

Report
of
National Seminar
on
Higher Education in J&K: Challenges and Perspectives
(22nd -23rd of December, 2012)

Organized by

Department of Social Sciences, Govt. Degree College Kathua (J&K)

in collaboration with

Indian Council of Social Science Research,

North-Western Regional Centre, Panjab University, Chandigarh

About the Seminar

Ever since the nation recognized the value of the Higher Education for promoting economic growth and social development, the pressure on reforms has been escalating. Higher Education in J&K has witnessed a tremendous increase in the last decade. The number of Degree Colleges has increased from 32 in 2002 to 95 in 2012 and number of Universities has increased from 04 in 2001 to 09 in 2012. Apart from these colleges, 22 new degree colleges have been sanctioned in the state, out of which many colleges have started functioning from the current session. In the private sector, the number of Degree Colleges, B.Ed Colleges and professional colleges has risen to 323 upto 2012.

There is a concomitant compromise on the quality when the system expands rapidly with limited resources. There are institutions which have no proper building or infrastructural facilities like library, laboratory, equipment, playfield etc. The lack of permanent teaching faculty pushed us even further in the direction of dilution of quality. Will the new policy of our state Govt. that 'Higher Education at the doorstep that too, directionless will lead us somewhere?

Realizing the needs of today and tomorrow and prepare futuristic Higher Education Programme of our State, Department of Social Sciences. G.D.C. Kathua in collaboration with ICSSR, North-Western Regional Centre Panjab University, Chandigarh organized two days National Seminar on the theme "Higher Education in J&K : Challenges and Perspectives" on December 22nd & 23rd , 2012 with the objectives of promoting a forum for exploring and sharing initiatives of our concerns and experiences of Higher Education, identification of the need for Job-Oriented education and making suggestions for improving the existing structure of Higher Education and making it of International standard. An effort is made to seek the view points of educationists, planners, economists, sociologists & research scholars regarding the focal theme which can be beneficial for the State Govt. for maintaining excellence in higher education department. About 85 abstracts were received on various sub themes and out of the total 77 abstracts were published in the book of abstracts. The seminar was a collective initiative to shape and promote a common interaction platform for the academicians, educationists, researchers and students from various disciplines of higher education across the country to interact, share and debate on the innovative ideas for raising the standard of higher education in J&K. It was an opportunity for all to interact on current challenges and future perspectives. About 60 papers were presented in six technical sessions on various sub themes viz. Planning for new courses (Job Oriented, Add on courses, Business Education etc),

Admission, Examination and Evaluation (Students), Supervision and accountability (teachers), good Governance, Grading and implementation of policies (Institutions) and Quantity Vs Quality in Higher Education. A sound interaction and discussion was held among the presenters and participants. The concluding remarks of each technical session were presented by worthy Chairpersons.

The seminar was inaugurated by **Jenab Abdul Gani Malik**, Minister for Higher Education, Labour and Employment, Who was the Chief Guest, in the presence of Member of Parliament, Udhampur –Kathua constituency, **Ch.Lal Singh** who presided over the function. In his address, Ch.Lal Singh stressed on the importance of enhancing primary education in order to provide quality higher education. Jenab Abdul Gani Malik detailed about the role of higher education, role of private sector in meeting the needs of higher education, need to minimize the rural and urban divide in education. Prof. Unita Sinha, JNU, New Delhi, Prof. Neelu Rohmetra, Rector, Kathua Campus of University of Jammu, Prof. Dipankar Sen Gupta, Head, Department of Economics, University of Jammu, Prof. Sucheta Pathania, Department of English, University of Jammu, Dr. Mubark Singh, Head, Department of Education, University of Jammu, Dr.Renu Nanda, Professor, Department of Education, University of Jammu, Dr. N.K.Gupta, Principal, Govt. Degree College Bani, Shehnaz Akhtar, Deputy Labour Commissioner, Professors of various colleges, delegates and students were present in the inaugural session. Dr. C.P.Sharma, Organising Secretary of the seminar presented vote of thanks.

INAUGURAL SPEECH

The inaugural speech was delivered by **Prof. (Dr.) Nater Singh Principal, Govt. Degree College, Kathua (J&K)**. He projected four reasons for recent focus in higher education in India Viz. skill shortage, reservation quotes, inability to sustain growth momentum and maintain competitiveness, increasing demand for higher education. He awared the audience that higher education in India has witnessed many fold increase in its institutional capacity since independence. The number of Universities has increased from 20 to 634 and colleges from 500 to 33024 with enrolment of over 120 million students. The enrolment at undergraduate level is 86% , at post graduate level is 12% and at Research level is 1%. He highlighted the thrust areas which need to be focused in higher Education viz. expansion of higher education institution, provision of equal access to all the social groups, Quality and Excellence, Governance, value based education and infusing culture of collaboration and cooperation. Regarding expansion, he insisted that the rapid expansion of higher education

system has considerable impact on the quality of education. The quality of education is primarily determined by the competencies skills, abilities and motivation of teachers. He favoured a special type of professional Course for higher education on the pattern of B.Ed or M.Ed. Regarding equal access, he highlighted that GER in Indian was 0.7% in 1950-51 which increased to 13.6 in 2011. In J&K GER was less than 0.71% in 1950-51 which increased to 13 in 2011. We have regions where per 1000 population, there are 20 institutions and on the other hand, there are regions having less than 5 institutions per 1000 population. In hilly and inaccessible regions of J&K, we have less than one institution per 1000 population. As far as the area of quality and excellence is concerned, he projected the role of NAAC in maintaining quality and excellence in higher education. He showed a great concern towards NAAC accreditation. Out of 52 NAAC accredited colleges of state, 6 colleges were accredited 'A' grade and rest of the colleges with 'B' & 'C' grades. Even our Nodal Govt. Colleges have not accredited till date. Regarding teachers, it is projected that out of 3491 sanctioned posts of assistant Professors, 1678 are permanent and 1813 are academic arrangement teachers.

Regarding governance, he emphasized that urgent overhaul of the structure of management of higher education Institutions is required in the state. It is necessary to maintain the standard of the Courses, academic calendar and examination system as per the global needs. Fund raising culture should be initiated to keep pace with scientific and technological development in terms of building the skills and knowledge. In value based area, he focused on the strategic research funding to promote research in areas of contemporary significance like renewable energy, sustainable development, environment, computing, modeling, stem cells, internal security etc. He also favoured value based education and need to infuse culture of collaboration and cooperation in all the classes at UG and PG level of Higher learning.

Key Note Address

By

PROF. SACHIDANAND SINHA

JNU, NEW DELHI

On

“Higher Education in India with special reference to Jammu & Kashmir:

Challenges and Prospects"

Prof. Sachinand Sinha presented Key note address in the inaugural session of the National Seminar. He discussed various challenges in the field of higher education in India. He listed various hurdles in the expansion of enrolment in Higher Education in India. Today India has nearly 500 universities and other 20,000 colleges but having minimum basic educational infrastructure. According to his district level analysis based on census data and college population Index, it was found that most of the districts needed many more colleges as their classrooms were overcrowded. Moreover that student's attendance in college is not encouraging as they show least interest in classroom learning. He presented current profile of Higher Education in India in tabulation form right from 1983 to 2004. State wise GER in Higher Education by sex and areas, 2003-2004 NSSO was also highlighted with special focus on J&K. Among the districts of J&K, as per the census of 2001, Doda, Udhampur, Poonch, Rajouri and Kathua have the lowest GER while Srinagar has the highest followed by Jammu. Another highlight of the address was the District wise GER in Higher Education by social Groups, Sex and area with special attention to J&K. Moreover the gender disparities were found in Higher Education. The data suggests that the GER, the NER and EER for women are considerably lower than male counter parts.

He also highlighted the disparities across income groups, occupation group in rural areas and Urban areas. He presented a brief prospect of Higher education and stressed upon the availability of educational infrastructure. He put forth the fact that NKC proposed to set up 1500 universities in India, including 50 central universities and a number of autonomous colleges. Such an expansion is required to bring about GER of 15% by 2015. So it is imperative to encourage private sector to come forward for higher education provisions in the country. He drew the attention of the audience that a regulatory framework for higher education through establishment of an independent regulatory authority is required in the state. A separate regulatory framework for under graduation course is also proposed which is also recommended by NKC. He advised the central and state level Govt. to come forward with rational policy framework in order to ensure equity and excellence in the field of higher education.

Sub-Theme –I

Planning for new courses (Job-Oriented, Add on courses, Business Education etc.)

1. **Dr. Namrata,-Higher Education in Perspectives of Employment’ with special reference to Add on courses.**
2. **Dr. Sunita Raina, -‘Business Education for the Development of Entrepreneurs: Perspectives and Challenges’.**
3. **Dr. Janak Singh Andotra, & Mr. Kailash Sharma -Need to Introduce Job-Oriented Courses in colleges’**
4. **Ms. Neena Gupta, -‘Challenges and Perspectives in Vocational Higher Education’**
5. **Dr. Raj Shree Dhar, & Mrs. Savita Jamwal -‘Need for market Oriented courses in colleges of J&K.**
6. **Dr. Rajinder Kaur, & Smt. Seema Sharma, -“Job oriented courses: a need of the Hour.**
7. **Vibhuti Jasrotia, -‘Technology interface in state higher education: Mantra for Success**
8. **Dr. Renu Nanda & Mrs. Sita Anand ,- ‘ Reorienting education for global employment: need for restructuring curricula and pedagogy’**
9. **Dr. Vandana khajuria- Scope and prospects of P.G courses in Degree Colleges’**
10. **Anupma Arora: & Vinay Arora, -‘e-education- A step towards sustainable development.”**
11. **Mr. Ajmair Singh Sodhi and Ms. Jyoti verma -“Fisheries education in India-current scenario and future prospect in “Jammu and Kashmir”**

THEME-WISE REPORT OF FULL PAPERS PRESENTED IN SIX TECHNICAL SESSIONS

Sub-Theme –I

Planning for new courses (Job-Oriented, Add on courses, Business Education etc.)

Dr. Namrata, Associate Professor in chemistry, Government Degree College, Kathua presented her paper on **‘Higher Education in Perspectives of Employment’ with special reference to Add on courses**. She emphasized upon the need of introducing various add on courses which include career oriented, part-time courses and market oriented courses. These courses should run parallel to conventional courses. She also highlighted the eligibility criteria for various courses viz. Certificate courses, Diploma courses advanced diploma courses and vocational courses.

Suggestions & Recommendations:

- To improve the quality of add-on-courses like other professional courses.
- Training of various skills required in the Job market.
- Motivation of students to opt these courses.
- Necessary steps should be taken to make these courses acceptable in market and other institutions.

Dr. Sunita Raina, Asstt. Prof. in commerce, Government Degree College, Kathua presented her paper on **‘Business Education for the Development of Entrepreneurs: Perspectives and Challenges’**. She threw light on entrepreneurship in India during pre-Independence, post independence and current Scenario. She highlighted various challenges of entrepreneurship in the country viz. no clear cut policy, objectives and course of action, marketing problems, lack of information, Lack of infrastructure, Lack of commitment, cultural barriers wrong selection of trainees, Lack of advanced technology, Lack of support and follow ups etc. She also emphasized upon how to conquer these challenges. These strategies include administrative and legal formalities, financial assistance, technical know-how, infrastructure step up, resources procurement, market support, entrepreneurial culture and over whelming feelings.

Suggestions & Recommendations:

- Skill development should be initiated by business schools that lead tot the formation of new venture.
- Core skills must be developed in every learner.

- The Govt., Industry and Educators should own the responsibility to bring vitality in business Education.

Dr. Janak Singh Andotra, Associate Prof. and **Mr. Kailash Sharma** Asstt. Prof., Department of Mathematics, Govt. Degree College Kathua presented a Joint paper on '**Need to Introduce Job-Oriented Courses in colleges**'. The objectives of the paper were to throw light on the traditional courses and importance of Job-oriented courses, to develop a mechanism of introducing professional courses in colleges, to make modern educational system applicable in industrial areas and to make the students mentally prepared for opting the market oriented courses. They threw light on various traditional courses, Job-oriented and professional courses. They also highlighted the system of introducing Job-oriented courses in colleges and making these courses easily available in every college. This will definitely raise the economic level and decrease unemployment to some extent

Suggestions & Recommendations:

- Market utility, technical courses, rural Industrial Courses, Urban sanitation courses, short term courses, Add on Courses, Computer courses, Job oriented courses should be introduced in every college
- Special add-on-courses for rural colleges for Fisheries, Sericulture, Horticulture bee keeping, poultry, mushroom growing, preparing fertilizers, agricultural courses should be started.
- Skill oriented Youths are the need of the hour to fight unemployment.

Neena Gupta, Sr. Assistant Professor, Govt. Degree College Samba presented her paper on '**Challenges and Perspectives in Vocational Higher Education**'. She discussed various aspects of Vocational Higher Education. The general higher Education is only producing graduates without proper employment. She highlighted that a relationship has to be maintained between vocational and higher Education. The Challenge is to link higher education with constantly changing needs and opportunities of contemporary society. She emphasized to establish vocationally oriented higher education Institutions in the state.

Suggestions & Recommendations:

- The higher Education in the State shall be redesigned to incorporate a more vocationally –oriented content to equip graduates for future careers.
- Cross-faculty courses and interdisciplinary research centers should be established in Universities.

- Higher Education Institutions should be diverted to market needs.
- Employability enhancing activities shall be generated for undergraduates and graduates.
- Representatives from Industries should be involved in higher education policy making, strategies and implementation
- Prior learning should be recognized for both vocational and higher Education programmes.

Dr. Raj Shree Dhar, Associate Professor and **Mrs. Savita Jamwal** Assistant Professor, Govt. M.A.M. college Jammu Jointly presented a paper on ‘**Need for market Oriented courses in colleges of J&K.**’ They discussed in detail that the problem of unemployment among educated youth can be solved by introducing market oriented courses in colleges. The graduates should not remain unemployed for a long time. They emphasized on job oriented courses in our colleges which include Fisheries, Journalism, BBA,tourism, Bio- Chemistry, I.T. computer Science video editing, Sericulture, tour and travel, Archaeology , pathology, management skills, food Processing etc. The idea is to increase and improve the employability of the Youths so that they can make best use of the available resources.

Suggestions & Recommendations: - They suggested that

- Higher Education in J&K should be made Job-oriented for increasing employability among educated youth.
- The courses like Information and computer Technology, Refrigeration Bio-Technology, Hospital waste Disposal Management and Sericulture should be added in the Science Stream and the Courses like applied Sociology, applied Psychology, tourism, Fashion designing, Translation proficiency, TV and video production should be added to Social Sciences and Humanities stream. The courses like Insurance, Banking, e-commerce, work trade, Foreign exchange Trade, Retailing etc should be added to commerce stream.
- Some add on courses like event Management, a multimedia animation course, sales management, Mass media courses, Beauty course and Insurance should be started in colleges.

Dr. Rajinder Kaur, Sr. Asstt. Prof., Govt. Colleges of Education Jammu and **Smt. Seema Sharma**, Sr. Asstt. Prof. Govt. Degree College for women Gandhi Nagar Jammu presented a Joint paper entitled “**Job oriented courses: a need of the Hour.** The Objectives of the paper were to gain an understanding of our own abilities, Interests, strengths and opportunities, to

develop a individual Inventory of valuable Job oriented fundamental skills and to get valuable information related to job-options and opportunities. They highlighted the importance of Job oriented courses as these courses solve the economic problems, give economic independence and Social efficiency , make education purposeful and minimize social misfits.

Suggestions & Recommendations:

- Competency based vocational courses should be started in colleges
- Self financing courses should be initiated.
- Local Business units and Industries should be involved in Higher Education.
- Add-on-courses for disabled and women should be started.
- The ITI system needs to be revamped.

Vibhuti Jasrotia, Department of management, University of Jammu (Kathua campus) presented a paper entitled ‘**Technology interface in state higher education: Mantra for Success**. She discussed in detail about the present status of technology of our country and various changes taking place in the field of technology throughout the world. She highlighted the impact of computer and information system revolution in technology. She emphasized that technology is also used in the teaching-learning situations. Teacher education in the use of technology is an ongoing endeavor for preparing teachers of 21st century.

Suggestions and recommendations:

- The faculty of higher education must be trained in using technology in the classroom.
- The students should be trained in computers, PPTs, use of internet and information technology to keep pace with rest of world.
- Educational objectives should be reframed from technology view point.

Dr. Renu Nanda Prof. PG dept. of Education, University of Jammu and **Mrs. Sita Anand** ,liaison officer GZSAC, University of Jammu jointly presented their paper entitled ‘**Reorienting education for global employment: need for restructuring curricula and pedagogy**’ . They highlighted various employment skills viz. basic skills, higher order thinking skills and affective domains and traits. They emphasised the need to redesign curriculum in higher education keeping in view employability. The employable skills need to be introduced in higher education.

Suggestions and recommendations:

- Students should be provided reinforcement so that employers value basic, higher order and affective employability skills may be generated in them.

- Encouraging innovation in practical teaching, enhancing the productivity of teachers and focus on continuous development of faculty is required.
- Promotion of inter-disciplinary teaching and research.
- Orientation and refresher courses should be organised at regular interval.

The paper entitled “**Scope and prospects of P.G courses in Degree Colleges**’ was presented by **Dr. Vandana khajuria** Associate Prof.in English, G.G.M Science College, Jammu. She analysed the need, feasibility and scope of running Post Graduate courses in degree colleges and proposed various steps to improve the quality of teaching P.G courses at college level. She also displayed the colleges of state which are running PG courses and providing education access to the students of far off areas of the state. The PG students are also scoring top positions in the university examinations as there are well qualified and experienced faculty in colleges.

Suggestions and recommendations:

- It is desirable that Post-Graduation courses should be started in the colleges so as to give a wider access to the students who want to pursue post graduate courses.
- The Govt. should pay special attention regarding providing adequate infrastructure in the colleges. An effort should be made to bring these courses as par with the best institutions of the country.
- Separate blocks should be established for PG courses in the colleges.
- Teachers and students exchange programmes should be initiated between the PG colleges and universities.

Anupma Arora: Assistant Professor, Govt. Degree College Kathua and **Vinay Arora,** Assistant professor, SSG Punjab University, Regional Campus Hoshiarpur (Punjab) jointly presented a paper entitled ‘**e-education- A step towards sustainable development.**’ They threw light on the aspects and market status of e-education in the world. They discussed various advantages and disadvantages of e-learning in general, from the learner’s point of view, from the company’s point of view and from the company’s point of view and form the trainer’s point of view.

Suggestions and recommendations:

- E-learning should be introduced in the schools as well as in colleges.
- The teachers should be trained to evolve e-learning in schools and colleges.
- E-learning should be made available for the students of rural areas.

- E-education will minimize the use of paper resulting in less deforestation as it will help to save our environment and lead to sustainable development.

The paper entitled “**Fisheries education in India- current scenario and future prospect in “Jammu and Kashmir”**” was presented prepared jointly by **Mr. Ajmair Singh Sodhi and Ms. Jyoti verma**, Department of Industrial Fish and Fisheries, Govt. Degree College Kathua and was presented by Mr. Ajmair Singh Sodhi. The objective of the paper was to display the present scenario of fisheries education in India with special reference to j&k state. On the basis of both primary and secondary data collected from different sources, he presented his findings that the fish production of country has increased 800000, tons in 1947 to 8 million metric tones in 2010. Fish and fisheries is an important sector in India providing employment to about 14 million people and contributing in food security for the vast population of the country. It contributes about 1.21% of the national GDP with an amount of Rs. 34785 crores. In 1960’s fish and fisheries became an important part of curriculum of UG and PG programmes in the country. He also highlighted various purposes of fisheries education. He discussed the history of fisheries education by depicting the fisheries colleges of India, fisheries degrees and courses in India, fishries research and training institutes and fisheries research institutes in India. He also focused on fisheries education in J&K. The higher educational institutions in J&K which are running fisheries education include GDC Kathua, GDC Baramulla, GDC Bemina, SKUAST-K Srinagar. Future prospects of fisheries education in J&K were also stressed.

Suggestions and recommendations:

- It is recommended to introduce the subject of fisheries in other colleges and at +2 levels also.
- Master degree courses should be available in university of Jammu and university of Kashmir.
- The intake capacity of colleges with fisheries subject and SKUAST-K should be increased.
- It is desirable to introduce fisheries as add on course, short term diploma, training course in field of fisheries sector.

Sub-Theme-2

Admission, Examination and Evaluation (Students) , Supervision and Accountability (Teachers), Good Governance, Grading and Implementation of policies (Institutions).

1. Ms.Piyali Arora, & C.L. Shivgotra -‘Ethical Issues in Evaluation in Higher Education’.
2. Ms.Sumit Dubey and Gurdyal, -‘Introduce continuous and comprehensive Evaluation in Higher Education’
3. Ms. Shivali Rattan & Ms. Samta Sharma, -‘Grading in Higher Education’
4. Dr. Netar Parkash Sharma& Dr. Roopwant Kour, -“Reforms needed in the system of Higher Education in J&K with special reference to Admission criteria, Evaluation and Examination system”.
5. Dr. S.P. Sarswat, & Dr. Tanveer Hussain, -‘Expansion of Higher Education to Remote and Inaccessible Areas: A step towards Resurgent India’
6. Dr. Arun Dev Singh, -“Techniques of teaching for Effective delivery system in higher Education
7. Mr. Indu Bhushan, - “Women and Higher Education”.
8. Dr. Tilak Raj Sharma, -“Need of virtual Institutions and Libraries for Distance learners in Higher Education
9. Ms Neelam Choudhary, - “Distance Learners’ difficulties and Institutions Response: Some issues in the context of Jammu University’
10. Ms. Anuradha choudhary & Mr. Neeraj Sharma- Exploring New Ways to higher Education through Distance & Lifelong education’
11. Ms. Shivi Mehra, -“Higher Education and Good Governance
12. Ms. Neelam Thapa, - ‘Grading and Performance analysis in Higher Education’
13. Mr. Roop Krishan Pandit, Dr. C.P. Sharma, Ram Singh, Dr. Vasudha Chaudhari- ‘Growth and expansion of Higher Education in the State of Jammu and Kashmir and its allied challenges’
14. Dr. Ashu Vashisht, -“Higher Education and Role of a teacher: A review”.
15. Dr. Ritu Bakshi, - “Creating possibilities for a meaningful curriculum Transaction for teacher Education in J&K State.
16. Dr. Garima Gupta, -‘University Teaching –An evaluation and an interrogation”.

17. **Dr. Seema Malpotra- Continuous and comprehensive evaluation in higher education”**

18. **Mrs. Rachna – Women and their Access in Higher Education J&K.**

Sub-Theme-2

Admission, Examination and Evaluation (Students) , Supervision and Accountability (Teachers), Good Governance, Grading and Implementation of policies (Institutions).

Piyali Arora, Assistant Prof., Department of Psychology and **C.L. Shivgotra** Associate Prof. Deptt. Of Education, Govt. College of Education, Jammu, made a Joint presentation on the title ‘**Ethical Issues in Evaluation in Higher Education**’. They threw light on the assessment and evaluation trends in Higher Education, features of assessment, causation of outcomes, methodology of evaluation and systemization of evaluation. They emphasized that evaluation is the awareness of an intimate integral relationship between objectives, teaching and testing.

Suggestions & Recommendations:

- The system of evaluation at UG and PG level should be reformed and renovated.
- The testing goals for all subjects must be critical reasoning, problem solving, analytical ability, understanding of Principles , creative and original thinking
- Creative examination system should be introduced to test student’s problem solving and reasoning skills.
- Admission to various courses shall be made with mechanism of evaluation at point of entry.

Sumit Dubey and Gurdyal, Assistant Professors, Govt. Degree College Kathua presented a paper entitled ‘**Introduce continuous and comprehensive Evaluation in Higher Education**’. They highlighted the traditional evaluation trends and methods in higher Education. Moreover they also discussed various short comings of existing evaluation methods. They emphasized the need of evaluating the scholastic and co-scholastic area of students’ achievement for accessing the overall personality of students. The continuous and comprehensive evaluation of students throughout the session is the true evaluation of students’ achievements.

Suggestions & Recommendations:

- Regular test series should be introduced in UG and PG classes.
- Proper feed back should be obtained after every evaluation.
- Only objective type questions should be used in evaluation.
- Modern technology should be used to improve management of evaluation.
- CCE should be based on combination of internal and external evaluation
- Grading should be introduced.

Ms. Shivali Rattan and **Ms. Samta Sharma**, Asstt. Professors, Govt. Degree College Kathua made a Joint presentation on the topic '**Grading in Higher Education**'. The objectives of the paper were to analyze present position of working of Higher Education Institutes in the State, understand the need for grading system to improve the quality of higher Education and to make suggestions for the improvement of grading system to improve the quality of higher Education and to make suggestions for the improvement of grading system of Higher Education Institutes. They threw light on the NAAC implementations in India, old grading system, new grading system, and NAAC assessment in J&K. They displayed the list of colleges of J&K accredited by NAAC upto 2012. Moreover they highlighted the benefits to the institution after NAAC accreditation.

Suggestions & Recommendations:

- A cluster of colleges should be kept under one model college for internal grading of the institutes and then external grading should be done
- Topography of the college should be kept in mind while grading it
- Emphasis should on pupil-teacher evaluation, teacher-teacher evaluation and administration- teacher evaluation.
- The weaknesses found should be redressed in time.
- Surprise assessment should be made by grading team.

Dr. Netar Parkash Sharma, Head, Department of Education, Govt. College for Women Gandhi Nagar, Jammu and **Dr. Roopwant Kour**, teacher GMS Raya, Samba presented a paper on the topic "**Reforms needed in the system of Higher Education in J&K with special reference to Admission criteria, Evaluation and Examination system**". It was highlighted in the paper that process of admission criteria, techniques of evaluation and system of examination need to be reformed in the context of modern challenges and perspectives. Continuous internal evaluation is also projected for proper evaluation of students in higher Education. They favoured the integration of continuous and end of semester evaluation.

Suggestions & Recommendations:

- Annual Examination system should be replaced by Semester system in colleges.
- Uniform pattern of Examination papers should be established by UGC.
- Teachers should be oriented to prepare pupils for improved pattern of external examination.
- Standardized material should be used for improving internal assessment.

Dr. S.P. Sarswat, Principal, Govt. Degree College Kilhotran and **Dr. Tanveer Hussain**, Department of History, Govt. Degree College Kilhotran made a detailed presentation on the topic '**Expansion of Higher Education to Remote and Inaccessible Areas: A step towards Resurgent India**'. Through their PPT, they threw light on various academic activities and examination system in higher Education. It was emphasized that the Govt. is taking positive step regarding expansion of Higher Education to remote and Inaccessible areas but this expansion suffers from various shortcomings which dilute the quality of Higher Education in the State. They discussed in detail various issues concerning higher Education viz. Academic, activity, examination pattern, academic arrangement, permanent faculty, remedial teaching, communication gap, career counseling, residential accommodation and administrative support.

Suggestions & Recommendations:

- Teachers / students exchange programmes should be initiated in colleges and Universities of the State.
- Special courses and local research should be undertaken in each and every college of state.
- Residential facility should be provided to all the faculty members of colleges.
- Special liaison officer should be appointed to reduce the communication gap between remote colleges and Administration and University.
- EDUSAT can be used in this regard
- Remedial teaching must be organized for each class in every session
- Permanent faculty should be appointed for maintaining quality of education.

Dr. Arun Dev Singh, Asstt. Prof. (English) Govt. Degree College Kathua presented his paper on the topic "**Techniques of teaching for Effective delivery system in higher Education.**" Through his PPT, he threw light on the objectives of the paper viz need of making daily Lecturer plan, components of plan and how to draft Lecture plan. He emphasized upon the

essentials to an effective lecture plan, Lecture objectives, Lecture techniques, presentation of content, post lecture reflections from students, feedback and Lecture format.

Suggestions & Recommendations:-

- Every teacher should be trained to prepare Lecture plan effectively
- Teachers should be given special training to teachers in various components of a lecture plan.
- All the faculty members of colleges and university should undergo training in teaching pedagogy.

Mr. Indu Bhushan, a research scholar, Department of Geography, University of Jammu made a power point presentation on the topic “**Women and Higher Education**”. The objectives of his paper were to study Educational Institutions in Jammu Division, find out District wise enrolment of Women in Jammu and percentage of women in Professional and Non professional educational Institutions. Through his PPT he displayed number of colleges in Jammu Division, Percentage of women enrolment in Jammu Division faculty wise enrolment, women enrolment in Professional Institutions, Teacher-student ratio in Jammu University, enrolment in Distance Education etc.

Suggestions & Recommendations:

- The Govt. should frame policies and implement them in true spirit to attract Women for professional courses.
- The colleges should encourage girls to opt commerce, management LLB, Computer Science etc.
- Women need based curriculum should be framed.

Dr. Tilak Raj Sharma, Coordinator DDE Study Centre, Govt. Degree College, Kathua presented his paper on “**Need of virtual Institutions and Libraries for Distance learners in Higher Education**” He highlighted different terminologies used for virtual learning viz Internet learning distributed learning, network learning, online learning tele learning, E-learning, computer assisted learning, web based learning etc. He also put forth the concept of virtual community and various characteristics of this community. He emphasized an various issues like changing the learning culture, training of teachers, software development, equal access technology and content choice.

Suggestions & Recommendations:

- Educational technology must be used as an effective means of learning.

- Intellectual technologies should be designed to offer new and better ways to expand human capacity , multiply human reasoning and compensate for human limitations
- Virtual Institutions and libraries should be expanded for the distance learners
- Computer and tele communications should be used in these institutions.

Neelam Choudhary, Assistant Prof. (Economics) DDE University of Jammu presented a paper on “**Distance Learners’ difficulties and Institutions Response: Some issues in the context of Jammu University**’ The objectives of the paper were to understand the basic difficulties experienced by distant learners, expectations from Institution and make the system serve them better in future. She emphasized on the needs and expectations of distance learners She made the graphical presentations on ratio of males and females in distance Education, alternative means of study, distance mode, general attitude of people, preparation for examination, subject combination, experience, role of motivation, success, PCPS, teaching method, classroom teaching, student support system, alive admission process, library department, assignments.

Suggestions & Recommendations:-

- PCPs should be held in time and regular basis.
- Duration of PCPs should increase from 15 days to 30 days
- Norms of distance Education should be clearly set.
- Directorate of Distance Education should frame policies from time to time to mitigate the difficulties of distance learners.

The paper entitled as ‘**Exploring New Ways to higher Education through Distance & Lifelong education**’ was presented jointly by **Mr. Neeraj Sharma**, Social Worker and **Ms. Anuradha choudhary**, Research Scholar, Department of Education, University of Jammu. They threw light on the major source of educational opportunities viz formal and non-formal streams of education. The formal higher educational institutions are not in a position to satisfy all the individual and society needs. Higher education through distance and life long education can provide higher educational opportunities to a large number of students at a time. They highlighted four pillars of education viz learning to know, learning to do, learning to live together and with others, learning to be etc. they also discussed various benefits of life long learning for making higher education opportunities to all.

Suggestions & Recommendations:

- Distance and life long education is more dynamic, more flexible, more open and a more human educational opportunities to all.

- This system involves instructing and educating pupils of all ages, adults, employed persons, working persons, housewives etc.
- The Govt. should pay attention to establish such system of education through out the state.

Ms. Shivi Mehra, Asstt. Prof. (Education), Govt. College for women, Udhampur presented her paper entitled as “**Higher Education and Good Governance**” through PPT. She introduced the concept of Governance and the need of Good Governance in the higher education. She highlighted the characteristics of good Governance viz. participatory, consensus oriented, equity and inclusiveness, transparency, responsiveness, effectiveness, efficiency accountable and follow the rule of law. She also discussed in detail the major Principles of good Governance viz academic freedom, shared governance, clear rights and responsibilities, meritocratic selection, financial stability, regular testing standards, accountability and close cooperation. She emphasized upon the type of knowledge and skills required for good governance in higher education in the state.

Suggestions & Recommendations:

- Adequate supply of competent and able persons who can dictate their lives to the profession with a religious fervor must be made in Governance of higher educational institutions of the state.
- Higher Education governance should ensure responsiveness of higher education to the changing needs and expectations of the society
- There is dire need of decentralization of governance to accelerate the Socio-economic development within a participatory framework at the grass root level.
- Higher Education governance should not suffer from red tapism, bureaucratic style of functioning and rigidity of principles and regulations.
- Higher education governance should be based on the principles viz. transparency, accountability, respect for the rule of law, tolerance, broad mindedness, equity, inclusiveness, participation of stakeholders etc.

Ms. Neelam Thapa, Asstt. Prof., Department of English, Govt. Degree College, Kathua presented her paper on the topic ‘**Grading and Performance analysis in Higher Education**’. She discussed various grading trends and certain principles to be followed in grading the performance of students on uniform pattern. She also highlighted the types of grading systems which are commonly used in the different universities viz. absolute grading, relative grading, hybrid grading and grading based on standard deviation. She, then, explained

the nature of each grading system, one by one, along with their merits and demerits. She also emphasized on the grading in internship programmes, thesis, projects, dissertation, project work and performance analysis.

Suggestions & Recommendations:-

- The entire process of grading should be transparent.
- The feedback process of grading should be transparent.
- The feed back from student related to grading should be sought.
- In a relative grading system, grades reflect not only the performance of students but also personal philosophy and human Psychology of instructors who are involved in grading process. It is completely idiosyncratic and this system is best suited for the universities which are well established.

A paper entitled '**Growth and expansion of Higher Education in the State of Jammu and Kashmir and its allied challenges**' was jointly prepared by **Roop Krishan Pandit, Dr. C.P. Sharma, Ram Singh, Dr. Vasudha Chaudhari**, Department of Zoology, G.D.C. Kathua and was presented by **Mr. Roop Krishan Pandit**. He discussed historical perspectives of higher education in J&K State. He displayed a brief glimpse of the year wise establishment of Universities in J&K from 1949 to 2010 and expansion and establishment of colleges in the hilly and rural districts to provide higher education access to students. He also highlighted unique challenges in all the three regions of state viz. Kashmir, Jammu and Ladakh, topography of the state, infrastructural development, competent faculty, professional development, introduction of vocational and applied subjects, enrolment of poor students, globalization, pressure of vested interests, knowledge generation, quality control & policy / planning.

Suggestion and Recommendations:-

- The faculty should be deputed for training and refresher courses for vocational and applied subjects.
- There should be recruitment / placement drives on the campuses through the envelopment of the private sector companies and undertaking.
- Scholarship scheme should be started by the Govt. for the unprivileged sections of society.
- The interaction programmes between the students of urban and rural colleges should be organized in the best interest of the stakeholders.

- We must rise above subject combinations and streams and allow the students to pick their choice subjects and open the doors for their excellence.
- The quality control mechanisms need to be further strengthened.

Dr. Ashu Vashisht, Assistant Professor, Department of English, GDC Kathua presented a paper entitled as “**Higher Education and Role of a teacher: A review**”. She threw light on the perspectives of higher education in the state. She highlighted the role of a college teacher who has to play a very crucial, multi-faceted and multi-dimensional role in order to keep pace with 21st century. Teachers have the responsibility of imparting real knowledge and skills to the youth so that they can build up their characters, attitudes and vision of future. She emphasized upon the fact that the teacher has to keep himself abreast with changing trends and techniques in teaching, debating, discussion, conducting of Seminars, colloquiums and workshops etc.

Suggestion and Recommendations:-

- The teachers in higher education should develop critical thinking and communication skills among the students and the institutions should be converted into Laboratories for experimentation, research and new innovations.
- The system of adhocism should be abolished completely. The contractualism and academic arrangements of teachers in colleges is the cause of degradation of teacher’s dignity.
- Teachers have to become the epitome of excellence, inspiration and humble guidance for students.

Dr. Ritu Bakshi, Assistant Professor, Department of Education, Central University of Jammu, presented her paper entitled “**Creating possibilities for a meaningful curriculum Transaction for teacher Education in J&K State.**” She focused on the right to education act and this right can be realized with the help of efficient and effective teachers. She emphasized that the teachers are the greatest assets of any education system. They are accepted as the backbone of education system. The quality of education depends on the quality of teachers. She stressed on the teacher education curriculum reforms and policy initiatives for instilling greater professionalism and commitment in practicing teachers. The national curriculum frame works for teacher education i.e. the move towards teacher preparation was also highlighted. She also elaborated the dialectic approach, its theory and practicum for the training of teachers. She put forth a major issue i.e. unrelated ness of

theoretical course in real classroom practices. She depicted National curriculum framework for teacher Education, 2009 by throwing light on pedagogical reform of teacher education.

Suggestion and Recommendations:-

- The pre- service teacher training programs should include teaching and learning strategies, classroom management skills and diversity sensitivity.
- Field experience should be given to the pre-service teachers which gives them a concrete sense of real problems and situations in the classroom and allows them to see how expert teachers handle these problems and situations.
- Teacher Education programs must focus on coursework, early and varied field experience, sense of responsibility, action research etc.
- NCFTE should purpose humanistic and reflective teachers that have the potential to develop more professional teachers and improve quality of education.

Dr. Garima Gupta, Assistant professor, Department of English, University of Jammu presented her paper entitled ‘**University Teaching –An evaluation and an interrogation**’. She brought the fact into the notice of participants that J&K has been a proliferation of Universities with the coming up of central universities in Jammu and Kashmir respectively, trust based universities viz. Sri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Baba Gulam Shah Bhadshah University, Islamic University and offsite campuses of university of Jammu and Kashmir respectively. She also threw light on the teaching at higher education essentially means acquiring knowledge, generating new knowledge, adding to the existing knowledge and also transmitting knowledge. The teaching and research are two inseparable components of the professional practice of teachers. She also highlighted API score system which encourages research which proves to be effective mechanism of appraisal. She emphasized upon three categories of API score sheet and elaborated each category in detail.

Suggestion and Recommendations:-

- An evaluation of the motives and consequences of the appraisal is required in the universities
- The values and norms of teachers should be self regulating and formulating.
- There is urgent need for democratization of decision making in the university system and making the university admission non partisan, transparent and accountable.
- It is necessary to incorporate the academic culture and redefines the role of the teacher.

The paper entitled as “**Continuous and comprehensive evaluation in higher education**” was presented by **Dr. Seema Malpotra**, Sr. Asstt. Prof., Department of English, G.G.M. Science College Jammu. She threw light on emerging new trends in the field of higher education viz examination, evaluation, assessment etc. She emphasized on continuous and comprehensive evaluation in the higher education. Students need to be evaluated on continuous basis and comprehensive evaluation will cover all the aspects of curriculum and assess the scholastic and non-scholastic potentials of the students. She insisted on developing such practices that provide quality information about student learning, requires clear thinking, careful planning, excellent communication skills and an over-riding concern for the well being of students. She focused on Information and communication technology (ICIS) as tool for support services.

Suggestion and Recommendations:-

- Continuous and Comprehensive evaluation technique should be introduced in the higher educational Institutions.
- Evaluation tradition of testing and assessment need to be liberalized to make a success so that it may give the teachers and students a new insight which keeps them up to dated and innovative.
- Scholastic and co-scholastic areas of students’ development should be combined to assess overall development and achievement level of students in higher education.

Mrs. Rachna, Assistant Prof. GGLD Memorial Degree College, Hiranagar, presented her paper and entitled “Women and their Access” to higher Education in Jammu & Kashmir.” She discussed the history of women education in J&K and threw light on the present status of women education in J&K. She also emphasized the role of women in human development and well being of society.

Suggestion and Recommendations:-

- Wide gender disparity in literacy is found in general and in Rural and Urban areas in particular. So it is necessary to make the essential measures to sort out problems of gender disparity.
- There is need for the recruitment of qualified female teachers, good physical infrastructure, low cast schooling and reasonable teacher student ratio.
- The planners , administrators and implementers involved in literacy programmes must pay greater attention to guide the process of bridging gender inequality in education.

Sub-Theme-3

Quantity Vs Quality in Higher Education

- 1. Swami Ramswarup Yogacharaya & Dr. Veena Rani -“Enriching Higher Educational Framework in Jammu and Kashmir: A Vedic Point of view”**
- 2. Mr. Anil Kumar Bharti & Chinky Sangral- ‘Challenges and Perspectives of Higher Education in J&K’**

3. **Dr. Mohd Zubair, -‘Conceptual Framework of Quality in Higher Education in J&K State’**
4. **Ms. Samriti Singh, -“Determining Quality Educational needs and challenges of Higher Education in J&K’**
5. **Mr.Mohan Galgotra -A need to revamp Higher Education in Jammu & Kashmir: why and how?**
6. **Mr. Sumanesh, Kehar Singh and Raj Kumari, -“Quantity Vs Quality in Higher Education in J&K”**
7. **Mr. Nek Ram, -‘Competent Teacher Educators: A need to improve Quality in Higher Education’**
8. **Dr. Romika Sudan, -“Obstacles in imparting Education**
9. **Ms. Anjali Jasrotia -Equity in Higher Education in J&K State’**
10. **Prof. Sucheta Pathania, and Manu Sharma -“ Higher Education in j&k : Development and obstructions’**
11. **Dr. Anuradha Goswami, -‘Higher Education in J&K: Quantity Vs Quality.**
12. **Mr.. Ramjan Ali, & Piyali Arora, -“Quantitative and Qualitative issues in higher education’**
13. **Dr. Ram Singh, -“Quality issues in Higher Education**
14. **Dr. Sujata Slathia, -“ Lead colleges with Autonomous status – A step forward towards Quality Education”**
15. **Mr. Sandeep Chaudhary, & Dr. Vakeel Singh,-Quantity Verses Quality in Higher Education in J&K”**
16. **Mrs. Ritu Bhagat, & Ms. Ambika Rajput -“Raising standards of Higher Education in J&K”**
17. **Mr. Devinder K. Sharma, Naresh Sharma, Sunil Dutt, Suram Singh & Rakesh Sharma, -“Quantity Vs Quality in Higher Education**
18. **Mr. Pankaj Nandan, Pawan Kumar & Parveen Sharma-‘Quality in Higher Education in India”**
19. **Ms. Keerti Rajput -“Increasing number of institutions; decreasing quality of education”.**
20. **Mrs. Shalika Gupta, -“Quality concerns in Higher Education”.**
21. **Sukriti Sharma & Neha Sambyal -“Quality assurance in higher education’.**
22. **Rubina Yasmeen, -“Value Education”..**

23. **Dr. Tejinder Kour and Ms. Amardeep Kour, -“Assessment of values in Higher Education”**
24. **Ms Rimmi Saini & Ms. Deepali, -“Quality in Higher Education in India”**
25. **Ms. Anju Bala, -“Quality and Quantity in Higher Education”**
26. **Ms. Jyoti Sharma, -“Quality in Higher Education – An imperative for excellence”.**
27. **Ms. Alpana Vohra. Higher Education in J&K: Perspectives, challenges and solution”**
28. **Dr. Kajal Devi Manhas, -“Contribution of students towards enhancing quality in Higher Education institutions”.**
29. **Dr. Mohinder Nath Sharma,-‘Relevance of ancient system of education in context of moral values”**
30. **Dr. J.N. Baliya and Dr. Aman, -“Towards a Rational Equilibrium between Excellence and expansion of Higher Education in J&k State: A contextual Perspectives’.**
31. **Dr. B.L Gupta& Ms Shoba Gupta,- Quality sustenance in higher education through technological interface and environment”**

Sub-Theme-3

Quantity Vs Quality in Higher Education

Swami Ramswarup Yogacharaya, Himachal Pradesh and **Dr. Veena Rani** GCET Jammu presented a paper entitled “Enriching **Higher Educational Framework in Jammu and Kashmir: A Vedic Point of view**” Dr. Veena Rani made a power point presentation of the paper. She highlighted the importance of Vedas as they are being taught in many foreign universities. She impressed the audience about the relevance of Vedas in modern system of education. She stressed upon the Vedic style of curriculum in higher education. She discussed literacy rate at state level, economic review of J&K Economy, peace education, Education during Vedic age, Vedas in educational curriculum, objectives of yoga and need of Bramacharya for students.

Suggestions & Recommendations:-

- Students should be made aware about various problems and means to solve them and reshape the destiny of India.
- Imported Ideologies should be avoided and the students should be made well versed with our rich ancient culture and spiritual heritage.
- Youth should be trained to protect our Vedic culture
- Vedic education should be introduced in the curriculum of classes right from Ist to PG.

The paper entitled ‘ **Challenges and Perspectives of Higher Education in J&K**’ was jointly presented by **Anil Kumar Bharti & Chinky Sangral**, research scholars, Department of Economics, Universities of Jammu. They discussed the status of Higher Education in J&K by depicting the picture of unemployed youth in J&K. The various challenges in the field of higher education in J&K were projected as lack of proper infrastructure, vacancies, outdated curriculum, growing unemployment, deteriorating standard, no uniform code of conduct, unsatisfactory evaluation, delay in result etc.

Suggestions & Recommendations:-

- The curriculum in higher educational Institutions should be updated keeping in view present needs.
- Privatization of Higher Education should be encouraged to reduce the burden on Govt.
- Higher Education should be linked to employment
- Faculty development programmes should be organized for the faculty members.

Dr. Mohd Zubair, Asstt. Prof. in Education, GCW Parade Jammu made his presentation on the topic ‘**Conceptual Framework of Quality in Higher Education in J&K State**’. He threw light on the true concept of ‘Quality and shared his views that the standard of higher education has been eroded due to wrong policies, bureaucratic hurdles, political interferences,

limited infrastructure, in adequate staff and unhealthy competitions. He highlighted that deteriorating Quality in higher Education fails to prepare the regional, national and global workforce for rigours and competitiveness.

Suggestions & Recommendations:-

- There is need to strengthen the public Education system and pedagogical aspects keeping in view demand and supply in Education and its qualitative impact on the masses.
- Political interferences should be avoided in higher education.
- Education should not be materialized, politicized and communalized.

Ms. Samriti Singh, Department of Political Science, Govt. Degree College, Kathua presented her paper entitled as “**Determining Quality Educational needs and challenges of Higher Education in J&K**’. The objectives of the paper were to understand quality education on different parameters, to diagnose the obstacles in Quality education and to suggest measures to overcome the obstacles. Simple observation method was used and the data was collected from staff and students of GDC Kathua. She discussed in detail about various current issues, challenges in teachers’ concerns and students’ concern.

Suggestions and Recommendations:-

- A disciplined culture of quality assurance and its control should be evolved in the institutions.
- College students should be encouraged to participate in Seminars, conferences and workshops.
- Students exchange programmes shall be initiated in colleges and Universities.
- The balance between excellence and expansion of higher education should be maintained.

The paper entitled “**A need to revamp Higher Education in Jammu & Kashmir: why and how?** Was presented by **Mohan Galgotra**, research scholar, PG Department of Education, University of Jammu. He highlighted the need to revamp higher education in J&K as the higher education is suffering from various short comings viz. poor quality, lack of ample employment avenues, poor grading, Low contribution to research, diverse geographical locations, shortage of teaching faculties, lack of funds, unaccredited higher educational Institutions, lack of challenge, lack of vocational courses and career oriented courses.

Suggestions and Recommendations:-

- It is desirable to promote research culture in UG levels.

- Autonomous standards should be given to colleges.
- Teachers should be evaluated by students regarding academic performance, command on subject, communication skills, ability to create learning environment in classroom.
- The three major issues of higher education viz. access, equity and quality need to be addressed in a holistic manner.
- The course required in emerging area should be introduced in colleges.

A joint paper was presented by **Mr. Sumanesh, Kehar Singh** and **Raj Kumari**, Department of Chemistry, Govt. Degree College, Kathua on the topic “**Quantity Vs Quality in Higher Education in J&K**” Mr. Sumanesh made the presentation of the paper in the technical session. He displayed educational structure in India from 1950-51 onward, growth of Higher Education, growth of students’ enrolment, growth of teaching staff, educational expenditure, district -wise number of colleges, number of universities, enrolment in colleges etc. He also emphasized on the quantity aspect of higher education as a good number of degree colleges have been established in the state, but the quality in these colleges is the matter of concern.

Suggestions and Recommendations:-

- The facilities like infrastructure, enough faculty members, hostel facility, should be made available in every new college.
- Maximum number of students in a theory class should be 40 and in practical class, it should be 20, only then individual attention can be given to college students.
- Teachers should be made more comfortable, cool and calm.
- Teachers should be posted at home stations, not harassed by higher authorities, not involved in clerical works and election duties.

Nek Ram, Research Scholar, P.G. Department of Education, University of Jammu presented his paper entitled ‘**Competent Teacher Educators: A need to improve Quality in Higher Education**’. He elaborated various professional competencies of teacher educators, present Scenario of Education of Teacher Educators, Models of pre-service education of Teacher Educators and conceptual framework of teacher education.

Suggestions and Recommendations:-

- A series of well desired activities in respect of education and training of teachers for their professional preparation.
- The teacher educators should be involved in activities like Seminar, conferences, techniques of material development, changing approach to evaluation, skills of resource mobilization etc.

- The teacher educators need to be trained in information technology.
- They should be associated with Policy formulations, implementation strategies and monitoring of programs.
- They should help students to arise at a synthesis of material and ethical values, to uphold the past culture and mould it for future.

Dr. Romika Sudan, Assistant Prof. in English, Govt. College for Women, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu presented her paper on the topic “**Obstacles in imparting higher Education**”. She highlighted the four fold functions of quality Education viz. preparation of an adult to a role of good citizen, development of personality, training for an occupation and conversion from unemployed status to employed. She also emphasized upon the teacher competencies and institutional efficiency for maintaining quality in higher education. She put forth various short comings in the higher education viz. Paucity of trained teachers, lack of job oriented curriculum, insufficient instructional time, low incentive for teachers, non-availability of bilingual methods of teaching, faculty evaluation tools, poverty, low parental support and family support and inadequate infrastructure.

Suggestions and Recommendations:-

- Well trained teachers should be appointed in higher education.
- Class size should be below 80 students as per UGC norms.
- Higher Education needs to be made Job Oriented.
- The working hours in the whole session should be about 1100-1200 hrs.
- Native tongue should be used as medium of Instruction for quality education.

The paper entitled “**Equity in Higher Education in J&K State**’ was presented by **Ms. Anjali Jasrotia**, research scholar Department of English, University of Jammu. She focused on achieving higher education access through expansion by consolidation and better utilization of existing infrastructure to meet the objective of regional equity.

She highlighted the importance of increasing and enhancing access, promoting equity at all levels, reducing regional/disciplinary /gender imbalances, financial support to girls, SC,ST, minorities and OBC students, remedial system, trained faculty, capacity buildings of faculty , skill based education etc. She stressed upon the elimination of gender inequalities, promotion of inclusion, access to differently abled students, equity in general, technical & professional education and relation between quality and excellence.

Suggestions and Recommendations:-

- It is necessary to assess and accredit each and every Institution of higher learning in the state.
- Significant parameters for quality dimension shall be framed and implemented in colleges.
- The number of colleges affiliated to a university should of a manageable size.
- The faculty members should be deputed for M.Phil, Ph.D., refresher courses and orientation courses to upgrade their professional skills.

Prof. Sucheta Pathania, Department of English, University of Jammu and **Ms. Manu Sharma**, Research scholar of the same department presented a paper entitled “ **Higher Education : Development and obstructions**’.

Manu Sharma made a power point presentation on the topic. She awared the audience about the history of higher Education in India and in J&K with the help of tabulated presentation. She highlighted various lacks in providing quality education in J&K. she stressed upon the role of UGC and other quality assurance agencies for maintaining the quality in higher education. Various obstructions in higher education in J&K were also put forth by her viz. lack of scientific and research temper, inadequate curriculum, commercialization of education, lack of innovative techniques, irresponsible attitude of teachers etc.

Suggestions and Recommendations:-

- Special efforts and programs shall be initiated in the higher education sector to develop human resources compatible with the requirements of contemporary society.
- The educated youth should not suffer from frustration and depression after seeking higher education. Higher Education needs to be made purposeful
- Joint efforts on the part of educationists, bureaucrats and politicians are required to devise policies for quality higher education.

Dr. Anuradha Goswami, Lecture in Education, DDE, University of Jammu presented her paper on ‘**Higher Education in J&K: Quantity Vs Quality**’. She made the participant aware about the importance of Higher Education for the growth and development of human resource as it creates professionals, thinkers, future teachers, researchers, economist and knowledge workers. She highlighted various issues and challenges in the field of higher education, quality, quality-quantity balance etc.

Suggestions and Recommendations:-

- Recognized professors and academicians should be retained even after their retirement to avail their vast experiences
- The higher education Department should formulate set of standard process, developing learning resources, sound evaluation schemes and congenial atmosphere in Institutes of higher learning.
- Audio visual aids must be used to strengthen the learning ability of students.

Ramjan Ali, Assistant Professor (Education) and **Piyali Arora**, Assistant Prof. (Psychology), Govt. College of Education, Jammu presented a paper entitled as “**Quantitative and Qualitative issues in higher education**’ jointly. Ramjan Ali presented the paper through power point. He discussed various issues relating to quality in higher education and challenges in quality implementation in higher educational institutions, NAAC, IQAC, faculty, students, management curriculum, discrimination barriers etc.

Suggestions and Recommendations:-

- The traditional methods of imparting knowledge and the existing models of education should be restructured.
- Proper resources and environment to the faculties should be provided for the enrichment.
- The colleges should be granted the autonomous status and academic freedom.
- Faculty & students exchange programs should be encouraged to improve quality
- The higher education needs to be value oriented.

Dr. Ram Singh, Asstt. Prof. (Education), Govt. Degree College Kathua presented his paper on the topic “**Quality issues in Higher Education**”. The objectives of the research oriented paper were the investigation of quality related issues, assessment of problems faced by the students and teachers and suggestions for improving quality of higher education in J&K. The Survey method and interview schedule were used for collecting data from 100 students and 50 teachers of various colleges of Jammu province. The data was collected on the basis of Questionnaire for the students and teachers, based on various aspects of higher education. He highlighted his findings in case of students and teachers separately. In case of students, the problems found were the inadequate infrastructural facilities unplanned time table, inadequate period duration, less number of working days, out dated methods of teaching, lack of proper co-curricular activities, lack of books concerning the syllabus, poor assessment and doubtful evaluation. In case of teachers, the problems projected were lack of innovative techniques in

classroom, use of only lecture method, no professional growth, heavy workload, least participation in seminar / conferences /workshops, no remedial class and no modern teaching.

Suggestions and Recommendations:-

- Transactional timing of about 5 mts should be designed for shifting to other classes.
- The duration of period should be raised to an hour at least and five day week functioning of all colleges was suggested
- All the teachers should be deputed for orientation courses, refresher courses, workshop and pedagogical courses during the vacations.
- The working days in the whole session shall be restricted to 180 days and the session shall be of 12 months.
- On the pattern of B.Ed & M.Ed, a special course for college teacher like Master of Higher education (MHE) and it should be made compulsory for all teachers.

Dr. Sujata Slathia, Associate Professor (Economics), Govt. Degree College, Kathua presented her paper entitled “ **Lead colleges with Autonomous status – A step forward towards Quality Education**” She introduced the concept of lead colleges as quality assurance mechanism with a mission to upgrade the system leading to academic excellence and setting bench marks. She emphasized on the objectives of lead colleges and proposed different schemes to achieve quality through collective efforts. She presented a crux of some of aspects relevant to lead colleges in J&K state like Govt. support, admission policy, criteria for selection of lead college etc.. She threw light on organizational structure and administration of lead colleges which include identification of ‘clusters’, annual time table, financial implications and accounting system. She highlighted various functions of lead college viz. sharing of information, infrastructure, human resources and collective academic activities. Moreover the roles of such colleges shall include ICQAC, effective governance, placement cell, extension programmes and collective research, were also highlighted. She also emphasized upon the role of university apex committee, working committee, status of lead college and autonomous college.

Suggestions and Recommendations:-

- It is necessary to push amendments in statutes of Jammu & Kashmir Universities to establish autonomous college in the state.
- The concept of lead college having its own cluster should be introduced in higher education in the state at least one in each province of the state as a base example.

- Lead college will provide initiative ground for working towards quality enhancement with mutual understanding and cooperation to upgrade quality of higher education.
- It may reduce the burden on the university to which colleges are affiliated

Another paper entitled “**Quantity Verses Quality in Higher Education in J&K**” was jointly prepared by **Mr. Sandeep Chaudhary**, Assistant Prof. (English) and **Dr. Vakeel Singh**, Lecturer (Urdu), Govt. Degree College, Kathua and was presented by Mr. Sandeep Choudhary. He displayed the district wise spread of Govt. Colleges in three regions of the state along with infrastructural structure. He also highlighted the initiatives of higher education department for enhancing quality of education.

Suggestions and Recommendations:-

- The private sector institutions need to be regulated.
- Innovative teaching approaches should be used in higher learning
- Text books should be designed keeping into consideration the quality of material

Mrs. Ritu Bhagat, Assistant Prof. (Education) and **Ms. Ambika Rajput** Assistant Prof. (English), Govt. Degree College, Kathua submitted a jointly prepared research based paper entitled as “**Raising standards of Higher Education in J&K**” and was presented through PPT by Mrs. Ritu Bhagat. She introduced historical perspectives of higher education in J&K. The objectives of the paper were to analyze the growth of higher education in J&K, to view quantity of degree colleges and their impact on quality and to suggest for improvement. The paper was based on both primary and secondary sources. She depicted the growth of higher education in J&K in modern times. She made a tabulated presentation of degree colleges and universities since 1905 and colleges established in 2003 & 2005 respectively.

Suggestions and Recommendations:-

- Planned expansion of colleges is suggested.
- The higher education Institutions should be opened in planned manner.
- Research facilities should be given to teachers serving in various colleges and universities.
- The teachers shall be deputed to attend Seminars, conferences, workshops, refresher and orientation courses for their professional growth
- Teacher-pupil ratio should be made justified.
- The accountability of teachers and grading of Institutions by NAAC shall be made compulsory for every college and university.

A jointly prepared paper by **Devinder K. Sharma, Naresh Sharma, Sunil Dutt, Suram Singh & Rakesh Sharma**, Govt. Degree College, Kathua entitled as “**Quantity Vs Quality in Higher Education**”, was presented by Mr. Devinder K. Sharma. He emphasized on proper match between Quantity and Quality in higher education. He highlighted various goals of higher education and various quality initiatives viz. NAAC Accreditation, consolidation of colleges, leadership, qualified staff members, skill enhancement, short term need based courses, optimum use of Infrastructure and mobilization of resources.

Suggestions and Recommendations:-

- NAAC Accreditation and Re-accreditation should be made mandatory for every college.
- Optimum use of infrastructure and mobilization of resources should be incorporated.
- Computerization of departments with internet facility, advanced skill enhancement and short term need based courses with in the campus should be encouraged.
- The adequate infrastructure and qualified staff should be made available in every college.

The paper entitled as “**Quality in Higher Education in India**” was jointly prepared by **Pankaj Nandan, Pawan Kumar & Parveen Sharma** of Government Degree College, Kathua and was presented by Mr. Parveen Sharma. He threw light on various objectives of Higher Education, causes of low quality of higher education in India, NAAC, growth of Higher Education system, enrolment of students, growth of infrastructure, UGC schemes, and autonomous colleges. He also highlighted international comparison of professionals, issues concerning quality and quality institutions.

Suggestions and Recommendations:-

- The UGC guidelines should be followed to maintain the quality and standard of higher education
- NAAC accreditation should be made compulsory for every institution.
- Quality assessment cells must be established in the institutions of higher learning.

Ms. Keerti Rajput of Govt. Degree College, Kathua presented her paper on the topic “**Increasing number of institutions; decreasing quality of education**”. The objectives of the paper were to understand quality education, basic aspects of infrastructure, impact of mushroom growth in colleges. She discussed the concept of quality education & basic features of quality education. She displayed region wise population infrastructure & impact of

mushroom growth in colleges. She displayed region wise population breakup and number of Govt. Degree colleges and private institutions in the State and infrastructural aspects of these colleges.

Suggestions and Recommendations:-

- Stress must be paid to provide facilities to existing institutes instead of opening new institutes.
- Adequate infrastructure, training and learning material should be made available
- There should be proper checks on private institutions.

Mrs. Shalika Gupta, Assistant Prof. (Education), GCW Parade, Jammu presented her paper entitled as “**Quality concerns in Higher Education**”. She discussed various challenges in Higher Education viz. privatization, ICT, quality, financial concerns, globalization etc. She highlighted various prospectus of higher education namely self learning, life long learning, spirit to work together, skill to synthesis, skill to apply and link knowledge, professionalism, quality of human resources, global talent, strengthening infrastructure, selective expansion, mutual understanding and collaboration. She also threw light on education system in J&K and informed the audience about various reforms in higher education in J&K.

Suggestions and Recommendations:-

- The higher education department should accept its new responsibilities to provide strength and measures to deal with current challenges.
- New arrangements should be made based on mutual understanding, collaborations and cooperation among different nations.
- Policies and plans of higher education should be relooked to support the emerging global culture and modalities.

The research scholars namely **Sukriti Sharma & Neha Sambyal** presented their paper jointly entitled as “**Quality assurance in higher education**”. They discussed autonomy of disciplines, quality education, Impediments in development in higher education, declining standards etc. They depicted the roadmap for seeking excellence in higher education, parameters for quality assessment and financial independence in higher education.

Suggestions and Recommendations:-

- Strong bond should be established between universities industries for mutual understanding in research and human resource development.
- It is necessary to formulate a clear policy to ensure quality education at global level.

- The quality of higher education depends on quality of primary and secondary education. So quality at lower level shall be maintained.

Rubina Yasmeen, Assistant Prof. (Education), Govt. college of Education, Jammu presented her paper entitled “Value **Education**”. She introduced three types of human beings with respect to values viz. people who consider their property as their sole property and those people who consider everything that belong to others as their property. She also emphasized on various values that should be inculcated in the students through education. She highlighted the challenges of value education and the methodology for promoting values. The methods of inculcating values include story telling, discussion on pictures, life situations, newspapers and religious books, debate, seminar, self study, debates games, celebration of festivals etc. She stressed that a teacher has to play significant role in inculcating values in students.

Suggestions and Recommendations:-

- Teacher should inculcate moral courage and values among the students and stand up for the defense and practice of these values.
- Teachers have to set moral examples before the students only then they can transmit moral values to students
- Value based education can bring Justice and peace in the world.

Dr. Tejinder Kour and **Ms. Amardeep Kour**, Govt. Degree College Kathua submitted a paper on the topic “**Assessment of values in Higher Education**” and Dr. Tejinder Kour presented the paper in the technical session. She stressed upon the concept of absoluteness in quality that props up the morale of higher education system at the delivery end. She emphasized on the alternative dynamics for teacher preparation and sustaining quality in teacher input, curriculum designs development, curricular practices, emerging principles of pedagogy, evaluation of learner’s performance, quality management etc. She threw light on the intervention of ICT, interdisciplinary interactions; inter institutional networking, data based management in higher education, decentralization of powers & problem solving abilities.

Suggestions and Recommendations:-

- The semester system should be preferred to the annual system in teaching and evaluation.
- Examination should be designed in such a way that at least a portion of it, evaluates students’ insight.

- Innovative practices related to examination reforms should be empirically tested and institutionalized.

Ms Rimmi Saini & Ms. Deepali, Research scholars, PG Department of Education University of Jammu presented a paper jointly entitled as “**Quality in Higher Education in India**” They threw light on the concept of quality as perfections, value for money, transformation etc. They also focused on the role of NAAC in maintaining quality of Higher Education. The growth of Higher Education in India was also highlighted after the independence and consequently the enrolment of students also increased manifold. They also emphasized upon the growth of Infrastructure, international comparison of professionals, other issues of concern, UGC schemes, autonomous colleges and of quality regulation.

Suggestions and Recommendations:-

- The central Board of under graduate education should be established along with state Boards of undergraduate education.
- The colleges with a proven record of academic excellence and efficient administrative functioning can be granted autonomy in terms of academic self-governance.
- A gradual rationalization of fees over a period of time which will not result in an exorbitant increase, but rather will ensure that those who can afford to pay, do so while education should be subsidized for those who cannot pay
- There should be multiple accreditation agencies so that instead of vesting one institution created by the state with monopoly power, the IRAHE may be empowered to license a number of accreditation agencies.

Ms. Anju Bala, Assistant Prof. (English). GCW Parade Jammu presented her paper on the theme “**Quality and Quantity in Higher Education**”. The objectives of the paper were to discuss the role of teacher in bringing about the balance between quality and expansion and to study the issues relating to teacher and society. She discussed the terms quality and quantity and the relation between the two. She emphasized the recommendations of various commissions and committees on the quality of higher education.

Suggestions and Recommendations:-

- The provisions like students support services including academic, psychological, career guidance and counseling should be made in all higher educational institutions.
- The opportunities viz. open and distance methodologies, appropriate technology, tutorial support, social networking and students’ interaction should be made available in all higher educational institutions.

- The higher educational institutions should be vested with autonomy to decide their academic matters in their frame work.
- The appointment of V.Cs and Principles should be purely made on the basis of merit and no other considerations.

Ms. Jyoti Sharma, University of Jammu, Kathua Campus presented her paper on the topic “**Quality in Higher Education – An imperative for excellence**”. She introduced the concept of quality in real sense and the benchmarks required to maintain the quality viz. accountability to society, accountability to clientele and accountability to subjects. She discussed the growth of higher education in the country and the state since Independence. She highlighted the obstacles in the way of quality education viz. low literacy rate, high dropout rate, unemployment, declining quality, poor governance, low status of higher learning, under funding , lack of market demands and mushroom growth.

Suggestions and Recommendations:-

- Sincere and sustainable efforts should be taken to improve the present status of higher education.
- Continuous monitoring needs to be introduced and the focus should shift on objective of assessment of skill, knowledge, acquisition etc.
- Our approach should be based on quality control, right values and marketability.

The paper entitled “**Higher Education in J&K : Perspectives, challenges and solution**” was presented by **Ms. Alpana Vohra**, Assistant Professor (Zoology), Govt. College of Women, Kathua. She presented a detailed picture of higher education trends in the country since the ancient time and the same was followed in J&K State. She claimed that education is a powerful instrument that fulfills the needs and aspirations by generating new avenues for employment, bringing a transformation in cultural, economic and social spheres in order to realize national goals and their conservations as well. She highlighted various challenges in the field of higher education viz. Inadequate infrastructure, inaccessibility, social & cultural issues, influence of vernacular language, high priced, Redundancy in syllabi, rote learners, drop outs, materialism in Education, absenteeism, vacant posts and unfriendly transfer policy.

Suggestions and Recommendations:-

- More funds should be invested in providing the educational institutions with all basic amenities like well lighted, ventilated furnished classrooms, adequately equipped laboratories, enriched library, toilet, medical & transport facilities, hostel, canteen, safe drinking water, e-library etc.

- Remedial classes should be arranged to reach out to the economically backward who can't afford to private coaching
- Curricula at UG and PG level needs to be reframed to keep pace with fast changing scenario and should be revised regularly
- Teachers should be regularly updated of the advancements around them especially in their respective fields.
- Sound work culture, work ethics and moral values should be inculcated among the teachers and students.

Dr. Kajal Devi Manhas, Assistant Professor, Department of Education University of Jammu presented her paper entitled as “**Contribution of students towards enhancing quality in Higher Education institutions**”. With the help of PPT, she elaborated the need of excellence and quality with increasing number of colleges and universities. Apart from other stakeholders, the students can also contribute towards quality assurance and enhancement mechanisms therein. She highlighted upon various roles of students towards enhancing quality in Higher Education. These roles include academic community participation, students’ union participation, student associations at department level, information provider, participation in external panels at institutional level etc. She also emphasized on the role of students as actor, partner, innovative and problem solving behavior. She pinpointed various challenges regarding student involvement in quality enhancing processes.

Suggestions and Recommendations:-

- Students should be considered as key stakeholders and be provided recognition of the value of student feed back in the quality enhancing process.
- It is necessary to identify different challenges of the students community and efforts should be made to initiate programmes and policies accordingly.
- Students must be involved in the decision making processes of the higher educational institutions.
- Students’ feedback must be obtained while framing various policies for higher education.

The paper entitled “**Relevance of ancient system of education in context of moral values**” was presented by **Dr. Mohinder Nath Sharma**, Assistant Prof.(Sanskrit), Government Degree College, Kathua. He introduced his presentation with the sayings of Chanakya, threw light an ancient pattern of education and compares it with present system of education. He highlighted a number of moral values which are lacking in students of present era. He

informed the audience that character formation was considered as foundation of good personality and students were trained under controlled conditions and rigid rules in the ancient time. The present system of education is producing the students who lack good moral character. He focused on the issue that the modern students lack knowledge of ancient literature, skills, patience, tolerance, respecting elders and no national consciousness which is not a healthy sign for the development of the country.

Suggestions and Recommendations:-

- It is necessary to create learning environment in colleges. Maximum thrust must be paid to the development of intellectual powers of students.
- It is the responsibility of every higher educational institution to design the curriculum and co-curricular activities for the sound character formation of students.
- The ancient culture and literature should be introduced in the curriculum of all the UG and PG classes.
- It is the need of the hour that moral values need to be inculcated among students viz. truth, Love, purity and non-violence.
- Job-oriented courses should be introduced in all the higher educational institutions.

Dr. J.N. Baliya and **Dr. Aman**, Department of Education central University of Jammu presented a paper entitled “**Towards a Rational Equilibrium between Excellence and expansion of Higher Education in J&k State: A contextual Perspectives**’. They discussed the higher education system which offers facility of education and training in almost all aspects of human’s creative and intellectual endeavors such as arts and humanities, natural, mathematical and social sciences, engineering, medicine, dentistry, agriculture education, law, commerce and management, music culture, communications etc. They depicted the number of universities in India increased from 20 in 1947 to 611 in August 2011. There were 500 degree colleges at the time of independence and were increased to 31324 in August 2011. The enrolment of the students in 1947 in higher education was 0.1 million and it increased to 14.624 million up to August, 2011. They also discussed perspectives of higher education in J&k and analyzed Government’s initiatives for improving Higher Education in J&k State. They emphasized on the challenges with respect to quality and provision of relevant education.

Suggestions and Recommendations:-

- Capacity building and capability enhancement programmes should be organized for the faculty members keeping in tune with modern day requirements.

- Leadership Development and institutional Management programmes at all levels from top to bottom should be initiated to inculcate leadership qualities and effective managerial skills among faculty members and students.
- Private Sector participation in higher Education should be explored, supported and incentivized by well defined policies, norms and monitoring mechanisms.
- National vocational education qualification framework (NVEQF) should be initiated to provide better vocational opportunities.

A joint paper entitled “**Quality sustenance in higher education through technological interface and environment**” was presented by **Dr. B.L Gupta**, principal, Govt. Degree College Billawar, **Ms Shoba Gupta**, Associate Professor, Govt. MAM College Jammu and **R.S Jamwal**, associate professor GGM Sc. College Jammu. On the behalf of other authors, Dr. B.L Gupta presented the paper through PPT. He introduced the concept and use of technology in higher education. He discussed the advantages of technology for the quality sustenance in higher education. He highlighted the stages of technology integration in higher education viz. admission, teaching, examination & evaluation, infrastructure and good governance. He emphasized that the technology interventions could make the application process convenient & online college admission system (OCAS) makes the admission process efficient and reliable. He also threw light on various educators’ technological tools viz. interactive white board, clickers, GPS receivers, MP3 players, document cameras and other infrastructural aids. He stressed upon the use of technology for good governance in higher education.

Suggestions and recommendations:

- Technology integration in academic curriculum of institutes should be initiated to bring academic excellence and it also provides a platform to exchange the knowledge at the global level.
- Technology provides international level exposure to the students by means of access to international journals and symposia, accountability on the parts of teachers and institutions as whole.
- Technological inspection in institutions of higher learning was recommendation as mantra of quality.

PLENARY SESSION

In the plenary session, the guest lecture was organized in the auditorium on the theme 'Higher Education in J&K'. **Dr. Rajnesh Kumar Sharma from Kurukshetra University** delivered a lecture on the theme. He highlighted the importance of higher education in the state. He touched various aspects of quality higher education in the state and the means to realize it. He stressed upon the existing and future perspectives in the field of higher education in the country with special reference to Jammu and Kashmir. **Prof. Amarjeet Singh from Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar** was the Chairperson of this session. He also presented the concluding remarks of the session.

VAEDICTORY SESSION

WELCOME ADDRESS

The welcome address was presented by **Prof.(Dr.) Nater Singh, Principal, Govt. Degree college Kathua**. He welcomed the guest of honour and Chief guest of the function, eminent professors from renowned institutions across the country, faculty members, Delegates, research scholars and students to the function. He highlighted various aspects of the seminar and threw light on the challenges and perspectives in the field of higher education which are discussed in the technical sessions of the seminar. He informed the audience that overwhelming response of academicians, educationists, research scholars and students has been received regarding the seminar. He hoped that various recommendations and suggestions of paper presenters in the seminar will help to sort out various issues and problems of higher education in the state.

REPORT OF THE SEMINAR

Dr. Sujata Slathia, Convener of the seminar, read the report pertaining to the proceedings of two days seminar. She Presented the report of six technical sessions by highlighting the presentations made by educationists, faculty members and research scholars from across the country through power point. She projected that 60 papers were presented in the six technical sessions. She also brought into the notice of the audience that 85 abstracts received from educationists, faculty members and research scholars from across the country, out of which 77

abstracts were selected by the screening committee for publication in the book of abstracts. She also apprised the audience that healthy discussion took place in the technical sessions on the sub-themes of the seminar and various suggestions and recommendations were put forth by the paper presenters and participants. The report of various full papers presented will be consolidated and submitted to ICSSR, Panjab University, Chandigarh and the department of higher education, J&K Govt.

VALEDICTORY REMARKS

The valedictory remarks were presented by **Prof. Rekha Choudhary, Dean Research, University of Jammu** in which she highlighted the need of maintaining quality over quantity in higher educational institutions. She elaborated various aspects of quality related issues in higher education. It is necessary to maintain the balance in quality and quantity. She brought into the notice of the audience that J&K has witnessed a tremendous increase in the number of higher educational institutions and there is dire need of maintaining quality and the required standard keeping in view the modern challenges.

CHIEF GUEST ADDRESS

The chief guest, **Sh. Charanjeet Singh, Hon'ble MLA, Kathua**, in his address, applauded the efforts of the principal and staff of the college for organizing the national seminar on the relevant theme and making it such a grand success. He encouraged the college faculty to organize such events at regular intervals as these events raise the standard of the institution.

VOTE OF THANKS

Dr. Ram Singh Sambyal, Co-Convener of the seminar presented the vote of thanks.