

The First Ordinance of NERIM UNIVERSITY



Established under
“The North Eastern Regional Institute of Management
(NERIM) University Act, 2025” (Assam Act No. II of 2026),
in accordance with the provisions of
“The Assam Private University Act, 2007”.

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NERIM UNIVERSITY

FIRST ORDINANCE, 2026

(Integrated Academic, Examination & Research Framework)

PREAMBLE

WHEREAS, NERIM University is committed to fostering academic excellence, integrity, transparency, innovation, and accountability in teaching, research, evaluation, and governance;

AND WHEREAS, it is necessary to establish a comprehensive, uniform, and legally enforceable framework governing academic programmes, examinations, research activities, evaluation mechanisms, certification, and academic administration;

AND WHEREAS, the University seeks to align its academic systems with the **University Grants Commission (UGC) Regulations, National Education Policy (NEP) 2020**, and accreditation standards including NAAC;

NOW, THEREFORE, in exercise of the powers conferred by the Act and Statutes, the following Ordinance is hereby enacted.

This Ordinance has been made by the Board of Management and approved by the Governing Body of the University in accordance with the provisions of the Act and the Statutes.

PART I – GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. Short Title, Extent and Commencement

1.1 This Ordinance shall be called the NERIM University First Ordinance, 2026.

1.2 It shall extend to all campuses, Schools, Departments, Centres, constituent units, and affiliated institutions of the University.

1.3 It shall come into force on such date as may be notified by the University with the approval of the Board of Management.

2. Applicability

2.1 This Ordinance shall apply to all academic programmes, examination systems, research activities, and academic administration of the University.

2.2 All academic and examination activities shall be conducted strictly in accordance with this Ordinance, the Statutes, and the Act.

2.3 In case of any inconsistency, the provisions of the Act and the Statutes shall prevail.

3. Definitions

3.1 Words and expressions used but not defined in this Ordinance shall have the meanings assigned to them in the Act and the Statutes.

3.2 For the purposes of this Ordinance:

- (a) “Programme” means an approved course of study leading to a degree, diploma, or certificate.
- (b) “Credit” means a unit of academic workload as defined by UGC norms.
- (c) “Student” means a person duly admitted and enrolled in the University.
- (d) “Research Scholar” means a student registered in a doctoral or research programme.
- (e) “Supervisor” means a recognized research guide approved by the competent authority.
- (f) “Examination” includes all forms of assessment.
- (g) “Evaluator” includes examiners, moderators, and assessors.
- (h) “Unfair Means” means any act of academic misconduct including cheating, plagiarism, impersonation, or use of unauthorized means.

3.3 Institutional Vision, Positioning and Strategic Goals

3.3.1 The University shall operate with a clearly defined institutional vision aligned with national priorities and global higher education standards.

3.3.2 The University shall establish measurable strategic goals including:

- (a) national and international ranking targets;
- (b) research output and impact benchmarks;
- (c) graduate employability and progression targets;
- (d) internationalization and collaboration metrics.

3.3.3 These goals shall be:

- (a) approved by the Board of Management;
- (b) reviewed annually;
- (c) aligned with institutional KPIs and planning frameworks.

3.3.4 All academic, research, and administrative activities shall be aligned with these strategic goals.

3.4 Academic Data and Intelligence Framework

3.4.1 The University shall implement an integrated academic data system to support evidence-based decision-making.

3.4.2 The system shall capture:

- (a) student performance and progression;
- (b) CO and PO attainment;
- (c) faculty performance;
- (d) research output;
- (e) institutional KPIs.

3.4.3 Data shall be:

- (a) reviewed periodically by Academic Council;
- (b) used for curriculum improvement and planning;
- (c) integrated with institutional strategy.

3.4.4 No major academic decision shall be taken without data-based justification.

PART II – ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES FRAMEWORK

4. Establishment of Academic Programmes

- 4.1 No academic programme leading to the award of a Degree, Diploma, Certificate, or any other academic distinction shall be instituted except in accordance with the provisions of the Act and the Statutes.
- 4.2 Every proposal for the institution of a new academic programme shall be initiated by the Board of Studies concerned, along with detailed curriculum, credit structure, and resource requirements.
- 4.3 Such proposal shall be examined by the Academic Council for academic validity, standards, and compliance with regulatory norms.
- 4.4 The programme shall be instituted only with the approval of the Board of Management, on the recommendation of the Academic Council.
- 4.5 Where required, prior approval of the concerned statutory or regulatory authority shall be obtained before commencement of the programme.
- 4.6 The nomenclature of Degrees shall conform to the provisions of the UGC Act, 1956.

5. Structure of Academic Programmes

- 5.1 The structure of each academic programme shall be prescribed by the Regulations, on the recommendation of the Board of Studies and approval of the Academic Council.
- 5.2 Every programme shall specify:
 - (a) duration;
 - (b) credit requirements;
 - (c) course components;
 - (d) evaluation scheme;
 - (e) conditions for completion.
- 5.3 The structure shall be consistent with UGC norms and applicable regulatory requirements.
- 5.4 Minimum Academic Standards

- (a) Each academic programme shall include:
 - (i) clearly defined Course Outcomes (COs) and Programme Outcomes (POs);
 - (ii) structured credit distribution across core, elective, and experiential components;
 - (iii) mandatory internship, project, or field-based learning;
 - (iv) defined assessment and evaluation scheme.
- (b) Outcome attainment shall be measured using defined assessment tools and performance thresholds.
- (c) No programme shall be approved without compliance with these minimum standards.

6. Curriculum Design and Revision

- 6.1 The curriculum for each programme shall be designed by the Board of Studies and approved by the Academic Council.
- 6.2 The curriculum shall be reviewed periodically, ordinarily once every three years, or earlier if required.
- 6.3 Any revision of curriculum shall be subject to approval of the Academic Council.
- 6.4 External experts may be associated with curriculum design and revision as may be prescribed by the Regulations.

7. Academic Performance and Enforcement Framework

- 7.1 The University shall establish minimum performance benchmarks for:
 - (a) academic programmes;
 - (b) student outcomes;
 - (c) faculty performance;
 - (d) research output.
- 7.2 Where performance falls below prescribed standards:
 - (a) Programme Level:– mandatory review and corrective action plan within one academic cycle;
 - (b) Faculty Level:– performance improvement measures including training and evaluation;
 - (c) Institutional Level:– review by Academic Council and Board of Management.
- 7.3 Persistent underperformance shall lead to:
 - (a) restructuring or suspension of programmes;
 - (b) administrative action as deemed appropriate.
- 7.4 All enforcement actions shall be documented and reviewed by the competent authorities.

8. Academic Regulations

8.1 Detailed provisions relating to admission, attendance, evaluation, promotion, and completion of programmes shall be prescribed by the Regulations.

8.2 Such Regulations shall be framed by the Academic Council and approved by the Board of Management.

8.3 All students shall be governed by the applicable Regulations of their respective programmes.

9. Academic Flexibility

9.1 Flexibility and Mobility Framework

The University shall provide academic flexibility in accordance with NEP 2020 and UGC guidelines, including:

(a) Multiple Entry and Exit

- i. Provision for students to exit and re-enter programmes at defined stages;
- ii. Recognition of credits earned prior to exit.

(b) Credit Transfer

- i. Transfer of credits within the University and from other recognized institutions;
- ii. Compliance with UGC and national credit frameworks.

(c) Academic Bank of Credits (ABC)

- i. Integration with the Academic Bank of Credits system;
- ii. Digital storage and transfer of credits.

(d) Blended and Hybrid Learning

- i. Combination of online and offline modes;
- ii. Recognition of MOOCs and digital learning platforms where approved.

9.2 Objective

Academic flexibility, including credit transfer, multiple entry and exit, and related provisions, shall be governed by Regulations in accordance with UGC norms.

10. Industry and Global Engagement Framework

10.1 The University shall promote strong linkages with industry, research organizations, and international institutions.

10.2 Each programme shall incorporate:

- (a) industry interaction;
- (b) experiential learning components;
- (c) exposure to global academic practices.

10.3 The University shall:

- (a) establish collaborations with national and international institutions;
- (b) promote student and faculty mobility;
- (c) encourage joint research and academic programmes.

10.4 Industry and global engagement shall be periodically reviewed for effectiveness.

11. Academic Planning and Resource Alignment

11.1 Academic planning shall be aligned with institutional financial planning.

11.2 Allocation of resources shall be based on:

- (a) programme performance;
- (b) research output;
- (c) student outcomes;
- (d) strategic priorities.

11.3 Academic proposals shall include:

- (a) resource requirements;
- (b) expected outcomes;
- (c) performance indicators.

11.4 The Board of Management shall ensure alignment between academic priorities and financial decisions.

12. Performance-Linked Resource Allocation

12.1 Resource allocation shall be aligned with institutional performance and strategic priorities.

12.2 Budget decisions shall be based on:

- (a) KPI performance;
- (b) research output;
- (c) academic outcomes.

PART III – ACADEMIC BODIES

13. Board of Studies

- 13.1 There shall be a Board of Studies for each School or discipline, constituted in accordance with the Statutes and Regulations of the University.
- 13.2 The Board of Studies shall be the primary academic body responsible for curriculum development, academic planning, and quality assurance at the School or Department level.
- 13.3 The functions of the Board of Studies shall include:
- (a) formulation and revision of curriculum;
 - (b) recommendation of academic programmes and course structures;
 - (c) recommendation of examiners and evaluators;
 - (d) promotion of academic quality and standards.
- 13.4 The recommendations of the Board of Studies shall be placed before the Academic Council for approval.
- 13.5 The composition, tenure, and detailed procedures of the Board of Studies shall be as prescribed by the Regulations.

14. Departments of Studies

- 14.1 Departments shall be the basic academic units of the University, established in accordance with the Act and the Statutes.
- 14.2 Each Department shall function under the administrative and academic control of the respective School and the Vice-Chancellor.
- 14.3 The functions of the Department shall include:
- (a) organization of teaching and academic activities;
 - (b) participation in curriculum development through the Board of Studies;
 - (c) promotion of research and academic activities.
- 14.4 The detailed structure and functioning of Departments shall be as prescribed by the Regulations.

PART IV – EXAMINATION SYSTEM

15. Examination System

- 15.1 The University shall conduct examinations and assessments in accordance with the provisions of the Act, the Statutes, and this Ordinance.

15.2 The examination system shall include internal assessment, end-semester examinations, practical evaluation, and such other modes as may be prescribed by the Regulations.

16. Controller of Examinations

16.1 The Controller of Examinations shall be the principal officer responsible for the conduct of examinations, subject to the supervision and control of the Vice-Chancellor.

16.2 The Controller of Examinations shall—

- (a) organize and conduct examinations;
- (b) ensure confidentiality and security of examination processes;
- (c) coordinate evaluation and declaration of results;
- (d) maintain examination records.

16.3 Appointment of examiners, paper setters, and moderators shall be made by the competent authority as prescribed by the Statutes or Regulations, and executed through the Controller of Examinations.

17. Examination Scheme

17.1 The examination scheme for each programme shall be recommended by the Board of Studies and approved by the Academic Council.

17.2 The scheme shall include credit distribution, evaluation pattern, and passing criteria, as prescribed by the Regulations.

18. Academic Calendar and Schedule

18.1 Academic Calendar

The University shall publish an academic calendar annually specifying:

- i. Academic sessions
- ii. Teaching schedules
- iii. Examination timelines

18.2 Examination Schedule

1. The examination schedule shall be published annually, preferably before 30th August.
2. The University shall make all efforts to strictly adhere to such schedule.

18.3 Definition of Schedule

“Schedule” means the officially notified timetable indicating:

- i. Date
- ii. Time
- iii. Sequence of examinations

18.4 Declaration of Results

Results shall be declared within such time as may be prescribed by Regulations.

18.5 Accountability of Examination Authorities

Any failure by the Controller of Examinations or any authority to adhere to prescribed timelines without sufficient cause shall be reported to the Vice-Chancellor and may attract administrative action.

19. Conduct of Examination

Detailed provisions relating to eligibility, conduct, discipline, and examination procedures shall be prescribed by Regulations.

PART V – UNFAIR MEANS

20. Unfair Means

20.1 Any act of academic misconduct or use of unfair means in examinations or academic activities shall be dealt with in accordance with this Ordinance and the Regulations.

21. Unfair Means Committee

21.1 The University shall constitute an Unfair Means Committee in accordance with the Statutes.

21.2 The Committee shall inquire into cases of unfair means and recommend appropriate action.

21.3 The procedure for inquiry shall be in accordance with principles of natural justice, including:

- (a) notice to the candidate;
- (b) opportunity of hearing;
- (c) reasoned decision.

22. Penalties

22.2 The penalties for unfair means shall be as prescribed by the Regulations.

22.2 The decision of the competent authority, based on the recommendation of the Unfair Means Committee, shall be final.

23. Appeal

23.1 A student aggrieved by the decision may prefer an appeal to the Vice-Chancellor within such time as may be prescribed.

23.2 The decision of the Vice-Chancellor shall be final.

PART VI – EVALUATION & RESULTS

24. Evaluation and Results

24.1 Evaluation of answer scripts and academic performance shall be carried out in accordance with the Regulations.

24.2 The results shall be compiled, verified, and declared under the supervision of the Controller of Examinations and with the approval of the competent authority.

24.3 The Controller of Examinations shall be responsible for ensuring transparency, accuracy, and confidentiality, subject to oversight of the Vice-Chancellor.

25. Revaluation

25.1A student may apply for revaluation or scrutiny in accordance with the Regulations.

25.2 The result after revaluation shall be final.

26. Supplementary Examination

26.1 Supplementary examinations shall be conducted for students who fail or seek improvement, in accordance with the Regulations.

PART VII – DOCTORAL PROGRAMME

27. Doctoral Programme

27.1 The award of the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree shall be governed by the UGC Regulations and the Regulations of the University.

27.2 Admission, registration, supervision, evaluation, and award of the PhD degree shall be carried out in accordance with the Regulations, as approved by the Academic Council and the Board of Management.

27.3 In case of any inconsistency, the UGC Regulations shall prevail.

27.4 The University may prescribe detailed procedures through Regulations consistent with applicable laws.

PART VIII — AUTHORITIES

28. Controller of Examinations

28.1 Status and Authority

Subject to the provisions of the Act and the Statutes of the University, the Controller of Examinations shall be a statutory officer responsible for the conduct and administration of examinations.

28.2 The Controller of Examinations shall perform functions as prescribed under the Statutes, Ordinances, and Regulations.

29. Academic Council

The Academic Council shall exercise powers and perform functions as provided under the Act and the Statutes.

30. Board of Management

The Board of Management shall exercise powers and perform functions as provided under the Act and the Statutes.

PART IX – RESIDUAL PROVISIONS

31. Removal of Difficulties

31.1 If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of this Ordinance, the Vice-Chancellor may, by order, take such measures as may be necessary to remove the difficulty:

Provided that such measures:

- (a) shall be consistent with the provisions of the Act and the Statutes; and
- (b) shall not alter or override any substantive provision of this Ordinance.

31.2 No such order shall be made after the expiry of three (3) years from the date of commencement of this Ordinance.

31.3 Every order made under this clause shall be placed before the Board of Management or the competent authority for ratification at the earliest opportunity.

32. Interpretation

32.1 In case of any doubt or dispute regarding the interpretation of any provision of this Ordinance:

- (a) matters relating purely to academic issues, including curriculum, evaluation, and academic standards, shall be referred to the Academic Council, whose decision shall be final;
- (b) matters involving administrative, legal, statutory, or policy interpretation shall be referred to the Chancellor, whose decision shall be final and binding.

32.2 The interpretation made under this clause shall be consistent with the provisions of the Act and the Statutes of the University.

33. Amendment

33.1 This Ordinance may be amended, modified, or repealed by the Board of Management in accordance with the provisions of the Act and Statutes.

33.2 All amendments shall be subject to:

- (a) approval of the competent authorities; and
- (b) such further approval as may be required under applicable law.

34. Saving Clause

34.1 Notwithstanding anything contained in this Ordinance, any action taken, decision made, or proceeding initiated prior to the commencement of this Ordinance shall be deemed to have been validly taken under the corresponding provisions.

34.2 Such actions shall continue to remain in force unless modified or revoked in accordance with this Ordinance.

35. Overriding Effect

35.1 The provisions of this Ordinance shall have overriding effect over any rules, regulations, or administrative instructions inconsistent with it.

35.2 Provided that nothing contained herein shall override:

- (a) the Act; or
- (b) the Statutes of the University.

36. Delegation of Powers

36.1 The competent authorities of the University may delegate any of their powers or functions under this Ordinance to:

- (a) officers of the University; or
- (b) committees constituted for specific purposes.

36.2 Such delegation shall:

- (a) be subject to conditions and limitations; and
- (b) not divest the original authority of overall responsibility.

37. Power to Frame Regulations

37.1 The University may frame Regulations to carry out the provisions of this Ordinance.

37.2 Such Regulations shall be consistent with:

- (a) the Act;
- (b) the Statutes; and
- (c) this Ordinance.

38. Protection of Action Taken in Good Faith

38.1 No suit, prosecution, or other legal proceeding shall lie against the University or any of its authorities, officers, or employees for any action taken in good faith under this Ordinance.

(i) Compliance and Enforcement

- (a) All authorities, officers, employees, and students of the University shall be bound to comply with the provisions of this Ordinance.
- (b) Any violation, non-compliance, or failure to adhere to the provisions of this Ordinance, including but not limited to delays in academic processes, examination irregularities, or administrative lapses, shall attract appropriate disciplinary, administrative, or corrective action as may be prescribed.
- (c) The University shall have the power to issue directions, guidelines, or corrective measures to ensure effective implementation and compliance with this Ordinance.

(ii). Academic and Examination Audit

The University shall conduct periodic academic and examination audits to ensure quality, compliance, transparency, and continuous improvement.

39. Jurisdiction

39.1 Any dispute arising out of or in connection with this Ordinance shall be subject to the jurisdiction of competent courts within the State of Assam.

39.2 Nothing contained herein shall affect the jurisdiction of any statutory or regulatory authority as provided under applicable law.

40. Transitional Provisions

40.1 The University may make such provisions as may be necessary for the smooth transition from existing academic and administrative systems to the system established under this Ordinance.

40.2 Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, the University may:

- (a) allow migration of students from earlier schemes to revised schemes;
- (b) provide bridging provisions for ongoing programmes;
- (c) prescribe special arrangements for pending examinations, evaluations, or research work.

41. Periodic Review of Ordinance

41.1 This Ordinance shall be reviewed periodically, ordinarily once every five (5) years, or earlier if required, to ensure alignment with:

- (a) changes in applicable laws and regulations;
- (b) UGC guidelines and national education policies; and
- (c) evolving academic and institutional requirements.

41.2 The review shall be undertaken by the Academic Council and submitted to the Board of Management for approval of amendments, if any.

PART X – STUDENT FINANCIAL SUPPORT, AWARDS AND DISCIPLINE

42. Student Financial Support, Scholarships, Fellowships and Awards

42.1 Objective

The University shall institute a structured framework for financial support and academic recognition in order to promote merit, equity, access, and academic excellence.

42.2 Categories of Financial Support and Awards

The University may institute, administer, and award:

- (a) Scholarships (merit-based, need-based, or category-based);
- (b) Fellowships for research scholars and advanced academic work;
- (c) Stipends for internships, research, teaching assistance, or other academic engagements;
- (d) Freeships or fee concessions, including partial or full exemption from tuition fees;
- (e) Medals, prizes, and academic distinctions for outstanding performance;
- (f) Any other financial aid or incentive as may be approved by the competent authority.

42.3 Eligibility and Conditions

The eligibility criteria and conditions for award shall include:

- (a) academic merit and performance;
- (b) financial need, where applicable;
- (c) conduct and discipline of the student;
- (d) fulfillment of attendance and academic requirements;
- (e) compliance with such additional criteria as may be prescribed by the Regulations.

42.4 Procedure for Award

- (a) All scholarships, fellowships, stipends, and awards shall be granted in accordance with procedures prescribed by the Regulations.
- (b) Applications shall be invited, scrutinized, and recommended by a duly constituted committee.
- (c) The selection process shall be fair, transparent, and merit-based, with due consideration to applicable reservation or inclusion policies, if any.

42.5 Competent Authority

- (a) The awards shall be approved by the competent authority as prescribed under the Statutes or Regulations, which may include:
 - (i) Academic Council;
 - (ii) Board of Management;
 - (iii) Vice-Chancellor, as delegated.

- (b) The University may constitute a Scholarship and Awards Committee for recommendation and administration of such schemes.

42.6 Disbursement and Monitoring

- (a) Financial assistance shall be disbursed in a timely manner in accordance with prescribed procedures.
- (b) Continuation of benefits shall be subject to periodic review of academic performance and conduct.
- (c) The University may withdraw or suspend any benefit in case of:
 - (i) misconduct;
 - (ii) academic deficiency;
 - (iii) submission of false information.

43. Student Discipline and Disciplinary Action Framework

43.1 Objective

The University shall maintain discipline, academic integrity, and a safe and orderly environment through a structured disciplinary framework consistent with principles of natural justice.

43.2 Scope of Misconduct

Student misconduct shall include, but not be limited to:

- (a) acts of indiscipline or disorderly conduct on campus;
- (b) use of unfair means in examinations (in addition to provisions under Part V);
- (c) harassment, bullying, ragging, or intimidation;
- (d) damage to University property;
- (e) disruption of academic or administrative activities;
- (f) possession or use of prohibited substances or materials;
- (g) acts violating University rules, regulations, or lawful directions;
- (h) any act prejudicial to the reputation, dignity, or functioning of the University.

43.3 Disciplinary Authority

- (a) The University shall constitute a Student Disciplinary Committee as prescribed by the Statutes or Regulations.
- (b) The Committee may include:
 - (i) a senior faculty member as Chairperson;
 - (ii) faculty members;
 - (iii) an administrative officer;
 - (iv) any other member as deemed appropriate.

- (c) The Vice-Chancellor shall be the final disciplinary authority, unless otherwise provided.

43.4 Procedure for Disciplinary Action

All disciplinary proceedings shall adhere to the principles of natural justice:

- (a) issuance of a written notice specifying allegations;
- (b) reasonable opportunity for the student to respond;
- (c) conduct of inquiry by the competent authority or committee;
- (d) consideration of evidence and submissions;
- (e) recording of a reasoned decision.

43.5 Interim Measures

Pending inquiry, the University may impose interim measures including:

- (a) suspension from classes or campus;
 - (b) restriction from facilities;
 - (c) withholding of results;
- as deemed necessary in the interest of discipline or safety.

43.6 Penalties

Depending on the nature and gravity of misconduct, penalties may include:

- (a) warning or reprimand;
- (b) fine or restitution for damages;
- (c) cancellation of examination or results;
- (d) suspension for a specified period;
- (e) expulsion from the University;
- (f) withdrawal of scholarships or benefits;
- (g) any other penalty as prescribed by the Regulations.

43.7 Appeal

- (a) A student aggrieved by a disciplinary decision may prefer an appeal to the Vice-Chancellor within such time as may be prescribed.
- (b) The decision of the Vice-Chancellor shall be final and binding.

43.8 Record and Reporting

- (a) All disciplinary actions shall be properly recorded and maintained.
- (b) The University may report serious cases to statutory authorities where required by law.