

**Brief Report on One-Day National Conference on “Enhancing Teacher Education through OER” on 19<sup>th</sup> Nov 2015.**

This conference intended to bring out the significance of Open Educational Resources (OERs) in the realm, of Teacher Education, especially in an Open & Distance mode of Higher Education. NSOU being a premier State Open University grabbed the opportunity to conduct such a National Level Conference jointly with TESS-INDIA. The School of Education (SoE), NSOU conducted the programme on 19<sup>th</sup> Nov, 2015 in the Seminar Hall, NSOU Hqs, Salt Lake City, Kolkata with a view to instil the idea of OER& MOOC and its use in enhancing teacher education in particular. The Conference started at 10:30 am and continued till 4.45 pm with galore of activities and deliberations on the subject of the Conference. The participants (around 32) were from the B.Ed Special Education Study Centres and faculties of SoE. Dr. A. N Dey, Director, SoE, NSOU delivered the welcome address. The objectives of the programme were conveyed by Sri. Swapan Kr Sarkar, Head, SoE, NSOU and Prof.DulalMukhopadhyaya, SoE, NSOU respectively. They delineated the role of TESS-INDIA in disseminating OERs and the activities NSOU in complying to such innovative bringing. Prof.SubhaSankar Sarkar, Honourable Vice-Chancellor, NSOU delivered the presidential address. Smt. Antara Choudhury, Assistant Professor & Convener of the programme proposed the Vote of Thanks.

There were three technical sessions, namely, I, II & III. Technical session dealt with “Introduction & hands-on with TESS-INDIA OERs. It was taken by Mr. SumanDasgupta, representative of TESS-INDIA”. Prof.SumantaChattaraj chaired the session diligently. Technical session-II was taken by School Guru (an ICT agency of NSOU) Personnel: Smt. Lopamudra Ghosh, Mr. AmitavaDey& Mr. Avinash Kr. Pathak. They focussed on the role &excecutionary details of School Guru in enriching the ICT platform of the University to a desirable level so that learners get most of the benefit from it. The session was chaired by Prof.DulalMukhopadhyaya, SoE, NSOU with utmost precision. The third technical session was dedicated to the resource persons: Dr. Sandhya Paranjpe, NCERT, Dr.Pramathesh Das & Sri. SumanDasgupta, TESS-INDIA. They zealously introduced the TESS-INDIA-UKOU Consortium MOOC and the registration process therein.

The MOOC on “Enhancing Teacher Education through OERs” was ardently described and hands-on training to the participants were encouraged. Sri. Swapan Kr Sarkar, Head, SoE, NSOU chaired this session with all support. The programme witnessed a huge participation and discussion during the sessions. There were exchange of ideas and thoughts between the participants and the speakers. The clouds of misconception and confusions were cleared. The academic boost and an encouraging spirit towards MOOC was successfully instilled among all the participants. This spirit carried all through the completion of the MOOC by all the participants as an outcome of the programme in the near future. The programme concluded with distribution of certificates to all the enthusiastic participants.

\*\*\*\*\*