POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN
DISTANCE EDUCATION

001-13

Term-End Examination

June 2015

ES-313 : LEARNER SUPPORT SERVICES

Time : 3 hours   *Maximum Weightage : 75%*

Note :   *(i) Attempt **all three** questions.*

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

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

     (a) Explain the role and functions of 'study centres' in open and distance education.

     (b) Explain the rationale for Open University system in India.

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

     (a) What are learner support services ?

     (b) What do you understand by study skills ?

     (c) Explain SQ3R technique.

     (d) Describe the role of Regional Centres in the context of ODL institutions.

     (e) Every counsellor needs some qualities. Describe some of the qualities of an academic counsellor.

     (f) Discuss different tasks performed by a distance teacher.

3. The following is an excerpt from an actual assignment response (see appendix-I). Write your marginal comments and global comments on the space provided. Award a grade to the assignment response on a five-point scale using letter grade A, B, C, D and E with rational correlates as excellent, very good, good, satisfactory and unsatisfactory respectively. After finishing the tasks, attach appendix-I to your answer script.

Enrolment No. :

Grade :

APPENDIX I

ES-313 : Support Services

Space for Comments	Assignment Response
	"Given the 'demand-supply' situation of Higher Education in the developing countries, there is a greater urgency to use all the modes of education in a synergetic way to achieve the intended goals" . Discuss the statement with appropriate examples and illustrations.
	Answer : The demand for higher education has been increasing, cost of education is increasing. It is therefore necessary that alongwith the traditional, conventional mode of classroom teaching, face to face teaching, distance education has become significant for learners who cannot bear the brunt of expensive higher education, do not have access to far-off educational institutions and

do not have the time for face to face traditional mode of classroom teaching because they have to work, take care of the family and other such responsibilities. Distance education reaches a broader student body than any traditional education courses. It often meets the needs of its students and saves student's money too. Many online education people believe that traditional classes are inflexible and more teacher-centered. Many students would not be able to get a degree if they could not go online to achieve it. Some examples of students choosing to go online for a degree are often mothers who can take their classes late at night after their children go to bed. Other full-time workers are able to take classes when it is convenient for them. The flexibility that distance education gives to students is important in meeting educational needs of non-traditional students. However, traditional classrooms offer advantages of allowing the student to see the professor face to face and ask pertinent questions concerning their classes. Another advantage is the ability of the students to meet with other students for study groups and friendship. Students who choose the traditional method of education

believed that the face-to-face students enjoy the ability to learn with others and they love the ability to get to know their instructors. Students in the face-to-face courses are able to get together in study group that help them achieve better in testing. However, the changing nature of technology and distance learning is about meeting the challenges and needs of the students in ways that many traditional education classes cannot do. A synergy between traditional and non-traditional, i.e distance learning has to be established. Let us take the example of Thailand and India to explain.

Thailand

With the population growing at a high rate, there has been a demand for educational opportunities. Population explosion and greater demand for education have put a severe strain on Thailand's educational system in the last few decades, resulting in a hurried increase in the number of new colleges and universities and the expansion and upgradation of existing ones. As in most other developing countries, the facility of education is unevenly distributed with the most prestigious institutions of higher education being

concentrated in the capital and a few other urban centres at the expense of the rural areas. This makes it difficult for the people in remote areas to have access to higher education facilities. Determined to come to grips with the problem of inadequate access to higher education and lack of appropriate inservice professional environment, the Thai Government gave its earnest support to distance education. Distance education in Thailand is thus, a response to the increasing demand for higher education. It is cost-effective for the Government, and also affordable for the students.

India

With more than 240 universities, 9000 colleges and over 6 million students involved in higher education, India has only about 6% of the age group in colleges and universities. Its literacy(at 65.38% as per the 2001 census) is still very low even for a developing country. In 1962, correspondence courses were introduced at the University of Delhi. It was during the 1970's that the momentum picked up with nineteen more universities introduced this mode of education, and the trend continued in the 80's. Now 70 universities are offering courses through the correspondence/

distance mode. The establishment of distance mode of learning has helped a lot of learners to achieve their goals of higher education who otherwise because of their
socio-economic conditions would not be able to achieve their goal of higher education.

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ASSESSMENT SHEET

(To be filled in Duplicate)*

Enrolment No. _____   **Programme** _____   **Assessment**

Student's Name _____   **Course** _____ **Grade** ☐

Assignment No. _____

Study Centre Code No. _____

Evaluator's Comments

If the space is not sufficient, please use back paper

Please tick ✓ in the relevent box below

CONTENT		STRUCTURE AND PRESENTATION	
Accurate Information ☐☐☐☐☐	Inaccurate Information	Well Planned ☐☐☐☐☐	Inadequately Planned
Adequate Coverage ☐☐☐☐☐	Inadequate Coverage	Concise ☐☐☐☐☐	Too long or Too short
Good Conceptual Analysis ☐☐☐☐☐	Poor Conceptual Analysis	Clearly Expressed ☐☐☐☐☐	Not Clearly Expressed