IMU/CET/2016 Dated: 01.06.2016

Circular 1625

Sub: IMU's Online Counselling for 2016-17 – limited to admissions to seats in IMU Campuses only - reg.

Ref: 1) Judgment of the *Hon'ble Supreme Court of India* in *T.M.A. Pai Foundation & Ors vs State Of Karnataka & Ors on 31 October, 2002* and the catena of Judgments in related cases.

2) Minutes of the 13th Meeting of the Academic Council held on 19.06.2015 vide Agenda Item no. AC 2015-13-25.

3) Minutes of the 32nd Meeting of the Executive Council held on 21.08.2015 vide Agenda Item no. EC 2014-32-06.

4) Registrar, IMU's letter no. IMU/Admissions/2015-16 dated 03.09.2015 to all Affiliated Institutes.

5) Minutes of the 15th Meeting of the Academic Council held on 09.05.2016 vide Agenda Item no. AC 2016-15-10

6) Minutes of the 34th Meeting of the Executive Council held on 23.05.2016 vide Agenda Item no. EC 2016-34-14

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Some of the Affiliated Institutes seem to be *under the mistaken impression that it is IMU's responsibility "to give them students"*! It is NOT the responsibility of a Central University to 'give' students for *private, self-financing* colleges. It is the responsibility of the private Affiliated Institute

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to fill up its seats, and it must be in a position to attract students on the strength of its own reputation. There is no dearth of CET-qualified candidates (about 5 times the number of seats available), and if some Affiliated Institutes are still finding it difficult to fill up their seats, it is partly because the colleges are not up to the mark (and prospective students know this), and partly because of the prolonged recession/slowdown in the global shipping industry (since 2009) which is yet to bottom out. As many as 17 Affiliated Institutes could not admit even a single student in 2015 while 4 Affiliated Institutes were able to admit only single-digit number of students.

2) As per the law laid down by the Hon'ble Supreme Court vide the reference first cited, a Government/University cannot compel *private, unaided* colleges to surrender their seats either in full or part to its Counselling, and any such surrender has to be purely voluntary. **Just as there is no legal compulsion on the private, unaided Affiliated Institutes to surrender seats to IMU's Counselling, there is also no legal compulsion on IMU to extend the Counselling facility to the private unaided Affiliated Institutes.** *In other words, Counselling is optional not only for Affiliated Institutes but also for IMU.*

3) In 2014, out of the 37 Affiliated Institutes, only 17 had voluntarily surrendered seats to IMU's Online Counselling. In 2015, out of the 39 Affiliated Institutes, only 11 had voluntarily surrendered seats to IMU's Online Counselling. It is generally seen that the good Affiliated Institutes which are confident of filling up their seats on their own do not surrender seats to IMU's Counselling. *Barring a few exceptions*, it is only the average or below-average Affiliated Institutes which are not confident of filling up their seats on their own that surrender seats to IMU's Counselling. The latter are highly uneven in terms of quality, and permitting them to avail of IMU's Online Counselling facility acts as an

indirect 'endorsement' of such Institutes (whose fees are generally higher than IMU's) and can sometimes mislead potential students leading to complaints from students at a later date. There have been instances where some Affiliated Institutes have refused to admit students sponsored through IMU's Online Counselling. In such cases, IMU had to intervene with threats of disaffiliation to make the erring Affiliated Institutes fall in line. *Moreover, IMU doesn't collect any fee from the Affiliated Institutes for availing of the Online Counselling facility;* instead, it collects a Counselling Fee of Rs.10,000/- per candidate *from the students*. Even if IMU were to collect a Counselling Fee from the Affiliated Institutes that surrender their seats to IMU's Counselling, they would simply pass on the same to the students thereby adding to the financial burden of the latter. Above all, the inclusion of Affiliated Institutes makes IMU's Online Counselling process very cumbersome and administratively difficult.

4) As per the Executive Council's resolution vide Agenda Item no. EC 2014-29-06, admissions to DNS by Affiliated Institutes were taken out of the purview of IMU's Online Counselling and the Affiliated Institutes were asked to do DNS admissions on their own from 2015 onwards subject to candidates being sponsored by ship-owning or ship-managing companies and their having cleared IMU's CET. Since the majority of the Affiliated Institutes offer only DNS, and since only 11 Affiliated Institutes surrendered their seats either partly or fully to IMU's Online Counselling in 2015, and for the various reasons stated in para 3 above, the issue of limiting IMU's Online Counselling only to admissions to IMU's own Campuses from 2016 onwards and not extending the facility to the Affiliated Institutes was placed before the Academic Council and the Executive Council for a decision.

5) The Academic Council in its 13th meeting held on 19.06.2015 vide Agenda Item No. AC 2015-13-25 resolved as follows: *"... IMU's Online*

Counselling will be restricted to IMU's Campuses only from the academic year 2016-17 onwards."

6) The Executive Council in its 32nd meeting held on 21.08.2015 vide Agenda Item no. EC 2014-32-06 accepted the recommendation of the Academic council and resolved to restrict IMU's Online Counselling to IMU's Campuses only from the academic year 2016-17 onwards and that the Affiliated Institutes which are private unaided colleges should make their own arrangements for filling up their seats.

7) In IMU's Academic Brochure for the year 2016-17 hosted on IMU's website in March 2016, it was clearly notified (on page 8) that:

"From this Academic Year 2016-17 onwards, Online Counselling will be limited to admissions in to IMU Campuses only. Affiliated Institutes will not be included for the process of Online Counselling. Students who have cleared the CET and are desirous of seeking admissions to Affiliated Institutes may approach the Institutes directly."

8) The subject was again discussed in the Academic Council in its 15th Meeting held on 09.05.2016 vide Agenda Item no. AC 2016-15-10, and the Academic Council resolved as follows:

"The Academic Council noted various changes made to the Online Counselling Software for 2016-17, and reiterated the fact that Online Counselling will be restricted only to IMU Campuses from the Academic Year 2016-17 onwards."

9) The Executive Council in its 34th Meeting held on 23.05.2016 vide Agenda Item no. EC 2016-34-14 also resolved as follows:

"The Executive Council noted the various changes made to the Online Counselling Software for 2016-17, and reiterated the fact that Online

Counselling will be limited to admissions to IMU Campuses only from the Academic Year 2016-17 onwards. The Affiliated Institutes, which are private, self-financing colleges, shall make their own arrangements for admitting candidates subject to their having cleared IMU's Online CET for that year and fulfilling other eligibility criteria."

10) Hence from the Academic Year 2016-17 onwards, Online Counselling will be restricted to admissions to seats available in IMU Campuses only. Affiliated Institutes will not be included in the process of Online Counselling. *All Affiliated Institutes shall admit (CET-qualified) candidates directly.* IMU is pleased to report that the number of applicants for IMU's Online CET (to be held on Saturday 04.06.2016) has increased from 10,783 in 2013 to 14,751 in 2014 to 16,694 in 2015 to 22,495 in 2016. With these increased numbers, it is hoped that admissions to Affiliated Institutes will be much better this Academic Year.

This circular has the approval of the competent authority.

11/6/16

REGISTRAR

To

The Principals of all Affiliated Institutes.

Copy to: All Campus Directors of IMU.

Copy to: DG, Shipping, Mumbai.