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Ref No: SoH-KC/22-262

Date: 29.12.2022

### **Report**

#### **Online NSOU Research Project Colloquium 2022 on *Survey of Online Learning in English as Second Language at School Level.***

Date: 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2022

Time: 2.00 pm -4.00 pm.

(Link - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83139228452>)

The Research Project Colloquium began at 2.00 pm with welcoming guests and introducing of the Research Project. Dr Sumana Bandyopadhyay introduced the project initiatives and the present stage of the research. An objective of the project was to look for the varied online support for learners at different districts of the State.

The Key note address began at 2.20 pm with a brief introduction of the speaker. The session was chaired by Prof Sharmistha Chatterjee. The key note speaker for the session was Prof Anindya Syam Choudhury from Assam University, Silchar. The Speaker talked on two aspects of online learning, which were second language learning contexts and second language learning strategies. Prof Choudhury had stressed on three factors in second language learning contexts. These were classroom interactions and individual differences. Two challenges of online classroom interactions were uncertainty of understanding and limited student attendance and participation. The other factors contributing to the online learning context were identity change which now consists of pedagogic identity and pragmatic identity. In second language learning strategies, the speaker had talked on learner-interface, learner-content and the learner-self. The research studies conducted on individual differences were on IQ for the purpose of conversational fluency, extraversion and motivation. The general tendency to experience positive emotions and other sociable traits were studied for understanding learner personality. Motivation studies with the application of a statistical tool, correlation, showed both positive and negative results.

The key note session was followed by a discussion form for 20 minutes and a question answer session for 25 minutes. Both the sessions were conducted by Dr Sumana Bandyopadhyay. In the discussion forum, the project researchers collecting data from the districts had shared their experiences and findings with the participants. The speaker had initiated a discussion on the findings on the studies at individual differences and whether there has been any study made on motivation. This turned into a lively discussion with the faculty members. So far there are no studies on motivation at NSOU, and this can be taken up for the project in following time period. Prof S Mohanraj, emphasized that our researchers working at the school level at East Midnapore, Hoogly, and Nadia can come up with findings on motivation with the application of statistical tools.

Replying to a question, Prof Choudhury spoke on the search skills, Webquest. This when used for online classes, facilitates gathering of information from the internet for inquiry-oriented learner activities. The other topics which followed in the discussion were learner support and online learning characteristics, those which were observed amongst our learners. Technology competence necessary for class management and teacher interaction were also part of the discussion. The colloquium was attended by 12 participants. This comprised of the project researchers, former Postgraduate students of ELT and the Department. Ms Anindita Sarkar on behalf of the Department presented the vote of thanks at 3.45 p.m.

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