

## **Criterion I: Curricular Aspects**

Since the last assessment, the University of Kashmir has grown as an academically vibrant and socially responsible institution of higher learning. It has made significant progress in teaching-learning, research and outreach activities. There are presently 40 Teaching Departments, 5 Research Centres, 3 Non-formal Educational Directorates and 11 Extension/Supporting Centres/Institutes functioning at the University which operate through 10 Faculties on the campus in addition to 04 Faculties operating outside the Campus. The University offers a wide spectrum of Academic, Professional and Technical courses. These include integrated Ph.D. programme in 49 disciplines, 47 Masters Degree Programmes, 3 Business and Management programmes, 3 programmes in Law, 2 Computer Application programmes and 4 programmes in other allied disciplines. Besides, the University also runs 11 Post-Graduate diploma courses, 4 diploma courses and 9 certificate courses. The University also reaches out to a wide cross-section of masses through the length and breadth of the state by offering 18 courses through 'distance mode' of education. Directorate of Life Long Learning pave ways for the students to acquire technical skills through a number of Jobs oriented certified technical courses. The University started a completely self-financed supplementary shift under which 1275 students were admitted in year 2016-17 to improve campus vibrancy, make adequate use of infrastructure and provide opportunity to additional students to have access to higher studies.

The University introduced some new programmes during the assessment period including Masters in Disaster Management, Masters in Microbiology, Masters in Geoinformatics and B. Tech in Civil Engineering. Other new programmes that are in pipeline and have already been approved by the Academic Council, include Masters in Philosophy, Masters in Anthropology and Masters in Archaeology. For all the PG programmes implementation of the Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) in letter and spirit marked a major shift towards academic flexibility in the University. The CBCS was also implemented at the UG level.

The CBCS also provides ample room for tutorials and project work. Besides, the integrated Ph.D system was introduced to do away with the traditional M.Phil degree system.

The EMMRC developed e-contents for various undergraduate courses such as Botany, Urdu, Medical Sciences, Environmental Sciences and B.A. LL.B etc. which have created a national impact on account of their quality and credibility. Furthermore, the University joined the elite class of a few institutions in the country by way of offering the Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) quite innovatively to bring together the conventional face-to-face mode and the distance mode of education.