



**Netaji Subhas Open University**  
*Accredited by NAAC with grade A*  
Centre for Internal Quality Assurance (CIQA)



*organizes*  
**Workshop on Question Paper Setting  
(MCQ)**

Date: 8<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Venue: Digital Platform (Zoom)

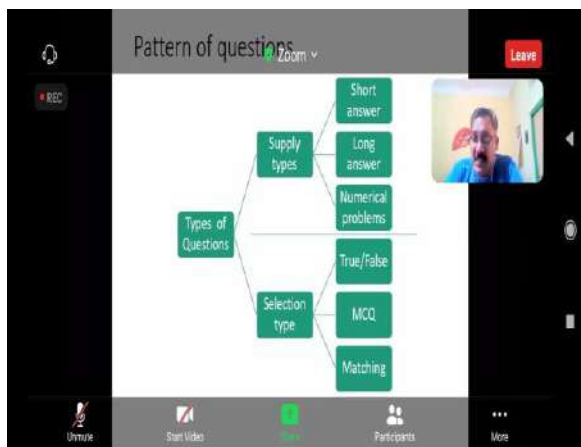
## REPORT

Examinations in the education that we have, have been extensively used for facilitating clearing the grades, upward progression, conferring degrees, etc. The examination expects students to regurgitate what is there in books or has been taught by teachers with best possible accuracy. Learning at higher level requires that skills at a lower level are attained. The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted the academic cycle at a time when the students were ready for the end-semester/ yearly examination, waiting to take competitive examination. The unprecedented scenario sent the HEIs in to big trouble about the options to complete the academic year by conducting the examination. As suggested by UGC, the university adopted blended method of assessment system in the last term-end examination. The assignments were completed by the learners through offline mode i.e. they submitted the assignments at their respective LSCs. The term end examinations were conducted on MCQ based digital platform. The entire ecosystem of examination was changed due to this policy. The teachers who were used to prepare question papers in pen & paper method i.e. in traditional method, they had to prepare the question papers in MCQ. This reform of the examination system was only due to Covid-pandemic. Since, the preparation of MCQ question paper needs specialized knowledge, the Centre for Internal Quality Assurance (CIQA) organized workshop on Question Paper Setting (MCQ) for the University teachers on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2021.

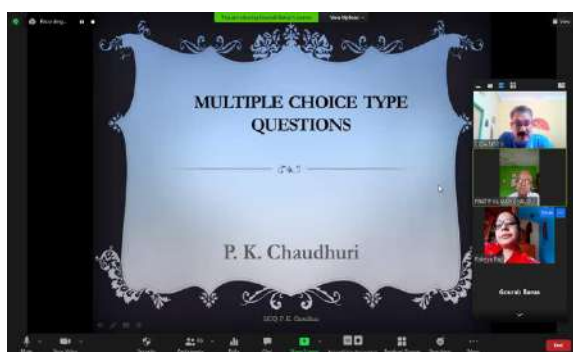
Professor Pratip Kumar Choudhury, Former Director, School of Sciences, NSOU & former DPI, HED, GoWB acted as the Resource person and Professor Subhas Sankar Sarkar, Vice-Chancellor presided over the session. 68 faculties of the university attended the workshop.

Smt. Rokeya Ray, Controller of Examinations (Acting) welcomed the participants. In her welcome address, Smt Ray highlighted the Do's and Dont's for preparing the MCQ questions and she also mentioned that special attention may be given to select options for MCQ. She also described the process of selection of questions by the examination portal through artificial intelligence.

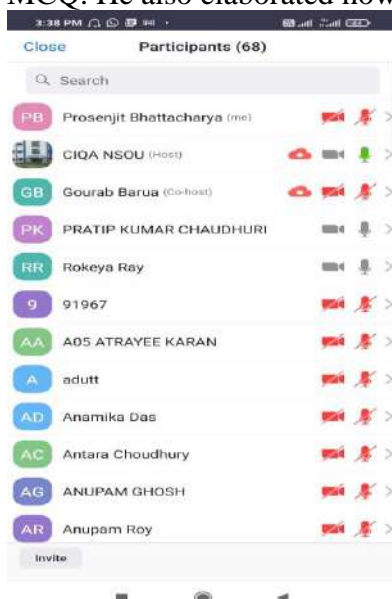
Professor Anirban Ghosh, Director, CIQA introduced the theme before the participants. He told that in this challenging time of COVID 19, the use digital platform is the only solution for teaching-learning. The assessment system has also been changed from traditional pen & paper method to online method. The last two TEEs have been successfully conducted for lakhs of students all over the state of West Bengal. During the intruding the theme, Professor Ghosh highlighted the importance of assessment in an academic programme. He also elaborated the concept of assessment for learning (formative-assignment), assessment of learning (summative-TEE) and assessment as learning (review of prior knowledge and acquisition new knowledge/learning). During his presentation, he discussed different types question that can be set for assessing the learners ability and skills. The adoption of ICT in examination system helps the university in conducting the examination for lakhs of students in a timely manner.



Professor P.K Choudhury in his presentation nicely deliberated the issue of MCQ. He described different aspects of MCQ and how the MCQ can be set to measure the level of competency of a student. According to him, an MCQ is a question, called stem, followed by four (or 3 or 5) possible answers. Only one of them should be correct. It is called the 'key'. The others are called 'distractors'. The correct option must be true and the others must be wrong or false in all possible circumstances. The options are either independent words / phrases / sentences or follow as continuation of the question. In a well-framed MCQ, all the options have the ring of truth and the correct answer is not obvious. It should take some background knowledge and application of mind to distinguish between the correct option and the wrong ones.



During his presentation Professor Choudhury elaborated advantages and disadvantages of MCQ. He also elaborated how the MCQs are set on different subject with suitable examples.



After both the presentation of Professor Ghosh & Professor Choudhury, there was Q & A session. During the Question and Answer session, the participants clarified their doubts with the Experts.

Professor Subha Sankar Sarkar, Vice-Chancellor in his presidential address expressed that this type of workshop is very much helpful for the teachers who are actually involved in the preparation of question paper whether it is MCQ or traditional method.

Sri Manick Ch. Das, Asst. Controller of examinations proposed formal vote of thanks. The programme was moderated by the Director, CIQA.



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Centre for Internal Quality Assurance (CIQA)  
*Organizes Virtual*  
**Workshop on Question Paper Setting (MCQ)**  
Date: 8/5/2021; Time: 2.30pm  
Venue: Digital platform

*Schedule*

2.30pm:	Welcome address: Smt. Rokeya Ray, Controller of Examinations (Acting), NSOU
2.40pm:	Introducing the theme: Professor Anirban Ghosh, Director, CIQA
3.10pm:	Presentation: Professor Pratip Kr. Choudhuri, Former Director, School of Sciences, NSOU and former DPI, HED, Govt. WB
4.00pm:	Q & A session
4.15pm:	Presidential Address: Professor Subha Sankar Sarkar, Vice-Chancellor, NSOU
4.25pm:	Vote of thanks: Sri Manick Ch. Das, Asst. Controller of Examinations, NSOU

Participants: Faculties of NSOU

Zoom platform:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2766151416?pwd=SGxYTTdXKzRWVDJvMUFuQWxYVXIUZz09>

Meeting ID: 276 615 1416  
Passcode: 04\_2021

Report prepared by: Director, CIQA