National Institute of Technology Rourkela

Registration Seminar

Seminar Title : Depressive disorder diagnosis and amelioration through non-clinical interventions using a conversational recommender

system

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Venue : Convention Hall, CS Department

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Abstract : According to World Health Organization (WHO) around 280 million people suffer from depression which is estimated

to be 3.8% of the total world population. More than 0.7 million people worldwide died due to suicide. According to National Mental Health Survey of India during 2015-16, at least 5.3% of the population were found to suffer from major depressive disorder at some point in their lives. Nearly 1% of the population were reported to be at high risk for suicide in India. Depression is still not properly diagnosed in more than 75% of the population in low and middle income countries leading to ineffectual treatment for this disorder. This may be due to many factors like stigma associated with the disorder, lack of awareness, accessibility to care, and affordability of care especially more so in rural areas. The later the diagnosis the more difficult and expensive the treatment. So early detection is crucial and is important for providing timely support. Our approach to address this problem is by developing an easy to access and use, Conversational Recommender System (CoRS) which helps to diagnose and classify the severity of depressive disorder and provide non-clinical recommendations to help mitigate / manage this disorder. CoRS is also made available in local language Telugu to enable a wider local participation. The System is intended to provide succor to people suffering from depressive disorder and thus contributes significantly in managing their

mental health.