Both MBA and PGDM are similar professional courses aimed at building entrepreneurs & corporate leaders of the future.

PGDM is awarded by autonomous management institutes like Apeejay School of Management. Other prestigious institutions also running PGDM in India are - Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Ahmedabad/ Bangalore/ Calcutta, MDI Gurgaon, IMT Ghaziabad, XLRI Jamshedpur, SP Jain (SPJIMR) Mumbai, etc.

In India, MBA degree can be granted only by universities and their affiliated colleges whereas approved institutes can award PGDM. AICTE, a statutory body under the Ministry of HRD, regulates such autonomous management institutes if their PGDM program is approved by it.

However, certain institutes whose PGDM has been found to be of a suitable level are granted ‘equivalence to MBA’ by the apex body in India - AIU. Thus, even when they are PGDM, they are recognised to be at par with MBA for any meaning & purpose.

It may be noted that even industry, at the time of recruitment, does not consider PGDM as any separate award. In fact, the corporate recruiters find PGDM institutes more attractive due to their very approach and dynamism.