



Speed Post

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

01 APR 2022

March, 2022

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

**Sub:- Commission decision on the appeal submitted by the Higher Educational Institution (HEI) under Regulation 6 of Part II of University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020 for offering programmes in Open and Distance Learning mode from academic year 2021-22, session beginning January-February, 2022 and onwards – regarding.**

Sir/Madam,

This is in continuation to the Commission Order of even number dated 20/01/2022, wherein the details of recognition status were communicated to **University of Madras, Chennai, Tamil Nadu.**

2. As per the provisions under Regulation 6 of the University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020, the Higher Educational Institution had been provided an opportunity to submit an appeal along with requisite fee and documentary evidence for the programmes not recognized as per the UGC letter cited in above para, if any, within 30 days from the date of the communication of assessment sheet as mentioned in the said UGC letter.
3. The appeal along with documents submitted by the **University of Madras, Chennai, Tamil Nadu** have been placed before duly constituted Standing Appellate Committee in the virtual meeting held on **14.01.2022**. The Standing Appellate Committee based on the appeal submitted along with documentary evidences, interaction with HEIs representatives and the provisions of the University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020; made recommendations for consideration of the Competent Authority/ Commission.
4. Based on the recommendations of Standing Appellate Committee and its approval by Competent Authority/Commission, I am directed to issue this Order, thereby communicating the decision, on the appeal submitted by HEI for offering programmes in **Open and Distance Learning mode** from academic year 2021-22 session January-February, 2022 and onwards (**for 5 years**), by the **University of Madras, Chennai, Tamil Nadu** as detailed at point no. 5 below. **The assessment sheet duly approved by Competent Authority has already been communicated to the Higher Educational Institution through UGC-DEB portal on 14.02.2022.**

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30/3/22

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o/c

5. **Programme-wise recognition status based on appeal (communicated to the HEI through UGC-DEB web portal on 14.02.2022):**

(i) **Reversal of earlier decision:**

S. No.	Name of the ODL Programme	Period of Recognition
1	BACHELOR OF ARTS (SOCIOLOGY)	2021-22, Academic Session beginning January-February, 2022 to 2025 -26 (upto January, 2026 only)
2	BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (GEOGRAPHY)*	
3	MASTER OF ARTS (CHRISTIAN STUDIES)	

**Note:**

- 1) \*As per Regulations 14 of UGC (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020 as under:

“...the intake capacity under Open and Distance Learning mode for a programme under science discipline to be offered by a Dual Mode University shall be three times of the approved intake in conventional mode.

**Accordingly, allowed intake for B.Sc. (Geography) programme in ODL mode is maximum 600 students (200x3).**

- 2) Bachelor of Arts (combination of 3 subjects)- General is recommended as Bachelor of Arts (Sociology).  
 3) Bachelor of Science (combination of 3 subjects)- General is recommended as Bachelor of Science (Geography).  
 4) Master of Arts (Religion Studies) is recommended as Master of Arts (Christian Studies), as per the recommendations sheet shared earlier.  
 5) **The Territorial Jurisdiction for the recommended programmes shall be within the districts notified by the State Government only.**

(ii) **Appeal disposed off for the following programme(s):**

S. No.	Name of the ODL Programme	Reason(s)
1	MASTER OF EDUCATION	Non-submission of prior approval of Regulatory Authority for the academic year for 2021-22.

6. For the programmes recognized in 5(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**.

7. 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".*

8. In the event of any Higher Educational Institution found offering programmes in Open and Distance Learning 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 shall take actions as per Regulations 7 of Part-II of University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020.

9. The application stands closed and the HEI needs to apply afresh as and when UGC invites application for recognition of ODL programmes.

10. The decision of the Commission shall be final and binding on the Higher Educational Institution.


Yours faithfully,



**(Smita Bidani)**  
Deputy Secretary

**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 Vice Chancellor, University of Madras, Kamarajar Salai, Chepauk, Chennai-600005, Tamil Nadu.
5. The Joint Secretary, State University Bureau, UGC, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi -110 002.
6. Guard file.



**(Sunil Kumar Pushkar)**  
Section Officer

**Specific Provisions for Compliance**

- 1) The Higher Educational Institution shall comply to all the terms and conditions mentioned in the Affidavit dated 31<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 04<sup>th</sup> August, 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) Higher Educational Institution shall ensure that the faculty members shown for each programme are on 'full time dedicated basis' with designation as per the

- requirement detailed in **Annexure-IV** of UGC(ODL programmes and Online programmes) Regulations, 2020 and no faculty member of LSC/other institution has been shown as faculty of the Higher Education Institution.
- 10) Based on the Regulatory Authority recommendations/approval, the maximum intake and other condition will be as per the Regulatory Authority recommendation/approval.
  - 11) Information related to ODL be prominently displayed on HEI website.

  
(Smita Bidani)  
Deputy Secretary