

OLIMPIC - a Newsletter covering Open Learning Innovations & Management Practices in IGNOU Regional Centre, Cochin

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The Regional Centre (RC14), Cochin Newsletter is named as OLIMPIC in the year 2017 by the team comprising Dr. M. Rajesh (RD), Dr. Sindhu P. Nair (DD), Dr. V.T. Jalajakumari (ARD) and Dr. Praseetha Unnikrishnan (AD)

July – Sept 2021

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Help Desk during Conduct of Face-to-Face Examination after second lockdown



A Help desk was made operational at Regional centre, Cochin during June TEE, 2021 to facilitate differentlyabled/socially excluded group learners to write the examinations smoothly in the Study centre 14000. One of the Help desk Officials was deputed to stand near the thermal checking and facilitate prioritizing in extending services to Special Need Learner and quarantined learners. The Help Desk team also ensured that there was no student unrest, the examination seats were sanitized before and after examination and seating arrangement of the Examination Centre under LSC14000 (Study Centre in Regional Centre Campus) was as per the COVID-19 protocol to ensure cleanliness of the premises and examination hall.

The conduct of Face-to-Face Examination after the second lockdown period was one of the major challenges faced by RC Cochin. The Term End Examination June 2021 was conducted from 3rd August 2021 to 9th September 2021 as per COVID protocol with support from Exam Centre Superintendents/Coordinators/Exam Centre Staff of all Examination Centres. The Examinations were conducted at 14 Examination Centres under the region at Ernakulam, Kottayam, Idukki, Thrissur and Union Territory of Lakshadweep with 44538 registered examinees. The Examinations were conducted smoothly in all Districts under the jurisdiction Regional Centre Cochin. The Study Centre SC 14000 functioning from Regional Centre Campus also served as the Examination Centre.

IGNOU Regional Centre, Cochin duly acknowledge and thank the Management, Staff and Stakeholders of the Host Institution housing all LSCs under Regional Centre Cochin for the support extended for conduct of the Face-to-Face Term End Examination, June 2021 during COVID-19 pandemic situation.

Prof. Ram Reddy Memorial Lecture



Prof. G. Ram Reddy, first Vice-Chancellor of IGNOU

The 26th Prof. G. Ram Reddy Memorial day was celebrated on 2nd July, 2021 by paying homage to Prof. G. Ram Reddy, Founder and first Vice Chancellor, IGNOU. Every year this day is celebrated by IGNOU HQ, Delhi by inviting eminent speakers from diverse fields to enlighten all with their knowledge and experiences.

The session began with a 'Kulgeet' highlighting the achievements of IGNOU. A Virtual Homage was then paid to late Prof. G. Ram Reddy. The welcome speech was given by Prof. G. Satyakam, Pro-Vice Chancellor, IGNOU in which homage was paid to Prof. G. Ram Reddy and all present were warmly welcomed for the occasion.

Prof. Uma Kanjilal, Pro-Vice Chancellor, IGNOU then gave a brief about the programme schedule wherein she highlighted that lectures by eminent Educationalists focusing on Higher education, Distance Learning and Technology enabled Education have been the highlights of this day every year. The schedule of the events was described in brief by Prof. Uma Kanjilal, PVC, IGNOU.

A small video prepared by EMPC, IGNOU HQ, New Delhi highlighting the achievements of Prof. G. Ram Reddy and journey of IGNOU since its inception was shown wherein snippets on his life, inception of IGNOU and the executed work from inception till date were shown.

Prof. V.S. Prasad, Former Director, NAAC and Former Vice-Chancellor, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Open University delivered the 26th Prof. G. Ram Reddy Memorial Lecture on the topic 'Open Universities in India: The Challenges of Our Times'. Prof. Prasad acknowledged that Prof. G. Ram Reddy was his mentor and guide throughout his educational and professional journey and thus was a great inspiration to him.

Prof. Prasad highlighted that Prof. G. Ram Reddy believed in transferring of power to local people and threw open the ivory towers of education to all.



Staff/Academics of Regional Centre Cochin attending 26th Prof. G. Ram Reddy Memorial Lecture through virtual mode on 2nd July 2021

The Staff/Academics of Regional Centre Cochin attended 26th Prof. G. Ram Reddy Memorial Lecture through virtual mode on 2nd July 2021.

Independence Day Celebrations

The 74th Independence Day celebrations were collectively celebrated at Regional Centre Cochin by the staff of Regional Centre, Regional Evaluation Centre, and Study Centre 14000 on 15th August 2021 at 10am. The Flag was hoisted by Dr. K.S. Divakaran Nair, Former Regional Director, RC Cochin. Sh. N.V. Sreedharan, Former Joint Registrar, IGNOU, Sh. P.K. Baladasan, Former MTS were the special guests for the event.



Dr. K.S. Divakaran Nair, Former Regional Director, RC Cochin hoisting the flag at Regional Centre Campus on the 74th Independence Day Celebration on 15.08.2021



Sh. N.V. Sreedharan, Former Joint Registrar, IGNOU handing over the Memento given by the University on the day of superannuation (31.05.2021) to Sh. P.K. Baladasan during Independence Day Celebration on 15.08.2021

Dr. J.S. Dorothy, Regional Director welcomed the gathering. A brief about the origin of India as a democratic Republic and the importance of Education through IGNOU was highlighted by Dr. K.S. Divakaran Nair, Former Regional Director, RC Cochin.

Dr. Sindhu P. Nair, Deputy Director, Regional Evaluation Centre Cochin highlighted the importance of Independence Day celebrations in her speech.

The Memento given by the University on the day of superannuation (31.05.2021) indicating the meritorious service of Sh. P.K. Baladasan was handed over by Sh. N.V. Sreedharan, Former Joint Registrar, IGNOU.

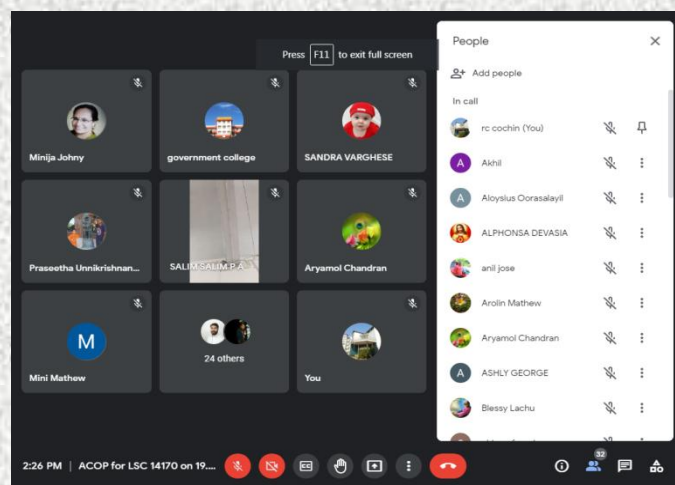
Sh. K.J. Joseph, SO and Sh. K. Muraleedharan, SO coordinated the event by rendering administrative support.

Orientation Programme for Academic Counselors

Indira Gandhi National Open University, Regional Centre Cochin (RC 14) conducted a virtual Academic Counselors Orientation Programme (ACOP) for the academic counselors of LSC 14170 Govt.College, Kattappana, Idukki Dist. on 19th July 2021 2.30 PM onwards. This ACOP also served as empanelment drive for the Faculty of Govt. College, Kattappana, Idukki Dist. So that they are made aware of the empanelment procedure for Academic Counselor at IGNOU. This empanelment drive was specially planned by the Coordinator to increase the empanelled Academic Counselor in the remote district of Idukki in Kerala. Amongst

the 57 participants in the ACOP, 27 participants were already empanelled Academic Counselors.

Dr. J.S. Dorothy, Regional Director, IGNOU Regional Centre Cochin welcomed the participants, gave the inaugural address for the Virtual Orientation Programme and shared the importance of Academic Counselors in the student support services of Open and Distance learning Institution like IGNOU. The meeting was administered by Dr. V.T. Jalajakumari, Asst. Regional Director, IGNOU RC Cochin



Screenshot of the Online/Virtual Orientation Programme for Academic Counselors of BA Psychology programme through Google Meet platform on 19.07.2021

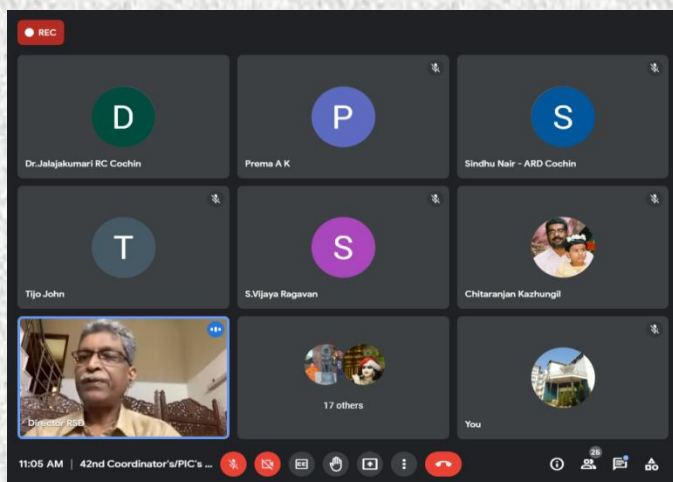
There were four Technical sessions on the topics 1. Role of Academic Counselors in Student Support Services held by Dr. Praseetha Unnikrishnan, Asst. Director, IGNOU RC Cochin; 2.Guidelines for assignment evaluation submitted offline and online, Importance of tutor comments and empanelment of evaluators for answer scripts of Term End Examinations held by Dr. S. Vijayaragavan, Asst. Regional Director, IGNOU RC Cochin; 3.Empanelment of Academic Counselors in Online portal for which student enrolment exist at LSC- Requirements for Academic Counselors for all activated Programmes with special reference on CBCS programmes; Modalities of Online Counseling held by Dr. V.T. Jalajakumari, Asst. Regional Director, IGNOU RC Cochin; 4.Guidelines on Administrative and Financial matters of online counseling , Payment norms for online counseling, Assignment Evaluation, Project guidance, Importance and availability of SLM to academic counselors in e-Gyankosh held by Dr. Sindhu P. Nair, Deputy Director, IGNOU RC Cochin.

The Technical session was followed by an open discussion. The Meeting came to an end with vote of thanks by Sh. K. Muraleedharan, SO, IGNOU RC Cochin.

Coordinators/PICs Orientation Programme

Indira Gandhi National Open University, Regional Centre Cochin (RC 14) conducted the 42nd and the third Virtual Coordinator/PIC Meeting on 21.07.2021 (Wednesday) at 11.AM through Google Meet. In the Coordinator's/ PIC meeting in which 40 persons participated including the academics of IGNOU RC Cochin.

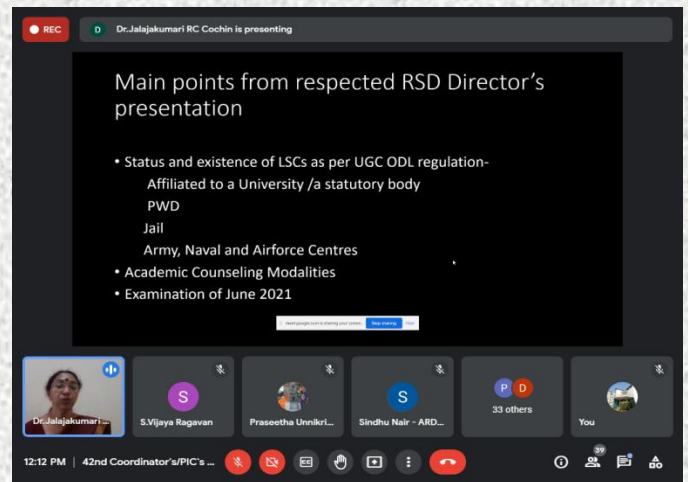
Dr. Srikant Mohapatra, Director, Regional Service Division, IGNOU New Delhi gave the Inaugural Address for the 42nd Virtual Meeting of the Coordinator /PIC Meeting of all LSC under Regional Centre Cochin RC(14). Dr. J. S. Dorothy, Regional Director, IGNOU RC Cochin welcomed the gathering. The meeting was administered by Dr. V.T. Jalajakumari, ARD, RC Cochin.



Inaugural session by Dr. Srikant Mohapatra, Director RSD, IGNOU, Maidan Garhi during the Virtual/Online Meeting for Coordinator/ PICs of LSC on 21.07.2021

There were Four Technical sessions on topics 1. Pre admission counseling at LSCs and promotional activities for July 2021 admission Session handled by Dr. Praseetha Unnikrishnan, Asst. Director, IGNOU RC Cochin; 2. Online Offline submission of assignments and evaluation, Assignment Award List Receipt Status and Validation of Pending Awards, Term End Examination June 2021 scheduled to be held in August 2021, Arrangements and preparations. Empanelment of Observers was handled by Dr. S. Vijayaragavan, Asst. Regional Director, IGNOU RC Cochin; 3. Empanelment of Academic Counselors in Online portal. Activation of Additional Programmes, Modalities for submission of Online Counseling Schedule, Uploading Online Counseling Schedule in Website - Status at RCI4, Empanelment of Evaluators for Answer Scripts/Project/Internship handled by Dr. V.T. Jalajakumari, Asst. Regional Director IGNOU RC

Cochin; 4. Settlement of Claim during lockdown –emphasizing the need for monthly submission of bills, Guidelines on Administrative and Financial matters and feedback, if any specific to LSC, Payment norms for online counseling handled by Dr. Sindhu P Nair, Deputy Director IGNOU RC Cochin.

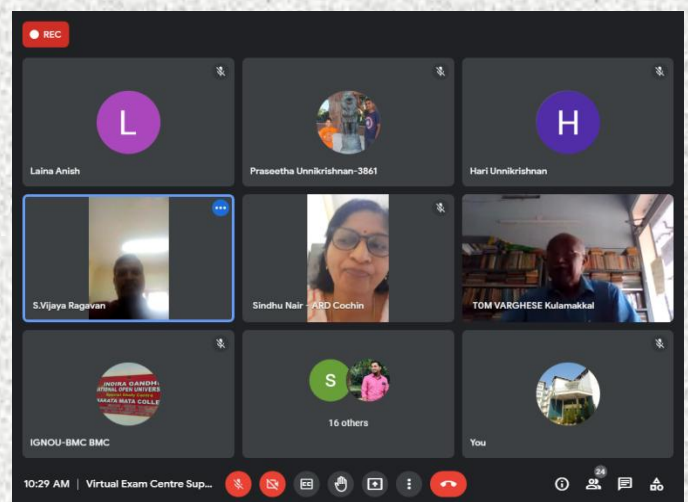


Participants of Virtual/Online Meeting for Coordinator/ PICs of LSC on 21.07.2021

The Technical session was followed by the open discussion. The Meeting came to an end with Vote of Thanks by Sh. K. Muralreedharan, SO, IGNOU RC Cochin.

Exam Centre Superintendents Meeting

The Exam Superintendent Meeting for June 2021 was organized on 30.07.2021 at IGNOU Regional Centre Cochin through Google meet. The meeting began with a welcome address by Dr. Praseetha Unnikrishnan, AD, Regional Centre Cochin.



Participants of Online/Virtual Exam Superintendent Meeting on 30.07.2021

Dr. J.S. Dorothy, Regional Director, gave the Inaugural address and emphasized the importance of pre Examination activities at Regional Centre besides conveying greetings for smooth conduct of Term end Examination June, 2021 under Regional Centre Cochin.

Dr. Vijayaragavan highlighted the mode of observer deputation to the Examination Centres and methods of online question paper delivery system for smooth conduction of TEE June 2021 Examination. Dr. Sindhu P. Nair, DD discussed about help desk during Examination with special reference to Differently abled learners in integrated Examination hall.

Sh. S. Venugopal, Assistant Registrar, Regional Evaluation Centre Cochin discussed the information about jurisdiction for sending Answer script to Regional Evaluation Centre Cochin. The meeting came to an end with vote of thanks by Dr. V.T. Jalajakumari, ARD.

Online Counseling

As an innovative initiative in compliance to HQ directive was clubbed Online Counseling sessions were conducted for July 2020 learners with support all LSCs during this period by Regional Centre, Cochin. The clubbed Online Counseling sessions held were uploaded in the YouTube channel of IGNOU Regional Centre Cochin <https://www.youtube.com/c/IGNOURegionalCentreCochin/playlists>. This activity was coordinated by Dr. V.T. Jalajakumari, ARD and Ms. Sujini Babu, Assistant. From July 2021 to September 2021, around 131 Counseling sessions for six programmes were conducted during this period.

Innovation Club Activity

The Innovation Club at Regional Centre, Cochin was initiated under the encouragement of the National Centre for Innovation in Distance Education (NCIDE) of IGNOU. The sessions are being held at Regional Centre, Cochin with an objective to enrich and generate awareness amongst the learners of IGNOU on a wide range of topics ranging from *Career Opportunities in Teaching and Research* to *Interactive Interview Inputs* through which the learners were made aware about various issues and motivated to think innovatively, generate ideas and embark on a path which could lead to future development of the Nation.

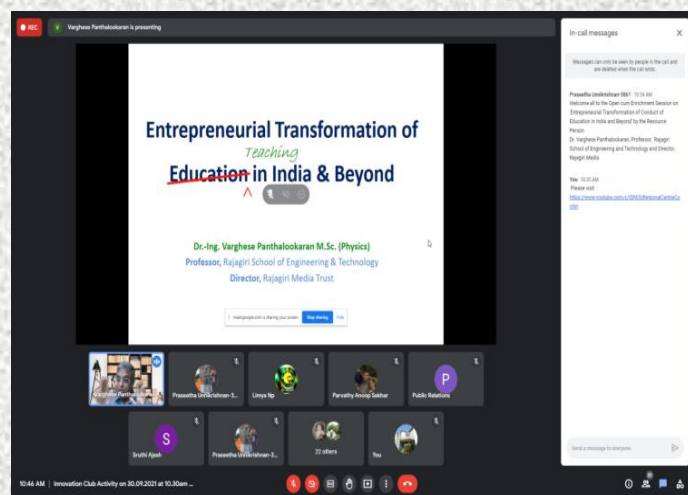
Two Online/Virtual monthly lecture identified as Open cum Enrichment Session were held at the Regional Centre, Cochin during this period. The two meetings were coordinated/administered by Dr. Praseetha Unnikrishnan, AD

who is also the Nodal Officer for the Innovation club activities at Regional Centre, Cochin.

S. No	Date	Resource Person	Topic of Presentation
1	15.07.2021	Dr. Muhammad K.V., Asst. Professor, School of Pedagogical Sciences, M.G. University, Kottayam	Career Opportunities in Teaching and Research
2	30.09.2021	Dr.Varghese Panthalookaran, Professor, Rajagiri School of Engineering and Technology and Director, Rajagir Media, Ernakulam	Entrepreneurial Transformation of Conduct of Education in India and Beyond



Screenshot of the Virtual/Online Open Session cum Enrichment Session addressed by Dr. Muhammad K.V., Asst. Prof, MG University, Kottayam on 15.07.2021



Screenshot of the Virtual/Online Open Session cum Enrichment Session by Dr. Varghese Panthalookaran, Professor, Rajagiri School of Engineering and Technology on 30.09.2021

Promotional initiatives

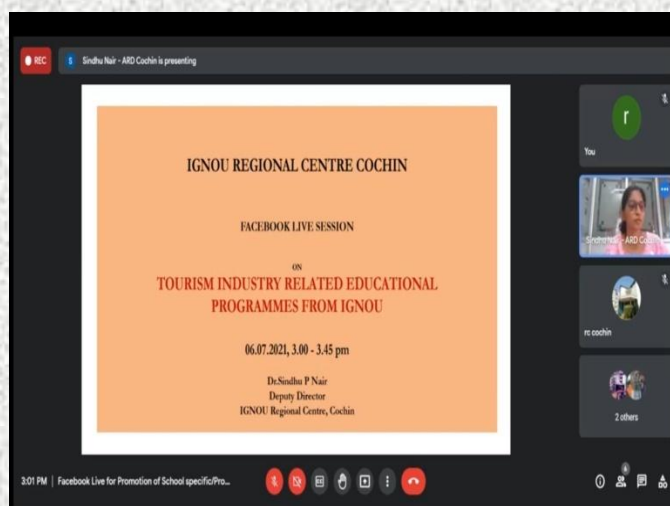
Online/Virtual Promotional Meetings, Campaigns and Events with a view to enhance the enrolment for July 2021 Admission cycle besides optimizing the awareness about IGNOU programmes was organized by the Regional Centre, Cochin through various Study Centres and other Institutions to promote IGNOU programmes by reaching out to the unreached. Facebook Live sessions were also organized for the Learners/General public associated with Regional Centre, Cochin for sharing of information pertaining to IGNOU Admissions for July 2021. The recorded videos of the promotional meetings has been uploaded in the IGNOU Regional Centre Cochin YouTube Channel under the Playlist: "Promotional Meeting"

The Live Programme using Regional Centre Cochin Official Facebook Page was Administered/Coordinated/interacted by the Academics of Regional Centre, Cochin. The Technical support for the Face Book Session Programme was provided by Sh. Muhammad Ansar, AEDP, Regional Centre Cochin.

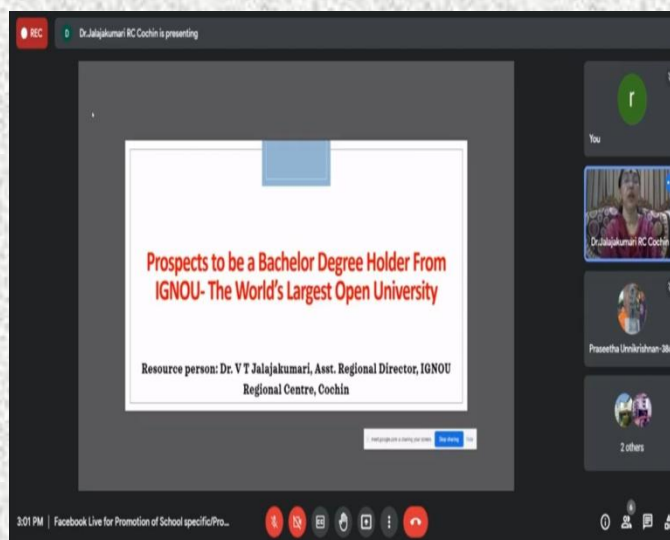
S. No	Date & Time	Meeting organized/ administered by	Participants	Purpose
1.	05.07.2021	Dr. Praseetha Unnikrishnan, AD	The Facebook session was viewed by many and has 844 views	Facebook Live Promotional Session on 'Family welfare related programmes at IGNOU'
2.	06.07.2021	Dr. Sindhu P Nair, DD	The Facebook session was viewed by many and has 302 views	Facebook Live session on 'Tourism Industry related Educational Programmes from IGNOU, BTS, MTTM, DTS, CTS
3.	09.07.2021	Dr. V.T. Jalajakumari, ARD	The Facebook session was viewed by many and has 573 views	Facebook Live Promotional Session on 'Prospects to be a Bachelor Degree holder from IGNOU – The World's Largest Open University
4.	13-07-2021	Dr. Sindhu P Nair, DD	The Facebook session was viewed by many and has 255 views	Facebook Live Promotional Session on 'Food Safety, Food Service Management, Family Therapy, Rural Development, Childhood Care & Education, Nutrition Health Education programmes of IGNOU'

S. No	Date & Time	Meeting organized/ administered by	Participants	Purpose
5.	20-07-2021	Dr. S. Vijayaragavan, ARD	The Facebook session was viewed by many and has 374 views	Facebook Live Promotional Session on 'Prospects for Education in Intellectual Property Rights and Cyber Law'
6.	22-07-2021	Dr. J.S. Dorothy, RD	The Facebook session was viewed by many and has 265 views	Facebook Live Promotional Session on 'Nutrition and Child Services opportunity through DNHE, DECE'
7.	26.07.2021	Dr. Praseetha Unnikrishnan, AD	The Facebook session was viewed by many and has 548 views	Facebook Live Promotional Session on 'Upgrading in Journalism and Library employment Sector'
8.	27-07-2021	Dr. J.S. Dorothy, RD	The Facebook session was viewed by many and has 341 views	Facebook Live Promotional Session on 'Know the food you eat and Child Care - CFN, CNCC of IGNOU'
9.	29-07-2021	Dr. J.S. Dorothy, RD	The Facebook session was viewed by many and has 287 views	Facebook Live Promotional Session on 'Relevance of CHR, CAHT in employment scenario'
10.	30-07-2021	Dr. V.T. Jalajakumari, ARD	The Facebook session was viewed by many and has 200 views	Facebook Live Promotional Session on 'Prospects to be a Master Degree Holder from IGNOU-The World largest Open University'
11.	04-08-2021	Dr. J.S. Dorothy, RD	The Facebook session was viewed by many and has 307 views	Facebook Live Promotional Session on 'Continuing Qualifications for Library Profession'
12.	06-08-2021	Dr. S. Vijayaragavan, ARD	The Facebook session was viewed by many and has 275 views	Facebook Live Promotional Session on 'Prospects of add-on qualification in Philosophy, Development Studies & Urban Development and Planning,
13.	13-08-2021	Dr. Praseetha Unnikrishnan, AD	The Facebook session was viewed by many and has 503 views	Facebook Live Promotional Session on 'Importance of having qualifications in Home Based Health Care and Translation Works'

S. No	Date & Time	Meeting organized/ administered by	Participants	Purpose
14.	13-08-2021	Dr. Praseetha Unnikrishnan, AD	The Facebook session was viewed by many and has 503 views	Facebook Live Promotional Session on 'Education in empowerment – School Leadership, Educational Administration, Education programmes'
15.	18-08-2021	Dr. V.T. Jalajakumari, ARD	The Facebook session was viewed by many and has 320 views	Facebook Live Promotional Session on 'Computer Literacy and Language Efficiency is essential as food for learners at any stage- IGNOU is at your door step'
16.	23-08-2021	Dr. S. Vijayaragavan, ARD	The Facebook session was viewed by many and has 374 views	Facebook Live Promotional Session on 'Prospects for acquiring Qualification in Public Administration, Gandhi and Peace Studies, Disaster Management'
17.	27-08-2021	Dr. V.T. Jalajakumari, ARD	The Facebook session was viewed by many and has 320 views	Facebook Live Promotional Session on 'Prospects to be a Master Degree Holder from IGNOU- The World largest Open University'



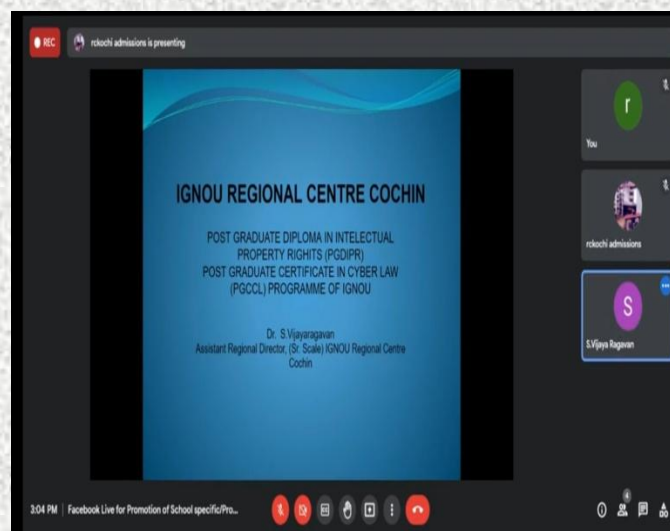
Screenshot of Presentation presented by Dr. Sindhu P. Nair, DD during the Face book Live Promotional Meeting on 06.07.2021



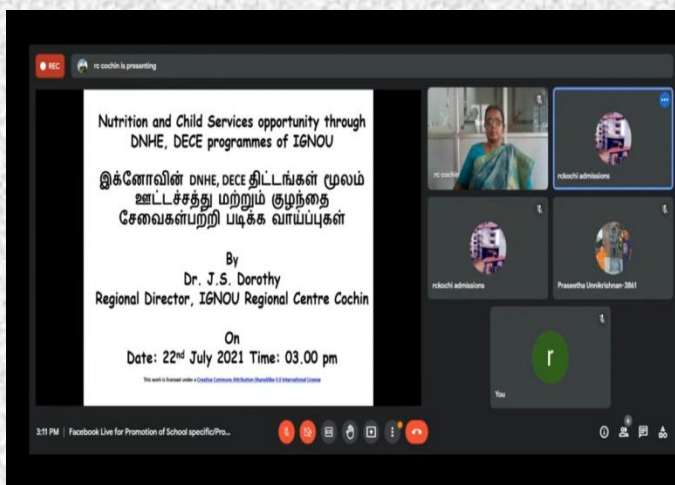
Screenshot of Presentation presented by Dr. V.T. Jalajakumari, ARD during the Face book Live Promotional Meeting on 09.07.2021



Screenshot of Presentation presented by Dr. Praseetha Unnikrishnan, AD during the Face book Live Promotional Meeting on 05.07.2021



Screenshot of Presentation presented by Dr. S. Vijayaragavan, ARD during the Face book Live Promotional Meeting on 20.07.2021



Screenshot of Presentation presented by Dr. J.S. Dorothy, RD during the Face book Live Promotional Meeting on 22.07.2021

Felicitation to Sh. Jojoy S Pattathil, Deputy Registrar, REC Cochin

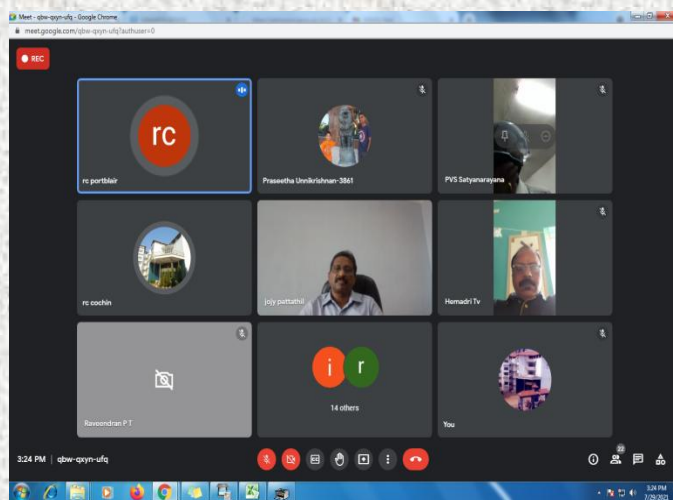
Sh. Jojoy S. Pattathil, Deputy Registrar, REC Cochin superannuated from the services of IGNOU on 30.07.2021(last working day in July 2021) after completing 32 years of service in IGNOU.

Sh. Jojoy S Pattathil began his career with Ministry of Industry, Govt. of India and worked there for six years. Sh. Jojoy S Pattathil, joined IGNOU Regional Centre, Cochin in the year 1990 as an Assistant. Meanwhile, Sh. Jojoy S Pattathil topped the All India Competitive Examinations and joined IGNOU HQ, Delhi as Section Officer in the year 1993.

Sh. Jojoy S Pattathil then rendered his services to IGNOU HQ Delhi from 1993 to 2009. In between for a brief period of two years Sh. Jojoy S. Pattathil was selected to join as a Programmer on deputation to the Election Commission of India. From 2009 to 2016, Sh. Jojoy S. Pattathil was posted as an Assistant Registrar at Regional Centre Trivandrum and later promoted to the position of Deputy Registrar. For a brief period of six months Sh. Jojoy S. Pattathil was again posted to IGNOU Headquarters Delhi in 2016. Upon shifting of Regional Evaluation Centre from Chennai to Cochin with effect from April 2017 Sh. Jojoy S. Pattathil headed the Regional Evaluation Centre Cochin and was also instrumental in the functioning of Evaluation Centre Cochin and continued working there till his superannuation.

As a part of Felicitation ceremony for retirement, a virtual Felicitation ceremony for Sh. Jojoy S. Pattathil through Google meet platform was organized for Regional Centres, Regional Evaluation Centres across India, Divisions/Schools of IGNOU Head Quarter Delhi on 29.07.2021 at 3.00 pm. Officials from

Headquarters and several Regional Centres appreciated and felicitated Sh. Jojoy S. Pattathil in the virtual Felicitation.



Virtual/Online Felicitation ceremony of Sh. Jojoy S. Pattathil, Deputy Registrar at Regional Centre, Cochin on 29.07.2021



Felicitation ceremony of Sh. Jojoy S. Pattathil, Deputy Registrar at Regional Evaluation Centre, Cochin on 30.07.2021



Staff of Regional Centre Cochin and Regional Evaluation Centre Cochin during the Felicitation ceremony of Sh. Jojoy S. Pattathil, Deputy Director on 30.07.2021

The Face-to-Face Felicitation ceremony for Sh. Joji S. Pattathil was held on 30.07.2021 at Regional Evaluation Centre Cochin where Staff/Academic of both REC and RC Cochin fondly spoke about their interactions with Sh. Joji S. Pattathil and expressed gratitude for the same.

Sh. Joji S. Pattathil superannuated from the services of Regional Evaluation Centre Cochin after 32 years of distinguished and dedicated services to IGNOU. IGNOU Regional Centre Cochin wishes Sh. Joji S. Pattathil a very happy, healthy and joyful retired life.

Study Centre Corner

Sree Kerala Varma College, Thrissur (LSC 1407)



Sree Kerala Varma College, Thrissur

Founded in 1947 by His Highness Sree Kerala Varma, and governed at present by the Cochin Devaswom Board, Sree Kerala Varma College (affiliated to the University of Calicut) is one of the most well known academic institutions in Kerala. Located in a vast lush green campus, only 3 kms away from the heart of Thrissur, the cultural capital of Kerala, Sree Kerala Varma College is the biggest arts and science college under the University of Calicut.

Blessed with rich flora and fauna, this campus offers the seekers of knowledge 8 Post Graduate and 16 Under Graduate programmes besides hosting 3 Research Centres (Malayalam, English and Political Science). An excellent academic team from various faculties (including 40 Ph.D. & 25 M.Phil. degree holders) heads the academic activities. Fully equipped with amenities like centralized library, science and language laboratories, hostels for boys and girls, Sree Kerala Varma College also is vibrant with a creative and socially committed campus having N.C.C., N.S.S., Nature Club, Film Club, Drama Club, Fine Arts Club, and Travel & Tourism Club.

IGNOU SC 1407 (Indira Gandhi National Open University Study Centre 1407), situated inside the SKV College campus,

Thrissur is one of the biggest study centers of IGNOU in Kerala which also serves as an Examination Centre.



IGNOU Study Centre LSC 1407 Sree Kerala Varma College, Thrissur



Library facility at IGNOU Study Centre LSC 1407 Sree Kerala Varma College, Thrissur



Dr. Aiswarya S. Babu, Coordinator of IGNOU Programme Study Centre LSC 1407 Sree Kerala Varma College, Thrissur

The Study Center was started in 1990 with 74 students and has presently grown to 1969 IGNOU students as on July, 2021. The Study Centre has a Coordinator and four assistant Coordinators drawn from the academic staff of Sree Kerala Varma College. Support staff of sixteen members help to

carry out the day-to-day affairs of the study centre like admissions, classes and examinations. There are 34 IGNOU programmes (at Masters, PG Diploma and Certificate level) activated at this Study Centre. IGNOU SC 1407 also has a collection of books at the centre, available for reference to the learners. IGNOU Regional Centre Cochin thanks Dr. Aiswarya S. Babu, the Coordinator of IGNOU Programme Study Centre 1407 Sree Kerala Varma College, Thrissur for providing inputs on behalf of the Management of Host Institution of LSC 1407 for this issue of Newsletter.

Meet an IGNOU Learner



Sharing life and learning with IGNOU: Sh. Sajith Solomon (Alumni of MBA Programme) and Smt. Teny Sajith (current learner of IGNOU)

“Never stop learning, because life never stops teaching.”

This ‘Meet an IGNOU Learner’ is about Sh. Sajith Solomon, an alumni student of Master of Business Administration (MBA) at IGNOU. Sh. Solomon is a Post Graduate Teacher in Commerce from Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan Kochi Kendra. His profile was shared to Sh. Sebastian D’Cruz, EDP for use in the Newsletter of IGNOU Regional Centre, Cochin.

In the words of Sh. Solomon

“It was a wonderful and different experience for me to complete a course from IGNOU. I take this opportunity to express my gratefulness and appreciations to all the staff and faculty of IGNOU Kochi centre who helped me a lot in achieving my MBA graduation in good time. As a part of teacher amelioration programme, I knew about the various

Distance Education programmes provided by the Indira Gandhi National Open University and so I decided to join the MBA course. By undertaking a single MBA course, I was able to accomplish three different qualifications:

- 1. Diploma in Business Administration after my first two semesters*
- 2. PGDMA after 4 semesters and*
- 3. MBA after 6 semesters.*

But the most fascinating fact is the provision for phased payment of the semester course fees and advanced payment of exam fees, which can be remitted through online without the hassle of going to the Institution to pay the fees. The provision for inabsentia Convocation with certificates sent to house address through registered speed post is appreciable. There was no need for me to go the University office unwontedly for enquiry. The mesmerizing point about this course is that the counselling classes were provided by admirable and well-known Lecturers (who served as Academic Counselors) on Sundays and holidays. This greatly benefited me to attend such classes without taking leave from my institution. The Academic Counselors helped me a lot in the groundwork and preparation of assignments and the Final Project. Exams were held on the exact dates declared prior and the whole examination was very systematic and well arranged. We need to reach the centre just before 15 minutes before the commencement of the examination. Any correspondence to University can be done through mail and we will get response with 24 hours. Presently my wife Smt. Teny Sajith is also pursuing a degree course in IGNOU. On a lighter sense we are Sharing our personal life and learning with IGNOU by me being the Alumni of MBA Programme and my wife Smt. Teny Sajith being the current learner of IGNOU

I am also happy to share that, the Vice Principal of the school Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan Kochi Kendra (where I am currently employed) Smt. Latha S and our school Counselor Smt. Vidhu Varghese had accomplished their M.Sc Psychology after knowing about my perfect experience of study with IGNOU.”

Sh. Solomon endorses IGNOU programmes to all as a wise choice as this would enable to achieve one’s dreams and be more successful in life.

IGNOU Regional Centre, Cochin wishes Sh. Sajith Solomon and Smt. Teny Sajith the best in life and in all their future endeavors!
