

शिक्षक पर्व (Teacher's Day) 2022
PANEL DISCUSSION ON
“Blended Learning – The new normal and emerging technologies”
9th SEPTEMBER 2022

On the occasion of शिक्षक पर्व (Teacher's Day) the Student Welfare Committee and Alumni Committee of Department of Agriculture, Integral Institute of Agricultural Science and Technology, Integral University, Lucknow, organized a Panel Discussion programme on the theme “Blended Learning – The new normal and emerging technology on 9th September 2022 in Seminar Hall, Second Floor, Department of Agriculture, IIAST. This theme was selected, as it correlates with the SDG4: Quality Education. The participants were faculty members, Alumni of IIAST and students of B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture

Our alumnus were, Mr. Chandan Jaiswal, Ms. Saman, Mr. Sheikh Anas, Mr. Mohd. Shahbaz and Mr. Mohd. Shoaib. The current students who participated in the Panel Discussion Program were Ms. Neha, Mr. Daniyal Hussain, Mr. Rudresh Mishra, Mr. Amit Kumar Jaiswal and Ms, Ayushi Yadav. Dr. Faria Fatima and Dr. Mustafa Husain represented the faculty members of IIAST.

The programme began with the introductory remark of Dr. Saba Siddiqui, Head, Department of Agriculture. She stated that Blended Learning methods enable students to explore information online but everything has its pros and cons. However, methods should be adopted judiciously. Out of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals given by United Nations, this theme comes under SDG4: Quality Education. Presently, Quality Education correlates e-learning and traditional classroom instruction that are combined in blended learning. Although blended learning approaches have been around for a while, due to the epidemic many educational institutions are now implementing them. So, the advantages and disadvantages of Blended Learning were discussed first, then the challenges faced in blended learning methods was discussed at length. Students perspectives were that e-learning has various benefits, including improved outreach and flexibility. However, since classroom instruction is essential for children's general development, it cannot entirely replace it. So using both online and offline learning for the benefit of students is possible through blended learning. But the digital divide is still present. A significant obstacle is a lack of technological infrastructure. Students may be under stress due to an increased reliance on technology. From the standpoint of the teacher, a digital environment or an LMS (Learning Management System), provided by blended learning solutions, offers a rich library of print and online resources that allows the teacher to work with students to create a more participatory engagement. The idea of inter-disciplinary teaching and flipped learning approaches can both be effectively implemented through a blended approach to learning and teaching. But the methods of blended learning are not accessible to everyone. Teachers may feel an additional strain as a result. As a result, teachers might not focus on every child. The bond between students and teachers can be harmed. The majority of online content is not true or original. The problem of getting students to exclusively use reliable sources is another. From the congregation also, many students and teachers kept their own perspectives about the topic i.e., Blended learning.

Around 60 students attended the program. The program concluded on a note that Blended Learning is useful as well as it also has some ill effects. The program was successfully coordinated and conducted by Dr. P. Smriti Rao (Coordinator, Alumni Committee IIAST), Mr. Mohd. Said (Member, Alumni Committee IIAST), Dr. Ayush Bhushan (Coordinator, Student Welfare Committee IIAST), Dr. Satish Yadav & Mr. Mohsin (Members, Student Welfare Committee IIAST). The program ended with a vote of thanks by Dr. P. Smriti Rao, Assistant Professor, Department of Agriculture to the authorities, speakers, students, and to the organizing team. All the faculty/staff members and research scholars of the department actively participated in the event.

Pictures of the Panel Discussion Program, 9th September 2022

