

## **'ROLE OF TECHNOLOGY IN THE NEW NORMAL:**

## SOCIAL, ETHICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL CHALLENGES'

## **CONCEPT NOTE**

The outbreak of COVID - 19, and its gradual passage from one wave to the other, with no stable way out to ignore the possibility of come-back of the disease in the near future, we see that everyone from politicians to media persons, to friends and family, are living amidst frustration anxiety confusion and mental trauma. People welcomed the rhetoric - 'the New Normal' situation as the accepted norm today. Almost all are imagining settling into life again after the long period of turmoil, under this new found social situation. However, amongst various lifethreatening issues that COVID-19 pandemics have brought in front of us, one question is - in what way science and technology have empowered the mass to tackle the situation of isolation, detachment and social distancing in this new normal social structure? Apart from this, another issue that needs to be re-defined is the question of moral responsibility of men towards each other in the new normal situation. That is, how far an individual is morally responsible to care and empathize with the other when isolated living, dissociation from others, avoiding social contacts, adopting secluded life style, minimum or almost no social gathering, no social visits to friends and relatives and avoiding face to face interactions with others are considered as 'The Norm', in this newly created social context? The present seminar aims to explore these two significant areas through the lenses of Artificial Intelligence and Emotional Intelligence, and analyse the ethical challenges and policy implications that may come up in this connection. For this reason, we have adorned our core academic session into thought provoking lectures by distinguished invited guests and parallel academic sessions by scholars from different disciplines to uphold their views in this matter.

Submissions are especially invited on (but not limited) the following the sub-topics:

## **Topics**:

- The Crossroad between the Human and the Artificial Intelligence: A Philosophical Analysis.
- Artificial Intelligence and Human Existence in the New Normal.
- Moral Issues in the interface between Cyborg and Human Sustenance.
- Technology and the Healthcare in the New Normal.
- Science and Technology, Policy, Regulations, and Governance.
- Education and the New Normal.
- Health Surveillance, Privacy, and Data Protection.
- Impacts of Technologies During Social Isolation.
- Data/AI-driven Health and Social Control Technologies.
- Cyber Security and Artificial Intelligence.
- Assisted Human Efficiency versus Human Ethical Bias: A conflict of choice.
- Intrusion of Technology in Human Existence: A Psycho-social Challenge to Self-Identity.
- Role of Artificial Intelligence in the making of Post-humanism: An Ethical Analysis.

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