



## VICE-CHANCELLOR'S MESSAGE



Greetings to all!

On the completion of 100 glorious years of University of Delhi, it's a matter of pride to be also celebrating the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Department of Distance & Continuing Education, School of Open Learning under the aegis of Campus of Open Learning, University of Delhi. It is my privilege to welcome you to the new academic session 2022-23. The Department/School has been extremely successful in catering to the educational needs of students across the nation by providing them with affordable and accessible education. It has played a pivotal role in aiding the lives of students coming from a plethora of backgrounds.

This year marks a renaissance in Distance Education and Open Learning, wherein six new job-oriented professional programmes have been introduced. The new programmes are launched with an aim of meeting different challenges in the globalised world through holistic development, so as to make them able professionals, service providers, policy-makers, managers, librarians and entrepreneurs. The contemporary world demands individuals to be global citizens, and I am sure that these programmes will harness the potential of the human resources of the nation and generate nation-builders of the future.

I extend a warm welcome to the upcoming batch to this institute of great excellence and wish them success in their academic and professional lives. All the very best to the Department/School for a new beginning. I am completely assured of the enthused participation of all stakeholders at the Department of Distance & Continuing Education, School of Open Learning under the aegis of Campus of Open Learning, University of Delhi.

**(Prof. Yogesh Singh)**



## DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



Dear Students!

I heartily welcome you to the Department of Distance & Continuing Education, School of Open Learning under the aegis of the Campus of Open Learning (COL), University of Delhi. The institute was started in 1962 and, in the last 60 years of its acclaimed history, it has established itself as a premier institution of higher education and learning in Distance mode. The Department/School has an innovative and hard-working culture, with a strong drive and determination to achieve institutional goals. For years, thousands of individuals from economically and socially disadvantaged backgrounds have benefited from the Department's assistance in gaining entrance to higher education, and continue to do so. It has become a key enabler in the "Education for all" approach.

The Department/School has been offering certain conventional programmes in Commerce and Humanities for a long time. In the academic year 2022-23, we have launched six new programmes in the fields of Management, and Library and Information Science. These are need-based academic programmes that are professionally and vocationally oriented. All the new programmes are offered in compliance with the guidelines of NEP 2020 and the Department ensures that the curriculum is innovative and updated, in line with the standards set by the leading universities in India. These programmes are not restricted to any particular place and are sufficiently flexible to allow students to learn and receive a recognised and high-quality degree to boost their job possibilities. All the courses are offered with a student-friendly fee structure. We focus on providing hands-on experience to students to enhance their employability opportunities. Students are supported with self-paced learning, with our up-to-date study material, and Academic Counseling Session (PCP) classes. To meet the surge in the demand for distance education amid the recent pandemic and digitisation, we also facilitate online video lectures along with other study materials in printed and digital form. The optimum utilisation of the latest ICT and multimedia will fulfill the educational needs of students, nationwide. The addition of new courses to the already existing conventional courses will set a new standard in the field of education by catering professional programmes to people from all walks of life and ages.

The Department is set to democratise higher education by igniting young minds and developing them into committed professionals and entrepreneurs, by bringing learning to the learners' doorsteps. The expanding higher education system places a greater emphasis on skill development in order to make our students more employable by providing them with the essential analytical and soft skills. Through the pursuit of academic, professional, and all-around excellence, we aspire to inspire, nurture, and coach our students to think progressively, build value-based perspectives and ethical moorings, with impetus to creativity, and problem-solving approach through innovation. The aim is to condition students in a way that leads to the integral development of individual personality, and makes them a socially and economically self-reliant and responsive change-makers of 21<sup>st</sup> century India.

Students, this will be a stepping stone to your successful personal, academic and professional growth. I welcome you to a life-enriching academic journey with a 'future-ready' growth trajectory to realise your genuine potential by surpassing the boundaries of traditional paradigms. We wish you many great honours and prosperous milestones in your future. Best wishes for your health, happiness, and a prosperous future with us.

**(Prof. Payal Mago)**



## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear Aspiring Students,

I take this opportunity of welcoming you all to the School of Open Learning (SOL) (erstwhile School of Corresponding Courses and Continuing Education) University of Delhi, a pioneering institution that has carved out a distinct niche for itself in the field of Open and Distance Education in India. Since its inception, it has remained indefatigably committed to achieving excellence in the realms of distance learning.

The School of Open Learning is a renowned higher-learning Institution known for its distinctive strengths in providing superior and relevant learning programmes to its learners, keeping in view the demand for the education of the learners in tune with the requirements of the twenty-first century. The School of Open Learning has been at the forefront in providing wings to the aspirations of the economically and socially disadvantaged sections of society who are unable to access higher education for a variety of reasons. Since its establishment, the SOL has grown from strength to strength and successfully fulfilled its mandate of providing high-quality educational opportunities along with a focus on character building, to a large number of students. The SOL has been dedicated to meet the aspirations of society; acting as a torch-bearer by inculcating basic moral values, community development and providing fair access to all in the light of changing economic, social and cultural development.

As we all know that the previous academic year has almost entirely been restricted to the online mode. We all have faced unprecedented challenges and battled our way through them with great courage and resilience. The same holds true for the world of academia and we, at the School of Open Learning, have made the best efforts to make online teaching and learning effective and accessible to all our students. We successfully conducted various academic and cultural events in the online mode along with the online examinations (OBE), overcoming all hurdles that came along the way. We have turned many challenges into opportunities through the constant support of our faculty, staff, and, most importantly, our dear students. The School of Open Learning has also taken many student's friendly initiatives in the last decade, such as providing students with good quality and updated study material, online forms, online fee gateway, SMS & E-mail services, incentivizing girl students, PwBD and Economically Weaker Section students by offering tuition fee concession and many more.

I hope that all the student aspirants seeking to pursue their academic goals through open and distance learning and online education mode will pursue higher education with the right earnestness. I am sure that your association with the School of Open Learning will prove to be an experience which you shall cherish forever.

Best Wishes!

**(Prof. Uma Shankar Pandey)**