# THE DISTANCE EDUCATION PROGRAMME OF DEI



*For Presentation before the UGC Review / Expert Committee On \_\_\_\_October, 2017 By Prof. V.B. Gupta Coordinator, DEI-DEP* 

### 1. Introduction

The academic year 2017-18 marks the fourteenth year of the Distance Education Programme of DEI

In terms of student numbers, the programme is modest (total number 3000) but in terms of its objectives, philosophy, content and administration, it is unique

#### Objectives :

- To extend the benefits of DEI's innovative, Value-based education to remote and backward areas for empowerment of economically weak persons, especially women
- To cater to students who cannot afford the cost of education away from their hones

#### Philosophy:

- Develop physical, mental and spiritual faculties in man by providing the right environment and the right mix of inputs
- To inculcate those values in a human being which make him a complete person

#### Content:

- Academic content is of high quality with emphasis on concepts
- Those components of education which lead to physical, mental and spiritual development form a part of the curriculum

#### Administration:

• The administration has a human face and is sensitive to the needs of the students.

## 2. Hallmarks of the Programme

The two hallmarks of the distance education programme of DEI are :

- Right from its inception, the distance education programme has strictly followed government norms and policies. To begin with, the courses offered by us were recognised by the Distance Education Council, then by the Joint UGC/AICTE/DEC Committee and now by UGC
- In the words of Revered Prof. P. S. Satsangi, the Architect of the programme, who was the Director of DEI for nine years and is currently the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Education: We have a unique cooperative integrated system of distance and on-campus education which should be correlated.

# Programmes on Offer: 2017-18 (Approved by UGC)

#### UG level (duration 3 years)

- 1. Bachelor of Commerce (Hons.)
- 2. Bachelor of Business Administration (Hons.)

#### PG Diploma level (duration 1 year)

- 3. Post Graduate Diploma in Theology
- 4. Post Graduate Diploma in Journalism & Mass Communication
- 5. Post Graduate Diploma in Computer Science & Application

#### PG level

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- 6. Master of Commerce (2 years)
- 7. Master of Business Administration (3 years)

#### Certificate Level

- 8. Motor Vehicle Mechanic (4 Wheeler)
- 9. Dress Designing & Tailoring
- 10. Textile Technology
- 11. Modern Office Management & Secretarial Practice
- 12. Textile Designing & Printing
- 13. Wireman
- 14. Electrician
- All these fourteen programmes were being offered in the university before they started being offered in distance mode
- Each programme is coordinated by a permanent DEI faculty member.

# 4. Course Material Development

#### **Study Material Comprises :**

- i. Printed lessons, and
- ii. e-lessons captured on DVD's

Both these are developed / prepared by DEI Course Coordinators for the programme by forming teams.

**Printed Material:** Qualified staff of DEI along with experts from other institutions, industry and also abroad prepare the material which is edited and reviewed.

In case of certificate programmes, the books are then printed by the Dayalbagh Press which has its own printing press. In some cases, the books are available in English, Hindi, Telugu and Tamil languages.

In case of University level programmes, the material is supplied in the digital format

The material is reviewed every five years and updated.

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### 5. Admission Process of Distance Education Programme

The Admission Process of Distance Programme is same as the Admission Process for Main Campus. The admissions are conducted by a common Admission Committee of the University for both Main Campus and Distance Education Programme. The Process followed is briefly explained below:

- 1. The applicant applies online for appearing in the entrance test & interview, just the way an applicant applies for admission to the main campus. However there is an option in the form for applicant to choose between applying for main campus or for Distance Education Programme.
- 2. The last date of filling the forms is common for the main campus and Distance Education Programme.
- 3. The applicant appears for the same entrance test and is interviewed by the panel approved by the Institute.
- 4. The norms and process of selection and merit are same as main campus students.

### 6. Enrolment Data and Student Profile

In the academic year 2016-17, a total of 2367 students took fresh admission in the programmes listed earlier. The number of senior students (2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year) was 594. Thus the total enrolment in DEI-DEP was 2961.

The data on student profile for the academic year 2016-17 is shown below in terms of gender (male – female), Category (General and Reserve), and area (Urban – Rural) with the help of Pie diagrams.



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#### Area-wise Student Enrolment (2961) Session 2016-17

The diagrams presented above clearly demonstrate that the objectives of the distance education programme of DEI are being met to a substantial degree in that the benefits of DEI's quality education and training via the distance mode are reaching the economically weak persons in remote areas, especially women who did not have access, hitherto to quality education at affordable low cost or even free of cost.

### 7. Continuous Evaluation Process and Data on Students Passing Out

- The continuous evaluation of distance students is also centralised like the admission process and is handled by the Examination Deptt of the University.
- The question papers for distance students are the same as for oncampus students.
- The 2016-17 data on enrolment and passing out are summarised below for university level programmes:

Course	Enrolled	Passed
B. Com (Hons.)	99	97
B.B.M. (Hons.)	40	40
MBA	87	86
PGDT	62	53

# 8. Personal Contact Programme (PCP)

Personal contact programmes are held in the Main Campus of DEI under which DEI faculty holds structured interactions with the distance students. Intense lab work is also conducted during the PCP. The students also work in the workshops and gain valuable practical experience. The duration of such programmes vanes from 1 week to 4 weeks.

# 9. Some Noteworthy Distinctions

Recognition as a Triple Entity by AICTE

DEI was the first Institute of Higher Education to be recognised as a Triple entity.

In his DEI convocation address on Jan 12, 2013, Mr. Ashok Thakur, Secretary, MHRD told the audience :

"I am happy to note that Dayalbagh Educational Institute is functioning as a triple entity i.e. as a Secondary Board, a Technical Education Board and a University. This has enabled the creation of an integrated system from kindergarten to Higher Education with provision of work experince courses and vocational education at School Level, Certificate Level and Diploma.

In a recent exercise conducted in 2016 by our Human Resource Development Ministry on ranking universities under the parameter Outreach & Inclusivity (OI), DEI was ranked at no 5 out of 233 Indian Universities and Institutions of Higher Learning – ahead of a number of Central Universities and leading distance education universities

The exercise was also conducted in 2017 and our Distance Education Programme was ranked at no 8.

### 10. Career Guidance, Counselling & Placements

Students of Distance Education Programme are provided Career Guidance & Counseling from time to time by the Training & Placement Team, which is ably supported by Industry Experts and Alumni of the University. For this, recorded lecturers and print material are provided to the students which also helps in their personality development and sets their expectations correctly for placement opportunities after completing the studies.

Placement Assistance is provided to those students who wish to take up job after successfully completing their course. There is a Central Coordinator (Placements) at the Head Office who with the help of Alumni and other Industry Experts provides placement opportunities to the students.

The following three methods are adopted for placement of Distance Education Programme students:

**Job Fairs:** Job Fairs are conducted at some locations. Student from nearby areas are invited to attend Personal Interviews at the Job Fairs where 20 to 40 companies visit and conduct Personal Interviews, just as they do at the campus and hire a large number of students.

**Off-Campus Camps:** At some of these hub locations, Off-Campus Camps are organized, where students after proper briefing are given the opportunity to appear in Personal interviews at companies.

**MOUs with Companies :** After studying the market potential and understanding the needs of the industry, DEI has formulated the course content in consultation with the industry and signed MOUs with industry for training & placement of the students.



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