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DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
CORRIGENDUM TO DRAFT RESOLUTION

The 21st August, 2012

No. 20959-HE-COOD-POL-0021/2012/HE.— The qualification earlier contained as Master in Science at Sub-point-(a) and Bachelor in Science at Sub-Point-(c) of the Point No.6 of the G.R. No.43383, dated the 24th December, 2011 issued by Department of Higher Education is hereby deleted. All other qualification contained in Sub-point (a) & (c) remained unaltered.

Preamble:

In the era of knowledge revolution, the Information Society is characterised by the profound impact of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) across the socio-economic and cultural aspects of the society. Economic activities at the demand and supply ends are being rapidly transformed with increasing emphasis on the transmission of information and knowledge. Vast amounts of information are disseminated through ICT worldwide and those who have no access to these technologies are left at a disadvantage. IT Literacy and access to ICT are, therefore, seen as essential factors for development and the well-being of the society.

In light of this fact, the Government of Odisha has recognised that it should play a significant catalytic role in creating, nurturing and developing the knowledge-led economy and knowledge-based communities in all the urban, rural and tribal regions of the State of Odisha ("the State") as this critical step is the key to survival, development and empowerment of the people of the State in knowledge era and the overall development of the State in that era.

While on one hand there is a tremendous potential in the State to emerge as a knowledge-led economy in the context of its large but latent talent pool of young boys and girls, on the other hand there are many challenges involved in leapfrogging/transforming the State into knowledge-led economy.

Therefore, such a transformation into knowledge-led economy in particular and into knowledge society in general requires nurturing the fundamental processes in the society on a large scale with wider and deeper participation of people. These fundamental processes include (i) a continuous synthesis of new actionable knowledge, (ii) an efficient and effective management of knowledge, (iii) a quick dissemination of actionable knowledge across all strata of the society and above all, (iv) an imaginative and continuous application of this knowledge for socio-economic development of the people and the State.

These fundamental processes can be unleashed in the society on a wider scale by nurturing a culture of life-long learning among the people in general and younger generation in particular. The creation of such life-long learning culture among the people at large involves access to actionable knowledge resources—

- at low or affordable costs;
- with high quality of relevance and applicability for survival and development;
- at a faster-pace or in a just-in-time mode or in an on-demand manner;
- with widest accessibility across all regions of the State, all sections of the society and all age-groups of population; and
- in a mass-personalised manner.

This life-long learning culture for overall development of the State in coming decades on a wider scale is eminently possible and feasible only by ensuring Information Technology enablement of education at all stages in particular and life-long learning in general. However, this IT enabled life-long learning transformation is possible only if wider and deeper mass movement of IT Literacy is propagated across the State in a time-targeted manner.

Maharashtra Knowledge Corporation Ltd. ("MKCL"), a Public Limited Company established and promoted by Government of Maharashtra, has successfully propagated Mass IT Literacy Movement in Maharashtra by making more than 6 million learners (including students, teachers, Government and Semi-Government employees and officers, professionals, businessmen, farmers, entrepreneurs, homemakers, housewives and senior citizens) IT Literate in a self-sustainable manner in a short span of about 10 years by creating a self-replicable model based on Public-Private-Community Partnership (PPCP) with the involvement of all Universities in the State, large number of educational

institutions and thousands of small and medium IT Training enterprises and entrepreneurs. This has created a new paradigm in education by universalization and integration of information technology in education with a view to offer actionable knowledge to large learner population at affordable cost, with high quality, greater speed and wider accessibility and in a mass personalised manner.

After careful considerations of various aspects, it was under active consideration of the Government of Odisha to forge a collaborative endeavour with MKCL to launch and implement on urgent basis a Mass IT Literacy Movement modelled on the successful pattern of MKCL and with necessary adaptations across the State by seeking necessary support of MKCL by avoiding the expense of time and resources in reinventing the essentials.

The Department of Higher Education of the Government of Odisha and MKCL have thus formed a joint venture company viz. Odisha Knowledge Corporation Limited ("OKCL") in the form of a Public Limited Company incorporated under Companies Act 1956 under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary, Government of Odisha.

OKCL shall launch the IT Literacy course viz. **Odisha State - Certificate in Information Technology (OS-CIT)** on a State/wide scale with overall backend support of MKCL.

While the conduct of the OS-CIT Course and its examination shall be fully managed by OKCL, **Council of Higher Secondary Education, Odisha** an authorized and duly empowered agency of the Government of Odisha shall be responsible jointly with OKCL for the certification of OS-CIT pass-outs.

Government Resolution:

In order to accomplish the long term development objective described in the preamble stated above, the Government has taken a policy decision to launch State-wide Mass IT Literacy Mission in the form of launch of the Odisha State - Certificate in Information Technology ("**OS-CIT**") course with effect from **2012** under the overall management of OKCL and with the backend support of MKCL, which are as follows:

1. The Course OS-CIT is recognized by the Government of Odisha under its Department of Higher Education as a *de-facto* standard IT Literacy Course for attaining basic knowledge of application of Information Technology.

2. The OS-CIT Course is recommended for all sections of the society such as the students and teachers of the upper primary schools, secondary schools, higher secondary schools, students and teachers of colleges and universities in the State, Government, Semi-Government, Local Self-Government officers and employees, professionals, businessmen, farmers, entrepreneurs, home-makers, housewives, senior citizens, etc.
3. OS-CIT shall be considered as a *de-facto* standard of IT Literacy in the State of Odisha and as an essential qualification for entry into the Group A, B and C services of the Government, Semi-Government Bodies, Public Sector Undertakings, Local Self-Government Bodies, Primary and Secondary Schools, Higher Secondary Schools, ITIs, Polytechnics, Colleges, Universities, etc. w.e.f. April 01,2012.
4. The Officers/Employees of Government, Semi-Government Bodies, Public Sector Undertakings, Local Self-Government Bodies, Primary and Secondary Schools, Higher Secondary Schools, ITIs, Polytechnics, Colleges, Universities, presently serving in Grade A, B and C should successfully complete OS-CIT course within a period of two years from the date of this Government Resolution or from the date of their appointment to the posts whichever is later and at their own cost. The newly appointed Officers / Employees should also complete the OS-CIT course at their own cost within two years of their appointment. The condition to that effect should be included in the appointment letters of the candidates being appointed hereafter.
5. The Officers/Employees of Semi-Government Bodies, Public Sector Undertakings, Local Self-Government Bodies, Primary and Secondary Schools, Higher Secondary Schools, ITIs, Polytechnics, Colleges, Universities, presently serving in Grade A, B and C shall be eligible for next promotion subject to successful completion of OS-CIT at their own cost and submission of Certificate of passing of OS-CIT.
6. Officers/Employees/Candidates having any of the following qualifications shall be exempted from the aforesaid mandatory provisions as mentioned in point No. 3, 4 and 5 above :—
 - (a) Master in Computer Application (MCA)/ Master in Computer Science/ Master in Information Technology from any recognised University.
 - (b) Bachelor in Engineering (BE)/Bachelor in Technology (B.Tech) in Computer Engineering/ Information Technology from any recognised University.
 - (c) Bachelor in Computer Application (BCA)/ Bachelor in Computer Science/ Bachelor in Information Technology.

(d) Post Graduate Diploma in Computer Application (PGDCA) from recognised University.

7. OKCL shall revise the course curriculum every year so as to match it with emerging trends in information technology and its applications.
8. Initially the course fee for OS-CIT, inclusive of examination fee per Learner, shall be Rs.3000/- (Rupees Three Thousand only) and may be revised by OKCL from time to time.
9. The OS-CIT course may be implemented at OKCL's Authorised Learning Centers (ALCs) established in the select Government, fully aided, partially aided, unaided, public and private educational institutions and private training centers across the State using their own infrastructure, IT infrastructure and their own learning facilitators specifically and periodically certified by OKCL for this purpose as per the norms for infrastructure, IT infrastructure and skills and competencies of learning facilitators as specified by OKCL from time to time. OKCL shall share the per learner fee with the ALCs as per the agreed rate.
10. At the end of the course, online examination will be conducted on regular basis by OKCL on a State-wide scale. After completion of the final examination, instant e-Certificate will be given to the successful candidate followed by a final certificate jointly by OKCL and **Council of Higher Secondary Education** of Government of Odisha.

The provisions of this Government Resolution shall become effective from the **date of issue Resolution.**

By Order and in the name of the His Excellency Governor of Odisha.

G. K. DHAL

Principal Secretary to Government
Higher Education Department