

*JU is the first University in UT J&K to Offer Online Programmes through DD & OE*

### **JU VC Chairs CIQA meeting**

**Jammu, August 24-** Vice-Chancellor, University of Jammu today chaired the first meeting of CIQA for the Directorate of Distance and Online Education. “Online education is a strategic and transformative step of the University to outreach across regions and nations globally,” said Prof Umesh Rai. He further said that the University of Jammu is the first University in the UT J&K to offer online M.Com and M.A (English) programmes under UGC-DEB regulations 2020 through its Directorate of Distance and Online Education. To make the programme successful and create a good pool of faculty, the Vice-Chancellor called for exploring the possibilities for engaging faculty resources from abroad as well who shall conduct online sessions. He urged that the study material should be created in such a manner that it generates interest among students and it is important that student feedback is taken to ensure that their concerns, if any, are sorted in real time. The admission of international students along with national enrolment shall help to promote diversity and inclusion. The Vice-Chancellor emphasized on the efficiency of the learning Management System (LMS) and highlighted its importance for enhancing online learning experiences. “This system will streamline course materials, communications and assessments for students and educators” He said.

Vice Chancellor appreciated the Director, Directorate of Distance and Online Education Prof. Neelu Rohmetra and the Directorate for taking various innovative initiatives and reforms in the Directorate in last one year. Prof Rai further exuded that in times to come Non-Collegiate Women Education Board (NCWEB) established at DD&OE in University of Jammu is expected to train the working girls/women students enrolled to perform better in their work roles. It is pertinent to mention here that the NCWEB established in the Directorate of Distance and Online Education is the part of outreach and Community engagement initiative of University. This Revolutionary startup initiative of DD &OE is aimed to promote women empowerment and gender inclusion, to offer short/long term courses to promote employability in the region.

Earlier, Prof Neelu Rohmetra, Director, Directorate of Distance and Online Education, University of Jammu spoke in detail about the modalities and the preparations of launching online programmes in the session 2023. She said that the students enrolled for online programmes (M.com & M.A English) shall offer dynamism, flexibility and shall maintain quality standards and benchmarks. She

further contemplated that the online education initiative is in sync with NEP-2020 mandate in order to promote lifelong learning and reaching to the doorsteps using technology. Prof Rohmetra dwelt in detail about various best practices being followed in DD&OE currently, as part of other agenda items. She also appraised the house about various upcoming initiatives of DD&OE in near future including infrastructural additions like setting up of digital studios and student support systems including establishment of Information cum Counseling Cell, creation of Examination Unit, Alumni Cell and inclusion of the students of Directorate in the placement initiatives of University through office of Dean Students' Placement.

She thanked the Vice Chancellor, the office of Dean Student Welfare and Director of Sports and Physical Education for the inclusion of students of the Directorate in the Cultural and sports activities respectively. Dr. Ginny Dogra, Deputy Director DIQA presented the agenda of the meeting.

The meeting was attended by CIQA members as Prof Rahul Gupta, Registrar, Prof Rajeev Rattan, Director, CDC, Dr Sandeep Gupta, Regional Director, IGNOU, Jammu, Prof Sucheta Pathania, Dean Faculty of Arts, Prof Rajni Bala, Head, Dept of Hindi, Prof Sandeep Pandita, Dept of Geology, Prof Jeevan Jyoti, Head, Dept of Commerce, Prof. Virender Koundal, Dept of Economics, Dr V. Nagendra Rao, Dr Jaspal Singh Warwal, Dr Ginny Dogra, Deputy Director, DIQA, Dr Saran Broca, Deputy Registrar (DD&OE), and Sh Rajnesh Baru (AR Academics, DD&OE).