

NATIONAL CONSORTIUM FOR OPEN SCHOOLING (NCOS)

ANNUAL MEETING OF NCOS REPORT



NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF OPEN SCHOOLING (NIOS)

A-24-25, Institutional Area, Sector-62, NOIDA - 201309, U.P.

National Consortium for Open Schooling (NCOS)

Annual Meeting

Dates: 4-5 February, 2013

Venue: New Circuit House, Raipur, Chhattisgarh

Report



NCOS Secretariat
National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS)
A-24/25, Institutional Area, Sector-62, NOIDA-201309
Uttar Pradesh



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A-24-25, Institutional Area, Sector-62,
NOIDA-201309.

National Consortium for Open Schooling (NCOS) Annual Meeting

Dates: 4-5 February, 2013

Venue: New Circuit House, Raipur, Chhattisgarh

CHIEF GUEST

Shri Brijmohan Agrawal
Hon'ble Education Minister of Chhattisgarh

HOST OF THE ANNUAL MEET OF NCOS

Shri T. Radhakrishnan
Chairman, Chattisgarh State Open School, Department of School Education,
Govt. of Chattisgarh, Hari Bhumi Complex, Tikarapara, Raipur-492001

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NOIDA-201309, Uttar Pradesh

➤ **Sh. U.N. Khaware**

Secretary
National Institute of Open Schooling
A-24/25, Institutional Area, Sector-62,
NOIDA-201309, Uttar Pradesh

➤ **Dr. Sanyam Bhardwaj**

Director (SSS)
National Institute of Open Schooling
A-24/25, Institutional Area, Sector-62,
NOIDA-201309, Uttar Pradesh

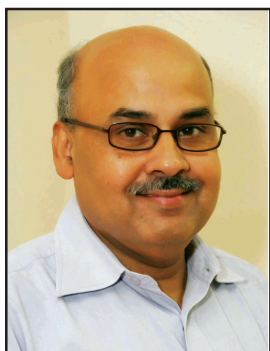
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Dr. P.K. Chauhan

Senior Executive Officer (NCOS)
(Coordinator, NCOS Annual Meeting)
National Institute of Open Schooling
A-24/25, Institutional Area, Sector-62,
NOIDA-201309, U.P.

FOREWORD



After success of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), the Central and the State Governments have been striving for Universalisation of Secondary Education (USE). With Right to Education (RTE) in place, there is a great influx of class VIII pass outs seeking admission in Secondary Education Courses. The Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) being operationalised by the Government of India, Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) is giving impetus to the endeavours for achieving the goal of USE.

RMSA has envisaged that 15% of the students clientele at the Secondary stage may be taken care of by the Open Schooling System. The Open Schools viz., the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) and the State Open Schools (SOSs) are now required to upscale substantially their programmes and activities in order to provide appropriate responses to the challenge of USE.

The RMSA Framework has made provision of financial assistance to the Open Schools in this regard. The items for which financial assistance will be available have been mentioned in this Report. The RMSA Framework has also made provision of financial assistance to the states not having SOSs so far to plan and operationalise their Open Schooling programmes.

It may be added here that advocacy, consultancy and resource support from NIOS would also be available to the existing SOSs and would-be SOSs as per their need.

The present Annual Meet of the National Consortium for Open Schooling (NCOS) has given final shape to the constitution of NCOS. The General Body of NCOS and its Executive Committee have been set up. The NCOS Secretariat is now required to plan and organize vigorously the programmes related to promotion of Open Schooling and discharge enthusiastically the coordination and clearing house functions.

Realising the need of skill development of youth as a priority agenda, it is suggested that the State Open Schools may make provision of offering relevant and need based Vocational Education and Training (VET) programmes. They are welcome to seek guidance and resource support from NIOS as it has a rich experience of operationalising VET. NIOS has set up a Capacity Building Cell. As suggested in the present Annual Meet, NIOS would organise the orientation/training programmes for the Resource Persons of SOSs. The SOSs may utilize the services of these Resource Persons for training of their Open Schooling functionaries.

There is a need to prepare a consolidated Profile of the Open Schools in India (NIOS and SOSs). We hope that SOSs would furnish promptly the informational inputs for the Profile. The proforma for feedback in this regard will be sent by the NCOS Secretariat to SOSs. In the meanwhile, as suggested in the Annual Meet, the NCOS Secretariat has started work on preparation of "NCOS Website".

I am thankful to Dr. Sanyam Bhardwaj, Director, Department of Student Support Services, NIOS, Dr. Kuldeep Agarwal, Director (Academic), NIOS and Shri U.N. Khaware, Secretary NIOS for planning and organizing the Annual Meet of NCOS. I am extremely grateful to Shri Brijmohan Agrawal, Hon'ble Education Minister of Chhattisgarh state for inaugurating the Annual Meet of NCOS and sharing his ideas and experience with the delegates. Our thanks to the Chairman, State Open School, Chhattisgarh and his staff for hosting the programme.

We are grateful to the delegates from the SOSs/ Education Departments who participated enthusiastically in the programme.

Dr. Pawan Kumar Chauhan, Senior Executive Officer (NCOS) deserves appreciation for initiating and coordinating the entire programme.



S.S. Jena
Chairman, NIOS
& Chairperson NCOS

April 2013

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Inaugural Session

The Annual Meet of the National Consortium for Open Schooling (NCOS) was organized at Raipur (Chhattisgarh) from 4 to 5 February, 2013. The Meeting was inaugurated by Shri Brijmohan Agrawal, Hon'ble Education Minister of the Chhattisgarh State. In his inaugural address, the Hon'ble Minister emphasized the need of providing access to good quality education both through the formal schooling system and the Open Schooling System. In order to meet the challenges of access and equity, the Open Schooling system is required to be placed on a sound pedestal and it should be given due recognition. He appreciated the Chairman, NIOS for setting up the Regional Centre of NIOS at Raipur. It would give impetus to the open schooling programme in Chhattisgarh state.

Dr. S.S. Jena, Chairman, NIOS offered the services of the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) to the States for promotion of open schooling programme. He informed that under the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), a provision is being made for providing financial assistance and resource support to the State Open Schools (SOSs) for up scaling of their open schooling programmes. Provision is also being made for resource support for setting up of new SOSs.

Shri U. N. Khaware, Secretary, NIOS proposed a vote of thanks.

Presentation About NIOS

Dr. Sanyam Bhardwaj, Director, Department of Student Support Services, NIOS gave highlights of the programmes and activities of NIOS.

- NIOS provides Open Schooling opportunities by making available the following courses:
 - i) Open Basic Education (OBE) programme
 - ii) Secondary and Senior Secondary Education courses
 - iii) Vocational Education and Training programmes
 - iv) Life Enrichment programmes
- NIOS functions through five major Departments at its Headquarters, 16 Regional Centres and more than 5000 Study Centres. It has a current enrolment of about 2.2 million students which makes it the largest open schooling system in the world.
- NIOS offers several flexibilities in its programmes right from admission to examination and certification. Some of these are 24x7 on-line admission, freedom to choose subjects, credit accumulation and credit transfer from other Boards, support to learners through Personal Contact Programme (PCP) and Tutor Marked Assignments (TMAs) and On Demand Examination.
- At the Secondary level, the mediums include Hindi, English, Urdu, Marathi, Telugu, Malayalam, Gujarati and Oriya. At the Senior Secondary level, the mediums include Hindi, English and Urdu.
- The HUNAR Project of NIOS for skill Development and training of minority community girls was first experimented in Bihar and thereafter launched in Delhi.

- Some significant initiatives and programmes of NIOS include :
 - Mukta Vidya Vani – Audio Streaming.
 - Diploma in Elementary Education.
 - Up scaling of qualifications of Primary Teachers of West Bengal.
 - New Vocational Education courses in collaboration with industries etc.
 - Free education to Jail inmates.
 - Scheme of providing quality education in Madrasas (SP QEM).

Presentations by State Open Schools (SOSs)

- During the meeting five state open schools (SOSs), viz., Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh and Assam made their presentations. The presentations included data/information related to setting up of SOS, curriculum and materials, priority clientele (students), flexibilities being offered in admission and examination, programme delivery system, number of study centres, organizational structure of SOS, monitoring of implementation of SOS programmes, use of ICT and annual budget.
- It was felt that NIOS may take steps to prepare profile of all open schools in the country.

Constitution of NCOS

In the last meeting of NCOS, it was decided that the suggestions given in the meeting on the Constitution of NCOS might be incorporated and the modified document may be got legally vetted. The modified Constitution was approved and adopted in the Annual Meet of NCOS held on 4-5 May, 2013 and it was decided that NCOS would be Registered as soon as possible.

The Chairman, NIOS was unanimously elected as the Chairman of NCOS. The office bearers of the Executive Committee of NCOS were also elected unanimously.

Upscaling of the Open Schooling Programme

- The RMSA Division of the Government of India, Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), in consultation with NIOS, has prepared a scheme of financial assistance and resource support for promotion of open schooling programme in the country. There is a provision of financial assistance for up scaling of the open schooling programmes of SOSs. Besides, there is also a provision of giving financial assistance for setting up and operationalisation of State Open Schools (SOSs) in the remaining states.
- During the Annual Meet of NCOS the participating States were informed about the provisions of the RMSA assistance for promotion of open schooling programmes. They were also apprised of the items for which financial assistance may be provided by MHRD under RMSA.

Open Vocational Education and Training (OVET) Programme

In the wake of emphasis on skill development, it was suggested that the SOSs should give due priority for identification of need based OVET programmes and their operationalisation as a priority agenda. Emphasis may be given on public private partnership (PPP); and Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL). It was also suggested that NIOS may remain in touch with SOSs for implementation of the OVET programmes on priority basis.

Recommendations of the National Meet

Based on the presentations and discussion in the Annual Meet, several recommendations emerged. These recommendations relate to (i) up scaling of Open Schooling programme, (ii) resource support for promotion of open schooling, (iii) capacity building of open schooling functionaries, (iv) adoption of the Constitution of NCOS, (v) profile of open schools (vi) studies on various aspects of open schooling and (viii) Website of NCOS. These recommendations are included in this Report of Annual Meet of NCOS.

1. Upscaling of Open Schooling Programme

In order to meet the target of the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) that 15% student population at the Secondary level may be taken care of by the open schooling system, the open schools in the country (viz., the National Institute of Open Schooling and the State Open Schools) are required to upscale their programmes in terms of substantial increase in enrolment at the secondary stage with quality assurance. The Secretariat of the National Consortium for Open Schooling (NCOS) may persuade the States not having State Open Schools (SOSs) to set up SOSs on priority basis.

2. Resource Support For Promotion of Open Schooling

The NCOS Secretariat should remain in touch with the RMSA Division of the Government of India, Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) for providing financial assistance to the State Education Departments for promotion of their open schooling programmes. The financial assistance may be used by the existing SOSs to upscale their Secondary Education programmes. Financial support may also be provided by RMSA to the States not having SOSs to set up their own Open Schools. The NCOS Secretariat may organize advocacy and consultancy programmes in such States and assist them in preparation of their Frameworks for setting up SOSs.

3. Vocational Education and Training Programmes

Realising the need of skill development of youth as a priority agenda, the State Open Schools (SOSs) may make provision of offering relevant and need based Vocational Education and Training (VET) programmes. NIOS with its rich experience in VET may provide resource support in this endeavour to the State Open Schools. A detailed Plan of Action for VET in Open Schools may be formulated and operationalised by NIOS.

4. Capacity Building of Open Schooling Functionaries

NIOS as an apex organization in Open Schooling may prepare a Plan of Action for capacity building of the functionaries working in Open Schools. The Training Programmes for SOSs may be organized in cascade mode. For this purpose, NIOS may organize training programmes for the Key Persons and Resource Persons of SOSs. They may, in turn, organize training programmes for the functionaries associated with the Open Schooling programmes of SOSs.

NIOS may prepare a Training Package for capacity building of open schooling functionaries. It needs to be ensured by NIOS and SOSs that the capacity building programmes of open schooling functionaries are backed by appropriate Training Modules/Training Package.

5. Constitution of the National Consortium for Open Schooling (NCOS)

The Constitution of NCOS as approved by the Annual Meet of NCOS held on 4-5th February 2013 at Raipur may now be operationalised by the NCOS Secretariat located in NIOS. At least one meeting of the General Body of NCOS and one meeting of the Executive Committee of NCOS may be organized every year. The Agenda Items for these meetings may be invited from all Open Schools (NIOS and SOSs).

6. Profiles of Open Schools

The NCOS Secretariat may take necessary action to prepare the Profiles of Open Schools in India (NIOS and SOSs). The feedback for preparation of profiles may be obtained from all Open Schools.

The NCOS secretariat may analyse and synthesize the informational inputs and prepare a consolidated Profile of Open Schools in India. NIOS and SOSs may also bring out their own profiles in printed form. The profiles need to be updated periodically as per need.

7. Studies on various aspects of Open Schooling Programmes

The NCOS Secretariat may conduct studies on various aspects of the Open Schooling Programmes of the Open Schools. The studies may inter alia be conducted on aspects such as :

- i) Preparation and production of Self Learning Material (SLM), including print and non-print-material, by the Open Schools in the country.
- ii) Efficacy of Personal Contact Programme (PCP) and Tutor Marked Assignment(TMA)
- iii) Utilisations of print and non-print material by the learners of Open Schools.
- iv) Efficacy of Capacity building programmes for Open schooling functionaries.

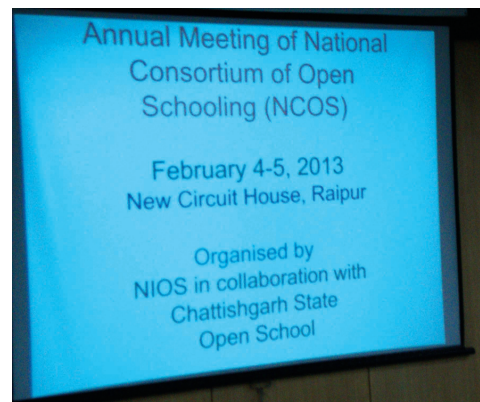
8. NCOS Website

A separate website of the National Consortium for Open Schooling (NCOS) may be prepared. Precise information about the Open Schools in India (NIOS and SOSs) and their activities may be uploaded on the website from time to time.

Annual Meeting of the National Consortium for Open Schooling

1. Backdrop

As a result of the success of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan(SSA), the influx of students passing out of class VIII and seeking admission in the Secondary Education Courses is increasing rapidly. Moreover, owing to the constantly increasing impact of globalisation and new Information and Communication Technologies(ICT), the dominance and demand for quality education has been increasing steadily. This demand is required to be met mainly by expanding substantially the formal schooling system. However, due to the non-flexibility of the formal schooling system and due to several socio-economic and cultural reasons, even large scale expansion of the formal schooling system may not suffice to universalise secondary education. The Open and Distance Learning (ODL) System using flexible education mode has tremendous potential to facilitate universalisation of School Education.



The Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan(RMSA), the flagship programme of the Government of India, Ministry of Human Resource Development for Universalisation of Secondary Education(USE), envisages ensuring universal access to Secondary Education by the year 2016-2017. The main focus of RMSA is to provide wide access to Secondary Education with special emphasis on economically backward children, girls, differently abled and marginalized categories like SCs, STs, OBCs and Educationally Backward Minorities(EBMs). In order to meet the challenge of USE, the guiding principles are Access, Equity, Social Justice; and Quality.

RMSA recognizes the role that Open and Distance Learning(ODL) can play for education of out of school children. It states:

“Despite massive expansion of educational facilities in Secondary Schooling, a large number of adolescents and youth in the concerned age groups will not be able to take advantage of formal schooling during stipulated school hours that often coincide with the productive labour required in rural areas for agriculture and in urban areas for a variety of income generating activities particularly for lower middle class and poor families. It is necessary to design, create and establish alternative educational provisions for such prospective learners. As a result of experimentation and initiatives in Open and Distance Learning(ODL) the Open Schooling system has emerged as an alternative school education system.

The Open Schooling programmes up to pre-degree level are being offered by the National Institute of Open Schooling(NIOS) and State Open Schools(SOSs). The CABE Committee on Universalization of Secondary Education has suggested that the Open Schools network when fully developed should be able to cater to at least 15% students in Secondary Education. It is a great challenge before the Open Schooling System, which needs to be met by making perspective plans meticulously. The Open Schooling network needs to be expanded to ensure that every state provides Open Schooling facility through its regional language.”

(Now there are 17 State Open Schools. 17 States where Open Schools have been started are: **Haryana, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Kerala, Karnataka, Tamilnadu, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Bihar, Assam, West Bengal and Delhi.**)

If the open learning system has to cater to 15 percent students in the secondary education, the ODL system should develop a capacity to provide education to at least one crore school age going children in the age group 14-18. NIOS at present enrolls about five lakh students annually. The annual admission in all 17 SOSs may be about 10-15 lakh. For this, the following actions need to be taken:

- ➔ State Open Schools have to increase substantially their annual intake.
- ➔ All States should make special provisions for the economically backward, girls, differently abled children, marginalized categories like SCs, STs, OBCs and Educationally Backward Minorities(EBMs).
- ➔ Those States that do not have Open Schools have to plan and take immediate steps for providing educational opportunities to out of school children. They may either start their own Open School or support NIOS to expand its outreach in their States or tie up with the Open School of a neighboring State. NIOS, being a national resource organization for open schooling, offers technical and resource support for setting up of State Open Schools .
- ➔ NIOS also needs to optimally increase its intake capacity. NIOS solicits the support of State Governments in this regard and help the former to set up study centres in State Government Schools, particularly in the Educationally Backward Blocks(EBBs).
- ➔ In order to fulfill the role of national resource organization and provide technical and resource support to States effectively, it is imperative for NIOS to expand, not only its network of study centres, but also to have Regional Centres in all States. The State Governments may extend help to NIOS to acquire space for Regional Centres.
- ➔ Research and Development activities are important for enhancing quality. Research in ODL needs to be promoted in a big way. NIOS has already set up a Research & Development Cell for this purpose. Extensive Research Projects will be initiated in-house as well as in collaboration with other institutions/ organizations. The institutions/Organisations and SOSs may propose research projects that can be supported by NIOS. The SOSs may also undertake research project in Open Schooling from their own funds.
- ➔ The last meeting of NCOS held on 9-10 February, 2012 recommended that relevant and need based Open Vocational Education and Training(OVET) programmes may be offered by the State Open Schools(SOSs). The SOSs may seek guidance and academic assistance in this regard from NIOS.

2. Forum of Open Schools in India

- 2.1 The matters regarding promotion of open schooling programme are deliberated in the forum of Open Schools in India titled “National Consortium for Open Schooling (NCOS) “
- 2.2 The Annual Meeting of NCOS was held on 4 - 5 February, 2013 at the Circuit House, Government of Chhattisgarh, Raipur. The participants included:
 - Chairperson/Directors of State Open Schools (SOSs).
 - Chairman, NIOS and some senior faculty members of NIOS.

3. Agenda for the Present Meeting of NCOS

3.1 The agenda items included:

- (i) Finalization and approval of the NCOS Constitution.
- (ii) Election of the Chairperson of NCOS and members of Executive Committee.
- (iii) Strategy/Modalities for up-scaling of the open schooling programme in the states in the context of the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA).
- (iv) Plans of Action of State Open Schools (SOSs) under RMSA.
- (v) Preparation of profiles of State Open Schools (SOSs)

The inaugural session began with the lighting of lamp by Shri Brijmohan Agrawal, Hon'ble Education Minister of Chhattisgarh, Shri J. Minz, IAS, Education Secretary, Chhattisgarh, Dr. S. S. Jena, Chairman, NIOS, Shri U.N.Khaware, Secretary, NIOS, Dr. Kuldeep Agarwal, Director(Academic), NIOS and Dr. Sanyam Bhardwaj, Director (Student Support Services), NIOS.



Dr. S.S. Jena, Chairman, NIOS welcomed the Hon'ble Education Minister of Chhattisgarh, the Education Secretary, Government of Chhattisgarh, the delegates from the states and other invitees.



In his welcome address, Dr. S.S. Jena highlighted the following points:

- Besides the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS), 17 states have already set up State Open Schools (SOSs). Whereas some of the SOSs are functioning very well, a few SOSs are in the process of operationalisation of their SOSs. NIOS is persuading the remaining 12 states to set up SOSs. It has been envisaged that the Open Schooling needs of the Union Territories may be taken care of by their adjoining State Education Departments/ State Open Schools.

- RMSA has envisaged that 15% children in the Secondary Education age group may be taken care of by the open schooling system. Therefore, there is an urgent need to plan strategies for upscaling of the open schooling programme. The requisite financial assistance to existing SOSs may be provided under the RMSA programme. The states planning to set up SOSs may also seek resource support under RMSA programme. A framework for financial assistance for promotion of open schooling is being prepared by the RMSA Division of the Government of India, Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) . NIOS will remain involved in planning and implementation of the promotion of open schooling programme in the states.
- It is high time that emphasis may be given to relate education with livelihood. In this context, skill training to our children and youth assumes importance. Besides offering full-fledged Vocational Education and Training programmes of different duration in Sectors like Agriculture, Health and Paramedical, Engineering and Technology, Hospitality Management, NIOS has made provision of offering one vocational education subject along with other academic subjects at the Secondary and the Senior Secondary stages of school education. Preparation of the National Vocational Qualification Framework (NVQF) is a significant step for promotion and giving right direction to the skill development programme
- Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) is a significant programme envisaged by NIOS for giving boost to the skill development programme.
- The open schooling programme is required to give emphasis on access, equity and quality. We must give emphasis to flexibility under the Open and Distance Learning (ODL) system. The flexibility may be in various aspects such as choice of subjects, accumulation of credits, transfer of credits from other Boards and in examination system. The On Demand Examination System (ODES) planned and operationalised by NIOS is a very significant innovation that needs to be replicated by the State Open Schools (SOSs) and even by the Formal Education System.



- The State Open Schools (SOSs) are welcome to seek guidance and resource support from NIOS in preparation of their Plans of Action for Promotion of Open Schooling and introducing innovations in their Open Schooling Programmes.

Shri Brijmohan Agrawal, Hon'ble Education Minister of Chhattisgarh State, in his inaugural address, emphasized the need of up-scaling of the Open Schooling Programme throughout the country for giving access to good quality education, particularly to children and youth belonging to weaker sections of the society. In addition to offering



academic subjects, provision may also be made to offer relevant and need based Vocational Education and Training (VET) programmes to the clientele. This may be treated as a priority agenda under the Open Schooling Programme.



The Hon'ble Minister gave emphasis to ensure that the Open Schooling System should be given due recognition in the school education system. If the pass outs from open schools are not recognised or are not treated at par with the pass out from the formal education system, it would create problems. The matter needs to be taken care of by the National Consortium of Open Schooling (NCOS).

He appreciated the Chairman NIOS for setting up the Regional Centre of NIOS in Chhattisgarh at Raipur. It would facilitate promotion of Open Schooling Programme in the state. The children and youth who are potential clientele of the open schooling programme will be greatly benefited by this venture of NIOS.

At this stage, Dr. S. S. Jena, Chairman NIOS, informed that many Universities and Boards have recognized the courses of study being offered by NIOS. Recently, the Medical Council of India (MCI) has given recognition to the Senior Secondary Course of NIOS. It will facilitate the students to take admission in M.B.B.S. and other medical courses. In the meanwhile, NIOS has taken up the matter of recognition of its Pharmacy course with the Pharmacy Council. About 1200 students of NIOS have been selected in the AIEEE examination.

Shri U. N. Khaware, Secretary, NIOS, thanked the Chief Guest and others. He assured that the NCOS Secretariat would continue taking steps to place the Open Schooling System in the country on a sound pedestal.

NIOS will take appropriate steps to share its innovative programmes with the State Open Schools (SOSs). We would ensure that Open Schooling programmes are treated at par with the programmes being offered by the Formal Schooling System.



Date	:	4 th February 2013
Session	:	I (A)
Chairperson	:	Dr. Kuldeep Agarwal, Director (Academic), NIOS
Topic	:	Presentation about NIOS
Presentation by	:	Dr.Sanyam Bhardwaj, Director (Student Support Services), NIOS

What is NIOS

- It was started as a project in CBSE in 1979.
- In 1986, the National Policy on Education suggested strengthening of Open School System for extending open learning facilities in a phased manner at secondary level all over the country as an independent system with its own curriculum and examination leading to certification. Consequently, the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India set up the National Open School (NOS) in November 1989. The pilot project of CBSE on Open School was amalgamated with NOS.
- Through a Resolution (No. F.5-24/90 Sch.3 dated 14 September 1990 published in the Gazette of India on 20 October 1990), the National Open School (NOS) was vested with the authority to register, examine and certify students registered with it up to pre-degree level courses.
- In July 2002, the Ministry of Human Resource Development amended the nomenclature of the organization from the National Open School (NOS) to the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS)



What Does NIOS Do?

NIOS provides opportunities to interested learners by making available the following Courses/Programmes of study through Open and Distance Learning (ODL) mode:

- Open Basic Education (OBE)** Programme for 14+ years age group, adolescents and adults at A, B and C levels that are equivalent to classes III, V and VIII of the formal school system.
- Secondary Education Course
- Senior Secondary Education Course
- Vocational Education Courses/Programmes
- Life Enrichment Programmes

How Does NIOS Function?

NIOS operates through a network of five Departments, 16 Regional Centres, 2 Sub-Regional Centres, 1 Cell and 5000+ Accredited Institutions (Study Centres) in India and abroad. It has a current enrolment of about 2.2 million students at Secondary and Senior Secondary levels which makes it the largest open schooling system in the world. The 17th Regional Centre of NIOS at Raipur was inaugurated today (4th February 2013) by Hon'ble Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh.

The Departments of NIOS Are

- Student Support Services
- Academic
- Vocational
- Administration
- Evaluation

The Regional Centres of NIOS Are At

Allahabad	:	Kochi
Bhopal	:	Patna
Chandigarh	:	Pune
Delhi	:	Dehradun
Guwahati	:	Bhubneswar
Hyderabad	:	Bengaluru
Jaipur	:	Gadhinaragar
Kolkata	:	Raipur

Regional Centres of NIOS Proposed to be set up are:

- Ranchi (Jharkhand)
- Srinagar (J&K)
- Chennai (Tamil Nadu)
- Haryana

The Sub-Regional Centres of NIOS are at Darbhanga and Visakhapatnam. A Regional Cell of NIOS has been set up at Port Blair.

Admission and Examination Schedule

Block for Admission	Dates	Year of Examination
Stream I & II (Ist Block)	1 st March to 31 st Aug	April/May next year
Stream I & II (IInd Block)	1 st Sept. to 28 th Feb.	Oct./ Nov., same year
ODE Stream - III	Round the year	Round the year
ODE Stream - IV	Round the year	Round the year

Flexibilities Offered by NIOS

- 24X 7 Admission
- Continue education using modern ICT
- Freedom to choose subjects
- Continuous assessment through T M A
- Duration of registration is 5 years
- Credit accumulation facility
- Facility of re-admission after 5 years
- Learning support through PCP
- Transfer of credit
- On Demand Examinations

Choice of Medium

- At Secondary Level- Hindi, English, Urdu, Marathi, Telugu, Gujarati, Oriya (07).
- At Senior Secondary Level- Hindi, English, Urdu (03).

NIOS provides an opportunity for what to learn, when to learn, where to learn and how to learn.

Types of Study Centres

- Accredited Agencies (AAs) for Open Basic Education Programme.
- Accredited Institutions (AIs) for Secondary and Senior Secondary.
- Accredited Vocational Institutions (AVIs) for Open Vocational Education and Training (OVET).
- Special Accredited Institute for Education of the Disadvantaged (SAIEDs).

Accredited Institutions of NIOS

As on	Accredited Institutions	Accredited Vocational Institutions	Accredited Agencies	Total
31.3.2011	2482	1356	357	4195
21.5.2012	2996	1550	593	5139
Growth	514	194	236	944 (22.5%)

Minority Institutions Accredited by NIOS

As on	Accredited Institutions	Accredited Vocational Institutions	Accredited Agencies	Total
31.3.2011	276	150	77	503
21.5.2012	402	203	139	744
Growth	126	53	62	241(47.91%)

Year-Wise New Admissions in NIOS

Year	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	Growth
Learners	419702	458055	493534	9.14%

Awards to NIOS

- TIMES OF INDIA SOCIAL IMPACT AWARD-2012
- WEB RATNA AWARD-2012
- 9th MANTHA AWARD-2012
- UNIVERSAL DESIGN AWARD-2012

.....AND MANY MORE

New Initiatives/Programmes of NIOS

➤ Hunar Project

NIOS launched the HUNAR Project for Skill Development and Training of Girls in the old city area of Delhi on 26th February 2011. 1613 girls were offered different trades such as cutting Tailoring, Basic Computing, Preservation of Vegetables and Fruits, Gram Sakhi, Embroidery etc. Earlier the HUNAR Project was successfully conducted in Bihar.

Scheme for providing Quality Education in Madarsas (SPQEM)

Other Initiatives

- ❑ New High Definition Studio
- ❑ Community Radio
- ❑ Mukta Vidya Vani- Audio Streaming
- ❑ Best Coordinator, Study Centre And Regional Centre Award
- ❑ Diploma In Elementary Education
- ❑ PTTI Trainees of West Bengal
- ❑ New Vocational Courses
- ❑ Free Education to Jail Inmates
- ❑ MoU With Open Polytechnic, Newzealand
- ❑ Virtual Open Schooling
- ❑ International Relations and International Conferences
- ❑ NIOS -NLMA Collaboration
- ❑ Equivalency to Madarsa Courses
- ❑ Revision of Secondary Courses
- ❑ Open Education Resources
- ❑ Open School in Afghanistan
- ❑ Capacity Building to Foreign Institutions
- ❑ Construction of Buildings of Regional Centres
- ❑ Commonwealth Open Schooling Association (COMOSA)
- ❑ National Consortium for Open Schooling (NIOS)
(Consortium of Open Schools in India)and many more

Date	:	4 th February 2013
Session	:	I (B)
Chairperson	:	Dr. S. S. Jena, Chairman, NIOS
Topic	:	Présentations by the State Open Schools
Presentation by	:	State Open Schools

Report of State Open Schools

The detailed presentations by the State Open Schools, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Gujarat are at Annexure-III .



The high lights of presentations by these SOSs are as follows:

Andhra Pradesh State Open School

State Open School : Andhra Pradesh Open School Society, SCERT Complex, Hyderabad-500001

Date of Inception : March 1991, as a Registered Society.

The Andhra Pradesh State Open School is the first State Open School in India, started way back in the year 1991. The main objective is to provide alternative system of education to adults and especially to drop-outs. It is an independent department, working under the Department of Primary Education, Government of Andhra Pradesh headed by a Director. It has an Executive Board for Policy decisions making and the Director implements the programmes.

The Government of Andhra Pradesh vested with the Andhra Pradesh State Open School (APOSS) the authority to carry out SSC as well as Intermediate courses and to conduct Examinations. The Pass holders of the above courses will be given certificates in the name of APSOS with the Signature/Seal of the Director, APSOS. The Pass holders of APSOS are eligible for both Higher Education and Employment as per Government orders. The Council of Boards of Secondary Education (COBSE) also accorded recognition to APSOS. The enrolment of APSOS is over 2.00 Lakh this year.

Courses offered:

- i. Elementary Education since 1991
- ii. Secondary Education w.e.f. 2008-09
- iii. Senior Secondary Education w.e.f. 2010-11
- iv. Open Vocational Education w.e.f. 2008-09

The Andhra Pradesh State Open School carried out the Open Basic Education Programme of classes V, VI, VII levels from 1991 to 2008. Subsequently, it restructured the scheme of studies and started 10th Class from 2008. In 2010, the Andhra Pradesh State Open School (APOSS) started the Senior Secondary course. Presently, only SSC and Sr. Secondary courses are offered in APOSS. Telugu, English, Hindi and Urdu mediums are offered in Sr. Secondary courses whereas Oriya medium is also offered in SSC course apart from the above media.

Curriculum:

- ❑ State Open School has prepared its own curriculum for Elementary, Secondary, Senior Secondary and Vocational Education.
- ❑ Andhra Pradesh State Open School developed curriculum for Open Basic Education in Telugu Medium. Two different modules were prepared for each Class of V, VI, VII keeping in view the adult learners and school age learners. Also developed simplified Study Material for 10th Class subjects under Groups A and B. Translated NIOS Senior Secondary Group B study Material into Telugu Medium. Prepared simplified Study Material in 11 subjects of Sr. Secondary courses. Developed curriculum and Study material for Telugu and Arabic languages for Sr. Secondary course.

Medium of Instruction: Mediums of Instruction being offered by State Open School (SOS) are as follows.

S. No	SSC	Sr. Secondary
(i)	Telugu	Telugu
(ii)	English	English
(iii)	Urdu	Urdu
(iv)	Hindi	Hindi
(v)	Oriya	

Self Learning Materials (SLM)

- State Open School (SOS) has adopted the Self Learning Material (SLM) of NIOS
- State Open School (SOS) has developed its own Self Learning Material (SLM) for Elementary Education.
- The Self Learning Material of NIOS were procured and supplied to the learners of both SSC and Sr. Secondary of APOSS. Recently, on the advice of NIOS, APOSS has taken Copy Right permission to reprint the Study Material of both SSC and Sr. Secondary courses. Sr. Secondary Telugu Medium Study Material was already developed and printed by APSOS with the permission of NIOS. As OBE is not in implementation, the study material already developed by APSOS has not been reprinted.

Total Enrolment	Secondary	Senior Secondary
2012-13	1,02,658	92852

Flexibilities being offered by SOS

- No Upper Age Limit
 - Minimum Age for 10th Class - 14 +
 - Minimum Age for Sr. Secondary - 15 +
- Freedom to choose subjects according to one's needs, interests and ability.
- Validity of Registration - 5 years
- Credit Accumulation Facility - Available
- Credit accumulation is admissible up to 5 years -
- Up to a maximum of Two subjects are allowed for Transfer of Credit (TOC) in both SSC and Sr. Secondary courses.
- Part Admission facility is available.
- Flexibility is offered in the selection of subjects from the group lists.
- Choice in selection of Medium among four Media offered in Sr. Secondary and five Media in S.S.C.
- Transfer of Credit (TOC) system to get transfer upto 2 subjects passed in other Boards.
- Flexible scheme of Examination; Once registered can complete the course in 9 Examinations/5 years.
- Credit Accumulation; Liberty to appear in one or any number of subjects at learners option.

Facilities being offered by State Open School (SOS)

- **Personal Contact Programme (PCP)**
 - 30 Personal Contact Programmes per subject.
 - Personal Contact Programme classes are held in weekends and holidays (At least 5 days in a month during August to February). Minimum 5 Tutors are engaged for Personal Contact Programme (PCP).
- **Tutor Marked Assignments (TMA)**
 - 3 (Three) Tutor Marked Assignments per subject.

Delivery System of the Open Schooling Programme:

- Printed Material
- Face to face counselling and Lab Practical/Training
- Audio Video Cassettes
- Internet based delivery

Printed Study Material is supplied to the learner through AIs. APOSS also developed simplified Study Material (Question and Answer Banks) and delivered to learners. Lab practicals are conducted in Jr. Colleges. 191 Audio Video Cassettes (Live Lessons) were developed for SSC courses. Study Material, Model Question Papers, Practical Question Bank, Simplified Study Material are kept in Website.

Admission and Enrolment

Dates of Admission

- (i) Academic Courses From June To July
(ii) Vocational Education Courses From June To July

Admission Fee

(i)	Secondary Courses	Rs. 600 (for Concessional Categories of SC, ST, OBC, PH, Minorities, Ex-Servicemen/All category Females)Rs. 1000/- for OC Male
(ii)	Sr. Secondary Courses	Rs. 800 (for Concessional Categories of SC, ST, OBC, PH, Minorities, Ex-Servicemen/All category Females)Rs. 1100/- for OC Male
(iii)	Vocational Education Courses	Rs.100/- per subject under Group-C of SSC.RS. 150/- per subject under Group-C of Intermediate.

Admission Fees includes cost of Study Material for Students.

APOSS is enrolling candidates only once in a year i.e., in June and July for whom the first Public Examinations will be held in April/May. Supplementary exams will be conducted in October/November every year.

Examination and Certification

S. No	Course	2010-11 (Nov/Dec 2011)			2011-12 (April/May 2012)			2012 (Oct/Nov 2012)		
		Appeared	Passed	Pass %	Appeared	Passed	Pass %	Appeared	Passed	Pass %
1.	Secondary Education	20312	9359	46.08	112808	71399	63.29	25160	11234	44.65
2.	Sr. Secondary Education				75156	43586	57.99	70374	32.724	46.50

Examination and Certification Body: Andhra Pradesh State Open School

Flexibilities in Examination System:

- Learner can have the option to appear whole examination or part (subject-wise).
- Learner can have the option to appear for Examinations twice a year (April/May & October).
- Learners can complete the course in a span of five years (9 examination chances).
- Credit accumulation Facility
- Facility of re-evaluation of Answer Books
- Months in which Examination are held: Twice a year (April/May & October/November)
- After how many weeks taken for result declaration: 3 to 4 weeks.
- The Question Paper and Marking Scheme are also placed on website after examination

APSOS shall conduct Public Examinations twice in a year, during April/May and October/November every year. The APSOS is empowered to conduct its Examinations and issue certificates by Andhra Pradesh Government orders. The Certificates issued by APSOS are valid for both Higher Education and employment.

Number of Study Centres of State Open School (Latest Position)

- Study Centres for Elementary/Open Basic Education : NIL
- Study Centres for Secondary Education : 1204
- Study Centres for Secondary Education : 1116
- Study Centres for Vocational Education : +2 (90) Vocational Centres

Certain AIs have been given accreditation only for SSC course. Certain AIs have been given accreditation only for Senior Secondary Course and certain AIs have been given accreditation both for SSC and Senior Secondary as well, basing on their existing sanctioned courses of formal system, facilities and qualified teaching staff.

APSOS started Study Centres in almost all Mandals (Sectors) of the State. There are 1156 Revenue Mandal Divisions in Andhra Pradesh State so as to take the Open School Activities to every nook and corner of the State.

Training of Open Schooling Functionaries

➔ **Training programmes are organised every year for :**

- (i) Staff of APSOS.
- (ii) Staff of the Study Centres every year.

Yearly once Orientation programme is conducted for the Coordinators of Study Centre. District Coordinators shall be given orientation at Head Office once in a Quarter. The State Open School (SOS) staff shall also be updated with developments on the activities of Open Schools. A Three day Orientation Programme was conducted for the District/Regional Coordinators to strengthen the functioning of the field functionaries of APSOS, with the support of NIOS.

Monitoring of Implementation of SOS Programmes

At Head Office level there are 20 Coordinators looking after 23 Districts in the State. All Coordinators shall visit districts during PCP days apart from the District Coordinator who is located in each of the 23 districts. District Educational Officer and other Education Officers at district level shall also monitor the activities of Andhra Pradesh State Programmes to Study Centre Coordinators and conduct of public Examinations. District Collector is the Chairman to APSOS at District level and monitor all activities of open Schooling

The fee structure of APSOS is fixed by Government of Andhra Pradesh. Fee is very nominal. The Study Material is supplied to learners free of cost within the cost of Admission fee. ID Cards and simplified Study Materials are also supplied to learners as part of provision of qualitative services to learners.

Audio and Video Programmes

Live Lesson Audio Visual Programmes were prepared for SSC course. The media Programmes of SOS are Broadcast/Telecast.

All the study materials of APSOS have been uploaded in the website (apopenschool.org) for the benefit of learners to go through/download the Study Materials

Use of ICT

Each AI Coordinator has been given a User-ID and Password to Login and enter each learners admission detail in the ON-LINE application. Learners are not given ON-LINE access to ensure the correctness of data in the ON-LINE application. AI Coordinator who is normally a Government/Zilla Parishad /Municipal/ Recognized High School/Junior College Head Master/Principal should certify the correctness of the data uploaded in the website and should necessarily submit the Hard Copy of Each ON-LINE application to the

District Coordinator for further scrutiny of applications and for confirmation of the admissions by the District Educational Officer. From Next year, it is planned to give ON-LINE application submission access to learners of Senior Secondary course as well, apart from AI Coordinator as the SSC pass E-data of formal and APSOS Board are automatically generated.

Assam State Open School

Name of the State Open School(SOS) : ASSAM STATE OPEN SCHOOL
Complete Address of SOS with PIN Code : ASSAM HIGHER SECONDARY EDUCATION COUNCIL,
BAMUNIMAIDAM, GUWAHATI-781021

Role and Functions of SOS: Assam State Open School plays a pivotal role in extending H.S. level courses for the deprived category of learners of the state.

The Assam State Open School is functioning through accredited Study-Centres[ASCs] located in different parts of the state.

Assam State Open School plays the significant role among the employees, drop outs and deprived category by providing opportunity to continue education through Open and Distance mode in regional medium.

Assam State Open School is established with the help, co-operation and guidance of NIOS as alternative system of education for the deprived group of the society. It plays an important role in extending +2 stage of Education through open and distance mode in the state. ASOS had already been recognised by the Guwahati University as the course is equivalent to other recognised Boards/Council offering +2 stage of Education.

Assam State Open School is operating as a cell running under Assam Higher Secondary Education Council, which is the apex body for regulating, supervise and develop the +2 stage of the state of Assam. The Cell is running to offer the H.S. Level Course through the Open and Distance learning mode. Along with the Academic courses, the SOS also offers integrated Academic courses with Vocational Courses.

The Self Instructional Materials of NIOS are used as Course material of ASOS. Only for the language subject, Assamese, self instructional materials are developed by exercising the expertise of the local experts.

The main motto of ASOS is to make **Education For All**. As the drop out and other disadvantage category like to continue their studies in regional languages, so ASOS offers its course curricula in both English and Assamese medium. The Assamese medium textbooks are prepared from the English medium textbooks by the transliteration of the course-contents.

There is no binding among the subject combination and a learner may offer subject(s) of his/her own interest. There is also the provision of taking Vocational subjects along with the academic subjects:

- The curriculum and syllabi of Sr. Secondary Course designed by the National Institute of Open Schooling has been adopted.
- The printed materials used by ASOS are self-learning materials, attractive to learners both in content and format.
- The SLM of the subject Assamese is designed as per NIOS syllabus of other language subjects exercising the expertise of Subject Experts.
- The trans-literal form of English version materials is used as Assamese medium materials in each subject.
- Printed self-learning materials are written in a manner that learners can learn by themselves.
- These are prepared especially for the distant learners incorporating all the features that a good teacher actually does in a class room in the face to face situation.

Flexibilities being offered by SOS

Senior Secondary

Minimum age of entry is 15 years

There is no Upper Age Limit

Freedom to choose subjects according to one's needs, interests and abilities.

Validity of Registration is 5 years

Credit Accumulation Facility for 5 years

Transfer of two Credits (TOC) of Previous Achievements in other Board's Examinations

Part Admission

The Part Admission facility is admissible to the learners to update knowledge and educational qualifications:

- Who have already passed the H.S. course with other combination.
- Passed from any recognized board or ASOS.
- Only Mark-sheet will be issued to the successful learners.

Criteria for Admission

1. Learners passed in other combination from other boards
 - ❑ Maximum of subject allowed is 4 (four)
 - ❑ Registration fee as per prescribed rate
 - ❑ Additional Subject fee as per prescribed rate
 - ❑ Cost Material fee @ each book as per prescribed rate

Scheme of Studies :

The Scheme of Studies suggested for ASOS has an inbuilt flexibility :

- Stream-less course curricula
- Subjects may be adopted or removed as per decision
- 5(Five) subjects are compulsory for certification
- Minimum 1 (one) and maximum 2(two) language subject(s) is/are compulsory
- Selection of subjects depends on the choice and interest of learners as per requirement of higher studies.

Facilities being offered by SOS

- **Personal Contact Programme (PCP)**
 - ❑ 30 PCPs for each subject
 - ❑ PCP classes are conducted in weekends and holidays four times in a month
 - ❑ PCP classes are organized during January-August
 - ❑ (One Tutor per subject is engaged)
 - ❑ Tutor Marked Assignments (TMA)
 - ❑ Three TMAs per subjects

- Facility of offering TOC
- Credit accumulation for 5 years
- Facility of Tutor Marked Assignments to check their regular progress
- Facility of offering subjects of their own choice selecting from the courses offered.
- Facility of offering subjects in combination of Vocational subjects

Delivery System of the Open Schooling Programme

Face to face counseling through Personal contact Programme conducted by the ASCs. The print materials are distributed among learners for detailed study.

Admission and Enrolment

- Academic Courses From 1st July to 31st October
- Senior Secondary Courses fee Rs.1150/-

The admission fee include cost of Study Material for Students

The rate of admission is higher in Barak Valley and among the minorities. The learners from violent and terrorist affected areas are gradually showing interest to continue their education through Open Learning system.

Name & Address of the Examination and Certification Body	:	The Secretary, Assam Higher Secondary Education Council, Bamunimaidam, Guwahati-21
Months in which Examination are held	:	October-November and May – June
Study Centres for Senior Secondary Education	:	125

Staff Strength in State Open School: NO regular appointment is made till now. Assam State Open School is running as a Cell under the Assam Higher Secondary Education Council. Till now 2 persons are engaged on contract basis to look after the activities of SOS. Staff from Assam Higher Secondary Education Council is working there.

Training of Open Schooling Functionaries

For SOS Staff (Conducted)

For Staff at Study Centres(Conducted)

Frequency of training programmes – Yearly

Training Programmes for different

Clientele are based on Training Packages.

Monitoring of Implementation of SOS Programmes

The H S Level Courses offered by ASOS are implemented through the Accredited Study Centres [ASCs] which are permitted and recognized by the Council. Monitoring of the ASCs is done half yearly.

Fees Structure for Different Courses in SOS

ASOS is self sustaining organization and is completely based on the royalty collected from the students. So the fee structure is common to all.

Use of ICT

ASOS is not using ICT in its programmes right now. But in its near future it will try to do so.

Overview

- Established as an Open Schooling Cell under the Assam Higher Secondary Education Council in the year, 2009.
- Only Sr. Secondary Courses are offered.
- Academic courses are offered in integration with vocational courses.
- No. of learners admitted in the year 2012-13 is 2500.
- English, Assamese and Bengali languages are offered.
- Medium of Instruction is English and Assamese.
- Credit transfer facility is available.
- Pass percentage in the H.S. Level Examination October, 2011 is 54.19%

Madhya Pradesh Raja Open School

Address	Madhya Pradesh State Open School Shivaji Nagar, Bhopal – 462055
Status of SOS	It is an autonomous organization(registered society). It is a constituent of the Directorate of School Education, Madhya Pradesh.
Admission and certification	Online Registration of students in September through 304 Study Centres. After conducting examination, certificates and mark-sheets are given
Course offered	High School (since 1997) Higher Secondary (since 1997) Vocational Education (since 2001)
Curriculum and materials	<p>SOS is following the curriculum of NIOS.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Medium of instruction is Hindi and English ii. Languages as subjects are Hindi and English iii. SOS has adopted the textbooks of the State Education Department and of NIOS iv. Subjects being offered by SOS at different stages of school education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secondary Education: subjects offered :5 subjects, subjects compulsory: 5, • Senior Secondary Education : Subject offered: 5, subject compulsory: 5, • Vocation Education : Subjects offered : 5, subject compulsory: 5 v. Target groups under the education program of SOS are disadvantaged sections of society, Scheduled Casts, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Castes, rural poor, urban slum Dwellers, differently abled and other categories i.e. girls and women, dropouts working man, women and housewives, failed students from formal schools vi. Minimum age limit for Senior Secondary is 14 years vii. Flexibilities and facilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Freedom to choose subject according to ones needs, interest and abilities • Validity of Registration for 5 years • Credit Accumulation Facility • Transfer of Credits of previous achievement in other Board's examinations (up-to 2 subjects) • Online admission viii. Fifty percent of concession to SCs, STs, girls and disabled ix. Delivery system of the Open Schooling Programme: Printed Material, Lab Practicals/Training

New Admission in 2012-13 = 1,17,108

Examination and certification

S. No.	Course	2008-09			2011-12		
1.	Secondary Education	1,15,748	40,152	34.69%	1,24,044	36,868	30%
2.	Sr. Secondary Education	63,771	18,658	29%	70539	19,179	27.19%

- ➔ The examinations are held in May-June
- ➔ The evaluation is done in Evaluation Centres
- ➔ The result declaration takes 12 weeks

Study Centres:

- Secondary and Senior Secondary = 304
- Vocational = 21

Training (Capacity Building) of Open Schooling Functionaries

- Training programmes are organized for
 - (i) SOS staff
 - (ii) Staff of Study Centre

The periodicity of training is yearly.

Monitoring of Implementation of SOS Programmes

- State level Committee along with Director SOS
- Jt. Director (Education) in each Divisional Level.
- Distt. Level Committee
- Monitoring is done from time to time along with Distt. Education Officer

Chhattisgarh State Open School (CGSOS)

Chhattisgarh State Open School (CGSOS)

Address : Chhattisgarh State Open School Haribhoomi Complex,
Dhamtari Road, Tikrapara, Raipur
Chhattisgarh

No. of students in 2012-13 = 1,23,992

Study Material

- ➔ During 2008-09 session, the study material of NIOS was procured and provided to Students free of cost.
- ➔ From the year 2009-10, the CGSOS has been developing and printing its own study material and supplying to the students.



- During the session 2012-13, the solved question papers of last five years and DVDs were supplied free to the students through the study centres.

Other Information

- Minimum age for High School Examination is 14 years.
- There is no upper age limit.
- Medium of Instruction: Hindi & English
- Flexibility of choice of subjects.
- Transfer of credit of two subjects to CGSOS students from other boards.
- 25% fee concession to SCs, STs, Adult Women, Differently Abled students.
- Model Question papers prepared by experienced teachers.
- Nine chances in five years to complete of a course.
- Main examinations in April-May.
- Examinations of CGSOS are recognized by COBSE
- Equivalence obtained from the Chhattisgarh Secondary Education Board, Raipur
- Recognized by NIOS; Association of Indian Universities; MCI.
- Prospectus and application form for admission are available on the website www.cgsos.in of CGSOS.

Gujarat State Open School (GSOS)

Address Gujarat Secondary & Higher Secondary Education Board, Sector-10 B,
Near old Sachivalaya, Gandhinagar

- GSOS was started in with 389 study centres in the state.

Course offered	Secondary w.e.f. 2012 Sr. Secondary w.e.f. 2012
Curriculum and materials	GSOS is following the curriculum of the State Education Department and of NIOS. SOS prepared its own self learning material of standard 10 Social Science. Printing of material in under process.
Flexibilities being offered by SOS	Age limit Secondary: Std. 10 th pass-31 July, 15 th year compliant Sr. Secondary: After two years of passing Std. 10 th Exam Freedom to choose subject according to ones needs, interest and abilities Validity of Registration is 5 years
Facilities being offered by SOS	Personal Contact Programme (PCP) are conducted after school hours once in a month during September to February. Every Study centre has appointed two teachers in English, Maths and Science to guide students. – Provision of Tutor Marked Assignments Two TMAs per subject are compulsory Hard spots in 10 th and 12 th standards in English, Maths, Science, Social Science are taken up in a week end.

Delivery system of Open Schooling Programme	Printed study material Face to face counseling Telecast of SOS media programmes
Admission and Enrolment: New admission in 2011-13	Secondary = 35238, Senior Secondary = 78612
	Academic Courses : From August to December Admission fee: (i) Secondary Course: Rs. 500/-, (ii) Sr. Secondary Course: Rs. 600/- Admission fee include cost of study material for students
Examinations	Examinations are held in March Results are declared after 8 weeks Examinations are conducted by GSEB and certificates are given by the Secretary, GSEB, Gandhinagar
No. of study centre	389 Every Study centre has facility of two teachers one of English and other of Maths/ Science for students guidance. Two teachers help the private candidate for hard spots in subjects. GSOS paid remuneration to study centre @ Rs. 11,500 or Rs. 23,000/- basis on enrolled students
Training of Open Schooling Functionaries	Training programs are organized for staff of study centres
Monitoring of Implementation of SOS programmes	Annual monitoring
Examination fees	Standard 10 = Rs. 500/- Standard 12 = Rs. 600/-
Media programmes	Media programs of SOS are broadcast/telecast monthly

Date	:	5/02/2013
Session	:	II
Chairperson	:	Dr. S.S. Jena, Chairman, NIOS
Topic	:	Up-scaling of the Open Schooling Programme
Presentation by	:	Dr. Kuldeep Agarwal, Director (Academic), NIOS

While initiating the discussion on the 2nd day of the Meeting (Feb. 05, 2013), Dr. S. S. Jena, Chairman, NIOS referred to the Open Schooling Policy Perspective in context of RMSA. The presentation of the Chairman, NIOS is included at the end of the proceedings of Session III.

The Chairperson, Dr. S.S.Jena requested Dr. Kuldeep Agarwal, Director (Acad.), NIOS to make a presentation on **Action Plan of State Open schools (SOSs) for Up-scaling of the Open Schooling Programmes and Setting up of New State Open Schools.**



1. Upscaling of Open Schooling Programme

- 1.1 Dr. Kuldeep Agarwal elaborated the strategies and modalities for Up-scaling of the Open Schooling Programme. The State Open Schools can seek financial assistance/grant-in-aid from the Govt. of India, Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) under the Rashtriya Madhmik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) for up-scaling of their Open Schooling Programmes. The States that are planning to set-up the SOSs can also seek financial assistance under RMSA. Highlights of the Presentation in this regard by Dr. Kuldeep Agarwal, are as follows:
- 1.2 As a result of the success of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan(SSA), the influx of students passing out of class VIII and seeking admission in the Secondary Education Courses is increasing rapidly. Moreover, owing to the constantly increasing impact of globalisation and new Information and Communication Technologies(ICT), the dominance and demand for quality education has been increasing steadily. This demand is required to be met mainly by expanding substantially the formal schooling system. However, due to the non-flexibility of the formal schooling system and due to several socio-economic and cultural reasons, even large scale expansion of the formal schooling system may not suffice to universalise secondary education. The Open Distance Learning (ODL) System using flexible education mode has tremendous potential to facilitate the Universalisation of School Education (USE).
- 1.3 The Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan(RMSA), the flagship programme of the Government of India, Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) for Universalisation of Secondary Education(USE), envisages ensuring universal access to Secondary Education with quality assurance by the year 2016-17. The main focus of RMSA is to provide wide access to Secondary Education with special emphasis on economically backward children, girls, disabled and marginalized categories like SCs, STs, OBCs and Educationally Backward Minorities(EBMs). In order to meet the challenge of USE, the guiding principles are Access, Equity, Social Justice and Quality.
- 1.4 RMSA recognizes the role that Open and Distance Learning(ODL) can play for education of out of school children.

2. Assistance for Up-scaling of the Open Schooling Programme under RMSA

- 2.1 The RMSA Division of the Government of India, Ministry of Human Resource Development has made provision of financial assistance to State Open Schools (SOSs) as per their needs. Financial assistance shall also be provided to the states not having SOSs to set up SOSs .

3 Financial Norms

3.1 Funding Support under RMSA:

The funding support under the open schooling component shall be regulated as per norms prescribed by the Govt. of India from time to time under RMSA. The funding support shall be limited to the nature of instructional support to be given to the children and for conducting of examination for such children through RMSA. ***Financial Management and Procurement Manual under RMSA is to be mandatorily followed by States/UTs to adopt the rules and regulation related to the maintenance of accounts, fund flow management, financial monitoring, procurement etc.***

In addition to this , annual maintenance support to be given as prescribed under MMER i.e. 2.2% for the States. The funding support shall be limited to the following components:

S. No.	Components for Funding	Unit Cost (Rs.in lakhs)	Remarks
A. Norms for Seed Money/Preparatory Fund			
1	Opening of new and Strengthening of Existing State Open Schools/District Centres		
1.1	Establishment of office of SOS	Rs. 50 lakh for SOS and Rs. 10 lakh per district centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximum limit up to Rs. 50 lakh/SOS and Rs. 10 lakh/district. • Subject to independent Registered board (Autonomous Body)
1.2	Infrastructure Support		
1.2.1	Office equipment		
1.2.2	Library		
1.3	Strengthening of Man Power		
1.4	Organizing workshops, seminars, training etc., study/survey, community awareness related works.		
B. Norms for Annual Work Plan			
3.	Activities covering Special focus group	Rs. 5 lakh/District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximum limit upto Rs.5 lakh/district. • In educationally Backward Blocks (EBB) for Promotion of Education of SC, ST, Girls, Minorities. • Sparsely Populated Areas. • Remote/Hilly areas/Areas with difficult terrain
4.	Advocacy Programmes	Rs. 25 lakh/state	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximum limit up to Rs. 25 lakh/State. • Subject to the submission of full justification and methodologies.
5.	Identification of OOSC	Rs. 25 lakh/state	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One time expenditure, maximum up to Rs. 25 lakh/State. • Recurring expenditure to be met from MMER.
6.	Development of Self Instructional Print Materials (SIM)	Rs. 3 lakh per subject	One time expenditure <i>*Detail in annexure I</i>
7.	Production of Audio and Video Programmes	Rs. 2 lakh (per video)	One time expenditure. (The State may give requisition for development multimedia inputs in lieu of A/V inputs) <i>*Details in annexure II.</i>
8.	Printed self-Instructional materials for five subjects as per the course guide per learner.	Rs. 0.003 lakh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rs. 0.003 lakh/Per subject. • Black & white.
9.	Audio & Video instructional inputs including multimedia kits to support the subject areas per learner.	Rs. 0.005 lakh per child	Per Child
10.	Conduction of Personal Contact Sessions (minimum 30 sessions per subjects in theory) 30X5 subjects = 150 sessions (with batch of 40 learners for each session) per subjects per learner.	Rs. 0.006 lakh	Per Child (<i>*Remuneration to the teachers/ Tutors for each session is Rs. 150 and for non teaching staff Rs. 30 per session will also be included</i>)
11.	Conducting Lab sessions (for Science subjects) 20 sessions (40 learners for each session) per subjects per learner.	Rs. 0.001 lakh	Per Child

12.	Internet based learning support to the schools per learner.	Rs. 0.002 lakh	Per Child
13.	Maintenance Grant for operationalization of Accredited Institutions/Study Centre of SOS	Rs. 0.003 lakh	Including Lab Consumable, Maintenance Charges, Water, electricity and Internet charges etc., and for Miscellaneous charges incurring at the level of school (for 30 PCPS)
14.	Capacity Building/Training	Rs. 0.003 lakh	
14.1	Training of Teachers/Tutors	Rs. 0.009 lakh	Rs. 300 per day per teacher/Tutor for 3 days
14.2	Training of Master Resource Person/KPKs/Coordinators	Rs. 0.009 lakh	Rs. 300 per day per teacher/Tutor for 3 days.
14.3	Training of Community Members	Rs. 0.003 lakh	Rs. 300 per day per teacher/Tutor for 1 day
15.	Conduction of Examination (Rs.150/- per subject) for five subjects & certification (both continuous and terminal) per learner	Rs.0.00750 lakh	
16.	Management Monitoring Research and Evaluation (MMER)		2.2% of the total Outlay
16.1	supervision of study centres in terms of facilities like basic requirements in the class rooms, science labs, computer labs or any other labs at the study centre.		
16.2	Surveys, Workshops etc.		
16.3	All Activities related Management Monitoring Research and Evaluation		

For further details of financial norms, please refer to the Open Schooling Programme Framework for implementation under RMSA prepared by NIOS and RMSA division, MHRD, (Govt. of India)

3.2 Plans of Action of State Open Schools (SOs) for Up scaling of the Open Schooling Programme

Keeping in view the above, the State Open Schools (SOSs) may do an exercise to prepare Plans of Action for up-scaling of the Open Schooling Programmes.

Assistance from RMSA may be sought by submitting their requirements/proposals.

NIOS may pursue the states not having SOSs to prepare plans of action for setting up and operationalisation of their state open schools. It may be noted that all such state education departments will need to prepare their Project Proposals for setting up of State Open Schools (SOSs). These states may seek guidance from NIOS for preparation of the Project Proposal for SOS.

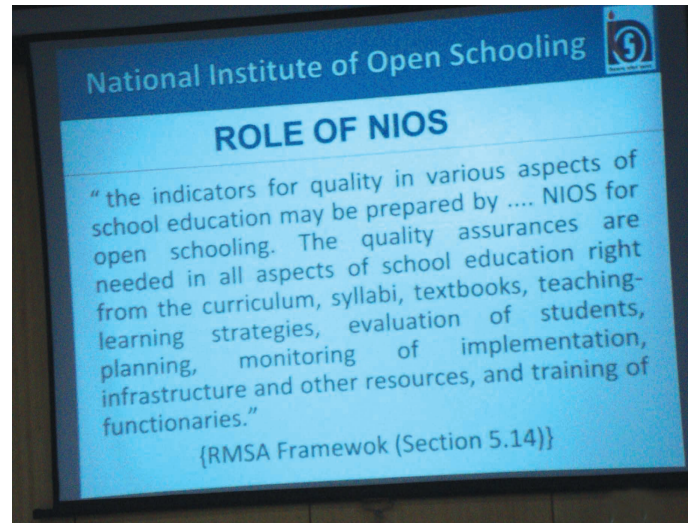
4. Steps for Establishment of New State Open School (SOS):

- Identify the agency(SCERT/Board of School Education/State Project Director for RMSA/Any other Educational Department) for initiating the State Open School(SOS)
- Prepare the SOS Framework. Take help from NIOS.
- Notify establishment of State Open School (SOS).
- Design curriculum and develop study materials in regional language.
- Develop non-print multi-media learning materials.
- Offer courses at the Secondary and the Senior Secondary level.

- Plan and operationalise relevant and need based Open Vocational Education and Training (OVET) programmes. Seek guidance and help from NIOS in this regard as per need.
- Organise student support services
- Set up Study Centres and conduct Personal Contact programmes(PCP)
- Evolve a system of evaluation
- Conduct examinations and certify learners
- Plan for advocacy and publicity and bring out of school children to the fold of education.

5. Role of NIOS:

- Prepare indicators for quality in various aspects of open schooling programme (such as curriculum, syllabi, principles and procedures for preparation and evaluation of self learning materials(SLM), teaching – learning strategies, evaluation of learners, planning, monitoring of implementation, infrastructure and other resources and training of functionaries.
- Support the states /SOSs for developing Perspective Plans and Annual Plans of States.
- Appraisal of Plans of Action of SOSs for financial assistance under RMSA.
- Developing quality parameters in the context of open schooling, curricula, syllabi, learning resources, implementation strategies, assessment of learners.
- Organisation of advocacy programmes for promotion of open schooling in the states. NIOS will also provide support to the states in operational aspects of their open schooling programmes.
- Technical support for creating network of student support.
- Developing need based support for harnessing ICT for quality improvement.
- Capacity building of State and District level functionaries.
- Organisation of tailor made quality improvement programmes.
- Monitoring and supervision.
- Management of database of the Open Schooling programmes of the Open Schools(NIOS and SOSs)



6. Certain Problems and Issues :

- Mindset towards open schooling
- Quality issues:
 - Curriculum, study materials, programme delivery (study centres, PCPs, use of ICT)
 - Examinations
 - Monitoring and supervision
 - Recognition/ equivalence
- Quantitative expansion towards universalisation of secondary education.
- Resources: Human, Monetary (funding), Infrastructure.

Date	:	5/02/2013
Session	:	III (A)
Chairperson	:	Shri U.N. Khaware, Secretary, NIOS
Item	:	Constitution of the NCOS and its adoption

1. The Constitution of the National Consortium for Open Schooling (NCOS) was discussed in the Annual Meeting of NCOS held on 9 - 10 February 2012. Various suggestions for modifications in the Constitution were given. The NCOS Secretariat has incorporated the suggestions in the Constitution of NCOS. The modified Constitution has been got legally vetted. A copy of the Constitution is at Annexure-III. The modified Constitution of NCOS was considered in the Annual Meeting of NCOS on February 5, 2013. The Constitution of NCOS was approved and adopted. It was decided that NCOS would be Registered as soon as possible.



2. In the Constitution of NCOS, there is a provision of the following:

<p>2.1 General Body (GB) of NCOS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chairperson • Members of NCOS <p>Primary Members: (Chairpersons/Directors/Heads of Open Schools)</p> <p>Associate Members: (Any educational institution/ organization/ Department)</p>
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2.2 Executive Committee (EC) of NCOS

The General Body of NCOS will constitute its Executive Committee (EC). It will take appropriate steps for achieving the objectives of NCOS and the policy perspectives to be visualised by the General Body of NCOS.

The Executive Committee shall consist of :

- (i) Chairperson
- (ii) Vice-Chairperson
- (iii) Secretary
- (iv) Joint Secretary
- (v) Treasurer
- (vi) Two Members to be co-opted by the Chairperson (Co-opted Members shall enjoy a term that is co-terminus with the term of the Chairperson)

2.3 As regards the Primary Members of the **General Body of NCOS**, these are Chairpersons of NIOS and of 17 State Open Schools(SOSs) as on 1 January 2013. Whenever any new State Open School is set up, its Chairperson/Director/Head will automatically become member of the General Body of NCOS.

3. Elections

Chairperson of the General Body(GB)	The General Body of NCOS elects the Chairperson
Chairperson and other office Bearers of the Executive Committee(EC)	The General Body of NCOS elects the Chairperson and other Office Bearers of the Executive Committee (EC)

4. Members of the NCOS

After approval of the Constitution of NCOS, the present Annual Meet started discussion on the matter regarding election of office bearers of NCOS. It was felt that the Office Bearers may be elected by consensus. The following Office Bearers were unanimously elected:

4.1	General Body of NCOS	
	Chairperson	Dr S S Jena, Chairman, NIOS
	Members	As per Constitution of NCOS, the Chairpersons of SOSs are the members of the General Body of NCOS
4.2	Executive Committee of NCOS	
(i)	Chairperson	Dr S S Jena, Chairman, NIOS
(ii)	Vice-Chairperson	Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Director, MPSOS
(iii)	Secretary	Sh. U N Khaware, Secretary, NIOS
(iv)	Joint Secretary	Sh. N K Agrawal, Dy. Secretary, CGSOS
(v)	Treasurer	Dr Sanyam Bhardwaj, Director (SSS)
(vi)	Two members co-opted by Chairperson, NCOS	1. Director, Andhra Pradesh State Open School 2. Chairperson, Haryana Open School

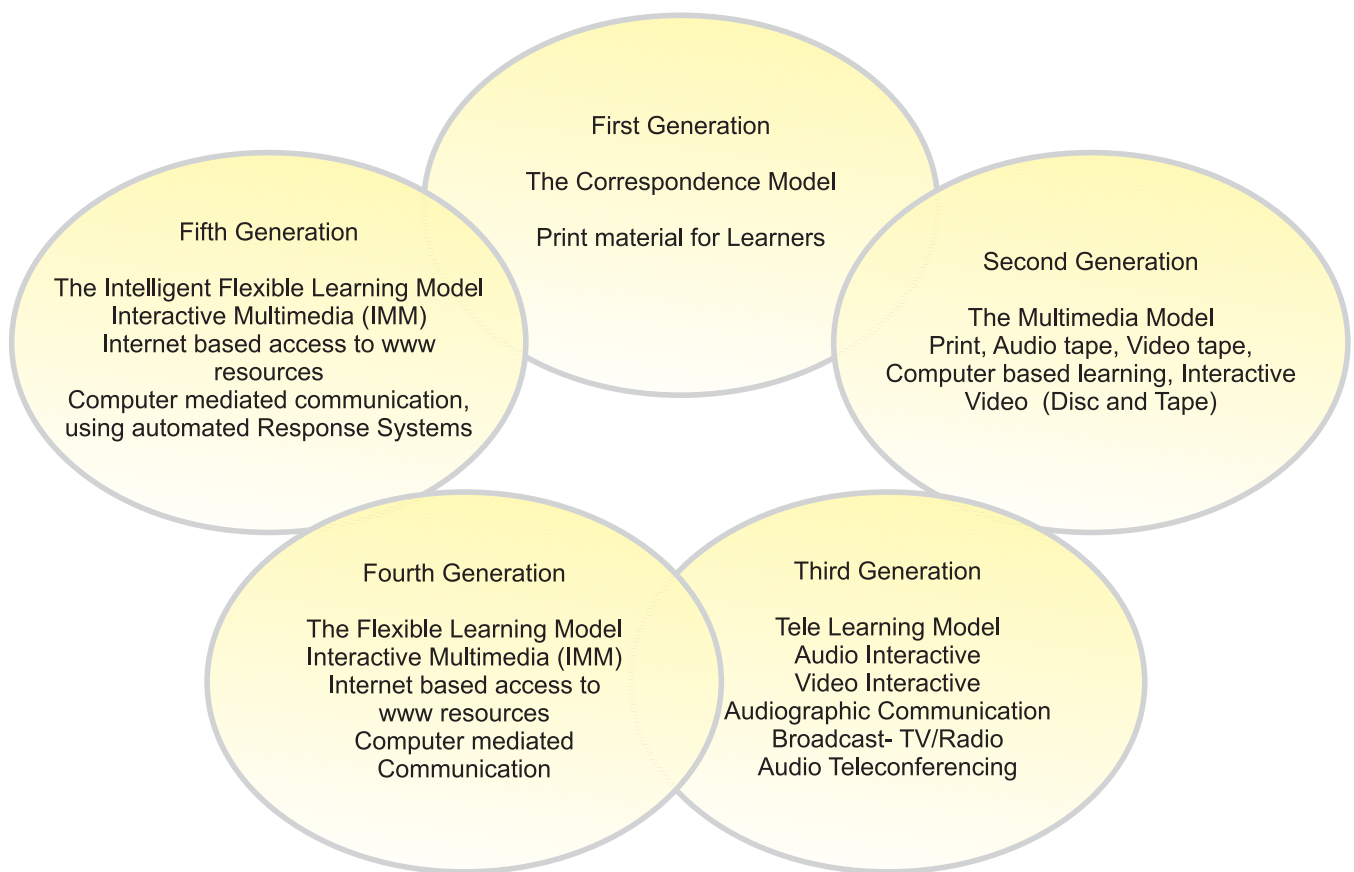
Date	:	5/02/2013
Session	:	III (B)
Topic	:	Open Schooling : The Policy Perspective
Presentation by	:	Dr. S.S. Jena, Chairman, NIOS

Highlights of Presentation of the Chairman, NIOS

Development of Open and Distance Learning (ODL) in Historical Perspective

The open and Distance Learning (ODL) is in evolving stage. ODL has so far seen five generations in its journey of evolution. Starting from the correspondence course model, it has progressed steadily with Media and IT support.

A diagrammatic presentation of evolutionary development of ODL is given below:



ODL System

Expansion of the Open Schooling Programme

The perspective for expansion of the open schooling programme was suggested by the Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE).



“The CABE Committee on Universalisation of Secondary Education has suggested that the Open Schools network when fully developed should be able to cater to at least 15% students in Secondary Education.”

Open Schooling under RMSA Framework

The Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) launched by the Government of India, Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) has envisaged very significant role of the open schooling programme in the context of universalisation of of Secondary Education (USE). The RMSA framework states:

“Expansion of Open Distance Learning needs to be undertaken, especially for those who cannot pursue full time secondary education, and for supplementary/ enrichment of face-to-face instruction. This system will also play a crucial role for education of out of school children.”

The open schooling programme in India is being operationalised by the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) and the State Open Schools (SOSs). 17 States have already set up SOSs. NIOS is persuading the remaining states to set up SOSs. Among other things, the RMSA Framework includes the targets for open schools as envisaged by CABE. Roughly the target for open schools (NIOS and SOSs) would be to enroll



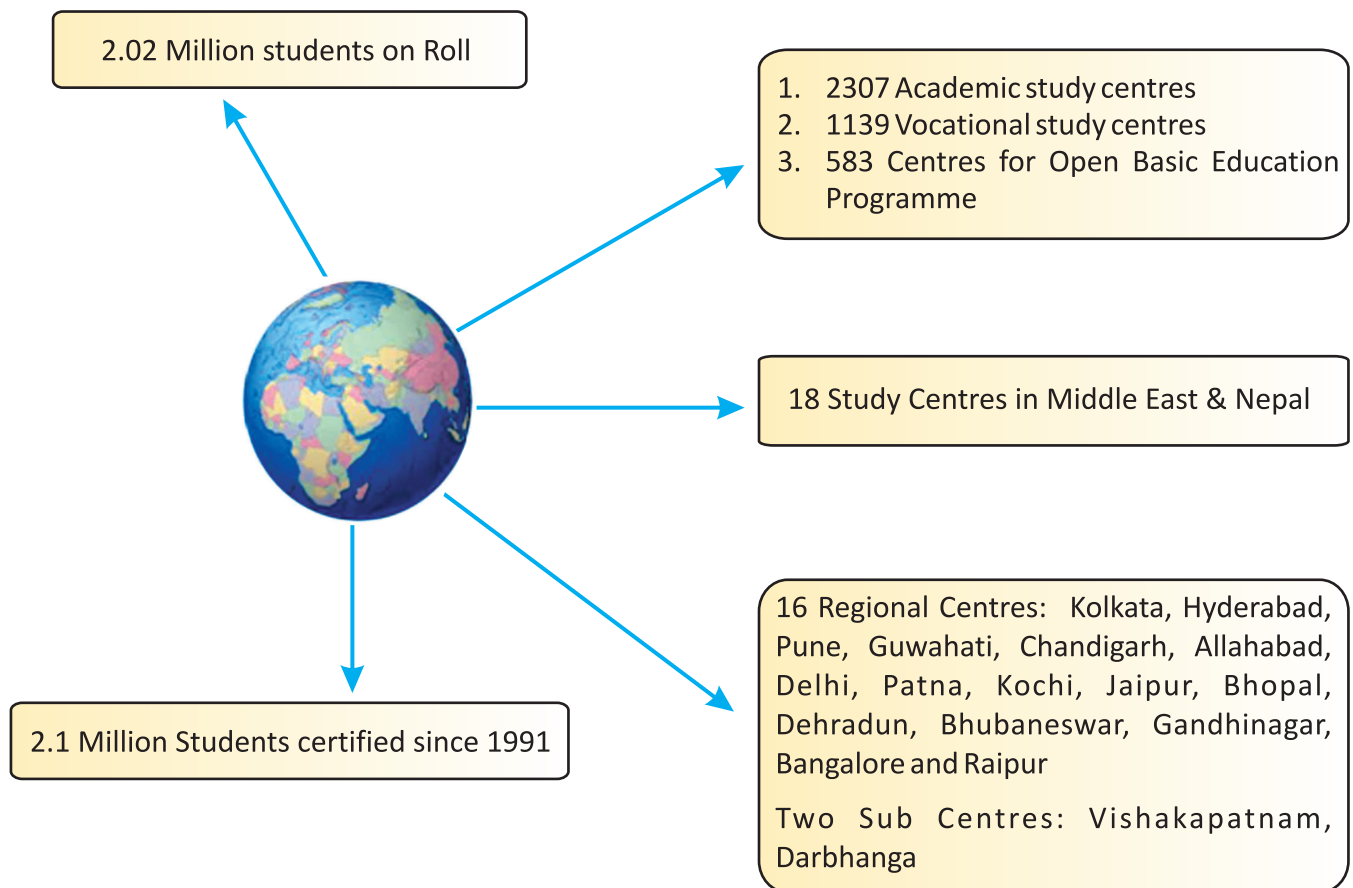
Support Network of NIOS

about 60 lakh students at Secondary stage (class IX-X). This target is quite high vis-a-vis the total annual enrollement in NIOS and SOS which is to the tune of about 20 lakh students only at present. It is in this context that RMSA has made provision of financial and other resource support for up scaling of the open schooling programme. Its details have been mentioned in the presentation of Dr. Kuldeep Agarwal, Director (Academic), NIOS.

Support Network of NIOS

NIOS functions through five Departments and some Units at NIOS Headquarters, 17 Regional Centres, and about 5000 Study Centres in almost all the states of India. A diagrammatic presentation of the Support Network of NIOS is given below:

SUPPORT NETWORK OF NIOS



Dr. S.S.Jena, Chairman, NIOS pleaded for active cooperation and collaboration among NIOS and SOSs for achieving the target of enrollment in Open Schools as envisaged by CABE and RMSA. The cooperation and collaboration may be in different areas right from curriculum to materials, methods and examination. We should try to avoid duplicacy or overlap in efforts in Media and ICT. NIOS would provide resource support to SOSs as per their needs and requirements. Therefore, a major task before NIOS is to work as a Recourse Organisation for SOSs. It implies that instead of endeavouring for increase in enrollment, NIOS should now provide advocacy, consultancy, and organise resource support and capacity building programmes for SOSs. The SOSs may now take upon them the responsibility of substantial increase of their enrollment to meet the targets of RMSA.

Certain other suggestions

- Realising the need of skill development for development of the country, the open schools should now take steps for integration of Vocational Education courses with Academic courses.
- Taking note of the fact that Personal Contact Programmes for doing Practicals are not being organised in sufficient number to the satisfaction and skill development of students, it is suggested that open schools may make provision of Mobile Labs for the benefit of their students. Such provision would prove conducive for doing practical by the students near the place of their residence. It would go a long way to increase practical skills of ODL students.

Date	:	5th February 2013
Concluding Session	:	Concluding and Consolidation
Chairperson	:	Dr. S.S. Jena, Chairman, NIOS

Dr. Sanyam Bhardwaj, Director, Department of Student Support Services, NIOS gave an overview of the proceedings of different sessions of the Annual Meet of NCOS. He thanked the Hon'ble Education Minister of Chhattisgarh state for valuable observations and suggestions given by him during the inaugural session. A significant suggestion given in the Annual Meet pertained to offering of the Open Vocational Education and Training (OVET) programme by the State Open Schools. Some OVET programmes may be offered along with academic courses at the Secondary and the Senior Secondary stages.

Dr. Bhardwaj suggested that the State Open Schools (SOSs) may now send their financial requirements for promotion of Open Schooling to MHRD for financial assistance under RMSA. The States not having SOSs may also set up SOSs with financial assistance under RMSA.



Dr. S.S. Jena, Chairman, NIOS thanked the delegates for their active participation during deliberations in various sessions. As suggested in the meeting, NIOS will take appropriate action for creating a website of NCOS Secretariat.

He felt that NIOS and SOSs would join hands in matters related to promotion of Open Schooling, particularly to meet the challenge of universalisation of Secondary Education (USE) as envisaged under RMSA.

Dr. S.S. Jena suggested that the next meeting of NCOS may be held sometime in July-August 2013. He suggested that State Open Schools may come forward to host future meetings of NCOS. The NCOS Secretariat should remain in touch with SOSs in this regard. Dr. S.S. Jena thanked the Chhattisgarh Government for hosting the Annual Meet of NCOS and making excellent arrangements.

During the valedictory session, the SOS Chhattisgarh shown some Academic Subjects related Multimedia Programmes.



The delegates appreciated this venture which is meant for facilitating learning by students. It was felt that such programmes may be shared with other Open Schools.

Dr. Sanyam Bhardwaj, Director, Deptt. of Students Support Services, NIOS thanked the participants from the states and participating faculty members from NIOS and SOS, Chhattisgarh for sharing their ideas and experiences during deliberations in the meeting.



ANNEXURES

National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS)
Annual Meeting of National Consortium for Open Schooling (NCOS)

Dates: 4 February, 2013

**Venue : New Circuit House,
Raipur (Chhattisgarh)**

Programme Schedule

4th February, 2013		
02.50 P.M. – 03.50 P.M.	Inaugural Session	
02.50 P.M. – 03.00 P.M.	Arrival of the Chief Guest Welcome and Lighting of the Lamp	Shri Brijmohan Agarwal, Hon'ble Education Minister, Chhattisgarh
03.00 P.M. – 03.10 P.M.	Welcome Address and Objectives of the Meeting	Dr. S.S. Jena, Chairman, NIOS
03.10 P.M – 03.20 P.M	Address of Annual Meeting of NCOS	T. Radhakrishana, IAS, Chairman, CGSOS
03.20 P.M – 03.30 P.M.	NCOS & its Objectives	Dr. Sanyam Bhardwaj, Director (SSS), NIOS
03.30 P.M. – 03.45 P.M	Address by the Chief Guest	Shri Brijmohan Agarwal, Hon'ble Education Minister, Chhattisgarh
03.45 P.M. – 03.50 P.M	Vote of Thanks	U. N. Khaware, Secretary, NIOS
03.50 P.M. – 04.15 P.M	Tea	
04.15 P.M. – 07.30 P.M.	Session I	
04.15 P.M. – 04.25 P.M.	Presentation on NIOS	Chair: Dr. Kuldeep Agrawal, Director (Acad.), NIOS Dr. Sanyam Bhardwaj, Director (SSS)
04.30 P.M. – 05.00 P.M.	Presentation by SOSs	By SOS Representatives

National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS)
Annual Meeting of National Consortium for Open Schooling (NCOS)

Dates: 5 February, 2013

**Venue : New Circuit House,
Raipur (Chhattisgarh)**

Programme Schedule

Dates: 5 February, 2013		
09.30 A.M. – 11.00 A.M.	Session II	
09.30 A.M. – 10.15 A.M.	Strategy /modalities for Upscaling of the Open Schooling Programmes in the States in context of achieving the goal of the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA)	Chair : Dr. S.S. Jena, Chairman, NIOS Presentation: Dr. Kuldeep Agarwal, Director (Academic), NIOS
10.15 A.M. – 11.00 A.M.	Action Plan of the State Open Schools (SOSs) for up-scaling of the Open Schooling Programmes and Activities	Presentation: Dr. Sanyam Bhardwaj, Director (SSS)
11.00 A.M. - 11.30 A.M.	Tea	
11.30 A.M. – 01.00 P.M.	Session III	
11.30 A.M. – 12.30 P.M.	Adoption of the Constitution of the National Consortium for Open Schooling (NCOS)	Chair: U. N. Khaware, Secretary, NIOS
12.30 P.M. – 01.00 P.M.	Election of the Chairperson of the General Body of NCOS and Members of the Executive Committee	Dr. Sanyam Bhardwaj, Director (SSS) Under the supervision of Returning Officers
1.00 P.M. – 2.00 P.M.	Lunch	
2.00 P.M. to 3.00 P.M.	Concluding Session	
	Brief Proceedings of the Meet and Decisions Taken/Action Plans	Dr. S.S. Jena, Chairman, NIOS
	Open House Discussion	U. N. Khaware, Secretary, NIOS
	Concluding & Consolidation	Dr. Sanyam Bhardwaj, Director (SSS), NIOS
	Vote of Thanks	Chhattisgarh SOS
3.00 P.M.	Tea	

National Consortium for Open Schooling (NCOS)

CONSTITUTION

With a view to systematise interaction and mutual consultation among the Open Schools at national level (NIOS) and at State level (SOSs), it was considered appropriate to establish a Consortium of Open Schools. The National Consortium for Open Schooling (NCOS) was launched in September, 1997, with a view to facilitate better cooperation, coordination, collaboration and determining standards in Open and Distance Learning (ODL) system at school education level in the country. The Secretariat of NCOS is located in NIOS. In order to meet the emerging educational challenges, the Framework of NCOS has been modified by including its Vision, Mission, Aims and Objectives, Constitution and Perspective.

1. Preamble

We, a group of Open Schools in India, meeting on 9-10 February, 2012 at Hyderabad, affirm that Open Schooling has the capacity to expand access, to promote equity, to deliver quality and effective services, and to promote cost effectiveness of school education up to pre-degree level and

resolve to work for the cause of promotion of quality Open Schooling and universalisation of school education through National Consortium for Open Schooling, with collaborative networking.

2. Vision of NCOS

To strive for coordinated development of learner-centric open schooling (OS) system and to ensure high quality of school education to meet challenges of access and equity to reach the un-reached.

3. Mission of NCOS

The National Consortium for Open Schooling (NCOS) shall strive to facilitate coordination among Open Schools in India and sharing of resources through collaborative networking for access to sustainable school education, skill upgradation and training to all through Open and Distance Learning (ODL) mode of education. For this, The National Consortium for Open Schooling (NCOS) shall:

- Establish smooth coordination and collaboration among Open Schools by sharing of expertise, ideas, information and experience in Open Schooling.
- Provide financial support and academic guidelines to the State Open Schools (SOSs).
- Determine standards of Open and Distance Learning system at school level and a mechanism for pace setting in the country.
- Encourage use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in Open Schooling programmes and provide opportunities for sharing technological resources and competencies through inter-Open Schools partnership/consortia.
- Promote research and innovations in Open Schooling.
- Facilitate capacity building of Open Schooling functionaries.
- Create databases of the State Open Schools and functionaries associated with the Open Schooling system.

4. Objectives of NCOS

- 4.1 **Upscaling** of Open Schooling Programme at National and State level through advocacy, consultancy and research support.
- 4.2 **Quality Assurance in Open Schooling**
- 4.3 **To undertake Capacity Building** of Open Schooling functionaries.
- 4.4 Evolving strategies related to **Coordination and Clearing House Functions** and their operationalisation.
- 4.5 Evolving strategies for **sharing of resources** among Open Schools in India
- 4.6 Evolving effective **Networking** System for smooth channels of communication among Open Schools.
- 4.7 Evolving strategies for **promoting research and innovations** in Open Schooling and documentation of the same.
- 4.8 NCOS, through its Executive Committee, may pursue global partnerships with other institutions and bodies towards the advancement of open schooling within country.

For the purpose of achieving the objectives, NCOS may:

- (i) establish such internal structures as the Executive Committee of NCOS may deem necessary;
- (ii) enter into agreements with any person, organisation, government or other body upon such conditions as may be mutually agreed;
- (iii) compile, publish and distribute research and other educational materials, and to assert copyright over such materials;
- (iv) perform any tasks and do all other things that may be required, incidental or conducive, to the attainment of the aims and objectives of the Consortium.

5. Functions of NCOS

The Functions of NCOS will be as follows:

- 5.1 **Upscaling** of Open Schooling Programme at National and State level through advocacy, consultancy, research support and in other ways.

The steps include:

- a) to promote the concept of open schooling and highlight its potential to local, State and Central Government;
- b) to work towards popularising this form of education among potential participants in the states;
- c) to advocate and lobby for increased participation by open schools practitioners in policy-making for education at national level;
- d) to promote mechanisms for the Recognition of Prior Learning and for the accumulation and transfer of credits that will enable those who take part in open schooling to move freely into other forms of education and training or vice-versa.

5.2 Quality Assurance in Open Schooling

The steps include:

- a) to develop standards for the delivery of ODL programmes;
- b) to promote the provision of quality support services (e.g. administrative, tutorials, guidance and counselling, etc.);
- c) to support the monitoring of these standards by making arrangements for peer reviews, formal audits and States evaluation missions;
- d) to take advocacy initiatives to implement these standards in Open Schools; and
- e) to strive for appropriate ICT inputs in the programmes of Open Schools.

5.3 To undertake Capacity Building of Open Schooling functionaries.

5.4 Evolving strategies related to **Coordination and Clearing House Functions** and their operationalisation.

The steps include:

- a) to visualise and operationalise strategies for sharing of information, ideas and experience among NCOS member organisations;
- b) to coordinate, administer and/or manage the activities of such consortia.

5.5 Evolving strategies for **sharing of resources** among Open Schools in India (Open Schools).

The steps include:

- a) to facilitate the formation of consortia for acquisition and/or development of shared learning materials and/or programmes;
- b) to establish and promote other initiatives for sharing materials, resources and expertise among the NCOS members;
- c) to identify and exploit cost-efficient technologies for sharing information.

5.6 Evolving effective **Networking** System for smooth channels of communication among Open Schools.

The steps include:

- a) to provide opportunities for managers and staff from open schools to communicate, meet and interact with one another to raise and discuss issues of mutual concern;
- b) to facilitate the exchange of information on current developments in open schooling and support mutual learning;
- c) to strengthen collaboration between open schools within the country.

5.7 Organising/facilitating Study Visits of the Faculty of Open Schools to Open Schools and other concerned Organisations in the country.

5.8 Preparation of **Profiles of Open Schools**.

5.9 **Documentation** of significant achievements of Open Schools and their dissemination.

5.10 Bringing out a **Newsletter** of NCOS highlighting significant activities of Open Schools.

5.11 Bringing out a **Journal of Open Schooling**.

5.12 Organising **periodic Conferences, Seminars, Workshops and Meetings** of NCOS and taking follow up action on the recommendations of such Meets with the help of NIOS, SOSs and other concerned Organisations.

5.13 Evolving strategies for **promoting research and innovations** in Open Schooling and documentation of the same.

The steps include:

- a) to collect basic data and maintain a database of open schools, including (but not limited to): level(s) at which education is provided, details of programmes/courses offered, technologies used and key statistics (e.g., enrolments, number of local study centres, staff complement, assessments/measurements of impact, etc.);
- b) to facilitate the standardisation of definitions and measures (for example, of student numbers, Full-Time Equivalent students, drop-out rates, examination pass rates, etc.) to assist open schools in determining what data they should collect and to allow for meaningful comparisons between open schools;
- c) to design studies for researching aspects of open schooling, including (but not limited to): tracer studies to identify the benefits and/or limitations of participation in OS;
- d) to build internal capacity within member institutions by facilitating the involvement and participation of their staff in national research projects;
- e) to develop the Curriculum Framework and Pedagogy of OLS.

5.14 For the purpose of achieving the aims and objectives, NCOS may:

- (i) establish such internal structures as the Executive Committee of NCOS may deem necessary;
- (ii) enter into agreements with any person, organisation, government or other body, upon such conditions as may be mutually agreed;
- (iii) compile, publish and distribute research and other educational materials, and to assert copyright over such materials;
- (iv) perform any tasks and do all other things that may be required, incidental or conducive, to the attainment of the aims and objectives of the Consortium.

5.15 NCOS, through its Executive Committee, may pursue global partnerships with other institutions and bodies towards the advancement of open schooling throughout the country to achieve the objectives.

6. General Body

6.1 Members of NCOS

6.1.1 Primary Members

Chairpersons/Directors/Heads of Open Schools.

6.1.2 Associate Members

Any educational institution/organization/Department

6.2 Annual Subscription

A member shall pay the annual subscription for each year in the following manner:

- i) The Annual subscription shall be Rs. 10,000/- (Rupees ten thousand only); the General Body of NCOS will have the power to revise the same from time to time.
- ii) Subscription shall be paid within 3 (three) months of the beginning of each financial year, i.e. by 30th June of the year.
- iii) The financial year shall be from 1st April to the end of 31st March of the following year.

6.3 Meeting of the General Body

The convening of meetings shall be guided by the following procedure :

- (i) The General Body of NCOS shall meet at least once a year.
- (ii) **Special meetings** of the General Body may be convened by the Secretary with the approval of Chairperson for such purposes and at such times and at such places as he/she may deem necessary or if more than half of the members of the General Body requisition for such a meeting.
- (iii) All meetings of NCOS whether Regular or Special shall be convened by the NCOS Secretary with the approval of the Chairperson of NCOS. Notice for the meeting should be issued in advance at least 15 days for a general meeting and 7 days for special meeting.
- (iv) Every meeting of the General Body shall be presided over by the Chairperson.
- (v) The quorum for the meetings of the General Body shall not be less than 1/3 (one-third) of the total members of NCOS with voting rights.
- (vi) No quorum is necessary for an adjourned meeting.

6.4 Venue of Meeting

- (i) The annual meeting of the General Body shall be held generally at any one of the SOSs/Committees, the venue being ordinarily decided at the preceding meeting.
- (ii) Special and extraordinary meetings shall be convened by the Chairperson at a place decided by him/her.

6.5 Functions and Powers of the General Body

The General Body shall have the following functions and powers:

- (i) To formulate the policies to be pursued by the NCOS and to act as the supreme policy making body in the field of ODL.
- (ii) To elect the Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer and other office bearers.
- (iv) To approve the Annual Report, the Annual Budget and the Audited Statement of Accounts of NCOS as presented by the NCOS Secretariat and as approved by the Executive Committee.
- (v) To appoint Auditors on the recommendation of the Executive Committee.
- (vi) To approve by-laws, rules and procedures drawn up by the Executive Committee.
- (vii) To consider and approve programmes and specific projects drawn by the Executive Committee.
- (viii) To approve short-term and long-term academic and other programmes that are prepared by the Executive Committee.

- (ix) To consider the recommendations of the Executive Committee for admission of members.
- (x) To transact any or all such other activities as may be necessary in furtherance of the aims and objectives of NCOS.

6.6 Loss of Membership

Any Member/s of NCOS shall cease to be a member if

- (a) they resign, or cease to hold office by virtue of which they become members;
- (b) they do not attend three consecutive meetings of NCOS without proper permission of the Chairperson.

6.7 Validation of the Procedures of the Meeting

Any inadvertent omission to give notice or non-receipt or late receipt by any member shall not invalidate for the proceedings of the meeting.

6.8 Protection of Action Taken in Good Faith

No suit or other legal proceedings shall be tenable against any office bearer or employee of NCOS for anything which is done in good faith or intended to be done in pursuance of any of the provisions of NCOS.

7. Executive Committee

- 7.1** The General Body of NCOS will constitute its Executive Committee (EC). It will take appropriate steps for achieving the objectives of NCOS and the policy perspectives to be visualised by the General Body of NCOS.

Constitution of the Executive Committee of NCOS

The Executive Committee shall consist of :

- (i) Chairperson
- (ii) Vice-Chairperson
- (iii) Secretary
- (iv) Joint Secretary
- (V) Treasurer
- (vi) Two Members to be co-opted by the Chairperson (Co-opted Members shall enjoy a term that is co-terminus with the term of the Chairperson)

7.2 Specific Functions and Powers of the Executive Committee of NCOS

The Executive Committee shall be the Executive Body of NCOS. It shall exercise all powers which are not specifically reserved for the General Body and shall be the final authority for taking decisions in regard to them. However, issues which have a bearing on policy matters, as and when decided by the Executive Committee, would be reported to the General Body. The Executive Committee itself will decide as to which issues have policy implications. If sometimes the Executive Committee omits to do so, the Chairperson of NCOS should take decision regarding such matters and the same reported to the Executive Committee. However, the specific functions of the Executive Committee shall be to:

- (i) provide general superintendence, direction and control of the affairs of the NCOS.
- (ii) exercise the executive authority of the NCOS and report the action(s) taken in the next annual meeting of the General Body;

- (iii) prepare short-term and long-term programmes and specific projects and report the same in the annual meeting of the General Body;
- (iv) draw up annual budget of NCOS and present it for approval of General Body in the annual meeting.
- (v) prepare Annual Reports, Audited Statements of Accounts of the NCOS and report the same in the next annual meeting of the General Body;
- (vi) set up sub-committees such as Finance Committee, Equivalence Committee, Academic Committee etc., which shall regulate their own business and shall frame necessary bye-laws for the purpose with experts from member open schools;
- (vii) frame bye-laws which it deems necessary to regulate procedures of the office and to conduct its own business;
- (viii) decide about the criteria for membership;
- (ix) create posts and make appointments for the smooth functioning of NCOS Secretariat, in conformity with the bye-laws laid down from time to time;
- (x) exercise power to raise funds, accept donations and funds, sell property, and enter into contracts with any organization(s) on behalf of the General Body for furthering the aims and objects of NCOS.
- (xi) prepare the agenda for the Annual General Meeting;
- (xii) frame bye-laws to regulate the service conditions, recruitment, promotion, seniority, pay, leave, retirement benefits and conduct rules of the employees;
- (xiii) Take such actions as may be necessary to establish linkages with universities, industry and such other sectors which have a bearing on the Open Schooling programme.

7.3 Meetings of the Executive Committee of NCOS

- (i) Every meeting of the Executive Committee shall be presided over by the Chairperson, and in his/her absence, by the Vice-Chairperson.
- (ii) More than one third or five members of Executive Committee present in person shall constitute the quorum at any meeting of the Executive Committee.
- (iii) Not less than 8 days clear notice for every meeting of the Executive Committee shall be given to each member of the Executive Committee.
- (iv) Every notice convening a meeting of the Executive Committee shall be issued by the Secretary NCOS Secretariat stating the date, time and place at which such meeting will be held.
- (v) The Executive Committee shall meet at least twice a year and at such times as the Chairperson of the NCOS may decide.
- (vi) All issues in the Executive Committee shall be decided by a simple majority vote. In case of a tie, the Chairperson shall have the casting vote right.
- (vii) Any business that may be necessary for the Executive Committee to transact may be carried out by circulation amongst all its members and any resolution so circulated and approved by a majority of the members signing shall be as effective and binding as if such resolution had been passed at a meeting of the Executive Committee.
- (viii) The Chairperson shall have the power to refer any question which, in his/her opinion is of vital importance and requires expert advice, to a sub-committee for detailed examination prior to the decision at the level of Executive Committee.

7.4 Sub-Committees of the Executive Committee of NCOS

- 7.4.1 The Executive Committee may establish such sub-committees, standing committees, special committees, task forces or other subordinate structures as are approved by resolutions in its meetings.
- 7.4.2 The Committee shall ratify the terms of reference for any such committee or subordinate structure so established.
- 7.4.3 The Committee shall appoint the chairpersons and members of any such committee or subordinate structure so established.
- 7.4.4 The chairperson of any committee or subordinate structure established by the Committee shall submit reports on the work of the Body within such time and in such forms as may be requested by the Committee.

7.5 Election of the Office Bearers

- i) Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Jt. Secretary and Treasurer will be elected by the General Body. The Executive Committee of NCOS will nominate an independent person who is not a member of NCOS as Returning Officer to conduct these elections. The Returning Officer shall invite nominations for these posts. The nominations shall be received at least one month before the elections. The Returning Officer shall notify the dates of filing nominations, date(s) for voting, counting of votes and declaration of results. To ensure transparency in counting of votes, the Returning Officer shall seek help of any other member(s).

7.6 Right to Vote

- i) Only Primary Members will be entitled to have voting right.
- ii) If any member fails to pay the prescribed annual subscription by 30th June of every year, such an SOS shall have no voting right and shall not hold any office or shall not be eligible to contest for any position till the arrears are cleared. Provided that voting right of a Member SOS shall be restored as and when the arrears are paid.
- iii) The right to vote shall be exercised by the members or their nominees duly nominated.
- iv) The Chairperson of NCOS shall have a casting vote right. All disputed questions of the meetings shall be decided by a majority vote.
- v) The nominated members shall not participate in voting process.

7.6 Secretariat of NCOS

The Secretariat of NCOS may be located in NIOS. The Executive Committee may establish such internal structures as may be required to form an efficient and effective Secretariat in order to promote the aims and objectives of the Constitution of NCOS.

8. Powers and Functions of the Chairperson of NCOS

The Chairperson of NCOS shall be elected by the General Body by majority vote for a term of three years or to continue till such time as election to this effect is held and a new Chairperson, duly elected through the approved procedures, assumes the office. He/she shall perform the following functions:

- (i) Preside over the meetings of the General Body and the Executive Committee.
- (ii) Ensure that appropriate action is taken on all resolutions passed by the General Body.
- (iii) Exercise such powers and carry out such functions and duties as may be decided by the General Body.

- (iv) Act on behalf of the General Body and exercise any or all powers subject to the condition that the action so taken by the Chairperson shall be reported in the next meeting of the Executive Committee and the General Body.
- (v) Facilitate the Secretary to convene regular or special meetings, constitute committees or sub-committees for the furtherance of the objectives of NCOS.
- (vi) Give his/her own ruling when the bye-laws are silent or ambiguous on any subject.
- (vii) Delegate such of his powers to the Vice Chairperson that he/she deems fit and proper for the efficient and effective discharge of his/her duties.

8.1 Business by Circulation

Any business, which may be necessary to perform and cannot wait consideration by the General Body before whom it would have been placed in the ordinary course, may at the instance of the Chairperson, be transacted by a resolution in writing circulated amongst all the members of such a Body. The resolution so circulated and approved by a majority of the members of such Body, shall be effective and binding as if resolution had been passed in a meeting of the said Body provided that it shall again be placed for ratification in the next meeting of that Body.

8.2 Transitory Clause

- (i) Notwithstanding anything contained in the bye-laws, the Chairperson of NCOS may discharge all or any of the functions till such time the appropriate authority(ies) come(s) into existence through an established procedure contained and shall inform the Executive Committee in its next meeting.
- (ii) The Chairperson shall exercise all such powers that are required for implementing the constitution.
- (iii) This constitution shall become effective as soon as it is approved by the General Body of NCOS.

9. Powers and Functions of other office bearers

9.1 Vice-Chairperson

Vice-Chairperson will function as Chairperson in his/her absence.

9.2 Secretary

The powers and functions of the Secretary will be:

- i. Convening the Meetings of the General Body of NCOS and the Executive Committee of NCOS
- ii. He/She shall be the Member Secretary for all meetings of General Body and Executive Committee of NCOS. Preparation of Agenda Papers
- iii. Presentation of the Agenda Items in the Meetings
- iv. Preparation of Minutes/Proceedings of the Meetings
- v. Taking follow up actions of the Minutes of these Meetings.

9.3 Joint Secretary

Joint Secretary will function as Secretary in his/her absence.

9.4 Treasurer

The powers and functions of the Treasurer would be as follows:

- i. The Treasurer shall be responsible for overseeing the management of all funds received and disbursed by the Association.
- ii. The Treasurer shall ensure that books of account for all monies received and paid out by the Association are properly maintained.
- iii. The Treasurer shall prepare statements of account at least once every quarter and present these to meetings of the Committee.
- iv. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the presentation of audited accounts and the report from the Association's Auditors to the Annual General Meeting of the Association.
- v. The Treasurer shall also make all financial records available to the Committee and the Association's Auditors for inspection.

9.5 Vacancies

- i. Any vacancy of NCOS Executive Committee shall be filled up in accordance with the provisions of Rules & Regulations as to be framed by the General Body.
- ii. The General Body or Executive Committee shall function notwithstanding any vacancy therein and notwithstanding any defect in the appointment, nomination, co-option or election of any member. No act or proceedings of the General Body or the Executive Committee shall be invalidated or nullified on the grounds of any existing vacancy therein or of any defect in the appointment, nomination, co-option or election of any member.

9.6 Functioning of the NCOS Secretariat

The NCOS Secretariat may request the Members to suggest Agenda Items for discussion in the forum of NCOS and prepare the Agenda Papers for NCOS Meetings by taking into consideration the needs of the Members as also of goal of Universalisation of School Education.

The NCOS Secretariat shall ensure follow up action on the recommendations of the Meetings, Conferences, Seminars etc., of NCOS. The NCOS Secretariat shall pursue the Government of India, Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) to make provision of funds for Promotion and Upscaling of the Open Schooling programme at national level and at State level, particularly to meet the goals of the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA).

10. Amendments to the Constitution

Any amendment to the Constitution shall be taken up by the General Body with two-third majority votes of the total strength of the NCOS General Body.

11. Settlement of Disputes

Settlement of any dispute arising out of the functioning of NCOS shall be resolved within the jurisdiction of the place where NCOS is registered.

12. Interpretation of Clauses

Any dispute related to interpretation of the clauses of this Constitution shall be addressed to the Chairperson and he/she shall have the final word in this regard and the same will be binding in nature.

Brief Information of State Open Schools (SOSs)

Andhra Pradesh State Open School

State Open School	Andhra Pradesh Open School Society, SCERT Complex, Hyderabad-500001
Date of Inception	March 1991, as a Registered Society
Role and Functions Role:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Universalization of education. 2) Greater equity and justice in society. 3) evolution of a Learning Society. 4) Mainstreaming of Drop-outs. 5) Provision of alternative system of education
Functions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Open Basic Education Programmes to adults and drop-outs in ODL Mode. 2) SSC and Sr. Secondary Courses in ODL Methodologies. 3) Vocational/Skill based education, integrating with academic subjects. 4) Stand alone Vocational/Skill training courses to the employed/under employed. 5) To enhance the Skill Competencies of the workers in the unorganised sector

The Andhra Pradesh State Open School is the first State Open School in India, started way back in the year 1991. The main objective is to provide alternative system of education to adults and especially to drop-outs. It is an independent department, working under the Department of Primary Education, Government of Andhra Pradesh headed by a Director. It has an Executive Board for Policy decisions making and the Director implements the programmes.

The Government of Andhra Pradesh vested with the Andhra Pradesh State Open School (APOSS) the authority to carry out SSC as well as Intermediate courses and to conduct Examinations. The Pass holders of the above courses will be given certificates in the name of APSOS with the Signature/Seal of the Director, APSOS. The Pass holders of APSOS are eligible for both Higher Education and Employment as per Government orders. The Council of Boards of Secondary Education (COBSE) also accorded recognition to APSOS. The enrolment of APSOS is over 2.00 Lakh this year.

Courses offered

- Elementary Education since 1991
- Secondary Education w.e.f. 2008-09
- Senior Secondary Education w.e.f. 2010-11
- Open Vocational Education w.e.f. 2008-09

The Andhra Pradesh State Open School carried out the Open Basic Education Programme of classes V, VI, VII levels from 1991 to 2008. Subsequently, it restructured the scheme of studies and started 10th Class from 2008. In 2010, the Andhra Pradesh State Open School (APOSS) started the Senior Secondary course. Presently, only SSC and Sr. Secondary courses are offered in APOSS. Telugu, English, Hindi and Urdu

mediums are offered in Sr. Secondary courses whereas Oriya medium is also offered in SSC course apart from the above media.

Curriculum

- ➔ State Open School has prepared its own curriculum for Elementary, Secondary, Senior Secondary and Vocational Education.
- ➔ Andhra Pradesh State Open School developed curriculum for Open Basic Education in Telugu Medium. Two different modules were prepared for each Class of V, VI, VII keeping in view the adult learners and school age learners. Also developed simplified Study Material for 10th Class subjects under Groups A and B. Translated NIOS Senior Secondary Group B study Material into Telugu Medium. Prepared simplified Study Material in 11 subjects of Sr. Secondary courses. Developed curriculum and Study material for Telugu and Arabic languages for Sr. Secondary course.

Medium of Instruction: Mediums of Instruction being offered by State Open School (SOS) are as follows.

SSC	Sr. Secondary
Telugu	Telugu
English	English
Urdu	Urdu
Hindi	Hindi
Oriya	

302 Languages as subjects are being offered by State Open School (SOS):

Stage of Education	Languages offered
Elementary/Open Basic Education	Telugu and Urdu
Secondary Education	Telugu, English, Hindi, Urdu, Oriya, Tamil, Kannad, Marathi
Senior Secondary Education	Telugu, English, Hindi, Urdu, Arabic

The Andhra Pradesh State Open School offered Open Basic Education equivalent to Classes V, VI, VII in Telugu Medium previously. IV and VII classes were also offered in Urdu Medium. Subsequently, 'OBE' was dispensed with and new SSC and Sr. Secondary courses are now offered. The curriculum/study materials of NIOS were adopted for both SSC and Sr. Secondary courses. As Telugu Medium is not offered in Sr. Secondary course of NIOS, APSOS translated 'Group B' subjects of the course into Telugu Medium and offering the course in Telugu Medium as well.

Self Learning Materials (SLM)

- ➔ State Open School (SOS) has adopted the Self Learning Material (SLM) of NIOS
- ➔ State Open School (SOS) has developed its own Self Learning Material (SLM) for Elementary Education.
- ➔ The Self Learning Material of NIOS were procured and supplied to the learners of both SSC and Sr. Secondary of APOSS. Recently, on the advice of NIOS, APOSS has taken Copy Right permission to reprint the Study Material of both SSC and Sr. Secondary courses. Sr. Secondary Telugu Medium Study Material was already developed and printed by APSOS with the permission of NIOS. As OBE is not in implementation, the study material already developed by APSOS has not been reprinted.

Subjects being offered by SOS at Different Stages of School Education

S. No.	Stage of Education	Subjects offered (including languages)	How many subjects are compulsory for certification?
1.	Elementary/Open Basic Education	Telugu, Urdu, English, Maths, Environmental Studies, Vocational Subjects	Group A - Languages - One (Telugu/Urdu) Group B - 2 (Maths. Environmental Studies) Social Studies - (Compulsory for VIII Class) Group C- One (Any one Vocational Subject)
2.	Secondary Education	Telugu, English, Hindi, Urdu, Kannada, Oriya, Marathi, Tamil, Mathematics, Science, Social Science, Economics, Word Processing, Psychology, ICH, Business Studies and Vocational Subjects (6)	05
3.	Senior Secondary Education	Telugu, English, Urdu, Arabic, Maths, Biology, Physics, Chemistry, History, Economics, Political Science, Geography, Accountancy, Business Studies, Psychology, Sociology, Home Science, Mass Communication, Painting and Vocational Subjects (5)	05
		Nomenclature of Courses	Duration
4.	Open Vocational Education	Vocational courses are offered as one of the subjects at Learner's option in SSC and Sr. Secondary courses.	

The Andhra Pradesh State Open School adopted the Scheme of Studies and curriculum of NIOS for its SSC and Sr. Secondary courses. 17 subjects (including languages) are offered at SSC level. 22 subjects (including languages) are offered at Sr. Secondary level. Six Vocational subjects at SSC level and five at Intermediate level integrated with Academic subjects are offered in APSOS.

Target Groups

► Disadvantaged Sections of Society

- Scheduled Castes
- Scheduled Tribes
- Other Backward Castes
- Rural Poor
- Urban Slum Dwellers
- Differently Abled

► Other Categories

- Girls and Women
- Drop-outs
- Working Women
- Housewives
- Failed Students from the Formal Schools
- Ex-Servicemen
- Unemployed
- Partly Employed

► General Category

The enrolment in both SSC and Sr. Secondary comprise all the above segments of learners. The Community-wise break up is given hereunder.

Community-wise Enrolment for 2012-13

SSC				Sr. Secondary	
OC	-	15.18%	-	(Male & Female)	- 15.70%
OBC	-	43.84%	-	(Male & Female)	- 45.64%
Minority	-	07.41%	-	(Male & Female)	- 04.92%
SC	-	23.34%	-	(Male & Female)	- 22.89%
ST	-	11.22%	-	(Male & Female)	- 10.87%
All Females	-	31%	-	-	- 31.5%
Total Enrolment		1,02,658			92,852

Flexibilities being offered by SOS

- No Upper Age Limit
Minimum Age for 10th Class - 14 +
Minimum Age for Sr. Secondary - 15 +
- Freedom to choose subjects according to one's needs, interests and ability.
- Validity of Registration - 5 years
- Credit Accumulation Facility - Available
- Credit accumulation is admissible up to 5 years -
- - Up to a maximum of Two subjects are allowed for Transfer of Credit (TOC) in both SSC and Sr. Secondary courses.
- Part Admission facility is available.
- Flexibility is offered in the selection of subjects from the group lists.
- No upper Age limit.
- Choice in selection of Medium among four Media offered in Sr. Secondary and five Media in S.S.C.
- Transfer of Credit (TOC) system to get transfer upto 2 subjects passed in other Boards.
- Flexible scheme of Examination; Once registered can complete the course in 9 Examinations/5 years.
- Credit Accumulation; Liberty to appear in one or any number of subjects at learners option.

Facilities being offered by State Open School (SOS)

► Personal Contact Programme (PCP)

- 30 Personal Contact Programmes per subject.
- Personal Contact Programme classes are held in weekends and holidays (At least 5 days in a month during August to February). Minimum 5 Tutors are engaged for Personal Contact Programme (PCP).

► Tutor Marked Assignments (TMA)

- 3 (Three) Tutor Marked Assignments per subject.

Each AI Coordinator has been given a User-id and Password to Login and enter each learner's admission details in the ON-LINE application. Learners are not given IN-LINE access to ensure the correctness of data in the ON-LINE application. AI Coordinator who is normally a Government / Zilla Parishad /Municipal/ Recognized High School/Junior College Head Master/Principal should certify the correctness of the data uploaded in the website and should necessarily submit the Hard Copy of Each ON-LINE application to the District Coordinator for further scrutiny of applications and for confirmation of the admissions by the District Educational Officer. From Next year, it is planned to give ON-LINE application submission access to learners of Senior Secondary course as well, apart from AI Coordinator as the SSC pass E-data of formal and APOSS Board as automatically generated.

Delivery System of the Open Schooling Programme

- Printed Material
- Face to face counselling and Lab Practical/Training
- Audio Video Cassettes
- Internet based delivery

Printed Study Material is supplied to the learner through AIs. APOSS also developed simplified Study Material (Question and Answer Banks) and delivered to learners. Lab practicals are conducted in Jr. Colleges. 191 Audio Video Cassettes (Live Lessons) were developed for SSC courses. Study Material, Model Question Papers, Practical Question Bank, Simplified Study Material are kept in Website

Admission and Enrolment

Dates of Admission:	
Academic Courses	From June To July
Vocational Education Courses	From June To July
Admission Fee	
Secondary Courses	Rs. 600 (for Concessional Categories of SC, ST, OBC, PH, Minorities, Ex-Servicemen/All category Females) Rs. 1000/- for OC Male
Sr. Secondary Courses	Rs. 800 (for Concessional Categories of SC, ST, OBC, PH, Minorities, Ex-Servicemen/All category Females) Rs. 1100/- for OC Male
Vocational Education Courses	Rs.100/- per subject under Group-C of SSC RS. 150/- per subject under Group-C of Intermediate.

Admission Fees includes cost of Study Material for Students.

New Admission in each year

S. No.	Course	Year/No. of Candidates Admitted									Total
		2010-11			2011-12			2012-13			
		M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	
1.	Elementary/Open Basic Education										
2.	Secondary Education			93234			106823			102658	302715
3.	Senior Secondary Education			93674			61959			92852	248485
4.	Vocational Education										

Number of SC, ST and Differently Abled Candidates 2012-13

S. No	Course	No. of Candidates					Total
		SC	ST	Minority	Other BCs	OC	
1.	Elementary/Open Basic Education	Not offered					
2.	Secondary Education	23958	11521	7607	43992	15580	1,02,658
3.	Senior Secondary Education	21250	10090	4564	42370	10153	92,852
4.	Vocational Education						

APOSS is enrolling candidates only once in a year i.e., in June and July for whom the first Public Examinations will be held in April/May. Supplementary exams will be conducted in October/November every year.

Examination and Certification

S. No	Course	2010-11(Nov/Dec 2011)			2011-12(April/May 2012)			2012(Oct/Nov 2012)		
		Appeared	Passed	Pass %	Appeared	Passed	Pass %	Appeared	Passed	Pass %
1.	Elementary/Open Basic Education									
2.	Secondary Education	20312	9359	46.08	112808	71399	63.29	25160	11234	44.65
3.	Senior Secondary Education				75156	43586	57.99	70374	32.724	46.50
4.	Vocational Education									

Examination and Certification Body: Andhra Pradesh State Open School

Flexibilities in Examination System

- Learner can have the option to appear whole examination or part (subject-wise).
- Learner can have the option to appear for Examinations twice a year (April/May & October).
- Learners can complete the course in a span of five years (9 examination chances).
- Credit accumulation Facility

- Facility of re-evaluation of Answer Books
- Months in which Examination are held: Twice a year (April/May & October/November)
- After how many weeks taken for result declaration: 3 to 4 weeks.
- The Question Paper and Marking Scheme are also placed on website after examination

APSOS shall conduct Public Examinations twice in a year, during April/May and October/November every year. The APSOS is empowered to conduct its Examinations and issue certificates by Andhra Pradesh Government orders. The Certificates issued by APSOS are valid for both Higher Education and employment.

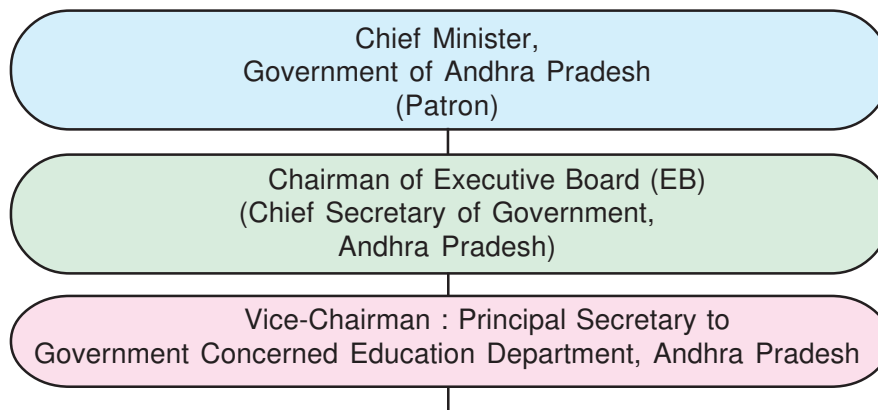
Number of Study Centres of State Open School (Latest Position)

• Study Centres for Elementary/Open Basic Education	:	NIL
• Study Centres for Secondary Education	:	1204
• Study Centres for Secondary Education	:	1116
• Study Centres for Vocational Education : +2 (90) Vocational Centres		

1893* Certain AIs have been given accreditation only for SSC course. Certain AIs have been given accreditation only for Senior Secondary Course and certain AIs have been given accreditation both for SSC and Senior Secondary as well, basing on their existing sanctioned courses of formal system, facilities and qualified teaching staff.

APSOS started Study Centres in almost all Mandals (Sectors) of the State. There are 1156 Revenue Mandal Divisions in Andhra Pradesh State so as to take the Open School Activities to every nook and corner of the State.

Organogram of Andhra Pradesh Open School Society (APOSS)



Other Members of Executive Board of APOSS

1. Secretary to Government, Finance Department Member.
2. Commissioner and Director of School Education.
3. Director of Adult Education.
4. Vice Chancellor, Dr. B.R. Ambedhkar Open University, Hyderabad, Member.
5. Vice Chancellor, Sri Padmavathi Mahila.
6. University, Tirupathi, Member.
7. Director of Technical Education, Member.
8. Director of Women Department & Child Welfare, Member.
9. Director of SCERT, A.P. Hyderabad.
10. Director of SIET, A.P. Hyderabad.
11. Chairman, NIOS, Noida, Member.
12. Director, A.P. Open School Society, Hyderabad, Member-Secretary.

EXISTING CADER STRENGTH POSITION OF APSOS, HYDERABAD

S.No.	Name of the Post	No. of Posts
1.	Director	1
2.	Assistant Director	1
3.	Accounts Officer	1
4.	Superintendent	1
5.	School Assistant	5
6.	Art Teach	1
7.	Senior Assistant	2
8.	Auditor	1
9.	Steno	1
10.	Junior Assistant	1
11.	Typist	2
12.	Driver	1
13.	Roneo Operator	1
14.	Attenders	3
	TOTAL	22

Total No. of Regular Posts = 22

(Plan Programme)

As per Executive Board resolution the Sanctioned posts are:

Intermediate (APOSS)

Academic Department - 19 (Working-04)

Administration and Examination Department - 23 (Working-19)

SSC (APOSS)

Joint Director - 1, Assistant Accounts Officer - 1, Consultants - 7, Coordinators - 15, Computer Operator - 1
Total - 25 (Working - 19)

Training of Open Schooling Functionaries

- Training programmes are organised every year for :
- (iii) Staff of APSOS.
- (iv) Staff of the Study Centres every year.

Yearly once Orientation programme is conducted for the Coordinators of Study Centre. District Coordinators shall be given orientation at Head Office once in a Quarter. The State Open School (SOS) staff shall also be

updated with developments on the activities of Open Schools. A Three day Orientation Programme was conducted for the District/Regional Coordinators to strengthen the functioning of the field functionaries of APSOS, with the support of NIOS.

Monitoring of Implementation of SOS Programmes

At Head Office level there are 20 Coordinators looking after 23 Districts in the State. All Coordinators shall visit districts during PCP days apart from the District Coordinator who is located in each of the 23 districts. District Educational Officer and other Education Officers at district level shall also monitor the activities of Andhra Pradesh State Programmes to Study Centre Coordinators and conduct of public Examinations. District Collector is the Chairman to APSOS at District level and monitor all activities of open Schooling

Fees Structure for Different Courses in State Open School

S. No	Course	Fees							Remarks, if any
		Minority	OBC	SC	ST	Girls	Differently abled	Others	
1.	SSC	600/-	600/-	600/-	600/-	600/-	600/-	1000/-	
2.	Sr. Secondary	800/-	800/-	800/-	800/-	800/-	800/-	1100/-	

The fee structure of APSOS is fixed by Government of Andhra Pradesh. Fee is very nominal. The Study Material is supplied to learners free of cost within the cost of Admission fee. ID Cards and simplified Study Materials are also supplied to learners as part of provision of qualitative services to learners.

Audio and Video Programmes

Live Lesson Audio Visual Programmes were prepared for SSC course. The media Programmes of SOS are Broadcast/Telecast.

All the study materials of APSOS have been uploaded in the website (apopenschool.org) for the benefit of learners to go through/download the Study Materials

Use of ICT

Each AI Coordinator has been given a User-ID and Password to Login and enter each learners admission detail in the ON-LINE application. Learners are not given ON-LINE access to ensure the correctness of data in the ON-LINE application. AI Coordinator who is normally a Government/Zilla Parishad /Municipal/ Recognized High School/Junior College Head Master/Principal should certify the correctness of the data uploaded in the website and should necessarily submit the Hard Copy of Each ON-LINE application to the District Coordinator for further scrutiny of applications and for confirmation of the admissions by the District Educational Officer. From Next year, it is planned to give ON-LINE application submission access to learners of Senior Secondary course as well, apart from AI Coordinator as the SSC pass E-data of formal and APSOS Board are automatically generated.

Journal, Magazine, New Bulletin

S. No.	Item	Title	Periodicity	Remarks, if any
1.	News Letter	Neo-Smart Learner	Quarterly	It is proposed to upload the News Letter in the website

Annual Budget

S.No	Year	Budget	Source of Finances			Total Expenditure
			Income of SOS	Grant from State Govt.	Finances from other sources	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	2010-11			3,15,00,000	2,41,02,722	5,56,85,176
2.	2011-12			4,62,20,000	9,02,61,326	13,64,81,326
3.	2012-13			4,62,20,000	14,56,50,000	19,18,70,000

Assam State Open School

Name of the State Open School(SOS)	ASSAM STATE OPEN SCHOOL
Complete Address of SOS with PIN Code	ASSAM HIGHER SECONDARY EDUCATION COUNCIL, BAMUNIMAIDAM, GUWAHATI-781021 Telephone No. of the Head of SOS: 0361-2550828 (O), 094353-41939 (M) Fax No. of SOS: 0361-2550844 E-mail of SOS: ahsecss@gmail.com Website of SOS: www.ahsecnic.co.in
Head of the SOS(Name)	Md. Mohsin Ali, Chairman, AHSEC
Date of inception of SOS	1 st September,2009

Assam State Open School is a Constituent of Board of School Education

Role and Functions of SOS: Assam State Open School plays a pivotal role in extending H.S. level courses for the deprived category of learners of the state.

The Assam State Open School is functioning through accredited Study-Centres[ASCs] located in different parts of the state. Assam State Open School plays the significant role among the employees, drop outs and deprived category by providing opportunity to continue education through Open and Distance mode in regional medium.

Assam State Open School is established with the help, co-operation and guidance of NIOS as alternative system of education for the deprived group of the society. It plays an important role in extending +2 stage of Education through open and distance mode in the state. ASOS had already been recognised by the Guwahati University as the course is equivalent to other recognised Boards/Council offering +2 stage of Education.

Assam State Open School is operating as a cell running under Assam Higher Secondary Education Council, which is the apex body for regulating, supervise and develop the +2 stage of the state of Assam. The Cell is running to offer the H.S. Level Course through the Open and Distance learning mode. Along with the Academic courses, the SOS also offers integrated Academic courses with Vocational Courses.

The Self Instructional Materials of NIOS are used as Course material of ASOS. Only for the language subject, Assamese, self instructional materials are developed by exercising the expertise of the local experts.

The main motto of ASOS is to make **Education For All**. As the drop out and other disadvantage category like to continue their studies in regional languages, so ASOS offers its course curricula in both English and Assamese medium. The Assamese medium textbooks are prepared from the English medium textbooks by the transliteration of the course-contents.

Subjects being offered by SOS at Different Stages of School Education

S. No.	Stage of Education	Subjects offered (including languages)	How many subjects are compulsory for certification?
1.	Elementary/Open Basic Education		
2.	Secondary Education		
3.	Senior Secondary Education	English, Assamese, Bengali, Mathematics, Physics, chemistry, Biology, Psychology, Economics, Home Science, Political Science, Geography, Business Studies, Accountancy, Data Entry Operation, Mass Communication, Painting, Computer Science, Soil & Fertiliser Management, Food Processing, Preservation of Fruits & Vegetables.	5 subjects including at-least 1(one) and not more than 2 (two) language subjects.

There is no binding among the subject combination and a learner may offer subject(s) of his/her own interest. There is also the provision of taking Vocational subjects along with the academic subjects.

- The curriculum and Syllabi of Sr. Secondary Course designed by the National Institute of Open Schooling has been adopted.
- The printed materials used by ASOS are self-learning materials, attractive to learners both in content and format.
- The SLM of the subject Assamese is designed as per NIOS syllabus of other language subjects exercising the expertise of Subject Experts.
- The trans-literal form of English version materials is used as Assamese medium materials in each subject.
- Printed self-learning materials are written in a manner that learners can learn by themselves.
- These are prepared especially for the distant learners incorporating all the features that a good teacher actually does in a class room in the face to face situation.

Disadvantaged Sections of Society

Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Castes, Rural Poor, Urban Slum Dwellers, Differently abled.

Other Categories

Girls and Women, Drop-outs, Working Men, Working Women, Housewives, Failed students from the Formal Schools, Ex-Servicemen, Unemployed, Partly Employed

General Category

The Mission of Assam State Open School is to provide **Education For All** with special concern.

- i. For girls and women,
- ii. Rural youth,
- iii. Working men and women,
- iv. SC and ST and other disadvantaged persons who because of one or other reason could not continue their education with the formal system.

Flexibilities being offered by SOS

Senior Secondary

Minimum age of entry is 15 years

There is no Upper Age Limit

Freedom to choose subjects according to one's needs, interests and abilities.

Validity of Registration is 5 years

Credit Accumulation Facility for 5 years

Transfer of two Credits (TOC) of Previous Achievements in other Board's Examinations

Part Admission

The Part Admission facility is admissible to the learners to update knowledge and educational qualifications:

- Who have already passed the H.S. course with other combination.
- Passed from any recognized board or ASOS.
- Only Mark-sheet will be issued to the successful learners.

Criteria for Admission

2. Learners passed in other combination from other boards
 - Maximum of subject allowed is 4 (four)
 - Registration fee as per prescribed rate
 - Additional Subject fee as per prescribed rate
 - Cost Material fee @ each book as per prescribed rate
3. Learners passed from Assam State Open School/Assam Higher Secondary Education Council:

No Registration fee is to be paid within the validity period of Admission and Registration under ASOS i.e. within 5 (five) years from the date of Admission.

 - Additional Subject fee is to be paid
 - Cost Material Fee @ each book is to be paid
 - Maximum of subjects allowed is 4 (four)

The Assam State Open School offers the Senior Secondary Level of Education in Open and Distance Mode. The features of the course are:

- Freedom to learn
- what to learn
- when to learn
- how to learn
- when to appear in examination
- Minimum age of Entry is 15 years

Scheme of Studies

The Scheme of Studies suggested for ASOS has an inbuilt flexibility :

- Stream-less course curricula
- Subjects may be adopted or removed as per decision
- 5(Five) subjects are compulsory for certification
- Minimum 1 (one) and maximum 2(two) language subject(s) is/are compulsory
- Selection of subjects depends on the choice and interest of learners as per requirement of higher studies.

Facilities being offered by SOS

- **Personal Contact Programme (PCP)**
 - 30 PCPs for each subject
 - PCP classes are conducted in weekends and holidays four times in a month
 - PCP classes are organized during January-August
 - (One Tutor per subject is engaged)
 - Tutor Marked Assignments (TMA)
 - Three TMAs per subjects
- Facility of offering TOC
- Credit accumulation for 5 years
- Facility of Tutor Marked Assignments to check their regular progress
- Facility of offering subjects of their own choice selecting from the courses offered.
- Facility of offering subjects in combination of Vocational subjects

Delivery System of the Open Schooling Programme

Face to face counseling through Personal contact Programme conducted by the ASCs. The print materials are distributed among learners for detailed study.

Admission and Enrolment

- Dates of Admission
- Academic Courses From 1st July to 31st October
- Admission Fee
- Senior Secondary Courses Rs.1150/-

The admission fee include cost of Study Material for Students

New Admission in each year

S. No.	Course	Years/No. of Candidates Admitted								
		2010-11			2011-12			2012-13		
		M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
1.	Elementary/Open Basic Education									
2.	Secondary Education									
3.	Senior Secondary Education	1464	976	2440	2495	1070	3565	1530	970	2500
4.	Vocational Education									
5.	Any other (specify)									
	Total									

The admission process in ASOS starts in the month of July and continues up-to the month of October every year. The prospectus for admission is designed and developed by the Head Quarter of ASOS and is sent to the ASCs for admission. The off line admissions are done through ASCs. The Principal-cum-Coordinator verifies the related documents of the learners enrolled in the course and submitted the admission documents to the ASOS cell. The admission is confirmed by ASOS by issuing Registration Certificate to the learners.

The rate of admission is higher in Barak Valley and among the minorities. The learners from violent and terrorist affected areas are gradually showing interest to continue their education through Open Learning system.

Examination and Certification

S.No.	Course	2010-11			2011-12		
		Appeared	Passed	Pass Percentage	Appeared	Passed	Pass Percentage
1.	Senior Secondary	1146	596	52%	2034	1034	54.19%

Name & Address of the Examination and Certification Body : **The Secretary, Assam Higher Secondary Education Council, Bamunimaidam, Guwahati-21**

Flexibilities in Examination System Credit accumulation Facility Facility of re-evaluation of Answer Books Months in which Examination are held : October-November and May – June

After how many weeks taken for result deceleration : 4 weeks

The Examination is conducted by the ASOS under the Assam Higher Secondary Education Council and the Secretary of the Council is the Certifying Authority.

A. Choice of Evaluation

- Formative and summative evaluation at Senior/Higher Secondary levels
- Full Scale External Public Examination to be conducted by AHSEC at Senior/Higher Secondary level.

B. Periodic Examinations

- Examination will be held twice in a year (May-June & October-November) or as may be decided by ASOS

C. Pass Criteria in a subject

Minimum of 33% marks in the aggregate as well as a separately in theory and practical in the public examination.

D. Certification Criteria

Pass in 5 subjects including at least one but not more than two languages.

Study Centres for Senior Secondary Education : 125 nos.

Presently ASOS is running through 125 ASCs within the state. The procedure of selecting ASCs is as follows.

A.

- ➔ The institution must be recognized/permited by the Council.
- ➔ The institute must have the infrastructure to conduct PCP.
- ➔ The subject teachers must have no objection in conducting PCP.
- ➔ The Principal of the Institutions is the Coordinator of the Study Centre.

Functions and Responsibilities:-

B. Academic

- ➔ *Counselling at the time of Admission and Examination*
- ➔ Keeping close link with the Academic facilitators
- ➔ Prepare and organize PCP as per time table made available at the time of admission with copy to ASOS
- ➔ To provide adequate Laboratory facilities to learners and evaluate TMAs

- To evaluate the progress of the students.
- To provide Library, Audio and Video facilities
- Collect Study Materials from Open Schooling Cell and to distribute the same among the learners.
- Collect all concerned documents from Open Schooling Cell and distribute the same among learners.

Organisational Structure of SOS

Members of the Committee	:	Md. Mohsin Ali, Chairman, AHSEC Mr. Uddhab Ch. Das, Secretary, AHSEC Dr. D.D. Goswami, Dy. Secy(Aca i/c & Exam) Mr. Jyoti Kalita, Dy. Secy(Admn.)
Departmental Unit	:	Course Coordinator, AHSEC (SOS) Project Associate, AHSEC (SOS) Asst. Secretary, AHSEC (SOS) UDA - 1 LDA - 2 Typist - 1 Grade IV - 2

The 125 nos. ASCs are functioning under the SOS cell.

Staff Strength in State Open School : NO regular appointment is made till now.

Assam State Open School is running as a Cell under the Assam Higher Secondary Education Council. Till now 2 persons are engaged on contract basis to look after the activities of SOS. Staff from Assam Higher Secondary Education Council is working there.

Training of Open Schooling Functionaries

For SOS Staff (Conducted)

For Staff at Study Centres(Conducted)

Frequency of training programmes – Yearly

Training Programmes for different

Clientele are based on Training Packages.

Monitoring of Implementation of SOS Programmes

The H S Level Courses offered by ASOS are implemented through the Accredited Study Centres [ASCs] which are permitted and recognized by the Council. Monitoring of the ASCs is done half yearly.

Fees Structure for Different Courses in SOS

ASOS is self sustaining organization and is completely based on the royalty collected from the students. So the fee structure is common to all.

Use of ICT

ASOS is not using ICT in its programmes right now. But in its near future it will try to do so.

Annual Budget

S. No.	Year	Budget	Sources of Finances			Total Expenditure (in Rs.)
			Income of SOS (in Rs.)	Grant from State Govt.	Finances from other sources (AHSE Council) (in Rs.)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	2010-11		33,58,735/-	Nil	21,50,501/-	29,41,614/-
2.	2011-12		53,21,121/-	Nil	10,00,000/-	33,26,329/-
3.	2012-13		79,23,100/-	Nil	8,00,000/-	51,89,378/-

Overview

- Established as an Open Schooling Cell under the Assam Higher Secondary Education Council in the year, 2009.
- Only Sr. Secondary Courses are offered.
- Academic courses are offered in integration with vocational courses.
- No. of learners admitted in the year 2012-13 is 2500.
- English, Assamese and Bengali languages are offered.
- Medium of Instruction is English and Assamese.
- Credit transfer facility is available.
- Pass percentage in the H.S. Level Examination October, 2011 is 54.19%

Madhya Pradesh Rajya Open School

Address	MP Board Campus, Shivaji Nagar, Bhopal
Telephone No. of Director of SOS	0755-2671066
Fax No. of SOs	0755-2552106
E-mail of SOS	mpsos@rediffmail.com
Website of SOS	www mpsos.nic.in
Date of inception of SOS	11-08-1995
Status of SOS	It is an autonomous organization(registered society). It is a constituent of the Directorate of School Education, Madhya Pradesh.
Role and Function of SOS	(1) Registration of Students for High School & Higher Secondary Exam. (2) Conducting of High School & Higher Secondary Exam. (3) Provide of certificate and Marksheet.
Admission and certification	Online Registration of students in September through 304 Study Centres. After conducting examination, certificates and mark-sheets are given
Course offered	High School (since 1997) Higher Secondary (since 1997) Vocational Education (since 2001)
Curriculum and materials	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. SOS is following the curriculum of NIOS. ii. Medium of instruction is Hindi and English iii. Languages as subjects are Hindi and English iv. SOS has adopted the textbooks of the State Education Department and of NIOS v. Subjects being offered by SOS at different stages of school education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secondary Education: subjects offered :5 subjects, subjects compulsory: 5, • Senior Secondary Education : Subject offered: 5, subject compulsory: 5, • Vocation Education : Subjects offered : 5, subject compulsory: 5 vi. Target groups under the education program of SOS are disadvantaged sections of society, Scheduled Casts, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Castes, rural poor, urban slum Dwellers, differently abled and other categories i.e. girls and women, dropouts working man, women and housewives, failed students from formal schools vii. Minimum age limit for Senior Secondary is 14 years viii. Flexibilities and facilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Freedom to choose subject according to ones needs, interest and abilities • Validity of Registration for 5 years • Credit Accumulation Facility • Transfer of Credits of previous achievement in other Board's examinations (up-to 2 subjects) • Online admission ix. Fifty percent of concession to SCs, STs, girls and disabled x. Delivery system of the Open Schooling Programme: Printed Material, Lab Practicals/Training

New Admission in each year

S. No.	Course	Years/ No. of Candidates Admitted								
		2010-11			2011-12			2012-13		
1.	Secondary Education	44467	30730	75197	46621	32736	79357	46282	32665	78947
2.	Sr. Secondary Education	23181	18032	41213	26967	21544	48511	21014	17147	38161
	Total	67648	48762	116410	73588	54280	127868	67296	49812	117108

No. of SC, ST and differently abled candidates 2012-13

S. No.	Course	No. of Candidates				Total
		SC	ST	Differently Abled	others	
1.	Secondary Education	11424	15527		51996	78947
2.	Sr. Secondary Education	5379	6090		26692	38161

Examination and certification

S. No.	Course	2008-09			2011-12		
1.	Secondary Education	1,15,748	40,152	34.69%	1,24,044	36,868	30%
2.	Sr. Secondary Education	63,771	18,658	29%	70539	19,179	27.19%

- The examinations are held in May-June
- The evaluation is done in Evaluation Centres
- The result declaration takes 12 weeks

Study Centres

- Secondary and Senior Secondary = 304
- Vocational = 21

Organizational Structure of SOS

1) General Body

- Sabhapati - Minister, School Education
- Secretary, Member - Director, MPSOS
- Others Members - 30

2) Executive Body

- Chairman - Principal Secretary, School
- Secretary member - Director MPSOS
- Other Members - 14

3) Distt. Level Committee

Chairman	-	Distt. Collector
Secretary member	-	Distt. Education Officer
Other Members	-	Principals of Study Centres

Staff Strength in State Open School

S. N.	Post	Scale of Pay	No. of Posts	Remarks, if any
1.	Academic Staff (including Technical Staff)	15600-39000 + GP 5400	4	Astt. Director
		15600-39000 + GP 5400	1	Account Officer
		9300-34000 + GP 4200	5	Lect.
		9300-34000 + GP 4200	3	Section Officer
		9300-34000 + GP 3200	2	UDT
		5200-202000 + GP 2400	4	Accountant
		5200-202000 + GP 1900	8	Asst. Grade-3
		5200-202000 + GP 1900 + SA 125/-	1	Steno Typist
		5200-202000 + GP 2400	1	Data Entry Operator
		Fix (On Contract)	6	Data entry cum Clerk
		4440-7440 + GP 1300	8	Peon
Fix (On Contract)	1	Driver		
2.	Administrative Staff	Upper Grade Scale	1	Chairman
		37400-67000 + GP 8700	1	Director
		15600-39000 + GP 6600	1	Deputy Director
		Total	47	

➔ Training (Capacity Building) of Open Schooling Functionaries

- Training programmes are organized for
 - (i) SOS staff
 - (ii) Staff of Study Centre

The periodicity of training in yearly.

Monitoring of implantation of SOS Programmes

- ➔ State level Committee along with Director SOS
- ➔ Jt. Director (Education) in each Divisional Level.
- ➔ Distt. Level Committee
- ➔ Monitoring is done from time to time along with Distt. Education Officer

Fee Structure for different courses in SOS

S. No.	Course	Fee				
		SC	ST	Girls	Differently abled	Others
1.	Secondary Education	810/-	810/-	810/-	810/-	1510/-
2.	Senior Secondary	800/-	800/-	800/-	800/-	1710/-

Use of ICT

Admission of students through MP Online Exam Result Processing.

Annual Budget

S. No.	Year	Budget	Source of Finances			Total
			Income of SOS	Grant from State Govt.	Finances from Other sources	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	2010-11	3200 lac	2090 lac	Nil	Nil	1047 Lac
2	2011-12	2400 lac	1875 lac	Nil	Nil	524 Lac
3	2012-13	600 lac	326 lac	Nil	Nil	255 Lac

Chhattisgarh State Open School (CGSOS)

Address	Chhattisgarh State Open School Haribhoomi Comlex, Dhamtari Road, Tikrapara, Raipur Chhattisgarh
Telephone	0771 3042607
Year of Setting up	1 st July, 2008
Recognition	Recognized by : (i) Chhattisgarh Secondary Education Board (ii) COBSE (iii) Association of Indian Universities (iv) NIOS (v) Medical Council of India
Registration	Registered under the Chhattisgarh Societies Registration Act (1973) On 09.04.2008.
Bodies of CGSOS	(i) General Body (ii) Executive Committee

Operational Aspects of CGSOS

S. No.	Year	No. of Study Centres	No. of Students	Examination Result	
				High School	Higher Secondary
1	2008-09	152 (in 18 districts)	42,197	41.36	48.91
2	2009-10	160 (-do-)	53,195	31.78	48.13
3	2010-11	163 (-do-)	77,732	33.87	46.70
4	2011-12	164 (-do-)	78,767	58.84	67.78
5	2012-13	242 (In 27 Districts)	1,23,992		

Study Material

- During 2008-09 session, the study material of NIOS was procured and provided to Students free of cost.
- Form of the year 2009-10, the CGSOS has been developing and printing its own study material and supplying to the students.
- During the session 2012-13, the solved question papers of last five years and DVDs were supplied free to the students through the study centres.

Other Information

- Minimum age for High School Examination is 14 years. There is no upper age limit.
- Medium of Instruction: Hindi, English
- Flexibility of choice of subjects.
- Transfer of credit of two subjects to CGSOS students from other boards.
- 25% fee concession to SCs, STs, Adult Women, Differently Abled students.
- Model Question papers prepared by experienced teachers.
- Nine chances in five years to complete of a course.
- Main examinations in April-May.
- Examinations of CGSOS are recognized by COBSE
- Equivalence obtained from the Chhattisgarh Secondary Education Board, Raipur
- Recognized by NIOS; Association of Indian Universities; MCI.
- Prospectus and application form for admission are available on the website www.cgsos.in of CGSOS.

Gujarat State Open School (GSOS)

Address	Gujarat Secondary & Higher Secondary Education Board, Sector-10 B, Near old Sachivalaya, Gandhinagar
Head of the SOS	Sh. R. R. Varsani (IAS) Chairman, Gujarat State Open School
Telephone No. of Director of SOS	079 232253817
Fax No. of SOS	079 23253828
E-mail of SOS	chairman@gseb.org
Website of SOS	www.gseb.org
Date of inception of SOS	July 2010
Status of SOS	Gujarat State Open School is a registered society.
Role and Function of SOS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) To provide sound professional advice to the state Govt. regarding the proper development of Distance and Open learning system at the School level in the state, for establishment and development of study centres of open schooling. (ii) To develop and prescribe or offer a wide spectrum of courses of study, for purposes of general vocational and continuing education, either leading to certification at the school stage (Secondary & Higher Secondary) upto the under graduate level (including certificate (Diplomas) or for life and job enrichment and without certification. (iii) To develop a network of open schooling in the state and help in adapting / adopting the course material as well as developing course in the national / International and Regional language.

- GSOS was started in with 389 study centres in the state.

Course offered

- Secondary w.e.f. 2012
- Sr. Secondary w.e.f. 2012

Curriculum and materials

- GSOS is following the curriculum of the State Education Department and of NIOS.
- SOS prepared its own self learning material of standard 10 Social Science. Printing of material in under process.

Mediums of Instruction

- (i) Gujarati
- (ii) Hindi
- (iii) English
- (iv) Marathi
- (v) Urdu
- (vi) Sindhi
- (vii) Tamil

Languages as subjects being offered by SOS

Secondary Education and Senior Secondary Education: Gujarati, Hindi, English

Subjects being offered by SOS at different Stages of School Education

S. No.	Stage of Education	Subjects offered (including languages)	How many subjects are compulsory for certification?
1.	Secondary Education	07	07
2.	Sr. Secondary Education	07	07

Target groups under the educational program of SOS : Disadvantaged sections of society, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Castes, rural poor, urban slum Dwellers, differently abled and other categories i.e. girls and women, dropouts working men, women and housewives, failed students from formal schools.

Flexibilities being offered by SOS

➤ Age limit

Secondary : Std. 10th pass-31 July, 15th year compliant

Sr. Secondary : After two years of passing Std. 10th Exam

➤ Freedom to choose subject according to ones needs, interest and abilities

➤ Validity of Registration is 5 years

Facilities being offered by SOS

Personal Contact Programme (PCP) are conducted after school hours once in a month during September to February. Every Study centre has appointed two teachers in English, Maths and Science to guide students.

- Provision of Tutor Marked Assignments
- Two TMAs per subject are compulsory.

Delivery system of Open Schooling Programme

- Printed study material
- Face to face counseling
- Telecast of SOS media programmes.

Hard spots in 10th and 12th standards in English, Maths, Science, Social Science are taken up in a week end.

Admission and Enrolment

Academic Courses : From August to December

Admission fee: (i) Secondary Course: Rs. 500/-, (ii) Sr. Secondary Course: Rs. 600/-

Admission fee include cost of study material for students

New admission in each year

S. No.	Course	No. of Candidates admitted		
		2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
1.	Secondary Education		40938	35238
2.	Sr. Secondary Education		61428	78612
	Total		1,02,366	1,13,850

Examination and certification

S. No.	Course	2010-11			2011-12		
		Appeared	Passed	Pass percentage	Appeared	Passed	Pass
1.	Secondary Education	-	-	-	38652	15573	40.29
2.	Sr. Secondary Education	-	-	-	58703	25151	42.84

- Examinations are held in March
- Results are declared after 8 weeks
- Examinations are conducted by GSEB and certificates are given by the Secretary, GSEB, Gandhinagar.

No. of study centre = 389

Every Study centre has facility of two teachers one of English and other of Maths/ Science for students guidance. Two teachers help the private candidate for hard spots in subjects. GSOS paid remuneration to study centre @ Rs. 11,500 or Rs. 23,000/- basis on enrolled students.

Staff Strength in SOS

S. No.	Sectioned post	Scale of pay	No. of post
1	Administrative Staff	-	-
2	Officer on Special duty (EI)	Fix pay	1
3	Clerk	-	2

Separate Staff for academic and administrative not appointed. But one officer and 3 clerk help the GSOS programmes. Appointment of Director and other staff is under process.

Training of Open Schooling Functionaries

– Training programs are organized for staff of study centres.

Monitoring of Implementation of SOS programmes

– Annual monitoring

Examination fees

Standard 10 = Rs. 500/-

Standard 12 = Rs. 600/-

Media programmes

Media programs of SOS are broadcast/telecast monthly

Journal, Magazine, News Bulletin

S. No.	Item Title	Title	Periodicity	Remark, if any
1.	Journal	–	–	–
2.	Magazine	Madhyamik Shikshan Parikshan	Monthly	Published by GSEB
3.	New Bulletin	–	–	–

Annual Budget

S. No.	Year	Budget	Source of Finances			Total
			Income of SOS	Grant from State Govt.	Finances from Other sources	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	2010-11		25 Lac	100 Lac	Nil	Nil
2.	2011-12		539Lac	120 Lac	Nil	438 Lac
3.	2012-13		647 Lac	60 Lac	Nil	4.00 Lac

Participants

List of Participants from the States

1.	Shri Brijmohan Agrawal Hon'ble Education Minister of Chhattisgarh, Raipur (Chhattisgarh)	6.	Shri A. Krishna Rao Joint Director, AP Open School Andhra Pradesh, SCERT Complex, Hyderabad 500 001 (AP) Mob. 08008203710 Email:akrao2010@gmail.com dirapsoshyd@yahoo.com
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