

Sikkim Sardar Patel University

Pakyong, Sikkim, India

Ordinance: Doctor of Philosophy

(Effective from the Academic Year 2025-26)

Revised in 2026

विद्या योगेन रक्ष्यते

Sikkim Sardar Patel University, Pakyong (Sikkim) India

Ordinance: Doctor of Philosophy

1. GENERAL REGULATIONS

- A. The degree of Doctor of Philosophy (hereinafter referred to as Ph.D./Ph.D/PhD) may be granted in any Faculty of the University.
- B. Subject to general guidance of the Academic Council (hereinafter referred to as AC) and general control of the Faculty concerned, research studies for Ph.D. shall be governed by Departmental Research Advisory Committee (hereinafter referred to as DRAC).

2. ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

- A. A 1-year/2-semester master's degree programme after a 4-year/8-semester bachelor's degree programme or a 2-year/4-semester master's degree programme after a 3-year bachelor's degree programme or qualifications declared equivalent to the master's degree by the corresponding statutory regulatory body, with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed or equivalent qualification from a foreign educational institution accredited by an assessment and accreditation agency which is approved, recognized or authorized by an authority, established or incorporated under a law in its home country or any other statutory authority in that country to assess, accredit or assure quality and standards of the educational institution.
- B. A relaxation of 5% marks or its equivalent grade may be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/Differently-Abled, Economically Weaker Section (EWS) and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the Commission from time to time.
- C. Provided that a candidate seeking admission after a 4-year/8-semester bachelor's degree programme should have a minimum of 75% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade on a point scale wherever the grading system is followed. A relaxation of 5% marks or its equivalent grade may be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/Differently-Abled, Economically Weaker Section (EWS) and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the Commission from time to time.

- D. Candidates who have completed the M.Phil. programme with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed or equivalent qualification from a foreign educational institution accredited by an assessment and accreditation agency which is approved, recognized or authorized by an authority, established or incorporated under a law in its home country or any other statutory authority in that country to assess, accredit or assure quality and standards of educational institutions, shall be eligible for admission to the Ph.D. programme. A relaxation of 5% marks or its equivalent grade may be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/Differently-Abled, Economically Weaker Section (EWS) and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the Commission from time to time.

3. DURATION OF THE PROGRAMME

- A. A Full-time/ Part-time Ph.D. programme shall be for a minimum duration of three years, including course work and a maximum of six years.
- B. Extension beyond the above limits will be governed by the relevant clauses as stipulated in the Statute/Ordinance of the Sikkim Sardar Patel University, Pakyong. However, that the total period for completion of a Ph.D. programme should not exceed eight (8) years from the date of admission in the Ph.D. programme.
- C. The women candidates and Persons with Disability (more than 40% disability) may be allowed a relaxation of two years for Ph.D. in the maximum duration. In addition, the women candidates may be provided Maternity Leave/Child Care Leave in the entire duration of Ph.D. for up to 240 days.
- D. In exceptional cases the Academic Council may grant relaxation to the candidate in submission time of his/her research work completed in any other University/ National or International Research Institute recognized or established by State Government or Central Government. In such case candidate shall submit all testimonials record to that effect from his/ her parent / previous University/ institute where he / she was registered Ph.D. Scholar. At the same time, he/she will submit a judicial stamp affidavit on a non-judicial stamp paper of Rs. 100 and attested by a notary public or a court of competent jurisdiction as per the requirement of this University for the purpose.

4. PROCEDURE FOR ADMISSION

- A. The schedule of admissions to the Ph.D. Programme shall be advertised through an admission notice. Academic Branch will ascertain the number of seats (along with specialization(s) of supervisor/seats) for Ph.D. course available in each Department. Department-wise availability of seats and the admission schedule for Ph.D. course will be given wide publicity through an admission notice in leading daily newspapers or through official web-site of the university.
- B. Admission to Ph.D. programme shall be made through an Entrance Test to be conducted by the University for each Discipline. The syllabus for the tests shall be laid down by the concerned Teaching Departments. The Entrance test shall be of two hours duration. And will carry 100 marks. The question paper will have two parts. Part one will have objective types multiple choice questions carrying 50 marks based on reasoning/aptitude/current affairs/general knowledge and research methodology. The second part shall be based on descriptive knowledge on proposed research field of the subject concerned to be answered in 500 words and it will carry 50 marks.
- C. A candidate must secure 50% marks to qualify the Entrance Test. (45% for SC/ST/OBC(non-creamy layer)/Differently abled candidates.).
- D. The entrance examination shall be conducted by the Controller of Examinations in association with DRAC (Departmental Research Advisory Committee).
- E. The standard of Entrance Examination will contain the PG level in concerned subject.
- F. There will be no negative marking in the Entrance Test.
- G. In the interview, the candidates are supposed to discuss the area of his/her interest.
- H. The Departmental Research Advisory Committee will prepare a list of candidates provisionally admitted to Ph.D. course and forward it to the fee section for depositing the course work fee by the candidates. The DRAC shall, however, prepare a waiting list of candidates who may be admitted in case the selected candidate does not report for admission and deposit the fee as per the schedule notified.
- I. Departmental Research Advisory Committee will comprise of the following:
- a. Vice-Chancellor
 - b. The Dean of Faculty/The Dean of Research
 - c. Deans/HODs of the Faculties
 - d. In case the total number of members as per clause (a), (b) and (c) above remains less than three then the Dean of the Faculty will be authorized to take necessary steps to raise the total strength of Advisory Committee to three with prior approval of the Vice-Chancellor.

- J. Those students who qualify UGC-NET (including JRF)/UGC-CSIR NET (including JRF)/SLET/GATE/SEED teacher fellowship holder will be exempted from the entrance test. However, they have to appear for the interview. In case, the admission in M. Phil was made through entrance examination, the candidate will have to furnish a certificate to the effect from the University/Institute from where the candidate passed the M. Phil course.
- K. Also, following categories of candidates can seek direct admission to the Ph.D. programme without Entrance Test:
- Scientists having post graduate degree with 55% marks working in National Laboratories and Government Scientific Organizations such as Geographical Survey of India, Atomic Energy Commission etc., having adequate research facilities. The research work may be carried out under a local Co-Supervisor from the organization to be approved by the DRAC but under over all supervision of the Supervisor from the concerned Department of the University. A certificate from the Head of the organization sponsoring the candidate must be enclosed at the time of filing of the application.
 - Judges having post graduate degree in Law or in any other discipline with 55% marks and having an experience of Five years.
 - Professionals/Bureaucrats/Director from the Central or the State Civil Services including IFS/IAS/IPS/IRS/ISRO/DRDO/State & National Research Laboratory etc. Public Sector Undertakings/Autonomous Bodies having 55% marks in a post graduate degree examination with minimum of 5 years' experience.
 - Sponsored Foreign Students under the ICSSR/ICHR/ other academic exchange programmes/fellowships.
 - All International students.
- L. The merit list for admission to Pre-Ph.D. Course Work will be prepared by the Department Research Advisory Committee after holding interview according to the following criteria:
- 70% weight age to marks in the Entrance Test.
 - 30% weight age to performance in the interview on the basis of criteria approved by DRAC for the concerned Department.

5. ALLOCATION OF RESEARCH SUPERVISOR

- A. Only a full-time regular Professor/ Associate Professor of the Sikkim Sardar Patel University with at least five research publications in peer-reviewed/refereed journals with a Ph.D. degree or a full-time regular Assistant Professor of the Sikkim Sardar Patel University with at least three research publications in peer-reviewed/refereed journals with a Ph.D. degree will be recognized as Research Supervisor.
- B. For Ph.D. scholars working in Central government/ State government research institutions whose degrees are given by Higher Educational Institutions, the scientists in such research institutions who are equivalent to Professor/Associate Professor/Assistant Professor can be recognized as supervisors if they fulfill the above requirements.
- C. Provided that in areas/disciplines where there is no or only a limited number of refereed journals, the Institution may relax the above condition for recognition of a person as Research Supervisor with reasons recorded in writing.
- D. Allocation of Supervisor & Co-supervisor(s) shall be made by the DRAC as per their area (s) of interest and research interests of the scholars as indicated by them at the time of interview/viva voce and the number of seats available as per specialization(s). Allotment/allocation of the supervisor shall not be left to the individual student/teacher.
- E. In case of topics which are of inter-disciplinary nature where the Department concerned feels that the expertise in the Department has to be supplemented from outside, the Department may appoint a Research Supervisor from the Department itself, who shall be known as the Research Supervisor, and a Co-Supervisor from outside the Department/ Faculty on such terms and conditions as may be specified and agreed upon by the consenting Institutions/Colleges/Universities.
- F. A Research Supervisor/Co-supervisor who is a Professor, at any given point of time, shall not guide more than Eight (8) Ph.D. scholars. An Associate Professor as Research Supervisor shall guide up to a maximum of six (6) Ph.D. scholars and an Assistant Professor as Research Supervisor shall guide up to a maximum of four (4) Ph.D. scholars. The seat will be treated as vacant on the submission of thesis by the candidate.
- G. Each supervisor can guide up to two international research scholars on a supernumerary basis over and above the permitted number of Ph.D. scholars as specified in clause 5D above.
- H. In case of relocation of an Ph.D. woman scholar due to marriage or otherwise, the research data shall be allowed to be transferred to the University to which the scholar intends to relocate provided all the other conditions in these regulations are followed in

letter and spirit and the research work does not pertain to the project secured by the parent institution/ supervisor from any funding agency. The scholar will however give due credit to the parent guide and the Sikkim Sardar Patel University for the part of research already done.

- I. Co-supervisor(s) may be a Faculty from the Department where admissions are considered, or an inter-departmental Faculty but within University, or a Faculty from outside University, who is otherwise eligible to supervise Ph. D students. A justification for the need of co-supervision and a written consent of the co-supervisor shall be required.
- J. Faculty members with less than three years of service before superannuation shall not be allowed to take new research scholars under their supervision. However, such faculty members can continue to supervise Ph.D. scholars who are already registered until superannuation and as a co-supervisor after superannuation, but not after attaining the age of 70 years.
- K. No Faculty shall be entitled to supervise the Ph. D work of his/her blood relations (as per the list specified in University Rules).
- L. The request of a scholar for the change of supervisor, in exceptional cases, shall be covered in the discretionary power of the Vice-Chancellor after a due presentation before Academic Council, which may or may not be approved.

6. COURSE WORK

- A. Students who are admitted to Ph.D. course will have to undergo a semester-long/240 hours course work of 16 credits wherein five subjects will be taught and candidates performance will be evaluated at the end of semester through an external examination as per following scheme;

Paper	Title	Credits	Max. Marks
Paper I	Research Methodology	4	100
Paper II	Computer Applications	4	100
Paper III	Qualitative & Quantitative Methods	4	100

Paper IV	Review of Literature	2	100
Paper V	Research and Publication Ethics	2	100

- *One Credit will be equivalent to 15 hours of study.*

- B. The Departmental Research Advisory Committee can also recommend UGC recognized online courses as part of the credit requirements for the Ph.D. programme.
- C. All Ph.D. scholars, irrespective of discipline, shall be required to train in teaching /education /pedagogy/writing related to their chosen Ph.D. subject during their doctoral period. Ph.D. scholars may also be assigned 4-6 hours per week of teaching/research assistantship for conducting tutorial or laboratory work and evaluations. However, the teaching hours may be increased as per the requirements of the University.
- D. Candidates already holding M. Phil. degree and admitted to the Ph.D. programme, or those who have already completed the course work in M.Phil. and have been permitted to proceed to the Ph.D. in integrated course, shall be exempted by the Department from the Ph.D. course work. All other candidates admitted to the Ph.D. programme shall be required to complete the Ph.D. course work of one semester/240 hours prescribed by the Department.
- E. A Ph.D. scholar has to obtain a minimum of 55% of marks or its equivalent grade in the UGC 10-point scale (or an equivalent grade/CGPA in a point scale wherever grading system is followed) in the course work in order to be eligible to continue in the programme and submit the thesis. The scholar has to obtained a minimum of 12 credits for the successful completion of course work including Research Methodology, Review of Literature & Research and Publication Ethics. A minimum attendance of 75% is also mandatory for the scholar during course work.
- F. Candidates will have three chances (including two for reappear) to successfully complete the course work. However, one more chance may be allowed by the Vice-Chancellor depending on the merits of the each case. In any case, the Ph.D. Scholar will have to appear for completion of the course work examination within two years.

7. DEPARTMENT RESEARCH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- A. There shall be a Department Research Advisory Committee (DRAC) for each Faculty.
- B. The Departmental Research Advisory Committee will comprise the following:
 - a. Vice-Chancellor
 - b. The Dean of Faculty/The Dean of Research

- c. Dean/HOD of the Concerned Faculty
- d. Two Professor/Associate Professor/Assistant Professor from the Respective Faculty
- e. In case the total number of members as per clause (a), (b), (c) and (d) above remains less than three then the Dean of the Faculty will be authorized to take necessary steps to raise the total strength of Advisory Committee to three with prior approval of the Vice-Chancellor.

In case, the strength of the DRAC remains less than three, the Dean of Faculty concerned will be authorized to include outside experts out of a panel of Subject experts approved by the Vice Chancellor, who will have to be of the Professor rank. The Dean of Faculty will be authorized to sanction TA/DA and honorarium for outside experts as per University rules.

- C. The Dean of Faculty concerned shall be the Convener of this Committee. This Committee shall have the following responsibilities:
 - a. To review the research proposal and finalize the topic of research;
 - b. To guide the research scholar to develop the study design and methodology of research and identify the course(s) that he/she may have to do.
 - c. To periodically review and assist in the progress of the research work of the research scholar.
- D. A research scholar shall appear before the Department Research Advisory Committee once in six months to make a presentation of the progress of his/her work for evaluation and further guidance.
- E. In case the progress of the research scholar is unsatisfactory, the Department Research Advisory Committee shall record the reasons for the same and suggest corrective measures. A copy of such recommendations shall also be provided to the Ph.D. scholar. If the research scholar fails to implement these corrective measures, the Committee may recommend to the Vice Chancellor with specific reasons for cancellation of the registration of the research scholar.

8. EVALUATION AND ASSESSMENT METHODS & MINIMUM STANDARDS

- A. The candidates admitted in the Ph.D. programme, in consultation with their respective faculty, will have to prepare the synopsis within a period of minimum six months of their admission in the Ph.D. Programme. The synopsis submitted by the candidates, who have successfully completed the course work, or are otherwise exempted from the

- Ph.D. course work, shall be considered by the DRAC. The candidates will have to deliver a pre-registration seminar/presentation before DRAC on the day of its meeting.
- B. The DRAC may allow the title/synopsis of the research problem to be modified up to one year after the date of registration provided that such a change must be recommended by the DRAC and further provided that the minor changes in the wording of the topic of thesis may be allowed by the DRAC up to the time of holding of pre-submission seminar.
- C. Change of supervisor will not be allowed at the whims of the candidates. In case, the supervisor is unable to supervise the work due to valid reason/resignation/retirement/long leave etc., the President/Vice-Chancellor may allow the change of the Supervisor on the request of the candidate on the recommendation of AC, if he/she is satisfied that the change of the supervisor is in the interest of completion of the research work. The supervisor, who has left, may continue to act as co-supervisor of the candidate. The supervisor who has been supervising the candidate for a year or more and retires thereafter and is willing to continue to supervise the candidate can do so till the submission of his/her thesis. In case of retirement/resignation/long leave or any other valid reason, the seats allotted to another supervisor will be over and above the entitlement of the seats of Faculty.
- D. Ph.D. scholars must publish at least two (2) Research Papers in Peer-reviewed/Refereed/Scopus/WoS/SCI/ABDC journals and make atleast two paper presentations in conferences/seminars before the submission of the thesis for adjudication, and produce the same in the form of presentation certificates and/or reprints.
- E. In addition to this, a progress report will be submitted by the candidates to the Dean-Research every six month (forwarded by the supervisor).
- F. The language of thesis will remain English or Hindi excepts in the subjects of languages, where in the thesis can be written in English, Hindi or any other languages, as the case may be.
- G. Prior to the submission of the thesis, the scholar shall make a presentation in the Department before the Department Research Committee of the Subject concerned which shall also be open to all faculty members and other research scholars. The feedback and comments obtained from them may be suitably incorporated into the draft thesis in consultation with the Department Research Committee.

- H. The Academic Council (or its equivalent body) of the University shall use a plagiarism detecting software to detect plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty. While submitting for evaluation, the thesis shall have an undertaking from the research scholar and a certificate from the Research Supervisor attesting to the originality of the work, vouching that there is no plagiarism and that the work has not been submitted for the award of any other degree/diploma of the same Institution where the work was carried out, or to any other Institution.
- I. The Ph.D. thesis submitted by a research scholar shall be evaluated by his/her Research Supervisor and at least two external examiners, who are not in employment of the Sikkim Sardar Patel University, of whom one examiner may be from outside the country. The viva-voce examination, based among other things, on the critiques given in the evaluation report, shall be conducted by the Research Supervisor and at least one of the two external examiners, and may be conducted online, and shall be open to be attended by Members of the Doctoral Research Advisory Committee, all faculty members of the Department, other research scholars and other interested experts/researchers.
- a. The DRAC, on the recommendations of supervisor, will draw a list of sufficient number of experts keeping in view their specialization for consideration by DRAC who shall consider the list of experts drawn by DRAC and recommend a panel of 5 to 8 experts in the field for appointment as evaluators/examiners for the thesis.
 - b. The experts recommended shall be either Professors/Associate Professors/Assistant Professors or persons of eminence or industry experts or the persons holding equal status. Names of only those persons would be recommended who are known to be physically fit and are able to undertake journey for the conduct of Viva-Voce examination, if invited. In case, DRAC feels that the panel should consist of more than 8 names, it may recommend additional names. Even the retired persons, who are otherwise fit for the purpose, may be listed on the panel of examiners/evaluators.
 - c. The thesis shall be referred to two evaluators/examiners selected by the President/Vice- Chancellor from the panel of experts approved by the DRAC, out of which one may be from outside the country also. The candidate will have to present himself/herself for the Viva-Voce examination which shall also be openly defended, as and when fixed by the University failing which he/she will

be declared ineligible for the award of degree. However, in case the candidate is unable to attend the Viva-Voce examination on fixed day for any unavoidable reason, the controller of Examinations on candidate's written request and with a stipulated fee may allow one time postponement of the date of viva-voce up to a maximum period of 3 months from the date previously fixed by the University, failing which the candidate will be declared ineligible for the award of degree. In case, the examiner has turned up for Viva-Voce examination of the said candidate on the fixed date, the total expenditure of TA/DA will be charged from the candidates up to next rounding figure of Rs. One thousand on higher side.

- d. The evaluator will state categorically whether in his/her opinion.
 - i) A thesis is accepted for the award of Ph.D. Degree, or
 - ii) It should be revised, or
 - iii) It should be rejected.
- e. The evaluators(s) will state reasons for the approval or rejection of the thesis. If he/she recommends re-submission with revision, he/she shall specifically indicate what modifications he/she wants the candidates to incorporate in thesis.
- f. If the evaluators(s) examiners(s) of the thesis recommend the awards of the degree, he/they may also give in their report a set of questions which they would like to put to the candidate at the time of Viva-Voce examination.
- g. If one or both the evaluators/examiners recommend re-submission with a revision of the thesis, the candidate shall be asked to modify the thesis and re-submit the same only once, not earlier than 6 months and not later than one year, after having carried out all the modifications have been carried out. If one of the examiners rejected the thesis, the same will be sent to the third examiner/evaluators. The thesis will be submitted again with a thesis evaluation fee.
- h. In case, the candidate appears for his/her Viva-Voce examination, but fails in Viva-Voce, in such case the second evaluator may be called for conducting the Viva-Voce after giving at least three months' time to the scholar to prepare himself/herself. The report of second examiner will be considered as final.
- i. The re-submitted thesis shall be examined by the examiner(s) who evaluated the original thesis unless any of them is unable or unwilling to do so in which case substitute shall be appointed out of the panel of experts (approved by the Vice-

Chancellor. The examiner(s) of the revised thesis will only see whether objections raised have been incorporated or not.

- j. A thesis will be considered rejected, in case two or more evaluators have recommended the rejection of the thesis. A candidate whose thesis has been rejected shall not be registered again for Ph.D. degree with the same topic.
- k. If at least two examiners recommend award of degrees, the candidates would be examined through a Viva-Voce examination by one of the examiners who have made recommendations for award of the Ph.D. degree. The examiner for viva-voce will be nominated by the Vice-Chancellor. If the evaluators of the above category (i.e. those who have recommended the award Ph.D. degree) are unable or unwilling to conduct the Viva-Voce examination, another name may be considered for the purpose by the Vice- Chancellor out of the panel already approved by the DRAC.
- l. The viva-voce board shall consist of the Research Supervisor and at least one of the two external examiners and may be conducted online. In offline mode, the Viva-Voce examination shall be conducted by the Research Supervisor and External Examiner and will be held in the concerned department at the University unless ordered otherwise by the Vice- Chancellor. The date, time and the subject of thesis shall be notified to the faculty including the supervisor and the research scholars of the faculty, who shall be permitted to be present at the time of Viva-Voce Examination, but they shall have no right to put any question to the candidates. The reports of all the evaluators/examiners shall be placed before the Ph.D. committee to consider the reports and to recommend to the Vice-Chancellor whether:
 - i) The Ph.D. degree be awarded, or
 - ii) The thesis be revised for re-examination, or
 - iii) The thesis be rejected.
- m. The absence of Dean, Faculty and/or Chairperson of the department concerned in the meeting of Ph.D. committee shall not vitiate its proceedings. However, the Vice-Chancellor may co- opt an expert in the subject as a substitute to the Chairperson of the department if he considers it necessary.
- J. The public viva-voce of the research scholar to defend the thesis shall be conducted only if the evaluation report(s) of the external examiner(s) on the thesis is/are satisfactory and include a specific recommendation for conducting the viva-voce

examination. If one of the evaluation reports of the external examiner in case of Ph.D. thesis, is unsatisfactory and does not recommend viva-voce, the Institution shall send the thesis to another external examiner out of the approved panel of examiners and the viva-voce examination shall be held only if the report of the last examiner is satisfactory. If the report of the last examiner is also unsatisfactory, the thesis shall be rejected and the research scholar shall be declared ineligible for the award of the degree.

- K. The entire process of evaluation of Ph.D. thesis shall be completed within a period of six months from the date of submission of the thesis, however, it may be relaxed on the recommendation of the Vice-Chancellor.
- L. University may also access the required facilities of the neighbouring Institutions/Colleges, or of those Institutions/Colleges/R&D laboratories/Organizations which have the required facilities.
- M. Part-time Ph.D will be allowed provided all the conditions mentioned in the extant Ph.D. Regulations are met.
- N. Candidates availing URS/JRF/SRF or any other fellowship/scholarship shall have to mark their attendance in the department throughout the duration of their scholarship. Candidates who are not taking any fellowship/scholarship, shall have to stay on the campus at least for one semester/240 hours. Further stay of such candidates may be exempted in case his/her supervisor certifies that he/she has been meeting the supervisor frequently to discuss the research work.
- O. If the conduct/work of Research Scholar is found unsatisfactory at any stage as reported by the Supervisor, the DRAC shall give him/her an opportunity to explain his/her position and make suitable recommendations including de-registration. The DRAC may then recommend cancellation of his/her registration to the appropriate bodies. However, the registration of candidate may also be cancelled on the basis of written request made by the candidate in this respect.
- P. If a candidate fails to submit his/her thesis within the stipulated period of 3 and has not applied for the extension before the expiry of the above said period, the registration of the candidate will automatically stand cancelled. However, the candidates may applied for restoration of his/her Ph.D. registration with restoration fee of Rs. 20,000/- within a period of 3 months, with restoration fee of Rs. 45,000/- within a period of 6 months, and with a restoration fee of Rs. 1,00,000/- within a period of one year, where after no application shall be entertained in this respect. In any case, the application for restoration of registration must be recommended by the supervisor and the DRAC. The

Vice-Chancellor may allow such restoration, if he is satisfied with the reasons given by the candidate for not seeking extension for submission of the thesis well in time. The restoration fees will be change when require. The Various fee structure as fixed by the University from time to time through Prospectus/ notifications shall be chargeable.

- Q. A research scholar will not join any other course of study or appear in any other examination conducted by any other University or Institution or public body while doing research. The Vice-Chancellor may, however, allow a candidate to appear in an examination or to attend a course which is conducive to his research and is of minor nature, including improvement of previous result, so that it does not consume much of his time.
- R. In no case, the student will be entitled to migrate from the University during the course of his/her Ph.D. work unless he/she has left the Ph.D. course.
- S. Notwithstanding anything mentioned above, the Academic Council on the recommendation of the Vice-Chancellor shall have the right to withdraw the degree if plagiarism or duplication or any other form of malpractice is detected at any stage, and to initiate such further action as it deems fit. Provided that the Vice-Chancellor shall get the complaint in the mater investigated confidentially and shall give the accused a fair opportunity to explain his/her view point before he/she makes his/her recommendations on the matter to the Academic Council. There shall be no limitation of time for this action of Academic Council.
- T. Following the successful completion of the evaluation process and before the announcement of the award of the Ph.D. degree(s), the University shall submit an electronic copy of the Ph.D. thesis to the INFLIBNET, for hosting the same so as to make it accessible to all Institutions/Colleges.
- U. Prior to the actual award of the degree, the University shall issue a provisional Certificate to the effect that the Degree has been awarded in accordance with the provisions of these UGC Regulations, 2022.
- V. A candidate may be allowed to publish his/her thesis in book form with prior permission of the University. The research scholar may apply to the Vice-Chancellor/Dean-Research/DRAC for publishing his/her thesis in a book form. The Vice-Chancellor/Dean-Research/DRAC shall satisfy himself/herself that the thesis is publishable in its original or modified form. He/she, however, may be guided by the reports of the examiners in this regard. However, in this later case (i.e. modified form) a certificate will be obtained from the supervisor to the effect that necessary

improvements suggested by him/her and the examiners have been properly incorporated in the thesis.

9. OTHER STANDARDS

Ph.D. programmes through part-time mode will be permitted, provided all the conditions stipulated in these Regulations are fulfilled. The University shall obtain a “No Objection Certificate” through the candidate for a part-time Ph.D. programme from the appropriate authority in the organization where the candidate is employed, clearly stating that:

- The candidate is permitted to pursue studies on a part-time basis.
- His/her official duties permit him/her to devote sufficient time for research.
- If required, he/she will be relieved from the duty to complete the course work.

Prior to the actual award of the Ph.D. degree, the University shall issue a provisional certificate to the effect that the Ph.D. is being awarded in accordance with the provisions of UGC (or similar body) Regulations.

In case of any difficulty in the interpretation of these rules the decision of the Governing Body of the University shall be final and binding.

In case of any dispute the matter shall be referred for arbitration and the Civil Courts shall have no jurisdiction to take cognizance of the matter in dispute.

10. LIST OF LABORATORY/INSTITUTES TILL DATE APPROVED

1. All the Indian Universities, which are members of the inter-University Board of India.
2. All CSIR Laboratories in India.
3. All Laboratories maintained and run by the dept. of atomic energy
4. Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science, Calcutta.
5. Indian Institute of Sciences, Bangalore
6. All IITs including Institute of Technology, Banaras Hindu University.
7. All NITTTRs
8. All NITS
9. All IIMs
10. Birla Institute of Technology & Science, Pilani.
11. Birla Institute of Technology & Science, Ranchi.

12. Indian School of Mines Dhanbad.
13. Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai.
14. All Defence Science Organization Laboratories in India.
15. Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi.
16. Indian School of International Studies New Delhi.
17. School of African Studies, New Delhi.
18. Vishveshvaranand Vedic Research Institute, Hoshiarpur.
19. Institute of Indology, Lucknow Road, Delhi.
20. Ahimsa Shodh Peeth, Lady Hardinge Road, New Delhi.
21. All Research Labs. Of the Geological Survey of India.
22. All Research Labs. Of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission.
23. All Research Labs. Of the Indian Space Research organization.
24. All Research Labs. Of the Electronics Commission and Department of Electronics, Govt. of India.
25. Hindustan Steel Ltd. Research Laboratories.
26. Electronics Corp. of India Ltd. Hyderabad.
27. All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi.
28. PGIMS, Rohtak.
29. Post-Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh.
30. National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal.
31. Indian Agriculture Research Institute, Pusa, New Delhi.
32. All centre and State Govt. Forensic Science Laboratories.
33. Technological Institute of Textiles, Bhiwani.
34. The National Council of Indian language, Mysore.
35. The centre Institute of Indian Language.
36. The Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata
37. The Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi University, Delhi.
38. All Research Labs. of National Council of Medical Research, New Delhi
39. All Research Labs. of The Zoological Survey of India.
40. National Institutes of Family Planning, New Delhi.
41. All Research Labs. of National Institute of Margin Biology, Panaji, Goa.
42. Delhi Zoological Park, New Delhi-3.
43. Forest Research Institute, Dehradun.
44. All Laboratories maintained by the DST, Govt. of India.

45. Bose Institute, Kolkata.
46. Raman Institute, Bangalore.
47. Bharat Heavy Electrical Ltd. Research and Development Laboratories.
48. Ahmadabad Textile Industries Research Association, Mumbai.
49. Shri Ram institute of Industrial Research Delhi.
50. Bombay Textiles Institutes Research Association, Bangalore.
51. Southern Textiles Industries Research Association, Bangalore.
52. Observation of Metrological Department, Govt. of India.
53. Survey of India
54. Central Institute of Criminology and Foreign Language, Hyderabad.
55. Institute of Criminology and Forensic Science, Ministry of Home Affairs, Gol.
56. The Central Soil Salinity Research Institute, Karnal
57. The wadia Institute of Himalya Geology, Dehradun.
58. Physical Research Laboratory, Ahemdabad-9.
59. Sikkim State Archives, Gangtok
60. Institute of Advanced Studies, Shimla.
61. National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration, Aurobindo Marg, New Delhi.
62. Sarabhai Science Community Centre, Navrangpura, Ahemdabad.
63. Model Institute of Educational & Research, J & K.
64. Indian Law Institute.
65. All Laboratories maintained and run by the Indian Council of Agriculture Research.
66. Nuclear Science Centre (NSC) at J.N. University Campus, New Delhi.
67. Inter-University Centre in Astronomy & Astrophysics, Poona University, Pune.
68. Indian National Scientific Documentation Centre, New Delhi.
69. Centre for Research in Rural & Industrial Development, Chandigarh.
70. Shri Kundkund Bharti Jain Research Institute, New Delhi.
71. Ranbaxy Laboratories Limited, Gurgaon-122601.
72. Lubin Research Park, Pune-411042.

Note: The list of Institutes/Labs is only of the indicative nature and not the exhaustive one.

11. GUIDELINES FOR SYNOPSIS WRITING

The Synopsis must be printed according to the following specifications:

- a. Plain white A4 sized Paper (210*297mm)
- b. Writing Fonts: Arial/Times New Roman/ Kruti Dev
- c. Font size for Heading-TOC Heading, Subheading-14 bold, Normal-12
- d. One sided printing
- e. Margins at the binding edge must be not less than 40 mm and other margins not less than 20 mm
- f. 1.5 Line Spacing (except for indented quotations or footnotes which can be single spaced)
- g. All pages must be numbered in one continuous sequence i.e from the first chapter to the last page of type, from 1 onwards. This sequence must include everything bound in the volume, including maps, diagrams, blank pages, etc. Other pages should be numbered in Small Roman Numbers.
- h. Any material which cannot be bound in with the text must be placed in a pocket inside or attached to the back cover or in a rigid container. You are reminded that if your appendices are very long, you can request permission to include them on a disc instead in order to avoid having to print your thesis in two parts. Please ensure that the disc is securely fastened in the back of your thesis if you do so.
- i. Short Plagiarism Report should attach and bind in the end of the synopsis.
- j. Three copies of Soft-bound (Stapled) Synopsis should be submitted to the Dean Research Office for the examiners.
- k. One hard copy of PowerPoint Presentation shall also be submitted along with Synopsis.
- l. One CD containing soft copy of Synopsis and PowerPoint Presentation shall also be submitted along with Synopsis.
- m. You must make every effort to correct errors before submission. It is not the task of examiners to act as editors and/or proof readers of a thesis.
- n. Binding Order of Synopsis:

Sr. No.	Item
1	Front Page (Appendix A.1)
2	Declaration by Candidate (Appendix A.2)
3	Introduction
4	Literature Review

5	Gaps in the Existing Research
6	Statement of Proposed Problem
7	Scope of Research Work
8	Relevance of the Research Work
9	Significance of Proposed Problem
10	Objectives of the Study
11	Proposed Hypothesis of the Study
12	Proposed Research Methodology
13	Chapter Scheme
14	Expected Outcomes
15	Plan of Work
16	References
17	Short Plagiarism Report

12. GUIDELINES FOR THESIS WRITING

The Thesis must be printed according to the following specifications:

- Plain white A4 sized Bond Paper (210*297mm)
- Writing Fonts: Arial/Times New Roman/ Kruti Dev
- Font size for Heading-TOC Heading, Subheading-14 bold, Normal-12
- One sided printing
- Margins at the binding edge must be not less than 40 mm and other margins not less than 20 mm
- 1.5 Line Spacing (except for indented quotations or footnotes which can be single spaced)
- All pages must be numbered in one continuous sequence i.e from the first chapter to the last page of type, from 1 onwards. This sequence must include everything bound in the volume, including maps, diagrams, blank pages, etc. Other pages should be numbered in Small Roman Numbers.
- Any material which cannot be bound in with the text must be placed in a pocket inside or attached to the back cover or in a rigid container. You are reminded that if your appendices are very long, you can request permission to include them on a disc instead

in order to avoid having to print your thesis in two parts. Please ensure that the disc is securely fastened in the back of your thesis if you do so.

- i. 2 Research Papers & 2 Conference/Seminar Certificates should attach and bind in the end of the thesis.
- j. Short Plagiarism Report should attach and bind in the end of the thesis.
- k. The Title of Thesis, Name and Enrolment Number of Student, Subject and Year of Submission should be printed on the spine side of thesis.
- l. Colour for thesis binding on cover side will be medium Sky Blue (Red 0, Green 128, Blue 255). 
- m. Printing should be in Metallic Gold colour (Red 255, Green 201, Blue 14) on the cover page. 
- n. Initially two Soft-bound (Spiral binding) thesis should be submitted to the Dean Research Office for the examiners.
- o. After award has been confirmed, four final hard-bound thesis should be submitted to the Dean Research Office. Hard-bound thesis must have the pages sewn in (not punched).
- p. One Pen Drive containing soft copy of Two Research Papers, Two Seminars, Complete Plagiarism Report, Thesis and PowerPoint Presentation of Viva-voce shall also be submitted along with.
- q. Word limit: not to exceed 1,00,000 words excluding appendices, bibliography and editions of a text(s) and including footnotes.
- r. You must make every effort to correct errors before submission. It is not the task of examiners to act as editors and/or proof readers of a thesis.
- s. The thesis must be the result of the student's own work. This requirement does not preclude a student obtaining limited assistance with proof-reading including from professionals. When such help is obtained it should be with the prior approval of the supervisor who must be satisfied that the spirit of the 'own work' requirement is not breached.
- t. The role of proof readers is to ensure that the meaning of the author is not misrepresented due to the quality and standard of the English used. This can include correcting spelling and basic grammar errors. Inaccuracies or structural problems in academic content should not be corrected by the proof readers and remain the responsibility of the student and their supervisor.

- u. Binding Order of Thesis: The page numbers below are tentative page numbers for the chapter. These are broad guide lines and Researcher is free to have more or less number of pages as per the requirement of the research. Serial numbers 1 to 14 should be given in small roman numbers. The final thesis should not be less than 220 pages without considering the pages in Roman numbers and Bibliography. Graph, table or photos should not be more than 25% in thesis out of 220 pages.

Sr. No.	Item	Approx Pages
1	Front Page (Appendix B.1)	
2	Declaration by Candidate (Appendix B.2)	
3	Certificate by Supervisor (Appendix B.3)	
4	Certificate by Co-Supervisor (if applicable) (Appendix B.4)	
5	Certificate of Laboratory Used (if applicable) (Appendix B.5)	
6	Copyright Form (Appendix B.6)	
7	Acknowledgement	
8	Abstract with keywords (minimum 350 words)	
9	Table of Contents	
10	List of Tables	
11	List of Figures/Graphs	
12	List of Illustrations	
13	List of Symbols, Abbreviations and Nomenclature	
14	List of Equations	
15	Chapter: 1	35
	Introduction	
	1.1 Introduction (Topic Background/History/Criticality)	29
	1.2 Problem on Hand	1
	1.3 Research Objectives	1
	1.4 Scope of Research Work	1
	1.5 Organizational Details (if applicable)	2
	1.6 Hypothesis Statements (if applicable)	1

16	Chapter: 2 Review of Literature	35
	2.1 Research Gap	1
17	Chapter: 3 Research Methodology	30
18	Chapter: 4 Findings & Discussion	100
19	Chapter: 5 Conclusion	20
	5.1 Main Conclusion	1
	5.2 Limitations	1
	5.3 Recommendations	1
	5.4 Future Scope	1
20	Bibliography	
21	Appendix	
22	List of Publications	
23	Publications Copies	
24	Short Plagiarism Report	

13. GUIDELINES FOR SUMMARY WRITING

The Summary must be printed according to the following specifications:

- Plain white A4 sized Paper (210*297mm)
- Writing Fonts: Arial/Times New Roman/ Kruti Dev
- Font size for Heading-TOC Heading, Subheading-14 bold, Normal-12
- One sided printing
- Margins at the binding edge must be not less than 40 mm and other margins not less than 20 mm
- 1.5 Line Spacing (except for indented quotations or footnotes which can be single spaced)
- All pages must be numbered in one continuous sequence i.e from the first chapter to the last page of type, from 1 onwards. This sequence must include everything bound in

the volume, including maps, diagrams, blank pages, etc. Other pages should be numbered in Small Roman Numbers.

- h. Any material which cannot be bound in with the text must be placed in a pocket inside or attached to the back cover or in a rigid container. You are reminded that if your appendices are very long, you can request permission to include them on a disc instead in order to avoid having to print your thesis in two parts. Please ensure that the disc is securely fastened in the back of your thesis if you do so.
- i. Three copies of Soft-bound (Stapled) Summary should be submitted to the Dean Research Office for the examiners.
- j. You must make every effort to correct errors before submission. It is not the task of examiners to act as editors and/or proof readers of a thesis.
- k. A single Soft-bound copy of Complete Plagiarism Report should also be submitted along with Summary.
- l. A single Soft-bound copy of atleast two research papers and two seminars/conferences should also be submitted along with Summary.
- m. One hard copy of PowerPoint Presentation shall also be submitted along with Summary.
- n. One CD containing soft copy of Summary and PowerPoint Presentation shall also be submitted along with Summary.
- o. Binding Order of Summary:

Sr. No.	Item
1	Front Page (Appendix C.1)
2	Declaration by Candidate (Appendix C.2)
3	Introduction
4	Literature Review
5	Objectives
6	Hypothesis
7	Research Design
8	Major Findings
9	Conclusion
10	Limitations
11	Future Scope



Appendix A.1

Front Page Synopsis

.....(TITLE)

A

Synopsis

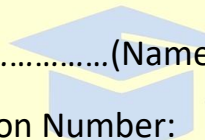
Submitted in Partial Fulfilment of the
Requirements for the Degree of

Doctor of Philosophy
in.....

By

.....(Name of the candidate)

Registration Number:



Department of

SIKKIM SARDAR PATEL UNIVERSITY

SIKKIM, INDIA

Year



Appendix A.2

Declaration by Candidate



SIKKIM SARDAR PATEL UNIVERSITY SIKKIM, INDIA

Declaration by the Candidate

I, <Name of Student>, declare that the Synopsis entitled <Thesis Title> is being submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirement for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in <Subject> of Sikkim Sardar Patel University, Sikkim, India during the academic year <Year>.

I further declare that I have put in one semester/240 hours of attendance during my coursework.

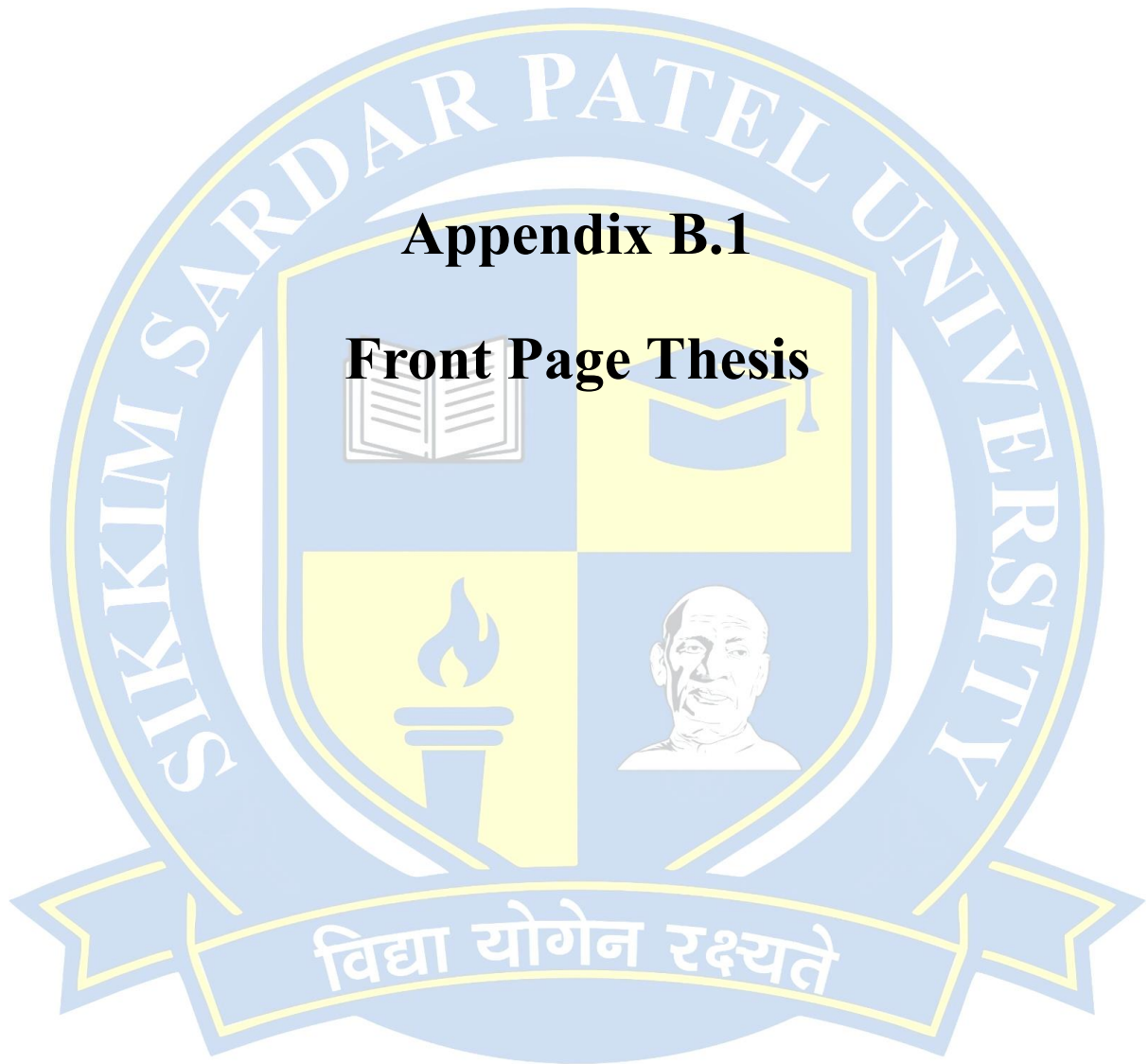
It is a bona fide record of original work carried out under the supervision of my research faculties and has not been submitted in full or part to any other university or institute for degree or diploma. Further, it is certified that this synopsis is plagiarism free and proof has been submitted.

<Student's Name>

Registration #

Date:

(Chairperson, DRC)



.....(TITLE)

A Thesis

Submitted in Partial Fulfilment of the
Requirements for the Degree of

Doctor of Philosophy

in

.....(Subject)

By

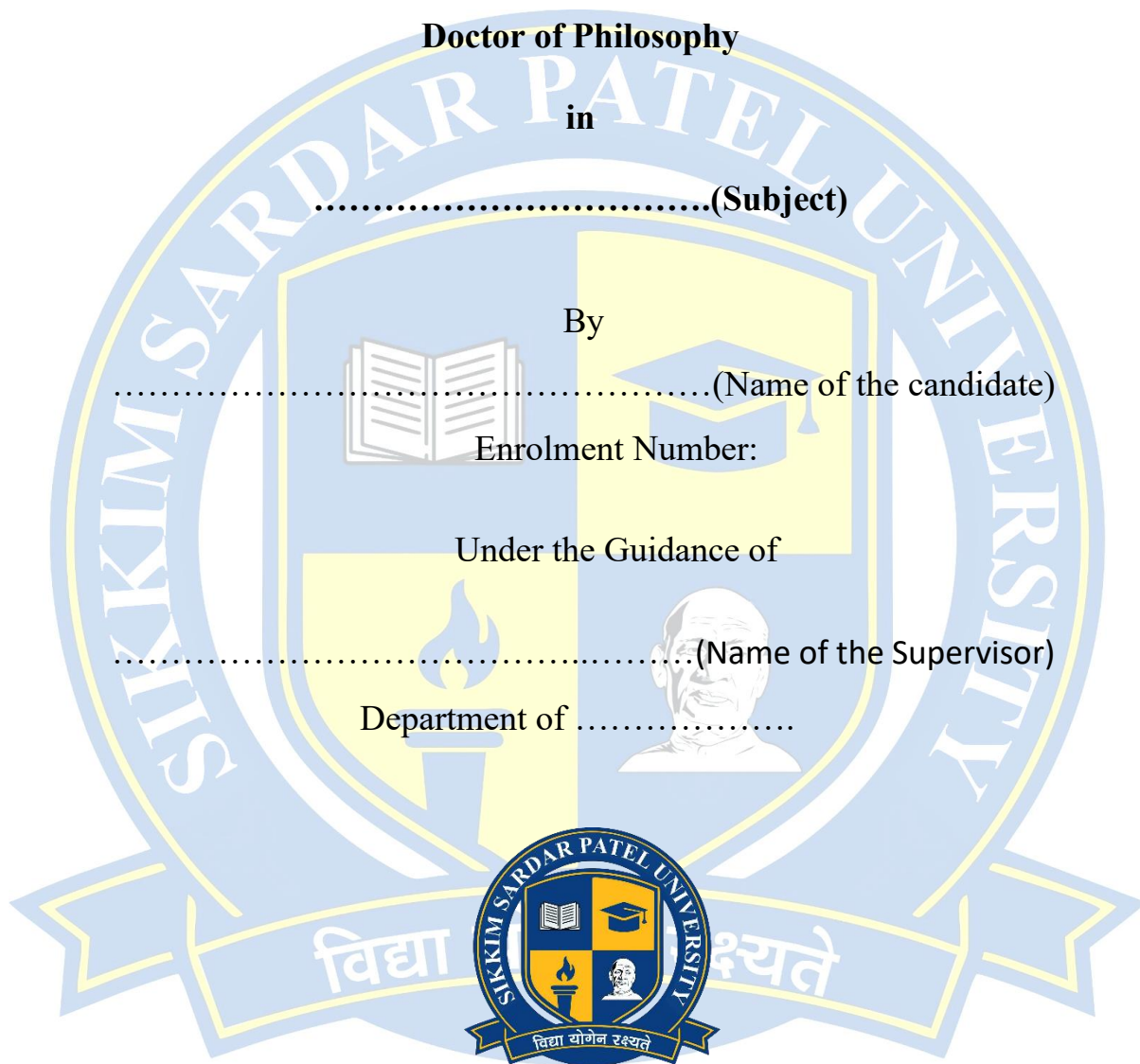
.....(Name of the candidate)

Enrolment Number:

Under the Guidance of

.....(Name of the Supervisor)

Department of



© Copyright [Year & Name of the Candidate]

SIKKIM SARDAR PATEL UNIVERSITY

PAKYONG, SIKKIM, INDIA



Appendix B.2

Declaration by Candidate



SIKKIM SARDAR PATEL UNIVERSITY PAKYONG, SIKKIM, INDIA

Declaration by the Candidate

I, <Name of Student>, declare that the Thesis entitled <Thesis Title> is my own work conducted under the supervision of <Guide Name>, Department of <Subject>, Sikkim Sardar Patel University, Pakyong, Sikkim, India approved by Departmental Research Advisory Committee.

I further declare that I have put in more than 2.5 years of attendance with the Supervisor.

It is a bona fide record of original work carried out under the supervision of my research faculties and has not been submitted in full or part to any other university or institute for degree or diploma.

Further, it is certified that this Thesis is plagiarism free and proof has been submitted.

<Student's Name>

Enrolment #

Date:

(Supervisor)

(Chairperson, DRC)



Appendix B.3

Certificate by Supervisor



SIKKIM SARDAR PATEL UNIVERSITY PAKYONG, SIKKIM, INDIA

Certificate by Supervisor

I,certify that the
thesis entitled
.....submitted for the award of Degree
of Doctor of Philosophy in.....by..... is the record
of research work carried out byhim/her under my/our guidance and supervision and that
this work has not formed thebasis for the award of any degree, diploma, associate-ship,
fellowship or other titles in thisUniversity or any other University or Institution of higher
learning.

Date:

[Name of Supervisor]

Date of Thesis Defended/Approved:

Internal Examiner

External Examiner

Signature:

Signature:



Appendix B.4

Certificate by Co-Supervisor



SIKKIM SARDAR PATEL UNIVERSITY
PAKYONG, SIKKIM, INDIA

Certificate by Co-Supervisor

I,certify that the
thesis entitled
.....submitted for the award of Degree
of Doctor of Philosophy in.....by..... is the record
of research work carried out byhim/her under my/our guidance and supervision and that
this work has not formed thebasis for the award of any degree, diploma, associate-ship,
fellowship or other titles in thisUniversity or any other University or Institution of higher
learning.

Date:

[Name of Co-Supervisor]

Date of Thesis Defended/Approved:

Internal Examiner

External Examiner

Signature:

Signature:



Appendix B.5

Certificate of Laboratory Used



SIKKIM SARDAR PATEL UNIVERSITY PAKYONG, SIKKIM, INDIA

Certificate of Laboratory Used

I, <Name of Student>, declare that the for my Thesis entitled <Thesis Title> work conducted under the supervision of <Guide Name>, Department of <Subject>, Sikkim Sardar Patel University, Pakyong, Sikkim, India approved by Departmental Research Advisory Committee; I have used the laboratory <Name of Laboratory> situated at <Place>.

I further declare that the lab was fully equipped, accredited and I have put in sufficient working hours in the lab to derive at the findings.

It is a bona fide record of original work carried out under the supervision of my research faculties and has not been submitted in full or part to any other university or institute for degree or diploma.

Further, it is certified that my lab work is plagiarism free.

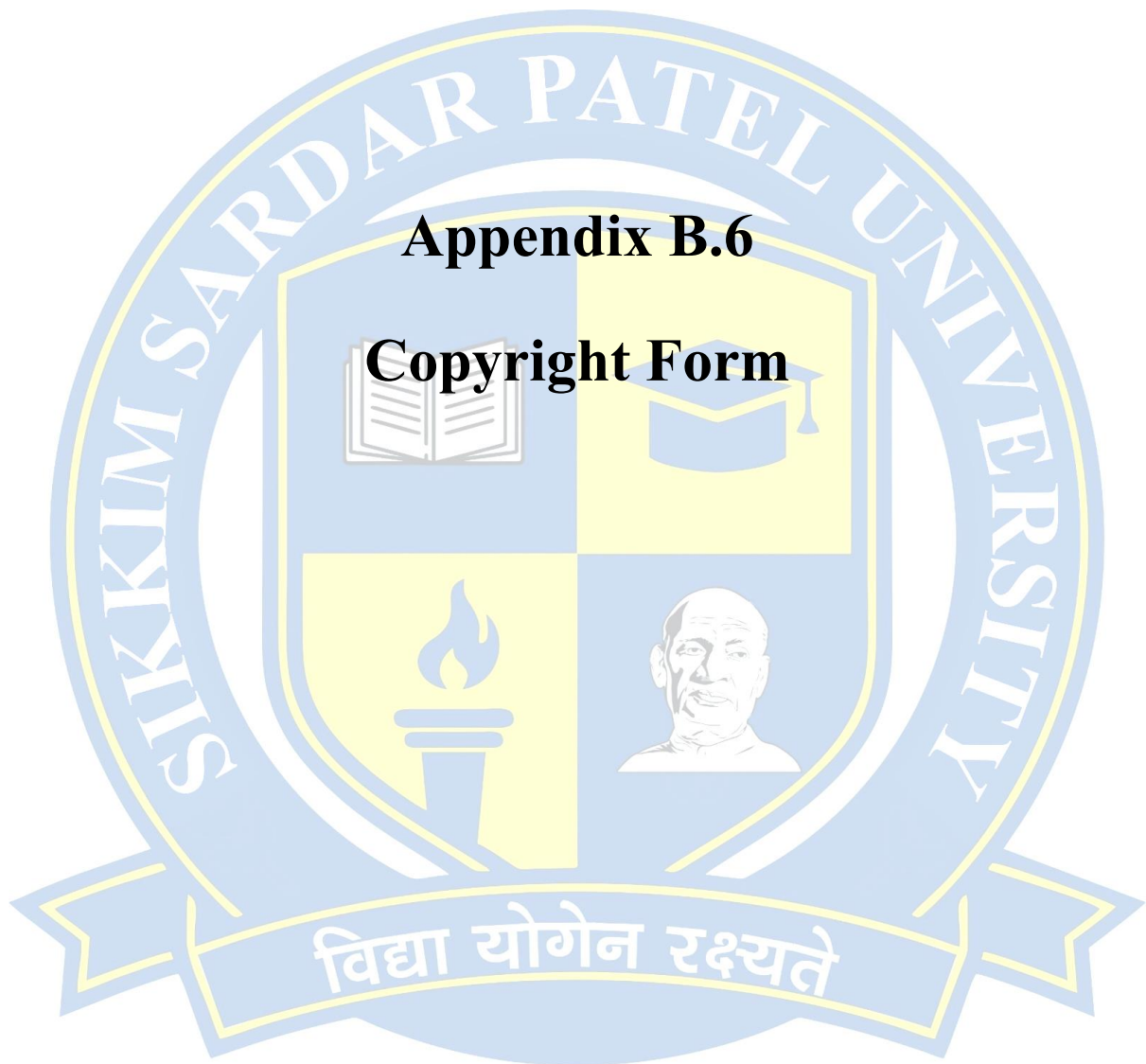
<Student's Name>

Enrolment #

(Supervisor)

Date:

(Lab Technician)





SIKKIM SARDAR PATEL UNIVERSITY PAKYONG, SIKKIM, INDIA

Copyright Form

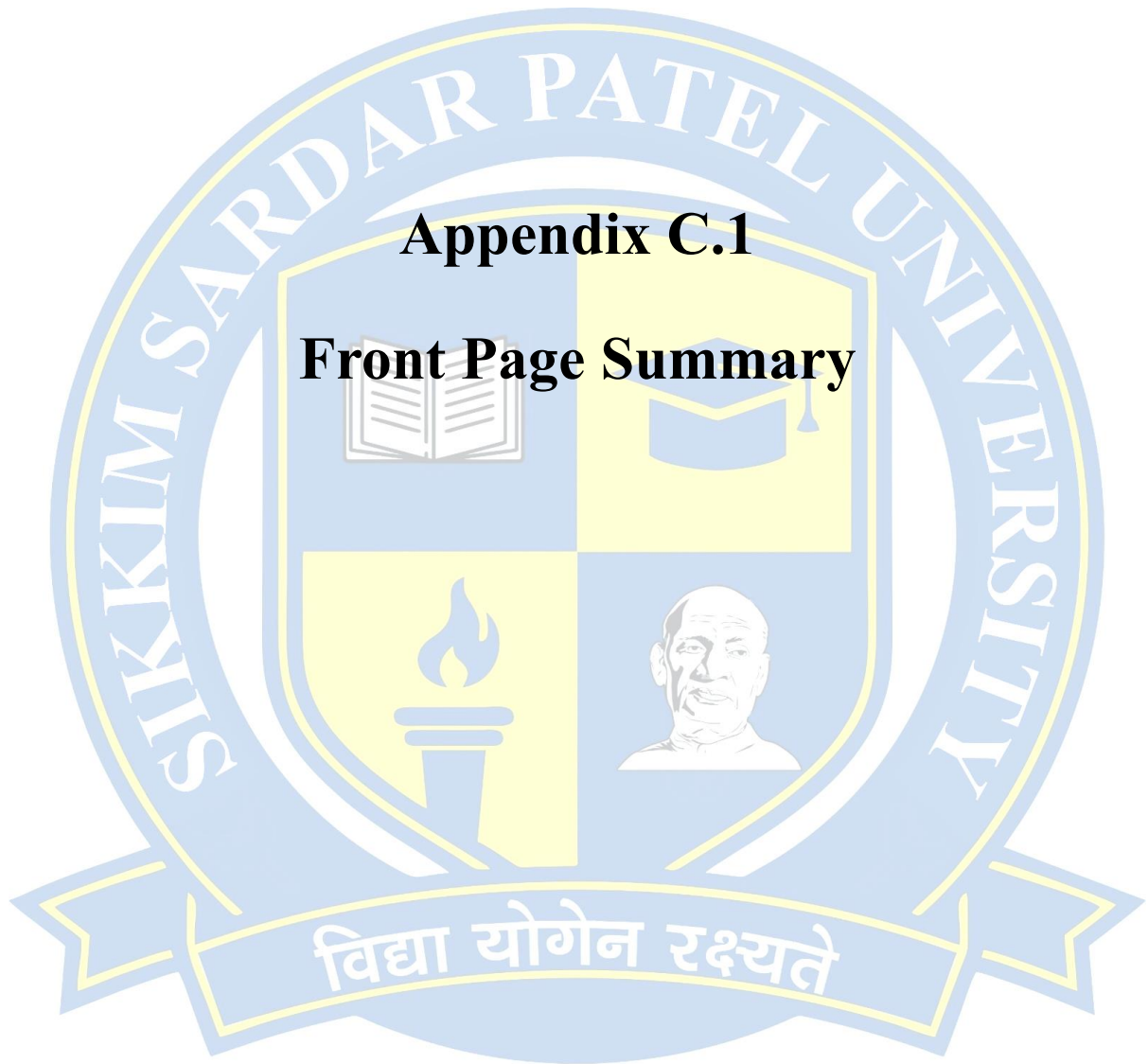
..... (TITLE)

© Copyright [Year & Name of the Candidate]

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(Chairperson, DRC)



Appendix C.1

Front Page Summary

.....(TITLE)

A

Summary

Submitted in Partial Fulfilment of the
Requirements for the Degree of

Doctor of Philosophy
in.....

By

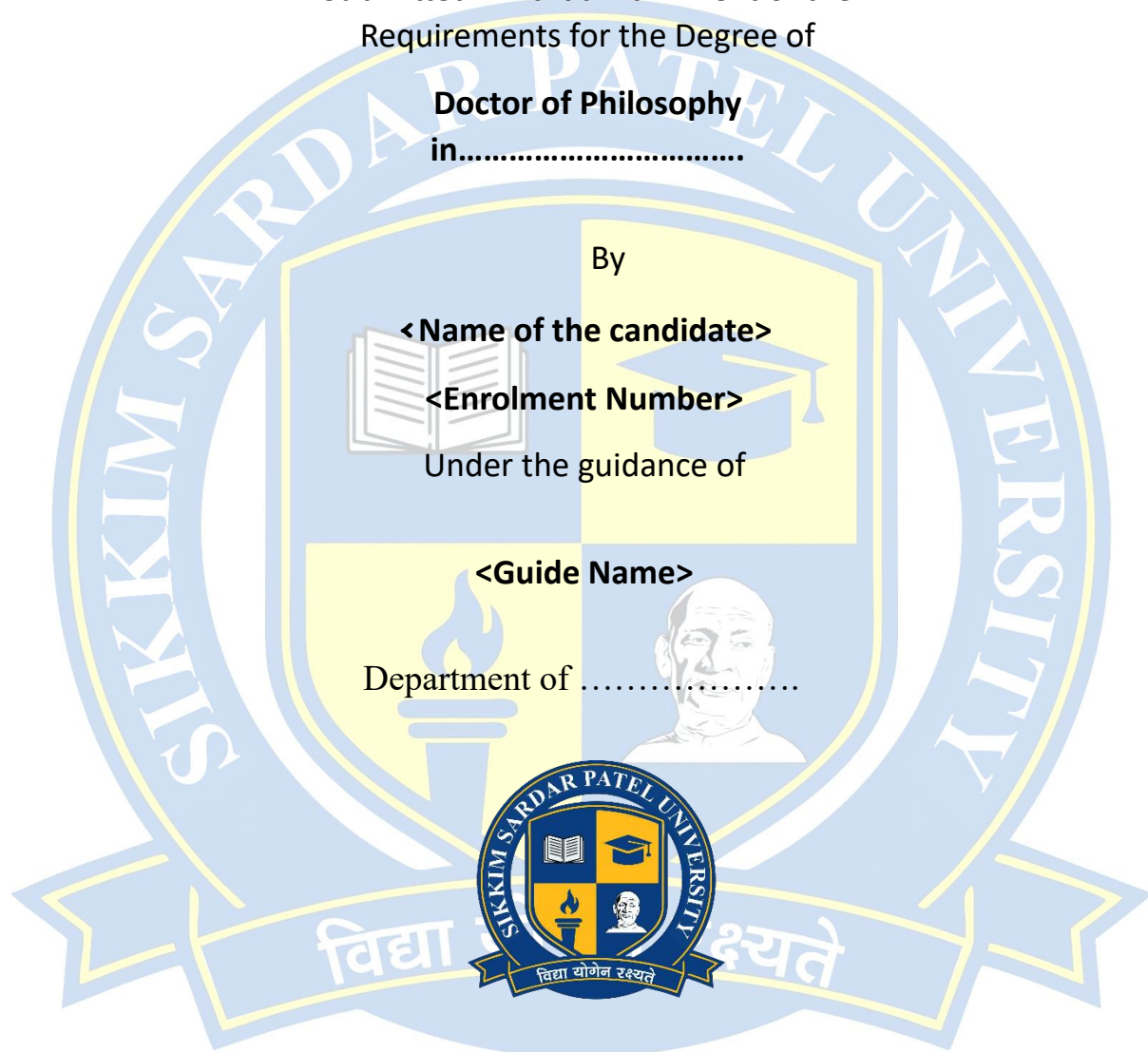
<Name of the candidate>

<Enrolment Number>

Under the guidance of

<Guide Name>

Department of



SIKKIM SARDAR PATEL UNIVERSITY

PAKYONG, SIKKIM, INDIA

Year



Appendix C.2

Declaration by Candidate



SIKKIM SARDAR PATEL UNIVERSITY PAKYONG, SIKKIM, INDIA

Declaration by the Candidate

I, <Name of Student>, declare that the Summary entitled <Thesis Title> is my own work conducted under the supervision of <Guide Name>, Department of <Subject>, Sikkim Sardar Patel University, Pakyong, Sikkim, India approved by Departmental Research Advisory Committee.

I further declare that I have put in more than 2.5 years of attendance with the Supervisor.

It is a bona fide record of original work carried out under the supervision of my research faculties and has not been submitted in full or part to any other university or institute for degree or diploma. Further, it is certified that this Summary is plagiarism free and proof has been submitted.

<Student's Name>

Enrolment #

Date:

(Supervisor)

(Chairperson, DRC)