



F.No. 40-14/2021 (ODL) (DEB-II)

The Registrar,
Kerala University,
Senate House Campus,
Palayam Thiruvananthapuram
Kerala

Speed Post

November, 2021

R/S DE
12/11/21
Vice Chancellor

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 **Kerala University, Kerala** had submitted its application for recognition of the Open and Distance Learning and Online Programmes.

4. Application received from **Kerala University, Kerala** had been scrutinized. deficiency(s) or defect(s) in application were communicated to HEI as per 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 **Kerala University, Kerala** 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 **Kerala University, Kerala**; 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	MASTER OF LIBRARY & INFORMATION SCIENCES	2021-22, academic session beginning November, 2021(revised from July, 2021) to 2025 - 26 (upto January, 2026 only)
2	MASTER OF COMMERCE (FINANCE)	
3	MASTERS OF ARTS (SOCIOLOGY)	
4	MASTERS OF ARTS (PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION)	
5	MASTERS OF ARTS (POLITICAL SCIENCE)	
6	MASTERS OF ARTS (HISTORY)	
7	MASTERS OF ARTS (ECONOMICS)	
8	MASTERS OF ARTS (HINDI)	
9	MASTERS OF ARTS (MALAYALAM)	
10	MASTERS OF ARTS (ENGLISH)	
11	BACHELOR OF LIBRARY & INFORMATION SCIENCE	
12	BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION	
13	BACHELOR OF COMMERCE	
14	BACHELOR OF ARTS (SOCIOLOGY)	
15	BACHELOR OF ARTS (POLITICAL SCIENCE)	
16	BACHELOR OF ARTS (HISTORY)	
17	BACHELOR OF ARTS (ECONOMICS)	
18	BACHELOR OF ARTS (HINDI)	
19	BACHELOR OF ARTS (MALAYALAM)	

	BACHELOR OF ARTS (ENGLISH)	2021-22, academic session beginning November, 2021(revised from July, 2021) to 2025 - 26 (upto January, 2026 only)
--	-----------------------------------	---

***Note:-** 1. The assessment sheet duly approved by Competent Authority has already been communicated to the Higher Educational Institution through UGC-DEB portal on 20/10/2020

(ii) Open and Distance Learning Programmes Not Recommended:

S. No.	Name of the ODL Programmes	Reason(s) for refusal
1	MASTERS OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION	Non submission of prior approval of regulatory authority.
2	MASTER OF SCIENCE (COMPUTER SCIENCE)	Documentary proof of Science programme being offered from the Head Quarters and/or only from such Learner Support Centres which are offering same programme under conventional mode atleast for seven years is not provided.
3	MASTER OF SCIENCE (MATHEMATICS)	
4	BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (COMPUTER SCIENCE)	
5	BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (MATHEMATICS)	
6	BACHELOR OF COMPUTER APPLICATIONS	

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 g...
or orders made there under, the Commission may take actions as per Regulation...
Part -II of University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning Programm...
and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020.

Yours faithfully,

(Neethu S. Thulaseedharan)
Education Officer

Copy to:

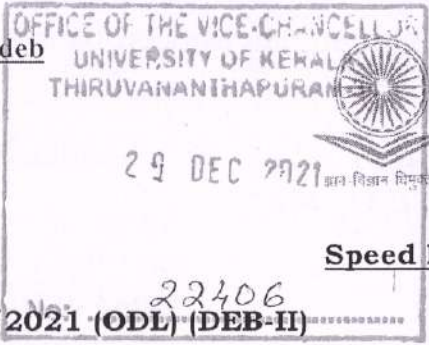
1. The Secretary, Higher Education, Government of Kerala, 3rd Floor Secretariat, Annex Statue, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala with a request to ensure that HEI adheres to all the provisions of the UGC (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020.
2. The Member Secretary, AICTE, Nelson Mandela Road, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi 110070.
3. The Joint Secretary (Open & Distance Learning), MoE, Govt. of India, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi - 110 001
4. The Vice Chancellor, Kerala University, Senate House Campus, Palayam Thiruvananthapuram Kerala
5. The Joint Secretary, State University Bureau, UGC, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi -110 002
6. Guard file.

(Sunil K. Pushkar)
Section Officer

Specific Provisions for Compliance

- 1) The Higher Educational Institution shall comply to all the terms and conditions mentioned in the Affidavit **29th July, 2021** duly notarized and signed by Dr. K.S. Anil Kumar, Registrar and Dr. R. Vasanthagopal, Director submitted to the Commission vide letter dated **03rd 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



F.No. 40-14/2021 (ODL) (DEB-II)

24 DEC 2021 December, 2021

The Registrar,
Kerala University
Senate House Campus,
Palayam Thiruvananthapuram
Kerala

Sub:- Commission decision on the appeal submitted by the 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 November, 2021 (revised from July, 2021 and onwards - regarding

Sir/Madam,

This is in continuation to the Commission Order of even number dated 12/11/2021 wherein the details of recognition status were communicated to **Kerala University, Kerala**.

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 alongwith documents submitted by the **Kerala University, Kerala** have been placed before duly constituted Standing Appellate Committee in the virtual meeting held on **29/11/2021**. The Standing Appellate Committee based on the appeal submitted alongwith 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 beginning November, 2021 (revised from July, 2021) and onwards (for 5 years), by the **Kerala University, Kerala** as detailed in 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 30/11/2021.

5. Programme-wise recognition status based on appeal (communicated to the HEI through UGC-DEB web portal on 30/11/2021):

(i) Reversal of earlier decision:

S. No.	Name of the ODL Programmes	Period of Recognition
1	MASTER OF SCIENCE (COMPUTER SCIENCE)	2021-22, academic session beginning November, 2021(revised from July, 2021) to 2025-26 (upto January, 2026 only)
2	MASTER OF SCIENCE (MATHEMATICS)	

Note: For Science Based programme, Intake in ODL programme shall be as per the point no.2 of **Annexure I**.

*maximum intake for science programme shall be three times of the approved intake in conventional mode.

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

S. No.	Name of the ODL Programme	Reason(s)
1	BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (COMPUTER SCIENCE)	As University is proposing programmes through affiliated colleges only, which is prohibited as per Part VI Clause 26 of the UGC (ODL Programmes & OL Programmes) Regulations, 2020
2	BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (MATHEMATICS)	
3	BACHELOR OF COMPUTER APPLICATIONS	

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,

(**Neethu S. Thulaseedharan**)
Education Officer

Copy to:

1. The Secretary, Higher Education, Government of Kerala, 3rd Floor Secretariat, Annex Statue, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala 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), MoE, Govt. of India, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi - 110 001.
3. The Vice Chancellor, Kerala University, Senate House Campus, Palayam Thiruvananthapuram.
4. The Joint Secretary, State University Bureau, UGC, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi -110 002
5. Guard file.


(**Sunil K. Pushkar**)
Section Officer