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# ACTIVITY REPORT

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Institutional efforts/initiatives in providing an inclusive environment i.e., tolerance and harmony towards cultural, regional, linguistic, communal, socio-economic and such other diversities.



## REPORT

The University, true to its name, as “*The People’s University*” stands for utmost respect to human values, rights and constitutional obligations ensuring an inclusive environment recognising cultural, regional, linguistic, communal, socio-economic and such other diversities. The 56 Regional Centres and over 1800 Learner Support Centres help the University in building its national character and come up to the expectations of all the stakeholders. The various activities and initiatives reflecting such character of the University are mentioned below:

### 1. Human Rights

Facebook Live sessions on human trafficking were conducted on 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2020. Two topics were covered during the session. The topic of the first session was “*Vulnerability factors in Human Trafficking*”. The speaker discussed the provisions of the Constitution of India in the light of fundamental rights and protection of life and dignity of the citizens of India. The second topic focused on Human Trafficking. Speaking on the subject, the speaker highlighted the indicators of Human Trafficking and mentioned that human trafficking constitutes a criminal offence.



### 2. Mental Health of Learners during COVID

Mental health and wellbeing of teachers and the students are cardinal aspects in the teaching–learning process. During the COVID pandemic the whole world grappled with the crisis to keep the mental state of the students intact. Sensitization counselling was need of the hour. Accordingly, the University tried hard to maintain continuous rapport with the students for which the University organized programmes on mental health of student from time to time through social media. Live interaction of the learners with the resource persons was encouraged. Prof Nageshwar Rao, VC IGNOU took to the social platforms such as Facebook live and YouTube to motivate the learners and enhance their moral from time to time. The

Regional centres also organized lectures on mental health inviting noted experts in the field. One such special lecture was organized by RC Mumbai on 28th July 2020 on the topic “Mental Health during COVID” for different stakeholders.



### 3. Sanskrit Diwas 2020

"Sanskrit Diwas 2020" was celebrated on 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2020. The chief guest of the programme was Shri Shreesh Dev Pujari, Akhil Bharatiya Manamantri, Sanskrit Division. The event was organised in virtual mode.



## 4. 148<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Shree Aurobindo

The University commemorated the 148th Birth Anniversary of Shree Aurobindo at the headquarters. A Webinar on “*Shree Aurobindo and his thoughts on Indian Culture*” was organised by SOITS on 14<sup>th</sup> August 2020 on this occasion. Prof. Priyavrat Shukla, Professor of Philosophy, RDV Vishwavidyalaya Jabalpur & Member, ICPR and Miss Ameeta Mehra, Chairperson and Founding Trustee, The Gnostic Centre, Delhi were the Guest Speakers. Prof. Shukla delivered his talk on ‘*Contributions of Sri Aurobindo to Indian Philosophical Tradition*’ while Miss Mehra spoke on ‘*Sri Aurobindo’s Life Transforming Yoga*’. Prof. Nageshwar Rao, Vice-Chancellor, IGNOU delivered his presidential address.

Commemorating 148th Birth Anniversary of Sri Aurobindo  
School of Inter-Disciplinary and Trans-Disciplinary Studies  
Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi  
is organizing a webinar on

**“Rishi Aurobindo and His Thoughts on Indian Culture”**  
Date: 14-08-2020 Time: 11:30 AM

Patron  
Prof. Nageshwar Rao  
Vice-Chancellor  
IGNOU, India

Opening Remarks  
Prof. K B Das  
Pro-Vice-Chancellor  
IGNOU, India

Program Schedule:  
Welcome: Dr. Shubhangi Vaidya, Director, SOITS, IGNOU  
Introduction of Speakers and theme:  
Prof. Nandini Sinha Kapur, SOITS, IGNOU

**SPEAKERS**

Prof. Priyavrat Shukla  
Professor of Philosophy,  
RDV Vishwavidyalaya Jabalpur & Member, ICPR  
Title of the talk:  
“Contributions of Sri Aurobindo to  
Indian Philosophical Tradition”

Miss Ameeta Mehra  
Chairperson and Founding Trustee,  
The Gnostic Centre, Delhi  
Title of the talk:  
“Sri Aurobindo’s Life Transforming Yoga”

Vote of Thanks by Dr. Sadananda Sahoo, SOITS, IGNOU

Google Meet Link:  
<https://meet.google.com/cze-nczq-wk>

Live Stream Link:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7-439G-4c0c-8221-3c2a97069174>

## 5. Pledge Taking – Vigilance Awareness Week – 2020

The vigilance week was observed from 27th October to 2nd November, 2020. The week commenced with the virtual Pledge taking ceremony.



## 6. Webinar on “Literature and History: Australian Perspectives”

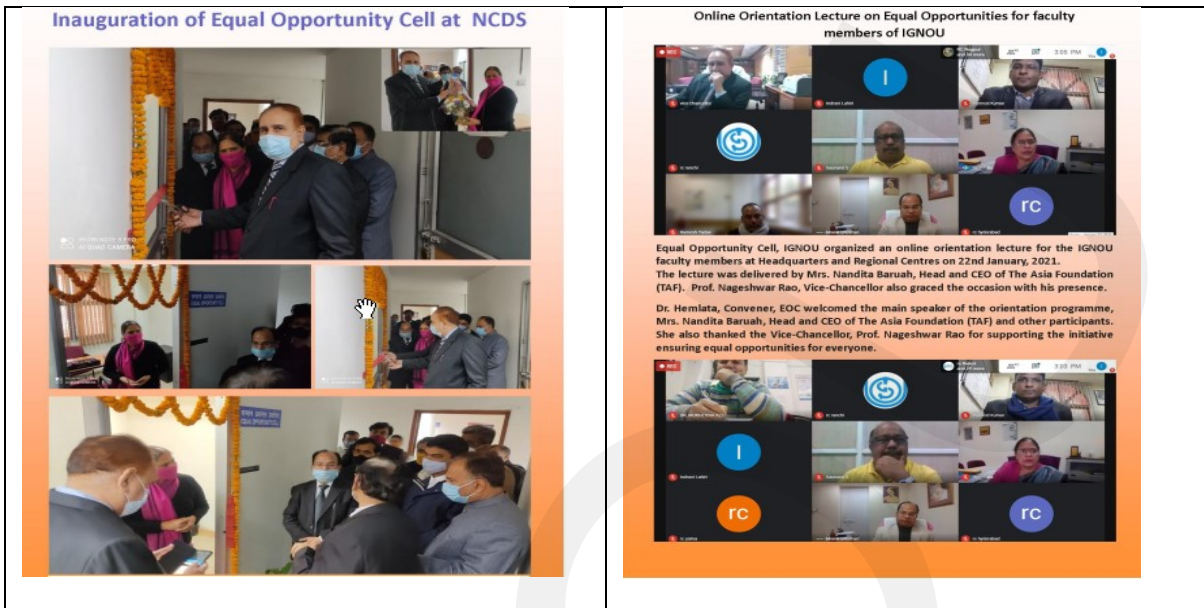
School of Humanities organised Webinar on the topic "Literature and History: Australian Perspectives" on 27<sup>th</sup> October, 2020. The panel of experts on the occasion were Prof. David Michael Lowe Chair in Contemporary History, Deakin University, Australia, Dr. Alyson Miller, Deakin University, Australia, Dr. Tiffany Shellam, Deakin University, Australia and Dr. Alexandra Roginski, Deakin University, Australia

The poster is for a webinar titled "Literature and History: Australian Perspectives" organized by the School of Humanities at IGNOU. It features a central map of Australia with the title written inside. The event is scheduled for 27<sup>th</sup> October 2020, Tuesday, at 11:00 am I.S.T. The meeting link is [meet.google.com/jpw-mzux-xng](https://meet.google.com/jpw-mzux-xng). The chair is Prof. Nageshwara Rao, Vice-chancellor. The convener and moderator is Prof. Malati Mathur, Director SOH. The panel of speakers includes Prof. David Michael Lowe (Chair in Contemporary History, Deakin University), Dr. Alyson Miller (Teaches Writing and Literature, Deakin University), Dr. Tiffany Shellam (Teaches Australian Indigenous history and sex and gender in Australian history, Deakin University), and Dr. Alexandra Roginski (Explores the history of phrenology in Australia as it relates to society, culture, place and race, Deakin University).

## 7. Social Inclusion Initiative

The University is sensitive towards providing equal opportunities to all its faculty members, staff and students without any discrimination on any pretext. In order to create awareness and sensitise the faculty about equal opportunities in the University, an Orientation lecture on “*Equal Opportunities for faculty members*” of IGNOU was organised for the faculty at the Headquarters and Regional Centres on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2021. The lecture was delivered by Mrs. Nandita Baruah, Head and CEO of the Asia Foundation (TAF). Prof. Nageswar Rao, Vice-Chancellor, IGNOU presided over the event.





## 8. 125<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary year of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose

Centre for Freedom Struggle and Diaspora Studies, IGNOU organized a webinar on the occasion of 125th Birth Anniversary year of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose on 23rd January, 2021 on “*Mahanayak Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose: Then and Now*”. Shri Vishwas patil, writer of *Mahanayak*, a Sahitya Academy Awardee, was the chief speaker on the occasion. Prof Nageshwar Rao, Vice Chancellor IGNOU chaired the event.

**Webinar on 125th Birth Anniversary year of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose**

**Topic:**  
**MAHANAYAK SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE:**  
**THEN AND NOW**

Organized by  
Centre for Freedom Struggle and Diaspora Studies, IGNOU, New Delhi

Centre for Freedom Struggle and Diaspora Studies, IGNOU organized a webinar on the occasion of 125th Birth Anniversary year of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose on 23rd January, 2021 at 4:00 pm on the topic “Mahanayak Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose: Then and Now”. Sh. Vishwas Patil, Writer of “*Mahanayak*” (A Biographical Marathi Novel on the Life of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose), a Sahitya Akademi Awardee was the main speaker on the topic. Prof. Nageshwar Rao, Vice Chancellor, IGNOU chaired the session .

**खुद रहें सुरक्षित, दूसरों को रखें सुरक्षित**

## 9. National Science Day

National Science Day was celebrated by organizing Panel Discussion on “*Science Education: Skills and Innovations*” by School of Sciences on 26<sup>th</sup> Feb 2021. Three different activities were organised on this occasion, namely: A documentary on unveiling the secrets of blue was shown; a Presentation of the selected posters from GINOU learners on the theme “*Skill and Innovation in Science*” and a panel discussion on the theme “*Science Education and Skills and Innovation*”. Prof. Nageshwar Rao, Vice-Chancellor IGNOU, in his inaugural address urged to rekindle the scientific temper in everyone and hoped that STEM courses which practical components can be introduced using technology through ODL and online education.

The poster is for a panel discussion titled "Science Education: Skills and Innovations" organized by the School of Sciences, IGNOU, on the occasion of National Science Day, 2021. It features a central portrait of a man in a white turban. The poster lists the following panelists:

- Chairman: Prof. Nageshwar Rao, Vice-Chancellor, IGNOU
- Director: Prof. Sujatta Varma, SOS, IGNOU
- Moderator: Prof. Parvin Sultana, SOS, IGNOU
- Dr. D. Nagaraja, Head, Research Centre for Science Education, IIS, Mumbai
- Dr. Dibapriya Dutta, Head and Scientist G, DST, GOI
- Prof. Ashok K. Nagawat, Director, S&T Education, Rajasthan I.L.D. S&T University, Jaipur

The event is scheduled for February 26, 2021, from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM. It will be held through a Google Meet. The event will be live telecasted on the channel Gyan Darshan and Facebook. The poster also includes the IGNOU logo, NAAC A++ accreditation, and social media links for Facebook and the IGNOU website.

## 10. Webinar on "International Women Day"

International Women’s Day was celebrated by School of Gender and Development Studies and ICASH, IGNOU on 8 March 2021. On the occasion Dr. Vineeta Bal spoke about “Women Scientist as Leaders in Science” and Dr. Gita Chadha delivered talk on “Who is Genius: Feminist Reflections on Scientific Creativity”.



**Webinar on International Women's Day**  
**Date: March 8, 2021**  
**Time: 11.00 AM to 12.30 PM**  
**Google meet link: [meet.google.com/vzo-trse-dqn](https://meet.google.com/vzo-trse-dqn)**

**Programme**

Welcome (D/SOGDS)	11.00 am-11.05 am
Introduction (Chairperson, ICASH)	11.05 am -11.10 am
Introduction to the Webinar	11.10 am -11.15am
<b>Talk by Dr.Vineeta Bal on "Women Scientist as Leaders in Science"</b>	<b>11.15am -11.35 am</b>
<b>Talk by Dr. Gita Chadha on : "Who is Genius: Feminist Reflections on Scientific Creativity"</b>	
	11.35 am-11.55 am
Question/Answer Session	11.55 am - 12.15pm
Concluding Remarks and Vote of thanks	12.15pm -12.30 pm

**Organized by: School of Gender and Development Studies and ICASH, IGNOU**

## 11. Valuing Water

The School of Interdisciplinary and Trans-Discipline Studies of Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) conducted a 'National Seminar on National Water' on the occasion of World Water Day. The session was chaired by IGNOU Vice-Chancellor Professor Nageswara Rao. The chief guest of the seminar was Rajiv Ranjan Mishra, director-general of the National Mission on Clean Ganga. He deciphered the major achievements of the National Mission on Clean Ganga and informed everyone about the 'Ganga Quest' quiz competition starting next month. Professor Virendra Kumar Vijay, National Coordinator, Unnat Bharat Abhiyan, overviewed the new water crisis, strategies for meeting water availability and demand in India. AK Singh, former Deputy Director General (NRM) discussed water security with an emphasis on nature-based solutions, wastewater treatment, and integrated water management.





On the occasion of  
**World Water Day 2021**  
 School of Interdisciplinary and  
 Transdisciplinary Studies, IGNOU  
 is organizing a  
**National Webinar**  
 on  
**Valuing Water**  
 On 22nd March, 2021  
 Timing: 11: 00 AM- 1:00 PM

**CHAIRPERSON**  Prof. Nageshwar Rao  
 Vice Chancellor, IGNOU

**CHIEF GUEST**  Shri Rajiv Ranjan Mishra  
 Director General, National Mission on Clean  
 Ganga, Department of Water Resources and  
 Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Sakti

**KEYNOTE SPEAKERS**

 Prof. Virendra K Vijay  
 National Coordinator,  
 Unnat Bharat Abhiyan,  
 Centre for Rural Development  
 and Technology, IIT Delhi

 Dr. Rakesh Kumar  
 Director, CSIR-National  
 Environmental Engineering  
 Research Institute, Nagpur

 Dr. A. K. Singh  
 Ex Deputy Director General (NRM),  
 ICAR, Ex Vice-Chancellor,  
 Rajmata Vijayaraje Scindia Krishi  
 Vishwa Vidyalaya, Gwalior



## 12. Webinar on World Food Safety Day

Webinar on the occasion of World Food Safety Day for the students of PG Diploma in Food safety and quality Management by RC Bangalore and School of Agriculture, IGNOU was organised on 7 June 2021.

**INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY**  
(Working under Ministry of Education, Government of India)  
NAAC ACCREDITED WITH A++  
REGIONAL CENTRE BANGALORE 13  
&  
SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE

Cordially invite to the Online Lectures on the occasion of

**World Food Safety Day - 7<sup>th</sup> June 2021**

Technical Session I	<b>Food Safety: It's Significance</b> Prof M.K. Salooja, Programme Coordinator, School of Agriculture, IGNOU
Technical Session II	<b>Food Safety in Indian Legal Requirements</b> Sri T. Appaji Rao, MD The Quality Catalyst, Certified Food Auditor, Trainer and Consultant, Delhi
Technical Session III	<b>Dairy Foods: Nutritional Safety and Regulations</b> Dr B Surendra Nath, Former Principal Scientist & In-charge, Dairy Chemistry and Bacteriology Section ICSR-National Dairy Research Institute (SRS), Adugodi, Bengaluru.
Technical Session IV	<b>Super Foods- A National and Safe Approach Towards Improved Health</b> Dr Parul Thapar, Assistant Professor, Biotechnology ,CT University, Ludhiana, India
Technical Session V	<b>Food Hygiene and Food Safety Guidelines during Covid Pandemic</b> Dr Mira Siahmahapatra Associate Professor, SOA, IGNOU

Date & Time: 7<sup>th</sup> June 2021, 3 pm Monday  
Google Meet joining link: <https://meet.google.com/kja-haem-veh>

Dr S Radha  
Dy Director &  
Webinar Coordinator

G H Imrapur  
Regional Director  
RC Bangalore

Sri M.K. Salooja  
Professor-SOA  
Programme Coordinator-PGDFSQM

## 13. Rights of Persons with Disabilities and other Underprivileged Groups

Webinar on “Rights of Persons with Disabilities and other Underprivileged Groups” was organised on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2021 by NCDS. Dr. Aloka Guha, Former Chairperson, National Trust, Government of India was the Chief Guest on the occasion. The session highlighted the need to mainstream the disabled and underprivileged groups and create equal opportunities for them.

**INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY**

**Rights of Persons with Disabilities & other Underprivileged groups**

Programme Date: 10th June, 2021  
Time: 11:30am to 01:30pm

**Inaugural Session**

11:30 am: Welcome & Introduction – Dr. Hemlata, Director NCDS & Convenor EOC  
11:35 am: Address by Dr. Bharat Bhushan, Chairperson, EOC & Director, SSC  
11:40 am: Address by Dr. S. K. Mohapatra, Director, RSD  
11:50 am: Address by Chief Guest Dr. Aloka Guha, Former Chairperson, National Trust, Govt. of India

12:10 pm: Inaugural address by Prof. Nageshwar Rao, Former Vice-Chancellor, IGNOU  
12:30 pm: Vote of Thanks by Dr. U. C. Pandey, RC In-charge

**Technical Session**

12:35 pm: Address by Dr. Bharat Bhushan, Chairperson, EOC and Director, SSC  
12:45 pm: Presentation on Rights of Persons with Disabilities by Dr. Hemlata, Director, NCDS & Convenor, EOC

01:00 pm: Interactive Session  
01:10 pm: Address by Prof. Sumitra Kukreti, Former Chairperson, IGNOU  
01:20 pm: Summing up and vote of thanks - Dr. U. C. Pandey, RC In-charge

**Speakers:**

**Prof : Sumitra Kukreti,**  
Pro-Vice Chancellor, IGNOU

**Dr Srikant Mohapatra,**  
Director - RSD, IGNOU

**Dr. Bharat Bhushan,**  
Chairperson, EOC & Director SSC, IGNOU

**Dr Hemlata, Director,**  
Director, NCDS, IGNOU & Convenor, EOC

**Dr. U. C. Pandey,**  
Moderator & Regional Director, BRC

**Inaugural Address:**  
Prof. Nageshwar Rao  
Vice-Chancellor, IGNOU

**Chief Guest**  
Dr. Aloka Guha  
Former Chairperson, National Trust,  
Govt. of India

Run by:  
Date: 10/06/2021, Time: 11:30 am, Day: Thursday

facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ignoupgdfsqm>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...>

Website: <https://www.ignou.ac.in/PGDFSQM>

## 14. Webinar on the topic of "Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: Rashtriya Ekta Ke Sutradhar"

13th Webinar in the Series as part of the celebration of 75 years of India's Independence – "Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav" on the topic of "Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: Rashtriya Ekta Ke Sutradhar". The details of the programme are enclosed. The lecture was delivered by Dr. Gaurav Kumar Singh, IAS Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Government of Chhattisgarh, Distt. Panchayat, Raipur.

The poster is for a webinar titled "Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: Rashtriya Ekta Ke Sutradhar" held on 11th June 2021. It is part of the 13th series of webinars for Bharat Ka Amrut Mahotsav, commemorating 75 years of India's independence. The event is organized by IGNOU, National Open University, Centre for Freedom Struggle and Diaspora Studies. The programme includes a welcome address by Prof. Satyakam, a chief guest address by Dr. Gaurav Kumar Singh, a presidential address by Prof. Ravindra Ramachandra Kanhere, and a vote of thanks by Dr. Sanjay Agrawal. The event is held through virtual mode on Google Meet and Facebook Live.

Time	Activity
4:00 PM	KULGEET OF THE UNIVERSITY
4:05 PM	WELCOME ADDRESS <b>PROF. SATYAKAM</b> , Pro Vice Chancellor & Director, Centre for Freedom Struggle and Diaspora Studies
4:15 PM	ADDRESS BY CHIEF GUEST <b>DR. GAURAV KUMAR SINGH, IAS</b> Collector and District Magistrate, Surajpur, Government of Chhattisgarh, Chhattisgarh
4:40 PM	PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS BY <b>PROF. RAVINDRA RAMACHANDRA KANHERE</b> Chairman, Admission & Fee Regulatory Committee, Government of Madhya Pradesh, Shyamla Hill, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh
4:55 PM	VOTE OF THANKS <b>DR. SANJAY AGRAWAL</b> Associate Professor, School of Engineering & Technology (SOET)
5:00 PM	NATIONAL ANTHEM

## 15. Session on "Innovation and Start-up"

Session on Innovation and Start up was organised by NCIDE, IGNOU on 11 June 2021. National Innovation Contest was organised by Ministry of Education's Innovation Cell in which the students of IGNOU were selected. In the session, selected Innovators spoke about their innovations.

The poster is for a Facebook Live session titled "Innovation and StartUp". It is organized by IGNOU, National Centre for Innovation in Distance Education. The session features innovator students of IGNOU who were selected in the National Innovation Contest-2020, organized by the Ministry of Education's Innovation Cell. The speakers are Kailash Kumar Mehra and Nandu Surendran S. The session is held on 11th June 2021 at 11 AM.

Indira Gandhi National Open University  
National Centre for Innovation in Distance Education  
Organises  
**Innovators Speak**  
Facebook Live Session on  
**Innovation and StartUp**  
Innovator Students of IGNOU Selected in the  
**National Innovation Contest-2020**  
organized by  
Ministry of Education's Innovation Cell

Kailash Kumar Mehra  
Nandu Surendran S.

Date: 11 June, 2021, Time: 11 AM