



UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION

DISTANCE EDUCATION BUREAU

Ministry of Education, Govt. of India

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F.No.8-7/2024(DEB-I)

January, 2025

31 JAN 2025

**The Registrar
Sri Sri University
Bidyadharpur, Ward No-3, Gadi Sahi
Cuttack-754006
Odisha**

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 2024-25, academic session beginning October, 2024 (revised from July-August, 2024) and onwards-regarding.

Sir/Madam,

1. UGC has notified the University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020 and its, amendments. Regulations 3, 4 and 5 describe the eligibility criterion for HEI, the process of application and the approval process for ODL and Online Programmes whereas Regulation 6 describes provisions of the right to appeal by the HEIs aggrieved with the order of the Commission.
2. The Commission invited online applications from the eligible HEIs for recognition of the programmes under ODL mode and/or Online mode from academic year 2024-25, academic session beginning October, 2024 (revised from July-August, 2024) vide Public Notice F. No. 1-16/2024 (DEB-I) dated 6th May, 2024 and F.No.3-4/2024(DEB-I) dated 25th July, 2024.
3. Application received from **Sri Sri University, Odisha** for recognition of **ODL** programmes was assessed by Virtual Visiting Expert Committee (VEC)/Expert Review Committee (ERC)/Standing Appellate Committee (SAC) duly constituted by the Chairman, UGC. The details of the meetings are as under:

Sr.No.	Name of the Committee	Date of meeting	Date of recommendation sheet shared with the HEI
For ODL Programmes:			
1.	Virtual Visiting Expert Committee (VEC)	28.08.2024 & 29.08.2024	16.10.2024
2.	Expert Review Committee (ERC)	10.10.2024	
3.	Standing Appellate Committee (SAC)	12.12.2024	07.01.2025

4. The report of the VEC was considered by the ERC. Based on the recommendations of ERC/SAC and its approval by the Competent Authority/Commission, I am directed to issue this Order, thereby communicating the programme-wise recognition for the programmes to be offered in **ODL** mode from academic year 2024-25, academic session beginning October, 2024 (revised from July-August, 2024) and onwards.

5. Programme wise recognition status

- (i) Open and Distance Learning Programmes Recognized from academic session October, 2024 (revised from July-August, 2024): 04 (Four)**

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Sr. No.	Programme Name	Period of Recognition
1.	Bachelor of Business Administration – 3 years	
2.	Master of Arts (Hindu Studies) - 2 years	
3.	Master of Performing Arts (Odissi Dance) - 2 years	
4.	Master of Arts (Yoga) - 2 years	

Note: - For Master of Arts (Yoga) programme: -

1. Yoga programmes for the grant of degrees at the undergraduate and post graduate levels and grant of post graduate diploma shall not be permitted in Online mode.
2. Yoga programmes shall be permitted to be offered through ODL mode at degree level and post graduate diploma level as per the provisions of UGC (ODL Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020 in compliance to certain conditions as under:
 - a) HEIs which are offering Yoga programme in conventional mode for atleast 10 years, will only be eligible to apply for recognition to offer Yoga programmes in ODL mode.
 - b) Entry level qualification for the Yoga programmes in ODL mode at different levels is as under:

Level	Entry Qualification
Under Graduate Degree	10+2 with a certificate in Yoga discipline with a duration of atleast 2 months or 10+2 with the certificate by Yoga Certification Board (YCB) The HEI will conduct an entrance for ODL in Online or offline mode for assessment of the expected basic knowledge.
Post Graduate Degree	Bachelor's as per terms referred for Under Graduate Degree
Post Graduate Degree	Bachelor's as per terms referred for Under Graduate Degree

- c) Yoga Programmes in ODL mode may be offered in hybrid mode wherein theoretical component can be taught in permissible Online Mode and practical component can be done at Headquarter/ Learner Support Centres (LSCs). The conditions of territorial jurisdiction and Learner Support Centres as mentioned in the Regulations shall be complied with.
- d) Permissible practical component will be as per UGC (ODL Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020; for four courses, each of 04 credits (Total 16 credits), 10-12 credits for theory and 6-4 credits for practical course.
- e) The HEIs recognized by UGC for offering Yoga programmes in ODL mode shall conduct minimum contact programme at Headquarter (HQ)/ Learner Support Centres (LSCs) as per following:
"Contact classes shall be evenly distributed across the tenure of the Programmes. Accordingly, Expert Committee recommended that HEIs recognized by UGC for offering Yoga programmes in ODL mode shall conduct minimum contact classes of 30 days per academic year."

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- f) HEIs can offer certificate courses related to Yoga discipline which are of duration equal or less than 3 months through ODL and/or Online mode.
- g) HEI shall comply to the guidelines in respect of model curriculum on Yoga as and when notified by the Commission.
- h) HEI shall comply to provisions of UGC (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020 and guidelines/directions issued by Commission from time to time.

(ii) Open and Distance Learning Programmes Recognized from academic session February, 2025 (on the basis of the recommendations of the SAC*): 01 (One)

Sr. No.	Programme Name	Period of Recognition
1.	*Bachelor of Commerce -3 years	2024-25, academic session beginning from February, 2025 to 2029-30 (upto July-August, 2029 only.)

*The recommendations of the VEC/ERC have been reversed by the SAC

(iii) Open and Distance Learning Programmes Not Recognized: NIL

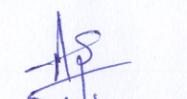
6. For the programmes recognized in the Table 5(i) and 5(ii) above, the HEI shall comply with all the provisions of the UGC (ODL Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020 and its amendments while offering the programmes in **ODL** mode.
7. The application of the HEI **stands closed**.
8. In the event any HEI is 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 University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020 and its amendments.
9. The decision of the Commission shall be final and binding on the HEI.

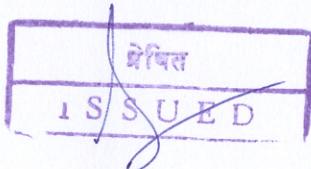
Yours faithfully,


 31/01/25
 (Dr. Naresh Pal Meena)
 Education Officer

Copy to:

1. The Secretary, Higher Education, Government of Odisha Secretariat, Bhubaneshwar-751001. (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 Economic Advisor, Distance Learning Section, Ministry of Education, Govt. of India, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi – 110 001.
3. The Joint Secretary, Private University Bureau, UGC, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi -110 002.


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 (Amit Saini)
 Section Officer



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