





विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग University Grants Commission

(शिक्षा मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार) (Ministry of Education, Govt. of India)

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Secretary

F. No. 28-1/2024(DEB)

20 पौष, 1946/10th January, 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

Offering of Certificate or Diploma level programmes in Open and Distance Learning (ODL) mode or Online mode

Regulation 24 of University Grants Commission (Open and Distance-Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020 stipulates as under:

"Offering of Certificate and Diploma level Programmes — A Higher Educational Institution recognized for offering programmes at Under Graduate Degree or Post Graduate Degree or Post Graduate diploma levels in Open and Distance Learning mode and/or Online mode may offer Certificate or Diploma programmes in Open and Distance Learning mode and/or Online mode in the domains other than prohibited programmes as per clause (z) of regulation 2 subject to the condition that before the actual start of such programmes, all the Certificate or Diploma programmes are duly approved by the statutory authorities of the Higher Educational Institutions and the regulatory authority/council, as applicable, and the delivery mechanism conforms to the quality standards of the Open and Distance Learning education and/or Online education. The Higher Educational Institution shall be solely responsible for any legal issues arising out of non-compliance of such requirements......"

Accordingly, a University referred to under clause (f) of section 2 of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956 (3 of 1956) and an Institution Deemed to be University under section 3 of the said Act can offer Certificate and Diploma level Programmes only if they are accorded recognition/entitlement by UGC to offer degree and Post Graduate Diploma (PGD) programmes under ODL and/or Online mode. Further, these HEIs shall ensure the following conditions before the actual start of Certificate and Diploma level programmes:

- Programmes are not prohibited as per clause (z) of regulation 2;
- Programmes are duly approved by the statutory authorities of the Higher Educational Institutions and the regulatory authority/council, as applicable;
- If programme is falling under the ambit of regulatory authority, HEI shall have the approval of the concerned Regulatory Authorities or Councils, as applicable.

In this regard, it is further informed that Higher Educational Institutions which are not recognized /entitled by UGC to offer any programme(s), shall not offer any Certificate or Diploma programmes under ODL or Online mode. The Higher Educational Institution shall be solely responsible for any legal issues arising out of noncompliance of such requirements.

It is hereby reiterated that HEI shall strictly adhere with the UGC (ODL Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020, failing which, strict punitive action will be taken against the HEI as per UGC (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020 and its amendments.

(Manish R. Joshi) Secretary