

Malabar Diary -A Newsletter covering Educational Innovations and Literary Activities at IGNOU Regional Centre Vatakara

32nd Convocation of IGNOU

IGNOU was established as the premier Open and Distance Learning institution in the country in the year 1985. Starting with a little over 2000 students in 1987, the University has scaled great heights and today has an enrolment of more than 3.5 million students spread across India and other nations. The popularity of the University has been on account of its open and flexible mode of study including a wide range of liberties that it offers to its learners. With the possible exception of the postal services and a few other institutions, there are very few agencies which can boast of the network that IGNOU possesses. From the northern end of Kashmir to the southern end of Kanyakumari and from the western end of Lakshadweep to the eastern end of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, IGNOU's network covers the entire country, and unifies it through a common syllabi and study process. Further, the range and scope of academic programs offered by IGNOU is mammoth. From the street vendor to the highest rank officials of the country – IGNOU has a programme to offer to each, earning itself the epithet – “the People's University”.

The Regional Centre at Vatakara was established in 2011 to cater to the felt needs of the student community of Malabar Region. With a jurisdiction over 6 districts – Malappuram, Kozhikode, Wayanad, Kannur, Kasargod and Mahe districts, this Regional Centre today has reached out to all segments of the society including women, marginalised sections and minorities. Right from its inception, this Regional Centre had laid its focus on touching the lives of all sections of the society with a bouquet of dynamic programmes catering to the needs of the professionals and fresh job seekers alike. The Regional Centre has been transforming itself according to the needs of the times in a manner that is characteristic of the function of the University. Starting with an enrolment of 1916 in 2011, currently it has an enrolment of 16121 in 2019 and a cumulative enrolment of 67348.

The Regional Centre has not only focused on enrolment but also on making qualitative change to the lives of the people in the districts under its jurisdiction. As a result we see the Regional Centre operating a study centre in Kannur Central Jail, where apart from regular programmes of studies, it also has conducted soft skill programs in the field of English Language Training and Computer Literacy. Similarly, this Regional Centre, in the last one and half years has coordinated with agencies such as English Language Teachers Interaction Forum (ELTIF), Kudumbasree, Local Govt. agencies and community Development agencies to deliver customized training modules to women, marginalized sections and other deserving groups.



It is a matter of great pride that during the 32nd Convocation of the University, this Regional Centre boasts of a National Gold Medallist in MTTM in Mrs. Soorya.M. Further, 1115 number of learners has been declared eligible to receive their degrees and diplomas at the present Convocation representing RC Vatakara. This is a moment that the RC has been looking forward to. We are indeed delighted that the hard work of the learners and the unwavering support provided by Regional Centres and Learner Support Centres has borne fruit. While the Hon'ble Vice President of India, Shri.M.Venkaiah Naidu shall be the Chief Guest at the Head Quarters for the 32nd Convocation, Prof.Gopinath Ravindran, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Kannur University shall be the Guest of Honour at the Regional Convocation to be held at Vatakara. We are sure that their worthy words shall inspire our graduates to attain great heights.

Our glittering star – Soorya.M, Gold Medallist, MTTM Programme

The Regional Centre was pleasantly informed from the Student Evaluation Division, IGNOU New Delhi that Mrs. Soorya.M (Enrolment number: 166935043) of MTTM has secured the University Gold Medal. Mrs. Soorya was a learner attached to IGNOU Study Centre 1403 situated at JDT Islam, Kozhikode . Prior to joining IGNOU, she had completed the Bachelor of Travel and Tourism from Pazhassi Raja College, Pulpally, Wayanad. She also has the experience of working at Riya Travels and Moulavi Tours and Travels , Calicut. She states that her studies at IGNOU have helped in greatly enhancing her proficiency in her subject. In her own words

“ It was a very good learning experience for me to learn from IGNOU Curriculum, because it help me to evolve myself and I think it will help me in to my future also. The study materials which IGNOU provides are very in depth and informative. IGNOU has been the best part of my life and has given me a way to succeed. IGNOU faculty members are also very supportive and helped me a lot in clarifying doubts. Overall it was an amazing learning experience for me.”



We at IGNOU RC Vatakara are indeed delighted to have a Gold Medallist amongst us. We wish Mrs. Soorya the very best in her career and profession.

Work shop on Open Education Resources at JDT Islam , Kozhikode

On the occasion of National Education Day, IGNOU RC Vatakara in association with study Centre 1403 attached to JDT Islam, Kozhikode held a held day workshop on Open Education Resources (OER) on 11th November 2018. OERs are the greatest innovation in the field of education in recent times. More and more institutions and teachers are banking on OERs over and above the traditional copy righted materials to pursue their academic work. With a tremendous increase in the cost of copy righted material, it is imperative to support the OER movement.

The workshop covered the following aspects:

- a. Why OERs?
- b. Copyright law and OER licence.
- c. Identifying OER- text and media.
- d. How to use OERs in academic activities?
- e. How to cite OERs?
- f. How to contribute to the development of OERs?



The workshop was attended by Higher Education teachers and students of various programs. It was remarkable that around 100 persons participated in the program. Participants were of the view that more such programs should be organized. Dr.M.Rajesh was the resource person for the program. Dr.Prameela.O, Asst. Regional Director, Mr.Muhammed Safarulla, Coordinator (1403) and Mr.Razak of JDT Islam participated in the function.

Voter's day function at RC Vatakara

RC Vatakara organized a sensitization program for its own employees about the importance of voting in a democratic country. The Regional Director, Dr.M.Rajesh administrated an oath to the participants aimed at sustaining the sanctity of the electoral process. The participants pledged to use their franchise in a responsible fashion and to up hold the sanctity and fairness of the electoral process.



Essay writing competition on the occasion of IGNOU Foundation Day

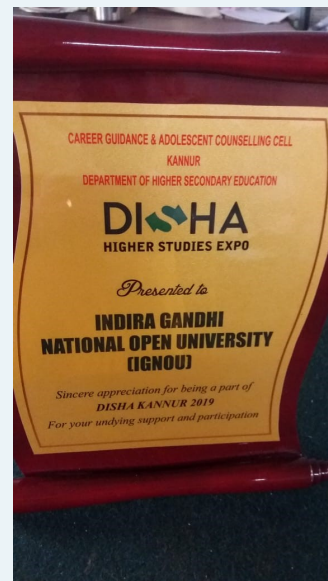
November 19th marks a very special day for IGNOU. This day is celebrated as foundation day every year. On this day all employees of IGNOU reaffirms their faith in the motto of the University and re-dedicate themselves to the cause of student community.

On November 19th 2018, an essay writing competition was held at Vatakara Cooperative College on the topic “Distance Education as the need of our times”. Prizes were given to the top three participants. All participants indicated their faith in the Distance Education process and stated that Distance Education remains the only mechanism to reach out all segments of Indian population without the distinction of age, caste, sex, place of birth etc.. The program was conducted by Dr.M.Rajesh, Regional Director and Dr.Prameela.O, Asst. Regional Director, Mr.B.Praveen Kumara, Asst. Registrar and Dr.Ammukutty, Asst. Coordinator.



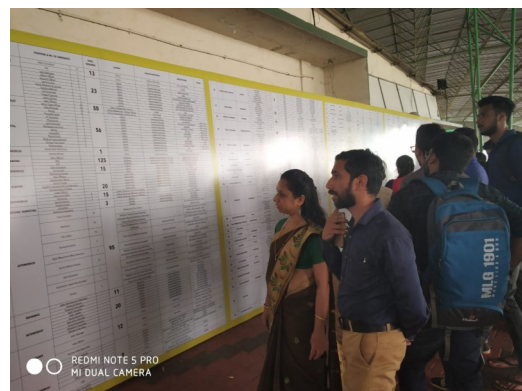
Participation in the “Disha Education Expo” conducted by the Department of Higher Secondary Education, Govt. of Kerala

IGNOU RC Vatakara in association with study centre 1405 (SN College, Kannur) participated in the “Disha Education Expo” conducted by the Department of Higher Secondary Education, Govt. of Kerala . The Regional Centre was able to show case the wide variety of programmes runs by the University and the benefits accruing from the same to the student community. A large number of students attended the Expo and IGNOU’s counter was a prominent highlight. In appreciation of IGNOU’s participation and contribution to the Expo, a plaque was awarded which is currently placed at SN College, Kannur.



Edge Job Fair at JDT Islam, Calicut

It has always been IGNOU RC Vatakara's endeavour to strive to provide job placements to IGNOU learners. Regional Centre Vatakara also got associated with JDT Calicut to participate in Edge 2018 job fair which was held on 25th November 2018. IGNOU students were also invited to participate in the job fair so as to find suitable employment. Dr.Prameela.O, Asst. Regional Director represented IGNOU RC Vatakara along with Mr.Muhammed Safarulla, Coordinator IGNOU Study Centre JDT Islam (1403).



Induction Program for January 2019 session.

The Regional Centre conducted Induction Programs for the newly admitted learners of January 2019 session at various Learner Support Centres. The Programs were conducted as per the schedule given below:

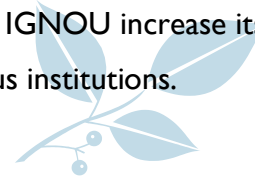
| Sl. No | Date | Time | Venue | Study Centers Clubbed | Number of Students | Name of the Academic Officers |
|--------|----------|----------|--|--------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 | 09/03/19 | 10.30am | SN College | 1405,1485,83014 & 83015 | 948 | Dr.M.Rajesh |
| | 09/03/19 | 2.00pm | Vatakara Cooperative College, Kurukkilad, vatakara | 83010,83011 & 83002 | 196 | Dr.M.Rajesh |
| 2 | 10/03/19 | 10.30am | JDT Islam Kozhikode | 1403,83012&1432P | 785 | Dr.M.Rajesh Dr.Prameela.O |
| | 10/03/19 | 2.00pm | PSMO College, Thirurangadi, Malappuram | 1409,14100D,14122, 14179&83013 | 829 | Dr.M.Rajesh Dr.Prameela.O |
| 3 | 21/03/19 | 11.00 am | St, Mary's College, Sulthan Bathery, wayanad | 1430 & 83009 | 111 | Dr.Prameela.O |



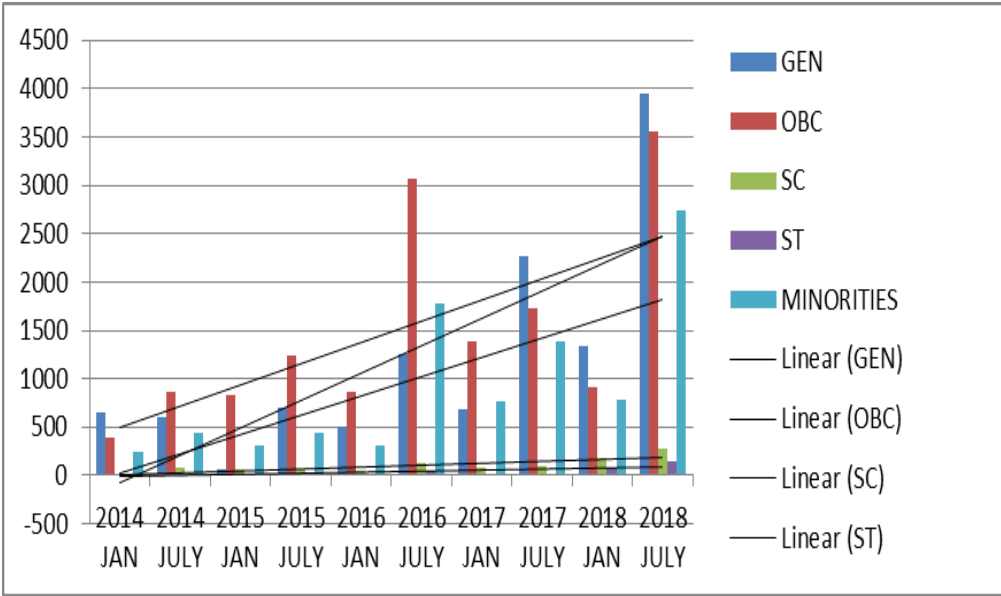
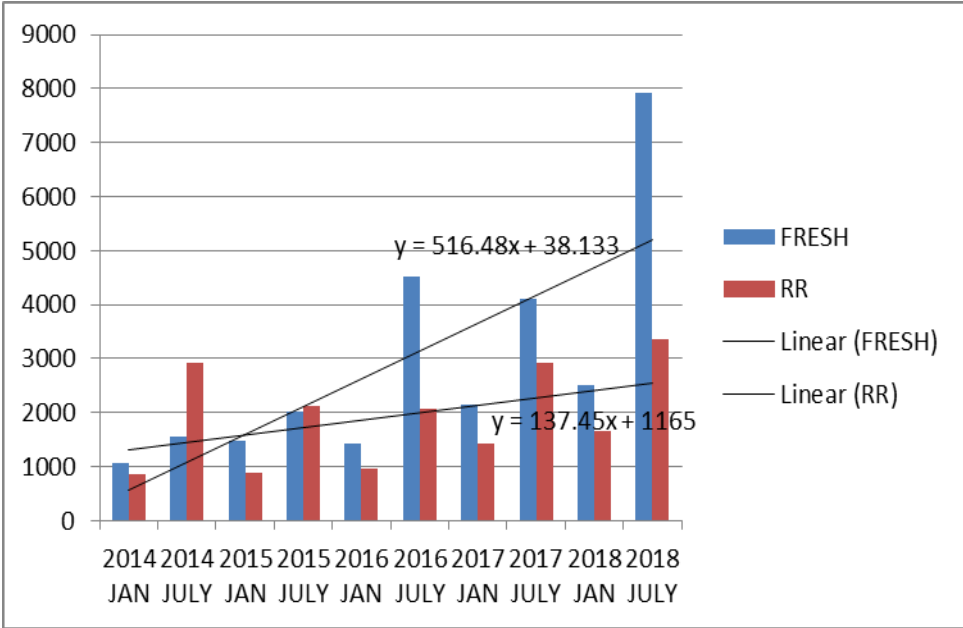
These programs were attended by a large number of learners from across the region.

Training for NET/JRF aspirants

IGNOU Regional Centre Vatakara in association with JDT Islam, Kozhikode organized a NET/JRF training session for MLIS students on 10th March 2019. The programme was inaugurated by the Regional Director, Dr.M.Rajesh. Dr.Prameela.O, Assistant Regional Director gave valuable inputs to the candidates. Renowned experts in library science imparted training to IGNOU learners. It is expected that this training program will be a beginning for more such programs of various disciplines to be held in association with other Study Centres as well. This program will also help IGNOU increase its footprint in the field of technology having more of its students as teachers in various institutions.



RC Vatakara– Key Stats -1



RC Vatakara– Key Stats– 2

