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31/9/14



विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग
University Grants Commission

(मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)
(Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India)

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प्रो. (डॉ.) जसपाल एस. सन्धू

सचिव

Prof. (Dr.) Jaspal S. Sandhu

MBBS, MS (Ortho), DSM, FAIS, FASM, FAFSM, FFIMS, FAMS

Secretary

Ac-2817
8/9/14

BY SPEED POST

vc/31/49
31/9/14

D.O.No. F. 14-6/2014(CPP-II)

Dear Sir/Madam,

Handwritten notes and stamps: "Registery", "3-9-14", "15 AUG 2014", "vc", "AC-II", "31/9/14", "vc", "AC-II", "31/9/14".

I trust you would agree that there has been an enormous degradation of biodiversity resulting into massive ecological imbalances as also natural calamities. Though there are a number of factors, one of the most significant reasons is the brutal use of animal species for dissection purposes at post-secondary levels of education and that too at a time when there are alternative mechanisms available for providing hands-on experience to the students. I believe the time has come when we should make profitable use of the ICT available around us.

Having regard to the above, the University Grants Commission has issued the Notification under section 12(j) of UGC Act, 1956 urging all the universities to stop dissection of animals at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. A copy of the Notification is enclosed for the ready reference and immediate action. This notification comes into force with immediate effect.

The copy of the notification can also be downloaded from the UGC website (www.ugc.ac.in). All the university departments and the affiliated and constituent colleges under your university should be given specific instructions to stop dissection of animals both at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. In lieu of this, you are requested to employ alternate technology which is available in plenty, to provide similar hands-on-experience to students.

You are asked to ensure complete compliance of the aforesaid notification with intimation to the UGC. This may please be accorded Top Most Priority.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Jaspal Singh Sandhu)

Encl. : As above.

The Vice-Chancellor
Maharshi Dayanand University
Rohtak - 124 001

P.F.O



**University Grants Commission
New Delhi**

Notification

No.F.14-6/2014 (CPP-II)

1st August, 2014

Subject: Dissection and Animal Experimentation in Zoology /Life Sciences and allied disciplines in undergraduate, postgraduate and research programmes.

In exercise of powers conferred by Section 12 (j) of the UGC Act, 1956, the UGC hereby issues the following instructions in regard to animal experimentation in Zoology/Life Sciences and allied disciplines.

1. Application

The instructions contained in this notification shall be applicable to Undergraduate, Postgraduate and Research programmes run by Departments of Zoology/Life Sciences and allied disciplines of all Universities including their constituent and affiliated colleges, , institutions declared as Deemed to be Universities under Section 3 of the UGC Act and Institutions of National Importance empowered to award degrees under Section 22 of UGC Act, 1956.

2. The instructions contained in this notification shall come into force with immediate effect.

3. Introduction:

Animal dissection as an aspect of Zoology curriculum is in practice for a long time. Further, with the increase in number of institutions, more than a million students undergo programs requiring animal dissections. Most of these animals are caught from the wild life. Their indiscriminate removal from their natural habitats disrupts the biodiversity and ecological balance. Thus, use of animals in dissections has come to be a factor compounded with habitat loss, pollution and climate changes responsible for the gradual depletion of animal populations. It is a fact that the demand for dissection specimens increases pressure on threatened species. The case of frogs, the population of which has declined to alarming levels in the recent times, is often cited as the example. Also, it has been noticed that laws/regulations/guidelines about animals and their welfare are not observed while prescribing animal use in the curriculum. It is, therefore, felt that the curriculum must be revamped to accommodate the latest developments. Considering the seriousness of the issue, the UGC has decided to issue appropriate instructions in the form of this notification to all universities and other higher educational institutions to do away with the animal experimentation in Zoology/Life Sciences and allied disciplines at Undergraduate and Postgraduate levels.



- 6.2 The Head of the concerned Department shall be the Convener and Chairperson of DMC. Two senior faculty members of the concerned Department, one faculty member of a related Department from the same institution and one or two faculty members of the concerned Department from a neighboring institution(s) shall be members of the DMC.
- 6.3 The tenure of DMC shall be 2 years and on expiry of a term, the DMC should be reconstituted wherein only the Convener and Chairperson (the Head of the Department) may continue for two or more terms if he/she happens to continue to be the Head of the Department. A vacancy arising during the tenure of a DMC shall be filled with a faculty belonging the respective category. The quorum for the meeting shall be 3 out of 6 where in at least one member from the neighboring institution must be present. The DMC shall meet at least once each semester/half year and approve/review alternative experimentation of animals for laboratory exercises;
- 6.4 It shall be the responsibility of DMC to ensure that animals that are permitted to be used for dissections/experiments in the instructions herein are procured from ethical sources, and not removed from the wild, transported to the laboratory without stress or strain to the animals, if live, and anesthetized appropriately if they are to be used in dissections;
- 6.5 The DMC shall ensure that the Institution maintains appropriate records of procurement of animals, their transport, number of animals used, use of anesthesia/euthanasia etc.
- 6.6 The DMC shall be different from the Institutional Animal Ethics Committee (IAEC), under the purview of Committee for Purpose of Care and Supervision of Experimental Animals (CPCSEA), Department of Environment and Forests, Government of India. However, the DMC shall not have powers over-riding the powers of IAEC. For animals covered by the IAEC, the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for IAECs prescribed by CPCSEA will apply.
- 7. Reduction in the number of animals for dissection and experimentation**

Ensuring a close observance of high ethical considerations, the use of animals for dissection and experimentation is prohibited both at Undergraduate and Postgraduate levels except for research. Higher educational institutions are to make it their moral responsibility to do away with the use of animals for various academic purposes.

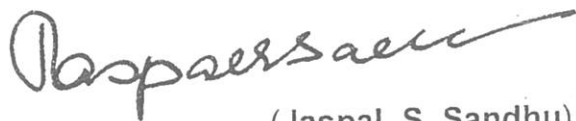
Animals used in research should be, to the best extent possible, procured from laboratory bred sources, especially breeders approved by CPCSEA in which case their use will be under the purview of IAEC. Removal of animals from their natural habitats should be avoided.

7.1 Undergraduate and Postgraduate programs

- 7.1.1** For undergraduate and postgraduate programs, both at major and allied levels, no animal from any species shall be dissected, either by teachers or students for any



10. Departments of Zoology/Life Sciences and allied disciplines should be empowered with appropriate information communication technology (ICT) for implementing the above recommendations. All departments dealing with animals for teaching and learning should be empowered with ICT infrastructure required for the purpose. Such infrastructure can be developed by using specific assistance earmarked for "Books and Journals" and "Laboratory equipment and infrastructure". Institutions of higher education shall have to accord top most priority to this and ensure that such infrastructure is created from the funds and resources available with them.
11. All universities and colleges shall report the compliance to these instructions to the UGC immediately and also indicate suggestions, if any, for better implementation of this notification within three months from the date of this notification.



(Jaspal S. Sandhu)
Secretary

01/08/2014