

L. C. BILL No. X OF 2026.

A BILL

further to amend the Maharashtra Public Universities Act, 2016.

(As passed by Legislative Council on the 24th June, 2026.)

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

Mah. VI
of 2017.

10 **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 (Second Amendment) Ordinance, 2026, on the 16th June
2026;

Mah. 10
Ord. VI
of 2026.

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

Short title and
commencement.

1. (1) This Act may be called the Maharashtra Public Universities (Third Amendment) Act, 2026.

(2) It shall be deemed to have come into force on the 16th June 2026.

Amendment
of section 109
of Mah. VI of
2017.

2. In section 109 of the Maharashtra Public Universities Act, 2016,-

Mah. VI
of 2017.

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(1) in sub-section (3),-

(i) in clause (d), second proviso shall be deleted;

(ii) in clause (g), after the existing proviso, the following proviso shall be added, namely :-

“Provided further that, for the academic year 2026-27, the State Government may grant final approval to open new college or institution on or before the 30th June 2026.”;

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(2) in sub-section (4), in clause (d),-

(i) second proviso and Table shall be deleted;

(ii) after the existing proviso, the following proviso shall be added, namely :-

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“Provided further that, for the academic year 2026-27, the State Government may grant permission to start a new course of study, subjects, faculties, additional divisions or satellite centers on or before the 30th June 2026.”.

Repeal of
Mah. Ord. VI
of 2026 and
saving.

3. (1) The Maharashtra Public Universities (Second Amendment) Ordinance, 2026, is hereby repealed.

20 Mah.
Ord. VI
of 2026.

(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.

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STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Section 109 of the Maharashtra Public Universities Act, 2016 (Mah. VI of 2017) provides procedure for opening new college or institution or new course, subject, faculty, division or satellite center. Clause (g) of sub-section (3) of said section 109 provides that the State Government may grant final approval to open new College or institution, on or before 15th June and clause (d) of sub-section (4) of said section 109 provides that, the State Government may grant permission to start a new course of study, subjects, faculties, additional divisions or satellite centers, on or before 15th June of the year in which permission is sought.

2. The procedure for opening of new college or institution and starting of new course of study, subject, faculty, additional division or satellite center could not be carried out within the period specified in said section 109 due to Model Code of Conduct for Biennial election of the Maharashtra Legislative Council. Therefore, it was considered expedient to extend the date for granting approval or permission by the State Government to open new college or institution or to start new course of study, subjects, faculties, additional divisions or satellite centers for the academic year 2026-27 by suitably amending said section 109.

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 (Mah. VI of 2017), for the purposes aforesaid, the Maharashtra Public Universities (Second Amendment) Ordinance, 2026, (Mah. Ord. VI of 2026), was promulgated by the Governor of Maharashtra on the 16th June 2026.

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

Mumbai,
Dated the 22nd June, 2026.

CHANDRAKANT (DADA) PATIL,
Minister for Higher and Technical Education.

**ANNEXURE TO THE L.C. BILL No. X OF 2026 -
THE MAHARASHTRA PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES
(THIRD AMENDMENT) BILL, 2026.**

(Extracts from the Maharashtra Public Universities Act, 2016)

(Mah. VI of 2017)

1. to 108.	*	*	*	*	
109. (1) and (2)		*	*	*	
(3) (a) to (c)	*	*	*	*	

Procedure for
permission
for opening
new college or
new course,
subject,
faculty,
division.

(d) out of the applications recommended by the university, the State Government may grant a Letter of Intent on or before 31st January of the immediately following year after the recommendations of the university under clause (c). The Letter of Intent may be granted to such institutions as the State Government may consider fit and proper in its absolute discretion, taking into account the relevant factors, the suitability of the management seeking Letter of Intent, state level priority with regard to location of institutions of higher learning, etc. The Letter of Intent shall be communicated by the State Government to the university, on or before the date specified in this clause:

Provided, however, that in exceptional cases and for the reasons to be recorded in writing any application not recommended by the university may be approved by the State Government for grant of a Letter of Intent to college or institutions of higher learning :

Provided further that, for the academic year 2026-2027, the State Government may grant Letter of Intent on or before 15th March 2026.

(e) and (f)	*	*	*	*
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(g) after considering the report of the university under clause (f), the State Government may grant final approval to such management as it may consider fit and proper in its absolute discretion, taking into account the State Government's budgetary resources, and other relevant factors, the suitability of managements seeking permission to open new institution, etc. The final approval under this clause may be granted on or before 15th June, of the year in which such new college or institutions are proposed to be started. Such approval from the State Government shall be communicated to the university. Approvals granted thereafter shall be given effect by the university only in the subsequent academic year:

Provided however that, in exceptional cases and for the reasons to be recorded in writing any compliance report on the Letter of Intent, which is not recommended by the university, may be approved by the State Government.

(4) (a) to (c)	*	*	*	*
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(d) out of the applications recommended by the university, the State Government may grant permission on or before 15th June of the year to such institutions as it may consider fit and proper in its absolute discretion, taking into account other relevant factors, the budgetary resources of the State Government and other relevant factors, the suitability of the management seeking permission, etc. The permission shall be communicated by the State Government to the university, on or before the date specified in this clause:

provided however that, in exceptional cases and for the reasons to be recorded in writing any application not recommended by the university may be approved by the State Government:

Provided further that, to extend the date for grant of permission by the State Government, for the academic year 2024-2025, the date referred to in clause (d) of sub-section (4) as specified in column (2) of the Table given below, shall be read as provided in column (3) of the said Table :—

TABLE

Clause (1)	Date provided in existing provision (2)	Date provided for Academic Year 2024-25 (3)
(d)	on or before the 15th June of the year in which permission is sought.	on or before the 15th July 2024.

(5) to (9)	*	*	*	*
110. to 148.	*	*	*	*
SCHEDULE	*	*	*	*

**MAHARASHTRA LEGISLATURE
SECRETARIAT**

[L. C. BILL No. X OF 2026.]

**[A Bill further to amend the
Maharashtra Public Universities
Act, 2016.]**

[SHRI CHANDRAKANT (DADA) PATIL,
Minister for Higher and Technical
Education.]

**[As passed by Legislative Council on
the 24th June, 2026.]**

DR. VILAS ATHAWALE,
Secretary-III,
Maharashtra Legislative Council.