

D.O. No.F.14-1/2021 (CPP-II)

10th May, 2021

Standing United in our Fight Against COVID-19 Pandemic

Dear Colleagues,

As you are aware that the COVID-19 Pandemic spread is happening in waves, and is affecting the life and works of individuals and institutions. To overcome this crisis, all the stakeholders of Higher Education Institutions (HEI's) such as students, teachers, staff, officers and others, including their family members, need to work collectively by addressing the numerous challenges in terms of physical & mental health, safety, and overall well-being.

These challenging times demand that we remain sensitive to the problems and needs of our stakeholders, and extend our best possible support and help to overcome such unprecedented situation. As Heads of the Institutions, all of you have even greater responsibility to work collectively in the larger interest of all concerned for their health and safety and keeping the campus safe.

UGC has been issuing advisories and guidelines for COVID appropriate behaviour and management of institutional activities by following Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) /Protocols/Guidelines prescribed by the Government from time to time. I am confident that the HEIs must be taking appropriate measures and welfare activities accordingly.

I wish to reiterate some of the measures to be undertaken by all the HEIs in the present times for a better tomorrow:

- Constituting COVID Task Force and Help Lines
- Promoting COVID appropriate behaviour including sanitization, wearing mask, washing hands with soap repeatedly, maintaining social distancing, testing, tracing of suspected cases and appropriate treatment
- Arranging for Counsellors and Mentors for mental health, psychosocial support and well-being of all stakeholders
- Motivating everyone to engage in activities for physical and mental fitness while staying at home
- Encouraging stakeholders to participate in vaccination drives to protect themselves, their friends and family
- Creating a team of well-informed trained volunteers in life-skills including NCC and NSS, for extending help and support
- Taking suitable welfare measures for students, teachers, staff, officers and other stakeholders
- Ensuring that the initiatives must seek to reach those at greatest risk of being left behind -- people in emergencies and crises; and those who are differently-abled

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I urge upon the Vice Chancellors of all the Universities and Principals of all the colleges to continue their concerted efforts and reinforce their support to students, teachers, staff, officers, and other stakeholders to keep the people in good health, safe and informed during these difficult times. We must come forward and stand firmly united against COVID-19 Pandemic with a strong sense of responsibility and collectively help the people in distress. We must stay together to overcome this crisis.

Best Wishes,

Yours sincerely,

(D. P. Singh)

To:

The Vice Chancellors of all the Universities

The Principals of all the Colleges

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