



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

August, 2018

F. No. 9-6/2018(DEB-III)

The Registrar,  
Rabindra Bharati University,  
56AB.T.Road,  
Kolkata  
(West Bengal)

16 AUG 2018

**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 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 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 2018 to 1<sup>st</sup> May, 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, **Rabindra Bharati University** had submitted application online for programme wise recognition by the Commission.

4. Application received from **Rabindra Bharati University** 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.

5. The **Rabindra Bharati University** was invited for an Interface Meeting with the Expert Committee; constituted by the Chairman of the Commission; on **10<sup>th</sup> July, 2018** in the Commission head office, Bahadurshah Zafar Marg, New Delhi. The Expert Committee based on the application submitted, clarification given for deficiency(s) or defect(s) communicated earlier, the presentation made by the Higher Educational Institution in the interface meeting and in terms of provisions of the University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning) Regulations, 2017 and its amendments; made recommendations for consideration of the Commission.

6. The Commission in its 534<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> August, 2018 considered the recommendations of the Interface Expert Committee. Based on the decision of the Commission, I am directed to issue this Order, there by communicating the programme wise recognition status of the programmes to be offered in Open and Distance Learning mode from academic year 2018-19 onwards by **Rabindra Bharati University** as detailed in point no. 7 below.

7. Programme wise recognition status

**7(A) Programmes Recognized : NIL**

**7(B) Programmes found deficient**

S.No	Proposed Programme	Deficiency
1	MA (BENGALI)	Inadequate Faculty as per Part 1 of Annexure VI of UGC (ODL) Regulations, 2017
2	MA (EDUCATION)	
3	MA (ENGLISH)	
4	MA (ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES )	
5	MA (GEOGRAPHY)	
6	MA (HISTORY)	



7	MA (JOURNALISM AND MASS COMMUNICATION)	
8	MA (POLITICAL SCIENCE)	
9	MA (RABINDRA SANGEET)	
10	MA (SANSKRIT)	
11	MA (VOCAL MUSIC)	
12	MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK	

8. For the programmes found deficient in 7(B) above, the Higher Educational Institution shall submit representation along with documentary evidence, 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 and its amendments.

9. If the HEI fails to comply with the conditions of recognition or if it is found conducting affairs in a manner that leads to deterioration of academic standards, or if any information, documentary evidence submitted/produced by the HEI is found to be false or fake at a later date, UGC shall take action as per Regulation (4), Part -II of UGC (ODL) Regulations, 2017.


Yours faithfully,

  
(Smita Bidani)  
Education Officer

**Copy to:**

1. The Secretary, Higher Education, Govt of West Bengal, " NABANNA" HRBC Building, 325, Sarat Chatterjee Road, Howrah- 711 105, *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 Vice-Chancellor, Rabindra Bharati University 56AB.T.Road, Kolkata (West Bengal)

4. The Joint Secretary, State University Section, UGC for information.
5. The Publication Officer (Web), UGC for uploading on the website.
- ✓ 6. Guard file.



**(Smita Bidani)**  
Education Officer



**Speed Post**

**F.N.9-6/2018 ( DEB-III )**

**Date: October, 2018**

**The Registrar,  
Rabindra Bharati University,  
56AB.T.Road,  
Kolkata  
(West Bengal)**

**18 OCT 2018**

18 Oct 18

**Sub: Commission decision on the HEI's representation submitted for review of programmes found deficient, for recognition for 2018-19 onwards to be offered in Open and Distance Learning (ODL) mode - regarding.**

Sir/Madam,

This is in continuation to the UGC letter No.9-6/2018(DEB-III) dated 16.08.2018, wherein the details of programmes recognised for 2018-19 onwards and programmes found deficient along with deficiencies and other relevant information/conditions were communicated to **Rabindra Bharati University**.

2. 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 and the decision of the Commission in its 534<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> August, 2018, for the programmes found deficient as per the UGC letter cited in above para, the Higher Educational Institution had been provided an opportunity to submit representation along with documentary evidence, if any, within 30 days from the date of the said UGC letter.

3. The representation along with documentary evidence submitted by the **Rabindra Bharati University** on 06.09.2018 for review and the justifications given by the HEI representatives during the hearing, were considered by the duly constituted Expert Review Committee in the meeting held on 19.09.2018 at UGC, 35 Feroze Shah Road, New Delhi. The Expert Review Committee based on the provisions of the University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning) Regulations, 2017 and its amendments; made recommendations for consideration of the Commission.

4. Based on the decision of the Commission in its 535<sup>th</sup> Meeting dated 27.09.2018, I am directed to issue this Order, thereby communicating the Commission decision, on the representation received, for programme wise recognition status of the programmes to be offered in Open and Distance Learning mode from academic year 2018-19 onwards by the **Rabindra Bharati University**, in addition to programmes already recognized vide letter mentioned in Para 1 above, as detailed in point no. 5 below.

5. Programme wise recognition status based on representation:

**5(A) Programmes Recognised**

S. No.	Name of the Programme	Period of Recognition
1	MASTER OF ARTS (BENGALI)	2018-19 to 2019-20
2	MASTER OF ARTS (EDUCATION)	
3	MASTER OF ARTS (ENGLISH)	
4	MASTER OF ARTS (ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES)	
5	MASTER OF ARTS (GEOGRAPHY)	
6	MASTER OF ARTS (HISTORY)	
7	MASTER OF ARTS (POLITICAL SCIENCE)	
8	MASTER OF ARTS (RABINDRA SANGEET)	
9	MASTER OF ARTS (SANSKRIT)	
10	MASTER OF ARTS (VOCAL MUSIC)	
11	MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK	

As HEI NAAC score is below 3.26, the recognition given is only up to the academic year 2018-19 to 2019-20, based on the UGC (ODL) Second Amendment Regulations, 2018. The list of recognised Learner Support Centres/Study Centres will be available on UGC website shortly.

**5(B) Programmes Not Recognised**

S. No.	Name of the Programme	Reasons
1	MA (JOURNALISM AND MASS COMMUNICATION)	Withdrawn by the HEI

6. For the programmes recognised in 5(A) above, the Higher Educational Institution shall scrupulously abide in letter and spirit by all the terms and conditions, while offering the programmes in Open and Distance Learning mode, as per the provisions detailed in Part-III, Part-IV, Part-V, Part-VI and Annexure-I to Annexure-XI of the University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning) Regulations, 2017 and its amendments. Some specific conditions as per UGC (ODL) Regulations, 2017 & its amendments are given in **Annexure-1**.




7. If the HEI fails to comply with the conditions of recognition or if it is found conducting affairs in a manner that leads to deterioration of academic standards, or if any information, documentary evidence submitted/produced by the HEI is found to be false or fake at a later date, UGC shall take action as per Regulation (4) Part - II of UGC (ODL) Regulations, 2017.

Yours faithfully,

(Smita Bidani)  
Education Officer

**Copy to: based on programme type**

1. The Secretary, Higher Education, Govt of West Bengal, "NABANNA" HRBC Building, 325, SaratChatterjee Road, Howrah- 711 105, 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 Vice-Chancellor, Rabindra Bharati University, 56AB.T.Road, Kolkata (West Bengal)
4. The Joint Secretary, State University Bureau, UGC for information.
5. Guard file.

  
(Smita Bidani)  
Education Officer

**Conditions**

1. The total intake capacity (Number of learners) in Open and Distance Learning mode in Higher Educational Institution and/or Learner Support Centre/Study Centre shall be as mentioned in clause 6 of Annexure-X of the University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning) Regulations, 2017.
2. The Higher Educational Institution shall offer only those programmes through Open and Distance Learning mode, which are approved by the statutory bodies of the University and by UGC and by the Regulatory Authority, as applicable.
3. The Higher Educational Institution shall not offer any programme in engineering, Medicine, dental, pharmacy, nursing, architecture, physiotherapy and programmes not permitted to be offered in distance mode by any other regulatory body.
4. The Higher Educational Institution shall comply to all the terms and conditions mentioned in (1) Affidavit dated 27.04.2018 duly notarized and signed by Sabyasachi Basu Ray Chaudhury, Vice-Chancellor, submitted to the Commission vide letter dated 06.09.2018 and (2) Affidavit dated N.A. pertaining to adherence of terms of conditions laid down by AICTE for programmes of MBA/MCA/Travel and Tourism, duly notarized and signed by N.A. submitted to the Commission vide letter dated N.A. .
5. The Higher Educational Institution shall not offer any M.Phil/Ph.D Programme through distance learning mode in compliance to clause 11 of the University Grants Commission (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of M.Phil. /Ph.D. Degrees) Regulations, 2016.
6. The HEI shall establish Examination Centre within the territorial jurisdiction of the HEI subject to condition laid down in clause 7 (i) to (v) of section 13 in Part-IV.
7. In case, Higher Educational Institution fails to comply with the conditions of recognition, appropriate punitive action(s), as per provisions of the UGC (ODL) Regulations, 2017 and its amendments, shall be taken by the Commission.
8. The Rabindra Bharati University shall adhere to the policy of territorial jurisdiction as specified in Annexure- IV of the University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning ) Regulation, 2017.

  
(Smita Bidani)  
Education Officer