

A Report on Web Enabled Academic Support (WEAS)

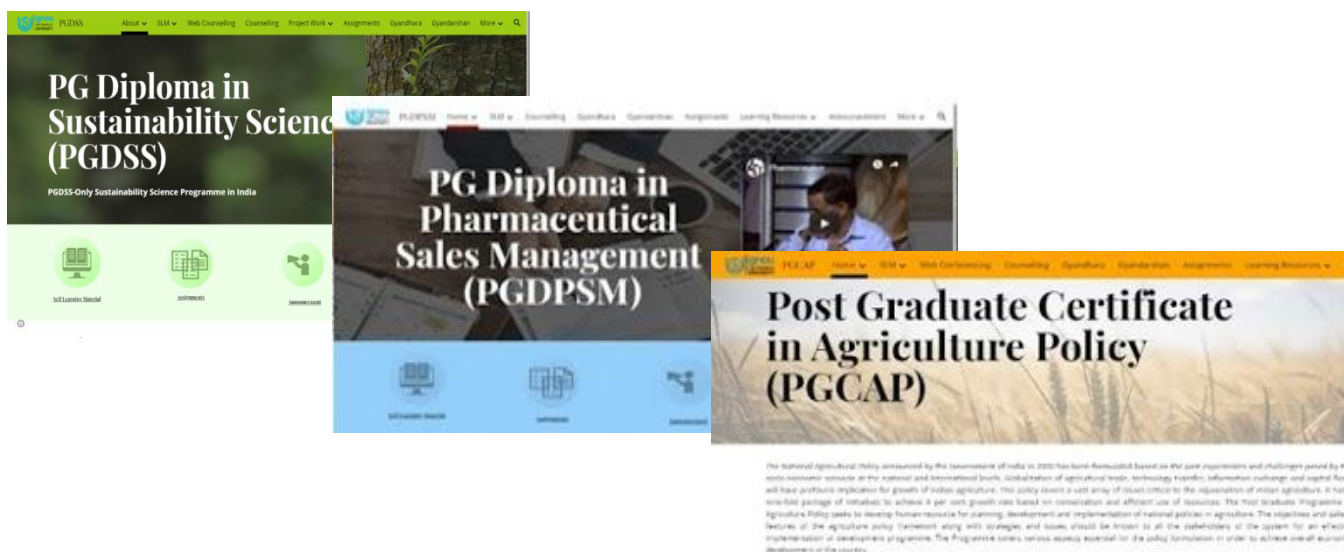
In the 21st Century, applications of Information and Communication Technologies have contributed immensely to education, economic development, and social changes across the globe. With the reduced cost of electronic gadgets like laptops, smartphones and internet people are empowered to get connected and increase their learning and knowledge. In order to provide additional technology based academic support to the learners of distance mode programmes, particularly the low enrolment programmes, the NCIDE has initiated a scheme of Web Enabled Academic Support (WEAS).



Web Enabled Academic support (WEAS) is an innovative teaching- learning solution that aims to provide an interactive one-stop programme portal. It will help the students in getting academic support to the programme they are enrolled in through various innovative strategies. From learners' point of view WEAS offers access to the online portal with information, notification for important events/dates, digital format of course material, learning resources, a discussion forum for peer-to-peer learning and quizzes at one place. It also includes the provision of periodic interaction with Programme Coordinator/s and faculty involved in the programme. It is highly useful for those learners who because of one or other reason are not getting counseling sessions at their study centres. From IGNOU's point of view it is pro learner-centric Open and Distance Learning System, is an enabler to take education to the hitherto unreached (Reaching the Unreached) and works towards meeting the challenges of access, equity and quality.

The features provided by WEAS are as follows:

- General information about the programme
- Soft copies of the relevant study material
- Relevant web based learning resources in the form of audio/video and PDF, etc.
- Web based quiz and testing facility for continuous assessment
- Discussion forum and chat facility for peer to peer interaction
- Announcements related to the programmes
- Calendar of activities
- Web conferencing for limited users at a time
- Link of related audio/video programmes, IRC Gyandhara, e-Gyankosh, Online Admission, etc.



Starting with three programmes viz. PGCAP, PGDSS and PGDPSM, in November 2019, today 36 more programmes are in the process to offer technology enabled learning and teaching through WEAS and many more are at the proposal stage. Even large enrolment programmes like BSc (G) are providing Web Enabled Academic Support to their students. WEAS is a Single Window Platform providing various kinds of academic support including the study material, audio-videos, web-based assessment, discussion forum calendar of activities, web-based video counselling, links of various other web-based resources to the distance learners by using simple and easily available ICT tools. For developing the WEAS portals for various programmes, the concerned Programme coordinators are imparted training and they are empowered to develop their WEAS portals with the help of NCIDE.



WELCOME TO WEB ENABLED ACADEMIC SUPPORT (WEAS/ व्यास)

Web Enabled Academic Support, commonly known as **WEAS** is a scheme initiated by NCIDE with the aim to provide an **interactive one-stop programme portal**, that will help the students in getting academic support on the programme they are enrolled in.

Website: <https://sites.google.com/ignou.ac.in/weas>

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