
A BILL

WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Maharashtra Public Universities Act, 2016, for the purposes hereinafter appearing; it is hereby enacted in the Seventy-second Year of the Republic of India as follows :-

1. This Act may be called the Maharashtra Public Universities (Amendment) Act, 2021.

2. In section 109 of the Maharashtra Public Universities Act, 2016, in sub-section (3),—

   (i) in clause (f), after the second proviso, the following proviso shall be added, namely :—

   “Provided further that, for the academic year 2021-2022, the compliance report received by the University within the prescribed
time limit, shall be scrutinized by the Board of Deans and be forwarded to the State Government with the approval of the Management Council on or before 31st July 2021;”;

(ii) in clause (g), for the second proviso, the following proviso shall be substituted, namely:—

“Provided further that, for the academic year 2021-2022, the final approval under this clause may be granted on or before 31st August 2021.”.
STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Due to the outbreak of pandemic covid-19 decease, social and economic activities in the State including functioning of the universities has come to a standstill, in the light of declaration of lockdown in the State since 14th April 2021.

2. As per the existing provisions of the Maharashtra Public Universities Act, 2016 (Mah. VI of 2017), time limit is prescribed for making application for Letter of Intent for opening a new college or institution, scrutiny of application, granting the Letter of Intent, compliance of the conditions of Letter of Intent, etc. Clause (f) of sub-section (3) of section 109 of the Maharashtra Public Universities Act, 2016, provides that, compliance report received within the timelimit, shall be scrutinized by the Board of Deans and be forwarded to the State Government with the approval of the Management Council on or before, 1st day of May in which the compliance report has been received. Clause (g) of said sub-section (3) provides that, the State Government after considering the report of the university, may grant final approval to such management as it may consider fit and proper on or before 15th June of the year in which such new college or institutions are proposed to be started. However, due to outbreak of pandemic covid-19, it is not possible to follow the time limit as provided in the said Act.

Therefore, it is necessary to extend the date of forwarding the compliance report to the State Government with the approval of the Management Council and to extend the date of granting the final approval to start the new college or institutions by the Government. For the purpose it is considered expedient to amend section 109 of the Maharashtra Public Universities Act, 2016, suitably.

3. The Bill seeks to achieve the above objectives.

Mumbai,  UDAY SAMANT,
Dated the 4th July, 2021.  Minister for Higher and Technical Education.