



# BEFCONNECT

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## THE BUZZ

• EVENTS • NEWS • ARTICLES

### Learning Curves at LBEF has No Stoppage

1st April, 2020

A ta time when COVID-19 pandemic had forced all educational institutions around the world to stop classroom based teaching and learning practices, Leanring Curves at LBEF has no stoppage. While following the same, without waiting for anything else, LBEF started online teaching from the very 2nd week of lockdown and our online teaching sessions are smoothly running since last four months. Our students and their future are the foremost in our planning while ensuring their

safety, health and welfare being paramount. Our Faculty Members are conducting online sessions for assignment, consultation and project guidance. We believe to look at solutions for every problem we come across. Even in today's difficult time COVID-19, the attendance of students in online classes deserves big appreciation. It is helping our students to maintain the required pace of academic learning for the timely knowledge acquisition.

### **Introducing Innovative Alternative Assessment Methods**

25th June, 2020

Our students' safety is our utmost concerns and given the pandemic situations and government directives, conducting examinations in conventional is not feasible. However, it is imperative that we complete the academic processes which were haulted in March 2020 due to suddenly imposed national lockdown. Therefore, we decided to choose

alternative assessment methods with variety of innovative ways i.e. Take-Home Assignments, Essay writing, Quizzes and Case Study Exams. These alterative methods will not only allow us to complete the incomplete assessments of March 2020 examinations but also to assess the all learning outcomes of the modules in best possible ways.

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## MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDER

Dear Readers, Greetings from LBEF Campus!

Hope you are healthy and safe.

During past few months, the developments across the world have impacted education sector, in fact, the human life immensely. The COVID-19 pandemic has raised serious concerns towwards health issues, posing a potential threat to the whole world. Especially, educational instituions i.e. schools and universities, around the world, are facing unprecedented challenges in terms of stoppage of classroom based teaching and learning practices. LBEF, following the mantra "Education is not the preparation for life, education is life itself" accepted this challenge and initiated online teaching from the very 2nd week of lockdown i.e. end of March 2020. At present, online classes at LBEF are in full swing through Microsoft Teams, a fully equipped online tool with ultra modern features for facilitating online learning in convenient manner. Our students also provided overwhealing response towards new teaching shift i.e. from classroom to online and excellent attendance was recorded for almost all online sessions in past months. We also initiated various alternatative assessment methods for our students whose face-to-face examination was haulted in middle due to sudden emergence of circumstance pertained by pandemic. We are sure that our collective efforts will keep the morale high under these difficult circumstances.

I would like to conclude by mentioning that LBEF have always believed in a student centric approach and our students are our topmost priority at all the times. We promise to uphold this value creation process and to put our best efforts for creating interruption-free learning curves at LBEF.

Thanking you for your continued trust and support.

Stay Safe and Healthy!

God Bless You All! P. Kejriwal Founder, LBEF Group of Institutions



### FROM THE DESK OF EDITOR

Dear Readers.

Welcome to the Second issue, volume Three of LBEF Connect 2020. Hope find you safe and in good health as we continue to deal with the harsh realities of the COVID-19 pandemic. For the past few months we are living through an unprecedented global situation. It is the reality of settling back into the new normal that seems a tad unnerving and this is possible only when we are determined to come out on top of this through the force of sheer will, cooperation, and togetherness because Life must go on, even in difficult times. During this pandemic, it is critically important that we keep pursuing excellence because humankind has always fought adversity through innovation and evolution and that's why 'Learning never stops' has become an anthem at LBEF Campus.

In the midst of the COVID-19 the LBEF Campus has ensured that learning continues as usual. A regular, online classes, learning and assessments, are happening so that accessible knowledge can be disseminated to the students without any glitch. Lastly, I wish that you and your loved ones stay safe as we collectively go through this challenging time and may all of you be at your creative best while spending days away from college.

Stay Safe and Healthy!

Dr. Deepmala Singh Editor- LBEF Connect



# MOST BASIC BUT IMPORTANT THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW WHILE USING INTERNET

Mr. Sandesh Gurung, MSc ITM

Technological development has brought dramatic changes in our daily activities. Internet and smart technologies has become essential for every individual, homes, small offices or huge organizations. However, many people are not concerned about data privacy considerations due to their less interest in the topic or lack of awareness. People are not aware of how the data is being collected, stored, tracked, and being shared to third parties. The personal information such as name, age, health status, financial status, location etc the user share while using internet or any applications are being prone to serious attacks. Thus, it is important to know about following basic but important things while using internet to protect personal data from being vulnerable.

Social Networks: Be conscious while sharing posts on social networks because what you share and what you input as your personal details could be leaked, tracked, and misused by or to third parties.

Password Protection: Always change your default password settings with strong passwords.

Use different passwords for different accounts and close you old accounts you no longer use.

Secure Channel: Use secure browsing services such as VPN while using unknown, free internet services or public Wi-Fi to encrypt your network traffic from being vulnerable to different attacks. There are many free VPN services you can

download for your laptop or smart phones.

Some of the secure browsers you can get free of cost are duckduckgo, Tor browser, Brave browser.

Two Factor Authentication: In two factor authentication, user has to pass two layer of authentication to access the account i.e. one cannot access the account only with username and password, but has to pass through another layer of authentication for user verification. So, it is a good practice to use two factor authentication for making your accounts secure.

Backup your Data: Back up your important data in physical location such as in removable drives/devices or on cloud. There are many cloud storage services which provides sufficient storage space for free of cost. Some of the trusted cloud storage service providers are Google Drive, iCloud, Microsoft OneDrive, Dropbox.

Aware of Scams: Avoid clicking unknown links (example: from emails) and advertisements which can be the phishing scams that can infect your system or steal your important data.

Research: Research on what services or applications you use and do not get surprised by free services. Go through the privacy policy documents of websites which includes what information the website can/cannot collect, how the information can/cannot be shared or used.

## Congratulations!

### **FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS**

### Dr. Deepmala Singh successfully completed

4 week course on 'Preparing to Manage Human Resources' on behalf of the University of Minnesota and Coursera

4 week course on 'How to Write and Publish a Scientific Paper' (Project-Centered Course) on behalf of École Polytechnique and Coursera

6 week course on 'Excel Skills for Business: Essentials' on behalf of Macquarie University and Coursera

### Prem Kumar Bhasker attended an online

National Workshop on 'Plagiarism, Research, Ethics and Patent' (PREP– 2020), Manipal University, Jaipur, India (25-26-27 June, 2020)

IEEE Workshop on 'Strategies For Publications in IEEE', Manipal University, Jaipur, India, (23 June, 2020)

Web Seminar: 'Research Concepts, User Awareness of ASCE & Knimbus', Manipal University, Jaipur, India (25 June, 2020)

Webinar on 'Paradigm Shift to Education System: Impact on Basic and Applied Research', Manipal University, Jaipur, India (19 June, 2020)



# LEVERAGING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TO FIGHT WITH COVID-19

Prof. (Dr.) Sandeep Kautish, Dean-Academics, LBEF Campus

At the time when the world is facing severe consequences amid corona virus, digital technologies can vital role for giving a fight back challenge to the pandemic from both social health and economic perspectives. A digitally sound response to the COVID-19 pandemic can take numerous forms and have greater potential to bring substantial outcomes. In recent days, one important area where rapid developments have been recorded is new claims of artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML). These techniques are not only helping in developing new medicines and drugs but also can help in screening of the affected population and assessing infection risks.

### **Current Challenges**

Screening the population in order to identify potential persons who might be ill is the biggest challenge before the community. The developing countries like Nepal where healthcare systems are already at very underdeveloped stage, it's like unimaginable to pace up the screening process. Also lack of skilled healthcare staff persons also a biggest challenge before the Nepal Healthcare system. In India, the doctors to population ratio is 1:1800, which is slightly low when compared to the minimum recommended doctor to population ratio of 1:1000 set by WHO. But the situation at Nepal is more dangerous while doctor to population ratio is 1:1724. Just like most developing nations, doctors at Nepal are geographically mal distributed. As per studies, the Kathmandu valley has one doctor for 850 people but in rural areas the number is one doctor for every 150000 people which is an alarming bell under COVID-19 outbreak. Sufficient Testing kits can also become a big issue when it comes to mass testing conditions.

### Leveraging AI and ML

As per Financial Express, a leading news agency, Corona infection began at China but a Canadian AI firm named BlueDot caught this infection first. BlueDot is an AI-based infectious disease surveillance system. Such AI based platforms uses various new and emerging technologies like AI, Big Data and Machine Learning for searching any possible large-scale diseases. This firm first got the sign of this pandemic around December 30, 2019. Such kind of

AI-based platforms are undertaking a large amount of data crunching processes for leveraging the entire health, food, poultry, fisheries and tourism sectors. Their researchers develop custom-made algorithms which become the base for drawing inferences. Now days, data science and machine learning are two significant tools which are known to helping the fight against Covid-19.

After the widespread at Wuhan of China, Chinese AI firms have shown tremendous efforts by introducing AI-powered temperature screening systems at all crowded areas of their main cities including Beijing which helped them to minimize the Corona propagation in other parts of China. They placed these advanced systems at Railway stations and other areas. The main advantage of these AI powered systems is their ability of screening hundreds of persons from a distance within minutes. AI enabled smartphone apps are also being developed which are very useful in tracking the geographical spread of virus and checking the individual health conditions in a very convenient way. These apps are vital in tracing the potentials and to predict most suspicious population who can become easy carriers of virus. These apps also help patients to monitor their real time health conditions, to provide necessary updates and advices about their medical conditions without visiting hospitals physically.

AI and ML can also be useful in detection and removal of misinformation posted on social media during the outbreak conditions. Highly accurate CT scans for detecting virus inducted pneumonia, optimization of clinical trials of medicines and 3D printing capabilities make AI and ML very significant in such pandemic conditions.

#### Conclusion

AI community is striving hard and intensively on delivering appropriate applications that can help to contain the COVID-19 and thousands of researchers are working day and night in their research for developing such applications. Such AI systems are still at a very initial phase and it will take time before the results of such AI measures are visible. Till then, the world is still far from the end of this tragic story of COVID-19.