



Report of 3-day Training of Trainers (ToTs)
organized by
School of Vocational Studies
Netaji Subhas Open University

Venue: NSOU Headquarters, Salt Lake, Kolkata

Date: 18-20 September 2024

Participants: Trainers/ Academic Counsellors from LSCs (76 in number)

Background:

Learning is a continuous process. It is necessary for the trainers to keep themselves abreast with the changes or latest developments in their respective domains. Trainers need to keep pace with the ever-changing job market and advent of technology and thus it is crucial for them to sit and incorporate necessary changes in their training style or course module under the expert guidance of an individual. Training the Trainers is important as it helps them impart their respective training more efficiently and effectively. It actually gives them an opportunity to work on their skills and core competencies and come out with something more exciting, innovative and unique, eventually benefitting the learners.

In this backdrop, the School of Vocational Studies (SVS) of the University organized 3-day Training of Trainers (ToTs) for three vocational programmes namely Pre-primary Teachers Education-Montessori, Yoga Education and Tailoring and Dress Designing, Knitting. A total of 72 participants attended the ToTs.

1st day:

The trainers of Diploma in Pre-Primary Teachers' Education Montessori were invited on 1st day of the TOTs. The Director, SVS welcomed all the participants (25) who came from the different study centres located at different districts of the state of West Bengal. The Resource Person, Dr. Papiya Upadhyay, Asst. Professor in Education, NSOU took the 1st session on theory papers (I, II, & V). She presented the pedagogical consideration and child education in understanding child behaviour and nuances of child development; role of teachers in nurturing the tiny-tots and creating a caring and stress-free learning environment.



Dr. Upadhyay started her lecture-cum discussion session with the notion of how do children grow and learn. The discussion emerged with the following points-

- ✚ The brain plays an important role in learning
- ✚ Learning is based on the associations and connections children make
- ✚ Emotions are deeply connected to learning
- ✚ The learning environment matters
- ✚ Learning occurs in particular social and cultural environments

Dr. Upadhyay introduced here the role of pedagogy and reinforced its role in every stage of growth and development of a child through learning process. She also covered in her presentation the significance of foundational and preparatory stages in this realm. There were discussions on the curricular transactions of components ubiquitous in these stages of education and development of a child-physical, intellectual, emotional, moral and social. The learning skills and experiential pedagogy promulgated in the NEP 2020 for the children were also explained with examples. The session also evoked interaction

on pedagogical thinking into designing learning processes of children and ways to apply in the context-specific educational/institutional ecosystem, i.e., contextual learning with 5E approach: (Engage, Explore, Explain, Elaborate, and Evaluate.).

The following transpired from the one and a half lecture cum discussion session on the role of pedagogy in understanding child learning:

- ✚ Holistic Approach including physical, intellectual, emotional and spiritual development
- ✚ Brain-based learning to make learning natural
- ✚ Stages of development and psychological needs
- ✚ Activities for various learning styles to address each child
- ✚ Constructivism – Building on prior knowledge with the help of preparing activities
- ✚ Integrated Values in each activity to help children learn lessons for life

Dr. Upadhyay concluded by delivering the various methods and approaches of pedagogy in the pre-primary teacher training.



In the second session, the practical papers were discussed one by one with the teaching aids and demonstrated by the senior trainers. The even was concluded with the demonstration of the use of Mobile App and LMS. Dr. Ghosh elaborated the examination process.

The programmes of the 1st day ended with the distribution of certificates and vote of thanks proposed by the Director (i/c), SVS.

2nd Day:

The trainers of Diploma in Yoga and Naturopathy were invited on the 2nd day of the TOTs. The Director, SVS welcomed all the participants (19) who came from the different study centres located in different districts of the state of West Bengal who offer the course in yoga. Shri Anindya Kumar Das acted as the Resource Persons for the day. Various aspects of syllabus were discussed during the interaction with the participants.

The following discussions were held on the points mentioned below and decisions were taken unanimously by all the study centres present in the session which are as follows:-

It was discussed that after the completion of each module, Internal Assessment will be held on each module by the Study Centres for each individual student.

The Internal Assessment Examination will carry 30% marks and Term End Examination will carry 70% marks. To provide relief from extra burden on students, it was also discussed that the Term End Examination will have to be completed in the last two months of the programme.

The intimation has to be given to the NSOU regarding the Examination Schedule (i.e. Month, Date and Time, including the module name).

The Term End Examination (practical) has to be conducted in offline mode Only.



3rd Day:

The trainers of Tailoring & Dress Designing and Knitting were invited to attend the TOTs on 1st day. 32 trainers from across the state of West Bengal (10-LSCs) attended the programme. The Director, SVS welcomed all the participants and explained the importance of this programme. He also mentioned that prior to the pandemic, such training programmes were organized as the capacity building programme every year. He also stressed upon the standardization of teaching-learning at all study centres across the state. The Resource Person of the day, Dr. Sankar Roy Maulik, Associate Professor, Silpa Sadana, Visva Bharati took over the session. In his deliberations, Dr. Maulik elaborated that apparel designing is an indispensable interdisciplinary discipline, and textiles are the basic entities. Fashion and textiles are complementary to each other. A designer constantly looks for new inspirations because fashion continually changes and reinterprets itself. Proper creation of fabric surfaces is essential to produce innovative apparel. Dyeing and printing are processes employed in the conversion of raw fibres into finished goods that add value to textiles and can be further converted to garments. The main focus of this interactive session is to streamline the teaching methodology adopted in different centres and also to motivate trainers with new ideas so that they can further percolate these among the students. Various innovative techniques for dyeing and printing with natural and synthetic dyes were discussed during the session. The use of natural dyes as functional textiles, eco-printing, mud resist etc. was also covered during the presentation.



The event was very interactive where the participant exchanged their views. The participation certificate were distributed to all the participants.



As the outcome of the Training of Trainers (ToTs) programme, the following suggestions were made:

- ✚ The number of questions of the MCQs-QB may be increased. The questions may be increased in the question paper may be increased from 10 to 20.
- ✚ Internship may be introduced for the vocational courses.
- ✚ 2/3 days Campus/ industry visit may be introduced for the vocational courses.
- ✚ The syllabus may be revised to meet the needs of the job markets and the SLMs may be updated on the basis of the revised syllabus.
- ✚ More audio-video lectures may be developed in theory and practical papers as per norms.