



# महाराष्ट्र शासन राजपत्र

## असाधारण भाग आठ

वर्ष १०, अंक ३१(३) ] सोमवार, डिसेंबर १६, २०२४/अग्रहायण २५, शके १९४६ [ पृष्ठे ३, किंमत : रुपये २७.००

### असाधारण क्रमांक ८१

### प्राधिकृत प्रकाशन

महाराष्ट्र विधानमंडळाचे अधिनियम व राज्यपालांनी प्रख्यापित केलेले अध्यादेश व केलेले विनियम आणि विधी व न्याय विभागाकडून आलेली विधेयके (इंग्रजी अनुवाद).

In pursuance of clause (3) of Article 348 of the Constitution of India, the following translation in English of the Maharashtra Public Universities (Second Amendment) Bill, 2024 (L.C. Bill No. XI of 2024), introduced in the Maharashtra Legislative Council on the 16<sup>th</sup> December 2024, is hereby published under the authority of the Governor.

By order and in the name of the  
Governor of Maharashtra,

**SATISH WAGHOLE,**  
Secretary (Legislation) to Government,  
Law and Judiciary Department.

### L. C. BILL No. XI OF 2024.

#### A BILL

*further to amend the Maharashtra Public Universities Act, 2016.*

**WHEREAS** both Houses of the State Legislature were not in session;

**AND WHEREAS** the Governor of Maharashtra was satisfied that circumstances existed which rendered it necessary for him to take immediate action further to amend the Maharashtra Public Universities Act, 2016, for the purposes hereinafter appearing; and, therefore, promulgated the Maharashtra Public Universities (Amendment) Ordinance, 2024 on the 15th October 2024;

Mah.  
VI of  
2017.

Mah.  
Ord.  
XVI of  
2024.

**AND WHEREAS** it is expedient to replace the said Ordinance by an Act of the State Legislature; it is hereby enacted in the Seventy-fifth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

Short title  
and  
commencement.

**1.** (1) This Act may be called the Maharashtra Public Universities (Second Amendment) Act, 2024.

(2) It shall be deemed to have come into force on the 15th October 2024.

Amendment of  
section 3 of  
Mah. VI of  
2017.

**2.** In section 3 of the Maharashtra Public Universities Act, 2016 (hereinafter referred to as “the principal Act”) 2016, in sub-section (6), in clause (b), for sub-clause (i), the following sub-clause shall be substituted, namely :—

Mah. VI  
of 2017.

“ (i) constitute a cluster university comprising of cluster of colleges or institutions, fulfilling such norms or criteria and complying such terms and conditions as laid down by the Central Government or the State Government or the University Grants Commission, from time to time, and shall specify therein the lead college or institution and constituent colleges or institutions of such university ;”.

Repeal of Mah.  
Ord. XVI of  
2024 and  
saving.

**3.** (1) The Maharashtra Public Universities (Amendment) Ordinance, 2024, is hereby repealed.

Mah.  
Ord.  
XVI of  
2024.

(2) Notwithstanding such repeal, anything done or any action taken (including any notification or order issued) under the corresponding provisions of the principal Act, as amended by the said Ordinance, shall be deemed to have been done, taken or, as the case may be, issued under the corresponding provisions of the principal Act, as amended by this Act.

## STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The National Education Policy 2020 has emphasized the need for clustering colleges to improve academic quality, promote interdisciplinary courses, facilitate collaboration among educational institutions and provide students with academic flexibility through innovative multidisciplinary education. The task force constituted for implementing this policy in the state has recommended the establishment of cluster universities. Similarly, the University Grants Commission (UGC) has issued guidelines in September 2022 for converting higher education institutions into multidisciplinary institutions by clustering them. These guidelines do not specify any Government aid for such institutions. In view of the above policy and guidelines, the Government is encouraging for establishment of the cluster universities in the State of Maharashtra.

2. The constitution of cluster university comprising of cluster of Government colleges or Government institutions or Government aided colleges or Government aided institutions, fulfilling such norms or criteria as laid down by the Central Government therefor and complying the terms and conditions laid down by the Government is provided in sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Maharashtra Public Universities Act, 2016 (Mah.VI of 2017).

Besides the Government and Government aided colleges, there are large number of unaided colleges affiliated to public universities. So as to facilitate constitution of cluster university with unaided colleges or institutions, sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Maharashtra Public Universities Act, 2016 was proposed to be amended suitably.

3. As both Houses of the State Legislature were not in session and the Governor of Maharashtra was satisfied that circumstances existed which rendered it necessary for him to take immediate action further to amend the Maharashtra Public Universities Act, 2016, for the purposes aforesaid, the Maharashtra Public Universities (Amendment) Ordinance, 2024 (Mah. Ord. XVI of 2024), was promulgated by the Governor of Maharashtra on the 15th October 2024.

4. The Bill is intended to replace the said Ordinance by an Act of the State Legislature.

Nagpur,  
Dated the 15<sup>th</sup> December 2024.

DEVENDRA FADNAVIS,  
Chief Minister.