

**[TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE OF INDIA PART-I SECTION-1]**

Government of India (Bharat Sarkar)  
Ministry of Education (Siksha Mantralaya)  
Department of Higher Education (Uchcharat Siksha Vibhag)  
ICR Division

**Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi**  
**Dated: 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2023**

**NOTIFICATION**

**No.9-4/2022-U.3(A): Whereas,** the Central Government is empowered under Section 3 of the University Grants Commission (UGC) Act, 1956 to declare, on the advice of the UGC, an Institution of higher learning as an Institution Deemed to be University.

2. **And whereas,** an online application dated 12.08.2022 was submitted on the UGC Portal for conferment of Institution deemed to be University status under de-novo category to Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM), Nehru Nagar, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh under Section 3 of the UGC Act, 1956. UGC was requested to examine the application and furnish its advice as per UGC (Institutions Deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2019.

3. **And whereas,** UGC, vide its letter No.29-5/2022 (CPP-I/DU) dated 07.12.2022 informed that the proposal was examined through an Expert Committee. After overall assessment, the Committee recommended for issuance of Letter of Intent (LoI) with certain conditions keeping in view the following proposed courses are in unique and emerging areas of knowledge:

- i. PG programme in Forestry Management,
- ii. PG programme in Sustainability Management,
- iii. PG Programme in Development and Sustainable Finance
- iv. Post Graduate Programme in Climate Resilience and Carbon Management
- v. PG programme in Conservation and Livelihoods,
- vi. PG programme in Sustainable Development.

4. **And whereas,** the recommendation of the UGC Expert Committee was considered and approved by the Commission in its 563<sup>rd</sup> meeting (Item No. 2.10) held on 22.11.2022. Considering the advice of UGC, the Ministry issued Letter to Intent (LoI) on 27.12.2022 to Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM), Nehru Nagar, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh for fulfilment of the following conditions within a period of three years:

- i. IIFM, Bhopal shall prepare detailed syllabi for the courses proposed in the emerging areas;
- ii. IIFM, Bhopal shall recruit faculty with the requisite qualifications;
- iii. IIFM, Bhopal shall create necessary infrastructure for the proposed school;
- iv. The Institute shall revise its DPR, Strategic Vision Plan and Rolling implementation plan accordingly;

- v. The Institute shall obtain NoC/Views of the State Government of Madhya Pradesh.
  - vi. IIFM, Bhopal shall submit a letter of commitment from the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change regarding continuous financial support to the institution even after its declaration as a Deemed to be University.
5. **And further whereas**, the compliance report submitted by the Institution, vide its letter No. IIFM/DIR/Aca.24/2023/140 dated 17.08.2023 vis-a-vis conditions of LoI was verified and accepted by UGC Expert Committee. The Commission in its 574<sup>th</sup> meeting (Item No.2.09) held on 03.11.2023 considered and approved the recommendation of the UGC Expert Committee.
6. **Now, therefore**, on the advice of the UGC, the Ministry of Education, in exercise of powers conferred under Section 3 of the UGC Act, 1956, hereby declares Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM), Nehru Nagar, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh as an Institution Deemed to be University under de-novo category for an initial period of five years. The said declaration is subject to the following conditions:
- i. Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM), Bhopal shall become compliant with the UGC (Institutions deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2023 within a period of six years from the date of issuance of this Notification;
  - ii. The deemed to be University status of Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM), Bhopal shall be confirmed after five years based on their review and advice of the Commission, as per the provisions of the prevailing Regulations.
  - iii. The entire moveable & immoveable assets will be legally transferred in the name of Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM), Bhopal within one year of this Notification.
  - iv. There shall be no diversion of assets or funds/revenues of the Institution Deemed to be University/or of its constituent teaching units, without prior permission of the UGC and Ministry of Education.
  - v. Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM), Bhopal shall not engage or indulge in any activities that are of commercial and profit making in nature.
  - vi. The academic programmes to be offered at Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM), Bhopal shall conform to the norms and standards prescribed by the UGC and the Statutory Councils/Bodies concerned.
  - vii. Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM), Bhopal shall start new academic Courses/Programmes, Off-Campus(es), Off-Shore Campus(es) only in accordance with the norms and guidelines issued by the UGC, from time to time, on the subject.
  - viii. Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM), Bhopal shall take appropriate steps to commence research programmes as well as doctoral and innovative academic programmes. The Institute shall not keep confined only to presently new emerging areas but it make endeavor to expand in other areas in accordance with the UGC Regulations / Guidelines as well as National Education Policy-2020.

- ix. Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM), Bhopal shall take all the required steps to get all the eligible academic courses/programmes rated for valid accreditation by National Board of Accreditation (NBA) and the Institute to get valid accreditation by National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), as the case may be, in terms of the provisions as contained in the UGC (Institutions Deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2023, as amended from time to time.
- x. All the prescribed norms and procedures of the Statutory Councils concerned in the matter of admission of students, intake capacity of students, renewal of approval to the academic course / programme, revision of intake capacity of students, starting of new courses / programmes, etc. shall continue to be in force, and shall be adhered to by Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM), Bhopal.
- xi. Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM), Bhopal shall submit its revised Memorandum of Association (MoA) / Rules to UGC/ Ministry of Education as per the provisions of the UGC (Institutions deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2023 by June, 2024. As and when necessary, the Institute shall update or revise or modify its MoA / Rules, as per the provisions of the prevailing Regulations.
- xii. Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM), Bhopal shall follow the fee structure as per the Rules and Regulations of the UGC and relevant Statutory Councils.
- xiii. Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM), Bhopal shall participate in annual Indian rankings issued by National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) of this Ministry.
- xiv. Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM), Bhopal shall compulsorily create Academic Bank of Credits (ABC), identities of their students and upload their credit score in digital lockers and ensure that the credit scores are reflected in ABC Portal and adopt Samarth e-Gov.



(Ambrish Kumar Sharma)

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Copy forwarded to: -

- 1) The Secretary, University Grants Commission, Bahadurshah Zafar Marg, New Delhi – 110002.
- 2) The Director, Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM), Nehru Nagar, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.
- 3) The Principal Secretary, Higher Education Department, Government of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal, MP.

- 4) The Member Secretary, All India Council for Technical Education, Indira Gandhi Stadium, I. P. Estate, New Delhi – 110002.
- 5) Press Information Bureau, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110001.
- 6) The Secretary-General, Association of Indian Universities, A.I.U. House, 16, Kotla Marg, New Delhi - 110002.
- 7) Joint Director (Administration) & Web Master, Department of Higher Education, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi with the request to issue necessary instructions to the CMIS Unit to display this notification on the website of Department of Higher Education.
- 8) Guard file / Notification file.



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