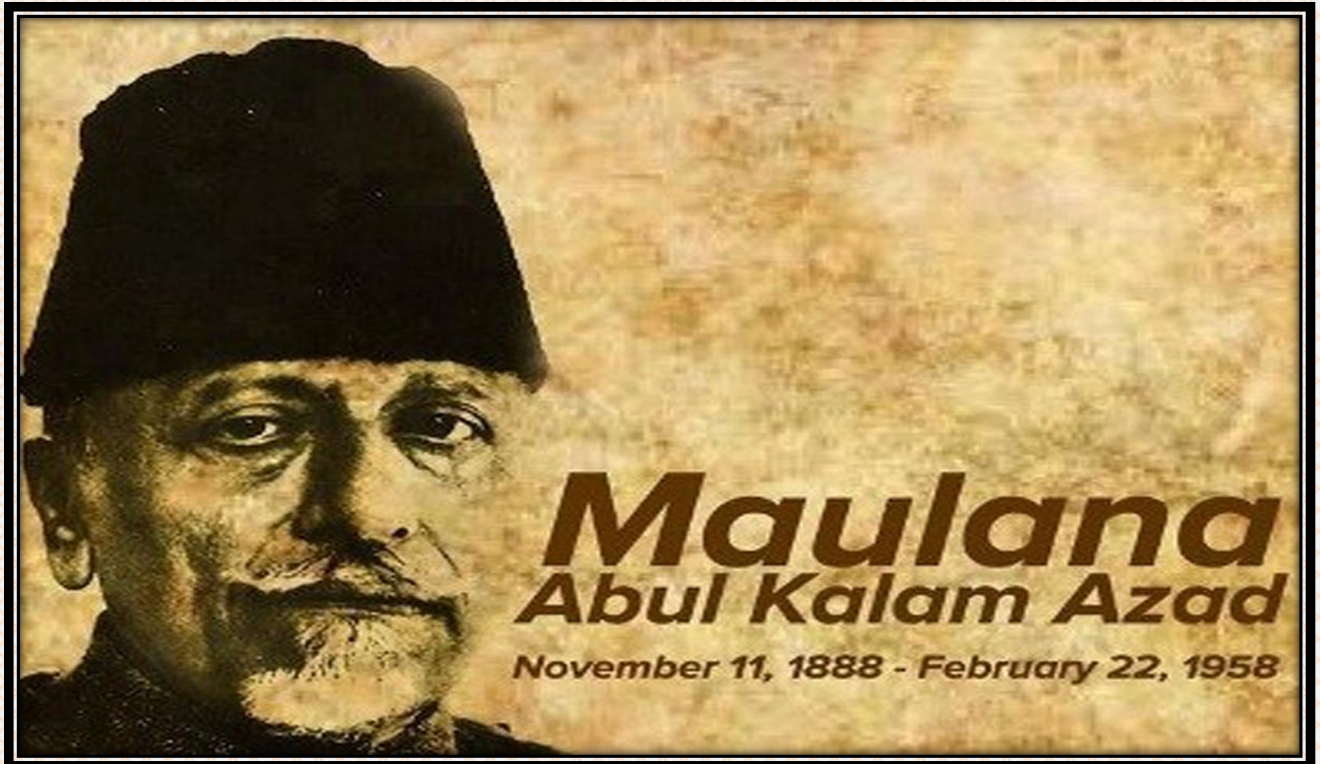


National Education Day 2020

Birth Anniversary of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad

(11 Nov, 2020)



**Department of Education
Rajiv Gandhi University**

**Rono Hills: Doimukh
Arunachal Pradesh, India-791112**



Acknowledgement:

To mark the 132nd Birth anniversary of **Maulana Abul Kalam Azad**, the first ever education minister of independent India (1947-1958) as National Education Day, the Department of Education, Rajiv Gandhi University, Doimukh, Arunachal Pradesh organized a one day webinar cum Lecture on Nov 11, 2020, to highlight his vision, actions, contributions, and to disseminate the same to the masses. People from academia consisting of college and university teachers, students and common people through online platform ZOOM due to the restrictions posed by the Covid-19 pandemic.

We acknowledge the direct and indirect support and contribution offered by people in making this programme a real success. We acknowledge the constant motivation, guidance and support of Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, RGU, **Prof. Saket Kushwaha**, Pro-VC, **Prof. A. Mitra**, Registrar, **Dr. N. T. Rikam** and whole university administration for financial and logistic support. We also acknowledge the support of learned Resource persons of this programme; **Prof Anil Sadgopal**, former member, Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE), MHRD, GOI, New Delhi, former Prof. and Head of Central Institute of Education (CIE, now Faculty of Education, University of Delhi, New Delhi and **Prof. Mohammad Akhtar Siddique**, former chairperson, National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE), New Delhi, former Prof. at Institute of Advanced Study in Education (IASE), Faculty of Education, Jamia Milia Islamia, New Delhi, who spared their valuable time, shared their views and knowledge interacted with the participants, We acknowledge the support of **Prof. Rachob Taba**, Dean, Faculty of Education and Physical Education for gracing the occasion. We acknowledge the support, cooperation and trust of **Prof. Kesang Degi**, Head, Dept. of Education, RGU, who entrusted on us for organizing this programme. We acknowledge the support, and cooperation of other esteemed colleagues of the department for their guidance, cooperation and support in conceptualizing and conducting this programme.

We acknowledge the interest of academicians of different institutions of Arunachal Pradesh, and other parts of the country for virtually connecting to this august programme and making it a success one.

We also acknowledge the virtual presence of Deans, Heads and faculties of various departments of the university, who made it convenient to attend and witness the lectures. We acknowledge the participation of research scholars and students of B.Ed., M.A. (Education), M.Ed. and other departments of the university.

We also acknowledge the virtual presence of common people, who tuned to the programme through ZOOM as well as through You Tube live sessions. We also acknowledge the support of; people from media and security.

Organizing committee:

CHIEF PATRON



Prof. Saket Kushwaha
Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor

PATRONS



Prof. Amitava Mitra
Pro Vice-Chancellor



Dr. N. T. Rikam
Registrar

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Part 1: PREFACE

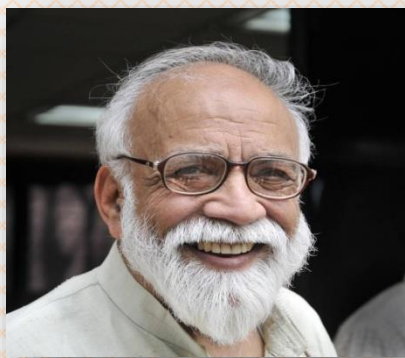
1.1 Background

To commemorate the contributions of one the great sons of this country; Maulana Azad to the cause of education, the Ministry of Education (the then MHRD), Govt of India had decided to celebrate his birthday as National Education Day w.e.f. 2008. Thereafter, every year November is celebrated as the national Education Day. This time too it will be celebrated with the same fervor and intent.

TARGET PARTICIPANTS

Academicians of different institutions of Arunachal Pradesh as well other parts of the country. Deans, Heads and faculties of various departments of the university, research scholars and students of B.Ed., M.A. (Education), M.Ed. and other departments of the university and common public in general who tuned to the You Tube live. Members of Rajiv Gandhi University Teachers Association (RGUTA) and Rajiv Gandhi University Students Union RGUSU also participated in.

1.2 Resource Persons



Prof Anil Sadgopal, Former member, Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE), MHRD, GOI, New Delhi, former Prof. and Head of Central Institute of Education (CIE, now Faculty of Education, University of Delhi, New Delhi). M.Sc. in Plant Physiology and Biochemistry from Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), New Delhi (1962);

Ph.D. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (1968) from the California Institute of Technology, USA; Fellow of Govt. of India's Tata Institute of Fundamental Research

(TIFR), Mumbai (1968-71). At the age of 31, resigned from TIFR to organise a rural education and development programme through KISHORE BHARATI in Hoshangabad District, Madhya Pradesh (1971-1992). In collaboration with the Friends Rural Centre Rasulia, initiated the Hoshangabad Science Teaching Programme (HSTP) in 1972 in 16 government upper primary (Class VI-VIII) schools which was expanded in 1978 to all the 280 odd government upper primary schools of the District. Helped found EKLAVYA in 1982 which later extended HSTP to about 750 government schools in the three states of Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Rajasthan wherein almost 50,000 children, with help and support from 2000 plus re-oriented teachers, learnt science through 'hands-on' experiment-based, inquiry-oriented and local milieu-related pedagogy – a phenomenon without precedence in the history of India's education.

Joined the people's science movement and the movement for civil liberties and democratic right in the early eighties; active in the struggle of the Bhopal gas victims against Union Carbide and for obtaining scientific medical treatment and rehabilitation from the Government for which he was jailed; appointed by the Supreme Court on its Committee to recommend measures for Bhopal gas victims' medical treatment and rehabilitation (1986-88);

National Convenor of Bharat Jan Vigyan Jatha (BJVJ), an all-India people's science network (1993-2002); conceived and led BJVJ's Lokshala Programme for demonstrating an alternative vision of Universalisation of Elementary Education through social intervention in the government school system (1995-2002).

Professor of Education in the University of Delhi (1994-2005) and also served as Head, Department of Education and Dean, Faculty of Education; Senior Fellow of the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library (2001-2006). Member of the National Commission on Teachers (1983-84), the National Policy on Education Review Committee or the Acharya Ramamurti Committee (1990) and Central Advisory Board of Education, CABE (2004-06); Member of three CABE committees respectively on (a) Free & Compulsory Education Bill; (b) Girls' Education and Common School System; and (c) Universalisation of Secondary Education (2004-05); Member, National Steering Committee for Review of National Curriculum Framework, NCERT (2004-05); Chairperson, NCERT's National Focus Group on 'Work and Education' (2004-05). Member, Common School System Commission, Bihar State Government (2006-07).

Jamnalal Bajaj Award (1980) and Shantiniketan's Rathindra Puraskar (1984) for 'application of science and technology to rural areas'; and Homi Bhabha Award (TIFR) in Science Education, 2018 for 'lifelong contribution to a systematic rethinking of science education in India'. Author of two Hindi books: 'Sangharsh aur Nirman' (Rajkamal, 1993) on the radical trade union movement led by Shankar Guha Niyogi in Chhattisgarh and 'Shiksha mein Badlaav ka Sawal' (Granth Shilpi, 2000) on education policy and need for people's movement; dozens of articles/editorials and several essays in edited volumes on policy analysis and adverse impact of globalisation and communal politics on education.



Prof Mohd Akhtar Siddiqui completed his education from University of Delhi, Jamia Millia Islamia, University of Leeds (UK) and HP University. He taught at the Faculty of Education Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi and other institutions for more than 40 years at undergraduate, PG and Ph.D. levels, and guided research work of 30 Ph. D. and Post-Doctoral scholars. As Chairperson of the NCTE, Govt. of India, the apex statutory authority for teacher education, during 2008-11, he took many policy initiatives to reform the teacher education system in the country. The NCFTE-2009 was developed and brought out under his leadership. On his initiative, TET was introduced as an essential component of teacher qualification in 2010. He was Chairman of the High Powered Committee of the MHRD on Reforms in NCTE and Teacher Education in 2015-16 whose recommendations have been incorporated in the NEP 2020. He has published several research papers and books and has undertaken many research projects funded by international and national agencies.

1.3 About the sponsoring agency

Rajiv Gandhi University, Doimukh, Arunachal Pradesh

1.4 Budget

Rs. 10,500.00 (Ten Thousand Five Hundred only) was the sanction amount.

Part 2: Session wise Details

2.1 Inaugural session

In the inaugural session **Prof. Kesang Degi**, Head, Department of Education welcomed the Resource persons **Prof. Akhtar Siddique** and **Prof. Anil Sadgopal**, audience, participants, faculty members & Head from other departments, Deans of various faculties, distinguished guests and invitees, and all others connected through ZOOM on the occasion and expressed her gratitude towards the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor **Prof. Saket Kushwaha** for the support and providing this opportunity to the department to conduct this Webinar. She highlighted the key contributions of Maula Azad.

Dr. Sumin Prakash, convener of the programme set the tone by presenting the brief biography of Abul Kalam Azad, the first Education Minister of Independent India.

Dr. N. T. Rikam, Registrar opined that though Arunachal Pradesh is not much behind the national level in terms of literacy rate, however it lacks quality, which needs to be essentially maintained.

Prof. A. Mitra, Pro Vice Chancellor mentioned the circumstances and challenges posed before Maulana Azad when he took over as the Minister of education after independence, and elaborated the challenges present at that time in terms of low literacy rate and only 02 crore fund left at that time as education budget of the country.

Dr. Anamika Yadav, convener of the programme conducted the session on the ZOOM platform, invited the speakers and managed the You Tube live session also.

2.2 Plenary sessions (Day wise)

Session - I

Prof. Akhtar Siddique started his talk by elaborating the personality, vision and mission of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad's life and education. He explained that how Azad had contributed towards the reconstruction of education system in post-independent India, and added that the Azad's balanced vision and conviction for value of human beings was most relevant for Indian society of that time, which was ravaged by the partition of the country. Azad advocated for the adult education, informal education, women education and was very much concerned about the improvement of heart and minds of the fellow countrymen; the demand of present time and the focal points of our new National Education Policy (draft) of 2020 even. Prof. Siddique further

added about Maulana Azad's vision of Education, its objectives, related programmes and policies and said that he was the firm believer of democracy and democratization of education for the benefits of mass education. He lamented that Azad had visualized the modern education for the country and formulated the objectives of the modern education which are yet to be achieved. And the most important objective was the man making education i.e. the character building of children and people. Prof. Siddique concluded by saying that Azad had not only appreciated the rights of an individual person and performance of duties but also believed that education will not be effective without empowering the teachers.

Session - II

Prof. Anil Sadgopal remembered Maulana Azad as a man and leader who had wide vision for humanity and humanism as these two were core philosophy of his life. He further added that Maulana Azad advocated for liberating the country through education. Prof. Sadgopal cited several documents and instances where Maulana Azad seemed to be in hurry to implement the agenda of education at time, despite odd social, political and economic situations post-independence. In the inaugural function of CIE at University of Delhi, Azad delivered that we should not wait for funds and buildings to start education, rather we should start first and these things will come along. Prof. Sadgopal expressed wonder that how much far sighted Maulana Azad was. He listed the Institutions established and the Commissions set by Maulana Azad as Education minister like; All India Council for Technical Institution (AICTE), IIT Khadagpur in 1951, University Grants Commission in 1958, Three Lalit-Kala Academies across the country, Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), Four other IITs at Kanpur, Delhi, Bombay and Chennai and was instrumental in setting up many more. He cited the incidence that how Azad had started an engineering institution from one canteen room in West Bengal which later on become the famous IIT Khadagpur. Azad envisioned that India should have standard of scientific, technical and art education were students from not only country, rather from across the world can come for education, therefore, he collaborated with world level institutions like California Institute for Technology and country like Germany to mentor establishing our IIT's. His core philosophy of humanism was reflected in the decisions of his ministry, wherein he had provisioned for several scholarship schemes for SCs, STs, OBCs as part of equalizing the educational opportunity for all. Prof. Sadgopal unraveled the virtues of Abul Kalam and pointed

that he was really “Azad”, not bounded by sectarian boundaries, like; state, nation, language, and he always contributed for Hindu-Muslim unity; was the very foundation of his thought.

Prof. Sadgopal concluded his talk by opining that mere celebration of Education day is not enough, rather we should strive for fulfillment of central vision of Maulana Azad for education, as mentioned in the preamble of our constitution, which mandates for ensuring state sponsored free and compulsory quality education for all children up to 14 years of age. The day we realize this dream, we in real sense will be celebrating education day.

2.5 Valedictory Session

In the brief valedictory session **Prof. Saket Kushwaha**, Vice Chancellor, RGU, and Chairman of the Education Day Webinar in his concluding remarks highlighted the vision of Maulana Azad’s vision for education in Post-Independent India and elucidated that such programme should not be observed on only single day, rather everyday should be education day for us, and we need to continue to achieve the goals of education on daily basis.

Dr. Sumin Prakash took the opportunity to extend formal vote of thanks. On behalf of the Department of education he expressed his gratitude towards **Prof. Akhtar Siddique**, and **Prof. Anil Sadgopal** who convened it to accept the invitation and agreed to speak on the occasion and interact with the participants. Dr. Prakash expressed his deep sense of gratitude towards academic fraternity, all the participants, colleagues from the department and University, RGUTA, RGUSU, all the students who attend or tuned to the programme through You Tube live and all those who directly or indirectly contributed in whatever capacity to make this webinar a real success.

This way the Education Day Webinar, 2020 concluded with the resolve that Maulana Azad vision for education need to much elaborated upon and his message should reach to the masses.

Part 3: Outcome of the Programme

3.1 Immediate Implications in the context of knowledge

This webinar thrown light on the life and vision of Maulana Azad. Those who participated through ZOOM link or all those who witnessed the programme on You Tube got the information, idea and thought about the contributions of Maulana Azad as a leader, journalist, and first education minister of India.

The knowledge and wisdom shared by dignitaries in the webinar will be available on the You Tube and students and other interested people could know about it in the future also.

It can be accessed at the link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yBUNNgHUwaw>

3.2 Policy implications

Maulana Azad’s vision for education and initiatives to this effect should be propagated to the current and coming generation, and it should form part of the curriculum. His ideas had inspired and will continue to inspire the future generations. So much of his ideals for education



need to be implemented and for this to happen it should find place in our education policies. Some of glimpse we can find in the National Education Policy of 2020, still many more things are to be done and achieved.

Part 4: Annexures

Annexure 1: Programme Schedule

Duration (10:00 AM – 01:00 PM)	Programme Date - 11.11.2020 (Wednesday)
10:00 AM – 10:05 AM	Welcome Address: Prof. Kesang Degi Head, Dept. of Education
10:05 AM – 10:15 AM	Address by Prof. N. T. Rikam Registrar Rajiv Gandhi University
10:15 AM – 10:25 AM	Words of wisdom: Prof. A. Mitra Pro Vice-Chancellor Rajiv Gandhi University
10:25 AM – 11:30 AM	Distinguished Speaker: Prof. Akhtar Siddiqui Former Chairperson, NCTE, MHRD, New Delhi Former Professor, IASE, Faculty of Education, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM	Distinguished Speaker: Prof. Anil Sadgopal Former Member, CABE, MHRD, Govt. of India, New Delhi Ex-Head, CIE, Univ. of Delhi, New Delhi
12:30 PM – 12:50 PM	Remarks from the Chair: Prof. Saket Kushwaha Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Rajiv Gandhi University, Doimukh, Arunachal Pradesh
12:50 PM – 01:00 PM	Vote of Thanks: Dr. Sumin Prakash Convener of the programme
Programme Conduction	Dr. Anamika Yadav Co-convener of the programme



Annexure 2: List of participants

Sl. No.	Name	Designation
01	Dr. Anamika Yadav	Assistant Professor, Dept. of Education, RGU
02	Dr. Anga Padu	Assistant Professor, Dept. of Education, RGU
03	Dr. Boa Reena Tok	Associate Professor, Dept. of Education, RGU
04	Dr. C. Siva Sankar	Assistant Professor, Dept. of Education, RGU
05	Dr. Nisanth P. M.	Assistant Professor, Dept. of Education, RGU
06	Dr. Parasanta Kr. Barik	Assistant Professor, Dept. of Education, RGU
07	Dr. Satish Kr. Kalhotra	Associate Professor, Dept. of Education, RGU
08	Dr. Sumin Prakash	Assistant Professor, Dept. of Education, RGU
09	Dr. Tayum Saroh	Assistant Professor, Dept. of Education, RGU
10	Dr. Vivek Singh	Assistant Professor, Dept. of Education, RGU
11	Ghowangs Nyitam	M.A. student
12	Mr. Akai Pansa	M.A. student
13	Mr. Dai Haring	Research Scholar, Dept. of Education, RGU
14	Mr. Jumni Maga	M.Ed. student
15	Mr. Kaling Moyong	Research Scholar, Dept. of Education, RGU
16	Mr. Mithun Mondal	Research Scholar, Dept. of Education, RGU
17	Mr. Najim Ahmed	M.Ed. student
18	Mr. Narender Singh	Assistant Professor, Dept. of Education, RGU
19	Mr. Nau Richo	Research Scholar, Dept. of Education, RGU
2021	Mr. Ranjit Changmai	Research Scholar, Dept. of Education, RGU
22	Mr. Sanjiv Kumar	M.Ed. student
23	Mr. Sitnyam Bagang	M.Ed. student
24	Mr. Sushant Kr. Nayak	Assistant Professor, Dept. of Education, RGU
25	Mr. Tadar Karuf	M.A. student
26	Mrs. Varsha Patnaik	Research Scholar, Dept. of Education, RGU
27	Ms. Alphonsa D. Hoikip	Research Scholar, Dept. of Education, RGU
28	Ms. Dilima Siga	Research Scholar, Dept. of Education, RGU
29	Ms. Hena Nandi	M.A. student
30	Ms. Manju Burman	Assistant Professor, Dept. of Education, RGU
31	Ms. Omini Ering	M.Ed. student
32	Ms. Sangeeta Saikia	Research Scholar, Dept. of Education, RGU
33	Ms. Santhali Haisa	M.A. student
34	Nong Dai	M.A. student
35	Prof. Elizabeth Hangsing	Professor, Dept. of Education, RGU
36	Prof. Jayadeba Sahoo	Professor, Dept. of Education, RGU
37	Prof. Kesang Degi	Professor, Dept. of Education, RGU
38	Prof. P. K. Acharya	Professor, Dept. of Education, RGU
39	Prof. T. Lhungdim	Professor, Dept. of Education, RGU
40	Prof. K. C. Sahoo	Professor, Vinay Bhawan, Vishwa-Bharti Univ, W.B.

Members of RGUTA, RGUSU and other esteemed participants who participated through Zoom, and viewed through You Tube live.

Annexure 3: Photographs



Maulana Abul Kalam Azad at the inaugural function of UGC, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi (1954)



Maulana Abul Kalam Azad at the inaugural function of IIT, Khadagpur, Aug 18, 1951

Annexure 4: Media Coverage

1. <https://arunachal24.in/arunachal-rgu-observes-the-national-education-day/>
2. <https://thedawnlitpost.com/2020/11/national-education-day-observed/>
3. <http://www.easternsentinel.in/news/state/rgu-observes-national-education-day.html>
4. http://epao.net/epSubPageSelector.asp?src=National_Education_Day_at_RGU_Doimukh_20201112&ch=education&sub1=Education_Announcements&sub2=Edn_Ann_2020

Thank You