

CIRCULAR

Sub:- Ph.D. Programme – Compliance with UGC Ph.D. Regulations, 2022 and Kannur University Ph.D. Regulations, 2022 – Continuation of retired faculty members as Research Supervisors – Instructions – Reg.

Ref :- Audit Observation No. 16 (OBS-2527284) dated 18.07.2026

It has been noticed through **Audit Observation No. 16 (OBS-2527284) dated 18.07.2026** of the Principal Accountant General (Audit-I), Kerala, that some retired faculty members are continuing as **Research Supervisors** instead of **Co-supervisors**.

As per **Regulation 6(5) of the UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of Ph.D. Degree) Regulations, 2022**, faculty members having less than three years of service before superannuation shall not be allotted new research scholars. After retirement, they may continue only as **Co-supervisors**, subject to a maximum age of **70 years**, for the research scholars who were already registered under them before retirement.

In order to ensure compliance with the UGC Regulations and the Kannur University Ph.D. Regulations and to avoid difficulties during thesis submission and award of the Ph.D. degree, the following instructions are issued for strict compliance.

1. Retired faculty members shall not continue as **Research Supervisors** after the date of their retirement. They may continue only as **Co-supervisors**, as permitted under the Regulations.
2. Research scholars who are presently under retired Research Supervisors shall, with the help of the Head of the Research Centre/Department and the Department Research Committee, identify a new eligible Research Supervisor and submit the proposal for change of supervisor at the earliest.
3. All recognised Research Supervisors shall, **at least six months before their retirement**, inform their research scholars and the Head of the Research Centre/Department about their retirement and start the process for identifying a new eligible Research Supervisor, wherever required.
4. Heads of University Departments, Heads of Research Centres and Conveners of the Department Research Committees shall ensure that proposals for change of Research Supervisor are forwarded to the Research and Development Cell without delay.
5. Special care shall be taken to ensure that retired teachers are not conducting Research Supervisory activities ignoring the provisions in the UGC Regulations, 2022&Kannur University Ph.D. Regulations, 2022

Heads of University Departments, Heads of Research Centres, DRC Conveners, recognised Research Supervisors and Research Scholars are requested to follow these instructions strictly.



Sd/-

Dr. Anu Augustine

DIRECTOR (Research and Development
Cell)

For Director

To:

- 1.Heads of University Departments
- 2.Heads of Recognised Research Centres
- 3.Conveners, Department Research Committees
- 4.All Recognised Research Supervisors
- 5.Director, Research and Development Cell
- 6.PS to VC
- 7.PA to Registrar

