

Government of Odisha
Higher Education Department

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No.: 31417 /HE, Dated: 06/08/2021
HE-PTC-MISC-0004-2015

From

Saswat Mishra, IAS
Principal Secretary to Government

To

The Vice-Chancellor (All State Public Universities coming under Higher Education Department)

The Principals (All Government/ Non-Government Degree Colleges coming under Higher Education Department)

Sub: Commencement of Physical Classroom teaching in Universities and Colleges w.e.f. 16.08.2021 and conduct of examinations for UG & PG Courses


Madam/Sir,

In view of improvement in Covid-19 situation in the state, the following decisions have been taken.

1. State Public Universities and Government as well as Non-Government Degree Colleges (coming under H.E. Department) are hereby directed to commence physical classroom teaching for all PG and UG students, except 2020-21 UG First Year students, from **16th August 2021**. *(Since Final Year/ Final Semester examinations have already started or going to start soon, there is no necessity for physical classroom teaching of 2020-21 PG and UG Final Year students. Their examinations shall be held in online mode as had been decided earlier vide H.E. Department Letter No. 25110 Dated 28.06.2021.)*
2. State Public Universities and all Autonomous Colleges (Government as well as Non-Government) are hereby allowed to take appropriate decision at their level for conducting semester/annual examinations, in online/offline (pen & paper)/ blended (online/offline) mode, for students of all remaining Years/Semesters. The HEIs should prepare their own examination calendar so as to ensure on-time graduation of these students in the coming years.
3. Teaching and research activities of Ph.D., M.Phil. and other research scholars shall also commence in physical mode w.e.f. 16.08.2021, if not commenced already.

4. Hostels shall be opened from 14.08.2021 only for the students whose classroom teaching will start in physical mode from 16.08.2021 and also for Ph.D., M.Phil. and other Research Scholars. All possible Covid-19 prevention protocols shall be followed in hostels.
5. Following Covid-19 Prevention Protocols shall be followed in all HEIs.
 - a. Teachers/ Staff/ Students residing in Containment Zones shall not come to University/ College.
 - b. Face Mask/ Face Cover shall be mandatory.
 - c. Frequent Hand Wash/ Hand Sanitization shall be ensured.
 - d. Social Distancing shall be adopted in classrooms, libraries, laboratories, etc. If need be, crowded classes can be divided into batches and teaching hours in a day can be extended.
 - e. Spitting in campus shall be strictly prohibited.
 - f. Respiratory etiquettes shall be strictly followed. (i.e. Covering one's mouth and nose by handkerchief while coughing/ sneezing)
 - g. Self-monitoring of health and reporting of illness should be encouraged.
 - h. There must be an isolation room ready for any emergency.
 - i. Whenever possible, the physical classroom teaching shall be recorded and shared with absentee students.
6. State Private Universities (under H.E. Department) may also consider following these guidelines to the extent required by them.

Yours faithfully,



06/08

Principal Secretary to Government

Memo No. 31418 /HE, Dated, 06/08/2021

Copy forwarded to Commissioner-cum-Secretary to Hon'ble Chancellor of State Public Universities, Raj Bhavan, Bhubaneswar, Odisha for kind information of Hon'ble Chancellor.



Principal Secretary to Government

Memo No. 31419 /HE, Dated, 06/08/2021

Copy forwarded to P.S. to Hon'ble Minister, Higher Education Department for kind information of Hon'ble Minister.



Principal Secretary to Government

Memo No. 31420 /HE, Dated, 06/08/2021

Copy forwarded to Vice-Chairperson, Odisha State Higher Education Council/ SPD, OHEPEE, Text Book Bureau, Bhubaneswar for kind information.



Principal Secretary to Government

Memo No. 31421 /HE, Dated, 06/08/2021

Copy forwarded to all Regional Directors of Education (Bhubaneswar/ Balasore/ Berhampur/ Sambalpur/ Jeypore) for information.



Principal Secretary to Government

Memo No. 31422 /HE, Dated, 06/08/2021

Copy forwarded to all Sections of Higher Education Department for information. IT Section is requested to upload this letter in the department website.



Principal Secretary to Government

Memo No. 31423 /HE, Dated, 06/08/2021

Copy forwarded to the Collectors and District Magistrates of all districts for information and necessary action.



Principal Secretary to Government

Memo No. 31424 /HE, Dated, 06/08/2021

Copy forwarded to all Municipal Commissioners/ Commissioner of Police, Bhubaneswar-Cuttack/ all Superintendent of Police for information and necessary action.



Principal Secretary to Government