

00512

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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