



**By Speed Post/ E-Mail**

**F. No. 8-33/2023 (DEB-I) (ODL)**

The Registrar  
Gauhati University  
Gopinath Bardoli Nagar  
Jalukbari – 781 014  
Guwahati, Assam

*Handwritten notes:*  
Important for compliance - P. Ambika compliance Report 31 May, 2024  
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**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 February, 2024 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 on 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2020 in the Gazette of India. Subsequently, amendments in Principal Regulations have been notified on 01.07.2021, 18.07.2022 and 02.05.2024 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 Regulations 6 describes provisions of right to appeal by the Higher Educational Institutions aggrieved with the order of the Commission and Regulations 7 describes 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 February, 2024** and onwards vide Public Notice F. No. 1-1/2023 (DEB-I) dated 05<sup>th</sup> October, 2023, mentioning therein that the online portal for submitting applications shall be open upto 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2023. Accordingly, **Gauhati University, Assam** submitted its application for recognition of the Open and Distance Learning Programme(s).

4. Application received from **Gauhati University, Assam** 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. The **Gauhati University, Assam** was invited for a Virtual Interface Meeting with the Expert Committee duly constituted by the Chairman, UGC, on 18.12.2023.

6. The Interface Expert Committee, based on the application submitted, compliance & 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 amendments, 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 programme(s) to be offered in **Open and Distance Learning mode** from academic year 2023-24, academic session beginning **February, 2024 and onwards** by the **Gauhati University, Assam** as detailed in point no. 8 below. **The assessment sheet duly approved by Competent Authority has already been communicated to the Higher Educational Institution through UGC-DEB portal on 11.01.2024.**

8. **Programme wise recognition status**

(i) **Open and Distance Learning Programmes: - 02**  
(Recommended Assessment sheet has been communicated to the HEI through UGC-DEB web portal on 11.01.2024): -

S. No.	Name of the ODL Programmes	Period of Recognition
1.	MASTER OF COMMERCE	2023-24, academic session beginning from February, 2024 to 2028-29 (up to July 2028 only).
2.	MASTER OF ARTS (EDUCATION)	

(ii) **Open and Distance Learning Programme Not Recognised- Nil.**

9. For the programme(s) 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 programme(s) in Open and Distance Learning mode. Some specific provisions for compliance have been mentioned in **Annexure-1**

10. 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".*

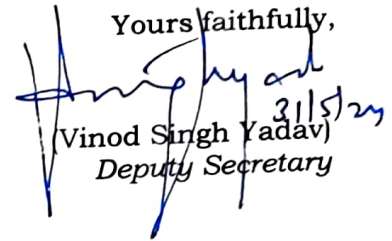
11. In the event of any Higher Educational Institution found offering programmes in Open and Distance Learning mode and/or Online mode without recognition of the Commission or in violation to any of the provisions of these regulations and guidelines or



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 and its amendments.

12. The application of the HEI for the academic year 2023-24, academic session beginning February, 2024 and onwards **stand closed**.
13. The decision of the Commission shall be final and binding on the Higher Educational Institution.

Yours faithfully,

  
(Vinod Singh Yadav) 31/5/23  
Deputy Secretary

**Encl:-** As above

**Copy to: -**

1. The Secretary, Higher Education, Higher Education Department Assam Secretariat, Block 'C', 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, Assam - 781006.  
(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 Vice Chancellor, Gauhati University, Gopinath Bardoloi Nagar, Jalukbari Assam- 781 014.
4. Deputy Secretary, State University Bureau, UGC, 35, Feroze Shah Road, New Delhi - 110001.
5. Guard File.

(Dr. Naresh Pal Meena)  
Education Officer