

### **7.3.1 Portray the performance of the Institution in one area distinctive to its priority and thrust.**

#### **Advancement and Promotion of Research**

The University has given priority and thrust to research in newly emerging as well as conventional fields of research in line with its VISION and MISSION statements. Over the decades, a strong culture of multi-disciplinary research has evolved where in an excellent research infrastructure that is timely augmented for carrying cutting-edge research in front-line areas. Research in the university is supported by regular financial assistance from different funding agencies. The following dimensions of research in the university are notable;

#### **National level research facilities**

University has earned a distinction by establishing a “National Ion Beam Centre” equipped with a state-of-the-art 200 kV “Low-energy Ion Accelerator” with financial support from Department of Science & Technology (DST) Govt. of India in the form of a research project “Ion Induced Growth and Engineering of Materials” worth Rs. 11.62 crores at the Department of Physics. University made a matching investment of about Rs. 5.0 crores to provide the necessary infrastructure including a separate building for the Ion Accelerator. Since its commissioning in 2015, the Ion Accelerator is being actively used by the researchers of Kurukshetra University and other institutes in the country to explore a wide range of physical phenomenon including the tailoring of physical as well as chemical properties of materials as per specific applications.

Another equally noteworthy national research facility is “National Low-temperature Thermochronology” laboratory at the Department of Geophysics. The University has its own fully operational advanced nitrogen production plant to supply liquid nitrogen to different science departments.

#### **New research centres**

In recognition of its achievements in research and academics, Kurukshetra University is one of the ten state Universities in the country to be awarded RUSA 2.0 project by Govt. of India wherein a grant of Rs. 100 crores has been sanctioned to promote research, innovation, entrepreneurship and employability. For this the University has created an eco-system with 5 new research centres (viz. Advanced Material Science, IT and Automation, Applied Biology in Environment Sciences, Advanced Research in Earthquake Studies, and Excellence for Research on the Saraswati River). Six dedicated training centres (viz. Incubation, Skill Development, Entre-

preneurship, Corporate Resource, Continuing Education and Sports) have also been established to augment the research efforts of the university in capacity building where more than 8000 trainees have been trained by these centres during last three years.

#### **Creation of Incubation facilities**

To bridge the gap between labs and field, university has established Incubation facilities. Kurukshetra University Technology Incubation Centre (KUTIC) has taken important steps in the direction of promoting innovation and supporting incubation. The KUTIC mentored and financially supported 20 minor projects from students. Recently, a startup entitled “LivSmart Automation and Security” by alumni of Kurukshetra University has been registered with the KUTIC and a financial assistance of Rs. 25 lac has been provided.

#### **Adoption of PPP model for industry integrated research**

A Centre for IT and Automation (CITA) has been established that has conducted many training programs for students in line with the Technology Mission of India, and trained 150 students, thereby enhancing their IT and job skills. Recently, the CITA has introduced scholarships worth Rs. 1.25 crores to 100 students of teaching departments of the University and its affiliated colleges through Public Private Partnership (PPP) model.

#### **Single window facility to researchers and rewarding schemes to promote research**

The University has set Rules and Regulations for Promotion of Academic Integrity and Prevention of Plagiarism and implemented the same. Recently, the University has constituted a Research and Development Cell (RDC) as mandated by the University Grants Commission. A comprehensive “Policy for Promotion of Research” has been devised to promote research ecosystem and conducive environment for conducting quality research. Among other things, it has laid down “Research Incentive Schemes” providing awards and incentives as a positive stimulation to improve research performance and accelerate research efforts. Seven best researcher awards of Rs. 21000/- each are awarded annually to the regular faculty members of the University and during last two years, thirteen faculty members have been awarded in recognition of their research. The policy also stipulates for seed money grant/ minor research project to faculty members to facilitate them to embark on bigger research pursuits.

### **Honouring outstanding scientists at National level**

The University has also taken a lead in the country and is probably the only University in the country to honour the outstanding Indian scientists at a grand scale through prestigious Goyal awards instituted in 1992. These include four Goyal Prizes, one each in the field of Applied Sciences, Chemical Sciences, Life Sciences and Physical Sciences; four Rajib Goyal Prizes for Young Scientists, one each in the discipline of Applied Sciences, Chemical Sciences, Life Sciences and Physical Sciences; and one Goyal Peace Prize. Each Goyal Prize carries an award of Rs. two lac, a medal and a citation whereas each Rajib Goyal Prize carries an award of Rs. one lac, a medal and a citation. So far, 75 eminent scientists including Dr. C. N. R. Rao, Dr. P. Venugopal, Dr. Govardhan Mehta, Dr. R. A. Mashelkar, Dr. K. Kasturirangan, Dr. S. K. Brahamchari, Dr. J. V. Narlikar, Dr. A. K. Sood, and Dr. Rohini N Godbole have been honoured with Goyal Prizes.

### **Research Outcomes**

The focussed and dedicated efforts of University have yielded results and as evident from its scientometric indices, research output, patents, research awards/recognition, etc. During the period under assessment, over 2500 research publications in indexed journals, more than 750 PhDs, over 10000 citations and an h-index of 34 (SCOPUS) have been recorded. Likewise, 53 patents have been filed/ published/granted by the University researchers. As per SCOPUS, the University has an accumulated h-index of 83.

The quality and relevance of research areas being investigated on the campus also reflects in the enrollment of more than 630 JRFs/ SRFs/ Post-doctoral Fellows during the last five years in the University. Recently, the University has successfully accomplished a prestigious major research project of compiling fifteen volumes of “Mahabharata Word Concordance” with financial assistance from Govt. of India. Besides creation of new knowledge, the University is also contributing in dissemination of knowledge by way of publishing peer reviewed research journals in the faculties of Laws, Arts & Humanities, and Indic studies. Among these, the journal Annual Digest “Prachi-Jyoti” is being published since the inception of Institute of Indological Studies way back in 1956.