



HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION

H-9, ISLAMABAD, PAKISTAN, Website: <http://www.hec.gov.pk>

Dr. Shaista Sohail

Executive Director

QAD/NOC/AffiliatedCollege/HEC/2023/302

Dated: January 4, 2023

Subject: Affiliated colleges/Institutions of the universities are not allowed to offer MS/MPhil/Ph.D. or equivalent Programs (level-7 & 8 qualifications per NQF)

Respected Sir/Madam, السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته

This is in continuation of the Higher Education Commission's Letter No. 1-AD/QA/HEC/NOC (Affiliated Colleges)/2016/122 dated; April 13, 2016, which states that universities are not allowed to launch/offer admissions in MS/MPhil or equivalent programs in their affiliated institutions/colleges until and unless HEC approval is obtained. (Copy enclosed). Parent alerts in this regard have also been published in the newspapers.

1. Despite clear instructions from the Higher Education Commission, some universities have advertised admissions in the MS/MPhil or equivalent programmes in affiliated colleges. This violates the HEC instructions, and the university's action has compromised the quality of education. The instructions were issued to the affiliating universities offering sub-standard programs in the affiliated institutions without meeting the minimum standards in terms of relevant qualified permanent/regular PhD Faculty, Research Supervision experience, library and Laboratory facilities, access to the digital library, etc.
2. These violations of the affiliating universities were reported to the HEC Commission on September 07, 2022, for appropriate decision. The HEC Commission has endorsed the earlier decision of HEC and reiterated that the Affiliated Institutions/Colleges of the universities should not be allowed to offer level-7 & 8 i.e., MS/MPhil/PhD or equivalent qualifications.
3. Non-compliance of the Commission policies/guidelines may lead to suspension of the Performance Grant (15%) to such Institutions and their eligibility for additional incentives announced from time to time.
4. Foregoing in view, it is reiterated that all the affiliating universities/higher education institutions are called upon to completely comply with the policies/guidelines/quality standards of the 'Commission' in letter & spirit and refrain from actions that may erode the quality of learning, and good governance.

I am sure, with your continued support, together we can continue to build a better and effective higher education sector.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

S. Shaista Sohail

(Dr Shaista Sohail)

Distribution

All Vice-Chancellors/Rectors/Head of Public Sector Universities & DAIs

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- The Secretary of Education, Department of Education Government of AJK
- The Heads/Incharge of all Divisions/Sections/Regional Centers of the HEC
- ES to Chairman, Higher Education Commission, Islamabad
- ES to the Executive Director, Higher Education Commission, Islamabad
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