Indira Gandhi National Open University Regional Centre Delhi-3

Regional Centre Delhi-3 organised a Virtual Alumni meet for the learners of RC Delhi-3 and RC Delhi-1 on Sunday, the 30th January 2022 at 4.00pm through Google Meet in association with Campus Placement Cell. The Alumni meet was hosted by RC Delhi-3 which was streamed live through Facebook page of RC Delhi-3 and YouTube.

The meeting was attended by the following:-

- 1. Prof. Nageshwar Rao, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, IGNOU
- 2. Dr Srikant Mohapatra , Director Regional Services Division, IGNOU
- 3. Dr. V. P. Rupam, Director, Campus Placement Cell, IGNOU
- 4. Dr. Hema Pant, Additional Director, RSD, IGNOU
- 5. Dr. Ashok Sharma, Regional Director, RC Delhi-1, IGNOU
- 6. Dr. Sanjeev Pandey, Senior Regional Director, RC Delhi-3
- 7. Dr. Ekta Sharma, ARD, RC Delhi-3.

At the outset, Dr. Sanjeev Pandey, Senior Regional Director, RC Delhi-3 extended a very warm welcome to all the dignitaries present and to the distinguished Alumni of RC Delhi-3 and Delhi-1. He expressed his deep sense of gratitude to the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor for having kindly agreed to spare valuable time in the midst of his very busy schedule to grace the occasion.

This was followed by playing of IGNOU Kulgeet.

Resuming the meet, Dr. Pandey remarked that Alumni meet is an important initiative taken by the University to reach out to our passed out learners. He informed that ever since the joining of our Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, IGNOU has been infused with a new vibrance which has resulted into award of A++ Grade by NAAC during the year 2021 and the year ended with the ranking of IGNOU as No. 1 amongst the non-technical category of University system under Atal Ranking. He also mentioned about many other initiatives taken by the University under Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, which has resulted into the extended outreach of the University to provide effective support to learners even during the difficult times of pandemic of Covid-19. Giving a brief about RC Delhi-3, Dr. Pandey informed that it is amongst the high enrolment Regional Centres in the country, and registered more than 85000 learners in the year 2021 spread across 125 programmes of study. The RC has been endeavoring to providing best possible support to its learners through multiple media like web based support, electronic media such as Gyan Vani, Gyan Darshan and social media platforms like Face Book and YouTube, Twitter to ensure that proper teaching learning takes place.

This was followed by remarks of Dr. Ashok Sharma, Regional Director, RC Delhi-1. He informed that RC Delhi-1 is one of the 1st generation Regional Centres of the University and has played a very important role in evolution and growth of the ODL system of IGNOU. It is also one of the large enrolment Regional Centres in the country with total enrolment of more than 82000 learners across 126 programmes during the year 2021 with 30 active LSCs providing extensive academic and administrative support to our learners. He further informed that RC Delhi-1 is providing online academic support to the International learners from Guyana.

Dr. V. P. Rupam, Director, CPC mentioned that this journey of Alumni meet which began in August 2021 has been immensely satisfying and the feedback received from such meetings keeps us charged for the whole week till next meet on following Sunday. He further said that Alumni meet is an occasion to celebrate the success achieved by our learners and to revive our connect with them and to welcome them back to this

large family. He also informed that through this platform, IGNOU is trying to build a global community of Alumnus spread all over the world and connect with them to have their feedback through their experiences. He further informed that a Facebook page has been created for Alumni to share their experiences and feedback. The footfall on this page has been very encouraging and with each passing day the responses are increasing. He urged upon the Alumni to register themselves on the IGNOU Alumni portal. He also demonstrated about the use of the portal.

Dr Srikant Mohapatra, Director Regional Services Division welcoming the Alumni said that it's quite heartening to meet them on a Sunday evening and it was the 23rd IGNOU Alumni Meet since August 2021. He made special reference about our Hon'ble Vice Chancellor who has been a pillar of strength and has been there through all the 23 Meets conducted on Sundays to inspire us. RCs of Delhi NCR being a cosmopolitan and Capital of the country, represent the largest share of about 30% of our total learner strength. He further informed that the strength of IGNOU Alumni has exceeded the active learners' strength. During the 36 years of journey, IGNOU has 36 lakhs Alumni at present. This is a major milestone for a University system and we are very proud of our Alumni, many of whom hold very respectful positions in diverse fields. No other University system has parallel to IGNOU in terms of the distinguished learners profile having 71 lakh learners (Alumni and Active learners). He emphasized that we wish to catch on and to capitalize on the contribution of our Alumni to the society through their feedback and to share what we have been doing and we plan to do in future in the context of the NEP 2020. He informed that IGNOU has taken new initiatives through the Regional Centres of Delhi NCR and others as Nodal Centres to provide academic support to the learners. He further urged upon the Alumni to contribute to IGNOU by their involvement as a Mentor, as a facilitator, as a motivator and also as Supervisor. With this motto, IGNOU connects with its Alumni on every Sunday to take feedback and to move forward.

Prof. Nageshwar Rao, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, IGNOU in his presidential address expressed his happiness to see that his colleagues continuously ensured their presence during the Alumni meeting having participation from within country and also abroad. He referred to IGNOU Alumni as our "own family" which has increased from 35 lakhs to 71 lakhs which includes teachers, non teaching staff, academics, our existing learners and also past learners. He further said that as a teacher he always felt young to see old students as he has been in the teaching profession since 1978, and when he sees students of 1978, 1979-80 batch, they still remember him which makes him feel happy and joyous. He said that he tries to connect with the all Alumni on every Sunday, even when he is not at the headquarter. He conveyed about the motto of the University is learning at your pace, as per your convenient time and place which is reflected in these Alumni Meets. He further emphasized that this platform has provided IGNOU an opportunity to assess the progress made over the years as the Alumni are keenly interested in IGNOU and they are the biggest stakeholders and because of their goodwill we are reaching all these milestones. Hon'ble Vice Chancellor mentioned about the initiative of IGNOU as per the NEP 2020, of teaching in mother tongue in 13 languages for undergraduate programmes for various subjects like sociology, history, political science etc. He further mentioned that every day 3 hours live classes are being held in 13 languages including English, Hindi, Urdu, Tamil, Malyalam, Punjabi, Bengali, Oriya etc. He also informed about the e-content of IGNOU materials, 04 Swayamprabha Channels alongwith GD channel. He made a specific mention about Academics and Teachers working at Regional centres and at headquarters and their enthusiasm to show that IGNOU is reaching to those for which the institution was established. He talked about the quality of the programmes, their affordability and effective learner support services.

He specially mentioned about programmes like MBA, MCA which are approved by AICTE and are being offered online now besides others alongwith ODL programmes.

He also mentioned about the first ranking of IGNOU in Innovations and that too amongst all the Central Universities including the institutions of national importance under non-technical category. He further conveyed about the international presence of IGNOU, having more than 80000 learners on roll with an annual intake of approximately 5000 learners. He also mentioned about the recent MoU with Guyana to offer IGNOU programmes. Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor concluded his address urging upon the Alumni for their valuable support, words of appreciation and guidance and their feedback, as this becomes a source of motivation to all of us. We will be inspired and we will be motivated because of your involvement in the affairs of this great University. He thanked all for their benign presence today and to join us in family meeting whenever we like to interact with each other, to further take forward IGNOU brand.

Dr. S. K Mohapatra, Director, RSD and Dr. Sanjeev Pandey, Sr. Regional Director, RC Delhi-3 thanked Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Prof. Nageshwar Rao for his inspiring words and valuable guidance and assured to provide best possible support to the learners.

This was followed by the brief presentations by select Alumnus of RC Delhi-3 and Delhi-1:

- 1) Lt. Gen. Ajay Suri, from Indian Army Aviation, who is presently the Director General of Army Aviation, did his MBA in 2019. Earlier, he had also done CDM during 2005. He found the programme delivery of IGNOU very useful as compared to other universities. University has gone beyond normal issues to ensure that a student does well. He thanked to all those who brought the University to this level.
- 2) Amarpreet Kaur did her MPS programme in 2017. She found it a wonderful learning experience through distance mode. IGNOU is the only University which provides the flexibility and provide all the study materials which are the best. She also commended the hard work put in by all concerned involved in providing active support to its learners.
- 3) Anvit Vyas who did his MBA in Marketing was appreciative about the unified system of IGNOU which enabled him to complete his programme from three regions. Being a banker having tight work schedules, IGNOU's learning system allowed him to complete his programme. He said that he will spread this good word about the IGNOU's MBA programme.
- 4) Dr. Vijeta Banwari, thanked to all for organizing this meet and it felt great to connect with IGNOU. She did her MEC, M.Phil and Ph.D in Economics from IGNOU and also did PGDDE with a Gold Medal. She informed that there was a change in the perception of people about IGNOU distance education programmes. With the help of IGNOU materials of MEC she was able to qualify her NET in first attempt.
- 5) Ms. Nishi Arora, an Associate Professor with Delhi Univesity, did her MSCCFT from IGNOU 2016. She found the study materials to be very nice and comprehensive. She got the best of mentors and guides and full-fledged support from all levels of the University.
- 6) Nisith Sarkar, Joint Secretary of Alumni Association of India, did his BCA, MCA programme from IGNOU. He informed that got a job because of his education from IGNOU. He is also an Academic Counsellor. He promised to help the University in propagation of IGNOU programmes.
- 7) Pooja Chetri, did her MPA in 2016. She was delighted to be connected with IGNOU as Alumni. Being a Company Secretary by profession, she found the IGNOU programme very useful and also said that the quality of programmes are

now recognized all over. She volunteered her help in effective propagation of IGNOU programmes at any platform.

- 8. Poonam Ahuja, PGJMC learner expressed her deep appreciation for being invited to the meet. She was enrolled for PGJMC course during July 2020 session and got very enriching experience. Being a part time Radio Jokey, she found this programme very useful. She also appreciated the faculty and support from Regional Centres as excellent besides the study materials are amazing. With the help of IGNOU study materials, she was able to get the highest score of 92.17% during June 2020 TEE. She recommends to pursue their education through IGNOU. She also requested IGNOU to consider awarding Gold Medal to Diploma holders.
- 9. Ramanuj Bannerjee, a Senior Scientist with Ministry of Science and Technology, completed MBA (Operations Management) in 2017. He found the designing of the programmes very wonderful and said that the study materials were very holistic and comprehensive which was appreciated by even IIT graduates. The system of programme delivery was particularly appreciated.
- 10. Ravi Joseph Loku, presently working as an ADG, UP Police, did his MAPC from IGNOU. He found this very useful in day to day job. It was an amazing experience being a learner of IGNOU at its study centres. He found that lot of attention is given to its learners by Resource Persons at study centres of all age groups. Teaching methodology of IGNOU is wonderful and the course material is enough to encourage to study on our own. He also appreciated the ease of doing things at IGNOU whether admissions, submission of assignments etc. He also said that the idea of making assignments was very useful. He thoroughly enjoyed being in IGNOU and promised to propagate and encourage his colleagues in Police department to take up the programmes of IGNOU, to improve qualification and competency.
- 11. Lt. Col. Sham Dev, did his MAPC, PGDDM and PGCC. He had an enriching experience while pursuing IGNOU programmes. He requested for fine tuning of some of the student support services being offered to IGNOU learners.
- 12. Suneel L. Keswani, did his MA (Education) in 2018. He felt privileged to be invited in to such a programme. He appreciated about the study materials to be very comprehensive which are still in his possession.
- 13. Roopam Kapur, completed her B.Sc during 2019 after a long gap, because of the flexibility offered by IGNOU to the learners. Now she has enrolled herself in a Masters programme.
- 14. Shubhi Siddiqui, informed that she was able to transform her career after doing a programme (MAPC in 2020) from IGNOU even though she was an engineer. The study material provided was very useful to her.
- 15. Sudesh Kumar, who completed BLIS, MHD, PGDT, PGJMC and PGJCC programmes, was appreciative of the IGNOU programmes and its study materials. He informed that IGNOU could become a savior for him in his career journey due to the inherent flexibility for a learner like him.
- 16. Sujeet Kumar, completed BSW, MEC, MPS from IGNOU. He found the grievance redressal system very quick and found the officials working are very helpful. He suggested that the study centre staff should be regularly trained. Also requested for the launch of some programes in new areas like Data Analytics etc.

- 17. Swati Bhandari, a DCE gold medalist from IGNOU, empowered her to move to Canada. IGNOU happened to be good for her and from there she never stopped in her journey of life and career.
- 18. Vikas Goyal, did PGDHHM 2019 and PGDDM 2020. These helped him to enhance his managerial skills in his job as Supply Chain Head at Fortis hospitals. The learning experience at the study centre was wonderful and became a life time achievement for him.
- 19. Vandana Sharma, an Air Force NCC cadet, informed that whatever she has achieved is because of IGNOU.
- 20. Dr. Anil Kumar Yadav, informed about his journey with IGNOU with completion of MBA from Kolkata Regional Centre. Thereafter, he completed 7 masters, 8 Diplomas /PG Diplomas /certificates from IGNOU and has qualified 8 UGC Net examinations. He informed about holding a place in Limca book of records for holding maximum number degree, spanning 17 universities from 13 states, maximum from IGNOU. Working as a GM in RBI at Chandigarh he appreciated about study materials which is best in the field. He conveyed his keeness to continue this interaction in future.
- 21. Yuvaraj Seddharth, completed MAAN programme from IGNOU in 2020. Qualified his IAS and presently working as an Assistant Collector in Narmada District. The course material helped him in his Civil Services. He requested for opening of IGNOU study centre in Narmada District.
- 22. Anjali Sharma, did her MEC in 2018 and had a great learning experience with IGNOU and was able to crack her Net JRF with the help of this programme.

Concluding Remarks:

Dr. Mohapatra, in his concluding remarks, said that it was wonderful listening to our distinguished Alumni and their valuable feedback and their experiences which has provided strength to further improve the system.

Dr. V. P. Rupam said that such Alumni meet gives an opportunity to improve short comings and provide strength when the Alumnus are ready to work together for better future of our University.

Dr. Hema Pant, said that she was feeling happy and keenly listened to the feedback of Alumni. It is really overwhelming. From this platform I wish to say that your feedback is very valuable and support is very vital which will help us to grow further.

Dr. Ekta Sharma, proposed vote of thanks and conveyed a heartfelt gratitude to Prof. Nageshwar Rao, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, who despite his busy schedule found time to grace this occasion. She further thanked Dr. Mohapatra for his invaluable support and guidance. She also thanked Dr. Rupam, Dr. Hema Pant, Dr. Ashok Sharma, Dr. Sanjeev Pandey for their active support in effective conduct of the programme.

List of Alumni participants

RC Delhi-1

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RC Delhi-3

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7	Nisith Sarkar	BCA, MCA		

Select Photographs of the Alumni Meet
















































