



Speed Post

F.No. 42-5/2021 (DEB-IV)

20 JAN 2022

January, 2022

The Registrar  
University of Madras  
Kamarajar Salai,  
Chepauk, Chennai- 600005,  
Tamil Nadu

**Sub: 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 2021-22, academic session beginning November, 2021 (revised from July, 2021) and onwards – regarding.**

Sir/Madam,

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-sections (1) and (2) 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 Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020 has been notified in the Gazette of India on 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2020.

2. The eligibility criteria for Higher Educational Institution is enumerated under Regulation 3 of Part II of the University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020. The Regulation 4 and 5 describes the process of applications for the Open and Distance Learning and Online Programmes and the approval process whereas Regulations 6 describe provisions of right to appeal by the Higher Educational Institutions aggrieved with the order of the Commission and Regulations 7 describe the process of withdrawal of Recognition.
3. The University Grants Commission has notified the University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) (Amendment) Regulations, 2021, in the Gazette of India on 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2021. In accordance with these Regulations, the Commission had invited online applications from the eligible Higher Educational Institutions for offering Open and Distance Learning and Online Programmes from **2021-22, the academic session beginning November, 2021 (revised from July, 2021)** and onwards vide public notice F. No. 1-23/2021 (DEB-I) dated 14<sup>th</sup> July, 2021, mentioning therein that the online portal for submitting applications shall be open upto 31.07.2021. The last date for submitting duly certified hard copies was 10.08.2021. The **University of Madras, Tamil Nadu** had submitted its application for recognition of the Open and Distance Learning Programmes.
4. Application received from **University of Madras, Tamil Nadu** had been scrutinized and deficiency(s) or defect(s) in application were communicated to HEI as per the University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020 and its amendment to remove or rectify such deficiency(s) or defect(s) with relevant documentary evidence.
5. The **University of Madras, Tamil Nadu** was invited for a Virtual Interface Meeting with the Expert Committee duly constituted by the Chairman, held on **14.10.2021** in the UGC office, 35 Feroze Shah Road. New Delhi – 110 001.
6. The Interface Expert Committee, based on the submitted application, compliance to deficiency(ies) or defect(s) communicated earlier, the presentation made by the Higher Educational Institution in the Interface Meeting and as per the provisions of University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020 and its amendment made recommendations for the consideration of the Competent Authority/ Commission.

7. Based on the recommendations of Interface Expert Committee and its approval by Competent Authority/Commission, I am directed to issue this Order, thereby communicating the programme wise recognition for the programmes to be offered in **Open and Distance Learning mode** from academic year 2021-22, academic session beginning November, 2021(**revised from July, 2021**) by the **University of Madras, Tamil Nadu** as detailed in point no. 8 below.

8. **Programme wise recognition status**

(i) **Open and Distance Learning Programmes Recognized:**

S. No.	Name of the ODL Programmes	Period of Recognition
1.	BACHELOR OF ARTS (FRENCH)	2021-22, academic session beginning November, 2021( <b>revised from July, 2021</b> ) to 2025 -26 (upto January, 2026 only)
2.	MASTER OF ARTS (APPLIED SAIVA SIDDHANTHA)	
3.	MASTER OF ARTS (SANSKRIT)	
4.	MASTER OF ARTS (JOURNALISM)	
5.	MASTER OF ARTS (SOCIOLOGY)	

**Note:-** 1. The assessment sheet duly approved by Competent Authority has already been communicated to the Higher Educational Institution through UGC-DEB portal on 05/11/2021.

2. Bachelor of Arts (combination of 3 subjects)- French is recommended as Bachelor of Arts (French) as PPR was submitted for Bachelor of Arts (French).

3. The Territorial Jurisdiction for the Recommended Programmes within the districts notified by the State Government only.

(ii) **Open and Distance Learning Programmes Not Recognized:-**

S. No.	Name of the ODL Programmes	Reason(s) for refusal
1.	BACHELOR OF ARTS (COMBINATION OF 3 SUBJECTS)- GENERAL	There is inconsistency in the nomenclature of programme proposed and PPR submitted.
2.	BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (COMBINATION OF 3 SUBJECTS)- GENERAL	
3.	MASTER OF ARTS (RELIGION STUDIES)	
4.	MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (BUSINESS DATA ANALYTICS)	Non submission of prior approval of respective Regulatory Authority for the academic session 2021-22.
5.	MASTER OF EDUCATION	Non submission of prior approval of respective Regulatory Authority for the academic session 2021-22.

(iii) **Open and Distance Learning Programmes Under consideration:-**

S. No.	Name of the ODL Programmes	Reason(s)
1.	BACHELOR OF EDUCATION	Approval/confirmation for the year 2021-22 is awaited from NCTE.

9. For the programmes recognized in 8(i) above, the Higher Educational Institution shall comply with all the provisions of the University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020 while offering the programmes in Open and Distance Learning mode. Some specific provisions for compliance have been mentioned in **Annexure-1**.

10. For the programmes not recognized as per 8(ii) above, the Higher Educational Institution may prefer an appeal to the Commission within a period of 30 days from the date of communication

of Interface Meeting assessment Sheet; on 05.11.2021 as per the provision at sub-regulation (1) of Regulations 6 of Part-II of the University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020.

11. As stipulated under Sub-Regulation 7 of Regulations 5 of the University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020:

*"No Higher Educational Institution shall offer any Open and Distance Learning Programme and/or Online Programme and admit learners thereto unless it has been granted recognition by the Commission and admission shall not be made in anticipation of the recognition".*

12. In the event of any Higher Educational Institution found offering programmes in Open and Distance Learning mode and/or Online mode without recognition of the Commission or in violation to any of the provisions of these regulations and guidelines or orders made there under, the Commission may take actions as per Regulations 7 of Part -II of University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020.

Yours faithfully;



**(Smita Bidani)**  
Education Officer

**Copy to:**

1. The Secretary, Higher Education, Government of Tamil Nadu, National Informatics Centre, Ground Floor, Multi Storeyed Buliding, Namakkal Kavignar Maaligai, Fort St. George, Chennai- 600 009, Tamil Nadu with a request to ensure that HEI adheres to all the provisions of the UGC (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020.
2. The Joint Secretary (Open & Distance/Online Learning), Ministry of Education, Govt. of India, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi - 110 001.
3. The Member Secretary, National Council for Teacher Education, Hans Bhawan, Wing-II, 1, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi -110 002.
4. The Member Secretary, AICTE, Nelson Mandela Marg, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi-110070.
5. The Vice Chancellor, University of Madras, Kamarajar Salai, Chepauk, Chennai-600005, Tamil Nadu.
6. The Joint Secretary, State University Bureau, UGC, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi -110 002
7. Guard file.



**(Neera Chopra)**  
Section Officer



**Specific Provisions for Compliance**

- 1) The Higher Educational Institution shall comply to all the terms and conditions mentioned in the Affidavit dated 29<sup>th</sup> July, 2021 duly notarized and signed by Dr. N. Mathivanan, Registrar and Dr. K. Ravichandran, Director submitted to the Commission vide letter dated 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2021.
- 2) Intake capacity under Open and Distance Learning mode for a programme under science discipline
  - For Dual Mode University: Intake shall not be more than three times of the approved intake in conventional mode.
  - For Open University: Learning enrolment will commensurate with the capacity of the Learner Support Centres to provide lab facilities to the admitted learners.
- 3) The Higher Educational Institution shall scrupulously abide by all the terms and conditions of faculty and staff requirements for offering ODL/ Online programmes as mentioned in University Grants Commission Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020.
- 4) The total deployment of work force and other support at study or Learner Support Centres in Open and Distance Learning mode shall be as mentioned in Regulations.
- 5) Higher Educational Institution shall conduct proctored examination as under:
  - For ODL Programmes: Examination through pen-paper or online or computer based testing within Territorial Jurisdiction, in the examination centre as condition laid down in Regulations.
  - For Online Programmes: Examinations either using technology enabled online test with all the security arrangements ensuring transparency and credibility of the examinations, or through the Proctored Examination and in conformity with any other norms for such examination as may be laid down by the Commission
- 6) Higher Educational Institution offering programmes in Open and Distance Learning mode shall ensure that a Learner Support Centre is established as per Regulations and it also fulfill following conditions as under:
  - Learner Support Centre defined under these regulations shall not be the Learner Support Centre for more than two Higher Educational Institutions at a time to offer programmes in ODL mode.
  - Private University established under the State Act shall be eligible to offer programmes under Open and Distance Learning mode through its Head Quarters; not through any Learner Support Centre.
  - Learner Support Centre will not be set up under a franchisee agreement in any case
- 7) Higher Educational Institution offering programme in ODL mode and Online mode shall prepare Self Learning Material as per **Annexure-VI** and **Annexure-VII** taking into consideration of the following:
  - At least 60 percent of Self Learning Materials shall be developed by the in-house faculty of the HEI
  - Remaining percent of the materials can be sourced from available resources such as other HEIs, Open Educational Resources (OER) and SWAYAM.
- 8) Higher Educational Institution shall adhere to the weightage for different components of assessments for Open and Distance Learning mode and Online mode as under:
  - Continuous or formative assessment (in semester): Maximum 30 per cent.
  - Summative assessment (end semester examination or term end examination): Minimum 70 per cent.
- 9) Based on the Regulatory Authority recommendations/approval, the maximum intake and other condition will be as per the Regulatory Authority recommendation/approval.



**(Smita Bidani)**  
Education Officer