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शिक्षा अधिकारी  
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**BY SPEED POST**

D. O. No.1-6/2007(CPP-II)

December, 2012

Dear Madam/Sir,

28 DEC 2012

Subject:- To consider the issue of pursuing more than one degree simultaneously and Joint Degree Programme`

The Chairman, UGC constituted an Expert Committee to look into the issue of pursuing more than one degree simultaneously from the same university or different universities either through distance mode/part-time mode and awarding of a joint degree by Indian Universities.

The Committee considered the issue and in the meeting held on 29.10.2012, the Committee desired that the minutes may be sent to the Vice-Chancellor of all universities to obtain their comments before taking a final decision in this regard.

Accordingly, a copy of the minutes containing the recommendations of the committee is enclosed along with this letter. You are requested to give your comments, if any, on the recommendations within 15 days so as to enable the Committee to take a final view in the matter.

Yours faithfully,

*R. Manoj Kumar*

(R. Manoj Kumar)  
Education Officer



To  
The Vice-Chancellor  
all Univ / Insts  
as per list attached

O/C

## **Minutes of the meeting of the Committee to Consider the Issue of Pursuing more than One Degree simultaneously and Joint Degree Programme.**

A meeting of the Committee to consider the issue of pursuing more than one degree simultaneously and joint degrees was held on 29<sup>th</sup> October, 2012 in the UGC Head Office.

Following members were present:

- |    |   |          |
|----|---|----------|
| 1. | Prof. Furqan Qamar, Vice-Chancellor<br>Central University of Himachal Pradesh | Chairman |
| 2. | Prof. Manoj Kumar Mishra, Vice-Chancellor<br>University of Lucknow            | Member   |
| 3. | Prof. Sudhanshu Bhushan<br>NUEPA, New Delhi                                   | Member   |

Prof. Iqbal Ahmad, Professor of Mathematics, JMI could not attend the meeting. UGC officials assisted the Committee.

At the outset, the Chairman of the Committee welcomed all members and apprised the members with the issues to be taken up.

1. To pursue more than one degree programme simultaneously:

The minutes of the earlier meetings held on 13.05.2011 and 09.07.2012 were perused and discussed by the Committee. The changing scenario of higher education in India and abroad also came in for discussion. The members also discussed the pros and cons of allowing students to pursue more than one degree simultaneously. After a detailed deliberations, following decisions were taken:

- a) A student enrolled in a degree programme under regular mode may be allowed to pursue a maximum of one additional degree programme simultaneously under open/distance mode from the same or a different university. However, two degree programmes under regular mode may not be allowed simultaneously as it may create logistic, administrative and academic problems.
- b) A student pursuing a degree programme under regular mode may be allowed to pursue a maximum of one certificate/diploma/advanced diploma/PG diploma programme simultaneously either in regular or open and distance mode in the same university or from other institutions.

2. Joint Degree Programme:

The issue of awarding Joint Degree by universities within India was also discussed by the Committee and it was felt that apparently nothing prohibit universities to permit their students to take and complete a part of their programme of studies from any other recognised universities and to this extent the joint degree programme are not only permissible by the UGC but also needs to be encouraged. Interested universities may make necessary enabling ordinances specifying details and procedures in this regards and may sign Memorandum of Understanding to execute the award of joint degrees.

Further, the Committee was of the opinion that the minutes may be sent to the Vice-Chancellor of all universities to obtain their comments before taking a final decision in this regards.