



NETAJI SUBHAS OPEN UNIVERSITY
Accredited 'A' Grade by NAAC

Department of History, School of Social Sciences

DD-26, Salt Lake City, Kolkata-700064

Website: www.wbnsou.ac.in

Memo No: SSS/941

Date: 30/11/2022

REPORT

National level Student Seminar (online mode), 17th November, 2022

Topic: M.K.Gandhi-His Ideas on and Principles of Social Reconstruction and Basic Education: Their Relevance Today

- ✚ Organized by:** Department of History in collaboration with NSOU Centre for Social studies, School of Social Sciences, Netaji Subhas Open University
- ✚ Date & Time:** 17th November, 2022, 12 to 3.45 pm
- ✚ Mode:** Online (facilitated by NSOU ICT)
- ✚ Participants:** Participants from Colleges and Universities of India including Principal, teachers and NSOU faculty
- ✚ Female-29, Male-19 = 48**

✚ About the National Student Seminar:

Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi's 153rd birth anniversary was celebrated on 2nd October, 2022. The Department of History, School of Social Sciences in association with Centre for Social Studies took this opportunity to pay homage to the 'Father of the Nation' by organising a National - level Student Seminar for the UG/PG students/learners enrolled in the Universities and Colleges of India (online mode) on 17th November, 2022.

✚ Objectives of the Student Seminar:

- ✓ To build quality human resource base for the progress of the state and nation
- ✓ To provide facility of lifelong education to the intending learners

- ✓ To integrate technological tools in the pedagogy for facilitating the learning experiences

To ensure that the distinctive ideology of M.K. Gandhi in creating a new India on the basis of social equality and social justice, principles of truth, morality and non-violence is circulated among the members of the younger generation to make them aware of an alternative lifestyle which encourages in the fullest development of one's personality, essential to face the challenges of today's competitive world.

- **Preparation for the Seminar:** A notification with all necessary details related to the National- level Student Seminar titled, '*M.K. Gandhi- His Ideas on and Principles of Social Reconstruction and Basic Education: Their Relevance Today*' was uploaded on NSOU website well in advance. This notice was also circulated through WhatsApp and word of mouth.

This National-level seminar was open to all PG/UG students/learners enrolled in the Universities and Colleges of India. The paper presenters for the seminar were selected on the basis of papers submitted by them on the given topic. The papers were judged strictly on the basis of merit by the Department of History, NSOU. The learners were notified in advance about the acceptance of their respective papers. They were required to make power point presentations for the webinar. Learners who were not adept at making PPTs were helped by the teachers of the History Department, School of Social Sciences, NSOU in this regard. Since this was a student seminar no fees was charged. Registration was free for all student paper presenters and participants.

✚ **MINUTIAE OF NATIONAL-LEVEL STUDENT SEMINAR (ONLINE MODE):**

✚ **Inaugural Session**

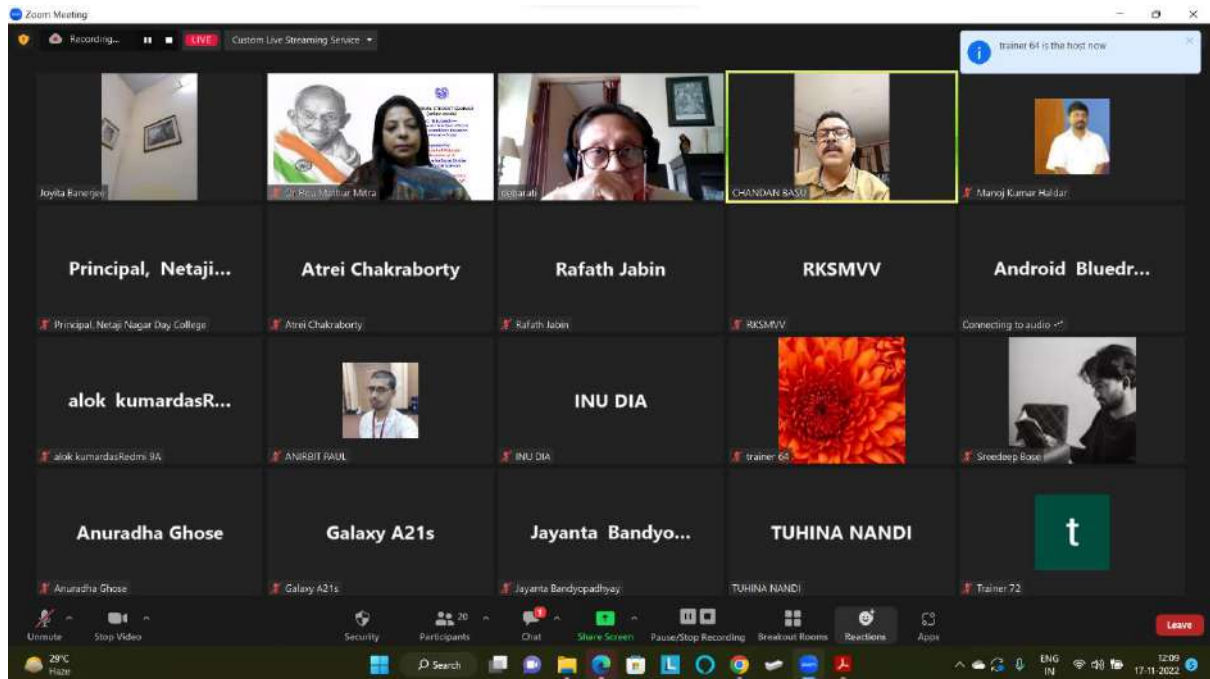
- ✚ **Welcome Address:** The programme started at 12 noon with the Welcome Address by Dr. Manoj Kumar Halder, Assistant Professor of Political Science and Coordinator, NSOU School for Social Studies. He warmly welcomed the faculties, paper presenters and other participants from all colleges and universities to the online seminar and expressed belief that the seminar would be beneficial to all.

- ✚ **Introduction of the Topic:** Professor Chandan Basu, Director, School of Social Sciences and Professor of History, NSOU elucidated the significance of the topic of the seminar. He stated that the Gandhian principles upholding non-violence and a value system based on morality is of much relevance in the contemporary world which does not promote cooperation and harmony between man and man instead promotes a spirit of a cut throat competition leading not only to the degradation of natural resources but also creates a crisis in the human civilisation. Professor Chandan Bose expressed this appreciation that the students have responded to share their views on the relevance of this topic.

- ✚ **From the Vice-Chancellor's Desk:** On this occasion, the Department was extremely honoured to receive an encouraging letter from the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of NSOU,

Professor Ranjan Chakraborty. Dr. Ritu Mathur, Associate Professor and Head, Department of History, read aloud the encouraging message of the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor to the participants. In his message, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor stated that the seminar provided a forum for students from various universities and colleges in India to discuss the thoughts and ideas of M.K. Gandhi. He greatly appreciated the continuous effort of the Department of History to reach out to the learners.

The Inaugural session was compered by Dr. Ritu Mathur Mitra and Debarati Banerjee. Later Debarati Banerjee conducted over the presentation of the papers in Sessions - I & II.

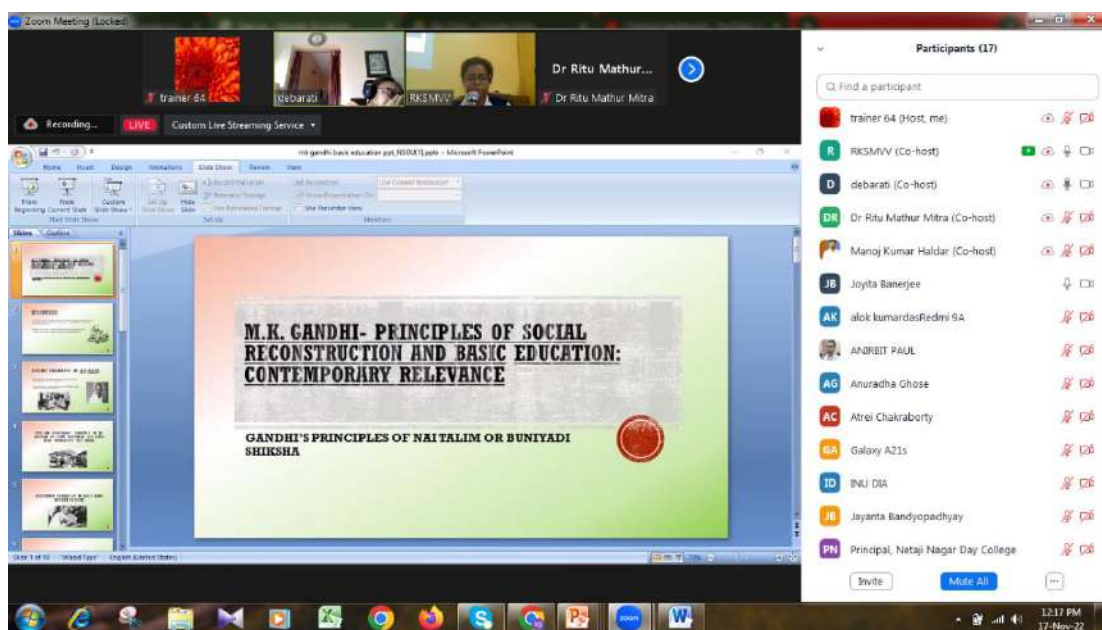


Session I: There were 8 paper presenters in the first session namely, the following:

Paper Presenters:

1. Medha Kundu, UG, Ramakrishna Sarada Mission Vivekananda Vidya Bhavan
2. Inudia Marandi, Ph.D. Scholar, BITS, K.K. Birla campus, Goa
3. Atri Chakraborty, UG, Jogamaya Devi College
4. Pinki Biswas, PG, NSOU (Absent due to illness) Her paper was read out.T
5. Joyita Banerjee, Ph.D. Scholar, University of Calcutta
6. Suparba Bhowmick, UG, Women's Christian Girls' College
7. Rafath Jabin, UG, Rani Birla Girls' College

8. Sreedeeep Bose, PG, NSOU



Each paper presenter was given 8 minutes to present her/his paper using a power point presentation. The effort put in by the students to prepare their power point presentations with relevant images was commendable, especially given that some of them were unfamiliar with ICT tools. All papers presented in the first session were well researched and well -articulated. The topic was analysed from various aspects by the presenters. Each presenter explained his/her opinion about the relevance of Gandhian thought on social reconstruction and basic education. Several new angles and issues were projected in the papers which were thought provoking.

✚ **Session I- Question-Answer, Discussion:** The discussion was extremely beneficial. Questions were thrown from the students' platform, and discussions ensued. Faculty members actively participated in the discussion, contributing findings and comments. The webinar was enlivened by a discussion between Dr. Ritu Mathur Mitra, Debarati Banerjee and Inudia Marandi, presenter of a paper highlighting Gandhi's perception of the Adivasis and their welfare.

✚ **Session II:** A total of 8 papers were presented in the second session making the final tally of paper presenters in both the sessions to 14.

The paper presenters in the second session were as follows:

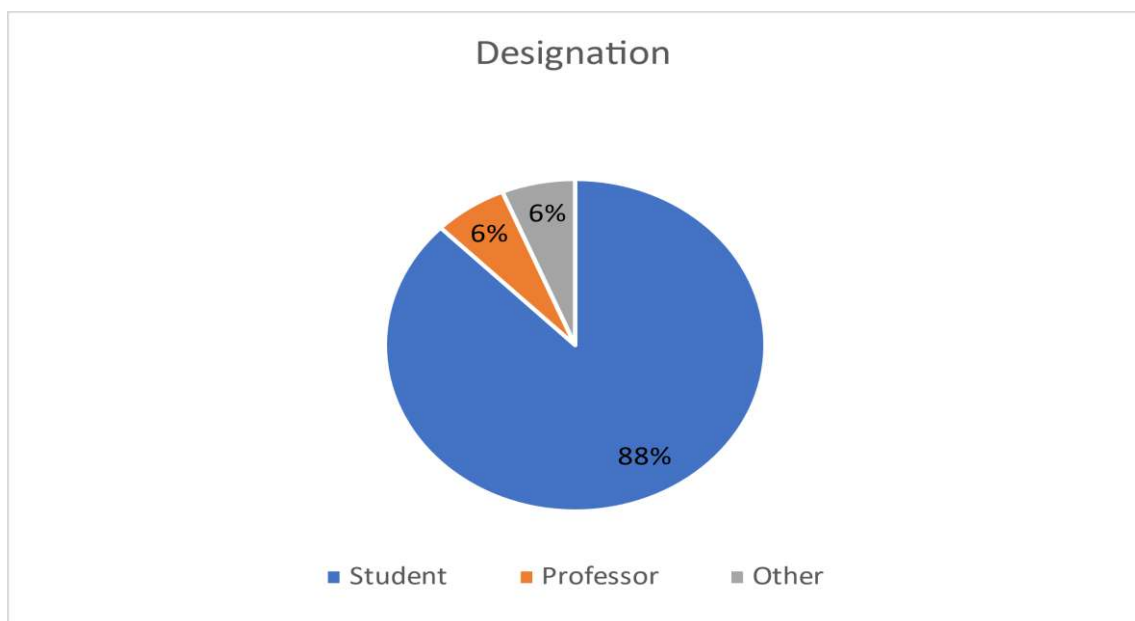
9. Manas Patra, JRF, Ph.D. Scholar, IIT Gandhinagar, Gujarat
10. Prithi Maity, UG, Ramakrishna Sarada Mission Vivekananda Vidya Bhavan
11. Tarak Halder, PG, NSOU
12. Ishani Chakraborty, UG, Women's Christian Girls' College
13. Kulsoom Ahmed, UG, Rani Birla Girls' College
14. Indrani Das Mahapatra, Ramakrishna Sarada Mission Vivekananda Vidya Bhavan

15. Pinki Naskar, Sudipto Naskar and Dhannanjoy Dutta (joint paper) UG, Netaji Nagar Day College
16. Tuhina Nandi, Faculty, NSOU

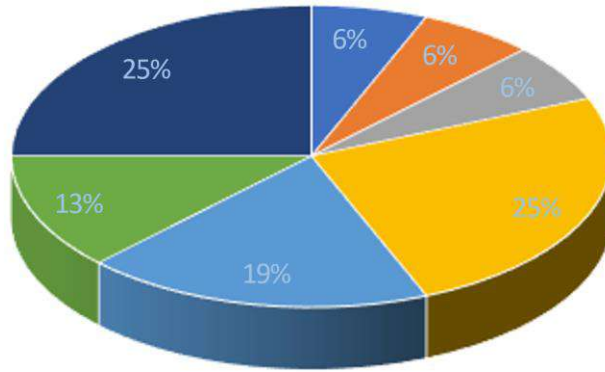
The students in this session continued to present their views and elaborate their understandings of the ideas and principles of Gandhi on social reconstruction and basic education. Many learners expressed their view. The most interesting point in this seminar was that Sm. Tuhina Nandi (NSOU) became so much inspired by the proceedings of the seminar that even though her name was not scheduled in the list of paper presenters, she made an on - spot decision to present a paper.

Session II Paper Presentation was ably coordinated by Debarati Banerjee and Dr. Ritu Mathur Mitra.

- ✚ **Session II- Question-Answer, Discussion:** The participants and paper presenters exchanged ideas but because of time constraints the question /answer/ discussion session could not continue for long.
- ✚ **Wrapping-up:** Dr. Ritu Mathur Mitra and Debarati Banerjee, Associate Professor of History, NSOU wrapped up the Student Seminar by effectively combining the main themes presented by the paper presenters belonging to different departments and universities as well as the comments of the participants during the discussions.
- ✚ **Technical support:** Valuable and glitch-free technical help was provided by NSOU ICT during the student seminar. E-Certificate of participation and presentation was also duly provided.
- ✚ **Vote of Thanks:** The Vote of Thanks was proposed by Debarati Banerjee, Associate Professor, Department of History, School of Social Sciences.
- ✚ **Feedback from Participants and Paper Presenters** on the basis of Google Feedback Forms Submitted have been analysed below:

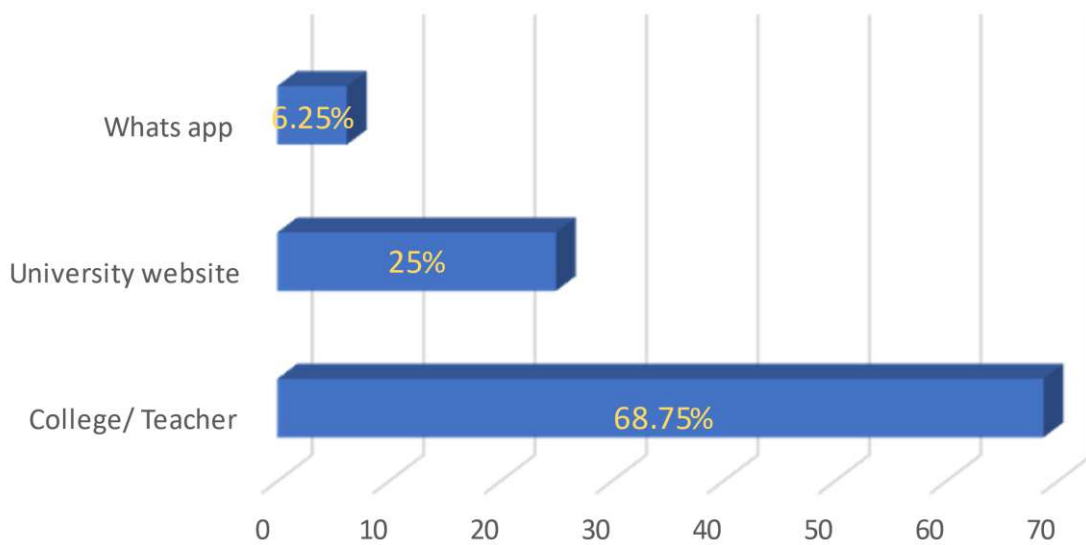


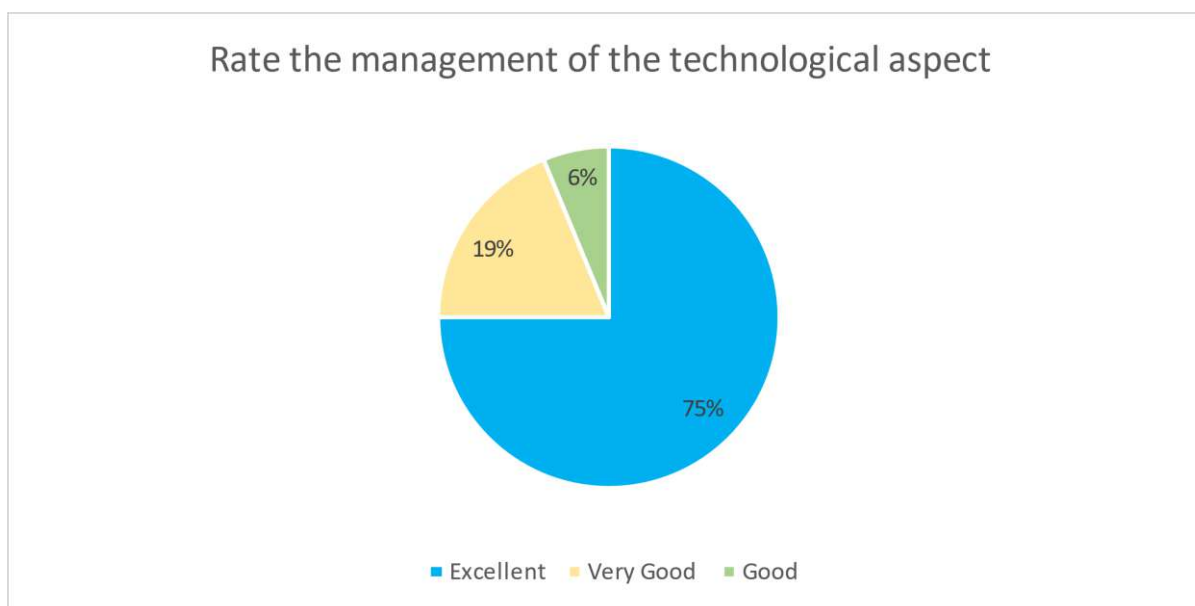
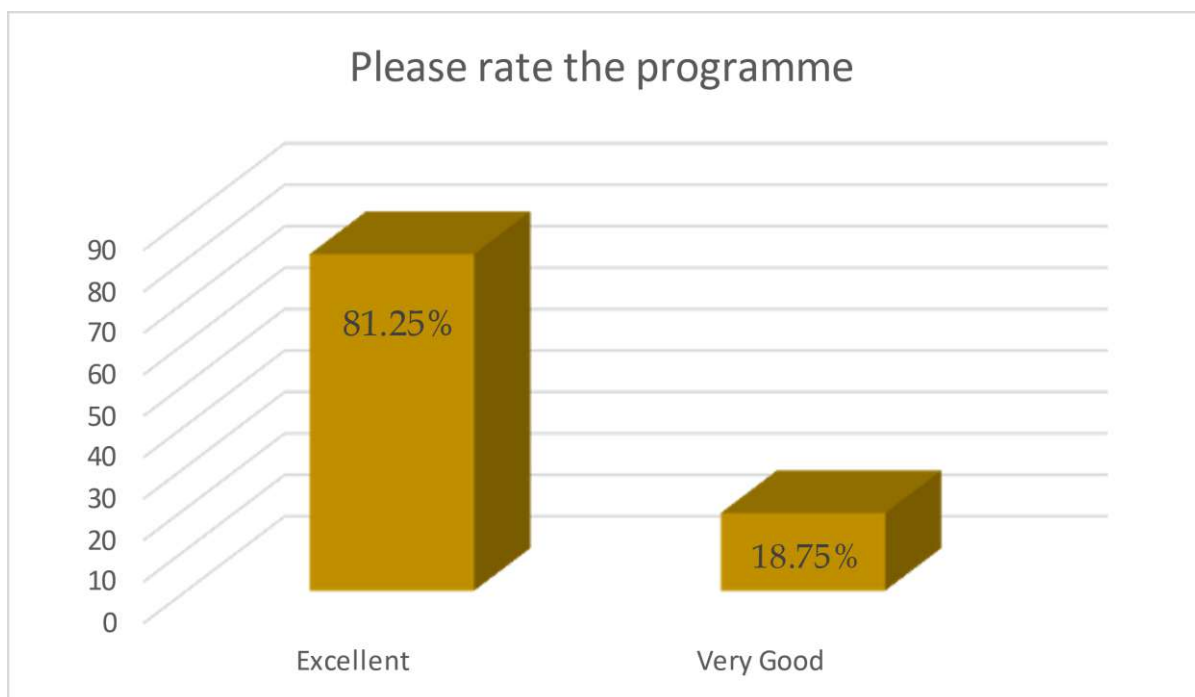
Institution wise present



- BITS, GOA Campus
- Govt. of WB
- Jogomaya College
- Netaji Nagar Day College
- Ram Krishna Sarada Mission
- Rani Birla Girls College
- NSOU

How did you get to know about this programme?





✚ Outcomes of the National Student Seminar (conducted online):

- ✓ Creating a setting for lifelong learning for everyone involved in the National Student Seminar by successfully extending the boundaries of knowledge and encouraging innovative thought.
- ✓ Provided an opportunity to the learners to develop an in-depth understanding about Gandhian ideas of education in reconstruction of Indian society on the principles of egalitarianism, truth, non-violence and morality. Papers, presented in the seminar

revealed the enthusiasm and interest of the learners to seek in the Gandhian thought a path to face challenges of a society based on market economy through principles of minimalism, cooperation and universal brotherhood.

- ✓ With the assistance of NSOU teachers and technical staff, learners who had no prior experience with ICT technologies learned how to make power point presentations.

Placed before the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, NSOU for his kind consideration and approval
(Through The Director, School of Social Sciences, NSOU)

Report prepared by Organizing Secretaries:

Debarati Banerjee Associate Professor

and Dr. Ritu Mathur Mitra, Head & Associate Professor,

Department of History, School of Social Sciences, NSOU

Debarati Banerjee

30/11/2022

Ritu Mathur Mitra

30/11/2022