

POLICY DIALOGUE

on

Developing Inclusive Blended Learning Practices for the Universities and Colleges of
Jammu & Kashmir

“Based on the project: Integrating Teaching and Learning with Digital Education” (ITLDE)

Organized by

P.G. Department of Education, University of Jammu

&

Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Jammu

Contemporary trends in higher education clearly show that digital technologies have become an integral part of the system. However, there is a need to integrate or *Blend* digital technologies with higher education for effective learning and development of the educated and skilled youth, contributing for the development of *Atmanirbhar Bharat*.

Despite the impressive growth of higher education in the UT of Jammu & Kashmir, the critical issue of ensuring quality and inclusivity in blended learning practices emerges as a significant concern. The inertia of higher education institutions of J&K to adapt to changing paradigms manifests in the limited success of blended learning initiatives and the progress of the UT on this front.

Against this backdrop, this **Policy Dialogue** between eminent Policy Makers, Educationists, Representatives from Civil Societies, Faculty Members, and Researchers will highlight the multifaceted barriers obstructing the effective implementation of *blended learning in the higher education institutions of J&K*.

The Policy Dialogue, which is based on the Policy Brief, will offer implementable solutions based on empirical evidence and propose a series of *evidence-based recommendations* aimed at fostering the development of inclusive blended learning practices in the Colleges and Universities of J&K. The recommendations will pave the way for an excellent, equitable, accessible, and resilient higher education landscape in the UT and work as a building block for the nation to become a *Vishwaguru*.

The Policy Brief is based on ITLDE, a large-scale, empirical, multi-institutional, longitudinal study funded by IIT Jammu. The study collected data from more than 4700 students and 370 teachers from 25 higher education institutions across six districts of Jammu & Kashmir over three years. PI: Dr. Sayantan Mandal, Faculty, IIT Jammu

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Date: 24th May, 2024

Time: 11:00 a.m.

Venue: Committee Room, The Vice Chancellor’s Secretariat

Programme Schedule	
Timings	Nature of Activity
10:45-11:00 A.M.	Arrival of the Guests
11:00-11:05 A.M.	• Welcome Address by Dr. Ana Bali , Lecturer, Department of Education, University of Jammu
11:05-11:20 A.M.	• Sharing of Policy Document/Brief by Dr. Sayantan Mandal , Assistant Professor & Principal Investigator, ITLDE Project, Department of Humanities & Social Sciences, IIT Jammu
11:20-11:30 A.M.	• Discussion by the guests and participants
11:30-11:45 A.M.	• Presidential Address by Prof. Umesh Rai , The Hon’ble Vice Chancellor, University of Jammu
11:45-11:55 A.M.	Address by the Chief Guest Sh. Alok Kumar, IRS , Principal Secretary, Higher Education Department, UT of J&K
11:55 A.M.-12:00 P.M.	Vote of Thanks by Prof Renu Nanda , Head, Department of Education, University of Jammu