

Dear all,

It has been some time since we spoke last. I hope all of you have received the circular sent out by the Registrar. As we are back to work after Diwali, let me take this opportunity to update you about the way forward.

For us at GITAM our students matter the most. We are currently preparing our campuses for all of you with extensive safety measures and we are testing our systems regularly to ensure maximum safety. While we do all this prep, it is essential that everyone who does come to the campus participate in the process following all the guidelines as only a collective effort will help us to operate safely.

We have already communicated to all hostel students that they can come back to the hostel after committing to follow certain conditions. This option is open to any non-hostel students also, who would like to come and stay in the hostel to participate in the online classes if they have any connectivity issues at home.

We are also opening all three campuses for all research scholars, faculty and support staff from next week, that's from the 23rd of November. Post Graduate students will be next invited to come back physically from 30th of November. Please be in touch with your respective institutions for any specific details.

For the rest of our students, online classes are working well for now but all of you are being sorely missed on campus, so we are aiming to open in person classes for everyone by the 18th of January 2021. This will however depend on conditions remaining suitable for physical classes.

The recent scare in Andhra Pradesh and in many other places around the world have forced schools and colleges to shut down again and we have to be mindful that when we open, all of us must follow the prescribed norms. It is a highly contagious virus and we have to ensure that not only do we stay safe as individuals but we also need to keep our friends and colleagues safe.

You, our students are our biggest strength, under no circumstances do we ever want to risk your health or your learning and we look to you to take the lead in this collective effort to keep the GITAM campuses safe and Corona free when you get here.

If you have further queries or need any clarification please go through our Covid policy at <https://covid19.gitam.edu/documents/covid19-policy.pdf> . If you would like to speak to someone, send us an email at [covid19help@gitam.edu](mailto:covid19help@gitam.edu)

Thank you,

Vice Chancellor, GITAM