

**MASTER OF ARTS IN DISTANCE
EDUCATION (MADE)**

Term-End Examination

December, 2025

**MDE-411 : GROWTH AND PHILOSOPHY OF
DISTANCE EDUCATION**

Time : 3 Hours

Maximum Weightage : 75%

Note : (i) *Answer all questions.*

(ii) *All questions carry equal weightage.*

1. Answer any *one* of the following questions in about **1200** words :
 - (a) Critically analyse the growth and status of Open and Distance Learning (ODL) in India. Explain the major challenges faced by ODL higher education institutions.

Or

- (b) “The developments in technologies for education have led to convergence of different modes of education.” Discuss this statement with examples.
2. Answer any *four* of the following questions in about **300** words each :
- (a) Distinguish between single mode and dual mode institutions.
 - (b) Explain the meaning of the term ‘Mega University’ in the context of ODL institutions of higher education.
 - (c) Discuss the ways in which distance education can promote skill development.
 - (d) Describe the role played by distance education teacher education programmes to overcome the shortage of trained teachers in Africa.
 - (e) What are the practical difficulties in the handling of assignments as a teaching tool in large enrolment programmes ?

[3]

(f) Describe the role played by systemic research in ensuring quality in distance education. Give examples to support your answer.

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

(a) “The ODL system aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning.” Discuss this statement with examples related to the features and practices of the ODL system.

Or

(b) Critically analyse any *two* theories of distance education. Describe their application in an ODL system.

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