As per recommendations of Research Committee meeting and approval by the Syndicate dt. 24.05.2019, the following amendments are implemented in the M.Phil / Ph.D., Regulation 2016 from 24.05.2019;

I. Amendments in Admission process, Research Advisory Committee and Research Publications:

1. The Common Entrance Test shall be conducted twice preferably in the month of July and February every year by the University.

2. The Eligibility shall be based on Entrance Test. The Eligibility Certificate shall be valid for two year.

3. A Departmental Research Committee (DRC) shall be formed in every School of the University / Affiliated College / Approved Research Centre for the selection of Ph.D students in each department as per Ph.D regulations of Madurai Kamaraj University 2016.

4. All the eligible candidates shall appear for interview cum counselling in the School / College / Approved Research Centre concerned.

5. Candidates already cleared the entrance test in 2017 and 2018 may approach the Department concerned for admission till the validity of their eligibility certificates.

6. Upon registration, a Research Advisory Committee shall be formed for each candidate with an external expert nominated by the Vice-Chancellor to monitor the progress as stipulated in the Ph.D regulations of Madurai Kamaraj University under clause 6.4.

7. The Ph.D candidates shall publish atleast 2 (two) research papers relevant to their area of research as first author in a National / International journals as listed by the UGC for submission of the Ph.D thesis.

II. Guidelines for admission of Foreign Nationals / NRIs to M.Phil and Ph.D Programs.

The foreign nationals and NRIs be exempted from entrance test for admission to Ph.D program. The Department Research committee shall conduct interview through
online / personal mode for selection of candidates. To admit such foreign nationals / NRIs, one candidate per faculty shall be permitted on supernumerary basis.

III. Amendments in guidelines to be followed in awarding Research Guideship:

a) A Research Guide shall be an active researcher with a Ph.D or higher qualification. Only a full time regular teacher of the University/Affiliated College/Approved Research Centre can act as a Supervisor.

b) Any regular Professor of the University/Affiliated College/Approved Research Centre with atleast 5 Research Publications (other than their Ph.D work) in refereed journals may be recognized as Research Supervisor.

c) Any regular Associate / Assistant Professor of the University/Affiliated College/Approved Research Centre having two years of experience after their Ph.D., and atleast 2 research publications (other than their Ph.D work) in refereed journals may be recognised as Research Supervisor.

d) The applications for granting research guideship shall be referred to a subject expert in the cadre of a Professor for the recommendation.

e) The expert opinion shall be placed before the Research Committee and the Syndicate for approval.

IV. Exclusion of fee from the Ph.D registrants towards Quality Enhancement Training Programme.

The Quality enhancement training fee of Rs.3,000/- be excluded from the Registration fee applicable for Ph.D program.

V. Evaluation of thesis submitted by the candidates who registered after 05.05.2016 (date of notification of regulations 2016 by the UGC) but prior to the adoption of UGC Regulations by the University in the Senate Meeting held on 31.03.2017.

As per UGC Regulations 2009, the minimum period for submission of thesis was two years for the students with M.Phil degree. It was revised by the UGC on 5th May, 2016 and the minimum period for submission of thesis was three years irrespective of the M.Phil degree by the students. It was approved by the University in its Senate Meeting on 31.03.2017. The candidates who registered during the transition period are now submitting their Ph.D., thesis for evaluation after duration of 2 years.

On recommendation of the Research Committee, the Syndicate dt. 24.05.2019 approved that the candidates registered for Ph.D program prior to the adoption of revised Ph.D regulations 2016 by the Senate on 31.03.2017, be permitted to submit the thesis for evaluation and the degree be awarded in accordance with UGC regulations 2009 with an undertaking by the students.
VI. Recognition of Research Centres.

The applications for recognition of research centres shall be processed according to revised UGC Regulations 2016 with an enhancement of recognition fee from Rs.20,000/- to Rs.25,000/- and a review shall be made once in three years. Annual renewal fee of Rs.10,000/- for each Research Centre shall be collected.

VII. Candidates willing to submit the Ph.D thesis after a maximum permissible period from the date of Registration.

The requests are received from the Ph.D registrants (who have not submitted the thesis within the eligible period) for the submission of Ph.D thesis.

It is decided that the candidates willing to submit the thesis after the permissible extension period shall be permitted after remitting all the fee applicable till the date of submission along with a penal fee of Rs.20,000/-. Such candidates shall submit the thesis within six months i.e. on or before 31.12.2019 as one time measure for submission.

VIII. Regarding the award of D.Sc., D.Litt degrees the amended regulation is given below:

1. Eligibility:

1.1. A Doctor of Philosophy degree holder of this University or any other Indian University/Institute recognized by University Grants Commission (UGC) or a Doctor of Philosophy degree holder of any foreign University/Institute recognized by the concerned Government Agencies, working in any Indian University / Institute recognized by UGC or any University / Institute abroad recognized by the concerned Government Agencies may present himself/herself for the degree of Doctor of Letters (D.Litt)/degree of Doctor of Science (D.Sc.), the highest degree of this University in the faculties of Science, Arts, Fine Arts, Teaching, Commerce and Oriented Learning. A minimum of fifteen years of research experience after having qualified for the degree of Ph.D shall be required to register for D.Litt., D.Sc. For the Ph.D. degree obtained from other Universities/Institutes in India or abroad, the Genuineness Certificate issued by competent authority viz., Vice-Chancellor/President of the University shall be mandatory for registration. There shall be no age limit either for registration or submission.

1.2. There shall be a minimum of 50 research publications in SCI journals as Corresponding or First Author with impact factor >1.0 or granted patents for D.Sc., degree registration.

1.3. There shall be a minimum of 50 research publications in SSCI journals as Corresponding or First Author with impact factor > 0.5 (OR) 40 research
publications in SSCI journals with impact factor >0.5 and 5 books of research value by reputed publishers for D.Litt Degree registration.

1.4. The h-index shall be greater than 20 for D.Sc., and 10 for D.Litt. candidates.

1.5. The publications or thesis submitted for the award of D.Sc.,/D.Litt shall be substantially from the result of the research work done after Ph.D degree.

1.6. A candidate already holding D.Sc.,/D.Litt., degree in a particular Faculty may register for D.Sc.,/D.Litt., in another faculty after two years, provided he/she satisfies all the above mentioned conditions.

2. Application form and Registration

2.1 The application form for the registration can be downloaded from the University website (www.mkuniversity.ac.in). The cost of the application is, for candidates within in India Rs.3000/- and candidates from abroad $100 need to be enclosed along with application.

2.2 The duly filled application with prescribed fee (candidates within India Rs.25,000/-; candidates from abroad $500) can be submitted for registration during any working day of the University to The Research Co-ordinator, Madurai Kamaraj University.

2.3 No objection certificate from the employer is required, if employed.

2.4 The application form shall have reprints / copies of publications (as per item 1.2 / 1.3) with the required certificates.

2.5 The registration shall be confirmed by the panel constituted by the Vice-Chancellor consisting of the respective Dean, HOD and an External Expert coordinated by The Co-ordinator - Research.

3. Submission of Thesis

3.1 Thesis can be submitted to the University with the prescribed fee of Rs.50,000/- for the candidates within India, USD 1000 for the candidates from abroad, Rs.40,000/- for the candidates holding Ph.D degree from Madurai Kamaraj University.

3.2 The candidate shall submit his/her thesis after a period of 6 months from the date of registration, but not later than 12 months. One extension of 6 months shall be given with the payment of Rs.5000/-, provided the request comes at least one month prior to the date of expiry. Beyond this period, the registration automatically stands cancelled.

3.3 An abstract of at least 1000 words in English should be submitted.
3.4 The D.Sc. / D.Litt. thesis shall be on the basis of the publications which shall be arranged sequentially and discussed by providing adequate linkages between the chapters. While the common theme shall form the title, introduction shall provide overview of the theme and rationale of the work. The findings and the impact shall form the conclusion.

4. Evaluation of Thesis

4.1. The panel of examiners having D.Sc. / D.Litt. qualification or Professor with more than 100 publications in refereed journals in case of D.Sc. or 75 publications in case of D.Litt. for adjudication of thesis. The panel should consist of five subject experts from outside India and three from India, but outside Tamil Nadu. The panel of experts should be outstanding scholars (in service or superannuation) in the relevant area with minimum experience of 10 years as Professor.

4.2. The panel of experts for adjudication of D.Sc. / D.Litt. shall be obtained by the Vice-Chancellor from an expert in the specific area of the research.

4.3. The Vice-Chancellor shall appoint three examiners from the panel of experts, two from outside India and one from India, who will also be the Convener.

4.4. The report of the examiner shall be in the prescribed format.