

वार्षिक रिपोर्ट
ANNUAL
REPORT
2006-07



राष्ट्रीय मुक्त विद्यालयी शिक्षा संस्थान
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF OPEN SCHOOLING

From the Chairman's Desk



We have successfully gone through another year: a year full of activities, new enthusiasm, and new concerns.

With emergence of knowledge societies, a new set of vocabulary, such as knowledge economy, knowledge jobs, knowledge workers, knowledge management has emerged. Education is required to play a significant role for providing appropriate responses to the impending challenges. It is being felt increasingly that the children and youth of the country should have quality school level education (general education as well as vocational education and training). Opportunities of continuing education are also required to be provided by the concerned education development sectors. In the wake of exponential expansion of knowledge, the welfare state is required to make provision of education of good quality at least upto secondary level for all. The Government of India is committed to Universalisation of Elementary Education. Now Universalisation of Secondary Education is also the priority agenda of the Government. It is now well accepted that access to education of good quality can also be imparted beyond the four walls of school by taking recourse to the Open and Distance Learning (ODL) mode of education.

The National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) has been marching ahead steadily to carry out its mission of "reaching the unreached" through Open Learning and Distance Education Programmes upto pre-degree level. The open schooling programme has now taken roots both at national level and at state level. After more than 15 years of its operation, NIOS is now in a position to share its experience and expertise in open schooling with the State

Education Departments in India, particularly for setting up/ up-scaling of State Open Schools (SOS), and with other countries, specially the developing ones, in the world.

In addition to expansion of open schooling, it is felt that increased use of information and communication technology (ICT) will enable the Open Schooling System to contribute substantially to meet the challenge of educating increasing number of prospective learners. However, access without quality assurance is not very meaningful. NIOS has been taking steps for qualitative improvement of its open schooling programme through activities such as development of curriculum and study materials, development of media support materials, student support services, development and implementation of pupil evaluation tools, and activities related to examination and certification. Convergence of product focus (enrolment retention, cost effectiveness, pass rates) with learning focus (access to learning, learning design, learning resources, learning outcomes) is being ensured in the programmes and activities of NIOS.

It is felt that nurturing the personnel associated with open schooling is as important as nurturing the learners of open schooling. Besides making provision of Self Instructional Material and Media Support, Personal Contact Programmes are organised for NIOS learners in about 1850 study centres for Academic Courses and about 900 study centres for Vocational Education Courses. The personnel dealing with learners are tutors and managers of the study centres. Hence it becomes imperative to organize periodically the training of personnel associated with open schooling programme. During 2006-07, NIOS, in collaboration with Commonwealth of Learning (COL), undertook of project on identification of the training needs of personnel involved in open schooling in India, and development of

appropriate training materials for them. The Training Package will be used for training of Open Schooling functionaries from India and from developing countries.

Another major area of focus is research in open schooling, which is needed for a variety of reasons such as planning for future, growth and development of open schooling, establishment of credibility of the system, monitoring of progress and providing research based solutions to various functional and related problems. The priority areas of research were identified and work was initiated in some areas.

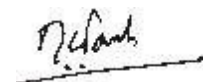
There have been several significant developments in NIOS during the year 2006-07. These are the contents of this Annual Report.

In planning and operationalisation of its programmes and activities, NIOS collaborates with several National and International organisations.

During 2006-07, NIOS had mutually beneficial collaboration with international organizations like UNESCO, COL, UNFPA in areas such as

development of life skills, training of open schooling functionaries, and national agencies like NCERT, COBSE and RCI. NIOS continued receiving guidance and support from the Government of India, Ministry of Human Resource Development, in planning and implementation of its Open Schooling programmes. I gratefully acknowledge the inputs received by NIOS from individuals, institutions, and organisations at National and International levels.

I acknowledge the hard work and contribution made by all my colleagues in NIOS during the 2006-07. I appreciate the efforts made by the group that was assigned the task of preparing and bringing out this report on time. I specially acknowledge the efforts made by Prof. K.R. Chandrasekaran, Director (Academic) and Shri D.S. Bist, Secretary, NIOS, in preparation of the Annual Report of NIOS.



M.C. Pant
Chairman

1. Introduction

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

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

The main objectives of the NIOS are :

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

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

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

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

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

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

1.1 Management and Organisational Structure

The policy perspective for the National Institute of Open Schooling is provided by the General Body of the organisation. The execution and monitoring of programmes is overviewed by the Executive Board

of the Organisation. The constitution, roles and functions of the apex bodies of NIOS are as follows:

The authorities specified for the management of the National Open School Society are (i) the General Body; (ii) the Executive Board, and (iii) the Finance Committee.

◆ **General Body of the NOS Society**

This apex body, vested with the responsibility to assist the society by providing sound and professional advice and counsel, generates a vision and gives broad policy directions. It ensures that the Organisation remains publicly accountable, exercising its powers and functions in consonance with the mission and objectives of the Society. The Union Minister for Human Resource Development is the President of the Society who chairs the General Body meetings. In his absence, the Minister of State of HRD, who is the Vice President of the society, chairs the General Body meetings. The Secretary of the National Institute of Open Schooling is the ex-officio member Secretary of the General Body of the Society.

A list of members of the General body as on 31st March 2007 is given in **Appendix-A**.

◆ **Executive Board of the NOS Society**

In general, the Executive Board has been vested with all the powers of the Society to manage its affairs enabling it to function smoothly and effectively. Specifically the Executive Board does forward planning for preparation of policies and programme of action, takes appropriate decisions to ensure effective implementation of the programmes and exercises review function. The Chairman NIOS, is the Chairman of the Executive Board of NIOS and the Secretary NIOS is its Member Secretary.

Other members of the Executive Board include the Heads of the Departments of NIOS; nominees of the Department of Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development and

its Finance Division; and one specialist from each of the following areas:

- Distance Education
- Developmental Education
- Industry
- Media
- Technology
- Vocational/Technical Education

The Executive Board was reconstituted in February, 2004 by the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education). A list of members of the Executive Board, as on 31st March, 2007, is given in **Appendix – B**.

- ◆ **Finance Committee** The Finance Committee of the NIOS scrutinizes the accounts and budget estimates and makes recommendations on proposals for new financial outlays and other financial matters. The Chairman, NIOS is the Chairperson of the Finance Committee. The Secretary, NIOS is the Member Secretary of the Committee.

The Finance Committee is composed of the Heads of the Departments of NIOS, nominees of the Department of Education and its integrated Finance Division and financial and management experts.

A list of members of the Finance Committee as on 31st March, 2007, is given in **Appendix-C**.

◆ **Organizational Structure**

The Chairman of the National Institute of Open Schooling appointed by the Government of India is the Chief Executive of the Organisation. He is assisted by five Heads of Departments, namely, Director (Vocational Education), Director (Academic), Director (Student Support Services), Director (Evaluation and Secretary, NIOS. The Organizational Structure of NIOS is depicted in Diagram.

A Statement showing the category-wise sanctioned staff strength of the NIOS as on 31.03.07 is given in **Appendix-E**.

1.2 Meetings of General Body, Executive Board and Finance Committee of NIOS held during the year 2006-07.

(a) General Body

The 13th Meeting of General Body was held on 13th December, 2006.

(b) Executive Board

The 40th meeting of Executive Board was held on 25th August, 2006

The 41st meeting was held on 5th December, 2006

The 42nd meeting of Executive Board was held on 9th March 2007

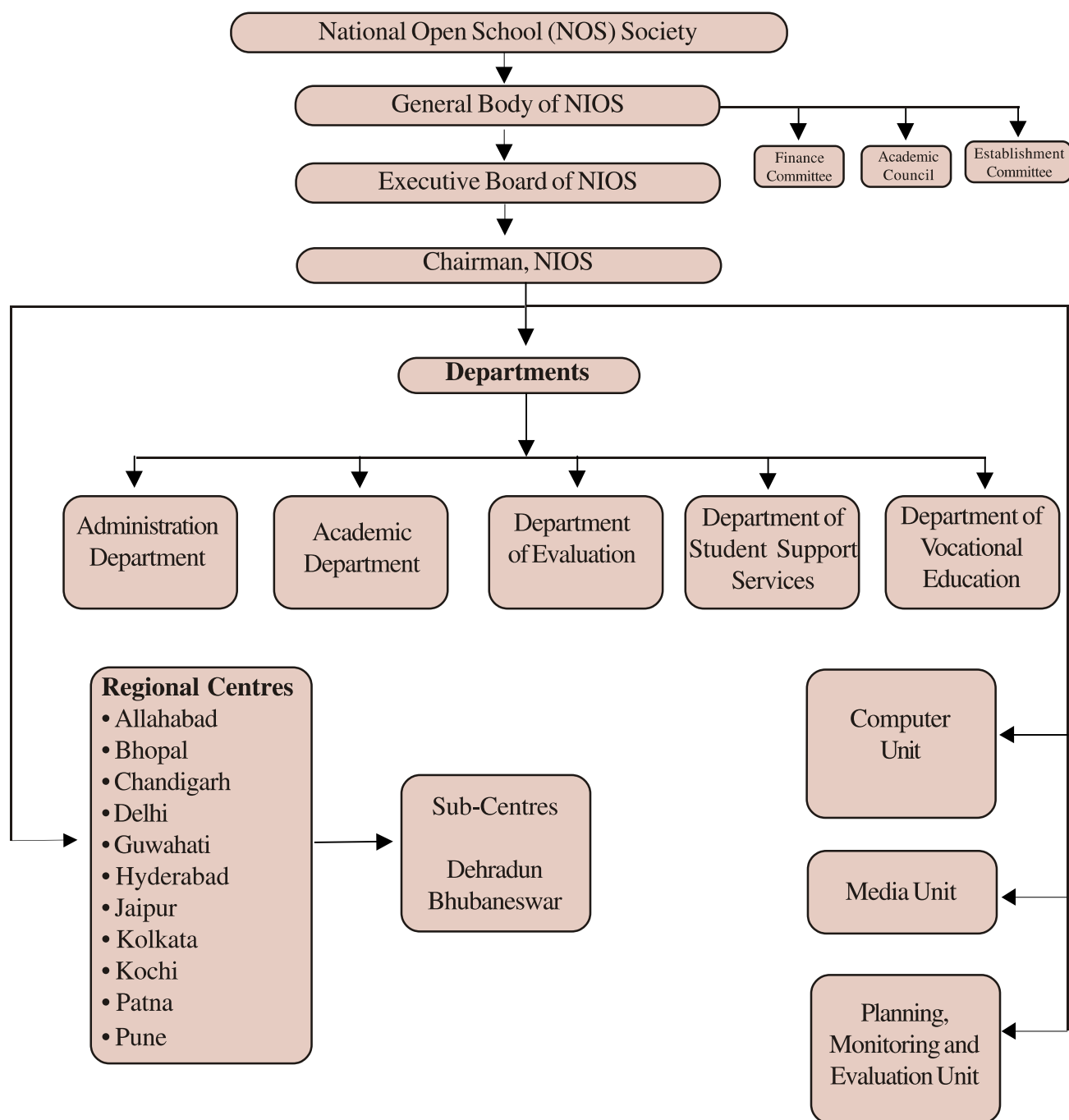
(c) Finance Committee

The 27th meeting of Finance Committee was held on through circulation in July 2006 and 28th meeting of the finance was held on 26th October, 2006.

◆ Regional Centres

For effective implementation of the NIOS programmes throughout the country, eleven Regional Centres have been established at Kolkata, Pune, Hyderabad, Guwahati, Kochi, Chandigarh, Allahabad, Patna, Jaipur, Bhopal and Delhi. Two Sub-Centres of the Regional Centres have been set up at Dehradun and Bhubaneswar.

Organisational Structure of National Institute of Open Schooling



ORGANISATIONAL SET UP OF NIOS

(with Role and Functions of the Constituents of NIOS)

Chairman

Chairman's Secretariat

Administration Department (Secretary)

Academic Department (Director)

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. General Administration <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1 Memorandum of Association, Rules and Regulations 1.2 Constitution of (i) General Body, (ii) Executive Board, (iii) Finance Committee and other Committees; organisation of their meetings and taking follow up action. 1.3 Matters related to NIOS Personnel 1.4 Legal matters 2. Matters related to Land and Buildings 3. Purchase and supply of Equipment etc. 4. Accounts 5. Publication of Materials 6. Distribution of Materials 7. Maintenance 8. Public Relations 9. Promotion of Hindi (Raj Bhasha) 10. Matters related to Accreditation of Institutions as Study Centres of NIOS 11. Administration Coordination 12. Malpractice Cell 13. Miscellaneous matters related to Administration 14. Minority Cell and Accreditation of Minority Institutions 15. Material Production and Distribution Division <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Printing of Material related to courses of study, Programme Delivery, Examinations, Conferences/ Seminars, Journals, Magazines, News Bulletins etc. – Typesetting (DTP) of various manuscripts of the constituents of NIOS. – Distribution of Materials to the clientele of NIOS. – Maintenance of Inventory of Paper purchased and used for publication of materials – Fixation of Price of NIOS Publications and maintenance of Inventory of publications – Sale of Books to authorised dealers. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Planning and Policy Perspectives <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1 Preparation of Long Term, Medium Term and Annual Plans of NIOS related to academic work. 1.2 Constitution of Academic Committee 1.3 Organisation of meetings of Academic Committee for consideration of the Academic Programmes of the constituents of NIOS and dissemination of the minutes of the meetings 1.4 Monitoring of implementation of Academic Programmes of the Academic Department 1.5 Research and Surveys 2. Curriculum and Learning Materials (Secondary and Sr. Secondary) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1 Identification of courses of study and development of Curriculum and Learning Materials 2.2 Preparation of Question Paper Designs Blue Prints, Marking Schemes etc. 2.3 Graphics 2.4 Evaluation of Curriculum and Learning Materials etc. 2.5 Population and Development Education 2.6 Education of Differently Abled and Disadvantaged Learners 3. Open Basic Education Programme <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3.1 Development of Curriculum and Learning Materials 3.2 Identification and Accreditation of Agencies as partners of NIOS Open Basic Education Programme 3.3 Development and Dissemination of Standards in Open Basic Education 3.4 Joint Certification (NIOS-Accredited Agencies collaboration) 3.5 Monitoring of implementation of Open Basic Education Programme 3.6 Education of Child Labour Programme 4. Regional Language Programme <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4.1 Offering Regional Languages as subjects and mediums 4.2 Development /translation of materials in Regional Languages 5. Media Support to Open Schooling Programmes <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5.1 Development and dissemination of audio and video programmes 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Life Enrichment Programmes <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6.1 Bharatiya Culture and Heritage 6.2 Education in Human Values 6.3 Peoples of India 6.4 Lives of Great Personalities of India 6.5 Performing Arts (Music, Dance, Painting) 7. Human Resource Development <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7.1 Setting up and operationalisation of International Centre for Training in Open Schooling (ICTOS) 7.2 Development of Training Packages 7.3 Organisation of short term and long term training programmes for Open Schooling functionaries at national and international level. 8. National Consortium for Open Schooling (NCOS) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8.1 Constitution and operationalisation of NCOS 8.2 Promotion of Open Schooling in States 8.3 Consultancy and assistance to States for setting up/upscaling of State Open Schools (SOSs) 8.4 Coordination and clearing house functions related to promotion of Open Schooling 8.5 Organisation of meetings of NCOS and follow up action 9. International Relations <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9.1 Interaction/Liaison with international agencies like UNESCO, COL, UNICEF, UNDP, World Bank in the context of Open Schooling Programmes. 9.2 Interaction, liaison with other countries in the context of Open Schooling Programmes 9.3 Operationalisation of Open Schooling Association of Commonwealth (OSAC) 9.4 Advocacy/consultancy programmes for promotion of Open Schooling in other countries 10. Journals, Magazines and News Bulletins <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 10.1 OSAC Journal of Open Schooling 10.2 Open Learning (Magazine) 10.3 NIOS News Bulletin "Open Schooling" 10.4 Preparation of other Journals, Magazines and News Bulletins as per need 11. Vigilance and Grievances 12. Coordination and Clearing House Functions 13. Library and Documentation
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ORGANISATIONAL SET UP OF NIOS (Continued)

Department of Vocational Education (Director)

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1. Planning and Policy Perspective in Vocational Education
 - 1.1 Preparation of Long Term, Medium Term and Annual Plans in Vocational Education.
 - 1.2 Networking in the context of Vocational Education programmes.
 - 1.3 Monitoring of implementation of Vocational Education Programmes
 - 1.4 Research and Surveys
 - 1.5 Matters related to maintenance of quality in Vocational Education
2. Curriculum and Learning Materials
 - 2.1 Identification of courses of study
 - 2.2 Development of Curriculum and Learning Materials
 - 2.3 Preparation of Question Paper Designs, Blue Prints and Marking Schemes
 - 2.4 Development of Media support to Vocational Education Programmes
 - 2.5 Development of Vocational Education courses in Regional languages as per needs and demand
 - 2.6 Evaluation of curriculum and learning materials etc.
 - 2.7 Development of modes and models to offer Vocational Education Programmes, and matters related to recognition and equivalence
3. Accreditation of Institutions
 - 3.1 Identification and accreditation of Institutions for implementation of Vocational Education Programmes
 - 3.2 Identification and accreditation of Rural Community Workshops within the framework of Vocational Education Programme of NIOS
4. Admission
 - 4.1 Preparation of Prospectus for Vocational Education and dissemination
 - 4.2 Organisational matters related to admission in Vocational Education courses.
5. Examinations
 - 5.1 Preparation of Examination Framework for Vocational Education courses and its operationalisation
 - 5.2 Monitoring of implementation of Examinations
 - 5.3 Follow up of Vocational Education pass outs
6. Training
 - 6.1 Development of Training packages
 - 6.2 Organisation of Orientation/Training Programmes for functionaries handling Open Vocational Education Programmes
7. Advocacy
 - 7.1 Organising advocacy programmes in Vocational Education
 - 7.2 Publicity to Vocational Education Programmes
8. Coordination and clearing house functions in the area of Vocational Education

ORGANISATIONAL SET UP OF NIOS (Continued)

Department of Evaluation (Director)

Role & Functions of Evaluations

1. Matters related to Examinations

1.1 Pre-Examination activities

- Preparation of Question Papers and Answer Booklets
- Preparation and maintenance of Examination Data
- Preparation and notification of date sheet for Examination
- Coordination with Regional Centres of NIOS in the context of NIOS Examinations
- Identification and fixation of Examination Centres
- Appointment of Nodal Officers/Observers and other Inspection Teams
- Preparation and dissemination of Guidelines for Center Superintendents and other functionaries for NIOS Examinations.
- Approval to the appointment of external examiners for Practical Examination
- Approval to the appointment of Team Leaders/Evaluators for Spot Evaluation
- Appointment of Chief Secrecy Officers, Secrecy Officers and S.O.-in-Chief for H.Q.

1.2 Activities related to conduct of Examinations

- Preparation of guidelines for Center Supdt. for theory and practical Examination
- Preparation of guidelines for Spot Evaluation
- Preparation of guidelines for Secrecy work
- Monitoring of law and order during Examination through Police Authorities

1.3 Evaluation and Certification

- Evaluation of Answer Scripts
- Organisation of meetings of Evaluation Committee
- Preparation and declaration of results
- Processing of Unfair means Cases
- Preparation and issue of Marksheets, Provisional Certificates, Migration Certificates etc

1.4 Activities related to Post Conduct Examination

- Use of Internet for result declaration
- Use of Internet for Marking Schemes and questions asked in the Examination
- Holding Press Conferences relating to Examination

2. Policy perspectives related to Measurement and Evaluation

- 2.1 Research studies related to Measurement and Evaluation
- 2.2 preparation and implementation of Examination Frameworks

- 2.3 Maintenance of Statistical Data related to Examinations

3. Implementation of On Demand Examination System

4. Matters related to Examination in Regional Languages

5. Matters related to Evaluation and Certification under Open Basic Education Programme

6. Coordination and Clearing House Functions

7. Miscellaneous work related to NIOS Examinations.

Department Student Support Services (Director)

1. Planning and Policy Perspective

- 1.1. Preparation of Long Term, Medium Term and Annual Plans and Policy Perspectives related to Students Support Services
- 1.2. Research studies and maintenance of statistical data

2. Accreditation of Institutions

- 2.1 Identification and accreditation of institutions through Accreditation Advisory Committee (AAC) following due process

3. Students' Registration

- 3.1 Preparation and dissemination of Prospectus for Academic Courses
- 3.2 Publicity / Advertisements about admission etc.
- 3.3 Matters related to admissions in Accredited Institutions (AIs) and for direct admissions in Regional Centres of NIOS
- 3.4 Handling requests for (1) change of Date of Birth (2) change of subjects / additional subjects, and (3) transfer of credits (TOC)

4. Monitoring and Coordination

- 4.1 Liaison with State Governments/NGOs /Private Organisations
- 4.2 Development and operationalisation of mechanism for responding to needs and grievances of students.

5. Equivalence /recognition of NIOS Academic Programmes from Boards of Education, Universities and other statutory and Employment Agencies

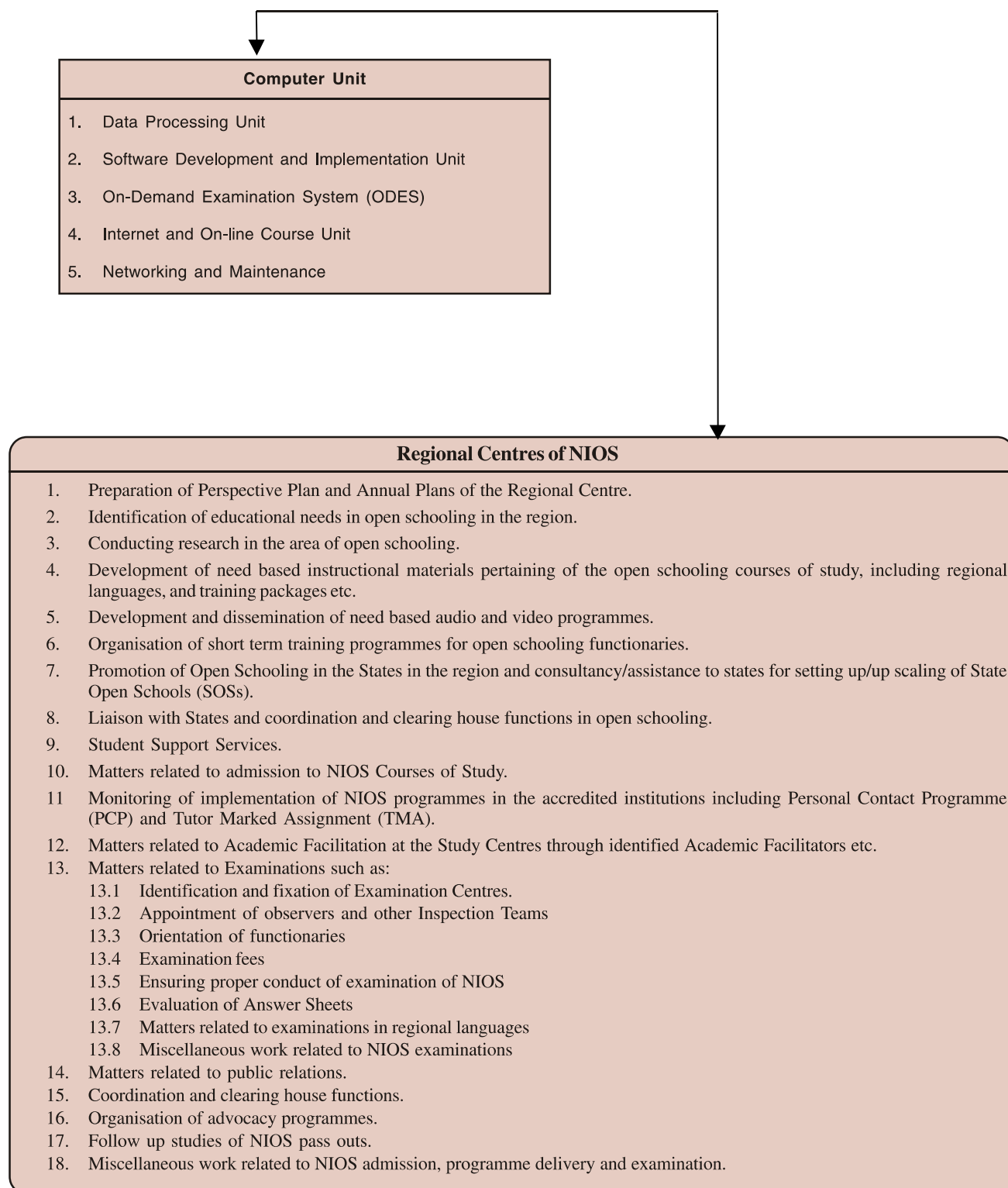
6. SOP for various activities of the Regional Centres of NIOS and for the Students Support Services Department.

7. PCP, TMA and Facilitation

- 7.1 Matters related to Personal Contact Programme (PCP)
- 7.2 Matters related to preparation and implementation of Tutor Marked Assignment (TMA)
- 7.3 Matters related to Academic Facilitation through identified Academic Facilitators.

8. Coordination and clearing house functions

ORGANISATIONAL SET UP OF NIOS (Continued)



1.3 Planning, Implementation, and Monitoring of Open Schooling Programme

Realization the need for preparation of a long term perspective of the Open Schooling programme of NIOS a “Vision 2020 Document” was prepared.

In order to implement the Vision Plan of NIOS, long term, medium term, and short term plans have been prepared.

The NIOS has formulated a detailed programme processing mechanism. The Programme Processing Committees are as follows.

- (i) Open Schooling State Coordination Committee (OSSCC) to identify educational needs of states requiring inputs from NIOS.

Chairperson: State Education Secretary

Convener : Head, Regional Centre, NIOS

- (ii) Advisory Committees of the Regional Centres, NIOS (RCACs)

Convener : Head, Regional Centre, NIOS

- (iii) Advisory Boards of the Departments of NIOS (DAB)

Chairperson: Head of the Department

Convener : One faculty member

- (iv) Research Advisory Committee (RAC)

Chairperson: Chairman, NIOS

Convener : Director (Academic), NIOS

- (v) Academic Council
Chairperson: Chairman, NIOS
Convener : Director (Academic), NIOS

The following Programme Processing Committees have already been constituted.

- (i) Academic Council (AC).

- (ii) Advisory Boards (DABs) of the following Departments.

- Academic Department
- Department of Vocational Education
- Department of Evaluation
- Administration Department
- Department of Student Support Services

The Departments organized meetings of the DABs during December 2006 to March 2007

- (iii) **Advisory Committees of the Regional Centres (RCACs):** The Regional Centres have organized meetings of RACs during 2006-07.

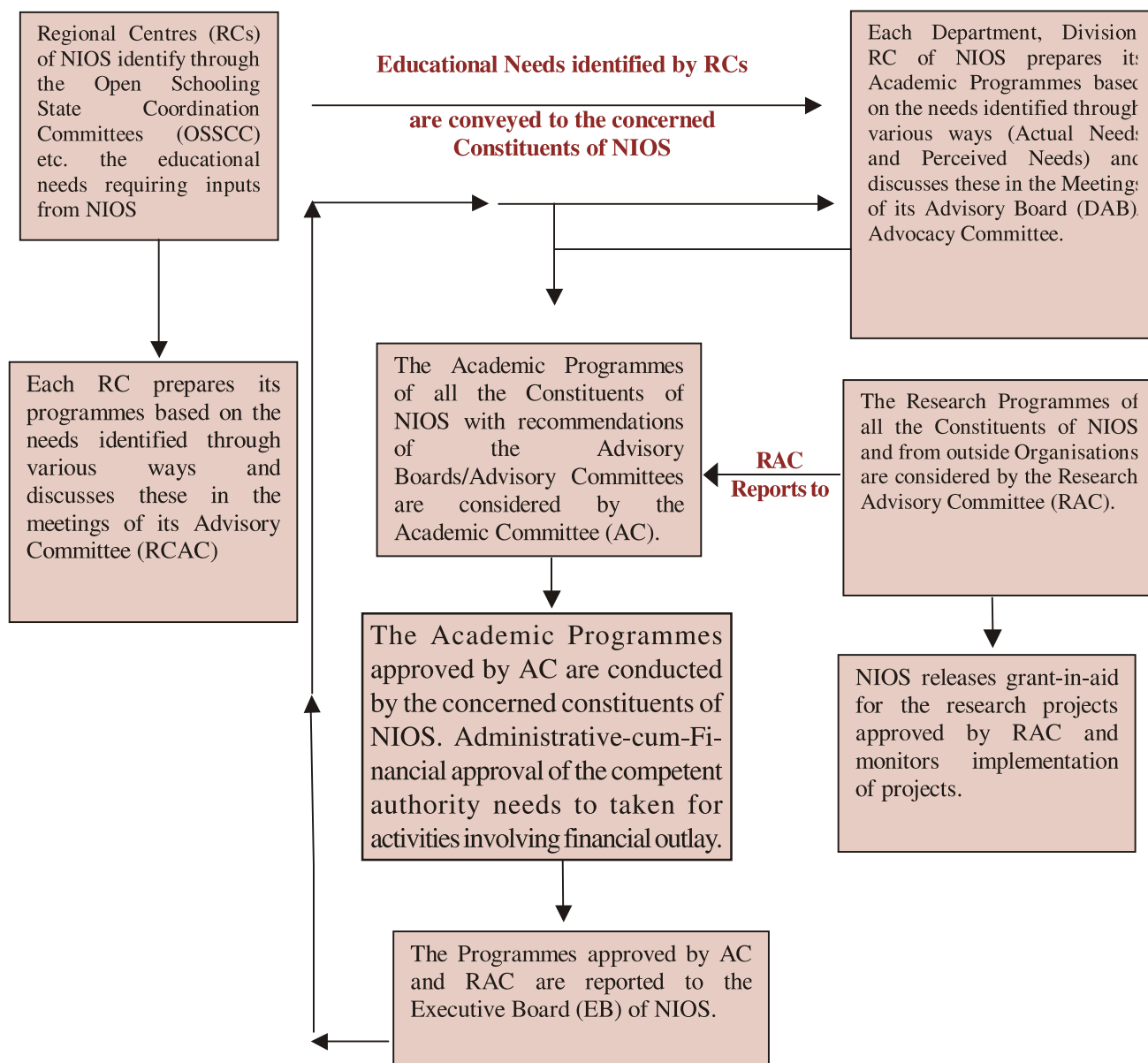
- (iv) The Research Advisory Committee (RAC)

The Open Schooling State Coordination Committees (OSSCCs) have not so far been set up. The Education Secretary of each State has been requested to agree to become the Chairperson of OSSCC. The process is going on.

The Programmes recommended by the Advisory Boards and the Advisory Committee were considered and approved by the Academic Council in its Seventh Meeting held on 25th August 2006.

A diagrammatic presentation of the Programmes Processing Mechanism of NIOS is as follows.

Diagrammatic Presentation of Programmes Formulation and Processing Mechanism in NIOS



2. Overview

Introduction

The National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) has been pursuing its mission to provide opportunity for continuing education to those who have missed the opportunity to complete school and developmental education through courses and programmes of general, life enrichment and vocational education from primary to pre-degree level. This unique organization in the area of open schooling encompasses (i) the functions of a teaching institutions, adopting open and distance learning (ODL) methodology, (ii) a National Board of Examination, and (iii) an apex agency at national level for quality assurance and resource support for planning, implementation and monitoring of its programmes and activities. The NIOS works through a network of five Departments viz., Academic Department, Department of Evaluation, Department of Student Support Services and Department of Vocational Education), three units viz., Computer Unit, Media Unit and Planning Monitoring and Evaluation Unit, Eleven Regional Centres and two Sub-Centres. Highlights of programmes and activities of NIOS during the year 2006-07 are mentioned below.

Accreditation of Institutions

As on 31st March 2007, the total number of accredited institutes (AIs) established in different parts of the country to conduct Academic courses was 1863, which includes 34 special Accredited Institutions for Education of the Disadvantaged. Under the Open Basic Education programme, about 280 organised had been accredited as on 31st March 2007. As on 31st March 2007, the total member of Accredited Vocational Institutions (AVIs) established in different parts of the county was 1041 which included 37 Special Accredited Institutions for Education of the Disadvantaged (SAIEDs).

Enrolment in Academic and Vocational Courses

- During 2006-07, the overall enrolment at Secondary and Senior Secondary stage during 2006-07 was 2,90,983.
- During 2006-07, the overall enrolment in various Vocational Courses was 22,166.

- The total new enrollment in Academic and Vocational courses during 2006-07 was 3,13,149.

Recognition of NIOS Courses

As on 31 March, 23 Boards, 111 Universities and 9 other Certifying Institutions had recognized the NIOS courses.

Student Support Services

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

Material Production and Distribution

During the year 2006-07, NIOS printed around 52 lakh copies of Secondary, Senior Secondary and Vocational Education Courses study materials in Hindi, English, Telugu, Marathi, Malayalam, Gujarati and Urdu. In addition, NIOS printed and supplied

study materials for the Students of the the Rajasthan State Open School. The study material was delivered to the NIOS students through the Study Centres.

Regional Level Inputs

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

Publicity

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

Courses of Study

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

For implementation of **OBE programme**, the NIOS is partnering with 280 agencies which are running their study centres for students. The curriculum related activities included (i) development of materials for academic and vocational education courses, and (ii) support to States for OBE material development. Detailed guidelines have been prepared for conduct of OBE examinations. A computerized format for OBE results was prepared and made available to OBE accredited agencies. During the year 2006-07, the OBE enrolment was 34,504. Between April 2006 to March 2007, 73,131 OBE learners were certified (level A, B and C).

At the **Secondary and Senior Secondary** stage, NIOS follows cafeteria approach while offering various courses of study. The students have been given full flexibility in selection of subjects. Only one language is compulsory. NIOS offers 27 subjects in seven mediums at secondary stage and 25 subjects in three mediums at Senior Secondary stage. During 2006-07, revision of course materials in different subjects at senior secondary level was in progress. During 2006-07, development of course material in non subjects like Fashion Studies, Mass Communication, Functional Hindi, Environmental Science and Sanskrit at senior secondary level was initiated.

Under the Regional Language programme, Arabic language as a new subject at Secondary Level was introduced and Persian, as a new subject at secondary level, was initiated. Tutor Marked Assignments in all regional languages were developed in the year 2006-07. Revision of Kannada Language Curriculum at Secondary level was in progress. The Curriculum Committees for Tamil, Persian and Gujarati were being constituted. Development of material for Arabic language as a subject was in progress. Translation work of Course Materials in Gujarati, Telugu and Marathi languages was in progress.

As a measure of continuous assessment of learners, Tutor Marked Assignments (TMA) were developed in all subjects both in Hindi and English for Secondary and Senior Secondary Education Courses for the year 2006-07.

Admission to Vocational Education Courses continued during 2006-07. Some Vocational Education Courses such as Early Childhood Care and Education, Cutting Tailoring and Dress Making, Computer Application, Jan Swasthya, Electrical Technician and Beauty Culture Courses are very popular. The future thrust of NIOS Vocational Education Courses is on training of educated unemployed youth for meaningful and skill oriented employment. NIOS has planned to launch traditional and non-traditional technology oriented and competency based courses, rural oriented courses, courses for girls/women and disadvantaged, and linkages with industries, markets and service sectors.

The Curriculum Framework for Open Vocational Education is being prepared. In this context, four regional seminars were held during the year 2006-07 to deliberate on the draft of the Curriculum Framework.

Media Support to Open Schooling Programme

During 2006-07, 15 video programmes were produced and 7 video programmes are at various stages of production. In order to feed the time slots for telecast of NIOS programmes on Gyan Darshan and DD-1 Channel, Capsules of NIOS video programmes are prepared in-house. These capsules are sent for telecast on Gyan Darshan and DD-1 channels.

During 2006-07, 9 multimedia programmes were produced in Chemistry and uploaded on the Educational Portal of MHRD Sakshat for class XII. During this period, 60 capsules of the video programmes and 35 audio programmes were produced. During the period from 1st April 2006 to 31st March 2007, 2500 audio cassettes/audio CDs were duplicated and sent to the study centre.

Examinations

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

The system of assigning fictitious roll numbers on the answer scripts of students was started from October/November 2001 examination to ensure more secrecy in the evaluation system. This system continued during 2006-07 also. From Oct/Nov. 2001 examination, the system of outdoor evaluation was replaced by spot evaluation in order to maintain uniformity in

evaluation and early declaration of results. To ensure transparency in the examination system of NIOS, the question papers and marking schemes were placed on the internet immediately after the examinations were over. Date Sheets of the Secondary and Senior Secondary examinations were published in all important national dailies. The results of NIOS examinations were also made available on the IVRS of NIOS. The cases of unfair means in examinations were considered by the Unfair Means (UFM) Committee.

During 2006-07, 3,24,582 candidates appeared in the Academic and Vocational Education streams. In order to promote distance education in the States, NIOS has introduced the use of several vernacular mediums for its Secondary Education Course (Urdu, Malayalam, Telugu, Gujarati, Marathi). During 2006-07, NIOS certified 1,04,010 candidates for the Secondary Education Examination and Senior Secondary Education Examination.

On Demand Examination

The NIOS has developed an innovative “On Demand Examination System (ODES)” which gives freedom to learner to appear in examination in the subject(s) of his/her choice whenever he/she feels confident taking an examination. Under ODES, the NIOS has designed a software to generate a test paper out of the test items in the Item Bank stored in computer. The software has been so designed that each student gets a different question paper. In this system, there is no possibility of leakage of question paper and copying, and no need to set up raid parties to oversee the conduct of examinations. The ODE System has been implemented at Secondary stage by establishing an examination centre at NIOS Headquarters with effect from 8 February 2005. The ODES testing centers are being set up in Regional Centres of NIOS. From February 2005 to March, 2006, the number of candidates appeared under ODES was 8802 in 12 subjects. Of these, 2820 students passed.

National Consortium for Open Schooling (NCOS)

NIOS remained in touch with the States for setting up/upscaling of the State Open Schools (SOSs). The NCOS Secretariat located in NIOS continued tak-

ing follow up action on the recommendations of the conferences on Promotion of Open Schooling organized during 2006-07. A meeting of the National Consortium of Open Schooling (NCOS) was organized by the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) in collaboration with JSS Karnataka Technical Institutional Campus, Mysore. The recommendations emphasized to intensify efforts to substantially upscale the open schooling programme in the country on priority basis, particularly to meet the educational needs of students for secondary education. In pursuance of the suggestions of the CBE Committee on universalisation of secondary education (USE) that open school network when fully developed should be able to cater to at least 15% students in secondary education, the NIOS has accelerated the pace of its efforts to promote open schooling in each state and up scaling the existing state open schools.

International Relations

- Under the aegis of the Open Schooling Association of Commonwealth (OSAC), the NIOS continued publishing and disseminating the half yearly OSAC Journal of Open Schooling of international standard. During 2006-07, the NIOS prepared and published one issue of the OSAC Journal.
- Thirteen senior educators from Sierra Leone, Ghana, The Gambia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Kenya, and Trinidad and Tobago were intensively trained in open schooling under the NIOS-COL programme in September 2006, at New Delhi. The outcome of the training programme was the development of a country report by each participating nation, proposing a framework for instituting an open school in their respective nations.
- A five-day workshop on “*Editing Of Self Learning Materials In Printed Medium For Open Schools*” in collaboration with COL was organized in May 2006. The outcome of the training workshop was the development of a pool of top-rated open schooling professionals at NIOS who can be used as master trainers/resource persons for open schooling elsewhere in the world.
- UNESCO-Asia Pacific Programme of Education of All (APPEAL), Bangkok in collaboration with NIOS, organized a five-day “*Regional Planning Workshop on Equivalency Programmes for the Promotion of Lifelong Learning*” at Jaipur in July 2006. The objective of conference was to review and share experiences as well as to build capacity of NFE personnel to effectively develop, implement and evaluate programme amongst different countries of the Asia in the implementation of the Equivalency Programme. The report of the workshop has been printed.
- An “*International Roundtable On Increasing Access To Quality Basic Education For Girls*” was organized by NIOS in collaboration with COL in September 2006. The objective of the Roundtable was to identify barriers to the access to education by girls and develop strategies to overcome these barriers and increase access to girls to basic education. As an outcome of the Roundtable, recommendations were made to national governments and COL to strengthen efforts for girls’ education, formulate quality indicators for assuring quality in schooling and develop strong inter-linkages for working in the area. The report of the programme has been printed.
- A delegation of officials from NIOS led by Shri M.C.Pant, Chairman NIOS participated in the 4th Plan Commonwealth Forum on Open Learning held in Jamaica in October 2006. NIOS officials at this Forum also presented papers and took part in the deliberations of the PCF4.
- Founder Chairman of NIOS Father T V Kunnunkal was designated Honorary Fellow of Commonwealth of Learning (COL) at the Pan Commonwealth Forum for his outstanding individual contribution to open schooling.
- Dr. K R Chandrasekaran, Director (Academic), NIOS participated in the two-day conference on “*Making Inclusive Education a Reality*” in March 2006 at Gwalior, India. Measures to encourage inclusive education and the special provisions made by NIOS in this regard were discussed.

Information and Communication Technology (ICT)

The Computer Unit of NIOS maintained database about admission, examination and certification. The admission data of 2,90,000 students was processed. Pre-exam processing of data of 500000 students and processing of their result was done. During 2006-07, an additional email-id was created for all the Regional Heads of NIOS for smooth and direct communication with the Chairman, NIOS and Heads of Departments at Headquarters.

NIOS is in the process of scanning of Admission Forms and preparation of Smart I – Cards for the learners. The organization is also in the process of providing its learners the facility of Education through Virtual Classroom.

Library, Documentation and Information Services

The NIOS Library has a collection of 15,308 books, 12,600 loose issues of journals and 690

audio-video cassettes/compact discs. The Library continued providing services such as (i) Reference Service, (ii) Circulation Service, (iii) Inter-Library Loan, (iv) Referral Service, (v) Reprographic Service, and (vi) scanning of newspapers, magazines and journals for news related to education. During 2006-07, more than 581 books were added to the NIOS Library

Promoting Use of Hindi

Besides taking various measures to promote the use of Hindi in its constituents, the NIOS celebrated the Hindi Fortnight from 14 to 28 September 2006. Various competitions for promotion of Hindi were organized. These included (i) Official Language Competition (ii) Computer based Hindi Knowledge Competition (iii) Mono-acting Competition (iv) Story writing Competition (v) Quiz Competition, and (vi) Extempore Speech Competition.

3. Academic Courses

3.0 Introduction

In response to the diverse learning needs of its geographically spread and unreached client group, NIOS develops multi channel learning packages for different levels. The learning packages include both print and non-print mediums. The print and non-print mediums are further supported by open schooling bulletins, open learning magazine, teleconferencing audio video programmes, Personal Contact Programmes, etc. The expansion and extension of academic activities are carried out through the projects like Regional Language programme, Open Basic Education, etc. Action and promotive research in the areas of instructional strategies, Student Support Services etc., are undertaken by the faculty. Efforts are made to determine and control the quality of education at several points such as framing of curriculum, development of self instructional material, designing evaluation strategies, monitoring, supervision, etc. Courses are designed at Open Basic Education (OBE), Secondary and Senior Secondary levels.

3.1 Open Basic Education Programme

In response to the imperatives of joint initiatives in Distance Education of the E-9 summit held in December 1993, the Open Basic Education (OBE) Project was initiated in June 1994 in the National Institute of Open Schooling. The objective of the project in its first phase was continuing education for the neo-literates along with a proposal to link the neo-literates to the pre-secondary level education through open and distance learning. The Foundation Course that was prerequisite qualification for getting admission in NIOS Secondary course was clubbed with OBE programme. In the year 2000 OBE programme was implemented in collaboration with accredited governmental and non-governmental agencies and the process of joint certification between NIOS and Accredited Agencies (AAs) was initiated. The Open Basic Education Programme is recognised by the Government of India as equivalent education to the

elementary education programme of formal schools and for pursuing higher education.

The target group for the OBE programme consists of neo-literates under the National Literacy Mission's Equivalency Programme of the Continuing Education Scheme, school dropouts, dropouts of NFE programmes, girls and women, marginalized groups, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, persons below poverty line (BPL), first-generation learners, and out of school children and adults.

The OBE programme is conducted for both children and adults learners. These learners fall under two categories – (i) Children of 6 - 14 years, and (ii) Adults of 15 years and above.

The OBE programme has three levels-A, B and C. Level 'A' is equivalent to Standard III, Level 'B' is equivalent to Standard 'V' and Level 'C' is equivalent to Standard VIII of the formal school system.

● *Activities Under OBE Programme during 2006-07*

(i) **Accreditation and Programme Implementation**

The OBE programme is implemented through the accredited agencies at the grassroots level. The agencies may be non-government organizations, government bodies or government-aided institutions. The accredited agencies (AAs) are responsible for registering learners, conducting personal contact classes and examinations, and maintaining record about the learners. The AAs are selected by NIOS after screening the applications and inspecting the short listed organizations. During the year 2006-07 five meetings of Screening Committee were held in which 108 applications were discussed and scrutinized. Out of that 61 applications were considered for inspection. Similarly, four Accreditation Advisory Committee (AAC) meetings were held in which 46 inspection reports were placed

for accreditation and disaccreditation. Out of that 18 institutions were granted accreditation and 8 OBE agencies were disaccredited and remaining were asked for some clarification. Efforts were made to ensure that agencies working in difficult regions in different states might be accredited. Most of these agencies are those that are supported under different schemes of the Government of India, welfare organizations and by international donors as well as corporate bodies. Besides well-established

NGOs, these Accredited Agencies include Zila Sakshatra Samitis (ZSS), Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS), Mahila Samakhyas (MS) and District Institute of Education and Training (DIETs).

During the year 2006–07, the number of Accredited Agencies under OBE programme stood at 280. The state wise list of agencies accredited as on 31 March 2007 is as follows:

Table 3.1 Statewise Accredited Agencies under OBE Programme

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	No. of Accredited Agencies under OBE
1.	Andhra Pradesh	06
2.	Assam	01
3.	Bihar	14
4.	Jharkhand	11
5.	Gujarat	04
6.	Haryana	27
7.	Himachal Pradesh	01
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	03
9.	Karnataka	12
10.	Kerala	08
11.	Madhya Pradesh	12
12.	Chhattisgarh	01
13.	Maharashtra	12
14.	Manipur	01
15.	Orissa	09
16.	Pondicherry	01
17.	Rajasthan	42
18.	Tamil Nadu	40
19.	Uttar Pradesh	36
20.	Uttaranchal	07
21.	West Bengal	06
22.	Chandigarh	02
23.	Delhi	22
24.	Goa	01
25.	Tripura	01
	Total	280

Besides the accredited agencies, the NIOS is looking for partner agencies of the State Governments, which would monitor the OBE programme in the state(s). At present, in Rajasthan and West Bengal, the State Literacy Mission Authority (SLMA) has been

designated as the state nodal agency. Whereas in the state of Tamil Nadu, the Directorate of Non-Formal Education as a functionary of SLMA is monitoring OBE agencies in collaboration with State Resource Centre (SRC).

Table 3.2 Types of Agencies Acting as Accredited Agencies

Sl. No.	Type of Agency	No. of Agencies
1.	Zila Saksharta Samiti	35
2.	Jan Shikshan Sansthan	67
3.	District Institute of Education and Training	20
4.	Madarsa	01
5.	Mahila Samakhya	01
6.	State Resource Centre	04
7.	Govt. Organization	30
8.	Other NGOs	122
	Total	280

(ii) Review of Accreditation of OBE Agencies

The agencies accredited under the OBE programme were reviewed in the light of various concerns including societal concerns. Accordingly, 23 agencies were identified for intensive reinspection. As a result of review, five agencies were discredited since they were found to be deficient in infrastructural and other requirements.

(iii) Training and Orientation Programmes

In order to make OBE programme successful and to implement it effectively, NIOS organizes Training and Orientation programmes for the Coordinators of OBE agencies.

During 2006-07 the training and orientation programmes for the coordinators of OBE accredited agencies were organized in Kolkata for Guwahati and Kolkata region. training programme for OBE Coordinators of Tamil Nadu was organized in Chennai. These programmes were highly appreciated by the participants as, as among other things, their

doubts and difficulties were sorted out during the meeting.

(iv) Admission and Enrolment of OBE Learners

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

During 2006-07, the number of the learners under OBE programme increased. The total enrolment under OBE Programme as on 31-03-2007 was 34504. The level wise enrolment figures are given at next page:

Table 3.3: Enrolment in OBE during 2006-07

Level A	Level B	Level C	Total
20536	11731	2237	34504

(v) Academic Activities**(a) Curriculum**

NIOS has developed its own curriculum in different subjects for 'A', 'B' and 'C' levels.

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

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

(b) Material Development: Academic and Vocational Courses

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

(vi) Examination Process

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

To ensure proper and fair conduct of OBE

examinations, NIOS sent inspection teams to various OBE agencies to monitor and observe the examination centers. The Regional Directors of NIOS also visited OBE examination centres.

Further in order to streamline the processing of examination result, a computerised format for the OBE Result was prepared by NIOS. This format along with the programme software was made available to all the accredited agencies for uniformity. The format, available on the NIOS website in English and Hindi, can be downloaded by the accredited agencies.

(vii) Certification

NIOS provides joint certificates as per the result data sent by Accredited Agencies. Before printing of certificates, five percent answer books, question papers in each subject, attendance sheets as well as result data were evaluated at NIOS Headquarter in four workshops of subject experts to ensure validity of the evaluation pursued by the agencies. During April 2006 to March 2007, 73131 OBE learners were Certified.

Table 3.4 Number of Learners Certified Under OBE Programme

Level	A	B	C	Total
No. of learners	65497	4546	3088	73131

(viii) Networking with States and Government Agencies

In order to ensure participation of the State Governments in the OBE programme, NIOS had decided that a state level Nodal Agency would be identified in each State and the programme would be run in collaboration with the concerned agency. The Government of Rajasthan identified the State Literacy Mission Authority as the Nodal Agency with the district level agency being the Zila Saksharta Samiti. In West Bengal, the State Government through the Department of Mass Education identified the State Literacy Mission Authority as the Nodal Agency for running the OBE programme.

(ix) Future Thrust

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

3.2 Secondary and Senior Secondary Education

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

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

3.2.1 Revision of Course Materials

During the year 2006-07, revision of course materials in different subjects at Senior Secondary level was in progress. A number of lessons were reviewed, edited, proof read and were at finalization stage in English version. In some subjects translation work in Hindi and Urdu was also initiated.

Curriculum Framework for Open Schooling in India

In the sixth meeting of the Academic Council, it was decided to constitute the core group for framing of Curriculum Framework for Open Schooling in India. A core group was constituted in 2006 and six chapters were identified and allocated to the members of core group for writing. A sub committee was constituted

to review and finalize the draft Curriculum Framework. The core group met seven times and sub committee met three times and prepared the draft of the curriculum framework.

3.2.2 New Courses at Senior Secondary Level

NIOS follows the cafeteria approach and offers a number of subjects at senior secondary level so that the learners may have the freedom to choose subjects according to their interest. NIOS keeps adding subjects on offer so that learners have more and more options. During 2006-07, development of course material in new courses like Fashion Studies, Mass Communication, Functional Hindi, Environmental Science and Sanskrit at senior secondary level was initiated and material development was in progress.

3.2.3 Development of Tutor Marked Assignments (TMA)

As a measure of continuous assessment of learners, Tutor Marked Assignments are developed in all subjects both in Hindi and English mediums. During the year 2006-07, TMAs were developed in Hindi and English mediums in different subjects at secondary and senior secondary level for use by NIOS learners.

3.2.4 Marking Schemes

NIOS usually prepares three sets of question papers for evaluation. To reduce subjectivity, marking schemes are developed and standardized in different subjects at secondary and senior secondary level. During 2006-07 meetings for standardization of marking schemes in different subjects at secondary and senior secondary level were organized for April 2006 and October 2006 Examinations.

3.2.5 National Science Popularization Programme

In order to popularize science and scientific temper among the NIOS staff and learners, the National Science Day is organized every year in the last week of February. The National Science Day 2007 was celebrated in Study Centres and at the Headquarter of NIOS.

3.2.6 Regional Language Programmes

The objective of the regional language programmes is to reach the unreached through vernacular in those states where there is no State Open School. Under

this programme, NIOS offers regional languages as subjects in Assamese, Bengali, Marathi, Gujarati, Kannada, Tamil, etc. The learning materials are revised and updated periodically. TMAs in regional languages are also developed. Under the Regional Language programme, NIOS conducted the following programmes and activities during the year 2006-07.

- Arabic as a new subject was introduced
- Persian language at secondary level initiated and material development was in the process.
- Tamil at secondary level Curriculum Committee was finalized for language and material development was in the process.
- In the subject of Kannada at secondary level, lesson writing of the revised course was completed.
- Tutor marked assignments in regional languages (Assamese, Bengal, Gujarati, Kannad, Marathi, Malayalam, Nepali, Oriya, Punjabi etc.) were developed.
- For the regional mediums, the following activities were completed:
- Gujarati: DTP work was in progress in different subjects at secondary level in Gujarati medium.
- The translation work in Oriya medium in the subjects of Science, Social Science, Mathematics, Business Studies, Psychology and Home Science was in progress.

3.2.7 Promotion of Education of Minorities

To reach out to the minority communities of the society, Arabic as a new subject was introduced at Secondary level. During 2006-07, Persian at Secondary level was initiated and material development was in progress. The Secondary Courses are offered not only in Hindi and English but also in Urdu medium. The Senior Secondary courses are offered in Hindi, English and Urdu medium, NIOS is offering Urdu as a subject at Secondary and Senior Secondary level.

3.2.8 Meeting of the Academic Council

The Academic Council considers and approves the programmes of all the constituents of the NIOS. The seventh meeting of the Academic Council was held on 25th August 2006. The programmes approved by the

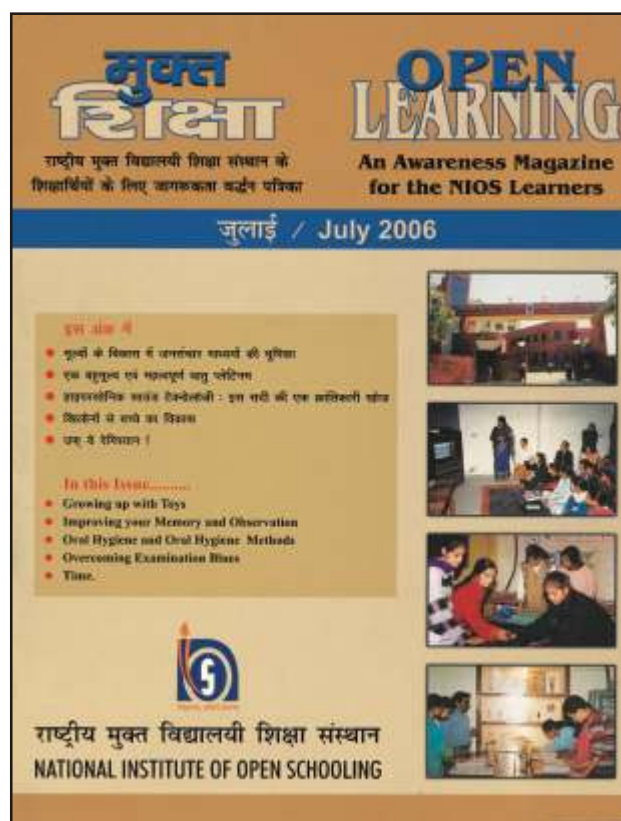
Departmental Advisory Board (DABs) of the different departments were further considered and decisions taken about the activities to be taken up in 2006-07.

3.2.9 Meeting of Departmental Advisory Board (DAB) of Academic Department

The first meeting of the DAB of the Academic Department was held on 30th December 2005. The second meeting of the Departmental Advisory Board (DAB) of the Academic Department was held on 14th March 2007. The activities that had been taken up in the year 2006-2007 were reported and the proposed activities for the year 2007-2008 were discussed at length in the meeting.

3.2.10 Open Learning -A Half Yearly Magazine of NIOS

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



4. Vocational Education

4.0 Introduction

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

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

4.1 Qualitative Improvement

In keeping with the larger objectives of the Eleventh Five Year Plan, the future thrust of the NIOS vocational courses is on training of educated unemployed youth for meaningful, skill oriented

employment. In the coming years, the plans for course development include launching of traditional as well as non-traditional technology oriented and competency based courses.

4.1.1 Curriculum Framework in Open Vocational Education –

The NIOS during 2006-07 initiated an exercise to develop the Curriculum Framework for Open Vocational Education (CFOVE) through open and distance learning mode. A document titled **Vocational Education through Open Distance Learning** was prepared. The draft CFOVE enumerates some of the future tasks e.g., curriculum related challenges, outreach related challenges, methodology related challenges, and organization related challenges. The Curriculum Framework states that ODL is the system that is in a unique position to meet the challenges of vocational and technical education by virtue of its mode of delivery, its flexibility of design and implementation, its commitment to deprived learners, the innate use of technology of remote learning, the demand of work force – both employed and unemployed and the demands of life long learning for all. This Draft CFOVE was discussed in the Regional Workshops organized at Bhopal, Mysore, Puri and Delhi. Based on the feedback from the Workshops, the CFOVE is being finalized.

4.1.2 Collaborations/Partnership

Innovative public-private partnerships are needed to meet the diverse skill needs of the informal sector – which involves not only training but support services such as running a small business, marketing and information on technology. With a view to bring about improvement in the quality of training being imparted, and to get recognition and the importance of the Vocational Education and Training (VET) through ODL mode, NIOS has initiated action for collaboration/partnership with various organizations.

One such partnership was materialized with CISCO.

Partnership with CISCO

As a follow up to the CII meeting held last year, unit level interaction with CISCO was arranged by CII in January 2006. An MOU has been signed with CISCO for online course related to hardware, namely, Certificate in IT Essentials; PC Hardware and Software. The course would be implemented in selected Accredited Vocational Institutes (AVIs) of the NIOS. In the first phase, eight AVIs have been selected for this programme. The duration of the course is six months. The course contains 30 hours of practical training. About 100 students would be trained per year per AVI. The programme module for theoretical component is already available with CISCO online and same will be made available to the registered NIOS learners pursuing this course.

4.1.3 Guidelines for Accreditation of new AVIs

In order to improve the quality of the programmes being conducted by the partnering institutions, more rigorous parameters are being drawn up for accrediting new institutions, to ensure better transparency and objectivity in the process. The existing guidelines for accreditation were revised and modified with the help of a committee of experts. These include the procedure for submitting the application, application format, guidelines for the screening committee, mechanism for performance, and monitoring of the programmes in the study centres (AVIs).

4.1.4 Monitoring of Programmes

Appointment of Vocational Education Facilitators (VEFs)

With a view to ensure quality of the Vocational Education Programme in the AVIs, it was decided to appoint professionals to monitor the performance of the AVIs. In the first phase, 18 Vocational Education Facilitators (VEFs) were appointed in the Delhi Region.

4.2 Material Development

Variety of courses in areas of Health and Para Medical, Engineering and Technology, Home Science, Computer and IT, Agriculture, Business and Commerce, and Teacher Training have been prepared for VE programme delivery through AVIs. The number of Vocational Education Courses have increased from a few courses in 1991 to 76 courses till 2007. The entry level for the NIOS Vocational Education Courses is from neo literates to 12th pass. At present the Vocational Education Courses are offered as Six Months courses, One Year courses, Stand-alone courses at Secondary and Senior Secondary level, Package Course and Life Enrichment Courses.

Several workshops were organized for development of courses in the field of Health and Paramedical, Computer Science, Home Science Business and Commerce, Teacher Training, Agriculture and Engineering and Technology. Some of them are: Homeopathic Dispensing, Insurance, Community Health Worker, Web Designing, Four Wheeler Mechanism, Gram Sakhi, Vermi Composting, Mushroom Production etc.

NIOS had been in negotiation with the Department of Alternative Medicine, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for grant of approval of the NIOS course in Homeopathic Pharmacy. The aim of introducing the course is to provide qualified manpower for dispensing Homeopathic medicines in Government Hospitals and Private Clinics all over the country. The proposal was well received by the Department of AYUSH.

The new VE courses introduced during 2006-07 include: Certificate in Web Designing, Certificate in Four Wheeler Mechanism, Certificate in Two Wheeler Mechanism, Certificate in Footwear Design and Development, Certificate in Mushroom Production, Certificate in Bee Keeping, Certificate in Gram Sakhi (Hindi medium), Certificate in Vermi-Composting, Certificate in Plumbing, Certificate in Security Services and Certificate in Stenography (Urdu).

4.2.1 Translation of VE Courses

The following Self Instructional Material (SIM) in Vocational Education were translated during 2006-07.

Elderly Care (English to Hindi), Footwear Design and Production (English to Hindi), Two Wheeler Mechanism (English to Hindi), Yog (English to Hindi) Toy Making and Joyful Learning (English to Hindi), and Gram Sakhi (Marathi to Hindi).

As per need, some of the courses have been developed/translated into Urdu also. These include: Stenography, Typewriting, Secretarial Practice, Computer Science, Early Childhood Care and Education, and Library Science. Apart from these, work has been initiated for translation of Vocational Education Course in Modern Secretarial Practice, Four Wheeler Chassis Mechanism, Four-wheeler Engine Mechanism, Two Wheeler Mechanism, Vermicomposting, Preservation of Fruits and Vegetables, and Care of the Elderly.

4.3 Networking

NIOS functions through a network of Accredited Vocational Institutes for imparting skill based training

to its learners. The existing institutions like ITIs, Jan Shikshan Sansthan, Krishi Vigyan Kendras, Schools, Colleges, District Institutes of Education and Training (DIETs), Universities, Paramedical Training Centres, NGOs and several other Voluntary Agencies are partnering with NIOS in imparting Vocational Education. In the last few years, there has been substantial increase in the number of AVIs (Refer Table 1.1 in the Annexure 1). With accreditation of 59 AVIs during 2006-07, the total number of AVIs as on 31.3.2007 was 1004.

4.4 Admission

The enrollment of students in Vocational Education Courses has been increasing progressively during the last few years except for marginal variations during the years 2005-06 and 2006-2007. Table 1.2 in the Annexure 1 shows enrollment in Vocational Education Course from 1997 to 2006. During the year 2006-07, the enrollment of students in various Vocational Education Courses was 22,166.

Admission to vocational education courses of NIOS is open round the year. During the year 2006-07, admission in various courses was done through a

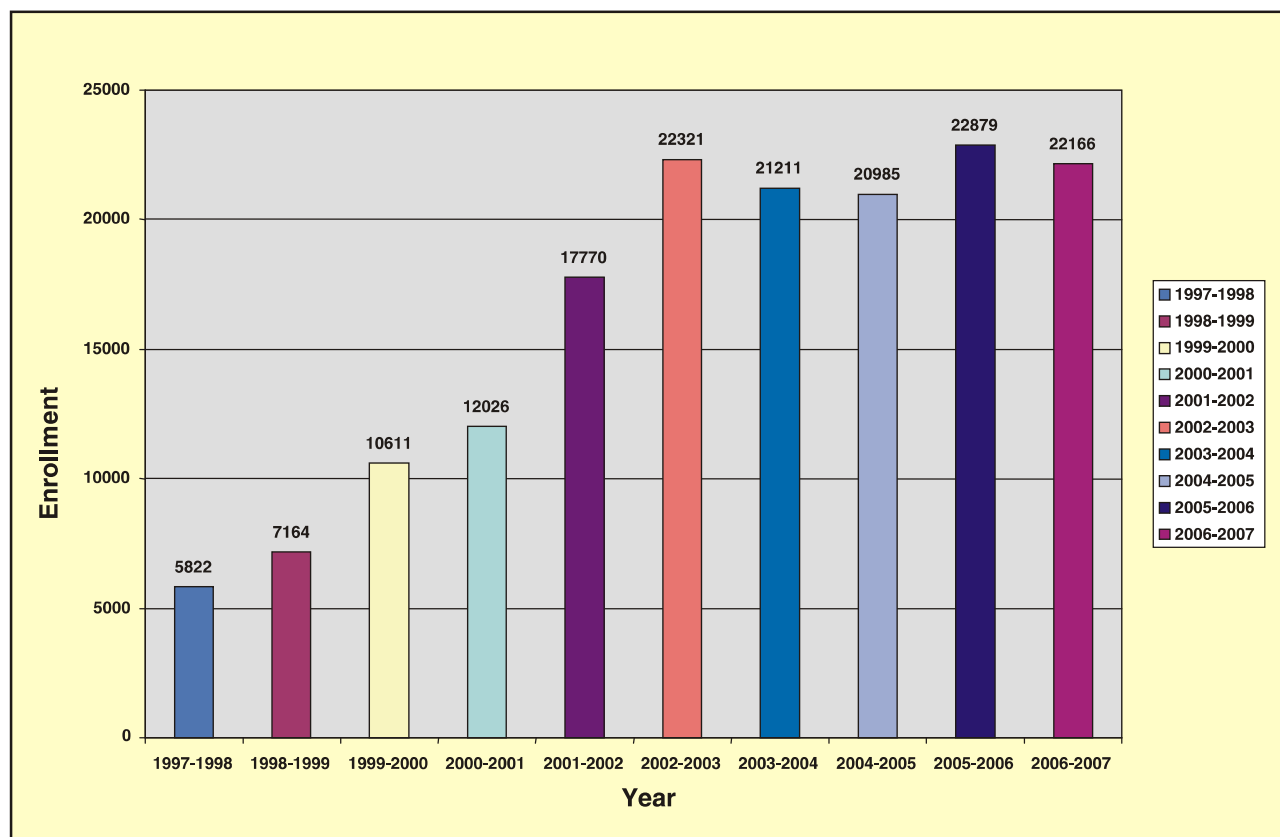


Table 4. 1 State-wise Enrollment in Vocational Education Courses
during 2006-07

S. No.	Name of the State	Enrollment in Vocational Education Courses	Percentage of Students vis-à-vis Total Enrollment
1.	Andhra Pradesh	502	2.26
2.	Assam	93	0.41
3.	Bihar	727	3.27
4.	Gujarat	58	0.26
5.	Haryana	1088	4.90
6.	Himachal Pradesh	813	3.66
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	798	3.60
8.	Karnataka	864	3.89
9.	Kerala	2413	10.88
10.	Madhya Pradesh	2349	10.59
11.	Maharashtra	501	2.26
12.	Orissa	369	1.66
13.	Punjab	732	3.30
14.	Rajasthan	422	1.90
15.	Tamil Nadu	652	2.94
16.	Uttar Pradesh	2567	11.58
17.	West Bengal	698	3.14
18.	Chandigarh	324	1.46
19.	Goa	52	0.23
20.	Pondicherry	100	0.45
21.	Delhi	5134	23.16
22.	Uttarakhand	215	0.96
23.	Jharkhand	374	1.68
24.	Chhattisgarh	301	1.35
25.	Daman & Diu	-	-
26.	Manipur	-	-
27.	Meghalaya	-	-
28.	Nagaland	-	-
29.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-
	Total	22166	

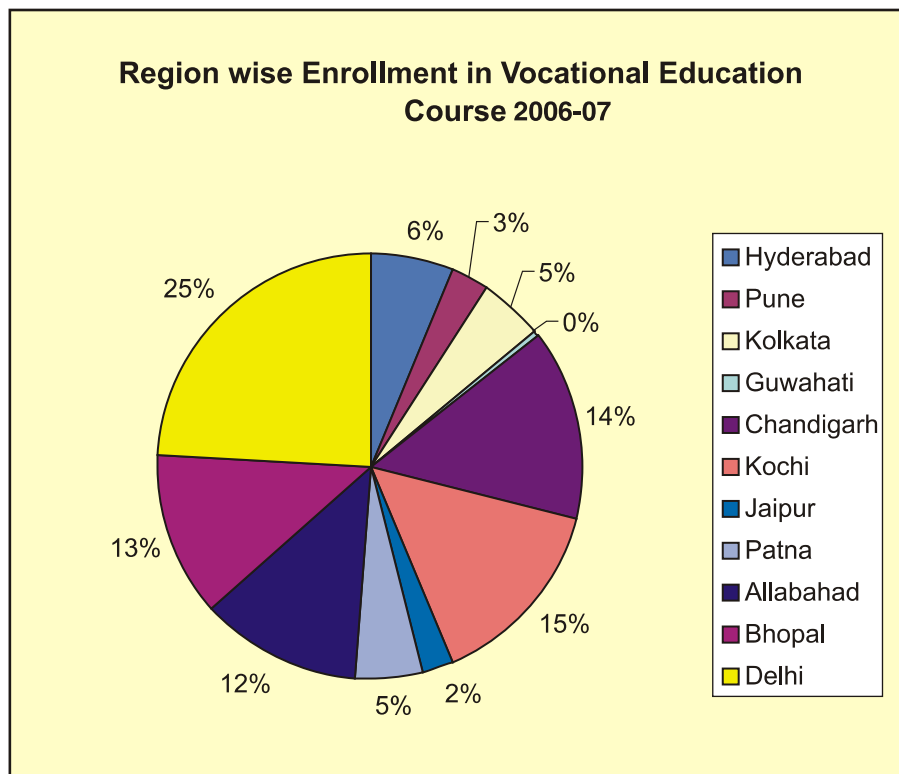
network of about one thousand AVIs all over India. The number of students admitted to vocational stream was 22,166. Table 4.1 shows the enrollment State/ Union Territory wise.

The region wise enrollment trend shows that the

highest enrollment was in the Delhi region followed by the Kochi region and the Chandigarh region. The Guwahati region had the lowest enrollment. Table 4.2 shows Region wise enrollment.

Table 4.2 Region-wise Enrollment in Vocational Education Courses during 2006-07

Sl. No	Region	Enrollment
1.	Hyderabad	1366
2.	Pune	553
3.	Kolkata	1067
4.	Guwahati	93
5.	Chandigarh	3023
6.	Kochi	3165
7.	Jaipur	480
8.	Patna	1101
9.	Allababad	2567
10.	Bhopal	2650
11.	Delhi	5134
	Total	22,166



The enrollment data reveals that maximum number of students taking admission in Vocational Education Courses of NIOS was in the age group 15-20 years i.e., 46.8 %.Table 4.3 shows that there is not much variation in the percentage of

males and females taking admission in Vocational Education Courses. Of the total students admitted in the Vocational Education Courses, 51.1 percent were male and 48.9 percent were female.

Table 4.3 Age-wise Distribution of Enrollment in Vocational Education Courses during 2006-07

	Enrolment					% of Total
Age Group	Male	%	Female	%	Total	
15-20 Yrs	5555	49.0	4829	44.56	10384	46.84
20-25 Yrs	2742	24.20	3167	29.22	5909	26.65
25-30 Yrs	1058	9.33	1344	12.40	2402	10.83
30-35 Yrs	407	3.59	637	5.87	1044	4.7
35-40 Yrs	280	2.47	267	2.46	547	2.46
>40 Yrs	1287	11.36	593	5.40	1880	8.48
Total	11329	51.1	10837	48.9	22166	

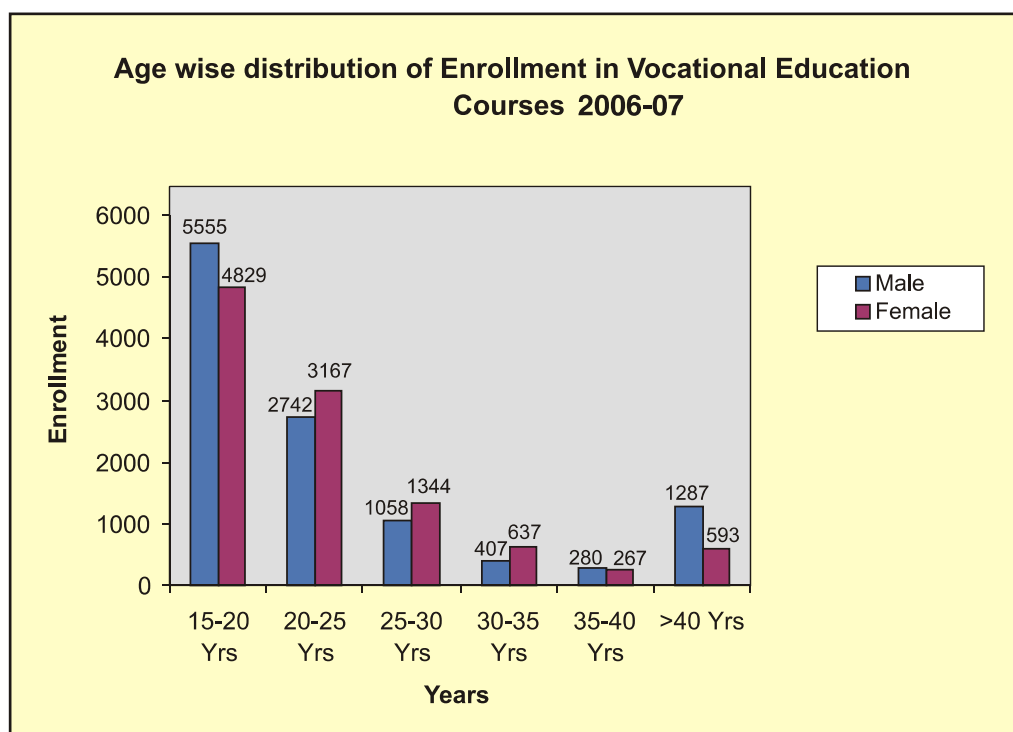


Table 4.4 shows that of the total enrollment in Vocational Education Courses, the percentage of disadvantaged learners was very small i.e., 15%, and the remaining learners were in the general category.

There are certain Vocational Education Courses which are very popular. Table 4.5 shows the course-wise

enrollment. Enrolment trends show that Early Childhood Care and Education, Cutting, Tailoring and Dress Making, Certificate in Computer Application, Jan Swasthya, Electrical Technician, Beauty Culture, Welding Technology, Yog etc., are the most popular courses among the students.

Table 4.4 Category-Wise Enrolment in Vocational Education Courses 2006-07

Category	No .of learners Enrolled	% of the Total
General	18920	85.3
Handicapped	26	1.3
SC	3159	14.25
ST	58	0.26
Ex-Servicemen	3	0.01
Total	22166	

Table 4. 5 Enrolment in Vocational Education Courses during 2006-07

S. No.	Course	Total
	Six Months Courses	
1.	House Wiring and Electrical Appliances Repairing	266
2.	Motor and Transformer Rewinding	36
3.	Radio and Tape Recorder Repairing	05
4.	T.V. Repairing	15
5.	Cutting and Tailoring	999
6.	Dress Making	169
7.	Library Attendant	05
8.	Certificate in Basic Computing	311
9.	Plumbing	143
10.	Beauty Culture	1231
12.	Certificate in DTP	562
13.	Certificate in YOG	584
14.	Certificate in Security Services	379
15.	Certificate in Computer Hardware	338

One Year Courses		
16.	Electrical Technician	1883
17.	Radio and TV Technicians	447
18.	Cutting, Tailoring and Dress Making	1993
19.	Library Clerk	04
20.	Refrigeration and Air Conditioning	905
21.	Certificate in Computer Application	3279
22.	Certificate in Two Wheeler Mechanism	145
Life Enrichment Courses		
23.	Paripoorna Mahila	03
24.	Jan Swasthya (Community Health)	3378
25.	YOG	01
Stand Alone Courses (Secondary Level)		
26.	Carpentry	22
27.	Solar Energy Technician	9
28.	Laundry Services	16
29.	Bakery and Confectionary	251
30.	Welding Technology	326
Stand Alone Courses (Senior Secondary Level)		
31.	Typewriting (Hindi)	33
32.	Typewriting (English)	125
33.	Stenography (Hindi)	60
34.	Secretarial Practice	1
35.	Word Processing	241
36.	Housekeeping	16
37.	Catering Management	311
38.	Food Processing	31
39.	Hotel Front Office Management	32

Package Course			
40.	Secretarial Practice (PA/PS) Course	509	
41.	Diploma in Radiography	74	
42.	Certificate in Library Science	360	
43.	Certificate in ECCE	2459	
44.	Diploma in Basic Rural Technology	26	
45.	Diploma in Modern Secretarial Practice	56	
46.	Certificate in Toy Making and Joyful Learning	10	

A state-wise list of Accredited Vocational Institutions of NIOS is at Annexure I.

The enrolment data in Vocational Education courses from 1997-98 to 2006-07 is at Annexure II.

4.5 Meeting of the Coordinators of the AVIs

The NIOS organised Orientation Programme for the Coordinators of Study Centres (AVIs) in order to facilitate the work of Study Centers and make them acquainted with the changes in the scheme of studies as well as in other activities of NIOS.

The main objectives of these meetings were:

- To acquaint the participants with various aspects of the Open Vocational Education programme.

- To discuss the difficulties faced in implementation of the Open Vocational Education Programme.
- To identify the issues and problems of AVIs and discussing the possible solutions for the same.
- To provide information on the courses that are under development.
- To identify new and innovative Vocational Education Courses which may be developed in future.

In these programmes, matters related to examination, administration and vocational academic issues were discussed and problems were solved. Besides these matters, procedures for admission and accreditation were also explained to the Coordinators. These meetings were organized in all the Regional Centers of NIOS. The Coordinators of the AVIs were apprised of the changes and other new courses introduced.



5. Measurement and Evaluation

Measurement and evaluation is an integral component of any teaching-learning system. The Government of India in 1990 vested with NIOS the authority to examine and certify students up to pre-degree level. In fact NIOS is one of the National Board of Examination. It is the only Board which conducts two full-fledged examinations every year. In order to measure the learners' achievement and evaluate their performance, NIOS has been conducting its public examinations since 1991. It has conducted 33 examinations up to the year 2006-07.

5.1 Unique Features of NIOS Examination System

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

5.2 Quality and Standard of the Question Papers

Like previous year, during 2006-07 also NIOS developed three sets of question papers in all main

subjects for Secondary and Sr. secondary examinations. For Vocational Courses, single set of question papers was developed. Question Papers for all the subjects were printed in the identified Confidential Press. These were stored and delivered from the designated Banks/Treasuries/Police Stations. Besides Hindi and English mediums, the question papers were developed in Urdu and in Regional Mediums (Telugu, Gujarati and Marathi) for the purpose of conducting public examinations during 2006-07.

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

5.3 Orientation of the Chief Secrecy Officers and Secrecy Officers

In order to keep the identity of the examinees secret, NIOS hides the names and enrolment numbers of the candidates by allotting them fictitious numbers. These are made available to the concerned secrecy teams only. As the Chief Secrecy Officers (CSOs) and other secrecy team members are taken from the outside experts, they need to be orientated about the concept of fictitious numbers and their role in this regard. During 2006-07, the Department of Evaluation, NIOS organized two orientation

programmes for Chief Secrecy Officers and Secrecy Officers of all the Regional Centres for October 2006 and April 2007 examinations on 26-09-2006 and 28-03-2007 respectively.

5.4 Conduct of Public Examinations during 2006-07

As usual, the NIOS conducted two public examinations, one in April 2006 and other in October 2006. During the year 2006-07, total 4,95,170 candidates appeared in the Academic and the Vocational Education Streams which included 2,54,869 candidates for the Secondary Certificate Examination, 2,18,717 candidates for the Senior Secondary Certificate Examination and 21,584 candidates for Vocational Education courses through 2128 examination centres in the country as well as abroad. The April 2006 and October 2006 examinations for academic courses were held in 1057 and 702 examination centres respectively spread all over the country.

During 2006-07, total 21,584 candidates appeared in various Vocational Education examinations through 369 examination centres throughout the country. During April 2006, total 10,803 candidates appeared in vocational examination through 184 examination centres covering 354 AVIs. 10,781 candidates appeared in October 2006 examination through 184 examination centres covering 364 AVIs. During 2006-07, two examinations were conducted during April 2006 and October 2006 for the Secondary and Senior Secondary level students enrolled with the newly established Rajasthan State Open School (SOS). Necessary guidance was provided to the SOS functionaries for initiating the process of centre fixation etc., for conducting public examinations in the State. The answer scripts of the students of Rajasthan State Open School were evaluated by NIOS and their result was processed.

5.5 Monitoring and Supervision of Public Examinations of NIOS

In order to ensure smooth and fair conduct of examinations, one full time Officer on Special Duty (OSD) was deputed at each examination centre. In addition, Flying Squad Teams were also sent to the examination centres. During 2006-07, special arrangements were made for deploying Flying Squads

in the examination centres in all the Regional Centre. Assistance was sought from the State Education Agencies for ensuring smooth conduct of NIOS examinations. The Haryana School Education Board took suitable measures in this regard by deputing special teams of its officers to supervise and monitor the NIOS examinations in the State of Haryana.

Detailed guidelines were issued to the Centre Superintendents of the examination centres for taking necessary precautions to ensure smooth and fair conduct of examinations at their respective examination centres. To ensure effective supervision of examinations, two invigilators were provided in each examination room.

5.6 Standardization of Marking Schemes

With help of the academic faculty of NIOS and the outside subject experts, the Marking Schemes of the Question Papers of 12 subjects of Secondary course and 17 subjects of Senior Secondary course for April 2006 and October 2006 examinations were got standardized and finalized immediately after the question papers had been administered.. The finalized Marking Schemes of different subjects were sent to the Regional Centres of NIOS by e-mail which were used by the evaluators for evaluating the answer scripts in different subjects.

5.7 Evaluation of the Answer Books

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

5.8 UFM Committee Meetings

The Confidential Section of the Department of Evaluation processed the cases of unfair means (777UFM) detected during the course of the April 2006 and October 2006 examinations. These cases

were discussed in the meeting of a high level committee. The students were given opportunity to put their view-points before the committee.

To consider the cases of mass copying and malpractices during April-May 2006 Secondary and Senior Secondary and Vocational Education Examinations, meetings of the Unfair Means (UFM) Committee were held on 29 June 2006 and 3-4 July, 2006 at NIOS Headquarters. The UFM Committee meetings for examining the UFM cases of October 2006 examination were held on 15-16 January 2007 and 22-23 January 2007 at NIOS Headquarters. The individual candidates involved in Unfair Means during the examination were called to appear before the

Committee for personal hearing. The Committee considered all the cases and recommended suitable penalty in established Unfair Means cases. The students found guilty were imposed penalties and a few of them were exonerated as per rules by the UFM Committee

5.9 Performance of Students in Examinations During 2006-07

5.9.1 Subject-wise Performance in Academic Courses

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

Table 5.1 Subject-wise Pass Percentage in Secondary Certificate Examination

	April 2006		October 2006 Subject	
	APP.	PASS%	APP.	PASS%
201 Hindi	96976	83.18	13168	74.8
202 English	121789	70.29	24310	40.47
203 Bengali	815	75.7	217	73.27
204 Marathi	2056	78.16	213	61.03
205 Telgu	497	62.37	107	54.2
206 Urdu	1556	75.57	266	62.03
207 Gujrati	224	84.37	26	65.38
208 Kannad	30	66.66	6	33.33
209 Sanskrit	6404	36.94	1990	51.1
210 Punjabi	6306	88.83	381	58.0
228 Assamese	141	81.56	19	78.94
231 Nepali	1377	52.98	442	61.53
232 Malayalam	306	95.09	13	61.53
233 Oriya	478	98.32	20	90.0
211 Mathematics	79896	52.88	23654	35.31
212 Science	98609	46.81	30462	30.25
213 Social Science	108134	57.33	30354	44.77
214 Economics	50297	60.71	13609	57.26
215 Business Study	30757	62.75	7675	48.37
216 Home Science	61259	64.82	13737	45.29
217 Typing(Hindi)	211	63.98	40	55.0
218 Typing(ENG)	3367	71.81	746	63.0
219 Word Proc.	30339	85.97	3249	77.8
222 Psychology	5337	43.48	1770	29.37
223 Ind. Cul..& Her..	4242	50.16	1294	37.32

Subject-wise performance given in the table 5.1, shows that the pass percentage in all the subjects, except in Sanskrit, Science and Psychology at Secondary level, was above 50 in the April 2006 examination. Similarly, the performance during October 2006 examinations shows that the pass percentage was above 30 in all subjects except that in Psychology. The

lowest pass percentage in the Secondary Course in April, 2006 examination was in Sanskrit (36.94) whereas in October, 2006 examinations, the lowest pass percentage was in Psychology (29.37). The highest pass percentage (above 90%) was in Oriya in both the examinations in 2006, though the number of candidates appeared was small.

Table 5.2: Subject-wise Pass Percentage in Senior Secondary Certificate Examination

	April 2006		October 2006 Subject	
	APP.	PASS%	APP.	PASS%
301 Hindi	69615	76.31	14343	60.87
302 English	95246	66.05	25225	57.27
306 Urdu	951	78.34	203	54.68
311 Mathematics	22204	58.46	6136	32.11
312 Physics	24612	50.37	7399	42.64
313 Chemistry	24291	51.39	7094	42.73
314 Biology	16029	60.6	3855	51.21
315 History	35759	71.13	8834	53.23
316 Geography	21522	59.96	6394	47.15
317 Political Sc.	45859	72.3	11005	56.29
318 Economics	38022	58.59	11436	41.47
319 Business Studies	19438	73.36	4350	64.34
320 Accountancy	15231	49.08	4714	32.71
321 Home Science	30678	62.52	7859	58.85
322 Type (Hindi)	131	48.85	44	70.45
323 Type (English)	2009	58.04	652	57.98
324 Steno(Hindi)	21	52.38	3	66.67
325 Steno (Eng)	97	54.64	22	45.45
326 Sec. Practice	5212	73.91	1011	67.06
327 Word Process	22537	75.52	4106	70.56
328 Psychology	4575	62.23	1450	61.31
330 Computer Sc.	5900	47.25	1903	37.15
331 Sociology	17315	79.05	3612	67.58
332 Painting	3186	75.46	737	76.26

The Table 5.2 on subject-wise pass percentage in the Senior Secondary April 2006 examinations shows that in all the subjects, except in Accountancy, Typing (Hindi) and Computer Science, the pass percentage was above 50. For the October 2006 examinations, the pass percentage was above 60 in only 9 out of 24 subjects. The lowest pass percentage in the Senior Secondary examinations was in Computer Science (47.25%) for the April 2006 examinations. For October 2006 examinations, the lowest pass percentage was in Mathematics (32.11%). The

highest percentage of marks in April 2006 examinations was in Sociology (79.26%) and in October, 2006 examinations, it was in Painting (76.26%).

The year-wise pass percentage in Secondary and Sr. Secondary courses since 1997 to 2006 is at Annexure-III.

5.9.2 Gender-wise Performance

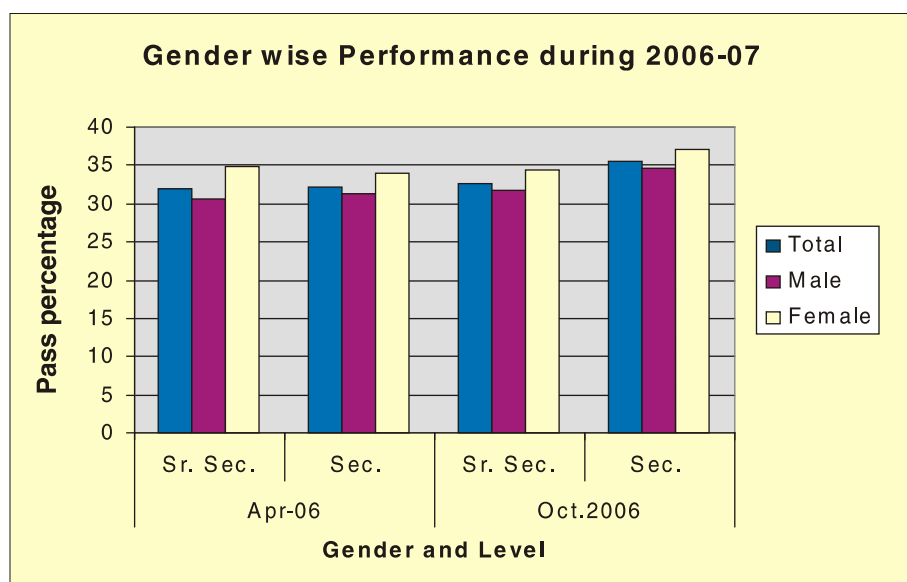
Gender wise data of the students appeared and certified during April 2006 and October 2006 examination are given in the tables 5.3 and 5.4.

Table 5.3 : Gender- wise Performance in April 2006 Examination

	Appeared		Certified		Pass%	
	Sr. Sec.	Sec.	Sr. Sec.	Sec.	Sr. Sec.	Sec.
Total	148883	175699	47521	56489	31.92	32.15
Male	101921	119660	31130	37459	30.54	31.30
Female	46962	56039	16391	19030	34.90	33.96

Table 5.4 : Gender- wise Performance in October 2006 Exam

	Appeared		Certified		Pass%	
	Sr. Sec.	Sec.	Sr. Sec.	Sec.	Sr. Sec.	Sec.
Total	69834	79170	22843	28054	32.71	35.43
Male	47879	53492	15275	18556	31.69	34.69
Female	21955	25678	7568	9498	34.47	36.99



The gender wise performance of the students given in the tables shows that the performance of female candidates have been more than the performance of male candidates in both April 2006 and October 2006 examinations at Secondary as well as at Sr. Secondary level.

5.9.3 Medium wise Performance

During 2006-07 at secondary level besides Hindi and English medium the examinations were conducted in Urdu, Telugu, Marathi, Malayalam and Gujarati also. The number of students appeared and certified in different mediums at Secondary level during April 2006 and October 2006 exams is given in the following table.

The medium wise examination data for secondary level course shows that during April 2006, Marathi

medium students had maximum pass percentage (43%) followed by the English medium students (38.6%), whereas in October 2006 examination Malayalam medium students had maximum pass percentage (57.1 %) followed by the Urdu Medium students (46.6 %).

During 2006-07, Sr. Secondary level examinations were conducted in Hindi, English and Urdu mediums. The number of students appeared and certified in different mediums during April 2006 and October 2006 exam are given below:

At Senior Secondary level English medium students has maximum pass percentage (38.6%) in April 2006 exam whereas in October 2006 examinations the

Table 5.5 : Medium wise Performance at Secondary Level

Medium	April 2006 Exam.			October 2006 Exam.		
	App.	Certified	Pass %	App.	Certified	Pass %
Marathi	1620	698	43.0	508	174	34.2
Telugu	470	150	31.9	132	46	34.8
Urdu	870	272	31.2	422	197	46.6
Gujarati	231	35	15.1	136	33	24.2
Hindi	113832	32616	28.6	51920	13703	26.3
English	59167	22819	38.6	26364	8831	33.5
Malayalam	22	02	9.09	07	04	57.1

Table 5.6 : Medium wise Performance at Sr. Secondary Level

Medium	April 2006 Exam.			October 2006 Exam.		
	App.	Certified	Pass %	App.	Certified	Pass %
Urdu	870	272	31.2	422	197	46.6
Hindi	113832	32616	28.6	51920	13703	26.3
English	59167	22819	38.6	26364	8831	33.5

Urdu medium students had maximum pass percentage (46.6%).

5.9.4 Subject-wise Performance in Vocational Education Courses

During 2006-07, total 21,584 students appeared in

Vocational Education Examination. These include 10,803 students during April 2006 examination and 10781 students during October 2006 examination. Around 56.97% vocational students were certified during April 2006 whereas 58.11% students were certified during October 2006 examination.

Table 5.7: Subject wise Pass Percentage in Vocational Education Examination (April 2006)

Subject Code	Subject Name	April 2006 Examination		Oct. 2006 Examination	
		App	Pass %	App	Pass %
252	Carpentry	18	100.00	14	92.86
253	Solar Energy Tech.	12	66.67	3	100.00
256	Bakery & Confectionary	87	88.51	75	68.00
257	Welding Technology	106	91.51	166	93.98
322	Typewriting (Hindi)	12	8.33	7	85.71
323	Typewriting (Eng)	34	29.41	27	44.44
324	Stenography(Hindi)	23	8.70	29	62.07
325	Stenography(Eng)	11	36.36	18	27.78
326	Secretarial Practice	6	66.67	21	23.78
327	Word Processing	121	64.46	74	62.16
351	Plant Protection	5	0.00	-	
356	House Keeping	26	84.62	17	17.65
357	Catering Management	213	81.69	136	79.41
358	Food Processing	16	62.50	3	100.00
359	Play Centre Management	6	83.33	2	100.00
360	Hotel Front Office Operation	2	50.00	6	66.67
363	Preservation Of Fruits And Vegetables	1	100.00	2	100.00
401	Basic Of Health Care	23	86.96	44	88.64
402	Health And Environment	20	100.00	41	100.00
403	Health Education	23	86.96	44	93.18
404	Health Extension Activities	23	86.96	43	93.02
412	Secretarial Practice	93	83.87	53	73.58
413	Computer Applications In Office	93	80.65	53	66.04
414	Business Communication	93	86.02	53	69.81
415	Shorthand Writing	93	25.81	52	36.54
416	Learning Through Toys	3	66.67	5	40.00
417	Art Of Toy Making	3	66.67	5	40.00
418	Toy-Making As An Industry	3	66.67	5	20.00

422	Typewriting (Hindi)	28	50.00	57	78.95
423	Typewriting (Eng)	61	68.85	113	51.33
424	Stenography (Hindi)	38	55.26	72	63.89
425	Stenography (Eng)	157	44.59	168	42.86
426	Secretarial Practice	202	83.66	261	67.05
427	Word Processing	119	79.83	70	74.29
430	Orientation To X-Ray Dept.	173	92.49	147	84.35
431	Basic & Radiation Physics	171	87.13	147	82.31
432	Human Anatomy & Physiology	171	63.16	145	60.69
433	Dark Room Layout And Practices	117	77.78	91	49.45
434	Regional Radiography And Contrast Media	114	79.82	90	54.44
435	Advance Imaging & Special Diag. Proc.	114	69.30	91	49.45
436	Library Functions And Services	193	77.72	136	72.79
437	Organisation Of Library Materials	194	79.90	136	69.85
438	Records Of Library	194	77.32	136	66.18
439	Understanding The Child	1306	80.17	1530	77.39
440	Early Childhood Care And Education	1310	80.46	1529	78.81
441	Org. & Man. An Early Childhood Care & Ed	1310	80.92	1529	78.16
601	House Wiring & Elect Appliances Repairing	185	68.11	58	63.79
602	Motor & Transformer Rewinding	55	83.64	27	48.15
603	Radio & Tape Recorder Repairing	17	76.47	1	0.00
604	T.V. Repairing	39	84.62	13	61.54
605	Cutting & Tailoring	547	75.87	344	79.36
606	Dress Making	52	84.62	66	84.85
608	Certificate In Basic Computing	67	29.85	135	37.78
611	Plumbing	77	87.01	45	100.00
612	Beauty Culture	637	86.97	466	89.91
613	Desk Top Publishing	332	52.11	162	28.40
614	Yog	449	50.56	350	42.29
615	Certificate In Security Service	473	7.82	211	4.27
616	Certificate In Hardware Assembly & Maint	92	55.43	124	74.19
701	House Wiring & Elect Appliances Repairing	1118	72.90	1018	68.17

702	Motor & Transformer Rewinding	737	72.86	802	62.47
703	Radio & Tape Recorder Repairing	247	85.83	240	86.67
704	T.V. Repairing	153	81.05	200	83.00
705	Cutting & Tailoring	814	93.24	962	94.70
706	Dress Making	586	95.73	833	94.72
707	Library Attendant	2	100.00	14	78.57
708	Library Clerk (Cataloguing)	2	100.00	14	85.71
709	Refrigeration	445	85.84	549	84.88
710	Air Conditioning	228	91.67	447	85.23
711	Basic Computing Skills	1308	54.28	1757	48.78
712	Computer Applications	1229	32.63	1722	32.11
713	Certi. Course In Two Wheeler Mechanism	33	84.85	41	68.29
715	Basics Of Health & Disease	63	22.22	37	45.95
716	Footwear Design & Production	2	0.00	-	-
717	Basics Of Homeopathy	63	52.38	37	72.97
801	Paripurna Mahila	1	100.00	-	-
802	Jan Swasthya	1028	82.10	1318	76.18

5.10 Region Wise Result Status

Table 5.7 : Region Wise Result Status

Region	Sr. Secondary				Secondary			
	April 2006		October 2006		April 2006		October 2006	
	Appeared	Pass %	Appeared	Pass %	Appeared	Pass %	Appeared	Pass %
Hyderabad	4651	17.59	2194	43.25	1674	22.76	704	36.08
Pune	4844	30.88	1925	27.22	12839	34.56	5442	36.46
Kolkata	9800	32.60	5419	28.42	15523	35.00	7782	33.00
Guwahati	9248	36.63	3975	39.22	14578	43.81	6264	45.21
Chandigarh	28834	31.84	18905	31.21	31943	25.91	19868	32.59
Kochi	2419	17.53	1288	17.16	1084	31.46	521	29.37
Delhi Zone -I	34303	28.50	29741	32.26	33992	26.03	31460	32.58
NIOSHQ	779	35.56	339	31.27	672	43.90	275	38.91
Jaipur	2205	35.01	961	34.65	3802	42.27	1508	43.90
Patna	3509	49.50	1379	39.23	5489	50.96	1774	47.80
Allahabad	6837	43.18	2366	40.41	4796	48.19	1534	57.89
Delhi Zone -II	38761	32.86	-	-	44588	30.62	-	-
Bhopal	2693	28.63	1342	46.13	4719	36.51	2038	50.74

The analysis of the region wise result shows that during April 2006 examination the Regional Centre Patna had highest pass percentage (49.50%) at Sr. Secondary level and the regional centre Kochi had lowest pass percentage

(17.53%) whereas during October 2006 examination Regional Centre Bhopal had highest pass percentage (46.13%) and the Regional centre, Kochi had the lowest pass percentage(17.16%) at Sr. Secondary level.

At Secondary level during April 2006, the Regional Centre Patna had highest pass percentage (50.96%) and the Regional Centre Hyderabad had lowest pass percentage (22.76%), whereas during October 2006 the Regional Centre, Allahabad had highest pass percentage (57.89%) and the Regional Centre, Kochi had lowest pass percentage (29.37%).

5.11 National Workshop on Strategies for Examinations Reform

(i) Shimla Workshop

During 2006-07, NIOS organized a three day National Workshop on Strategies for Examinations Reform at Shimla from 7-9 July, 2006 with a view to improve the procedures and practices for evaluating the performance of the candidates pursuing their studies at Secondary and Senior Secondary level through Open Schooling System. A number of issues concerning examination were deliberated and the workshop made significant recommendations in this regard.



(ii) Follow-up National Workshop at Puri

As a follow-up to the national workshop on strategies for examination reforms held at Shimla, another national meeting was organized at Puri (Orisa) to take stock of the progress made and to suggest further measures to improve the examination system under the Open Schooling System.

5.12 On-Demand Examination System (ODES)

Besides two public examinations in a year, NIOS conducts On-Demand Examinations at Secondary level. The introduction of On-Demand Examination (ODE) by NIOS has provided complete flexibility to the learners to pursue learning at their own pace. This has made the system of examinations independent of the time frame and will help the learners to take up the examinations as per their wish and preparation. They can also appear for improvement of their performance any numbers of times within the period of their admission till they are satisfied with their achievement.

Under the scheme of On-Demand Examinations, a learner can walk into the identified Testing Centre of NIOS on the prescribed days as per his/her choice and appear on the examination in any subject. The learner is provided with a question paper generated by the computer based on a blue print/design specific to the subject. The blue print is a three dimensional grid, which allocates the number of questions and marks to each module/unit of the subject, the learning objective and the type of question. While generating a question paper, the computer picks up a question from each cell of the blue print from about 30-40 questions, which have been developed and computerised for each cell. Thus, each student appearing in a subject gets a different question paper, even if a large number of students are appearing in that subject. The weightage of each question paper set is maintained in terms of content, objectives and the types of questions.

5.12.1 ODES at Secondary Level

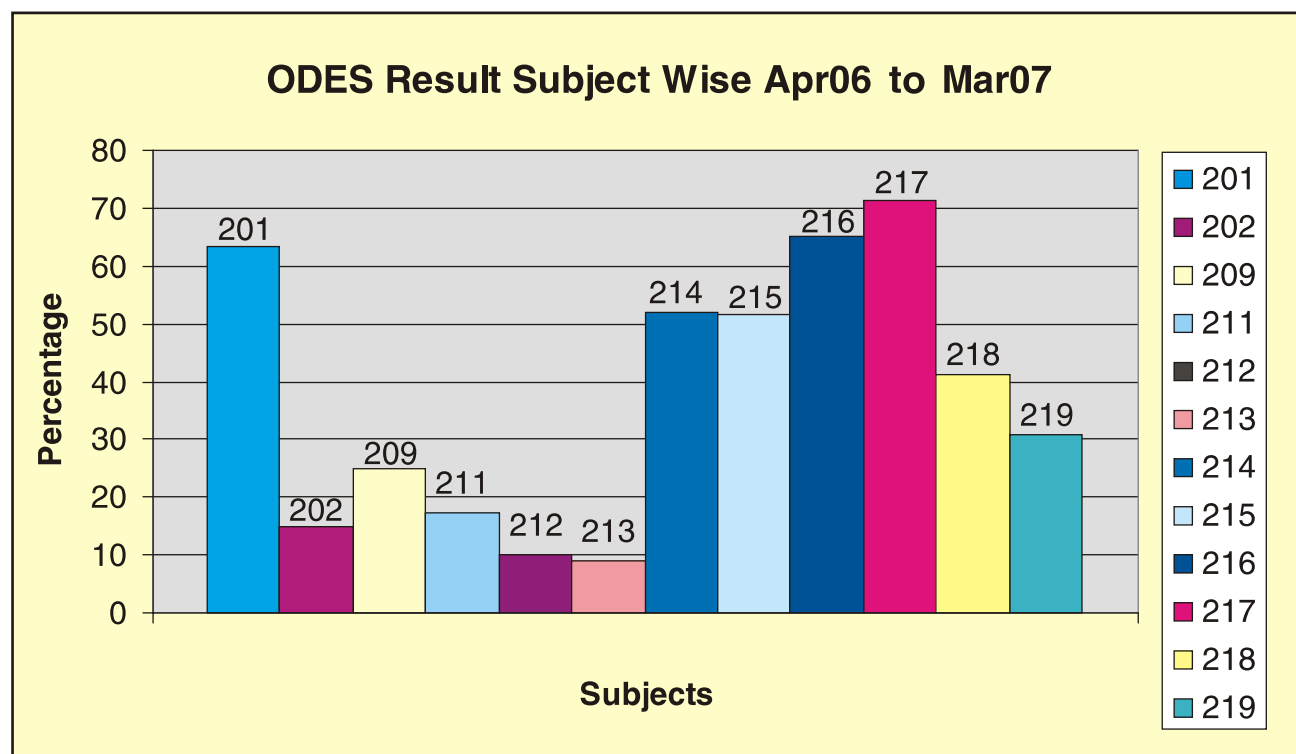
The On-Demand Examination System (ODES) at Secondary level was started with effect from 8 February, 2005 on prescribed days. During 2006-07, On-Demand Exam was conducted twice in a week. During 2006-07, 7880 students appeared in the examinations. The number of candidates appeared and passed in different subjects during the year was as under:

(i) On-Demand Examination System Launched of Pune

In a significant step in the pursuit of reaching the un-reached, NIOS launched the On-Demand

Table 5.8: On Demand Examination Data at Secondary Level

Subject Code	Subjects	April 2006 to March, 2007		
		<i>Appeared</i>	<i>Passed</i>	<i>Pass%</i>
201	Hindi	785	497	63.31
202	English	1114	277	24.00
209	Sanskrit	93	16	17.20
211	Mathematics	1021	101	9.89
212	Science	1283	190	14.81
213	Social Science	1411	126	8.92
214	Economics	549	286	52.09
215	Business Studies	490	252	51.42
216	Home Science	745	486	65.23
217	Typewriting (Hindi)	7	5	71.42
218	Typewriting (Eng.)	34	14	41.17
219	Word Processing	348	107	30.74



Examination System at Pune Regional Centre on 20 July, 2006. The Union Minister of State for Human Resource Development, Shri Mohammad Ali Ashraf Fatmi, inaugurated the Centre. Shri Suresh Kalmadi, Member of Parliament presided over the function.

**(ii) On-Demand Examination System
Launched at Patna**

On 28th August, 2006, NIOS launched the On-Demand Examination System (ODES) at its Regional Centre, Patna. The Union Minister for Railways, Shri Lalu Prasad Yadav, inaugurated the Centre. The Union Minister of State for Human Resource Development, Shri Mohammad Ali Ashraf Fatmi, presided over the function. Shri Ram Chandra Purbey, Ex-Minister HRD, Government of Bihar, Shri Jai Prakash Narayan Yadav, Ex-State Minister, Government of India and Ex- Minister of Education

Govt. of Bihar, Shri M.C. Pant, Chairman, NIOS and Shri D.S. Bist, Secretary, NIOS were present during the inauguration ceremony.

The On-Demand Examination at Secondary Stage will be extended to the Testing Centres being established at other Regional Centres of NIOS.

**5.12.2 Towards ODES at Senior Secondary
Level**

Keeping in view the increasing demand of the On-Demand examination at Secondary level and the need of OD Exam at Sr. Secondary level, NIOS developed a question bank in the subjects of Hindi, English, Mathematics, Political Science, Home Science, Business Studies and Chemistry at Sr. Secondary level during 2006-07. The question items have been reviewed, computerized and converted into data base form.

6. Administration and Accounts

The Administration Department of NIOS, headed by Secretary, looks after the matters related to (i) Memorandum of Association of NOS Society, (ii) Constitution of various committees of NIOS and organization of meetings of apex committees (iii) matters related to personnel, (iv) legal matters, (v) budget/Accounts, (vi) production and distribution of materials, (vii) purchase and supply of equipment, (viii) maintenance, (ix) promotion of Hindi (Raj Bhasha), (x) Annual Report, (xi) Parliament Questions etc. The programmes and activities of the Administration Department of NIOS during the year 2006-07 are as follows:

Personnel

Meeting of Apex Committees / Conferences

Based on inputs received from the Constituents of NIOS, meeting of the apex committees of NOSS, like the General Body, Executive Board and Finance Committee were organized and follow up action was taken based upon the minutes of meetings. Besides these organizational arrangements were made for National and International Conferences organized by NIOS.

Amendment of Recruitment Rules

During the year 2006-07, General Rules of Recruitment & Promotion of Academic and Non-

Academic Staff of NIOS (Part I & II) were amended after approval by Executive Board. These Rules were notified w.e.f. 12-03-07.

Appointments

Smt Meenakshi Saxena was appointed as Academic Officer (Sanskrit) on deputation basis w.e.f. 20-03-2007.

Promotions

Smt. Sandhya Kumar, Academic Officer (Home Science) was promoted to the post of Assistant Director (Acad) on adhoc basis w.e.f. 28-03-2006 (A/N).

Resignation

Smt. Nayana Das Gupta, Academic Officer (History) tendered her resignation w.e.f. 06-06-2006.

Retirement

Shri V.J.Williams, Director (Evaluation) retired from the service of NIOS on attaining the age of superannuation w.e.f. 30-09-2006.

Repatriation

During the year 2006-2007, the following Officers/ Officials were repatriated to their Parent Departments:

S.No.	Name	Designation	Date of Repatriation
1.	Shri M.Santosh Kumar	Deputy Director	30-06-06
2.	Shri V.D.Sevekar	Joint Director	18-08-06
3.	Smt. Mamta Rani	Deputy Director	21-08-06
4.	Shri N.P.Narain	Deputy Director	13-10-06
5.	Shri V.Ravi Kumar	Section Officer	02-02-07
6.	Shri Ramesh Kumar Sharma	Assistant Director	15-03-07
7.	Shri Rajendra Kumar	Section Officer	30-03-07

Parliament Unit

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

During the year 2006-07, responses/replies were submitted by National Institute of Open Schooling in respect of 19 Parliament Questions.

Coordination with MHRD/International Agencies

The Coordination work related MHRD was handled by Personnel Section. Queries raised w.r.t. NIOS were responded to by this section in a timely manner.

The Secretary, Head of Administration coordinated for the collaboration with different international agencies such as UNESCO, UNFPA, COL as well as with various Ministries for a number of programmes. During this period, necessary support the following projects was provided:

- 1 Administration Department
 - Literacy Initiative for Empowerment (LIFE) – UNESCO, New Delhi

- Models of Equivalency Programme Phase-I with UNESCO-APPEAL, Bangkok
- Models of Equivalency Programme Phase-II with UNESCO-APPEAL, Bangkok

2 SSS Department

National Open Science Project – Ministry of Science and Technology

3 Academic Department

Adolescence Education Programme (AEP) – MHRD, UNFPA

4 Media Unit

Training Needs and Training Strategies for NIOS functionaries – COL, Vancouver

5 PME Unit

AKSHAT - MHRD

Legal Matters

During the year, the Legal Unit drafted various deeds regarding Agreement, Memorandum of Understanding and prepared Show Cause Notices. The Legal Unit rendered opinion on various issues regarding accreditation, examination, and general administration. The Legal Unit replied to the legal notices and redressed the grievances of learners and defended NIOS at various Forums/Courts.



Advisory Board Meeting

Departmental Advisory Board of Administration Department meeting was held on 28th March 2007. Some of the issues taken up were launching of publicity campaign for under privileged sections of society including SC/ST/Women and Minorities, Staff Training Programmes, single window student redressal mechanism at Regional Centres, effective use of website in discharge of regulatory information.

Opening of Sub-Centre

Sub-Centre for NIOS Dehradun started functioning w.e.f. 18-08-2006 at 24/1-2, Circular Road, Delanwala, Dehradun (for Uttranchal, Meerut Commissionery, except Noida, Saharanpur and Moradabad).

Inauguration of NIOS Campus at NOIDA

The newly constructed building of NIOS at A-31, Sector 62, NOIDA was inaugurated by Hon'ble Minister of HRD Shri Arjun Singh on 25-09-2006 in the presence of Shri Champak Chatterji, Secretary, School Education and Literacy, MHRD, Govt. of India and other dignitaries.

Strengthening of the Public Grievances Redressal Machinery

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

NIOS has nominated Secretary as Director (Public Grievances), with following functions & powers –

- i) The Director (Public Grievances) will be actively involved in the process of dealing with grievances.
- ii) The Director (Public Grievances) is vested with power to call for files/papers connected with grievances pending for more than three months and to take a decision thereon with the approval of the Chairman, NIOS. He may also communicate the final decision to the aggrieved party.
- iii) The Director (Public Grievances) shall interact directly with the line-functionaries in the matter



of grievances pending in the concerned department and report directly to the Chairman, NIOS.

- iv) The Director (Public Grievances) will also function as the Nodal Officer for Citizens' Charter.

Redressal of Staff Grievances

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

Vigilance Administration

In order to implementation of directives of the Central Vigilance Commission, the following major activities were carried out during the year 2006-07.

1. Observation of Vigilance Awareness Week – This was observed as per the guidelines of CVC.
2. Improving vigilance administration by leveraging technology – In keeping with the directives of CVC to bring greater transparency and accountability in the discharge of regulatory, enforcement and other public dealing, NIOS has made extensive use of technology through official website. It has provided complete information regarding the rules and procedures. Arrangements have been put in place to ensure all application forms/proformas are available on the NIOS websites in a downloadable form. In order to move in the direction of e-governance, e-mail IDs of all Accredited Institutions have been obtained and placed on the website for easy communication and learner support. Tender notifications and documents are also available on the website.

Public Relations Unit

- Consistent efforts were made to spread awareness about NIOS programmes through educational supplements, T.V. channels, magazines as well as regional dailies.
- As a part of efforts to popularize NIOS programmes and activities, interviews of the Chairman & Secretary, NIOS were carried in prominent dailies.
- The Public Relations Unit of NIOS interacted with the public at large especially with prospective client groups, gave necessary information, Minority groups in different parts of country about various courses and programmes of the NIOS.
- Liaison was maintained with the National and Regional Press with proper follow up, thereby ensuring that all activities of NIOS appeared in Print/Electronic media was in conformity with the NIOS image. Press releases were given from time to time.
- Admission dates and procedures, examination and fee schedules, registration of direct candidates for the NIOS examinations etc. were notified through the national and regional dailies. Efforts were made to choose smaller, vernacular newspapers also.
- The policy of placing advertisements in major Urdu News Paper e.g. Admission Notices and other activities were published in leading National Urdu Dailies.
- Mass Sensitization Programmes, Meetings and Exhibitions etc. for education of Minorities and general public were organized time to time at National level.
- A Documentary film and Audio/Video spots for Minority Education are in progress.
- Press releases were given both in English and Hindi to highlight the achievements programmes, and activities of the NIOS.
- Student-friendly staff was provided at NIOS Reception Counter.

ACCOUNTS

Income Generated by the NIOS

The funds generated by way of collection of admission and examination fees, and sale of publications etc., during the year 2006-07 were to the tune of Rs. 5972.80 lakh as against Rs. 5328.19 lakh during 2005-06. The increase of 12.10% in the revenue was due to (a) increase in the number of students enrolled and increase in the number of students who appeared for examinations, (b) increase in receipt of miscellaneous fee, and (c) receipt of interest on term deposit from bank. Income of NIOS during 2006-07 was Rs. 5972.80 lakhs. The trend of NIOS generated income from 1997-98 onwards is at **Annexure-IV**.

Expenditure

The Non-Plan expenditure during the year 2006-07 was Rs. 4339.34 lakh as compared to Rs. 4079.25 lakh during previous year. The Plan expenditure during the year 2006-07 was Rs. 817.66 lakh as compared to Rs. 1051.97 lakh during previous year. An expenditure of Rs. 10.20 lakh was also incurred during the year under report for NER. Diagrammatic presentation of the NIOS Non-Plan and Plan expenditure from 1997-98 onwards are at **Annexures V and VI**.

Budgetary Support to NIOS

The budgetary support to NIOS from the MHRD during 2006-07 was Rs. 405 lakh + Rs. 10 lakh (for NER) under plan only. A diagrammatic presentation of Budgetary Support to NIOS from the MHRD since 1997-98 is at **Annexure-VII**.

Fee Concession to Prioritized Groups

During 2006-07, subsidy aggregating to Rs. 440.96 lakh was given in the form of concessions in admission fee to the students belonging to weaker sections of society comprising women, scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, ex-servicemen and handicapped. This subsidy was solely met from NIOS

generated funds. The number of beneficiaries availing subsidy during the year was 1,28,666 SCs; 36599 STs; 21029 Ex-Servicemen; 434 Handicapped; 1587 Women; 69,017 (excluding SC/ST Women).

The rate of subsidy ranged between Rs. 75 to Rs. 300 per student depending on the courses of study and gender. A diagrammatic presentation of year-wise subsidies given from 1997-98 to 2006-07 is at **Annexure-VIII**.

During the year 2006-07:

- In order to comply with accrual system of accounting, first time depreciation was charged on fixed Assets of NIOS from 1989-90 to 2006-07. This has been done in house and long pending audit para has been settled.
- Efficient management of working capital was effected with the help of cash flow and fund flow statement.
- Effective control was exercised on fixed assets by way of preparing fixed assets schedule in proper proforma.
- Activities in respect of reconciliation of admission, examination, and miscellaneous fee have been initiated in all the Regional Centres of NIOS.
- The annual accounts of NIOS were prepared on accrual basis in uniform format as applicable to all central autonomous bodies and prescribed by the Ministry of Finance, Government of India.
- The computerisation of Accounts in all the Regional Centres of NIOS was undertaken.
- The certification audit of accounts of NIOS for the years 2006-07 was got conducted by DGCAR from 20.8.07 to 27.8.07
- Audit certificate of annual accounts for the year 2005-2006 was obtained and sent for laying in the Parliament.

Material Production and Distribution

Material Production

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

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

About NIOS Publications

NIOS prints learning materials of different subjects, courses, and mediums. Majority of the subjects are in 2 to 3 parts. NIOS books are user friendly and self explanatory in approach. During the year 2006-07, NIOS printed approx. 46 lakh copies (combined despatches) of Secondary, Sr. Secondary and Vocational courses. Study materials in Hindi, English, Telugu, Marathi, Malayalam, Gujarati and Urdu were also got printed. NIOS printed and supplied study materials for the students of the Rajasthan State Open School.

The expenditure incurred on paper and printing of the instructional materials during 2006-07 was approx. Rs. 1513.69 lakhs. During 2006-07 NIOS purchased good quality paper from Hindustan Paper Corporation, a Govt. of India undertaking through open tendering. This further added quality of printing of the NIOS publications.

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

- Unique layout - in A4 size - following International standardization of sizes.
- Using 10-12 pt. type for text and leaving enough white space so as to make the reading catchy and providing enough space to students for writing notes etc.
- Using Graphics in between the text to make the reading catchy.
- Using 60 G.S.M. — NIOS Water marked paper for printing of text and 180 GSM Pulp Board (MG) for printing of multi-color cover of the Books.
- Perfect binding and Side stitching of books making it more convenient while using and withstand rough handling by students.
- Polythene packing of books to avoid any damage during transportation.

NIOS mainly prints study materials for its learners of the following courses :

- Open Basic Education books — This material is generally printed in four colours so as to make it catchy for the students.
- Books for Secondary Courses
- Books for Senior Secondary Courses
- Books for Vocational Education Courses

Publications printed during 2006-07 by NIOS

1. Secondary Courses 29 subject books
2. Senior Secondary Course 26 subject books
3. Vocational Subject 53 books
4. Regional medium 17 books
5. Examination related material 6 materials
6. Admission related material 5 materials
7. Other prestigious publication 7
8. Book in Bengali medium under OBE programme
9. Miscellaneous items for other departments (Administration, Evaluation, SSS, Vocational, Academic Departments and Regional Centres)
10. Report of various seminars/conference

The details is as under:-

1. Secondary Course

Code	Subjects
201	Hindi
202	English
203	Bengali
204	Marathi
205	Telugu
206	Urdu
207	Gujarati
208	Kannada
209	Sanskrit
210	Punjabi
228	Assamese
231	Nepali
232	Malayalam
233	Oriya
235	Arabic
211	Mathematics (Hindi & English)
212	Science and Technology (Hindi & English)
212	Science and Technology (Urdu)
213	Social Science (Hindi & English)
214	Economics (Hindi & English)
214	Economics (Urdu)
215	Business Studies (Hindi & English)
216	Home Science (Hindi & English)
217	Typewriting (H)
218	Typewriting (E)
219	Word Processing (E)
221	Typewriting (Urdu)
222	Psychology (Hindi & English)
223	Indian Culture and Heritage (Hindi & English)

2. Senior Secondary Course

Code	Subjects
301	Hindi
302	English
306	Urdu
311	Mathematics (Hindi & English)
312	Physics (Hindi & English)
313	Chemistry (Hindi & English)
314	Biology (Hindi & English)
315	History (Hindi & English)
316	Geography (Hindi & English)
317	Political Science (Hindi & English)
318	Economics (Hindi & English)
319	Commerce / Business Studies (Hindi & English)
320	Accountancy (Hindi & English)
321	Home Science (Hindi & English)
322	Typewriting (H)
323	Typewriting (E)
327	Word Processing (E)
324	Stenography (H)
325	Stenography (E)
329	Stenography (Urdu)
326	Secretarial Practice (Hindi & English)
328	Psychology (Hindi & English)
330	Computer Science (English/Urdu)
331	Sociology (Hindi & English)
332	Painting (Hindi & English)
364	Typewriting (Urdu)

3. Vocational subjects

Code	Subjects
252	बढ़ईगिरी
255	Laundry Services (H)
256	Bakery & Confectionary (H)
257	Welding Technology (H)
351	पादप सुरक्षा भाग 1-2
351	Plant Protection (E) Part 1-2
353	Oyster Mushroom Production (H)
353	-do- (E)
354	Furniture & Cabinet (H)
355	Electroplating (H)
356	House Keeping (H)
358	खाद्य संसाधन 1-3
358	Food Processing (E) Part 1-3
361	कुक्कट पालन 1-2
361	Poultry Farming (E) Combined 1-2
362	मृदा एवं उर्वरक
362	Soil & Fertilizer Management (E)
369	फल एवं सब्जियों का परिरक्षण
369	Preservation of Fruits & Veg. (E)
409-411	CCE
416-418	Certificate in Toy Making & Joyful Learning (E)
419-421	Certificate in Footwear Design & Production
430-435	Diploma in Radiography (E)
439-441	Early Care Childhood Education (E)
608	Certificate in Basic Computing (E)
610	Certificate Plumbing & Sanitation
612	ब्यूटी कल्चर
612	Beauty Culture (E)
613	Desk Top Publishing (E)
701/702	विद्युत तकनीशियन
701/702	Electrical Technician (E)
703/704	Radio & T.V. (H)
703/704	Radio & T.V. (E)
705/606	सिलाई और कढ़ाई
705/606	Cutting & Tailoring Dress Making (E)
709/710	Refrigeration & A.C. (E)
713	Certificate in Two Wheeler Mechanism
801	परिपूर्ण महिला (हिंदी)
802	जन स्वास्थ्य (हिंदी)
—	Mushroom Production (E)
—	Certificate Course in Jeevan Vigyan
—	Vermi Composing (E)
—	Computer Science (Urdu)
—	Web Designing (E)
—	Four Wheeler Mechanism (E)
—	Early Care Childhood Education (439-441) (H)
—	Computer Hardware Assembly and Maintenance 616 (E)
—	Certificate Course in Computer Application 711-712 (E)
—	Yoga 614 (H)
—	Certificate in Library Science 436-438 (H)
—	Refrigeration and A.C. 709-710 (H)
—	Diploma in Modern Secret. Practice 412-415 (E)
—	Certificate in Security Services 615 (H)
4. Regional Medium Books	
212	Science and Technology (Marathi)
213	Social Science (Marathi)

215	Business Studies (Marathi)
216	Home Science (Marathi)
212	Science and Technology (Malayalam)
213	Social Science (Malayalam)
214	Economics (Malayalam)
215	Business Studies (Malayalam)
216	Home Science (Malayalam)
222	Psychology (Malayalam)
211	Mathematics (Gujarati)
216	Home Science (Gujarati)
212	Science and Technology (Gujarati)
213	Social Science (Gujarati)
215	Business Studies (Gujarati)
215	Business Studies (Telugu)
223	Indian Culture and Heritage (Telugu)

6. Examinations related materials

- Answer Books for Oct./Nov., 2006 and April/May, 2007 examinations.
- Date sheets for Academic and Vocational courses for October/November, 2006 and April-May, 2007 Exams.
- Miscellaneous items required for Eval. Deptt. for Examinations.
- Guidelines for Centre Supdt. for Academic and Vocational Exams.
- Certificates for Academic and Vocational for Secondary and Senior Secondary for October/November, 2005 exams. and April-May, 2006
- Mark sheets, Provisional Certificates and Migration Certificates for Secondary, Senior Secondary and Vocational Exams. for April-May, 2006 exams. and for October/November, 2006 examinations.

7. Admission related materials

- Academic Prospectus, 2006-07
- Vocational Prospectus, 2006-07
- Academic Prospectuses in Telegu, Urdu, Gujarati, Marathi, Malayalam were also got printed. In addition of this prospectuses for AIs, in Nepal and AIs in Gulf and Quwait were also got printed.
- Administrative Guidelines for Academic and Vocational courses.

8. Other prestigious Publications of NIOS

- NIOS at a Glance, 2006
 - OSAC Journal, December, 2005
 - Open Schooling, Quarterly News Bulletin : January-March, 2006, April-June, 2006, July-September, 2006
 - Annual Report 2005-2006
 - Annual Audit 2005-2006
 - Recruitment Rules as amended upto March, 2007
 - A curriculam frame work - Vocational Education through Open Distance Learning
9. In addition of the above during 2006-2007 NIOS got printed books in Bengali mediums under Open Basic Education Programme. NIOS also got printed miscellaneous items for almost all Departments and constituents of NIOS like Administration, Evaluation, Student Support Services, Vocational and Academic Departments including Regional Centres.
10. Reports of various Seminars and Conferences were also got printed.

DTP Unit

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

Material Distribution

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

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

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

During 2006-07, NIOS despatched Study Material to 1896 Accredited Institution. A diagrammatic presentation of number of despatch centres of NIOS since 1997-98 is at **Annexure IX**.

Since most of the students enrolled with NIOS, particularly those hailing from rural areas, belong to poor and backward classes, the cost of printed books is subsidised as a part of the wider social objective (to keep the cost of printed material as cheap as possible). With this social objective in mind, only the actual cost of printed material is charged from the students and this cost is included in the total charges recovered from students at the time of admission. In this way NIOS supply printed material to students at highly subsidized rates.

7. *Student Support Services*

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

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

The following Student Support Services are being provided :

- Publicises about NIOS programmes and it's working.
- Establishes study centres by accrediting recognized and reputed academic institutions all over the country, thereby building a network of Accredited Institutions (AIs).
- Enrolls and registers learners through Accredited Institutions of NIOS.
- Supplies self-study print material to learners through the study centres.
- Monitors functioning of the study centres and the Personal Contact Programmes (PCPs) at the study centres.
- Monitors Tutor Marked Assignments (TMA) for continuous assessment of the learners.
- Coordinates with the Regional Centres for timely and effective support to the learners.
- Deals with the problems and grievances of the learners for effective and timely redressal of the learners.
- Supply of "Open Learning" Magazine (half yearly) to supplement the self-learning materials.

7.1 **Accreditation of Institutions**

NIOS provides planned human support in different ways from the time a learner joins the system till the end of

his/her successful completion. To provide this support along with the issue of easy access, NIOS considered utilization of existing available resources to provide better services by accrediting institutions as partners. Such partner institutions are called Accredited Institutions (AIs) and are spread all over the country. These AIs which function as study centres are usually formal schools that are recognized and affiliated to CBSE, ICSE and State Boards or reputed agencies involved in social and educational activities of disadvantaged and differently abled learners. The AIs assist NIOS in its various functions to reach out and to reach all.

Based on available infrastructure facilities and nature of the existing institutions, the AIs for Academic courses are categorized into three categories. Category-A having very good infrastructure and teaching staff can enroll upto 500 students. Category-B AIs can enroll upto 300 students. Category-C AIs are allowed to enroll only upto 150 students. NIOS has accredited institutions for regional mediums also like Marathi, Telugu, Gujarati and Malayalam.

The types of schools/institutions that have become partners to function as AIs of NIOS include Government schools, Government Aided schools, Kendriya Vidyalayas, Navodaya Vidyalayas, Public and Private schools and Schools for children with special need.

Accreditation of the study centres is done after rigorous screening of applications on the basis of prescribed criteria and inspection of the institutions by teams of experts. The Principal/Vice-Principal of the school acts as the Coordinator of the AI functioning as the study centre of NIOS. The core staff and teachers of the AIs work for NIOS programmes at the study centres in addition to their normal duties there.

The Application Form along with norms and procedures for accreditation is available at NIOS website <http://www.nios.ac.in> or <http://www.nos.org> The Application Form is also available in a printed booklet form.

As on 31st March 2007, the total number of Accredited Institutes established in different parts of the country to

conduct Academic Courses was 1863, which includes 34 Special Accredited Institutions for Education of the Disadvantaged (SAIEDs). In order to maintain quality

and standard of the services provided by the AIs, 85 AIs were disaccredited. The state-wise distribution of AIs as on 31.03.2007 is given in Table 7.1.

Table 7.1: Total State-wise Distribution of AIs and SAIEDs
(as on 31.03.2007)

Name of the State/U.T.	No. of AIs (including Regional Languages AIs)	No. of SAIEDS Sec./Sr.Sec.	Total
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	09	—	09
Andhra Pradesh	91	—	91
APO	3	—	3
Arunchal Pradesh	15	—	15
Assam	13	—	13
Bihar	198	2	200
Chandigarh	9	—	09
Chhattisgarh	12	—	12
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	—	—	—
Daman and Diu	1	—	1
Delhi	196	7	203
Goa	11	—	11
Gujarat	23	—	23
Haryana	187	—	187
Himachal Pradesh	45	—	45
Jammu & Kashmir	21	—	21
Jharkhand	58	2	60
Karnataka	14	3	17
Kerala	34	—	34
Lakshadweep	—	—	—
Madhya Pradesh	63	2	65
Maharashtra	143	1	144
Manipur	45	—	45
Meghalaya	9	—	9
Mizoram	11	—	11
Nagaland	16	—	16
Orissa	25	3	28
Pondicherry	2	—	2
Punjab	61	1	62
Rajasthan	57	—	57
Sikkim	8	—	8
Tamil Nadu	19	3	22
Tripura	2	—	2
Uttar Pradesh	247	3	250
Uttarakhand	88	2	90
West Bengal	66	3	69
Foreign Countries	27	2	29
Total	1829	34	1863

To cater to the regional needs, several AIs were established for programme delivery through regional mediums. These include 62 AIs in Marathi medium, 30 AIs in Telugu medium, 41 AIs in Urdu medium, 15 AIs in Gujarati medium, and 17 AIs in Malayalam medium.

7.1.1 Revision of the Application Processing fee for Accreditation

From April 1st 2006, application processing fee for accreditation has been revised. An amount of Rs. 4000/ and Rs. 1000/ is charged. The processing fee is required to be submitted by an institution/school (at the time of applying for grant of accreditation) in the form of Bank Draft drawn in favour of the Secretary, NIOS payable at New Delhi.

7.1.2 Awareness Pogrammes about NIOS Courses

- NIOS reaches out to a prioritised client group with the involvement of State Education Boards and State Governemnt. In this regard an Advocacy Meeting of Principals of Schools, District Education Officers/ NGOs was held in Gujarat in collaboration with the Gujarat Secondary and Higher Secondary Education Board, in order to expand the reach of NIOS in the state. This meeting was held on 31st July, 2006 at School Teachers' Training Institute, GCERT Campus, Sector 12, Gandhinagar. The purpose of the meeting was to:
 - appraise the Principals and NGOs of the need of Open Schooling,
 - highlight the functions of an AI of NIOS in the state, and

- motivate the Principals to become partners to NIOS for a social cause.
- ✱ The special emphasis was also given to Bihar State for expansion of NIOS programmes. A meeting with the Additional Director (Education) and Deputy Director (Education) of the Bihar Government with the Regional Head, Patna, was held and Government Schols for functioning as AIs of NIOS were identified. During 2006-07, 144 new AIs were established in Bihar.

7.2 Admission

The year-wise and course-wise enrolment in Academic courses from 1997-98 to 2006-07 is at Annexure-X.

During the year 2006-07, admission to various courses was done through the network of Accredited Institutions, working as Study Centres, all over India and abroad. Like any other year, admission to the academic courses of NIOS was open to one and all in the month of July, 2006 and continued till September 2006. During the year 2006-07, the total number of students admitted in various academic courses through different AIs was 2,90,983.

The NIOS has AIs in the Middle East (Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Muscat, Kuwait, Sharjah, Bahrain) and Nepal. The aim of having the study centres outside India is to extend educational facilities through the open learning system to non-resident Indians and other nationals settled there.

The State/ Union Territory wise enrolment at Secondary and Senior Secondary level is shown in the Table 7.2 and Region-wise Enrolment in academic courses is shown in the Table 7.3.

Table 7.2 : State/Union Territory-wise Enrolment in Academic Courses 2006-2007

State/ Union Territory	Secondary Enrolment	Sr. Secondary Enrolment	Total Enrolment
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1063	763	1826
Andhra Pradesh	678	2822	3500
APO	3	30	33
Arunachal Pradesh	2023	871	2894
Assam	1394	1373	2767
Bihar	3455	3948	7403

State/ Union Territory	Secondary Enrolment	Sr. Secondary Enrolment	Total Enrolment
Chandigarh	940	435	1375
Chhatisgarh	765	548	1313
Delhi	37551	35266	72817
Foreign Countries	569	860	1429
Goa	2191	470	2661
Gujarat	610	436	1046
Haryana	27861	124479	52340
Himachal Pradesh	4491	10287	14778
Jammu and Kashmir	423	678	1101
Jharkhand	1697	1084	2781
Karnataka	235	618	853
Kerela	1558	2624	4182
Madhya Pradesh	3892	1552	5444
Maharashtra	9397	3635	13032
Manipur	5494	3970	9464
Meghalaya	1360	31	1391
Mizoram	2261	1090	3351
Nagaland	2473	1049	3522
Orissa	2442	845	3287
Pondicherry	1	4	5
Punjab	7299	1754	9053
Rajasthan	5173	2515	7688
Sikkim	1359	770	2129
Tamil Nadu	255	279	534
Tripura	402	265	667
Uttar Pradesh	14218	13685	27903
Uttarakhand	6408	4981	11389
West Bengal	8992	5479	14471
All India SAIED	1858	696	2554
Total	160791	130192	290983

During the year 2006-07, the Regional Centres admitted the following number of students

through study centres in their respective Regions shown in Table 7.3.

Table 7.3: Regional Centre-wise Enrolment in Academic Courses 2006-07

Regional Centre and the States/UTs Covered		Enrolment	Percentage
Allahabad		39292	13.50%
1. Uttar Pradesh	24903		
2. Uttarakhand	11389		
Bhopal		6757	2.32%
1. Madhya Pradesh	5444		
2. Chhattisgarh	1313		
Chandigarh		78647	27.03%
1. Haryana,	52340		
2. Himachal Pradesh	14778		
3. J&K,	1101		
4. Punjab,	9053		
5. Chandigarh	1375		
Delhi		72817	25.03%
Guwahati		24056	8.28%
1. Assam	2767		
2. Arunachal Pradesh	2894		
3. Manipur	9464		
4. Meghalaya	1391		
5. Mizoram	3351		
6. Nagland	3522		
7. Tripura	667		
Hyderabad		4353	1.49%
1. Andhra Pradesh	3500		
2. Karnataka	853		
Jaipur		8734	3.00%
1. Gujarat	1046		
2. Rajasthan	7688		
Kochi		4721	1.62%
1. Kerala	4182		
2. Tamil Nadu	534		
3. Pondicherry	5		
Kolkata		21713	7.46%
1. Orissa	3287		
2. Sikkim	2129		
3. West Bengal	14471		
4. Andaman & Nicobar	1826		
Patna		10184	3.49%
1. Bihar	7403		
2. Jharkhand	2781		

Pune		15693	5.39%
1. Goa	2661		
2. Maharashtra	13032		
NIOS HQ.		1462	0.52%
1. APO India	33		
2. Foreign Countries	1429		
All India SAIED*	2554	0.87%	
Total	2,90,983	100%	

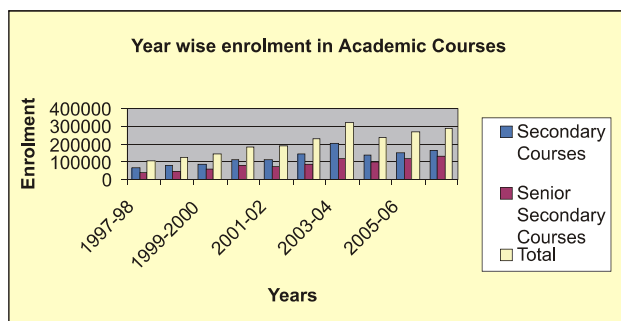
* Special Accredited Institutions for Education of the Disadvantaged

Region-wise the highest enrolment was in Chandigarh Region (27.03%) followed by Delhi Region (25.03%), Allahabad and the Sub-Centre Dehradun (13.5%).

The year-wise enrolment in Academic Courses since 1997-98 is depicted in Annexure-X.

7.2.1 Academic Courses : Enrolment Trend

The enrolment of students in the Secondary as well as Senior Secondary Courses has been generally increasing since 1996-97. In the year 2006-07 there was an increase of 8.91% in enrolment as compared to the previous year. The year wise enrolment in academic courses is shown graphically as under :



7.2.2 Academic Courses: Student's Profile

During the session 2006-07, the course-wise, medium-wise, category-wise and gender wise profiles of the learners are presented in Tables 7.4 to 7.8

Table 7.4: Number and Percentage of Students Registered in Various Courses during 2006-07

Course	No. of Students	Percentage
Secondary	160791	55.27
Sr. Secondary	130192	44.73
Total	2,90,983	100

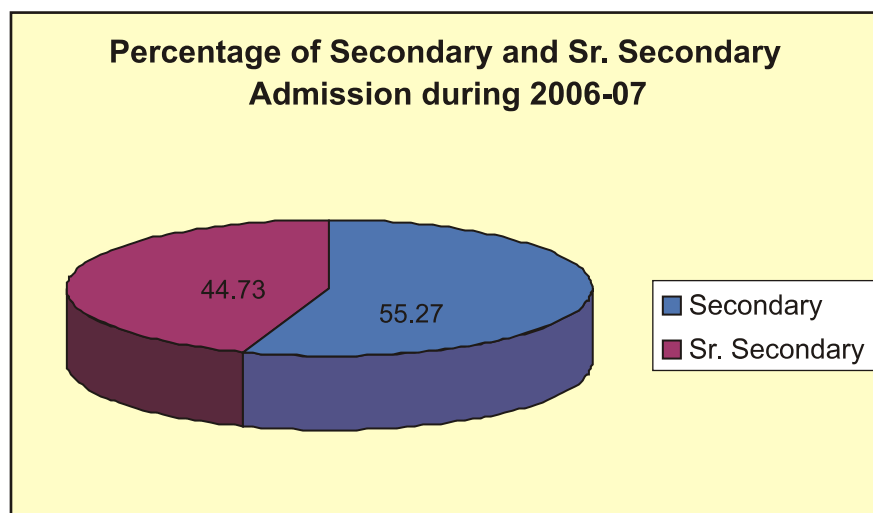


Table 7.5: Regional Medium-wise Distribution of Enrolled Students during 2006-07

Medium	No. of Students	
	Secondary	Sr. Secondary
Telugu	411	
Urdu	993	324
Marathi	1669	-
Malayalam	808	-
Gujarati	224	-
Total	4105	324

Out of 4105 students who opted for regional mediums at Secondary level, 993 students offered Urdu Medium, 411 students offered Telugu medium, 1669 students

offered Marathi medium, 224 students offered Gujarati medium, 808 students offered Malayalam Medium and 324 students offered Urdu at Sr. Secondary level.

Table 7.6 : Category-wise Enrolment during 2006-07

S. No.	Category	Enrolment	Percentage
1	General	231334	79.50%
2	Scheduled Castes	36599	12.58%
3	Scheduled Tribes	21029	7.23%
4	Ex-Servicemen	434	0.15%
5	Handicapped	1587	0.55%
Total		2,90,983	100

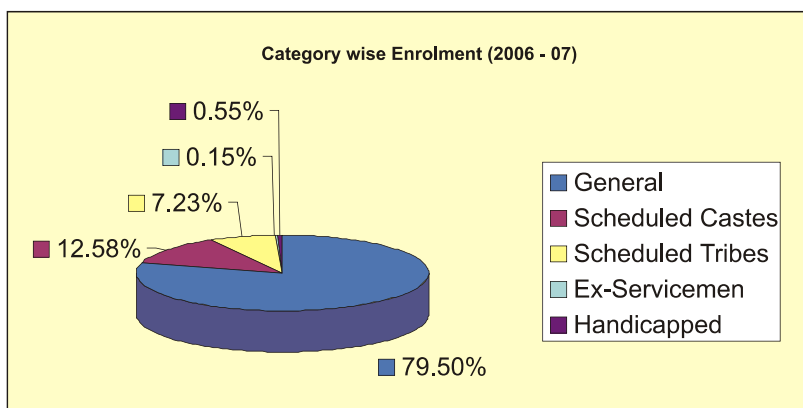


Table 7.6 indicates that out of 2,90,983 students enrolled for academic courses at NIOS, 2,31,334 belonged to General category, 36,599 belonged to SC category, 21029 belonged to ST category, 434 students were Ex-servicemen and 1587 students were Handicapped.

As shown in the Table 7.7 above 68.66% male candidates and 31.34% female candidates were enrolled in different academic courses during 2006-07.

Of the total students enrolled, 3.73% students were in the age group of 10-14. The maximum number of students (73.97%) were in the group of 15-20. 14.79% students were in the age group of 21-25. The students above 25 years of age were 7.51%.

Table 7.7 Gender wise Enrolment during 2006-07

	Secondary	Sr. Secondary	Total	Percentage
Boys	108566	91222	199788	68.66%
Girls	52225	38970	91195	31.34%
Total	160791	130192	290983	100%

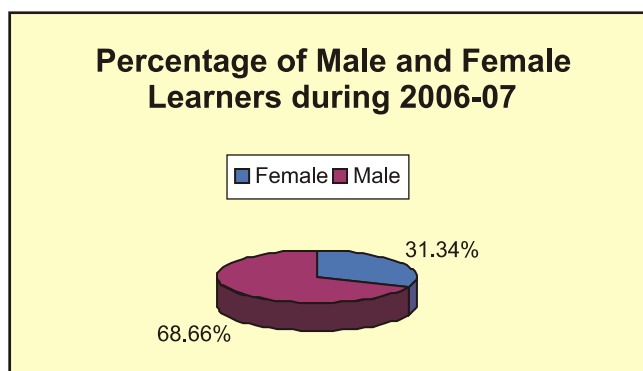
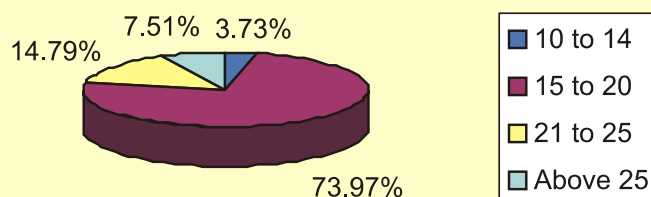


Table 7.8 Age wise distribution of students enrolment during 2006-07

Age	No. of Students	%
10 to 14	10873	3.73%
15 to 20	215233	73.96%
21 to 25	43022	14.79%
Above 25	21855	7.51%
Total	2,90,983	100%

Age wise distribution of Students enrolled during 2006-07



7.3 Personal Contact Programme

The main characteristics of open learning system is to learn with the help of self-instructional material at one's own pace and convenience. NIOS students study at their own using self instructional material. However, while learning they do confront certain problems and need various types of help and guidance. For clarification of their doubts, NIOS conducts 30 Personal Contact Programme (PCPs) for non-science subjects and 35 PCPs for science subjects at the study centre(s) on Saturdays, Sundays/other holidays or at any convenient time during week days.

All the Accredited Institutions were advised to display the schedule of PCP on the Notice Boards meant for NIOS learners. They were also required to send a copy of the PCP schedule to the concerned Regional Centres.

7.4 Tutor Marked Assignments (TMAs)

NIOS has developed several means and strategies for effective learning by the learners. Tutor Marked Assignment is one such tool which plays a very important role in learning through open and distance learning (ODL) mode of education. Learners are encouraged to submit the assignments at their study centres. These assignments are evaluated and returned to the learners along with comments and suggestions. TMAs help the learner to know his/her progress and attainment level and develop regular study habits. The TMAs prompt learners to attend PCPs at the study centres thereby attempting to make them sincere and disciplined in their studies. These assignments prove useful in designing remedial and diagnostic teaching learning programmes during PCPs.

The Department of Student Support Services at NIOS Headquarters coordinated various issues related to the TMAs with the Study Centers and Regional Centres of NIOS.

7.5 Transfer of Credit (TOC)

NIOS has implemented the Transfer of Credit (TOC) scheme to motivate the ex-students of recognised Boards of School education who could not pass their respective examination by providing credit to a maximum of two subjects as per scheme of studies of NIOS and by providing credit upto four subjects to ex-students of NIOS.

For examining the requests for TOC in the Regional Centres of NIOS, a TOC committee comprising of the Regional Head, one external member and a Section Officer/Executive Officer in each Regional Centre was constituted. This committee verified the marks from original mark sheets and recommended eligible cases to NIOS Headquarter for approval. During the year 2006-07, 23,165 students were granted TOC by NIOS.

7.6 Recognition of the NIOS Courses

The NIOS has been conducting examinations at all India level from the year 1991 under the authority vested in it by the Government of India through a notification. The Council of Boards of Secondary Education (COBSE) and the Association of Indian Universities (AIU) have recognized the NIOS courses as equivalent to Secondary and Senior Secondary levels for admission to institutions of higher learning as also for employment through various agencies.

So far 144 Boards/Universities have recognised the NIOS courses. These include 24 Boards from 19 States/Union Territories, 111 Universities from 27 States/ Union Territories, and 9 other certifying institutions from 8 States/ Union Territories. During

2006-07, the remaining state boards were pursued and requested to accord equivalence and recognition to NIOS courses. The State-wise break up about recognition of the NIOS courses is given in Table 7.9.

Table 7.9: State-wise Break-up of the Boards/Universities/ Other Certifying Institutions recognising NIOS Courses (as on 31.03.2007)

Name of the State/U.T.	No. of Boards	No. of Universities	Other Institutions	Total Certifying Institutions
Andhra Pradesh	2	8	-	10
Arunchal Pradesh	-	1	-	1
Assam	1	2	-	3
Bihar	-	1	-	1
Jharkhand	1	4	-	5
Delhi	2	7	1	10
Goa	1	1	-	2
Gujarat	-	5	-	5
Haryana	1	5	1	7
Himachal Pradesh	1	2	-	3
Jammu & Kashmir	1	2	-	3
Karnataka	-	7	-	7
Kerala	-	5	-	5
Madhya Pradesh	1	7	1	9
Chhattisgarh	-	1	-	1
Maharashtra	1	8	1	10
Manipur	-	1	-	1
Meghalaya	1	-	-	1
Mizoram	1	-	-	1
Nagaland	1	1	-	2
Orissa	2	2	-	4
Punjab	1	4	-	5
Rajasthan	1	10	2	13
Sikkim	-	1	-	1
Tripura	1	1	-	2
Tamil Nadu	-	10	1	11
Uttar Pradesh	1	8	1	10
Uttarakhand	1	2	-	3
West Bengal	2	5	1	8
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	-	-	-	-
Chandigarh	-	-	-	-
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	-	-	-	-
Daman & Diu	-	-	-	-
Total	24	111	9	144

7.7 Orientation and Training Programmes

7.7.1 Orientation Programme for Coordinators of AIs

As in the past, NIOS organised Orientation Programme for the Coordinators of Study Centers (AIs) during 2006-07 also. This Programme was conducted to highlight policy and procedural changes decided by NIOS in the functioning of study centres. Other areas of concern related to examination, administration and academic matters were also discussed to enable the Co-coordinators to function effectively. Orientation Programmes for the Coordinators of AIs were held Region wise as mentioned below :

7.7.2 Academic Facilitators

In order to supplement the functioning of Regional Centres and to have better interaction with the AIs, the concept of Academic Facilitation was envisaged. Such facilitation is carried out by personnel known as (Academic Facilitators).

During 2006-07, 378 Academic Facilitators (AFs) were appointed all over the country covering 875 AIs. The AFs are retired school/college principals, senior teachers and specialists in the field of education. Region wise the number of Academic Facilitators appointed is given in the Table 7.10.

S.No.	Regional Centre	Date of Meeting
1.	Pune	3rd and 4th July 2006
2.	Chandigarh	10th July 2006
3.	Guwahati	15th July 2006
4.	Jaipur	22nd July 2006
5.	Bhopal	3rd August 2006
6.	Kolkata	8th August 2006
7.	Hyderabad	11th and 12th August 2006
8.	Allahabad	21st August 2006
9.	Delhi	28th August 2006
10.	Kochi	15th November 2006

Table: 7.10 Region-wise Status of Academic Facilitators (AFs)

S.No.	Regional Centre	Total No. of AFs	Total No. of AIs
1.	Allahabad	56	126
2.	Bhopal	11	24
3.	Chandigarh	101	193
4.	Sub Centre Dehradun	14	34
5.	Delhi	74	212
6.	Guwahati	38	67
7.	Jaipur	11	29
8.	Kochi	9	21
9.	Kolkata including Sub Centre Bhubaneswar	29	68
10.	Patna	12	30
11.	Pune	16	49
12.	Hyderabad	7	22
Total		378	875

7.8 Planning Meetings

7.8.1 Meeting of the Regional Heads of NIOS

In order to have face to face discussions between Regional Heads and officials at NIOS Headquarters, a meeting of Regional Heads of NIOS was held on 19 December, 2006. All the Heads of Departments, the Regional Heads and other senior officers of NIOS were present in the meeting. The basic objective of the meeting was in-depth discussion on issues for proper planning, monitoring and effective implementation of NIOS programmes.

The important issues and activities of Regional Centers were also discussed in detail. The Regional Heads were given opportunity to share their experience regarding the difficulties faced in functioning of NIOS Regional Centers and the support required from the Headquarters.

7.8.2 Meeting of Departmental Advisory Board (DAB) of Student Support Services

The second meeting of the Advisory Board of the Department of Student Support Services of NIOS was held on 20th December 2006. The DAB comprised of the experts from IGNOU and COBSE and all Regional Heads of NIOS. The main objective

of the DAB meeting was to get suggestions for improving the effectiveness of Student Support Services from admission to certification. The activities of SSS Department were reviewed and discussed at length and several suggestions were given. The proposed Plan of Action for the year 2007-08 for SSS Department was placed before the DAB. The programmes were deliberated upon and approved.

7.9 Awards for Aspirants of Geography

NIOS has introduced an annual award in the name of 'Ms. Santosh Rastogi Scholarship for Excellence in Geography' at Senior Secondary level. It is given to those students who gets the highest marks in the subject of Geography. Five awards of Rs. 500/- each is given every year.

In the year 2006-07, the following candidates were awarded this scholarship.

- Durham Nidell Lambert Wendell
- Maknojia Shahin Sultan
- Mukesh Maurya
- Narendra Kumar Patel
- Saurav Ghosh

8. Regional Services

8.1 Regional Centres of NIOS

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

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

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

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

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

1. Academic Functions

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

2. Administrative Functions

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

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

3. Promotional Functions

- Identification of good schools/institutions to work as study centres of NIOS
- Accreditation related work such as inspection of schools/institutions for accreditation, interaction with Study Centres, matters related to dis-accreditation of Study Centres.
- Advertisement regarding admission, examination and publicity of NIOS programmes.
- Liaison with State Governments to encourage them to start State Open Schools.

- Identification of educational needs in open schooling in the region through State Coordination Committees.
- Promotion of Open Schooling in the States within the region and consultancy/assistance to the concerned states for setting up/up scaling of State Open Schools (SOSs).
- Liaison with States and Coordination and Clearing house functions in Open Schooling.
- Organization of advocacy programmes.

4. Planning and Monitoring Functions

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

8.2 Highlights of Programme and Activities of the Regional Centres

- The Regional Centres of NIOS at Allahabad, Chandigarh, Delhi, Guwahati, Kolkata and Pune organized the Meetings of their Advisory Committees. The Department of Student Support Services, NIOS scrutinized their

Agenda and Minutes and made recommendations to the concerned Departments/Regional Centres.

- The Sub Regional Centre, Dehradun was set up as per Office Order No. 284/06 dated 18th August 2006 in pursuance of the recommendation of the Executive Board of NIOS in its 37th meeting held on 17.05.2006. It became operational w.e.f. 01.09.2006. It assisted in conduct of Capacity Building Workshops for Lesson Writers for the Adolescence Education Project (AEP) at Mussorie from 17 to 20 January 2007. It also organised a one day meeting on February 24, 2007 at Dehradun to deliberate on evolving measures for recognition of prior learning for vocational education programme.
- The Regional Centre, Bhopal organised a visit for Senior Educators from Developing Countries of the Commonwealth of Learning (COL) from September 14 to 22, 2006. Regional Centre celebrated Hindi Fortnight from 14 Sept. 2006 to 28 Sept. 2006. An understanding with the Madhya Pradesh Board of School Education for Transfer of Credit facilities was signed from the session 2006-07 for the benefit of the NIOS learners.
- The Regional Centre, Delhi organized one day Orientation Programme for the Academic Facilitators on 23rd March 2007 to make them aware of the functioning of AIs and informing them about the policies, programmes and courses offered by NIOS.
- The Regional Centre, Guwahati arranged the meeting of Chairpersons of Boards of School Education of North-Eastern States in collaboration with COBSE.
- In order to check mass copying at Examination Centres and to oversee smooth conduct of examinations, an Orientation Programme of Officers on - Special Duty and Flying Squads etc., was organized by the Regional Centre-Hyderabad.
- The Regional Centre, Jaipur participated in the activities of the Rajasthan State Open School and gave guidance to them. About 10,000 TOC cases of Rajasthan State Open School were checked and recommended.
- The Regional Centre, Kochi undertook the activity of translation work of Psychology, Home Science, Economics and the Indian Culture and Heritage in Malayalam. As regards launching of Tamil as a language at secondary level, the Regional Centre convened workshops and meetings. It also assisted the Academic Department of NIOS to conduct the one-day seminar on Adolescence Education Programme focusing on Adolescents' Reproductive and Sexual Health (ARSH) on 16/11/06. They also conducted a one-day programme on Hindi prachar.
- The Regional Centre, Kolkata completed preparation of study materials for A & B levels of the OBE Programme in Bengali. Out of the seven books, five books were got printed. The study materials for Vocational Courses – one each for 'A' and 'B' levels respectively were translated in Bengali in house and efforts were made to get the two district ZSSs viz., Hooghly and Howrah accredited with NIOS. It has also got prepared 12 Audio Programmes for Secondary Course in Bengali and coordinated the work of translation and DTP type setting of the Secondary Course materials in Oriya.

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- At Regional Centre, Patna the On-Demand Examination Scheme was inaugurated by Hon'ble Railway Minister, **Shri Laloo Prasad** on 28-08-2006.

It organised the 'Hindi Pakhwara Samaroh' at Patna. In this function, the Director (Administration), Education Department, Govt. of Bihar, the Director, Doordarshan, Bihar were present. It hosted a meeting of Council of Boards of School Education(COBSE) on 29 and 30 November 2006 at Patna.

- The Regional Centre-Pune conducted a meeting on 3rd July 2006 pertaining to RTI Act.

Shri Anna Hazare, social reformer, presided over the meeting. It continued work in Preparation of Question Bank of Marathi Language for On Demand Examination. Hindi. The Hindi Pakhwara programme was organized on 27th September, 2006 at Regional Centre Pune.

The On Demand Examination System (ODES) was inaugurated on 20.07.2006 by Hon. Union Minister of State for HRD, Shri. M. A .A. Fatmi at the Regional Centre Pune. Mr. Suresh Kalmadi (M.P.) and Shri D.S. Bist Secretary, NIOS were also present on this occasion.

9. Information and Communication Technology (ICT)

9.0 ICT In National Institute Of Open Schooling

Open Learning/Distance Education is the methodology in which the learner does not go to Educational Institution but the education comes to the doorstep. To achieve this objective, the technological advancements world over are tapped by individuals/institutions. Success of this system depends upon the optimum utilization of the technology in the field of education and communication. NIOS has taken major initiatives to use ICT as one of the important strategies for “reaching the unreached” and improving the efficiency of its operations for providing better services to its learners.

9.1 ICT Setup

The NIOS has come a long way in the forefront of Information Technology since it made a small beginning with only two personal computers in 1989. Today, it has a well-equipped Computer Centre with various types of computers and printers of latest configuration. There is a Local Area Network with centralized database system with Windows XP professional as the basic network operating system. Desktop and Printers were provided to all the Departments and units of NIOS for their smooth and efficient functioning. All the computers are connected with a high end LAN server through 10/100 mbps backbone connectivity. This has greatly enhanced communication and resource sharing among users. For Internet Access, a dedicated Internet DSL leased line with 512 K capacity has been installed. The Regional Centres of NIOS have also been provided with Internet access and e-mail facility for transfer of data and for smooth connectivity with Headquarters at New Delhi. The Admission and Examination data were transferred through e-mail from the Regional Centres to the Headquarter, which expedited pro-

cessing work tremendously. The Computer Centre provides computing services to all the Departments and Units of NIOS.

9.2 Areas and Application

Over the years, all the major activities of NIOS both Academic and Administrative have been computerized.

9.2.1 Student Information System

Starting from Admission to certification all the processes have been computerized. The following areas are covered under Student Information System.

- **Admission/Registration :** During the year 2006-07, ICT based compatible Admission Form was developed by the Computer Centre and the data were captured through the ICR technology after scanning the Admission Form. This was done to reduce errors resulting out of Data Entry of Admission Form. Approximately 290 thousands student's admission data were processed, which is an increase of approximately 23 thousand from the year 2005-06 at the Computer Unit during the current year.
- **Examination (April 2006 and October 2006 Examination):** During the year 2006, the examination processing in respect of data of about 500 thousand students was done both in the academic and vocational streams as against 488 thousands during the last year. The work includes data capturing its verification, updation and generation of various reports for use by the Examination Centres for conduct of examinations.
- **Result Processing and Certification (April 2006 and October 2006 Examination):** During

April 2006 and October 2006 Examination, result of about 500000 was processed and the result gazette was prepared for each Examination Centre and each Study Centre. Mark Sheets of all the students were printed also printed Certificate and other documents of the successful students.

- **Store Management System:** A complete software package was developed by the Computer Unit for Store Management of NIOS. The package covered the aspects of the Store including item Master, Item Receipt, Item Issue, Reports, Department, Supplier etc. 15-20 different reports were generated in the system.
- **Printing of Open Basic Education Certificates:** During the year, approximately 70000 certificates were printed for Open Basic Education A level, B-level and C-level courses. The majority of the certificates were meant for Zila Saksharta Samiti of Rajasthan.

9.3 NIOS on the Web

Internet and Web technology have proved effective in the teaching and learning process especially in the field of Open and Distance Education. Complete information about NIOS is available on its website www.nios.ac.in and www.nos.org

Online Student Information System: During the year, Single Window Student Information system was placed on the web site. In this section, complete information about each learner is given. Study Centre (AI) wise information is also given. The information includes the Admission details, Tutor Mark Assignment, Courses Material, Syllabus and Sample Question Paper, Previous Years Question Papers, Performance details.

Online Counseling: During the year, dedicated on line help/queries/support was provided to the learners through E-mail support@nos.org. On an average, 50-60 emails were received per day from the learners concerning information and correction in data. All e-mails were replied to the satisfaction of the learners.



9.3.1 Online Status of Application Forms: All Application Forms pertaining to Admission, Examination are already on the Net for use of the learners along with detailed instructions. All applications required for the Study Centres (Accredited Institutions) are on the Net with guidelines. Norms and Guidelines along with the Accreditation form for Academic Course, Vocational Courses and for Open Basic Education Programme are available on the Net. During the year, the status of the applications for accreditation has also been made available on the web site. Regular updating of the information on status of the applications is done.

9.3.2 Additional E-mail ID to Regional Heads: An additional E-mail ID was created for all the Regional Heads of NIOS for smooth and

- Explaining concepts in more interactive and user friendly manner using audio, video, graphics and animation.
- In-text and Terminal questions are also provided which help the students to check their performance while learning.

9.4 Information under RTI Act

As per the RTI Act, the information has been placed under the link RTI Act on the Home Page.

9.5 On Demand Examination System (ODES) at Secondary Level

The On Demand Examination System (ODES) at the Secondary Stage has provided complete flexibility to



direct communication with the Chairman and HODs. The nomenclature is rd<RegionalCentre>@nos.org

Online Course Materials

- All course materials of Secondary stage are available on Internet for reference purpose and to serve the interests of the students and educationists.
- Multi-media Course Development

learners to pursue learning at their own pace. This has made the system of examinations independent of the time frame and will help the learner take up the examinations as per their wish and preparation. They can also appear for the improvement of their performance any numbers of times within the period of their admissions till they are satisfied with their achievement. At present, the ODES is functional at NIOS Headquarter at NOIDA and at the Regional Centre, Pune. During the year, about 7880 students appeared in the ODES.

10. Media in Open Schooling

10.1 Media Programmes : An Overview

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

The main functions of the Media Unit of NIOS are as follows:

- Production of Audio/Video programmes for NIOS learners.
- Broadcast and Telecast of Audio/Video programmes on different channels.
- Duplication of Audio/Video programmes to Audio Cassettes, VCDs etc., to enrich and reinforce the subject matter given in the study material, provided to the NIOS learners.
- Production of Audio/Video Spots for publicity purposes.
- Video coverage of important functions/seminars, workshops, etc., for reference purpose.
- Development of multimedia programmes for the Educational Portal of MHRD and for NIOS Helpline project.

Existing Production Methodology:

Most of the audio/video programmes of NIOS are developed as per requirement of the academic/vocational courses. In order to meet the ever

increasing Telecast/Broadcast/Multicasting commitments, the Media Unit has adopted a two pronged approach towards development of Media Programmes: (i) outsourcing of media programmes to outside producers, and (ii) in-house production of Audio/Video programmes/tutorials, utilising the in-house Studio established at NIOS.

Video Programmes

Most of the video programmes are based on themes and topics derived from NIOS syllabis for OBE, Secondary and Senior Secondary levels and Vocational Education courses.

Except for the programmes on language courses (Hindi, English, Urdu) most of the video programmes have been produced both in English and Hindi versions by using documentary, docu-drama and other formats. These video programmes attempt to present the topic in a simple, interesting and engaging manner, so that the learners get a clear understanding and insight into the subject matter. The duration of each programme varies from 15 to 20 minutes.

Besides producing curriculum based video programmes, the Media Unit of NIOS has developed documentary films on NIOS, Video Spots etc. for publicity purpose.

During the period from 01.04.2006 to 31.03.2007, 15 Video programmes were produced, and 7 Video Programmes were at various stages of production.

In order to feed the available time slots for telecast of NIOS programmes on Gyan Darshan and DD-I channel, capsules of NIOS video programmes are prepared in-house. These capsules are sent for telecast on Gyan Darshan and DD-I channel.

During the period from 01.04.2006 to 31.03.2007, 60 capsules of the Video Programmes were produced.

10.2.2 Audio Programmes

NIOS has produced audio programmes and tutorials on topics/themes from various subjects from NIOS curriculum, including Hindi, English and Urdu language courses. Special mention may be made of a series of 10 Audio programmes on Adolescent Education Project (AEP) with funding from UNFPA.

During the period from 01.04.2006 to 31.03.2007, 35 Audio Programmes/Tutorials were produced.

10.3 Multimedia Programmes

Production of Interactive Multimedia Programmes on the subject of Chemistry was initiated by NIOS for the Educational Portal of MHRD - “Sakshat”.

During the period from 01.04.2006 to 31.03.2007, 9 Multimedia programmes for class XII were produced and uploaded on the Educational Portal of MHRD - “Sakshat”. It is proposed to produce Multimedia Programmes for Sakshat Portal in the subject area of Chemistry for Class Xth also.

10.4 EDUSAT

NIOS has organized teleconferences to orient Coordinators, Academic facilitators and for interaction with NIOS learners. The EDUSAT facility being set up at NIOS is especially configured towards providing two way audio and video conferencing. Organization of Interactive sessions would become a regular feature as and when EDUSAT network becomes fully operational at NIOS.

At present SIT have been installed at NIOS Studio and at 10 Regional Centers of NIOS. The equipment is likely to be made operational within 2-3 months as and when the Annual Maintenance Contract(AMC) is awarded by CIET, NCERT, the nodal agency for installing and operationalising the EDUSAT network at NIOS.

10.5 Training

The Media Unit has been organizing workshops to orient the NIOS faculty in scripting/content development of Audio and Video programmes.

During the period from 01.04.2006 to 31.03.2007, following Workshops were organized:

1. A two day workshop on Orientation of NIOS faculty members in Developing Multimedia Packages and Script Writing was organized for on 10 to 11 August, 2006.
2. An Edusat Training Programme was conducted for the staff from The NIOS Regional Centres Jaipur and Pune, in collaboration with CIET, NCERT.

10.6 Duplication of Programmes

In order to make available copies (Cassettes/CDs) of NIOS Audio/Video programmes to learners, duplication of Audio and Video programmes is carried out periodically.

During the period from 01.04.2006 to 31.03.2007, 2500 Audio cassettes and 3160 Audio CDs were duplicated and sent to the Accredited Institutions(AIs).

10.7 Video Coverage

The national, international seminars, workshops and various other functions organized by NIOS are covered in-house by the Media Staff.

During the period from 01.04.2006 to 31.03.2007 the Media unit arranged 46 Video Coverages of various National and International programmes organized by NIOS.

10.8 Delivery Mechanism of Audio-Video programmes

1. The video programmes are telecast on the National Channel of Doordarshan (DD-1) every Friday from 5.02 a.m. to 5.25 a.m. and on the Educational Channel a Gyan Darshan everyday from 6:30 p.m to 7:00 p.m.
2. NIOS has been regularly contributing Audio Programmes for broadcast on the Gyan Vani Channel. The Audio programmes were broadcast on Gyan Vani (FM Channel) at 106.5



MHz every Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 8.30 a.m. to 9.00 a.m. and repeat broadcast from 4.30 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.

3. The CDs of Audio/Video programmes produced by NIOS are sent to the Study Centers of NIOS for use in Personal Contact Programme (PCPs).
4. The learners can take the Cassettes/CDs of audio/video programmes on loan for a week from study centers.
5. The audio cassettes and VCDs of Media Programmes are also available for sale. A

comprehensive list of the Audio Cassettes and VCDs has been placed on NIOS Website- www.nos.org for the benefit of NIOS learners and others.

With new developments in Information and Communication Technology, the role of the Media Unit has been very significant. It is planning to produce a series of audio/video and multimedia programmes based on concepts related to Academic, Vocational and Life Enrichment courses for the NIOS learners. It is also proposed to impart training to the Tutors, Coordinators and Academic Facilitators through EDUSAT.

11. Promotion of Education amongst Special Groups through Open Schooling

The mandate of NIOS is to provide education for the educationally backward groups. The Memorandum of Association as per Section 3 (xxxiii) enumerates the mission of NIOS “to provide relevant, continuing and developmental education, at the school stage, upto the pre-degree level through the Open Learning System, to prioritized client groups.”

NIOS contributes to the national commitment made by India towards Education For All at Dakar in 2000 as well as Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Accordingly, NIOS has been implementing various programmes for prioritized client groups – school drop-outs and marginalized groups such as rural youth, urban poor, girls and women, scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, backward classes, minorities, differently abled and ex-servicemen.

NIOS is also committed to following Government Policy for the universalisation of Secondary Education. NIOS has been working towards the goals set up by Govt. of India with respect to NER/J&K.

Promotion of Education amongst SCs and STs

During the year 2006-07 NIOS continued its policy of granting fee concession to SCs/STs students for Secondary and Senior Secondary Courses. A special scholarship scheme was initiated based upon the Dr. Ambedkar Foundation for meritorious students. Under this scheme a student belonging to SC/ST category and having family income of less than one lakh p.a. in the preceding financial year and scoring not less than 50% marks in the aggregate in the secondary level examination would be eligible for this prestigious Scholarship.

Promotion of Education amongst Minority group

Following the directive of the Govt of India, NIOS

has set up a Minority Cell in June 2006, under the overall supervision of Secretary, NIOS. The objective of the Minority Education Programme of NIOS is to expand the reach and impact of NIOS programmes and policies amongst the minority communities especially amongst girls and women by undertaking active advocacy programmes to establish linkages with existing Minority Educational Institutions.

Several initiatives were taken during 2006-07 to enhance the coverage of Programmes of NIOS for the education of minorities. These included the following:

Recommendations of the Sachar Committee

The high level committee, namely Sachar Committee, constituted by the Govt. of India suggested some interventions for education of socio-religious communities specially Muslims. The committee recommends that the group of children who have completed middle school (upto class VIII) but could not manage to study further need to be provided in different types of technical training.

Taking into account the Sachar Committee Report. NIOS took measures to implement its recommendations by fine tuning its programmes and policies. A Policy Paper written by Shri D.S.Bist, Secretary, NIOS examined the recommendation of the Sachar Committee and drew up the road map for NIOS. A strong Advocacy Programme for accrediting Minority Institutions including Madarasas has been taken up by NIOS. The NIOS has made a comprehensive strategy for promoting Skill Development through its Open Vocational Education and Training for Minority Communities.

Keeping in view the Sachar Committee report, certain

Muslim populated States have been taken up on priority basis by NIOS. These are, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal and Maharashtra.

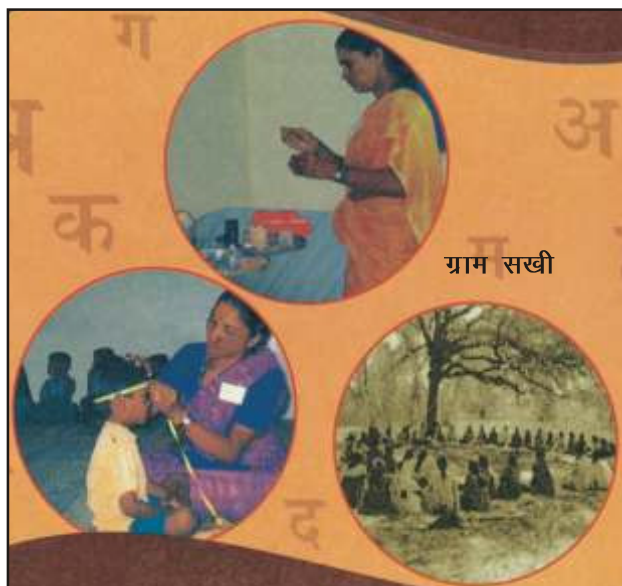
During the year 2006-07 mass sensitization programmes in Jama Masjid, Dilli Hatt (Delhi), Distt. Faizabad; Basti, Muradabad, Fatehpur, Barabanki (UP), Indore (MP) etc., for education of Minorities were organized. A number of meetings were held with authorities of different Madarsas and Makhtabs in several places like Lucknow, Distt. Sultanpur, Raibarely and Amethi (UP), Surat (Gujrat), Mumbai and Aurangabad (Maharashtra) and Ranchi (Jharkhand) etc. The policy of placing advertisements in major Urdu News Papers e.g. Admission notices

and other activities were published in Urdu Dailies such as Rashtriya Sahara (Urdu), Qauami Tanzeem, The Inqalab-e-Jadeed and Sangam.

In order to reach educationally backward persons in remote and rural areas, a special drive was initiated to identify Minority Educational Institutions as Accredited Institutions. The Project Coordinators were appointed for different regions for giving thrust to the advocacy programme. Presentations by Chairman and Secretary, NIOS were made on Minority issues with leaders from minority groups.

During the year 2006-07, the number of Accredited Minority Institutions were as under:

State / UT	AIs	AVIs	AAs
Uttar Pradesh	05	04	-
Bihar	04	-	-
West Bengal	03	-	-
Maharashtra	11	01	-
Andhra Pradesh	01	-	-
Karnataka	-	01	02
Rajasthan	-	01	-
Jharkhand	01	-	-
Tamil Nadu	-	01	-
Chandigarh	03	-	-
Punjab	-	01	-
Goa	01	-	-
Delhi	-	03	02
Kerala	-	01	-
Total	29	13	04
Total Number of Institutions Accredited = 29+13+04=46			



Promotion of Education of Girls and Women

As per the NIOS mandate Girls and Women have been designated as a priority group for Open Schooling. This has been done because education is regarded as the most significant instrument for changing women's position in society. Education is fundamental for the economic, political and social empowerment of women.



NIOS has developed a number of vocation which are targeted at women. These courses are aimed at improving the economic status of women as well as providing them with vocational and technical skills.

Also NIOS developed courses focussing at improving women health specially in rural areas, these includes Gram Sakhi and Gram Sahyogini. Courses such as Paripurna Mahila are aimed at improving of self esteem and self confidence of women.

During the year 2006-07, of the total students admitted for the Vocational Education courses, 51.1 percent were males and 48.9 percent were females, as can be seen in Table 6 in the annexure.

NIOS offers special concession for Girls and Women in fee as well as in providing for Accredited Institutions for girls and women only.

Promotion of Education amongst Differently Abled

The NIOS is committed to promotion of persons who are differently abled. NIOS offers fee concession for such groups and have also initiated a special scheme for accrediting study centres for such persons. Under this scheme called 'Special Accredited Institutions for Education of the Disadvantaged' (SAIEDs), schools and NGOs can be accredited to NIOS.

NIOS has already entered into an MOU with Rehabilitation Council's of India (RCI) for the development of human resources in the area of visual and hearing impairment.



12. International Collaboration

12.0 Introduction

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

- Capacity building
- Resource sharing
- Information and experience sharing

12.1 Open Schooling Association of the Commonwealth (OSAC)

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

12.2 Training through International Centre for Training in Open Schooling (ICTOS)

NIOS has set up the International Center for Training in Open Schooling (ICTOS) with the specific objective of providing quality training in Open Schooling. By virtue of being the largest open schooling organization in the world, and with a vast fund of experience, it was thought appropriate NIOS organize advocacy and training programmes in Open Schooling for developing countries. A Training center, with facility of an international hostel, has been designed at the new campus of NIOS at NOIDA.

Training is imparted through face-to-face, interactive training sessions and through certificate/diploma courses through distance education.

12.2.1 Training of Senior Educators from Developing Nations National Institute of Open Schooling collaboration-

September 2007

Thirteen senior educators from Sierra Leone, Ghana, The Gambia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Kenya, and Trinidad and Tobago underwent intensive training in open schooling under the NIOS-COL programme from September 14 to 22, 2006, at New Delhi. This was the fourth such training programme for developing nations hosted by NIOS. The programme covered various aspects of open schooling. The outcome of the training programme was the development of a country Report and a proposed framework for instituting an Open School by each participating country.



12.2.2 Certificate in Open Schooling

Realizing the need for training in open schooling, NIOS introduced the International Certificate In Open Schooling (ICOS). Advanced Certificate course and Diploma in Open Schooling have also been planned as advanced courses after completion of the basic certificate course. Development of the course material for the Advanced Certificate Course was initiated during the year 2006-07.

12.3 Staff Training at NIOS in collaboration with International Agencies

12.3.1 Workshop on “Editing Of Self Learning Materials In Printed Medium For Open Schools” NIOS-COL Collaboration- May 2006

NIOS organizes training programmes for capacity building of its staff, in recognition of the fact that the success of an organization rests on the competence of its staff. Dr. Clayton Wright, an eminent educationist in the field of open and distance learning, from Canada, was invited to conduct a five-day workshop for the Academic Staff from May 15-19, 2006 at New Delhi. The outcome of the training workshop was development of a pool of top-rated open schooling professionals at NIOS who can be used as master trainers/resource persons for open schooling elsewhere in the world.

12.3.2 Orientation of NIOS staff on “Disaster Risk Management” NIOS-UNDP Collaboration - July 2006

An awareness programme about “Disaster Preparedness, Prevention and Mitigation” was organized by NIOS-UNDP for the Academic staff of NIOS on July 27, 2006 at New Delhi. Relevant materials developed by UNDP were made available for incorporation in the self-learning materials that reaches out to people nationwide.

12.4 International Conferences hosted by NIOS

12.4.1 Regional Planning Workshop on Equivalency Programmes for the Promotion of Lifelong Learning NIOS-UNESCO Collaboration- July 2006

UNESCO-Asia Pacific Programme of Education of All (APPEAL), Bangkok, in collaboration with NIOS, organized a five-day “Regional Planning Workshop on Equivalency Programmes for the Promotion of Lifelong Learning” at Jaipur from 17 to 21 July 2006. The objective of conference was to review and share experiences as well as to build capacity of Non formal Education (NFE) personnel to effectively

develop, implement and evaluate programme amongst different countries of Asia in the implementation of the Equivalency Programme. Participants from ten countries viz Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Mongolia, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam, along with UNESCO officials from its offices at Bangkok, New Delhi and Cambodia attended the Workshop. Officials from MHRD, Govt of Rajasthan also attended the workshop.



The Workshop was inaugurated by Sh. Ghanshyam Tiwari, Minister of Education, Govt of Rajasthan while the Valediction was presided over by Shri MAA Fatmi, Minister of State, Govt of India, Ministry of Human Resource Development.

As an outcome of the workshop, country plans for effective implementation of the Equivalency Programme were formulated.

12.4.2 International Roundtable On Increasing Access To Quality Basic Education For Girls NIOS- COL Collaboration- September 2007

The objective of the Roundtable were to identify barriers to the access to education by girls, to develop strategies to overcome these barriers, and to increase access to girls to basic education. Participants to the Roundtable included educationists from India and other developing nations such as Sierra Leone, Ghana, The Gambia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Kenya, and Trinidad and Tobago, representatives from NGOs working in the area of girls' education and government representatives. As an outcome of the Roundtable, recommendations were made to national governments and COL to strengthen efforts for girls' education, formulate quality indicators for assuring quality in schooling and develop strong inter-linkages for working in the area.



Participants of International Roundtable On Increasing Access To Quality Basic Education For Girls NIOS- COL Collaboration

12.4.3 Regional Seminar for Discussions on Vocational Education through Open and Distance Learning NIOS-UNESCO Collaboration- December 2006

The first Regional Seminar for discussions on Vocational Education through Open and Distance Learning was held on 28th December 2006 at New Delhi. The objective of the seminar was to obtain feedback on the Curriculum Framework for Vocational Education developed by NIOS. Participants of this Seminar included experts in Vocational Education from the Northern States, educationists, and distance educators, officials from MHRD and UNESCO officials. The Seminar was inaugurated by Sh MAA Fatimi, Minister of State, Govt of India Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) Shri S.C Khuntia, Joint Secretary, MHRD, Prof. Ashok Chandra, Former Secretary, Govt. of India, Dr. Uma Tuli, Chairperson, Amar Jyoti Foundation, Delhi, Shri M.C. Pant, Chairman, NIOS and Shri D.S. Bist, Secretary, NIOS were the prominent participants.

During the Seminar the draft Curriculum Framework was discussed and vetted by experts and suggestions were made for its finalization.

12.5 NIOS Representation at International Events

12.5.1 Fourth PAN Commonwealth Forum

A delegation of officials from NIOS led by Shri M.C.Pant, Chairman NIOS participated in the fourth Commonwealth Forum on Open Learning held in Jamaica from 29 October to 3 November 2006. This

delegation included Shri D.S.Bist, Secretary, Dr. Sushmita Mitra, Director (SSS), Shri R.K.Arya, Joint Director (Media) and Dr. Anita Priyadarshini, Deputy Director. NIOS officials interacted and presented papers in various session.

The Commonwealth of Learning conferred the designation of Honorary Fellow of COL upon Father T.V. Kunnunkal, founding Chairman of National Open School (now National Institute of Open Schooling) in recognition of his individual contributions to open and distance learning.



12.5.2 International Conference on Making Inclusive Education A Reality- RCI (India)- UNESCO- March 2006

Dr. K R Chandrasekaran, Director (Academic), NIOS participated in the two-day conference on “Making Inclusive Education a Reality” from March 23 to 24, 2006 at Gwalior, India. Measures to encourage inclusive education and special provisions made by NIOS in this regard were discussed.

12.6 Foreign Visitors to NIOS

12.6.1 UNESCO-JIFT EFA Evaluation Team

A UNESCO-JIFT EFA evaluation team of experts from Japan and Bangkok visited NIOS from 6 to 10 March 2007 to evaluate UNESCO-NIOS Research Study “Models of Equivalency Programme” Phase-II. The evaluation meeting was attended by the Chairman, NIOS, Director (Academic) and concerned faculty members. The team visited Deepalaya (OBE Centre) on 10 March 2007 to review the working of the Equivalency Programme.



Delegates at Fourth PAN Commonwealth Forum

12.7 NIOS Resource Support to Developing Nations

12.7.1 NIOS Support to the National Open University of Nigeria (NOUN)

NIOS is the first Open School to have initiated the On Demand Examination system for its secondary courses. The success of this programme has enabled many learners to continue with their education without

fear of the tyranny of the examinations. Under ODES, NIOS has developed a Question Bank for different subjects at the secondary and senior secondary levels.

Upon receipt of the specific request for the National Open University of Nigeria, NIOS deputed two experts, Shri SK Prasad, SAP and Sh Giju Xavier to Nigeria from 6 to 22 November 2006 to set up the ODES System there. This was a joint project of COL, NIOS and NOUN.

13. Projects

The National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) has taken up some projects in collaboration with different national and international partners. These projects are innovative in nature and have focus on a particular area of study. In some cases, the work done is exemplar in nature and serves as a model for other institutions working in Open Schooling.

During the year 2006-07, the following projects were taken up:

Adolescence Education Programme (AEP): MHRD, UNFPA - NIOS Collaboration

The Adolescence Education Programme (AEP) launched by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India in 2005, is being implemented in all the States and Union Territories of India. It aims at realizing two specific outcomes: (i) Integration of adolescence education elements in the content and process of school education, teacher education, adult literacy programmes and other innovative educational schemes and (ii) Organization of co-curricular activities focused on life skills development among students in all the Secondary and Higher Secondary Schools.

The project is supported by UNFPA under the Country Programme. The present AEP is the extended version of the Project Adolescent Reproductive and Sexual Health (ARSH) in schools launched in October 2004.

During the year 2006 the following activities were conducted under AEP.

Advocacy Folders were designed and disseminated as an effort towards sensitization of the Stake Holders of the AEP. The NIOS Senior Secondary course was revised with the effective integration of ARSH issues. An orientation and sensitization programme was undertaken for Academic Facilitators at Kochi. The Tutor Marked Assignment (TMA) was revised to include at least one project type questions on Adolescence Education issues.

In addition to this, 14 AV programmes on various issues like HIV/AIDS and substance abuse were produced in Hindi and Urdu. The NIOS Web Site hosted Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on HIV/AIDS to create awareness. The scope of Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS) was enlarged to include the issues and concerns related to adolescents. Support material in the form of Book-Mark on HIV/AIDS were dispatched alongwith the study materials to NIOS learners. A Planner and a Diary were also printed. A Poster Exhibition was held at Dilli Haat, New Delhi on issues related to Adolescents.

This project is being coordinated by Mrs. Asheema Singh, Project Officer

Literacy Initiative for Empowerment (LIFE) Project – A UNESCO-NIOS Collaboration

In October 2005, the UN General Assembly passed a resolution for strengthening the global commitment of literacy and launched a new initiative on Literacy Initiative for Empowerment (LIFE). Under LIFE Programme, certain strategic areas such as advocacy and communication, policy for sustaining literacy, developing strong national capacity and identifying innovative literacy practices, were identified for action by countries.

As a part of this Initiative, UNESCO, New Delhi assigned the LIFE Project to NIOS with the aim of sustaining literacy through development of material for neo-literates on different aspects of life. A resource kit for trainers is being developed under this project.

During the year 2006-07, the following activities were carried out:

Literacy materials showcasing best practices were obtained from different adult education agencies. Workshops were held to identify issues for the LIFE materials. Based on this, a Curriculum was developed alongwith a Modular Framework for this Kit. The focus of the Kit is to provide training to literacy

facilitators on the issues that a neo literate faces through the different stages of life from birth to adulthood.

A total of seven modules were developed during the period 2006-07. These included harmoniously, safe motherhood, concerns related to childhood and adolescence. The modules also include issues of political and economic empowerment. The Kit has a module on development of life skills to help neo literates deal better with their daily lives. In order to develop an appreciation of Culture and Heritage, a module has been developed on a different aspects of Indian Culture. In order to promote income generation skills, a range of Vocational Training Modules have been planned. The first of these is a module on House Keeping which was developed for neo-literates during the year 2006-07.

The project is being coordinated by Dr. Anita Priyadarshini, Deputy Director (Academic), NIOS

Models of Equivalency Programme Phase – I: A UNESCO-NIOS Collaboration

The NIOS has been successfully implementing the Open Basic Education (OBE) Programmes for children and adults. In order to study the programme, with a view to replication in other developing countries, the UNESCO-APPEAL, Bangkok, with the support of JFIT, Japan assigned two research studies to NIOS under its *Project on Equivalency Programmes for the Promotion of Lifelong Learning*.

The first study ‘Models of the Equivalency Programme’ Phase-I was conducted for adult neo-literates of Rajasthan. During the year 2006, the report of this study was printed. The findings showed that, for most learners, obtaining a Certificate from NIOS was an elevating experience. Women felt that there was a growth in their self-confidence.

This research study was coordinated by Dr. Anita Priyadarshini, Deputy Director (Academic), NIOS.

Models of Equivalency Programme Phase – II: UNESCO-NIOS Collaboration

The second Study ‘Models of Equivalency

Programme’ Phase-II was conducted during the year 2006-07. This study focused on children in 6-14 age group studying under Open Basic Education Programme. It was taken up in the Study Centres in Bihar, Jharkhand, Rajasthan and New Delhi. The findings of the study showed that majority of the learners were girls and almost half of the OBE learners were formal school dropouts. The Report of the study was submitted to UNESCO.

This research study was coordinated by Dr. Anita Priyadarshini, Deputy Director (Academic), NIOS.

SAKSHAT – One stop Educational Portal: A MHRD, NIOS Collaboration

This MHRD project was launched in 2006 by Hon’ble President of India. It is being conducted in collaboration with various Educational Institutions: IGNOU, NCERT, NIOS, IIT, AICTE and others. The aim of this project is to address various education and learning related needs of students, scholars, teachers and life long learners. This on going project commenced in June-July 2006.

Under this project, NIOS has developed interactive multimedia programmes in Chemistry at Sr. Secondary level. NIOS submitted the CDs of Nine programmes to the MHRD for uploading on the server for Educational Portal.

NIOS is also developing the Interactive Multimedia Programme in Science and Technology at Secondary level, which will be used by Educational Portal and also by Study Centres in Personal Contact Programmes.

This project is being coordinated by Prof. Puran Chand, former Joint Director, CIET, NCERT.

Training Needs and Training Strategies for NIOS Functionaries: A COL-NIOS Collaboration

This project focuses at identifying various instructional strategies and techniques for NIOS learners as well as the training needs of tutors, coordinators at study centres with the overall aim of improving the efficiency of NIOS as an organization.

The project began in 2006 and is being conducted with support of the Commonwealth of Learning, Vancouver.

During the year 2006-07, six Modules were finalized for the tutors, Coordinators of Accredited Institutions and for the Academic Facilitators and Master Trainers. These Modules were tested in three workshops and refined subsequently based on feedback.

The project is being coordinated by Prof Harmesh Lal, former Professor, CIET, NCERT.

National Open Science Congress Project

This Project was initiated by NIOS in collaboration with the Ministry of Science and Technology, Govt. of India, with the aim of creating inculcating a scientific temperament in NIOS students and popularizing Science amongst students of NIOS. During the year 2006-07, many activities with Regional Centres of NIOS were conducted .

This project was coordinated by Dr. Oum Prakash Sharma, Assistant Director, NIOS.

14. *National Consortium for Open Schooling*

14.0 Introduction

The National Consortium for Open Schooling (NCOS), was set up to promote Open Schooling in the States. The objectives of NCOS are to (i) facilitate the Apex Body functions of NIOS and (ii) Promote better cooperation and collaboration among agencies/institutions involved in Open Schooling, distance education and correspondence education at school stage. The Secretariat of NCOS is located in NIOS. NCOS endeavours to upscale/strengthen existing State Open Schools (SOS). It ensures cooperation and collaboration among NIOS and Open Schooling organizations.

14.1 Open Schooling State Coordination Committee (OSSCC)

Efforts were made to set up the Open Schooling State Co-ordination Committee (OSSCC) under the Chairmanship of Secretary (School Education) of each State.

14.2 Upscaling of State Open Schools (SOS)

The Open Schools of States of Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan and West Bengal have been requested to upscale/strengthen them, especially in terms of enrolment, upgradation from Secondary to Senior Secondary, introduction of Open Vocational Education, Open Basic Education Programmes, etc. The States of Delhi, Jammu & Kashmir and Tamil Nadu were impressed upon the need to revive/re-activate their Open Schooling scheme.

14.3 Setting up New State Open Schools

States of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Goa and Jharkhand have developed their project proposals and techno-economic-feasibility reports for the setting up of State Open Schools. They are awaiting their State Government's approval. Himachal Pradesh has initiated efforts for having a State Open Schooling Cell in the Directorate of Education or a full-fledged State Open School within the Board of School Education. The States of Assam, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh are in the process of finalization of their Project Proposal for setting up SOSs.

A proposal for the Jharkhand State Open School (SOS) within the Jharkhand Academic Council (JAC) is under the active consideration of the State Government. The state of Chhattisgarh has initiated the process of setting up of SOS. The state of Uttarakhand, is visualizing setting up of the SOS or a State Open Schooling Cell.

14.4 Setting up of Open Schooling Cell (OSC)

As an alternative, the School Education Boards are being suggested to set up Open Schooling Cell (OSC) within the Board/Council where the States are not coming up promptly for setting up their full-fledged State Open School. In the North-East, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Sikkim have recently started taking initiative to set up their own Open Schooling Cells. A meeting to consider setting up of State Open School was held for some States of North Eastern Region in March, 2007 at Kolkata. The Open Schooling in the Union Territories (UTs) is being encouraged by NIOS through the



neighbouring State Open School (SOS). Dadra and Nagar Haveli is trying to get linked with the Regional Centre, NIOS, Jaipur (Rajasthan).

14.5 Annual meeting of NCOS

A meeting of the National Consortium of Open Schooling (NCOS) was organized by the

National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) in collaboration with JSS Karnataka Technical Institutional Campus, Mysore (5 and 6 February 2007). The recommendations emphasized increased efforts to substantially upscale the open schooling programme in the country on priority basis, particularly to meet the educational needs of students for secondary education.

15. Capacity Building Programmes at National Level

15.0 Introduction

The objective of Capacity Building programmes is to develop effective manpower resources for Open Schooling. This is crucial for effective functioning of Open Schooling System because nurturing the personnel associated with Open Schooling is as important as nurturing the learners of Open Schools. Towards this end, NIOS not only undertakes the conduct of National/Regional Conferences/Seminars and Training Programmes but also encourages participation of its personnel in the programmes organized by other organisations.

15.1 Conferences/Seminars Organised By NIOS

15.1.1 National Workshop on Examination Reforms (7 to 9 July, 2006)

A three-day national workshop on strategies for Examination Reforms in Open Schooling was organized by NIOS at Shimla from 7 to 9 July, 2006. The main objective of the workshop was to evolve the strategies for improving the public examinations. The workshop was attended by eminent scholars, experts in educational measurement and evaluation, officials from State Boards of School Education and distinguished educationists. A number of recommendations on the various aspects of public examinations and educational evaluation emerged.

15.1.2 Meeting for Education of Minority Communities (13 November, 2006)

To reach out to the minority communities of the society, a one day meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Shri M.C. Pant, Chairman, NIOS at Indore on 13th November, 2006. Twenty representatives of minority communities from Indore attended this meeting. The Chairman, NIOS

highlighted various employment generating programmes being offered by NIOS under its Vocational Education programme.

15.1.3 Education for Minority Communities

A Meeting of the Project Coordinators of NIOS and the local community leaders of Orissa for Minority Education Programme of NIOS was held on 29 January, 2007 at Puri. Sh. M.A.A. Fatmi, Minister of State, MHRD presided over the meeting. Prof. Najma Akhtar of NUEPA, Shri Devendra C. Mishra, Commissioner, Madrasa Education, Shri M.C. Pant, Chairman, NIOS and Sh. D.S. Bist, Secretary, NIOS were the prominent participants. Chairman, NIOS emphasized the need for Education of Minorities and suggested that the project coordinators identify the unreached areas and contact the Madrasa of their regions for effective implementation of various programmes.

15.1.4 Annual Meeting of NCOS

The Annual Meeting of National Consortium of Open Schooling (NCOS) was organized by the NIOS in collaboration with JSS Karnataka State Open School (KOS) from 5 to 6 February, 2007 at JSS Technical Institutions Campus, Mysore. The objective of this meeting was to take stock of the present status of open schooling in the States and to formulate strategies for the future. The recommendations emphasized increased efforts to substantially upscale open schooling in the country on a priority basis in order to attain the goal of universalisation of secondary education.

15.1.5 Advocacy Programme for Minority Education

Two mass sensitization programmes were organized by the Minority Education Cell of NIOS during February, 2007. The gathering was informed about various Academic/Vocational programmes offered by

the NIOS and the benefits of distance learning through the institute.

15.1.6 Need Assessment for Learning Disability (LD) Candidates

A meeting was organized on 14 March, 2007 to assess the need for facilities/provisions during examinations for LD candidates. Experts/special educators in Learning Disability participated in the meeting.

15.2 Regional Seminars

15.2.1 Regional Seminar on Curriculum Framework in Open Vocational Education

The first regional seminar on the draft Curriculum Framework was organized on 28 December, 2006 at New Delhi. The programme was inaugurated by Sh. M.A. A. Fatmi, Hon'ble Minister of State, MHRD, Government of India. Sh. S.C. Kuntia, Joint Secretary, MHRD, Prof. Ashok Chandra, International Management Institute, Dr. Uma Tuli, Chairperson, Amar Jyoti Foundation, Sh. M.C. Pant, Chairman, NIOS and Sh. D.S. Bist, Secretary, NIOS were the prominent participants.

15.2.2 Regional Seminar on Curriculum Framework for Vocational Education

Regional seminars were held at Bhopal, on 10 January, 2007, at Puri on 29 January, 2007 and at Mysore on 7 February 2007 for consideration of the Draft Curriculum Framework for Vocational Education. Several suggestions were given for improvement of the document.

15.3 Conferences/Seminars organized by organizations other than NIOS

15.3.1 Annual Meeting of Directors of State Resource Centres (25 to 27 April, 2006)

The Annual Meeting of Directors of State Resource Centres was organized by the Ministry of MHRD at Shillong from 25 to 27 April, 2006. Prof. K.R. Chandrasekaran, Director (Academic), NIOS

participated in the meeting on 25 April, 2006 and presented a brief report on the implementation of Open Basic Education Programme of NIOS.

15.3.2 National Seminar on Literacy-MHRD (18 – 19 April, 2006)

The Adult Education Bureau of the Ministry of HRD in collaboration with UNESCO organized a National Seminar on Literacy from 18 to 19 April, 2006 in the context of Education for All : Global Monitoring Report, 2006. The Chairman, NIOS, Director (Academic) and Deputy Director (Academic) participated in the programme.

15.3.3 Workshop on Total Cost of Ownership-MHRD (24 April, 2006)

A one-day Workshop to discuss the application and utilities of Total Cost of Ownership Framework developed by Global e-schools and Communities Initiatives was organized by the Director, School Education, MHRD on 24 April, 2006 at Hotel Taj Ambassador, New Delhi. The programme was attended by the officers from School Education organisation. Dr. Rachna Bhatia, Shri S.K. Prasad and Shri Pramod Tripathi represented NIOS and participated in the programme.

15.3.4 Seminar on Challenges and Opportunities for Education of Vulnerable Children (3 May, 2006)

A Seminar on Challenges and Opportunities for Education of Vulnerable Children was organized by DISHA, an NGO working for Socio-economic development of Urban and Rural Communities on 3 May, 2006 at the India International Centre, New Delhi. The Director (Academic), NIOS participated in the programme and made a presentation titled 'NIOS: An Overview'.

15.3.5 National Consultation on Vocational Education, Bhopal

A two-day programme was organized by Pandit Sunderlal Sharma Central Institute of Vocational Education, Bhopal to consult the Directorates of Education dealing with Vocational Education from the

Southern Region on 1 and 2 September, 2006 at the Tamilnadu Agricultural University Campus, Coimbatore. The Chairman, NIOS and the Director (Academic), NIOS participated in the programme.

15.3.6 National Resource Group for SSA

The third meeting of the National Resource Group for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) was held on 1 March, 2007. The Chairman, NIOS and the Director (Academic) participated in the meeting.

15.4 Training Programmes

15.4.1 Training Programmes on ‘Earthquake Risk Mitigation Management – NIDM’ 17 to 21 April, 2006 and March 5-9, 2007

The National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM) organized a five-day training programme from 17 to 21 April, 2006 on Earthquake Risk Mitigation Programme. The programmes highlighted different activities involved in earthquake

preparedness, and emphasized the need to develop capacity for better earthquake resistance programme and to undertake mitigating measures to minimize the impact of earthquakes.

15.4.2 Workshop on Fine Prints of Life (1 to 3 July, 2006)

A three day Workshop on ‘Fine Prints of Life’ was organized from 1 to 3 July, 2006 at the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi. The Workshop aimed at acquainting the trainees with destressing techniques. Twenty staff members from different Departments of NIOS attended the Workshop.

15.4.3 EDUSAT Training (26 and 27 December, 2006)

Two staff members of Regional Center, Guwahati attended a training programme at CIET, NCERT New Delhi on 26 and 27 December, 2006. Hands on training was provided to the participants on setting up of EDUSAT equipments.

16. *Library, Documentation and Information Services*

The National Institute of Open Schooling Library-cum-Documentation Unit has a rich collection of print and non-print material which includes 15,308 books, 12,600 loose issues of journals and 690 audio/video cassettes particularly on education, distance education, and the subjects offered by the NIOS at different levels. It also has NIOS publications, which includes study material of the NIOS courses, Annual Reports, Newsletters, Conference reports and other NIOS publications. It receives more than 75 National/International journals on subscription and complimentary basis and 23 magazines, 19 Dailies and 2 Weekly newspapers on subscription basis. Newsletters of CBSE, COBSE, COL, DELNET, ICDL, IGNOU, NUEPA, NCERT, NCSTC, NLM, ODLAA and UNESCO are also received on complimentary basis.

The NIOS library caters to the needs of academic, non-academic staff and other educational experts who are engaged in the development of curriculum and study material for the NIOS learners.

16.1 The NIOS library performs the following tasks:

16.1.1 Technical Processing

All procured books in the NIOS library are classified and catalogued. It uses Dewey Decimal Classification 20th Edition Scheme for classification and Anglo-American cataloguing rules for cataloguing. During 2006-07, more than 450 books were classified and catalogued.

16.1.2 Up-dation of Library Database

The library database was up-dated by making entries of books and journals, procured by the NIOS library. Data relating to registration of library members and issue/return of books and journals were also entered.

16.1.3 Scanning for Educational News

More than 5500 newspapers/magazines/journals were scanned during 2006-07 for identifying news items on Education, Distance Education and particularly on NIOS news in different newspapers.

16.2 The NIOS library provides the following services

16.2.1 Circulation Service

It includes issue/return of books, magazines, journals, audio/video cassettes and CDs, registration of new members and issue of 'No Demand Certificate'. More than 7,500 documents were issued and returned during this period. 40 library tickets were issued to five new library members and 'No Demand Certificate' to six members.

16.2.2 Inter-Library-Loan

In this service, documents are made available on Inter-Library Loan to the users from other libraries, in case of non-availability of required document in the NIOS library. More than 170 books were made available from different libraries.

16.2.3 Reference Service

During this period, 230 queries were answered and 255 searches for documents were made for providing required information to the users. More than 290 people other than registered library members visited the library for reference purpose and searches for references.

16.2.4 Referral Service

In this service, the user is referred to other libraries if the required document is not available in the NIOS library and cannot be made available on Inter-Library-Loan. Twenty members were referred to other libraries for providing them the required documents/information.

16.2.5 Reprographic Service

The NIOS library provides xerox copies of reference material to the library users on demand. During the current year 3250 copies of reference material were made available from various documents.

16.3 Addition to the NIOS library

During the year 581 books on various subjects were added in the NIOS library, which includes education and distance education 78, science and allied sciences 85, general and fictions 145, reference 15, social sciences 18, NCERT 240 books. Renewal of 58 journals 23 magazines 18 daily and 2 weekly newspaper was done for a further period of one year and subscription of 5 new journals and one magazine was started during the year.

16.4 Information Technology

Keeping pace with modern technology in information and computer science, the NIOS library provides facilities of INTERNET and Developing Library

Network (DELNET) to the members of the library. DELNET, with more than 1180 institutions as its members, promotes resource sharing among the member libraries. Library members used INTERNET and DELNET for more than 350 hours during the year 2006-07

The NIOS library uses “**LIBSYS**” software. It is fully integrated library system which supports all activities relating to acquisition, cataloguing, circulation and serials. It also provides for analytical indexing of journals, and an advanced user-friendly Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC) interface to access all library materials through a web browser.

16.5 E-Press Clippings and New Additions Service

Under this service important news clippings on education, distance education, NIOS and new addition list of books and journals are sent through e-mail to NIOS Officers.

17. Right to Information

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

In pursuance of the provisions of the Act, the Deputy Director (Pers) was designated as Public Information Officer-I and the System Analyst/Programmer as

Public Information Officer-II for NIOS Head Quarters. In the Regional Centres of NIOS, the Joint Directors/Deputy Directors, working as Regional Heads have been designated as Public Information Officer, and the Assistant Directors working as Regional Heads at Regional Centre and those reporting to Regional Heads have been designated as Assistant Public Information Officers.

Head of Administration Department and Secretary NIOS was designated as the Appellate Authority for the NIOS.

Structure of RTI as adopted by NIOS At NIOS Head Quarter

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

At the Regional Centres of National Institute of Open Schooling

Public Information Officer	Joint Director/Deputy Director working as Regional Head	1. PIO for all information related to the concerned Regional Centre 2. Appellate Authority for APIO in their Regional Centre, if any
Assistant Public Information Officer (for the territorial jurisdiction of their concerned Regional Centres)	Assistant Director working as Regional Head	APIO for all information related to the concerned Regional Centre
Assistant Public Information Officer (for the concerned Regional Centres)	Assistant Directors at Regional Centre reporting to Regional Heads	APIO for all information related to the concerned Regional Centre

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

1. NIOS at a Glance
2. Memorandum of Association (MOA) of NOSS
3. Guideline for Accreditation of AIs, AVIs and AAs
4. Admission Process
5. Vocational Education Programmes
6. Recruitment Rules of NIOS
7. Guidelines for Centre Superintendents for External Examinations
8. Information about Courses and Materials for OBE, Secondary and Sr. Secondary
9. List of Members of RCACs
10. NIOS Budget at a Glance, Annual Accounts and Audit Report
11. Notification regarding Tender Notice, Examination Hall Tickets, Results, National Talent Promotion Scheme, Student Centre Address Book
12. Office Orders for PIO, APIO, Regional Heads, System Analyst Programmer (SAP).

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

NIOS has computerized all records of applications received and disposed off under this Act.

It has also been sending necessary reports as per the Act to CIC and MHRD. The Annual Return for the year 2006-07 is as under

**Annual Return Submitted to Central Information Commission
(Under Section 25 of the RTI Act)**

Year : 2006-07

Sl. No.	Public Authority under the Ministry	Number of requests received	Decision where applications for information rejected	Number of cases where disciplinary action taken against any officer in respect of administration of this Act.	Amount of charges collected (Rs.)
1.	National Institute of Open Schooling	83	Nil	Nil	Rs. 908.0*

*this includes Rs.80/- as Court Fee

Numbers of requests rejected during the year 2006-07

Public Authority	Number of requests rejected during the year 2006-07
National Institute of Open Schooling	Nil

18. Promoting Use of Hindi

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

During 2006-07, the Rajbhasha Section took steps to implement the official language rules as per the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs. The main activities performed are as follows:

1. Translation

- During the year 2006-07, Press Releases related to different seminars, conferences and other programmes conducted by NIOS were translated into Hindi and published in all leading Hindi and English newspapers all over the country.
- The Annual Report of NIOS for the year 2005-06 was translated into Hindi.
- The Prospectus (Academic Courses) as well as the Prospectus (Vocational Education Courses) was translated into Hindi.
- Annual Accounts of NIOS and Annual Audit Report were prepared bilingually.
- NIOS Website was developed on internet. It's Hindi version was also developed so that students and others may have easy access to the information pertaining to NIOS through internet.
- Different official forms were translated in Hindi.

- "NIOS-At A Glance" was prepared in Hindi as well as in English.

2. Implementation Activities

Hindi Fortnight

The Hindi Fortnight was celebrated from 14 to 28 September, 2006 with enthusiasm. During this fortnight, the staff of NIOS participated in the following competitions :

- (i) Official Language Competition
- (ii) Computer based Hindi Knowledge Competition
- (iii) Mono-Acting Competition
- (iv) Story Writing Competition
- (v) Quiz Competition
- (vi) Extempore Speech Competition

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

Meetings

During 2006-07, several important decisions were taken regarding correspondence and noting in Hindi and about overall use of Hindi. Important decisions which were carried out for promotion of Hindi are as follows:

- (i) Reply of Hindi letters were sent in Hindi.
- (ii) More Noting and Drafting were done in Hindi.
- (iii) Most of the Headings on the file covers were made in Hindi.
- (iv) Hindi software was put up in every computer .

- (v) Many Nameplates, Signboards, Rubber Stamps were prepared bilingually.
- (vi) Quarterly reports are being sent to MHRD regularly.

Training

Computer Training :

The new Hindi Computer Software developed by the Information and Broadcasting Ministry was made available and provided to the Departments at NIOS Headquarters and the Regional Centres of NIOS.

Inspection :

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

Organisation in Conferences :

A one day Workshop on Hindi was organised at Kochi on 15th November, 2006 and was attended by the Coordinators of the study centre of NIOS of Kochi Region and NIOS officials to promote Hindi language in non-Hindi areas.



Publications

During 2006-07, several study materials as well as other documents in Hindi language were printed and supplied to the students enrolled for Secondary, Senior Secondary and Vocational Education courses. Certain other important publications, reports and journals printed in Hindi are as follows.

- ◆ Annual Report, Prospectus (Academic Courses), Prospectus (Vocational Education Courses), 'Open Learning' Magazine (Bilingual), 'Open Schooling' News Bulletin (Bilingual), Almanac, Annual Accounts and Audit Report, Answer Books, Certificates and Mark Statements.

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

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

