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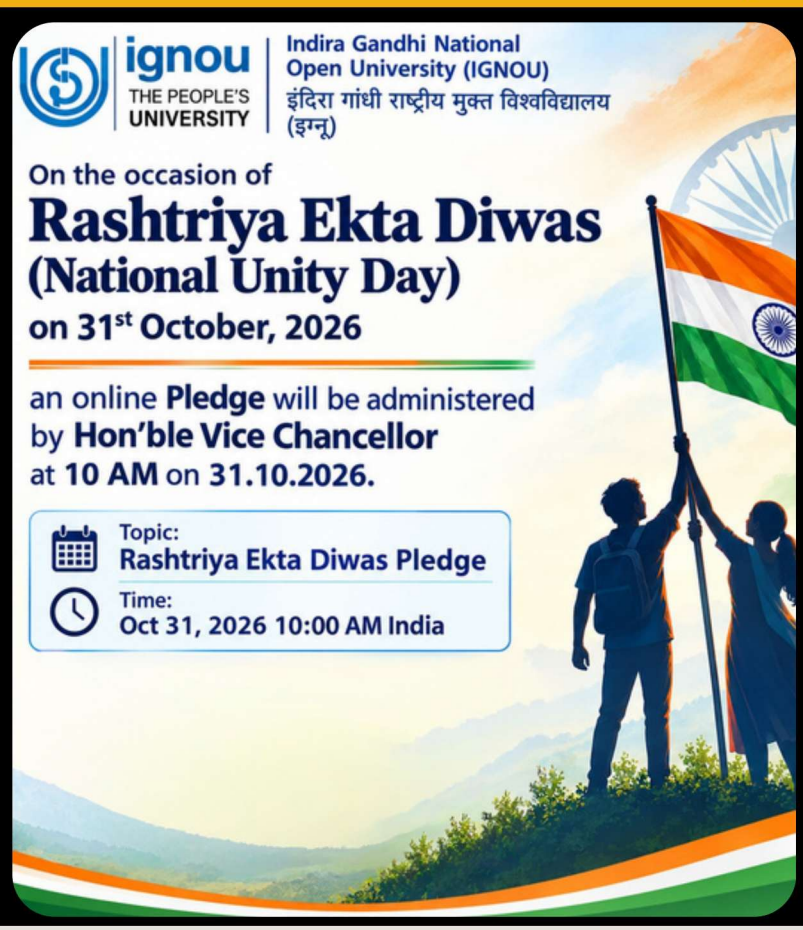
Headquarters

IGNOU Observes Rashtriya Ekta Diwas, Pays Tribute to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

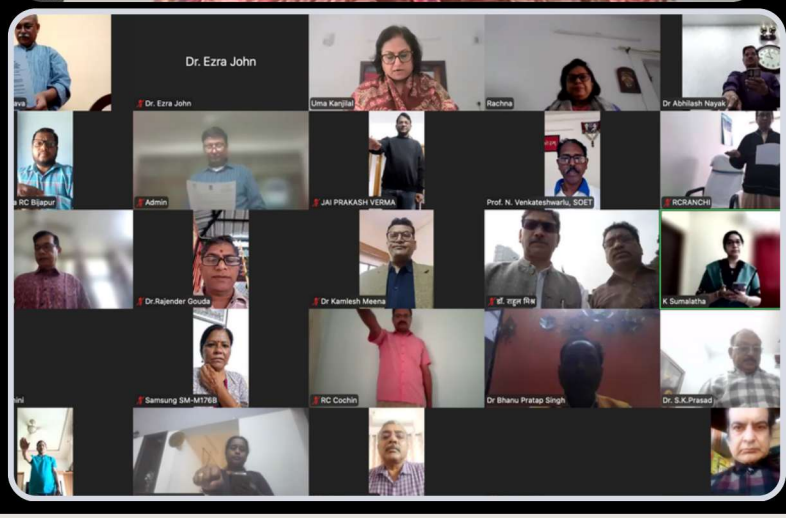


The Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) observed ***Rashtriya Ekta Diwas*** **(National Unity Day)** on **31 October 2026** to commemorate the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, whose vision and leadership played a defining role in the political integration of India. The occasion served as a reminder of the collective responsibility to uphold and strengthen the unity, integrity, and security of the nation.

Headquarters







As part of the observance, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, **Prof. Uma Kanjilal,** administered the ***Rashtriya Ekta Diwas*** **pledge** online. Members of the IGNOU fraternity at the Headquarters and Regional Centres across the nation participated in the pledge-taking ceremony organised by the University's Administration Division, expressing their collective resolve to uphold the ideals of national unity and solidarity.

Through the pledge, participants resolved to dedicate themselves to preserving the unity, integrity and security of the nation and to disseminating this message among fellow citizens. They also recalled the spirit of national integration embodied in Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's vision and acknowledged his historic contribution to bringing the country together. The participants further pledged to contribute actively towards safeguarding the nation's internal security and fostering a sense of collective responsibility among citizens.

The observance was an opportunity for the IGNOU community to reflect on the enduring relevance of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's ideals in strengthening the foundations of a united and secure India. It also reinforced the aspiration to nurture a culture of national solidarity, civic responsibility and mutual respect, inspiring every member of the University fraternity

SOSW

IGNOU School of Social Work Observes Vigilance Awareness Week 2026



The **School of Social Work** (SOSW), IGNOU, organised an awareness programme to observe Vigilance Awareness Week 2026 on 30 October 2026 at the SOSW Conference Hall. Held under the theme 'Probity for Prosperity' (सत्यनिष्ठा से समृद्धि), the programme was attended by faculty members, staff, and research scholars.

The programme began with a welcome address by **Prof. Sayantani Guin,** Director, School of Social Work, who highlighted the relevance of the theme to the values and practice of social work. She emphasised the importance of transparency and integrity in protecting public resources and ensuring that welfare benefits reach marginalised communities. She also highlighted the role of social workers in creating awareness about citizens' rights and accountability mechanisms, addressing corruption and systemic barriers, and safeguarding human dignity. She underscored the importance of integrity, honesty, justice, trustworthiness and service to humanity in social work, while noting the complementary roles of the Central Vigilance Commission in combating institutional corruption and social workers in promoting accountability and fairness at the grassroots level.

SOSW

Subsequently, Dr. Guin invited **Dr. V. Kannappa Setty,** Resource Person, to conduct an interactive quiz and deliver an awareness talk. The quiz focused on vigilance, corruption prevention, and ethical practices. The talk covered the theme **'Probity for Prosperity',** the importance of vigilance in educational institutions, preventive vigilance beyond punitive measures, and the collective responsibility of individuals in promoting integrity and accountability. Dr. Setty also emphasised transparency in academic and administrative processes, including admissions, recruitment, procurement, examinations, evaluation and research, and the need to strengthen institutional systems to prevent malpractices.





The programme also included an Integrity Pledge, administered by Dr. Setty, in which participants reaffirmed their commitment to honesty, transparency, accountability, fairness and ethical conduct in their professional and personal lives, and their collective responsibility to resist corruption and contribute to a corruption-free and prosperous society. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks proposed by **Dr. N. Ramya,** Senior



SOS

SOS Organises Five-Day Workshop on Definitional Dictionary of Geography in Collaboration with CSTT, Ministry of Education



The Geography Discipline, **School of Sciences** (SOS), IGNOU, in association with the Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology **(CSTT),** Ministry of Education, Government of India, organised a five-day workshop from 26 to 30 October 2026 at the Conference Room, School of Sciences, IGNOU, for the preparation of a **Definitional Dictionary of Geography.** The workshop aimed to develop, standardise and systematically document geographical terminology for academic, teaching and research purposes.

Geography encompasses a wide range of concepts and specialised terms across physical geography, human geography, environmental studies, cartography, geographic information systems (GIS), remote sensing and resource management. Given the diversity of these terms and their applications, the workshop focused on developing precise and standardised definitions to ensure conceptual clarity and consistency in

SOS



The workshop brought together subject experts and academicians from IGNOU, the University of Delhi, Shri Dev Suman Uttarakhand University and CSTT. The participating experts included **Dr. Ashok Shelvetkar,** Member, CSTT, Government of India; **Prof. Suresh Kumar Bandooni,** University of Delhi; **Prof. Dinesh Chandra Goswami,** Shri Dev Suman Uttarakhand University; **Dr. Rajesh Kumar Abhay,** Cluster Innovation Centre, University of Delhi; **Dr. Nawal P. Singh, Dr. Suman Das** and **Dr. Gourav Nain,** University of Delhi; and **Dr. Suraj Kumar, Prof. Suhakanta Mohapatra** and **Dr. Krishna Kumar,** IGNOU.

The experts contributed their academic and disciplinary expertise to developing and standardising geographical terms, with a focus on accuracy, conceptual clarity and consistency. The initiative is expected to provide a common terminological reference for students, teachers and researchers in Indian higher education.

The workshop was conducted under the guidance of **Prof. Manish Trivedi,** Director, School of Sciences, IGNOU, and coordinated by **Dr. Krishna Kumar,** Geography Discipline, School of Sciences, IGNOU. The initiative marks a collaborative effort towards strengthening geographical education and research through standardised terminology.





RC Chennai

IGNOU Regional Centre Chennai Observes Rashtriya Ekta Diwas



IGNOU Regional Centre Chennai observed ***Rashtriya Ekta Diwas*** (National Unity Day) by administering the *Rashtriya Ekta Diwas* Pledge in face-to-face mode. **Dr. Sk Zareena,** Assistant Regional Director, administered the pledge.

On the occasion, **Dr. J. S. Dorothy,** Senior Regional Director, briefed participants about the significance of National Unity Day. **Dr. Premila Swamy D,** Regional Director, spoke about the origin of *Rashtriya Ekta Diwas,* observed across India every year on 31 October since 2014 to mark the birth anniversary of **Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. Shri P. Venkata Bhargav,** Assistant Regional Director, highlighted the importance of the observance.



RC Lucknow

IGNOU Regional Centre Lucknow Organises Webinar on National Unity Day



IGNOU Regional Centre Lucknow organised a webinar on *'Ek Bharat – Shreshtha Bharat'* to mark National Unity Day and the 151st birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. Conducted via Google Meet, the programme focused on his contributions to national integration and the making of independent India.

Dr. Anil Kumar Mishra, Senior Regional Director and Head, IGNOU Regional Centre Lucknow, presided over the webinar. He spoke about the titles and honours bestowed upon Sardar Patel and described his life as an example of dedication, determination, and devotion to the nation.

The keynote address was delivered by **Prof. Manoj Dixit,** Former Vice-Chancellor of Maharaja Ganga Singh University, Bikaner, and **Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia,** Avadh University, Ayodhya. He highlighted Sardar Patel's administrative brilliance, foresight and leadership in integrating more than 500 princely states, which laid the foundation for a united India.

Dr. Anamika Sinha, Regional Director, moderated the session and highlighted the contemporary relevance of Sardar Patel's vision for national unity. **Dr. Parvat Singh,** Coordinator, IGNOU Learner Support Centre 27211, RSG PG College, Pukhrayan, Kanpur Dehat, proposed the vote of thanks. He noted that Sardar Patel's contributions continue to inspire social harmony and nation-building.

The webinar was attended by **Dr. Reena Kumari,** Regional Director; **Dr. Jai Prakash Verma,** Regional Director; and **Dr. Nishith Nagar,** Assistant Registrar, along with coordinators of various Study Centres and a large number of students. The discussions emphasised the importance of upholding Sardar Patel's ideals, administrative wisdom and patriotism to strengthen national

RC Varanasi

IGNOU Regional Centre Varanasi Organises Campus Placement Drive for Learners





IGNOU Regional Centre Varanasi organised a campus placement drive on 19 October 2026 at Microtek Management College, Maldahiya, Varanasi, with Annapurna Finance Limited as the recruiting company.

The company delivered a brief presentation on its profile, capital, work culture and employment opportunities. A total of **39** IGNOU learners appeared for the interviews, of whom **15 were selected.** The selected candidates were scheduled to begin their training the following day, as assured by the company.



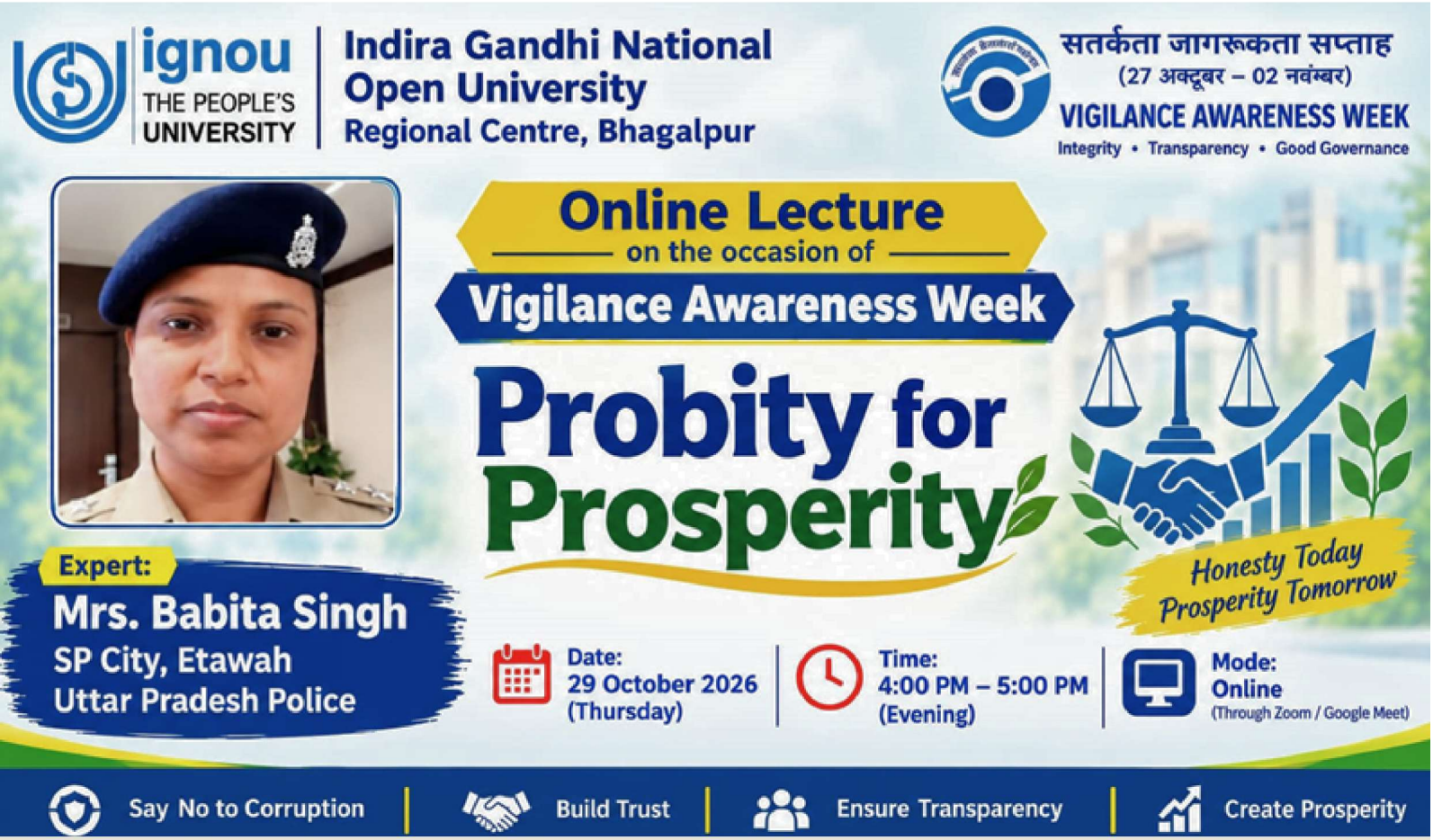
Dr. U. N. Tripathi, Regional Director and Head, highlighted the importance of campus placement drives in connecting learners with potential employers, enhancing their employability and supporting their career development.



The initiative reflects IGNOU Regional Centre Varanasi's continued efforts to promote skill development, career advancement and

RC Bhagalpur

IGNOU Regional Centre Bhagalpur Organises Online Expert Lecture on Vigilance Awareness Week

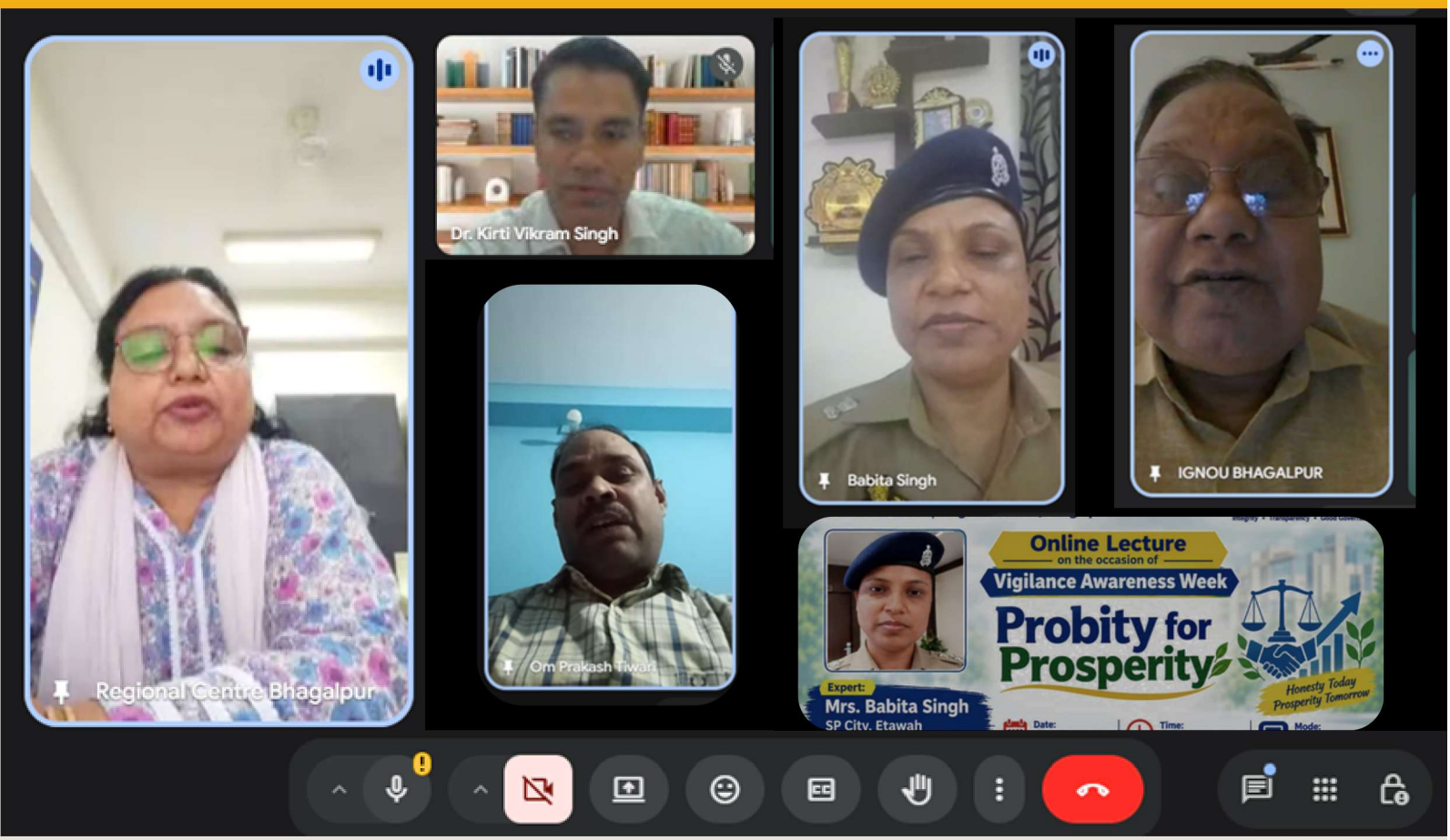


IGNOU Regional Centre Bhagalpur organised an online expert lecture on 29 October 2026 to observe Vigilance Awareness Week under the theme 'Probity for Prosperity'.

The programme was chaired by **Dr. Sarah Nasreen,** Senior Regional Director, IGNOU Regional Centre Bhagalpur, who highlighted the importance of ethical values, integrity and good governance in building a strong and prosperous nation. She emphasised that vigilance and transparency are not merely institutional requirements but essential personal values that contribute to societal development.

Subsequently, **Dr. Kirti Vikram Singh,** Regional Director, IGNOU Regional Centre Bhagalpur, outlined the background, objectives and significance of Vigilance Awareness Week. He highlighted IGNOU's role in promoting moral values, honesty and accountability among learners and stakeholders to foster a corruption-free educational and professional

RC Bhagalpur



Mrs. Babita Singh, Superintendent of Police (City), Etawah, Uttar Pradesh Police, served as the expert resource person and spoke on the practical aspects of probity and law enforcement. Drawing on her field experiences, she highlighted how honesty, adherence to the rule of law and ethical conduct in public service contribute to national security, public trust and socio-economic prosperity.

Dr. O. P. Tiwari, Regional Director, IGNOU Regional Centre Bhagalpur, also shared his views on the theme and emphasised the collective responsibility of citizens in maintaining transparency in governance. He proposed the vote of thanks, acknowledging the expert speaker, organisers and participants.

The programme witnessed participation from Coordinators of various IGNOU Study Centres under the Regional Centre, along with faculty members and students. An interactive session followed, during which participants engaged with the expert speaker in discussions on promoting vigilance and integrity in academic and administrative

RC Khanna

IGNOU Regional Centre Khanna Organises Seminar on Government Schemes for Startups in India



IGNOU Regional Centre Khanna organised a seminar on 'Government Schemes for Startups in India' with students of the Industrial Training Institute (ITI) Women, Bulepur, Khanna, on 30 October 2026 to celebrate Institution's Innovation Day 2026. The programme began with warm-up activities to facilitate interaction and witnessed the participation of 66 students.

Sh. Parget Singh, Assistant Registrar, delivered the welcome address and invited **Dr. Manju Goel,** Regional Director, to address the students. Dr. Goel encouraged them to pursue innovative ideas and adopt a learning-by-doing approach. She familiarised them with various government initiatives for startups, including the Startup India Seed Fund Scheme (SISFS), Fund of Funds for Startups (FFS), Credit Guarantee Scheme for Startups (CGSS), Section 80-IAC tax exemption, DPIIT recognition, intellectual property support for patents and trademarks, Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), Atal Incubation Centres (AIC), TIDE Scheme, BIRAC Biotechnology Ignition Grant, and the Startup India MAARG platform and investor connect. She also introduced them to the Startup India website and portal.

Dr. Goel administered a pledge encouraging students to become self-reliant and contribute to their families, society and the nation. **Dr. Maria Afzal,** Assistant Regional Director, interacted with the students, shared suggestions for their academic and financial growth, and discussed IGNOU's skill-oriented programmes. She encouraged them to enrol in

RC Jaipur

IGNOU Regional Centre Jaipur Organises Health Awareness Session on Sedentary Lifestyle



IGNOU Regional Centre Jaipur, in collaboration with CK Birla Hospitals, Jaipur, organised an awareness session on 'How to Be Vigilant About Our Health in the Era of a Sedentary Lifestyle' on 30 October 2026.

Dr. Mamta Bhatia, Senior Regional Director, welcomed the Chief Guest and participants. **Dr. Aashish Agrawal** from CK Birla Hospitals addressed the staff members and highlighted recent developments in robotics-assisted physiotherapy and its applications in rehabilitation, pain management, recovery and improving mobility. He also conducted a live demonstration of physiotherapy exercises, explaining the correct techniques, postures and health benefits.

The session familiarised participants with simple exercises and preventive healthcare

RC Patna

IGNOU Regional Centre Patna Officials Visit Learner Support Centres to Monitor Practical Sessions

Dr. E. Krishna Rao, Senior Regional Director, **IGNOU Regional Centre Patna**, and **Dr. Asif Iqbal,** Regional Director, visited three Learner Support Centres (LSCs) in Patna on 29 October 2026 to monitor the ongoing practical counselling sessions for learners of different programmes.



The officials visited T.P.S. College **(LSC-0568)** to review the practical counselling sessions for **BCA_NEW learners,** Ganga Devi Mahila College to monitor the first-year practical sessions for the Master of Science in Dietetics and Food Service Management **(MSCDFSM)** programme, and Maulana Mazharul Haque Arabic and Persian University **(Work Centre 0500A)** to oversee the practical counselling sessions for **MCA_NEW learners.**





During the visits, the officials observed that the practical sessions were being conducted in accordance with university norms. They interacted with learners and received positive feedback on the sessions. At T.P.S. College, they also reviewed assignment evaluation, verified LSC records, and held discussions with academic counsellors and LSC functionaries.



RC Patna

IGNOU Regional Centre Patna Observes Vigilance Awareness Week 2026



IGNOU Regional Centre Patna observed Vigilance Awareness Week on 26 October 2026 under the theme 'Probity for Prosperity', as part of the three-month campaign on Preventive Vigilance being observed from 17 August to 16 November 2026.

On the occasion, the staff members of IGNOU Regional Centre Patna joined the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, **Prof. Uma Kanjilal,** IGNOU, in taking the vigilance pledge online. Subsequently, the pledge was administered to the staff members and learners at the Regional Centre. **Dr. E. Krishna Rao,** Senior Regional Director, administered the pledge in English, while **Dr. Asif Iqbal,** Regional Director, administered it in Hindi. A total of **100** learners, along with the staff members of RC Patna, took the integrity pledge.

Addressing the learners, Dr. E. Krishna Rao emphasised the importance of integrity, transparency and ethical conduct in personal and professional life. He urged learners to uphold honesty, reject corrupt practices and develop a strong sense of responsibility as citizens. He highlighted that integrity and accountability are essential for building a just, transparent, and prosperous society.

RC Patna



Dr. Asif Iqbal encouraged learners to imbibe the values of honesty and probity in their everyday conduct and contribute towards fostering an ethical and corruption-free environment. **Mr. Ojha Jai Prakash,** Deputy Registrar, was also present on the occasion, along with the staff members and learners of the Regional Centre.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by **Dr. Neelu Sharma,** Assistant Regional Director, who acknowledged the participation of officials, staff members, and learners and reiterated the importance of collective commitment to integrity and transparency.



RC Patna

IGNOU Regional Centre Patna Organises Plantation Drive as Part of Vigilance Awareness Week 2026



IGNOU Regional Centre Patna organised a plantation drive on its campus on 27 October 2026 as part of Vigilance Awareness Week 2026 and the ongoing Three-Month Campaign on Preventive Vigilance, being observed from 17 August to 16 November 2026, under the theme 'Vigilance: Probity for Prosperity'.

During the drive, Areca palm saplings, known for their air-purifying properties, were planted on the Regional Centre campus to promote environmental awareness and encourage sustainable practices.

Addressing the learners, **Dr. E. Krishna Rao,** Senior Regional Director, highlighted the importance of planting air-purifying plants and their role in maintaining a healthier environment. He encouraged learners to develop environmental consciousness and contribute towards creating greener and healthier surroundings.

Dr. Asif Iqbal, Regional Director; **Mr. Ojha Jai Prakash,** Deputy Registrar; and **Dr. Neelu Sharma,** Assistant Regional Director, participated in the plantation drive along with the staff members and approximately **50** learners of IGNOU Regional Centre Patna.