



राष्ट्रीय मुक्त विद्यालयी शिक्षा संस्थान NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF OPEN SCHOOLING

आईएसओ 9001 : 2015 प्रमाणित/ISO 9001 : 2015 Certified

(स्कूल शिक्षा और साक्षरता विभाग, शिक्षा मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार के अंतर्गत एक स्वायत्त संस्था)
(An autonomous Institution under Deptt. of SE&L, Ministry of Education (MoE), Govt. of India)

F-82-20/2025/NIOS/CBC/BRIDGE/CORR.

Date: 7.08.2025

Notification – 05 /2025

WHEREAS, the NCTE, via Gazette Notification dated 23.08.2010, prescribed minimum qualifications for appointment as teachers for Classes I to VIII and an amendment dated 28.06.2018 added further qualifications for eligibility to teach Classes I to V as follows :

“Graduation with at least 50% marks and B.Ed.”

Provided that who has acquired the qualification of B.Ed. from any NCTE recognized institution shall be considered for appointment as a Teacher in class I to V;

Provided that the person so appointed as a Teacher shall mandatory to undergo a Six Months Bridge Course in Elementary Education recognized by the NCTE, within Two Years of such appointment as Primary Teacher.

WHEREAS, the NCTE's Notification dated 28.06.2018 was challenged before the Hon'ble High Court of Rajasthan at Jodhpur, which, vide order dated 25.11.2021, was set aside. This decision was subsequently challenged before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. The Hon'ble Supreme Court, in its judgment dated 11.08.2023 in the matter of *Devesh Sharma vs. Union of India & Ors.*, upheld the order of the High Court of Rajasthan at Jodhpur, thereby holding that candidates possessing a B.Ed. degree are not eligible for appointment as school teachers for Classes I to V.

WHEREAS, the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide its judgment dated 08.04.2024 issued in MA Dy. No. 4303 of 2024, passed the order as :

“As it appears that a large number of candidates with B.Ed. degree had already been appointed on the basis of eligibility criteria specified by the educational authorities, we do not think it to be equitable to effect their removal. We, accordingly, hold that the judgment delivered by this Bench on 11th August, 2023 shall have prospective operation. But prospective operation of this judgment shall be only for those candidates who were appointed without any

*qualification or conditions imposed by any Court of Law to the effect that their appointment would be subject to final outcome of the case which might have had been instituted by them and such candidates were in regular employment without any disqualification and were appointed in pursuance of a notice of advertisement where B.Ed. was stipulated to be valid qualification. Services of only such candidates shall not be disturbed because of this judgment. **We make it clear that this benefit is only for the candidates who were appointed prior to the date our judgment was delivered, on 11th August, 2023.***

(1)

Mere selection of such candidates or their participation in the process will not entitle them for a benefit under our present order. Moreover, the candidates having B.Ed. qualification whose appointments we are protecting in this judgment, will have to undergo a bridge course and we direct the educational authorities to devise such course, which would be applicable for each state and union territory, within a period of one year from today. This course shall be only for those appointees who have been engaged with B.Ed. degree only in the subject-posts under conditions stipulated in the earlier part of this order. National Council for Teacher Education shall design such course under overall supervision of the Ministry of Education, Union of India. Upon formulation of such course, the same shall be publicly notified and a timeframe shall also be given within which the respective candidates shall participate therein. Failure of any candidate to participate and complete the course within the timeframe to be given by the concerned educational authorities will invalidate the appointment of such candidate.

We also make it clear that the directions contained in this order shall not be confined to the applicant state only and shall cover all cases which may be pending in different judicial fora in any State or Union territory on the same point of law. The present application stands disposed of in the above terms.

Pending application(s), if any, shall also stand disposed of."

WHEREAS, in compliance with the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India order dated 08.04.2024, the 6 Months Certificate Course (Bridge) in Primary Teacher Education has been designed and notified by the NCTE vide Public Notice dated 07.04.2025 and Corrigendum dated 10.04.2025, hosted on the official website of NCTE for information to all the stakeholders.

WHEREAS, with reference to the Ministry of Education letter No. 3-15/2021-IS.1 dated 16.07.2025 which entrusts NIOS may apply for recognition to conduct the course in (ODL) mode from NCTE.

WHEREAS, in compliance with the directions of the Ministry of Education and the Hon'ble Supreme Court's Judgment issued in MA Dy. No. 4303/2024 dated 08.04.2024, NCTE's Public Notice No. NCTE-Reg1012/16/2018-US(Regulation)-HQ dated 07.04.2025 and letter No. NCTE-Reg1012/16/ 2018-US(Regulation)-HQ C. No. 32423 dated 29.04.2025 requested NIOS to apply to the Northern Regional Committee (NRC), NCTE, New Delhi for recognition of the 6 Month Certificate Course (Bridge) in Primary Teacher Education through ODL mode.

AND WHEREAS, NIOS has submitted an application to the NRC, NCTE, for the recognition of the aforementioned course. Subsequently, NCTE granted recognition to NIOS through Order No. NRC/NCTE/441st Meeting (Volume-3) Sl. No. 34/2025/233333-233338 dated 02.07.2025, allowing NIOS to conduct the Six-Month Certificate Course (Bridge) in Primary Teacher Education through ODL.

In view of the above, the following conditions are to be adhered by all stakeholders:

- i. This course will only be meant for those primary teachers who had been appointed with B.Ed. degree in accordance with NCTE's notification dated 28.06.2018 and who were in-service before the date of Hon'ble Supreme Court's judgment dated 11.08.2023.
- ii. The teachers indicated at point (i) above may avail this one-time opportunity to complete the course as Hon'ble Supreme Court has directed that failure of any candidate to participate and complete the course within time frame, as decided by the educational authorities, will invalidate their appointment.
- iii. The participant teachers shall complete the course within one year of the commencement of course of NIOS.
- iv. Qualifying the Bridge Course will be strictly meant for teachers indicated in point (i) above, to protect their existing employment only. This Bridge Course will not be valid for those teachers seeking subsequent employments as primary teachers.

NOW THEREFORE, NIOS will prepare modalities to conduct the 6 Month Certificate Course (Bridge) in Primary Teacher Education successfully and information in this regard will be available from time to time in the website of NIOS i.e. www.nios.ac.in.

This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

(S. Vijaya Kumar)
Director (SSS) 8/25

Copy to:

1. Ms. Prachi Pandey, Joint Secretary (Institutions & Training), Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Education, Government of India.
2. Additional Chief Secretary / Principal Secretary / Secretary / Commissioner (Education), All State and Union Territories
3. Member Secretary, National Council of Teacher Education
4. All Heads of Departments of NIOS.
5. All Regional Directors of NIOS to coordinate and follow up with the state authorities.
6. Chair of the Committees constituted by NIOS for the implementation of Bridge Course
7. SA/P to upload this Notification on the NIOS website.
8. PRO, for Press Release and to disseminate the information on various Social Media Platforms.
9. Guard File.