NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF OPEN SCHOOLING (NIOS)
An Autonomous Institution under Ministry of Education, Govt. of India
Organizes an
International Conference
on
Perspectives and Innovations in Open and
Distance Learning
in collaboration with
Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia (CEMCA)
An International Organisation under provision of UN (Privileges & Immunities) Act, 1947
[Hybrid Mode]
(1st – 3rd April, 2024)
About the National Institute of Open Schooling

The National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) formerly known as National Open School (NOS) was established in November, 1989 as an autonomous organization in pursuance of National Policy on Education 1986 by the Ministry of Education (MoE), Government of India. NIOS is providing a number of Vocational, Life Enrichment and community oriented courses besides General and Academic Courses at Secondary and Senior Secondary level. It also offers Elementary level through its Open Basic Education.

The National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) is the largest Open Schooling System in the world with cumulative enrolment of 4.7 million (during last 5 years). It is one of the two national boards of Secondary Education in India and provides school education through Open Distance Learning mode with the effective integration of technology contributing to the Universalization of school education and catering to the educational needs of the prioritized target groups for equity and social justice.

The NIOS operates through a network of 21 Regional Centers, 1 NIOS Center, 02 NIOS cells and a network of more than 10,000 Study Centers. In three decades of its existence, the NIOS has enabled millions of learners to complete their schooling with a particular focus on education of Learners with Disabilities, Women, Army Personnel, Weavers, Artisans and Minorities. The NIOS has taken up diverse initiatives to provide quality education opportunities to different client groups through Open and Distance Learning and thus was conferred the Award of Excellence for Institutional achievement in Distance Education by the Commonwealth of Learning (COL) in 2016 at the 8th Pan Commonwealth Forum and UNESCO King Sejong Literacy Prize 2021 for the Programme ‘Enabling education of persons with disabilities through the technology-enabled inclusive learning material, with a focus on Indian Sign Language (ISL) based content’. A great achievement has been taken in the Field of Teacher Training with the collaboration of Ministry of Education and NCTE and trained approx 11.50 lakh in-service teachers across the country through distance mode in 2017-19.

NIOS is well acknowledged for its innovations in Open and Distance Learning (ODL) and its initiatives in the field of Inclusive education, Bhartiya Gyan Parampara (Indian Knowledge Tradition), the On-Demand Examination system. However, researches in the field of ODL at school level need impetus. ODL at the school level has gained attention due to its potential to address various educational challenges and cater to diverse learner needs.

Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia (CEMCA)

**History:** In response to the needs expressed by the Commonwealth countries of the Asian region for a more effective use of educational media resources for Distance Education, the Commonwealth of Learning (COL) established the Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia (CEMCA) in 1994. CEMCA, under a host country agreement signed between COL and Government of India (GoI) in 1998, has its headquarters in New Delhi. The GoI notified CEMCA as a diplomatic mission under section 3 of the United Nations (privileges and immunities) Act, 1947 (46 of 1947) vide The Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (ii) dated 10 February 2000.

**Mission:** To assist governments and institutions to expand the scale, efficiency and quality.

**Vision:** To be the foremost agency in Commonwealth Asia that promotes media-enabled learning for development. Learning by using multiple media in open, distance and technology-enhanced learning.

Initiatives in ODL at NIOS

- Virtual Open School
- Vocational Programmes
- Indian Sign Language
- Gender Green Teacher Programme
- Aarambhika: A Hindi Primer for Indian Diaspora
- Gender Policy of Open School Boards
- On-demand Examination
- Digital Education and E-resource Platform (DEEP)
- Agniveer Certification for Agnipath Scheme
- Indian Knowledge Tradition/Bhartiya Gyan Parampara

Delivery Modes

- Energized Textbooks
- SWAYAM MOOCs
- YouTube
- Community Radio
- PM e-Vidya
- Mukta Vidya Vani
- DAISY Books
About the Conference

The Open and Distance Learning is evolving as an appropriate alternative for heterogeneous society. Besides general clientele, it makes earnest efforts to reach the unreached. It is known as flexible, inclusive and adaptive to the diverse needs of the learners. In the present era learners are rapidly involved in technological, social and economic environment. They need to have multitasking skills, global connection, recognition, cultural sensitivity, collaborative and social skills. Therefore, it is important to design an education system for educators, policymakers and educational institutions to provide relevant and effective learning experiences according to the needs of the learners.

The need for lifelong learning is significant and relevant in ODL mode through technological advancement, changing work dynamics in the contemporary context. The present scenario of ODL offers variety of emerging trends such as providing personalized learning experiences, integration of data analysis tools, infusing artificial intelligence to automate administrative tasks, providing insights into course improvements and delivering smart content which is adaptable to various learning styles etc. The innovations in the form of hybrid learning approach helps to address the desire for flexibility among learners while allowing them to balance the advantages of online learning with periodic face-to-face interactions. The innovative approaches and perspectives in the ODL are contributing to create a virtual environment and comprehensive transformation.

This conference aims to bring together educators, researchers, policymakers, and industry experts to share insights, best practices, and cutting-edge innovations that are shaping the future perspectives of ODL. It will provide a platform for participants to delve into the latest research and trends in Open Distance Learning. Participants will have the opportunity to engage with demonstrations, case studies that showcase the effective integration of technology in distance learning. Open Distance Learning has the potential to democratize education by providing access to diverse learners.

The conference will initiate dialogues and emphasize discussions on ensuring inclusivity, accessibility and addressing the digital divide in ODL. The Conference will comprise of parallel sessions with features that delve into the policy projections. Participants will gain insights into global and regional policies and deliberations will revolve around creating an enabling environment for the sustainable growth of ODL. By bringing together a diverse group of stakeholders, the conference strives to explore the potential of ODL and contribute to a more accessible, inclusive and technologically advanced educational panorama.

Owing to the above perspectives, the conference focuses to achieve the following objectives:

1. To identify and explore the emerging trends, innovative practices, challenges and opportunities in ODL.
2. To deliberate upon the policy frameworks and practices supporting growth and sustainability of ODL at global level.
3. To delineate strategies to address systemic issues of access, equity and quality in ODL with special emphasis on inclusion.
4. To explore the future of Vocational and Environmental Education for achievement of sustainable development goals.
5. To provide platform for international collaborations between ODL Institutions, Governments and individuals to strengthen resources and expertise to empower global ODL community.

Sub-Themes

1. Perspectives and Innovations in ODL
2. Policy frameworks and practices supporting ODL.
3. Technology-Enhanced Learning in ODL
4. Pedagogical and Administrative Strategies in ODL
5. Inclusive Access, Equity and Quality in ODL
6. Vocational Education through ODL mode
7. Collaboration and Networking in ODL

*The papers related to the conference objectives, other than the above themes, are also solicited.*
Mode of Presentation (Hybrid Mode)

- Oral Presentation
- Dialogue Presentation
- Poster-cum-Video Presentation

Important Dates

- Submission of Abstract: 5\textsuperscript{th} March, 2024
- Intimation of Provisionally selected Papers/Abstracts: 10\textsuperscript{th} March, 2024
- Submission of Full Paper: 15\textsuperscript{th} March, 2024

Call for Papers

- The abstract may include 250-300 words along with 5-6 Keywords (Times New Roman, Italic, Font size 11 with 1.15 line spacing)
- The full length paper may include 2500 to 3000 words (Times New Roman, Font size 12 with 1.5 line spacing)
- References: APA 7th edition, 2020

Kindly ensure that the final submission of the paper is accompanied by a complete Paper with a Plagiarism check report and author’s brief profile.

Best Paper Award: The best paper(s) shall be awarded.
Publication: The selected papers shall be published in a book having ISBN.

Registration Fee & Payment Method

For Indian Participants
Rs. 700/- for Research Scholars/Students
Rs. 1000/- for Faculty Members/Professionals

For International Participants
USD 150 for Academicians
USD 100 for Research Scholars

Link for Registration: Scan QR Code Google form
https://forms.gle/R8GnnM9wWmLrLYXv9

Account Details for payment
Bank Name – Bank of India, Sector 62, NOIDA
Account Number – 712210110009243
IFSC Code – BKID0007122
Email Id for paper submission: nios.intconf@gmail.com
Accommodation

Accommodation to the delegates shall be provided on first come first serve basis, subject to the availability of the rooms in the NIOS Guest House. The foreign delegates and others interested in hotel accommodation can mention their interest in the Google Form. Details regarding accommodation are available in Registration Form.

How to Reach NIOS

By Air:
- 35 KM from Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi, India to National Institute of Open Schooling, NOIDA

By Rail:
- 18 KM from Hazrat Nizamuddin, New Delhi Railway to National Institute of Open Schooling, NOIDA
- 9 KM from Ghaziabad Railway Station to National Institute of Open Schooling, NOIDA
- 16 KM from New Delhi railway Station to National Institute of Open Schooling, NOIDA
- 17 KM from Old Delhi Railway Station to National Institute of Open Schooling, NOIDA

By Road:

NOIDA, Sector 62 is well connected to Delhi, Greater NOIDA, Faridabad. Frequent State Bus Transport services are available by this route

NIOS Location please Scan QR Code

Assistance

For Travel:
1. Mr. Aditya Kumar, Assistant Director, Audit (Mobile No. 9899932287)
2. Mr. Surjeet Kumar, Assistant Director, Admn. (Mobile No. 9334356745)
3. Mr. Sachin Gupta, Office Assistant, CBC (Mobile No. 9953695801)
4. Mr. Balveer Singh, Office Assistant, CBC (Mobile No. 8573964414)

For Accommodation:
1. Mr. Shiv Kumar Panda, Deputy Director, Accounts (Mobile No. 9818266313)
2. Dr. R.N. Meena, Assistant Director, Academic (Mobile No. 9818463040)
3. Mr. Sunil Kumar, Executive Assistant, CBC (Mobile No. 9456346242)
4. Mr. Anuj Kumar, Office Assistant, CBC (Mobile No. 7503207580)
5. Mr. Vivek, Office Assistant, CBC (Mobile No. 9761359378)
Invited Speakers

Inaugural Session

Prof. Mamidala Jagadesh Kumar
Chairman, UGC, New Delhi, India

Dr. Nirmal Singh Kalsi, IAS (Retd.)
Chairperson, NCVET
New Delhi, India

Prof. Anil D. Sahasrabudhe
Chairman, National Education Technology Forum
New Delhi, India

Prof. Alok Kumar Rai
Vice Chancellor
University of Lucknow, Lucknow, India

Valedictory Session

Prof. Nageshwar Rao
Vice-Chancellor, IGNOU
New Delhi, India

Prof. T. G. Sitharam
Chairman, AICTE, New Delhi, India

Prof. (Dr.) Ami Upadhyay
Vice Chancellor
Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Open University,
Gujarat, India

Prof. Dhananjay Singh
Member Secretary, ICSSR
New Delhi, India

Prof. Peter Scott
President and CEO,
Commonwealth of Learning, Vancouver, Canada

Prof. Eugene G Kowch
Ph.D. Calgary, Alberta,
Calgary University, Canada

Prof. Tony Mays
Director Education COL, Vancouver, Canada

Prof. Claire Hedges
Centre Manager, Faculty of Wellbeing
Education & Language Studies,
The Open university, London, UK

Prof. Manjula Vithanapathiram
University of Colombo, Sri Lanka

Prof. Bed Raj Acharya
PhD Professor of Mathematics
Education and Director of GSE
Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, Nepal

Dr. Tommie Hamaluba
Open University, Botswana, South Africa

Prof. Vivek Mani Tripathi
Guangdong University of Foreign Studies
China

Prof. Dhiraj Pradhananga
Associate Professor of
Hydrometeorology, Tribhuvan University
Chief Patron

Prof. Saroj Sharma
Chairperson,
National Institute of Open Schooling, NOIDA, India

Patron

Dr. Basheerhamad Shadrach
Director, Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia (CEMCA), New Delhi

Chief Advisor

Prof. Surinderjit Kaur Bawa
Vice Chancellor
Guru Kashi University Talwandi,
Bathinda, Punjab & Chairperson of the Committee

Advisors

Prof. Harjeet Kaur Bhatia
Professor, Department of Educational Studies,
Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi

Prof. Rajeev Rattan Sharma
Professor & Dean Faculty of Education,
University of Jammu, Jammu

Dr. Kiran Lata Dangwal
Associate Professor
Department of Education
University of Lucknow, Lucknow, U.P

Dr. Amrit Geutam
Associate Professor
Department of School and Non-Formal Education,
National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration,
New Delhi

Dr. Anjali Shokeen
Assistant Professor, University School of Education
Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University, New Delhi

Dr. Firdous Ahmad
Assistant Professor
School of Education,
Central University Kashmir, Ganderbal, Srinagar, Kashmir

Conference Directors

Sh. S. Vijaya Kumar
Director (SSS)

Dr. Rajiv Kumar Singh
Director (Academic)
Ms. Monica Sharma
Programme Co-ordinator, CEMCA
Mob-9971821444

Dr. Sunita J. Kathuria
Teacher Educator
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Dr. Kanchan Bala Kachroo
Training Officer (Education/DE/CBC)

Ms. Monica Sharma
Programme Co-ordinator, CEMCA

Dr. Sunita J. Kathuria
Teacher Educator

Post Conference Attraction In and Around Delhi

• Akshardham Temple
• Qutub Minar
• National War Museum
• Lotus Temple
• Red Fort
• Yashobhoomi
• Bharat Mandapam