



MAHATMA GANDHI UNIVERSITY, KERALA

Abstract

Mahatma Gandhi University - Directorate of Student's Welfare - Mahatma Gandhi University Inter Collegiate Youth Festival Manual -2026 - -Amendment No-3— Inclusion of Sanskrit Stage Events – Approved by the Vice-Chancellor by exercising powers under Section 10 (17), Chapter III of the Mahatma Gandhi University Act, 1985 - Orders issued.-

Directorate of Students Welfare

No. 8925/DSW/2026/MGU

Priyadarsini Hills, Dated: 09.10.2026

- Read:-* 1. U.O. No. 1087/DSW/2026/M.G.U. dated 02.02.2026 (Youth Festival Manual 2026)
2. U.O. No. 1411/DSW/2026/MGU dated 09.02.2026 (Amendment No. 1)
3. U.O. No. 5833/DSW/2026/M.G.U. dated 08.06.2026 (Amendment No. 2)
4. Report No. 71708/DSW 1/2026/DSW dated 17.09.2026 submitted by the Director, Directorate of Students' Welfare.
5. Orders of the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor dated 08.10.2026.

ORDER

The Mahatma Gandhi University Inter Collegiate Youth Festival Manual 2026 was approved and issued vide University Order read as (1) above, and subsequently amended vide University Orders read as (2) and (3) above.

As per the representations received from academic institutions, teachers, students, and parents, and based on the detailed report submitted by the Director, Directorate of Students' Welfare vide paper read as (4) above, a proposal was submitted for incorporating Sanskrit Stage Events into the Inter-Collegiate Youth Festival 2026-27.

The Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, after considering the report and recommendations in detail, has accorded approval vide paper read as (5) above to include eight (8) Sanskrit Stage Events in the Youth Festival, extend the official duration of the Youth Festival and Drama Festival, and revise the participation restrictions accordingly, by exercising the powers under Section 10 (17), Chapter III of the Mahatma Gandhi University Act, 1985.

Accordingly, the Mahatma Gandhi University Inter Collegiate Youth Festival Manual - 2026 stand amended as specified below (Amendment No. 3).

1. The eight Sanskrit Stage Events proposed in the Sanskrit Events document, namely (i) Akshara Shloka Sanskrit, (ii) Elocution / Prasangam Sanskrit, (iii) Ashtapadi Sanskrit, (iv) Gaanalapanam Sanskrit, (v) Group Song / Sangaganam Sanskrit, (vi) Koodiyattam, (vii) Ekabhinaya Sanskrit / Mono Act Sanskrit and (viii) Sanskrit Drama / Sanskrit One-Act Play, may be included, subject to the rules given below and inclusion of the event numbers i.e. Youth Festival Event Number (YFEN) thereafter.

(i) Akshara Shloka Sanskrit - 100 marks

The event may be evaluated on pronunciation/clarity of letters - 25 marks,

memorisation - 25 marks, method/style of recitation - 25 marks, and quality/standard of the shlokas - 25 marks. These criteria are based on the Sanskrit Events document furnished with the proposal.

(ii) Elocution / Speech (Prabhashanam) Sanskrit - 100 marks

The evaluation may be based on linguistic purity - 20 marks, clarity of pronunciation - 20 marks, clarity of ideas - 20 marks, voice modulation - 20 marks, moderation/balance of expression - 10 marks, and presentation - 10 marks.

(iii) Ashtapadi Sanskrit - 100 marks

The Sanskrit Events document stipulates that only verses from Gita Govinda shall be used and that the performance shall be rendered without tala or accompaniment, with the performers themselves handling the required aspects as prescribed. The evaluation may be based on pronunciation - 20 marks, raga - 20 marks, tala - 20 marks, expression - 20 marks and literary purity - 20 marks.

(iv) Vocal Music / Gaanalapanam Sanskrit - 100 marks

The evaluation may be made on the basis of voice quality - 20 marks, shruti/laya - 20 marks, tala - 20 marks, bhava - 20 marks and literary purity - 20 marks.

(v) Group Song / Sangaganam Sanskrit - 100 marks

Shall necessarily be treated as a group event. The proposed criteria are shruti - 25 marks, tala - 25 marks, laya - 25 marks and coordination/harmony among the group members - 25 marks.

(vi) Koodiyattam - 100 marks

Shall necessarily be treated as a group event. The performance may be evaluated on costume - 20 marks, pronunciation - 20 marks, mudra - 20 marks, expression - 20 marks and presentation - 20 marks.

(vii) Ekabhinayam / Sanskrit Mono-Act - 100 marks

The performance shall be evaluated on Acting/Abhinaya (30 marks), Voice Modulation and Dialogue Delivery (20 marks), Content and Interpretation (15 marks), Language, Pronunciation and Diction (15 marks), Stage Presence and Presentation (10 marks), and Creativity and Overall Effect (10 marks). The participant shall present a solo dramatic performance based on a suitable theme, character, episode or literary work, and in the case of Sanskrit Mono-Act, the performance shall be presented in Sanskrit. Emphasis shall be given to facial expressions, gestures, body language, emotional portrayal, clarity of speech, pronunciation, voice modulation, characterisation, stage utilisation, creativity and overall dramatic impact. Recorded voice or pre-recorded dialogue shall not be permitted.

(viii) Sanskrit Drama / Sanskrit One-Act Play - 100 marks

The Sanskrit Events document provides that the theme may be ancient or modern, but the theatrical elements shall conform to the traditions of Sanskrit theatre. The proposed criteria are plot/story - 20 marks, acting - 20 marks, costume - 20 marks, dialogue - 20 marks and presentation - 20 marks.

- 2.** The evaluation criteria specified in the Sanskrit Events document, with 100 marks for each event, may be adopted, with detailed rules and instructions incorporated into the Youth Festival Manual.
- 3. i.** Sanskrit Drama / Sanskrit One-Act Play, **ii.** Group Song / Sangaganam Sanskrit, **iii.** Koodiyattam, shall be treated strictly as Group Events.
- 4.** Sanskrit Drama / Sanskrit One-Act Play shall, as far as practicable, be staged along with the Drama Festival venue, thereby optimising the existing stage and venue infrastructure. The inclusion may be implemented in such a manner that the official duration of the Mahatma Gandhi University Inter-Collegiate Drama Festival may be extended from two days to three days, considering the addition of event Sanskrit Drama / Sanskrit One-Act Play and the staging of the Event Sanskrit Drama / Sanskrit One-Act Play on the First day of the Mahatma Gandhi University Inter-Collegiate Drama Festival.
- 5.** The official duration of the Mahatma Gandhi University Inter-Collegiate Youth Festival may be extended from seven days to eight days, considering the addition of events and the practical experience of the 2026 Festival extending into the eighth day.
- 6.** The existing budget provision for the Youth Festival may be enhanced suitably, taking into account the additional expenditure towards stages/venues, lighting and sound, judges, judges' remuneration and travel, food and accommodation, volunteers, stage managers, technical personnel, transportation, security, sanitation, documentation, stationery, publicity, medical arrangements, Prize Distribution and other incidental requirements.
- 7.** A provision for three judges for each Sanskrit event may be made, with appropriate provision for remuneration, travel, food and accommodation.
- 8.** Adequate additional volunteers, stage managers and technical personnel may be deployed to ensure smooth conduct of the additional events and the extended Festival.
- 9.** The relevant chapters of the Mahatma Gandhi University Inter-Collegiate Youth Festival Manual-2026 may be suitably amended to incorporate the approved Sanskrit Stage Events, event-wise rules, judging criteria, participation conditions and technical requirements.
- 10.** The amendment may also clearly specify that:
 - (i)** a participant / student may take part in a maximum of eight (8) events out of 100 events excluding One Act Play (Drama) & Sanskrit Drama / One-Act Play Sanskrit.
 - (ii)** Except One Act Play (Drama) & Sanskrit Drama / One-Act Play Sanskrit, a college / institution may participate in a maximum of eight (8) group events out of remaining twenty three group events.

This amendment shall come into force with immediate effect and shall be deemed to form part of the Mahatma Gandhi University Inter Collegiate Youth Festival Manual.

Orders are issued accordingly with concurrence of the finance.

ABRAHAM K SAMUEL

DIRECTOR
For REGISTRAR

Copy To

1. P.S. to V.C.
2. P.A. to Registrar/C.E./F.O.
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4. ACC1/ACC2/IT Cell1,2,3/IT Director
5. Principals, All Affiliated Colleges
6. Head of the Department, University Academic Schools/Centres.
7. Joint Director, K.S.A.D. Mahatma Gandhi University
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9. I.Q.A.C. /DSU/Mahatma Gandhi University Union/SILT DSU
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