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Press Release

Department of Education and Office of the Controller of Examination, University of Ladakh Organized a Workshop cum Panel Discussion on “National Education Policy-2020” at Kargil Campus, University of Ladakh

Kargil Campus, June 19, 2024: The Department of Education and the Office of the Controller of Examinations at the University of Ladakh organized a day-long workshop and panel discussion on the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 on June 19, 2024, at the Kargil Campus of the University of Ladakh. The event aimed to bring together faculty members from various colleges and the University of Ladakh, as well as academicians and resource persons from across the country, to discuss and implement the transformative changes envisioned in the NEP 2020.

The workshop began with the traditional *Khatak* (white scarves) ceremony. The esteemed Rector of Kargil Campus, University of Ladakh, presented *Khataks* to the resource persons: Prof. R. Bhaskar from the School of Sciences, IGNOU; Prof. J.N. Baliya from the Department of Educational Studies, Central University of Jammu; Prof. Vasundhara Singh from Punjab Engineering College; Prof. Latika Sharma from Punjab University, Chandigarh; Mr. B.K. Sharma; and Prof. Deskyong Namgail. Additionally, Dr. Jaffar Ali Khan, Coordinator of the Department of Sociology, presented *Khatak* to the Rector of Kargil Campus, University of Ladakh.

In his welcome address, Prof. Deskyong Namgail, Controller of Examinations at the University of Ladakh, expressed his heartfelt gratitude to the distinguished guests. He extended special thanks to Prof. S.K. Mehta, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ladakh; Prof. R. Bhaskar; Prof. J.N. Baliya; Prof. Vasundhara Singh; Prof. Latika Sharma; Mr. B.K. Sharma; and Madam Kaneez Fatima, Rector of Kargil Campus, along with faculty members from various colleges and the University of Ladakh. Prof. Namgail highlighted that their collective presence significantly enhanced the importance of the program and he was deeply appreciative of their participation.

In her address to the participants, Madam Kaneez Fatima, Rector of Kargil Campus, emphasized the importance of the NEP 2020 document as a transformative step for India’s education system, aimed at benefiting future generations. Despite numerous challenges, such as infrastructure and faculty availability, but reaffirmed the commitment to achieving the objectives of NEP 2020. She encouraged the teaching community to actively participate in such workshops to address doubts, issues and concerns about the policy. She expressed hope that the program would be productive, engaging and beneficial for all participants.

Prof. (Dr.) S.K. Mehta, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ladakh, joined the workshop virtually and expressed his appreciation to the Rector of Kargil Campus and the organizing team for hosting this significant workshop and panel discussion on NEP 2020. He highlighted the university’s commitment to implementing NEP 2020 at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels across various colleges and the University of Ladakh since its inception. Prof. Mehta



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extended his gratitude to the resource persons and commended Prof. Deskyong Namgail, Controller of Examinations, for successfully conducting the program.

Technical Sessions

Prof. Vasundhara Singh from Punjab Engineering College delivered a lecture on the *Indian Knowledge System*. In her presentation, she extensively discussed the Indian Knowledge System and the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. She emphasized that attaining knowledge, wisdom and truth is the highest human goal and the core essence of the Indian Knowledge System is the well-being of all. She highlighted that NEP 2020 recommends integrating the Indian Knowledge System into the curriculum at all educational levels. This system has served as a guiding light for the policy, as the Indian education system has historically produced great scholars such as Charaka, Aryabhata, Chanakya, and Nagarjuna, who have made seminal contributions to world knowledge across diverse fields.

She further stressed the importance of encouraging students to conduct research on the Indian Knowledge System (IKS), while ensuring that the sources for IKS are authentic and reliable. She noted that Ladakh has a rich repository of traditional knowledge that needs to be explored, researched and incorporated into educational programs. Prof. Singh emphasized the importance of balancing technological advancement with environmental stewardship and the preservation of human values.

Prof. R. Bhaskar from the School of Sciences, IGNOU, delivered an insightful presentation on the topic of *ODL and Online Education*. He explained that while anyone can enroll in programs offered online by Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) recognized by the Commission, the same does not apply to ODL programs. He emphasized that only HEIs approved for offering undergraduate and postgraduate programs may provide certificate or diploma courses in both ODL and online modes, given they have prior approval from their statutory authorities.

Prof. Bhaskar highlighted several key issues related to ODL and online programs, including quality assurance and accreditation, program recognition and student support services. He discussed the phased implementation of NEP 2020, stressing the importance of prioritization to ensure optimal sequencing of policy initiatives.

He elaborated extensively on the National Digital University (NDU), online and digital education, e-learning platforms, e-content, virtual labs and digital infrastructure. He underscored the need for developing online assessment mechanisms and discussed the Gross Enrollment Ratio (GER) in the context of Ladakh. Interestingly, Prof. Bhaskar pointed out that NEP 2020 provides full freedom to introduce online programs. Concluding his talk, he asserted that for India to become a Vishwaguru (world teacher), it needs a valuable, varied and vigorous HEI ecosystem.

Prof. J.N Baliya, Department of Educational Studies, Central University of Jammu delivered an enlightening lecture on the topic *Evaluation Strategies as per Revised Blooms Taxonomy (RBT) & its Application in TL Process*. He says in education system the key beneficiaries are students and learners and therefore, all policies are framed for the benefits of learners. Speaking on the



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evaluation approach, he says that evaluation system should be changed from system or teacher centric to students or learner centric. Also the shift is required from content based evaluation to competency based evaluation. He highlights the point that conventional evaluation practices should be avoided, evaluation tool be specified and revised. Also while designing course and curriculum; the focus should be more on learning outcomes as well as behavioral outcomes. He has also spoken about the six levels of Bloom's Taxonomy such as creating, evaluating, analyzing, applying, understanding and remembering. Concluding his talk, he says that the University of Ladakh will be a model for other universities for implementing NEP successfully.

Prof. Latika Sharma from Punjab University, Chandigarh delivered a talk on the topic *Credit Matrix for UG/PG under NEP 2020*. She has highlighted the key concepts and issues pertaining to NEP 2020 such as Multiple Entry, Multiple Exit, SQ3R, NHEQF levels of master's programme, Four Cs, Content Pedagogy Knowledge, POCOLO (program outcome, curriculum outcome, learning outcome), MAMI (Major, Minor), Internship/Field Outreach and 360 Degree Assessment. She has also elaborated in detail the National Credit Framework: the 3 Dimensions of Learning and talks about the importance on experiential learning proficiency.

Following which an Interactive Panel Discussion cum Q&A session was held, wherein the attendees put numerous questions to the Panalists, exchange ideas and cleared their doubts, which eventually will help in the effective implementation of NEP 2020. After that, the resource persons were presented with mementos.

Concluding the programme, Mr. Anwar Hussain presented the formal vote of thanks to the resource persons/experts Prof. R. Bhaskar, Prof. J.N Baliya, Prof. Vasundhara Singh, Prof. Latika Sharma, Mr. B.K Sharma, Prof. Deskyong Namgail and the organizing committee from the Department of Education and Office of the Controller of Examination, University of Ladakh. He also expressed gratitude to Prof. (Dr.) S.K. Mehta, Vice Chancellor, University of Ladakh and Ms. Kaneez Fatima, Rector, Kargil Campus, UoL for without their approval for the technical support, this *Workshop cum Panal Discussion on NEP-2020* would not have been possible. He has also applauded the participants including faculty members from various colleges and Kargil Campus, University of Ladakh and non-teaching staffs for their presence and making the programme successful. Last, but not the least, he applauded the students and other participants for their attentive and patient listening.

Convener
Media and Publicity Committee
Kargil Campus
University of Ladakh