UNESCO CHAIR/UNITWIN NETWORK PROGRESS REPORT FORM

Title of the Chair/Network:	UNESCO Chair in Inclusive Adapted Physical Education and Yoga (1004)
Host Institution:	RAMAKRISHNA MISSION VIVEKANANDA EDUCATIONAL AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE (RKMVERI), Belur, Howrah-711202, India.
Date of establishment of	December 2012
Chair/Network:	
(mm, yyyy)	
Period of activity under report:	May 2020 to March 2021
(mm, yyyy - mm, yyyy)	
Report established by:	Dr. Asis Goswami, Chairholder and Professor,
(name, position)	Department of Sports Science.

To be returned by electronic mail to both: unitwin@unesco.org i.nichanian@unesco.org Or by mail to UNESCO, Division for Teacher Development and Higher Education, Section for Higher Education 7, place Fontenoy – 75352 Paris 07 SP, France Fax: 33 (0)1 45 68 56 26/27/28

1. Executive Summary:

Major outcomes, results and impact of the Chair, including on national policies, in relation to its objectives as stated in Article 2 of the Chair Agreement (between the Institution and UNESCO) (Not exceeding 300 words)

The reporting period covers the period of the pandemic of COVID 19 and different phases of lockdown. The pandemic had forced us to stop all 'in campus' activities and shift to online academic system wherever possible. A number of scientific experiments that were planned for the benefit of visually impaired persons could not be carried out. The Chair is focused in a highly specialized area that is less visible due several socioeconomic reasons. Working in this field and delivering tangible outcome through research and development require personal meetings and care-giving to the persons with disability. The COVID-19 pandemic took away vital necessity that led to reduced experimental research and social interaction.

Notwithstanding all the difficulties that the pandemic posed, the Chair looked into other delivery formats and took advantage of digital access and produced greater networking with different UNIESCO related activities. The Chair gratefully acknowledge that this could happen due to extensive support from the Government of India, UNESCO HQ, UNESCO Delhi Office, all other Chairs worldwide and persistent patronage of the faculty and monastic the members of RKMVERI. The activities of the Chair cover the activities at two campuses of the university. At Coimbatore campus the focus is on Disability Management, Special Education and Adapted physical activity (including Yoga). The Belur Campus promote Sports science and Yoga related activities. The activities are uploaded in the university website:

http://rkmvu.ac.in/

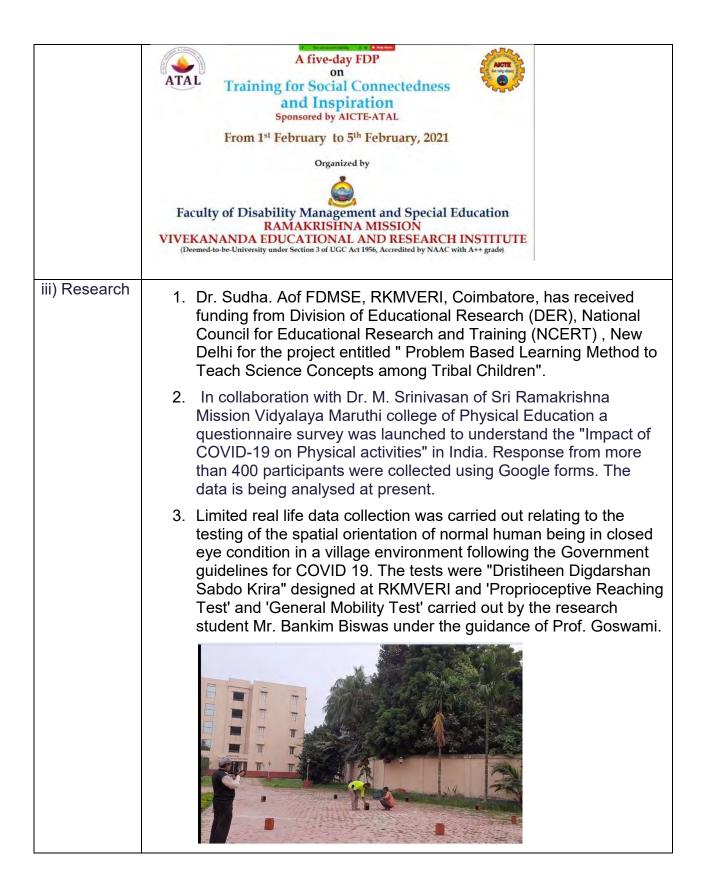
Academic activities continued in online mode with minimum delay in the session. Many webinars were held and participated. Research publication continued. It was an honour for the university to host a webinar was on 19 Oct 2020 that was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Education Minister, Government of India, Sri Ramesh Pokhriyal with his elaboration on the similarities of the new Education policy and Swami Vivekananda's Educational ideas. Looking at the bygone days of the year 2020 it can be said with certainty that the Chair has delivered its service to the mankind even under the adverse circumstances.

2) Activities:

Overview of activities undertaken by the Chair during the reporting period

a) Education/Training/Research (key education programmes and training delivered and research undertaken by the Chair during the reporting period, target group and geographical coverage)			
i) Education	 The following courses are being conducted by the Faculty of		
(leading to	General and Adapted Physical Education and Yoga(FGAPEY) of the		
certificate)	University on a regular basis: Ph.D. Master of Philosophy (M.Phil.) Master of Physical Education (M.P.Ed.)		

	iv. Bachelor of Physical Education (B.P.Ed.) v. Bachelor of Science in Physical Education (B.Sc.)
	 vi. Diploma in Physical Education 2. The following courses are being conducted by the Faculty of Disability Management and Special Education (FDMSE) of the
	University, Coimbatore, on regular basis: i. Ph.D. in Special Education [Visual Impairment (VI), Hearing
	Impairment (HI), Mental Retardation (MR)]
	M.Phil. in Special Education (VI, HI, MR) Other Courses running with the recognition/approval of the Statutory Body names 'Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI)'
	ii. M.Ed. in Special Education (VI, HI, MR) iii. B.Ed. in Special Education (VI, HI, MR)
	iv. D.Ed. in Special Education (VI, HI, MR)
	v. DSLI – Diploma in Sign Language Interpretation
	(VI-Visual Impairment, HI-Hearing Impairment, MR-Mental Retardation)
	In addition Diploma in Theatre Arts for Holistic Development and
	Certificate course in Assistive Technology were also conducted.
	Academic courses in Main Campus at Belur Math:
	The Department of Sports Science and Yoga is conducting the
	following programmes at present: 1. Integrated M.Phil Ph.D. in Sports Science (New)
	2. Integrated M.Phil Ph.D. in Yoga (New)
	3. M.Sc. in Sports Science (New)
	4. M.A./M.Sc. in Yoga (New)
	5. Post Graduate Diploma in Yoga
	6.Certificate Course in Basic Ayurveda, Panchakarma and Naturopathy (CBAPN)
	7. Certificate Course in Yoga (CCY)
	8. Outreach programme in Yoga for Health and Wellbeing
	9. Yoga for healthy living.
ii) Training (short term)	A short term Faculty Development programme was organized at the Faculty of Disability Management, RKMVERI, Coimbatore, on the theme "Training for Social Connectedness and Inspiration" during 1 st to
	5 th February 2021 in online mode. The programme was sponsored by
	AICTE-ATAL Academy, New Delhi. Total number of 134 participants
	from all over the country attended the programme. Swami
	Atmapriyananda, Pro-Chancellor, RKMVERI – Belur Math, inaugurated the programme and delivered a lecture on "Harmonizing Eastern
	Philosophy & Western Science". N. Muthaiah, Dean, School of
	Rehabilitation Science, RKMVERI, delivered the welcome address.





4. Five Masters students are taking up research projects relating to the theme of the Chair and will work at the Coimbatore campus during the next two months.

b) Conferences/Meetings

(Key conferences and meetings organized by the UNESCO Chair or to which the Chair holder contributed)

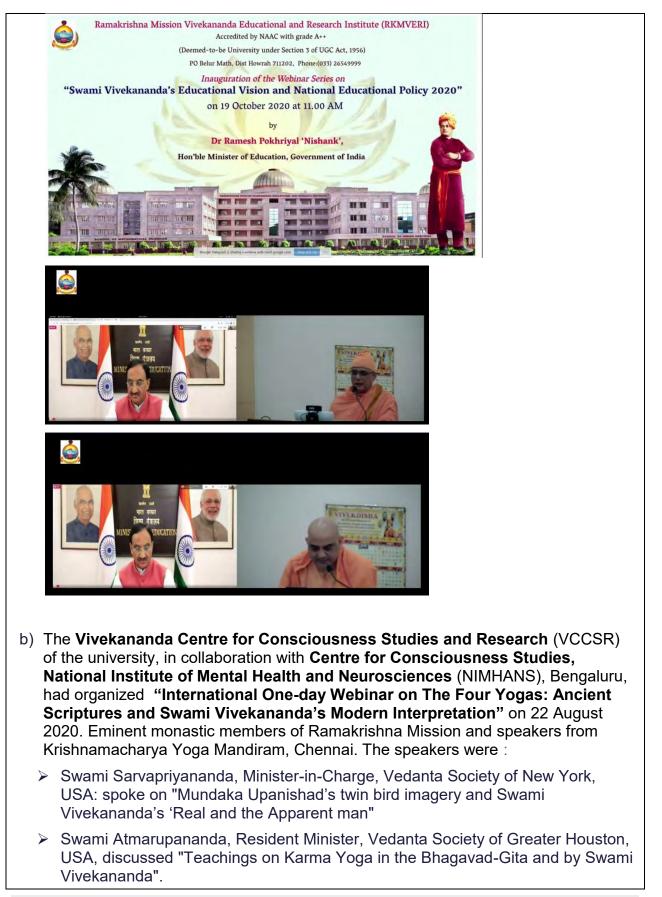
1. An International WEBINAR on "New Horizons In Sports Sciences: Achieving High Performance" was organized on 19 June 2020. After the Invocation and Welcome address by Swami Atmapriyanandaji (Vice Chancellor), Prof. A.K. Ghosh, Head of the Department, introduced the audience to the theme of the webinar. Prof. Prof. Sanmuga Nathan, Malayasia, delivered the keynote address. This was followed by presentations by the research students. The summarization of the programme was done by Prof. Asis Goswami.



2. An informal meeting of the UNESCO Chairs in India was organized in collaboration with support of Prof. Madhav Nalapat and his team on 7th July 2020. This meeting was attended by Ms. Yadav and Mr.Juan Pablo also.

i) Key conferences and workshops hosted by the Chair / Other conferences/organizational activities undertaken by the Chairholder

a) A webinar was hosted University on19 Oct 2020 with the theme "Swami Vivekananda's Educational ideas and the New Education Policy" to elaborate the alignment of the vision of Swami Vivekananda and the new education policy of the country. The programme was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Education Minister, Government of India, Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'. Several eminent speakers discussed different aspects of the new education policy.



- Sri S.Sridharan, Trustee, senior most mentor-teacher and consultant therapist, Krishnamacharya Yoga Mandiram, Chennai: Patanjali Yoga Sutras and Swami Vivekananda's Raja Yoga
- Swami Vireshananda, Editor, Prabuddha Bharata, Belur Math: "Narada Bhakti Sutras and Swami Vivekananda's lectures on Bhakti Yoga (Divine Love)".
- Swami Atmapriyananda, Pro-Chancellor, Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda (Deemed) University, Belur Math, West Bengal, India: "Yoga-samanvaya – synthesis of the yogas as taught by Ramakrishna-Vivekananda"



Swami Atmapriyananda, Pro-Chancellor, RKMVERI, Belur Math, West Bengal



Swami AtmarupanandaResident Minister, Vedanta Society of Greater Houston, USA



Sri S.Sridharan, Trustee, senior most mentor-teacher and consultant therapist, Krishnamacharya Yoga Mandiram, Chennai

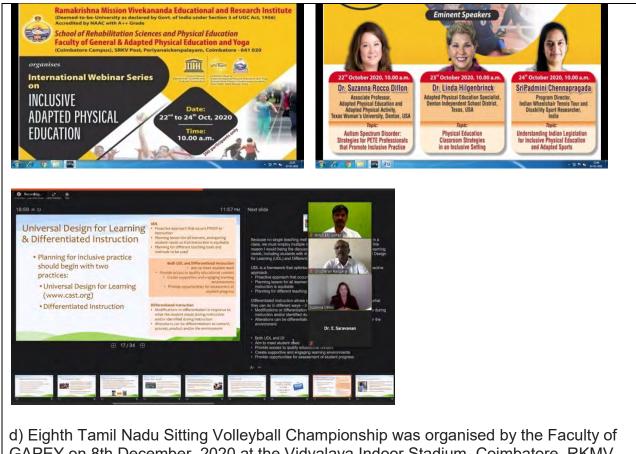


Swami Sarvapriyananda, Minister-in-Charge, Vedanta Society of New York, USA



Swami Vireshananda is the current Editor of Prabuddha Bharata.

c) A series of webinar was organized by the Faculty of General and Adapted Physical Education during 22nd to 24th October 2020 on the theme "Inclusive Adapted Physical Education" (in online mode) under the leadership of Dr. R. Giridharan. Suzanna R. Dillon from Texas Women's University, Denton, USA enumerated different strategies for Physical Education Teacher Education (PETE) professionals to promote Inclusive practice on the first day. Aspects of Classroom strategies in Physical Education (PE) under inclusive setting was elaborated by Dr. Linda Hillgenbrinck, an adapted Physical Education Specialist, Texas, USA. On the third day of the webinar an elaboration of the Indian Legislation in relation to Inclusive Physical Education and Adapted Sports was made by Sri PadminiChennapragada, of Indian Wheelchair Tennis Tour, Bangalore.



d) Eighth Tamil Nadu Sitting Volleyball Championship was organised by the Faculty of GAPEY on 8th December, 2020 at the Vidyalaya Indoor Stadium, Coimbatore. RKMV Trophy for the State Level Tournaments in Adapted sports was awarded to the Winner.



e) Celebrated the International Day of Persons with Disabilities with various types of Inclusive sporting activities.





ii) A selection of conference presentations by the Chair holder and other colleagues

a) The Chair holder, Asis Goswami, has delivered several lectures on the effects of COVID 19 on physical activity patterns of the disabled persons and also general population. He had also Chaired various sessions of webinars organized by other universities / organizations as given below:

- 1. Attended the online "International Conference on Creating Sports Culture in Universities" Faculty of Physiotherapy, SGT University, Gurugram, Haryana, India and also Chaired the lecture session of Prof. Ulrich Rosen. Prof. Rosen delivered the lecture on "More Success for High Performance athletes-Understanding Epigenetics" on May 9, 2020.
- Delivered a lecture on "Application of Biomechanics in Sports Performance A COVID 19 perspective" in the webinar series organized by Physiological Society of India and Department of Sports Science, University of Calcutta, on September 13, 2020.



3. Chaired a session on "Latest trends of Research in Yoga for Health and Immunity" on 17th June 2020. The programme was organized by Faculty and Naturopathy and Yogic Science in collaboration with Fitness India Committee.

The lecture was delivered by Dr Sat Bir Singh Khalsa, Directorof Yoga Research for the Yoga Alliance and the Kundalini Research Institute, and Research Associate at the Benson Henry Institute for Mind Body Medicine, Research Affiliate of the Osher Center for Integrative Medicine, and an Assistant Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School.

s		al Day of Hoga	
International	Webinar Series	Dr Sat Bir Singh Khalsa	
Latest Trends of Health	on Research in Upga and Immunity	for Yoga Researcher, Harvard University	
Chai	rperson:		
Chair holder, Prof & Dean, Faculty Physical E Ramakrishna M	Goswami UNESCO Chair & of General and Ada ducation and Yoga ission Vivekananda Belurmath, Howrah.	ptod	
Venue : Virtu	al Platform	Topic : The Psychophysiology of	
Date : J	une 17, 2020	Yoga and its Relevance for	
Time : 11.00	to 12.00 PM (IST)	Stress and Immune Function	

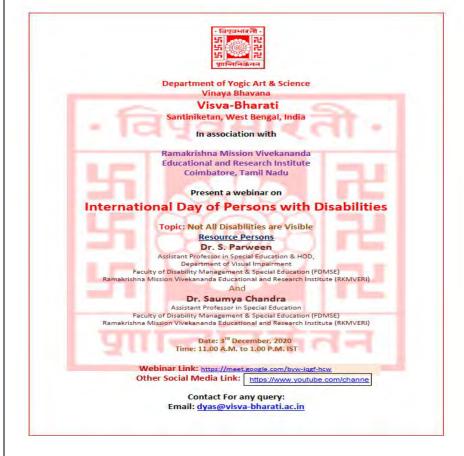
4. Delivered a lecture on "Framework for safe return of athletes to the playground after COVID 19 disruption in training" during a Coaches Education Programme organized jointly by Athletic Coaches Association of Bengal and Bangladesh Athletic Federation held October 4, 2020. The programme was attended by more than 150 participants from India and Bangladesh.



5. National Web Lectures on 'Health and Fitness Awareness for the Community' was organized by School of Education, Netaji Subhas Open University, Kolkata on November 27, 2020. Prof. Asis Goswami delivered a lecture on "Exercise and health - in the present day perspective".



b) The faculty members of FDMSE, RKMVERI, Coimbatore, Dr. S. Parween and Dr. Saumya Chandra, delivered excellent elaboration on the topic "Not All Disabilities are Visible" on the 'International Day of Persons with Disabilities'. The online programme was jointly organized Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan, West Bengal and RKMVERI, Coimbatore campus, Tamil Nadu.



c) Webinar entitled "International One-day Webinar on Consciousness Studies and Research: Ancient and Modern" was held on 30 July 2020 as a collaborative effort by Vivekananda Centre for Consciousness Studies and Research (VCCSR), School of Indian Heritage, RKMVERI and Centre for Consciousness Studies, National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS), Bengaluru. Several eminent monastic members of RKM, faculty members fro NIMNAHS and the Department of Sports Science and Yoga deliberated on ancient concepts of consciousness and modern explanations that are emerging at present. The theme revolved around the vision of Swami Vivekananda. The programme included the lectures by the following persons and theme:

- Invocation and Inaugural address Swami Atmapriyananda, Vice Chancellor: Consciousness as discussed by Sri Ramakrishna in the Kathmrita (the Gospel of Sri Ramakrishna);
- Lead Speaker on behalf of the ancient studies on Consciousness: Swami Sarvapriyananda, Minister-in-Charge, Vedanta Society of New York, USA: Consciousness Studies in ancient India: Mandukya Upanishad perspective;
- Lead Speaker on behalf of the modern studies on Consciousness: Dr. Bindu M. Kutty, Professor, Department of Neurophysiology, Associate Dean of Basic Sciences and Officer In-Charge, Centre for Consciousness Studies, NIMHANS, Bengaluru: Understanding consciousness from the meditative brain : a neuroscientific perspective;
- Dr. P N Ravindra, Associate Professor, Department of Neurophysiology, Centre for Consciousness Studies, NIMHANS, Bengaluru: Understanding sleep consciousness from neuroscience perspective;
- Swami Sarvasthananda, Minister-in-Charge, Ramakrishna Vedanta Centre, Bourne End, UK: Consciousness: Yoga perspective with special reference to Swami Vivekananda's Raja-Yoga;
- Dr. Subrata Chattopadhyay, Professor of Physiology, West Bengal University of Health Sciences: Chetana, Dharma, Darshan—Vignaner aloke (in Bengali) (Consciousness, Religion, Philosophy in the light of modern science);
- Dr. Arkadeb Dutta, Assistant Professor, Department of Sports Science and Yoga, RKMVERI: Consciousness and Modern Brain Research;
- Valedictory Address by Swami Kaleshananda, Controller of Examinations, RKMVERI: Consciousness as taught in the Bhagavad Gita;



Swami Atmapriyananda, Pro-Chancellor, RKMVERI, Belur Math, West Bengal

Dr. Bindu M. Kutty, Professor,

and Officer In-Charge,

NIMHANS, Bengaluru

Department of Neurophysiology,

Associate Dean of Basic Sciences

Centre for Consciousness Studies,



Swami Sarvapriyananda, Minister-in-Charge, Vedanta Society of New York, USA



Dr. P N Ravindra, Associate **Professor**, Department of Neurophysiology, Centre for **Consciousness Studies**, NIMHANS, Bengaluru:



Swami Sarvasthananda, Minister-in-Charge, Ramakrishna Vedanta Centre, Bourne End, UK



Dr. Arkadeb Dutta, Assistant Professor, Department of Sports Professor of Physiology, Science and Yoga, RKMVERI



Swami Kaleshananda. **Controller of Examinations**, RKMVERI



Dr. Subrata Chattopadhyay, West Bengal University of Health Sciences

d) Swami Atmapriyananda, Pro-Chancellor, RKMVERI, was invited to be the Chief Guest at the 'Dr Reeta Peshawaria Oration Award; function on 22-02-2021, held at National Institute for the Empowerment of Persons with Intellectual Disabilities (Divyangjan), Hyderabad.

c) Interuniversity Exchanges/Partnerships (principal exchanges/partnerships between the Chair and other institutions including UNESCO Chairs/UNITWIN Networks)

1. Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the CENTRE FOR CONSCIOUSNESS STUDIES, Dept. of Neurophysiology, NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF MENTAL HEALTH AND NEUROSCIENCES (NIMHANS), Hosur Road / Marigowda Road, (Lakkasandra, Wilson Garden), Bengaluru 560029, Karnataka, India, and VIVEKANANDA CENTRE FOR CONSCIOUSNESS STUDIES AND RESEARCH. UNDER 'SCHOOL OF INDIAN HERITAGE'. RAMAKRISHNA MISSION VIVEKANANDA EDUCATIONAL AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE (RKMVERI). BELUR MATH, HOWRAH, WEST BENGAL, INDIA, (Declared by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India, as Deemed University under University Grants Commission Act, 1956) for academic cooperation in the areas of common interest in regard to research, teaching, training, publications, projects.

2. The Chair holder has taken active part in the Board of Studies meetings of School of Education, Central University of Rajasthan, Ajmer, and enhanced the introduction of credit transfer system through SWAYAM platform.

3. Took part in PGBOS meetings of MYAS Sports Science Department of University of Calcutta. Also delivered lectures to the students of the department as guest faculty.

4. Served as member of faculty selection committee at Department of Yoga,

Biswabharati (University), Shantiniketan.

5. Established network with the following UNESCO Chairs for various types of collaborative activities:

a) Prof. Catherine Carty, UNESCO Chair Project Manager, "Transforming the Lives of People with Disabilities, their Families and Communities, Through Physical Education, Sport, Recreation and Fitness", Institute of Technology Tralee, Co Kerry, Ireland.

b) Prof. Paolo Orefice, UNESCO Transdisciplinary Chair, Human Development and Culture of Peace, University of Florence, Via Battisti, 4 - 50122 Firenze, Italy.

c) Prof. Carmine Gambardella, UNESCO Chair on Landscape, Cultural Heritage and Territorial Governance, Italy.

6. Collaboration with Prof. Ulrich Rosen, Germany.

7. Collaboration with Prof. Arkadiusz Stanula, Dept of Exercise and Sport Performance, Institute of Sport Science, The Jerzy Kukuczka Academy of Physical Education, Katowice, Poland and Dr. Subir Gupta, Faculty of Medical Sciences, The University of West Indies, Cave Hill, Barbados, led to a research publication on"Peak blood lactate concentration and its arrival time following different track running events in under-20 male track athletes", accepted for publication in International Journal of Sports Physiology and Performance (Human Kinetics).

Awards and Prizes

Dr. K. Dhanalakshmi, received the State Award for Best Teacher for Visually Impairedby Department of Welfare of Differently abled Persons, Tamilnadu

d) Publications/Multimedia Materials					
(major publications and teaching/learning materials)					
Please tick relevant fields of output and indicate volume of output:	Books Books (edited) Books (chapters) Monographs Research Reports Journal Articles (refereed) one Conference Proceedings Occasional Papers Teaching/Learning Materials Multimedia Materials (CD-Rom) Multimedia Materials (Video) Multimedia Materials (Other)	[tick] [no.]			
Give details of major publications and materials including full citations.					
i) Publications					

1. Prasad, T., Ghosh, S., Goswami, A.(2018). Static Balance Ability of Visually Impaired and Partially Sighted Persons on Firm and Foam Surfaces, European Journal of Adapted Physical Activity, 13(2), 2020. DOI: 10.5507/euj.2020.002

2. Dutta A, Lev-Ari T, Barzilay O, Mairon R, Wolf A, Ben Shahar O, Gutfreund Y. Selfmotion trajectories can facilitate orientation-based figure-ground segregation. J Neurophysiol. 2020 March 1; 123(3): 912-926.

3. Indrajit Sarkar, Shanti Ranjan Dasgupta, Kunal Sikder, and Rupayan Bhattacharya, Reverse-Relative Age Effect on motor fitness of district level handball players of West Bengal in course of talent hunting, European Journal of Sports & Exercise Science, 2020, 8 (3): 01-13

4. Dhiraj Dolai and Rupayan Bhattacharya, Utility of Range of Motion Measurements On The Classification Of Athletes, World Academy of Science, Engineering and Technology, International Journal of Sport and Health Sciences, Vol:14, No:12, 2020

5. Gopinath Bhawmick Bhunia and Uday Sankar Ray, Improved aerobic capacity with progressive incorporation of breathing maneuvers in yoga training. Journal of Advances in Sports and Physical Education. 2020; 3(11):199-206. DOI: 10,36348/jspe.2020.v03i11.001

e) Cooperation with UNESCO Headquarters, Field Offices

1. Contributed in UNESCO HED Section Survey of UNITWIN/UNESCO Chair host Institutional responses to COVID 19.

2. Contributed in Futures of Education programme by submitting a Project Proposal for background paper on FUTURES OF EDUCATION: LEARNING TO BECOME entitled "MAN-MAKING: THE WAY FORWARD OF EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT AND DELIVERY IN THE SOUTH ASIA REGION". This project was jointly prepared by the Chair holder and Prof. P.K. Nag, RKMVERI. (April 28, 2020).

3. Attended "Implications for the Global Higher Education Campus - COVID-19 education webinar #9" held on Friday, 15 May 2020 organized by UNESCO HED office.

4. Dr. Asis Goswami attended the Annual meeting of the UNESCO Chairs in India on Friday 12 March 2021 from 11.00 am - 1pm.

Projects submitted to different organization for financial support:

Title of proposal: AYUSH intervention for Managing Pain and Improving Lifestyle in Common Musculoskeletal Disorders of Rural Population of West Bengal Under scheme: GRANT-IN-AID FOR PROMOTION OF AYUSH INTERVENTION IN PUBLIC HEALTH INITIATIVES.

3. Future Plans and Development Prospects: Outline of action plan for the next biennium and short/medium and long-term development prospects. Please do not hesitate to refer to difficulties that the Chair has experienced (Not exceeding 300 words)

Majority of the future plans could not be realized during the present year due to the COVID 19 pandemic. The following activities is planned to be executed in the next one year:

1. Increase collaborative research activities with other universities and institutes.

2. Intensified research activity in Sports Science and Yoga with emphasis on inclusion.

Appendix:

1) Human Resources

a) Six fulltime faculty and two adjunct faculty in Department of Sports Science and Yoga, Belur Campus.

b) Eight faculty / staff in Faculty of Disability Management, Coimbatore campus

c) Nine faculty / staff in Faculty of General and Adapted Physical Education, Coimbatore campus.

2) Financial Resources				
Please tick	[tick] Amount (Rs.) (approximate)			
sources of	Host Institution	\checkmark	15,00,000.00	
financial	Partner Institution		nil	
contribution	Government Body		23,58,289.00	
and specify the	Other Public Institution/Body		nil	
amount in U.S.	(incl. Research Councils)			
dollars	UNESCO		nil	
	Other UN Agency		nil	
	IGO		nil	
	NGO		nil	
	Industry		nil	
	Other Private		nil	
Give details of financial contributions, material resources and space.				

End of the Form

