



Speed Post

17 NOV 2021

F.No. 40-6/2021 (ODL) (DEB-II)

November, 2021

The Registrar,
Smt Nathibai Damodar Thackersey Womens University
Sir Vithal Das Vidyavihar Juhutara Road Sntacruz
West Mumbai 400 049

In No. 11
Registrar Officer

12 NOV 2021

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) 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 dated 4th 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 1st 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 14th 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 Smt Nathibai Damodar Thackersey Womens University, Maharashtra had submitted its application for recognition of the Open and Distance Learning and Online Programmes.

Application received from Smt Nathibai Damodar Thackersey Womens University, Maharashtra 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 Smt Nathibai Damodar Thackersey Womens University, Maharashtra was invited for a Virtual Interface Meeting with the Expert Committee duly constituted by the Chairman of the Commission, held on 07/10/ 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 **Smt Nathibai Damodar Thackersey Womens University, Maharashtra**; as detailed in point no. 8 below.
8. **Programme wise recognition status**

(i) Open and Distance Learning Programmes Recommended*

S. No.	Name of the ODL Programmes	Period of Recognition
1	BACHELOR OF ARTS (ECONOMICS)	2021-22, academic session beginning November, 2021(revised from July, 2021) to 2025 -26 (upto January, 2026 only)
2	BACHELOR OF ARTS (POLITICAL SCIENCE)	
3	BACHELOR OF ARTS (SOCIOLOGY)	
4	BACHELOR OF ARTS (MARATHI)	
5	BACHELOR OF ARTS (HINDI)	
6	BACHELOR OF ARTS (ENGLISH)	
7	BACHELOR OF ARTS (HISTORY)	
8	BACHELOR OF COMMERCE	
9	MASTERS OF ARTS (HINDI)	
10	MASTERS OF ARTS (ECONOMICS)	
11	MASTERS OF ARTS (SOCIOLOGY)	
12	MASTERS OF ARTS (POLITICAL SCIENCE)	
13	MASTERS OF ARTS (HISTORY)	
14	MASTERS OF ARTS (MARATHI)	
15	MASTERS OF ARTS (ENGLISH)	
16	MASTER OF COMMERCE	

***Note:-** 1. The assessment sheet duly approved by Competent Authority has already been communicated to the Higher Educational Institution through UGC-DEB portal on 20/10/2021

(ii) Open and Distance Learning Programmes Not Recommended:

S. No.	Name of the ODL Programmes	Reason(s) for refusal
1	MASTERS OF ARTS (EDUCATION)	Mode of evaluation (weightage of Continuous Assessment (max. 30%) and end semester examination or term end examination (min 70%) is not complied.

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 recommended for recognition 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 uploading of Interface Meeting Sheet on UGC, DEB portal 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,


(Neethu S. Thulaseedharan)
Education Officer

Specific Provisions for Compliance

- 1) The Higher Educational Institution shall comply to all the terms and conditions mentioned in the Affidavit **27th July, 2021** duly notarized and signed by Dr. Mira K. Desai Registrar and Dr. Smriti Bhosle, Director submitted to the Commission vide letter dated **05th 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) Based on the Regulatory Authority recommendations/approval, the maximum intake and other condition will be as per the Regulatory Authority recommendation/approval.

(Neethu S. Thulaseedharan)
Education Officer