

THE NEWSLETTER

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CEMCA

COMMONWEALTH *of* LEARNING

Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia

Commonwealth of Learning – Strategic Plan 2021-2027

[Commonwealth of Learning \(COL\)](#), an intergovernmental organisation was established in 1987 by Commonwealth Heads of Governments. The objective of establishing COL was to support ministries, institutions, and organisations of the Commonwealth Countries to improve the quality of learning by using Open and Distance Learning and technology-based approaches.

During its inception, COL aligned itself to the “Millennium Development Goals”. The themes of earlier strategic plans were “Learning for Development”; and since 2015 it is promoting “Learning for Sustainable Development” aligning with the Sustainable Development Goals.

The COL established the [Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia \(CEMCA\)](#) in 1994 to promote the meaningful, relevant and appropriate use of media to serve the education and training needs of Commonwealth member states of Asia. CEMCA derives its substance from the COL programmes while retaining its regional focus. CEMCA devises appropriate learning solutions while maintaining a balance between the aspirations of its diverse stakeholders and the available resources.

COL- just completed its 2015-2021 Plan in June 2021. The Strategic Plan 2021-2027 was developed in consultations with the Board of Governors, Focal Points Partners, and public members to identify the needs and priorities of the Commonwealth countries. The common concerns that emerged across the regions during the consultations were: mitigating the impact of COVID-19; promoting quality education; integrating ICT into teaching and learning; skilling and reskilling the workforce for livelihoods; and reaching the unreached.

In the new Plan, COL's programmes will be guided by the following strategic goals:

- Quality education and lifelong learning for all
- Skills development for sustainable livelihoods
- Gender equality and inclusion.

COL will continue to focus on Education and Skills, with the addition of Gender Equality and Technology-Enabled Learning (TEL) as the cross-cutting initiative. The change in approach includes a greater focus on innovation, inclusion and measuring impact.

While retaining its regional focus and alignment with the COL programmes, CEMCA, in the 2021-27 Plan, will promote the use of appropriate media and technologies to serve the education and training needs of Commonwealth Asia. CEMCA will:

- Build the capacity of institutions for transition to online and blended learning,
- Support gender-responsive skills development for livelihoods, and
- Develop innovations in a range of technologies from Community Radio to AI-based solutions for reaching the last mile.

The details of the COL Strategic Plan can be accessed at (http://oasis.col.org/bitstream/handle/11599/3871/2021-2027_COL_Strategic%20Plan.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y)

COL- CEMCA looks forward to the next Six-Year Strategic Plan and assure their partners and collaborators to deliver innovative models and enhance access to quality education at a low cost.

This issue of the Newsletter lists some important activities initiated by CEMCA during the last six months. With this, we complete the proposed activities of our previous Plan and move towards a new beginning. Do let us know the priorities and the areas where we can work together.

CEMCA-Uttarakhand Open University partnership for implementation of online education

CEMCA and Uttarakhand Open University (UOU) signed a Memorandum of Understanding to extend support to the knowledge society for learning for sustainable development.

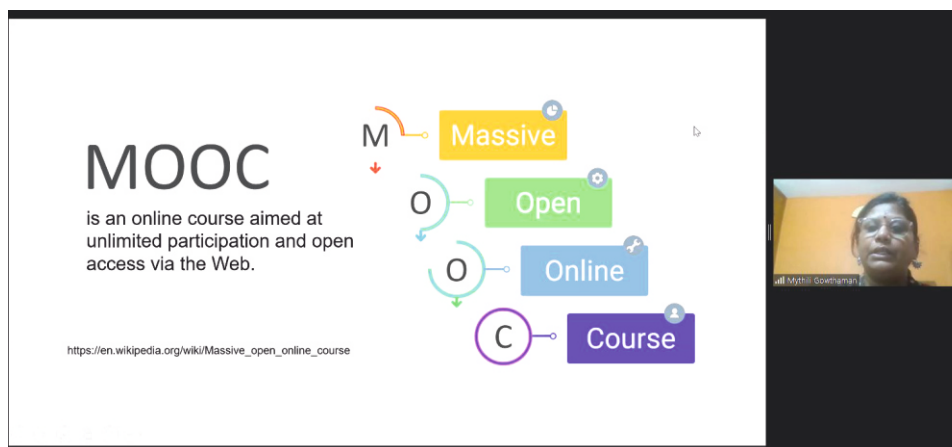
To strengthen the capacity of Open and Distance Learning professionals, a three-day online workshop on “Moodle for

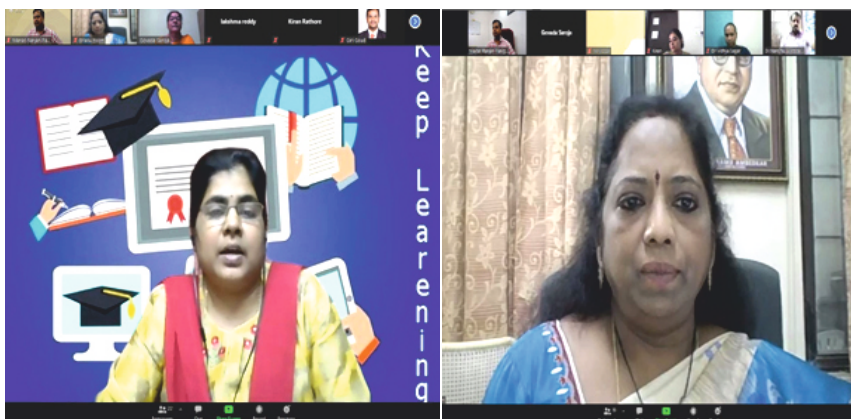


Teachers and Administrators” was held from 2 to 4 March 2021. This workshop aimed at developing administrative skills on Moodle platform and online teaching and assessment skills using Moodle Learning Management System (LMS). Ninety-eight university teachers and technical administrators participated in the workshop.

Designing and developing MOOCs at Open Universities across India

A Faculty Development Programme was held from 15 to 17 June 2021 for teachers of Karnataka State Open University (KSOU) on how to design and develop online courses and offering of such courses through the institutional LMS and SWAYAM. Forty-five teachers participated in this programme which focused on the four-quadrant approach and developing proposals for MOOCs on the SWAYAM platform.



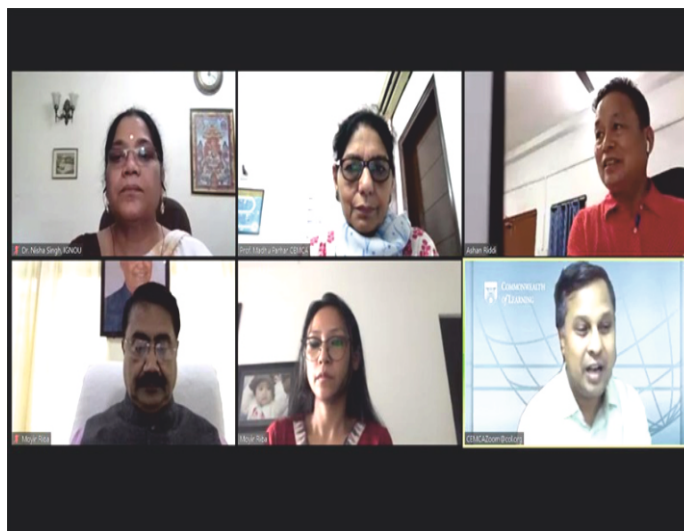


Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Open University, Hyderabad in collaboration with CEMCA initiated a project on “Reconfiguring Academic Support for Open Distance Learning”. As a first step, an online workshop was conducted to enable faculty members to develop content in all the four quadrants of the MOOCs as prescribed by the SWAYAM guidelines, namely, e-tutorials; e-content; assessment, and discussion. Thirty-one teachers attended the technical sessions which were led by Dr. Indira Koneru.

Development of online courses at Rajiv Gandhi University, Arunachal Pradesh

In collaboration with CEMCA, Rajiv Gandhi University (RGU), Arunachal Pradesh, organised a capacity building workshop on online course development for academic staff of the North-Eastern States of India. Vice-Chancellor, Professor Saket Kushwaha stated that online learning has become the need of the hour and RGU is committed to taking all the necessary steps to adapt to the new normal. Professor Parhar, Director, CEMCA, lauded this initiative by RGU. Professor Ashan Riddi, Director of RGU’s Institute of Distance Education (IDE) spoke on the occasion.

Ms. Moyir Riba from IDE was the coordinator of the programme. Dr. Nisha Singh from the Centre for Online Education at IGNOU was the resource person for this training. The synchronous and asynchronous training sessions were held from 6 to 8 July 2020 and were attended by 104 academic staff members.



CEMCA extends mentoring support to Karnataka State Open University (KSOU)

Professor V. Venkaiah, Former Vice Chancellor of Krishna University, India, facilitated an online workshop on Assessment and Accreditation as part of CEMCA’s continuing mentoring support to Karnataka State Open University (KSOU), India. Fifty KSOU staff along with the Vice

Chancellor, Nodal Officer to CEMCA at KSOU, Director (CIQA), and Coordinator for NAAC assessment attended the workshop. In this workshop, various criteria of the NAAC Assessment and Accreditation, including the role of CIQA, and responsibility of the various staff in the

process were discussed. A plan of action was prepared to understand the readiness of the university for NAAC Assessment.

CEMCA supported KSOU for capacity building of their teachers on “Use of Technology and OER for Online

Content Development for Better Learning”. Professor Vidyashankar S, the Vice Chancellor of KSOU affirmed the importance of online education and the need for teachers to adapt technology to reach out to students. Mr. Gurumurthy Kasinathan and his team from IT for Change led the technical sessions from 22 March 2021. Seventy-five teachers and staff from KSOU learnt about various FOSS tools, OER, and tools for evaluation of teaching and learning. Dr Manas Ranjan Panigrahi from CEMCA and Dr. Sumati Ramakrishna Gowda from KSOU coordinated the workshop.

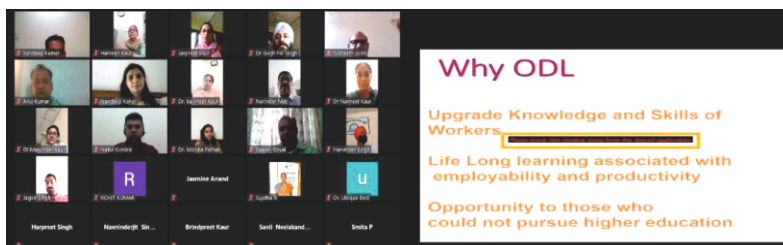


Designing self-learning material at Jagat Guru Nanak Dev Punjab State Open University

CEMCA organised a capacity building programme on Design of Self-Learning Material for course writers of Jagat Guru Nanak Dev Punjab State Open University, Patiala on 30 April 2021.

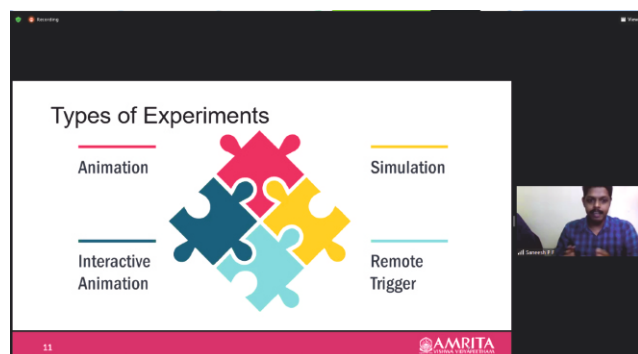
The University has been established in 2020. Hence, the need was felt to train the course writers on design of self-learning material. The training programme was facilitated by Professor Parhar, CEMCA. The

training included sessions on the Concept of ODL, teaching and learning in ODL, programme/course/unit outcomes, unit structure, concept map, content presentation, assessment, how to write activities, summary, unit end questions, and references. Seventy-five academics from various



universities across Punjab participated in this programme. JGNDPSOU, with support from CEMCA, aims to extend its reach of ODL delivery to learners across the state.

Capacity building in virtual labs for university faculty in India



An online capacity building programme on Virtual Labs was organised by CEMCA for Uttarakhand Open University from 9 to 10 November 2020. Sixty-two faculty members of UOU and formal universities of the State attended the programme. Professor O.P.S. Negi, Vice Chancellor, Uttarakhand Open University, in his Presidential address, posited that virtual labs can play an important role in taking educators and students towards quality teaching and learning. He emphasised the importance of virtual labs in providing students with access to quality practical and hands-on experiment-

based learning. Dr. Krishnashree Achutan from Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham spoke of how virtual labs promote holistic and experiential learning. Mr. Saneesh P F, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham provided an overview of virtual labs and demonstrated a variety of experiments

from Physics, Chemistry, Biology, and Computer Science.

In another programme, 71 faculty members of Open Universities and associated formal universities across India participated in a two-day online workshop on Virtual Labs organised by CEMCA from 17 to 18 December

2020. Participants were interested to learn more about virtual labs and how to take such initiatives ahead in their own institutions. Participating faculty from institutions across India appreciated this initiative and spoke of the need to conduct more such programmes in future.

Designing innovative solutions for educational challenges

EdTech Hackathon 2021 was organised by the Interdisciplinary Programme (IDP) in Educational Technology, IIT Bombay with support from CEMCA. This online pan-India initiative was held from 13 to 15 March 2021 for the design of innovative solutions to address

educational challenges and to serve the emerging needs of learners, teachers, and parents. Participants presented the selected challenge, problem statement, design journey with various milestones, proposed solution, and related proof of concept/low fidelity prototypes. The presentation was

followed by a Q & A session led by the expert panel of judges and valuable feedback was provided to the participants. The three winning teams were encouraged to take their ideas forward and refine them further with the help of post-hackathon resources.

Creating awareness on diversities among learners in partnership with Netaji Subhas Open University

Recognising the need to create awareness about addressing diversities among learners through inclusive education practices, CEMCA organised an online workshop on Understanding Neurodiversity in collaboration with the School of Education at Netaji Subhas Open University, Kolkata on 4 June 2021. Ninety special educators, teachers, teacher educators, school leadership, university faculty and students, psychologists, communication therapists, and professionals from non-governmental organisations across the country attended this programme, which was conducted by Ms. Manobina Chakraborty, an inclusive education expert and a certified Special Educational Needs professional.



Technical and Vocational Skills Development

Self-employment generation among young and mid-age workforce in Assam

CEMCA in association with the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) organised online training programmes under “Virasat-The Heritage Model” for Traditional Cluster Development to enhance capacity for self-employment generation among young and mid-age workforce in Assam.

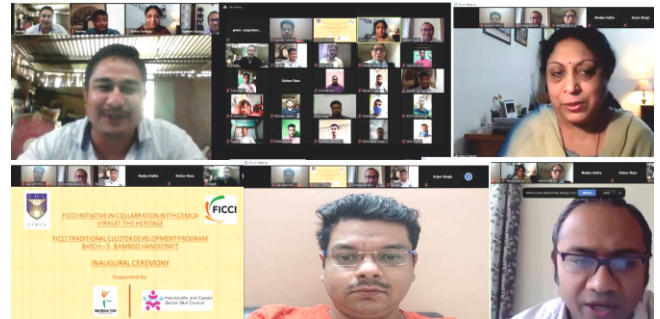
Two workshops, which were attended by a total of 154 participants, focused on skills for operating sewing machines.



Mr. Moloy Bora, IAS (Commissioner & Secretary, Handloom, Textile and Sericulture, Assam) appreciated this

unique initiative of CEMCA & FICCI. Dr. Roopak Vasishtha (CEO & Director General, Apparel Sector Skill Council) appreciated the efforts of the participants in learning various stitching skills during the online training.

Seventy-three young and mid-age workforce participants were trained in a programme on pineapple food processing. The key speakers were Mr. Subhas Bhattacharjee (Former Managing Director, North Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation Ltd.), Mr. Sanjeev Gupta (Deputy General Manager, SIDBI, Guwahati), Mr. Abhishek Choudhary (Lead Consultant-Rural Financial Inclusion Programmes, CRISIL Foundation), Mr. D. T. Dekatey (NABARD), and Mr. Mahesh Pratap Singh (Head, Investors Relation &



Social Responsibility Projects Flipkart), who led various sessions during the workshop.

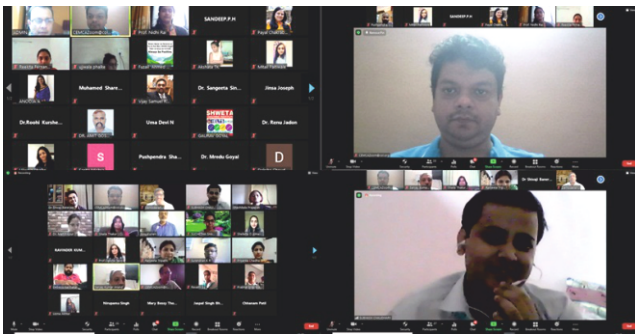
A workshop was organised from 26 April 2021 to 1 May 2021 aimed at enhancing capacity of young and mid-age workforce from Assam in bamboo handicraft and generating self-employment. Professor Madhu Parhar (Director, CEMCA), Mr. Saurabh Mishra, (Programme Officer, CEMCA), Mrs. Veena Swarup (Chair, FICCI Skill Development Task Force), and Mr Sumeet Gupta, (Assistant Secretary General, FICCI), Mr. Arjun (Manager, Handicrafts & Carpet Sector Skill Council) addressed the participants.

Trainer's training programmes for faculty of Industrial Training Institutes

In collaboration with the National Institute for Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development (NIESBUD), CEMCA organised several online training programmes for vocational training faculty of Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs). Around 25 faculty members each from Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Kashmir, Ladakh, and Uttar Pradesh participated in these programmes. Sessions were conducted on Entrepreneurial Motivation, Life Skills, Financial and Digital Literacy, Role and Schemes of State/Central Government Department in Promoting Entrepreneurship, Preparation of Business Plan / Project Report. Dr. Poonam Sinha, Director-Entrepreneurship Education, NIESBUD, emphasised on how CEMCA and NIESBUD are working progressively towards materializing the government's vision of Self-reliant India and Vocal for Local initiatives.



Capacity building of Skills University faculty



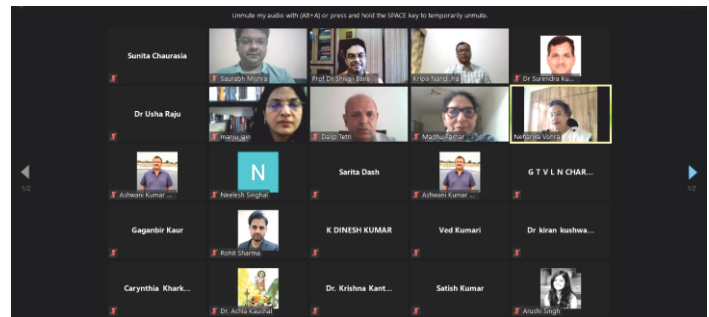
Faculty from Bhartiya Skill Development University (BSDU), Jaipur and Delhi Skill & Entrepreneurship University (DSEU) participated in capacity building programmes on “Effective Online Teaching, Assessment and

Communication Skills” organised in association with CEMCA. There were 455 and 430 participants from BSDU, Jaipur and DSEU

respectively who

attended sessions on digital mindset, online course design and pedagogy, online evaluation and assessment

tools, online communication, and time management skills. The training, conducted through May and June 2021, was organised in batches with each batch of faculty members attending a five-day online workshop.



21st century skills for vocational trainers

CEMCA supported a five-day capacity building workshop on 21st century skills for vocational trainers. The workshop was organised by the Swatirtha Charitable Trust, West Bengal. 26 vocational trainers from 26 Industrial Training Institutes and diploma institutions under Swatirtha Charitable Trust attended this workshop. Ms. Rumpa Malik, President, Swatirtha Charitable Trust, and Professor Madhu Parhar highlighted the need for 21st century skills in

addition to domain knowledge. Mr. Saurabh Mishra, Programme Officer (Skills), CEMCA explained the objective of the training program. Dr. Shivaji Banerjee conducted the technical sessions which included topics such as Leadership and Managerial Effectiveness, Work Life Balance, Emotional Intelligence and Stress Management, Time Management, Interpersonal Skills and Effective Communication, and Effective Presentation Skills.

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) for wood workers

A programme on Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) was organised in Delhi by CEMCA in association with Furniture and Fittings Skill Council (FFSC). Mr. Rahul Mehta (CEO, FFSC) and Mr. Devesh Sharma (Head-State Engagement, FFSC) were present along with representatives of industry partners. Participants were appraised of the need for RPL and how this certification would help towards recognition of their skills and enhanced income in the long run.



Community Media

Handbook on 'Best Practices of Community Radio and Sustainable Development Goals'

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, 13 February 2021. The programme was organised by UNESCO and SMART at India International Centre, New Delhi. The Handbook was launched by Ms. Neerja Shekhar, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, Mr. Shashi Shekhar Vempati, CEO, Prasar Bharati, Mr. Eric Falt, Director, UNESCO New Delhi, Professor Madhu Parhar, Director, CEMCA and Ms. Archana Kapoor, Founder TRF/ SMART.



Ayush Immunity Enhancement Campaign

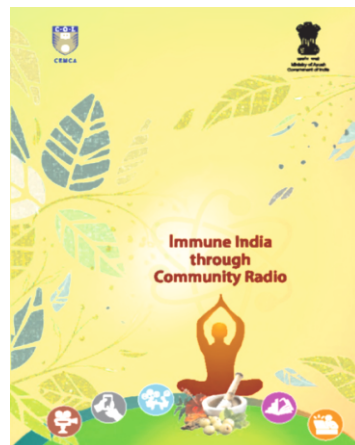
With support from the Ministry of Ayush, Government of India, CEMCA organised a campaign conducted through Community Radio Stations across India to create awareness and to help improve the immunity of people, especially in the rural areas of the country. This project, which was conducted from December 2020 to February 2021, brought together 25 Community Radios shortlisted from different geographic zones.

The campaign served as a response to the need of the hour- the fight against COVID-19. The principal objectives were to educate people about alternative systems of medicine, promote the practice of home-made remedies for immunity enhancement,

identify the major health risks in a particular community, and to determine people's access to different healthcare facilities.

An informational broadcast programme 'Immune India through Community Radio' was created.

Community Radio Stations broadcasted the programme. The campaign reached an estimated 20,97,000 people. Data was collected from the listeners in two phases and was analysed to determine the benefits of adopting the Ayush methods of immunity enhancement.



Community Radio Video Challenge 2021

The Community Radio Video Challenge (CRVC) is a joint initiative of CEMCA and UNESCO, New Delhi, to engage the Indian youth in Community Radio and to promote understanding and importance of Community Radio as an alternative media for community's self-expression, learning and development.

The theme for CRVC 2021 was "Community Radio for Healthy Communities", which was further divided into sub-themes- Health in new normal; Delivering useful information and/ or misinformation; Awareness on women's health and



childcare; Emotional and psychological wellbeing during COVID19; Utilising and enhancing community media towards health; and Learning during pandemic.

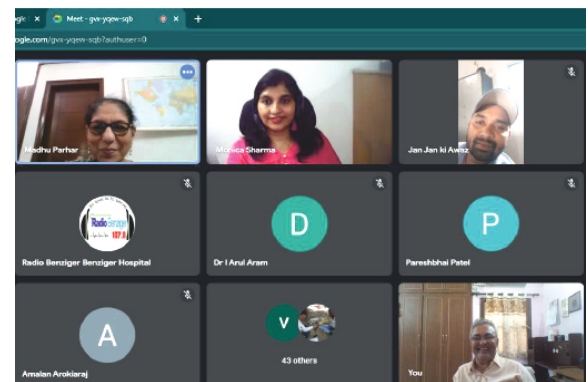
The results of CRVC 2021 were declared in June and the short film

'Radio' by Angel Augustine won the first prize. An online training programme on 'Documentary and Film-making' was conducted for the participants by experts Mr. Vijay Jodha and Mr. Matiur Rahman, both of whom are independent filmmakers. More than 35 students were a part of this training session.

Training on documentation and report writing skills

In response to a request from the President of the Community Radio Association New Delhi, Dr. B. S. Panwar, CEMCA conducted training programmes on "Documentation and Report Writing Skills" for Community Radio Stations in India. This training was organised in three phases from April to June 2021. Of the 100 Community Radio Stations which were

selected, around 70% participated. Dr. Rajendra Mishra, Former Director, Instructional Media Centre at Maulana Azad National Urdu University, conducted the training on how to use various tools for project preparation, data collection and report writing.



Career counselling for youth through Community Radio

CEMCA initiated a programme on career counselling for youth through Community Radio in association with 10 Community Radio Stations in India. The broadcast was planned for six weeks from May to June 2021. The programme had an encouraging impact with support from Radio Khanchi,

Radio Kisanvani Deeg, Radio Salesian, Radio FM 24 Bhiwadi, Radio Kamlavani, Radio Salaam Namaste, Radio Nityananda, Voice of Azamgarh, Radio Manav Rachna, and Radio Gunjan.

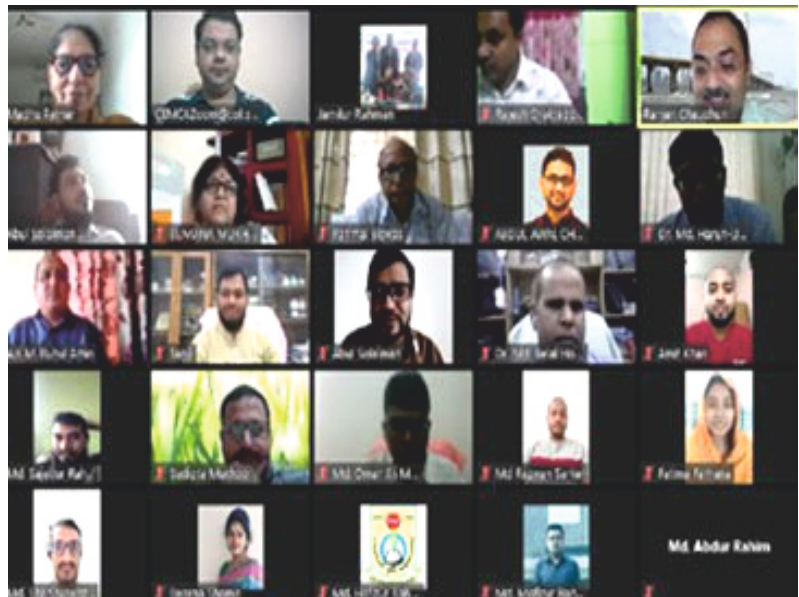


In the Region

Engaging with Universities in Bangladesh

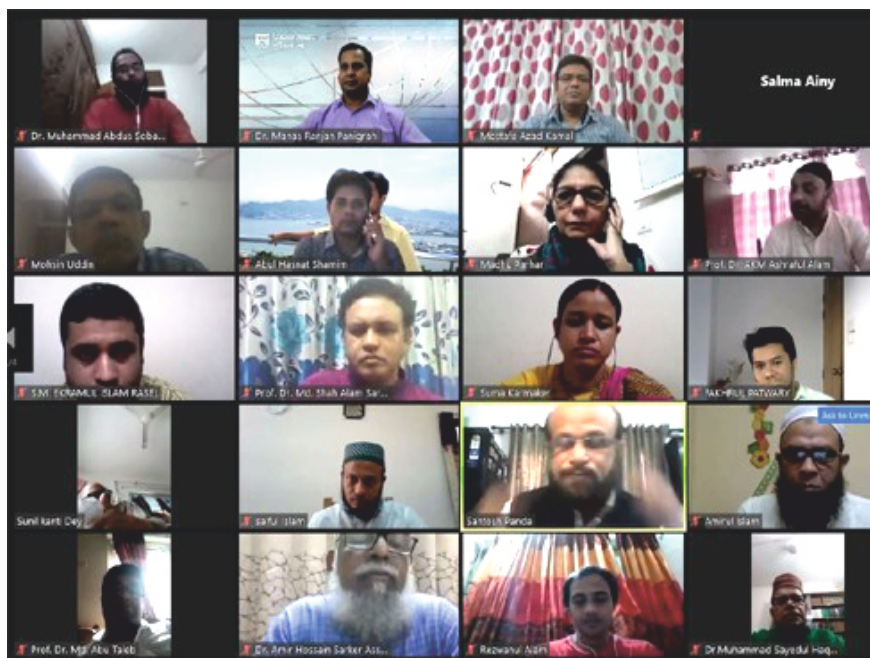
CEMCA conducted an online workshop on “Development of Outcome-Based Self-Learning Materials” for teachers and ODL facilitators of Bangladesh Open University (BOU) from 12 to 15 October 2020. Dr. Manas Ranjan Panigrahi from CEMCA shared the relevance of this initiative for better learning. Professor Mostafa Azad Kamal from BOU shared the objectives of the workshop and modalities. Professor Madhu Parhar, Director, CEMCA addressed the participants and motivated them for designing and developing outcome-based self-learning materials. The workshop, which was attended by 80 BOU faculty members, was facilitated by Professor Santosh Panda from IGNOU, India.

Sher-e-Bangla Agriculture University, Bangladesh, with



support from CEMCA, organised an online capacity building programme from 17 to 19 June 2021 for faculty of Agriculture Universities of Bangladesh to learn and implement “Smart and Future Agro-farming: Opportunities

for Sustainability Targeting SDGs”. Dr. Abul Hasnat Solaiman, Professor, Department of Horticulture, Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University and Dr. Ranjan Chowdhari from the National Institute of Industrial Engineering, Mumbai conducted the sessions during which academicians and students brainstormed on how to develop farming models which are climate vulnerability proof with adequate interconnectedness and upstream and downstream supply chain visibility. Professor Md. Shahidur Rashid Bhuiyan, Vice-Chancellor, Sher-e-Bangla Agriculture University, Dhaka appreciated this initiative.



Supporting implementation of open-book and take-home examination at University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

An online capacity building workshop on “Implementation of Open-Book and Take-Home Examination” was organised for teachers at the University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka. Professor E. Vayunandan, Vice-Chancellor of Yashwantrao Chavan Maharashtra Open University (YCMOU), Nashik, India shared the experiences of the University in conducting online examinations during COVID-19 lockdown. This programme brought together 180 faculty members who participated to learn about principles involved in setting open-book, take-home examination questions and how such examinations differ from closed-book formal examination questions.



Dr. Dinesh Bhonde from YCMOU discussed the techniques and tips for

setting open-book take-home examination questions.

Virtual labs for teachers and teacher educators of Maldives

A three-day capacity building programme on virtual labs for teachers and teacher educators of Maldives was organised by CEMCA in collaboration with the National Institute of Education (NIE), Maldives. Fathimath Naseer, Honourable Minister of State for Education, Maldives appreciated the initiative and emphasised the usefulness of virtual labs in reaching teachers and students across diverse geographies in Maldives. Professor Prema Nedungadi, Director, Amrita Center for Research in Analytics, Technologies & Education (AmritaCREATE), spoke of how virtual labs could enhance science education and presented an overview

of Online Labs for Schools. Shri Anil Kumar Pipal, eLearning Divisions, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India spoke of initiatives of the MeitY including online labs. This programme was attended by 194 teachers in the areas of Physics, Chemistry, Biology, and Mathematics. Mr. Saneesh from Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham demonstrated online experiments and simulations for



school-level Physics, Chemistry, Biology, and Mathematics. The programme was coordinated by Dr. Shiffon Chatterjee, Senior Programme Officer, CEMCA.

Emerging Technologies

Virtual reality training at Ravenshaw University



CEMCA and Ravenshaw University, Cuttack jointly organised a three-day hands-on workshop on 360-degree Virtual Reality (VR) Teaching and Learning from 12 to 14 June 2021. Forty-two faculty members and research scholars from the Department of Education at Ravenshaw University participated in the workshop. Participants developed VR content using the 360-degree VR platform designed and developed by CEMCA with support from Dr. Kaushal Kumar Bhagat and his team at the Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur. Prof. Sanjay Kumar Nayak, Vice Chancellor, Ravenshaw University, noted the importance of enhancing the capacity of teachers to develop VR materials for better teaching and learning.

Entrepreneurship and innovation career opportunities in Blockchain and IoT

A webinar was organised by CEMCA in association with CIT, Tumkur, Karnataka to create awareness on entrepreneurship and innovation career opportunities in Blockchain and IoT. Prof. Suresh D. S., Director, CIT, Tumkur, emphasised the importance of emerging technologies like IoT and Blockchain in today's IT industry. The webinar was attended by 194 participants. Mr. Jeevan Saini, the expert speaker, provided an overview of IoT and blockchain and highlighted the entrepreneurship opportunities available in this field.



Artificial intelligence and sensor-based technologies in agriculture and allied sciences

The Department of Agricultural Science and Technology, Mansarovar Global University (MGU), Bhopal, with the support of CEMCA, conducted an online workshop on “Emerging Techniques in Agriculture and Allied Sciences: Use of Artificial Intelligence and Sensor-Based Technologies” from 22 to 26 February 2021. The experts included Professor Sandip Banerjee, MGU, Dr. Monoranjan Mohanty, ICAR-Indian Institute of Soil Science, Bhopal, Dr. Pragya Saurabh, MGU, Dr. Mestawet Taye, Hawassa University, Ethiopia and Dr. Aditya Parmar, Natural Resource Institute, University of Greenwich, United Kingdom. Eighty students and faculty of agriculture and allied sciences participated in this workshop and interacted with the experts.



Games for online teaching and learning of computing skills

CEMCA organised a webinar on Games for Online Teaching and Learning of Computing Skills on 11 June 2021. The objective was to create awareness on how games can be leveraged to promote conceptual understanding and learner motivation in online learning. In her inaugural

address, Professor Madhu Parhar, Director, CEMCA spoke of how game-based learning can engage learners, its relevance for diverse disciplines, and the need to enable faculty members to effectively incorporate this approach in their own teaching.

The expert speaker for the webinar was Dr. Sridhar Chimalakonda from the Indian Institute of Technology Tirupati. Online games for computing education were demonstrated. Forty faculty members from colleges and universities across India actively participated in this webinar.

National Assessment and Accreditation Council award for Open Universities

Congratulations

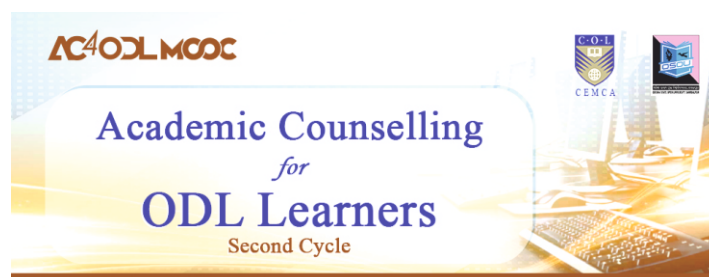
Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), New Delhi has been awarded Grade A++ by the NAAC in January 2021. The University serves the educational aspirations of over 3 million students in India and other countries.

Netaji Subhas Open University (NSOU) in Kolkata, India was awarded Grade A by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) in April 2021. NSOU is the first State Open University in India to receive this honour in the Open and Distance Learning system.

Academic Counselling for ODL (AC4ODL) Learners

A MOOC with blended approach on Academic Counselling for ODL Learners (AC4ODL) was jointly launched by CEMCA and Odisha State Open University (OSOU) from 2 November 2020 to 3 December 2020. A total of 1800 learners from 59 countries registered and participated in the course, of which 986 learners were from India while 814 learners were from 58 countries.

CEMCA and OSOU successfully offered the second cycle of this course from 19 April 2021 to 30 May 2021 to address the vast demand from learners. A total of 1340 teachers, educational leaders, and ODL practitioners enrolled in this MOOC which they found informative and engaging. Using up-to-date learning design and simple,



accessible technology, the course ran on an easy-to-use learning platform (<https://www.mooc4dev.org/AC4ODL2>) available via the Internet. During the course, majority of the learners participated in the discussion creating 2700 forums and 6651 responses to other participants. 427 participants earned certificates after successfully completing all the required exercises and quizzes.

Life Skill for Engineers



The third cycle of the Life Skill for Engineers MOOC level I was offered during March-April 2021. During these six weeks live sessions with instructors were conducted each week where course participants joined and raised pertinent questions. This Course reached out to 2654 learners from diverse backgrounds across the globe who enrolled in the course and participated actively. A total of 264 certificates were awarded to the participants.

Introduction to Statistical Analysis

CEMCA and Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS) successfully offered the first cycle of a MOOC on Introduction to Statistical Analysis from 1 May 2021 to 10 June 2021. 4660 learners enrolled in this MOOC. Learners used an interactive learning platform (<https://www.mooc4dev.org/stayanalysis>) and found the course to be

informative, engaging, and productive for their professional development and competency enhancement.

Learners participated in the discussion during the course creating 3240 forum posts and posting 12662 comments. A total of 807 certificates were awarded to the participants.



Development of Online Courses for SWAYAM

This MOOC for teachers of higher education focuses on the SWAYAM framework for design and development of online courses. The two-week course from 19 May 2021 to 05 June 2021 was developed by CEMCA with support from a team of faculty experts from different Open Universities. The course was launched through an online function on 18 May 2021.

This online Faculty Development Programme launched through the Netaji Subhas Open University platform reached out to 219 faculty members. Participants interacted asynchronously through the discussion forum on various relevant topics. Two live sessions were organised where around 200 learners and the course developers participated for doubt clarification. At the end of the course, there was a provision for assessment though it was not compulsory. Forty-

FDP on MOOCs

Netaji Subhas Open University & Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia jointly offer

Development of online course for SWAYAM

Objectives:

- Preparing proposal for SWAYAM
- Understanding OER
- Understanding 4 quadrant approach
- Developing modules for MOOCs

Duration 2 Weeks

Target group: Teachers & Researchers

Start Date: 17th May 2021

Course Coordinators:

Dr. Anand Ghosh
Professor & Director, COA
Netaji Subhas Open University

Dr. Anand K. Panghali
Sr. Programme Officer (Education)
Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia

Please log on for details
<http://www.wbnsou.ac.in/>

three percent of the total participants submitted their assignments for certification. Certificates were issued to participants who scored at least 60% in the assessment.

FDP-MOOC

Launching of FDP-MOOC

Development of Online Courses for SWAYAM

BY

18 May 2021

COL
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NETAJI SUBHAS OPEN UNIVERSITY

THE NEWSLETTER

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CEMCA's mission is to promote the
meaningful, relevant and appropriate use of
ICTs to serve the educational and training
needs of Commonwealth Member States of
Asia.

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