

A Report of the Activities of COVID-19 Cell @ Govt. Arts & Science College, Elanthoor

At the very beginning of the pandemic, i.e.; @ stage 1, GCE was in the forefront of fighting the Corona virus, arranging awareness programs among its staff and students. The college arranged a few classes by the Health officials for the students with the support of the Grama Panchayat and the Community Health Centre, Elanthoor. Despite an acute shortage, we did manage to arrange sanitizers, 3-layered surgical masks and gloves for the needy staff and students. Potable drinking water was also provided for all. Hand sanitizer was prepared for the use of students and staff in the college laboratory. The campus was totally sanitized with an active participation of our NSS volunteers. For the conduct of the MG Univ. exams, we have set apart an isolation room for the use of the symptomatic students. The NSS Unit of the college is in the forefront of all community oriented support programs related to Covid-19, especially, "***Break the Chain.***"

The newly constituted Covid-19 Cell is maintaining a round-the-clock vigilance, constantly keeping in touch with our staff and students. For that purpose a WhatsApp group was created on 25 March 2020, Wednesday with the Principal and Nodal Officer as admins. Online tutorials are in full swing and the students are e-submitting their assignments for their internals via Google Classroom and other e-resources. The Cell also keeps track of the health status of our students and their kin on a daily basis. The Cell also provides online counselling to the needy students and parents.

In the times of information explosion on COVID-19, it's really difficult to separate wheat from the chaff. Classified information on COVID-19 such as the Corona Handbook from The Hindu, the Corona Advisory from JIPMER, Pondicherry besides the WhatsApp support platforms of WHO and the Health Ministry of India have been provided online for the staff and students by the COVID-19 Cell of the college. All members of the staff and students have downloaded the Arogya Setu app.

20 students of this college have registered in the “Community Voluntary Force” and actively participated in Covid containment activities. Under the patronage of the Elanthoor Block Panchayat, masks were distributed to students appearing for university exams. The volunteers have systematically followed and shared the directions in the Pathanamthitta Dist. Collector’s Facebook page.

B K Thadagath of the 3rd year Malayam BA has been working as an Institutional Quarantine Warden in connection with the “Voluntary Community Force” of the Elanthoor Grama Panchayat. He is also the Chairman of the College Union.