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शिक्षा अधिकारी

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BY SPEED POST

D. O. No.5-1/99(CPP-II)

January, 2013

Dear Madam/Sir,

Subject: Introduction of one year LL.M degree programme.

18 JAN 2013

The Round Table on Legal Education set up by the MHRD suggested a number of measures to restructure and revamp Legal Education system in the country including introduction of one year LL.M programme. The Expert Committee constituted by the UGC for this purpose has submitted Guidelines for Introduction of One Year LL.M degree programme, 2012.

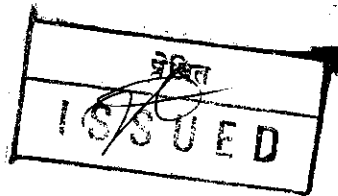
The Commission considered the guidelines for introduction of one year LL.M programme, 2012 and approved introduction of one year LL.M degree programme only in such universities/institutions which have a Centre for Post-Graduate Legal Studies. The guidelines along with the course structure for introduction of one year LL.M degree programme are available on the UGC website www.ugc.ac.in

The Universities fulfilling the above guidelines may take appropriate action to switch over to one year LL.M programme without compromising on quality and standards. However, it is clarified that LL.M of one year duration as well as of two year duration will remain valid.

Yours faithfully,

(R. Manoj Kumar)
Education Officer

To
The All Vice-Chancellors



University Grants Commission

Guidelines for introduction of One Year LL.M. Degree Programme, 2012

PREAMBLE:

1. The National Knowledge Commission while examining the quality of legal education and research in the country recommended several steps to revamp the system towards achieving academic and professional excellence. Following it, a Round Table on Legal Education set up by the Ministry of Human Resources Development asked the UGC to examine the reform of the LL.M. Degree programme and making it a one year course like in all developed countries. An Expert Committee appointed by the UGC in 2010 submitted a report proposing LL.M. one year programme. These Guidelines are therefore being circulated so that universities fulfilling the conditions therein may prepare themselves to change over to the Revised One Year LL.M. Degree course from academic year 2013-14.

2. The main features of the one year LL.M. programme are as follows:

- (i) Every university desirous of starting one year LL.M. programme under these Guidelines shall establish a Centre for Post-Graduate Legal Studies (CPGLS) which will have a dedicated team of senior teachers competent to guide post-graduate scholars including Ph. D. students.
- (ii) Post-Graduate education in law is to be offered only after fulfilling the minimum requirements in terms of faculty, infrastructure etc. prescribed under these Guidelines.
- (iii) Admission to one-year LL.M. Degree shall be done through an All India Admission Test conducted every year by the Universities individually or by a group of universities collectively.
- (iv) While reducing the duration to one year, universities must ensure that steps may be taken to make the course rigorous to maintain academic quality and standards. Towards this end, the programme is to be organized on a trimester basis ensuring at least twelve weeks of teaching/research/practical in each trimester. The object of this recommendation is to ensure sufficient time for teaching/learning for an intensive one year LL.M. programme and if a University were to seek organizing it on a semester basis, it should be ensured that the minimum time prescribed is accommodated in

such semester programme. This means that one year LLM under semester system will have to have at least 18 weeks of teaching/research/practical in each semester.

- (v) The one year LL.M. programme shall have 24 credits with three mandatory courses of 3 credits each (making a total of nine credits), six optional courses of 2 credits each (making a total of 12 credits) and a dissertation of 3 credits. University may increase credit for dissertation up to 5 credits and decide how teaching and examinations have to be organized, grades determined and what specializations to be offered.
- (vi) A university may offer a specialised LLM programme in any one branch of law. Towards this end, the Guidelines suggest six illustrative clusters of subjects, the contents of which can be suitably developed according to the capacities and resources available to the universities.
- (vii) Among the specialization clusters proposed in the **Annexure-1** is one set of optional subjects specially designed to those who want to train themselves as teachers/researchers in law. Universities desirous of preparing prospective teachers and researchers in law are recommended to offer this set of optional subjects as they provide training on curriculum planning, pedagogy, examination, admission and law school administration.
- (viii) The one year LLM programme may be introduced from the Academic Year, 2013-14 in all universities established or incorporated in accordance with provisions of the UGC Act, 1956 and all institutions by or affiliated to such universities.

3. Admission:

3.1 No student should be eligible for admission to LL.M. One-Year programme unless he/she has passed in the examination conducted by a University leading to the award of LL.B. degree

3.2 The admission to One Year LLM programme should be based on merit decided on the basis of an All India Admission Test conducted specifically for this purpose, with the objective of testing aptitude for teaching/research, legal reasoning, and comprehension/basic legal knowledge. The Admissions Test will be for 70% of total marks of the test and the rest of 30% will be equally distributed on the basis of work experience, publications, and statement of purpose. The 30% weightage to be given to applicants for preparing the merit list of the University will be determined by the respective Universities.

4. The Centres of Post-Graduate Legal Studies:

4.1 There shall be Centres of Post-Graduate Legal Studies (CPGLS) established from among the Departments/Faculty of Law pursuant to these Guidelines;

4.2 The Centre of Post-Graduate Legal Studies shall disclose the following through its prospectus/website:

1. The details of the teaching and non-teaching staff;
2. The specialisation in which is offered; and availability of adequate faculty in the concerned specialisation;
3. Well-equipped library with sufficient print as well as online materials, on the disciplines proposed;
4. Infrastructure and student support services;
5. Facilities for Tele-conferencing and technologically advanced equipments for teaching/research;
6. Availability of ICT enabled facilities;

5. Faculty:

5.1 The CPGLS established under any University, shall have full time qualified and experienced faculty members of not less than 10 numbers consisting of minimum 04 Professors/associate Professors in Law and other necessary research personnel, and sufficient non teaching staff, to start the programme;

5.2 The Professors/ Associate Professors, shall form a Committee, and would be formulating courses they propose to offer keeping in view that they are not just improved version of those of subjects already studied at graduate level. The curriculum shall be continuously updated.

5.3 Teaching methods may include the tutorials, seminars, fieldwork, projects, clinics and other such activities.

5.4 Given the advanced nature of postgraduate studies and research in law and the need for proper supervision of PG students by senior faculty, the ratio of students admitted to LL.M. to the availability of Professors / Associate Professor should be not more than 5 students to one Professor / Associate Professor.

6. Duration of the Programme:

6.1 The duration of the programme shall be One Year in three trimesters, with minimum of 30 contact hours in each week and twelve weeks for each of the three terms including class room teaching, library work , seminars and research;

6.2 The entire programme shall be spread evenly for the duration of the programme, with not more than 9 credits in each trimester or 12 credits in each semester.

6.3 Each of the trimester and semester shall be of a working duration of 12 weeks and 18 weeks respectively.

7. The Course Structure/Curriculum:

7.1 The course structure/curriculum for One-Year LL.M. shall have the following components:

- i) Foundation/Compulsory Papers (3 papers of three credits each)
- ii) Optional/Specialization Papers (6 papers of two credits each)
- iii) Dissertation (three credits)

Provided, in case the candidate takes a minimum of four specialization papers from any particular Group/Cluster only, then that Course can be called after the discipline the candidates select; the candidate can opt for remaining paper/papers of his/her choice in order to complete the number of courses/credits prescribed for the Degree.

7.2 Foundation/Compulsory Papers:

The Foundation Courses consist of the following three subjects/papers, which should be completed in the first trimester:

- A. Research Methods and Legal Writing
- B. Comparative Public Law/Systems of Governance
- C. Law and Justice in a Globalizing World

7.3 Optional/Specialization Papers:

The Centre offering specialized LL.M. degree shall offer courses in one or more of the groups of specialization. Each group of specialization shall consist of several papers from which the students can choose the number required to get the degree of that specialization.

The list of papers/subjects given in each cluster in the Annexure is only tentative and suggestive for the Faculty/Academic Council to consider. They will get changed depending on developments in law and the demands of society.

7.4 Dissertation

The dissertation shall carry a minimum of three and a maximum of five credits as decided by the Faculty according to regulations approved by the Academic Council of the University

8. Examination:

The Centre shall hold examinations for awarding LL.M. Degree as far as possible according to the following Scheme:

8.1 Conduct of Trimester/Semester Examinations

8.1.1. All examinations shall be conducted by the Centre; the schedule of examination shall be notified by the Centre along with academic calendar in the first week of every trimester/semester.

9. Evaluation of Students:

The evaluation of students in a course shall broadly be based on two segments.

9.1 Continuous evaluation by the teacher(s) of the course.

9.2 Evaluation through a trimester/semester examination

9.3 The components/contents of each segment of evaluation, the respective weightage to be given to each segment, and the pattern of examination, will be formulated by the respective Universities without compromising the standard, provided the end semester examination will not be assigned not more than one half of the total marks for that subject

10. GRADES AND DIVISIONS

10.1 After the evaluation, only grades should be allotted to the students for the LL.M. Degree.

11. Specification of One Year LLM Programme:

In order to facilitate the switching over from existing 2 year LLM programme to one year LLM Programme, the UGC would suitably amend the UGC (Minimum Standards of Instruction for the grant of the Master's Degree Through Formal Education) Regulation, 2003.

ANNEXURE

The six clusters of specialization subjects tentatively can be the following :

I. LL.M. (International and Comparative Law) :

- (i) International Organizations
- (ii) International Economic Law
- (iii) International Human Rights Law
- (iv) Comparative Law
- (v) Conflict of Laws/Private International Law
- (vi) International Humanitarian Law
- (vii) International Criminal Law
- (viii) AIR and Space Law
- (ix) Environmental Law
- (x) Public International Law
- (xi) Global Administrative Law
- (xii) International Dispute Settlement

II. LL.M. (Corporate and Commercial Law)

- (i) Competition Law
- (ii) Bankruptcy Law
- (iii) Laws on Securities and Financial Markets
- (iv) Investment Law
- (v) Banking and Insurance Law
- (vi) Labour/Employment Law
- (vii) Company Law
- (viii) International Trade Law
- (ix) Intellectual Property Law
- (x) Corporate Social Responsibility
- (xi) Cyber Law
- (xii) Commercial Arbitration
- (xiii) Infrastructure Law

- III. LL.M. (Criminal and Security Law)**
- (i) Criminology and Criminal Justice Administration
 - (ii) Victimology
 - (iii) Criminal Justice and Human Rights
 - (iv) National Security and Regional Co-operation
 - (v) International Criminal Law
 - (vi) Police Law and Administration
 - (vii) Sentences and Sentencing
 - (viii) Corporate Crimes/White Collar Crimes
- IV. LL.M. (Family and Social Security Law)**
- (i) Law relating to Marriage and Separation
 - (ii) Uniform Civil Code
 - (iii) Law of Inheritance and Succession
 - (iv) Child Rights and Protection
 - (v) Religion and Family Law
 - (vi) Labour and Employment Law
 - (vii) Rights of Women and their Protection
 - (viii) Agriculture and Rural Development Law
 - (ix) Health Law
 - (x) Disaster Management law
 - (xi) Environment Law
 - (xii) Forest Law
- V. LL.M. (Constitutional and Administrative Law)**
- (i) Centre-State Relations and Constitutional Governance
 - (ii) Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles
 - (iii) Local Self-Government & Federal Governance
 - (iv) Police and Security Administration
 - (v) Administrative Law
 - (vi) Media Law
 - (vii) Minorities Law
 - (viii) Religion, Diversity and the Law
 - (ix) Educational Law
 - (x) Health Law
 - (xi) Housing and Urban Development
 - (xii) Transportation Law

- (xiii) Telecommunications Law
- (xiv) Public Policy Development
- (xv) Global Administrative Law

VI. LL.M. (Legal Pedagogy and Research)

- (i) Law and Development
- (ii) Ideas of Justice and Justice Education
- (iii) Educational Psychology and Adult Learning
- (iv) Curriculum Planning and Teaching Plans Development
- (v) Legal Clinics and Clinical Methodology
- (vi) Supervision and Evaluation of Student Performance
- (vii) Co-curricular Programmes and Law School Management
- (viii) Legal Research and Writing
- (ix) Copyright Law and Promotion of Scholarship
- (x) Science, Technology and Law
- (xi) Law, Religion and Culture
- (xii) Legal Profession and Social Justice
- (xiii) Education Law

P.S.: Each of these courses will have a practical training and research component for students to perform on which evaluation for grades is determined.