



AUD/52-1/AA/2025/D.LITT/69

Date: 12 Mar 2025

**Notification**

1. The Academic Council in its 37<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 29 Nov 2024 vide resolution no. 30.11 has considered and approved the Regulations concerning degree of Doctorate of Literature (D.LITT) and as subsequently approved by the Competent Authority, to be followed for all D.LITT programmes at Dr. B. R. Ambedkar University, Delhi (AUD) with immediate effect.
2. The above mentioned D.LITT regulation is enclosed herewith as an Annexure-1.

*[Signature]*  
13/03/2025

Prof Satyaketu Sankrit  
Dean Academic Affairs

Dean

Academic Affairs

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University Delhi  
Lothian Road, Kashmere Gate  
Delhi-110006

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Date.....17-Mar-2025

Dr. B. R. Ambekar  
Lal Bahadur Shastri  
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**DR. B.R. AMBEDKAR UNIVERSITY DELHI**  
**REGULATION GOVERNING THE AWARD OF THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF**  
**LITERATURE (D. Litt.)**

**REGULATION 1: Short title, application and commencement:**

- 1.1 This Regulation shall be called the "Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University Delhi, Doctor of Literature (D. Litt.) – Regulation 2024". It shall come into force from the date of approval of the Academic Council (AC), Board of Management (BoM) and notification by the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University Delhi.
- 1.2 The D. Litt. Degree is the highest Post-Doctoral Degree (PDD) of the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University Delhi.
- 1.3 The degree of D. Litt is of a higher standing than either a Masters degree or the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) and is awarded for work that makes an original, substantial and distinguished contribution to knowledge in a field with which the School is concerned. Work submitted for the Degree shall be original unpublished research work in the form of a thesis which would make novel and relevant contribution to the field of study at the highest level. The degree will give the applicant authoritative standing in that field and the right to general recognition of this standing by scholars in the field.
- 1.4 The higher Post-Doctoral Programme leading to the degrees of D. Litt. shall be offered in Management and Business, Humanities, Social Sciences, Arts and other disciplines/ inter-disciplinary areas within the purview of any of the Schools of the University.
- 1.5 The degree of D. Litt of the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University Delhi shall be conferred on the candidates who fulfill the requirements as specified in these regulations.
- 1.6 The provisions of these Regulations shall be applicable to any new disciplines/subject/School that are introduced from time to time and included to the above list, unless specified otherwise.
- 1.7 Notwithstanding any provisions contained in these Regulations, on the recommendation of the Academic Council (AC) the Board of Management (BoM) shall exercise its powers to change/amend/interpret/implement the decisions and actions concerned with academic matters, to change any or all parts of these Regulations at any time.

**REGULATION 2: Constitution of Post-Doctoral Research Committee (PDRC):**

**2.1 Post-Doctoral Research Committee (PDRC):**

There shall be a University-level Post-Doctoral Research Committee for admission, registration, research advice, and monitoring the research progress. The Post-Doctoral Research Committee (PDRC) shall comprise of: -

- i. Chair SCR (ex officio, Chairperson)
- ii. Three Deans
- iii. Three other Professors
- iv. Secretary: - Assistant Registrar – Research Cell.



This Committee shall have the following responsibilities:

- (i) To decide on the list of eligible/ineligible candidates as prepared and notified by the admission committee.
- (ii) To conduct Personal Interview/Viva-Voce (PI/VV) of the eligible candidates at the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University Delhi, for recommending the names for admission.
- (iii) To review the Post-Doctoral research proposal and approve the title and topic of Post-Doctoral research.
- (iv) To periodically review the progress of the Post-Doctoral research work of the research scholar, preferably once every six months.

**REGULATION 3: Eligibility:**

3.1. As D. Litt. Degree is the highest Post-Doctoral degree of the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University Delhi, a candidate seeking admission to D. Litt. programme of the University, must have pursued outstanding research in the concerned discipline and obtained the minimum qualifications required for admission as mentioned below.

- (i) Must have obtained a Ph. D. or an equivalent degree from this University or from any other UGC recognized University of the country or from a foreign University of standing in the concerned discipline, at least five years prior to the date of application.

And

- (ii) Must have done post-doctoral research work, and must have made significant contribution to research in the concerned discipline as evidenced by research publications. He/ She must have published 15 (fifteen) research papers in Scopus/ WoS/ UGC CARE indexed journals.

OR

Must have done post-doctoral research work and must have made significant contribution to research in the concerned discipline as evidenced by 2 (two) patents granted in relevant discipline after completing his/her Ph.D. study.

OR

Must have done post-doctoral research work and must have made significant contribution to research in the concerned discipline as evidenced by successfully completed 3 (three) national/international major research projects each of Rs. 30 lakhs and above as a principal investigator and/or as a coordinator.

OR

Have other outstanding academic, cultural or social contributions that merit admission to the programme in the view of the PDRC. In such cases admission shall be subject to the approval of the Board of Management.

Note: Publication in Conference proceedings, Abstract, Article in a Newsletters/ Magazines/ Newspapers will not be considered as a part of Research Publications to determine the



discipline as evidenced by 2 (two) patents granted in relevant discipline after completing his/her Ph.D. study.

OR

Must have done post-doctoral research work and must have made significant contribution to research in the concerned discipline as evidenced by successfully completed 3 (three) national/international major research projects each of Rs. 30 lakhs and above as a principal investigator and/or as a coordinator.

OR

Have other outstanding academic, cultural or social contributions that merit admission to the programme in the view of the PDRC. In such cases admission shall be subject to the approval of the Board of Management.

Note: Publication in Conference proceedings, Abstract, Article in a Newsletters/ Magazines/ Newspapers will not be considered as a part of Research Publications to determine the eligibility for the said programme.

- 3.2 Any eligible and duly admitted candidate can pursue the D. Litt. degree along with his/her regular full-time/ part-time/ contractual/ ad-hoc type of job/service/assignment. For in-service candidate, No Objection Certificate is required from his/her present employer.

**REGULATION 4: Procedure for admission:**

- 4.1 There shall be no fixed number of seats for the D. Litt. programme in the University.

The University shall notify the D. Litt. admission procedure on the University website.

Candidates seeking admission to D. Litt programme of the University shall have to fill up the prescribed admission form designed by the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University Delhi time to time.

- 4.2 Those that have applied and qualified in the eligibility shall have to appear before the PDRC for Personal Interview/Viva-Voice (PI/VV) at the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University Delhi, as per the scheduled and place specified by the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University Delhi. The committee for conducting interview / viva-voce shall be comprising of all the members of PDRC and two eminent professors in the area concerned to be nominated by the Vice-Chancellor. The quorum shall consist of Chairperson PDRC or acting Chairperson to be nominated by the Vice Chancellor, three other members and the two external members.
- 4.3 A copy of the D. Litt. Regulations, Rules and Regulations and details of admission process related to the D. Litt. programme shall be provided to the candidates along with the admission form or through the



website of the University.

- 4.4 Only candidates who found to be suitable by the interview/viva-voce committee shall be admitted to the D. Litt. programme.
- 4.5 The admission process shall be conducted on a rolling basis.
- 4.6 The interview/viva voce shall also consider the following aspects, viz. whether:
- (i) The candidate possesses the competence for the proposed research;
  - (ii) The research work can be suitably undertaken at the University;
  - (iii) The proposed area of research can contribute to new/additional knowledge.

At the time of PI/VV the candidates are expected to discuss their research interest/area/content before the PDRC.

Candidate who is applying for D. Litt in multi/ inter/ intra disciplinary subject has to appear and pass PI/VV in the subject for which he/she wants to take admission for D. Litt.

The PI/VV Committee shall minute, with justification recorded in writing, for each candidate whether they are recommended for admission or not.

- 4.7 The admitted candidates shall have to pay the prescribed fees within 10 days (or date specified) from the date of offer of admission, failing which the admission may be considered to be cancelled.

#### **REGULATION 5: Procedure for Registration:**

- 5.1 As soon as the candidates are admitted to the D. Litt programme, they shall be provisionally registered for the programme. After the title clearance by PDRC, their D. Litt registration shall be confirmed. This process shall be completed within the six months of provisional registration.
- 5.2 A candidate admitted to the D. Litt programme as per the procedure described earlier shall be registered as a D. Litt scholar by the University. The period of registration shall start from the date of admission.
- 5.3 Once the topic and proposal is finalized, the scholar will be required to fill up the prescribed registration form with the required fees, if any.
- 5.4 A registered D. Litt scholar shall not be allowed to pursue any other course/ programme from any University simultaneously. If any such violation is noticed, the registration of the scholar shall be cancelled automatically.

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Lothian Road, Kashmere Gate  
Delhi-110006



**REGULATION 6: Duration of the programme:**

- 6.1 The duration of the programme shall be from the date of Registration, i.e., when the candidate is admitted to the D. Litt programme after the payment of fee.
- 6.2 The duration of the D. Litt programme shall be for a minimum of one year and a maximum of four years.
- 6.3 The women candidates and Persons with Disability (more than 40% disability) may be allowed a relaxation of one years for D. Litt in the maximum duration. In addition, the women candidates may be provided Maternity Leave/Child Care Leave once in the entire duration of D. Litt for up to 240 days.
- 6.4 Extension beyond the above limits will at the discretion of Academic Council.

**REGULATION 7: Language of the thesis:**

- 7.1 The candidate should submit the D. Litt. thesis in English except when, it is related to an Indian language or other foreign language, where the thesis should be in the language concerned.
- 7.2 In case of Indian language or other foreign language a scholar is allowed to submit the thesis in the language concerned. Before submitting the thesis in an Indian language or other foreign language, it is must for the scholar to submit the brief summary/ important findings of the thesis in English (15 to 20 pages).

**REGULATION 8: Cancellation of Registration:**

- 8.1 A candidate can cancel his/her registration by submitting formal application to the PDRC.
- 8.2 The D. Litt registration of a scholar is liable to be cancelled for any of the following reasons:
  - (i) Violation of Code of Discipline for the students and any rules and regulations of the University.
  - (ii) Non-submission of the D. Litt thesis within the stipulated period.
  - (iii) Non-conformity with the rules/regulations/ordinances of the D. Litt. programme.
  - (iv) Giving false information at the time of application/admission/registration.
  - (v) Registration may also be cancelled on the recommendations of the PDRC on account of lack of progress after giving due opportunity to the scholar for defending his/her case.

**REGULATION 9: Change of Topic and Title:**



- 9.1 If any change of topic/title becomes necessary to address the desired objectives, the PDRC may permit to change the topic/title, prior to submission of the thesis.

**REGULATION 10: Progress Review:**

- 10.1 A Post-Doctoral research scholar shall appear before the PDRC 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 PDRC to the Academic Council with a copy to the research scholar.
- 10.2 In case the progress of the research scholar is unsatisfactory, the PDRC shall record the reasons for the same and suggest corrective measures. If the research scholar fails to implement these corrective measures, the PDRC may recommend to the Academic Council with specific reasons for cancellation of the registration and admission of the research scholar or delay the semester progression.

**REGULATION 11: Research Process:**

- 11.1 The work of the candidate shall comply with the following conditions to merit the award of the degree:
- (i) It must be a substantial work making a distinct addition to learning in the concerned subject of the discipline.
  - (ii) 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.
  - (iii) It must be a scholarly work of high quality.
  - (iv) It must be the work done after obtaining the Ph. D. degree as well as after the admission in the programme.
  - (v) It must not be the work, which has been previously submitted for a degree or a diploma in this or in any other University.
  - (vi) It must not be the work under consideration for a degree or a diploma in this or in any other University.
- 11.2 After completion of research work to the satisfaction of the PDRC, the D. Litt scholar shall produce a thesis within a maximum time as stipulated by the University.
- 11.3 The D. Litt programme culminates with the submission of a thesis of a substantial work of original research carried out by the scholar. This research work is expected to be potentially fit for publication and should stand peer review.
- 11.4 The scholar shall state generally in the preface and specifically in



notes, the sources from which the information is derived, the animal and human ethical approvals, obtained, if any, the extent to which the work of others has been made use of, and the portion of the work the researcher claims as original.

- 11.5 The D. Litt scholar shall publish a minimum of 02 research papers as a first author/ corresponding author/ co-author in a SCOPUS/WoS/UGC CARE listed journal based on D.Litt research before the submission of thesis.
- 11.6 The D. Litt scholar shall attend and presented at least 02 papers or 02 invited talks on his/her research work in national/international level seminar/ conference/ symposia/ colloquia, etc. before the submission of the thesis.
- 11.7 It is mandatory for the scholar to mention their affiliation with the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University Delhi in their publications and conference presentations to be considered for the fulfillment of 11.5 and 11.6 above.
- 11.8 All the relevant documents shall be submitted at the time of submission of the thesis.

**REGULATION 12: Format of the thesis:**

- 12.1 Before submitting the thesis, a scholar has to produce Anti-Plagiarism Clearance Certificate as per the anti-plagiarism policy of the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University Delhi for the content of the thesis.
- 12.2 Every scholar shall submit with his/her thesis a certificate stating that the thesis submitted is a record of original research work done by the scholar during the period of study and that the thesis has not previously formed the basis for the award to the candidate of any Degree, Diploma or other similar titles and that the thesis represents independent research work on the part of the scholar.
- 12.3 The process of the submission of thesis shall be as follows:

Primary submission:	05 copies (loose /spiral bound + 01 Soft copy  (pdf version): to be sent to the external examiners for evaluation.
Final Submission:	03 hard bound copies + 01 Soft copy (pdf version): With all necessary corrections and suggestions directed by the external examiners, academic information about the scholar, Registration and publication etc.
- 12.4 The final thesis shall be presented in accordance with the following specifications:
  - (i) The paper used for printing shall be of A4 size.



- (ii) The printing shall be on both side(s) of the paper with one and half line spacing with legible fonts and fonts size.
  - (iii) A margin of one inch shall be kept at right, left, top, and bottom of the page.
  - (iv) The title of the thesis, name of the scholar, degree, name of the advisor/co- advisor, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University Delhi address, and the month and year of submission shall be printed on the title page and the front cover.
- 12.5 The colour of the cover should be preferably dark. Side cover bound should clearly mention "D. Litt Thesis" on the top, name of the scholar, month and year of submission.
- 12.6 The thesis shall also contain certificates as per the proforma prescribed by the University.

**REGULATION 13: Appointment of Examiners**

- 13.1 The procedure for the appointment of examiners shall be undertaken soon after the scholar submits his/her thesis.
- 13.2 The thesis shall be evaluated by five external examiners, two of whom shall be outside the state.
- 13.3 The PDRC shall prepare a list of 10 examiners, 4 of whom should be from outside state.
- 13.4 The Vice-Chancellor shall appoint 05 examiners, as per the above norms, from the recommended list.
- 13.5 The external examiners are expected to send the evaluation report within 45 days from the date of receipt of the thesis. In case of undue delay by the examiner to send the report, the University may, with the approval of Vice-Chancellor, send the thesis to another external examiner.

**REGULATION 14: Evaluation of the Thesis:**

- 14.1 The Research Cell shall coordinate the evaluation process. To expedite the process of evaluation, the thesis may be sent electronically in soft-copy form to the external examiners.
- 14.2 The Examiners who evaluate the thesis shall report on the merit of the scholar's thesis for the D. Litt degree in one of the following terms:
- A. The thesis to be accepted for the award of D. Litt degree in the present form.
  - B. The thesis to be accepted for the award of D. Litt degree after minor corrections/ revisions.
  - C. The D. Litt thesis is rejected.
- 14.3 The format of the examiner's adjudication report is to be as prescribed

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Delhi-110006



by the University, which shall be sent to every examiner while sending the thesis. Communications and sending of the thesis and receiving of reports through email/attachments/fax shall be preferable and remain valid to expedite the procedure.

14.4 Opinion of examiners on evaluation of the thesis: -

If at least three examiners have recommended A or B above as mentioned in para 14.2 then thesis will be proceeded for viva after incorporating changes as suggested by these examiners after satisfaction of PDRC.

In all other cases the thesis shall be rejected and the registration of the scholar shall stand cancelled.

**REGULATION 15: Open Viva Voce Examination:**

- 15.1 On receipt of satisfactory evaluation reports, either in hard copy/ e-mail / any e-resource, the D. Litt scholar shall undergo for an open *Viva Voce Examination*, where he/she shall defend the research work in the thesis at University.
- 15.2 In cases where the thesis has been approved, and on receipt of communication from the University, the Research Cell shall coordinate the conduct of open *Viva Voce Examination* for the scholar.
- 15.3 The Research Cell shall fix the date and time of the *Viva Voce Examination* in consultation with the external examiner, who shall be appointed by the Vice Chancellor for conducting the open *Viva Voce Examination*.
- 15.4 The Research Cell shall give wide publicity for the same.
- 15.5 The maximum time limit for conducting open *Viva voce* shall be 03 months from the date of receipt of favorable evaluation reports from the examiners. If the scholar fails to take open *Viva Voce Examination* within 03 months on valid grounds, the Vice Chancellor may permit 03 months' extension on specific request/s from the PDRC.
- 15.6 The open *Viva voce* shall be held on any working day of the University. In case the examiner is not in a position to travel to the University, an open *Viva voce/defense* with the participation of the external examiner through online mode, video-conferencing or at a place convenient to the examiner, be arranged with the permission of PDRC. For final viva-voce, out of 5 examiners, 2 will be nominated by the Vice Chancellor and viva voce will be conducted in the presence of members of PDRC. The quorum shall consist of Chairperson PDRC or acting Chairperson to be nominated by the Vice Chancellor, three other members and the two external members.
- 15.7 In the open *Viva voce*, the Chair of the PDRC shall introduce the External examiner, who shall then conduct the open *Viva voce/Defense*. The scholar shall make a 30-45 minutes' presentation about his/her

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research work pertaining to the D. Litt thesis. After the presentation, the external examiners shall conduct the *open viva voce*. The participants are allowed to ask questions/queries/justifications related to the thesis work.

- 15.8 If the scholar passes the *open viva voce*/defense examination, the external examiners and the Chair of the PDRC shall consolidate the recommendations and submit the same to the University, as per the format prescribed by the University, for the award of the degree based on
- (i) the reports of the examiners who adjudicated the thesis and
  - (ii) the evaluation of the scholar's performance in the *open viva voce* examination.
- 15.9 The scholar who is successful in the *open viva voce* examination shall be declared to have qualified for the D. Litt degree of the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University Delhi.
- 15.10 If a scholar does not satisfy the Examiners' questions/queries at the *open viva voce* examination, he/she shall be re-examined after a period of not less than 03 months and not more than 06 months of the said *viva voce* examination. The scholar shall not be declared eligible for the degree unless all the examiners at the *viva voce* unanimously declare him/her eligible for the degree.
- 15.11 In the event of all the external examiners being unavailable for the *open viva voce*, a sixth (external) examiner from within India shall be appointed by the Vice Chancellor, in consultation with the PDRC to conduct the *open viva voce*.

**REGULATION 16: Award of degree:**

- 16.1 A candidate becomes eligible for the award of the D. Litt degree after fulfilling all the academic requirements prescribed by the University.
- 16.2 The D. Litt degree shall be awarded in the discipline in which the scholar is registered for the D. Litt programme. The title of the D. Litt thesis, name of the candidate, name of the advisor, if any, and subject/School shall be mentioned in the D. Litt Notification.
- 16.3 If the thesis is recommended for award of the D. Litt degree after the *open viva voce*, the Dean AES/ Controller of Examination, with the approval of the Academic Council, shall declare the result in the form of notification.
- 16.4 A certificate to this effect shall be issued to the successful scholar.

**REGULATION 17: Deposit of thesis with Shodhganga**

- 17.1 Following the successful completion of the evaluation process and announcement of the award of the D. Litt degree by the University, the



University shall place one copy of the thesis in the University Library and upload the thesis to Shodhganga or any other portal as may be specified by UGC regulations in force.

**REGULATION 18: General Rules applicable:**

- 18.1 The scholars shall follow the rules and regulations prescribed by the University from time to time, even if they are not included in these Ordinances. The University shall have the right to modify, change or add to the Rules and Regulations which shall be binding on the scholars.
- 18.2 The D. Litt scholars shall be entirely responsible for any duplication or plagiarism/academic dishonesty occurring in the thesis. In case any such acts are detected even after the award of the degree, the scholar shall be held accountable for the irregularity and this may even lead to cancellation of the degree. The decision of the University in this regard shall be final and binding on the scholar.
- 18.3 Notwithstanding anything contained in these Regulation, all matters related to the candidates shall be governed by the rules and procedures framed by the Academic Council/ Board of Management that are in force at that point of time.
- 18.4 From the date when these Regulations come into operation, all previous Ordinances on the subject shall cease to have effect. Provided that this revocation shall not affect the previous Ordinances so revoked or anything done or suffered under any previous Ordinances so revoked or affect any right, privilege, obligation or liability acquired, arrived or incurred under any Regulation so revoked.
- 18.5 Any doubt or dispute about the interpretation of these Regulations shall be referred to the Vice-Chancellor, whose decision, in the capacity of Chairperson, Academic Council, shall be final.
- 18.6 The Vice-Chancellor may modify, amend and/ or delete any of the clauses given in these Regulations or add any clause(s) to these Regulations, to facilitate the pursuit of excellence in research, provided that any such modification, amendment, deletion, and addition shall be reported to the Academic Council at its next meeting for approval.



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Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University Delhi  
Lothian Road, Kashmere Gate  
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