About Indira Gandhi National Open University

The Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), established by an Act of Parliament in 1985, has continuously striven to build an inclusive knowledge society through inclusive education. It has tried to increase the Gross Enrollment Ratio (GER) by offering high-quality teaching through the Open and Distance Learning (ODL) mode. Today IGNOU serves the educational aspirations of over 3 million students in India and other countries through 21 Schools of Studies and a network of 67 regional centres, around 2,667 learner support centres and 29 overseas partner institutions.

About School of Education

School of Education (SOE) is one of the first schools to be established in IGNOU. The functions of the SOE, within the broad framework of the objectives of IGNOU, are to carry out academic activities addressing education as a field of knowledge and an area of practice. SOE is mandated to offer academic programmes in education as an area of knowledge and a field of professional practice. Four disciplines namely, Education, Distance Education, Educational Technology and Adult Education have been assigned to the School. The School has been undertaking three types of activities- development of academic programmes, research and documentation activities and extension activities.

About the Conference

Teacher education through distance mode was initiated in the form of correspondence education in India for providing in-service training to teachers teaching at different levels. Later different committees and commissions recommended the need for in-service training of teachers through distance mode. Subsequently distance teacher education programmes underwent rapid growth and expansion. Presently teacher education programmes through distance mode are being offered by Indira Gandhi National Open University, several State Open Universities and Institutions/Directorates of Distance Education. This has helped significantly in clearing the backlog of untrained teachers. Although, teacher education through the distance mode has been contributing to the cause of teacher education, it remains beset with innumerable challenges, particularly in aspects pertaining to the implementation of the programmes. Further the NCTE Norms and Regulations - 2014 for teacher education through Open and Distance Learning have added new dimensions to the context of teacher education through ODL.

To address these challenges, collaborative thinking and rich discourse are essential. Therefore there is a need to deliberate on various aspects of ODL teacher education such as, genesis and growth, expansion, potential of ODL mode for meeting the huge requirement of trained teachers, quality concerns, and the like. Hence, a three-day national conference on the theme ‘Teacher Education through Open and Distance Learning: Challenges and the Road Ahead’ is proposed by School of Education, IGNOU.
Objectives

The objectives of the conference are as follows
1. To discuss the genesis and transformation of teacher education through open and distance learning.
2. To critically analyze the present status of ODL teacher education in India.
3. To identify the challenges to quality teacher education provided through the open and distance learning mode.
4. To deliberate on effective use of emerging ICTs in ODL teacher education.
5. To deliberate on teacher preparation for fulfilling the future societal needs and demands.

Conference Theme: Teacher Education through Open and Distance Learning: Challenges and the Road Ahead.

Sub-themes:
1. Genesis and Changing Perspectives of Teacher Education through ODL
   - Growth and expansion of teacher education through distance mode in India
   - Changing perspectives of teacher education through ODL
2. Policy Initiatives for Teacher Education: A Critique
   - Policy initiatives on teacher education through ODL
   - Regulations, Norms and Standards prescribed by the National Council for Teacher Education (2014): Implications for ODL teacher education
   - Policy implementation and impact: Systemic Challenges
   - Continuous Professional Development of Teachers
3. Quality Assurance in Teacher Education through ODL
   - Curriculum design, development and transaction
   - Monitoring, Supervision and Evaluation processes
   - Innovative pedagogical practices in teacher education
4. Learner Support Services in Teacher Education through ODL
   - Challenges to learner support services
   - Collaboration and networking for effective teacher education through ODL
5. Application of ICT in Teacher Education through ODL
   - Use of ICT for instructional purposes
   - Dissemination of learning resources using ICT
   - Application of emerging ICTs
   - Preparing teachers for digital learning environment
6. Teacher Education through ODL: Future Perspectives
   - Teacher Preparation for lifelong learning
   - Teacher Preparation for inclusive education
   - Research in ODL teacher education

Important Dates

Conference dates: March 27-29, 2017
Date for abstract submission: Jan 25, 2017
Date for communication of acceptance of abstract: Jan 31, 2017
Date for full paper submission: Feb 28, 2017

Delegates
Teachers, teacher educators, academics, administrators, researchers

CALL FOR PAPERS

Guidelines for submission of Abstract and Paper
- Authors must submit papers based on the themes and sub-themes of the conference.
- Paper should be original. Authors are required to enclose a declaration to this effect.
- Abstract should be within 250 words. Author(s) Name, Postal Address, e-mail ID, mobile number, designation and institution must be mentioned.
- Full paper should be within 3000-5000 words including figures and tables.
- Abstract and paper should be submitted using MS -Word, Times New Roman font, font size 12, headings 14 and 1.5 line spacing. Reference should follow the APA style. Only soft copies of the abstract has to be submitted to the following e mail ID: conferencesoe17@gmail.com
- Abstracts will be reviewed and only authors of selected abstracts will be invited.
- Soft copy of the full paper should be submitted to the e-mail ID mentioned earlier. Hard copy of the full paper should be submitted to: Conference Co-ordinator, School of Education, IGNOU, Maidan Garhi, New Delhi – 110068.

PATRON: PROF. RAVINDRA KUMAR, VICE CHANCELLOR, IGNOU
Organizing Committee
Prof. Saroj Pandey, Chairperson and Director, SoE, IGNOU
Prof. SVS Chaudhary, SoE, IGNOU
Prof. D. Venkateshwarlu, SoE, IGNOU
Dr. Nirmala Yalavarthi, SoE, IGNOU
Dr. Sutapa Bose, SoE, IGNOU

Venue - Convention Centre, IGNOU, Maidan Garhi, New Delhi - 110068
Registration Fee
No registration fee will be charged.
Accommodation
The delegates may arrange accommodation on their own. However, delegates may approach the guest houses in IGNOU, NCERT and NEUPA which have limited accommodation facilities.
TA will not be paid to the delegates.