

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1996**  
ANSWERED ON 19/12/2022

**Status of Degrees Obtained through Online Mode**

1996. SHRI MANICKAM TAGORE B.:

SHRI BENNY BEHANAN:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the degrees obtained through online learning mode from recognized institutions would be treated at par with those offered through conventional mode and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the University Grants Commission (UGC) has taken this decision as per UGC regulations in this regard and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there are some States which still do not treat the distance education equivalent to that of conventional mode;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(e) the action taken/likely to be taken by the Government in this regard?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
(SMT. ANNPURNA DEVI)

(a) & (b): Regulation 22 of the University Grants Commission (UGC) (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020 stipulates that 'Degrees at undergraduate and postgraduate level in conformity with UGC notification on Specification of Degrees, 2014 and post graduate diplomas awarded through Open and Distance Learning mode and/or Online mode by Higher Educational Institutions, recognised by the Commission under these regulations, shall be treated as equivalent to the corresponding awards of the Degrees at undergraduate and postgraduate level and post graduate diplomas offered through conventional mode'. The Regulation is available at <https://deb.ugc.ac.in/Uploads/20200906.pdf>.

(c) & (d): UGC has informed that no such information is available.

(e): UGC has issued Public Notice dated 2nd September 2022 informing the stakeholders regarding the above provision of the Regulation. Further, UGC has informed that, any complaint brought to the notice of Distance Education Bureau of the UGC, is taken up with the concerned authority for appropriate necessary action.

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