Ph.D. REGULATIONS
SRM INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
2017

1. DEFINITIONS AND NOMENCLATURE

In the Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires,

(i) "SRMIST" means SRM Institute of Science and Technology

(ii) "Programme" means Doctoral Programme leading to the award of Ph.D. in Engineering and Technology / Science and Humanities / Medical and Health Sciences.

(iii) DRCC means "Department Research Co-ordination Committee".

(iv) "Chairperson" means the Head of the DRCC.

(v) "Supervisor" means any faculty member of SRMIST who has been recognized by SRMIST to supervise the research scholars.

(vi) "Doctoral Committee" means a Committee constituted by SRMIST for each Scholar to monitor the progress of his/her research work.

(vii) "Research Co-ordinator" means Head of the Institution/ Department/Organization of the Part-time (Ext.) scholar where he/she is employed.

(viii) "Scholar" means any candidate admitted by SRMIST either under Full-time or Part-time category for pursuing research for the award of Ph.D. degree of SRMIST.

(ix) "Course" means a theory subject/a practical subject of PG programme/a directed study prescribed by the Doctoral Committee for the scholar to undergo as a part of the Ph.D. Programme.

2. CATEGORIES OF Ph.D. CANDIDATES

There shall be three categories of Ph.D. candidates.

(i) Full Time candidates: All candidates who pursue full time research in SRMIST shall belong to this category.

(ii) Part Time (Internal) candidates: All candidates employed in SRMIST who pursue part time research in SRMIST shall belong to this category.

(iii) Part Time (External) candidates: All candidates working in Industrial units, Colleges, Government departments, Research organizations or other Institutions, sponsored for pursuing Ph.D. Programmes in SRMIST while continuing to serve in their respective Institutions/ organizations which are recognized as the Research Centers of SRMIST shall belong to this category. They shall pursue research in their place of employment and /or in this SRMIST.

3. ELIGIBILITY

3.1 Two years of Master's degree or a professional degree declared equivalent to the Master's degree by the corresponding statutory regulatory body, with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade 'B' in the UGC 7-point scale (or an equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed) or an equivalent degree 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 for the purpose of assessing, accrediting or assuring quality and standards of educational institutions.

3.2 Candidates who have cleared the M.Phil. course work with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade 'B' in the UGC 7-point scale (or an equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed) and successfully completing the M.Phil. Degree shall be legible to proceed to do research work leading to the Ph. D. Degree in the same Institution.

3.3 A relaxation of 5% of marks, or an equivalent relaxation of grade, may be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/ differently- abled.

4. DURATION OF THE PROGRAMME

The duration of the programme and the time for submission of thesis are counted from the date of provisional registration.

4.1 All Ph.D. programmes shall be for a minimum duration of three years, including course work and a maximum of five years for Full time scholars and a maximum of six years for Part time scholars.

4.2 Part Time (Internal/External): Part time Ph.D. programme is allowed provided all the conditions mentioned in the extant Ph.D. regulations are met.

4.3 Under extraordinary circumstances if the candidate fails to submit the thesis within the maximum period, further extension of the period for a maximum of two years may be granted by the Vice Chancellor, on the recommendations of the Doctoral Committee, Director of concerned Faculty and Director (Research).

After the expiry of the maximum period including the extension granted, a candidate will be permitted to Re-register as per the following regulations.

(i) For those candidates who want to re-register under the same supervisor on the same area of research, the earlier Doctoral Committee and the course works completed will hold good.

(ii) For those candidates who want to re-register with a different supervisor on a different area of research will be subjected to the regulations applicable for the fresh candidates.

(iii) If the area of research is the same, the new Doctoral Committee will decide whether the earlier course works completed can be considered for exemption or not.

4.4 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 once in the entire duration of Ph.D. for up to 240 days.

5. ADMISSION PROCEDURE

(i) The number of available seats in the various specializations under different disciplines will be determined well in advance depending on the number of available Research Supervisors and other academic and physical facilities available, keeping in mind the norms regarding the scholar- supervisor ratio (as indicated in Para 6.2. iii), laboratory, library and such other facilities and will be notified in SRMIST website and through advertisement.

(ii) The candidates desirous of pursuing Ph.D. degree shall submit the application in the prescribed form through proper channel wherever applicable, **before 31st March/30th September**, each year to the Director (Research). The application form and the necessary details are available in SRMIST website.

(iii) The applications received will be sent to the respective Faculty Directors who will forward the same to the Chairpersons of the Department Research Coordination Committee (DRCC) of the departments. The DRCC will consist of all the recognized supervisors in the department and a recognized supervisor from another department of the SRMIST nominated by the respective faculty Directors. If the Head of the department is a recognized supervisor he/she will be the Chairperson. If not, he/she will nominate one of the recognized supervisors in the department as the Chairperson of DRCC. In Schools, the Dean of the School will be the Chairperson. The DRCC shall screen the applications and conduct the Entrance Test.

(iv) The Entrance test need not be conducted for those students who qualify UGC-NET (including JRF)/UGC-CSIR NET (including JRF)/SLET/GATE/teacher fellowship holder.

(v) The DRCC shall admit candidates by a two stage process through:

1. An Entrance Test shall be qualifying with qualifying marks as 50%. The syllabus of the Entrance Test shall consist of 50% of research methodology and 50% shall be subject specific. The Entrance Test shall be conducted at the Centre(s) notified in advance.

2. An interview/*viva-voce* to be organized by the DRCC when the candidates are required to discuss their research interest/area through a presentation before the Department Research Coordination Committee. The interview/*viva voce* shall also consider the following aspects, viz. whether:

   2.1 the candidate possesses the competence for the proposed research;
   2.2 the research work can be suitably undertaken at the Institution/College;
   2.3 the proposed area of research can contribute to new/additional knowledge.

(vi) The allocation of Research Supervisor for a selected research scholar shall be decided by the DRCC concerned depending on the number of scholars per Research Supervisor, the available specialization among the Supervisors and research interests of the scholars as indicated by them at the time of interview/*viva voce*.

(vii) The respective DRCC will forward the list of selected candidates along with the applications of all the candidates to the Director (Research) through the Directors of the respective faculties.

(viii) The Director (Research) will seek the approval of the Vice-Chancellor for the provisional registration of the selected candidates.

(ix) The Candidates whose registration has been approved by the Vice Chancellor shall be provisionally admitted to the Ph.D. Programme by the Director (Research) with intimation to the concerned Faculty Director, HOD, supervisor, the candidate, and the sponsoring institution, if any.

(x) On receipt of the Provisional registration of the candidates, the supervisors of the students shall recommend a panel of Six names for forming the Doctoral Committee for their respective students and send the same to the respective Faculty Directors through the respective Heads of the Departments. The Faculty Director shall form the Doctoral Committee as in Para 9 below, get the approval of the Vice-Chancellor and then communicate the same to the Director (Research) for record and to the respective supervisors through the respective Heads of the departments for further action.

(xi) The date of provisional registration shall be of 1st of July or 2nd of January of each year.

(xii) SRMIST shall maintain the list of all the Ph.D. registered scholars on its website on year-wise basis. The list shall include the name of the registered candidate, topic of his/her research, name of his/her supervisor/co-supervisor, date of enrolment/registration.

6. ALLOCATION OF RESEARCH SUPERVISOR:

6.1 Recognition of Supervisors

Recognition of Supervisor for guiding research work will be accorded by the Vice Chancellor, on application to the Director (Research) through proper channel in the prescribed format with the recommendation of a subject expert identified by the Director of the concerned faculty.

Only a full time regular teacher of the concerned SRMIST can act as a supervisor.

(i) Any Professor of SRMIST with at least five research publications in indexed journals with SNIP/ IF > 1 in the last 5 years may be recognized as a research supervisor. Any Associate Professor with a Ph.D. degree with at least 3 publications in indexed journals with SNIP/ IF > 1 in the last 3 years and a minimum of two years of research or teaching experience after acquiring Ph.D. degree may be recognized as a research supervisor. Any Assistant Professor of SRMIST with a Ph.D. degree and at least two research publications in indexed journals with SNIP/IF > 1 in the last 3 years and a minimum of two years of research or teaching experience after acquiring Ph.D. degree may be recognized as Research Supervisor. All publications mentioned above must be in approved journals list available in SRMIST website.

(ii) A research supervisor without Ph.D. qualification in Medical Sciences should have not less than 15 years of teaching and research experience after obtaining his/her Post Graduate qualification and shall also have not less than 10 years of Post Graduate teaching experience as a faculty member with a minimum of two publications in the relevant or allied areas of research in indexed journals with SNIP/IF >1 in the last 3 years.

(iii) All the supervisors must have been active researchers during the past five years. In areas/disciplines where there is no or only a limited number of indexed journals, SRMIST may relax the above condition for recognition of a faculty as Research Supervisor with reasons recorded in writing. The minimum impact factor (IF) requirements may be somewhat relaxed by the Vice Chancellor for humanities, social sciences, and other areas where a rich research culture has not yet been established.

(iv) The external supervisors are not allowed. However, Co-Supervisor can be allowed in inter-disciplinary areas from other departments of the same institute or from other related institutions with the approval of the Vice Chancellor.

6.2 Allocation of Supervisors

(i) The allocation of Research Supervisor for a selected research scholar shall be decided by the DRCC concerned depending on the number of scholars per Research Supervisor, the available specialization among the Supervisors and research interests of the scholars as indicated by them at the time of interview/*viva voce*.

(ii) In case of topics which are of inter-disciplinary nature where the Department concerned feels that the expertise in the DRCC 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/College/Institution on such terms and conditions as may be specified and agreed upon by the consenting Institutions/Colleges.

(iii) A Research Supervisor/Co-supervisor who is a Professor, at any given point of time, can guide up to three (3) M.Phil. and six (6) Ph.D. scholars. An Associate Professor as a Research Supervisor can guide up to a maximum of two (2) M.Phil. and four (4) Ph.D. scholars and an Assistant Professor as a Research Supervisor can guide up to a maximum of one (1) M.Phil. and three (3) Ph.D. scholars. Guiding research scholars is a significant investment of ones time. Care must be taken before accepting doctoral scholars considering the load on hand.

(iv) 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 SRMIST 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 Supervisor and the institution for the part of research already done.

7 . SUPERVISORS

(i) All Ph.D. candidates are required to work under the guidance of a recognized Supervisor from SRMIST.

(ii) The part time (external) candidates shall be required to have, in addition to a Research Supervisor from the respective faculty of SRMIST, a recognized Co- supervisor/Research coordinator from the institution/organization/department where he/she is employed, who is responsible to provide all necessary resources and help to complete the research work in a time bound manner. The institution /organization/department where the candidate will pursue his/her research work should be recognized as a research centre by SRMIST.

(iii) When a supervisor of a candidate happens to be away from SRMIST, for more than 6 months, he/she may continue to guide the candidate, but a supervisor belonging to the same faculty of SRMIST shall be officially nominated as a Co-supervisor by the DRCC of the department and forwarded through proper channel to the Vice Chancellor for approval.

(iv) If the supervisor leaves SRMIST, he/she may be permitted to continue as a supervisor for his/her students depending upon the availability of the individual, subject to the approval of the Vice Chancellor. Otherwise a new supervisor belonging to the same faculty of SRMIST, officially nominated by the Research Coordination Committee of the department will be appointed as the Supervisor after obtaining necessary approval from the Vice Chancellor.

8. RECOGNITION OF RESEARCH CENTERS

Various National and Regional Laboratories / Institutions / Organizations / Industrial Establishments/ Industries recognized by DSIR are eligible to admit candidates for Ph.D. under SRMIST provided they possess recognition from SRMIST. Other Institutions desirous of getting recognition must apply to SRMIST for securing recognition as Centers of Research. SRMIST will get these institutions assessed through a committee before awarding the recognition, wherever necessary as per the guidelines approved by the Doctoral Committee.

9. DOCTORAL COMMITTEE AND ITS FUNCTIONS

The following members shall constitute the Doctoral Committee as approved by the Vice-Chancellor.

(i) The Supervisors (Convener)

(ii) Two External experts selected by the Director of the respective faculty from a panel of six experts recommended by the Supervisors from the academia/Industries / R&D organizations.

(iii) The Co-supervisor, if any.

(iv) In case of Part time external candidates, the Co- Supervisor/Research coordinator from the organization where he/she is employed.

(v) An expert in the allied areas of research from SRMIST, if required.

(vi) Chairperson of DRCC of the concerned department.

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.

10. COURSE WORK

All candidates admitted to the Ph.D. programme shall be required to complete the course work prescribed by the Doctoral Committee during the initial one or two semesters.

(a) For Engineering and Technology /Architecture

(i) The research scholars should successfully complete a minimum of **four** courses (minimum of 12 credits) prescribed by the Doctoral Committee and approved by the concerned Boards of Studies.

(ii) A minimum of four credits shall be assigned to one or more courses on Research Methodology with a minimum of four credits which could cover areas such as quantitative methods, computer applications, research ethics and review of published research in the relevant field, training, field work, etc.

(iii) The other courses may be special courses decided by the Doctoral Committee relating to the area of research of the candidate.

(b) For Science and Humanities and Medical and Health Sciences

(i) All candidates shall complete **three** courses (minimum of 9 credits) prescribed by the Doctoral Committee and approved by the concerned Boards of Studies.

(ii) The courses shall be (i) Research methodology for the subject (ii) A background subject related to his/her Ph.D. research (iii) An advanced subject in the area of research.

(iii) In the case of candidates with M.Phil. degree, the course work on Research Methodology may be exempted.by the Doctoral Committee.

10.1. Directed Course: The directed course is done under the guidance of the Supervisor. For the internal evaluation there should be the following two components.

i.	5 Seminars	-	15 Marks
ii.	3 Tests		15 Marks
	Total		30 Marks

The syllabus for the directed course is assigned to the above components in such a way that the entire syllabus is covered. The schedule for the course may be prepared by the Supervisor who teaches the course in the format given below and may be submitted to the Controller of Examination well in advance.

Course Code & Title   :
Name of the Supervisor   :
Department   :

Sl.No.	Component	Syllabus	Date

1	Seminar - 1	From unit 1	
2	Seminar – 2	From unit 2	
3	Seminar – 3	From unit 3	
4	Seminar – 4	From unit 4	
5	Seminar – 5	From unit 5	
6	Test – 1	Covering Units - 1 & 2	
7	Test – 2	Covering Units - 3 & 4	
8	Test – 3	Covering All the Units	

Signature   *Signature*
Head of the Department   *Supervisor*

10.2. For each of the courses, the maximum internal mark awarded is 30 marks. All the candidates have to appear for an external (Semester) examination in each subject conducted by the Controller of examinations for 70 marks. The passing minimum is 35 marks in the semester examination. The overall passing minimum is 55 marks.

Letter Grades and Grade Points (GP)

Based on the performance in each subject, the student is awarded a final letter grade. The letter grades and the corresponding grade points are as follows.

Letter Grade	Grade Points	Range of Marks
O (Outstanding)	10	95-100
A+ (Excellent)	9	90-94
A (Very Good)	8	85-89
B+ (Good)	7	75-84
B (Above Average)	6	65-74
C (Average)	5	55-64
P (Pass)	4	50-54
F (Fail)	0	<50 Failure due to insufficient marks in the course
Ab (Absent)	0	Failure due to non-appearance in the examination

Ph.D. scholar has to obtain a minimum of 55% of marks or its equivalent grade in the UGC 7-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. A scholar who gets less than C grade in a course work, he/she has to redo that course.

11. COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION

(i) A research scholar shall take a comprehensive examination after the completion of two semesters of his/her research programme but before the completion of four semesters. The comprehensive examination is mandatory.

(ii) The comprehensive examination shall be in the form of written and/or oral as recommended by the Doctoral Committee.

(iii) Comprehensive examination shall be conducted by a panel of examiners which consists of the members of the Doctoral Committee along with one external examiner as recommended by the supervisors and forwarded through proper channel and approved by the Vice Chancellor.

(iv) The Supervisor shall intimate the research scholar sufficiently in advance, the scope of the examination and other relevant details.

(v) If the performance of the research scholar in the comprehensive examination is satisfactory, his/her provisional registration shall be confirmed. If the performance is unsatisfactory, he/she shall be given one more opportunity to appear for the examination within six months of the first examination. In case, the research scholar fails to successfully complete the comprehensive examination within the prescribed time limit, his/her provisional registration shall be cancelled by SRMIST.

12. SEMESTER REGISTRATION

All Research scholars whose registration for research degree is in force, are required to report in-person to the Supervisor each semester on the stipulated date till their submission of thesis, in the prescribed registration form and the same shall be forwarded to the Director (Research) through the Head of the department and the Director of the respective Faculty.

13. MONITORING THE PROGRESS OF CANDIDATES

(i) A research scholar shall appear before the Doctoral Committee once in six months to make a presentation of the progress of his/her work for evaluation and further guidance. The six monthly progress reports shall be submitted by the Doctoral Committee to the Director (Research) with a copy to the research scholar. The Doctoral Committee meeting may be conducted through Skype/video conferencing if a DC member is not able to attend the meeting.

(ii) In case, the progress of the research scholar is unsatisfactory, the Doctoral Committee shall record the reasons for the same and suggest corrective measures. If the research scholar fails to implement these corrective measures, the Doctoral Committee may recommend to the respective Faculty Director with specific reasons for cancellation of the registration of the research scholar.

14. CANCELLATION OF REGISTRATION

(i) The registration of a research scholar whose progress is not satisfactory or who has not reported in person to the supervisor for any one semester is liable to be cancelled by SRMIST.

(ii) The registration of a research scholar who has not submitted his/her thesis by the end of the prescribed /extended period as provided in the Regulations will be cancelled by SRMIST.

15. SUBMISSION OF SYNOPSIS

(i) Upon satisfactory completion of the research work and after the publication of at least two research papers in indexed journals approved by SRMIST and making two paper presentations in conferences/seminars, the research scholar is permitted to submit the synopsis of the Ph.D. work to the Controller of Examinations. The synopsis could be submitted after two years and nine months from the date of registration.

(ii) Prior to submission of the synopsis, the student shall make a pre-Ph.D. presentation in the Department that may be open to all faculty members and research students, for getting feedback and comments, which may be suitably incorporated into the synopsis and thesis under the advice of the supervisor.

(iii) After the approval of the research work reported in the synopsis by the Doctoral Committee, the Supervisor shall forward 6 hard copies of the synopsis of the proposed thesis, with a soft copy on CD to the Controller of Examinations along with a panel of at least six names (three from India, outside the State of SRMIST campus and three from abroad) as examiners for adjudication of the Ph.D. thesis and a panel of three Indian examiners for the viva voce examination.

16. SUBMISSION OF THESIS

(i) The research scholar shall, within six months of submission of the synopsis, prepare thesis in accordance with the format and specification prescribed. The thesis shall report, in an organized and scholarly fashion, highlighting the original contribution made in the research work of the candidate.

The thesis should be submitted after the completion of the minimum period and before the completion of the maximum period of the Ph.D. programme.

(ii) 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 after testing the thesis with a Plagiarism software recommended by SRMIST 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.

(iii) He/She shall submit 6 hard copies of the thesis along with a soft copy on CD to the Controller of Examinations through proper channel under the intimation to the Director (Research). Under no circumstances, the submission of thesis shall be delayed except under special circumstances, where an extension of three months may be granted with the recommendation of the Doctoral Committee by the Vice-Chancellor.

17. THESIS ADJUDICATION

(i) The Ph.D. thesis submitted by a research scholar shall be evaluated by his/her Research Supervisor and at least two external examiners nominated by the Vice Chancellor from among the panel of examiners recommended by the Supervisor who are not in employment of SRMIST, of whom one examiner should be from outside the country and another examiner from outside the state (where SRMIST campus is located). The Vice Chancellor, if he deems it necessary, may also nominate examiners from outside the panel.

(ii) The Controller of Examination shall take such steps as deemed necessary to enable the reports of the examiners to be received as quickly as possible.

(iii) In the case of undue delay in receiving the report from the examiner, the Controller of examination shall refer the thesis to the second examiner selected by the Vice Chancellor, after waiting for three months and ensuring that the first examiner is not going to respond within a reasonable period of time.

(iv) The examiner shall include in his report an overall assessment placing the thesis in one of the following categories:

a) Recommended for the award of the degree of Doctor of Philosophy: Commended / highly commended.

b) Recommended that the candidate revises the thesis as suggested in the report and the revised thesis be referred to the Supervisor for verification.

c) Recommended that the candidate revises the thesis as suggested in the report and the revised thesis be sent to the examiner for revaluation.

d) Not recommended.

The examiner shall enclose a report of 200 to 300 words, indicating the standard attained in case (a), the nature of revision in case (b) or (c) and the reasons for rejection in case (d)

(v) On receipt of the reports from the examiners, the following procedure shall be adopted:

a) If all the examiners recommend the award of the degree, the thesis shall be provisionally accepted. Any minor revision, modification, etc., suggested by the examiners shall be carried out before the oral examination.

b) If any examiner recommends revision of the thesis, the candidate shall be permitted to revise and resubmit the thesis within 6 months with the approval of the Doctoral Committee. The revised thesis shall be referred to the same examiner, if the examiner has insisted SRMIST to send the thesis back to him/her after revision for offering his/her final recommendation on the thesis. In such a case the examiner should offer his/her comments for the second time either as recommended for the award or rejection. In case, the examiner did not insist on sending the thesis back to him, then SRMIST may refer the revised thesis to the Supervisor for verification.

c) If one external examiner recommends the award of the degree while the other recommends rejection, then the thesis shall be referred to a third examiner to be nominated by the Vice Chancellor. If the third examiner recommends the award, the thesis shall be provisionally accepted. Otherwise, the thesis shall be rejected and the registration of the candidate cancelled.

d) If both the external examiners recommend rejection, the thesis shall be rejected and the registration of the candidate be cancelled.

e) When the commendation of the examiner on the revised thesis is not as stipulated in Clause 17 (v) (b) above or in the case of any dispute, the Vice Chancellor, if he deems it necessary, shall refer the thesis and the comments to a committee constituted by the Vice Chancellor for this purpose.

f) Individual cases not covered by the above regulations shall be referred to the Vice Chancellor for his final decision.

18. PUBLIC VIVA VOCE EXAMINATION

(i) The public *viva-voce* of the research scholar to defend the thesis shall be conducted by a board of examiners to be constituted by the Vice Chancellor. Only if the evaluation reports of the external examiner on the thesis are satisfactory and include a specific recommendation for conducting the *viva-voce* examination.

(ii) The public *viva-voce* examination board shall include:
   a) The examiner of the thesis from India or if the Indian examiner of the thesis is not available, a member from the panel of Indian examiners already recommended by the Supervisor.
   b) An examiner from the panel of oral examiners already approved.
   c) Supervisor of the candidate.

(iii) The convener of the Doctoral committee will be the Convener of Oral examination board and the oral examination shall be conducted as "Open defense type" examination.

(iv) If the performance of the candidate in the Oral examination as reported by the Oral examination board to be NOT SATISFACTORY, the candidate may opt to reappear for the Oral examination at a later date (not later than six months from the date of the first Oral Examination). On the second occasion, the Oral examination board shall include one more examiner nominated by the Vice Chancellor.

(v) If the performance of the candidate in the oral examination on the second occasion also is reported to be NOT SATISFACTORY, the Vice Chancellor, if he deems it necessary, shall refer the remarks of the Oral examination board, along with the thesis and comments of the examiners, to a committee constituted by the Vice Chancellor for this purpose and decide. The decision of the Vice Chancellor shall be final.

(vi) SRMIST shall develop appropriate methods so as to complete the entire process of evaluation of Ph.D. thesis within a period of six months from the date of submission of the thesis.

19. AWARD OF Ph.D. DEGREE

If the performance of the research scholar in the Oral examination is satisfactory, he/she will be awarded Ph.D. degree on the recommendation of the Academic council and with the approval of the Board of Management of SRMIST.

20. PUBLICATION OF THESIS

(i) After the viva voce examination the candidate shall submit a copy of the thesis in CD ROM duly certified by the Supervisor that all the corrections have been duly carried out as suggested by the examiners, if any, for SRMIST ARCHIVES.

(ii) SRMIST 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.

(iii) Papers arising out of the thesis may be published by the candidate. However, the thesis as a whole shall not be published by the candidate without the specific approval of SRMIST.

21. CHANGE OF REGULATIONS

The Academic Council of SRMIST may revise, amend or change the regulations from time to time.