

MOST-URGENT

F.No 8-2/2019-U.Policy
Government of India
Ministry of Human Resource Development
Department of Higher Education
(U.Policy Section)

537/C, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated: March, 2020

To

The Secretary
University Grants Commission
Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg
Delhi-110002

Subject: Implementation of National Academic Depository (NAD) -regarding

Sir,

The Government of India is committed in bringing the administrative and academic reform through the use of technology for delivery of efficient services to all stakeholders. Education engages with almost every citizen of the country and the Government is keen to create quality infrastructure that will facilitate delivery of services to citizens and will also facilitate academic institutions in performing their core functions. A step in this direction was the launch of the National Academic Depository (NAD) by the Hon'ble President of India on 9th July, 2017.

2. The Government in exercise of powers conferred under section 20(1) of the University Grants Commission (UGC) Act, 1956 had designated UGC as the authorised implementing agency of NAD and was entrusted with the task of implementation of National Academic Depository (NAD) (vide this office letter No. 5-3/2016-U.Policy dated 31st October, 2016). In order to operationalise NAD, UGC (the authorised implementing agency) entered into a tripartite agreement with NSDL Database Management Limited (NDML) and CDSL Ventures Limited (CVL) on 22.11.2016 for a period of three years.

3. Since the launch of NAD, many academic institutions including various Central Universities, State Universities, Private Universities, Central Higher Educational Institutions, School Boards etc., are uploading their academic awards on NAD. Also, many students are using NAD for accessing their academic awards online and verification seeking entities are also using NAD for verification of academic awards.

4. The period of tripartite agreement signed between UGC, NDML and CVL has ended on 22.11.2019 and the following has been decided with regard to further implementation of NAD:

- (i) NAD shall not be implemented through NDML and CVL and to take necessary action in this regard.

- (ii) NAD to be implemented as a permanent scheme without levy of any user charges, by Digilocker through the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) as a single entity.
- (iii) UGC to be authorised to implement NAD as a permanent scheme, in co-operation with the Digilocker.
- (iv) To undertake necessary action for delinking all applications currently using NAD portal through NDML and CVL and linking them through Digilocker.

5. In light of the above UGC may ensure the following:

- (i) The academic awards lodged on the portals of NDML and CVL are seamlessly transferred to NAD/Digilocker.
- (ii) UGC the implementing body of NAD shall ensure its implementation through Digilocker, an entity owned by Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.
- (iii) UGC may enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Digilocker for smooth implementation of NAD clearly delineating the rights and responsibilities among them. However, both the Ministry of Human Resource Development and Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology may be kept informed in this regard.
- ✓ (iv) UGC to finalise various technical issues/various formats for uploading of academic awards/creation of student account, mapping of academic awards, procedure for verification etc in consultation with Digilocker.
- ✓ (v) UGC to ensure that reports on various parameters such as registrations/academic award upload, verification completed are provided to the Ministry as and when called for by the Ministry.

6. In view of above, UGC is requested to kindly take necessary action accordingly for the smooth implementation of NAD.

7. This issues with the approval of the competent authority.

Sanjeev Narayan
18.03.2018
(Sanjeev Kumar Narayan)
Under Secretary to the Govt. of India
Tele-01123381460

Copy to:

1. Secretary, Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology
2. President & CEO, Digilocker (Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology),
Electronics Niketan, 6, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road-110003