

## CLAWS-MANIPAL ACADEMY OF HIGHER EDUCATION (MAHE) PhD PROGRAMME FOR ARMY OFFICERS

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1. The Centre for Land Warfare Studies (CLAWS) has established a joint initiative with Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE), Manipal, formerly known as Manipal University, to conduct PhD programme for Army Officers. CLAWS has taken this initiative with a view to further enhance the professional military education (PME) of officers, as also to prepare a pool of officers for instructional duties in Army institutions. All officers meeting the eligibility criteria may apply for enrolment in the PhD programme. However, it will be mandatory for all officers enrolled for the programme to become life members of CLAWS. In future, it is intended to extend this facility to the Army veterans, by having a similar tie-up with other reputed universities.

### CLAWS-MAHE Initiative

2. It has been observed that enrolment in a PhD programme is otherwise difficult for the Army officers due to various reasons. The most noticeable reasons are - not fulfilling the mandatory QR of publications, not being able to attend the mandatory on-campus research methodology classes and in getting admission in reputed universities.

3. Keeping above in mind, CLAWS and MAHE have jointly signed a Letter of Intent (LoI) to initiate a PhD programme for Army officers in broad subjects of **Geopolitics, National Security, Strategic Studies and International Relations**. MAHE, Manipal, is one of the few universities in India that has a separate department of 'Geopolitics and International Relations'. As mentioned in the MAHE website, *the Department of Geopolitics and International Relations focuses research on almost all the geopolitical regions with a greater focus on East Asia and South Asia, Strategic Technologies for National Security with a Focus on Outer Space, Nuclear Strategy of Major*

*Powers, Delivery systems of China and Pakistan, Global Security Challenges, Dimensions of National Security, India's Foreign Policy Challenges, Cyber Warfare and Critical Infrastructure Security, Maritime Security, Indo-Pacific Security Architecture, Counter terrorism, Insurgency and Asymmetric Conflict.* In addition to above, certain additional subjects have also been proposed to MAHE for inclusion and consideration.

### **Mandatory Requirements**

4. To enrol in the PhD programme, the officer candidates need to fulfil the following mandatory requirements:-

- (a) Minimum service of 15 years.
- (b) Minimum 60% marks in their Post Graduate programme (PG may be in any field).
- (c) Minimum two publications prior to applying for PhD preferably in a field related to available broad subjects for PhD to include online/ book chapters/ journal articles. Preference will be given to publications in refereed journals, the details of which will be made available on the CLAWS website. At CLAWS, articles may be accepted in *CLAWS Journal*, as Manekshaw Papers and chapters in edited volumes, if found suitable for publication.
- (d) A comprehensive research proposal which is to be forwarded along with the application inclusive of survey of literature, scope & definition, research methodology, research questions, hypotheses and tentative chapterisation. Sample format of the Research Proposal will be made available on the CLAWS website.
- (e) Application form should be duly counter-signed by the Initiating Officer (IO).

**Note:-** MI clearance may also be necessary before submission of the thesis by the officer to MAHE, in conformity with the subject policy, if it is so felt during scrutiny at CLAWS.

### **Modalities of Conduct**

5. The modalities of conduct and main benefits/advantages that the CLAWS-MAHE joint initiative provides to the officers are as follows:-

- (a) The duration of PhD programme that the University has offered is three to six years. However, if any officer is unable to continue/complete

the PhD programme during this period due to service contingencies or other unavoidable reasons, a provision is available to still complete the PhD. The broad UGC guidelines on the subject would be made available on the CLAWS web site.

(b) Fees for private universities are generally very high. However, fee structure to be paid directly to MAHE, Manipal University for this programme is reasonable and as follows:-

- (i) First year - Rs 26,000/- (Admission and Registration Fees)
- (ii) Second Year - Rs 14,000/-
- (iii) Third year - Rs 14,000/-
- (iv) Every year extended until submission - Rs 14,000/-

**Note:-** *Additionally, processing fees of Rs 10,000/- will be charged at the initial stage by CLAWS.*

(c) Mandatory six months course work on Research Methodology and allied subjects will be conducted at CLAWS Campus, and officers serving in areas outside Delhi will be permitted to attend online. Such off-campus online conduct is available only through this joint collaboration.

(d) MAHE, Manipal has approved co-supervision by five faculty members of CLAWS with doctorates and expertise in their respective fields. This will make it easier for the officers to contact the experts at CLAWS regarding their PhD and several trips to Mangalore will be avoided. However, the candidates should be prepared for physical interaction with their guides at Manipal about twice in a year.

(e) With respect to mandatory refereed publications, MAHE has agreed to relax the mandatory two publications in SCOPUS indexed journal (highly valued indexing that ensures the originality of ideas and publications- details on CLAWS website) prior to applying for PhD.

6. It is emphasised that all the above benefits/relaxations will be provided without diluting the academic qualifications and standards required by the University.

### **Procedure for Registration**

7. As per the UGC guidelines and CLAWS-MAHE LoI, CLAWS will serve as a sub-centre of MAHE to scrutinise the applications from officers.

Registration for the course will be carried out through a three tier system as follows:-

- (a) Preliminary short listing of the candidates by a 'Selection and Review Board (SRB)' at CLAWS.
- (b) The recommendations by SRB will be forwarded to a committee consisting of members from the Department of Geopolitics and International Relations, MAHE and co-supervisors from CLAWS for further scrutiny.
- (c) The final selection of the candidates for registration will be done jointly by the Doctoral Advisory Committee (DAC), MAHE and select members from CLAWS faculty.

8. **CLAWS-MAHE University Cell.** A University Cell will be created at CLAWS, which will be responsible for conduct of the following:-

(a) Mandatory six months' course work on Research Methodology and Allied subjects worth 12 Credits at CLAWS campus by CLAWS Area Experts and Guest Professors from the reputed universities. The distribution of Credit Points is as under:-

- |       |   |           |
|-------|---|-----------|
| (i)   | Research Methodology                            | 4 Credits |
| (ii)  | Methods in survey of Literature                 | 2 Credits |
| (iii) | A paper in domain area of Candidate's Research- | 4 Credits |
| (iv)  | Ethics in Research                              | 2 Credits |

(b) Preliminary short listing of candidates by a Selection and Review Board (SRB).

(c) Final selection for registration along with DAC, MAHE.

(d) Guidance of doctoral candidates by designated co-supervisors.

9. As the student officers may not be attending the mandatory course work classes on campus, the officers would be required to pursue the PhD programme in their 'own time'. All eligible officers may apply for enrolment into the PhD programme, as per the application format attached, by **30 June 2021**.

10. **CLAWS Website - CLAWS-MAHE University Cell.** The details pertaining to outline of the PhD Programme, admission procedure, Letter of Intent (LoI), long term vision to facilitate post-graduation pgme for academically inclined officers, information about SCOPUS, refereed journal, important provisions of UGC guidelines, National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and links etc will be uploaded on CLAWS website ([www.claws.in](http://www.claws.in)) under the tab "CLAWS- MAHE University Cell". For more details and any clarification on the PhD programme, CLAWS may be contacted through following:-

Email ID    [clawsuniversitycell@gmail.com](mailto:clawsuniversitycell@gmail.com)

Tele (Military)                                      34156

Contact/ Whatsapp No -                      +91-9311950042

### **Conclusion**

11. This letter contains only the essential features of the joint initiative. The detailed modalities will be uploaded in due course on the CLAWS website. A link for the programme will also be available on MAHE website.

12. It is requested that contents of this letter may please be disseminated down to unit level.