



**Speed Post/E-mail**

**F.No. 30-5/2023 (DEB-II)**

**December, 2023**

**The Registrar  
Annamalai University  
Annamalai Nagar  
Chidambaram,  
Cuddalore, Tamil Nadu- 608002**

**26 DEC 2023**

**Sub:** Commission Order on the application submitted online by the Higher Educational Institution (HEI) for recognition of the programmes to be offered in Open and Distance Learning (ODL) mode from academic year 2023-24, academic session beginning July-August, 2023 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), University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020 has notified on 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2020 in the Gazette of India. Subsequently, the first and second amendments in Principal Regulations have been notified on 01.07.2021 and 18.07.2022 respectively in the Gazette of India.

2. The eligibility criterion for Higher Educational Institution is enumerated under Regulation 3 in Part II of the University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020 and its amendments. The Regulation 4 and 5 describe the process of application and the approval process for the Open and Distance Learning and Online Programmes whereas Regulation 6 describe provisions of right to appeal by the Higher Educational Institutions aggrieved with the order of the Commission and Regulation 7 describe the process of withdrawal of Recognition.

3. University Grants Commission invited online applications from the eligible Higher Educational Institutions as per Regulation 3(A) and Regulation 3(B)(b) of UGC (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020 and its amendments for recognition of the programmes under Open and Distance Learning (ODL) mode and/ or Online mode from academic year **2023-24, academic session beginning from July-August, 2023** and onwards vide Public Notice F. No. 1-1/2023 (DEB-I) dated 01<sup>st</sup> March, 2023, mentioning therein that the online portal for submitting applications shall be open upto 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2023. **Annamalai University, Tamil Nadu** had submitted its application for recognition of the Open and Distance Learning Programmes.

4. Application received from **Annamalai University, Tamil Nadu** was scrutinized and deficiency(ies) or defect(s) in application were communicated to the HEI as per the University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020 and its amendments with a request to remove or rectify such deficiency(ies) or defect(s) along with relevant documentary evidence (if any).

5. As the HEI has not been granted recognition for Open and Distance Learning programmes (since the notification of UGC (ODL) Regulations, 2017 and UGC (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020). Accordingly, the **Annamalai, Tamil Nadu** was visited physically by the Visiting Expert Committee (VEC) constituted by the Chairman, UGC on **21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 2023**.

6. The report of the Visiting Expert Committee was considered by the Expert Review Committee (ERC) held on **28<sup>th</sup> July, 2023**. The Expert Review Committee based on the application submitted by the HEI, clarification given for the deficiency(s) or defect(s) communicated earlier, the report of Visiting Expert Committee along with documentary evidence enclosed with the report and in terms of provisions of University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020 and its amendments made recommendations for the consideration of the Competent Authority/Commission.

7. Based on the recommendations of Expert Review Committee (ERC) and its approval by the Competent Authority, 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 2023-24, academic session beginning **from July -August, 2023** by the **Annamalai University, Tamil Nadu** as detailed in point no. 8 below. The Expert Review Committee recommendation sheets approved by Competent Authority along with Physical Visit Expert Committee Report has already been communicated to the Higher Educational Institution through UGC-DEB portal on **31<sup>st</sup> July, 2023**.

8. **Programme wise recognition status**

(i) **Open and Distance Learning Programmes recognized : 27**  
**(Assessment sheet communicated to the HEI through UGC-DEB web portal on 31.07.2023):-**

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Name of the ODL Programmes</b>	<b>Period of Recognition</b>
1.	BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS (MUSIC- VOCAL)	2023-24 academic session beginning from July-August, 2023 to 2027-28 (upto January, 2028 only)
2.	BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS (MUSIC- VEENA)	
3.	BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS (MUSIC- VIOLIN)	
4.	BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS (MUSIC- MRIDAGAM)	
5.	BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS (DANCE- BHARATHANATYAM)	
6.	MASTER OF ARTS (TAMIL)	
7.	MASTER OF ARTS (POLITICAL SCIENCE )	
8.	MASTER OF ARTS (ECONOMICS)	
9.	MASTER OF ARTS (ENGLISH)	
10.	MASTER OF ARTS (HISTORY)	
11.	MASTER OF ARTS (SOCIOLOGY)	
12.	MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK	
13.	MASTER OF FINE ARTS (DANCE- BHARATHANATYAM)	
14.	MASTER OF FINE ARTS (MUSIC- VOCAL)	
15.	MASTER OF FINE ARTS (MUSIC – VEENA)	

16.	MASTER OF FINE ARTS ( MUSIC-VIOLIN)	2023-24 academic session beginning from July-August, 2023 to 2027-28 (upto January, 2028 only)
17.	MASTER OF COMMERCE (CO-OPERATIVE MANAGEMENT)	
18.	MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION*	
19.	MASTER OF SCIENCE (APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY)	
20.	MASTER OF SCIENCE (YOGA)	
21.	MASTER OF SCIENCE (MATHEMATICS)	
22.	MASTER OF SCIENCE (BOTANY)	
23.	MASTER OF SCIENCE (CHEMISTRY)	
24.	MASTER OF SCIENCE (PHYSICS)	
25.	MASTER OF SCIENCE (ZOOLOGY)	
26.	MASTER OF SCIENCE (MICROBIOLOGY)	
27.	MASTER OF SCIENCE (COMPUTER SCIENCE)	

**Note:** \*HEI shall strictly adhere to the maximum student intake capacity, recognition period and other norms/conditions stipulated in the concerned Regulatory Authority in respect of MBA Programmes.

**(ii) Open and Distance Learning Programmes Not Recognised: 40**

S. No.	Name of the ODL Programmes	Reason(s) for refusal
1.	BACHELOR OF ARTS (HONS) BACHELOR OF LITEATURE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposed programme doesn't comply with the regulation 26 of UGC (ODL Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020.</li> <li>The proposed programme is not as per UGC Notification for Specification of Degrees 2014 and its amendments.</li> </ul>
2.	BACHELOR OF ARTS (HONS) (TAMIL)	Proposed programmes doesn't comply with the Regulation 26 of UGC (ODL Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020.
3.	BACHELOR OF ARTS (HONS) (HISTORY))	
4.	BACHELOR OF ARTS (HONS) (SOCIOLGY)	
5.	BACHELOR OF ARTS (HONS) (ECONOMICS)	
6.	BACHELOR OF ARTS (HONS) (PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION)	
7.	BACHELOR OF ARTS (HONS) (POLITICAL SCIENCE)	
8.	BACHELOR OF ARTS (HONS) (ENGLISH)	

9.	BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION	Proposed programmes doesn't comply with the regulation 26 of UGC (ODL Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020.	
10.	BACHELOR OF COMMERCE		
11.	BACHELOR OF COMMERCE (HONS) (CO-OPERATIVE MANAGEMENT)		
12.	BACHELOR OF COMMERCE (HONS)(ACCOUNTING & FINANCE)		
13.	BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (HONS) (MICROBIOLOGY)		
14.	BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (HONS) (ZOOLOGY)		
15.	BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (HONS) (BOTANY)		
16.	BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (HONS) (CHEMISTRY)		
17.	BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (HONS) (PHYSICS)		
18.	BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (HONS) (MATHEMATICS)		
19.	BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (HONS) (VISUAL COMMUNICATION)		
20.	BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (HONS) (INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY)		
21.	BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (HONS) (COMPUTER SCIENCE)		
22.	BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (PSYCHOLOGY)		
23.	BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (COMPUTER APPLICATION)		
24.	BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK		
25.	BACHELOR OF LIBRARY & INFORMATON SCIENCE		
26.	BACHELOR OF COMPUTER APPLICATION		
27.	BACHELOR OF EDUCATION		Regulatory Authority approval for the academic year 2023-24 is not submitted.
28.	MASTER OF ARTS (PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION)		Proposed programmes doesn't comply with the regulation 26 of UGC (ODL Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020.
29.	MASTER OF COMMERCE (ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE)		
30.	MASTER OF COMMERCE		
31.	MASTER OF LIBRARY & INFORMATION SCIENCES		
32.	MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (E-BUSINESS)		Regulatory Authority approval for the academic year 2023-24 is not submitted
33.	MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS)		
34.	MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT)		
35.	MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (MARKETING MANAGEMENT)		
36.	MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (FINANCE MANAGEMENT)		
37.	MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT)		

38.	MASTER OF COMPUTER APPLICATION	Regulatory Authority approval for the academic year 2023-24 is not submitted
39.	MASTER OF SCIENCE (SOFTWARE ENGINEERING)	Proposed programmes doesn't comply with the regulation 26 of UGC (ODL Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020.
40.	MASTER OF SCIENCE (INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY)	

9. For the programmes recognised in 8(i) above, the Higher Educational Institution shall comply with all the provisions of the University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning Programmes & Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020 and its amendments 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 communication 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. **However, the HEI has not made an appeal within the stipulated period.**

11. As stipulated under Sub-Regulation 7 of Regulation 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 Regulation 7 of Part -II of University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020 and its amendments.

13. The application of the HEI for academic year 2023-24, academic session July-August, 2023 **stands closed.**

14. The decision of the Commission shall be final and binding on the Higher Educational Institution.

Yours faithfully,

  
**(Neethu S. Thulaseedharan)**  
 Deputy Secretary

**Encl. As above**

**Copy to:**

1. The Secretary, Higher Education, Government of Tamil Nadu, National Informatic Centre, Ground floor, Multi Storeyed Building, Namakkal Kavinagar Maaligai, Fort St. George, Chennai 600009 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 and its amendments.
2. The Joint Secretary (Open & Distance/Online Learning), Ministry of Education, Govt. of India, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi - 110 001.
3. The Member Secretary, National Council for Teacher Education, New Delhi G-7, Sector 10, Dwarka, New Delhi - 110075.
4. The Member Secretary, AICTE, Nelson Mandela Marg, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi-110070.
5. The Vice-Chancellor, Annamalai University, Annamalai Nagar, Chidambaram, Cuddalore, Tamil Nadu- 608002
6. The Joint Secretary, State University Bureau, UGC, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi- 110 002
7. Guard file.



**(Neera Chopra)**  
*Under Secretary*

### Specific Provisions for Compliance

1. The Higher Educational Institution shall comply to all the terms and conditions mentioned in the Affidavit dated 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2023 duly notarized and signed by Dr. K. Seetharaman, Registrar and Dr. R. Singaravel, Director, submitted to the Commission.
2. HEI shall abide by the academic calendar as notified by the Commission and upload Student data on UGC DEB web portal within stipulated time.
3. Intake capacity of science based programme under Open and Distance Learning mode will be as follows:-
  - For Dual Mode University: Intake shall not be more than three times of the approved intake in conventional mode.
  - For Open University: Learner enrolment shall be commensurate with the capacity of the Learner Support Centers to provide lab facilities to the admitted learners.
4. The HEI shall scrupulously abide by all the terms and conditions regarding faculty and staff requirements for offering ODL/Online programmes as mentioned in Annexure-IV of University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020. HEI shall ensure that the faculty members shown for each programme are on 'full time dedicated basis' and no faculty member of LSC/other institution is shown as faculty of the HEI.
5. 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.
6. The HEI shall also adhere to the policy of Territorial Jurisdiction as specified in **Annexure-III** of UGC (ODL Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020.
7. HEI shall establish "Examination Centre(s)" strictly as per **Annexure-II** of UGC (ODL Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020 and 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 per condition laid down in Regulations.
  - For Online Programmes: Examinations either using Computer based test or pen and paper test in a proctored environment in designated test centre with all the security arrangements ensuring transparency and credibility of the examinations. It can also conduct online examination through technology mediated proctoring.
8. Programmes under the purview of regulatory authorities have been considered on the basis of NOC/ approval/ recommendation received from the respective regulatory authority. The HEI shall abide by the conditions such as the number of seats, valid academic year, etc. mentioned in the relevant regulatory authority letter.
9. HEI offering programmes in Open and Distance Learning mode shall ensure that a Learner Support Centre is established as per Regulations and fulfills following conditions:-
  - 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 manner.
10. HEI offering programme in ODL mode shall prepare Self Learning Material as per **Annexure-VI** and **Annexure-VII** of UGC (ODL Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020 taking into consideration 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.
11. HEI 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.
  12. HEI shall make mandatory disclosure(s) on its website as per Regulation 9 of UGC (ODL Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020.
  13. HEI shall establish Students Grievances Redressal Committee (SGRC) and the appoint Ombudsperson(s) at the Institute or University level as per University Grants Commission (Redressal of Grievances of Students) Regulations, 2023 and as amended from time to time.
  14. HEI shall establish Centre for Internal Quality Assurance (CIQA) as per **Annexure-I** of UGC (ODL Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020 for offering programmes in Open and Distance Learning mode and/or Online mode. HEI shall also submit annual report of CIQA within stipulated time period.
  15. HEI shall ensure that the delivery of Self Learning Material to learners for ODL programmes is as defined in **Annexure-VI** and **Annexure-VII** of UGC (ODL Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020.
  16. HEI shall mandatorily mention the following on the backside of each of the degrees/certificates and mark sheets issued by the Higher Educational Institution to the learners (for each semester certificate and at the end of the programme); as per Regulations 16 of UGC (ODL Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020:
    - Mode of delivery;
    - Date of admission;
    - Date of completion;
    - Name and address of all Learner Support Centres (only for Open and Distance Learning);
    - Name and address of all Examination Centres.

  
**(Neethu S. Thulaseedharan)**  
 Deputy Secretary

