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IGNOU launches three new micro-credential courses in collaboration with NCW and signs MoU



The Indira Gandhi National Open University **(IGNOU)** and the National Commission for Women **(NCW)** signed a ***Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)*** and launched three Micro-credential Courses on **14 August 2026** as part of a collaborative initiative to strengthen structured learning, awareness and capacity building on issues concerning women.

The MoU establishes an institutional framework for collaboration between IGNOU and NCW for the development, delivery and certification of educational courses concerning women and gender-related issues, along with initiatives aimed at promoting legal literacy, gender sensitization, constitutional awareness, women's empowerment, digital and cyber safety, leadership development, research, and





IGNOU Vice Chancellor, **Prof. Uma Kanjilal,** and NCW Chairperson, **Smt. Vijaya K. Rahatkar**, spearheaded the landmark collaboration and graced the occasion. The MoU was formally signed by IGNOU Registrar, **Prof. Jitendra Kumar Srivastava**, and NCW Deputy Secretary, **Sh. Neeraj Sharma**. The occasion also marked the launch of the following three Micro-credential Courses:

1. **POSH – Prevention of Sexual Harassment at Workplace**
2. **Women's Leadership, Capacity Building & Workplace Behaviour**
3. **Gender Sensitization: Society and Culture**





The three courses address important and interconnected dimensions of gender equality and women's participation in society and the workplace. **POSH – Prevention of Sexual Harassment at Workplace** focuses on awareness regarding prevention of sexual harassment and the importance of safe and dignified workplaces; **Women's Leadership, Capacity Building & Workplace Behaviour** focuses on strengthening leadership, professional capacities and effective participation of women in workplace settings; while **Gender Sensitization: Society and Culture** focuses on strengthening understanding of gender within its social and cultural context. The **School of Management Studies** and the **School of Gender and Development Studies** contributed their academic expertise to the development of these three micro-





Highlighting the transformative potential of the partnership, **Smt. Vijaya Rahatkar**, NCW Chairperson observed, "When academic strength and field experience come together, knowledge does not remain confined to books; it becomes a medium for bringing change in society. These programmes must remain learner-centric, practical and useful so that learners are able to apply this knowledge in their lives and workplace". Echoing this vision, the IGNOU Vice Chancellor, **Prof. Uma Kanjilal**, underscored the long-term significance of the collaboration, stating that "this collaboration will take us beyond awareness towards capacity building, behavioural change and empowerment, contributing to safer workplaces, stronger women leaders and a more equitable society. This is not merely the launch of three courses; it is the beginning of a sustained partnership between two national institutions committed to making knowledge a powerful instrument of social transformation."





The collaboration between IGNOU and the National Commission for Women (NCW) brings together IGNOU's nationwide academic infrastructure, digital learning systems, and expertise in course development, delivery, assessment and certification with NCW's domain expertise on women's rights, gender justice and empowerment. Under the partnership, IGNOU will handle academic structuring, curriculum development, digital hosting, learner support and certification, while NCW will contribute thematic content, priority focus areas, and outreach support. Three Micro-credential Courses launched today mark the first academic interventions under this collaboration, with the MoU providing scope for future courses on gender sensitization, prevention of sexual harassment and domestic violence, legal and constitutional literacy, cyber and AI safety, mental health, leadership development, and awareness on trafficking and safe migration, among other mutually approved areas. Registrations for the courses

School of Social Sciences

IGNOU Explores AI and Human Intellect on National Librarians Day



The School of Social Sciences celebrated **National Librarians Day**, observed on 12 August to mark the birthday of **Padmashri Prof. S.R. Ranganathan**, by organising a panel discussion on 14 August 2026 on the topic **"Humanizing AI Dehumanizes Intellect: A Myth or a Reality".**





The following experts were invited to participate in the discussion:

1. **Prof. T.V. Vijay Kumar**, School of Computer and System Sciences, JNU
2. **Mr. Ayush Garg**, Founder, Delhi School of Artificial Intelligence
3. **Mr. Sukdev Singh**, Deputy Director General, NIC (Retired)
4. **Mr. Saksham Sharma**, AMDOCS, GenAI Architect and Tech Lead

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Experts were from different fields, having different expertise in the area of **Artificial Intelligence** (AI). The programme was graced by the Honourable Vice Chancellor, IGNOU, **Professor Uma Kanjilal**. It was well attended, with around **80 participants** attending in person and more than **100 online**. The experts discussed at length developments in humanizing AI and its effects on society. There was an agreement on the fact that synthetic intelligence of AI is based on data and it will not match human intelligence. The Vice Chancellor opined that AI should be constructively used by teachers in course design and other activities of teaching and learning.

Participants shared their experiences and observations on the use of AI in intellectual activities. Questions were put to the experts, which were answered to the satisfaction of the participants.



School of Social Sciences











Glimpses of 80th Independence Day Celebration at various IGNOU RCs

RC- Kolkata



IGNOU REGIONAL CENTRE KOLKATA

RC- Jaipur



Glimpses of 80th Independence Day Celebration at various IGNOU RCs

RC- Cochin



RC- Visakapatnam



Glimpses of 80th Independence Day Celebration at various IGNOU RCs

RC- Varanasi





RC- Aligarh



