

NEWS BULLETIN

December 2011

 National Institute of Open Schooling

Training Cum Workshop on Instructional Design

A 5-day Training-cum-Workshop on Instructional Design was organized by the Capacity Building Cell (CBC), Academic Department for the officials of NIOS and State Open Schools (SOS). The workshop which was held from December 19-23, 2011 at the NIOS headquarters at NOIDA was attended by officials from Academic and Vocational Department as well as representatives from ten State Open Schools. Conducted by leading experts in the field of Open Distance Education, Dr. Mohan B. Menon and Dr. Sushmita Mitra, this workshop provided training and hands-on experience to develop sample materials on the spot through a flexible and interactive format.

Ms. Gopa Biswas, Jt. Director (Academic), NIOS and In-charge, CBC welcomed the resource persons and participants and also introduced the resource persons. Dr. Kuldeep Agarwal, Director (Academic), NIOS highlighted the objectives of the workshop and explained the importance of Instructional Design for the officials engaged in material development. Dr. S.S. Jena, Chairman, NIOS joined the session later.

Dr. Mohan B. Menon explained that material production has come a long way. Where earlier only learning was the focus, today instructional design plays a vital role in effective production of materials. This meant that the layout and presentation are as important as the content. He clarified the difference between learning design and instructional design. He said as technology has progressed in leaps and bounds, it is imperative that NIOS experiments with new designs so as not to be left behind.

Dr. Mitra pointed out that it was important for practitioners of Open Distance Education system to believe in the

relevance of a positive self image and also stop looking at it as an alternative system. Otherwise, it will always be considered as a secondary mode of education.

The changing face of education, Dr. Menon said, has given a new dimension to the term 'Open'.

- Openness of resources: Earlier only teachers and textbooks were the main source of knowledge, now along with traditional methods even technology is facilitating learning. The role of a teacher is changing with change in the expectations that students/learners have from them.
- Openness of Source: Material available in the public domain can be changed, re-edited, distributed without the tag of plagiarism with change in terms of copyright, open content, Open Educational Resources (OER) and concept of CC (Creative Commons).

Presentations were made by the resource persons on the Theories of Learning: Behaviourism, Cognitivism and Constructivism; Concept and Meaning of Instructional Design; Instructional Design Models such as ADDIE, ASSURE, ARCS; First Principles of Instruction by Merrill and the art of writing instructional goals and objectives. The ABCD (Audience, Behavior, Condition and Degree) of writing



Workshop in Progress

objectives was also introduced to the group.

Based on a sample template on course layout provided by Dr. Menon, the participants chose a subject and designed course objectives, distribution of units, unit objectives and introduction to one unit.

The idea of Open Educational Resources (OER) which propagates the idea of reusing, remixing and distributing the digital material was introduced to the participants by Dr. Menon. Examples of OER included CC (Creative Commons), Khan Academy, e-Gyankosh, STAMP (Science, Technology, Architecture and Medical Professions) and TESSA.

A session on the language to be used in ODL by Ms. Gopa Biswas, introduced participants to the concepts of Fog Indexing while also highlighting the need to use interactive language and active voice. The use of appropriate humour and other similar tools to make reading interesting were also discussed.

In the session on e-Learning conducted by Dr. Sushmita Mitra, she said that 'e' in the term 'e-learning' could be understood to mean: exciting, energetic, emotional and enthusiastic in addition to being electronic learning. She highlighted the need to innovate so as to engage the learner in the process of learning. The material can be made more interactive by using tools such as pop-up window, print boxes, animation, graphics, audio support materials, creating a chat area, using collaborative messaging etc. The choice of mode could be determined by using the ACTIONS Model provided by Bates.

The five day workshop concluded on a high note when few examples were shared by the resource persons on good use of technology for effective transactions of ideas. Sir Ken Robinson's RSA Animate exemplified the impact of an effective e-content.



Workshop Participants

Draft contents prepared and shared by the participants were given a feedback by the Resource persons. The final lessons will be sent to the Resource Persons for their comments.

The valedictory session on December 24, 2011 marked the conclusion of the 5-day Training-cum-Workshop on Instructional Design. Felicitating the resource persons, Dr. S.S. Jena, Chairman, NIOS emphasized on the importance of regular training, innovation and application. He said that writing about such initiatives in

journals and presenting papers in seminars and conferences are positive steps towards building capacities. The participants were presented with certificates. A vote of thanks was proposed by Ms. Gopa Biswas, Joint Director (Academic), NIOS.

NIOS declares Secondary and Senior Secondary results

The National Institute of Open Schooling declared its Secondary and Sr.Secondary October 2011 examination results on 16.12.2011. In Secondary, about 1,38,423 students appeared in the examination as against 1,28,386 students appeared during the last October 2010 examination. Similarly, 1,59,270 students appeared in Senior Secondary against 1,42,021 appeared in the last October 2010 examination. There is about 8% increase in Secondary and about 12% increase in the Senior Secondary candidates appearing in this October 2011 examination. In brief, statistics regarding percentage of the certification is given below:

Course	Male		Female		Total	
	Appeared	Certified	Appeared	Certified	Appeared	Certified
Secondary	97760	35437	40663	15806	138423	51243
Sr.Secondary	112378	38052	46892	16546	159270	54598
Total	210138	73489	87555	32352	297693	105841

The results were declared in less than 4 weeks from the last date of the examination. The students could view and download their results from the NIOS website www.nios.ac.in and also on www.indiaresult.com and www.examresults.net

The results were also made available through SMS, IVRS and e-mail.

The Mark Statements, Migration Certificates and Provisional Certificates have been despatched to the NIOS Regional Centres for onward dispatch to the learners at their address.



NIOS Stall at the Exhibition

From the Regional Centres RC, Kochi Participates in Exhibition

The NIOS Regional Centre, Kochi participated in an exhibition held from 17 to 19 December 2011 at Nagercoil at the venue of the Bharath Nirman Public Information Campaign organized by Press Information Bureau, Madurai, Government of India. The Campaign was inaugurated by Sri. K.T Pachamal, Minister for Forests, Govt. of Tamilnadu.

Banners were displayed and brochures in Tamil on the Academic, Open Basic and Vocational Programmes of NIOS were circulated through the NIOS stall set up in the exhibition. About 2000 people including the Minister, District Collector, Panchayat Heads, Representatives of Self Help Groups from several villages visited the NIOS stall.

Conference at Vadodara (Gujarat)

A Conference organized by NIOS, RC, Gandhinagar at Vadodara on 18 December 2011 was participated by School trustees, parents and NIOS Officers. Chaired by Shri Manubhai Patel, a 92 year old veteran Gandhian, trustee of Servants of India Society and a former Member of Parliament, the conference served as a platform to discuss issues of open schooling at length. Appreciating the efforts put forward by the NIOS for making education accessible to all, Mr. Mannubhai Patel appealed to the trustees of Servants of India Society to be associated with NIOS.

Making a presentation on the NIOS objectives and activities, NIOS Regional Director, Mr.Pradeep Kumar pointed out that vadodara occupied a unique place in the history of education with the first Indian ruler, late Sayaji Maharaja Rao Gayakwad of Baroda declaring compulsory education in his state in 1906.

Mr. Mahendra Chotaliya, Professor of Education, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel University, Anand explained the need for open distance education and its role in India for the expansion of education. Mr. Kapil Shah, trustee of the Jatan Trust, Vinoba Ashram, Vadodara explained the opportunities and flexibilities provided by the NIOS.

The conference concluded with a question answer session which included a number of queries put forward by parents and teachers regarding the NIOS system.

Mitra Safar: A Report

A weeklong celebration of Mitra Safar was inaugurated by Dr. Kuldeep Agrawal, Director (Academic), NIOS on December 9, 2011 at Mitra, the Adolescent Friendly Centre at the Bhubaneswar Regional



A Differently abled Learner makes his Point

Centre of NIOS. Appreciating the enthusiastic participation of the learners throughout the year in the programmes organised by Mitra, Dr. Agarwal explained how the relationship between education and life becomes even more relevant when it is linked to life skills.

The success of Mitra – The Adolescent Friendly Centre lies in the fact that it managed to bring a large number of learners from vastly different backgrounds to come together and organise a cultural festival. Space and time was made available to the learners. An overview of Mitra’s journey since its inception along with the rationale behind the celebration of Mitra Safar was given by Ms Asheema Singh, Project Coordinator, Adolescent Education Programme. The programme also marked the opening of the Creative Writing Clinic.

Mr. Rushi Kumar Rath, Regional Director, Bhubaneswar shared his experience on how the concept of Mitra has been providing a learner friendly environment at the NIOS Regional Centre, Bhubaneswar.

The following activities were organised during the week long celebrations.

- To mark the occasion of Human Rights Day, a **poster making competition** was conducted for the learners by Dr. A.C Sahoo, an artist and lecturer in BK Art College. Approximately 40 adolescents participated enthusiastically and came up with creative and thoughtful concepts on Child Rights through the medium of art. The posters were displayed at Hotel Kalinga Ashok on December 10, 2011 and the prize distribution ceremony for winners was held there during a seminar on Human Rights organized by NIOS. The winners received their prizes from Justice S.C. Mahapatra in the esteemed presence of Prof Rita Ray,



State Level Symposium on Human Rights

Dean National Law University, Odisha Prof. Premanand Panda, Director Schedule Caste and Schedule Tribe Research and Training Institute (SCSTRTI) and Mr. Sanyasi Bahera, Coordinator State Nodal Agency of the Centre of National Trust. The presence of Dr. S.S. Jena, Chairman NIOS and Dr. Kuldeep Agarwal, Director, Academic was very encouraging for the prize winners. This moment was cheered by around hundred guests.

- Screening of **Pate ki Baat**, a national award winning film, followed by the detailed group discussion among the viewers.
- A Creative Writing Workshop was conducted by Dr. D.N. Routray, Mr. Binay Sarkar and Dr. Binodini Patra, a prolific writer and Lecturer, BJB College, Bhubaneswar.
- Screening of a film titled **“Children with Special Needs”**, followed by a group discussion. involving both both abled and differently-abled group of learners. As a special initiative, Mitra made available the services of sign language expert to be able to bring learners with hearing disability and speech impairment within the ambit of discussions.
- A talk **“Hum kisi se kam nahin”** was delivered by Mr. Sanyasi Behera, State Coordinator, National Trust for Disabled (NTD). Being visually challenged himself, Mr. Behera was able to motivate the learners with his inspirational talk.
- A session on **Enhancing Self Esteem and Confidence, Peer relationships and Communication skills** was conducted by Ms. Asheema Singh, PC, AEP
- A day long programme to sensitize tutors and coordinators on the Adolescence Education Programme (AEP) was inaugurated by Mr. G. S. Mahapatra, Coordinator, Teacher Training Programme, IGNOU.
- Introduction to life skills was initiated through a movie **Ek Mulakat AEP ke Saath** followed by a discussion on how adolescents’ issues and concerns can be resolved by adolescents themselves by using ten core life skills.
- A programme titled **“Kishor Kishorio ki baatein”** conducted by Dr. Chayanika Mishra, a Gynecologist and Programme Officer, ARSH at Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences provided an opportunity for learners to express and understand adolescent issues.
- The Chief guest of the valedictory session of **“Mitra Safar”** held on 13th December, 2011, Dr. S.K. Tripathi, Regional Director IGNOU, congratulated all the learners for showcasing their talent and enlightened them about the special features of IGNOU.



MITRA Learners: The Journey continues

The following prizes were distributed.

Best MITRA of the year : **Sri. Satish Kumar Lenka**

Mitra Motivator of the year : **Ms. Jyoti Kumar**

Mitra Study Centre of the year : **Tiny Tot’s Corner High School, Bhubaneswar.**

Mr. Nishant Panda, Mr. Abinash Das, Mr. Bhuddheswar Dehuri, Mr. Nikhil Agrawal and Ms. Madhuri Bahera were awarded certificates for maximum participation in Mitra Safar.

The week long celebration of Mitra Safar ended with a song titled **“Hum Honge Kamyab Ek Din”**.

हिंदी कार्यशाला

राष्ट्रीय मुक्त विद्यालयी शिक्षा संस्थान के राजभाषा अनुभाग द्वारा शैक्षिक विभाग और व्यावसायिक शिक्षा विभाग के अधिकारियों के लिए दिनांक 15 दिसंबर, 2011 को हिंदी कार्यशाला का आयोजन किया गया।

कार्यालय के विषय थे :

1. राजभाषा नीति के विभिन्न पहलू तथा कार्यान्वयन की समस्याएँ और समाधान।
2. कार्यालय के दैनिक कार्यों में हिंदी का सरल उपयोग : नोटिंग, ड्राफ्टिंग के विशेष संदर्भ में।

इसके लिए दो विद्वानों को आमंत्रित किया गया था : श्री प्रेम सिंह, संयुक्त निदेशक, राजभाषा विभाग, विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय और श्री शैलेन्द्र कुमार सिंह, उप निदेशक, क्षेत्रीय कार्यान्वयन कार्यालय, गृह मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार। श्री शैलेन्द्र कुमार सिंह ने उपस्थित अधिकारियों को राजभाषा संबंधी नियमों का परिचय देते हुए सभी संबंधित पहलुओं पर प्रकाश डाला तथा वार्षिक कार्यक्रम 2011-12 को विस्तार से स्पष्ट किया।

श्री प्रेम सिंह ने भारत की महान संस्कृति के विभिन्न उदाहरण देते हुए स्पष्ट किया कि अंतर्राष्ट्रीय मंच पर भारत की सांस्कृतिक स्थिति अत्यंत सशक्त है। इसलिए हमें हिंदी के प्रयोग को लेकर हीन भावना से ग्रस्त होने से बचना चाहिए।



हिंदी कार्यशाला

कार्यशाला के अंत में प्रश्नोत्तर सत्र के अंतर्गत उपस्थित अधिकारियों ने अपनी समस्याएँ बताईं और विद्वानों ने उनका समाधान किया। कार्यशाला में शैक्षिक और व्यावसायिक शिक्षा विभाग के लगभग 40 अधिकारियों ने भाग लिया।

अंत में धन्यवाद के साथ कार्यशाला सम्पन्न हुई।

Success Story

NIOS provides a ray of hope!

Rajeev

Enrolment number 250002102517



A victim of unforeseen circumstances, Rajeev had to drop out of school after the eighth class. Economic reasons compelled him to earn a living by working as a peon in the Municipal Corporation, Chandigarh during the day and in the Red Cross Canteen at night. Despite having a regular income, Rajeev could not think in terms of continuing his school education. It was at this stage that the NIOS system came to his aid enabling him to enrol online for the Secondary (X) course, thus ending the roadblock that had been created.

Having cleared the X course, Rajeev now plans to enrol for the Senior Secondary course and to further pursue graduation from the Indira Gandhi National Open University, to be able to have a respectable career.

Rajeev is determined to motivate his dropout peers to utilise the opportunities being provided by the NIOS.

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