GUIDELINES FOR COMPETENCY BASED POSTGRADUATE TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR MD IN ANATOMY

Preamble:

The purpose of PG education is to create specialists who would provide high quality health care and advance the cause of science through research & training.

These guidelines would help to achieve a uniform level of training of MD Anatomy to post graduate students throughout the country. The student, after undergoing the training, should be able to deal effectively with the needs of the medical community and should be competent to handle all problems related to the specialty of Anatomy and recent advances in the subject. The post graduate student should also acquire skills in teaching anatomy to medical and para-medical students and be able to integrate teaching of Anatomy with other relevant subjects, while being aware of her/his limitations.

The purpose of this document is to provide teachers and learners illustrative guidelines to achieve defined outcomes through learning and assessment. This document was prepared by various subject-content specialists. The Reconciliation Board of the Academic Committee has attempted to render uniformity without compromise to purpose and content of the document. Compromise in purity of syntax has been made in order to preserve the purpose and content. This has necessitated retention of “domains of learning” under the heading “competencies”.

SUBJECT SPECIFIC LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The Goal of MD Anatomy is to train a doctor to become a competent teacher and researcher in Anatomy who:

1. Is aware of contemporary advances and developments in the field of Anatomy.
2. Has acquired the competencies pertaining to the subject of Anatomy that are required to be practiced at all levels of health system.
3. Is able to discharge responsibilities and participate in National Health Education Programme.
4. Is oriented to the principles of research methodology.
5. Has acquired skills in educating medical and paramedical professionals.
6. Has acquired skills in effectively communicating with the students and colleagues from various medical and paramedical fields.
7. Has acquired skills of integrating anatomy with other disciplines as and when needed.
8. Has acquired qualities of a good teacher capable of innovations in teaching methodology.
9. Has been able to demonstrate adequate management skills to function as an effective leader of the team engaged in teaching and research.

After completing the three year course in MD Anatomy the student should have achieved competence in the following:

1. Knowledge of Anatomy
   1.1 Acquire competencies in gross and surface anatomy, neuroanatomy, embryology, genetics, histology, radiological anatomy, applied aspects and recent advances of the above mentioned branches of anatomy to clinical practice. These are given in detail in subsequent sections.

2. Practical and Procedural skills
   2.1 Acquire mastery in dissection skills, embalming, tissue preparation, staining and museum preparation.

3. Training skill in Research Methodology
   3.1 Acquire skills in teaching, research methodology, epidemiology & basic information technology.
   3.2 Acquire knowledge in the basic aspects of Biostatistics and research methodology.
   3.3 Has knowledge to plan the protocol of a thesis, carry out review of literature, execution of research project and preparation of report.
   3.4 Has ability to use computer applications Microsoft office (Microsoft word, excel, power point), Internet, Searching scientific databases (e.g. PubMed, Medline, Cochrane reviews).
   3.5 Acquire skills in paper & poster preparation, writing research papers and Thesis.

4. Professionalism, attitude and communication skills:
   4.1 Develop honest work ethics and empathetic behavior with students and colleagues.
   4.2 Acquire capacity of not letting his/her personal beliefs, prejudices, and limitations come in the way of duty.
   4.3 Acquire attitude and communication skills to interact with colleagues, teachers and students.

5. Teaching Anatomy
   5.1 Practicing different methods of teaching-learning.
   5.2 Making presentations of the subject topics and research outputs.

6. Problem Solving
6.1 Demonstrate the ability to identify applied implications of the knowledge of anatomy and discuss information relevant to the problem, using consultation, texts, archival literature and electronic media.
6.2 Demonstrate the ability to correlate the clinical conditions to the anatomical/embryological/hereditary factors.
6.3 Demonstrate the ability to evaluate scientific/clinical information and critically analyze conflicting data and hypothesis.

**SUBJECT SPECIFIC COMPETENCIES**

At the end of the course, the student should have acquired following competencies:

A. **Cognitive domain**

1. Describe gross anatomy of entire body including upper limb, lower limb, thorax, abdomen, pelvis, perineum, head and neck, brain and spinal cord.
2. Explain the normal disposition of gross structure, and their interrelationship in the human body. She/He should be able to analyze the integrated functions of organs systems and locate the site of gross lesions according to deficits encountered.
3. Describe the process of gametogenesis, fertilization, implantation and placenta formation in early human embryonic development along with its variation and applied anatomy.
4. Demonstrate knowledge about the sequential development of organs and systems along with its clinical anatomy, recognize critical stages of development and effects of common teratogens, genetic mutations and environmental hazards. She/He should be able to explain developmental basis of variations and congenital anomalies.
5. Explain the principles of light, transmission and scanning, compound, electron, fluorescent and virtual microscopy.
6. Describe the microscopic structure of various tissues & organs and correlate structure with functions as a prerequisite for understanding the altered state in various disease processes.
7. Demonstrate knowledge about cell and its components, cell cycle, cellular differentiation and proliferation.
8. Describe structure, number, classification, abnormalities and syndromes related to human chromosomes.
9. Describe important procedures in cytogenetics and molecular genetics with its application.
10. Demonstrate knowledge about single gene pattern inheritance, intermediate pattern and multiple alleles, mutations, non-mendelian inheritance, mitochondrial inheritance, genome imprinting and parental disomy.
11. Describe multifactorial pattern of inheritance, teratology, structure gene, molecular screening, cancer genetics and pharmacogenetics.
12. Demonstrate knowledge about reproduction genetics, assisted reproduction, prenatal diagnosis, genetic counseling and ethics in genetics.
14. Describe immune system and cell types involved in defense mechanisms of the body. Also explain gross features, cytoarchitecture, functions, development and histogenesis of various primary and secondary lymphoid organs in the body.
15. Demonstrate knowledge about common techniques employed in cellular immunology and histocompatibility testing.
16. Demonstrate applications of knowledge of structure & development of tissue-organ system to comprehend deviations from normal.
17. Demonstrate knowledge about recent advances in medical sciences which facilitate comprehension of structure function correlations and applications in clinical problem solving.
18. Explain collection, maintenance and application of stem cells, cryobanking and principles of organ donation from recently dead bodies.
19. Demonstrate knowledge about surface marking of all regions of the body.
20. Able to interpret various radiographs of the body, normal CT Scan, ultrasound and MRI.
21. Demonstrate knowledge about different anthropological traits and use of related instruments.
22. Demonstrate knowledge about outline of comparative anatomy of whole body and basic human evolution
23. Demonstrate knowledge about identification of human bones, determination of sex, age and height for medico legal application of anatomy

B. Affective domain

1. Demonstrate self-awareness and personal development in routine conduct. (Self-awareness)
2. Communicate effectively with peers, students and teachers in various teaching-learning activities. (Communication)
3. Demonstrate
   a. Due respect in handling human body parts & cadavers during dissection. (Ethics & Professionalism)
   b. Humane touch while demonstrating living surface marking in subject/patient. (Ethics & Professionalism)
4. Acquire capacity of not letting his/her personal beliefs, prejudices and limitations come in the way of duty.
5. Appreciate the issues of equity and social accountability while exposing students to early clinical exposure. (Equity and social accountability)

C. Psychomotor domain

At the end of the course the student should be able to:
1. Identify, locate and demonstrate surface marking of clinically important structures in the cadaver and correlate it with living anatomy.
3. Locate and identify clinically relevant structures in dissected cadavers.
4. Locate and identify cells & tissues under the microscope.
5. Identify important structures visualized by imaging techniques, specifically radiographs, computerized tomography (CT) scans, MRI and ultrasonography.
6. Demonstrate various movements at the important joints and actions of various groups of muscles in the human body.
7. Demonstrate anatomical basis of common clinical procedures expected to be performed by a basic medical doctor.
8. Demonstrate different methods of teaching-learning and make presentations of the subject topics and research outputs.

### Specific practice based competencies:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name/Description of practice based competencies</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1. Gross anatomy:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1 Procurement, Embalming and Preservation of human cadavers</td>
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<td>1.2 Preparation of tanks for preserving bodies</td>
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<td>1.3 Dissection of cadaver</td>
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<td>1.4 Window dissection of important regions</td>
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<td>1.5 Preparation of specimens for museum with display</td>
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<tr>
<td>a) soft parts</td>
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<td>b) models</td>
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<td>c) charts</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.6 Preparation and preservation of human bones / skeleton as assigned by the faculty</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2. Histology</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>2.1 Preparation of common fixatives embalming fluid 10% formalin, Bouin's fluid etc</td>
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<td>2.2 Making paraffin blocks and section cutting and mounting</td>
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<td>2.3 Preparation of staining set for H and E staining and staining paraffin sections with the stain</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.4 Making celloidin, araldite, gelatin blocks and their section cutting</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.5 Processing hard tissues, decalcification of bones, block making and sectioning, preparation of ground sections of calcified bones.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.6 Frozen section cutting on freezing microtome and cryostat</td>
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<td>2.7 Honing and Stropping of microtome knives, including sharpening by automatic knife sharpener</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.8 Histology file in which LM and EM pictures of all the organs and tissues of the body should be drawn and a small description of salient features written</td>
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</table>
3. **Histochemical Methods**  
3.1 Practical classes for staining of glycogen, mucopolysaccharides, alkaline phosphatase acid phosphatase, and calcium

4. **Cytogenetics**  
4.1 Preparation of media, different solutions, stains etc.  
4.2 Preparation of buccal smear for sex chromatin  
   Human chromosome preparation from peripheral blood and karyotyping.  
4.3 Banding techniques (G and C)  
4.4 Making of Pedigree charts for study of patterns of inheritance.  
4.5 Chromosomal Analysis.

5. **Neuroanatomy:**  
5.1 Dissection of brain and spinal cord for teaching and learning purpose  
5.2 Preparation of brain and spinal cord macroscopic and microscopic sections and identification of different parts in them.  
5.3 Discussions on clinical problems related to neurological disorders and anatomical explanation for the same.

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**Syllabus**

A post graduate student, after three years of training in M.D. (Anatomy) should have acquired knowledge in the following aspects of anatomy:

**Gross anatomy**  
**Section - 1**  
Gross Anatomy of entire body including upper limb, lower limb, thorax, abdomen, pelvis, perineum, head and neck, brain and spinal cord

**Section - 2**  
**Developmental anatomy/embryology**  
- General embryology: gametogenesis, fertilization, implantation and placenta, early human embryonic development.  
- Systemic embryology: development of organ systems and associated common congenital abnormalities with teratogenesis.  
- Physiological correlations of congenital anomalies.

**Section - 3**  
**Histology and histochemistry**

**Cell Biology:**
• Cytoplasm - cytoplasmic matrix, cell membrane, cell organelles, cytoskeleton, cell inclusions, cilia and flagella.
• Nucleus - nuclear envelope, nuclear matrix, DNA and other components of chromatin, protein synthesis, nucleolus, nuclear changes indicating cell death.
• Cell cycle - mitosis, meiosis, cell renewal.
• Cellular differentiation and proliferation.

• Microscopic structure of the body:
  • Principles of light, transmission and scanning, electron, fluorescent, confocal and virtual microscopy.
  • The systems/organs of body - Cellular organization, light and electron microscopic features, structure - function correlations, and cellular organization.

Section - 4

Neuroanatomy:
• Brain and its environment, Development of the nervous system, Neuron and Neuroglia, Somatic sensory system, Olfactory and optic pathways, Cochleovestibular and gustatory pathways, Motor pathways, Central autonomic pathways, Hypothalamo-hypophyseal system, Limbic system, Basal ganglia, Reticular system, Cross Sectional anatomy of brain and spinal cord.
• Detailed structure of the central nervous system and its applied aspect.

Section - 5

Genetics
• Human Chromosomes - Structure, number and classification, methods of chromosome preparation banding patterns. Chromosome abnormalities, Autosomal and Sex chromosomal abnormalities syndromes, Molecular and Cytogenetics.
• Single gene pattern inheritance: Autosomal and Sex chromosomal pattern of inheritance, Intermediate pattern and multiple alleles, Mutations, Non-Mendelian inheritance, Mitochondrial inheritance, Genome imprinting, parental disomy.
• Reproduction Genetics - Male and Female Infertility, Abortuses, Assisted reproduction, Preimplantation genetics, Prenatal diagnosis, Genetic Counseling and Ethics of Genetics.
• Principles of Gene therapy and its applied knowledge.

Section - 6
Immunology

• Immune system and the cell types involved in defense mechanisms of the body. Gross features, cytoarchitecture, functions, development and histogenesis of various primary and secondary lymphoid organs in the body.
• Biological and clinical significance of the major histocompatibility complex of man including its role in transplantation, disease susceptibility/resistance and genetic control of the immune response.
• Common techniques employed in cellular immunology and histocompatibility testing.
• Molecular hybridization and PCR technology in immunology research particularly mechanism of antigen presentation, structural and functional relevance of the T cell receptor, genetic control of the immune response. Molecular basis of susceptibility to disease.

Section - 7
Applied anatomy and recent advances

• Clinical correlations of structure and functions of human body. Anatomical basis and explanations for clinical problems.
• Applications of knowledge of development, structural (microscopy), neuro anatomy to comprehend deviations from normal.
• Recent advances in medical sciences which facilitate comprehension of structure function correlations and applications in clinical problem solving.
• Collection, maintenance and application of stem cells, cryobanking and principles of organ donation from recently dead bodies.

Section - 8

• Surface Marking and Radiology
  Surface marking of all regions of the body. Interpretation of normal radiographs of the body including special contrast procedures including barium studies, cholicystrography, pylography, salphingography. Normal CT Scan, MRI and Ultrasound.
• **Anthropology**
  Different anthropological traits, Identification and use of Anthropological instruments.

• **Forensic Medicine:**
  Identification of human bones from their remains and determination of sex, age, and height for medico legal application of Anatomy.

• **Outline of comparative anatomy of the whole body and basic human evolution**

**Departmental Resources:**

It is mandatory for the department of Anatomy to develop at least three of the following laboratories, in addition to the other facilities. The laboratory should be involved in active research in at least one well defined field.

1. Histology
2. Immunology
3. Electronmicroscopy/ Fluorescence microscopy/ confocal and other forms of microscopy laboratories
4. Developmental anatomy
5. Anthropometry
6. Neuroanatomy
7. Cytogenetics
8. Imaging technique for Radiological Anatomy

**TEACHING AND LEARNING METHODS**

**Teaching methodology**

During the course, students should have formal training in teaching and research. The sessions should be in the form of:

1. **Didactic Teaching**
   Topics in gross, surface and cross sectional anatomy, microanatomy, embryology, neuroanatomy, histochemistry, and genetics taught by faculty members.

2. **Training in communication skills** - journal club, seminars, demonstrations, tutorials, lectures, quizzing.

3. Hands-on experience - techniques in microanatomy, neuroanatomy, gross anatomy, embryology, histochemistry, genetics, microscopy. Embalming and preservation of cadavers

4. Teaching: participate in the teaching and training programme of undergraduate students and interns.

5. Participate in seminars, symposia, group-discussions and Journal clubs.
7. Participation in formulating evaluation methods: Setting objective questions, Short Answer Questions, Multiple Choice Questions and Objective Structured Practical Examination (OSPE).
8. Prepare teaching modules and museum specimens.
9. Participation in organization of symposia/workshops
10. Explain and interpret normal radiological anatomy and sectional anatomy of the human body as studied by various imaging techniques.
11. Comprehend and demonstrate surface and living anatomy of the human body.
12. Relate forensic anatomy to the study with medico-legal aspects of bone in particular.
13. Explain the general principles of Anatomy Act and Organ Transplantation Act.
14. Comprehend ethical aspects of biomedical research.
15. Comprehend the basis of disposal of biomedical waste.
16. Comprehend horizontal integration of various subdivisions of anatomy with relevant physiology and biochemistry.
17. **Log Book:** Every student should maintain a logbook in which a record of the practical exercises completed should be entered. The Log books shall be checked and assessed periodically by the faculty members imparting the training.
18. A postgraduate student of a postgraduate degree course in broad specialities/super specialities would be required to present one poster presentation, to read one paper at a national/state conference and to present one research paper which should be published/accepted for publication/sent for publication during the period of his postgraduate studies so as to make him eligible to appear at the postgraduate degree examination.
19. Department should encourage e-learning activities.

**ASSESSMENT**

**FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT:**
Formative assessment should be continual and should assess medical knowledge, procedural & academic skills, interpersonal skills, professionalism, self directed learning and ability to practice in the system.

During the three year training period,
- A record of all theoretical, practical and experimental work done by the post graduate student and its assessment will be kept and shall be available for examiners at the time of the final practical and viva voce examination and
- There will be periodical examinations during the course of training. The pre-final theory and practical examination will be conducted by the faculty of the
concerned college. During last six months the post graduate student will have weekly assessment tutorials conducted by the faculty. All activities will be evaluated.

General Principles

Internal Assessment should be frequent, cover all domains of learning and used to provide feedback to improve learning; it should also cover professionalism and communication skills. The Internal Assessment should be conducted in theory and practical/clinical examination.

Quarterly assessment during the MD training should be based on:

1. Journal based / recent advances learning
2. Patient based /Laboratory or Skill based learning
3. Self directed learning and teaching
4. Departmental and interdepartmental learning activity
5. External and Outreach Activities / CMEs

The student to be assessed periodically as per categories listed in postgraduate student appraisal form (Annexure I).

SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT:

The summative examination would be carried out as per the Rules given in POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION REGULATIONS, 2000.

The Post Graduate examination will be in three parts:

1. Thesis:

Every post graduate student shall carry out work on an assigned research project under the guidance of a recognised Post Graduate Teacher, the result of which shall be written up and submitted in the form of a Thesis. Work for writing the Thesis is aimed at contributing to the development of a spirit of enquiry, besides exposing the post graduate student to the techniques of research, critical analysis, acquaintance with the latest advances in medical science and the manner of identifying and consulting available literature.

Thesis shall be submitted at least six months before the Theory and Clinical / Practical examination. The thesis shall be examined by a minimum of three examiners; one internal and two external examiners, who shall not be the examiners for Theory and Clinical examination. A post graduate student shall be allowed to appear for the Theory
and Practical/Clinical examination only after the acceptance of the Thesis by the examiners.

2. Theory
The examinations shall be organised on the basis of ‘Grading’ or ‘Marking system’ to evaluate and to certify post graduate student’s level of knowledge, skill and competence at the end of the training. Obtaining a minimum of 50% marks in ‘Theory’ as well as ‘Practical’ separately shall be mandatory for passing examination as a whole. The examination for M.D./ MS shall be held at the end of 3rd academic year. An academic term shall mean six month’s training period.

There shall be four theory papers.

- **Paper I:** Gross Anatomy
- **Paper II:** Embryology, Microscopic Anatomy and Genetics
- **Paper III:** Neuroanatomy
- **Paper IV:** Applied Human Anatomy and recent advances in anatomical Sciences

**Theory Papers**

**Paper I: Gross Anatomy**
- a). Gross Anatomy of whole human body i.e. upper limb, lower limb thorax, abdomen, pelvis, head and neck

**Paper II: Embryology, Microscopic Anatomy and genetics**
- a). General Principles of genetics, Cytogenetic as applicable to medicine and different genetic disorders, gene therapy.
- b). General Embryology, Systemic Embryology, methods of experimental embryology, clinically oriented embryology and teratology
- c). Histology (including fine structure) of tissues and organs of the body.
- d) Principles of light, transmission and scanning electron microscopy, confocal, virtual microscopy.

**Paper III: Neuroanatomy**
- Neuroanatomy - gross and applied aspects

**Paper IV: Applied Human Anatomy and recent advances in medical sciences**
- (a) Clinical and applied aspect of Anatomy
- (b) Recent advances in the application of knowledge of anatomy on human
body
(c) Collection, maintenance and uses of stem cells
(d) Cryobanking
(e) Basics of principles of organ donation from recently dead bodies.

3. Practicals: spread over a minimum of 2 days
   First Day Practical:
   (a): Gross Anatomy
       Dissection and related viva voce
   (b): Histology
       Spotting (10 spots) and viva voce
       Techniques paraffin block making, section cutting. Staining (H and E)
       stain) with related viva

   Second Day Practical:
   a) Microteaching of a short topic to assess teaching skills
   b) A short synopsis of the thesis work should be presented by the post graduate
       student
   c) Grand viva including Gross anatomy, cross sectional anatomy, radiological
       Anatomy, Surface Anatomy, Embryology

   Practical and Oral/Viva-Voce Examination

   Practical Examination to be organized as per details given below:
   Dissection on cadaver
   Histology spotting
   Histological techniques
   Surface Marking
   Radiology
   Teaching ability
   Thesis presentation

   Oral/Viva-voce Examination

   Grand viva
   On dissected parts of the whole human body including nervous system, and
   Embryology models, teratology, skeletal system including short bones, embalming
   techniques and genetics, radiographs, MRI, CT & ultrasonographs.

   Recommended reading:

   Books (latest edition)
Gross Anatomy:
5. Keith and Moore Clinical Oriented Anatomy. Lippincot Williams and Wilkins.

Histology
7. E.C. Clayden. Practical of section cutting and staining.

Genetics
Embryology
2. TW Sadler. Langman’s Medical Embryology. Lippincotts, Williams and Wilkins.

Neuroanatomy

Statistics

Radiology

Surface anatomy
2. A. Halim. and A.C. Das. Surface Anatomy Lucknow. ASI, KGMC.

Journals
03-05 international Journals and 02 national (all indexed) journals
Annexure I

Postgraduate Students Appraisal Form
Pre / Para /Clinical Disciplines

Name of the Department/Unit:

Name of the PG Student:

Period of Training: FROM…………………TO……………

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<tr>
<th>Sr. No.</th>
<th>PARTICULARS</th>
<th>Not Satisfactory</th>
<th>Satisfactory</th>
<th>More Than Satisfactory</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
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<td>1.</td>
<td>Journal based / recent advances learning</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>Self directed learning and teaching</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>Departmental and interdepartmental learning activity</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>External and Outreach Activities / CMEs</td>
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<td>6.</td>
<td>Thesis / Research work</td>
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<td>7.</td>
<td>Log Book Maintenance</td>
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Publications: Yes/ No

Remarks:

*REMARKS: Any significant positive or negative attributes of a postgraduate student to be mentioned. For score less than 4 in any category, remediation must be suggested. Individual feedback to postgraduate student is strongly recommended.

SIGNATURE of ASSESSEE  SIGNATURE OF CONSULTANT  SIGNATURE OF HOD