

University of Delhi

Ordinance XX (...)

Centre for Advanced Studies in Buddhist Studies (CASBS)

The Centre for Advanced Studies in Buddhist Studies (CASBS) shall be constituted under Ordinance XX (...) of the Ordinances of the University, as a multi-disciplinary centre, to focus on various facets of Buddhism, its historical and philosophical perspective, its interface with other similar knowledge domains with a view to further deepen areas of purposive research and explorations and contextualize Buddhist Studies in the contemporary context.

The Centre for Advanced Studies in Buddhist Studies shall be a constituent of the Faculty of Arts in order to facilitate the curriculum design and implementation of the academic programmes as well as enrolment of the students for the doctoral studies, as and when required.

1. Objectives of the Centre for Advanced Studies in Buddhist Studies:

The major objectives of the proposed centre, inter alia, may include the following:

- I. To create a dedicated rich repository of ancient and contemporary reference materials concerned with enhancing the values and knowledge of the Buddhist way of life, culture, traditions, practices and worldview.

- II. To study inter-connectedness existing among different Buddhist sects, philosophical practices, historical issues, statecraft, law, art, architecture, literature, musical and dance traditions.

- III. To engage in comparative study with other belief systems, spiritual values and cultural traditions with a focus on Buddhist spirit and ethos.
- IV. To involve all the stakeholders including the research scholars to think critically as well as analytically and evolve Bharat centric perspectives.
- V. To trace the evolution of reformist movements and practices, evolving nationalist ideas and study their multiple dynamics.
- VI. To publish, in due course of time, a journal dedicated to deep research on topics related to Buddhist Studies.
- VII. To coordinate with institutions of other knowledge domains for academic enrichment and research propagation.
- VIII. To offer Doctoral studies, Post-Doctoral studies in Buddhist Studies alongwith other academic initiatives depending upon operational feasibility of the Centre.
- IX. To develop curriculum guidelines and course materials for all required courses including Certificate courses, Diploma courses, Under Graduate and Post Graduate and Ph.D programmes in Buddhist Studies, tailored to meet the needs and aspirations of the students.
- X. Transliteration of the Buddhist texts in various scripts to Devanagari and the Roman.

- XI. Publication of monographs on Buddhist studies, visual art and depiction of important Jatakas.
- XII. Making of Films and Documentaries related to Buddhist traditions.
- XIII. Digital archiving of the Buddhist manuscripts alongwith rare texts for future reference.
- XIV. Promotion of Pāli and Prakrit language and collaborating with Buddhist organizations for undertaking seminars, symposia and similar such academic endeavours.
- XV. To engage in diverse areas of research and explorations as outlined below:
 - a) Identification, translation, and digitization of Buddhist manuscripts
 - b) Pan-India identification, explorations, conservation of Buddhist sites
 - c) Documentation of Buddhist connectivity in the global perspectives.
 - d) Buddhist Culture of Himalayan Zone from Ancient to modern and study of Eastern Silk Route.
 - e) Oceanographic Studies encompassing heritage linkages.

2. Governing Structure:

The governance of the Centre shall be carried out through the following bodies which shall function under the overall control of the Executive Council of the University.

- (i) Governing Body
- (ii) Research Committee

2.1. **Governing Body:** There shall be a Governing Body which shall function under the overall control of the Executive Council of the University, and in accordance with the Act, Statutes and Ordinances of the University.

Composition:

- i) Vice-Chancellor or his Nominee – Chairperson
- ii) Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Ex-officio member)
- iii) Dean of Colleges (Ex-officio member)
- iv) Director, South Delhi Campus (Ex-officio member)
- v) Dean, Faculty of Arts (Ex-officio member)
- vi) Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences (Ex-officio member)
- vii) Dean, Faculty of Law (Ex-officio member)
- viii) Dean, Faculty of Education (Ex-officio member)
- ix) Dean, Faculty of Management Studies (Ex-officio member)
- x) Registrar (Ex-officio member)
- xi) Finance Officer (Ex-officio member)
- xii) Two External Expert members to be nominated by the Vice-Chancellor
- xiii) Three distinguished academicians from the University and its colleges to be nominated by the Vice-Chancellor
- xiv) The Director of the Centre - Member Secretary

2.1.1 Except for the ex-officio members, all other members of the Governing Body shall have a term of three years.

2.1.2 The Governing Body shall meet at least twice in one academic year. The quorum in such meetings shall be half of the total approved strength of the Governing Body.

2.1.3 Powers of the Governing Body: The Governing Body shall exercise the following powers:

- i) Provide overall supervision and guidance to the Centre.
- ii) Make all the appointments of the Centre except those to be done by the University.
- iii) Consider academic proposals, programmes and short term courses leading to micro credentials, certificates, diplomas and degrees.
- iv) Consider proposals of staff requirements and approve them.
- v) Consider major requirements related to infrastructure of the Centre.
- vi) Consider and approve the Annual Report of the Centre.
- vii) Consider budgetary and additional financial requirement and forward them to the University for approval.
- viii) Consider and approve the Annual Financial Statement of the Centre.
- ix) Consider and approve the recommendations of the Research Committee for major and long-term collaborations with other institutions and/or bodies to facilitate the objectives of the Centre.

2.2 Research Committee: There shall be a Research Committee, functioning under the overall control of the Governing Body of the centre, to guide research and other academic activities of the Centre.

Composition:

- i) Director of the Centre - Chairperson
- ii) Three distinguished academicians who shall be nominated by the Vice-Chancellor from among the teachers of the University and its colleges.

- iii) Three members who are experts in the field to be nominated by the Vice-Chancellor.
- iv) Three representatives from among the Fellows associated with the Centre to be decided by the Research Committee.
- v) Joint Director –Secretary

2.2.1 Except for the ex-officio members, all other members of the Research Committee shall have a term of three years.

2.2.2 The Research Committee should meet as and when required, but not less than twice in one academic year. The quorum in such meetings should be half of the total approved strength of the Research Committee.

2.2.3 **Functions of the Research Committee:** Subject to the overall control of the Governing Body of the Centre, the Research Committee shall exercise the following functions:

- i) Periodically monitor and assess various academic and research activities in operation and consider fresh proposals.
- ii) Consider proposals for starting new academic programmes, research programmes and short term courses, for approval of the Governing Body of the Centre.
- iii) Formulate guidelines for further consideration of the Governing Body regarding involving faculty members and students of the University and its colleges for association with the Centre in various capacities like Fellows, Interns, Associates, Visiting Faculty, Adjunct Faculty etc.
- iv) Evaluate the performance of Fellows/Interns and other academic members/faculties and research scholars associated with the Centre.
- v) Consider and approve proposals for holding major seminars and conferences.

- vi) Formulate major guidelines for further consideration of the Governing Body regarding creation of repositories and such other significant research and academic activities of the Centre.
- vii) Consider proposals from departments, colleges and other centres of the University, as well as from academic/research/strategic institutions from outside, for collaboration or starting sub-units. It may also consider reaching out to such departments, colleges, centres and outside institutions for furthering the objectives of the Centre. Proposals with major financial implications, or those with the outside institutions, shall be forwarded to the Governing Body for its approval.
- viii) It shall exercise such other functions which the Vice-Chancellor or the Governing Body of the Centre may decide from time to time.

3 Office bearers

3.1 Director

- i) There shall be a Director of the Centre to be appointed by the Vice-Chancellor from among the Professors of the University for a term of three years or till he/she attains the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier. This assignment would be in addition to his/her existing responsibilities in the Department. He/she shall be eligible for re-appointment for another term of three years.
- ii) He/she shall be responsible for efficient management and supervision of the Centre including diligent handling of its finances, in accordance with the Act, Statutes, Ordinances, rules and regulations of the University.
- iii) The Director shall coordinate various academic and research activities of the Centre.

- iv) The Director shall act as ex-officio Member Secretary of the Governing Body, and ex-officio Chairman of the Research Committee.

3.2 Joint Director

- i) There shall be a Joint Director of the Centre to be appointed by the Vice-Chancellor from among the Professors/Associate Professors of the University and its Colleges, for a term of three years, or till he/she attains the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier. He/she be eligible for re-appointment for another term of three years. This assignment would be in addition to his/her existing responsibilities in the University/College.
- ii) He/she would generally assist the Director in all his academic and administrative responsibilities, and in the absence of the Director perform all such functions and discharge all such responsibilities which are vested with the Director under this Ordinance.
- iii) The Joint Director shall act as ex-officio Secretary of the Research Committee.

4. Faculty

All Fellows and Associates would constitute the Faculty of the Centre.

- i) **Visiting and Adjunct Professors:** Scholars with proven academic credentials and relevant work in the field can be associated with the Centre as Visiting/Adjunct Professors on the recommendation of the Research Committee and with the approval of the Governing Body or the Vice-Chancellor. The terms and conditions of such association can be decided by the Research Committee generally and in individual cases with the approval of the Vice-Chancellor.

- ii) **Fellows and Associates:** Full time faculty members of the University and its Colleges with relevant experience and research interest may be appointed as Fellows for a period of three years. Research Scholars of the University can be appointed as Associates on similar terms and conditions. This engagement would run concurrently with the Fellow's existing responsibilities in the University or its Colleges. Appointment of Fellows and other terms and conditions necessary for the smooth operation of Fellowship may be decided by the Research Committee with the approval of Governing Body or the Vice-Chancellor.
- iii) **Post-Doctoral Fellows:** In specific cases, the Research Committee of the Centre may consider the request of individual scholars for carrying out their Post-Doctoral Fellowships at the Centre with financial assistance from government/non-government sponsoring agencies. This research should be of relevance to the specified objectives of the Centre.

5. Conduct of Teaching-Learning and Research

- i) Arrangement for teaching-learning and research facilities shall be made, as far as possible, by pooling the internal human resources of the University and its colleges. In special cases and subject to the availability of financial resources, the Governing Body with the approval of the Vice-Chancellor may, on the recommendation of the Research Committee, appoint scholars from outside the University system for a fixed tenure and on such terms and conditions as may be decided in specific cases.
- ii) Faculty members of the departments and colleges of the University, with proven credentials in the field, may be invited to be associated with the Centre in various capacities as per the prevailing norms of the

University. In such cases, their workload at the Centre shall count towards their overall workload in the parent department/college.

- iii) Fellows/ Visiting Fellows of the Centre may also be engaged in teaching. In such cases, their direct teaching hours shall count towards their overall workload in the parent department/college.
- iv) Fellows/ Visiting Fellows, Associates, Post-Doctoral Fellows, Research Scholars and others, associated with the Centre shall also assist in various works connected with smooth conduct of the academic and research programmes of the Centre.
- v) The University will make efforts to have sanctioned posts of Professor, Associate Professor and Assistant Professor for sustained teaching-learning and research in the Centre. Efforts will be made to maintain the ratio of 1:2:4 while requesting for these posts by the University.

6. Sanctioned strength of students

The Centre will decide Enrolment/ Registration of students for various Programmes/ Courses which the Centre may run from time to time depending upon operational feasibility.

7. Participating Faculties and Departments

Following Faculties and Departments shall be the participating departments in the teaching-learning and research activities of the Centre for Advance Studies in Buddhist Studies.

- Faculty of Arts – All Departments
- Faculty of Social Sciences
 - Department of History
 - Department of Sociology
- Faculty of Law
- Faculty of Education
- Faculty of Management Studies

