

Guidelines
for
Vidyavachaspati (D.Litt.) Programme



Central Sanskrit University

56-57, Institutional Area, Janakpuri D-Block, New Delhi - 110058

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1. Introduction

As per the recommendations of the Sanskrit Commission 1956, the **Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan** was established by the Government of India in the year 1970. Its main objective is to promote, propagate and preserve Sanskrit education, teaching, and research throughout the country. It was fully funded by the Ministry of Human Resource Development (now Ministry of Education), Government of India. Keeping in view its contribution in the field of promotion and dissemination of traditional Sanskrit education, Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan was accorded the status of Deemed University on 7th May 2002. The erstwhile Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan (Deemed University) has been passed by the Parliament as **Central Sanskrit University, Delhi** under the **Central Sanskrit Universities Act 2020** (No. 5 of 2020). With the approval of His Excellency the President of India, it started functioning as Central Sanskrit University, Delhi with effect from 30th April 2020.

The university is a member of the All-India Association of Universities and has been accorded 'A' category by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC).

Introduction of D.Litt. Programme

The facilities of study from Prakshastri to Acharya/Vidyavaridhi (Ph.D.) are available in its campuses located in different parts of the country, and the applicants who are pursuing for Vidyavachaspati (D.Litt.) are most invited and facilitated to apply and complete their Post-Doctoral Research Work in Central Sanskrit University, Delhi. The particular programme is available in Head Office of the university.

As a leading Sanskrit University of the world, Central Sanskrit University runs a supreme degree programme Vidyavachaspati (D.Litt.). The degree of Vidyavachaspati (D.Litt.) of the Central Sanskrit University shall be conferred on the candidates who fulfil the requirements as specified in these guidelines.

2. Eligibility

- 2.1 A candidate seeking admission to Vidyavachaspati (D.Litt.) programme of the Central Sanskrit University, must have pursued outstanding research in the concerned discipline, and has the minimum qualifications required for admission as mentioned further.
- 2.2 The candidate applying for Vidyavachaspati must have obtained a Ph.D. or an equivalent degree from a university recognised by UGC, in the concerned discipline.
- 2.3 The candidate must have at least ten years teaching, Research, Administration, or as professional experience after obtaining Vidyavaridhi/ Ph.D. degree or he/she should be an established scholar in that partial field.
- 2.4 The candidate must have published minimum ten research papers in UGC CARE/Listed Journals or peer-reviewed/reputed journals in IKS/Indology field related to the proposed area of post-doctoral research i.e., Vidyavachaspati (D.Litt.).
- 2.5 In an exceptional case, the Board of Deans may recommend any person who has contributed in significant way to the knowledge. He/she will be considered for the award for the work authored/published by him/her.

3. Application Process

- 3.1 A candidate, who is seeking admission to Vidyavachaspati (D.Litt.) programme and who is eligible for admission in accordance with above mentioned qualification shall apply to the **Controller of Examination** by submitting the following documents/enclosures:
 - i. A biodata giving the details of all essential educational qualifications, fields of specialization, research experience, academic distinctions, etc., in prescribed format.
 - ii. A brief detail of his/her recent research work as Vidyavaridhi (Ph.D.), in about 1000 words on the subject relevant to the discipline in which he/she has applied for admission to Vidyavachaspati (D.Litt.) programme, showing how far his/ her work is original and is contributory to the advancement of knowledge.

- iii. Five Copies of detailed synopsis (Approx. word limit 3000) on the proposed title of post-doctoral research clearly describing and elaborating the originality and applicability of prospective research work as **Annexure I**
 - iv. List of publications – Ten research papers published in UGC CARE/Listed journals in the concerned area applying for Vidyavachaspati (D.Litt.). Five out of ten research papers should be published after awarded Vidyavaridhi (Ph.D.)
 - v. Self-attested copies of certificates in support of qualifications and experience.
- 2.3 The Controller of Examinations shall send the application of the candidate to the concerned committee within prescribed time after the last date of the submission of application.

4. Registration Process

- 4.1 The Post-Doctoral Research Committee (PDRC) shall scrutinize the applications of the candidates and shall recommend the eligible candidates for admission, to the Academic section of the University.
- 4.2 The PDRC shall also recommend the names of the Advisors of the candidates to the Academic section for communicating to the concerned candidates.
- 4.3 The Dean (Research) shall issue the letter of admission to each candidate recommended by the PDRC.
- 4.4 Within one month after the receipt of the letter of admission, the candidate shall pay the prescribed fee and pursue for admission as per rules. The candidates shall get registered in the university by applying through registration form.
- 4.5 If the candidate is not an alumnus of this University, he/she shall get enrolled before the submission of the thesis.

5. Schools of Studies for Vidyavachaspati (D.Litt.)

SN	School	Disciplines/Departments
1.	School of Veda-Vedanga & Vadic Science	1. Vyakarana Shastra 2. Siddhant and Phalit Jyotish 3. Veda/Paurohitya/Karmakanda 4. Vedanga & Veda Bhashya
2.	School of Education	5. Shikshashastra
3.	School of Language, Literature and Culture	6. Sahitya 7. Puranetihasa 8. English 9. Indian Languages – Hindi, Bangla, Odiya, Nepali, Dogri, Malayalama, Kannada, Marathi, Maithili and other regional language 10. Natyashastra
4.	School of Shastric Knowledge System	11. Dharmashastra 12. Manuscriptology and Palaeography
5.	School of Darshan	13. Bauddha Darshan & Pali 14. Vedanta 15. Nyaya 16. Darshan 17. Jain Darshan & Prakrit 18. Mimansa 19. Sankhya Yoga Darshan
6.	School of Contemporary Knowledge Systems &	20. Social Science – Political Science, Economics, History, Sociology, Geography & Any other Discipline

	Humanities Department of	21. Commerce, Business & Public Administration
7.	School of Multidisciplinary Science and Technology	22. Computer Science & Natural Language Processing 23. Linguistic and Translation Studies
8.	School of Yogic Science & Holistic Health Practices	24. Yogic Sciences & Spirituality 25. Ayurveda & Naturopathy

5.1 Interdisciplinary Research - As per the provisions of National Education Policy (Para 11.6), CSU is facilitating the move towards high-quality holistic and multidisciplinary education and research. This will be encouraged by multidisciplinary post-doctoral research work with emphasis on cross-disciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches.

6. Priorities and Thrust Areas for Research

- The CSU will identify the priorities and thrust areas of research in consultation with the respective various institutional committees, and other concerned councils. The priorities and thrust areas of research need to be conducted systematically along with the details of facilities, availability of funding/scholarship/incentives/fellowships and infrastructure available for undertaking research in these areas.
- The CSU will prioritise the research regarding **Research Projects, Publications, Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), and Manuscripts Repository.**
- The following are the priorities and thrust areas, as well these are subjects to review from time to time:
 1. **Manuscripts Editing and Preparation of Critical Editions**
 - Critical editing under editing principles and rules.
 - Critical Review of published and unpublished manuscripts.
 - Preparation of critical edition of a single available manuscript.
 - Special editions with translation in Sanskrit, Hindi, English and other language.
 - The Sharing, collecting, purchasing, digitizing, and acknowledging the manuscripts resulting as **IPRs and patents** - all these pursuits will be performed in Ganganath Jha Campus, Prayagraj.
 2. **Indian Knowledge Traditions and their Application**
 - Research on contemporary problems, challenges, and issues in the context of most enriched traditions of Indian Knowledge Traditions.
 - Some Research related to Indian Knowledge Traditions are expected as Scientific and fundamental research engaging in different areas leading to new theories.
 - Research focussing on correlative studies with these concerns and domains of Indian Knowledge Traditions.
 - Research dealing with ancient history, archaeology, museology, Vedic agriculture, traditions of medicines, healthcare, and so on are the top priorities of CSU.
 - **Any theme related with other Shastric discipline** - Interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary research on allied branches of Sanskrit Knowledge System.
 - **Critical discourse analysis of Sanskrit Language** - Analysis of Sanskrit Language with other Indian and foreign languages which is based on growing interdisciplinary research movement

- **Information and Communication Technology based Themes and Areas** - Computational Linguistics and Traditional Studies, Natural Language Processing, Technological Experiments based Research, i.e., development of technological resources for teaching of Sanskrit, Development of Tools, and Software for learning and optimum utilisation of Sanskrit Knowledge System.
- 3. Review of Criticism of Indian Knowledge Traditions**
- Review of Indian Shastric Literature.
 - Evaluation of theory formulations and propagations performed by colonial approaches.
 - Criticism of prior publications and propagations by modern commentators and Scholars.
- 4. Historical, Descriptive and Experimental Research**
- The main focus of educational research should be on National Education Policy 2020. The areas for educational research may be accepted as National Curriculum Framework, New Curricula, Pedagogical Experiments, and enhancement of Sanskrit Teaching-Learning Practices, which are directly interconnected with National Education Policy 2020.
 - The educational research must deal with new paradigm shifting towards medium of mother language and its impact on teaching-learning practices that also result in new possibilities and innovations in Sanskrit Education.
 - The historical educational research should deal with ancient Indian history and educational systems of India. The qualitative research methodology should be adopted to study these educational phenomena.
 - The descriptive survey-based research focussed the trends, challenges, problems, and issues of Sanskrit and Sanskrit Education to understand the cross-cutting socio-cultural aspects.
 - The experimental educational research should deal with teaching methodologies, especially the Indic methods to teach humanities and science subjects. Similarly, some studies to develop Bharatiya research methodologies should be encouraged, recommended, and endorsed.

7. Fee Structure

SN	School	Indian Candidate*	Foreign Candidate*
1.	Application Fee	₹ 2,000	\$ 125
2.	Admission Fee	₹ 10,000	\$ 625
3.	Examination Fee	₹ 50,000	\$ 3000

8. Post-Doctoral Research Committee (PDRC)

8.1 A Post-Doctoral Research Committee shall consist of the following members:

1.	Vice-Chancellor	Chairman
2.	Dean (Academic Affairs)	Member
3.	Dean of the concerned faculty	Member
4.	One or Two Professors from the relevant disciplines, to be nominated by the Vice-Chancellor, out of whom one will act as Advisor of the concerned candidate	Members
5.	Controller of Examinations or his Nominee	Member
6.	Dean (Research)	Member Secretary

- 8.2 A Post-Doctoral Research Committee constituted by the Vice Chancellor shall deal with all the matter connected with the D.Litt. Programme of the university.
- 8.3 The committee shall evaluate of the candidature of the applicant, and the quality of all concerns and recommend the eligibility of applicant for admission.

9. Submission of Thesis

- 9.1 **A Research Work may be nominated by the Dean of concerned school to submit for the award of D.Litt. without prior process of admission. The work may be pre-published and completed manuscript but should be highly intellectual and academic work. In this regard, the fee may be waived off by the Vice Chancellor, Central Sanskrit University, Delhi.**
- 9.2 A candidate, admitted to Vidyavachaspati (D.Litt.) programme in accordance with above mentioned rules, shall deliver a pre-submission seminar in the Department before the submission of the thesis, which shall be arranged by the Advisor of the candidate to apprise the teachers and other research workers of the Department/School of his/her work.
- 9.3 The candidate, within one year from the date of his/her admission and before the completion of two years, shall submit the thesis to the Controller of Examinations as approved by the concerned PDRC, and duly forwarded by its Chairman of the PDRC.
- 9.4 An extension of one year may be granted with special permission from the Vice Chancellor as Chairman of the PDRC.
- 9.5 The candidate shall submit the six-month progress report for assessment, and for continuation of registration, failing which, the admission will be cancelled.
- 9.6 The topic of Vidyavachaspati (D.Litt.) thesis may be related to his/her doctoral work or interdisciplinary area of research but the thesis submitted for Vidyavaridhi (Ph.D.) or any other previous degree shall not form the part of the thesis of Vidyavachaspati (D.Litt.)
- 9.7 The candidate shall submit the thesis as per the following guidelines:
- Five copies of the thesis in hardbound form as per the format given in **Annexure II**.
 - The title page of the thesis shall contain a statement that the thesis has been submitted for the award of Vidyavachaspati (D.Litt.) degree for which the candidate has been admitted.
 - A soft copy in Pen-drive of the Extended Abstract of the thesis.
 - A declaration by the candidate that the thesis has not been submitted for any other degree or diploma, as per the format given in **Annexure III**.
 - A certificate from the Advisor, Head of the Department/Coordinator of the School and the Chairman of the PDRC that the thesis has been submitted for the award of the concerned degree of the University, as per the format given in **Annexure IV**.
 - The thesis shall be in Sanskrit except for the case of specific subject with the permission of Chairmen of PDRC in the English/Hindi.
- 9.8 The work of the candidate shall meet the following conditions to merit the award of the degree:
- It must be a substantial work making a distinct addition to learning in the concerned subject of the discipline.
 - It must be original in the sense of opening up new fields of research, or of making a marked advancement on the results of previous investigations, or of giving a new interpretation of the facts already known.
 - It must be a scholarly work of high quality.
 - It must be the work done after the admission before the submission of the thesis.
 - It must be the work published in reputed journals in the form of research papers and/or published in the form of books/monographs, chapter contribution to books/monographs, etc., out of which at least two must be authored solely by the candidate.

- It must not be the work, which has been previously submitted for a degree or a diploma in this or in any other University.

10. Examination

- 10.1 **Panel of Examiners:** While receiving the thesis of the candidate by the Controller of Examination, the PDRC shall recommend a panel of examiners of four to six (two/three from university and two/three from other higher education institutions) experts in the concerned area of the work submitted.
- 10.2 **Board of Examiners:** On receipt of the panel of the examiners, the Academic Section shall forward the same to the Controller of Examinations, who in turn shall submit it to the Vice-Chancellor for the appointment of the Board of Examiners from the panel. The Board of Examiners shall consist of two members - one member from renowned institutions of India and one scholar with international reputation or international scholar
- 10.3 **Evaluation of Thesis -** The controller of examinations shall get in touch with each examiner to secure acceptance of the examinership. For this purpose, if e-mail address of the examiner is available, he/she shall be contacted through e-mail and the soft copy of the Extended Abstract of the thesis may be sent to him/her, to get his/her consent at the earliest. If however, no information is received from an examiner within a reasonable time, his/her appointment shall be cancelled and a new examiner shall be appointed from the existing panel of examiners.
- 10.4 On receipt of the acceptance from an examiner, the Controller of Examinations shall forward the copy of the thesis to him/her, along with a copy of the regulations relating to the award of the Vidyavachaspati (D.Litt.) degree of this University and take necessary action to get the report of the examiner expeditiously.
- 10.5 The examiners shall be requested to submit their individual reports within two months of the receipt of the thesis.
- 10.6 In case, an examiner does not send his/her report within the above period, a reminder shall be sent to his/her. This shall be followed by a subsequent reminder after a fortnight.
- 10.7 The examiner shall give specific and unambiguous reasons for his/her recommendations. If the thesis is recommended for revision, the examiner may suggest points for improvement of the presented work.
- 10.8 If the thesis is recommended for revision, the candidate shall be required to submit the revised thesis not earlier than six months and not later than one year, from the date of communication of the report to him/her by the University. The candidate shall be required to remit only the Examination fee for submitting the revised thesis.
- 10.9 If the thesis has been recommended for revision, a fresh appointment of examiners shall be made from the existing panel of examiners. If the need be, a fresh panel of examiners may be recommended by the PDRC. The other procedures as per the rules shall be followed for the evaluation of the thesis. However, the Controller of Examinations, along with the revised thesis, shall send the copy (copies) of the recommendation(s) of the examiner(s) who recommended the revision of the thesis.
- 10.10 The examiners who evaluate the revised thesis shall recommend only either the acceptance or the rejection of the thesis and shall not recommend any further revision of the thesis.

11. Award of Thesis

- 11.1 The reports of all the examiners shall be placed before the concerned PDRC. If all the reports are unanimous, recommending the thesis to be accepted for the award of the degree, and if the PDRC considers the case to be fit and proper, it shall recommend it to the Central Research Board for the award of the degree.

- 11.2 After the Post-Doctoral Research Committee approves the thesis for the award of the degree, the candidate concerned may be given the examiners' reports for which he/she shall apply separately.
- 11.3 The year of award of the degree shall be the year of submission of the thesis provided the thesis is accepted without revision. In case of revision, the year of award of the degree shall be the year of submission of the revised thesis.
- 11.4 The degree certificate shall mention the title of the thesis and the name of the concerned Department/School of Studies in which the candidate was admitted.
- 11.5 The Extended Abstract of the approved thesis for the award of the degree shall be published in the "Abstracts of Accepted Theses for the Vidyavachaspati (Doctor of Letters)" of the Central Sanskrit University.
- 11.6 The Academic Section shall send one copy of the thesis duly approved for the award of the degree, for preserving in the Central Library of the University or the other in the departmental/faculty library.

The guidelines for Vidyavachaspati (D.Litt.) programme run by Central Sanskrit University, Delhi deal with significant concerns of research and provides directions for post-doctoral research. In any condition, if there is any contradiction, dispute, issue of conflict, change or any modification, the decisions and directions of Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of Central Sanskrit University, Delhi will be final.

ANNEXURE - I
Application for Admission in Vidyavachaspati (D.Litt.) Programme

To,

The Registrar

Central Sanskrit University
56-57, Institutional Area, D Block, Janakpuri,
New Delhi – 110058

Sir,

I request that my name be registered as a student for the Degree of Vidyavachaspati (D.Litt.) of the Central Sanskrit University, Delhi.

My relevant details are as under:

1. Name of applicant (in Devanagari Script)
2. Name of applicant (in English Capital Letters) with full Postal Address
3. Father's Name/Husband's Name (in case of married women)
4. Enrolment number of the University if any
5. Name of College (affiliated to university) if: employed in it as teacher
6. No. and date of receipt of registration fee
7. Qualification and experience of the candidate as per clause (1) of Ordinance No. 16
- a. Master's Degree taken (attested copy to be enclosed)
- b. Ph. D. Degree taken (attested copy to be encl.)
- c. Date on which awarded (copy of notification degree to be enclosed)
- d. Subject of master's degree
- e. Subject of Ph. D. Degree
- f. College and University
- g. Teaching experience
UG Classes Years
- PG Classes Years
- Administrative Years
- h. Total No. of Published Research Papers in reputed Journals (attested copy to be enclosed)
8. Subject in which he/she proposal to work

9. The Topic of Research
10. Five typed copies of detail Synopsis of this proposed work.
11. Ten Research Papers published (in UGC CARE/Listed Journals only) [Name of the Paper, Name of the Journal, Publisher, Vol./Month/Year, Page No.]
1.
 2.
 3.
 4.
 5.
 6.
 7.
 8.
 9.
 10.

12. Proposed Details

- a. School of Study
- b. Subject
- c. Scheme to be investigated and the purpose of study indicating the original contribution to knowledge which the thesis proposes to make, and which will bring to light material not yet known or used by scholar, or a fresh interpretation of already known facts.
 (10 copies to be enclosed)
- d. If the applicant has already done some work in the subject, he should attach 10 copies giving particulars of it together with copies of papers, if any, published in connection therewith.

Fee paid

Place:

Date:

Yours faithfully,

 (Signature of Applicant)

This is to certify that adequate facilities exist and shall be provided to the candidate if registered. There shall be no supervisor of this candidate and he/she shall have to work independently.

Controller of Examination

.....

(Signature & Seal)

ANNEXURE - II

FORMAT OF THE THESIS

The following format may be normally adopted for the Vidyavachaspati (D.Litt.) thesis:

1. Cover page.
2. Inner cover page.
3. Declaration by the candidate to the effect that the work has not been submitted for any other degree or diploma.
4. Certificate from Chairman of the PDRC.
5. Contents.
6. An Extended Abstract of about 2000 words, describing the research work carried out during the last 5 (five) years (before the date of submission), on the subject relevant to the discipline in which the candidate has applied for the degree, explaining how far the work is original, exemplary and is contributed to the advancement of knowledge. It shall also summarize the relevance of the publications to the specific subject of the thesis being submitted.
7. Reprints of the published work by the candidate, in the relevant subject, in the form of research papers, abstracts of books/monographs, chapter contribution to books/monographs/citations of candidate's work by others.
8. List of publications.
9. A personal profile of the candidate with photograph, not exceeding one page.

ANNEXURE - III
CANDIDATE'S DECLARATION

I,....., declare that this thesis, entitled
“.....” submitted
for the award of the degree of Vidyavachaspati (D.Litt.) of Central Sanskrit University, Delhi has
not been submitted earlier for the award of any degree or diploma of this or any other University.

Date:

Place:

(Signature of the candidate)

ANNEXURE - IV
RECOMMENDATION LETTER

This is to certify that the thesis entitled “.....” has been submitted by is recommended for the award of the degree of Central Sanskrit University, Delhi.

.....
(Signature of the Advisor)

.....
(Signature of the Dean of School)

.....
(Name & Designation)

.....
(Name & Designation)

.....
(Signature of the Chairman of the PDRC)