

# INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY

## REGIONAL CENTRE, JAIPUR

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### REPORT OF THE ORIENTATION OF ACADEMIC COUNSELLORS OF B.Ed. PROGRAMME

#### OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRAMME

A two day Orientation for Academic Counsellors of B. Ed Programme was organized at Regional Centre Jaipur. The programme was organized for Academic Counsellors of 2 Regional centres i.e. RC Jaipur and RC Jodhpur. Resource person from School of Education, IGNOU were invited to address the participants and orient them with various dimensions of the implementation of revised B. Ed programme. The programme was meant to equip the counselors to ensure effective and efficient support services of all kind to students enrolled in revised B. Ed programme in 2016. At the same time one of the objectives of the programme was to get feedback from academic counselors about various dimensions of implementation of this revised B. Ed programme and their view points on different aspects of new curriculum planned at the University HQs. level.

**Date :** September 6-7, 2016

**Venue:** Conference Room, IGPR & GVS, Jaipur

**No. of Participants:** 29 participants participated in the Orientation programme from 2 Regional Centres comprised of four PSCs of B. Ed Programme such as 2366(P) and 2355(P) of RC Jaipur and 2351(P) & 2380(P) of RC Jodhpur.

[18 participants from RC Jaipur and 11 participants from RC Jodhpur, Annexed as Annexure I]

**Resource Person:** Prof. M. C. Sharma and Dr Bharati Dogra from SOE, IGNOU, Maidan Garhi, New Delhi.

#### Objectives of the Programme

- i) To explain the objectives and nature of Revised B.Ed. Programme and its effective and efficient implementation through PSCs.
- ii) To identify the issues of student support services at different levels (RC & LSCs).
- iv) To discuss the role of Academic Counsellors for facilitating the student support services in effective implementation of revised B. Ed programme.
- v) To collect suggestions & feedback from Academic Counsellors on various dimensions of the Revised B.Ed. Programme and its better implementation.

**Programme Schedule:** Annexed as Annexure II

## DAY I: 6<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2016

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### INAUGURAL SESSION [10:00AM-10:45AM]

Mr. Sher Singh, Assistant Regional Director & Coordinator Orientation Programme welcomed the participants, resource persons Prof. M. C. Sharma & Dr Bharati Dogra and the chief guest Sh. Siddhartha Mahajan, District Collector, Jaipur, Rajasthan. The programme started with lamp lightening by the Chief Guest, Resource Persons and Regional Director.

Dr. M. K. Dash Regional Director welcomed the chief guest, resource persons and participants. He gave a presentation of the over view of the University, Regional Centre and highlighted the achievement of the RC in last two years in terms of establishment of 14 new Regular Study Centre, establishment of 6 new special study centers in different jails, empanelment of nearly 900 new academic counselors and technology mediated interventions for facilitating and promoting student support services at the RC and over administration and management of the Regional Centre. The basic objective of the two day programme was also presented by the Regional Director.

Prof. M. C. Sharma explained the meaning and importance of Open and Distance Learning in the present scenario. He viewed that Open and Distance Learning Institutions play a crucial role in promoting the education in a knowledge society by leveraging different strategies such as access and reach; equity and gender; quality and effectiveness; cost-effective education for all; and bringing quality education to the door step of millions.

Further, he added that Learner-centric approach plays a pivotal role in ODE. Learners are heterogeneous group and their level of understanding differs from individual to individual and they are from different segments of the population from different places. Role of ICT is very important and to meet the expectations of these group of people in the society. Prof Sharma pointed that the revised B.Ed. Programme in ODL mode is developed as per NCTE new regulations 2014. It comprises theory and practical components for enhancing the skills of teachers and professionals. Orientation of academic counselors is a means to ensure quality of implementation of the programme.

Dr. Bharati Dogra welcomed all participants and expressed that this orientation programme is an important initiative to train/orient the field functionaries to effective implementation of B.Ed. Programme through ODL mode.

Sh. Siddhartha Mahajan, chief guest of the inaugural session appreciate the efforts of IGNOU and initiatives of RC Jaipur in developing learner friendly services for facilitating their studies. Sh. Mahajan advised the participants to realize their roles and responsibilities with accountabilities for learning of learners through better implementation of the programme in the region.

Sh. Kamlesh Meena, Asst Regional Director extended a formal vote of thanks to the Chief Guest and resource persons.

### TECHNICAL SESSIONS

**Academic Counselling and Role of an Academic Counsellor:** Prof. M. C. Sharma explained the term academic counselling in distance education and how to make it learner-centric with effective counselling of academic counselors to remove the barriers and hurdles/ obstacles of

distance learners. The basic parameters of counseling & roles of counselors were explained to participants during the discussion and interaction.

Prof. Sharma pointed that the role of Academic Counsellors in the teaching-learning processes is very vital to carry on the academic deliberations in counselling sessions and resolving the doubts of the learners. He also focused on the important qualities of the Academic Counsellors for better counselling.

**Assessment through Assignments and Grading:** Dr. Bharti Dogra explained the role of assessment through assignments and grading in Open and Distance Learning. She highlighted the importance of Tutor Marked Assignment for the distance learners and how it serves the purpose of two way communications. Dr. Dogra cited some examples & illustrations and tried to give optimum exposure to participants to handle assignments effectively.

**Objectives and Nature (Discussion on Core Courses):** Prof. M. C. Sharma explained the objectives and nature of revised B.Ed. Programme with reference to NCTE new regulations, 2014. The complete programme structure of revised B. Ed programme was explained to all participants with highlight of course structure of 1<sup>st</sup> year. Besides, basic guidelines like duration of the programme and other aspects of flexibility approaches were also discussed with the participants.

Prof. Sharma discussed the practical components consisting of EPC courses, internship including teaching-practice and school-based activities, practical oriented assignments and Activities related to EPC will be carried out in the school i.e., the works centre (the place where the student-teacher is teaching). How the workshops include intensive face-to-face interaction to develop skills and competencies and to be organized at the Programme Study Centre or at any other suitable place was explained to participants. Rules, regulations and guidelines were also discussed and explained to all participants.

**Pedagogy Courses B.Ed.:** Dr. Bharti Dogra discussed the pedagogy courses of B.Ed. 1<sup>st</sup> year with objectives of each courses and their structure.

## **DAY 2: 7<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2016**

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### **TECHNICAL SESSIONS**

**EPC COURSES (1ST YEAR):** Dr. Bharti Dogra explained on enhancing professional capacities through EPC courses of B.Ed. first year. She discussed about EPC 1: Reading and Reflecting on Texts. How course will serve as a foundation to enable B.Ed. students to read and respond to a variety of texts in different ways and also learn to think together, depending on the text and the purposes of reading. This course will enable learners to enhance their capacities as readers and writers by becoming participants in the process of reading.

The point of discussion was application of ICT in a classroom is an important step to help student-teachers interpret and adapt ICTs in classrooms. It would be a means of teacher development that is self-directed, need-based, decentralized, and collaborative as well.

**Organizing the Workshop Based Activities:** Prof. M. C. Sharma discussed about workshop based activities to sensitize the learners to acknowledge and appreciate diversity among learners and their different learning styles; help learners to acquire the ability to reflect and examine their own strengths and beliefs and initiate action for improvement; and share information, knowledge and best practices, based on individual experiences of participating teachers among themselves. Prof. Sharma explained the role of resource persons in the workshop and advised to utilize the

services of experienced persons from different institutions for providing variety of experiences to learners.

**Internship: Role of Various Stakeholders:** Prof. M. C. Sharma explained the participants about the learning opportunities for learners and enable them to participate in all kinds of school activities including practice teaching and organizing various school based activities. Prof. Sharma explain various features of internship and guideless for taking up this component effectively and efficiently by the PIC at the PSC and academic counsellors also. Prof. Sharma also discussed about the selection procedure of school and activities during the Internships & its supervision.

**Quality Assurance in Programme Implementation (Monitoring and Record keeping):** Prof. M. C. Sharma discussed with all the participants on quality assurance and programme implementation. He said that Quality assurance is an approach to managing quality which focuses on the management of processes. The purpose of quality assurance is to ensure consistency of services and products, and reliability in their delivery and quality.

#### **VALIDICTORY SESSION [04:45PM- 05:30 PM]**

Mr. Sher Singh, Asst Regional Director briefly explained the outcomes of each session of the two day programme and advised all participants to identify the action points and work on them at their work place. He also focused on some of the observations/feedback received from the Academic Counsellors.

Dr. M. K. Dash, Regional Director addressed the participants and categorically cited some if the grey areas in the implementation of programmes at the PSC level in terms of organization of workshop, practice teaching, assignment evaluation, and participation of learners in counselling sessions etc. He advised all counselors to be proactive with all professional ethics in terms of implementation of basic parameters of the University for the best interest of learners of B. Ed. Though it is the responsibility of the PIC at the PSC, however academic counselors are the major stakeholder to support and co-operate the PIC in ensuring quality of implementation of IGNOU B. Ed programme.

Prof Sharma advised all participants to implement the revised B. Ed programme meticulously to set a model in the field in terms of preparation of teacher for the future.

The session ended with a formal vote of thanks extended by Mr. B. L. Meena, Assistant Registrar.

**Dr. M. K. Dash**  
**Regional Director**

**Director, RSD**