

SEMINAR NO: 22

NAME OF THE DEPARTMENT: POLITICAL SCIENCE

TITLE OF THE SEMINAR: WEBINAR ON NEW-AGE GOVERNANCE IN THE TIME OF COVID PANDEMIC:THE EMERGING RELEVANCE OF UMANG

DATE: 26-05-2021

**INDIAN INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
KERALA REGIONAL BRANCH**

**ST. JOHN'S
COLLEGE, ANCHAL
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICS &
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE ANCHAL**

**UMANG
WEBINAR
on
New-age Governance
in the time of COVID
Pandemic:
The Emerging
Relevance of
UMANG**

**IIPA-KRB
WEBINAR
SERIES**

**2021
MAY - 26
WEDNESDAY
10 AM IST**

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Report of the Seminar

A webinar was conducted on May 26, 2021, on the topic "New-age Governance in the time of COVID Pandemic: The Emerging Relevance of UMANG" in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi. The webinar was inaugurated by Dr. R.K. Suresh Kumar (Chairman IIPA-KRB and Member, Governing & Executive Body, Kerala State Higher Education Council [KSHEC]), and Dr. Raj Sony Jalaraj (Department of Communication, MacEwan University) presented the theme paper. Rev. Fr. Johnson Puthuvelil (Principal, St. John's College), presided over the webinar.

The seminar discussed governance in the age of the COVID pandemic, which is undergoing tremendous changes. National and provincial governments across the world are compelled to devise brand-new governance strategies to reach out to the citizenry. Mobile applications are found to be the key technological platform in this regard. Given this context, this webinar intends to evaluate the increased significance of UMANG (Unified Mobile Application for New-age Governance), developed by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology and National e-Governance Division to promote Mobile Governance (m-governance) in India. It provides major services offered by Central and State Government departments, local bodies, and other utility services from private organizations for citizens through mobile phones. UMANG has become ever more significant in the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic as the need for social distancing pushes more Indians to the online mode. Since UMANG is designed as an m-governance service that could cater to the requirements of all segments of society, it can revolutionize the way the Indian state connects with its citizenry during the challenging days of the pandemic and its aftermath. Both BA and MA students of the college participated in the seminar.