To
The Vice Chancellor,
Sikkim Manipal University,
5th Mile, Tadong-737102.
Gangtok,
Sikkim.

Sub: Continuation of recognition to Sikkim Manipal University, Gangtok Sikkim for offering programmes through Open & Distance Learning (ODL) mode for academic year 2016-17 – reg.

Sir,

1. This has reference to your letter No. SMU/VC/2015-33 dated 1.8.2015 & SMU/VC/2015-49 dated 27.10.15 seeking recognition for distance education programmes of Sikkim Manipal University, Gangtok, Sikkim.

   The proposal was examined in UGC by an Expert Committee. Its recommendations were placed before the 9th meeting of Distance Education Committee on 21.1.16. As recommended by the Distance Education Committee and approved by the Commission in its 512th meeting on 4th February, 2016 approval is hereby communicated to the University for the academic year 2016-17 to offer 12 programmes through ODL mode from the programmes approved earlier vide letter No. DEC/Recog/2009 dated 15.10.2009. Any other programme started without prior approval of UGC shall NOT be treated as recognised. The University will have the sole responsibility of the consequences arising out of it.

2. As advised by the Expert Committee, DEC has further recommended and the Commission has approved that:

   a) The University shall initiate the process of amendment of the Act by getting it approved from internal statutory bodies and make an effort to get the amendment done within a period of one year preferably.
b) The University shall submit a list of study centres programme wise, for the academic session 2016-17 for prior approval of the UGC as per the UGC communication D.O. No. F. 9-8/2008 (CPP-I/PU) dated 12th August, 2015 addressed to the Vice Chancellor of the private universities (copy enclosed).

c) The University shall display on their website curriculum, evaluation system including minimum 40 marks for passing, and the same to be hosted on the University’s website as well.

d) List of study centres for each program approved shall be submitted to the UGC programme-wise.

e) No programme shall be launched from any study centre not approved by the UGC.

f) The programmes are recommended as per the list below for the academic session 2016-17 only.

g) The University’s performance during 2016-17 should be reviewed by visiting Expert Committee as mid-term appraisal.

h) Nomenclature of Degrees/Diplomas issued by the University shall be as per UGC specification of degrees, 2014.

3. The approval given for 14 programmes for 2016-17 is as under:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No</th>
<th>Name of the Programme</th>
<th>Duration</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Master of Computer Applications</td>
<td>3 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Master of Science (Information Technology)</td>
<td>2 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Diploma in Infrastructure Management Systems</td>
<td>1 year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Bachelor of Science (Information Technology)</td>
<td>3 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Bachelor of Computer Applications</td>
<td>3 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Bachelor of Science (IT in Infrastructure Management System)</td>
<td>3 years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
7. Master of Business Administration

| (a) Finance           | 3 years |
| (b) Marketing        |        |
| (c) Human Resource Management |    |
| (d) Information Systems |   |
| (e) Banking          |        |
| (f) Project Management|    |
| (g) Total Quality Management | |
| (h) Operations Management | |
| (i) International Business | |

8. Master of Commerce (Information Systems) 2 years

9. Bachelor of Business Administration 3 years

10. Bachelor of Business Administration (Retail Operations) 3 years

11. Bachelor of Commerce (Information System) 3 years

12. Certification in Export and Import Trade 6 months

4. The University is also advised to submit an affidavit within 15 days duly notarised with terms & conditions mentioned in the recognition letter. The University shall compulsorily observe the following terms and conditions while offering the programmes through Open and Distance Learning mode during 2016-17:

i) The University shall offer only those programmes through open and distance mode which are approved by the statutory bodies of the University as per norms and also by UGC and wherever necessary by the Apex regulatory bodies of the country.

ii) It is the responsibility of the University to follow the norms prescribed by the concerned regulatory body/ies such as UGC/AICTE/NCTE, or any other and also seek its/their prior approval, wherever required, before offering any specific programme through distance mode.

iii) The University shall not start any new programme without prior approval of UGC and other concerned regulatory authorities in anticipation of recognition.

iv) The Nomenclature of all programmes shall be as per UGC/AICTE Regulations.

v) No teacher education programmes shall be offered without prior approval of the NCTE.
vi) The MHRD directions prohibiting B.E./B.Tech through Distance mode vide its letter dated 29.7.2009 shall be adhered to strictly (copy at UGC website).

vii) Programmes in Engineering and Technology i.e. BE/B.Tech/Diploma courses in Medicine/Nursing/Physiotherapy etc. are not allowed through distance mode and University shall not offer the same.

viii) The University shall refrain from offering such programmes that are not allowed to be offered through distance mode by respective Apex body/ies.

ix) No online programme leading to award of degree/certificate shall be offered by the Institute until a policy is framed and approved by UGC in this regard.

x) The minimum duration of a programme offered through ODL mode should not be less than the minimum duration of similar programme offered through the regular mode.

xi) The University shall run its Open and Distance Learning programmes in those subject/fields which are offered by it through regular mode only.

xii) The University should have at least one full-time faculty member exclusively for coordinating each programme at the headquarters.

xiii) The eligibility conditions for admissions shall be as per norms of UGC/AICTE and other regulatory bodies.

xiv) The territorial jurisdiction in respect of University for offering programmes through distance mode will be as per the policy of UGC on territorial jurisdiction and opening of off campuses/centres/study centres as mentioned in the UGC notification No.F.27-1/2012 (CPP-II), dated 27th June, 2013, a copy of which is also posted in the UGC website www.ugc.ac.in/deb/.

xv) In respect of standalone Institutions (other than the Universities), the territorial jurisdiction will be headquarters.

xvi) The programme in distance mode will not be offered through franchising arrangement and/or through any Private Institution/College.

5. Moreover, the University shall not offer any M.Phil/Ph.D Programme through distance learning mode in compliance to clause 5 of the UGC (Minimum Standard and Procedure for awards of M.Phil./Ph.D Degree), Regulation 2009.
6. The University's management of the distance education programmes will be open for review and inspection by the UGC. The academic norms of the programmes shall be under monitoring by the concerned regulatory authorities.

7. It may also be noted that:

i) If the University/Institution fails to comply with the conditions of recognition or if it is found conducting affairs in a manner that leads to deterioration of academic standards, the UGC may withdraw its recognition.

ii) In case any information, documentary evidence submitted/produced by the University/Institution is found to be false or fake at a later stage, the recognition of University/Institution shall be withdrawn and the University/Institution concerned shall be solely responsible for the career of the students enrolled.

Yours faithfully,

(Renu Batra)
Joint Secretary

Encl. – As above.

C.C.

1. The Director, Directorate of Distance Education, Sikkim Manipal University, 5th Mile, Tadong, Gangtok -737 102, Sikkim.

2. The Principal Secretary, Technical and Higher Education Department, Govt. of Sikkim.

3. The Member Secretary, All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), 7th floor, Chanderlok Building, Janpath, New Delhi -110001.

4. The Joint Secretary (TEL), Department of Higher Education, MHRD, Govt. of India, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi – 110015.
5. Concerned File
6. Master File
7. Publication Officer (Web), UGC for updating website.

(Megha Kaushik)
Education Officer
To
The Vice Chancellor,
Sikkim Manipal University,
5th Mile, Tadong-737102.
Gangtok,
Sikkim.


Sir,

The duration of the MBA programmes indicated in recognition letter No. UGC/DEB-II/SMU/REcog/2015-Vol.V dated 21.3.16 at S.No. 7 as ‘3 years’ may be read as ‘2 years’, in uniformity with the similar programme being offered in regular mode. All other terms & conditions shall remain the same.

Yours faithfully,

(Renu Batra)
Joint Secretary

C.C.
1. The Director, Directorate of Distance Education, Sikkim Manipal University, 5th Mile, Tadong, Gangtok -737102, Sikkim.
2. The Principal Secretary, Technical and Higher Education Department, Govt. of Sikkim.
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