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स्वामी राम हिमालयन विश्वविद्यालय
(यूजीसी अधिनियम, 1956 की धारा 2 (एफ) के अंतर्गत उत्तराखण्ड राज्य अधिनियम द्वारा स्थापित)
Swami Rama Himalayan University
(Estd. under section 2(f) of UGC Act, 1956 vide Uttarakhand State Act)

**Minutes of the 1st Meeting of the
Centre for Internal Quality Assurance (CIQA) of CDOE-SRHU
Wednesday, 26th August 2026 | 3:00 p.m. | University Board Room**

The 1st Meeting of the Centre for Internal Quality Assurance (CIQA), CDOE-SRHU was held on Wednesday, 26th August 2026 at 3:00 p.m. in the University Board Room. The following members of the Committee were present:

1. Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor	Chairperson
2. Dr. Vijendra D. Chauhan, Director-General (Academics)	Member
3. Dr. Ashok Kumar Deorari	Member
4. Dr. Rajat Praveen Dimri	Member
5. Dean, School of Biosciences	Member
6. Dean, School of Engineering & Technology	Member
7. Principal, School of Management Studies	Member
8. Prof. Subhash Dhuliya, Former Vice-Chancellor, Uttarakhand Open University	External Expert
9. Prof. Shachi Shah, Former Director, COE, IGNOU	External Expert
10. Registrar	Member
11. Finance Officer	Member
12. Controller of Examinations	Member
13. Dr. Mukesh Bijalwan, Director, CDOE	Member
14. Dr. Som Aditya Juyal, Director, CIQA	Member
	Secretary

The meeting started with a prayer.

The Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor welcomed the members and introduced the External Experts, Prof. Subhash Dhuliya and Prof. Shachi Shah, to the Committee. Thereafter, the internal members of the CIQA Committee were introduced.

In his opening remarks, the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor briefed the Committee on the recent commencement of UGC-entitled Online Programmes by the University. He emphasized the importance of these programmes in providing flexible, accessible and quality higher education through technology-enabled learning. He highlighted the growing need for management, planning, data management and technological skills across various sectors. He further stressed that the programmes would particularly benefit learners from remote, rural and underserved areas of Uttarakhand and other parts of the country.

The Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor then invited Dr. Vijendra D. Chauhan, Director-General (Academic Development), to brief the Committee about the University, its accreditations and major initiatives.

Dr. Chauhan presented an overview of the institution's foundation, guiding principles, academic units and major institutional initiatives. He highlighted the University's

स्वामी राम नगर, जौलीग्रंट, देहरादून 248016, उत्तराखण्ड, भारत

Swami Ram Nagar, Jolly Grant, Dehradun 248016, Uttarakhand, India.
Tel:+91-135-2471102 / 2471140 | Email: info@srhu.edu.in | www.srhu.edu.in

accreditations, recognitions and rankings, including NAAC A+, NIRF, QS I-GAUGE and Times Higher Education, along with its research achievements, innovation ecosystem and outreach initiatives. He also apprised the Committee of the University's Incubation Centre and its association with NITI Aayog's Atal Community Innovation Centre (ACIC) programme, as well as its contributions to livelihood, health, education, water and sanitation across Uttarakhand.

Thereafter, the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor requested Prof. Som Aditya Juyal, Member Secretary, Director CIQA, to initiate the agenda-wise discussion.

Item 1/01: To apprise members on the role and functions of the Centre for Internal Quality Assurance (CIQA) as mandated by the UGC (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020, and its subsequent amendments.

Director CIQA, apprised the members about the constitution, role and functions of CIQA; its objective and key functions; the composition of the CIQA Committee; quorum requirements; tenure; and the prescribed frequency of meetings. He informed that the quorum is two-thirds of the total number of members, with the mandatory presence of atleast one external expert, the tenure is two years, and meetings are to be held at least once in a semester.

The Committee took note of the role, functions, composition and terms of CIQA.

Item 1/02: To inform members about the UGC approval for online programmes under the Entitled category, along with the approved intake for the January Academic Session 2026, Academic Year 2025-26, offered by the Centre for Distance and Online Education (CDOE).

Dr. Mukesh Bijalwan, Director, CDOE, apprised the members about the initiation, application and approval process followed by SRHU for commencement of UGC-entitled online programmes. He informed that the programmes are offered in alignment with the National Education Policy 2020. The approved intake is 1,000 seats each for MBA and MCA, while the undergraduate programmes BCA (Hons.), BBA (Hons.) and B.Com. (Hons.) do not have a prescribed intake ceiling under the entitlement communicated.

Prof. Subhash Dhuliya enquired about the applicability of UGC entitlement to short-term Certificate Programmes of 3-6 months' duration. In response, the Director, CDOE, clarified that such short-term programmes do not fall under the UGC entitlement framework for recognized Online Programmes; however, online Certificate programmes may be offered by the University subject to due approval of the competent statutory authorities/bodies and compliance with applicable regulatory requirements and prescribed quality standards for Online/ODL education.

The Committee took note of the UGC entitlement and approved intake of undergraduate and postgraduate programmes.



Item 1/03: To brief members on the enrolment status across all programmes for the January Academic Session 2026, Academic Year 2025-26.

Director, CDOE, apprised the Committee that the University's first academic session for the UGC-entitled Online MBA Programme commenced in January 2026. A total of 42 learners were enrolled, with classes commencing in April 2026. The first-semester assessments were successfully completed in August 2026 through an online, remote-proctored digital examination platform, in accordance with the applicable UGC guidelines and the University's approved Examination SOP (Standard Operating Procedure).

The Committee took note of the enrolment status and successful completion of the first-semester assessment.

Item 1/04: To brief members on the quality assurance mechanisms governing curriculum design, and the teaching, learning and evaluation processes of the online programmes offered by CDOE, in compliance with UGC-DEB norms.

Director CIQA, apprised the members about the quality assurance mechanisms relating to curriculum design, teaching-learning-evaluation, learner support services, assessment tools and e-learning material development standards. The four-quadrant framework comprising e-Tutorial, e-Content, Discussion Forum and Self-Assessment was explained.

Dr. Deorari enquired about the frequency and conduct of Discussion Forums for the online programmes. The Director, CDOE, informed that dedicated faculty members conduct a two-hour Discussion Forum every week as per the norms for delivery of courses in online mode.

Prof. Dhuliya enquired about the University's autonomy to modify the curricula of its Online Programmes. The Director, CDOE, clarified that the curricula are duly approved by the Academic Council and are aligned with the corresponding programmes offered through the conventional mode, while incorporating appropriate contemporary content and requirements of online learning, wherever applicable.

Prof. Dhuliya advised that the Online Programmes should have a distinctive value proposition and incorporate contemporary and frontier areas such as Artificial Intelligence, emerging technologies, sustainability and climate-related domains. He suggested that suitable components of the existing MBA curriculum could also be developed into focused six-month value-added programmes to address emerging skill and employability requirements. The Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor emphasized the need to align the University's programmes with evolving manpower requirements in manufacturing, climate and sustainability, technology and other emerging sectors. Prof. Shachi Shah apprised the Committee of programmes offered by IGNOU in areas such as climate change and mitigation, highlighting the importance of developing programmes aligned with emerging workforce needs.

After deliberation, the Committee recommended that the CDOE examine the feasibility of developing distinctive, industry-responsive and short-duration/value-added programmes in frontier and emerging domains, including Artificial Intelligence, climate and sustainability, manufacturing-related skills, and organisational behaviour. The Committee further recommended that such proposals be developed in accordance with applicable regulatory provisions and, wherever required, placed before the competent statutory authorities of the University for consideration and approval.

Action: Director, CDOE

Item 1/05: To discuss the CIQA Plan of Action for the Academic Year 2026-27, covering the July 2026 and January 2027 academic sessions.

Director CIQA, apprised the members about the proposed Plan of Action covering quality assurance planning, UGC-DEB compliance, teaching-learning-evaluation review, e-learning material upgradation, stakeholder feedback and learner support, and effective implementation of approved Programme Project Reports.

Prof. Shachi Shah enquired about learner analytics and feedback mechanisms. The Director, CDOE, informed that analytics are generated in report form to track each learner's progression through the course content. Learner feedback is collected online, recorded and considered for timely action.

Prof. Shachi Shah suggested the introduction of skill-based, industry-aligned courses and the use of Virtual Labs and Living Labs, wherever feasible. The model followed by The Open University, United Kingdom, was cited as an example. The Director, CDOE, also apprised the members about the work-linked online programmes offered by the University and the interest and enrolment received for such programmes.

The Committee recommended strengthening learner analytics, feedback documentation and closure of feedback-related actions. It further recommended that CDOE explore skill-based and industry-aligned offerings, including the use of Virtual Labs/Living Labs and work-linked delivery models, subject to feasibility, applicable norms and approval by the competent statutory authorities.

Action: Director, CDOE / Member Secretary, CIQA

Item 1/06: To brief and review the e-learning material developed in accordance with the four-quadrant approach to online learning.

The Director, CDOE, apprised the members about the process followed for development, review and deployment of e-learning material under the four-quadrant approach. The material includes e-Tutorials (video/audio content), e-Content, Discussion Forums and Self-Assessment resources and is deployed through the Learning Management System.

To review the e-content and digital mechanisms for online teaching-learning, the Director, CDOE, demonstrated the University's online

Learning Management System (LMS) portal to the Committee. He showcased the course content, e-learning materials, video lectures and Discussion Forum available to learners, highlighting the digital resources and learner-support mechanisms integrated into the online learning environment. The Director, CDOE, also demonstrated the LMS-based mechanisms for scheduling and delivery of online lectures, conduct of quizzes, formative assessments and end-term assessments, including the provision of assessment links and related learner-support features. The Committee reviewed the digital processes adopted for effective, transparent and systematic delivery and assessment of online learning.

The Committee took note of the process and recommended continued periodic review and upgradation of the e-learning material with reference to accessibility, accuracy, prescribed learning outcomes and UGC requirements.

Action: Director, CDOE

Item 1/07: To update members on the commencement of the One-Year Postgraduate Degree Programmes - MBA and MCA - offered through online mode under CDOE, for candidates holding a Four-Year Bachelor's Degree.

The Director, CDOE, apprised the Committee of the proposed commencement of One-Year Online Postgraduate Degree Programmes in MBA and MCA for candidates holding a Four-Year Bachelor's Degree, subject to applicable regulatory provisions. He informed the Committee that elective domain specializations, wherever introduced, would be identified based on industry demand, emerging technologies and evolving professional requirements, with potential areas including Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), Artificial Intelligence, data analytics and other emerging technology domains.

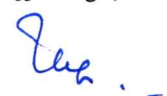
The Committee took note of the proposed programmes and recommended that the elective domain specializations be finalized after appropriate demand assessment and processed through the competent statutory authorities.

Action: Director, CDOE

Item 1/08: Any other point with the permission of the Chair.

Prof. Dhuliya reiterated the need to develop distinctive six-month certificate/value-added courses in emerging and industry-relevant areas. The suggested areas included sustainability, data mining, data visualization and presentation, multimedia content development, science and technology in medicine, organisational behaviour, workforce management and artificial intelligence upskilling. He emphasized that the proposed offerings should be unique and responsive to evolving manpower needs.

The Committee recommended that CDOE undertake a detailed feasibility and demand assessment for the suggested short-duration offerings,



identify areas in which the University can provide a distinctive academic and industry value proposition, and place suitable proposals before the competent statutory authorities for consideration.

Action: Director, CDOE / Member Secretary, CIQA

The meeting concluded with a Vote of Thanks to the Chair, followed by a prayer.


Prof. Som Aditya Juyal
Member Secretary, CIQA




Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor
Chairperson, CIQA

