Dear Colleagues and Learners,

As you are aware, in order to combat the spread of this global COVID-19 pandemic, the Government of India has taken several safety measures and initiatives. Hon’ble Prime Minister of our Country has announced complete lockdown of 21 days from the midnight of 24th March 2020. In further continuation the Government of India has taken several other measures, which have been highlighted by Hon’ble Minister of Human Resources and Development, Dr Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank ji in his address to the MHRD Officials, Vice Chancellors and other Officials of the Universities and Academic Institutions through teleconferencing today on 3rd April 2020, as under:

1. An ‘Arogya Setu App’ has been developed to fight against Covid-19. This App will be helpful to students, faculty/teachers/academics and their family members. This App can be downloaded from:
   - iOS: itms-apps://itunes.apple.com/app/id505825357
2. Ministry of AYUSH has developed a protocol for immunity boosting measures for self care for kids. The same is also enclosed for downloading by our students, faculty members, teachers, academics and their family members.
3. As addressed by Hon’ble Prime Minister on 3rd April 2020, students and staff members may light a candle, diya or torch of their mobile for 9 minutes at 9 PM on 5th April 2020 to realize the power of light and to highlight the objective for which we all are fighting together. However, social distancing should be maintained and no one should assemble in colonies or roads or anywhere outside their homes.

As a member of IGNOU family comprising of more than 30 lacs learners, more than 2000 staff members and about 60000 Academic Counselors spread across the length and breadth of the Country and abroad through its 56 Regional Centres and more than 1800 Learner Support Centres, let us follow the aforementioned measures as well as sensitize our family, friends and society towards the same and resolve to fight this war against COVID-19.

Jai Hind!

Nageshwar Rao
Vice Chancellor, IGNOU

1. **All Colleagues at HQRs/RCs/RECs of IGNOU**
2. **All the learners enrolled with IGNOU across Country and abroad**
3. **All the Academic Counselors of IGNOU programmes**