

# MALABAR DIARY -A NEWSLETTER COVERING EDUCATIONAL INNOVATIONS AND LITERARY ACTIVITIES AT IGNOU REGIONAL CENTRE VATAKARA



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## From the desk of the Chief Editor

An intense summer awaits us. The lush greenery and the melodious chirping of birds are fast becoming memories. For Regional Centre Vatakara too a phase of intense activities beckons it.

Recent months have been periods of path breaking efforts for the Regional Centre. The centre has ventured into uncharted areas and has come out with flying colours. One such instance was the Orientation Programme held for the benefit of newly recruited teachers at Calicut University, in association with the School of Distance Education (SDE), Calicut University. The Regional Centre also extended the scope of its outreach programmes by conducting workshops for jail inmates and English teachers training tribal students. The

Regional Centre was also able to complete induction programmes for newly enrolled learners at various study centres within the shortest possible time frame.

It is also our pleasure to share with you the very happy news that SN College Chellannur has become the latest member of the RC Vatakara family. The said study centre is expected to serve the educational aspirations of a large number of learners.

However, I end on a sad note. Dr.S.K.Zareena, Assistant Regional Director, who served at the Regional Centre for about a year was transferred to RC Chennai at her own request. While we are happy on her reunion with her family, the Regional Centre shall be poorer in the absence of her services



This volume highlights the efforts of the RC Vatakara to reach out to the unreached sections of the society. "Reaching the Unreached" is the mission of our University and the novel attempts of the Regional Centre, it is felt will bring in the desired changes.

Kindly give us your valuable feedback on the email address— [rcvatakara@ignou.ac.in](mailto:rcvatakara@ignou.ac.in)

### Our Editorial Team

#### Chief Editor

**Dr. M.Rajesh**  
IGNOU Regional  
Centre Vatakara

#### Editors

**Dr. Prameela.O**  
**Sh. B. Praveen**  
**Kumara**  
IGNOU Regional  
Centre Vatakara

#### Technical Support

**Ms. Archana A**  
IGNOU Regional  
Centre  
Vatakara

### CLP Certificate distribution

IGNOU RC Vatakara has embarked upon an ambitious program of attaining cent % Computer Literacy in Vatakara Thaluk. In this effort, likeminded institutions such as Vatakara Co-operative Arts & Science College have been enlisted. A significant step towards attaining the goal was the successful completion of the program by the 1<sup>st</sup> batch of learners.

A couple of days after their successful completion of the program requirements, the Regional Centre organized a colourful program to distribute Certificates. The program was presided by Shri.C.Vathsalan, the president of Vatakara Co-operative Educational Society. The Certificates were distributed to the learners by the Chief Guest Hon'ble Shri.Mullappally Ramachandran, the M.P of Vatakara. The Hon'ble M.P expressed his utmost happiness in the fact that RC Vatakara was taking serious steps to "reach the un-reached". He also expressed that the Regional Centre would emerge as the topmost Educational Institution in the whole region within the shortest possible time period.



The program was also attended by Dr.M.Rajesh, RD, Dr.Prameela.O, ARD, Dr.SK.Zareena, ARD and Prof.M.Vijayalakshmi, the Coordinator of IGNOU Study Centre at Vatakara Co-operative Arts & Science College. Ms.Archana.A and Ms.Anooja.R, who did the background work to make the CLP Programme a success also attended the program.

### Three day Orientation Programme at University of Calicut

In a part breaking initiative, IGNOU Regional Centre Vatakara opened its doors to academic consultancy by organizing a three day Orientation Programme for the newly appointed distance education teachers at the School of Distance Education, University of Calicut, Kerala. It is for the first time that this Regional Centre was requested by a traditional university to actively participate in training their teachers. Apart from the newly appointed teachers at School of Distance Education Calicut, a good number of Academics from the affiliated colleges under the University of Calicut also attended the three day programme. The programme benefited from the presence of eminent Academician, Prof. Mohan B Menon (Former Chairman NIOS, Director School of Education, IGNOU and Vice-Chancellor, WOU). Further, most of the resource persons were from IGNOU itself. Dr.M.Rajesh, RD, Dr.Prameela.O, ARD, Dr.S.K.Zareena, ARD and Mr.B.Praveen Kumara, AR from Regional Centre Vatakara covered bulk of the areas of the training programme. In addition, Dr.V.T Jalajakumari, ARD, IGNOU RC Cochin and Dr.M.K Sabu from CUSAT, Ernakulam also took sessions.



The major areas covered in the Orientation Programme were Introduction to Distance Education in India, Fundamentals of counselling at a distance, Evaluation and preparation of assignments, preparation of self learning materials, specifically through incorporation of OERs, designing assignments and study tools in the digital mode and creating learner management systems in the digital and online mode.

More than 50 Academicians attended the three day Orientation Programme. The participants found the programme both up-to-date and extremely useful.



### English Language Workshop at Central Prison, Kannur

IGNOU Regional Centre Vatakara sees itself as a game changer in social outreach as a measure in this direction, a one day English Language Training Program was initiated at Central Prison, Kannur in association with Shri.Bhaskaran Nair of ELTIF. The profile of the prisoners at Kannur Central Prison is quite diverse. There are inmates who have not even completed their Primary Education on one hand and on the other there are inmates who have even completed their PhDs. Since the number of inmates in the first category far outstrip those in the second, a basic Functional English Workshop was organised by the Regional Centre on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2018. This training program covered aspects such as introducing inmates to basic greetings, self introduction, introducing one family and neighbourhood, preparing one CV and exposing them to major conversational themes. The sessions were taken up by Prof.Bhaskaran Nair (ELTIF), Dr.M.Rajesh (RD, IGNOU RC Vatakara) and Dr.Prameela.O (ARD, IGNOU RC Vatakara).



A significant aspect of the program was that the inmates were trained in Basic English through native songs and stories. This workshop was a preliminary attempt and the Jail authorities as well as the inmates have requested for more such sessions in future.

### A walk down the purgatory: visit to an Open Jail

Dr.Prameela.O

The Regional Director of RC Vatakara Dr.M.Rajesh and I visited the Open Jail at Cheemeni on 07/02/2018 to explore the possibilities for the Establishment of an IGNOU Study Centre. We met the Superintendent of the Jail Shri.Jayakumar V. and the Welfare Officer, Shri.Shivaprasad.K.

It is the second open jail to be set up in Kerala that started functioning in 2007. This prison, which houses 203 inmates at present admit prisoners who have completed a specific portion of their imprisonment and who have exhibited exemplary behaviour. The prison situated in 308 acres of land is laid with laterite soil making it very difficult for Agriculture. The rocky nature of land coupled with excruciating summer makes it very difficult to take up agricultural activities. Even then 8 farms are maintained in the Prison cultivating various vegetables and other crops like Cashew, Pepper, Rubber, Mango, passion fruit etc .Further, wild animals and birds like boar, deer, peacock etc are found in the prison campus. Apart from Horticulture, this Prison also has one Dairy Farm, a Goat Farm, a Rabbit Farm, Piggery, a Poultry Farm and a farm of ornamental birds. In recent times, this prison has collaborated with 'Aviculture Association of Kerala' for productive activities.



The prison also houses a beauty parlour open for the public where the inmates perform all the duties of professional beauticians. This may enable them to build a successful career after their release from the prison. Majority of the construction work here are carried out by the inmates and the prisoners are paid Rs.200/- per day for work – a remuneration higher than that of other jails.

For the past few years, the prison department organises various vocational training programmes for the inmates. As part of this they have organised courses like Panchakarma therapy, two wheeler repairing, Chenda Melam, Computer course, Short film/ documentary production for the inmates. Last year courses like Beauty Parlour Management, Electrical Wiring and Motor winding, Aluminium Fabrication Motor Vehicle Driving etc were conducted.

It came to our notice that the prison provides facility for continuing education up to Higher Secondary level through Kerala Saksharatha Mission, but there is no opportunity for higher education for the prisoners here. We interacted with the inmates at the prison auditorium in the presence of the Welfare Officer and the Superintendent. There we introduced to them IGNOU, the global University which provides quality higher education to all sections of the society.

### Inauguration of a Regular Study Centre at Sree Narayana Guru College, Chelannur

Kozhikode till recently was served by only one Study Centre – JDT Islam. On account of increasing pressure of students on SC-1403, there was an urgent need to establish an LSC in a reputed Institution. On account of the extensive ground work done by Dr.Prameela.O, ARD, RC Vatakara a new Centre was established at SNG College, Chelannur – an institution of considerable repute in the area.



The inauguration of this Study Centre was done on 04<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at a glittering ceremony. The Chief Guest for the function was the District Collector, Shri.U.V Jose. Shri.Jose in his inaugural address emphasised upon the need to educate people on environmental protection. He also expressed the whole that the new IGNOU Study Centre shall be a major step-forward in delivering high quality education at least cost. Dr.M.Rajesh, RD, Dr.Prameela.O, ARD, Dr.SK.Zareena, ARD and Mr.B.Praveen Kumara, AR attended and spoke on the occasion.

### Tribal Empowerment program at Kannavam Forest

We at IGNOU RC Vatakara are of the firm belief that social change can be brought about by reaching out to the marginalised sections at their residences. It was with this philosophy in mind that the RC in association with ELTIF organised a Training Programme for the teachers of tribal students at the tribal exclaim deep inside Kannavam forest on 27th and 28<sup>th</sup> of December 2017. Teachers from four states participated in the program. Further, a batch of tribal students also attended the program. A unique feature of this program was the fact that two days all resource persons, trainee teachers and students lived in tribal locations inside the forest and were cut off from the outside world. English Language skills were imparted using the local cultural traits, songs and role play. Prof.Bhaskaran Nair was the chief resource person. Dr.SK.Zareena, represented IGNOU at the program.



As a follow-up of this programme, ELTIF had also conducted a seminar in the subsequent days, which attracted a good number of paper presentations and key note addresses. The Regional Centre plans to conduct more out reach programmes for the benefit of marginalized sections of the society in the near future.



### IGNOU RC Vatakara participates in the District Youth Convention conducted by Nehru Yuva Kendra at Vatakara and Mahe

Nehru Yuva Kendra organised a District Youth Convention at Vatakara to sensitize the youth on holistic personality development, career building and skill enhancement. The program at Vatakara was inaugurated by the Hon'ble M.P.Shri.Mullappally Ramachandran, who emphasized the fact that the energies of youth need to be diverted in the right channels. He emphasized upon the significant role that IGNOU has played in developing the potentialities of youth across the country. Apart from the representative of Nehru Yuva Kendra, the program was also attended by Dr.SK.Zareena,ARD and Prof.M.Vijayalakshmi, Coordinator, IGNOU Study Centre Vatakara.



A similar program was organised on the same themes by Nehru Yuva Kendra at Mahe where the Hon'ble MLA of Mahe Dr.V.Ramachandran was the chief guest. The program was also attended by Dr.M.Rajesh, RD, Dr.Prameela.O, ARD, Dr.SK.Zareena, ARD and the Regional Administrator of Mahe. The Hon'ble MLA lamented upon the fact that only a miniscule number of pass outs from traditional institutions were employable. He hoped that IGNOU would play a stellar role in changing the situation.



### Farewell to Dr.SK.Zareena, ARD

The Regional Centre with a heavy heart relieved Dr.SK.Zareena, ARD consequent upon her transfer to RC Chennai. Dr.Zareena had rendered yeoman service to the Regional Centre in her 10 months service. She handled the areas of Admissions, Scholarships, monitoring of Study Centre located in Malappuram and Kozhikode. She had put her best foot forward in all promotional and extension activities of the Regional Centre. Her easy accessibility to learners and her dedication to the job will long be remembered by the staffs and students of Regional Centre Vatakara.

This Regional Centre wishes her the best of times ahead.



## IGNOU RC VATAKARA IN REGIONAL DAILIES

### നെഹ്രൂ യുവകേന്ദ്ര യുവജനസമ്മേളനം

**വടകരം** ▶ സ്വാമി വിവേകാനന്ദൻ ന്റെ കേരള സന്ദർശനത്തിന്റെ 125-ാം വാർഷികത്തിന്റെ ഭാഗമായി നെഹ്രൂ യുവ കേന്ദ്ര വടകരയിൽ സംഘടിപ്പിച്ച ജില്ലാ തല യുവജന സമ്മേളനം മുല്ലപ്പള്ളി രാമചന്ദ്രൻ എം.പി. ഉദ്ഘാടനം ചെയ്തു.

സി.കെ. നാണു എം.എൽ.എ. അധ്യക്ഷത വഹിച്ചു. മികച്ച യുവ ജന സംഘടനയ്ക്കുള്ള നെഹ്രൂ യുവകേന്ദ്ര അവാർഡ് ചങ്ങരംകുളം അനശ്വര കൃഷ്ണിന് മുല്ലപ്പള്ളി രാമചന്ദ്രൻ വിതരണം ചെയ്തു. നെഹ്രൂ യുവകേന്ദ്ര ജില്ലാ കോ-ഓർഡിനേറ്റർ എം. അനിൽകുമാർ, ഡോ. സി. മഹേഷ്, ഇഗ്നോ



● നെഹ്രൂ യുവകേന്ദ്ര സംഘടിപ്പിച്ച ജില്ലാതല യുവജനസമ്മേളനം മുല്ലപ്പള്ളി രാമചന്ദ്രൻ എം.പി. ഉദ്ഘാടനം ചെയ്യുന്നു

അസി. ഡയറക്ടർ ഡോ. സനീന, ജയപ്ര കാൾ എന്നിവർ സംസാരിച്ചു. പ്രൊഫ. എം. വിജയലക്ഷ്മി, പി.

വരി 23 വെള്ളി

മലയാള മനോരമ



ചേളന്നൂർ എസ്എൻജി കോളജിൽ ഇഗ്നോ സെന്റർ കലക്ടർ യു.വി. ജോസ് ഉദ്ഘാടനം ചെയ്യുന്നു.

### എസ്എൻജി കോളജ് ഇഗ്നോ സെന്റർ ഉദ്ഘാടനം ചെയ്തു

**ചേളന്നൂർ** • സുവർണ ജൂബിലിയുടെ നിറവിലെത്തിയ എസ്എൻജി കോളജിനു ലഭിച്ച ഇഗ്നോ സെന്റർ കലക്ടർ യു.വി. ജോസ് ഉദ്ഘാടനം ചെയ്തു. സാമൂഹ്യ പ്രശ്നങ്ങളിൽ യുവാക്കൾ ഇടപെടേണ്ട കാലം അതിക്രമിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നുവെന്ന് അദ്ദേഹം പറഞ്ഞു. മാലിന്യ സംസ്കരണമാണ് കേരളം ഇന്നനുഭവിക്കുന്ന

സാമൂഹിക വിപത്ത്. അഞ്ചാറുമാസത്തെ കഠിന പ്രയത്നത്തെത്തുടർന്ന് മാലിന്യ സംസ്കരണത്തിൽ മറ്റു ജില്ലകളെ അപേക്ഷിച്ച് കോഴിക്കോടിനു മുന്നേറാൻ കഴിഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നും അദ്ദേഹം പറഞ്ഞു. പ്രിൻസിപ്പൽ വി.ആർ. സുധീഷ് അധ്യക്ഷത വഹിച്ചു. പഞ്ചായത്ത് വൈസ് പ്രസിഡന്റ് പി.എം. വിജയൻ, മെമ്പർ പി.കെ.

കവിത, ഇഗ്നോ റീജനൽ ഡയറക്ടർ ഡോ. കെ. രാജേഷ്, മുൻ പ്രിൻസിപ്പൽ ഡോ. സി. വിനോദ് കുമാർ, പി. ശിവദാസൻ, ഡോ. ഒ. പ്രമീള, ഡോ. എസ്.കെ. സമീറ, എസ്.കെ. ജ്യോതി ലക്ഷ്മി, വി.പി. ജൂബി, പ്രോഗ്രാം കോ-ഓർഡിനേറ്റർ എം.ടി. രജീഷ്, അസിസ്റ്റന്റ് കോ-ഓർഡിനേറ്റർ ആർ. ഗീത എന്നിവർ പ്രസംഗിച്ചു.