

Ph.D., REGULATIONS

2023



KALASALINGAM
ACADEMY OF RESEARCH AND EDUCATION
(DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY)

Under sec. 3 of UGC Act 1956. Accredited by NAAC with "A" Grade

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KARE Ph.D. Regulations

(2023)



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REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (Ph.D.) DEGREE PROGRAMMES

1. Preamble

The governing regulation for the doctoral programme at Kalasalingam Academy of Research and Education (KARE) is leading to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) has been formulated to incorporate the recent guidelines as notified by the Regulations-2022 of University Grants Commission (UGC), MHRD, Govt. of India dated 7th November 2022 (captioned as Minimum Standards and Procedures for Award of Ph.D. Degree).

2. Short Title and Commencement

The revised regulations shall be termed as “Regulations Governing the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Degree programmes” and shall be deemed to all the doctoral programmes leading to the Ph.D. degree offered by the Kalasalingam Academy of Research and Education. The regulations will be subjected to the suggestions and amendments by the University Research Board (URB) time-to-time upon the recommendations of the Board of Management. The amended regulations will be deemed for all such batches, including ongoing ones, as determined by the URB.

2.1 Definitions and Nomenclature

Unless explicitly mentioned in the context, the following is meant in the Regulations as defined:

- i. ‘AICTE’ means the All-India Council for Technical Education, the establishment under the Act of Parliament in 1987, headquartered in New Delhi, India.
- ii. ‘UGC’ means the University Grants Commission, the establishment under the Act of Parliament in 1956, headquartered in New Delhi, India.
- iii. ‘KARE’ means the Kalasalingam Academy of Research and Education, Anand Nagar, krishnankoil, 626126 Tamil Nadu.
- iv. Ph.D.’ means Doctor of Philosophy
- v. ‘Programme’ means the academic programme leading to the award of the Degree of Ph.D. in Engineering and Technology / Basic Science and Humanities/Management Studies/Architecture area among the specializations.
- vi. ‘Research Supervisor’ means a qualified faculty member or a scientist recognized by the university to supervise/guide the candidates for Ph.D.

- vii. 'Co-supervisor' means the additional Research Supervisor who supervises/ guides the doctoral research of a candidate along with the Research Supervisor.
- viii. 'UG/PG/Ph.D.' refers to the Undergraduate/ Postgraduate/ Doctor of Philosophy level Degree programme.
- ix. 'KARE-DPET' means Kalasalingam Academy of Research and Education Doctoral Programme Entrance Test for research conducted by the university for admitting students to the Ph.D. programme.
- x. SRC means School Research Committee constituted by the university to carry out the activities concerning the admission of students to the Ph.D. programme.
- xi. SRC will consist of research supervisor(s) in the school under the chairmanship of dean of the school.
- xii. 'RAC' means Research Advisory Committee constituted by the university to review the research progress of a particular scholar for Ph.D.
- xiii. 'Course Work' means the courses prescribed as a part of the Ph.D. programme, which the candidate shall complete as a pre-requisite.
- xiv. 'Full-Time Scholar' means research scholars who are spending their full-time on campus for the research programme.
- xv. 'Part-Time Scholar' means research scholars who are employed and are spending a part of their time on campus for the research programme.
- xvi. 'Viva-Voce Board' means the committee of experts appointed by the University to conduct the final viva-voce on the thesis submitted by the candidate.
- xvii. "Adjunct Faculty" means a part-time or contingent instructor, but not full-time faculty member hired to teach by the higher educational institution.
- xviii. "Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA)" means the measure of the overall cumulative performance of a student in all semesters. The CGPA is the ratio of total credit points secured by a student in various courses in all semesters and the sum of the total credits of all courses in all semesters. It is expressed up to two decimal places;
- xix. "Credit" means the number of hours of instruction required per week over a semester. For example, a three-credit course in a semester means three one-hour lectures per week, with each one-hour lecture counted as one credit.
- xx. "Degree" means the degree awarded by a Higher Educational Institution in accordance to the provisions of section 22 (3) of the Act.

- xxi. “External examiner” means an academician/researcher who is not a part of the higher educational institution where the Ph.D. scholar has registered for the Ph.D. programme.
- xxii. “Interdisciplinary Research” means research conducted by a Ph.D. scholar in two or more academic disciplines.
- xxiii. “Plagiarism” means taking someone else’s work or idea and passing them as one’s own.
- xxiv. “Prospectus” means any document, whether in print or otherwise, issued for providing fair and transparent information relating to a higher educational institution and programmes offered.
- xxv. “Research Proposal” means a brief write-up outlining the proposed research work which the Ph.D. scholar shall submit along with the application for registration for Ph.D. programme.

3. Eligibility criteria for admission to the Ph.D. Programme

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

(1) Candidates who have completed:

- i. A 1-year/2-semester master's degree programme after a 4-year/8-semester bachelor’s degree programme or a 2-year/4-semester master’s degree programme after a 3-year bachelor’s degree programme or qualifications declared equivalent to the master’s degree by the corresponding statutory regulatory body, with at least 55% marks in Master/PG aggregate or its equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed or equivalent qualification from a foreign educational institution accredited by an assessment and accreditation agency which is approved, recognized or authorized by an authority, established or incorporated under a law in its home country or any other statutory authority in that country to assess, accredit or assure quality and standards of the educational institution.
- ii. A relaxation of 5% marks or its equivalent grade may be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/differently abled, Economically Weaker Section (EWS) and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the Commission from time to time.

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

(2) Candidates who have completed the M.Phil. programme with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed or equivalent qualification from a foreign educational institution accredited by an assessment and accreditation agency which is approved, recognized or authorized by an authority, established or incorporated under a law in its home country or any other statutory authority in that country to assess, accredit or assure quality and standards of educational institutions, shall be eligible for admission to the Ph.D. programme. A relaxation of 5% marks or its equivalent grade may be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/ Differently-Abled, Economically Weaker Section (EWS) and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the commission from time to time.

(3) NRI candidate can apply for Ph.D. program through online portal available in our university website. NRI candidates seeking admission need to write online entrance test conducted by the University and shall be provided admission based on the performance in written test and personal interview through video conference before the Committee. Candidate should submit all the certificates of qualification, experience, copy of passport, VISA and passport size photographs. Candidate should give progress review through video conference during his/her Ph.D. tenure.

(4) Any candidates applied for transfer of Ph.D. program from other institutions (national/international) can be considered/admitted for continuing research can submit the letter of request along with the necessary documents (admission form, Course Work completion form, NoC from the organization where he/she pursuing Ph.D.) to office of R&D. The application will be scrutinized and approved by the committee constituted by the Vice-Chancellor.

4. Duration of the Programme

- (1) Candidates joining after B. Tech. for direct Ph. D. or Integrated Ph. D. will have the minimum duration of four years to complete his Ph. D. degree, including course work, and a maximum duration of six (6) years from the date of admission to the Ph.D. programme.
- (2) For Candidates who joined for the Integrated Ph.D. and willing to exit the program after the first year, will be awarded M. Tech. by research. if the candidate satisfies the norms laid on coursework and preliminary research by the university
- (3) For candidates who have joined the Ph.D. Programme after completing M.Tech. the minimum duration for completing the Ph.D. shall be of three (3) years, including course work, and a maximum duration of six (6) years from the date of admission to the Ph.D. programme.
- (4) A maximum of an additional two (2) years can be given through a process of re-registration, however, that the total period for completion of a Ph.D. programme should not exceed eight (8) years from the date of admission in the Ph.D. programme.
- (5) Provided further that, female Ph.D. scholars and persons with disabilities (having more than 40% disability) may be allowed an additional relaxation of two (2) years; however, the total period for completion of a Ph.D. programme in such cases should not exceed ten (10) years from the date of admission in the Ph.D. programme.
- (6) Female Ph.D. scholars may be provided maternity leave/child care leave for up to 240 days in the entire duration of the Ph.D. programme.

5. Admissions

- (1) The university shall issue the notification for the Ph.D. admissions twice in the academic year
- (2) The number of available seats in the various specializations under different disciplines will be determined well in advance in accordance with the norms, and the same will be specified on university website/ advertisement.
- (3) Admission to the Ph.D. programme shall be made using the following methods:

- i. KARE admit students who qualify for fellowship/scholarship in UGC-NET/UGC-CSIR NET/GATE/CEED and similar National level tests based on an interview.
and/or
- ii. KARE admit students through an Entrance Exam conducted by KARE DPET. The entrance exam syllabus shall consist of 50% of research methodology, and 50% shall be subject specific.
- iii. Students who have secured minimum of 50 % marks in the entrance exam are eligible to be called for the interview.
- iv. A relaxation of 5 % marks will be allowed in the entrance examination for the candidates belonging to SC/ST/OBC/Differently Abled Category, Economically Weaker Section (EWS), and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the Commission from time to time.
- v. KARE decide the number of eligible students to be called for an interview based on the number of Ph.D. seats available.
- vi. Provided that for the selection of candidates based on a weightage of 70% for the entrance test conducted by KARE and 30 % for the performance in the interview shall be given.
- vii. Research supervisor will be allocated based on the specialization, research interest and preference of the candidates.
- viii. The School Research Committee shall forward the list of provisionally selected candidates to the office of the Director (R&D) along with a copy of the interviewed applications for further approval and enrolment purposes.
- ix. The provisionally selected candidates shall be announced by the office of the Director (R&D) for further instructions and schedules of the Ph.D. programme.
- x. The decision of the University Research Board will be final in selecting candidates for all the Ph.D. programmes.
- xi. The candidates admitted provisionally will be confirmed after the submission of registration form and tuition fees receipt, including other mentioned documents in the letter of admission.
- xii. If it is found at any point of time that a candidate has not fulfilled the norms as stipulated, the University may revoke the admission with the approval of the Vice-Chancellor.
- xiii. The Fees, once paid, will not be refunded under any circumstances.

6. Categories of Ph.D. Candidates

Candidates' admission to the Ph.D. Programme shall be classified as under:

6.1 Full Time Candidates

A Candidate who will pursue full-time research at the university on daily basis.

6.2 Ph.D. through Part-Time

A candidate in-service in KARE/ Industries/ Colleges /Government Departments/ Research organizations/ Universities or other Higher Educational Institutions or sponsored for pursuing Ph.D. Programme in the University shall belong to this category.

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

(2) KARE shall obtain a "No Objection Certificate" through the candidate for a part-time Ph.D. programme from the appropriate authority in the organization where the candidate is employed, clearly stating that:

- i. The candidate is permitted to pursue studies on a part-time basis.
- ii. His/her official duties permit him/her to devote sufficient time for research.
- iii. If required, he/she will be relieved from the duty to complete the course work.

Part-time external scholars should report to their supervisors at least one month per academic year (a spell of at least five days minimum). The reporting dates may be fixed between the supervisor and scholar. Attendance is maintained by the R&D office. The scholar must place the biometric when he / she visits the campus. A scholar is deemed to have cleared the course(s) only if he/she has more than 75% attendance.

6.3 Integrated Ph.D.

A candidate who will pursue full time research after his B.Tech. degree. The candidate will be treated for awarding M.Tech. by research if he/she is only completing the first year of the programme satisfying the norms laid on coursework and preliminary research by the University (or) based on the candidate's interest in continuing to advanced years as a Ph.D. candidate will make his/her eligibility to be awarded with M.Tech. by Research and Ph.D. (Integrated Ph.D.).

6.4 Change of Category

The change of category shall be approved by the Director (Research and Development) only once during the tenure, subject to submission of necessary documents along with the recommendation of the RAC. Change of category more than once may be considered only under extraordinary circumstances, if deemed fit reasons. In case of

change of category from Full-time to Part-time or Vice-Versa, the minimum period shall be accounted as whichever is high.

Notwithstanding anything contained in these Regulations or any other law, for the time being in force, KARE will not conduct Ph.D. programmes through distance and/or online mode.

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

(1) Permanent faculty members working as Professor/Associate Professor of KARE with a Ph.D., and at least five research publications in peer-reviewed or refereed journals and permanent faculty members working as Assistant Professors in KARE with a Ph.D., and at least three research publications in peer-reviewed or refereed journals may be recognized as a Research Supervisor. Faculty members working/joining at KARE who have completed their Post Doctoral Fellowship shall be recognized as a Research Supervisor without any preliminary requirement of publications. Such recognized research supervisors cannot supervise research scholars in other institutions, where they can only act as co-supervisors. Ph.D. awarded by the university under the supervision of a faculty member who is not an employee of KARE would be in violation of these Regulations.

For Ph.D. scholars working in central government/ state government research institutions, the scientists in such research institutions who are equivalent to Professor/Associate Professor/Assistant Professor can be recognized as supervisors if they fulfil the above requirements.

Provided that in areas/disciplines where there is no, or only a limited number of peer-reviewed or refereed journals, KARE may relax the above condition for recognition of a person as research supervisor with reasons recorded in writing with the approval of the URB

Co-Supervisors from within the same department or other departments of the same institution or other institutions may be permitted with the approval of the competent authority.

Adjunct faculty members shall not act as research supervisors and can only act as co-supervisors.

- (2) In case of interdisciplinary/multidisciplinary research work, if required, a Co-Supervisor from outside the Department/School/Centre/College/University may be appointed.
- (3) An eligible Professor/Associate Professor/Assistant Professor can guide up to eight (8) / six (6) / four (4) Ph.D. scholars, respectively, at any given time.
- (4) In case of relocation of a female Ph.D. scholar due to marriage or otherwise, the research data shall be allowed to be transferred to the any other higher educational institution to which the scholar intends to relocate, provided all the other conditions in these regulations are followed, and the research work does not pertain to a project sanctioned to the parent institution/supervisor by any funding agency. Such scholar shall, however, give due credit to the parent institution and the supervisor for the part of research already undertaken.
- (5) Faculty members with less than three years of service before superannuation shall not be allowed to take new research scholars under their supervision. However, such faculty members can continue to supervise Ph.D. scholars who are already registered until superannuation and as a co-supervisor after superannuation, but not after attaining the age of 70 years.

8. Research Advisory Committee (RAC)

After the provisional registration of the candidate, Research Advisory Committee (RAC) shall be constituted through the School Research Committee (SRC), with the approval of the Vice-Chancellor for every scholar to review, assess, and monitor the progress of research work time to time.

Research Advisory Committee and its Functions. -

- (1) The research supervisor of the Ph.D. scholar concerned shall be the convener of this committee, and the committee includes an external expert from academic institution/R&D Centres/ Industry and two internal members within school/ from allied departments.

This committee shall have the following responsibilities:

- i. To review the research proposal and finalize the topic of research.

ii. To guide the Ph.D. scholar in developing the study design and methodology of research and identify the course(s) that he/she may have to do.

iii. To periodically review and assist in the progress of the research work of the Ph.D. scholar.

(2) Each semester, a Ph.D. scholar shall appear before the Research Advisory Committee to make a presentation and submit a brief report on the progress of his/her work for evaluation and further guidance. The Research Advisory Committee shall submit its recommendations along with a copy of Ph.D. scholar's progress report to the Office of Director (R&D). A copy of such recommendations shall also be provided to the Ph.D. scholar.

(3) In case the progress of the Ph.D. scholar is unsatisfactory, the Research Advisory Committee shall record the reasons for the same and suggest corrective measures. If the Ph.D. scholar fails to implement these corrective measures, the Research Advisory Committee may recommend, with specific reasons, the cancellation of the registration of the Ph.D. scholar from the Ph.D. programme.

(4) If there is a change in external member or if any internal member has left the institution, the reconstitution of the RAC shall be made by the office of the Director (R&D) after receiving the request for reconstitution from supervisor through the SRC chairman. The reason for reconstitution shall also be recorded in SRC meeting held prior to the request.

9. Change of Research Supervisor:

If supervisor left the institution, he can act as a joint supervisor with the approval of SRC or appointment of new supervisor based on the scholar preference and specialization shall be recommended to the Director (R&D) as per norms.

As a matter of policy of KARE, the change of research supervisor when the supervisor is working in institution shall not be permitted. In exceptional cases such changes may be considered with approval of committee nominated by the Vice-Chancellor.

10. Course Work. - Credit requirements, number, duration, syllabus, minimum standards for completion, etc.

- (1) The Credit requirement for the Ph.D. coursework (other than direct Ph.D. and integrated Ph.D. candidates) is a minimum of 12 credits, including a “Research and Publication Ethics” course as notified by UGC vide D.O. No. F.1-1/2018(Journal/CARE) in 2019 and a research methodology course. The Research Advisory Committee can also recommend UGC recognized online courses as part of the credit requirements for the Ph.D. programme.
- (2) Any candidate joining for Integrated Ph.D. or Ph.D. directly after B.Tech. must complete a minimum of 27 Credits including, a course on research methodology (4 Credits) and a course on research and publication ethics (2 Credits).
Candidate joined for integrated Ph.D. must submit a Report containing the brief explanation of the work completed at the end of the first year with its outcome to be published in Scopus Indexed Journal/Conference. These courses shall be treated as coursework for comprehensive examination if the candidate is continuing to proceed for research after first year. If the candidate is exiting after first year, the courses work completed, and the research report along with the publications shall be the requirement for awarding M.Tech. by Research.
- (3) All Ph.D. scholars, irrespective of discipline, shall be trained in teaching / pedagogy/ writing related to their chosen Ph.D. topic during their doctoral period. Full time Ph.D. scholars may also be assigned 4-6 hours per week of teaching/research assistantship for conducting tutorial or laboratory work and evaluations.
- (4) The Controller of Examinations shall issue the grade card to the scholars upon successful completion of the coursework.

11.Comprehensive Viva-Voce:

All registered scholars are eligible to appear for a comprehensive viva-voce after successful completion of their coursework not less than three semesters from the date of registration. The comprehensive viva-voce shall be conducted by the RAC. If the performance of the research scholar in the comprehensive viva-voce is satisfactory, his/her provisional registration shall be confirmed. If the performance is unsatisfactory, the candidate shall be given an extension and another chance to appear for the comprehensive viva-voce within six months.

In case, the research scholar fails to successfully complete the comprehensive viva-voce within two years from the date of provisional registration, the admission of such

scholar shall be cancelled. After the successful completion of comprehensive viva-voce, the university shall issue a notification to the scholar regarding the confirmation of registration. All the Ph.D. registrations shall remain provisional until successful completion of comprehensive viva-voce.

12. Evaluation and Assessment Methods, minimum standards/credits for the award of the degree, etc.-

- (1) Upon satisfactory completion of comprehensive viva-voce, RAC ensures the quality publications based on their research work and recommend for further approval for Synopsis and Thesis submission to the office of Director (Research and Development).
- (2) The Office of Director (R&D) will verify the publication details and permit the research scholar to submit the synopsis and Thesis.

13. Plagiarism Screening

- (1) Prior to the submission of Synopsis/thesis, the complete work must be subjected to plagiarism check with the facility '*ithenticate*' available at the Office of Director (R&D) or any other facility equivalent to the same. Further, while submitting the thesis for evaluation, the thesis shall have an undertaking from the research scholar and a certificate from the research supervisor, Chairman- Departmental Academic Integrity Panel (DAIP) and Chairman- Institutional Academic Integrity Panel (IAIP) certifying the originality of the work, vouching that there is no plagiarism and that the work has not been submitted for the award of any other degree/diploma of the same Institution where the work was carried out, or to any other Institution.
- (2) If a research scholar is found to have been involved in acts of plagiarism, after thorough enquiry by the DAIP and IAIP, penalty shall be imposed considering the severity of the plagiarism. (Following UGC Regulations for Promotion of Academic Integrity and Prevention of Plagiarism in Higher Educational Institutions, 2018)

14. Synopsis Submission

- (1) Prior to the submission of synopsis, the Scholar shall make a Pre-Synopsis (Ph.D. Seminar) presentation of complete doctoral research work in a colloquium open for all faculty members and other research scholars.
- (2) Research scholar of Engineering/ Technology/ Physics/ Chemistry shall be permitted to submit synopsis if he/she has at least three papers (published and indexed) in SCOPUS indexed journals/ conference proceedings (SCOPUS indexed), with at least one of them under the category of SCI Journals with Impact factor.

- (3) Research scholar of Architecture/Social Works/ Mathematics/MBA/English shall be permitted to submit synopsis if he/she has at least two papers (published and indexed) in SCOPUS indexed journals/ conference proceedings (SCOPUS indexed), and one paper in a journal approved by UGC CARE.
- (4) The feedback and comments obtained from them shall suitably be incorporated and synopsis must be approved in the RAC.
- (5) After satisfying the above criteria/incorporation of comments, one hard copy of the synopsis document and one e-copy (in PDF Format) of the same shall be submitted to the Office of Director (R&D) in addition to the other filled Proforma documents available in the University website.

15. Panel of Examiners

- (1) While submitting the synopsis, the research supervisor shall submit a panel of six external examiners: consisting three of them from within the country while the other three from abroad. Such examiner(s) shall be an academician or established researcher with a good record of scholarly publications in the field of Research.
- (2) The Vice-Chancellor shall consider these names and constitute a Board of two external examiners (one from each category mentioned in the above point). Besides, the Vice-Chancellor may also nominate the examiners from outside the panel.

16. Thesis Submission

- (1) One copy of the thesis along with an e-copy prepared in accordance with the format and specification prescribed shall be submitted to the office of Director (R&D). Thesis shall be submitted within three months from the date of the synopsis submission.
- (2) Under extraordinary circumstances, extension for submission of the thesis shall be permitted not more than a period of six months upon approval of the Director (R&D). In such cases, the late fee shall be paid as applicable.

17. Thesis Evaluation

- (1) The Ph.D. thesis submitted by the research scholar shall be evaluated by two external examiners (one from within India and the other from abroad), from the board of panel members constituted by the Vice-Chancellor. Both the examiners shall send the reports to the Director (R&D) within two months from the date of receipt of the Thesis.
- (2) The external examiners will include an overall assessment in their report placing the thesis in any one of the following categories:

- i. Recommend acceptance of the thesis in the present form and further based on the standard attained, classify the work as HIGHLY COMMENDED / COMMENDED.
- ii. Recommend acceptance of the thesis. However, the scholar shall incorporate the corrections indicated in the detailed report and place the corrected copy to the viva-voce examination board, but the corrected thesis need not be sent to the examiner again for evaluation.
- iii. Revise the thesis by incorporating the suggested modifications in the thesis and the corrected thesis along with the scholar's clarifications shall be sent to the respective examiner for revaluation.
- iv. Reject the thesis for the reasons set out in the detailed report.

18. Decision Based on Thesis Report

- (1) On receipt of the reports from the examiners, the following procedure shall be adopted for the award of Ph.D. Degree
 - a) If both the examiners recommend the award of the Ph.D. Degree, the thesis shall be provisionally accepted. Any minor revision, modification, etc., suggested by the examiners shall be carried out and approved by the RAC before the oral examination.
 - b) If any examiner recommends revision and re-submission of the Ph.D. and desires to evaluate it again, the scholar shall be permitted to revise and resubmit the thesis within 6 months, which shall be referred to the same examiner, for offering his/her final recommendation on it. In such case, the examiner should offer his/her specific comments.
 - c) In case the candidate fails to submit the revised form of the thesis within six months, the process of thesis evaluation gets cancelled. Then, the candidate shall submit the revised synopsis again to start the process of thesis evaluation by paying the prescribed fee.
 - d) If one external examiner recommends the award of the Ph.D. Degree while the other external examiner recommends rejection, then the thesis shall be referred to a third examiner to be nominated by the Vice-Chancellor. The majority assessment of the three shall decide the status of the thesis.

- e) If both the external examiners recommend rejection with specific valid comments, the Ph.D. thesis shall be rejected, and the scholar declared ineligible for award of Degree and the registration of the candidate cancelled.

19. Viva-Voce

- (1) Upon receiving the thesis evaluation reports from both the examiners, the office of Director (R&D) shall convey the decision to the research supervisor(s) along with the copies of the reports received from the examiners.
- (2) The Director (R&D) shall forward the reports to the supervisor to convene the RAC meeting within a month to verify the incorporation of all the comments and suggestions given by the Examiners and for further recommendations.
- (3) Upon submitting the revised thesis to the office of Director (R&D), the viva voce board is constituted with the approval of the Vice Chancellor. The composition of the viva - voce panel shall be:
 - i. Research Supervisor - Convener
 - ii. One of the examiners who evaluated the thesis - Member
- (4) The circular for the same in the prescribed format shall be communicated to all the faculty members/ research scholars/ other departments/ other institutions, at least one week prior to the viva – voce Examination.
- (5) The viva-voce shall be open to all faculty members of the university, other research scholars and other interested experts/researchers both within and outside the university. Examiners/Attendees may seek clarification/questions, if any, to be answered by the candidate at the time of viva-voce.
- (6) If the performance of the scholar in the viva-voce examination is reported as unsatisfactory, the scholar may be given an opportunity but not later than six months from the date of the viva-voce examination.
- (7) If the performance of the candidate in the viva-voce examination on the second occasion also is reported to be unsatisfactory, the Vice-Chancellor, if he/she deems it necessary, shall refer the remarks of the viva-voce examination board, along with the thesis and comments of the examiners, to a committee constituted by the Vice-Chancellor. The decision of the Vice-Chancellor on the recommendations of the committee shall be final.
- (8) In case of scholars who are abroad and unable to be present physically, viva- voce examination may be held through video-conferencing mode with prior approval of the Vice-Chancellor.

- (9) After successful completion of the viva-voce, the research supervisor shall prepare and forward the minutes of the meeting along with duly corrected versions of both the hard and the soft copies of the thesis as well as giving specific recommendations for the award of the Ph.D. degree to the office of Director (R&D).
- (10) Upon receiving the final version of thesis along with other necessary documents, the Director (R&D) shall give “No Objection Certificate” to the Office of Controller of Examinations for declaration of result with the prior approval of Vice-Chancellor.

20. Award of Degree

i) M. Tech. by Research

Candidates enrolled in Integrated Ph. D shall be awarded with M. Tech. by Research if he/she wants to exit at the end of first year completing the course requirement and project work as per the regulations.

ii) Ph.D.

1. Upon submission of “No Objection Certificate” from the office of Research and Development, the university shall issue a Ph.D. provisional certificate to the candidate from the office of the Controller of Examinations.
2. The university shall award the Ph.D. degree certificate to the candidate during the upcoming convocation based on the recommendation by the Board of Management of KARE.
3. However, for those who have qualified for the Ph.D. Degree in inter/multidisciplinary, the University may issue the degree in the respective discipline based on the recommendations of the Research Advisory Committee (RAC).

21. Cancellation of Registration

- (1) In two successive reviews, if the RAC decides that the progress of the Scholar is unsatisfactory, it shall record the reasons for the same and suggest corrective measures. If the Scholar fails to implement these corrective measures, the RAC may recommend to the Director (R&D) with specific reasons for cancellation of the registration of the research scholar.
- (2) Before recommending a cancellation of Ph.D. registration, the RAC should issue a notice to the candidate for his/her explanation. If the explanation is not agreed by the RAC, the provisional registration of the candidate shall stand cancelled.

- (3) A scholar who voluntarily withdraw/cancel his/her registration for any reason thereof, shall submit an request application through the proper channel to the Director (R&D) and university whose decision in such matters shall be deemed as final.
- (4) The registration of the Ph.D. scholar shall be cancelled if he/she has not paid the semester fees for two consecutive semesters/not attended two consecutive reviews.
- (5) The registration of the Ph.D. scholar shall be cancelled if he/she has exceeded the maximum programme duration stipulated for a Ph.D. programme.
- (6) The registration of the Ph.D. scholar shall be immediately cancelled upon involvement in any act violation leading to a defamation and allegations to the university.

22. Depository with INFLIBNET and The University

- (1) One soft copy of the thesis shall be submitted to the university coordinator (SHODHGANGA) for hosting the same on its Information and Library Network (INFLIBNET), accessible to all higher educational and research institutions.
- (2) One hard copy of the thesis shall be recorded in the university library reference section and one separate copy shall be maintained in the office of the Director(R&D).

23. Discipline and Ethics

- (1) KARE Policy on Code of ethics in research shall be applicable to all the registered scholar of the University.
- (2) Every Scholar enrolled on the Ph.D. Programme are expected to adhere to standards of behavioural discipline both inside and outside the university as per the Code of Ethics of KARE and shall not indulge in any activity that could bring down the reputation of the University.
- (3) Any act of indiscipline of scholar shall be referred to the university disciplinary committee for inquiry and necessary action to be imposed immediately.
- (4) Any act of unethical practices, including plagiarism by a scholar, shall automatically result in the termination from the Programme and the admission stands cancelled. Further, such a candidate shall not be eligible to apply for any programme of study offered by the University.

24. Interpretation

- (1) The Vice-Chancellor shall decide on any questions/issues regarding the interpretation of the mentioned Regulations, if any, and the decision shall be final.

- (2) The University shall have the power to clarify any doubt, difficulty or anomaly that may arise during the implementation of the provisions of the mentioned Regulations.

25. Power to Modify:

The URB has a right to modify/make changes in any of the clauses depending on the notification of UGC guidelines time to time.



KALASALINGAM

ACADEMY OF RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

(DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY)

Under sec. 3 of UGC Act 1956. Accredited by NAAC with "A" Grade



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