

# Inauguration of NSOU-OER REPOSITORY

## Report

**Title:** Inauguration of NSOU-OER REPOSITORY

**Date:** 22.04.2025

**Venue:** Subhas Chandra Sabhaghar

### **Introduction:**

On April 22, 2025, the Centre for Online Education (COEdn), Netaji Subhas Open University (NSOU) hosted a significant inauguration event to officially launch its Open Educational Resources (OER) initiative, called the “NSOU-OER REPOSITORY.” It is the revamped version of the existing NSOU-OER repository since 2017. This event marked an important milestone in the university's commitment to improving access to quality education for learners, educators, and institutions. The initiative aims to democratise education by providing free, openly accessible, and high-quality educational resources that cater to diverse learning needs across various disciplines at NSOU.

The event was attended by all Directors of academic schools, administrative officers, staff, and various stakeholders of NSOU. Its purpose was to underscore the significance of open education and its capacity to transform the global learning ecosystem.

### **Event Highlights:**

#### **1. Opening Remarks**

The event commenced with the Hon’ble Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Indrajit Lahiri, watering a plant along with the dignitaries present. It was followed by a welcome address by Prof. Someswar Bhowmik, OIC & Coordinator, COEdn, highlighting the significance of Open Educational Resources (OER) in fostering equitable access to education. Dr. Soumen Nandi, Deputy Coordinator, COEdn, provided an overview of the program. The program, including the question-and-answer session, was conducted by Dr. Barnali Roy Choudhury, Assistant Coordinator of COEdn and Assistant Professor in the Department of Library and Information Science at Netaji Subhas Open University.



After introducing the theme by Dr. Nandi, The Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of NSOU Prof. Indrajit Lahiri launched the Website of NSOU-OER Repository. And he delivered an eloquent speech on the

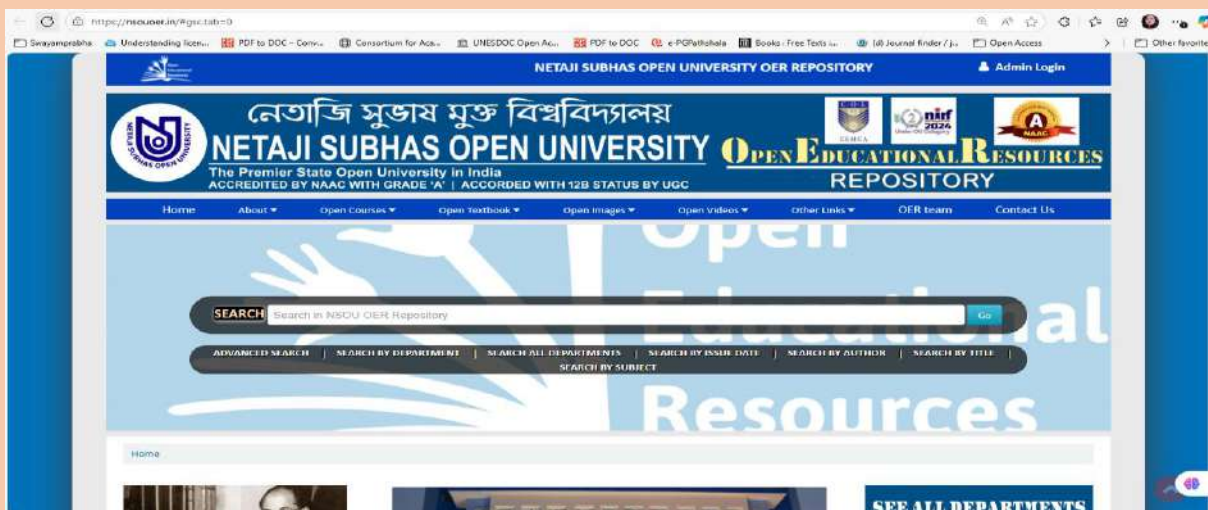
increasing role of technology in education and how Open Educational Resources (OER) can eliminate barriers such as geographical location, socio-economic status, and insufficient resources.



## 2. Live Demonstration of OER Platforms:

Mr. Biswarup Ghosh, CEO of Soft Globe Pvt. Ltd., discussed the software support available through the OER repository and conducted a live demonstration to highlight various possibilities to explore resources on Open Educational Resource (OER) platforms designed for hosting 24X7 mode and providing educational content. These platforms encompass open repositories, digital libraries, and content-sharing websites, each offering a diverse array of educational materials such as textbooks, videos, research papers, and interactive learning modules.

During the demonstration, Mr Ghosh shared valuable insights on how users can access the OER ecosystem. This initiative aims to facilitate easier resource discovery for educators and provide students with the flexibility to access learning materials anytime and anywhere.



## 3. Q&A session:

All attendees representing various fields of education, including science, mathematics, humanities, and social sciences, shared their experiences and insights on using OER in their day-to-day teaching-learning procedure aligned with the curricula. Dr. Roy Choudhury stated

other opportunities for available OER repositories across the globe, which emphasise different forms and formats of educational resources.

#### **4. Collaboration Announcements:**

During the event, several strategic collaborations were announced within the university to enhance the reach and sustainability of Open Educational Resources (OER). These collaborations are designed to:

- i) Develop and curate high-quality educational resources that are aligned with global curricula in general and universities' curricula in particular;
- ii) Provide training for educators on the effective use and creation of OER content.
- iii) Conduct time-to-time awareness programs for different stakeholders of NSOU.

#### **5. OER Benefits Highlighted in the Event:**

The inauguration also highlighted the numerous advantages that Open Educational Resources (OER) provide to both educators and learners, including the following:

**Cost Savings:** Given that textbooks and learning materials can often be prohibitively expensive, OER serves as a cost-effective alternative that alleviates the financial burden on students.

**Flexibility and Accessibility:** OER enables the customization of educational materials to meet the diverse needs of students, thus offering flexibility in the manner and timing of learning. Furthermore, as OER materials are available online, learners from various geographical locations can conveniently access these resources.

**Collaboration and Sharing:** OER fosters a culture of collaboration among educators, facilitating the free exchange of resources, ideas, and best practices. This collaborative environment contributes to the enhancement of overall educational quality.

**Continuous Improvement:** OER is subject to ongoing updates by both educators and learners, ensuring that the materials remain relevant and current.

#### **6. Conclusion:**

The inauguration of Open Educational Resources (OER) at NSOU marked a significant milestone in advancing a more inclusive, equitable, and innovative educational landscape. The event showcased the transformative potential of OER in education by expanding access to resources, encouraging collaboration, and enhancing the overall quality of teaching and learning on a global scale.



The successful launch of OER at this event paves the way for further educational reforms and innovations that can benefit learners worldwide, regardless of their socio-economic background, location, or available resources.

Placed before the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor for kind perusal and advice.

/Approved viz.. memo no VC/20/426 dated 21.05.2025.

/SD

Dr Someswar Bhowmik,  
OIC & Coordinator  
Centre for Online Education  
Netaji Subhas open University

/SD

Dr Soumen Nandi  
Deputy Coordinator  
Centre for Online Education  
Netaji Subhas open University

/SD

Dr Barnali Roy Choudhury  
Assistant Coordinator  
Centre for Online Education  
Netaji Subhas open University

The report is prepared by Dr Soumen Nandi, Deputy Coordinator and Dr Barnali Roy Choudhury, Assistant Coordinator, Centre for Online Education, Netaji Subhas Open University.

