

ओपन लेटर OPEN LETTER

इग्नू समुदाय की अपनी पत्रिका IN-HOUSE MAGAZINE OF INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY

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Happy New Year

2014

Best Wishes

HIGHLIGHTS

- IGNOU Foundation Day
- Prof G. Ram Reddy Memorial Lecture
- Open University VC's Conference



Message From the Vice Chancellor



The Indira Gandhi National Open University was established by an Act of Parliament in 1985 to democratize higher education so as to reach the unreached through quality educational interventions at affordable cost. Today, IGNOU stands out as unique, with a cumulative student strength of about three million

students enrolled through a strong network of 67 Regional Centres and over 2670 Study Centres across the country. IGNOU also has a significant international presence with around 55,000 students enrolled through its Partner Institutions. The University, through the Pan Africa e-Network Project, also offers a range of programmes to around 30 African countries.

IGNOU offers a broad spectrum of choices for learners to choose from 253 academic programmes offered through 21 Schools of Study. Ours is the first university in the country that made appreciable education interventions initially in Tihar Jail and subsequently in about 58 jails across the country. We provide free education to all the Jail inmates.

We take pride in the fact that we continue to innovate and break new ground in our programmes. In addition to new programmes at postgraduate, undergraduate and research levels, the University has made major advances in launching vocational and professional programmes. The new programmes focus on diverse, crucial areas of study like Geo-informatics, Theatre and Performing Arts, Counselling and Mental Health, Family Therapy, Anthropology, Geospatial Technology, Climate Change and Sustainable Development, Animal Husbandry, Horticulture, Geography, Agribusiness Modelling, Gender and Development Studies, HIV Medicine, Financial and Stock Markets, Paediatric Nutrition, Critical Care Nursing, and Traditional Systems of Medicine such as Ayurveda. Major initiatives have been launched in the professional training of untrained/undertrained elementary teachers through the Diploma in Elementary Education.

Another strength of the university is its research base. Basic, applied and interdisciplinary research programmes have attracted scholars and, with a provision of awarding fellowships to registered students from its own resources, IGNOU is fast becoming a research hub.

The University is keen to harness the potential of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for the teaching-learning process and was a pioneer in

delivering technological mediated education in South-East Asia.

National and international agencies have acknowledged the significance and contribution of IGNOU in offering quality education. The UNESCO described IGNOU as a "... living embodiment of inclusive knowledge societies in a globalised world". The Japan government acknowledged the role of IGNOU in the delivery of telecast/broadcast based education by awarding the third Japanese Grant for the project "Strengthening of Electronic Media Production Centre in Indira Gandhi National Open University" with an outlay of 787 million yen. The University has been assigned the responsibility of setting the modalities for the establishment of the Indo-Africa Virtual University. It has been successful in enhancing access of e-resources through its network of Regional Centres under the National Open and Distance Learners' Library and Information Network (NODLINET) scheme. With its basic motto of empowering the disadvantaged and marginalized through development of relevant skills, the university has emerged as the leader of the ODL system and others institutions working in the field are gaining ideas from its best practices.

Although expansion of activities of the University is an achievement in itself, it is equally important to ensure that we consolidate our efforts and design, develop and deliver 'quality higher education'. It is only the quality of our educational intervention that will help us to make our presence felt nationally and internationally. At the same time, the student has to be the main focus of our attention. Our students not only require quality study material but the assurance that the study material will be delivered to them on time. Similarly all other support services - be it conduct of counseling sessions, submission and evaluation of assignments, timely updation and issuance of grade cards - have to run efficiently and systematically. In essence, providing quality support services has to receive the highest priority and I believe that every employee of the University - teachers, academics, technical and administrative staff at the headquarters and spread across the country through Regional Centres - have to play an important role in achieving this.

The Twelfth Plan (2012-2017) of the University focuses on consolidating major expansion undertaken during the Eleventh Plan period. Thus, it re-affirms the commitment to follow an inclusive approach and to play an active role as the provider for democratization of education. Towards these ends, it is proposed to make increasing use of innovative information and

communication technology (ICT) in different spheres of programme delivery. On the whole, the University strives to grow to its full potential to provide every person the right opportunities for quality higher education.

This responsibility and the target of meeting the aforementioned objectives cannot be the task of one or a few for we all have to work collectively in this endeavour. I am sure that the every member of the

University family will cooperate in the initiatives taken in this regard. As we enter 2014, I, not only as Vice Chancellor of the University but also as a senior member of the University family, wish you a happy new year through the *Open Letter* and seek your cooperation in taking this great shrine of learning to new heights.



(M. Aslam)

From the Editor's Desk

The Indira Gandhi National Open University was established on 19 Nov 1985 through an Act of Parliament which envisioned the *raison d'être* of the university as the means to provide quality higher education to people living in remote areas of the country as well as to the underprivileged and marginalized sections of society. At the time of IGNOU's establishment, there was no dearth of institutes of higher education in the country. However, the doors of these institutions remained closed to a section of aspiring students in the absence of colleges or universities in their geographical locations or those whose circumstances did not permit them to take admission in regular class-based courses which required attendance. It was not enough just to open a college or university for such students for what was essential was that such an institution should have a sufficiently flexible system that would allow them to pursue courses according to their needs without any difficulty. In addition, it was imperative to offer them the level of education that would be at par with conventional institutions of higher learning so that they could participate with equal competence in all areas of competitive endeavor that are required to progress in society. To cater to all these aims was a huge challenge. What added to the challenge was the fact that the correspondence courses that were already being offered by conventional universities were not viewed favourably and regarded as a second rate option to regular learning systems.

Public opinion held the dim view that the education offered by IGNOU, based on the open and distance learning system, would also be of an inferior level as compared to conventional learning. However, IGNOU, by producing superlative study materials, making audio-visual supplementary resources available and providing regular counseling and

practical classes at its study centres, reassured the learning community that these courses were not only vastly different but also of much better quality in comparison to the correspondence courses of the conventional universities while incorporating all its positives. It did not claim to be an alternative to the existing system. Neither was it a supplement. It was a completely different system whose aims were the same as the conventional education which people were familiar with.

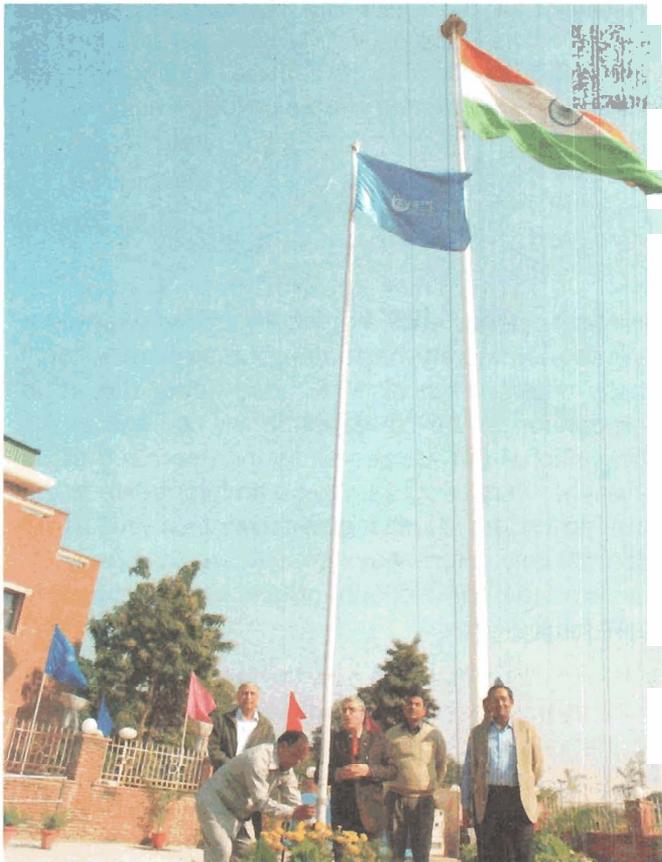
While treading this path over the last three decades, the university has earned both acclaim and the faith of the people. There was a time when certain internal and external pressures caused some deviation from its primary aims and appeared to shake its core. Institutions that have been founded on great principles do frequently find such challenges confronting them but ultimately the strength of its fundamental aims helped the university to tide over such a crisis.

As an institution, IGNOU cannot afford to ignore or forget the directives that have been enshrined in the IGNOU Act and the fulfillment of those directives is the duty of each person associated with the institution in any capacity. The IGNOU Act also tells us how to go about fulfilling the directives. The path is equally important for it has been envisioned through the directives themselves and they are hence mutually meaningful. The one has no meaning without the other – a fact underscored by three decades of experience in this field. As we step into 2014, it would be well if we were to keep this truth before us in the form of a resolution. With this hope and keeping steadfastly to the faith, the IGNOU Open Letter family wishes all colleagues a very happy new year.



(J M Parakh)

Foundation Day Celebrations



The National Flag and the IGNOU Flag Fluttering High

On 19 November 2013, IGNOU celebrated its 28th Foundation Day with a number of cultural events, exhibitions, competitions and academic activities, both at the headquarters and at various Regional Centers.



Homage to our Inspiration

The celebrations began with floral homage to Mrs. Indira Gandhi by the Vice Chancellor and staff of the University. Subsequently, the newly designed IGNOU flag was unfurled and hoisted by Prof. M. Aslam, Vice Chancellor. On this occasion, the VC urged all the faculty and staff of the university to rededicate themselves to reach the unreached with quality educational interventions at affordable cost.

The Vice Chancellor also inaugurated the exhibition organised by the Regional Services Division. The exhibition was quite innovative and interesting on several counts. Apart from posters that explained the activities and achievements of various Schools, Divisions, Centres and the Regional Centres, the details of some of the 'Distinguished Learners' of IGNOU were also in the display. While the 'Creativity Corner' in the exhibition displayed artifacts of IGNOU employees and their family members, the 'Children's Corner' was specially dedicated to the creations of children of IGNOU fraternity. Yet another stall displayed books authored by IGNOU employees. Electronic media-based items prepared by IGNOU employees were also on display. There were also special stalls by select study centres, Construction & Maintenance Division, Horticulture Cell, Computer Division, Electronic Media Production Centre (EMPC) and Regional Services Division. There was also a Quiz competition organised for children, with the theme 'IGNOU in my eyes'.

Later, in the afternoon, the Foundation Day Lecture was delivered by Mr. Dilip Chenoy, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, National Skill Development Corporation on the topic "Open Education and Skills: India the Next Superpower". The proceedings of the lecture started with a welcome address by the Vice Chancellor and concluded with the vote of thanks by Prof. SVS Chaudhary, Registrar (Admn). The Lecture was telecast live and viewed at all the Regional Centers.

The celebrations ended with a cultural programme organized by specially-abled children. The satirical skit staged by EMPC on the travails of daily commuters to



Inauguration of Exhibition Organised by RSD

IGNOU titled 'Saket Se IGNOU Tak' deserves special mention. IGNOU awards under different categories were also presented during this function.

Foundation Day Lecture

"India will be the next superpower in open education and skills." Declared Mr. Dilip Chenoy, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, National Skill Development Corporation. Mr. Chenoy was delivering the 28th Foundation Day Lecture of the University at IGNOU's Main Campus in New Delhi.



Mr. Chenoy at Foundation day Lecture

Mr. Chenoy explained that with the world's largest schooling and higher education infrastructures in the open and distance learning system, the future of India's learning and development is obviously in the open space. To enable the youth of India to become world leaders, we must design our educational systems in such a way that 'each graduate comes



out with some certified vocational skills' which is possible through a blended system that effectively combines open learning with vocational training and skill development programmes. For this, there is a need to leverage the potential of institutions like IGNOU and National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS).

To meet the large scale skill gap, which is the biggest challenge faced by the youth of the country, there is a need to tap the potential of information technologies and innovative methodologies in

education. At a time when industries are looking for entrepreneurs and business leaders in institutions like IGNOU, Mr. Chenoy opined that there is a need to look for productive public-private collaborations and global partnerships.

Prof. M. Aslam, Vice Chancellor, IGNOU said that IGNOU has a noble role of extending education to the unreached and deprived sections of society, and hence the university has an unparalleled status of its own among educational institutions. He provided a brief account of the progress of the university and its various schools in terms of spreading education to millions of learners spread across the country.

The 18th Annual Prof. G. Ram Reddy Memorial Lecture

The 18th annual Prof. G. Ram Reddy Memorial Lecture was delivered on 2nd July 2013 by Prof. Ram G. Takwale, former VC, IGNOU and former



Prof. Takwale Delivering Prof. Ram Reddy Lecture



At the Prof. Ram Reddy Archives

Director, NAAC on 2nd July 2013. The theme of the lecture was "Reconstructing Higher Education: Approaches to New Education for Social Transformation in a Globally Connected Society".

Prof. Takwale stated that after three decades of IGNOU's establishment, an entirely new education scenario confronts us – that of connecting people everywhere and 'everyone' departing from the class-creating models of the Industrial educational of the 19th and 20th centuries. He emphasized that the New Education needs to be based on Open Resource and Social Networking movements and the ICT Revolution which facilitate radical reconstruction and empowerment of learners and society. The advanced global knowledge and technologies can be harnessed for the local development processes creating progress and social wealth.

He concluded by quoting Mahatma Gandhi that education is a process of *yoga, sahayoga* and *udyoga*. Life-long-learning, according to Gandhi, is *learning for life, learning from life and learning throughout life*. The demographic dividend obtained with large numbers of Indian youth can be translated into a creative force and wealth generation. The approaches of New Education - reconstructing education and development based on new models - can address many problems created by the earlier Industrial development of top-down and class-

creation nature of education.

The function was presided over by Prof. M. Aslam, Vice-Chancellor, IGNOU. In his presidential remarks, Prof. Aslam quoted what the former Prime Minister of India Shri Rajiv Gandhi had said during his inaugural speech of 19th November, 1985 when IGNOU was established "Our endeavour is that in India, the poorest, the most backward children receive the best possible education, and in this direction today, we are here to take a step forward. This Open University will extend

education opportunities to all corners of the country." He hoped that IGNOU will be able to successfully face the challenges of reaching the unreached across the length and breadth of the country.



Welcoming Distinguished Guests: Prof. Ram Reddy Lecture

Prof. B.N. Kaul, former PVC, IGNOU and Guest of Honour at the function, stressed the need for good quality education, easy accessibility and building team work with leadership qualities. He also announced the donation of his lifetime collection of books on Distance Education to the IGNOU Library.

Prof. Promila Reddy, wife of Prof. G. Ram Reddy was also present during the event. Prof. Vayunandan, Chairman, Organising Committee and Prof. S.V.S. Chaudhry, Registrar, IGNOU, also addressed the gathering.

Third National Conference of Vice Chancellors of Open Universities

Shri Jitin Prasada, Hon'ble Minister of State for Human Resource Development, Government of India inaugurated the 3rd National Conference of

expanding system of Education and Training and Research & Development.

The conference was intended to further define the pathway of collaboration among Open Universities in the country, which is the need of the day. The main focus of the conference was to deliberate on the emerging scenario and future possibilities in the field of Open and Distance Learning (ODL). Collaborative efforts will be made to work towards Common Curriculum, Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) and Credit Transfer, Networked ICT, Quality Assurance, Research & Development and Capacity Building. This is to strengthen the Consortium and network of Open Universities and Dual-Mode Distance Education Centers and their mutual collaboration with the



Release of Open Letter at VCs' Conference

Vice Chancellors of Open Universities at Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) on September 9, 2013. Professor M. Aslam, Vice Chancellor, IGNOU, presided over the function.

The conference, organized by IGNOU's Inter University Consortium (IUC), brought together leaders in the field of Open and Distance Education for a comprehensive overview of this rapidly

mainstream Higher Education System. It will be a great step towards democratization of Higher Education for which ODL was conceived. It will also be a great step towards reaching the unreached section of the society which in the normal course is beyond the umbrella of higher education.

Previously, two Conferences of Vice Chancellors were held in December 2011 and April 2012, in order



Shri Jitin Prasada with Participants at 3rd National Conference of VCs' of Open Universities

to create synergy of efforts to meaningfully contribute to the national agenda. The objective had been towards exploring the ways to collaborate among all the Open Universities with the main aim to bring qualitative changes in the sphere of Open and Distance Learning. Both generic and specific issues related to Open and Distance Education were discussed.

Teachers' Day Celebration

Two events were organized in the University premises to celebrate the Teachers' Day. In one of the functions organised on 3rd September, 2013, Prof. Rajan Harshe, former founder VC, Central University, Allahabad was the guest speaker. He spoke on the topic 'Imagining India in Indian Universities'.



Prof. Harshe Delivering Lecture on Teachers' Day

Prof Harshe said that because of its plurality and complexities, there is no single definition of India as a nation. Yet, he would like the Nehruvian-Gandhi ideals of tolerance, harmony, equalities and peace as the utopia to strive for. In this context, Indian universities had a big and responsible role to play. In India, 65% of the population is below 35 years, making this a young country. With such figures, higher education in India has to be inclusive. Universities should become vehicles of social change; they must balance quality and quantity.

His message for teachers was straight and blunt: "When a dagger is thrown at you, you should catch it and not run away from it. Your whole life should revolve around students who will make tomorrow's India. Discipline, commitment to work and dedication to students would ensure that we need

not emulate any model for we will ourselves be able to create one."

Prof. M. Aslam, VC, IGNOU deliberated on the status of teachers at this point of time and urged the teacher fraternity to "introspect what we are and what we should be."

In another function organised on 05.09.2013, Prof. Dipankar Gupta, JNU, was the guest speaker. The theme of his lecture was "Democracy, Civil Society and Citizenship".



Prof. Dipankar Gupta

IGNOU Declared Repository of Materials of People's Linguistic Survey of India

The Inaugural session of the National Consultation on "People's Linguistic Survey of India, Community Generated Ethnography and Eco-cultural Mapping" organised by IGNOU in collaboration with People's Linguistic Survey of India (PLSI), Bhasha Research and Publication Centre, and Lalit Kala Akademi was held in the Convention Centre, IGNOU on 6th September 2013.



Deliberations on Languages

Welcoming the dignitaries on the occasion, Professor A K Singh, Director, School of Translation Studies and Training, IGNOU, referred to the linguistic crisis all over the world, as languages are

dying fast. In such a situation we need to come out of linguistic binarism and practice linguistic responsibility and linguistic courtesy, displaying the spirit of acceptance and respect for other languages.

Prof. Ganesh Devy, Chair, PLSI stated that the survey has been conducted by 3000 (three thousand) people over a period of 4 years and 52 volumes have been prepared. The next phase of preparing Community generated ethnographies and Eco-cultural mapping would begin with the National Consultation. He expressed his happiness at the collaboration between PLSI and IGNOU which is the people's university. He said that IGNOU will be the repository of all audio and visual materials prepared for the purpose. On his part, he thanked Prof. Aslam, the VC of the University for his cooperation and support for this national cause of enormous cultural importance.

Prof. D.P. Patnaik, founder Director, Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL) stressed the enormity of the PLSI work and how the data generated would lead to a new critical study of languages in India. He emphasised the role of the mother-tongue in the education of children and said that the models of small countries like Papua New Guinea can serve our corpus also.

Delivering the Key Note address, Dr. K.K. Chakraborty, Chairman, Lalit Kala Akademi referred to the fact that the Indian linguistic scenario, like the academic world, is colonised by western categories



Planting the Sapling of Faith and Hope

and therefore there is the need to replace them with an indigenous cognitive category and also by re-inventing indigenous categories. Such a task would become possible with the work done in the form of PLSI and prospective work in the form of Community generated ethnographies and eco-cultural mapping.

Delivering the Presidential address, Prof. Aslam, VC, IGNOU called the PLSI initiative a historic event and referred to the dedication of 52 volumes to the Father of Nation as work 'by the people, of the people and for the people'. He said that IGNOU with 35.5 lacs students on its rolls in India and 43 countries, "...understands its responsibilities and would be more than willing to play its role in the initiatives through collaboration with 'Bhasha'. He also announced that the University has decided to establish 2 scholarships for research and study in tribal, linguistic and cultural areas. These scholarships would be open to students enrolled with the Bhasha Research and Publication Centre. Moreover, he declared that there would be a "People's Linguistic Garden" on the University campus. He inaugurated the garden by planting a sapling offered to him by the Chair, Bhasha on the occasion of the dedication of PLSI volumes at Gandhi Smriti on 5th September, 2013.



The Beginning

The inaugural session was followed by different sessions on translating language, ethnography

and eco-cultural mapping and open forums which were chaired by Padamshree Prof. Shekhar Pathak, Dr. Badrinath Tiwari and Ms. Ramnika Gupta.

The valedictory session entitled 'PLSI and After' was addressed by Shri Askok Vajpayi, Prof. Ganesh Devy, Dr. K.K. Chakraborty and Prof. Avadhesh Kumar Singh. In this session, the map of future activities to be undertaken under community generated ethnography and eco-cultural mapping was charted out.

The event was attended by university officials and many noted academicians, cultural activists, editors of different volumes, translators and field-workers representing more than 800 languages of the country.

MOU with the Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh for DELED

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed on 3rd August 2013 between IGNOU and the Government of Arunachal Pradesh for training of in-service Elementary School Teachers through the 'Diploma in Elementary Education' (DELED) Programme offered by School Of Education, IGNOU in ODL Mode.



Saluting Our Flag on 15th August



IGNOU- Arunachal Pradesh MoU

Independence Day in IGNOU

Prof. M. Aslam, Vice Chancellor, IGNOU, while delivering his Independence Day speech on the occasion of 67th Independence Day of the country announced that the small dispensary located in the campus for the staff shall soon be converted into a mini hospital so that any staff member undergoing

any emergency, for example, a heart attack, can be aided.

He enumerated the various challenges faced by him after taking over as the VC: "...21 lakh study materials were printed; 454000 students appeared for the Term End Exam; then came the time of admission which was publicized by every Regional Centre of the University all over the country with the help of the Regional Directors; though the number of Programmes was 153, they attracted approximately four lakh registrations."

He mentioned the new initiatives of the University that includes the reach of the Indo-African Virtual University for Africans and maintaining cleanliness in the campus to raise it to the status of a model campus.

IGNOU VC to Focus on Student Support Services

Prof. M. Aslam, the Vice Chancellor of the world's largest open university, the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), has set his focus on

strengthening the student support services. He said:

“Effective student support services is an important pre-requisite for the success of any ODL educational intervention. We at IGNOU are working out strategies to improve the completion rate, reduce the dropout rate, provide sustainable quality education, and enhance the credibility of the ODL system. We plan to equip all Study Centres and Regional Centres with adequate ICT equipments and other infrastructure so that they have better connectivity with the Headquarters for prompt data transmission and retrieval, information sharing and redress of learner grievances. It would provide an opportunity for greater interaction with learners and reduce response time in admission, on-time distribution of material and declaration of results. We also plan to carry out empirical research studies on learner performance and experiences and regularly monitor the quality of support services.”

Future plans of the University include strengthening of the Regional Services Network across the country; networking with State Open Universities (SOUs) and other institutions and using ICT in a proactive way in difficult terrain and inaccessible regions; making special efforts to strengthen the University's presence in the North-East, Jharkhand, Uttarakhand, Chhattisgarh, the Kalahandi-Bolangir-Koraput region in Odisha, Jaisalmer and Barmer in Rajasthan and other low-literacy regions across the country; planning special drives to enroll marginalized groups (Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, the differently-abled, women learners and slum dwellers) in our programmes; increasingly using emerging and innovative technologies to provide access and opportunities to all by cloning the best practices from successful models.

Wide Reach of IGNOU

The Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) has a considerable international presence in 43 countries through 80 overseas Partner Institutions abroad. The University, through the Pan Africa e-Network Project, offers a range of Programmes to around 30 African countries. Counselling is provided to learners through tele-seminars. A team of dedicated faculty, trained in distance education methodology contributes

towards planning, designing, developing and delivering academic programmes which reach the masses.

Today there are more than 250 Programmes on offer. The cumulative strength of our students stands at around three million. The Programmes are delivered through 67 Regional Centres, which include 47 IGNOU Regional Centres, nine North-East Regional Centres, six Army Regional Centres, four Navy Regional Centres and one Assam Rifles Centre. Apart from Regional Centres, IGNOU has 2667 Learner Support Centres at the cutting edge level. There are 31,517 Academic Counsellors who interact with our learners on a part-time basis. IGNOU has 21 Academic Schools engaged in design and development of various Programmes and courses through ODL educational interventions.

IGNOU continues to provide sustainable and learner-centric quality education, skill upgradation and training to all by using innovative technologies and methodologies. It caters to learners from rural and tribal areas, jail inmates and rehabilitation centres, governmental and non-governmental organizations, parents and homemakers, those with physical impairments and from among the employed as well as employers.

IGNOU Course Material to Display Scholarships for the Disabled

The then PVC, Prof M Lama, inaugurating an awareness programme on financial schemes for educational/ vocational development of students/ persons with disability at the convention centre of the university in the capital, announced that all course material of the university shall soon provide half page information about scholarships offered by the National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation (NHFDC) for persons with disability.

Talking about the need of taking such a measure he said that, “When a disabled student comes down to select a university he sees three major points. Firstly, is it disabled friendly? Has it penetrated their needs? And lastly, will it make them self reliant?”

He emphasized that when such people are given right training then they become empowered. “Education is the only thing to enable a person to get

his right and properly utilize it. Knowing one's right is the most important thing for persons with disability. If they do not assert it they won't get it."

Dr. Arun Banik, Director, National Centre for Disability Studies (NCDS), IGNOU, talked about the scholarship scheme by NHFDC for IGNOU students. He emphasized that about 1000 to 1500 disabled students are enrolled with IGNOU each year. They should know about such schemes which would empower them to be self reliant,



Announcing Scholarships for the Differently Aabled

Mr. A. K. Dey, Deputy General Manager, NHFDC, discussed at length on how to make disabled people self reliant. He has initiated 1500 scholarships for students with disabilities for professional and technical, graduate and post graduate courses. It covers admission fee, tuition fee, maintenance allowances and hostel fee for students. Details can be accessed on www.nhfdc.nic.in

The programme began with a welcome address by Dr. S. K. Prasad, Deputy Director, NCDS who also proposed a vote of thanks.

IGNOU and NDMA Project

Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) and National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) jointly completed the Project on "Capacity Building in Disaster Management and Elected Representatives of Panchayati Raj Institutions & Urban Local Bodies at District Level". It aimed at building and strengthening the capacity of the target groups in the areas of disaster prevention,

preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery at the grassroots level in consonance with a paradigm shift in disaster management in India from 'reactive to pro-active'.

The Project, undertaken in 54 districts from the selected 11 States, identified by NDMA, on the basis of their vulnerability to various natural and man-made disasters, was very well received by the participants as well as other stakeholders. In all, 432 Face-To-Face Training Programmes (FFTPs), of two days duration each, were conducted mainly at IGNOU Study Centres under the supervision of the Study Centre Coordinators. The achievement of the Project emanated from a scientific methodology adopted through the targeted areas.

To this effect, 11 Training Need Analysis Workshops, one in each of the identified States, were conducted to frame and finalize the Schedule and Methodology of FFTP as well as Contents of the Training Manual. Accordingly, the Training Manual, comprising 4 Booklets and 1 Handbook, was developed in English and also translated into Assamese, Bengali, Hindi, Malayalam, Marathi, Oriya and Telugu. One Audio and one Video Programme were also developed in 8 languages.

Professional Development Training Programme For Advocates

A 5 day Professional Development Training Programme for Advocates on "Constitutional Litigation and Human Rights Advocacy" organized by "IBA-CLE, NLSIU and Menon Institute of Legal Advocacy Training was hosted by School of Law, Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), New Delhi from 18-22 Sep, 2013 at IGNOU.

This workshop was attended by 40 advocates from all parts of the country. The objective of this workshop was to enable practicing young advocates to acquire the necessary skills to engage in Constitutional Litigation and Human Rights Advocacy. The participants got the rare opportunity



to listen to many eminent speakers such as Senior Advocates of the Supreme Court: Fali S Nariman, Soli Sorabjee, K.K. Venugopal, P.P. Rao, M.P. Raju, Raju Ramchandran, R. Venkatramni, Ashok Desai, Anil B. Divan, Gopal Subramaniam and the Social Activist & Addl. Solicitor General Ms. Indira Jaising and Academicians Prof. N. R. Madhava Menon, IBA-CLE Chair in Continuing Legal Education, NLSIU, Bangalore, Prof. M. P. Singh, Chairperson, Delhi Judicial Academy.

Prof. M. Aslam V.C. IGNOU while inaugurating the Programme emphasized the need for proper and interpretation of the legal provisions even within the institutions so as to minimize the number of disputes and litigations and the importance of having alternative dispute resolution mechanisms to improve the dispensation of justice.



At the Workshop for Advocates

The first issue of the IBA-CLE Chair Newsletter was released by Hon'ble Justice Madan Lokur on 22nd September at the Valedictory function.

New Appointments

The IGNOU appointed three Pro-Vice Chancellors in the 119th Board of Management meeting held on November 30, 2013 on the recommendations of the Vice Chancellor:

- 1) Prof. Nageshwar Rao was the former Vice Chancellor of U.P. Rajarshi Tandon Open University, Allahabad and before joining IGNOU he was Professor at Jawaharlal Nehru Institute of Business Management, Vikram University, Ujjain, M.P.
- 2) Dr. P. Prakash was the Vice Chancellor, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Open University, Hyderabad before joining IGNOU.

- 3) Prof. Sushma Yadava was Professor of Public Policy and Governance; and Chair Professor, Dr. Ambedkar Chair, Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi prior to joining IGNOU.

Prof. Nageshwar Rao and Prof. Sushma Yadava have already joined as Pro-Vice Chancellors.

Career Advancement Scheme

Dr. A.B. Sharma, Reader in English, School of Humanities and Dr. Nita Mathur, Reader in Sociology, School of Social Sciences were promoted to the post of Professor under the Career Advancement Scheme.

Recruitment/promotion In Group-A Positions

The Selection Committee recommended the recruitment/regularization/promotion of the following staff in the Group-A positions:

- 1) Sh. Dinesh Kumar Rai and Sh. Beda Dyuti Dutta were recruited to the post of Camera Person at EMPC.
- 2) Sh. I.P. Munjal, Sh. Umesh Kumar Sharma and Sh. Sunder Singh were regularized to the post of Assistant Registrar.
- 3) Sh. Bhupesh Khatri was promoted to the post of Deputy Director (Software)
- 4) Sh. T.G. Rajasekhar and Sh. Sandeep Khanna were promoted to the post of Assistant Director (Software).
- 5) Dr. Neena Jain was promoted to the post of Maintenance Engineer.

Achievement

Prof. S.K. Panda has joined as the Chairperson, National Council for Teacher Education (A statutory body of the Government of India), Ministry of Human Resource Development, for a tenure of four years.

Resignation

Prof. Mahendra P. Lama, resigned from the post of Pro-Vice Chancellor of IGNOU citing personal reasons. The resignation was accepted by the Vice Chancellor and Prof. Lama was relieved of his duties, w.e.f. October 14, 2013 (FN).

Superannuation

Sudhir Kumar Arora, who served the University as Librarian superannuated on 31st Dec. 2013.

Extension And Development Studies: An Emerging Discipline For Pursuing Careers In Development Sectors

School of Extension and Development Studies of IGNOU launched its PG Certificate in Extension and Development Studies (Six months duration), PG Diploma in Extension and Development Studies (One Year duration) and MA in Extension and Development Studies (Two years duration). These are unique programmes combining Extension Principles and Development aspects and comprising Development Theories, Development Dynamics, Problems and Issues in Development, Planning and Management of Development Projects and Programmes, Development of India: Pre and Post Liberalization Period, Training for Development and Local Self Governance.

These are Multi Disciplinary Programmes and any Graduate can take admission in any of the these

Programmes. These Programmes are on offer twice a year i.e. January and July cycles of IGNOU. Admission for January, 2014 Session is open and interested students are encouraged to take admission. School of Extension and Development Studies also proposes to offer counseling by its Faculty through a Special Study Centre to be established at Maidan Garhi Campus of IGNOU.

A few important topics covered in various courses of the Programme are: Inclusive Development, Marginalization, Sustainable Development, Gender Development, Governance, Environment and Development, Health and Development and Development Challenges like Unemployment, Poverty, Inequality, Globalization etc. Besides, a course on Research Methodology in Extension and Development Studies will empower the learners with skills to conduct research studies and to formulate, implement, monitor and evaluate Development Projects and Programmes. Development as a concept cropped up after the Second World War and with the independence of Asian and African countries from Colonial Rule. Since then, studies on Development and Development Studies as a subject have become an important area of Higher Education in the United States of America and other Western Countries.

Re-designation of Non-Academic posts

The following posts have been re-designated for Non-Academic Group A, B & C employees of the University:

Sl. No.	Existing Post	Revised Post	Pay Band	Grade
1	Senior Assistant	Executive Assistant	PB-2(9300-34800)	4200/-
2	Personal Assistant Grade-II	Personal Assistant	PB-2(9300-34800)	4200/-
3	Senior Personal Assistant	Private Secretary	PB-2(9300-34800)	4800/-
4	Senior Assistant (Legal)	Executive	PB-2(9300-34800)	4200/-
5	Data Entry Operator	Assistant Executive(Data Processing)	PB-2(9300-34800)	4200/-
6	Data Processing Assistant	Executive(Data Processing)	PB-2(9300-34800)	4800/-
7	Software Engineer	Assistant Director (Software)	PB-3(15600-39100)	5400/-
8	Senior Software Engineer	Deputy Director (Software)	PB-3(15600-39100)	7600/-
9	Horticulturist	Horticulture Supervisor	PB-1(9300-34800)	4800/-
10	Attendant	Multi Tasking Staff	PB-1(5200-20200)	1800/-
	Helper (Civil Electrical)		PB-1(5200-20200)	1800/-
	Helper-cum-Dolly Man		PB-1(5200-20200)	1800/-
	Mali		PB-1(5200-20200)	1800/-

News from the Regions...

IGNOU Enrolls 3287 Prisoners at Ahmedabad

"The Indira Gandhi National Open University's (IGNOU) Regional Centre (RC) at Ahmedabad has recently enrolled 3287 jail inmates in six jails of the city," announced Dr. S. K. Ghosh, Regional Director, IGNOU RCAhmedabad.

This was announced by the Regional Director while conducting an induction programme for jail inmates freshly enrolled in IGNOU Programmes at Sabarmati Central Jail for July 2013 session. He also announced that the Regional Centre would be identifying the academic counsellors among the jail inmates for counselling their jail mates for various queries of IGNOU.

Dr. Ghosh said, "in order to develop a dynamic database of the experts, the Regional Centre has worked out a plan to identify the best available experts from within the Jail inmates". Transforming jail inmates into academic counsellors would foster ideas, creativity and capacity building among the inmates counsellors to foster innovation in distance education."

The Regional Director appreciated the learning skills and competency of the jail inmates contributing to educational development. He said, "Utilizing the expertise within the four walls of

Sabarmati Central Prison would be an encouraging step for other Regional Centres. It will be a role model for other prison departments in different parts of the country." He also said, "We are planning to showcase their works prepared for Regional Centre Ahmedabad such as Visiting Cards, Greetings Cards, Planner- 2013 and Xeroxing & binding of Study material of Bachelor's Preparatory Programme and Certificate in Food & Nutrition Programme of IGNOU."

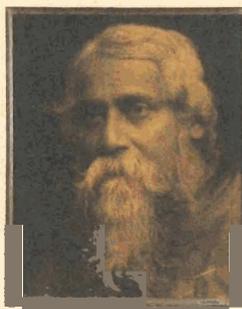
Meeting of RDs of Army-recognized Regional Centres

A meeting of Regional Directors of Army-Recognized Regional Centres was organized by RSD on 26th August 2013. Regional Directors from six Army-Recognized Regional Centres participated in the meeting. Maj Gen Sunil Chandra, ADG (Military Training) and Officials from the Army Headquarters also participated in the meeting.

The meeting was organized with the objective of resolving various operational issues, exploring the possibility of expanding the scope of IGNOU-Army Education Project (IAEP) by way of establishing more Regional Centres at Corps Headquarters and Division Headquarters and Study Centres at Brigade Headquarters and Battalion level, evolving mechanisms for improving student support services and bringing about synergy between the Army-recognized Regional Centres and Regular Regional Centres in the respective Regions.

A Poem by Ravindranath Tagore

Where the mind is without fear
and the head is held high,
Where knowledge is free;
Where the world has not been broken
up into fragments by narrow domestic
walls;
Where words come out from the
depth of truth;
Where tireless striving
stretches its arms towards



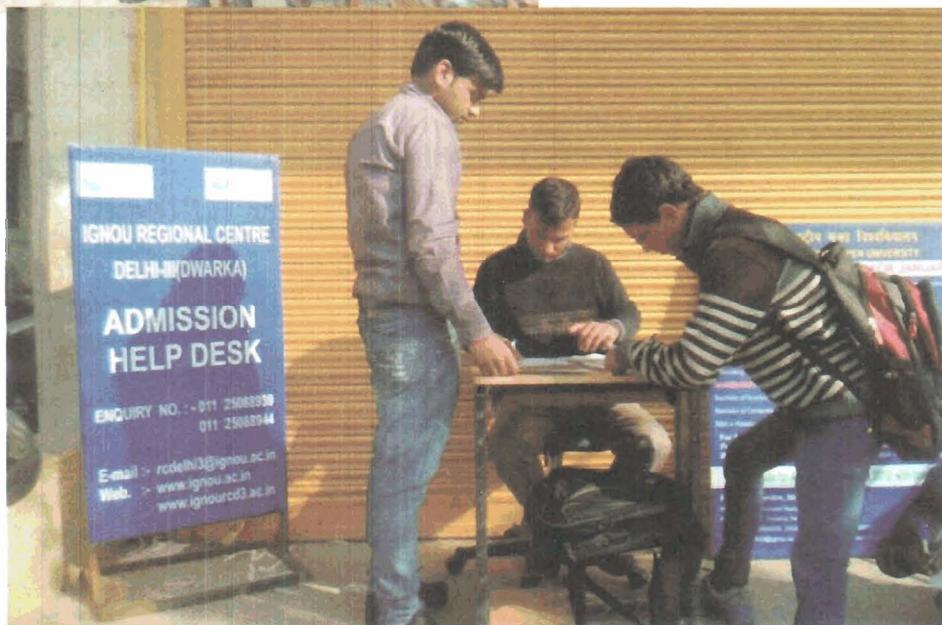
perfection;
Where the clear stream of reason
has not lost its way into the
dreary desert sand of dead habit;
Where the mind is led forward
by thee into ever-widening
thought and action-
into that heaven of freedom,
my Father,
Let my country awake.

Photo Feature: Activities in the Regions



Jawaans of XIX Madras Regiment participating in promotional lecture on 14/06/2013

Admission help desk at Delhi Regional Centre - 3 (Dwarka)



Awareness meet at Govt. Ayurvedic College Nagpur for CAY Admissions

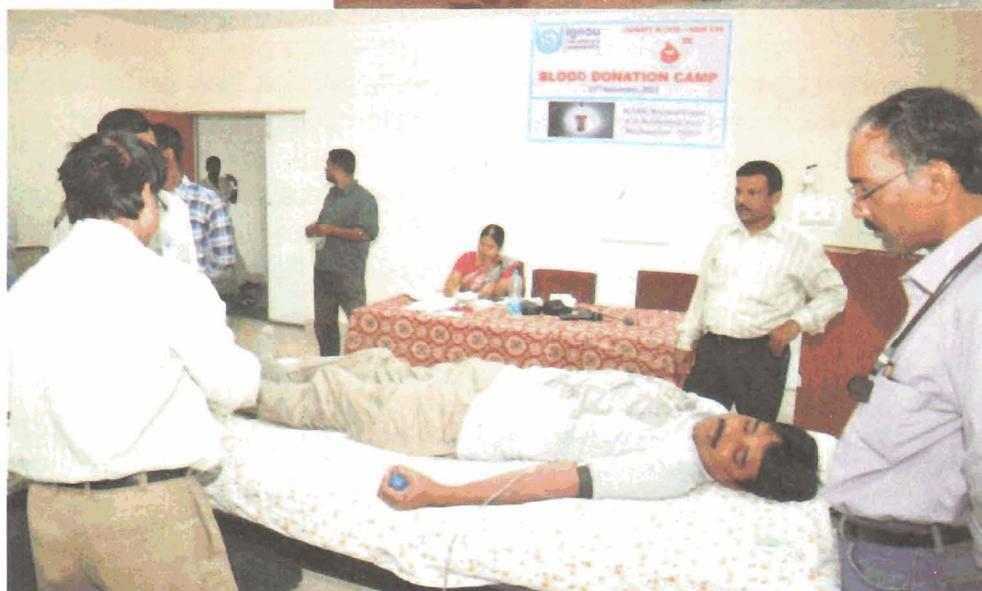




Visakhapatnam RC Conducted awareness meeting with Steel Plant Employees in Visakhapatnam



ARD Dr. Bansidhar Barik interacting with the candidates during Admissions Camp in Navy Nagar in Visakhapatnam.



Dr. Subhakant Mohanty, DD donating blood on Foundation Day

Seminars and Conferences...

- A talk and demonstration on 'Psycho Neurobics and Mental Development' by Dr. Chandra Shekhar Tiwari from SIGFA Solutions. Faridabad was organized under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Prof. Aslam on 27th August, 2013. Psycho-neurobics is a 'Process of connecting with universal spiritual energy and transferring it into the different parts of the body through neurons by using the power of mind (psyche)'. Dr. Chander Shekhar said that Psycho Neurobics does not need any physical invasions of the body and causes natural healing without any side effects. The healing is carried out by the flow of USE (Universal Spiritual Energy) passing through the nadis (Energy Channels) and chakras which is located in the etheric body of human beings.
- Prof. T.K. Jena, Director, SOHS was nominated for the 29th Dr. S. Radhakrishnan Memorial National Teacher Award 2013 for contributions in the field of Medical Teaching and Health Services by Akhil Bhartiya Swatantra Patrakar Avom Lekhak Sangh.
- A seminar on Open and Distance Learning (ODL) and Curriculum Design & Development in ODL for IGNOU Faculty, 12-14, September 2013 was organised by STRIDE. The Seminar was Coordinated by Prof. CRK Murthy and Prof. Madhu Parhar.

Cultural Activities...

Dhrupad, Thumari and Vidyapati Geet Concert

The Literary and Cultural Forum (ILCF) hosted a cultural programme by inviting the recipient of the Presidential gold medal, Mr. Samit Kumar Mallick for a performance of Dhrupad, Thumari and Vidyapati songs on the eve of India's 67th Independence Day.



Strains of Melody

Mallick is a young singer from the Darbhanga Gharana and a disciple of renowned Dhrupad maestro Late Pt. Vidur Mallick, Pt. Ram Kumar Mallick and Pt. Prem Kumar Mallick. Recipient of several other awards, Mallick has performed in several festivals of Dhrupad, Khayal, Thumri, and Vidyapati songs organized by N.C.Z.C.C Allahabad, Patna Doordarshan, Art & Cultural Dept., Govt of Bihar, Tourism Dept. Govt of Bihar, Sangeet Natak Akademi, Patna, Sangeet Natak

Obituary...

The IGNOU family lost a valuable member, Prof. Madhu Bala on 22nd November 2013. Prof. Madhu Bala was Professor of Economics in the School of Social Sciences and had a distinguished academic and professional career. She was widely travelled in the course of her academic pursuits as visiting Scholar to the Manchester Metropolitan University, UK and as Consultant to the World Bank, Washington DC. She was a well known Scholar in her field and a familiar face at National and International Conferences. We offer our condolences to the bereaved family and pray for the peace of the departed soul.



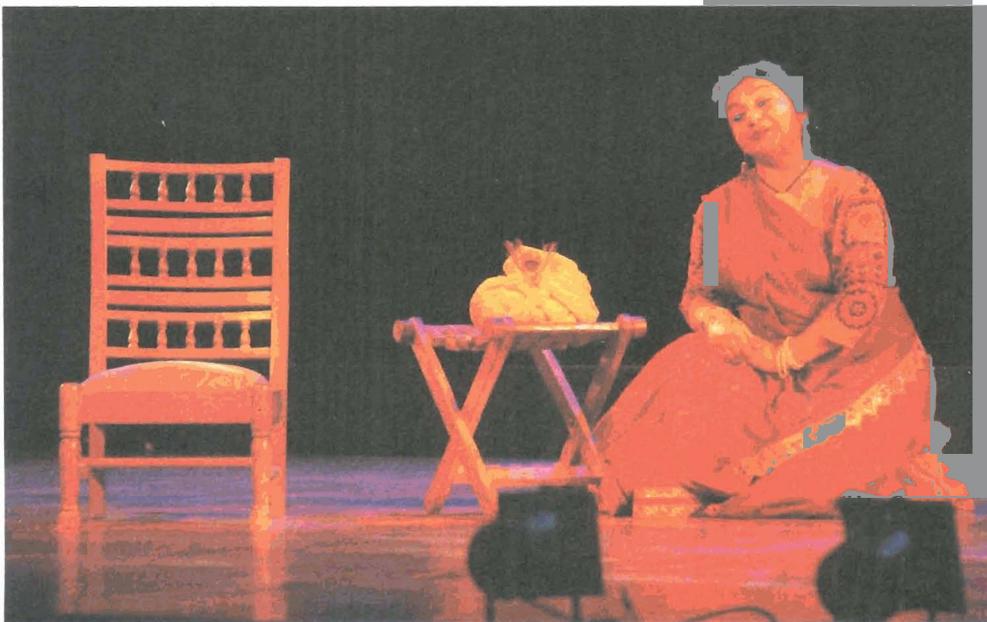
Akademi, New Delhi, Dhruvad Akademi, Allahabad etc. "Music is one thing which does not bind anyone in any religion," said Prof. M. Aslam, VC, IGNOU while inaugurating the event. The event was organized in the Convention Center of the University's headquarters.

Prof. Deoshankar Navin, Secretary of ILCF, IGNOU, provided a background of the Dhruvad, Vidyapati songs and Thumari genres and hailed Mr. Mallick as belonging to the 13th generation of the Darbhanga Gharana.

Staging of Play NAACHNI

School of Humanities, Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) organised the performance of a Hindi play 'Naachni' on 30th July 2013 at the

Convention Centre at which the then PVC Prof Lama was the Chief Guest. Written and directed by Mr. Bhanu Bharati and brought to life by noted artiste Ms. Sindhu Mishra, 'Naachni' fashions a metaphor of survival from the material of life through the story of a folk dancer. It encapsulates seemingly diverse strains and evolves into a commentary on women, patriarchy and the meaning of art, bringing to the fore, the interdependency of art and artiste in the dance of existence.



A Dramatic Moment in the Play

New Directors of Schools and Heads of Divisions

1.	Prof. Darvesh Gopal, School of Social Sciences (SOSS)	01.07.2013	30.6.2016
2.	Prof. Vijayshri, School of Sciences (SOS)	09.07.2013	08.07.2016
3.	Prof. Kapil Kumar, School of Tourism Hospitality Service Sectoral Management (SOTHSSM) (Director I/C)	19.07.2013	Till further orders
4.	Prof. N. K. Dash, School of Education (SOE)	01.08.2013	31.07.2016
5.	Prof. S. Srilatha, School of Management Studies (SOMS)	05.08.2013	04.08.2016
6.	Prof. Sunaina Kumar, School of Humanities (SOH)	01.10.2013	30.09.2016
7.	Prof. C R K Murthy STRIDE	26.08.2013	25.08.2016

कुलपति का संदेश



इंदिरा गांधी राष्ट्रीय मुक्त विश्वविद्यालय की स्थापना 1985 में संसद के अधिनियम द्वारा उच्च शिक्षा को लोकतांत्रिक बनाने के लिए की गयी ताकि वहनीय कीमत पर गुणवत्ता वाली शिक्षा उन लोगों तक पहुंचायी जा सके जो अब तक उससे वंचित रहे हैं। आज इग्नू लगभग तीस लाख विद्यार्थियों के

साथ पूरे देश में फैले 67 क्षेत्रीय केंद्रों और 2670 अध्ययन केंद्रों के विशाल नेटवर्क द्वारा शिक्षा उपलब्ध कराने का अद्वितीय कार्य कर रहा है। सहभागी संस्थाओं के जरिए लगभग 55000 विद्यार्थियों के साथ इग्नू की महत्वपूर्ण अंतरराष्ट्रीय उपस्थिति देखी जा सकती है। पैन अफ्रीका ई-नेटवर्क परियोजना के जरिए विश्वविद्यालय लगभग 30 अफ्रीकी देशों को भिन्न-भिन्न तरह के शैक्षिक कार्यक्रम पेश कर रहा है।

इग्नू शिक्षार्थियों को 21 विद्यापीठों के जरिए विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में 253 शैक्षिक कार्यक्रम उपलब्ध करा रहा है। हमारा विश्वविद्यालय देश का पहला ऐसा विश्वविद्यालय है जिसने सबसे पहले तिहाड़ जेल में शिक्षा उपलब्ध कराने का सराहनीय काम किया और आज देश-भर में फैले 53 जेलों में यह कार्य किया जा रहा है। हम जेल में कैदियों को निःशुल्क शिक्षा उपलब्ध करा रहे हैं।

हम इस बात पर गर्व कर सकते हैं कि हमने अपने कार्यक्रमों के लिए निरंतर अभिनव और मौलिक रास्ते खोजे हैं। स्नातक, स्नातकोत्तर और शोध स्तर के नये पाठ्यक्रमों के साथ-साथ विश्वविद्यालय ने पेशागत और व्यावसायिक कार्यक्रमों के क्षेत्र में भी उल्लेखनीय प्रगति की है। भू-सूचना विज्ञान, नाट्य और दृश्य कलाएं, परामर्श और मानसिक स्वास्थ्य, परिवार चिकित्सा, नृविज्ञान, भूस्थानिक प्रौद्योगिकी, जलवायु परिवर्तन और टिकाऊ विकास, पशुपालन, बागवानी, भूगोल, कृषिव्यवसाय, मॉडलिंग, जेंडर और विकास अध्ययन, एचआइवी मेडिसिन, वित्तीय और स्टॉक मार्केट, बाल पोषण, जोखिमपूर्ण नर्सिंग और आयुर्वेद जैसी परंपरागत चिकित्सा पद्धतियों आदि विविधता वाले चुनौतीपूर्ण क्षेत्रों पर ध्यान केंद्रित किया है। आरंभिक शिक्षा में डिप्लोमा के जरिए प्राथमिक स्कूलों के अशिक्षित और शिक्षित अध्यापकों के व्यावसायिक प्रशिक्षण के क्षेत्र में भी महत्वपूर्ण शुरुआत की है।

शोध का क्षेत्र भी विश्वविद्यालय की एक अन्य शक्ति है। आधारभूत, व्यावहारिक और अंतर-अनुशासनात्मक शोध कार्यक्रम विद्यार्थियों को आकृष्ट कर रहे हैं। शोध के लिए पंजीकृत विद्यार्थियों के लिए विश्वविद्यालय ने अपने ही स्रोत से छात्रवृत्तियों की भी व्यवस्था की है। इग्नू तेजी से शोध का एक प्रमुख केंद्र बनता जा रहा है।

विश्वविद्यालय अध्यापन और शिक्षण प्रक्रिया के लिए सूचना और संचार प्रौद्योगिकी की संभावनाओं का प्रयोग करने में उत्सुक रहता है। दक्षिण-पूर्व एशिया में प्रौद्योगिकी आधारित शिक्षा की आपूर्ति में वह अग्रणी रहा है।

गुणवत्ता वाली शिक्षा प्रदान करने में इग्नू के महत्व और योगदान को राष्ट्रीय और अंतरराष्ट्रीय एजेंसियों ने स्वीकार किया है। यूनेस्को ने इग्नू को "भूमंडलीय विश्व में समावेशी ज्ञान समाजों की सक्रिय अभिव्यक्ति...." के रूप में अंकित किया है। जापान सरकार ने "इंदिरा गांधी राष्ट्रीय मुक्त विश्वविद्यालय में इलेक्ट्रॉनिक मीडिया प्रोडक्शन सेंटर को सुदृढ़ करने की परियोजना" के लिए 78.70 करोड़ येन के परिव्यय के लिए अनुदान प्रदान कर इसी तथ्य को स्वीकारा है। इंडो-अफ्रीका वर्चुअल विश्वविद्यालय की स्थापना के लिए तौर-तरीकों के समायोजन की जिम्मेदारी इग्नू को प्रदान की गयी है। इसने राष्ट्रीय मुक्त और दूर शिक्षार्थी पुस्तकालय और सूचना नेटवर्क योजना के तहत क्षेत्रीय केंद्रों के नेटवर्क के जरिए ई-संसाधन की उपलब्धता को बढ़ाने में कामयाबी पायी है। प्रासंगिक कौशलों के विकास के जरिए साधनहीन और उपेक्षितों के सशक्तीकरण के अपने बुनियादी आदर्श के साथ विश्वविद्यालय मुक्त और दूर शिक्षा प्रणाली के मार्गदर्शक के रूप में उभरा है। इस क्षेत्र में काम करने वाले अन्य संस्थान इसकी उत्कृष्ट कार्यप्रणालियों से विचार ग्रहण कर रहे हैं।

विश्वविद्यालय का विस्तार अपने आप में एक उपलब्धि है। इसके साथ ही यह सुनिश्चित करना जरूरी है कि हम अपने प्रयासों को सुदृढ़ करें और 'गुणवत्ता वाली उच्च शिक्षा' की अभिकल्पना, विकास और वितरण करें। हमारे शैक्षिक हस्तक्षेपों की गुणवत्ता ही हमारी राष्ट्रीय और अंतरराष्ट्रीय उपस्थिति में मददगार होगी। इसके साथ ही, विद्यार्थी हमारी चिंता के केंद्र में होने चाहिए। हमारे विद्यार्थियों को सिर्फ उच्च स्तरीय शिक्षा सामग्री की ही दरकार नहीं होती, उसकी समय पर उपलब्धता को

पिछले तीन दशकों से इस मार्ग पर चलते हुए विश्वविद्यालय ने प्रतिष्ठा और भरोसा दोनों हासिल किए। हां, बीच में ऐसे अवसर भी आये जब बाहरी और अंदरूनी दबावों के चलते कुछ विचलन भी दिखायी दिये जिससे विश्वविद्यालय की साख खतरे में पड़ती नज़र आयी। लेकिन महान उद्देश्यों से परिचालित संस्थाओं के सामने ऐसी चुनौतियों का उपस्थित होना बहुत आश्चर्य की बात नहीं है। अपनी आंतरिक शक्ति के बल पर ही विश्वविद्यालय इन चुनौतियों का मुकाबला करने में सक्षम हुआ।

एक संस्था के रूप में इग्नू उन दायित्वों को नहीं भूल सकता जो इग्नू एक्ट के जरिए उसके सामने पेश किये गये हैं। उन्हें पूरा करना हम सभी का कर्तव्य है। इग्नू एक्ट हमें

इग्नू स्थापना दिवस समारोह

19 नवम्बर, 2013 को इग्नू ने अपने 28वें स्थापना दिवस समारोह का आयोजन, मुख्यालय एवं विविध क्षेत्रीय केंद्रों में ढेर सारे सांस्कृतिक कार्यक्रमों, प्रदर्शनियों, प्रतियोगिताओं और शैक्षिक कार्यकलापों के साथ किया।

समारोह का शुभारंभ कुलपति एवं स्टाफ सदस्यों द्वारा श्रीमती इंदिरा गांधी की प्रतिमा पर पुष्पांजलि अर्पित करके किया गया। तत्पश्चात्, प्रो. एम. असलम ने नव-निर्मित इग्नू ध्वज फहराया। इस अवसर पर कुलपति ने विश्वविद्यालय के सभी संकाय एवं स्टाफ सदस्यों को किफायती लागत पर अच्छे किस्म के शैक्षिक अंतःक्षेपों के साथ अलाभार्थियों को लाभ पहुंचाने के लिए पुनः इस ओर समर्पित होने के लिए प्रेरित किया।

कुलपति महोदय ने, इस अवसर पर क्षेत्रीय सेवा प्रभाग द्वारा आयोजित प्रदर्शनी का उद्घाटन किया। यह प्रदर्शनी विविध नज़रियों से बेहद नवीन और रोचक किस्म की थी। प्रदर्शनी में विविध विद्यापीठों, प्रभागों, केंद्रों और क्षेत्रीय केंद्रों के कार्यकलापों और उपलब्धियों पर केंद्रित पोस्टरों के अलावा, इग्नू के कुछ विशिष्ट शिक्षार्थियों के ब्यौरे की प्रस्तुति भी सम्मिलित थी। प्रदर्शनी में इग्नू कर्मचारियों और उनके परिवार के सदस्यों की शिल्पकला को "सृजनात्मक कला कार्नर" के अंतर्गत प्रदर्शित किया गया था। साथ ही, इग्नू समुदाय के बाल कलाकारों की कला-कृतियों को भी भली-भांति उजागर किया गया था। प्रदर्शनी में इग्नू कर्मचारियों द्वारा निर्मित इलेक्ट्रॉनिक मीडिया आधारित मदों को भी दर्शाया गया था। कुछ चुनिंदा अध्ययन केंद्रों, निर्माण एवं अनुरक्षण प्रभाग, बागवानी प्रकोष्ठ, कम्प्यूटर प्रभाग,

यह भी बताता है कि इन दायित्वों को निभाने के लिए हमें किस पथ पर चलना है। यह पथ भी उतना ही महत्वपूर्ण है क्योंकि ये उन दायित्वों से ही निःसृत हुआ है। ये दोनों एक दूसरे के लिए जरूरी हैं। एक के बिना दूसरे का कोई महत्व नहीं। तीन दशकों के अनुभव ने भी इसी सच्चाई को रेखांकित किया है। 2014 में प्रवेश करते हुए हम सभी को इस सच्चाई को संकल्प की तरह हमेशा अपने सामने रखना होगा। इसी विश्वास के साथ औपन लेटर परिवार की ओर से इग्नू के सभी सहकर्मियों को नववर्ष की हार्दिक बधाई और शुभकामनाएं।


(जवरीमल्ल पारख)

संचार केंद्र और क्षेत्रीय सेवा प्रभाग द्वारा भी खास स्टॉलों का आयोजन किया गया था। "इग्नू इन माई आइज़" शीर्षक के अंतर्गत बच्चों के लिए एक प्रश्न मंच का आयोजन भी किया गया था।

दोपहर में, राष्ट्रीय कौशल विकास निगम के प्रबंध निदेशक एवं मुख्य कार्यपालक अधिकारी, श्री दिलीप चेंनॉय ने "मुक्त शिक्षा और कौशल विकास : भारत अगली महाशक्ति" शीर्षक व्याख्यान दिया। व्याख्यान समारोह की शुरुआत कुलपति के स्वागत भाषण और समाप्ति प्रो. एस.वी.एस.चौधरी, कुलसचिव (प्रशासन) के धन्यवाद प्रस्ताव से की गई। व्याख्यान समारोह का सीधा प्रसारण किया गया और सभी क्षेत्रीय केंद्रों में, इस समारोह को देखा गया।

समारोह की समाप्ति भिन्न रूप से सक्षम बच्चों द्वारा आयोजित सांस्कृतिक कार्यक्रम के साथ हुई। इस मौके पर अंत में, संचार केंद्र द्वारा 'साकेत से इग्नू तक' तक शीर्षक के तहत इग्नू में रोजाना आने वालों की बेहाली पर टिकी व्यंग्य नाटिका की प्रस्तुति भी की गई थी। समारोह के दौरान विभिन्न श्रेणियों के अंतर्गत इग्नू पुरस्कार भी वितरित किए गए।

इग्नू स्थापना दिवस व्याख्यान

"भारत मुक्त शिक्षा एवं कौशल विकास में अगली महाशक्ति होगा", राष्ट्रीय कौशल विकास निगम के प्रबंध निदेशक एवं मुख्य कार्यपालक अधिकारी, श्री दिलीप चेंनॉय ने नई दिल्ली में इग्नू के मुख्य परिसर में आयोजित विश्वविद्यालय के 28वें स्थापना दिवस के अवसर पर व्याख्यान देते हुए यह बात कही। श्री चेंनॉय ने कहा कि मुक्त एवं दूर शिक्षा पद्धति में

विश्व की सबसे बड़ी स्कूली व्यवस्था और उच्च शिक्षा अवसररचनाओं के साथ, भारत में शिक्षा एवं विकास का भविष्य निःसंदेह नये आयामों की ओर अग्रसर है। उन्होंने कहा कि भारत के युवाओं को विश्व में अग्रणी भूमिका निभाने के योग्य बनाने के लिए, हमें अपनी शैक्षिक व्यवस्था की रूपरेखा ऐसी बनानी ही होगी ताकि हरेक स्नातक कुछ प्रमाणित व्यावसायिक कौशलों के साथ ही विश्वविद्यालय से बाहर निकले। यह सिर्फ ऐसी संयुक्त पद्धति से ही संभव है जो मुक्त शिक्षा को व्यावसायिक प्रशिक्षण और कौशल विकास कार्यक्रमों से असरदार तरीके से जोड़ने के योग्य हो। श्री चेन्नॉय ने कहा कि इसके लिए इग्नू और राष्ट्रीय मुक्त विद्यालय संस्थान (एनआईओएस) जैसी संस्थानों की अंतःशक्ति को आत्मसात् करना होगा।

श्री चेन्नॉय ने आगे कहा कि देश के युवाओं के सम्मुख आने वाली सबसे बड़ी चुनौती बड़े पैमाने पर व्याप्त कौशल अंतराल को भरने की है और इसके लिए शिक्षा में सूचना प्रौद्योगिकियों और नवीन कार्य-पद्धतियों की क्षमता का लाभ उठाना ज़रूरी है। उन्होंने कहा कि जब उद्योग, इग्नू जैसे

संस्थानों में उद्यमियों और बिजनेस लीडरों को खोजते हैं तब ऐसे समय में मेरी राय में लाभप्रद सार्वजनिक-निजी सहभागिता और वैश्विक भागीदारी की ओर ध्यान केंद्रित करना जरूरी होगा।

इस अवसर पर बोलते हुए, इग्नू के कुलपति प्रो. एम. असलम ने बताया कि समाज के दूर-दराज के क्षेत्रों और सुविधावंचित वर्गों तक शिक्षा पहुँचाने में इग्नू की बेहद प्रभावशाली भूमिका है। प्रो. असलम ने देश के करोड़ों शिक्षार्थियों तक शिक्षा के प्रसार के संबंध में विश्वविद्यालय एवं विविध विद्यापीठों की प्रगति का संक्षिप्त ब्यौरा प्रदान किया। प्रो. असलम ने इस बात पर भी प्रकाश डाला कि श्रम बाज़ार की बदलती ज़रूरतों को समय से भांपते हुए, विश्वविद्यालय अपने विविध कार्यक्रमों को और अधिक व्यवसायोन्मुख बनाने पर पुनः विचार कर रहा है।

स्पीपना दिवस समारोह का आयोजन इग्नू मुख्यालय (नयी दिल्ली) और देश में फैले विश्वविद्यालय के विविध क्षेत्रीय केंद्रों में शैक्षणिक संगोष्ठियों, प्रदर्शनियों और सांस्कृतिक कार्यक्रमों के साथ किया गया।

हिंदी में काम करने/मौलिक लेखन के लिए प्रोत्साहन योजना

भारत सरकार के गृह मंत्रालय के राजभाषा विभाग एवं मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय के निर्देशों के अनुसार विश्वविद्यालय में हिंदी में काम करने/मौलिक लेखन (पुस्तकें, पाठ्य-सामग्री, मॉड्यूल आदि) को प्रोत्साहित करने के लिए वर्ष 2013 से एक प्रोत्साहन योजना लागू की गई है। योजना इस प्रकार है:

1. हिंदी में दैनिक कामकाज के लिए योजना

- अपना सरकारी कामकाज हिंदी में करने के लिए (जैसे, नोटिंग, ड्राफ्टिंग, पत्र व्यवहार, रजिस्ट्रों/सेवा पुस्तिकाओं में प्रविष्टि या संबंधित पद पर कार्य की आवश्यकता के अनुसार तकनीकी कार्य, रिपोर्ट तैयार करना, बैठकों की कार्यसूची, कार्यवृत्त बनाना कार्य शामिल हैं।)
- हिंदी में डिक्टेशन देने/लेने के लिए पुरस्कार (अंग्रेजी के वे स्टेनोग्राफर जो हिंदी में भी डिक्टेशन लेते हैं)
- हिंदी में टाइपिंग के लिए प्रोत्साहन पुरस्कार (वे कर्मचारी जो अंग्रेजी के अतिरिक्त हिंदी में भी टाइपिंग करते हैं)

2. शैक्षिक कार्य

- मूल रूप से हिंदी में इकाई लेखन, शोध लेखन,

पाठ्य-सामग्री, दूर शिक्षा से संबंधित सामग्री, मॉड्यूल आदि तैयार करना (हिंदी विषय के अतिरिक्त)

- मौलिक पुस्तक लेखन (जिसमें साहित्य के अलावा अन्य विषयों पर लिखी पुस्तकें शामिल हैं।)
- दूर शिक्षा को बढ़ावा देने के लिए विभिन्न पहलुओं पर प्रकाश डालने वाली हिंदी में लिखी मौलिक पुस्तकें

3. क्षेत्रीय केंद्रों के लिए

उपर्युक्त योजना क्षेत्रीय केंद्रों पर भी समान रूप से लागू होगी और उन्हें क्षेत्रीय केंद्रों के स्तर पर अंचलवार पुरस्कृत किया जाएगा।

उपर्युक्त योजना में हिस्सा लेने वाले संकाय सदस्य/स्टाफ सदस्य किए गए कार्यों की रिपोर्ट वित्त वर्ष की समाप्ति के बाद राजभाषा प्रकोष्ठ में भेजेंगे। हिंदी में सर्वाधिक कार्य करने वाले विद्यापीठ/प्रभाग/क्षेत्रीय केंद्र को चल-वैजयंती प्रदान की जाएगी। क्षेत्रीय केंद्रों के लिए चल वैजयंती अलग से दी जाएगी।

मौलिक पुस्तक लेखन के लिए दो पुरस्कार 7000 रुपए (प्रति पुरस्कार)

शैक्षिक/दैनिक कार्यों के लिए :

प्रथम पुरस्कार 2500 रुपए तृतीय पुरस्कार 1500 रुपए
द्वितीय पुरस्कार 2000 रुपए चतुर्थ पुरस्कार 1000 रुपए

Prof. Nageshwar Rao



After completing his term as Vice-Chancellor of Uttar Pradesh Rajarshi Tandon Open University, Allahabad between August 2008 to August 2011, Prof. Nageshwar Rao joined as Pro Vice Chancellor, Indira Gandhi

National Open University New Delhi in December 2013. During the period between August 2011 and December 2013 he was Professor in Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru Institute of Business Management (PJLNIBM) Vikram University, Ujjain where he also served as the Director of the institute for more than 13 years. He was appointed as Dean, Faculty of Management Studies for five terms; Dean, Faculty of Information Technology for one term and Chairman, Board of Studies in Management for four terms at Vikram university Ujjain. He was University Professor in Management for more than 23 years.

With a distinguished academic career, Prof. Rao has numerous books to his credit of which 'Administration on Public Enterprises in India' and 'Communication Skills' have been enthusiastically received. He has guided innovative research and made meaningful contributions to Seminars and Conferences in Management and Allied disciplines and has been invited as Resource Person in EDPs for Railways, NTPC etc.

He was Member of Governing Council, Association of Indian Universities in 2010; Member of Executive Council of Council of Science and Technology, U.P (2008-11). He was Hon. Secretary, Institute of Gandhian Thought and Peace Studies, University of Allahabad. He was also the President of Indian Accounting Association.

Prof. Sushma Yadava



Professor Sushma Yadava, who has earlier served as Professor of Public Policy & Governance at Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi joined Indira Gandhi National Open University

on 9th December 2013 as Pro Vice Chancellor. An eminent scholar & Gold Medalist from the Delhi University, Prof. Yadava has a very rich teaching and research experience of more than 30 years. She has also been Chair Professor, Dr Ambedkar Chair in Social Justice at Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi.

Professor Yadava has authored more than a dozen of books/monographs on Political Science, Social Justice, Gender Issues, Culture and Politics etc. She has to her credit a number of research publications and has also guided/supervised M.Phil/Ph.D degrees at various universities like University of Delhi, Punjab University Chandigarh, Anna University Chennai, and the Kurukshetra University.

Prof. Yadava has many awards and distinction to her credit, which among others include: First Phule Balijan Ratna Samman by Satyasodhak Samaj (International), New Delhi in 2011; Jeewak Shikshak Puraskar by Jeevak Welfare Society, Nagpur in 2010; National IFJA Award by Farm Journalist Association, New Delhi in 2008; National Leader Award by Mrs. Helena Kaushik Women's College, Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan in 2006; Maharishi Karve Memorial Prize, University of Delhi in 1978.

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