

INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY
Distance Education Council

Day/Date : Wednesday, 01.08.07 & Thursday, 02.08.07
Venue : Conference Room, DEC Bldg.
Maidan Garhi, New Delhi.
Time : 11:00 a.m.-05:00 p.m.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING FOR EXAMINATION OF PROPOSALS FOR EX-POST-FACTO APPROVAL

The Committee constituted by the Chairman, DEC to examine the proposals from the institutions for ex-post facto approval, met on August 1st and 2nd, 2007.

The following were present:

1. Prof. M V Pylee, Chairman
2. Prof. K N Tripathi, Member
3. Dr. S K Garg, Member
4. Dr. R R Rausaria, Member
5. Dr. N A Lele, Member

At the outset, Director, DEC welcomed all the members and briefed them on the mandate of DEC. He also briefed the members on the DEC initiatives in maintaining quality in Distance Education System and requested them to examine the proposals received from institutions for ex-post facto approval to them.

The members deliberated on the issue of ex-post facto approval to institution and examined the files of such institutions. The members looked into the cases of the institutions which were presented before them. It was found that visiting committees already set up by the Competent Authority to look into the infrastructure were sent to the institutions and their reports were submitted to DEC.

Reports submitted by them were considered by this committee in each case which is as under:

1. Allahabad Agricultural Institute – Deemed University (AAI-DU):

Visit dates 26th and 27th October, 2004

Recommendations

The visiting committee recommends that the Directorate of Distance Education may be considered for approval by the Distance Education Council to offer various programmes through the distance mode subject to the following conditions:

1. The university may offer Certificate/Diploma Courses for middle level technicians not having graduate or post graduate degree in Agricultural Sciences.
2. All the academic Counsellors should be given training in delivery of programmes through distance mode and the university should devise training programmes with the help of DEC.
3. The university may be advised in general to ensure that it should not offer such programmes through the distance mode for which expertise is not available in the university.
4. For starting any new programme, the university may be advised to adopt the SIM from other existing SOUs or DEIs to begin with to avoid duplication of efforts.

2. Janardan Rai Nagar Rajasthan Vidyapeeth University, Udaipur

Visit dates 15th and 16th June, 2007

Recommendations

The visiting committee on examination of the facts makes the following recommendations:

1. The Learning Materials are available for the programmes on offer by the Directorate. However, it should be further improved making it more learner – centered

2. Audio-Video and use of technology in delivery of programmes need to be strengthened and in the initial phase may be done by the adoption/adaptation of material already available at other universities.
3. The Directorate has a large number of programmes in specialized areas, which it proposes to reduce to 69 (sixty-nine).
4. The Directorate has a large number of Study Centres mostly located in private institutions. This should be restricted to a manageable number.
5. The university has also submitted a request to the Committee to consider its proposal for continuation of programmes on grant of post – facto approval.

Keeping in view the above facts the Committee recommends that the request of the university for post facto approval may be favourably considered. It also submits that the request of the university for continuation of its programmes may be considered by DEC as per norms being adopted for institutional recognition.

3. Vinayaka Missions University, Tamil Nadu

Visit date 4th February, 2007

Recommendations

1. The university may be given recognition to offer programmes through distance mode.
2. The number of programmes may be pruned down.
3. Within one year from the date of recognition given, all course materials should be transformed systematically into SLM format.
4. Further the audio-vidé programmes, CDs, portal (that is being developed) should be systematically prepared to match the level of the programmes being offered. This should be undertaken on top priority and completed within one year.

4. IASE-Deemed University, Gandhi Vidya Mandir, Sardarshahar, Rajasthan

Visit dates 3rd and 4th September, 2004 .

Recommendations

The committee recommends that the Directorate of Distance Education may be considered for approval by the Distance Education Council to offer various programmes through the distance mode subject to the following conditions:

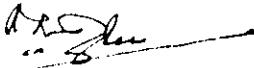
1. The University may strictly review the functioning of the existing Study Centres keeping in view the guidelines of DEC for recognition/functioning of Study Centre. The compliance report may be submitted to the DEC within next six months.
2. The University may be advised not to offer such programmes through the distance mode which are not being offered in the conventional mode in the Campus viz . BGL, M Lib. Sc , and PG Diploma courses in Fashion & Management.
3. For starting any new programme, the University may be advised to adopt the SIM from other existing SOUs or DEIs to begin with to avoid duplication of efforts.

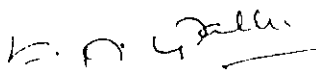
The committee deliberated upon the recommendations of the visiting committees with respect to each institution and came up with the following recommendations:

1. The above four institutions may be given ex-post facto sanction till the academic session June-July, 2007 only.
2. These institutions should be communicated the deficiencies/improvements identified by the visiting committees.
3. For recognition of the institution from next academic calendar i.e. from June-July, 2008, another visiting committee may be constituted by the Competent Authority to visit and submit a fresh report on the basis of which further decision on recognition may be taken.
4. The Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya has applied for ex-post facto approval. However, the institution proposed


to start distance education programmes from July, 2007 adopting IGNOU material. The Committee recommends constitution of another committee to visit and review the preparedness of the institution at the headquarters to start distance education programmes. The primary function of the DEC is to maintain appropriate standard in the open and distance education system in India including recognition of programme and institutions. The ex-post facto approval granted to the institutions is one time measure and shall not be treated as precedence in the future by the institutions. The DEC needs to ensure quality of the programmes, its feasibility and viability for running through distance mode and should allow only such high standard programme to continue. Content, methodology in offering programmes and faculty available, infrastructure etc. should determine this standard. Distance Education Council must ensure through suitable means these objectives are realized.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.


Prof. M V Pylee
(Chairman)


Prof. K N Tripathi
(Member)


Prof. S K Garg
(Member)


Dr. R R Rousaria
(Member)


Dr. N A Lele
(Member)