

Ph.D. ORDINANCE 2024

Senate Approval: 57th Senate Meeting dated 20.08.2024

BOG Approval: 78th BOG Meeting dt 09.10.2024



MAULANA AZAD

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

BHOPAL- 462 003

(An Institute of National Importance)

CHANGE OF RULES

Ph.D. Ordinance 2024 is revised in view of circular MANIT/Dean(Acad)/2024/1659 dated 26.03.2024, by the designated committee under the chairmanship of Dr. R. K. Nema and successively approved in 57th Senate Meeting dated 20.08.2024. The approved Senate ordinance is endorsed in 78th BOG Meeting dt 09.10.2024.

Although the rules and regulations mentioned in this ordinance are not variable but, the Senate, as the Supreme academic body of the institute, from time to time, may revise, amend or alter the regulations, courses of study, their credits and syllabus as and when deemed necessary. In case a rule needs urgent revision for smooth conduction of academic semester, the proposed revision can be approved by Chairman Senate to be ratified in subsequent senate meeting. If there is a difference of opinions in understanding/ interpretation of any rule/ regulation of the ordinance, the interpretation of the Chairman senate shall stand final and binding.

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GLOSSARY OF TERMS	
Academic year	Institutes academic year begins from July 1 and ends on June, 30 every year.
Academic Calendar	The exact dates for the important academic events scheduled during the Academic Session shall be specified in the Academic Calendar.
Applicant	Aspirant desirous to take admission in doctoral program.
BOG	Board of Governors of the Institute
Caretaker Supervisor:	Is the faculty who substitutes internal supervisor during his deputation, study leave, sabbatical leave, lien or any other long leave.
Course Work	Mandatory requirement for Registration where a student has to write examinations and deliver state of art seminars to earn minimum required credit and CGPA.
CFTI	Centrally Funded Technical Institutions
Dean (AA)	Dean (Academic Affairs)
DPPC	Departmental Post Graduate Program Committee
Draft Synopsis	A draft document with abstract of research proposal, methodology and findings with a list of publications submitted for approval by SRPC
DRPC	Departmental Research Program Committee: it is constituted to enforce rules & regulations as per prevalent PhD ordinances and to facilitate and resolve research Scholar's grievances at department level.
DUPC	Departmental Undergraduate Program Committee.
Even semester	Semester that begins in the month of January and closes by June.
External Supervisor	Supervisor who is from outside MANIT, Bhopal.
Final Synopsis	SRPC approved Draft-synopsis
FT & PT	Full time & Part Time doctoral degree program
GATE	Graduate Aptitude Test in Engineering
HE/He	Pronoun 'HE/He' includes both the genders i.e He/she
Institute	Means MANIT Bhopal.
Internal Supervisor	Supervisor who is from MANIT, Bhopal.
JRF	Junior Research Fellow
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding

NET	National Eligibility Test
Odd Semester	Semester that begins in the month of July and closes by December.
PhD Scholar	Same as Research Scholar
Pre-thesis seminar	A comprehensive internal assessment of the research work done by SRPC of the scholar before final thesis submission.
RDC	Research Degree Committee: constituted to evaluate RDC seminar.
RDC Seminar	Seminar conducted by RDC to fix research objectives and thesis title.
Registration	Enrolment for the courses/research that a student wants to pursue during a semester as required by the Program.
Research Scholar	The registered Full-time and Part-time students/scholars in the PhD program of the institute.
Scholar number	Unique identification number (ID) allotted to PhD/Research scholar.
SENATE	Senate of the Institute
SRPC	Student Research Program/Progress Committee
SRPC Seminar	Semi-annual seminar convened by SRPC
Teaching Fellowship	Scholarship offered to Full-time research scholars under various admission categories.

Note: 'He' & 'His' imply both genders and may be interpreted as 'he/' 'she' and 'his/' 'her', as the case may be.

1 LIST OF PROFORMAS

Proforma No.		Name
I		Proforma for Course work
II.		Proforma for Approval of Seminar Expert
III.		Proforma for Evaluation of PhD Seminar
IV.		Proforma for Constitution of SRPC
V.		Proforma for 6th Monthly SRPC Evaluation
VI.	(a)	Proforma for Approval of RDC expert
	(b)	Proforma for RDC Evaluation
VII.		Proforma for Pre-thesis/ Synopsis submission
VIII.	(a),(b),(c)	Proforma for Certificate from Supervisor
IX.		Proforma for Thesis submission
X.	(a), (b)	Proforma for Ph.D. Thesis Viva Evaluation / Attendance sheet

1.0. REGULATION FOR DOCTORAL PROGRAM (Ph.D. Degree)

MANIT, an Institute of National Importance, offers doctoral program leading to Ph.D. Degree in Engineering, Architecture, Planning (*Architecture Department*), Science, Humanities & Social Sciences, and Management Studies. The student registered for Ph.D. program has to fulfill criterion of minimum course credit requirements, seminars and a research thesis submission for evaluation and award of Ph.D. degree in respective discipline. Award of doctoral degree is based upon the evaluation of thesis submitted by the scholar and evaluated by two experts in the field, while thesis is a bonafide record of the work done by the research student that embodies discovery of new facts, OR novel interpretation of already known facts & theory, OR independent design of process/product, OR development of new instrument/technology.

The doctoral program leading to Ph.D. degree is offered by all the departments/ centers of the Institute. The provisions contained herein are the governing rules/regulation for doctoral degree program being offered by the institute. The regulations outlined herein establishes rules/norms for delivering requisite coursework, administering examinations, and assessing performance leading to the award of a Ph.D. Degree. The Regulations herein are equally applicable to any new stream which are introduced over the time in any upcoming specialized areas/disciplines. The Senate is the supreme academic body which is authorized to modify, amend, interpret, and enforce decisions related to all academic affairs, including the doctoral degree regulations mandated herein. The Board of Governors (BOG) of the Institute, upon Senate recommendation, may change any or all parts of the Regulations contained herein.

1.1 PhD ADMISSION

Aspiring candidate can take admission in any of the PhD program being run by department/centre in the institute under two broad categories as **Full-time (FT)** or **Part-time (PT)** scholar. Each category of **FT** and **PT** admission has different applicable eligibility criteria, qualification and experience requirement as listed in Table-I below. The candidate once admitted in PhD program shall become **Research Scholar** or **PhD Scholar** in the institute with unique identification number (ID) allotted to him. This unique ID termed as '**Scholar number**' can be decoded for the category of admission i.e. **FT & PT, affiliated department/ Centre and year of admission**.

1.1.1 Experience and Qualification requirements

Candidates seeking admission in the doctoral degree program of the institute may apply under various admission categories. The Table-I enlist all admission categories in which institute offers admissions with obligatory qualification and experience requirements. Aspiring candidates

may check qualifications and experience requirement before applying for admission under the designated admission-category.

Table-I: Admission Categories

S.No.	Admission Category*	Experience and Qualification requirements
1.	FT- Institute (With Institute Fellowship)	Master's degree in respective discipline with minimum of 60% or CGPA 6.5 (on a 10-point Scale) with NET/GATE qualified. OR B.E./B.Tech/B.Arch/B.Plan or Equivalent Degree with minimum of 70% marks or 7.5 CGPA (on the scale of 10) plus Valid Gate Score.
	FT- QIP (AICTE-QIP Scholarship Scheme)	The qualification, experience and other eligibility requirement shall be as per AICTE-QIP Scholarship Scheme guidelines. Admission shall be based on the assessment through personal interview of the shortlisted candidates.
	FT-Self-Financed (Without Institute Fellowship)	Master's degree in respective discipline with minimum of 60% or CGPA 6.5 (on a 10-point Scale). OR B.E./B.Tech/B.Arch/B.Plan or Equivalent Degree with minimum of 70% marks or 7.5 CGPA (on the scale of 10).
	FT- Sponsored (Without Institute Fellowship)	Master's degree in respective discipline with minimum of 60% or CGPA 6.5 (on a 10-point Scale). OR B.E./B.Tech/B.Arch/B.Plan or Equivalent Degree with minimum of 70% marks or 7.5 CGPA (on the scale of 10). <u>Experience and other Requirements:</u> The Candidate must be an employee of <i>Central/State Government Institutions/organizations</i> . It is mandatory to furnish NOC from the parent organization at the time of application/admission.
	FT-Foreign (Without Institute Fellowship)	Master's degree in relevant discipline with minimum of 60% or CGPA 6.5 (on a 10-point Scale). AND B.Tech/ B.E./ B Plan of 04 years duration in relevant discipline or 05 years Degree course in Architecture with minimum 60% aggregate marks or 6.5 CGPA (on a 10-point Scale). <u>Experience and other Requirements:</u> (i) This category of admission is applicable to foreign students through ICCR scholarship . (ii) The applicant should not be older than 30 years as on 1 st October of the calendar year. (iii) Must have minimum valid GRE score of 280.

2.	PT-Institute	<p>Master's degree in relevant discipline with minimum of 60% or CGPA 6.5 (<i>on a 10-point Scale</i>).</p> <p><u>Experience and other Requirements:</u></p> <p>Students with Master's Degree in relevant discipline will be eligible for admission in corresponding Part-time / Executive Ph.D. Programs, subject to their fulfilling the requirements as per Table-II</p>
	PT-Internal <i>(Without Institute Fellowship)</i>	<p>Master's degree in respective discipline with minimum of 60% or CGPA 6.5 (<i>on a 10-point Scale</i>).</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>B.E./B.Tech/B.Arch/B.Plan or Equivalent Degree with minimum of 70% marks or 7.5 CGPA (<i>on the scale of 10</i>).</p> <p><u>Experience and other Requirements:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) This category of admission is applicable for regular faculty/staff members of MANIT Bhopal with minimum 01 year of experience. (ii) No change or relaxation in admission process/norms. (iii) Shall undergo a normal selection process as applicable to any other external candidate. (iv) Course work is mandatory similar to any other external candidate. (v) No relaxation in Institute's academic/administrative duties. (vi) No financial relaxation in pursuing Ph.D. program.
	PT-Sponsored <i>(Without Institute Fellowship)</i>	<p>Master's degree in respective discipline with minimum of 60% or CGPA 6.5 (<i>on a 10-point Scale</i>).</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>B.E./B.Tech/B.Arch/B.Plan or Equivalent Degree with minimum of 70% marks or 7.5 CGPA (<i>on the scale of 10</i>).</p> <p><u>Experience and other Requirements:</u></p> <p>The Candidate must be an employee/officers of central/State Government Institutions/organizations or Industry. It is mandatory to furnish NOC from the parent organization at the time of application/admission. The format of the NOC is given in Annexure A.</p>
	PT-Project <i>(With Fellowship from the Project)</i>	<p>Master's degree in respective discipline with minimum of 60% or CGPA 6.5 (<i>on a 10-point Scale</i>) with NET/GATE qualified.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>B.E./B.Tech/B.Arch/B.Plan or Equivalent Degree with minimum of 70% marks or 7.5 CGPA (<i>on the scale of 10</i>) from an Institute of National Importance/CFTI plus NET/GATE qualified.</p> <p><u>Experience and other Requirements:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) This category of admission is applicable for Project Staff/Junior Research Fellow (JRF) working under External funded Projects with approved duration of minimum 3 years and with budget provision of recruiting project staff/JRF from project fund.

		<p>(ii) The candidate will have an obligation to serve the designated project for at least 2½ years after registration as PhD scholar.</p> <p>(iii) Should have qualified GATE/ NET/ or any National Level qualifying test.</p> <p>(iv) Admission will be through Institute process which might include a written test and/or interview.</p>
*Prefix FT or PT indicates whether admission is as Full-time research scholar or Part-time research scholar		

1.1.2 Reservation / Relaxation

Presently, a relaxation of 5% in marks or 0.5 in CGPA is applicable to all category of Full-time and Part-Time admissions (*Table-I*) for SC/ST/PWD candidates,. Any modification in all or anyone admission category of Table-I, shall be notified on Institute website after due approval from the competent authority. Category-reservation of SC/ST/OBC/EWS is as per prevailing GOI norms.

1.1.3 Admission Procedure

Application forms for Ph.D. will be made available by the Admission Section with details notified on Institute website. The admission to PhD program shall be through entrance examination, which include written test followed by interview. The applicable procedure for admission to both FT and PT category may include written test and/or interview, which shall be notified in advertisement/institute website with due approval from Senate or Chairman Senate.

Eligible applicants from the organizations having MoU with the MANIT Bhopal will get the admission under sponsored category after having ascertained the eligibility (*as per Table-I*) by the DRPC committee. The basis of the admission under such category shall be Interview/interaction and there shall not be any written test. For admission under AICTE-QIP Scholarship Scheme, the eligible candidates shall have to make an open presentation of the research proposal before the presentation committee followed by the interview. The Interview/selection committee shall comprise of one Professor and Departmental QIP coordinator as members, and HOD of the concerned Dept as chairperson. Final recommendation on the selection of the candidates shall be made by the Interview committee in cognizance with evaluation of presentation committee. Dean(Academic) shall get the final approval from the Director before forwarding the list of selected candidates to AICTE QIP portal for upload and further admission process.

1.1.4 Fee Structure

Student taking admission in Ph.D. Programs shall abide by the fee structure as applicable from time to time, or as notified by the institute. All research scholars in Ph.D. programs will have

to pay the prescribed fees which include admission fee, tuition fee and other charges as notified by the institute.

1.1.5 Registration Process /Desk Registration

All eligible candidates of FT/PT PhD program shall have to register in each semester by submitting requisite fee and Desk registration form by stipulated date. The PhD scholars shall begin research journey by registration in course work to be completed in maximum of 02/04 consecutive semesters by FT/PT scholars, respectively. Moreover, a scholar specific 'Student Research Progress Committee (SRPC)' is also required to be constituted immediately after the allotment of supervisor to the candidate. The SRPC has well-defined constitution in **section 1.6** and supervisor as a convener must conduct one meeting in every semester to assess six-monthly progress (*Biannual*) of the research work. The SRPC report is mandatory for desk registration. The desk registration may be pending due to following exigencies:

- a) If a candidate fails to deliver a SRPC presentation and the supervisor submit a SRPC report to the Academic Section through HoD with comment "Not Reported".*
- b) If the candidate fails to deliver SRPC presentation or gets "Not Satisfactory" SRPC progress reports in two successive semesters, his registration shall liable to be canceled.*

1.1.6 Admission Withdrawal/Cancellation

If a PhD scholar at any point of time choose to cancel/ withdraw his admission, he has to refund the entire amount of Teaching Fellowship (*if applicable under the given admission category*) drawn from the Institute. Moreover, his candidature for PhD re-admission shall not be considered for the next 03 Academic years. In addition, if a PhD scholar is found to have been registered concurrently for any other degree program at any other Institute / University, his registration as PhD scholar shall be canceled and he will be expelled from the Institute with due public notification.

All Ph.D. students are required to register in every semester after paying the requisite fee. If a student does not register for two consecutive semesters, his/her admission will stand canceled.

1.1.7 Place of Work

Candidates registered as research scholar in all FT category in Table-I shall have their place of Research work at MANIT, Bhopal.

For candidate registered under **PT-Sponsored** category may have their workplace at the sponsoring Institute/Organization (parent institute/ Organization), if the parent

Institute/Organization has the requisite research facility with due recognition from MANIT authority (DRPC). The recognition will depend on the state of art facilities available in the area of proposed research. The details of such research facilities available in the parent organization shall need be furnished by the candidate at the time of raising application for admission to Ph.D Program. The DRPC shall examine the details as furnished by the applicant, and may ask for further information, or may even collect first-hand information from other sources. Once DRPC is fully convinced about the adequacy of the available research facilities, the parent institute/organization of said scholar may be recognized as his place of work under **PT-Sponsored** category.

1.2 ENTITLEMENTS AND OBLIGATIONS

Research scholar of the Institute are entitled for financial support under various heads/government schemes. The entitlement for financial support is mainly available to scholars who are admitted under admission-category **FT-Institute**, **FT-QIP** or **PT-Project**. In addition, all PhD scholars are expected to uphold the optimum standard of conduct & discipline in the Institute and in public places. Any breach of conduct rules may fetch regulation and punishment. The subsections below outline all applicable benefits & entitlements, conduct rules and potential repercussions in case of breach.

1.2.1 Fellowship Entitlement

Candidates admitted for doctoral degree program as **FT-Institute** or **PT-Project** are initially eligible for **Fellowship** for a period of **03 years**, which is further extendable to maximum 05 years based on the performance of PhD scholars. The registered scholars under **PT-Project** will get fellowship through Projects or through QIP, CSIR, AICTE, UGC, DAE, DST, or any other equivalent institute/agencies as per applicable norms. These scholars are not eligible for any other financial support from the institute. The candidate shall be registered under **PT-Project** category in those projects only, which guarantee a minimum 03 year fellowship from the funding agency. Moreover, such student shall have to undergo same admission procedure as mandated for admission category **FT-Institute**.

Under **Fellowship** scheme, the PhD Students are required to contribute/assist in teaching/research, or any other co-curricular activities as assigned by their respective HoDs with a minimum workload of up to 8-hours per week. The continuation of fellowship is contingent upon satisfactory performance, as evaluated by both their supervisor and department head. Initially, the normal duration of fellowship is 03 years, which may further be extended in-parts subjected to satisfactory performance and upon recommendation of DRPC and subsequent approval of the institute authority. The **Fellowship** benefits commence from the date of enrollment in the PhD

program in the respective department.

Numbers of seats available across all streams shall be as per the approved government norms. It shall also be governed by the financial implications/available budget and availability of discipline-wise faculty as prospective guides. However, the numbers of seats for Part-time Ph.D. program is variable and shall be decided by the senate-mandate based on the availability of the supervisors.

The admission category eligible for **Fellowship** is tabulated in Table-I. The scholarship offered by other government/ private funding agencies like QIP, UGC, CSIR will be governed by their own respective norms. Continuation of the **Fellowship** is contingent upon satisfactory academic performance and discharge of responsibilities assigned to the scholar under the governing scheme.

The Fellowship may cease under following cases:

- a) Giving false/ fake information at the time of application/ admission.
- b) Failure in obtaining minimum CGPA required for completing coursework.
- c) Not registering for a semester or not depositing requisite registration fees within a stipulated period.
- d) Not delivering SRPC seminar in scheduled time (six monthly report).
- e) Not conforming to prescribed code of conduct or violating Institute discipline rules.
- f) Research progress report with comments "1S/Not Reported".
- g) Remaining Absent without prior information/ permission for more than 03 months.

Application for extension of fellowship beyond 3 years may be considered, only if the scholar has published at least one **SCI / SCIE / SSCI** Journal paper **OR** two Scopus indexed papers in Journals **OR** three papers in Scopus indexed in international conferences **OR** two book chapters from reputed international publications as first author. Only those papers/publications shall be counted in which applicant is the first author and the publication-year commensurate with the registration tenure of PhD scholar in the institute.

Application for fellowship extension beyond 03 years may be considered by Chairman Senate if it is duly recommended by both DRPC and Dean (AA). Such extension shall be in-parts on half-yearly (*06 months*) basis for maximum duration of 5 years **OR** till the date of thesis submission, whichever falls earlier.

1.2.2 Leave Entitlement

Ph.D. students shall be governed by following leave rules with continued financial assistance:

- a) **Casual Leave:** 15 days (*Maximum 05 days at a time*) in one academic year (01 July - 30 June) as per Ministry of Education (MoE) order F.No.17-2/2014-TS-I dated 18 Feb.2015 or any subsequent changes from time to time.

- b) **Maternity Leave:** The female PhD-scholar is eligible for maternity leave as per prevailing institute rule/as per Government of India norms.
- c) **Academic leave:** This entitlement of leave is for attending conference/seminar/symposium/ field work or training program and may be for maximum duration of 15 days per academic year with a maximum of 2 months during the total duration of Ph.D.
- d) **Medical Leave:** PhD scholars having genuine medical issues can be sanctioned medical leave up to maximum of 30 days over the entire duration of PhD and *maximum 10 days in an academic year.*, if applied through proper channel. Under special case of acute medical emergency, the duration of the sanctioned leave may also exceed 10 days in that academic year upon the recommendation of Institute medical officer and subsequent approval by chairman Senate, which may vary on case to case basis.

1.2.3 Seminar/Conference Entitlement

PhD scholars are entitled to have financial support from institute for presenting papers in seminars/conferences in online/offline mode. The entitlement shall be maximum upto Rs.15,000/- (*Rupees Fifteen thousand only*) per scholar per **academic year**. The financial entitlement shall cover inland travel by train up to 3rd AC, registration fee, and limited boarding and lodging expenses (*maximum up to Rs 3000/-*). Only full-time Ph.D. scholars can be considered eligible for financial support in following categories of conferences:

- a) Conferences approved by the CPDA committee of the Institute.
- b) Conferences conducted at IITs, NITs, IIMs, IISc, and other CFTIs.
- c) Conferences whose papers are published in SCI/SCOPUS indexed Journals/ Web of Science.

In addition to above, research scholar may also apply for availing financial support from any other government agency. Such application to funding agencies shall be forwarded by the institute if same is routed through departmental DRPC with due recommendation. The research Scholar can also avail financial support from sponsored research/consultancy projects of his/her supervisor(s). The recommendation from the supervisor should include the research and consultancy project and mention clearly the type of funding envisaged. In case, fund is not available from R&C projects, the research scholar may then approach Institute for appropriate financial support. Such application shall be duly recommended and forwarded by the concerned HOD to Dean (R&C) or Dean (Academic Affairs) for final approval from chairman Senate.

The institute also promote physical participation of research scholars in international conference abroad. All PhD scholars who publish 02 numbers of SCI/SCIE/SSCI Journal papers during the course of doctoral program shall be eligible for this financial support. The financial entitlement under this category shall be maximum up to Rs. 50,000/-. The support may include conference registration fees, travel, and other incidental expenses.

Furthermore, research scholar is also entitled to avail maximum incentive of Rs.20,000/- for high class publications in SCI (Q1) class of Journal. This one-time incentive can be utilized for attending a conference of repute (*whose papers are published in SCOPUS Journals or approved list of conferences*). The incentive covers conference registration fees, travel and other incidental expenses.

1.2.4 Code of Conduct and Discipline Obligation

To uphold the Institute's image and reputation, there is an obligation on the part of PhD scholars to maintain discipline on-campus and exhibit decorum during public proceedings. The following minimum standards are expected from each PhD scholar, whether individually or in the group:

- a) Due respect to faculty, wardens, staff, and their family members.
- b) Good rapport and friendly relationship with fellow students.
- c) Affectionate Behavior with new students.
- d) Adherence to direction from UGC and Hon'ble Supreme Court decisions on ragging.

In addition, the PhD Scholar shall observe the following:

- a) Must refrain from heinous act of ragging, which in any form (physical or mental harassment to junior students individually or in group) is banned by law and calls for strict disciplinary actions including expulsion from the Institute and police action.
- b) Must conform to industrial discipline and follow factory rules regarding attendance, holiday, timings & code if any kind of industrial measurement/experimental observation is being undertaken **OR** undergoing some field training in industry etc.
- c) Must refrain from any damage/misplace of apparatus, tools, instruments, material, books issued to them by the department/institute during field observation/training in industry else shall individually bear cost of any such damage.
- d) Must observe all safety precautions in laboratory, workshop, hostel, playground or in any of the institute premises. Institute cannot be held responsible if mishap/causality takes place due to non-observance of safety instructions/precautions.
- e) Must attend minimum 75% of lecture-classes/tutorials/practical-classes during

coursework in each subject order to qualify for writing End Term Examination.

- f) Must submit an advance application to avail any entitled leave. The application must be countersigned/recommended by their parents or their tutor guardians or Hostel Warden or supervisor at least two days prior to the intended leave date except in case of emergency.

1.2.5 Misconduct and Indiscipline

Indiscipline in any form is intolerable and all PhD scholars must refrain from any act of misconduct or indiscipline. Following actions may be considered an act of misconduct and indiscipline.

- (i) Disregard of orders and instructions of the institute authority.
- (ii) Noisy, boisterous, disorderly, and obnoxious behavior.
- (iii) Irregular attendance and unauthorized absence from classes and hostels.
- (iv) Lack of punctuality in attendance, nonpayment of institute dues, or in all other matters where dates and time for any event, functioning or obligation are prescribed.
- (v) Persistent neglect of studies including mass absenteeism and inciting the mass absenteeism.
- (vi) Recourse to unfair means in test and examination.
- (vii) Negligence, use of false, fraudulent statement or acts.
- (viii) Taking part in strikes.
- (ix) Failure to produce identity card on demand by member of staff, warden, prefect etc.
- (x) Non-sportsman behavior during indoor/outdoor games.
- (xi) Indecent, rude and untoward behavior within or outside the campus.
- (xii) Sabotage to Institute image & reputation.
- (xiii) Sabotage to institute infrastructure, Lab equipment's, hostel assets, or damage to belongings of fellow students.
- (xiv) Possession, consumption or distribution of narcotic products and alcoholic drinks or harmful drugs, smoking etc.
- (xv) Possession of firearms or lethal weapons in the institute premises/hostels, examination hall etc.
- (xvi) Organizing or participation in any group activity except purely academic and scientific Programs, in company with others in or outside the campus without prior permission of the appropriate authority.
- (xvii) Indulgence in any kind of political activity including displaying posters or placards of political parties within the institute premises.

- (xviii) Addressing the press without permission.
- (xix) Forming society/ association/ organization without prior permission of appropriate authority.
- (xx) Inviting any outsider to conduct a meeting without permission of the appropriate authority.
- (xxi) Involvement in agitation of any kind which may lead to breach of peace.
- (xxii) Interference with the institute administration.
- (xxiii) Damaging fauna and flora in the campus.
- (xxiv) Indulging in any other acts which the authority feels as breach of discipline.

1.2.6 Punishment

A Research Scholar indulging in gross act of misconduct/indiscipline is liable to suffer one or more of the punishments such as:

- a) A letter of Warning may be issued in case of first-time negligence of the applicable conduct rules. Repetition or continued disobey of institutes' conduct rules may call for further serious action beyond warning. The entailed punishment might include financial penalty or Fine to the extent of Curtailment/Cancellation of Fellowship. Further escalation of misconduct might eventually lead to cancellation of registration.
- b) In case of damages caused to the institute property or property of other stakeholders by the delinquent scholar, the entailed punishment may include (i) financial recovery of damaged property/instrument/machines fully or in-parts, (ii) Suspension from availing institutes amenities/services, (iii) withholding of character certificate
- c) All gross act of misconduct/indiscipline shall call for Procter hearing and if established by evidence will lead to Removal, rustication or expulsion from the institute or hostel.
- d) Ragging of juniors will invariably lead to expulsion from the institute.

1.2.7 Plagiarism

The thesis report is an authentic testimony of research scholar's endeavors. The content within it must therefore adhere to originality standards, with a threshold of no more than 12% for plagiarized material. Plagiarism is to be checked by the institutes' prescribed software to ensure compliance with plagiarism regulations. It is mandatory to enclose duly signed plagiarism report/certificate (*by scholar, supervisor & chairman DRPC*) along with other certificates at the time of draft-thesis submission

1.3 COURSE STRUCTURE

It is mandatory for PhD scholars to earn prescribed credits for completing the coursework within designated duration. The course structure outlines all specific rules for getting credit requirements fulfilled within designated duration; the skeleton & details thereof are narrated in following subsections.

1.3.1 Program Duration

For all full-time PhD scholars, the minimum duration for submitting PhD thesis will be 03 years with fellowship, which may be extended up to maximum of 05 years. The proposed extension would be on six-month basis upon recommendation of DRPC of the concerned department and subsequent approval by chairman Senate. The candidate will have to register continuously without break for all extended duration of six months by submitting due charges/fees and completing the applicable registration process (applicable for both full time and part time PhD program).

a)

In addition, there will be minimum 02-years residential requirement for all full-time research scholars. After completing residential requirement of 02 years, if a research scholar wishes to continue PhD as Part-time scholar, he/she may do so if minimum 02 SRPC seminar & RDC have been completed within the residential period. For scholars admitted under ***PT-Sponsored*** category, the minimum residential requirement shall be 06 months or until the course work is completed. These scholars shall however be permitted to carry on their research during evening hours, weekends, and general holidays in MANIT campus if minimum residential requirement with mandatory Course work is completed.

*The minimum permissible duration for Part-time Ph. D. program is 04 year, which exceeds by one-year from the corresponding Full-time Program. However, there is no maximum time-limit of for thesis submission of both FT/PT programs in current ordinance and earlier limit of 07 years in 2016 ordinance is now withdrawn. However, it has now become mandatory for the research scholar to register *biannually* without break *i.e.* in each semester for all extended duration till thesis is finally submitted.*

1.3.2 Course Credit Requirements

It is mandatory for PhD scholars (*all categories of admissions FT/PT*) to earn prescribed credits for completing the coursework within the designated program duration. The distribution of credits for PhD program shall be as per *Table-II* below:

Table II: Credit requirements

Semester I/II	Credits		
	MCA/M.Sc/MBA/M.A.	M.Phil/M.Tech./M.Arch/ M.Plan	B.E./B.Tech./ B.Arch.
Minimum credit for the Course work	15 (5 courses)	12 (4 courses)	24 (8 courses)
2 Seminars	4	4	4
Total Credits	19	16	28

The minimum CGPA to clear the course work will uniformly be 6.5 for all categories of admissions. The grading pattern of coursework will be the same as per prevailing scheme of PG programs/NPTEL. The credit requirements for completion of course work is same for both FT and PT admissions, however PT scholars may complete the coursework within the span of 02 years.

Following are established norms of the course work to be taken by part time Ph. D. candidates admitted in July – 2024.

1. Candidates may opt NPTEL/SWAYAM courses to complete their course work.
2. Candidates may attend the part time classes in the evening (6.00pm onwards) as scheduled by concerned Department.

Candidates may attend the full-time classes with regular classes provided who has their parent Organizations permission for 180 days leaves.

The Part-time PhD scholars may opt any courses from ongoing Full-time and Part-time PG programs after due recommendation from supervisor and subsequent approval by DRPC. However, if the recommended course is not being offered in the current-running semester or not a part of existing PG scheme, then such courses may be availed as NPTEL course, if available. For registration in NPTEL courses, prior approval from Chairman DRPC and Dean (Academic) is required. Once coursework is completed, the supervisor of the candidate shall convene SRPC meeting to assess the research progress of the scholar, with minimum frequency of once in each semester. The SRPC of PT scholars shall bear same form and function as it is applicable for FT scholars.

Moreover, Part-time Ph.D. scholars are required to remain in regular touch with their supervisor(s) throughout the program duration. They are also expected to attend the institute for a duration of at least two weeks either at a stretch or in-parts in every semester to complete all stipulated program requirements, including but not limited to research discussions, the SRPC meetings, RDC meeting, Seminars, etc.

1.3.3 Failure in Courses

The candidate should complete the course work in a maximum of 02 semesters (*one year*). Student failing in course work may rewrite/reappear in the exam only once after due permission from Dean (AA) & Chairman Senate.

1.3.4 Failure in Seminar

If a student does not submit the seminar report and remain absent in the Seminar on the scheduled date, he will be awarded 'F' grade unless the extension of date is granted by the chairman senate.

1.4 RESEARCH SUPERVISION

Each PhD scholar enrolled in the designated program will be allocated a supervisor, who is a faculty member of the relevant degree-imparting or supporting department or center.

1.4.1 Main Supervisor/Co-supervisor

A Main supervisor is a faculty member of the department/Centre who mentors, advises, and deals in all Ph.D. related matters of a research scholar. He/she performs lead role in monitoring/mentoring the progress of research work on the chosen topic and provides technical guidance while Co-supervisor plays supportive role with identical responsibility of monitoring/mentoring. Every student admitted to Ph.D. program shall be assigned a Main Supervisor while Co-supervisor is optional.

A PhD supervisor is always from the parent department where the PhD student is registered. In case, a student is registered in the center or intend to work in inter-disciplinary area, the Co-supervisor may be drawn from any other department/center in the institute.

1.4.2 Eligibility and Allotment of Main Supervisor

A regular faculty of MANIT, Bhopal possessing Ph.D. degree and having at least two SCI / SCIE / Scopus Journal papers to his/her credit is eligible to become Research Supervisor. If a faculty is nearing superannuation, he must have at least 03 years of service left at the Institute to act as supervisor.

At any given point of time, one supervisor can guide maximum of 04 institute supported and 05 part-time research scholars (*including Institute and outside MANIT*). A supervisor should plan to take institute-supported PhD scholars in a phased manner, not exceeding one scholar in any given academic year. However, Chairman Senate can allot an additional scholar to a faculty by superseding the prescribed limit of 04 candidates considering his/her extraordinary contribution to the academic growth of the institute. Also, as an incentive, the faculty having externally funded research project of Rs 50 Lakh (*Rupees Fifty Lakhs*) or more may be allotted one additional institute

supported PhD scholar. This additional scholar, one per project, shall be allotted after the receipt of project-grant and would be over and above the stipulated limit of 04 institute supported candidates.

A faculty having maximum prescribed numbers of PhD scholars already working under him, will not be allotted candidate anymore, even if any new admission is keen to work under him. The department wise allotment process begins by making the details of prospective supervisor(s) and his/her area of expertise notified on the Institute website at least 3-4 weeks prior to the start of selection process. The Chairman DRPC shall also furnish the information about the numbers of slots/vacancy available under him. The prospective candidate can interact with the respective faculty in his area of interest and thereafter indicate his choice of supervisors in the order of preferences. All selected candidates will be allotted a supervisor based on the mutual interest of both the candidate and the supervisor.

Candidates seeking admission under sponsored category (*FT- Sponsored*) may be allowed to take maximum of one co-supervisor from the sponsoring organization, where he is currently employed.

As an Institute policy, no candidate can avail guidance from more than 03 professionals, one of them will act as main supervisor, who is essentially a faculty of the Institute. Rest two professionals may either belong to MANIT or may be from any other research organization (*only one from sponsoring organization*) or industry provided they meet applicable eligibility criterion of being co-supervisor.

Allotment of a Research Supervisor for a Part-time Ph.D. Program shall also be governed by the same set of rules and norms as applicable to Full-time PhD programs except/otherwise notified specially.

1.4.3 Eligibility and Allotment of Co- Supervisor

All eligible MANIT faculty with doctoral degree can act as co-supervisor upon the candidate's request and the recommendation of main supervisor. The request should come within 01 year of candidate's registration and under very exceptional or special cases (*if the topic is interdisciplinary and the requested co-supervisor is from other department*) within 02 years or before RDC seminar, whichever falls earlier. The valid request of adding co-supervisor can be forwarded by DRPC to Dean(AA) for approval to chairman Senate if the requested-faculty has the vacancy available under him/her. In addition, a faculty with doctoral degree from national level reputed Institutes (NITs, IITs, IISc, IIM, NID) may also act as co-supervisor.

Working Professional(s) from national level research organization/Research laboratories/industry can also act as co-supervisor if he/she:

(i) Possesses PhD degree in the respective discipline,

OR

possesses UG/PG degree in the respective discipline with more than 10 years of research experience AND minimum of 05 SCI research papers in the international journal of repute OR 03 SCI research papers plus a granted patent.

(ii) Must have at least 03 years of service left before superannuation, and

(iii) Must belong to area in which research scholar is working,

For external faculty or working professional to act as co-supervisor will have to register in the institute by submitting his/her biodata. The Departmental Research Program Committee (DRPC) shall scrutinize the biodata and Chairman DRPC will forward the same to Dean (AA) with recommendation. Dean (AA) will put it up to Chairman Senate for approval, who at his discretion may either approve it or defer it to full senate in the event of ambiguity that demands discussion. The office of the Dean (AA) will issue an appointment letter if approved by the Chairman Senate.

Allotment of a co-supervisor for a Part-time Ph.D. Program shall also be governed by the same set of rules and norms as applicable to Full-time PhD programs except/otherwise notified specially.

1.4.4 Change of Main/Co-Supervisor

Change of Supervisor under exceptional circumstances shall be permitted as follows:

a) In the event, the allotted supervisor leaves the Institute permanently, a new supervisor from the research group shall be appointed by the Chairman DRPC after seeking consent of the research scholar. The outgoing supervisor can still continue to act as co-supervisor, in case he/she joins another Institution of National Importance, OR an Institute having NIRF ranking under 100, OR National Research Laboratory, OR superannuated as MANIT faculty.

b) If the supervisor proceeds on deputation/lien/study leave/sabbatical leave/Child Care leave/any other leave for a period exceeding 06 months, he/she would no longer be able to act as main supervisor.

(i) If the co-supervisor is already *available*, he/she shall be elevated to become supervisor and the supervisor proceeding on leave may continue to guide the scholar as co- supervisor.

(ii) In case, the faculty proceeding on-leave is the only supervisor of the candidate, a new Supervisor in consultation with the candidate and the ousting supervisor shall be added upon due recommendation from chairman DRPC and subsequent approval from chairman Senate. The new supervisor may

either be drawn from the existing SRPC of the candidate or from the same research group with slots available under him. The supervisor proceeding on leave may still continue to act as co-supervisor if the newly appointed supervisor and the Chairman DRPC are in agreement.

- c) In the event the supervisor passes away, the co-supervisor (*if available*) will act as main supervisor. If the Late faculty is the only supervisor to the candidate, the Chairman DRPC will appoint a new supervisor from the research group.
- d) A faculty can only be proposed for inclusion as co-supervisor by the scholar within one year of PhD registration. However, an eminent faculty from other institutes such as IITs/NITs/IISc/IIM **OR** working professionals from national level research organization/Research-Labs/Industry may be proposed for inclusion as Co-supervisor before the conduction of RDC meeting. Afterwards, no such addition shall be allowed.
- e) A faculty who is retired from the institute may continue to guide a scholar as main-supervisor provided the student submits the thesis within 06 months of his/her superannuation. Chairman DRPC shall appoint a new supervisor from the research group in case the submission is not done within 06 months.
- f) If any faculty is on deputation/lien/study-leave/sabbatical-leave/child-care-leave at the time of admission of new PhD-batch and the candidate has opted that faculty as his/her choice of supervisor, under such cases the faculty member on-leave is not permitted to supervise the candidate.

In every case of change of supervisor, the Chairman DRPC has to check the eligibility and availability of the new supervisor. If the Research plan or area of the work requires modification due to the change of supervisor or for any other reason, such changes should be allowed by SRPC unless they do not lead to any conflict of interest among supervisor, co-supervisor and research scholar.

Moreover, the MANIT-faculty can also guide PhD candidates of other institutes/universities if the NIRF ranking of such institutes/universities falls within 100. However, guidance of such candidates shall also be counted within the stipulated limit of maximum 06 candidates.

All these norms of change of main-supervisor/co-supervisor are equally applicable for all categories of Part-time Ph.D. Programs.

1.5 THESIS EVALUATION

All the norms of thesis evaluation are equally applicable to FT and PT research scholars unless it is separately notified. The research conducted by PhD scholar is presented/submitted in the form of a spiral-bound report/manuscript, which is forwarded to two external experts in the subject-area for valuation and comments. After receiving approval from the experts, the submitted manuscript undergoes revision to address all suggested corrections and comments. The manuscript after incorporating all corrections and inclusion of facts & figures as suggested by reviewers is then formally submitted as hard-bound **thesis**. The thesis is a testimony of scholar's original research, which after successful defense (*leading to award of Doctoral degree*), is archived for all future references. The entire process of thesis submission, evaluation & award of doctoral degree commences with a pre-submission seminar and concludes with an open defense viva-voce examination. The procedural guidelines, implied rules, applicable regulations are logically detailed in following sub-sections.

1.5.1 Pre-Submission Evaluation/Seminar

Regular meetings of the SRPC (*Student Research Progress Committee*) assess research scholar's progress on semi-annual (six monthly) basis, while pre-thesis seminar is the last & final SRPC meeting which discusses and approves attainment of all research objectives set forth for the doctoral research conducted by PhD scholar. If a scholar has done sufficient work with conclusive outcomes that comply research objectives, he may request SRPC committee via supervisor to convene pre-thesis seminar. If supervisor is also satisfied with research outcomes and mandatory publications requirements i.e. minimum 02 numbers of Research Papers in SCI/SCIE/SSCI Journals **OR** minimum 04 numbers of Scopus indexed journals publications, he would arrange for a pre-thesis seminar to be delivered by research scholar. The SRPC committee shall examine the pre-thesis seminar for conclusive outcomes before recommending the research for submission in the form of **draft- synopsis**.

The **draft-synopsis** is a document with abstract of **research proposal, methodology and findings along with a list of publications**. The SRPC evaluates both the **draft-synopsis** and the **pre-thesis seminar** to ensure the completion of all research objectives outlined in the RDC (*Research Degree Committee*) report, which was finalized in the RDC meeting.

Although, the pre-thesis seminar will be an open seminar and may be attended by faculty, research scholars, and PG students of any department, yet SRPC is the only authorized committee to evaluate the work and submit the recommendation. It would be appreciated, if PhD scholar submit adequate numbers of **draft-synopsis** at least one week before the scheduled pre-thesis seminar for review and comments by SRPC members.

1.5.2 Synopsis Submission

After successful defense of ***pre-thesis seminar***, the PhD scholar is required to finalize the draft-synopsis after resolving/incorporating the comments/suggestions made by SRPC. The **Final-synopsis** or simply **Synopsis** is a brief document that summarizes ***research proposal, methodology and findings with a list of publications***. The synopsis enables the appointed examiners (*referees*) to agree/decline evaluation of thesis manuscript upon preliminary examination of embedded research findings.

Upon approval by SRPC committee, the research scholar will have to submit 05 numbers of **Final-Synopsis** in hard-copies *along with the soft copy* within one month from the date of pre-thesis seminar. The requisite numbers of synopsis shall be submitted to chairman DRPC with following certificates:

- a) Recommendation of SRPC,
- b) Certificate from the supervisor that candidate has completed coursework with minimum credit requirements.
- c) Certificate from the Research Supervisor stating:
 - i. That there is a prima facie case for consideration of the thesis,
 - ii. That the thesis does not contain any work which has been previously submitted for the award or any degree, and
 - iii. The extent of collaboration, if any.

1.5.3 Panel of External Examiners

The panel of proposed examiners for thesis evaluation should be submitted by the concerned supervisor along with the final synopsis. It is imperative that the examiner's names are drawn from the cited references in the synopsis/thesis. The panel of examiners is submitted in a prescribed format, duly signed by the supervisor and the chairman of the Doctoral Research Program Committee (DRPC), enclosed in a confidential sealed envelope addressed to the Assistant Registrar (Admissions). The panel of examiners comprises of two separate clusters. In one cluster, the 05 examiners/referees are drawn from IIT/IISc, while in the second cluster another 05 examines/referees should be drawn from other national-level institutions such as NIT/CFTI or equivalent research organizations in India. The panel of examiners along with 05 copies of the final synopsis are to be submitted to the office of the AR(admission) to initiate the final evaluation process.

The Assistant Registrar (Admissions) will retain 01 copy of the synopsis for record, while the remaining 04 copies and the panel of examiners will be forwarded to the office of the Professor-In-Charge of Examinations (PIC) for further processing and subsequent submission to the Dean (AA). The Dean (AA) will now get two referees nominated/approved from the Chairman Senate,

one from the cluster of IITs, and second from the cluster of NIT/CFTI/research organizations. The names of the approved referees will be communicated to the office of the Professor-In-Charge of Examinations (PIC), who will then send a copy of the synopsis to both referees (examiners), requesting their consent to evaluate the Ph.D. thesis after a preliminary review of the attached synopsis.

If, for any reason(s), an approved examiner declines to evaluate the thesis, the PIC will contact other examiners from the panel after getting requisite approval from the Chairman Senate. If no examiners from the panel agree to evaluate the thesis, the supervisor will need to submit a fresh panel of examiners.

1.5.4 Thesis Writing Format

The thesis is a comprehensive document of the original research conducted by the PhD scholar. It substantiates the research findings in a structured format, adhering to the guidelines outlined below for sequential arrangement and inclusive content. Thesis should be written in English with meaningful facts, figures, and grammatically correct statements. The thesis-writing structure is given in **Table III**. In addition, thesis-writing style with the approved fonts/formats is given in **Appendix-I**. It is mandatory for all FT and PT scholars to strictly adhere to prescribed structure and style in thesis-writing and same is to be ensured by the concerned supervisors.

Table III: Thesis Structure

S.No.	Item	Purpose
(i)	Title Page	<i>Title of the thesis, author's name, degree for which it is submitted, department, institution, Month-Year</i>
(ii)	Abstract	<i>Concise summary of the thesis, usually around 200-300 words, highlighting the research problem, methods, results, conclusions and Outline of thesis</i>
(iii)	Acknowledgements	<i>author expresses gratitude to those who contributed to the completion of the thesis, such as supervisors, funding agencies, colleagues, family, etc</i>
(iv)	Candidates Declaration	<i>Containing statements of scholar's own research work</i>
(v)	Table of Content	<i>Lists all major sections and subsections with corresponding page numbers</i>
(vi)	List of Figures and Tables	<i>provides a list of all figures and tables included in the thesis, along with their respective page numbers</i>
(vii)	List of abbreviations	<i>Alphabetically arranged list of abbreviations used in the thesis.</i>
(viii)	Chapters	Introduction: <i>Introduces the research topic, provides background information, states the research problem or questions, outlines Research</i>

		<p><i>objectives, Methodology and gives an overview of the thesis structure.</i></p> <p>Literature Review: <i>Surveys relevant literature on the research topic, critically evaluates existing studies, identifies gaps in knowledge, and establishes the theoretical framework for the research.</i></p> <p>Work Chapters: Consisting of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ <i>Theoretical framework,</i> ✓ <i>Empirical findings,</i> ✓ <i>Modelling & Simulation,</i> ✓ <i>Experimental studies,</i> ✓ <i>Data analysis,</i> ✓ <i>Novelty in design, methods and data collection techniques,</i> ✓ <i>Novelty in instruments or tools used for data analysis.</i> ✓ <i>Results and discussion.</i> <p><i>Each chapter should conclude with chapter summary.</i></p> <p>Conclusion and Future scope of work: <i>Qualitative and quantitative summary of completed research with its main findings, significance and scope of future work</i></p>
(ix)	References	<i>Lists all sources cited in the thesis, following a IEEE citation style for thesis in Engineering & Science stream</i>
(x)	Appendix	<i>Includes supplementary material that is relevant to the thesis but not essential for understanding the main text. It may contain raw data, questionnaires, or additional analysis.</i>
(xi)	List of Publications	List of scholar's own publications in IEEE citation style.

1.5.5 Thesis Submission Requirement/ Rules

The research scholar compiles the theoretical framework, empirical findings, and data of their completed research in the form of a thesis. This document must be prepared and submitted to the office of the Dean (AA) within 06 months from the date of the pre-thesis seminar. The thesis submission process adheres to specific criteria, requires certification from relevant authorities, and involves completing prescribed forms, as outlined below.

- a) Certificate from the supervisor and coordinator DRPC for successful completion of prescribed course work, comprehensive examination, SRPC meetings, and RDC seminar by the research scholar within the prescribed time limit.
- b) Certificate from the Research Supervisor stating:
 - (i) That there is a prima facie case for consideration of the thesis,
 - (ii) That the thesis does not contain any work which has been previously submitted for the award or any degree, and
 - (iii) The extent of collaboration if any

- (iv) Submission of Plagiarism report using institute's prescribed software. The permissible plagiarism is 12% from all sources excluding scholar's own publication.
 - (v) Certificate from the research scholars and the supervisors that thesis report is prepared following the prescribed styles of formatting/fonts and the structure in Table III/
- c) Certificate from the Accounts section that there are no dues up to the date of submission of the synopsis.
 - d) The candidate shall submit 04 copies of spiral bound thesis printed on both sides of the paper to the Dean (Academic) within the prescribed time limits, i.e., not earlier than one month and later than six months from the submission of the synopsis. The thesis shall be written in the approved format and fonts for all certificates, TOC, chapter title, chapter body, conclusion, appendix and references.
 - e) If for some genuine reasons, a scholar couldn't submit the thesis even after the elapse of six months after submission of seminar, he/she may apply for extension only once for the period at the discretion of Chairman, Senate. However, this should not violate the minimum duration clause.
 - f) Along with the thesis, the candidate shall submit the requisite forms containing the authorization from the Research Supervisor(s) for submission of the thesis and a certificate from accounts section that there are no dues against the candidate.

1.5.6 Thesis Evaluation & Detailed Report

The thesis received in the office of the Professor-In-Charge of Examinations (PIC) will be sent to both examiners who have previously agreed to evaluate the research based on the synopsis. The examiners are expected to submit their reports within 8 weeks of receiving the thesis, using the Performa provided by the office of Professor In-charge Examinations.

The report submitted by both the examiners must have any one of the following structured recommendations:

- A.** *I recommend that the thesis be accepted in its present form.*
- B.** *I recommend the thesis to be accepted, however the candidate has to clarify my queries at the time of Viva Voce examination.*
- C.** *I recommend that the candidate modifies the thesis as per my Suggestions and the modified thesis should be sent to me for re- evaluation.*

- D. I recommend that the candidate modifies the thesis as per my suggestions and the modified thesis should not be sent to me for re- evaluation.*
- E. I do not recommend acceptance of this thesis for the reasons set out in detail in my report.*

In addition to the structured recommendations mentioned above, the examiners are required to submit a detailed report (250-400 words) outlining the research contributions chapter by chapter. The Professor-In-Charge of Examinations (PIC) will supply the formats for both the thesis recommendation and the detailed report.

If the referees suggest accepting the thesis with minor modifications, the scholar can resubmit the thesis once after making the necessary changes, within a six-month period. The same referee(s) will review the modified thesis upon resubmission.

If one examiner accepts the work while the other rejects it, the thesis will be referred to a third referee from the panel of examiners, approved by the Chairman Senate.

A thesis rejected by both referees may be resubmitted after undergoing comprehensive revision, which would include the incorporation of new results. The thesis may be resubmitted, within a period not earlier than 01 year and not later than 02 years from the date of intimation of thesis rejection by the office of Professor-In-Charge of Examination (PIC). The resubmitted thesis, incorporating thorough revisions and new results, may be sent to the same set of examiners or to a new set of examiners at the discretion of the Chairman Senate. However, if the resubmitted thesis is rejected again, the candidate will be disqualified, and his registration will be permanently cancelled.

The defense/viva-voce examination can only be held if both referees give positive recommendations. Confidential copies of the referees' reports will be shared with the Research Supervisor(s), and any queries or revisions requested by the examiners will be communicated to the scholar. The scholar needs to address all corrections point wise and prepare responses to the queries systematically. The revised thesis and the scholar's responses will then be submitted to the Doctoral Research Program Committee (DRPC) for review. The chairman of the DRPC will forward the committee's recommendation to the Professor-In-Charge Examinations (PIC) to schedule the defense viva-voce examination at a mutually convenient date to all examiners.

At the time of defense, the supervisor must ensure that the research scholar will submit 02 copies of the thesis printed on both sides in hard bound form to the office of Professor In-charge Examinations.

1.5.7 Examination Board Constitution

With positive recommendation from both the examiners, the research scholar shall have to defend his work in an open viva-voce examination conducted by a Board of Examiners. The Board of Examiners shall be appointed by the Chairman Senate and shall consist of:

- (i) HOD of the Department/Center as chairman
- (ii) One Senate nominee appointed by chairman Senate
- (iii) One of the referees who evaluated the thesis,
- (iv) Research Supervisor(s), and
- (v) SRPC members

1.5.8 Award of Doctoral Degree

The research scholar is required to present and defend his research work before the Examination Board (EB). Upon completion of the viva-voce examination, the EB will submit a duly signed evaluation report in the prescribed format, along with a categorical recommendation regarding the successful defense or otherwise, to the office of the Professor-In-Charge of Examinations (PIC).

If the board's (EB) recommendation is positive, the Professor In-charge Examinations with due approval of Chairman Senate will issue a notification regarding successful completion of all formalities by the research scholar on the date of defense. The notification mentions thesis title and make him eligible for provisional degree of Ph.D. from the date of viva-voce examination. The doctoral degree will be conferred upon the candidate in the upcoming convocation following senate approval.

In the event that a thesis has been accepted but the candidate is unable to defend his work before the viva-voce board (EB), the Chairman of the Senate may permit the candidate to reappear for the viva-voce examination at some later date determined by the chairman (DRPC) and the concerned supervisor. However, if the research scholar fails to defend his work again, he will be declared unsuccessful, and his candidacy for the doctoral degree will be summarily revoked.

1.5.9 Legal Matters

Any legal issue arising out of the process will be dealt with within the jurisdiction of court at Bhopal.

1.6 MONITORING AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEES

In order to support PhD-scholars, various oversight (*monitoring*) and administrative committees are formed. These committees are designed to mentor, guide, and offer administrative assistance to scholars at both departmental and institute levels so that he may advance his work in the chosen areas of research at utmost ease. Committees such as Seminars, Student Research Program Committees (SRPC), and Research Degree Committees (RDC) are established to monitor the scholars' progress and assist them in directing research with well-defined objectives and methodology (RDC). Departmental-level administrative support is provided by the Departmental Research Program Committee (DRPC), while institute-level support is offered by the Senate Doctoral Program Committee (SDPC). The composition and functions of each committee, along with their respective forms, are detailed below.

1.6.1 Key Research and Administrative Committees

Table IV outlines various committees that a research scholar will negotiate during PhD program. The purpose and objectives of each committee with operational timeline is provided in the table below. Frequency of meetings and its purpose is generally the same for both FT/PT admissions, until unless it is categorically specified.

Table IV: *Monitoring and Administrative Committees with their purpose*

Committee	Meetings on Timeline	Event	Purpose
Seminar	<i>During Coursework</i>	(i) Coursework Seminar -I, (ii) Coursework Seminar -II,	To Evaluate state of art seminar
SRPC	<i>Every six month after Registration</i>	(i) Six monthly SRPC seminar	To monitor research progress
	<i>Just after the completion of research work.</i>	(ii) Pre-thesis Seminar	To Evaluate quality and quantity of completed research work

RDC	<i>(i)</i> After completion of coursework. <i>(ii)</i> Within 02 years for all FT admissions. <i>(iii)</i> Within 03 years for all PT admissions.	<i>(iv)</i> RDC Examination	To contemplate and fix research-objectives, research-plan, research-topic and research-Methodology
(DRPC)	As and when required throughout the program duration	<i>(i)</i> Fellowship enhancement, <i>(ii)</i> Resolving Grievances, <i>(iii)</i> Supervisor allocation etc.	for admin support to all PhD scholars at Departmental level
Senate Doctoral Program Committee (SDPC)	Throughout the program duration	<i>(i)</i> Fellowship enhancement, <i>(ii)</i> Resolving Grievances,	For admin support to all PhD scholars at Institute level

1.6.2 DRPC: Form & Functions

DRPC looks after all administrative approvals of PhD scholars at department level. It also looks after conduct of PhD scholars and initiate redressal of any grievance arising between scholars or between scholar and his supervisors. The Constitution of DRPC is given in Table-V.

Table V: Constitution of DRPC

1	Chairman	HOD of concerned department
2	Members	3 to 6 faculty members nominated by concerned HOD.
3	Coordinator	A member of DRPC nominated by concerned HOD.
4	Invitee Member(s)	Concerned Supervisor (s)

Functions of DRPC

- Evaluation of external Supervisors bio-data and forward them to Dean(AA) & Chairman Senate for due approval.
- To approve the external research centers for carrying out research work in a given discipline.
- Any other advice/ grievance/ recommendations desired by Dean (AA) from time to time.

1.6.3 SRPC: Form & Functions

The SRPC is intended to monitor research progress of an individual PhD scholar. It mentors, guides, and evaluates the research progress by conducting SRPC seminars biannually i.e., one in every semester and exclusive to a PhD scholar. The six-monthly evaluation through SRPC seminar is a mandatory requirement for desk registration of an individual scholar in each semester. The Constitution of SRPC is given in Table-VI.

Table VI: Constitution of SRPC

1	Chairman	HOD of concerned department
2	Internal Member*	Two faculty representatives from the parent department, one should be minimum at the level of Associate Professor from the same area of specialization.
3	External Members*	One faculty representative from other department minimum at the Associate Professor level
4	Convener	Supervisor (s)

The constitution of SRPC is initiated by scholar's supervisor by proposing a panel of 04 internal experts from the parent department and the 02 external experts from other departments. From the proposed panel, the Dean (AA) will select two internal members and one external member to form SRPC of designated PhD scholar. Internal SRPC member should ideally be drawn from same specialized area in which the PhD scholar has submitted his research proposal (*contingent upon the availability of experts in that field*). The SRPC is headed by the HOD/HOC of the concerned department/centre as chairman while supervisor is a convener member. The committee is responsible for overseeing the research progress of the PhD scholar throughout his tenure at the institute.

If any SRPC member is on leave for a duration of fewer than six months and an SRPC meeting is pending, the supervisor(s) may request approval from the Dean (AA) to appoint an alternate faculty member from the same specialized area as a temporary SRPC member for that particular meeting. The Dean (AA) may grant temporary approval in cases of urgency, such as when the SRPC meeting for that student is delayed due to the non-availability of the nominated member. If an SRPC member is on leave for more than six months or if a member has retired, the concerned supervisor must initiate the process to appoint a new SRPC member by proposing two experts for replacement, according to the

internal or external category. The Dean (Academic Affairs) will then approve such a change request.

Functions of SRPC

- a) To monitor the progress of the research work of the candidate.
- b) Evaluation of the progress of the research work on six-monthly basis with defined research objectives & methodology as per RDC recommendations. The evaluation report should reflect performance of the candidate by quantifying the satisfactory in four levels as 1S, 2S, 3S, and 4S, where 1S and 4S signify minimum and maximum level of progress respectively.
- c) Conduct of pre-thesis seminar after confirming the quality and quantum of the work and publications.
- d) Review and approve draft-synopsis of the candidate.
- e) To verify the mandatory publications requirement for thesis submission.

1.6.4 RDC: Form & Functions

After completion of course work, all PhD scholars has to undergo examination by the RDC committee. RDC committee evaluates the research plan and assists PhD scholars in formulating well defined research-objectives, devising a comprehensive research plan, and outlining a methodology for the identified research gap (*based on comprehensive literature review*). The committee also assists in crafting/fixing concise and clear **thesis title**, which may be fine-tuned with slight deviation at the time of **pre-thesis submission** by the concerned SRPC. The Constitution of DRPC is given in Table-VII.

Table VII: Constitution of RDC

1	Chairman	HOD of concerned department
2	External Member:	One Professor/ Associate Professor as expert from the area of research proposal from IIT/NIT/IISc/CFTI
3	Members	SRPC members
4	Convener	Concerned Supervisor (s)

The supervisor of PhD scholar will propose a panel of 03 external experts from the area of specialization in which research scholar submits his research proposal.

Chairman Senate will approve one expert from the proposed panel. In principle, the RDC committee is an extended version of SRPC with inclusion of one external expert with the supervisor serving as the convener. Necessary arrangements for scheduling RDC meeting shall be made by the supervisor as convener during second year for FT scholars (*but no later than the close of 2nd year*) or third year for PT scholars (*but no later than the close of 3rd year*).

The RDC meeting freezes research objectives and the thesis title, which typically remains unchanged under normal circumstances. Minor adjustment(s)/fine tuning in the thesis-title and the research-objectives are allowed if SRPC deems fit and necessary at the time of pre-thesis seminar. The proposed changes should not alter the essence of the research as approved by the RDC. It is a mandatory condition to complete RDC for fellowship enhancement after 02 years. Such enhancement after eligibility shall be applicable from the date of RDC, if somehow it gets delayed.

Functions of RDC

- a) The qualitative evaluation of the identified research gap and problem formulation.
- b) To finalize the research proposal, title of the research/thesis with well-defined research objectives.
- c) To finalize methodology and research plan with timeline.

1.6.5 EB: Form & Functions

If the thesis submitted by the scholar receives positive recommendation from both the examiners, the research scholar is required to present and defend his work in an open viva-voce examination administered by a Board of Examiners (EB). The Board of Examiners shall be appointed by the Chairman Senate as per composition in Table-VIII:

Table VIII: Constitution of RDC

1.	Chairman	HOD of the Department/Center as chairman
2.	Internal Members	All SRPC members
3.	Internal Member	One Senate nominee appointed by chairman Senate
4.	External Member:	One of the referees who evaluated the thesis
5.	Convener	Concerned Supervisor (s)

Functions of EB

- a)** It conducts an open viva-voce examination where the scholar defends his research before the board members and the audience.
- b)** It assesses the candidate's ability to present his research effectively, including his ability to communicate and clarity of expression.
- c)** The EB provides constructive feedback to the candidate, highlighting strengths and areas for improvement in his research and presentation.
- d)** The board ensures that the examination process adheres to academic standards and regulations set by the Senate.
- e)** The chairman and Senate nominee ensures that viva-voce examination is conducted with objectivity and sanctity for award of the doctoral degree.
- f)** The EB makes the recommendations for the award of the doctoral degree **OR** revision of the work/thesis **OR** any other recommendation as deemed necessary depending upon the quality and quantum of the defence.
- g)** Finally, The EB also rates research scholar's work by awarding grades: "**Exemplary**", "**Excellent**", "**Good**", "**Fairly Good**" for inclusion in the doctoral degree.

1.6.6 Senate Doctoral Program Committee (SDPC): Form & Functions

The **SDPC** is an institute level committee which is constituted to facilitate all FT and PT scholars for any administrative support/grievance which otherwise could not be resolved at department level by DRPC. The SDPC shall be appointed by the Chairman Senate as per composition in Table-IX:

Table IX: Constitution of RDC

1.	Chairman	Dean (Academic)
2.	Member	Dean (SW)
3.	Member	Dean (FW)
4.	Senate Member-1	Appointed by the Chairman Senate
5.	Senate Member-2	Appointed by the Chairman Senate
6.	Invitee Member:	Concerned HoD
7.	Convener	Associate Dean (PG & PhD)

Functions of SDPC

- a) To advice/recommend for remedial solutions on issues/unforeseen condition which are neither touched upon nor addressed in PhD ordinance, in force.
- b) To discuss on the PhD related items for their inclusion as Senate agenda and propose viable solution for discussion in full Senate.
- c) Plan and execution of Research Scholar Day.

1.7 ADMISSION THROUGH MOUs

MANIT; an institute of national importance; is currently working closely with other renowned academic institutes and research organizations for joint-PhD programs. As a matter of policy, the PhD ordinance 2024 approves such collaborations and MoUs.

Senate also upholds and approves the possibility and initiation of exploring joint-PhD program with AIIMS Bhopal. The MoU is intended to sum-up various terms and conditions of PhD admission (*joint admission process, eligibility criteria, application procedures, and selection methods*), course structure including *mode of delivery*, research supervision, thesis evaluation, student support & services, funding, scholarships, legal and regulatory compliances. The norms are being evolved and likely to be put before the Senate for discussion and approval in the next meeting. The joint program is expected to start from Jan. 2025.

Senate also approves MoUs with CPRI Bengaluru and CIPET Bhopal for joint research collaboration, exchange of facilities for conducting research and joint-PhD programs.

1.8 CHANGE OF RULES

Ph.D. Ordinance 2024 is revised in view of circular MANIT/Dean(Acad)/2024/1659 dated 26.03.2024, by the designated committee under the chairmanship of Dr. R. K. Nema and successively approved in 57th Senate Meeting dated 20.08.2024. The approved Senate ordinance is endorsed in 78th BOG Meeting dt 09.10.2024.

Although the rules and regulations mentioned in this ordinance are not variable but, the Senate, as the Supreme academic body of the institute, from time to time, may revise, amend or alter the regulations, courses of study, their credits and syllabus as and when deemed necessary. In case a rule needs urgent revision for smooth conduction of academic semester, the proposed revision can be approved by Chairman Senate to be ratified in subsequent senate meeting. If there is difference of opinions in understanding/

interpretation of any rule/ regulation of the ordinance, the interpretation of the Chairman senate shall stand final and binding.

SUMMARY OF BENCHMARKS/KEY TAKEAWAYS

Benchmark	Full-Time (FT) Students	Part-Time (PT) Students	Remarks/Clause
Residential Requirement	Minimum 2 years at MANIT.	Only PT-Sponsored : 6 months (for coursework). No requirement for others Part Time PhD programs	
Fellowship Eligibility	FT-Institute/FT-QIP : From Institute-fund for a period of 3–5 years. FT-Project : Project-funded.	Only PT-Project eligible for fellowship from external Project fund.	PT-Sponsored must submit NOC from employer. (See Annexure A)
Leave Entitlements	Casual (15 days/yr), Maternity (GOI norms), Academic (15 days/yr), Medical (30 days total).	No Such leave policy required.	
Conference Funding	Up to Rs. 15,000/yr (national), Rs. 50,000 (international if 2 SCI papers published).	PT Scholars may manage fund from external sponsoring agency. PT-Project from the Project fund.	
Fellowship Extension	Requires 1 SCI/SCIE paper or equivalent to extend beyond 3 years.	No such condition applicable	PT-Project fellowships follow external rules.
Transition Flexibility	Can switch to PT after 2 years + 2 SRPC seminars + RDC.	No option to switch to FT mentioned.	PT admission is likely irreversible.
Publication Requirements	Thesis submission : 2 SCI/SCIE OR 4 Scopus papers.	Same as FT , but no explicit mention of incentives (e.g., Rs. 20,000 for SCI Q1).	PT students must meet the same academic standards.
Supervisor Limits	Max 4 FT + 5 PT scholars per supervisor.	Counted under the same limit.	Rules apply uniformly.
Teaching/Workload	Mandatory 8 hrs/week teaching/research assistance.	No Such requirement	

No Objection Certificate																								
Certificate from the employer for attending Part Time Ph.D Program (To be issued on Employer's letter head)																								
1.	Name of the Employee:																							
2.	Employee Code:																							
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7.	<p align="center"><u>Declaration</u></p> <p>This is to certify that, Mr/Ms. _____ designation _____ is a regular employee of this organization since _____ years and the service details provided above is true as per the record of the organization. This organization has no objection to his/her undergoing Part Time PhD Program at MANIT, Bhopal. He/ She, if selected, shall be allowed to attend the PhD course work classes during daytime.</p>																							
	Signature of Applicant	Seal & Signature of Competent Authority (Name, Designation)																						

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