

**INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY
REGIONAL CENTRE- COCHIN**

Report on Activities under Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA)

1. Place: Chendamangalam

Date : October 2016

A visit was undertaken by RC officials to Chendamangalam village Weaver community during October 2016 to interact and understand the educational requirements and also promote the IGNOU Weaver Scheme. Interaction was held with the Panchayat Head, Kudumbhasree members and also visit was made to residence of handloom weavers.



Interaction held with Kudumbhasree members



A weaver at Chendamangalam demonstrates her home based handloom



Kudumbhasree members, weavers and IGNOU RC officials during the visit

2. Place: Edathala

Date : 29-10-2018

A visit using the MELT van was undertaken by RC officials to Edathala Grama Panchayat involving Kudumbashree workers during October, 2018. The objective of the visit was to understand their educational

requirements and also promote the Computer Literacy Programme (CLP). The RC officials interacted with around fifty Panchayat members and Kudumbashree members at the Edathala Grama Panchayat on 29-10-2018 to understand their needs as far as higher education is concerned. The RC officials did a brief presentation about IGNOU programmes in the meeting specially focussing on the 'Computer Literacy Programme (CLP)'. The programmes of IGNOU were explained to the members and offline forms of CLP and IGNOU were distributed amongst the members. The RC officials also met the Panchayat President of the Edathala Gramapanchayat and the President has assured IGNOU of all possible support in its endeavours. Since this was also the Vigilance awareness week, a pledge was also administered to all present there.



RC Officials making a brief presentation about IGNOU



Pledge being administered to all participants as a part of Vigilance awareness week celebrations



Panchayat and Kudumbashree members taking the Vigilance pledge.

The visit was undertaken using MELT van by a team comprising of Dr. V.T. Jalajakumari, Assistant Regional Director, Dr. Praseetha Unnikrishnan, Assistant Director and Shri. S.K. Dasan, Driver.

3. Place: **Chendamangalam**

Date : **20-12-2018**

Awareness campaign was conducted among the members of the two Handloom Weavers Societies at Chendamangalam on 20-12-2018. During the meeting, the members enquired about the various programmes which could be of benefit to their children. The Bachelors, Masters and Certificate programmes were highlighted with a view to encourage the wards of the Handloom workers to enroll for these programmes. The Computer Literacy Programme (CLP) was also highlighted to the Weavers. The Weavers and the Presidents of the Handloom society expressed that due to the recent floods that adversely affected Kerala, Chendamangalam was also badly hit. The life at Chendamangalam was only returning back to normalcy among both handloom weavers and other communities. The visit was undertaken using Melt van by a team comprising of Dr.Sindhu P Nair, Assistant Regional Director, Sh.Anilkumar, Assistant and Sh.S.K.Dasan, Driver.



Melt van at venue of UBA activities



Dr. Sindhu P Nair, ARD addressing weavers at Handloom Society, Chendamangalam during the Awareness programme



Members of Handloom Society at Chendamangalam



Handloom Society President addressing the members during the awareness programme

4. Place: Edathala
Date : 02-04-2019

IGNOU was provided a slot for presentation about programmes of Regional Centre, Cochin in the monthly Project review cluster meeting of Kudumbashree workers which was held at Edathala Grama Panchayat on 02-04-2019 as a part of UBA activity of RC Cochin. From the Regional Centre, Dr. Praseetha Unnikrishnan, Assistant Director and Shri. Sabu (JAT) attended the meeting. Dr. Praseetha U. made a brief presentation about the programmes of IGNOU.

Dr. Praseetha Unnikrishnan, Asst. Director was introduced to the audience by Ms. Sheena Martin, Project Coordinator of the Kudumbashree unit at Edathala. Dr. Praseetha gave a brief about IGNOU and its programmes. She also briefly explained the structure of IGNOU, the admission process, the structure of the programmes, the method of delivery of programmes, the role of Regional centre/Study centre. She also highlighted the programmes which would be beneficial to them and their children. The programmes like CFN, CLP, BPP, CDM, BA, BCom, BSW etc. were explained to the participants. The fee structure was also explained. An insight about assignments, examination and other student support services available with IGNOU were also explained to the participants.

During the interaction there were various queries from the participants pertaining to the following:

1. How one can enrol for MBA programme of IGNOU and what are the course/programme requirements?
2. Whether one can pursue two programmes simultaneously?
3. Whether the programmes of IGNOU are PSC recognized in Kerala?
4. Are attending counseling sessions are compulsory or not?
5. Whether counseling sessions are held throughout the week?
6. Whether the study centre would be near to where they live?
7. What are the requirements and eligibility of doing B.Ed programme
8. Whether BPP programme is equivalent to 12th pass?

All the queries were attended to by Dr. Praseetha Unnikrishnan, AD. The session ended with a vote of thanks to one and all present .by Ms. Seena Martin, Project Head, Kudumbashree Unit, Edathala Gram Panchayat.



Dr. Praseetha Unnikrishnan, AD addressing Kudumbashree Members at Edathala Panchayath under UBA activity



Dr. Praseetha Unnikrishnan, AD explaining the Brochure of RC Cochin to all Kudumbashree members as a part of UBA activity



Distribution of Brochure by Dr. Praseetha Unnikrishnan, AD to the Edathala Panchayath President and other stakeholders



Kudumbashree Members during the Promotional Meeting at Edathala Panchayath

5. Place: **Edathala**

Date : **02-05-2019**

A visit was conducted by Dr. V. T. Jalajakumari, Assistant Regional Director IGNOU RC Cochin under the scheme of Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) activities at Edathala Grama Panchayath on 02-05-2019 for Kudumbashree Unit Secretaries of Edathala Grama Panchayath. The main agenda of the meeting was promotion of IGNOU programmes with special focus on Computer Literacy Programme (CLP). Around 300 members participated in the Meeting. Most of the participants were with 10+2 educational qualification, some of them having 10th standard only and a few were of Bachelor Degree and no one was with a PG Degree. Also a good number of participants were having below 10th standard qualification. Hence they were informed about the BPP programme and CLP. Details regarding various BDP programmes and Master's Degree programmes were also imparted. The brochures were distributed to the participants and they showed their willingness to enroll for various programmes in IGNOU.

The CDS Chairperson other than the Kudumbashree officials had also participated in the programme. Discussions were held on conducting a special training programme for making and repairing LED bulbs with the help of trainers under Industrial Rural Development Centre at Mulanthuruthy, those who are working in the mission of E-Waste management for Sustainable Development. The scheme and the procedure for training were explained before the participants and requested for fixing a date and venue to conduct the same at Edathala Grama Panchayath for E-Waste management and entrepreneurship through which some individuals can start a small scale production unit of LED bulbs and its service unit.



Dr. V T Jalajakumari, ARD addressing Kudumbashree Members at Edathala Panchayat



Dr. V T Jalajakumari clears the doubts of Kudumbashree Members about IGNOU

6. Place: Edathala
Date : 02-07-2019

A visit was undertaken by Dr. Sindhu P. Nair, ARD and Dr.Praseetha Unnikrishnan, AD under the scheme of Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) activities at Edathala Grama Panchayat on 2.7.2019 for Kudumbashree members of Edathala Grama Panchayat. The meeting was arranged with the support of the Panchayat President and CDS Coordinator. The CDS Coordinator, Ms.Seena Martin introduced the IGNOU officials to the participants and requested the participants to take benefit of the various programmes offered by IGNOU. In the session, Dr. Sindhu P. Nair, ARD explained to the participants about the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) programme and activities of IGNOU with regard to UBA in Edathala Gram Panchayat. The significance of Open and Distance Education (ODL), role of IGNOU in imparting Higher Education for Human Resource Development in the country, the salient features of Distance learning through IGNOU, the Self-Learning Materials, Academic counselling in IGNOU and other Learner Support Services offered by IGNOU was explained.

Dr.Praseetha Unnikrishnan addressed the participants on the various academic programmes offered under IGNOU Regional Centre Cochin for July 2019 session. The Bachelors degree programmes and Certificate programmes in particular were highlighted with a view to benefit the women participants or their family members by enrolling in these programmes. She also explained about the Online Admission Portal in the IGNOU website and the procedure to submit online applications. The fee exemption for SC/ST was also highlighted to the participants. Around 150 women participants under the Kudumbashree were given awareness on IGNOU and the programmes. It was interesting to note that a few of them were already were enrolled in IGNOU programmes. Brochures and one-page write up was distributed amongst the participants.



Dr.Sindhu P Nair, ARD addressing Kudumbashree members of Edathala Grama Panchayat



Dr.Praseetha Unnikrishnan, AD explaining IGNOU online admission to Kudumbashree members

7. Place: Edathala
Date :06-09-2019

IGNOU Regional Centre organised a 'Plastic free campaign' at Govt. Higher Secondary School, Edathala in Ernakulam District on 06-09-2019. The Principal, Rachael K Jacob extended good support and cooperation for the campaign. A senior teacher of the school was assigned for coordinating the IGNOU UBA campaign programme at the school. The students of Higher Secondary section were assembled to participate in the campaign organised in the school auditorium. Sh.Shijomon Mathew, Hr. Sec. Section Teacher, welcomed the students to the plastic free campaign programme. He stressed on the need for the school students to be aware about environment protection and to act as environmentally conscious individuals. He encouraged the students to follow environment friendly practices at the school and homes, especially with regard to use of plastics and also actively propagate the same in their homes and neighbourhood.

The key address for the Plastic free campaign was delivered by Dr.Sindhu P Nair, ARD. She explained the UBA programme envisaged towards indigenous development of self-sufficient and sustainable village clusters for inclusive India. She introduced the concept of Sustainable Development to the students and the vital need to protect the environment. She explained how each student can contribute towards sustainable development by following simple environment friendly practices in their day-to-day life. In this context, the current over use of Plastics in the society and the need to revisit the current use of plastic by every individual was thrust upon. The participants were sensitized upon the challenges of waste disposal of plastics and its environmental consequences. The approach to Refuse, Reduce, Reuse and Recycle with regard to use of plastic was explained. Students actively interacted in the campaign and expressed enthusiasm towards following steps in making their school and homes plastic free. Apart from the students, the programme was also attended by a section of teachers and staff of the school. Vote of thanks was proposed by one of the student of the Higher Secondary Section.



Dr. Sindhu P Nair, ARD addressing students at Govt. Higher Secondary School, Edathala



Students interacting during Plastic Free campaign at Edathala

8. Place: **Chendamangalam**

Date :**25-09-2019**

IGNOU Regional Centre Cochin organized a 'Plastic free-village campaign' at Govt. Upper Primary School, Chendamangalam in Ernakulam District on 25-09-2019. Dr. V.T. Jalajakumari, ARD addressed the staff and students of Govt. U.P. School, Chendamangalam who participated in the Campaign and elaborated on the UBA Scheme and efforts required to make the village 'Plastic free by the students, parents and the community. In the light of Kerala flood 2018, the participants were alerted about the excessive use of plastic in our day to day life and its adverse effect on our planet. The programme was inaugurated by the School Head Master. Felicitation was given by Ms. Leena Viswam-the Panchayath Standing Committee Chairperson, Chendamangalam. She assured the participation of School community in collection of Plastic waste and its recycling process utilizing the facility of the Plastic Recycling Unit functioning within the premises of Chendamangalam Panchayat Office .



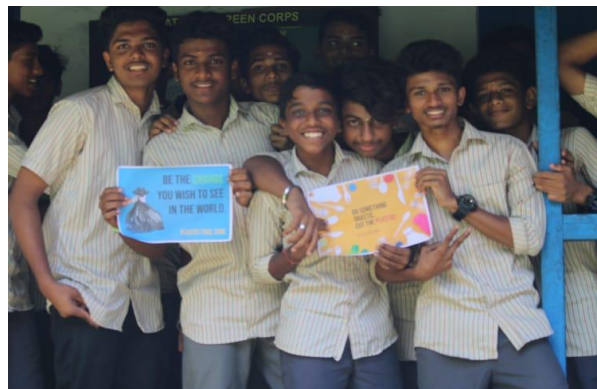
Dr.V.T.Jalajakumari, ARD addressing PTA meeting at Govt. UP School, Chendamangalam

9. Place: **Puthucode**
Date : **03-10-2019**

As part of the UBA activity, 'Plastic free campaign' was organised by the Regional Centre, with the support of the local LSC 14178D, at Sarvajena Higher Secondary School, Puthucode in Palakkad District on 03-10-2019. The campaign at the school was scheduled as an activity after the School Assembly where almost 150 students were made to gather for the plastic free campaign. The Headmaster of the School welcomed all to the programme. The Principal of the School gave the introduction about the programme and highlighted to the students the need to be concerned about the environment and its protection. The key note address was given by Dr.Sindhu P Nair, ARD. She explained the UBA programme envisaged towards indigenous development of self-sufficient and sustainable village clusters for inclusive India. She introduced the concept of Sustainable Development to the students and the vital need to protect the environment. Students were explained about how each one can contribute towards sustainable development by following simple environment friendly practices in their day-to-day life. In this context, the current over use of Plastics in the society and the need to revisit the current use of plastic by every individual was thrust upon. The participants were sensitized upon the challenges of waste disposal of plastics and its environmental consequences. The approach to Refuse, Reduce, Reuse and Recycle with regard to use of plastic was explained. Students actively interacted during the campaign and expressed enthusiasm towards following steps in making their school and homes plastic free. The Principal, Higher Secondary School, Cherpulassery motivated the students to actively take up the mission of making their School and surroundings plastic free. LSC14178D Coordinator addressed the students during the plastic free campaign and how as members of the society, students should take initiative in this campaign and by setting example to all. Sh.Sebastain Dcruz, EDP also supported the campaign and actively interacted with the students on the occasion. IGNOU officials also held interaction with the Panchayat President, Sh.P A Ismail and other officials and elaborated the UBA scheme , sensitized on the need for efforts by all in the Panchayat towards success of Plastic free campaign in the village and for Plastic recycling facility.



Dr. Sindhu P Nair, ARD addressing the staff & students of Higher Secondary School, Puthucode



Section of School students at Puthucode who attended IGNOU Plastic Free Campaign

10. Place: Arthungal

Date :11-10-2019

IGNOU Regional Centre, Cochin organized 'Plastic free campaign' at St. Francis Assissi Higher Secondary School, Arthungal along with National Service Scheme (NSS) team of St. Michaels College, Cherthala in Alappuzha District on 11-10-2019. The Programme was coordinated by IGNOU SC -14187, St. Michaels College, Cherthala. Prof. Mathew, Principal of St. Michael' College inaugurated the Programme. The Principal of St. Francis Assissi Higher Secondary School delivered the welcome address. In the keynote address, Dr. Jalajakumari V.T, ARD addressed the staff and students of the School who participated in the Campaign. The UBA scheme of IGNOU was explained and the need to avoid use of Plastic in day to day life was highlighted in the campaign. In the joint venture of both the Institutions, the activities toward Plastic free village had been divided in four levels such as College level, Higher Secondary level, Secondary level and U P level. The best performers among each level was awarded 'The Best Performer' Award which motivated them and generated a sense of commitment in each participant. The NSS team of St. Michaels college assured all support to IGNOU for its mission towards 'Plastic free village' and accordingly deliberated many strategies which will be taking place throughout the year.



Principal of the Host Institution of LSC-14187 addressing the Students of St. Michael' s College, Cherthala



Dr. V. T. Jalajakumari, ARD addressing the Students of St. Michael' s College, Cherthala

11. Place: **Punnapra**
Date : **October 2019**

Under the leadership of Host Institution, students of IGNOU Programme Study Centre-14180P collected used clothes to make eco-friendly clothbag to replace plastic grow bags for planting saplings. It is envisaged that these cloth bags will be used by Alappuzha District Office of Social Forestry for distributing tree saplings on occasion of World Environmental Day.



Students of PSC-14180P placing used clothes in the collection box for making cloth bag
