

15. Capacity Building Programmes at National Level

15.0 Introduction

The objective of Capacity Building programmes is to develop effective manpower resources for Open Schooling. This is crucial for effective functioning of Open Schooling System because nurturing the personnel associated with Open Schooling is as important as nurturing the learners of Open Schools. Towards this end, NIOS not only undertakes the conduct of National/Regional Conferences/Seminars and Training Programmes but also encourages participation of its personnel in the programmes organized by other organisations.

15.1 Conferences/Seminars Organised By NIOS

15.1.1 National Workshop on Examination Reforms (7 to 9 July, 2006)

A three-day national workshop on strategies for Examination Reforms in Open Schooling was organized by NIOS at Shimla from 7 to 9 July, 2006. The main objective of the workshop was to evolve the strategies for improving the public examinations. The workshop was attended by eminent scholars, experts in educational measurement and evaluation, officials from State Boards of School Education and distinguished educationists. A number of recommendations on the various aspects of public examinations and educational evaluation emerged.

15.1.2 Meeting for Education of Minority Communities (13 November, 2006)

To reach out to the minority communities of the society, a one day meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Shri M.C. Pant, Chairman, NIOS at Indore on 13th November, 2006. Twenty representatives of minority communities from Indore attended this meeting. The Chairman, NIOS

highlighted various employment generating programmes being offered by NIOS under its Vocational Education programme.

15.1.3 Education for Minority Communities

A Meeting of the Project Coordinators of NIOS and the local community leaders of Orissa for Minority Education Programme of NIOS was held on 29 January, 2007 at Puri. Sh. M.A.A. Fatmi, Minister of State, MHRD presided over the meeting. Prof. Najma Akhtar of NUEPA, Shri Devendra C. Mishra, Commissioner, Madrasa Education, Shri M.C. Pant, Chairman, NIOS and Sh. D.S. Bist, Secretary, NIOS were the prominent participants. Chairman, NIOS emphasized the need for Education of Minorities and suggested that the project coordinators identify the unreached areas and contact the Madrasa of their regions for effective implementation of various programmes.

15.1.4 Annual Meeting of NCOS

The Annual Meeting of National Consortium of Open Schooling (NCOS) was organized by the NIOS in collaboration with JSS Karnataka State Open School (KOS) from 5 to 6 February, 2007 at JSS Technical Institutions Campus, Mysore. The objective of this meeting was to take stock of the present status of open schooling in the States and to formulate strategies for the future. The recommendations emphasized increased efforts to substantially upscale open schooling in the country on a priority basis in order to attain the goal of universalisation of secondary education.

15.1.5 Advocacy Programme for Minority Education

Two mass sensitization programmes were organized by the Minority Education Cell of NIOS during February, 2007. The gathering was informed about various Academic/Vocational programmes offered by

the NIOS and the benefits of distance learning through the institute.

15.1.6 Need Assessment for Learning Disability (LD) Candidates

A meeting was organized on 14 March, 2007 to assess the need for facilities/provisions during examinations for LD candidates. Experts/special educators in Learning Disability participated in the meeting.

15.2 Regional Seminars

15.2.1 Regional Seminar on Curriculum Framework in Open Vocational Education

The first regional seminar on the draft Curriculum Framework was organized on 28 December, 2006 at New Delhi. The programme was inaugurated by Sh. M.A. A. Fatmi, Hon'ble Minister of State, MHRD, Government of India. Sh. S.C. Kuntia, Joint Secretary, MHRD, Prof. Ashok Chandra, International Management Institute, Dr. Uma Tuli, Chairperson, Amar Jyoti Foundation, Sh. M.C. Pant, Chairman, NIOS and Sh. D.S. Bist, Secretary, NIOS were the prominent participants.

15.2.2 Regional Seminar on Curriculum Framework for Vocational Education

Regional seminars were held at Bhopal, on 10 January, 2007, at Puri on 29 January, 2007 and at Mysore on 7 February 2007 for consideration of the Draft Curriculum Framework for Vocational Education. Several suggestions were given for improvement of the document.

15.3 Conferences/Seminars organized by organizations other than NIOS

15.3.1 Annual Meeting of Directors of State Resource Centres (25 to 27 April, 2006)

The Annual Meeting of Directors of State Resource Centres was organized by the Ministry of MHRD at Shillong from 25 to 27 April, 2006. Prof. K.R. Chandrasekaran, Director (Academic), NIOS

participated in the meeting on 25 April, 2006 and presented a brief report on the implementation of Open Basic Education Programme of NIOS.

15.3.2 National Seminar on Literacy-MHRD (18 – 19 April, 2006)

The Adult Education Bureau of the Ministry of HRD in collaboration with UNESCO organized a National Seminar on Literacy from 18 to 19 April, 2006 in the context of Education for All : Global Monitoring Report, 2006. The Chairman, NIOS, Director (Academic) and Deputy Director (Academic) participated in the programme.

15.3.3 Workshop on Total Cost of Ownership-MHRD (24 April, 2006)

A one-day Workshop to discuss the application and utilities of Total Cost of Ownership Framework developed by Global e-schools and Communities Initiatives was organized by the Director, School Education, MHRD on 24 April, 2006 at Hotel Taj Ambassador, New Delhi. The programme was attended by the officers from School Education organisation. Dr. Rachna Bhatia, Shri S.K. Prasad and Shri Pramod Tripathi represented NIOS and participated in the programme.

15.3.4 Seminar on Challenges and Opportunities for Education of Vulnerable Children (3 May, 2006)

A Seminar on Challenges and Opportunities for Education of Vulnerable Children was organized by DISHA, an NGO working for Socio-economic development of Urban and Rural Communities on 3 May, 2006 at the India International Centre, New Delhi. The Director (Academic), NIOS participated in the programme and made a presentation titled 'NIOS: An Overview'.

15.3.5 National Consultation on Vocational Education, Bhopal

A two-day programme was organized by Pandit Sunderlal Sharma Central Institute of Vocational Education, Bhopal to consult the Directorates of Education dealing with Vocational Education from the

Southern Region on 1 and 2 September, 2006 at the Tamilnadu Agricultural University Campus, Coimbatore. The Chairman, NIOS and the Director (Academic), NIOS participated in the programme.

15.3.6 National Resource Group for SSA

The third meeting of the National Resource Group for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) was held on 1 March, 2007. The Chairman, NIOS and the Director (Academic) participated in the meeting.

15.4 Training Programmes

15.4.1 Training Programmes on ‘Earthquake Risk Mitigation Management – NIDM’ 17 to 21 April, 2006 and March 5-9, 2007

The National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM) organized a five-day training programme from 17 to 21 April, 2006 on Earthquake Risk Mitigation Programme. The programmes highlighted different activities involved in earthquake

preparedness, and emphasized the need to develop capacity for better earthquake resistance programme and to undertake mitigating measures to minimize the impact of earthquakes.

15.4.2 Workshop on Fine Prints of Life (1 to 3 July, 2006)

A three day Workshop on ‘Fine Prints of Life’ was organized from 1 to 3 July, 2006 at the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi. The Workshop aimed at acquainting the trainees with destressing techniques. Twenty staff members from different Departments of NIOS attended the Workshop.

15.4.3 EDUSAT Training (26 and 27 December, 2006)

Two staff members of Regional Center, Guwahati attended a training programme at CIET, NCERT New Delhi on 26 and 27 December, 2006. Hands on training was provided to the participants on setting up of EDUSAT equipments.