

WEBINAR SERIES: LISTENING TO LEARN—SESSIONS DURING 2021–2022

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During the COVID-19 pandemic in August 2021, the Department of Education in Science and Mathematics (DESM), National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) had initiated an online live interactive sessions with experts from different fields titled 'Webinar Series: Listening to Learn' to provide an opportunity to learn about diverse issues related to the contemporary and relevant issues with the school education. These were telecast live on PMeVidya TV channels and NCERT Official YouTube channel. This short article provides the details of the interactions held till March 2022 for easy access of different stakeholders.

Keywords: Webinar, Webinar Series: Listening to Learn, PM e-Vidya

Introduction

In today's time, the television, the internet and the World Wide Web connect people all over the world. A webinar is an online presentation that is telecast over the television and internet. This is a popular format that makes use of the television and internet's possibilities for presentation purposes. The term 'Webinar' is an acronym of two words: 'web' (from world wide web) and 'seminar'. During a webinar, the exchanges between speaker and participants usually take place in real time. The organiser or the speaker has the possibility to present media content, slides, on screen, etc., and sometimes also to talk to the participants. The telecast through the television and networking through the internet, makes it possible that the speaker and participants do not have to be in the same place. The real-time audio and video communication also provides a practical possibility of recording complete lectures and

sharing or viewing them afterwards. All that is needed is a laptop or a desktop or a tablet or even a not-so-complex smart phone with an internet connection and the respective access data. The use of television for telecasting these sessions provides opportunity to those who may not be having such gadgets or an internet connection.

In one way, webinars do not differ in any way from the traditional face-to-face seminars. However, the format of webinars, i.e., the format of online presentation also demonstrates its strengths in being convenient; in providing an easier method to exchange information before, during, and after the event; in providing anonymous participation possible and providing no limit to the number of participants, etc.

During the COVID-19 pandemic times in August 2021, National Council of Educational Research and Training, New Delhi, started a webinar series to provide an opportunity

to learn about diverse issues related to the contemporary and relevant issues with the school education. Besides addressing the societal challenges and problems, this forum is also created for connecting the Global Indian Science and Technology community. NCERT has also collaborated with the Pravasi Bharatiya Academic and Scientific Sampark (PRABHASS) programme of the Government of India for connecting the Indian Diaspora with the motherland. This collaboration has facilitated NCERT also to have sessions with Indian scientists and technocrats working outside India through this forum.

Webinar Series: Listening to Learn

The sessions on Webinar Series: Listening to Learn are organised LIVE on various

PM e-Vidya TV Channels (#9, #10, #11 and #12) as well as on NCERT’s YouTube Channel ‘NCERT Official’. The sessions that are organised in collaboration with the PRABHAAS were also streamed LIVE on the ‘CSIR INDIA’ Youtube channel of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Government of India. During the financial year 2021–22, 31 sessions were organised with 25 speakers.

The Table below lists all the sessions organised during the financial year 2021–22 with their respective Youtube links. The same may also be assessed through the event section of NCERT’s website (www.ncert.nic.in).

S. No.	Date	Speaker	Title of the Talk and its YouTube link
1 – 5.	3, 6, 13, 21 and 27 September 2021	Rashmi Kulkarni Hydroponics, Integrated Group, Qatar (In collaboration with PRABHASS)	How Human are We? Our Microbiome, Nutrition and Long – Term Health https://youtu.be/79r0LHNUq_w (also on https://youtu.be/Wm1zmvWipzQ) https://youtu.be/SckxStR5_9I (also on https://youtu.be/ZFJA7QhgT4U) https://youtu.be/dCvfDXrfDr8 (also on https://youtu.be/QT52ud0Wlf4) https://youtu.be/Dqp4ZTwa62Q (also on, https://youtu.be/cyxXkdEkoCk) https://youtu.be/fJUyV68Trao (also on, https://youtu.be/_7ab4jVybr8)
6 – 7.	17 September and 21 September 2021	Prabhat Ranjan D. Y. Patil International University, Akurdi, Pune	Nuclear Fusion: Dream Source of Energy https://youtu.be/jByU0y1qkQs https://youtu.be/G7qVX6DJLUE

8	24 September 2021	Sahana Singh Houston, USA (In collaboration with PRABHAAS)	Relevance of India's Educational Heritage in Modern Times https://youtu.be/swM9Z1A1eEE (also on, https://youtu.be/pCGQPumftF0)
9	1 October 2021	Mridula Ramanna SIES College of Arts and Commerce, Mumbai	Women Physicians in Colonial Bombay https://youtu.be/TBF--FV1ovE
10	8 October 2021	Arni S.R.S. Rao Medical College of Georgia, USA (In collaboration with PRABHAAS)	Indian Ancient and Modern Mathematics and Artificial Intelligence https://youtu.be/EAYUV6y6x4c (also on https://youtu.be/oLk5blpQ7LU)
11	21 October 2021	Sunil Shrivastav Union Public Service Commission, New Delhi	The Saraswat Civilization and Three Steps of Vishnu https://youtu.be/s47zqRr-bbg
12	29 October 2021	Praful Krishna San Francisco, USA	Potential Uses of Artificial Intelligence https://youtu.be/rg81-0xMjCw
13	12 November 2021	Sahotra Sarkar University of Texas at Austin, USA	Har Gobind Khorana: A Life in Science https://youtu.be/GQuZJpTI0wl
14	16 November 2021	Anil Bhardwaj Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad	Indian Planetary Missions https://youtu.be/bG2UQfDL2Vs
15	26 November 2021	Syed Hasan Shahid Rizvi Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh	Institution of Nobel Prizes https://youtu.be/nL2BIGVrYso
16	03 December 2021	Chandra Mohan Nautiyal Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeosciences, Lucknow	Radiocarbon Dating: Principles and Applications https://youtu.be/tZpwwyBlrQo
17	10 December 2021	Rohit Kumar Sharma Panjab University, Chandigarh	Organic Catalysts: Envisioning Future Molecules https://youtu.be/nQ_wBlxR5P4

18	17 December 2021	Randeep Singh Bhadauria Department of Forest, U.P., Lucknow	Wild-Life Conservation https://youtu.be/2rs4JUC8L-Y
19	04 January 2022	Rajani Ranjan Rashmi The Energy and Resources Institute, New Delhi	Stabilisation of Climate: Challenges and Opportunities for India https://youtu.be/M2LY0vCZLjM
20	07 January 2022	Arvind Ranade Vigyan Prasar, Noida	Mission Aditya https://youtu.be/OS9iwne1p5s
21	12 January 2022	N Sathyamurthy IISER, Mohali	Learning Science from Kitchen Garden https://youtu.be/nh2xG5J3C34
22	21 January 21, and 24 January 2022	KP Mohanan Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Pune ThinQ	How to Learn to Reason by Listening https://youtu.be/iOdxojv7D1o https://youtu.be/Y8ruZHsWcDQ
23	28 January 2022	DM Banerjee University of Delhi, Delhi	The Beautiful World of Gemstones https://youtu.be/Hjy4X-XYBGg
24	04 February 2022	KK Talwar Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh	Circulatory System https://youtu.be/Z1SoiLN-IoQ
25	11 February 2022	Rajkumar Buyya University of Melbourne, Australia	Computers and Internet: Technological Progression and Applications https://youtu.be/HfHo5u-B-y8
26	18 February 2022	AK Nandakumaran Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru	Critical Thinking: General, Mathematics and Logic https://youtu.be/HCDTJb_1_M
27	25 February, 2022	CK Varshney Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi	Plastic Pollution: A Human Made Global Crisis https://youtu.be/c2hWYY8-QdA
28	04 March 2022	Arvind Kumar Homi Bhabha Center Science Education, Mumbai	Simple Arguments in Physics: Their Uses and Limitations https://youtu.be/-0jCp4XK5so

29	11 March 2022	Deepak Mishra Space Application Centre, Ahmedabad	Indin Space Programme https://youtu.be/OMWYXHtULgI
30	16 March 2022	Randeep Guleria All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi	How to Stay Healthy in Today's Time? https://youtu.be/iHGtKhdM-NE

The entire playlist of all the sessions can be accessed at <https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLUgLcprnv1YifsVIYiNsbEBF7vPg9YdEnm> or at https://www.ncert.gov.in/webinar_series.php. This playlist can also be seen by scanning the following QR Code:



PHR072005905954

Acknowledgements

This webinar series is being organised by the Department of Education in Science

and Mathematics, National Council of Educational Research and Training, New Delhi, duly approved by the Programme Advisory Committee of the NCERT. The telecast support from the Central Institute of Educational Technology, NCERT, New Delhi is duly acknowledged. The academic and organisational support received from Dr Sunita Farkya, Dr C.V. Shimray, Shri Rajat Sardana and Shri Ajit Singh Jhala are also acknowledged. Collaboration with the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, New Delhi is also thankfully acknowledged for being our partner.