



Netaji Subhas Open University

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Centre for Internal Quality Assurance (CIQA)

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REPORT

Event: Awareness Programme on Academic Bank of Credit (ABC)

Date: 24th June 2023

No. of Participants: 122 (Faculties, students)

Venue: Ananda Chandra College LSC, Jalpaiguri

Speaker: Professor Anirban Ghosh, Director, Centre for Internal Quality Assurance (CIQA)

Dr. Debashis Das, Principal, Ananda Chandra College

Dr. Chinmayakar Das, Coordinator, Ananda Chandra College LSC

Shri Santanu Dam, Dy. Director, Regional Centre, Jalpaiguri

As per the requirements of NEP 2020, UGC has taken various initiatives to reform the higher education sector of the country. A good number of seminars/ workshops are being conducted at the institutional level to sensitize the stakeholders, especially the higher educational institutions and the students. Netaji Subhas Open University is also taking various initiatives to sensitize students across the state of West Bengal.

The Coordinator of the Learner Support Centre (LSC) introduced the speakers and the theme of the programme. Professor Anirban Ghosh initiated the discussion with a brief introduction to the Academic Bank of Credit (ABC). Prof. Ghosh in his deliberations highlighted the importance and utility of the ABC, which is basically a storage of academic credit. Academic Bank of Credits (ABC) is a digital storehouse that contains information on the credits earned by individual students throughout their learning journey. ABC has been introduced to enable the students' mobility across all higher education institutions with an objective to help in the seamless integration of skills and experiences into a Credit Based system. National Academic Depository (NAD) is the backbone of ABC. The final outcome of credit redemption and issuance of certificates, as well as the compilation of award records, are administered by academic institutions via the NAD Platform. Hence being the owner of academic awards, HEIs mandatorily register themselves under ABC via NAD. In this context, the concept of DigiLocker was also described. DigiLocker is a cloud-based platform for the storage, sharing and verification of documents and certifications. The important objectives of digiLocker were also described as a) paperless governance, b) any time any where the documents, c) real-time verification etc.



Prof. Ghosh highlighted that the advantage of ABC are a) provision for multiple exits for students, b) Storing student credit for a maximum period of 7 years, c) transfer of credit etc.

He also described 3As involved in the ABC system viz. i) Allocation, ii) Accumulation iii) Awards. Specific 'credit' earned from HEIs through learning activities may be awarded a degree by the parent university. The particular student has to get at least 50% of the total credit from the parent university and the remaining may be earned from one or more HEIs. ABC is meant for credit accumulation, transfer and redemption. The degree will be awarded by the parent university. Dr. Ghosh in his concluding remarks told that the university has already taken an initiative to upload the results in a prescribed format in the Digilocker and created the ABC ID for most of the students (UG/PG) of 2022-23 academic session.

Dr. Das in his deliberation described the important features of the NEP 2020 and how the 4-year undergraduate programme will change the entire education system of the country. He specially highlighted the various components/ courses to be studied over the eight semesters which includes discipline specific core courses, elective courses, skill based courses, ability enhancement courses, value added courses etc.



Shri Santanu Dam his lecture described the role of the university to sensitize its students for enrolling in ABC portal. He also elaborated the benefit of ABC in credit mobility and flexible entry and exit provision etc. He told that the Digilocker stores the academic data, credit earned etc. and the ABC portal facilitates credit accumulation, transfer and redemption of credit earned during the learning path.

After all the deliberations, the participants cleared their doubts with the speakers in the Q/A session.

The Coordinator proposed a formal vote of thanks to conclude the awareness programme.



--Report prepared by Director, CIQA