

Volume - II

Issue- 5



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### In this issue

- Initiatives and Activities of the University to provide 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.....
- Success Stories of Our Alumni



Prof. Nageshwar Rao  
**Vice-Chancellor**



Dr. Kshiti Bhusan Das  
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Prof. Satyakam  
**Pro-Vice Chancellor**



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**Pro-Vice Chancellor**



Dr. M. Shanmugam  
**Director, RSD**

### Editorial

We have been living with CORONA for the last six months, sometimes with fear, sometimes with hope and most of the time with a lot of pessimism about the future that seems so much uncertain with the recession in economy, disruptions in education and growing depression among people. In spite of all these, life must move on. We as human beings should brace ourselves to face the challenges looming over us and get ready to accept the future as it shapes before us.

There are some good things happening in our country and overseas in the countries affected with the CORONA pandemic. Public places are being thrown open for the general public to carry out their social, official and personal responsibilities. Restrictions are there but life is no more confined to the four boundaries of our houses. At the educational front, two major developments have occurred meanwhile in our country. The National Education Policy 2020 has come out with a lot of promises for the country, particularly the youth. It is heartening to note that a lot of emphasis has been put on online, open and distance education in this policy and the role of IGNOU as a leader has been highlighted in the context of online education. University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020 has also been formulated and it is expected that the dividing line between conventional education and online education will disappear soon and the future would see a surge in online, open and distance education.

Colleges and universities are closed but examinations are being conducted across the country. Under the directions of the University Grants Commission and Ministry of Education, Government of India, final year exams are being conducted to ensure a safe future for our youth. Government of India wants our youth to be equipped with the right degrees obtained through formal examinations to face the global employment market. 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 with his strong network of Regional Centres and Learner Support Centres has geared up to conduct the Term End Examinations from 17<sup>th</sup> September in more than 700 examination centres across the country by following the Standard Operational Procedure(SOP) recommended by the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India. Entry of assignment awards is in full swing and would be over before the completion of examinations. Our aim is to give complete results to the learners so that they get their degrees in time and are ready for the global market.

Regional Centre, Patna has identified 16 Examination Centres for the Term End Examinations, including one in the Regional Centre itself the Regional Director himself is the Centre Superintendent. Admissions for July 2020 are in full swing and virtual meetings and webinars are being organised by the Regional Centre and the Learner Support Centres are being organized on a regular basis to create awareness about online, open and distance education. With the invention of the vaccine for CORONA pandemic, hopefully things will come back to normalcy soon and life will thrive with the same charm, vigour and vivacity.

Constructive suggestions are always welcome to help us improve the Newsletter in future issues.

Happy reading!

Abhilash Nayak



### Initiatives, Activities and Achievements of the University

#### Prof. G. Ram Reddy Memorial Lectures

The University celebrates 2<sup>nd</sup> July every year in the memory of the founding Vice Chancellor of the University Prof G Ram Reddy and invites eminent educationists and scholars to deliver lectures on higher education, especially in the open and distance learning domain.

Members of the Organizing Committee cordially invite you to the

**25<sup>th</sup> Prof. G Ram Reddy Memorial Lecture** (Through Virtual Mode)

**"Online Education in the Age of the Pandemic"**

on

**Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 2020 at 11.30 am**

By

**Chief Guest**

**Prof. V R Mehta**  
Former Vice-Chancellor, Delhi University

**Distinguished Guest**

**Prof. E Vayunandan**  
Vice-Chancellor,  
Yashwantrao Chavan Maharashtra Open University, Nashik





Prof. Satyakam while welcoming the Chief Guest Prof. V.R. Mehta, the Distinguished Guest Prof. E. Vayunandan and Mrs. Promilla Reddy wife of Prof. G Ram Reddy said it is an important day for all of us when we remember our beloved founding vice-chancellor Prof. G Ram Reddy. He warmly remembered that he was appointed by Prof. Reddy. He also thanked all the guests for joining the memorial lecture through virtual mode.

Prof. E. Vayunandan, YCMOU in his address while thanking for opportunity given said as part of IGNOU, I was the chairman of the committee which organized on the memorial lecture and today I am being invited to speak as a guest, it is a matter of great pride for me. Remembering Prof. G Ram Reddy's contribution to Indian higher education space, he said that Prof. Reddy was the Institution builder and helped establish man including; Indian Council of Social Sciences, Osmania University, Center for Economic and Social Studies, Andhra Pradesh Open University (Now known as B R Ambedkar Open University) and IGNOU. He added that Prof Reddy was also instrumental in building Commonwealth of learning (COL). National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), & Bangladesh Open University as well. And seeds sown by Prof. G Ram Reddy are even more relevant in today's situation which warrants that ODL's blended approach be adopted to impact education.

Giving the 25<sup>th</sup> G Ram Reddy Memorial Lecture through virtual mode on "Online education in the age of the Pandemic", Prof V R Mehta, Former VC, Delhi University observed that the present situation has led us to ponder about the education system we need to adopt. And ODL provides answers with technology enabled solutions, he advocated. Looking at the huge inequalities in our society, the distance education which can impart required skills is most desirable. He further said that it is through technology it is possible to reach the masses but it calls for change. He asked the teachers to be equipped to impart education through online medium and get trained so as to communicate effectively through online medium using technology. He also said that a new set of protocols and systems pose new challenges as well like to safeguard students interests and it needs rethinking about syllabi and examination/evaluation in online education. It also carries governance issues, mechanism to reach out to students etc., he elucidated. He lauded IGNOU for adopting and transitioning to a new system , new pedagogy in the pandemic times.

He fondly remembered his interactions with prof G Ram Reddy and said that Prof Reddy was a very passionate and committed person and because of his efforts that the open education system gained roots in India. He made higher education accessible to everyone. The credit of taking classes to the masses goes to Prof Reddy, he opined.

Prof. Nageshwar Rao, VC, IGNOU giving his presidential address thanked Prof. V.R. Mehta for his insightful and relevant address and said that Prof. V.R. Mehta has articulated the need for online education in the present context in a very effective manner. He paid tribute to Prof. G.Ram Reddy and thanked Mrs. Promila Reddy, wife of Prof. G. Ram Reddy for her presence at the memorial lecture. Giving an overview of the journey of ODL to Online education, Prof. Rao said that content, video in place of teachers, mentoring/counseling, evaluation as envisioned by Prof. G. Ram Reddy long back are being replicated in online education as the four quadrants. Providing details of the university's initiatives in online education, Prof. Nageshwar Rao informed that IGNOU has launched 12 more online programmes and has 44 courses on SWAYAM platform. He also highlighted use of social media by the university and how Face-book lectures have been very popular among students as well



as teachers. There is a Digital Movement happening post COVID-19, he averred and IGNOU is gearing up for the same through capacity building in terms of teacher training for online education.



### Brainstorming Session on Innovative Initiatives towards Enhancing Enrollment in the COVID-19 Scenario



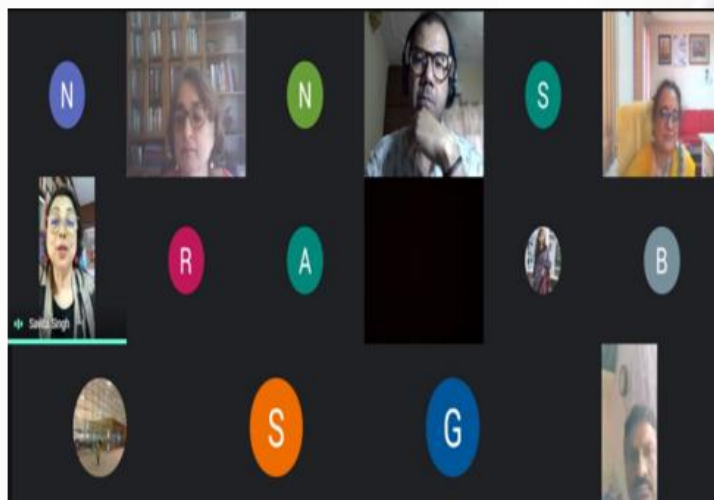
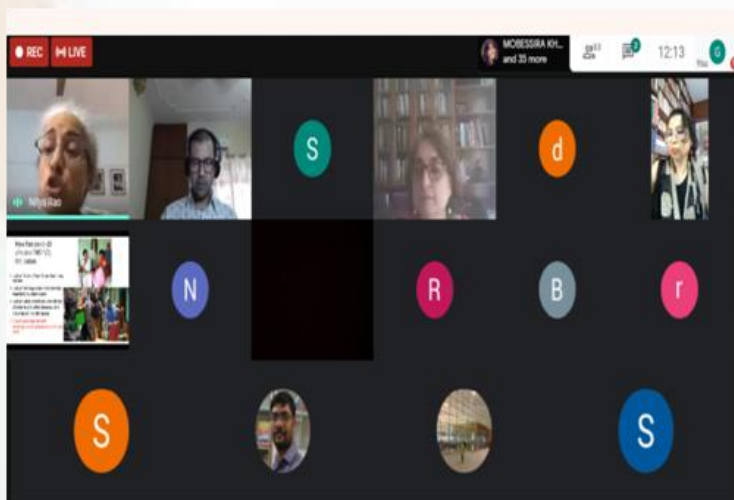
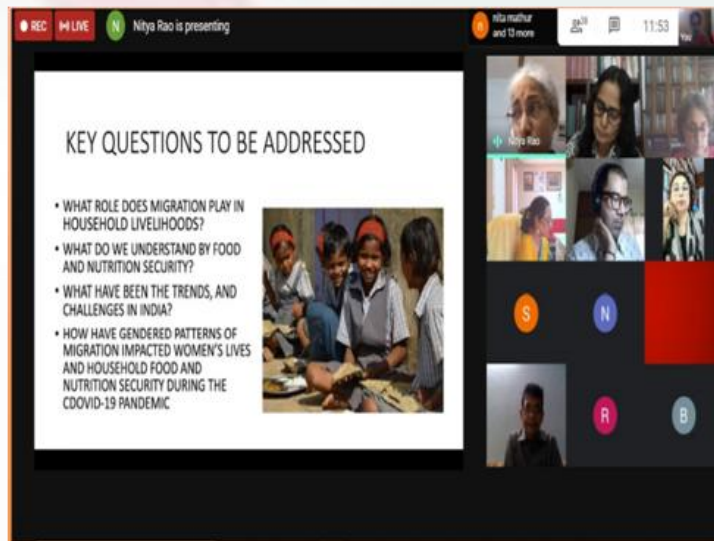
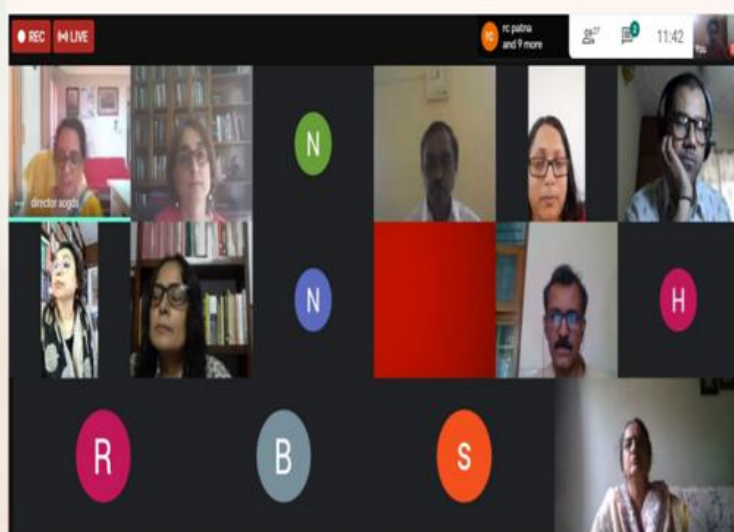
Dr. Sujata Santosh, Assistant Director and Coordinator of the InnovationClub@IGNOU welcomed the members and introduced the topic of the discussion. Thereafter, Dr. O.P. Sharma, Director, NCIDE gave a brief introduction about the objectives and activities of the Innovation club and highlighted the importance of the topic of discussion and need of innovative initiatives for enhancing the enrolment in different programmes in the present pandemic situation.

This meeting of the Innovation Club was also graced by the Pro-Vice Chancellor, Prof. K.B. Das. While addressing the members he said that in the present situation there are mainly two challenges – first challenge is certainly related to the admission and the second challenge is conducting the examinations. He appreciated the initiative of NCIDE to have brainstorming on such an important topic in the current situation. In connection with enhancement of enrolment, he opined that the alumni of different programmes may play very important role. Further, he suggested to fully utilize the social media for publicity and proper marketing of the programmes of reach out to the unreached. In this connection he said that it is important to work on the strategy more, instead of the policy. He also wanted that the innovation clubs should be vibrant at the Regional Centres by involving the students.

#### National Webinar on “Gender Issues in India during the COVID-19 Pandemic

A National Webinar on “Gender Issues in India during the COVID-19 Pandemic was organized by the School of Gender & Development Studies on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2020 from 11.30 am to 1.30 pm. The welcome address was offered by Prof. Nilima Srivastava, Director, SOGDS, and Webinar Coordinator. This was followed by a brief introduction about the concept and underlying them of the webinar by Prof. Anu Aneja who moderated the proceedings. The webinar addressed the disproportionate socio-cultural, economic, and mental burden faced by women during the current pandemic. These aspects were elaborated upon by three resource persons with expertise in their respective field.





Prof. Nitya Rao from School of International Development, University of East Anglia, UK was introduced by Dr. Smita, M.Patil, Prof. Rao gave a talk on “Gendered Impacts of Migration on Food and Nutrition Security during the pandemic”. She addressed the important concept of food and nutrition security, the role of migration in household livelihoods, the gender dimensions of migrant labour, and the impact of the lockdown from the perspective of gender relations. Prof. Savita Singh, SOGDS, introduced by Dr. G. Uma, gave a talk on “Increase in the Incidents of Gender Based Violence in the Context of COVID-19 Pandemic”. In her presentation, Prof. Singh highlighted the burden of togetherness enforced by the pandemic which has resulted in increased levels of acute violence on women in private spaces and ex-posted them to the risk of infection in public spaces in the wake of the spread of COVID-19. She drew attention to the precariousness of women’s lives during the pandemic and the urgent need to address these. Finally, Dr. Bhargavi Daver, Director, Bapu Trust for Research on Mind & Discourse, Pune was introduced by Dr. Sunita Dhal, Dr. Daver gave a presentation on “Mental Issues faced by women in times of COVID-19”. Dr. Daver brought to light the hardships of women and the urban poor, especially those with disabilities, living in low income settlements, and also discussed the work being done by her organization to ameliorate some of these difficulties. The intersectionality of mental health and socio cultural biases were discussed by Dr. Daver to illuminate the dire situation faced by many women today. In wrapping up, the moderator emphasized the intersectoral nature of the challenges being confronted under the COVID-19 pandemic, as very lucidly articulated in all of the presentations. There was a general consensus regarding the importance of recognizing our co-dependency and the need to work collectively to find solutions. To conclude the webinar, a vote of thanks was offered by Prof. Himadri Roy, and this was followed by a Question-and-Answer session in which as appreciation for all the presentations was also expressed by many participants.



### NCIDE

## Innovative Initiatives and Activities of IGNOU Showcased by MHRD Innovation Cell on its Web Portal




Since its inception, NCIDE has been developing innovative learning and support solutions and also has been promoting the innovation in the university. During the last one year, a number of activities were taken up to create a culture of innovation among the students as well the faculty by way of organizing several activities. It gives a pleasure to share that some of the innovative initiatives and activities taken up by the NCIDE and some of the Regional Centres during August, 2019 to June, 2020 have been well recognized and showcased by MHRD Innovation Cell (MIC) on its Web Portal.

MHRD's Innovation Cell (MIC) established by the MHRD aims at systematically fostering the culture of innovation within all Higher Education Institutes. The primary mandate of MIC is to encourage, inspire and nurture young students by supporting them to work on new ideas. The MIC has envisioned the creation of the Institution's Innovation Council (IIC) across select Higher Education Institutes. MIC is coordinating the innovation related activities in various institutes and universities. Currently, more than 950 IICs have been established in HEIs, such as IITs, IIMs, Central Universities, State Universities, RECs,

#### Innovative Initiatives and Activities of IGNOU Showcased by MHRD Innovation Cell on its Web Portal

ACTIVITIES @ INSTITUTES	
	Pre placement training program
	Launch of WEAS
	Workshop on IoT with Machine learning
	Student innovation Award 2019
	Open Session on "Importance of Time Management for Effective Studies"
	Soft Skill Development for Industry Grounding An innovative initiative by IGNOU Study Centre

#### ACTIVITIES @ INSTITUTES

	Open session on "Domestic Environmentalism – Approaches and Strategies".
	National Innovation and Start up policy 2019 for students & faculty
	Guest lecture of Dr. Sekhar Bhattacharyya
	How to Conduct Market Survey: Tools, Techniques & Guidelines
	Saturday Video Classes at IGNOU Regional Centre Port Blair
	Guest Lecture of Professor Robert Finkelman, University of Texas, Dallas, USA

#### Innovative Initiatives and Activities of IGNOU Showcased by MHRD Innovation Cell on its Web Portal

ACTIVITIES @ INSTITUTES	
	Innovation Club@Regional Centre, Cochin : Bridging the Gap between Customer Potential and Sale Potential in Banking Sector: An Innovative Approach
	Meeting of the InnovationClub@IGNOU : Presentation on "Innovation in Assessment of Core Competencies of ODL Professionals"
	Industrial Visit to MY FM and The Haribhoomi
	Meeting of the InnovationClub@IGNOU : Presentation on "Innovative Approaches for Grievance Redressal in ODL"

#### ACTIVITIES @ INSTITUTES

	Meeting of the Innovation Club@IGNOU on "Innovative Ways of Teaching and Learning during Lockdown."
	Low Cost Web based Video Counselling for Distance Learners
	Sensitizing Faculty Towards Innovation-Innovative learning and Support Solutions in Open and Distance Learning System in the Faculty Development Programme on Integrating Technologies in Open Distance Learning organized by STRIDE, IGNOU
	Seminar on Decision Making and Creative thinking by Mr. Prabhat Kumar Jha (Motivator and Life coach) Ex. Deputy General Manager Maruti Suzuki limited.

The IIC at IGNOU was established on October 15, 2018 at NCIDE with the objective to build and stream-line innovation and start-up ecosystem at the institutional level. The activities of IIC include the follow-ing:

- Conduct various innovation and entrepreneurship-related activities prescribed by MIC in time bounded fashion.
- Identify and reward innovations and share success stories.
- Organize periodic Workshops/Seminars/Interactions with Entrepreneurs, Investors, Professionals and create a mentor pool for Student Innovators.
- Organize Hackathons, Idea Competition, Mini-Challenges, etc. for the students with the involvement of industries.

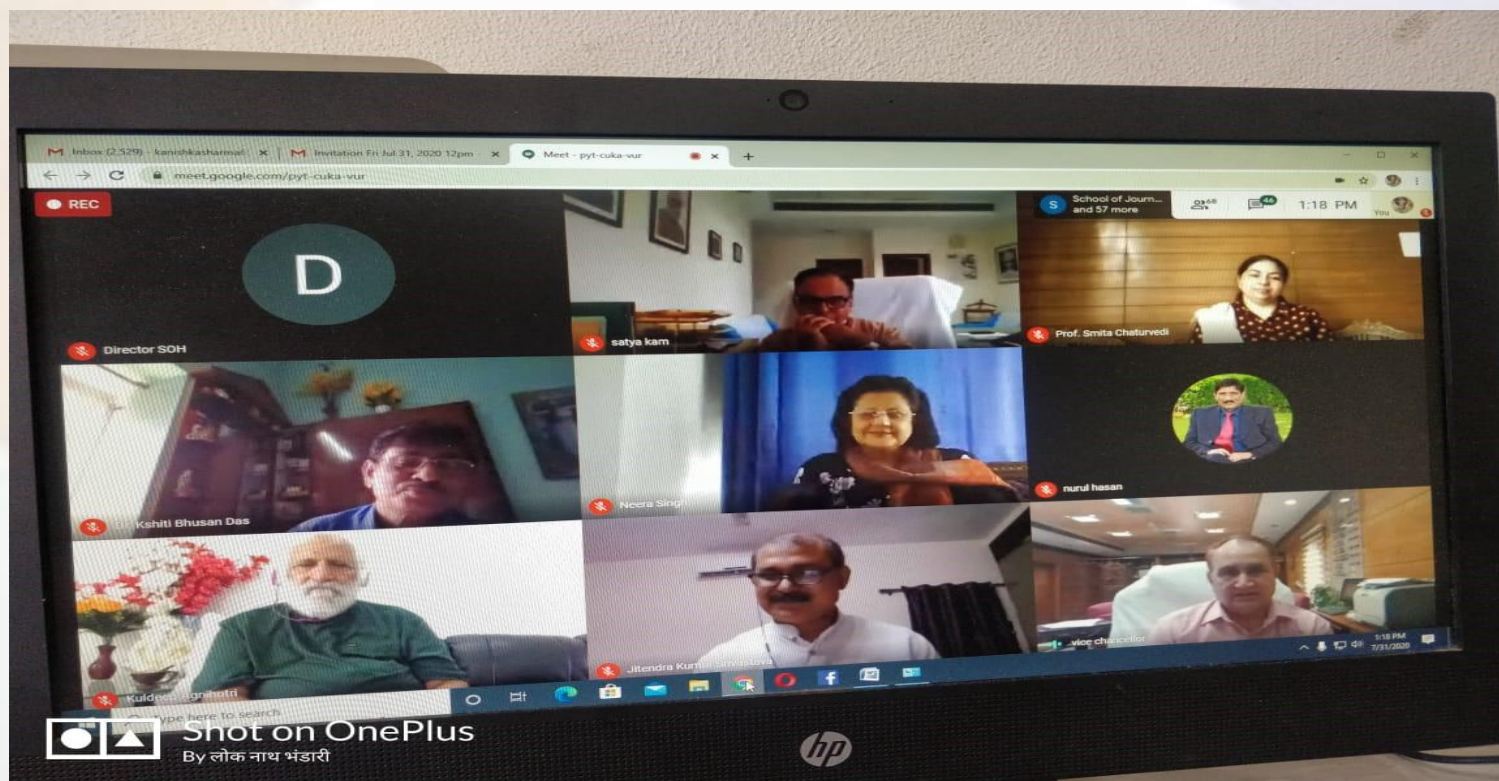
The IIC conducts various MIC mandated activities and self-driven activities related to innovation, and submits the reports to the MIC from time to time. Any innovation related activity carried out at the IGNOU Regional Centres is also reported.

For the year 2019-2020, the IIC had reported 25 self-driven activities carried at IGNOU headquarters, Regional Centre Delhi-2, Regional Centre Cochin and Regional Centre Port Blair. The MIC has showcased some of these activities in its website at <https://mic.gov.in/iic.php>. These showcased activities include, in addition to the activities conducted by NCIDE, Innovation Club activities at Regional Centres, such as Open Session on 'Importance of Time Management for Effective Studies' and 'Domestic Environmental-ism – Approaches and Strategies' by RC Cochin. It also includes promoting innovation among IGNOU students by activities such as "Saturday Video Classes at IGNOU" by Regional Centre Port Blair and "Soft Skill Development for Industry Grounding" by IGNOU Study Centre under Regional Centre Delhi-2.



**Date : 31.07.2020**

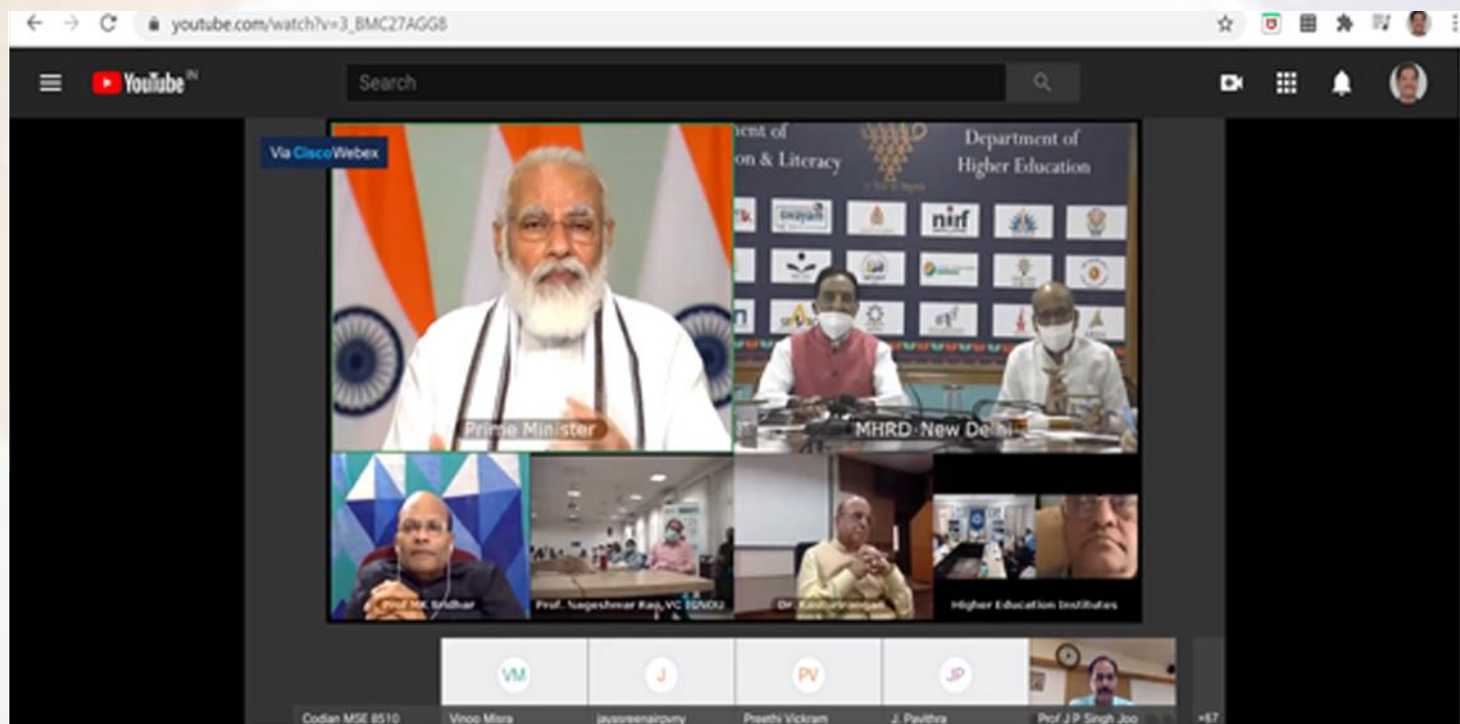
Indira Gandhi National Open University celebrated Premchand Jayanti on 31.07.2020. The theme of the Jyanti is *Premchand ke Sahitya me Bhartiyyata*. Prof. KuldeepChand Agnihotri, Vice Chancellor of Central University of Himachal Pradesh, was the Chief Guest on this occasion. Prof. Nageshwar Rao, Vice Chancellor of Indira Gandhi National Open University chaired the session and Prof. Satyakam, Pro-Vice Chancellor, IGNOU also coordinated this programme.



### UGC Conclave on Transformational Reforms in Higher Education-National Policy on Education 2020

The UGC organized a conclave on Transformational Reforms in Higher Education-National Policy on Education 2020 on 07.08.2020 which included address by Shri Narendra Modi Ji, Honourable Prime Minister of India, Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank Ji, Honourable Minister for HRD, Government of India, Shri Amit Khare, Secretary, Higher Education, Dr. K. Kasturirangan, Chairman, Committee for draft NEP, Prof D P Singh, Chairman, Shri Sanjay Shamrao Dhotre, Hon'ble Minister of State for HRD UGC and Prof Nageshwar Rao, Honourable Vice Chancellor, IGNOU and other academicians of national eminence.

#### Honourable Prime Minister addressing at the UGC Conclave



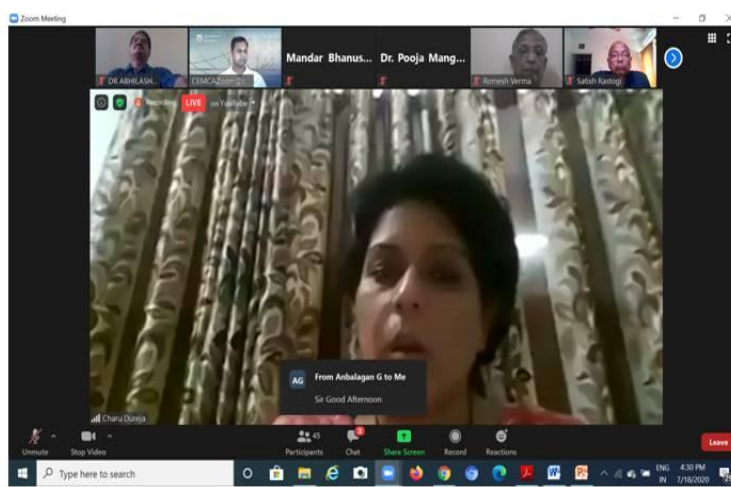
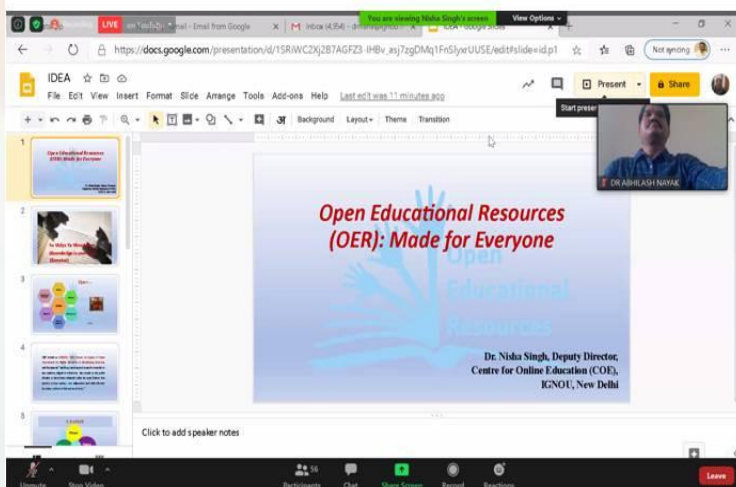
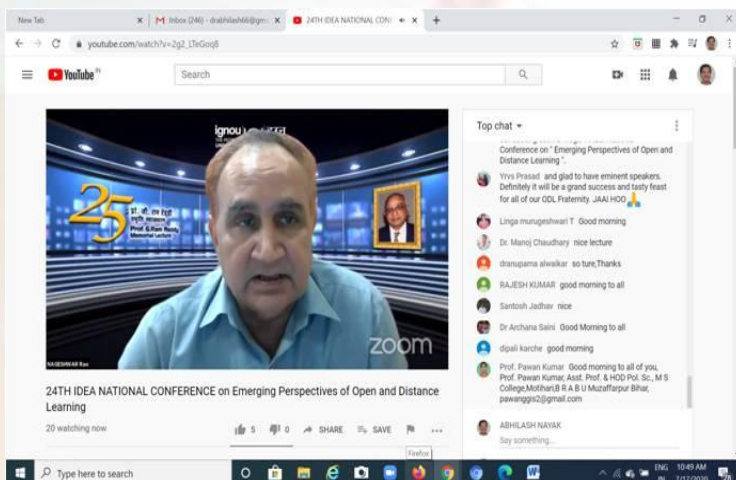
Conclave on Transformational Reforms in Higher Education





### IDEA-IDOL-CEMCA CONFERENCE

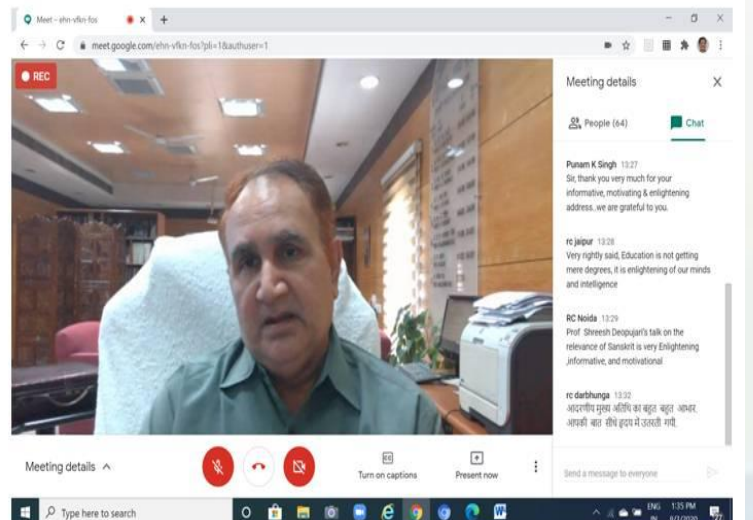
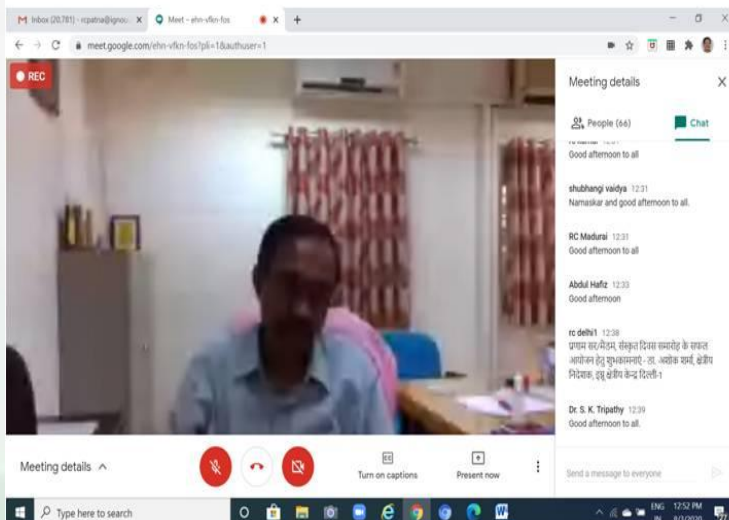
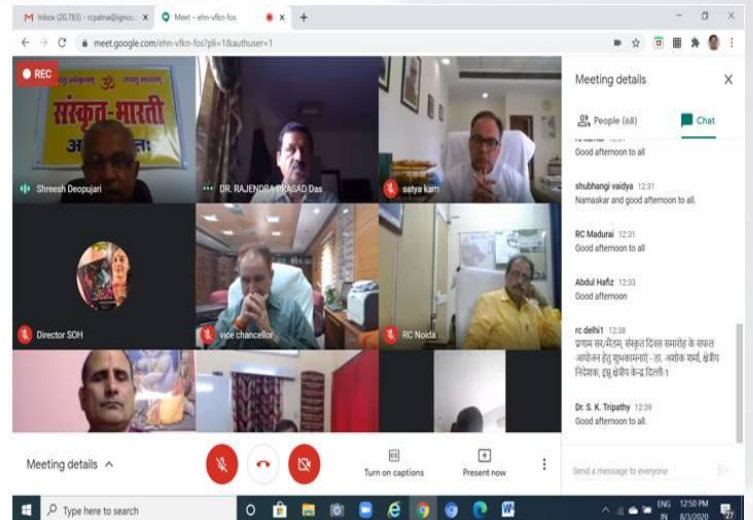
Indian Distance Education Association in association with Institute of Distance and Open Learning (IDOL), Mumbai University organized a two day webinar on Emerging Perspectives of Open and Distance Learning on 17-18 July 2020 in collaboration with Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia (CEMCA).





### Celebration of Sanskrit Divas

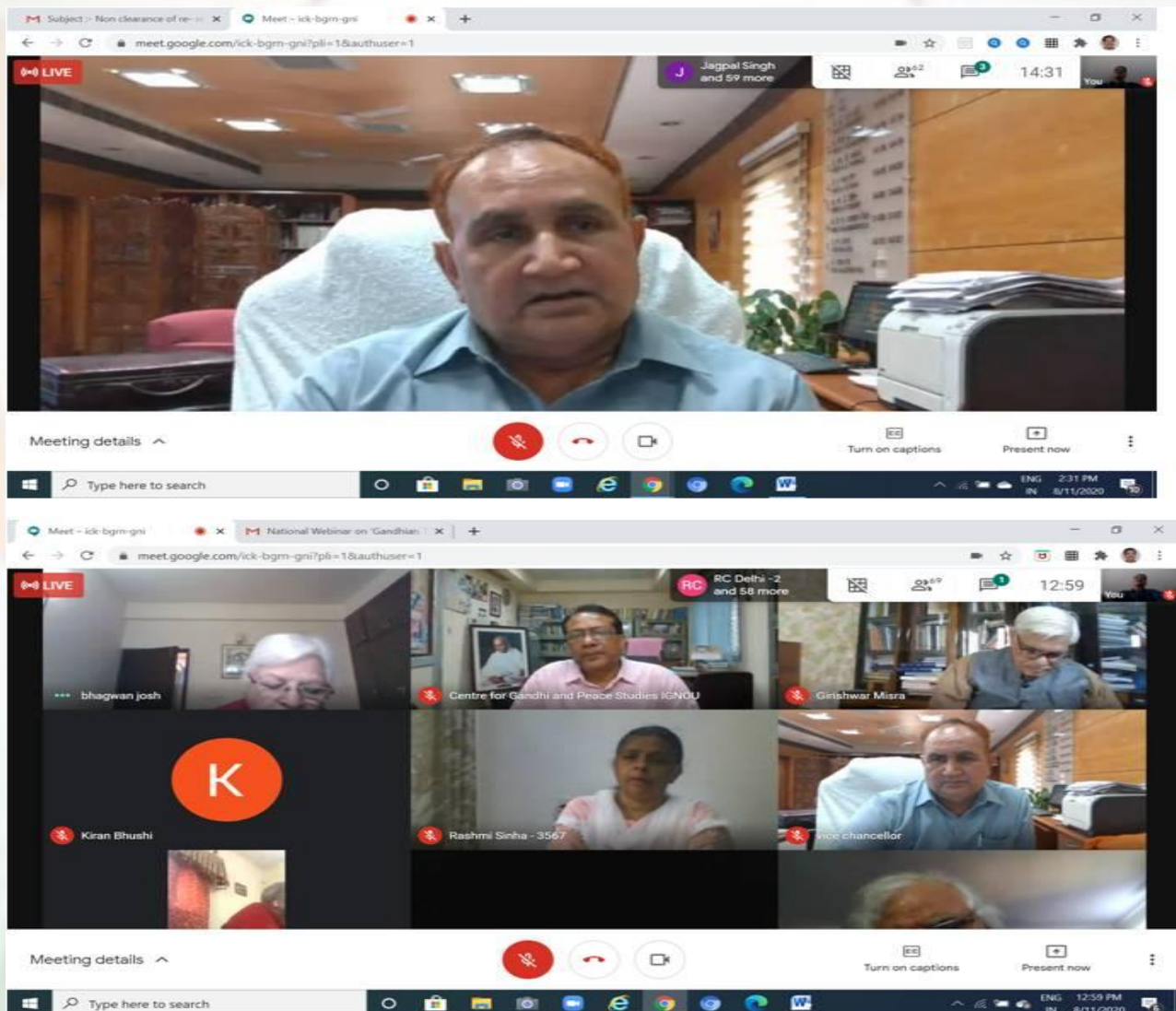
Sanskrit Diwas was celebrated on 03.08.2020 by the School of Humanities with Prof Shreesh Deopujari as the Chief Guest on the occasion. The talk by Prof Deopujari on the relevance of Sanskrit in our times was a wonderful eye-opening session which had potential to change our perspectives on life, wealth, livelihood, development and environment.



### Webinar on Gandhi Thought and Praxis

The Centre for Gandhi and Peace Studies, School of Social Sciences, IGNOU organized a National Webinar on 'Gandhian Thought and Praxis' as part of 'Celebration of 150 Years of the Mahatma' today. The webinar was chaired by Prof. Nageshwar Rao, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor IGNOU.

Eminent speakers included Prof. Girishwar Misra, Former VC MGHV Wardha, Prof. Bhagwan Josh, Former Professor CHS, JNU, New Delhi, Prof. Shashi Joshi, Former Senior Fellow IIAS Gopal, Former Head CGPS, Professor Political Science IGNOU.





### NCIDE (SEED)

NCIDE, IGNOU has started an eleven day online training programme titled “Student Empowerment for Entrepreneurial Development (SEED)” for IGNOU students as IGNOU’s Initiative towards Atmanirbhar Bharat in the field of innovation and entrepreneurship. Amid the COVID-19 crisis, the Prime Minister of India called for Atmanirbhar Bharat or Self-Reliant India Movement. This scenario calls for entrepreneurship, especially among the youth of the country and IGNOU took this initiative to empower its students for Atmanirbhar Bharat through this training programme from 27 July to 21 August 2020.

The Inauguration of the SEED training Programme was held on 29th July 2020. The occasion was graced by the presence of Honourable Vice Chancellor, Prof Nageshwar Rao, Honourable Pro-Vice Chancellors Prof. R. P. Das, and Prof. K. B. Das. The Directors and Heads of Schools, Divisions, Centres and Units and the Regional Directors of IGNOU. Eminent experts from academia and industry including Prof. S. P. Mishra, former Vice Chancellor, DSVV, Haridwar; Mr. Satvinder Singh, Managing Director, Nitcon, Mr Harshal Sanghvi, Founder Essentech, and Dr. Raunak Kadia were also present.

#### Training programme on Student Empowerment for Entrepreneurial Development (SEED)

Welcoming all to the inaugural session Dr. O. P. Sharma provided an overview of the SEED Training Programme. He said that the SEED has been conceptualized and developed by the NCIDE as a student empowerment programme aimed at encouraging and motivating the IGNOU students towards innovation, entrepreneurship, startups and Skill Development. He pointed out that, this is basically an initiative of the university towards Atmanirbhar Bharat. It aims at helping the students in converting their Idea into a Business Plan and how to develop a Bankable Business Proposal and much more.

Dr. Jyotsna Dikshit, Deputy Director, NCIDE and one of the Coordinators of the SEED programme gave a demonstration of the web portal designed specifically for the student participants. She mentioned that the basic objective of the portal is to nurture the budding innovator students of IGNOU in their journey for being an Entrepreneur and thus contributing to Atmanirbhar Bharat. The portal enables the learners to access the session recordings, educational resources, activities and e-assignments related to the sessions. The participants are also provided the facility to discuss in asynchronous mode through the discussion board. It is an evolving and dynamic portal with a student-centric design.

Five student participants from across India presented their ideas to the Honourable Vice Chancellor and other dignitaries in the inaugural session. These students were Ms. Neena Sharma from Rajasthan, Mr. Subham Seal from Gujarat, Ms. Kamlesh from Delhi, Mr. Aakarshan Agrawal from Bihar and Mr. Pankaj from Maharashtra.

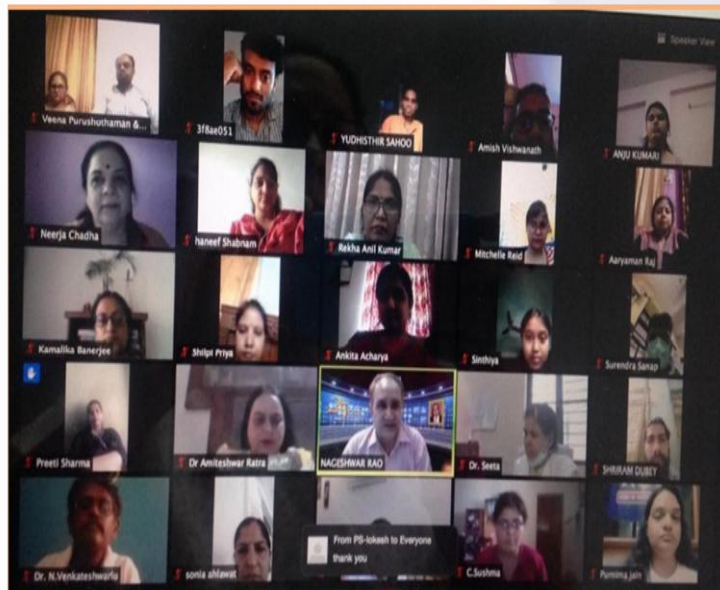
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### Virtual Symposium on Happiness work

IGNOU organized Virtual Symposium in association with Indian Psychiatric Society on August 7, 2020. The symposium was presided over by Prof Nageshwar Rao, Vice Chancellor, IGNOU and the Chief Guest was Prof P.K. Dalal, President, Indian Psychiatric Society (IPS). Prof Nageshwar Rao in his presidential address stressed on the need to have more such programmes in different regional languages so that it can reach to the vast learner base of IGNOU. All the experts and panelists stressed on the need to inculcate happiness both at the personal level as well as personal level. It was agreed upon that there should be a concept of 'Right to Happiness'. The experts stressed that the steering of happiness should not be given to there and the major thrust was on the acceptance of an individual as s/he is. Happiness is accompanied by sadness and they are two sides of the coin. Everyone was of the view that happiness is inherent and cannot be taught but can be developed. The symposium was quite successful as around 1000 participants from all the corners of globe attended it virtually.





## Celebration of Independence Day at IGNOU Headquarters, New Delhi

The Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) celebrated the 74th Independence Day in its campus in Maidan Garhi, Delhi observing the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for such gatherings in the times of pandemic like social distancing and wearing face-masks. The Vice Chancellor of the University, Prof. Nageshwar Rao hoisted the national flag on the occasion and also inspected guard of honour by IGNOU guards.

Prof. Nageshwar Rao in his address congratulated the IGNOU students and everyone at IGNOU Headquarter and Regional Centers on the occasion of 74th Independence Day.





Talking about the changed scenario in today's time of pandemic, Prof. Rao advocated digital technologies to be harnessed for learner support services like admissions, counseling, study material distribution, examinations. He commended the IGNOU faculty and staff members for using social and digital media for connecting and providing services like counseling & conducting Facebook Live lectures for the benefit of learners across programmes. He also made a mention of the Online Courses started by the university and reiterated the university's commitment to reach the unreached using technological interventions.

On the occasion, Prof. Nageshwar Rao launched the installation of Grid Connected Rooftop Solar Power Plant in the campus to harness the power of solar energy and to cater to the electricity demands of the university. The power generation from the proposed Solar Plant will not only reduce IGNOU's power bills, but will also fulfill its "clean energy mission" and reduce their carbon footprint simultaneously.

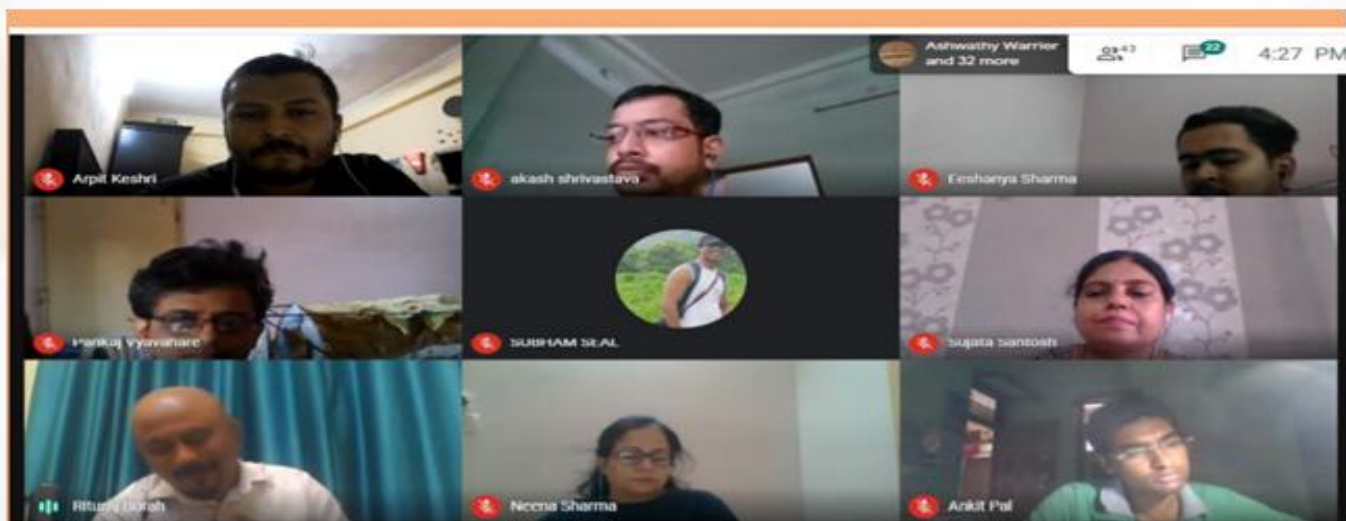
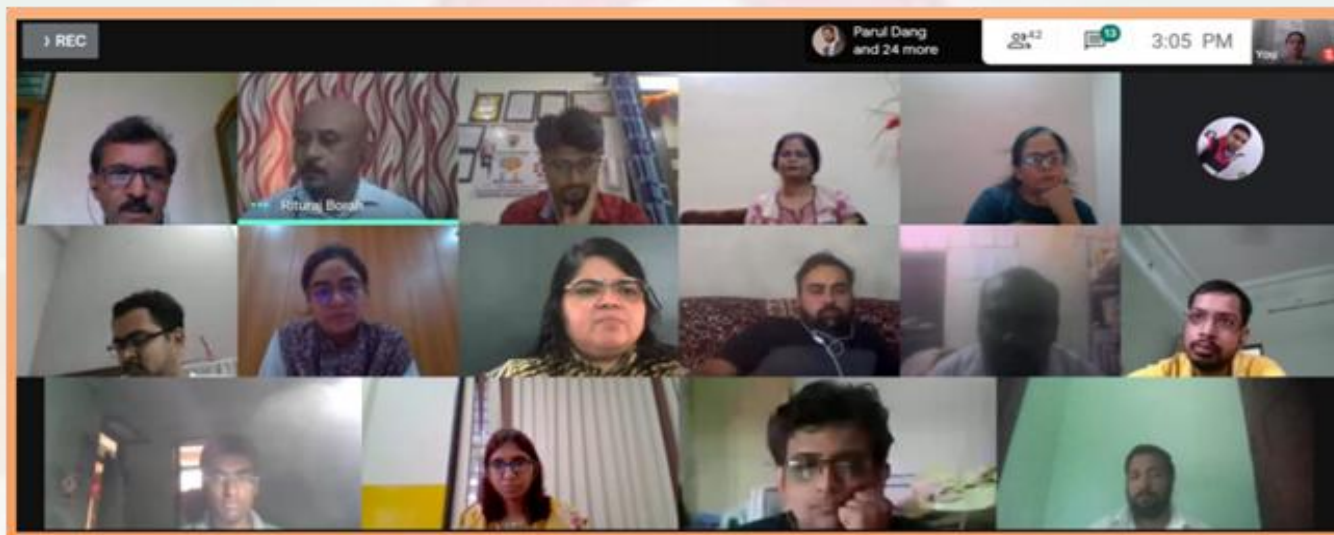
### Session 9 of the "Student Empowerment for Entrepreneurial Development (SEED)" Programme

The ninth session of the eleven-day online training programme on "Student Empowerment for Entrepreneurial Development (SEED)" on "How to Develop a Bank-able Business Proposal?" was organized by the NCIDE on 14<sup>th</sup> August, 2020. The SEED programme as an IGNOU's Initiative towards Atmanirbhar Bharat, is being organized from 27 July to 21 August 2020. The session was taken by Mr. Rituraj Borah, Consultant, India Power Corporation Limited. The main objectives of the session were:

- to explain how to translate a concept into a bankable project,
- to describe ways to prepare a bankable project proposal,
- to enumerate the important points that should be considered while formulating /preparing a bankable project report, and
- to explain the essential elements for preparing bankable projects.

The Session Coordinator, Dr. Sujata, welcomed the expert speaker, Mr. Rituraj Borah, the student participants and introduced the topic of the online session. She gave a brief introduction about the expert speaker and highlighted the main objectives of the session. Dr. O. P. Sharma gave an overview of the topic of the session and explained to the students that a business plan is a comprehensive roadmap for your small business' growth and development. He further added that the session will highlight how to prepare a bankable project proposal and the steps that should be taken.

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The expert speaker, Mr. Rituraj in his talk discussed the various aspects related to development of an effective business proposal. He said that be it business or service, the funding process is same in both cases. He spoke about various components of the business proposal and elaborated about each in detail. He said that the major components that should be present in a business proposal are: (i) Kind of business, (ii) Company description, (iii) Market Analysis, (iv) Organizational management, (v) Service or product you are going to offer (vi) Marketing and sales, (vii) Funding procedures, (viii) Financial Projections and (ix) Financials. It is important to combine and document these in a proper way for a business funding. He elaborated these points by saying that a bankable business proposal is a snapshot of your business. It describes what kind of business you would like to do; it could be about a product or service.

He said it was very important to have knowledge about all minute details related to your project – what are the manufacturing requirements, raw materials and machinery required. He elaborated on importance of Financial Projections for obtaining funds for a business proposal. He highlighted the importance of geographical location of the business and its associated benefits, such as government schemes, etc. He pointed out that it is very important to have an edge upon the competitors, and so, a thorough analysis of the competitors is a must. He further added that market analysis should be carried out. Similarly, information about marketing, team organization, financial projections are some other aspects that must be taken care of. The session was very interactive and the students enthusiastically asked questions and clarified their doubts on issues related to business plan/ proposal, the funding opportunities for an enterprise.

In the end Dr. Sharma appreciated the talk by Mr. Rituraj and said that the business plan is very crucial step in the development of an enterprise. He said that all the participants should take up their Business Model canvas further and convert into a bankable business proposal.

Dr. Sujata summed up the format of the business plan template enumerating the important information and details that should be provided. She also briefly highlighted the various reasons why the investors turn down startups and entrepreneurs. She suggested the students to take care of these aspects while preparing their business proposals for their planned enterprise.

Dr. Jyotsna Dikshit, applauded Mr. Rituraj and said that the session would help the participants in preparing their business proposal so that it is accepted easily for funding by the agencies. She appreciated the question answer session followed by the presentation and said that it was highly interactive.

Dr. Moumita Das said that although it is good to take small steps towards establishing a business, it is important to aim big. She urged the participants to visit their local companies to have a hands-on experience through internships and such mechanisms. This will help them to develop an outgoing attitude to understand the practical aspects of running a company, which will also give them an idea of how to develop a bankable business plan.

The session concluded by the session coordinator, thanking the expert and conveying that the student entrepreneurs will try their best to benefit from the sessions. A total of 50 students participated in the programme. The session was coordinated by Dr. Sujata Santosh. Dr. Jyotsna Dikshit was the web coordinator of the session. The SEED programme is being coordinated by the NCIDE faculty, Dr. O. P. Sharma, Director, NCIDE, Dr. Jyotsna Dikshit, Deputy Director, NCIDE, Dr. Moumita Das, Assistant Director, NCIDE and Dr. Sujata Santosh, Assistant Director, NCIDE.

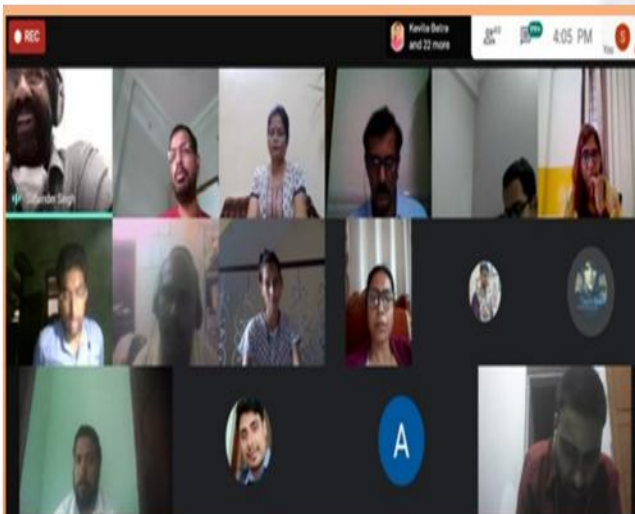
### Session 10 of the “Student Empowerment for Entrepreneurial Development (SEED)” Programme

Entrepreneurial Development (SEED)” on “Funding Opportunities: GoI, Venture Capitalists and Angel Investors” was organized by the NCIDE on 17th August 2020. The SEED programme is an initiative of the university towards Atmanirbhar Bharat which is being organized from 27 July to 21 August 2020.

The basic objectives of the tenth session of the SEED training Programme titled “Funding Opportunities: GoI, Venture Capitalists and Angel Investors” were to:

- explain the basic requirements for funding a business proposal,
- apprise the participants about the various government schemes of funding,
- discuss about various angel investors and other funding agencies. and
- highlight the salient features of a bankable business proposal from funding point of view.

The expert speaker was Mr. Satvinder Singh, Managing Director NITCON and ex Chief General Manager (Tech) National Small Industries Corporation. A total of 45 student participants were present in the session.







The Session Coordinator, Dr. Moumita Das welcomed Mr. Singh and invited him to deliver his talk. Dr. O. P. Sharma, Director, NCIDE also welcomed the resource person and gave an overview of the session and highlighted the need of the session on funding opportunities in context with the SEED programme.

Mr. Satvinder Singh began his talk by introducing the concept of funding in business. He said that the government funding is available provided the proposal or business plan contain every aspect related to the idea or the technology used, marketing and management criteria. He suggested that all the questions related to these aspects should be addressed thoroughly before approaching for funding. These aspects of technology, marketing and management criteria should be documented carefully. He advised the students that they should be able to justify how their prototype is better than others during funding. Funding is easier when one is thinking for expanding an already existing company. Then the funding agency will ask about the financials of the already existing company, which should be properly structured. Funding is available in many forms. States government have their own schemes, in addition to the Central Government Schemes.

He enumerated some schemes of the Central Government, such as Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme, Mudra Yojana, Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises. He also mentioned the amount of loans that are available in each scheme. There are also schemes for target beneficiaries such as SC/ST, minorities, rural areas etc. He also highlighted the importance of Entrepreneurship Development Training and listed a few names that offered such programmes, such as KVIC, NSIC, National Institute for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, NIESBUD, and Ministry of Skill and Entrepreneurship Development. He also touched about angel funding and foreign funding, which are available. He highlighted that the startups of the students should be registered in Niti Ayog.

The session was highly interactive and students asked questions on various aspects of funding, registration of startup, certifications, etc., which was answered by the expert to the students' satisfaction.

Dr. O. P. Sharma thanked Mr Satvinder Singh to take such an important session and said that the session was very informative and highly interactive. He said that funding is the most crucial stage of any entrepreneurial proposal. He pointed out that the question answer session made it very unique, as the students could ask all types of questions related to funding.

Dr. Jyotsna Dikshit, web coordinator of the SEED programme complemented the resource person and said that the session was very useful and full of important information. She said that majority of students are stuck up at this stage. Either they are not able to prepare a good bankable proposal or they are not able to connect with the right funding agency. In that context, this session has been very useful.

Dr. Sujata Santosh thanked Mr Satvinder Singh for appraising the students of various funding agencies and the process of getting funds. She hoped that now the students would be able to identify the proper funding agency and procure the required funds for their business or startups. The SEED programme is being coordinated by the NCIDE faculty, Dr. O. P.

Sharma, Director, NCIDE, Dr. Jyotsna Dikshit, Deputy Director, NCIDE, Dr. Moumita Das, Assistant Director, NCIDE and Dr. Sujata Santosh, Assistant Director, NCIDE.

### MoU between IGNOU—ARMY Educational Project (IAEP)

IGNOU and the Indian Army have renewed the agreement (Memorandum of Understanding) for IGNOU Army Educational Project (IAEP) which provides educational facilities through open and distance learning to Army personnel. The first MoU was signed on 24 May 1999 for 5 years and has been extended periodically since then.

The aim of IGNOU—Army Education Project (IAEP) is empowerment and enhancement of educational qualifications by provision of quality education through Open and Distance Learning (ODL) mode for personnel associated with Indian Army in collaboration with Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU). IAEP provides distance educational facilities to the entire Indian Army with nation-wide coverage and at all places globally where units of Indian Army or its personnel are deployed on Military duties on directions of the Government of India.

Under this project, IGNOU extends the outreach of its academic programmes to the defence personnel and their families on a single window basis. The collaborative enterprise of IGNOU with the service personnel facilitates provision of educational opportunities without dislocating the enrolled learners from their units, except for academic counseling and Term end examinations.

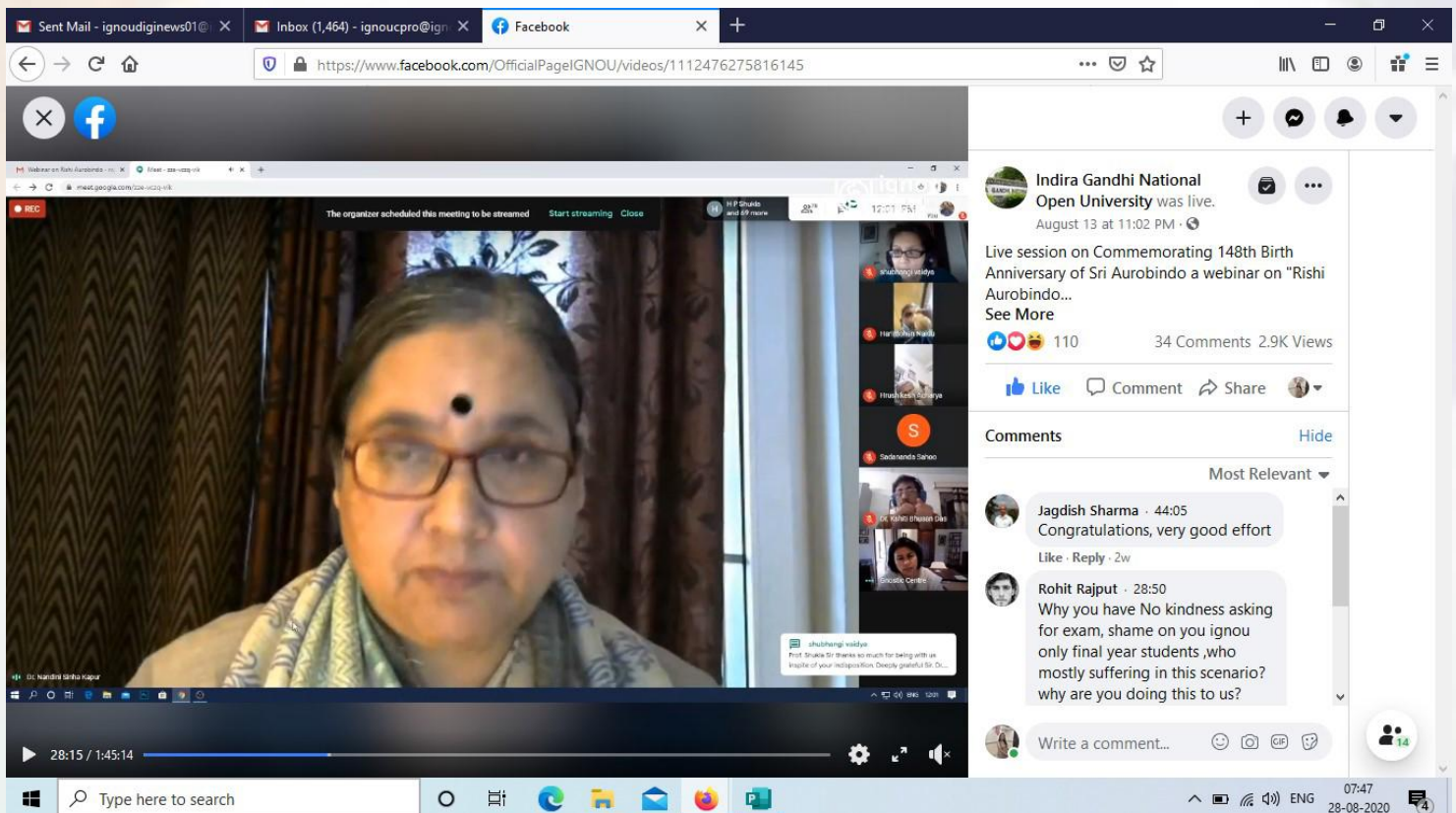
Under IAEP, Recognized Regional Centres (RRC) have been established in six Army HQ Commands under a single-window operational basis. Regional Services Division (RSD) of IGNOU works as the nodal point to facilitate smooth functioning of RRCs across the country. The RRCs are at Kolkata, Chandimandir, Lucknow, Udhampur, Pune and Jaipur.





### Webinar on "Rishi Aurobindo and His Thoughts on Indian Culture"

School of Interdisciplinary and Translation Studies commemorated the 148th Birth Anniversary of Rishi Aurobindo by organizing a webinar on "Rishi Aurobindo and His Thoughts on Indian Culture". Director, Dr. Shubhangi Vaidya welcomed all the invited speakers. Prof. Nandini Sinha Kapur, Coordinator of this webinar introduced all the three speakers, theme and titles of invited lectures. Pro-Vice Chancellor, Prof. K.B. Das in his inaugural speech paid tribute to Rishi Aurobindo with reference to his contributions to the Indian Freedom Struggle, Philosophical exposition and Aurobindo's relevance in contemporary India. Prof. Priyavrat Shukla highlighted Sri Aurobindo's role as a true Sadhak and his contributions to all the major branches of traditional Indian Philosophy. Ameeta Mehra spoke on "Sri Aurobindo's Life Transforming Yoga and its revolutionary underlying principles". Dr. Monica Gupta spoke on "Sri Aurobindo's Integral Education and its relevance in India today". Dr. Sadananda Sahoo delivered vote of thanks.



The screenshot shows a Facebook live session video player. The video is titled "Live session on Commemorating 148th Birth Anniversary of Sri Aurobindo a webinar on 'Rishi Aurobindo...'". The video shows a woman speaking, with a list of participants on the right. Comments are visible below the video.

Indira Gandhi National Open University was live.  
August 13 at 11:02 PM · 🌐

Live session on Commemorating 148th Birth Anniversary of Sri Aurobindo a webinar on "Rishi Aurobindo..."  
See More

110 34 Comments 2.9K Views

Like Comment Share

Comments

Most Relevant

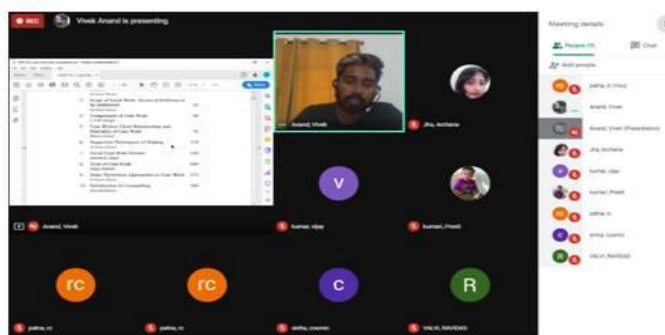
Jagdish Sharma · 44:05  
Congratulations, very good effort  
Like · Reply · 2w

Rohit Rajput · 28:50  
Why you have No kindness asking for exam, shame on you ignou only final year students, who mostly suffering in this scenario? why are you doing this to us?

Write a comment...

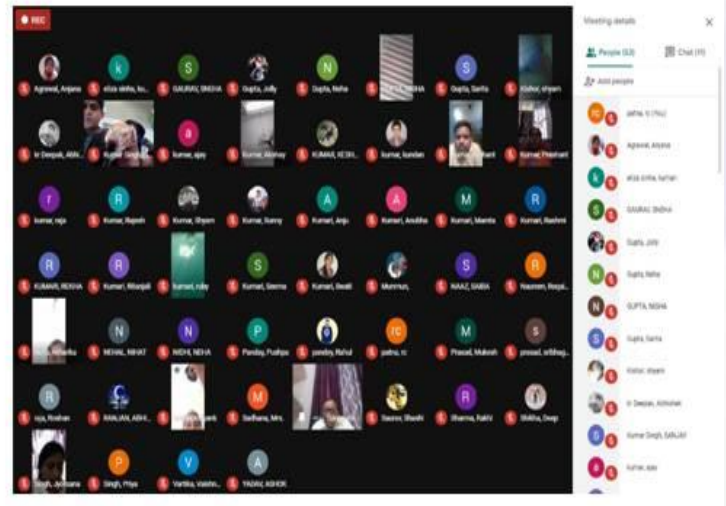
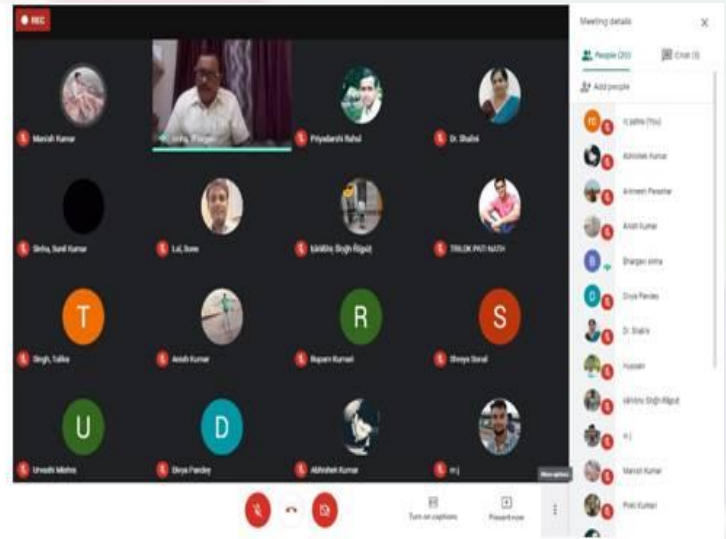
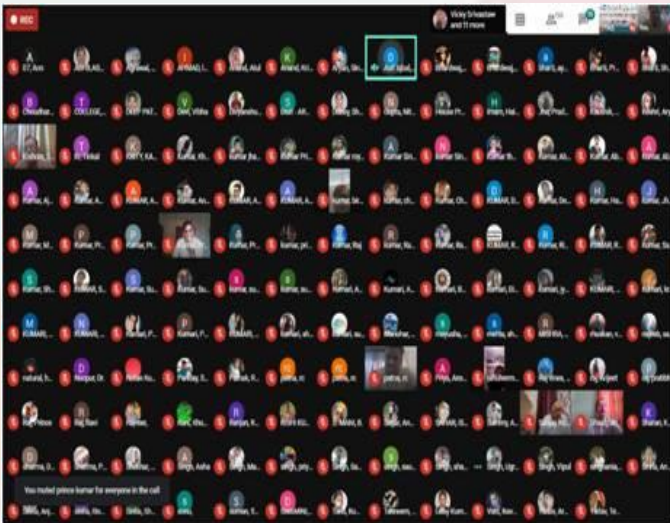
### Initiatives, Activities and Achievements of the Regional Centre and Learner Support Centres Online Counseling Sessions

On the basis of the feedback received from the learners and the Learner Support Centres, the Regional Centre conducted online counselling sessions for the left-out courses during the last two months. The practical counselling sessions for CCH were also organized by the State Health Society, Bihar and Jhapiego under regular monitoring by the Regional Centre. Till date 1249 counselling sessions have been organized by the Regional Centre.



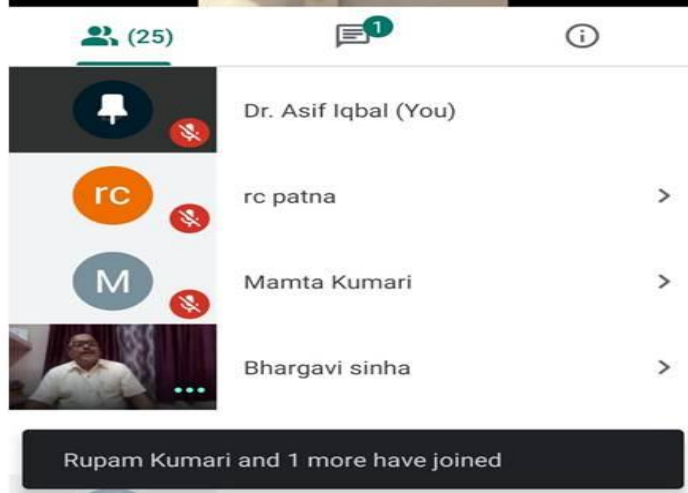
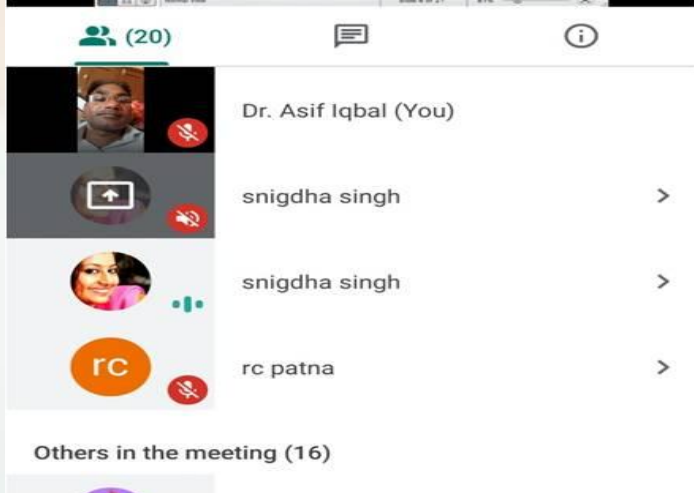
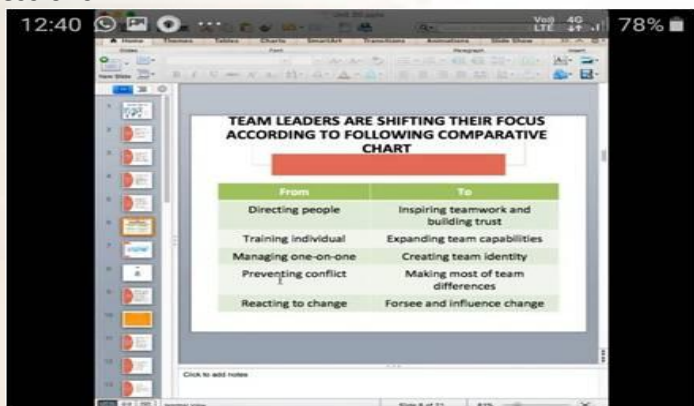


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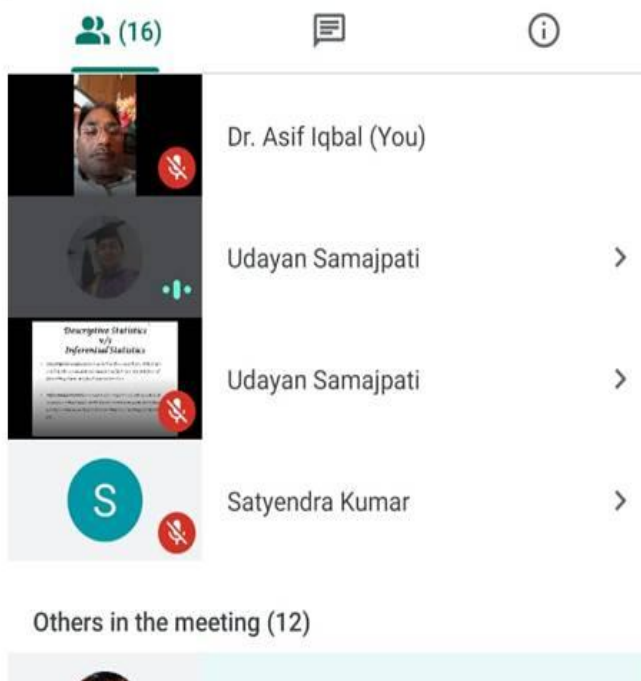
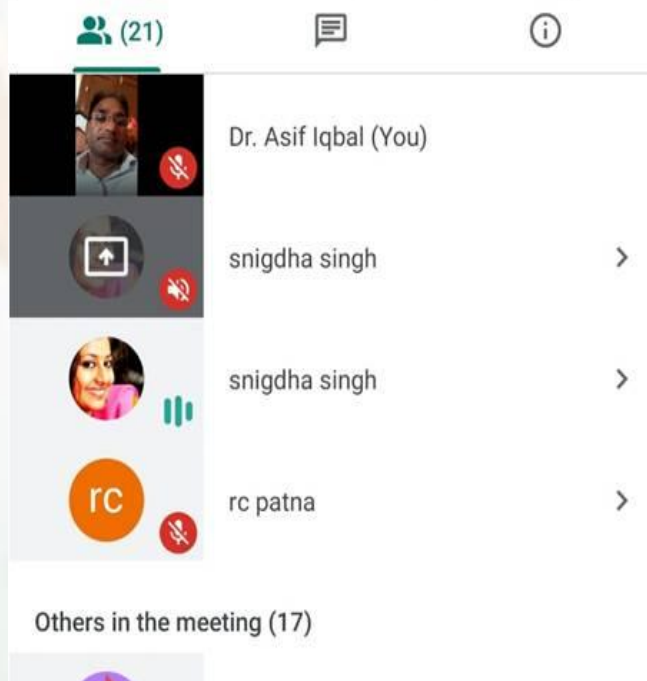
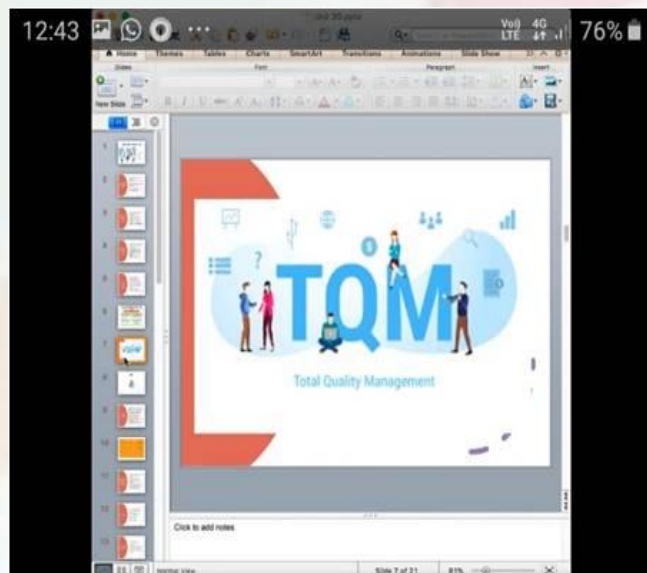
### Monitoring of Online Counselling Sessions being organized by the Learner Support Centres

The academics of the Regional Centre log in to the online classes being organized by the Learner Support Centres to monitor the academic counselling sessions, inform the learners about their duties and responsibilities during the lockdown period and encourage them to take advantage of the online sessions. This also helps the Regional Centre get feedback on the difficulties faced by both the learners and academic counsellors during the online sessions.





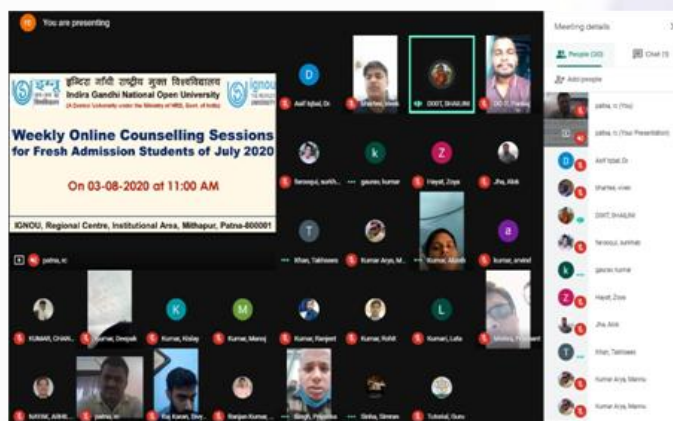
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### Innovative Measures Undertaken

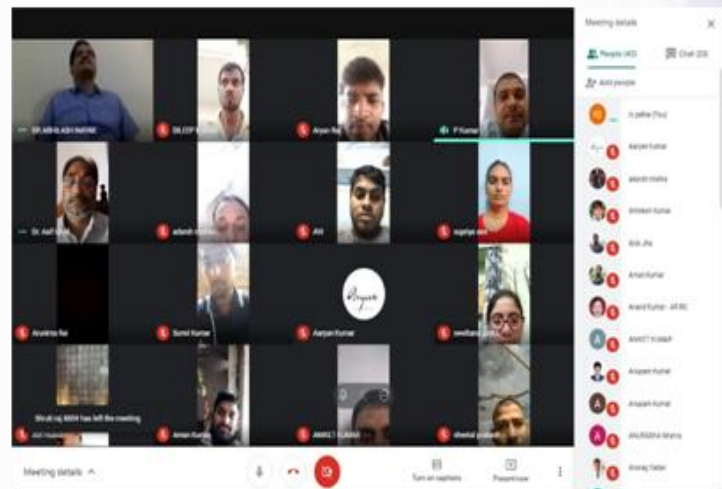
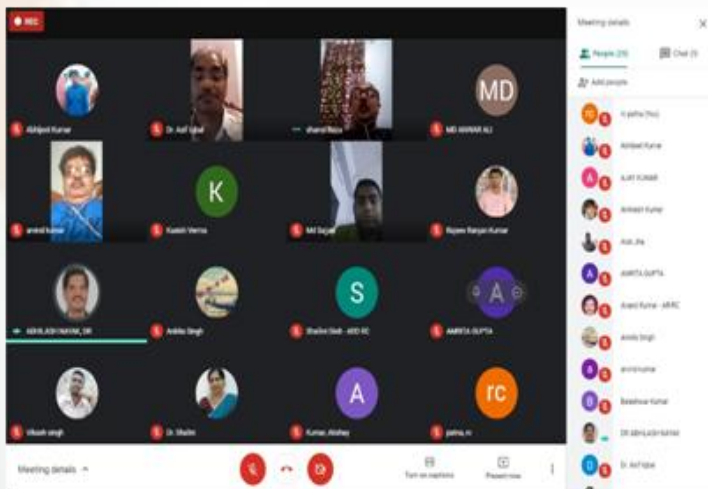
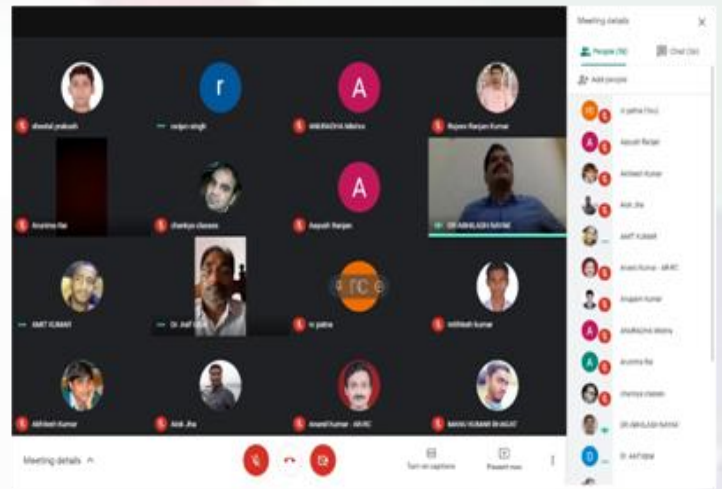
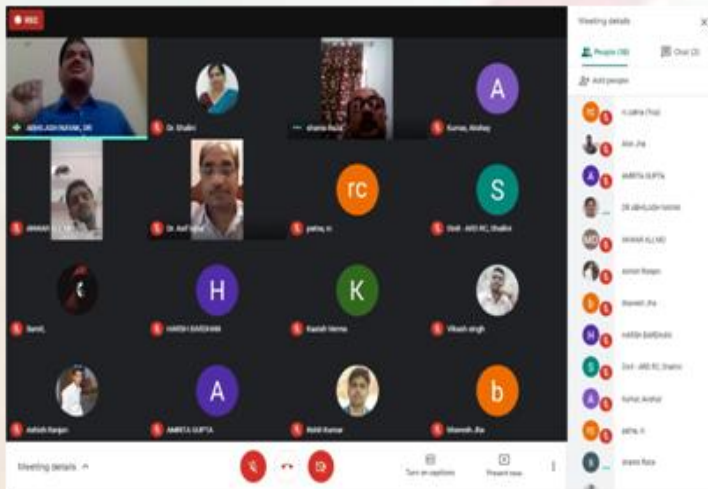
#### Weekly Pre-Admission Counseling Sessions for Fresh and RR Students

A link has been provided on the website of the Regional Centre by the name Weekly Online Counseling for Fresh and RR Students. Two sub-links for Google Meet have been provided under this link to help learners attend counseling sessions being held by the Regional Centre from 11 am to 1 pm on Monday and Tuesday, clarify their doubts and ask questions related to admission and re-registration. The first lot of counseling sessions were held on Monday and Tuesday for the Fresh and RR students respectively. Though the percentage of participation of the learners has not been not very high, the learners were very appreciative of this initiative of the university.

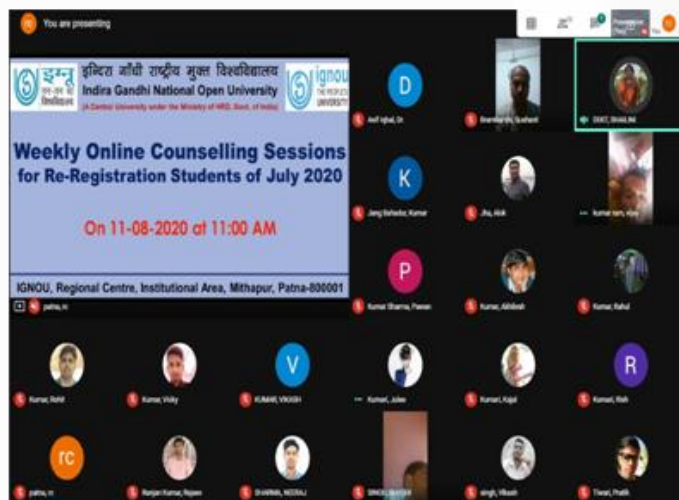
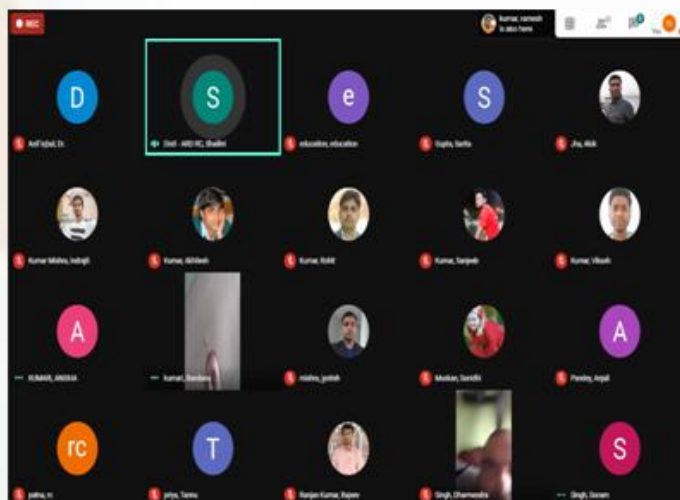
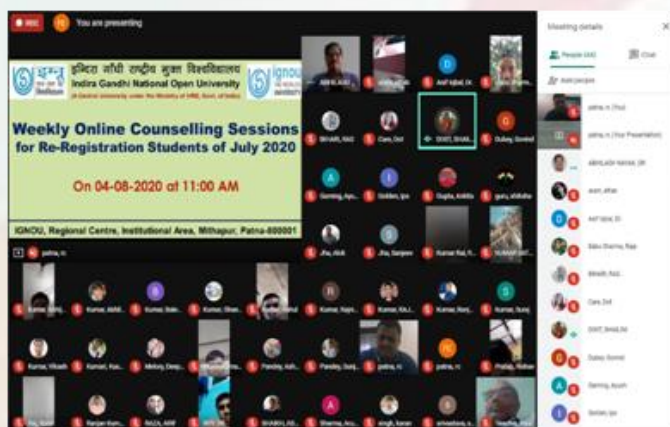




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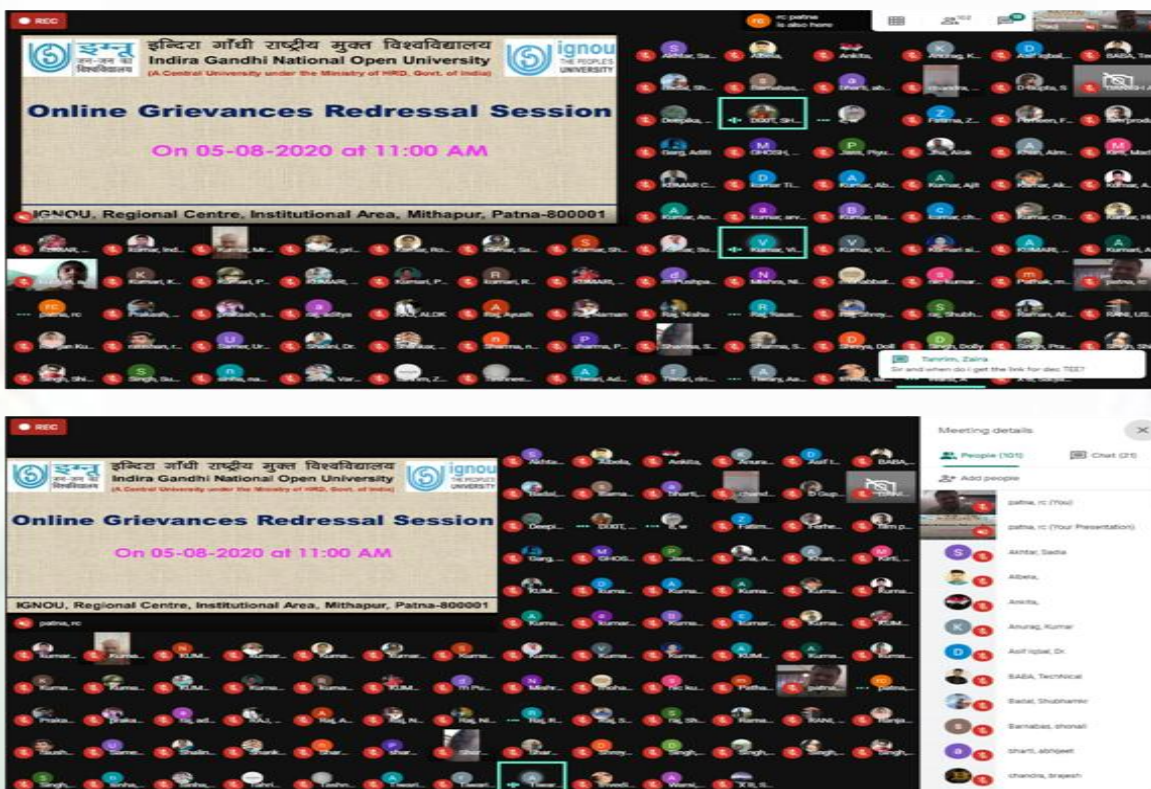




### Grievance Redressal Mechanism

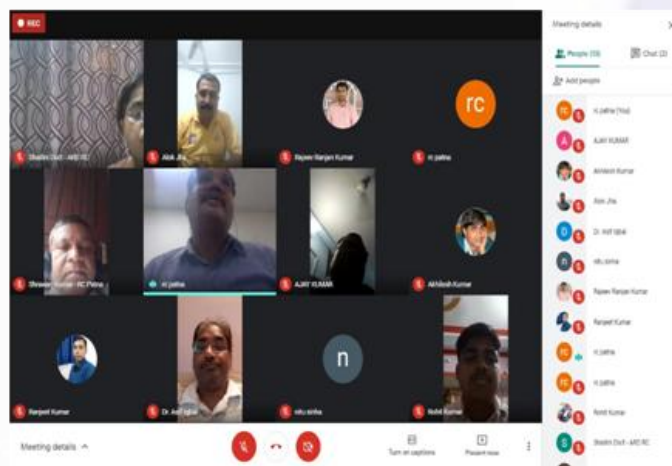
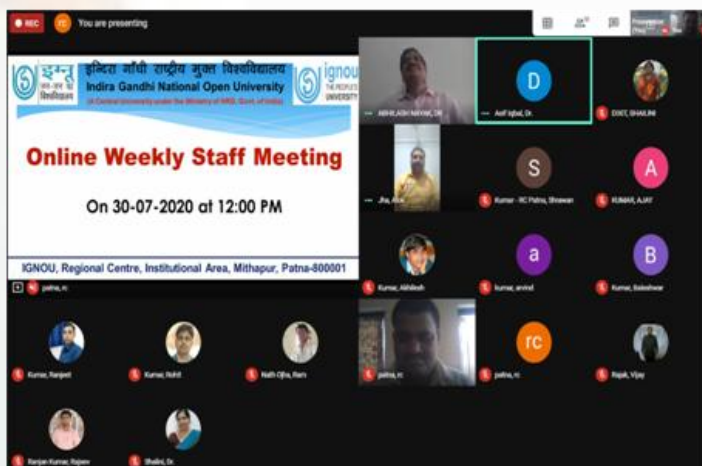
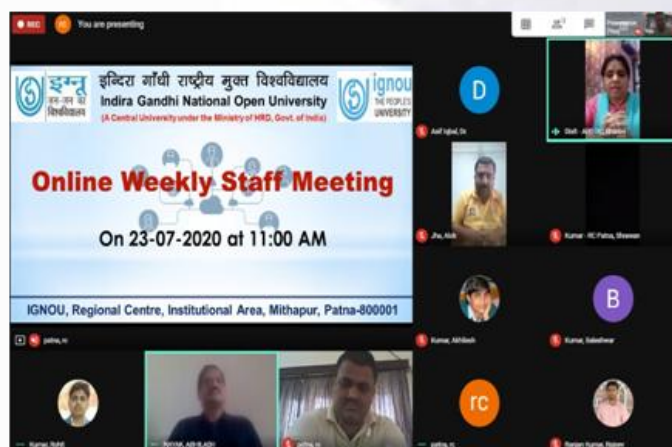
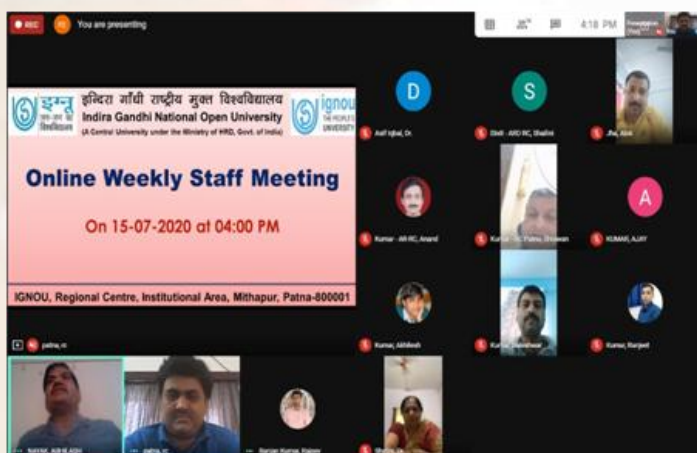
The Regional Centre organized an Online Grievance Redressal Session for the examinees of TEE June 2020 on 05.08.2020 in order to help them clear their doubts regarding the conduct of Term End Examinations, change of examination centres, availability of Hall Tickets, promotion on the basis of internal assessment and address complaints regarding non-receipt of study materials, non-availability of examination centres in their nearby locations and re-registration for the flowing years/semesters. More than 150 learners participated in this online session and were greatly benefited from this initiative of the Regional Centre. The RD, all the ARDs and officials dealing with student support services successfully handled the queries and grievances of the learners.

As a new initiative the Regional Centre has uploaded the names and phone numbers of 10 officers/Officials who attend to the calls/queries/grievances of the learners from home. These officers/officials have been given the responsibility of receiving emergency calls from the learners during fixed hours (from 9.30 am to 1.30 pm on five working days) in order to address the queries/grievances of the learners. There has been very good response from the learners as well as the aspirants

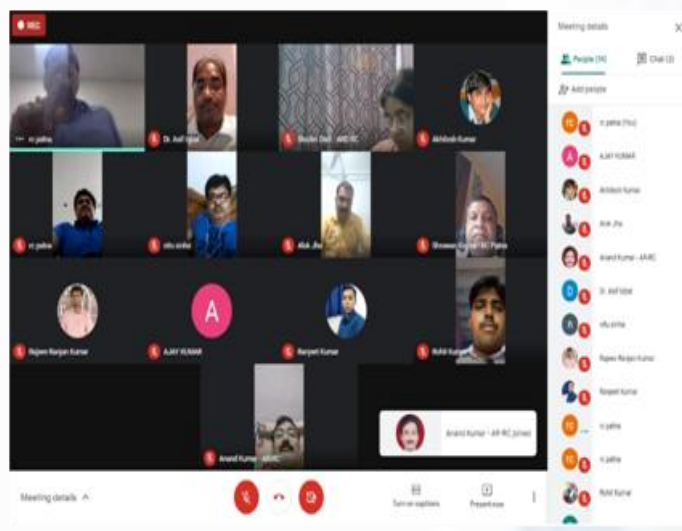
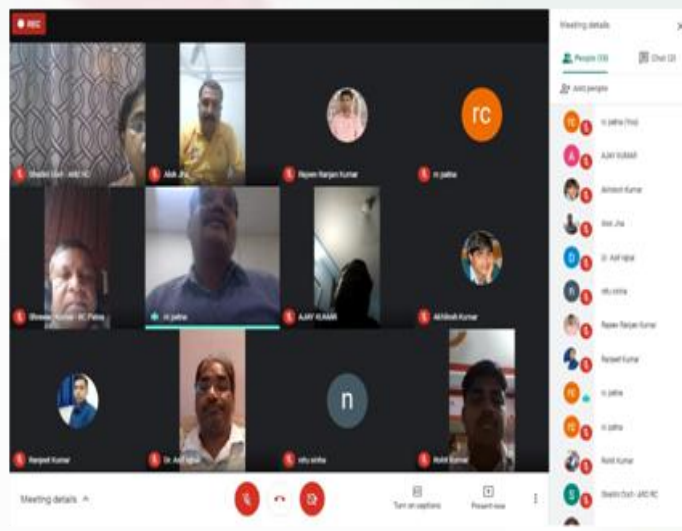


### Weekly Staff Meetings

The Weekly Meeting of the Staff of RC Patna is being regularly organized since the onset of the lockdown due to COVID-19 to review the status of online support being provided to the learners, plan strategies for the conduct of the forthcoming Term End Examinations, organize more and more number of online counseling sessions and expedite online evaluation of assignments and entry of assignment awards, celebration of Independence Day by observing SOP of GOI, organize virtual meetings for promotion of IGNOU programmes among the target groups of learners and organize webinars on various themes







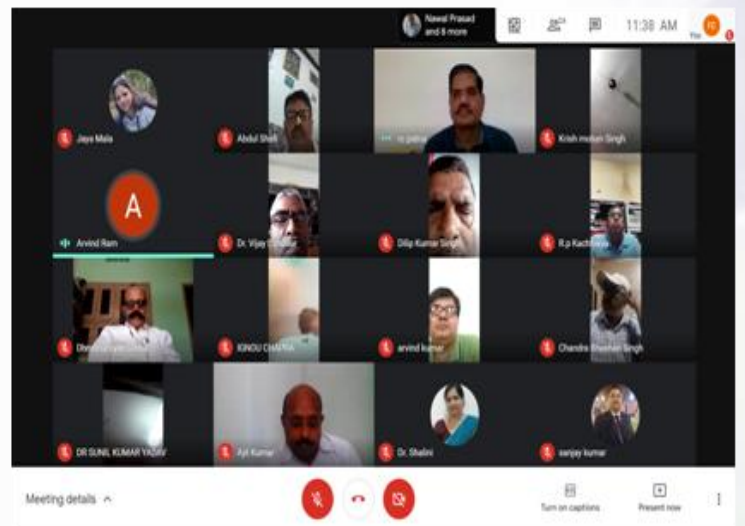
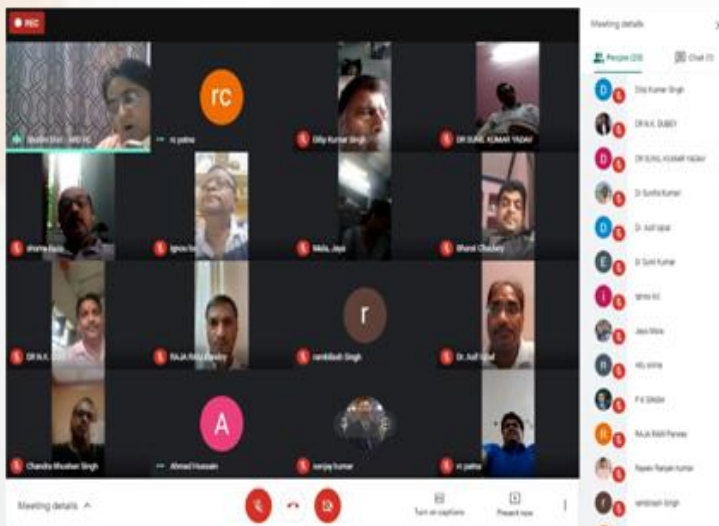
### Fortnightly Online Meeting with the Coordinators/PICs

Since the onset of lockdown, the Regional Centre has been organizing fortnightly meetings with the Coordinators and PICs of the region with the following objectives:

- *Preparations for Term End Examinations, June 2020:* The Coordinators holding the responsibility of Centres Superintendents and Centre Superintendents of other institutions where our LSCs are not located are being invited at regular intervals to share the preparations for the forthcoming Term End Examinations being held from 17 September 2020.
- *Organization of Virtual Meetings for Promotion of IGNOU Programmes:* Before the commencement of every meeting, the status of admission in both Fresh and Re-Registration is shared with them and they are encouraged to follow up with the learners who have registered but have not made the payments. They are also requested to organize webinars and virtual meetings for the promotion of IGNOU programmes among various target groups.
- *Online Evaluation of Assignments:* As the receipt and evaluation of assignments have been made online, the Coordinators/PICs are encouraged to identify evaluators who can evaluate the assignment responses online so that the evaluation work is completed in time and the learners are able to get their complete results once the TEE results are out. They are requested to expedite the evaluation process of the pending assignment responses and send the awards to the Regional Centre at the earliest so that awards are entered in the portal in time.
- *Organisation of Online Counseling Sessions:* As the number of counselling sessions being organized by the RC has gone down drastically, all the Coordinators and PICs are requested to identify experienced and approved academic counselors who can handle online counselling sessions.
- *Organization of Webinars on Career Opportunities through Open and Distance Education:* Since many of our LSCs are located in conventional colleges, the Coordinators were requested to plan meetings with their alumni to help them plan their careers through IGNOU.



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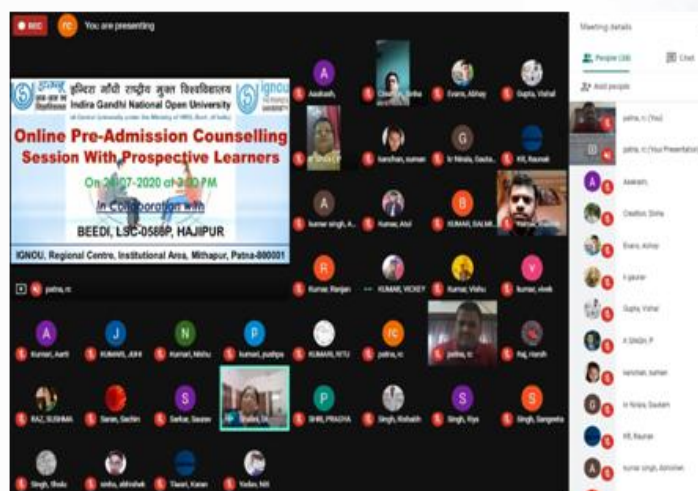
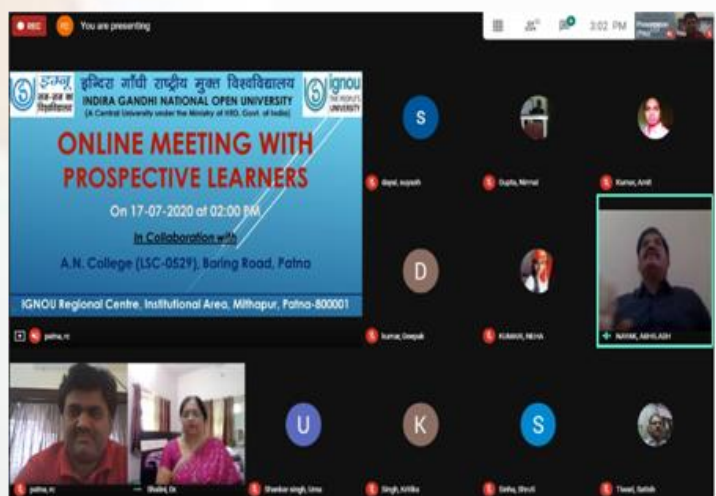


### Organization of Virtual Meetings for Promotion of IGNOU Programmes

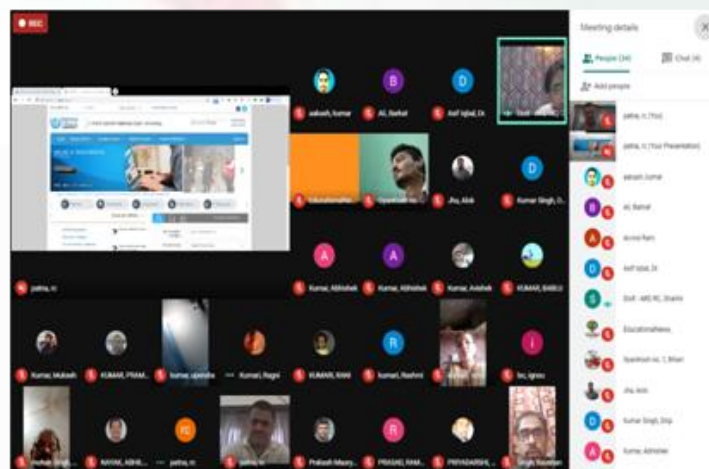
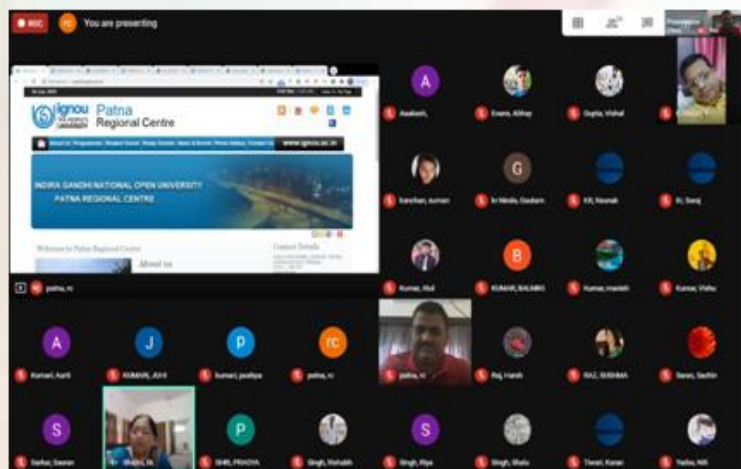
SI No	Dates	Collaborating Institution/LSC	Target Group	Officers involved
1	15 July 2020 11 am	Magadh Educational Development, Mahendru, Patna(05147P)	Students aspiring for Computer Programmes	Dr Abhilash Nayak, RD Dr Shailini Dixit, ARD Dr Asif Iqbal, ARD Mr Anand Kumar, AR
2	15 July 2020 2 pm	Radha Shanta Mohavidyalaya, Tilothu (05197)	Rural Learners	Dr Abhilash Nayak, RD Dr Shalini, ARD
3	17 July 2020 11 am	A N College Patna(0529)	SC/ST Learners	Dr Abhilash Nayak, RD Dr Shalini, ARD
4	18 July 2020 11 am	Madadh Educational Development, Mahendru, Patna(05147P)	Students aspiring for Computer Programmes and DEVMT	Dr Abhilash Nayak, RD Dr Shailini Dixit, ARD Dr Asif Iqbal, ARD Mr Anand Kumar, AR
5	24 July 2020 2pm	Budha Educational Development Institute, Hajipur(0586P).	Students aspiring for Computer Programmes	Dr Abhilash Nayak, RD Dr Shalini, ARD
6	25 <sup>th</sup> July 2020 11 am	Gaya Autonomous College, Gaya with special focus on SC students of Ambedkar Chatravas, Gaya	<b>SC/ST Learners</b>	Dr Abhilash Nayak, RD Dr Shailini Dixit, ARD Dr Asif Iqbal, ARD
7	26 <sup>th</sup> July 2020 2pm	Sugiya Devi Memorial Institute of Management and Information Technology, Patna(05168D).	Academic counsellors, learners and prospective learners	Dr Abhilash Nayak, RD Dr Asif Iqbal, ARD
8	13 August 2020	TPS College, Patna(0568)	Academic Counselors & Students from all disciplines	Dr Abhilash Nayak, RD Dr Shailini Dixit, ARD Dr Asif Iqbal, ARD
9	27 August 2020	SA Ekalavya College, Jammui(05177)	Academic counsellors, learners and prospective learners	Dr Abhilash Nayak, RD Dr Shailini Dixit, ARD Dr Asif Iqbal, ARD



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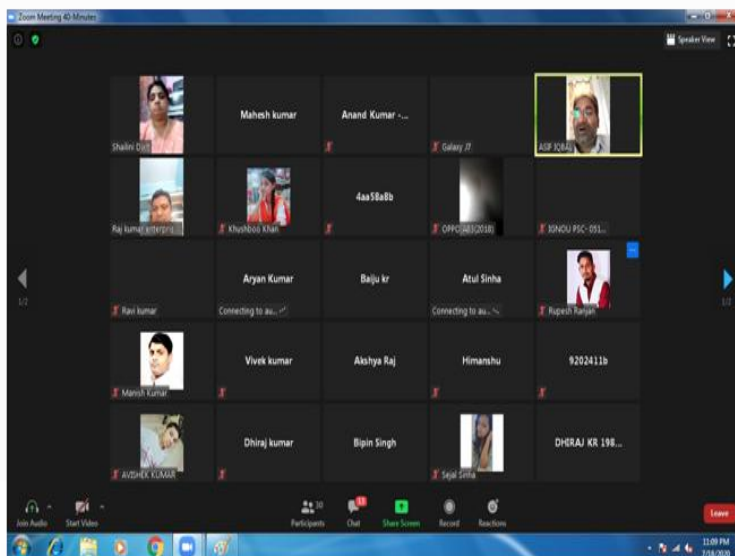
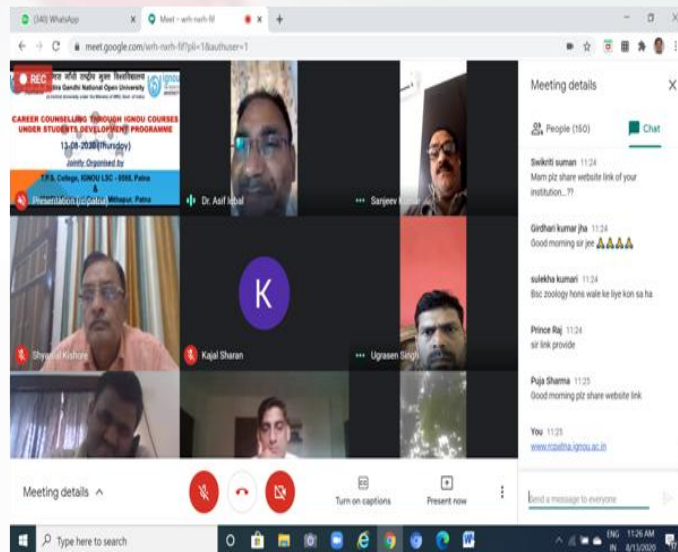
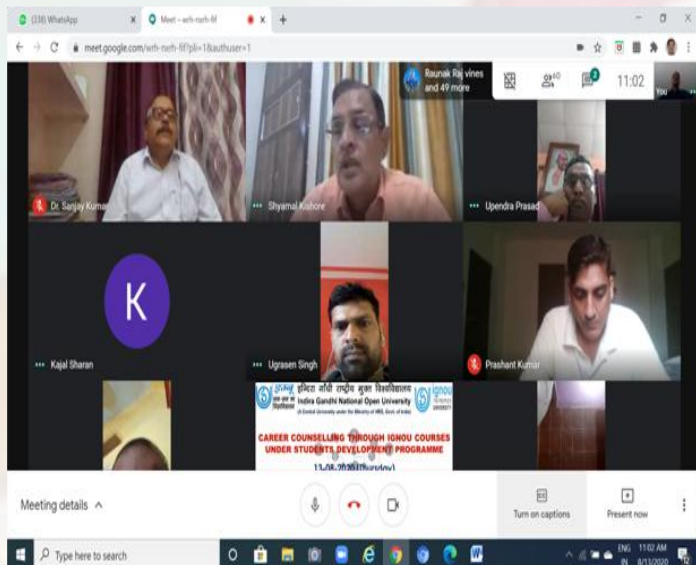


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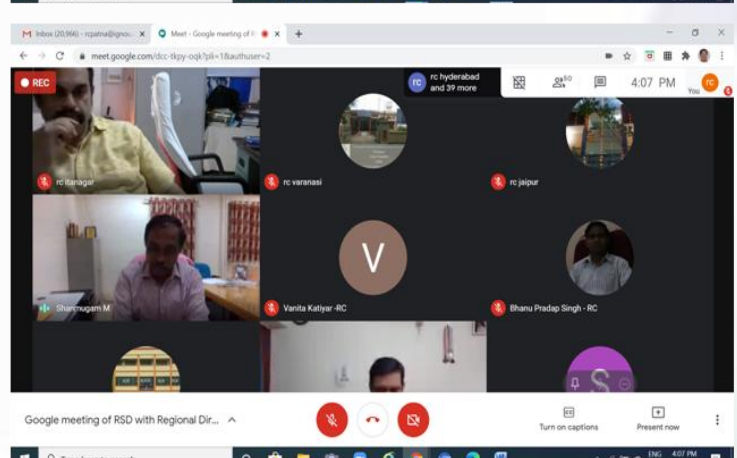
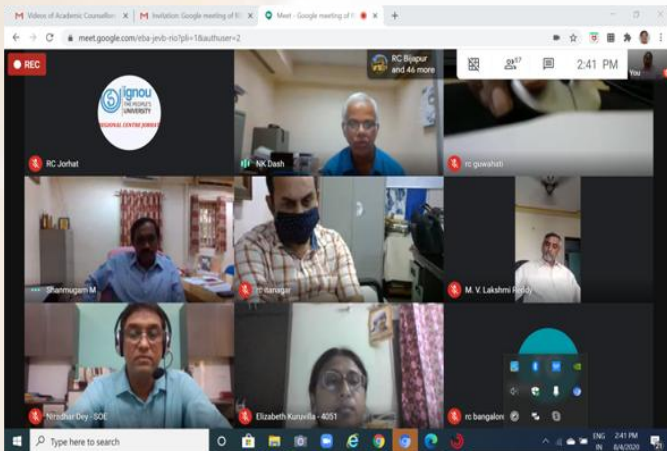


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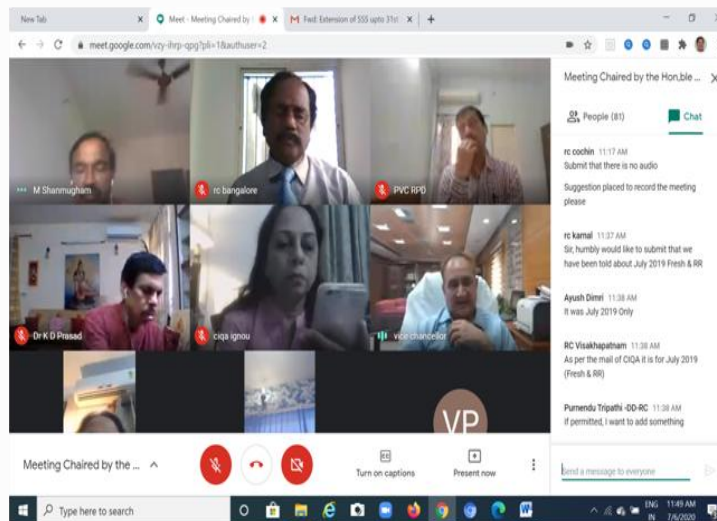
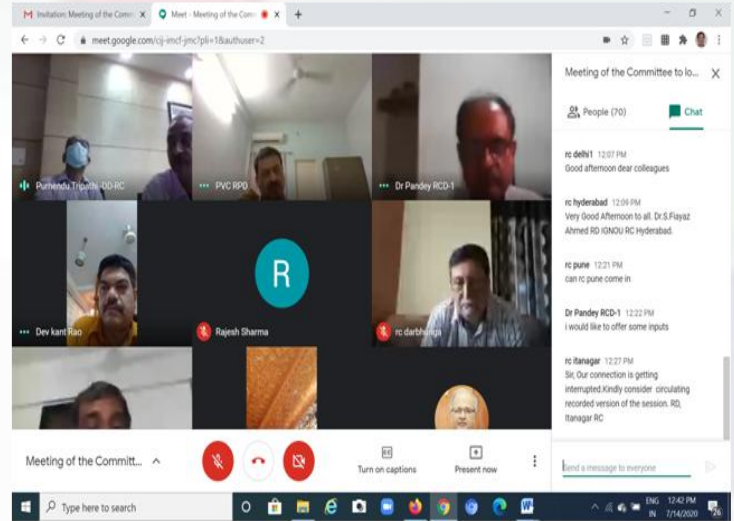
### Meeting of the RDs with the Director, Regional Services Division, IGNOU

Under the guidance of the Director, Regional Services Division, Dr M Shanmugam, meetings of the Regional Directors are held at regular intervals and members of faculty from various schools of study often participate in the meetings, make presentations on the programmes they are coordinating and encourage the Regional Directors to promote the programmes in their respective regions. The Regional Directors attend these meetings and make presentations on various aspects like status of admissions, assignments and grievances, preparation for the forthcoming examinations and pending issues pertaining to their respective Regional Centres.





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### Webinars

#### Webinar on Relevance of ODL and ONLINE Programmes Under Post COVID-19

A Webinar on **Relevance of ODL and ONLINE Programmes Under Post COVID-19** was organized on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2020 by the Regional Centre in collaboration the Programme Study Centre (St Xavier Centre of Computer Education, Patna(0516P) with the Principals of +2 colleges and teachers of local colleges and alumni as the participants. The Regional Director gave the inaugural address and highlighted the crucial role played by IGNOU during the lockdown period. Dr Asif Iqbal, ARD and Md Shams Raza, PIC of 0516P briefed the audience about the various programmes available for the students passing out of higher secondary schools, teachers in secondary and higher education and teachers of higher educational institutions.



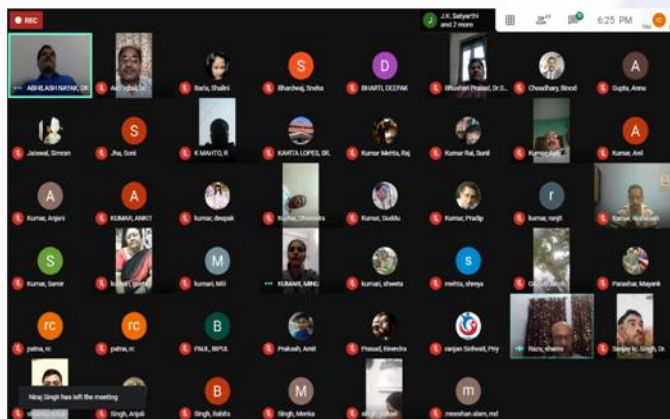
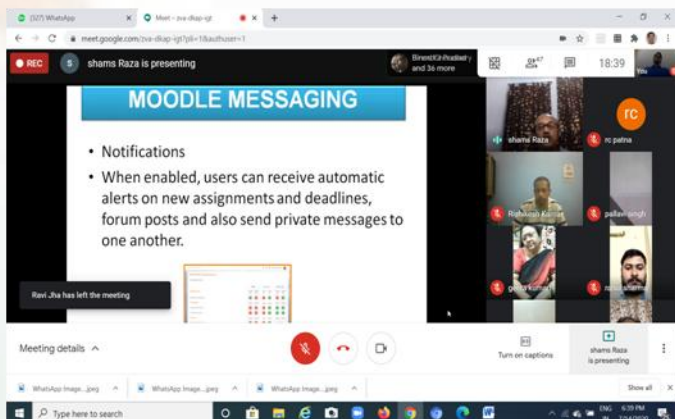
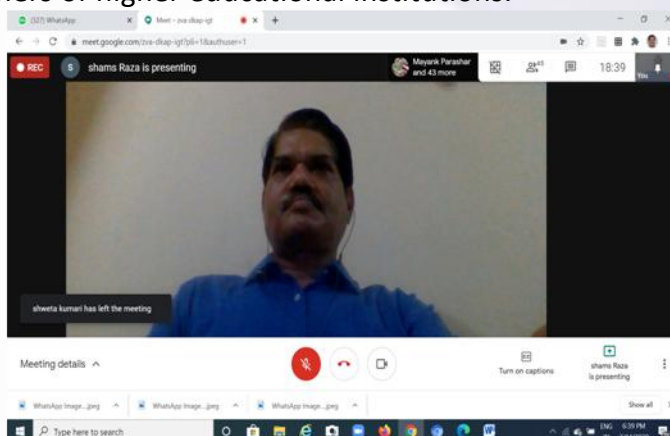
**WEBINAR ON**  
"RELEVANCE OF ODL & ONLINE PROGRAMMES UNDER POST COVID-19 FOR TEACHERS AND +2 STUDENTS"  
A collaborative initiative of  
IGNOU REGIONAL CENTRE PATNA And Xavier Centre For Computer Studies (IGNOU PSC 0516P)

**14 JULY** **6 PM**

**Speakers**

- Dr. Abhilash Nayak**  
Regional Director
- Dr. Asif Iqbal**  
Asst. Regional Director
- Md. Shams Raza**  
PIC, IGNOU PDC0516P  
Regional vice President  
Computer Society of India

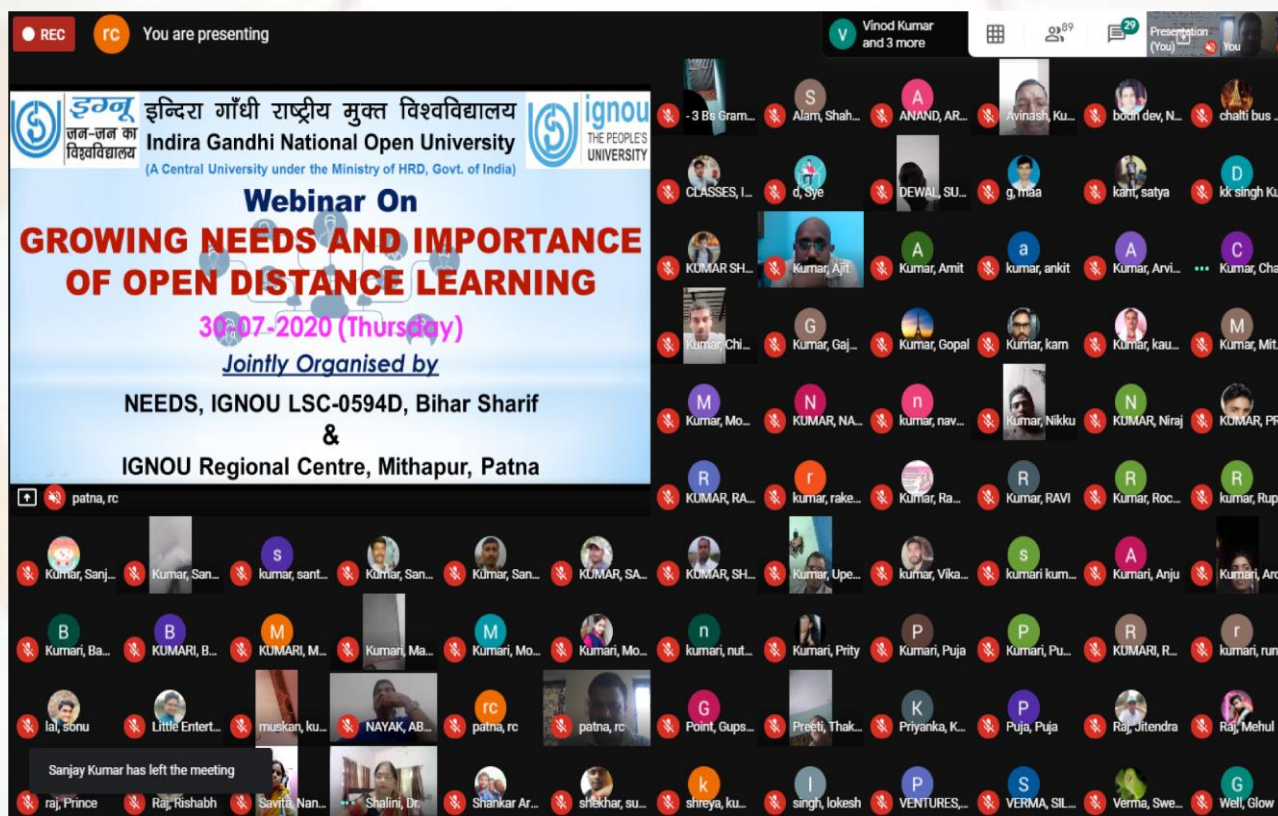
For details of IGNOU please visit: [www.ignou.ac.in](http://www.ignou.ac.in)  
Webinar will be organized on Google meet for which link will sent on your mobiles on 14.07.2020  
In case of any query pl contact: Rishikesh Kumar,(7903507461), Shams Raza (9430828918)





### Webinar on Increasing Importance and Needs of Open and Distance Learning

The Regional Centre in collaboration with our Study Centre in NEEDS, Bihar Sharif, Nalanda(0594D) organized a webinar on **Increasing Needs and Importance of Open and Distance Learning** on 30.07.2020. More than 90 academic counselors, learners, prospective learners participated in the webinar and discussed various aspects of open and distance education and how IGNOU has played an important role in facilitating the educational empowerment and skill development of people across different sections of society.



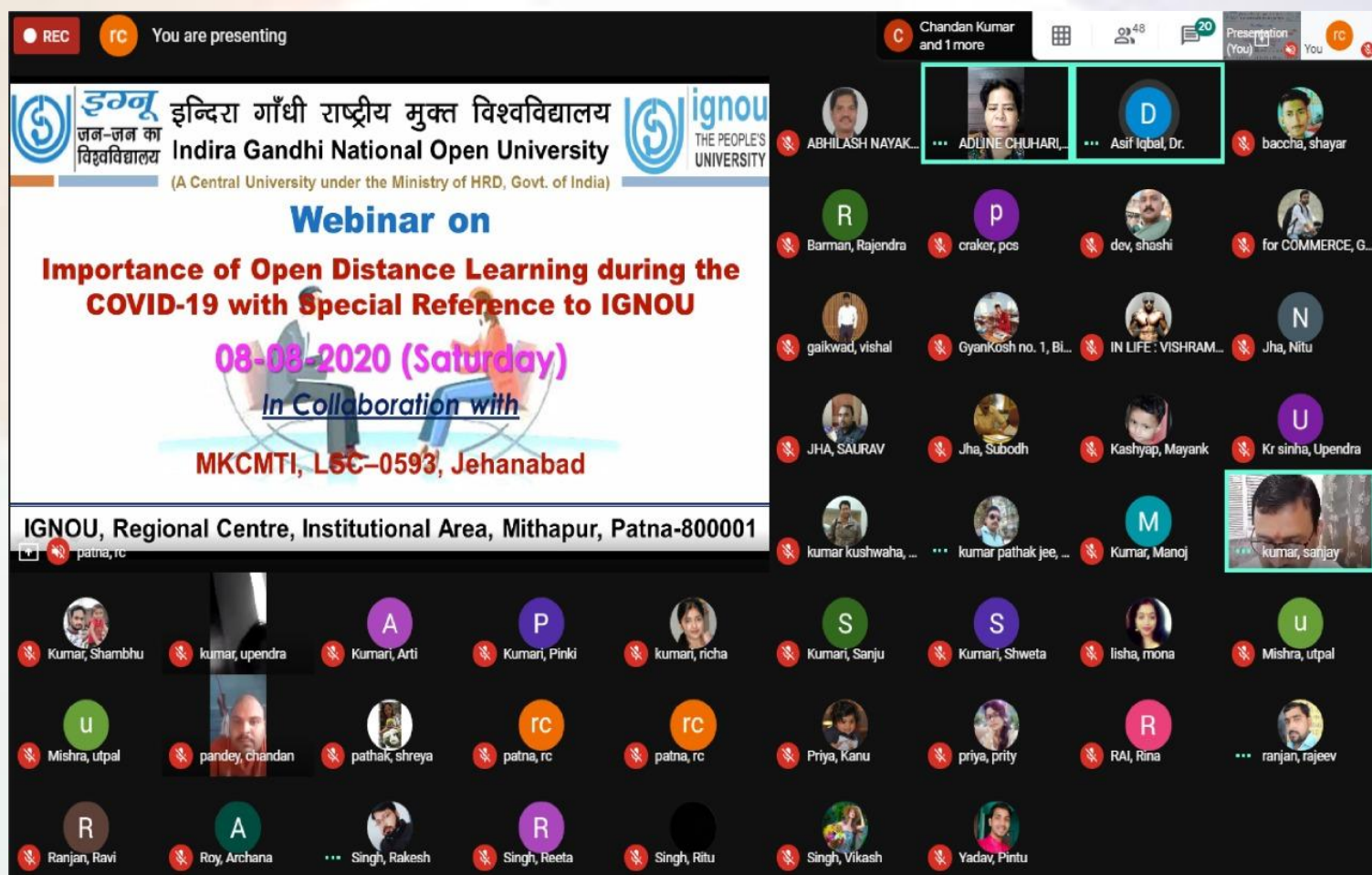
### Webinar on Open and Distance Learning during COVID-19 Crisis: Challenges and Opportunities

The Regional Centre in collaboration with Bharti Digital World, Patna(A CSC) organized a webinar on **Open and Distance Learning during COVID-19 Crisis: Challenges and Opportunities** on 06.08.2020. Sixty five academic counselors, learners, prospective learners participated in the webinar and discussed various aspects of open and distance education and how IGNOU has played an important role in facilitating the educational empowerment and skill development of people across different sections of society.



### Webinar on Importance of Open and Distance Education during COVID-19 with Special Reference to IGNOU

The Regional Centre in collaboration with Maa Kamala Chandrika Ji Institute of Management and Technology, Jehanabad(0593) organized a webinar on **Importance of Open and Distance Education during COVID-19 with Special Reference to IGNOU** on 08.08.2020. Fifty five academic counselors, learners, prospective learners participated in the webinar and discussed various aspects of open and distance education and how IGNOU has played an important role in facilitating the educational empowerment and skill development of people across different sections of society.



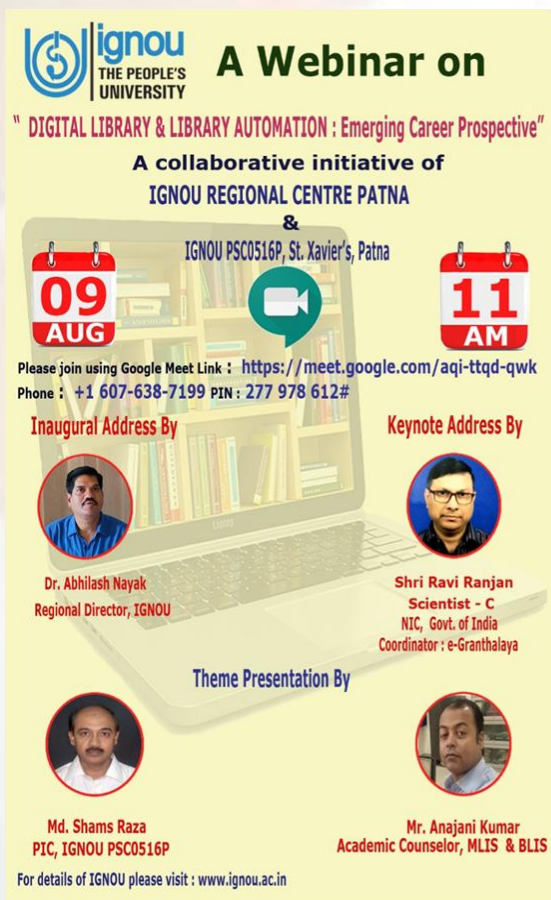
**Webinar on**  
**Importance of Open Distance Learning during the**  
**COVID-19 with Special Reference to IGNOU**  
**08-08-2020 (Saturday)**  
**In Collaboration with**  
**MKCMTI, L&C-0593, Jehanabad**

IGNOU, Regional Centre, Institutional Area, Mithapur, Patna-800001

Participants (visible names): ABHILASH NAYAK, ADLINE CHUHARI, Asif Iqbal, Dr., baccha, shayar, Barman, Rajendra, craker, pcs, dev, shashi, for COMMERCE, G..., galkwad, vishal, GyanKosh no. 1, Bl..., IN LIFE : VISHRAM..., Jha, Nitu, Jha, SAURAV, Jha, Subodh, Kashyap, Mayank, Kr sinha, Upendra, kumar kushwaha, kumar pathak jee, Kumar, Manoj, kumar, sanjay, Kumar, Sanju, Kumar, Shweta, lisha, mona, Mishra, utpal, Mishra, utpal, pandey, chandan, pathak, shreya, patna, rc, patna, rc, Priya, Kanu, priya, prity, RAI, Rina, ranjan, rajeev, Ranjan, Ravi, Roy, Archana, Singh, Rakesh, Singh, Reeta, Singh, Ritu, Singh, Vikash, Yadav, Pintu.

### Webinar on Digital Library and Library Automation

The Regional Centre in collaboration with St Xavier's Centre for Computer Education, Patna(0516P) organised a webinar on **Digital Library and Library Automation** on 09.08.2020 with Shri Ravi Ranjan Ji, Senior Scientist, NIC as the Key Note Speaker. One hundred fifty five(155) persons including all the part time functionaries at the LSC, senior academic counselors, RD and two ARDs (Dr Asif Iqbal and Dr Shailini Dixit) participated in this session and discussed the various programmes which learners can pursue to enhance their skills and employability. The academic counselors and learners appreciated this collaborative effort of the Regional Centre and Study Centre.



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THE PEOPLE'S  
UNIVERSITY


### A Webinar on


"DIGITAL LIBRARY & LIBRARY AUTOMATION : Emerging Career Prospective"


A collaborative initiative of  
IGNOU REGIONAL CENTRE PATNA  
&  
IGNOU PSC0516P, St. Xavier's, Patna


**09 AUG** **11 AM**

Please join using Google Meet Link : <https://meet.google.com/aqi-ttqd-qwk>  
Phone : +1 607-638-7199 PIN : 277 978 612#

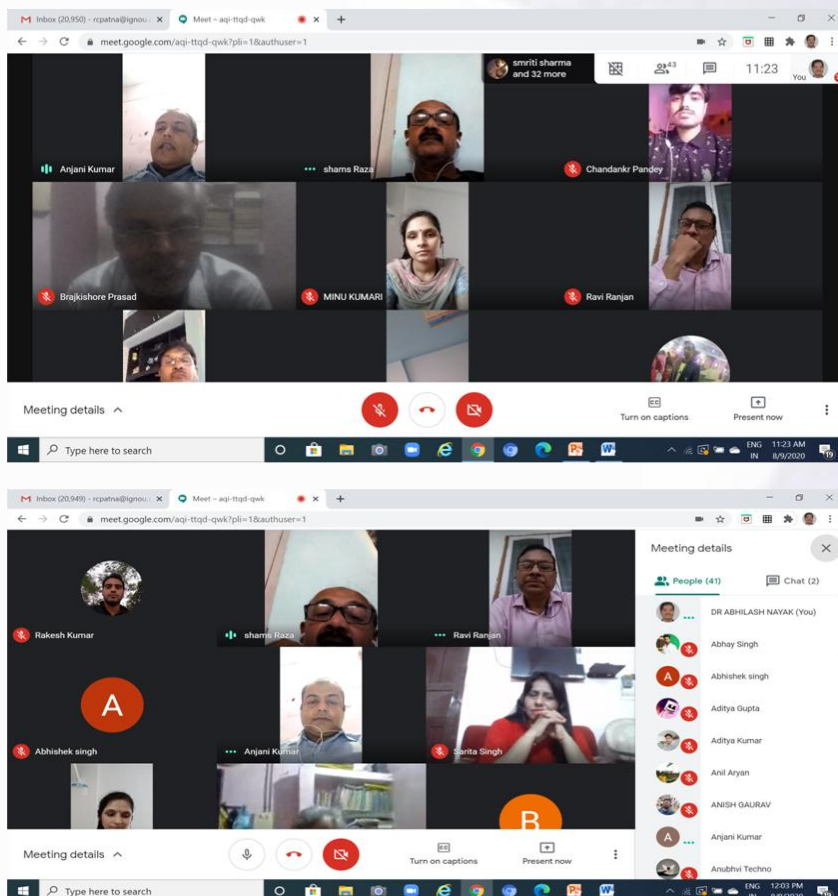
**Inaugural Address By**  
  
**Dr. Abhilash Nayak**  
Regional Director, IGNOU

**Keynote Address By**  
  
**Shri Ravi Ranjan**  
Scientist - C  
NIC, Govt. of India  
Coordinator : e-Granthalaya

**Theme Presentation By**  
  
**Md. Shams Raza**  
PIC, IGNOU PSC0516P

  
**Mr. Anajani Kumar**  
Academic Counselor, MLIS & BLIS

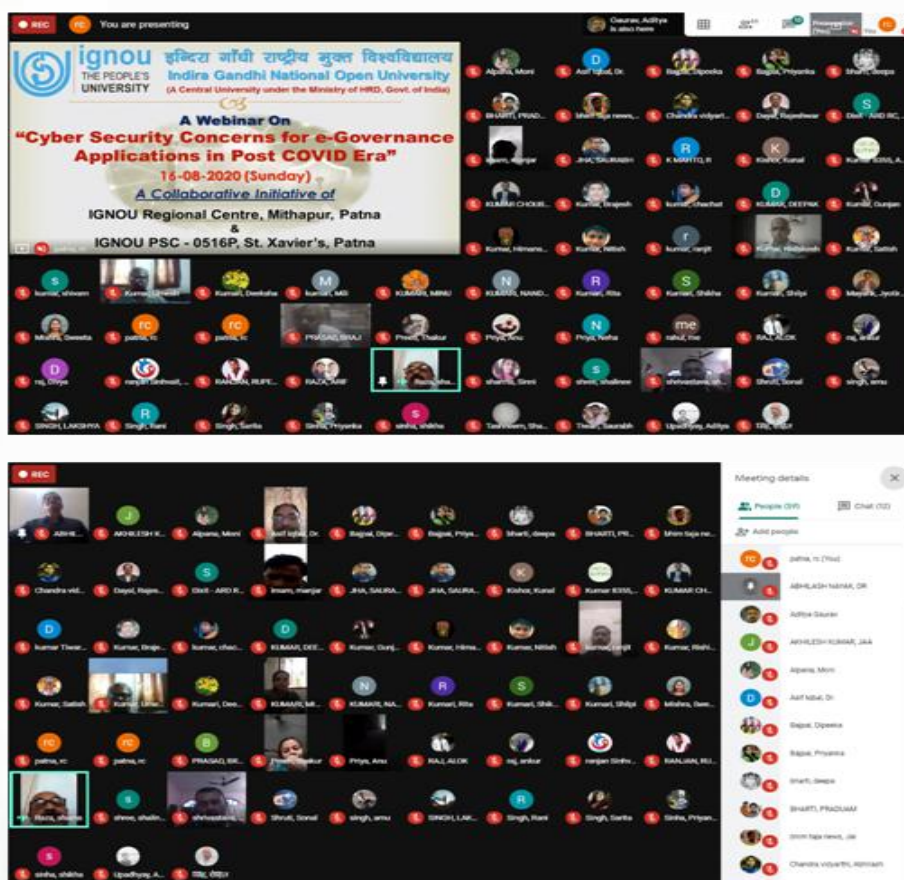
For details of IGNOU please visit : [www.ignou.ac.in](http://www.ignou.ac.in)





### Webinar on Cyber Security Concerns for E-Governance Applications in Post-COVID Era

The Regional Centre in collaboration with St Xavier's Centre for Computer Education, Patna(0516P) organised a webinar on **Cyber Security Concerns for E-Governance Applications in Post-COVID Era** on 16.08.2020 with Shri Shailesh Srivastav, Scientist F and Head of Digital Government Research Centre, NIC, Patna as the Key Note Speaker. Seventy five(75) persons including all the part time functionaries at the LSC, senior academic counselors, RD and two ARDs (Dr Asif Iqbal and Dr Shailini Dixit) participated in this session and discussed the various programmes which learners can pursue to enhance their skills and employability. The academic counselors and learners appreciated this collaborative effort of the Regional Centre and Study Centre.

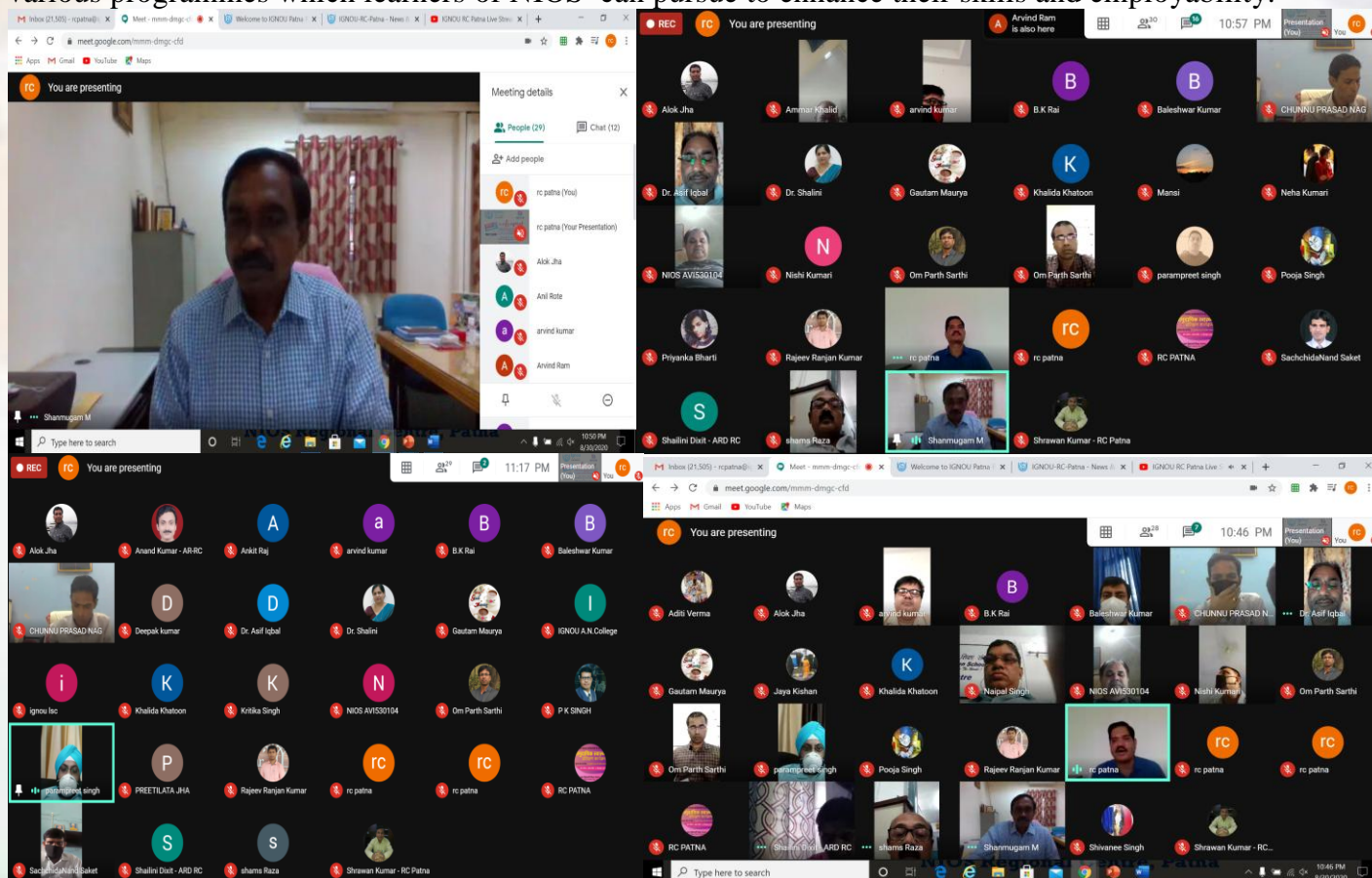






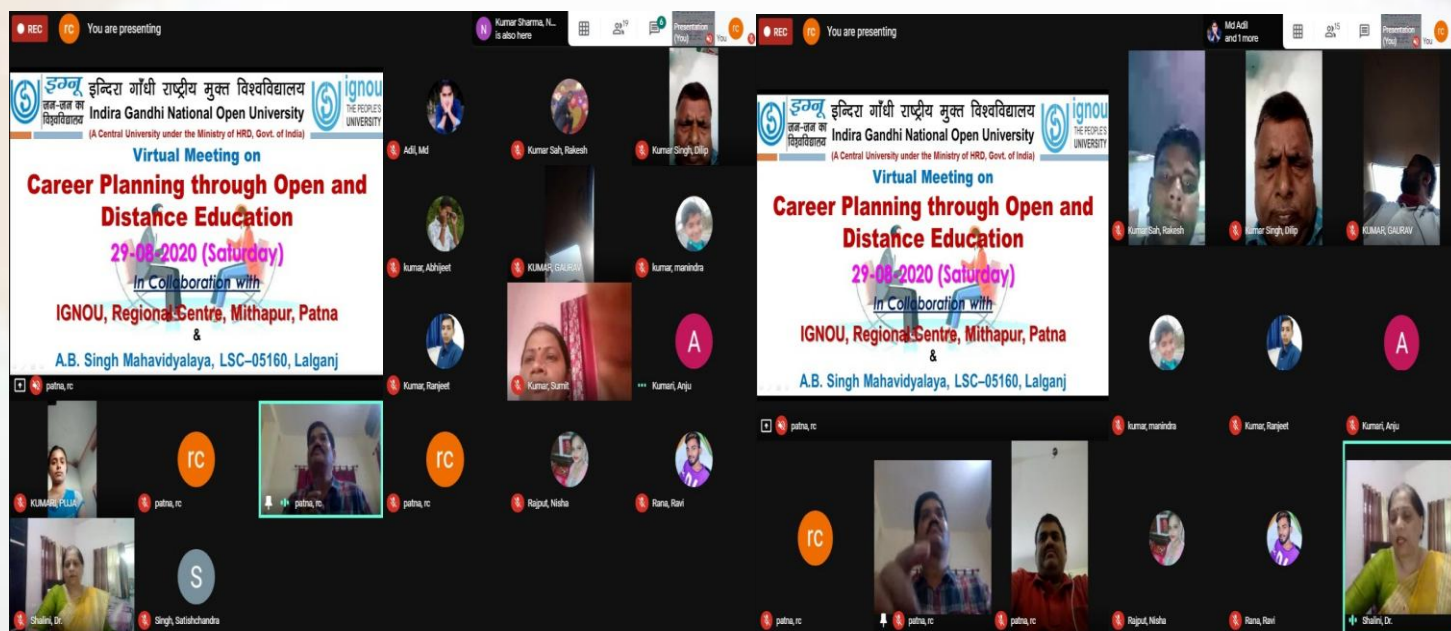
### Webinar on Higher Educational Opportunities through Open and Distance Learning

**Webinar on Higher Educational Opportunities through Open and Distance Learning:** The Regional Centre in collaboration with NIOS, Patna organized a webinar on **Higher Educational Opportunities through Open and Distance Learning** on 31.08.2020 with Dr M Shanmugam, Director, Regional Services Division, IGNOU Maidan Garhi, New Delhi and Cmd Parampreet Singh, Regional Director, NIOS, Patna as the Chief Guest and Guest of Honour respectively. The Chief Guest Dr M Shanmugam appreciated this collaborative efforts of the Regional Centre, IGNOU and Regional Centre, NIOS at Patna and hoped that such collaborations would be carried forward for the benefit of the disadvantaged people of the region . Part-time staff of the LSCs of NIOS, IGNOU and staff of RC Patna participated in this session and discussed the various programmes which learners of NIOS can pursue to enhance their skills and employability.



### Webinar on Career Planning through Open and Distance Education

The Regional Centre organized two webinars on *Career Planning through Open and Distance Education* in collaboration with ABS College, Lalganj(LS-05160) and SS College, Jehanabad on 29.08.2020 and 31.08.2020 respectively. The first one was organized in collaboration with ABS College, Lalganj(LSC-0516) on 29.08.2020 with the prospective learners who have just completed +2 or graduation. The RD and Dr Shalini, ARD counselled the learners about the programs and facilities available in IGNOU. The second was organized in collaboration with S S College, Jehanabad on 31.08.2020. Ninety two(92) persons including senior members of faculty from the college, Dr Abhilash Nayak, RD, and Dr Asif Iqbal, ARD participated in this session and discussed the various programmes which learners can pursue to enhance their skills and employability. The college administration and members of faculty and students of the college appreciated this collaborative effort of the Regional Centre and Study Centre.









### Independence Day 2020

The Regional Centre celebrated the 74<sup>th</sup> Independence Day of the country in the premises of the Regional Centre at 9 am on 15.08.2020 with the staff of the Regional Centre and the Regional Evaluation Centre. The Standard Operating Procedure recommended by Government of India for the celebration of Independence Day was strictly followed. All the members of staff wore masks and maintained recommended social distance.





Volume - II  
Issue- 5



### IGNOU in the MEDIA

100 वर्ष का जन्मदिन मनाया। विश्व का सबसे बड़ा विश्वविद्यालय। गैर, सभी 3304 पंचायतों में तय स्कूल में सभी आधारभूत शौचालय, पेयजल आदि की व्यवस्था पूरी हो गई है।

जन्मदिन का 100 दिनों का उत्सव मनाया होगा। इस दौरान बच्चे दूरदर्शन बिहार पर लग रही कक्षाओं से जोड़े जायेंगे।

ई आरंभ के बच्चों को शिक्षा देने लग जायेंगे। गौरतलब है कि राज्य के सभी प्लस टू विद्यालयों में 9वीं की पढ़ाई शैक्षिक सत्र 2020-21 से आरंभ करने की घोषणा मुख्यमंत्री नीतीश कुमार ने की थी। इसको लेकर शिक्षा विभाग

ने प्राथमिकता के तहत पिछले एक साल से तैयारी की है। बिहार शिक्षा परियोजना परिषद, माध्यमिक शिक्षा निदेशालय और बिहार शैक्षिक आधारभूत संरचना निगम ने जिलों के सहयोग से पूरी तैयारी की है।

## रियों लॉकडाउन में दूर शिक्षा का महत्व दुनियाभर में बढ़ा

क्रियाधीन 2011 को पुणे व्यायालय का र्वार्वाई ग्रामंडल नाथ्यम से उर्डी। इसी संस्कृत नि।

पटना। कोरोना काल और लॉकडाउन के समय दूर शिक्षा का महत्व काफी बढ़ गया है। पूरे विश्व में ऑनलाइन शिक्षा पर जोर दिया जा रहा है, ऐसे में इंदिरा गांधी राष्ट्रीय खुला विश्वविद्यालय ओपेन लर्निंग के लिए विश्वविख्यात है।

यह बातें गुरुवार को इग्नू के टीपीएस कालेज स्टडी केन्द्र और इग्नू क्षेत्रीय केन्द्र पटना द्वारा संयुक्त रूप से आयोजित 'छात्र विकास कार्यक्रम' के तहत दाखिला के लिए काउंसिल सत्र को सम्बोधित करते हुए क्षेत्रीय केन्द्र के निदेशक डॉ. अभिलाष नायक ने कहीं। सत्र की अध्यक्षता टीपीएस कालेज के प्रचार्य प्रो. उपेन्द्र प्रसाद सिंह ने की। प्रो. सचामल किशोर, समन्वयक, टीपीएस कालेज, स्टडी केन्द्र ने बताया कि यूजी और पीजी मिलाकर दो दर्जन कोर्स चलाए जाते हैं। क्षेत्रीय केन्द्र के सहायक केन्द्र निदेशक डॉ. आसिफ इकबाल एवं डॉ. शालिनी दीक्षित व सह समन्वयक डॉ. संजय कुमार ने विस्तार से इग्नू में दाखिले व कोर्सज की जानकारी दी।

उत्तनयन योगनिष्ठुस्तान, दिनांक 14/8/2020

## लॉकडाउन में दूर शिक्षा का महत्व बढ़ा: निदेशक

संवाददाता | एजुकेशनल न्यूज

पटना। आज के कोरोना काल और निरन्तर लॉकडाउन के समय दूर शिक्षा का महत्व कहीं बढ़ गया है। पूरे विश्व में ऑनलाइन शिक्षा पर जोर दिया जा रहा है, ऐसे में इंदिरागांधी राष्ट्रीय खुला विश्वविद्यालय ओपेन लर्निंग के लिए विश्वविख्यात है। आप अपनी इच्छा एवं जरूरत के अनुसार किसी भी कोर्स का चुनाव कर एक केन्द्रीय विश्वविद्यालय में अध्ययन का काम उठा सकते हैं। यह जानकारी गुरुवार को इग्नू के टी.पी.एस. कालेज स्टडी केन्द्र और इग्नू क्षेत्रीय केन्द्र पटना द्वारा संयुक्त रूप से आयोजित 'छात्र विकास कार्यक्रम' के तहत दाखिला के लिए काउंसिल सत्र को सम्बोधित करते हुए क्षेत्रीय केन्द्र के निदेशक डॉ. अभिलाष नायक ने कहीं। सत्र की अध्यक्षता टी.पी.एस. कालेज के प्रचार्य प्रो. उपेन्द्र प्रसाद सिंह ने की। उन्होंने कहा कि हमारे केन्द्र पर छात्रों को



सभी सुविधाएँ उपलब्ध हैं। प्रो. श्यामल किशोर, समन्वयक, टी.पी.एस. कालेज, स्टडी केन्द्र ने अतिथियों का स्वागत करते हुए कहा कि इग्नू द्वारा प्रदत्त विसोयों की जानकारी दी। बताया कि यूजी और पीजी मिलाकर दो दर्जन कोर्स चलए जाते हैं। कई सर्टीफिकेट कोर्स टी.पी.एस. कालेज स्टडी केन्द्र पर अध्ययन की सुविधा मौजूद है। क्षेत्रीय केन्द्र के सहायक केन्द्र निदेशक डॉ. आसिफ इकबाल एवं डॉ. शालिनी दीक्षित ने विस्तार से इग्नू में दाखिले एवं कोर्सज की जानकारी दी। केन्द्र के सह समन्वयक डॉ. संजय कुमार ने विस्तार से बताया। धन्यवाद ज्ञापन टी.पी.एस. अध्ययन केन्द्र के सह-समन्वयक प्रो. अबू बकर रिजवी ने किया। इस अवसर पर डॉ. हेमलता सिंह, डॉ. कुण्डनदेन प्रसाद, डॉ. प्रताप कुमार, डॉ. नूपुर, डॉ. शशिधामा दूबे, डॉ. उदय कुमार, डॉ. हरिमंगल के इलावा राज्य भर के करीब 350 छात्र-छात्राओं ने वर्युअज मोड हुई बैठक में हिस्सा लिया।

## इग्नू में 1200 शैक्षणिक सत्र का ऑनलाइन आयोजन

31 जुलाई (एजुकेशनल न्यूज)।

इग्नू के क्षेत्रीय निदेशक डॉ. अभिलाष नायक ने बताया कि 'कोविड-19' के प्रसारित होने के बाद शिक्षा परीक्षा का नया शैक्षणिक पर्यावरण बनने की आवश्यकता का अहसास हुआ। इसी कारण शिक्षा निदेशक डॉ. अभिलाष नायक ने 1200 शैक्षणिक सत्र का ऑनलाइन आयोजन किया गया।



31 जुलाई तक ऑनलाइन जारी रहेगी प्रवेश और पुनः परीक्षाकरण की प्रक्रिया

एन कालेज देश का 41वां सर्वश्रेष्ठ कालेज

पटना (एजुकेशनल न्यूज)। राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर बिने गये एनटीआर केन्द्र क्षेत्रीय स्तर पर 2020 में राज्य के 41वां सर्वश्रेष्ठ कालेज के रूप में चयनित किया गया है। इस अवसर पर डॉ. अभिलाष नायक ने बताया कि 'कोविड-19' के प्रसारित होने के बाद शिक्षा परीक्षा का नया शैक्षणिक पर्यावरण बनने की आवश्यकता का अहसास हुआ। इसी कारण शिक्षा निदेशक डॉ. अभिलाष नायक ने 1200 शैक्षणिक सत्र का ऑनलाइन आयोजन किया गया।

## इग्नू ने शुरू किया ऑनलाइन 15 कोर्स

पटना (आससे)। इंदिरा गांधी राष्ट्रीय खुला विश्वविद्यालय (इग्नू) के विभिन्न कोर्स में एडमिशन की प्रक्रिया जारी है।



स्टूडेंट्स 31 जुलाई तक ऑनलाइन शुरू करेंगे। इस अवसर पर डॉ. अभिलाष नायक ने बताया कि 'कोविड-19' के प्रसारित होने के बाद शिक्षा परीक्षा का नया शैक्षणिक पर्यावरण बनने की आवश्यकता का अहसास हुआ। इसी कारण शिक्षा निदेशक डॉ. अभिलाष नायक ने 1200 शैक्षणिक सत्र का ऑनलाइन आयोजन किया गया।

ऑनलाइन कोर्स में कहीं के भी स्टूडेंट्स एडमिशन ले सकते हैं। वहीं, ऑनलाइन कोर्स में एडमिशन के लिए सभी क्षेत्रीय और स्टडी सेंटर के लिए विषय निर्धारित है। इसकी सूची इग्नू के वेबसाइट पर अपलोड कर दी गयी है। क्षेत्रीय निदेशक ने बताया कि

## पटना में संस्कृत की पढ़ाई शुरू

पिछले सत्र में 52 हजार स्टूडेंट्स विभिन्न कोर्स में एडमिशन लिए हैं। सत्र 2020-21 में 60 हजार स्टूडेंट्स के एडमिशन का लक्ष्य रखा गया है। लॉकडाउन के कारण सभी प्रक्रियाएँ ऑनलाइन ही संचालित की जा रही हैं। इस दरम्यान 1200 ऑनलाइन कक्षाओं का संचालन क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय के माध्यम से हुआ है। एकेडमिक काउंसिलें भी ऑनलाइन हो रही हैं। नामांकन के लिए वर्युअल मॉडिंग का आयोजन किया जा रहा है। शिक्षक और छात्रों से वीडियो चैट के लिए वीडियो आर्माजित किये गये हैं।







**इग्नू में 31 तक नामांकन, डिजिटल स्टडी मैटेरियल पर 15 % छूट**

जागरण सवाददाता, पटना : इंदिरा गांधी राष्ट्रीय खुला विश्वविद्यालय (इग्नू) के विभिन्न कोर्स में नामांकन के लिए 31 जुलाई तक आवेदन स्वीकार किए जाएंगे। वहीं, पूर्व से नामांकित छात्रों का अगले सत्र में रजिस्ट्रेशन के लिए तिथि बढ़ा दी गई है। अब 31 जुलाई तक द्वितीय वर्ष में यूजी व पीजी कोर्स के छात्र रजिस्ट्रेशन कर सकेंगे।

इग्नू के क्षेत्रीय निदेशक अभिलाष नायक ने बताया कि किसी भी ऑनलाइन कोर्स में कहीं के भी विद्यार्थी नामांकन ले सकते हैं। वहीं, ऑफलाइन कोर्स में नामांकन के लिए सभी क्षेत्रीय और स्टडी सेंटर के लिए विषय निर्धारित हैं।

**कोई भी डाउनलोड कर सकता स्टडी मैटेरियल**

क्षेत्रीय निदेशक ने बताया कि इग्नू की वेबसाइट या इग्नू ई-कंटेंट से कोई भी स्टडी मैटेरियल डाउनलोड कर सकता है। इग्नू का ई-कंटेंट एप गूगल प्ले स्टोर से डाउनलोड किया जा सकता है। इसके लिए किसी तरह का शुल्क जमा नहीं करना होगा। यदि विद्यार्थी डिजिटल स्टडी मैटेरियल लेते हैं तो उन्हें नामांकन शुल्क में 15 फीसद की छूट मिलेगी।

**1200 ऑनलाइन कक्षाएं संचालित**

क्षेत्रीय निदेशक ने बताया कि बिहार में पटना के अलावा विवि के दो और रीजनल सेंटर हैं। पटना क्षेत्रीय केंद्र में पिछले सत्र में 52 हजार छात्र-छात्राओं ने विभिन्न कोर्स में नामांकन लिया है। सत्र 2020-21 में 60 हजार विद्यार्थियों के नामांकन का लक्ष्य रखा गया है। लॉकडाउन के कारण सभी प्रक्रियाएं ऑनलाइन ही संचालित की जा रही हैं। इस दरम्यान 1200 ऑनलाइन कक्षाओं का संचालन क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय के माध्यम से हुआ है। एकेडमिक काउंसिलिंग भी ऑनलाइन हो रही है। नामांकन के लिए वर्युअल मीटिंग का आयोजन किया जा रहा है। शिक्षक और छात्रों से यू-ट्यूब चैनल के लिए वीडियो आमंत्रित किए गए हैं। छात्रों के लिए लाभप्रद और गुणवत्तापूर्ण वीडियो को चैनल पर अपलोड किया जाएगा।

हैं। पटना क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय में इस साल से एमए संस्कृत को शामिल किया गया है। पीएम्सीएच, एनएमसीएच, वर्तमान इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ मेडिकल साइंसेस, नार्लय तथा राष्ट्रीय महाविद्यालय, तिलीथू (रेंहतास) में स्टडी सेंटर खोले गए हैं।

छात्रों की मदद को 'हेलो इग्नू' : लॉकडाउन के दौरान छात्रों को परेशानी को दूर करने के लिए 'हेलो इग्नू' प्रोग्राम शुरू किया गया है। इसके माध्यम से ई-मेल एवं फेसबुक पेज पर भेजे गए सवालियों के जवाब छात्र प्राप्त कर सकते हैं। इसका लिंक सभी क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय की वेबसाइट पर उपलब्ध है।

### From ICT & Cyber world

#### ***Pandemic COVID-19: Challenges and opportunities for the ICT sector***

COVID-19 has impacted a large number of countries and is turning out to be even worse than the critical economic, strategic, and political clashes happening around the world. The outbreak has and still is impacting all industries, including the Information & Communication Technology (ICT) sector.

Tech giants have hit the pause button on marketing operations, canceled essential events and conferences, most notably, the Mobile World Congress, and announced financial results below market expectations. The US tech giant, Microsoft, lowered its revenue estimates in the quarter ended March due to the impact of the epidemic with lower sales of Windows software and surface devices. Apple also had last month said its revenue for the quarter to be below forecast. Although demand seems to be in line with expectations, the supply chain is returning to normal operations at a slower pace than anticipated.

According to international law firm Baker McKenzie, the crisis has fostered corporate introspection and the need for businesses to re-evaluate near-term and long-term supply chains, resource deployment, and liquidity in the face of what it looks like “a looming global recession.”

Even though businesses are grappling with current losses, in the long run, the ICT industry might be one of the few still standing and, in many aspects, stronger than before. But it will not be plain sailing for all businesses in the market. The strain on infrastructure networks, contractions in consumer spending, disruptions to supply chain, reduced availability of components, and the all-around financial impact of the Corona virus are taking its toll in the short-term.

#### **Impact on different ICT areas: Growth engines and challenges**

The world has never been more interconnected, and this health crisis is affecting the whole world. The ICT industry is already losing a lot of income opportunities, and it's still uncertain when the situation will contain. Amidst the uncertain scenario, many technological areas will be the key focus and keep emerging as clear winners.

- With organizations promoting working remotely.
- There is already an exponential rise in video calls/phone calls.
- As an increasing number of people are organizing meetings via apps or collaboration platforms.
- Digital media and Over the Top (OTT) content players are benefiting.



- Virtual Private Networks (VPNs), cyber security, and data security are other technologies that will see a surge as most workforces are operating remotely.
- Cloud services will grow, boosted by higher usage of content, gaming downloads, video conferencing, and the impact of remote access to corporate networks.
- There will also be an increased focus on technologies like artificial intelligence, big data, augmented reality, ML and virtual reality, among others going forward.
- Equipment maker, Huawei, for example, recently posted a surge in its technological services comprising AI, video conferencing, and wireless network coverage across the Asia Pacific, given the on-ground communication challenges to ensure smooth connectivity.
- Although the COVID-19 pandemic has certainly not triggered Industry 5.0, it has brought home the reality of Industry 4.0. digital workflows, robots, automation are no longer goals; they are requirements. IoT devices have offered organizations a path toward preserving revenue streams during this pandemic.
- Other areas that would see an uptick include e-learning, online education, and e-governance.
- As shoppers begin to self-isolate and avoid crowded areas, the clear winner is the e-commerce sector, with digital payment taking over a lot faster than the physical payment options.
- The media industry (both traditional broadcasters and newer streaming platforms) are playing a vital role during the pandemic in providing correct and responsible health information to the public with search engines and social media platforms.
- The current circumstances may also accelerate the adoption of 5G to meet the demands of bandwidth, performance, and network slicing. There will be more focus on the sufficiency of networks to carry the significantly increased traffic as working from home continues to ramp up.
- Social distancing and self-isolation mean that telecommunication has become an elevated essential service. It will be worthwhile to see how the Communications Service Providers (CSPs) both Mobile Network Operators (MNOs) and cable operators meet the challenge of their new critical role in the changed world.
- Also, with the need for social distancing, people are communicating more, which will drive additional voice traffic, whether it's on legacy circuit-switched systems or the 4G network with Voice over Long-Term Evolution (VoLTE) calls. The strain on voice services, though, will be helped to some extent by the convergence of WhatsApp, Messenger, Skype, Hangouts, and FaceTime calling within the iOS and Android ecosystems. Nevertheless, some CSPs are predicting significantly higher voice traffic growth against the regular year-on-year increase of only 5%.
- With significant changes in user behavior, escalating use of telemedicine solutions for remote diagnosis, and the corresponding data traffic shifts, it will be increasingly important for CSPs, whether it's a mobile or cable operator, to keep vigilant and closely monitor their network.

### **Role of AI and Analytics in supporting ICT businesses**

‘During the crisis and its aftermath, winning companies will reinvent themselves by putting data and AI at the core of their organizations.’ They can leverage AI and Analytics on two major fronts:

- Driven by its internal needs as new challenges, opportunities, and use cases emerge.
- Driven by the systematic shifts in consumer behavior in what will be a ‘New Reality.’

### **Key areas (driven by internal needs), where AI and analytics will play a crucial role:**

- Revenue and Business Continuity Planning: Some of the massive shift to remote work due to the pandemic might be temporary. However, much of it will persist as more businesses provision for long-term, flexible working arrangements and on-demand staffing models will become more common.
- Network and operational analytics: AI/ML-based analytics can provide automated anomaly detection at scale. As traffic increases and network chokes-up, understanding spikes and breakdowns in a scaled, automated manner will be critical. AI and analytics help track these anomalies much more efficiently and accurately than manually looking at the system issues.
- Collaboration services leveraging AI: Communication and collaboration platforms have already seen an exponential rise in voice and video calls. Using voice-based AI, video conference users can start, join, or end a meeting. Voice-to-text transcription, another AI feature, can take meeting notes during video meetings, leaving individuals and their teams free to concentrate on what’s being said or shown, boosting efficiency, and collaboration. This AI/ML-based technology will get smarter and more accurate as more people will use it. With many tech events/summits becoming virtual, this may see an increase in demand.
- Digitalization and Automation: The current crisis is an excellent accelerator of digitalization for both consumers and businesses. Even the most skeptical ones, will be prepared to integrate digital agenda in their organizations and will be in much favor of automating their operations.
- Augmented data management and integration: As cloud services continue to grow, and data continues to collect from multiple touch points, data management & integration sees bolstered growth. This involves leveraging ML capabilities and AI engines to make enterprise information management categories, including data quality, metadata management, master data management, data integration as well as Database Management Systems (DBMS) self-configuring and self-tuning.

### **Key areas (driven by the shifts in consumer behavior), where AI and analytics can play a crucial role:**

- New Consumption patterns: The pandemic is drastically altering consumption habits worldwide as consumers are making more purchases online and digitally. This will fuel more online purchases of technological products & services, an upsurge in cloud-based services, and the need for more devices per household.



- **Customer Experience Optimization:** With front-liners being flooded with customer calls and queries, contact centers will need a more efficient workforce and capacity planning. AI and analytics can provide more accurate and efficient capacity planning models for predicting the volume of agents needed, effective staff utilization, better management of agents, and enhanced customer experience.
- **Last mile fulfillment:** Increasing trade barriers is forcing companies to re-think their supply chain strategies and re-assess the merits of redundancy. But redundancy and duplication entail a significant cost. AI offers the potential for companies to build resilience into their operations while minimizing the cost and damage to margins.

### Conclusion

AI and analytics will be a must in enabling ICT businesses to thrive and seize competitive advantage in this new environment. AI capabilities will be enormously valuable as businesses confront and adapt to the new reality of the current crisis and its aftermath.

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