

Fifteenth Kerala Legislative Assembly

Bill No. 242

**THE UNIVERSITY LAWS (AMENDMENT)
(No. 2) BILL, 2025**

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[Translation in English of “2025-ലെ സർവ്വകലാശാല നിയമങ്ങൾ (ഭേദഗതി) (2-ാം നമ്പർ) ബിൽ” published under the authority of the Governor.]

THE UNIVERSITY LAWS (AMENDMENT) (No. 2) BILL, 2025

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further to amend the Cochin University of Science and Technology Act, 1986, the Thunchath Ezhuthachan Malayala University Act, 2013 and the A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Technological University Act, 2015.

Preamble.—WHEREAS, it is expedient further to amend the Cochin University of Science and Technology Act, 1986 (31 of 1986), the Thunchath Ezhuthachan Malayala University Act, 2013 (24 of 2013) and the A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Technological University Act, 2015 (17 of 2015) 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) (No. 2) Act, 2025.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. *Amendment of Act 31 of 1986.*—In the Cochin University of Science and Technology Act, 1986 (31 of 1986),—

(a) in section 3, after clause (26), the following clauses shall be inserted, namely:—

“(27) “grievance” means the grievance made by the student aggrieved by the matters, as may be prescribed by the Statutes;

(28) “Internal Quality Assurance Cell” means the Internal Quality Assurance Cell under section 30D;

(29) “Research Park” means a Research Park established under section 53C;

(30) “University Resource Planning System” means University Resource Planning System to be established under section 53A.”.

(b) for section 9, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“9. *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 any matter involving the policy of the Government, to the attention of the Chancellor or to any authority or officer of the University and to request 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 and 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 duties 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 (11), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(11) 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 possible, 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, the body or the council, 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 12, —

(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 re-appointment:

Provided that, no person who has completed sixty years shall be eligible for appointment.”;

(ii) sub-section (2) shall be omitted;

(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 who has a doctoral degree

and held the post of Professor or Principal of a college or an institution with not less than ten years teaching or research experience.”;

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

“(4) 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) for section 17, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—(

“17. *The Syndicate*.—(1) The Syndicate shall be the Chief Executive body of the University and shall consist of the following members, namely:—

Ex-officio Members

(i) The Vice-Chancellor;

(ii) The Pro-Vice-Chancellor;

(iii) The Secretary to Government, who is in charge of Higher Education Department or an officer not below the rank of Joint Secretary nominated by him;

(iv) The Director of Technical Education.

Nominated Members

(i) An expert from the field of industries and commerce, nominated by the Chancellor;

(ii) Three experts from the field of higher education, nominated by the Government, of whom one shall be a woman and one shall be from Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe communities;

(iii) One Dean of faculties nominated by the Vice-Chancellor in the alphabetical order of the faculties;

(iv) The Chairperson of the Students Union.

Elected Members

(i) Two members of the Senate, of whom one shall be a teacher elected by the teachers of the Senate and one shall be a member of the Senate;

(ii) One member elected by the Members of the Legislative Assembly from the Kerala Legislative Assembly.”.

(f) after section 17, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“17A. *Term of office of the members of the 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 period exceeding three months after he has ceased to be such member of that body or holder of such office unless he becomes a member of that body or the holder of that office during the period:

Provided further that, the member referred to in items (iii), (iv) under the heading “Nominated Members” in section 17 shall hold office for a period of one year from the date of his election:

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

(g) for section 19, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“19. *The Senate*.—The Senate shall consist of the following members, namely:—

Ex-officio members

- (i) The Chancellor;
- (ii) The Pro-Chancellor;
- (iii) The Vice-Chancellor;
- (iv) The Pro-Vice-Chancellor;
- (v) The Mayor of Kochi;

(vi) The Member of the Kerala Legislative Assembly and Member of the Lok Sabha representing the area in which Headquarters of the University is situated;

(vii) The Secretary to Government who is in charge of Higher Education Department or an officer not below the rank of Joint Secretary nominated by him;

(viii) The Secretary to Government who is in charge of Finance Department or an officer not below the rank of Joint Secretary nominated by him;

(ix) The Executive Vice-Chairperson, Kerala State Council for Science, Technology and Environment;

(x) The Chairperson, University Students Union;

(xi) The members of the Syndicate who are not otherwise members of the Senate.

Elected Members

(i) Three persons elected by the members of Academic Council from among themselves, of whom one shall be a woman;

(ii) Two persons elected by the Deans of Faculties from among themselves;

(iii) Seven members elected by permanent teachers of University departments and recognised institutions from among themselves;

(iv) Ten persons elected by the students of the University from among themselves, of whom one shall be a woman, two shall be research students, one shall be from Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe communities and one shall be from differently-abled category;

(v) Two members elected by the permanent non-teaching employees of the University from among themselves.

Other Members

(i) Five experts in the field of technology nominated by the Government, of whom one shall belong to Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe communities and one shall be a woman;

(ii) Not more than seven members from the fields of technology, arts, writing and journalism nominated by the Chancellor.”.

(h) in section 24,—

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

“(viii a) to determine if the examinations, diplomas, degrees and other academic distinctions of other universities are eligible for continuing studies at the University;

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

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

(i) after section 24, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“24A. *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.

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

(i) The Vice-Chancellor;

(ii) The Pro-Vice-Chancellor;

(iii) The Registrar;

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

(v) Elected teacher of the Syndicate;

(vi) Three Deans of the University nominated by the Syndicate;

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

(viii) One research scholar of the University nominated by the Syndicate;

(ix) The Director, Internal Quality Assurance Cell;

(x) 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, a member elected by the members present from among themselves shall preside over the meeting of the Research Council.

(4) The members of the Research Council shall hold office for a period of two years from the date of its constitution or until re-constitution, 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 total members shall constitute the quorum of the meeting.

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

(j) after section 26, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“26A. *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. The Chairperson shall be a teacher having a minimum of fifteen years 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 Expert Committee shall have minimum 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 may also 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, such tenure shall not be more than two years.”.

(k) 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,—

(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 attain satisfactory academic education and get teaching hours required for learning, 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 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 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 and evaluation 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, provided that the distributed material shall not be inconsistent 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 contingent upon the availability of resources.

(5) Teachers are entitled to full freedom in research and in the publication of results, subject to the satisfactory 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) keeping office hours regularly 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 assessing curricula;

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

(7) Academic advising shall be a part of teacher's responsibility.

(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 all their rights, including academic freedom and rights outlined in the 'Students' Rights'.

(10) Every teacher in the University shall have such teachers' rights and responsibilities as may be prescribed by the Statutes.'

30D. *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 persons nominated by the members of the Syndicate 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, industrialist and stakeholders nominated by the Syndicate.

(3) The Vice-Chancellor shall be the Chairperson of Internal Quality Assurance Cell and a teacher 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 directions issued by the University Grants Commission from time to time.

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

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

(l) in section 36, 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 in such manner as may be specified by the funding agency.”.

(m) in section 39, after sub-section (4), the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:—

“Provided that, if 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 53, the following sections shall be inserted, namely:—

“53A. *University Resource Planning System.*—(1) The University shall have a software-based integrated 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 shall be as may be prescribed by the Statutes from time to time.

53B. *Rules of Business.*—(1) The University shall frame Rules of Business based on re-engineering for improvement of its performance and effective application of information technology based governance.

(2) The Rules of Business shall be prescribed by the Statutes and shall be updated from time to time in accordance with the University Grants Commission Regulations that may be applicable and the directions of the Government.

53C. *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 as may be prescribed by the Statutes from time to time.”.

3. *Amendment of Act 24 of 2013.*—In the Thunchath Ezhuthachan Malayala University Act, 2013 (24 of 2013),—

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

“(x) “grievance” means the grievance made by the student aggrieved by the matters, as may be prescribed by the Statutes;

(y) “Internal Quality Assurance Cell” means the Internal Quality Assurance Cell under section 23A;

(z) “Research park” means the Research park established under section 55C;

(za) "University Grants Commission" means the University Grants Commission established under the University Grants Commission Act, 1956 (Central Act 3 of 1956);

(zb) “University Resource Planning System” means University Resource Planning System to be established by the University under section 55A.”.

(b) in section 5, in clause (b), for the words "at the post graduate level" , the words "at the graduate level and the post graduate level" shall be substituted.

(c) for section 13, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

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

Ex-officio Members

(i) The Vice-Chancellor;

(ii) The Pro-Vice-Chancellor;

(iii) The Secretary to Government who is in charge of Higher Education Department or an officer not below the rank of Joint Secretary nominated by him.

Elected Members

(i) One member elected by the elected members of the General Council from the Directors of schools in the General Council;

(ii) One member elected by the elected members of the General Council from the University teachers in the General Council;

(iii) One member elected by the elected members of the General Council from the students in the General Council;

Nominated Members

(i) Two persons nominated by the Chancellor from among eminent writers, artists and scholars who are members of the General Council, of whom one shall be a woman ;

(ii) Two persons nominated by the Government from among eminent writers, artists and scholars, of whom one shall be a person belonging to a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe communities.”.

(d) in section 15, in sub-section (2), after clause (t), the following clauses shall be inserted, namely:—

"(ta) 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;

(tb) to constitute expert committees to exercise the 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.”.

(e) in section 17, in sub-section (2), after clause (l), the following clause shall be inserted, namely: —

"(la) 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;”.

(f) for section 18, the following section shall be substituted, namely: —

“18. *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.

(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 Research Director, who shall be a Professor nominated by the Executive Committee;

(e) One teacher member of the Executive Committee nominated by the Executive Committee ;

(f) Two Deans of the University nominated by the Executive Committee;

(g) Two experts, outside the University, who are eminent researchers nominated by the Executive Committee;

(h) One research student of the University nominated by the Executive Committee;

(i) The Director, Internal Quality Assurance Cell;

(j) Two members elected by the Heads of the Department 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, a member elected by the members present from among themselves shall preside over the meeting of the Research Council.

(4) The members of the Research Council shall hold office for a period of two years from the date of its constitution or until re-constitution, 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 shall constitute the quorum of the meeting.

(7) The powers including the powers that may be delegated and functions of the Research Council shall be prescribed by the Statutes.”.

(g) section 19 shall be omitted.

(h) after section 23, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“23A. *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 Executive Committee nominated from among themselves;

(f) Five teachers nominated by the Executive Committee;

(g) One person each from local society, students and alumni nominated by the Executive Committee;

(h) One person each from employers, industrialist and stake holders nominated by the Executive Committee.

(3) The Vice-Chancellor shall be the Chairperson of Internal Quality Assurance Cell and one teacher nominated by the Executive Committee 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 directions issued by the University Grants Commission from time to time.

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

(7) Two-third of the total members shall constitute the quorum of the meeting.

23B. *Expert Committee.*—(1) The Executive Committee 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 Executive Committee. The Chairperson shall be a teacher having a minimum of fifteen years 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 Expert Committee shall have minimum 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 may also 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 Executive Committee:

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

(i) for section 27, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“27. *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 General Council 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 any matter involving the policy of the Government, to the attention of the Chancellor or to any authority or officer of the University and to request 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 and 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 duties 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.”.

(j) in section 30, for sub-section (6), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(6) 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 possible, 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.”.

(k) in section 31,—

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

“(1) The Pro-Vice-Chancellor shall be appointed by the Executive Committee 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 re-appointment.”.

(ii) in sub-section (2), for the words “fifty six”, the word “sixty” shall be substituted;

(iii) sub-section (3) shall be omitted;

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

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

(l) in section 39, for sub-section (5), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(5) The age of retirement from the service of teachers of the University other than the Vice-Chancellor and those specified in sub-section (4) shall be sixty years in normal case.

(6) The age of retirement of the Vice-Chancellor and those specified in sub-section (4) shall in normal case be as determined by the Government from time to time.”.

(m) in section 44, after sub-section (4), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(5) 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.”.

(n) in section 46, after sub-section (5), the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:—

“Provided that, if 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.”.

(o) after section 54, the following sections shall be inserted, namely:—

“54A. *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,—

- (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 attain satisfactory academic education and get teaching hours required for learning, 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 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.

54B. *Students' Grievance Redressal System.*—(1) There shall be a Students' Grievance Redressal System as per the Regulations of University Grants Commission and Government Orders.

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

54C. *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, provided that the distributed material shall not be inconsistent 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 contingent upon the availability of resources.

(5) Teachers are entitled to full freedom in research and in the publication of results, subject to the satisfactory 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) keeping office hours regularly 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 assessing curricula;

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

(7) Academic advising shall be a part of teacher's responsibility.

(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 rights outlined in the 'Students' Rights'.

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

(p) after section 55, the following sections shall be inserted, namely:—

“55A. *University Resource Planning System.*—(1) The University shall have a software-based integrated 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 within the University to improve administrative efficiencies.

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

55B. *Rules of Business.*—(1) The University shall frame Rules of Business based on re-engineering for improvement of its performance and an effective application of information technology based governance.

(2) The Rules of Business shall be prescribed by the Statutes and shall be updated from time to time in accordance with the University Grants Commission Regulations that may be applicable and the directions of the Government.

55C. *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 as may be prescribed by the Statutes from time to time.”.

4. *Amendment of Act 17 of 2015.*—In the A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Technological University Act, 2015 (17 of 2015),-

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

“(zs) “grievance” means the grievance made by the student aggrieved by the matters as may be prescribed by the Statutes;

(zt) “Internal Quality Assurance Cell” means the Internal Quality Assurance Cell under section 35A;

(zu) “Research Park” means a Research Park established under section 69C;

(zv) "University Grants Commission" means the University Grants Commission established under the University Grants Commission Act, 1956 (Central Act 3 of 1956);

(zw) “University Resource Planning System” means University Resource Planning System to be established under section 69A.”.

(b) for section 11, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“11. *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 Board of Governors 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 any matter involving the policy of the Government, to the attention of the Chancellor or to any authority or officer of the University and to request 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 and 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 duties 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 14, for sub-section (5), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(5) 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 possible, 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 said matter shall be referred to the Appellate Tribunal whose decision shall be final.”.

(d) in section 15,—

(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 re-appointment.”;

(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 who has a doctoral degree and held the post of Professor or Principal of a college or an institution with not less than ten years teaching or research experience.”;

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

“(4) 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 34,—

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

“(ixa) to determine if the examinations, diplomas, degrees and other academic distinctions of other universities are eligible for continuing studies at the University;

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

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

(f) after section 35, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“35A. *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 persons nominated by the members of the Syndicate 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, industrialist and stakeholders nominated by the Syndicate.

(3) The Vice-Chancellor shall be the Chairperson of Internal Quality Assurance Cell and a teacher 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, industrialist and stakeholders nominated by the Syndicate ;

(f) The College Superintendent;

(g) The Librarian.

(5) The Principal shall be the Chairperson and a 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 directions of the University Grants Commission 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 the total members constitute the quorum of the meeting.”.

(g) after section 41, the following sections shall be inserted, namely:—

“41A. *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,—

- (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 attain satisfactory academic education and get teaching hours required for learning 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 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.

41B. *Students' Grievance Redressal System.*—(1) There shall be a Students' Grievance Redressal System as per the Regulations of University Grants Commission and Government Orders.

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

41C. *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, provided that the distributed material shall not be inconsistent 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 contingent upon the availability of resources.

(5) Teachers are entitled to full freedom in research and in the publication of results, subject to the satisfactory 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) keeping office hours regular 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 assessing curricula;

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

(7) Academic advising shall be a part of teacher's responsibility.

(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 shall have such teachers' rights and responsibilities as may be prescribed by the Statutes.”.

(h) in section 43, in sub-section (3), after clause (v), the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:—

“Provided that, if 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.”.

(i) in section 53, 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.”.

(j) after section 62, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“62A. *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;
- (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 proper 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 office, after the expiration of his period, until his successor enters upon office.

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

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

“69A. *University Resource Planning System.*—(1) The University shall have a software-based integrated 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 within the University to improve administrative efficiencies.

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

69B. *Rules of Business.*—(1) The University shall frame Rules of Business based on re-engineering for improvement of its performance and effective application of information technology based governance.

(2) The Rules of Business shall be prescribed by the Statutes and shall be updated from time to time in accordance with the University Grants Commission Regulations that may be applicable and the directions of the Government.

69C. *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 as may be prescribed by the Statutes from time to time.”.

5. *Special provision relating to existing Senate, Syndicate, Executive Committee.*—Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act,—

(1) The Senate and Syndicate of the Cochin University of Science and Technology functioning as such immediately before the commencement of this Act shall continue to so function, until the expiry of the term of the said Senate and Syndicate or till a new Senate and Syndicate are constituted under this Act, whichever is earlier.

(2) The Executive Committee of the Thunchath Ezhuthachan Malayala 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 Executive Committee or till a new Executive Committee is constituted, under this Act, whichever is earlier.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Government have constituted Higher Education Reforms Commission to make recommendations on reforms in higher education sector and Kerala State University Law Reforms Commission to make recommendations regarding reforms to be made in University Laws. In the reports submitted by the said Commissions to the Government, it was observed that nowadays the Universities in the State have become merely degree giving institutions concentrating on conducting examinations, rather than becoming a system that transmits, generates and interprets knowledge, and the Commissions proposed changes in the legal framework of the Universities, so that Universities become focal points of knowledge generation and transmission. On examination of the said reports, the Government is convinced that the recommendations of the commissions made in matters such as enhancing the role of Pro-Chancellor, vesting some powers with the Pro-Vice-Chancellor, giving academic freedom to the teachers and students, restructuring certain authorities, constituting new authorities, constituting constituent colleges, establishing research parks etc. are to be implemented. Hence as a part of the move for revamping of Acts of Universities to make them suitable for the transformation of State into a knowledge society with a compatible socio-economic structure, the Government have decided to make necessary amendments in the Cochin University of Science and Technology Act,

1986 (31 of 1986), the Thunchath Ezhuthachan Malayala University Act, 2013 (24 of 2013) and the A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Technological University Act, 2015 (17 of 2015).

2. The Bill seeks to achieve the above object.

FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

The Bill, if enacted and brought into operation, would not involve any additional expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of the State.

MEMORANDUM REGARDING DELEGATED LEGISLATION

Clause (27) of section 3 proposed to be inserted in the Cochin University of Science and Technology Act, 1986 (31 of 1986) by sub-clause (a) of clause 2 of the Bill, clause (x) of section 2 proposed to be inserted in the Thunchath Ezhuthachan Malayala University Act, 2013 (24 of 2013) by sub-clause (a) of clause 3 of the Bill and clause (zs) of section 2 proposed to be inserted in the A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Technological University Act, 2015 (17 of 2015) by sub-clause (a) of clause 4 of the Bill, empowers the University concerned to prescribe by Statutes the matters on which student may make grievance.

2. Sub-section (6) of section 9 proposed to be substituted in the Cochin University of Science and Technology Act, 1986 (31 of 1986) by sub-clause (b) of clause 2 of the Bill, sub-clause (6) of section 27 proposed to be substituted in the Thunchath Ezhuthachan Malayala University Act, 2013 (24 of 2013) by sub-clause (i) of clause 3 of the Bill and sub-section (6) of section 11 proposed to be substituted in the A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Technological University Act, 2015 (17 of 2015) by sub-clause (b) of clause 4 of the Bill, empowers the University concerned to prescribe by Statutes the powers of the Pro-Chancellor.

3. Sub-section (4) of section 12 proposed to be substituted in the Cochin University of Science and Technology Act, 1986 (31 of 1986) by item (iv) of sub-clause (d) of clause 2 of the Bill and sub-section (4) of section 15 proposed to be substituted in the A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Technological University Act, 2015 (17 of 2015) by item (iii) of sub-clause (d) of clause 4 of the Bill, empowers the University concerned to prescribe by Statutes the powers of the Pro-Vice-Chancellor.

4. Clause (viii**b**) of section 24 proposed to be inserted in the Cochin University of Science and Technology Act, 1986 (31 of 1986) by item (i) of sub-clause (h) of clause 2 of the Bill, clause (1a) of sub-section (2) of section 17 proposed to be inserted in the Thunchath Ezhuthachan Malayala University Act, 2013 (24 of 2013) by sub-clause (e) of clause 3 of the Bill and clause (ix**b**) of section 34 proposed to be inserted in the A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Technological University Act, 2015 (17 of 2015) by item (i) of sub-clause (e) of clause 4 of the Bill, empowers the University concerned to frame 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.

5. Clause (viii**c**) of section 24 proposed to be inserted in the Cochin University of Science and Technology Act, 1986 (31 of 1986) by item (i) of sub-clause (h) of clause 2 of the Bill and clause (ix**c**) of section 34 proposed to be inserted in the A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Technological University Act, 2015 (17 of 2015) by item (i) of sub-clause (e) of clause 4 of the Bill, empowers the University concerned to frame regulations for transfer of earned credits from another University or institution to the same programme or different programmes of the University.

6. Sub-section (7) of section 24A proposed to be inserted in the Cochin University of Science and Technology Act, 1986 (31 of 1986) by sub-clause (i) of clause 2 of the Bill and sub-section (7) of section 18 proposed to be substituted in the Thunchath Ezhuthachan Malayala University Act, 2013 (24 of 2013) by sub-clause (f) of clause 3 of the Bill, empowers the University concerned to prescribe by Statutes the powers and functions of the Research Council.

7. Sub-section (5) of section 26A proposed to be inserted in the Cochin University of Science and Technology Act, 1986 (31 of 1986) by sub-clause (j) of clause 2 of the Bill and sub-section (5) of section 23B proposed to be inserted in the Thunchath Ezhuthachan Malayala University Act, 2013 (24 of 2013) by sub-clause (h) of clause 3 of the Bill, empowers the University concerned to prescribe by Statutes the powers and functions of the expert committee.

8. Sub-section (8) of section 30A proposed to be inserted in the Cochin University of Science and Technology Act, 1986 (31 of 1986) by sub-clause (k) of

clause 2 of the Bill, sub-section (8) of section 54A proposed to be inserted in the Thunchath Ezhuthachan Malayala University Act, 2013 (24 of 2013) by sub-clause (o) of clause 3 of the Bill and sub-section (8) of section 41A proposed to be inserted in the A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Technological University Act, 2015 (17 of 2015) by sub-clause (g) of clause 4 of the Bill, empowers the University concerned to prescribe by Statutes other rights of students not specified in the Act.

9. Sub-section (2) of section 30B proposed to be inserted in the Cochin University of Science and Technology Act, 1986 (31 of 1986) by sub-clause (k) of clause 2 of the Bill, sub-section (2) of section 54B proposed to be inserted in the Thunchath Ezhuthachan Malayala University Act, 2013 (24 of 2013) by sub-clause (o) of clause 3 of the Bill and sub-section (2) of section 41B proposed to be inserted in the A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Technological University Act, 2015 (17 of 2015) by sub-clause (g) of clause 4 of the Bill, empowers the University concerned to prescribe by Statutes the constitution, powers and functions of Students' Grievance Redressal System.

10. Sub-section (10) of section 30C proposed to be inserted in the Cochin University of Science and Technology Act, 1986 (31 of 1986) by sub-clause (k) of clause 2 of the Bill, sub-section (10) of section 54C proposed to be inserted in the Thunchath Ezhuthachan Malayala University Act, 2013 (24 of 2013) by sub-clause (o) of clause 3 of the Bill and sub-section (10) of section 41C proposed to be inserted in the A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Technological University Act, 2015 (17 of 2015) by sub-clause (g) of clause 4 of the Bill, empowers the University concerned to prescribe by Statutes the rights and responsibilities of teachers.

11. Sub-section (5) of section 30D proposed to be inserted in the Cochin University of Science and Technology Act, 1986 (31 of 1986) by sub-clause (k) of clause 2 of the Bill, sub-section (5) of section 23A proposed to be inserted in the Thunchath Ezhuthachan Malayala University Act, 2013 (24 of 2013) by sub-clause (h) of clause 3 of the Bill and sub-section (7) of section 35A proposed to be inserted in the A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Technological University Act, 2015 (17 of 2015) by sub-clause (f) of clause 4 of the Bill, empowers the University concerned to prescribe by Statutes the powers and functions of Internal Quality Assurance Cell.

12. Sub-section (6) of section 62A proposed to be inserted in the A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Technological University Act, 2015 (17 of 2015) by sub-clause (j) of clause 4 of the Bill, empowers the University to prescribe by Statutes the procedure for nominating Head of the Department by rotation, election of teachers to the College Council and guidelines for the functioning of the College Council.

13. Sub-section (2) of section 53A proposed to be inserted in the Cochin University of Science and Technology Act, 1986 (31 of 1986) by sub-clause (n) of clause 2 of the Bill, sub-section (2) of section 55A proposed to be inserted in the Thunchath Ezhuthachan Malayala University Act, 2013 (24 of 2013) by sub-clause (p) of clause 3 of the Bill and sub-section (2) of section 69A proposed to be inserted in the A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Technological University Act, 2015 (17 of 2015) by sub-clause (k) of clause 4 of the Bill, empowers the University concerned to prescribe by Statutes the policy of the University Resource Planning System and the method of its implementation.

14. Sub-section (2) of section 53B proposed to be inserted in the Cochin University of Science and Technology Act, 1986 (31 of 1986) by sub-clause (n) of clause 2 of the Bill, sub-section (2) of section 55B proposed to be inserted in the Thunchath Ezhuthachan Malayala University Act, 2013 (24 of 2013) by sub-clause (p) of clause 3 of the Bill and sub-section (2) of section 69B proposed to be inserted in the A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Technological University Act, 2015 (17 of 2015) by sub-clause (k) of clause 4 of the Bill, empowers the University concerned to prescribe by Statutes the Rules of Business.

15. Sub-section (2) of section 53C proposed to be inserted in the Cochin University of Science and Technology Act, 1986 (31 of 1986) by sub-clause (n) of clause 2 of the Bill, sub-section (2) of section 55C proposed to be inserted in the Thunchath Ezhuthachan Malayala University Act, 2013 (24 of 2013) by sub-clause (p) of clause 3 of the Bill and sub-section (2) of section 69C proposed to be inserted in the A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Technological University Act, 2015 (17 of 2015) by sub-clause (k) of clause 4 of the Bill, empowers the University concerned to prescribe by Statutes the policy of Research Park, method of the implementation and constitution of the governing body.

16. The matters in respect of which Statutes and notifications that may be issued, are matters of procedure and are of routine or administrative in nature. Moreover, the Statutes so made and the notifications issued are subject to the scrutiny of the Legislative Assembly. The delegation of legislative power is, therefore, of a normal character.

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(2) The term of appointment of the Pro-Vice-Chancellor shall be four years from the date on which he enters upon his office and shall be a whole time officer of the University.

(3) The salary and the other conditions of service of the Pro-Vice-Chancellor shall be as prescribed by the Statutes.

(4) Subject to the provisions of this Act and the Statutes, Ordinances and Regulations, the powers and functions of the Pro-Vice-Chancellor shall be determined by the Vice-Chancellor.

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17. *The Syndicate.*— (1) The Syndicate shall be the chief executive body of the University and shall consist of the following members, namely:—

(i) The Vice-Chancellor,

(ii) The Pro-Vice-Chancellor,

(iii) The Director of Technical Education,

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

(v) The Executive Vice-President, Kerala State Council for Science, Technology and Environment,

(vi) Three Deans of Faculties of the University by rotation in the alphabetical order of the Faculties in every two years,

(vii) An expert from the field of Industry and Commerce, nominated by the Chancellor,

(viii) Six members of the Senate, nominated by the Government, of whom one shall be a member of the Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe one shall be a woman and one shall be a University Professor elected to the Senate as per item (v) under the heading 'Elected Members' in Section 19,

(ix) An official representative of the University Grants Commission, nominated by the Commission,

(x) Two persons nominated by the Government from among the members of the Legislative Assembly of Kerala,

(xi) A person nominated by the Executive Council of the Kerala State Higher Education Council from among its members,

(xii) The Secretary to the Finance Department or an officer not below the rank of the Joint Secretary nominated by him,

(xiii) An expert from the field of Information Technology nominated by the Government,

(xiv) A student nominated by the Government from among the student representatives of the Senate.

(2) The term of office of the members nominated under items (vii), (viii), (ix), (x), (xii) and (xiii) in sub-section (1) shall be four years from the date of their nomination and they shall be eligible for re-nomination:

Provided that no person nominated in his capacity as a member of the Legislative Assembly shall hold office as a member of the Syndicate for a longer period than three months after he has ceased to be such member of the Legislative Assembly, unless in the meanwhile, he again becomes a member of the Legislative Assembly:

Provided further that the members nominated by the Government under sub-section (1) of section 17 shall hold their office during the pleasure of the Government.

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19. *Senate*.—The Senate shall consist of the following members, namely:—

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

(i) the Chancellor;

(ii) the Pro-Chancellor;

- (iii) the Vice-Chancellor;
- (iv) the Pro-Vice-Chancellor;
- (v) the Mayor of Cochin and the Chairperson of Kalamassery Municipality;
- (vi) two Officers nominated by the Government;
- (vii) the Chairman, State Advisory Board of Education;
- (viii) one nominee each of the Vice-Chancellors of the other Universities of the State;
- (ix) members of the Syndicate who are not members of the Senate;
- (x) Member of the Legislative Assembly and Member of the Lok Sabha representing the area in which the Headquarters of the University is situated;
- (xi) the Chairman, University Students Union.

ELECTED MEMBERS

- (i) Five Members elected from among the Principals of all Engineering Colleges of the State, Heads of University Departments and Heads of Branches of Studies in the University, of whom two shall be Principals of Engineering Colleges;
- (ii) Four Members elected by the members of the academic council from among themselves;
- (iii) Five members, other than those mentioned in item (x) under "Ex-officio Members", elected by the members of the Legislative Assembly from among themselves, of whom one shall be a member of Scheduled Caste;
- (iv) Three Deans of Faculties to be elected from among themselves;
- (v) Ten members, other than those mentioned in item (i) under "Elected Members", elected from among themselves by the teaching staff of the University Departments and Recognised Institutions;

(vi) Two members, elected by the registered Trade Unions in the State from among themselves in such manner as may be prescribed;

(vii) Two members, elected by the non-teaching staff of the University from among themselves;

(viii) Seven members, elected by the students of the University from among themselves in such manner as may be prescribed.

OTHER MEMBERS

(i) Four experts representing Industries and Commerce nominated by the Government, of whom one shall be a representative of any of the chamber of commerce situated within the area of the Greater Cochin Development Authority;

(ii) Two members nominated by the Government of whom one shall be a Principal of any of the Engineering Colleges in the State and the other shall be a teacher of a Polytechnic in the State;

(iii) Not more than seven members nominated by the Chancellor representing—

(a) recognised research institutions ;

(b) recognised Cultural associations ;

(c) authors;

(d) Journalists ;

(e) Advocates ;

(f) Eminent Educationists ;

(g) Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Classes.

(iv) Six experts nominated by the Government from the field of Higher Education of whom one shall be from Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes and one shall be a woman:

Provided that the members nominated by Government shall hold their office during the pleasure of Government.

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39. *Procedure for making Statutes.*—(1) ** ** *

** ** ** **

(4) Every Statute passed by the Syndicate shall be submitted to the Chancellor who may give or withhold his assent thereto or refer it back to the Syndicate for reconsideration with such observations as he may make.

** ** ** **

53. *Pension, Insurance and Provident Fund.*—With the previous approval of the Government, the University shall make appropriate provisions for the benefit of its officers, teachers and other servants under its control in matters of insurance, pension and provident fund and for such other benefits as it may deem fit, in such manner as may be prescribed by the Ordinances.

** ** ** **

EXTRACT FROM THE THUNCHATH EZHUTHACHAN
MALAYALA UNIVERSITY ACT, 2013

(24 OF 2013)

** ** ** **

2. *Definitions.*— In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,—

** ** ** **

(w) “Vice-Chancellor” means the Vice-Chancellor of the University.

** ** ** **

5. *Objects of the University.*— The following shall be the objects of the University, namely:—

** ** ** **

(b) imparting education at the post graduate level on different areas of Malayalam literature, science, humanities, social science and technology through Malayalam Medium, Malayalam language and linguistics, comparative literature, Malayalam criticism, antique, ancient record, evolution of South Indian language scripts, history of scripts, tribal language study, regional language study, the study in the categories of Poem, Short Story, Novel, Study of Kerala Renaissance History, Science, Science and Technology and Social Sciences, Epigraphy, Archaeology and Museology, and Translation into and from Malayalam,

** ** ** **

13. *The Executive Committee.*— The Executive Committee shall be the chief executive body of the University and shall consist of the following members, namely:—

(a) *Ex-officio members*

(i) The Vice-Chancellor;

(ii) The Pro-Vice-Chancellor;

objects of the University and to report the same to the General Council in its next meeting;

** ** ** **

17. *Powers, Functions and Duties of the Academic Council.*—(1) ** **

(2) Subject to the provisions of this Act and the Statutes, the Academic Council shall have the following powers, duties and functions, namely:—

** ** ** **

(1) to make recommendations on the curriculum and the manner of curriculum transaction for the various courses of study in the University;

** ** ** **

18. *Research Council.*—(1) The University shall have a Research Council which shall be responsible for deciding on the research programmes and policy of the University under the various disciplines and shall consider and approve with or without modifications the research proposals leading to the award of Ph.D or applied Research Projects in order to make them meaningful.

(2) Apart from considering and approving the research proposals presented before it, the Research Council may also suggest and advice to take up research on specific areas.

19. *Constitution of the Research Council.*—(1) Vice-Chancellor shall be the Chairman of the Research Council, which may have the following members, namely:—

(a) Deans of Faculties;

(b) Directors of Schools;

(c) Six distinguished Professors one each from the field of literature, fine arts, folklore, music, traditional knowledge systems and media to be nominated by the Chancellor.

(2) There shall be three Vice-Chairmen for the Research Council in three broad areas of literature and culture to be nominated by the Chancellor from among the members nominated.

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23. *Board of Studies.*—(1) There shall be a Board of Studies for every School under a Faculty, which shall frame the detailed curriculum for every course of study offered.

(2) Every Board of Studies shall be constituted by the Executive Committee on the advice of the Academic Council.

(3) Every Board of studies may ordinarily have eight members and a Chairman may be selected by the members from among themselves.

(4) The Director of the School concerned shall be the Secretary of the Board of Studies and he shall keep the record of the deliberations and present its recommendations to the Dean, who may cause it to be presented before the Academic Council.

(5) The term of a Board of studies shall be two years and can be extended, if deemed expedient, by six months with the approval of the Executive Committee.

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

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

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

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30. *Powers and duties of the Vice-Chancellor.*—(1) ** **

** ** ** **

(6) The Vice-Chancellor may take any action in an emergency which in his opinion calls for immediate action and shall in such cases, report the action so taken in the next meeting of the Executive Committee.

** ** ** **

31. *Pro-Vice-Chancellor.*—(1) The Chancellor shall appoint a Pro-Vice-Chancellor for the University.

(2) The persons so appointed shall not be above the age of fifty six years.

(3) The term of appointment of the Pro-Vice-Chancellor shall be five years from the date on which he enters his office and shall be a whole time officer of the University.

(4) The salary and other conditions of service of the Pro-Vice-Chancellor shall be as prescribed by the statutes.

** ** ** **

39. *Appointment of teachers, officers and staff.*—(1) ** **

** ** ** **

(5) The normal retirement age of teachers, officers of the University other than the Vice-Chancellor and pro-Vice-Chancellor and those specified in subsection (4) shall be fifty six years.

** ** ** **

44. *Accounts and Audit.*—(1) ** **

** ** ** **

(4) The Executive Committee shall submit a copy of the accounts and the audit report to the Government along with a statement of the action taken by the

University on the audit report, and the Government shall cause the same to be laid before the Legislative Assembly.

** ** ** **

46. *Procedure for making Statutes.*—(1) ** **

** ** ** **

(5) Where any Statute has been passed by the General Council, it shall be submitted to the Chancellor, who may refer the Statute back to the General Council for further consideration or assent thereto or withhold his assent.

** ** ** **

54. *Residence of Students.*—Students shall reside in accommodations maintained by the University or which have been approved by the Director of Student's Welfare, subject to such conditions as may be prescribed.

** ** ** **

55. *Annual Report.*—(1) The Annual report of the University shall be prepared under the direction of the Vice-Chancellor and shall be submitted to the General Council through the Executive Committee at least one month before the meeting at which it is to be considered.

(2) The General Council shall, after consideration of the Annual Report, forward it to the Government with such comments as may be deemed necessary and the Government shall cause a copy of the report together with its comments to be laid before the Legislative Assembly.

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EXTRACT FROM THE A.P.J. ABDUL KALAM
TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY ACT, 2015

(17 OF 2015)

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2. *Definitions.*— In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,—

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(zr) “Vice-Chancellor” means the Vice-Chancellor of the University.

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

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

(3) The annual programme of work of the University shall be referred to the Pro-Chancellor for his information and any suggestion made by him may be considered by the Board of Governors.

(4) The Pro-Chancellor shall also exercise such powers and perform such functions of the Chancellor as the Chancellor may, by 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.

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14. *Powers of the Vice-Chancellor.*—(1) ** **

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(5) 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, submit for approval in the next meeting, the grounds for the emergency and the action taken by him, to such

authority or body which, in the ordinary course, would have dealt with the matter. In the event of a difference arising between the Vice-Chancellor and the authority, on the issue of existence of such an emergency, or on the action taken or on both, the matter shall be referred to the Chancellor whose decision shall be final.

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15. *Appointment, powers and duties of the Pro-Vice-Chancellor.*—(1) The Chancellor shall appoint a person recommended by the Government, who is working in the field of engineering, technology and having the qualifications prescribed in the Statutes, to be the Pro-Vice-Chancellor, who shall be a full-time salaried officer of the University.

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

(3) The term of appointment of Pro-Vice-Chancellor shall be four years.

(4) The salary and other conditions of service of the Pro-Vice-Chancellor shall be as determined by the Chancellor.

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34. *Powers, functions and duties of the Academic Committee.*—Subject to the provisions of this Act and the Statutes, the Academic Committee shall have the following powers, duties and functions, namely:—

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(ix) to submit to the Board of Governors feasibility reports on academic programmes recommended by the Board of Governors at its last annual meeting;

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35. *Constitution of Research Council.*—There shall be a Research Council consisting of:

(i) The Vice-Chancellor (Chairman);

(ii) The Pro-Vice-Chancellor;

(iii) The Secretary to Government in charge of the Higher Education Department or an officer not below the rank of a Joint Secretary to Government authorised by him;

(iv) The Vice-Chairman, Higher Education Council, Government of Kerala (*Ex-officio* member);

(v) The Director, Indian Institute of Technology, Madras (*Ex-officio* member);

(vi) The Vice-Chancellor of a University in Kerala, nominated by the Government (*Ex-officio* member);

(vii) The Director, Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre, Thiruvananthapuram (*Ex-officio* member);

(viii) The Director, Indian Institute of Space Technology, Thiruvananthapuram (*Ex-officio* member);

(ix) The Director, Naval Physical and Oceanographic Laboratory, Cochin (*Ex-officio* member);

(x) The Director, National Institute of Technology, Kozhikode (*Ex-officio* member);

(xi) The Director, Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Thiruvananthapuram (*Ex-officio* member);

(xii) The Vice-Chairman, Kerala State Council for Science, Technology and Environment, Thiruvananthapuram (*Ex-officio* member);

(xiii) The Secretary to Government of India, Department of Science and Technology or his nominee (*Ex-officio* member);

(xiv) The Director General, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, New Delhi (*Ex-officio* member);

(xv) The Secretary to Government in charge of the Finance Department or an officer not below the rank of Joint Secretary to Government authorized by him;

(xvi) Director of Technical Education, Government of Kerala (*Ex-officio* member);

(xvii) Dean (Research), (Member Secretary);

(xviii) Three representatives of teachers having Ph.D with ten years' teaching experience, nominated by the Government;

(xix) Three representatives of students nominated by the Government from among the research students of the University or of the affiliated colleges, of whom one shall be a female student.

** ** ** **

41. *Prohibition of officers and employees in accepting remuneration.*—No officer or employee of the University shall, from any source, accept any remuneration save as may be provided for in the Statutes.

** ** ** **

43. *Procedure for making Statutes.*—(1) ** **

** ** ** **

(3) The Statute may be made, amended or repealed by the Board of Governors on the recommendation of the Executive Committee in the manner hereinafter provided,—

** ** ** **

(v) Every Statute passed by the Board of Governors shall be submitted to the Chancellor who may give or withhold his assent thereto, or send it back to the Board of Governors for reconsideration;

** ** ** **

53. *Annual accounts and audit.*—(1) ** **

** ** ** **

(10) The University shall forthwith remedy any defect or irregularity pointed out by the auditors and report the action taken to the Government.

** ** ** **

62. *Governing Body of affiliated college.*—(1) There shall be a separate Governing Body for every affiliated college or institution, consisting of the members as may be prescribed by the Statutes. There shall be a Managing Council for a group of affiliated colleges under a corporate management, consisting of members as may be prescribed by the Statutes.

(2) The powers and duties of the Governing Body or Managing Council shall be as provided in this Act or as may be prescribed by the Statutes.

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69. *Disciplinary powers and discipline among students.*—(1) All powers relating to discipline and disciplinary action in relation to the students of the University departments and institutions and colleges, maintained by the University, shall vest in the Vice-Chancellor.

(2) The Vice-Chancellor may, by order, delegate all or any of his powers under this Act as he deems fit, to such other officers or body as he may nominate or create in that behalf.

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