



IGNOU DIGI NEWS

Nov'17 - Mar'18

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'You may earn anything in life including big money, name, fame and whatever else you can think of but there is no substitute to education. It's your passport to the future because tomorrow belongs only to those who prepare for it today'

This is the only place in our country where we're able to create a Bachelor's programme in Medical Records Keeping, which is another area that no other university caters to, and where technical manpower is in great demand for better patient care, especially in medico-legal cases which continue for years in our country'



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FSSAI and IGNOU sign MoU for capacity building activities in Food Safety

Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) and Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) have signed an MoU for implementation of FSSAI's Food Safety Training and Certification (FOSTAC) Programmes through IGNOU network. IGNOU would act as an important Training Partner in capacity building activities of the FSSAI.

The MoU was signed between the Shri Pawan Kumar Agarwal, Chief Executive Officer and Registrar IGNOU, Shri Jitendra Kumar Srivastava in the presence of Prof. S. B. Arora, Vice Chancellor, IGNOU. Ms. Madhavi Das, Chief Management Services Officer, FSSAI, was also present.

FSSAI's CEO Shri Pawan Kumar Agarwal expressed his pleasure on signing of the agreement and said that implementation of the new Food Safety Regulations, is a gigantic and multi-faceted task ranging from generating awareness to harmonization with the International Codex standards among all the stakeholders of the food chain. Our country needs a large number of well trained human resources for implementing the Food Safety Regulations in the organized and unorganized sectors of the food industry as it has become mandatory for all Food Business Operators (FBOs) to have at least one FSSAI trained and certified Food Safety Supervisor (FSS). With organized retail growth and automation of supply chain, the Food Industry is poised for even higher growth, he remarked and therefore, the FOSTAC programmes need to be delivered through multiple channels. IGNOU's VC Prof. S. B. Arora also welcomed the academic collaboration of this kind and added that IGNOU framework is best suited for a large and varied group of human resource to be trained in the area of Food Safety to ensure safe and wholesome food in the country. The University has a strong network of Regional Centres and Study Centres as well as media facilities for a wider dissemination of educational and training resources across the country in a cost effective manner. He also added that the Govt. of India has recognized IGNOU as an important partner in offering of MOOC courses through Swayam and Swayam Prabha channels. Under the arrangement, IGNOU shall harness its wide network of IGNOU Regional Centres and Study Centres to conduct Food Safety Supervisor training programmes related to Street food vending, catering, Manufacturing, retail and distribution, Storage and Transport and specialized courses located throughout the country. IGNOU shall also amalgamate the training content in its curriculum and study materials of the on-going programmes in the areas of food processing and food safety. IGNOU shall develop and offer online MOOCs programmes using the resources available with the FSSAI. IGNOU will help FSSAI in transmitting the FOSTAC Courses through its ICT network like website (Online), Gyanvani, Gyandarshan, SWAYAM PRABHA, etc.



FSSAI will approve IGNOU as training partner for implementation of the FOSTAC training programmes. IGNOU Regional Centres / Study Centres will be approved as Training Centres / Venue for conducting the training programmes. FSSAI will share its training facilities and resources (Training materials and experts / officials) with IGNOU which can also be used for integration with existing courses and developing new or additional courses / programmes by IGNOU. The integration the FOSTAC courses with the existing educational / training programmes / courses and enrolling the students in the FOSTAC training programmes across the country will enable them to get additional certificate from FSSAI which will add value to their professional career and job potential.

FSSAI will help in mobilization of target group for the educational and training programmes through its FOSTAC platform and linkage with the industry and corporate bodies. FSSAI will help IGNOU in identifying the resource persons / experts for recording of audio/ video programmes and preparation of study materials as and when required. FSSAI will conduct TOT programmes for the IGNOU nominated trainers across the country.;

IGNOU will also provide academic support for Translation / Regionalization / Revision & Upgradation of training content. IGNOU will also help FSSAI in developing multi-media content like audio/video films which will be used for the educational and training programmes.

IGNOU Re-starts Gyan Darshan Through TV Channel Telecast

IGNOU has pleasure in announcing that its Gyan Darshan TV Channel telecasts are now available through C-Band GSAT-10 Satellite. The downlink frequency for the same is 3831 Mhz with LNB frequency 5150 Mhz and the symbol rate is 7200 SPS with vertical polarity and $\frac{3}{4}$ FEC.

According to Prof. Kapil Kumar, Director, Electronic Media Production Centre (EMPC), the channel is available free of cost and as per the Govt. of India Gazette Notification of 26.02.2005, it is a “must carry channel for all Cable/TV/ DTH and IPTV operators. It is an educational channel which carries educational programmes on IGNOU courses, general awareness programmes, and interactive sessions with subject experts and scholars besides promoting nationalism, harmony and peace. He further stated that these programmes are also beneficial for students of the formal education system and are now also available world over through webcasting www.ignouonline.ac.in/gyandarshan” from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm. This success has been achieved through hard team work of EMPC engineers and staff.

The schedule of the programmes which are being telecasted 24 hours is available on IGNOU website www.ignou.ac.in. Prof. Kumar has sought the cooperation of all cable operators and DTH operators in making these programmes available on the cable networks.

Prof. S.B Arora, Vice Chancellor (Acting), IGNOU, described the re-start of Gyan Darshan as a major achievement and expressed his gratitude to the ministries of communication, I&B and MHRD along with ISRO and Prasar Bharti for the cooperation extended by them in this regard. He is hopeful that this endeavour on the part of IGNOU will go a long way in improving the quality in higher education. Gyanvani Radio channel is already serving the students through FM stations in the country and through webcasting all over the world.

Celebration of International Day of Persons with Disabilities at IGNOU

The Indira Gandhi National Open University's (IGNOU's) National Centre for Disability Studies (NCDS) organized a series of activities at IGNOU for observing International Day of Persons with Disabilities during 30th November to 6th December, 2017.

A painting competition was organized on 30th November, 2017 for the wards of University staff members on the theme "Sports for Persons with Disabilities". The children were divided into three age groups of below 8 years, between 8 to 12 years and 12 years to 17 years. A total of 45 children participated in the painting competition.

A slogan competition is also being organized for all the staff members of IGNOU including those working at the Regional Centres across the country on the topic "Disability" where participants can send the slogans in Hindi or English.

The main function of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities was held on 6th December, 2017 at the Baba Saheb Ambedkar Convention Centre, IGNOU where Mr. George Abraham, Founding Chairman of World Blind Cricket Council and CEO of SCORE Foundation has been invited as Chief Guest to speak on 'Persons with Disabilities: A Human Resource'. The winners of painting and slogan competition were felicitated during the programme.

IGNOU initiates admission to BPP through CSC network

Admission to the Bachelor Preparatory Programme (BPP) of the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) is available online through any of the Common Service Centre (CSC). This is for the first time that the University has initiated its admission procedure through the CSCs across the nation.

BPP is a non-formal channel to be eligible for BA\ B.Com\Bachelor in Social Work\ Bachelor in Tourism Studies of the university. It is the most popular programme amongst those students who aspire for higher education but are unable to leverage the opportunity.

The programme is available in 9 regional languages, viz., English, Oriya, Tamil, Bengali, Marathi, Malyalam and Gujarati. Its duration is minimum six months and maximum two years.

IGNOU Celebrates its 32nd Foundation Day

Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) celebrated its 32nd Foundation Day on November 19, 2017. Kick-starting the celebrations, Prof. S. B. Arora, Vice Chancellor IGNOU paid floral tribute at the statute of Late PM Smt. Indira Gandhi situated at the main gate of the IGNOU headquarter in Maidan Garhi. The chief guest on the occasion was Former Vice Chancellor of the university, Prof. Ravindra Kumar and Guest of Honour at the occasion was Shri Mukul Kanitkar, All India Organizing Secretary, Bharatiya Sikshan Mandal.

To mark the occasion, an exhibition showcasing University's journey over the years highlighting the achievements was organized at the Baba Saheb Ambedkar convention center. The Vice Chancellor along with Shri Mukul Kanitkar and Prof. Ravindra Kumar inaugurated the exhibition. Foundation Day Lecture was delivered by Guest of Honour Shri Mukul Kanitkar on the topic of "Open and Distance Learning: Opportunities & Responsibilities".

Dr. V. V. Reddy, Director Regional Services Division, welcoming the dignitaries at the dais highlighted the mega university's achievements over the years. He particularly mentioned adoption of technology in better delivery of course material through digital and improvement in Student Support Services which now is called e-Support which ensures faster redressal of students' queries. In his address, he also touched upon the growth in the network of the university from 13 Regional Centers to 56 to date with over 2900 study centers across the length & breadth of the country. In his welcome address, he also emphasized upon the rural outreach of the University through Common Service Centres (CSCs).

Prof. Ravindra Kumar in his address took an overview of the contribution of the University in open and distance education and shared as how the University has emerged as a premier institution during past three decades. Prof. Kumar opined that on the Foundation Day, it is the time to introspect & bring about changes in course structures, pedagogy and student support services itself. He further emphasized upon that to remain at the forefront of higher education, we need to embrace digital transformation. He proposed a nine-point agenda for development of curriculum, pedagogy and student services for the prospective digital learners of the university which includes:



Developing communication skills of the students, inculcating self learning capabilities, Imbibing Ethical Values and Responsibilities, flexibility, Instill Conceptual Skills, Respect Student's Diversity and autonomy of students. which included apart from digitalization of processes, courses enhancing soft-skills and communication abilities of the learner to make him/her 21st century job-ready.

Shri Mukul kanitkar in his foundation day lecture recollected the rich past in terms of knowledge seeking society India always had. He highlighted the fact that in 1823, India was 100% literate as per the education survey done at that time. He further said that India was always at the forefront of open education where self-learning was the way of learning. He remarked that teaching is not possible, only learning is, as the teacher also learns in the process of imparting knowledge to learners. Education should be learning specific and not teaching oriented. Rot-learning does not lead to a society building. Highlighting IGNOU's role in building capacity in terms of making India, the pioneer of knowledge, he urged upon the University fraternity to outreach across the length and breadth of the Country. He applauded the university's efforts in democratizing education through digital intervention and providing self learning materials in different regional languages including Khasi language.

The Vice Chancellor, Prof. S. B. Arora in his presidential speech lauded IGNOU's role as democratizing the education and fulfilling its social responsibility of making higher education accessible to all. He emphasized that he takes pride in saying that university has 44% of female students and is truly inclusive providing education to disadvantaged section of the society.

IGNOU inks pact with J&K Government to enroll 19,000 in-service Government teachers to B.Ed sans entrance

The Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) signed a Memorandum of Collaboration (MoC) with the Department of School Education, Government of J&K through SARVA SHIKSHAABHIYYAN to enroll more than 19,000 in-service graduate government teachers to its two year, B.Ed. programme in the ODL mode sans an entrance test and at a subsidized fee.

The MoC was signed by Registrar Prof. Jeetendra Srivastav, on IGNOU's behalf and Shri A.R. War, Director, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan signed it on behalf of the Jammu & Kashmir Government. Director, School of Education (SOE), IGNOU, Prof. Saroj Pandey and other officials from SSA, J&K were also present at the time of signing of the memorandum.

Prof. Pandey briefed all the members about the project of training of untrained in-service graduate teachers of Govt. of J&K through B. Ed. (ODL) commencing from January 2018 session.

The members deliberated upon on all the possible relevant issues pertaining to the implementation of this project through coordination of Regional Centers of Jammu and Srinagar and Project Director, SSA, J&K.

“Regional Centre Jammu will be the nodal centre for B.Ed. ODL programme for Jammu & Kashmir and RD Jammu will be the nodal officer for the project in the state of J&K,” said Prof. Arora, VC (acting), IGNOU.

As per the MoC, the SSA shall Identify and provide the requisite list of the study centers comprising District Institutes of Education and Training (DIETs), Institutes of Advanced Studies in Education (IASE), and B.Ed. Colleges and (identified by the State Government) of the State, as the Programme Study Centres (PSCs), before the commencement of the programme.

This programme would be restricted to the specified number of J&K untrained graduate teachers working in govt./govt. recognized schools.

IGNOU Organizes Seminar on Development and Social Justice



The Indira Gandhi National Open University's (IGNOU) School of Social Science (SOSS) organized a two-day seminar on Development and Social Justice to delve on new areas of research on development and social justice.

“The development in India is still not in proportion to the effort that has gone. There are constraints to produce the desired results. Poverty reduction and overall improvement in the standard of living are attainable goals that bring the world closer to social justice. However, there is little indication of any real ongoing commitment to address existing inequalities. The enormous gap in the distribution of wealth is growing wider, reflecting a general trend that is morally unfair, politically unwise and economically unsound,” said Prof. Swaraj Basu, Director, SOSS, IGNOU.

“The issues that need to be addressed are politicization of social justice. The whole political legal and administrative system is systematically against the masses of the poor people. What are the welfare measures taken for the poor who are still denied of the social and political justice? What is required is a rational and scientific analysis to look into the various failures of the problems in social justice and development in India,” he added.

Prof. Atul Sarma from the Institute for Studies in Industrial Development chaired the panel discussion on perspectives and framework of the topic.

“We have not been able to contribute much to the improvement in inclusive growth even after 70 years of independence. On the contrary, inequality has increased. It is not just a problem for India but for the whole world. This seminar focuses on whether it is possible to think about it with a new perspective where better income distribution is achieved,” he said.

Prof Das Gupta of Delhi University in his address touched upon the need to develop techniques and use of technology and scientific innovation in a manner that takes cognizance of the local requirements of the peasants in rural India. He reiterated that the local knowledge created over centuries must also be used and not shun away.

He stressed on the fact that with the green revolution in 1960s, the indigenous local knowledge was completely ignored. He recommended for better collaboration between the peasants and the scientific community for better understanding and results.

Highlighting that the disconnect between the agro-scientists and the peasants, Prof Das Gupta said that one of the reasons for Genetically Modified Cotton's failure in Maharashtra has been the lack of knowledge of the farmers in adopting the transgenic crop.

Prof. V Upadhyay, Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, delved upon how the changing environments affect the development and social justice. "A lot of debates are consolidated to political upheavels and changes in India. The changing development and social justice is affecting the world not just India. The emerging trends point to the dangers."

Focus On Practicing Social Work than Teaching: Medha Patkar at IGNOU

“If social work is limited to teaching and learning, I will focus it on practicing. The concept of social work needs to be defined with practice,” said Ms. Medha Patkar, the social activist, while delivering her key note address at the Convention Centre in Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) yesterday. She was delivering the address during a two-day workshop on 'Made-In-India: The Social Work Journey' in the headquarters.

“Wondering what a social activist is, is a challenge before us, the society and the omnipotent state. Taking up the challenges, involved in the practice of social work needs to be reflected in defining or re-defining social work. It is with the interactions in group that we learn and grow with. These interactions when they are peaceful, democratic, accommodative and humane, there seems to be no problem around us. But, when there are controversies, violence, and incidences of discrimination, the problems begin,” she said.

“What should social work be for? And what is it that it should be against? It should be spelt out with every interaction that we ourselves engage in. In a broader context, when even the slumlords also call themselves as social workers and most politicians who are called to be social workers, anyone who works with any section of society, if he/she is to be called a social worker then what is unique about us who are part of a professional training institute or professional practices that are considered as professional social work? I think our institute really gives us a well defined history and chronology on how the social work has moved ahead and we have to tap what is unique about us,” Ms. Medha explained.

“It is the basic right to life that we all work for. From individual to community to society, are we really challenging everything that goes against these rights? It is a question that every professional social worker should ask themselves. Because we are professional we need not be within a binding framework of either the state or the particular context (that we work in),” she added.



Prof. S.B. Arora, the acting Vice Chancellor of IGNOU during his address to the students pointed out that the practice of social work is not taught but comes from within. The School of Social Work in IGNOU has been here for 10 years to promote indigenous social work literature through its self learning material alongwith audio and video programmes developed by academicians and professionals in the field from within the culture, reflecting local behaviors and practices that are locally relevant. Now, IGNOU has programmes till the research level in social work as well.

“The main aim of the workshop is to highlight and discuss on the social work education and profession since it began in India and to discover and at the same time to explore the ingenuity and growth of the profession over the years. The outcome of the workshop will help social work students, practitioners, and academicians to identify priority areas in strengthening the profession,” said Dr. Rose Nembiakkim, Director, School of Social Work, IGNOU while highlighting the need to evolve with the changing demands and concerns.

The workshop was attended by academicians from Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI), Rajiv Gandhi University (RGU), Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), Delhi School of Social Work (DSSW) along with more than 100 IGNOU students. Dr. G Mahesh, Assistant Professor, SOSW, IGNOU, delivered the vote of thanks.

IGNOU Celebrates International Women's Day with debate on “#MeToo”



IGNOU's School of Gender and development studies celebrated the International Women's Day with a thematic debate on the on-going “#metoo” campaign. Setting the tone for the debate on the topic for the PhD students of SOGDS, Prof Savita Singh explained to the audience about the campaign which got started with a tweet that highlighted sexual harassment in Hollywood. Prof Singh said that not that there was no movement against the sexual harassment in workplace before but after Hollywood producer Harvey Weinstein's sexual assault allegations episode, there has been spate of cases that have come into light where women themselves have come forward and narrated their stories of sexual harassment or misconduct through the “#metoo” campaign. And this gathered steam worldwide and trended on social media platforms like Twitter and Facebook with numerous high-profile women sharing their experiences.

Prof Nilima Srivastava, Director, SOGDS welcomed the guests and reiterated that celebrating women's day is a way or a mechanism to draw attention of masses about gender inequality inherent in our society. She also outlined the various initiatives that SOGDS has had over the past years and the academic programs offered by School Of Gender and Development Studies, IGNOU.

Prof Jitendra Srivastava, Registrar, IGNOU in his address elucidated that the patriarchal mindset needs to change from one's home itself and from the individual himself referring to the prevailing mindset problem that men have. He said that we need to change ourselves first, starting with being sensitized about the kind of language at times we (men) use that is derogatory to the other gender. It has to start from micro level first and then can we see change happening at the macro level, i.e., at the societal level, he concluded Prof Annu J. Thomas moderated the debate on the relevance of #MeToo campaign. Several participants took part in the debate and spoke for and against the motion. One of the participant rightly highlighted that the cyber-led campaign only has taken along the educated women with access to the internet and has left many who have no such channel to vent their sexual harassment experiences at work, home or elsewhere.

The day's celebration ended with a play on exploitation of women in the society titled “Trial Room”. It highlighted how women are exploited in society.

IGNOU Organizes Workshop on Statistical Interface into Research

IGNOU's STRIDE (Staff Training and Research Institute of Distance Education) organized a One Day Workshop on Statistical Interface into Research for teachers and academics at IGNOU headquarters on 09th March 2018. The Workshop also had research scholars who are enrolled in M.Phil and Ph.D programme of IGNOU.

This workshop's aim was to impart training about use of statistics in research along with hands on practice for strengthening statistical base for research.

Prof Jitendra Kr. Srivastav, Registrar, IGNOU inaugurated the Workshop. In his speech, Prof Srivastava highlighted the importance of statistical tools to understand data. He said that raw data in itself was of no use unless some information could be culled out from it. He complimented STRIDE for organizing the workshop and said that such workshops would benefit teachers and academics from all disciplines.

Earlier the Workshop began with a Welcome Address by Prof PK Biswas, Director STRIDE who said that this workshop was special as it included even research scholars enrolled in various research programmes of IGNOU.

The objectives of the Workshop were outlined by Dr. Anita Priyadarshini, Workshop Coordinator. She said that the researchers grapple with the choice of the right statistical tools while doing the research and this introductory workshop would set the tone for the future workshops.

The workshop had 4 sessions of 90 minutes each. The topics focused on Research and Statistics, Research and Inferential Statistics, Research and Modeling.

The resource persons for this one day training were well known national level experts: Prof. Ravi K. Mahajan, Professor and Coordinator, Department of Statistics, USOL, Panjab University; Professor Kalpana Mahajan, Professor and Former Chairperson, Department of Statistics, USOL, Panjab University; and Professor Qazi Mazhar Ali, Professor and Former Chairperson Department of Statistics & Operations research & Former Head, Computer Centre, Aligarh Muslim University.

Prof Ravi K Mahajan dwelt with the basics of statistics and explained concept like sampling and how should one go about choosing the right sample which is representative of the population. Prof. Kalpana Mahajan took participants through the various tests to check veracity of the data analysis. Prof Qazi touched upon the system's approach to the research problem and how mathematically those can be analyzed to arrive at results.

The workshop methodology included interactive sessions with Resource Persons, presentations as well as hands on practice for acquiring statistical skills for research. This workshop enhanced the understanding of statistics and train / refresh faculty in the use of statistical tools and techniques and helped in building capacity of teachers, academics and research scholars in conducting research. In view of the demand from the participants, a more advanced workshop of longer duration on this topic will be conducted in the future.

IGNOU to start Korean Language & Culture Programme soon

A delegation from Korean Embassy visited IGNOU and met the VC Prof S B Arora. Director, Korean Culture Centre, India - Mr Kim Kum Pyoung thanked the VC for the support IGNOU has extended for the development of Korean language programme. The VC noted this fruitful development and assured Korean Delegation to start a certificate level programme soon.

"The relation between India and the Republic of Korea is unique in nature. The relations which are more than 2 millennia old, provides both India & Korea an opportunity to reach new heights in social, economic and political spheres. Presently, thousands of people work in Korean giants like Samsung and Hyundai in India and due to this reason the demand of this programme would be huge in India - said Mr. Shivaji Bhaskar, Coordinator of the Programme".

Prof Anju Sahgal Gupta, Director-SOFL informed that the Korean certificate level programme would be the only such programme in India which is developed in ODL mode with expertise provided by the Korean Embassy.

"This Certificate level programme will be integrated in nature. The Study Material along with Audio/Visual Learning Material will be provided to all learners for understanding the language in an efficient manner. The programme will be available in all regions through respective Regional centres and anyone above 18 years of age with 10+2 will be eligible to take admission in this programme- said Mr. Bhaskar"



IGNOU Organizes Workshop on RTI On-line Portal for PIOs



IGNOU's Staff Training and Research Institute of Distance Education (STRIDE) conducted a workshop for Central Public Information Officers of the University to make them conversant with On-line portal and Information System for effective and efficient delivery of information to the applicants seeking information under the RTI Act. The purpose of the workshop was to sensitize the PIOs about the finer details of RTI Act 2005 so as to help them handle queries in an efficient manner as per the Acts' provisions and to make them familiar with the on-line portal for speedy delivery of information available to the seeking citizen/s. The workshop also exposed the participants to the on-line portal through hands-on training session.

In his inaugural address, Director STRIDE, Prof P. K. Biswas highlighted the basic objectives of RTI Act which is to empower the citizens and promote transparency and accountability in the working of the government. He said that PIOs play a vital role in making the citizen's Right to Information a reality and it is

imperative that they understand the Act and its provisions. Reiterating University's commitment to a transparent and accountable system, Prof S.B. Arora, VC, IGNOU commended STRIDE for organizing the workshop and said that RTI's on-line portal would help empower the citizens and make our democracy work for the people in real sense. Dr. Pulla Lakshmi, Coordinator of the workshop gave a rundown on the different aspects of the training in terms of takeaways by the participants at the end of each session. She outlined that the workshop would help participants work using on-line portal for the complete flow which includes filing the reference appeal, scanning, responding on the appeals etc.,

Advocate Sh. M. S. Kasana, expert on RTI in his lecture to the participants acquainted them of the fine details of the Act along with its provisions, relevant to their working. He said that the Act casts specific duties on PIOs and makes them liable for penalty in case of default. It is therefore essential for a PIO to study the Act carefully and correctly under its provisions, he added.

Dr. Pulla Lakshmi proposed the vote of thanks and thanked the expert and the participants for their full support in making the workshop a success which has clear tangible benefits.

IGNOU Bags Special Jury Award at National Science Film Festival

IGNOU's film "Tribals and Indigenous Knowledge System" has won a "Special Jury Award" in competitive category 'A' in the 8th National Science Film Festival of India, held at Guwahati from 20-24 Feb. 2018. The National Science Film Festival is Organized by Vigyan Prasar, an autonomous organization of Department of Science and Technology, Govt. of India.

The award includes a certificate a trophy and cash prize of Rs. 50,000. In the preliminary selection process a screening committee recommends/ nominates films for screening in the film festival and then the jury will select the films for awards.

This year, renowned wild life and environment Film maker Mr. Mike Pandey, was the chairman of the jury. In the Competitive category 'A' i.e. for films sponsored by government and non government institutions/organizations a total 21 films were selected/nominated for screening in the film festival.

This film pertains to the traditional knowledge of the tribals and indigenous communities in Southern Rajasthan.

Prof. Kapil Kumar, Director, EMPC, IGNOU described it as a major achievement for the Electronic Media Production Centre and congratulated the producer of the film Dr. Amitosh Dubey and his team.

The crew includes Content coordinators - Dr. Y.S.C.Khuman and Dr. Deeksha Dave, Script - Dr. Deeksha Dave, Cinematography-Bedadhutyi Dutta, Sound recording - Jaiprakash, Editing- Dr. Amitosh Dubey and helper- Rajeshwar.

IGNOU hosts Capacity Building Programme for Public Library Professionals under the National Mission on Libraries (NML)

IGNOU organized a week-long capacity building programme for library personnel from various public libraries of the country under the National Mission on Libraries (NML). One of the four major components under the mission is capacity building. Other Components include: creation of National Virtual Library of India (NVLI), setting up of NML model libraries throughout the country and survey of libraries. Raja Rammohun Roy Foundation is the nodal agency of NML for administration, logistics, planning and budgeting purposes under the Ministry of Culture and is mandated to conduct training programme for the public library personnel throughout the country.



This was second of such program organized by IGNOU with Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation and the Ministry of Culture, Government of India and is tenth in the series. The objective of the programme was to orient the public library personnel on the latest developments in Library and Information Sciences and enhance the professional competence.

Welcoming the participants at the workshop, Prof Uma Kanjilal, Director, Inter University Consortium of Technology Enabled Flexible Education (IUC- TEFED) said that it is matter of pride for the university to have hosted the second capacity building programme within a span of a year. She added that such programmes help in imparting necessary training to the library personnel so to better serve the public. The knowledge locked in books is of no help if it does not reach the readers and if they cannot access. So it is imperative that existing public libraries become repository of digital resources with open platforms which have multilingual federated search interfaces to be accessible to everyone with ease, said Prof Kanjilal stressing the role of ICT.

Prof S. B. Arora, VC IGNOU had words of praise for the programme as he said that such initiatives are much needed to help make India a knowledge driven society. He also emphasized that with mobile and Internet technology being adopted everywhere the delivery of knowledge or information should be through digital means and technology should be used as an enabler to help the general public.



Prof Deepak B. Phatak from IIT-Bombay Lead PI of the NVLI project also made a presentation on the progress of development of NVLI in collaboration with IGNOU and CDAC, Pune. Prof Phatak informed that the cloud space of 3 Petabytes have been made available for hosting of NVLI. He also outlined various parts of the initiative being undertaken by different institutions including IGNOU which has been entrusted to meta-tag the records for making each resource searchable with the click of mouse.



Hand Washing Campaign in Adopted Slum under Unnat Bharat Abhiyan

RC Bhubaneswar had organised a hand washing campaign in Vivekananda Sikshya Kendra, Salia Sahi, Bhubaneswar on 18.7.2017 with a view to inculcating the habit of hand hygiene among the children. 78 children had participated in the campaign. Mr P C Mishra, a social worker spoke about the pros and cons of keeping the hands clean. A video titled '7 steps of Hand Hygiene' was shown during the campaign. Then a few children were asked to wash their hands following the 7 steps of hand washing which they did and others observed it.



INAUGURATION OF STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICE CENTRE AT IGNOU REGIONAL CENTRE, BANGALORE



Dr. Sharanaprakash R. Patil, Hon'ble Minister for Medical Education, Government of Karnataka was the Chief Guest, while Sh. Eshwara B. Khandre, Hon'ble Minister for Municipals, Local Bodies & Public Enterprise and Prof. H.D. Patil, Hon'ble Member, Karnataka Public Service Commission were the Guests of Honour.



REGIONAL CENTRE Bijapur

Dr. Venkoba Narayanappa,

Assistant Professor, Karnataka State Women University, Bijapur

Degree secured from IGNOU: MADE, MAPC, PGDHE, PGDDE

Complimenting IGNOU Dr. Naryanappa said that IGNOU is the biggest university among common wealth centuries. It helps both pre-service and in-service candidates for their professional development.



Sh. R. Ravikumar, Programme Completed: PGDBP

Enrolment No. 16513317

My Higher Education Success Story: R Ravi Kumar Higher education like IGNOU institution is improving student performance through partnerships that focus on college and career readiness, online and blended learning. Sh Ravikumar passed Post Graduate diploma in journalism and mass communication. He says on the program's advantages "IGNOU program has been a tremendous asset to my learning. All I have to do work on concepts that they have proven they are ready to learn, allowing for a customized learning experience for each student".



REGIONAL CENTRE Bijapur

Dr. Sivakumar K. B. IAS, Deputy Commissioner and District Magistrate of Vijayapura District, Karnataka

Master's in Political Science

Dr. Sivakumar said about the university "IGNOU fulfils the academic needs of people of nation. The wide ranges of programmes offered in IGNOU are very useful to all kinds of distance Learner. I really appreciate the efforts of Regional Centre Bijapur for enhancing distance education in this part of state."



**Sh. K. Rajkamal, Programme Completed: CPF
Enrolment No. 150003149**

K.Rajkamal a Science Graduate from Kakatiya University, Warangal, Telangana State was seriously searching for employment or self employment. During the course of attentive enquiries he came to know about IGNOU through Social Media. He joined the Certificate Programme in Poultry Farming in the year 2015 at IGNOU Study Centre at LB College, Warangal. Soon after completion of the Programme, a Thailand based company (namely Chariaen Tokthand India (P) Ltd.) recruited him as a **Farm Supervisor** in the month of August, 2016. Upon my joining, I have undergone training for a period of four months. Now he has been guiding and supervising more than 6-7 poultry farms of the company. In his words **“IGNOU shaped my life into the new dreams”**.



**Mrs. Prasanna Kindyala , Programme Completed: MA (Psychology)
Enrolment No. 130248648**

She has done MA in Psychology from IGNOU and passed out with flying colours securing First Division. It helped her get job as a teacher in Gitanjali Group of School, Hyderabad. The course has helped her in understanding and helping students and also helping parents to understand their children better.

She says, “I would also like to thank team of IGNOU Regional Centre, Hyderabad for helping and guiding us from time to time.”



REGIONAL CENTRE MADURAI

IGNOU RC Madurai organised Meeting of the Coordinators/PICs on 22nd and 23rd July 2017 at the premises of IGNOU Study Centre 43081, Hindustan College of Arts and Science, Coimbatore to strengthen student support services LSC level. The meeting was inaugurated by Prof. Ananthasayanam, former Professor and Head of the Department of Educational Technology, Bharathiar University, Coimbatore and he emphasised the need of skill oriented curriculum to address the unemployment issues.