

No. of Printed Pages : 2

MDE-417

**MASTER OF ARTS (DISTANCE EDUCATION)**

**Term-End Examination**

**December, 2013**

**MDE-417 : DISTANCE EDUCATION : ECONOMIC  
PERSPECTIVE**

*Time : 3 hours*

*Weightage : 75%*

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**Note :** (i) Answer *all the three* questions.

(ii) All the questions carry *equal* weightage.

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1. Answer **any one** of the following in about 1200 words :

- (a) Compare campus-based classroom education with distance education. Based on the comparison, justify how distance education can be considered as investment in human beings.
- (b) Distinguish between 'Economic Growth' and 'Economic Development'. Give your arguments if DE can be considered as contributing to either economic growth or economic development.

2. Answer **any four** of the following in about 300 words each :

- (a) Establish relationship between distance education and human resource development.
- (b) What could be the sources of finance for meeting the expenses of distance teaching learning ?
- (c) Distinguish between 'cost -effectiveness' and 'cost efficiency' with suitable examples.
- (d) Describe the 'return to education approach' to the assessment of the contribution of education to economic growth.
- (e) Briefly describe the costs in economics and in education.

3. Answer **any one** of the following in 1200 words.

- (a) Describe the cost-benefit analysis. In what way can this be applied to education ? Justify your views with suitable examples.
  - (b) Describe the factors which contribute to the cost of distance education. What lessons will you draw from the cost studies relating to UK open university and the university of the Air, Japan ?
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**MDE-417**

00296

## **MASTER OF ARTS (DISTANCE EDUCATION)**

### **Term-End Examination**

**June, 2014**

### **MDE-417 : DISTANCE EDUCATION : ECONOMIC PERSPECTIVE**

*Time : 3 hours*

*Weightage : 75%*

**Note :** (i) Answer *all the three* questions.

(ii) All the questions carry *equal* weightage.

**1. Answer any one of the following in about 1200 words :**

(a) Distinguish between 'economic growth' and 'economic development' with suitable examples. Justify if distance education contributes to either of the two or to both of them.

(b) Describe how human capital is formed. Justify, with the help of suitable examples, if distance education contributes to development of human resources.

**2. Answer any four of the following in 300 words each :**

(a) Distinguish between 'expenditure' and 'cost'; and explain the concept of cost both in economics and in education.

(b) Explain how education is considered as investment in human beings.

- (c) Describe zero base budgeting with suitable examples.
- (d) In what way distance education programmes in your country contribute to the quality of labour force ?
- (e) What mechanisms will you recommend for generation of financial resources for distance education ?

3. Answer **any one** of the following in about **1200** words :

- (a) Distinguish between 'fixed cost' and 'variable cost' on the one hand, and 'average cost' and 'marginal cost' on the other hand. Give suitable examples from the context of distance education in respect of average and marginal costs and their relationships.
  - (b) Describe the funding patterns of distance education in UKOU (UK), Universitas Terbuka (Indonesia), and Open University of Sri Lanka. What lessons will you draw from the above for recommending a funding policy for distance education in your country ?
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No. of Printed Pages : 2

**MDE-417**

**M.A. DISTANCE EDUCATION**

**Term-End Examination**

00385      **December, 2014**

**MDE-417 : DISTANCE EDUCATION : ECONOMIC  
PERSPECTIVE**

*Time : 3 hours*

*Weightage : 75%*

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**Note :** Answer *all* the three questions. All the questions carry equal weightage.

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1. Answer any *one* of the following questions in about 1200 words :

Describe the process of generating human and non-human resources. Explain with the help of suitable examples, the role of distance education as a human capital.

**OR**

What are the determinants of educational costs ? Elaborate on how they relate to social and private costs.

2. Answer any **four** of the following questions in about 300 words each :

- (a) Describe the approach to educational planning in the 12<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan of India.
- (b) Describe the measures to reduce the government spending on education.
- (c) Define fixed and variable costs in distance education.
- (d) Elaborate on the principles of financial management.
- (e) Define the concept of 'economics of education'.

3. Answer any **one** of the following questions in about 1200 words :

Analyse the cost functions in distance education with suitable examples.

**OR**

Explain the role of the government and the process involved in funding distance education institutions in Asia.

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**MDE-417**

## **MASTER OF ARTS (DISTANCE EDUCATION)**

**Term-End Examination**

**June, 2015**

### **MDE-417 : DISTANCE EDUCATION : ECONOMIC PERSPECTIVE**

*Time : 3 hours*

*Weightage : 75%*

**Note :** (i) *Answer all the three questions.*

(ii) *All the questions carry equal weightage.*

1. Answer any one of the following in about 1200 words :

Critically analyse the contribution of distance education in human resource development with reference to 'National Policy on Skill Development, 2009.'

**OR**

Explain the meaning of educational finance. Write the main principles of financial management for an educational institution.

2. Answer any four of the following in 300 words each :

- (a) Define the term 'economic growth' and 'economic development' in the context of educational development in India.
- (b) In what ways can the resources for distance education be optimally utilised ?

- (c) Differentiate between consumption and investment in education.
- (d) Define the terms 'cost-efficiency and cost-effectiveness' with suitable examples.
- (e) Write a brief note on 'cost-benefit analysis' of e-learning programme.

3. Answer **any one** of the following in about **1200** words :

- (a) Discuss the pattern of funding in distance education institutions during the 11<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan.

**OR**

- (b) Analyse the cost function in distance education with suitable examples.



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**MDE-417**

## **MASTER OF ARTS (DISTANCE EDUCATION)**

**Term-End Examination**

**December, 2015**

### **MDE-417 : DISTANCE EDUCATION : ECONOMIC PERSPECTIVE**

*Time : 3 hours*

*Weightage : 75%*

**Note :** (i) Answer *all* the *three* questions.

(ii) All the questions carry *equal* weightage.

- 
1. Answer **any one** of the following in about **1200** words :

Distinguish between "Education as Consumption" and "Education as Investment". In what different ways does Distance Education contribute to development of human resources to be considered as "Investment" ?

**OR**

What different costs are involved in distance education ? In what way the various cost centres influence the unit cost of distance education ?

2. Answer **any four** of the following questions in about **300** words each :

- (a) Distinguish between Cost - Effectiveness and Cost - Efficiency.
- (b) In what way is education related to earning profile ?

- (c) Explain how the principles of financial management be applicable to distance education.
- (d) Distinguish between Cost per Student in conventional university and an open university.
- (e) What is the funding policy for open universities ?
- (f) What are the major sources of funding in ODL institutions ?

3. Answer **any one** of the following questions in about **1200** words :

Distinguish between Fixed Costs and Variable Costs in distance education. Which of these costs should distance education depend on so as to achieve economy of scale ?

**OR**

Analyse costing of at least two open universities; and explain how can open distance learning plan to increase cost - efficiency.

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## **MASTER OF ARTS (DISTANCE EDUCATION)**

**Term-End Examination**

**June, 2016**

### **MDE-417 : DISTANCE EDUCATION : ECONOMIC PERSPECTIVE**

*Time : 3 hours*

*Weightage : 75%*

*Note : (i) Answer all the three questions.*

*(ii) All the questions carry equal weightage.*

1. Answer **any one** of the following in about 1200 words :

- (a) Define 'cost' in economics and in education. With the help of suitable examples, establish the relationship between fixed and variable costs, and average and marginal costs.
- (b) Do 'economic growth' and 'economic development' mean the same thing ? Describe the phenomenon in the developing countries, and how education contributes to this.

2. Answer **any four** of the following in about 300 words each :

- (a) In what way education is related to age-earning profile of an individual ?
- (b) Describe how distance education contributes to enhancement of the quality of human capital.

- (c) Distinguish between consumption and investment vis-a-vis education.
- (d) Describe the factors that contribute to the cost of distance education.
- (e) Describe the role of educational planning in the expansion of distance education in your country.

3. Answer **any one** of the following in about 1200 words :

- (a) From the study of costs of distance education, present a brief plan of action on revamping distance education in order to make it more cost-effective and cost-efficient.
- (b) Is distance education essential for continuing professional development and lifelong learning ? Justify your response; and argue if 'earning and learning' is any more applicable to distance education alone.

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## **MASTER OF ARTS (DISTANCE EDUCATION)**

**Term-End Examination**

**December, 2016**

### **MDE-417 : DISTANCE EDUCATION : ECONOMIC PERSPECTIVE**

*Time : 3 hours*

*Weightage : 75%*

*Note : (i) Answer all the three questions.*

*(ii) All the questions carry equal weightage.*

1. Answer **any one** of the following in about 1200 words :

- (a) Distance education is organised differently as compared to conventional classroom education. Describe the process, and identify the different cost centres of distance education. In what ways the costs can be reduced to achieve economy of scale ?
- (b) Distinguish between 'cost-effectiveness' and 'cost-efficiency'. Apply these concepts to distance education with suitable examples; and enumerate how distance education can achieve cost-efficiency.

2. Answer **any four** of the following in 300 words each :

- (a) Distinguish between consumption and investment in education with the help of suitable examples.

- (b) Establish the relationship between average cost and marginal cost with the help of a suitable example.
- (c) Does distance education contribute to human capital formation ? Enumerate this through a suitable example.
- (d) Establish the relationship between education and earning. Does distance education contribute to this relationship ?
- (e) Distinguish between fixed cost and variable cost in case of both conventional classroom education and in distance education.

3. Answer any one of the following in about 1200 words :

- (a) What are the sources of income and heads of expenditure in a distance teaching institution ? In what ways does a distance teaching institution mobilise financial resources to become self-supporting ?
  - (b) Describe the major factors that contribute to the cost of distance education. Suggest how the factors can be balanced so that a distance teaching institution can break-even.
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MDE-417

## MASTER OF ARTS (DISTANCE EDUCATION)

### Term-End Examination

June, 2017

### MDE-417 : DISTANCE EDUCATION : ECONOMIC PERSPECTIVE

Time : 3 hours

Weightage : 75%

Note : (i) Answer *all the three* questions.

(ii) *All the questions carry equal weightage.*

1. Answer **any one** of the following in about 1200 words :

(a) Distinguish between 'consumption' and 'investment'; and describe, with the help of suitable examples, how Distance Education can be considered as an investment on human beings.

(b) Describe the cost functions in education. Explain how a Distance Teaching Institution (DTI) can achieve economy of scale in offering various academic programmes.

2. Answer **any four** of the following in about 300 words each :

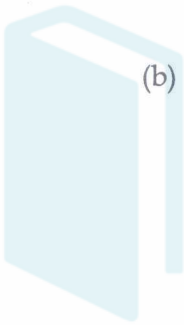
(a) Describe the process of human resource development in distance education.

(b) In what ways DTIs can generate financial resources to be viable ?

- (c) Distinguish between fixed costs and variable costs in education with the help of suitable examples.
- (d) Describe the relationship between education and earning.
- (e) Distinguish between cost - effectiveness and cost-efficiency in education.

3. Answer **any one** of the following in about **1200** words :

- (a) Briefly describe the cost structure of two open universities in the world; and, examine which model of open universities is more cost-effective than others, and why ?
- (b) While describing the sources of funding for a DTI, examine which factors need to be taken care of so as to reduce unit cost of distance education.



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**MDE-417**

**MASTER OF ARTS (DISTANCE EDUCATION)**

**Term-End Examination**

**December, 2017**

**MDE-417 : DISTANCE EDUCATION : ECONOMIC PERSPECTIVE**

**Time : 3 hours**

**Weightage : 75%**

**Note : (i) Answer all the three questions.**

**(ii) All the questions carry equal weightage.**

**1. Answer any one of the following in about 1200 words :**

(a) "Education and earnings are proportionately related". Examine this statement, and justify, with the help of suitable examples, how can distance education contribute to increase in earnings.

(b) Describe cost-effectiveness and cost - efficiency ; and critically analyse how can distance education be both cost - effective and cost - efficient.

**2. Answer any four of the following in about 300 words each :**

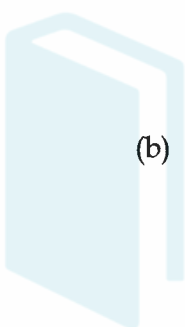
(a) In what way does distance education contribute to increase in the quality of the labour force ?

(b) How are budgets prepared in education ?

- (c) Describe the main sources of income and heads of expenditure in any distance teaching institution.
- (d) Distinguish between fixed and variable costs with suitable examples.
- (e) In what way can distance education be considered as investment in human beings ?

3. Answer **any one** of the following in about **1200** words :

- (a) In your study of various distance teaching institutions/open universities, suggest a plan of action on achieving economy of scale while reducing unit cost of distance education.
  - (b) Describe various costs in distance education. Explain how both average cost and marginal cost can be reduced in any distance teaching institution.
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**MDE-417**

**MASTER OF ARTS (DISTANCE EDUCATION)**

**Term-End Examination**

**June, 2018**

**MDE-417 : DISTANCE EDUCATION : ECONOMIC  
PERSPECTIVE**

*Time : 3 hours*

*Weightage : 75%*

*Note : (i) Answer all the three questions.*

*(ii) All the questions carry equal weightage.*

1. Answer **any one** of the following in about 1200 words :

(a) In what different ways 'cost' is defined in distance education? Compare marginal and average costs, and fixed and variable costs in distance education, with the help of suitable examples.

(b) Define distance education in the context of consumption and investment. With the help of suitable examples, critically analyse how distance education is considered as investment.

2. Answer **any four** of the following in about 300 words each :

(a) Describe human capital formation. Discuss how does distance education contribute to this.

- (b) What variables contribute to the cost of an academic programme ? Discuss, with the help of an example of any academic programme of your choice.
- (c) Describe how education and earning are related to each other.
- (d) Distinguish between cost-effectiveness and cost-efficiency with the help of a suitable example.
- (e) Describe the sources of income for a distance teaching/open university.

3. Answer **any one** of the following in about **1200** words :

- (a) Critically examine the sources of income and the sources of expenditure in any open university.
- (b) What measures a distance teaching/open university may undertake to reduce the unit cost while still maintaining the quality of teaching-learning ?

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**MASTER OF ARTS (DISTANCE EDUCATION)**

**Term-End Examination**

**December, 2018**

**MDE-417 : DISTANCE EDUCATION : ECONOMIC  
PERSPECTIVE**

*Time : 3 hours*

*Weightage : 75%*

*Note : (i) Answer all the three questions.*

*(ii) All the questions carry equal weightage.*

1. Answer any one of the following in about 1200 words :

(a) Distinguish between economic growth and economic development. Critically examine in what ways does distance education contribute to economic growth/development of a country.

(b) What do you mean by economy of scale and break-even point in cost analysis ? Discuss, with the help of suitable examples, how can a distance teaching/open university achieve economy of scale.

2. Answer any four of the following in about 300 words each :

(a) Distinguish between fixed and variable costs in distance education.

(b) How does distance education contribute to human resource development ?

- (c) What is the place of distance education in the educational planning of a country ? Give a suitable example from your own country.
- (d) In what ways distance education can achieve cost-efficiency ?
- (e) What different aspects are caused in the area of 'economics of distance education' ?

3. Answer **any one** of the following in about **1200** words :

- (a) How are open universities funded ? Compare at least OUs of two countries, and establish similarities and differences.
- (b) How are learning and earning possible to be pursued together ? Critically examine how does distance education contribute to lifelong learning in any given profession.

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## **M.A. DISTANCE EDUCATION**

### **Term-End Examination**

**June, 2019**

01102

### **MDE-417 : DISTANCE EDUCATION : ECONOMIC PERSPECTIVE**

*Time : 3 hours*

*Weightage : 75%*

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**Note :** Answer all the **three** questions. All the questions carry equal weightage.

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1. Answer any **one** of the following questions in about 1200 words :

- (a) Distinguish between 'economic growth' and 'economic development' with suitable examples. Justify if distance education contributes to either of the two or both of them.
- (b) Describe how human capital is formed. Justify using suitable examples if distance education contributes to the development of human resources.

2. Answer any **four** of the following questions in about 300 words each :

- (a) What is the difference between 'cost efficiency' and 'cost effectiveness' ? Give examples to support your answer.
- (b) What is the meaning of 'zero base budgeting' ? Explain.
- (c) How do distance education programmes contribute to improving quality of labour in India ?
- (d) Distinguish between 'consumption in education' and 'investment in education'.
- (e) What is the meaning of capitalist, socialist and mixed economy in the context of distance education ?

3. Answer any **one** of the following questions in about 1200 words :

- (a) What is financial management ? Explain the principles of a sound financial management system.
  - (b) Describe the major sources of funding for a distance education institution. Give examples from any one open and distance university of your choice.
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**MASTER OF ARTS (DISTANCE EDUCATION)**

**Term-End Examination, 2019**

**MDE-417 : DISTANCE EDUCATION :  
ECONOMIC PERSPECTIVE**

**Time : 3 Hours]**

**[Weightage : 75%**

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**Note : Answer all three questions. All questions carry equal weightage.**

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1. Answer **any one** of the following in about **1200** words :
- (a) Distinguish between 'Education as consumption' and 'Education as investment'. Explain giving suitable examples how education and the economy are dependent upon each other.
  - (b) Describe 'cost effectiveness' and 'cost efficiency'. Explain how a distance education institution can be cost effective and cost efficient.



2. Answer **any four** of the following in about **300** words each:

- (a) Distinguish between human and physical capital.
- (b) Explain the concept of wastage in education.
- (c) What is the difference between Planned and Non-Planned expenditure in the Indian context ?
- (d) What is the role of government in financing education ? Explain.
- (e) Explain the concept of cost-benefit analysis.

3. Answer **any one** of the following in about **1200** words :

- (a) Distinguish between Fixed cost and Variable cost in Distance Education. Which of these costs should distance education institutions depend upon to achieve economies of scale ?
- (b) What are the various factors that affect cost in distance education ? Explain giving suitable examples from a distance education institution.

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**MDE-417**

## **MASTER OF ARTS (DISTANCE EDUCATION)**

### **Term-End Examination**

#### **MDE-417 : DISTANCE EDUCATION : ECONOMIC PERSPECTIVE**

*Time : 3 Hours]*

*[Weightages : 75%*

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**Note:** Answer all the three questions.

All the questions carry equal weightage.

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1. Answer any one of the following about 1200 words:
  - a. Distinguish between education as consumption and education as investment. Analyse the production function in education.
  - b. Describe cost - benefit analysis. Examine if CBA can be fully applicable to costing in education.
2. Answer any four of the following in about 300 words each:
  - a. Describe the 'return to education' approach to assessment of contribution of education to economic growth.

- b. Describe opportunity cost in education; and how can this be minimised in distance education.
- c. Describe the process of budgeting in education.
- d. Describe the factors which affect the cost of distance education.
- e. Describe how can a distance teaching institution achieve economy of scale.

3. Answer any one of the following in about 1200 words:

- a. Compare and contrast the cost structure of UKOU (United Kingdom) and UAG (Japan); and underline what can be learnt from those structures by the open universities in India.
- b. Analyse the function of open universities and dual - mode University distance education in India. What more can be done by them to increase their income?

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**MDE-417**

**MASTER OF ARTS (DISTANCE  
EDUCATION) [M. A. (DE)]**

**Term-End Examination**

**December, 2020**

**MDE-417 : DISTANCE EDUCATION : ECONOMIC  
PERSPECTIVE**

*Time : 3 Hours*

*Maximum Weightage : 75%*

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**Note :** (i) Answer all the **three** questions.

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(ii) All questions carry equal weightage.

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1. Answer any **one** of the following questions in about **1200** words :

(a) Compare various approaches to the assessment of the contribution of education to economic growth.

[ 2 ]

MDE-417

- (b) Critically analyse, how can distance education be considered as investment in human beings.

2. Answer any **four** of the following questions in about **300** words each :

- (a) Describe the production function in education.

- (b) Describe the potential of distance education for continuing professional development.

- (c) Describe the core elements of financial management.

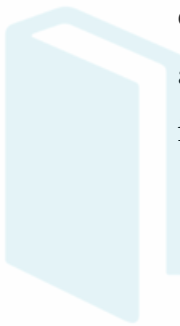
- (d) Distinguish between average cost and marginal cost in education with the help of suitable examples.

- (e) Describe the application of unit cost for decision-making in distance education.

[ 3 ]

3. Answer any ***one*** of the following questions in about **1200** words :

- (a) Distinguish between cost-effectiveness and cost-efficiency, and describe their application in distance education.
- (b) Describe various cost factors in distance education. How can economy of scale be achieved by any distance education institution ?



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