

## University Grants Commission Nepal Conducted Fourth Trimester Meeting; Discusses Progress, Challenges and Way forward (2080-04-15&16)

University Grants Commission (UGC) Nepal recently concluded its two-day fourth trimester and annual review meeting, bringing together representatives from different Universities and Medical colleges and Infrastructure Development Boards. During the meeting, universities and the development board of Nepal made presentations covering various topics and also updates the functioning and progress of higher education institutions in the country.

### Key Highlights:

Progress of Last Trimester: Universities presented comprehensive reports highlighting their achievements during the last trimester. The reports included data on student enrollment, academic accomplishments, research output, and collaborations with other institutions.

Financial Status: The financial health of universities was a key topic of discussion. Universities presented detailed financial reports, outlining their budget allocations, expenditure, and funding sources. The discussions aimed to explore ways to optimize resource utilization and ensure financial sustainability.

Major Challenges: The meeting shed light on the major challenges faced by universities. Human resource deficiencies, budget constraints, infrastructure development, decreasing trend of student enrollment, strikes and digitalization issues were among the key obstacles that impact institutional functioning.

Way Forward: Universities shared their proposed plans and strategies for overcoming challenges and moving forward. The presentations highlighted measures to improve the quality of education, research, and overall institutional management.

Collaboration and Networking: Efforts to foster collaborations with national and international partners were discussed. Universities emphasized the importance of research collaborations, exchange programs, and knowledge sharing with academic institutions, research centers, and universities worldwide.

Research and Innovation: Presentations included updates on research projects and innovations. Universities demonstrated their commitment to addressing societal challenges and contributing to the country's development through research and innovation initiatives.



### Addressing Challenges in Higher Education:

During the meeting, participants engaged in in-depth discussions on various challenges faced by universities. These challenges encompass human resource shortages, strikes on campuses, budgetary constraints, infrastructure development, the quality of education, recognition and accreditation, and technology integration. Addressing these challenges was recognized as crucial for the growth and development of higher education in Nepal.

### Way Forward:

The UGC acknowledged the importance of collaborative efforts among stakeholders to overcome the identified challenges. The meeting provided a platform for fruitful discussions, enabling universities to learn from each other's experiences. Implementation of academic calendar, mergers of the campuses on the basis of feasibility study, linkage of the programs with earning can explore potential solutions.



### Conclusion:

The fourth trimester meeting of the University Grants Commission Nepal served as a significant gathering to assess the progress and challenges in the higher education sector. Universities and development board demonstrated their commitment to enhancing the quality of education and research while addressing obstacles to institutional growth. With collaborative efforts and strategic planning, the higher education scenery in Nepal looks forward to a promising future.