
**REPORT OF THE SUBJECT COMMITTEE
ON
THE UNIVERSITY LAWS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2025
AND
THE BILL AS REPORTED BY THE SUBJECT COMMITTEE**

Presented on 12th March, 2025

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SUBJECT COMMITTEE VI

(EDUCATION)

(2023-2026)

Composition

Chairperson:

Shri V. Sivankutty,
Minister for General Education and Labour.

Ex-officio Members:

DR. R. Bindu,,
Minister for Higher Education and Social Justice.

Shri Saji Cherian,
Minister for Fisheries, Culture and Youth Affairs

Members:

Prof. Abid Hussain Tangal

Shri M. S. Arun Kumar

Shri T. V. Ibrahim

Shri Muhammed Muhassin

Shri K. M. Sachindev

Shri Rahul Mankoothathil

Shri T. I. Madhusoodanan

Shri M. Vijin

Legislature Secretariat :

DR. N. Krishna Kumar, Secretary

Smt. Sudarsana K., Joint Secretary

Shri Jayakumar G., Deputy Secretary

Smt. Shamy J., Under Secretary.

THE UNIVERSITY LAWS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2025

(Report of the Subject Committee)

Subject Committee VI (Education) to which The University Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2025 was referred, considered the Bill (Bill No. 241) clause by clause and now submits this report with the Bill as reported by the Subject Committee annexed thereto.

2. The University Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2025 was published as a Gazette Extraordinary dated 18th February 2025. The Bill was introduced in the Assembly on 3rd March, 2025 and was referred to the Subject Committee on the same day.

3. The Committee considered the Bill clause by clause at the meeting held on 4th March, 2025 and recommends to adopt the Bill with the following modifications:

Clause 2

In Clause 2, which proposes to amend the Kerala University Act, 1947,—

(1) in sub-clause (a), clauses (33) to (40) proposed to be inserted after clause (32) of section 2 of the Act, the words “ of the Act” appearing at the end of each clause shall be omitted.

(2) in sub-clause (c), in sub-section(7) proposed to be substituted in section 8 of the Act, for the word “duties”, the word “functions” shall be substituted.

(3) in sub-clause (d), in the proviso to sub-section (13) proposed to be substituted in section 10 of the Act, for the word “difference”, the words “difference of opinion” shall be substituted.

(4) in sub-clause (e), in sub-section (3) proposed to be substituted in section 11 of the Act, for the word “Professor”, the words “Associate Professor” shall be substituted.

(5) in sub-clause (h), in section 21 of the Act, under the heading “Other Members”,—

(a) in sub-item (iii) of item (a) proposed to be substituted, for the words “University teacher”, the words “teacher of the University” shall be substituted;

(b) in item (d) proposed to be substituted, for the words “Vice Chancellor”, the words “Syndicate” shall be substituted;

(6) in sub-clause (i), in item (xxiii) of section 23 proposed to be inserted, for the words “to exercise powers and functions”, the words “to exercise the powers and perform the functions” shall be substituted.

(7) in sub-clause (l), in sub-section (2) of section 25A proposed to be inserted in the Act,—

(a) in clause (e), for the word “two”, the word “three” shall be substituted;

(b) in clause (g), for the words and symbol “two external experts, outside the University”, the words “two experts from outside the University” shall be substituted.

(8) in sub-clause (n), in section 28, proposed to be substituted in the Act,

(a) in sub-section (1), for the words “department of study” the words “department of study or discipline” shall be substituted;

(b) in the proviso to sub-section (3), for the words “lesser experience” the words, “less than ten years of regular service” shall be substituted.

(c) in section 28A proposed to be inserted in the Act,—

(i) in sub-section (2), for the words “Chairperson shall have minimum” the words, “the Chairperson shall be a teacher with a minimum of ” shall be substituted;

(ii) in sub-section (3), for the words “Expert Committee shall have minimum” the words, “Expert Committee shall be teachers with a minimum of ” shall be substituted;

(iii) in the proviso, to sub-section (3), for the words “may also”, the word “shall” shall be substituted;

(iv) in sub-section (4), the word “external” shall be omitted.

(9) in sub-clause (v), in sub-section (2) of section 45 of the Act, for the words “Kerala Bank” the words, “Kerala State Co-operative Bank Limited” shall be substituted.

(10) in sub-clause(y),—

(a) in sub-section (2) of section 53A proposed to be inserted, for clause (c), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:—

“(c) Heads of the departments from all departments including single faculty departments and department of Physical Education;”

(11) in sub-clause (z), in section 57, for sub-section (10) the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(10) Any person aggrieved by any appointment under this section may make a complaint to the Vice-Chancellor within thirty days from the date of issuance of the appointment order and the Vice Chancellor shall dispose of the complaint in the manner prescribed by the Statutes within sixty days from the date of filing complaint.

(11) If he is not satisfied with the decision of Vice-Chancellor, he may prefer an appeal to the Appellate Tribunal within thirty days from the date of the order of the Vice-Chancellor and the decision of the Appellate Tribunal shall be final.”

(12) The Committee recommends to add 'sub-clause (ya)' after sub-clause(y) and by the clause so added, proposes the following amendments in section 56 of the Principal Act, namely:—

“in section 56 of the Principal Act,—

(i) in sub-section (1), for the words “within such a time”, the words “at any time of the year” shall be substituted;

(ii) proviso to sub-section (2) shall be omitted.”.

Clause 3

In Clause 3, which proposes to amend the Calicut University Act, 1975,—

(1) in sub-clause (a), clauses (33) to (40) proposed to be inserted after clause (32) of section 2 of the Act, the words “of the Act” appearing at the end of each clause shall be omitted.

(2) in sub-clause (c), in sub-section (7) of section 8 proposed to be substituted, for the word “duties” the word, “functions” shall be substituted.

(3) in sub-clause (d), in the proviso to sub-section (13) proposed to be substituted in section 10 of the Act, for the word “difference” the words, “difference of opinion” shall be substituted.

(4) in sub-clause (e), in sub-section (3) proposed to be substituted in section 11 of the Act, for the word “Professor” the words “Associate Professor” shall be substituted.

(5) in sub-clause (h), in section 21 of the Act, in item (d) proposed to be substituted, for the words “Vice Chancellor” the word, “Syndicate” shall be substituted.

(6) in sub-clause (i), in section 23,—

(a) in item (xva) proposed to be substituted, for the word “granted” the word, “awarded” shall be substituted;

(b) in item (xxiib) proposed to be inserted, for the words “as may be prescribed in this Act and as may be prescribed in the Statutes”, the words, “as may be prescribed in this Act and the Statutes” shall be substituted;

(c) in item (xxiie) proposed to be inserted, for the words “to exercise power and functions” the words, “to exercise the powers and perform the functions” shall be substituted;

(7) in sub-clause (1), section 25A proposed to be inserted in the Act,—

(a) in sub-section (2),—

(i) in clause (e), for the word “two” the word, “three” shall be substituted;

(ii) in clause (g), for the words and symbol "two external experts, outside the University" the words, "two experts from outside the University" shall be substituted.

(b) in sub-section (3), for the first sentence, the following sentence shall be substituted, namely:—

"The Vice-Chancellor shall be the Chairperson and the Director of Research shall be the Convenor of the Research Council."

(8) in sub-clause (n), in section 28,—

(a) in sub-section (1), for the words "department of study" the words "department of study or discipline" shall be substituted;

(b) in sub-section (3),—

(i) for the words " shall be a teacher" the words, "shall be teachers" shall be substituted;

(ii) in the proviso to sub-section (3) proposed to be substituted in the Act, for the words " lesser experience" the words, "less than ten years of regular service" shall be substituted.

(c) in section 28A proposed to be inserted in the Act,—

(i) in sub-section (2) for the words "Chairperson shall have" the words, "the Chairperson shall be a teacher with a" shall be substituted;

(ii) in sub -section (3), for the word "Expert Committee shall have" the words, "Expert Committee shall be teachers with a" shall be substituted;

(iii) in the proviso to sub-section (3), for the words "may also" the word "shall" shall be substituted;

(iv) in sub-section (4), the word "external" shall be omitted.

(9) in sub-clause (v), in sub-section (2) of section 45 of the Act, for the words “Kerala Bank” the words, “Kerala State Co-operative Bank Limited” shall be substituted.

(10) in sub-clause (y) in sub-section (2) of section 53A proposed to be inserted, for clause (c), the following clause shall be substituted namely:—

“(c) Heads of the departments from all departments including single faculty departments and department of Physical Education;”.

(11) in sub-clause (z), for sub-section (10) of section 57, the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(12) Any person aggrieved by any appointment under this section may make a complaint to the Vice-Chancellor within thirty days from the date of issuance of the appointment order and the Vice Chancellor shall dispose of the complaint in the manner prescribed by the Statutes within sixty days from the date of filing complaint.

(13) If he is not satisfied with the decision of Vice-Chancellor, he may prefer an appeal to the Appellate Tribunal within thirty days from the date of the order of the Vice-Chancellor and the decision of the Appellate Tribunal shall be final.”

(12) in sub-clause (zc), in sub-section (2) of section 68U proposed to be inserted, for the words “memorandum of understanding on agreement” the words, “memorandum of understanding or agreement” shall be substituted.

(13) The Committee recommends to add 'sub-clause (ya)' after sub-clause (y) and by the clause so added, proposes the following amendments in section 56 of the Principal Act, namely:—

“in section 56 of the Principal Act,—

(i) in sub-section (1), for the words “within such a time”, the words “at any time of the year” shall be substituted;

(ii) Proviso to sub-section (2) shall be omitted.

Clause 4

In Clause 4, which proposes to amend the Mahatma Gandhi University Act, 1985.—

(1) in sub-clause (a), in section 2,—

(a) in clause (35) proposed to be inserted, for the figures, letter and words “53A of the Act” the figures and letter “55A” shall be substituted;

(b) in clauses (36), (37) and (38) proposed to be inserted, for the words and figures " as per the provisions of Chapter X of this Act” the words and figures, “under section 122” shall be substituted;

(c) in clauses (39), (40), (41) and (42) proposed to be inserted, the words, “of the Act” shall be omitted.

(2) in sub-clause (b), in sub-section (7) of section 8 proposed to be substituted, for the word “duties” the word, “functions” shall be substituted.

(3) in sub-clause (c), in the proviso to sub-section (17) proposed to be substituted in section 10 of the Act, for the word “difference” the words, “difference of opinion” shall be substituted.

(4) in sub-clause (d), in sub-section (3) proposed to be substituted in section 11 of the Act, for the word “Professor” the words, “Associate Professor” shall be substituted.

(5) in sub-clause (e), for item (3a) proposed to be inserted in section 17 of the Act, the following item shall be substituted, namely:—

“(3a) Not more than five members nominated by the Government from the field of Higher Education of whom one shall be a woman and one shall be from Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe communities.”.

(6) in sub-clause(h), in section 21 of the Act,—

(a) in item (c) proposed to be substituted, for the words “Vice Chancellor” the word “Syndicate” shall be substituted;

(b) in item (d), for the words “referred to the item” the words, referred to in item” shall be substituted.

(7) in sub-clause (i), in the third proviso to section 22 proposed to be substituted, for the word and symbol “co-terminous” the word and symbol "co- terminus" shall be substituted.

(8) in sub-clause (j), in item (xxxivb) of section 23 proposed to be inserted, for the words “as may be prescribed in this Act and as may be prescribed in the Statutes” the words, “prescribed in this Act and the Statutes” shall be substituted.

(9) in sub-clause (m), in section 25A proposed to be inserted in the Act,—

(a) in sub-section (2),—

(i) in clause (e), for the word “two” the word, “three” shall be substituted;

(ii) in clause (g), for the words and symbol “two external experts, outside the University” the words, “two experts from outside the University” shall be substituted;

(b) in sub-section (3), for the first sentence, the following sentence shall be substituted, namely:—

“The Vice-Chancellor shall be the Chairperson and the Director of Research shall be the Convenor of the Research Council.”

(10) in sub-clause (o), in section 28,—

(a) in sub-section (1), for the words “department of study” the words “department of study or discipline” shall be substituted;

(b) in sub-section (2), for the words “Chairperson shall have a minimum” the words “the Chairperson shall be a teacher with a minimum” shall be substituted;

(c) in sub-section (3),—

(i) for the words “shall have” the words, “shall be teachers with” shall be substituted;

(ii) in the proviso to sub-section (3) proposed to be substituted in the Act, for the words “lesser experience” the words, “less than ten years of regular service” shall be substituted.

(d) in section 28A proposed to be inserted in the Act,—

(i) in sub-section (2) for the words “Chairperson shall have minimum” the words “the Chairperson shall be a teacher with a minimum of ” shall be substituted;

(ii) in sub-section (3),—

(a) for the words “Expert Committee shall have minimum” the words “Expert Committee shall be teachers with a minimum of” shall be substituted;

(b) in the proviso, for the words “may also” the word, “shall” shall be substituted;

(iii) in sub-section (4), the word “external” shall be omitted.

(11) in sub-clause (v), in sub-section (2) of section 46 of the Act, for the words “Kerala Bank” the words “Kerala State Co-operative Bank Limited” shall be substituted.

(12) in sub-clause (x), in sub-section (2) of section 55A proposed to be inserted, for clause (c), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:—

“(c) Heads of the departments from all departments including single faculty departments and department of Physical Education;”.

(13) in sub-clause (y), for sub-section (9) of section 59, the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(9) Any person aggrieved by any appointment under this section may make a complaint to the Vice-Chancellor within thirty days from the date of issuance of the appointment order and the Vice-Chancellor shall dispose of the complaint in the manner prescribed by the Statutes within sixty days from the date of filing complaint.

(10) If he is not satisfied with the decision of Vice-Chancellor, he may prefer an appeal to the Appellate Tribunal within thirty days from the date of the order of the Vice-Chancellor and the decision of the Appellate Tribunal shall be final.”.

(14) The Committee recommends to add sub-clause (xa) after sub-clause (x) and by the clause so added, proposes the following amendments in section 58 of the Principal Act, namely:—

“ in section 58 of the Act,—

(i) in sub-section (1), for the words “within such a time”, the words “at any time of the year” shall be substituted;

(ii) proviso to sub-section (2) shall be omitted”.

Clause 5

In clause 5, which proposes to amend the Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit Act, 1994,—

(1) in sub-clause (a), in section 2, in clauses (x), (y), (z) and (za) proposed to be inserted, the words “of the Act” shall be omitted.

(2) in sub-clause (b) in sub-section (7) of section 9 proposed to be substituted, for the words “perform such other duties” the words, “perform such other functions” shall be substituted.

(3) in sub-clause (c), in section 12,—

under the heading “Nominated Members”,—

(i) in item (ii) proposed to be substituted, for the words “Four educationalists”, the words, “Five educationalists” shall be substituted.

(ii) for item (iv), proposed to be substituted, the following item shall be substituted, namely:—

“(iv) One Dean of faculty nominated by the syndicate according to the seniority for a period of two years based on rotation.”;

(4) in sub-clause (g),—

(a) in clause (g) of sub-section (2) of section 18A proposed to be inserted, for the words “two external experts, outside the University”, the words, “three experts from outside the University” shall be substituted;

(b) in sub- section (3), for the first sentence the following sentence shall be substituted, namely:—

“The Vice-Chancellor shall be the Chairperson and the Director of Research shall be the Convenor of the Research Council.”

(5) in sub-clause (i), in the proviso to sub-section (7) of section 26 proposed to be substituted, for the word “difference” the words “difference of opinion” shall be substituted.

(6) in sub-clause (j), in sub-section (3) proposed to be substituted in section 27 of the Act, for the word “Professor”, the words “Associate Professor” shall be substituted.

(7) The Committee recommends to add sub-clause (ka) after sub-clause (k) and by the clause so added, proposes the following amendments in section 33 of the Principal Act, namely:—

“(ka) in section 33,—

in sub- section (4) of section 33 of the Act, after the words “or Nationalised Bank”, the words, “Kerala State Co-operative Bank Limited” shall be inserted.”

Clause 6

In clause 6, which proposed to amend the Kannur University Act, 1996,—

(1) in sub-clause (a), in clauses (xxxiv), (xxxv), (xxxvi), (xxxvii), (xxxviii), (xxxix), (xL) and (xLi), the words “ of the Act” shall be omitted.

(2) in sub-clause (b) in sub-section (7) of section 8 proposed to be substituted, for the word “duties” the word, “functions” shall be substituted.

(3) in sub-clause (c) in the proviso to sub-section (1) proposed to be substituted in section 11 of the Act, for the word, “difference” the words, “difference of opinion” shall be substituted.

(4) in sub-clause (d), in sub-section (3) proposed to be substituted in section 13 of the Act, for the word “Professor” the words “Associate Professor” shall be substituted.

(5) in sub-clause (e), for the item (iiia) proposed to be inserted in section 19 of the Act, the following item shall be substituted, namely:—

“(iiia) Not more than five members nominated by the Government from the field of Higher Education of whom one shall be a woman and one shall be from Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe communities.”.

(6) in sub-clause (h), in section 23 of the Act,

(a) in item (c) proposed to be substituted, for the words “referred to in the item ” the words, “referred to in item” shall be substituted;

(b) in item (d) proposed to be substituted, for the words “Vice Chancellor” the word “Syndicate” shall be substituted.

(7) in sub-clause (i), in the third proviso to section 24 proposed to be substituted, for the word and symbol “co-terminous” the word and symbol, “co-terminus” shall be substituted.

(8) in sub-clause (j) in item (xxxivb) of section 25 proposed to be inserted, for the words “as may be prescribed in this Act and the Statutes” the words “prescribed in the Act and the Statutes” shall be substituted.

(9) in sub-clause (m) in clause (g) of sub-section (2) of section 27(A), for the words and symbol “two external experts, outside the University” the words “three experts from outside the University” shall be substituted.

(10) in sub-clause (o),

(a) in section 30,—

(i) in sub-section (1), for the words “department of study” the words “department of study or discipline” shall be substituted.

(ii) in sub-section (2) for the words “the Chairperson shall have” the words “the Chairperson shall be a teacher with” shall be substituted;

(iii) in sub-section (3),—

(a) for the words “shall have” the words “be teachers with” shall be substituted.

(b) in the proviso, for the words “lesser experience” the words “less than ten years of regular service” shall be substituted.

(b) in section 30A proposed to be inserted in the Act,—

(i) in sub-section (2), for the words “shall have a minimum” the words “shall be a teacher with a minimum” shall be substituted.

(ii) in sub-section (3),—

(a) for the words “Expert Committee shall have” the words “Expert Committee shall be teachers with” shall be substituted.

(b) in the proviso to sub-section (3), for the words “may also” the word “shall” shall be substituted.

(iii) in sub-section (4), the word “external” shall be omitted.

(11) in sub-clause (s) in section 33A proposed to be inserted,—

(a) in sub-section (7), for the words “directions from time to time” the words “directions issued from time to time” shall be substituted.

(b) in sub-clause (8), the word “every” shall be omitted.

(12) in sub-clause (w), in sub-section (2) of section 48 of the Act, for the words “Kerala Bank” the words “Kerala State Co-operative Bank Limited” shall be substituted.

(13) in sub-clause (y), in sub-section (2) of section 58A proposed to be inserted, for clause (c), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:—

“(c) Heads of the departments from all departments including single faculty departments and department of Physical Education;”

(14) in sub-clause (z), for sub-section (9) of section 62 proposed to be substituted, the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(9) Any person aggrieved by any appointment under this section may make a complaint to the Vice-Chancellor within thirty days from the date of

issuance of the appointment order and the Vice Chancellor shall dispose of the complaint in the manner prescribed by the Statutes within sixty days from the date of filing complaint.

(10) If he is not satisfied with the decision of Vice-Chancellor, he may prefer an appeal to the Appellate Tribunal within thirty days from the date of the order of the Vice-Chancellor and the decision of the Appellate Tribunal shall be final.”

(15) The Committee recommends to add 'sub clause (xa)' after sub-clause (x) and by the clause so added, proposes following amendments in section 58 of the Principal Act, namely:—

“ in section 58 of the Act,—

(a) in sub-section (1), for the words “within such a time”, the words “at any time of the year” shall be substituted;

(b) proviso to sub-section (2) shall be omitted.”

Clause 7

In clause 7,

(a) in sub-section (1), the words “or till a new Syndicate, Academic Council, Boards of Studies and Faculty are constituted, under this Act whichever is earlier” shall be omitted.

(b) in sub-section (2), the words “or till a new Syndicate and Academic Council are constituted, under this Act whichever is earlier” shall be omitted.

4. All other changes are either verbal or consequential.

5. The minutes of dissent and the Bill as reported by the Subject Committee are appended.

Thiruvananthapuram,
12th March, 2025.

V. SIVANKUTTY,
Chairperson,
Subject Committee VI.

അനുബന്ധം I

വിയോജനക്കുറിപ്പ്

2025-ലെ സർവ്വകലാശാല നിയമങ്ങൾ ഭേദഗതി ബിൽ

ഉന്നത വിദ്യാഭ്യാസ പരിഷ്കരണ കമ്മീഷന്റെയും കേരള സംസ്ഥാന സർവ്വകലാശാല നിയമപരിഷ്കരണ കമ്മീഷന്റെയും റിപ്പോർട്ടുകളിൽ സർവ്വകലാശാലകളുടെ ഗുണനിലവാരം ഉയർത്തുന്നതിനും നിയമപരമായ ചട്ടങ്ങളിൽ മാറ്റങ്ങൾ വരുത്തുന്നതിനും നൽകിയിട്ടുള്ള ശുപാർശകളുടെ അടിസ്ഥാനത്തിലാണ് സർവ്വകലാശാല നിയമങ്ങളിൽ ഭേദഗതി വരുത്തുന്നത്.

സർവ്വകലാശാലകളിൽ പ്രോ-ചാൻസലറുടെ പ്രാധാന്യം വർദ്ധിപ്പിക്കുക, പ്രോ-വൈസ് ചാൻസലറിൽ ചില അധികാരങ്ങൾ നിക്ഷിതപ്ലമാക്കുക, അധ്യാപകർക്കും വിദ്യാർത്ഥികൾക്കും അക്കാദമിക സ്വാതന്ത്ര്യം നൽകുക, കോൺസ്റ്റിറ്റ്യൂവന്റ് കോളേജുകൾ, റിസർച്ച് പാർക്കുകൾ തുടങ്ങിയവ സ്ഥാപിക്കുക എന്നിങ്ങനെയുള്ള കാര്യങ്ങൾ നടപ്പാക്കുവാനുള്ള വ്യവസ്ഥകളാണ് ബില്ലിൽ ഉൾപ്പെടുത്തിയിട്ടുള്ളത്. എന്നാൽ, ബില്ലിലെ വ്യവസ്ഥകൾ ഫലത്തിൽ സർവ്വകലാശാലകളുടെ സ്വയംഭരണ അവകാശത്തെ ഹനിക്കുന്ന രീതിയിലുള്ളതാണ്.

യു.ജി.സി. പുതിയ കരട് ചട്ടങ്ങളിലൂടെ വൈസ് ചാൻസലർ നിയമനത്തിൽ ഉൾപ്പെടെ സംസ്ഥാനങ്ങൾക്ക് യാതൊരു അവകാശങ്ങളും ഇല്ലാത്ത രീതിയിൽ സർവ്വകലാശാലകളുടെ നിയന്ത്രണം കേന്ദ്രസർക്കാരിൽ കേന്ദ്രീകരിക്കുന്ന നയ സമീപനമാണ് സ്വീകരിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളത്. പ്രസ്തുത നയസമീപനം അനാവശ്യ രാഷ്ട്രീയ താല്പര്യങ്ങൾ സർവ്വകലാശാല ഭരണത്തിൽ പ്രതിഫലിക്കുന്നതിനും സർവ്വകലാശാലകളുടെ സ്വയംഭരണ അവകാശത്തെ ദോഷകരമായി ബാധിക്കുന്നതിനും കാരണമാകുമെന്നു ആശങ്ക ഉയർന്നിട്ടുള്ള സാഹചര്യത്തിലാണ് ബില്ലിന് അവതരിപ്പിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളത്.

എന്നാൽ, സർവ്വകലാശാലകളുടെ സ്വയംഭരണ അവകാശം നിലനിർത്തുന്ന രീതിയിൽ അവയെ ശാക്തീകരിക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള വ്യവസ്ഥകൾ ഉൾപ്പെടുത്തുന്നതിന് പകരം, പ്രോ-ചാൻസലർ ആയ വകുപ്പ് മന്ത്രിയ്ക്ക് സർവ്വകലാശാലയുടെ അക്കാഡമികവും ഭരണപരവുമായ കാര്യങ്ങളിൽ നേരിട്ട് തുടപെടുന്നതിനുള്ള അധികാരങ്ങൾ നൽകി സർവ്വകലാശാലകളെ പൂർണ്ണമായും സംസ്ഥാന സർക്കാരിന്റെ അധീനതയിലാക്കുന്ന രീതിയിലുള്ള വികലമായ നിയമനിർമ്മാണ നിർദ്ദേശമാണ് ബില്ലിന് മുന്നോട്ട് വെച്ചിട്ടുള്ളത്. ഇത് സർവ്വകലാശാലകളുടെ ഉദ്ദേശലക്ഷ്യങ്ങളെയും അടിസ്ഥാന മൂല്യങ്ങളെയും തകർത്തു കളയുന്ന കാഴ്ചപ്പാട് ഇല്ലാത്ത നയസമീപനമാണ്.

ചാൻസലറുടെ അഭാവത്തിൽ ചാൻസലറുടെ അധികാരങ്ങൾ പ്രോ ചാൻസലർ ആയ വകുപ്പ് മന്ത്രിക്ക് ഏറ്റെടുക്കാവുന്ന വ്യവസ്ഥയാണ് നിലവിൽ ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നത്. പ്രസ്തുത വ്യവസ്ഥയാണ് മന്ത്രിക്ക് അക്കാദമികവും ഭരണപരവുമായ കാര്യങ്ങളിൽ നേരിട്ട് ഇടപെടാവുന്ന രീതിയിൽ ഭേദഗതി ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ളത്. സർവ്വകലാശാലകളുടെയും കോളേജുകളുടെയും അടിസ്ഥാന സൗകര്യങ്ങൾ, അക്കാദമിക് പ്രോഗ്രാമുകൾ, പരീക്ഷ നടത്തിപ്പുകൾ, സാമ്പത്തിക ഇടപാടുകൾ എന്നിവ സംബന്ധിച്ച് മന്ത്രിക്കോ മന്ത്രി ചുമതലപ്പെടുത്തുന്നവർക്കോ സർവ്വകലാശാലകളിൽ അന്വേഷണം നടത്താനുള്ള വ്യവസ്ഥ സർവ്വകലാശാലയുടെ സ്വയംഭരണ അവകാശം പൂർണ്ണമായും കവർന്നെടുക്കുന്നതാണ്.

സിൻഡിക്കേറ്റ് നേരിട്ട് നിയമിക്കുന്ന പി.വി.സി.ക്ക് അമിത അധികാരങ്ങൾ പുതിയ ബില്ലിൽ വ്യവസ്ഥ ചെയ്യുന്നുണ്ട്. 2018-ലെ യു.ജി.സി. റെഗുലേഷനിൽ പി.വി.സി.യുടെ യോഗ്യത നിശ്ചയിച്ചിട്ടില്ല. 2025-ലെ പുതിയ കരട് ചട്ടത്തിൽ പി.വി.സി. തസ്തിക തന്നെ ഒഴിവാക്കിയിരിക്കുകയാണ്.

അക്കാദമി കൗൺസിൽ യോഗം ചേരുവാൻ കാലതാമസമുള്ള സാഹചര്യത്തിൽ, സിൻഡിക്കേറ്റിനു സമാനമായി ഒരു എക്സിക്യൂട്ടീവ് സമിതി യോഗം ചേർന്ന് അക്കാദമിക് കാര്യങ്ങളിൽ തീരുമാനം കൈക്കൊള്ളുമെന്ന് വ്യവസ്ഥ ചെയ്യുന്നു. പുതുതായി രൂപീകരിക്കുന്ന എക്സിക്യൂട്ടീവ് കമ്മിറ്റിയുടെ അധ്യക്ഷൻ പി.വി.സി. ആയിരിക്കും. അക്കാദമിക് വിഷയങ്ങളിൽ നിന്നും വി.സി.-യെ ഒഴിവാക്കുന്ന നിർദ്ദേശമാണിത്.

വൈസ്-ചാൻസലറിൽ നിക്ഷിപ്തമായിട്ടുള്ള സിൻഡിക്കേറ്റ് സമിതികളുടെ അധികാരം ഉപയോഗിച്ച് അടിയന്തര സാഹചര്യങ്ങളിൽ വൈസ് -ചാൻസലർ എടുക്കുന്ന തീരുമാനങ്ങൾ പ്രസ്തുത സമിതിയ്ക്ക് ബോധ്യപ്പെടാത്ത പക്ഷം സർവ്വകലാശാല ടിബ്യൂണലിന്റെ പരിഗണനയ്ക്ക് വിടണം എന്നാണ് വ്യവസ്ഥ ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ളത്. യൂണിവേഴ്സിറ്റി സർവ്വീസ് കാര്യങ്ങളിൽ തീരുമാനം എടുക്കാൻ നിയോഗിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള ടിബ്യൂണൽ സർവ്വകലാശാല ഭരണ സമിതികളളിലെ തർക്കങ്ങൾക്ക് തീർപ്പ് കൽപ്പിക്കാനുള്ള ഫോറം അല്ലാത്തതിനാൽ പ്രസ്തുത വ്യവസ്ഥ ഉചിതമായി കാണുന്നില്ല.

സർവ്വകലാശാല സിൻഡിക്കേറ്റ്, സെനറ്റ്, അക്കാഡമിക് കൗൺസിൽ തുടങ്ങിയ സമിതികളുടെ തെരഞ്ഞെടുപ്പുമായി ബന്ധപ്പെട്ട ചുമതലകൾ കരാർ അടിസ്ഥാനത്തിൽ സിൻഡിക്കേറ്റ് നേരിട്ട് നിയമിക്കുന്ന രജിസ്ട്രാറിൽ നിക്ഷിപ്തമാക്കുന്ന വ്യവസ്ഥ സർവ്വകലാശാലകളുടെ ഭരണത്തിൽ നിക്ഷിപ്ത താല്പര്യത്തോടെയുള്ള രാഷ്ട്രീയ ഇടപെടലുകൾ വർദ്ധിക്കുന്നതിന് കാരണമാകുന്നതാണ്.

അധ്യാപക നിയമനം, ബോർഡ് ഓഫ് സ്റ്റഡീസ്, സിലബസ് തയ്യാറാക്കൽ പരീക്ഷ നടത്തിച്ച്, വിദ്യാർത്ഥി പ്രവേശനം എന്നിവയിൽ രാഷ്ട്രീയ ഇടപെടൽ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിന്റെ ഗുണനിലവാരം ഇല്ലാതാക്കുന്നതാണ്. എം.ജി. കണ്ണൂർ യൂണിവേഴ്സിറ്റികളുടെ ബോർഡ് ഓഫ് സ്റ്റഡീസ് രൂപീകരിക്കുന്ന ചാൻസലറുടെ അധികാരം സിൻഡിക്കേറ്റിൽ നിക്ഷിപ്തമാക്കി. ബോർഡ് ഓഫ് സ്റ്റഡീസിന്റെ ചെയർമാനെ നിശ്ചയിക്കാനുള്ള വി.സി.-യുടെ അധികാരം സിൻഡിക്കേറ്റിൽ നിക്ഷിപ്തമാക്കി. സിലബസ് തയ്യാറാക്കുന്നതിന്റെയും, പരീക്ഷകരെ നിശ്ചയിക്കുന്നതിന്റെയും ചുമതല സിൻഡിക്കേറ്റ് അംഗങ്ങളുടെ നിയന്ത്രണത്തിലാകുന്നത് ഉചിതമായി കാണുന്നില്ല.

സ്വതന്ത്ര ഗവേഷണ പാർക്കുകൾ കമ്പനികളായി സ്ഥാപിക്കുന്നതിന് വ്യവസ്ഥ ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ട്. ഇത് സർവ്വകലാശാലകളുടെ അധീനതയിലുള്ള ഭൂമിയുടെ ദുരുപയോഗത്തിലേയ്ക്ക് നയിക്കാത്ത രീതിയിൽ ഗവേഷണ പാർക്കുകളുടെ ഗവേണിംഗ് ബോഡി സംബന്ധിച്ച സ്റ്റാറ്റൂട്ടുകളിൽ വ്യവസ്ഥ ഉൾപ്പെടുത്തേണ്ടത് അനിവാര്യമാണ്.

കൂടാതെ കോർപ്പറേഷൻ മേയർ, മുനിസിപ്പൽ കോർപ്പറേഷൻ അധ്യക്ഷൻ, പഞ്ചായത്ത് പ്രസിഡന്റ് എന്നീ പദവികളിൽ നിയോഗിക്കപ്പെടുന്ന സ്വകാര്യ കോളേജ് അധ്യാപകർക്ക് പ്രസ്തുത പദവിയിൽ ഇരിക്കുന്ന കാലയളവ് ഔദ്യോഗിക അവധിയായി കണക്കാക്കുന്ന വകുപ്പ് ഈ ബില്ലിൽ ചേർത്തതിൽ ചില നിക്ഷിപ്ത താൽപര്യങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടെന്ന വിമർശനവും ഉയർന്നു വന്നിട്ടുണ്ട്.

എയ്ഡഡ് കോളേജ് അധ്യാപകർ തെരഞ്ഞെടുപ്പിൽ മത്സരിക്കുന്നത് വിലക്കിക്കൊണ്ട് കേരള സർവ്വീസ് ചട്ടങ്ങളിൽ 2021-ൽ ഭേദഗതി വരുത്തിയെങ്കിലും ആയത് സുപ്രീം കോടതി സ്റ്റേ ചെയ്തിരിക്കുകയാണ്. സുപ്രീം കോടതിയുടെ പരിഗണനയിൽ ഇരിക്കുന്ന ഈ കാര്യത്തിന് നിയമപ്രാബല്യം നൽകുന്ന രീതിയിലാണ് ബില്ലിൽ വ്യവസ്ഥ ഉൾപ്പെടുത്തിയിരിക്കുന്നത് ഉചിതമായി കാണുന്നില്ല.

വിദ്യാർത്ഥികളുടെ അവകാശങ്ങൾ നിർണയിച്ചത്, വിദ്യാർത്ഥികളുടെ പരാതി പരിഹാര സംവിധാനം, അധ്യാപകരുടെ അവകാശങ്ങളും ഉത്തരവാദിത്തങ്ങളും നിർണയിച്ചത്, ഇന്റേണൽ ക്വാളിറ്റി അഷ്വറൻസ് സെൽ, സർവ്വകലാശാല റിസോഴ്സ് പ്ലാനിംഗ് സിസ്റ്റം, റൂൾസ് ഓഫ് ബിസിനസ് തുടങ്ങിയ വ്യവസ്ഥകൾ സ്വാഗതാർഹമാണ്. എന്നാൽ ക്യാമ്പസുകളിലെ ലഹരി വ്യാപനവും അക്രമ സംഭവങ്ങളും ഉൾപ്പെടെ വർത്തമാന കാലഘട്ടത്തിലെ പ്രവണതകൾ പരിഗണിച്ച് വിദ്യാർത്ഥികളുടെ അവകാശങ്ങളോടൊപ്പം അവരുടെ ഉത്തരവാദിത്തങ്ങൾ കൂടി നിർണയിച്ച് വ്യവസ്ഥ ചെയ്യുന്നത് ഉചിതമായി കാണുന്നു.

സംസ്ഥാനത്ത് സ്വകാര്യ സർവ്വകലാശാലകൾ അനുവദിക്കുന്ന സാഹചര്യത്തിൽ, പൊതു സർവ്വകലാശാലകളുടെ നിർവ്വഹണ കാര്യക്ഷമതയും കാലികമായ പരിഷ്കരണവും ഉറപ്പാക്കുന്ന നിയമനിർമ്മാണം നടത്തുന്നതിനു പകരം, സർവ്വകലാശാലകളുടെ സ്വയംഭരണ അവകാശം പൂർണ്ണമായും ഇല്ലാതാക്കി സർക്കാർ നിയന്ത്രണത്തിലുള്ള സ്ഥാപനങ്ങളാക്കി മാറ്റുന്ന തെറ്റായ നയസമീപനമായതിനാൽ ബില്ലിനോട് വിയോജിപ്പ് രേഖപ്പെടുത്തുന്നു.

ആബിദ് ഹുസൈൻ തങ്ങൾ (ഒപ്പ്)

ടി.വി. ഇബ്രാഹീം (ഒപ്പ്)

രാഹുൽ മാജുട്ടത്തിൽ (ഒപ്പ്)

Appendix II

THE UNIVERSITY LAWS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2025

(As Reported by the Subject Committee)

[The words underlined/side lined indicate the modifications suggested by the committee. Omission is indicated by asterisks]

A

BILL

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 Kannur University Act, 1996.

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) and the Kannur University Act, 1996 (22 of 1996) for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

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

1. *Short title and commencement.*—(1) This Act may be called the University Laws (Amendment) Act, 2025.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

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

(a) in section 2, after clause (32), the following clauses shall be inserted, namely:—

“(33) “College Council” means a College Council constituted under section 53A [***];

(34) “Constituent College” means a college affiliated to the University and recognised as Constituent College by the Syndicate under section 69T [***];

(35) “Constituent University Centre” means a centre of the University and recognised as Constituent University Centre by the Syndicate under section 69T [***];

(36) “Constituent University Department” means a department of the University and recognised as Constituent University Department by the Syndicate under section 69T [***];

(37) “Internal Quality Assurance Cell” means the Internal Quality Assurance Cell constituted under section 31A [***];

(38) “Research Council” means a Research Council constituted under section 25A [***];

(39) “Research Park” means a Research Park established under section 80D [***];

(40) “University Resource Planning System” means a University Resource Planning System established under section 80B [***].”.

(b) in section 4, for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(1)The jurisdiction of the University shall extend to Thiruvananthapuram and Kollam revenue Districts, Adoor Taluk of Pathanamthitta revenue District and Alappuzha revenue District except Kuttanad Taluk of the State.”.

(c) for section 8, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“8. *The Pro-Chancellor.*—(1) The Minister-in-charge of the Higher Education Department of the State shall, by virtue of his office, be the Pro-Chancellor of the University.

(2) In the absence of the Chancellor, the Pro-Chancellor shall, when present, preside over the meetings of the Senate and at any convocation of the University.

(3) The Pro-Chancellor shall, have the right to call for any information relating to the academic and administrative affairs of the University and such requisition shall be complied with by the University.

(4) The Pro-Chancellor shall have the right to bring any matter, which he considers important or a matter involving the policy of the Government, to the attention of the Chancellor or to any authority or officer of the University and seek appropriate action.

(5) The Pro-Chancellor shall have the right to cause an inspection to be made by such person or persons as he may direct, of the University, its buildings, laboratories and equipment, and of any college or institution maintained by the University; and also of the examinations, teaching and other work conducted or done by the University and to cause an inquiry to be made in like manner in respect of any matter connected with the administration or finances of the University, colleges or institutions.

(6) The Pro-Chancellor shall have such powers as may be prescribed by the Statutes.

(7) The Pro-Chancellor shall exercise such other powers and perform such other functions of the Chancellor as the Chancellor may, by an order in writing, delegate to the Pro-Chancellor and such delegation may be subject to such restrictions and conditions as may be specified in such order.”.

(d) in section 10, for sub-section (13), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(13) If there are reasonable grounds for the Vice-Chancellor to believe that there is an emergency which requires immediate action to be taken, he shall, take such action as he thinks necessary, and shall, as soon as, report in writing, the grounds for the emergency and the action taken by him, to such authority, body or various councils, as the case may be, which, in the ordinary course, would have dealt with the matter for decision in its next meeting and the concerned authority, body or councils shall consider the said report in its next session:

Provided that, in the event of a difference of opinion arising between the Vice- Chancellor and the authority, body or various councils, as the case may be, on the issue of the existence of such an emergency, or on the action taken or on both, the said matter shall be referred to the Appellate Tribunal whose decision shall be final.”.

(e) in section 11,—

(i) for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(1) The Pro-Vice-Chancellor shall be appointed by the Syndicate on the recommendation of the Vice-Chancellor. The Pro-Vice-Chancellor shall hold office for a period, which is co-terminus with that of the Vice-Chancellor and is also eligible for reappointment.”;

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

“(3) The Pro-Vice-Chancellor shall be a whole-time salaried academic and administrative officer of the University and who has held the post of Associate Professor or Principal of a college or an institution with not less than ten years teaching or research experience with a doctoral degree.”;

(iii) sub-section (4) shall be omitted;

(iv) in sub-section (5), for the words “determined by the Chancellor”, the words “prescribed by the Statutes” shall be substituted;

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

“(6) The Pro-Vice-Chancellor shall exercise such powers and perform such functions as may be prescribed by the Statutes and as delegated by the Vice-Chancellor.”.

(f) in section 18, after sub-section (5), the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely:—

“(6) Senate shall be deemed to have been constituted if one-third of the members of the elected members have been elected and the Registrar shall issue it through a notification.”.

(g) in section 19, in sub-section (2),—

(i) clause (a) shall be omitted;

(ii) clause (d) shall be omitted;

(iii) in clause (e), after the word “lecturerships”, the symbols and words “, associate professorships, assistant professorships” shall be inserted;

(iv) clause (j) shall be omitted.

(h) in section 21,—

(i) under the heading “Ex-officio Members”,—

(a) item (d) shall be omitted;

(b) item (f) shall be omitted;

(ii) under the heading “Other Members”,—

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

“(a) Eight members elected by the Senate from among themselves of whom,—

(i) four shall be persons who are not teachers, of whom one shall be a person belonging to a Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe and one shall be a woman;

(ii) one Principal of affiliated colleges; and

(iii) three shall be teachers who are not Principals, of whom one shall be a teacher of the University, one shall be a teacher of a Government College and one shall be a teacher of a Private College.

Explanation:—For the purpose of this item 'Private College' means private college other than unaided colleges.”;

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

“(b) One student member elected by the Senate from among the members referred to,—

(i) in item (15), under the heading “Ex-Officio Members” in section 17;

(ii) in item (12), under the heading “Elected Members” in section 17; and

(iii) in item (3), under the heading “Other Members” in section 17.”;

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

“(d) One Dean of faculty nominated by the Syndicate as per the seniority for a period of two years based on rotation.”.

(i) in section 23,—

(i) after item (xiv), the following item shall be inserted, namely:—

“(xiva) to co-operate and collaborate with other Universities and other authorities in India and abroad in such manner and for such purposes as it may determine.”;

(ii) for item (xv), the following items shall be substituted, namely:—

“(xv) to conduct University examinations, approve and publish results thereof and award degrees;

(xva) to determine what degrees, diplomas and other academic distinctions shall be granted by the University;

(xvb) to cancel any degree, diploma, title or any other distinction granted to any person in accordance with the provisions of the Statutes;”;

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

“(xvii) to fix the remuneration of the examiners in the panel;”;

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

“(xx) to arrange for and direct the investigation into the affairs of private colleges, to issue instructions for maintaining their efficiency, for ensuring proper conditions of employment of members of their staff and payment of adequate salaries to them, and in case of disregard of such instructions of University or general Government directions, take steps to withdraw affiliation or recognition;”;

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

“(xxiiia) to constitute cluster of colleges in accordance with the terms and conditions of such clusters as may be prescribed in the Statutes;

(xxiiib) to constitute constituent colleges in accordance with the terms and conditions as may be prescribed in this Act and the Statutes;

(xxiiic) to determine the institution of professorships, readerships, lecturerships, associate professorships, assistant professorships and other teaching and research posts required by the University;

(xxiiid) to determine and award the institution of fellowships, travelling fellowships, scholarships, studentships, medals and prizes;

(xxiiie) to constitute expert committees to exercise the powers and perform the functions of Boards of Studies in the absence of formally constituted Board of Studies for such programmes or courses in specialised fields of study introduced by the University.”.

(j) in section 24, in sub-section (3),—

(i) item (c) shall be omitted;

(ii) item (l) shall be omitted;

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

“(m) one Principal of a Government College, other than Deans of Faculties, elected by the Principals of Government Colleges from among themselves;”;

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

“(n) one Principal of a Private College, other than Deans of Faculties, elected by the Principals of Private Colleges from among themselves;

Explanation:—For the purpose of this item 'Private College' means private college other than unaided colleges.”;

(v) item (o) shall be omitted;

(vi) item (q) shall be omitted;

(vii) after item (s), the following items shall be inserted, namely:—

“(t) five regular Research Scholars in the University, of whom one shall be a female student, one shall be from Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe communities and one shall be from differently-abled sections nominated by the Syndicate;

(u) Director, Internal Quality Assurance Cell.”;

(viii) in sub-section (4), after the existing proviso, the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:—

“Provided further that, he shall continue to hold office until his successor enters upon his office.”.

(k) in section 25, —

(i) in clause (v), for the word “courses”, the word “programmes” shall be substituted;

(ii) in clause (vi), for the word “courses”, the word “programmes” shall be substituted;

(iii) in clause (viii), for the words “to make”, the words “to make and accept” shall be substituted;

(iv) clause (ix) shall be omitted;

(v) clause (x) shall be omitted;

(vi) in clause (xi), for the words “to make proposals”, the words “to approve proposals recommended by the respective bodies” shall be substituted;

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

“(xiii) to co-ordinate teaching and learning in University departments, constituent colleges, affiliated colleges and recognised institutions;

(xiiia) to frame such regulations for promoting and facilitating inter university transfer and mobility of students with transfer of credits across different Universities or institutions in India and abroad;

(xiiib) to frame regulations for transfer of earned credits from another institution or University to the same programme or different programmes of the University;”.

(1) after section 25, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“25A. *Research Council*.—(1) There shall be a Research Council in the University to discuss, deliberate and decide on any matters regarding research, innovation, academic collaboration, technology transfer and research related extension activities and concerned bodies shall issue orders as per its decision.

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

(a) the Vice-Chancellor;

(b) the Pro-Vice-Chancellor;

(c) the Registrar;

(d) the Director of Research, who shall be a Professor nominated by the Syndicate;

(e) three teachers of the Syndicate nominated by the Syndicate of whom one shall be a University teacher;

(f) three Deans of the University nominated by the Syndicate;

(g) two experts from, outside the University, who are eminent researchers nominated by the Vice-Chancellor;

(h) one research scholar of the University nominated by the Syndicate;

(i) the Director, Internal Quality Assurance Cell;

(j) two members nominated by the Academic Council from among themselves.

(3) The Vice-Chancellor shall be the Chairperson and the Director of Research shall be the Convenor of the Research Council. In the absence of the Chairperson, the members present shall elect one member from among themselves to preside over the meeting.

(4) The members of the Research Council shall hold office for a period of two years from the date of constitution or until reconstitution, whichever is earlier.

(5) The Research Council shall meet at least once in a month or as and when required in offline, online or hybrid mode.

(6) One-half of the total members constitute the quorum of the meeting.

(7) The powers and functions of the Research Council including the delegation of its powers, shall be prescribed by the Statutes.”.

(m) in section 26, in sub-section (3),—

(i) in clause (b), for the words “two members”, the words “one member” shall be substituted;

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

“(c) five members nominated by the Syndicate.”.

(n) for section 28, the following section shall be substituted, namely: —

“28. *Boards of Studies*.—(1) There shall be a composite Board of Studies for each department of study or discipline in the University nominated by the Syndicate.

(2) There shall be a Chairperson for each Board of Studies nominated by the Syndicate and the Chairperson shall be a teacher with a minimum of fifteen years of regular service:

Provided that, if there are no teachers with fifteen years of regular service, the senior most teacher shall be the Chairperson.

(3) The members of the Boards of Studies shall be teachers with a minimum of ten years of regular service:

Provided that, if there are no teachers with ten years of regular service, teachers with lesser than ten years of regular service shall be considered.

(4) Each Board of Studies shall have a maximum of fifteen members and at least one shall be an expert from outside the University and at least one shall be an expert from relevant industry or skill sector from outside the University nominated by the Syndicate.

(5) The Chairperson and members of the Boards of Studies shall hold office for a period of four years from the date of their entering upon the office.

(6) The constitution and powers of the Boards of Studies shall be prescribed by the Statutes.

28A. *Expert Committee*.—(1) The Syndicate shall appoint an Expert Committee to exercise the powers and perform the functions of Boards of Studies in the absence of formally constituted Boards of Studies.

(2) There shall be a Chairperson for each Expert Committee nominated by the Syndicate and the Chairperson shall be a teacher with a minimum of fifteen years of regular service:

Provided that, if there are no teachers with fifteen years of regular service, the senior most teacher shall be the Chairperson.

(3) Members of Expert Committee shall be teachers with a minimum of five years of regular service:

Provided that, if there are no teachers with minimum five years of regular service, teachers with less than five years of regular service shall be considered.

(4) Each Expert Committee shall have minimum ten members and at least one shall be an [***] expert from outside the University.

(5) The constitution and powers of Expert Committee shall be prescribed by the Statutes.

(6) The tenure of Expert Committee shall be decided by the Syndicate:

Provided that, it shall not be more than two years.”.

(o) in section 29, in sub-section (2), under the heading “Ex-officio Members”, in item (b), for the word “Chairman”, the word “Chairperson” shall be substituted.

(p) after section 30, the following sections shall be inserted, namely:—

“30A. *Students’ Rights*.—(1) Students have the right to get the prospectus of the institution where they are willing to continue their studies and provided with sufficient information to make informed decisions about course selection and registration.

(2) Students have a right to a detailed and complete course outline for every course in which they are registered, to be provided during the first week of class. This information should include, where appropriate:—

(a) a description of the topics to be considered in the course;

(b) a list of required and recommended readings or study materials;

(c) a description of the means of evaluation to be used in the course; and

(d) the instructor’s contact information, office location and office hours.

(3) Students have a right to receive satisfactory academic education and required teaching hours either face to face or online to achieve their specific learning objectives and credit requirements.

(4) Students have a right to be a member of any lawful association of their choice and the University shall not subject them to any prejudice by reason of their membership in such an association.

(5) Every group of students has a right to organise and promote the interests of its members, provided that the purposes of such a group shall be lawful.

Every such group shall have the right to publicise and hold meetings, to debate any matter and to engage in lawful and peaceful demonstration.

(6) The University and all the educational institutions affiliated to it shall constitute a formal representative body of students, in which elections shall be held regularly for the selection of students' representatives in that body as and when decided by the University.

(7) The University teaching department and affiliated colleges shall be liable to observe, promote and protect these rights of students.

(8) Every student shall have such other specific students' rights as may be prescribed by the Statutes.

30B. *Students' Grievance Redressal System.*—(1) There shall be a Students' Grievance Redressal System as per the Regulations of University Grants Commission and relevant Government Orders.

(2) The constitution, powers and functions of such system shall be prescribed by the Statutes.

30C. *Teachers' rights and responsibilities.*—(1) Teachers have the right to academic freedom and the right to freedom of inquiry, expression and assembly.

(2) Teachers shall have the academic autonomy for designing academic programmes, curricula, syllabi, evaluation and assessment in accordance with the provisions of this Act, Statutes and Regulations.

(3) Teachers or their groups or organisations may distribute and display written or printed or electronic material in campus without prior approval of the University so long as the distributed material is consistent with University policy and State law. The person or persons responsible for such material must be clearly indicated.

(4) Teachers have the right to pursue further study opportunities for improving their skills and developing their talents related to their responsibilities as teachers and scholars contingent upon the availability of resources.

(5) Teachers are entitled to full freedom in research and in the publication of its results, subject to the adequate performance of their other academic duties.

(6) Teaching duties of a teacher include the following:—

(a) planning classroom and online activities as appropriate to the method of course delivery;

(b) preparing course syllabi;

(c) designing assignments and examinations;

(d) holding regular office hours or being available for consultation;

(e) supervising independent work undertaken by students;

(f) directing thesis and dissertations;

(g) evaluating students;

(h) assessing and documenting student learning;

(i) advising, developing and accessing curricula;

(j) co-ordinating activities including student mentor programmes, tutor services, study skills workshops and special events, research guiding, conducting research, prepare and submit proposals for project or extension activities.

(7) Academic advising is a part of the teaching responsibility of the teacher.

(8) Teaching responsibilities include prompt and regular presence during scheduled class hours whether in an offline or online classroom, as appropriate to the mode of course delivery.

(9) A teacher is expected to treat students with professional courtesy and to respect their rights, including academic freedom and those rights outlined in the 'Students' Rights'.

(10) Every teacher in the University, affiliated college and constituent college shall have such other specific teachers' rights and responsibilities as may be prescribed by the Statutes.”.

(q) in section 31, —

(i) for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(1) The Finance Committee shall be the principal financial body of the University and shall exercise general supervision over the financial matters of the University.”;

(ii) in sub-section (2), after clause (g), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

“(h) The Registrar.”;

(iii) after sub-section (3), the following sub-sections shall be inserted, namely:—

“(3A) The Finance Committee shall examine and scrutinise the annual budget of the University and make recommendations on financial matters to the concerned bodies;

(3B) The Finance Committee shall consider proposals for new expenditure and make recommendations to the concerned bodies;

(3C) The Finance Committee shall consider the periodical statement of accounts, review the finances of the University from time to time, consider re-appropriation statements, audit reports and make recommendations to the concerned bodies.”;

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

“(4) The powers and functions of the Finance Committee and its procedure in financial matters, shall be prescribed by the Statutes.”.

(r) after section 31, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“31A. *Internal Quality Assurance Cell*.—(1) There shall be an Internal Quality Assurance Cell in the University, its affiliated colleges and constituent colleges.

(2) The Internal Quality Assurance Cell of the University shall consist of the following members, namely:—

- (a) the Vice-Chancellor;
- (b) the Pro-Vice-Chancellor;
- (c) the Registrar;
- (d) the Finance Officer;
- (e) two members of the Syndicate nominated from among themselves;
- (f) five teachers nominated by the Syndicate;
- (g) one person each from local society, students and alumni nominated by the Syndicate;
- (h) one person each from employers, industrialists and stakeholders nominated by the Syndicate.

(3) The Vice-Chancellor shall be the Chairperson and one teacher member nominated by the Syndicate shall be the Director of Internal Quality Assurance Cell.

(4) The Internal Quality Assurance Cell of the affiliated college and constituent college shall consist of the following members, namely:—

- (a) the Principal;
- (b) one representative of Management;
- (c) five teachers nominated by the College Council;
- (d) one person each from local society, students and alumni nominated by the Principal;
- (e) one person each from employers, industrialists and Stakeholders nominated by the Principal ;
- (f) the College Superintendent;
- (g) the Librarian.

(5) The Principal shall be the Chairperson and one teacher member nominated by the College Council shall be the Co-ordinator of Internal Quality Assurance Cell.

(6) The members of Internal Quality Assurance Cell shall hold office for a period of two years from the date of their entering upon the office.

(7) The powers and functions of Internal Quality Assurance Cell shall be prescribed by the Statutes based on the University Grants Commission directions issued from time to time.

(8) The Internal Quality Assurance Cell shall meet at least once in every three months or as and when required in offline, online or hybrid mode.

(9) Two-third of the total members constitute the quorum of the meeting.”.

(s) in section 33, in sub-section (1),—

(i) in clause (b), the words and symbol “or a deaf-mute”, shall be omitted;

(ii) in clause (d), for the words “moral delinquency”, the words “moral turpitude” shall be substituted.

(t) in section 35, after sub-section (5), the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:—

“Provided that, when the Chancellor has not decided on the Statute within sixty days from the date it had been submitted to him, it shall be deemed to be assented.”.

(u) in section 42, the existing provision shall be numbered as sub-section (1) and after sub-section (1) as so numbered, the following sub-sections shall be inserted, namely:—

“(2) The Registrar shall be the Chief Election Officer for elections to all authorities or bodies of the University and he shall issue notification, conduct election and declare result and issue notification for the constitution of the respective authorities or bodies of the University.

(3) The Vice-Chancellor shall be the authority to prefer appeal for all the election related complaints.”.

(v) in section 45, in sub-section (2), for the words “the State Bank of India or its subsidiaries”, the words “any Nationalised bank or Kerala State Co-Operative Bank Limited” shall be substituted.

(w) after section 45, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“45A. *Funds earmarked for a purpose not to be diverted without prior approval of the Government.*—The University shall not without the prior approval of the Government,—

(i) divert funds earmarked for a purpose for any other purpose; or

(ii) implement any scheme which involves any matching contribution from the State Government; or

(iii) implement any scheme which imposes a recurring liability on the Government, after the assistance from the sponsoring authority ceases.”.

(x) in section 50, after sub-section (7), the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely:—

“(8) Notwithstanding anything contained in the foregoing provisions, the accounts relating to the funds granted by external funding agencies for specific projects or programmes shall be audited only in such manner as may be specified by the funding agency.”.

(y) after section 53, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“53A. *College Council.*—(1) All the affiliated colleges and constituent colleges of the University shall constitute a College Council in accordance with the provisions of this Act, Statutes and Regulations.

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

(a) the Principal – Chairperson;

(b) the Vice-Principal;

(c) Heads of the departments from all departments including single faculty departments and department of Physical Education

(d) Elected teachers;

(e) the College Librarian;

(f) the Co-ordinator, Internal Quality Assurance Cell;

(g) the Superintendent.

(3) National Cadet Corps Officers, National Service Scheme Officers, the hostel warden and the college union chairperson or any other persons given specific responsibilities by the college shall be invited to the College Council if the College Council deems it fit to take their opinion on special matters.

(4) For every thirty teachers or fraction thereof, there shall be an elected member in the College Council.

(5) The term of the elected members shall be two years from the date of their entering upon the office:

Provided that, an elected member shall continue to hold his office, after the expiration of the said period, until his successor enters upon his office.

(6) The procedure for nominating Heads of the Departments by rotation, election of the teachers to the College Council and guidelines for the functioning of the College Council shall be as prescribed by the Statutes.”.

(ya) in section 56, of the Act,—

(i) in sub-section (1) of section 56 for the words “within such a time”, the words “at any time of the year” shall be substituted

(ii) proviso to sub-section (2) shall be omitted.

(z) in section 57,—

(i) in sub-section (1), the words “or by such officers as may be authorised by the Government” shall be omitted;

(ii) for sub-section (10), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

(10) Any person aggrieved by any appointment under this section may make a complaint to the Vice-Chancellor within thirty days from the date of issuance of the appointment order and the Vice Chancellor shall dispose of the complaint in the manner prescribed by the Statutes within sixty days from the date of filing complaint.

(11) If he is not satisfied with the decision of Vice-Chancellor, he may prefer an appeal to the Appellate Tribunal within thirty days from the date of the order of the Vice-Chancellor and the decision of the Appellate Tribunal shall be final.

(za) in section 60, after sub-section (3), the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:—

“Provided that, when a teacher of a private college is suspended for a period exceeding thirty days, the educational agency shall obtain prior permission of the Vice-Chancellor.”.

(zb) in section 62, after sub-section (2), the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely:—

“(2A) Where a teacher becomes a President of Grama Panchayat or Chairperson of Municipal Corporation or Mayor of Corporation the period served as such President or Chairperson or Mayor, as the case may be, shall be treated as on leave without salary and allowances.”.

(zc) after Chapter VIII B, the following Chapter shall be inserted, namely:—

“CHAPTER VIII C
CONSTITUENT COLLEGES

69T. *Constituent Colleges.*—(1) The University shall have power to designate an existing affiliated college or department or centre as its constituent college or constituent university department or constituent university center in any discipline in collaboration with Government or quasi-Government or reputed educational agencies by making a suitable memorandum of understanding or agreement, as the case may be, by following the appropriate procedure and sanction or permission of the concerned authorities, if any.

(2) The University shall have power to establish a constituent college or constituent university department or a constituent university centre managed and maintained by the University with co-operation or collaboration with Government or quasi Government or reputed educational agencies by making a suitable memorandum of understanding or agreement, as the case may be, by following the appropriate procedure and sanction or permission of the concerned authorities, if any, under its jurisdiction.

(3) The University shall have power to start new programmes and courses in its constituent colleges, constituent university departments or constituent university centres by following the procedures laid down in this Act, Statutes and Regulations, with the prior approval of the Government.

(4) The procedure for establishment of a constituent college or giving constituent college status shall be prescribed by the Statutes.”.

(zd) after section 80A, the following sections shall be inserted, namely:—

“80B. *University Resource Planning System.*—(1) The University shall have an integrated software-based resource planning and management system or be part of such a system established by the Government through any of its agencies for its day-to-day function which shall integrate, automate and streamline its core administrative, academic, human resource, financial, examination and other processes under various departments or units and affiliated colleges within the University to improve administrative efficiencies.

(2) The policy and programme of University Resource Planning System may be prescribed by the Statutes from time to time.

80C. *Rules of Business.*—(1) The University shall frame Rules of Business based on re-engineering for the improvement of performance and an effective application of Information Technology based governance.

(2) The Rules of Business shall be prescribed in the Statutes and shall be updated from time to time based on the University Grants Commission Regulations or Government directions as may be applicable.

80D. *Research Parks.*—(1) The University and its affiliated colleges may establish independent research parks or other similar establishments to be established as companies under section 8 of the Companies Act, 2013 (Central Act 18 of 2013) with investment coming from anchor clients, alumni and civil society.

(2) Each research park and company shall have an independent governing body. The policy and programme of the research park and the constitution of the governing body shall be prescribed by the Statutes from time to time.”.

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

(a) in section 2, after clause (32), the following clauses shall be inserted, namely:—

“(33) “College Council” means a College Council constituted under section 53A [***];

(34) “Constituent College” means a college affiliated to the University and recognised as Constituent College by the Syndicate under section 68U [***];

(35) “Constituent University Centre” means a centre of the University and recognised as Constituent University Centre by the Syndicate under section 68U [***];

(36) “Constituent University Department” means a department of the University and recognised as Constituent University Department by the under section 68U [***];

(37) “Internal Quality Assurance Cell” means the Internal Quality Assurance Cell constituted under section 31A [***];

(38) “Research Council” means a Research Council constituted under section 25A [***];

(39) “Research Park” means a Research Park established under section 79D [***];

(40) “University Resource Planning System” means a University Resource Planning System established under section 79B [***].”.

(b) in section 4, for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(1) The jurisdiction of the University shall extend to the revenue districts of Kozhikode, Malappuram, Thrissur, Palakkad and the area excluding Mananthavadi Taluk in Wayanad District of the State.

(c) for section 8, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“8. *The Pro-Chancellor.*—(1) The Minister-in-charge of the Higher Education Department of the State shall, by virtue of his office, be the Pro-Chancellor of the University.

(2) In the absence of the Chancellor, the Pro-Chancellor shall, when present, preside over the meetings of the Senate and at any convocation of the University.

(3) The Pro-Chancellor shall, have the right to call for any information relating to the academic and administrative affairs of the University and such requisition shall be complied with by the University.

(4) The Pro-Chancellor shall have the right to bring any matter, which he considers important or a matter involving the policy of the Government, to the attention of the Chancellor or to any authority or officer of the University and seek appropriate action.

(5) The Pro-Chancellor shall have the right to cause an inspection to be made by such person or persons as he may direct, of the University, its

buildings, laboratories and equipment, and of any college or institution maintained by the University; and also of the examinations, teaching and other work conducted or done by the University and to cause an inquiry to be made in like manner in respect of any matter connected with the administration or finances of the University, Colleges or Institutions.

(6) The Pro-Chancellor shall have such powers as may be prescribed by the Statutes.

(7) The Pro-Chancellor shall exercise such other powers and perform such other functions of the Chancellor as the Chancellor may, by an order in writing, delegate to the Pro-Chancellor and such delegation may be subject to such restrictions and conditions as may be specified in such order.”.

(d) in section 10, for sub-section (13), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(13) If there are reasonable grounds for the Vice-Chancellor to believe that there is an emergency which requires immediate action to be taken, he shall, take such action as he thinks necessary, and shall, as soon as, report in writing, the grounds for the emergency and the action taken by him, to such authority, body or various councils, as the case may be, which, in the ordinary course, would have dealt with the matter for decision in its next meeting and the concerned authority, body or councils shall consider the said report in its next session:

Provided that, in the event of a difference of opinion arising between the Vice- Chancellor and the authority, body or councils, as the case may be, on the issue of the existence of such an emergency, or on the action taken or on both, the matter shall be referred to the Appellate Tribunal whose decision shall be final.”.

(e) in section 11,—

(i) for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely: —

“(1) The Pro-Vice-Chancellor shall be appointed by the Syndicate on the recommendation of the Vice Chancellor. The Pro-Vice-Chancellor shall hold office for a period, which is co-terminus with that of the Vice-Chancellor and is also eligible for reappointment.”;

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

“(2) No person who is more than sixty years of age shall be appointed as Pro-Vice-Chancellor.”;

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

“(3) The Pro-Vice-Chancellor shall be a whole-time salaried academic and administrative officer of the University and who has held the post of Associate Professor or Principal of a college or an institution with not less than ten years teaching or research experience with a doctoral degree.”;

(iv) sub-section (4) shall be omitted;

(v) in sub section (5), for the words “determined by the Chancellor”, the words “prescribed by the Statutes” shall be substituted;

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

“(6) The Pro-Vice-Chancellor shall exercise such powers and perform such functions as may be prescribed by the Statutes and as delegated by the Vice-Chancellor.”.

(f) in section 18,—

(i) after sub-section (5), the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely:—

“(6) Senate shall be deemed to have been constituted if one-third of the members of the elected members have been elected and the Registrar shall issue it through a notification.”.

(g) in section 19, in sub-section (2),—

(i) clause (a) shall be omitted;

(ii) clause (d) shall be omitted;

(iii) in clause (e), after the word “lecturerships”, the words and symbols “, associate professorships, assistant professorships” shall be inserted;

(iv) clause (j) shall be omitted;

(h) in section 21,—

(i) under the heading “Ex-officio Members”,—

(a) item (d) shall be omitted;

(b) item (f) shall be omitted;

(ii) under the heading “Other Members”,—

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

“(a) Eight members elected by the Senate from among themselves of whom,—

(i) four shall be persons who are not teachers, of whom one shall be a person belonging to a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe and one shall be a woman;

(ii) one Principal of affiliated colleges; and

(iii) three shall be teachers who are not Principals, of whom one shall be a University teacher, one shall be a teacher of a Government College, and one shall be a teacher of a Private College.

Explanation:—For the purpose of this item 'Private College' means private college other than unaided colleges.”;

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

“(b) One student member elected by the Senate from among the members referred to,—

(i) in item (15), under the heading “Ex-Officio Members” in section 17;

(ii) in item (12), under the heading “Elected Members” in section 17;

(iii) in item (4), under the heading “Other Members” in section 17.”;

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

“(d) One Dean of faculty nominated by the Syndicate as per the seniority for a period of two years based on rotation.”.

(i) in section 23,—

(i) after item (xiv), the following item shall be inserted, namely:—

“(xiva) to co-operate and collaborate with other Universities and other authorities in India and abroad in such manner and for such purposes as it may determine;”;

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

“(xv) to conduct University examinations, approve and publish results thereof and award degrees;

(xva) to determine what degrees, diplomas and other academic distinctions shall be awarded by the University;

(xvb) to cancel any degree, diploma, title or any other distinction granted to any person in accordance with the provisions of the Statutes;”;

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

“(xvii) to fix the remuneration of the examiners in the panel;”;

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

“(xx) to arrange for and direct the investigation into the affairs of private colleges, to issue instructions for maintaining their efficiency, for ensuring proper conditions of employment of members of their staff and payment of adequate salaries to them, and in case of disregard of such instructions of University or general Government directions, take steps to withdraw affiliation or recognition;”;

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

“(xxiiia) to constitute cluster of colleges in accordance with the terms and conditions of such clusters as may be prescribed by the Statutes;

(xxiiib) to constitute constituent colleges in accordance with the terms and conditions as may be prescribed in this Act and the Statutes;

(xxiiic) to determine the institution of professorships, readerships, lecturerships, associate professorships, assistant professorships and other teaching and research posts required by the University;

(xxiiid) to determine and award the institution of fellowships, travelling fellowships, scholarships, studentships, medals and prizes;

(xxiiie) to constitute expert committees to exercise the powers and perform the functions of Boards of Studies in the absence of formally constituted Board of Studies, for such programmes or courses in specialised fields of study introduced by the University;”.

(j) in section 24, in sub-section (3),—

(i) item (c) shall be omitted;

(ii) item (l) shall be omitted;

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

“(m) one Principal of a Government College, other than Deans of Faculties, elected by the Principals of Government Colleges from among themselves;”;

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

“(n) one Principal of a Private College, other than Deans of Faculties, elected by the Principals of Private Colleges from among themselves;

Explanation:—For the purpose of this item 'Private College' means private college other than Unaided College.”;

(v) item (o) shall be omitted;

(vi) item (q) shall be omitted;

(vii) after item (s), the following items shall be inserted, namely:—

“(t) five regular research scholars in the University of whom, one shall be a female student, one shall be from Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe communities and one shall be from differently-abled sections nominated by the Syndicate;

(u) the Director of Internal Quality Assurance Cell.”;

(viii) in sub-section (4), after the existing proviso the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:—

“Provided further that, he shall continue to hold office until his successor enters upon his office.”.

(k) in section 25,—

(i) in clause (v), for the word “courses”, the word “programmes” shall be substituted;

(ii) in clause (vi), for the word “courses”, the word “programmes” shall be substituted;

(iii) in clause (viii), for the words “to make”, the words “to make and accept” shall be substituted;

(iv) clause (ix) shall be omitted;

(v) clause (x) shall be omitted;

(vi) in clause (xi), for the words “to make proposals”, the words “to approve proposals recommended by the respective bodies” shall be substituted;

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

“(xiii) to co-ordinate teaching and learning in University departments, constituent colleges, affiliated colleges and recognised institutions;

(xiiiia) to frame such regulations for promoting and facilitating inter university transfer and mobility of students with transfer of credits across different universities or institutions in India and abroad;

(xiiiib) to frame regulations for transfer of earned credits from another institution or University to the same programme or different programmes of the University;”.

(l) after section 25, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“25A. *Research Council*.—(1) There shall be a Research Council in the University to discuss, deliberate and decide on any matters regarding research, innovation, academic collaboration, technology transfer and research related extension activities and concerned bodies shall issue orders as per its decision.

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

(a) the Vice-Chancellor;

(b) the Pro-Vice-Chancellor;

(c) the Registrar;

(d) the Director of Research, who shall be a Professor nominated by the Syndicate;

(e) three teacher members of the Syndicate nominated by the Syndicate of whom one shall be a University teacher;

(f) three Deans of the University nominated by the Syndicate;

(g) two experts from outside the University, who are eminent researchers nominated by the Vice-Chancellor;

(h) one research scholar of the University nominated by the Syndicate;

(i) the Director, Internal Quality Assurance Cell;

(j) two members nominated by the Academic Council from among themselves.

(3) The Vice-Chancellor shall be the Chairperson and the Director of Research shall be the Convenor of the research council. In the absence of the Chairperson, the members present shall elect one member from among themselves to preside over the meeting.

(4) The members of the Research Council shall hold office for a period of two years from the date of constitution or until reconstitution, whichever is earlier.

(5) The Research Council shall meet atleast once in a month or as and when required in online, offline or hybrid mode.

(6) The powers and functions of the Research Council including the delegation of its powers, shall be prescribed by the Statutes.”.

(m) in section 26, in sub-section (3),—

(i) in clause (b), for the words “two members”, the words “one member” shall be substituted;

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

“(c) five members nominated by the Syndicate.”.

(n) for section 28, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“28. *Boards of Studies.*—(1) There shall be a composite Board of Studies for each department of study or discipline in the University nominated by the Syndicate.

(2) There shall be a Chairperson for each Board of Studies nominated by the Syndicate and the Chairperson shall be a teacher with a minimum of fifteen years of regular service:

Provided that, if there are no teachers with fifteen years of regular service, the senior most teacher shall be the Chairperson.

(3) The members of the Boards of Studies shall be teachers with a minimum of ten years of regular service:

Provided that, if there are no teachers with ten years of regular service, teachers with less than ten years of regular service shall be considered.

(4) Each Board of Studies shall have a maximum of fifteen members and atleast one shall be an expert from outside the University and atleast one shall be an expert from relevant industry or skill sector from outside the University nominated by the Syndicate.

(5) The Chairperson and members of the Boards of Studies shall hold office for a period of four years from the date of their entering upon the office.

(6) The constitution and powers of the Boards of Studies shall be prescribed by the Statutes.

28A. *Expert Committee*.—(1) The Syndicate shall appoint an Expert Committee to exercise the powers and perform the functions of Boards of Studies in the absence of formally constituted Boards of Studies.

(2) There shall be a Chairperson for each Expert Committee nominated by the Syndicate and the Chairperson shall be a teacher with a minimum of fifteen years of regular service:

Provided that, if there are no teachers with fifteen years of regular service, the senior most teacher shall be the Chairperson.

(3) Members of Expert Committee shall be teachers with a minimum of five years of regular service:

Provided that, if there are no teachers with minimum five years of regular service, teachers with less than five years of regular service shall be considered.

(4) Each Expert Committee shall have minimum ten members and atleast one shall be an [***] expert from outside the University.

(5) The constitution and powers of Expert Committee shall be prescribed by the Statutes.

(6) The tenure of Expert Committee shall be decided by the Syndicate:

Provided that, it shall not be more than two years.”.

(o) in section 29, in sub-section (2), under the heading “Ex-officio Members”, in item (b), for the word “Chairman”, the word “Chairperson” shall be substituted.

(p) after section 30, the following sections shall be inserted, namely:—

“30A. *Students’ Rights.*—(1) Students have the right to get the prospectus of the institution where they are willing to continue their studies and provided with sufficient information to make informed decisions about course selection and registration.

(2) Students have a right to a detailed and complete course outline for every course in which they are registered, to be provided during the first week of class. This information should include, where appropriate:

(a) a description of the topics to be considered in the course;

(b) a list of required and recommended readings or study materials;

(c) a description of the means of evaluation to be used in the course; and

(d) the instructor’s contact information, office location and office hours.

(3) Students have a right to receive satisfactory academic education and required teaching hours either face to face or online to achieve their specific learning objectives and credit requirements.

(4) Students have a right to be a member of any lawful association of their choice and the University shall not subject them to any prejudice by reason of their membership in such an association.

(5) Every group of students has a right to organise and promote the interests of its members, provided that the purposes of such a group shall be lawful. Every such group shall have the right to publicise and hold meetings, to debate any matter and to engage in lawful and peaceful demonstration.

(6) The University and all educational institutions affiliated to it shall constitute a formal representative body of students, in which elections shall be held regularly for the selection of students’ representatives in that body as and when decided by the University.

(7) The University teaching department and affiliated colleges shall be liable to observe, promote and protect these rights of students.

(8) Every student shall have such other specific students' rights as may be prescribed by the Statutes.

30B. *Students' Grievance Redressal System.*—(1) There shall be a Students' Grievance Redressal System as per the Regulations of University Grants Commission and relevant Government Orders.

(2) The constitution, powers and functions of such system shall be prescribed by the Statutes.

30C. *Teachers' rights and responsibilities.*—(1) Teachers have the right to academic freedom and the right to freedom of inquiry, expression and assembly.

(2) Teachers shall have the academic autonomy for designing academic programmes, curricula, syllabi, evaluation and assessment in accordance with the provisions of this Act, Statutes and Regulations.

(3) Teachers or their groups or organisations may distribute and display written or printed or electronic material on campus without prior approval of the University so long as the distributed material is consistent with University policy and State law. The person or persons responsible for such material must be clearly indicated.

(4) Teachers have the right to pursue further study opportunities for improving their skills and developing their talents related to their responsibilities as teachers and scholars contingent upon the availability of resources.

(5) Teachers are entitled to full freedom in research and in the publication of its results, subject to the adequate performance of their other academic duties.

(6) Teaching duties of a teacher include the following:

(a) planning classroom and online activities as appropriate to the method of course delivery;

(b) preparing course syllabi;

(c) designing assignments and examinations;

(d) holding regular office hours or being available for consultation;

(e) supervising independent work undertaken by students;

(f) directing thesis and dissertations;

(g) evaluating students;

(h) assessing and documenting student learning;

(i) advising, developing and accessing curricula;

(j) co-ordinating activities including student mentor programmes, tutor services, study skills workshops and special events, research guiding, conducting research, prepare and submit proposals for project or extension activities.

(7) Academic advising is a part of the teaching responsibility of the teacher.

(8) Teaching responsibilities include prompt and regular presence during scheduled class hours whether in an offline or online classroom, as appropriate to the mode of course delivery.

(9) A teacher is expected to treat students with professional courtesy and to respect their rights, including academic freedom and those rights outlined in the 'students' rights'.

(10) Every teacher in the University, affiliated college and constituent college shall have such other specific teachers' rights and responsibilities as may be prescribed by the Statutes.”.

(q) in section 31,—

(i) for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(1) The Finance Committee shall be the principal financial body of the University and shall exercise general supervision over the financial matters of the University.”;

(ii) in sub-section (2), after clause (g), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

“(h) the Registrar.”;

(iii) after sub-section (3), the following sub-sections shall be inserted, namely:—

“(3A) The Finance Committee shall examine and scrutinise the annual budget of the University and make recommendations on financial matters to the concerned bodies;

(3B) The Finance Committee shall consider proposals for new expenditure and make recommendations to the concerned bodies;

(3C) The Finance Committee shall consider the periodical statement of accounts, review the finances of the University from time to time, consider re-appropriation statements, audit reports and make recommendations to the concerned bodies.”.

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

“(4) The powers and functions of the Finance Committee and its procedure in financial matters, shall be prescribed by the Statutes.”.

(r) after section 31, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“31A. *Internal Quality Assurance Cell.*—(1) There shall be an Internal Quality Assurance Cell in the University, its affiliated colleges and constituent colleges.

(2) The Internal Quality Assurance Cell of the University shall consist of the following members, namely:—

(a) the Vice-Chancellor;

(b) the Pro-Vice-Chancellor;

(c) the Registrar;

(d) the Finance Officer;

(e) two members of Syndicate nominated from among themselves;

(f) five teachers nominated by the Syndicate;

(g) one person each from local society, students and alumni nominated by the Syndicate;

(h) one person each from employers, industrialists and stake holders nominated by the Syndicate;

(3) The Vice-Chancellor shall be the Chairperson and one teacher member nominated by the Syndicate shall be the Director of Internal Quality Assurance Cell.

(4) The Internal Quality Assurance Cell of the affiliated colleges and constituent colleges shall consist of the following members, namely:—

(a) the Principal;

(b) one representative of Management;

(c) five teachers nominated by the College Council;

(d) one person each from local society, Students and Alumni nominated by the Principal;

(e) one person each from employers, industrialists and stake holders nominated by the Principal;

(f) the College Superintendent;

(g) the Librarian.

(5) The Principal shall be the Chairperson and one teacher member nominated by the College Council shall be the Co-ordinator of Internal Quality Assurance Cell .

(6) The members of Internal Quality Assurance Cell shall hold office for a period of two years from the date of their entering upon the office.

(7) The powers and functions of Internal Quality Assurance Cell shall be prescribed by the Statutes based on the relevant University Grants Commission directions from time to time.

(8) The Internal Quality Assurance Cell shall meet atleast once in every three months or as and when required in offline, online or hybrid mode.

(9) Two-third of total members constitute the quorum of the meeting.”.

(s) in section 33, in sub-section (1),—

(i) in clause (b), the words and symbol “or a deaf-mute”, shall be omitted;

(ii) in clause (d), for the words “moral delinquency”, the words “moral turpitude” shall be substituted.

(t) in section 35, after sub-section (5), the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:—

“Provided that, when the Chancellor has not decided on the Statute within sixty days from the date it had been submitted to him, it shall be deemed to be assented.”.

(u) in section 42, the existing provision shall be numbered as sub-section (1) and after sub-section (1) as so numbered, the following sub-sections shall be inserted, namely:—

“(2) The Registrar shall be the Chief Election Officer for elections to all authorities or bodies of the University and he shall issue notification, conduct election and declare result and issue notification for the constitution of the respective authorities or bodies of the University.

(3) The Vice-Chancellor shall be the authority to prefer appeal for all the election related complaints.”.

(v) in section 45,—

(i) in sub-section (2), for the words “the State Bank of India or its subsidiaries”, the words “any Nationalised bank or Kerala State Co-operative Bank Limited” shall be substituted.

(w) after section 45, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“45A. *Funds earmarked for a purpose not to be diverted without prior approval of the Government.*—The University shall not without the prior approval of the Government,—

(i) divert funds earmarked for a purpose for any other purpose; or

(ii) implement any scheme which involves any matching contribution from the State Government; or

(iii) implement any scheme which imposes a recurring liability on the Government, after the assistance from the sponsoring authority ceases.”.

(x) in section 50, after sub-section (7), the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely:—

“(8) Notwithstanding anything contained in the foregoing provisions, the accounts relating to the funds granted by external funding agencies for specific projects or programmes shall be audited only in such manner as may be specified by the funding agency.”.

(y) after section 53, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“53A. *College Council.*—(1) All the affiliated colleges and constituent colleges of the University shall constitute a college council in accordance with the provisions of this Act, Statutes and Regulations.

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

(a) the Principal – Chairperson;

(b) the Vice-Principal;

(c) Heads of the departments from all departments including single faculty departments and department of Physical Education;

(d) the Elected teachers;

(e) the College Librarian;

(f) the Co-ordinator, Internal Quality Assurance Cell;

(g) the Superintendent.

(3) National Cadet Corps Officers, National Service Scheme Officers, the hostel warden, and the college union Chairperson, or any other persons given specific responsibilities by the college shall be invited to the college council if the college council deems it fit to take their opinion on special matters.

(4) For every thirty teachers or fraction thereof, there shall be an elected member in the college council.

(5) The term of the elected members shall be two years from the date of their entering upon the office:

Provided that, an elected member shall continue to hold his office, after the expiration of the said period, until his successor enters upon his office.

(6) The procedure for nominating Head of the departments by rotation, election of the teachers to the College Council and guidelines for the functioning of the College Council shall be as prescribed by the Statutes.”.

(ya) in section 56 of the Act,—

(i) in sub-section (1) of Section 56, for the words “within such a time”, the words “at any time of the year” shall be substituted;

(ii) proviso to sub-section (2) shall be omitted.

(z) in section 57,—

(i) in sub-section (1), the words “or by such officers as may be authorised by the Government” shall be omitted;

(ii) for sub-section (10), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

(10) Any person aggrieved by any appointment under this section may make a complaint to the Vice-Chancellor within thirty days from the date of issuance of the appointment order and the Vice-Chancellor shall dispose of the complaint in the manner prescribed by the Statutes within sixty days from the date of filing complaint.

(11) If he is not satisfied with the decision of Vice-Chancellor, he may prefer an appeal to the Appellate Tribunal within thirty days from the date of the order of the Vice-Chancellor and the decision of the Appellate Tribunal shall be final.

(za) in section 60, after sub-section (3), the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:—

“Provided that, when a teacher of a private college is suspended for a period exceeding thirty days, the educational agency shall obtain prior permission of the Vice-Chancellor.”.

(zb) in section 62, after sub-section (2), the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely:—

“(2A) Where a teacher becomes a President of Grama Panchayath or Chairperson of Municipal Corporation or Mayor of Corporation the period served as such President or Chairperson or Mayor, as the case may be, shall be treated as on leave without salary and allowances.”.

(zc) after Chapter VIII B, the following Chapter shall be inserted, namely:—

“CHAPTER VIII C CONSTITUENT COLLEGES

68U. *Constituent Colleges*.—(1) The University shall have power to designate an existing affiliated college or department or center as its constituent college or constituent university department or constituent university center in any disciplines in collaboration with Government or quasi-Government or reputed educational agencies by making a suitable memorandum of understanding or agreement, as the case may be, by following the appropriate procedure and sanction or permission of the concerned authorities, if any.

(2) The University shall have power to establish a constituent college or constituent university department or a constituent university centre managed and maintained by the University with co-operation or collaboration with Government or quasi Government or reputed educational agencies by making a suitable memorandum of understanding or agreement on agreement, as the case

may be, by following the appropriate procedure and sanction or permission of the concerned authorities, if any, under its jurisdiction.

(3) The University shall have power to start new programs and courses in its constituent colleges, constituent university departments or constituent university centres by following the procedures laid down in this Act, Statutes and Regulations with the prior approval of the Government.

(4) The procedure for establishment of a constituent college or giving constituent college status shall be prescribed by the Statutes.”.

(zd) after section 79A, the following sections shall be inserted, namely:—

“79B. *University Resource Planning System.*—(1) The University shall have an integrated software-based resource planning and management system or be part of such a system established by the Government through any of its agencies for its day-to-day function which shall integrate, automate and streamline its core administrative, academic, human resource, financial, examination and other processes under various departments or units and affiliated colleges within the University to improve administrative efficiencies.

(2) The policy and programme of University Resource Planning System may be prescribed by the Statutes from time to time.

79C. *Rules of Business.*—(1) The University shall frame Rules of Business based on re-engineering for the improvement of performance and an effective application of Information Technology based governance.

(2) The Rules of Business shall be prescribed in the Statutes and shall be updated from time to time based on the University Grants Commission Regulations or Government directions as may be applicable.

79D. *Research Parks.*—(1)The University and its affiliated colleges may establish independent research parks, or other similar establishments to be established as companies under section 8 of the Companies Act, 2013 (Central Act 18 of 2013) with investment coming from anchor clients, alumni and civil society.

(2) Each research park or company shall have an independent governing body. The policy and programme of the research park and the constitution of the governing body shall be prescribed by the Statutes from time to time.”.

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

(a) in section 2, after clause (34), the following clauses shall be inserted, namely:—

“(35) “College Council” means a College Council constituted under section 55A of the Act;

(36) “Constituent College” means a college affiliated to the University and recognised as Constituent College by the Syndicate under Section 122;

(37) “Constituent University Centre” means a centre of the University and recognised as Constituent University Centre by the Syndicate under Section 122 ;

(38) “Constituent University Department” means a department of the University and recognised as Constituent University Department by the Syndicate under Section 122 ;

(39) “Internal Quality Assurance Cell” means the Internal Quality Assurance Cell constituted under section 31A [***] ;

(40) “Research Council” means a Research Council constituted under section 25A [***] ;

(41) “Research Park” means a Research Park established under section 89C [***] ;

(42) “University Resource Planning System” means a University Resource Planning System established under section 89A [***] .”.

(b) for section 8, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“8. *The Pro-Chancellor.*—(1) The Minister-in-charge of Higher Education Department of the State shall, by virtue of his office, be the Pro-Chancellor of the University.

(2) In the absence of the Chancellor, the Pro-Chancellor shall, when present, preside over the meetings of the Senate and at any convocation of the University.

(3) The Pro-Chancellor shall, have the right to call for any information relating to the academic and administrative affairs of the University and such requisition shall be complied with by the University.

(4) The Pro-Chancellor shall have the right to bring any matter, which he considers important or a matter involving the policy of the Government, to the attention of the Chancellor or to any authority or officer of the University and seek appropriate action.

(5) The Pro-Chancellor shall have the right to cause an inspection to be made by such person or persons as he may direct, of the University, its buildings, laboratories and equipment, and of any college or institution maintained by the University and also of the examinations, teaching and other work conducted or done by the University and to cause an inquiry to be made in like manner in respect of any matter connected with the administration or finances of the University, colleges or institutions.

(6) The Pro-Chancellor shall have such powers as may be prescribed by the Statutes.

(7) The Pro-Chancellor shall exercise such other powers and perform such other functions of the Chancellor as the Chancellor may, by an order in writing, delegate to the Pro-Chancellor and such delegation may be subject to such restrictions and conditions as may be specified in such order.”.

(c) in section 10, for sub-section (17), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(17) If there are reasonable grounds for the Vice-Chancellor to believe that there is an emergency which requires immediate action to be taken, he shall, take such action as he thinks necessary, and shall, as soon as, report in writing,

the grounds for the emergency and the action taken by him, to such authority, body or various councils, as the case may be, which, in the ordinary course, would have dealt with the matter for decision in its next meeting and the concerned authority, body or councils shall consider the said report in its next session:

Provided that, in the event of a difference of opinion arising between the Vice- Chancellor and the authority, body or councils, as the case may be, on the issue of existence of such an emergency, or on the action taken or on both, the matter shall be referred to the Appellate Tribunal whose decision shall be final.”.

(d) in section 11,—

(i) for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(1) The Pro-Vice-Chancellor shall be appointed by the Syndicate on the recommendation of the Vice-Chancellor. The Pro-Vice-Chancellor shall hold office for a period, which is co-terminus with that of the Vice-Chancellor and is also eligible for reappointment.”.

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

“(3) The Pro-Vice-Chancellor shall be a whole-time salaried academic and administrative officer of the University and who has held the post of Associate Professor or Principal of a college or an institution with not less than ten years teaching or research experience with a doctoral degree.”;

(iii) sub-section (4) shall be omitted;

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

“(6) The Pro-Vice-Chancellor shall exercise such powers and perform such functions as may be prescribed by the Statutes and as delegated by the Vice-Chancellor.”.

(e) in section 17, under the heading “Other Members”, after item (3), the following item shall be inserted, namely:—

“(3a) Not more than five members nominated by the Government from the field of Higher Education of whom one shall be a woman and one shall be from Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe communities.”.

(f) in section 18, after sub-section (8), the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely:—

“(9) Senate shall be deemed to have been constituted if one-third of members of the elected members have been elected and the Registrar shall issue it through a notification.”.

(g) in section 19, after clause (d), the following clauses shall be inserted, namely:—

“(e) to make, amend or repeal Statutes either of its own motion or on the motion of the Syndicate;

(f) to cancel or amend by a majority of the total membership of the Senate and by a majority of not less than two-third of the members present and voting, any Ordinance passed by the Syndicate or any Regulation passed by the Academic Council:

Provided that, no Regulation shall be cancelled or amended by the Senate without giving the Academic Council an opportunity to state its opinion on the proposed cancellation or amendment.”.

(h) for section 21, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“21. *The Syndicate*.—The Syndicate shall be the Chief Executive body of the University and shall consist of the following members, namely:—

Ex-officio Members

(a) the Vice-Chancellor;

(b) the Pro-Vice-Chancellor;

(c) the Secretary to Government, Higher Education Department or an officer not below the rank of Joint Secretary nominated by him;

(d) the Director of Collegiate Education.

Other members

(a) Eight members elected by the Senate from among themselves of whom,—

(i) four shall be persons who are not teachers, of whom one shall be a person belonging to a Scheduled caste or a Scheduled Tribe;

(ii) one Principal of affiliated colleges; and

(iii) three shall be teachers who are not Principals, of whom one shall be a University teacher, one shall be a teacher of a Government college and one shall be a teacher of a private college.

Explanation:—For the purpose of this item 'Private College' means private college other than unaided colleges.

(b) One student member elected by the Senate from among the members referred to—

(i) in item (15), under the heading “Ex-Officio Members” in section 17;

(ii) in item (12), under the heading “Elected Members” in section 17;

(iii) in item (3), under the heading “Other Members” in section 17.

(c) One Dean of faculty nominated by the Syndicate as per the seniority for a period of two years based on rotation.

(d) The members referred to in item (3a) under the heading “other members” in section 17 to be nominated by the Government.”.

(i) for section 22, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“22. *Term of office of members of Syndicate.*—(1) The members of the Syndicate other than ex-officio members, shall hold office for a term of four years from the date of their election:

Provided that, no person elected in his capacity as a member of a particular body or as the holder of a particular office shall be a member of the Syndicate for a longer period than three months after he has ceased to be such member of that

body or holder of such office unless in the meanwhile he again becomes a member of that body or the holder of that office:

Provided further that, the member referred to in item (b) under the heading “Other Members” in section 21 shall hold office for a period of one year from the date of his election or till he ceases to be a member of the Senate, whichever is earlier:

Provided also that, the term of the Syndicate shall be co-terminus with the term of the Senate:

Provided also that, no person other than an ex-officio member shall be eligible to hold office for more than two terms in succession.

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in the first proviso to sub-section (1), a member of the Syndicate referred to in sub-item (ii) of item (a) under the heading “Other Members” in section 21, or referred to in sub-item (iii) of that item who is a teacher of a private college or a Government college, shall not cease to be such member merely on the ground that,—

(a) he had been transferred to an educational institution within the State, situated beyond the territorial limits of the University; or

(b) the college of which he is the Principal or in which he is a teacher has been transferred to another University.”.

(j) in section 23,—

(i) in item (ii), the words “Statutes and” shall be omitted;

(ii) in item (xii), after the word and symbol “fellowships,” the words and symbol “travelling fellowships,” shall be inserted;

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

“(xiva) to co-operate and collaborate with other Universities and other authorities in India and abroad in such manner and for such purposes as it may determine;”;

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

“(xv) to conduct University examinations, approve and publish results thereof and award degrees;”;

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

“(xvii) to fix the remuneration of the examiners in the panel;”;

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

“(xx) to arrange for and direct the investigation into the affairs of private colleges, to issue instructions for maintaining their efficiency, for ensuring proper conditions of employment of members of their staff and payment of adequate salaries to them and in case of disregard of such instructions of University or general Government directions, take steps to withdraw affiliation or recognition;”;

(vii) in item (xxvi),—

(a) after the word “lecturerships”, the symbols and words, “associate professorships, assistant professorships” shall be inserted;

(b) in the proviso, after the word “lecturership”, the symbols and words, “associate professorship, assistant professorship” shall be inserted.

(viii) after item (xxxiv), the following items shall be inserted, namely:—

“(xxxiva) to constitute cluster of colleges in accordance with the terms and conditions of such clusters as may be prescribed by the Statutes;

(xxxivb) to constitute constituent colleges in accordance with the terms and conditions as may be prescribed in this Act and the Statutes;

(xxxivc) to constitute expert committees to exercise powers and perform the functions of Boards of Studies in the absence of formally constituted Boards of Studies, for such programmes or courses in specialised fields of study introduced by the University.”.

(k) for section 24, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“24. *The Academic Council.*—(1) The Academic Council shall be the supreme academic body of the University.

(2) The Academic Council shall, subject to the provisions of this Act and the Statutes, have the control and general regulation and be responsible for the

maintenance of standards, of instruction, education and examinations within the University.

(3) The Academic Council shall consist of the following members, namely:—

(a) the Vice-Chancellor;

(b) the Pro-Vice-Chancellor;

(c) the Director of Technical Education;

(d) the Director of Collegiate Education;

(e) the Director of Research and Studies;

(f) the Director of Physical Education;

(g) the Director, Internal Quality Assurance Cell;

(h) the Deans of Faculties;

(i) the General Secretary of the University Union;

(j) all the Heads of University Departments of Study and Research, who are not Deans of Faculties;

(k) all members of the Syndicate who are not otherwise members of the Academic Council;

(l) one Principal of a Government College, other than Deans of Faculties, elected by the Principals of Government Colleges from among themselves;

(m) one Principal of a Private College, other than Deans of Faculties, elected by the Principals of Private Colleges from among themselves.

Explanation:—For the purpose of this item, 'Private College' means private college other than unaided colleges.”;

(n) one member each of every subject of study other than Deans of Faculties or Head of a University department or Principal elected by the teachers of that subject from among themselves;

(o) one member representing each faculty, elected by the full-time postgraduate students of the faculty from among themselves;

(p) five external experts of whom atleast one shall be an expert from the industrial sector to be nominated by the Chancellor;

(q) five regular research scholars in the University, of whom one shall be a female student, one shall be from a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe and one shall be from differently-abled sections nominated by the Syndicate.

(4) The members of the Academic Council, other than the members specified in clauses (a) to (j) of sub-section (3) shall hold office for a term of four years from the date of their appointment or nomination, as the case may be:

Provided that, a person who has become a member of the Academic Council in the capacity of a student shall cease to hold office on his ceasing to be a student:

Provided further that, he shall continue to hold office until his successor enters upon his office.”.

(l) in section 25,—

(i) in clause (v), for the word “courses” the word, “programmes” shall be substituted;

(ii) in clause (vi), for the word “courses” the word, “programmes” shall be substituted;

(iii) in clause (viii), for the words “to make” the words, “to make and accept” shall be substituted;

(iv) clause (ix) shall be omitted;

(v) clause (x) shall be omitted;

(vi) in clause (xi), for the words “to make proposals”, the words “to approve proposals recommended by the respective bodies” shall be substituted;

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

“(xiii) to co-ordinate teaching and learning in University departments, constituent colleges, affiliated colleges and recognised institutions;

(xiiia) to frame such regulations for promoting and facilitating inter university transfer and mobility of students with transfer of credits across different Universities or institutions in India and abroad;

(xiiib) to frame regulations for transfer of earned credits from another institution or University to the same programme or different programmes of the University;”.

(m) after section 25, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“25A. *Research Council*.—(1) There shall be a Research Council in the University to discuss, deliberate and decide on any matters regarding research, innovation, academic collaboration, technology transfer and research related extension activities and concerned bodies shall issue orders as per its decision.

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

(a) the Vice-Chancellor;

(b) the Pro-Vice-Chancellor;

(c) the Registrar;

(d) the Director of Research, who shall be a Professor nominated by the Syndicate;

(e) three teacher members of the Syndicate nominated by the Syndicate of whom one shall be a University teacher;

(f) three Deans of the University nominated by the Syndicate;

(g) two experts from outside the University, who are eminent researchers nominated by the Vice-Chancellor;

(h) one research scholar of the University nominated by the Syndicate;

(i) the Director, Internal Quality Assurance Cell;

(j) two members nominated by the Academic Council from among themselves.

(3) The Vice-Chancellor shall be the Chairperson and the Director of Research shall be the Convenor of the Research Council. In the absence of the Chairperson, the members present shall elect one member from among themselves to preside over the meeting.

(4) The members of the Research Council shall hold office for a period of two years from the date of constitution or until reconstitution whichever is earlier.

(5) The Research Council shall meet atleast once in a month or as and when required in online, offline or hybrid mode.

(6) The powers and functions of the Research Council including the delegation of its powers, shall be prescribed by the Statutes.”.

(n) in section 26, in sub-section (3),—

(i) in clause (b), for the words “two members”, the words “one member” shall be substituted;

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

“(c) five members nominated by the Syndicate;”.

(o) for section 28, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“28. *Boards of Studies.*—(1) There shall be a composite Board of Studies for each department of study or discipline in the University nominated by the Syndicate.

(2) There shall be a Chairperson for each Board of Studies nominated by the Syndicate and the Chairperson shall be a teacher with a minimum of fifteen years of regular service:

Provided that, if there are no teachers with fifteen years of regular service, the senior most teacher shall be the Chairperson.

(3) The members of the Boards of Studies shall be teachers with a minimum of ten years of regular service:

Provided that, if there are no teachers with ten years of regular service, teachers with less than ten years of regular service experience shall be considered.

(4) Each Board of Studies shall have a maximum of fifteen members and atleast one shall be an expert from outside the University and atleast one shall be an expert from relevant industry or skill sector from outside the University nominated by the Syndicate.

(5) The Chairperson and members of the Boards of Studies shall hold office for a period of four years from the date of their entering upon the office.

(6) The constitution and powers of the Boards of Studies shall be prescribed by the Statutes.

28A. *Expert Committee*.—(1) The Syndicate shall appoint an Expert Committee to exercise the powers and perform the functions of Boards of Studies in the absence of formally constituted Boards of Studies.

(2) There shall be a Chairperson for each Expert Committee nominated by the Syndicate and the Chairperson shall be a teacher with a minimum of fifteen years of regular service:

Provided that, if there are no teachers with fifteen years of regular service, the senior most teacher shall be the Chairperson.

(3) Members of Expert Committee shall be teachers with a minimum of five years of regular service:

Provided that, if there are no teachers with minimum five years of regular service, teachers with less than five years of regular service shall be considered.

(4) Each Expert Committee shall have minimum ten members and atleast one shall be an [***] expert from outside the University.

(5) The constitution and powers of Expert Committee shall be prescribed by the Statutes.

(6) The tenure of Expert Committee shall be decided by the Syndicate:

Provided that, it shall not be more than two years.”.

(p) in section 29, in sub-section (2), under the heading “Ex-officio Members”, in item (b), for the word “Chairman” the word “Chairperson” shall be substituted.

(q) after section 30, the following sections shall be inserted, namely:—

“30A. *Students' Rights*.—(1) Students have the right to get the prospectus of the institution where they are willing to continue their studies and

provided with sufficient information to make informed decisions about course selection and registration.

(2) Students have a right to a detailed and complete course outline for every course in which they are registered, to be provided during the first week of class. This information should include, where appropriate:

- (a) a description of the topics to be considered in the course;
- (b) a list of required and recommended readings and study materials;
- (c) a description of the means of evaluation to be used in the course; and
- (d) the instructor's contact information, office location and office hours.

(3) Students have a right to receive satisfactory academic education and required teaching hours either face to face or online to achieve their specific learning objectives and credit requirements.

(4) Students have a right to be a member of any lawful association of their choice and the University shall not subject them to any prejudice by reason of their membership in such an association.

(5) Every group of students has a right to organise and promote the interests of its members, provided that the purposes of such a group shall be lawful. Every such group shall have the right to publicise and hold meetings, to debate any matter and to engage in lawful and peaceful demonstration.

(6) The University and all educational institutions affiliated to it shall constitute a formal representative body of students, in which elections shall be held regularly for the selection of students' representatives in that body as and when decided by the University.

(7) The University teaching department and affiliated colleges shall be liable to observe, promote and protect these rights of students.

(8) Every student shall have such other specific students' rights as may be prescribed by the Statutes.

30B. *Students' Grievance Redressal System.*—(1) There shall be a Students' Grievance Redressal System as per the Regulations of University Grants Commission and relevant Government Orders.

(2) The constitution, powers and functions of such system shall be prescribed by the Statutes.

30C. *Teachers' rights and responsibilities.*—(1) Teachers have the right to academic freedom and the right to freedom of inquiry, expression and assembly.

(2) Teachers shall have the academic autonomy for designing academic programmes, curricula, syllabi, evaluation and assessment in accordance with the provisions of this Act, Statutes and Regulations.

(3) Teachers or their groups or organisations may distribute and display written or printed or electronic material in campus without prior approval of the University so long as the distributed material is consistent with University policy and State law. The person or persons responsible for such material must be clearly indicated.

(4) Teachers have the right to pursue further study opportunities for improving their skills and developing their talents related to their responsibilities as teachers and scholars contingent upon the availability of resources.

(5) Teachers are entitled to full freedom in research and in the publication of its results, subject to the adequate performance of their other academic duties.

(6) Teaching duties of a teacher include the following:

(a) planning classroom and online activities as appropriate to the method of course delivery;

(b) preparing course syllabi;

(c) designing assignments and examinations;

(d) holding regular office hours or being available for consultation;

- (e) supervising independent work undertaken by students;
- (f) directing thesis and dissertations;
- (g) evaluating students;
- (h) assessing and documenting student learning;
- (i) advising, developing and accessing curricula;

(j) co-ordinating activities including student mentor programmes, tutor services, study skills workshops and special events, research guiding, conducting research, prepare and submit proposals for project or extension activities.

(7) Academic advising is a part of the teaching responsibility of the teacher.

(8) Teaching responsibilities include prompt and regular presence during scheduled class hours whether in an offline or online classroom, as appropriate to the mode of course delivery.

(9) A teacher is expected to treat students with professional courtesy and to respect their rights, including academic freedom and those rights outlined in the students' rights.

(10) Every teacher in the University, affiliated college and constituent college shall have such other specific teachers' rights and responsibilities as may be prescribed by the Statutes.”.

(r) in section 31,—

(i) for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(1) The Finance Committee shall be the principal financial body of the University and shall exercise general supervision over the financial matters of the University.”;

(ii) in sub-section (2), after clause (g), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

“(h) the Registrar.”;

(iii) after sub-section (3), the following sub-sections shall be inserted, namely:—

“(3A) The Finance Committee shall examine and scrutinise the annual budget of the University and make recommendations on financial matters to the concerned bodies;

(3B) The Finance Committee shall consider proposals for new expenditure and make recommendations to the concerned bodies;

(3C) The Finance Committee shall consider the periodical statements of accounts, review the finances of the University from time to time, consider re-appropriation statements, audit reports and make recommendations to the concerned bodies.”;

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

“(4) The powers and functions of the Finance Committee and its procedure in financial matters, shall be prescribed by the Statutes.”.

(s) after section 31, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“31A. *Internal Quality Assurance Cell.*—(1) There shall be an Internal Quality Assurance Cell in the University, its affiliated colleges and constituent colleges.

(2) The Internal Quality Assurance Cell of the University shall consist of the following members, namely:—

(a) the Vice-Chancellor;

(b) the Pro-Vice-Chancellor;

(c) the Registrar;

(d) the Finance Officer;

(e) two members of Syndicate nominated from among themselves;

(f) five teachers nominated by the Syndicate;

(g) one person each from local society, students and alumni nominated by the Syndicate;

(h) one person each from employers, industrialists and stake holders nominated by the Syndicate.

(3) The Vice-Chancellor shall be the Chairperson and one teacher member nominated by the Syndicate shall be the Director of Internal Quality Assurance Cell.

(4) The Internal Quality Assurance Cell of the affiliated college and constituent college shall consist of the following members, namely:—

(a) the Principal;

(b) one representative of Management;

(c) five teachers nominated by the College Council;

(d) one person each from local society, students and alumni nominated by the Principal;

(e) One person each from employers, industrialists and stake holders nominated by the Principal;

(f) the College Superintendent;

(g) the Librarian.

(5) The Principal shall be the Chairperson and one teacher member nominated by the College Council shall be the Co-ordinator of Internal Quality Assurance Cell.

(6) The members of Internal Quality Assurance Cell shall hold office for a period of two years from the date of their entering upon the office.

(7) The powers and functions of Internal Quality Assurance Cell shall be prescribed by the Statutes based on the relevant University Grants Commission directions from time to time.

(8) The Internal Quality Assurance Cell shall meet atleast once in every three months or as and when required in offline, online or hybrid mode.

(9) Two-third of total members constitute the quorum of the meeting.”.

(t) in section 34, in sub-section (1),—

(i) in clause (b), the words and symbol “or a deaf-mute”, shall be omitted;

(ii) in clause (d), for the words “moral delinquency”, the words “moral turpitude” shall be substituted;

(u) for section 36, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“36. *Procedure for making Statutes.*—(1) The Senate may of its own motion take into consideration the draft of a Statute:

Provided that, in any such case, before the Statute is passed, the Senate shall obtain and consider the opinion of the Syndicate.

(2) The Syndicate may propose to the Senate the draft of any Statute for consideration and such draft shall be considered by the Senate at its next meeting.

(3) The Senate may approve the draft of a Statute proposed by the Syndicate and pass the Statute or may reject it or return it to the Syndicate for reconsideration, either in whole or in part together with amendments which the Senate may suggest.

(4) After any draft returned by the Senate under sub-section (3) has been further considered by the Syndicate, together with any amendment suggested by the Senate, it shall be again presented to the Senate with the report of the Syndicate thereon, and the Senate may then deal with the draft in any manner as it thinks fit.

(5) Where any Statute has been passed by the Senate, it shall be submitted to the Chancellor who may refer the Statute back to the Senate for further consideration or assent thereto or withhold his assent:

Provided that, when the Chancellor has not decided on the Statute within sixty days from the date it had been submitted to him, it shall be deemed to be assented.

(6) No Statute passed by the Senate shall be valid or come into force until assented to by the Chancellor.

(7) The Syndicate shall not propose the draft of a Statute or of an amendment to a Statute affecting the status, powers or constitution of any authority of the University until such authority has been given an opportunity of expressing an opinion upon the proposal and any opinion so expressed shall be in writing and shall be considered by the Senate.

(8) No Statute providing for the conditions for, or procedure relating to, the affiliation of private colleges shall be passed by the Senate without the previous approval of the Government.”.

(v) in section 46, in sub-section (2), for the words “the State Bank of India or its subsidiaries”, the words “any nationalised bank or Kerala State Co-operative Bank Limited” shall be substituted.

(w) in section 52, after sub-section (8), the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely:—

“(9) Notwithstanding anything contained in the foregoing provisions, the accounts relating to the funds granted by external funding agencies for specific projects or programmes shall be audited only in such manner as may be specified by the funding agency.”.

(x) after section 55, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“55A. *College Council.*—(1) All the affiliated colleges and constituent colleges of the University shall constitute a College Council in accordance with the provisions of this Act, Statutes and Regulations.

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

(a) the Principal – Chairperson;

(b) the Vice-Principal;

(c) Heads of the departments from all departments including single faculty departments and department of Physical Education;

(d) elected teachers;

(e) the College Librarian;

(f) the Co-ordinator, Internal Quality Assurance Cell;

(g) the Superintendent.

(3) National Cadet Corps Officers, National Service Scheme Officers, the hostel warden and the college union Chairperson, or any other persons given specific responsibilities by the college shall be invited to the College Council if the College Council deems it fit to take their opinion on special matters.

(4) For every thirty teachers or fraction thereof, there shall be an elected member in the College Council.

(5) The term of the elected members shall be two years from the date of their entering upon the office:

Provided that, an elected member shall continue to hold his office, after the expiration of the said period, until his successor enters upon his office.

(6) The procedure for nominating Head of the Departments by rotation, election of the teachers to the College Council and guidelines for the functioning of the College Council shall be as prescribed by the Statutes.”.

(xa) in Section 58 of the Act,—

(i) in sub-section (1), for the words “within such a time”, the words “at any time of the year” shall be substituted;

(ii) proviso to sub-section (2) shall omitted.

(y) in section 59,—

(i) in sub-section (1), the words “or by such officers as may be authorized by the Government” shall be omitted;

(ii) for sub-section (9), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

(9) Any person aggrieved by any appointment under this section may make a complaint to the Vice-Chancellor within thirty days from the date of issuance of the appointment order and the Vice - Chancellor shall dispose of the complaint in the manner prescribed by the statutes within sixty days from the date of filing complaint.

(10) If he is not satisfied with the decision of Vice-Chancellor, he may prefer an appeal to the Appellate Tribunal within thirty days from the date of the order of the Vice-Chancellor and the decision of the Appellate Tribunal shall be final.

(z) in section 63, after sub-section (3), the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:—

“Provided that, when a teacher of a private college is suspended for a period exceeding thirty days, the educational agency shall obtain prior permission of the Vice-Chancellor.”.

(za) in section 66, the existing provision shall be numbered as sub-section (1) and after sub-section (1) as so numbered, the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely:—

“(2) Where a teacher becomes a President of Grama Panchayath or Chairperson of Municipal Corporation or Mayor of Corporation the period served as such President or Chairperson or Mayor, as the case may be, shall be treated as on leave without salary and allowances.”.

(zb) after section 89, the following sections shall be inserted, namely:—

“89A. *University Resource Planning System.*—(1) The University shall have an integrated software-based resource planning and management system or be part of such a system established by the Government through any of its agencies for its day-to-day function which shall integrate, automate and streamline its core administrative, academic, human resource, financial, examination and other processes under various departments or units and affiliated colleges within the University to improve administrative efficiencies.

(2) The policy and programme of University Resource Planning System may be prescribed by the Statutes from time to time.

89B. *Rules of Business.*—(1) The University shall frame Rules of Business based on re-engineering for the improvement of performance and an effective application of Information Technology based governance.

(2) The Rules of Business shall be prescribed in the Statutes and shall be updated from time to time based on the University Grants Commission Regulations or Government directions as may be applicable.

89C. *Research Parks*.—(1) The University and its affiliated colleges may establish independent research parks or other similar establishments to be established as companies under section 8 of the Companies Act, 2013 (Central Act 18 of 2013) with investment coming from anchor clients, alumni and civil society.

(2) Each research park or company shall have an independent governing body. The policy and programme of the research park and the constitution of the governing body shall be prescribed by the Statutes from time to time.”.

(zc) after Chapter IX, the following Chapter shall be inserted, namely:—

“ CHAPTER X

CONSTITUENT COLLEGES

122. *Constituent Colleges*.—(1) The University shall have power to designate an existing affiliated college or department or centre as its Constituent college or constituent university department or constituent university center in any discipline in collaboration with Government or quasi-Government or reputed educational agencies by making a suitable memorandum of understanding or agreement, as the case may be, by following the appropriate procedure and sanction or permission of the concerned authorities, if any.

(2) The University shall have power to establish a constituent college or constituent university department or a constituent university centre managed and maintained by the University with co-operation or collaboration with Government or quasi Government or reputed educational agencies by making a suitable memorandum of understanding or agreement, as the case may be, by following the appropriate procedure and sanction or permission of the concerned authorities, if any, under its jurisdiction.

(3) The University shall have power to start new programmes and courses in its constituent colleges, constituent university departments or constituent

university centres by following the procedures laid down in this Act, Statutes and Regulations, with the prior approval of the Government.

(4) The procedure for establishment of a constituent college or giving constituent college status shall be prescribed by the Statutes.”.

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

(a) in section 2, after clause (w), the following clauses shall be inserted, namely:—

“(x) “Internal Quality Assurance Cell” means the Internal Quality Assurance Cell constituted under section 21A [***];

(y) “Research Council” means a Research Council constituted under section 18A [***];

(z) “Research Park” means a Research Park established under section 52C [***];

(za) “University Resource Planning System” means a University Resource Planning System established under section 52A [***].”.

(b) for section 9, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“9. *Pro-Chancellor.*—(1) The Minister-in-charge of the Higher Education Department of the State shall, by virtue of his office, be the Pro-Chancellor of the University.

(2) In the absence of the Chancellor, the Pro-Chancellor shall, when present, preside over the meetings of the Senate and at any convocation of the University.

(3) The Pro-Chancellor shall, have the right to call for any information relating to the academic and administrative affairs of the University and such requisition shall be complied with by the University.

(4) The Pro-Chancellor shall have the right to bring any matter, which he considers important or a matter involving the policy of the Government, to the attention of the Chancellor or to any authority or officer of the University and seek appropriate action.

(5) The Pro-Chancellor shall have the right to cause an inspection to be made by such person or persons as he may direct, of the University, its buildings, laboratories and equipment, and of any college or institution maintained by the University; and also of the examinations, teaching and other work conducted or done by the University and to cause an inquiry to be made in like manner in respect of any matter connected with the administration or finances of the University, colleges or institutions.

(6) The Pro-Chancellor shall have such powers as may be prescribed by the Statutes.

(7) The Pro-Chancellor shall exercise such other powers and perform such other functions of the Chancellor as the Chancellor may, by an order in writing, delegate to the Pro-Chancellor and such delegation may be subject to such restrictions and conditions as may be specified in such order.”.

(c) in section 12,—

(i) under the heading “Ex-officio Members”, item (iv) shall be omitted;

(ii) for the heading “Elected Member”, the heading “Elected Members” shall be substituted and under the heading “Elected Members” so substituted, the existing item shall be numbered as item (i) and after item (i) as so numbered, the following item shall be inserted, namely:—

“(ii) Two permanent teachers of the University elected from among themselves.”;

(iii) under the heading “Nominated Members”,—

(a) in item (i), for the words “Four eminent scholars”, the words “Two eminent scholars” shall be substituted;

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

“(ii) Five educationalists or eminent academicians in the field of Higher Education nominated by the Government, for a period of four years of whom one shall be a teacher of the University, one shall be from Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes and one shall be a woman.”;

(c) item (iv) shall be substituted, namely:—

“(iv) One Dean of faculty nominated by the Syndicate according to the seniority for a period of two years based on rotation.”;

(d) item (v) shall be omitted.

(d) in section 14, in sub-section (2), after clause (y), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

“(ya) to constitute expert committees to exercise the powers and functions of Board of Studies, in the absence of formally constituted Board of Studies for such programmes or courses in specialized fields of study introduced by the University.”.

(e) in section 16, in sub-section (3),—

(i) under the heading “Elected Members”, the existing item shall be numbered as item (i) and after item (i) as so numbered, the following item shall be inserted, namely:—

“(ii) Two postgraduate students and one research scholar elected from among themselves:

Provided that, a person who has become a member of the Academic Council in the capacity of a student or research scholar shall cease to hold office on his ceasing to be a student or research scholar and new election to such vacancies shall be conducted within three months.”;

(ii) under the heading “Nominated Members”,—

(a) item (i) shall be omitted;

(b) in item (ii), for the word “Five” the word “Two” shall be substituted.

(f) in section 17,—

(i) in sub-section (2), after clause (c), the following clauses shall be inserted, namely: —

“(ca) to frame such regulations for promoting and facilitating inter university transfer and mobility of students with transfer of credits across different Universities or institutions in India and abroad;

(cb) to frame regulations for transfer of earned credits from another institution or University to the same programme or different programmes of the University;”.

(g) after section 18, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“18A. *Research Council*.—(1) There shall be a Research Council in the University to discuss, deliberate and decide on any matters regarding research, innovation, academic collaboration, technology transfer and research related extension activities and concerned bodies shall issue orders as per its decision.

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

(a) the Vice-Chancellor;

(b) the Pro-Vice-Chancellor;

(c) the Registrar;

(d) the Director of Research, who shall be a Professor nominated by the Syndicate;

(e) one teacher member of the Syndicate nominated by the Syndicate;

(f) Two Deans of the University nominated by the Syndicate;

(g) three experts from outside the University, who are eminent researchers nominated by the Syndicate;

(h) one research scholar of the University nominated by the Syndicate;

(i) the Director, Internal Quality Assurance Cell.

(3) The Vice-Chancellor shall be the Chairperson and the Director of Research shall be the Convenor of the Reserch Council. In the absence of the Chairperson, the members present shall elect one member from among themselves to preside over the meeting.

(4) The members of the Research Council shall hold office for a period of two years from the date of constitution or until re-constitution, whichever is earlier.

(5) The Research Council shall meet atleast once in two months or as and when required in offline, online or hybrid mode.

(6) The powers and functions of the Research Council including the delegation of its powers, shall be prescribed by the Statutes.”.

(h) after section 21 ,the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“21A. *Internal Quality Assurance Cell.*—(1) There shall be an Internal Quality Assurance Cell in the University.

(2) The Internal Quality Assurance Cell of the University shall consist of the following members, namely:—

(a) the Vice-Chancellor;

(b) the Pro-Vice-Chancellor;

(c) the Registrar;

(d) the Finance Officer;

(e) two members of Syndicate nominated from among themselves;

(f) five teachers nominated by the Syndicate;

(g) one person each from local society, students and alumni nominated by the Syndicate;

(h) one person each from employers, industrialists and stakeholders nominated by the Syndicate;

(3) The Vice-Chancellor shall be the Chairperson and one teacher member nominated by the Syndicate shall be the Director of Internal Quality Assurance Cell.

(4) The members of Internal Quality Assurance Cell shall hold office for a period of two years from the date of their entering upon the office.

(5) The powers and functions of Internal Quality Assurance Cell shall be prescribed by the Statutes based on the relevant University Grants Commission directions from time to time.

(6) The Internal Quality Assurance Cell shall meet atleast once in every three months or as and when required in offline, online or hybrid mode.

(7) Two-third of total members shall constitute the quorum of the meeting.”.

(i) in section 26, for sub-section (7), the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(7) If there are reasonable grounds for the Vice-Chancellor to believe that there is an emergency which requires immediate action to be taken, he shall, take such action as he thinks necessary, and shall, as soon as, report in writing, the grounds for the emergency and the action taken by him, to such authority, body or various councils as the case may be, which, in the ordinary course, would have dealt with the matter for decision in its next meeting and the concerned authority, body or council shall consider the said report in its next session:

Provided that, in the event of a difference of opinion arising between the Vice-Chancellor and the authority, body or councils, as the case may be, on the issue of existence of such an emergency, or on the action taken or on both, the matter shall be referred to the Appellate Tribunal whose decision shall be final.”.

(j) in section 27, —

(i) for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(1) The Pro-Vice-Chancellor shall be appointed by the Syndicate on the recommendation of the Vice-Chancellor. The Pro-Vice-Chancellor shall hold office for a period, which is co-terminus with that of the Vice-Chancellor and is also eligible for reappointment.”;

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

“(2) No person who is more than sixty years of age shall be appointed as Pro-Vice-Chancellor.”;

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

“(3) The Pro-Vice-Chancellor shall be a whole-time salaried academic and administrative officer of the University and who has held the post of Associate Professor or Principal of a college or an institution with not less than ten years teaching or research experience with a doctoral degree.”;

(iv) sub-section (4) shall be omitted;

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

“(6) The Pro-Vice-Chancellor shall be the Head of the University Examinations and shall exercise such powers and perform such functions as may be prescribed by the Statutes and as delegated by the Vice-Chancellor.”.

(k) in section 31, in sub-section (1), for the words and symbol “Vice-Chancellor”, the word “Syndicate” shall be substituted.

(ka) in Section 33,—

in sub section (4) of section 33 of the Act, after the words “or Nationalised Bank ”, the words “ Kerala State Co-operative Bank Limited” shall be inserted

(l) in section 38, after sub-section (10), the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely:—

“(11) Notwithstanding anything contained in the foregoing provisions, the accounts relating to the funds granted by external funding agencies for specific projects or programmes shall be audited only in such manner as may be specified by the funding agency.”.

(m) in section 40, after sub-section (4), the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:—

“Provided that, when the Chancellor has not decided on the Statute within sixty days from the date it had been submitted to him, it shall be deemed to be assented.”.

(n) after section 47, the following sections shall be inserted, namely:—

“47A. *Students’ Rights.*-(1) Students have the right to get the prospectus of the institution where they are willing to continue their studies and provided with sufficient information to make informed decisions about course selection and registration.

(2) Students have a right to a detailed and complete course outline for every course in which they are registered, to be provided during the first week of class. This information should include, where appropriate:

- (a) a description of the topics to be considered in the course;
- (b) a list of required and recommended readings or study materials;
- (c) a description of the means of evaluation to be used in the course; and
- (d) the instructor’s contact information, office location and office hours.

(3) Students have a right to receive satisfactory academic education and required teaching hours either face to face or online to achieve their specific learning objectives and credit requirements.

(4) Students have a right to be a member of any lawful association of their choice and the University shall not subject them to any prejudice by reason of their membership in such an association.

(5) Every group of students has a right to organise and promote the interests of its members, provided that the purposes of such a group shall be lawful. Every such group shall have the right to publicise and hold meetings, to debate any matter and to engage in lawful and peaceful demonstration.

(6) The University and all the educational institutions affiliated to it shall constitute a formal representative body of students, in which elections shall be held regularly for the selection of students’ representatives in that body as and when decided by the University.

(7) The University teaching department and affiliated colleges shall be liable to observe, promote and protect these rights of students.

(8) Every Student shall have such other specific students' rights as may be prescribed by the Statutes.

47B. *Students' Grievance Redressal System.*—(1) There shall be a Students' Grievance Redressal System as per the Regulations of University Grants Commission and relevant Government Orders.

(2) The constitution, powers and functions of such system shall be prescribed by the Statutes.

47C. *Teachers' rights and responsibilities.*—(1) Teachers have the right to academic freedom and the right to freedom of inquiry, expression and assembly.

(2) Teachers shall have the academic autonomy for designing academic programmes, curricula, syllabi, evaluation and assessment in accordance with the provisions of this Act, Statutes and Regulations.

(3) Teachers or their groups or organisations may distribute and display written or printed or electronic material in campus without prior approval of the University so long as the distributed material is consistent with University policy and State law. The person or persons responsible for such material must be clearly indicated.

(4) Teachers have the right to pursue further study opportunities for improving their skills and developing their talents related to their responsibilities as teachers and scholars contingent upon the availability of resources.

(5) Teachers are entitled to full freedom in research and in the publication of its results, subject to the adequate performance of their other academic duties.

(6) Teaching duties of a teacher include the following:

(a) planning classroom and online activities as appropriate to the method of course delivery;

(b) preparing course syllabi;

(c) designing assignments and examinations;

(d) holding regular office hours or being available for consultation;

(e) supervising independent work undertaken by students;

(f) directing thesis and dissertations;

(g) evaluating students;

(h) assessing and documenting student learning;

(i) advising, developing and accessing curricula;

(j) co-ordinating activities including student mentor programmes, tutor services, study skills workshops and special events, research guiding, conducting research, prepare and submit proposals for project or extension activities.

(7) Academic advising is a part of the teaching responsibility of the teacher.

(8) Teaching responsibilities include prompt and regular presence during scheduled class hours whether in an offline or online classroom, as appropriate to the mode of course delivery.

(9) A teacher is expected to treat students with professional courtesy and to respect their rights, including academic freedom and those rights outlined in the students' rights.

(10) Every teacher in the University and affiliated college shall have such other specific teachers' rights and responsibilities as may be prescribed by the Statutes.”.

(o) after section 52, the following sections shall be inserted, namely:—

“52A. *University Resource Planning System.*—(1) The University shall have an integrated software-based resource planning and management system or be part of such a system established by the Government through any of its agencies for its day-to-day function which shall integrate, automate and streamline its core

administrative, academic, human resource, financial, examination and other processes under various departments or units and affiliated colleges within the University to improve administrative efficiencies.

(2) The policy and programme of University Resource Planning System may be prescribed by the Statutes from time to time.

52B. *Rules of Business.*—(1) The University shall frame Rules of Business based on re-engineering for the improvement of performance and an effective application of Information Technology based governance.

(2) The Rules of Business shall be prescribed in the Statutes and shall be updated from time to time based on University Grants Commission Regulations or Government directions as may be applicable.

52C. *Research Parks.*—(1) The University may establish independent research parks or other similar establishments to be established as companies under section 8 of the Companies Act, 2013 (Central Act 18 of 2013) with investment coming from anchor clients, alumni and civil society.

(2) Each research park and company shall have an independent governing body. The policy and programme of the research park and the constitution of the governing body shall be prescribed by the Statutes from time to time.”.

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

(a) in section 2, after clause (xxxiii), the following clauses shall be inserted, namely:—

“(xxxiv) “College Council” means a College Council constituted under section 58A [***];

(xxxv) “Constituent College” means a college affiliated to the University and recognised as Constituent College by the Syndicate under section 74T [***];

(xxxvi) “Constituent University Centre” means centre of the University and recognised as Constituent University Centre by the Syndicate under section 74T [***];

(xxxvii) “Constituent University Department” means a department of the University and recognised as Constituent University Department by the Syndicate under section 74T [***];

(xxxviii) “Internal Quality Assurance Cell” means the Internal Quality Assurance Cell constituted under section 33A [***];

(xxxix) “Research Council” means a Research Council constituted under section 27A [***];

(xL) “Research Park” means a Research Park established under section 91C[***];

(xLi) “University Resource Planning System” means a University Resource Planning System established under section 91A [***].”.

(b) for section 8, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“8. *The Pro-Chancellor.*—(1) The Minister-in-charge of Higher Education Department of the State shall, by virtue of his office, be the Pro-Chancellor of the University.

(2) In the absence of the Chancellor, the Pro-Chancellor shall, when present, preside over the meetings of the Senate and at any convocation of the University.

(3) The Pro-Chancellor shall, have the right to call for any information relating to the academic and administrative affairs of the University and such requisition shall be complied with by the University.

(4) The Pro-Chancellor shall have the right to bring any matter, which he considers important or a matter involving the policy of the Government, to the attention of the Chancellor or to any authority or officer of the University and seek appropriate action.

(5) The Pro-Chancellor shall have the right to cause an inspection to be made by such person or persons as he may direct, of the University, its buildings, laboratories and equipment, and of any college or institution maintained by the University and also of the examinations, teaching and other work conducted

or done by the University and to cause an inquiry to be made in like manner in respect of any matter connected with the administration or finances of the University, colleges or institutions.

(6) The Pro-Chancellor shall have such powers as may be prescribed by the Statutes.

(7) The Pro-Chancellor shall exercise such other powers and perform such other functions of the Chancellor as the Chancellor may, by an order in writing, delegate to the Pro-Chancellor and such delegation may be subject to such restrictions and conditions as may be specified in such order.”.

(c) in section 11, for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(1) If there are reasonable grounds for the Vice-Chancellor to believe that there is an emergency which requires immediate action to be taken, he shall, take such action as he thinks necessary, and shall, as soon as, report in writing, the grounds for the emergency and the action taken by him, to such authority, body or various councils, as the case may be, which, in the ordinary course, would have dealt with the matter for decision in its next meeting and the concerned authority, body or council shall consider the said report in its next session:

Provided that, in the event of a difference of opinion arising between the Vice-Chancellor and the authority, body or councils, as the case may be, on the issue of the existence of such an emergency, or on the action taken or on both, the matter shall be referred to the Appellate Tribunal whose decision shall be final.”.

(d) in section 13,—

(i) for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(1) The Pro-Vice-Chancellor shall be appointed by the Syndicate on the recommendation of the Vice-Chancellor. The Pro-Vice-Chancellor shall hold office for a period, which is co-terminus with that of the Vice-Chancellor and is also eligible for reappointment.”;

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

“(2) No person who is more than sixty years of age shall be appointed as Pro-Vice-Chancellor.”;

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

“(3) The Pro-Vice-Chancellor shall be a whole-time salaried academic and administrative officer of the University and who has held the post of Associate Professor or Principal of a college or an institution with not less than ten years teaching or research experience with a doctoral degree.”;

(iv) sub-section (4) shall be omitted;

(v) in sub-section (5), for the words “determined by the Chancellor”, the words “prescribed by the Statutes” shall be substituted;

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

“(6) The Pro-Vice-Chancellor shall exercise such powers and perform such functions as may be prescribed by the Statutes and as delegated by the Vice-Chancellor.”.

(e) in section 19, under the heading “Other members”, after item (iii), the following item shall be inserted, namely:—

(iiia) Not more than five members nominated by the Government from the field of Higher Education of whom one shall be a women and one shall be from Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe communities.

(f) in section 20, after sub-section (7), the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely:—

“(8) Senate shall be deemed to have been constituted if one-third of members of the elected members have been elected and the Registrar shall issue it through a notification.”.

(g) in section 21, after clause (d), the following clauses shall be inserted, namely:—

“(e) to make, amend or repeal Statutes either of its own motion or on the motion of the Syndicate;

(f) to cancel or amend by a majority of the total membership of the Senate and by a majority of not less than two-third of the members present and voting, any Ordinance passed by the Syndicate or any Regulation passed by the Academic Council:

Provided that, no Regulation shall be cancelled or amended by the Senate without giving the Academic Council an opportunity to state its opinion on the proposed cancellation or amendment.”.

(h) for section 23, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“ 23. *The Syndicate.*—The Syndicate shall be the Chief Executive Body of the University and shall consist of the following members, namely:—

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

(a) the Vice-Chancellor;

(b) the Pro-Vice-Chancellor;

(c) the Secretary to Government, Higher Education Department or an officer not below the rank of Joint Secretary nominated by him;

(d) the Director of Collegiate Education.

OTHER MEMBERS

(a) Eight members elected by the Senate from among themselves of whom,—

(i) four shall be persons who are not teachers, of whom one shall be a person belonging to a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe;

(ii) one Principal of affiliated colleges; and

(iii) three shall be teachers who are not Principals, of whom one shall be a University teacher, one shall be a teacher of a Government College and one shall be a teacher of a private college.

Explanation:—For the purpose of this item 'Private College' means private college other than unaided college.”;

(b) One student member elected by the Senate from among the members referred to—

(i) in item (xiv) under the heading “Ex-officio members” in section 19;

(ii) in item (xi) under the heading “Elected members” in section 19;

(iii) in item (iii) under the heading “Other members” in section 19.

(c) the members referred to in item (iiia) under the heading “Other members” in section 19, nominated by the Government.

(d) One Dean of faculty nominated by the Syndicate as per the seniority for a period of two years based on rotation.”.

(i) for section 24, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“24. *Term of office of members of Syndicate.*—(1) The members of the Syndicate other than ex-officio members, shall hold office for a term of four years from the date of their election or nomination, as the case may be:

Provided that, no person elected in his capacity as a member of a particular body or as the holder of a particular office shall be a member of the Syndicate for a longer period than three months after he has ceased to be such member of that body or holder of such office unless in the meanwhile he again becomes a member of that body or the holder of that office:

Provided further that, the member referred to in item (b) under the heading “Other members” in section 23 shall hold office for a period of one year from the date of his election or till he ceases to be a member of the Senate, whichever is earlier:

Provided also that, the term of the Syndicate shall be co-terminus with the term of the Senate:

Provided also that, no person other than an ex-officio member shall be eligible to hold office for more than two terms in succession.

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in the first proviso to sub-section (1), a member of the Syndicate referred to in sub-item (ii) of item (a) under the heading “Other Members” in section 23, or referred to in sub-item (iii) of item (a) who is a teacher of a private college or a Government college, shall not cease to be such member merely on the ground that,-

(a) he had been transferred to an educational institution within the State, situated beyond the territorial limits of the University; or

(b) the college of which he is the Principal or in which he is a teacher has been transferred to another University.”.

(j) in section 25,—

(i) in item (ii), the words “Statutes and ” shall be omitted;

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

“(xv) to conduct University examinations, approve and publish results thereof and award degrees;

(xva) to co-operate and collaborate with other Universities and other authorities in India and abroad in such manner and for such purposes as it may determine;”;

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

“(xvii) to fix the remuneration of the examiners in the panel;”;

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

“(xx) to arrange for and direct the investigation into the affairs of private colleges, to issue instructions for maintaining their efficiency, for ensuring proper conditions of employment of members of their staff and payment of adequate salaries to them and in case of disregard of such instructions of University or general Government directions, take steps to withdraw affiliation or recognition;”;

(v) in item (xxvi),—

(a) after the word “lecturerships”, the symbols and words, “associate professorships, assistant professorships” shall be inserted;

(b) in the proviso, after the word “lectureship”, the symbols and words, “associate professorship, assistant professorship” shall be inserted;

(vi) after item (xxxiv), the following items shall be inserted, namely:—

“(xxxiva) to constitute cluster of colleges in accordance with the terms and conditions of such clusters as may be prescribed by the Statutes;

(xxxivb) to constitute constituent colleges in accordance with the terms and conditions prescribed in the Act and the Statutes;

(xxxivc) to determine the institution of fellowships, travelling fellowships, scholarships, studentships, medals and prizes;

(xxxivd) to constitute expert committees to exercise the powers and perform the functions of Boards of Studies, in the absence of formally constituted Board of Studies, for such programmes or courses in specialised fields of study introduced by the University.”.

(k) for section 26, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“26. *The Academic Council.*—(1) The Academic Council shall be the supreme academic body of the University.

(2) The Academic Council shall, subject to the provisions of this Act and the Statutes, have the control and general regulation and be responsible for the maintenance of standards, of instruction, education and examinations within the University.

(3) The Academic Council shall consist of the following members, namely:—

- (a) the Vice-Chancellor;
- (b) the Pro-Vice-Chancellor;
- (c) the Director of Technical Education;
- (d) the Director of Collegiate Education;
- (e) the Director of Research and Studies;
- (f) the Director of Physical Education;
- (g) the Deans of Faculties;
- (h) the General Secretary of the University Union;
- (i) the Director, Internal Quality Assurance Cell;

(j) all the Heads of University Departments of study and research, who are not Deans of faculties;

(k) all members of the Syndicate who are not otherwise members of the Academic Council;

(l) one Principal of a Government College, other than Deans of Faculties, elected by the Principals of Government Colleges from among themselves;

(m) one Principal of Private College, other than Deans of Faculties, elected by the Principals of Private Colleges from among themselves;

Explanation:—For the purpose of this item, 'Private College' means private college other than unaided college.”.

(n) one member each of every subject of study other than Deans of Faculties or head of a University department or Principal elected by the teachers of that subject from among themselves;

(o) one member representing each faculty, elected by the full-time postgraduate students of the faculty from among themselves;

(p) five external experts of whom atleast one shall be an expert from industrial sector to be nominated by the Chancellor;

(q) five regular research scholars in the University, of whom one shall be a female student, one shall be from a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe and one shall be from differently abled sections nominated by the Syndicate.

(4) The members of the Academic Council, other than the members specified in clauses (a) to (j) of sub-section (3) shall hold office for a term of four years from the date of their appointment or nomination, as the case may be:

Provided that, a person who has become a member of the Academic Council in the capacity of a student shall cease to hold office on his ceasing to be a student:

Provided further that, he shall continue to hold office until his successor enters upon his office.”.

(l) in section 27,—

(i) in clause (v), for the word “courses”, the word “programmes” shall be substituted;

(ii) in clause (vi), for the word “courses”, the word “programmes” shall be substituted;

(iii) in clause (viii), for the words “to make”, the words “to make and accept” shall be substituted;

(iv) clause (ix) shall be omitted;

(v) clause (x) shall be omitted;

(vi) in clause (xi), for the words “to make proposals”, the words “to approve proposals recommended by the respective bodies” shall be substituted;

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

“(xiii) to co-ordinate teaching and learning in University departments, constituent colleges, affiliated colleges and recognised institutions;

(xiiia) to frame such regulations for promoting and facilitating inter university transfer and mobility of students with transfer of credits across different Universities or institutions in India and abroad;

(xiiib) to frame regulations for transfer of earned credits from another institution or University to the same programme or different programmes of the University;”.

(m) after section 27, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“27A. *Research Council*.—(1) There shall be a Research Council in the University to discuss, deliberate and decide on any matters regarding research, innovation, academic collaboration, technology transfer and research related extension activities and concerned bodies shall issue orders as per its decision.

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

(a) the Vice-Chancellor;

(b) the Pro-Vice-Chancellor;

(c) the Registrar;

(d) the Director of Research, who shall be a Professor nominated by the Syndicate;

(e) two teacher members of the Syndicate nominated by the Syndicate of whom one shall be a University teacher;

(f) three Deans of the University nominated by the Syndicate;

(g) three experts from outside the University, who are eminent researchers nominated by the Vice-Chancellor;

(h) one research scholar of the University nominated by the Syndicate;

(i) the Director, Internal Quality Assurance Cell;

(j) two members nominated by the Academic Council from among themselves.

(3) The Vice-Chancellor shall be the Chairperson of the Research Council and the Director of Research shall be the Convenor. In the absence of the Chairperson, the members present shall elect one member from among themselves to preside over the meeting.

(4) The members of the Research Council shall hold office for a period of two years from the date of constitution or until reconstitution, whichever is earlier.

(5) The Research Council shall meet atleast once in a month or as and when required in offline, online or hybrid mode.

(6) The powers and functions of the Research Council including the delegation of its powers, shall be prescribed by the Statutes.”.

(n) in section 28, in sub-section (3),—

(i) in clause (b), for the words “two members”, the words “one member” shall be substituted;

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

“(c) five members nominated by the Syndicate;”.

(o) for section 30, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“30. *Boards of Studies.*—(1) There shall be a composite Board of Studies for each department of study or discipline in the University nominated by the Syndicate.

(2) There shall be a Chairperson for each Board of Studies nominated by the Syndicate and the Chairperson shall be a teacher with a minimum of fifteen years of regular service:

Provided that, if there are no teachers with fifteen years of regular service, the senior most teacher shall be the Chairperson.

(3) The members of the Boards of Studies be teachers with a minimum of ten years of regular service:

Provided that, if there are no teachers with ten years of regular service, teachers with less than ten years of regular service shall be considered.

(4) Each Board of Studies shall have a maximum of fifteen members and atleast one shall be an expert from outside the University and atleast one shall be an expert from relevant industry or skill sector from outside the University nominated by the Syndicate.

(5) The Chairperson and members of the Boards of Studies shall hold office for a period of four years from the date of their entering upon office.

(6) The constitution and powers of the Boards of Studies shall be prescribed by the Statutes.

30A. *Expert Committee*.—(1) The Syndicate shall appoint an Expert Committee to exercise the powers and perform the functions of Boards of Studies in the absence of formally constituted Boards of Studies.

(2) There shall be a Chairperson for each Expert Committee nominated by the Syndicate and Chairperson shall be a teacher with a minimum of fifteen years of regular service:

Provided that, if there are no teachers with fifteen years of regular service, the senior most teacher shall be the Chairperson.

(3) Members of Expert Committee shall be teachers with a minimum of five years of regular service:

Provided that, if there are no teachers with minimum five years of regular service, teachers with less than five years of regular service shall be considered.

(4) Each Expert Committee shall have minimum ten members and atleast one shall be an [****] expert from outside the University.

(5) The constitution and powers of Expert Committee shall be prescribed by the Statutes.

(6) The tenure of Expert Committee shall be decided by the Syndicate:

Provided that, it shall not be more than two years.”.

(p) in section 31, in sub-section (2), under the heading “ex-officio members”, in item (b), for the word “Chairman”, the word “Chairperson” shall be substituted.

(q) after section 32, the following sections shall be inserted, namely:—

“32A. *Students' Rights.*—(1) Students have the right to get the prospectus of the institution where they are willing to continue their studies and provided with sufficient information to make informed decisions about course selection and registration.

(2) Students have a right to a detailed and complete course outline for every course in which they are registered, to be provided during the first week of class. This information should include, where appropriate:

(a) a description of the topics to be considered in the course;

(b) a list of required and recommended readings and study materials;

(c) a description of the means of evaluation to be used in the course; and

(d) the instructor's contact information, office location and office hours.

(3) Students have a right to receive satisfactory academic education and required teaching hours either face to face or online to achieve their specific learning objectives and credit requirements.

(4) Students have a right to be a member of any lawful association of their choice and the University shall not subject them to any prejudice by reason of their membership in such an association.

(5) Every group of students has a right to organise and promote the interests of its members, provided that the purposes of such a group shall be lawful. Every such group shall have the right to publicise and hold meetings, to debate any matter and to engage in lawful and peaceful demonstration.

(6) The University and all educational institutions affiliated to it shall constitute a formal representative body of students, in which elections shall be held regularly for the selection of students' representatives in that body as and when decided by the University.

(7) The University teaching department and affiliated colleges shall be liable to observe, promote and protect these rights of students.

(8) Every student shall have such other specific students' rights as may be prescribed by the Statutes.

32B. *Students' Grievance Redressal System.*—(1) There shall be a Students' Grievance Redressal System as per the Regulations of University Grants Commission and relevant Government Orders.

(2) The constitution, powers and functions of such system shall be prescribed by the Statutes.

32C. *Teachers' rights and responsibilities.*—(1) Teachers have the right to academic freedom and the right to freedom of inquiry, expression and assembly.

(2) Teachers shall have the academic autonomy for designing academic programmes, curricula, syllabi, evaluation and assessment in accordance with the provisions of this Act, Statutes and Regulations.

(3) Teachers or their groups or organisations may distribute and display written or printed or electronic material in campus without prior approval of the University so long as the distributed material is consistent with University policy and State law. The person or persons responsible for such material must be clearly indicated.

(4) Teachers have the right to pursue further study opportunities for improving their skills and developing their talents related to their responsibilities as teachers and scholars contingent upon the availability of resources.

(5) Teachers are entitled to full freedom in research and in the publication of its results, subject to the adequate performance of their other academic duties.

(6) Teaching duties of a teacher include the following:

(a) planning classroom and online activities as appropriate to the method of course delivery;

(b) preparing course syllabi;

- (c) designing assignments and examinations;
- (d) holding regular office hours or being available for consultation;
- (e) supervising independent work undertaken by students;
- (f) directing thesis and dissertations;
- (g) evaluating students;
- (h) assessing and documenting student learning;
- (i) advising, developing and accessing curricula;
- (j) co-ordinating activities including student mentor programmes, tutor services, study skills workshops and special events, research guiding, conducting research, prepare and submit proposals for project or extension activities.

(7) Academic advising is a part of the teaching responsibility of the teacher.

(8) Teaching responsibilities include prompt and regular presence during scheduled class hours whether in an offline or online classroom, as appropriate to the mode of course delivery.

(9) A teacher is expected to treat students with professional courtesy and to respect their rights, including academic freedom and those rights outlined in the 'students' rights'.

(10) Every teacher in the University, affiliated college and constituent college shall have such other specific teachers' rights and responsibilities as may be prescribed by the Statutes.”.

(r) in section 33,—

(i) for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(1) The Finance Committee shall be the principal financial body of the University and shall exercise general supervision over the financial matters of the University.”;

(ii) in sub-section (2), after clause (g), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

“(h) the Registrar.”;

(iii) after sub-section (3), the following sub-sections shall be inserted, namely:—

“(3A) The Finance Committee shall examine and scrutinise the annual budget of the University and make recommendations on financial matters to the concerned bodies.

(3B) The Finance Committee shall consider proposals for new expenditure and make recommendations to the concerned bodies.

(3C) The Finance Committee shall consider the periodical statements of accounts, review the finances of the University from time to time, consider re-appropriation statements, audit reports and make recommendations to the concerned bodies.”;

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

“(4) The powers and functions of the Finance Committee and its procedure in financial matters, shall be prescribed by the Statutes.”.

(s) after section 33, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“33A. *Internal Quality Assurance Cell.*—(1) There shall be an Internal Quality Assurance Cell in the University, its affiliated colleges and constituent colleges.

(2) The Internal Quality Assurance Cell of the University shall consist of the following members, namely:—

(a) the Vice-Chancellor;

(b) the Pro-Vice-Chancellor;

(c) the Registrar

(d) the Finance Officer;

(e) two members of Syndicate nominated from among themselves;

(f) five teachers nominated by the Syndicate;

(g) one person each from local society, students and alumni nominated by the Syndicate;

(h) one person each from employers, industrialists and stakeholders nominated by the Syndicate;

(3) The Vice-Chancellor shall be the Chairperson and one teacher member nominated by the Syndicate shall be the Director of Internal Quality Assurance Cell.

(4) The Internal Quality Assurance Cell of the affiliated college and constituent college shall consist of the following members, namely:—

(a) the Principal;

(b) one representative of Management;

(c) five teachers nominated by the College Council;

(d) one person each from local society, students and alumni nominated by the Principal;

(e) one person each from employers, industrialists and stakeholders nominated by the Principal;

(f) the College Superintendent;

(g) the Librarian.

(5) The Principal shall be the Chairperson and one teacher member nominated by the College Council shall be the Co-ordinator of Internal Quality Assurance Cell .

(6) The members of Internal Quality Assurance Cell shall hold office for a period of two years from the date of their entering upon the office.

(7) The powers and functions of Internal Quality Assurance Cell shall be prescribed by the Statutes based on the relevant University Grants Commission directions issued from time to time.

(8) The Internal Quality Assurance Cell shall meet atleast once in [****] three months or as and when required in offline, online or hybrid mode.

(9) Two-third of total members shall constitute the quorum of the meeting.”.

(t) in section 36, in sub-section (1),—

(i) in clause (b) the words and symbol “or a deaf-mute”, shall be omitted;

(ii) in clause (d), for the words “moral delinquency”, the words “moral turpitude” shall be substituted.

(u) for section 38, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“38. *Procedure for making Statutes.*—(1) The Senate may of its own motion take into consideration the draft of a Statute:

Provided that, in any such case, before the Statute is passed, the Senate shall obtain and consider the opinion of the Syndicate.

(2) The Syndicate may propose to the Senate the draft of any Statute for consideration and such draft shall be considered by the Senate at its next meeting.

(3) The Senate may approve the draft of a Statute proposed by the Syndicate and pass the Statute or may reject it or return it to the Syndicate for reconsideration, either in whole or in part together with amendments which the Senate may suggest.

(4) After any draft returned by the Senate under sub-section (3) has been further considered by the Syndicate, together with any amendment suggested by the Senate, it shall be again presented to the Senate with the report of the Syndicate thereon, and the Senate may then deal with the draft in any manner as it thinks fit.

(5) Where any Statute has been passed by the Senate, it shall be submitted to the Chancellor who may refer the Statute back to the Senate for further consideration or assent thereto or withhold his assent:

Provided that, when the Chancellor has not decided on the Statute within sixty days from the date it had been submitted to him, it shall be deemed to be assented.

(6) No Statute passed by the Senate shall be valid or come into force until assented to by the Chancellor.

(7) The Syndicate shall not propose the draft of a Statute or of an amendment to a Statute affecting the status, powers or constitution of any authority of the University until such authority has been given an opportunity of expressing an opinion upon the proposal and any opinion so expressed shall be in writing and shall be considered by the Senate.

(8) No Statute providing for the conditions for, or procedure relating to, the affiliation of private colleges shall be passed by the Senate without the previous approval of the Government.”.

(v) in section 45, the existing provision shall be numbered as sub-section (1) and after sub-section (1) as so numbered, the following sub-sections shall be inserted, namely:—

“(2) The Registrar shall be the Chief Election Officer for elections to all authorities or bodies of the University and he shall issue notification, conduct election and declare result and issue notification for the constitution of the respective authorities or bodies of the University.

(3) The Vice-Chancellor shall be the authority to prefer appeal for all the election related complaints.”.

(w) in section 48, in sub-section (2), for the words “the State Bank of India or its subsidiaries”, the words “any Nationalised bank or Kerala State Co-operative Bank Limited” shall be substituted.

(x) in section 55, the existing provision shall be numbered as sub-section (1) and after sub-section (1) as so numbered, the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely:—

“(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in the foregoing provisions, the accounts relating to the funds granted by external funding agencies for specific

projects or programmes shall be audited only in such manner as may be specified by the funding agency.”.

(xa) in Section 58 of the Act,—

(i) in sub- section (1) of Section 58, for the words “within such a time”, the words “at any time of the year” shall be substituted

(ii) proviso to sub-section (2) shall be omitted

(y) after section 58, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“58A. *College Council*.—(1) All the affiliated colleges and constituent colleges of the University shall constitute a college council in accordance with the provisions of this Act, Statutes and Regulations.

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

(a) the Principal – Chairperson;

(b) the Vice-Principal;

(c) Heads of the departments from all departments including single faculty departments and department of Physical Education;

(d) elected teachers;

(e) the College Librarian;

(f) the Co-ordinator, Internal Quality Assurance Cell;

(g) the Superintendent.

(3) National Cadet Corps Officers, National Service Scheme Officers, the hostel warden and the college union Chairperson, or any other persons given specific responsibilities by the college shall be invited to the College Council if the College Council deems it fit to take their opinion on special matters.

(4) For every thirty teachers or fraction thereof, there shall be an elected member in the College Council.

(5) The term of the elected members shall be two years from the date of their entering upon the office:

Provided that, an elected member shall continue to hold his office, after the expiration of the said period, until his successor enters upon his office.

(6) The procedure for nominating Head of the Departments by rotation, election of the teachers to the College Council and guidelines for the functioning of the College Council shall be as prescribed by the Statutes.”.

(z) in section 62,—

(i) in sub-section (1), the words “or by such officers as may be authorized by the Government” shall be omitted;

(ii) for sub-section (9), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(9) Any person aggrieved by any appointment under this section may take a complaint to the Vice- Chancellor within thirty days from the date of issuance of the appointment order and the Vice-Chancellor shall dispose of the complaint in the manner prescribed by the Statutes within sixty days from the date of filing complaint.

(10) If he is not satisfied with the decision of Vice- Chancellor, he may prefer an appeal to the Appellate Tribunal with thirty days from the date of the order of the Vice- Chancellor and the decision of the Appellate Tribunal shall be final.

(za) in section 66, after sub-section (3), the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:—

“Provided that, when a teacher of a private college is suspended for a period exceeding thirty days, the educational agency shall obtain prior permission of the Vice-Chancellor.”.

(zb) in section 69, after sub-section (2), the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely:—

“(2A) Where a teacher becomes a President of Grama Panchayath or Chairperson of Municipal Corporation or Mayor of Corporation the period served as such President or Chairperson or Mayor, as the case may be, shall be treated as on leave without salary and allowances.”.

(zc) after Chapter VIIIA , the following Chapter shall be inserted, namely:—

“Chapter VIII B

CONSTITUENT COLLEGES

74T. *Constituent Colleges.*—(1) The University shall have power to designate an existing affiliated college or department or centre as its constituent college or constituent university department or constituent university center in any discipline in collaboration with Government or quasi-Government or reputed educational agencies by making a suitable memorandum of understanding or agreement, as the case may be, by following the appropriate procedure and sanction or permission of the concerned authorities, if any.

(2) The University shall have power to establish a constituent college or constituent university department or a constituent university centre managed and maintained by the University with co-operation or collaboration with Government or quasi Government or reputed educational agencies by making a suitable memorandum of understanding or agreement, as the case may be, by following the appropriate procedure and sanction or permission of the concerned authorities, if any, under its jurisdiction.

(3) The University shall have power to start new programmes and courses in its constituent colleges, constituent university departments or constituent university centres by following the procedures laid down in this Act, Statutes and regulations, with the prior approval of the Government.

(4) The procedure for establishment of a constituent college or giving constituent college status shall be prescribed by the Statutes.”.

(zd) after section 91, the following sections shall be inserted, namely:—

“91A. *University Resource Planning System.*—(1) The University shall have an integrated software-based resource planning and management system or be part of such a system established by the Government through any of its agencies for its day-to-day function which shall integrate, automate and streamline its core administrative, academic, human resource, financial, examination and other processes under various departments or units and affiliated colleges within the University to improve administrative efficiency.

(2) The policy and programme of University Resource Planning System may be prescribed by the Statutes from time to time.

91B. *Rules of Business.*—(1) The University shall frame Rules of Business based on re-engineering for the improvement of performance and an effective application of Information Technology based governance.

(2) The Rules of Business shall be prescribed in the Statutes and shall be updated from time to time based on the University Grants Commission Regulations or Government directions as may be applicable.

91C. *Research Parks.*—(1) The University and its affiliated colleges may establish independent research parks or other similar establishments to be established as companies under section 8 of the Companies Act, 2013(Central Act 18 of 2013) with investment coming from anchor clients, alumni, and civil society.

(2) Each research park or company shall have an independent governing body. The policy and programme of the research park and the constitution of the governing body shall be prescribed by the Statutes from time to time.”.

7. *Special provision relating to existing Syndicate, Academic Council, Boards of Studies and Faculty.*—Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act,

(1) The Syndicate, Academic Council, Boards of Studies and Faculty of the Kerala University, the Calicut University, the Mahatma Gandhi University and the Kannur University, functioning as such immediately before the commencement of this Act shall continue to so function, until the expiry of the term of the said Syndicate, Academic Council, Boards of Studies and Faculty. [****]

(2) The Syndicate and Academic Council of the Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit functioning as such immediately before the commencement of this Act shall continue to so function, until the expiry of the term of the said Syndicate and Academic Council.[****]

Secretariat of the Kerala Legislature,
Thiruvananthapuram,
4th March, 2025.

DR. N. KRISHNA KUMAR,
Secretary.

