

RIGHT TO
INFORMATION

ఆంధ్రప్రదేశ్ రాజపత్రము
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**ANDHRA PRADESH ACTS, ORDINANCES AND
REGULATIONS Etc.,**

The following is the authoritative text in English Language of the Ordinance promulgated by the Governor on the 3rd June, 2025 is being published under Article 348(3) of the Constitution of India for general information:-

ANDHRA PRADESH ORDINANCE No. 3 OF 2025.

Promulgated by the Governor in the Seventy-sixth year of the Republic of the India.

AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH INDIA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF LEGAL EDUCATION AND RESEARCH (IIULER) OF THE BAR COUNCIL OF INDIA TRUST AT ANDHRA PRADESH AND MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH AND INCIDENTAL THERETO.

WHEREAS, the Government of Andhra Pradesh is committed to provide an advance legal education in the State and to nurture excellence in the legal academic landscape of Andhra Pradesh. The IIULER initiative is designed to align with the State's vision of providing world-class legal education and research facilities, and its passage would be a significant milestone for both legal academia and the broader judicial ecosystem;

AND WHEREAS an Ordinance to establish India International University of Legal Education and Research of the Bar Council of India Trust at Andhra Pradesh;

AND WHEREAS the functions of the Bar Council of India include the promotion of legal education;

AND WHEREAS, the Bar Council of India through its Trust had established the institution namely National Law School of India University (NLSIU) at Bangalore with the support of Government of Karnataka, which continues to be the model Law School of the country, in the year 1986. The Committee appointed by the Chief Justices Conference in the year 1993 on Legal Education and Training recommended the establishment of such institutions taking the NLSIU of Bar Council of India Trust as a Model Institution in all the States;

AND WHEREAS the Bar Council of India, with the aim of carrying out the said function, has created a Public Charitable Trust known as the Bar Council of India Trust for Promotion of Education (Legal and Professional) and Reforms in Law and for Improvement of Research and Social Training (hereinafter referred to as BCI Trust PEARL-FIRST) (Registered on 26.09.2020 in the office of Sub-Registrar-III, New Delhi/Delhi vide Registration No. 443, Book No. 4, Volume No.4448 and Page No.1 to 30), the objects of which include the establishment, maintenance, and management of model centers of legal education such as Law Universities and Law Colleges in India and abroad for the growth of Legal Education and Research work in India and Abroad;

AND WHEREAS the Bar Council of India Trust aforesaid has established the India International University of Legal Education and Research at Goa;

AND WHEREAS the Bar Council of India Trust is an independent and autonomous unit of Bar Council of India, which includes Two Judges of Supreme Court of India or One Judge of Supreme Court and other Judge of some High Court nominated by the Board of Trustees in consultation with Chief Justice of India in accordance with the resolutions of Bar Council of India. The Board also includes noted Academicians, Jurists, Members of Bar Council of India, other eminent leaders of the Bar and persons of eminence;

AND WHEREAS the Chief Justice of India shall serve as the Visitor of the University, overseeing its adherence to the highest standards of legal education and providing guidance on matters of national significance;

AND WHEREAS the Governor of Andhra Pradesh shall be the Patron of the University, lending ceremonial and advisory support to the University's mission and its collaboration with the State Government for infrastructure, governance and other essential needs;

AND WHEREAS the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, or his/her nominee, shall be a Special Invitee to the General Council ensuring seamless coordination between the University and the State Government for matters concerning infrastructure, resources, and operational support;

AND WHEREAS the Chancellor, who shall be a sitting or former Judge of the Supreme Court of India, nominated by the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees in consultation with the Chief Justice of India, shall preside over the University;

AND WHEREAS the Chairman of the BCI Trust shall have overarching authority, in collaboration with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, to guide the University's academic, administrative and financial management in accordance with the long-term objectives of the BCI Trust;

AND WHEREAS the BCI Trust has resolved to work with the Government of Andhra Pradesh to secure land, buildings, and other essential infrastructure for the establishment and growth of the University and has requested the State Government to provide suitable land on long-term lease along with annual budget allocation

for the establishment and further growth/operations of the School, International Arbitration, Mediation, and Conciliation Centre, a Centre for Continuing Legal Education, a Judicial Training Centre, and other allied institutions to fulfil the Trust's objectives;

AND WHEREAS the BCI Trust shall arrange movable and immovable properties, funds, and resources for the establishment, management, and governance of the India International University of Legal Education and Research at Andhra Pradesh. The Trust may also receive donations from the State of Andhra Pradesh, as well as from other willing donors, to support the aforementioned purposes;

AND WHEREAS the BCI Trust shall open and manage all bank accounts necessary for the School's financial transactions, ensuring that all donations, loans, and other funds received from law firms, institutions, governments, or other entities including student fee are managed and utilized for the development and governance of the University and its allied institutions;

AND WHEREAS the BCI Trust shall ensure that all financial resources, including loans provided by the Bar Council of India, are utilized for the development and management of the University and the repayment of loans (if any), as well as for the establishment of international legal centers, including the International Arbitration, Mediation and Conciliation Centre and training centers for Teachers, Advocates, and Judicial Officers;

AND WHEREAS the India International University of Legal Education and Research (IIULER) at Andhra Pradesh shall have the authority to admit colleges or institutions to the privilege of affiliation for imparting legal education in Andhra Pradesh and with the concurrence of the Government of Andhra Pradesh, in other parts of the country or abroad;

AND WHEREAS the India International University of Legal Education and Research (IIULER) at Andhra Pradesh shall have the authority to collaborate with foreign universities of repute and grant dual degrees or other academic distinctions pursuant to Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with these institutions; and subject to approval by Bar Council of India;

AND WHEREAS the BCI Trust shall appoint authorities such as the General Council, Executive Council, Academic Council, Finance Committee and other necessary bodies for the governance of the University (as the Trust deems fit and proper), ensuring that all decisions are made in the best interest of the University's growth and its alignment with the BCI Trust's missions;

AND WHEREAS it has been felt necessary to establish India International University of Legal Education and Research (IIULER) at Amaravati immediately for imparting legal education and research in Andhra Pradesh from this Academic Year;

AND WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of Andhra Pradesh is not now in session and the Governor of Andhra Pradesh is satisfied that circumstances exist which render it necessary for him to take immediate action.

Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by clause (1) of Article 213 of the Constitution of India, the Governor of Andhra Pradesh hereby promulgate the following Ordinance:

Short title and
commencement.

1.(1) This Ordinance may be called the India International University of Legal Education and Research

of the Bar Council of India Trust at Andhra Pradesh Ordinance, 2025.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

Definitions.

2. In this Ordinance, unless the context otherwise requires, —

(a) “Academic Council” means the Academic Council of the University;

Central Act 25
of 1961.

(b) “Bar Council of India” means the Bar Council of India constituted under the Advocates Act, 1961;

(c) “Board” means the Board of Trustees including Managing Trustees of the Bar Council of India Trust (PEARL-FIRST);

(d) “Chairman” means the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Bar Council of India Trust (PEARL-FIRST), empowered to make decisions for the management and development of the University in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees;

(e) “Chancellor” means a Judge of the Supreme Court of India (sitting or former) nominated by the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees in consultation with the Chief Justice of India;

(f) “Chief Finance and Accounts Officer” means the Chief Finance and Accounts Officer of the University, who shall operate under the authority of the Chairman in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees in financial matters;

(g) “Chief Minister” means the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, who shall be a Patron and serve as a Special Invitee to the General Council providing consultative input on matters related to infrastructure, governance, and regional development;

(h) “Director-in-Chief”, “Director(s)” and Joint Director(s) means the Director-in-Chief, Director(s) and the Joint Director(s) of the University appointed by the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees to execute and manage the functions and affairs of the University to be specified by the Board through its Chairman;

“Directors” may also be referred to/called as Joint Director (Administration) and/or Joint Director (Legal), or may carry another appropriate title with an affix or suffix”;

(i) “Distance education” means education imparted by any combination of communication methods, including online, broadcasting, correspondence courses, seminars, contact programs, and others, under the governance of the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees;

(j) “Executive Council” means the Executive Council of the University constituted under the Ordinance to carry out executive functions, acting under the authority of the Chairman and the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees;

(k) “General Council” means the General Council of the University which oversees the academic and operational direction of the University, with essential decisions subject to approval by the Chairman and the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees;

- (l) “Government” means the Government of Andhra Pradesh;
- (m) “Governor” means the Governor of Andhra Pradesh, who shall serve as the Patron of the University, lending ceremonial and advisory support to its mission;
- (n) “Hostel” means a place of residence for the students of the University or its affiliated Colleges, Institutions, or Centers as provided or recognized by the University;
- (o) “Off-Campus Centre” means a center of the University established outside the main campus and managed as a constituent unit of the University with the same standards and facilities, under the control of the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees;
- (p) “Pro-Vice-Chancellor” means the Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the University;
- (q) “Registrar” means the Registrar of the University shall be the principal administrative officer responsible for maintaining the University’s records, managing official correspondence, and facilitating meetings of various bodies within the University. The Registrar shall operate under the supervision of the Chairman of the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, the Vice-Chancellor, and the Directors /Joint Directors;
- (r) “Regulations” means the regulations framed by the Executive Council, subject to approval by the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees;
- (s) “Schedule” means the Schedule appended to this Ordinance;

(t) “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, responsible for convening meetings and maintaining records under the authority of the Chairman;

(u) “State” means the State of Andhra Pradesh;

(v) “Student” means a person enrolled in the University for a course of study for a degree, diploma, or other academic distinction recognized by the University, including a research degree;

(w) “Teacher” means a Professor, Associate Professor, Assistant Professor, or any other person responsible for imparting education, research guidance, or any other academic role under the regulations of the University, as designated by the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees;

(x) “Trust” means the Bar Council of India Trust (PEARL-FIRST), registered as a public charitable trust vide Registration No. 443 Book No. 4, Volume No. 4448 at Delhi and vested with the responsibility to establish, manage, and govern the University. The Trust may also be called as BCI Trust or Bar Council of India Trust in short;

(y) “University” means the India International University of Legal Education and Research of the Bar Council of India Trust at Andhra Pradesh, established under sub-section (1) of section 3;

(z) “Vice-Chancellor” means the Vice-Chancellor of the University, appointed by the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, responsible for the overall administration and

execution of policies set by the Chairman in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees;

(aa) “Visitor” means the Chief Justice of India, who shall have oversight of the University's functioning, ensuring adherence to the highest standards of legal education;

Establishment
of University.

3. (1) With effect from such date as the State Government may by notification appoint, there shall be established at Amaravati in the State of Andhra Pradesh a University by name “the India International University of Legal Education and Research of the Bar Council of India Trust at Andhra Pradesh”, which shall consist of the General Council, the Executive Council, the Academic Council, and other Committees and bodies to be constituted by the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees in consultation with the Chairman.

(2) The University shall be a body corporate having perpetual succession and a common seal and shall sue and be sued in its corporate name.

(3) The headquarters of the University shall be at Amaravati in the State of Andhra Pradesh. The Board of Trustees, in consultation with the Chairman, may establish branch offices or centers, including at locations such as Delhi or abroad, to further the University's objectives.

Objects of
the University.

4. (1) The objects of the University shall be,-

(a) to advance and disseminate learning and knowledge of law, legal processes, and related disciplines with a focus on fostering the development

of a professional legal mindset that aligns with the ideals promoted by the Bar Council of India Trust PEARL-FIRST, ensuring the university operates as a center of excellence in legal education;

(b) to develop in the student and research scholar a profound sense of responsibility and commitment to serve society through the legal profession by developing essential skills such as advocacy, legal services, legislation, law reforms, and the like, with due emphasis on ethics and practices as endorsed by the BCI Trust, further empowering BCI Trust to influence curriculum design and educational standards in line with its objectives;

(c) to organize and promote lectures, seminars, symposia, and conferences in collaboration with BCI Trust, enabling the efficient dissemination of legal knowledge, making law and legal processes efficient instruments of social development, under the guidance and approval of the Chairman of the Board in consultation with the Chancellor and the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees of the BCI Trust, ensuring the university aligns with national legal reform initiatives and developments proposed by the BCI Trust;

(d) to hold examinations, confer degrees, diplomas, and certificates (either through classroom studies or distance education), and further confer other academic distinctions, with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees having the authority to approve or recommend new courses, programs, or

certifications in line with legal education reforms, ensuring alignment with the legal profession's requirements and emerging legal challenges;

(e) to do all such things as are incidental, necessary, or conducive to the attainment of all or any of the objects of the University, while ensuring consultation with the Chairman, and Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees in matters of academic and operational relevance, and permitting the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, to take urgent or emergency decisions for the university's benefit, at short notice, for any matter requiring prompt action;

(f) to reserve at least 20% of seats in the University for the permanent residents of the State of Andhra Pradesh, in matters of admission to courses undertaken by the University, ensuring a local representation of students, while also exploring opportunities for such reservations to apply, where feasible, to permanent residents of Andhra Pradesh and any other regions as recommended by the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees;

(2) The University shall be open to all persons of either sex irrespective of religion, race, creed, caste, or class, and it shall not be lawful for the University to impose on any person any test whatsoever of religious belief or profession in order to entitle him to be admitted thereto as a teacher or a student, to hold any office therein, to graduate thereat, or to enjoy or exercise any privilege thereof.

However, the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees of the BCI Trust, shall retain the power to make strategic decisions regarding admissions, faculty recruitment, or office appointments in situations requiring urgent or exceptional measures to safeguard the interests of the university or to align with national legal education objectives.

(3) The University shall also accord a special status to the Patron/s i.e. the Governor and the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, acknowledging their importance and role in supporting the University's development and functioning, while ensuring their consultative roles on matters of public interest concerning the University, particularly in areas related to law reforms, legal services, and socio-legal development of the region.

(4) Any committees, advisory boards, or consultative panels constituted by the University in matters of legal education, administration, or development shall be applicable to the State of Andhra Pradesh, to nurture cooperation and regional development in legal education across States.

Powers and
Functions of the
University.

5. The powers and functions of the University shall be as follows, with due emphasis on promoting collaboration with the Bar Council of India Trust PEARL-FIRST. The Chairman, in consultation with Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, shall have enhanced powers to make strategic decisions for the benefit of the University, especially in cases of urgency, emergency, or short notice:-

(i) to administer and manage the University and such centers for research, education, and instruction as are necessary for the furtherance of the objects of the University, with approval from the Chairman in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees for establishing new centers or making significant changes;

(ii) to provide for instruction in such branches of knowledge or learning pertaining to law, as the University may think fit and to make provision for research and for the advancement and dissemination of knowledge of law, subject to approval and recommendations of the BCI Trust, with final decisions being made by the Chairman in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees;

(iii) to involve teachers from the top most Law Universities of the World in the works of teaching of the students and to grant degrees as per the decision of the General Council, with strategic advice and recommendations from the BCI Trust, under the authority of the Chairman in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees;

(iv) to organize and undertake extramural teaching, with Chairman in consultation with Chancellor and Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees having the authority to approve significant initiatives related to extramural activities;

(v) to hold examinations and to confer degrees, grant diplomas or certificates, and confer other academic distinctions by virtue of classroom/regular studies or distance education, subject to such conditions as the University may determine in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, in light of BCI Rules of Legal Education/guidelines/circulars and to withdraw any such degree, diploma, certificate, or other academic distinction for good and sufficient cause as endorsed by the Chairman in consultation with Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees;

(vi) to confer honorary degrees or other distinctions in the manner laid down in the regulations, with special approval from the Chairman in consultation with Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees where deemed necessary;

(vii) to institute and maintain halls and hostels and recognize places of residence for the students of the University, with authority vested in the Chairman in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees to make urgent decisions in this regard;

(viii) to supervise and control the residence and regulate the discipline of the students of the University and to make arrangements for promoting their health, subject to the approval of Chairman in consultation with Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees;

(ix) to make such arrangements in respect of the residence, discipline, and teaching of women students, ensuring the guidelines are aligned with the broader objectives of the BCI Trust, with final oversight by the Chairman in consultation with Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees;

(x) to establish such special centers, specialized study centers, or other units for research and instruction as are, in the opinion of the General Council necessary for the furtherance of its objects, with strategic direction provided by the Chairman in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees;

(xi) to create academic, technical, administrative, ministerial, and other posts and to make appointments thereto, under the guidance and approval of Chairman in consultation with Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees;

(xii) to regulate and enforce discipline among the employees of the University and to take such disciplinary measures as may be deemed necessary, with the Chairman retaining the power to make urgent decisions in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees;

(xiii) to institute professorships, associate professorships, assistant professorships, readerships, lectureships, and any other teaching, academic or research posts required by the University, with input from the BCI Trust, ensuring these appointments

align with broader legal education reforms, under the supervision of the Chairman in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees;

(xiv) to institute and award fellowships, scholarships, prizes, and medals, ensuring they are consistent with the BCI Trust's objectives and receive endorsement from the Chairman in consultation with Chancellor and Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees;

(xv) to provide for printing, reproduction, and publication of research and other works, and to organize exhibitions, ensuring that the Chairman in consultation with Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees has oversight of major initiatives;

(xvi) to sponsor and undertake research in all aspects of law, justice, and social development, with strategic direction provided by Chairman in consultation with Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees;

(xvii) to co-operate with any other organization in the matter of education, training, and research in law, justice, social development, and allied subjects, ensuring cooperation is in line with the BCI Trust's strategic goals, and obtaining approval from the Chairman in consultation with Board of Trustees /Managing Trustees for significant partnerships;

(xviii) to co-operate with institutions of higher learning globally, having objects wholly or partially similar to those of the University, by exchange of teachers and scholars and in such a manner as may be conducive to common objectives, with the approval of the Chairman in consultation with Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees for strategic partnerships;

(xix) to regulate the expenditure and to manage the accounts of the University, with oversight and final approval by Chairman in consultation with Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees for major financial decisions;

(xx) to establish and maintain within the University's premises such classrooms and study halls as may be considered necessary and adequately furnish the same, subject to approval from the Chairman in consultation with Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees;

(xxi) to establish and maintain such libraries and reading rooms as may appear convenient or necessary for the University, with strategic input from BCI Trust and approval from the Chairman in consultation with Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees;

(xxii) to receive grants, subventions, subscriptions, donations, and gifts for the purpose of the University and consistent with the objects for which the University is established, with final approval from the

Chairman in consultation with Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees for significant donations;

(xxiii) to purchase, take on lease, or accept as gifts any land, building, or works necessary or convenient for the purpose of the University, subject to Chairman in consultation with Board of Trustees /Managing Trustees approval;

(xxiv) to sell, exchange, lease, or otherwise dispose of any portion of the properties of the University on such terms as it may think fit, provided that Chairman in consultation with Board of Trustees /Managing Trustees grants final approval;

(xxv) to draw and accept, to make and endorse, to discount and negotiate promissory notes, bills of exchange, cheques, or other negotiable instruments, subject to oversight by Chairman, and Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees;

(xxvi) to execute conveyances, transfers, reconveyances, mortgages, leases, licenses, and agreements in respect of property, moveable or immovable, including Government securities belonging to the University, subject to Chairman, and Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees approval;

(xxvii) to appoint any person to execute an instrument or transact business on behalf of the University, with oversight by Chairman in

consultation with Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees for significant appointments;

(xxviii) to enter into agreements with Central or State Governments, University Grants Commission, or other authorities for receiving grants, subject to Chairman, and Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees approval;

(xxix) to accept grants of money, securities, or property on terms it deems expedient, subject to Chairman, and Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees approval;

(xxx) to raise and borrow money on bonds, mortgages, promissory notes, or other obligations or securities, and to payout expenses incidental to raising money, subject to oversight by Chairman, and Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees;

(xxxi) to invest the funds of the University or money entrusted to the University as deemed fit, subject to Chairman in consultation with Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees oversight;

(xxxii) to make such regulations for regulating the affairs and management of the University as considered necessary, with the Chairman, and Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees responsible for strategic regulation changes;

(xxxiii) to constitute for the benefit of staff pension, insurance, provident fund, or gratuity schemes as it deems fit, subject to the approval of the Chairman,

Chancellor, and Board of Trustees / Managing Trustees;

(xxxiv) to delegate powers to the Vice-Chancellor or any other officer or committee, with final power of delegation to be vested in Chairman in consultation with Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees;

(xxxv) to manage and regulate the finances, accounts, investments, property, and business of the University, with Chairman, Chancellor, and Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees having oversight of all major decisions;

(xxxvi) to invest any money belonging to the University, including unapplied income, in securities or immovable property, subject to approval of the Chairman, and Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees;

(xxxvii) to transfer or accept transfers of property on behalf of the University, subject to the approval of the Chairman in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees;

(xxxviii) to enter into, vary, carry out, or cancel contracts on behalf of the University, with final approval from Chairman, and Board of Trustees /Managing Trustees for major contracts;

(xxxix) to provide the buildings, premises, furniture, and apparatus needed for carrying on the work of the University, subject to the approval of Chairman in

consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees;

(xl) to select a common seal for the University and to provide for the custody of the seal, with final authority vested in Chairman, and Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees;

(xli) to do all such other acts as necessary, conducive, or incidental to the attainment of the aforesaid objects, subject to final approval from Chairman, and Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees.

Teaching of
the University.

6. (1) Recognised Teaching and Control by Councils:

All recognised teaching in connection with the degrees, diplomas, and certificates of the University shall be conducted under the control of the concerned Councils of the University, which will now operate with strategic oversight from the BCI Trust, ensuring that the teaching aligns with the values and objectives promoted by the BCI and BCI Trust PEARL-FIRST. The Chairman in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, shall have the authority to oversee and make essential decisions regarding the teaching framework, particularly in situations requiring urgent interventions, ensuring teaching standards remain high and aligned with contemporary legal education reforms. In case of emergencies or short-notice requirements, the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, shall be empowered to take necessary actions for the benefit of the University.

Moreover, the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, shall have the ability to intervene in matters of teaching and syllabus structuring when necessary, ensuring a proactive response to the dynamic needs of the legal field and to promote excellence in legal education in accordance with BCI Trust's values. This power includes making decisions in situations where swift action is required to improve teaching outcomes or align with national legal education policies.

(2) Courses and Curricula:

The courses and curricula, and the authorities responsible for organizing such teaching, shall be prescribed by the regulations, with BCI Trust's strategic direction integrated into course design and implementation. The Chairman and Board of Trustees will hold the authority to review and revise courses to ensure they align with the BCI Rules of Legal Education and guidelines/circulars issued in this regard, and evolving needs of legal education and the legal profession. This authority includes making swift decisions in urgent circumstances to modify courses or curricula, ensuring that the University remains competitive and progressive in its academic offerings.

Additionally, the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, shall be empowered to approve new courses and curricula on an emergency or urgent basis, especially when the legal landscape requires rapid adaptation subject to alignment with BCI Rules of Legal Education and guidelines/circulars issued in this

regard. This ensures that the University remains flexible and forward-thinking in its approach to legal education, always in line with BCI Trust's mission to nurture excellence.

At the same time, the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, shall retain the ultimate authority in decision-making related to the strategic direction of teaching and curricula.

Visitor of the University.

7. The Chief Justice of India or his nominee, who shall be a senior sitting Judge of the Supreme Court of India, shall serve as the Visitor of the University. The Visitor shall ensure that the University adheres to the highest standards of legal education and governance. The Visitor may provide guidance on matters of national significance that affect the University's functioning and growth.

Chancellor of the University.

8. (1) Appointment and Powers of the Chancellor:

A Judge of the Supreme Court of India, as nominated by the Board of Trustees of the Bar Council of India Trust (PEARL-FIRST), shall serve as the Chancellor of the University. The Chancellor shall preside over the Convocation of the University in the absence of the Visitor and shall play a key role in the governance and academic standards of the University by providing advice to the Chairman and to the Board of Trustees.

All degrees and final appointments shall bear the Chancellor's signature to reflect the University's commitment to academic excellence and governance standards.

(2) Inspection and Oversight Authority of the Chancellor:

The Chancellor, either independently or in consultation with the Chairman, may cause an inspection to be conducted of the University's buildings, libraries, equipment, and any other institution maintained by the University. This inspection shall also include examinations of the teaching, research, and administrative functions of the University, ensuring that all operations are aligned with the objectives of the BCI Trust PEARL-FIRST.

After the inspection, the Chancellor, in consultation with the Chairman and the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, may issue guidance or recommendations to improve the functioning of the University. These recommendations shall be aligned with the long-term objectives of the BCI Trust and the highest standards of legal education.

(3) Communication of Inspection Results:

The Chancellor shall address the Secretary of the Board with reference to the findings from the inspection. The Secretary shall then communicate the Chancellor's views and any advice on necessary actions to the Board. The Board of Trustees, either through the General Council or directly, shall ensure that the Chancellor's recommendations are implemented in a timely manner.

(4) Response and Action on Recommendations:

The Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, either through the General Council or directly, shall communicate the actions taken or proposed to be taken based on the Chancellor's advice.

Authorities of
the University.

9. The Authorities of the University shall be as follows, each playing a key role in the governance of the University, with enhanced collaboration between the Chairman in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees:

- (i) The General Council;
- (ii) The Executive Council;
- (iii) The Academic Council;
- (iv) The Finance Committee; and
- (v) Such other authorities as may be created by the Chairman in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, ensuring that decisions are made for the effective governance of the University, particularly in matters of urgency or emergency.

The General
Council.

10. The General Council shall serve as the supreme supervisory body of the University, tasked with ensuring that the University's operations align with the objectives of the BCI Trust PEARL-FIRST. The General Council shall have the authority to issue guidelines to other bodies within the University to ensure proper functioning.

The Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees /Managing Trustees, shall oversee the General Council and ensure that decisions are consistent with the broader objectives of the University. In cases requiring urgent or emergency decisions, the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, shall be empowered to take swift action for the benefit of the University.

The Executive
Council.

11. The Executive Council shall serve as the executive body of the University, tasked with ensuring that the University's objectives, as outlined by the BCI Trust PEARL-FIRST, are

implemented. The Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, in consultation with the Chairman, shall oversee the affairs of the University through the Executive Council.

The Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees /Managing Trustees, shall have the authority to guide the Executive Council in executing its responsibilities, ensuring that all activities align with the BCI Trust's mission. The Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, may take urgent or emergency decisions to ensure that the Executive Council acts promptly in critical situations.

The Governor and Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, or their nominees, may provide consultative input on regional matters affecting the works of the Executive Council.

The Academic Council.

12. The Academic Council shall serve as the academic body of the University, responsible for maintaining high standards in instruction, education, and examination. It shall work in close alignment with the BCI Trust PEARL-FIRST, and its decisions shall be subject to the regulations and policies set by the Chancellor, Chairman and Board of Trustees.

The Chancellor in consultation with the Chairman, shall have oversight of the Academic Council and may issue directives to ensure that academic standards are maintained. In situations requiring immediate adjustments to the curriculum, the Chancellor in consultation with the Chairman and the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, may take urgent academic decisions to ensure the continued high standards of the University.

The Finance
Committee.

13. The Finance Committee shall be responsible for the financial planning and monitoring of the University's fiscal health, ensuring that it operates in alignment with the objectives set by the BCI Trust PEARL-FIRST. The Finance Committee shall ensure that the University's financial position remains strong and viable.

The Chairman, in consultation with the Chancellor and the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, shall have oversight over the Finance Committee, ensuring that financial decisions align with the long-term strategy of the BCI Trust. In times of financial urgency, the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees shall have the power to take urgent financial decisions to safeguard the financial viability of the University.

The Governor and Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, or their nominees, may be consulted by the Chairman on financial matters involving state collaboration or infrastructure investment.

Officers of the
University.

14. The following shall be the Officers of the University, appointed by the University under the guidance of the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, ensuring alignment with the BCI Trust PEARL-FIRST's objectives. The Chairman shall have primary authority in making decisions regarding the appointment and direction of these officers, especially in cases of urgency or emergency.

(a) Vice-Chancellor:

The Vice-Chancellor shall be the Chief Academic Officer of the University, responsible for overseeing all administrative operations and ensuring the implementation of the University's academic and strategic

vision. The Vice-Chancellor shall be appointed by the Chancellor on the recommendation of a Selection Committee constituted by the Chairman, in consultation with the Chancellor and the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees.

The Vice-Chancellor shall report directly to the Chairman, who shall have the authority to guide and direct the Vice-Chancellor's work. In situations requiring immediate action for the benefit of the University, the Chancellor, in consultation with the Chairman and Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, may also direct the Vice-Chancellor to take necessary steps to address urgent matters.

(b) Registrar:

The Registrar shall be the Principal Administrative Officer responsible for maintaining the University's records, managing official correspondence, and facilitating meetings of various bodies of the University. The Registrar shall be appointed by the Chairman on the recommendation of a Selection Committee constituted by the Chairman and the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees.

The Registrar shall work under the direct supervision of the Chairman and the Vice-Chancellor; and the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees / Managing Trustees, shall have the final say in any urgent decisions regarding the Registrar's duties or responsibilities. In cases of emergency, the Chairman may issue any direction/order to ensure administrative matters are addressed swiftly.

(c) Chief Finance and Accounts Officer:

The Chief Finance and Accounts Officer shall manage the financial operations of the University, ensuring that the University's finances are handled in accordance with the long-term objectives of the BCI Trust PEARL-FIRST. This officer shall be responsible for financial planning, audits, and the proper use of funds.

The Chief Finance and Accounts Officer shall be appointed by the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees. However, the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, shall have the primary authority to make urgent financial decisions when the University's financial stability requires immediate action.

(d) Other Officers

The University may appoint other officers as required by its operational and academic needs, including but not limited to the positions of Director-in-Chief, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Director(s), Additional Registrar, Joint Registrar, and Assistant Registrar.

The Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, shall constitute a Selection Committee comprising experts in various fields to appoint these officers.

The Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, shall have primary decision-making authority regarding these appointments, ensuring alignment with the objectives of the Bar Council of India Trust. In urgent or emergent situations, the Chairman may

issue any direction to ensure the University's operations continue smoothly.

The Chairman may also create such other non-teaching posts as he may deem fit and proper for the smooth functioning of the University.

Regulations.

15. (1) Powers of the Executive Council:

Subject to the provisions of this Ordinance, the Executive Council, in consultation with the Chairman and the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, shall have the power to frame regulations for the administration and management of the affairs of the University. This process shall be guided by the strategic vision of the Bar Council of India Trust PEARL-FIRST, ensuring that all decisions align with its long-term objectives for legal education and governance.

The Chancellor or the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, shall have the authority to intervene and guide the Executive Council in framing regulations that are urgent or necessary for the immediate benefit of the University. In cases of urgency or emergency, the Chairman, with the approval of the Board of Trustees, may direct the Executive Council to adopt temporary regulations for the good of the University.

Provided that, except with the prior concurrence of the Academic Council, the Executive Council shall not make, amend, or repeal any regulation affecting any or all of the following matters, unless approved by the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees:

- (a) The authorities responsible for organizing teaching in connection with the University courses and related academic programs;
- (b) The qualifications for admission to a course of study for a degree or diploma;
- (c) The withdrawal of degrees, diplomas, certificates, and other academic distinctions or privileges conferred on or granted to any person;
- (d) The establishment and abolition of faculties, departments, halls, and institutions;
- (e) The institution of fellowships, scholarships, studentships, exhibitions, medals, and prizes;
- (f) Conditions and modes of appointment of examiners or conduct or standard of examinations or any other course of study;
- (g) Examinations to be recognized as equivalent to University examinations.

(2) Powers of the Academic Council:

The Academic Council shall have the power to propose regulations concerning the matters listed in clauses (a) to (g) above, and on matters incidental thereto. These proposed regulations shall be submitted to the Executive Council for consideration. The Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, shall have the authority to review these proposed regulations and provide guidance to the Executive Council on their adoption. The Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, may intervene in

urgent cases to ensure that the Academic Council's proposals align with the Bar Council of India Trust's objectives and are implemented promptly.

(3) Appeal to the General Council:

If the Executive Council rejects a regulation proposed by the Academic Council, the Academic Council may appeal the decision to the General Council. Upon such appeal, the General Council, under the guidance of the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, may direct that the proposed regulation be reconsidered at the next meeting of the General Council.

Pending approval by the General Council, the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees /Managing Trustees, may decide that the proposed regulation shall have temporary effect until a final decision is made.

Provided that, if any regulation is not approved by the General Council, it shall cease to have effect. However, in urgent situations, the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, may take temporary action to maintain continuity in the University's operations.

(4) Approval of Regulations by the General Council:

All regulations framed by the Executive Council shall be submitted to the General Council for approval at its next meeting. The General Council, under the authority of the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees /Managing Trustees, shall have the power to approve or

cancel any regulation by a majority vote of not less than two-thirds of the members present.

Should any regulation be cancelled by the General Council, it shall cease to have effect immediately. However, in cases of urgency, the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, may take temporary action to ensure the continuity of the University's regulations until a more permanent solution is adopted.

Action not
invalidated
merely on
the ground
of defect in
constitution,
vacancy, etc.

16. (1) Validity of Acts and Proceedings Despite Defects:

Notwithstanding that the General Council, Executive Council, Academic Council, or any other Authority or Body of the University is not duly constituted, or that there is a defect in its constitution or reconstitution at any given time, and notwithstanding that there may be a vacancy in the membership of any such Authority or body, no act, rule, decision, or proceedings of such authority or body shall be invalidated on these grounds.

In cases where the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, identifies the need for urgent decisions or actions to maintain the continuity of the University's operations, such decisions or actions shall not be deemed invalid, even if there are defects in the constitution or vacancies. The Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, shall have the authority to take necessary steps to ensure the smooth functioning of the University, in line with the objectives of the Bar Council of India Trust PEARL-FIRST.

(2) Validity of Resolutions Despite Irregularities in Notice:

No resolution passed by any authority or body of the University shall be deemed invalid due to any irregularity in the service of notice upon any member, provided that the proceedings were not prejudicially affected by such irregularity. The Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, shall have the authority to address and rectify any irregularities that arise in procedural matters, ensuring that such irregularities do not invalidate any decisions or actions taken by the University's authorities.

In urgent or emergency situations, the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, may bypass standard notice procedures to ensure swift decision-making. This ensures that any irregularities in notice do not hinder the University's operations, particularly when immediate action is required to safeguard the University's interests.

Removal of
Difficulties at the
Commencement,
Transitory
Provisions, and
Authority of the
Chairman for
Urgent and
Emergency
Decisions.

17. (1) Powers to Remove Difficulties:

If any difficulty arises with respect to the establishment of the University, the functioning of any authority or body, or in giving effect to the provisions of this Ordinance or the regulations during the initial phase of the University's operation, the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, shall have the power to make any appointment or take any action necessary to remove such difficulty.

The Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, shall be empowered to issue orders or make decisions that are consistent with the provisions of this Ordinance, and such actions shall have

full validity as if they were taken under the prescribed provisions of the Ordinance and regulations. These decisions may include the appointment of individuals, the constitution of committees, or any other actions deemed necessary to ensure the smooth commencement of University operations.

(2) Powers of the Chairman for Urgent and Emergency Situations:

Notwithstanding anything in this Ordinance or the regulations, the Chairman of the Board, with prior approval from the Board of Trustees, shall have the authority to discharge any or all functions of the University in urgent or emergency situations where the proper functioning of the University is at risk. This authority shall apply not only during the transitory period but shall extend to all future situations where urgent decisions are required to protect the University's operations.

The Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, may exercise any powers or perform any duties that would otherwise be exercised or performed by any authority of the University, until such authorities are constituted or operational as per the provisions of this Ordinance. The Chairman may also delegate these functions to any officer appointed under this Ordinance to ensure the smooth running of University activities.

In urgent or emergency situations, the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, shall have the power to make immediate decisions and take actions in the best interests of the University, particularly where delay might hinder the

University's growth or stability. This authority includes governance, financial management, academic affairs, and institutional development.

The Governor of Andhra Pradesh and the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, or their nominees, shall hold special consultative status in matters concerning the establishment, operationalization, or urgent functioning of the University, particularly where regional interests and collaboration with the state are involved. They may provide advisory input on decisions that impact the regional socio-legal environment.

However, the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, shall retain the final authority to make decisions, ensuring that such decisions align with the BCI Trust PEARL-FIRST's mission and goals for the University.

Authorities and
Officers of the
University, their
Entitlements,
and Other
Provisions.

18. All matters relating to the authorities of the University, their composition, powers, functions, and entitlements (such as honorarium, sitting allowances, travel allowances, dietary allowances, dearness allowance, etc.) shall be under the purview of the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees. The provisions for entitlements shall be aligned with the mission and financial policies of the BCI Trust PEARL-FIRST, ensuring that all such matters promote the smooth functioning of the University.

The appointment, service conditions, and salaries of the officers of the University, along with their powers and functions, shall also be determined by the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, to ensure that these

decisions serve the long-term objectives of the University and align with the strategic priorities of the BCI Trust.

In urgent or emergency situations, the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, shall have the authority to make immediate decisions regarding the composition, powers, or entitlements of the University's authorities and officers, ensuring that the University's operations remain unaffected by delays or vacancies.

The Schedule attached to this Ordinance, or any regulations made thereafter, shall provide additional details and guidelines related to the finances, fees, teaching, administration, and management of the University's affairs. These guidelines shall be subject to the strategic oversight of the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees.

Other Centres of
Legal Education.

19. The University may establish centres of legal education in any part of India or abroad, in accordance with the strategic vision of the BCI Trust PEARL-FIRST, expanding the reach of legal education. These centres shall be governed by the same regulations, oversight, and governance structures as the main campus, ensuring consistency in legal education standards.

The Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, shall have the authority to make decisions regarding the establishment of such centres, ensuring that the expansion of the University aligns with both national and international legal education goals. Any urgent or immediate decisions regarding the establishment or operationalization of these centres can be made by the Chairman, with the approval of the Board of Trustees, ensuring that opportunities for growth are not missed.

In cases where collaboration with foreign universities or legal institutions is involved, the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, shall have the final authority to enter into agreements or memoranda of understanding (MoUs), ensuring that all such partnerships serve the broader mission of the University and the BCI Trust.

Protection of
Actions Taken in
Good Faith.

20. No suit, prosecution, or other legal proceedings shall lie against any authorities or officers of the University, including the Chairman, Chancellor, Board of Trustees, Vice-Chancellor, Registrar, or any other official acting under the authority of this Ordinance, for anything that is done in good faith or intended to be done in furtherance of the University's mission, the regulations, or this Ordinance.

In situations where decisions need to be taken quickly or under pressure, particularly in cases of urgency or emergency, the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, shall be protected under this provision, ensuring that actions taken for the benefit of the University and in line with the objectives of the BCI Trust PEARL-FIRST are safeguarded from legal repercussions.

This provision also extends to any other officers or staff of the University who, acting in good faith and in accordance with their duties, perform tasks that are aligned with the mission and operational goals of the University.

The Governor of Andhra Pradesh and the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, or their respective nominees, shall hold special consultative status regarding the entitlements of authorities, the establishment of centres, and the broader functioning of the

University, particularly where Regional or State collaboration is required. Their input shall be valued in decisions that impact the State, ensuring that the University's expansion and development align with regional priorities.

However, final decision-making authority in these matters shall rest with the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, to maintain consistency with the overall mission and governance structures of the BCI Trust PEARL-FIRST.

Power to amend
the Schedule.

21. (1) Authority to amend the Schedule:

The General Council, with the prior approval of the Chairman in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, and in coordination with the Government of Andhra Pradesh, may amend the Schedule of this Ordinance by notification, ensuring that the BCI Trust PEARL-FIRST's objectives remain central to any such amendments. This ensures that all amendments align with the strategic vision and goals of the BCI Trust.

The Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, shall have the authority to make urgent or emergency decisions related to amendments of the Schedule, should immediate action be required for the benefit of the University. Such decisions shall later be ratified by the Board to maintain transparency and alignment with the long-term objectives of the University.

(2) Notification and Legislative Oversight:

Every notification issued under sub-section (1) shall be laid before the State Legislature of Andhra Pradesh, as soon as possible after it is issued. This ensures that any changes made to the Schedule maintain legal and public transparency.

Powers to Give
Directions.

22. The Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, in consultation with the Chairman, shall have the authority to issue general or special directions to carry out the objectives of this Ordinance. These directions may relate to policy, administration, governance, or academic affairs and shall be framed to ensure alignment with the goals of the BCI Trust PEARL-FIRST.

The Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, shall have the authority to issue immediate or urgent directions when necessary for the benefit of the University. In these cases, decisions shall later be reviewed by the Board of Trustees to ensure consistency with the University's long-term strategy.

Ordinance to
have Overriding
Effect.

23. The provisions of this Ordinance, and any regulations made thereunder, shall have overriding effect over any inconsistent provisions contained in any other State law in force or in any instrument that derives its validity from such State law. This ensures that the objectives and governance principles of the BCI Trust PEARL-FIRST are prioritized and take precedence over any conflicting laws.

The Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, shall ensure that the University operates within the framework of this Ordinance, and where any conflict arises, the provisions of this Ordinance shall be followed.

Consultation for
Amendment(s).

24. Any amendment in this Ordinance or the schedule may be made by the both houses of Legislature only, after consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees to ensure that all amendments/decisions are consistent and aligned with the strategic vision of the BCI Trust PEARL-FIRST.

Schedule
(See Section 18)

1. Definitions

In this Schedule, unless the context otherwise requires:

- (a) “clause” means a clause of this Schedule;
- (b) “teacher” means a Professor, Associate Professor, Assistant Professor, Teaching Associate, or any other person designated under the Regulations, required to impart education, guide research, or provide guidance in any other form to students pursuing a course of study at the University. The designation of these roles shall be made with the approval of the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, ensuring alignment with the BCI Trust PEARL-FIRST’s mission for legal education.

2. Membership of the General Council:

- (1) Composition of the General Council:

There shall be a General Council of the University, which shall consist of the following members, with appointments and nominations subject to the approval of the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees of the BCI Trust PEARL-FIRST:

- (a) The Chancellor of the University, who shall be a sitting or former Judge of the Supreme Court of India, nominated by the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, and who shall preside over the General Council in consultation with the Chairman;
- (b) The Chairperson of the Bar Council of India.

- (c) The Chairman of the Board of Trustees/ Managing Trustees of the BCI Trust PEARL-FIRST;
- (d) The Chief Justice of the High Court of Andhra Pradesh, representing the legal fraternity and judicial administration at the state level and who shall ensure regional legal perspectives are reflected in decision-making;
- (e) Two Chief Justices (sitting or former) or Judges (sitting or former) of High Courts, nominated by the Bar Council of India Trust, providing judicial insight to the governance of the University;
- (f) The Advocate General of Andhra Pradesh, ensuring legal representation from the state of Andhra Pradesh;
- (g) Three members from the Government of Andhra Pradesh, including:
 - (i) The Finance Secretary;
 - (ii) The Law Secretary;
 - (iii) One eminent person in the field of law, nominated by the Government of Andhra Pradesh, with input from the BCI Trust to ensure alignment with the University's objects.
- (h) Three nominees of the Bar Council of India from amongst its members, ensuring the Bar Council's involvement in legal education policy;
- (i) Five nominees of the Bar Council of India Trust from amongst its Board of Managing Trustees, who shall contribute to the strategic vision and management of the University;

- (j) Three representatives of allied disciplines in social sciences and humanities, nominated by the Trust, ensuring interdisciplinary representation in legal education;
- (k) Five persons nominated by the Bar Council of India Trust, from those connected with the administration of law, education, or management, ensuring the University's alignment with legal education reform and management best practices;
- (l) Seven members nominated by the Bar Council of India Trust, of which:
 - (i) One shall be the Chairperson of the Bar Council of Andhra Pradesh;
 - (ii) Others shall be advocates, experts in various fields, academicians, and/or industry professionals.

Provided that employees of the University or the BCI Trust shall not be eligible for nomination under this clause to maintain independence and avoid conflicts of interest.

(2) Special Invitees:

The Chairman, in consultation with the Chancellor, may invite any educationist, judge, social worker, minister, bureaucrat, or advocate as a special invitee to attend any meeting of the General Council. Special invitees shall have no voting rights but may provide valuable input to discussions, particularly on matters concerning public interest or regional issues.

The Chairman, in consultation with the Chancellor and the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, shall ensure that such invitees are selected based on their

expertise, maintaining the University's focus on legal education excellence.

Provided that, the First General Council shall be constituted by the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, with oversight by the Chairman ensuring the foundational governance of the University aligns with the strategic objectives of the BCI Trust PEARL-FIRST.

All provisions for the General Council and its membership, roles, and functions shall be fully applicable to Andhra Pradesh, ensuring that the governance structure reflects both the national priorities of legal education as guided by the BCI Trust PEARL-FIRST and the regional legal education needs of the state.

The Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, shall ensure that any future appointments or changes to the General Council maintain this balance between national and regional objectives.

3. Term of Office of Members of the General Council:

(1) Term of Office:

The term of office for the nominated members of the General Council shall be three years. However, the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, may extend or reduce the term of specific members if it is deemed necessary for the continuity and development of the University's objectives, particularly during urgent or transitional phases:

Provided that the term of the first General Council shall expire upon the constitution of the regular General Council under the provisions of this Schedule and as

approved by the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees.

(2) Termination of Membership:

Where a person becomes a member of the General Council due to the office or appointment they hold, or by nomination, their membership shall terminate when they cease to hold that office or appointment, or if their nomination is withdrawn or cancelled. Any decision regarding withdrawal or cancellation of a nomination must be approved by Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees.

(3) Cessation of Membership:

A member shall cease to be a member of the General Council if they:

- (i) Resign,
- (ii) Become of unsound mind,
- (iii) Become insolvent,
- (iv) Are convicted of a criminal offense involving moral turpitude,
- (v) Accept a full-time appointment in the University,
- (vi) Or fail to attend three consecutive meetings of the General Council without leave from the Chairperson of the General Council.

(4) Resignation of Members:

A member may resign by addressing a letter to the Chairperson of the General Council. Such resignation shall take effect upon acceptance by the Chairperson, subject to confirmation by the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees.

(5) Filling of Vacancies:

Any vacancy in the General Council shall be filled at the earliest opportunity, in the same manner as the original appointment or nomination, subject to approval by the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees.

4. Powers and Functions of the General Council:

The General Council shall exercise the following powers, subject to approval and oversight by Chairman, in consultation Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees.

- (a) The General Council shall be the supreme supervisory body of the University. It shall discharge its functions to achieve the objectives of the University and issue guidelines to any other authority within the University, with final authority residing with the Chairman, and Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees.
- (b) The General Council shall review broad policies and programs of the University and suggest improvements to the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees.
- (c) The General Council may consider and pass resolutions on budget policies, regulations, the annual report, financial matters, and audit reports, as placed by the Executive Council or the Academic Council, but final ratification of these matters shall rest with the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees.
- (d) The General Council may perform other functions it deems necessary for the efficient functioning of the University, but

all decisions must be in line with the BCI Trust PEARL-FIRST's objectives.

5. Meetings of the General Council:

(1) Annual Meeting:

The General Council shall meet at least once a year. The annual meeting shall be held on a date fixed by the Chairman, in consultation with the Chancellor. The Chairman may call additional meetings if needed for some urgent matters.

(2) Chairperson of the General Council:

The Chancellor shall be the Chairperson of the General Council and preside over all meetings.

Provided that when the visitor attends any meeting, the Chairman of the Board shall request the Visitor to preside over the meeting, particularly in matters of strategic importance. The proceedings of the meeting shall be conducted by the Chairman in consultation with the Chancellor.

(3) Reports Presented at Meetings:

At the General Council's meetings, the Vice-Chancellor shall present a report of the University's performance during the previous year, including financial reports such as receipts, expenditures, audited balance sheets, and future financial estimates. This report shall require the previous approval of the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees.

(4) Calling of Meetings:

Meetings of the General Council shall be called by the Secretary under the direction of the Chairman. A meeting may also be convened at the request of twenty-one members of the General Council, but final approval for such a meeting must come from the Chairman, in consultation with the Chancellor.

(5) Notice of Meetings:

For every meeting, at least fifteen days notice shall be required. In cases of urgency or emergency, the Chairman may direct the meeting to be convened on short notice. Any urgent or emergency actions taken at such meetings must be reviewed by the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, to ensure alignment with the University's long-term objectives.

(6) Quorum:

Twenty-one members of the General Council shall form a quorum.

(7) Voting Rights:

Each member shall have one vote. In case of equality of votes on any matter, the Chancellor or the presiding officer shall have a casting vote to break the tie.

(8) Majority Opinion:

In case of a difference of opinion, the opinion of the majority shall prevail.

(9) Transacting Business via Circulation:

If urgent action by the General Council is required, the Chairman may permit business to be transacted by circulation of papers, emails, or other methods to the

members of the General Council. The action will not be taken unless agreed to by a majority of members, and it must later be placed before the next meeting of the General Council for confirmation. The Chairman, however, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, may take appropriate action in case of urgency.

6. Membership of the Executive Council:

(1) Composition of the Executive Council:

The Executive Council shall consist of the following members, with nominations and appointments aligned with the Chairman's oversight in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees of the BCI Trust PEARL-FIRST:

- (a) The Chairman of the Board;
- (b) The Chairman of the Bar Council of India or his nominee (who shall be a Member of the Bar Council of India);
- (c) Three Judges of the High Courts to be nominated by the Board of Managing Trustees;
- (d) The Chief Justice of the High Court of Andhra Pradesh or his nominee Judge;
- (e) The Advocate General of Andhra Pradesh;
- (f) Nine persons nominated by the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees from amongst distinguished individuals in various fields such as education, management, law, and professions;
- (g) The Chief Secretary, Government of Andhra Pradesh or his nominee;
- (h) The Secretary (Finance) to the Government of Andhra Pradesh;

- (i) The Secretary (Law) to the Government of Andhra Pradesh;
- (j) Three members nominated by the Bar Council of India Trust from amongst its Board of Managing Trustees or Associate Managing Trustees;
- (k) Three Professors of the University nominated by the Vice-Chancellor, in consultation with the Chairman of the Board;
- (l) The Vice-Chancellor;
- (m) The Pro-Vice-Chancellor (if appointed in the University by the Board);
- (n) The Secretary;
- (o) The Director-in-Chief, nominated by the Board as a special invitee;
- (p) The Director/Joint Director(s);
- (q) The Chief Finance and Accounts Officer, without voting rights.

Note: The Chairman of the Board may also invite the Patron i.e. the Governor of Andhra Pradesh and/or the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh to be the Special invitee in any of the Meetings of the Executive Council. However, if the Governor or the Chief Minister is present in any meeting they/he as per constitutional hierarchy shall preside over the meeting.

(2) Chairperson of the Executive Council:

The Chairman of the Board shall be the Chairperson of the Executive Council:

Provided that employees of the University and/or the Bar Council of India, except for members under sub-

clauses (1)(l), (1)(m), (1)(o), and (1)(p), are not eligible for nomination under sub-clause (1). This ensures impartial governance while maintaining alignment with the objectives of the BCI Trust PEARL-FIRST.

(3) **Special Invitees:**

The Chairperson of the Executive Council may invite any educationist, judge, social worker, minister, bureaucrat, or advocate as a special invitee to attend meetings of the Executive Council. These invitees shall have no voting rights but may provide valuable perspectives on matters of importance.

(4) **Role of the Vice-Chancellor:**

The Vice-Chancellor shall act as the Chief Executive Officer of the Executive Council. If the Chairperson issues directions to the Vice-Chancellor to discharge specific functions on behalf of the Executive Council, the Vice-Chancellor shall comply. All decisions made by the Vice-Chancellor shall be subject to approval by the Executive Council at its next meeting. In urgent or emergency cases, the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees may approve such decisions before the meeting in the interest of the University.

7. Term of Office of the Executive Council:

(1) **Termination of Membership:**

A person's membership in the Executive Council shall terminate when they cease to hold the office or appointment through which they became a member, or if their nomination is withdrawn or cancelled. Any such termination or withdrawal of nomination shall be carried

out in consultation with the Chairman and Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees.

(2) Cessation of Membership:

A member shall cease to be a member if they:

- (i) Resign,
- (ii) Become of unsound mind,
- (iii) Become insolvent,
- (iv) Are convicted of a criminal offense involving moral turpitude,
- (v) Accept a full-time appointment in the University (except the Vice-Chancellor or faculty members),
- (vi) Fail to attend three consecutive meetings of the Executive Council without leave from the Chairperson.

Any such cessation or termination shall be reported to the Chairman, to ensure the proper functioning of the Council.

(3) Term of Office:

Unless otherwise terminated as specified in sub-clauses (1) and (2), the term of the members of the Executive Council shall expire after three years from the date of their appointment. Members shall be eligible for re-nomination or re-appointment upon the expiry of their term, subject to approval by the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees.

Provided that, the term of the first Executive Council shall be three years from its constitution, unless extended by the Chairman, in consultation Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees.

(4) **Resignation of Members:**

A member of the Executive Council, except ex-officio members, may resign by submitting a letter to the Chairperson. The resignation shall take effect upon acceptance by the Chairperson, in consultation and with approval with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees.

(5) **Filling of Vacancies:**

Any vacancy in the Executive Council shall be filled as early as practicable in the same manner as the original appointment or nomination, ensuring continuity in governance. All appointments to fill vacancies shall require approval by the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees.

8. Functions of the Executive Council:

The Executive Council shall discharge the following functions, with all major decisions subject to approval and oversight by the Chairman, in consultation of Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees to ensure alignment with the University's mission and strategic objectives:

(i) **Appointments of Important University Personnel:**

The Executive Council shall decide on matters of appointment of the Vice-Chancellor, Registrar, Professors, Associate Professors, Assistant Professors, and other teaching staff members. Such appointments will be made based on the recommendations of Selection Committees, whose members and procedures are to be approved by the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees. The Executive Council may seek the opinion of the Academic Council regarding the number,

qualifications of the teaching staff, and emoluments of teachers:

Provided that, it shall not be necessary to constitute a Selection Committee for appointments to the following positions:

- (a) Director-in-Chief and/or Director(s) or Joint Director(s) appointed with Chairman's consultation;
 - (b) Professors of high academic distinction or professional eminence, invited directly by the Executive Council, with prior approval from the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees.
- (ii) Creation of Administrative and Non-Teaching Posts:

The Executive Council shall have the authority to create administrative, ministerial, and other necessary posts and determine their number and emoluments, as well as the minimum qualifications for appointment to these posts. Recommendations for appointments to these posts, including assistants, stenographers, clerical staff, and other non-teaching personnel, will be made based on the recommendations of the concerned Selection Committees:

In the absence of the Executive Council, Chairman in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees may make such appointments and discharge all such functions, which shall be subsequently approved by the Executive Council.

In the interest of the University, the Board of Trustees /Managing Trustees may create any non-teaching or managerial or ministerial post and make appointments which shall be placed before the General Council for its information.

(iii) Granting Leave of Absence:

The Executive Council shall have the authority to grant leave of absence (other than casual leave) to any officer of the University, with approval from the Chairman. It shall also make the necessary arrangements for the discharge of such officers' duties during their absence, with Chancellor's oversight in urgent cases.

(iv) Addressing Grievances:

The Executive Council shall have the authority to entertain and adjudicate grievances of the University's officers, teachers, students, and employees. This authority allows it to resolve matters outside of court, with necessary recommendations being made to the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, for final resolution.

(v) Appointment and Removal of Examiners and Moderators:

The Executive Council shall appoint examiners and moderators, and if necessary, remove them. It shall determine their fees, emoluments, and travel allowances, in consultation with the Academic Council and with final approval from the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees.

(vi) Exercise of Powers Assigned by General Council:

The Executive Council shall exercise such powers and perform such duties as may be conferred upon it by the General Council. In urgent cases, the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, may exercise authority on behalf of the General Council, ensuring smooth operations until the next General Council meeting.

(vii) Submission of Regulations to the General Council:

Any regulation proposed by the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees shall be submitted for approval to the General Council. The General Council may cancel any proposed regulation by passing a resolution with a two-thirds majority of the members present. Such regulations shall cease to have effect from the date of the resolution:

Provided that, the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, may approve urgent regulations, if necessary, in the interest of the University.

(viii) Review of Staff Performance and Enquiries:

The Executive Council shall review the performance of teachers and other staff and entertain complaints against them. The Council may hold enquiries into such complaints and make recommendations based on the findings of the enquiry to the General Council. All major disciplinary actions shall require the approval of the Chairman, in consultation with the Chancellor and Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees.

(ix) Provision for Local Admissions (20% Seats):

The Executive Council shall make provisions for the reservation of at least 20% of seats in the University for

permanent residents of the State of Andhra Pradesh in matters of admission to University courses:

Provided that, the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees may extend or modify this reservation policy as per the evolving needs of the University, ensuring alignment with national legal education standards.

9. Meeting of the Executive Council:

(1) Frequency of Meetings:

The Executive Council shall meet at least thrice in a year, with no less than fifteen days' notice given for such meetings. The Chairperson of the Executive Council (who is the Chairman of the Board), in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, if necessary, may convene an emergent meeting on short notice, particularly in urgent or emergency situations.

(2) Quorum:

Nine members of the Executive Council shall constitute a quorum at any meeting. In cases of emergent meetings, the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, may adjust the quorum requirement to ensure swift action.

(3) Majority Opinion:

In case of differences of opinion among the members, the opinion of the majority shall prevail. The Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, shall ensure that the decisions align with the

University's objects and the strategic mission of the BCI Trust PEARL-FIRST.

(4) Voting Rights:

Each member of the Executive Council shall have one vote. If there is an equality of votes on any matter, the Chairperson of the Executive Council shall have a casting vote to resolve the issue.

(5) Urgent Action by Circulation:

If urgent action by the Executive Council becomes necessary, the Chairperson may permit business to be transacted by circulation of papers, through email, or by other permissible means (such as video conferencing). No action shall be taken unless agreed to by a majority of the Executive Council members:

- (i) The Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/ Managing Trustees, may take immediate action where necessary, ensuring that the decisions are consistent with the University's mission and the BCI Trust's objectives.
- (ii) All decisions made through circulation shall be intimated to all members of the Executive Council and confirmed at the next meeting for formal approval and review.

10. Constitution of Standing Committee and Appointment of Ad-hoc Committees by the Executive Council:

- (1) Constitution of Standing and Ad-hoc Committees:

Subject to the provisions of this Ordinance and the regulations made in this behalf, the Executive Council, with the approval of the Chairman, may by resolution constitute the following:

- (i) Standing Committees: These are permanent bodies created for ongoing or regular university functions (such as financial oversight or academic quality assurance).
- (ii) Ad-hoc Committees: Temporary committees constituted for specific tasks or investigations (c.g., disciplinary inquiries, policy reviews, or strategic planning).

All such resolutions for forming Standing or Ad-hoc Committees must be placed before the General Council for final approval. In urgent cases, the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, may authorize the creation of an Ad-hoc Committee prior to formal approval, ensuring timely action is taken to resolve urgent matters.

(2) Co-opting Members to Committees:

The Chairman in consultation with the Chancellor/ Board/ Managing Trustees, may co-opt suitable persons with relevant expertise onto a Standing Committee or Ad-hoc Committee. These individuals may be permitted to attend meetings of the Executive Council, but their participation in decision-making is subject to the approval of the Chairman and will not extend to voting rights unless otherwise specified.

- (i) The Chairman, in consultation with the Chancellor may invite external experts as part of the committees for matters that require specialized knowledge, ensuring alignment with the BCI Trust PEARL-FIRST objectives.

11. Position in absence of Meeting of the Executive Council: The Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, may take decisions, before the next meeting of the Executive Council to ensure continuity in governance, which shall be ratified in the next meeting of the Executive Council.

12. Membership of the Academic Council:

- (1) Composition of the Academic Council:

The Academic Council shall consist of the following members, with appointments and nominations subject to approval by the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees:

- (a) A sitting Judge of Supreme Court to be nominated by the Trust, who shall preside over the meetings of the Academic Council;
- (b) The Vice-Chancellor, who shall be the Convenor of the Academic Council. However, if a Judge of the Supreme Court or any High Court is the nominee of the Board, is present in the meeting, he shall preside over the meeting of the Academic Council, even if the Vice-Chancellor is the Chairperson of the Academic Council;
- (c) The Pro-Vice-Chancellor (if any) and in his absence the Secretary of Board;

- (d) Three persons nominated by the Board of Managing Trustees, from among educationists of repute, public intellectuals, or other distinguished professionals, who are not in the service of the University;
- (e) A nominee-member of the Bar Council of India;
- (f) Five nominees of the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, who shall be noted academicians, Judges, Jurists, and Senior Advocates, ensuring a strong legal academic representation;
- (g) All the Heads of the Departments of the University (without voting rights);
- (h) All Professors other than the Heads of the Departments (without voting rights);
- (i) Two members of the teaching staff, representing Associate Professors and Assistant Professors, to be nominated by the Executive Council;
- (j) The Secretary;
- (k) The Registrar, who shall serve as the ex-officio Secretary of the Academic Council;
- (l) The Chairman of the Board shall be a permanent special invitee to the Academic Council.

Provided that an employee of the University or the Bar Council of India Trust, except for members listed in sub-clauses (1)(a), (1)(b), (1)(c), and (1)(j), shall not be eligible for nomination to the Academic Council, ensuring independence and impartial governance.

- (2) Special Invitees to the Academic Council:

The Vice-Chancellor may invite any educationist, judge, social worker, minister, bureaucrat, or advocate as a special invitee to attend meetings of the Academic Council. These invitees shall have no voting rights.

In addition, the Chairman of the Board, regardless of his not being a formal member of the Academic Council, shall have the privilege to invite educationists, judges, public leaders, ministers, bureaucrats, or advocates as special invitees to any meeting of the Academic Council. However, these invitees shall have no voting rights. This provision allows for greater flexibility in gathering expert opinions without compromising the formal decision-making process.

(3) **Term of Membership:**

The term of the members of the Academic Council, except for ex-officio members, shall be two years:

Provided that the term of the first Academic Council shall be three years to ensure continuity during the initial period of governance, subject to the approval of the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees.

13. Duties and Functions of the Academic Council:

(1) Subject to the provisions of this Ordinance and the regulations, the Academic Council shall have the following duties and powers, with all major decisions subject to oversight by the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees of the BCI Trust PEARL-FIRST:

(i) **Admissions Criteria and Process:**

The Academic Council shall suggest to the Executive Council the criteria and process for admission to courses or programs of study offered by the University. The final criteria must be approved by the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, to ensure alignment with the BCI Trust's mission for legal education.

(ii) Academic Calendar and Curriculum:

The Academic Council shall specify the academic calendar and the content of programs and courses of study. It shall undertake periodic modifications to maintain high standards of education. All changes to academic programs must be presented to the Chairman and Chancellor and Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees for approval to ensure alignment with national and international legal education standards.

(iii) Reporting to Governing Bodies:

The Academic Council shall report on any matter referred to it by the General Council or the Executive Council, ensuring academic decisions are consistent with the strategic direction set by the Chairman and Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees.

(iv) Creation or Abolition of Teaching Posts:

The Academic Council may make suggestions to the General Council, through the Executive Council, regarding the creation, abolition, or classification of

teaching posts, including emoluments and duties. The Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, retains final approval of such recommendations to ensure consistency with the University's overall governance.

(v) Organizing Faculties and Departments:

The Academic Council shall formulate, modify, or revise schemes for the organization of faculties and assign subjects to these faculties. It may suggest the abolition, sub-division, or combination of faculties, subject to approval by the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees.

(vi) Instruction and Examination for External Candidates:

The Academic Council shall make arrangements, through regulations, for the instruction and examination of external candidates who are not enrolled at the University. These regulations must be approved by the Executive Council, with final oversight from the Chairman.

(vii) Promoting Research:

The Academic Council shall promote research within the University and may require periodic reports on research. All major research initiatives must be reviewed by the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, to ensure alignment with the University's mission.

(viii) Proposals from Faculties:

The Academic Council shall consider proposals submitted by the faculties and ensure they align with the University's strategic objectives. Proposals that require significant changes to academic programs must be approved by the Chairman and Board of Managing Trustees.

(ix) Committees for Admissions:

The Academic Council shall appoint committees for admissions in consultation with the Executive Council, ensuring that admissions procedures align with the BCI Trust's policies. The Chairman retains the final authority to approve significant changes to the admission process.

(x) Recognition of Degrees and Diplomas:

The Academic Council shall recognize diplomas and degrees from other universities and institutions and determine their equivalence with degrees offered by the University. The Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, shall have final oversight on these recognitions to maintain the University's high academic standards.

(xi) Competitions for Scholarships and Prizes:

The Academic Council shall fix the time, mode, and conditions of competition for fellowships, scholarships, and prizes and shall be responsible for awarding them, subject to conditions set by the General Council and final approval by the Chairman.

(xii) Appointment of Examiners:

The Academic Council shall make recommendations to the Executive Council regarding the appointment and removal of examiners and fix their fees and other allowances. These recommendations require final approval by the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees.

(xiii) Examination Dates and Conduct:

The Academic Council shall make arrangements for the conduct of examinations and fix dates for holding them. All arrangements must be approved by the Chairman to ensure compliance with the University's academic policies.

(xiv) Declaration of Results:

The Academic Council shall declare the results of examinations or appoint committees or officers to do so. It shall also make recommendations regarding the conferment of degrees, diplomas, and other distinctions, subject to approval by the Chairman, Chancellor and Board of Trustees /Managing Trustees.

(xv) Awards and Prizes:

The Academic Council shall award stipends, scholarships, medals, and prizes according to the regulations. Any significant awards or honors must be approved by the Chairman, in consultation with the Chancellor and Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, to ensure alignment with the University's mission.

(xvi) Publication of Textbooks and Syllabus:

The Academic Council shall publish lists of prescribed or recommended textbooks and the syllabus for courses of study. Major changes to the

syllabus or the inclusion of new textbooks must be approved by the Chairman in consultation with Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees to ensure alignment with National and International legal education standards.

(xvii) Forms and Registers:

The Academic Council shall prepare any forms and registers as prescribed by regulations, with oversight from the Executive Council and Chairman.

(xviii) Academic Duties and Responsibilities:

The Academic Council shall perform, in relation to academic matters, all duties necessary for the proper implementation of the provisions of this Ordinance and the regulations. The Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, may intervene in academic decisions to ensure alignment with the BCI Trust PEARL-FIRST's goals.

(xix) Ceasing University Departments or Classes:

The Academic Council shall have the authority to discontinue classes or departments, but such decisions must receive final approval from the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, to ensure they do not conflict with the University's long-term objectives.

(2) Reporting to the Executive Council:

The Vice-Chancellor shall present all resolutions of the Academic Council to the Executive Council for approval at its next meeting. Any urgent decisions may be reported to the Chairman and Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees for interim approval until the next meeting.

14. Procedure of the Meetings of the Academic Council:

(1) Frequency of Meetings:

The Academic Council shall meet as often as necessary, but not less than two times during an academic year. The meeting schedule and agenda shall be approved by the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees.

(2) Quorum for the Meeting:

Nine members of the total number of members of the Academic Council shall constitute the quorum for a meeting. However, if a Director-in-Chief is appointed at the University, his/her presence shall be mandatory for the meeting to proceed. In urgent cases, the Chairman, in consultation with the Chancellor, may approve the meeting if the Director-in-Chief is absent, ensuring timely decisions.

(3) Majority Opinion:

In case of a difference of opinion among the members, the opinion of the majority shall prevail. All major academic decisions shall require final approval by the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, to ensure alignment with the University's strategic goals.

(4) Voting Rights:

Each member of the Academic Council shall have one vote. If there is an equality of votes, the Chairman of the Board (though a permanent special invitee and not a formal member of the Academic Council) shall have the privilege of casting vote to resolve the matter, ensuring decisions are consistent with the BCI Trust PEARL-FIRST's objectives.

(5) Urgent Action via Circulation:

If urgent action by the Academic Council is necessary, the Vice-Chancellor may permit business to be transacted by circulation of papers or through email. No action shall be taken unless agreed to by the majority of members of the Academic Council. All actions taken through circulation shall be reported at the next meeting for confirmation, with interim approval provided by the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, if needed.

15. Finance Committee:

(1) Constitution of the Finance Committee:

There shall be a Finance Committee constituted by the Executive Council consisting of the following members:

- (a) The Chairman of the Board or a person nominated by the Board shall be the Chairperson of the Finance Committee;

- (b) The Secretary;
- (c) The Vice-Chancellor;
- (d) The Director/Joint Director(s);
- (e) Three members nominated by the Board of Managing Trustees from among its members, of which:
 - (i) One must be from the Bar Council of India Trust;
 - (ii) One must be a Chartered Accountant;
 - (iii) One must be from the field of finance;
- (f) The Registrar;
- (g) The Chief Finance and Accounts Officer, who shall serve as the ex-officio Secretary of the Finance Committee.

(2) Term of Office:

Members of the Finance Committee, except for the Secretary and Vice-Chancellor, and Director/Joint Director(s) shall hold office for a term of three years:

Provided that an employee of the University or the Bar Council of India Trust (except members in sub-clauses 15(1)(c), 15(1)(d), and 15(1)(g)) shall not be eligible for nomination, ensuring an independent and transparent financial oversight.

(3) Functions and Duties of the Finance Committee:

The Finance Committee shall perform the following functions, subject to approval by the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees:

- (a) To prepare the Annual Accounts and Budget of the University and present them to the Executive Council for approval.
- (b) To examine and scrutinize the annual budget and make recommendations on all financial matters to the Board of Managing Trustees.
- (c) To consider proposals for expenditures and make recommendations to the Executive Council for approval.
- (d) To review periodical financial statements, including re-appropriation statements and audit reports, and make suggestions to the Board.
- (e) To provide its views and make recommendations to the Executive Council on any financial matters, either on its own initiative or based on references from the Executive Council or the Board.

All financial decisions shall require final approval by the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees.

(4) Frequency of Meetings:

The Finance Committee shall meet at least twice every year. A minimum of five members shall form the quorum. However, the presence of the Chairman of the Board or the Secretary is mandatory for the meeting to be valid, ensuring that financial matters are overseen by the BCI Trust.

(5) Majority Opinion:

In case of difference of opinion among members of the Finance Committee, the opinion of the majority shall prevail. The Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, retains the casting vote in

case of equality, ensuring financial decisions are consistent with the University's objectives.

16. Director-in-Chief:

(1) Appointment of Director-in-Chief/Director/Joint Director:

The post of Director-in-Chief, Director or one or more Joint Director(s) may be created as per the requirement of the University, with the approval of the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees. The Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees shall appoint the Director-in-Chief or Director or Joint Director(s) in alignment with the BCI Trust PEARL-FIRST's objectives. The service conditions of these authorities shall be regulated through the University's Regulations framed by the Board.

(2) Age of Retirement:

Tenure and Term of Office: -

The Director-in-Chief, Director(s) and/or Joint Director(s) shall hold office till they attain the age of 70 years or till they resign from their respective offices.

The Director-in-Chief, Director(s)/Joint Director(s) shall be eminent academic, management, administrative or judicial /legal figure.

Provided that, the Executive Council, with approval from the Chairman and in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees may relieve the Director-in-Chief before the expiry of the term by giving three months' notice, for reasons to be recorded in writing.

(3) Role and Responsibilities:

Director/Joint Director(s) shall act in a supervisory capacity over the Registrar and issue directions and guidelines to the Registrar in accordance with the provisions of this Ordinance and the Regulations. The Registrar shall comply with the such instructions, with final oversight by the Chairman (in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees).

Director-in-Chief shall act in a supervisory capacity over the Vice-Chancellor and issue directions and guidelines to the Vice-Chancellor in the interest of the University and the Trust.

(4) Resignation:

The Director-in-Chief, Director/Joint Director(s) may resign by writing under his signature addressed to the Executive Council, giving three months' notice. The resignation shall be effective upon acceptance by the Executive Council or after the expiry of the said notice period, whichever is earlier.

17. Vice-Chancellor:

(1) Appointment of Vice-Chancellor:

The Vice-Chancellor shall be appointed by the Chancellor in consultation with the Executive Council in accordance with the regulations. The first Vice-Chancellor shall be appointed by the Chancellor on the recommendation of the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees. The tenure of the Vice-Chancellor shall be five years:

Provided that, the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, shall have the final authority over the appointment process to ensure alignment with the University's strategic objectives.

(2) Qualifications and Term:

The Vice-Chancellor shall be an academic person with the rank of Professor of Law and shall hold office for a term of five years or until the prescribed retirement age of 70, whichever is earlier. Upon expiry of the term, the Vice-Chancellor shall continue in office until a successor is appointed:

Provided that, the Executive Council, with approval from the Chairman, may relieve the Vice-Chancellor of his services before the expiry of the term by giving one month's notice, for reasons recorded in writing.

(3) Powers and Duties of the Vice-Chancellor:

The Vice-Chancellor shall:

- (a) Serve as the Chief Executive Officer of the University and ensure that the objectives of the University are duly achieved in alignment with the BCI Trust PEARL-FIRST goals.
- (b) Have powers relating to the proper maintenance of discipline across the University, with final oversight from the Chancellor and the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees.

(4) Emergency Powers:

If, in the opinion of the Vice-Chancellor, an emergency arises requiring immediate action, the Vice-Chancellor shall immediately consult the Chairman and the Chairman in consultation with the Chancellor, may provide interim approval for emergency actions, ensuring immediate resolution.

(5) Resignation:

The Vice-Chancellor may resign by writing under his signature addressed to the Executive Council, giving one month's notice. The resignation shall take effect upon acceptance by the Executive Council or after the expiry of the said notice period, whichever is earlier.

18. Pro-Vice-Chancellor:

(1) Appointment of Pro-Vice-Chancellor:

The post of Pro-Vice-Chancellor may be created as per the needs of the University, with approval from the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees. The Executive Council shall appoint the Pro-Vice-Chancellor on the recommendation of the Selection Committee constituted by the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees. The first Pro-Vice-Chancellor shall be appointed by the Bar Council of India and the Board in their joint meeting for a term of three years.

(2) Qualifications and Term:

The Pro-Vice-Chancellor may be an individual with a background in academia, management, administration, or the judiciary/legal field. The Pro-Vice-Chancellor shall hold office for a term of five years or till he attains the age of 70 years, whichever is earlier. Upon expiry of the term, the Pro-Vice-Chancellor shall vacate office unless the contract of service is renewed by the Executive Council, with final approval from the Chairman.

Provided that, the Executive Council, with approval from the Chairman and Managing Trustees, may relieve the Pro-Vice-Chancellor of his services before the expiry of the term by giving one month's notice, for reasons recorded in writing.

(3) Duties of the Pro-Vice-Chancellor:

The Pro-Vice-Chancellor shall:

- (a) Aid and assist the Director-in-Chief and the Vice-Chancellor, and in the absence of the Vice-Chancellor, shall assume the duties of the Vice-Chancellor, subject to oversight from the Chairman.
- (b) Serve as an academic and executive officer, subordinate to the Vice-Chancellor but responsible for ensuring the smooth functioning of academic and administrative activities in accordance with the BCI Trust's mission.

(4) Resignation:

The Pro-Vice-Chancellor may resign by writing under his signature addressed to the Executive Council, giving three months' notice. The resignation shall take effect upon acceptance by the Executive Council or after the expiry of the said notice period, whichever is earlier.

19. Heads of the Departments:

(1) Appointment of Heads of Departments:

There shall be a Head of the Department for each department in the University. The Executive Council, in

consultation with the Chairman and the Board of Trustees /Managing Trustees, shall oversee the appointment process to ensure alignment with the University's mission.

(2) Powers, Functions, and Service Conditions:

The powers, functions, and conditions of service of the Heads of Departments shall be as prescribed by the Executive Council through the Regulations, subject to final approval by the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees. This ensures that academic leadership within departments aligns with the strategic goals of the University.

20. Registrar:

(1) Appointment of the Registrar:

The Registrar shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Executive Council on the recommendation of a Selection Committee constituted by the Executive Council, with participation from the Directors and Joint Directors. The Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, retains final oversight and approval of the selection process.

The first Registrar shall be appointed jointly by the Bar Council of India and the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees for a tenure of three years.

(2) Service Conditions of the Registrar:

The terms and conditions of service of the Registrar shall be prescribed by University regulations, with oversight from the Chairman of the Executive Council and the Directors/Joint Directors. The conditions shall ensure alignment with the governance policies of the University.

The Registrar may be relieved of his duties before the expiration of his term by the Executive Council, with one month's notice, for reasons recorded in writing, and subject to final approval by the Chairman.

(3) Tenure of the Registrar:

The Registrar shall hold office for a term of three years. Upon the expiry of the term, the Registrar shall vacate office unless the contract is renewed, subject to approval by the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, and the Directors/Joint Directors.

(4) Role in the Academic Council:

The Registrar shall serve as the ex-officio Secretary of the Academic Council, but shall not be deemed a member thereof. This ensures that the administrative role is distinct from academic decision-making while still ensuring active participation in university governance.

(5) Supervision and Duties:

The Registrar shall work under the direct supervision of the Vice-Chancellor, the Directors, and Joint Directors, in consultation with the Chairman of the Executive Council. The Chairman, in consultation with the Directors/Joint Directors and the Board, shall have the final say in any urgent decisions concerning the Registrar's duties or responsibilities. In cases of emergency, the Chairman may issue any necessary directives, with input from the Directors/Joint Directors, to ensure that administrative matters are swiftly addressed.

(6) Temporary Arrangements:

If the post of Registrar remains vacant for any reason, the Executive Council, with approval from the Chairman, may authorize any officer in the University to exercise the powers and duties of the Registrar temporarily.

(7) Resignation:

The Registrar may resign by writing under his signature addressed to the Executive Council, giving three months' notice. The resignation shall take effect upon acceptance by the Executive Council or upon expiry of the notice period, whichever is earlier.

21. Appointment of Other Staff:

The Executive Council, in consultation with the Directors/Joint Directors, shall decide on matters concerning the appointment of the Vice-Chancellor, Registrar, Professors, Associate Professors, Assistant Professors, and other teaching staff members. These appointments will be made based on the recommendations of Selection Committees (as provided in this Schedule), whose members and procedures are to be approved by the Chairman of the Executive Council, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees and the Directors/Joint Directors. The Executive Council may also seek the opinion of the Academic Council regarding the number, qualifications, and emoluments of teaching staff.

22. Selection Committees:

(1) Constitution of Selection Committees:

The Executive Council shall constitute Selection Committees for the posts of Vice-Chancellor, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Registrar, Teachers, and Ministerial Staff, with oversight from the Chairman, in consultation with the Chancellor and the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees. The composition of the Committees shall be as follows:

(A) Selection Committee for Vice-Chancellor and Pro-Vice-Chancellor:

- (i) Two members of high academic repute to be nominated by the Bar Council of India;
- (ii) One member of high academic repute nominated by the Executive Council;
- (iii) One member nominated by the Chairman of the University Grants Commission;
- (iv) One member nominated by the Chancellor, from among the sitting or former Judges of any High Court;
- (v) Four members nominated by the Board of Managing Trustees.

(B) Selection Committee for Registrar:

- (i) One nominee of the Bar Council of India;
- (ii) Two nominees of the Board of Managing Trustees;
- (iii) One nominee of the Chancellor;
- (iv) The Vice-Chancellor;
- (v) The Secretary of the Board.

(C) Selection Committee for Teachers:

- (i) The Executive Council, in consultation with the Academic Council, shall constitute the Selection Committee for teachers and establish qualifications in alignment with the norms of Bar Council of India and University Grants Commission.
- (ii) The Selection Committee shall consist of:
 - (i) The Director-in-Chief (if any) or Director/ Joint Director(s);
 - (ii) The Vice-Chancellor;
 - (iii) The Pro-Vice-Chancellor (if any);
 - (iv). One Academician nominated by the Board of Managing Trustees;
 - (v) One Jurist nominated by the Board of Managing Trustees;
 - (vi) Two noted academicians—one nominated by the Executive Council and one by the Academic Council;
 - (vii) One sitting or former Judge of a High Court nominated by the Executive Council.
- (D) Selection Committee for Ministerial Staff:
 - (i) The Ministerial staff (e.g., Librarian, Stenos, Assistants, Clerks, Peons, and Superintendents) shall be appointed by the Executive Council upon the recommendation of the Selection Committee consisting of:
 - (i) The Vice-Chancellor;
 - (ii) The Secretary;
 - (iii) The Joint Director(s);
 - (iv) Two nominees of the Board of Managing Trustees;
 - (v) The Registrar.

(ii) The qualifications and other criteria for these posts shall be set by the Executive Council. Until the constitution of such a Selection Committee, the Chairman of the Board shall be competent to make appointments, subject to ratification by the Executive Council.

(2) Recommendations by Selection Committee:

The Selection Committee shall recommend three names for each post to the Executive Council, which shall make the final selection, subject to approval by the Chairman, and the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees.

23. Chief Finance and Accounts Officer:

(1) Appointment of Chief Finance and Accounts Officer:

There shall be a Chief Finance and Accounts Officer appointed by the Executive Council. The qualifications for the post shall be prescribed by the Regulations, and the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees /Managing Trustees, shall retain final oversight in the appointment process to ensure that the individual possesses the necessary experience in accounts and management.

(2) Role and Responsibilities:

The Chief Finance and Accounts Officer shall be responsible for:

- (i) The financial management of the University.

- (ii) Ensuring all financial operations are conducted in compliance with the Regulations and the strategic objectives of the BCI Trust PEARL-FIRST.
- (iii) Reporting directly to the Finance Committee and Executive Council, with final oversight by the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees.

24. The Director:

- (1) Creation of Director/Joint Director(s) :-

The Chairman of the Board in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, may create the post of one or more Directors/Joint Directors to discharge specific duties assigned to them. The Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, will have final oversight over the roles and responsibilities assigned to these Directors.

- (2) Qualifications of Director:

The Director may be appointed from a broad range of professionals, including but not limited to:

- (i) Advocates;
- (ii) Educationists;
- (iii) Former Judicial and Administrative Officers;
- (iv) Engineers;
- (v) Doctors;
- (vi) Persons from the field of Management;
- (vii) Individuals of repute from other fields.

The Executive Council shall define specific qualifications for each Director in consultation with the Chairman and Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees.

25. Other Officers and Employees:

(1) Written Contracts for Officers and Employees:

All officers and employees of the University shall be appointed under a written contract specifying their conditions of service, as prescribed by the Regulations or by the Chairman in consultation with the Board/Managing Trustees. The Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, shall ensure that all contracts align with the strategic objectives of the BCI Trust PEARL-FIRST.

(2) Dispute Resolution Mechanism:

Any dispute arising from the contract between the University and its officers or employees shall be referred to a Tribunal for arbitration consisting of three members appointed by the Executive Council, with final oversight from the Chairman, in consultation with the Chancellor and Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees.

26. Annual Accounts, Audit, and Report:

(1) Preparation of Annual Accounts and Budget:

The Finance Committee shall prepare the Annual Accounts and Budget of the University and present them to the Executive Council. The Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, shall retain final oversight to ensure the financial management aligns with the University's objectives.

(2) Auditing of Accounts:

All accounts of the University shall be audited at least once a year by auditors appointed by the Executive Council, with the approval of the General Council. The General Council may direct a special audit if necessary, ensuring transparency and alignment with the University's strategic goals.

(3) Audit Report and Approval:

The Audit Report shall be placed before the Executive Council, which in turn shall present it to the General Council for approval before publication. Final approval is subject to the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees.

(4) General Council's Review of Annual Accounts:

At the annual meeting, the General Council shall review the Annual Accounts and may pass resolutions and make recommendations to the Executive Council. The Executive Council shall report on the actions taken in response to the General Council's recommendations at the next General Council meeting.

(5) Annual Report Submission:

The Annual Report, along with the General Council's resolutions, shall be submitted to the Executive Council for further consideration and necessary decisions and directions.

27. Financial Estimates:

(1) Preparation of Financial Estimates:

The Executive Council, in consultation with the Finance Committee, shall prepare financial estimates for the ensuing year and present them to the General Council for approval, with final oversight by the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees.

(2) **Excess and Urgent Expenditure:**

In case of expenditure exceeding the budgeted amount or in cases of urgency, the Executive Council, subject to approval by the Chairman and Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, may authorize the expenditure, provided it is reported to the General Council at its next meeting.

28. Eligibility for Admission of Students:

No student shall be eligible for admission to any course of study for a degree or diploma unless they meet the qualifications specified in the Regulations framed by the Executive Council. The Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, shall ensure that admission policies align with the BCI Trust PEARL-FIRST objectives.

29. Offices, Residence of Students, and Authorities:

All students of the University shall reside in hostels maintained or recognized by the University, under conditions specified by the Executive Council, with oversight from the Chairman and Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees to ensure proper standards of living and discipline.

30. Honorary Degrees:

If at least two-thirds of the members of the Academic Council recommend that an honorary degree or academic distinction be conferred upon a person of eminent attainment and position, the General Council may, by resolution, approve the recommendation. The Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees, shall oversee the process to ensure alignment with the University's strategic direction.

31. Withdrawal of Degree or Diploma:**(1) Grounds for Withdrawal:**

The General Council, on its own or on the recommendation of the Executive Council, may withdraw any degree, diploma, or certificate conferred by the University if the person has been convicted of an offence involving moral turpitude or gross misconduct. The decision must be passed by a majority of the total membership and a two-thirds majority of members present and voting.

(2) Right to Show Cause:

No action for the withdrawal of a degree or diploma shall be taken without giving the person concerned a reasonable opportunity to show cause against the proposed action.

(3) Notification:

Once a resolution for the withdrawal of a degree or diploma has been passed, a copy of the resolution shall be immediately sent to the person concerned.

32. Discipline:**(1) Vice-Chancellor's Authority:**

The Vice-Chancellor shall be the final authority responsible for the maintenance of discipline among the students of the University. His directions on discipline shall be carried out by the Heads of the University, hostels, and institutions under the University, with strategic oversight from the Chairman, in consultation with the Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees.

(2) Role of Executive Council in Serious Punishments:

Punishments such as debarment from examination or rustication from the University or hostels shall be imposed by the Executive Council, based on the report of the Vice-Chancellor. Final decisions on serious disciplinary actions are subject to approval by the Chairman, in consultation with the Chancellor and Board of Trustees/Managing Trustees.

Provided that no such punishment shall be imposed without giving the student concerned a reasonable opportunity to show cause against the proposed action.

S. ABDUL NAZEER,
Governor of Andhra Pradesh.

GOTTAPU PRATIBHA DEVI,
Secretary to Government,
Legal and Legislative Affairs & Justice,
Law Department.