SUB: Academic & hostel matters in view of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic

An Emergent Online meeting of the South Asian University (SAU)'s Deans, Chairpersons, Proctor, Professors, Registrar, Director (A&E), Hostel Wardens, AD (ICT), AD (HSS), PRO, Medical Officer and the Security Officer, and chaired by the Acting President, was held at 1600 hours on Monday, 13 April 2020. Decisions taken in the meeting are notified hereunder:

- 1. The Deans and Chairpersons have unanimously decided that:
 - (a) in view of the extraordinary circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 global pandemic, alternative modes of teaching, research and evaluation will be followed by Faculties / Departments
 - (b) the current semester / academic session shall be extended up to 19 June 2020, and during this period classroom teaching in Akbar Bhavan will remain suspended
 - (c) the results will be submitted by all Deans of Faculties to the Evaluation branch latest by 19 June 2020; Faculties/ Departments in a position to submit results by 5 June 2020 should do so
 - (d) the Evaluation branch will declare the final results by 29 June 2020, following some Faculties forwarding their results by 5 June 2020, followed by the others very soon thereafter
 - (e) while consensus emerged that SAU should follow the approved mechanism and criteria for new admissions, a decision on this will be taken at a later date
 - (f) Online applications for admissions to the next academic session will now be permitted up to 6 May 2020
 - (g) Option for change of a test center would be permitted for applicants up to one week prior to the date of the Entrance Test
- 2. The matter of *continued availability of Hostel accommodation* during the current semester and up to the beginning of the next academic session will be decided by a Committee of Deans, Chairpersons, Wardens, and the Medical Officer by 29 April 2020, in consultation with the diplomatic missions of concerned SAARC nations in New Delhi.
- 3. In continuation of the SAU Circular dated 27 March 2020, the temporary closure of SAU stands extended up to 3rd May 2020 in light of the extension of the lockdown period beyond 15 April 2020 announced by the Government of India on 14 April 2020. It was unanimously agreed that very drastic decisions will need to be taken even if one positive case of COVID-19 comes to light.
- 4. It is reiterated that students refrain completely from any action that will pave way for a COVID-19 case in SAU. A strict adherence to physical / social distancing norms already circulated is compulsory. Cooking in rooms is causing increased number of short-circuits, and should stop completely. Students are barred from meeting in groups, even for offering Prayers. Directives from the Wardens, Medical, Security and other Officers being issued in the common interest and welfare of all hostel residents need to be rsepected, and followed, in these difficult times. The present aim of hostel administration is to ensure that hostel students of SAU, like day scholars, are in the safe and comfortable confines of their respective homes in their countries at the earliest possible, and until regular classes resume 3 ½ months from now (on 26 July 2020).
- 5. As of now, for continuing students, the Monsoon Semester will commence on 26 July 2020, as scheduled.

This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority, in consultation with and approval of all concerned, referred to in the opening paragraph of this notification.