



Bimonthly Digital Newsletter of Regional Centre, Patna

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In this issue

Initiatives and Activities of the University to provede online support to the learners

Initiatives and Activities of the Regional Centre & Learner Support Centres to provide online support to the learners

From ICT & Cyber World......



Prof. Nageshwar Rao Vice-Chancellor



Prof. Satyakam Pro-Vice Chancellor



Prof. Rajendra Prasad Das Pro-Vice Chancellor



जन–जन

Dr. Kshiti Bhusan Das Pro-Vice Chancellor



Dr. M. Shanmugam Director, RSD



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Editorial

The Corona Crisis is increasing everyday in terms of its intensity and impact. As of now, it has already takenmore than 1 crore people across the world in its clutches and more than 5 lakhs have already been trodden under its feet. It is still expanding its wings and is likely to claim many more lives before it subsides. However, the undaunted spirit of humanity is unprecedented! In spite of so many causalities and infections, life has moved on...Unlocking has set in many parts of the world, mainly in our country, to let life and livelihood go hand in hand. We are still bound by the rules for COVID-19 but there is a lot of freedom.. We have come out of our confinements, but there are traps everywhere .. If we are not careful, CORONA may take us within its grips anytime. Let us carefully listen to what government says, do what government directs and live a life full of promises and energy!

Education has been worst hit during the pandemic. Millions of students are now confined to their homes. Examinations have been cancelled and students have been promoted to next year on the basis of class assignments and alternative modes of evaluation. In our University, under the visionary and dynamic leadership of our Honourable Vice Chancellor Prof Nageshwar Rao, his dedicated team of Pro Vice Chancellors and Director, Regional Services Division, uninterrupted learner support services have been provided by the Regional Centres across the country to help the learners face the challenge with positive energy, continue their studies from home and do not feel disconnected from their studies. Hundreds of staff of the university have been allowed to work from home to ensure their safety and security. Offline support services have been made online. Fifteen programmes of the University have gone online. Rules have been amended to help the learners. Assignments and project reports which were submitted in hard copies earlier have been permitted to be submitted online. The lockdown has unlocked many opportunities for the university. The university has constructively utilized the period to:

- **Explore and utilize alternative modes of teaching and learning** Thousands of online counseling sessions have been organized through various online platforms. Learning materials in audio-visual formats are being prepared in large numbers and uploaded on the websites.
- Strengthen the human resource through online training in the use of ICT tools Members of faculty, academics and administrative staff have been trained in the use of ICT tools and techniques for online teaching and providing online support to the learners.
- Organise seminars and workshops to create opportunities for the teachers and academics to utilize their academic expertise

Series of webinars and seminars have been organized during the lockdown period to provide opportunity to the teachers and academics to make use of their academic acumen.

Regional Centre, Patna has been active throughout the lockdown period. With the support and cooperation of the learner Support Centres and their dedicated team of academic counselors and support staff, more than 1200 online counseling sessions have been held so far and thousands of assignments are being evaluated online. Out of the seventy thousand assignment responses received so far, 40000 have been processed for evaluation and the rest are being processed. Since the Admission Notification for July 2020 has come out, the Reegional Centre has started organized virtual meetings with different target groups to reach out to people in various parts of the region.

Like all other pandemics, this CORONA pandemic will also pass someday! Let's make use of this crucial time to incubate our dreams, give wings to our ideas and embark upon new initiatives to make teaching and learning interesting and engaging!

Happy reading!

Abhilash Nayak

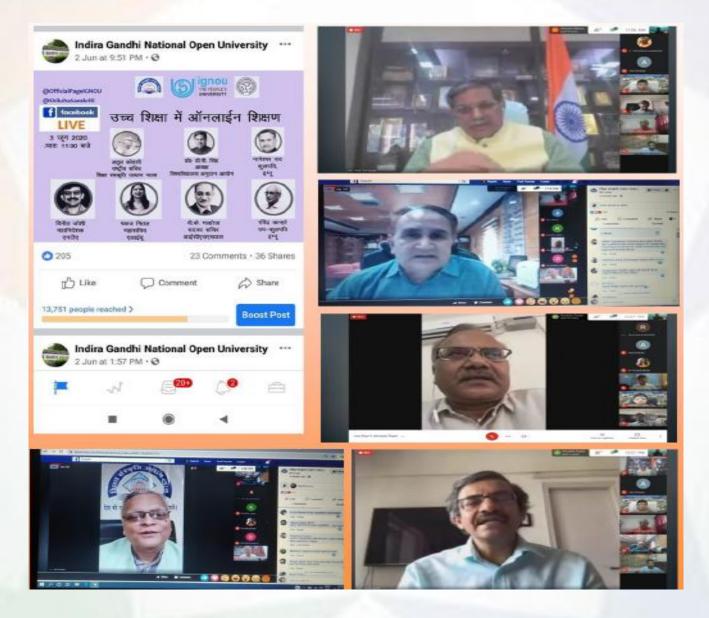


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Initiatives, Activities and Achievements of the University

The university under the constant guidance and dynamic leadership of our Honorable Vice Chancellor converted the challenging situation created by CORONA pandemic into an opportunity. Different schools of studies, Regional Centres and other Centres like NICIDE and COE organized series of Facebook live sessions, sessions on Gyanvani and Gyandarshan, seminars and workshops, online training programmes for the teachers and academicians in online teaching and extension of student support services to provide uninterrupted support to them during the lockdown period and prepare the staff for upcoming online education in the country.

Webinar on Online Learning in Higher Education





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Address by Prof Nageshwar Rao, Honorable Vice Chancellor

Honorable Vice Chancellor Prof Nageshwar Rao addressed the learners on 5th May 2020 about the initiatives taken by the University to help the learners continue their studies from home. He advised the learners to follow the guidelines prescribed by Government of India to contain the spread of COVID-19, remain calm and stress-free during the pandemic and continue their studies from home.





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Address by the Honourable Minister for HRD Shri Ramesh Prasad Nishankji

Dr Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank, Hon'ble Minister for HRD, Government of India addressed the students on 5th May 2020 through an exclusive webinar organized for the students. Students were invited to share their concerns using #EducationMinisterGoesLivevia his Twitter Account @Dr RPNishank & Facebook account @cmnishank. Messages were sent to the learners of this region to watch the programme and interact with the Honourable Minister.





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EDUPOSIUM 2020 by School of Continuing Education

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EDUPOSIUM 2020 was organized in partnership with the Event and Entertainment Management Association of India (EEMA) and the School of Continuing Education, IGNOU, on 11th and 12th May 2020.

This virtual event was one of the biggest gatherings of professionals and students in the event education sector in India. It showcased vast opportunities in the event industry, and was a platform where top educationists and leaders in the profession interacted to gain in-depth understanding of the profession, along with the opportunities and scope that came with it.

Honorable Vice Chancellor of IGNOU, Prof. Nageshwar Rao, was the Inspirational Star Speaker for the session 'Developing Gen Next Event Professionals' held on 12th May 2020. Prof. Rao spoke about the recently launched Diploma in Event Management at IGNOU and the good response it is receiving. He highlighted about IGNOU being a mega university and its overarching role in the opportunities and expansion in higher education. Speaking on the trends in higher education, he highlighted that blended learning, which is a combination of classroom learning, open and distance learning, and online learning, will be the new normal. Nowadays students prefer independent courses within a programme. Learners are also able to choose a blend of Courses, which suits their requirements, be it computer sciences, event management, or any other. This is also cost effective and gives them lots of flexibility. The SWAYAM platform of the Government of India has about 2 Crore enrolments as of now, and this number is likely to grow further as the trend of online and virtual learning picks up. In today's times, irrespective of whether COVID-19 is prevalent or not, students prefer to see content easily available to them online such as on mobile apps and want anytime, anywhere, cost-effective and quality learning in virtual atmosphere. Students are getting increasingly inclined to watch education delivered through channels like GyanDarshan etc as they need convenient learning. This will be the trend for the future young generation professionals and education needs to be addressed to learners as per these requirements.





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Shobha Pillai Coutinho Thanks indu Sahani for ur wonderful information edgital.that's awesome

Biswajit Shil joined.

Acharya Shailendra Parashar Welcome VC prof.Nageshawar Rao

Sharer Amit Srivastava Most Welcome Sir....Nice to see and learn from you...

Heena Bijli Thabk you Sir for acknowledging Diploma in Event Management, IGNOU !

K D Prasad Replying to Shobha Pillai Coutinho Ed-digital or edigital Alka Dhameja All virtual educational institutions, especially IGNOU always understood the import and value of social distancing. Our aim has been to reach out to the distanced and vulnerable. For us this has been the normal.

Sharer Ajeet Yadav Thank you Heena mam, IGNOU.

Sharer Amit Srivastava

For details about IGNOU One Year Diploma in Event Management (DEVIMT) programme please visit http://ignou.ac.in/ignou/aboutignou /school/soce/programmes/detail/661 /2









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MOHFW Guidelines for Pre-Symptomatic 19 Cases to All its Regional Centre across India in 12 different languages

As per the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW), Govt. of India directives, Revised guidelines for Home Isolation of very mild/pre-symptomatic COVID-19 cases, which are in addition to the guidelines on appropriate management of suspect/confirmed case of COVID-19 issued by MoHFW on 7th April, 2020 covering Scope, Undertaking of self-isolation, and instructions for care-givers and patients, have been translated in 12 regional languages for wider publicity among the learners and public at large by the University. The 12 languages include: Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Malayalam, Marathi, Odia, Punjabi, Tamil, Telugu and Urdu. Dr Asif Iqbal, ARD of the Regional Centre translated the guidelines into Urdu. The Guidelines have been uploaded on the website of the Regional Centre for information of the learners as well as the general public.

10th May, 2020

Government of India Ministry of Health & Family Welfare

Revised guidelines for Home Isolation of very mild/pre-symptomatic COVID-19 cases

1. Scope

The guidelines are in addition to the guidelines on appropriate management of suspect/confirmed case of COVID-19 issued by MoHFW on 7th April, 2020.

As per existing guidelines, during the containment phase the patients should be clinically assigned as very mild/mild, moderate or severe and accordingly admitted to (i) COVID Care Center, (ii) Dedicated COVID Health Center or (iii) Dedicated COVID Hospital respectively. Guidelines for home isolation of very mild/pre-symptomatic patients were issued on 27th April 2020. The present guidelines are in supersession of the guidelines issued on 27th April 2020.

However, very mild/pre-symptomatic patients having the requisite facility at his/her residence for self-isolation will have the option for home isolation.

2. Eligibility for home isolation

- The person should be clinically assigned as a very mild case/ pre-symptomatic case by the treating medical officer.
- Such cases should have the requisite facility at their residence for self-isolation and also for quarantining the family contacts.
- A care giver should be available to provide care on 24 x7 basis. A communication link between the caregiver and hospital is a prerequisite for the entire duration of home isolation.
 The care giver and all close contacts of such cases should take Hydroxychloroquine
- prophylaxis as per protocol and as prescribed by the treating medical officer.
 v. Download Arogya Setu App on mobile (available at: https://www.mygov.in/aarogya-setu-app/) and it should remain active at all times (through Bluetooth and Wi-Fi)
- app/) and it should remain active at all times (through Bluetooth and Wi-Fi) vi. The patient shall agree to monitor his health and regularly inform his health status to the District Surveillance Officer for further follow up by the surveillance teams.
- District Surveillance Officer for further follow up by the surveillance teams.
 vii. The patient will fill in an undertaking on self-isolation (Annexure I) and shall follow home quarantine guidelines. Such individual shall be eligible for home isolation.
- viii. In addition to the guidelines on home-quarantine available at: https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/Guidelinesforhomequarantine.pdf, the required instructions for the care giver and the patient as in Annexure II shall be also followed.

3. When to seek medical attention

Patient / Care giver will keep monitoring their health. Immediate medical attention must be sought if serious signs or symptoms develop. These could include

- i. Difficulty in breathing,
- ii. Persistent pain/pressure in the chest,
- iii. Mental confusion or inability to arouse,
- Developing bluish discolorations of lips/face and
 As advised by treating medical officer

4. When to discontinue home isolation

Patient under home isolation will end home isolation after 17 days of onset of symptoms (or date of sampling, for pre-symptomatic cases) and no fever for 10 days. There is no need for testing after the home isolation period is over.

खद रहे सरक्षित, दसरों को रखें सरक्षित



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Launch of MA(Hindi) and other Online Programmes by Shri Ramesh Prasad Nishanka, Honourable Minister for HRD

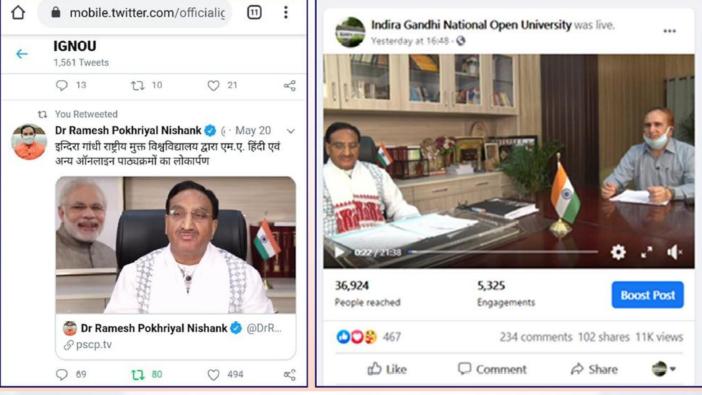
MA(Hindi) and other online Programmes were launched by Shri Ramesh Prasad Nishanka, Honorable Minister for HRD on Facebook Live on 20th May 2020 in the presence of Prof Nageshwar Rao, Honorable Vice Chancellor and Prof Satyakam, Honorable Pro Vice Chancellor. The Programme was also broadcast simultaneously on Gyanyani and telecast on Gyandarshan. While requesting the Honorable Minister to launch the programmes, Honorable Vice Chancellor apprised the Minister of other online programmes being offered by the university and other initiatives. The Honorable Minister stated that this initiative of IGNOU would strengthen the Padhe Bharat Online initiative of Government of India and appreciated the efforts of IGNOU in promoting online education. He also appreciated the role played by Hindi in countries like Mauritius, Fiji and Surinam. He reiterated the commitment of the government to empower the deprived sections of people through online education and admired the role of IGNOU in this regard. Prof Satyakam, Honorable Pro Vice Chancellor and Coordinator of the programme remarked while thanking the Minister that the launching of online programmes would not have been possible without the guidance and encouragement of the Honorable Minister. In addition to MA(Hindi), other programmes like Masters, Diploma and Certificate in Gandhi and Peace Studies, Bachelors and Diploma in Tourism Studies, Certificate in Information technology and Certificate in Library and Information Science were also launched on the occasion. The online programmes of IGNOU are available on the online portal www.iop.ignouonline.ac.in. Audio files, video files and other related materials of the programmes are available at the click of a mouse.





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Five Day FDP on Energy Conservation and Renewable Energy A Five Day FDP was organized by the School of Engineering and Technology from 8th June 2020 to 12th June 2020.





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Online Training Programmeon "Use of ICT Tools for Teaching and Providing Online Support to students during COVID-19"

School of Computer and Information Science(SOCIS) organized training programme on the "Use of ICT Tools for Teaching and Providing Online Support to students during COVID-19 in two phases From 22-23 May 2020 and from 28-29th May 2020 with the following objectives:

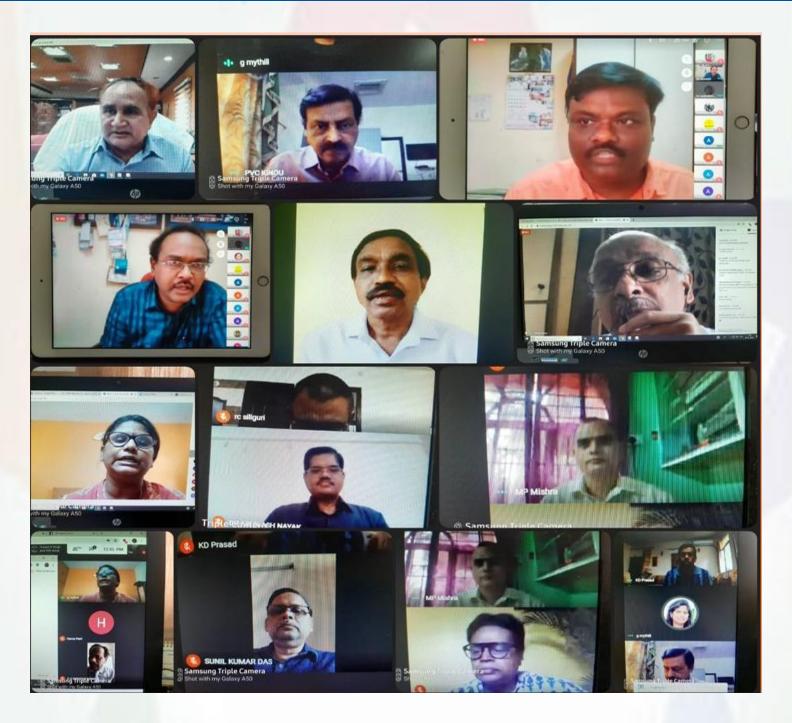
- to familiarize the participants with various Video Conferencing Tools
- to sensitize them with the Security issues, Ethics & Netiquette during online presentations
- to acquaint the participants with various social media tools to provide online support to learners
- to provide hands on experience to produce audio/video content using some tools, use of various Drives, online websites to upload the documents/presentations and to conduct LIVE sessions on Facebook and YouTube.
- to provide hands on experiences generate QR Codes for the existing SLMs and OERs
- to exchange the experiences among the participants and best practices.

The Regional Director Dr. Abhilash Nayak and Assistant Regional Director, Dr.Shalini attended the second phase of training from 28-29 May 2020. The Training Programme was inaugurated by Prof Nageshwar Rao, Honorable Vice Chancellor and the welcome address was given by Prof RP Das, Honourable Pro Vice Chancellor.





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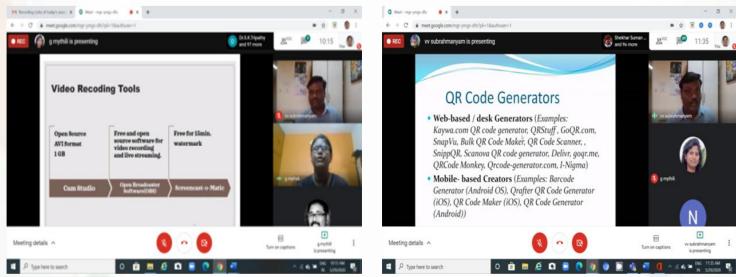
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Launch of Online Programmes from July 2020 Cycle

On 1st June 2020, the university under the leadership of the Honorable Vice Chancellor launched 15 online programmes from July 2020. Students from any part of the country can take admission in any of these programmes and all support shall be provided to the learners by the respective schools of studies. These programmes include programmes at various levels like certificate to Master's Degree Programmes.

The University has also added another 24 courses on the SWAYAM Portal taking the total number of 45 courses which includes independent courses from varied fields and subjects including Agricultural, Sustainability Sciences, Library and Information Science, Sociology, Law, Tourism, Languages, Information Technology, Event Management and Visual Art.

Prof. Nageshwar Rao, VC, IGNOU while sharing the details of the new online programmes launched via the Facebook Live session today said that this is in continuation to the university's efforts towards the MHRD's "Bharat Padhe Online" initiative. Prof. Rao thanked Hon'ble HRD Minister Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal "Nishank" ji who has been a staunch advocate of online education. Hon'ble Minister had launched IGNOU's MA in Hindi, MA (Gandhi and Peace Studies) and other online programme last month to give impetus to online education amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. Prof. Nageshwar Rao in his presidential address also detailed the programmes being offered by different schools of IGNOU through the online mode and commended the role played by the faculty members to make these happen swiftly with quality.

Sharing the roadmap for IGNOU in the online education space, Honorable VC said that the university has always harnessed technology to reach and make higher education accessible to masses. He added that IGNOU has been a pioneer in using broadcast technology through GyanDarshan TV channel network and GyanVani FM Radio Channels. And the internet provides another medium to reach everyone across India and going forward the university will be launching online programmes in vernacular languages to provide higher education opportunities to all. He stressed on the fact that the ongoing environment due to the Corona-Virus warrants us to come-up with unique solutions in the education space and online medium through high visual content in regional languages can provide the solution. And IGNOU is committed to that, he emphasized. These programmes will be available on e-Vidya Bharti (Tele-education) platform as well for international reach. Interested learners can register through IGNOU Online Portal iop.ignouonline.ac.in or through indix.php/registration/user/register. And for the courses offered on the SWAYAM platform, one needs to go the SWAYAM portal for registration at; https://swayam.gov.in/IGNOU. The meeting was powered by Google Meet and was attended by coordinators of the programme and live fed on FB page of IGNOU for wider reach.

The programmes which are available online include:

- 1. M.A. in Translation Studies (MATS)
- 2. Master of Arts (Hindi) (MHD)
- 3. M.A. in Gandhi and Peace Studies (MGPS)
- 4. Bachelor of Tourism (BTS)
- 5. Post Graduate Diploma in Gandhi and Peace Studies (PGDGPS)
- 6. Post Graduate Certificate in Gandhi and Peace Studies (PGCGPS)
- 7. Post Graduate Certificate in Agriculture Policy (PGCAP)
- 8. Certificate Programme in Peace Studies and Conflict Management (CPSCM)



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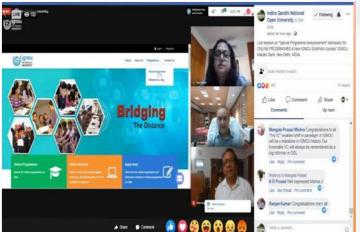
- 9. Diploma in Tourism Studies (DTS)
- 10. Certificate Programme in Library and Information Science (CLIS)
- 11. Certificate in Information Technology (CIT)
- 12. Certificate in Tribal Studies (CTRBS)
- 13. Certificate in Tourism Studies (CTS)
- 14. Certificate in Arabic Language (CAL)
- 15. Certificate in Russian Language (CRUL)



IGNOU announces Admission for Online Programmes & New IGNOU SWAYAM Courses



IGNOU has announced admission for online programmes and new IGNOU SWAYAM courses.





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Online Training of Faculty for Developing Web Enabled Academic Support(WEAS) System for Distance Mode Programmes by National Centre for Innovation in Distance Education (NCIDE)

Prof. Nageshawar Rao, Honorable Vice Chancellor inaugurated the Online Training of Faculty for Developing Web Enabled Academic Support(WEAS) System for Distance Mode Programmes by National Centre for Innovation in Distance Education(NCIDE) and launched the Virtual Training Lounge for the faculty. The main objectives of the virtual training sessions are to:

- to develop a basic WEAS portal for his/her programmes/course as a single window platform for providing various kinds of technology-based support to the learners.
- To create a Discussion Forum for his/her programme/course and use it for online interaction with learners and to handle their doubts and queries.
- To upload the related study material, related PPTs, TMAs and other resource material like video programmes and web resources, etc. which are useful for the learners.
- To create online assessment tests for formative evaluation purposes. To upload any kind of information relevant to the learners of the WEAS portal on their own under the Announcements page, such as information about IRCs Gyandhara or Gyanvani programme and Facebook live sessions, etc.
- To conduct online counseling through various ICT tools for their programme. The Launch and live fed through the IGNOU's Official Facebook Page for wider reach among stakeholders.

जिन-जन के विषयितालय

Inauguration of Online Training of Faculty for Developing Web Enabled Academic Support (WEAS) System for Distance Mode Programmes

> Launch of Virtual Training Lounge

2nd June 2020 at 2:30 p.m. Organized by National Centre for Innovation in Distance Education Indira Gandhi National Open University





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Giving introduction, Prof. O.P. Sharma, Director, NCIDE said "In today's knowledge society, there is a need to develop the intellectual capability of every person. In the education sector, skill development through periodic training programmes, especially in the new and emerging fields of information and Communication Technology (ICT), Innovation and creativity, is important not only among the teachers and academics, but also among the administrative functionaries. With the ICT tools becoming the mainstay of teaching-learning tools becoming the ICT tools can be leveraged in various innovative ways to serve the specific needs of teaching-learning and training, not just in the Open and Distance Learning (ODL) system, but also in the conventional system of education"

"And Virtual Training Lounge platform would provide training for the trainers and the trainees to sustain their teaching-learning experience. The VTL is designed to provide not only synchronous training, but also to sustain the learning experience of the trainees online. The VTL can be accessed through personal mobile phone. The ease of access to the VTL anytime from anywhere makes it an ideal platform for training and is sustainability", Prof. Sharma concluded."

Prof. Nageshwar Rao, VC IGNOU complimented the NCIDE team for the initiative and said training needs of the faculty members are better imparted using ICT interventions as they get the first-hand experience of using these technologies while learning and later applying, these for their teaching with required customization. He said post COVID-19, we should continue using technology for teaching-learning and training as it is cost-effective as well.



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National Webinar on Holistic Approach to Sustainable **Environment** – Post COVID19

The webinar on "Holistic approach for sustainable environment-Post Covid-19" was coordinated by Prof. B. Rupini and moderated by Dr. Sushmitha Baskar, Faculty in the Discipline of Environment Studies, SOITS, IGNOU, New Delhi. At the outset Prof. B. Rupini welcomed the gathering and gave the concept and importance of the webinar. The Pro Vice Chancellor Prof. K.B. Das gave his insights on sustainable development, green economy and that we need to be compassionate to all, have strong values and adopt the non-linear growth model. The key speaker, Prof. Shailesh Nayak, Director, National Institute of Advanced Studies and Former Secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences discussed about the impacts of some natural hazards that had occurred in the past and that developing countries suffer the most and we need to prepare more with a good education and governance system.

Prof. Rasik Ravindra currently the Secretary General of the 36th International Geological Congress, and former Director, National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research, Goa detailed on climate change receding glaciers in the Antarctic and Arctic and how increasing human pressures have brought changes in diversity. Prof. R. Baskar, Chairman, Department of Environment Science and Engineering. Guru Jambheshwar University of Science and Technology, Hisar explained the linkages and impacts of Covid-19.





Speakers Prof. Shailesh Nayak Prof. K.B. Das Prof. Rasik Ravindra Prof. Surya Parkash Prof. R. Baskar Dr. Aditi Haldar



Pro-Vice Director, National Institute of Advanced Chancellor, IGNOU, New Studies: Former Secretary, Ministry of Delhi Earth Sciences



President, International Geological Congress 2020 Former Director. National Institute of Ocean and Antarctic Research



Head, Geometereological Division National Institute of Disaster Management, Engineering, Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi



Chairman. Department of Environmental Science & GJUST, Hisar



Director, Globa Reporting Initiative Regional Hub South Asia



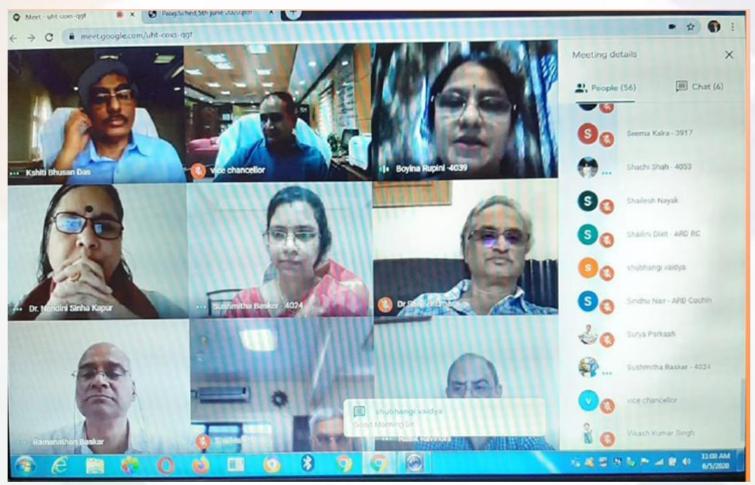


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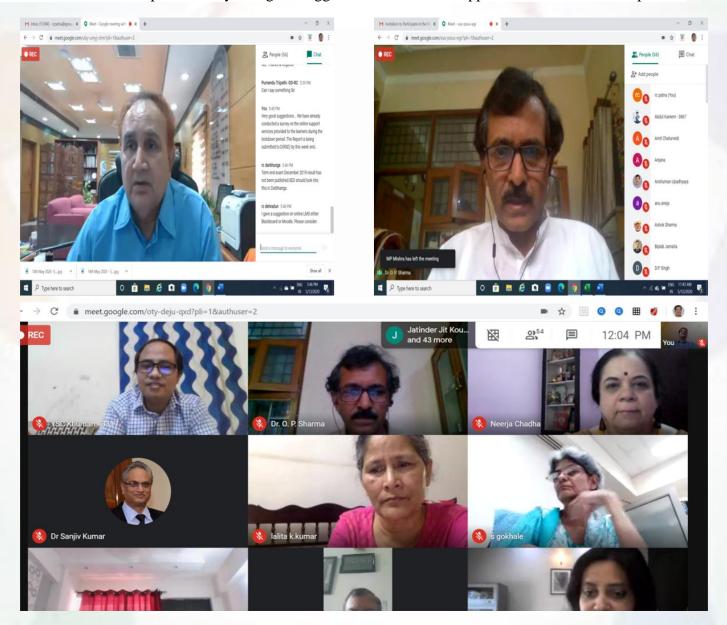




Online Meeting of the Innovation Club@IGNOU by NCIDE

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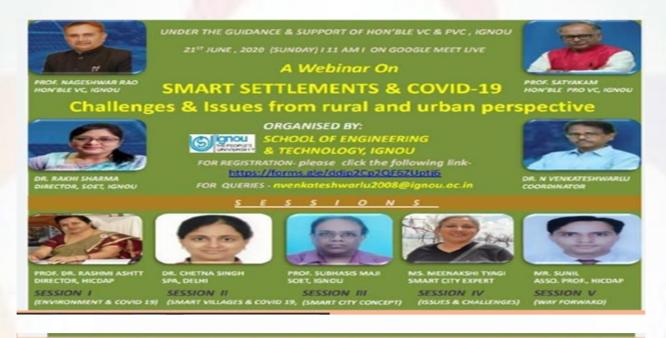
The Innovation Club@IGNOU, under the aegis of NCIDE organized a Brainstorming session on "Technological Interventions by the University during Lockdown: Implementation Gaps & Scope for Innovation" on 12th June 2020. Regional Directors and members of faculty from various schools of study participated in the meeting, shared the various technological interventions used by their respective departments/Regional Centres to reach out to the learners in the lockdown period. They also gave suggestions on how the support services could be improved.





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Webinar on "SMART SETTLEMENTS & COVID-19 : Challenges & Issues from Rural and Urban perspective" by School of Education and Technology. IGNOU







International Day of Yoga at IGNOU Headquarters

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The International Day of Yoga was celebrated on 21st June 2020 at the headquarters. The Vice Chancellor, Prof Nageshwar Rao, Pro Vice Chancellors Prof RP Kanhere, Prof K B Das, Prof Satyakam, Registrar(Administration) Mr VB Negi and many senior members of faculty and officials participated in this event.





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Webinar On Book Publishing

A Webinar on Book publishing was organized on 22st June 2020 By Prof G Ram Reddy Library in Association with Elsevier, a world class publisher, headquartered in Amsterdam, Netherlands, with offices in UK and USA to continue with its various initiatives for consolidating information enhancement and support for various research and academic activities of the university. The programme started with the welcome Address by Mrs Seema Chandhok, University Librarian who briefly highlighted the different activities of the Library during the lockdown period and the guidance and support extended to it by the Hon'ble VC and Hon'ble PVC Prof Satyakam. She also underlined the importance of the Webinar in enhancing the quality of the textbook and research publications. Prof Nageswahwar Rao VC in his inaugural address extolled the teachers, academics and researchers of IGNOU in writing quality books and get them published through eminent publishers like Elsevier. He also stressed on the keeping the purpose a of writing the book and the target audience in mind while venturing in writing books.





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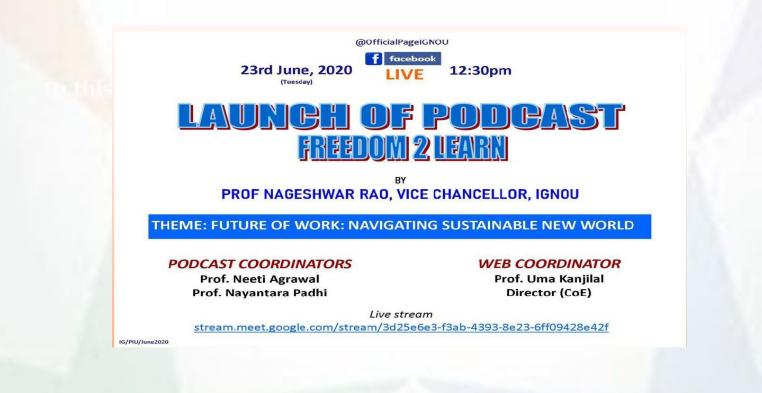
Launch of Podcast "Freedom to Learn"

IGNOU launches yet another innovative programme to reach its diverse learner base. Prof. NageshwarRao, Vice Chancellor, IGNOU launched the programme. The programme is in the form of a podcast series with a motto 'Freedom to Learn'. This platform brings together professionals from different fields at one place. Here they speak on 'Future of Work: Navigating a sustainable New World'. The platform can be accessed from <u>www.ignou.ac.in</u> (<u>https://freedom2learn.ignouonline.ac.in/pages/#</u>) This is a unique initiative and is a step towards democratizing education and flexible learning as Open Education Resources (OER).

On the occasion through the Facebook live session of the launch organized via Googlemeet, Prof. NageshwarRao, Vice Chancellor IGNOU complimented the coordinators for the initiative and also commended the swiftness with which it has been rolled out with the help of Center for Online Education (COE), IGNOU Prof. Rao said the curricula of other schools and online counseling should also be made part of the podcast for the benefit of the wider set of learners.

Pro-Vice-Chanellors of the university, Prof. R.P. Das, Prof. K.B. Das and Prof. Satyakam also shared their views on how the platform can be harnessed to reach the masses. The concept also aligns with the mission of IGNOU which is "Reaching the unreached". They congratulated the team for this innovative initiative.

The podcast coordinators are Prof Neeti Agrawal and Prof. Nayantrara Pandhi of School of Management Studies. The platform is designed and developed by Prof. Uma Kanji lal, Director, Centre for Online Education (COE). The platform will provide learners and stakeholders and opportunity to hear the best of the minds.





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THE PEOPLE'S UNIVERSITY

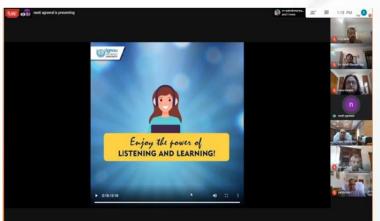




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जन-जन का विश्वविद्यालय

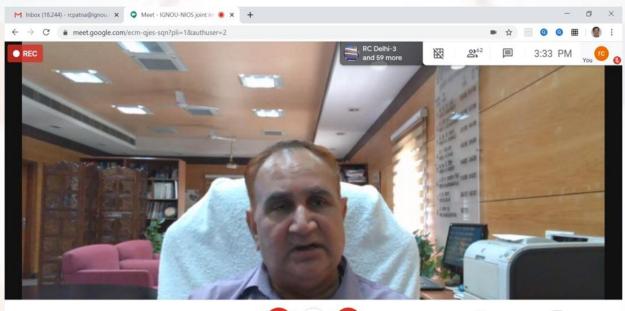






IGNOU-NIOS COLLABORATIVE INITIATIVE

On the 23rd of June IGNOU and NIOS came together to explore various possibilities for academic collaboration between the two organizations. Shri BK Singh, Chairman, NIOS and his team of directors addressed the audience comprising of Regional Directors from across the country. Some of the Regional Directors were asked to share their experience with NIOS and their expectations from NIOS. Towards the end of the meeting, Honorable Vice Chancellor thanked Shri BK Singh, Chairman NIOS for having come forward to collaborate with IGNOU and hoped that the two organizations can work together to further the mission of open and distance education in the country.



IGNOU-NIOS joint initiative for enhancin...

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CC Turn on captions

Present now

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27.



Launch of MA(Sanskrit) through ODL Mode



IGNOU launched a Master's programme in Sanskrit through Open and Distance Mode. The programme was designed and developed with academic consultation and support of distinguished scholars in different disciplines of Sanskrit. The students of any discipline after graduation can pursue Master's in Sanskrit with the flexibility of doing it through ODL Mode. Keeping in view the prevailing situation amidst Coronavirus (COVID-19) spread, the Launch was done through virtual mode via Google Meet and broadcast live on Facebook page of IGNOU and also live streamed through GyanDhara, the University's Internet based channel.

The launch had august e-gathering of eminent scholars in the field of Sanskrit language and literature from across the country including ; Prof. Ramesh Kumar Pandey, Vice Chancellor, Shri LalBahadur Shastri National Sanskrit University,

Prof. (Dr.) Gagadhar Panda, Kolhan University, Jharkhand, Prof. (Dr.) Pankaj Lakshman Jani, Vice Chancellor, Maharshi Panini Sanskrit and Vedic University, Ujjain, Prof. RadhavallabhTripathi, former Vice Chancellor, Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, Prof. Balkrishna Sharma, Vice Chancellor, Vikram University, Ujjain, Prof. Rajaram Shukla, Vice Chancellor, Sampurnand Sanskrit University, Varanasi and Prof. Devi Prasad Tripathi, Vice Chancellor, Uttarakhand Sanskrit Vishwavidyalaya, Haridwar. They all lauded IGNOU's initiative in promoting the most scientific language and hoped that this would help the language get its rightful place in Indian universities.

Dr. Malati Mathur, Director, School of Humanities, IGNOU welcomed the gathering and reiterated the importance of the language. The virtual programme was conducted by Dr. Jitendra Srivastava, SOH. He also gave a background of the development of the programme.

Prof. Radhavallabh Tripathi, eminent Sanskrit scholar and Former Vice Chancellor, Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan said this (launch) offers immense possibilities and challenges for Sanskrit. He also called to include the modern Sanskrit works in the syllabi. Prof. Ramesh Kumar Pandey, Vice Chancellor, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri National Sanskrit University said it is a proud moment for the language and for all of us and this would help in propagation of not only the language but also our culture. The multimedia material of the programme covers all the aspects and is not less in any-way from the regular programme, he added.

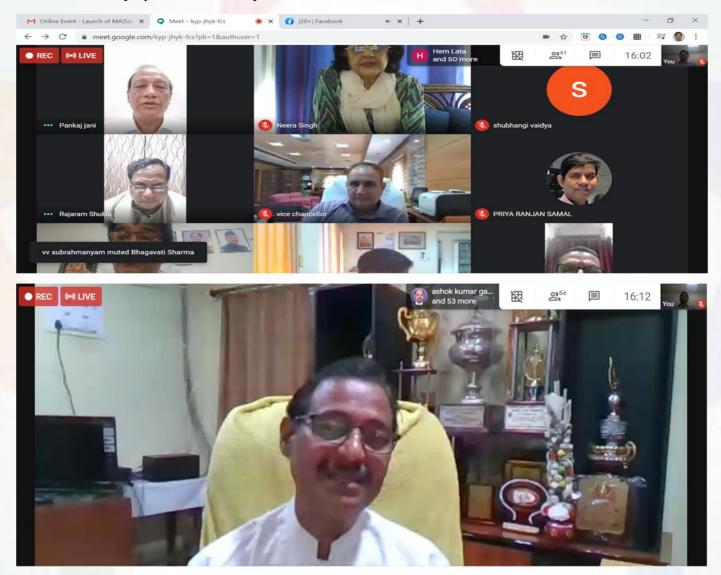
Prof. (Dr.) Pankaj Lakshman Jani, Vice Chancellor, Maharshi Panini Sanskrit and Vedic University, Ujjain said this gives opportunity to learners from all over India irrespective of their mother-language. This would enable them to benefit from the rich literature of Sanskrit. Prof. (Dr.) Gangadhar Panda, Kolhan University, Jharkhand said all our scriptures are in Sanskrit language and knowing the language would help our learners understand them better and appreciate our long term linguistic heritage.

Prof. Rajaram Shukla, Vice Chancellor, Sampuranand Sanskrit University, Varanasi said the unique pedagogy of the programme of IGNOU is a welcome development at Master's level. He touched upon different pedagogical methodology of teaching the Sanskrit language is must it one were to understand India and its true culture.



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Prof. Nageshwar Rao, Vice Chancellor in his presidential address thanked the distinguished guests for gracing the launch and supporting it. He hoped that with the collective efforts of everyone, Sanskrit would get the boost needed and would be taken up by students as the preferred choice.



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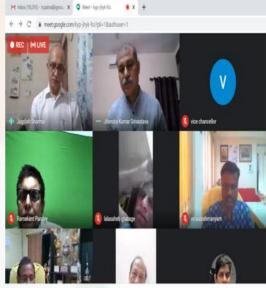
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Issue-4





Ramakant Pandey 1219 कलारि प्रतेदा हो सोका रह से को करिया काइयों। आपके विथि में संस्कृत का प्रारम्भ आपके कार्यकार की महती उपलब्धि है।



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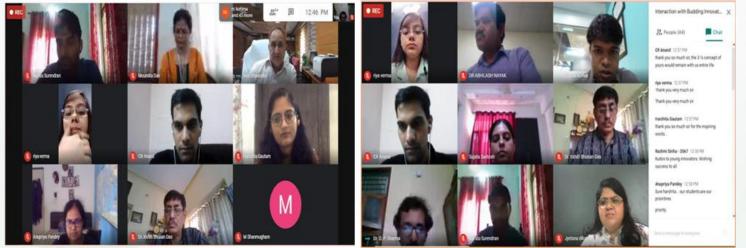


Interaction with the Budding Innovators

On 27th June 2020, the IGNOU-Institution's Innovation Council(IIC) organized a virtual meeting with the budding innovator students of IGNOU, selected through a university level contest. The main aim of the meeting was to inspire and motivate them and prepare them for the next level of contest. The event was graced by the Honourable Vice Chancellor Prof Nageshwar Rao and Pro Vice Chancellors Prof R P Das, Prof Satyakam and Prof KB Das. Directors of Schools and Regional Directors from across the country also participated in this interactive meeting. Members of IIC, Dr K S Kardam, Former Joint Controller of Patents and Designs, DrSaurabh Kumar, Assistant Professor, ITS college of Engineering, Greater Noida and Coordinator, Incubation Centre of the college were also present on the occasion. At the outset the President IIC and Director, NCIDE Dr O P Sharma welcomed all the dignitaries and gave an introduction about the activities of NCIDE promoting innovation and entrepreneurship among the students. He announced that the students had been selected through the IIC National Innovation Contest 2020 under the aegis of the IIC-MHRD Innovation Cell at NCIDE.

Prof Nageshwar Rao, Honourable Vice Chancellor, congratulated the students. While appreciating their ideas he urged them to think out of the box and keep innovating. He advised students to keep note of all important and innovative ideas, incubate them and act on them at appropriate time. He further suggested that while putting the ideas to action, they should consider the content as well the economic viability of their ideas. He promised all support to the student in giving shape to their ideas. Prof Vice Chancellor Prof Satyakam also appreciated the ideas of the students. He said that it was commendable that students had come with up innovative and grassroots level ideas. He also gave practical suggestions to the students to improve upon their ideas. Prof Vice Chancellor Prof K B Das also praised the ideas and proposals of students. He appreciated the diversity and interdisciplinary nature of their ideas.

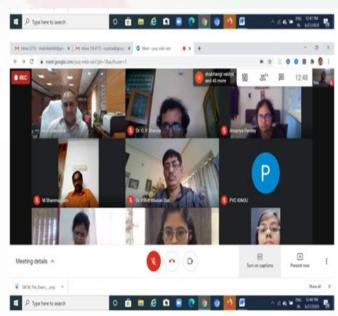
The members of faculty, Regional Directors and members of IIC also interacted with the students, appreciated their ideas and gave suggestions for improving upon them. Dr Saurabh Kumar, Assistant Professor, ITS college of Engineering, Greater Noida and Coordinator, Incubation Centre of the college made a presentation on "Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Opportunity" which the students found very useful.



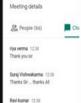


Bimonthly Digital Newsletter of Regional Centre, Patna









Ravi kumar 12.38 Thanku sir

KS Kardam 12:00 Hearty congratulations to all the young innovators and probably future entrepreneurs for sharing their wonderful ideas/concepts

Dr Sanjiv Kumar (2.40 Lot of work is being done on sodium batteries. Theod cautiously.

DR: SAVITA PANWAR 12:43 Heartiest congratulations and best with to all the learners. Wish you lots of succe in your future life.

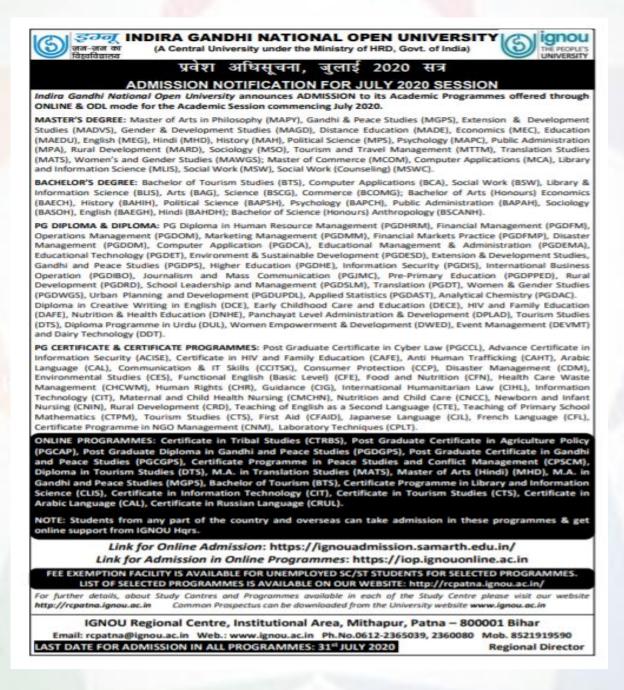




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Admission Notification for July 2020

On 5th July the University announced admission for July 2020 for 141 of its programs. The programmes available under Regional Centre, Patna has been provided in the Admission Notification for July 2020 and has been uploaded on the website of the Regional Centre for information of the general public and the aspirants.

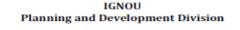




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Fee Exemption for Learners of SC/ST Communities

The Notification No IG/IGNOU/PDD/SCSP-TSP/2019, issued on 19th May 2020 regarding Fee Exemption to SC/ST students under SCSP/TSP Scheme has been uploaded on the website of the Regional Centre and the list of programames available under Patna along with the details like eligibility, minimum and maximum duration and medium of instruction has been uploaded on the website of the Regional Centre for benefit of the target group.



IG/IGNOU/PDD/SCSP-TSP/2019 Dated: June 20, 2020

In supersession to the notification issued on 19th May 2020 with reference to the scheme of fee exemption of SC/ST students of IGNOU under SCST/TSP Grant, it is being notified that the benefits of fee exemption is extended to the students belonging to SC/ST categories seeking fresh admission in July 2020 admission cycle with the following conditions:

- a) The benefits of scheme is extended only in the academic programme given in the Annexure.
- b) The scheme is not available for modular certificate/diploma programme which form part of a degree programme.
- c) SC/ST applicants who are eligible and willing to avail the benefits of fee exemption shall submit their application in online mode along with softcopy of documents required for the claim. SRD will certify the claim certificate in online mode.
- d) Beneficiaries, who are enrolling simultaneously in a certificate level programme along with an under-graduate programme, shall be eligible for fee exemption only in one programme.
- e) This scheme shall not be available to employed ST/ST applicants.
- f) Students who are taking the benefits exemption/reimbursement of fee from any other source/agency shall also not be eligible for fee exemption.
- g) An undertaking to the effect that the candidate is not getting any benefits of this nature from any other agencies/ sources during the period of study is to be taken along with online applications.

This notification is issued with approval of the CA.

Digitally Signed by Dr. Pankaj Khare Director, Planning and Development Division

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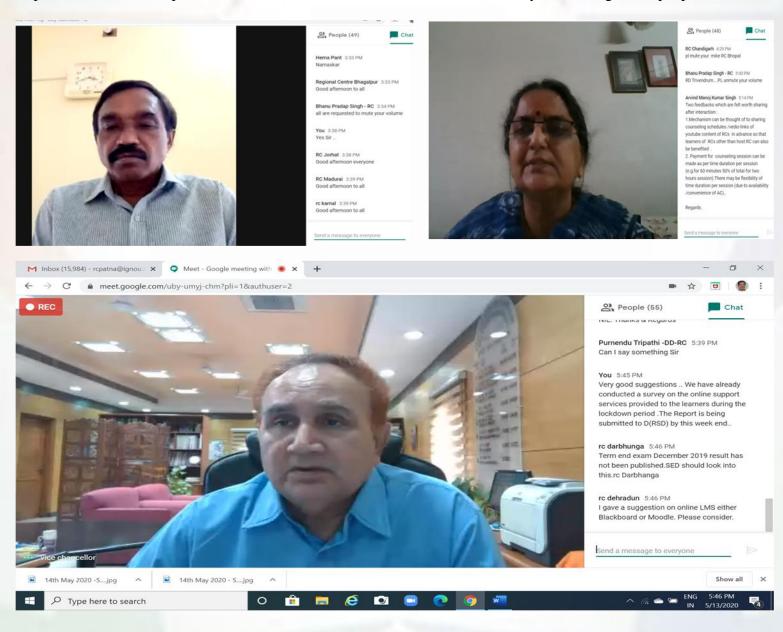
- 1. All Regional Directors
- 2. Director(s) of School of Studies, Heads of Divisions, Centres, Units
- 3. Registrar)S) Admin., SRD, SED and MPDD
- 4. Finance Officer, IGNOU
- 5. Director, RSD
- 6. Head, Computer Division with request to public notification on IGNOU's websites
- 7. DD, VCO for kind information to Vice-Chancellor



Online Meeting of Regional Directors

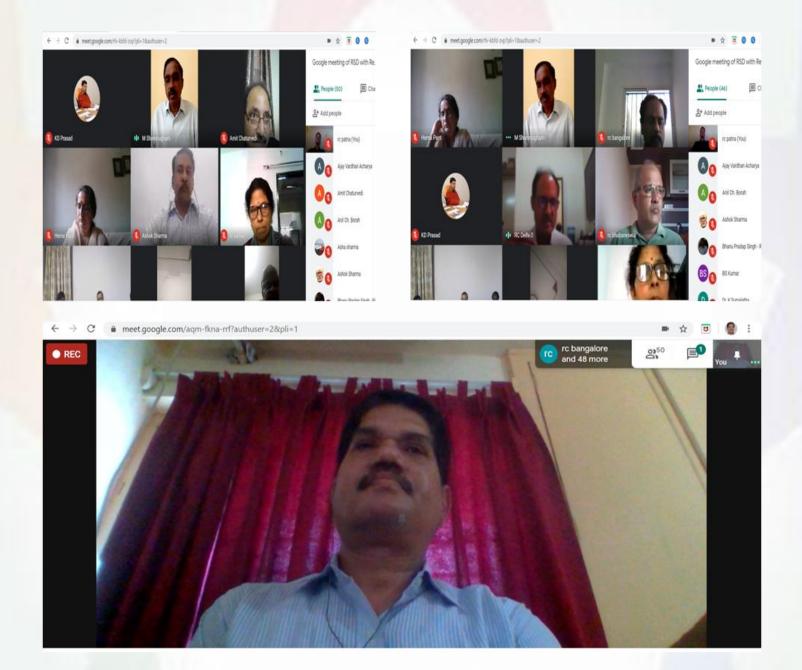
Issue-4

Director, Regional Services Division, IGNOU headquarters holds regular weekly meetings with the Regional Directors on a rotation basis in order to review the status of online support to the learners to continue their studies from home during COVID-19, share the best practices of the Regional Centres with all and motivate the Regional Directors to take up new initiatives and plan new interventions to help the learners during the critical period. On many occasions, Honourable Vice Chancellor also interacts with the Regional Directors during such meetings and inspires them to take all possible measures to further the mission of the university in reaching out to people.





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Hello IGNOU: An Innovative Initiative of IGNOU to reach out to the learners

The Hello IGNOU programme of IGNOU is an initiative of the Regional Services Division, IGNOU, New Delhi to reach out to the learners through Facebook. On the scheduled dates, senior officers of the Regional Services Division attend to the queries of the learners from across the country. Dr VP Rupam, Student Registration Division and Dr KD Prasad, Regional Services Division have been conducting these sessions for the benefit of the learners.





School of Education adds 'Education' as Subject under BAG programme (CBCS) from Academic Session July 2020

School of Education has successfully added 'Education' as a subject under BAG programme (CBCS) from Academic Session July 2020. Now learners from across the country can opt Education as a subject under the BAG programme.



Issue-4

School of Education, IGNOU adds 'Education' as a Subject under



BAG Programme (CBCS) from the Academic Session July 2020

Courses of 'Education' Subject under BAG Programme (CBCS)

Year	Sem.	Course Code	Course Title	Credits
1st	4	BESC-131 (Core)	Education: Concept, Nature and Perspectives शिक्षाः संप्रत्यय, प्रकृति एवं परिप्रेक्ष्य	
	ll	BESC-132 (Core)	Structure and Management of Education शिक्षा की संरचना एवं प्रबन्धन	6
2nd	Ш	BESC-133 (Core)	Curriculum, Teaching-Learning and Assessment पाठ्यचर्या, शिक्षण-अधिगम तथा आकलन	6
	IV	BESC-134 (Core)	Education as a Practice अभ्यास के रूप में शिक्षा	6
3rd	۷	BESE-141 (Elective)	ICT in Education शिक्षा में सूचना संप्रेषण प्रौद्योगिकी	6
	VI	BESE-142 (Elective)	Lifelong Learning जीवनपर्यन्त अधिगम	6



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Organization of Facebook Live Sessions by the Members of Faculty from the Schools of Study





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प्रतीकांतरण–भूमिका सिद्धांत

- प्रक्रिया
- विश्लेषण
- अंतरण
- 🔹 पुनर्रचना

अनुवादक की मूमिका पाठक (मूलपाठ) द्विभाषिक लेखक (अनूदित पाठ)

प्रकार्य अर्थग्रहण "चरण गण

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f facebook LIVE 12:00noon 14th May, 2020

End Colonon

Topic: Competitive strategy in times of Crisis

MS-11 Strategic Management

> Prof. Neeti Agrawal School of Management Studies

Point to Remember: Power

- Measuring unit of power is watt (W)
- Power = Voltage x Current ; P = VI
- 1 Watt = 1 Volt x 1 Ampere

Point to Remember: Energy

Measuring unit of energy is kWh 1 kWh = 1000 watt for 1 hour It is also known as Board of Energy (BOT)

(G) ignou

Directive Principles of the State Policy: Article 37 states that the provisions contained in this part are not enforceable by any Court, but the principles laid down are fundamental in the governance of the country and it shall be the duty of the state to apply these principles in making laws.





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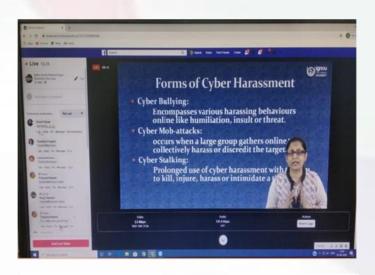




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LIVE 12:00noon 31st May, 2020 Topic: **Rule of Law**

Diploma in Paralegal Practice(DIPP) BLE-001/Block-01/Unit-01

> **Dr. Anand Gupta** School of Law





f facebook LIVE 12:00noon 29th June, 2020 Topic: **Graph Complement**

@OfficialPagelGNOU

M.Sc. (MACS) Course code : MMTE-001 (Graph Theory)

> Sh. Pawan Kumar **School of Sciences** Convertailor @2020. All Rights Reserved 102

> > and Clauon

f facebook LIVE 11:00 am

28th May, 2020

Topic : Insurance Queries during COVID-19

Dr. Anjali C. Ramteke School of Management Studies

@OfficialPagelGNOU



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Initiatives and Activities

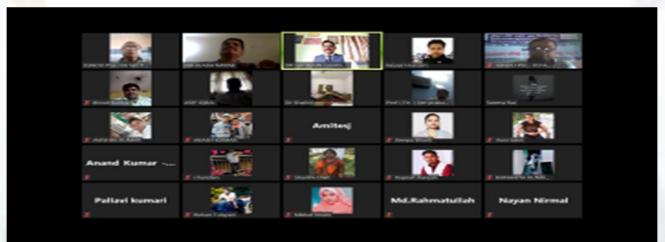
Of

Regional Centre and Learner Support Centres to provide online support to the learners

Online Health Awareness Session

The Regional Centre in collaboration with Programme Study Centre in Magadh Institute of Educational Development and Technology(MEDI)-05147P organized a Health Awareness Session about COVID-19 by famous nephrologist Dr Hasnain Kaiser to motivate the learners to remain physically and mentally fit during the lockdown period. This was given wide coverage in the media.

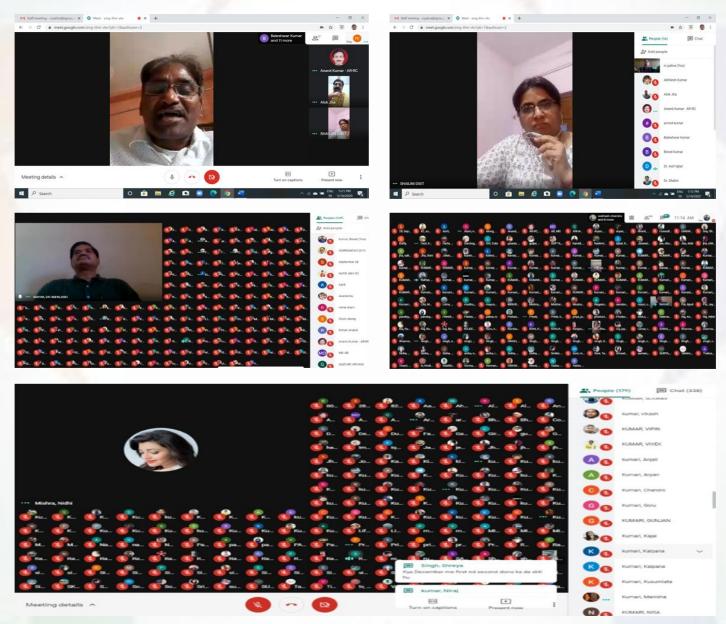






Grievance Redressal Session

The Regional Centre organized an Online Grievance Redressal Sessionon 14th May and 18th June 2020. Learners attended the sessions in large numbers. Many of the learners were concerned about the online submission of the assignments, Term End Examinations and non-receipt of the materials. The RD, all the ARDs, AR and other officials of the RC handled the grievances successfully. The learners appreciated this effort of the Regional Centre.

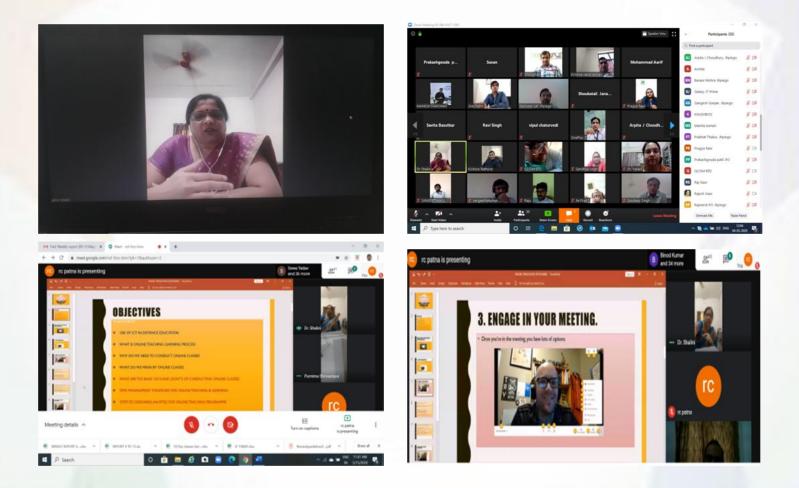




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Online Orientation of Academic Counsellors in the use of the Tools and Technologies for Online Teaching

The Regional Centre organized two Online Orientation Porgramme for the Academic Counsellors in Online Teaching. The first one was conducted for the newly empanelled academic counselors of Certificate in Community Health on 9th May 2020. The second one was conducted for academic counselors of all the streams on 15th of May 2020. In each of these training programmes, fifty academic counselors participated and appreciated this initiative of the Regional Centre. Dr. Abhilash Nayak, RD and Dr Shalini, ARD and Mr Binod Kumar, AEDP demonstrated the use of various tools, technologies and platforms for the conduct of online counselling sessions. It was unanimously decided that the academic counseling sessions for a course shall be organized for the learners across the region if the total enrolment in the course is less than 250. Dr. Shailini Dixit, ARD requested the academic counselors to give their consent for the online evaluation of the assignments. Dr. Asif Iqbal, ARD also interacted with the academic counselors and encouraged them to come forward for online teaching.

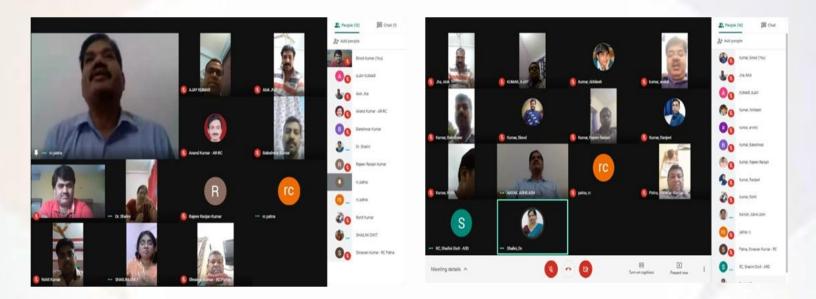




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Organization of Online Meeting with the Staff for Review of Online Support to the Learners

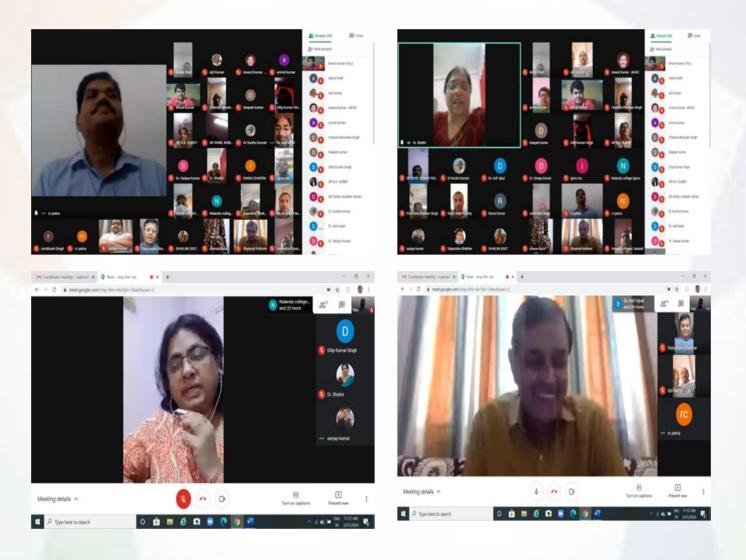
Weekly Online Meeting of the Staff of RC Patna were organized regularly to review the status of online support being provided to the learners. In the meetings, strategies for contacting and coordinating with the Cooridnators/PICs for organizing more number of online counseling sessions, evaluating assignments online, organizing virtual promotional meetings and providing online support to the learners are chalked out. All members of staff in charge of support services are encouraged to be alert in responding to the emails and phone calls/Whats App messages received from the learners.



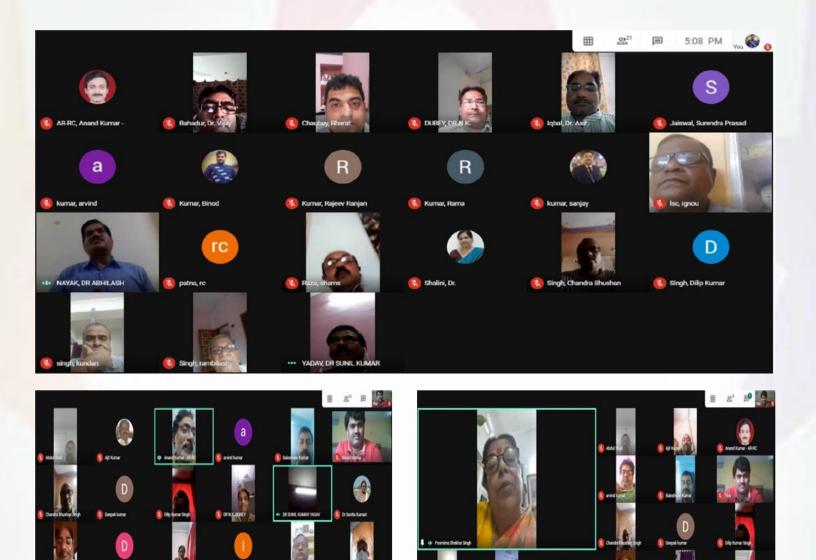


Organization of Online Meet of the Coordinators and PICs

Online Meetings of the Coordinators/PICs of RC Patna are organized at a gap of fifteen days to review the status of online support being provided to the learners during the lockdown period. They are requested to organize online academic counseling sessions and identify academic counselors for online evaluation of the assignments. They are also requested to encourage their learners to take advantage of all the Facebook live sessions and sessions on Gyandarshan and Gyandhara being telecast/broadcast by the faculty from various schools of study at the headquarters. As the Admission Cycle is in progress, the Coordinators/PICs are being requested in the meetings to organize virtual meetings and webinars for the benefit of different target groups of learners.







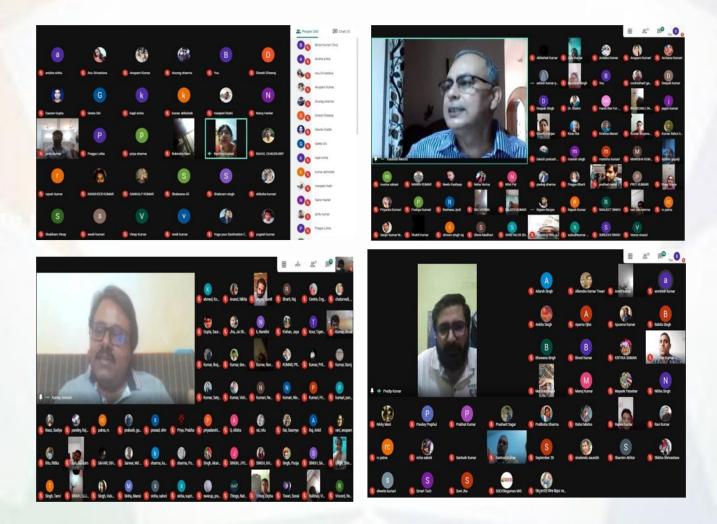




Online Counseling Sessions

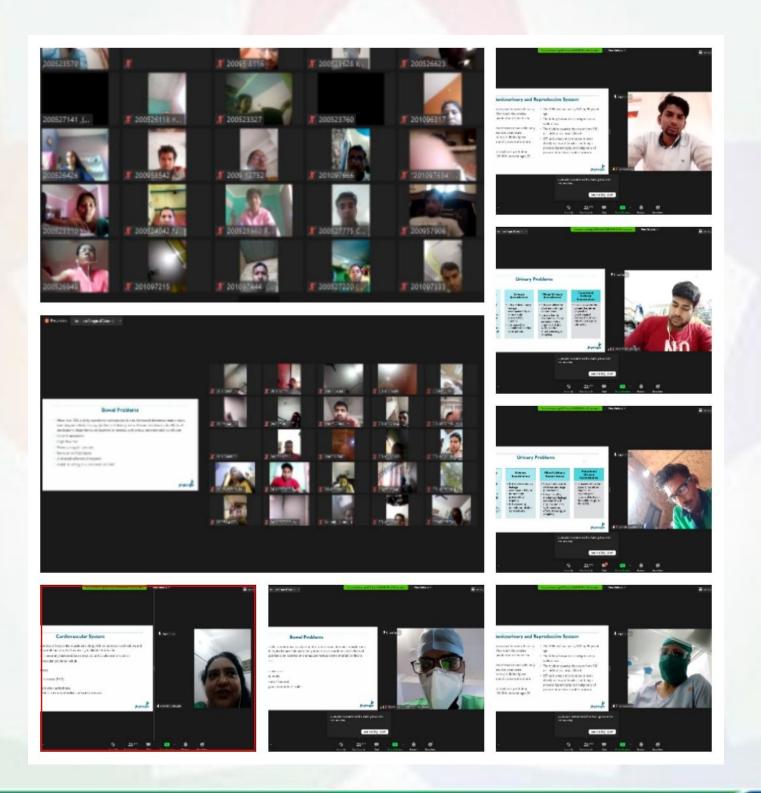
Issue-4

All Learner Support Centres have been encouraged to use innovative ICT-enabled strategies to reach out to the learners of different programmes during the lockdown period. More than 1200 online classes have been organized by the Learner Support Centres, Regional Centre and State Health Society, Bihar in collaboration with Jhapiego. The Regional Director Dr Abhilash Nayak and Assistant Regional Director, , Dr Shalini have also taken classes of MA(English) and BSCG respectively. The academic counselors taking online classes are encouraged to use PPTs so that learners who miss the classes get the opportunity to refer to them if the miss the classes. As the classes are being centrally organized and the schedules are uploaded on the website of the University as well as the Regional Centre, learners from other regions also take advantage of the online counseling sessions. Practical counseling sessions of CCH have also been started in all the Learner Support Centres and are continuing in full swing. This has been possible due to the constant support and cooperation received from the State Health Society and close coordination of Jhapiego.





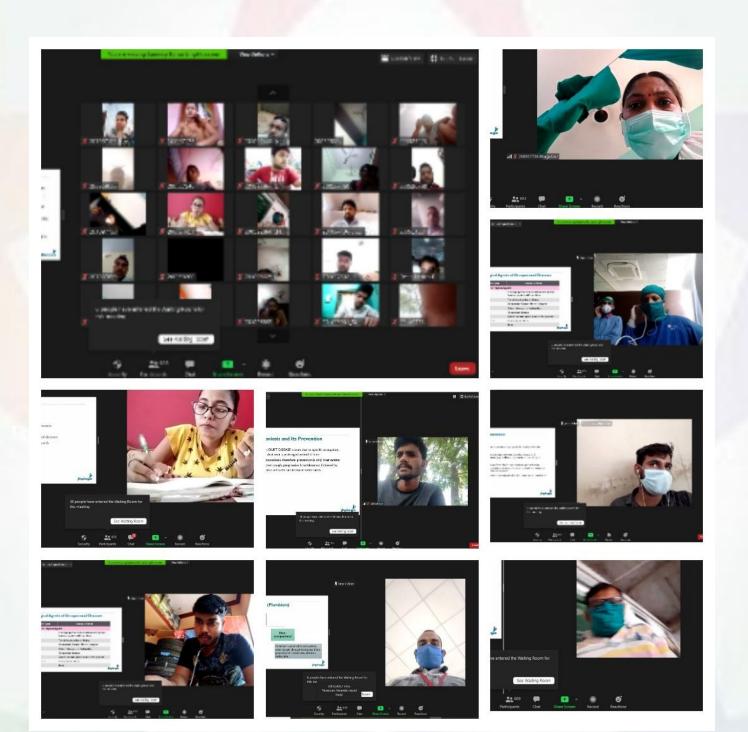
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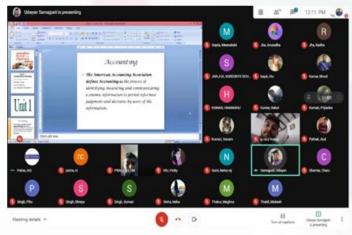
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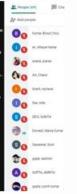
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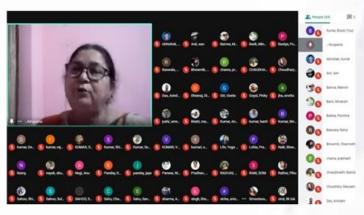


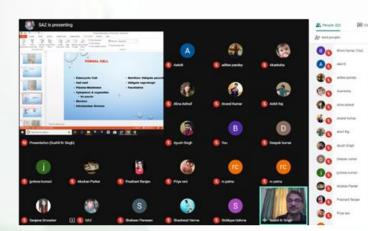


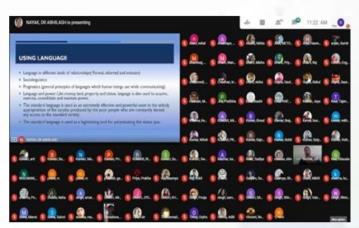










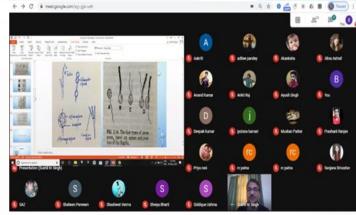


















Practical Counseling Sessions of Certificate in Community Health(CCH)

















































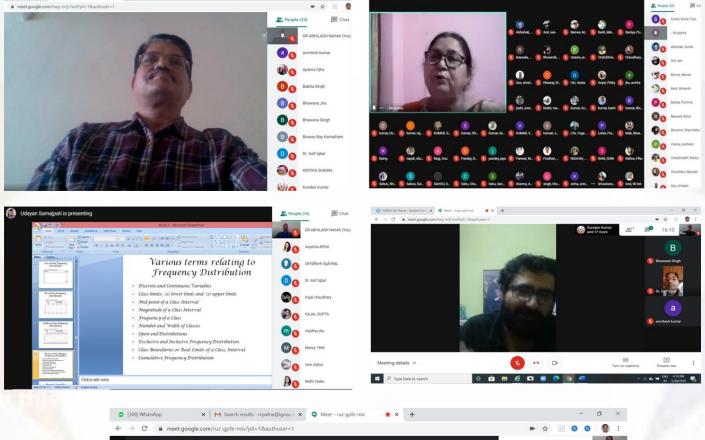


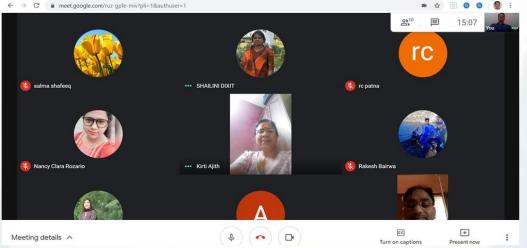




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Monitoring of Online Counseling Sessions by the Learner Support Centres





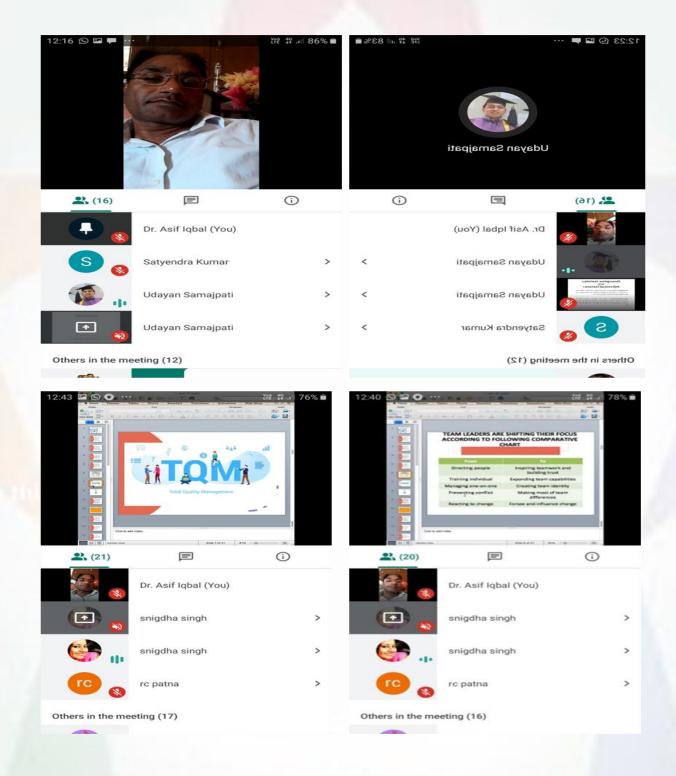


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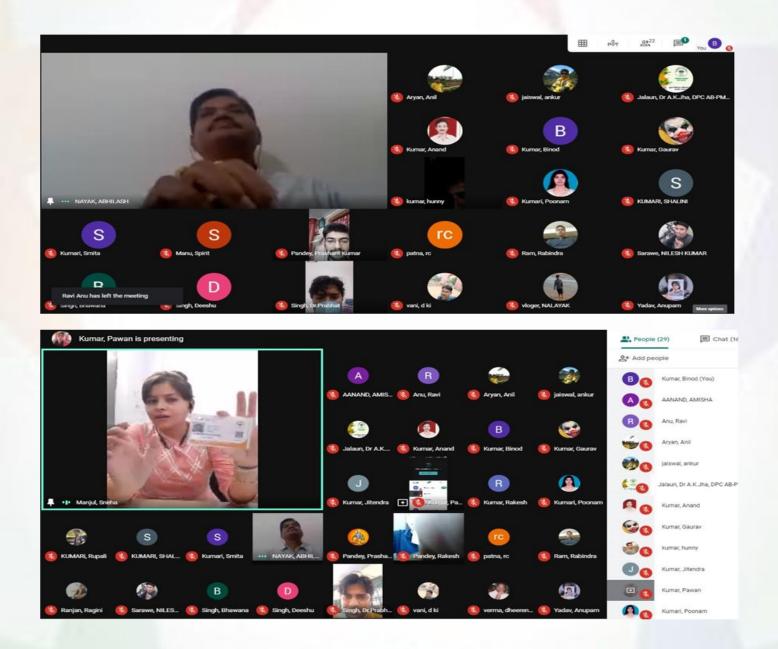




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Online Session on Ayushman Bharat 24th May 2020

An Online Awareness Programme on Ayushman Bharat and COVID 19 was organised by the Regional Centre on 24.05.2020. Dr Sneha Manjul, District Programme Coordinator, Ayushman Bharat conducted the session, briefed the audience about the benefits of Ayushman Bharat scheme of Government of India and advised the audience to take special precautions during the Corona Crisis period.

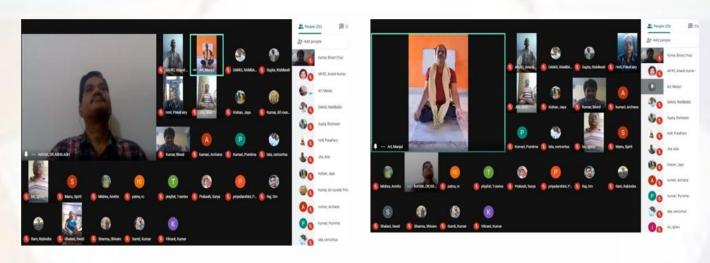




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Online Yoga Session

Online Yoga Training Sessions were conducted two times during the lockdown period. The first one was organized on 8th May 2020 by one of the Programme Study Centres in Magadh Institute of Educational Development and Technology(MEDI)-05147P. Yoga Instructor AcharyaVed Prakash of PatanjaliYogashram conducted the session to help the learners destress themselves and maintain physical and mental health. The second one was organized on 24.05.2020. Yoga Instructor Shri Sunil Kumar Manjul, trained from Munger Ashram conducted the session to help the learners destress themselves and maintain physical and mental health.



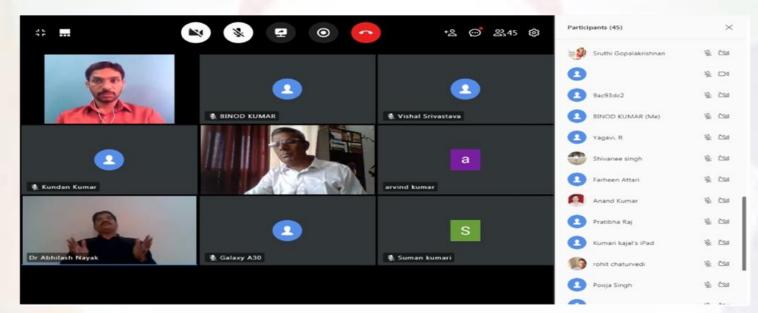


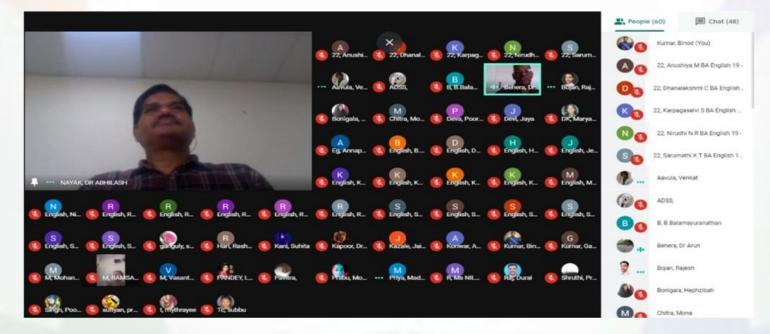


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Participation of the Regional Director in Webinars as a Resource Person

The Regional Director Dr Abhilash Nayak participated in three webinars as a Resource Person. The first one was organized by the Dawn Journal on 07.06.2020 and he delivered a talk on Communicate to Connect. The second one was organized by the Dawn Journal and Ramakrishna College for Women, Coimbatore on 22.06.2020 and he delivered a talk on Communicate to Conquer. In the third webinar organized by English Support Online, Odisha on 27.06.2020 he delivered a talk on Communicate to Connect.







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Promotional Activities for Fresh Admissions July 2020 Virtual Meetings with the aspirants

The Regional Centre in Coordination with the Learner Support centres has been organizing virtual meetings to promote IGNOU programmes and create awareness about the various schemes and facilities available for different categories of learners like the learners from the SC/ST communities. Three such meetings have been held in Bakhtiyarpur(Patna), Jhajha(Jammui) and Barbigha(Sheikhpura) in coordination with our Study Centres 05147P, 5177and 05167. Many more such meetings have also been planned in other districts to reach out to the rural population during the lockdown period.







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Online Submission and Evaluation of Assignments received through Email & Google Form

As per the directions of the headquarters, the Regional Centre has been receiving assignments from the learners in scanned format through the dedicated email IDs created by the Regional Centre for various levels of Programmes and Google Form. Till date, nearly 70000 assignments have been received through the email IDs, Google Form and in the form of hard copies. Out of these, 40000 assignments have been processed for evaluation and the rest are being processed. A team of seven persons has been formed to look after the evaluation of assignments. The following strategies have been adopted to streamline the evaluation of assignments:

- The officials not having PCs at their residences have been provided PCs so that they can work easily from home.
- Officials are being paid for the payment made by them for purchasing additional data for downloading the assignments through their mobiles.
- Local evaluators are being given assignments in pendrives so that they are not required to download the assignments and use mobile data. Some of the Coordinators from distant places have also sent special messengers to collect the assignments through pen drives.
- Google Form was created(https://forms.gle/vzjxTGbDpRo8DccbA) and the link for the Google Form was sent to all approved academic counselors to give their consent for online evaluation of assignments. More than 100 people have responded so far. Storage capacity of the Google Form has been hiked to 5TB in order to accommodate maximum number of assignment submissions.
- Assignments received through Google Form have been segregated and the links for individual assignments are being sent to the evaluators to access them straightaway from the Google Drive.
- Hardcopies of the assignments received at the Regional centre are being sent to the Study Centres for evaluation
- Hard copies of the assignments received at the LSCs are being evaluated at their end..
- Details of the assignments received at all the nodes are being entered in Excel Sheet to merge the data and arrive at the final figure of assignments as there are many instances of duplicate submission of assignments.

Awards received from the LSCs in soft copies and hard copies are being kept in safe custody for entry of the awards once the link for the same is open on the online portal.



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Innovative Practices

- Uploading of details of programmes suitable for people working in different sectors on the Website of the **Regional Centre:** In order to help the aspirants get information regarding the programmes relevant to their own fields/sectors, the Regional Centre has created PDF files containing lists and details of programms for people working in different sectors like agriculture, education, health, NGOs, business organisations, IT Sector and firms. details legal The of the programmes can be accessed with the link http://rcpatna.ignou.ac.in/news/detail/1/Programmes_Suitable_for_People_Working_in_Different_Sectors_-191
- Creation of Separate You Tube Channel of the Regional Centre: The Regional Centre has started a You Tube Channel by the name of RC Patna(https://www.youtube.com/IGNOURCPatna05). Initially, the videos for Induction Meetings on various aspects of support services like academic counselling, SLM and assignments have been uploaded on the channel. Coordinators/PICs have been requested to send us the selected recordings of the online counseling sessions for uploading on the channel for the benefit of learners across the country. Learners of different programmes are also encouraged to prepare small videos on topics of their choice and submit to the Regional Centre for uploading on the You Tube Channel after editing. Some of the videos of students of MEG(https://youtu.be/u7WQxy5JM-U) are already available on the website.
- A link has been provided on the website by the name Fresh Admissions July 2020 (http://rcpatna.ignou.ac.in/news/detail/1/Fresh_Admission_July_2020_Session-195) to guide the learners to fresh admissions for July 2020. The Admission Notification, Promotional Videos for Online Programmes, Promotional Video for Admissions July 2020, Link for admission to Online Programmes, link for admission to ODL programmes, list of programmes suitable for people working in different sectors, List of Active Learner Support Centres under the region, Common Prospectus in English, Fee Exemption to SC/ST students under SCSP/TSP scheme, List of programmes for fee exemption to SC/ST students have been uploaded under this heading.

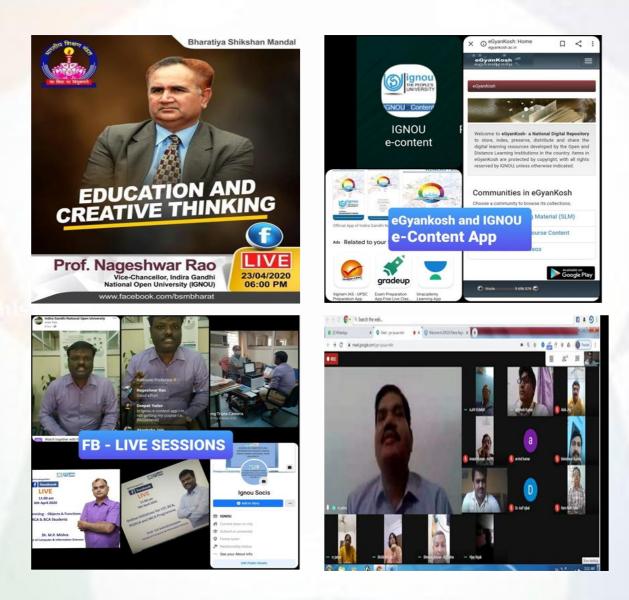


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ICT converted pandemic (COVOD-19) into opportunity for Education.

The COVID-19 pandemic has been responsible for millions of infections globally, affecting almost every sector across the world. Amid COVID-19 disrupted academic year, educational institutions are coming up with better methods, albeit as complementary to traditional classroom education. Caught in the vortex, the Indian education system is shifting the paradigm towards online education.

Huge demand rising in Online Learning





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The nationwide lockdown that was imposed, with a hope to contain the virus, resulted in schools and colleges being closed across the country affecting over 500 million students. In order to continue with classes, institutions are focusing on e-learning methods of learning on digital platforms. This has, however, increased the workload for educators due to extended work hours. Especially for teachers and professors residing in rural areas facing connectivity issues. Nevertheless, statistics have shown that online has proven to enhance learning and the students' ability to retain information.

Most of the Universities, schools and institutions have come up with online essentials as their primary mode of teaching. Educational universities and institutions like IGNOU, Amity International Group, DIT University, Symbiosis University and many others have shown tremendous results in online teaching methodology. The institutions are promoting the concept of online classrooms and the resources are being provided to all the students digitally.

Specially IGNOU well known for technology enhanced learning, had made excellent approach for three tire online academic delivery system and kept their learners engaged during the whole period of lock down and completed their classes for the Jan-June 2020 semester. IGNOU Headquarters has made arrangement of online lectures with the support of honorable Vice Chancellor and PVC from almost all the schools of leanings, particularly SOCIS had given lots of digital resources, Home work for BCA, PGDCA & MCA and virtual Labs, using IGNOU website, e-Gyankosh, Gyan Dhara, Gyan Darshan, Google meet and Face book Live. IGNOU Regional centres have organized centralized online counseling sessions with support of learned academic counselors particularly under RC Patna . Study centres have organized complete counseling classes of full durations for all the courses and have also provided digital reference materials/videos using online platforms.



Webinars, e-Workshop & online FDPs



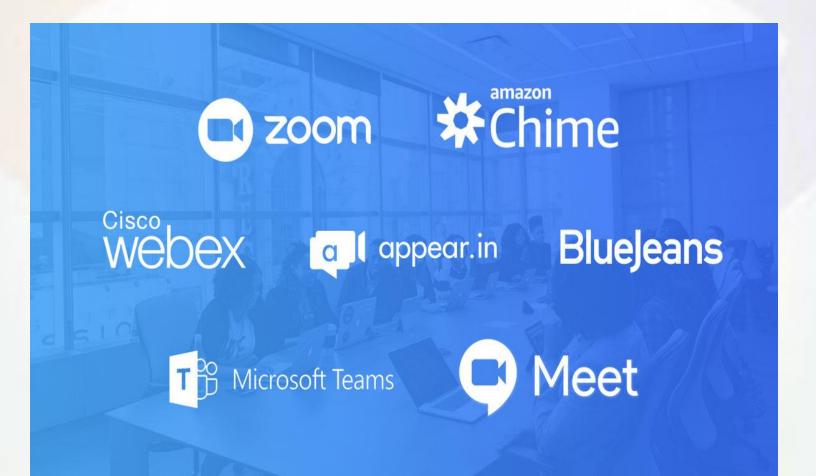
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Throughout history, epidemics gave humans many challenges, but yet also brought with it many visible and hidden opportunities. COVID-19 has an impediment to the world in terms of health, trade, business and other daily activities of human life. To analyze and overcome this pandemic situation and make our faculty members to share and exchange ideas to overcome this situation, many universities and institutions are organizing online Faculty Development Programmes, webinars and e-workshops. These knowledge sharing events are available on virtual platforms which have given great opportunities for the students, members of faculty and academicians to attend these events and share their ideas globally. In India, for example, Computer Society of India has supported Indian Universities and Colleges to organize such events with International speakers. These events have helped the local students specially IGNOU learners to participate national and international events from their places.

Commonly used video-conferencing platforms and chat apps for online education







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THE PEOPLE'S

	Free version available	Meeting participants (default)	Screen- sharing	Whiteboard	Meeting recording	E2E encryption	Plans from (p/m)	Mobile app
Zoom	Yes	100	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	\$14.99	Yes
Microsoft Teams	Yes (Limited time only)	250	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	\$5.00	Yes
Google Meet	Yes	100	Yes	No	Yes	No	\$6.00	Yes
Skype	Yes	50	Yes	No	Yes	Yes (optional)	\$2.99*	Yes
Cisco Webex	Yes	200	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes (optional)	\$13.50	Yes
BlueJeans	No	100	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	\$9.99	Yes





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Online Learner support systems

Use Social Media to Stay Connected with Students

Using Whatsapp and Face book pages Universities, Colleges, Schools and other academic institutions had been continuously in touch with their students and catering their day to day administrative requirement like face to face mode of communication and responses. Students, Teachers and Administrative officials all are staying online connected, therefore queries and responses are going on in real time, students never suffers isolation.

Offer Online Registration, Admission & Exam application Services

Instead of asking the students to visit the campus for registration, new admission and exam form submission, the process is made available by online mode using institutional website. This helps the students to continue their study without semester break.

Online Fee Payment services for the Students

Institutions have provided payment gateways linked with their websites for online payments for various type of fee submissions to Universities, colleges and Schools. This kind of payment system also supports minimum time and cashless transactions.

Online Examination services for the students

The scope of the online examination system in battling the current situation. Even though the existing situation has deemed universities to utilize technology in conducting exams in a streamlined manner, many educational institutions would gradually embrace online platforms as the mainstream approach to conducting exams. This is because the traditional methods are not viable under present situation of COVID-19. However, exams can be easily configured on a digital platform with the availability of numerous full-proof online exam management systems. Additionally, online proctoring and auto-grading brings down cost and reduces turnaround time, allowing students the flexibility to take exams from anywhere in the world.

Conclusion

Online education has covered a lot of ground in recent times and the interface is more user-friendly and on top of that, a student gets a classroom experience by sitting in the corners of their rooms. There are facilities for communicating with the educators and the students of the same course. The biggest trump card is its flexible timescale. Students can get a resolution to their problems not only during the routine hours of the class but also during the time while they are studying themselves via email or through an online chat system. The exams are mostly conducted online today due to its efficient mechanism and due to the tests, which are designed in the online format, eLearning makes students accustomed to an almost exact exam atmosphere and thus increases their response time and chances of success. With the availability of various courses by an endless number of educators with demos and refund policies, the student's satisfaction is always given a priority. An educator in online learning keeps on improving and adding to their skills to impart better education in comparison to their peers in order to survive in this vast platform which enhances the experience of the users and help in their overall development. Finally online education is the only option to keep education system continue during COVID-19 like situation.

By Md. Shams Raza,

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