**2.5.3 - IT integration and reforms in the examination procedures and processes (continuous internal assessment and end-semester assessment) have brought in considerable improvement in examination management system of the institution**

The examination process adopted in CIs/OCC of HBNI depends on the academic program, and has a high degree of flexibility, ranging from closed book, closed notes exams to open book, indefinite time exams. This flexibility has helped in tapping creative potentials among students.

The examination system for the Ph.D students ensures that the student acquires a broad base of knowledge related to his field of work, and originality and innovation in the research. An Open General Comprehensive Examination after completion of the coursework, annual reviews by a student-specific doctoral committee, an open pre-synopsis viva to confirm adequate quantity and quality of work and independent, critical and robust evaluation of the thesis ensure the quality of the research as well as that of the thesis. The evaluation process for the thesis was fine-tuned and the ordinances modified to permit the Deans to contact three reviewers simultaneously and proceed for viva voce examination based on first two positive results. For the viva voce, participation of one of the examiners through videoconference mode has been permitted. These steps have helped in ensuring that after the submission of the thesis, the process of evaluation, viva voce and declaration of result are completed within a time period of around 6 months.

The students pursuing M. Tech/ PGDNS programs do their coursework in the BARC Training Schools. The written examination for selection of students is fully ICT based, to handle the large number of applicants from all over India (over 1.5 lakhs). The progress of learning in the Training Schools is regularly assessed through assignments, presentations, and periodic examinations for classroom and laboratory courses as well as a mini project and two (mid-term and final) viva voce examinations. Additionally, students are also given assignments, and tutorials are conducted to carry out continuous evaluation. The examination process has been streamlined with the introduction of several measures such as a monitoring system for tracking the receipt of results and online communication to students of the updated results. Mark sheets and certificates are generated by Trainee Management System (TMS) portal. Before declaring the results, the answer papers for every subject are shown to them and any change or alteration, if needed is made.

The Integrated MSc program offered at NISER involves written and practical examinations at different stages. Examinations for theory courses consist of: (i) continuous assessment, running over the entire semester and with typical weightage of 30%, (ii) mid-semester examination with a typical weightage of 30% and (iii) end-semester examination with 40% weightage. The weightage of the different components is mandatorily announced to the students by the course instructors. The continuous assessment includes quizzes, assignments and presentations etc. Laboratory examinations consist of continuous assessment (weightage of 60%) and end semester examination (40% weightage). In the 5th year of the programme more emphasis is given on a year-long research oriented project, which is evaluated by a committee based on a project report and presentation by the student.