

MASTER OF ARTS (DISTANCE EDUCATION)

Term-End Examination

December, 2016

08000

**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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