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal of Sexual Harassment of Women Employees and Students in Higher Educational Institution) Regulations, 2015.

(13) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the Autonomous College shall appoint teachers and other academic staff as per the University Grants Commission (Minimum Qualifications for Appointment of Teachers and other Academic Staff in Universities and Colleges and Measures for the Maintenance of Standards in Higher Education) Regulations, 2010.

(14) The Autonomous College shall continue to receive funds as being done before the grant of autonomous status, subject to the provisions of this Act, Statutes, rules and regulations made thereunder and agreements executed with the Government or the University.

(15) The autonomy granted to the college is at the institutional level and is not partial and shall cover the programmes at all levels such as Under Graduate, Post Graduate and Ph.D. offered by the college and shall include the programmes introduced by the college after the conferment of autonomous status.

(16) The students enrolled in the Autonomous College at the time of conferment or extension of autonomous status shall also be covered under autonomous status.”;

(u) in section 69P,—

(i) in sub-section (1), for the words “rules made thereunder” the words “rules made under this Chapter” shall be substituted;

(ii) for sub-section (2) to (17), the following sub-sections shall be substituted, namely:—



“(2) To fix and demand from an Autonomous College, the one- time affiliation fee and other fees under specific head or items payable by an Autonomous College for the period of autonomous status granted by the University Grants Commission or for the extended period of autonomous status, as the case may be.

(3) Where the Governing Body of an Autonomous College has approved and submitted a proposal for the commencement of a new programme in the college to the University, the Vice-Chancellor shall cause the proposal to be placed before the Expert Committee for consideration and appropriate decision:

Provided that, every such proposal shall be submitted to the University on or before the 31st day of October of every year.

(4) The Expert Committee shall within ninety days of receipt of the proposal by the University take a decision, approving or rejecting the proposal or returning the proposal for resubmission, to the Vice-Chancellor who shall communicate the decision to the Governing Body of the Autonomous College as the decision of the University:

Provided that, the Expert Committee shall consider the proposal with reference to the duration of the programme, number of semesters, minimum required credits for each semester, total credits for the programme, letter grading systems prescribed for similar programme conducted by the University and also ensuring that the proposal does not have the effect of lowering the academic standards or is against the interest of the nation or the State before approving or rejecting the proposal or returning the proposal for resubmission, to the Vice-Chancellor for communicating it to the Governing Body of the Autonomous College:

Provided further that, where the Autonomous College which submitted the proposal has not been informed of the decision of the University within ninety days from the date of submission of the proposal to the University, the proposal shall be deemed to have been approved by the University.

(5) Where the Expert Committee returns the proposal for resubmission to the Vice-Chancellor, the Vice-Chancellor shall cause the same to be returned to the Governing Body



of the Autonomous College for resubmitting the proposal after rectifying the defects pointed out by the Expert Committee within forty-five days.

(6) The Expert Committee shall on receipt of the resubmitted proposal, within thirty days thereafter, either approve or reject the proposal:

Provided that, where the Governing Body of the Autonomous College which resubmitted the proposal has not been informed of the decision of the University by the Vice-Chancellor within thirty days from the date of resubmission of the proposal to the University, the proposal shall be deemed to have been approved by the University.

(7) The Vice-Chancellor shall place the report of the Expert Committee and the decision taken thereon before the Syndicate.

(8) The Syndicate shall have the power to inspect and verify whether a college that has been granted autonomous status by the University Grants Commission has violated any of the conditions specified for the grant of such autonomous status.

(9) For the purpose of sub-section (7), the Syndicate may constitute a committee with such members as it deems fit, to inspect the college, verify its relevant records and collect evidence relevant to the purpose of the inspection for which all information and documents called for by the committee shall be provided by the Autonomous College on the appointed date and time fixed by the committee:

Provided that, such enquiry shall extend only to complaints or information in writing regarding the violation of the conditions of autonomy, poor academic and administrative practices that lower the quality of higher education or unethical practices in the matter of admissions, levying fee and conduct of examination adopted by the college for which autonomous status was granted.

(10) The committee constituted under sub-section (9) shall finalise its report only after affording an opportunity of being heard to the parties concerned.



(11) The Syndicate shall, after consideration of the report of the said committee, is of the opinion that the autonomous status conferred on the college has to be suspended or revoked, it shall communicate the same to the University Grants Commission as the recommendation of the University.

(12) If any complaint or information in writing is received by the Government with respect to an Autonomous College, the Government may, after due consideration of the contents of the complaint and information, refer it to the University for necessary action if it deems so:

Provided that, such reference shall extend only to complaints or information received in writing, with respect to violation of the conditions of autonomy, poor academic and administrative practices that lower quality of higher education or unethical practices in the matter of admissions, levying of fee and conduct of examination adopted by the college for which autonomous status has been granted.

(13) The procedure and action provided in sub-sections (8), (9) and (10) shall be followed in respect of a reference made by the Government under sub-section (11).

(14) Every Autonomous College shall submit a Manual of Examinations to the University within six months before the date of the first set of examinations that it proposes to conduct in the college and the University shall offer its remarks on Manual of Examinations within sixty days of such submission. The Autonomous College shall incorporate the modifications required to be made by the University in their Manual of Examinations and report the same to the University.”;

(v) in sub-section (3) of section 69Q, for the words “Governing Council” the words “Governing Body” shall be substituted.

(w) for section 69R, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—



“69R. *Communications with Autonomous Colleges*.—All correspondences by the Government and the University with the Autonomous College or a College applying for autonomous status shall be made with the Principal.”;

(x) for section 69S, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“69S. *Vacancies in the Authorities of an Autonomous College under this Chapter not to invalidate any action*.—No decision of any Authority of an Autonomous College under this Chapter shall be rendered invalid on account of a vacancy in such Authority not having been filled up.”.

4. *Amendment of Act 5 of 1975*.—In the Calicut University Act, 1975 (5 of 1975),—

(a) in section 2,—

(i) clause (1) shall be omitted.

(ii) for clause (4A), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:—

“(4A) “Autonomous College” means a college conferred with autonomous status by the University Grants Commission and declared as such by the University by notification;”;

(iii) for clause (4B), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:—

“(4B) “autonomy” means a privilege given to a college to conduct programmes of study, to develop its curriculum and syllabus, to devise teaching, learning and evaluation and assessment methods, to conduct examinations leading to the award of a degree, diploma, certificate and such other titles and distinctions by the University after publication of the results of the respective programmes of study in accordance with the provisions of Chapter VIII B of the Act;”;

(iv) for clause (5A), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:—



“(5A) “Board of Studies of an Autonomous College” means the Board of Studies for a programme or group of programmes conducted by an Autonomous College constituted under section 68 H;”;

(v) after clause (7), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

“(7A) Complaint Redressal Committee of an Autonomous College” means the Complaint Redressal Committee of an Autonomous College constituted under section 68MB;

(7B) “Course” means one of the subjects which comprises a programme in accordance with the provisions of Chapter VIIIB of the Act;”;

(vi) after clause (9), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

“(9A) “Expert Committee of an Autonomous College” means the Expert Committee of an Autonomous College constituted under section 68 MC;”;

(vii) for clause (10A), the following clauses shall be substituted, namely:—

“(10A) “Finance Committee of an Autonomous College” means the Finance Committee of an Autonomous College constituted under section 68 MD;

(10B) “Governing Body” means the Governing Body of an Autonomous College;”;

(viii) after clause (12), the following clauses shall be inserted, namely:—

“(12A) “Internal Quality Assurance Cell of an Autonomous College” means the Internal Quality Assurance Cell of an Autonomous College constituted under section 68 MA;

(12B) “Inter University Consultative Committee of an Autonomous College” means the Inter University Consultative Committee of an Autonomous College constituted under section 65A;”;

(ix) after clause (17), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—



“(17A) “Programme” means higher education programme pursued for the award of a degree, diploma, certificate and such other titles and distinctions by the University of specified duration conducted in an Autonomous College in accordance with the provisions of Chapter VIII B of the Act;”;

(x) after clause (19), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

“(20) “re-structured programme” means a programme approved by the University by incorporating or substituting inter disciplinary or multidisciplinary courses to the programme;”;

(xi) after clause (25), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

“(25A) “Students Grievance Redressal Committee of an Autonomous College” means the Students Grievance Redressal Committee of an Autonomous College constituted under section 68 ME;”;

(b) in section 5,—

(i) for clause (ia), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:—

“(ia) to declare by notification conferment or extension of autonomous status to a college which has been conferred, granted or extended by the University Grants Commission;”;

(ii) clause (ib) shall be omitted;

(c) for section 65, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“65. *Appellate Tribunal.*—(1) There shall be an Appellate Tribunal for the purpose of this Act.

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act or any other law for the time being in force, the Appellate Tribunal constituted under section 65 of the Kerala University Act, 1974 (17 of 1974) shall function as the Appellate Tribunal for adjudicating dispute on any of the matter provided in this Act.



(d) after section 65, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“65A. *Constitution of Inter University Consultative Committee.*—(1) There shall be an Inter University Consultative Committee consisting of the following members, namely:—

(a) The Pro-Chancellor	..	Chairman;
(b) The Vice-Chancellor	..	Member;
(c) The Vice-Chancellors of other Universities established by State law nominated by the Pro-Chancellor	..	Member;
(d) The Secretary to Government in charge of the Higher Education Department	..	Member.

(2) The Inter University Consultative Committee shall meet as decided by the Chairman.

(3) The Inter University Consultative Committee shall consider matters to be resolved at Government level in respect of matters mutually affecting the Government and the University.

(e) section 68B shall be omitted.;

(f) section 68C shall be omitted.;

(g) in section 68D, in the marginal heading and in the section for the words “academic autonomy” the word “autonomy” shall be substituted.

(h) in section 68E, in sub-section (1),—

(i) in item (iii) for the words, “Governing Council” the words “Governing Body” shall be substituted;



(ii) after item (iii), the following items shall be inserted, namely:—

“(iv) The Internal Quality Assurance Cell of an Autonomous College;

(v) The Complaint Redressal Committee of an Autonomous College;

(vi) The Expert Committee of an Autonomous College;

(vii) The Finance Committee of an Autonomous College;

(viii) The Students Grievance Redressal Committee of an Autonomous College.”;

(i) in section 68F,—

(i) in sub-section (2),—

(a) for item (c), the following item shall be substituted, namely:—

“(c) four teachers of the college representing different categories of teaching staff, of whom two shall be nominated by the Principal of the college based on seniority and rotation and two shall be elected by the regular teachers of the college from among themselves;”;

(b) for item (d), the following item shall be substituted, namely:—

“(d) four experts from the field of industry, commerce, law, education, medicine, engineering, administration and finance, nominated by the Governing Body of the Autonomous College;”;

(c) for item (e), the following item shall be substituted, namely:—

“(e) three Professors who are academic experts nominated by the University.”;

(d) in item (f), the words, “with the approval of the Director of Collegiate Education” shall be omitted;



(ii) for sub-section (3), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(3) A member of the Academic Council shall hold office for a period of three years and shall be eligible for renomination for another term of three years:

Provided that, a person who has become a member of the Academic Council by virtue of his office shall cease to be a member of the same on the termination of such office or on the completion of his tenure of nomination, whichever is earlier.”;

(iii) after sub-section (4), the following sub-sections shall be inserted, namely:—

“(5) The quorum for a meeting of the Academic Council shall be two-third of its total members.

(6) The Member Secretary of the Academic Council shall intimate the members the place, date and time of the meeting along with the detailed agenda notes fourteen clear days in advance by registered post or by electronic means.

(7) The draft minutes of the meeting shall be prepared by the Chairman and communicate to all the members of the Academic Council within seven clear days, by registered post or by electronic means.

(8) A member of the Academic Council who attended the meeting shall be entitled to suggest such modification on the draft minutes within ten clear days of receipt of the same and the Chairman shall examine and take appropriate decision thereon and communicate the finalised minutes to all the members by registered post or by electronic means.”;

(j) in section 68 G,—

(i) in item (ii), the words “subject to the criteria and conditions prescribed by the Autonomy Approval Committee which shall be” shall be omitted;

(ii) in items (v), (vi), (vii) and (viii) for the words “Governing Council” the words “Governing Body” shall be substituted;

(k) for section 68 H, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—



“68H. *Board of Studies of an Autonomous College*.—(1) There shall be a Board of Studies for a programme or group of programmes conducted by an Autonomous College consisting of the following members, namely:—

- (a) Head of the Department offering the programme concerned - Chairman;
- (b) Faculty member teaching the course of the programme concerned;
- (c) Two experts in the programme concerned from outside the University to be nominated by the Academic Council of the Autonomous College;
- (d) One expert to be nominated by the Vice-Chancellor from a panel of six experts in the programme concerned recommended by the Principal of the Autonomous College;
- (e) One representative from the field of industry, corporate sector or allied field related to the student placement, nominated by the Principal of the Autonomous College;
- (f) One meritorious alumnus who has completed the Post Graduation of the University, nominated by the Principal of the Autonomous College;
- (g) One representative of the Board of Studies of the University in the related or allied programme, nominated by the Syndicate;
- (h) Special invitees, from the following categories co-opted by the Chairman of the Board of Studies of the Autonomous College with the approval of the Principal of the Autonomous College, namely:—
 - (i) experts from outside the Autonomous College whenever special or new programme are to be designed;
 - (ii) teachers from other departments of the Autonomous College who are experts in the programme concerned.”;
- (2) The Governing Body of the Autonomous College shall decide the programme or group of programmes to be brought under a Board of Studies.



(3) The Governing Body of the Autonomous College may decide whether separate Board of Studies shall be constituted for programme or group of programmes at the Under Graduate and Post Graduate level.

(4) A member of the Board of Studies shall hold office for a period of three academic years and shall be eligible for renomination for another term of three academic years:

Provided that, in the case of a teacher who is a member of the Board of Studies shall cease to be a member on the date of retirement.

(5) The Principal of the college shall draw up the schedule for meeting of the Board of Studies of the Autonomous College for different departments.

(6) The Board of Studies shall meet as and when necessary:

Provided that, it shall meet at least twice in an academic year.

(7) The Chairman of the Board of Studies shall intimate the members the place, date and time of meeting along with the detailed agenda notes fourteen clear days in advance by registered post or by electronic means.

(8) The draft minutes of the meeting shall be prepared by the Chairman and communicate to all the members of the Board of Studies within seven clear days by registered post or by electronic means.

(9) A member of the Board of Studies who attended the meeting shall be entitled to suggest such modification on the draft minutes within ten clear days of receipt of the same and the Chairman shall examine and take appropriate decision thereon, and communicate the finalised minutes to all the members by registered post or by electronic means.

(10) The quorum for a meeting of the Board of Studies shall be two third of its total members.”;

(d) in section 68 I.—

(i) for item (i) the following item shall be substituted, namely:—



“(i) to prepare curriculum and syllabus for programmes conducted in the Department of the Autonomous College keeping in view of the objects of the college, interest of the stake holders of the programme and requirements of the nation and the State in particular and submit it for the consideration and approval of the Academic Council of the Autonomous College:

Provided that, the Board of Studies of the Autonomous College shall ensure that all existing programme, revision of existing programme and proposal for commencing new programme or restructured programme are in conformity with the duration of the programme, total credits for the programme, number of semester, minimum required credit for each semester and letter grading system prescribed for similar, allied or core programme approved by the University:

Provided further that the Board of Studies of the Autonomous College shall ensure that the proposal for new or restructured programme shall not have the effect of lowering the academic standards prescribed by the University:

Provided also that the Board of Studies of the Autonomous College shall have the discretion to distribute the percentage of marks between continuous assessment and end semester examination but however the percentage of marks for the end semester examination shall not be lower than sixty per cent of the total marks.”;

(ii) in item (iv), for the words and symbol “for appointment of examiners; and” the words and symbol “for appointment of examiners and question paper setters” shall be substituted;

(iii) after item (v), the following items shall be inserted, namely:—

(vi) to evaluate academic outcome of the assessment methods or tools adopted for each programme in respect of every batch of students admitted to the programme as and when such batch of students complete the programme;

(vii) to prepare continuous assessment methods or tools in respect of a programme in the Autonomous College before the commencement of the programme;



(viii) to review and modify as required on the basis of the academic outcome and submit the same to the Academic Council of the college for the consideration and approval.”;

(m) in section 68 J.—

(i) in the marginal heading and in sub-section (1), for the words “Governing Council” the words “Governing Body” shall be substituted;

(ii) for sub-section (2), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(2) The Governing Body of a Government College conferred with autonomous status, shall consist of the following members, namely:—

(a) Three eminent persons of proven academic excellence who shall be an educationist, industrialist and professional nominated by the Government, of whom one shall be designated by the Government as the Chairman of the Governing Body;

(b) One teacher of the college nominated by the Director of Collegiate Education or the Director of Technical Education, as the case may be;

(c) One teacher of the college elected from among themselves;

(d) One educationist or industrialist nominated by the Director of Collegiate Education or the Director of Technical Education, as the case may be;

(e) One person nominated by the University Grants Commission;

(f) The Secretary to Government, Higher Education Department or his nominee not below the rank of Joint Secretary to Government;

(g) One representative of the Kerala State Higher Education Council, nominated by the Government;

(h) One representative of the University, nominated by the Syndicate;

(i) The Chairman of the College Union;



(j) The Principal of the College, who shall be the *ex-officio* Secretary to the Governing Body.”;

(iii) in sub-section (3), for the words “Governing Council” the words “Governing Body” shall be substituted;

(iv) for sub-section (4), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(4) The Governing Body of a private college conferred with autonomous status, shall consist of the following members, namely:—

(a) The Manager, Chairman, Director or President of the Educational Agency—Chairman;

(b) Four persons of proven academic interest, nominated by the Educational Agency;

(c) One teacher of the college nominated by the Principal of the private college on seniority by rotation;

(d) One teacher of the private college elected from among themselves;

(e) One educationist or industrialist nominated by the Educational Agency;

(f) One person nominated by the University Grants Commission;

(g) The Secretary to Government, Higher Education Department or his nominee not below the rank of Joint Secretary to Government;

(h) One representative of the Kerala State Higher Education Council nominated by the Government;

(i) One representative of the University nominated by the Syndicate;

(j) The Chairman of the College Union;



(k) The Principal of the College, who shall be the *ex-officio* Secretary to the Governing Body.”;

(n) for section 68K, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“68 K. *Tenure of office of the Governing Body.*—The term of office of the nominated members of the Governing Body shall be for a period of three years and shall be eligible for renomination for one more term:

Provided that, the tenure of the member of the Governing Body nominated by the University Grants Commission shall hold office for a period of five years from the date of nomination:

Provided further that a person who has become a member of the Governing Body by virtue of his office shall cease to be a member of the same on the termination of such office or on the completion of tenure of nomination, whichever is earlier:

Provided also that a student who has become a member of the Governing Body shall cease to be such member on cessation of the term of college union or cease to be a student of the college, whichever is earlier.”;

(o) for section 68L, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“68 L. *Meetings of the Governing Body.*—(1) The Governing Body shall normally meet at least twice a year:

Provided that, the meeting of the Governing Body shall be convened by the Chairman within ten clear days on receipt of a written request of not less than one third members of the Governing Body.

(2) Two third of the members shall constitute the quorum of a meeting of the Governing Body.



(3) The Member Secretary of the Governing Body shall intimate the members the place, date and time of the meeting along with the detailed agenda notes to be placed before the meeting fourteen clear days in advance by registered post or electronic means.

(4) The draft minutes of the meeting shall be prepared by the Chairman and communicate to all the members of the Governing Body within ten clear days by registered post or electronic means.

(5) A member of the Governing Body who attended the meeting shall be entitled to suggest such modification on the draft minutes within ten clear days of receipt of the same and the Chairman shall examine and take appropriate decision thereon, and communicate the finalised minutes to all the members by registered post or electronic means.”;

(p) in section 68M, for item (v) and proviso, the following item shall be substituted, namely:—

“(v) to issue migration certificate and provisional degree certificate with the approval or concurrence of the University.”;

(q) after section 68M, the following sections shall be inserted, namely:—

“68MA Internal Quality Assurance Cell of an Autonomous College.—(1) There shall be an Internal Quality Assurance Cell for every Autonomous College in accordance with the rules, orders, regulations and guidelines of the National Accreditation and Assessment Council.

(2) There shall be an External Peer Team for the Internal Quality Assurance Cell for an Autonomous College under the jurisdiction of the University constituted by the Governing Body of the Autonomous College consisting of the following members, namely:—

(i) An eminent academician nominated by the Governing Body of the Autonomous College—Chairman;

(ii) Two academic experts nominated by the Academic Council of the Autonomous College.



(3) The term of External Peer Team shall be four years.

(4) The External Peer Team shall devise its own procedures for exercising its powers and performing its duties.

(5) The External Peer Team shall review the comprehensive performance of the Autonomous College in various fields of academic activities such as teaching-learning process, conduct of examination and achievement of academic outcomes. The External Peer Team shall send its report to the University. The University shall forward it along with its recommendation to the University Grants Commission within one month of the receipt of the report. The review shall be conducted by the External Peer Team in every Autonomous College under its jurisdiction at least once in a year.

(6) The powers, duties and functions of the Internal Quality Assurance Cell shall be as laid down by the University from time to time.

68 MB. *Complaint Redressal Committee*.—(1) The University shall constitute a Complaint Redressal Committee for the purpose of Chapter VIII B of the Act consisting of the following members, namely:—

(a) The Vice-Chancellor	..	Chairman;
(b) The Secretary to Government, Higher Education Department or his nominee not below the rank of Joint Secretary to Government	..	Member;
(c) A member of the Executive Council of the Kerala State Higher Education Council nominated by the Vice-Chairman of the Kerala State Higher Education Council	..	Member;
(d) One Manager of an Autonomous College affiliated to the University nominated by the Vice-Chancellor	..	Member.



(2) The term of the Complaint Redressal Committee shall be three years from the date of its constitution.

(3) The Complaint Redressal Committee shall be competent to hear and dispose of complaints relating to admission and fees in Autonomous Colleges affiliated to the University.

(4) The Complaint Redressal Committee shall devise its own procedures for the conduct of its business and proceedings.

(5) The decisions and orders of the Complaint Redressal Committee shall be binding on the parties.

68 MC. *Expert Committee*.—(1) The University shall constitute an Expert Committee with the following members, namely:—

(a) The Pro-Vice-Chancellor .. Chairman;

(b) Two members of the Syndicate elected from among themselves;

(c) Head of the department of the related or allied programme conducted by the University nominated by the Vice-Chancellor, as special invitee;

(d) Dean of the Faculty concerned of the University related or allied to the new programme proposed by the Autonomous College as special invitee nominated by the Vice-Chancellor;

(e) Two members of the Board of Studies of the University, related or allied to the new programme proposed by the Autonomous College, nominated by the Vice-Chancellor, as special invitees;

(f) Three experts related or allied to the new programme proposed by the Autonomous College nominated by the Vice-Chancellor as special invitees;

(g) The Registrar of the University who shall be the convenor of the Expert Committee.



(2) The term of the member of the Syndicate in the Expert Committee shall be co-terminus with the term of the Syndicate which elected them.

(3) The quorum for a meeting of the Expert Committee shall be two third of its total members other than special invitees.

68 MD. *Finance Committee of an Autonomous College*.—(1) There shall be a Finance Committee for an Autonomous College consisting of the following members, namely:—

- (a) The Principal of the College .. Chairman;
- (b) Two persons of the Governing Body elected from among themselves;
- (c) A teacher nominated by the Principal of the College;
- (d) Finance Officer of the University.

(2) The term of the Finance Committee shall be three years. The Finance Committee shall meet as and when necessary, but shall meet at least twice a year. The Chairman of the Finance Committee shall intimate the members the place, date and time of the meeting along with the detailed agenda notes fourteen clear days in advance by registered post or by electronic means.

(3) The draft minutes of the meeting shall be prepared by the Chairman and communicate to all the members of the Finance Committee within ten clear days.

(4) A member of the Finance Committee who attended the meeting shall be entitled to suggest such modification on draft minutes within ten clear days of receipt of the same and the Chairman shall examine and take appropriate decision thereon, and communicate to the members.

(5) The quorum for a meeting of the Finance Committee shall be two third of its total members.



(6) The Finance Committee shall have the following powers and duties, namely:—

(a) To advise the Governing Body on such matters brought to its notice;

(b) To prepare budget estimates relating to the grants and other amounts received from the University Grants Commission, University and the Government;

(c) To prepare, scrutinize and approve audited statement of accounts pertaining to the college.

68 ME. Students Grievance Redressal Committee of an Autonomous College.—(1)
There shall be a Students Grievance Redressal Committee of an Autonomous College consisting of the following members, namely:—

(a) The Principal of the College .. Chairman;

(b) Three senior teachers of the College, nominated by the Principal, of whom one shall be a woman;

(c) The Chairman of the College Union;

(d) One parent nominated by Parent Teacher Association of the Autonomous College.

(2) The term of the Students Grievance Redressal Committee shall be two years. The Students Grievance Redressal Committee shall meet as and when necessary, but shall meet during the first month of every academic year.

(3) The quorum for a meeting of the Students Grievance Redressal Committee shall be two third of its total members.

(4) The Students Grievance Redressal Committee shall follow the procedures as laid down by the University from time to time by its regulations for redressal of grievance of students.



(5) The recommendation of the Students Grievance Redressal Committee shall be considered by the Principal of the College and shall take appropriate decision and communicate to the aggrieved student within a period of fourteen days from the date of receipt of the complaint. The report and recommendation of the Students Grievance Redressal Committee and the decision taken thereon by the Principal shall be communicated to the Vice-Chancellor.

(6) Any person aggrieved by the order under sub-section (5) may prefer an appeal to the Vice-Chancellor within fourteen days from the date of receipt of such order. The Vice-Chancellor of the University shall take decision in such appeal within sixty days after affording an opportunity of being heard to the parties concerned.”;

(r) for section 68N. the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“68N. *Procedure for conferment or extension of autonomous status to a college.*—(1) Where a college intends to change its status to an autonomous one, it shall make an application to the University at any time during the year in the format specified by the University Grants Commission.

(2) On receipt of the application, the Syndicate or Executive Council shall constitute a committee consisting of five members of the Expert Committee, within seven days of receipt of the application. The committee shall verify whether the college satisfies the eligibility criteria fixed by the University Grants Commission from time to time, its academic performance, availability of infrastructure facilities, qualified faculty facilities for the conduct of assessment and evaluation with confidentiality and transparency, functional existence of various statutory committees under the Act and Statutes and the committee shall submit its report to the Vice-Chancellor within seven days.

(3) The Vice-Chancellor shall consider the report of the committee and forward the application to the University Grants Commission within thirty days of the receipt of application with such documents as required. Where the application is rejected by the Vice-Chancellor, his decision shall be communicated to the college and the University Grants Commission. The decision of the University shall be reported to the Government also.



(4) The University and the Government shall provide their nominees to the University Grants Commission Expert Committee for an on-spot visit as and when required by the University Grants Commission.

(5) Where the application of a college for the conferment or extension of autonomous status is rejected for any reason whatsoever, the college shall be eligible to reapply, one year from the date of such rejection of its earlier application.

(6) An Autonomous College shall apply in the format prescribed by the University Grants Commission for extension of autonomous status, six months prior to the expiry of the autonomy cycle.

(7) In case of expiry of accreditation cycle, prescribed by National Assessment and Accreditation Council or National Board of Accreditation, the college seeking extension of autonomous status shall submit a proof of having applied for accreditation by National Assessment and Accreditation Council or National Board of Accreditation to be eligible for extension of autonomy status.

(8) Where an Autonomous College desires to surrender their autonomous status, it shall follow the due process of forwarding the resolution by the Governing Body through the University concerned to the University Grants Commission for consideration of such resolution.

(s) in section 68 O, for sub-section (1) and the Proviso, the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(1) The Principal of the college shall constitute an examination cell for every Autonomous College headed by a teacher of the college.”;

(t) after section 68P, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“68PA. Powers and duties of an Autonomous College.—(1) An Autonomous College shall continuously maintain the academic quality and standards in accordance with the statutory guidelines, orders and regulations issued by the University Grants Commission or the University from time to time.



(2) The Autonomous College shall, without fail, upload in its website information regarding the live accreditation status, national ranking, programmes offered by it, prospectus for admission to programmes, the fee and all other amounts payable by students for the programmes, the profile of the faculty, the admission procedures, the details of relevant infrastructure, research activities of the college and hostel facilities.

(3) The Autonomous College shall put in its website the constitution of the authorities referred in section 68 E and the profile of the members in the respective authorities. The approved minutes of the authorities and the action taken on the same shall be also put in its website.

(4) The Autonomous College shall put in its website the detailed audited statement of accounts, annual budget and institution development plans.

(5) The Autonomous College may, review existing courses or programmes and restructure, redesign and prescribe its own courses or programmes of study and syllabus, subject to the provisions contained in this Chapter.

(6) The Autonomous College may formulate new courses or programmes within the nomenclature specified by the University Grants Commission as per the Specification of Degrees, 2014, subject to the provisions contained in this Chapter.

(7) The Autonomous College may, evolve methods of assessment of students' performance, conduct of examination and notification of results, subject to the provisions contained in this Chapter.

(8) The Autonomous College may, announce results, issue mark sheets and other certificate, however, the degree shall be awarded by the University with the name of the college on the degree certificate, subject to the provisions contained in this Chapter.

(9) The Autonomous College shall pay one-time affiliation fee and such other amounts to the University at the time of conferment or extension of autonomous status, in accordance with the provisions contained in this Chapter.



(10) The Autonomous College shall constitute the Governing Body, Academic Council, Board of Studies, Finance Committee, Students Grievance Redressal Committee and Internal Quality Assurance Cell required to be constituted under this Chapter.

(11) The Autonomous College shall constitute an Anti-Ragging Committee as required under the University Grants Commission Regulations on curbing the menace of ragging in Higher Educational Institutions, 2009.

(12) The Autonomous College shall constitute a Committee as required under the University Grants Commission (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal of Sexual Harassment of Women Employees and Students in Higher Educational Institution) Regulations, 2015.

(13) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the Autonomous College shall appoint teachers and other academic staff as per the University Grants Commission (Minimum Qualifications for Appointment of Teachers and other Academic Staff in Universities and Colleges and Measures for the Maintenance of Standards in Higher Education) Regulations, 2010.

(14) The Autonomous College shall continue to receive funds as being done before the grant of autonomous status, subject to the provisions of this Act, Statutes, rules and regulations made thereunder and agreements executed with the Government or the University.

(15) The autonomy granted to the college is at the institutional level and is not partial and shall cover the programmes at all levels such as Under Graduate, Post Graduate and Ph.D. offered by the college and shall include the programmes introduced by the college after the conferment of autonomous status.

(16) The students enrolled in the Autonomous College at the time of conferment or extension of autonomous status shall also be covered under autonomous status.”;

(u) in section 68Q,—

(i) in sub-section (1), for the words “rules made thereunder” the words “rules made under this Chapter” shall be substituted;



(ii) for sub-sections (2) to (17), the following sub-sections shall be substituted, namely:—

“(2) To fix and demand from an Autonomous College, the one- time affiliation fee and other fees under specific head or items payable by an Autonomous College for the period of autonomous status granted by the University Grants Commission or for the extended period of autonomous status, as the case may be.

(3) Where the Governing Body of an Autonomous College has approved and submitted a proposal for the commencement of a new programme in the college to the University, the Vice-Chancellor shall cause the proposal to be placed before the Expert Committee for consideration and appropriate decision:

Provided that, every such proposal shall be submitted to the University on or before the 31st day of October of every year.

(4) The Expert Committee shall within ninety days of receipt of the proposal by the University take a decision, approving or rejecting the proposal or returning the proposal for resubmission, to the Vice-Chancellor who shall communicate the decision to the Governing Body of the Autonomous College as the decision of the University:

Provided that, the Expert Committee shall consider the proposal with reference to the duration of the programme, number of semesters, minimum required credits for each semester, total credits for the programme, letter grading systems prescribed for similar programme conducted by the University and also ensuring that the proposal does not have the effect of lowering the academic standards or is against the interest of the nation or the State before approving or rejecting the proposal or returning the proposal for resubmission, to the Vice-Chancellor for communicating it to the Governing Body of the Autonomous College:

Provided further that where the Autonomous College which submitted the proposal has not been informed of the decision of the University within ninety days from the date of submission of the proposal to the University, the proposal shall be deemed to have been approved by the University.



(5) Where the Expert Committee returns the proposal for resubmission to the Vice-Chancellor, the Vice-Chancellor shall cause the same to be returned to the Governing Body of the Autonomous College for resubmitting the proposal after rectifying the defects pointed out by the Expert Committee within forty-five days.

(6) The Expert Committee shall on receipt of the resubmitted proposal, within thirty days thereafter, either approve or reject the proposal:

Provided that, where the Governing Body of the Autonomous College which resubmitted the proposal has not been informed of the decision of the University by the Vice-Chancellor within thirty days from the date of resubmission of the proposal to the University, the proposal shall be deemed to have been approved by the University.

(7) The Vice-Chancellor shall place the report of the Expert Committee and the decision taken thereon before the Syndicate.

(8) The Syndicate shall have the power to inspect and verify whether a college that has been granted autonomous status by the University Grants Commission has violated any of the conditions specified for the grant of such autonomous status.

(9) For the purpose of sub-section (7), the Syndicate may constitute a committee with such members as it deems fit, to inspect the college, verify its relevant records and collect evidence relevant to the purpose of the inspection for which all information and documents called for by the committee shall be provided by the Autonomous College on the appointed date and time fixed by the committee:

Provided that, such enquiry shall extend only to complaints or information in writing regarding the violation of the conditions of autonomy, poor academic and administrative practices that lower the quality of higher education or unethical practices in the matter of admissions, levying fee and conduct of examination adopted by the college for which autonomous status was granted.

(10) The committee constituted under sub-section (9) shall finalise its report only after affording an opportunity of being heard to the parties concerned.



(11) The Syndicate shall, after consideration of the report of the said committee, is of the opinion that the autonomous status conferred on the college has to be suspended or revoked, it shall communicate the same to the University Grants Commission as the recommendation of the University.

(12) If any complaint or information in writing is received by the Government with respect to an Autonomous College, the Government may, after due consideration of the contents of the complaint and information, refer it to the University for necessary action if it deems so:

Provided that, such reference shall extend only to complaints or information received in writing, with respect to violation of the conditions of autonomy, poor academic and administrative practices that lower quality of higher education or unethical practices in the matter of admissions, levying of fee and conduct of examination adopted by the college for which autonomous status has been granted.

(13) The procedure and action provided in sub-sections (8), (9) and (10) shall be followed in respect of a reference made by the Government under sub-section (11).

(14) Every Autonomous College shall submit a Manual of Examinations to the University within six months before the date of the first set of examinations that it proposes to conduct in the college and the University shall offer its remarks on the Manual of Examinations within sixty days of such submission. The Autonomous College shall incorporate the modifications required to be made by the University in their Manual of Examinations and report the same to the University.”;

(v) in sub-section (3) of section 68R, for the words “Governing Council” the words “Governing Body” shall be substituted.

(w) for section 68S, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“68S. *Communications with Autonomous Colleges.*—All correspondences by the Government and the University with the Autonomous College or a College applying for autonomous status shall be made with the Principal.”;



(x) for section 68T, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“68T. Vacancies in the Authorities of an Autonomous College under this Chapter not to invalidate any action.—No decision of any Authority of an Autonomous College under this Chapter shall be rendered invalid on account of a vacancy in such Authority not having been filled up.”.

5. Amendment of Act 12 of 1985.—In the Mahatma Gandhi University Act, 1985 (12 of 1985),—

(a) in section 2,—

(i) clause (1) shall be omitted.

(ii) for clause (4A), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:—

“(4A) “Autonomous College” means a college conferred with autonomous status by the University Grants Commission and declared as such by the University by notification;”;

(iii) for clause (4B), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:—

“(4B) “autonomy” means a privilege given to a college to conduct programmes of study, to develop its curriculum and syllabus, to devise teaching, learning and evaluation and assessment methods, to conduct examinations leading to the award of a degree, diploma, certificate and such other titles and distinctions by the University after publication of the results of the respective programmes of study in accordance with the provisions of Chapter VIII B of the Act;”;

(iv) for clause (5A), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:—

“(5A) “Board of Studies of an Autonomous College” means the Board of Studies for a programme or group of programmes conducted by an Autonomous College constituted under section 109;”;

(v) after clause (7), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—



“(7A) “Complaint Redressal Committee of an Autonomous College” means the Complaints Redressal Committee of an Autonomous College constituted under section 114B;

(7B) “Course” means one of the subjects which comprises a programme in accordance with the provisions of Chapter VIII B of the Act;”;

(vi) after clause (9), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

“(9A) “Expert Committee of an Autonomous College” means the Expert Committee of an Autonomous College constituted under section 114C;”;

(vii) for clause (10A), the following clauses shall be substituted, namely:—

“(10A) “Finance Committee of an Autonomous College” means the Finance Committee of an Autonomous college constituted under section 114D;

(10B) “Governing Body” means the Governing Body of an Autonomous College;”;

(viii) after clause (12), the following clauses shall be inserted, namely:—

“(12A) “Internal Quality Assurance Cell of an Autonomous College” means the Internal Quality Assurance Cell of an Autonomous College constituted under section 114A;”;

(12B) “Inter University Consultative Committee of an Autonomous College” means the Inter University Consultative Committee of an Autonomous College constituted under section 69A;”;

(ix) after clause (17), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

“(17A) “Programme” means higher education programme pursued for the award of a degree, diploma, certificate and such other titles and distinctions by the University of specified duration conducted in an Autonomous College in accordance with the provisions of Chapter VIII B of the Act;”;



(x) after clause (19), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

“(20) “re-structured programme” means a programme approved by the University by incorporating or substituting inter disciplinary or multi-disciplinary courses to the programme;”;

(xi) after clause (25), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

“(25A) “Students Grievance Redressal Committee of an Autonomous College” means the Students Grievance Redressal Committee of an Autonomous College constituted under section 114E;”;

(b) in section 5,—

(i) for clause (ia), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:—

“(ia) to declare by notification conferment or extension of autonomous status to a college which has been conferred, granted or extended of autonomous status by the University Grants Commission;”;

(ii) clause (ib) shall be omitted;

(c) for section 69, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“69. *Appellate Tribunal.*—(1) There shall be an Appellate Tribunal for the purpose of this Act.

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act or any other law for the time being in force, the Appellate Tribunal constituted under section 65 of the Kerala University Act, 1974 (17 of 1974) shall function as the Appellate Tribunal for adjudicating dispute on any of the matter provided in this Act.

(d) after section 69, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“69A. *Constitution of Inter University Consultative Committee.*—(1) There shall be an Inter University Consultative Committee consisting of the following members, namely:—

(a) The Pro-Chancellor	..	Chairman;
(b) The Vice-Chancellor	..	Member;
(c) The Vice-Chancellors of other	..	Member;



Universities established by State
law nominated by the Pro-Chancellor

(d) The Secretary to Government in .. Member.
charge of the Higher Education
Department

(2) The Inter University Consultative Committee shall meet as decided by the Chairman.

(3) The Inter University Consultative Committee shall consider matters to be resolved at Government level in respect of matters mutually affecting the Government and the University.

(e) section 103 shall be omitted.;

(f) section 104 shall be omitted.;

(g) in section 105, in the marginal heading and in the section for the words “academic autonomy” the word “autonomy” shall be substituted.

(h) in section 106, in sub-section (1),—

(i) in item (iii) for the words, “Governing Council” the words “Governing Body” shall be substituted;

(ii) after item (iii), the following items shall be inserted, namely:—

“(iv) The Internal Quality Assurance Cell of an Autonomous College;

(v) The Complaint Redressal Committee of an Autonomous College;

(vi) The Expert Committee of an Autonomous College;

(vii) The Finance Committee of an Autonomous College;

(viii) The Students Grievance Redressal Committee of an Autonomous College.”



(i) in section 107,—

(i) in sub-section (2),—

(a) for item (c), the following item shall be substituted, namely:—

“(c) four teachers of the college representing different categories of teaching staff, of whom two shall be nominated by the Principal of the college based on seniority and rotation and two shall be elected by the regular teachers of the college from among themselves;”;

(b) for item (d), the following item shall be substituted, namely:—

“(d) four experts from the field of industry, commerce, law, education, medicine, engineering, administration and finance, nominated by the Governing Body of the Autonomous College;”;

(c) for item (e), the following item shall be substituted, namely:—

“(e) three Professors who are academic experts nominated by the University;”;

(d) in item (f), the words, “with the approval of the Director of Collegiate Education” shall be omitted;

(ii) for sub-section (3), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(3) A member of the Academic Council shall hold office for a period of three years and shall be eligible for renomination for another term of three years:

Provided that, a person who has become a member of the Academic Council by virtue of his office shall cease to be a member of the same on the termination of such office or on the completion of his tenure of nomination, whichever is earlier.

(iii) after sub-section (4), the following sub-sections shall be inserted, namely:—

“(5) The quorum for a meeting of the Academic Council shall be two-third of its total members.



(6) The Member Secretary of the Academic Council shall intimate the members the place, date and time of the meeting along with the detailed agenda notes fourteen clear days in advance by registered post or by electronic means.

(7) The draft minutes of the meeting shall be prepared by the Chairman and communicate to all the members of the Academic Council within seven clear days, by registered post or by electronic means.

(8) A member of the Academic Council who attended the meeting shall be entitled to suggest such modification on the draft minutes within ten clear days of receipt of the same and the Chairman shall examine and take appropriate decision thereon and communicate the finalised minutes to all the members by registered post or by electronic means.”;

(j) in section 108,—

(i) in item (ii), the words “subject to the criteria and conditions prescribed by the Autonomy Approval Committee which shall be” shall be omitted;

(ii) in items (v), (vi), (vii) and (viii) for the words “Governing Council” the words “Governing Body” shall be substituted;

(k) for section 109, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“109. *Board of Studies of an Autonomous College*.—(1) There shall be a Board of Studies for a programme or group of programmes conducted by an Autonomous College consisting of the following members, namely:—

(a) Head of the Department offering the programme concerned-Chairman;

(b) Faculty member teaching the course of the programme concerned;

(c) Two experts in the programme concerned from outside the University to be nominated by the Academic Council of the Autonomous College;

(d) One expert to be nominated by the Vice Chancellor from a panel of six experts in the programme concerned recommended by the Principal of the Autonomous College;



(e) One representative from the field of industry, corporate sector or allied field related to the student placement, nominated by the Principal of the Autonomous College;

(f) One meritorious alumnus who has completed the Post Graduation of the University, nominated by the Principal of the Autonomous College;

(g) One representative of the Board of Studies of the University in the related or allied programme, nominated by the Syndicate;

(h) Special invitees, from the following categories co-opted by the Chairman of the Board of Studies of the Autonomous College with the approval of the Principal of the Autonomous College, namely:—

(i) experts from outside the Autonomous College whenever special or new programme are to be designed;

(ii) teachers from other departments of the Autonomous College who are experts in the programme concerned.”;

(2) The Governing Body of the Autonomous College shall decide the programme or group of programmes to be brought under a Board of Studies.

(3) The Governing Body of the Autonomous College may decide whether separate Board of Studies shall be constituted for programme or group of programmes at the Under Graduate and Post Graduate level.

(4) A member of the Board of Studies shall hold office for a period of three academic years and shall be eligible for renomination for another term of three academic years:

Provided that, in the case of a teacher who is a member of the Board of Studies shall cease to be a member on the date of retirement.

(5) The Principal of the college shall draw up the schedule for meeting of the Board of Studies of the Autonomous College for different departments.

(6) The Board of Studies shall meet as and when necessary:



Provided that, it shall meet at least twice in an academic year.

(7) The Chairman of the Board of Studies shall intimate the members the place, date and time of meeting along with the detailed agenda notes fourteen clear days in advance by registered post or by electronic means.

(8) The draft minutes of the meeting shall be prepared by the Chairman and communicate to all the members of the Board of Studies within seven clear days by registered post or by electronic means:

(9) A member of the Board of Studies who attended the meeting shall be entitled to suggest such modification on the draft minutes within ten clear days of receipt of the same and the Chairman shall examine and take appropriate decision thereon, and communicate the finalised minutes to all the members by registered post or by electronic means;

(10) The quorum for a meeting of the Board of Studies shall be two third of its total members.”;

(1) in section 110,—

(i) for item (i) the following item shall be substituted, namely:—

“(i) to prepare curriculum and syllabus for programmes conducted in the Department of the Autonomous College keeping in view of the objects of the college, interest of the stake holders of the programme and requirements of the nation and the State in particular and submit it for the consideration and approval of the Academic Council of the Autonomous College:

Provided that, the Board of Studies of the Autonomous College shall ensure that all existing programme, revision of existing programme and proposal for commencing new programme or restructured programme are in conformity with the duration of the programme, total credits for the programme, number of semester, minimum required credit for each semester and letter grading system prescribed for similar, allied or core programme approved by the University:



Provided further that the Board of Studies of the Autonomous College shall ensure that the proposal for new or restructured programme shall not have the effect of lowering the academic standards prescribed by the University:

Provided also that the Board of Studies of the Autonomous College shall have the discretion to distribute the percentage of marks between continuous assessment and end semester examination but however the percentage of marks for the end semester examination shall not be lower than sixty percent of the total marks.”;

(ii) in item (iv), for the words and symbol “for appointment of examiners; and” the words and symbol “for appointment of examiners and question paper setters;” shall be substituted;

(iii) after item (v) the following items shall be inserted, namely:—

(vi) to evaluate academic outcome of the assessment methods or tools adopted for each programme in respect of every batch of students admitted to the programme as and when such batch of students complete the programme;

(vii) to prepare continuous assessment methods or tools in respect of a programme in the Autonomous College before the commencement of the programme;

(viii) to review and modify as required on the basis of the academic outcome and submit the same to the Academic Council of the college for the consideration and approval.”;

(m) in section 111,—

(i) in the marginal heading and in sub-section (1), for the words “Governing Council” the words “Governing Body” shall be substituted;

(ii) for sub-section (2), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(2) The Governing Body of a Government College conferred with autonomous status, shall consist of the following members, namely:—



(a) Three eminent persons of proven academic excellence who shall be an educationist, industrialist and professional nominated by the Government, of whom one shall be designated by the Government as the Chairman of the Governing Body;

(b) One teacher of the college nominated by the Director of Collegiate Education or the Director of Technical Education, as the case may be;

(c) One teacher of the college elected from among themselves;

(d) One educationist or industrialist nominated by the Director of Collegiate Education or the Director of Technical Education, as the case may be;

(e) One person nominated by the University Grants Commission;

(f) The Secretary to Government, Higher Education Department or his nominee not below the rank of Joint Secretary to Government;

(g) One representative of the Kerala State Higher Education Council, nominated by the Government;

(h) One representative of the University, nominated by the Syndicate;

(i) The Chairman of the College Union;

(j) The Principal of the College, who shall be the *ex-officio* Secretary to the Governing Body.

(iii) in sub-section (3), for the words “Governing Council” the words “Governing Body” shall be substituted;

(iv) for sub-section (4), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(4) The Governing Body of a private college conferred with autonomous status, shall consist of the following members, namely:—

(a) The Manager, Chairman, Director or President of the Educational Agency—Chairman;



(b) Four persons of proven academic interest, nominated by the Educational Agency;

(c) One teacher of the college nominated by the Principal of the private college on seniority by rotation;

(d) One teacher of the private college elected from among themselves;

(e) One educationist or industrialist nominated by the Educational Agency;

(f) One person nominated by the University Grants Commission;

(g) The Secretary to Government, Higher Education Department or his nominee not below the rank of Joint Secretary to Government;

(h) One representative of the Kerala State Higher Education Council nominated by the Government;

(i) One representative of the University nominated by the Syndicate;

(j) The Chairman of the College Union;

(k) The Principal of the College, who shall be the *ex-officio* Secretary to the Governing Body.”;

(n) for section 112, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“112. *Tenure of office of the Governing Body.*—The term of office of the nominated members of the Governing Body shall be for a period of three years and shall be eligible for renomination for one more term:

Provided that, the tenure of the member of the Governing Body nominated by the University Grants Commission shall hold office for a period of five years from the date of nomination:



Provided further that, a person who has become a member of the Governing Body by virtue of his office shall cease to be a member of the same on the termination of such office or on the completion of tenure of nomination, whichever is earlier:

Provided also that, a student who has become a member of the Governing Body shall cease to be such member on cessation of the term of college union or cease to be a student of the college, whichever is earlier.”;

(o) for section 113, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“113. *Meetings of the Governing Body.*—(1) The Governing Body shall normally meet at least twice a year:

Provided that, the meeting of the Governing Body shall be convened by the Chairman within ten clear days on receipt of a written request of not less than one third members of the Governing Body.

(2) Two third of the members shall constitute the quorum of a meeting of the Governing Body.

(3) The Member Secretary of the Governing Body shall intimate the members the place, date and time of the meeting along with the detailed agenda notes to be placed before the meeting fourteen clear days in advance by registered post or electronic means.

(4) The draft minutes of the meeting shall be prepared by the Chairman and communicate to all the members of the Governing Body within ten clear days by registered post or electronic means.

(5) A member of the Governing Body who attended the meeting shall be entitled to suggest such modification on the draft minutes within ten clear days of receipt of the same and the Chairman shall examine and take appropriate decision thereon, and communicate the finalised minutes to all the members by registered post or electronic means.”;



(p) in section 114, for item (v) and proviso, the following item shall be substituted, namely:—

“(v) to issue migration certificate and provisional degree certificate with the approval or concurrence of the University.”;

(q) after section 114, the following sections shall be inserted, namely:—

“114A. Internal Quality Assurance Cell of an Autonomous College.—(1) There shall be an Internal Quality Assurance cell for every Autonomous College in accordance with the rules, orders, regulations and guidelines of the National Accreditation and Assessment Council.

(2) There shall be an External Peer Team for the Internal Quality Assurance Cell for an Autonomous College under the jurisdiction of the University constituted by the Governing Body of the Autonomous College consisting of the following members, namely:—

(i) An eminent academician nominated by the Governing Body of the Autonomous College—Chairman;

(ii) Two academic experts nominated by the Academic Council of the Autonomous College.

(3) The term of External Peer Team shall be four years.

(4) The External Peer Team shall device its own procedures for exercising its powers and performing its duties.

(5) The External Peer Team shall review the comprehensive performance of the Autonomous College in various fields of academic activities such as teaching-learning process, conduct of examination and achievement of academic outcomes. The External Peer Team shall send its report to the University. The University shall forward it along with its recommendation to the University Grants Commission within one month of the receipt of the report. The review shall be conducted by the External Peer Team in every Autonomous College under its jurisdiction at least once in a year.



(6) The powers, duties and functions of the Internal Quality Assurance Cell shall be as laid down by the University from time to time.

114 B. *Complaint Redressal Committee*.—(1) The University shall constitute a Complaint Redressal Committee for the purpose of Chapter VIII B of the Act consisting of the following members, namely:—

(a) The Vice-Chancellor—Chairman;

(b) The Secretary to Government, Higher Education Department or his nominee not below the rank of Joint Secretary to Government—Member;

(c) A member of the Executive Council of the Kerala State Higher Education Council nominated by the Vice-Chairman of the Kerala State Higher Education Council—Member;

(d) One Manager of an Autonomous College affiliated to the University nominated by the Vice-Chancellor—Member.

(2) The term of the Complaint Redressal Committee shall be three years from the date of its constitution.

(3) The Complaint Redressal Committee shall be competent to hear and dispose of complaints relating to admission and fee in Autonomous Colleges affiliated to the University.

(4) The Complaint Redressal Committee shall devise its own procedures for the conduct of its business and proceedings.

(5) The decisions and orders of the Complaint Redressal Committee shall be binding on the parties.

114 C. *Expert Committee*.—The University shall constitute an Expert Committee with the following members, namely:—

(a) The Pro-Vice-Chancellor—Chairman;



- (b) Two members of the Syndicate elected from among themselves;
- (c) Head of the department of the related or allied programme conducted by the University nominated by the Vice-Chancellor, as special invitee;
- (d) Dean of the Faculty concerned of the University related or allied to the new programme proposed by the Autonomous College as special invitee nominated by the Vice-Chancellor;
- (e) Two members of the Board of Studies of the University, related or allied to the new programme proposed by the Autonomous College, nominated by the Vice-Chancellor, as special invitees;
- (f) Three experts related or allied to the new programme proposed by the Autonomous College nominated by the Vice-Chancellor as special invitees;
- (g) The Registrar of the University who shall be the convenor of the Expert Committee.

- (2) The term of the member of the Syndicate in the Expert Committee shall be co-terminus with the term of the Syndicate which elected them.
- (3) The quorum for a meeting of the Expert Committee shall be two third of its total members other than special invitees.

114 D. Finance Committee of an Autonomous College.—(1) There shall be a Finance Committee for an Autonomous College consisting of the following members, namely:—

- (a) The Principal of the College—Chairman;
- (b) Two persons of the Governing Body elected from among themselves;
- (c) A teacher nominated by the Principal of the College;
- (d) Finance Officer of the University.



(2) The term of the Finance Committee shall be three years. The Finance Committee shall meet as and when necessary, but shall meet at least twice a year. The Chairman of the Finance Committee shall intimate the members the place, date and time of the meeting along with the detailed agenda notes fourteen clear days in advance by registered post or by electronic means.

(3) The draft minutes of the meeting shall be prepared by the Chairman and communicate to all the members of the Finance Committee within ten clear days.

(4) A member of the Finance Committee who attended the meeting shall be entitled to suggest such modification on draft minutes within ten clear days of receipt of the same and the Chairman shall examine and take appropriate decision thereon, and communicate to the members.

(5) The quorum for a meeting of the Finance Committee shall be two third of its total members.

(6) The Finance Committee shall have the following powers and duties, namely:—

(a) To advise the Governing Body on such matters brought to its notice;

(b) To prepare budget estimates relating to the grants and other amounts received from the University Grants Commission, University and the Government;

(c) To prepare, scrutinize and approve audited statement of accounts pertaining to the college.

114E. Students Grievance Redressal Committee of an Autonomous College.—(1)
There shall be a Students Grievance Redressal Committee of an Autonomous College consisting of the following members, namely:—

(a) The Principal of the College—Chairman;

(b) Three senior teachers of the College, nominated by the Principal, of whom one shall be a woman;

(c) The Chairman of the College Union;



(d) One parent nominated by Parent Teacher Association of the Autonomous College.

(2) The term of the Students Grievance Redressal Committee shall be two years. The Students Grievance Redressal Committee shall meet as and when necessary, but shall meet during the first month of every academic year.

(3) The quorum for a meeting of the Students Grievance Redressal Committee shall be two third of its total members.

(4) The Students Grievance Redressal Committee shall follow the procedures as laid down by the University from time to time by its regulations for redressal of grievance of students.

(5) The recommendation of the Students Grievance Redressal Committee shall be considered by the Principal of the College and shall take appropriate decision and communicate to the aggrieved student within a period of fourteen days from the date of receipt of the complaint. The report and recommendation of the Students Grievance Redressal Committee and the decision taken thereon by the Principal shall be communicated to the Vice-Chancellor.

(6) Any person aggrieved by the order under sub-section (5) may prefer an appeal to the Vice-Chancellor within fourteen days from the date of receipt of such order. The Vice-Chancellor of the University shall take decision in such appeal within sixty days after affording an opportunity of being heard to the parties concerned.”;

(r) for section 115, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“115. Procedure for conferment or extension of autonomous status to a college.—(1)
Where a college intends to change its status to an autonomous one, it shall make an application to the University at any time during the year in the format specified by the University Grants Commission.

(2) On receipt of the application, the Syndicate or Executive Council shall constitute a committee consisting of five members of the Expert Committee, within seven days of receipt of the application. The committee shall verify whether the college satisfies the



eligibility criteria fixed by the University Grants Commission from time to time, its academic performance, availability of infrastructure facilities, qualified faculty facilities for the conduct of assessment and evaluation with confidentiality and transparency, functional existence of various statutory committees under the Act and Statutes and the committee shall submit its report to the Vice-Chancellor within seven days.

(3) The Vice-Chancellor shall consider the report of the committee and forward the application to the University Grants Commission within thirty days of the receipt of application with such documents as required. Where the application is rejected by the Vice-Chancellor, his decision shall be communicated to the college and the University Grants Commission. The decision of the University shall be reported to the Government also.

(4) The University and the Government shall provide their nominees to the University Grants Commission Expert Committee for an on-spot visit as and when required by the University Grants Commission.

(5) Where the application of a college for the conferment or extension of autonomous status is rejected for any reason whatsoever, the college shall be eligible to reapply, one year from the date of such rejection of its earlier application.

(6) An Autonomous College shall apply in the format prescribed by the University Grants Commission for extension of autonomous status, six months prior to the expiry of the autonomy cycle.

(7) In case of expiry of accreditation cycle, prescribed by National Assessment and Accreditation Council or National Board of Accreditation, the college seeking extension of autonomous status shall submit a proof of having applied for accreditation by National Assessment and Accreditation Council or National Board of Accreditation to be eligible for extension of autonomy status.

(8) Where an Autonomous College desires to surrender their autonomous status, it shall follow the due process of forwarding the resolution by the Governing Body through the University concerned to the University Grants Commission for consideration of such resolution.



(s) in section 116, for sub-section (1) and the proviso, the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(1) The Principal of the college shall constitute an examination cell for every Autonomous College headed by a teacher of the college.”;

(t) after section 117 the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“117 A. Powers and duties of an Autonomous College.—(1) An Autonomous College shall continuously maintain the academic quality and standards in accordance with the statutory guidelines, orders and regulations issued by the University Grants Commission or the University from time to time.

(2) The Autonomous College shall, without fail, upload in its website information regarding the live accreditation status, national ranking, programmes offered by it, prospectus for admission to programmes, the fee and all other amounts payable by students for the programmes, the profile of the faculty, the admission procedures, the details of relevant infrastructure, research activities of the college and hostel facilities.

(3) The Autonomous College shall put in its website the constitution of the Authorities referred in section 69 D and the profile of the members in the respective Authorities. The approved minutes of the authorities and the action taken on the same shall be also put in its website.

(4) The Autonomous College shall put in its website the detailed audited statement of accounts, annual budget and institution development plans.

(5) The Autonomous College may, review existing courses or programmes and restructure, redesign and prescribe its own courses or programmes of study and syllabus, subject to the provisions contained in this Chapter.

(6) The Autonomous College may formulate new courses or programmes within the nomenclature specified by the University Grants Commission as per the Specification of Degrees, 2014, subject to the provisions contained in this Chapter.



(7) The Autonomous College may, evolve methods of assessment of students' performance, conduct of examination and notification of results, subject to the provisions contained in this Chapter.

(8) The Autonomous College may, announce results, issue mark sheets and other certificate, however, the degree shall be awarded by the University with the name of the college on the degree certificate, subject to the provisions contained in this Chapter.

(9) The Autonomous College shall pay one-time affiliation fee and such other amounts to the University at the time of conferment or extension of autonomous status, in accordance with the provisions contained in this Chapter.

(10) The Autonomous College shall constitute the Governing Body, Academic Council, Board of Studies, Finance Committee, Students Grievance Redressal Committee and Internal Quality Assurance Cell required to be constituted under this Chapter.

(11) The Autonomous College shall constitute an Anti- Ragging Committee as required under the University Grants Commission Regulations on curbing the menace of ragging in Higher Educational Institutions, 2009.

(12) The Autonomous College shall constitute a Committee as required under the University Grants Commission (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal of Sexual Harassment of Women Employees and Students in Higher Educational Institution) Regulations, 2015.

(13) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the Autonomous College shall appoint teachers and other academic staff as per the University Grants Commission (Minimum Qualifications for Appointment of Teachers and other Academic Staff in Universities and Colleges and Measures for the Maintenance of Standards in Higher Education) Regulations, 2010.

(14) The Autonomous College shall continue to receive funds as being done before the grant of autonomous status, subject to the provisions of this Act, Statutes, rules and regulations made thereunder and agreements executed with the Government or the University.



(15) The autonomy granted to the college is at the institutional level and is not partial and shall cover the programmes at all levels such as Under Graduate, Post Graduate and Ph.D. offered by the college and shall include the programmes introduced by the college after the conferment of autonomous status.

(16) The students enrolled in the Autonomous College at the time of conferment or extension of autonomous status shall also be covered under autonomous status.”;

(u) in section 118,—

(i) in sub-section (1), for the words “rules made thereunder” the words “rules made under this Chapter” shall be substituted;

(ii) for sub-section (2) to (17), the following sub-sections shall be substituted, namely:—

“(2) To fix and demand from an Autonomous College, the one-time affiliation fee and other fees under specific head or items payable by an Autonomous College for the period of autonomous status granted by the University Grants Commission or for the extended period of autonomous status as the case may be.

(3) Where the Governing Body of an Autonomous College has approved and submitted a proposal for the commencement of a new programme in the college to the University, the Vice-Chancellor shall cause the proposal to be placed before the Expert Committee for consideration and appropriate decision:

Provided that, every such proposal shall be submitted to the University on or before the 31st day of October of every year.

(4) The Expert Committee shall within ninety days of receipt of the proposal by the University take a decision, approving or rejecting the proposal or returning the proposal for resubmission, to the Vice-Chancellor who shall communicate the decision to the Governing Body of the Autonomous College as the decision of the University:

Provided that, the Expert Committee shall consider the proposal with reference to the duration of the programme, number of semesters, minimum required credits for each



semester, total credits for the programme, letter grading systems prescribed for similar programme conducted by the University and also ensuring that the proposal does not have the effect of lowering the academic standards or is against the interest of the nation or the State before approving or rejecting the proposal or returning the proposal for resubmission, to the Vice-Chancellor for communicating it to the Governing Body of the Autonomous College:

Provided further that, where the Autonomous College which submitted the proposal has not been informed of the decision of the University within ninety days from the date of submission of the proposal to the University, the proposal shall be deemed to have been approved by the University.

(5) Where the Expert Committee returns the proposal for resubmission to the Vice-Chancellor, the Vice-Chancellor shall cause the same to be returned to the Governing Body of the Autonomous College for resubmitting the proposal after rectifying the defects pointed out by the Expert Committee within forty-five days.

(6) The Expert Committee shall on receipt of the resubmitted proposal, within thirty days thereafter, either approve or reject the proposal:

Provided that, where the Governing Body of the Autonomous College which resubmitted the proposal has not been informed of the decision of the University by the Vice-Chancellor within thirty days from the date of resubmission of the proposal to the University, the proposal shall be deemed to have been approved by the University.

(7) The Vice-Chancellor shall place the report of the Expert Committee and the decision taken thereon before the Syndicate.

(8) The Syndicate shall have the power to inspect and verify whether a college that has been granted autonomous status by the University Grants Commission has violated any of the conditions specified for the grant of such autonomous status.

(9) For the purpose of sub-section (7), the Syndicate may constitute a committee with such members as it deems fit, to inspect the college, verify its relevant records and collect evidence relevant to the purpose of the inspection for which all information and documents



called for by the committee shall be provided by the Autonomous College on the appointed date and time fixed by the committee:

Provided that, such enquiry shall extend only to complaints or information in writing regarding the violation of the conditions of autonomy, poor academic and administrative practices that lower the quality of higher education or unethical practices in the matter of admissions, levying fee and conduct of examination adopted by the college for which autonomous status was granted.

(10) The committee constituted under sub-section (9) shall finalise its report only after affording an opportunity of being heard to the parties concerned.

(11) The Syndicate shall, after consideration of the report of the said committee, is of the opinion that the autonomous status conferred on the college has to be suspended or revoked, it shall communicate the same to the University Grants Commission as the recommendation of the University.

(12) If any complaint or information in writing is received by the Government with respect to an Autonomous College, the Government may, after due consideration of the contents of the complaint and information, refer it to the University for necessary action if it deems so:

Provided that, such reference shall extend only to complaints or information received in writing, with respect to violation of the conditions of autonomy, poor academic and administrative practices that lower quality of higher education or unethical practices in the matter of admissions, levying of fee and conduct of examination adopted by the college for which autonomous status has been granted.

(13) The procedure and action provided in sub-sections (8), (9) and (10) shall be followed in respect of a reference made by the Government under sub-section (11).

(14) Every Autonomous College shall submit a Manual of Examinations to the University within six months before the date of the first set of examinations that it proposes to conduct in the college and the University shall offer its remarks on Manual of Examinations



within sixty days of such submission. The Autonomous College shall incorporate the modifications required to be made by the University in their Manual of Examinations and report the same to the University.”;

(v) in sub-section (3) of section 119, for the words “Governing Council” the words “Governing Body” shall be substituted.

(w) for section 120, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“120. *Communications with Autonomous Colleges*.—All correspondences by the Government and the University with the Autonomous College or a College applying for autonomous status shall be made with the Principal.”;

(x) for section 121, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“121. *Vacancies in the Authorities of an Autonomous College under this Chapter not to invalidate any action*.—No decision of any Authority of an Autonomous College under this Chapter shall be rendered invalid on account of a vacancy in such Authority not having been filled up.”.

6. *Amendment of Act 5 of 1994*.—In the Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit Act, 1994 (5 of 1994),—

(a) in section 2, after clause (j) the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

“(ja) “Inter University Consultative Committee” means the Inter University Consultative Committee constituted under section 15A.”;

(b) in section 11, after item (i) the following item shall be inserted, namely:—

“(ia) Inter University Consultative Committee;”;

(c) after section 15, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“15A. *Constitution of Inter University Consultative Committee*.—(1) There shall be an Inter University Consultative Committee consisting of the following members, namely:—



(a) The Pro-Chancellor	..	Chairman;
(b) The Vice-Chancellors of other Universities established by State law nominated by the Pro-Chancellor	..	Member;
(c) The Secretary to Government in charge of the Higher Education Department	..	Member.

(2) The Inter University Consultative Committee shall meet as decided by the Chairman.

(3) The Inter University Consultative Committee shall consider matters to be resolved at Government level in respect of matters mutually affecting the Government and the University.

(d) for section 22A, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“22A. *Appellate Tribunal.*—(1) There shall be an Appellate Tribunal for the purpose of this Act.

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act or any other law for the time being in force, the Appellate Tribunal constituted under section 65 of the Kerala University Act, 1974 (17 of 1974) shall function as the Appellate Tribunal for adjudicating dispute on any of the matter provided in this Act.

7. *Amendment of Act 22 of 1996.*—In the Kannur University Act, 1996 (22 of 1996),—

(a) in section 2,—

(i) clause (i) shall be omitted.

(ii) for clause (ivA) the following clause shall be substituted, namely:—



“(ivA) “Autonomous College” means a college conferred with autonomous status by the University Grants Commission and declared as such by the University by notification;”;

(iii) for clause (ivB), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:—

“(ivB) “autonomy” means a privilege given to a college to conduct programmes of study, to develop its curriculum and syllabus, to devise teaching, learning and evaluation and assessment methods, to conduct examinations leading to the award of a degree, diploma, certificate and such other titles and distinctions by the University after publication of the results of the respective programmes of study in accordance with the provisions of Chapter VIII B of the Act;”;

(iv) for clause (vA), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:—

“(vA) “Board of Studies of an Autonomous College” means the Board of Studies for a programme or group of programmes conducted by an Autonomous College constituted under section 74G;”;

(v) after clause (vii), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

“(viiA) Complaint Redressal Committee of an Autonomous College” means the Complaint Redressal Committee of an Autonomous College constituted under section 74LB;

(viiB) “Course” means one of the subjects which comprises a programme in accordance with the provisions of Chapter VIIIB of the Act;”;

(vi) after clause (ix), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

“(ixA) “Expert Committee of an Autonomous College” means the Expert Committee of an Autonomous College constituted under section 74 LC;”;

(vii) for clause (xA), the following clauses shall be substituted, namely:—



“(xA) “Finance Committee of an Autonomous College” means the Finance Committee of an Autonomous College constituted under section 74 LD;

“(xB) “Governing Body” means the Governing Body of an Autonomous College;”;

(viii) after clause (xii), the following clauses shall be inserted, namely:—

“(xiiA) “Internal Quality Assurance Cell of an Autonomous College” means the Internal Quality Assurance Cell of an Autonomous College constituted under section 74 LA;”;

“(xiiB) “Inter University Consultative Committee of an Autonomous College” means the Inter University Consultative Committee of an Autonomous College constituted under section 72A;”;

(ix) after clause (xvii), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

“(xviiA) “Programme” means higher education programme pursued for the award of a degree, diploma, certificate and such other titles and distinctions by the University of specified duration conducted in an Autonomous College in accordance with the provisions of Chapter VIII B of the Act;”;

(x) after clause (xx), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

“(xxi) “re-structured programme” means a programme approved by the University by incorporating or substituting inter disciplinary or multidisciplinary courses to the programme;”;

(xi) after clause (xxv), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

“(xxvA) “Students Grievance Redressal Committee of an Autonomous College” means the Students Grievance Redressal Committee of an Autonomous College constituted under section 74LE;”;



(b) in section 5,—

(i) for clause (ia), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:—

“(ia) to declare by notification conferment or extension of autonomous status to a college which has been conferred, granted or extended of autonomous status by the University Grants Commission;”;

(ii) clause (ib) shall be omitted;

(c) for section 72, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“72. *Appellate Tribunal.*—(1) There shall be an Appellate Tribunal for the purpose of this Act.

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act or any other law for the time being in force, the Appellate Tribunal constituted under section 65 of the Kerala University Act, 1974 (17 of 1974) shall function as the Appellate Tribunal for adjudicating dispute on any of the matter provided in this Act.

(d) after section 72, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“72A. *Constitution of Inter University Consultative Committee.*—(1) There shall be an Inter University Consultative Committee consisting of the following members, namely:—

(a) The Pro-Chancellor	..	Chairman;
(b) The Vice-Chancellor	..	Member;
(c) The Vice-Chancellors of other Universities established by State law nominated by the Pro-Chancellor	..	Member;
(d) The Secretary to Government in charge of the Higher Education Department	..	Member.



(2) The Inter University Consultative Committee shall meet as decided by the Chairman.

(3) The Inter University Consultative Committee shall consider matters to be resolved at Government level in respect of matters mutually affecting the Government and the University.

(e) section 74A shall be omitted.;

(f) section 74B shall be omitted.;

(g) in section 74C, in the marginal heading and in the section for the words “academic autonomy” the word “autonomy” shall be substituted.

(h) in section 74 D, in sub-section (1),—

(i) in item (iii) for the words, “Governing Council” the words “Governing Body” shall be substituted;

(ii) after item (iii), the following items shall be inserted, namely:—

“(iv) The Internal Quality Assurance Cell of an Autonomous College;

(v) The Complaint Redressal Committee of an Autonomous College;

(vi) The Expert Committee of an Autonomous College;

(vii) The Finance Committee of an Autonomous College;

(viii) The Students Grievance Redressal Committee of an Autonomous College;

(i) in section 74 E,—

(i) in sub-section (2),—

(a) for item (c), the following item shall be substituted, namely:—



“(c) four teachers of the college representing different categories of teaching staff, of whom two shall be nominated by the Principal of the college based on seniority and rotation and two shall be elected by the regular teachers of the college from among themselves;”;

(b) for item (d), the following item shall be substituted, namely:—

“(d) four experts from the field of industry, commerce, law, education, medicine, engineering, administration and finance, nominated by the Governing Body of the Autonomous College;”;

(c) for item (e), the following item shall be substituted, namely:—

“(e) three Professors who are academic experts nominated by the University;”;

(d) in item (f), the words, “with the approval of the Director of Collegiate Education” shall be omitted;

(ii) for sub-section (3), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(3) A member of the Academic Council shall hold office for a period of three years and shall be eligible for renomination for another term of three years:

Provided that, a person who has become a member of the Academic Council by virtue of his office shall cease to be a member of the same on the termination of such office or on the completion of his tenure of nomination, whichever is earlier.”;

(iii) after sub-section (4), the following sub-sections shall be inserted, namely:—

“(5) The quorum for a meeting of the Academic Council shall be two-third of its total members.

(6) The Member Secretary of the Academic Council shall intimate the members the place, date and time of the meeting along with the detailed agenda notes fourteen clear days in advance by registered post or by electronic means.



(7) The draft minutes of the meeting shall be prepared by the Chairman and communicate to all the members of the Academic Council within seven clear days, by registered post or by electronic means.

(8) A member of the Academic Council who attended the meeting shall be entitled to suggest such modification on the draft minutes within ten clear days of receipt of the same and the Chairman shall examine and take appropriate decision thereon and communicate the finalised minutes to all the members by registered post or by electronic means.”;

(j) in section 74 F,—

(i) in item (ii), the words “subject to the criteria and conditions prescribed by the Autonomy Approval Committee which shall be” shall be omitted;

(ii) in items (v), (vi), (vii) and (viii) for the words “Governing Council” the words “Governing Body” shall be substituted;

(k) for section 74 G, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“74G. Board of Studies of an Autonomous College.—(1) There shall be a Board of Studies for a programme or group of programmes conducted by an Autonomous College consisting of the following members, namely:—

(a) Head of the Department offering the programme concerned—Chairman;

(b) Faculty member teaching the course of the programme concerned;

(c) Two experts in the programme concerned from outside the University to be nominated by the Academic Council of the Autonomous College;

(d) One expert to be nominated by the Vice Chancellor from a panel of six experts in the programme concerned recommended by the Principal of the Autonomous College;

(e) One representative from the field of industry, corporate sector or allied field related to the student placement, nominated by the Principal of the Autonomous College;



(f) One meritorious alumnus who has completed the Post Graduation of the University, nominated by the Principal of the Autonomous College;

(g) One representative of the Board of Studies of the University in the related or allied programme, nominated by the Syndicate;

(h) Special invitees, from the following categories co-opted by the Chairman of the Board of Studies of the Autonomous College with the approval of the Principal of the Autonomous College, namely:—

(i) experts from outside the Autonomous College whenever special or new programme are to be designed;

(ii) teachers from other departments of the Autonomous College who are experts in the programme concerned.”;

(2) The Governing Body of the Autonomous College shall decide the programme or group of programmes to be brought under a Board of Studies.

(3) The Governing Body of the Autonomous College may decide whether separate Board of Studies shall be constituted for programme or group of programmes at the Under Graduate and Post Graduate level.

(4) A member of the Board of Studies shall hold office for a period of three academic years and shall be eligible for renomination for another term of three academic years:

Provided that, in the case of a teacher who is a member of the Board of Studies shall cease to be a member on the date of retirement.

(5) The Principal of the college shall draw up the schedule for meeting of the Board of Studies of the Autonomous College for different departments.

(6) The Board of Studies shall meet as and when necessary:

Provided that, it shall meet at least twice in an academic year.



(7) The Chairman of the Board of Studies shall intimate the members the place, date and time of meeting along with the detailed agenda notes fourteen clear days in advance by registered post or by electronic means.

(8) The draft minutes of the meeting shall be prepared by the Chairman and communicate to all the members of the Board of Studies within seven clear days by registered post or by electronic means.

(9) A member of the Board of Studies who attended the meeting shall be entitled to suggest such modification on the draft minutes within ten clear days of receipt of the same and the Chairman shall examine and take appropriate decision thereon, and communicate the finalised minutes to all the members by registered post or by electronic means.

(10) The quorum for a meeting of the Board of Studies shall be two third of its total members.”;

(1) in section 74 H,—

(i) for item (i) the following item shall be substituted, namely:—

“(i) to prepare curriculum and syllabus for programmes conducted in the Department of the Autonomous College keeping in view of the objects of the college, interest of the stake holders of the programme and requirements of the nation and the State in particular and submit it for the consideration and approval of the Academic Council of the Autonomous College:

Provided that, the Board of Studies of the Autonomous College shall ensure that all existing programme, revision of existing programme and proposal for commencing new programme or restructured programme are in conformity with the duration of the programme, total credits for the programme, number of semester, minimum required credit for each semester and letter grading system prescribed for similar, allied or core programme approved by the University:



Provided further that the Board of Studies of the Autonomous College shall ensure that the proposal for new or restructured programme shall not have the effect of lowering the academic standards prescribed by the University:

Provided also that the Board of Studies of the Autonomous College shall have the discretion to distribute the percentage of marks between continuous assessment and end semester examination but however the percentage of marks for the end semester examination shall not be lower than sixty percent of the total marks.”;

(ii) in item (iv), for the words and symbol “for appointment of examiners; and” the words and symbol “for appointment of examiners and question paper setters;” shall be substituted;

(iii) after item (v), the following items shall be inserted, namely:—

(vi) to evaluate academic outcome of the assessment methods or tools adopted for each programme in respect of every batch of students admitted to the programme as and when such batch of students complete the programme;

(vii) to prepare continuous assessment methods or tools in respect of a programme in the Autonomous College before the commencement of the programme;

(viii) to review and modify as required on the basis of the academic outcome and submit the same to the Academic Council of the college for the consideration and approval.”;

(m) in section 74 I,—

(i) in the marginal heading and in sub-section (1), for the words “Governing Council” the words “Governing Body” shall be substituted;

(ii) for sub-section (2), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(2) The Governing Body of a Government College conferred with autonomous status, shall consist of the following members, namely:—



(a) Three eminent persons of proven academic excellence who shall be an educationist, industrialist and professional nominated by the Government, of whom one shall be designated by the Government as the Chairman of the Governing Body;

(b) One teacher of the college nominated by the Director of Collegiate Education or the Director of Technical Education, as the case may be;

(c) One teacher of the college elected from among themselves;

(d) One educationist or industrialist nominated by the Director of Collegiate Education or the Director of Technical Education, as the case may be;

(e) One person nominated by the University Grants Commission;

(f) The Secretary to Government, Higher Education Department or his nominee not below the rank of Joint Secretary to Government;

(g) One representative of the Kerala State Higher Education Council, nominated by the Government;

(h) One representative of the University, nominated by the Syndicate;

(i) The Chairman of the College Union;

(j) The Principal of the College, who shall be the *ex-officio* Secretary to the Governing Body.

(iii) in sub-section (3), for the words “Governing Council” the words “Governing Body” shall be substituted;

(iv) for sub-section (4), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(4) The Governing Body of a private college conferred with autonomous status, shall consist of the following members, namely:—

(a) The Manager, Chairman, Director or President of the Educational Agency—Chairman;



(b) Four persons of proven academic interest, nominated by the Educational Agency;

(c) One teacher of the college nominated by the Principal of the private college on seniority by rotation;

(d) One teacher of the private college elected from among themselves;

(e) One educationist or industrialist nominated by the Educational Agency;

(f) One person nominated by the University Grants Commission;

(g) The Secretary to Government, Higher Education Department or his nominee not below the rank of Joint Secretary to Government;

(h) One representative of the Kerala State Higher Education Council nominated by the Government;

(i) One representative of the University nominated by the Syndicate;

(j) The Chairman of the College Union;

(k) The Principal of the College, who shall be the *ex-officio* Secretary to the Governing Body.”;

(n) for section 74J, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“74J. *Tenure of office of the Governing Body.*—The term of office of the nominated members of the Governing Body shall be for a period of three years and shall be eligible for renomination for one more term:

Provided that, the tenure of the member of the Governing Body nominated by the University Grants Commission shall hold office for a period of five years from the date of nomination:



Provided further that, a person who has become a member of the Governing Body by virtue of his office shall cease to be a member of the same on the termination of such office or on the completion of tenure of nomination, whichever is earlier:

Provided also that a student who has become a member of the Governing Body shall cease to be such member on cessation of the term of college union or cease to be a student of the college, whichever is earlier.”;

(o) for section 74K, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“74K. *Meetings of the Governing Body.*—(1) The Governing Body shall normally meet at least twice a year:

Provided that, the meeting of the Governing Body shall be convened by the Chairman within ten clear days on receipt of a written request of not less than one third members of the Governing Body.

(2) Two third of the members shall constitute the quorum of a meeting of the Governing Body.

(3) The Member Secretary of the Governing Body shall intimate the members the place, date and time of the meeting along with the detailed agenda notes to be placed before the meeting fourteen clear days in advance by registered post or electronic means.

(4) The draft minutes of the meeting shall be prepared by the Chairman and communicate to all the members of the Governing Body within ten clear days by registered post or electronic means.

(5) A member of the Governing Body who attended the meeting shall be entitled to suggest such modification on the draft minutes within ten clear days of receipt of the same and the Chairman shall examine and take appropriate decision thereon, and communicate the finalised minutes to all the members by registered post or electronic means.”;

(p) in section 74L, for item (v) and proviso, the following item shall be substituted, namely:—



“(v) to issue migration certificate and provisional degree certificate with the approval or concurrence of the University.”;

(q) after section 74L, the following sections shall be inserted, namely:—

“74LA. Internal Quality Assurance Cell of an Autonomous College.—(1) There shall be an Internal Quality Assurance cell for every Autonomous College in accordance with the rules, orders, regulations and guidelines of the National Accreditation and Assessment Council.

(2) There shall be an External Peer Team for the Internal Quality Assurance Cell for an Autonomous College under the jurisdiction of the University constituted by the Governing Body of the Autonomous College consisting of the following members, namely:—

(i) An eminent academician nominated by the Governing Body of the Autonomous College—Chairman;

(ii) Two academic experts nominated by the Academic Council of the Autonomous College.

(3) The term of External Peer Team shall be four years.

(4) The External Peer Team shall devise its own procedures for exercising its powers and performing its duties.

(5) The External Peer Team shall review the comprehensive performance of the Autonomous College in various fields of academic activities such as teaching-learning process, conduct of examination and achievement of academic outcomes. The External Peer Team shall send its report to the University. The University shall forward it along with its recommendation to the University Grants Commission within one month of the receipt of the report. The review shall be conducted by the External Peer Team in every Autonomous College under its jurisdiction at least once in a year.

(6) The powers, duties and functions of the Internal Quality Assurance Cell shall be as laid down by the University from time to time.



74LB. *Complaint Redressal Committee*.—(1) The University shall constitute a Complaint Redressal Committee for the purpose of Chapter VIII B of the Act consisting of the following members, namely:—

- (a) The Vice-Chancellor .. Chairman;
- (b) The Secretary to Government, .. Member;
Higher Education Department
or his nominee not below the
rank of Joint Secretary to
Government
- (c) A member of the Executive .. Member;
Council of the Kerala State
Higher Education Council
nominated by the Vice-Chairman
of the Kerala State Higher
Education Council
- (d) One Manager of an .. Member.
Autonomous College
affiliated to the University
nominated by the Vice-Chancellor

(2) The term of the Complaint Redressal Committee shall be three years from the date of its constitution.

(3) The Complaint Redressal Committee shall be competent to hear and dispose of complaints relating to admission and fee in Autonomous Colleges affiliated to the University.

(4) The Complaint Redressal Committee shall devise its own procedures for the conduct of its business and proceedings.

(5) The decisions and orders of the Complaint Redressal Committee shall be binding on the parties.



74LC. *Expert Committee*.—(1) The University shall constitute an Expert Committee with the following members, namely:—

- (a) The Pro-Vice-Chancellor .. Chairman;
- (b) Two members of the Syndicate elected from among themselves;
- (c) Head of the department of the related or allied programme conducted by the University nominated by the Vice-Chancellor, as special invitee;
- (d) Dean of the Faculty concerned of the University related or allied to the new programme proposed by the Autonomous College as special invitee nominated by the Vice-Chancellor;
- (e) Two members of the Board of Studies of the University, related or allied to the new programme proposed by the Autonomous College, nominated by the Vice-Chancellor, as special invitees;
- (f) Three experts related or allied to the new programme proposed by the Autonomous College nominated by the Vice-Chancellor as special invitees;
- (g) The Registrar of the University who shall be the convenor of the Expert Committee.

(2) The term of the member of the Syndicate in the Expert Committee shall be co-terminus with the term of the Syndicate which elected them.

(3) The quorum for a meeting of the Expert Committee shall be two third of its total members other than special invitees.

74LD. *Finance Committee of an Autonomous College*.—(1) There shall be a Finance Committee for an Autonomous College consisting of the following members, namely:—

- (a) The Principal of the College .. Chairman;
- (b) Two persons of the Governing Body elected from among themselves;



(c) A teacher nominated by the Principal of the College;

(d) Finance Officer of the University.

(2) The term of the Finance Committee shall be three years. The Finance Committee shall meet as and when necessary, but shall meet at least twice a year. The Chairman of the Finance Committee shall intimate the members the place, date and time of the meeting along with the detailed agenda notes fourteen clear days in advance by registered post or by electronic means.

(3) The draft minutes of the meeting shall be prepared by the Chairman and communicate to all the members of the Finance Committee within ten clear days.

(4) A member of the Finance Committee who attended the meeting shall be entitled to suggest such modification on draft minutes within ten clear days of receipt of the same and the Chairman shall examine and take appropriate decision thereon, and communicate to the members.

(5) The quorum for a meeting of the Finance Committee shall be two third of its total members.

(6) The Finance Committee shall have the following powers and duties, namely:—

(a) To advise the Governing Body on such matters brought to its notice;

(b) To prepare budget estimates relating to the grants and other amounts received from the University Grants Commission, University and the Government;

(c) To prepare, scrutinize and approve audited statement of accounts pertaining to the college.

74LE. Students Grievance Redressal Committee of an Autonomous College.—(1)
There shall be a Students Grievance Redressal Committee of an Autonomous College consisting of the following members, namely:—



(a) The Principal of the College .. Chairman;

(b) Three senior teachers of the College, nominated by the Principal, of whom one shall be a woman;

(c) The Chairman of the College Union;

(d) One parent nominated by Parent Teacher Association of the Autonomous Colleges.

(2) The term of the Students Grievance Redressal Committee shall be two years. The Students Grievance Redressal Committee shall meet as and when necessary, but shall meet during the first month of every academic year.

(3) The quorum for a meeting of the Students Grievance Redressal Committee shall be two third of its total members.

(4) The Students Grievance Redressal Committee shall follow the procedures as laid down by the University from time to time by its regulations for redressal of grievance of students.

(5) The recommendation of the Students Grievance Redressal Committee shall be considered by the Principal of the College and shall take appropriate decision and communicate to the aggrieved student within a period of fourteen days from the date of receipt of the complaint. The report and recommendation of the Students Grievance Redressal Committee and the decision taken thereon by the Principal shall be communicated to the Vice-Chancellor.

(6) Any person aggrieved by the order under sub-section (5) may prefer an appeal to the Vice-Chancellor within fourteen days from the date of receipt of such order. The Vice-Chancellor of the University shall take decision in such appeal within sixty days after affording an opportunity of being heard to the parties concerned.”;



(r) for section 74M, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“74 M. Procedure for conferment or extension of autonomous status to a college.—(1)

Where a college intends to change its status to an autonomous one, it shall make an application to the University at any time during the year in the format specified by the University Grants Commission.

(2) On receipt of the application, the Syndicate or Executive Council shall constitute a committee consisting of five members of the Expert Committee, within seven days of receipt of the application. The committee shall verify whether the college satisfies the eligibility criteria fixed by the University Grants Commission from time to time, its academic performance, availability of infrastructure facilities, qualified faculty facilities for the conduct of assessment and evaluation with confidentiality and transparency, functional existence of various statutory committees under the Act and Statutes and the committee shall submit its report to the Vice-Chancellor within seven days.

(3) The Vice-Chancellor shall consider the report of the committee and forward the application to the University Grants Commission within thirty days of the receipt of application with such documents as required. Where the application is rejected by the Vice-Chancellor, his decision shall be communicated to the college and the University Grants Commission. The decision of the University shall be reported to the Government also.

(4) The University and the Government shall provide their nominees to the University Grants Commission Expert Committee for an on-spot visit as and when required by the University Grants Commission.

(5) Where the application of a college for the conferment or extension of autonomous status is rejected for any reason whatsoever, the college shall be eligible to reapply, one year from the date of such rejection of its earlier application.



(6) An Autonomous College shall apply in the format prescribed by the University Grants Commission for extension of autonomous status, six months prior to the expiry of the autonomy cycle.

(7) In case of expiry of accreditation cycle, prescribed by National Assessment and Accreditation Council or National Board of Accreditation, the college seeking extension of autonomous status shall submit a proof of having applied for accreditation by National Assessment and Accreditation Council or National Board of Accreditation to be eligible for extension of autonomy status.

(8) Where an Autonomous College desires to surrender their autonomous status, it shall follow the due process of forwarding the resolution by the Governing Body through the University concerned to the University Grants Commission for consideration of such resolution.

(s) in section 74N, for sub-section (1) and the proviso, the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(1) The Principal of the college shall constitute an examination cell for every Autonomous College headed by a teacher of the college.”;

(t) after section 74O, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“74OA. Powers and duties of an Autonomous College.—(1) An Autonomous College shall continuously maintain the academic quality and standards in accordance with the statutory guidelines, orders and regulations issued by the University Grants Commission or the University from time to time.

(2) The Autonomous College shall, without fail, upload in its website information regarding the live accreditation status, national ranking, programmes offered by it, prospectus for admission to programmes, the fee and all other amounts payable by students for the programmes, the profile of the faculty, the admission procedures, the details of relevant infrastructure, research activities of the college and hostel facilities.



(3) The Autonomous College shall put in its website the constitution of the Authorities referred in section 69D and the profile of the members in the respective Authorities. The approved minutes of the authorities and the action taken on the same shall be also put in its website.

(4) The Autonomous College shall put in its website the detailed audited statement of accounts, annual budget and institution development plans.

(5) The Autonomous College may, review existing courses or programmes and restructure, redesign and prescribe its own courses or programmes of study and syllabus, subject to the provisions contained in this Chapter.

(6) The Autonomous College may formulate new courses or programmes within the nomenclature specified by the University Grants Commission as per the Specification of Degrees, 2014, subject to the provisions contained in this Chapter.

(7) The Autonomous College may, evolve methods of assessment of students performance, conduct of examination and notification of results, subject to the provisions contained in this Chapter.

(8) The Autonomous College may, announce results, issue mark sheets and other certificates however, the degree shall be awarded by the University with the name of the college on the degree certificate, subject to the provisions contained in this Chapter.

(9) The Autonomous College shall pay one-time affiliation fee and such other amounts to the University at the time of conferment or extension of autonomous status, in accordance with the provisions contained in this Chapter.

(10) The Autonomous College shall constitute the Governing Body, Academic Council, Board of Studies, Finance Committee, Students Grievance Redressal Committee and Internal Quality Assurance Cell required to be constituted under this Chapter.

(11) The Autonomous College shall constitute an Anti- Ragging Committee as required under the University Grants Commission Regulations on curbing the menace of ragging in Higher Educational Institutions, 2009.



(12) The Autonomous College shall constitute a Committee as required under the University Grants Commission (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal of Sexual Harassment of Women Employees and Students in Higher Educational Institution) Regulations, 2015.

(13) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the Autonomous College shall appoint teachers and other academic staff as per the University Grants Commission (Minimum Qualifications for Appointment of Teachers and other Academic Staff in Universities and Colleges and Measures for the Maintenance of Standards in Higher Education) Regulations, 2010.

(14) The Autonomous College shall continue to receive funds as being done before the grant of autonomous status, subject to the provisions of this Act, Statutes, rules and regulations made thereunder and agreements executed with the Government or the University.

(15) The autonomy granted to the college is at the institutional level and is not partial and shall cover the programmes at all levels such as Under Graduate, Post Graduate and Ph.D. offered by the college and shall include the programmes introduced by the college after the conferment of autonomous status.

(16) The students enrolled in the Autonomous College at the time of conferment or extension of autonomous status shall also be covered under autonomous status.”;

(u) in section 74P,—

(i) in sub-section (1), for the words “rules made thereunder” the words “rules made under this Chapter” shall be substituted;

(ii) for sub-section (2) to (17), the following sub-sections shall be substituted, namely:—

“(2) To fix and demand from an Autonomous College, the one- time affiliation fee and other fees under specific head or items payable by an Autonomous College for the period of autonomous status granted by the University Grants Commission or for the extended period of autonomous status as the case may be.



(3) Where the Governing Body of an Autonomous College has approved and submitted a proposal for the commencement of a new programme in the college to the University, the Vice-Chancellor shall cause the proposal to be placed before the Expert Committee for consideration and appropriate decision:

Provided that, every such proposal shall be submitted to the University on or before the 31st day of October of every year.

(4) The Expert Committee shall within ninety days of receipt of the proposal by the University take a decision, approving or rejecting the proposal or returning the proposal for resubmission, to the Vice-Chancellor who shall communicate the decision to the Governing Body of the Autonomous College as the decision of the University:

Provided that, the Expert Committee shall consider the proposal with reference to the duration of the programme, number of semesters, minimum required credits for each semester, total credits for the programme, letter grading systems prescribed for similar programme conducted by the University and also ensuring that the proposal does not have the effect of lowering the academic standards or is against the interest of the nation or the State before approving or rejecting the proposal or returning the proposal for resubmission, to the Vice-Chancellor for communicating it to the Governing Body of the Autonomous College:

Provided further that, where the Autonomous College which submitted the proposal has not been informed of the decision of the University within ninety days from the date of submission of the proposal to the University, the proposal shall be deemed to have been approved by the University.

(5) Where the Expert Committee returns the proposal for resubmission to the Vice-Chancellor, the Vice-Chancellor shall cause the same to be returned to the Governing Body of the Autonomous College for resubmitting the proposal after rectifying the defects pointed out by the Expert Committee within forty-five days.

(6) The Expert Committee shall on receipt of the resubmitted proposal, within thirty days thereafter, either approve or reject the proposal:



Provided that, where the Governing Body of the Autonomous College which resubmitted the proposal has not been informed of the decision of the University by the Vice-Chancellor within thirty days from the date of resubmission of the proposal to the University, the proposal shall be deemed to have been approved by the University.

(7) The Vice-Chancellor shall place the report of the Expert Committee and the decision taken thereon before the Syndicate.

(8) The Syndicate shall have the power to inspect and verify whether a college that has been granted autonomous status by the University Grants Commission has violated any of the conditions specified for the grant of such autonomous status.

(9) For the purpose of sub-section (7), the Syndicate may constitute a committee with such members as it deems fit, to inspect the college, verify its relevant records and collect evidence relevant to the purpose of the inspection for which all information and documents called for by the committee shall be provided by the Autonomous College on the appointed date and time fixed by the committee:

Provided that, such enquiry shall extend only to complaints or information in writing regarding the violation of the conditions of autonomy, poor academic and administrative practices that lower the quality of higher education or unethical practices in the matter of admissions, levying fee and conduct of examination adopted by the college for which autonomous status was granted.

(10) The committee constituted under sub-section (9) shall finalise its report only after affording an opportunity of being heard to the parties concerned.

(11) The Syndicate shall, after consideration of the report of the said committee, is of the opinion that the autonomous status conferred on the college has to be suspended or revoked, it shall communicate the same to the University Grants Commission as the recommendation of the University.



(12) If any complaint or information in writing is received by the Government with respect to an Autonomous College, the Government may, after due consideration of the contents of the complaint and information, refer it to the University for necessary action if it deems so:

Provided that, such reference shall extend only to complaints or information received in writing, with respect to violation of the conditions of autonomy, poor academic and administrative practices that lower quality of higher education or unethical practices in the matter of admissions, levying of fee and conduct of examination adopted by the college for which autonomous status has been granted.

(13) The procedure and action provided in sub-sections (8), (9) and (10) shall be followed in respect of a reference made by the Government under sub-section (11).

(14) Every Autonomous College shall submit a Manual of Examinations to the University within six months before the date of the first set of examinations that it proposes to conduct in the college and the University shall offer its remarks on the Manual of Examinations within sixty days of such submission. The Autonomous College shall incorporate the modifications required to be made by the University in their Manual of Examinations and report the same to the University.”;

(v) in sub-section (3) of section 74Q, for the words “Governing Council” the words “Governing Body” shall be substituted.

(w) for section 74R, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“74R. *Communications with Autonomous Colleges.*—All correspondences by the Government and the University with the Autonomous College or a College applying for autonomous status shall be made with the Principal.”;



(x) for section 74S, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“74S. Vacancies in the Authorities of an Autonomous College under this Chapter not to invalidate any action.—No decision of any Authority of an Autonomous College under this Chapter shall be rendered invalid on account of a vacancy in such Authority not having been filled up.”.

8. *Amendment of Act 27 of 2005.*—In the National University of Advanced Legal Studies Act, 2005 (27 of 2005),—

(a) in section 2, after clause (9) the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

“(9A) “Inter University Consultative Committee” means the Inter University Consultative Committee constituted under section 16A;”;

(b) in section 11, after item (i) the following item shall be inserted, namely:—

“(ia) Inter University Consultative Committee;”.

(c) after section 16, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“(16A) *Constitution of Inter University Consultative Committee.*—(1) There shall be an Inter University Consultative Committee consisting of the following members, namely:—

(a) The Pro-Chancellor .. Chairman;

(b) The Vice-Chancellors of other Universities established by State law nominated by the Pro-Chancellor .. Member;

(c) The Secretary to Government in charge of the Higher Education Department .. Member.

(2) The Inter University Consultative Committee shall meet as decided by the Chairman.



(3) The Inter University Consultative Committee shall consider matters to be resolved at Government level in respect of matters mutually affecting the Government and the University.”.

(d) after section 25, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“25A. *Appellate Tribunal.*—(1) There shall be an Appellate Tribunal for the purpose of this Act .

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act or any other law for the time being in force, the Appellate Tribunal constituted under section 65 of the Kerala University Act, 1974 (17 of 1974) shall function as the Appellate Tribunal for adjudicating dispute on any of the matter provided in this Act.

ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN,
GOVERNOR.

