



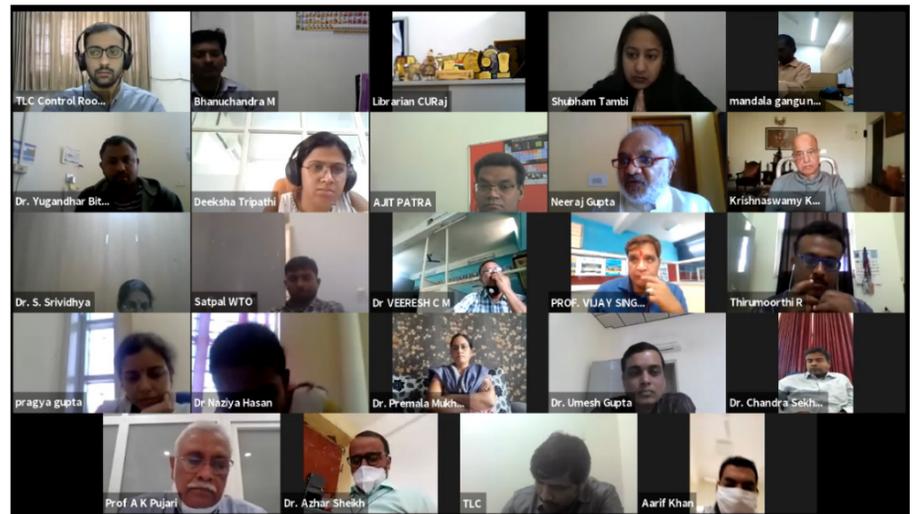
## TLC CURaj organises One Week FDP on Implementation of New Education Policy 2020

### TLC@CURaj

Teaching Learning Centre (TLC) of Central University of Rajasthan (under the aegis of PMMMNMTT) organized One Week Online Faculty Development Program on "Implementation of New Education Policy 2020: Role of Faculty Members of HEIs" from 4th to 8th November 2020 for the Higher Educational Institutions of different universities and colleges. The FDP was inaugurated by Chief Guest Dr. K. Kasturirangan, Hon'ble Chancellor, Central University of Rajasthan, Guest of Honour Prof. Arun K. Pujari, Former Vice Chancellor, Central University of Rajasthan and Prof. Neeraj Gupta, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor (i/c), Central University of Rajasthan. Dr. Ajit K. Patra, Director TLC, welcome to all participants and presented the mission and vision of TLC@Curaj and the program details. Dr. K. Kasturirangan gave remarkable concerns on the significant role of teachers in the implementation of NEP, 2020 and he also emphasised on the research and quality concerns of teaching, learning, infrastructure



and research. Prof. Arun K. Pujari explored the challenges in the implementation of NEP, 2020 in the context of multidisciplinary education and financial concerns. Prof. Neeraj Gupta expressed his gratitude to all and shared how our university is practicing many aspects related to NEP 2020 from the last one decade. Many dignitaries and intellectuals of various HEIs virtually participated in the program. The NEP, 2020 is the brainchild of Dr. K. Kasturirangan's sincere efforts. It will bring all transformational changes in the Indian system of education and will definitely contribute to make India as a global knowledge superpower in the world. The NEP, 2020 proposed a wide level of



changes in the structure, curricula, pedagogy, learning resources of education and research prospective at each & every level of education. The coordinators of the FDP were Dr. Gobind Singh, Dr. J.P. Tripathi and Dr. Kanak Sharma. In this FDP, total 15 sessions were conducted including 03 interactive sessions, 01 quiz and

07 assignments. More than 100 participants from the different parts of India, with multiple disciplines, participated in this FDP.

**UPCOMING PROGRAM**  
One month Induction/Orientation Program  
(20 January - 16 February, 2021)

## Felicitation Function conducted for Prof. Arun K Pujari, Vice-Chancellor on completion of five years term at Central University of Rajasthan

On occasion of the completion of his five years term at Central University of Rajasthan, a felicitation function was organized for Prof. Arun Kumar Pujari, Honorbale Vice-Chancellor on 5th October, 2020 in the University Auditorium. During the function, the teaching and non-teaching members of CURaj family assembled in auditorium as per the guidelines of Government of India/University for combating the threat of COVID-19. Some of faculties and non-teaching staff shared their memories with Prof. Pujari and expressed their gratitude for the development of CURaj in last 5 years. Prof. Pujari shared his experiences and emphasized that everyone should work in the best interest of the University. Prof. Supriya Agarwal, the President of Women Employee Association, felicitated Mrs. Subhalakshmi Pujari, the first lady of the University who was the founder chairperson of Women Association of the university.



## Prof. Neeraj Gupta becomes Vice-Chancellor (In-charge) of Central University of Rajasthan

On completion of five years term of Prof. Arun Kumar Pujari as the Vice-Chancellor of Central University of Rajasthan, Prof. Neeraj Gupta, Dean Academics and Dean of School of Architecture was given the charge of Vice-Chancellor (i/c), Central University of Rajasthan. Professor Gupta is the senior most professor of the university. Prof. Neeraj Gupta is an architect, planner, learning facilitator and educational administrator with more than 37 years of experience including nearly two decades in a leadership position in Training and Educational Institutions. He is skilled in public speaking, team building, sustainable architecture, and curriculum design. Prof. Neeraj Gupta was instrumental in designing various campuses of Higher Learning institutions including IIT Jodhpur and Central University of Rajasthan.

## EoSE conducted in Exam from Home mode by Central University of Rajasthan

Overcoming the challenges of COVID-19 crisis in respect to learning and evaluation, the Central University of Rajasthan successfully conducted the End of Semester Examination (EoSE), May 2020 in Exam from Home (EfH) mode using ICT for terminal/final semester students. Exam from Home was conducted to ensure the results for final semester are declared in timely manner, all students complete their programs of study and students become eligible to apply for jobs or further studies. Online platform, Test from Home (TFH), was used for facilitating online exams and letting the students write the exams from the safety of their homes. ICT-enabled Exam from Home facilitated the successful conduct of examinations in the difficult times of COVID-19 pandemic. A committee was constituted by the university to supervise the Exam from Home. Tenders were invited from various vendors for ICT-enabled examination. Those students, who were required to complete their projects or dissertations, submission was made through email and the presentation and/or Viva-voce examinations were conducted through video conferencing platforms.

## CUCET-2020 Successfully Conducted by Central University of Rajasthan

Central Universities Common Entrance Test 2020 (CUCET-2020) was successfully organized in offline mode (OMR based) from September 18th to 20th 2020 across the country in 141 cities. This examination was conducted continuously for three days, two-shifts-a-day. This was a unique examination which was organized by Central University of Rajasthan as Coordinating University on the behalf of all the participating universities across India. In this year 14 Central Universities and 4 state universities participated in this joint entrance examination. CUCET-2020 was conducted for 72 UG and integrated courses, 344 PG courses and 270 research programs offered by all the 18 participating universities. This year, for 686 programmes at 18 Universities in 125 test paper, total 2,72,912 registration were there and out of this around 1,46, 864 finally appeared for the examination which was almost 53.81% of the total registration

Central University of Rajasthan has been successfully coordinating CUCET since 2013. This year it was a challenge to organize this examination across 141 cities with multiple test centres in many cities due to COVID-19 pandemic. Every single measure to deal with COVID-19 was taken care with the utmost precautions as per the guidelines of Government of India (GoI) and UGC for



conducting this examination successfully. Central University of Rajasthan being coordinating university released an additional budget to all the test centres shift-wise every day for sanitization and as per COVID-19

protocol. The participating students were instructed to wear mask compulsorily and the seating arrangements were made such so that the proper social distancing was maintained. Student entry at each centre was ensured with

## Media Education in New Scenario: Challenges and Opportunities

Prof. Subhash Dhuliya

Department of Culture and Media Studies

In the wake of digital revolution, the media education needs to be radically transformed. The traditional system is no more relevant to meet present day demands and requirement of industries. Now the biggest challenge before journalism and media training schools is to stay abreast with the latest equipment and technologies in a rapidly changing world. At a time when information, data and technology have acquired unprecedented dimensions and huge amount of information, misinformation and disinformation are available in the web domain, developing intellectual and professional skills has acquired altogether new meaning so that students can acquire competence to decipher hidden meaning of the media messages. Developing critical thinking is also an area of focus so that students are intellectually equipped to understand the complex world of information that has emerged and deeply influenced every sphere of human life. The first and foremost challenge in this context is to make students media literate. Attention needs to be paid to develop a vision to impart knowledge to develop strong theoretical foundation and then move to hands-on-training to impart skills in simulated work conditions. Education, research and training all three need to be combined to equip students with the competence to find a place in huge media landscape that has emerged in the wake of technological revolution. The objective should be to create a balance between concepts and the skills- a rational combination of knowledge and craft. Creating new bridges between media education and industry is a widely felt need. There is a lack of linkages between media educational organizations and the media industry. Media academics are expected to play vital role to monitor the media through research which is widely in existence in leading global journalism schools but not so in our country.

A new kind of media convergence is taking place which has changed the very nature of work profile of the media professionals. A media professional is expected to write articles, shoot photos and videos, and be versed with web tools. Imparting skills to produce multimedia packages is another stream that needs attention. Media education has largely been focused on journalism component and most of the schools in the country have nomenclature of "journalism and mass communication". With the emergence of new entertainment platforms, there is need to introduce programs in entertainment arts. There is huge demand

of content in OTT platforms. The media education needs to address the entire media industry - news and entertainment both.

The programmes being offered by media schools must focus on nurturing creativity. At a time when artificial intelligence is replacing so many jobs in different sectors, it is creativity that matters a lot. Someone has said that "machine can never replace a human because machine has a chip and human has a heart". This is the essence of the creativity. The future largely belongs to creative minds in all streams of media the way it is shaping and increasingly becoming technology driven. The imperative need is to impart intellectual skills and nurture critical thinking otherwise there is real danger of becoming computer controlled-robots.

There is urgent need of upgrading teaching training methodologies. The faculty needs to pull their best efforts to introduce innovations in their teaching and training methodology. The faculty needs to gear up to meet the challenges of this age of information in which data is reigning supreme. The information revolution has resulted into massive expansion of media in general and the news and entertainment industry in particular. This has opened tremendous professional opportunities and the resultant need for trained human resource in the news and entertainment industry, academia, research and development sectors

### In lieu of an epilogue

Humankind is entering into a new age which is very complex and its consequences are still shaping in the womb of the future. All developments indicate that we are heading towards a kind of digital dictatorship where few information giants will control the world. The future of liberal democracy is being debated hotly in the context of the power of information giants to influence people to vote in a particular direction. A huge amount of data is being collected on each one of us whenever we visit a website or use social media. Our political orientation, reading habits, consumption pattern etc. are being analysed through algorithms and we can be influenced to behave in a particular way. The information giants have acquired immense power to play with our emotions virtually converting voting pattern in liberal democracy to be governed by what people 'feel' rather than what they 'think'. Technologies advancing at a pace unheard before but those who are inventing technology are not aware of its political, economic, social, and cultural implications. It falls in the domain of social sciences which need to rise to the occasion and address the issues and generate a global wave of awakening.

## Mental Health Experiences during COVID-19

Dr. Subhasis Bhadra

Chairman, Mental Health Committee

Central University of Rajasthan, since its inception considered 'mental health' as an important component for students' academic engagement. The university has envisaged the holistic growth, well-being and comprehensive learning in its student centric approach. The psychological counseling unit is functional from 2013, and became more vibrant during the emergence of this biological disaster 'the COVID-19 pandemic crisis' in March 2020. The 'Mental Health and Wellbeing Committee' was established as an extension of earlier efforts. Further, university has imbibed various directives and protocol issues by competent authorities to ensure the best possible management of the situation. The students moved towards their home and mostly reached to their respective destination. Subsequently, university established online communication with all the students to re-engage them proactively in the academic process with an aim to ease the academic stress and establish an educative-learning communication with the students. Each department and subject teachers gradually engaged their classes as the students do not feel academic hurdles in such new emerging context. Whenever students faced any issue to participate in the online classes, they were contacted by the counselors, and helped individually to resolve their issues. While students communicated any issue with connectivity, or not having adequate facilities, they were supported by their teachers over telephone and also initiated peer support for each other.

In the university website, a weblink was created with the basic information about mental health and other useful links. The same was shared in the university social media platform (Facebook). The mental health team made noteworthy effort to normalize the situation and focused on motivating the students to priorities their academic interest, being optimistic and active in personal life and familial engagements. It was highlighted that in such pandemic crisis situation experiencing a bit of stress and feeling uneasy is not uncommon. Thus, everyone was encouraged to accept it as a "normal reaction to an abnormal situation". Appreciating the situation and keeping active, fit and healthy is a matter of self-commitment and life-style choice which was communicated frequently by the counselors. The students were advised that along with studies, assignments, watching online course material, they also should keep sometime for a bit of meditation, yoga, relaxation exercise, recreation, and practicing hobbies. In every communication it was invariably emphasized to be at home and take every possible effort to be healthy. The underlining context is not to

worry but to be responsible.

All the students vacated the hostel by April 22nd except two foreign Ph.D. scholars from Afghanistan and Philippines. It was essential to ensure safety and helping them to get adjusted with the new situation. Thus, both these students were provided individual kitchen and adequate facilities. One member of the mental health team was in touch as they can share any concern and seek support. The counselors were available to all the students and also started receiving number of issues and concern from the students. Some of the important concerns were addressed by our mental health team. Few students could not reach to their home, but they were at their relative's house and thus they were experiencing discomfort. Some students had poor Internet connection and had difficulties in attending online classes and were too worried about their attendance. There were concerns about project and dissertation work and inability to comply with the plan. Few students felt hopeless and could not concentrate on studies. Counselors were attending each concern and helping the students. Further, they were encouraged to take decisions that could bring possible solutions. Counselors made an effort to reach out to the individual teachers and encouraged them to look for different medium to share information. The faculty members recorded lecture videos, prepared class notes and sent soft copies through different means, like Telegram, WhatsApp and e-mail. In few cases, hard copies of reading material were posted. Teachers substantially encouraged peer support and learning among the classmates as no one should feel too aloof. Counselors reached out to the final year students before the commencement of examination and as a policy, options were given to the students to choose the mode of examination (online-exam from home, or paper-pen exam after regular university routine resume) as per their comfort and convenience. Worth to mention, all eligible final year students appeared for the examination from home (online mode) without much of hurdles.

All through the counselors made efforts for open communication and ensured student could think and adopt an option by his/her choice. Counselors also attempted to ensure that a teacher could be empathetic and compassionate to accommodate and respond to the changing needs of students. It was not easy to deal with, as the anxiety, fear, depression, resistance, and at times rebellious attitudes were high. But reaching out to the students, open communication, opportunities to talk and continuous advice and guidance by the mental health team to the students individually, as group and as mass did worked well.

## क्या अर्टिफिशियल इंटेलिजेंस हमारी सोचने की शक्ति को क्षीण कर सकती है ?

अदिति खरे

संस्कृति एवं मीडिया अध्ययन विभाग

क्या आपने कभी सोचा है कि पहले कैसे हम दिल्ली जैसे शहरों में भी आसानी से रास्ते याद रख लेते थे? लेकिन आज के समय में बिना गूगल मैप के छोटे रास्ते भी याद नहीं रहते। माना गूगल मैप लम्बी दूरी तय करने में, या फिर अनजानी जगह पहुंचाने में काफी मददगार है, लेकिन इसकी वजह से हमने अपने दिमाग द्वारा सोचना या फिर चीजें याद रखना पहले की तुलना में कम कर दिया है। हम इन नई तकनीकों पर इतना निर्भर हो गए हैं कि अपनी बुद्धि इस्तेमाल करना कम कर चुके हैं। और ये गूगल मैप क्या है, अर्टिफिशियल इंटेलिजेंस द्वारा निर्मित एक ऐसी तकनीक जिसके होते हुए आपको अपने दिमाग को कष्ट देने की जरूरत नहीं है। ये तो मात्र एक उदाहरण, ऐसी बहुत सी चीजें हैं, जैसे अपना पासवर्ड सेव कर लेना, जिनके होते हुए हमें ज्यादा सोचने की जरूरत ही नहीं है, काम आसानी से हो जाएगा।

अब बात करते हैं कि आखिर ये अर्टिफिशियल इंटेलिजेंस है क्या? यदि हम सोचें कि इस ब्रह्माण्ड में सबसे जटिल चीज क्या है? तो आपका जवाब क्या होगा? जवाब कहीं और नहीं बल्कि आपके दिमाग में ही है। क्योंकि जो जवाब है आपका दिमाग। जी हाँ, सबसे जटिल नेटवर्क या सबसे ताकतवर सिस्टम भी उसकी बराबरी नहीं कर सकता। अर्टिफिशियल इंटेलिजेंस जिसकी चर्चा

हर आदमी करता है, उसका अंतिम लक्ष्य है ऐसा कंप्यूटर दिमाग बनाना जो इंसानी दिमाग की तरह सोच सके। सामान्य अर्टिफिशियल इंटेलिजेंस के उदाहरण हमारे चारों ओर मौजूद हैं, जैसे एप्पल का सीरी, फेसबुक पर फ्रेंड्स रिक्मेंडेशन। ये आपकी कार में है, आपके घर में है, और एयर ट्रैफिक कंट्रोल में भी है। कई वर्षों से यह हमसे बेहतर काम कर रहा है और आगे चलकर ये वो सब कर पाएगा जो एक इंसान कर सकता है बल्कि इंसान से कहीं बेहतर। तो अभी ये एक चुनौती है जो आगे चलकर खतरा भी बन सकती है। यदि आप वर्तमान स्थिति को ठीक से समझे तो आप ये जान पाएंगे कि हमारी सोचने की शक्ति बहुत हद तक क्षीण हो चुकी है। फिर एक उदाहरण लेते हैं, आज कल की पीढ़ी ना तो अखबार पढ़ती है और ना ही मैगजीन्स। अखबार व मैगजीन्स में छपने वाली खबरें व विविध लेखकों द्वारा लिखे गए लेख पढ़कर सोचने की क्षमता गहरी हो जाती थी। किंतु आज कल बच्चे बस 60 शब्दों में सब समझ लेते हैं जिसके कारण सोचने की प्रक्रिया व तकनीकी संकायों का विकास रुक जाता है। क्या आप पहले की तरह अपने बिजनेस से जुड़े निर्णय लेने में सक्षम होते हैं? शायद नहीं! हाल ही में हुए बिजनेस कम्पनीज के एक सर्वे ने बताया कि अर्टिफिशियल इंटेलिजेंस डाटा का परीक्षण करके निर्णय लेने में मनुष्य की सहायता करता है। यानी आपको अपना दिमाग खर्च करने की जरूरत है ही नहीं।

इस बात से ये भी पता लगता है कि यदि इंसानों द्वारा लिए जाने वाले निर्णय ये कंप्यूटर मशीन लेने लगेगी

तो इंसानों की जरूरत कम हो जाएगी। एक किताब है, '21 लेसन ऑफ 21st सेंचुरी' जिसमें लिखा हुआ है कि पेशेवरों को नौकरी से निकालकर अर्टिफिशियल इंटेलिजेंस आधारित मशीनों द्वारा काम करवाया जाएगा। उदाहरण के तौर पर जापान की अनेकों कंपनियों में रोबोट इंसान की तरह काम करता है। ये तो मानों इंसानों ने अपने बेरोजगारी को स्वयं ही बुलावा दिया है। तकनीक को इतना महत्व दिया कि खुद की कीमत बहुत हद तक कम कर दी। ये कंप्यूटर दिमाग की रचना भले ही इंसान के भले के लिए की गयी हो लेकिन ये संपूर्ण मानवता को परेशान करने में सक्षम रहेगी। आप अपने कोई भी निर्णय लेने में सक्षम नहीं होंगे। आपके सोचने की शक्ति पूर्णतः इन तकनीकों के नियंत्रण में होगी। उदाहरण स्वरूप, आपका मोबाइल फोन बहुत सी ऐप द्वारा आपकी पसंद, नापसंद, आपको किस बात से गुस्सा आता है, किस बात से नहीं आता है, आप किस विचार का समर्थन करते हैं, और किस का नहीं करते हैं, इस प्रकार की सभी जानकारी इकट्ठा करके आपके ऊपर मनोवैज्ञानिक रूप से नियंत्रण बनाता है।

बहुत से वैज्ञानिकों ने अपनी रिसर्च के जरिए बताया है कि हमारा जनतंत्र यानि डेमोक्रेसी पर भी कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता का नियंत्रण हो सकता है, जिसका मतलब है कि वो डेमोक्रेसी रह ही नहीं जाएगी। आपकी सोच, विचार व भावनाएं, ये सभी आपके नियंत्रण से एक हद तक बाहर होंगे। निसंदेह यह एक बहुत बड़ा खतरा है।

## Poem

ना

कोई मना करे तो भी हम, अपनी बात मनाएंगे,  
तुम मिलना गर ना चाहो तो, हम ज़बरन मिलने आयेगें,  
ऐसी कैसी सोच बनी, ऐसी क्या ठन आई है,  
कल करो मासूम का तुम, तुमने क्यों दरिदगी फैलाई है,  
सरे बाजार मिटा डाला, वजूद किसी की बेटी का,  
ओ क़ातिल! इस जुर्म का आखिर, क्या होना तुमको हासिल था,  
तुम्हें बचपन में ना का मतलब, गर समझाया होता दुनिया ने,  
आज मुस्कुराती वो कली हमारी, यह जुल्म न होता दुनिया में,  
जिसे ना की कदर नहीं होगी, अब उसको संबल मिले नहीं,  
तुम जैसे बेदरों का, अब आजादी का कंवल खिले नहीं,  
अब बहुत हुआ, हमें समाज में, नए आयाम बनाने हैं,  
सरफिरों से बस्ती खाली करनी है, बेटी के हकूक बचाने हैं।

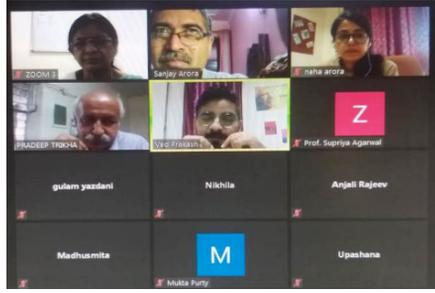
तितली

बहुत खूबसूरत पंख, और मनमोहक उड़ान,  
चंचलता से जोड़ी हमने, हर तितली की पहचान,  
एक फूल पर झूमती, फिर दूसरे पुष्प को चूमती,  
एक तितली, सारे उपवन के तारों को एक दूसरे में गूंथती,  
जो थी कल तलक इल्ली, आज वो तितली बनी,  
कल तलक जो खाती थी पत्ते, आज परागण कर रही,  
पौधों की नई नस्लों का अस्तित्व तितली के होने से है,  
आज की खूबसूरती का आगाज शायद, कल के धिनने से है।

Dr. Kaisar Raza  
Department of Pharmacy

Department of English organizes Online Extension Lecture Series

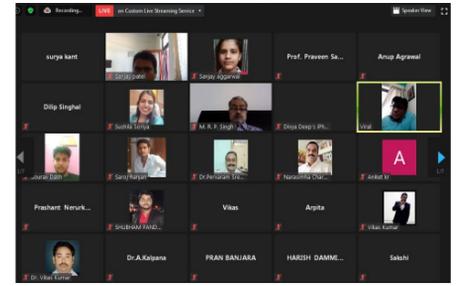
The Department of English organized online Extension Lecture Series for students of MA English and PhD scholars on topics of general interest and subject-specific areas during 30th September to 4th November 2020. Resource persons of lecture series include: Prof. Pradeep Trikha from JNV University, Udaipur (Contemporary Relevance of Charles Dickens: Reconceptualising Hard Times); Prof. VP Singh from University of Lucknow, Lucknow (Diversity of Travel Narratives: From VS Naipaul to Bill Aitken); Dr. Ritu Sen from NIT Nagpur, Nagpur (Film Criticism: Critiquing Culture, Form, and the Process of Adaptation); Prof. Indranil Acharya from Vidyasagar University, West Bengal



(Literature of the Margins: An Overview); Dr. Samana Madhuri from Calcutta University, Kolkata (Children Cinema); and Dr. Kaustav Bakshi from Jadavpur University, Kolkata (Queer Cinema/ Queering Cinema in India).

National Webinar on managing personal finance amid COVID-19 organized by Department of Commerce

The Department of Commerce, Central University of Rajasthan organized a National Webinar on “Strategy of Managing Personal Finance Including Mutual Funds During and After COVID-19” on 3rd December, 2020 in association with the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and the Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI). Eminent speakers of webinar include Mr. Viral Pareekh, AGM, SEBI; Mr. Suryakant Sharma, Senior Consultant, AMFI; and Mr. Nitin Joshi, VP, NSDL E-Governance Infr Ltd. More than 400 participants registered for the webinar. Various aspects of managing personal finance were discussed in the webinar. The webinar

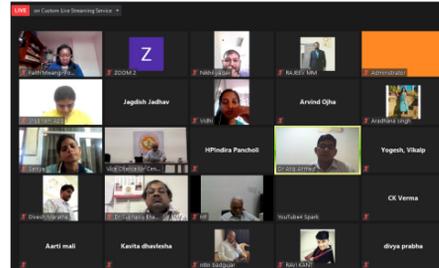


was convened by Prof. Praveen Sahu, Head, the Department of Commerce. Organizing secretaries of webinar were Dr. Sanjay Kumar Patel and Dr. Sushila Kumari Soriya.

Department of Social Work organizes a Webinar on Impact of COVID-19 on Young and Adolescent Girls

The Department of Social Work conducted a webinar on 15th October 2020 titled ‘Impact of Covid-19 on the Young and Adolescent Girls’, in view of the study conducted by the Network “Girls Not Bride” Rajasthan Chapter during the Lockdown period. This study has provided very important insights on the issues that were relevant for social work students, faculty members and professionals engaged with civil society organizations. ‘Girls Not Bride’ is a global network with partnership of more than 1400 civil society organizations to prevent child marriage and enable girls to fulfill their potential. In the webinar the resource persons and the participants discussed and shared the most burning issue of the time that is often hidden under the social restrictions. The webinar was divided in two technical session, session-I ‘Reflection

from Grassroots’, and session-II ‘University-Community Engagements’. The Dean of School of Social Sciences welcomed the guest and audience present in the virtual platform. Further, Dr. Faith Mwangi Powell, CEO, Girls Not Brides, based at UK delivered an inaugural address, followed by key note address by Professor Neeraj Gupta, Vice-Chancellor, In-Charge, Central University of Rajasthan. In the first session, four eminent humanitarian workers from civil society organizations which are actively engaged in various child protection initiatives in Rajasthan presented their views and critical issue of child or early marriage of young girls in north India. In the second session, Prof. Neelam Sukhramoni delivered a presidential address and other eminent social work professors from three different universities of Gujarat, Haryana and



Punjab presented their specific initiatives and the future perspective to initiate industry-academia engagements which can strengthen the outcome based research that will have important policy and practical implications to change the realities that are hindering the well-being and development of marginalized sections of the society. Webinar was attended by more than 400 participants from across the nation.

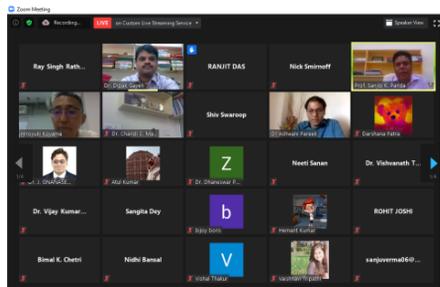
हिन्दी पखवाड़ा-2020 का आयोजन

राजस्थान केन्द्रीय विश्वविद्यालय में दिनांक 01-15 सितम्बर, 2020 के मध्य हिन्दी पखवाड़ा का आयोजन किया गया। इस अवसर पर विश्वविद्यालय में राजभाषा हिन्दी के प्रचार-प्रसार के उद्देश्य से विभिन्न प्रतियोगिताओं/कार्यक्रमों का आयोजन किया गया। विश्वविद्यालय के मुख्य द्वार, प्रशासनिक भवन, सभागार सहित विभिन्न स्थानों पर हिदी पखवाड़ा-2020 के पोस्टर लगाये गये। विश्वविद्यालय के सदस्यों को हिदी के प्रति प्रोत्साहित करने के उद्देश्य से विभिन्न स्कूलों/विभागों के सूचना पट्ट पर हिन्दी के आदर्श-वाक्य प्रदर्शित किये गये। कोविड-19 संबंधी सुरक्षात्मक निर्देशों को ध्यान में रखते हुए हिन्दी पखवाड़ा-2020 के अवसर पर ऑनलाइन माध्यम से निम्नलिखित प्रतियोगिताओं का आयोजन किया गया: हिदी पोस्टर प्रदर्शनी प्रतियोगिता; हिन्दी निबंध लेखन प्रतियोगिता; हिदी टिप्पण एवं प्रारूपण प्रतियोगिता; वेबसाइट पर हिदी अनुवाद प्रतियोगिता; और हिदी में कार्यालय के कार्य हेतु प्रतियोगिता।

International webinars organized by Department of Biochemistry

Crop Resilience & Sustainability

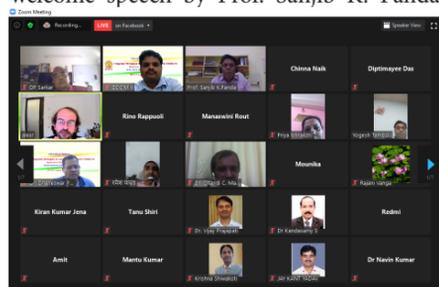
The Department of Biochemistry, School of Life Sciences, Central University of Rajasthan organized an international webinar entitled “Biotechnology for Crop Resilience & Sustainability in Post COVID-19 Era” on 5th August, 2020. The one-day webinar began



with a welcome speech by Prof. Sanjib K. Panda, Head, Department of Biochemistry. The webinar was focussed on the identification of problems and perspectives for the development of crop resilience to ensure food security. All the speakers discussed the improvement of the crop species. At the end of the lecture, there was a brainstorming discussion among participants and the speakers.

Integrated Strategies to Combat COVID-19 Pandemic

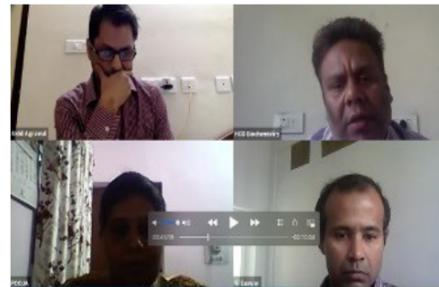
The Department of Biochemistry, School of Life Sciences, Central University of Rajasthan organized an international webinar entitled “Integrated strategies to combat the pandemic COVID-19” on 20-21st August 2020. The two-day webinar began with a welcome speech by Prof. Sanjib K. Panda,



Head, Department of Biochemistry. All the guest speakers spoke on the latest science, policy, and practice to control the spread of COVID-19 pandemic. This international webinar successfully provided an excellent opportunity to researchers and students to know the efforts made by world-leaders and scientists to develop a vaccine and its production at a large scale to control SARS-CoV-2 infection.

CURaj IIC conducts Webinar on Patent and technology Transfer

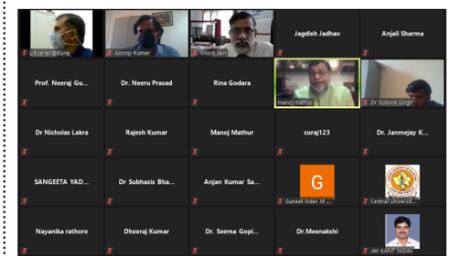
A webinar on Patent and Technology Transfer was organized by CURAJ Institutional Innovation Council (IIC) on November 10, 2020. The event started with the welcome of speakers and introduction of IIC 3.0 by Prof. Sanjib K Panda, President of CURAJ (IIC). Onward sessions were coordinated by Dr.



Akhil Agrawal. The first speaker of the event was Mrs. Pooja Kumar, who delivered her talk on the topic “Legal Patent filling process”. The second speaker of the session was Dr. Govind Sharma, Ex Chairman NRDC, who gave his talk on “Technology Transfer and Commercialization”. The last session was held by Mr. Sumit Kumar on “Patent examination procedures”. The vote of thanks for the event was given by Dr. Tarun K Bhatt.

Department of CMS celebrates National Education Day

The Department of Culture and Media Studies conducted a Webinar and a Workshop on “Excellence in Online Education” on 11th November, 2020 for faculty members to celebrate the National Education Day, the birth anniversary of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, the great freedom fighter, eminent educationist and the first Union Education Minister. Prof. Jagdish Jadhav, Head of Dept



and Dean Social Sciences gave the welcome address. The inaugural address for the webinar was given by Prof. Neeraj Gupta, Honorable Vice Chancellor of CURaj. For the webinar panel discussion on Excellence in Online Education, Prof. Manoj Mathur from School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi and Prof. Vinod Kumar Jain, Vice Chancellor, Tezpur University were invited as guest speakers. Post webinar, a workshop was also conducted for faculty members of the university.

Measures implemented at CURaj for Online Teaching-Learning

Dr. Janmejy K. Pandey

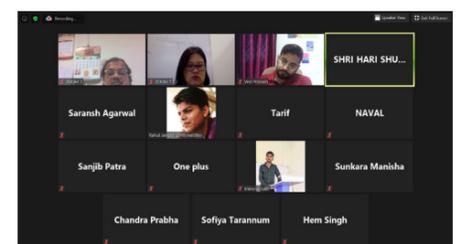
During times of COVID-19 related Nationwide Lockdown, Central University of Rajasthan has remained committed for facilitating an uninterrupted teaching-learning process. To ensure the same, CURaj has implemented several measures that cater to diverse approaches of information sharing; content delivery; student engagement and student progress assessment. A brief classification of platforms or tools implemented for the same are as follows: live classes (Zoom, Google Meet); video lecture/ content creation (Swivl Pro, OBS Studio, Open-Shot); student engagement (Piazza, Google Classrooms, Mentimeter); and student progress assessment (Online Live Presentations on Zoom, Non-proctored examination on Google Forms). University has subscribed to licensed versions

of Zoom and Swivl Pro for facilitating online teaching. With implementation of both Live and Recorded content delivery approaches, CURaj is providing its students with the opportunity to learn at their comfortable pace and not be apprehensive of any stress that may occur due to technical limitations e.g. poor Internet connectivity, electricity failure etc. In addition, University has established the “Digital Learning Technology Support Center (DLTSC) for catering to technological support requirement of faculty members and students in the online teaching learning process. It is worth highlighting that with implementation of above-mentioned measures, CURaj has been successful in shifting the entire Teaching-Learning Process to online modes without any major change in the Academic Program Schedule and Academic Calendar.

Cultural committee observes 2nd October

Dr. Subhasis Bhadra

Every year on 2nd October, the birth anniversary of Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi or Mahatma Gandhi is observed with prayer services and tributes across the nation. The Cultural Committee of Central University of Rajasthan celebrated the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi by organizing a week-long film festival from 28th September to 2nd October, 2020. The committee shared five films on Gandhi with students followed with a discussion. Students also were asked to write an article of 1000 words on ‘Relevance of Gandhian Philosophy at Present’ and “Non-Violence and its significance in Society” with a notification that the top three position holders will be awarded the certificate of appreciation. On 30th September, the members of cultural



committee met with the students on a virtual platform to discuss and reflect on the life of Gandhi. Students were asked to present their views. Gandhi considered non-violence to be a philosophy, a principle and an experience based on which it is possible to build a peaceful and better society. Popular for his non-violent movement, the purpose of this day is to honour Mahatma Gandhi, the iconic leader.

## Review paper from CURaj appreciated

Review work on 3-PG study by Mr. Rajit Gupta and Dr. Laxmi Kant Sharma from Central University of Rajasthan has formed the strong basis in supporting the decision to award Marcus Wallenberg Prize for 2020. The purpose of the Prize is to recognize and encourage scientific achievements within the fields of importance to forestry and forest industries. Notably, the 3-PG study is being conducted in Dr. Sharma's Lab in Central University of Rajasthan. Mr. Rajit Gupta is doing his Ph.D. on the 3PG modeling with spatial data incorporation particularly Hyperspectral Satellite data under the guidance of Dr. Laxmi Kant Sharma, Associate Professor, Department of Environmental Science, Central University of Rajasthan. In the first phase, the study is going on in different forest areas of Rajasthan and Gujarat. Excellent review work by Mr. Gupta and Dr. Sharma has also been cited on the University of British Columbia website (<https://3pg.forestry.ubc.ca/3pg-studies/>). The Review work entitled "The process-based forest growth model 3-PG for use in forest management: A review" by Mr. Gupta and Dr. Sharma was published in a prestigious research journal "Ecological Modelling".

## Seven faculties from CURaj included in top 2% World Scientists

Seven faculties from Central University of Rajasthan have been ranked in a list of top 2% world scientists in their respective disciplines. The database of the most-cited scientists in each and every discipline has been prepared by a team of experts led by Prof. John P. A. Ioannidis from Stanford University. The list is based on the Scopus citation index. Based on standardized citation data from Scopus, this author database contains a list of top 2 per cent world scientists from various scientific fields. The study has been published in PLOS BIOLOGY. Ranked faculties are as follows: 1) Prof. Sanjib Kumar Panda, Department of Biochemistry; 2) Prof. Amit Kumar Goyal, Department of Pharmacy; 3) Prof. Rajesh Kumar, Department of Environment Science; 4) Dr. Rajneesh K. Verma, Department of Physics; 5) Dr. Kaisar Raza, Department of Pharmacy; 6) Dr. Umesh Gupta, Department of Pharmacy; and 7) Dr. Surendra Nimesh, Department of Biotechnology.



Prof. Sanjib K. Panda



Prof. Amit K. Goyal



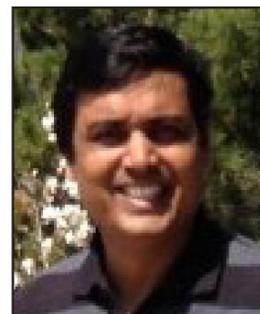
Prof. Rajesh Kumar



Dr. Rajneesh K. Verma



Dr. Kaisar Raza



Dr. Umesh Gupta



Dr. Surendra Nimesh

The author database can be accessed here: <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pbio.3000918>

## International Recognition to Dr. Umesh Gupta

Dr. Umesh Gupta, Assistant Professor, Department of Pharmacy was conferred with the prestigious AAIPS Distinguished Young



Educator and Researcher Award 2019, at AAPS Annual Meeting 2020 at San Antonio Texas USA.

## Prof. Jagdish Jadhav nominated in Central Employment Guarantee Council (CEGC)

Prof. Jagdish Jadhav, Head, Department of Social Work and Dean of School of Social Sciences has been nominated as non-official member in the Central Council of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MNREGS) by the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India in its notification dated 5th March, 2020. The CEGC is mandated for monitoring and measuring the MNREGS across the nation.



## Vigilance Awareness Week celebrated in CURAJ

Vigilance Awareness Week was observed in Central University of Rajasthan (CURAJ) during 27th October to 2nd November, 2020 on the theme "Satark Bharat, Samridh Bharat" (Vigilant India, Prosperous India). On this occasion, banners were displayed at various places such as Administrative Building / Entrance Gates of Central University of Rajasthan. Integrity Pledge was taken by Administrative officers and non-teaching staff of the University on 27th October, 2020 at 11:00 AM acknowledging their commitment to uphold the highest standards of honesty and integrity. The Integrity pledge was also taken in all schools / departments of the university by teaching & non-teaching staff and the majority of staffs participated in the pledge ceremony. Head of the Departments encouraged all teaching / non-teaching staff & students of the department to take the e-pledge. The NSS Chairperson and NCC volunteers of CURAJ also participated and took

the e-pledge. The Central University of Rajasthan organized three webinars during this vigilance awareness week on following topics: "Vigilance awareness in the perspective of Government organization"; "Audit of procurements - general introduction and discussion on case study" and "Ethics & Values in Public Life". In addition to the above, the Cultural Committee of Central University of Rajasthan took up few cultural and creative-expressive activities for the purpose of creating awareness about the importance of celebrating "vigilance week" among the students and staff. Kendriya Vidyalaya functioning under CURAJ also organized various activities during vigilance awareness week. All employees of the school took an oath of integrity and honesty through online. The students of the Kendriya Vidyalaya also participated in the various competitions such as posters, quiz, essay writing, slogan writing through online during vigilance awareness week.

## Paper Presentation Award

Ms. Poonam Kumari and Dr. Sanjay Kumar Patel from Department of Commerce, Central University of Rajasthan have bagged Best Paper award and secured Second position in the ICSSR sponsored National Conference on "Sustainable Development and Business: Managing Organizations of Tomorrow" held on 18th August, 2020 for their paper entitled "Dynamics of Corporate Environment Disclosure and Financial Performance: The Case of Carbon Footprints". The ICSSR sponsored national conference was organized by Department of Commerce, P.G.D.A.V. College in association with Department of Commerce, University of Delhi.

## Efforts by the Health Centre in response to the COVID-19 crisis

In response to COVID-19 pandemic, the Health Centre of Central University of Rajasthan has actively been providing its services 24 hours without a break. The staff of the Health Centre, Dr. Ankur Mittal (Medical Officer), Miss Renu (Nurse) and Mr. Akhilesh Tiwari (Laboratory Attendant), have been providing necessary medical care for the good health and well-being of the students, officers, faculties, non-teaching staff and all other people of CURaj. The health Centre has taken steps to adhere to the guidelines and protocols issued by Central government, Government of Rajasthan and the University from time to time to respond to COVID-19 crisis. In the beginning, the Health Centre was conducting the screening of all students and maintaining their travel and health records. In case a student was suspected with symptoms of COVID-19, it provided the facility of isolation and also suggested them to undertake tests. The Health Centre has been conducting necessary screening of all faculties, staff and officers in the campus. The Health Centre has prepared an Isolation ward with the capacity of four beds. It has also procured equipments such as Oxygen cylinder, and suction machine among others to handle any COVID-19 related emergency situation. In addition, the PPE kits have been made available for caregivers of patients. To promote the practice of personal hygiene, the Health Centre has distributed the sanitizer, masks and gloves. The Health Centre has ensured timely availability of medicines like immunity booster, antibiotics, antivirals, anti thrombotics, and antipyretics among others. The Health Centre is actively engaged in identifying/diagnosing the cases of COVID-19 and guiding people for further care and management. Also, it has been coordinating with state authorities for shifting the suspected cases of COVID-19 by ambulance. It has been coordinating with security personnel to keep the campus safe. Furthermore, the Health Centre has been providing the information to the staff of CURaj through mail regarding the guidelines and government protocols on COVID-19 scenario along with precautions to be taken and the symptoms to report for further actions.

Continued from page 1

## CUCET-2020 Successfully Conducted by Central University of Rajasthan

the proper social distancing keeping the area sanitized with monitoring of temperatures. The students who were having related symptoms of COVID-19 or tested positive, were allowed to appear for examination in separate rooms to avoid spread of COVID-19. Central University of Rajasthan was also instrumental and active as organizing university to avoid the unnecessary movement of the participating students from one city to another. In this regard the request of center change was entertained even a day before scheduled CUCET examination. Additional new centres were assigned and candidates were given a choice to appear at any one of the centres. Even in many transfer cases, where test papers were not available at the centre, the Coordinating

University provided such papers at these centres through Internet technology. Centres were created nation-wide for the convenience of the students allowing a minimum travel and movement to them. Irrespective of the non-availability of the transport facilities due to COVID-19 at the test centres like Port Blair, Leh and Kargil, the examination was conducted successfully. Chairman of CUCET Coordinating Committee Prof. Arun K Pujari, Vice Chancellor, Central University of Rajasthan ensured the successful organization of this examination in coordination with Prof. Manish Shrimali, National Coordinator, CUCET-2020 following several meetings with Vice Chancellors and Nodal Officers of participating universities.

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