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DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (Ph.D.)

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TILAK MAHARASHTRA VIDYAPEETH, PUNE

Rules / Guidelines for admission to Ph.D. Programme

{Framed as per the UGC's Minimum Standard and Procedure for Award of Ph.D. Degree Regulations 2009}

[For only those registered on or after 11th July 2009. It is further clarified that any candidate, whose application has been accepted by the Head of the Vidyapeeth Department before 11th July 2009, will be covered under the old rules.]

Tilak Maharashtra Vidyapeeth offers research programmes in different subjects listed in Annexure I for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. The rules regarding eligibility, entrance examination, interview, registration, course work, supervision, submission of thesis, shall be as follows:

1) Eligibility

- a) Candidates having passed post-graduate degree examination from recognized university with minimum 55% marks or equivalent grade point average (GPA) in relevant subject/field are eligible. Candidates belonging to reserved category as well as physically challenged/disabled candidates shall be given relaxation of 5%.
- b) Admission percentage for foreign candidates (those who have not obtained Master's Degree from Indian Universities) will be 50% or equivalent GPA.
- c) Candidates having experience in research of more than 15 years in the respective subject area and have passed graduation with 55% marks may be considered eligible, if recommended by expert committee appointed by the Vidyapeeth as a special case.
- d) A citizen of age of 55 years and above with post graduate degree with 50% marks, in exceptional cases will be eligible at the discretion of Vidyapeeth's Board of Management.
- e) Applicants for inter-disciplinary areas in which the research is proposed to be done shall be considered on the basis of sufficient work experience,

proven ability and aptitude for research of the candidate. Such proposal shall be examined by the RRC. The candidature for entrance exam will be confirmed only after the Research and Recognition Committee's approval.

- f) In case of international candidates who have not obtained Master's degree from Indian Universities, the decision regarding admission will be taken by RRC on the basis of the criteria as mentioned above (e).
- g) As per the provision in Ordinance No. 116 of UGC Guidelines, registered candidates shall not be allowed to register simultaneously for any other degree course.

2) Conduct of Entrance Examination (Written & Interview)

- a) The entrance examination will be conducted in the month of June (Subject to public holidays). The result of the successful candidates will be declared by the Vidyapeeth through respective departments within 20 days and the same will be displayed on Vidyapeeth's website. This procedure will be completed before end of July.
- b) The advertisement of entrance examination will be published in Marathi and English newspapers and the same will be displayed on Vidyapeeth's website.
- c) The course-wise intake for every academic year will be displayed on Vidyapeeth's website. Admission for vacant seats will be as per UGC Guidelines issued from time to time.

3) Exemption from Entrance Examination (Written)

The candidates fulfilling one of the following conditions will be exempted from the written entrance examination:

- a) Qualified in GET/SET/NET/JRF examination of the apex bodies as CSIR/UGC/ICAR/ICMR/DBT only.
- b) M. Phil. degree completed from any recognized university whose admission at M. Phil. was confirmed on the basis of entrance examination. However such candidates will have to apply in the prescribed format with requisite fee for appearing for interview.

- c) Candidates who have completed M. Phil from such Universities where in “no entrance test was conducted or necessary”. In such cases a candidate should obtain a letter from that University to this effect and should submit in the Ph.D. section of the Vidyapeeth.

4) Structure of Entrance Examination

The structure of such examination would be as follows:

Written Test	-	100 marks
Interview	-	50 marks

- The Entrance Test shall have the following four components:
 - a) Research Methodology (Weightage 40%)
 - b) Respective Subject Content (Weightage 30%)
 - c) Functional English Language (Weightage 15%)
 - d) Functional Knowledge of Computer (Weightage 15%)
- The nature of the Test shall be Descriptive/MCQ type.
- The component (a) shall have questions on testing containing (i) analytical ability, (ii) reasoning ability (iii) research aptitude and (iv) research related information. Each sub-component shall have equal weightage.
- Component (b) shall be based on the syllabi of ‘core’ courses / papers studied at Masters Level in the concerned subject.
- Questions in components (c) and (d) shall pertain to functional skills aiming at testing the basic knowledge of the candidate.

The entrance examination will be conducted at the Vidyapeeth main campus or the venue finalized by the Vidyapeeth.

5) Interview (In case of candidates exempted from Written Entrance Examination)

The candidates who are exempted from the written entrance examination are eligible to appear for the interview before the interview committee. The candidate

will be judged on the parameters like – Analytical Ability, Research Aptitude, Communication skills etc.

6) Provisional admission

The successful candidates in entrance exam and interview will have to take provisional admission by paying the requisite fees in the admission department of the Vidyapeeth within 15 days from declaration of the result.

7) Course Work -

- a) After seeking the provisional admission the candidates will have to undergo a course work for one semester in their respective subject.
- b) However, the Candidates who are exempted from clearing the entrance examination (those candidates who have already passed M. Phil examination through entrance test from any recognized university) are also exempted from doing such Course work.
- c) The said course work shall be treated as Pre- Ph.D. preparation and will include a course on Research Methodology, Computer Applications, Quantitative Techniques and Reviewing of the Literature in the relevant field.
- d) At the end of the Semester, candidate will have to appear for course work examination and the passing criteria for such examination will be 50%.
- e) On successful passing of the course work examination, Ph.D. Section of the Vidyapeeth will issue a Certificate.

8) Allotment of Guide and Presentation

- a) The concerned Department of Vidyapeeth will allot Guide according to their proposed research area.
- b) After allotment of the Guide the candidate must submit a brief outline about his/her research work through his/her Guide within one month to the Head of Department.

- c) Candidate will be called for presentation with his / her Guide before the Expert Committee, to finalize the title of the Ph.D. thesis. Subsequently the candidate will receive a letter about confirmation of the title of his/her Ph.D. thesis, from the concerned department.

9) Ph.D. Registration

On successful completion of Ph.D. course work the candidate will seek admission for Ph.D. course. At this stage the candidate will be allotted Permanent Registration Number (PRN).

10) Duration for Ph.D. Programme

- a) The total duration of the Ph.D. Programme will be of Five Years. This period will be considered from the date of the allotment of Permanent Registration Number.
- b) The extension beyond 5 years may be given up to maximum period of two years subject to successful completion of the considerable research work done by the candidate, which will be decided by the Research Recognition Committee.
- c) The application for such an extension will have to be made by the candidate through his/her Guide and Head of the Department, three months before the expiry of the registration period (i.e. Five Years.)

11) Six Monthly Progress Report

- a) All the registered candidates shall be required to submit through their respective Guide & HOD an elaborate progress report after every six months. Failure to submit three consecutive reports by the candidates, in such a case his/her registration may be treated as cancelled.
- b) The Ph.D. candidate shall publish one Research paper in the standard refereed Research Journal before the submission of thesis for adjudication , and produce the necessary evidence for the same in the form of acceptance letter or copy of the said Journal wherein the Research paper is published.

12) Pre – Ph.D. Viva

- a) Before appearing for the Pre- Ph.D. viva (Presentation) a candidate has to submit a spiral bound copy of his / her draft thesis to the department before eight days.
- a) Three months before the submission of thesis, a candidate will have to make a Pre – Ph.D. Presentation in the concerned department. This will be open to all Faculty members and research students. The feedback and comments from the audience may be suitably incorporated in the draft thesis under the instructions of Guide and also duly approved by the Dean, of the faculty concerned.

However if a candidate fails to submit his/her thesis within the period of three months from the date of Pre – Ph.D. Viva then in such a case he / she has to again appear for a Pre – Ph.D. Viva for which requisite fee is to be paid by the candidate.

13) Submission of Ph.D. Thesis

- a) No candidate can submit his/her Ph.D. thesis before the expiry of two years from the allotment date of Permanent Registration Number.
- b) Specifications relating to printing of the thesis etc. will be according to the UGC Guidelines-2009 .(Please refer our prospectus)
- c) The candidate shall submit the thesis in 4 copies & 2 CDs in PDF format along with the abstract and synopsis with 25 copies each.
- d) The thesis shall be written in English language. However, the candidate can submit his / her thesis in the languages like Marathi / Hindi/ Sanskrit but in such case he / she has to submit a gist/abstract of thesis in English language having the mention of Hypothesis, Research Methodology, Findings and Conclusions for the convenience of the referees for evaluation purpose.