



The Odisha Universities Act, 1989

Act No. 5 of 1989

Amendments appended: 3 of 2025, 6 of 2025

DISCLAIMER: This document is being furnished to you for your information by PRS Legislative Research (PRS). The contents of this document have been obtained from sources PRS believes to be reliable. These contents have not been independently verified, and PRS makes no representation or warranty as to the accuracy, completeness or correctness. In some cases the Principal Act and/or Amendment Act may not be available. Principal Acts may or may not include subsequent amendments. For authoritative text, please contact the relevant state department concerned or refer to the latest government publication or the gazette notification. Any person using this material should take their own professional and legal advice before acting on any information contained in this document. PRS or any persons connected with it do not accept any liability arising from the use of this document. PRS or any persons connected with it shall not be in any way responsible for any loss, damage, or distress to any person on account of any action taken or not taken on the basis of this document.

THE ORISSA UNIVERSITIES ACT, 1989

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PREAMBLE

SECTIONS

1. Short title, Extent and Commencement
2. Definitions
3. Establishment and incorporation
4. Officers, teachers and authorities of University
5. The Chancellor
6. The Vice-Chancellor
7. Registrar
8. Comptroller of Finance
9. Senate
10. Syndicate
11. Academic Council
12. Powers of the Academic council
13. Registration of College Teachers and graduates
14. Membership to cease if the person ceases to hold the office by virtue of which he became a member.
15. Suspension of any member by Chancellor
16. Filling of casual vacancies
17. Proceedings of University and bodies not invalidated by vacancies, etc.
18. Admission of educational institutions as Colleges
19. Exclusion of Colleges from privileges of University
20. Termination of privileges granted by other Universities to educational institutions
21. Appointment of Officers, Teachers and other employees of the University
22. Creation of posts
23. Audit of Accounts
24. Statutes
25. Regulations
26. General Fund of University
27. Foundation Fund
28. Constitution of other funds
29. Removal from membership and withholding of degrees
30. Disqualifications
31. Supersession of authorities and taking over management
32. Alteration of jurisdiction of Universities and establishment of new Universities
33. Repeal and savings
34. Removal of doubts and difficulties

Short extent commer-
ment.

Definit

ORISSA ACT 5 OF 1989

*THE ORISSA UNIVERSITIES ACT, 1989

[Received the assent of the Governor on the 3rd April 1989 first published in an extraordinary issue of the *Orissa Gazette*, dated the 3rd April 1989]

AN ACT TO CONSOLIDATE AND AMEND THE LAWS
RELATING TO CERTAIN UNIVERSITIES
IN THE STATE OF ORISSA.

BE it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Orissa in the Fortieth year of the Republic of India, as follows:—

Short title,
extent and
commencement.

1. (1) This Act may be called the Orissa Universities Act, 1989.
(2) It shall extend to the whole of the State of Orissa.
(3) It shall be deemed to have come into force on the 15th day of November, 1988.

Definitions

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,—
 - (a) "Academic Council" means the Academic Council of a University ;
 - (b) "affiliated institution" means a College or an institution affiliated to a University whether in whole or in part;
 - (c) "autonomous college", "autonomous institution" or "autonomous department" means a college, institution or department, as the case may be, on which the status of autonomy has been conferred under this Act;
 - (d) "College" means an institution admitted to a University in accordance with the provisions of this Act and the statutes and includes a college managed by a University, but does not include a school, whether it is an independent institution or forms part of a college as defined herein;
 - (e) "Constituent College" means a college managed by a University ;
 - (f) "Director" means the Director of Higher Education, Orissa or his nominee who shall be not below the rank of a Professor ;
 - (g) "District" and "Subdivision" shall respectively mean the District and Sub-division within the meaning of the Orissa Revenue Administrative (Units) Orissa Act 22 of 1963 Act, 1963 ;
 - (h) "prescribed" means prescribed by statutes ;
 - (i) "registered graduate" means a graduate registered under this Act ;
 - (j) "registered teacher" means a teacher registered under this Act ;
 - (k) "Regulations" means the Regulations made by the Academic Council under section 25 of this Act;

*For the Bill see *Orissa Gazette*, Extraordinary, dated the 18th March 1989 (No. 449)

- (l) "Senate" means the Senate of a University ;
- (m) "Statutes" means the Statutes of the concerned University made under this Act ;
- (n) "Syndicate" means the Syndicate of a University ;
- (o) "Teacher of the University" means a teacher specified in sub-section (2) of section 4 ; and
- (p) "University" means a University established or deemed to have been established under this Act.

Explanation—Reference to the University in this Act shall be construed as references to each of the Universities ;

(q) the expressions Vishvavidyalaya, Kuladhipati, Kulapati, Adhishad, Sansad, Bidya Parishad, Kulasachib, Bittadhikari, Pariksha Niyantaka, Upakulasachib, Sahayak Kulasachib, Mahavidyalaya, Pracharya, Upacharya, Pradhyapaka, Shikshaka and Acharya in relation to Sri Jagannath Sanskrit Vishvavidyalaya shall respectively mean University, Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor, Syndicate, Senate, Academic Council, Registrar, Comptroller of Finance, Controller of Examinations, Deputy Registrar, Assistant Registrar, College, Professor, Reader, Lecturer, Instructor and Graduate.

Establishment and incorporation. 3. (1) The following Universities shall be deemed to have been established under this Act, namely:—

- (i) the Utkal University established under the Utkal University Act, 1966 having Orissa Act jurisdiction over the districts of Cuttack, Puri, Balasore, Mayurbhanj ²⁰ of 1966, Keonjhar and the district of Dhenkanal excluding the Athmallik Subdivision;
- (ii) the Berhampur University established under the Berhampur University Act, Orissa Act 1966 having jurisdiction over the districts of Ganjam, Koraput and Phulbani ²¹ of 1966, excluding the Boud Subdivision thereof;
- (iii) the Sambalpur University established under the Sambalpur University Act, Orissa Act 1966 having jurisdiction over the districts of Sambalpur, Balangir, Sundergarh, Kalahandi, the Boud Subdivision of the district of Phulbani and the Athmallik Subdivision of the district of Dhenkanal;
- (iv) Shri Jagannath Sanskrit Vishvavidyalaya established under the Shri Jagannath Sanskrit Vishvavidyalaya Act, 1981 having jurisdiction over the whole ²² of 1981, of the State of Orissa.

(2) The Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor of every University and the members of the Senate, Syndicate and the Academic Council thereof shall constitute a body corporate by the name of that University.

(3) The University shall have perpetual succession and a common seal and shall sue and be sued by its name.

(4) Subject to the provisions of this Act and the Statutes, the University shall be competent to acquire and hold property, both movable and immovable, to lease, sell or otherwise transfer any movable or immovable property which may have become vested in, or may have been acquired by it, for the purposes of the University and to contract and do all other things necessary for the purposes of this Act.

(5) Every University shall be deemed to have been incorporated for the purposes, among others, of—

- (a) making provision for giving instruction in such branches of learning as it deems fit ;
- (b) promoting original research ;
- (c) examining students and conferring degrees;
- (d) admitting educational institutions to its privileges ;
- (e) inspecting the Colleges and supervising all matters of education and discipline therein; and
- (f) controlling the residence and discipline of the students of the University and promoting their physical, mental and moral welfare.

Officers, teachers and authorities of University.

4. (1) The following shall be the officers of the University, namely:—

- (i) the Chancellor ;
- (ii) the Vice-Chancellor ;
- (iii) the Registrar ;
- (iv) the Comptroller of Finance;
- (v) the Controller of Examinations ; and
- (vi) such other officers as may be prescribed to be officers of the University.

(2) The following shall be the teachers of the University, namely:—

- (i) Professors ;
- (ii) Readers ;
- (iii) Lecturers ; and
- (iv) such other teachers as may be prescribed to be teachers of the University.

(3) The following shall be the authorities of the University, namely:—

- (i) the Senate ;
- (ii) the Syndicate ;
- (iii) the Academic Council ; and
- (iv) such other authorities as may be declared by the Statutes to be the authorities of the University.

The Chancellor.

5. (1) The Governor of Orissa shall be the Chancellor of the University.

(2) The Chancellor shall by virtue of his office be the Head of the University and shall, when present, preside at the convocations of the University convened for the purpose of conferring degrees or for any other purpose.

(3) Every proposal for conferment of an honorary degree shall be subject to confirmation by the Chancellor.

(4) The Chancellor shall decide all disputes with regard to the election, nomination or selection of members of the authorities of the University and his decision shall be final.

(5) The Chancellor shall have the right—

- (i) to make an inspection or cause an inspection to be made by such person or persons as he may direct, of any University, its buildings, laboratories, workshops and equipment and institutions associated with such University and of any examination, teaching or other work conducted or done by such University ; and
- (ii) to make an enquiry or cause an enquiry to be made in like manner in respect of any matter connected with any University, and in every such case, he shall give notice to the Registrar of his intention to make an inspection or enquiry or to cause an inspection or enquiry to be made and the concerned University shall be entitled to be represented thereat;

Provided that the person entrusted with such enquiry or inspection shall not be below the rank of Registrar or of its equivalent rank.

(6) The Chancellor may, with reference to the result of such inspection or enquiry, direct the concerned authority or authorities of such University or the Vice-Chancellor, as the case may be, to take such remedial measures as he deems necessary within such period not being later than six months from the date of receipt of the direction as he may fix in that behalf.

(7) The concerned authority or authorities of such University or the Vice-Chancellor, as the case may be, shall report to the Chancellor such action, if any, as they have taken or propose to take upon the result of such inspection or enquiry and such report shall be submitted to the Chancellor within the period fixed by him under sub-section (6).

(8) If the concerned authority or the Vice-Chancellor, as the case may be, fails to comply with the direction issued by the Chancellor within the period fixed under sub-section (6) or within such further period not being later than three months as the Chancellor may allow in that behalf, the Chancellor may take such remedial measures or pass such order as he deems proper.

(9) The Chancellor shall be competent to issue directions or instructions not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act and Statutes on any matter connected with a University when any authority or Vice-Chancellor fails to act in accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Statutes, or the Regulations.

(10) The Chancellor may, by order in writing, annul any proceeding of the Senate, Syndicate, Academic Council or any other authority which is not in conformity with this Act, the Statutes, the Regulations or the directions issued under sub-section (9);

Provided that before making any such order he shall call upon the authority concerned to show cause as to why such an order should not be made and if any cause is shown within a reasonable time, he shall, after giving an opportunity of hearing if so deemed proper, consider the same.

The Vice-Chancellor.

(1) The Vice-Chancellor shall be a whole-time officer of the University and shall be appointed by the Chancellor from a panel of three names recommended by a Committee unanimously who are not members of the Committee.

(2) If the persons approved on priority basis by the Chancellor, out of the panel so recommended, are not willing to accept the appointment, the Chancellor may call for a fresh panel of three different names from the said Committee or if the Chancellor is of the opinion that none of the persons out of the said panel is suitable for appointment as Vice-Chancellor, the Chancellor may take steps to constitute another Committee to give a fresh panel of three different names and shall appoint one of the persons named in the fresh panel, as the Vice-Chancellor.

(3) The Committee referred to in sub-section (1) shall consist of three members out of whom one member shall be nominated by the Chairman, University Grants Commission, one member shall be nominated by the Chancellor and the remaining member shall be selected by the Syndicate of the concerned University, and the Chancellor shall appoint one of the members to be the Chairman of the Committee.

(4) No person shall be eligible to be a member of the Committee, if he is—

- (a) a member of any of the authorities of the concerned University ; or
- (b) an employee of such University or of any college or institution maintained or recognised by or affiliated to that University.

(5) The business of the Committee shall be conducted in such manner as may be determined, from time to time, by the Chancellor in that behalf.

(6) No person who has attained the age of sixty-five years shall be eligible to be appointed as Vice-Chancellor and no person shall continue to hold the office of the Vice-Chancellor after attaining the age as aforesaid.

(7) The term of office of the Vice-Chancellor shall be three years from the date he assumes office as such, and any person holding such office shall, subject to the provisions contained in sub-section (1) be eligible for re-appointment:

Provided that no person shall be appointed as Vice-Chancellor for more than two terms.

(8) The Chancellor may extend from time to time the term of office of the Vice-Chancellor for a total period not exceeding six months without following the procedure laid down in sub-section (1).

(9) In case the office of the Vice-Chancellor falls vacant due to the absence of the Vice-Chancellor on leave, the Chancellor shall appoint a person on such terms and conditions as he deems necessary to act as the Vice-Chancellor during the period for which the Vice-Chancellor proceeds on leave and the person so appointed shall exercise the powers and performs the functions of the Vice-Chancellor and shall be entitled to all emoluments attached to the office.

(10) In case the office of the Vice-Chancellor falls vacant due to any other reason, the vacancy shall be filled in the manner specified in sub-section (1) and the person appointed to fill such vacancy shall hold office and shall be eligible for re-appointment in accordance with the provisions contained in sub-section (7):

Provided that where it is not reasonably practicable to fill up the vacancy in the manner aforesaid immediately after it occurs, the Chancellor may appoint a person to act as the Vice-Chancellor for such period, not exceeding six months, as he may fix and the person so appointed shall exercise the powers and perform the functions of the Vice-Chancellor and shall be entitled to all emoluments attached to the office.

(11) The executive authority of the University shall vest in the Vice-Chancellor.

(12) The Vice-Chancellor of the University shall, when present, preside at the meetings of the Senate and at every meeting of any other authority of which he is a member and, in the absence of the Chancellor, shall also preside at a Convocation of the University.

(13) The conditions of service such as salary and allowances of the Vice-Chancellor of the University shall be such as may be prescribed.

(14) Subject to availability of funds in the budget, the Vice-Chancellor of the University shall have power to sanction, after obtaining the opinion of the Comptroller of Finance, expenditure up to such sum as may be prescribed during the course of a financial year and shall make a report of all such expenditure to the Syndicate at the earliest opportunity:

Provided that it shall be competent for the Vice-Chancellor to differ from the opinion of the Comptroller of Finance, if he deems it so fit, after recording his reasons therefor.

(15) If the Vice-Chancellor of a University is of the opinion that any order or decision in respect of any matter, which is required under the provisions of this Act or the Statutes to be passed or made by any authority of that University, is necessary to be passed or made immediately and it is not practicable to convene a meeting of the concerned authority for that purpose, he may pass such order or take such decision as he deems proper and place the order or decision, as the case may be, before the concerned authority at its next meeting for ratification, and where the authority differs from the Vice-Chancellor the matter shall be referred to the Chancellor whose decision thereon shall be final:

Provided that if the matter involves any financial transaction, the Vice-Chancellor shall, before passing such order or taking such decision, obtain the opinion of the Comptroller of Finance, but it shall be competent for the Vice-Chancellor to differ from such opinion, if he deems it so fit, after recording his reasons therefor.

(16) The Vice-Chancellor of every University shall review the performance of teachers and officers of that University annually and submit a report thereon to the Chancellor in the manner prescribed.

(17) The Vice-Chancellor shall have power—

(i) to require the teachers of different colleges to report to him about the conduct of University examination; and

(ii) to give such directions to the officers in charge of such examinations as he deems necessary in consultation with the Controller of Examination.

(18) The Vice-Chancellor shall inspect the co-edges and institutions of, or affiliated to the University at least once in three years.

(19) Notwithstanding anything contained in this section, the Chancellor shall appoint such person as he deems fit to be the first Vice-Chancellor of a University newly established under this Act and the person so appointed shall hold office for such period, not exceeding one year, and subject to such terms and conditions as the Chancellor may fix in that behalf.

(20) The Chancellor may, at any time, by an order in writing, remove the Vice-Chancellor of a University from office if in his opinion it appears that his continuance in office is detrimental to the interests of that University:

Provided that no such removal shall be made without an enquiry being conducted by a sitting or retired Judge of the High Court or Supreme Court and giving the Vice-Chancellor a reasonable opportunity of being heard.

(21) As from the date specified in the order made under sub-section (20), the Vice-Chancellor shall be deemed to have relinquished the office and the office of the Vice-Chancellor shall fall vacant.

Registrar 7. (1) The Registrar shall be appointed by the Chancellor. He shall be a whole time officer of the concerned University and shall act as Secretary to the Senate, the Syndicate and the Academic Council of such University.

(2) The Registrar shall, subject to the control of the Vice-Chancellor,—

- (a) manage the properties and investments of the University;
- (b) remain in custody of the properties and funds of the University;
- (c) remain in custody of the records, the common seal and such other property of the University as the Vice-Chancellor shall commit to his charge;
- (d) sign all contracts made on behalf of the University;
- (e) be the head of the University Office;
- (f) exercise and perform such other powers and duties as may be prescribed by the Statutes and the Regulations and as may, from time to time, be assigned to him by the Senate, Syndicate and the Academic Council.

(3) The Registrar shall generally render such assistance to the Vice-Chancellor as may be required by him in the performance of his duties.

(4) The Registrar shall have the right to speak and otherwise take part in the proceedings at a meeting of any of the authorities of the University but shall not be entitled to vote at any such meeting.

Comptroller of Finance 8. (1) The Comptroller of Finance shall be appointed by the Chancellor in consultation with the State Government from among the officers of the Orissa Finance Service and shall be a whole-time officer of the University.

(2) The salary, allowances and other dues of the Comptroller of Finance shall be paid by the concerned University.

(3) The Comptroller of Finance shall, subject to the control of the Vice-Chancellor,—

- (a) be responsible for the proper investment of the funds of the University;
- (b) exercise general supervision of such funds;
- (c) tender advice with regard to financial transactions of the University;
- (d) be responsible for preparation and presentation of the annual financial estimates and statements of accounts for presentation by the Vice-Chancellor;

- (e) ensure that all moneys are expended for the purpose for which they are granted or allotted by the appropriate authority;
- (f) examine the statements of accounts of the constituent colleges and submit a report on such examination to the Syndicate ; and
- (g) exercise such other powers and perform such other functions as may be prescribed.

(4) The Comptroller of Finance shall be responsible to the Vice-Chancellor for ensuring that no expenditure outside the budget is incurred by the University otherwise than by way of investments and shall disallow any expenditure which is not permissible under the Statutes.

(5) The Comptroller of Finance shall have the right to speak in, and otherwise take part in the proceedings of the Senate and the Syndicate as and when required, and in all such cases, his advice shall be recored in the proceedings of the Syndicate, or the Senate, as the case may be but he shall not be entitled to vote.

(6) The advice of the Comptroller of financeon all financial matters, shall be taken before they are given effect to and, save as provided in the proviso to sub-sections (14) and (15) of section 6, wherever a decision is taken to the contrary in respect of any expenditure exceeding ten thousand rupees, it shall be reported to the Chancellor whose decision thereon shall be final.

Senate

9. (1) The Senate shall consist of the following members, namely:—

Ex Officio members :

- (a) the Vice-Chancellor of the concerned University ;
- (b) the Director ;
- (c) the Director of Medical Education and Training, Orissa ;
- (d) the Director, Technical Education, Orissa ;
- (e) the Chairman, Council of Higher Education, Orissa or the Vice-Chairman duly authorised by him ;
- (f) the Advocate-General, Orissa ;
- (g) the Principal of Shriram Chandra Bhanj Medical College in case of Utkal University, the Principal of Maharaja Krishna Chandra Gajapati Medical College in case of Berhampur University and the Principal of Veer Surendra Sai Medical College in case of Sambalpur University ;
- (h) the Principal of Revenshaw College in case of Utkal University, the Principal of Khallikote College in case of Berhampur University, the Principal of Gangadhar Meher College in case of Sambalpur University and one of the Principals of Sanskrit Colleges to be selected by the Chancellor in case of Shri Jagannath Sanskrit Vishvavidyalaya ;
- (i) the Principals of the Burla Engineering College, and Regional Engineering College in case of Sambalpur University and the Principal of Engineering College (Talcher) in case of Utkal University ;
- (j) Chairman, Post-Graduate Council of the concerned University ;
- (k) heads of all Post-Graduate Departments of the concerned University ;

Other Members :

- (l) Principals other than those specified in clauses (g), (h) and (i) of no more than one-third the number of affiliated colleges of the concerned University, subject to a maximum of twenty, as may be nominated by the Chancellor on seniority-cum-rotation basis in the manner prescribed keeping in view the representations of the Districts, Institutions for "women minorities" professional subjects, Post-Graduate studies and the non Government Colleges ;
- (m) two members of the concerned Academic Council, to be elected from among themselves ;
- (n) three members of the Orissa Legislative Assembly to be elected from among themselves ;

- (o) two persons from learned societies within the jurisdiction of the University, to be nominated by the Chancellor;
- (p) four students to be elected by the Presidents, Vice-Presidents, Secretaries and Assistant Secretaries of the College Unions and University Students Union of the concerned University from among themselves;
- (q) one member from amongst the non-teaching employees of the concerned University to be elected from among themselves;
- (r) the outgoing Vice-Chancellor of the concerned University;
- (s) ten members to be elected by the registered college teachers of the concerned University from among themselves and three members to be elected by the Post-Graduate teachers of the concerned University from among themselves;
- (t) thirteen registered graduates of the concerned University other than the teachers of a University or any College, of whom seven shall be elected by the registered graduates other than the Ladies, three shall be elected by the registered lady graduates from among themselves, respectively, and two shall be from the Scheduled Tribes and one shall be from the Scheduled Castes to be nominated by the Chancellor;
- (u) three students including a lady student of the concerned University, to be nominated by the Vice-Chancellor, of whom two shall be from students having outstanding performance in academic pursuits and one shall be from students having outstanding performance in sports;
- (v) five eminent persons to be nominated by the Chancellor.

Provided that in respect of Shree Jagannath Sanskrit Vishvavidyalaya the *ex-officio* members specified in clauses (c) and (d) shall not be taken as *ex-officio* members".

(2) The term of office of the members of the Senate other than the *ex-officio* members shall be three years:

Provided that the term of office of student-members shall be for one academic year.

(3) The Senate shall exercise and perform the following powers and functions, namely:—

- (i) to review policies and programmes of the University and suggest measures for its improvement and development;
- (ii) to consider the annual report, annual accounts and audit report of the University and to pass resolutions thereon;
- (iii) to exercise such other powers and perform such other functions as may be prescribed;

10. (1) The Syndicate shall consist of the following members, namely:—

Ex officio members:

- (a) the Vice-Chancellor of the concerned University;
- (b) the Director;
- (c) the Chairman, Post-Graduate Council of the concerned University;
- (d) the Principal of Shriram Chandra Bhanji Medical College in case of Utkal University, the Principal of Maharaja Krishna Chandra Gajapati Medical College in case of Berhampur University and the Principal of Veer Surendra Sai Medical College in case of Sambalpur University;
- (e) the Principal of Ravenshaw College in case of Utkal University, the Principal of Khallikote College in case of Berhampur University, the Principal of Gangadhar Meher College in case of Sambalpur University and one of the Principals of Sanskrit Colleges to be selected by the Chancellor in case of Shri Jagannath Sanskrit Vishvavidyalaya;
- (f) the Principals of the Burla Engineering College and Regional Engineering College in case of Sambalpur University and the Principal of Engineering College (Talcher) in case of Utkal University;

Other members:

Syndicate

- (x) two Professors of the concerned University and one Professor from Colleges affiliated to the concerned University, to be nominated by the Chancellor on seniority-cum-notation basis;
- (y) one member of the concerned Academic Council to be elected by the members thereof;
- (i) two members of the concerned Senate other than those specified in clauses (a), (b), (g), (h), (i), (j), (m), (p), and (u) of sub-section (1) of section 9 to be elected by the members thereof;
- (j) one eminent person to be nominated by the Chancellor;
- (k) two Principals of Colleges affiliated to the University who have completed not less than twenty years of service, to be nominated by the Chancellor on seniority-cum-rotation basis, keeping in view the representation of different Districts within the local jurisdiction of the concerned University.

(2) The term of office of the members, other than *ex officio* members shall be three years.

(3) Subject to the provisions of this Act and the Statutes, the Syndicate shall perform the functions and exercise the powers, as specified hereunder, namely :—

- (a) appointment of members of the Faculties and Boards of Studies and determination of the procedure to be followed in the conduct of business of the said Faculties and Boards and the quorum required at the meetings thereof;
- (b) appointment of examiners and determination of their remuneration, duties and powers;
- (c) award of scholarships and prizes;
- (d) imposition of punishments for malpractice of examinees and misconduct of students;
- (e) control of examinations and publication of results;
- (f) determination of the standard of instruction and in particular whether the standard laid down by the Academic Council shall be raised or lowered to bring it in conformity with the degrees or examinations concerned;
- (g) passing of the annual budget of the University;
- (h) Preparation of the annual report and annual accounts of the University and submission thereof to the Senate along with the audit report;
- (i) determination of the degrees and diplomas to be granted by the University;
- (j) making proposals for the conferment of honorary degrees, subject to the approval of the Chancellor;
- (k) withdrawal of degrees on the recommendation of the Academic Council;
- (l) making provision for research and for advancement and dissemination of knowledge;
- (m) management of funds, properties of the University and sanctioning the budget of the University;
- (n) declaring a college, an institution or a department as autonomous college, autonomous institution or autonomous department, as the case may be;
- (o) framing of new or additional statutes or amendment or repeal of the Statutes as provided in sub-section (4) of section 24;
- (p) exercising the powers of the University not otherwise provided for.

(4) The Syndicate may delegate such of its functions and powers to the Vice-Chancellor as it deems necessary,

Academic Council.

11. (1) The Academic Council shall consist of the following members, namely;—

Ex Officio Members:

- (a) the Vice-Chancellor of the concerned University;
- (b) the Director;
- (c) the Director of Medical Education and Training;
- (d) the Director of Technical Education, Orissa;
- (e) the Director, Correspondence Course, wherever the faculty exists;
- (f) the Chairman, Council of Higher Secondary Education, Orissa;
- (g) the Chairman, Post-Graduate Council of the concerned University.

Other Members:

- (h) all the heads of departments of the Post-Graduate subjects of the concerned University and the constituent and affiliated colleges thereof;
- (i) the Principals of constituent colleges of the concerned University;
- (j) Principals of not more than one-third the number of affiliated colleges of the University, subject to a maximum of twenty, as may be nominated by the Chancellor keeping in view the representation of the districts, Institutions for women, minorities, professional subjects and Post-Graduate studies and the non-Government Colleges;
- (k) two persons of academic eminence nominated by the Chancellor;
- (l) not more than ten teachers of Colleges within the jurisdiction of the concerned University as may be co-opted as members by the Academic Council so as to secure such representation of different branches of learning as such Council may consider adequate;
- (m) Librarian of the concerned University;
- (n) the officer in charge of students welfare of the concerned University;

Provided that in respect of Shri Jagannath Sanskrit Vishvavidyalaya the *ex officio* members specified in clauses (c) and (d) shall not be taken as *ex officio* members.

(2) The term of office of the members referred to clauses in (j), (k) and (l) of sub-section (1) shall be three years.

Powers of the Academic Council.

12. (1) The Academic Council shall, subject to the provisions of this Act, and the Statutes, have Power to make Regulations relating to all matters which by such Act or the Statutes may be provided by Regulations besides prescribing therein courses of studies and curricula, shall have general control of teaching in the Colleges within the jurisdiction of the concerned University and shall be responsible for the maintenance of standards of instruction.

(2) In particular and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing powers, the Academic Council shall have power—

- (a) to advise the Syndicate on all academic matters;
- (b) to determine the standard of proficiency to be required for ordinary degrees;
- (c) to determine whether any new subject of instruction shall be included in the curriculum of any college or whether any subject shall be omitted therefrom;
- (d) to formulate, modify or revise schemes for the constitution or reconstitution of departments of teaching;
- (e) to make Regulations relating to courses, examinations and the conditions subject to which students shall be admitted to examinations for degrees of the University;
- (f) to call for reports from persons engaged in research and to make recommendations to the Syndicate thereon;
- (g) to control and manage the University library or libraries, to frame Regulations regarding its or their use and to appoint a Library Committee or Committees;

- (h) to make Regulations for encouragement of co-operation and reciprocity among the colleges with a view to promoting uniformity of standards in academic life and pursuit;
- (i) to recognise on such conditions, as may be prescribed, the degrees, diplomas and certificates granted by other Universities and institutions of higher learning and accord such recognition on reciprocal basis wherever applicable;
- (j) to recommend to the Syndicate for withdrawal of a degree conferred on any person; and
- (k) to define the conditions under which exemption relating to admission of students to examinations may be given.

Registration of College Teachers and Graduates. 13. Any graduate of the University and any teacher of a college within the jurisdiction of the University shall, on payment of such fees and subject to such conditions as may be prescribed, be entitled to register himself as a registered graduate or as the case may be, registered college teacher of the University:

Provided that any graduate of a University established under any law ordinarily residing in the area over which such University has its jurisdiction under this Act shall, on payment of the prescribed fees, be entitled to register himself as a registered graduate of such University:

Provided further that no person shall be registered as a graduate or teacher in more than one University at a time.

Explanation—The expression “ordinarily residing” for the purposes of the first proviso shall mean one who has resided within the area referred to in the said proviso for a total period of one hundred and eighty days during the year immediately preceding the date of payment of fees.

Membership to cease if the person ceases to hold the office by virtue of which he became a member. 14. Any person who has become a member of any of the authorities of a University by the process of nomination, election or selection shall, on ceasing to hold the office or on ceasing to hold membership of the association or body, as the case may be, by virtue of which he was nominated, elected or selected, cease to hold office as such member.

Suspension of any member by Chancellor. 15. (1) The Chancellor shall have the power to suspend any member other than an *ex officio* member of any authority of a University and members of the Orissa Legislative Assembly elected to the Senate for the whole or part of the remaining portion of the term if after enquiry he is satisfied that such member has committed serious misconduct and further continuance of such member in such authority is detrimental to the interest of the University:

Provided that no suspension order will be issued without giving such member an opportunity of being heard.

(2) If a member of any authority or body of a University is charge-sheeted criminally on charges of corruption or moral turpitude, the Chancellor may, if he is satisfied that the continuance of such a member will be detrimental to the interest of the University, place such member under suspension till the final disposal of the case ending in his acquittal in the court of law or till the end of the term of such member, whichever is earlier.

Filling of casual vacancies. 16. All vacancies arising by reason of death or otherwise among the members of any of the authorities of the University who were nominated, elected or selected shall be filled up as soon as convenient may be, by nomination, election or selection, as the case may be, and the person so nominated, elected or selected shall hold office for the unexpired portion of the term of his predecessor in office.

Proceedings of University and bodies not invalidated by vacancies etc. 17. No act proceeding of any authority, committee or body of a University shall be invalid merely by reason of—

- (a) existence of any vacancy in, or
- (b) any defect in the nomination, selection, election or appointment of a person acting as member thereto, or
- (c) any irregularity in its procedure not affecting the merits of the case.

Admission of educational institutions as Colleges. 18. (1) No educational institution shall be admitted as college, unless the following conditions are complied with, namely:—

- (a) it is a college recognised by Government as such imparting higher education;
- (b) concurrence of Government to the proposal has been obtained;
- (c) the institution has appointed teachers with qualifications prescribed by the University Grants Commission or the State Government, as the case may be;
- (d) the institution has buildings, library, laboratory and other infrastructure required for imparting education;
- (e) the admission of the institution as a college has, on an application made in that behalf, been approved by the Syndicate; and
- (f) all provisions of the Statutes relating to admission of educational institutions as colleges have been fully complied with:

Provided that in case the institution has substantially complied with the provisions of the Statutes, it can be admitted provisionally as a college for one academic session at a time for a maximum period of two academic sessions.

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (1), any educational institution, which is considered to be devoted to higher field of research, may be admitted to such privileges of the University as it may determine from time to time.

Exclusion of colleges from privileges of University. 19. (1) Any two members of the Syndicate or the Director may bring forward a proposal in the Syndicate that a college be deprived, either in whole or part, of its privileges.

(2) The Syndicate shall cause an inquiry into the defects of the college pointed out in the aforesaid proposal with due notice to the Governing Body of the College and shall allow a period of two months to the college to rectify the defects mentioned in the notice.

(3) In case the Governing Body of the college fails to rectify the defects during the aforesaid period the Syndicate may decide to deprive the college, either in whole or in part, of its privileges and shall submit a copy of its proceedings alongwith a copy of the enquiry report with objections filed by the Governing Body, if any, to the Chancellor, who shall have power to rescind or modify the order of the Syndicate.

Termination of privileges granted by other Universities to educational institutions. 20. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in any other law for the time being in force no educational institution in the area within the jurisdiction of any University, except institutions under the Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology established under the Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology Act, 1965, shall, after the commencement of this Act, be associated in any way with or seek admission to any privilege granted by any such other University to any educational institution in the aforesaid area prior to the commencement of this Act, shall be deemed to have been withdrawn on the commencement of this Act: Orissa Act.

Provided that any educational institution which, in accordance with the provisions of this section, has been deprived of such privilege shall, notwithstanding anything contained in section 18, be deemed to have been granted like privilege by the University within whose jurisdiction the institution is situated.

Appointment of officers and other employees of the University. 21. (1) All officers of the University, excepting the Registrar and the Comptroller of Finance, shall be appointed by the concerned Vice-Chancellor on the recommendation of a Selection Committee consisting of the Director, the Registrar, one member to be selected by the Syndicate of such University from amongst the remaining members thereof and two experts appointed by the said Vice-Chancellor whenever necessary.

(2) The teachers of a University shall be appointed by the Syndicate of that University on the recommendation of a Selection Committee consisting of the concerned Vice-Chancellor, Director, an expert nominated by the Chancellor in the

case of appointment of Professor, and three experts selected by the said Vice-Chancellor from out of the list of six experts furnished by the said Syndicate which shall not include,—

- (i) any teacher of such University or of any of its constituent or affiliated colleges; or
- (ii) any person who has been an examiner of such University in the preceding or the relevant year;

Provided that where the Committee fails to make any specific recommendation or where the Syndicate differs from the recommendation made by the Committee, the matter shall be referred to the Chancellor whose decision thereon shall be final;

Provided further that nothing in clause (ii) shall apply to experts to be nominated to a Committee for selection of Professor.

(3) The quorum at a meeting of the Committee referred to in sub-section (2) shall be four of whom at least two shall be experts including the expert nominated by the Chancellor in the case of appointment of a Professor.

(4) Subject to the provisions, if any, in the Statutes, the employees of a University, other than those specified in the preceding sub-sections, shall be appointed by the Vice-Chancellor.

Creation of posts.

22. (1) All posts of officers (which shall not include the Vice-Chancellor), teachers and other employees of a University shall be created and the scales of pay and allowances attached to such posts shall be determined by the Chancellor subject to specific allotment of funds for this purpose in the budget of the concerned University and shall be in accordance with the yardstick formulated by such University with the approval of the State Government.

(2) Till such yardstick is finalised, the yardstick for the teaching posts prescribed by the University Grants Commission and that for the other corresponding posts under the State Government shall be followed.

(3) Whenever posts are created beyond the yardstick approved by the State Government under sub-section (1), prior concurrence of the State Government shall be obtained.

Audit of accounts.

23. (1) The accounts of the University shall at least once in every year and ^{Orissa Act 5 of 1948.} at intervals of not more than fifteen months, be audited in accordance with the provisions of the Orissa Local Fund Audit Act, 1948, and the provisions of that Act shall apply to such audit.

(2) All reports on audit made under sub-section (1) shall, as soon as may be after they are received from the Examiner of Local Accounts, be laid before the State Legislature for a total period of fourteen days which may be comprised in one or more sessions.

(3) The State Government shall have power to conduct special audit if required in respect of utilisation of funds granted by the Government to a University and such University shall comply with the directions issued by the Government on such audit report.

Statutes.

(24). (1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the Statutes—

- (i) shall provide for the following matters, namely :—
 - (a) the procedure to be followed for the election, selection or nomination of members of the different authorities of the University;
 - (b) matters relating to registration of graduates and of college teachers and maintenance of registers therefor;
 - (c) the extent of autonomy which a college, and institution or a department may have and the matter in relation to which such autonomy may be exercised;
 - (d) the procedure to be followed at the meetings of the authorities of the University and the quorum required therefor; and

(ii) may provide for all or any of the following matters, namely:—

- (a) the constitution, powers and duties of the Faculties, Boards of Studies, Finance Committee or such other authorities or bodies as the University may, from time to time, deem necessary to appoint;
- (b) the constitution and functions of Governing Bodies of colleges;
- (c) the admission of educational institutions as colleges and the withdrawal of privileges of colleges so admitted;
- (d) the residential arrangements for students of the University;
- (e) the mode of appointment and duties of examiners;
- (f) the conferment and withdrawal by the University of degrees, diplomas, certificates and other academic distinctions;
- (g) the general discipline and control of the University;
- (h) the accounts to be kept and the use to be made of the funds of the University;
- (i) manner of recruitment of officers excluding the Vice-Chancellor, teachers and other employees and conditions of their services;
- (j) powers and duties of the officers, teachers and other employees of the University;
- (k) rules to regulate the conduct of University employees;
- (l) inspection of affiliated colleges;
- (m) special arrangements for women, the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes;
- (n) any other matter which is required to be or may be prescribed.

(2) In relation to matters not provided for in the Statutes, the corresponding rules, if any, of the State Government shall *mutatis mutandis* apply to the University.

(3) The first Statutes shall be framed by the State Government.

(4) Subject to the provisions contained in sub-sections (5), (6) and (7), the Syndicate may, from time to time, make new or additional Statutes or may amend or repeal the Statutes.

(5) The Syndicate may, from time to time, make any proposals for new Statutes or for the amendment or repeal of any of the existing Statutes to the Chancellor;

Provided that in academic matters or matters relating to teachers or students, the Syndicate shall consult the Academic Council before making any such proposal.

(6) On receipt of a proposal under sub-section (5), the Chancellor in consultation with the State Government, may either disallow it or allow it with or without modification.

(7) No Statute or addition to the Statutes or amendment or repeal of the Statutes made by the Syndicate shall have validity until it is allowed by the Chancellor.

Regulations 25. (1) Subject to the provisions of this Act and Statutes, the Academic Council may make Regulations providing for all or any of the following matters, namely:—

- (a) encouragement of co-operation and reciprocity among the Colleges of the concerned University;
- (b) admission of students to the University and prescribing the examination to be recognised as equivalent to the examinations held by the University;

- (c) University courses and examinations and the conditions subject to which students of colleges shall be admitted to examinations for the degrees and diplomas of the University keeping in view the uniformity and parity in syllabi and academic standards up to the degree stage in all the Universities;
- (d) granting of exemptions relating to the admission of students to examination;
- (e) management of the libraries of the University;
- (f) constitution of departments of teaching;
- (g) welfare of students of the affiliated institutions.

(2) Regulations so made shall come into force on such date as the Academic Council may specify in that behalf;

Provided that the concerned Vice-Chancellor may, if in his opinion it is necessary so to do, give immediate effect to any such Regulation.

General Fund of University. 26. The University shall have a fund called the General Fund to which shall be credited—

- (a) its income from fees, endowments and grants, if any; and
- (b) contributions which may be made by the State Government, on such conditions as they may impose, towards the development of laboratories, libraries, museums and workshops; salaries of such teachers of the University as are appointed for research work and towards the advancement and dissemination of knowledge in particular branches of learning.

Foundation Fund. 27. (1) The University shall have a fund called the Foundation Fund.

(2) The Foundation Fund shall consist of—

- (a) any contributions to the Fund which may be made by the State Government, any local authority or other public body or by any other Government or person; and
- (b) any contribution to the Fund which may be made by the concerned University.

(3) The Foundation Fund shall be invested in securities, issued or guaranteed by the Central Government or by any State Government, and such investment shall not be varied without the consent of the Chancellor.

(4) The corpus of the Foundation Fund shall be kept in tact but the interest thereon may be utilised for the purposes of the concerned University laid down in the Statutes.

Constitution of other funds. 28. The University shall have such other funds and maintain such accounts as the Syndicate thereof may determine.

Removal from member ship and withholding of degrees. 29. (1) The Syndicate may remove any person from membership of any of the authorities or other bodies of such University if he has been convicted by a Court of law of an offence involving moral turpitude or may on the recommendation of the Academic Council withdraw the degree, diploma or mark of honour conferred on or granted to such person by that University for such period as it considers proper if he has been guilty of gross misconduct.

(2) The Syndicate may in the case of any student for any of the reasons specified in sub-section (1)—

- (a) remove his name from the register of University students; or
- (b) withhold his degrees, diplomas or marks of honour for such period not exceeding two years as it may fix.

Provide that in the case of conviction in a court of law for an offence involving moral turpitude the period of such withholding may exceed two years.

(3) No degree, diploma or mark of honour shall be withdrawn or withheld, and no name shall be removed from the register of University students under sub-section (1) or (2) without giving the person concerned a reasonable opportunity of being heard.

(4) Any person aggrieved by an order under sub-section (1) or sub-section (2) may, within thirty days of the communication of the order, prefer an appeal before the chancellor, whose decision thereon shall be final.

(5) The syndicate may, on sufficient cause shown in that behalf, restore or confer the degrees, diplomas or marks of honour withdrawn or withheld, as the case may be, or direct re-entry of the name of the student removed from the register of University students :

Provided that no degree, diploma or mark of honour shall be restored, conferred or re-entered in the register of University students unless the proposal is accepted by not less than two-third of the members of the Syndicate.

(6) A member of any of the authorities of the University other than an *ex officio* member, shall be deemed to have vacated his office—

- (a) on resignation in writing addressed to the Vice-Chancellor; or
- (b) if he absents himself from three consecutive meetings of the authority of which he is a member; or
- (c) if he acquires directly or indirectly by himself or by any other person any pecuniary interest in any contract or employment in or on behalf of the University or becomes an officer in any company registered under the Companies Act, 1956, which has any such interest and if the Chancellor, in consultation with the concerned Syndicate, considers that on the grounds aforesaid the membership shall be terminated:

Provided that the concerned Vice-Chancellor may, for good and sufficient reasons, exempt any member from the operation of clause (b):

Provided further that the provisions of clause (c) shall not apply to the teachers and employees of the concerned University and its constituent and affiliated colleges.

Disqualifications. 30. A person shall be disqualified for election, nomination or selection as member of any of the authorities of a University, if he—

- (a) is, at the date of election, nomination or selection, of unsound mind or deaf-mute; or
- (b) is an uncertified bankrupt or undischarged insolvent; or
- (c) has been convicted of and sentenced by a criminal court to imprisonment for an offence involving moral turpitude; or
- (d) is being elected, nominated or selected consecutively for a second term.

Explanation—For the purpose of this clause the expression “term” shall include “part of a term”.

Supersession of authorities and taking over management. 31. (1) If the State Government, after making such enquiry as they deem fit, are satisfied that the management of any University has not been or cannot be carried on in accordance with the provisions of this Act or that there has been such default in the performance of its duties by any of the authorities of such University that the administration of such University is not likely to promote its objective, they may, after consultation with the Chancellor, by an order notified in the Gazette (hereinafter referred to as the “notified order”), take over the management of the affairs of such University and appoint an officer to be the Administrator for such University.

(2) The notified order shall remain in force for such period, not exceeding one year, as the State Government may specify therein.

(3) A copy of every notified order shall, as soon as may be after it is issued, be laid before the State Legislature.

(4) Upon issue of the notified order under sub-section (1),—

- (a) the authorities of the concerned University shall be deemed to have been superseded and the members thereof holding office immediately before the issue of the notified order shall be deemed to have vacated their offices as such;
- (b) the concerned Vice-Chancellor shall be deemed to have vacated his office as such;
- (c) the powers and functions of the authorities and the Vice-Chancellor shall during the operation of the notified order, be exercised and performed by the Administrator;
- (d) the Administrator shall, for the purpose of signing the Diplomas granted by such University, be desinate as the Vice-Chancellor thereof;
- (e) every person ceasing to hold office as aforesaid and having possession, custody or control of any property of, or any books, documents or other papers relating to such University shall deliver the property, books, documents and other papers to the Administrator or to such person as may be authorised by the Administrator in this behalf;
- (f) the State Government may take all necessary steps for securing possession of the properties, books, documents and other papers as aforesaid.

(5) No person who ceases to hold office by reason of the issue of a notified order, shall be entitled to any compensation for the loss of office.

(6) The Administrator shall take all necessary steps for the reconstitution of the authorities and for the appointment of the Vice-Chancellor so that the members of the said authorities and the Vice-Chancellor can assume office upon the expiry of the notified order:

Provided that notwithstanding anything contained in any other provision of this Act, the State Government may, in consultation with the Chancellor, appoint the officer acting as the Administrator to be the Vice-Chancellor of the concerned University with effect from the date of expiry of the notified order for such term not exceeding three years as they may fix.

(7) All elections, selections and nominations for the purpose of reconstitution of the said authorities shall be held in advance in accordance with the provisions of this Act and Statutes and all persons who are to take part at any such election, selection or nomination by virtue of holding office as member of any authority shall, notwithstanding the fact that they have not assumed such office, be eligible to take such part.

32. (1) The State Government may, by notification,—

- (a) alter the territorial jurisdiction of any University;
- (b) establish one or more new Universities by altering the territorial jurisdiction of all or any of the existing Universities; or
- (c) change the name of any University.

(2) The alteration of jurisdiction, establishment of any new University or change in the name of any existing University made under sub-section (1) shall take effect on and from such date as may be appointed in the aforesaid notification (hereinafter referred to as the appointed date).

(3) The State Government may, where the circumstances so require, by general or special order, provide for all or any of the following matters arising out of or in relation to the alteration of jurisdiction, establishment of a new University or change of name made under sub-section (1),—

- (a) cessation of the term of office of the Vice-Chancellor and members of authorities, Committees and other bodies of the concerned University or Universities, as the case may be, who were holding office as such immediately prior to the appointed date;

- (b) reorganisation or reconstitution of the authorities, Committees and other bodies of the concerned University or Universities, as the case may be;
- (c) administration of the affairs of the concerned Universities, University or, as the case may be, till the appointment of a new Vice-Chancellor and constitution or reconstitution of the authorities, Committees and other bodies thereof;
- (d) constitution or reconstitution of the authorities, Committees and other bodies of the University or Universities, as the case may be;
- (e) amalgamation, allocation, utilisation of apportionment of assets and liabilities;
- (f) absorption of the officers and employees of the university or Universities affected by the notification issued under sub-section (1);
- (g) any matter necessary ancillary or incidental to such alteration, establishment or change in name for which this Act and the Statutes make no provision or make insufficient provisions and provisions in that behalf are necessary in the opinion of State Government.

(4) Every notification made under sub-section (1) shall, as soon as may be after it is made, be laid before the State Legislature.

(5) Where, as a result of an order made under sub-section (3), it is necessary to appoint a Vice-Chancellor or to reconstitute or constitute an authority, a committee or body, such appointment, reconstitution or constitution, as the case may be, shall be made within one year from the appointed date.

Repeal and savings. 33. (1) The Utkal University Act, 1966, the Berhampur University Act, 1966, the Sambalpur University Act, 1966, Shri Jagannath Sanskrit Vishvavidyalaya Act, 1981 (hereinafter referred to as the said Acts) and the Orissa Universities Ordinance, 1988 (hereinafter referred to as the Ordinance), are hereby repealed.

Orissa Act 20 of 1966.
Orissa Act 21 of 1966.
Orissa Act 22 of 1966.
Orissa Act 31 of 1981.
Orissa Ordinance No. 5 of 1988.

(2) Notwithstanding such repeal,—

- (a) the authorities constituted officers, teachers and other employees appointed, notifications issued including notification for appointment of Administrator, orders made, action taken, things done or contracts entered into under the said Acts or the Ordinance, shall be deemed to have been constituted, appointed, issued, made, taken, done or entered into under this Act.
- (b) the authorities, which shall not include an Administrator, continuing in office under the said Acts, immediately before the commencement of this Act shall continue to hold office for a period of one year from the date of commencement of this Act or until they are constituted in accordance with the Provisions of this Act, whichever is earlier;
- (c) any person holding office as Vice-Chancellor under the said Acts shall be deemed to be the Vice-Chancellor appointed under this Act, and shall, subject to the other provisions of this Act, continue to hold office till he is replaced by another Vice-Chancellor, appointed in accordance with the provisions of this Act;
- (d) Statutes and Regulations made under the said Acts or the Ordinance shall, in so far as they are not inconsistent with this Act, be deemed to have been made under this Act and shall continue in force until new provisions are made under this Act.

Removal of doubts and difficulties. 34. If any doubt or difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of this Act the State Government may, as occasions may require, by order, do anything not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act or the Statutes, which appears to them necessary for the purpose of removing the doubt or difficulty:

Provided that no order shall be issued under this section after the expiration of a period of two years from the date of commencement of this Act.

THE ODISHA UNIVERSITIES (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2024

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PREAMBLE :

SECTIONS :

1. Short title commencement
2. Amendment of Section 2
3. Amendment of Section 3
4. Amendment of Section 4.
5. Amendment of Section 5.
6. Amendment of Section 6.
7. Amendment of Section 7.
8. Amendment of Section 8.
9. Amendment of Section 8-A.
10. Amendment of Section 9.
11. Amendment of Section 10
12. Amendment of Section 11.
13. Amendment of Section 12.
14. Amendment of Section 13.
15. Amendment of Section 13-A.
16. Amendment of Section 15.
17. Amendment of Section 21.
18. Amendment of Section 23.
19. Amendment of Section 65.

Schedule

The Odisha Gazette



**EXTRAORDINARY
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY**

No. 922, CUTTACK, THURSDAY APRIL 17, 2025 /CHAITRA 27, 1947

LAW DEPARTMENT

NOTIFICATION

The 17th April, 2025

No. 6177—I-Legis-24/2024/L.— The following Act of the Odisha Legislative Assembly having been assented to by the Governor on the 12th day of April, 2025 is hereby publish for general information.

ODISHA ACT 3 OF 2025

THE ODISHA UNIVERSITIES (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2024

AN

ACT

FURTHERTO AMEND THE ODISHA UNIVERSITIES ACT, 1989

BE it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Odisha in the Seventy-fifth year of the Republic of India, as follows :-

Shorttitle and
Commencement.

- 1.** (1) This Act may be called the Odisha Universities (Amendment) Act, 2024.
(2) It shall come into force on the date of its publication in the *Odisha Gazette*.

2. In the Odisha Universities Act, 1989 (hereinafter referred as the Principal Act), in Section 2,-

 - (a) clause (d-1) shall be omitted;
 - (b) for clause (f), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:-
“(f) ‘Director’ means the Director of Higher Education, Odisha or his representative”;

(c) after clause (f), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:-

“(f-1) “*distance education system*” means the system of imparting education through any means of communication, such as broadcasting, telecasting, internet, correspondence courses, seminars, contact programmes or the combination of any two or more such means”

(d) after clause (g), the following clauses shall be inserted, namely:-

- (i) “(g-1) “NAAC” means National Assessment and Accreditation Council”;
- (ii) “(g-2) “NBA” means National Board of Accreditation”; and
- (iii) “(g-3) “NIRF” means the National Institutional Ranking Framework”.

(e) after clause (k), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:-

“(k-1) “related to” means any blood relation or marriage relation or adoption relations or business partner or associate relations between the Selection Committee member and the candidate for the post of teacher or any other academic post.”;

(f) after clause (l), the following clauses shall be inserted, namely:-

- (i) “(l-1) “Senate” means the senate of the University as constituted under section 9 of the Act”; and
- (ii) “(l-2) “Schedule” means a schedule appended to this Act.”

Amendment
to Section 3.

3. In the Principal Act, in Section 3,—

(a) in sub-section (2), after the words “members of the”, the word “Senate,” shall be inserted;

(b) in sub-section (5), after clause (f), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:-

“(g) In addition to the above, the Universities should also do the following:-

- (i) to make provision for research and for the advancement and dissemination of knowledge, and generally to cultivate and promote the arts (including fine arts and performing arts), humanities, social sciences, accounts and commerce, pure and applied sciences, present and emerging technologies, managements, different forms of medicine, engineering, law, physical education and other branches of learning and culture and their multi-disciplinary and inter-disciplinary areas;
- (ii) to make provisions to enable conducted and affiliated or constituent colleges and recognised institutions to undertake specialised studies;
- (iii) to make provisions for creation of autonomous, empowered autonomous and empowered autonomous cluster of institutions;
- (iv) to organise, maintain and manage university departments, schools, institutions, laboratories, learning resource centres, libraries, museums and equipment for teaching, learning, training, research and development or extension;
- (v) to establish, maintain and manage departments, institutions of research, institutions of specialised studies or academic services unit;
- (vi) to establish, maintain and manage constituent, community and conducted colleges, institutions, hostels, health centres, auditoria and gymnasiums;
- (vii) to provide for establishment, on the university campus and Sub-Campuses, of autonomous institutions like multi-university and inter-

university centres, research laboratories, modern instrumentation centres and like centres of learning, set-up by the University Grants Commission (UGC), the Central Government or the State Government, teaching or learning or training colleges or institutions at local, regional, national and global level, which may be used by the university or college or group of universities or colleges:

Provided that, in the case of any industry or any non-Government organization availing themselves of such facility of a university or such organizations providing the facility to a university, prior approval of the State Government shall be obtained by the university concerned;

- (viii) to provide for establishment of sub-campuses for serving a group of colleges, and also to provide for and maintain common resource centres in such sub-campuses in the form of post-graduate departments, multi- disciplinary or inter-disciplinary schools, libraries, laboratories, computer centres and the like centres of learning and skills training, as per the guidelines laid down by the State Government or by the University Grants Commission (UGC);
- (ix) to appoint or recognise persons working in any other university or organisation as adjunct professors, adjunct associate professors, adjunct assistant professors, visiting professors of the university for specified periods;
- (x) to prescribe the courses of instruction and studies for the various examinations leading to specific degrees and diplomas or certificates;
- (xi) to make provision, wherever feasible, in the university departments, colleges, institutions, recognised institutions and schools, for survey and collection of statistics, data and other particulars relevant to various developmental activities including State and National plans, evaluation of the developmental schemes with the participation of the students as a part of their curricular activities;
- (xii) to institute degrees and post-graduate diplomas and post-highersecondary diplomas, certificates and other academic distinctions on the basis of examinations or by other tests;
- (xiii) to hold examinations or evaluations and confer degrees and post-graduate diplomas and award post-higher secondary diplomas and certificates and other academic distinctions on persons who, —
 - (a) unless exempted therefrom in the manner prescribed, have pursued approved courses of study in the university, or in a college or in an institution or a recognised institution or a school and have passed the examinations and earned the required credits or marks or grades prescribed by the university; or
 - (b) have pursued approved courses of study in the university, or in a college or in an institution or a recognised institution or in an autonomous college or an autonomous recognised institution or in empowered autonomous college or empowered autonomous cluster institutions or a school and have passed the examinations

and earned the required credits or marks or grades prescribed by the university; or

- (c) have engaged in research under conditions provided by Ordinances and Regulations;
- (xiv) to confer and award such degrees, diplomas and certificates to, and provide for such lectures, instruction and training for external students, and the students under correspondence and distance education, online and continuing education courses;
- (xv) to confer honorary degrees or other academic distinctions as prescribed by the Statutes in consultation with the State Government;
- (xvi) to monitor and evaluate the academic performance of university departments, university institutions, conducted colleges and of affiliated/constituent colleges, autonomous or empowered colleges in a stand-alone or cluster form and recognised institutions for affiliation or recognition, as the case may be, for periodical State, National and World accreditations/ rankings;
- (xvii) to inspect, where necessary, all types of colleges or institutions and recognised institutions through suitable machinery established for the purpose, and take measures to ensure that proper standards of instruction, teaching, learning, training and research, and extension are maintained by them and adequate library, class rooms, laboratory, hostel, workshop and other academic facilities are provided for;
- (xviii) to hold and to manage trusts and endowments and to institute and award fellowship, travelling fellowship, scholarship, studentship, medals and prizes for teachers and students of the university and colleges;
- (xix) to supervise, control and regulate the conduct and discipline of the students of the university, colleges, institutions, recognised institutions, schools and hostels;
- (xx) to provide for mobility of students from formal to non-formal stream and *vice-versa*, and also among the other universities in the State and outside the State;
- (xxi) to make arrangements for promoting the healthy atmosphere, corporate life and welfare of the students of the university, colleges, schools and institutions;
- (xxii) to co-ordinate and regulate teaching, learning, training and research and extension in the colleges and recognised institutions;
- (xxiii) to provide for periodical assessment of the performance of teachers and non-teaching employees in the colleges, institutions and university in accordance with the norms prescribed by the University Grants Commission (UGC) or the State Government;
- (xxiv) to regulate and provide for attendance of the teachers on the premises of the university or colleges or institutions during teaching hours and beyond teaching hours, as prescribed and to prohibit teachers from taking or conducting private tuitions or private coaching classes;

- (xxv) to regulate and provide for attendance of the non-teaching employees on the premises of the university or colleges or institutions during working hours and beyond working hours, as prescribed;
- (xxvi) to enforce conduct and discipline rules for teachers and non-teaching employees in a manner as prescribed;
- (xxvii) to prescribe code of conduct for managements;
- (xxviii) to prescribe and enforce students charter;
- (xxix) to make provision for participation of students with necessary incentives in,
 - a. the national service scheme;
 - b. the national cadet corps;
 - c. home guards and civil defence;
 - d. the national sports organisation;
 - e. physical and military training;
 - f. extra-mural teaching and research;
 - g. programme related to Lifelong Learning and Extension; and
 - h. any other programme, services or activities directed towards cultural, economic and social betterment as may be necessary and possible, to fulfil the objects of the university by the State Government or / and the Government of India.;
- (xxx) to provide for special training or coaching for competitive examinations, for recruitment to the public services, public sector undertakings and other competitive employment opportunities;
- (xxxi) to arrange periodical employment programme and to provide internship;
- (xxxii) to co-operate or collaborate with any other university, institution, authority or organisation for research and advisory services and for such purposes to enter into appropriate arrangement with other universities, institutions, authorities, or organisations to conduct certain courses as the situation may demand;
- (xxxiii) to recommend for rescinding or suspending affiliation or recognition or empowered status granted to colleges or institutions or cluster of institutions;
- (xxxiv) to explore the possibilities of augmenting the resources of the university by exploring or innovating activities such as research and development, consultancy, training programme and providing services for different clients from industry, trade or any other non-government organisations;
- (xxxv) to undertake academic collaboration programme, research and advisory services with universities and institutions abroad, in a manner as prescribed.
- (xxxvi) to receive funds for collaborative programme from foreign agencies, subject to rules and regulations of the Central Government and the State Government in that behalf;

- (xxxvii) to create development corpus out of surplus that the university may generate through its teaching, learning, training, research, emerging technology, start up, innovations and development, consultancy and any other academic and support activities and to invest it in a professional manner and use the interest generated through it for the growth and development of academic, research and development, academic and physical infrastructure development and any other infrastructure;
- (xxxviii) to lay down for teachers and university teachers, such instructions or directions as, in the opinion of the university, may be necessary in academic matters;
- (xxxix) to undertake development programme in higher education, research, consultancy-based projects and training programme for outside agencies, by charging fees, so as to generate resources;
- (XL) to make special provisions for the benefit of university education to be made available to classes and communities which are socially and educationally backward;
- (XLI) to make special provisions for such benefits of university education to be made available for women students and differently-abled students as the university may think necessary;
- (XLII) to make special provisions for higher education in rural and tribal areas;
- (XLIII) to take appropriate measures in order to increase the gross enrolment ratio;
- (XLIV) to implement the national literacy and adult education programme through teachers and students on voluntary basis in the university system and to evolve measures to give due weightage to the efforts and performance of the students in this area in addition to their normal academic performance and also to evaluate the performance of the teachers in this area;
- (XLV) to promote by itself, or in co-operation with other universities or institutions , the study of Odia and the use of Odia as a medium of instruction, study, research and examination, in adherence to the policies of the State Government;
- (XLVI) to promote by itself, or in co-operation with other universities or organisations, the study of regional, national and foreign languages in general and Asian languages in particular;
- (XLVII) to evolve an operational scheme for ensuring accountability of teachers, non-vocation academic and non-teaching staff of the university, institutions and colleges;
- (XLVIII) to create knowledge and disseminate it and foster high quality research which is contemporary, globally competitive and locally as well as regionally and nationally relevant;
- (XLIX) to have a learner-centric approach and perform the role of being a knowledge creator;

- (L) to strengthen education at under-graduate and post-graduate level, enhance research culture and relevant degree programme and cultivate desire for entrepreneurship;
- (LI) to create a comprehensive digital university framework for both, e-learning and e-administrative services;
- (LII) to impart education under distance education system in accordance with Government of India, UGC and State Government regulations;
- (LIII) to exploit the power of 'learning by collaboration' and 'participation' with use of information and communication technology;
- (LIV) to cultivate research parks, technology incubators and other engagement entities to translate university research to commercial domain and coordinated projects involving multiple faculty groups from several disciplines that address some important issues before the State;
- (LV) to identify skills to which students need to be exposed to, by taking into account the local needs, training facilities available, emerging needs and new employment opportunities;
- (LVI) to provide an environment for the all-round development of youth by exposing them to the rich cultural heritage of the country and creating opportunities for development of skills in sports;
- (LVII) to comply with and carry out any directives issued by the State Government, from time to time, with reference to above powers, duties and responsibilities of the university;
- (LVIII) to conduct academic audit of university departments, conducted colleges, affiliated/constituent colleges, institutions or schools, at regular intervals; and
- (LIX) acquiring NAAC, NBA and NIRF ranking and other accreditations/rankings by the University and its constituent colleges and affiliated colleges”

(c) after sub-sections (5), the following sub-sections shall be inserted, namely:—

“(6) There shall be established, the Universities in the State as bodies corporate, by such names and territorial jurisdiction, as specified in the Schedule to this Act.

(7) The first Vice-Chancellor, the first Registrar, the first Comptroller of Finance and the first Controller of Examination, the Syndicate and the Academic Council of each University and all persons who may hereafter become such officers or members, so long as they continue to hold such office or membership, are hereby constituted a body corporate by the name of the University.

(8) The headquarters of each of the University, referred to in sub-section (4), shall be such as may be specified by the State Government by notification in the Official Gazette.”

4. In the Principal Act, in Section 4, for sub-section (3), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(3) the following shall be the authorities of the University, namely:—

- (i) the senate;
- (ii) the Syndicate;
- (iii) the Academic Council;
- (iv) the Finance Committee;
- (v) Building and works Committee; and
- (vi) such other authorities as may be declared by the statute to be the Authorities of the University.”

Amendment
to Section 5.

5. In the principal Act, in Section 5,—

- (a) in sub-section (3), after the words “shall be” and before the words “subject to”, the words “in consultation with the State Government” shall be inserted;
- (b) in sub-section (5), in the opening portion, for the words “or on receipt of a reference made by the State Government may”, the words “or on receipt of matter referred by the State Government, may, and in case such reference is made on the basis of audit report shall”, shall be substituted;
- (c) in sub-section (9), after the words, “connected with a University” the words, “making a copy thereof to the State Government”; shall be inserted; and
- (d) in sub-section (10), after the word “any proceeding of the”, the word and comma “Senate,” shall be inserted.

Amendment
to Section 6.

6. In the principal Act, in Section 6,—

- (a) in sub-section (1), after the words “by a Committee”, the words “to him through the State Government,” shall be inserted.;
- (b) for sub-section (3), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(3) The Committee referred to in sub-section (1) shall consist of three members which is as follows:—

 - (i) one member shall be nominated by the Chancellor out of three names recommended by the Government and he shall act as the Chairman of the Committee;
 - (ii) One member shall be nominated by the Chairman, University Grants Commission;
 - (iii) one member shall be nominated by the Syndicate of the concerned University:

Provided that in case the outgoing Vice-Chancellor desires to re-apply for the post of Vice-Chancellor of the same University, he will refuse and not participate in any manner for selection of the Syndicate nominee. Otherwise, his candidature for the post of Vice-Chancellor shall be cancelled;
 - (iv) all the three members of the Committee must be persons of eminence in the sphere of higher education and must not be connected with the affairs of the concerned University and its affiliating or constituent colleges in any manner; and

(v) the State Government will initiate the process of selection of Vice-Chancellor, at least six months prior to the completion of the tenure of the existing Vice-Chancellor.”;

(c) in sub-section (5), after the words “in that behalf”, the following words shall be added at the end, namely:—

“and the panel of names, as recommended by the committee, shall be forwarded to the Chancellor for the appointment of Vice-Chancellor by the State Government after doing all due diligence including vigilance clearance from the concerned State Vigilance or Chief Vigilance Commissioner or State Government or Any other Agency or Institution as deemed fit.”;

(d) for sub-section (6), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(6) The Vice-Chancellor shall hold office for a term of four years from the date on which he enters upon his office, or until he attains the age of seventy years, whichever is earlier, and he shall be eligible for re-appointment not more than one term, subject to the provisions contained in sub section (1):

Provided that the Chancellor, in consultation with State Government, may direct any Vice-Chancellor after his term has expired, to continue in office for such period, not exceeding a total period of one year or until his successor enters upon his office, whichever is earlier:

Provided further that no person who has attended the age of seventy years shall be eligible to be appointed as Vice-Chancellor and no person shall continue to hold office of Vice-Chancellor after attaining the age as provided under this provision”.

(e) sub-sections (7) and (8) shall be omitted;

(f) for sub-section (9), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(9) in case the office of the Vice-Chancellor fall vacant due to the absence of the Vice-Chancellor on leave the senior-most Professor shall perform the duties of the Vice-Chancellor until the existing Vice-Chancellor resumes the duties of his office.”;

(g) in the proviso to sub-section (10), for the words, “Chancellor may appoint any of the Vice-Chancellor of a neighbouring”, the words “the Chancellor in consultation with the State Government may appoint any of the Vice-Chancellor of any” shall be substituted.;

(h) for sub-section (20), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(20)Notwithstanding anything contained in this section, , the Chancellor may, at any time after the Vice-Chancellor has entered upon his office, by order in writing and following the procedure prescribed, remove the Vice-Chancellor from office on grounds of incapacity, misconduct or violation of statutory provisions:

Provided that no such order shall be made by the Chancellor unless the Vice-Chancellor has been given a reasonable opportunity of showing cause against the action proposed to be taken against him:

Provided further that the Chancellor shall consult the State Government also before making such order:

Provided also that the Chancellor may, at any time before making such order consult the State Government and place the Vice-Chancellor under suspension, pending enquiry."

Amendment
to Section 7.

7. In the principal Act, in Section 7,—

(a) for sub-section (1), , the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

"(1) The Registrar shall be appointed by the Chancellor out of three officers of a rank or pay which is equivalent to or more than the Joint Secretary rank in the State Government and no pending disciplinary or criminal proceeding and/or not punished with a major penalty in a disciplinary proceeding or convicted in any criminal proceeding, being recommended by the State Government. In case an officer of this rank is not available in State Government, with the approval of Chancellor, State Government may seek nominations from officers of a rank which is equivalent to or more than the Joint Secretary rank in the State Government belonging to Government of India or any other State Government, having no pending disciplinary or criminal proceeding and/or not punished with a major penalty in a disciplinary proceeding or convicted in any criminal proceeding, being duly recommended by the respective Government. In such cases, State Government may form one selection committee comprising of 3 members who will recommend three names out of which one may be appointed by the Chancellor as Registrar.";

(b) In sub-section (2),—

(i) for clause (c), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:—

"(c) remain in custody of the records, the common seal and other property of the University;" and

(ii) in clause (f), after the words "assigned to him by the" and before the words "syndicate", the word and comma "senate," shall be inserted.

Amendment
to Section 8.

8. In the Principal Act, in Section 8, in sub-section (5), after the words "take part in the proceedings of", the words "the senate and" and after the words "recorded in the proceeding of the Syndicate", the words and common "or the senate, as the case may be" shall, respectively, be inserted.

Insertion of
Section 8-A.

9. In the Principal Act, after Section 8, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

8 A.— Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act:

"Transitional
provision (for
newly
established
University.)

(a) the first Vice-Chancellor shall be appointed by the Chancellor in consultation with State Government for the newly established Universities in such manner and on such conditions as prescribed and he shall hold office for such term, not exceeding three years or as may be specified by the Chancellor.

(b) the first Registrar, the first Comptroller of Finance and the first Controller of Examination shall be appointed by the Chancellor in consultation with State Government for the newly established Universities in such manner and on such conditions as prescribed and each of the said officers shall hold office for a term of 3 years or as may be specified by the Chancellor.

(c) The first Senate and the First Syndicate shall consist of not more than 31 members and 11 members respectively who shall be nominated by the State Government and hold office for a term of three years.

(d) The first Academic Council shall consist of not more than 21 members who shall be nominated by the State Government and shall hold office for a period of three years:

Provided that if any vacancy occurs in the above office or authorities, the same shall be filled by appointment by the Chancellor or nomination by the State Government, as the case may be, and person so appointed or nominated shall hold office for so long as the officer or member in whose place he is appointed or nominated who have held office, if such vacancy had not occurred".

Insertion
of Section 9

10. In the principal Act, after Section 8A, the following section shall be inserted, namely;—

"Senate. 9. (1) The Senate shall consist of the following members, namely:—

Ex officio members:

- (a) the Vice-Chancellor of the concerned University to act as Chairperson;
- (b) the Secretary to Government, Higher Education Department
- (c) the representative of the Government, to the Syndicate, not below the rank of Joint Secretary;
- (d) the Director of Higher Education;
- (e) the Director of Medical Education and Training, Odisha or his representative;
- (f) the Director of Technical Education and Training, Odisha or his representative;
- (g) the concerned Regional Director of Education;
- (h) one Representative from the Odisha University of Health Sciences, to be nominated by its Vice-Chancellor;
- (i) one Representative from the BijuPatnaik University of Technology, to be nominated by its Vice-Chancellor;
- (j) the Collector of the revenue district or his representative;
- (k) the Chairperson, Odisha State Higher Education Council or the Vice-Chairperson or any member duly authorised by him;
- (l) Advocate-General, Odisha or his representative;
- (m) Chairman, Post-Graduate Council of the concerned University;
- (n) Heads of all post-graduate Department of the concerned University;

Other members:

- (o) three Principals or Professors of Government colleges, affiliated to the concerned University or in case of Unitary University, two Principals or Professors of any Government college, to be nominated by the Government, for each University on seniority cum rotation basis;
- (p) two members of the concerned Academic council, to be selected from among themselves;

- (q) The Member of Parliament to the Lower House in whose jurisdiction the University situates;
- (r) four members of the Odisha Legislative Assembly to be nominated by the Hon'ble speaker;
- (s) two persons to be nominated by the Chancellor;
- (t) President and Secretary of Student Union of the University;
- (u) two members from among Non-Teaching Employees of the concerned University to be nominated by the Vice-Chancellor;
- (v) two senior teachers of affiliated Non-Government Aided College per district, to be nominated by the Government; In case of Unitary University, two teachers of any government colleges to be nominated by the Government;
- (w) three Alumni of the University to be nominated, one each by the Chancellor, State and the Syndicate;
- (x) the President or Secretary of the oldest registered alumni association of the University;
- (y) three teachers from Under Graduate Colleges and three teachers from colleges with Post-Graduation, to be nominated by the Syndicate;
- (z) seven students including a lady student and one from Scheduled Tribe or Scheduled Caste of the concerned University, to be nominated by the Syndicate, of whom one shall be from students having outstanding performance in academic pursuits, one shall be from students having outstanding performance in sports and one shall be from students having outstanding performance in performing arts and one shall be from NCC or NSS;
- (za) three eminent academicians to be nominated by the Chancellor;
- (zb) two members from industries to be nominated by the Syndicate;
- (zc) one eminent person from Skill Development Sector to be nominated by the Syndicate; and
- (zd) One eminent person of Odia diaspora staying abroad with excellent international reputation to be nominated by the Syndicate.

(2) The term of office of the members of the Senate other than the *ex officio* members shall be three years:

Provided that the term of office of student members shall be for one academic year.

(3) The Senate shall exercise and perform the following powers and functions, namely:-

- (i) to review policies and programmes of the University and suggest measures for its improvement and development;
- (ii) to consider the annual report, annual accounts and audit report of the University and to pass resolutions thereon;
- (iii) to review the performance of the University in the field of academics and research/ human resource management or financial management or compliance to audit observation or risk and opportunity in higher education; and

(iv) to exercise such other powers and perform such other functions as may be prescribed in statute.

(4) The Registrar shall be the Member Secretary and Convenor of the Senate. The Senate will be convened at least twice in an academic year."

Amendment to
Section 10.

11. In the principal Act, in Section 10, in sub-section (1),—

(a) for clause (b), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:—

"(b) the representative of Government not below the rank of Joint Secretary";

(b) for clause (h), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:—

"(h)two Professors of the University (one from Arts or Humanities stream and one from Science stream) to be nominated by the Vice-Chancellor on seniority *cum* rotation basis:

Provided that in case of Unitary University, for clause (h), any four Heads of remaining PG Departments of the University to be nominated by the Vice-Chancellor";

(c) for clause (i), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:—

"(i)two members of the Academic Council who are in Senate;"

(d) for clause (j),the following clause shall be substituted, namely:—

"(j) Four eminent persons to be nominated by the Chancellor, out of the panel of names given by the State Government;"

(e) for clause (k),the following clause shall be substituted, namely:—

"(k) One senior Government college Principal and one senior Aided College Principal on seniority basis to be nominated by Government;"

(f) for clause (l) the following clause shall be substituted, namely:—

" (l) One member of the Non-Teaching staff to be nominated by the Senate;"

(g) Clauses (m) and (n) shall be omitted.

Amendment to
Section 11.

12. In the Principal Act, in Section 11, in sub-section (1), after clause (j), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

"(j-1) three Researchers and three industry representatives to be nominated by the Chancellor,"

Amendment to
Section 12.

13. In the principal Act,in Section 12, in sub-section (2),—

(i) for clause (a), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:—

"(a) to advice the syndicate on all academic matter including system of imparting education through any means of communication such as seminars, broadcasting, telecasting, internet, correspondence courses, contact programs or the combination of any two or more such means;" and

(ii) after clause (k), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

“(l) to recommend to the syndicate for acquiring NAAC, NBA, NIRF ranking or any other ranking by the University and its constituent colleges and affiliated colleges.”

Insertion of
Section 13.

14. In the principal Act, after Section 12, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“Finance
Committee.

“13. Finance Committee (1) The composition of the Finance committee shall be,—

Ex officio members:

- (a) the Vice Chancellor – Chairperson;
- (b) the Representative of Finance Department not below the rank of Deputy Secretary;
- (c) the Representative of General Administration and Public Grievance Department not below the rank of Deputy Secretary;
- (d) the Secretary to Government in Higher Education Department or any officer not below the rank of Deputy Secretary nominated by him;
- (e) The Representative of Law Department not below the rank of Deputy Secretary;
- (f) the Registrar;
- (g) the Comptroller of Finance - shall be the Member Secretary

Other members:

- (h) Three members to be nominated by the Syndicate out of whom at least one shall be member of syndicate; and
- (i) one person to be nominated by the Senate.
- (2) The Vice-Chancellor shall preside over all the meetings and in his absence, the members present shall elect a chairperson to preside over such meetings;
- (3) The quorum of the meeting shall consist of five members out of which one member specified at clause (b) and (e) is a must be present.
- (4) All members of Finance Committee, other than the *ex officio* members, shall hold office for a period of three years.
- (5) The Finance Committee shall primarily ensure that the general system of financial management in the University is made as per the provisions contained in the General Financial Rules or any other provision of the State Government in this regard and the Delegation of Financial Power Rules of the State or other relevant provisions of the Government in this regard in the State for all the funds of the University.
- (6) The Finance Committee shall meet at least four times in an academic year (at least twice each semester) to examine the accounts, all issues related to Legal matters, scrutinize the proposals for expenditure, audit, all human resource management issues having financial impact and those items which have not been included in the budget.
- (7) All the audit reports of the University and their compliances shall be assessed by the Finance Committee and furnish their recommendation to the Syndicate.

- (8) All the proceedings of the Finance Committee, annual accounts, financial estimates, views on audit reports and compliances prepared by the Finance Committee shall be placed before the syndicate for consideration and approval.
- (9) The Finance Committee shall recommend limits for the total recurring expenditure and the total non-recurring expenditure for the year, based on the income and resources of the University.

Insertion of
Section 13-A.

15. In the Principal Act, after Section 13, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

*"Building and
works
committee.*

13-A Building and Works Committee.—

- (1) The composition of the Building and works committee shall be,—

Ex officio members:

- (a) The Vice Chancellor – Chairperson;
- (b) the representative of Government to Syndicate;
- (c) the Registrar Member Secretary;
- (d) the Comptroller of Finance;

Other members:

- (e) Two Professors or Associate Professors of the University to be nominated by the Vice-Chancellor;
- (f) Two members to be nominated by the Syndicate out of whom at least one shall be a member of syndicate;
- (g) Superintending Engineer (Civil) of Public Works Department (PWD) of respective territorial jurisdiction; and
- (h) Superintending Engineer (General Electrical Division) Public Works Department (PWD) of respective territorial jurisdiction.

- (2) The Vice-Chancellor shall preside over all the meetings and in his absence, the members present shall elect a chairperson to preside over such meetings;
- (3) Half of the members of the Building and Works Committee shall form the quorum for holding the meeting.
- (4) The Building and Works Committee shall primarily ensure that appropriate infrastructure in all respect such as construction of adequate buildings for academic and research purpose, disable friendly buildings, hostels especially Girls' hostels or foreign students, laboratories, Centre of Excellence, Playground, stadium, etc.
- (5) The Building and Works Committee of the University may, after thorough examination, properly prioritise and recommend the specific project to be stated along with their costs and quarterly/yearly requirement of funds till completions.
- (6) After Building and Works Committee recommendations, the University may place the proposal for the specific building project before the Finance Committee for its approval. After Finance Committee approval, the University may place the same before the Syndicate for its

Approval. Then this Proposal may be forwarded to State Government for consideration and funding.

(7) The Building and Works Committee shall meet at least four times in an academic year (at least twice in each semester) to review the review and examine the requirement of the infrastructure and progress of works taken up by the University.

Amendment
to Section 15.

16. In the principal Act, in section 15, in sub-section- (1), after the words“ Authority of a University,” before the words “for the whole”, the words “and members of the Odisha Legislative Assembly elected to the Senate” shall be inserted.

Amendment
to Section 21.

17. In the Principal Act, for Section 21, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

Appointment
of teacher of
the University.

(1) On and from the commencement of the Odisha Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2024, but subject to the provisions hereafter provided, the direct recruitment to the posts of Assistant Professor, Associate Professor and Professor and other academic staff in the University shall be, on the basis of merit through an all India advertisement, followed by a duly constituted selection committee as provided hereunder and following UGC Regulations issued from time to time, on minimum qualifications for appointment of teachers and other academic staff in Universities and Colleges and measures for maintenance of standards in Higher Education and in the manner as provided under this Act.

“(2) Unless otherwise provided in this Act and not contrary to the UGC Regulations as provided, all teachers and other academic staff of the University, as prescribed by UGC, shall be appointed by the Syndicate which is the Appointing Authority, in the manner prescribed below;”

“(3) (a) For such appointment of teachers in the University, there shall be a selection committee which shall consist of the following members as per the relevant UGC Regulations, along with other members namely:-

- (i) Vice-Chancellor or his nominee as Chairperson.
- (ii) One academician not below the rank of Professor nominated by the Chancellor;
- (iii) three subject experts selected by the Vice-Chancellor out of the panel of names, recommended by the syndicate;
- (iv) Dean of the Faculty or Head of the Department as applicable; and
- (v) One academician from SC/ST/OBC/Women/Minority/PWD as per the candidate present, to be nominated by the Vice-Chancellor, if any, of the selection committee members does not belong to that category ;

(b) Four members shall constitute quorum, in which two subject experts members and one academician nominated by the Chancellor is a must.

(4) The University, considering the existing and anticipated vacancy of succeeding year, of faculty of the University shall make advertisement of the vacancies through the Registrar as and when required and at least once in a year and invites applications in physical mode and online mode on a digital platform developed for this purpose, from candidates, by way of

advertisement in three widely circulated national daily and in three widely circulated local language newspapers as well as in the University website with copy to office of the Chancellor and the Government.

(5) (a) Any four members of the concerned school or department or internal quality assurance cell of the concerned department of the University or any other person assigned by the Vice-Chancellor along with Registrar shall scrutinize the applications and shortlist eligible candidates for examination and/or interview, the details of which will be shared with each candidate and will be published in the website.

(b) The selection committee thereafter will proceed with the examination and/or interview, following the UGC Regulations in force, for selection of candidates for appointment as faculties and other academic staff, as the case may be, from among the shortlisted candidates;

(c) All the members of the Selection Committee are required to furnish a declaration that none of the candidates for whom they have conducted examination and/or interview are related to him in any manner or else the concerned Selection Committee member shall recuse himself.

(6) The selection committee soon after completion of the examination and or the interview shall finalize the merit list of the candidates giving due importance to the reservation principle for all categories candidates as per the prevailing law in force and handover the merit list to the Vice-Chancellor for final acceptance by the syndicate on satisfaction.

(7) The Vice-Chancellor, shall place the final merit list in order of merit along with relevant records to the syndicate preferably, within a month for approval. After approval by the Syndicate on satisfaction, the same shall be published in order of merit in the website of the University and the website developed for this purpose:

Provided that if the Syndicate is unable to accept the recommendations made by the Selection Committee, it shall record its reasons and submit the case to the Chancellor for final orders.whose decision thereon shall be final”

(8) The final merit list will remain valid for a period of one year or till initiation of next selection process of teachers and other academic staff, whichever is earlier.

(9) The Registrar will render all necessary assistance in the selection process of teachers of the University, to the Vice-Chancellor and all the records relating to the selection process will remain in his/her custody for all future reference.

(10) For the purpose of maintenance of transparency and fairness in the selection process of teaching faculty in the Universities, the Chancellor may issue necessary guideline, in a manner as prescribed, from time to time.

(11) On and from the commencement of the Odisha Universities (Amendment) Act, 2024, the probation, confirmation, promotion under career advancement scheme of all the continuing teachers and other academic staff as well as of the newly appointed shall be as per the relevant UGC Regulations on minimum qualifications for appointment of teachers and other academic staff in Universities and colleges and other measures for the maintenance of standards in higher education and the State guidelines, issued in this regard from time-to-time.

18. In the principal Act, in Section 23,—

(a) in sub-section (1), the following proviso shall be added, namely:—

“ Provided further that all amounts received/generated by the University shall be audited by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.”;

(b) after sub-section (1), the following sub-sections shall be inserted, namely:—

“(1-a) A copy of the annual accounts together with the audit report thereon and its compliance shall be submitted to the Chancellor, Senate along with the observation of the Syndicate.

‘Provided that in case it is observed that the action of the officiating or of any former Vice- Chancellor has caused pecuniary loss to the University and/ or to the State Government then the Chancellor, by order in writing, direct the University to take action for recovery of pecuniary loss from the concerned Vice-Chancellor or former Vice-Chancellor after giving due opportunity of being heard, following provisions of OPDR Act as land revenue.’

(1-b) A copy of the annual accounts together with the audit report, as submitted to the Chancellor, shall also be submitted to the State Government, which shall, as soon as may be, cause the same to be laid before the Odisha Legislative Assembly for a total period of fourteen days which may be comprised in one or more sessions. Appropriate matters relating to audit compliance may be placed before the Public Accounts committee of the Odisha Legislative Assembly as deemed proper.”

(c) for sub-section (2), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(2) The University shall, within thirty days of audit reports from Local Fund Audit or Comptroller and Auditor General shall render necessary compliance to all quarters and all the audit reports along with the compliances shall be displayed in the website of the University for three years for information of all concerned.”

(d) after the sub-section (3), the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely:—

“(4) The University shall make necessary provision for pre-audit, internal audit of its funds from empanelled audit firms. The State Government shall have power to engage the empanelled audit firms for the purpose, if the University fails to do so and the cost for the same will be borne by the University concerned.”

Schedule
Sub-section (6) of Section 3

Universities with territorial jurisdiction		
Sl. No.	Name Of the University with date of establishment	Territorial jurisdiction
1	Utkal University, Bhubaneswar (27.11.1943)	1-Angul (<i>Excluding colleges under Athamallick sub-division</i>),2- Cuttack, 3- Dhenkanal, 4- Kendrapara, 5- Jagatsinghpur, 6-Jajpur, 7- Nayagarh, 8- Puri, 9- Khurda
2	Sambalpur University, Sambalpur (01.01.1967)	1-Angul (<i> Colleges of Athamallick Sub-division only</i>). 2- Baragarh,3- Boudh, 4- Deogarh,5- Jharsuguda, 6-Sambalpur, 7- Sundargarh
3	Berhampur University, Berhampur (02.01.1967)	1-Ganjam, 2- Gajapati, 3-Kandhamal
4	Shri Jagannath Sanskrit Visvavidyalaya, Puri (07.07.1981)	Sanskrit Colleges only Whole of Odisha
5	Fakir Mohan University, Balasore (03.07.1999)	1-Balasore, 2- Bhadrak
6	Maharaja Sriram Chandra Bhanja Deo University, Baripada (13.07.1998)	Mayurbhanj
7	Ravenshaw University, Cuttack (15.11.2006)	(Unitary)
8	Gangadhar Meher University, Sambalpur (30.05.2015)	Unitary University
9	Rama Devi Women's University, Bhubaneswar (30.05.2015)	1-Anugul, 2- Cuttack,3- Dhenkanal, 4- Kendrapara,5- Jagatsinghpur, 6- Jajpur, 7- Nayagarh, 8- Puri,9- Khurda (<i>Only Womens Colleges under this districts only</i>)
10	Maa Manikeshwari University, Bhawanipatna, Kalahandi (01.09.2020)	1-Kalahandi, 2- Nuapada
11	Rajendra University, Bolangir (01.09.2020)	1-Bolangir, 2- Sonepur
12	Madhusudan Law University, Cuttack (28.04.2021)	All Law Colleges except constituent law colleges
13	Khallikote Unitary University, Berhampur (01.08.2021)	Unitary University

14	Vikram Dev University, Jeypore (01.06.2023)	1- Koraput, 2-Rayagada, 3- Nawarangpur, 4-Malkangiri
15	Dharanidhar University, Keonjhar (01.06.2023)	Keonjhar

By Order of the Governor
MANAS RANJAN BARIK
Principal Secretary to Government

THE ODISHA UNIVERSITIES (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2025

PREAMBLE :

SECTIONS :

1. Short title and commencement
2. Amendment of Section 6.
3. Amendment of Section 13 A.
4. Repeal and saving.

The Odisha Gazette



EXTRAORDINARY
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

No. 4628, CUTTACK, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2025/KARTIKA 8, 1947

LAW DEPARTMENT

NOTIFICATION

The 30th October, 2025

No.17725—I-Legis-20/2025/L.—The following Act of the Odisha Legislative Assembly having been assented to by the Governor on dated the 29th October, 2025 is hereby published for general information.

ODISHA ACT 6 OF 2025

THE ODISHA UNIVERSITIES (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2025

AN

ACT

FURTHER TO AMEND THE ODISHA UNIVERSITIES ACT, 1989

BE it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Odisha in the Seventy- sixth year of the Republic of India, as follows :—

Short Title and
Commencement.

1. (1) This Act may be called the Odisha Universities (Amendment) Act, 2025.

(2) It shall be deemed to have come into force on dated 23rd July, 2025.

Amendment of
Section 6.

2. In the Odisha Universities Act, 1989 (hereinafter referred to as the Principal Act), in Section 6,-

Odisha Act
5 of 1989.

(a) in sub-section (3), in the proviso to clause (iii), for the word “refuse”, the word “recuse” shall be substituted;

(b) in sub-section (10), for the proviso thereto, the following proviso shall be substituted, namely:—

"provided that where it is not reasonably practicable to fill up the vacancy in the manner as aforesaid immediately after it occurs, the Chancellor in consultation with the State Government may appoint any of the Vice-Chancellor of any Public University of the State or any other person as the Vice-Chancellor for a period as specified by the Chancellor or till joining of a regular Vice-Chancellor and the Vice-Chancellor so appointed shall exercise the powers and perform the functions of the Vice-Chancellor and shall be entitled to such allowance as determined by the Chancellor."

Amendment of
Section 13A.

3. In the principal Act, in Section 13A, in sub-section (3), for the word "Hall", the word "Half" shall be substituted.

Repeal and
Saving.

4. (1) The Odisha Universities (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025 is hereby repealed.

(2) Notwithstanding such repeal under sub-section (1), anything done or any action taken under the said Ordinance so repealed shall be deemed to have been done or taken under this Act.

Odisha
Ordinance
No. 01 of 2025.

By Order of the Governor
PRANAB KUMAR PATRA
Principal Secretary to Government (I/c)