

Programme Report
One Day National Webinar On
International Youth Day 2021



*Youth as Harbingers of Peace and Social
Transformation*

submitted by

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रोनो हिल्स, दोइमुख, अरुणाचल प्रदेश

Rono Hills, Doimukh, Arunachal Pradesh

12th August, 2021

Acknowledgements

We are thankful to the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of RGU, Prof. Saket Kushwaha for his enthusiastic support and endless motivation without whom planning of this programme, would not have been possible. The moral support received from the Vice Chancellor has been more than encouraging and acknowledges the highest contribution of his highest office in successful organization of this programme.

Grateful acknowledgements are also due to esteemed Pro- Vice Chancellor, Prof. Amitava Mitra for his continuous guidance and insightful motivation in hours of need and esteemed Registrar, RGU Dr. NT Rikam as well, for his ever so welcoming gesture, guidance, affection and support along with his enormous cooperation in the organization of this programme. Prof. Otem Padung, Finance Officer, RGU deserves due acknowledgement who delivered the keynote address on the occasion. The Resource Persons as well as renowned academicians, also deserve our acknowledgements

We acknowledge the support extended by all the members of Department of Social Work and other colleagues, research scholars, and students. I am thankful to all the participants who have enriched our programme through their lively and active participation. In the end, a big thanks to each one of you going through this report.

Organizing Committee

1. Background

International Youth Day focuses on the difficulties that some young people are experiencing throughout the world. Half the children between the age of six and 13 lack basic reading and math skills and childhood poverty is still a prevalent problem globally. International Youth Day was created by the UN to help draw awareness to these issues as we strive to find solutions. It's a day for reflection but also a day for taking action so get involved. There'll be many concerts, workshops and cultural events taking place so have a look at what is happening in your local area.

International Youth Day began in 2000 and was organized by the UN to recognize the input that young people make in education, community development, environmental groups, volunteering for different social projects. Accordingly **Centre for Youth Development and Leadership Studies (CYDLS)**, Department of Social Work, Rajiv Gandhi University, organized a national webinar to commemorate International Youth Day with theme as 'Youth as Harbingers of Peace and Social Transformation.' The Programme encourages youth around the world to organize activities to raise awareness about the situation of youth in their country.

2. About the Organizing Institution

2.1. Rajiv Gandhi University

Rajiv Gandhi University (formerly Arunachal University) is the premier institution for higher education in the state of Arunachal Pradesh. Late Smt. Indira Gandhi, the then Prime Minister of India, laid the foundation stone of the University on 4th February 1984 at Rono Hills. Subsequently, the postgraduate teaching programme was introduced in the University, starting from the academic session of 1988-89. The University was converted into a Central University by an Act of the Parliament of India which came into force on 9 April 2007, as per the notification of the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), Government of India. Ever since its inception, the university has been trying to achieve academic excellence in the fulfilment of the objectives envisaged in the University Act. In this endeavour, the University has successfully elevated itself in the higher rung of the Indian University system.

The campus at Rono Hills is located on a picturesque tableland in the outskirts of Itanagar, the capital city of Arunachal Pradesh. The University offers post-graduate /graduate / PG Diploma / Certificate and research programmes. At present, there are more than Thirty (30) Departments and Two (02) Institutes functioning under Nine (09) Academic Faculties. The affiliating jurisdiction of the University encompasses all the existing colleges in the state.

The university has expanded vertically and horizontally by creating and augmenting departments and facilities to cater to the demands of the native communities of the state, the marginalized and the disempowered, while serving the needs of the nation. The students of the University have found placements in State and Central Government Services and in various institutions, industries and organizations across the country. Maintaining its academic excellence ever since inception and years of concerted efforts has resulted in qualitative as well as quantitative progress in the overall standards of teaching and research in the University. The students from the University are contributing at significant positions not only in State and Central Government Services but also in various Institutions, Industries and Organizations. The University has been Ranked Second Best among all the Central Universities in the country during 2020 by the Ministry of Education, Government of India. University has also been awarded with the title of Best Central University of the Year 2020 during the 3rd Himalayan Educators Summit-2020 & 3rd DivyaHimgiri Himalayan State Education Excellence Award-2020 to recognize the efforts of leading educational institutes of the Himalayan States that are substantially contributing to the Education sector. The University has been recognized as a Centre with Potential for Excellence in biodiversity by the University Grants Commission (UGC).

2.2. Department of Social Work

The Department of Social Work (DSW) at Rajiv Gandhi University (RGU) was established in 2015 with the vision of providing quality Social Work Education. The Department started with offering face-to-face Master of Arts in Social Work (MASW) Program during the academic session 2015-16. The MASW students/trainees are exposed to carefully crafted skill building and personality development programs and are provided with opportunities to participate in workshops, seminars and lectures from external experts on regular basis. The Doctoral Program in Social Work (PhDSW) was introduced in June 2018 to focus on strengthening the research component with an emphasis on 'evidence-based practice and

practice-based evidence'. In our pursuit to extend our horizons in serving diverse categories of student community the Certificate Program in Environmental Sanitation (CPES) was conceptualized and introduced with the academic session 2019-20 for an integrated understanding to the learners about the issues involved in Health, Hygiene and Sustainable Development.

The mandates of the social work course curriculum also include students led initiatives in the department and the community with varied clientele groups. The department has strived and established a strong foothold in the field of social work education by means of continuous engagement in both academic and outreach activities. In a relatively short span of time, the Department has established meaningful and sustainable engagement with more than fifty field work partner agencies located across the country.

The department is thereby committed in enabling and equipping the students to realize their full potential and acquire the knowledge, skills, values and techniques essential for a professional social worker leading to personal and professional development and country at large. Currently the Department offers three regular academic programs as below:

- a. Doctor of Philosophy in Social Work (PhDSW)
- b. Master of Arts in Social Work (MASW)
- c. Certification Program in Environmental Sanitation (CPES)

3. Beneficiaries

The intended target audience were the youth groups from across the country who were concerned or interested in working on the various challenges faced by youth groups and the constructive role this group can play in building India. The online national level webinar aims to directly benefit students, research scholars, academicians, social scientists, social workers, government and non-government functionaries.

There was no registration fee for the participants. Live web sessions were conducted through Google Meet Platform. **In total 150 participants attended the webinar.**

4. Program Date

The programme was organised on 12th August, 2021.

5. Total Budget

The total budget incurred for organizing of the programme was Rs. 2,000/- which includes honorarium to the Resource Person.

6. Organizing Committee

Chief Patron

Prof. Saket Kushwaha
Vice Chancellor Rajiv Gandhi University

Patrons

Prof. Amitava Mitra,
Pro-Vice Chancellor, RGU

Prof. Tana Showren,
Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences

Dr. N T Rikam
Registrar, RGU

Resource Persons

Prof K R S Sambasiva, Mizoram University, Vice- Chancellor
Prof Prasad Gollanapalli, Gandhi King Foundation, Hyderabad

Organizing Committee

Convenors

Dr. Kaushalendra Pratap Singh
Head i/c, Assistant Professor Department of Social Work, RGU

Dr. Ravi Ranjan Kumar
Assistant Professor Department of Social Work, RGU

Members

Ms. Chaphiak Lowang

Assistant Professor Department of Social Work, RGU

Mr. John G. Gangmei

Assistant Professor Department of Social Work, RGU

7. Proceedings:

The welcome address was deliberated by University vice-chancellor Prof Saket Kushwaha who while addressing the participants emphasized on positioning of youth in the society which has a bearing on their leadership potential and their possible role in peace building and social transformation. Addressing the participants, “Youth as change agents have the courage of conviction that will trigger off the process of building a healthy nation,” he said.

Mizoram University vice-chancellor Prof K R S Sambasiva Rao shared his vision for youth development and stressed upon their instrumental roles for nation building.

Acharya Nagarjuna University former vice-chancellor Prof Bal Mohan Das and RGU pro-vice chancellor Prof Amitava Mitra and registrar Dr N T Rikam also shared their insights with regard to youth engagement for social transformation.

Gandhi King Foundation, Hyderabad managing trustee Prof Prasad Gollanapalli spoke on the broader aspects of transformation in various areas, including food intake among the youths of today’s generation, a press release informed here.

Around hundred and fifty (150) participants who attended the sessions belonged across the length and breadth of the nation. The participants were evenly divided in terms of gender and ranged from various domains while their active participation marked the success of the webinars.

Annexure

