



महाराष्ट्र शासन

उच्च व तंत्र शिक्षण विभाग, मंत्रालय विरतार, कफा क्रमांक ४१८,
चौथा मजला, मादाम कामा मार्ग, हुतात्मा राजगड चौक, मुंबई-४०० ०३२



दूरध्वनी क्र.०२२-२२७९३१७१

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क्रमांक:- एनईपी- २०२२/प्र.क्र.१०५ /विशि-३

दिनांक:- ८ नोंबर, २०२२

प्रति,

मा. कुलगुरु.
सर्व अकृषी विद्यापीठे/ अभिमत विद्यापीठे/ समूह विद्यापीठे

विषय- सुरु असलेल्या ३ वर्षांच्या अभ्यासक्रमावरुन ४ वर्षांच्या अभ्यासक्रमाकड स्थलांतर करण्याची योजना व त्याबाबतचा आराखडा तयार करणे, एकसमान शैक्षणिक अभ्यासक्रम आराखडा तयार करणे, सामान्य अध्यापनशास्त्रांवर्जी विधायक अध्यापनशास्त्राचा वापर करणे आणि विद्यार्थ्यांच्या सर्वांगीण विकासासाठी वैयक्तिकृत शिक्षणाचा आराखडा तयार करण्याबाबत.

संदर्भ- १. शासन निर्णय क्रमांक एनईपी-२०२२/ प्र.क्र.१०५ /विशि-३ दिनांक २६.०४.२०२२ व शासन पुरकपत्र क्र. एनईपी-२०२२/ प्र.क्र.१०५ /विशि-३ दिनांक ०१.०६..२०२२
२. शासनाचे समक्रमांकाचे दिनांक २०.१०.२०२२ चे पत्र.

महोदय/ महोदया,

राष्ट्रीय शैक्षणिक धोरण-२०२० ची राज्यात अंमलबजावणी करण्याच्या दृष्टीने या धोरणाचा अभ्यास करण्यासाठी दिनांक १६ ऑक्टोबर, २०२० च्या शासन निर्णयानुसार डॉ.रघुनाथ माशेलकर, माजी महासंचालक. वैज्ञानिक आणि औद्योगिक संशोधन परिपद, नवी दिल्ली यांच्या अध्यक्षतेखाली स्थापन करण्यात आलेल्या कार्यवल गटाने आपला अहवाल शासनास दि.३० जून, २०२१ रोजी सादर केला होता, दि.२७ जानेवारी, २०२२ रोजी झालेल्या मंत्रिमंडळ बैठकीत डॉ.रघुनाथ माशेलकर समितीच्या अहवालातील शिफारशीप्रमाणे विभागाने सादर केलेल्या प्रस्तावास मान्यता देण्यात आली होती.

त्यानुसार विषयांकीत प्रकरणी संदर्भाधीन शासननिर्णयान्वये व पुरकपत्रान्वये तयार करण्यात आलेल्या डॉ.रविंद्र कुलकर्णी, प्र-कुलगुरु, मुंबई विद्यापीठ, मुंबई यांच्या अध्यक्षतेखालील समितीने सादर केलेल्या अहवालातील शिफारशी शासनाने स्विकारल्या असून या शिफारशीची विहित प्राधिकरणांची मान्यता घेऊन अंमलबजावणी करण्याबाबत आपणांस संदर्भ क्र.२ येथील दिनांक २०.१०.२०२२ च्या पत्रान्वये कळविण्यात आले होते.

आता, सदर समितीने राष्ट्रीय क्रेडीट प्रेमवर्कच्या अनुंयंगाने शिफारशी समाविष्ट करून सुधारीत अहवाल शासनास सादर केला आहे. (प्रत सोबत जोडली आहे.) या अहवालातील शिफारशी शासनाने स्विकारल्या आहेत. तरी, या शिफारशीची विहित प्राधिकरणांची मान्यता घेऊन तातडीने अंमलबजावणी करण्याबाबत विद्यापीठांनी निर्णय घ्यावा.

आपला,

प्र.ना. ढवळे

(प्र.ना. ढवळे)
कक्ष अधिकारी, महाराष्ट्र शासन

सोबत- सुधारीत अहवाल

प्रत:-

- संचालक, उच्च शिक्षण, महाराष्ट्र राज्य, पुणे
- संचालक, तंत्र शिक्षण, महाराष्ट्र राज्य, मुंबई

३. संचालक, कला, महाराष्ट्र राज्य, मुंबई
४. संचालक, प्रथालय, महाराष्ट्र राज्य, मुंबई
५. निवडनस्ती (विशि-३)

NEP 2020

Report on Structure and Curriculum of Four
Year and Dual Multidisciplinary Degree
Programme with Multiple Entry and Exit
Options for Implementation in State
Universities of Maharashtra

Submitted to

Ministry of Higher and Technical Education,
Government of Maharashtra,
Maharashtra State

October 2022

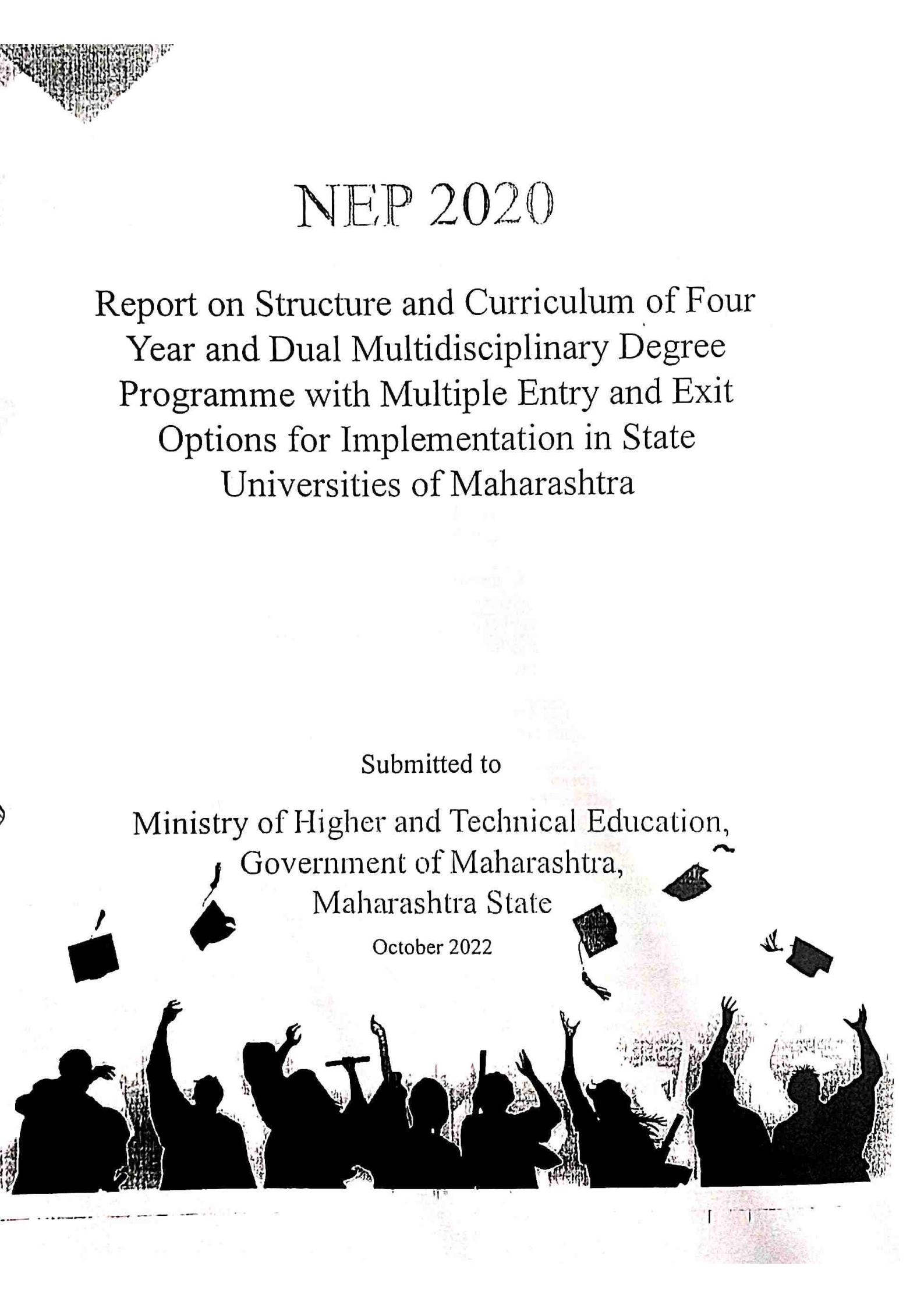


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Foreword

The NEP-2020 is aimed to make India a global knowledge superpower with equitable access to the highest-quality education for all learners. The holistic and multidisciplinary education proposed under NEP-2020 is expected to facilitate the all-round development of learners with enhancement in employability potential and skills for new jobs in emerging fields. NEP envisages the development of guidelines for curriculum and credit framework for four year undergraduate programmes, regulations prescribing a minimum standard and the procedure for the award of the one year Certificate, two year Diploma, three years Bachelor Degree, four years Bachelor Degree (Research/ Honors) and Master's degree with multiple entry and exit options and transformation of HEIs into multidisciplinary institutions. In line with these directions, various committees were constituted on the basis of recommendations given by the Taskforce for Implementation of NEP in Maharashtra through the Report of Dr. R.A. Mashelkar Committee (October 2020- June 2021).

The Committee constituted by Government of Maharashtra for design of multidisciplinary four year degree programme has developed modules and credit framework for different levels of multidisciplinary four year degree and five year integrated PG programme. In order to promote holistic and multidisciplinary education, due stress has been given for inclusion of courses on environmental studies, value education, professional ethics, life skills, cocurricular activities besides various combinations of Major and Minor. The guidelines for dual degree programme and internationalization of higher education in Maharashtra State have been illustrated.

I congratulate the Committee for submitting the Report with Roadmap for transformation of three year degree programme to four year Multidisciplinary Programme with relevant guidelines for BoS and Academic Council of State Universities and Autonomous Colleges in terms of admission path under multiple entry system, design of outcome based curriculum, reforms in examination, evaluation and assessment with respect to multiple exits in the academic programmes and credit mobility mechanism through ABC. I am sure this report will help the Statutory Bodies of various State Universities of Maharashtra to undertake execution of four year multidisciplinary degree programme with multiple entry and exit options with effect from academic year 2023-24.

Vikas Chandra Rastogi IAS
Principal Secretary,
Department of Higher
and Technical Education,
Government of Maharashtra

Preface

Amidst rapid demands of constant change put forth by a globalized economy, the higher education sector in India is going through its transformation stage. India has been forecast to be one of the youngest countries in the world gearing towards knowledge-based leadership. Aligning this, the National Education Policy-2020 (NEP-2020) aims to meet the changing educational requirements, innovation, and research through bringing in the host of changes in the education system, right from the pre-primary years to higher education. NEP-2020 promotes rigorous research-based specialization and opportunities for multidisciplinary work and interdisciplinary thinking at the graduate, Master's and doctoral level education in large multidisciplinary universities. One of the major changes was changing the 3-year undergraduate (UG) or Bachelor's degree programme to 4 year Multidisciplinary UG Programme with multiple entry and exit options to orient the students with right skill, attitude and employability. With introduction of Academic Bank of Credits, students can move between different universities if they need and collect credits based on their work. These credits can be collected, transferred and go into the final degree earned. In order to fulfill the objectives of expansion, access, equity and inclusion, quality and excellence in higher education, all university and college campuses would need to be transformed to become more holistic learning environments that enrich students with new knowledge and skills to engage meaningfully in the emerging socio-economic transformation. More importantly, the university and college campuses should nurture education and research activities that are alive to the dynamics of the society and industry in the neighborhood and guide and support them not just in terms of human resource but also through relevant studies, research and innovation on the campus and in the university at large. Thus, the NEP 2020 envisages a holistic and multidisciplinary education system that would aim to develop all capacities of human beings - intellectual, aesthetic, social, physical, emotional, ethical, and moral - in an integrated manner.

This report presents the credit structure and curricular development in reference to introduction of the Four-year multidisciplinary UG courses (Bachelor's degree-research/ honours) in state universities of Maharashtra in line with NEP-2020, NHEQF and all related UGC guidelines. There will be much more flexibility in structure and design of curriculum under Four-year multidisciplinary UG Programme and students could choose how long they wanted to study the courses with required credit structures. Depending on how long a course they study, they will be awarded a certificate or diploma or a degree. Students can get a certificate after a One-year programme, a diploma after Two years, a bachelor's degree after Three years, and a Bachelor's degree with research or honours after Four years. Students will have the flexibility to join a programme in odd semesters or leave a programme after successful completion of even semesters as per their future career needs. On exit, the students will have the option to re-enter the programme from where they had left off, at the same or in a different institution. This is a big boon for students, and they don't need to think about losing a year or two if they have been studying one programme for two years already when they plan to move into a different one. This Four-year multidisciplinary undergraduate degree

option allows students to focus on their chosen minors and major. The different courses under curriculum of Four-year multidisciplinary UG Programme are skill-based, choice-based and cross-disciplinary, trans-disciplinary and multi-disciplinary in nature that would provide the students the option of electives across the disciplines as per the objectives of the NEP 2020. Various Combinations of major and minor, based on subject/ school/ faculty specific domain and distribution of credits amongst major subjects, minor courses, vocational courses, ability enhancement courses, modules on Indian Knowledge System and other courses are delineated through suitable examples. Apprenticeship and internship, proposed under NEP-2020 will have a huge role to play in institutionalizing the curriculum framework for industry-academia linkage to increase the employability of the students. World over, apprenticeship is considered as the most efficient and promising structured training for exposure to the real working environment. This has enormous potential to combine work-based learning with theoretical knowledge of related disciplines. Students can pursue specialisation in a particular subject (4 year honours degree) or study research (4 year research degree) for one year after they had completed their three-year degree. This kind of flexibility gives students adequate options in planning their careers, taking care of life events that may require them to discontinue their studies temporarily at any juncture. There would be no hard separations between 'arts' and 'sciences', between 'curricular' and 'extracurricular' activities, between 'vocational' and 'academic streams', etc. The Report presents a multi-disciplinarity and a holistic approach to education across the professional courses, sciences, social sciences, arts, humanities, and sports in terms of curricular development and distribution of credits. The necessity of design of the learning outcomes-based curriculum framework for undergraduate education based on the expected learning outcomes and academic standards that are expected to be attained by graduates of a programme of study and holder of a qualification are illustrated on the basis of UGC guidelines. A whole new format of assessment tools using digital platforms need to be utilized to build the requisite skills that is required of a growing economy. It is expected that the curriculum design will enable all students who have enrolled in higher education programmes to attain the requisite skills of higher order through the intended learning outcomes. The dual/joint/ twining degree programme provides the additional mechanism of skill upgradation and employability enhancement. A multidisciplinary institution should not only have different departments covering multiple disciplines, but also should have innovative programmes of a multi- and inter-disciplinary nature to help widen learners' thinking and learning capability and enable students to become well-rounded individuals. All HEIs will develop IDPs to assess human resources requirements, in terms of faculty and administrative staff shortages, the physical infrastructural facilities, ICT related technology requirements, Learning infrastructure such as labs, libraries, CPD requirements, Student Support related areas and Teaching infrastructure. The HEIs must be committed to the holistic development of students and faculty training and should work on establishment of quality learner support system, infrastructure upgradation and end to end digitization.

I am thankful to all the esteemed members of the Committee for providing persistent support, and giving their valuable inputs and insights on various aspects of holistic and multidisciplinary education while preparing draft of the report at various stages.

I acknowledge their valuable contribution in bringing this report within due time frame and as per the mandate given to the Committee by Government of Maharashtra.

The Committee offers sincere gratitude and wholehearted thanks to Hon'ble Minister of Higher and Technical Education Shri Chandrakantdada Patil, the then Hon'ble Minister of Higher and Technical Education Shri Udayji Samat, Shri Vikas Chandra Rastogi, Principal Secretary, Higher and Technical Education and all the Vice-Chancellors of State Universities for their valuable guidance and unstinted support in conceiving this report in best possible manner.

Prof. R. D. Kulkarni,
Committee Chairman

राष्ट्रीय शैक्षणिक धोरण, २०२० अंतर्गत (१) सध्या सुरु असलेल्या ३ वर्षाच्या अभ्यासक्रमावरुन ४ वर्षाच्या अभ्यासक्रमाकडे स्थलांतर करण्याची योजना व त्याबाबतचा आराखडा तयार करणे, (२) एकसमान शैक्षणिक अभ्यासक्रम आराखडा तयार करणे, (३) सामान्य अध्यापनशास्त्राएवजी विधायक अध्यापनशास्त्राचा वापर करणे, (४) विद्यार्थ्याच्या सर्वांगीण विकासासाठी वैयक्तिकृत शिक्षणाचा आराखडा तयार करणे यासंदर्भात समिती स्थापन करण्याबाबत.

महाराष्ट्र शासन

उच्च व तंत्र शिक्षण विभाग

शासन निर्णय क्रमांक: एनईपी-२०२२/प्र.क्र.१०५/विशि-३,

मंत्रालय, मुंबई ४०० ०३२,

दिनांक: - २६ एप्रिल, २०२२

संदर्भ: शासन निर्णय, उच्च व तंत्र शिक्षण विभाग, क्र. संकीर्ण-२०२०/ प्र.क्र.१७६/विशि-३,

दि. १६ ऑक्टोबर, २०२०

प्रस्तावना:-

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार यांनी राष्ट्रीय शैक्षणिक धोरण-२०२० लागू केलेले आहे. त्यामुळे राष्ट्रीय शैक्षणिक धोरण-२०२० ची राज्यात अंमलबजावणी करण्याच्याहृष्टीने या धोरणाचा अभ्यास करून राज्य शासनास अहवाल सादर करण्यासाठी संदर्भ क्र.(१) येथील दिनांक १६ ऑक्टोबर, २०२० च्या शासन निर्णयानुसार डॉ. रघुनाथ माशेलकर, माजी महासंचालक, वैज्ञानिक आणि औद्योगिक संशोधन परिषद, नवी दिल्ली यांच्या अध्यक्षतेखाली कार्यबल गट स्थापन करण्यात आला. सदर समितीने आपला अहवाल शासनास दि. ३० जून, २०२१ रोजी सादर केला आहे. सदर धोरणाची राज्यात अंमलबजावणी सुलभ करण्यासाठी, अहवालातील शिफारशींचे, त्यांची निकड, प्रभाव, अंमलबजावणीची सुलभता, गुंतवणूक आणि निधीची गरज, कार्यवाहीमधील प्राधान्य या घटकांचा विचार करून तीन टप्प्यात खालीलप्रमाणे वर्गीकरण करण्यात आले आहे:

- (१) तातडीने हाती घ्यावयाचा/किमान संसाधनांची आवश्यकता असलेला कार्यक्रम;
- (२) मध्यम मुदतीचा/मध्यम संसाधनांची आवश्यकता असलेला कार्यक्रम;
- (३) दीर्घकालीन/ज्यासाठी मोठ्या प्रमाणावर निधीची आवश्यकता असलेले कार्यक्रम.

राष्ट्रीय शैक्षणिक धोरण, २०२० च्या धोरणाची राज्यात अंमलबजावणी करण्याच्या अनुषंगाने सदर शिफारशी व त्यावर शासनाने करावयाची कार्यवाही याबाबतच्या प्रस्तावास दिनांक २७ जानेवारी, २०२२ रोजीच्या मंत्रीमंडळाच्या बैठकीत मान्यता देण्यात आली. त्यास अनुसरून समिती स्थापन करण्याची बाब शासनाच्या विचाराधीन होती.

शासन निर्णय:

डॉ. माशोलकर समितीच्या शिफारशीस अनुसरून, विभागाने प्रस्तावित केलेल्या कार्यवाहीस मंत्रिमंडळाच्या बैठकीत दिलेल्या मान्यतेनुसार, (१) सध्या सुरु असलेल्या ३ वर्षाच्या अभ्यासक्रमावरुन ४ वर्षाच्या अभ्यासक्रमाकडे स्थलांतर करण्याची योजना व त्याबाबतचा आराखडा तयार करणे, (२) एकसमान शैक्षणिक अभ्यासक्रम आराखडा तयार करणे, (३) सामान्य अध्यापनशास्त्राएवजी विधायक अध्यापनशास्त्राचा वापर करणे, (४) विद्यार्थ्यांच्या सर्वांगीण विकासासाठी वैयक्तिकृत शिक्षणाचा आराखडा तयार करणे यासंदर्भात खालीलप्रमाणे समिती स्थापन करण्यात येत आहे:-

अ.क्र.	मान्यवरांचे नाव	समितीतील पदनाम
१.	डॉ. रविंद्र कुलकर्णी, प्र-कुलगुरु, मुंबई विद्यापीठ, मुंबई	अध्यक्ष
२.	डॉ. पराग चं. काळकर, अधिष्ठाता, वाणिज्य व व्यवस्थापन विद्याशाखा, सावित्रीबाई फुले पुणे विद्यापीठ, पुणे	सदस्य
३.	डॉ. मनोहर ग. चासकर, अधिष्ठाता, विज्ञान व तंत्रज्ञान शाखा, सावित्रीबाई फुले पुणे विद्यापीठ, पुणे	सदस्य
४.	डॉ. अजय भासरे, अधिष्ठाता, वाणिज्य व व्यवस्थापन विद्याशाखा, मुंबई विद्यापीठ, मुंबई	सदस्य
५.	डॉ. अंजली दि. कुरणे, अधिष्ठाता, मानव्य विज्ञान विद्याशाखा, सावित्रीबाई फुले पुणे विद्यापीठ,	सदस्य
६.	प्रा. राजेश खरात, अधिष्ठाता, मानव्य विज्ञान विद्याशाखा, मुंबई विद्यापीठ, मुंबई.	सदस्य
७.	डॉ. एस. बी. रेवटकर, अधिष्ठाता, विज्ञान व तंत्रज्ञान शाखा, गोंडवाना विद्यापीठ, गडचिरोली.	सदस्य
८.	डॉ. एल. एम. वाघमारे, अधिष्ठाता, विज्ञान व तंत्रज्ञान शाखा स्वामी रामानंद तीर्थ मराठवाडा विद्यापीठ, नांदेड.	सदस्य
९.	डॉ. अजय आर टेंगरसे, अधिष्ठाता, मानव्य विद्याशाखा, स्वामी रामानंद तीर्थ मराठवाडा विद्यापीठ, नांदेड	सदस्य
१०.	डॉ. भालचंद्र बी वायकर, अधिष्ठाता, विज्ञान व तंत्रज्ञान शाखा, डॉ. बाबासाहेब आंबेडकर मराठवाडा विद्यापीठ, औरंगाबाद	सदस्य
११.	डॉ. वालिमक सरवदे, अधिष्ठाता, वाणिज्य व व्यवस्थापन विद्याशाखा, डॉ. बाबासाहेब आंबेडकर मराठवाडा विद्यापीठ, औरंगाबाद	सदस्य

१२.	प्रा.प्रशांत अमृतकर, अधिष्ठाता, मानव्य विद्याशाखा, डॉ.बाबासाहेब आंबेडकर मराठवाडा विद्यापीठ, औरंगाबाद	सदस्य
१३.	डॉ.चेतना सोनकांबळे, अधिष्ठाता, आंतरविद्याशाखीय शाखा, डॉ.बाबासाहेब आंबेडकर मराठवाडा विद्यापीठ, औरंगाबाद.	सदस्य
१४.	डॉ.जीवन आर. दौतुलवार, प्राचार्य, श्री मथुरादास मोहता विज्ञान महाविद्यालय, नागपूर	सदस्य
१५.	डॉ.संजीव सोनवणे, अधिष्ठाता, आंतरविद्याशाखीय अभ्यास विद्याशाखा, सावित्रीबाई फुले पुणे विद्यापीठ, पुणे	सदस्य
१६.	प्रा.श्रीरंग जोशी, विभाग प्रमुख, फार्मस्युटिकल विज्ञान आणि तंत्रज्ञान विभाग, रासायनिक तंत्रज्ञान संस्था (ICT), मुंबई	सदस्य
१७.	प्रा. सुनिल भिरुड, उपसंचालक, (संगणक अभियांत्रिकी विभाग) वीरमाता जिजाबाई तंत्रज्ञान संस्था (VJTI), मुंबई	सदस्य
१८.	डॉ.विजय जोशी, वरिष्ठ सल्लागार, राष्ट्रीय उच्चतर शिक्षा अभियान (रुसा), मुंबई	सदस्य
१९.	डॉ. राहुल शाम खराबे, व्यवसाय व्यवस्थापन विभाग, राष्ट्रसंत तुकडोजी महाराज नागपूर विद्यापीठ, नागपूर	सदस्य
२०.	श्री. शशिकांत झोरे, सिनेट सदस्य, मुंबई विद्यापीठ, मुंबई	सदस्य
२१.	कुलसचिव, मुंबई विद्यापीठ, मुंबई	सदस्य-सचिव

२. सदर समितीची कार्यकक्षा खालीलप्रमाणे असेल:-

(१) सदरची समिती ४ वर्षीय पदवी अभ्यासक्रमासाठी अध्यापन पद्धती व परीक्षेसाठी समग्र योजना तयार करेल. या समग्र योजनेत सैद्धांतिक, प्रात्यक्षिक आणि प्रकल्प अभ्यास, तसेच मुख्य आणि वैकल्पिक विषयांना अंतर्गत व बहिरर्थ पद्धतीने मूल्यमापन गुणांकन आणि श्रेयांक परिगणना पद्धतीचा समावेश असेल.

(२) ४ वर्षीय पदवी अभ्यासक्रम तयार करतांना राष्ट्रीय व आंतरराष्ट्रीय मापदंडांचाही विचार करून अभ्यासक्रमात समाविष्ट केलेल्या प्रत्येक विषयाची निश्चित उद्दिष्टे परिणामांसह नमूद करण्यात येतील.

(३) ४ वर्षीय पदवी अभ्यासक्रम तयार करताना प्रत्येक वर्षाची किमान कौशल्य पातळी काय असावी याबाबत निश्चित मार्गदर्शक सूचना देईल.

(४) विद्यार्थ्यांना स्वप्रेरणेने ज्ञानसंपादन करता येईल, नवोन्मेषी आणि सर्जनशील संशोधक निर्माण होतील यासाठी अभ्यासक्रमाचे स्वरूप निश्चित करेल.

(५) अभ्यासक्रम बहुविद्याशाखीय व संशोधनावर आधारित राहिल यासाठी मार्गदर्शक सूचना देईल. चार वर्षांच्या पदवी अभ्यासक्रमाच्या संशोधन घटक व औद्योगिक प्रशिक्षण कसे असेल याबाबत मार्गदर्शक सूचना देईल.

(६) अभ्यासक्रम स्वयंरोजगाराभिमुख व व्यवसायाभिमुख कसा राहिल याबाबत निश्चित मार्गदर्शक सूचना देईल.

(७) ४ वर्ष अभ्यासक्रमाची एकसमान शैक्षणिक संरचना निर्धारीत करण्यासाठी आराखडा तयार करेल. यामध्ये मल्टीपल एन्ट्री-एक्विशेन्ट व श्रेयांक हस्तांतर (फ्रेडिट्स ट्रान्सफर) संदर्भात शैक्षणिक संरचना काय असेल याबाबत समावेश असेल.

(८) या आराखड्यात अध्यापन, परीक्षा योजना, मुख्य व धैकल्पिक विषयांच्या गुणदान पद्धती, ग्रेडिंग पद्धतीचा समावेश असेल. तसेच निरंतर निर्धारण व मूल्यमापन (Evaluation & Assessment) पद्धतीचा समावेश असेल.

(९) सामान्य अध्यापनशास्त्राऐवजी विधायक अध्यापनशास्त्राचा वापर करून अभ्यासक्रमासाठी तसा बदल सुचवेल.

(१०) कार्यरत शिक्षकसंख्या व सध्या अस्तित्वात असलेल्या पायाभूत सुविधा कायम ठेवून ३ वर्षीय अभ्यासक्रमाऐवजी ४ वर्षीय अभ्यासक्रम निश्चित करताना काय नियोजन असावे याबाबत आवश्यक आराखडा तयार करेल.

(११) यासंदर्भात विद्यापीठ अनुदान आयोगाने वेळोवेळी निर्गमित केलेल्या मार्गदर्शक सूचनांचा विचार करून शासनास शिफारस करेल.

(१२) डॉ. माशेलकर समितीच्या अहवालातील उपरोक्त मुद्द्यांशी संबंधित शिफारशींचाही सदर समिती विचार करून मार्गदर्शक सूचना निश्चित करेल.

३. सदर समितीने आपला अहवाल शासनास तीन महिन्यांत सादर करावा.

सदर शासन निर्णय महाराष्ट्र शासनाच्या www.maharashtra.gov.in या संकेतस्थळावर उपलब्ध करण्यात आला असून त्याचा सांकेतांक २०२२०४२६१७२७३८४००८ असा आहे. हा शासन निर्णय डिजीटल स्वाक्षरीने साक्षात्कित करून काढण्यात येत आहे.

महाराष्ट्राचे राज्यपाल यांच्या आदेशानुसार व नांवाने,

(प्रविणकुमार पवार)

कार्यासन अधिकारी, महाराष्ट्र शासन

प्रत,

(१) मा. राज्यपाल यांचे प्रधान सचिव, राजभवन, मुंबई,

(२) मा. मुख्यमंत्री यांचे प्रधान सचिव, मंत्रालय, मुंबई,

(३) मा. उपमुख्यमंत्री यांचे उप सचिव, मंत्रालय, मुंबई,

(४) मा. मंत्री, उच्च व तंत्र शिक्षण विभाग, यांचे खाजगी सचिव, मंत्रालय, मुंबई,

(५) मा. राज्यमंत्री, उच्च व तंत्र शिक्षण विभाग, यांचे खाजगी सचिव, मंत्रालय, मुंबई,

(६) डॉ. रविंद्र कुलकर्णी, प्र-कुलगुरु, मुंबई विद्यापीठ, मुंबई,

(७) डॉ.पराग चं.काळकर, अधिष्ठाता, वाणिज्य व व्यवस्थापन विद्याशाखा, सावित्रीबाई फुले पुणे विद्यापीठ, पुणे,

(८) डॉ.मनोहर ग. चासकर, अधिष्ठाता, विज्ञान व तंत्रज्ञान शाखा, सावित्रीबाई फुले पुणे विद्यापीठ, पुणे,

(९) डॉ.अजय भासरे, अधिष्ठाता, वाणिज्य व व्यवस्थापन विद्याशाखा, मुंबई विद्यापीठ, मुंबई,

(१०) डॉ.अंजली दि. कुरणे, अधिष्ठाता, मानव्य विज्ञान विद्याशाखा, सावित्रीबाई फुले पुणे विद्यापीठ, पुणे,

(११) प्रा.राजेश खरात, अधिष्ठाता, मानव्य विज्ञान विद्याशाखा, मुंबई विद्यापीठ, मुंबई,

(१२) डॉ.एस.बी.रेवटकर, अधिष्ठाता, विज्ञान व तंत्रज्ञान शाखा, गोडवाना विद्यापीठ, गडचिरोली,

(१३) डॉ.एल.एम.वाघमारे, अधिष्ठाता, विज्ञान व तंत्रज्ञान शाखा, स्वामी रामानंद तीर्थ मराठवाडा विद्यापीठ, नांदेड,

(१४) डॉ.अजय आर. टेंगसे, अधिष्ठाता, मानव्य विद्याशाखा, स्वामी रामानंद तीर्थ मराठवाडा विद्यापीठ, नांदेड,

(१५) डॉ.भालचंद्र बी. वायकर, अधिष्ठाता, विज्ञान व तंत्रज्ञान शाखा, डॉ.बाबासाहेब आंबेडकर मराठवाडा विद्यापीठ, औरंगाबाद,

(१६) डॉ.वाल्मिक सरवदे, अधिष्ठाता, वाणिज्य व व्यवस्थापन विद्याशाखा, डॉ.बाबासाहेब आंबेडकर मराठवाडा विद्यापीठ, औरंगाबाद,

(१७) प्रा.प्रशांत अमृतकर, अधिष्ठाता, मानव्य विद्याशाखा, डॉ.बाबासाहेब आंबेडकर मराठवाडा विद्यापीठ, औरंगाबाद,

(१८) डॉ.चेतना सोनकांबळे, अधिष्ठाता, आंतरविद्याशाखीय शाखा, डॉ.बाबासाहेब आंबेडकर मराठवाडा विद्यापीठ, औरंगाबाद,

(१९) डॉ.जीवन आर. दौतुलवार, प्राचार्य, श्री मथुरादास मोहता विज्ञान महाविद्यालय, नागपूर,

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Glossary

Academic Credit: An academic credit is a unit by which the course work (theory/practical/ training) is measured. Each course may be allotted credits in proportion to the time expected to be devoted by the student for that course. Thus, it determines the number of hours of instructions required per week. One credit means the standard methodology of calculating one hour of theory or one hour of tutorial or two hours of laboratory work or one week of internship per week for a duration of a semester (13-15 weeks) resulting in the award of one credit; which is awarded by a higher educational institution on which these regulations apply.

Academic Bank of Credits (ABC): ABC is an academic service mechanism as a digital/virtual/online entity established and managed by MoE/UGC to facilitate students to become its academic account holders and paving the way for seamless student mobility, between or within degree-granting Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) through a formal system of credit recognition, credit accumulation, credit transfers and credit redemption to promote distributed and flexible teaching-learning.

Academic Year: Two consecutive (one odd + one even) semesters constitute one academic year.

Assessment: It is the process of collecting, recording, scoring, describing and interpreting information about learning

Academic Flexibility: It is the provision for innovative and interchangeable curricular structures to enable creative combinations of Courses/Programmes in Disciplines of study leading to Degree/Diploma/PG Diploma/Certificate of Study offering multiple entry and multiple exit facilities in tune with National Education Policy-2020, while removing the rigid curricular boundaries and creating new possibilities of life-long learning.

Affiliated College: It implies any higher education institution approved by the affiliating university on the basis of the stipulated norms and guidelines by virtue of which it provides for a course/programme of study for obtaining any qualification from a university.

Autonomous College: It means any institution, whether known as such or by any other name accorded with autonomous status by the UGC upon the recommendations of the affiliating university and the State Government concerned, by virtue of which it provides for a course/programme of study with academic and innovation flexibility for obtaining any qualification from a university and which, in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of such university, is recognized as competent to provide for such course/programme of study and present students undergoing such course/programme of study for the examination leading to the award of such qualification.

Choice Based Credit System (CBCS): The CBCS provides choice for students to select from the prescribed courses (core major, electives, minor, soft skill courses etc)

Code: Each course shall bear a distinguishing code (three letters and three digits) that identifies the discipline from which it is being offered.

Conventional Mode of Learning: It means a mode of providing learning opportunities through face to face interaction between the teacher and learner in regular class room environment but does not exclude supplementary instructions if any for the learner through use of online.

Core or Major Course: A course, which should compulsorily be studied by the student as a requirement of core or major subject is termed as a Core Course.

Course: A basic unit of education and/or training. It means a paper which is taught for at least one semester as a part of a subject and is a component of a program. All courses need not carry the same weightage. A collection of courses forms a program of study.

Credit Point: It is the product of grade point and number of credits for a course.

Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA): Weighted average of the grade points obtained in all courses registered by the student across semesters.

Elective Course: Generally, a course which can be chosen from a pool of courses and which may be very specific or specialized or advanced or supportive to the discipline/subject of study or which provides an extended scope or which enables an exposure to some other discipline/subject/domain or nurtures the candidate's proficiency/skill is called an Elective Course.

Evaluation: It is the process of making judgments based on evidences and interpretations gathered through examination and assessment and on the basis of agreed upon criteria.

Foreign Higher Educational Institution: It represents a Higher Educational Institution duly established or incorporated or recognised in a foreign country and offering academic and research programmes at the undergraduate and/or higher levels.

Generic Elective (GE) or Open Elective (OE) Course: An elective course chosen generally from an unrelated discipline/subject, with an intention to seek multidisciplinary exposure is called a Generic Elective.

Grade Point: Numeric weightage attached to each letter grade.

Grade Point Average (GPA): A system of calculating academic achievement based on an average, calculated by multiplying the numerical grade point received in each course by the number of credits.

Graduate Attributes (GAs): It is a set of individually assessable outcomes that are indicative of the graduate's potential to acquire competencies in that programme.

Higher Education Institutions: The Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) who are empowered to award degrees by themselves or through their affiliating universities in accordance with Section 22 of the UGC Act, 1956.

Lateral Entry: Lateral entry or admission is granted to those students who have exit after award of Certification, Diploma, or a Basic Bachelor's Degree and are eligible for and desirous of re-entering into the second year/ third year/ fourth year, respectively of same four year multidisciplinary degree programme at any ABC registered HEI within stipulated/ permissible period of years as decided by Statutory Councils of that HEI. Lateral entry is also open to those students, if he/she has already successfully completed a

multidisciplinary four year first degree programme and is desirous of and academically capable of pursuing another multidisciplinary four year first degree programme in an allied subject.

Learning Management System (LMS): It means a system to keep track of delivery of e-Learning Programmes, learner's engagement, assessment, results, reporting and other related details in one centralized location

Learning Outcome Based Education (LOBE): Adherence to student-centric learning approach to measure student's performance based on pre-determined set of outcomes.

Letter Grade: Index of performance resulting from the transformation of actual marks obtained by a student in a course.

Major Courses: The discipline in which the student shall pursue major study in his/her Undergraduate/Master's Programme.

Proctored Examination: It means the examination conducted under the supervision of approved person or technology enabled proctoring which ensures the identity of the test taker and the integrity of the test taking environment, either in pen-paper mode or in computer based testing mode or in full-fledged online mode, as may be permissible.

Programme: Programme /Programme of study means a higher education programme pursued for a degree specified by the Commission under Section 22 (3) of the UGC Act. It also refers to a collection of courses in which a student enrolls and which contributes to meeting the requirements for the awarding of one or more Certificates/ Diplomas/ Degrees.

Programme Education Objectives (PEOs): PEOs are broad statements that describes what graduates are expected to attend within few years of graduation.

Programme Learning Outcomes (PLOs): They represent the knowledge, skills and attitudes a student should attain at the end of the programme.

Qualifications: Qualifications are formal 'awards' such as a certificate, diploma or a degree. Qualifications are awarded by a competent authority such as a college or university in recognition of the attainment by students of the expected learning outcomes on the successful completion of a particular programme of study. Qualifications can also signify the competence to follow an occupational practice.

Research Project/ Dissertation: Project work is considered as a special course involving application of knowledge in solving / analyzing /exploring a real life situation / difficult problem. The student undertakes research in specific areas of his Major/ Core Subject with an advisory support by a teacher/faculty member.

Rubric (Assessment Rubric): A rubric for assessment, also called a scoring guide, is a tool used to interpret and grade students on any kind of work against criteria and standards.

Semester Grade Point Average (SGPA): Performance of a student in a given semester.

Abbreviations

ABC	: Academic Bank of Credits
AICTE	: All India Council for Technical Education
AISHE	: All India Survey of Higher Education
AIU	: Association of Indian Universities
B.A.	: Bachelor of Arts
B. Com.	: Bachelor of Commerce
B.Ed.	: Bachelor of Education
B.Sc.	: Bachelor of Science
B.Voc.	: Bachelor of Vocation
BCI	: Bar Council of India
BLA	: Bachelor of Liberal Arts
BLE	: Bachelor of Liberal Education
BoD	: Board of Deans
BoS	: Board of Studies
BoG	: Board of Governors
CAD/CAM	: Computer-Aided Design/ Computer-Aided Manufacturing
CBCS	: Choice Based Credit System
CDAC	: Centre for Development of Advanced Computing
CEP	: Continuing Education Programme
CIET	: Central Institute of Educational Technology
CSIR	: Council of Scientific and Industrial Research
CUET	: Common University Entrance Test
CSR	: Corporate Social Responsibility
CSTT	: Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology
CTE	: College of Teacher Education
CU	: Central Universities
DAE	: Department of Atomic Energy
DARE	: Department of Agricultural Research and Education
DBT	: Department of Biotechnology
DSC	: Department/ Subject Specific Course
DSE	: Department/ Subject Specific Electives

DST	: Department of Science and Technology
DTE	: Department/ Directorate of Technical Education
EVLSC	: Professional Ethics, Value Education and Life Skills courses
FSC	: Faculty/ Discipline Specific Course
FSE	: Faculty/ Discipline Specific Electives
FOSSEE	: Free and Open-Source Software in Education
GA	: Graded Accreditation
GCCs	: Global Capability Centers
GEC	: General Education Council
GEs	: Generic Electives
GER	: Gross Enrolment Ratio
GoI	: Government of India
HBCSE	: Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education
HEI	: Higher Education Institutions
HRDC	: Human Resource Development Centre
IAF	: Institutional Accreditation Framework
IASE	: Institute of Advanced Studies in Education
ICAR	: Indian Council of Agricultural Research
ICT	: Information and Communication Technology
IDP	: Institutional Development Plan
IIEC	: India International Education Centre
IIT	: Indian Institute of Technology
IKS	: Indian Knowledge System
INI	: Institutions of National Importance
INSA	: Indian National Science Academy
ITI	: Industrial Training Institute
IUC	: Inter-University Consortium
MERU	: Multidisciplinary Education and Research Universities
MoE	: Ministry of Education
MOOC	: Massive Open Online Course
MoU	: Memorandum of Understanding
MSDE	: Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
MSRIC	: Maharashtra State Research and Innovation Council

MSME	: Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
NAAC	: National Assessment and Accreditation Council
NASSCOM	: National Association of Software and Services Companies
NCC	: National Cadet Corps
NCERT	: National Council of Educational Research and Training
NCF	: National Curriculum Framework
NCrF	: National Credit Framework
NCTE	: National Council for Teacher Education
NCVET	: National Council for Vocational Education and Training
NCVIE	: National Committee for the Integration of Vocational Education
NEET	: National Eligibility cum Entrance Test
NETF	: National Educational Technology Forum
NGO	: Non Governmental Organization
NHEQF	: National Higher Education Qualifications Framework
NHERA	: National Higher Education Regulatory Authority
NIEPA	: National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration
NIOS	: National Institute of Open Schooling
NIT	: National Institutes of Technology
NITI	: Aayog National Institution for Transforming India
NMEICT	: National Mission on Education through ICT
NPSDE	: National Policy on Skills Development and Entrepreneurship
NQR	: National Qualifications Register
NRED	: National Repository of Educational Data
NRF	: National Research Foundation
NROER	: National Repository of Open Educational Resources
NSDA	: National Skill Development Agency
NSDC	: National Skill Development Corporation
NSQF	: National Skills Qualifications Framework
NSS	: National Service Scheme
NTA	: National Testing Agency
ODL	: Open and Distance Learning
OE _s	: Open Electives
OER	: Open Educational Resources
PG	: Postgraduate

PSSB	: Professional Standard Setting Body
PTO	: Patent and Trademark Office
RCI	: Rehabilitation Council of India
RHEI	: Registered Higher Education Institutions
RSA	: Rashtriya Shiksha Aayog
RUSA	: Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan SC Scheduled Caste(s)
SAMVAY	: Skill Assessment Matrix for Vocational Advancement of Youth
SCERT	: State Council of Educational Research and Training
SDG	: Sustainable Development Goals
SEC	: State Education Commission
SEZ	: Special Education Zone
SHEC	: State Higher Education Council
SKP	: Skill Knowledge Provider
SSC	: School Specific Course
SSE	: School Specific Electives
SSD	: Ms State Skill Development Mission
SSRA	: State School Regulatory Authority
STEAM	: Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Design, and Mathematics
STEM	: Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics
SVE	: School of Vocational Education
SWAYAM	: Study Webs of Active Learning for Young Aspiring Minds
TEI	: Teacher Education Institution
U-DISE	: Unified District Information System for Education
UG	: Undergraduate
UGC	: University Grants Commission
UHV	: Universal human values
VESB	: Vocational Education Skills Board

Chapter II

Multiple Entry and Admission Path at different Levels for Multidisciplinary Four Year Degree and Five Year Integrated PG Programme in line with NEP-2020

Chapter I

Multiple Entry and Admission Path at different Levels for Multidisciplinary Four Year Degree and Five Year Integrated PG Programme in line with NEP-2020

The higher education qualifications leading to a certificate/degree/diploma, in line with multidisciplinary four year degree programme, detailed level descriptors and learning outcomes are well described by the UGC guidelines for Multiple Entry and Exit in Academic Programmes offered in Higher Education Institutions and National Higher Education Qualification Framework (NHEQF). It also envisages multiple entry and exit points and re-entry options thus, facilitating holistic multidisciplinary education and creating new possibilities for life-long learning. For creditisation and integration of all learning, the National Credit Framework (NCrF) shall encompass the qualification frameworks for higher education, vocational & skill education and school education, namely NHEQF, National Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF) and National School Education Qualification Framework (NSEQF) respectively. NCrF enables seamless integration and coordination across regulators and institutions to enable broad based, multi-disciplinary, holistic education across sciences, social sciences, arts, humanities and sports, allows imaginative and flexible curricular structures, enables creative combinations of disciplines and integration of vocational education and skilling into academics with multiple entry and exit options.

The NCrF credit levels for school education are upto level 4 (the credit level that can be attained after completion of school education i.e., grade 12th will be level 4.), while for higher education from Level 4.5 to Level 8 [UG Levels 4.5, 5.0, 5.5 & 6.0, PG Levels 6.0, 6.5 & 7.0, and PhD Level 8] and for vocational education & training level 1 to level 8 (the level 1 is of lowest level of competence and complexity while level 8 indicates highest level of competence and complexity). The Credit levels to be assigned across higher and vocational education/ skilling (independent of the streams, subjects etc.) will be based on the cumulative numbers of years of learning with assessment.

1.1 Structure of Four-Year Multidisciplinary Degree Programme with Multiple Entry and Exit Options

To enable multiple entry and exit points in the academic programmes, qualifications such as certificate, diploma, degree are organized in a series of levels, as presented in

Table 1.1, in an ascending order from level 4.5 to level 6; Level 4.5: represents certificate and level 6 represents 4 year bachelor degree with honors/ research.

Table: 1.1

Qualification Type and Credit Requirements of Four Year Multidisciplinary Degree Programme with Multiple Entry and Exit Options

Levels	Qualification Title	Min. Credit Requirements	Year and Semester
4.5	UG Certificate	40	1 year, 2 Sem
5.0	UG Diploma	80	2 years, 4 Sem
5.5	Bachelor's Degree	120	3 years, 6 Sem
6.0	Bachelor's Degree-Honors	160	4 years, 8 Sem
6.0	Bachelor's Degree- Research	160	4 years, 8 Sem
6.0	Bachelor's Degree- Engineering	160	4 years, 8 Sem

a) **Level 4.5**

Undergraduate Certificate (in the field of learning/discipline) is awarded for those who exit after the first year (two semesters) of the 4 year Multidisciplinary UG programme (Programme duration: first year or two semesters of the UG programme) and earn min. 40 credits.

b) **Level 5.0**

Undergraduate Diploma (in the field of learning/discipline) is awarded for those who exit after two years (four semesters) of the 4 year Multidisciplinary UG programme programme (Programme duration: First two years or four semesters of the UG programme) and earn min. 80 credits

c) **Level 5.5**

UGC: Bachelor's Degree (Programme duration: Three years or six semesters): min. 120 credits

In case of Engineering and Technology Programme regulated by AICTE, it will be 3-Years Bachelor's degree in Vocation (B.Voc.)

d) **Level 6.0**

4
160
i. UGC: Bachelor's degree 'with honors' after a 4-year (eight semesters) programme; min. 160 credits.

ii. UGC: Bachelor's degree 'with research' after a 4-year (eight semesters) programme if the student completes a rigorous research project in her/his major area(s) of study as specified by the HEI; min. 160 credits.

iii. AICTE: 4-Years (eight semesters) Bachelor's degree (B.E./ B.Tech.) in Engineering/ Technology; min. 160 credits.

Thus, the structure of the 4-year multidisciplinary bachelor's degree programme allows the opportunity to experience the full range of holistic and multidisciplinary education in addition to a focus on the chosen major and minors as per the choices of the student and the feasibility of exploring learning in different institutions.

1.2 Structure of 1 or 2-Year and 5-Year Integrated PG Multidisciplinary Programme with Multiple Entry and Exit Options

In addition to 4-year multidisciplinary degree programme, the NEP 2020 also envisages flexibility in the design and duration of Post-Graduate Diploma (PGD) and Master's degree programmes.

a. **Post-Graduate Diploma (PGD):** Programme duration- One year (2 semesters) after any bachelor's degree, min. 40 credits

3
160
i. UGC: 1-Year (2 semesters) Post-Graduate Diploma (PGD) after 3-years Bachelor's degree: **Level 6.0**

2
160
ii. UGC: 1-Year (2 semesters) PGD after 4 year Bachelor's degree (Honors/Research): **Level 6.5**

2
160
iii. AICTE: 1-Year (2 semesters) PGD after 4 year Bachelor's degree (Engg.): **Level 6.5**

b. **Master's Degree:**

i. UGC: 2-Years (four semesters) Master's Degree after obtaining a 3-years Bachelor's degree, Min. 40 credits/ year, second year devoted entirely for research, PG – 2nd year: **Level 6.5**

OR

1-Year (two semesters) Master's Degree after obtaining a 4-year Bachelor's degree (Honors/Research): Min. 40 credits, **Level 6.5**

A 5-year Integrated Bachelor's and Master's program shall have minimum of 200 credits. The exact number of credits for different UG and PG programs will be determined by the individual Universities but shall lie within the stated limits.

- ii. AICTE: 2-Years (four semesters) Master's Degree ME/ M.Tech. after obtaining a 4 year Bachelor's degree in Engg. and Tech.), Min. 40 credits/year PG 1st yr (Engg.): **Level 6.5**; PG- 2nd (Engg.): **Level 7.0**

Learner after completing first year of M.Tech. program, shall be eligible for an M.Voc. degree, upon exit. Having M.Voc. degree, however, is not mandatory for entry into an M.Tech. program.

- c. **Level 8** represents Ph.D. Research Degree.

1.3 Codes and Levels of Courses for UG, PG and Ph.D. Programme

As per UGC draft on 'Curricular Framework and Credit System for the Four-Year Undergraduate Programme', Courses in four-Year Undergraduate Programme are structured in the form of codes, which are segregated based on learning outcomes, level of difficulty and academic rigor.

- i. Courses in the 0-99 code will be the pre-requisite courses required to be undertaken by the student. It will be an introductory course which will be a pass or fail course with no credits. Students will have to clear these courses in order to move ahead in their programme. These will include basic courses which will prepare the students for the advanced subjects that will be taught to them in the future. These courses will replace the existing informal way of offering bridge courses based on gap analysis.
- ii. 100-199 codes will include foundational courses that will make students gain basic knowledge of subjects and help them decide the subject or discipline of interest. These courses may also be prerequisites for courses in the 'major' subject. These courses will equip the student with the foundational theories, concepts,

perspectives, principles, methods, and procedures of critical thinking to provide a broad basis for taking up more advanced courses.

- iii. 200-299 codes will include intermediate-level courses including subject-specific courses intended to meet the credit requirements for ‘minor’ or ‘major’ areas of learning. These courses can be prerequisite courses for advanced level major courses.
- iv. 300-399 codes will have higher-level courses which are required for majoring in a disciplinary/interdisciplinary area of study for a degree.
- v. 400-499 codes will include the advanced courses. These would include taught courses with practicum, seminar-based course, term papers, research methodology, advanced laboratory experiments/software training, research projects, hands-on-training, internship / apprenticeship projects at the under-graduate level or First year post-graduate theoretical and practical courses.
- vi. 500-599 codes will include the courses at first year Master’s degree level for the 2-year Master’s degree programme.
- vii. 600-699 codes will be the courses for the second year of a 2-year Master’s or 1-year Master’s degree programme,
- viii. Codes 700-799 and above will include courses for doctoral students.

1.4 Rationalization of Existing Programmes/Courses in Accordance with NEP-2020, and Preparation of the Plan for Transition from Pre to Post NEP-2020 with Effect from Academic Year (AY) 2022-23 OR 2023-24

(a) University and Colleges Offering PG Programme

Transformation of two-year PG programme either to a two-year PG programme with entry and exit options or to five year Integrated PG programme with multiple entry and exit options will have to be carried out in phase wise manner.

Complete conversion of two-year PG programme to 5-year Integrated PG programme will require at least three years: from 2022-23 to 2025-26. With an understanding that four-year Degree programme is being launched in some Central Universities or state universities in other states of India in the AY 2021-22, these students after successful completion of four-year degree course will be allowed to join second year of two year PG programme or final year of five year integrated PG programme in 2025-26.

Current UG Degree holders will join as usual to first year of the PG Programme. In any case, the credits will be deposited in the ABC for credit mobility. Meanwhile the ABC registered HEIs should initiate framing MoUs with other registered HEIs for Credit Transfer arrangements, recognition of different course modules under the Programme offered by HEIs and sharing of resources for Multidisciplinary Teaching, Learning and Evaluation.

(b) Autonomous Colleges

The Autonomous Colleges should start undertaking phase wise conversion of three- year degree programme to -

- i. four-year degree programme with honors,
- ii. four-year degree programme with research, if the student completes a rigorous research project in their major areas of study

Currently (2022-23) there will be no exit option, with a certificate or a diploma, during the first two years viz. 2022-24. The current exit option after three years, with a B.A./B.Sc./ B.Com./ B.B.S. degree in the relevant subject will continue. The exit options will be introduced from 2024 onwards with due changes in programme.

Since NEP 2020 is promoting the concept of interdisciplinary exchange of knowledge and research themes and thereby abolishing the compartmentalization of Education, different Departments in Universities and Colleges, with common areas of academic and research themes, may come together to offer disciplinary courses and electives in Major/ Core domain as well as in multidisciplinary domain. This will provide good eco-system for the transition from the conventional three year degree programme to the Multidisciplinary Four-Year Degree and Five-Year Integrated PG Programme in line with NEP-2020.

1.5 Admission Path at different Levels for Four-year Multidisciplinary Degree Programme

a. First Year Entry 1, Level 4.5

Students who have successfully completed Grade 12 School Leaving Certificate (in 5+3+3+4) or equivalent shall be eligible for admission to a first-year degree programme. The entry requirement for Level 4.5 is Secondary School Leaving

Certificate obtained after the successful completion of Grade 12 or **Level 4**. A programme of study leading to entry into the first year of the bachelor's degree is open to those who have met the entrance requirements, including specified levels of attainment at the secondary level of education specified in the programme admission regulations of respective University. Admission to the bachelor's degree programme of study is based on the evaluation of documentary evidence (including the academic record) of the applicant's ability to undertake and complete a Bachelor's degree programme. The admission shall be made on merit on the basis of criteria notified by the university, keeping in view the guidelines/norms in this regard issued by the UGC and other statutory bodies concerned and taking into account the reservation policy as and when issued by the Government of Maharashtra from time to time.

In order to maintain uniform standards for teacher education (four year B.Ed. Programme), the admission to pre-service teacher preparation programmes shall be through suitable subject and aptitude tests conducted by the National Testing Agency, and shall be standardized keeping in view the linguistic and cultural diversity of the country.

b. In-take Capacity and Student Enrolment at Level 4.5

Overall intake capacity shall be defined in accordance with the academic and physical facilities available keeping in mind the norms pertaining to the student-teacher ratio, the teaching-non-teaching staff ratio, laboratory, library, teaching-learning tools and permitted batch size for the courses (theory/ Practical) as decided by Academic Council of respective Universities. The in-take capacity shall be determined at least three months in advance by the university/institution through its academic bodies in accordance with the guidelines/norms in this regard issued by the UGC and other statutory bodies concerned so that the same could be suitably incorporated in the admission brochure for the information of all concerned and uploaded on the institutional website. Reservation for admissions will have to be executed as per Government of Maharashtra Norms. Besides defining titles for common fees for the programme, the fee structure needs to be defined for individual courses which will enable the mechanism for working out

the overall fees structure based on the combinations of courses selected by the students for the particular programme.

c. **2nd Year Entry 2 Level 5.0**

The entry requirement for Level 6 is a certificate obtained after completing the first year (two semesters) of the undergraduate programme. A programme of study leading to the second year of the bachelor's degree is open to those who have met the entrance requirements, including specified levels of attainment, in the programme admission regulations. Admission to a programme of study is based on the evaluation of documentary evidence (including the academic record) of the applicant's ability to undertake and complete a bachelor's degree programme.

d. **3rd Year Entry 3 Level 5.5**

The entry requirement for Level 5.5 is a diploma obtained after completing two years (four semesters) of the undergraduate programme. A programme of study leading to the bachelor's degree is open to those who have met the entrance requirements, including specified levels of attainment, in the programme admission regulations. Admission to a programme of study is based on the evaluation of documentary evidence (including the academic record) of the applicant's ability to undertake and complete a bachelor's degree programme.

e. **4th Year Entry 4 Level 6**

An individual seeking admission to a Bachelor's degree (Honors) and Bachelor's degree (Research) (Level 6) in a specified field of learning would normally have completed all requirements of the relevant three-year bachelor degree (Level 5.5). After completing the requirements of a three year Bachelor's degree, candidates who meet the minimum CGPA of 7.5 or the minimum eligibility criteria decided by the University Academic Council shall be allowed to continue studies in the fourth year of the undergraduate programme to pursue and complete the Bachelor's degree with Research.

f. **Establishing Entry Eligibility through Credit Framework**

The credit points earned and accumulated can be used to determine the eligibility

for taking admission in various programs at multiple levels, subject to fulfillment of the broad principles laid down under NCrF (Section 3.4.2. and 3.4.3. Page No. 68-70 of High-Level Inter-Ministerial Committee Report on National Credit Framework (Sept. 2022)) and the acceptance of these credit points by the concerned agencies. For example, the HEI providing the credits and the HEI accepting the credits are required to be in mutual agreement while transferring the credits, without the need for further equivalence certificate for each student. Since a similar program being offered by two different HEIs may have variation, it is expected that the HEIs permitting transfer of credits will have mutual understanding. The accepting HEIs, if they so desire, may also supplement their program with a bridge course.

1.6 Master's Programme Admission Path

- Students shall be admitted to a two-year programme with the second year devoted entirely to research for those who have completed the three-year Bachelor's programme.
- Students completing a four-year bachelor's programme with Honors/Research, may be admitted to a one-year Master's programme,

The admission requirements for Entry 5, level 6.5 are as given below:

- A four year Bachelor's Degree (Honors/Research) for the one-year/two-semester Master's degree programme.
- A three year Bachelor's Degree for the two-year/four-semester Master's degree programme with exit option after successful completion of first year of PG Programme.
- A three year Bachelor's Degree for the one-year/two-semester Post-Graduate Diploma programme.

A programme of study leading to the Master's degree and Post-Graduate Diploma (PGD) is open to those who have met the entrance requirements, including specified levels of attainment, in the programme admission regulations. Admission to a programme of study is based on the evaluation of documentary evidence (including the academic record) of the applicant's ability to undertake postgraduate study in a specialized field of enquiry.

Students, who wish to pursue a Master's degree in a subject other than the major/core subject studied by him/her in four year multidisciplinary UG programme, must take additional course/s of equivalent credits of that subject, which are not pursued in the previously completed UG programme for the purpose of admission eligibility.

1.7 Lateral Entry/ Re-entry at Higher Levels after Exit from Lower Levels of Four Year Multidisciplinary UG Degree Programme

Students who leave with a Certification, Diploma, or a Basic Bachelor's Degree will be eligible to re-enter the programme at the exit level to complete or progress to the next level through lateral entry mode. Depending upon the academic and physical facilities available, the HEIs may earmark specific seats/ intake for lateral entry in to the second year/ third year/ fourth year of a four year multidisciplinary UG degree programme as approved by PSSB/ Govt of Maharashtra/ statutory council of affiliating University plus any consequential vacancies caused by exits to an ongoing programme (four-year Degree Programme and Integrated Master's or second year Master's) plus vacancies created due to % failure in previous year. Lateral entry is open to those students, if he/she has either

- a. successfully completed the first year/second year/third year of the particular four year multidisciplinary degree programme in any ABC registered HEI with valid credits in ABC and re-entering into second year/third year/fourth year, respectively of the same four year degree programme of any ABC registered HEI, within stipulated/ permissible period of years as decided by Statutory Councils of that HEI

OR

- b. already successfully completed a multidisciplinary four-year first-degree programme and is desirous of and academically capable of pursuing another multidisciplinary four year first-degree programme in an allied subject.

A student will be allowed to enter/re-enter only at the odd semester. Re-entry at various levels for lateral entrants in academic programmes should be based on the earned and valid credits as deposited and accumulated in Academic Bank of Credits (ABC) through Registered Higher Education Institutions (RHEI) and proficiency test records. Hence, the University/ College will have to work out prerequisites and entry norms for lateral admissions such as previous year CGPA, a written test and/or interview, requirement of bridge courses etc. In case the

lateral entrant is desirous of joining to four year degree programme different from his/her earlier Programme (i.e. with different combinations of Major and Minor), then the BoS of that HEI should decide the requirements of bridge courses, prerequisite courses and additional credit requirements for new combinations of Major and Minor which the lateral entrant must fulfill for the purpose of joining new Programme. However, in terms of the admission eligibility requirements, the student must belong to the same faculty/ discipline in terms of Major Subject i.e., the Major subject of his/her earlier Programme and the Major subject of new Programme for which he/she is seeking admission must be from the same faculty/discipline. Reservation for lateral entry will have to be executed as per Government of Maharashtra Norms. Lateral entry for Diploma Engineering/ Pharmacy holders (in the relevant subject) is already allowed upto 10% of the original intake plus consequential vacancies into second year of Integrated Programme of Engineering and Technology/ Pharmacy (M.Tech. / M.Pharm.) or Four Year Degree Programme in Engineering and Technology/ Pharmacy as per the norms/ regulations of DTE, Government of Maharashtra.

The credit transfer mechanism through CBCS and ABC will also enable a student to enter, exit and re-enter the educational ecosystem both general and vocational at any point of time. In such cases, NCrF proposes that due weightage be given to the work experience gained or any other training undertaken by the learner, in offline or online mode, subject to assessment. The proposed equivalence by virtue of this enables a learner (whether from a general education background or from a vocational education and training/ skilling background) to accumulate necessary credits that will allow him/her to re-enter the mainstream education.

LCR Bill

1.8 Common University Entrance Test (CUET) as basis for Admission Path for UG and PG Programmes across Country and CET (Common Entrance Test) for Admission Path across Maharashtra State

Ministry of Education (MoE), Government of India (GOI) has established the National Testing Agency (NTA) as an independent, autonomous, and self-sustained premier testing organization under the Societies Registration Act (1860) for conducting efficient, transparent and international standards tests in order to assess the competency of

candidates for admissions to HEIs. The NTA has been assigned the task of conducting the Common University Entrance Test (CUET) for Post Graduate (PG) and Undergraduate (UG) programmes, for admission to different programmes of the participating Central/ State Universities. The objective is to provide a single window opportunity to the students to seek admission in these participating Universities / Institute(s) across the country. NTA engages with its stakeholders viz. students, parents, teachers, experts, and partner institutions on a regular basis in order to practice the values of quality, efficiency, effectiveness, equity, and security of assessments.

Common University Entrance Test (CUET) was introduced for admission into UG/ PG programmes in Central and participating State Universities with effect from the academic session 2022-23. It is expected that the CUET will provide a common platform and equal opportunities to candidates across the country, especially those from North-East and from rural and other remote areas and help to establish better connect with the Universities. A single Examination will enable the Candidates to cover a wide outreach and be part of the admissions process to various Central as well as participating State Universities.

State Universities may utilize normalized scores and conduct their individual counselling on the basis of the score card of CUET (UG and PG) provided by the NTA. Based on normalized scores, the Merit list will be prepared by participating Universities/ organizations for admission to various UG and PG programme.

A similar state level mechanism can be thought of by Government of Maharashtra as additional supporting system for admission to multidisciplinary four year Degree and five year integrated PG Programme. State CET Cell (State Common Entrance Test Cell) of Government of Maharashtra is already involved for conducting Entrance Test for admission to various UG and PG professional programmes across Maharashtra State Colleges and Universities. The Government of Maharashtra and statutory bodies of Universities should decide on extending the jurisdiction of State CET Cell for working out the state level system for admission to various nonprofessional multidisciplinary four year Degree and five year integrated PG Programme as additional supporting mechanism to CUET (UG and PG).

Chapter II

**Credit Structures and Outcome based
Curriculum Development for
Multidisciplinary Four Year Degree and
Five Year Integrated PG Programmes
as per NHEQF Guidelines**

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Credit Structures and Outcome based Curriculum Development for Multidisciplinary Four Year Degree and Five Year Integrated PG Programmes as per NHEQF Guidelines

The NEP 2020 envisages imaginative and flexible curricular structures with multiple entry and exit options, to enable the creative combinations of disciplinary areas for study in multidisciplinary contexts (including vocational courses), thus, removing the currently prevalent rigid boundaries and creating new possibilities for life-long learning. The National higher education qualification framework (NHEQF) has made provisions for flexibility and innovation in

- i) programme design and syllabi development,
- ii) teaching-learning process,
- iii) assessment of students' learning levels, and
- iv) periodic programme reviews within a broad framework of agreed expected programme/course learning outcomes and academic standard. Thus, it is essential to design the multidisciplinary curriculum for graduate-level, master's, and doctoral programmes of study in multidisciplinary universities, while providing rigorous research-based specialization, in line with NHEQF guidelines.

The National Credit Framework (NCF) relies on a unified approach across the education and skilling frameworks enabling the education and skilling ecosystem in implementing a comprehensive credit-based framework. While catering to multi-disciplinarity and holistic education across sciences, social sciences, arts, humanities and sports, NCF enables multiple entry - multiple exit pathways in general and vocational education; ensures flexibility for students to choose their learning trajectories and career choices, including option for mid-way course correction or modification, as per their talents and interests. For effective implementation of multidisciplinary four-year degree programme, the curriculum is required to be more flexible, with greater choices of credits across different streams. Various Combinations of Major / Minor Subjects are required to be identified and defined to realize the 'unique blend' of research in science and technology, commerce and management, the humanities and arts and other interdisciplinary studies. A major subject/ core subject is the

subject that represents the main focus of a degree. The degree in Major is permitted if the student opts and accrues courses with minimum of 50% credits corresponding to the Major. A minor is a secondary subject that may complement the major or can have interdisciplinary bandwidth. Minors are a bunch of courses and can be related or unrelated to the major. A university must declare the minors and make it available for the students to choose from. In addition to major and minor courses, the flexible and innovative curricula of all HEIs shall include credit-based courses on ability enhancement, environmental education, Indian Knowledge System (IKS), value-based education and professional ethics, skill based and vocational courses, co-curricular courses, projects in the areas of community engagement and service, and internships. As part of a holistic education, students at all HEIs will be provided with opportunities for internships with local industries, businesses, banks, artists, crafts persons, and so on, as well as research internships with faculty and researchers at their own or other HEIs / research institutions, so that students may actively engage with the practical side of their learning and, as a byproduct, further improve their employability.

2.1 Distribution of Credits across Multidisciplinary Four Year Degree and Five Year Integrated PG Programmes

(a) Four Year Multidisciplinary Degree Programme

For the four-year multidisciplinary bachelor degree programme, the distribution of credits will be as follows:

- Disciplinary/interdisciplinary major (minimum of 40-56 credits)
- Disciplinary/interdisciplinary minor (maximum of 20-28 credits)
- Skill based/Vocational studies (12-18 credits)
- Field projects/internship/apprenticeship/community engagement and service (24- 32 credits) with maximum six credits per Semester
- Remaining credits covering Generic or open electives, Ability enhancement course (AEC) including Languages and Environmental Studies, Indian Knowledge System (IKS), Value-based education, Life Skills and Professional Ethics, Co-curricular courses such as Sports and Culture, NSS/NCC etc.

Four-year multidisciplinary degree programme with Honors/ Specialization Degree will have Internship and Core /Major Courses with minimum of 20 credits per Semester in the Fourth Year.

Four-year multidisciplinary degree programme with Research will have Research Projects, Seminar, Dissertation and Internship with minimum of 20 credits per Sem. in the Fourth Year.

Every four year degree multidisciplinary program curriculum design must specify prerequisite courses, mandatory courses, credit distribution among core/ major, optional core, subject-specific and open-electives and it should also specify how many and which credits can be transferred and other eligibility criteria. Every course must specify the requirement of pre-requisites and number of credits.

(b) For the Master's Programmes, the Universities will have the flexibility to offer different designs:

- i) A two-year programme with the second year devoted entirely to research for those who have completed the three-year Bachelor's programme;
- ii) A one-year Master's programme for students who are completing a four-year Bachelor's programme with Research;
- iii) A one-year/two-semester Post-Graduate Diploma programme builds on a Bachelor's degree and requires min. of 40 credits for individuals who have completed a Bachelor's degree
- iv) An integrated five-year Master's programme with multiple entry and exit options at different levels e.g., the student may exit at the end of the third year with a Bachelor's degree, with an entry to a Master's programme in another HEI.

The Overall Structure for the 5-Year Integrated PG Programme with the broad-based multidisciplinary curriculum will be as follows:

- i) core component consisting of the major discipline and a minor/allied discipline contributing to 60-70%
- ii) a multidisciplinary component at different levels (in line with distribution of credits for four year multidisciplinary degree programme) accounting for the remaining 30-40% of the credits
- iii) Multiple entries and exits within a program: Student will earn minimum of 20 credits per semester and minimum of 40 credits per year in every program. Students can have multiple entry and exit options in Five-Years Integrated Master's Degree programme with exit at the end of the first year with Certificate, exit at the

end of second year with Diploma, exit at the end of third year with a Bachelor's degree and exit at the end of the fourth year with a Bachelor's Honors/ Research degree.

iv) Students who leave with a Certification, Diploma, a Basic Bachelor's Degree or a Bachelor's Honors/ Research degree will be eligible to re-enter the 5-year Integrated PG Programme at the exit level to complete or progress to the next level.

Master's and doctoral programmes, while providing rigorous research-based specialization, should also provide opportunities for multidisciplinary work, in academia, government, research institutions, and industry.

2.2 Disciplinary Major/Core-Mandatory and Electives and Disciplinary/ Interdisciplinary Minor

Students must select a 'major subject/ discipline' and a 'minor subject/discipline' from the lists of various course combinations and options provided by the HEI. The Courses of study indicate pursuance of study in a particular discipline/faculty. Every discipline/faculty shall offer different categories of subjects of study, viz. Department/Subject Specific Core courses (DSCs) or School Specific Cores (SSC) or Faculty Specific Cores (FSC), Minor Subject courses and different categories of courses as Electives viz.. Discipline/ Department/Subject Specific Electives (DSE) or School Specific Elective (SSE) or Faculty Specific Electives (FSE), and Generic/ Open Electives (GEs or OEs). Various combinations of Major / Minor can be worked out based on Baskets of courses to be offered to the students by the University/ Colleges.

a) Department/ Subject Specific Core or Major (DSC)

Department/Subject Specific Core (DSC) is a single discipline course of study or specific subject course of study, which should be pursued by a student as a mandatory requirement of his/her programme of study. DSCs shall be the core credit courses of that particular Subject which will be appropriately graded and arranged across the semesters of study, being undertaken by the student, with multiple exit options as per NEP 2020. The DSCs specified in the framework would be identified by the concerned Department/ School of College/ University as core/ major courses to be taught in a Programme.

For example, for the award of single subject specific degree, such as four year B.A. (Honors/ Research)-Philosophy, B.A. (Honors/ Research)-History, B.Com. (Honors/ Research), B.Sc. (Honors/ Research)- Mathematics, B.Sc. (Honors/Research) Chemistry, B.A. (Honors/ Research)- Music and similar such programmes, DSCs shall be the core courses of Philosophy, History, Commerce, Mathematics, Chemistry and Music subjects respectively.

b) School Specific Core/ Major (SSC)

School Specific Cores (SSC) are more relevant to Honors degree programme in a 'Field of Multidisciplinary courses of Study' (choice of interrelated subjects rather than a single subject major) such as B.Sc. (Honors)- Life Sciences, B.Sc. (Honors)- Mathematical Sciences, B.A. (Honors)-Social Sciences, B.A. (Honors)- Performing Arts. Thus, the SSCs shall comprise of core/major credit courses of more than one but interrelated subjects. For example, in a B.Sc. (Honors) Life Sciences programme, the student shall study credit courses of following disciplines: Botany, Zoology and Biochemistry/ Microbiology. SSC 1 may be of Discipline A1 (Botany), SSC 2 may be of Discipline B1 (Zoology) and SSC 3 may be of Discipline C1 (Biochemistry/ Microbiology). However, the fourth year of such honors/research degree programme shall be devoted to the study of only one subject and hence the SSC courses in the VII and VIII semesters shall be of Subject A/B/C and not a combination of these three subjects. Similarly, B.A. (Honors/ Research)- Performing Arts will involve combinations of Theatre Arts, Music and Dance for the first three years and specific core subject in the final year. B.A. (Honors/ Research)- Social Sciences will involve combinations of History, Sociology and Philosophy for first three years and specific core subject in the final year.

c) Faculty/Discipline Specific Core/ Major (FSC)

Faculty/Discipline Specific Cores (FSC) permits choice of two different subjects as core /major for first three years. These subjects are not necessarily interrelated like School Specific Core (SSC) but they belong to one faculty/Discipline. For example: Physics and Chemistry in Science Faculty;

Sociology and Marathi in Humanity and Arts faculty etc. However, the fourth year of such honors/research degree programme shall be devoted to the study of only one subject out of the two subjects chosen by the student. Thus, the first subject (the one which is continued in final year) becomes major subject under FSC and the second subject (the one which is discontinued in final year) becomes auxiliary/ supplementary subject.

The choice of Department/Subject Specific Core (DSC) as Major is built on intensive specializations in Multidisciplinary domain while the choice of SSC as Major is based on School concept (i.e., interdisciplinary studies/ research in multidisciplinary domain). Thus, the choice of SSC as Major mandatorily requires choosing three inter-related subjects in that faculty/ discipline. On the other hand, FSC permits choosing any two subjects from that faculty/ Discipline which according to the student fulfills his/ her career aspirations. For example, a student, aspiring for career in Computational Chemistry, will select Chemistry as a major subject and Computer Sciences (or even Mathematics) as auxiliary/ supplementary subject.

d) Department/Subject Specific Electives (DSE), School Specific Elective (SSE) and Faculty Specific Electives (FSE)

There shall be a pool/ basket of DSEs/ SSEs/FSEs from which a student may choose a course of study. Thus, the Department/Subject Specific Electives (DSEs) shall be a pool/ basket of credit courses of that particular department/subject (single discipline course of study or specific subject course). The DSEs specified in the framework should be identified by the concerned Department as elective courses to be taught in a Programme. For example, to pursue B.Sc. (Honors/ Research) Physics, DSEs chosen should be from a pool/ basket of DSEs of Physics.

School Specific Elective (SSE) shall be a pool/ basket of credit courses from related disciplines (e.g., social sciences, life sciences, performing arts) for multidisciplinary programme of study. For example, to pursue B.Sc. (Honors) Life Sciences programme, the SSEs chosen should be a pool/ basket of courses of respective DSEs of Botany, Zoology and Biochemistry/ Microbiology/ Biophysics (the core subjects for this programme of study). However, to

pursue Honors/Research degree programme such as B.Sc. (Honors/ Research) Life Science, B.A. (Honors/ Research) Social Sciences/Humanities, B.A. (Honors/ Research)- Performing Arts, in the fourth year of such honors/research degree programme in the VII and VIII semesters, the student shall be required to choose DSEs from any one of the subject courses A/B/C and not a combination of these three subjects.

Faculty Specific Electives (FSE) shall be a pool/ basket of credit courses of respective DSEs (i.e., DSEs of two subjects chosen under FSC) from concerned faculty (Science, Engineering, Humanities and Arts, Commerce, interdisciplinary etc.). However, the fourth year of such honors/research degree programme shall be devoted to the study of DSEs of only one subject out of the two subjects chosen by the student.

e) Minor Courses

Students are expected to gain in-depth multi-/ inter-disciplinary understanding through theoretical and practical experiences, as well as an adequate knowledge base through the choice of minor subject and discipline. A list of minors could be drawn out from pool/ basket of courses by bunching up to 6-8 courses of the particular subject/s of roughly two to four credits each leading to a Minor. Minors should be used to bring focus on multi-disciplinary education as envisaged in the NEP 2020. The student choosing Department/ Subject Specific core (DSC) may choose minors from faculty/discipline unrelated to the major but something that complements the major. For example, students opting for Botany as DSC may choose Horticulture/ Crop Science as elective/ minor. However, students choosing School Specific and Faculty Specific Major (SSC and FSC) will have to compulsorily choose a Minor from other faculty/discipline.

2.3 Award of Major and Minor Degree in Four Year Multidisciplinary Degree Programme

- a) A student pursuing four-year multidisciplinary UG programme in Department/Subject Specific Core (DSC) (Core/ Major Subject) shall be awarded an appropriate Honors/ Research degree with Major in the Subject on

completion of VIII Semester, if he/she secures in that subject (or that DSC) at least 50% of the total credits for that programme. He/she shall thus study specific number of DSCs and DSEs in that subject in eight semesters so as to cover at least 50% of the total credits. In case of Research Degree, he/she shall pursue research project and write dissertation in that Major in the VII and VIII semesters. Thus, a student pursuing four-year multidisciplinary UG programme in Physics as DSC, covering at least 50% of the total credits of the Programme in Physics and undertaking research project in Physics in the VII and VIII semesters, shall be awarded B.Sc. (Research) (Physics Major) degree on successful completion of the four year Multidisciplinary Degree Programme with minimum of 160 credits.

b) A student pursuing four-year undergraduate programme in School Specific Core/ Major (SSC) as Core (e.g., B.A. Social Sciences, B.Sc. Life Sciences, B.Sc. Physical Sciences, B.Sc. Mathematical Sciences, B.Com., B.A. Performing Arts and such other programmes) shall be awarded Honors/ Research degree with SSC-DSC (only subject continued in final year out of three SSC subjects) on completion of VIII Semester, if he/she secures in SSC at least 50% credits and in DSC at least 25% out of the total credits for that programme. He/she shall thus study specific number of SSCs and SSEs (i.e., DSCs and DSEs of the three subjects under SSC) in eight semesters so as to cover at least 50% of the total credits. He/she has to pursue studies in one DSC out of the three SSC subjects in the fourth year (Sem VII and VIII) and should secure at least 25% of the total credits in that DSC over a period of the four years. For instance, a student who pursues four-year B.Sc. (Honors) in Life Sciences (Biochemistry, Biotechnology and Microbiology) and studies Microbiology in fourth year, shall be eligible for the award of B.Sc. (Honors) [Life Sciences-Microbiology Major] degree on successful completion of four year Multidisciplinary Degree Programme with minimum of 160 credits, if he/she earns minimum of 50% credits in Life Sciences and minimum of 25% credits in Microbiology alone. If he/ she undertakes research project in that DSC (e.g., Microbiology in the above example) in the VII and VIII semesters, then a Research Degree will be awarded.

If the student wishes to possess another Honors/ Research degree in the second SSC subject studied (e.g., Biochemistry or Biotechnology in above example), he/she must repeat the fourth year (VII and VIII semesters) with the second subject as DSC. Thus, to be eligible for the award of second degree of B.Sc. (Honors/ Research) [Life Sciences-Biochemistry Major], the student must repeat the fourth year (VII and VIII semesters) with Biochemistry as DSC and secure minimum of 25% credits of the total Programme Credits in Biochemistry alone.

c) A student pursuing four-year undergraduate programme in Faculty/Discipline Specific Cores (FSC) as Core (e.g. For example: Zoology and Mathematics from Science Faculty; Economics and Hindi from Humanity and Arts faculty etc. and such other combinations belonging to the same faculty) shall be awarded Honors/ Research degree with FSC-DSC (the subject continued in final year out of the two FSC subjects) on completion of VIII Semester, if he/she secures in FSC at least 50% credits and in DSC at least 30% out of the total credits for that programme. He/she shall thus study specific number of FSCs and FSEs in eight semesters (i.e., DSCs and DSEs of the two subjects in six semesters and DSCs and DSEs of one subject in remaining two semesters) so as to cover at least 50% of the total credits. He/she has to pursue studies in one DSC out of the two FSC subjects in fourth year (Sem VII and VIII) and should secure at least 30% of the total credits in that DSC over four years. For instance, a student who pursues four-year B.Sc. (Honors) with Physics as Major (i.e., he/she continues studies of Physics in fourth year) and Chemistry as Supplementary/ Auxiliary subject (i.e., he/she discontinues studies of Chemistry in fourth year), shall be eligible for the award of B.Sc. (Honors) [Physics- Major and Chemistry- Auxiliary] degree on successful completion of four year Multidisciplinary Degree Programme with minimum of 160 credits, if he/she earns minimum of 50% credits in Physics and Chemistry subjects together and minimum of 30% credits in Physics alone. If he/ she undertakes research project in that DSC (e.g., Physics in above case) in the VII and VIII semesters, then a Research Degree will be awarded.

If the student wishes to possess another Honors/ Research degree in the second FSC subject studied (e.g., Chemistry in above example), he/she must repeat the fourth year (VII and VIII semesters) with the second subject as DSC. Thus, to be eligible for the award of second degree of B.Sc. (Honors/ Research) [Physics and Chemistry-Major], the student must repeat the fourth year (VII and VIII semesters) with Chemistry as DSC and secure minimum of 30% credits of the total Programme Credits in Chemistry alone.

- d) A student may be awarded a Minor Degree under four year multidisciplinary degree programme. The student is eligible for the award of Minor Degree on successful completion of four year Multidisciplinary Degree Programme with minimum of 160 credits, if he/she earns 20-28 credits in that Minor Subject. Award of Minor Degree is independent of award of Major Degree (i.e., whether the student is pursuing DSC/SSC/FSC as core/ Major).

2.4 Generic/ Open Electives (GE or OE) and Baskets of Elective Courses in various Faculties/ Disciplines

Generic or open Electives shall be a pool/ basket of courses which is meant to provide multidisciplinary or interdisciplinary education to students. GEs or OEs shall consist of a pool/ basket of courses offered by the various departments under different discipline/faculty of study, in groups of odd and even semesters, from which a student can choose the appropriate GE/OE (excluding the GEs offered by the parent DSC/SSC/FSC Departments) which fulfills his/her career aspirations. Students can choose GE or OE subject combinations across the streams/ disciplines/ faculties. For example, a student who desires to make Entrepreneurship as a part of his career, can pick the appropriate combination of courses of Generic Electives, Skill and Vocational Courses, Value Education Courses, and Internship /Apprenticeship which shall be offered in the form of various modules as specified in the scheme of studies.

In case a student opts for DSEs beyond his/her subject/ discipline/ faculty (or school) specific course(s) of study, such DSEs shall be treated as GEs for that student.

As per the AICTE's Approval Process Handbook-2020-21; Chapter VII- clause 7.3.2 (Page 99-101), all programmes of Engineering and Technology shall offer Elective Courses in the Emerging Areas viz., Artificial Intelligence (AI), Internet of Things

(IoT), Blockchain, Robotics, Quantum Computing, Data Sciences, Cyber Security, 3D Printing and Design, Augmented Reality/ Virtual Reality (AR/VR), as specified in Annexure 1 of the Approval Process Handbook.

The GEs /OEs specified in the framework will be identified by the concerned Department/ School of the University/ College as GEs/OEs to be taught in a Programme and will be provided in the form of Basket of Elective Courses in Science Faculty, Basket of Elective Courses in Commerce, Liberal Arts basket, Basket of Electives/ Ability Enhancement Courses (AEC) in Language and Literature, Basket of Elective Courses in Education, Physical Education and Special Education, Basket of Elective Courses in Fine and Visual Arts, Basket of Courses in Life Skills and Value Education, Basket of Courses in Environmental Studies etc.

For example the Baskets of Elective courses in Science Faculty could comprise of following GEs /OEs identified by the different Departments/ Schools of the University/ College under Science Faculty as GEs/OEs to be taught in a Programme: Entrepreneurship Development, Introduction to Nanoscience and Nanotechnology, Basic knowledge in statistics, Statistical Packages, Astronomy and Astrophysics, Data Science, Earth and Environmental Sciences, Data analytics, Data Mining, Artificial Intelligence, Basic IT/coding skills, Computer Vision and Image Processing, Cyber security and Machine Learning etc. The courses related to Natural Sciences will focus on the development of an understanding of the natural world through application of scientific method characterized by observation, the experimentation, and formulation, testing and establishment of hypotheses based on natural phenomena.

The Baskets of Elective courses in the Social Sciences could include courses related to Anthropology, Communication and Media, Economics, History, Linguistics, Political Science, Psychology, Social Work, Sociology, etc. Social Sciences-related courses would focus on the study of the social behavior of individuals, groups, societies, nations, and states. Students will be introduced to the use of qualitative methods, such as ethnography, oral history, and descriptive analysis of archival materials and artifacts. They will also be introduced to the use of quantitative tools to collect and analyze data associated with social phenomena, and formulation of testable hypotheses based on social phenomena. They will provide opportunities to students to examine relationships among individuals, as well as relationships between groups of people and their societies.

2.5 Ability Enhancement Courses (AEC)-Languages, Literature, and Environmental Studies

AEC courses are the courses based upon the content that leads to knowledge enhancement through various areas of study. They are Language and Literature and Environmental Science and Sustainable Development which will be mandatory for all disciplines. Around 3-5 AEC courses will be offered in the first two years with a total of 6-10 credits. Students will pick up courses from the pool/ basket of Languages, Literature, and Environmental Studies.

As per section 22.4. of NEP 2020, language is inextricably linked to art and culture. Different languages 'see' the world differently, and the structure of a language, therefore, determines a native speaker's perception of experience. Art, in the form of literature, plays, music, film, etc. cannot be fully appreciated without language. The 22 languages of Eighth Schedule of the Constitution of India and dialects should be offered as language courses of 2-3 credits under AEC. Teaching and learning of Indian languages, dialects and comparative literature need to be integrated with school and higher education at every level. Government of Maharashtra, in line with NEP, should support HEIs to undertake the due initiatives for a steady stream of high-quality learning and print materials in Marathi and other languages including textbooks, workbooks, videos, plays, poems, novels, magazines, etc. The Marathi and other Language Departments across state Universities in Maharashtra must come together to provide and disseminate widely the consistent official updates in language vocabularies and dictionaries, so that the most current issues and concepts can be effectively discussed in these languages. Language-teaching should be more experiential, and it must focus on the ability to converse and interact in the language in addition to the teaching of literature, vocabulary, and grammar of the language. Languages must be used more extensively for conversation and for teaching-learning.

In tune with the directions given by NEP for promotion of local languages/ Mother Tongue, the HEIs in Maharashtra will facilitate, wherever possible, the use of Marathi as a medium of instruction in order to increase access and GER. In addition, some programmes can be offered bilingually to promote the strength, usage, and vibrancy of all Indian languages. Creating programmes and degrees in higher education across arts, languages, and humanities, will also come with expanded high-quality opportunities for employment that can make effective use of these qualifications for employment

opportunities in academies, museums including virtual museums/e-museums, art galleries, and heritage sites as well as tourism industry. The Indian and Foreign Language Departments should also offer basic courses to fulfil the language literacy requirements as per the NEP guidelines.

Environmental Studies should be offered as one course under AEC to promote the knowledge of ecosystem that surrounds us and stress the necessity of preservation of the same based on Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). Environment education will include areas such as climate change, pollution, waste management, sanitation, conservation of biological diversity, management of biological resources and biodiversity, forest and wildlife conservation, and sustainable development and living. The Environmental Studies course will also deepen the knowledge and understanding of India's environment in its totality, their interactive processes, and effects on the future quality of people's lives.

Combination of courses on English, Indian language (Marathi/ Hindi/ Sanskrit or other regional languages if offered in that college) (4-6 credits each) and Environment Studies (2 credits) can be taken as an example on AEC courses.

2.6 Professional Ethics, Value Education and Life Skills Courses (EVLSC)

For the progress and development of a civil society, Human Values and Professional Ethics are inevitable. According to the Great Indian Philosopher and Second President of India Bharat Ratna Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, Education is not limited to the imparting of information or training of skills. It has to give the educated a proper sense of values. Thus, HEIs indeed have a responsibility to build a strong society. Therefore, Board of Studies (BoS) of HEIs should develop courses based on high quality practices and environment backed with human values and professional ethics as a part of four year multidisciplinary programmes in HEIs.

Value Education Courses are common pool of courses offered by different faculties/disciplines and are aimed at personality building embedding ethical, cultural and constitutional values promoting critical thinking and scientific temperament. Value-based education is expected to accomplish the development of humanistic, ethical, constitutional, and universal human values (UHV) of truth, righteous conduct, peace, love, nonviolence, scientific temper, citizenship values, and life- skills. Lessons in service and participation in community service programmes could also be included as an

integral part of the holistic education. Global Citizenship Education and education for sustainable development will form an integral part of the curriculum to empower learners to become aware of and understand global and sustainable development issues and to become active promoters of more peaceful, tolerant, inclusive, secure, and sustainable societies.

Courses on Life skills should be added to increase the employability as well as self-esteem of the students. These may include communication and presentation skills, interpersonal skills, time management, team work, flexibility, problem solving, professional skills, decision making skills, leadership abilities and universal values among others.

Combination of courses on Constitution, Gender, Diversity, and Inclusion (2 credits), Ethics and Values (2 credits) Soft Skills (2 credits) can be taken as one example on design of EVLS courses.

2.7 Courses or Modules on Indian Knowledge System (IKS)

As per NEP 2020, India, the world's third-largest economy on a purchasing power parity basis, is a nation with long civilizational history with more than 5000 years of recorded history, abundant cultural and archaeological artifacts, literature, and social and community practices which defines the base for Indian Knowledge. The Board of Studies (BoS), while defining the curriculum for modules/ courses on IKS, should understand that the historical accounts of science in India are woefully inadequate and need to see beyond the colonial lens. India's sciences are based on fundamental principles, axioms, logical inference, and empirical observations and were generally written down in texts called 'sastras and sutras'. Panini's astonishing grammar describes the Sanskrit language in 4000 algebraic rules with a structure that is now compared to a computer program. Kanada's physics has its laws of motion, and it speaks of nine classes of substances, some of which are non-atomic and some atomic. The ancient Ayurveda texts include the notion of germs and inoculation and postulate mind- body connection, which has become an important area of contemporary research. Indian disciplinary knowledge systems include fields as diverse as philosophy, architecture, grammar, mathematics, astronomy, metrics, sociology, economy and politics, ethics, geography, logic, military science, weaponry, agriculture, mining, trade and commerce, metallurgy, mining, shipbuilding, medicine, poetics, biology and veterinary science.

However, while designing the curriculum, it needs to be understood that the IKS is not about merely knowing some ancestral knowledge. If we closely follow the emerging patenting regime and the economic power arising out of a knowledge society, it becomes clear that the IKS is also about protecting received wisdom, economic security, and national pride. The patenting of traditional remedies from developing countries became a global issue after patents were granted for neem. After a legal battle for more than a year, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) has successfully forced the US Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) to revoke a contentious patent it granted two years ago to researchers in the United States on the use of powdered turmeric (*curcuma longa*) for wound healing. Thus, the IKS is a generic phrase that covers practically everything about India. Few courses in Indian Knowledge System, thus, may be offered in each Programme. For example, when the student selects Chemistry/ Material Science/ Metallurgical Engineering as DSC/SSC/FSC, then the courses of these subjects in first/ second year could include modules/ units on Rasa Ratna Samuccaya that details the complex Metallurgy, steel-making and zinc-smelting. The schools of thought, notably, Brahmasutra Bhashya by Sankaracharya, Sri Bhashya by Ramanujacharya, Gita Bhashya by Madhwacharya, Mulamadhyamakarika by Nagarjuna, and Pramana Samucchaya by Dignaga could be included as modules in the curriculum of philosophy. Similarly the various units/ modules of IKS that can be incorporated in different subjects could be as follows: Aryabhatiya and Varahamihira's Brithat Samhita and planetary movements, solar-centric world, shape and diameter of the Earth for Astronomy; Patanjali's Yogasutras for Yoga; Sushruta's Sushruta Samhita, surgical procedures, Health and Well-being, plants and herbs in Ayurveda, Kshemasaarma's Kshemakutulam on Dietetics and Well-being for Pharmacy, Medicine and Surgery; Narada's Shilpasartra, Mayamuni's Mayamata for Architecture and Civil Engineering; Bhoja's Yuktikalpataru for Ship-building; the discovery of zero, decimal system of numerals, and approximation algorithms for computation of Pi, Shulba Sutras on Geometry, Lilavati of Bhaskarcharya a treatise on Mathematics for Mathematics and Computing; Panini's Ashtadhyayi on Sanskrit Grammar Languages and Linguistics; Public Administration including Good Governance and Taxation for Civics and Politics, Sayana's Sayana Bhashya on Vedas, Bharata's Natyasastra for Dance; Kautilya Arthashastra for Economics; Vishnu Sharma's Pancha Tantra Stories for Moral Sciences/ Value Education, Gautama's Nyaya Sutra on Logic and Law, Kanada's Vaisesika

Sutras for Ontology etc. (Reference: 'Introduction to Indian Knowledge System: Concepts and Applications', B. Mahadevan, Vinayak Rajat Bhat, Nagendra Pavana R.N., PHI Learning Private Limited, Delhi, 2022). Alternatively, the IKS can be offered as separate course of two credits. All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), while revising the curricula in 2018, introduced a mandatory non-credit course on Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS) along with courses on the Constitution of India and Environment Science.

In addition, Sanskrit studies can be connected to other contemporary and relevant subjects such as mathematics, astronomy, philosophy, linguistics, dramatics, yoga, etc. for development of Modules in IKS. Departments of Sanskrit should conduct teaching and outstanding interdisciplinary research on Sanskrit and Sanskrit Knowledge Systems across the new multidisciplinary higher education system.

2.8 Cocurricular Courses on Sports, Fine/Applied/Visual Arts and Cultural Activities

Cultural awareness and expression are among the major competencies considered important to develop in children, in order to provide them with a sense of identity and belonging, as well as an appreciation of other cultures and identities. The arts - besides strengthening cultural identity, awareness, and uplifting societies - are well known to enhance cognitive and creative abilities in individuals and increase individual happiness. The happiness/well-being, cognitive development, and cultural identity of individuals are important reasons for Indian arts of all kinds to be offered to students at all levels of education. HEIs should invite outstanding local artists and craftspersons as guest faculty to promote local music, art, languages, and handicraft, and ensure awareness of the culture and local knowledge amongst the students. BoS of HEIs should develop high-quality courses in Translation and Interpretation, Art and Museum Administration, Archaeology, Artifact Conservation, Graphic Design, and Web Design to develop highly qualified individuals to curate and run museums and heritage or tourist sites. This will also vastly strengthen the tourism industry. HEIs should also undertake efforts for conservation of artifacts and development of high-quality materials in Marathi and other Indian languages.

Course components relating to health and wellness seek to promote an optimal state of physical, emotional, intellectual, social, spiritual and environmental wellbeing of a person. Sports and fitness activities will be organized outside the regular institutional

working hours. Yoga education should focus on preparing the students physically and mentally for the integration of their physical, mental, and spiritual faculties, and equipping oneself with basic knowledge about one's personality, to maintain self-discipline and self-control, to learn to handle oneself well in all life situations. Sports and fitness components of the courses should focus on the improvement of physical fitness including the improvement of various components of physique and skills related to fitness like strength, speed, coordination, endurance and flexibility; acquisition of sports skills including motor skills as well as basic movement skills relevant to a particular sport; improvement of tactical abilities; and improvement of mental abilities. Following activities may be undertaken under cocurricular courses to be offered as a part of four-year multidisciplinary degree programme:

- i) Physical Education
- ii) Activities related to Yoga/ Sports and Games
- iii) Involvement in campus publication or other publications
- iv) Publication of articles in newspapers, magazines
- v) Community work such as promotion of values of National Integration, Environment, Human rights and duties, Peace, Civic sense etc.
- vi) A Small project work concerning the achievements of India in different fields
- vii) Evolution of study groups/seminar circles on Indian thoughts and ideas
- viii) Activity exploring different aspects of Indian civilizations
- ix) Involvement in popularization programmes such as scientific temper
- x) Innovative compositions and creations in dance/music/theatre and visual arts.
- xi) Any other activities such as Cultural/ Sports Activities as prescribed by the University.
- xii) Evaluation of Co-curricular and Extension Activities/ Courses shall be as per the procedure prescribed by the university.

2.9 Open and Distance Learning (ODL) and Online Education

Open and Distance Learning (ODL) Mode provides flexible learning opportunities by overcoming separation of teacher and learner using a variety of media, including print, electronic, online and occasional interactive face-to-face meetings with the learners or Learner Support Services to deliver teaching-learning experiences, including practical or work experiences. Online Education mode offers the flexible learning opportunities

using internet, e-Learning Materials and full-fledged programme delivery through the internet using technology assisted mechanism and resources. As per section 12.5 of NEP 2020, the ODL and online education provide a natural path to increase access to quality higher education. Universities/ HEI should leverage the potential of ODL completely through concerted, evidence-based efforts while ensuring the adherence to the clearly articulated standards of quality. It should also ensure that ODL programmes are equivalent to the highest quality in-class programmes available. UGC (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020 laid down the minimum standards of instruction for the grant of degrees at the undergraduate and post graduate levels and grant of post graduate diploma, through Open and Distance Learning (ODL) mode and Online mode.

The UGC (Credit Framework for Online Learning Courses through SWAYAM) Regulations, 2021 permits up to 40 per cent of the total courses being offered in a particular programme in a semester through the online learning courses offered through the SWAYAM (Study Webs of Active–Learning for Young Aspiring Minds) platform. The courses hosted on SWAYAM are in 4 quadrants:

- i) an e-Tutorial containing video and audio content in an organised form, animations, simulations, virtual labs;
- ii) an e-Content containing e-Books or glossary, case study, frequently asked questions transcriptions of video lectures and any other specially prepared reading or study materials that can be downloaded/printed;
- iii) a discussion forum, for discussion of doubts, opinions and comments with course-coordinators and others and
- iv) a self-assessment process that shall contain multiple choice questions, problems, quizzes, assignments and solutions.

The schedule of the SWAYAM based online credit courses shall be aligned with the conventional education semester. The academic council of University will monitor the process of transfer of credit earned by the student at their parent institution. The academic council may allow the concerned Faculty Dean to approve the online credit courses of SWAYAM platform for credit transfer on the recommendation of the Head of the Department and Chairman, Board of Studies.

National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning (NPTEL) (initiated by seven Indian Institutes of Technology (Bombay, Delhi, Kanpur, Kharagpur, Madras, Guwahati

and Roorkee) along with the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore in 2003) provides quality MOOC in all major branches of engineering and physical sciences at the UG and PG levels and management courses at the PG level to anyone interested in learning from the IITs.

In addition, each state University may float individual Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) for enrollment by students outside the University for a fee to be decided by the University. These MOOCs must be developed as per the pedagogy following the four-quadrant approach.

2.10 Vocational Courses and Skill based Education

Vocational and Skill-based courses (VSC) in all disciplines/ faculties are aimed at providing hands-on-training, competencies, proficiency and skills to students. Every discipline may provide skill-based course, some of which may be offered to students of its discipline while the rest can be open to students of all other disciplines'.

The basic purpose of Vocational Courses is to enhance the skill and employability. The details on vocational courses and education are covered as a part of Professional Education in Chapter III while the mode of assessment of VSC are illustrated in Chapter IV. Skill supporting facilities and organizations are presented in Chapter VII. Besides vocational courses, some of the advanced lab courses in Chemistry/ Physics/ Electronics/Nanotechnology or similar skill-based courses under other subjects will also be considered as skill-based courses.

Few examples of Vocational Subjects are: Advertising, Computer Applications, Communicative English, Electronic Equipment Maintenance, Mobile, TV and Computer Maintenance, Analytical Instrumentation Operations, Entrepreneurship Development, Office/Home Management and Secretarial Practice, Sales Promotion and Management, Tax Procedure and Practice, Tourism and Travel Management, Hospitality, Solar System Maintenance, Agriculture (Organic Farming, Protected Cultivation, Production of Horticulture Crops, Floriculture, etc), Banking, Financial Services and Insurance, Construction, Health Care, Bakery Products, Dairy Technology, Soaps and Detergents, Cosmetic Formulations, Web design and animation, Media and Entertainment etc.

2.11 Internship, Apprenticeship, Field Projects, and Community Engagement Projects

a) Internship and Apprenticeship

India is going to have the largest working age population in the world by 2030, but gainful employment for general stream students is a major challenge. Improving employability of these students requires a new vision with curricular support for employment. Apprenticeship/Internship has a prominent role to play in linking higher education with the requirements of the industry and the world of work. This is considered to be one of the most effective ways to develop skilled manpower for the country. It provides for an industry led, practice oriented and outcome based learning. Striving to fulfill this objective of improving employability and forming robust industry-academia linkage, the UGC has framed Guidelines for Higher Education Institutions to offer Apprenticeship/Internship embedded Degree Programme. All four year UG students must complete a 4-6 credit requirement of Internship / Project in each year where they are engaged in 4-6 weeks of structured summer internship in research institutions/ industries. This will focus on outcome-based learning in degree programme and will enable students to demonstrate workforce professional abilities for potential employment. Every University will undertake MoUs with industry for industry-institute linkage for promotion of apprenticeship/ internship/ research/entrepreneurship/employment opportunities. AICTE has created a portal on its website: <https://internship.aicte-india.org> to support students to find internships as well as to help organizations to find best Interns on PAN India. While internship with an external organization is the most desirable option, alternatively a student may undertake minimum of 4-6 weeks of Project Work either at University Research Centers or at any pre-approved external Research Institutions/ CSIR Laboratories.

b) Community Engagement and Field Projects

The field-based learning/project should attempt to provide opportunities for students to understand the different socio-economic contexts. It should aim at giving students exposure to development-related issues in rural and urban settings. It will provide opportunities for students to observe situation in rural and urban contexts, and to observe and study actual field situations regarding issues related to socio-economic development. Students should be given opportunities to gain a

first-hand understanding of the policies, regulations, organizational structures, processes, and programmes that guide the development process. They should have opportunity to gain an understanding of the complex socio-economic problems in the community, and innovative practices required to generate solutions to the identified problems.

The curricular component of 'community engagement and service' seeks to expose students to the socio-economic issues in society so that the theoretical learnings can be supplemented by actual life experiences to generate solutions to real-life problems. This component will include participation in activities related to National Service Scheme (NCC), National Cadet Corps (NCC), adult education/literacy initiatives and mentoring school students.

A minimum of 4-6 weeks of summer work, either on university campus in activities related to preservation of environment/biodiversity or community-based work in the neighboring community (through NSS unit) or field-level work with a recognized NGO or regional case studies programme at Villages may be undertaken as a part of Field projects.

As per UGC guidelines, Regional Case Study Course or Social Entrepreneurship Course, with 02 Credits, can be floated an optional mode or as add-on-credit with total duration of 30 hours. At least 50% of the course is to be done compulsorily in the field for all students.

c) Study Tours

The NEP 2020 (Section 22.12.) recognizes that the knowledge of the rich diversity of India should be imbibed first hand by learners. This would mean including simple activities, like touring by students to different parts of the country, which will not only give a boost to tourism but will also lead to an understanding and appreciation of diversity, culture, traditions and knowledge of different parts of India. HEIs can plan study tours under 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' concept and send students to visit various important destinations and study their history, scientific contributions, traditions, indigenous literature and knowledge, etc., as a part of augmenting their knowledge about our country.

2.12 Learning Outcomes-based Approach to Curriculum Planning and Development, Key Qualification Descriptors and Graduate Attributes

The fundamental premise underlying the learning outcomes-based approach to curriculum planning and development is that higher education qualifications such as a Bachelor's Degree programmes are awarded on the basis of demonstrated achievement of outcomes (expressed in terms of knowledge, understanding, skills, attitudes and values) and academic standards expected of graduates of a programme of study. Learning outcomes specify what graduates, completing a particular programme of study are expected to know, understand and be able to do at the end of their programme of study. The expected learning outcomes are used as reference points that would help formulate graduate attributes, qualification descriptors, programme learning outcomes and course learning outcomes which in turn will help in curriculum planning and development, and in the design, delivery and review of academic programmes. They provide general guidance for articulating the essential learnings associated with programmes of study and courses within a programme. UGC report on Evaluation Reforms in Higher Education Institutions (2019) and UGC Draft on Curricular Framework and Credit System for the Four-Year Undergraduate Programme (2022) have delineated the Framework for Outcome based Education and Assessment. The learning outcomes-based curriculum framework is intended to allow for flexibility and innovation in (i) programme design and syllabi development by higher education institutions (HEIs), (ii) teaching-learning process, (iii) assessment of student learning levels, and (iv) periodic programme review within a broad framework of agreed expected graduate attributes, qualification descriptors, programme learning outcomes and course learning outcomes. The overall objectives of the learning outcomes-based curriculum framework are to:

- i) help formulate graduate attributes, qualification descriptors, programme learning outcomes and course learning outcomes that are expected to be demonstrated by the holder of a qualification;
- ii) enable students, parents, employers and others to understand the nature and level of learning outcomes (knowledge, skills, attitudes and values) or attributes. A graduate of a programme should be capable of demonstrating the skills/knowledge/understanding on successful completion of the programme of study;

- iii) maintain national standards and international compatibility of learning outcomes and academic standards to ensure global competitiveness, and to facilitate student/graduate mobility; and
- iv) provide higher education institutions an important point of reference for designing teaching-learning strategies, assessing student learning levels, and periodic review of programmes and academic standards.

The graduate attributes reflect the particular quality and feature or characteristics of an individual, including the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values that are expected to be acquired by a graduate through studies at the colleges or universities. The graduate attributes include capabilities that help strengthen one's abilities for widening current knowledge base and skills, gaining new knowledge and skills, undertaking future studies, performing well in a chosen career and playing a constructive role as a responsible citizen in the society. The graduate attributes define the characteristics of a student's university degree programme(s), and describe a set of characteristics/competencies that are transferable beyond study of a particular subject area and programme contexts in which they have been developed. Graduate attributes are fostered through meaningful learning experiences made available through the curriculum, the total college/university experiences and a process of critical and reflective thinking. Learning Outcomes-based Curriculum Framework for Undergraduate Education is based on the premise that every student and graduate is unique. Each student or graduate has his/her own characteristics in terms of previous learning levels and experiences, life experiences, learning styles and approaches to future career-related actions. The quality, depth and breadth of the learning experiences made available to the students while at the higher education institutions help develop their characteristic attributes. The graduate attributes reflect both disciplinary knowledge and understanding, generic skills, including global competitiveness in all students in different academic fields of study which they should acquire/attain and demonstrate. Some of the characteristic attributes that a graduate should demonstrate are as follows:

- i) Disciplinary knowledge: Capable of demonstrating comprehensive knowledge and understanding of one or more disciplines that form a part of an undergraduate programme of study.

- ii) Communication Skills: Ability to express thoughts and ideas effectively orally and in writing, communicate with others using appropriate media; confidently share one's views and express herself/himself; demonstrate the ability to listen carefully, read and write analytically, and present complex information in a clear and concise manner to different groups.
- iii) Critical thinking: Capability to apply analytic thought to a body of knowledge; analyze and evaluate evidence, arguments, claims, beliefs on the basis of empirical evidence; identify relevant assumptions or implications; formulate coherent arguments; critically evaluate practices, policies and theories by following scientific approach to knowledge development.
- iv) Problem solving: Capacity to extrapolate from what one has learned and apply their competencies to solve different kinds of non-familiar problems, rather than replicate curriculum content knowledge; and apply one's learning to real life situations.
- v) Analytical reasoning: Ability to evaluate the reliability and relevance of evidence; identify logical flaws and holes in the arguments of others; analyze and synthesize data from a variety of sources; draw valid conclusions and support them with evidence and examples, and addressing opposing viewpoints.
- vi) Research-related skills: A sense of inquiry and capability for asking relevant/appropriate questions, problematizing, synthesizing and articulating; Ability to recognize cause-and-effect relationships, define problems, formulate hypotheses, test hypotheses, analyze, interpret and draw conclusions from data, establish hypotheses, predict cause-and-effect relationships; ability to plan, execute and report the results of an experiment or investigation.
- vii) Cooperation/Team work: Ability to work effectively and respectfully with diverse teams; facilitate cooperative or coordinated effort on the part of a group, and act together as a group or a team in the interests of a common cause and work efficiently as a member of a team.
- viii) Scientific reasoning: Ability to analyze, interpret and draw conclusions from quantitative/qualitative data; and critically evaluate ideas, evidence and experiences from an open-minded and reasoned perspective.
- ix) Reflective thinking: Critical sensibility to lived experiences, with self awareness and reflexivity of both self and society.

- x) Information/digital literacy: Capability to use ICT in a variety of learning situations, demonstrate ability to access, evaluate, and use a variety of relevant information sources and use appropriate software for analysis of data.
- xi) Self-directed learning: Ability to work independently, identify appropriate resources required for a project, and manage a project through to completion.
- xii) Multicultural competence: Possess knowledge of the values and beliefs of multiple cultures and a global perspective; and capability to effectively engage in a multicultural society and interact respectfully with diverse groups.
- xiii) Moral and ethical awareness/reasoning: Ability to embrace moral/ethical values in conducting one's life, formulate a position/argument about an ethical issue from multiple perspectives, and use ethical practices in all work. Capable of demonstrating the ability to identify ethical issues related to one's work, avoid unethical behavior such as fabrication, falsification or misrepresentation of data or committing plagiarism, not adhering to intellectual property rights; appreciating environmental and sustainability issues; and adopting objective, unbiased and truthful actions in all aspects of work.
- xiv) Leadership readiness/qualities: Capability for mapping out the tasks of a team or an organization, and setting direction, formulating an inspiring vision, building a team who can help achieve the vision, motivating and inspiring team members to engage with that vision, and using management skills to guide people to the right destination, in a smooth and efficient way.
- xv) Lifelong learning: Ability to acquire knowledge and skills, including 'learning how to learn', that are necessary for participating in learning activities throughout life, through self-paced and self-directed learning aimed at personal development, meeting economic, social and cultural objectives, and adapting to changing trades and demands of work place through knowledge/skill development/reskilling.

Expected graduate attributes/profile at different levels on National Higher Education Qualifications Framework (NHEQF) are presented under section 4.2.2 of UGC Draft on NHEQF (2022). Linkage between NHEQF Level Descriptors and Programme Learning Outcomes are presented under section 4.2.6. of NHEQF. NSQF (National Skills Qualifications Frame work) Level Descriptors are presented in Annexure I of NHEQF document. The NSQF organises qualifications according to a series of levels of knowledge, skills, and aptitude. It comprises 8 levels, representing increasing levels of

complexity in terms of the knowledge, competence and autonomy that must be demonstrated by the learner. Certificate /Diploma/ Degree is awarded to students who have demonstrated the achievement of the outcomes associated with the specific NHEQF level. Learning Outcomes Descriptors for higher education qualification at levels 4.5-8 on the NHEQF are presented in Annexure II of NHEQF document. As an example, in terms of the Knowledge and understanding at Level 5.5-basic three years Bachelor's Degree, the graduates should be able to demonstrate the acquisition of:

- comprehensive, factual, theoretical, and specialized knowledge in broad multidisciplinary contexts with depth in the underlying principles and theories relating to one or more fields of learning.
- knowledge of the current and emerging issues and developments within the chosen fields of learning.
- procedural knowledge required for performing and accomplishing professional tasks associated with the chosen fields of learning.

One of the examples for the Programme Learning Outcomes (PLOs) for Generic Learning Outcomes in reference to Communication skills for physics (Annexure III NHEQF) could be the ability to communicate accurately the findings of the experiments/ investigations while relating the conclusions/findings to relevant theories of Physics. University BoS should refer NHEQF document and UGC Draft on Curricular Framework and Credit System for the Four-Year Undergraduate Programme (2022) for additional details on Outcome based Education.

2.13 Execution of Design of Curriculum of Multidisciplinary Four Year Degree and Five Year Integrated PG Programme through University BoS and Academic Council and State Level Academic Bodies

The Maharashtra Public Universities Act 2016, through Sections 32 and 33 (Academic Council), 34 and 35 (Faculty), 36 and 37 (Board of Deans), 38 and 39 (Board of Sub-campuses), 40 and 41 (Board of Studies), 42 and 43 (Board of University Departments and Interdisciplinary studies), and 44 (Board of Post-Graduate Education in Colleges), describes the mechanism of curriculum development, upgradation/ revisions and reforms and the course syllabi, course structures and evaluation schemes of various courses so as to ensure that the university becomes a vibrant hub for promotion of teaching and learning, skill development, research and development, interactions and

linkages with industries, cultivation of intellectual property rights and entrepreneurship and incubation of knowledge linked industries. Thus, these statutory authorities are the principal bodies for the execution of rigorous research-based specialization and opportunities for multidisciplinary work and interdisciplinary thinking at the Graduate, Master's and Doctoral level education as recommended by NEP-2020. University BoS, while designing the curriculum of multidisciplinary four year degree and five year integrated PG programme, should pay attention to the following:

- i) Exit options are provided with certification, diploma and basic Bachelor's degrees to the students at the end of the second, fourth and sixth semester of a four year multidisciplinary degree programme. Students will receive a Bachelor's degree with Honors/ Research on successfully completing of all eight semesters of the UG Program either at a stretch or with opted exits and re-entries.
- ii) Under the Choice Based Credit System (CBCS), which is operational in several universities across States in India, the requirement for awarding a certificate or diploma or degree is prescribed in terms of number of credits to be earned by the students. The curriculum must be designed to provide coherent understanding of subjects, procedural knowledge, relevant skills and application to real life situations. The NEP 2020 envisages the revision of the CBCS for instilling innovation and flexibility as the four year multidisciplinary curriculum combines conceptual understanding with practical involvement and thinking to impart applicable knowledge through theory knowledge, laboratory experiences, seminar presentations, field work, internships, workshops, and research projects.
- iii) Refer Chapter I for admission guidelines for normal progression and lateral entry Path for Multidisciplinary Four Year Degree and Five Year Integrated PG Programme in line with NEP-2020.
 - a) The Programme curriculum design under CBCS should have flexibility for learners to move from one institution to another to enable them to have a multi and/or interdisciplinary learning. It should offer flexibility for students to study at different times and at different institutions to complete one Programme (ease mobility of students). Credits earned at one institution can be transferred. Hence, the University/ College will have to work out

prerequisites and entry norms for lateral admissions such as previous year CGPA, a written test and/or interview, requirement of bridge courses etc.

- b) Lateral entry into the programme of study leading to the UG Diploma/ Three year UG Degree/ four year Bachelor's Degree with Honors /Research will be based on the validation of prior learning outcomes achieved, including those achieved outside of formal learning or through learning and training in the workplace or in the community, or through continuing professional development activities, or through independent/self-directed learning activities.
- c) In case the lateral entrants is desirous of joining the four year degree programme different from his/her earlier Programme (i.e. with different combinations of Major and Minor), then the BoS of that HEI should decide the requirements of bridge courses, prerequisite courses and additional credit requirements for new combinations of Major and Minor which the lateral entrant must fulfill for the purpose of joining a new Programme. However, in terms of the admission eligibility requirements, the student must belong to the same faculty/ discipline in terms of Major Subject i.e., the Major subject of his/her earlier Programme and the Major subject of new Programme for which he/she is seeking admission must be from the same faculty/discipline.
- iv) Credits against Total Notional Hours: In accordance with the international best practice and the current recommendations of NHEQF, the framework proposes that the number of credits per year for 1200 learning hours will be 40. Accordingly, every semester will comprise of 20 credits. Any additional program/ course undertaken by the student/ learner beyond the 1200 learning hours or beyond the purview of the course syllabus, shall be considered for additional credits that can be earned by the student/ learner. Therefore, the minimum credits that a student/learner can earn in a year shall be 40. Thus, the number of notional hours leading to one credit unit= $1200/ 40 = 30$
- v) Wherever necessary, if the curriculum so demands, the concerned regulator/ autonomous institution may consider having more than 40 credits for a particular program. However, the minimum credits for any program against 1200 hours of learning in a year will be 40.

the flexibility to choose their learning trajectories and programmes, and thereby choose their own paths in life according to their talents and interests.

- x) Conduct a comprehensive survey and decide on courses to be offered through the baskets of Elective courses in Various Faculties/ Disciplines, understand the outcomes sought by industries and society at large around the university area and the state overall. Due attention be given to the international standard adopted in curriculum design by the universities across the globe.
- xi) Work out details on ODL and online courses under SWAYAM in terms of choice of courses in line with curriculum requirement, permissible credits to be offered and mechanism of credit awards and transfer. This will facilitate switching to alternative modes of learning (face-to-face, ODL and On-line learning, and hybrid modes of learning).
- xii) Ability Enhancement courses (AEC), Value Education courses, Vocational and Skill based courses, and courses on Indian Knowledge System, Sports and Culture shall be a pool of courses offered by all the Department in groups of odd and even semesters from which students can choose.
- xiii) A summer term is normally for eight weeks, and summer term courses may be offered on a fast- track mode to enable students to complete the arrears and do a 0-99 or 100-199 level courses. The HEI BoS can decide on the kind of courses to be offered in the summer term.
- xiv) Internship / apprenticeship can be carried out during the summer term, especially for students who exit after two semesters or four semesters of study.
- xv) Courses such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), 3-D machining, big data analysis, and machine learning, in addition to genomic studies, biotechnology, nanotechnology, neuroscience, with important applications to health, environment, and sustainable living need to be woven into multidisciplinary UG education for enhancing the employability of the youth and preparing professionals in cutting-edge areas.
- xvi) Due stress should be given for diversity and local context in planning of all curricula, and pedagogy.
- xvii) Refer section 1.3 of Chapter I for Codes and Levels of Courses for UG, PG and Ph.D. Programme.

- xxviii) A course, as a component of programme, may be designed to comprise lectures/tutorials/laboratory work/ field work/outreach activities/project work/vocational training/viva/seminars/term papers/ assignments / presentations/self-study etc. or a combination of some of these.
- xxix) The courses should have well defined learning objectives and learning outcomes. Divide the syllabus of each course into smaller components called 'Units' and state the Specific Learning Outcomes (SLO) for each Unit.
- xx) Define batch size for practical courses, class size for theory courses, total intake capacity and fee structure for each course (to be approved by Board of Deans, Fee Fixation Committee and Academic Council of respective Universities).
- xxi) Specify the objectives and prerequisites of each course for inclusion under different multidisciplinary four year degree programme.
- xxii) NCrF has provisions for educational acceleration for gifted students with special learning abilities who would like to move through traditional curriculum at rates faster than the normal pace. However, the specialised assessment methods, to be devised for evaluation of the exceptional learning abilities/ capabilities/ competencies of gifted students, have to be very strict, objective, above board and adhere to high-standard so as to keep the credibility of the NCrF intact. (Reference: Section 2.3.6, Page 27: Enabling Educational Acceleration of NCrF, Section 4.1, Page 73: Provisions for Creditisation of Special Cases of learning: Educational Accelerations, High-Level Inter-Ministerial Committee Report on National Credit Framework (Sept. 2022)).
- xxiii) NCrF has provisions for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) for workforce who have acquired the knowledge and skills informally, through family inheritance, work experience, traditional or other methods, thereby allowing them progression and mobility into the formal education and learning ecosystem. Therefore, NCrF shall provide a gateway to the student/ learners/ persons/ workers to creditise their informal or mix of formal and informal experiential learning including relevant experience and professional levels acquired, or learning through other methods into credits at designated NCrF levels through a well-established outcome-based assessment process called Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL). (Reference: Section 4.2, Page 74-76: Provision for Recognition

for Prior Learning, High-Level Inter-Ministerial Committee Report on National Credit Framework (Sept. 2022)).

xxiv) The National Credit Framework (NCrF) also enables creditisation of Experiential learning including relevant experience and professional levels acquired, based on the weightage for relevant experience and proficiency levels achieved, subject to assessment. This means that the experience attained by a person after undergoing a particular education (including vocational) shall be considered for assignment of credits. A diagrammatic view of the dimensions of the credit assignment are illustrated in figure I, page no. 44 of High-Level Inter-Ministerial Committee Report on National Credit Framework (Sept. 2022). The principle of calculating credits acquired by a candidate by virtue of relevant Experiential learning including relevant experience and professional levels acquired and attaining/gaining proficiency levels (post completion of an academic grade/ skill based program) by the learner/student in the industry is delineated in the Table 7, page no. 56 of this NCrF Report.

In order to facilitate the exchange of philosophy of curriculum developments, uniform terminologies for Course Nomenclature and Common Academic Schedule/Calendar for admissions and examinations amongst the State Universities, a state level forum comprising of Deans and Chairman of Board of Studies of different Universities may be established.

A tentative curriculum structure and credit distributions for four year Multidisciplinary Degree Programme could be as given in Table 2.1 (Individual state universities can vary credit structure within limits defined by Multiple Entry and Exit and NHEQF document). Table 2.2 highlights the proposed structure for Four Year Multidisciplinary UG Program with DSC as Major (e.g., Four Year B.Sc. Honors/ Research Programme). Table 2.3 illustrates the proposed structure for level 4.5-8 Multidisciplinary Programmes [4 Year UG with SSC as Major, 5 Year Integrated PG and Ph.D.].

Table: 2.1

The Credit Distribution Structure for Four Year Multidisciplinary Degree Programme with Multiple Entry and Exit Options

Sem.	Major (DSC / SSC / FSC, DSE / SSE / FSE)	Minor	Generic (GE/OE)	Vocational and Skill	AEC, IKS, EVLSC	Internship, Project, Cocurricular	Total, Min
I	4-6	4-6	3-4		4-6		20
II	6-8	6	3-4		4-6	2	20
III	6-8	6	4	4	4-6		20
IV	6-8	4-6	2-4	4-6		4-6	20
V	8-10	2-4		4		4-6	20
VI	10-12			2-4		6(DSC)	20
VII	14					6 (DSC)	20
VIII	10					10(DSC)	20
Total	64-76	22-28	14-16	14-16	12-14	32-34	160

**Table 2.2
Proposed Structure and Credit Distributions for Four Year Multidisciplinary UG Program with DSC as Major (e.g. Four Year B.Sc. Honors/ Research Programme)**

Level	Sem.	Faculty			Any Faculty Subject -1	Any Faculty Subject -2	Any Faculty Subject-3 Generic Elective Course	Vocational and Skill Enhancement Course (VSC)	Ability Enhancement Course (AEC)	Field Projects / Internship / Apprenticeship / Community Engagement and Services		Credits	Cumulative Credit
		Major	DSE	Minor						Inter-intra faculty			
Level 4.5	1	1 (6 Credits)		1 (6 Credits)		1 (6 Credits)	1 (6 Credits)		2 (L1, L2) (4 Credits)	NCC / NSS / Sports / Cultural (2 Credits)	6+6+4+4+2 =22	44 Certificate	
	2	1 (6 Credits)		1 (6 Credits)		1 (6 Credits)	1 (6 Credits)		2 (L1, L2) (4 Credits)+1 (2 Credits) Environment		6+6+4+4+2 =22		
Exit Option with Certificate with Additional 10 Credit Bridge Course Corresponding to Skill-based and Vocational Courses and Internship on DSC													
Level 5.0	3	1 (6 Credits)		1 (6 Credits)		1 (6 Credits)	1 (6 Credits)	1 (4 Credits)		NCC / NSS / Sports / Cultural (2 Credits)	6+6+4+4+2 =22	88 Diploma	
	4	1 (6 Credits)		1 (6 Credits)		1 (6 Credits)	1 (6 Credits)	1 (4 Credits)	1 (2 Credits) Constitution of India		6+6+4+4+2 =22		

Table 2.2
Continued...

Level	Sem.	Faculty		Any Faculty	Vocational and Skill Enhancement Course (VSC)	Ability Enhancement Course (AEC)	Field Projects / Internship / Apprenticeship / Community Engagement and Services	Credits	Cumulative Credit
		Subject -1 Major	Subject -2 Minor						
Exit Option with Diploma with Additional 10 Credit NSQF Course and Internship on DSC									
5.5	5	1 (6 Credits)	1 (6 Credits)		1 (4 Credits)		1 Field Projects / Internship / Apprenticeship / Community Engagement and Services (6 Credits) Related to DSC	6+6+4+6 = 22	132 Three Year Bachelor degree
	6	1 (6 Credits)	1 (6 Credits) + 1 (4 Credits)				1 Field Projects / Internship / Apprenticeship / Community Engagement and Services (6 Credits) Related to DSC	6+6+4+6 = 22	

Table: 2.3:
Proposed Structure and Credit Distributions for Level 4.5-8 Multidisciplinary Programmes [4 Year UG with SSC as Major, 5 Year Integrated PG and Ph.D.]

Year (Level) and Semester	Subject I	Subject II	Subject III	Subject IV	Vocational & Skills (VSC), Ethics & Value Ed. (EV), Life Skills (LS)	GE, AEC, Co-Curricular Courses (CCC)	Internship / Regional Case Studies (RSC)/ Research Project		Min. Credits Required for Award of Certificate/ Diploma/ Degree
							SSC-I	SSC-II	
	2/3/4 Credits	2/3/4 Credits	2/3/4 Credits	2/3/4 Credits	3 Credits	AEC:2, GE:2 credits, CCC (Non-Credit Qualifying (NCQ))	2/4/6/12 Credits		
Year (Level)	Sem.	SSC& SSE: Interrelated subjects from Same Faculty (School concept: Botany, Zoology, Biochemistry under Science; Sociology, Political Science, Economics under Humanities)		Other Faculty	VSC, EV, LS	Inter/Intra Faculty related to SSC			
1 (4.5)	I	Th-1(4) or Th-1(3) + Pr.-1(1)	Th-1(4) or Th-1(3) + Pr.-1(1)	Th-1(4) or Th-1(3) + Pr.-1(1)	Th-1(2)	VSC: 1(2), EV: 1(2)	AEC: 2(2), CCC (NCQ)	44 (22+22)	{44} Certificate in Faculty
2 (5)	II	Th-1(4) or Th-1(3) + Pr.-1(1)	Th-1(4) or Th-1(3) + Pr.-1(1)	Th-1(4) or Th-1(3) + Pr.-1(1)	Th-1(2)	VSC: 1(2), EV: 1(2)	AEC: 1(2), GE:1(2)		
	III	Th-1(4) or Th-1(3) + Pr.-1(1)	Th-1(4) or Th-1(3) + Pr.-1(1)	Th-1(4) or Th-1(3) + Pr.-1(1)	Th-1(4) or Th-1(3) + Pr.-1(1)	VSC: 1(2), LS: 1(2)	AEC: 1(2), CCC (NCQ)	RSC 1(2)	{92} Diploma in Faculty
	IV	Th-1(4) or Th-1(3) + Pr.-1(1)	Th-1(4) or Th-1(3) + Pr.-1(1)	Th-1(4) or Th-1(3) + Pr.-1(1)	Th-1(4) or Th-1(2) + Pr.-1(2)	VSC: 1(2), LS: 1(2)	GE:1(2)	Internship 1(2)	(24+24)

Table 2.3
Continued...

Year (Level) and Semester	Subject I	Subject II	Subject III	Subject IV	Vocational & Skills (VSC), Ethics & Value Ed. (EV), Life Skills (LS)	GE, AEC, Co-Curricular courses (CCC)	Internship / Regional Case Studies (RSC)/ Research Project		Cumulative Min. Credits	Required for Award of Certificate/ Diploma/ Degree
							Min. Credits For the year (Sem)	SSC		
	SSC-I	SSC-II	SSC-III	Minor Subject						
	2/3/4 Credits	2/3/4 Credits	2/3/4 Credits	2/3/4 Credits	3 Credits	AEC:2, GE:2 credits, CCC (Non-Credit Qualifying (NCQ))	2/4/6/12 Credits			
Year (Level)	Sem.	SSC & SSE: Interrelated subjects from Same Faculty (School concept: Botany, Zoology, Biochemistry under Science; Sociology, Political Science, Economics under Humanities)		Other Faculty	VSC, EV, LS	Inter/Intra Faculty related to SSC				
3 (5.5)	V	Th-2(4) or Th-[1(4)+ 1(2)] + Pr.- 1(2)	Th-2(4) or Th-[1(4)+ 1(2)] + Pr.- 1(2)	Th-2(4) or Th-[1(4)+ 1(2)] + Pr.- 1(2)					140	Three Year Bachelor- Major
	VI	Th-1(4) or Th-1(3) + Pr-1(1)	Th-1(4) or Th-1(3) + Pr-1(1)	Th-1(4) or Th-1(3) + Pr-1(1)	Th-1(4) or Th-1(2) + Pr-1(2)	VSC: 2(2)	Internship 1(4)		48 (24+24)	Degree in SSC and Minor Degree
4 (6)	VII	Th-4(3) or Th-2(4) + Pr.- 2(2)	Research Methodology 1(4)		Th-1(2) or Pr-1(2)		Internship 1(2), Research Project (4)		186	Four Year Bachelor Research Degree in SSC-SSC1 and Minor Degree
	VIII	Th-4(2) or Th-1(4) + Pract-2(2)			Th-1(2)		Research Project (12)		46 (24+22)	
		Course Work 3 (4)								

Table 2.3
Continued...

Year (Level) and Semester	Subject I	Subject II	Subject III	Subject IV	Vocational & Skills (VSC), Ethics & Value Ed. (EV), Life Skills (LS)	GE, AEC, Co-Curricular courses (CCC)	Internship / Regional Case Studies (RSC)/ Research Project		Min. Credits Required for Award of Certificate/ Diploma/ Degree
							SSC	SSC For the year (Sem)	
SSC-I	SSC-II	SSC-III	Minor Subject				SSC		
2/3/4 Credits	2/3/4 Credits	2/3/4 Credits	2/3/4 Credits	2/3/4 Credits	AEC:2, GE:2 credits, CCC (Non-Credit Qualifying (NCQ))	2/4/6/12 Credits			
Year (Level)	SSC & SSE: Interrelated subjects from Same Faculty (School concept: Botany, Zoology, Biochemistry under Science; Sociology, Political Science, Economics under Humanities)		Other Faculty	VSC, EV, LS	Inter/Intra Faculty related to SSC				
5 (6.5)	Ex Th-4(4)+1(2) or Th-3(4)+ Pr-3(2)					Research Project (4)	44 (22+22)	{230} Master in Faculty SSC1	
	X Th-4(4) or Th- 3(4)+ Pr-2(2)					Research Project (6)			
Level 8	Course Work 3 (4)	Research Methodology1(4)	Education Course on Teaching Methodology 1(4)	Ph.D. Thesis	16 + Ph.D. Work	Ph.D. in Subject			

Note: Th-Theory, Pr-Practical; GE-Generic Electives, AEC: Ability Enhancement Courses- Languages and ES, Th-1(4): 1 Theory course or paper with 4 credits; Th- 1(3) +
Pr-1(1): The paper comprises 1 Theory course with 3 credits and Practical Course with 1 credit; VSC:1(2)-1 Vocational and Skill course with 2 credits

Chapter III

Credit Structures and Curriculum Development for Professional Multidisciplinary Programmes with NVEQF and AICTE / PCI / ACI / BCI / NCT Guidelines

Credit Structures and Curriculum Development for Professional Multidisciplinary Programmes with NVEQF and AICTE / PCI / ACI / BCI / NCT Guidelines

The duration and specialisations have wide variations in the professional undergraduate (UG) and postgraduate (PG) education in engineering, medical, pharmacy, architecture, legal studies and Education. As per section 13.7 of NEP 2020, the professional councils, such as the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE), Council of Architecture (CoA), National Council for Vocational Education and Training (NCVET), Indian Council for Agricultural Research (ICAR), Veterinary Council of India (VCI), etc., will act as Professional Standard Setting Bodies (PSSBs). The PSSBs will lay down academic standards and coordinate between teaching, research and extension of their domain/discipline and will also set the standards or expectations in particular fields of learning and practice. All HEIs will plan their educational programmes in reference to these standards. NCrF shall act as a broad enabling framework for all regulatory organizations (UGC, AICTE, NCVET, NCERT etc.), and autonomous institutions, including Universities, INIs, CBSE, NIOS, State School Boards, State Technical Education Boards, etc..

3.1 Technical Education

Technical education includes degree and diploma programmes in, engineering, technology, management, architecture, town planning, pharmacy, hotel management, catering technology etc., which are critical to India's overall development. Considering the technological development, the world is witnessing, there will not only be a greater demand for well-qualified manpower in these sectors, it will also require closer collaborations between Industries and HEIs to drive innovation and research in these fields. Furthermore, influence of technology on human endeavors is expected to erode the silos between technical education and other disciplines too. Technical education will, thus, also be offered within multidisciplinary education institutions and programmes to have a renewed focus on opportunities to engage deeply with other disciplines. India must also take the lead in preparing professionals in cutting-edge areas that are fast gaining prominence, such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), 3-D Machining, Big Data Analysis, and Machine Learning, in addition to Genomic Studies,

increasing order of complexity and competency. These levels are defined in terms of learning outcomes which are an explicit description of what a learner should know, understand and be able to do as a result of learning, regardless of whether these competencies were acquired through formal, non-formal or informal learning. This enables learners to acquire desired competency levels, transit to the job market, and at an opportune time, return for acquiring skills as required to further upgrade their competencies.

NSQF has 5 level descriptors namely Professional Theoretical Knowledge, Professional and Technical Skills/ Expertise, Employment Readiness & Entrepreneurship Skills & Mind-set, Broad Learning Outcomes, and Responsibility for deciding the NCrF level to be assigned. NSQF also has entry requirements, notional hours, NCrF credit levels earned (which is in line with NCrF). Similarly, for National Higher Education Qualification Framework (NHEQF), the element of the Descriptor includes knowledge and understanding, skills required to perform and accomplish tasks; application of knowledge and skills; generic learning outcomes; Constitutional, humanistic, ethical, and moral values; employment- ready skills and entrepreneurship skills and mindset; Credit requirements, Entry requirements for deciding the NCrF level to be assigned. Thus, the credit-based Framework-NCrF will facilitate mobility across 'general' and vocational education.

HEIs can offer vocational education either on their own or in partnership with industries and NGOs. The B.Voc. degrees introduced in 2013 will continue to exist, but vocational courses will also be made available to students enrolled in all other Bachelor's degree programmes, including the 4-year multidisciplinary Bachelor 's programmes. HEIs will also be allowed to conduct short-term certificate courses in various skills including soft skills. 'Lok Vidya', i.e., important vocational knowledge developed in India, will be made accessible to students through integration into vocational education courses. The possibility of offering vocational courses through ODL mode, different models of vocational education, and apprenticeships will have to be explored by HEIs. Assignment of Credits has been enabled for online, digital and blended learning in vocational education and skilling to expand the open /distance learning options and to promote extensive use of technology in learning and skilling. This would help in overcoming the

constraints of physical infrastructure and scalability while enhancing access, equity, and affordability and ensuring quality and accountability. The blended learning option shall also enhance accessibility of learning in Indian language for non-English medium students as well as for Divyangs.

State Universities in Maharashtra have already established Incubation centers and their partnership with industries need to be strengthened for promotion of Vocational and Skill Based Education.

The credit assignment for vocational/ skill education as per NSQF levels and credit assignment at different levels are well illustrated in the Table 3 (Page No. 41) and Table 6 (Page No. 48-54) presented in High-Level Inter-Ministerial Committee Report on National Credit Framework (Sept. 2022). These depictions would form the basis of Long Term Training/ Short Term Training (LTT/STT) requirements in reference to NSQF Levels, NSQF/ NCrF level attained after VET/ STT/ LTT, Minimum entry criteria for undergoing STT at the given level, and Credit Points earned.

3.3 Teacher Education

As per section 15.1 of NEP 2020, Teacher education is vital in creating a pool of school teachers that will shape the next generation. Teacher preparation is an activity that requires multidisciplinary perspectives and knowledge, formation of dispositions and values, and development of practice under the best mentors. Teachers must be grounded in Indian values, languages, knowledge, ethos, and traditions including tribal traditions, while also being well-versed in the latest advances in education and pedagogy. As teacher education requires multidisciplinary inputs, and education in high-quality content as well as pedagogy, all teacher education programmes must be conducted within composite multidisciplinary institutions.

All multidisciplinary universities and colleges should establish education departments which, besides carrying out cutting-edge research in various aspects of education, will also run B.Ed. programmes, in collaboration with other departments such as psychology, philosophy, sociology, neuroscience, Indian languages, arts, music, history, literature, physical education, science and mathematics. The 4-year integrated B.Ed. offered by such multidisciplinary HEIs will, by 2030, become the minimal degree qualification for school teachers. The 4-year integrated B.Ed. will be a dual-major holistic Bachelor's

degree, in Education as well as a specialized subject such as a language, history, music, mathematics, computer science, chemistry, economics, art, physical education, etc. Beyond the teaching of cutting-edge pedagogy, the teacher education will include grounding in sociology, history, science, psychology, early childhood care and education, foundational literacy and numeracy, knowledge of India and its values/ethos/arts/traditions, and more. The HEI offering the 4-year integrated B.Ed. may also run a 2-year B.Ed., for students who have already received a Bachelor's degree in a specialized subject. A 1-year B.Ed. may also be offered for candidates who have received a 4-year undergraduate degree in a specialized subject. HEIs offering teacher education programmes will ensure the availability of a range of experts in education and related disciplines as well as specialized subjects. Each higher education institution will have a network of government and private schools to work closely with, where potential teachers will teach students along with participating in other activities such as community service, adult and vocational education, etc.

Faculty with training in areas of social sciences that are directly relevant to school education e.g., psychology, child development, linguistics, sociology, philosophy, economics, and political science as well as from science education, mathematics education, social science education, and language education programmes will have to be attracted and retained in teacher education institutions, to strengthen multidisciplinary education of teachers and provide rigor in conceptual development.

In-service continuous professional development for college and university teachers will continue through the existing institutional arrangements and ongoing initiatives. These will be strengthened and substantially expanded to meet the needs of enriched teaching-learning processes for quality education. The use of technology platforms such as SWAYAM/DIKSHA for online training of teachers will be encouraged, so that standardized training programmes can be administered to large numbers of teachers within a short span of time.

3.4 Law Education

As per section 20.4. of NEP 2020, legal education needs to be competitive globally, adopting best practices and embracing new technologies for wider access to and timely delivery of justice. At the same time, it must be informed and illuminated with Constitutional values of Justice - Social, Economic, and Political - and directed towards

national reconstruction through instrumentation of democracy, rule of law, and human rights. The curricula for legal studies must reflect socio-cultural contexts along with, in an evidence-based manner, the history of legal thinking, principles of justice, the practice of jurisprudence, and other related content appropriately and adequately. State institutions offering law education must consider offering bilingual education for future lawyers and judges - in English and in the language of the State in which the institution is situated.

Chapter IV

Examination and Assessment Process and Multiple Exit Path for Four Year Multidisciplinary Degree and Five Year Integrated PG Programme in line with NEP-2020

Chapter IV

Examination and Assessment Process and Multiple Exit Path for Four Year Multidisciplinary Degree and Five Year Integrated PG Programme in line with NEP-2020

As per NHEQF, Qualifications are formal 'awards' such as a certificate, diploma or a degree, awarded by a competent authority such as a college or a university in recognition of the attainment by students of the expected learning outcomes on the successful completion of a particular programme of study. Qualifications in the traditional sense implies that someone has successfully completed a prescribed programme of study or training programme offered by an educational institution.

4.1 Exit Path for Multidisciplinary four year Degree and Five Year PG Degree Programme:

a) 1st Year Exit 1 of Level 4.5

A certificate will be awarded when a student exits at the end of year 1 (Level 4.5). The first year of the undergraduate programme builds on the secondary education and requires a min. of 40 credits during the first year of the undergraduate programme for qualifying for an undergraduate certificate. An exit 10- credit bridge course(s) lasting two months, including at least 6- credit job-specific internship/apprenticeship that would help the graduates acquire job-ready competencies required to enter the workforce would be an additional requirement for award of the undergraduate certificate.

b) 2nd Year Exit 2, Level 5.0

At the end of the 2nd year, if a student exits, a diploma shall be awarded (Level 5). A diploma requires min. of 80 credits from levels 4.5 to 5.0, with a min. of 40 credits at level 5.0, followed by an exit 10- credit NSQF compliant skill-based course(s) lasting two months, including at least 6-credit job-specific internship/apprenticeship that would help the graduates acquire job-ready competencies required to enter the workforce.

c) **3rd Year Exit 3, Level 5.5**

On successful completion of three years, a relevant degree shall be awarded (Level 5.5). A Bachelor's degree requires min. of 120 credits from levels 4.5 to 5.5, with a min. of 40 credits at level 4.5, a min. of 40 credits at level 5, and a min. of 40 credits at level 5.5, followed by an exit 10-credit bridge course(s) lasting two months, including at least 6-credit job-specific internship/apprenticeship that would help the graduates acquire job-ready competencies required to enter the workforce.

d) **4th Year Exit 4, Level 6**

On the successful completion of the fourth year, a student shall be awarded a degree (Honors/Research). A Bachelor's degree (Honors/Research) requires a minimum total of 160 credits from levels 4.5 to 6, with a min. of 40 credits at level 4.5, a min. of 40 credits at level 5, and a min. of 40 credits at level 5.5, and a min. of 40 credits at level 6. Bachelor's degree 'with research' would be awarded if the student completes a rigorous research project in her/his major area(s) of study in line with the requirements specified under section 2.3 of Chapter 2.

Thus, exit options are provided with certification, diploma and basic Bachelor's degrees to the students at the end of the second, fourth and sixth semester of a four year multidisciplinary degree programme. Students will receive a Bachelor's degree with Honors/ Research on successfully completing all eight semesters of the UG Program either at a stretch or with opted exits and re-entries.

A student will be allowed to exit only after the even semester and enter in odd semester.

An exit 10- credit skill-based bridge course(s) lasting two months are prescribed at different levels of exit to acquire job-ready competencies required to enter the work force. Table 4.1 presents the examples of skill -based bridge courses that can be suggested by HEI for multiple exits at different levels for a four year multidisciplinary B.Com. Degree.

Table 4.1:

Examples of Skill-based Bridge Courses to be Pursued for Exit at different Levels for a Four Year Multidisciplinary B.Com. Degree

1. Foundation Course on Share Market	38 Data Science and Machine Learning using Python
2. English Communication Skills	39 Ethical Hacking & Cyber Security (Foundation Program)
3. Personality Grooming	40 Fashion Design, Merchandising & Entrepreneurship
4. Foreign Language (German)	41 Photography for Fashion & E-commerce
5. Cyber Security	42 Event Management, Marketing & Public Relations
6. Management of E-Commerce Store	43 Fashion Modeling & Beauty Pageant Grooming/ Fashion Styling
7. Supply Chain Management	44 Interior Design & Architecture Planning
8. Block Chain Management	45 Filmmaking, Direction & Screenplay
9. Salon and Spa Management	46 Mass Communication & Digital Media Productions
10. Sports Commentary	47 Fine Arts and Digital Arts
11. Intellectual Property Rights	48 Photography (Still & Video)
12. ERP Management	49 Acting For Films, TV& Theatre
13. Franchise Management	50 Radio Jockeying, Anchoring, TV Journalism
14. Brand Building/Management	51 Animation, Motion Graphics & Video Editing
15. Direct Marketing	52 3d Animation & Video Editing
16. International Business Environment	53 Digital Marketing & Social Media Advertising
17. Information Technology in Business	54 Graphic Designing, DTP& Video Editing
18. Business Analytics	55 Insurance Marketing and Client Management
19. Financial Modelling	56 Life Insurance – Underwriting and claims
20. Corporate Governance	57 Business Analytics
21. Financial Management	58 Financial Modeling
22. Fundamentals of Quality Management	59 Tax Planning
23. Entrepreneurship Management	60 Green and Rural Marketing
24. Tax Planning	61 Logistic and supply Chain Management
25. Green and Rural Marketing	
26. E Business and Cyber Laws	
27. International Human Resource Management	
28. Financial Planning	
29. GST	
30 Advanced Excel and Tally	
31 Social Marketing	
32 Spanish / German/ French Language	
33 Data Analytics Web Designing and Animation	
34 Travel and Tourism	
35 Airfare and Ticketing	
36 Office Automation & E-Accounting	
37 Secretarial Practices and Administration	

e) **Learning Outcomes for Multidisciplinary Four Year UG Degree**

The NEP 2020 has proposed a renewed Graduate Student outcome and here the student is expected to be a well-rounded, self-driven knowledge seeking, innovative and creative researcher. A National Qualifications Framework (NQF) is an instrument for the classification of qualifications according to a set of criteria for specified levels of learning achieved, which would integrate and coordinate the qualifications from each education and training sector into a single comprehensive qualification framework. Qualifications such as Certificate, Diploma, Degree are awarded after an assessment and evaluation of learning levels that determine the achievement by students of the expected learning outcomes to the given standards. Qualifications can also signify the competence to follow an occupational practice. The pedagogy in a four year degree programme also has an increased emphasis on communication, discussion, debate, research, and opportunities for cross-disciplinary and interdisciplinary thinking. The Learning Outcomes for Multidisciplinary four year UG Degree, as per NHEQF, would be as follows

- i) have demonstrated knowledge and understanding in a field of study that builds upon their general secondary education, and is typically at a level that, whilst supported by advanced textbooks, includes some aspects that will be informed by knowledge of the forefront of their field of study;
- ii) can apply their knowledge and understanding in a manner that indicates a professional approach to their work or vocation, and have competences typically demonstrated by devising and sustaining arguments and solving problems within their field of study.
- iii) have the ability to gather and interpret relevant data (usually within their field of study) to inform judgments that include reflection on relevant social, scientific or ethical issues.
- iv) can communicate information, ideas, problems and solutions to both specialist and non-specialist audiences.
- v) have developed those learning skills that are necessary for them to continue to undertake further study with a high degree of autonomy.

f) Master's Programme Exit Path: Exit 5, level 6.5 and Learning Outcomes for PG Degree

For postgraduate programmes, there shall only be one exit point for those who join the two-year Master's programme, that is, at the end of the first year of the Master's programme. Students who exit after the first year shall be awarded the Post-Graduate Diploma.

For Five-Years Integrated Master's Degree programme, students can have exit options at the end of the first year with award of Certificate, at the end of the second year with award of Diploma, at the end of the third year programme with award of Bachelor's degree and at the end of the fourth year with award of Bachelor's Honors/Research degree.

The Learning Outcomes for PG Degree as per NHEQF, would be as follows

- i) have demonstrated knowledge and understanding that is founded upon and extends and/or enhances that typically associated with the first cycle, and that provides a basis or opportunity for originality in developing and/or applying ideas, often within a research context;
- ii) can apply their knowledge and understanding, and problem solving abilities in new or unfamiliar environments within broader (or multidisciplinary) contexts related to their field of study;
- iii) have the ability to integrate knowledge and handle complexity, and formulate judgments with incomplete or limited information, and that includes reflecting on social and ethical responsibilities linked to the application of their knowledge and judgments;
- iv) can communicate their conclusions, and the knowledge and rationale underpinning these, to specialist and non-specialist audiences clearly and unambiguously;
- vi) have the learning skills to allow them to continue to study in a manner that may be largely self-directed or autonomous.

4.2 Credit Based Assessment

Credit' is recognition that a learner has completed a prior course of learning, corresponding to a qualification at a given level. Credits quantify learning outcomes that

are subject to valid, reliable methods of assessment. The basic principle of the credit framework is that credits are a function of successful completion of a program of study/ vocational education/ training and assessment. No credit can be earned by the student unless the student is assessed for the achievement of the desired competencies and outcome of a program. Therefore, in general education there are major assessment stages which are mandatory before the student goes to the next step. In addition, to enable implementation of multiple entry- multiple exit options, assessment is a compulsory element after each year of graduation and post-graduation and also after a skilling course. This means that the student will be earning credit/s after every year/ semester/ Qualification of education/ vocational education/ skilling which they go through and hence the framework needs to cater to this requirement.

The learning shall not be limited to only instructional hours but also encompass all other activities in the educational institutions, earlier categorized as curricular, co-curricular, and extra-curricular. In the true spirit of National Education Policy 2020, the total outcome based learning hours for credits (1200 hours of learning in a year for 40 credits) shall, subject to assessment, include:

- i. Classroom teaching/ learning hours
- ii. Lab work/ innovation labs/ projects
- iii. Yearly and half-yearly examinations/ class tests/ quiz/ assessments including formative assessments
- iv. Experiential learning including relevant experience and professional levels acquired activity hours
 - a. Performing arts, music, handicraft work,
 - b. Debate and Discussion/ Essay Writing / Recitation Competition
 - c. Story Writing competition
 - d. Celebration of festivals in institutes, music performance, Drama.
 - e. Other Contests
- v. Sports/ games / physical activity / yoga
- vi. Life skills including employment skills
- vii. Social/ community work / NCC / shramdan: campus cleaning, building, decoration
- viii. Bag less days, field visits organised by the institution
- ix. Vocational education/ training, skilling, minor/ major project work, assignments

- x. Field visits/ Industry attachment by institutions
- xi. Internship and apprenticeship hours, on the job training (OJT), and Experiential learning including relevant experience and professional levels acquired
- xii. Blended/ online/ digital learning
- xiii. Self-study/ Home assignments (for National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS))
[In NIOS, self-study forms a major component for a learner].
- xiv. Any other type of learning as may be notified by the regulators concerned

Such an approach would also close the gap in achievement of learning outcomes, shifting the classroom education towards competency and learning outcome-based learning and education.

Section 3.2.7, Table 3, Page No. 41 of High-Level Inter-Ministerial Committee Report on National Credit Framework (Sept. 2022) describes NCrF levels for different academic grades (Hours of Learning per year, Academic Grade and NCrF Credit Levels) for Higher Education, for Vocational Education & Training/ Skilling (Long Term Training/ Short Term Training (LTT/STT) and NSQF Level) and Assessment Bands (Credit Points Earned for each NCrF level and Assessment Stage and equivalence).

4.3 Examination Approaches and Assessment of Learning Levels and Outcome

In India, the higher education has so far has been largely examination oriented. Examinations play a pivotal role and determine the degree of knowledge possessed. They are the deciding factors of career choice of students as well as the ability to pursue the right higher qualifications. The conventional examination pattern that currently exists in a university structured test is memory learning with more focus on remembering and reproducing. The term-end examination is usually based on the question paper which tests only memory recall as a skill. This system, more often than not, insulates students from the quest of knowledge, excitement of discovery and joy of learning. On the other hand, demands from professions require students not just to possess information but an ability to apply to every situation either routine or complex. NEP expects evaluation and assessment of the students through execution of innovative trends in formative as well as summative examination modes for smooth success of

four-year multidisciplinary degree programme with multiple entry and exit system. Thus, the third dimension of higher education must get due recognition in main stream education. The methods of assessment also have to be multipronged.

Thus, the parameters of examination, evaluation and assessment need review and reorientation so as to create the next generation knowledge workers. Of foremost concern is to ensure that the students are equipped with 21st century skills for the new age enterprises and to play lead roles in sophisticated ways of conduct of business. A whole new format of assessment tools using digital platforms need to be utilized to build the requisite skills that is required of a growing economy.

The UGC Report on 'Evaluation Reforms in Higher Educational Institutions' (2019) emphasizes the fact that to accomplish meaningful learning, the examination and evaluation should be linked to 'Learning Outcomes' and 'Institutional goals'. The essence of the report is that the assessment process should test the learning outcomes, knowledge gained, attitudes developed and skills mastered by a student during an academic programme. A Program Learning Outcome may lead to one or many different competencies and each competency may have one or more measurable components called Indicators/ Performance Indicators. The curriculum must be linked to the program objectives and outcomes and further the course level assessment strategies must be linked to identified program level assessment strategies. Examination and Evaluation types include-

- i) Summative (evaluation of students learning at the end of an instructional unit) and
- ii) Formative (informal and formal tests administered during the learning process).

These types of assessments are related to direct measurement of learning which is based on a sample of actual student work and it includes reports, exams, demonstrations, performances, and completed works. Thus, direct measurement of learning requires students to produce work so that the teacher can assess how well the students' meet the expectations. Assessments must be continuous to include both formative (weekly class and home assignment, case studies, weekly/ interim quiz tests) and summative (class tests, Open Book Exams, Quarterly/ Mid-term Exam, semester end Exam) examination components in a timely fashion for continuous feedback.

a) Summative Examination and Evaluation Strategies

- i. **Class Tests:** These should be conducted 2-3 times in a semester including make-up test and must be designed to test all levels of cognitive domain.

Marking Criteria be made known to the students. Teacher should discuss answers in the class.

- ii. **Open Book Examination:** In real functioning beyond formal education, life is all about open book examination. In order to prepare students for real situations in actual work life, students must be prepared for open book examinations. In this examination, students are allowed to get books of their choice for reference. The questions need to be based not simply on retrieval of information but they ought to be creative. The exam measures what students can do with the available resources and not just what they can remember. One of the class tests or some class assignments (say 30%) could be of this type. It will also facilitate better understanding and application of the knowledge with a better potential for its positive impact.
- iii. **Spoken / Oral Examinations:** These types of examinations can be introduced with the support of new generation of technologies. They can make examinations faster and easier and be helpful to students with different abilities.
- iv. **Group Tasks- Group Discussion/ Fishbowl Technique / Role Play / Authentic Problem Solving:** It comprises small groups of 2 to 5 members who work on a task jointly. It encourages team work (collaboration and co-operation) and provides an opportunity for authentic skill development. Groups formed must be roughly equal in size, problems assigned should be similar and of same difficulty level and each team member must have a specific role. Rubrics for marking must be mutually decided and should include all domains of education. Such an approach is followed some times for projects and also for laboratory assessments. But it is generally not followed for theory type examinations. However, the group examinations, for theory papers, can improve the average performance of a class as students would be encouraged to share their knowledge with each other and it would also help them to improve their general understanding.
- v. **Semester End Examination:** It is traditional and requires essay type answers and it also has time- constrains. It tests memory most of the time more than higher level thinking. But the semester end question paper must be designed to test all levels of cognitive domain and should include all types of

questions-essay, short answer, quantitative problems, objective type etc. Model Answers should be prepared for guidance in assessment of essay type answers so that subjectivity in evaluation is minimized. Marking Criteria should be made known to students.

b) Formative Examinations and Evaluation Strategies

- i) **Portfolios:** This method monitors the growth and learning of students. It can contain many different forms of assessments as it is a collection of student's work. These methods are followed usually in practical courses to display an overview of the sectional work or some creative endeavor. It can contain evidence of a wide range of skills and attributes and can be very effective in combination with a quick viva exam.
- ii) **ePortfolio**, a comprehensive assessment tool, showcases the students learning progression. It is not only a compilation of a few best assignments and the activities of a learner throughout the programme, but it is also his/her reflections about the assignments, experiences and challenges faced during the process of working on these assignments, overall approach, attitude, philosophy towards life as a learner and also his/her academic resume. ePortfolio is which becomes a mirror to the learner for the world.
- iii) **Classroom/Online Quizzes/ Objective Tests / Recognition Type (such as MCQs; True or False; Matching; Classifying) /Recall Type -Filling Blanks; One word / Phrase Answers:**
These are short duration structured Tests and can be used to test interpretation and decision skills. Teachers need to be trained in construction of such Tests. It also needs careful planning to ensure that the answer choices are clear. Paper-pencil tests and over-use of question-answers may be discouraged for formative assessments. They may be conducted at a frequency of four per semester including one for Makeup and one for Surprise Quiz. A few ICT tools for quizzes and games can be used for formative assessment.

c) Assessment Rubrics

A rubric for assessment, also called a scoring guide, is a tool used to interpret and grade students on any kind of work against criteria and standards. An assessment

rubric provides the means to increase objectivity in assessment and reduce subjectivity. It also presents a clear expectation on the assessments, and relates it to learning outcomes and ensures consistency, transparency, efficiency and fairness in the evaluation process across course instructors for uniform assessment with same scores assigned to answers having same/similar values for a large group of students. It defines clear guidelines for moderation and provides more objective data for analytics. Usually in the form of a grid, a grading/ marking/ scoring rubric combines the elements of performance, criteria and descriptors to create an assessment tool for the course instructor. The assessment criteria define the characteristics or traits, to be judged, which should be derived from the course learning outcomes and indicate what is expected to be demonstrated. Level of performance is the rating or measure on the degree of achievement on a particular criterion as specified by the rubric, i.e., excellent/good/satisfactory/poor etc. Descriptors identify the qualities required to demonstrate the achievement of each level of performance for each criterion. Listed in the form of short explanations, they provide guidance on the actual judgement on the assessment to match students' performance.

d) Other Approaches

An indirect method of examination and evaluation is based upon a report of perceived student learning which include surveys, exit interviews, and focus groups. In addition, the assessment components may include exercises for soft skill development and reading-analyzing-interpretation-presentation ability enhancement (self-study, article/book Review, seminars, paper/poster presentations, group discussions, viva/ oral exam), work-based training (craft work, field work/ assignments, internship, projects) and solving techniques (tutorials).

The assessment tools (internal and external) for each course must be mapped to the revised Bloom's taxonomy action verbs (refer <http://thesecndprinciple.com/teaching-essentials/beyond-bloom-cognitive-taxonomy-revised/>) to help measure student performance. Appendix 2 under 2.5 of the UGC Report on 'Evaluation Reforms in Higher Educational Institutions'

provides the detailed process of determination of attainment of Program Education Objectives while Appendix-3 provides the critical overview of Assessment Types along with learner attributes.

4.4 Evaluation and Assessment under Multidisciplinary Four Year Degree Program

Assessment is an integral part of the teaching learning process. A multidisciplinary program requires a multidimensional assessment to measure the effectiveness of the diverse courses. The assessment process acts as an indicator to both faculty and students to improve continuously. Evaluation and Assessment should be a combination of continuous formative evaluation and an end-point summative evaluation. A range of tools and processes for evaluation and assessment, as illustrated in previous section, should be used (e.g., open book tests, portfolios, case study/assignments, seminars/presentations, field work, projects, dissertations, peer and self-assessment) in addition to the standard examination modes. Paper-pencil tests should be designed rigorously using a range of tools and processes (e.g., constructed response, open ended items, multiple-choice with more than one correct answer). Faculty may provide options for a student to improve his / her performance in the continuous assessment mode. It is possible to administer many or one type of assessment at regular intervals or choose the best out of the many. This will encourage a student to improve on skills and performance.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools can be used for Proctoring as well as many more assessments like, attention levels, speed of learning, level of learning etc. Hence new tools should be experimented with for examinations and assessments.

Based on the types of assessment and triangulation of assessments, University/Autonomous College BoS, BOEE, and AC can work out various models of Assessment for theory courses, practical courses, vocational/ skill-based courses, internship, regional case studies, cocurricular courses, and research project/dissertations with due focus on continuous assessments, mixing types, so that ongoing feedback is obtained for both the teacher and the student. The following paragraph provides the mechanism of evaluation and assessment used for courses on Life Skills, Vocational courses, MOOCs, and Field Projects.

a. Assessment of Life Skills

The Life Skill course requires active participation of the students and the faculty as Facilitator, Mentor and Trainer. For this purpose, various activities are required to be incorporated into the courses - oral presentations, impromptu speaking, quiz, debates, case studies, creative thinking, team building exercises, field visits, projects, psychometric analysis etc. These are required to be assessed using innovative techniques.

b. Assessment of Skill Component of the Vocational Courses

The Skill component of the vocational courses will be generally assessed by the respective Sector Skill Councils (SSC). In case, there is no SSC for a specific trade, the assessment may be done by an allied Sector Council or the Industry partner or a recognized Skill University. Further, if the SSC in the concerned/relevant trade has no approved Qualification Pack/set of competencies, which can be mapped progressively or due to any other reason the SSC expresses its inability to conduct the assessment or cannot conduct the skill assessment in stipulated time frames as per an academic calendar, the institutions may conduct the skill assessment through a Skill Assessment Board by "Certified Assessors" as per the provisions enumerated in MoE Skill Assessment Matrix for Vocational Advancement of Youth (SAMVAY). SAMVAY defines the rules for credit allotment and follows the NSQF regulatory framework while stating the credit assessment requirements for skills. The skill based courses, under SAMVAY, generally, have both the skills and general education components. As per SAMVAY, the credits regarding skill component may be awarded in terms of NSQF level certification which will have more than 50% weightage of total credits of the course based on the assessment in a manner prescribed by the concerned regulatory body.

The Skill Assessment Board in HEI may have a Vice-Chancellor / Principal / Director / Nodal Officer / Coordinator of the programme/center, representatives of the partner industry(s), one nominee of the Controller of Examination or his/her nominee of the university/autonomous college and at least one external expert.

c. **Evaluation and Certification of Credit-based MOOCs on SWAYAM Platform**
As per UGC (Credit Framework for Online Learning Courses through SWAYAM) Regulations, 2021,

- i. The HEI and the course-coordinator shall be responsible for evaluating the student registered for the credit-based MOOCs offered on SWAYAM platform.
- ii. The final evaluation of a course shall be based on internal assessment and semester end examination and the internal assessment (with a maximum of 30% marks) based on instruments such as discussion forums, quizzes, assignments, sessional examinations and the complete evaluation scheme of a course shall be announced at the time of launch of the course.
- iii. Online semester end examination shall be the preferred mode provided that the course-coordinator shall be authorized to decide on the mode of conducting the final examination, either through online mode or pen and paper mode and this shall be announced in the overview of the course at the time of offering of the course.
- iv. The term end proctored examination for all the SWAYAM based credit courses shall be conducted either by the SWAYAM Board or by any other agency authorized by the GoI in the MoE, across the country.
- v. After conduct of the examination and completion of evaluation, the course-coordinator, through the HEI, shall award marks or grades, as per the evaluation scheme announced.
- vi. A certificate regarding successful completion of the SWAYAM based credit course shall be signed by the National Coordinator and authorized signatory of the HEI and shall be made available on SWAYAM platform within four weeks from the date of declaration of the semester end examination result.
- vii. The HEI shall incorporate the marks or grades obtained by the student in the marks sheet that counts for final award of the certificate or diploma or degree by the university.

d. **Evaluation of Field Projects**

The field-based learning/project attempts to provide opportunities for students to understand the different socio-economic contexts and observe situation in rural

and urban contexts. Hence the mode of assessment of progress of Field Projects would be different and will follow steps as illustrated in Table 4.2.

Table: 4.2

Evaluation of a Regional Case Study Course or Field Projects

Module	Unit	% Distribution of Credit
1	Basic structure of society, key definitions of problem area, analysis of preliminary data	30
2	Classroom-work - correspondence, formats, interactions, liaising	10
3	Field-work and data gathering	30
4	Analysis and Reporting	20
5	Feedback to Community	10

For effective assessment of the various courses under four year degree program, the student assessment should be as comprehensive as possible and provide meaningful and constructive feedback to faculty and student on the teaching-learning process. Assessment tasks need to evaluate the capacity to analyze and synthesize new information and concepts rather than simply recall information previously presented. The process of assessment should be carried on in a manner that encourages better student participation and rigorous study.

e) Continuous Assessment Tests (CAT) and End Semester Examinations

Total marks for each course shall be based on continuous assessments and semester end examinations. It is necessary to have uniform pattern of 40 : 60 for Continuous Assessment Tests (CAT) and Semester End theory examinations respectively and 50 : 50 for CAT and Semester End practical examinations respectively, in all the Universities, their Affiliated and Autonomous Colleges, across Maharashtra State.

Three CAT, each of 20% marks, would be conducted at different phases (25%, 50% and 75% of completion of syllabus or 25, 50, and 75 working days out of 90 working days of Semester) throughout the Semester. Each concurrent assessment (CAT- I, II, III) will be mapped to relevant course learning outcomes. Total Performance in CAT (i.e., 40%) would be based on best two out of three CAT examinations.

Course Teacher will have the liberty to choose from a variety of assessment tools/ methods (class test, assignment, Record book, Tutorials, Seminar, Case study, Field work, Project work, Quiz) which may be deemed to be appropriate for assessing the relevant course outcome.

The question paper for Semester End Examination must be designed to test all levels of cognitive domain and should include all types of questions- essay, short answer, quantitative problems, objective type etc. Model Answers for marking essay type questions should be prepared for minimizing subjectivity in evaluation. Marking Criteria should be made known to the students.

Repeat End Semester Examinations within 15 days/one month of regular even semester examinations and On demand examinations: With advent of new methods which are technology based and also blending of teaching-learning and examinations in new form, it would be a good approach and practice to offer Repeat End Semester Examinations within 15 days/one month of regular even semester examinations and Examination on demand to offer more flexibility and student centricity.

4.5 Determination of CGPA and Grading and Declaration of Results

The courses under Programme should be evaluated by following the grading system, which is considered to be better than the conventional marks system. The uniform grading system across India in general and the State Universities in Maharashtra in particular will facilitate the mobility of students across institutions within India to begin with and across countries in due time. The uniform grading system will also enable potential employers in assessing the performance of the candidates. In order to bring uniformity in evaluation system and computation of the Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) based on student's performance in examinations, the UGC has formulated the guidelines which needs to be followed.

The total Credit Points earned by the student could be obtained by multiplying the credits earned with the NCrF Level at which the credits have been earned. Thus, the total Credit Points Earned for four year multidisciplinary UG programme with level 6 and minimum of 40 Credits Earned/ year will be 240. Similarly for the three year Degree, two year Diploma and 1 year Certificate Programme, the total Credit Points Earned would be 220, 200 and 180, respectively.

a) Computation of SGPA and CGPA

The UGC (UGC Draft on Curricular Framework and Credit System for the Four-Year Undergraduate Programme, 2022) recommends the following procedure to compute the Semester Grade Point Average (SGPA) and Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA).

- i. The SGPA is the ratio of sum of the product of the number of credits with the grade points scored by a student in all the courses taken by a student and the sum of the number of credits of all the courses undergone by a student:

$$\text{SGPA } (S_i) = [\sum (C_i \times G_i)] / (\sum C_i)$$

Where, C_i is the number of credits of the i^{th} course and G_i is the grade point scored by the student in the i^{th} course.

- ii. The CGPA is also calculated in the same manner taking into account all the courses undergone by a student over all the semesters of a programme.

$$\text{CGPA} = [\sum (C_i \times S_i) / (\sum C_i)]$$

Where S_i is the SGPA of the i^{th} semester and C_i is the total number of credits in that semester.

- iii. The SGPA and CGPA shall be rounded off to 2 decimal points and reported in the transcripts.

b) Grading and Declaration of Results

Currently the title/nomenclature and programme duration of Bachelor's and PG degree are as follows:

- Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.), Bachelor of Commerce (B.Com.), Bachelor of Vocation (B.Voc.), Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA). Programme duration: Three years (six semesters).
- Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.): Programme duration: Two years (four semesters) after completing a Bachelor's degree programme
- Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.). Programme duration: One year (two semesters) after completing a Bachelor's degree (Honors/Research) or Master's degree.
- Integrated Teacher Education Programme (ITEP): Programme duration: Four years (eight semesters).
- Bachelor of Engineering (B.E.), Bachelor of Technology (B.Tech.). Programme duration: Four years (eight semesters).

- Bachelor of Architecture (B.Arch.): Five years (ten semesters).
- Bachelor of Pharmacy (B.Pharm.): Four years (8 semesters).

The declaration of result is based on the Semester Grade Point Average (SGPA) earned towards the end of each semester or the Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) earned at the completion of all the eight semesters of the programme and the corresponding overall alpha-sign or letter grades as given under NHEQF. If some candidates exit at the completion of first, second or third year of the four years Undergraduate Programmes, with Certificate, Diploma or the Basic Degree, respectively, then the results of successful candidates at the end of second, fourth or sixth semesters shall also be classified on the basis of the CGPA obtained in the two, four, six or eight semesters, respectively for award of

- Certificate in Arts/ Science/ Commerce
- Diploma in Arts/ Science/ Commerce
- Bachelor's Degree in Arts/ Science/ Commerce
- Bachelor's Degree with Honors in DSC/SSC/FSC.
- Bachelor's Degree with Research in DSC/SSC/FSC

In addition to what is stated above, successful candidates at the end of tenth semester of the integrated Master's Degree Programmes, shall also be classified on the basis of CGPA obtained in the ten semesters of the Programmes. Likewise, the successful candidates of one year or two semesters Master's Degree Programme are also classified on the basis of CGPA of two semesters of the Master's Degree Programme.

Table 4.3:
Letter Grades and Grade Points

Semester GPA/ Program CGPA Semester/Program	% of Marks	Alpha-Sign / Letter Grade Result
9.00-10.00	90.0-100	O (Outstanding)
8.00-<9.00	80.0-<90.0	A+ (Excellent)
7.00-<8.00	70.0-<80.0	A (Very Good)
6.00-<7.00	60.0-<70	B+ (Good)
5.50-<6.00	55.0 <60.0	B (Above Average)
5.00-<5.50	50.0-<55.0	C (Average)
4.00-<5.00	40.0-<50.0	P (Pass)
Below 4.00	Below 40	F (Fail)
Ab (Absent)	-	Absent

A student obtaining Grade F shall be considered failed and will be required to reappear in the examination. For non credit courses 'Satisfactory' or "Unsatisfactory' shall be indicated instead of the letter grade and this will not be counted for the computation of SGPA/CGPA. The process of continuous evaluation of a student's performance/progress and flexibility is allowed to students to progress at an optimum pace suited to their ability or convenience, subject to fulfilling minimum requirements for continuation and within the maximum allowable period for completion of a degree. The Universities can decide on the grade or percentage of marks required to pass in a course and also the CGPA required to qualify for a degree taking into consideration the recommendations of the statutory professional councils such as AICTE, MCI, BCI, NCTE etc.

Based on the above recommendations on Letter grades, grade points and SGPA and CGPA, the HEIs may issue the transcript for each semester and a consolidated transcript indicating the performance in all semesters.

4.6 Credit Transfer Mechanism-Academic Bank of Credits (ABC)

Credit transfer is the key to successful, interdisciplinary/multidisciplinary academic mobility of students across the HEIs in the country. In order to pave the way for seamless student mobility between or within registered degree-granting HEIs through multiple entry and exit options at the multidisciplinary four year UG and Master's levels, the Academic Bank of Credits (ABC), the virtual storehouse drafted on the lines of the National Academic Depository (NAD), will work as academic service mechanism through a formal system of credit recognition, credit accumulation, credit transfers, and credit redemption to promote distributed and flexible teaching-learning. The UGC Regulations on ABC has elaborated these terms as given below:

"Credit accumulation" means the facility created by ABC in the 'Academic Bank Account' opened by students across the country in order to transfer and consolidate the 'credits' earned by them by fully or partially completing "courses" in any of the eligible and registered HEIs.

"Credits recognition" would mean the credits earned through eligible/partnering HEIs and transferred directly to the ABC by the concerned HEI.

“Credit redemption” means the process of commuting the accrued ‘credits’ in the ‘Academic Bank Account’ of the students maintained in ABC for the purpose of fulfilling the ‘credits requirements’ for the award of Certificates / Diplomas/ Degrees etc., by the degree-awarding HEIs.

“Credit-transfer” means the mechanism by which the eligible HEIs registered (RHEI) with ABC are able to receive or provide prescribed ‘credits’ to individual registered ABC account in adherence to the UGC credit norms for the ‘course/s’ registered by the desirous students in any eligible HEI within India.

The National Credit Framework (NCrF) provides for creditisation of all learning and Assignment, Accumulation, Storage, Transfer & Redemption of Credits in alignment with the National Higher Education Qualification Framework (NHEQF), National School Education Qualifications Framework (NSEQF), which is a new concept, and National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF) which are the comprehensive credit-based Academic & Skill Qualification frameworks. Thus, there would be only one credit framework for higher education, school education and skill education, namely the National Credit Framework (NCrF) and only single credit system would be operationalized through Academic Bank of Credits (ABC). The credit points may be redeemed as per ABC guidelines for entry or admission in school, higher, technical or Vocational Education programs/ courses at multiple levels enabling horizontal and vertical mobility with various lateral entry options.

HEIs offering programmes with the multiple entry and exit system need to register in the ABC to enable acceptance of multidisciplinary courses, credit transfer, and credit acceptance. ABC will facilitate students to become its academic account holders across the country to transfer and consolidate the credits earned by them by fully or partially completing courses in any of the eligible HEIs. Courses undergone by the students through the online modes are also accepted. Credits from skill courses can be earned from RHEI offering vocational courses. The ABC shall maintain a dynamic online directory of RHEIs which satisfy the eligibility criteria stipulated under regulation. With the approval of its statutory authorities, a RHEI shall be encouraged by ABC to allocate the structure of courses offered by it as core courses or core electives or open electives or skill enhancement electives or ability enhancement electives etc. with appropriate

credit requirements, in order to promote multi-disciplinary or interdisciplinary higher education. Credits earned and deposited with ABC shall be valid to a maximum duration of seven years. Credits earned and deposited with ABC shall be valid for the purpose of redemption for fulfilling the credits requirements for the award of certificate/diploma/degree/PG Diploma/ PG Degree by the authorized HEIs for varying duration as specified by the credit awarding and credit accepting HEI subject to a maximum duration of seven years. Upon collecting a certificate, diploma or degree, all the credits earned till then, in respect of that certificate, diploma or degree, shall stand debited and deleted from the account concerned.

The State Universities in Maharashtra are uploading the data of all students who are graduating from their institutes in Digi locker facility which allows the storage of soft copies of relevant documents. The facility is equipped with security features and can be accessed by stake holders, especially by students, 24 x 7. Digi lockers can be personalized and protected with a password.