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**THE UNIVERSITY LAWS (AMENDMENT) (No. 3)**  
**BILL, 2025**

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Kerala Legislature Secretariat  
2025

**Fifteenth Kerala Legislative Assembly**  
**Bill No. 281**

**THE UNIVERSITY LAWS (AMENDMENT) (No. 3) BILL, 2025**

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**A**

***BILL***

*further to amend the Kerala Agricultural University Act, 1971, the Kerala University Act, 1974, the Calicut University Act, 1975, the Mahatma Gandhi University Act, 1985, the Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit Act, 1994, the Kannur University Act, 1996, the Kerala Veterinary and Animal Sciences University Act, 2010 and the Kerala University of Health Sciences Act, 2010.*

*Preamble.*—WHEREAS, it is expedient further to amend the Kerala Agricultural University Act, 1971 (33 of 1971), the Kerala University Act, 1974 (17 of 1974), the Calicut University Act, 1975 (5 of 1975), the Mahatma Gandhi University Act, 1985 (12 of 1985), the Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit Act, 1994 (5 of 1994), the Kannur University Act, 1996 (22 of 1996), the Kerala Veterinary and Animal Sciences University Act, 2010 (3 of 2011) and the Kerala University of Health Sciences Act, 2010 (4 of 2011) 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. 3) Act, 2025.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. *Amendment of Act 33 of 1971.*—In the Kerala Agricultural University Act, 1971 (33 of 1971), after section 16, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“16A. *Meetings of the Executive Committee.*—The Vice-Chancellor shall convene a meeting of the Executive Committee at least once in two months:

Provided that the Vice-Chancellor shall convene a meeting of the Executive Committee within seven days if one-third of the total number of its members request it in writing.”.

3. *Amendment of Act 17 of 1974.*—In the Kerala University Act, 1974 (17 of 1974), after section 23A, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“23B. *Meeting of the Syndicate.*—The Vice-Chancellor shall convene a meeting of the Syndicate at least once in two months:

Provided that the Vice-Chancellor shall convene a meeting of the Syndicate within seven days if one-third of the total number of its members request it in writing.”.

4. *Amendment of Act 5 of 1975.*—In the Calicut University Act, 1975 (5 of 1975), after section 23A, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“23B. *Meeting of the Syndicate.*—The Vice-Chancellor shall convene a meeting of the Syndicate at least once in two months:

Provided that the Vice-Chancellor shall convene a meeting of the Syndicate within seven days if one-third of the total number of its members request it in writing.”.

5. *Amendment of Act 12 of 1985.*—In the Mahatma Gandhi University Act, 1985 (12 of 1985), after section 23, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“23A. *Meeting of the Syndicate.*—The Vice-Chancellor shall convene a meeting of the Syndicate at least once in two months:

Provided that the Vice-Chancellor shall convene a meeting of the Syndicate within seven days if one-third of the total number of its members request it in writing.”.

6. *Amendment of Act 5 of 1994.*—In the Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit Act, 1994 (5 of 1994), in section 15, after sub-section (1), the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:—

“Provided that the Vice-Chancellor shall convene a meeting of the Syndicate within seven days if one-third of the total number of its members request it in writing.”.

7. *Amendment of Act 22 of 1996.*—In the Kannur University Act, 1996 (22 of 1996), after section 25, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“25A. *Meeting of the Syndicate.*—The Vice-Chancellor shall convene a meeting of the Syndicate at least once in two months:

Provided that the Vice-Chancellor shall convene a meeting of the Syndicate within seven days if one-third of the total number of its members request it in writing.”.

8. *Amendment of Act 3 of 2011.*—In the Kerala Veterinary and Animal Sciences University Act, 2010 ( 3 of 2011),—

(i) in section 25, sub-section (2) shall be omitted;

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

“26A. *Meeting of Board of Management.*—The Vice-Chancellor shall convene a meeting of the Board of Management at least once in two months:

Provided that the Vice-Chancellor shall convene a meeting of the Board of Management within seven days if one-third of the total number of its members request it in writing.”.

9. *Amendment of Act 4 of 2011.*—In the Kerala University of Health Sciences Act, 2010 (4 of 2011), after section 23, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“23A. *Meeting of the Governing Council.*—The Vice-Chancellor shall convene a meeting of the Governing Council at least once in two months:

Provided that the Vice-Chancellor shall convene a meeting of the Governing Council within seven days if one-third of the total number of its members request it in writing.”.

## STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Government have decided to insert a new provision, to enable the Vice-Chancellors of the respective Universities to convene meetings of the Executive Committee/Syndicate/Board of Management/Governing Council, as the case may be, on the request of one-third of its total members in writing, in the Kerala Agricultural University Act, 1971 (33 of 1971), the Kerala University Act, 1974 (17 of 1974), the Calicut University Act, 1975 (5 of 1975), the Mahatma Gandhi University Act, 1985 (12 of 1985), the Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit Act, 1994 (5 of 1994), the Kannur University Act, 1996 (22 of 1996), the Kerala Veterinary and Animal Sciences University Act, 2010 (3 of 2011) and the Kerala University of Health Sciences Act, 2010 (4 of 2011).

2. The Bill seeks to achieve the above object.

## FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

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

DR. R. BINDU.

EXTRACT FROM THE KERALA AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY  
ACT, 1971

(33 OF 1971)

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16. *Powers of Executive Committee.*—Subject to the provisions of this Act and the Statutes, the executive powers of the University including the general superintendence and control over the institutions of the University shall be vested in the Executive Committee and subject likewise the Committee shall have the following powers namely:—

- a) to make Ordinances and to amend or repeal the same;
- b) to propose Statutes for the consideration of the General Council;
- c) to hold control and administer the properties and funds of the University;
- d) to direct the form, custody and use of the common seal of the University;
- e) to arrange for and direct the inspection of colleges, hostels and other institutions;
- f) to establish, maintain and manage colleges and institutes of research and other institutions of higher learning as it may, from time to time deem necessary;
- g) to appoint teachers and other employees of the University and prescribe their duties;
- h) to create administrative, ministerial and other necessary posts;
- i) to suspend, discharge, dismiss or otherwise take any disciplinary action against the teachers and other employees of the University after giving them reasonable opportunity to defend their position;
- j) to award fellowships, scholarships, studentships;
- k) to exercise supervision and control over the residence and discipline of students;
- l) to consider the financial estimates of the University and submit them to the General Council in accordance with the provisions of the Statutes made in this behalf;

m) to conduct university examinations and approve and publish the results thereof;

n) to appoint members of the Boards of studies;

o) to approve panel of examiners and fix their remuneration;

p) to delegate any of its powers to the Vice-Chancellor or to a committee appointed from among its members;

q) to withhold or cancel the results of any candidate at any University examination;

r) to accept endowments, bequests, donations and transfers of any movable or immovable properties to the University on its behalf, provided all such endowments, bequests, donations and transfers shall be reported to the General Council at its next meeting;

s) to exercise such other powers and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by this Act, the Statutes and the Ordinances.

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## EXTRACT FROM THE KERALA UNIVERSITY ACT, 1974

(17 OF 1974)

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23A. *Special power of the Syndicate.*—Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act, the Syndicate shall exercise all the powers and perform all the functions of the Senate except the power of the review under sub-section (1) of section 19 till the reconstitution of the Senate.

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## EXTRACT FROM THE CALICUT UNIVERSITY ACT, 1975

(5 OF 1975)

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23A. *Special power of the Syndicate.*—Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act, the Syndicate shall exercise all the powers and perform all the functions of the Senate except the power of the review under sub-section (1) of section 19 till the reconstitution of the Senate.

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EXTRACT FROM THE MAHATMA GANDHI UNIVERSITY  
ACT, 1985

(12 OF 1985)

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23. *Powers of Syndicate*.—Subject to the provisions of this Act and the Statutes, the executive powers of the University including the general, superintendence and control over the institutions of the University shall be vested in the Syndicate and subject likewise the Syndicate shall have the following powers, namely:—

(i) to affiliate institutions in accordance with the terms and conditions of such affiliation prescribed in this Act and the Statutes;

(ii) to make Statutes and Ordinances and to amend or repeal the same;

(iii) [xxxx]

(iv) to hold, control and administer the properties and funds of the University;

(v) to direct the form, custody and use of the common seal of the University;

(vi) to arrange for and direct the inspection of colleges, hostels and other institutions and to constitute a Board of Inspection for that purpose;

(vii) to establish, maintain and manage colleges and institutes of research and other institutions of higher learning as it may from time to time deem necessary;

(viii) to appoint teachers and other employees of the University and prescribe their duties;

(ix) to create administrative, ministerial and other necessary posts:

Provided that no post shall be created by the Syndicate without the prior approval of the Government if creation of such post involves expenditure in excess of the budgetary provision;

[xxxx]

(x) to suspend, discharge, dismiss or otherwise take any disciplinary action against teachers and other employees of the University after giving them reasonable opportunity to defend their position;

(xi) with the previous sanction of the Government, to fix and regulate the fee payable by students in colleges affiliated to the University;

(xii) to institute and award fellowships, scholarships, studentships, bursaries, medals and prizes and to organise exhibitions;

(xiii) to maintain, supervise and control the residence and discipline of students;

(xiv) to consider the financial estimates of the University and submit them to the Senate in accordance with the provisions of the Statutes made in this behalf;

(xv) to conduct University examinations and approve and publish the results thereof;

(xvi) to appoint members to the Boards of Studies;

(xvii) to approve panel of examiners and to fix their remuneration;

(xviii) to approve the appointment of teachers in private colleges;

(xix) to delegate any of its powers to the Vice-Chancellor or to a committee appointed from among its members;

(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, to modify the conditions of affiliation or recognition or take such other steps as it deems proper in that behalf;

(xxi) to withhold or cancel the result of any candidate at any University examination;

(xxii) to accept endowments, bequests, donations and transfers of any movable and immovable properties to the University on its behalf, provided that all such endowments, bequests, donations and transfer shall be reported to the Senate at its next meeting;

(xxiii) to exercise the powers of the University under clause (xxvii) of section 5;

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

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

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

(xxvi) to institute professorships, readerships, lectureships and such other teaching or research posts as it may deem necessary:

Provided that no professorship, readership, lectureship or other teaching or research post shall be instituted by the Syndicate without the previous approval of the Government if it involves expenditure in excess of the budgetary provision;

(xxvii) to prescribe with the previous concurrence of the Government the terms and conditions of service of the employees of the University;

(xxviii) to regulate with the previous concurrence of the Government the emoluments and prescribe the duties and conditions of service of teachers and non-teaching staff of private colleges;

(xxix) to prepare the budget according to the provisions of the Statutes;

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

(xxxi) to appoint committees and to delegate to them such functions as it may deem fit;

(xxxii) to make Statutes regulating the method of election to the authorities of the University, the procedure of the meetings of the Senate, the Syndicate and other authorities of the University and the quorum of members required for the transaction of business by the authorities of the University other than the Senate;

(xxxiii) to recommend to the Government the recognition of any local area within the University area as a University centre;

(xxxiv) to co-operate with other Universities and other authorities in such manner and for such purposes as it may determine;

(xxxv) to exercise such other powers and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by this Act, the Statutes, the Ordinances, the Rules, the Bye-laws and the Orders.

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EXTRACT FROM THE SREE SANKARACHARYA UNIVERSITY  
OF SANSKRIT ACT, 1994  
(5 OF 1994)

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15. *Meetings of the Syndicate.*—(1) The Syndicate shall meet at least once in two months on dates to be fixed by the Vice-Chancellor.

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EXTRACT FROM THE KANNUR UNIVERSITY ACT, 1996  
(22 OF 1996)

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25. *Powers of Syndicate*.—Subject to the provisions of this Act and the Statutes, the executive powers of the University, including the general superintendence and control over the institutions of the University, shall be vested in the Syndicate and subject likewise the Syndicate shall have the following powers, namely:—

(i) to affiliate institutions in accordance with the terms and conditions of such affiliation prescribed in this Act and the Statutes;

(ii) to make Statutes and Ordinances and to amend or repeal the same;

(iii) (\*)

(iv) to hold, control and administer the properties and funds of the University;

(v) to direct the form, custody and use of the common seal of the University;

(vi) to arrange for and direct the inspection of campuses, colleges, hostels and other institutions and to constitute a Board of Inspection for that purpose;

(vii) to establish, maintain and manage colleges and institutes of research and other institutions of higher learning as it may from time to time, deem necessary;

(viii) to appoint teachers and other employees of the University and prescribe their duties;

(ix) to create administrative, ministerial and other necessary post:

Provided that no post shall be created by the Syndicate without the prior approval of the Government, if creation of such post involves expenditure in excess of the budgetary provisions;



(x) to suspend, discharge, dismiss or otherwise take any disciplinary action against teachers and other employees of the University after giving them reasonable opportunity to defend their position;

(xi) with the previous sanction of the Government, to fix and regulate the fee payable by students in colleges affiliated to the University;

(xii) to award fellowships, scholarships, studentships, bursaries, medals and prizes;

(xiii) to exercise supervision and control over the residence and discipline of students;

(xiv) to consider the financial estimates of the University and submit them to the Senate in accordance with the provisions of the Statutes made in this behalf;

(xv) to conduct University Examinations and approve and publish the results thereof;

(xvi) to appoint members to the Boards of Studies;

(xvii) to approve panel of examiners and to fix their remuneration;

(xviii) to approve the appointment of teachers in private colleges;

(xix) to delegate any of its powers to the Vice-Chancellor or to a committee appointed from among its members;

(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, to modify the conditions of affiliation or recognition or take such other steps as it deems proper in that behalf;

(xxi) to withhold or cancel the result of any candidate at any University examination;

(xxii) to accept endowments, bequests, donations and transfer of any movable and immovable properties to the University on its behalf, provided that all such endowments, bequests, donations and transfers shall be reported to the Senate at its next meeting;

(xxiii) to exercise the powers of the University under clause (27) of section 5;

[xxxx]

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

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

Provided that no Regulation shall be cancelled or amended by the Syndicate without giving the Academic Council a reasonable opportunity to state its opinion on the proposed cancellation or amendment;

(xxvi) to institute professorship, readership, lectureship and such other teaching or research posts as it may deem necessary:

Provided that no professorship, readership, lectureship or other teaching or research post shall be instituted by the Syndicate without the previous approval of the Government, if it involves expenditure in excess of the budgetary provisions;

(xxvii) to prescribe, with the previous concurrence of the Government, the terms and conditions of service of the employees of the University;

(xxviii) to regulate with the previous concurrence of the Government, the emoluments and prescribe the duties and conditions of service of teachers and non teaching staff of private colleges;

(xxix) to prepare the budget according to the provisions of the Statutes;

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

(xxxi) to appoint committees and to delegate to them such functions as it may deem fit;

(xxxii) to make Statutes regulating the method of election to the authorities of the University, the procedure of the meetings of the Senate, the Syndicate and other authorities of the University and the quorum of members required for the transaction of business by the authorities of the University other than the Senate;

(xxxiii) to recommend to the Government the recognition of any local area within the University area as a University centre;

(xxxiv) to co-operate with other Universities and other authorities in such manner and for such purpose as it may determine; and

(xxxv) to exercise such other powers and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by this Act, the Statutes, the Ordinances, the Rules, the Bye-laws and the Orders.

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EXTRACT FROM THE VETERINARY AND ANIMAL SCIENCES  
UNIVERSITY ACT, 2010

(3 OF 2011)

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25. *Term of office of members of the Board of Management.*—(1) The term of office of members of the Board of Management, other than ex-officio members shall be three years.

(2) The Board of Management shall meet at least four times a year. The duration between two consequent meetings shall not exceed three months.

(3) The manner and method of constitution of the Board of Management, nomination and the term of the members shall be such as may be prescribed by the Statutes.

(4) Quorum for meeting of the Board of Management shall be one fourth of the members of the Board of Management.

26. *Powers and duties of Board of Management.*—(1) The Board of Management shall be the Chief Executive Body of the University and subject to the provisions of this Act and the Statutes, the executive powers of the University including the general superintendence and control over the institutions of the University shall be vested in the Board of Management.

(2) The Board of Management shall have the power,—

(i) to make, amend or repeal Ordinances;

(ii) to arrange for and direct the inspection of colleges, hostels and other institutions;

(iii) to hold control and administer the properties and funds of the University;

(iv) to establish, maintain and manage colleges and institutions of research and other institutions of the higher learning as it may, from time to time, deem necessary;

(v) to appoint teachers and other employees of the University and prescribe their duties;

(vi) to enter into contract on behalf of the University;

(vii) to create administrative, ministerial and other necessary posts;

(viii) to suspend, discharge, dismiss or otherwise take any disciplinary action against the teachers and other employees of the University after giving them reasonable opportunity to defend their position;

(ix) to award fellowships, scholarships and studentships;

(x) to exercise supervision and control over the residence and discipline of students;

(xi) to consider the financial estimate of the University and submit them to the management council in accession with the provisions of the statutes made in this behalf;

(xii) to conduct University examinations and approve and publish the results thereof;

(xiii) to appoint members of the boards of studies;

(xiv) to approve panel of examiners and fix their remuneration;

(xv) to delegate any of its powers to the Vice-Chancellor or to a committee appointed from among its members;

(xvi) to withhold or cancel the results of any candidate at any University examination;

(xvii) to accept endowments, bequest, donations and transfers of any movable or immovable properties to the University on its behalf, provided all such endowments, bequest, donations and transfers shall be reported to the Management Council at its next meeting;

(xviii) to exercise such other powers and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by this Act, the Statutes and Ordinances; and

(xix) to exercise such powers prescribed by the Veterinary Council of India.

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EXTRACT FROM THE KERALA UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES  
ACT, 2010  
(4 OF 2011)

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23. *Powers of the Governing Council.*—The Governing Council shall exercise the following powers subject to the provisions of this Act:

(i) to make Statutes subject to the approval of the Chancellor;

(ii) to make Ordinances;

(iii) to hold, control and administer the properties and funds of the University;

(iv) to consider and pass the budget and financial estimates of the University according to the provisions of the Statutes;

(v) to affiliate medical institutions in accordance with the terms and conditions of such affiliation provided by this Act and Statutes;

(vi) to ensure transparency in admission and a fair fee structure in the affiliated colleges;

(vii) to cause inspection of the affiliated colleges and associated institutions to ensure the academic quality and standards;

(viii) to approve the appointment of the Faculty members and other employees of the University and to prescribe their duties;

(ix) to take necessary steps to realise the objectives of the University;

(x) to fix and regulate the fees payable by the students in colleges affiliated to the University;

(xi) to exercise supervision and control over the discipline of the staff and students of the affiliated colleges;

(xii) to make or amend Examination Manual prescribing the procedure for conduct of University examinations and publishing of the results;

(xiii) to regulate the internal assessments and other evaluation procedures conducted by the affiliated colleges or institutions;

(xiv) to appoint the members of the Board of Studies based upon their qualifications and academic standards;

(xv) to approve the appointment of teachers in private and aided colleges under direct payment system of the Government;

(xvi) to take steps for the maintenance of the academic standards, quality of service in affiliated colleges or institutions;

(xvii) to establish schools, departments, colleges, centres, institutions of higher learning, research and specialised studies on the recommendation of the Academic Council;

(xviii) to hold, control and arrange for administration of assets and properties of the University;

(xix) to approve the budget estimates as received from the Finance Committee, with its own modifications, if any;

(xx) to determine the form of a common seal for the University, and provide for its custody and use;

(xxi) to acquire any movable or immovable property for the University;

(xxii) to transfer by sale, or otherwise, any movable property on behalf of the University;

(xxiii) to borrow, lend or invest funds on behalf of the University as recommended by the Finance Committee, subject to the policies of the Government and as provided by the Statutes;

(xxiv) to lay down policy for administering funds at the disposal of the University for specific purposes;

(xxv) to provide buildings, premises, furniture, apparatus, equipments, instruments and other means needed for the conduct of the work of the University and provide hostel for students and housing for staff;

(xxvi) to recommend to the Senate conferment of honorary degrees and academic distinctions;

(xxvii) to institute and confer such degrees, diplomas, certificates and other academic distinctions as recommended by the Academic Council and arrange for convocation for conferment of the same, as provided by Statutes or Ordinances;

(xxviii) to institute fellowships, travelling fellowships, scholarships, studentships, awards, medals and prizes in accordance with the Regulations made in this behalf;

(xxix) to make regulations for collaboration with other Universities, institutions and organisations for mutually beneficial academic programmes recommended by the Planning Committee;

(xxx) to create posts of University teachers and non-vacation academic staff on the recommendation of the Academic Council as and when required with the prior approval of the State Government;

(xxxi) to lay down by Statutes, on the basis of qualifications and terms and conditions of service and other guidelines approved by the State Government from time to time, the procedure for appointment of University teachers and non-vacation academic staff and fix their emoluments and norms of workload, conduct and discipline;

(xxxii) to create regular posts of officers and other employees of the University, with the prior approval of the State Government;

(xxxiii) to lay down by Statutes, the procedures for appointment of Officers and other employees of the University, qualifications, mode of recruitment, pay scales, terms and conditions of service including conduct, discipline and their duties;

(xxxiv) to arrange for and direct the investigation into the affairs of private, affiliated colleges and to issue instructions for ensuring proper conditions of employment of teachers, officers and other employees in all institutions and colleges affiliated to the University, payment of adequate salaries to them and in case of disregard of such institutions to modify the conditions of application or recognition or take such other steps as they deem proper in this behalf;



(xxxv) to prescribe honoraria, remunerations and fees and travelling and other allowances for paper-setters, examiners and other examination staff, visiting faculty, and for such other services rendered to the University;

(xxxvi) to receive and consider report on the working the University from the Vice- Chancellor periodically as provided by the Statutes or Ordinances;

(xxxvii) to prepare academic calendar of the University according to the Statutes, and guidelines from the University Grants Commission, various Central Councils and State Government for each academic year, before the expiry of the previous academic year;

(xxxviii) to confer autonomous status on University departments, affiliated colleges and recognised institutions on the recommendation of the Academic Council, subject to the norms approved by the State Government if any and having regard to the guidelines of the University Grants Commission;

(xxxix) to consider the perspective plan for the academic developments of the University prepared by the Planning Committee;

(xl) to assess and approve the feasibility of proposals from the Academic Council for academic programmes;

(xli) to consider and approve the annual report, annual accounts and audit reports of the University;

(xlii) to cause an inquiry to be made in respect of any matter concerning the proper conduct, working and finances of colleges, schools, institutions or departments of the University;

(xliii) to delegate, any of its powers, except the power to make Statutes and Ordinances, to the Vice-Chancellor or such officer or authority of the University or a committee appointed by it, as it thinks fit.

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