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Secretary, ICFRE



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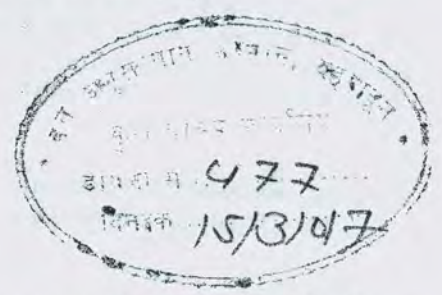
INDIAN COUNCIL OF FORESTRY RESEARCH & EDUCATION
(An Autonomous Body of the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Govt. of India)
P.O. New Forest, Dehradun - 248 006 (Uttarakhand)

No. 36-1/2015-ICFRE

Dated the 09 March., 2017.

To,

स्थापना अनुभाग-1
Establishment-II
द्वितीय संख्या... 104
Diary No... 16/03/17
दिनांक



✓ All Directors of the Institute under ICFRE.

Sub : Entering qualification of BE/B.Tech acquired through distance mode in Service books - Regarding.

Sir/Madam,

It has been observed that many Group 'C' staff are undertaking BE/B.Tech courses through distance mode to take advantage in the promotion. However, the issue was got clarified from the UGC, which intimated that programmes like BE/B.Tech are not allowed through distance mode. Copy of the letter of UGC and relevant attachments are enclosed for your record and reference in such matters.

Yours faithfully,

Encl : As above.

(Rajeev Kumar Tiwari)
Secretary, ICFRE

RFR I



No. A 12018 /58 /2017 - Est-II /TSR dated 17/03/17

copy to Group Coord (R) All Head of Divisions, S.O (E) + S.O (G) and CSFER, Allahabad for circulation Pl.

13/17

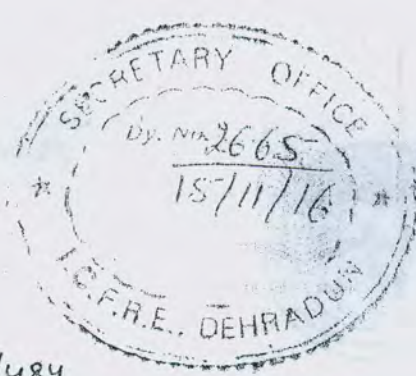
Sub Suman / sh. J.M.

16/3/17

कार्यालय / Office
वन सूचना विज्ञान प्रभाग
Forest Informatics Division
सं. Diary No. 78
दिनांक Dated. 21/3/2017

22/3/2017
Put up on website

17/3/17 (E)
अनुभाग अधिकारी (स्था0)
Section Officer (E)
वन अनुसन्धान संस्थान
Forest Research Institute
देहरादून-248 006
Dehra Dun-248 006



105 84

F.No.14-6/2016 (DEB-I)/484

November, 2016

Speed Post

09 NOV 2016

Sh.Vivek Khandekar,
Secretary ICFRE,
Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education,
(An Autonomous Body of the Ministry of Environment
And Forest, Govt. of India), P.O. New Forest,
Dehradun- 248 006, Uttarakhand

Subject: Recognition status of BE/B.Tech awarded by Karnataka State Open University through Distance mode- reg.

Sir,

This has reference to your letter no. 36-1/2015-ICFRE dated 17.08.2016 on the subject mentioned above. In this regard, this is to inform you that :-

1. The programmes like BE/B.Tech are not allowed through distance mode. MHRD directions prohibiting BE/B.Tech through distance mode dated 29.07.2009 are already uploaded on UGC website at the link <http://www.ugc.ac.in/deb/notices/MHRDETEchMHRD.pdf>

The joint committee of UGC, AICTE and DEC has not given its recognition to B.E and B.Tech programmes of any university through distance mode. In this regard copy of letter dated 13.08.2009 issued by the erstwhile DEC may be seen at <http://www.ugc.ac.in/deb/notices/13082009.pdf>

2. A copy of checklist/parameters issued vide F.No.12-4/2016 (DEB-III) dated 27.04.2016 for checking the validity of qualifications acquired through distance mode is also attached for more information on the subject. Attention is also invited to a Public Notice issued vide F.No. 12-9/2016(DEB-III) dated 19.07.2016 wherein it has been clarified that territorial jurisdiction policy is equally applicable in case of examination Centre. The same is uploaded at U.G.C. website and can be accessed at http://www.ugc.ac.in/pdf/news/1373453_Territorial-Jurisdiction.pdf

3. In view of the above, it is requested to kindly decide the validity/suitability of the qualifications acquired through distance mode at your level. However, if any other specific information is needed, the same may be obtained from UGC.

Yours Faithfully,

Megha Kaushik
(Megha Kaushik)
Education Officer

J
15/11/16
Mr. Sudheer
SK
15/11/16

104 (83)

F.No. 12-4/2016 (DEB-III)

Dated: 27th April, 2016

Sub: Checklist/parameters for checking the validity of qualification acquired through distance mode.

1. There is no provision or mechanism in UGC to verify/validate the degrees/diploma/certificates issued by universities/institutions. The same can be verified by the issuing authority i.e. the concerned university/institution only. However, the following points may be taken into consideration while deciding the validity of qualifications acquired through distance mode.

2. MHRD vide Gazette Notification No.6-1/2013 dated 10.06.2015 (published in Gazette on dated 25.07.2015) has notified that- "all the degrees/diplomas/certificates including technical education degrees/diploma awarded through Open and Distance Learning mode of education by the Universities established by an Act of Parliament or State Legislature, Institutions Deemed to be Universities under Section 3 of the UGC Act, 1956 and Institutions of National Importance declared under an Act of Parliament stand automatically recognized for the purpose of employment to posts and services under the Central Government, provided they have been approved by the UGC."

Prior to this, the Gazette Notification No. 44 dated 01.03.1995 was effective. As per this, the approval of Distance Education Council (DEC) was necessary for the recognition of qualifications acquired through ODL mode of education.

3. Therefore, all universities are required to obtain prior specific approval for offering education through distance mode. The year-wise details of recognition accorded to the universities to offer education through distance mode have been uploaded on the UGC website www.ugc.ac.in/deb.

4. It may be noted that programme-wise recognition has been given to some universities for some academic years, the same has been uploaded on UGC website. In some case, it is 'institutional'. It is clarified that during the period of 'institutional recognition', the universities were required to offer programmes approved by the statutory bodies of their university and after seeking approval of the concerned regulatory bodies, wherever required. Further, in case of technical/professional programmes offered by the university, the approval from the AICTE was required to be obtained by the university in accordance with the Gazette Notification No. 44 dated 1.3.1995 issued by MHRD. Seeking approval from the respective apex bodies was the responsibility of the university.

5. The degrees acquired through distance education mode are recognised for the purpose of employment in central government and also for pursuing higher education in other educational institutions provided the same has been awarded by the universities/institutions recognized specifically to offer education through distance mode in conformity with the norms, guidelines and regulations of UGC. However, it is the prerogative of the concerned employer/university/institution to take a view in respect of qualification acquired through distance mode.

6. The duration of programme, nomenclature of programme and the minimum eligibility criteria should be as per UGC norms. Single sitting/one year degree programmes are not allowed. The details of degrees specified by UGC along with the level of the degree, minimum duration of the programme and minimum qualification required at entry level are given in the 'Specification of Degrees, 2014' published in the Gazette of India in July, 2014. Copy of the same is uploaded on UGC website and is available at the link

http://www.ugc.ac.in/pdfnews/1061840_specification-of-degrees-july-2014.pdf

7. The erstwhile DEC of IGNOU has issued a Notification dated 01.11.2012 regarding the policy on pursuing two or more programmes simultaneously in various combinations. The same is also uploaded on UGC website at the link

<http://www.ugc.ac.in/deb/notices/NOTIFICATION-PolicyonPursuingtwoormoreProgrammesSimultaneously.pdf>

In the meantime, the matter regarding pursuing two degree programmes simultaneously was also being considered by UGC. Now, UGC vide Public Notice dated 15.01.2016 has clarified as under:

"The Commission had sought the comments of the Statutory Councils. The responses, so far, received do not endorse the idea of allowing the students to pursue two degree programmes simultaneously. Therefore, the universities shall conduct their programmes in accordance with the First Degree and Master Degree Regulations, 2003 prescribed by the UGC and also follow the norms and parameters prescribed by the Statutory Council concerned, wherever relevant".

8. Further universities/institutions are required to adhere to the 'Territorial Jurisdiction' policy of UGC. Also, franchising of education through private institutions/centres is not allowed by UGC. The following are the regulating provisions regarding territorial jurisdiction and Study Centres pertaining to different types of universities:

(i) The Deemed Universities can operate within their own Head Quarters or from those off campuses/off-shore campuses which are approved by the Govt. of India through notification published in the gazette. Any Study Centre can be opened only with the specific approval of UGC. It is for information that UGC, so far, has not granted its approval to any Deemed to be University to open any 'Study Centre' in any other State or even within its own State. Further, institutions declared Deemed to be Universities before 26.05.2010 are not allowed to conduct courses in distance mode from any of its off-campus centres/off-shore campuses approved after 26.05.2010.

(ii) The Private Universities cannot open their centre(s) even within the State as per the provision of UGC (Establishment of and Maintenance of Standards in Private Universities) Regulation, 2003 without the approval of UGC. The UGC has not granted any approval to the university to open off campus/study centre anywhere.

(iii) In the case of State Universities, these can operate within their respective States Only through their own departments/constituent colleges and/or through their affiliated colleges with the approval of their statutory bodies/councils, wherever required. It is for information that UGC has not granted approval to any State University to open off-campus/study centre in other States.

(iv) The 'State Universities' and 'Private Universities' cannot operate beyond their State of origin. These are established by the State Governments and hence cannot operate in other States. The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide its judgment dated 11.02.2005 in the case of Prof. Yashpal & Anr. vs State of Chhattisgarh & Ors held that- "In view of Article 245 (1) of the Constitution, Parliament alone is competent to make laws for the whole or any part of the territory of India and the Legislature of the State may make laws for the whole or any part of the State."

(v) The UGC does not allow any type of university/institution to offer education through distance mode by hiring any private establishment, institutions or centres. No such franchising, collaboration or agreement is recognised by UGC.

9. It is also for information that no institution is allowed to offer technical, medical and para-medical programmes including M.Phil and Ph.D through distance mode. The UGC has not allowed any university to offer education through online mode. For more information kindly refer to various public notices already displayed on UGC website www.ugc.ac.in/deb at the link <http://www.ugc.ac.in/deb/pdf/debinfo%20for%20stakeholders.pdf> The other issues regarding UGC policy on territorial jurisdiction, study centres, franchising of education etc. are also covered in these notices as well as in other notices.

10. As for as technical education is concerned, it is clarified that the programmes like BE/B.Tech. are not allowed through distance mode. MHRD directions prohibiting BE/B.Tech through distance mode dated 29.07.2009 is uploaded on UGC website at the link <http://www.ugc.ac.in/deb/notices/MHRDBTechMTech.pdf>.

Also, the joint committee of UGC, AICTE and DEC has not given its recognition to B.E and B.Tech programmes of any university through distance mode. In this regard copy of letter dated 13.08.2009 issued by DEC may be seen at <http://www.ugc.ac.in/deb/notices/BTechMTech.pdf>. Also, it is has been the policy of AICTE not to recognise any technical qualification acquired through distance mode.

Megha Kaushik
(Megha Kaushik)
Education Officer



UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION
BAHADUR SHAH ZAFAR MARG
NEW DELHI- 110002

**PUBLIC NOTICE - EXAMINATION CENTRES FOR DISTANCE EDUCATION
PROGRAMME**

F.No.12-9/2016(DEB-III)

19th July, 2016

It has come to the notice of the UGC that some Institutions /Universities/Institutions Deemed to be Universities are conducting examinations for their Open and Distance Learning (ODL) programmes outside the State of their location or beyond their territorial jurisdiction, which is wholly illegal. The Policy of the UGC with regard to territorial jurisdiction and off-campus/study centres has been clearly articulated in its Public Notice dated 27.06.2013, which is also available on the UGC website at www.ugc.ac.in.

All the Institutions are hereby directed to follow the UGC policy on ODL norms and territorial jurisdiction which are applicable for all academic activities including setting up of examination centres for distance education.

The students and parents are requested to ascertain the territorial jurisdiction of the institution before seeking admission in the same and refrain from studying in these institutions which violate the norms of the University Grants Commission.

R. Balu
JOINT SECRETARY (DEB), UGC