

## National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS)

### Significant Activities of NIOS during February 2008

#### 1. Academic Programmes

- 1.1 Development of course material in the subject of Business Studies, Psychology, Physics, Painting, Mass Communication, Economics, Political Science, Functional Hindi, Accountancy continued.
- 1.2 Items for On Demand Examination in Social Science and Hindi (Secondary Education) were reviewed.
- 1.3 Workshops were conducted to revise the curriculum of Secondary courses in the subject of English, Hindi and Urdu.

#### 1.4 Open Basic Education (OBE) Programme

- 10 more Agencies have been accredited for OBE Programme.
- Three Minority Institutions of UP and five Minority Institutions of Bihar have been accredited.
- 6749 OBE certificates despatched to OBE Centres.
- Textbook of Social Science (OBE-B level) in Tamil prepared by SRC Tamilnadu was reviewed.
- OBE Enrolment data 2007-08 received and recorded.

- 1.5 A textbook of Tamil language prepared of SRC Chennai was reviewed and sent back to SRC Chennai on 6 Feb. 2008 with comments and suggestions.

#### 1.6 Adolescence Education Project (AEP)

- Analysis of feedback proforma about the SAARC Conference on AEP revealed that the Conference was successful in disseminating information regarding implementation of AEP in SAARC region and sensitizing the participants to the methods of addressing the needs of adolescents. 86% of the respondents agreed that the conference was indeed able to better equip them for implementation of AE in their countries.
- A sensitization workshop on the 'Role of distance education for mainstreaming learners with specific learning disability' was organised. The feedback analysis of the sensitization workshop revealed that the workshop was successful in clarifying the participants' doubts and misconceptions regarding dyslexia. The workshop successfully pointed out the suggestions from the experts which helped as a guide for the NIOS officials in charting the future course of action. The workshop also helped in identifying new avenues and future prospects related to addressing effectively the difficulties faced by learning disabled.
- NIOS in collaboration with UNFPA has proposed an innovative strategy of imparting life skill using languages. An innovative approach is being designed keeping in view its various possibilities of learner interaction and significance in distance education. The programme is expected to have a significant coverage thereby helping a wide number of learners to effectively utilize life skills in their daily life situations.

- NIOS has prepared and Integrated Voice Response System (IVRS) on adolescent issues and concerns. Although the Toll Free number has not yet been made public, the pilot study reveals its remarkable acceptance by NIOS learners and others. It is proposed to supplement the existing information by adding career related queries.

## **2. Vocational Education**

- 2.1 An exploratory meeting with the Global Business Accountant was held for developing a two year course on Diploma in Business Accounts and Practices.
- 2.2 In a meeting of the experts associated with development of Material for the Vocational Course on Care of Elderly, Guidelines for Practical Examinations were finalized and the Modules 1 to 4 of the Practical Manual were edited.
- 2.3 In a workshop, practical lessons in Vocational Courses in Community Health Programme ( Jan Swasthya) were allocated to authors.
- 2.4 In a workshop, matters related to revision of Fees, Norms of Accreditation and Entry-level requirements in the area of Engineering and Technology and Agriculture Science were discussed.
- 2.5 In a meeting of the experts associated with the development of Material for the Vocational Courses in “Gram Sakhi,” the Blue Print, Question Paper Design and Guidelines for Practical Examination were finalized.
- 2.6 A one-day meeting for Insurance Course Development was held.
- 2.7 A meeting for revision of Fees and Fixation of contact hours in the area of Computer Science was held.
- 2.8 A one day training programme for the Faculty of the eight Extension Training Centres of Uttaranchal was held on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2008 at the NIOS Headquarters. In this Training Programme, faculty from the DIETS from the areas of Training Centres was also invited so as to enable the participants to implement the aptitude testing in their districts. The participants were informed about testing procedure. 1000 children /parents in each Extension Training Centres will be administered the test.

## **3. Student Support Services**

- 3.1 Facilitation programmes for students continued.

## **4. Evaluation**

- 4.1 Preparation for April, May 2008 Examinations continued.

## **5. Administration**

- 5.1 Four requests under RT I Act were received and processed.
- 5.2 A write up on NIOS inputs for the Annual Report 2007-08 of MHRD was submitted to the Ministry.
- 5.3 Responses to grievance applications were given.
- 5.4 Three Parliament Questions were answered.
- 5.5 NIOS participated on 14.2.2008 in an Advocacy Programme for Modernization of Madrasas for three Districts of Uttar Pradesh organized by Madrasa Darul Uloom Ahle Sunnat Faizunnavi, District Basti.

- 5.6 The Chairman, NIOS and the Secretary, NIOS participated in a Meeting of the Standing Committee of the National Minority Committee for Minorities Education, MHRD on 20 February 2008 at NUEPA. The Committee considered the matters regarding inclusion of subjects being taught in NIOS in the Madrasa Curriculum.

## **6. Media Programmes**

- 6.1 NIOS continued telecast of its video programmes on Doordarshan (DD-I) from 05.02 a.m. to 05.25 a.m. every Friday and on Gyandarshan channel every day from 6.30 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.  
NIOS Audio programmes are being broadcast on Gyanvani FM Channel every Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 8.30 a.m. to 9.00 a.m. and repeat broadcast from 4.30 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.
- 6.2 NIOS officials from HQ and Regional Centres Delhi, Patna, Hyderabad and Allahabad attended Technical Training on EDUSAT organized by CIET-NCERT in collaboration with ISRO.
- 6.3 Production of 10 audio programmes on NIOS- COL Project on training of NIOS functionaries was outsourced.
- 6.4 In- house shooting of Video Programme related to Success Story of Vocational Education Programme of NIOS was completed.

## **7. Regional Level Inputs**

- 7.1 The Regional Centres of NIOS continued work related to admission, examination and students support services.
- 7.2 The Regional Centre, Jaipur has been shifted to new building at address D-11,12 Roop Vihar Colony, Mohan Marg, Opp. Karoli Garden, New Sanganer Road, Sodala, Jaipur- 302019 and functioning there since 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2008..
- 7.3 One day Orientation Programme for Co-ordinators of AVIs was organized for uplifting of Vocational Education at Regional Centre Pune on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2008.
- 7.4 The Regional Centre, Guwahati (NIOS) participated in the Guwahati Book Fair held from 30.12.2007 to 10.1.2008 and displayed the NIOS study material, CD Programmes, Application Form for Accreditation of Institutions as Study Centres, and Prospectus etc.
- 7.5 The Regional Centre, Guwahati took up follow up activities with the Assam Higher Secondary Education Council for setting up of the Assam State Open School.

## **8. Promotion of Open Schooling Programme**

- 8.1 The Chairman, NIOS discussed with the Special Secretary-cum-Director of Education, Andaman and Nicobar Islands matters related to promotion of Open Schooling programme in the Union Territory.