ignou THE PEOPLE'S UNIVERSITY

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प्रगति पथ

विश्वविद्यालय समाचार

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✦ IGNOU CELEBRATES 80TH INDEPENDENCE DAY ✦

Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) celebrated the **80th Independence Day** with patriotic fervour and enthusiasm at its **Headquarters and Regional Centres**, on Saturday, 15 August 2026. The celebrations brought together faculty members, officers, staff and learners in a spirit of national pride and collective commitment towards building a stronger, inclusive and knowledge-driven nation.



Flag Hoisting at IGNOU HQs



The programme commenced with the hoisting of the National Flag by IGNOU Vice-Chancellor, **Prof. Uma Kanjilal**, followed by the guard of honour. On the occasion of the **80th Independence Day**, addressing the gathering, Prof. Kanjilal, highlighted the university's expanding national impact, noting that its learner base grew from 14.91 lakh to 15.55 lakh in 2025-26, with 20 new academic programs launched in 2026 alone and admissions open for 47 online programs for the July 2026 session. The university's digital ecosystem recorded over 171 million page views and 12 million users, while its 39th Convocation awarded 3.25 lakh degrees, diplomas and certificates across 54 regional centres. IGNOU also posted its highest-ever surplus of ₹693.47 crore, alongside continued investment in inclusive access for rural, elderly, and incarcerated learners.

Seven Commitments for IGNOU fraternity

Address by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor

Outlining **Seven Commitments** for the year ahead, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor placed seven shared commitments before the IGNOU community,

First, we shall deepen learner-centric services, simplify processes, and resolve grievances with empathy and speed.

Second, we shall expand the availability of high-quality multilingual content and accessible learning resources.

Third, we shall strengthen continuous, competency-based and secure assessment.

Fourth, we shall use AI responsibly to personalise support while protecting privacy, fairness and human accountability.

Fifth, we shall widen skills, internships, placements, entrepreneurship, and industry co-design across all regions.

Sixth, we shall grow interdisciplinary research, sponsored projects, and international academic collaboration.

Seventh, we shall make every office, campus, and centre more transparent, sustainable, and outcome-oriented.

These commitments cannot be fulfilled by one office or one leader. Schools, Regional Centres, technology teams, learner-service divisions, academics, administrators, alumni and partners must work as one network.



"Let IGNOU be known not only as the world's largest open university, but as the world's most caring, credible, and innovative open university"

Prof. Uma Kanjilal
Vice Chancellor, IGNOU

IGNOU's mission, Nation's vision of Viksit Bharat

Address by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor



"Let us be known for moving barriers, rather than merely opening doors."

Prof. Uma Kanjilal
Vice Chancellor, IGNOU

Prof. Kanjilal said that Independence Day is not merely an occasion to remember the past but also an opportunity to reaffirm the nation's collective responsibility towards shaping a just, inclusive and developed India. Highlighting the role of IGNOU in the nation's educational landscape, she said that the University has consistently worked towards democratising higher education by reaching learners irrespective of geographical, social or economic barriers. She emphasised that the University's mission closely resonates with the national vision of Viksit Bharat, particularly through accessible, affordable, flexible and technology-enabled education. Prof. Kanjilal also highlighted the University's continued efforts towards implementing the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, with emphasis on multidisciplinary education, flexibility, Indian Knowledge Systems, skill development, multilingual education, digital learning, lifelong learning, learner-centric services, multilingual content, responsible AI use, and stronger research collaboration.

Glimpses of Cultural events held at the HQs













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Glimpses of 80th Independence Day Celebration at various IGNOU RCs









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