

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF OPEN SCHOOLING
Academic Department

The 4th meeting of the Departmental Advisory Board (DAB) of Academic Department was held on 2nd February 2011 at NIOS, A 24-25, Sec. 62, NOIDA, Uttar Pradesh. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Kuldeep Agrawal, Director, NIOS. The members who attended the meeting are:

1. Prof. Mamta Agrawal, Retd. Professor, NCERT
2. Dr. Geeta Krishnan, Reader, CIE, Delhi University
3. Mrs. Anita Devraj, Principal, DAV School, Bahadurgarh
4. Sh. R.C. Sekhar, Director, Gyan Bharti School, New Delhi

The following members could not attend the meeting:

1. Prof. Madhu Parhar, IGNOU, Maidan Garhi, New Delhi
2. Prof. Pranati Panda, NUEPA, Sri Aurobindo Marg, New Delhi
3. Dr. Shyama Chonna, Director, Tammana, New Delhi

Dr. S.S. Jena, Chairman, NIOS was a special invitee to this meeting.

The list of participants from Academic Department, who attended the meeting is at Annexure – I.

- I. Dr. Kuldeep Agrawal, Director (Academic) welcomed the members of Departmental Advisory Board. He requested Chairman, NIOS to address the members.
- II. Dr. S. S. Jena, Chairman welcomed all participants. He emphasized that Academic department is a crucial department. He said that Government of India has taken a huge initiative of Right to Education at elementary stage and subsequently it has also initiated the Rastriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA). Dr. Jena stated that transition from Elementary to Secondary education is a big task and it needs a huge investment. He also showed his concern towards providing Vocational Education at Sr. Secondary level as an alternative to general education. NIOS has a huge potential in this regard and he also requested the DAB members to suggest ways to achieve this task. He also listed the new areas which can be covered i.e. Law, Insurance, Banking, Architecture etc. as these are in demand in the market.
- III. Dr. Jena also told the DAB members about a new initiative taken by NIOS to train untrained primary teachers in the states like U.P., M.P., West Bengal, Orissa etc.
- IV. He also desired that Academic Dept. should come up with concrete proposals for assessment of courses, PCPs, effectiveness of SLM etc.

Jeetu Binao

V. He remarked that the ECCE Vocational course should be revised according to NCTE guidelines if recognition of this course is required.

VI. Mrs. Gopa Biswas, Jt. Director (Academic) outlined the objective of the DAB with a brief background followed by item wise presentation of Action Taken Report (ATR) of year 2010-2011.

VII. Presentation of Reporting Items:

1. Reduction of duration of Practical Examination for Painting course: Senior Secondary level (code no: 332). The members suggested that the six hour practical examination be conducted in two sessions of three hours each.
2. The DAB members suggested creating a separate Open Adult Education Cell to carry out the Saakshar Bharat Curriculum Development and Learner Assessment Programme.
3. Fashion Studies and German Course should not be dropped but be taken up at a later date when more Academic Officers were available.
4. It approved the development of a new course-Book keeping /Tally Accounting at Secondary level. However, the course should be called Accountancy.
5. A new course on **Ancient Science of Indian origin** was also approved at Senior Secondary Level for which work had been initiated nearly two years back.

VIII. Proposed Programme for Year 2011-12

- Dr. Kuldeep Agarwal presented the brief of Activities for the year 2011-12. It is expected that Secondary revision will be completed in all 3 versions by July 2011.
- The development of SLM in 5 subjects under Life Skill Enhancement programme will also follow the same timeline.
- Development of ODES Question Bank in History will be undertaken on priority.

IX. Observation by DAB Members:

- It was recommended by DAB members that weightage should be given for TMA so that it is taken seriously by learners as well as tutors. A detailed policy in this regard may be drawn.
- The DAB members also recommended the making of minimum 50% attendance in PCPs compulsory.

The Meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.

Gopa Biswas