

HEMCHANDRACHARYA NORTH GUJARAT UNIVERSITY, PATAN.

INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Executive Summary

The educational ecosystem of the world has been seen to be greatly influenced by the technological innovations. The future of education demands combination of skill development in the students that are well aligned with the demands of the industrial sector. This transformation has been accelerated after the COVID-19 outbreak requiring technical skill based knowledge to create employment in the youth. This Institutional Development Plan has been developed by the Hemchandracharya North Gujarat University considering these global trend to address the challenges faced by the society.

The reforms required to meet the futuristic challenges have been attempted by the University to cultivate knowledge seeking by the young budding minds to develop promising leaders and entrepreneurs of the coming time. Efforts have been made to develop suitable academic and skill enhancing programmes in alignment with NEP-2020.

Using modern techniques and methodologies, the development plan has delved into through analysis of the education sector of the state and the nation, considering industrial development, Government policies, reports of various agencies and organisations, workforce dynamics and requirement of skill in every sector of employment.

Meticulous examination and evaluation of key aspects, the report aims at providing valuable insights and recommendations for shaping of future ready education ecosystem within the Hemchandracharya North Gujarat University, that congregate the industrial demands and enhance youth employment opportunities. The central idea of aligning the ecosystem with NEP-2020 including sustainable development and “Atmanirbharta” in terms of reducing dependency and energy independence.

The sectors that are demanding the human resource include information technology, pharmaceutical, renewable energy, semiconductor, manufacturing, healthcare, hospitality and real estate. Big players like TATA, Adani, Reliance have already made huge investments in the state and thousands of youth have got the employment.

The University is prepared to offer programmes to prepare human resource in the sectors of high demand such as healthcare, science & technology, architecture and design, social work, Management, liberal arts with specialized initiatives for professionals. With thoroughly designed programmes, it is aimed to equip individuals with cutting edge skills and expertise required by the industries and organizations, enabling them to excel in their interested fields and make remarkable contributions to the ever evolving job markets.

To include every aspects of modern education by fostering academic and examination reforms, driving multidisciplinary research to harness the power of digitization in education, the University has implemented ERP for ease in management of academics and administration. Priority has been given to student support, access and equity for inclusive education system ensuring provision of equal opportunities to the disadvantaged groups.

The 5 year IDP encompasses the goals set by University to achieve in the next five years that would lead the University to serve the society by developing highly skilled and dedicated graduates. The University is determined to create an innovative learning ecosystem, enhance digital learning with integration of technology, motivate research and innovation through collaborations with renowned institutes and organizations with national and international reputation, ensuring accreditation and ranking, addressing financial aspects through sustainable approach, introducing new skill based programmes, optimizing student services, improving infrastructural facilities and congregating with National Education Policy.

The Hemchandracharya North Gujarat University is committed to empower its students, promote research excellence and meaningful contributions to the growth and development of education and research in the entire North Gujarat Region to progressive and modern education in the region.

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

A very rapid technological innovations and their applications in every walks of life has gradually transformed the educations system and has witnessed paradigm shift and, therefore, it is an urgent need to change the old educational standards with an educational framework that combines the knowledge with skills and creativity, critical thinking, effective communication and active collaborations.

The current scenario mandates the education system to respond to those fast changes that needs to develop a future for more empowered global man power. The main difficulty is the current developments in artificial intelligence, robo technology are reducing job opportunities around the world. Therefore, the present time makes it indispensable for the youth to get well versed with technology especially software technology because in every walks of life computer assisted and controlled processes have been introduced. Therefore, it required that the education system be transformed to introduce more skill based programmes that makes the students more employable by corporates and they have responded positively in courses of industrial relevance. Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) have responded positively and the have well adopted to the conditions arising after the pandemic by very rapidly acquainting the online mode of teaching and examining students in the very difficult time ever faced in the life.

This time may be the initiation of implementation of technology in the classroom teaching by introduction of hybrid mode of learning. This has also made it clear to the stake holders that skill based learning is most essential in the coming time.

In these circumstances, students would certainly like to learn new skills and improve their knowledge to become more employable. The HEIs respond by creating global benchmark in their academic and research programmes. Introduction of dual degree programmes, twining programmes, joint certification programmes, multiple entry and exit, programme pursuance at student's convenience are demand of the current time.

The Hemchandracharya North Gujarat University as a young University has well adopted to the NEP-2020 and has taken steps to achieve quality and prepared road map for its growth and development. The University would like to strengthen its educational and research practices and become sustainable in the coming time. This Roadmap shall be useful as a strategy document that guides the University's long term goals. This roadmap helps to inform the stakeholders about the strategies to be followed to achieve the anticipated goals.

Various organisations, institutions and industries are the forces to keep the educational institutions running as these are the market places for the students. It is very much required to assess the scope for students to get job opportunities considering following criteria :

1. Potential sectors for job opportunities
2. Contribution of these sectors in State & Nation Development
3. Research & Development

This would also guide the University in introducing new academic programmes inculcating skill development in students. Depending on the sectorial demand, type of curricula can be developed for students from different disciplines. Further, the programmes and structures will be developed as per the guidelines from UGC and NEP-2020. The existing programmes are restructured and provisions of NEP-2020 are being incorporated.

1. Integration of vocational programmes by introducing skill and values
2. Promotion of Indian knowledge and languages with Art and Culture
3. Online programmes
4. Introduction of multidisciplinary programmes
5. Collaborations with institutes/organisations and industries

It is expected the roadmap of the next five years will serve to assess the needs and challenges of the University in the next five years and prepare plan to address these needs. It is expected that it will lead the University to create a legacy in the education sector.

The Hemchandracharya North Gujarat University has adhered to the UGC guidelines since its inception. The University has successfully delivered quality education looking to the need of the students of the entire North Gujarat region and will continue to foster the educational needs by adopting to the global developments in the teaching pedagogy, modernizing the tools and techniques for further growth and developments. Modern practices in educations and research will also be adopted to become sustainable in the coming time. The Institutional Development Plan (IDP) shall be useful as a strategy document that will guide the University to achieve long term goals. This plan outlines a strategic roadmap for the University's growth with the emphasis on integrating modern technology, innovative teaching and collaborations with institutes/organizations and industry. The IDP aims to align with the University's academic offerings with global standards, ensuring that students acquire the skills needed to thrive in a fast changing job market. By developing a culture of continuous improvement and

adaptability, the IDP sets a clear vision for future development of the University, guiding its efforts to take a lead in higher education and become a catalyst for the overall development of the society.

Overview of Institutional Development Plan and Key Objectives

The Institutional Development Plan for Hemchandracharya North Gujarat University aims at preparing strategic roadmap to enhance the overall effectiveness of education, fostering academic excellence and promoting holistic development through research. The plan also focuses on strengthening infrastructural facilities, expanding academic programmes, modernizing research capabilities and enriching student life.

Objectives

1. Aligning with NEP-2020 policy

The academic programmes offered by the University are to be aligned with National Education Policy to ensure compliance and leverage opportunities for academic excellence and innovation.

2. Academic Excellence

Improvement in Curriculum and Teaching Learning : Regular reviewing and updating of academic programmes in congregation with developments to meet the market requirements in various fields.

Interdisciplinary and Multidisciplinary Programmes : Promotion and introduction of multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary programmes and courses that would address the emerging challenges and prepare students for diverse career paths.

3. Research & Innovation

Establishment of Research Centres : Creation of state of the art research laboratories with ultra modern sophisticated instruments to support high end research in significant areas such as biotechnology, molecular biology, environmental science, information technology, electronics and robotics, nanotechnology, market and human behaviour, global trade and business, areas of humanities and social sciences etc., to drive innovation and contribute to the global knowledge.

Funding and Collaborations: Encourage young faculties to attract research grants from Government agencies , Non-Government Organizations, industries by proposing research projects, developing partnerships and collaborations.

Innovation Hubs: Creation of Innovation hubs and incubators to support entrepreneurship and start-ups initiated by students and faculty members.

4. Student Support Services

Comprehensive student services are the core aspect on the campus life. Provide student services including hostel facilities, canteen facilities, health centre, student career counselling, extra curricular activities, psychological support and promotion of personal development.

5. Technology Integration

ICT integration : Implementation of latest information and communication technology solutions to make administrative processes fast and easy by implementing ERP.

E-Learning Platforms: Provide online learning resources and platforms to students for easy and flexible assess of education at their fingertips.

Smart Campus: Incorporate smart technologies on the campus to improve efficiency and connectivity.

6. Infrastructure Development

Modernization of Facilities : Upgrade facilities in classrooms, laboratories and library with state of the art technology, instruments, equipment to support teaching, learning and research.

Expansion : Develop new buildings and facilities, including lecture halls, research laboratories, student amenities, recreational areas to accommodate students and academic needs.

7. Industry Partnerships and Collaborations

Industry Collaborations : Strengthen partnerships with industry to provide students with real time job experience, internships, and job placement opportunities.

Community Outreach: Take initiatives to engage local communities and address societal needs, igniting social responsibility among students.

Alumni Network: Develop a strong and robust alumni network to facilitate mentorship. networking and support current student to make them aware about market requirements.

Cultural & Sports Development

Cultural Programmes: Promote cultural activities and events to celebrate diversity and cultural exchange.

Sports Facilities: Upgrade and expand sports facilities to support various athletic activities, encouraging physical fitness and sportsmanship.

Co-curricular and Extracurricular activities: Provide platform to students to exhibit their excellence in extra curricular activities.

Accreditation and Ranking

Align the University programmes and initiatives with National Education Policy to ensure compliance and provide opportunities for academic excellence.

Internationalization of University

Encourage international partnership and collaborations to show global presence of the University.

Encourage student and faculty exchanges, joint research projects and international conferences.

PURPOSE, APPROACH AND METHODOLOGY FOR INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The Institutional Development Plan for Hemchandracharya North Gujarat University is a roadmap that guides the University for its growth and development in next five years. The IDP lays the foundation for achieving the goals through various strategies to improve the academic programmes with flexibility to the students, research capabilities, student services support and physical infrastructure. The IDP aims at making the University achieve academic excellence through research and innovation, with partnership and collaborations with institutes and organisations of national and international repute and industries. This may assure the University meets the need and challenges of the society.

The University has done SWOC analysis to identify the areas for improvements and the opportunities for the growth and development. The need for implementing strategies for offering new skill based

programmes and reforms for preparing students for the current market trends. The University shall interact with academic experts, industry experts and also the stake holders and involve in the policy and strategy building and implementing for developing market ready human resource for better job placements.