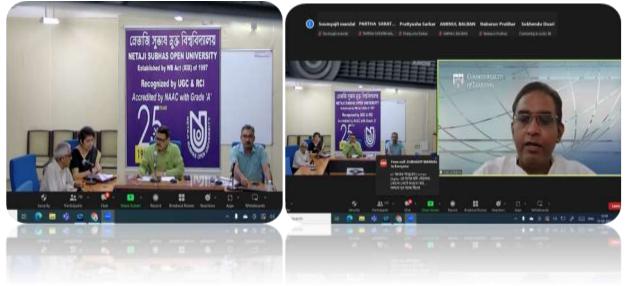




## NEWS ITEM

## **Opening ceremony of the 5-week MOOC on Understanding Neurodiversity (2<sup>nd</sup> Cycle)**

NSOU, Kolkata, 15th May 2023: Netaji Subhas Open University with the support of Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia have again come together to offer the 2nd cycle of the much appreciated 5-week MOOC on Understanding Neurodiversity. The launch was unveiled on 15th of May 2023 at 12.30pm through the blended platform with an assembly of around 161 participants out of 210 enrolled for this course. The session commenced with a hearty welcome note by Prof. Anirban Ghosh, Director-CIQA, NSOU and Course Coordinator of the MOOC. Considering the feedback received from the experts and mentors, the e-content has been revised in the 2nd cycle. Dr. Ghosh informed the participants that the present MOOC was developed and delivered with the support of CEMCA in the year 2020-21. This was followed by an inspiring and congratulatory address by Prof. Chandan Basu, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of NSOU. He fervently expressed the long partnering ties between CEMCA and NSOU towards academic, financial, and ideological support. The Director-CEMCA, Dr. B. Shadrach enlightened on the various contemporary issues about promoting inclusive societies, providing access to justice for all and building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. Ms. Manobina Chakraborty, FRS & Mentor of this MOOC articulated the nuanced understanding of Neurodiversity. Dr. Papiya Upadhyay briefly presented the online curricular transactions and upcoming learning experiences of the MOOC. The session was concluded with a warm vote of thanks offered by Prof. Arun Chakraborty, Head, Dept. of LIS, NSOU. It was the beginning of yet another promising journey of celebrating differences and redefines our relationships with each other, which call for pedagogies of solidarity and cooperation that treasure diversity and pluralism.



Reported by Dr. Papiya Upadhyay, Project Coordinator.