



SHAHEED ZULFIQAR ALI BHUTTO
MEDICAL UNIVERSITY

F.2-1/SZABMU/REG/2024/2169

Dated June 05 2024

CIRCULAR

It is to inform all the concerned faculty members and students that a Fact Finding Committee was constituted by the HEC on directions of the Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training (M/o FEPT), Islamabad to probe the matter of objectionable content of English Quiz offered by the visiting faculty (1st Semester, Bachelor of Electrical Engineering (BEE) programme), at COMSATS University, Islamabad.

To avoid such incidents in future, the worthy Vice Chancellor has desired to share the recommendations (annexed) of the Fact-Finding Committee with all faculty members and students of constituent and affiliated colleges for implementation of the same.

REGISTRAR

Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto Medical University

Distribution:

All Principals, constituted and affiliated colleges

CC:

- PSO to VC
- PA to Registrar
- Master File (Office orders file)

Recommendations:

- i. All Universities/HEIs shall consider improving their academic and research environment in accordance with the Islamic principles and values and the ideology of Pakistan with the objective of preventing such inappropriate occurrences in future.
- ii. Prescribe “Code of Academic Conduct” for all constituencies of the university including faculty. The code should elaborate the question of freedom of speech and actions and accentuate to strictly adhere to the religious, cultural, and social values and norms while developing and delivering lectures, and preparing assessment tools, including quizzes and assignments, etc.
- iii. A mechanism may be evolved to periodically evaluate the quizzes under subjects/disciplines such as languages, Islamic Studies, History, etc. to evaluate if the contents, expressions, and questions are framed appropriately and avoid controversial topics, and conform to religious, cultural, ethnic, ethical and social values and considerations. Completion of course files with respect to quizzes and assignments and its periodical review process is advised.
- iv. The Faculty and staff employment contract should specifically elaborate and seek endorsement of the considerations mentioned at Item i and ii above.
- v. Relevant promotional material, symbolism (quotes, sign/billboards, thematic pictures or designs) may be prepared, displayed and distributed to establish conducive and beneficial organization environment within the university.
- vi. Orientation Packs for faculty as well as Students should contain all relevant material and formally seek support of the faculty, staff and students for adhering to the Islamic cultural principles and values.
- vii. Smart and attractive Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs), promotional material such as pics, video clips, etc. may be prepared and staff and faculty and students are required to complete such MOOC with first year joining the institution.
- viii. Promote and establish Wellbeing Centres in the Universities to detect abnormal behaviours and extend counselling services to the needy staff/faculty/students.
- ix. QEC has role to play in establishing if the necessary steps have been taken by the universities. Therefore, to monitor the institutional effectiveness of the steps taken by the Universities, QEC shall document that university performance in this regard, and the same shall be considered as merit in the QEC Performance Review as well as IPE.