

*Future of country lies in Distance mode of education, DDE Must formulate its own examination system- VCJU*

**Jammu, Jan 06-** Speaking at the concluding ceremony of PCP B.Ed Programme for in-service teachers, Prof Umesh Rai, Vice-Chancellor, University of Jammu congratulated Prof Neelu Rohmetra, Director, Directorate of Distance Education University of Jammu, faculty members, Officers and staff for successfully organizing various programmes and the courses in the Directorate of Distance Education. Speaking on the occasion, Vice-Chancellor exuded that the future of country lies in Distance mode of education and while quoting Mahatma Gandhi he said “If you educate a man you educate an individual, but if you educate a woman you educate an entire family and while looking at the strength of female students in the audience, it seems that that the future of J&K is promising, said Vice-Chancellor. He also added that, keeping in view the rise in population, it is not possible for the Government to open new Universities and Colleges and in that scenario, the distance education is the best possible solution to deliver the quality education to the aspiring students.

Prof. Rai exhorted that the DDE must formulate its own examination system so as to increase the efficacy of the Directorate and in this direction, he urged Dean, Faculty of Education and Director, DDE to study the best practices of Campus of open Learning (COL), University of Delhi and that of IGNOU so that indigenous examination cell fully dedicated to DDE can be established. He further said that DDE is in the process of establishing two studios to ensure that the students in the far flung areas can benefit with the quality learning and besides that University shall soon start the Women Collegiate Board for working women who have been deprived of education because of certain reasons.

In her welcome address, Prof. Neelu Rohmetra, Director, DDE at the outset congratulated the students who are going to be the teachers of the country after successful completion of B.Ed PCP. Prof Rohmetra said that the Directorate is making every effort to translate the vision of the Vice-Chancellor and soon University will see the results in the desired manner. University has taken a huge leap to introduce online programmes including Post graduate courses in English and Commerce in the ensuing session. She further added that there is no dearth of

the talent and potential in DDE, and there is need to steer the whole exercise to bring in new initiatives. She added that as Director, DDE the best efforts are being made to deliver the desired output. Prof Rohmetra emphasised that the topper in various courses run by Directorate must be acknowledged by giving Gold Medals and in that direction she volunteered that she will present “Neelu Sehdev Rohmetra” endowment to the M.Com topper of DDE.

Prof. Rajeev Rattan Sharma, Dean, Faculty of Education also Congratulated DDE faculty and extended his full support and cooperation in future. He emphasised that as and when DDE envisages to start MA in education and in that case they must go for CBCS pattern of education. He further said that the PCP provides the rich platform to the teachers to enhance their skills and learn innovative teaching practices.

It is pertinent to mention here that Officers and non teaching staff of the DDE were felicitated on the occasion for their contributions. The ceremony of felicitation was conducted by Dr Saran Baroca, Deputy Registrar. Dr. Jaspal singh, Coordinator B.Ed Programme in his introductory remarks assured students that DDE shall make every effort in future to provide local boarding facilities to its students belonging to far flung areas of Jammu and Kashmir during PCP programme. The Programme concluded with a vote of thanks by Prof. Anupama Vohra, Coordinator PG programme in English.

Among others Prof Anju Thappa, Dr Neelam Chaudhary, Dr Jasleen Kour, Dr Rajbeer Singh, Dr Jatinder Singh, Dr Pooja, Dr Neha Vij, Dr Mamata Sharma, Dr Shriya Gupta, Sh Rajnesh Baru, Sh Satinder Singh, Dr Rakesh Chib, President, NTEU, Sh Pankaj Gupta, General Secretary, NTEU, CL Shivgotra, Dr Rakesh Sharma, Dr Sunita Sharma, Dr Upasna Sharma, Dr Tajinder Kour , Dr Shifali Sharma, Paramjeet Kaur, Renu Bala, Raspreet Kour (resource persons), and nearly 250 students were also present on the occasion.