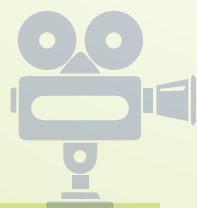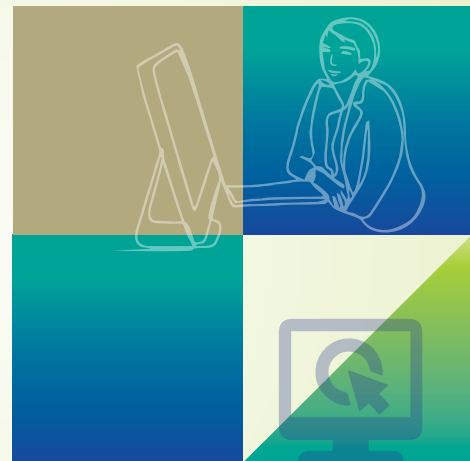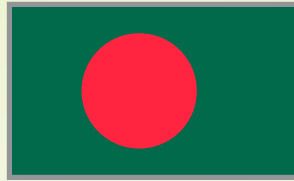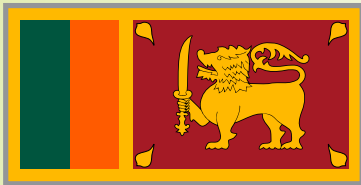# ANNUAL REPORT
2020-21

Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia
New Delhi

CEMCA Footprint

Bangladesh

Sri Lanka

Brunei Darussalam
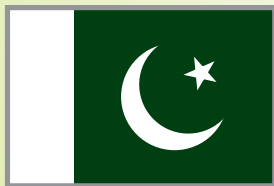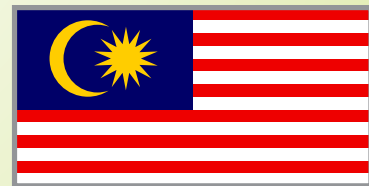
Singapore

India

Pakistan

Maldives
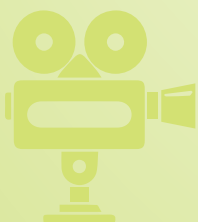
Malaysia

ANNUAL
REPORT

July 2020 – June 2021

Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia

Commonwealth of Learning

The Commonwealth of Learning (COL) was created by Commonwealth Heads of Governments during their meeting held in Vancouver, Canada in 1987. The organization was established to promote distance learning and use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) and to strengthen cooperation in education among the Member States of the Commonwealth. Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia (CEMCA) was established by the COL in1994 to respond to the needs expressed by the Commonwealth countries of the Asian region for more effective utilization of educational media resources for Distance Education. The COL and the Government of India (GoI) signed the Host Country Agreement on 31 August 1998. CEMCA was notified as a diplomatic mission under the United Nations (Privileges and Immunities) Act, 1947 by the GoI.

For details visit: www.col.org

▶ Contents

Acronyms

ASDC:	Automotive Skills Development Council
BAOU:	Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar Open University
BOU:	Bangladesh Open University
BRAOU:	Dr B.R. Ambedkar Open University
BSDU:	Bhartiya Skill Development University
CEMCA:	Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia
CGSC:	Capital Goods Skill Council
COL:	Commonwealth of Learning
DSEU:	Delhi Skill and Entrepreneurship University
DST- GoI:	Department of Science and Technology, Government of India
DWSSC:	Domestic Workers Sector Skill Council
FFSC:	Furniture & Fitting Skills Council
FICCI:	Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry
HCSSC:	Handicraft and Carpet Sector Skill Council
IIT B:	Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay
ICT:	Information and Communication Technology
IIT KGP:	Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur
KISS:	Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences
KKHSOU:	Krishna Kant Handiqui State Open University
KSOU:	Karnataka State Open University
MOA - GoI:	Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India
NAAC:	National Assessment and Accreditation Council
NIE:	National Institute of Education
NIESBUD:	National Institute of Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development
NSOU:	Netaji Subhas Open University
OER:	Open Educational Resources
OSOU:	Odisha State Open University
RGU:	Rajiv Gandhi University
JGNDPSOU:	Jagat Guru Nanak Dev Punjab State Open University
PSSOU:	Pandit Sunderlal Sharma Open University
UOU:	Uttarakhand Open University
UoH:	University of Hyderabad
UNESCO:	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

Introduction

The Commonwealth of Learning (COL) was created by the Commonwealth Heads of Government during their meeting in Vancouver in 1987. The organization was established for distance learning and use of information and communication technologies (ICTs) to promote education and training in Member States and to strengthen Commonwealth cooperation in education. Over 30 years, COL has made clear progress in higher education, teacher training, and secondary education from the formal education sector to non-formal learning related to skill development, agriculture, and health. COL has paid attention to the learning and development needs of its stakeholders and has embraced a lifelong learning perspective.

The theme of COL's previous strategic plan was 'Learning for Development.' COL grew and developed from being an organization with an output orientation to an outcome-based one. COL is committed to promoting equitable access to quality lifelong learning for all – believing, in effect, that access to learning opportunities will lead to progress in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). COL's motto is **'Learning for Sustainable Development,'** which is also the theme of its Strategic Plan (2015–2021).
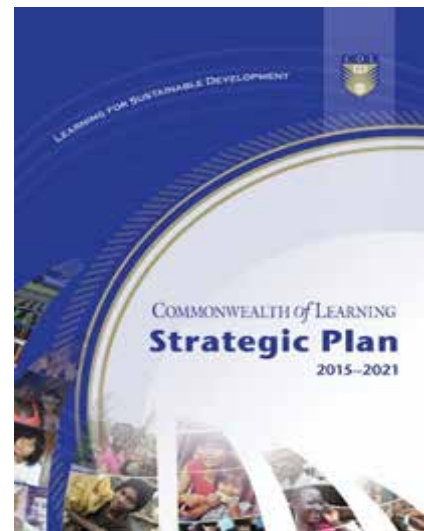
COL established the Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia (CEMCA) in 1994 as its regional office and media centre. CEMCA's strategic objective is facilitating an effective exchange of information on educational media resources between educational and media organizations in the region.

The Government of India (GoI) notified CEMCA as a diplomatic mission under Section 3 of the United Nations (Privileges and Immunities) Act, 1947 (46 of 1947) vide the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (ii) dated 10 February 2000. CEMCA works in eight Commonwealth countries in Asia.

In alignment with COL's Strategic Plan, CEMCA moved to a cycle of six years instead of three years for its strategic plans, thus confirming its commitment to delivering outcomes and having an impact rather than focusing on output alone. CEMCA's Strategic Plan, 2015–2021, considered the unfinished agenda of the MDGs, the priorities of Member States of Commonwealth Asia, and the priorities identified for SDGs.

CEMCA's Strategic Plan (2015–2021)

CEMCA's strategic plan for the last six years (2015–2021) was developed in tune with that of its parent organization, COL, keeping in view the challenges and requirements of the Commonwealth countries of Asia.

The strategic plan envisaged catering to the educational needs of people across Commonwealth Asia. Its intention was reaching out to youth with quality educational material and training using all forms of educational, informational, and communication technologies, involving the best academicians and technocrats in collaboration with strategic partners from academia, the communication media and industry, and with the help of governments of Commonwealth countries of Asia.

Vision

To be the foremost agency in Commonwealth Asia that promotes technology-enabled learning for sustainable development.

Mission

To assist governments, institutions, and organizations in expanding the scale, efficiency, and quality of learning by using multiple media resources in open and distance learning.

CEMCA's core objectives

CEMCA's main objectives are to:

Serve as a regional educational media resource centre;

Facilitate an effective exchange of information on educational media resources between educational and media organizations in the region;

Empower marginalized communities including women using community media;

Undertake research in emerging media technologies including mobile devices;

Facilitate access to training in the development and use of electronic media resources for distance education; and

Serve as an information centre for educational technology.

Targets and Achievements

CEMCA works in two sectors: **Education** and **Skills** with **Gender** as a cross-cutting theme.

The Education sector is focused on developing formal education through higher education. Its priority is helping open and distance education institutions to create and use OERs through a well-defined policy supporting Creative Commons Licensing.

The Skills sector supports institutions and organizations through both formal and non-formal learning. It has two initiatives:

➲ **Technical and Vocational Skill Development (TVSD)**
➲ **Community Media**

Partnerships

Capacity

Materials

Models

Policies

CEMCA uses five core strategies to achieve its outcomes and impact

In its strategic plan 2015-2021 CEMCA defined outputs and outcomes under the two initiatives which were clearly defined quantitatively as 'Targets.' Targets are what the plan intended to achieve. The Logic Framework developed by CEMCA was clearly set. Targets were set in 2015, when no one knew that the whole world will be hit by the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020.

Figure 1 highlights the targets set by CEMCA under different initiatives. It also shows what was achieved at the end of the strategic plan. The targets have been achieved to a large extent. CEMCA made all efforts to conduct activities remotely with partners who too put in their best efforts to accelerate activities during the lockdown.

CEMCA Targets 2015-2021

90 Institutions and Organizations Improve Quality

136,600 Learners Access Quality Learning Opportunities

30,000 People Lives that are Productive

CEMCA Achivements 2015-2021

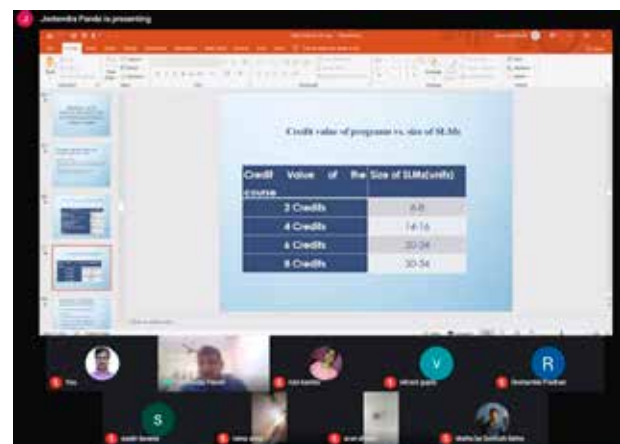**119 Institutions and Organizations Improve Quality**

138,944 Learners Access Quality Learning Opportunities

20,000 People Lives that are Productive

Figure 1: CEMCA's targets and achievements during strategic plan 2015-2021

4

Collaborators and Partners

Partnership is a key strategy for CEMCA as all interventions are made through partners. Almost all the partners contribute their resources and time to support our efforts and inputs. As a result, CEMCA's interventions have been successful in achieving maximum impact by using mutual resources. CEMCA collaborated with the following partner institutions during 2020–2021:

India	
Amity University, NOIDA	Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences, Odisha
Automotive Skills Development Council, New Delhi	Karnataka State Open University, Karnataka
Bhartiya Skill Development University, Rajasthan	Krishna Kant Handiqui State Open University, Assam
Capital Goods Skill Council, New Delhi	Mansarovar Global University, Madhya Pradesh
Delhi Skill and Entrepreneurship University, New Delhi	Ministry of AYUSH, New Delhi
Department of Science and Technology, New Delhi	National Institute of Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development, New Delhi
Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar Open University, Gujarat	Netaji Subhas Open University, West Bengal
Dr B.R. Ambedkar Open University, Telangana	Odisha State Open University, Odisha
Domestic Worker Sector Skill Council, New Delhi	Pandit Sunderlal Sharma Open University, Chhattisgarh
Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, New Delhi	Punjab State Open University, Punjab
Furniture & Fitting Skills Council, New Delhi	Rajiv Gandhi University, Arunachal Pradesh
GMR Varalakshmi Foundation, Telangana	Ravenshaw University, Odisha
Handicraft and Carpet Sector Skill Council, New Delhi	Swatirtha Charitable Trust, West Bengal
Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, Maharashtra	UNESCO, New Delhi
Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur, West Bengal	University of Mumbai, Maharashtra
IT for Change, Karnataka	University of Hyderabad, Telangana
IIIT Hyderabad, Telangana	Uttarakhand Open University, Uttarakhand
Other Member Countries in Asia	
Bangladesh	**Malaysia**
Bangladesh Open University, Dhaka	HELP University, Kuala Lumpur
Sher E Bengal Agriculture University, Dhaka	**Pakistan**
Brunei	Virtual University of Pakistan, Lahore
Universiti Brunei Darussalam, Brunei	**Sri Lanka**
Maldives	University of Peradeniya, Peradeniya
National Institute of Education, Male	

Programme Sectors

▶ Higher Education

Overview

Many developing countries seek to increase participation in higher education but they lack the resources to do so. Open and distance learning (ODL) and technology-enhanced learning provide a cost-effective means of increasing access to quality higher education.

CEMCA has worked with Commonwealth governments and institutions for developing national and institutional ODL and OER policies, improving the quality of systems, and enhancing staff capacity to develop and deliver quality programmes and to promote good practices and support member States as they seek to strengthen the credibility of ODL as a viable means of developing human resources for economic and social development. Recognizing this, countries in Asia are not only engaged in developing appropriate policies but are also investing in improving access to ICTs. As a leader in the use of ICTs in higher education, CEMCA has experimented with the use of audio, video, multimedia, and online technologies to increase access to quality learning material.

The COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020 caught the world unaware. Different levels of lockdown of educational institutions affected their services. But CEMCA adapted to the pandemic and its staff members responded to the sudden closure of institutions. All the activities were conducted in a virtual mode. Virtual labs were introduced as an innovation in the ODL sector. CEMCA provided technological support to stakeholders through a blend of contemporary delivery models such as MOOCs along with well-established means including community radio.

Activities in India

Capacity Building Programmes

CEMCA continued with its long-term activities in building institutions and individuals' capacities like teachers and academic staff in ODL institutions across Commonwealth Asia.

⮑ In collaboration with Rajiv Gandhi University (RGU), Arunachal Pradesh, CEMCA organized an 'Online Workshop for Capacity Building on Online Course Development' for academic staff in

the North-Eastern states in India. RGU is the first dual-mode university in the country to initiate a capacity building training programme for teachers on this theme; 104 academic staff members participated in the synchronous and asynchronous mode of training in July 2020.

- An online workshop on 'Virtual Labs' was organized by CEMCA in collaboration with the Uttarakhand Open University (UOU) in November 2020. This capacity building programme was attended by 62 faculty members of UOU and from other formal state universities of UOU. To enable build the capacities of ODL

professionals, CEMCA organized another online workshop in March 2021 on 'Moodle for Teachers and Administrators' for UOU. This workshop's aim was developing administrative skills on the Moodle platform and online teaching and assessment skills using the Moodle Learning Management System (LMS) for teachers and administrators; 98 university teachers and technical administrators participated in the workshop.

- CEMCA conducted a three-day online capacity building programme for the faculty of Pandit Sunderlal Sharma Open University, Chhattisgarh, on the theme, 'Open Educational Resources for Teachers and ODL Facilitators' in September 2020. The programme was attended by 150 members from various schools/divisions of the open university and content developers from formal universities.

- CEMCA supported the Karnataka State Open University (KSOU), Mysuru for building the capacities of its teachers on 'Use of Technology and OER for Online Content Development for Better Learning.' Seventy-five teachers and staff members of KSOU participated in the workshop. To provide a capacity building programme to the faculty, CEMCA and KSOU conducted another Faculty Development Programme (FDP) on 'Development of MOOCs for the SWAYAM Platform' in March 2021. The SWAYAM Platform is a national programme of the Government of India which has been developed to offer MOOCs at the college/university levels. The FDP's

focus was creating awareness about the four-quadrant approach for developing online courses and developing a proposal for online courses offered through SWAYAM; 34 faculty members participated in the training.
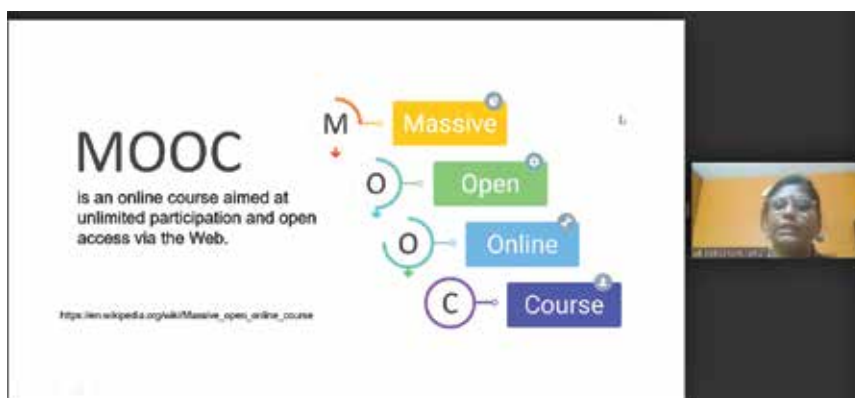
- With support from the School of Education at Netaji Subhas Open University (NSOU), Kolkata, CEMCA organized an online workshop in June 2021 on 'Understanding Neurodiversity' which was aligned with its interests in supporting persons with disabilities. More than 75 special educators, teachers, teacher educators, school leaders, faculty members, and students from universities, psychologists, communication therapists and professionals from non-governmental organizations from across the country participated in this programme.

Games can be leveraged to promote a conceptual understanding in online learning. CEMCA organized a programme on 'Games for Online Teaching and Learning of Computing Skills' in June 2021 for faculty members of various universities.

- A workshop on 'Use of Artificial Intelligence & Sensor-based Technologies' was organized by Mansarovar Global University, Madhya Pradesh with support from CEMCA. The workshop was intended to raise awareness among faculty members and students about a set of important technologies in the food and agriculture sector. The workshop, which was organized in February 2021 was designed for a non-technical audience.
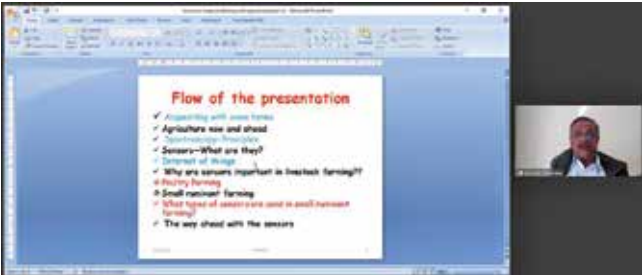
- CEMCA conducted an online capacity building programme on the applications of Virtual Reality (VR) for 42 faculty members and research scholars of the Department of Education, Ravenshaw University, Cuttack in June 2021. The objective of the workshop was creating awareness among teachers about the effective use of flexible and portable VR education systems so that teachers can:

Create 360-degree learning content easily and share it with students

Implement various game elements to enhance the learning experience

Target learners who are able to download and engage through learning content
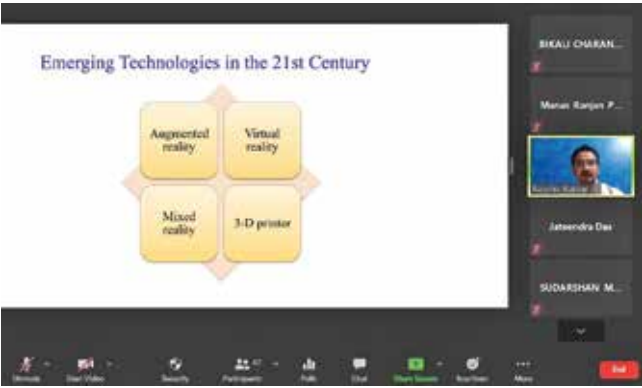
Course Development

CEMCA designed and developed the following MOOCs during 2020–2021:

Life Skills for Engineers

Academic Counselling for ODL Learners

Introduction to Statistical Analysis

Designing Online Courses for SWAYAM

Academic Counselling for ODL Learners

CEMCA and the Odisha State Open University (OSOU) successfully offered two cycles of an online course on Academic Counselling for ODL Learners (AC4ODL); 3,140 teachers/educational leaders/ODL practitioners were enrolled for this MOOC. Feedback from the participants indicated that the course was informative and engaging.

Life Skills for Engineers

A MOOC on Life Skills for Engineers was offered during 2020–2021. Interactive mentoring sessions were organized every week. The course was designed and developed by a highly experienced course team. Academicians and industry practitioners along with domain experts extended mentoring support to the participants.

Introduction to Statistical Analysis

CEMCA and Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences, Bhubaneshwar, offered a six-week MOOC titled 'Introduction to Statistical Analysis' for which 807 certificates were distributed.

Designing Online Courses for SWAYAM

The University Grants Commission, India, sought expressions of interest from faculty members of higher education institutions for developing undergraduate and post-graduate courses for the SWAYAM Platform. CEMCA developed a two-week online training course intended to motivate and provide viable processes for developing courses for SWAYAM.

The first course was offered in collaboration with NSOU; 219 faculty members and research scholars from various parts of India participated and completed the course. Table 1 gives the enrolment number for the MOOC courses offered by CEMCA.

Table 1: Enrolment in MOOC Courses offered by CEMCA

| Course	No. of Offerings	Enrolment (2020–2021)
Academic Counselling for ODL Learners	Two	3,140
Life Skills for Engineers	One	2654
Introduction to Statistical Analysis	Two	4,600
Designing online courses for SWAYAM	One	219

Mentoring of open universities for improved effectiveness in gaining national accreditation

The Karnataka State Open University, Mysuru was mentored by CEMCA for NAAC's assessment and accreditation. Three virtual workshops were conducted for faculty members which were attended by the Director of Centre for Internal Quality Assurance (CIQA) and other faculty members. KSOU's core team members identified the parameters for preparing for a NAAC assessment.

Mentoring helped faculty members understand the process of assessment and accreditation along with the type of data required, how to do record keeping, uploading the data, and preparing the self-study report.

Promoting Innovative activities

Virtual laboratories are poised to play an increasingly important role in online education for addressing the problems of both access and quality. Virtual laboratories for Data Structures were created with support from IIIT Hyderabad and 15 lab experiments were developed. The Data Structures Virtual Labs are a small yet new beginning in the direction of making interactive experiments in computer science available to students across the Commonwealth.
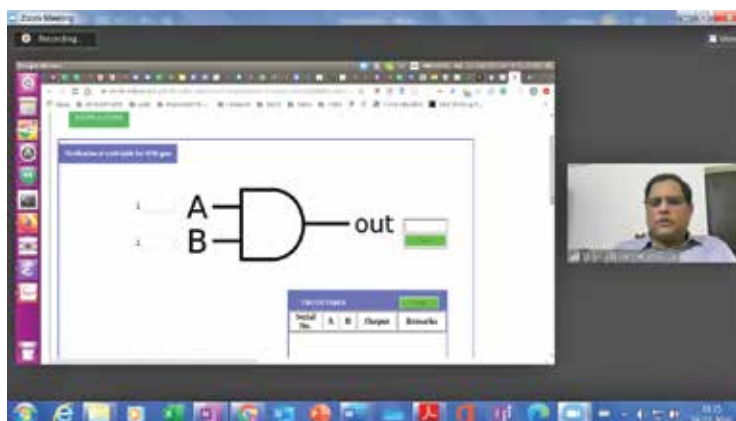
This collaboration's objective was designing, developing, and hosting a collection of interactive experiments on the following topics:

1. Search: Carrying out search interactively using a variety of strategies.

2. Mergesort: Carrying out merge and mergesort interactively using a variety of strategies.

The experiments are available at: http://algodynamics.io/search/ and http://algodynamics.io/mergesort/

Activities in Commonwealth Asian Countries

Bangladesh

CEMCA has partnered with the Bangladesh Open University (BOU) in the past. During the last year, two online programmes were conducted jointly. The theme of one of the programmes was guiding faculty members on how to design and develop videos for vocational education and training (VET) courses. This was done under a CEMCA-BOU joint project on VET through open and distance learning for impacting education and open schooling. Another programme was an online workshop on 'Development of Outcome Based Self-Learning Materials for Teachers and ODL Facilitators of Bangladesh Open University (BOU),' Bangladesh.

Brunei

CEMCA organized a virtual session on understanding OER for 18 teachers of Universiti Brunei Darussalam, Brunei. Dr Nik AA Tuah from Universiti Brunei Darussalam, Brunei shared the institution's experiences of OER and blended learning practices.

Maldives

During 2020–2021, CEMCA initiated programmes with the National Institute of Education (NIE) Maldives. Two capacity building programmes were organized for school teachers and teacher educators from NIE. One programme was on online learning facilitation, and the other on creating awareness about virtual laboratories among the teachers. Both the programmes were appreciated by the teachers as the themes were new and relevant. Ms Fathimath Naseer, Hon'ble Minister of State for Education, Maldives appreciated the initiative and emphasized the usefulness of virtual laboratories in reaching out to teachers and students across diverse geographies in Maldives.

Malaysia

HELP University is a conventional university in Malaysia established in 1986 with the mission, 'to help people succeed in life and to live a life of significance through education' (https://university.help.edu.my/about-help/). The university is rapidly moving towards an online blended teaching–learning approach. CEMCA facilitated and provided support to the university in designing and developing its institutional OER policy. The key output of this initiative was an institutional OER policy for HELP University.

CEMCA also supported the university in building capacities of faculty members on Design and Development of Self-Learning Material and awareness about Virtual Labs. The objective of the first programme was enhancing capacities on how to design and develop self-learning material for ODL as the university is moving towards a dual-mode system. The Vice-Chancellor of the university welcomed the initiative (virtual laboratories) for enhancing awareness about virtual laboratories and facilitating their use and integration in teaching and learning.

Pakistan

A training workshop on OER for faculty members of Virtual University, Pakistan, was conducted online using the Zoom platform. The curriculum for the training was based on COL's 'Understanding Open Educational Resources.' The workshop incorporated quiz questions for self-assessment and post-workshop activities that required the participants to adopt OER for at least one topic of their preferred course.

Sri Lanka

The University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka is planning to take a step towards open book and take-home examinations in the university through different modalities such as online and/or offline modes. An online workshop for university teachers was conducted on 'Implementation of Open Book & Take-Home Examination,' in which 180 faculty members participated. The programme included principles/concepts involved in setting open book and take-home examination questions papers and how these are different from closed-book formal examination questions, techniques and tips for setting open-book and take-home examination questions for quantitative subjects such as business, mathematics, and statistics and accounting, and answer script evaluation and scoring with weightage.

Table 2 gives the details of the various capacity building programmes organized in the Asian Commonwealth countries during 2020-2021.

Table 2: Capacity Building Programmes in the Asian Commonwealth Countries

Country	Theme	Participants	Total Number
Bangladesh	• Development of Video Content • Design of Self Learning Material	Faculty Members from Bangladesh Open University (BOU)	150
Brunei	• Open Educational Resources	Faculty of Universiti Brunei Darussalam	18
Malaysia	• Open Educational Resources • Development of OER Policy	Faculty of HELP University	33
Maldives	• Design of Online Courses • Virtual Labs	Teachers and Teacher Educators of NIE	754
Pakistan	• Open Educational Resources	Faculty of VU	55
Sri Lanka	• Open-book and Take- home Examinations	University of Peradeniya	180

Skills

Overview

Majority population of Commonwealth Asian Countries are in their youth. This group will participate in economic progress of any country. CEMCA strives to increase access to good quality vocational training aimed at developing the skills of the youth specially the marginalised communities. CEMCA has focussed on building capacities of vocational trainers and build aspirations of the youth.

Activities

Capacity Building Programmes

India is home to more than 3,500 traditional clusters engaging 35 million people. These clusters have shown promising aspirational results. The traditional cluster development programme is important in enabling local entrepreneurs to initiate and sustain the process of economic development. CEMCA collaborated with FICCI, a well-known industry association, to increase the capacity of young and middle-aged workers in select traditional skills and topics on financial literacy and using online platforms for accessing markets. Five programmes were organized in a virtual mode with participants from Assam in pineapple food processing (73), sewing machine operators (154), and bamboo handicrafts (45).

A 21st century skills programme for faculties from industrial training institutes (ITIs) and diploma colleges in West Bengal was conducted by CEMCA in association with the Swatirtha Charitable Trust, West Bengal in December 2020; 26 vocational trainers from 26 cities under the trust participated in the training.

Sewing machine operators' (SMOs) skill training and self-employment programme for 100 women from marginalized communities was held in Bihar from January to April 2021 in association with MAK IT Solutions.

In collaboration with NIESBUD, CEMCA conducted eight training programmes, for trainers on employability, entrepreneurship, and life skills. These programmes were conducted for ITI trainers from various ITI colleges in Bihar (25), Jharkhand (25), Ladakh (53), Madhya Pradesh (25), Uttar Pradesh (25), and Kashmir (50). Sessions on entrepreneurial motivation, life skills, financial and digital literacy, and preparing business projects were discussed in the four-day training programme.

In collaboration with Sher-e Bangla Agricultural University, Bangladesh, CEMCA organized a workshop on 'Smart and Future Argo-farming: Opportunities for Sustainability Targeting SDGs' for faculty members of agriculture universities in Bangladesh. The programme was organized in June 2021 and was attended by 41 faculty members.

In collaboration with GMR Varalakshmi Foundation (GMRVF), Telangana CEMCA started a three-month skill training programme in Ranjanna district, Sricilla, Telangana in April 2021. Initially, classes were conducted face to face. For this residential training programme, 60 youth from the marginalized communities were registered from various parts of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. Batches of 20 trainees were formed for courses on assistant electricians, solar panel installation technicians, and home health aid.

In association with the Domestic Workers Sector Skill Council (DWSSC) CEMCA conducted 'Upskilling of Housekeeping Supervisors and Skilling of Cleaning Staff' at restaurants on a general housekeeper's role. Under this project, 1,000 housekeeping personnel were oriented and 500 housekeeping supervisors were upskilled in June 2021.

Orientation programmes on Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) is an assessment process which is commonly used for evaluating an individual's existing skills, knowledge, and experience. The Furniture & Fittings Skill Council (FFSC) is an industry-led body under the aegis of the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE). CEMCA in association with FFSC organized a two-day 'Recognition of Prior Learning' programme for 250 carpenters and wood workers from April 2021 to June 2021. Training was conducted face to face in small batches following all COVID-19 safety norms.

In association with the Automotive Skills Development Council (ASDC) CEMCA organized a two-day 'Recognition of Prior Learning' programme from April 2021 to July 2021 for 126 employees working in

the automotive sector to recognize, evaluate, and enhance their existing skills. Training was conducted face to face in small batches, following all COVID-19 safety norms.

Research

CEMCA initiated a baseline study of CEMCA-supported RPL training. The objective of the research is evaluating the impact of this training and suggesting reforms in RPL's structure; 1,250 participants of RPL from DWSSC, ASDC, CGSC, and FFSC are being surveyed along with their employers and sector skill councils.

Engagement with Skill Universities

The Government of India launched the Skill India Programme to provide relevant skills to youth by 2022. Skill universities (Shri Vishwakarma Skill University, Gurugram, Delhi Skill and Entrepreneurship University, New Delhi, and Bhartiya Skill Development University, Rajasthan) have been established to equip students with skills to be job ready. CEMCA has worked with two skill universities during 2020-2021.

CEMCA in association the Delhi Skill and Entrepreneurship University and the Bhartiya Skill Development University conducted several online capacity building programmes on 'Effective Online Teaching, Assessment and Communication Skills.' Faculties from various diploma colleges affiliated with DSEU and BSDU took part in the programmes. CEMCA conducted the programmes in eight batches for DSEU, where more than 354 vocational faculties/trainers were trained. In BSDU, there were 10 batches, and 436 faculty members participated in the programme.

Courses

- CEMCA supported the Handicraft and Carpet Sector Skill Council (HCSSC) in developing a Handbook and Video Content of Handicraft Course (Paper Mache and Fashion Jewellery) for the CBSE middle school level. This is an optional vocational subject under CBSE for students in classes 6 to 8.

- A 12-hour course on 'Blockchain for Developers' was developed by CEMCA in collaboration with Amity University. The first cycle was offered in May–June 2021; 2,705 aspirants from nine countries participated in the training.

Community Radio

Overview and Activities

CEMCA supports civil society organizations (CSOs) and institutions involved in community media to empower communities for sustainable development. It promotes community media as a tool for improving employability, productivity, entrepreneurship, health, well-being, and empowering the citizens of Commonwealth Asia. CEMCA has adopted an integrated approach for Community Radio (CR) for non-formal learning which includes policy and advocacy, support for establishing community radio stations, and capacity building of stakeholders. CEMCA's activities with CRS is given in Table 3.

Table 3: CEMCA and community radio

Activity	Partner	Month/Year	Brief of the Activity
Community Radio Video Challenge (CRVC) 2021	UNESCO, New Delhi	April 2021	Community Radio Video Challenge (CRVC) 2021 was aimed at engaging Indian youth in CR and promoting an understanding and learning the importance of CR as an alternative media for a community's self-expression, learning, and development. Students from various institutions and universities participated in CRVC 2021 and created video documentaries. A jury meeting was held to finalize the top-three video documentaries. Awards were given to the selected documentaries.
Online training on 'Documentation and Report Writing Skills'	Community Radio Association (CRA), New Delhi	April- May 2021	On request from CRA, CEMCA organized an online training programme for CRS' on 'Documentation and Report Writing Skills.' The training was conducted in three phases for functional CRS' in India. The first phase of the training was for North and West zones, the second for Central and East zones, and the third for South and North-East zones. Around 100 CRS' participated in the training whose objective was exposing the participants to report writing skills and presenting these in a standardized format.

Activity	Partner	Month/Year	Brief of the Activity
Career counselling	Community Radio Stations, India	May-June 2021	CEMCA initiated a programme on 'Career Counselling for Youth through Community Radio' in association with 10 CRS in India. Its objective was helping listeners, especially students choose a career path based on their qualifications and interests. Career counsellors answered more than 1,500 questions related to careers, jobs, mental health, and studies over a period of six weeks.
Audio clips for school students on science learning through storytelling	Techno-Hub Laboratories, Dehradun, Uttarakhand, India	June 2021	Ten educational life science learning audio clips for school students were developed for students in the 10-15 years age group. The objective of developing the audio clips was making science lessons interesting. These audio clips will be broadcast through CRS and their impact explored.

Publications

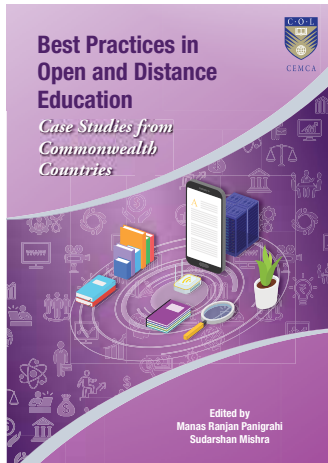Panigrahi, Manas Ranjan and Mishra, Sudarshan (eds), (2021). *Best Practices in Open and Distance Education: Case Studies from Commonwealth Countries.* New Delhi: Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia (CEMCA). Available at: https://www.cemca.org/ckfinder/userfiles/files/Best-Practices-in-ODE-Case-Studies-from-Commonwealth-Countries.pdf
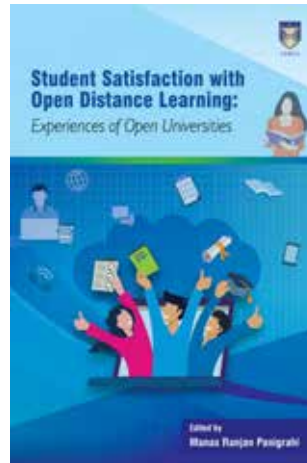
Panigrahi, Manas Ranjan (ed.), (2021). *Student Satisfaction with Open Distance Learning: Experiences of Open Universities.* New Delhi: Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia (CEMCA). Available at: https://www.cemca.org/ckfinder/userfiles/files/Student%20Satisfaction%20in%20Open%20Distance%20Learning-Experiences%20of%20Open%20Universities.pdf

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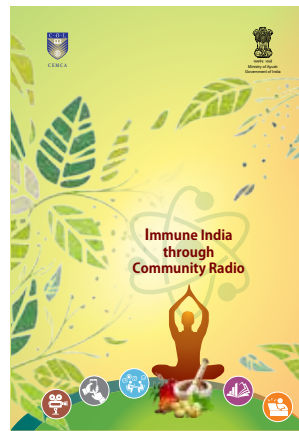
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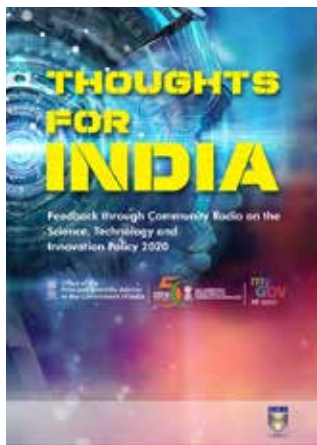
CEMCA (2020). *Thoughts for India: Feedback through Community Radio on Science Technology Innovation Policy 2020.* New Delhi: Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia (CEMCA). Available at: https://www.cemca.org/ckfinder/userfiles/files/Thoughts%20for%20India_inside_Dec%2011_Final.pdf
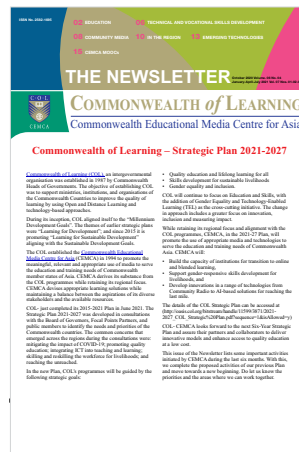
CEMCA Newsletter January-April-July 2021 Vol. 07 No. 01-02-03 pdf (2021). *Commonwealth of Learning.* Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia. Available at: https://www.cemca.org/ckfinder/userfiles/files/_New-Newsletter_Jan-April-July-03-08-2021-Hi-res.pdf

▶Awards

To encourage women's participation in graduate/post-graduate programmes in media & ICT through ODL, CEMCA awards the best performers in media & ICT-related academic programmes. The 2020–2021 CEMCA Award for the best female student in ICT was awarded to Ms Rashi Gupta, a master's in computer application student in the Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi in its 33rd convocation held on 15 April 2021.
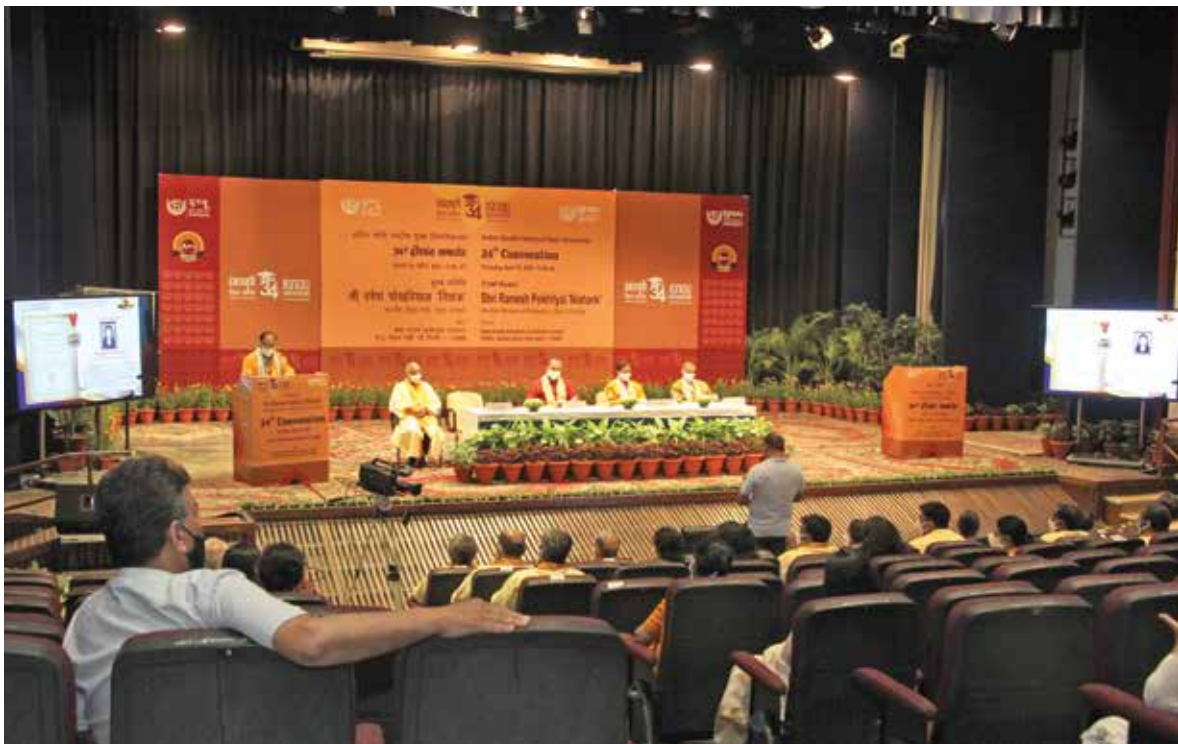
Externally Funded Activities

UNESCO

CEMCA in collaboration with UNESCO, New Delhi, developed a handbook on Best Practices of Community Radio and Sustainable Development Goals, which was launched on World Radio Day on 13 February 2021. A grant of USD 2,000 was received from UNESCO, New Delhi for developing the handbook.

Department of Science and Technology

In 2020, GoI initiated the Science, Technology, and Innovation Policy (STIP 2020), and CEMCA was engaged to coordinate the activities related to this initiative with CR broadcasters. 25 CRS' from all the regions of the country were identified for the initiative. Under this initiative, broadcasts in various languages on key aspects of the policy were organized during August–September 2020. CEMCA received a grant of INR 15,00,000 (CAD 30,000) from the Ministry of Science and Technology, GoI for this project.

Ministry of AYUSH

During 2020–2021, CEMCA received two projects from MoA, GoI.

A grant of INR 1,10,07,000 (about CAD 183,894) was received from MoA, GoI for the Immunity Campaign in rural India and for promoting yoga.

 MoA engaged CRS' to connect with the community for the first time for its immunity campaign. CEMCA supported the ministry in this campaign. The Immunity Campaign was implemented in 25 CRS' located in the country's rural areas to promote awareness about AYUSH and the beneficial effects of building immunity. Through this campaign, more than 18,00,000 community members were reached who belonged to rural, tribal, and semi-urban areas in the project area. A survey of more than 13,000 people found that a majority of them were not aware of MoA and its practices.

The Yoga Campaign was CEMCA's second collaborative project with MoA along with MDNIY. It was a build-up leading to the International Day of Yoga 2021; 125 CRS' were chosen as an appropriate tool for the campaign as they are a great means to reach out to rural areas in the country. MDNIY developed the Common Yoga Protocol (CYP) to help people understand yoga and learn more about its philosophy and practices.

As per the data provided by the CRS', 10,057 participants registered for CYP. All the CRS' provided an estimate of their listener bases calculated according to the population of their respective areas/regions. As per the data provided, the maximum potential of outreach is estimated to be around **1,28,78,000 (one crore, twenty-eight lakh, and seventy-eight thousand) people.**

Additional Grants

Organization	Project	Grant
UNESCO, New Delhi	Handbook on Best Practices of Community Radio and Sustainable Development Goals	USD 2,000
Department of Science and Technology (DST), GoI	Science, Technology, and Innovation Policy (STIP 2020)	INR 15,00,000 (about CAD 30,000)
Ministry of AYUSH (MoA), GoI	Immune India Through Community Radios Yoga for Well being through Community Radio Stations	INR 110,07,000 (about CAD 183,894)

Budget and Expenditure

In 2020–2021, CEMCA received INR 35,870,707 (CAD 689,821) from COL for its operations and programme activities. It also received grants from MoA and DST, GoI, the European Union, and UNESCO, New Delhi as additional contributions.

Income & Expenditure – Core Activities

The total budget for core activities and utilization given below:

SI. No.	Activity	Budget		Expenditure		% Utilization
		INR	CAD	INR	CAD	
1	Education	9,785,000	188,173	9,494,639	182,589	97
2	Skills	9,515,000	182,981	8,423,673	161,994	89
3	Knowledge Management	2,800,000	53,846	1,281,775	24,650	46
4	Total	22,100,000	425,000	19, 200,087	369,233	87

CEMCA's core programmes' expenditure was INR 19,200,087 (CAD 369,233), which is 87 per cent of the programme budget allocation. The activities, though well-planned, could not be completed by partner institutions due to COVID-19 lockdowns.
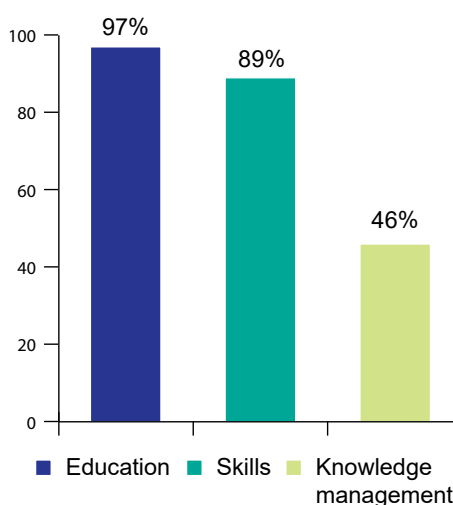
Budget allocation and utilization under additional funding activities in 2020-21

Sl. No.	Source	Budget Allocation	Fund Received in INR	Fund Received in CAD	Expenditure	Committed	Total Expenditure in INR	Total Expenditure in CAD	Utilized Percentage
1	Ministry of Ayush – 1	1,727,000	1,727,000	33,212	1,727,000		1,727,000	33,212	100%
2	Ministry of Ayush – 2	9,218,000	*7,835,300	150,679	4,146,490	5,030,405	9,176,895	176,479	100%
3	Ministry of Science & Technology	1,445,000	**1,350,000	25,962	1,445,000		1,445,000	27,788	100%
4	European Union Ongoing Project (Euro 145226)		***3,005,252	57,793	4,477,767		4,477,767	86,111	100%
5	UNESCO (USD 2000)	144,840	144,840	2,785	144,840		144,840	2,785	100%
6	ORMAS Ongoing Project	7,507,500	5,417,000	104,173	4,749,720	474,972	5,224,692	100,475	70%

*UC Submitted and Rs. 13,41,595 to be received from Ministry of AYUSH

**UC Submitted and Rs. 95,000 to be received from Department of Science and Technology (DST)

***Rs. 14,72,515 to be received from Foundation for MSME Clusters (FMC)

Budget Utilization

Strategies for Value for Money

Value for money is a guiding principle of CEMCA's activities as a part of its minimum interventions, maximum impact approach. Re-using existing learning materials for multiple interventions with more partners and achieving economies of scale are some of the value-for-money strategies that CEMCA follows.

Workshops, Events, and Meetings
July 2020 to June 2021

Activity	Date	Partner/ Collaborator	Place of Activity	Initiative
Online course development for academic staff members	6–8 July 2020	Rajiv Gandhi University, Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh, India	Rajiv Gandhi University, Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh, India	Higher Education
Conference collaboration with IDEA	17–18 July 2020	Mumbai University, Mumbai, India	Mumbai University, Mumbai, India	Higher Education
Orientation programme on STIP 2020 for CRS in India	27 July 2020	Department of Science and Technology, Ministry of Science and Technology, New Delhi, India	Google Meet Session, New Delhi, India	Community Radio, Additional Funding
Capacity building on STIP 2020 for CRS in India	30 July 2020	Department of Science and Technology, Ministry of Science and Technology, New Delhi, India	Google Meet, Session, New Delhi, India	Community Radio, Additional Funding
Review meeting on STIP 2020 for CRS in India	7 August 2020	Department of Science and Technology, Ministry of Science and Technology, New Delhi, India	Google Meet, Session, New Delhi, India	Community Radio, Additional Funding
Virtual workshop on the development of video content for vocational education and training	26–27 August 2020	Bangladesh Open University, Bangladesh	CEMCA Zoom, Session, New Delhi, India	Higher Education
Online training programme: 'Virasat-the Heritage Model' for traditional cluster development in pineapple processing	21–26 September 2020	Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry, New Delhi, India	FICCI Zoom Session, New Delhi, India	Skill
Review meeting on STIP 2020 for CRS in India	1 September 2020	Department of Science and Technology, Ministry of Science and Technology, New Delhi, India	Google Meet, Session, New Delhi, India	Community Radio, Additional Funding
Capacity building programme on the design and development of online courses	8–10 September 2020	National Institute of Education, Maldives	CEMCA Zoom, Session, New Delhi, India	Higher Education
Capacity building programme on the adoption of open educational resources	15–17 September 2020	HELP University, Malaysia	CEMCA Zoom, Session, New Delhi, India	Higher Education

Activity	Date	Partner/ Collaborator	Place of Activity	Initiative
Editorial board meeting on the development of a handbook on best practices of CRS and Sustainable Development Goals	21 September 2020	UNESCO India, New Delhi	Google Meet, Session, New Delhi, India	Skills
Development of the open educational resource policy	23–24 September 2020	HELP University, Malaysia	CEMCA Zoom, Session, New Delhi, India	Higher Education
Capacity building programme on open educational resources for teachers and ODL facilitators	28–30 September 2020	Pandit Sunderlal Sharma Open University Chhattisgarh, India	CEMCA Zoom, Session, New Delhi, India	Higher Education
Fresh perspectives on teaching/ learning of foreign languages	1 October 2020	School of Foreign Languages, Indira Gandhi National Open University New Delhi, India	CEMCA Zoom, Session, New Delhi, India	Higher Education
Launch of an academic counselling MOOC for ODL learners	2 October 2020	Odisha State Open University, Orissa, India	CEMCA Zoom, Session, New Delhi, India	Higher Education
Training on the adoption of open educational resources	5–7 October 2020	Pakistan Virtual University, Pakistan	CEMCA Zoom, Session, New Delhi, India	Higher Education
National consultation with Vice-Chancellors of open universities of India on the development of a national repository of open courses	9 October 2020	National Digital Library of India and Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, West Bengal, India	CEMCA Zoom, Session, New Delhi, India	Higher Education
Capacity building programme on the development of outcome based self- learning material	12–15 October 2020	Bangladesh Open University, Bangladesh	CEMCA Zoom, Session, New Delhi, India	Higher Education
Virtual workshop on designing and developing MOODLE-enabled MOOCs	16–17 and 27–30 October 2020 (6 half days)	Dr B.R. Ambedkar Open University, Hyderabad, Telangana, India	Online platform of Dr B.R. Ambedkar Open University, Hyderabad, India	Higher Education
Capacity building in virtual labs	9–10 November 2020	Uttarakhand Open University, Uttarakhand, India	CEMCA Zoom, Session, New Delhi, India	Higher Education
Awareness of entrepreneurship and innovation career opportunities in blockchain and IOT	24 November 2020	CIT, Tumkur, Karnataka, India	CEMCA Zoom Session, New Delhi, India	Skills
Online training programme: 'Virasat -the Heritage Model' for traditional cluster development	30 November to 5 December 2020	Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry, New Delhi, India	FICCI Zoom Session, New Delhi, India	Skills
Online trainers' training programme on 21st century skills conducted for ITI/ diploma vocational trainers in West Bengal	8–15 December 2020	Swatirtha Charitable Trust, West Bengal, India	CEMCA Zoom Session, New Delhi, India	Skills

Activity	Date	Partner/ Collaborator	Place of Activity	Initiative
Capacity building in virtual labs	17– 18 December 2020	CEMCA and Open Universities, India	CEMCA Zoom Session, New Delhi, India	Higher Education
Skill training programme on sewing machine operators for women from marginalized communities	6 January to 30 April 2021	MAK IT Solutions, India	Bhagalpur, Bihar, India	Skills
Online trainers' training programme on employability, entrepreneurship, and life skills conducted for ITI vocational trainers in Bihar	5–8 January 2021	National Institute for Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development, New Delhi, India	NIESBUD Zoom Session, Noida, India	Skills
Online trainers' training programme on employability, entrepreneurship, and life skills conducted for ITI vocational trainers in Jharkhand	21–24 January 2021	National Institute for Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development, New Delhi, India	NIESBUD Zoom Session, Noida, India	Skills
Online training programme: 'Virasat-the Heritage Model' for traditional cluster development for sewing machine operators	27 January to 2 February 2021	Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry, New Delhi, India	FICCI Zoom Session, New Delhi, India	Skills
Capacity building in virtual labs for teachers and teacher educators in Maldives	1–3 February 2021	National Institute of Education, Maldives	CEMCA Zoom session, New Delhi, India	Higher Education
Understanding OER	8 February 2021	Universiti Brunei Darussalam, Brunei	CEMCA Zoom session, New Delhi, India	Higher Education
Launch of the Handbook on Best Practices on Sustainable Development Goals by Community Radio Stations	13 February 2021	UNESCO, New Delhi, India	India International Centre, New Delhi, India	Skills
Online trainers' training programme on employability, entrepreneurship, and life skills conducted for ITI vocational trainers in Madhya Pradesh	15–18 February 2021	National Institute for Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development, New Delhi, India	NIESBUD Zoom Session, Noida, India	Skills
Online workshop on 'Emerging Techniques in Agriculture & Allied Sciences: Use of Artificial Intelligence & Sensor Based Technologies'	22–26 February 2021 Follow-up interactive session on 5 April 2021	Faculty of Agricultural Science and Technology, Mansarovar Global University, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, India	CEMCA Zoom session, New Delhi, India	Higher Education
MOODLE for teachers and administrators	2–4 March 2021	Uttarakhand Open University, India	CEMCA Zoom session, New Delhi, India	Higher Education
Mentoring KSOU for NAAC assessment and accreditation	10–15 March 2021	Karnataka State Open University, Mysuru, Karnataka, India	Online platform of KSOU, India	Higher Education

Activity	Date	Partner/Collaborator	Place of Activity	Initiative
EdTech hackathon 2021	13–15 March 2021	IIT Bombay, India	Microsoft Teams session, IIT Bombay, India	Higher Education
MOOC on life skills for engineers	March to April 2020	University of Hyderabad, India	MOOCs for Development, India	Higher Education
Orientation of housekeeping supervisors and skilling of cleaning staff members in restaurants on 'General Housekeeper' job's roles	15–30 March 2021	Domestic Workers Sector Skill Council, India	Restaurants in Delhi NCR Area, India	Skills
Capacity building of faculty on designing and developing online courses and OER	22–26 March 2021	Karnataka State Open University, Mysuru, Karnataka, India	CEMCA Zoom session, New Delhi, India	Higher Education
Online workshop on virtual labs for the HELP University faculty	5–6 April 2021	HELP University, Malaysia	Microsoft Teams session, HELP University, Malaysia	Higher Education
Recognition of prior Learning (RPL) programme for wood workers	11–12 April 2021	Furniture and Fittings Sector Council, New Delhi, India	Offline	Skills
MOOC on academic counselling for ODL learners	19 April 2021 to 30 May 2021	Odisha State Open University, Sambalpur, Orissa	MOOCs for Development	Higher Education
Workshop on SLM for teachers/course writers of PSOU	30 April 2021	Jagat Guru Nanak Dev Punjab State Open University, Patiala, Punjab, India	CEMCA Zoom session, New Delhi, India	Higher Education
Launch of MOOC on Introduction to Statistical Analysis	30 April 2021	KISS University, Bhubaneswar, Orissa, India	CEMCA Zoom session, New Delhi, India	Higher Education
Online training on documentation and report writing skills for CRS	26–27 April 2021	Community Radio Association, New Delhi, India	Google meet, New Delhi, India	Skills
MOOC on Introduction to Statistical Analysis	1 May to 10 June 2021	KISS University Bhubaneswar, India	MOOCs for Development, India	Higher Education
Online capacity building programme on 'Effective Online Teaching, Assessment, and Communication Skills' for vocational faculties	11–15 May 2021 (2nd batch)	Bhartiya Skill Development University, Jaipur, India	CEMCA Zoom Session, India	Skills
Online capacity building programme on 'Effective Online Teaching, Assessment, and Communication Skills' for vocational faculties	18–22 May 2021 (3rd batch)	Bhartiya Skill Development University, Jaipur, Rajasthan, India	CEMCA Zoom Session, India	Skills

Activity	Date	Partner/ Collaborator	Place of Activity	Initiative
MOOC on the development of an online course for SWAYAM	19 May to 5 June 2021	NSOU, Kolkata, West Bengal, India	NSOU LMS, India	Higher Education
Online capacity building programme on 'Effective Online Teaching, Assessment, and Communication Skills' for vocational faculties	24–28 May 2021 (4th batch)	Bhartiya Skill Development University, Jaipur, Rajasthan, India	CEMCA Zoom Session, India	Skills
Online capacity building programme on 'Effective Online Teaching, Assessment, and Communication Skills' for vocational faculties	24–28 May 2021 (5th batch)	Bhartiya Skill Development University, Jaipur, Rajasthan, India	CEMCA Zoom Session, India	Skills
Online trainers' training programme on employability, entrepreneurship, and life skills conducted for ITI vocational trainers in Ladakh	27 May to 1 June 2021 (1st batch)	National Institute for Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development, New Delhi, India	NIESBUD Zoom Session, Noida, India	Skills
Online training on documentation and report writing skills for CRS	17–18 May 2021	Community Radio Association, New Delhi, India	Google meet, New Delhi, India	Skills
Capacity building programme on SLM for HELP University	24–25 May 2021	HELP University Malaysia	Microsoft Teams session, HELP University, Malaysia	Higher Education
Online capacity building programme on 'Effective Online Teaching, Assessments and Communication Skills' for vocational faculties	31 May to 4 June 2021 (6th batch)	Bhartiya Skill Development University, Jaipur, India	CEMCA Zoom Session, India	Skills
Online capacity building programme on 'Effective Online Teaching, Assessment, and Communication Skills' for vocational faculties	31 May to 4 June 2021 (7th batch)	Bhartiya Skill Development University, Jaipur, Rajasthan, India	CEMCA Zoom Session, India	Skills
Online trainers' training programme on employability, entrepreneurship, and life skills conducted for ITI vocational trainers in Kashmir	1– 4 June 2021 (2nd batch)	National Institute for Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development (NIESBUD), India	NIESBUD Zoom Session, Noida, India	Skills
Online capacity building programme on 'Effective Online Teaching, Assessment, and Communication Skills' for diploma faculties of DSEU	2–6 June 2021 (1st batch)	Delhi Skill and Entrepreneurship University (DSEU) Delhi, India	DSEU Zoom Session, Delhi, India	Skills
Online capacity building programme on 'Effective Online Teaching, Assessment, and Communication Skills' for diploma faculties of DSEU	2–6 June 2021 (2nd batch)	Delhi Skill and Entrepreneurship University (DSEU) Delhi, India	DSEU Zoom Session, Delhi, India	Skills

Activity	Date	Partner/Collaborator	Place of Activity	Initiative
Online Workshop on understanding neurodiversity in partnership with NSOU	4 June 2021	NSOU, Kolkata, West Bengal, India	CEMCA Zoom session, New Delhi, India	Higher Education
Webinar on games for online teaching and learning of computing skills	11 June 2021	IIT Tirupati , India	CEMCA Zoom session, New Delhi, India	Higher Education
Online capacity building programme on 'Effective Online Teaching, Assessment, and Communication Skills' for vocational faculties	7–12 June 2021 (9th batch)	Bhartiya Skill Development University, Jaipur, India	CEMCA Zoom Session	Skills
Online trainers' training programme on employability, entrepreneurship, and life skills conducted for ITI vocational trainers in Kashmir	7–10 June 2021 (3rd batch)	National Institute for Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development, New Delhi, India	NIESBUD Zoom Session, Noida, India	Skills
Online capacity building programme on 'Effective Online Teaching, Assessment, and Communication Skills' for diploma faculties of DSEU	7–11 June 2021 (3rd batch)	Delhi Skill and Entrepreneurship University (DSEU), Delhi, India	DSEU Zoom Session, Delhi, India	Skills
Online capacity building programme on 'Effective Online Teaching, Assessment, and Communication Skills' for diploma faculties of DSEU	7–11 June 2021 (4th batch)	Delhi Skill and Entrepreneurship University Delhi, India	DSEU Zoom Session, Delhi, India	Skills
Webinar on games for online teaching and learning of computing skills	11 June 2021	CEMCA with IIT, Guwahati	CEMCA Zoom Session, New Delhi, India	Higher Education
Workshop on 360 virtual reality (VR) teaching and learning	12–14 June 2021	Department of Education, Ravenshaw University, Cuttack, Orissa , India	CEMCA Zoom Session, India	Higher Education
Online training on documentation and report writing skills for CRS	14–15 June 2021	Community Radio Association, New Delhi, India	Google meet, New Delhi, India	Skills
Designing and developing online courses at Karnataka State Open University, Mysuru, India	15–17 June 2021	Karnataka State Open University, Mysuru, India	CEMCA Zoom Session, India	Higher Education
Online capacity building programme on 'Effective Online Teaching, Assessment, and Communication Skills' for diploma faculties of DSEU	14–18 June 2021 (5th batch)	Delhi Skill and Entrepreneurship University, Delhi, India	DSEU Zoom Session, Delhi, India	Skills
Online capacity building programme on 'Effective Online Teaching, Assessment, and Communication Skills' for diploma faculties of DSEU	14–18 June 2021 (6th batch)	Delhi Skill and Entrepreneurship University, Delhi, India	DSEU Zoom Session, Delhi, India	Skills

Activity	Date	Partner/ Collaborator	Place of Activity	Initiative
Online capacity building programme on 'Effective Online Teaching, Assessment, and Communication Skills' for vocational faculties	14–18 June 2021 (10th batch)	Bhartiya Skill Development University, Jaipur, India	CEMCA Zoom Session, India	Skills
Three-day online capacity building programme on 'Smart and Future agro-farming: Opportunities for Sustainability targeting SDGs' for Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University, Bangladesh	17–26 June 2021	Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University, Bangladesh	CEMCA Zoom Session, India	Skills
Online capacity building programme on 'Effective Online Teaching, Assessment, and Communication Skills' for diploma faculties of DSEU	21–25 June 2021 (7th batch)	Delhi Skill and Entrepreneurship University, Delhi, India	DSEU Zoom Session, Delhi, India, India	Skills
Online capacity building programme on 'Effective Online Teaching, Assessment, and Communication Skills' for diploma faculties of DSEU	21–25 June 2021 (8th batch)	Delhi Skill and Entrepreneurship University, Delhi, India	DSEU Zoom Session, Delhi, India	Skills
Online trainers' training programme on employability, entrepreneurship, and life skills conducted for ITI and diploma vocational trainers in Ladakh	22–25 June 2021 (4th batch)	National Institute for Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development, New Delhi, India	NIESBUD Zoom Session, Noida, India	Skills
MOOC on 'Blockchain Introduction for Developers'	18 May to 30 June 2021	Amity University and Sofocle Innovation Labs Pvt. Ltd., India	Safocle Labs LMS, India	Skills
RPL programme for wood workers in Udaipur and Singoor	24–28 June 2021	Furniture & Fitting Sector Council, New Delhi, India	Udaipur and Singoor, West Bengal Skill Centre, India	Skills
RPL programme for employees working in the automotive sector to recognize, evaluate, and enhance their existing skills	23–29 June 2021	Automotive Skills Development Council, India	Victoria, Haridwar, India	Skills
Upskilling of housekeeping supervisors in restaurants on 'General Housekeeper' job's roles	10–30 June 2021	Domestic Workers Sector Skill Council, New Delhi, India	Online Zoom, India	Skills
Career counselling through CRS	May to June 2021	10 Community Radio Stations in India	Recording and Broadcasting of Audio Programmes	Skills

Advisory Council

CEMCA's Advisory Council functions as an advisory body of COL on CEMCA's affairs and is responsible for broad policy formulation in the programme areas. Besides, the Council provides informed guidance, monitors and evaluates CEMCA's progress, and suggests ways and means for improving its performance. The Advisory Council meets once a year keeping in view the exigencies of the business. Membership is rotated among the members in the region.

Prof. Asha S. Kanwar
Chairperson
President & CEO
Commonwealth of Learning, Canada

Dr. Venkataraman Balaji
Deputy Chairperson
Vice President
Commonwealth of Learning, Canada

Mr. Madan Mohan
Member
ADG
Department of Higher Education
Ministry of Education
Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi, India

Mr. Syed Ali Reja
Member
Joint Secretary
Secondary & Higher Education
Division, Government of People's
Republic of Bangladesh,
Ministry of Education,
Scholarship & Technical University
Section, Bangladesh Secretariat,
Bangladesh

Ms. YBhg. Datin Paduka Ir. Dr. Siti Hamisah Binti Tapsir
Member
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Department of Higher Education,
Ministry of Education, Malaysia

Dr. (Mrs.) Madura M Wehella
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Additional Secretary
Planning and Performance Review,
Ministry of Education, Sri Lanka

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Prof. Ashok Ogra
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New Delhi, India

Prof. Madhu Parhar
Member
Director, CEMCA
New Delhi, India

Mr. Dalip Kumar Tetri
Secretary
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Arunachal: Rajiv Gandhi University lauded for initiating online course for teachers

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The director of Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia (CEMCA), Madhu Parhar, on Wednesday lauded Rajiv Gandhi University (RGU) for initiating capacity-building training programmes for teachers.

The CEMCA director said RGU, located at the Rono Hills of Doimukh in Arunachal Pradesh, has become the first dual-mode university across the nation.

2-day int'l online conference on role of virtual learning during pandemic

GUWAHATI, April 21: A two-day international online conference – "Teaching Learning in the Time of Pandemic: Role of Online Learning" began today under the aegis of the Krishna Kanta Handiqui State Open University (KKHSOU). The conference is being organised in collaboration with the Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia (CEMCA), said a press release here.

Prof Madhu Parhar, Director CEMCA, in her welcome address discussed at length the need to make use of online platforms for engaging in interactive discussions especially during crisis situations. Keeping in line with the sustainable development goal of 'Quality Education' (Goal number 4), she said that a concerted effort needs to come from all (including the government, stakeholders and people) so that there is uninterrupted flow of information and knowledge across all sectors while keeping the quality of education intact.

Professor Asha Kanwar, president and CEO, Commonwealth of Learning, Vancouver in her inaugural address threw light on how people can make the best use of online resources during the current pandemic situation. She made a presentation – "Will COVID-19 change the way we teach learn?" where she emphasised the impact the present situation has had on the teaching learning process. She specifically said that not only the learners of various universities and colleges but also those belonging to secondary and primary levels consisting of over 90 percent of the student population, have been facing constraints as far as accessibility to education is concerned.

Prof Kanwar said that although a lot of steps have been taken to see that education is not hindered at this crucial juncture, a few pertinent issues like uninterrupted connectivity, electricity and accessibility to different online platforms need to be worked out at the earliest. Talking about the area of 'Equity and Inclusion' Prof Kanwar said that a vast number of learners belonging to the rural areas are yet to be reached as far as accessibility and reach of educational platforms are concerned. She said the differently-abled learners will benefit a lot from online education provided they are given the basic resources to access it. As far as the role of Commonwealth of Learning is concerned, she said that it has been promoting OER-based online learning, preparing a series of about 12 webinars on designing and developing MOOCs, enhancing micro-learning through videos and promoting international partnerships of distance and online learning for COVID-19.

Prof Kanwar said that various inter governmental agencies, governments and educational institutions must work in tandem to build frameworks for implementing and monitoring online learning, share best practices and resources in the field of online learning, promote global and regional partnerships, monitor impact of distance and online learning, invest in technology infrastructure, work on capacity building of the instructors and provide targeted support to the vulnerable learners.

Prof Nageswar Rao, Vice Chancellor IGNOU mentioned that during a pandemic, especially if it concerns the health and well-being of an individual, the person concerned must adhere to certain safety regulations as spelt out by the government. He urged the people concerned to religiously follow the precautionary measures so as not to endanger the lives of others. Spread of rumours and other hoaxes will not be beneficial in the long run as it will create a sense of panic in the minds of the people, thereby affecting dissemination of information in society.

Prof Rao also said that the gap between conventional learning and distance learning can be minimised with the right kind of technology. Coming to the conventional classroom scenario, Prof Rao said that in the post pandemic period there is every possibility of the intake capacity to be reduced in order to prevent the spread of infection. This will be applicable in case of laboratory-based classes and in examination halls.
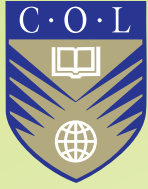
Prof Rao also discussed the online methods of learning which are not cost-effective from the learner's point of view. He was of the view that instead of only focusing on online learning, effort must be made on making the admission and examination processes flexible which comes in handy during a crisis situation. In light of the present situation he suggested admission to various academic programmes and examinations be conducted on a quarterly basis. This, he said, will help reduce the workload of the learners to a great extent. He said that since the whole world is looking at the online and ODL systems of teaching and learning in the present scenario, the government and other educational institutions are expected to play a proactive role in combining both ODL and online methods of learning. He urged the community as a whole to go for online counselling sessions which are flexible and can be recorded, reused and reviewed by the learners as per their own convenience.

Dr BK Bhadri in the Ministry of Human Resource Development, in his opening remarks, mentioned that the ODL universities are in an advantageous position in the present scenario because of its flexible nature of functioning. However, he also said that the Government of India has been laying a lot of emphasis on integrating the primary, secondary and higher educational systems on a common online platform.

Prof Kandarpa Das, Vice Chancellor, KKHSOU offered the formal vote of thanks. He said organising such a conference in the face of adversity is in itself a big achievement. He expressed hope that such a gathering will bring together the best of the minds under one single roof leading to debates and discussions. He specifically thanked the officials and staff of both KKHSOU and CEMCA for lending a helping hand in organising the conference in the virtual world, the release added.

రేడియో गुंजन फिर बनेगा आपका आवाज

'विज्ञान जीवन में कितना परिवर्तन लाया' पर हो रहा स्पेशल सर्वे

रेडियो खांची पर 17 से कॅरियर रिलेटेड जवाब

स्टूडेंट्स को होगा फायदा

RANCHI (15 May) : रांची विवि के रेडियो खांची 90.4 एफएम को छात्रों की करियर काउंसेलिंग के लिए एक नया प्रोजेक्ट मिला है. यह कॉमनवेल्थ एजुकेशनल सेंटर फॉर एशिया (सिमका) नई दिल्ली द्वारा प्रायोजित है. हमने देशभर से 10 सामुदायिक रेडियो स्टेशनों का चयन किया है. इस प्रोजेक्ट के अंतर्गत

रेडियो खांची. करियर से जुड़ा सवाल है, तो करें कॉल

• रेडियो खांची को मिला का पांच दिवसीय कैपेसिटी बिल्डिंग प्रोग्राम का काउंसेलिंग के लिये मिला : बी.एस.डी.यू व सेमका संस्था द्वारा आयोजन

डॉ. एचएस राघव कल से रेडियो खांची पर, डेढ़ माह तक तनाव घटाने व कॅरियर से जुड़े टिप्स देंगे

9472086904 पर कॉल या मैसेज करें

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यूओयू में वर्चुअल लैब तैयार करने को कार्यशाला

ओपन एजुकेशन रिसोर्स की जरूरत: प्रो. गोदा

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