

CENTRE FOR TESTING AND EVALUATION H.Q. CENTRAL INSTITUTE OF INDIAN LANGUAGES, MYSORE

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August 2010



NTS-India Website Launched

 15^{th} July 2010



Launching of NTS Website: (L-R) Prof. Pon Subbiah (Head, NTS), Dr. Anita Bhatnagar Jain (Joint Secretary, MHRD, New Delhi), and Prof. Rajesh Sachdeva (Director i/c, CIIL)

The new website of the National Testing Service-India <u>www.ciil-ntsindia.net</u> was officially launched by Dr. Anita Bhatnagar Jain, Joint Secretary (Languages), Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India, New Delhi on July 15, 2010 at 3.30 pm in the conference hall of CIIL, Mysore. It was dedicated to the nation on the occasion of the 42nd anniversary of CIIL, wherein all its former

Directors viz., Prof. D.P.Pattanayak, Prof.E.Annamalai, Prof. N.Ramaswami, Prof. O.N.Koul, Prof. U.N.Singh and the present incharge Prof. Rajesh Sachdeva were present along with a host of academic luminaries from all over the country and members / researchers of the CIIL faculty. The session was chaired by Prof. E.Annamalai.

In his briefing to the august audience, Prof. Pon Subbiah, Dean, School of Language Pedagogy, CIIL (who is also Head of the Centre for Testing & Evaluation and NTS-I) provided the details of the website scripted & formulated (by him) as one of the mouth pieces of NTS for disseminating information, apart from a monthly newsletter. A special mention was also made about the National Level Language Tests which were recently conducted across the country in three languages, as a *pilot study* for evolving *local* and *regional* norms at the two crucial levels (higher secondary and graduate).

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The size of the website is 1.5 GB. It has 13 *main* links and 5 *sub* links apart from many *hyperlinks*. There are separate links for *Research & Development* (R&D), *Survey & Documentation* (S&D), and *Consultancy & Training* (C&T). Also, there are full-fledged links earmarked for providing the details of *Regional Field Units* (locations, functions, etc.), the award of *fellowships* for doctoral & post doctoral research scholars, and the *grant of financial*



View of the audience

assistance under NTS-GIA. It has got a provision to highlight the details of the training programmes, workshops, seminars, etc., being organised by the NTS from time to time under R&D, S&D, and C&T. A number of *application formats* have also been uploaded with download options for the benefit of those who want to formally associate with NTS activities. The website has been designed as an *interactive* one, and the viewers can post their queries on testing and evaluation for periodical clarification, under the FAQ section. Even at the stage of pre launch testing of this website, it has got more than 10,000 hits.

The JS (L) expressed her happiness after watching all the details of the website. When asked about her comments, she replied that she would write in detail after going back to Delhi. The NTS team comprising its academic, technical, and support staff was present in full strength. Mr. Ancy Thomas and Mr. V.K.Dheerajj (JRPs Technical) who worked for developing this website took the lead for holding this event.

R&D Research and Development

• To undertake in-depth analysis of the concepts of measurement & evaluation in the context of education • To identify the content inputs & consequential effects of teaching, and learning • To interrelate the outcome with the objectives of education and the actual needs of the country • To develop appropriate methodology to meet all the evaluation needs.

Current Activities

Workshops on CCGS - Personality Traits

 1^{st} to 5^{th} July 2010

This workshop was organized in two phases one each for cognitive & psychomotor factors. The objective was to finalize the explanatory notes on the dimensions of the above factors, identified and distributed across the seven levels of general education and also to prepare illustrative examples for the same. After a detailed discussion with the Head, NTS the conceptual explanations were finalised only for the cognitive domain, and it was decided to finalise the details of psychomotor domain and to workout the illustrative examples in their respective places individually by each of the experts. Prof. P.Rathnasabapathy (Counselor, TIERA, Chennai), Prof. C.Shunmugom



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From Left: Prof. Pon Subbiah, Prof. C.Shunmugom, Prof. T.Sethupandian, Prof. P. Rathnasabapathy, and Dr. M.Balakumar

(formerly of Bharathiyar University, Coimbatore), and Prof. T.Sethupandian (formerly of MKU, Madurai) participated in this programme.

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Workshop on Glossary & Conceptual Explanation



A view of participants in the workshop

Tamil : 5^{th} to 9^{th} July 2010 and 19^{th} to 25^{th} July 2010

The first phase of the workshop was organized to finalize the explanations of the evaluation terms already prepared in Tamil through various workshops. Explanations of about 200 evaluation terms and the concepts represented by them were covered in this phase.

In the second phase of the workshop, explanations of the remaining terms were taken care of . A glossary of evaluation terms, was derived as a byproduct, of this work. Based on the modifications made in certain Tamil equivalents, the language used in the

Kannada : 1st to 20th July and 21st July to 3rd Aug. 2010

The 2nd and 3rd phases of the above workshop were arranged to review and finalize the glossary of evaluation terms as well as the explanations of the concepts represented by them in Kannada. Prof. C.G. Venkataramana Setty (formerly of SKMK College of Education, Mysore), and Prof. G.H.Parvathamma (formerly of University of Mysore) were involved in this work. They went through the material and made certain modifications with assistance from Mr. M.Manjunatha and Dr. S.Puttaraju (JRPs, MILES).



A view of participants in the workshop

prefinal version of the conceptual explanations (619 pages) was cross verified and rearranged according to Tamil alphabet by Dr. K.Chidambaram, Ms. S.Shasikala (JRPs under MILES & NTS), Mr. L.B.Kishorekumar, Mr. L.R.Premkumar, Mr. S.Srinivasan, and Ms. Saranyadevi (Doctoral Fellows of NTS) in consultation with Dr. G.Sandhya Nayak (JRP, Academic).

Hindi : 6th July to 3rd August 2010

This workshop was organized to review and finalise the Hindi version of the explanations of the evaluation terms prepared in a series of workshops held earlier. During this programme about 1100 explanations were cross checked for their grammatical accuracy and internal consistency. Prof. Tippeswamy (formerly of University of Mysore), Dr. Rishi Bhushan Choubey and Dr. Shyama Singh (RPs, MILES) participated in the workshop.

Urdu: 6th July to 7th August 2010

Similar work was also undertaken for Urdu. Dr. Reyaz Ahmad, Mr. Md. Athar Hussain (MANUU, Hyderabad), Mr. Abdur Rahman Khan (formerly of DIET, Mysore), and Dr. Asma Javeria (MILES) worked for Urdu in consultation with Dr. G.M.Ansari, Dr. Md.Rizwan, Dr. Jamshed Ahmad, and Dr.Md.Saleem Ahmad (JRPs of NTS).

The above programmes were coordinated by Dr. M.Balakumar. The framework, academic guidance, and other related clarifications for all these programmes were provided by Prof. Pon Subbiah.



A view of the Urdu workshop

A view of Hindi workshop

Workshop on Graded Tests (Tamil)

$15^{\mbox{\tiny th}}$ to $30^{\mbox{\tiny th}}$ July 2010

This phase of the workshop was devoted for checking the graded tests meant for Graduate to Research levels. The other details such as computer number codes for the major, minor, and sub components of language, literature and personality along with aspects tested were verified and appropriately incorporated at all the levels. As of now, the graded tests have been formulated for each of the seven levels viz., Primary, Upper Primary, Secondary, Higher Secondary, Graduate, Post Graduate and Research. Each level has got 4 sets of question papers along with answer keys i.e. $7 \times 4 = 28$ tests with answer keys.



A view of the workshop

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The following young scholars viz., Dr. B.Vijayakumar, Dr. P.Manthiri, Dr. A.R.Muthukkaruppan, Ms. R.Thanalakshmi, Ms. S.Premavathi, Ms. G.Sudha, Ms. K.Kanagalakshmi, and Mr. P.Jeyasankar were involved in this work, apart from Ms. D.Manivasuki and Ms. V.Chellathai (JRPs, MILES) who were inducted at a later stage. Prof. R.Pannerselvam (formerly of Karnatak University, Dharward), and Dr. R.Muralidharan (Tamil University, Thanjavur), attended the programme as experts to guide the young scholars. The workshop was coordinated by Dr. G.Suseela (JRP, NTS), and assisted by Dr. B.Nehruji (RP, MILES). Mr. N.Jeykumar carried out the corrections and modifications suggested by the academic team. The material was in gradual development for nearly a decade, as per the research, design, and guidance of Prof. Pon Subbiah.

S&D Survey and Documentation

• To collect, consolidate, and create an electronic grid of information pertaining to contents, methods, and purposes of evaluation • To enlist the contact particulars of individuals and institutions involved in preparing and using different types of tests • To develop a grid of material resources with syllabi of various courses and question papers there on, at different levels of education • To build up a specialized library with rare reference on this area and documenting various related news items

Current Activities

• Data entry work of NLLTs was carried out using an application software exclusively developed for this purpose. In the month of July 2010, a total of 16,514 records have been fed into the system. Among these, 9226 records are for Higher Secondary Level in three *regions* (Hindi - 4055, Tamil - 1686, Urdu - 3485) and 7,288 are for Graduate Level in three *regions* (Hindi - 3475, Tamil - 2619, Urdu - 1194). Since the data entry work (for all the answer scripts received from RFUs) was completed, the analysis of the same is being initiated by involving Dr. G.Viswanathappa (Regional Institute of Education), an expert in statistics. The analysis of the data in respect of the three languages and for two levels is in the verge of completion.

• NTS library: 21 new titles including a monthly magazine were added to the library, during the month of July 2010.

C&T Consultancy and Training

• To evolve a mechanism for providing periodical training and to create specialized expertise • To develop teaching cum training modules in various branches of evaluation • To produce supplementary materials such as documentary films, charts, tables, etc. • To extend consultancy on various matters related to testing and evaluation

Current Activities

Review Meeting on Documentaries

 $22^{\mbox{\tiny nd}}$ and $23^{\mbox{\tiny rd}}$ July 2010

A two day meeting was organized at the NTS HQrs., CIIL, Mysore in connection with the documentary films. The objective of this programme was to check the relevance of the shooting scripts prepared by the producers, and finalise the same for making films.

On the first day, the scripts were presented by the producers. The members of the NTS faculty listened to them. As the shooting scripts were already discussed by the concerned team members, the required modifications were readily made available to the producers. On the second day, Prof. Pon Subbiah suggested that the documentary should have three sections viz., conceptual explanations, structural elements with examples, and their adoptability and practical usage. Also he emphasised that there should be continuity from one section to the other with proper visuals in support of the concepts verbally presented. The documentary films were expected to be completed within a couple of months.



A view of the workshop

The producers Mr. Virendra Valsangkar (Pune), Mr. Goutham Sharma (Kolkata), Mr. Vishnu Nagarajan(Chennai), and Mrs. Arathi (Mysore) were present. The technical staff of Bhasha Mandakini Mr. Sowmyajit Gupta, Mr. Deb Kamal Ganguly also participated, apart from the NTS faculty. Dr. R.Senkuttuvan coordinated the programme.

RFUs Regional Field Units

• To disseminate the R & D outcome at the grass root levels • To ensure wider participation for building up national consensus on materials and methodologies • To identify scholars and undertake the process of item preparation, test construction, field administration, data collection, and standardisation (of tests) for establishing norms.

Current Activities

Feedback Meeting on NLLTs

8th & 9th July 2010

The objective of this meeting was to obtain feedback from the representatives of RFUs about the NLLTs which were recently conducted across the country. Altogether 18 members representing 13 RFUs located in Hindi and Urdu speaking regions, participated in the meeting. The programme commenced with registration of participants, at 10 am on 8^{th} July 2010.

During the sessions, the participants expressed the problems encountered by them in the process of field administering the NLLTs. Many issues regarding



A view of the workshop

academic and administrative aspects were discussed with possible remedies. Apart from the Head NTS, Director i/c, CIIL, also interacted with the participants for some time.

On the second day, the staff of the Accounts Section discussed the issues related to the expenditure on NLLTs incurred by the RFUs. This facilitated the settlement of several pending bills. The Head, NTS in his valedictory address, requested the Local Coordinators of RFUs and the Heads of the Institutions (housing the RFUs) to set right the shortcomings pointed out during the discussions. They were also advised to equip themselves for the ensuing field administration of NLLTs on a larger sample for the purpose of evolving local, regional, and national norms.

Dr. V.Ilangovan(SRP) proposed vote of thanks. The programme was coordinated by Dr. Biresh Kumar (RP), and Dr. Sandhya Nayak (JRP). They were assisted by Dr. G.M.Ansari, Dr. Jamshed Ahmad and Mr. A.K.Gautam (JRPs-Academic), Mr. V.K.Dheerajj (JRP-Tech.), Mr. Narasimahamurthy (AO), Mr. Lingaraj (O-RFUs), and Ms. D.Bharathi (Assistant Accounts & RFUs).

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GIA Grant-in-Aid

To create awareness among the members of the teaching community on this essential component of education : testing and evaluation
 To encourage the individuals and institutions (involved in this specialized work) by extending financial assistance
 To facilitate developing materials, methodologies, and trained manpower to meet various evaluation requirements

Details of the Funds Granted

• In order to encourage the individuals and institutions involved in the preparation of basic reference materials and imparting training in the area of testing and evaluation, NTS-India provides financial assistance under its GIA sub-scheme. The following are the details of the institutions and the funds released as the second installment for the year 2009-10, during July 2010 :

Sl. No.	Name & Address of the Grantee	II Instalment Released	Activities undertaken by the Grantee		
1.	The Principal, Geethanjali All India Secondary School, Thindal, Erode, TN	Rs. 15,589/-	Training Programme on Question Item Writing in Tamil		
2. The Principal, St.Xavier's College, Palayamkottai, Thirunelveli Dist, TN		Rs. 2,226/-	Workshop on "Evaluation techniques and item analysis for quality improvement in Tamil Language and Literature for Higher Education Teachers"		



• A training cum workshop on 'Educational Objectives and Construction of Tools of Testing' was organised by the RFU region 9B housed at Government Mahakoshal Arts and Commerce PG College, Jabalpur (MP) with financial assistance from NTS-GIA. This programme was inaugurated by Shri Ishwar Das Rohani (Secretary, Legislative Assembly, Madhya Pradesh). Shri Kamalesh Agrawal (Janbhagidari Secretary), Smt. Ragini Agrawal (Principal), and Shri Arun Shukla (Local Coordinator of the RFU) were also present.

D&PDF Doctoral and Post Doctoral Fellowships

• To promote advanced studies in the multidisciplinary area of testing and evaluation • To extend financial support and to create a band of specialized manpower in every discipline, and in every region of the country to meet the shortage of trained manpower • To evolve a system of eclectic intelligentsia by pooling together the potentials available across the disciplines

NTS-India has instituted 45 research Fellowships per year (30 doctoral and 15 post doctoral) for the young researchers from various disciplines of study. The details of the fellowship awardees and the amounts released during the month of July 2010, are as follows:

Sl. No.	Name of the awardee and University	For the Month of	Amount Released	Sl. No	Name of the awardee . and University	For the Month of	Amount Released
Doctoral Fellowship for 2007-08 Batch				2.	Dr. Ganeshmoorthy. P.S S.V. University, Tirupathi	May, 2010	Rs.12,000/-
1.	Mr. Abdul Quddus MANU University, Hyderabad	May, 2010	Rs.10,000/-	Do	ctoral Fellowship for 2008-09 Ba	-	10.12,000
2.	Mr. Ashwani Kumar CCS HA University, Hisar	Sep, Oct & Nov 2009	Rs.30,000/-	1.	Mr. Amoudhan. E PILC, Pondicherry	April & May, 2010	Rs.20,000/-
3.	Ms. Chandrika. J University of Madras, Chennai	May, 2010	Rs.10,000/-	2.	Mr. Arish. D MS University, Tirunelveli	May, 2010	Rs.10,000/-
4.	Mr. Kamaraj. K Bharathiar University, Coimbatore	May, 2010	Rs.10,000/-	3.	Ms. Husna Anjum Ranchi University, Ranchi	May 2010	Rs.10,000/-
5.	Mr. Manikandan. M Alagappa University, Karaikudi	April & May, 2010	Rs.20,000/-	4.	Mr. Kishore Kumar L.B. MK University, Madurai	May, 2010	Rs.10,000/-
6.	Mr. Prem Kumar. L.R. MK University, Madurai	May, 2010	Rs.10,000/-	5.	Mr. Madhusudan Chaturvedi ICMR, New Delhi	May, 2010	Rs.10,000/-
7.	Mr. Sankar. M GR University, Gandhigram	May, 2010	Rs.10,000/-	6.	Mr. Manoharan A. Tamil University, Thanjavur	May, 2010	Rs.10,000/-
Po	Post Doctoral Fellowship for 2007-08 Batch			7.	Mr. Md. Sohel Rana AM University, Aligarh	March, April & May, 2010	Rs.30.000/-
1.	Dr. Vetrivel. K Dravidian University, Kuppam	May, 2010	Rs.12,000/-	8.	Ms. Parvathy Hemalatha. S Bharathiar University, Coimbatore	May, 2010	Rs.10,000/-

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Sl.	Name of the awardee	For the	Amount	Sl.	Name of the awardee	For the	Amount
No		Month of	Released	No.	and University	Month of	Released
9.	Ms. Sabiha Bano Patna University, Patna	May 2010	Rs.10,000/-	7.	Ms. Musarrat Jahan Patna University, Patna	May, 2010	Rs.10,000/-
10.	Ms. Saranya Devi. N M K University, Madurai	May, 2010	Rs.10,000/-	8.	Ms. Paiker Fatima A M University, Aligarh	May, 2010	Rs.10,000/-
11.	Mr. Srinivasan. S University of Madras, Chennai	May, 2010	Rs.10,000/-	9.	Mr. Palanisamy. P M S University, Tirunelveli	May, 2010	Rs.10,000/-
12.	Mr. Sundarrajan. S Tamil University, Thanjavur	May, 2010	Rs.10,000/-	10.	Mr. Prabhu Sena. D University of Mysore, Mysore	April, 2010	Rs.10,000/-
13.	Ms. Zarnigar Yasmeen Patna University, Patna	May, 2010	Rs.10,000/-	11.	Mr. Rajashekhar U. Jadhav M A N U University, Hyderabad	May, 2010	Rs.10,000/-
Po	Post Doctoral Fellowship for 2009-10 Batch				12. Mr. Rajkumar. K		
1.	Dr. Abdur Rasheed	2010			Bharathiar University, Coimbatore	May, 2010	Rs.10,000/-
2	J N U, New Delhi	May, 2010	Rs.12,000/-	13. 1	Mr. Ranganathan. K University of Mysore, Mysore	May, 2010	Rs.10,000/-
2.	Dr. Chidambaram. S Alagappa University, Karaikudi	May, 2010	Rs.12,000/-	14.	Ms. Rethineswari. M	1.1 u), 2010	10,000
3.	Dr. Naved Anjum		,		Alagappa University, Karaikudi	May, 2010	Rs.10,000/-
	AM University, Aligarh	May, 2010	Rs.12,000/-	15.	Ms. Rizwana Perween	2010	D 10 000/
4.	Dr. Sankardoss. A	M 2010	D 12 000/		Magadh Mahila College(PU), Patna	•	Rs.10,000/-
D -	Alagappa University, Karaikudi	May, 2010	Rs.12,000/-	16.	Mr. Rupendra Singh Chauhan Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi	April & May. 2010	Rs.20,000/-
Doctoral Fellowship for 2009-10 Batch				17	17. Ms. Shaheen Sultana	j, _ • - •	
1.	Mr. Anshu Bhardwaj M D S University, Ajmer	March, April & May 2010	11) Rs.30,000/-	17.	Patna University, Patna	May, 2010	Rs.10,000/-
2.	Mr. Arumugam. R University of Madras, Chennai	May, 2010	Rs.10,000/-	18.	Mr. Subramanian. R M S University, Tirunelveli	May, 2010	Rs.10,000/-
3.	Ms. Elavarasi. S Bharathidasan University, Trichy	May, 2010	Rs.10,000/-	19.	Mr. Syed Tufailur Rehman Ravenshaw University, Bhubaneswar	May, 2010	Rs.10,000/-
4.	Mr. Jagadesh. M University of Madras, Chennai	May, 2010	Rs.10,000/-	20.	Ms. Talat Perween Ranchi University, Ranchi	May, 2010	Rs.10,000/-
5.	As. Mayadevi. T		,	ntingency Grants			
2.	Tamil University, Thanjavur	May, 2010	Rs.10,000/-		Mr. Ashwani Kumar	(2007-2008)	Rs. 6,507/-
6.	Mr. Md. Shakil Ahmad Patna University, Patna	May, 2010	Rs.10,000/-		CCS HA University, Hisar		9

News Capsule

Advertisement for GIA & Fellowship: Advertisements inviting applications for the award of Grant-in-Aid and fellowships for the year 2010-11 were released on different dates in the national and regional dailies viz., Nav Bharat Times (Hindi) on 14th July 2010, Dinamani (Tamil) and Indian Express (English) on 6th July 2010, Rashtriya Sahara (Urdu) on 7th July 2010 and The Hindu (English) on 14th July 2010.

• Scrutinizing the applications for NTS positions: About 300 applications were received in response to the advertisement for various positions of the NTS. In this connection, a one day workshop was held on 9th July 2010 at the NTS H.Qrs., CIIL, Mysore for scrutinizing the applications. For this purpose, various committees were constituted with the following members: For *Academic positions* - Prof. C.G.Venkataramana Setty (formerly of SKMK College of Education, Mysore), Prof. G.H.Parvathamma (formerly of UOM, Mysore), Prof. G.H.Thippeswamy (formerly of UOM, Mysore), Prof. M.Suseela (formerly of Tamil University, Thanjavur), Prof. Masood Siraj (Dean, UOM, Mysore), and Dr. Fathima Zahra (Principal, Government Degree College,

Hassan), For the *positions of support staff* - Mr.R.Parthasarathy (Accountant CIIL, Mysore), and Mr.S.Sivakumar(Asst.Accounts Officer, CIIL, Mysore).

Mr. Ancy Thomas (JRP-Technical), Dr. G.Suseela, and Dr. Jamshed Ahmad (JRPs-Academic), Ms. G.Umamaheshwari (Asst. Gr-I) and Ms. K.Lepakshi (Asst. Gr-II) assisted in this process under the overall guidance of Prof. Pon Subbiah. Dr. M.Balakumar coordinated this programme.



A view of the workshop

• NTS team to Chennai on Documentary Films: A two member team comprising Mr. V.K. Dheerajj and Mr. B.L.Mahesh (JRPs-Tech.) visited Chennai on 21st July 2010, for executing two different assignments. Mr. V.K.Dheerajj was assigned the work of incorporating the changes in the documentary film on 'Proficiency Test' and Mr. B.L.Mahesh was assigned the work of finalising the 'signature tune' for NTS documentaries. Mr. Mahesh visited the studio of Mr. J.M. Raju (music director) in the forenoon, and recorded music samples. He also consulted a few other music directors and 5 samples were recorded. Meanwhile Mr. Dheerajj visited the studio of Ms. Usha Rajeshwari (documentary producer). New visuals were included and lighting effects were given to



A view of the Usharajeshwari's studio

certain portions of the film. The team returned on the following day with a set of music samples and a rough-cut of the documentary film.

Programmes for August

- A fifteen day workshop on Graded Tests of language and literature (Tamil), is scheduled to be held from 2nd August 2010.
- A fifteen day workshop for preparing the explanations of evaluation concepts in Tamil (left out items), is scheduled to be held from 2nd August 2010.
- A seven day workshop for making press ready copy of explanations of evaluation concepts in Kannada, is scheduled to be held from 3rd August 2010.
- A short term project (of two months duration) for item writing in three languages (Hindi, Tamil, and Urdu), is scheduled to be held from 16th August 2010.
- A series of meetings for discussions with the Head, NTS and shooting of interviews for documentary films, is scheduled to be held from 23rd to 30th August 2010.
- A two day workshop for scrutinising the applications received for the NTS-GIA 2010-11, is scheduled to be held on 26th and 27th August 2010.

Readers View

As the one who prepared the first draft of the education section of the NPE 1986 which passed through almost unscathed, I feel I can justly 'feel proud' about the culmination of my thoughts in the establishment of NTS. I feel we should now work for earning a justifiable place, and status for the organization, by concerning, generating and diversifying its activities to research, development, training, extension, etc., as an independent organization of repute.



Patrons Ms. VIBHA PURI DAS Secretary, Hr.Edn., MHRD, GOI Dr. ANITA BHATNAGAR JAIN Joint Secretary(L), MHRD, GOI Sri. R.P. SISODIA Director(L), MHRD, GOI

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