Master of Arts (Distance Education) M. A. (D. E.)

Term-End Examination June. 2020

MDE-415: RESEARCH FOR DISTANCE EDUCATION

Time: 3 Hours Maximum Weightage: 75%

Note: Attempt all the three questions. All questions carry equal weightage.

- 1. (a) Differentiate between applied research and action research on methodological components. Discuss, how you would apply the various stages of action research while considering any area of activity of ODL institutions.
 - (b) Discuss the research studies pertaining to distance learners—needs and aspirations, dropout and learning styles carried out in ODL at national and international levels.

- 2. Answer any *four* of the following questions in about **300** words each:
 - (a) Discuss the limitations involved in applying scientific approach in ODL research.
 - (b) What are the different types of rating scales? Discuss any two types of rating scales with examples.
 - (c) Describe the uses and limitations of 'interview' as a tool of research.
 - (d) What is a hypothesis? Describe the importance of hypothesis in descriptive research. Give examples.
 - (e) Explain the main features of Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) used for analysis of data collected for research.
 - (f) What is sampling? Describe any two types of probability sampling methods with examples.

- 3. Answer any *one* of the following questions in about 1200 words:
 - (a) What is empirical research? Describe the main features of empirical research in the context of open and distance learning.
 - (b) Describe the various methods of collecting data for carrying out research in open and distance learning. How would you ensure the quality of data? Give examples.