

AICTE QIP SHORT TERM TRAINING PROGRAMME

On

Indian Sign Language (ISL)

15 - 20 March 2021

Coordinator:

Prof. Hemachandran Karah

Sponsored by

All India Council for Technical Education



Organized by

**Department of Humanities and Social Sciences
Indian Institute of Technology Madras**

BACKGROUND

Deaf communities around the globe speak and flourish via an intimate immersion into sign languages. Unfortunately, sign languages are grossly misunderstood. For one thing, sign languages are treated as mere artificial communication systems; and for another, they are seen as a linguistic archive with bare minimal constituents. This is far from truth. Sign languages are as old as humanity. They have grammar, syntax, idioms, poetic richness, and a flexibility to evolve by time.

Because they speak sign languages, Deaf communities consider themselves as a linguistic minority. There is a reason for this. Majority cultures, including learning

environments, cater to a way of life that is based on vocal articulation. Sign language speakers face immense discrimination from within these environments. This is on top of stigmatisation that comes with hearing loss. Expressive freedom is a priceless gift. Natural languages such as ISL teach us that languages offer more freedom than what we assume. In this six-day programme, we will have a glimpse into Indian sign language (ISL). While demonstrating the beauty of ISL, the speakers will walk us through Deaf lives in India and beyond. For the purpose of organisation, the crash course will focus on the following broad topics:

- Deaf ways of living as a linguistic minority.
- The workings of ISL, its inner beauty, and diversity.
- Sign vocabulary, dictionary of ISL, and the art and science of lexicography.
- The enduring disciplinary tie between ISL and the field of linguistics.
- Teaching sciences for deaf children.
- The culture of hearing in classical Tamil literature. To whom is this crash course meant for?

In addition to undergraduate and postgraduate students of English, the course is suitable for university and college teachers. College teachers particularly will appreciate themes such as inclusivity, accommodation, and diversity that make the kernel of the workshop. Also, they may gain a wholistic perspective on language teaching and communication. That said, anyone who is invested in cultures of language and communication may stand to benefit by this course.

Kindly find attached details concerning programme schedule and resource persons. It is indeed extremely fulfilling to realise that a crash course on ISL is available in one place now. Hope we can all learn a thing or two about ISL, and the language question broadly. Certificates are available for all the participants of the programme.

COURSE DURATION & VENUE

The course is of one-week (six days) duration from 15th March 2021 to 20th March 2021

Lectures will be delivered in online mode only.

ELIGIBILITY

The course is open to faculty and students from any disciplinary background with a particular interest in language and communication. The course is open to

members from engineering colleges approved by AICTE and other colleges. *No course fee* is charged for participants sponsored by AICTE approved institutions/ other colleges.

Industries/CSR/Government sectors, etc can also participate in this course. For them the course fee will be Rs.500/- payable to:

Account Name : CCE IIT Madras

Account Number : 36401111110

IFSC Code : SBIN0001055

Kindly send us the transaction details to below mention email ids.

For queries:

Please contact the below email ids:

sumapeeka@gmail.com

1997prymvda@gmail.com

Register through the following google form

<https://forms.gle/MtPJqvoEB684xNZc8>

or



IMPORTANT DATES

Last date for receiving application	: 13-03-2021
Intimation of selection (by email)	: 14-03-2021
Confirmation of participation (by email)	: 15-03-2021 before 12 PM (noon)

Agenda & Workshop Structure

Module	Topic	Duration	Presenter	Date
Introduction to Deaf ways of living as a linguistic minority.	Brief introduction to deafness	75 mins	Gopalakrishnan Venkatraman Rahul Jain Nita Gopalakrishnan + 2 Sign Language Interpreters	15/03/2021 (4-5:15pm)
	Brief description about the various models of deafness (disability)			
	Deaf community, culture and identity			
	Linguistic rights of the Deaf			
	Sign Language and the deaf way of life			
	Deaf plus other disabilities (multiple disabilities)			
Demonstration of the workings of ISL, its inner beauty, and diversity.	Storytelling session	80 mins	Deepa Kiran Gopalakrishnan Venkatraman Rahul Jain Nita Gopalakrishnan + 2 Sign Language Interpreters	16/03/2021 (4-5:20pm)
	What is sign language?			
	Busting some common myths about sign languages			
	Parameters of sign language			
	Indian sign language - its beauty and diversity (teach basic signs)			
	Sign language as a means of communication for the Deaf-blind			
Sign vocabulary, dictionary of ISL, and the art and science of lexicography.	Brief history about Indian Sign Language	90 Mins	Gopalakrishnan Venkatraman Mo. Shafique Nita Gopalakrishnan + 2 Sign Language Interpreters	17/03/2021 (4-5:30pm)
	Projects on ISL corpus and dictionaries			
	The art and science of sign language lexicography			
Other Modules	Talk by Prof. Tanmoy Bhattacharya	60 Mins	Prof. Tanmoy Bhattacharya + 1 sign language interpreter	18/03/2021 (4-5pm)
Other Modules	Teaching science for deaf children: A personal experience	60 Mins	Mary Jerry + 1 sign language interpreter	19/03/2021 (4-5pm)
Other Modules	A talk by Dr. Hemachandran Karah on the theme "Culture of hearing in ancient Tamil Literature a close reading of couplets from Thirukural"	45 Mins	Dr. Hemachandran Karah + 1 sign language interpreter	20/03/2021 (4-5 pm)
	Concluding remarks	15 Mins	Dr. Hemachandra + Other Participants + 1 sign language interpreter.	