

UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION
DISTANCE EDUCATION BUREAU
35-FEROZE SHAH ROAD
NEW DELHI-110 001

F.No.:98-1/2017 (DEB-IV)

Date: August, 2018

The Registrar, University of Kashmir Hazratbal, Srinagar Kashmir- 190006.

1 6 AUG 2018

Subject: Commission Order on the application, submitted Online by the Higher Educational Institution, for recognition of the programmes to be offered in Open and Distance Learning (ODL) mode from academic year 2018-19 onwards - regarding.

Sir/Madam,

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of Section 26 read with clause (j) of Section 12 of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956 (3 of 1956), the University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning) Regulations, 2017, had been notified in the Gazette of India on 23.06.2017. The first and the second amendment in the principal regulations were notified in the Gazette of India on 11.10.2017 and 06.02.2018 respectively.

- 2. Part-II; sub-regulations (3) to (5); of the University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning) Regulations, 2017 describes the Recognition process of Higher Educational Institutions for offering Open and Distance Learning programmes. The sub-regulations (3) describes the process of recognition of Higher Educational Institutions offering programmes in Open and Distance Learning Mode, whereas sub-regulations (4) describes the process for withdrawal of recognition and sub-regulations (5) provides right to appeal to Higher Educational Institutions aggrieved with the decision of the Commission.
- 3. The Commission had invited online applications from the eligible Higher Educational Institutions for offering Open and Distance Learning programmes from the academic session 2018-19 vide public notice F. No. 74-1/2018 (DEB-IV) dated 28.03.2018, mentioning therein that the online portal for submitting applications shall-be open from 2ndApril, 2018 to 1stMay, 2018. It was also mentioned that the duly certified hard copies of the application submitted online mode along with annexures shall reach UGC (DEB) office at 35 Feroze Shah Road, New Delhi-110001 within 10 working days of submission of online application. In response to the public notice dated 28.03.2018, **University of Kashmir** had submitted application online for programme wise recognition by the Commission.
- 4. Application received from **University of Kashmir** had been scrutinized by the Expert Committee and deficiency(s) or defect(s) in application were communicated and time period as prescribed in University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning) Regulations, 2017 was given to remove or rectify such deficiency(s) or defect(s) with relevant documentary evidence.

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- 5. The **University of Kashmir** was invited for an Interface Meeting with the Expert Committee; constituted by the Chairman of the Commission; on **05 July, 2018** in the UGC office, Bahadurshah Zafar Marg, New Delhi. The University did not attend the Interface Meeting.
- 6. The University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning) Second Amendment Regulations, 2018, notified in the Gazette of India on 06.02.2018, described therein that:

(viii) The Higher Educational Institution has valid accreditation from National Assessment and Accreditation Council with minimum Cumulative Grade Point Average of 3.26 on a 4 point scale and has completed five years of existence;

Provided that the Higher Educational Institutes that are either State or Central or State Private Universities and were given permission by the University Grants Commission to offer programmes in open and distance learning mode for the academic session 2017-18 will be allowed to impart Open and Distance Learning education till the academic session 2019-20 to enable them reach the prescribed quality National Assessment and Accreditation Council benchmark.

Provided further, that the Higher Educational Institutes falling in the above category but currently not accredited with National Assessment and Accreditation Council shall apply for National Assessment and Accreditation Council accreditation within three months from the date of issue of this regulation.

- 7. The submission of application within 3 months for NAAC accreditation was a mandatory condition, which expired on 05.05.2018. As per the information received from NAAC vide e-mail dated 24.07.2018 and letter dated 03.08.2018, **University of Kashmir** has not applied for NAAC accreditation before 05.05.2018, i.e. within the specified time limit of 3 months after notification of University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning) Second Amendment Regulations, 2018.
- 8. The Commission in its 534th meeting held on 2nd August, 2018 considered the recommendations of the Interface Expert Committee wherein Kashmir University status was mentioned as 'Absent in Interface Meeting' and the provisions mentioned in Paras No. 6 and 7 above. Based on the decision of the Commission, I am directed to issue this Order, thereby communicating that recognition to University of Kashmir for offering programmes; as per the proposal submitted; in ODL mode is regretted.

The Higher Educational Institution shall give their submission, if any, within 30 days from the date of this order as per the provision at clause 4(i) of sub-regulation (3) of Part- II of the University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning) Regulations, 2017.

Yours faithfully,

(Jitendra) Education Officer

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Copy to:

- 1. The Secretary, Higher Education, Government of Jammu and Kashmir, Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir with a request to ensure that HEI adheres to all the provisions of the UGC (ODL) Regulations, 2017 and its amendments.
- 2. The Joint Secretary (Distance Learning), MHRD, Govt. of India, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi 110 001.
- 3. The Director, National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), P.O. Box. No. 1075, Nagarbhavi, Bangalore- 560 072
- 4. The Vice-Chancellor, University of Kashmir, Hazratbal, Srinagar Kashmir-190006.
- 5. The Joint Secretary, State University Bureau, UGC for information
- 6. The Publication Officer (Web), UGC for uploading on the website.
- 7. Guard file.

(Jitendra) Education Officer

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