



ज्ञान-विज्ञान विमुक्तये

Speed Post

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

07 AUG 2019

F.No.: 80-3/2017 (DEB-IV)

Date: August, 2019

**The Registrar,
Uttarakhand Open University
Teen Pani Bypass,
Near Transport Nagar,
P.O. - Industrial Area,
Hdwani, Nainital,
Uttarakhand**

Sub: Commission decision on the appeal under sub-regulation (5) of part-II of the University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning 2017) Regulations, submitted by HEI for offering programmes in Open and Distance Learning (ODL) mode from academic year 2019-20, session beginning from July, 2019 and onwards - regarding.

Sir/Madam,

This is in continuation to the UGC Orders of even number dated **14th August, 2018, 18th October, 2018 and 20th February, 2019** wherein the details of programmes recognized for 2018-19 onwards and programmes not recognized were communicated to **Uttarakhand Open University**.

2. As per the provisions under sub-regulation (5) of part-II of the University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning 2017) Regulations and the decision of the Commission it is 535th meeting held on 27th September, 2018, for the programmes not recognized as per the UGC letter cited in above Para, the Higher Educational Institution had been provided an opportunity to submit an appeal along with requisite fee and documentary evidence, if any within 30 days from the date of the said UGC letter.

3. The Standing Appellate Committee meeting held on 11th December, 2018 at UGC, 35 Feroze Shah Road, New Delhi decided that an Expert Committee Visit should be conducted to verify the lab facilities for some programmes which involved Practical component before final consideration of the approval."

4. Accordingly, the Chairman, UGC constituted an Expert Committee to visit and evaluate/assess the preparedness of Uttarakhand Open University for offering programmes under ODL mode from 2018-19 onwards, as per UGC (ODL) Regulations 2017 and its subsequent amendments. The visiting Expert Committee has visited Uttarakhand Open University and its two local LSC on 22nd and 23rd April, 2019 and submitted its report.

5. The report and recommendations of Visiting Committee has been placed before the Expert Review committee, constituted by the Chairman of the UGC for consideration. The Expert Review Committee based on the submitted application and recommendations of Visiting expert Committee and in terms of provisions of the University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning) Regulations,

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2017 and its amendments; has made recommendations for consideration of the Commission.

6. Based on the decision of the Competent Authority, I am directed to issue this Order, thereby communicating the decision, on the appeal received, for offering **programmes in Open and Distance Learning (ODL) mode from academic year 2019-20, session beginning from July, 2019 and onwards by the Uttarakhand Open University as detailed in point no. 7 below.**

7. Programme wise recognition status based on appeal:

Reversal of earlier decision [(Programmes Recognized) (Recognition status uploaded on UGC website on 27.06.2019 as per approval of the Competent Authority]

S. No.	Name of the Programme	Period of Recognition (If Applicable)*
1	MASTER OF SCIENCE (BOTANY)	2019-20 (Academic Session beginning July 2019 and onwards) to 2022-2023
2	MASTER OF SCIENCE (CHEMISTRY)	
3	MASTER OF SCIENCE (ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE)	
4	MASTER OF SCIENCE (GEOGRAPHY)	
5	MASTER OF ARTS (GEOGRAPHY)	
6	MASTER OF SCIENCE (MATHEMATICS)	
7	MASTER OF SCIENCE (PHYSICS)	
8	MASTER OF SCIENCE (ZOOLOGY)	

*According to UGC (ODL) Regulations 2017, Regulations 3, sub-regulation (1) (VIII) shall not be applicable to Open Universities till the time they become eligible for National Assessment and Accreditation Council Accreditation and it shall be mandatory for Open Universities to get National Assessment and Accreditation Council Accreditation within one year of their becoming eligible for the same. A Higher Educational shall ensure that a Learner Support Centre is established only in a college or institution affiliated to a University or in a government recognised Higher educational Institution offering programmes in the same broad areas having the necessary infrastructure and human resources for offering the programme.

8. For the programmes recognized in 6 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 & Distance Learning) Regulations, 2017 and its amendments. Some specific conditions given in UGC (ODL) Regulations, 2017 & its amendments are given in **Annexure- 1**.

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.

10. Higher Educational Institutions are required to comply with all the provisions of the UGC (ODL) Regulations, 2017 and its amendments. If any deviation is noticed, the same would entail not only withdrawal of permission/ recognition for such ODL course but also for other courses offered by the

institution, on regular and conventional mode, as directed by MHRD vide letter F. No.2-18/2017-U3 (A) dated 07.10.2018 on the recommendations of Justice Reddy Committee constituted by MHRD on the directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 03.11.2018 in Civil Appeal No.17869-17870 filed by Orissa Lift Irrigation Corp. Ltd Versus Rabi Sankar Patro & Ors.

11. Time limit for completion of admission process for offering ODL programmes by HEIs:

The Commission in its 537th meeting held on 10.12.2018 has decided the time limit for completion of admission process by the HEIs for offering ODL programmes as mentioned below:

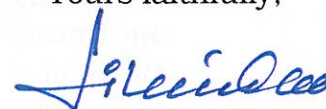
- a) Academic session for January - admission last date February end
- b) Academic session for July - admission last date August end

The Commission has also directed that the HEIs shall upload the admission details within ten days from the last date of the admissions in the respective academic session i.e. 10th September for July academic session and 10th March for January academic session. Accordingly, the HEIs shall comply with the above decision of Commission.

12. The application stands closed for 2018-19 and the HEI needs to apply afresh as and when UGC invites application for recognition of ODL programmes.

13. The decision of the Commission shall be final and binding on the Higher Educational Institutions.

Yours faithfully,



(Jitendra)

Education Officer

Copy to:

- 1) The Secretary, Higher Education, Government of Uttarakhand, Uttarakhand Secretariat, Subhash Road, Dehradun, Uttarakhand-248004 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, Uttarakhand Open University teen Pani Bypass, Near Transport Nagar, P.O. - Industrial Area, Hadwani, Nainital, Uttarakhand
- 4) Guard file.



(Jitendra)

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 & 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.
- 1) The Higher Educational Institution shall comply to all the terms and conditions mentioned in the Affidavit dated 10th July, 2018, duly notarized and signed by Professor R.C. Mishra, Registrar, submitted to the Commission vide letter dated 11th July, 2018.
4. 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.
5. 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.
6. 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.
7. The Uttarakhand Open University, Uttarakhand shall adhere to the policy of territorial jurisdiction as specified in Annexure - IV of the UGC (ODL) Regulations, 2017.



(Jitendra)

Education Officer

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