

# **The Blueprint & the Roadmap for Future**

*To put the institution on a high growth trajectory for achieving excellence in academics, research and innovations, University leadership has charted out the holistic roadmap to be pursued in the coming years.*

**I. Some of the thrust areas that University proposes to focus on priority include—**

- Identifying the prospective areas requiring immediate attention for creating vibrant academic and research environment and to review all the ongoing projects in the institution. Priority will be given for NAAC accreditation of the university.
- Making the website a repository of all the available information, facilities, resources and opportunities that the University offers so that the stakeholders of the University are not deterred by any barriers of geographical location while accessing the relevant information. Open educational resources (OERs), Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) and resources available under ‘Creative Commons’ license will be linked to provide vast pool of useful and supplementary material to the students. MOOCs will offer the students anytime-anywhere learning environment, which is becoming increasingly popular as one of the most effective tools for knowledge sharing and dissemination.
- Establishing credible open forums for interaction with the teaching, learning and the non-teaching community to understand their needs, demands and aspirations to see the desired change.
- Establishment of University Development Corpus Fund to create a corpus for funding, supporting and sustaining academic and research initiatives of various in-house Centres and Institutes, faculty members, research scholars and students. The corpus will involve generation of funds from but not restricted to:
  - Industry
  - Alumni Endowments
  - Overhead grant from Extramural Research grants
  - Consultancy
  - Patents and technology transfer
  - Grant from International bodies under their social and academic initiatives
- Special initiatives and programs for differently-abled and disadvantaged students to realise the vision of inclusive quality education. All efforts shall be made to make the campus differently-abled and disadvantaged-friendly as per the requirements and guidelines of Government of India. A duly constituted special cell shall initiate affirmative action and monitoring of progress of all such programs towards equal opportunity to all the students even for exploring the possibilities to

create and generate employment opportunities. Grants and aid will also be provided to deserving students for enhancing their employability skills.

- Equal Opportunity Cell will ensure that all sections of the students are provided appropriate support; and special initiatives will be undertaken for bringing students of the backward and underprivileged sections at par with others to offer them a level playing field for competition.

## **II. Empowering and strengthening existing University System:**

- **E-Governance:** To bring the entire functioning of the University under the ambit of e-Governance, the University shall expedite the digitization process. The entire university will be linked through internet so that all the schools, departments and centres will be on a common network.
- **Transforming education system for creating exciting opportunities- Choice Based Credit System (CBCS)**
  - Shift in focus from teacher-centric to student-centric education.
  - Allows students to choose innovative curriculum through inter-disciplinary, intra-disciplinary courses, skill oriented papers, vocational education and encourages more flexibility for students.
  - Makes education broad-based and at par with global standards
  - Ease of mobility for students
- **Faculty Development Programmes:** Creating opportunities for the faculty to get oriented to latest innovative pedagogies, research methodology and professional skills by providing training through induction courses/workshops and seminars at regular intervals.
- **School/Department development program:** Enriching state of the art Labs with more equipment and securing funds from various GOI schemes for creating department-centric research facilities and developing Learning Resource Centres.
- **New learning and teaching pedagogy initiatives:** The EMMRC (part of Consortium for Educational Communication, CEC) will be revamped to offer the entire e-learning content available at CEC, developing e-learning material and also to facilitate the starting of MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses).
- **Modernization of Library:** Library is the temple of wisdom and knowledge in a university. Apart from acquiring new and existing titles and increasing the subscription of journals, one of the priority areas will be to link the library to the National grid so that access to all the e-journals and e-books that are subscribed through INFLIBNET and its affiliated universities and institutes are also available to the university students. This will also result in saving precious national resources. Further university library and department/school libraries will be linked through the university intranet so that there is seamless flow of knowledge.
- **Placement Opportunities:** The placement cell will be refurbished and a mega University placement cell will be set up which will coordinate with all existing placement cells of departments so that coordinated and concerted efforts are made to bring maximum number of students under its ambit. Registration and profiling of all students in the placement cell will be made mandatory so that each student gets the opportunity to apply for jobs.
- **Strengthening of examination system:**
  - Online registration for exams
  - Online issue of admission card
  - Online submission of question papers

- Centralized evaluation of undergraduate courses
  - Decentralization of Post Graduate examination by empowering University Teaching Departments.
- Consolidation of existing departments by providing faculty and minimum required infrastructure
- Introduction of new programs in Life Sciences, Physical Sciences, Mathematical Sciences, Performing and Fine Arts, Language and Linguistics, Pharmaceutical Sciences and Tourism & Hotel management etc.
- Introducing the Certificate and Diploma courses through the schemes like B.Voc, Community College and Skills Incubation Centre.
- Priority will be given for establishing different centers under the Inter and Multi-Disciplinary format providing infrastructure and opportunity to develop and hone existing and new areas of research and innovation. These centers will act as catalysts for increasing the quality and quantity of research publication and to develop relevant and sustainable technology and obtain its patents (IPR).
- **Center for Academic Auditing:** This center will be responsible for evaluation of all academic, research and associated activities of different Departments, Centers and Institutes of the University. It will also be tasked with setting up of future benchmarks for the university.
- **Technology Stock Exchange:** This center will be established with objectives like creating value for ongoing and new research or to transform research in terms of revenue. An ecosystem will be developed to provide common platform for Researchers, Industrialists, Evaluator and IPR Specialists for facilitating the improvement of incubated technologies and their transfer to industries.
- **Centre for Policy and Modeling:** This center will focus in creating value in the following areas:
  - Policy for self-sustenance at macro and micro level of governance
  - Carbon footprint and Green initiatives Policy
  - Unified e-Content formulation, implementation and outreach Policy
  - Policy for reforms in Socio-Economic delivery mechanism
  - Modeling for Climate change and Weather prediction: Causes and Impact
  - Modeling for Crop prediction and associated studies
  - Modeling Studies: Use of modeling as a tool for providing real-time solutions in diverse areas ranging from drug delivery, medical profiling and genetic code generation studies, controlling traffic flows, analyzing and predicting stock market trends, etc.
- **Centre for Secondary Agriculture and Energy Harvesting:** Aiming at adding value to crop residue, center on Bioenergy & biomaterials is proposed for developing technologies for production of alternate fuels and biomaterials.
- Energy harvesting is a new and rapidly developing concept, which strives to generate energy from everyday processes for powering low energy everyday requirements. The basic concept is to harness unproductive energy from various processes and convert it into electricity like rubbing, pressure, air friction, tidal energy, rotatory motion, body heat etc.
- **Center for Social Outreach and Management:** Outreach and management programs for society empowerment with special focus on:
  - Childcare, Health, Hygiene and Sanitation
  - Citizens' Rights and Duties

- Self-help groups & Micro-finance cooperatives in collaboration with National Cooperatives Union of India (NCUI)
  - Training programs for Empowerment of Women and Gender sensitization by Women Empowerment Cell
  - Conflict Resolution, Peace studies, Legal-aid and Counselling through Legal-Aid Clinic of the University
- **Center for Innovation, Skill, Entrepreneurship and Employment:** This center will be made into a dynamic hub to provide all solutions related to students employment. To encourage innovative thinking, incubate ideas, changing mindset and increase the employability of the students, there will be regular interactions between the academia and the industry under the aegis of this center. Special emphasis will be laid for developing soft skills of the students like communication, team building, leadership and domain skills. Tie-ups will be made with both public and private partners to provide vocational and entrepreneurial training to the students for setting up their own Micro, Small, Medium Enterprises (MSME's) apart from regularly organizing placement drives. Courses to be offered under the scheme of B.Voc, Community College, Deen Dayal Upadhyay KAUSHAL KENDRA and Incubation Centre for Skills (in collaboration with NSIC) shall be instrumental in achieving these objectives. In the ever-changing realm of education there is an increasing need to start vocational courses which directly cater to skills and vocations which do not form part of standard undergraduate and postgraduate courses.
  - **Instrumentation and Analytical Techniques:** Instrumentation is a rapidly growing field in India. There is huge potential in this field as India gears up to provide quality and cost effective alternatives to expensive imported instrumentation that is currently available in the market. Analytical Techniques and their applications cover a wide spectrum of disciplines ranging from Life Sciences, Physical Sciences and Material Sciences providing cutting edge solutions particularly in research areas.
  - **Courses on Diagnostics:** Diagnostic techniques require the user/learner to have a broad based knowledge, which is inter-disciplinary and multi-disciplinary in nature. The courses on diagnostics will seek to bridge the gap between the knowledge and skills required and those available in the existing courses by offering a course dealing with all the aspects of Diagnostics.
  - **New courses for Media Studies, Technical Writing and Editing:** The realm of Media Studies is ever expanding as new and innovative forms of engagement with the public take shape. Existing Media studies courses in audio, visual, electronic and print media and multimedia are mostly conducted by private institutes at prohibitive costs. These courses will try to provide such knowledge and skills at affordable cost and also aim to explore relatively niche fields of technical writing, editing and multimedia in Science and technology.
  - **Centre for Culture and Heritage:** University proposes to introduce the Centre for Culture and Heritage to facilitate the studies and researches in the field of Culture Studies, Indigenous Studies and studies on indigenous arts, culture and heritage. Besides, this centre will be dedicated to preserving folk arts, music and literatures.

### **III. Self-sustaining and miscellaneous Initiatives:**

- *Developing crucibles of learning and development:* Motivating staff and students to develop models, experiments, technologies to catalyze local/regional/national growth and development in association with local industry/trade/handicrafts/vocations.

- **Solid Waste Management:** Initiatives for solid waste management will be undertaken so that the university becomes a zero-waste university. Options will be explored for utilizing the waste to create energy and other productive materials.
- **E-Waste management:** e-waste is increasingly becoming an environmental disaster and processes will be put in place to recycle and effectively dispose the e-waste that is generated by the university.
- **Energy generation:** Setting up of solar street lamps, solar panels on university building's rooftops and designing of new buildings on the concept of zero-energy/green buildings.
- **Rain-water harvesting:** A feasibility study will be conducted to implement rain-water harvesting so that university is able to meet at-least part equipment of water from its own sources.
- **Sports Academy:** Since the university has ample land available with it, hence part of that land will be utilized in setting up a sports academy for creating world-class infrastructure for students. This facility will also be leased out/ memberships provided so that the academy also earns revenue for the university. Moreover, special emphasis will be given to establishing sports facility for disabled persons.
- **Organic Farming:** keeping in mind the vast expanse of land available with the university, an organic farm will be set up and the produce may be sold at the local/regional markets to earn some revenue for the university. Moreover, it could be used for training the students and for demonstration purpose for the local population.
- **Solar Power Plant:** University proposes to establish solar power generation plant as a sustainable means to generate eco-friendly and cost-effective energy.

#### **IV. Possible challenges and proposed steps to overcome the roadblocks while pursuing the roadmap:**

- No efforts may have been made so far for NAAC accreditation. It could be that the University is just 6 years old. If the record keeping is not done properly or updated regularly then getting the required data for the above-mentioned purpose may be a Herculean task.

Therefore, the office of the Registrar will be involved for categorization, collection and collation of relevant, pertinent and precise information.

- Digitisation and proper designing of the website will pose the problems like: What should be the structure, content, look and feel of the website?.

For this, efforts will be made to either recruit a capable team to handle the website or to outsource it to some experienced agency. Cost effectiveness, quality, efficiency and confidentiality will be key factors in decisions related to website.

- For setting up of University Development Corpus Fund, the Acts and Statues of University will have to be studied carefully to avoid any deviations.

The office of the Registrar, Finance Officer and Legal Advisor will be tasked to formulate the policies, guidelines and rules and regulations in accordance with the Acts and Statutes of the University and the rules for financial transaction of Government of India.

- Identification of areas of affirmative action will be a challenge, as this would involve collecting information from all components of the university with all possible suggestions for such areas.

Setting up of an empowered committee to execute this entire plan, roadblocks are being removed at the earliest.

- The biggest challenge for implementing examination reforms will be to orient and sensitise the teaching, learning and non-teaching community particularly regarding the provisions of Choice-Based Credit System (CBCS).

For this, workshops will be organized to educate and sensitize all the stakeholders, opening new courses/programs, regarding the benefits of an efficient and credible examination system.

- Providing appropriate directions to the departments/centers regarding research funding and funding agencies.

The University leadership will use his long-standing experience in handling various research projects granted from different funding agencies under different Departments of the Government of India to ensure that funding is made available to these centers. Further, the Vice Chancellor will make efforts to bring experts and people of eminence in their respective fields to head/advise the existing departments and new departments & centers for providing proper direction.

- Sometimes, the handicap with public universities is that though they have the best talent but due to lack of proper advertising and publicity they do not attract best recruiters with good job profiles. Also funding for student welfare initiatives may sometimes post a constraint.

Some funds will be set aside for proper visibility and special funds will be created for imparting vocational and entrepreneurial training at a nominal cost. Sponsorships will be sought for conducting placement drives smoothly.

***On infrastructural front, University has started the construction work of the second phase and the work on academic blocks, staff quarters and administrative block is in full swing. Development of Central Library, Students Activity Centre and Guest Houses are to be taken up on priority.***

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