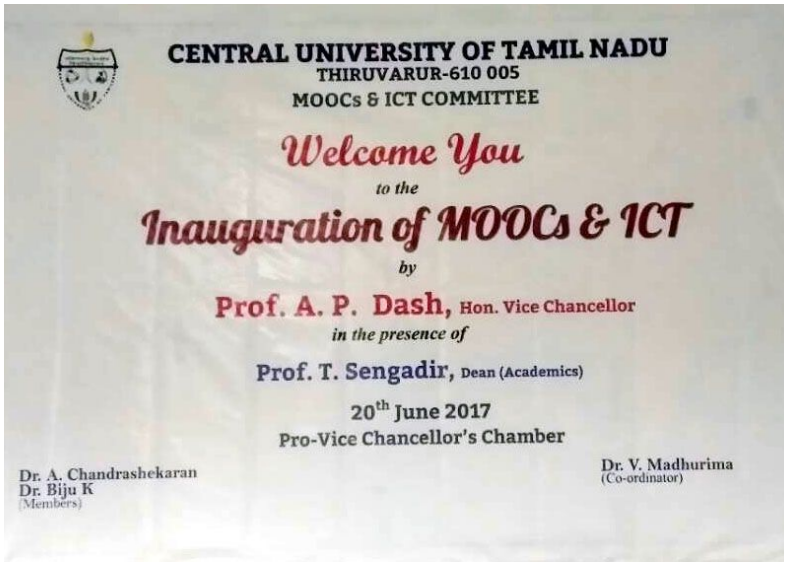
June 20, 2017

CUTN expands the horizons of education, formally inaugurates MOOCs



Indeed, education has to reach every MOOC (nook) and corner!

Going by the UGC regulations and the advice of the Union Ministry of HRD, the Central University of Tamil Nadu on Tuesday (June 20, 2017) institutionalized MOOC—which stands for Massive Open Online Course, an online platform for seamless teaching and learning—for the benefit of the learners in the university and beyond.

Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash inaugurated the MOOCs and ICT activities for CUTN in front of a faculty gathering in the Pro-Vice Chancellor's chamber of the university in the presence of Prof. T Sengadir, Dean (Academics). Speaking at the inauguration, the Vice-Chancellor highlighted the need and scope of MOOC and ICT in higher education. He called for realignment among the academia to redefine education for the University learners and those in the region.

Prof. T. Sengadir touched upon the scope of addressing students beyond the university, capacity-building and participatory learning.

Followed by the inaugural session, MOOC-ICT team member Dr. Biju K. gave an overview of ICT and MOOC to the gathering. He also spoke on the scope of ICT and its influence in teaching-learning. These topics were further detailed by Dr. V. Madhurima, Coordinator, MOOCs-ICT. She elaborated on the UGC guidelines in developing the MOOCs: benefits of MOOCs, expertise sharing, scope of offering common courses for a large group of students, faculty recharge programmes, bridge courses and capacity-building courses.

It then led to a brain-storming of the faculty members. Faculties participated actively in the discussions and sharing their concepts on how MOOCS-ICT could be used in CUTN to strengthen the learning experience of the students and also help in bridging their learning gaps. Several faculty members also showed interest in recording MOOCs in the vernacular forms for the benefit of local students.

Dr. A. Chandrasekhar has also been nominated as a member of the CUTN team to spearhead MOOC-ICT activities in the university.