वार्षिक रिपोर्ट Annual Report 2008-2009



राष्ट्रीय मुक्त विद्यालयी शिक्षा संस्थान National Institute of Open Schooling

From the Chairman's Desk

The National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) set up as an autonomous institution by the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), Government of India in 1989 envisages an entire range of schooling from Primary to Senior Secondary through the open and distance mode of education. It has been vested with the authority to develop courses both in academic and vocational education areas, enroll, examine and certify students upto the predegree level. With about 1.6 million students on its rolls, the NIOS has emerged as the largest open schooling institution in the world.

Offering flexibility in choice of courses, pace of study, place of study and allowing multiple attempts at pursuing examinations with Transfer of Credit (TOC) facility, the Open Schooling Programmes of the NIOS specially focus on school drop-outs and students from disadvantaged sections of society.

A unique Open and Distance Learning (ODL) organization that develops its own curriculum, Self Learning Material and media support programmes utilizing expertise of faculty from various academic and vocational education institutions, the NIOS continuously strives to introduce new courses based on the needs of learners and market demands.

Mass communication is one such subject which has been introduced at the Senior Secondary level from the current academic session, 2009-10. Likewise, course material in Sanskrit at Senior Secondary level and Painting at Secondary level have also been developed.

The use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in various areas of operation of NIOS programmes such as admission, examination, training of functionaries, programme delivery etc. have contributed to cost effectiveness and sustainability. One of the significant initiatives in this area has been the introduction of the facility of On-line admission for learners, known as the Ni-On Project, which has led to a remarkable increase in admissions.

One of the outcomes of the Ni-On Project was the setting up of a "Learner Support Centre" (LSC), in February 2009 to address all student related issues through e-mail, an Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS) with a toll free number.

'HUNAR' is another unique Project conceived by the NIOS in collaboration with Bihar Education Project Council (BEPC) to extend free of cost, skill training/ upgradation to Muslim girls in Bihar through the network of community based socio-religious trusts / organizations/NGOs.

A Scheme of providing Quality Education in Madarsas (SPQEM) was also launched in February 2009 thereby linking traditional institutions of education of Muslims such as Madarsas and Maktabs to the educational mainstream and providing modern education to the Muslim community.

Four more State Open Schools have been set up in Uttar Pradesh, Chattisgarh, Assam and Delhi, facilitating the promotion of open schooling at the State level. As on date, NIOS has facilitated to establish 14 State Open Schools in the country.

NIOS has been sharing its experiences and expertise in Open Schooling with other countries also. NIOS has so far published ten issues of the 'OSAC' Journal of Open Schooling'.

The NIOS interacts and collaborates with international organizations like COL, UNFPA, UNESCO, UNICEF and UNDP. Under the auspices of a COL-NIOS Project, a Tutor Training Module titled 'Life Skills for Open Schooling Learners' was published to empower teachers of NIOS Study Centres and officials of NIOS Regional Centres to internalize the process of transaction for actualizing life skills development among learners.

Under the Adolescence Education Project (AEP), integration of life skills in course material of five subjects like Hindi, English, Home Science, Science and Social Science was taken up.

An Open Education Resources Project (OER) was initiated by NIOS in collaboration with the Commonwealth of Learning, Canada to develop a common curriculum and course material for different nations of the Commonwealth.

In order to build the capacities of the faculty and other staff, the NIOS conducted National/Regional training programmes such as the Computer Training Programme in collaboration with Intel. The NIOS also

encouraged participation of its staff in programmes organised by other institutions such as the Commonwealth of Learning.

(S.S. Jena)

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1. Introduction

The National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS), formerly known as the National Open School (NOS), was established by the Department of Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India, in November 1989 as an autonomous organization (in pursuance of the National Policy on Education, 1986) and registered under the Societies Registration Act of 1860.

NIOS occupies an important place in the national system of education and it has its own distinct character.

The main objectives of the NIOS are:

- To provide opportunities for continuing and developmental education at the school stage;
- To provide consultancy services to the Government of India and States;
- To serve as an agency for effective dissemination of information related to distance education and open learning;
- To identify and promote standards of learning in distance education system and state open schools; and
- To exercise normative and coordinating functions while promoting standards in distance and open learning system in the country.

In order to fulfil its mission of (i) universalizing education, (ii) enhancing social equity and justice, and (iii) creating a learning society, the NIOS has been endeavouring for education of the marginalized groups, namely, rural youth, girls and women, scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, handicapped and ex-servicemen, among others.

NIOS was vested, in October 1990, with the authority to examine and certify students registered with it up to pre-degree level courses. The NIOS conducted its first Secondary and Senior Secondary Examinations in January 1991. Certificates issued by NIOS are recognized by the Association of Indian Universities, the University Grants Commission (UGC), several

Universities and Institutes of Higher Learning, several Boards of Education, the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) and the Ministry of Labour and Employment.

NIOS offers academic, vocational and life-enrichment courses. The academic courses offered include Open Basic Education (OBE), Secondary and Senior Secondary Courses. NIOS is developing course materials for the Open Basic Education at A, B and C levels that are equivalent to classes III, V and VIII respectively. As regards, academic courses, students are given freedom to select subjects according to their needs, interests and abilities. Students are also encouraged to choose vocational subjects, which is something unique recognizing the value of work and skills at par with knowledge.

The NIOS network of study centres consists of Accredited Institutions (AIs) for academic courses and Accredited Vocational Institutions (AVIs) for vocational education courses. Several Special Accredited Institutions for the Education of the Disadvantaged (SAIED) have been recognized as study centres of NIOS to meet the educational needs of the differently abled and other disadvantaged children. The accredited institutions of NIOS are located in various States of the country. At the close of the twentieth century, the NIOS took a major initiative of launching the Open Basic Education (OBE) programme in partnership with dedicated and experienced NGOs and Zila Saksharta Samitis (ZSSs). This programme is meant for children below 14 years and adults above 14 years with separate focus. Starting of Open Basic Education Programme completes the chain of Open Schooling system from primary to pre-degree level.

1.1 Management and Organisational Structure

The policy perspective for the National Institute of Open Schooling is provided by the General Body of the organization. The execution and monitoring of programmes is overviewed by the Executive Board of the Organisation. The constitution, roles and

2. Overview

Introduction

The National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) has been pursuing its mission to provide opportunity for continuing education to those who have missed the opportunity to complete school and developmental education through courses and programmes of general, life enrichment and vocational education from primary to pre-degree level. This unique organization in the area of open schooling encompasses (i) the functions of a teaching institutions, adopting open and distance learning (ODL) methodology, (ii) a National Board of Examination, and (iii) an apex agency at national level for quality assurance and resource support for planning, implementation and monitoring of its programmes and activities. The NIOS works through a network of five Departments viz., Academic Department, Department of Evaluation, Department of Student Support Services and Department of Vocational Education), three units viz., Computer Unit, Media Unit and Planning Monitoring and Evaluation Unit, Eleven Regional Centres and three Sub-Centres. Highlights of programmes and activities of NIOS during the year 2008-09 are mentioned below.

Accreditation of Institutions

As on 31st March 2009, the total number of accredited institutes (AIs) established in different parts of the country to conduct Academic courses was 3938, Under the Open Basic Education programme, about 668 organisations had been accredited as on 31st March 2009. As on 31st March 2009, the total number of Accredited Vocational Institutions (AVIs) established in different parts of the country was 1126.

Enrolment in Academic and Vocational Courses

- During 2008-09, the overall enrolment at Secondary and Senior Secondary stage was 3,71,625.
- During 2008-09, the overall enrolment in various

Vocational Courses was 22,414.

 The total new enrollment in Academic and Vocational courses during 2008-09 was 3,94,0349.

Student Support Services

The student support services programmes included (i) publicity about NIOS programmes, (ii) facilitating admission, (iii) timely supply of study materials through the study centres, (iv) organization of Personal Contact Programme (PCP) and Tutor Marked Assignment (TMA) at the study centres, and (v) media support to the teaching learning programme. On the basis of district wise mapping of the Study Centres, NIOS has identified unreached and educationally backward districts for enhancing coverage. NIOS continued giving Transfer of Credits to ex-students of CBSE, CISCE, UP Board, Uttaranchal Board, State Open Schools (SOSs). For monitoring and implementation of the open schooling programme, the services of experienced educationists are utilized as Academic Facilitators at the study centres. They oversee the process of admission, implementation of programme, conduct of PCP and TMA and examinations at the study centres. Interactive Voice Response Systems (IVRS), installed at NIOS Headquarters as well as the Regional Centres, provide response to day-today queries regarding admission, examinations, procedure of issuing duplicate Identity Cards, change/ addition of subjects etc.

Material Production and Distribution

During the year 2008-09, NIOS printed around 50 lakh copies of Secondary, Senior Secondary and Vocational Education Courses study materials in Hindi, English, Telugu, Marathi, Malayalam, Gujarati and Urdu. In addition, NIOS printed and supplied study materials for the Students of the Rajasthan State Open School. The study material was delivered to the NIOS students through the Study Centres. In certain special cases, the study material was sent directly to the enrolled students.

Regional Level Inputs

Eleven Regional Centres of NIOS at Kolkata, Hyderabad, Guwahati, Pune, Delhi, Chandigarh, Allahabad, Patna, Jaipur, Bhopal and Kochi and three Sub Centres at Dehradun, Bhubaneshwar and Darbhanga continued performing tasks such as admission, examinations, advertisement and publicity, liaison, orientation of personnel attached to study centres, public relations and responding to students' grievances, etc. The Regional Centres also looked after matters related to inspection of institutions for accreditation as Study Centres.

Publicity

The publicity of NIOS programmes such as admission, examinations, fees and results etc., is done through national and regional dailies as also through the electronic media. Press releases are given from time to time to highlight NIOS programmes and significant events.

Courses of Study

The NIOS continued offering a wide variety of courses of study (academic and vocational) to meet the requirement of learners. The Academic Courses include (i) Open Basic Education Programme (OBE) for children below 14 years and for adults above 14 years, (ii) Secondary Education Courses, and (iii) Senior Secondary Education Courses Vocational Education Courses are also offered for the benefit of the learners.

For implementation of OBE programme, the NIOS is partnering with 341 agencies which are running their study centres for students. The curriculum related activities included (i) development of materials for academic and vocational education courses, and (ii) support to States for OBE material development. Detailed guidelines have been prepared for conduct of OBE examinations. A computerized format for OBE results was prepared and made available to OBE accredited agencies.

At the Secondary and Senior Secondary stage, NIOS follows the cafeteria approach while offering various courses of study. The students have been given full freedom in selection of subjects. Only one language is compulsory. At the Secondary level,

NIOS offers 27 subjects of which eight subjects are offered in eight mediums. Of the 27 subjects 15 are languages. At the Senior Secondary level, 26 subjects are offered of which most are available in three mediums - Hindi, English and Urdu. During 2008-09, the revision of course materials in different subjects at senior secondary level was in progress. During 2008-09, development of course material in new subjects like Fashion Studies, Mass Communication, Functional Hindi, Environmental Science and Sanskrit at Senior Secondary level was under process.

Under the Regional Language Programme, Tamil as a new subject at Secondary level was under development. The material was printed by 2008 March and was introduced in the 2008-09 session. The preparation of Senior Secondary Curriculum in Tamil was also initiated. The development of learning material in Persian was also undertaken and completed. This subject also was also introduced in the academic session of 2008 - 2009.

As a measure of continuous assessment of learners, Tutor Marked Assignments (TMA) were developed in all subjects both in Hindi and English for Secondary and Senior Secondary Education Courses for the year 2008-09. They were also made available in the regional mediums.

Admission to Vocational Education Courses continued during 2008-09. Some Vocational Education Courses such as Early Childhood Care and Education, Cutting, Tailoring and Dress Making, Computer Application, Jan Swasthya, Electrical Technician and Beauty Culture Courses are very popular. The future thrust of NIOS Vocational Education Courses is on training of educated unemployed youth for meaningful and skill oriented employment. NIOS has planned to launch traditional and non-traditional technology oriented and competency based courses, rural oriented courses, courses for girls/women and disadvantaged, and linkages with industries, market and service sectors.

The Curriculum Framework for Open Vocational Education has been prepared and printed.

New Initiatives

• The HUNAR Project was launched by the

National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) in collaboration with Bihar Education Project Council (BEPC) of the government of Bihar to provide training and upgradation of skills for Muslim girls.

 Learner Support Centre (LSC) become operational under the Ni-On Project in order to sort out the grievances of learners pertaining to admission, examination, result, and other related services. Access to LSC in through a tall free number.

Media Support to Open Schooling Programme

During 2008-09, 10 video programmes were produced and 10 video programmes are at various stages of production. In order to feed the time slots for telecast of NIOS programmes on Gyan Darshan and DD-1 Channel, Capsules of NIOS video programmes are prepared in-house. These capsules are sent for telecast on Gyan Darshan and DD-1 channels.

During 2008-09, 4 multimedia programmes were produced for Sakshat, the Educational portal of MHRD and 4 more are under production. 10 Audio Programmes of Adolescent Education Programmes were produced with funding from UNFPA. 14 other audio programmes were completed while 26 more are under production.

Examinations

The National Institute of Open Schooling is the only Board in the country which conducts two full-fledged examinations every year. In order to provide reliability, validity and credibility to examinations, several in-built checks and balances have been incorporated into the examination system. The question papers are developed in such a manner that they test not merely the knowledge of the candidate but also the ability to apply knowledge. After administration of the question paper, the marking scheme is finalized.

The system of assigning fictitious roll numbers on the answer scripts of students was started from October/ November 2001 examination to ensure enhanced secrecy in the evaluation system. This system

continued during 2008-09 also. From Oct/Nov. 2001 examination, the system of outdoor evaluation was replaced by spot evaluation in order to maintain uniformity in evaluation and early declaration of results. To ensure transparency in the examination system of NIOS, the question papers and marking schemes were placed on the internet immediately after the examinations were over. Date Sheets of the Secondary and Senior Secondary examinations were published in all important national dailies. The results of NIOS examinations were also made available on the IVRS of NIOS. The cases of unfair means in examinations were considered by the Unfair Means (UFM) Committee.

During 2008-09, 6,04,404 candidates appeared in the Academic and Vocational Education streams. In order to promote distance education in the States, NIOS has introduced the use of several vernacular mediums for its Secondary Education Course (Urdu, Malayalam, Telugu, Gujarati, Marathi).

On Demand Examination

The NIOS has developed an innovative" On Demand Examination System (ODES) which gives freedom to the learner to appear in examination in the subject(s) of his/her choice whenever he/she feels confident of taking an examination. Under ODES, the NIOS has designed a software to generate a test paper out of the test items in the Item Bank stored in computer. The software has been so designed that each student gets a different question paper. In this system, there is no possibility of leakage of question paper and copying, and there is no need to set up raid parties to oversee the conduct of examinations. The ODE System has been implemented at Secondary stage by establishing an examination centre at NIOS Headquarters with effect from 8th February, 2005. The ODES testing centers are being set up in Regional Centres of NIOS. The On Demand Examination has been introduced at the Senior Secondary level in three subjects.

National Consortium for Open Schooling (NCOS)

NIOS continued its efforts to remain in touch with the States for setting up/upscaling of the State Schools (SOSs). The NCOS Secretariat located in NIOS

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took follow up action on the recommendations of the Conference on Promotion of Open Schooling organized during 2008-09. A meeting of the National Consortium of Open Schooling (NCOS) and the State Open Schools (SOSs) for the year 2008-09 was organized by the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) at its Headquarters on 24th February, 2009, in order to deliberate on various issues of Promotion of Open Schooling in the States and upscaling the Programme and its expansion vis-à-vis taking stock of Open Schooling activities in the States as well as in the NIOS.

International Relations

- Under the aegies of the Open Schooling Association of Commonwealth (OSAC), the NIOS continued publishing and disseminating the half yearly OSAC Journal of Open Schooling of international standard. During 2008-09, the NIOS prepared and published one issue of the OSAC Journal.
- NIOS participated in the International Round Table on 'School Quality: Towards gender friendly school environment' organized by ISEC, Bangalore and the Commonwealth Secretariat, COL. Dr. Mamta Srivastava Assistant Director, Vocational Education represented NIOS in the Round Table.
- Mr. Aditi Ranjan Rout and Dr. Savita Kaushal attended a 10 day workshop at Randburg, Johannesburg, South Africa from 3-14th September, 2008. Dr. Oum Prakash Sharma and Ms. Kaushalya Barik visited Saskachewan, Canada from 3rd to 7th December, 2008 on COL funding.
- Ms. Frances J. Ferreira, Education Specialist COL visited NIOS from 17th May to 22nd May, 2008. Ms. Ferreira was apprised of the various activities of NIOS and the Training Needs and Training strategies for NIOS functionaries - a joint project of NIOS and COL was discussed in detail.

 Mr. Sunimal Fernando, Advisor to President, Government of Sri Lanka and representatives from Dialog, Sri Lanka visited NIOS to discuss the possibility of collaboration to enhance the proficiency in English of the people of Sri Lanka.

Information and Communication Technology (ICT)

The Computer Unit of NIOS maintained database about admission, examination and certification. The admission data of 356 thousand students was processed. Pre-exam processing of data of thousand students and processing of their result was done.

Library, Documentation and Information Services

The NIOS Library has a collection of 16,296 books, 14,100 loose issues of journals and 715 audio-video cassettes/compact discs particularly on distance education and subjects offered by the NIOS at different level. The Library continued providing services such as (i) Reference Service, (ii) Circulation Service, (iii) Inter-Library Loan, (iv) Referral Service, (v) Reprographic Service, and (vi) scanning of newspapers, magazines and journals for news related to education. During 2008-09, more than 679 books were added to the NIOS Library.

Promoting Use of Hindi

Besides taking various measures to promote the use of Hindi in its constituents, the NIOS celebrated the Hindi Fortnight from 14 to 28 September, 2008. Various competitions for promotion of Hindi were organized. These included (i) Official Language Competition (ii) Computer based Hindi Knowledge Competition (iii) Presentation of essay through computer competition (iv) Quiz Competition and (v) Essay writing and (vi) AEP based Competition.

3. Academic Courses

3.0 Introduction

School education is seen as a necessary requirement for improving the quality of life, since it relates directly to population growth, health practices and economic productivity. It is with this vision efforts are being channelized towards achieving the target of Education for all, through the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan or Universalization of Elementary Education. To meet this challenge, the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS), an autonomous institution established in 1989 under the MHRD, Govt. of India, envisages an entire range of schooling from primary to senior secondary through the open education system. It has already been successfully imparting open secondary and senior secondary education through distance mode since its inception. It has a diverse student profile having learners from the age of 6 to the age of more than 70 years, living in different parts of the country. Besides using self – instructional course material, the NIOS courses are supported by a strong personal contact programme, radio broadcast, telecast and a variety of audio video programmes. NIOS has more than 2500 study Centers, located all over the country, which conduct the programmes of Open Basic Education, as well as programmes of Secondary and Senior Secondary level.

3.1 Open Basic Education Programme

The programme of Open Basic Education of NIOS envisages schooling by providing a learning continuum based on graded curriculum while ensuring quality of education for children, neo-literates, school drop-outs/ left-outs and completers of non-formal education (NFE). The OBE Project was started in NIOS in June 1994 but became operational in the year 2000 with the help of Accredited Agencies for providing Primary and Upper Primary level Education through Open and Distance Learning. The OBE programme is being conducted for both children and adult learners. These learners fall under two categories – (i) Children of 6 - 14 years, and (ii) Adults of 15 years and above.

The Open Basic Education programme has been recognized by the Government of India as equivalent education to the formal school for the purposes of higher education and employment. Different states have indicated their interest in the programme for adults and neo literates. The OBE is offered in some states as an Equivalency Programme under the Continuing Education (CE) scheme of the National Literacy Mission. The OBE programme has three levels A, B and C. Level 'A' is equivalent to Standard III, Level 'B' is equivalent to Standard 'V' and Level 'C' is equivalent to Standard VIII of the formal school system.

For implementation of OBE programme, NIOS has now partnership with 664 Agencies (in 2009), providing facilities for the learners at their study centers. NIOS on its part provides resource support such as adaptation of NIOS model curricula, study materials, joint certification, orientation of Resource Persons. Thus the main objective of Open Basic Education Programme is to reach the unreached by using to the maximum the potentialities of Distance Education Mode (DEM) and by developing alternative models of basic education programme equivalent to the formal education system. NIOS through its OBE programme also is able to accomplish the objective of the constitutional commitment to achieve the goal of universal elementary and secondary education and to fulfill the expectation towards Education for All (EFA).

The foundation of the OBE programme is based upon openness and flexibility. The registration period of each learner for each level stretches up to a maximum of five years thereby not only giving freedom to the learners to choose their subjects but also the freedom to select the medium of their choice. A learner has a choice of Hindi, English or any Regional Language as medium of study with no upper age limit for any learner, though children below the age of 6 years are not registered in the programme.

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Activities Under OBE Programme during 2008-09

(i) Accreditation and Programme Implementation

The OBE programme is implemented through partner agencies at the grassroot level. The agencies may be non-government organizations, government bodies or government-aided institutions. The accredited agencies (AAs) are responsible for registering learners, conducting personal contact classes and examinations and maintaining record about the learners. The AAs are selected by NIOS after screening the applications and inspecting the short listed organizations. Efforts

are made to ensure that agencies working in difficult regions of different states are accredited. Most of these agencies are those that are supported under different schemes of the Government of India, welfare organizations and by international donors as well as corporate bodies. Besides well-established NGOs, these Accredited Agencies include Zila Saksharata Samities (ZSS), Jan Shikshan Sansthans (JSS), Mahila Samakhya (MS) and District Institute of Education and Training (DIETS).

During the year 2008-09, the number of Accredited Agencies under OBE programme stood at 664. The state wise list of agencies accredited till 31 March 2009 is as follows:

Table 3.1 State wise OBE Accredited Agencies

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	No. of Accredited Agencies of OBE
1.	Andhra Pradesh	06
2.	Assam	01
3.	Bihar	320
4.	Jharkhand	11
5.	Gujarat	06
6.	Haryana	37
7.	Himachal Pradesh	01
8.	J&K	03
9.	Karnataka	13
10.	Kerala	14
11.	Madhya Pradesh	19
12.	Chhatisgarh	02
13.	Maharashtra	20
14.	Manipur	01
15.	Orissa	12
16.	Punjab	04
17.	Rajasthan	50
18.	Tamil Nadu	41
19.	Uttar Pradesh	50
20.	Uttranchal	08
21.	West Bengal	11
22.	Chandigarh	02
23.	Delhi	29
24.	Goa	01
25.	Tripura	01
26	Puducherry	01
	Total	664
		004

Table 3.2

Sl. No.	Type of Agency	No. of Agencies
1.	Zila Saksharta Samiti	65
2.	Jan Shikshan Sansthan	71
3.	District Institute of Education and Training	18
4.	Minority Institutions	324
5.	Mahila Samakhyas	01
6.	State Resource Centres	03
7.	Other NGOs	182
	Total	664

(i) (a) Hunar Project: New Directions

The OBE Programme lays special emphasis on the Hunar Project. Hunar is a unique and significant project conceived by the NIOS in collaboration with the Bihar Education Project Council (BEPC). This Project has created an educational delivery mechanism which is community based and has led to the socio-economic empowerment of Muslim girls in the State of Bihar. These girls are being provided free of cost skill development /training in vocational areas such as Rural Technology, Cutting and Tailoring, Jute Production, Bakery and Confectionery, Beauty Culture, Early Childhood Care and Gram Sakhi. The entire delivery mechanism consists of a network of 298 institutions managed by three agencies such as Rahmani Foundation (72 institutions), Edare-Sharia (88 institutions) and Imarat-e-Sharia (138 institutions). For creating a network of neighbourhood institutions under this project, NIOS has made major relaxations in its existing norms for accreditation of Madarasas / Maktabs.

Disaccreditation of non-functional Accredited Agencies (OBE)

NIOS accredits agencies for running its Open Basic Education Programme. However, NIOS takes a serious view about those agencies which do not function as per its norms and procedures. About 84 such agencies have been disaccredited by NIOS.

Further, 107 agencies may be disaccredited due to non-functioning of OBE Programme.

(ii) Training and Orientation Programmes

The training and orientation programmes for the coordinators of OBE accredited agencies were organized in Regional Centers of Delhi, NCR and Allahabad region, Kolkata for Guwahati and Kolkata regions. A training programme for OBE coordinators of Tamilnadu was also organized in Chennai. Such training programmes are organized for training of functionaries of OBE agencies.

(iii) Admission and Enrolment of OBE Learners

The admission to the OBE programme is done by the Accredited Agencies. They admit/enroll the learners and arrange the teaching learning programmes. A computerized database format was prepared and sent to all OBE accredited agencies for the enrolment of OBE learners. NIOS has developed a unique 15-digit Enrolment Number for every learner. The Accredited Agencies have been directed to give this enrolment number to all learners. Detailed guidelines were also developed by NIOS to make the implementation of the programme simpler and effective.

During 2008-09, the number of learners under OBE programme increased. The total registration under OBE Programme as on 31-03-2009 was 48337. The level wise enrolment figures are given below:

Table 3.3: OBE Enrolment Data during the year 2008-09

Sl. No.	Open and Learning S		Primary Classes			Upper Primary Class			
	Year	No. of Centres	BOYS	GIRLS	TOTAL	BOYS	GIRLS	TOTAL	
1.	2005-06	63	19680	17892	37572	937	870	1807	
2.	2006-07	43	19449	15973	33422	592	490	1082	
3.	2007-08	99	13118	21804	34922	1928	2018	3946	
4.	2008-09	161	11940	28794	40734	4439	3164	7603	
	TOTAL		64187	84463	146650	7896	6542	14438	

Table 3.4: Enrolment data under OBE Programme

2004-05	14610
2005-06	39369
2006-07	36504
2007-08	38868
2008-09	48337

(iv) Academic Activities

(a) Curriculum

The OBE programme is based upon academic freedom of the learner. Openness is reflected in the fact that AAs have the freedom to choose their own books and methods of teaching. The OBE curriculum for A, B and C level has been reviewed and modified in the light of National Curriculum Framework (NCF) 2005 developed by NCERT.

The learners have a learning package of their choice comprising academic and vocational subjects. Four subjects are offered at Level A, and five subjects are offered at Levels B and C.

(b) Material Development: Academic and Vocational Courses

While NIOS sets a minimum standard through the curriculum, the curriculum transaction is carried out by the accredited agencies themselves. The exemplar material for OBE 'C' level has been developed and printed and the material for 'A' and 'B' levels are under process of development. While some agencies choose to use NCERT/SCERT books, others use the books of the State Departments. Some Agencies have developed their own books. Some Agencies seek resource support from NIOS to develop their books.

Table 3.5: Status of Exemplary Material available in different levels of OBE

Level	Subject Code	Subject	Development Status	Translation	Remarks
A	001 002 021 022	Hindi English Maths EVS	In Process Do Do Do		
	023	AHPL& Pre- vocational (Art of Healthy & Productive living)	To be Developed		Gulab Ki Kheti has been developed
В	051 052 071 072 073 074	Hindi English Maths Science S.Science AHPL& prevocational	To be developed Do Do Do Do To be developed		Kechua Palan has been developed
С	101 102 121 122 123 124	Hindi English Maths Science S.Science AHPL& prevocational	Developed Do Do Do Do To be Developed	Translation in Urdu under process	

(c) Examination Process

In order to strengthen the examination processes, the NIOS has developed detailed guidelines for conduct of examinations. These guidelines contain instructions about question paper setting, seating plan, invigilation and result preparation.

Further in order to streamline the process of examination result, a computerized format for the OBE Result was prepared by NIOS. This format along with the programme software was made available to

all the accredited agencies to bring uniformity. The format, available on the NIOS website, can be downloaded by the accredited agencies in English and Hindi versions.

(d) Certification

NIOS finalizes Joint Certificates as per the Result Gazette sent by Accredited Agencies. The level wise certification of OBE learners for the year 2008-09 was 48795 and the certificates were issued to the OBE Learners.

Table 3.6: Status of Learners Certified upto 31st March 2009

Total No. of Learners Certified							
Session	Level A	Level B	Level C	Total			
2004-05	34739	2574	3540	40853			
2005-06	42299	14694	3204	60197			
2006-07	65497	4546	3088	73131			
2007-08	35289	12752	4872	52913			
2008-09	26956	13864	8155	48795			

(v) Networking with States and Government Agencies

In order to ensure participation of the State Governments in OBE programme, NIOS had decided that a state level Nodal Agency would be identified in each State and the programme would be run in collaboration with the concerned agency.

The Government of Rajasthan identified the State Literacy Mission Authority as the Nodal Agency with the district level agency being the Zila Saksharta Samiti. In West Bengal, the State Government through Department of Mass Education identified the State Literacy Mission Authority as the Nodal Agency for running the OBE programme. In Haryana, the programme is being run through the Haryana Prathmik Shiksha Pariyojna Parishad (HPSPP), which is the Nodal Agency under the 'Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan' (SSA). All DIETS, which are accredited as AAs and other NGOs, will work with the HPSSP.

Table 3.7: Governmental / Non Governmental Agencies accredited for OBE Programme

Sl No	Name of	No.	No. of Agencies upto 2004				No	o. of Age	ncies af	ter 2004 o	nwards	
	State	NGO	JSS	ZSS	Minority	Other	NGO	JSS	ZSS	Minority	Other	Total
1	Andhra											
	Pradesh	11	03		01			01				16
2	Assam	05						01				6
3	Bihar &											
	Jharkhand	37	03	02			03	01		01		47
4	Gujarat	03	01				02	01				7
5	Haryana	06	01				10				17	34
6	Himachal											
	Pradesh	01										1
7	J&K	04										4
8	Karnataka	06	02				02	02		02		14
9	Kerala	02	03			01 (SRC)	05	01				11
10	Madhya											
	Pradesh	06	03	01	01		03	07		03		24
11	Maharashtra	07	03				07	03		02		22 2
12	Manipur	01			01							2
13	Meghalaya											
14	Nagaland											
15	Orissa	04	03				02	02				11
16	Punjab						03	01				4
17	Rajasthan	14		32	01		04					51
18	Tamil Nadu	07	05				01	01			28	42
19	Uttar Pradesh	32	12			01 (SRC)	13	06	01	02		66
20	West Bengal	02	01		01		06	02	01			13

21	Andaman											
	Nicobar											
22	Chandigarh	01						01				2
23	Delhi	18			01		09			02		30
24	Goa							01				1
25	Tripura							01				1
26	Mizoram											
27	Arunachal											
	Pradesh	01										
28	Puducherry					01 (DIET)						1
	Total	168	40	35	6	3	70	32	2	12	45	410

(V) Future Thrust

The NIOS plans to work closely with the National Literacy Mission for the promotion of achieving a sustained Continuing Education programme. The OBE as an equivalency programme would be strengthened and SLMAs and other NLM supported bodies would be involved in the OBE programme. The NIOS would provide academic and technical support for implementation of the programme.

3.2 Secondary and Senior Secondary Education

For the secondary education course, NIOS offers a choice of fifteen languages and other subjects like Mathematics, Science, Social Science, Typewriting, etc. The secondary certificate of NIOS is equivalent to class X of formal school. As far as medium is concerned, in addition to Hindi, English and Urdu, the secondary course is offered in five regional mediums, namely, Marathi, Telugu, Gujarati, Malayalam and Oriya.

The Senior Secondary course/programme is designed for those who have passed the secondary or equivalent examination and would like to continue their education to senior secondary certificate through open schooling. This programme is offered in English, Hindi and Urdu mediums. At senior secondary level, the subjects offered are Hindi, English, Urdu, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Political Science, Economics, Accountancy, Home Science, Psychology, Sociology, Mass Communication, Painting etc.

3.2.1 Revision of Course Materials

During the year 2008-09, revision of course materials

in the subject of Economics at Senior Secondary level was completed. These lessons in Economics were translated, edited, proof read and were finalized in the Hindi Medium also. In some subjects (like Accountancy, Biology, Business Studies, Chemistry, Geography, Maths, Home Science, Political Science and Physics) translation work in Urdu version was also undertaken and completed.

3.2.2 New Courses at different Levels

NIOS follows the cafeteria approach and offers a number of subjects at different levels so that the learners may have the freedom to choose subjects according to their interest. NIOS keeps adding subjects on offer so that learners have more and more options. During 2008-09, development of course material in new courses like, Mass Communication and Sanskrit at Senior Secondary level and Painting at Secondary level were completed. Learning Material for a Certificate course in Carnatic Music was also prepared.

3.2.3 Course Material of NIOS on the Website

The NIOS Course material at Secondary and Senior Secondary level are available on the NIOS website – www.nos.org and www.nios.ac.in. Learners can easily access the course material and can download as per their requirements.

3.2.4 Development of Tutor Marked Assignments (TMA)

As a measure of continuous assessment of learners, Tutor Marked Assignments are developed. During the year 2008-09, TMAs were developed in Hindi

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and English mediums in different subjects at secondary and senior secondary level for use by NIOS learners. TMAs were also developed in regional mediums and for Regional Languages.

3.2.5 Marking Schemes

NIOS usually prepares three sets of question papers for evaluation. To reduce subjectivity, marking schemes are developed and standardized in different subjects at secondary and senior secondary level. During 2008-09, meetings for standardization of marking schemes in different subjects at secondary and senior secondary level were organized for April 2008 and October 2008 Examinations.

3.2.6 Regional Language Programmes

The objective of the regional language programmes is to reach the unreached through vernacular languages in those states where there is no State Open School. Under this programme, NIOS offers regional languages as subjects in Assamese, Bengali, Marathi, Gujarati, Kannada, Tamil, etc. The learning materials are revised and updated periodically. TMAs in regional languages are also developed. Under the Regional Language programme, NIOS conducted the following programmes and activities during the year 2008-09.

- Persian and Tamil language have been introduced at the secondary level from the 2008-09 academic session.
- Tutor Marked Assignments (TMAs) in regional languages were developed.
- Translation of TMAs in five regional mediums i.e. Gujarati, Marathi, Oriya, Telugu and Malayalam was completed.
- Course material of Home Science and Social Science had been translated and CRCs were submitted in Gujarati medium.

 Course material of Social Science had been translated in Oriya medium and CRCs were submitted for printing.

3.2.7 Special Initiatives taken for Promotion of Education amongst Minority Groups

The Secondary and Senior Secondary Courses are offered not only in Hindi and English but also in Urdu medium. NIOS offers Urdu as a subject at Secondary and Senior Secondary level. Most of the States of India are taking advantage of the Course Material in Urdu Medium at Secondary and Senior Secondary level.

 Translation of OBE Material in Urdu Medium has been initiated in some subjects at the 'C' level.

3.2.8 Meeting of the Departmental Advisory Committee and Academic Council

The Departmental Advisory Board (DAB) Meeting was held on 3rd June 2008. The Ninth Meeting of the Academic Council was held on 22nd December 2008 at NIOS. The Academic Council considers and approves the programmes of all the constituents of the NIOS. The programmes approved by the Departmental Advisory Boards (DABs) of different Departments were further considered and decisions were taken about the programmes to be taken up by the different constituents of the NIOS in the year 2008-09 and 2009-2010 in the Ninth Academic Council.

3.2.9 Open Learning -A Half Yearly Magazine of NIOS

The National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) has been bringing out a half yearly magazine titled 'Open learning' which is generally meant for its newly enrolled students. The 'Open Learning' magazine includes articles in Hindi and English, which create awareness of the Cultural Heritage in the country, socioeconomic environment prevalent, advancements in Science and Technology and other fields etc. Articles on Science, Health, Career Planning, Population

Education, Gender issues etc. are also published. January/July, 2008 issue was published during this period.

3.2.10 Integration of Life Skills:

Under AEP project, integration of life skills in Course Material of five subjects like Hindi, English, Home Science, Science, Social Science was taken up. All the lessons in different subject are yet to be finalized with graphic inputs.

3.2.11 Initiative to start Open Education Resource (OER) Project

A project was initiated by NIOS in collaboration with the Commonwealth of Learning, Canada, to develop a common curriculum and course material for different nations of the Commonwealth. The subjects identified for this project were Home Science, Mathematics Business Studies, Social Science and Computer Science. A workshop was organized from 16th to 27th Feb, 2009 at NIOS and external experts and NIOS faculty worked on the project.

4. Vocational Education

4.0 Introduction

India's transition to a knowledge-based economy requires a new generation of educated and skilled people. There is a growing demand for skilled workers but data suggest that this demand is not met by the existing system. As a result there is a mismatch between the skilled manpower required and the skilled manpower available. In order for the system to become more relevant in the changing context, there is a need to create a model of imparting vocational education that is flexible, sustainable, inclusive and creative. Even the Knowledge Commission has recommended for the flexible vocational education system in the country. The National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) with its all inbuilt flexibilities and openness is the key institution in fulfilling this demand and also ensuring proper certification.

One of the objectives of the Vocational Education Programme of NIOS is to meet the need for skilled and middle-level manpower for the growing sectors of economy, both organized and unorganized. Other objectives are to prepare students for self-reliance and gainful self-employment, to attract sizeable segments of population to varied vocational education courses, and to enhance individual employability by providing professional skills in the vocations. The same are also envisaged in the curriculum framework for vocational education through open and distance learning prepared by NIOS. The range of Vocational Education courses has been expanding over the years depending upon needs of learners and market demands. The present Vocational Education courses of NIOS are meant for both urban and rural sectors.

4.1 Networking

NIOS functions through a network of Accredited Vocational Institutes for imparting skill based training to its learners. The existing institutions like ITIs, Jan Shikshan Sansthans, Krishi Vigyan Kendras, Schools, Colleges, District Institutes of Education and Training(DIETs), Universities, Paramedical Training Centres, NGOs and several other Voluntary Agencies are partnering with NIOS in imparting Vocational Education. In the last few years, there has been a substantial increase in the number of AVIs (Refer Table 4.1). With accreditation of <u>83</u> AVIs during the year 2008-09, the total number of AVIs as on 31.3.2009 was <u>1106</u>.

Table 4.1 List of AVIs of NIOS State wise As on 31st March 09

S. No.	Name of the State	Total no. of AVIs
1.	Andhra Pradesh	16
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	01
3.	Assam	08
4.	Bihar	47
5.	Chhattishgarh	20
6.	Goa	05
7.	Gujarat	16
8.	Haryana	50
9.	Himachal Pradesh	49
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	21
11.	Jharkhand	20

12.	Karnataka	23
13.	Karnataka Kerala	92
13.		88
	Madhya Pradesh	
15.	Maharashtra	37
16.	Manipur	02
17.	Meghalaya	01
18.	Mizoram	0
19.	Nagaland	02
20.	Orissa	20
21.	Punjab	31
22.	Rajasthan	46
23.	Sikkim	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	58
25.	Tripura	01
26.	Uttarakhand	28
27.	Uttar Pradesh	150
28.	West Bengal	21
	<u>Union Territories</u>	
29.	Andaman & Nicobar	02
30.	Chandigarh	06
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0
32.	Daman and Diu	0
33.	Lakshadweeep	0
34.	Pondicherry	02
35.	Delhi	240
36.	Overseas (UAE)	03
	Total	1106

4.2 Admission

The enrollment of students in Vocational Education Courses has been increasing progressively barring a few exceptions. Table 4.2 in the Annexure shows year-wise enrollment in Vocational Education Courses. During the year 2008-09, the enrollment of students in various Vocational Education Courses was **22343**

Table 4.2
Year wise Enrollment in Vocational Education Courses

Year	Enrollment	Percent increase
1997-1998	5,822	(+)51
1998-1999	7,164	(+)23
1999-2000	10,611	(+)48
2000-2001	12,026	(+)13
2001-2002	17,770	(+)48
2002-2003	22,321	(+)26
2003-2004	21,211	(-)5
2004-2005	20,985	(-)1.1
2005-2006	22,879	(+)8.9
2006-2007	22,166	(-)3.11
2007-2008	23,674	(+) 6.8
2008-2009	22343	(-) 5.6

Year wise Enrollment in Vocational Education Courses (2008-09)

Admission to vocational education courses of NIOS is open round the year. During the year 2008-09, admission in various courses was done through a

network of more than eleven hundred **AVIs** all over India. The number of students admitted to vocational stream was **22343**. Table 4.3 in the Annexure shows the enrollment State/Union Territory wise during 2008-09.



Table 4.3
State wise Enrollment in Vocational Education Courses during 2008-09

AVI NO_N	ST_NAME	TOTAL	%
51	Andhra Pradesh	255	1.14
58	Karnataka	521	2.33
61	Maharashtra	814	3.64
78	Goa	97	0.43
52	Assam	173	0.77
70	Tripura	15	0.07
56	Himachal Pradesh	914	4.09
57	Jammu & Kashmir	482	2.16
66	Punjab	1336	5.98
75	Chandigarh	320	1.43
59	Kerala	2263	10.13
69	Tamilnadu	624	2.79
81	Pondichery	100	0.45
55	Haryana	1201	5.38
99	Delhi	4389	19.64
54	Gujarat	94	0.42
67	Rajasthan	323	1.45
53	Bihar	1845	8.26
76	Jharkhand	516	2.31
60	Madhya Pradesh	1769	7.92
65	Orissa	429	1.92
72	West Bengal	629	2.82
79	Chhattisgarh	344	1.54
71	Uttar Pradesh	2532	11.33
84	Uttarakhand	347	1.55
45	S.A.I.E.D	11	0.05
	Total	22343	100.00

The region wise enrollment trend shows that the highest enrollment was in the Delhi Region followed by the Chandigarh region and Kochi region. The

Guwahati Region had the lowest enrollment. Table 4.4 shows Region wise enrollment in Vocational Education Courses during 2008-09.

Table 4.4
Region wise Enrollment in Vocational Education Courses During 2008-09

	Region	Total	%
Reg01	Hyderabad	776	3.47
Reg02	Pune	911	4.08
Reg03	Kolkata	1056	4.73
Reg04	Guwahati	188	0.84
Reg05	Chandigarh	3778	16.90
Reg06	Kochi	2997	13.41
Reg07	Delhi	5533	24.76
Reg09	Jaipur	417	1.87
Reg10	Patna	2361	10.57
Reg11	Allahabad	1392	6.23
Reg13	Bhopal	2115	9.47
Reg14	Dehredun	819	3.67
Total		22343	100.00

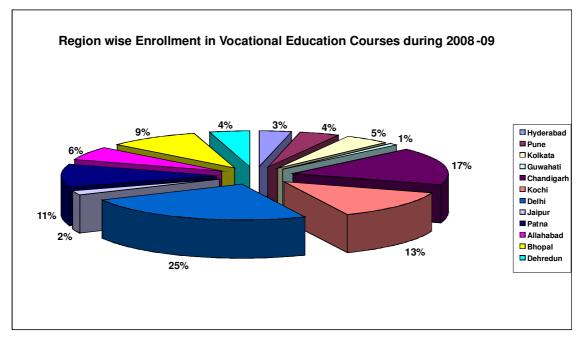


Table 4.4.1 Vocational Admission 2008-09

Gender	Total	%
Boys	10450	47.00
Girls	11893	53.00
Total	22343	100.00

The enrollment data reveals that maximum number of students taking admission in Vocational Education Courses of NIOS was in the age group 14-20 years i.e., <u>50.15%</u>. There is variation in the percentage of males and females taking admission in Vocational

Education Courses. As shown in the table 4.4.1 of the total students admitted in the Vocational Education Courses, females dominated as 47% percent were males and 53% percent were females.

Table 4.5
Age wise Distribution of Enrollment in
Vocational Education Courses during 2008-09

Age – Range	Total	%
14 – 20	11204	50.15
21 – 25	6030	26.99
26 – 30	2298	10.29
31 – 35	1380	6.18
36 – 40	620	2.77
41 – 45	219	0.98
46 – 50	95	0.43
Above 50	497	2.21
Total	22343	100.00

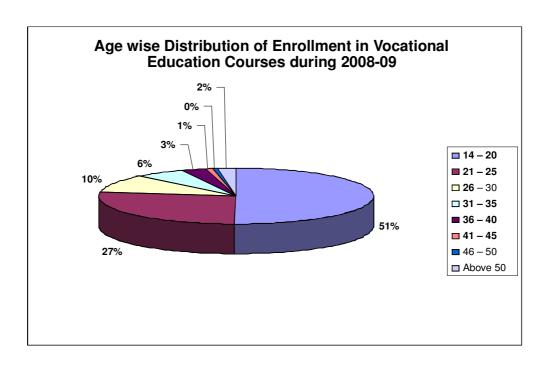


Table 4.6
Category-wise Enrolment in
Vocational Education Courses 2008-09

Course	General	SC	ST	EX_SER	Differently abled children	OBC	Total
Vocational	18734	2617	794	21	167	10	22343
Percent	71.6%	11.7	3.55	0.09	0.74	0.04	

Of the total enrollment in Vocational Education Courses, the percentage of disadvantaged learners was very small i.e. only 29%. The remaining learners are in the general category.

There are certain Vocational Education Courses which are very popular. Table 4.7 shows the course-wise

enrollment. Enrollment trends show that Early Childhood Care and Education, Cutting, Tailoring and Dress Making, Certificate in Computer Application, Community Health Worker(Jan Swasthya), Electrical Technician, Beauty Culture, Yog etc., are the most popular courses among the students.

Table 4.7
Enrollment in Vocational Education Courses during 2008-09

SUBJECT CODE	SUBJECTNAME	NO_STD
218	TYPEWRITING (ENGLISH)(THEORY)& (PRACTICAL)	4
252	CARPENTRY (THEORY)	44
253	SOLAR ENERGY TECHNICIAN (THEORY)	12
254	BIO GAS ENERGY TECHNICIAN (THEORY)	15
255	LAUNDRY SERVICES (THEORY)	98
256	BAKERY & CONFECTIONARY (THEORY)	424
257	WELDINGTECHNOLOGY (THEORY)	371
322	TYPE WRITING(HINDI)THEORY & PRACTICAL	28
323	TYPE WRITING(ENGLISH)THEROY &PRACTICAL	114
324	STENOGRAPHY(HINDI)(THEORY&PRAC.) SR.SEC.LEVEL	57
325	STENOGRAPHY(ENGLISH)(THEO.&PRAC.)SR.SECLEVEL	42
326	SECRETARIAL PRACTICE (SR.SEC.LEVEL)	127
327	WORD PROCESSING(ENG)(TH.) SR.SEC. LEVEL	502
351	PLANT PROTECTION (THEORY)	21
353	OYSTER MUSHROOM PROD. TECH. (THEORY)	16
356	HOUSE KEEPING(ACCOMMODATION SERVICE) (THEORY)	97
357	CATERING MANAGEMENT (THEORY)	357
358	FOOD PROCESSING (THEORY)	7
359	PLAY CENTRE MANAGEMENT (THEORY)	21
360	HOTEL FRONT OFFICE OPERATIONS (THEORY)	18
363	PRESERVATION OF FRUITS & VEGETABLES(THEORY)	11

401	BASICS OF HEALTH CARE	23
402	HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT	23
403	HEALTH EDUCATION	23
404	HEALTH EXTENSION ACTIVITIES	23
412	SECRETARIAL PROCEDURES (THEORY)	87
413	COMPUTER APPLICATIONS IN OFFICE(THEORY)	87
414	BUSINESS COMMUNICATION	87
415	SHORTHAND WRITING (THEORY & PRACTICAL)	87
416	LEARNING THROUGH TOYS	1
417	ART OF TOY MAKING	1
418	TOY MAKING AS AN INDUSTRY	1
422	TYPE WRITING (HINDI) (THEORY)& (PRACTICAL)	24
423	TYPE WRITING (ENGLISH) (THEORY), (PRACTICAL)	39
424	STENOGRAPHY (HINDI) (THEORY)&PRACTICAL	65
425	STENOGRAPHY (ENGLISH) (THEORY)&PRACTICAL	231
426	SECRETARIAL.PRACTICE (SR.SEC.LEVEL)	292
427	WORD PROCESSING (ENG.) (THEORY) SR.SEC.LEVEL	239
430	ORIENTATION TO X-RAY DEPARTMENT	49
431	RADIATION PHYSICS	49
432	HUMAN ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY	49
433	DARK ROOM LAYOUT AND PRACTICES	49
434	REGIONAL RADIOGRAPHY AND CONTRAST MEDIA	49
435	ADVANCED IMAGING AND SPECIAL DIAGNOSTIC PROCEDURES	49
436	LIBRARIES: FUNCTIONS AND SERVICES	1000
437	ORGANIZATION OF LIBRARY MATERIALS	1000
438	RECORDS OF LIBRARY	1000
439	UNDERSTANDING THE CHILD	2325
440	EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE & EDU.PRINCIPAL & PROCESSE	2325
441	ORGN.&MANG AN EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE & EDU.CENT	2325
442	HOME & HEALTH	42
443	AGRICULTURE(INCLUD.ANIMALHUSBANDRY & POULTR	42
SUBJECT CODE	SUBJECTNAME	NO_STD
444	MECHANICS,ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT	42
445	BASIC LIFE SCIENCES	32
446	ASPECTS OF AGING	32
447	GENERAL CARE AND SPECIFIC NEEDS OF ELDERLY	32
448	YOGFOR ELDERLY	32
449	BASIC LIFE SCIENCES	171
450	MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH CARE	171

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451	PREVENTION & MANAGEMENT OF DISEASES	171
601	HOUSE WIRING & ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES REPAIRIN	134
602	MOTOR & TRANSFORMER REWINDING	51
603	RADIO & TAPE RECORDER REPAIRING	1
604	T.V.REPAIRING	7
605	CUTTING & TAILORING	1124
606	DRESS MAKING	169
607	LIBRARYATTENDANT	8
608	CERTFICATE IN BASIC COMPUTING (THEORY)	589
611	PLUMBING	138
612	BEAUTYCULTURE	1398
613	CERTIFICATE IN DESK TOP PUBLISHING (CDTP)	497
614	YOG	663
615	CERTIFICATE IN SECURITY SERVICES (CSS)	64
616	CERT.IN COMPUTER HARDWARE ASSEMBLY & MAINTENANCE	498
617	CERTIFICATE IN JEEVAN VIGYAN	15
622	WEB DESIGNING (THEORY)	1
626	FIRE PREVENTION & INDUSTRIAL SAFETY	57
701	HOUSE WIRING & ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES REPAIRING	2051
702	MOTOR & TRANSFORMER REWINDING	2051
703	RADIO & TAPE RECORDER REPAIRING	132
704	T.V.REPAIRING	132
705	CUTTING & TAILORING	1719
706	DRESS MAKING	1719
707	LIBRARY & SOCIETY & LIBRARY ORGANISATION	13
708	CLASSIFICATION CATALOGUING & LIB.ORGANISATION	13
709	REFRIGERATION	802
710	AIR CONDITIONING	802
711	BASIC COMPUTING SKILLS	3088
712	COMPUTER APPLICATIONS	3088
713	CERTIFICATE IN TWO WHEELER MECHANISM	40
716	FOOTWEAR DESIGN & PRODUCTION	8
715	BASICS OF HEALTH & DISEASE	1
717	BASICS OF HOMEOPATHY	1
718	INTRODUCTION TO HOMEOPATHY	81
719	INTRODUCTION TO HOMEOPATHY DISPENSING	81
723 724	FOUR WHEELER CHASSIS IN MECHANISM FOUR WHEELER ENGINE MECHANISM	34
801	PARIPURNA MAHILA	2
802	JAN SWASTHYA	2617
002	JANOWASIIIIA	2017

4.3 Qualitative Improvement

In keeping with the larger objectives of the Eleventh Five Year Plan, the future thrust of the NIOS vocational courses is on training of educated unemployed youth for meaningful, skill oriented employment. In the coming years, the plans for course development include launching of traditional as well as non-traditional technology oriented and competency based courses which have direct connection with market & industrial demand.

4.4 Curriculum Framework in Open Vocational Education

- On 3rd July 2008, a book entitled 'Vocational Education and Training a Frame work on Curriculum Imperatives with a focus on knowledge Acquisition and Skills Development Learning' was released by honourable HRM Shi Arjun Singh in the gracious presence of Honourable Chief Minister of Bihar Sh. Nitish Kumar and Honorable Minister of State for HRD, GOI, Sh. M.A.A. Fatmi. and distinguished leaders of Minority Community.
- NIOS during 2006-07 initiated an exercise to develop the Curriculum Framework for Open Vocational Education(CFOVE) through open and distance learning mode. The Curriculum Framework states that ODL is the system that is in a unique position to meet the challenges of vocational and technical education by virtue of its mode of delivery, its flexibility of design and implementation, its commitment to deprived learners, the innate use of technology of remote learning, the demand of work force - both employed and unemployed and the demands of life long learning for all. This is a lamppost in the hands of planners, Vocational Course developers and trainers. This is now the guiding force for future vocational course development programmes.

4.5 Guidelines, Norms for Accreditation of AVIs and Revision of MOU

In order to improve the quality of the programmes being conducted by the partnering institutions, more rigorous parameters had been drawn for accrediting new institutions, to ensure better transparency and objectivity in the process. The existing guidelines for accreditation were revised and modified with the help of a committee of experts. These include the procedure for submitting the application, application format, guidelines for the screening committee, mechanism for performance, and monitoring of the programmes in the study centres (AVIs). Accordingly **Norms** for each individual course had been prepared and uploaded in NIOS Website. Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for AVIs had also been revised.

4.6 Monitoring of Programmes – Appointments of Vocational Education Facilitators (VEFs)

With a view to ensure quality of the Vocational Education Programme in the AVIs more number of VEFs (113) were appointed to monitor the performance of the AVIs. They have been given a well designed format to receive feedback. Their feedback is analysed at Regional Centre level. These VEFs not only monitor AVIs but they give on the spot training also.

4.7 Material Development

Variety of courses in areas of Health and Para Medical, Engineering and Technology, Home Science, Computer & IT, Agriculture, Business and Commerce, and Teacher Training have been prepared for VE programme delivery through AVIs. The number of Vocational Education Courses have increased from a few courses in 1991 to 85 courses till 2009. The entry level for the NIOS Vocational Education Courses is from neo literates to 12th pass. At present the Vocational Education Courses are offered as Six Months courses, One Year courses, Stand-alone courses at Secondary and Senior Secondary level, Package Course and Life Enrichment Courses. A two year diploma course in Radiography is also being offered.

Several Workshops were organized for development of courses in the field of Health and Paramedical, Computer Science, Home Science, Business and Commerce, Teacher Training, Agriculture and Engineering and Technology. The "Jan Swasthya" course has been revised and renamed as "Community Health".

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The major courses under revision namely are – Beauty Culture, X-ray technician Course, Diploma in Basic Rural Technology. The new courses like Diploma in Operation theatre Technician, Diploma in Medical laboratory Technology, Diploma in Insurance Services, Diploma in Accounts, Banking & Translation, Diploma in Naturopathy, Certificate in Ayurvedic Therapies are under development.

4.8 Translation of VE Courses The following Self Instructional Material (SIM) in VE have been translated -

- As per need, some of the courses have been developed/translated into **Urdu** also. These include: Stenography, Typewriting, Secretarial Practice, Computer Science, Early Childhood Care and Education and Library Science. Apart from these, the work has been initiated for translation of Vocational Education Courses in Modern Secretarial Practice, Four Wheeler Chassis Mechanism, Four-Wheeler Engine Mechanism, Two Wheeler Mechanism, Vermicomposting, Preservation of Fruits and Vegetables, Housekeeping, Cutting, Tailoring and Dress Designing, Beauty culture etc, Bakery and Confectionary, etc
- The courses under translation into Hindi, Urdu and other Regional languages are Electrical Technician, Radio & TV Technician, Refrigeration & Air Conditioning, Carpentry, Plumbing, Welding Technology, Computer Application and Community Health.

4.9 Meetings of the Coordinators of AVIs and Vocational Education Facilitators (VEFs)

The NIOS organised Orientation Programme for the Coordinators of Study Centres (AVIs) in order to facilitate the work of Study Centers and make them acquainted with the changes in the scheme of studies as well as in other activities of NIOS. In these programmes, matters related to examination, administration and vocational academic issues are discussed and problems are solved. Besides these matters, procedures for admission and accreditation are also explained to the Coordinators. These meetings are organized in all the Regional Centers of NIOS. The Coordinators of the AVIs are apprised of the changes and other new courses introduced. VEFs are also invited to be briefed with new developments in NIOS.

4.10 Collaborative project on Vocational Education and Training:

There is a great demand of need based skilled manpower for various industries which are coming up in different states.

In order to prepare the skilled manpower for industries in Uttarakhand State, National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) accredited 08 Extension Training Centres (ETC) as AVIs in the State.

In the state of Rajasthan 07, Kasturba Gandhi Awasiya Balika Vidhyalayas under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) have been accredited for Cutting & Tailoring and Dress Making courses of NIOS in 07 districts of Rajasthan.

A Vocational course on "Basic Bamboo Technology" in collaboration with Cane & Bamboo technology Centre (CBTC), Guwahati of the North East council is being developed.

A partnership programme with Indian Medial Associations (IMA) for paramedical courses & with CISCO for computer course and Confederation of NGOs of Rural India (CNRI) is under progress. A discussion with several other agencies is on which may take some concrete form in future.

The projects/programmes are likely to provide employment opportunities for local candidates of the states.

5. Measurement and Evaluation

5.0 Introduction

Measurement and evaluation is an integral component of any teaching-learning system. The Government of India in 1990 vested with NIOS the authority to examine and certify students up to pre-degree level. In fact, NIOS is one of the National Boards of Examination. It is the only Board which conducts two full-fledged examinations every year. In order to measure the learners' achievement and evaluate their performance, NIOS has been conducting its public examinations since 1991. It has conducted 37 public examinations upto the year 2008-09.

5.1 Unique Features of the NIOS Examination System

- One of the fascinating features of NIOS examinations is that it does not have infrastructure of its own. It shares the infrastructure and human resources of the institutions established by the public sector and private sector to conduct its examinations without disturbing their academic schedule.
- NIOS gives a lot of flexibility to the students in matters related to examination such as appearing in one or more subjects in the examination as per the convenience, credit accumulation of the passed subjects, nine chances to appear in the public examinations over a period of five years, and transfer of credit of two subjects passed from the other selected boards and up to four subjects from NIOS.
- A student is allowed to write answers in the examination in any of the scheduled languages of India even if he/she has not opted for that medium.
- On Demand Examination at Secondary level and in some subjects at Senior Secondary level. A student can appear in examination any number of times as per his/her convenience.

5.2 Quality and Standard of the Question Papers

Like previous year, during 2008-09 also NIOS developed five sets of question papers in all main subjects for Secondary and Sr. Secondary examinations. For Vocational Courses, single set of question papers was developed. Question Papers for all the subjects were printed in the identified Confidential Press. These were stored and delivered from the designated Banks/Treasuries/Police Stations. Besides Hindi and English mediums, the question papers were developed in Urdu and in Regional Mediums (Telugu, Gujarati Marathi, Malayalam and Urdu) for the purpose of conducting public examinations during 2008-09.

In order to provide reliability, validity and credibility to the National Institute of Open Schooling examination system, several in-built checks and balances have been incorporated into the system to ensure quality and standard of the question papers. The question papers were prepared on the basis of the design and blue print developed by the Academic Department and the Vocational Education Department of NIOS. The paper setters were provided with the syllabus, study material, sample question papers and designs of question papers in order to facilitate preparation of balanced question papers containing short answer type, very short answer type, essay type and objective type questions based on knowledge, understanding and application. The sets of question papers were got moderated by the concerned subject experts to ensure that questions were within syllabus; they were neither too tough nor too easy, and the marking scheme was accurate and covered all parts of questions.

5.3 Orientation of the Chief Secrecy Officers and Secrecy Officers

In order to keep the identity of the examinees secret, NIOS hides the names and enrolment numbers of the candidates by allotting them fictitious numbers. These are made available to the concerned secrecy teams only. As the Chief Secrecy Officers (CSOs) and other secrecy team members are taken from the outside, they need to be orientated about the concept of fictitious numbers and their role in this regard. During 2008-09, the Department of Evaluation, NIOS organized two orientation programmes for Chief Secrecy Officers and Secrecy Officers of all the Regional Centres for April 2008 and October 2008 examinations on 28.3.08 and 03.10.08 respectively.

5.4 Conduct of Public Examinations during 2008-09

As usual, the NIOS conducted two public examinations, one in April 2008 and other in October 2008. During the year 2008-09, 6,04,404 candidates appeared in the Academic and the Vocational Education Streams. 2,98,243 candidates appeared for the Secondary Certificate Examination, 2,82,995 candidates appeared for the Senior Secondary Certificate Examination and 23,147 candidates appeared for Vocational Education courses through 1923 examination centres in the country as well as abroad. The April 2008 and October 2008 examinations for academic courses were held in 1166 and 757 examination centres respectively spread all over the country.

During 2008-09, 23,147 candidates appeared in various Vocational Education examinations through 347 examination centres throughout the country. During April 2008, total 11,605 candidates appeared in vocational examinations through 176 examination centres. 11,542 candidates appeared in October 2008 examinations through 171 examination centres. During 2008-09, examinations were conducted during April 2008 and October 2008 for the Secondary and Senior Secondary level students enrolled with the Rajasthan State Open School (SOS). Necessary guidance was provided to the SOS functionaries for initiating the process of centre fixation etc., for conducting public examinations in Open Schooling. The answer scripts of the students of Rajasthan State Open School were evaluated by NIOS and their result was processed.

5.5 Monitoring and Supervision of Public Examinations of NIOS

- In order to ensure smooth and fair conduct of examinations, one full time Officer on Special Duty (OSD) was deputed at each of the examination centres. In addition, Flying Squad Teams were also sent to the examination centres. During 2008-09, special arrangements were made for deploying Flying Squads in the examination centres in all the Regional Centres. Assistance was sought from the State Education Agencies for ensuring smooth conduct of NIOS examinations. The Haryana School Education Board took suitable measures in this regard by deputing special teams of its officers to supervise and monitor the NIOS examinations in the State.
- Detailed guidelines were issued to the Centre Superintendents of the examination centres for taking necessary precautions to ensure smooth and fair conduct of examinations at their respective examination centres. To ensure effective supervision of examinations, two invigilators were provided in each examination room.
- In order to ensure fair and smooth conduct of NIOS examinations, 6 model Examination Centres under the Regional Centre, NOIDA for 3000 students were set up and at least one model examination centre was set under each Regional centre where candidates were examined under close surveillance of CCTV cameras and under the close supervision of officers of NIOS.
- Under Regional Centre, NOIDA, five Controlled Examination Centres were set up which were supervised and monitored constantly by the staff deputed from NIOS Headquarters and the answer books of each day were brought back after the close of examination. These examination centres were set up in Kendriya Vidyalayas and other reputed schools.
- To strengthen the monitoring, the categorization of Examination Centres into sensitive and Super

Sensitive Centres was done and special monitoring teams were sent as per the category of the examination centre.

5.6 Standardization of Marking Schemes

With help of the academic faculty of NIOS and the outside subject experts, the Marking Schemes of the Question Papers of 12 subjects of Secondary course and 17 subjects of Senior Secondary course for April 2008 and October 2008 examinations were got standardized and finalized immediately after the question papers had been administered. The finalized Marking Schemes of different subjects were sent to the Regional Centres of NIOS by e-mail, which were used by the evaluators for evaluating the answer scripts in different subjects.

5.7 Evaluation of the Answer Books

The Team Leaders and Evaluators in different subjects evaluated the answer books at the Evaluation Centres fixed by the Regional Centres. The work was coordinated and monitored by the concerned NIOS Regional Centres; and the awards were sent to the Director (Evaluation). Finally the results were processed and declared within four-five weeks of the close of the examination. Before finalizing, the Moderation Committee reviewed and moderated the results after having detailed and lengthy discussion. The result was approved by the Chairman, NIOS.

5.8 UFM Committee Meetings

The Confidential Section of the Department of

Evaluation processed the cases of unfair means (16,696 cases) detected during April 2008 and October 2008 examinations. These cases were discussed in the meeting of a high level committee. The students were given opportunity to put their viewpoints before the committee.

To consider the cases of mass copying and malpractices during April-May 2008 Secondary and Senior Secondary and Vocational Education Examinations, meetings of the Unfair Means (UFM) Committee were held on 4th,5th,9th,10th,and 31st July 2008 in which 16696 cases were considered and for the meeting of mass copying cases during the period of October 2008 examination were held on 6th, 7th, and 21st January 2009 in which 1,200 cases of mass copying were considered at NIOS Headquarters. The individual candidates involved in Unfair Means during the examination were called to appear before the Committee for personal hearing. The Committee considered all the cases and recommended suitable penalty in established Unfair Means cases. The students found guilty were imposed penalties and the UFM Committee exonerated a few of them as per rules.

5.9 Performance of Students in Examinations during 2008-09

5.9.1 Subject-wise Performance in Academic Courses

The Subject-wise pass percentage in respect of the Secondary and Senior Secondary courses is given below:

Table 5.1 Subject-wise Pass Percentages in Secondary Certificate Examination
April 2008 Examination

April 2008 Examination						
	Subject Appeared Certified Pass %					
201	HINDI	115224	85113	73.87		
202	ENGLISH	151584	84705	55.88		
203	BENGALI	1106	606	54.79		
204	MARATHI	2720	1860	68.38		
205	TELUGU	1032	845	81.88		

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206	URDU	2231	1653	74.09
207	GUJRATI	456	330	72.37
208	KANNADA	22	16	72.73
209	SANSKRIT	7581	3697	48.77
210	PUNJABI	7487	5734	76.59
211	MATHEMATICS	98178	38946	39.67
212	SCIENCE/SCI.&TECH.	109857	55027	50.09
213	SOCIAL SCIENCE	131491	64054	48.71
214	ECONOMICS	61949	32341	52.21
215	BUSINESS STUDIES	45170	25104	55.58
216	HOME SCIENCE	73429	47086	64.12
217	TYPING(HINDI)TH/PR	284	98	34.51
218	TYPING(ENG)	3220	1788	55.53
219	WORD PROCESSING	50314	39837	79.18
221	TYPING(URDU)TH/PR	19	1	5.26
222	PSYCHOLOGY	8067	2688	33.32
223	IND.CUL. & HER.	12199	6473	53.06
228	ASSAMESE	170	93	54.71
231	NEPALI	1549	1100	71.01
232	MALAYALAM	4794	3762	78.47
233	ORIYA	1823	1624	89.08
235	ARABIC	308	235	76.30
	October	2008 Examination		
	Subject	Appeared	Certified	Pass %
201	HINDI	22854	13503	59.08
202	ENGLISH	44501	15944	35.83
203	BENGALI	339	180	53.10
204	MARATHI	409	152	37.16
205	TELUGU	234	169	72.22
206	URDU	424	285	67.22
207	GUJRATI	67	30	44.78
208	KANNADA	5	1	20.00
209	SANSKRIT	2420	843	34.83
210	PUNJABI	594	321	54.04
211	MATHEMATICS	40728	8	0.02
212	SCIENCE/SCI.&TECH.	39507	30	0.08
213	SOCIAL SCIENCE	45420	1	0.00
214	ECONOMICS	20671	8433	40.80
215				
216	BUSINESS STUDIES HOME SCIENCE	13793 17322	6127 17	44.42 0.10

217	TYPING(HINDI)TH/PR	87	25	28.74
218	TYPING(ENG)	774	311	40.18
219	WORD PROCESSING	9679	6537	67.54
221	TYPING(URDU)TH/PR	8	1	12.50
222	PSYCHOLOGY	3163	0	0.00
223	IND.CUL. & HER.	3955	1664	42.07
228	ASSAMESE	47	9	19.15
231	NEPALI	398	153	38.44
232	MALAYALAM	353	158	44.76
233	ORIYA	750	681	90.80
235	ARABIC	38	30	78.95

Table 5.2 Subject-wise Pass Percentages in Senior Secondary Certificate Examination April 2008 Examination

April 2008 Examination April 2008 Examination					
	Subject	Appeared	Certified	Pass %	
301	HINDI	86157	64641	75.03	
302	ENGLISH	118670	81882	69.00	
306	URDU	1329	1027	77.28	
311	MATHEMATICS	30795	19273	62.58	
312	PHYSICS	34410	18580	54.00	
313	CHEMISTRY	33238	17755	53.42	
314	BIOLOGY	16608	10655	64.16	
315	HISTORY	43333	30328	69.99	
316	GEOGRAPHY	21861	12453	56.96	
317	POLSCIENCE	50985	36761	72.10	
318	ECONOMICS	40506	22949	56.66	
319	BUS.STUDIES/COMMERCE	24121	18094	75.01	
320	ACCOUNTANCY	17401	9051	52.01	
321	HOME SCIENCE	36994	24474	66.16	
322	TYPING(HINDI)TH/PR	128	53	41.41	
323	TYPING(ENG)TH/PR	1462	869	59.44	
324	STENO(HINDI) TH/PR	23	14	60.87	
325	STENO(ENG) TH/PR	68	23	33.82	
326	SEC.PRACTICE	6835	5299	77.53	
327	WORD PROCESSING	32644	26517	81.23	
328	PSYCHOLOGY	4716	3287	69.70	
329	STENO(URDU)TH/PR	4	1	25.00	
330	COMPUTER SCI.	9078	5260	57.94	
331	SOCIOLOGY	24122	19388	80.37	
332	PAINTING (THEORY)	7809	6223	79.69	

October 2008 Examination

	Subject	Appeared	Certified	Pass %
301	HINDI	19946	12366	62.00
302	ENGLISH	33205	22498	67.75
306	URDU	247	214	86.64
311	MATHEMATICS	11677	5757	49.30
312	PHYSICS	16497	6863	41.60
313	CHEMISTRY	15768	7882	49.99
314	BIOLOGY	6456	3361	52.06
315	HISTORY	10656	6482	60.83
316	GEOGRAPHY	7328	3438	46.92
317	POL.SCIENCE	12354	7411	59.99
318	ECONOMICS	14891	7698	51.70
319	BUS.STUDIES/COMMERCE	6744	4492	66.61
320	ACCOUNTANCY	6953	2974	42.77
321	HOME SCIENCE	10038	5177	51.57
322	TYPING(HINDI)TH/PR	60	44	73.33
323	TYPING(ENG)TH/PR	469	260	55.44
324	STENO(HINDI) TH/PR	5	3	60.00
325	STENO(ENG) TH/PR	19	8	42.11
326	SEC.PRACTICE	1393	787	56.50
327	WORD PROCESSING	10215	8073	79.03
328	PSYCHOLOGY	1384	831	60.04
329	STENO(URDU)TH/PR	1	0	0.00
330	COMPUTER SCI.	3092	1454	47.02
331	SOCIOLOGY	5290	3429	64.82
332	PAINTING (THEORY)	2594	1771	68.27

5.9.2 Gender-wise Performance

certified during April 2008 and October 2008 examination are given in the tables 5.3 and 5.4.

Gender wise data of the students appeared and

Table 5.3 Gender-wise Performance in April 2008 Examination

Gender	Secondary			Sr. Secondary		
	Appeared	Certified	Pass %	Appeared	Certified	Pass %
Male	139172	47558	34.17	133326	41274	30.96
Female	65305	24962	38.22	56653	19807	34.96
Total	204477	72520	36.93	189979	61081	32.15

Table 5.4 Gender-wise Performance in October 2008 Examination

Gender	Secondary			Sr. Secondary		
	Appeared	Certified	Pass %	Appeared	Certified	Pass %
Male	64915	18416	28.37	66385	24054	36.23
Female	28867	8742	32.19	26640	10078	37.83
Total	93782	27158	28.96	93025	34132	36.69

5.9.3 Medium wise Performance

During 2008-09 at Secondary level, besides Hindi and English medium the examinations were conducted in Urdu, Telugu, Marathi, Malayalam and Gujarati

also. The number of students appeared and certified in different mediums at Secondary level during April 2008 and October 2008 exams is given in the following tables.

Table 5.5 Medium wise Performance at Secondary Level

Medium	April 2008 Exam			October 2008 Exam		
	Appeared	Certified	Pass %	Appeared	Certified	Pass %
Hindi	138402	47299	34.17	66979	18297	27.31
English	57276	22207	38.77	23622	7991	33.82
Marathi	1903	894	46.97	508	116	22.83
Telugu	776	613	78.99	134	81	60.44
Urdu	1066	510	47.84	362	107	29.55
Gujarati	391	107	27.36	141	74	52.48
Malayalam	4663	890	19.08	2036	492	24.16

During 2008-09, Sr. Secondary level examinations were conducted in Hindi, English and Urdu mediums. The data about students appeared and certified in

different mediums during April 2008 and October 2008 examination are given below:

Table 5.6 Medium wise Performance at Sr. Secondary Level

Medium	April 2008 Exam			October 2008 Exam			
	Appeared	Certified	Pass %	Appeared	Certified	Pass %	
Hindi	113071	33799	29.89	57370	20202	35.21	
English	76427	27127	35.49	35408	13822	39.03	
Urdu	481	155	32.22	247	108	43.72	

5.9.4 Subject-wise Performance in Vocational Education Courses

During 2008-09, 23,147 students appeared in Vocational Education Examination. These include 11,605 students during April 2008 examination and

11,542 students during October 2008 examination. 6818 vocational students were certified in Vocational Education Courses during April 2008 examinations. 6966 students were certified in Vocational Education Courses during October 2008 examination.

Table 5.7: Subject-wise Pass Percentage in Vocational Education Examination
April 2008
Subject Wise Pass Percentage in Vocational Education Examination April-2008

Subject Code	Subject Name	Appeared	Certified	Pass %
252	CARPENTRY (THEORY)	22	22	100.00
253	SOLAR ENERGY TECHNICIAN (THEORY)	1	1	100.00
255	LAUNDRY SERVICES (THEORY)	7	7	100.00
256	BAKERY & CONFECTIONARY (THEORY)	194	176	90.72
257	WELDINGTECHNOLOGY (THEORY)	185	151	81.62
322	TYPE WRITING(HINDI)THEORY &PRACTICAL	3	1	33.33
323	TYPE WRITING(ENGLISH)THEROY &PRACTICAL	18	10	55.56
324	STENOGRAPHY(HINDI)(THEORY&PRAC.) SR.SEC.LEVEL	81	39	48.15
325	STENOGRAPHY(ENGLISH)(THEO.&PRAC.)SR.SEC LEVEL	10	2	20.00
326	SECRETARIAL PRACTICE (SR.SEC.LEVEL)	12	9	75.00
327	WORD PROCESSING(ENG)(TH.) SR.SEC. LEVEL	110	75	68.18
351	PLANT PROTECTION (THEORY)	10	10	100.00
356	HOUSE KEEPING(ACCOMMODATION SERVICE) (THEORY)	25	19	76.00
357	CATERING MANAGEMENT (THEORY)	186	146	78.49
358	FOOD PROCESSING (THEORY)	1	1	100.00
360	HOTEL FRONT OFFICE OPERATIONS (THEORY)	7	5	71.43
401	BASICS OF HEALTH CARE	8	8	100.00
402	HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT	8	8	100.00
403	HEALTH EDUCATION	8	8	100.00
404	HEALTH EXTENSION ACTIVITIES	8	8	100.00
412	SECRETARIAL PROCEDURES (THEORY)	44	38	86.36
413	COMPUTER APPLICATIONS IN OFFICE(THEORY)	46	39	84.78
414	BUSINESS COMMUNICATION	44	39	88.64
415	SHORTHAND WRITING (THEORY & PRACTICAL)	44	18	40.91
416	LEARNING THROUGH TOYS	3	3	100.00
417	ART OF TOY MAKING	3	3	100.00
418	TOY MAKING AS AN INDUSTRY	3	3	100.00
422	TYPE WRITING (HINDI) (THEORY)& (PRACTICAL)	12	8	66.67
423	TYPE WRITING (ENGLISH) (THEORY), (PRACTICAL)	9	9	100.00
424	STENOGRAPHY (HINDI) (THEORY)&PRACTICAL	37	29	78.38
425	STENOGRAPHY (ENGLISH) (THEORY)&PRACTICAL	156	112	71.79

426	SECRETARIAL.PRACTICE(SR.SEC.LEVEL)	199	168	84.42
427	WORD PROCESSING (ENG.) (THEORY) SR.SEC.LEVEL	169	153	90.53
430	ORIENTATION TO X-RAY DEPARTMENT	8	6	75.00
431	RADIATION PHYSICS	11	2	18.18
432	HUMANANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY	21	18	85.71
433	DARK ROOM LAYOUT AND PRACTICES	19	14	73.68
434	REGIONAL RADIOGRAPHY AND CONTRAST MEDIA	21	6	28.57
435	ADVANCED IMAGING AND SPECIAL DIAG PROCEDURES	24	15	62.50
436	LIBRARIES: FUNCTIONS AND SERVICES	145	112	77.24
437	ORGANIZATION OF LIBRARY MATERIALS	143	108	75.52
438	RECORDS OF LIBRARY	146	111	76.03
439	UNDERSTANDING THE CHILD	1313	1137	86.60
440	EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE & EDU.PRINCIPAL&PROCESSE	1289	1124	87.20
441	ORGN.&MANG AN EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE	1204	1120	06.55
445	& EDU.CENT	1294	1120	86.55
445	BASIC LIFE SCIENCES	19	18	94.74
446	ASPECTS OF A GLADE AND SPECIFICALIFIED SOFEL DEDLY	19	16	84.21
447	GENERAL CARE AND SPECIFIC NEEDS OF ELDERLY	19	14	73.68
601	HOUSE WIRING & ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES REPAIRIN	90	71	78.89
602	MOTOR & TRANSFORMER REWINDING	8	6	75.00
603	RADIO & TAPE RECORDER REPAIRING	2	0	0.00
605	CUTTING & TAILORING	546	405	74.18
606	DRESS MAKING	67	52	77.61
607	LIBRARY ATTENDANT	3	1	33.33
608	CERTFICATE IN BASIC COMPUTING (THEORY)	343	102	29.74
611	PLUMBING	71	67	94.37
612	BEAUTY CULTURE	620	563	90.81
613	CERTIFICATE IN DESK TOP PUBLISHING (CDTP)	390	203	52.05
614	YOG	372	206	55.38
615	CERTIFICATE IN SECURITY SERVICES (CSS)	76	11	14.47
616	CERT.IN COMPUTER HARDWARE ASSEMBLY& MAINTENANCE	245	162	66.12
701	HOUSE WIRING & ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES REPAIRIN	1207	722	59.82
702	MOTOR & TRANSFORMER REWINDING	892	526	58.97
703	RADIO & TAPE RECORDER REPAIRING	145	126	86.90
704	T.V.REPAIRING	112	93	83.04
705	CUTTING & TAILORING	657	614	93.46
706	DRESS MAKING	503	464	92.25
707	LIBRARY & SOCIETY & LIBRARY ORGANISATION	1	0	0.00
708	CLASSIFICATION CATALOGUING & LIB.ORGANISATION	1	0	0.00

709	REFRIGERATION	444	360	81.08
710	AIR CONDITIONING	276	252	91.30
711	BASIC COMPUTING SKILLS	1600	759	47.44
712	COMPUTER APPLICATIONS	1629	695	42.66
713	CERTIFICATE IN TWO WHEELER MECHANISM	36	28	77.78
715	BASICS OF HEALTH & DISEASE	3	1	33.33
717	BASICS OF HOMEOPATHY	2	2	100.00
718	INTRODUCTION TO HOMEOPATHY	7	0	0.00
723	FOUR WHEELER CHASSIS IN MECHANISM	47	33	70.21
724	FOUR WHEELER ENGINE MECHANISM	29	24	82.76
802	JAN SWASTHYA	1146	948	82.72

October - 2008
Subject Wise Pass Percentage in Vocational Education Examination October-2008

Subject Code	Subject Name	Appeared	Certified	Pass %
252	CARPENTRY (THEORY)	11	10	90.91
253	SOLAR ENERGY TECHNICIAN (THEORY)	16	10	62.50
255	LAUNDRY SERVICES (THEORY)	14	14	100.00
256	BAKERY & CONFECTIONARY (THEORY)	100	88	88.00
257	WELDINGTECHNOLOGY (THEORY)	155	133	85.81
322	TYPE WRITING(HINDI)THEORY & PRACTICAL	10	8	80.00
323	TYPE WRITING(ENGLISH)THEROY &PRACTICAL	38	8	21.05
324	STENOGRAPHY (HINDI) (THEORY & PRAC.) SR. SEC. LEVEL	28	19	67.86
325	STENOGRAPHY (ENGLISH) (THEO. & PRAC.) SR. SECLEVEL	13	5	38.46
326	SECRETARIAL PRACTICE (SR.SEC.LEVEL)	62	48	77.42
327	WORD PROCESSING(ENG)(TH.) SR.SEC. LEVEL	141	111	78.72
353	OYSTERMUSHROOMPROD.TECH.(THEORY)	12	11	91.67
356	HOUSE KEEPING(ACCOMMODATION SERVICE) (THEORY	7) 29	26	89.66
357	CATERING MANAGEMENT (THEORY)	128	78	60.94
358	FOOD PROCESSING (THEORY)	2	2	100.00
359	PLAY CENTRE MANAGEMENT (THEORY)	14	11	78.57
360	HOTEL FRONT OFFICE OPERATIONS (THEORY)	21	17	80.95
363	PRESERVATIONOFFRUITS&VEGETABLES(THEORY)	11	10	90.91
412	SECRETARIAL PROCEDURES (THEORY)	23	9	39.13
413	COMPUTER APPLICATIONS IN OFFICE(THEORY)	23	9	39.13
414	BUSINESS COMMUNICATION	23	10	43.48
415	SHORTHANDWRITING(THEORY&PRACTICAL)	20	2	10.00
416	LEARNING THROUGH TOYS	7	6	85.71
417	ART OF TOY MAKING	7	6	85.71
418	TOY MAKING AS AN INDUSTRY	7	6	85.71

422	TYPE WRITING (HINDI) (THEORY)& (PRACTICAL)	27	16	59.26
423	TYPE WRITING (ENGLISH) (THEORY), (PRACTICAL)	50	19	38.00
424	STENOGRAPHY (HINDI) (THEORY)&PRACTICAL	39	23	58.97
425	STENOGRAPHY (ENGLISH) (THEORY)&PRACTICAL	71	28	39.44
426	SECRETARIAL.PRACTICE (SR.SEC.LEVEL)	109	65	59.63
427	WORD PROCESSING (ENG.) (THEORY) SR.SEC.LEVEL	22	15	68.18
430	ORIENTATION TO X-RAY DEPARTMENT	48	35	72.92
431	RADIATION PHYSICS	52	32	61.54
432	HUMANANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY	57	25	43.86
433	DARK ROOM LAYOUT AND PRACTICES	11	4	36.36
434	REGIONAL RADIOGRAPHY AND CONTRAST MEDIA	14	9	64.29
435	ADVANCED IMAGING AND SPECIAL DIAG PROCEDURES	6	2	33.33
436	LIBRARIES: FUNCTIONS AND SERVICES	209	161	77.03
437	ORGANIZATION OF LIBRARY MATERIALS	205	173	84.39
438	RECORDS OF LIBRARY	205	167	81.46
439	UNDERSTANDING THE CHILD	1210	866	71.57
440	EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE & EDU.PRINCIPAL&PROCESSE	1211	939	77.54
441	ORGN,&MANGANEARLY CHILDHOOD CARE & EDU.CENT	1224	888	72.55
442	HOME & HEALTH	45	40	88.89
443	AGRICULTURE(INCLUD.ANIMALHUSBANDRY & POULTR	46	41	89.13
444	MECHANICS,ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT	47	43	91.49
446	ASPECTS OF AGING	1	0	0.00
447	GENERAL CARE AND SPECIFIC NEEDS OF ELDERLY	4	1	25.00
448	YOGFORELDERLY	14	10	71.43
601	HOUSE WIRING & ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES REPAIRIN	63	37	58.73
602	MOTOR & TRANSFORMER REWINDING	14	3	21.43
603	RADIO & TAPE RECORDER REPAIRING	1	1	100.00
604	T.V.REPAIRING	7	4	57.14
605	CUTTING & TAILORING	347	286	82.42
606	DRESS MAKING	94	62	65.96
607	LIBRARYATTENDANT	9	5	55.56
608	CERTFICATE IN BASIC COMPUTING (THEORY)	330	154	46.67
611	PLUMBING	56	44	78.57
612	BEAUTY CULTURE	582	519	89.18
613	CERTIFICATE IN DESK TOP PUBLISHING (CDTP)	203	123	60.59
614	YOG	340	212	62.35
615	CERTIFICATE IN SECURITY SERVICES (CSS)	2	0	0.00
616	CERT.IN COMPUTER HARDWARE ASSEMBLY & MAINTENAN	218	159	72.94

701	HOUSE WIRING & ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES REPAIRIN	1069	687	64.27
702	MOTOR & TRANSFORMER REWINDING	1192	614	51.51
703	RADIO & TAPE RECORDER REPAIRING	78	69	88.46
704	T.V.REPAIRING	101	79	78.22
705	CUTTING & TAILORING	706	591	83.71
706	DRESS MAKING	845	755	89.35
707	LIBRARY & SOCIETY & LIBRARY ORGANISATION	28	25	89.29
708	CLASSIFICATION CATALOGUING & LIB.ORGANISATION	28	27	96.43
709	REFRIGERATION	376	267	71.01
710	AIR CONDITIONING	393	298	75.83
711	BASIC COMPUTING SKILLS	1871	801	42.81
712	COMPUTER APPLICATIONS	1837	642	34.95
713	CERTIFICATE IN TWO WHEELER MECHANISM	31	23	74.19
715	BASICS OF HEALTH & DISEASE	3	2	66.67
718	INTRODUCTION TO HOMEOPATHY	40	26	65.00
719	INTRODUCTION TO HOMEOPATHY DISPENSING	36	25	69.44
723	FOUR WHEELER CHASSIS IN MECHANISM	34	31	91.18
724	FOUR WHEELER ENGINE MECHANISM	37	28	75.68
802	JAN SWASTHYA	1445	1265	87.54

5.10 Region Wise Result Status

Table 5.10 Region Wise Result Status: April 2008 and October 2008 Examinations
Region wise Result April-2008 Examination

		Secondary		Sr. Secondary		
Region	Appeared	Certified	Pass %	Appeared	Certified	Pass %
HYDERABAD	1702	1011	59.40	5554	3046	54.84
PUNE	14895	6047	40.59	6948	2417	34.78
KOLKATA	19008	8800	46.29	12883	5280	40.98
GUWAHATI	15842	3772	23.81	10709	2561	23.91
CHANDIGARH	48262	14708	30.47	52158	15501	29.71
KOCHI	6125	1435	23.42	4302	1130	26.26
DELHI	51513	14708	28.55	50622	15460	30.54
NIOS HQ	819	171	20.87	1429	340	23.79
JAIPUR	7540	2174	28.83	4444	1292	29.07
PATNA	7484	3217	42.98	12176	4937	40.54
ALLAHABAD	4641	2078	44.77	6745	2838	42.07
BHOPAL	8062	4842	60.05	4123	1675	40.62
DEHRADUN	18584	7098	38.19	17886	4604	25.74
TOTAL	204477	70061	34.26	189979	61081	32.15

Region wise Result October-2008 Examination

	Secondary			Sr	: Secondary	
Region	Appeared	Certified	Pass %	Appeared	Certified	Pass %
HYDERABAD	579	230	39.72	1743	883	50.66
PUNE	5065	1305	25.77	2304	630	27.34
KOLKATA	9837	3535	35.94	6552	2338	35.68
GUWAHATI	6486	1942	29.94	5061	1803	35.63
CHANDIGARH	17831	3559	19.96	19990	7180	35.92
KOCHI	2696	719	26.67	2035	510	25.06
DELHI	26555	6558	24.70	31216	9922	31.78
NIOSHQ	251	107	42.63	464	201	43.32
JAIPUR	6247	1191	19.07	2875	672	23.37
PATNA	2063	1029	49.88	4931	2339	47.43
ALLAHABAD	3727	1921	51.54	5682	3253	57.25
BHOPAL	3252	1500	46.13	2040	977	47.89
DEHRADUN	9159	3552	38.78	8123	3424	42.15
TOTAL	93748	27148	28.96	93016	34132	36.69

5.11 On-Demand Examination System (ODES)

Besides two public examinations in a year, NIOS conducts On Demand Examinations at Secondary level and in some subjects of Sr.Secondary. Under the scheme of On-Demand Examinations, a learner can register for On-Demand examination and seek a date as per the capacity of the testing centre. On the given date, the learner can walk into the identified Testing Centre of NIOS on the prescribed date and can appear in examination in the registered subject.

NIOS conducts On Demand Examinations at Secondary and Senior Secondary level in the following subjects:

Secondary Stage: Hindi, English, Sanskrit, Mathematics, Science, Social Science, Economics, Commerce, Home Science, Typing (Hindi), Typing (English), Word Processing and Psychology.

Senior Secondary Stage

 Besides Mathematics, Physics and Commerce, three more subjects were added in the ODE w.e.f.
 January, 2008 namely, Hindi, Home Science and Political Science, thereby increasing the number of subjects to six under the ODE system. The ODE questions bank for the remaining subjects is being developed.

- Presently, the On Demand Examinations at the Secondary and Senior Secondary stages are being conducted at the NIOS headquarters from Tuesday to Friday (except on public holidays) with a capacity of 130 students per day and at NIOS Regional Centre Pune (for Secondary stage only) with capacity of 25 students per day. The practical examinations are conducted on Fridays in the reputed designated CBSE affiliated schools.
- To meet the demand of candidates for On Demand Examination, the frequency of On Demand Examination was increased from three to four times a week.
- To facilitate the candidates, On Line Registration of On Demand Candidates was introduced and manual registration was stopped.

5.12 Examination Reforms

As a continuous process of examination reforms, a third Workshop on Strategies for Examination Reforms – Open Schooling System was conducted at Manali in May, 2008 and as a follow up a fourth

Workshop was conducted on 4-5th January 2009 at Nanital in which eminent educationists from the

country participated and suggested examinations reforms in NIOS examinations.

Number of Candidates Appeared and Pass under On Demand Examination (From April 2008 till March 2009)

1. Secondary Course

Subject	Appeared	Pass	Pass%
Hindi	1223	771	63.04
English	2120	605	28.53
Sanskrit	81	3	3.70
Mathematic	2021	400	19.79
Science & Technology	2057	134	6.51
Social Science	2085	564	27.05
Economics	1349	559	41.43
Business Studies	1111	616	55.44
Home Science	1118	733	65.56
Typewriting (Hindi)	-	-	-
Typewriting (English)	-	-	-
Word Processing	721	380	52.70
Psychology	144	24	16.66
Total candidates	6654	965	14.50

No. of Candidates Appeared and Pass under On Demand Examination (From April 2008 till March 2009)

2. Senior Secondary Course

Subject	Appeared	Pass	Pass%
Mathematic	1447	287	19.83
Physics	1149	248	21.58
Business Studies	628	497	79.14
Hindi	1196	479	40.05
Home Science	788	410	52.03
Political Science	406	195	48.02
Total candidates	5614	2116	37.69

6. Administration and Accounts

6.0 Introduction

The Administration Department of NIOS, headed by Secretary, looks after the matters related to (i) Memorandum of Association of NOS Society, (ii) Constitution of various committees of NIOS and organization of meetings of apex committees, (iii) matters related to personnel, (vi) legal matters, (v) budgets/Accounts, (vi) production and distribution of materials, (vii) purchase and supply of equipment, (viii) maintenance, (ix) promotion of Hindi (Raj Bhasha), (x) Annual Report, (xi) Parliament Questions etc. the programmes and activities of the

Administration Department of NIOS during the year 2008-09 are as follows:-

6.1 Personnel & Establishment

6.1.1 Appointments

1. Shri Murshad Zaman, Joined NIOS on deputation basis as Section Officer w.e.f. 19-08-2008.

6.1.2 Promotion

The following officers were promoted vide office orders dated 23-01-2009 to the post mentioned against each –

S. No.	Name of the Officer / Official	Promoted/ Joined as	Date of Joining
1.	Dr. Anita Priyadarshini	Joint Director (Academic)	23-01-2009
2.	Sh. Sanjay Kumar Sinha	Joint Director (Academic)	23-01-2009
3.	Dr. R.S.P. Singh	Deputy Director (Academic)	23-01-2009
4.	Mrs. Manju Gupta	Deputy Director (Academic)	23-01-2009
5.	Dr. T.N.Giri	Deputy Director (Academic)	23-01-2009
6.	Dr. Mamta Srivastava	Deputy Director (Academic)	23-01-2009
7.	Mrs. Sandhya Kumar	Assistant Director (Academic)	23-01-2009
8.	Dr. Rachna Bhatia	Assistant Director (Academic)	23-01-2009
9.	Sh. Aditi Ranjan Rout	Assistant Director (Academic)	23-01-2009
10.	Mrs. Koushalya Barik	Assistant Director (Academic)	23-01-2009
11.	Mrs. Anitha Nair	Assistant Director (Academic)	23-01-2009
12.	Sh. S.S.Das	Assistant Director (Academic)	23-01-2009
13.	Sh. V.S.Ravindran	Deputy Director (Administration)	23-01-2009
14.	Mrs. Bhupinder Kaur	PS to Chairman	23-01-2009
15.	Mrs. Anita Saxena	Superintendent	23-01-2009
16.	Sh. Pravesh Chandra	Superintendent	23-01-2009

6.1.3 Delegation of Powers

As per decision taken in the 17th General Body of National Open School Society held on 25-03-2009 and the decision thereafter taken by the Hon'ble President of the NOS society, that all administrative and financial powers being exercised by Sh. M.C.Pant, Chairman, National Institute of Open Schooling by the virtue of being Chairman of Executive Board, Finance Committee and Chief Executive of NIOS were withdrawn from him forth with and the same were delegated to Shri D.S.Bist, Secretary, NIOS w.e.f. 27-03-2009 under clause 10(7) of Memorandum of Association and Rules & Regulations of NOS Society.

6.1.4 Repatriation

The following Officers/Officials were repatriated to their Parent Departments.

- 1. Dr. K.R.Chandrasekaran, Director (Academic & Evaluation) w.e.f. 05-11-2008
- Ms. Nirmal Thakur, Section Officer w.e.f. 05-09-2008

6.1.5 Technical Resignation

Following Officers were given Technical Resignation from the service of NIOS –

- 1. Dr. Savita Kaushal, Academic Officer (Teacher Training) w.e.f. 08-05-2008
- 2. Dr. Oum Prakash, Assistant Director (Academic) w.e.f. 14-05-2008
- 3. Shri Dev Kant Rao, Academic Officer (Life Science) w.e.f. 28-05-2008

Confirmation: 48 Officers of Group A & B and 29 Officials of Group C & D were confirmed which was pending since last many years.

6.1.6 Recruitment

During the year for filling the posts of all groups lying vacant were advertised in leading newspapers on DR basis.

6.1.7 Training

Shri S. Mahendran, Assistant was nominated to attend the training progromme regarding administrative Vigilance at Institute of Secretariat Training & Management, Department of Personnel and Training, Division, Old JNU Campus, New Delhi w.e.f. 18th August to 29th August 2009.

Shri Aditi Ranjan Rout, Academic Officer was nominated and attended the two days National Seminar on Prevention and Redressal of Sexual Harassment w.e.f. 29 to 30th August 2008 held at Institute of Public Administration, M.G. Road, Bangalore.

6.1.8 Finalisation of Gradation List

The National Institute of Open Schooling which had been functioning as Open School Project under CBSE was set up as an autonomous body in 1989 by Government of India Notification. Accordingly, NIOS was following the Recruitment Rules of CBSE till it formulated its own Recruitment Rules in the year 2002. Based on these Recruitment Rules, direct recruitments and promotions were undertaken in the year 2002-03. Some members of staff and officers of NIOS expressed their grievances against them leading to litigation in courts of law. There were also disputes regarding inter-se-seniority in between officers and members of staff from different cadres. Due to these complications, the work of further promotions and recruitments came to a standstill in NIOS. In view of this, the Chairman NIOS appointed a Two Member Committee comprising of Ms L. Indumathy, Dy. Secretary / Director MHRD and Shri. D.S. Bist, Secretary, NIOS to examine and resolve all the issues regarding seniority of all levels of officers and members of staff. The constitution of this Committee was taken note of by the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi also during the disposal of various petitions filed before it by staff members of NIOS. Eight meetings were held over a period of eight months leading to circulation of tentative gradation list. Vide Office Order no. 288/08 dated 31-10-2008 Seniority List circulated for the information of all the staff & officers of NIOS.

6.1.9 Backlog / Shortfall of SC, ST/OBC Vacancies

The detailed position with respect to backlog/shortfall of SC/ST/OBC vacancies were calculated based on the General Rule of Recruitment and Promotion of Academic and Non-Academic Staff of NIOS Part I & II (as amended upto March 2007) for Direct Recruitment and Promotion, as per directions of

DOPT and submitted to MHRD. At present, there is no backlog of SC, ST or OBC vacancy in NIOS.

6.1.10 Parliament Unit

Parliament Unit coordinated with different Departments of NIOS in order to provide information related to NIOS during the Parliament Session. To ensure prompt, correct, and timely information, Nodal Officers were designated within each Department and replies of 11 Parliament Questions were sent to MHRD.

6.1.11 Implementation of instructions of CVC regarding e-governance in NIOS

As per the instructions of the Central Vigilance Commission, NIOS, in order to reduce the scope for corruption and to bring greater transparency and accountability in the discharge of duties and public dealing, had issued necessary instructions for implementation of e-governance in NIOS vide office order no. 62/07 dated 2nd March, 2007. Vide this order all the Departments/Regional Centres/Unit of the NIOS have been instructed to provide complete information on NIOS websites regarding the rules and procedures as well as all application forms / proforma in a downloadable form.

In addition, all AIs, AVIs and AAs of NIOS have been directed to provide e-mail IDs for easy and faster communication and transparency between NIOS and its partners.

6.1.12 Monthly Activities Report

All key developments of MHRD are to be communicated on a monthly basis to the Cabinet Secretary. In this connection MHRD directed NIOS to submit the details of the important activities and significant events undertaken during each month. For collection and collation all HODs/Regional Directors were requested to appoint Nodal Officers to submit a brief of activities in report form by every month.

Accordingly, NIOS has been sending Monthly Report to MHRD. This work is being coordinated by Joint Director (Personnel)

6.1.13 VIP References

NIOS receives a large number of VIP references from the various elected representatives of Central and State Governments such as Hon'ble Member of Parliaments, Hon'ble Ministers either through Ministry of Human Resource Development or directly. These VIP references have to be replied within a stipulated period of time as per the norms of Government of India.

All HODs have nominated a custodian for VIP references. In order to maintain the systematic record of receipt of these letters, action taken on them and replies given for these VIP references, each department has been directed to maintain a separate receipt and despatch register for all VIP references.

Personnel Section maintains a separate master register for receipt of all VIP references and their disposal and also ensures that year wise entries are done on regular basis. This master register is also cross checked with the register in all departments on regular basis.

6.1.14 Strengthening of the Public Grievances Redressal Machinery

In keeping with the directives of the Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances (DARPG) to make the administration more responsive to the needs of the citizens, NIOS has set up a Public Grievances Redressal Cell (PGR Cell). The responsibility of this cell to redress the grievances received from the general public as well as NIOS learners, Secretary NIOS has been designated as Director (Public Grievances).

6.1.15 Redressal of Staff Grievances

In pursuance of directives of Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances, Ministry of PPG&P, Govt. of India and emphasizing the need for setting up of Staff Grievance Redressal Mechanism for staff, the Joint Director (Personnel) has been appointed as Staff Grievance Officer (SGO) for redressal of staff grievances.

6.1.16 Coordination with MHRD/International Agencies

The Personnel Section has been assigned the responsibility of coordinating with MHRD, and other offices of central and state governments on behalf of NIOS.

6.1.17 Legal Matters

The legal unit of NIOS is responsible for taking up; matters concerning NIOS affairs in all courts of law across the country. The Secretary NIOS is the head of Legal Unit and represents NIOS as an entity at all forums. NIOS has engaged Advocates in different district courts on a case-to-case basis as and when required. The legal unit also coordinates with Regional Centres for settlement and Vetting of counter reply / affidavit on behalf of NIOS of all legal cases in their jurisdiction. During the year long pending work of registration of the Name and Logo of NIOS has got registered with the Registrar of Trade Mark and Logo.

During the year 2008-09, the Legal Unit drafted various deeds regarding Agreement / Tri-Partite Agreement under project HUNAR, Memorandum of Understanding and drafted Show Cause Notices, Warning Letter and Disaccreditation Letter to erring Institute / AI. The Legal Unit rendered opinion on various issues regarding accreditation, examination, and general administration. The Legal Unit replied to the legal notices and redressed the grievances of learners and defended NIOS at various Forums / Courts

The Activities of Legal Unit of NIOS are broadly divided into three categories: -

- 1 Solicitation
- 2 Litigation
- 3 Opinion
- Solicitations: During the period legal unit has drafted lease deed for hiring accommodation for Regional Centres, and executed accordingly. A few agreements & MOUs were drafted and executed by NIOS.

About 43 legal notices were received from different advocates from various part of the country in connection with correction in Date of Birth of the candidates/learners their parentage, correction in the name of the candidate, declaration of result etc. These legal notices were replied suitably in time by the legal unit.

2. Litigations: During the year 2008 – 09 about 70 court cases were filed before various courts viz Distt. Courts, Distt. Consumer Court,

High Court, State Commission, The Supreme Court and the National Commission. Liaison was maintained by the legal unit with advocates by providing information, parawise comments and supports to defend the matter at different forums/courts.

- g The nature of the litigation was in generic the petitioner prayed for permission to appear in the examination, declaration of result, correction in Date of Birth and Parentage and name of the petitioners.
- g Few service matter litigations are pending for adjudication related promotion/ reversion. In two matters titled SS Duggal Vs NIOS haven been finally disposed of in favour of NIOS. However, seeking extention of time is pending. This year witness litigations at Regional Centre viz Allahabad, Chandigarh, Hyderabad, Jaipur & Guwahati primarily concerned with the grievances of learners etc.
- g A few Contractual Staff working with Regional Centre Guwahati have filed writ petition and prayed for regularization of their services. The legal unit is defending the matter on merit. Matter is still pending for adjuridiction before Hon'ble High Court Guwahati.

A few applications received from different Police Stations and Juvenile Justice Board requesting to provide original admission record of the juvenile delinquent. The legal unit has done the work with the help of concerned regional centre.

- g A few fake certificates have received from various police stations and other organizations for further verification of the records. During the period verification report of the same has submitted to the concerned police stations / organizations. In this regard a criminal case is pending for adjudication before Distt. Court Delhi.
- **3. Opinion:** -Legal opinion rendered on various issues related to examination, admission and general administration.

6.2 Maintenance and Purchase

6.2.1 Inauguration of NIOS Building A-24/25 and Learner Support Centre (Call Centre)

Learner support centre(LSC)- call centre was inaugurated by Hon'ble HRM, Sh.Arjun Singhji on 26th Feburary, 2009 through video conference. LSC caters for all kinds of assistance to more than 1.6 million learners of NIOS regarding admission, examination & academic related queries.

6.2.2 Completion Certificate of A-31, Sector-62, Noida Building premises of NIOS by NOIDA authority

NOIDA Authority has issued Completion certificate/ NOC for A/31, Sector 62. Noida building. Though construction of NIOS building at A 31 Sector,62 was completed on December,2005, completion certificate from NOIDA authroty was received on 16th March,2009.

6.2.3 Registration of NIOS Trade Mark:

Few Publishers with a view to commit fraud/cheating had published books as NIOS text books, thereby creating an impression to the learners that these are NIOS books and sold them to the students whereas NIOS gives its books free of cost to each student. These publishing houses were earlier blacklisted by NIOS for selling their own text books as NIOS text books. Criminal complaints were also lodged by NIOS but due to non-registration of its own trademark and logo much breakthrough couldnot be made. Now NIOS has registered its trademark with Trade Mark Registry, Government of India.

The copy Right Act conferred upon National Institute of Open Schooling in their capacity as owner of its trademark and logo, whosoever inferring the act will be punished under Copy Right Act 1957 and I.P.C.

6.2.4 Arrangement of Model Examination Centres

To curb malpractices in NIOS examination, unprecendential steps were taken in October,2008 onwards examinations, One among was the creation of model examination centres at NIOS HQ and in all Regional Centres. Installation of CCTV, Video recording during examination, security arrangements,

public address centre and other facilities required in conduct of smooth examination were arranged. Seating arrangement of around 5000 candidates were made within NIOS premises.

6.2.5 Installation of safety Equipments

Closed circuit T.V. cameras have been installed in different part of the building. Fire fighting equipments have also been put in place in all the floors.

6.2.6 Subsidized Transport and Canteen Services

Subsidy transport and canteen facilities provided to NIOS staff have been continued. Subsidy canteen facilities at both the building have been provided to NIOS staff.

6.2.7 Maintenance of NIOS Premises

Basic amenities such as housekeeping services, Generator operation, running of lift services, security arrangement, upkeepment of horticulture, communication services have been provided in both the building of NIOS.

6.3 Accounts

6.3.1 Income Generated by the NIOS

The funds generated by way of collection of admission and examination fees and sale of publications etc. during the year 2008-2009 were to the tune of Rs. 8621.43 lakh as against Rs. 7256.00 lakh during 2007-2008. The increase of 18.82% in the revenue was due to (a) increase in the number of students enrolled and increase in the number of students who appeared for examinations, (b) increase in receipt of miscellaneous fee, and (c) receipt of interest on term deposit from bank. Income from interest earned by NIOS during 2008-2009 was Rs. 786.44 lakhs. The trend of NIOS generated income from 1997-98 onwards is at Annexure-I.

6.3.2 Expenditure

The Non-Plan expenditure during the year 2008-09 was Rs. 6178.42 lakh as compared to Rs. 4685.89 lakh during previous year. The Plan expenditure during the year 2008-09 was Rs. 1502.15 lakh as compared to Rs. 610.96 lakh during previous year. A diagrammatic presentation of the NIOS Non Plan and

Plan expenditure from 1997-98 onwards are at Annexure II and III.

6.3.3 Budgetary Support to NIOS

The budgetary support to NIOS from the MHRD during 2008-09 was Rs. 1500 lakh under Plan only. A diagrammatic presentation of Budgetary support to NIOS from the MHRD since 1997-98 is at Annexure –IV.

6.3.4 Fee Concession to Prioritized Groups

During 2008-09, subsidy aggregating to Rs. 641.20 lakh was given in the form of concessions in admission fee to the students belonging to weaker sections of society comprising women, scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, ex-servicemen and handicapped. This subsidy was solely met from NIOS generated funds. The number of beneficiaries availing subsidy during the year was 196690 [SCs; 48074 STs; 24936 Ex-Servicemen; 526 Handicapped; 1203 Women; 121951 (excluding SC/ST Women)].

The rates of subsidy ranged between Rs. 200 to Rs. 450 per student depending on the courses of study and gender. A diagrammatic presentation of year wise subsidies given from 1997-98 to 2008-2009 is at Annexure –V.

During the year 2008-09:

- In order to comply with accrual system of accounting depreciation was charged on Fixed Assets of NIOS.
- Efficient management of working capital was effected with the help of cash flow and fund flow statement.
- Effective control was exercised on fixed assets by way of preparing fixed assets schedule in proper proforma.
- The annual accounts of NIOS were prepared on accrual basis in uniform format as applicable to all central autonomous bodies and prescribed by the Ministry of Finance, Government of India.
- The computerization of Accounts in all the Regional Centres of NIOS was adopted and the monthly accounts of all Regional Centres are being prepared in Tally 9.0 version.

- The certification audit of accounts of NIOS for the year 2007-08 was got conducted by DGACR from 26.08.08 to 08.09.2008
- Audit certification of Annual Accounts for the year 2007-2008 was obtained and sent for laying in the Parliament.
- The recommendation of Sixth Pay Commission has been implemented from October 2008 and the arrears of pay upto August 2008 have been paid in Nov. 2008.
- A gateway facility was provided by ICICI bank to deposit the fees through credit card.

6.4 Material Production and Distribution

NIOS is one of the biggest Government Publishing House in India. Printed instructional materials written in self-learning style is the main source of learning for learners of NIOS. NIOS prints lakhs of copies of several hundred books/titles developed for various courses of study. It really needs meticulous planning and huge managerial skills to procure paper products, their adequate warehousing and proper stocking. NIOS purchase paper for printing its Self Instructional Material (SIM). NIOS publications have wide variety of subjects. Once the paper is purchased, next the most challenging task comes printing the materials pertaining to all subjects, courses and mediums within a stipulated time frame.

The success of any Distance Mode of Learning System largely depends on timely printing, transportation and distribution of study materials to the learners scattered all over the country. NIOS have been doing all these tasks timely, efficiently and satisfactorily. Materials produced by NIOS is well prepared and quality of printing has been highly appreciated by all and sundry in formal schooling system, as well as by large number of users. NIOS prints Self Instructional Materials (SIM) for its learners from various printers on NIOS panel.

6.4.1 About NIOS Publications

NIOS prints learning materials of different subjects, courses, and mediums. Majority of the subjects are in 2 to 3 and more parts. NIOS books are user friendly and self explanatory in approach. During the

year 2008-09, NIOS printed approximately 55 lakh copies (combined despatches) of Secondary, Senior Secondary and Vocational Education courses. Study materials in Hindi, English, Telugu, Marathi, Malayalam, Gujarati, Urdu and Oriya got printed. NIOS printed and supplied study materials for the students of the Rajasthan State Open School, Andhra Pradesh State Open School, Chattisgarh and Assam State Open Schools.

The expenditure incurred on paper and printing of the instructional materials during 2008-09 was approx. Rs.2331.23 lakhs.

During 2008-09, NIOS purchased good quality paper from the Hindustan Paper Corporation, a Govt. of India Undertaking, through open tendering. This further added to the quality of printing of the NIOS publications. During 2008-09 NIOS switched over to 220 GSM MG Pulp Board for printing cover of its various publications this has increased print quality.

Some of the unique features of NIOS publications meant for students are as under:

- 1 Unique layout in A4 size following International standardization of sizes.
- 1 Using 10-12 pt. type for text and leaving enough white space so as to make the reading catchy and providing enough space to students for writing notes etc.
- 1 Using Graphics in between the text to make the reading catchy.
- Using 60 G.S.M.—NIOS Water marked paper for printing of text and 220 GSM Pulp Board (MG) for printing of multi-colour covers of the Books.
- Using perfect binding and side stitching of books making them more convenient while using and withstand rough handling by students.
- NIOS got more than 2 parts of a subject packed in polythene, so that all parts could be given/issued to the learners and further to avoid any damage during transportation.
 - NIOS mainly prints study materials for its learners of the following courses:

- Books for open Basic Education: This material is generally printed in four colours so as to make it catchy for the students.
- Books for Secondary Courses
- 1 Books for Senior Secondary Courses
- 1 Books for Vocational Education Courses
- 1 Other publications of the organization

NIOS Publications printed during 2008-09

- 1. Books for Secondary Courses
- 2. Books for Senior Secondary Course
- 3. Books for Vocational Subject
- 4. Books in regional mediums in Gujarati, Malayalam, Telugu, Marathi and Oriya at secondary level.
- 5. Examinations related materials
- 6. Admission related material
- Other publications like Annual Report, Annual Accounts and 'Open learning Magazine' and OSAC Journal
- 8. Books in Bengali medium under OBE programme
- 9. Miscellaneous items for Departments (Administration, Evaluation, Student Support Services, Vocational, Academic) and Regional Centres
- 10. Reports of various seminars/conferences

During 2008-09, the following examinations related stationery was got printed:

- Answer Books for Oct./Nov., 2008 and April/May, 2009 examinations.
- Date sheets for Academic and Vocational courses for October/November, 2008 and April-May, 2009 Exams.
- Miscellaneous items required by the Evaluation Department for Examination.
- Guidelines for Centre Superintendent for Academic and Vocational Examinations.

- Certificates for Secondary, Senior Secondary and Vocational Education courses for October/November, 2007 exams and April-May, 2008 examinations.
- Mark sheets, Provisional Certificates and Migration Certificates for Secondary, Senior Secondary and Vocational Examinations for April-May, 2009 examination, and for October/November, 2008 examinations.

Admission related Materials Printed during 2008-09

NIOS enrolls learners from all over India through Accredited Institutions (AIs) for its various courses and programmes. During 2008-09 for the first time in NIOS history, three different Prospectuses were got printed.

- (i) For Delhi Region in Hindi & English medium.
- (ii) For Chandigarh Region in Hindi & English medium.
- (iii) For Rest of India in Hindi & English medium.
- (iv) For Kolkatta and Guawahati in English medium.

This was done in order to minimise usage of paper and postal charges incurred on despatch etc.

- Vocational Prospectus (2008-09) in English and Hindi Medium
- Apart from the above Academic Prospectuses in Telegu, Urdu, Gujarati, Marathi, Malayalam were also got printed. In addition, to this Vocational Prospectus (Urdu) was also got printed.
- Administrative Guidelines for Academic and Vocational courses were also printed and made available.

Other prestigious Publications of NIOS printed during 2008-09:

- Almanac 2009
- NIOS at a Glance, 2008
- OSAC Journal, December, 2007

- Open Schooling, Quarterly News Bulletin
- Annual Report 2007-2008
- Annual Account 2007-08
- A Curriculum Framework-Vocational Education through Open and Distance Learning

During 2008-09, for the first time Annual Report 2007-08 and Annual Account 2007-08 were got printed in a record time and submitted to MHRD for tabling the same before the Parliament.

During 2008-09 NIOS undertook revision of Senior Secondary Courses. In all '12' subjects were revised in Hindi, English and Urdu mediums.

Hindi (301)
 Brglish (302)
 Urdu (306)
 Mathematics (311)
 Physics (312)
 Chemistry (313)
 Biology (314)
 Geography (316)
 Political Science (317)
 Business Studies (319)
 Accountancy (320)
 Home Science (321)
 Psychology (328)

6.4.2 DTP Unit

NIOS has a in-house DTP Unit. All important publications like Prospectus, Annual Report, Certificate, Marksheet, Annual Account, NIOS at a Glance, Answer Books, Open Learning magazine, Open Schooling News Bulletin, Examination related materials and various Reports of Seminars and Conferences were got typeset in the DTP unit.

6.4.3 Material Distribution

The success of Open and Distance Learning (ODL) programme largely depends on timely supply of instructional materials to the students to enable them to learn at their own pace. The instructional materials are provided to the students. The students of NIOS were given instructional materials duly packed in polythene for each subject.

6.4.4 Review of the Functioning of MD Unit

During 2008-09, the review of the functioning of Material Distribution (MD) Unit was done. A comprehensive e-plan was worked out by the Secretary NIOS for improving the efficiency of functioning of the MD Unit and making it more transparent by putting various stages of its activities

involved right from procurement of paper to despatch of study material to the learners of NIOS on the Internet. The entire chain of activities was integrated using ICT to ensure timely completion of all the activities involved in the despatch of study material to the learners of NIOS. The point wise review was conducted as follows:-

- 1. As per the e-plan, re-assessment for purchase of paper for the year 2009-10 started in August 2008.
- 2. Once the paper suppliers were selected through appropriate process then their contact addresses, e-mail IDs, telephone numbers etc., were put on NIOS website.
- 3. The tentative delivery schedule was worked out in consultation with all the transporters for the benefit of all the concerned AIs and AVIs indicating likely date of delivery and receipt of consignments. The monitoring of transportation of study material to the various AIs was also done by the Student Support Services Department.

The study material is made available to the students through the Accredited Institutions. The material was supplied to them in bulk at their doorsteps through road transport. In certain special cases, the study material was sent directly to the enrolled students.

6.4.5 Despatch of Study Materials to Online Learners

From 2008-09, NIOS launched online admissions. Accordingly study materials to learners enrolled through online for different streams were sent. In addition three sales counters were opened as under:

I. NIOS Counters for Study Material

- Three direct sales/distribution counters were opened at the following three locations of NIOS, in and around Delhi
 - (a) The Regional Centre, Delhi at A-31, Sector-62, NOIDA, where sufficient stock of all the Study materials was maintained under the charge of Regional Director, all the learners were provided the desired study material promptly on the basis of requirement by payment or otherwise.

- (b) Similarly, a sales counter was opened at NIOS, HQ for direct sale/provision of study material.
- (c) Third sales counter continued functioning at M.D. Unit, R.P. Bagh under the supervision of the Incharge, MD Unit.
- I. Mode of Despatch of Study Material to the learners under Stream 1:- Normally all the study material to the learners of stream 1 was despatched directly by the MD Unit to the learners. In cases of non-delivery/non-receipt of study material by the learners arrangements were made for the learners to collect the study material directly from the three sales counters at NIOS Headquarters, Regional Centres and Sub-centres of NIOS, whose study material have come back. This information was also placed on the NIOS website.
- III. Despatch of Study Material for Streams 2 and 3: The study material of NIOS was optional for the learners under stream 2 and 3. Therefore it was decided that all those learners who are desirous of study the NIOS study material in streams 2 and 3 under on-line admissions, would be supplied the study material directly by MD Unit based on the requisition received from the learners either by post or on-line.

The On line Admission Cell provided a detailed list containing the names of the learners and their exact addresses to the MD Unit.

The main aim of NIOS is to serve the people at large. NIOS makes sure that study materials are supplied to learners at the time of Admission or immediately after admissions are over. To achieve this target, NIOS utilizes the services of efficient, reliable and professional mailer/transporter for despatch of NIOS study materials all over the country. The mailer/transporter is selected through proper tendering and taking all related precautionary measures into consideration.

During 2008-09, NIOS despatched Study Material to approximately 2000 Accredited Institutions. A diagrammatic presentation of

number of despatch centres of NIOS since 1998-99 is at **Annexure VI.**

Since most of the students enrolled with NIOS, particularly those hailing from rural areas, belong to poor and backward classes, the cost of printed books is subsidised as a part of the wider social objective (to keep the cost of

printed material as cheap as possible). With this social objective in mind, only the actual cost of printed material is charged from the students and this cost is included in the total charges recovered from students at the time of admission. In this way, NIOS supplies the printed material tostudents at highly subsidized rates.

7. Student Support Services

7.0 Introduction

Under the Open and Distance Learning System, learner support is of paramount importance. Such support is provided through various services to:

- help learners to learn well by providing timely and proper academic support,
- facilitate learners in solving their problems through the study centres/learning centres
- coordinate and monitor establishment, working and management of the study centres.

The main objectives of the Student Support Services Department of NIOS are as follows:

- Formulation of policy and planning related to student enrollment and registration.
- Advocacy and publicity of NIOS programmes.
- Identification and establishment of study centres for accreditation from amongst recognized and reputed academic institutions all over the country, thereby building a network of Accredited Institutions (AIs).
- Enrolment and registration of secondary and senior secondary learners of NIOS.
- Monitoring of the functioning of study centres and conduct of personal contact programmes.
- Development of policy for continuous assessment of the learners through Tutor Marked Assignments (TMA).
- Coordination with the Regional Centres for timely and effective support to the learners.
- Redressal of the problems and grievances of the learners.

• Supply of "Open Learning" Magazine (half yearly) to supplement the self-learning materials.

7.1 Formulation of Policy and Planning for Admission – Ni-On Project

NIOS has been providing school education through open and distance education mode to all those who because of one or the other reason could not continue their education with the formal system and who wish to study further and qualify for a better tomorrow. Among the client groups served by NIOS, SC and ST, girls and women and minority groups are the most prioritized sections. The other sections are rural youth, working women, urban poor, differently abled and other disadvantaged persons. For Academic courses, admission is made through Accredited Institutions(AIs) spread all over India and Abroad (Middle East Countries) as well as through On-line (Ni-On) Project.

For furthering the national agenda of Universalisation of Education, NIOS has been making all out sincere efforts. The Ni-On Project was aimed at increasing educational access through the use of technology. The Project was based on a concept paper titled 'Towards Universalisation of Secondary Education Through NIOS' written by Mr. D.S. Bist, Secretary NIOS and later published in Indian Journal for Open Learning, IGNOU, New Delhi, Vol. 17, No. 1, January, 2008. The idea behind this move was to enhance the educational access to a large number of students who continue to be outside the educational fold at the Secondary as well as Senior Secondary levels. This Pilot Project was termed Ni-On Project. The extension of Ni-On Project was also inaugurated by Shri Arjun Singh, former Minister of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India on 3rd July, 2008. This facility of Online Admission helped the learners to enroll in NIOS without going through the Accredited Institutions (AIs). It provided the full autonomy to the learners to take admission from any place at any time as per their convenience. Keeping

in view the different requirements of the learners, four streams of Online Admission were introduced. These different streams of Online Admission are mutually exclusive and a learner can opt for one of them.

General Objectives of Ni-On Project

- (i) To promote e governance and better governance as directed by Government of India from time to time.
- (ii) To ensure transparency and improving the efficiency in operations of NIOS in its key areas of functioning like admissions, accreditations and examinations and other activities.
- (iii) To assist government's goal of Universalisation of Secondary Education (USE) by improving and enhancing the reach of NIOS to its potential learners of NIOS.
- (iv) To bridge the digital divide in between the learners of NIOS and formal system by providing them opportunity to use ICT for accessing NIOS for the purpose of admission and availing benefits associated with it.
- (v) To facilitate the structural and functional transformation of NIOS as ODL institutions by imparting it greater flexibility, openness, superior quality and reliable services, as service provider to its marginalized target group of learners.

As Online Admission is more learner - friendly and provides faster redressal of all problems of the learners, this facility of Online Admission was decentralised by establishment of a Online Cell and Facilitation Counter at all the Regional Centres of NIOS viz. Allahabad, Bhopal, Chandigarh, Delhi Guwahati, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Kochi, Kolkata, Patna, Pune and Sub Centre at Dehradun. All the Regional Centres were provided with necessary staff, infrastructural facilities to handle the Online admission by setting up a separate Online Cell. 90% seats were allotted for Online Admission in respect of Regional Centre, Delhi and 40% seats were allotted in other Regional Centres. During the year 2008-09, admission in Secondary and Senior Secondary courses of NIOS took place in the month of July & August through a network of 2144 Accredited

Institutions(AIs) commonly known as Study Centres spread all over India and Abroad in Nepal and Middle East Countries (Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Kuwait). The aim of having the Study Centres outside India is to extend educational facilities through the open learning system to non-resident Indians and other nationals settled there. The total number of students (371625) admitted in the year 2008-09 through Online as well as through AIs were about 165025 and 206600 respectively.

NIOS introduced the facility to its students for payment of admission as well as examination fee online by using Credit Card (Master/Visa) which was first time by any organization at school level.

NIOS offers its courses mainly in English, Hindi and Urdu mediums at Secondary and Senior Secondary levels. Besides these mediums, the choice of medium - Malayalam, Telugu, Gujarati and Marathi is also available at Secondary level. It offers choice of 17 languages i.e. English, Hindi, Bengali, Marathi, Telugu, Urdu, Gujarati, Kannada, Sanskrit, Punjabi, Assamese, Nepali, Malayalam, Oriya, Arabic, Persian and Tamil and 09 subjects at Secondary level and 03 languages i.e. Hindi, English and Urdu and 16 subjects at Senior Secondary level. A minimum of 5 subjects including one or maximum of two languages is compulsory for certification. A learner is extended as many as nine chances to appear in Public Examination spread over a period of five years. The credits gained are accumulated till the learner clears required credits for certification.

The salient features of Ni-On admissions is as follows:

- Faster and Simpler Admission: Direct access to NIOS Admission;
- Choice of Study Centre: Freedom to select Study Centre of his/her choice;
- Admission Open 24x7: Admission opened round the year for the learners for On Demand Examination of Secondary Course;
- Better support services: Direct interaction of learners with NIOS- faster redressal of all problems;

 Easy Payment: Payment of fee online through Credit Card else by Bank Draft.

In order to make this Ni-On Project successful and learner friendly four streams of Online admissions were introduced keeping in mind the different requirements of the learners. The admissions in different Streams of Online are mutually exclusive and the learners can only opt for one of them. These streams are as follows:

- Online Admission for all learners (Stream1): This stream for Online Admission was opened for all the learners as per the laid down criteria for Secondary and Senior Secondary levels. These learners were eligible to appear in public examination first time in April-May, 2009.
- Online Admission for learners wanting to appear in October-November, 2008 Examinations (Stream 2): This stream for Online admission was opened for all those learners who had appeared but could not clear the Public Examination of Secondary /Senior Secondary levels from any recognized Examination Board for the same subject combination in which they had appeared. The learners of this stream were eligible to appear in the October-November, 2008 Public Examinations of NIOS in Secondary/Senior Secondary, on the basis of marksheet/admit card of the respective Boards.
- online Admission for learners wanting to appear in On Demand Examination System (ODES) of NIOS for Secondary Level (Stream 3): This stream for Online admission was opened throughout the year for those learners who had already passed Secondary from recognized Board and want to take part admission in one subject or upto four subjects for updating their qualifications or learners who had appeared but could not clear the public examination of Secondary level from any recognized examination Board and want to appear through On Demand Examination System of NIOS for Secondary level only. The admission under this stream was limited to the

- availability of seats in ODES. The scheme was available through On Demand Examination at NIOS Headquarter at NOIDA.
- Online Admission for learners wanting to appear in On Demand Examination System (ODES) of NIOS for Senior Secondary Level (Stream 4): This stream for Online admission was opened throughout the year for those learners who had appeared/ already passed Senior Secondary or above from any recognized Board/University and want to take part admission in one subject or upto four subjects for updating their qualifications for learners who had appeared but could not clear the public examination of Senior Secondary level from any recognized examination Board in the same subject combination in which they had appeared and want to appear through On Demand Examination System of NIOS for Senior Secondary level only. The scheme was available through On Demand Examination at NIOS Headquarter at NOIDA.

In addition to the above four streams, the existing practice of admissions through Accredited Institutions(AIs) was continued, now rechristened as 'Off-line admissions'.

National Award for e-Governance 2008-09 for Excellence in Government Process Reengineering from Govt. of India.

With the all round progress of Online system under Ni-On Project, NIOS was recognized with a prestigious National Award for e-Governance 2008-09 for Excellence in Government Process Reengineering (SILVER) in Feb., 2009 from the Govt. of India, Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances & Deptt. Of Information Technology.

Enrolment in Academic courses in 2008-09

The State/ Union Territory wise enrolment at Secondary and Senior Secondary level is shown in the Table 7.1 and Region-wise Enrolment in academic courses is shown in the Table 7.2.

Table 7.1: State/Union Territory-wise Enrolment in Academic Courses 2008-09

				n ONLINE EAM I		n ONLINE EAM I					
	Admission Through AIs			ril 2009 am.	For Oct. Exan		Online Stream II			Total	
State/ Union Territory	Sec.	Sr. Sec	Sec.	Sr. Sec	Sec.	Sr. Sec	Sec.	Sr. Sec	Sec.	Sr. Sec	GRAND TOTAL
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1254	1308	1	3	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	1255	1311	2566
Andhra Pradesh	1895	4861	167	745	151	612	133	413	2346	6631	8977
Arunachal Pradesh	2269	1121	26	28	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	2295	1149	3444
Assam	1163	1197	194	480	18	24	39	97	1414	1798	3212
APO	19	56	1	3	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	20	59	79
Bihar	6505	13298	749	3078	143	351	170	1811	7567	18538	26105
Chandigarh	1108	530	10	14	11	12	4	27	1133	583	1716
Chhatisgarh	1053	626	530	289	61	38	50	20	1694	973	2667
Delhi	5158	3467	28748	30707	970	1143	948	1525	35824	36842	72666
Foreign Countries	705	1185	20	118	27	77	NIL	4	752	1384	2136
Goa	1855	592	908	375	3	4	NIL	1	2766	972	3738
Gujarat	759	492	186	97	24	12	30	24	999	625	1624
Haryana	15716	13892	8235	11414	728	785	385	786	25064	26877	51941
Himachal Pradesh	2737	6318	1579	4051	69	199	42	84	4427	10652	15079
Jammu & Kashmir	412	828	97	239	4	7	NIL	NIL	513	1074	1587
Jharkhand	1763	1369	12	31	4	2	2	28	1781	1430	3211
Karnataka	283	980	8	7	1	7	1	3	293	997	1290
Kerela	6575	3749	1475	1095	40	86	21	43	8111	4973	13084
Madhya Pradesh	6291	2241	1607	817	203	125	1010	424	9111	3607	12718
Maharashtra	8698	4023	1023	714	81	67	7	10	9809	4814	14623
Manipur	1843	1843	125	379	9	15	264	253	2241	2490	4731
Meghalaya	1313	57	16	7	NIL	1	NIL	NIL	1329	65	1394
Mizoram	1713	1157	669	838	16	20	16	22	2414	2037	4451
Nagaland	2047	1029	128	230	86	25	17	10	2278	1294	3572
Orissa	2464	1274	2022	785	46	32	668	438	5200	2529	7729
Pondicherry	2	2	NIL	2	NIL	NIL	NIL	1	2	5	7
Punjab	5466	1116	224	117	6	11	54	124	5750	1368	7118
Rajasthan	2970	1833	1281	1084	98	125	2655	1073	7004	4115	11119
Sikkim	924	541	356	352	NIL	NIL	NIL	2	1280	895	2175
Tamil Nadu	314	375	5	7	NIL	8	NIL	1	319	391	710
Tripura	490	335	230	103	12	8	1	NIL	733	446	1179
Uttar Pradesh	11195	11713	4506	5651	436	610	5337	5719	21474	23693	45167
Uttarakhand	5118	4895	1123	1064	48	108	893	1056	7182	7123	14305
West Bengal	7818	5499	3031	2520	166	130	380	169	11395	8318	19713
All India SAIED	2151	757	691	409	4	2	90	13	2936	1181	4117
Online Stream											
III & IV									770	905	1675
TOTAL	112046	94559	59983	67853	3465	4646	13217	14181	189481	182144	371625

During the year 2008-09, the Regional Centres admitted the following number of students through

AIs as well as online in Streams I & II in their respective Regions shown in Table 7.2.

Table 7.2: Regional Centre-wise Enrolment in Academic Courses 2008-09

Regional Centre and the	Enro	lment	Total	Percentage
States/UTs Covered	Secondary	Sr. Secondary		
Allahabad	8734	11290	20024	5.39%
Bhopal	10878	4583	15461	4.16%
Chandigarh	30493	32421	62914	16.93%
Delhi	48657	51223	99880	26.88%
Dehradun (Sub Centre)	14998	14034	29032	7.82%
Guwahati	12705	9278	21983	5.91%
Hyderabad	2738	7660	10398	2.88%
Jaipur	8003	4740	12473	3.35%
Kochi	8548	5449	13997	3.77%
Kolkata	19949	13340	33289	8.96%
Patna	9647	19967	29614	7.96%
Pune	12581	5793	18374	4.94%
NIOS Hdqrs. (including enrolment of On-line admission under				
Stream III & IV)	1550	2366	3916	1.05%
Total	189481	182144	371625	100%

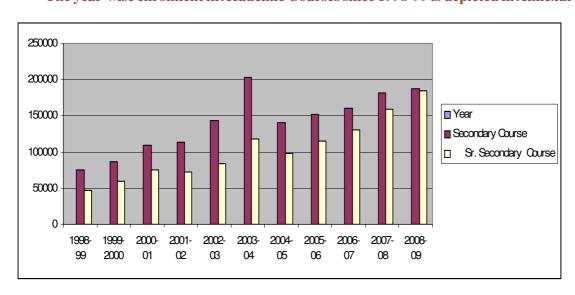
Region-wise the highest enrolment was in Delhi Region (26.88%) followed by Chandigarh Region (16.93%) and the Kolkata Region (8.96%).

7.1.1 Academic Courses: Enrolment Trend

The enrolment of students in the Secondary as well

as Senior Secondary Courses has been generally increasing since 1998-99. In the year 2008-09 there was an increase of 8.41% in enrolment as compared to the previous year.

The year-wise enrolment in Academic Courses since 1998-99 is depicted in Annexure - I.



8. Regional Services

8.0 Introduction

The NIOS has a mandate to play the role of a national apex resource centre for Open Schooling. The Memorandum of Association of the National Open Society envisages that it will "establish Regional Centres for supervising the proper functioning of the learning support at study centers". For effective administration, co-ordination and the supply of material, the Regional Centres of NIOS provide a vital and effective link between the Study Centres and NIOS Headquarter; between the State Governments and the NIOS Headquarter, between Study Centres and learners, between Academic Facilitators and the Study Centres and between the NIOS and general public. The concept of Regional Centre is a well thought out mechanism. The success of NIOS programmes and policies in a Region largely depends on the pivotal role played by its Regional Centre.

The NIOS, till 1994-95, was following a two tier system i.e., NIOS Headquarter in Delhi and the Study Centres spread all over the country. It was felt that this system needed to be revamped in order to provide better opportunities for student support, counseling and redressal of their problems through localised structures in a decentralised way. This resulted in the establishment of the first Regional Centre at Kolkata in 1994-95. Presently there are 11 Regional Centres functioning in different parts of the country: Allahabad, Bhopal, Chandigarh, Delhi, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Kochi, Kolkata, Patna and Pune. There are three Sub-Centres at Dehradun, Bhubaneshwar and Darbhanga.

8.1 Functions of Regional Centres of NIOS

Basically, the Regional Centres are required to perform four types of activities:

- 1. Academic
- 2. Administrative
- 3. Promotional
- 4. Planning and Monitoring

A brief description of the functions generally performed by the Regional Centres under each category is given below:

1. Academic Functions

- Conducting research in the area of Open Schooling and collecting feedback on the functioning of AIs/RCs/NIOS.
- Development of need based instructional material pertaining to the Open Schooling courses of study including regional languages and training packages etc.
- Development and dissemination of need based audio and video programmes in the Regional languages.
- Organization of short-term training programmes for Open Schooling functionaries.
- Follow up studies of NIOS pass outs and compilation of success stories.
- Arranging extra mural lectures, exhibitions and other programmes.
- Holding meetings of Co-ordinators, Centre Superintendents and Academic Facilitators.

2. Administrative Functions

- Admission related activities such as sale of Prospectus, fee realization, getting admission data punched, checking of admission data, sending check list to AIs, issue of identity cards, checking and verification of Transfer of Credits (TOC) cases and forwarding the same to NIOS Headquarter, change of subjects/additional subjects.
- Record keeping in respect of students' admission and examination (Record pertaining to five years).
- Liaison with NIOS Headquarters for distribution of study material.

- Attending to the grievances of students/learners.
- Carrying out corrections/modification in admission data as per requirement, in liaison with National Institute of Open Schooling Headquarter.
- Organizing meetings of Transfer of Credit (TOC) Committee for extending this facility to the learners.
- Examination related activities such as fee realization, fixation of examination centres, issuing Hall tickets to students, receipt of answer books, secrecy work for evaluation, spot evaluation of answer books, sending award lists to NIOS Headquarter, Re-evaluation etc.
- Maintenance of Secretary's Account and Regional Director's Accounts.
- Appointment of nodal officers, observers and inspection teams for ensuring proper conduct of examinations of NIOS, analysis and consolidation of observer's reports, taking follow up action, verification of examination related bills.
- Miscellaneous work related to NIOS admission, programme delivery and examination etc.
- Matters related to public relations and students' grievances.
- Ensuring that the TMAs are attempted by the candidates and are evaluated at the AIs.
- Sending TMA awards and bills to the SSS
 Department as per schedule and maintaining
 record of the same at the Regional Centre.
- Carrying out 5% sample checking of the TMAs.

3. Promotional Functions

- Identification of good schools/institutions to work as study centres of NIOS.
- Accreditation related work such as inspection of schools/institutions for Accreditation, interaction with Study Centres, matters related to dis-accreditation of Study Centres.

- Advertisements regarding admission, examination and publicity of NIOS programmes.
- Liaison with State Governments to encourage them to start State Open Schools.
- Identification of educational needs in Open Schooling in the region through State Coordination Committees.
- Promotion of Open Schooling in the States within the region and consultancy/assistance to the concerned states for setting up/up scaling of State Open Schools (SOSs).
- Liaison with States and Coordination and Clearing house functions in Open Schooling.
- Organization of advocacy programmes.

4. Planning and Monitoring Functions

- Preparation of Perspective Plan and Annual Plans of the Regional Centre.
- Monitoring of Implementation of NIOS programmes in the accredited institutions including Personal Contact Programmes (PCP) and Tutor Marked Assignments (TMAs).
- Identification and allotment of Academic Facilitators to the AIs.
- Matters related to Academic Facilitation at the Study Centres through identified Academic Facilitators etc.
- Coordination and clearing house functions.
- Maintenance of database of admission, AIs, Human Resource for monitoring and academic facilitation at the RC level.
- Analysing the reports of the Academic Facilitators and preparing consolidated reports on quarterly basis for necessary actions and forwarding the same to the NIOS Headquarter.
- Ensuring smooth functioning of AIs/AVIs/OBE Centres.

8.2 Highlights of Programmes and Activities of Regional Centres

8.2.1 Regional Centre, Delhi

- A meeting of a co-ordinators was held on 11th July 2008 at NIOS Regional Centre, NOIDA to discuss issues relating to admission and examination.
- ◆ The National Education Day was celebrated on 11th November 2008 on the occasion of the birthday of the First Union Minister of Education, Sri. Maulana Abul Kalam Azad. Co-ordinators as well as students of AIs and AVIs participated in the programme.
- A model examination centre was set up at Regional Centre, Delhi and controlled model centres at sensitive examination centres to curb malpractices during the conduct of examinations.
- ♦ The Regional Centre, Delhi was the first to implement the Ni-On (NIOS Online) Admission Project enabling learners to apply for admission and examination through an interactive Online form. Online payment through a Credit Card was extended to all learners. On confirmation of admission, the identity card and study material were despatched directly to learners.

8.2.2 Regional Centre, Kochi

The Regional Centre, Kochi organized a meeting to develop curriculum of Tamil language at Senior Secondary level on 23 & 24 June 2008 at Anna University, Chennai.

8.2.3 Regional Centre, Hyderabad

- ♦ The Regional Centre, Hyderabad organized a workshop to develop Self Learning Materials in Carnatic Music at the Secondary level at Bangalore from 3 to 5 December 2008.
- Translation of Prospectus for the academic year 2008-09 in Telugu and development of

Tutor Marked Assignments for Secondary Course in Telugu were undertaken.

8.2.4 Regional Centre, Kolkata

- The Regional Centre, Kolkata organized a meeting of co-ordinators of AIs in Andaman and Nicobar Islands at Port Blair on 11 January 2009. An MOU was signed between Secretary, NIOS and Director, Directorate of Education, Andaman and Nicobar Islands on 13 January 2009 for opening a State Centre of NIOS at Port Blair.
- The Secondary Course material was translated and printed in Oriya. Tutor Marked Assignments were prepared in Oriya language. The Secondary Course in Oriya medium was launched in a few AIs in Orissa.
- The Howrah ZSS was accredited for OBE Course for level A and Level B as part of the Equivalency and Continuing Education Programme.

8.2.5 Regional Centre, Guwahati

- ♦ The Regional Cengtre, Guwahati organized a meeting of RCAC on 28 July 2008 to discuss the promotion of vocational courses, under the guidance of a special committee, Directorate of Technical Education, Assam.
- ♦ A two day SLM Development Capacity Building Workshop was organized by the Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia, New Delhi in association with the National Institute of Open Schooling at Guwahati on 29 &30 January 2009.

8.2.6 Regional Centre, Jaipur

- The Regional Centre, Jaipur organized a meeting of co-ordinators of AIs and AVIs and Academic Facilitators on 28 August 2008 at Jaipur.
- A model examination centre was established at Maheshwari Senior Secondary School, Tilak Nagar, Jaipur for the April-May 2009 examinations.

8.2.7 Regional Centre, Pune

- The Regional Centre, Pune organized a meeting of co-ordinators of AIs and AVIs and Academic Facilitators on 1 September 2008 at Pune.
- ◆ Translation of Prospectus for Academic Courses and Tutor Marked Assignments in Marathi were undertaken. The Vocational Course material in Cutting, Tailoring and Dress making was translated in Marathi.
- Two workshops pertaining to the Diploma in Basic Rural Technology (DBRT), a Vocational course were organized on 29 May 2008 and 25 & 26 February 2009.

8.2.8 Regional Centre, Allahabad

As a mandate to popularize education among the minority community, a minority cell was established at the Regional Centre, Allahabad. A Project co-ordinator was engaged for mapping different areas in Uttar Pradesh, where the facility of education through NIOS was not being extended. The task of meeting Heads of Madrasas and conducting

advocacy programmes to prepare them to associate with NIOS was also taken up.

8.2.9 Regional Centre, Patna

- In connection with the 'HUNAR' Project launched for Muslim girls in Bihar, a seminar was organized in Darbhanga on 21st February 2009.
- Examinations for students under the HUNAR Project were conducted in 174 Examination Centres and results of 9234 girls were declared.

8.2.10 Sub-Centre, Dehradun

A Special Centre of NIOS was set up for jail inmates at the District Jail, Haridwar. This Accredited Institute (AI 340178) was inaugurated by the Chief Minister of Uttrakhand on 24 August 2008. This initiative was taken to empower the prisoners and equip them with a better life after their release. The Rotary Club of Haridwar came forward to sponsor all the 26 prisoners who were enrolled for the Secondary and Senior Secondary level programmes of the NIOS.

9. Information and Communication Technology (ICT)

9.0 ICT in National Institute of Open Schooling

In Open Learning, the teaching methodology is distance education mode. The learners are at a distance and face-to-face contact is very limited. In such a scenario, Open Schooling has to depend heavily on the use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT). The use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is much more relevant in case of Open Schooling by its very character. NIOS has made the optimum utility of ICT in almost all its activities and programmes.

9.1 Infrastructure and Areas of Applications

The NIOS has come a long way in the forefront of Information Technology since it made a small beginning with only two personal computers in 1989 to a well-equipped computer centre with various types of computers and printers of latest configuration and has achieved an important place in the world of Online. Today in the arena of Web World, NIOS is playing a significant role by providing all the information through Internet and most of the Services are available online.

9.1.1 Student Information System

Student Information System is a powerful ERP solution developed in house to computerize all the processes from Registration to issue of Certificates.

Admission 2008-09

During the year, the online admission was expanded on a large scale. In the Regional Centre, Delhi, 90% of the seats were filled by online and only 10% was done by the offline mode through AIs. Similarly for other Regions, 40% seats were allocated to online admission and 60% seats were allocated to offline through AIs/Study Centres.

From March 2009, Online Admission Stream 1 was made operational through out the year with cut off dates for two examinations.

Approximately 372 thousand student admission data was processed by the computer unit during 2008-09. This also incudes 1,65,025 students registered through Online mode.

9.1.2 Examinations

Pre-examination Activities (April 2008 and October 2008 Examination)

During the year, the pre-exam processing in respect of data of about **6.04,404** thousand students was done both in the academic and vocational streams as against 542 thousands during the last year. The work includes data-entry of examination lists and examination forms, their verification, updation and generation of various reports for use by the examination centres for conduct of examinations.

Result Processing (April 2008 and October 2008 Examination)

During April 2008 and October 2008 Examination, results of about 604 thousand students was processed. The photographs of all the successful candidates scanned at the time of admission were also printed on the certificates.

9.2 NIOS on the Web

9.2.1 Online Student Information System:

A Single Window Student Information system has been placed on the NIOS web site. In this section, information about each learner has been given. Study Centre (AI) wise information is also included. It includes information about Admission, Tutor Marked Assignments, Course Material, Syllabus and Sample Question Papers, Previous Year's Question Papers and Performance of students.

9.2.2 On Line Registration for Admission and Examination

During the year 2008-09, a facility of On-Line Registration for Admission and Examinations in an interactive mode of filling up all application forms was introduced.

NIOS introduced the facility of On-line Admission in order to facilitate the learners to register themselves with it. There are four **streams of On-line admission** catering to the learners with different needs. The admissions in these four streams are mutually exclusive i.e., learner can only opt for one of them.

For this purpose, an interactive On Line Form has been generated and the student has to fill up the form through on line mode. The form is very simple and interactive and at each level the guidelines about "How to fill up the form" is also provided.

The Four Streams of On Line Admission are:

On-line Admission for all learners (Stream 1): This stream for On-line Admission were open for all the learners as per the laid down eligibility criteria for Secondary and Senior Secondary levels. These learners were eligible to appear in public examination first time in April-May, 2009.

On-line Admissions for learners wanting to appear in October- November, 2008 Examinations (Stream 2): This stream for On-line admission was open for all those learners who had appeared but could not clear the Public Examination.

On-line Admission for learners wanting to appear in On Demand Examination System (ODES) of NIOS for Secondary Level (Stream 3): This stream for On-line admission is open throughout the year. (Only Online Mode is available).

On-line Admission for learners wanting to appear in On Demand Examination System (ODES) of NIOS at Sr. Secondary Level (Stream 4): This stream for On-line admission is also open throughout the year. (Only Online Mode is available).

The process of On Line Registration for Admission for Stream 3 and 4 is operational 24x7x365.

9.2.3 Online Course Material

The complete study materials of the revised Secondary Course are already available in the pdf format and can be downloaded/accessed from the link titled "Online Course Material" from the home page. These PDF files can be viewed in Adobe Acrobat Reader, which can also be downloaded from the website.

During the year, the study materials of Revised Senior Secondary as well as old course material and some courses of Vocational Education have also been made available through website. The materials are scanned copies of the print materials in the pdf format and can be downloaded. The course materials available on the website are of great help to the NIOS learners.

9.3 Information under RTI Act

As per the RTI Act, the information has been placed under the Link 'RTI act' on the Home page. During the year, 118 applications were received and the information was provided to all applicants.

9.4 M-Support

During the year 2008-09, the learners were provided with M-support facility. The information about the examination centre, examination date sheet and results of all individual learners were provided on the mobile phone through SMS. The students have to send a SMS in the following format.

NIOS10 <Enrolment Number> for Secondary NIOS12 < Enrolment Number> for Sr. Secondary

and send it to 5676750 , 52424, 58888, 55454, 56300, 51234

9.5 On Line Payment Gateway

During the year 2008-09, the NIOS has introduced Online Payment Gateway and with the online payment gateway operational, the learners could pay their admission and examination fees online through any credit card (Master/Visa). In addition to admission and examination fees, the students can also pay the requisite Fee through Credit cards (Master/VISA) for obtaining the Duplicate Documents and for other Services.

9.6 On Line Registration for Examination

There is a facility of Submission of Examination Forms On-line (only for the Students Registered under Online mode) as well as payment of Fees through Online Mode by Credit cards (Any Master/VISA).

10. Media in Open Schooling

10.0 Media Programmes: An Overview

One of the major activities of the NIOS is to make use of modern means of Communication and Educational Technology in distance learning. Audio and Video programmes are significant components of the multi-media package offered by NIOS by its various courses of study. The Audio-Video programmes supplement and complement the other channels of learning such as printed self learning materials and personal contact programmes. NIOS has developed Audio and Video programmes for Open Basic Education, Secondary, Senior Secondary and Vocational Education Courses.

10.1 Functions of Media Unit are as follows:

- Production of Audio-Video programmes for NIOS learners.
- Broadcast and Telecast of Audio-Video programmes on different channels.
- Duplication of Audio-Video programmes to Audio Cassettes, VCDs etc., to enrich and reinforce the subject matter given in the study material.
- To produce Audio-Video Spots for publicity purposes.
- Video coverage of important functions, seminars, workshops, etc., for reference.

10.2 Production strategy

The production strategy of media programmes in NIOS is based on the academic requirement. Content briefs on identified topics are prepared by academic faculty of NIOS. Participation of Subject experts and Media experts at various production stages (Review of Script and Preview of Rough and Final Cuts etc. of programmes) helps in ensuring accuracy of content of Media programmes and presentation of concepts/ topics in such a manner that learners gain clear

understanding and insight into the subject matter. The Media Unit has adopted a two pronged approach towards development of Media Programmes: (i) outsourcing of media programmes to outside producers, and (ii) in-house production of Audio-Video programmes. In order to give boost to the in-house productions, NIOS is planning to set up a Studio in its NOIDA H.Q.

10.3 Work done during 2008-09

10.3.1 Video Programmes

15 Video programmes were completed. 8 Video programmes were at various stages of production. In order to feed the available time slots for telecast of NIOS programmes on Gyan Darshan and DD-I Channels, 48 capsules of the Video Programmes were also produced.

10.3.2 Audio Programmes

NIOS has produced Audio programmes and Tutorial on several topics/themes in curriculum, including Hindi, English and Urdu languages courses. During 2008-09, 31 Audio Programmes were completed i.e. 15 Audio Programmes on Adolescent Education Programmes (AEP), 10 on NIOS – COL project on training needs and strategies for NIOS functionaries, 1 for Voice Mail and 4 audio programmes on Music Education.

10.3.3 Multimedia Programmes

Four Multimedia programmes on Physics subject at secondary level was produced. Three more programmes were under production.

10.3.4 Duplication of Programmes

3743 Audio CDs of Audio programmes for AEP were duplicated.

10.3.5 EDUSAT

The Education Satellite (EDUSAT) facility being set up at NIOS is specially configured towards providing two way Audio and Video Conferencing.

Satellite Interactive Terminals (SITs) have been installed at all the RCs of NIOS except Guwahati . During 2008-09, NIOS, in collaboration with CEMCA and CIET (NCERT) arranged a technical training programme for NIOS officials in handling the operation of EDUSAT.

10.3.6 Video Coverage

The Media Unit conducted a Video Coverage of about 23 National and International programmes organized by NIOS.

10.3.7 Delivery Mechanism of Audio-Video Programmes

- 1. The Video programmes were telecast on the National Channel of Doordarshan (DD-I) every Friday from 5.02 AM to 5.25 AM and on the Educational Channel Gyan Darshan everyday from 6.30 PM to 7.00 PM.
- 2. The Audio programmes were broadcast on GyanVani (FM Channel) at 106.5 MHz every Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 8.30 AM to

- 9.00 AM and repeat broadcast from 4.30 PM to 5.00 PM.
- The Audio-Video programmes produced by NIOS are sent to the Study Centres of NIOS for use in Personal Contact Programme (PCP).
- 4. The NIOS learners can take the CDs of Audio-Video programmes on loan for a week from their study centres.
- 5. The Audio cassettes and VCDs of Media programmes are available for sale. A comprehensive List of the Audio Cassettes and VCDs is placed on NIOS Website www.nos.org/www.nios.ac.in, for the benefit of NIOS learners and others.

10.3.8 Other Activities

NIOS participated in the 14th All India Children's Educational Audio-Video Festival organized by the Central Institute of Educational Technology (CIET), NCERT. A Video Programme titled "Sashaktikaran part - II" was the NIOS entry in the above festival.

11. Promotion of Education amongst Special Groups through Open Schooling

NIOS is identified as a lead institution by National Monitoring Committee for Minority Education (NMCME) for providing linkage of minority educational institutions like Madarsas, Maktabs and Darul- Uloom with the educational mainstream. NMCME and its sub-committee on this subject along with NIOS was able to take a major initiative for relaxing the norms for granting accreditation to Traditional Educational Institutions of Muslims like Madarsas and Maktabs. The relaxing norms of NIOS for Minority Institutions regarding registration, affiliation and infrastructural facilities was approved by MHRD in June-2008 vide letter No. 11-1/2—8-MC dated 12th June 2008.

Educationally backward Minority communities like Muslims whose literacy rate is 59% as compared to 65% of National literacy rate, are an important prioritized target group for NIOS. Within them, women and girls are the most difficult target groups from the point of "educational access". Taking note of the recommendations of Sachchar Committee report about the status of education amongst Muslims, Secretary, NIOS authored a concept Paper in which it was projected that NIOS can become a major instrument of Policy Intervention for Government of India for improving educational access for Muslim Minorities at school level in the light of the recommendations given by Sachchar Committee and the Prime Minister's 15 Point Programme. As per the directives and in order to disseminate the education among the minorities, a Minority Cell was set up in the year 2006 under the direct supervision of Secretary, NIOS.

Objective

The objective of the Minority Cell is to expand the reach and impact of NIOS programmes and policies amongst the minority committees especially amongst girls by undertaking active advocacy programmes to establish linkages with existing Minority Education Institutions for this purpose and expedite the

accreditation Process. The Minority Cell of NIOS is associated with NMCME of MHRD and participated in the meetings of NMCME and its subcommittee and have provided information related to implementation of Madarsa Modernization Programme under SPQEM Scheme.

Some of the initiatives taken though this Cell are as under:

- All the matters relating to Minority Educational institutions seeking linkage or existing or already pre-existing with NIOS work were clubbed together and brought under the control of the Minority cell.
- ii) The Minority Cell is also responsible for conducting advocacy programmes, establish linkages with prominent socio-religious and educational leaders and minority community for sensitizing them about the utility of NIOS and its educational programmes for minority community in general.
- iii) For providing feedback to NIOS regarding strategy to be adopted for establishing linkages with minority educational institutions.
- iv) Relaxation in norms regarding accreditation of minority institutions after seeking due approval from its Executive Board as well as MHRD vide notification No. NIOS/Secy/Misc/2008 dated 14th June, 2008.
- Special provisions for fast track channel for accreditation of minority educational institutes made for establishing linkages with NIOS.
- vi) Granting accreditation to institutions affiliated/recognized by various Madarssa boards.

Some of the Academic Advocacy programmes undertaken by NIOS are as under:

- Development of Multimedia programme for Urdu Medium(ICT interventions).
- Vocational Courses of different durations

i.e 6 month and one year have been translated in Urdu medium and are being provided to the learners for enhancing their skills.

- Books of Secondary and Senior Secondary have been translated in Urdu medium and are being provided to the learners.
- Presentation by Chairman, NIOS and Secretary, NIOS on Minority issues for leaders from minority groups
- Proactive advocacy programmes like meetings, seminars, surveys, mass sensitization and awareness programmes in remote/hilly and backward areas for increasing awareness among downtrodden and unprivileged sections of the society regarding utility of NIOS programmes in the field of school education.
- Permission to give examination in Urdu.
- Setting up of question papers in Urdu
- Evaluation of Answer scripts in Urdu
- Video programmes in Urdu at Secondary level and Senior Secondary level.
- CDs in Urdu for Open Basic Education
- Audio programmes at Secondary & Senior Secondary level

- Programmes for AEP(ARSH) project
- NIOS programme (including Urdu) broadcast daily on Gyan Vani (8.00 a.m. & 4.00p.m.)
- NIOS programme (Including Urdu) telecast on Gyan Darshan (Weekly telecast) and DD I at 5.05 a.m. on every Friday
- Prospectus of Academic and Vocational courses in Urdu
- Meeting with Coordinators of AAs in Haj House, Patna
- Meeting of Eminent Scholars of Minority Community was organized in India Islamic Cultural House, Lodhi Road, New Delhi.
- Meeting with Shahi Imam, Jama Masjid and Fateh Puri
- The popular Urdu News Papers and Magazines are being involved for promotion of NIOS programmes.

Due to the initiatives taken by NIOS, the number of AIs, AVIs and OBE/AAs in minority institutions have increased. State wise and year wise data of accredited institutions and enrolment trends as on 31-3-2009 in respect of Minority Institutions was as under.

The total number of AI s, AVIs and AA s under Minority Institutions of NIOS are as under:

STATE	AIs	AVIs	OBE/AAs
Madhya Pradesh	19	08	02
Utter Pradesh	53	18	07
Haryana	07	04	-
Bihar	12	6	05
Gujarat	09	03	02
Karnataka	08	10	02
Maharashtra	28	06	02
W.B.	22	06	-
Andhra Pradesh	03	03	-
Kerala	16	21	01
Rajasthan	07	02	-
Manipur	01	-	-
Mizoram	-	-	-
Punjab	16	05	-
Delhi	11	20	02

Chhatishgarh	01	-	01
Meghalaya	03	-	-
Goa	04	01	-
J&K	-	-	-
Uttranchal(Uttrakhand)	04	02	-
Assam	05	-	-
Jharkhand	04	02	-
Orissa	-	01	-
Tamil Nadu	01	10	-
Nagaland	02	-	-
U.A.E.	03	01	-
Himachal Pradesh	-	-	-
Chandigarh	01	01	-
Total	240	130	24

Year wise list of Accredited Institutions (AIs)

Before January 2004	93
January 2004 to December 2004	18
January 2005 to December 2005	24
January 2006 to December 2006	30
January 2007 to December 2007	12
January 2008 to December 2008	28
January 2009 to March 2009	16
Total	240

Year wise list of Accredited Vocational Institutions (AVIs)

Total	130
January 2009 to March 2009	01
January 2008 to December 2008	04
January 2007 to December 2007	11
January 2006 to December 2006	12
January 2005 to December 2005	11
January 2004 to December 2004	05
Before January 2004	86

Year wise list of Accredited Agencies (AAs)

Before January 2004	Data not available
January 2004 to December 2004	Nil
January 2005 to December 2006	01
January 2007 to December 2007	12
January 2008 to December 2008	9
January 2009 to March 2009	2
Total	24

Community wise list of Accredited AIs, AVIs & OBE/AAs Centres,(before&after 2004) up to March 2009.

Community	AIs	AVIs	OBEs	
Muslims	114	44	18	
Christian	96	76	-	
Sikh	30	10	-	
Total	240	130	24	

The enrollment and the pass out trend of Urdu medium students of Minority Institutions at secondary and higher secondary level are given in table A &B.

Table A: - Enrolment trends of Urdu medium Students (Girls & Boys) of Minority institutions

Year	Secondary			Senio	or Secondar	y	Total
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
2001-02	563	288	851	149	99	248	1099
2002-03	998	608	1606	165	179	344	1950
2003-04	1101	894	1995	114	164	278	2273
2004-05	406	316	722	157	147	304	1026
2005-06	558	391	949	188	195	383	1332
2006-07	557	390	947	144	190	334	1281
2007-08	618	363	981	221	174	395	1376
2008-09	906	439	1345	232	161	393	1738

Table B: - Present Certification status of Urdu medium Students (Girls & Boys)
of Minority institutions.

Year	Secondary			Senior Secondary			Total
	May	Nov.	Total	May	Nov.	Total	
2001	176	294	470	0	0	0	470
2002	379	169	548	57	70	127	675
2003	1101	178	1280	73	83	156	1436
2004	909	193	1102	134	60	194	1296
2005	380	125	505	96	46	142	647
2006	272	197	469	159	92	251	720
2007	320	156	476	145	61	206	682
2008	510	107	617	155	108	263	880
Total							

Hunar Project

HUNAR is a unique and very significant project conceived by NIOS in collaboration with Bihar Education Project Council (BEPC). This project has far reaching ramifications in terms of creation of an education delivery mechanism, which is entirely community based and directed towards all round empowerment of Muslim girls in the state of Bihar. Under the project, free of cost skill training/up gradation is being provided to young Muslim girls (11-14/16 years) who are already enrolled in formal/informal schools in Bihar. The entire cost of training i.e 2.55 crore, incurred by NIOS (in terms of fee and other expenses) has been reimbursed by BEPC. The Project has a coverage of 13768 girls from 37 districts of Bihar at 298 accredited centers/ Madarsas/Maktabs. The students covered under seven trades are 1053 - Gram Sakhi, 123-Rural Technology, 12094-Cutting Tailoring, 44 - Jute Production, 74 - Bakery & Confectionary, 231 -Beauty Culture & 151 - Early Childhood Care, as approved by BEPC in Phase-I and 50,000 more Girls of Muslim Community and SCs, STs have to be enrolled in Phase II for session 2009-10. The uniqueness of the project lies in the fact that for

the first time, the Muslim girls are being provided skill development/training almost at their doorstep through community based participation of prominent socio/religious trusts/ organizations/NGOs (Imarat-e Sharia, Idar-e-Sharia, Rahmani Foundation). The entire delivery mechanism comprises of a network of institutions run and controlled by the Community without any participation from the Government at any level. Seeing the uniqueness of this Project, other states are also showing their interest to start this project in their States

2. SPQEM: Role of NIOS

The scheme of Providing Quality Education in Madarsas (SPQEM) was launched by Hon'ble HRM, Sh. Arjun Singh Ji on 26.2.09 at MHRD. The Minority Cell of MHRD and Sub-committee of National Monitoring Committee on Minorities Education (NMCME) has identified NIOS as one of the lead institutions for linking Traditional Institutions of Education of Muslims (Madarsas and Maktabs) to the educational mainstream and providing modern education to Muslim community through them. The affiliated/accredited Madarsas/

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Maktabs with NIOS for Primary, Middle, Secondary and Senior Secondary level shall be entitled to avail the financial assistance under this scheme. The financial assistance provided to Maktabs, Madarsas and Darul-Uloom will cover various heads. This assistance would meet not only the registration fee, Examination fee and cost of the study materials supplied by NIOS up to 100% for each students opting for study through NIOS at different levels including vocational courses but also for library, labs, teacher training and salary of the teachers of modern subjects.

12. International Collaboration

12.0 Introduction

The National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) interacts and collaborates with international organisations like COL, UNESCO, UNICEF, UNDP and UNFPA. The collaborative programmes are in areas such as:-

- ♦ Capacity building
- ♦ Resource sharing
- ♦ Information and experience sharing

12.1 Open Schooling Association of the Commonwealth (OSAC)

The Open Schooling Association of the Commonwealth (OSAC) was set up in 2001 with support from the Commonwealth of Learning, Canada. It fosters consultation, information exchange and sharing of resources among members. It performs clearing house functions, facilitates research and exchange of database in open learning, in addition to publishing a half yearly journal titled 'OSAC Journal of Open Schooling'. Till March 2009, ten issues of the journal were published and circulated.

12.2 International Conferences hosted in collaboration with NIOS

12.2.1 International Workshop on the Potential of Flexible Education: Reaching Nomadic/Migrant Populations – Regional Workshop for South Asia.

With a view to exchange ideas and experiences on strategies for providing educational programmes to nomadic populations in South Asia, a four day international workshop on the Potential of Flexible Education: Reaching Nomadic / Migrant Populations was organised by the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) in collaboration with the Commonwealth

Secretariat, London from $26^{th} - 29^{th}$ May 2008 at New Delhi.

The aims of the workshop were to bring together researchers and educational practitioners working with nomadic groups and nomadic people- with a view to synthesizing the research, determining successful practices and sharing lessons learnt, all of which would be useful to those working in this area. Various aspects of education for the nomadic population like delivery and appropriate technologies, curriculum content, cultural attitudes, gender effects of poverty, literacy and livelihoods and vocational skills formed the themes of parallel group discussions.

Delegates from India, Maldives, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh attended the workshop. The Commonwealth Secretariat was represented by the Education Advisor, Ms. Florence Malinga and Ms. Caroline Dyer from the University of Leeds was the workshop facilitator. The workshop was inaugurated by Sri. A.K. Rath, Secretary, School Education and Literacy, MHRD, Government of India. The Chief Guest was Mr Renake, Chairman, Nomadic Commission, India. The *Country Report* on *India* was made by Dr. Anita Priyadarshini, Deputy Director, NIOS.

The workshop suggested the setting up of an organisation for the education of the nomadic population of the participating countries and sharing of information and expertise on a regular basis.

12.3 NIOS Programmes in collaboration with COL

 A training package developed for Open and Distance Learning (ODL) functionaries by NIOS in collaboration

- with COL, was released by Prof. Asha Kanwar, Vice President and Programme Director, Commonwealth of Learning, Vancouver, Canada.
- The first In-country workshop to develop Open Education Resources (OER) by NIOS in five different subjects was held from 16-26 February 2009. The Joint Secretary (SE), MHRD, Government of India was invited to this workshop and the resource persons for this workshop were Prof. Ramtakwale (I-Consent) and Dr. Anand Oak. The project was coordinated by Ms. Frances Ferreira on behalf of the Commonwealth of Learning (COL).

12.4 NIOS Representation in International Events: Conferences, Study Visits and Trainings

- 12.4.1 Shri M.C. Pant, Chairman, NIOS, Shri. D.S. Bist, Secretary, NIOS; Shri. S.K. Prasad, System Analyst and Programmer attended the Commonwealth of Learning's Fifth Pan Commonwealth Forum on Open Learning (PCF5) held at the University of London from 13-17 July 2008. The conference theme was "Access to Learning for Development" with a focus on children and young people, health livelihoods, social justice, conflict and governance. Shri DS Bist, Secretary, presented a paper on Open & Distance Learning - A Policy Intervention for Inclusive Development & Mainstreaming of Marginalized Socio-Religious Communities - An Indian Case Study while Shri. S.K. Prasad, SA/P presented a paper titled "Examination On-Demand: Implementation strategies in Open Schooling. Shri M.C. Pant, Chairman, NIOS was conferred Honorary Fellowship of the Commonwealth of Learning (COL).
- **12.4.2** Dr. Anita Priyadarshini participated in the International Seminar on Community Learning Cenres organized by UNESCO Bangkok and Directorate of NFE, Bandung, Indonesia, 23-27th June 2008 and made two presentation's

on Promotion of Lifelong Learning, India: Flexible Learning for the Developing World and Synergy of Formal and Non-Formal Education: The Indian Context

Dr Anita Priyadarshini participated in Women Managers' Training Workshop on "ICT Tools and Services in support of Open Distance Education" held from November 17-21st 2008, organized by Commonwealth of Learning, Vancouver.

- **12.4.3** Dr. R.S.P Singh, Assistant Director participated in a workshop on 'Quality Assurance in Open Schooling' organised by the Commonwealth of Learning (COL) at Johannesburg, South Africa from 8-12 September 2008.
- 12.4.4 Dr. Mamta Srivastava, Assistant Director; Ms. Manju Gupta, Assistant Director; and Sri, Aditi Ranjan Rout, Academic Officer (Business Studies) participated in the International Conference on "Learner Support in Open Schools" organized by the Commonwealth of Learning from 20-24 Oct 2008 at Johannesburg, South Africa.
- 12.4.5 Dr. Mamta Srivastava, Assistant Director and Ms. Manju Gupta, Assistant Director participated in the "Steering Committee Meeting" on the development of Open Education Resource (OER) organized by the Commonwealth of Learning from 26-28 October 2008 at Johannesburg, South Africa.

12.5 Foreign Visits for Official Purposes

Two NIOS officials, namely, Shri Dayanand Upreti, Section Officer, and Sri. Y.S. Kataria, Section Officer were deputed to deliver question papers to Dubai and Nepal respectively during the April –May 2008 examination.

Sri Suvendu Sekhar Das, Academic Officer (Mathematics) was selected for pursing his Master in Business Administration (MBA) in Leeds Metropolitan University, United Kingdom from 13 September 2007 to December 2008.

13. Projects

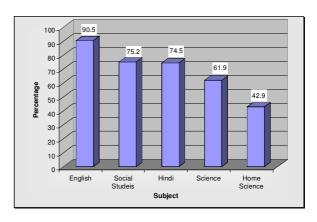
13.1 Adolescence Education Programme (AEP) An MHRD, UNFPA, NIOS Collaboration

The Adolescence Education Programme (AEP) is being implemented in National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) since 2005 with MHRD-UNFPA support. With approximately 1.5 million out of school learners on rolls, NIOS as an institution has a great potential for reaching a vast majority of adolescents and youth of the country with ARSH focused initiatives.

Under the Adolescence Education Programme, the NIOS had directed its efforts to realize the objectives of AEP related integration of adolescence education elements. NIOS has adopted the curricular approach and has been making efforts (i) to ensure effective integration of adolescence education elements in syllabi, self-instructional materials, and support materials; (ii) to bring about corresponding changes in the evaluation processes; (iii) to use the modes of distance education like interactive voicemail response system (IVRS) and internet and to organise advocacy programmes for creating an enabling environment.

The major activity of year 2008 was to develop integrated study material in selected subjects at secondary level with an objective of achieving the following outcomes:

- Effective integration of AE elements in the print and non-print study materials, particularly based on activity oriented teaching learning process that ensures active involvement of learners in the life skills focused activities;
- (ii) Development of evaluation items to test Life Skills;
- (iii) Effective use of electronic mode of distance education wherever the facilities are in place.



Under a comprehensive strategy for ensuring experiential learning aimed at life skills development among the learners through distance education, Life Skills focused lessons were developed in five subjects Hindi, English, Science and Technology, Social Studies and Home Science at Secondary level. The selection of subjects was based on the analysis of the subject wise enrolment trend for year 2007-08. These subjects not only offered maximum scope of integration but would also benefit the largest number of learners. This served a two pronged strategy of enlarging the extent of learners reached; and reinforcement of the messages through different subjects exploring the multi dimensional approach.

One lakh thirty five thousand learners at senior secondary level are using the integrated study materials during the academic year 2008-09. Tutor Marked Assignments (TMA) for senior secondary and secondary level carried at least one project type question integrated with Adolescence Education content.



Keeping in mind the objective of effectively using the electronic mode of distance e d u c a t i o n, fourteen audio programmes and four video program mes were developed on issues ranging from Continuing Education and Selecting the Right Career to Managing Stress and Time as well as Handling Peer Pressure, both in Hindi

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(UAT) conducted on the Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS) in year 2007 it was felt that the adolescents undergo a lot of stress while selecting subjects suitable for further career options. Hence it

> w a s proposed to enlarge the scope of the IVRS into the Learner Support Centre (LSC) that would provide personal

guidance and counselling on career as well as on adolescent issues. The Learner Support Centre was established with five counselors and an enriched content recorded on the IVRS and was inaugurated by the then Union Minister of Human Resource Development, Hon'ble Sh. Arjun Singhji on 26th February, 2009. The LSC with an all India Toll Free number 1800 180 9393 attends to nearly 2000 callers

14. New Initiatives

14.1 Hunar Project

In its endeavour to implement the recommendations of the Sachar Committee for improving educational access for the Muslim Community in particular, the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS), entered into a unique collaboration with Bihar Education Project Council (BEPC) of Govt. of Bihar to provide training and upgradation of skills for Muslim girls, most of whom are already enrolled in class 6 to 8 in various Schools. The Project has been named 'HUNAR' and the cost of skill training / upgradation is being borne by Bihar Education Project Council through funds received by it under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of NPEGEL, where a specific provision has been made for this purpose, NPEGEL has recommended that NIOS and SOS should be used for imparting skill training /upgradation to the girls at this level of education. Approximately, Rs. 1.82 crores has been earmarked by Bihar Education Project Council, Govt. of Bihar for imparting skill training / upgradation to approximately 12,000 girls in the 2008-09 academic session.

Under the 'HUNAR' project, skill training in seven courses namely Gram Sakhi, Jute Production, Cutting and Tailoring, Early Childhood Care and Education, Basic Rural Technology, Bakery and Confectionery and Beauty Culture are currently being offered. NIOS will provide free course material under this programme to the trainees. The scheme is being implemented through Maktabs, Madarasas and Darul-Ulooms. The entire delivery mechanism comprises of a network of institutions run and controlled by the community without any participation from the government at any level.

Under this scheme, the NIOS has made provisions for providing facilities related to infrastructure, fee as well as number of students to be enrolled at study centres. The most significant aspect of this Scheme is the provision of relaxation of norms for

accreditation for Traditional Educational Institutions especially Madarsas and Maktabs.

The 'HUNAR' Project is a path-breaking initiative taken up by NIOS by collaborating with any State Government for the first time for the purpose of skill training/upgradation of Muslim girls. The outcome of this collaboration will have far reaching implications in terms of making this skill training/upgradation programme and later on other programmes accessible to Muslims girls and their future economic empowerment. It will also charter the future course of action for NIOS for providing linkages with Minority Education, by collaborating with other State governments.

14.2 Ni On Project

The NIOS Online (Ni On) Project which was launched in July 2007 offers admissions to interested learners through the NIOS website. This is in contrast to the earlier practice where admission forms were available only at Accredited Institutions (AIs)/Study Centres. The Ni On Admission made the System learner centric as it gave power and responsibility into the hands of the learner. The entire effort of seeking Secondary level education was thereby made much simpler by an easily accessible system. With the help of interactive Services, a learner can navigate through this admission process. A help guide and a regular email are also available to assist the learner.

In the initial phase of 2007-08, only 30,000 admissions took place. However, these admissions provided a valuable learning lesson for NIOS, helping in fine tuning the Online processing of admissions and payment facility.

After the initial hesitation to use the technology, the learners have responded more positively to this Project. It is noteworthy that in the second phase i.e. 2008-09, the admission leapt to more than 1.60 lakhs. This is expected to increase to about 2,50,000 in 2009-10.

The Ni-On Project has brought greater transparency in the operations of NIOS and is also an important step in bridging the digital divide being faced by NIOS learners.

14.3 Learner Support Centre (LSC)

Under the Ni- On Project, a Learner Support Centre has become operational in order to sort out the grievances of NIOS learners, related to admission, examination and other related services. This centre is manned by executives, who respond to the queries of NIOS learners related to the entire spectrum of functioning of NIOS. Initially the queries are sorted out through IVRS. If the learners are not satisfied with IVRS and wish to get more information, they may contact the executives available at the centre. LSC is learner friendly, simple and convenient and can be accessed through a toll free number 18001809393.

15. National Consortium for Open Schooling

15.0 Introduction

The National Consortium for Open Schooling (NCOS) was set up in 1997 (with its Secretariat located in NIOS) with the objective of facilitating Apex Body functions of NIOS and to promote better cooperation and collaboration among State agencies/ Institutions involved in Open Schooling (Distance/ Correspondence Education at School stage). The Consortium aims at providing a common forum for exchange of ideas and resources and facilitates better cooperation, collaboration and expansion of activities in Open Learning System. As per the Constitution of NCOS and operationalisation strategies, its broad functions are:

- Promotion of Open Schooling in the States.
- Consultancy, advice and assistance to States for setting up/upscaling/strengthening of State Open Schools (SOSs).
- Coordination/Collaboration and clearing house functions on Promotion of Open Schooling and Setting up of State Open Schools.
- Organisation of Meetings of the NCOS and follow up action.
- Liaison with the States in matters pertaining to various aspects of Open Schooling and Distance Education at school stage (upto Pre-degree level).

15.1 Promotion of Open Schooling during 2008-09

15.1.1 Existing State Open Schools (SOSs)

The existing State Open Schools are those of (i) West Bengal, (ii) Andhra Pradesh, (iii) Tamil Nadu, (iv) Karnataka, (v) Kerala, (vi) Madhya Pradesh, (vii) Rajasthan, (viii) Haryana, (ix) Punjab, (x) Jammu & Kashmir. The states of (xi) Assam, (xii) Uttar

Pradesh, (xiii) Chhattisgarh and (xiv) Delhi have also started/set up their own Open School in State's specific context and in collaboration with the NCOS, NIOS (Assam, U.P., Chhattisgarh, and Delhi have started/notifying admissions). These State Open Schools (SOSs) need further qualitative as well as quantitative improvement and upscaling of Open Schooling Programmes. Under the aegies of NCOS, NIOS continued interacting with the State Open Schools (SOSs) and the State Education Departments.

- (i) Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu State Open Schools have been upscaled/upgraded to Secondary and Senior Secondary levels with Vocational Component from 2008-09 session. Punjab, JSS Karnataka, Kerala, have also taken steps in this direction.
- (ii) Revival of Jammu and Kashmir and Delhi SOSs is being pursued continuously.

15.1.2 State Open Schools in Pipeline

A few States have been keen to introduce the Open Schooling Programmes from ensuing session (2009-10) with professional, technical and resource support from NIOS. Some envisage adopting/adapting NIOS Curriculum, Syllabi and Courses, Self-Instructional Materials, Audio-Video Cassettes, etc. The States of Bihar, Goa, Jharkhand and Himachal Pradesh have already developed their Project Proposals in collaboration with NCOS for setting up a State Open School (SOS) and are under consideration of the concerned State Government awaiting approval for launching. They are expected to start the SOS from ensuing session. Draft Proposal for setting up some sort of an Open Schooling Cell in the Directorate of Education in Orissa, Tripura and Meghalaya have been developed. With the setting up of a State Open School in each of the above States, there would be 18 SOSs and three OSCs in the country by next year.

15.1.3 Position of Open Schooling in Remaining States

The potential States which have earlier initiated the steps for setting up SOSs are: (i) Gujarat, (ii) Maharashtra, (iii) Uttarakhand. In North-Eastern Region, (i) Arunachal Pradesh, (ii) Manipur, (iii) Nagaland, (iv) Mizoram and (v) Sikkim which initiated drafting of the Proposals for setting up either a State Open School (SOS) or an Open Schooling Cell (OSC). However, the latest position is still awaited. School Education Boards/Councils of (i) Maharashtra (ii) Gujarat, (iii) Uttrakhand (iv) Nagaland are contemplating to set up SOS at the earliest. Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim are trying to establish an Open Schooling Centre in their Education Departments as the Schools of these States are affiliated to CBSE and they will operate in collaboration with respective Regional Centres of NIOS. Open Schooling Cells (OSCs) which have been set up in the UTs of (i) Andaman & Nicobar, (ii) Dadra & Nagar Haveli, (iii) Daman & Diu, while the remaining UTs namely; Chandigarh, Lakshwadeep and Pondicherry would be linked to the concerned Regional Centres for promotion of Open Schooling Programmes.

15.1 Open Schooling State Coordination Committees (OSSCCs)

As per the Order No. NIOS/Admn./4/306/04, dated 19th November, 2004, an Open Schooling State Coordination Committee (OSSCC) is to be constituted in each State under the Chairmanship of the Secretary (School Education) of each State. The Committee would identify the educational needs for Open Schooling. The NCOS Secretariat (NIOS) has accorded priority to this exercise during the year under report.

15.2 Developmental Efforts and Communication with States to set up State Open Schools.

During the year under Report, the Secretary, NIOS made special efforts to Promote Open Schooling in the States by requesting the MHRD to send a DO letter from Secretary (SEL) to Secretary (School

Education) of each State addressing their priorities and concern for setting up/upscaling the State Open Schools.

Advocacy, Popularization, Project Design and Development programme for Promotion of Open Schooling and Setting up of State Open Schools were also held from time to time in some of the potential States. Many more such Programmes are contemplated/visualized for next year, especially, in the States of (i) Maharashtra (ii) Gujarat, (iii) Uttrakhand, (iv) Sikkim, (v) Nagaland, (vi) Arunachal, (vii) Meghalaya, (viii) Manipur, etc. according to the response and willingness of the State(s) concerned. The Open Schooling Programme of UTs is either linked to NIOS Regional Centre concerned or to the contiguous State Open School.

15.3 Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS)

A Draft of Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Promotion of Open Schooling and Setting up/ Upscaling of State Open Schools across the country and for financial assistance being provided to the State Governments was formulated by NIOS and sent to the MHRD for consideration and approval and thereafter implementation during the XI Five Year Plan.

15.4 National Meet of Open Schools

The National Meet of State Open Schools for the year 2008-09 was held in NIOS Headquarters at NOIDA on 24th February 2009 in order to deliberate on various issues of Promotion of Open Schooling in States and Upscaling the programme and to take stock of Progress in order to suggest strategies for qualitative improvement and expansion. The meeting was addressed by Sh. S.C. Khuntia, IAS, Jt. Secretary (SE), MHRD, Government of India and presided over by the Chairman, NIOS. Various programmes and innovative Projects of the NIOS such as 'Ni-On', 'Hunar', 'ODES', Learner Support Cell, On-Line Admission, Model Examination Centres etc. especially visualized and initiated by the Secretary and Chairman, NIOS were shared with the Directors of the respective SOSs, through interaction and presentation by the concerned Heads of Departments of NIOS.

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The broad spectrum of Recommendations made during the Meeting were as under:-

- (1) Taking note of the suggestions of the CABE (Central Advisory Board of Education) Committee on Universalisation of School Education that 15% of the Enrolment at Secondary Education may be taken care of by the Open Schooling System, the States having State Open Schools (SOSs) may upscale their Open Schooling Programme on priority.
- (2) The States that have set up SOSs recently may remain in close touch with the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) for adoption/adaptation of its Curriculum and Self Learning Material (SLM) and other resource support such as capacity building of open schooling functionaries.
- (3) In order to meet the impending need of skill development, the SOSs may make Vocational Education and Training (VET) an integral part of their Open Schooling programmes. The VET Curricula and Course Materials of NIOS in major areas such as Agriculture, Engineering and Technology, Home Science and Hospitality Management, Business and Commerce, Health and Paramedical, and General Services may be suitably adopted/adapted by SOSs as per their needs. The study materials of formal schooling system may also be considered for adaptation.

- (4) For placing of the Open Schooling system on a sound pedestal, the Government of India, Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) may finalise the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Promotion of Open Schooling and operationalise it early. This will facilitate upscaling of the Open Schooling programmes of the existing State Open Schools (SOSs) and establishment of SOSs in remaining States.
- (5) NIOS may take action in due course of time to prepare "Profiles of Open Schools in India".
- (6) NIOS may take steps to prepare a "Directory of Resource Persons in Open Schooling". The Directory may be updated periodically and disseminated.
- (7) NIOS may set up a national Centre of Study Materials of Open Schools. It may include a set of Study Materials and other Materials of all SOSs and NIOS.
- (8) The Open Schooling Organisations in India should organize various programmes (research, development, training, admission, programme delivery, examination and certification). The processes for conducting these programmes may be documented and disseminated for the benefit of Open Schools and their functionaries.

16. Capacity Building Programmes at National Level

16.0 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 association 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 organizations.

16.1 Workshops/Conferences/ Seminars/Programmes Organized by NIOS

16.1.1 Annual Meeting of NCOS and National Institute of Open Schooling:

The Ninth Meeting of the National Consortium for Open Schooling(NCOS) and the State Open Schools was organized by National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) at A-24/25,. Sector-62, NOIDA-201309 (UP). The Meeting was presided over by Sh. M.C. Pant, Chairman, NIOS and on a special request, the Key Note Address was delivered by Sh. S.C. Khuntia, IAS, Jt. Secretary (School Education), MHRD, Government of India, New Delhi. Sh. Khuntia elaborately discussed all aspects of Promotion of Open Schooling and the role of NIOS as an Apex Organisation of Government of India in promotion, development and expansion of Open Schooling through Open and Distance Learning (ODL) at national level as well as in the States, especially, in the context of Universalisation of Secondary Education (USE), the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), etc through the medium and collaboration of NCOS(NIOS).

16.1.2 Programme for Principals of Minority Managed Schools

An important part of training of School Principals attending the training programme at National University of Educational Planning and Administration (NUEPA) was to visit various educational institutes. A delegation of minority managed school principals from different parts of India visited NIOS on 18 November 2008. Presentations were made on Academic and Vocational Courses in NIOS, working of the Department of Student Support Services, Examination System and ICT interventions in NIOS. The guests were also appraised about the initiatives taken by the NIOS for minority schools. Queries raised by the principals were answered.

16.1.3 Capacity Building on Development of Self Learning Material (SLM)

A two day Capacity Building Workshop for development of SLM was organized by the Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia (CEMCA), New Delhi in association with the NIOS on 29 and 30 January 2009 at Assam Higher Secondary Education Council, Bamunimaidan, Guwahati. Dr. Rajesh Kumar, Joint Director, NIOS was one of the Resource persons in the workshop.

- Sri Aditi Ranjan Rout, Academic Officer (Business Studies) participated and successfully completed the learning modules in the Wiki Ed 09 Workshop on Open Education Resources held with Support from the Commonwealth of Learning, Canada at Acharya Narendra Dev College, from 9-13 January 2009.
- Sri Naipal Singh, Librarian attended a conference on Knowledge, Library and Information Technology (NCLIN 2008) titled "Digital Future: Strategies for developing world class Libraries" held at Coimbatore, Tamilnadu

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from 4-7 November 2008. This was jointly organized by Karunya University, Coimbatore and Developing Library Network (DELNET), New Delhi.

 Sri Aditi Ranjan Rout participated in a two day National Seminar on 'Prevention and Redressal of Sexual Harassment in workplace' organized by the Institute of Public Administration at Bangalore, Karnataka from 29-30 August 2008.

16.2 Regional Seminars

Two Orientation Programmes for Chief Secrecy
Officers and Secrecy Officers of all the Regional
Centres for April 2008 and October 2008
examinations were held on 28 April 2008 and 3
October 2008 respectively by the NIOS.

Training to handle the Ni On Project

The Ni-On Project was launched to offers admission through the NIOS website, thus providing easier access to the NIOS system in terms of admission, examination and provision of study material through generation of an interactive On Line Form.

In order to build the capacities of NIOS staff to handle the Ni-On Project, trainings programmes were conducted. All Regional Directors were trained to handle this new responsibility, wherein Orientation Programmes were conducted by the Student Support Services Department. The philosophy and operational aspects of the Project were explained.

17. Library, Documentation and Information Services

The National Institute of Open Schooling Library cum Documentation and Archival unit has a print collection of 16296 books, 14,100 loose issues of journals and non-print collection of 715 audio/video cassettes particularly on distance education, education, and the subjects offered by the NIOS at different levels. It receives about 85 National/ International journals on subscription and complimentary basis and 24 magazines 19 Daily and 2 Weekly newspapers on subscription basis. It also receives newsletters of CBSE, COBSE, COL, DELNET, ICDL, IGNOU, NUEPA, NCERT, NCSTC on complimentary basis. The Archival section has a collection of the NIOS publications which includes study material of the NIOS courses at different level such as Open Basic Education, Secondary, Senior Secondary and Annual Reports, Newsletters, Conference Reports, and other NIOS publications.

The main objective of the NIOS library- cumdocumentation and archival unit is to cater to the needs of academic, non-academic staff and other educational experts who are engaged in preparation of study material for the NIOS learners.

The NIOS Library-cum-documentation and Archival unit performs the following tasks to provide library services:-

Technical Processing:

All books procured by the NIOS library are classified with Dewey Decimal Classification Scheme 20th Edition and catalogued with Anglo-American cataloguing rules. During 2008-09, more than 340 books were classified and catalogued.

Up-dation of Library Database:

The library database is up-dated by making entries of all procured books and subscribed journals, for the Library . Data relating to issue/return of books and journals is also entered .

Scanning for Educational News:

During 2008-2009, about 3600 newspapers/magazines/journals were scanned for identifying news items and articles on Education, Distance Education and particularly on NIOS and 520 new items were identified and kept for future reference.

The Archival Section:

It stores and preserves all documents in print and non print form, published by the NIOS, such as Annual Reports, Prospectus, Conference Reports and other important documents which have a significant academic and archival value for other open and distance learning system.

The NIOS Library provides the following services:

Circulation Service:

It includes issue/return of documents which includes books, journals, magazines, audio/video cassettes and cds, registration of new members and issue of 'No Demand Certificate' and reminders for overdue books. During the year, about 6,500 documents were issued and returned. 'No Demand Certificates' were issued to eleven staff members. Fifty five reminders were sent to the library members to recover the overdue books.

Inter-Library Loan:

In this service, documents are made available from other libraries to the users on Inter-Library Loan, in case of non-availability of required documents in the NIOS Library. More than 45 documents were made available from different Libraries.

Reference Service:

It is provided on demand and in anticipation, which includes answering of queries and searches for reference. During the year, 250 queries were answered and 340 searches for documents were

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made for providing required information to the users. Sixty one people other than registered library members visited the NIOS library for reference purpose and searches for references.

Referral Service:

In this service, the user is referred to other Libraries if the required document is not available in the NIOS Library and cannot be made available on Inter-Library Loan

Reprographic Service:

It is provided on demand. In this service, library provides xerox copies of reference material to the users. Copies of reference material were provided to library members as an when demanded.

Addition to the NIOS library and Archival Unit:

During the year, 309 books and 26 CDs on various subjects were purchased and 16 documents on complimentary basis were received in the NIOS Library. New subscriptions in respect of 7 journals and 2 magazines and renewal of 69 journals, 23 magazines, 19 dailies and 2 weekly newspapers were made for a further period of one year. The Archival

section received 42 master CDs of NIOS publications and other printed publications during this year..

Information Technology:

Keeping pace with modern technology in library and information science, the NIOS library uses "LIBSYS" software. It is a fully integrated library system which supports all activities relating to acquisition, cataloguing, circulation and serials. The NIOS library also provides facilities of INTERNET and DELNET (Developing Library Network) to the members of the Library. DELNET, with more than 1290 institutions as its members, promotes resource sharing among the member libraries. The NIOS and other libraries catalogue of books can be accessed by member libraries of DELNET and their users at www.delnet.nic.in through union catalogue.

Setting up libraries at Regional Centres:

It was planned to establish libraries at Jaipur and Hyderabad regional centres in the second phase. A budget of Rs.50,000/- to each regional centre was allocated and guidelines sent to establish libraries in these regional centres.

18. Right to Information

18.0 Introduction

In view of the directions of Government of India, Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), the Right to Information Act, 2005 has been implemented in NIOS from October 2005. The Act envisages that every Public Authority shall designate as many officers as Public information Officers (PIOs) in all administrative units or offices under it as may be necessary to provide information to persons requesting for the information. Accordingly, NIOS assigned this work of keeping and collating the information from all constituents of NIOS to be performed by the Administration Wing.

In pursuance of the provisions of the Act, the Deputy Director (Pers) was designated as Public Information Officer-I and the System Analyst and Programmer as Public Information Officer-II for NIOS Head Quarters. In the Regional Centres of NIOS, the Joint Directors/Deputy Directors, working as Regional Heads were designated as Public Information Officers. The Assistant Directors working as Regional Heads at Regional Centres and those reporting to Regional Heads have been designated as Assistant Public Information Officers.

Secretary, NIOS was designated as the Appellate Authority for the NIOS Headquarter. and the Regional Centres.

Appellate Authority	Shri D.S. Bist Secretary, NIOS	All Appeals
Public Information Officer-I	Dr. Anita Priyadarshini Deputy Director (Pers)	 PIO for the Administration Department Appelate Authority for Regional heads of the rank of Assistant Director in the Regional Office who have been designated as APIOs
Public Information Officer-II	Shri S.K. Prasad System Analyst/ Programmer	1. PIOs for the following Departments/ Units of NIOS: (i) Academic Department (ii) Student Support Services Department (iii) Vocational Education Department (iv) Evaluation Department (v) Computer Unit 2. Responsible for ensuring that all the required information, under the Act, and also otherwise, is made available on the NIOS website and is updated as and when required, so that public can access it at any time. 3. Responsible for maintaining the required information under the Act, and otherwise also, in print and electronic form, at all required places.

At the Regional Centres of National Institute of Open Schooling

Public Information Officer	Joint Director/Deputy Director working as Regional Head	PIO for all information related to the concerned Regional Centre Appellate Authority for APIO in their Regional Centre, if any
Assistant Public Information Officer (for the territorial jurisdiction of their concerned Regional Centres)	Assistant Director working as Regional Head	APIO for all information related to the concerned Regional Centre
Assistant Public Information Officer (for the concerned Regional Centres)	Assistant Directors at Regional Centre reporting to Regional Heads	APIO for all information related to the concerned Regional Centre

The NIOS, in keeping with the spirit of the Act, has made provisions to provide information to all applicants in the specified time frame. NIOS has uploaded the following information related to the obligation of Public Authority under Section 4 of the Act on its official website.

- 1. NIOS at a Glance
- 2. Memorandum of Association (MOA) of NOS Society
- 3. Guidelines for Accreditation of AIs, AVIs and AAs
- 4. Admission Process
- 5. Vocational Education Programmes
- 6. Recruitment Rules of NIOS
- 7. Guidelines for Centre Superintendents for External Examinations
- 8. Information about Courses and Materials for OBE, Secondary and Senior Secondary Education

- 9. List of Members of RCACs
- 10. NIOS Budget at a Glance, Annual Accounts and Audit Report
- Notifications regarding Tender Notice, Examination Hall Tickets, Results, National Talent Promotion Scheme, Student Centre Address Book
- 12. Office Orders for PIO, APIO, Regional Heads, SA/P

The System Analyst/Programmer has been assigned the work of preparing and maintaining the documents as mentioned in Section 4 of the RTI Act.

NIOS has computerized all records of applications received and disposed off under the RTI Act. It has also been sending necessary reports i.e. Annual Returns & Quarterly Returns as per the Act to the CIC and the MHRD. During the year 2008-09, 278 requests were received and processed by NIOS.

19. Promoting Use of Hindi

19.0 Introduction

The National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) has been taking steps for progressive use of Hindi (as the Official Language) in order to implement the provisions of the official languages as per guidelines issued from time to time by the Government on India, Ministry of Home Affairs. The Rajbhasha Section at the NIOS Headquarter looks after matters related to progressive use of Hindi in academic and administrative work. This section develops and disseminates guidelines for progressive use of Hindi, monitors implementation of the programme and assists various constituents of NIOS in matters related to the official language.

19.1 Activities of Rajbhasha Section

During 2008-09, the Rajbhasha Section took steps to implement the official language rules as per guidelines issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

The main activities performed were as follows:

19.1.1 Translation

- During 2008-09, Press Releases related to different seminars, conferences and other programmes conducted by NIOS were translated into Hindi and published in all leading Hindi and English newspapers all over the country.
- The Annual Report of NIOS for the year 2007-08 was translated in Hindi.
- The Prospectus (Academic Courses) for different regions, Prospectus (Vocational Education Courses) and Information Bulletin for online admission were translated in Hindi.
- Annual Accounts of NIOS and Annual Audit Report were prepared bilingually.
- Different official forms were translated in Hindi.
- "NIOS-At a Glance" was prepared in Hindi as well as in English.

19.1.2 Implementation Activities

Hindi Fortnight

The Hindi Fortnight was celebrated from 14 to 28 September 2008 with enthusiasm. During this fortnight, the staff of NIOS participates in the following competitions:

- (i) Official Language Competition
- (ii) Computer based Hindi Knowledge Competition
- (iii) Poem Recitation Competition
- (iv) Quiz Competition
- (v) Debate Competition
- (vi) Laughter story or memoir writing competition.

About 125 NIOS officials participated in different competitions, and prizes of Rs.500, Rs.400, Rs.300 and Rs.200 were given to I, II and III winners. The Regional Centers of NIOS also participated in the competitions.

19.2 Meetings

During 2008-09, several important decisions were taken regarding correspondence and noting in Hindi and about overall use of Hindi. These included:

- (i) Reply of letters in Hindi were sent in Hindi
- (ii) More Noting and Drafting were done in Hindi
- (iii) Most of the Headings on the file covers were made in Hindi
- (iv) Hindi software was installed in every computer.
- (v) All the Nameplates, Signboards, Rubber Stamps were prepared bilingually.
- (vi) Quarterly reports are being sent to MHRD regularly.

19.3 Training

19.3.1 Computer Training

The new Hindi Computer Software developed by the Information and Broadcasting Ministry was made

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available and provided to the Departments at NIOS Head Quarters and the Regional Centres of NIOS.

19.3.2 Inspection

Several Sections in the constituents of NIOS were inspected to ascertain the actual position of use of Hindi and finding possibilities of promotion of Hindi at different levels.

19.4 Publications

During 2008-09, several study materials as well as other documents in Hindi language were printed in Hindi and supplied to the students enrolled for Secondary, Senior Secondary and Vocational Education courses. Certain other important publications, reports and journals printed in Hindi are as follows:

Annual Report, Prospectus (Academic Courses),
 Prospectus (Vocational Education Courses),

'Open Learning Magazine (Bilingual), 'Open Schooling' News Bulletin (Bilingual), Almanac, Annual Accounts and Audit Report, Answer Books, Certificates and Mark Statements.

NIOS purchased bilingual computers only and Hindi software was installed in all computers in various constituents of NIOS.

Several programmes related to incentives for promotion of Hindi were initiated and facilitation material was distributed. Books in Hindi were also purchased for the NIOS Library. Steps were taken to get Quarterly Progress Reports on Progressive Use of Hindi prepared and continued. Name Plates were prepared bilingually. Writing of selected words and thoughts on the Notice Boards was continued. All official language rules and regulations were distributed to staff members for the implementation in their dayday work. Steps were taken to implement the Annual Report of Rajbhasha.

20. Programmes undertaken in North Eastern Region and Jammu & Kashmir

20.0 Academic

The National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) with International recognition and presence provides access to sustainable and learner centric quality school education, skill upgradation and training through Open and Distance Learning.

During the year 2008-09, NIOS continued offering all its Courses / Programmes of Open Basic Education, Secondary, Senior Secondary and Vocational Education and Training in almost all the North Eastern States (including Sikkim and Assam) and Jammu & Kashmir through its own Study Centres called Accredited Institutes (AIs) and Regional Centres at Guwahati and Chandigarh. With a view to promote and extend Open Schooling in States, especially to offer courses in regional mediums, a forum known as National Consortium for Open Schooling (NCOS) has already been established with NIOS as its Secretariat. It facilitates cooperation and interaction among NIOS and States by setting up State Open Schools (SOSs) in each of the States. During the year, special efforts were made through NCOS Secretariat.

Efforts for setting up a State Open School (SOS) or a Cell in the School Education Board of Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Mizoram were made. They were at an advanced stage of preparing their Technoeconomic Feasibility Project Proposals. Other States in NER are in the process of exploring the possibilities of establishing their own system of Open Schooling. The NCOS Secretariat with the help of Regional Centre of NIOS at Guwahati is, however, pursuing the matter with each State and planning to organise advocacy / persuasive meetings in order to prepare the Project Proposal for SOS.

20.1 Student Support Services in North Eastern Region

The mission of NIOS is to provide relevant, continuing and development education at school stage, making contribution towards universalisation of education in the country. The NIOS is offering Open Schooling programmes in the North-Eastern States through 134 Academic Study Centres. During the session 2008-09, 21983 students were enrolled in NE Region. Of this 12,704 students were enrolled in Secondary courses and 9279 students in Senior Secondary courses.

Establishment of Study Centres

The NIOS performs an important role with other pioneer institutions for universalisation of education in NE Region. For this, NIOS needs the support and cooperation of all States of NE Region in terms of establishing Study Centres for effective implementation of Secondary and Senior Secondary education programmes through Open and Distance Learning (ODL) mode. NIOS has set up its Regional Centre at Guwahati for NE Region in the year 1999. State-wise distribution of AIs in North-Eastern States is given below:

Tab	le 1: State	e-wise dist	ribution o	of Als in l	North-Ea	astern States.
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S.No	State	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
1.	Assam	15	15	18	35
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	15	15	16	19
3.	Manipur	47	46	45	35
4.	Meghalaya	08	09	9	10
5.	Mizoram	11	11	11	11
6.	Nagaland	16	16	17	18
7.	Tripura	06	06	3	06

Admission

Enrolment of Secondary and Senior Secondary

courses in the North-Eastern States for last three Academic sessions is as stated below:-

Table 2: State-wise enrolment in Academic Courses in North-Eastern States

S. State	2	2005-06			2006-07	_		2007-08		2	2008-09	
No.	Sec.	Sr. Sec	Total	Sec.	Sr. Sec	Total	Sec.	Sr. Sec	Total	Sec.	Sr. Sec	Total
1. Assam	1304	1247	2551	1458	1747	3205	1396	1368	2764	1414	1798	3212
2. Arunachal Pradesh	2225	881	3106	2256	1121	3377	4949	3952	8901	2295	1149	3494
3. Manipur	5062	4282	9344	4886	4322	9208	1363	31	1394	2241	1490	4731
4. Meghalaya	1174	18	1192	1564	69	1633	2476	1049	3525	1329	65	1394
5. Mizoram	2184	990	3174	2648	1566	4214	2019	870	2889	2414	2037	4451
6. Nagaland	2463	969	3432	2489	1318	3807	340	248	588	2278	1294	3572
7. Tripura	382	219	601	625	460	1085	2269	1119	3388	733	446	1179
								1270	12704 9279 21983			

Vocational Education

Two AVIs in North-Eastern Regional Centre (Assam, Nagaland, Manipur, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh) offer various Vocational Courses.

20.2 Student Support Services in Jammu & Kashmir

The NIOS has covered Jammu & Kashmir State with 21 Study Centres. In Jammu & Kashmir State, 2,003 students were enrolled during the Academic Session 2008-09.

Establishment of Study Centres

The NIOS performs an important role with other pioneer institutions for universalisation of education in Jammu & Kashmir. For this, NIOS needs the support and cooperation of the State Education Departments in terms of establishing Study Centres for effective implementation of Secondary and Senior Secondary education programmes through Open and Distance Learning mode (ODL). For the State of Jammu & Kashmir and four other northern States, a Regional Centre was established in Chandigarh during 1999. Distribution of AIs in Jammu & Kashmir State is given below:

Table 1: State-wise distribution of AIs in Jammu & Kashmir

S.No	State	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
1.	Jammu & Kashmir	24	24	21	21

Admission

Vocational Education

Enrolment of Secondary and Senior Secondary Courses in Jammu & Kashmir State for last 3 Academic Sessions is as stated below: One AVI in Jammu & Kashmir was Accredited for Vocational Education Courses. 11 Vocational Courses are being offered in this Institution.

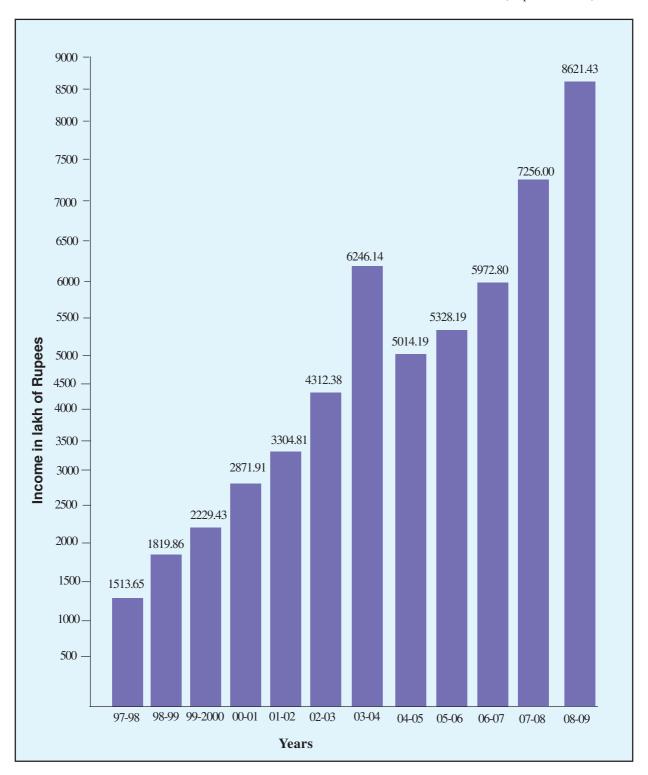
Table 2: Enrolment in Academic Courses in Jammu & Kashmir

Γ	S.	State	2005-06			2006-07		2007-08		2008-09				
	No.		Sec.	Sr. Sec	Total	Sec.	Sr. Sec	Total	Sec.	Sr. Sec	Total	Sec.	Sr. Sec	Total
	1.	J&K	430	609	1039	737	1266	2003	420	675	1095	513	1074	1587

Annexures «I. Appendices

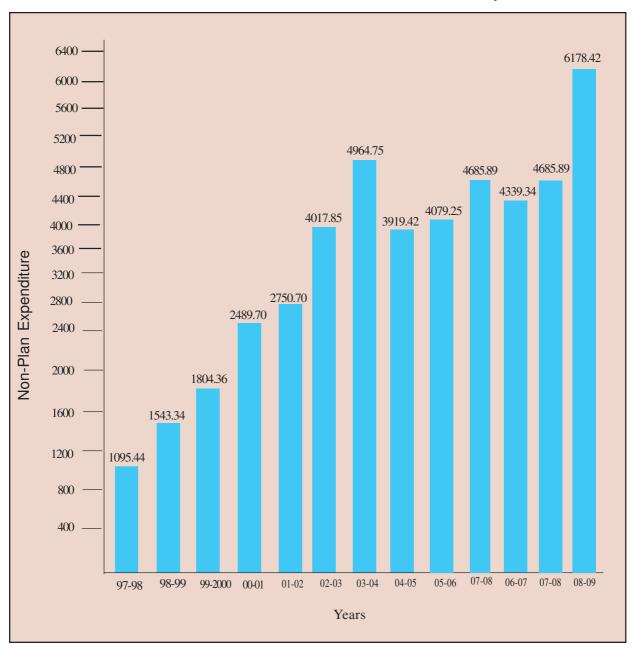
NIOS Income from 1997-98 to 2008-09

(Rupees in Lakhs)



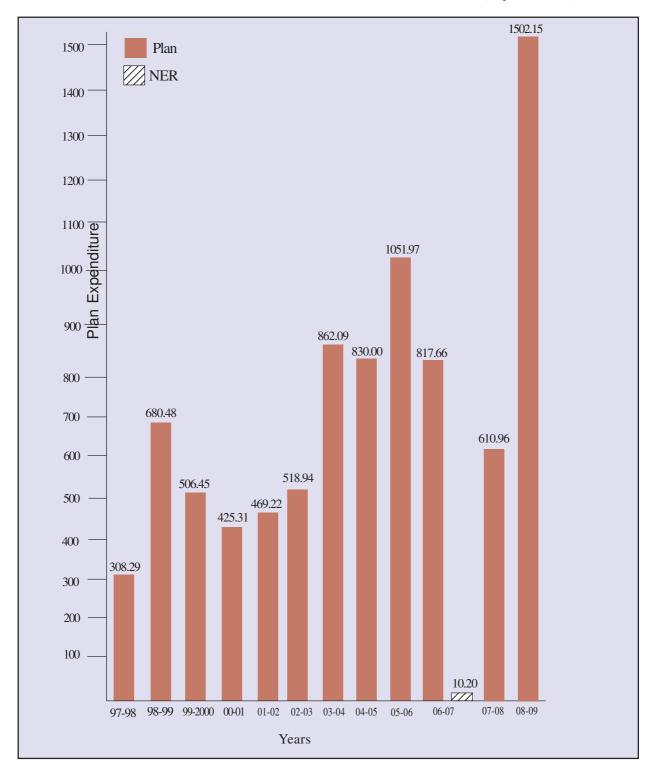
NIOS Non-Plan Expenditure (1997-98 onwards)

(Rupees in Lakhs)



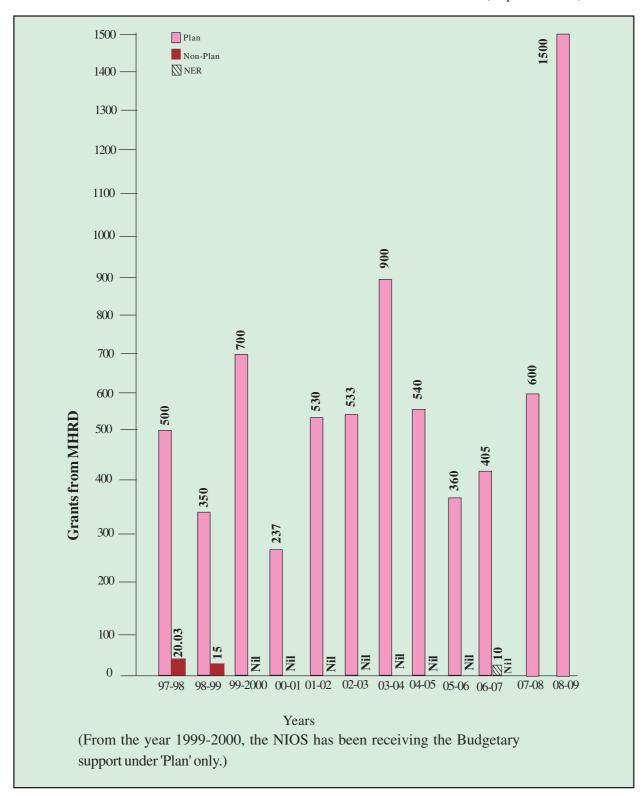
NIOS Plan Expenditure (1997-98 Onwards)

(Rupees in Lakhs)



Yearwise Budgetary Support to NIOS from the MHRD since 1997-98

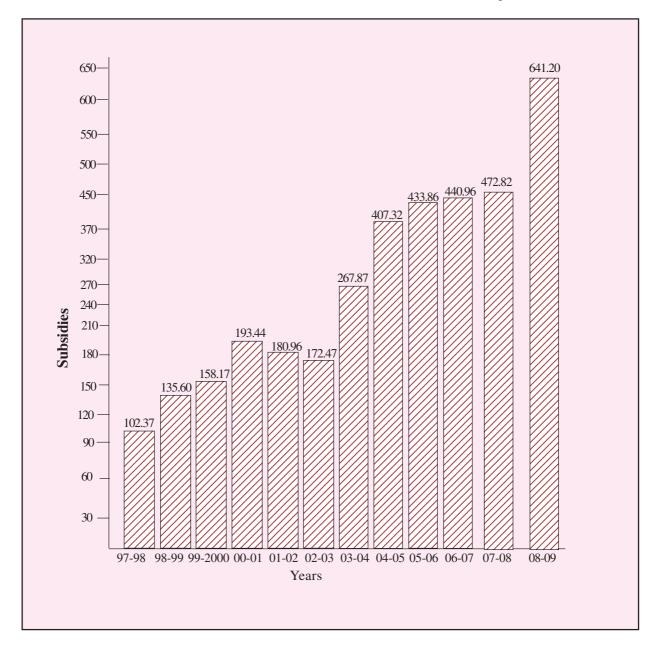
(Rupees in lakhs)



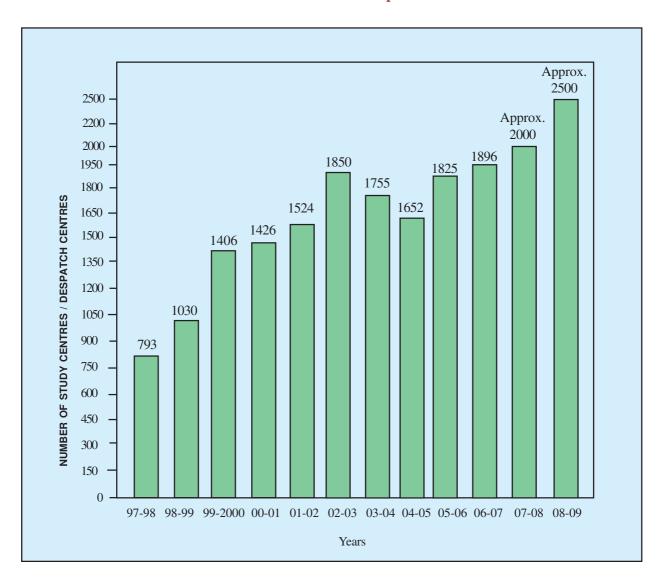
Annexure-V

Subsidies given by NIOS to Prioritised Groups since 1997-98

(Rupees in lakhs)



Number of Accredited Institutions/Despatch Centres of NIOS



List of Members of the General Body of the National Open School Society (As on 31.03.2009)

Name and Address	Name and Address
Shri Arjun Singh (President) Hon'ble Minister of HRD Govt. of India Shastri Bhawan New Delhi – 110001	Dr. Vinod Agarwal Joint Secretary (BC) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment Shastri Bhawan New Delhi – 110 001
Shri M. A. A. Fatmi (Vice-President) Minister of State, HRD (Secondary and Higher Education) MHRD, Govt. of India Shastri Bhawan New Delhi – 110 001	Ms. Sharda Prasad Joint Secretary & Director General Employment and Training Ministry of Labour Rafi Marg, New Delhi
Ms. Anshu Vaish Secretary, SEL Department of Education, MHRD Shastri Bhawan New Delhi – 110 001	Ms. Reena Ray Secretary of Education Govt. of Delhi (NCT) Old Secretariat Delhi – 110 054
Sh. S. C. Khuntia Joint Secretary (SE) Department of Education, MHRD Shastri Bhawan New Delhi- 110 001	Sh. Mukesh Kumar Sharma Addl. Director General (A) Prasar Bharati (B.C.I) Director General: Doordarshan Doordarshan Bhawan, PTI Building Parliament Street, New Delhi- 110 001
Shri S. K. Ray Joint Secretary and Financial Advisor (HRD) Department of Education, MHRD Shastri Bhawan New Delhi – 110 001	Shri Ranglal Jamuda, IAS Commissioner Kendriya Vidalaya Sangathan New Delhi – 110 016 Shri Vineet Joshi
Smt. Stuti Narain Kacker Joint Secretary (P&A) Ministry of Information & Broadcasting Shastri Bhawan New Delhi – 110 001	Officiating Chairman Central Board of Secondary Education Shiksha Kendra 2, Community Centre, Preet Vihar, New Delhi – 110 092

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Shri Amit Khere

Commissioner

Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti

A-28, Kailash Colony

New Delhi – 110 048

Dr. B. P. Ambasht

(Ex. Director, Science and

Technology, Bihar)

363, Sector III B,

Bokaro – 827 003 (Bihar)

Dr. (Ms.) Sharad Renu

Nivedita Nilaya

495, Dampier Nagar, Mathura

Uttar Pradesh - 281 001

Shri Purshottam Bhai Patel

Gujarat Vidyapeeth

Ahmedabad-14

Shri Jai Praksh Aggarwal

Chairman

Surva Foundation

B-3/330, Paschim Vihar

Delhi – 110 063

Dr. K. Ananda Kishore

Director

Andhra Pradesh Open School

SCERT Campus

Opposite Lal Bahadur Shastri Stadium

Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh)

Shri Jagmohan Singh Raju

Joint Secretary (AE) & DG (NLM)

Department of SE &L

Shastri Bhavan,

New Delhi – 110 001

Prof. V. N. Rajasekaran Pillai

Vice Chancellor

IGNOU

Maidan Garhi.

New Delhi - 110 068

Prof. Krishan Kumar

Director

National Council of Educational

Research and Training

Sri Aurobindo Marg

New Delhi – 110 016

Shri Ved Prakash

Vice Chancellor

National University of Educational

Planning and Administration

17 B, Sri Aurobindo Marg,

New Delhi – 110 016

Ms. Pradeep Bolina

Joint Secretary (CW)

Department of Women and Child Development

Shastri Bhawan

New Delhi – 110 001

Sh. Prem Kumar Bhatia

Deputy Secretary

Department of School Education and Literacy

MHRD

Shastri Bhawan

New Delhi- 110 001

Dr. M. Sen Gupta

KIIT College of Education

KIIT Campus, Sohna Road

Near Bhondsi, Gurgaon- 122102

Prof. Neerja Shukla

Head

Department of Education of Groups with

Special Needs

NCERT

Sri Aurobindo Marg

New Delhi – 110 016

Dr. J. Veera Raghavan

(Ex-Secretary to GOI. MHRD)

Director

Bhartiya Vidya Bhawan

K. G. Marg

New Delhi – 110 001

Shri. Jaya Lal

Deputy Director General (P) Office of the Directorate General All India Radio, Parliament Street New Delhi- 11 001

Prof. O.S. Dewal

E-250, Mayur Vihar Phase –II Delhi – 110 091

Dr. J. Veera Raghavan

(Ex-Secretary of GOI, MHRD) Director Bharatiya Vidya Bhawan K.G. Marg New Delhi – 110 001

Shri Amitabh Garg

Director, JSS

Dr. Ambedkar Welfare Society 8-A/1 Elgin Road, Civil Lines Allahabad – 211002

Shri M.C. Pant

Chairman,

National Institute of Open Schooling A-24/25, Institutional Area, Sector – 62 NOIDA

Shri D.S. Bist

Secretary & Director (SSS) National Institute of Open Schooling A-24/25, Institutional Area, Sector – 62 NOIDA

List of Members of the Executive Board of the National Open School Society (As on 31.03.2009)

Name and Address	Name and Address
Sh. M. C. Pant	Sh. Ram Bahadur Ray
Chairman	Jansatta, Indian Express
National Institute of Open Schooling	A - 80, Sector - 2
A-24/25, Institutional Area,	NOIDA, Uttar Pradesh
Sector -62, NOIDA, Uttar Pradesh	
	Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Professor
Sh. S. C. Khuntia	Indian Institute of Technology,
Joint Secretary (SE)	Hauz Khas, New Delhi - 110 016
MHRD	
Shastri Bhawan	
New Delhi -110 001	Prof. M. Sen Gupta
	Department of Educational Research and Policy
Ch C V Dov	Perspective
Sh. S. K. Ray JS & Financial Adviser	NCERT, Sri Aurobindo Marg
MHRD	New Delhi -110 016
Shastri Bhawan	1 tew Dellii 110 010
New Delhi-110001	Sh. Amitabh Garg
	Director, JSS
	Dr. Ambedkar Welfare Society
Prof. O.S. Dewal	8-A/1 Elgin Road, Civil Lines
E-250, Mayur Vihar	Allahabad - 211 002
Phase- II	
Delhi - 91(Ph:- 22771582)	Director (Acad./Eval)
	National Institute of Open Schooling
Prof. Neerja Shukla	A-24/25, Institutional Area,
Head, Department of Education of	Sector -62, NOIDA, Uttar Pradesh
Groups with Special Needs NCERT	
Sri Aurobindo Marg, New Delhi-110016	Shri. D. S. Bist
5117 taroonido marg, new Denn-110010	Secretary / Director (SSS)
Dr. (Ms.) Sharad Renu	National Institute of Open Schooling
Nivedita Nilaya	A-24/25, Institutional Area,
495, Dampier Nagar	Sector -62, NOIDA, Uttar Pradesh
Mathura	
Uttar Pradesh-281001	

List of Members of the Finance Committee of the National Open School Society (As on 31.03.2009)

Name and Address	Name and Address
Sh. M. C. Pant Chairman, National Institute of Open Schooling A-24/25, Institutional Area, Sector -62, NOIDA, Uttar Pradesh	Shri D.P. Sharma, IA & AS (Retd.) 117, AGCR Enclave Vikas Marg Extension Delhi-110092
Sh. S. C. Khuntia Joint Secretary (SE) Department of Education, MHRD, Shastri Bhawan New Delhi - 110 001	Director (Acad./Eval.) National Institute of Open Schooling A-24/25, Institutional Area, Sector -62, NOIDA, Uttar Pradesh
Shri S. K. Ray JS & Financial Adviser (HRD), Department of Education MHRD, Shastri Bhawan New Delhi-110001	Sh. D. S. Bist Secretary / Director (SSS) National Institute of Open Schooling A-24/25, Institutional Area, Sector -62, NOIDA, Uttar Pradesh
Prof. B. R. Goyal Retired Professor, NCERT 208, Civil Lines Gurgaon, Haryana -122001	

List of Members of the Academic Council of National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS)

Convenor

Con 1.	venor Chairman, NIOS		Shri. M.C. Pant	Chairperson
2.	Head of Departments of NIOS	2.1	Director, Department of Evaluation, NIOS	Member.
		2.2	Director, Academic Department, NIOS	Member.
		2.3	Director, Department of Vocational Education, NIOS	Member
		2.4	Director, Department of Student Support Services, NIOS	Member
		2.5	Secretary, Administration Department, NIOS	Member
3.	External Experts	3.1	Prof. A.K. Sharma Retired Director, NCERT C-3, Sector 48, NOIDA (Uttar Pradesh)	Member
		3.2	Dr. Om Vikas Ex. Director, Indian Institute of Information Technology and Management Morena Link Road, Gwalior -474003	Member
		3.3	Prof. R.G. Chouksey National Institute of Technical Training + Research, Shyamala Hills, Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh)	Member
		3.4	Prof. Vachaspati Upadhyaya Lal Bahadur Shastri Sanskrit Vidyapeeth, Shaheed Jit Singh Marg New Delhi -110016	Member
		3.5	Ms. Indumathy Director, Deptt. of School Education Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHI Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi -110001	Member RD)

		Annual Report 2008-09
3.6	Prof. T.K.V. Subramaniyam Head, Department of History Delhi University Delhi - 110007	Member
3.7	Prof. B.P. Khandelwal Former Director, NIEPA 4503, ATS Greens II, Sector 50, NOIDA, Uttar Pradesh	Member
3.8	Prof. D.C. Pant Former PVC, IGNOU A-45, Regency Park-I DLF, Phase IV, Gurgaon (Haryana)	Member
3.9	Dr. (Ms) Najma Akhtar Senior Fellow, NUEPA, Sri Aurobindo Marg New Delhi -110016	Member
3.10	Sh. B.K. Sharma Chairperson, M.P. State Open School Board of Secondary Education Camp Shivaji Nagar, Bhopal -462001 (Madhya Pradesh)	
3.11	Shri C.K. Misra CK 33/7, Neelkantha Varanasi - 221001 (Uttar Pradesh)	Member
Director (Academic), Central Board of Secondary Educa Preet Vihar, New Delhi - 110092.	tion	Member
Director (SE) Deptt. of Secondary and Higher Ed Ministry of Human Resource Deve Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi - 1100	lopment (MHRD)	Member
Director (Academic), Member Convener National Institute of Open Salasaki	(AHOC)	

4.

5.

6.

National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS),

A-24/25, Institutional Area, Sector - 62, NH - 24, NOIDA, Uttar Pradesh

Sanctioned Staff Strength of the NIOS (As on 31.03.2009)

S.No.	Name of the post	Scale of Pay	Total Staff Strength
1.	Chairman	(Rs. 18400-500-22400)	1
2.	Secretary	(Rs. 14300-400-18300)	1
3.	Director (Academic)	(Rs. 14300-400-18300)	1
4.	Director (Evaluation/SSS/Voc.Edu.)	(Rs. 14300-400-18300)	3
5.	Joint Director	(Rs. 14300-400-18300)	6
6.	Deputy Director	(Rs. 12000-375-16500)	14
7.	System Analyst / Programmer	(Rs. 12000-375-16500)	1
8.	Publication Officer	(Rs. 12000-375-16500)	1
9.	Assistant Director	(Rs. 10000-325-15200)	20
10.	Accounts Officer	(Rs. 10000-325-15200)	1
11.	Academic Officer	(Rs. 8000-275-13500)	21
12.	Research & Evaluation Officer	(Rs. 8000-275-13500)	1
13.	Librarian	(Rs. 8000-275-13500)	1
14.	Section Officer	(Rs. 6500-200-10500)	27
15.	PS to Chairman	(Rs. 6500-200-10500)	1
16.	Public Relation Officer	(Rs. 6500-200-10500)	1
17.	Assistant Audit Officer	(Rs. 6500-200-10500)	1
18.	Hindi Officer	(Rs. 6500-200-10500)	1
19.	Graphic Artist	(Rs. 5500-175-9000)	1
20.	EDP Supervisor	(Rs. 5500-175-9000)	1
21.	Cameraman	(Rs. 5500-175-9000)	1
22.	Editor (Media)	(Rs. 5500-175-9000)	1
23.	Superintendent	(Rs. 5500-175-9000)	10
24.	Technical Assistant	(Rs. 5500-175-9000)	2
25.	PA	(Rs. 5500-175-9000)	3
26.	Assistant Librarian	(Rs. 5500-175-9000)	1
27.	Translator	(Rs. 4500-125-7000)	1
28.	Production Assistant	(Rs. 4500-125-7000)	1
29.	Library Assistant	(Rs. 4000-100-6000)	1
30.	Assistant / Internal Auditor	(Rs. 4000-100-6000)	42
31.	Stenographer	(Rs. 4000-100-6000)	6
32.	Junior Assistant	(Rs. 3050-75-3950-80-4590)	53
33.	Staff Car Driver	(Rs. 3050-75-3950-80-4590)	3
34.	Electrician	(Rs. 3050-75-3950-80-4590)	1
35.	Photocopier Operator	(Rs. 3050-75-3950-80-4590)	1
36.	Peon and Mali	(Rs. 2550-55-2660-60-3200)	19
		Total	251

Academic, Professional and Participatory Contributions of the Faculty.

Sh DS Bist, Chairman Cum Secretary

- Publication of paper on *Use of ICT for Process Re-Engineering and Structural Transformation of NIOS*, Indian Journal of
 Public Administration, IIPA New Delhi
- Publication of paper on National Institute of Open Schooling – A Policy intervention for inclusive Development and Mainstreaming of Marginalized Socio-Economic Religious Communities, with Special Reference to Muslim Community and Based upon Sachar Committee's Recommendations, in Open Schooling Association of Commonwealth (OSAC) Journal, Vol VII, No. 1&2, Jan - Dec 2007, NIOS: Commonwealth of Learning, (Vancouver), New Delhi
- NIOS Online (Ni-On) Project: Excellence in Government Process Re-engineering - case study of National Award winning projects on a Governance 2008 in success stories being printed by Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances and Ministry of Information Technology, Government of India
- Paper on NIOS-online (Ni-On) Exemplary Horizontal Transfer of ICT http://nos.org/ article.htm
- Publication of paper on Towards Universalisation of Secondary Education Through NIOS, in Indian Journal for Open Learning, Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi, Volume 17, No. 1 January 2008
- Participated and Paper presented on Open and Distance Learning – A Policy intervention for inclusive Development & Mainstreaming of Marginalized Socio-Religious Communities, An Indian Case Study at International Fifth Pan

- Commonwealth Forum on Open Learning, London. http://nos.org/article.htm
- Participated in International Workshop on the Potential of Flexible Education: Reaching Nomadic/Migrant Populations (Regional Workshop for South Asia), organized by Commonwealth Secretariat, London and NIOS at New Delhi, May 2008.
- Participated in 12th National Conference on e-Governance held in Goa on 12-13th February 2009 organized by Deptt. Of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances & Ministry of IT, Govt. of India.
- Participation in meetings of National Monitoring Committee for Minorities Education (NMCME) held in New Delhi, January and November 2008.
- Conference Director for First, Second, Third and Fourth Annual National Workshop on Examination Reforms in Open Schooling, between 2006 to 2009

Sh. S.K. Prasad, System Analyst/Programmer

 Participated and Presented Paper on "Examination On-Demand: Implementation strategies in Open Schooling" in the Pan Commonwealth Forum-5(PCF5) held at London (13-17 July 2008)

Dr Anita Priyadarshini, Joint Director (Academic/Personnel)

- Presentation on *India Country Report* at International Workshop on The Potential of Flexible Education: Reaching Nomadic / Migrant Populations in the South Asia Region Literacy organized by Commonwealth Secretariat, London & NIOS, 26th to 29th May 2008
- Presentation on *Promotion of Lifelong*

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Learning, India: Flexible Learning for the Developing World at International Seminar on Community Learning Centres organized by UNESCO Bangkok and Directorate of NFE, Bandung, Indonesia, 23-27th June 2008

- Presentation on Synergy of Formal and Non-Formal Education: The Indian Context at International Seminar on Community Learning Centres organized by UNESCO Bangkok and directorate of NFE, Bandung, Indonesia, 23-27th June 2008
- Participated in Women Managers' Training Workshop on ICT Tools and Services in support of Open Distance Education held from November 17-21st 2008, organized by Commonwealth of Learning, Vancouver

Mrs. Gopa Biswas, Deputy Director(Academic)

 Participated in National Workshop on Development of Material teaching in English at Primary Level organized by DEP-SSA, IGNOU held on 23rd – 26th December 2008.

Dr. R.S.P Singh, Deputy Director (VE)

 Participated in a workshop on 'Quality Assurance in Open Schooling' organised by the Commonwealth of Learning (COL) at Johannesburg, South Africa from 8-12 September 2008.

Mrs. Manju Gupta, Deputy Director (Academic), Dr. Mamta Srivastava, Deputy Director(VE), Shri, Aditi Ranjan Rout, Academic Officer (Business Studies)

• Participated in the International Conference on "Learner Support in Open Schools" organized by the Commonwealth of Learning from 20-24 Oct 2008 at Johannesburg, South Africa.

Mrs. Manju Gupta, Deputy Director (Academic) and Dr. Mamta Srivastava, Deputy Director(VE)

 Represented India at "Steering Committee Meeting" on the development of Open Education Resource (OER) organized by the Commonwealth of Learning from 26-28 October 2008 at Johannesburg, South Africa.

Dr. Rachna Bhatia, Assistant Director (Academic)

• A Book published *titled* "Sahityik Sakshatkar Aur Dr. Rangra" in January 2009.

Revised and new editions published of two books: a. *Hindi-Angreji Abhivyakti Kosh* (1993) b. *Manak Hindi Vartani—Samasyayen aur Samadhan*, (1997).