BEST PRACTICES OF IGNOU IN IMPLEMENTING NEP 2020

ignou
THE PEOPLE'S
UNIVERSITY

Prepared by:
CIQA, Indira Gandhi National Open University

Prepared for:
University Grants Commission, New Delhi

TABLE OF CONTENT

PREFACE

The National Education Policy 2020 was dedicated to the Nation on 29thJuly 2020. It provides the roadmap for a paradigm shift in the educational system of the country to make it relevant to changing knowledge landscape and global ecosystem. This policy comes after a long gap of 34 years during which many significant socio-economic, political, scientific and technological changes have taken place. There is a need to revamp the entire educational system keeping in view the global education development agenda reflected in Goal- 4 (SDG-4) of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development which seeks to "ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all" by 2030. The gap between the current state of learning outcomes and what is required must be bridged through undertaking major reforms that bring the highest quality, equity, and integrity into the system. The current policy emphasizes the holistic development of an individual, not only cognitive capacities of literacy and numeracy but also higher-order cognitive capacities like critical thinking, creativity, multilingualism, and problem solving, essential for employability and development of social and life skills. Orientation towards social, cultural, ethical, environmental, national, and emotional capacities and dispositions are also given emphasis.

The Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), being a National University fulfils the educational aspirations of millions of learners in India and abroad as per its mandate entrusted to it by the Parliament of India. Since its inception, the University has striven to fulfil the goals of the Government of India as outlined in its policies. The University had been at the forefront of many educational reforms and has proactively adopted the NEP 2020 through its statutory bodies. In line with the NEP 2020, many initiatives have been taken by the University to implement the provisions of the new policy which have been highlighted in this document.

Prof. Nageshwar Rao
Vice-Chancellor
Indira Gandhi National Open University

About IGNOU

The Indira Gandhi National Open University is the first national University established by an Act of Parliament in 1985, having jurisdiction over the whole of India and also in countries outside India. It has the national responsibility of promoting and setting benchmarks for Open and Distance Learning (ODL). IGNOU is mandated to make quality education accessible to all cutting across, geographical/physical, social and economic barriers and also to provide opportunities for lifelong quality education at affordable costs.

IGNOU is the first Open University in the country to be accredited by NAAC, with an 'A++' Grade in 2021. The University is the first Open University (OU) to be granted recognition for offering MBA and MCA programmes by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE). The University is exempted from the UGC (ODL & Online) Regulations 2020. The Government of India has appointed IGNOU as the National Coordinator for SWAYAM (for Diploma and Certificate programmes) and SWAYAM PRABHA (4 channels); and Regional Coordinating Institute for Unnat Bharat Abhiyan. The University has received five- star rating in Innovations and Startups; and second prize in Swachh Campus Ranking of HEIs in non- residential category by the Ministry of Education (MOE).

The University was awarded Centre of Excellence twice by the inter-governmental organization of ODL, i.e. the Commonwealth of Learning (COL), Canada. The University is proud to have academic collaborations with several ministries of the Central government and a few State governments and reputed autonomous bodies.

The University operates through its 21 Schools of Studies; 12 Divisions, and Centres, Units and Cells at its Headquarters (HQs) at New Delhi. The University is unique as it has a state of art Electronic Media Production Centre and a Centre for Online Education for facilitating the development and delivery of digital content; an International Division for handling its international operations; a national Centre for Innovation in Distance Education and a National Centre for Disability Studies; a centralized grievance redressal unit, the Student Services Support Centre; and a Material Production and Distribution Division.

The University functions Pan- India through a network of 56 Regional Centres (RCs) set up at all State capitals among other major cities; 11 Recognized Regional Centres (RRCs); 2047 Learner Support Centres (LSCs) set up at conventional Universities and Colleges. It has an international presence in 15 countries through its 23 Overseas Study Centres.

About IGNOU…

The academic activities of the University are performed by around 300 teachers at the HQs; 200 academics posted at the HQs and RCs; and more than 15000 academic counsellors who are our part-time teachers attached to the LSCs and are working in the conventional system at other Universities and Colleges. The administrative activities are performed by around 2000 non- teaching staff posted at the HQs and RCs; and part- time non- teaching contractual staff at LSCs.

During the academic year 2020-21 the University was offering 221 academic programmes through ODL mode and 18 through online mode undergraduate, a total of 239 academic programmes: 45 PG degree, 29 UG degree; 47 PG diploma; 26 diploma, and 77 certificate programmes; and 44 PhD programmes. It has an annual enrollment of about 12 lakh learners (fresh as well as registered learners in 2nd year and 3rd year degree programmes) and around 33 lakh learners on its rolls.

From its inception the University has followed a multimedia approach to providing instruction to its dispersed learners. It is known for pioneering the learner- centred approach to teaching and learning through the introduction of Self-learning Materials (SLM) and use of audio and video programmes. With time there has been a shift from a print based to a digital and online system of education using a media mix of e-SLM, MOOCs, audio and video programmes.

The faculty working at the Schools of Studies at the HQs; the academics at the RCs and Divisions of the University at the HQs; and the academic counsellors attached to the LSCs and OSCs, were engaged in counselling the IGNOU learners mainly using digital media including web conferencing through various apps such as Microsoft Teams, Zoom, Google Meet, YouTube, Facebook Live, etc. Other interactive media used are email, WhatsApp, and SMS. Apart from these online apps, the electronic, broadcast and telecast media using GyanVani, GyanDarshan and SWAYAM PRABHA channels are used to provide effective counselling especially in remote areas where the internet could be a limitation. The University's online portals: e-Gyankosh, an online repository of study materials (text and audio, video); and Web Enabled Academic Support (WEAS) portal have proved to be effective in providing academic support services to learners at the click of a mouse. The University is also offering 122 Massive Open Online Courses on the SWAYAM Platform and its online programmes on its own LMS.

BEST PRACTICES OF IGNOU

Ever since the launch of the National Educational Policy 2020, the University has taken several steps for the implementation of NEP 2020:

- Constitution of a Committee under the Chairpersonship of Prof. K B Das, PVC in 2020;
- Constitution of a Task Force for implementation of NEP under the Chairpersonship of Prof. R P Das, PVC in 2021;
- Decision to develop the Institutional Development Plan of IGNOU taken by the Board of Management in its142nd meeting held on 31st May 2021;
- NEP 2020: IGNOU Implementation Plan approved by the 76th Academic Council in its meeting held in 2021; and
- Publication of a Book on NEP:2020 in 2021.

The in fulfilling the goals outlined in the policy document, the University has initiated the following actions that are detailed under the following broad areas:

1) Moving Forward with Multidisciplinary and Holistic Education	21 Schools of Studies with 47 Disciplines • STEAM • Health Sciences • Nursing • Vocational Education • Social Work • Law • Education • Distance Education • Translation Studies • Tourism and Hospitality Management • Nutritional Science • Child Development • Law
As envisaged in NEP 2020, the University is a multidisciplinary University with full time faculty in its 21 Schools of Studies and STRIDE in 47 disciplines representing, STEAM: Sciences (Physics, Chemistry, Life Sciences, Geology, Geography, Agriculture, Environmental Science, Nutritional Science, Statistics), Technology (Computer and Information Sciences, Management Studies, Journalism and Mass Communication), Engineering (Civil, Mechanical, Electrical, Design and Architecture), Arts (Political Science, Public Administration, Sociology, Psychology, Anthropology, Languages, Literature, Music, Philosophy, History, Dance, Theatre, Economics, Child Development, Home Science, Rural Development, Library & Information Science), Mathematics; along with others such as Health Sciences, Nursing, Social Work, Law, Education, Distance Education, Translation Studies, Tourism and Hospitality Management; needed for a multidisciplinary approach, stimulating the Indian education system.	
With the aim to be an integrated higher education system, promoting holistic and multidisciplinary education and instilling more in-depth learning and mastery of curricula across fields, the University has adopted the following measures: • In Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) based UG Programmes, existing (or new) courses from across the Schools of Studies to be included in the basket for BA (G), BCom (G) and BSc (G) programmes to further enhance the multidisciplinary nature of these programmes. • To enhance the holistic nature of UG Programmes, existing courses, in the areas of Waste Management, Environmental Education, Climate Change, Health Education, Nursing, Home- based Health Care, First Aid, Adolescent Health Community Health, Sustainable Development, Community Health, Gandhi and Peace Studies, Understanding BR Ambedkar, etc., are being suitably adapted, modified, and integrated into these Programmes. • To enhance the employability and the life skills of the learners in UG Programmes, courses that engender soft skills such as communication and presentation skills, and entrepreneurial skills have been included in	Multidisciplinary & Holistic Education Programmes on offer: CBCS UG Programmes namely: BA (General); BCom; BSc (General); Bachelor of Social Work; BA (VS) Tourism Management; BA (Hons) in History, Political Science, Anthropology, Sociology, Economics, Psychology, Public Adm., Hindi, English; BPA (Hons) Hindustani Music); and BSc (Hons) in Biochemistry. Non CBCS Multidisciplinary & Holistic Programmes MA (Rural Development) MA (Folklore and Culture Studies) MA (Development Studies) MA (Entrepreneurship) MA (Journalism and Mass Communication) MA (Adult Education) Master of Social Work MSc (Information Security)(MSc (Counselling and Family Therapy) MSc (Environmental Science) Master of Tourism and Travel Management MSc (Mathematics with Applications in Computer Sciences) Post Graduate Diploma in Rural Development Post Graduate Diploma in Counselling and Family Therapy Post Graduate Diploma in International Business Operations Postgraduate Diploma in Environment and Sustainable Development Post Graduate Diploma in Disaster Management Post Graduate Diploma in School Leadership and Management Post Graduate Diploma in Corporate Social Responsibility

	these programmes. • The University allows its undergraduate learners enrolled in the CBCS based UG Programmes, the freedom to choose courses that lead to imaginative and flexible curricular structures across disciplines by adopting the Course Wise Registration and Certification Scheme under which a learner can register for a single course or a limited number of courses, subject to a maximum of 16 credits. • Learners can register in MOOCs and obtain credit transfer up to 40 % per semester.	Post Graduate Diploma in Digital Media Post Graduate Diploma in Development Communication Post Graduate Diploma in Adult Education Post Graduate Diploma in Criminal Justice Post Graduate Certificate in Geoinformatics Certificate in Environmental Studies Certificate in Anti Human Trafficking Certificate in Communication & IT Skills Certificate in Fashion Design Certificate in Gender, Agriculture and Sustainable Development Integrating Environmental/Health Courses: • Compulsory course in Environmental Studies (Course Code: BEVAE-181: Environmental Studies; BANS 184: Public Health and Epidemiology) under CBCS in all UG degree programmes Integrating Soft skills courses: • BEGAE-182: English Communication Skills • BHDAE 182: **हिंदी** भाषा और संप्रेषण • BPCS 183: Emotional Intelligence • BPCS 186: Managing Stress • BPCS 185: Developing Emotional Competence • BPAS 186: Stress and Time Management • BEGS 183: Writing and Study Skills • BEGS 186: Business Communication • BCOS 183: Computer Application in Business • BCOS 184: E-Commerce • BCOS 185: Entrepreneurship • BCOS 186: Personal Selling and Salesmanship • BSOS 185: Society through the Visual
2) Vocational & Skill Development The NEP, 2020 has given clear directions to the HEIs to inculcate creativity and innovation, critical thinking and higher-order thinking capacities, problem-solving abilities, teamwork, vocational and entrepreneurial skills, etc. among its learners to improve the employability of the learners. The University has taken the following initiatives: • Integration of existing vocational and skill enhancement Courses into its UG Programmes like BSc (General), BA (General), BA (Honours), BCom, BSW, BA (VS) Tourism Management, and BPA in Hindustani Music under the Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) which has a strong component of skill development through the Discipline Specific Electives	Integrating existing vocational and skill enhancement courses in UG Degree programmes: • BTMS 185: Airport Handling • CIT3: Web Based Technology and Multimedia • BHC 12: Event Planning • BHC 13: Event Coordination and Control • BEVAE 181: Environmental Studies • BANS 183: Tourism Anthropology • BANS 184: Public Health and Epidemiology • BECS 184: Data Analysis • BPAS 184: Logistics Management • BSOS 184: Techniques of Ethnographic Film Making • BHDS 183: अनवाद सद्धांत और प्रवध • BHDS 184: रेडया लेखन • BHDS 185: टेलवज़न लेखन • BHDS 186: समाचार संकलन और लेखन • BPCS 188: Application of Social Psychology

(DSE), Ability Enhancement Compulsory Courses (AECC) and Skill Enhancement Courses (SEC). Elective Foundation courses are value-based and are aimed at providing human values in education. Ability Enhancement Compulsory Courses (AECC) is intended to sensitize the learners with environmental issues and introduce them to the policies and practices put in place to address environmental concerns at the local, national, and global levels. The other AECC equips learners with skills of interpersonal communication integral to personal, social, and professional interactions. Skill Enhancement Courses (SECs) seek to build specific skills set in some applied functional areas of daily life, like environment, gender, human values, emerging issues related to demographic changes like urbanization and migration, ethical and moral concerns in society.

- Presently there are 86 such programmes in different disciplines and at various levels viz. PG, UG, Diploma and Certificate, that have the compulsory component of project/ fieldwork/ internship/ maintenance of log book/ practical file; to actively engage with the practical side of their learning and, as a by-product to further their employability.
- Seek collaboration with Industries/ NGOs/ ITIs and recognized Skill Training Centres for the delivery of vocational education components in the UG level Programmes.
- An MOU has been signed by IGNOU with Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for training Nurses and Ayurveda doctors to employ them as Community Health Officers (CHOs) (which is ongoing) to empower and lead health and wellness centres across India under Ayushman Bharat to achieve universal Health coverage as envisaged in SDG goals. Also, an MOU has been signed between IGNOU and the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to develop and launch a series of skill-based health programmes to create trained health workers for improving health care delivery across the country, to achieve universal health coverage as envisaged in SDG- 3. For this purpose, a Skill Training Cell has been created in IGNOU to develop, implement, and

- BPCS 184: School Psychology
- BPCS 187: Managing Human Resources
- BEGS 185: English Language Teaching
- MTT-015: Anuvad Aur Sahitya
- MTT-017: Kosh Vigyan, Paribhashik Shabdavali Aur Anuvad
- MTT-020: Anuvad Prakriya

71 Vocational Programmes:

Degree: B.Sc. Nursing (Post Basic), BA (V S) Tourism Management, BBA(Retailing), BBA(Services Management), BCA, MCA

Certificate: Information Security, Power Distribution Management, Arabic Language, Beekeeping, Communication & IT Skills, Community Health, Community Radio, Energy Technology And Management, Fashion Design, First Aid, French Language, General Duty Assistance, Geriatric Care Assistance, German Language, Health Care Waste Management, Home Based Health Care, Home Health Assistance, Information Technology, Japanese Language, Korean Language & Culture, Maternal And Child Health Nursing, Mobile Application Development, Newborn And Infant Nursing, Nutrition And Child Care, Organic Farming, Performing Arts – Theatre Arts, Performing Arts Hindustani Music, Performing Arts Karnatak Music, Persian Language, Phlebotomy Assistance, Poultry Farming, Russian Language, Sericulture, Spanish Language & Culture, Visual Arts – Applied Art, Visual Arts – Painting, Water Harvesting & Management, Competency In Power Distribution, Yoga, Bangla Hindi Translation Programme, Geoinformatics, Industrial Safety, Information and Assistive Technologies For The Instructors Of Visually Impaired, Inventory Planning And Warehousing For Engineers, Malayalam-Hindi Translation, Medical Management Of Cbrne Disasters

Diploma: Critical Care Nursing, Dairy Technology, Early Childhood Care And Education, Event Management, Meat Technology, Nursing Administration, Nutrition & Health Education, Retailing, Theatre Arts, Value Added Products From Fruits & Vegetables, Watershed Management, Audio Programme Production, Computer Applications, Food Safety And Quality Management, Geriatric Medicine, HIV Medicine, Hospital And Health Management, Journalism And Mass Communication
Maternal and Child Health

86 Programmes with Project Work/ Fieldwork,

certify the skill. • Exploring the possibilities of developing courses in emerging areas through its School of Vocational Education and Training in collaboration with allied Schools such as the School of Engineering and Technology, the School of Management Studies, etc. with special emphasis on self-employment. • Striving to develop Vocational Education programmes at the UG level once change/ amendment is implemented in the multiple regulations of regulatory authorities including UGC (ODL Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020 which prohibits vocational education/skill development through distance mode. • In order to prepare a cadre of high quality, workers/teachers in early childhood care and education, the University has a Discipline of Child Development. • Also in order to prepare Nurse Educators, Nurse Administrators etc., the University has a discipline of Nursing.	Internships, Dissertation/Workbook/ Logbook/ etc: **Certificate**: Anti Human Trafficking, Community Health, Consumer Protection, Energy Technology and Management, Maternal and Child Health Nursing, Newborn and Infant Nursing, Social Work and Criminal Justice System, Teaching of Primary School Mathematics, Tourism Studies, Adult Education, Bangla Hindi Translation Programme, Information and Assistive Technologies for the Instructors of Visually Impaired, Industrial Safety, Inventory Planning and Warehousing System for Engineers, Malayalam-Hindi Translation, Patent Practice, Certificate in Solid Waste Management Technique **Diploma**: Aquaculture, Critical Care Nursing, Creative Writing in English, Early Childhood Care and Education, Event Management, Paralegal Practice, Nursing Administration, Smart City Development and Mgt, Teaching German as a Foreign Language, Tourism Studies, Urdu, Watershed Management **PG Diploma:** Adult Education, Book Publishing, Counselling and Family Therapy, Criminal Justice, Social Work Counselling, Corporate Social Responsibility, Disaster Management, Educational Mgmt. & Administration, Environmental and Occupational Health, Educational Technology, Folklore and Culture Studies, Financial Management, Food Safety & Quality Management, Gandhi and Peace Studies, Higher Education, Human Resource Management, Library Automation and Networking, Maternal and Child Health, Mental Health, Marketing Management, Operations Management, Pre Primary Education, Sustainability Science, Translation, Urban Planning and Devt, Women's & Gender Studies **Bachelor Degree:** BA (Vocational Studies), BA (Tourism Mgt), BBA(R), BBA(SM), BCA, BEd, BSc (Hons) Anthro, BSW, BA (Tourism Studies) **Masters Degree:** MA (Adult Education), MA(Anthropology), MA(Distance Education), MA(Development Studies), MA(Education), MA(Folklore and Culture Studies), MA(Gender and Development Studies), MA(Psychology), MA(Philosophy), MA(Women and Gender Studies), Master of Computer Applications, MA(Economics), MLIS, MBA, MA (Public Adm), MA (Entrepreneurship) MBA (Banking and Finance), MSc (Counseling and Family Therapy), MSc (Food & Nutrition), MSc (Environmental Sc), MSc (Information Security), MSW, MSW (Counselling), Master of Tourism and Travel Management

	Skill Training Cell has been set up at the School of Health Sciences for the following programmes: • Certificate in General Duty Assistance (CGDA) • Certificate in Geriatric Care Assistance (CGCA) • Certificate in Phlebotomy Assistance (CPHA) • Certificate in Home Health Assistance (CHHA)
(3) Imparting Education in Regional Languages As proposed in the Policy to ensure full access, equity, and inclusion, the programmes need to be offered in regional medium. • The University as a multidisciplinary National Open University having centers across India and overseas, presently offers programmes mainly in English and Hindi medium and a few popular Diploma and Certificate programmes in regional languages. The University proposes to translate its programmes and courses into 13 regional languages in order to reach out to the unserved populations who have no access to a local HEI or due to language barriers. • The e-content are being translated into regional languages to ensure full access, equity, and inclusion in the programmes.	Programmes on offer in national and regional languages: Hindi, English, Marathi, Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, Mizo, Bengali, Assamese, Gujarati, Malayalam, Punjabi, Urdu, Sanskrit and Odia
(4) Online and Digital Education In this fast-changing, dynamic and technology-driven era, online and digital education has emerged as a game-changer in the Indian Higher Education Scenario particularly for Open Universities. IGNOU, the leader in ODL in India has molded itself to this changing scenario particularly during this pandemic by delivering its programmes by extensive use of technology. • To promote online education, IGNOU has established a Centre for Online Education (COE) with a vision to make IGNOU a global leader in digital learning with world-class technology-enabled learning	Promotion of Online Education through digitized SLMs • eGyankosh portal (a total 44,667 number of SLM content) • IGNOU e-Content App • WEAS portal • A provision of a 15% fee refund is in place for learners opting for the digital study material instead of the printed one. Online Education • 122 MOOCs (7 of external HEIs) on SWAYAM Platform • 18 Online programmes at various levels *viz.*CAL, CIT, CLIS, CPSCM, CTRBS,

experiences and support services. It also has a state of art Electronic Media Production Centre (EMPC). Both these Centres are orchestrating the development of digital content and coordinating the delivery of the same to its dispersed learners.

- The EMPC has transmission facilities for telecast and broadcast of audio and video programmes as well as conduct of interactive sessions with the learners.
- The University has digitized the Self Learning Materials (SLMs) of all the programmes and they are available to the learners through its eGyankosh portal, a national digital repository and are being regularly updated with the new and revised course content.
- The University is has an IGNOU e-Content App in the Google Play store through which the learners can access the SLM anywhere, anytime.
- IGNOU, being the National Coordinator for Out-of-School Education (for offering Diplomas and Certificates programmes). Currently, it is offering 129 courses (122 courses in-house and 7 from other HEIs) in different disciplines like Sciences, Social Sciences, Humanities, Agriculture, Engineering, etc. through the SWAYAM (MOOCs) platform.
- For the use of technology in Examination and Evaluation, IGNOU has taken the following policy decisions:
    i. Development of digital question bank for different Courses.
    ii. Minimize the time gap between examination and certification.
    iii. Issuing Digital Certificates and Open badges.

CRUL, CTS, DTS, PGCAP, PGCGPS, PGDGPS, PGDSS, BCOM, BTS, BLIS, MATS, MGPS, and MHD, offered through the dedicated IGNOU-LMS portal (using Moodle)
- Course on Relevance of Gandhi offered in collaboration with the Department of Personnel and Training for the staff of Civil Services.

Online Learner Support
- Online Admission for all programmes/ courses of the University on SAMARTH Platform both Indian and international learners.
- Online counselling for online programmes is conducted mainly through Microsoft Teams
- Google Meet, ZOOM, Facebook Live among other platforms are used for conducting online counselling for ODL programmes by Schools, RCs and LSCs
- Online counselling for MOOCs through SWAYAM
- Increasing use of Social Media platforms such as Facebook Live and YouTube for additional academic inputs by Schools and WhatsApp, Twitter, Instagram, for information dissemination by RCs & Schools;
- Programme specific web portals set up by Schools as well to provide student support.
- Online tools of internal assessment and term end examination in all Online Programmes except for TEE in MA (Hindi) programme.
- Conduct of Entrance Exam on SAMARTH platform for BSc Nursing.
- Capacity building of academic counsellors, evaluators, invigilators, etc.
- Web Enabled Academic Support Services portal on IGNOU website.
- Student Zone on IGNOU Website for providing academic and administrative support services to the learners

Technology enabled assessment & evaluation
- Developed an in-house application for the Automation of Question Paper Bank, Printing, and Delivery of Question Papers (QP) at the IGNOU exam centres.
- For efficient handling and management of a large number of assignments, the operationalization of technology intervention in the form of an Online Assignment Monitoring System (OAMS) has been expedited.
- Created a provision for learners to submit

	assignments (a mandatory component of continuous assessment) either through email or Web link or in person at Learner Support Centre / Regional Centre as per guidelines of respective Regional Centre informed through Regional Centre web pages.
	• Online assessment of online Practical counselling using Google forms.
	• Conduct of *viva voce* in the project/ dissertation courses of ODL and Pre-submission, credit seminar and viva-voce in research degree programmes are held in online mode.
	• Redesigning the pattern of TEE to use OMR Sheets in selected courses.
(5) Ensuring Access, Equity, Inclusion and GER Enhancement The NEP 2020 envisioning and ensuring equitable access to quality education to all is reflected in the mandate of the University i.e., to provide access to higher education to all segments of society and to offer high quality, innovative, accessible and need-based programmes at different levels to all those who aspire to attain higher education irrespective of age, gender, caste, creed and geographical location. The University offers programmes at different levels and in different disciplines catering to the educational needs of those aspirants who otherwise could not have availed access to higher education. The following measures have been taken to meet the goals envisaged in NEP 2020: • Through its national network of Regional Centres and Learner Support Centres covering the remotest locations of the country, the University will further enhance its reach to the SEDGs in order to make opportunities for quality higher education available to all those who aspire for it. • Sustained efforts are being made to reach out to potential learners in villages through Gram Panchayats, Schools all over the country, Youth Clubs, local meets and fairs to increase access and make a significant contribution to GER. • Special efforts/initiatives are being taken to seek Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funding from Business and Industrial Houses and PSUs to provide fee	<u>National network of RCs and LSCs to reach out specially to SEDGs:</u> • 56 RCs at all state capitals and a few in the interiors of some states (including RCs in inaccessible remote areas like Leh (Sub-Regional Centre); Andaman and the Nicobar Islands (Regional Centre). • 11 Recognized RCs in Defence premises with 84 LSCs. • 2047 LSCs located in all metros, district HQs and other cities (including in difficult regions like Leh, Kargil in Ladakh, Reckong Peo in the Kinnaur District of HP, and Rudraprayag, Tehri and Pithoragarh in Uttarakhand; 170 LSCs in the North Eastern Region). • 340 Special LSCs for disadvantaged groups (including 163 IGNOU SLSCs in jails across India). • The University has notified a Learner Support Centre in every Regional Centre for admission in all programmes on offer. This provision will enable a prospective learner to register for a chosen programme at any Regional Centre. <u>Extensive Use of ICT</u> • Extensive use of cloud- based teaching- learning platforms, Social Media and e-Resources including Virtual Labs • IGNOU- LMS for offering Online programmes • MOOCs on SWAYAM platform • Providing e-SLM on IGNOU e-Content App

exemption, scholarships, etc. to socially and economically disadvantaged groups (SEDGs) *viz.* SC/ST, people living in rural/remote areas, women, jail inmates, learners with special needs and thereby promote inclusive education. • Digital platforms including social media are being used to enhance awareness about Programmes/Courses among prospective learners and the society at large. • Adoption of 84 Villages for the upliftment of rural communities as part of 'Unnat Bharat Abhiyan'. IGNOU being a Regional Coordinating Institute (RCI) has entrusted the Regional Centres with the responsibility of creating awareness and skill enhancement through IGNOU programmes. • Providing access to study materials and multi-media resources of the University in remote and tribal areas through its national digital repository eGyankosh, IGNOU e-Content App, IGNOU YouTube channel, Audio/Video CD/DVD and other interactive channels like GyanDarshan (television), GyanVani (radio) and GyanDhara (internet radio). • The University is in the process of identifying programmes to get them translated into various regional languages. • The University has an active Student Alumni registration portal.	• Providing e-SLM on e-Gyankosh portal and giving 15% discount to learners opting for study through online materials • Providing online counselling sessions using platforms like Google Meet, Zoom, Microsoft Teams, FaceBook Live, etc. • Sharing recordings of online counselling sessions for asynchronous study • Web Enabled Academic Support Services portal on IGNOU website • Student Zone on IGNOU Website for providing academic and administrative support services to the learners • Interactive channels like GyanDarshan (TV), GyanVani (FM) and GyanDhara (internet radio) • All these learning platforms are equally accessible for PwD Multi-media resources to learners: • eGyankosh • IGNOU e-Content App • IGNOU YouTube channel Sponsorships • Sponsorship of candidates for socially relevant programmes like health care waste management (CHCWM) and programmes of national importance (PGCMDM) • Sponsorship of candidates for CCH and DCCN Programme • Dist. Administration of Hazaribagh sponsored 343 Anganwadi Sewikas for CFN programme • NHM, Jharkhand sponsored candidates for DNHE programme Unnat Bharat Abhiyan Adoption of 84 Villages to promote higher education and issues related to health and hygiene, digital India initiatives, social development issues leading to an inclusive society, etc through awareness campaigns and extension activities
6) Promotion of Indian Languages, Arts and Culture	Academic programmes focusing on Indian art and culture
The NEP 2020 emphasizes providing an opportunity for the learners to come together and study the different aspects of Indian culture and philosophy. The knowledge of India and its varied social, cultural, artistic, language and rich traditions should be made part of the curriculum at different educational levels. To meet this objective the University has launched different academic programmes focusing on Indian art and culture. • The School of Visual and Performing Arts (SOPVA) is committed to launching such	• PG Level (5 programmes): MA in Sanskrit; Jyotish; Folklore and Cultural Studies; Vedic Studies, Drawing and Painting. • UG Level (11 courses): Modern Indian languages like Hindi, Bengali, English, Gujarati, Kannada, Malayalam, Marathi, Odia, Punjabi, Telugu and Urdu. • Diploma/ Certificate level programmes (7 programmes): in Tribal Studies, Yoga, Theatre Arts, Hindustani Music, Karnatak Music, Bharatanatyam, and Folklore and

programmes which are rich in different art forms and Indian culture. • The School of Humanities and School of Foreign Language focus on launching programmes in different languages including Indian and Modern Languages. The University has notified a separate Centre for Modern Indian Languages for this purpose for promoting Indian Languages. • The Skill Enhancement Courses on different Indian Culture and Arts aspects will be offered to the learners at the undergraduate level as part of the CBCS skill enhancement courses. • The University is planning to develop a separate module focusing on the theme *Ek Bharat Shreshta Bharat* which will be a compulsory course for all UG learners.	Cultural Studies.
7) Internationalization of Higher Education The NEP 2020 envisions that HEIs will be having larger numbers of international students studying in India, and provide greater mobility to students in India who wish to visit, study at, transfer credits to, or carry out research at institutions abroad, and *vice versa*. • The IGNOU is empowered by its Act to offer its programmes abroad by setting up Overseas Study Centres. Currently, there are 23 Overseas Study Centres with footprints in 15 countries. It is expected to double the current enrolment through the introduction of more Overseas Study Centres in different countries. • The International division has till date enrolled nearly 80000 international learners. • IGNOU has already made efforts in this direction as the number of programmes on offer to Foreign Students Residing in India (FSRI) has increased from 59 to 212 whereas, for Overseas Study Centres, the increase is from 55 to 137 (programmes).	Initiatives taken to expand the outreach of IGNOU programmes overseas • Approval has been received from the Visitor of the University through the Ministry of Education for the establishment of an Overseas Study Centre at Guyana Online Academy of Learning (GOAL). About 1500 scholarships are expected every year through this collaboration. • A proposal for an Overseas Study Centre at Clascma International Education & Research Centre, Singapore has been sent to the Ministry of Education for seeking the approval of the Visitor in June 2020. • UniGrad Education Centre W.L.L., Bahrain applied for recognition of the Overseas Study Centre of the University. The matter was referred to Indian Embassy, Bahrain for ascertaining feasibility reports. The report has been received and Embassy has suggested some improvements by UniGrad Education Centre, Bahrain. The same has been communicated to the institute for compliance. • The University has written to 34 Embassies of India in African Countries in March 2021 seeking support in the identification of institutions/organizations of repute for their recognition as Overseas Study Centres of IGNOU for enhancing the international presence of the University in the African region following UNESCO Sustainable Development Goals 2030.

	- A proposal has been received from Nordic Centre in India (a consortium of 18 universities and research institutions in Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden and Lithuania) for signing an MoU for providing a scholarship in Hindi to students. - The renewal of MoA with ECGS, Jeddah / Riyadh, Saudi Arabia is under process. - The renewal of MoA with Indian Academy, Bahrain is also under process.
8) Institutional Development Plan: A New Vision for the Way Forward The NEP 2020 envisages an Institutional Development Plan (IDP) which will guide the University regarding academic programmes, human resource management and resource mobilization leading to institutional transformation. It will also ensure transparency; effective governance; quality enhancement; learner participation and support; better access to higher education; equity and inclusiveness for ensuring the participation of socially and economically disadvantaged sections of the society. The Institutional Plan needs to be aligned with the overall national goals and developed to optimally utilize the resources by reorganizing and innovating them; re-energizing the faculty and administration to achieve the intended objectives. The Board of Management (BOM) of IGNOU in its 142nd meeting held on 31st May 2021 resolved to frame an ID) *viz.,* Action Plan, Strategic, and Vision Plan, which has been entrusted to the Centre for Internal Quality Assurance (CIQA) of the University in consultation with the Planning Board as a vision for youth, as is also envisaged in the NEP 2020.	Development of Institutional Development Plan (IDP) - In compliance with the resolution of the BOM a Committee has been constituted by the Vice-Chancellor to prepare the draft document. - The final the draft of the Institutional Development Plan of the University was widely circulated to all stakeholders to obtain their feedback in mid- August 2021. The inputs received were incorporated in the document. - The final document IDP of IGNOU 2030 was recently approved in the 145th meeting of the Board of Management held on 25th October 2021.

ignou
THE PEOPLE'S
UNIVERSITY

Prepared by:
CIQA, Indira Gandhi National Open University

Prepared for:
University Grants Commission, New Delhi