



Department of Geography, University of Jammu organized "One week workshop on Geographic Information System (GIS) using Open Source Software" from 20<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> of Feb 2023

The inaugural function of the workshop was held in the seminar hall of the Geology department today on 20-02-2023. The program was started with paying obeisance to Maa Saraswati. Dr.Sarfraz Asghar, Associate Professor of Department of Geography, formally welcome all the guests and briefed the stakeholders about the workshop. Prof. Rajnikant, Dean Research Studies & Dean Sciences, University of Jammu was the chief guest of the function. He address the younger faculty and scholars and stated that be focussed on their day to day activities to attain bigger goals. He also stressed the audience not to go through the irrelevant stuff available on social media which hampers spiritual and intellectual growth & and wished the participants a fruitful week ahead. Prof. SK Pandita, Director HRDC, highlighted the use of GIS in every domain. He is of the view that GIS change our lifestyle in many ways. The keynote speaker Prof. R. Jaganathan (Prof. &Head, Department of Geography, Chairperson School of Earth Atmospheric Sciences, and Director IQAC University of Madras) highlighted the 'Current Trends in GIS & about Location Analytics and its Application'. He advocated for a Ubiquitous GIS Approach and Integration of GIS & Multimedia, Synchronisation of AR/VR with Geo Informatics and building a problem-solving approach using these techniques. Formal vote of thanks was proposed by Dr. Rajender S.Charak. The main objective of the workshop was to highlight the importance and utility of a open source (i.e. Freely available) GIS S/W, its integration and applicability in a variety of professional sectors and to educate about the basic skills needed in open source GIS S/W handling and essential concepts used by a GIS system.

The sessions of the workshop were generally divided into two major parts. Before lunch, i.e. between 10am -1: 30pm we touched upon the theory part and after lunch i.e. between 2pm-5pm it was devoted to practical i.e. hands-on exercises using QGIS an open-source software. Overall there were ten lecturers delivered by Resource persons who came from different parts of the country.

**Participants:** A total 21 participant attended the workshop which includes 10 teachers from college, 03 from University ,01 Plus two Lecturer and 07 Research scholars. Apart from this, P.G Students, Scholars and Faculty members of the department actively participated in the conference and attended all the lectures.