THE XAVIER UNIVERSITY, ODISHA (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2021

A BILL

TO AMEND THE XAVIER UNIVERSITY, ODISHA ACT, 2013

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Odisha in the Seventy-Second Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. This Act may be called the Xavier University, Odisha (Amendment) Act, 2021.

2. In the Xavier University, Odisha Act, 2013 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act), in the long title, for the words “XAVIER UNIVERSITY”, the words “XIM UNIVERSITY” shall be substituted.
3. In the principal Act, in section 1, in sub-section (1), for the word "Xavier", the word "XIM" shall be substituted.

4. In the principal Act, in section 2-

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

"(g-1) "Employees" means employees appointed by the university and include faculty and other staff of the University.";

(b) after clause (j), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:-

"(j-1) "Off-Campus Centre" means off-campus centre as defined in regulation 2.2 of UGC (Establishment of and Maintenance of Standards in Private Universities) Regulations, 2003 and as amended, from time to time;"; and

(c) in clause (u), for the word "Xavier", the word "XIM" shall be substituted.

5. In the principal Act, in section 3,-

(i) in sub-section (2), for clause (a), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:-

"(a) provide thirty-five acres of land in Industrial Estate, Kurki, Village-Nijigarh, P.S.: Pipili in the district of Puri for main Campus and the land in the Mouza Chandrasekharpur, Xavier Square, Bhubaneswar for additional Campus of the University."; and

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

"(9) The University shall be located at Industrial Estate, Kurki, Village-Nijigarh, P.S.: Pipili in the district of Puri and the land in the Mouza Chandrasekharpur, Xavier Square, Bhubaneswar".
6. In the principal Act, in section 6,-

(i) in clause (a), in the opening line, for the words “study centre”, the words “study centre and off-campus centre” shall be substituted; and

(ii) for clause (n), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:-

“(n) to provide online courses or programmes in conformity with the provisions of the University Grants Commission (online courses or programmes) Regulation, 2018;”

7. In the principal Act, in section 24,-

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

“(g) the manner of co-operation with other Universities or Institutions of higher learning and opening of study centre or campus”; and

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

“(i) the provision regarding institutions of fellowships, scholarships, studentships, freeships, medals and prizes”.

8. In the principal Act, in section 47, in sub-section (4), for the words “Board of Management”, the words and commas “Board of Governors or Board of Management, as the case may be” shall be substituted.
STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Xavier University, Odisha Act, 2013 was enacted on dated 13.05.2013 and the University was established vide Government in Higher Education Department Notification No.17697 dated 06.07.2013 in accordance with the provisions contained in the Xavier University, Odisha Act, 2013. Some of the existing provisions of the Xavier University, Odisha Act, 2013 are now required to be amended for the following reasons.

1. Since the word ‘XIM’ has a better brand value than the word ‘Xavier', in order to take advantage of the “XIM” brand, it is decided to amend the Act to rename ‘Xavier University, Odisha’ as “XIM University, Odisha”.

2. In the Xavier University, Odisha Act, 2013, nothing has been mentioned about the Chandrasekharpur Mouza campus of the University which houses the School of Management of the University since inception of the University. Hence, it is decided to amend the Act to include the Chandrasekharpur Mouza campus, comprising of 20 acres of land, as the additional campus of the University.

3. In order to enhance the reach of the University, it is decided to amend the Act enabling the University to provide online courses or programmes in conformity with the University Grants Commission Regulations/ Guidelines.

4. As per the Act, the State Government has the power to suspend only the ‘Board of Management’ of the University for Mis-management, mal-administration, indiscipline and failure in the accomplishment of the objects of the University. Since the ‘Board of Management’ is an authority below the ‘Board of Governors’- which is the highest authority of the University- it is decided to amend the Act empowering the State Government to suspend the Board of Management or the Board Governors for mis-management, mal-administration, indiscipline and failure in the accomplishment of the objects.

The Bill seeks to achieve the above objects.

ARUN KUMAR SAHOO
Member-in-Charge