

**UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION**  
**NEW DELHI**

F. No. 1-4/2013(CPP-II)

17<sup>th</sup> June, 2013

**NOTIFICATION**

WHEREAS, the University Grants Commission has been established under the University Grants Commission Act, 1956 (No. 3 of 1956) for the co-ordination and determination of standards in Universities; and it is the general duty of the Commission to take, in consultation with the Universities or other bodies concerned, all such steps as it may think fit for the determination and maintenance of standards of teaching, examination and research in Universities;

And WHEREAS, the Indira Gandhi National Open University has been established by the Indira Gandhi National Open University Act, 1985 (No. 50 of 1985) for the promotion of open and distance education systems and for the co-ordination and determination of standards of teaching, evaluation and research in such systems and for which purpose, the Indira Gandhi National Open University (hereinafter called IGNOU) in exercise of its powers had established the Distance Education Council (hereinafter called DEC) under Statute 28 of the IGNOU Act, 1985;

And further WHEREAS, IGNOU, vide its Notification No. IG/Admn (G)/DEC/2013 dated May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013, with the approval of the President of India, in his capacity as the Visitor, has repealed the aforementioned Statute 28 of IGNOU Act, 1985 and has deleted the said Statute with immediate effect;

And WHEREAS, the Central Government, in exercise of its powers under section 20(1) of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956 (hereinafter called the Commission), has directed vide order No. F. No. 6-20/2010-DL dated 29<sup>th</sup> December, 2010 that the Commission shall act as a regulator for Higher Education (excluding Technical Education) through Open and Distance Learning (ODL) mode; and universities offering any programme/course in ODL mode shall require, inter alia, recognition from the Commission;

And WHEREAS, the Commission is in the process of framing regulations for maintaining standards in ODL systems/courses, which is likely to take some more time;

And WHEREAS, it is imperative in the larger public interest, and in the interest of institutions engaged in ODL, in particular, that a mechanism is in place for regulating ODL systems/courses till such time as the Commission is in a position to notify appropriate regulations;

Now therefore, the Commission in exercise of its powers conferred under section 12 of the UGC Act, 1956, hereby adopts the 'Guidelines of DEC on Minimum Requirements for Recognition of ODL Institutions' of the earlier DEC under the extant (and now repealed) Statute 28 of the IGNOU Act, 1985. Modifications in these guidelines, if necessary, will be notified from time to time.

It is hereby, further notified that this NOTIFICATION shall cease to be in force with effect from the date of coming into force of the UGC regulations on the subject mentioned herein.

  
**(Akhilesh Gupta)**  
**Secretary**