




UNIVERSITY OF CALCUTTA

Notification No. CSR/ 16 /18

It is notified for information of all concerned that the Syndicate in its meeting held on 28.05.2018 (vide Item No.20) approved the modified Ph.D. Rules and Regulations of Ramakrishna Mission Residential College (Autonomous), Narendrapur, Kolkata, as laid down in the accompanying pamphlet.

The above shall be effective from 28.05.2018

SENATE HOUSE
KOLKATA-700073
The 5th July, 2018


(Dr. Santanu Paul)
Deputy Registrar

Ramakrishna Mission Residential College (Autonomous)
Vivekananda Centre for Research
Ph.D. Rules & Regulations

In exercise of the powers conferred by Section-54 of Calcutta University Act 1979 and The West Bengal Universities Laws (Amendment) Act 2011, the University of Calcutta hereby makes the following Regulations, namely:-

Short Title, Application & Commencement:

1. These regulations may be called the ***Vivekananda Centre for Research at Ramakrishna Mission Residential College (Autonomous), Narendrapur, affiliated to University of Calcutta, (Regulation for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy, Ph.D.), Regulations 2016.***

They shall apply to every candidate applying for admission, and subsequent registration, conduct and conferment of the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) at this ***Vivekananda Centre for Research (henceforth to be called as VCR)*** of this autonomous college affiliated to University of Calcutta.

They shall come into force with the passing of the same by the Syndicate of the University of Calcutta.

Notwithstanding anything contained in any other Rule or Regulation for the time being in force, all admissions, and subsequent registrations, course works and conferment of Degrees shall be guided by these regulations framed as per guidelines of the University Grants Commission (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of M.Phil. /Ph.D. Degrees) Regulations, 2016.

2. GENERAL:

The Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) shall be awarded to a candidate on the basis of original research work of merit incorporated in a thesis, recommended by a board of examiners and successfully defended by the candidate during a Viva-Voce.

2.1 The thesis shall demonstrate that the candidate has technical mastery of the chosen field of investigation and is capable of doing scholarly work. The result of research embodied in the thesis shall be a contribution to existing knowledge either by a discovery of new facts or by a discovery of some new relations between facts already known, or by a critical survey of fact/issues leading to a new interpretation. The thesis is to be ordinarily written in English. If a candidate desires to submit a thesis written in Bengali or any other language or in a bilingual form, the relevant **Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee** shall consider the case on academic grounds and shall recommend to the Principal for approval.

3. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION TO PH.D. PROGRAMME:

Subject to the conditions stipulated in these Regulations, the following persons are eligible to seek admission to the Ph.D. programme:

3.1 Candidates for admission to the Ph.D. programme shall have a Master's degree or a degree declared equivalent to the Master's degree by the corresponding statutory regulatory body of the affiliating University, with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade 'B' in the UGC 7-point scale (or an equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed) or an equivalent degree 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 for the purpose of assessing, accrediting or assuring quality and standards of educational institutions.

3.2 A relaxation of 5% of marks, from 55% to 50%, or an equivalent relaxation of grade, may be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/Differently-abled and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the UGC from time to time, or for those who had obtained their Master's degree prior to 19th September, 1991. The eligibility marks of 55% (or an equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed) and the relaxation of 5% to the categories mentioned above are permissible based only on the qualifying marks without including the grace mark procedures.

4. DURATION OF THE PH.D. PROGRAMME:

4.1 Ph.D. programme shall be for a minimum duration of three years, including course work and a maximum of six years since admission (i.e. enrolment).

4.2 Extension beyond the above limits will be governed by the relevant clauses as stipulated in these Regulations.

5. PROCEDURE FOR ADMISSION:

5.1 The college shall admit a Ph.D. student through an entrance test followed by an interview. The students who have cleared UGC/CSIR (JRF) Examinations / NET / SET / SLET /GATE or have obtained DST INSPIRE Fellowship /Teacher fellowship or have passed equivalent examinations or passed the M.Phil./ M.Tech / M.D/ M.E./ M.Pharm or equivalent examination shall not be required to appear at the Ph.D. entrance test.

5.1A In case of candidates holding a qualifying degree from other Universities, admission for the Ph.D. programme will proceed after determination of equivalence by the relevant University body and fulfilment of the admission criteria.

5.1B Foreign students will be required to produce clearance from the Government of India and /or other appropriate authorities, if any, for admission to the Ph.D.

programme. Enrolment in the Ph. D. programme may be allowed to only such foreign nationals as have obtained and are holding research visa after fulfilment of other admission criteria.

5.2 The number of seats for the Ph.D. programme decided in advance on annual basis as per UGC Ph.D. Regulations, 2016 Guidelines for each department of the college shall be notified on the website by the concerned department of the college. The college department shall widely advertise in at least two (2) national newspapers of which at least one (1) shall be in the regional language, the number of available seats for the Ph.D. studies, subject/discipline-wise distribution of available seats, criteria for admission, procedure for admission, examination centre(s) where entrance test(s) shall be conducted and all other relevant information and conduct admission on a regular basis, the frequency of which shall be determined by the concerned college department from time to time.

5.3 Ordinarily, a candidate seeking admission to the Ph.D. programme will appear at the Entrance Test in the subject in which he has obtained the Masters degree. In case a candidate wishes to apply for admission to the Ph.D. programme in a subject other than the one in which he has obtained the qualifying degree, he will have to seek an endorsement by the **Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee** of the subject in which he seeks admission as a Ph.D. student, at the time of the submission of his application for admission to the Ph.D. programme.

5.4 The qualifying marks for Entrance Test will be 50%.

5.5 The entrance test shall be followed by an interview to be conducted by the concerned department of the college. A candidate who has been exempted from appearing at the entrance test shall also be required to appear at the interview. At the time of interview candidates seeking admission to the Ph.D. programme will be expected to discuss their research interest/area.

5.6 The interview shall also consider the following aspects. viz. whether:

5.6A. The candidate possesses the competence for the proposed research; 5.6B. The research work can be suitably undertaken at the College;

5.6C. The proposed area of research can contribute to new/additional knowledge.

5.7 Candidates selected for the Ph.D. programme will be attached to research supervisor(s) by the Department at the time of their admission and shall be required to enrol as a probationary Ph.D. student on payment of a non-refundable fee determined by the college.

5.8 While granting admission to a Ph.D. student, the concerned Department shall pay due attention to the National/State reservation policy.

5.9 A probationary Ph.D. student will be required to complete his Ph.D. registration within two years from the date of his Enrolment, failing which his admission in the Ph.D. programme shall automatically stand cancelled.

The date of enrolment shall be deemed to be the date of approval of the selected list of successful candidates by the Principal.

A candidate selected for enrolment for Ph.D. programme as a probationary Ph.D. student shall be issued an Enrolment Certificate stating his name, subject for his Ph.D. programme, date of enrolment, validity of two years from the date of enrolment and name(s) of supervisor(s). This certificate is to be issued by the Principal of the college.

If after enrolment, a change of Supervisor or of Joint Supervisor or of both is considered necessary, the candidate may apply to the Departmental Committee through the proposed Supervisor(s) for the purpose, and with the concurrence of the previous Supervisor(s). The Head of the concerned Department will forward such applications along with the recommendations of the Departmental Committee to the Principal for approval.

In case of continuous non-availability of the Supervisor(s), the Departmental Committee may, on the request by the candidate, recommend suitable replacement(s) to the Principal.

In the event of the death of a Supervisor, the Departmental Committee, on being requested by the student, shall recommend to the Principal another recognized Supervisor for supervision of the research work.

6. REGISTRATION:

6.1 Any person holding a Master's Degree of the University of Calcutta or its equivalent of a recognized University or Institute and has fulfilled the admission requirements stated above, may apply for registration to the Ph.D. Programme in the form prescribed for the purpose along with a non-refundable fee as decided upon by the College.

6.2 The Ph.D. Programme shall be carried out in the in the College Department.

6.3 If the research programme requires utilization of facilities outside the jurisdiction of the College, a student may avail of such facilities with the permission of the Principal of the college on recommendation of the Supervisor.

6.4 Special provision for the Ph. D. Programme for candidates with Post B.Sc.- B.Tech/B.Tech../B.E., M.B.B.S., equivalent degree in Law, Social Science, Business Management, Humanities and Library Science:

(a) A candidate with Post B.Sc. - B.Tech/B.Tech../B.E., M.B.B.S., equivalent degrees in Law, Social Science, Business Management, Humanities and Library Science having passed the entrance test and after being admitted to the PhD programme may apply for registration for the Ph. D. Programme as per provision laid down in the Ph.D. regulations.

(b) Application for registration will be considered by the relevant **Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee** at its meeting in the presence of the Supervisor, if any. On the recommendation of the **Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee** concerned and with due approval of the Principal, the candidate will be allowed to be registered provisionally for the Ph.D. Programme. The student will have to qualify in three relevant papers of the relevant P.G. Course of the respective department within two years from the date of provisional registration for being registered for the Ph.D. Programme. The proposal of the candidate for appearing at the three papers will be decided by the Supervisor and the Head of the Department with due concurrence from the **Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee** concerned. The student will apply to the controller of Examinations for permission to appear according to usual procedure. There will be no bar of minimum attendance for such candidates. After qualifying in the above mentioned three papers, the candidate will apply to the Principal for approval of his provisional date of registration as the date of Ph.D. registration as per Ph.D. regulations.

(c) If a student has three publications in peer reviewed journals of the relevant discipline, he may be allowed, on recommendation of the **Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee**, to register directly without having to qualify in three papers of the relevant P.G. Course concerned.

6.5 Every application for registration in prescribed form shall state the subject or interdisciplinary field in which the candidate desires to have the degree, chosen area of specialization, the title of the research, the name of the Supervisor as well as the college Department where the Ph.D. programme will be carried out. The application shall be supported by six copies of the synopsis of the proposed research, which shall ordinarily not exceed 1000 words, and shall include a title, short introduction, a brief review of literature pertaining to the work, Research objectives, Research methodologies and the plan of work, duly countersigned by the Supervisor and Joint Supervisor, if any.

6.6 Application for registration will be considered by the relevant **PhD. Research Advisory Committee** at its meeting in the presence of the Supervisor and the Joint Supervisor, if any, who will share the responsibility equally with the Supervisor for guiding the research work. The Ph.D. scholar is required to present his 1000-word-synopsis before the **Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee**. On the recommendation of the **PhD. Research Advisory Committee** concerned and with the due approval of the Principal or his nominee, the candidate will be allowed to be registered for the Ph. D. programme. The college shall maintain the list of all the Ph.D. registered students on its website on year-wise basis. The list shall include the name of the registered candidate, topic of his research, name of his supervisor and Joint supervisor, if any, date of enrolment/registration.

If the **Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee** does not consider a Synopsis/Plan of work as fit for recommendation, it shall again be examined by the Committee ordinarily within three months, after proper revision by the candidate in the light of the suggestions made by the relevant **Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee**. If, even after this revision of the content, the **Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee** does not recommend the

case, the matter shall be placed at the meeting of the **Higher Research Advisory Committee** concerned.

6.7 Ordinarily, a Ph.D. student will be registered for a Ph.D. programme in a subject in which the candidate has obtained Master's Degree. In case a candidate applies for Ph.D. registration in a subject other than in which he has obtained Master's degree, registration will be decided by the **Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee** of the subject in which the candidate desires to be registered for Ph.D. programme.(To be read with clause 5.3 of the regulation.)

6.8 In all cases, the date of registration shall be deemed to be the date of approval by the Principal, on the recommendation of the **Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee**. The registration of a candidate shall remain valid for a period of **six years from the date of enrolment (vide clause 5.9)**. In case of failure to submit the thesis within the stipulated time, a Ph. D. student shall have to apply for re-registration before expiry of the tenure of the existing registration. Ordinarily, a student will be allowed to be re-registered for once only. The continuity of the research work will, however, be maintained and the candidate will be exempted from other procedural formalities, if completed earlier.

The validity of re-registration will be of five (05) years from the date of re-registration which will be deemed to be the next date of the date of expiry of the preceding Ph.D. registration, subject to approval of the Principal granting such re-registration.

6.9 The title of the thesis and the synopsis may be modified, if necessary, by the student and duly forwarded by the Supervisor with due concurrence of the **Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee** concerned. However, such modification will ordinary not be permitted after submission of the seminar report by the **Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee**.

7. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR Ph.D. SUPERVISOR:

Each **Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee** shall maintain a list of Research Supervisors duly approved by the Principal upon the Committee's recommendation. The committee shall send the list(s) and also the subsequent changes/additions to the Principal.

7.1 The criteria for the faculty members to be recognized as Research Supervisor shall be:

- a) Any regular teacher / equivalent academic staff of this College or University of Calcutta or University of Calcutta affiliated Colleges or scientists and academics of Sister Institutes of University of Calcutta can take Ph.D. scholar enrolled under them.
 - i) Any regular Professor / equivalent academic staff / equivalent position at the **sister institute** of the University of Calcutta and Colleges affiliated to the University of Calcutta.

Any regular Associate/Assistant Professor /equivalent position at the **sister institute** of the University of Calcutta / Colleges affiliated to the University of Calcutta with a Ph.D. degree and at least two research publications in refereed journals may be recognized as Research Supervisor.

Provided that in areas /disciplines where there is no or only a limited number of refereed journals, the College may relax the above condition for recognition of a person as Research Supervisor with reasons recorded in writing.

ii) Only a full time regular teacher of this College /Colleges affiliated to the University of Calcutta and persons in equivalent positions at the sister institute of the University of Calcutta can act as a supervisor. The external supervisors are not allowed. However, Joint Supervisor can be allowed in inter-disciplinary areas from other departments of this college or from other related institutions with the approval of the **Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee**.

iii)The allocation of Research Supervisor for a selected research scholar shall be decided by the Departmental Committee depending on the number of scholars per Research Supervisor, the available specialization among the Supervisors and research interests of the scholars as indicated by them at the time of interview.

iv) In case of topics which are of inter-disciplinary nature where the Departmental Committee feels that the expertise in the Department has to be supplemented from outside, the Departmental Committee may appoint a Research Supervisor from the Department itself, who shall be known as the Supervisor, and a Joint /Associate Supervisor from outside the Department/Faculty/College/Institution on such terms and conditions as may be specified and agreed upon by the consenting Institutions/Colleges.

v) A Supervisor who is a Professor / equivalent position at the sister institute, at any given point of time, cannot guide more than Eight (8) Ph.D. scholars. An Associate Professor / equivalent position at the sister institute as Supervisor can guide up to a maximum of six (6) Ph.D. scholars and an Assistant Professor / equivalent position at the sister institute as Supervisor can guide up to a maximum of four (4) Ph.D. scholars.

b) In case of collaborative research work, teachers of other recognized Universities/ Institutes may be allowed to act as Joint Supervisors, if deemed fit by relevant **Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee**.

7.2 The Ph.D. programme shall be pursued by a candidate ordinarily for a minimum period of three (3) years after enrolment /admission in Departments of the college or Sister Institutes of the University of Calcutta, under the supervision of the recognized Research Supervisor(s).

7.3 If after registration, a change of Supervisor or of the Joint Supervisor or of both is considered necessary, the candidate may apply to the Convener of the relevant **Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee** through the proposed Supervisor for the purpose, and with the concurrence of the previous Supervisor, ordinarily within one year from the date of registration. The Convener of the relevant **Ph.D. Research**

Advisory Committee will forward such applications to the Principal for approval. In case of continuous non-availability of the Supervisor(s), the **Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee** may, on the request by the candidate, recommend suitable replacement(s) to the Principal. The Principal may also allow such candidates to submit their thesis independently.

In the event of the death of a Supervisor, the **Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee**, on being requested by the student, shall recommend to the Principal another recognized Supervisor for supervision of the research work.

In exceptional circumstances, the Principal may in consultation with the relevant **Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee**, allow a student to pursue a Ph.D. programme independently.

7.4 In addition to the Supervisor and/or Joint Supervisor, an Associate Supervisor may also be recommended by the Supervisor at the time of the enrolment/registration or at a later stage in special cases, where the research work involves study or investigation in more than one subject or area of knowledge, and the student needs guidance from an expert in an allied area of knowledge for part of the research work. The Supervisor, while recommending the name of an Associate Supervisor, shall indicate the part of the research work for which the help of the Associate Supervisor is required.

7.5 The number of Ph.D. candidates of this college may be determined annually by the concerned department from time to time in accordance with the U.G.C. regulations. A Supervisor shall not have, at any given point of time more than the number of Ph.D. students, as mentioned in clause 7.1a (v).

8. ALLOCATION OF SUPERVISOR:

The allocation of a supervisor for a selected student shall be decided by the Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee in a formal manner depending on the number of students working under the supervision of each supervisor, the available specialization among the faculty supervisors, the research interest of the student as indicated during the interview by the student and finally in consultation with the respective student and the faculty member. The allocation of supervisor shall not be left to the individual student or teacher except where the terms and conditions of the research fellowship/grant enjoyed by the student determine the choice of the supervisor.

9. COURSE WORK: CREDIT REQUIREMENTS, NUMBER, DURATION, SYLLABUS, MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR COMPLETION, ETC.

9.1 The credit assigned to the Ph.D. course work shall be of 16.

9.2 The course work shall be treated as prerequisite for Ph.D. preparation. A minimum of four credits shall be assigned to one or more courses on Research Methodology which could cover areas such as quantitative methods, computer applications, research ethics and review of published research in the relevant field, training, field work, etc. Other courses shall be advanced level courses preparing the students for Ph.D. degree.

9.3 All courses prescribed for Ph.D. course work shall be in conformity with the credit hour instructional requirement and shall specify content, instructional and assessment methods. They shall be duly approved by the authorized academic bodies.

- 9.4 The Department where the scholar pursues his research shall prescribe the course(s) to him based on the recommendations of the **Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee**.
- 9.5 All candidates admitted to the Ph.D. programmes shall be required to complete the course work of one semester duration prescribed by the Department **within two years from the date of enrolment**.
- 9.6 Candidates already holding M. Phil. degree with course work and admitted to the Ph.D. programme, may be exempted by the Department from the Ph.D. course work. All other candidates admitted to the Ph.D. programme shall be required to complete the Ph.D. course work prescribed by the Department.
- 9.7 Grades in the course work, including research methodology courses shall be finalized after a combined assessment by the **Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee** and the **Department** and the final grades shall be communicated to the **Principal**.
- 9.8 A Ph.D. scholar has to obtain a minimum of 55% of marks or its equivalent grade in the UGC 7-point scale (or an equivalent grade/CGPA in a point scale wherever grading system is followed) in the course work in order to be eligible to continue in the programme and submit the dissertation/thesis.

The College departments and/or other authorities conducting Course work are to issue the marksheet or equivalent grade card as described above. Marksheet / Grade Card are to be issued under the signature of the Principal.

9.9 Only upon the satisfactory completion of course work, the department and/or other authorities will provide a completion certificate to the Ph.D. student. Such students will be allowed to make the pre-Ph.D. presentation at the Departmental seminar after registration for Ph.D. programme.

The **Principal** will sign the Coursework Completion Certificate.

9.10 The Course work may be carried out in a sister department either within or outside the College/Institutes including Sister Institute or in an affiliated college of University of Calcutta for which due credit shall be given to Ph.D. Students. The Course work from other Institutes must get the equivalence clearance from the **Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee** concerned.

10. SUBMISSION AND EVALUATION:

10.1 Prior to submission of thesis, the candidate shall through the Supervisor (Joint Convenor) forward to the Convenor of the **Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee** six copies of the summary of work preferably within 5000 words. The Convenor of the **Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee** shall circulate the summary to the members of the **Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee** at least fifteen days before holding a Departmental Seminar. At the pre Ph.D. seminar, the candidate shall report the research

work in the presence of at least three members of the **Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee** and the Supervisor (Joint Convenor). The Head of the Department, the Joint Supervisor and the Associate Supervisor, if any, should be invited to the seminar. Notice of the seminar shall be circulated amongst teachers and the same be put up on the Departmental Notice Board and may also be sent to the Heads of the allied Departments.

10.2 During the seminar any member of the Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee or any faculty member present may put forward specific suggestions, if any, to the candidate, and if necessary, in writing. The candidate will be required to work upon the suggestions given by the committee.

10.3 If required, the **Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee** may ask the candidate to reappear at the seminar.

10.4 Immediately after the seminar, the Convenor of the **Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee** shall forward to the Principal a report in the prescribed form, on the performance of the candidate.

10.5 At least three months prior to submission of the thesis, the Supervisor and the members of the Ph.D. Committee shall meet to prepare a panel of six experts for the written part of the thesis (preferably from outside the state) and a panel of three experts for the Viva-voce. The Convenor of the Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee shall forthwith send to the Principal/Vice Principal the recommended panel of experts, may be along with their consents, to be obtained by the Supervisor and duly endorsed by the Convenor, for adjudication of the thesis, and a panel of three examiners for the Viva-voce, along with eight copies of the abstract of the thesis of the candidate, not exceeding 350 words (Submission in electronic format may also be allowed).

10.6 The Ph.D. thesis submitted by a research scholar shall be evaluated by his Research Supervisor, and Joint Supervisor, if any and at least two external examiners to be appointed ordinarily by the Principal and in case where Principal is the Supervisor, the appointment of Examiner will be made by the Vice Principal. However, in no case, the Principal and Vice Principal will supervise a student jointly. Such examiners will not be in employment of the College/ University of Calcutta, of whom one examiner may be from outside the state/country.

10.7 Ph.D. candidates shall at least publish one research paper in a refereed journal before the submission of the thesis/monograph for adjudication, and produce evidence for the same in the form of acceptance letter or the reprint. Where refereed journals are not available, Departmental committee will submit the names of available journals in the related discipline to the **Higher Research Advisory Committee** for consideration in place of refereed journals.

10.8 Ph.D. scholars, apart from presentation in the Departmental Seminar, (vide clause No. 10.1), must make one paper presentation in conference/seminar before the submission of the thesis for adjudication, and produce evidence for the same in the form of presentation certificate.

- 10.9 The candidate shall submit four (five, in case there is a Joint Supervisor) type written or printed copies, having print on both sides of a page, of the thesis along with electronic version (CD in prescribed .pdf Format) attached to each copy of thesis and also an extra copy of electronic version, within six (6) years but not ordinarily earlier than three (3) years from the date of enrolment for the Ph.D. programme.

In case candidate fails to submit his thesis within six (6) years as stipulated, the clause of Re-registration (6.8) will apply.

- 10.10 The candidate shall also deposit a fee, as decided upon by the College, along with a prescribed form duly filled in by the candidate, a certificate from the Supervisor and Joint Supervisor, if any, as well as attested copies of necessary documents at the time of submission of the thesis.

- 10.11 The candidate may also submit in support of the thesis the contents of any work which may have been done previously by him, but the candidate shall not submit any work for which a degree or distinction has been conferred on the candidate by the University of Calcutta or by any other University. The candidate will not, however, be precluded from incorporating any such work in a thesis covering a wider field, provided a clear statement of the work so incorporated is given.

- 10.12 The College shall evolve a mechanism using well developed software and gadgets to detect plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty. While submitting for evaluation, the thesis shall have an undertaking from the research scholar and a certificate from Research Supervisor attesting to 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 University of Calcutta or to any other Institution.

- 10.13 The Principal shall appoint a panel of three experts including the Supervisor (or four experts, if there is Joint Supervisor), out of which at least one shall be from outside the State, after considering the suggestion of the relevant **Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee** for adjudication of the thesis (The adjudicators/examiners shall send the report in the prescribed format).

- 10.14 When a thesis is unanimously and unconditionally recommended for the Degree by all the examiners, the candidate will be eligible for appearing at the Viva-Voce.

If any examiner suggests modifications/corrections to incorporate in the thesis, the Principal may ask the candidate to incorporate such modifications/corrections in his thesis before viva-voce.

The Principal may also consider to send back the modified/corrected thesis, as submitted by the candidate, to the concerned examiner, if it is so desired by the examiner, for his/her final observation on the modified/corrected thesis.

10.15 If there is any ambiguity or conditionality in the reports of the examiners, the Principal may consider the appointment of a third external examiner.

10.16 In case of non-recommendation by one of the external examiners, the Principal may consider the appointment of a third external examiner from the existing panel of examiners or if necessary, from a new panel recommended by the **Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee**.

The Principal may also, if necessary, refer such and other cases to the **Higher Research Advisory Committee**, constituted for the purpose.

The **Higher Research Advisory Committee** shall consist of the following members:

Principal (Chairman)

Vice-Principal, (Vice Chairman)

Controller of Examinations / Deputy Controller of Examinations

Minimum five (5) faculty members with research background to be nominated by the Principal

Three (3) External Experts to be nominated by the Principal

The quorum of a meeting of Higher Research Advisory Committee will be counted by the presence of 50% of total members plus one.

11. CONSTITUTION OF THE PH.D. RESEARCH ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

11.1 The Ph.D. Programme shall be monitored by the Vivekananda Centre for Research (VCR) with the help of the **Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee**.

11.2 The Principal shall constitute Ph.D. Research Advisory committees on various subjects or distinct specializations within subjects and inter-disciplinary fields in consultation with the relevant Departmental Committee and such a Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee should be approved by the Academic Council of this Autonomous College.

11.3 The constitution of the **Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee** shall be the following :

Principal, Chairman

Vice Principal, Vice Chairman

Head of the Department, Convenor

Supervisor, Jt. Convenor (in respect of each individual enrolled/registered candidate)

One Teacher of the concerned/related department of the affiliating University (External Expert) to be nominated by the Vice-Chancellor of the affiliating University

Two Teachers of the concerned/related department of the any other University (External Expert) to be nominated by the Principal

11.4 The tenure of a Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee shall be for a period of four years unless otherwise decided by the Principal. The Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee shall ordinarily meet once a month and resolutions of such meetings shall be maintained by the Convener.

11.5 The quorum of a meeting of Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee will be counted by the presence of 50% of total members plus one. Apart from the quorum, the presence of at least one external expert in every Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee meeting is mandatory. If two consecutive meetings fall through due to lack of quorum, the matter will be referred to the Principal for appropriate action.

12. VIVA – VOCE:

12.1 At the Viva-Voce, the candidate shall be examined by the Supervisor and the Joint Supervisor (if there is any) and an expert to be appointed by the Principal/Vice Principal from the two External Examiners of the Thesis. Copies of reports of the adjudicators on the written part of the thesis shall be sent to the examiners conducting the Viva-Voce prior to the Viva-Voce. Viva-Voce may be conducted through Video Conferencing with the permission from the Principal/Vice Principal. During viva-voce the candidate shall respond to the queries, if any, made by the examiners, which will be forwarded by the viva voce examiners to the Principal along with the viva voce report.

12.2 The Viva-voce examination, shall be based, among other things, on the critiques given in the evaluation report and shall be open to be attended by the members of the Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee, all Faculty Members of the Department, other research scholars and other interested experts/researchers.

12.3 The examiners of the Viva-Voce shall jointly submit a report to the Principal/Vice Principal on the performance of the candidate at the said examination, clearly indicating whether the candidate deserves to be admitted to the Ph.D. Degree. If the candidate fails to satisfy the examiners at the Viva-Voce, the candidate shall be allowed by the Principal/Vice Principal to appear again at a Viva-Voce after a period of three months from the date of the first Viva-Voce.

12.4 The Principal, after considering the reports on the thesis and the Viva-Voce, shall recommend to the Academic Council of the College for the award of the Ph.D. Degree to the candidate. The Academic Council shall forthwith provisionally award the degree to the candidate under the signature of the Principal and report the same to the Vice Chancellor of the University of Calcutta for final conferment of the degree.

12.5 A Diploma under the seal of the University and signed by the Vice Chancellor in the following format will be given to each successful candidate at the next annual

convocation of the College.

"This is to certify that (name of the awardee) obtained the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in (name of the subject: within parentheses, broad field of specialization, if any) under the Vivekananda Centre for Research at Ramakrishna Mission Residential College (Autonomous), an autonomous College affiliated to University of Calcutta in the year (year of admittance to the degree)".

12.6 In case a candidate is not awarded the Degree on the basis of reports of the adjudicators or of the Viva-Voce examiners, the Principal on the recommendation of the Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee concerned, may permit the candidate to resubmit the thesis after necessary corrections or modifications after six months but within two years from the date on payment of usual fee for submission.

12.7 A copy of the thesis accepted for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy, with necessary corrections or modifications, if there be any, shall be retained in the College Library.

13. Award of degrees to candidates enrolled/registered for the Ph.D. programme on or after 07.10.2015 till the date of approval of these Regulations by the Syndicate followed by Notification shall be governed by the provisions of the **Vivekananda Centre for Research at Ramakrishna Mission Residential College (Autonomous), Narendrapur, affiliated to University of Calcutta, (Regulations for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy, Ph.D.), Regulations 2015** framed under the guidelines of the University Grants Commission (Minimum Standards and procedure for Award of M.Phil. /Ph.D. Degree) Regulation, 2009.

14. Depository With UGC:

14.1 Following the successful completion of the evaluation process and announcement of the award of the Ph.D. degree, the College shall submit a soft copy of the Ph.D. thesis to the UGC within a period of thirty days, for hosting the same in INFLIBNET, accessible to all Institutions/ Universities.

14.2 Along with the Degree, the College shall issue a Provisional Certificate certifying to the effect that the Degree has been awarded in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations framed under the guidelines of the University Grants Commission (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of M.Phil. /Ph.D. Degrees) Regulations, 2016.

REPEAL

(i) All previous Regulations or Rules on the Ph.D. Programme of this college do hereby stand repealed.