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विश्वविद्यालय समाचार

25 August 2026 / Headquarters & RCs

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Follow-up Workshop on "AI in Teaching and Research"



Overview of AI tools for teaching and research — including Eduaide.Ai, Consensus, NotebookLM, Perplexity, and Scite — presented during the discipline-wise session.

The **School of Sciences, IGNOU**, organised a **Follow-up Workshop on "AI in Teaching and Research"** on **25th August 2026** from **11:00 AM to 1:00 PM** in the online mode. The workshop was convened as a continuation of the workshop on GIZ theme held on 12th August 2026 by School of Sciences for the faculty members. School's ongoing initiative to familiarise faculty members with the practical applications of **Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools** in **academic teaching, learner engagement, and research development**. Building upon the foundation laid in the earlier orientation session, the follow-up workshop was designed as a **hands-on, activity-based exercise** in which faculty members from all disciplines of the School applied AI tools directly to discipline-specific academic tasks.

The workshop proceeded through two structured activities: the first pertaining to **AI-assisted teaching and learner-centred course design**, and the second pertaining to **AI-assisted literature review**, **research-gap identification** and formulating the **research design**. Faculty members worked collaboratively within their respective disciplines and subsequently presented their collective outputs before the full gathering, thereby ensuring **cross-disciplinary sharing** of experience and approach undertaken by faculty members organised along disciplinary lines. Each discipline worked as a group on the assigned tasks before presenting its consolidated output to the larger gathering.

School of Sciences

Activity I: Development of Learner Persona and Assignment Questions Using AI

In the first activity, participants were required to select one unit from the **Self-Learning Material (SLM)** of their respective discipline and to work on it using the **AI platform Eduaide.Ai**. Working within this platform, faculty members developed a **learner persona** for the selected unit, articulating the likely characteristics, **learning needs**, prior knowledge, and possible **learning challenges** of the target learners. Building on this learner profile, participants proceeded to design **assignment questions** aligned with the **content and learning outcomes** of the selected unit.

This activity carried significant **pedagogical value**. The exercise of learner-persona development encouraged faculty members to think beyond content delivery and to consider the diverse backgrounds and preparedness levels of **distance learners** before designing instructional material. By using AI to support this profiling exercise, participants were able to align teaching content more closely with learner needs, an alignment that is often difficult to achieve at scale in an open and distance learning environment. The subsequent design of **assignment questions**, informed by the **learner persona**, illustrated how AI can assist faculty in framing questions that are pedagogically appropriate and suited to the anticipated ability range of the learner group, thereby supporting improved **learner engagement**.

At the same time, the activity underscored that AI serves to **enhance faculty productivity rather than to substitute for academic judgement**. Participants retained responsibility for evaluating the suitability of the AI-generated **learner persona** and **assignment questions**, refining them where necessary to ensure **disciplinary accuracy** and **pedagogical soundness**.

Activity II: AI-Assisted Literature Review, Research-Gap Identification and Formulation of Research designs

The second activity directed participants toward the **early stages of research proposal development**. Faculty members explored a range of **AI-based research-support tools**, namely **Consensus**, **NotebookLM**, **Perplexity**, and **Scite**, to support the process of **literature review**. Using these tools, participants worked on **summarising the available literature** on a selected research topic, identifying the **important themes and findings** emerging from the existing body of work, and, on this basis, identifying **gaps in the current research landscape**. Drawing upon the gaps so identified, participants proceeded to formulate possible **research objectives**.

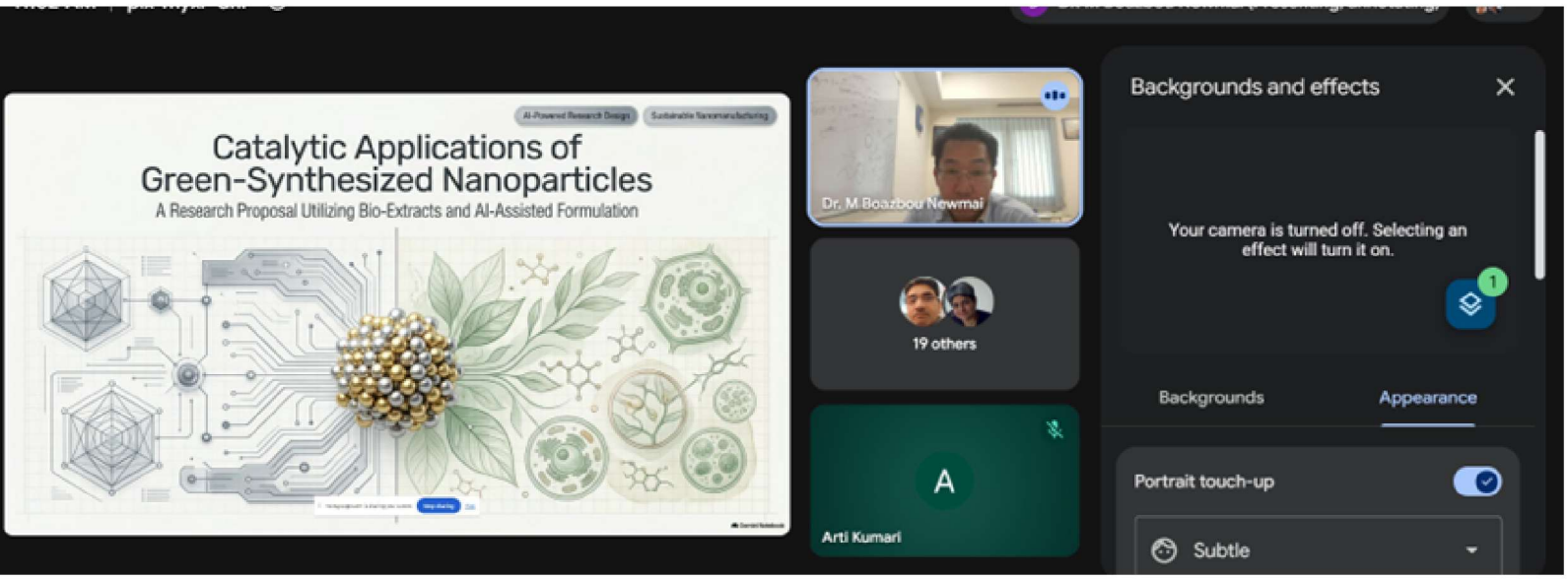
This activity demonstrated how **AI-assisted literature exploration** can meaningfully contribute to the development of a **focused and evidence-informed research proposal**, particularly by accelerating the otherwise time-intensive process of surveying and synthesising existing literature. It was emphasised throughout the activity that the AI tools employed function strictly as research-support instruments: the **critical evaluation of sources**, **verification of evidence**, **interpretation of findings**, and **final academic judgement** in framing the research problem and objectives remain the responsibility of the researcher.

School of Sciences

Discipline-wise Participation and Presentations

A distinguishing feature of the workshop was the **active participation of all eight disciplines of the School of Sciences**, namely **Physics, Biochemistry, Chemistry, Statistics, Mathematics, Geology, Geography, and Life Sciences**. Faculty members within each discipline worked collaboratively on the two assigned activities, and one faculty member from each discipline subsequently presented the **discipline's collective output** before the full gathering. The workshop was represented by Dr. M. Boazbou Newmai for Physics, **Dr. Arvind Kumar Shakya** for Biochemistry, **Dr. Vishal Singh** for Chemistry, **Prof. Taruna Kumari** for Statistics, **Dr. Suvankar Biswas** for Mathematics, **Prof. Kakoli Gogoi** for Geology, **Prof. Vijay Kumar Baraik** for Geography, and **Prof. Siya Ram** for Life Sciences, each of whom presented the collective task on behalf of their respective discipline.

The presentations formed a substantive component of the workshop, moving the discussion beyond a theoretical treatment of AI and grounding it in **discipline-specific application**. Each presentation reflected the particular disciplinary context within which the two activities had been undertaken, illustrating the versatility of the AI tools introduced. For instance, the Physics presentation, delivered by Dr. M. Boazbou Newmai, illustrated the use of **AI-assisted formulation** in developing a **research proposal on the catalytic applications of green-synthesised nanoparticles using bio-extracts**. The Biochemistry presentation, delivered by Dr. Arvind Kumar Shakya, demonstrated the application of AI tools to a research theme concerning **Alzheimer's disease**. Faculty members from Chemistry, represented by Dr. Vishal Singh, presented a consolidated overview of the AI platforms explored during the two activities, while the Statistics discipline, represented by Prof. Taruna Kumari, presented its collective work under the discipline's own title slide on **AI in Teaching and Research**.



Discipline-wise presentation — Physics: Dr. M. Boazbou Newmai presenting an AI-assisted research proposal on green-synthesised nanoparticles

School of Sciences



Discipline-wise presentation — Biochemistry: Dr. Arvind Kumar Shakya presenting on the exploration of Alzheimer's disease using AI tools.



Discipline-wise presentation — Statistics: Prof. Taruna Kumari presenting the discipline's collective task on AI in Teaching and Research.

The collaborative nature of the exercise was evident throughout, with faculty members across disciplines actively engaged during the online session, as reflected in the participation visible during the proceedings.

School of Sciences



Taken together, the presentations demonstrated that faculty engagement with AI in the workshop extended well beyond passive familiarisation. Each discipline was able to translate the two activities into an application relevant to its own academic context, and the sequence of presentations enabled useful peer learning, with faculty members able to observe how colleagues from other disciplines had approached comparable tasks using the same set of AI tools.

In conclusion, the Follow-up Workshop on "AI in Teaching and Research," achieved its intended purpose of moving the School of Sciences' engagement with AI from an introductory, theoretical footing to one grounded in direct, discipline-specific application. Through the two structured activities, faculty members gained hands-on experience in applying AI tools to learner-centred course design and to the early stages of research proposal development.

The active participation of all eight disciplines, and the discipline-wise presentations that followed, reflected a shared institutional engagement with the practical possibilities and appropriate boundaries of AI use in academic work. The workshop is expected to encourage the continued and considered use of AI tools by faculty members in their teaching and research activities, within a framework that keeps academic judgement firmly in the hands of the faculty member and the researcher.

This growing engagement is also reflected in the fact that most faculty members of the School of Sciences have registered for an AI course in Teaching and Research at Atingi. In particular, Prof. Kamalika Banerjee and Dr. Arti Kumari have completed the AI course on Atingi and received a Certificate of Appreciation for the same, reflecting the School's continued commitment to building faculty capacity in the effective and responsible use of AI in academic work.

RC- Patna

Monitoring PGDCA_NEW Term End Practical Exam June 2026 at Exam Centre 0500A







Dr E Krishna Rao, Senior Regional Director , IGNOU RC Patna and Dr Neelu Sharma, Assistant Regional Director has visited TEPE June 2026 Centre 0500A-Maulana Mazurul Haq Persian and Urdu University, Patna on 20th August 2026 to monitor ongoing PGDCA_NEW Term End Practical Examinations



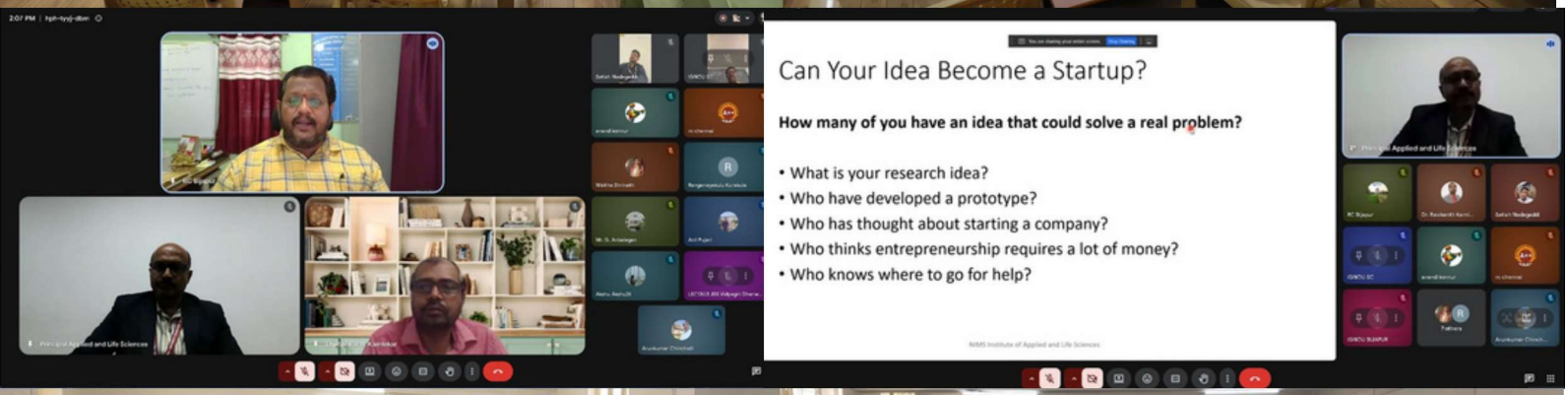


RC- Bijapur

IGNOU RC Bijapur Activities – August 2026











IGNOU Regional Centre Bijapur conducted **Project Viva Voce examinations** for the MAEDU, PGDPPED, PGDET, MCA, MSCIS and BCA programmes on 14 and 17 August 2026 for TEE June 2026 learners.

On 20 August 2026, it held P**re-Admission Counselling** for the July 2026 session at BLDEA's Shri B. M. Patil Institute of Nursing Sciences, Vijayapura. **Dr B. N. Devendra**, Regional Director (I/c), explained Health Science programmes for nursing students, including scope, eligibility, admissions and academic opportunities.

Under the Innovation & Entrepreneurship Outreach Programme, the **Pre-Incubation Training Programme and Startathon–2026** held an 'Accelerators/Incubation Opportunities' session on 21 August 2026, 2–4 PM, with RC Madurai, RC Bangalore, RC Port Blair and Lead RC Chennai. **Prof. Greesh Babu K**, Principal, NIMS Institute of Applied Sciences, NIMS University, Jaipur, detailed incubation and acceleration support—mentorship, networking, capacity building, technical guidance, infrastructure and business development. Participants identified pathways to develop and commercialize ideas. **Dr Ravikanth Kamlekar, Dr Anabalagan, Dr Kasturi P, Dr**

RC- Jaipur

PGDPRC Practical Monitoring at Work Centre RJ091



Monitored the practical activities for the MPCL075 and MPCL076 courses of the **PGDRPC Programme** at Work Centre RJ091, MJRP College of Education, Mahatma Jyoti Rao Phoole University, Jaipur, on 21 August 2026. The practical examination for the July 2025 session is scheduled from 17 to 25 August 2026.

Twenty-one learners from the July 2025 session and two learners from the July session are attending the practical.

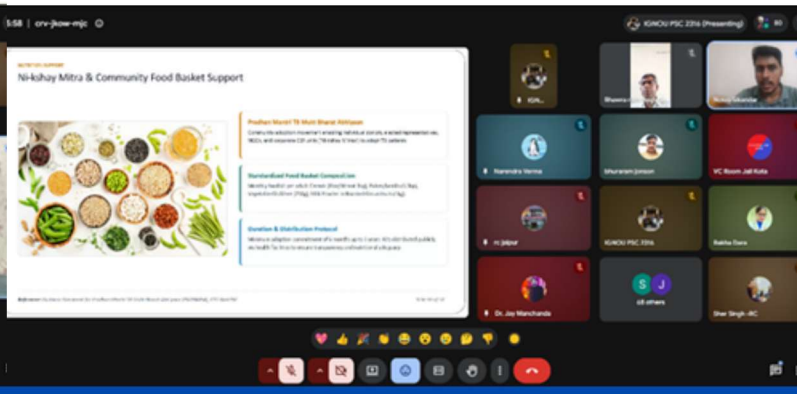
Dr Sher Singh and Dr Savita Beniwal visited the work centre and interacted with the learners.



RC- Jaipur

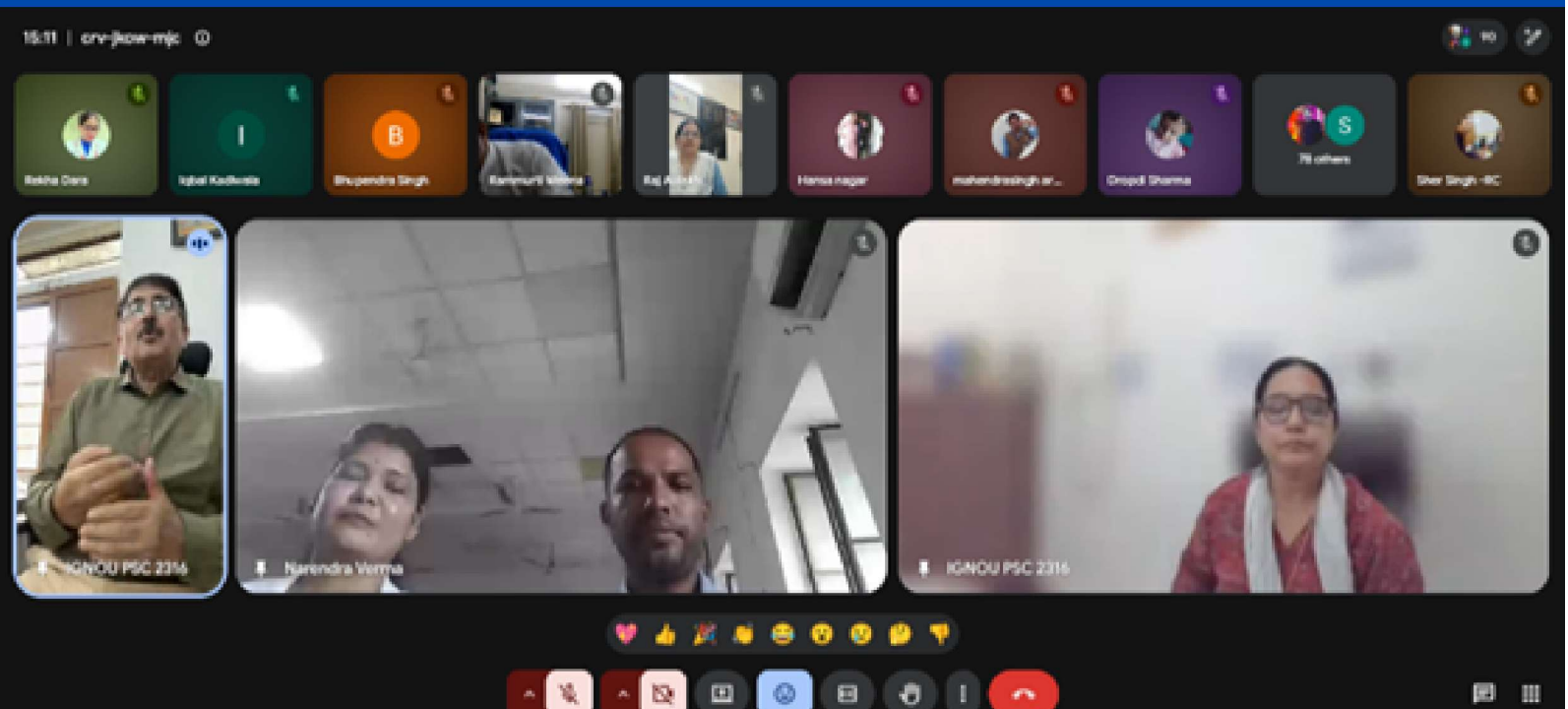
TB Mukt Bharat Abhiyan Webinar





IGNOU Regional Centre Jaipur, in collaboration with the **TNAI Rajasthan State Branch**, Jaipur, and **IGNOU Learner Support Centre (LSC) 2316**, Government College of Nursing, Jaipur, organized a **webinar on 'TB Mukt Bharat Abhiyan'** on **22 August 2026**. The programme was coordinated by **Dr. Samta Soni**, PIC, IGNOU LSC 2316, Government College of Nursing, Jaipur.

The webinar aimed to create awareness about tuberculosis prevention, early diagnosis, treatment adherence, and the Government of India's vision of a TB-free India. Eminent experts, including **Dr. Sikandar Fauzdaar**, **Dr. Jai Manchanda**, and **Mr. Abhimanyu Singh**, delivered informative presentations on various aspects of TB control and management. **Dr. Jogendra Sharma**, President of the **TNAI Rajasthan State Branch**, and **Dr. Mamta Bhatia**, Senior Regional Director, IGNOU RC Jaipur, addressed the participants and emphasized the importance of collective efforts in achieving the objectives of the TB Mukt Bharat Abhiyan. All academic staff members of RC Jaipur, faculty members, nursing professionals, healthcare workers, and learners actively participated in the webinar, making it **highly informative and impactful**.



RC- Madurai

Entrepreneurship Opportunities in Food and Dairy Sector











IGNOU RC Madurai, in collaboration with the **Zone 12 cluster RCs**—Chennai, Bangalore, Bijapur and Port Blair—organized a webinar on '**Entrepreneurship Opportunities in Food and Dairy Sector**' under the **NCIDE initiatives** as part of **World Entrepreneurship Day 2026** celebrations on **21 August 2026** at 12:15 p.m. via Google Meet. **Around 15 learners participated**.

Dr. G. Anbalagan, ARD (SG) and Nodal Officer, RC Madurai, welcomed the participants, while **Dr. M. Shanmugam**, Senior Regional Director, RC Madurai, delivered the presidential address. The session was conducted by **Mr. P. V. Gopimanivannan**, Assistant Professor and Head, Department of Microbiology, Food and Nutrition, Mannar Thirumalainaicker College, Madurai.

The expert discussed **dairy farming**, **milk processing**, **FSSAI registration**, value-added milk products, marketing, **business start-up opportunities** and **government schemes**. The webinar highlighted **opportunities for small entrepreneurs in food processing**, particularly the dairy sector. **Dr. G. Anbalagan** proposed the vote of thanks.

RC- Patna

Viva Voce Examination for the June 2026 Term-End Examination





IGNOU Regional Centre Patna conducted the **Viva Voce Examination** for the **June 2026 Term-End Examination** on **24 August 2026** for the **MJMC, MJMCOL and PGJMC programmes**. The examination was conducted by external examiners **Dr. Nikhil Anand Giri**, **Dr. Sandeep Kumar Dubey** and **Dr. Gaurav Aranya**.

Senior Regional Director Dr. E. Krishna Rao interacted with the learners and briefed them about IGNOU, its programmes, learner support services and opportunities. Dr. E. Krishna Rao, **Dr. R. S. Iqbal and Dr. Neelu Sharma** supported the smooth conduct of the examination.







RC- Saharsa

World Entrepreneurs Day 2026 Celebration













IGNOU Regional Centre Saharsa celebrated **World Entrepreneurs Day 2026** on **21 August 2026** at the Regional Centre premises. **Dr. Deepak Goswami**, Assistant Regional Director, delivered a special lecture on '**Directing the New Generation (Gen Z & Young Innovators)**' before **approximately 56 staff members and learners**.

Dr. M. N. A. Baig, Senior Regional Director, encouraged participants to think creatively, explore innovative ideas and develop an **entrepreneurial mindset**. Dr. Goswami discussed the education–innovation gap, emerging opportunities, **government initiatives**, **entrepreneurial skills** and the importance of identifying local problems, developing practical solutions and taking calculated risks. He also highlighted IGNOU's **National Centre for Innovation in Distance Education (NCIDE)** and its support for **incubating innovative ideas**. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks and