



From The Editor's Desk

Dear Readers,

In order to bridge the gap in the publication of National Testing Service-India (NTS-I) Newsletter, this volume presents the activities of the scheme during the year 2012 in a nutshell. From the next issue, the newsletter will carry articles in Hindi, Tamil & Urdu, besides the news and articles in English.

To cope with the increasing demand for the programmes and products of NTS-I, we have decided to take up many new initiatives during the 12th Five Year Plan. To mention a few: inclusion of all the remaining scheduled languages in the scheme, introduction of a course in Testing & Evaluation through correspondence-cum-contact programme, and arranging training cum workshops on test designing and item writing exclusively for the faculty of the autonomous institutions. Any suggestions from the readers in this regard are welcome (preferably before October, 2013).

Meanwhile, we are very happy to inform you that Prof. Awadesh Kumar Mishra has assumed charge as the Director of the Central Institute of Indian Languages (on 05.10.2012). We hope, Prof. Mishra and the Ministry of Human Resource Development approve all our newer proposals.

Looking forward to meet you in the next issue with more ideas and programmes.

- Dr. M.Balakumar

Prof. Awadesh Kumar Mishra assumed charge as Director, CIIL

Prof. Awadesh Kumar Mishra, an eminent linguist and a polyglot who loves learning languages and is known for his contribution to studies in tribal languages (like 'Kom', 'Khasi', 'Dimasa' and 'Kurukh') has been appointed the Director of the Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore. He knows many Indian languages (to mention a few – Assamese, Bengali, Hindi, Maithili, Sanskrit, Tamil and Urdu) and foreign languages (Arabic, German, Persian, Russian and Sinhalese). His wider canvas of experience include services at the NCERT, New

Delhi; American Institute of Indian Studies, and International Institute of Languages (both Varanasi); NEHU, Shillong; Assam Central University, Silchar and English and Foreign Languages University, Shillong Campus. He has also served as Visiting Professor at Universities of Chicago and California, USA. Under his leadership, the CIIL (along with its projects and schemes), let us hope, reaches greater heights.



Prof. A.K.Mishra

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Deputy Secretary, Hr. Edn. (L), MHRD, GOI Visited NTS-I

30th & 31st July 2012

Mr. Pramod Kumar Saha, I.A.S. (Deputy Secretary, Dept. of Hr. Edn., Lang. Div., MHRD, Govt. of India, New Delhi) visited CIIL on 30th and 31st July 2012. He interacted with the academic and administrative staff of CIIL and the various schemes of the institute.

During the interaction, Mr. Saha, evinced keen interest in knowing the activities of NTS-I, the personnel working for it and its contribution to the educational institutions located across the country. Also, he observed carefully when the faculty members responded to his queries. He came out with the suggestions for improving the efficiency of NTS and to make it more useful for the stakeholders of education. In fact, the interaction served as a confidence building measure.



Mr. P.K.Saha with Prof. S.N.Burman and the Head, NTS-I

Sensitization Meet with the Principals of the Educational Institutions in Coimbatore region

28th December 2012

In order to ensure the participation of the maximum number of college level teachers in the training programmes and item writing workshops, the principals are to be convinced about the significance of the programmes organized by NTS-I. The Regional Field Unit located at PSG College of Arts and Science, Coimbatore rightly arranged for a meeting with the principals of the colleges in the Coimbatore region on 28th December 2012, to sensitize them about NTS-I.



Prof. G. James Pitchai addressing the gathering

Prof. G. James Pitchai (The Vice-Chancellor of Bharathiar University, Coimbatore) was the guest of honour. The Vice-Chancellor, in his address, stressed the need to have languages in the curriculum and observed that the teachers at the tertiary level need to be open minded to accept new and innovative ideas, concepts and procedures emerging in the area of teaching and testing.

Dr. M. Balakumar (The Head, NTS-I) in his speech traced the establishment of NTS-I through CT&E and MILES and explained in detail the various activities of NTS. He also made the audience realize the significance of the reference materials produced by NTS-I viz., Concept Based Continuum of Graded Syllabi, The Conceptual Frameworks for assessing Aptitude, Achievement and Proficiency. Further, he informed the audience about the sub schemes of NTS-I. Earlier, Prof. Rajendran, the Principal of PSG CAS welcomed the gathering.

Dr. Kanda Subramaniam (Asst. Prof. of Tamil and the Local Coordinator of the RFU, PSG CAS) proposed vote of thanks. The programme was attended by about 100 principals. Similar programmes in other regions have also been proposed in order to sensitize the educational administrators, and to facilitate participation of more and more teachers in the training cum workshops organized for their professional development.

Orientation-cum-Workshop on Testing & Evaluation for the Research Scholars of NTS-I

2nd to 31st January 2012

A thirty-day orientation-cum-workshop on Testing and Evaluation and Research Methodology for the Doctoral and Post-Doctoral fellowship awardees of National Testing Service-India (NTS-I) was held at Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL), Manasagangotri, Mysore from 2nd to 31st January, 2012.

The programme commenced on 2nd January with the welcome address by Dr. M. Balakumar (Head, NTS-I).



Prof. Sam Mohanlal delivering lecture in the workshop

Prof. Sam Mohanlal (formerly of CIIL, Mysore), Dr. N.N.Prahallad (formerly of RIE, Mysore), Prof. B.P.Mahesh Chandra Guru (DoS in Communication & Journalism, University of Mysore), Prof. V.Jagannatha (Scientist/Engineer at ISRO, Bangalore), Prof. Lancy D'souza (Head Dept. of Psychology, Maharaja's College, University of Mysore) and Dr. Vishwanathappa (Associate Professor, RIE, Mysore). The research scholars learned the concepts in the areas of educational evaluation and they were explained the steps involved in evaluation. The participants discussed their individual research topics in the sessions and were provided with appropriate suggestions to improve their research design.

The academics of NTS-I viz., Dr. Biresh Kumar (RP), Dr. G.M.Ansari, Ms. R.Shakunthala, Dr. Md.Rizwan, Mr. Arvind Kumar Gautam, Dr. Zubair Shadab Khan, Dr. B.Vijaya Kumar, Dr. Rishi Bhushan Choubey, Dr. Parman Singh, Dr. P.T.Kingston and Dr. Sanjay Prasad Srivastava (JRPs) provided the academic support and assistance. The technical and administrative staff of the NTS-I also contributed to the successful conduct of the programme.

Director of Central Hindi Institute (C.H.I.), Agra Visited NTS-I

27th February 2012

Prof. Mohan, Director of Central Hindi Institute (C.H.I.), Agra visited CIIL on 27th February 2012 to inaugurate a two day National Seminar on Jnanpeeth award winning literary works of Hindi and South Indian Languages. He also visited the National Testing Service-India (NTS-I) and interacted with its academic and technical staff. He observed that focusing on testing and evaluation of languages is a dynamic task and appreciated the efforts of NTS-I for working towards a comprehensive system of evaluation, which is unique in the country. Taking a look at the materials published by NTS-I, Prof. Mohan lauded the academic and technical staff of NTS-I and also the role of Regional Field Units of NTS-I located across the country in three language (Hindi, Tamil & Urdu) regions.



Prof. Mohan interacting with the academics of NTS-I

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 for the Finalisation of Conceptual Explanations

Workshops for the scrutiny of Hindi, Kannada, Tamil and Urdu versions of the Conceptual Explanation of Evaluation Terms were held at the CIIL, Mysore; Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi; and Jamia Millia Islamia, NewDelhi as detailed bellow. The academics of the respective languages coordinated the programmes.

✉ At Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi for Hindi : 3rd to 7th January, 2012.

- ✂ At the CIIL, Mysore for Hindi 29th April to 4th May, 2012; 17th to 20th January, 2012;
6th to 10th February, 2012 17th to 18th September 2012
- ✂ At the CIIL, Mysore for Kannada : 17th to 20th January, 2012; 20th to 29th May, 2012.
- ✂ At the CIIL, Mysore for Tamil : 13th to 15th February, 2012; 1st to 3rd May, 2012.
- ✂ At Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi for Urdu : 8th to 11th May, 2012.

Workshop to Finalise the Modules on Sangam Literature

6th to 9th November, 2012

A four day workshop was held from 6th to 9th November, 2012 to finalize the modules prepared earlier during the workshop organized by NTS-I at Erode (in collaboration with the Dept. of Tamil, Chikkaiah Naicker College from 27th to 29th December, 2011 on Teaching, Learning and Testing of Sangam Literature).

The following experts participated in the workshop: Prof. P.Ratnasabapathy (Counsellor, TIERA, Chennai), Prof. T.Sethupandian (formerly of MKU, Madurai), Prof. N.Nadaraja Pillai (formerly of CIIL, Mysore), Prof. P.Veerappan (formerly of RIE, Mysore) and Dr. Kamalakannan (Chikkaiah Naicker College, Erode). The programme was coordinated by Dr. M.Balakumar, Head, NTS-I.

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

Developing Software for Analysis of Field Tested Question Items

More and more questions are being field tested and the statistical measures obtained by analysing the items using statistical tools & techniques are to be incorporated in the Item File Card (IFC). Instead of seeking the help of a statistician every time, it was decided to develop a programme, so that when the item wise scores are fed into the system, the statistical values are obtained at the click of a mouse. The technical personnel of NTS-I are working on it. The programme developed by them is being tested for its efficacy and accuracy. Once it is done, IFC will have the following columns filled in – Choice Index, Facility Value, Discrimination Index and Mean Ability Index .

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

Lectures by NTS-I Resource Persons at NKT N. College of Education

17th & 18th February 2012

A three member team comprised of Dr. Jamshed Ahmad (JRP-Acad.), Mr. Ancy Thomas and Mr. K.S.Raghavan (JRPs-Tech.) visited N.K.T. National College of Education for Women, Chennai on 17th and 18th February 2012 and delivered lectures on Methods of Testing and Item Preparation, ICT in Teaching, Learning and Testing. Around 25 teachers from various colleges of Tamil Nadu attended the 21 day refresher course on Educational Technology.



A view of JRPs of NTS-I with participants

Workshop-cum-Training Programme at D.M. College of Arts, Imphal

24th to 26th February 2012

NTS-I of CIIL, Mysore conducted a three-day Workshop-cum-Training Programme on Language Teaching and Testing at the D.M. College of Arts, Imphal, Manipur from 24th to 26th February 2012.

Dr. M.Balakumar (Head, NTS-India, CIIL), Dr. L.Ramamoorthy (Head, LDCIL, CIIL), Prof. N.Nadaraja Pillai and Prof. Sam Mohanlal (both formerly of CIIL) were the Resource Persons of the programme. Dr. A.Nungshi Tombi Devi (Principal, D.M. College of Arts, Imphal, Manipur) coordinated the programme. Around 30 teachers of different disciplines participated in the programme.

Orientation-cum-Training Programme at DIET, Chennai

28th & 29th March 2012

National Testing Service-India organised a two day Orientation-cum-Training Programme on Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation (CCE) in collaboration with Madras University (RFU-1B of NTS-I). This was meant for SC/ST students under going Diploma in Teacher Education (DTEd) at DIETs in 20 districts of Tamil Nadu. Besides 40 students of DTEd, around 25 teacher educators participated in this programme, which was held at District Institute of Education and Training (DIET), Triplicane, Chennai, on 28th and 29th March 2012.

In this programme, several experts delivered lectures on different aspects of continuous and comprehensive evaluation of both scholastic and non-scholastic aspects. Prof. P.Ratnasabapathy (Counsellor, TIERA, Chennai), Mr. K.Devarajan (Director, State Council for Educational Research and Training) and the following experts from the University of Madras delivered lectures on CCE: Prof. S.Karunanithi (Dept. of Psychology), Prof. Duraisamy (Dept. of Econometrics), Prof. M.R.Srinivasan (Dean, College Development Council and Professor of Statistics) and Dr. V.P.Matheswaran (Dept. of Edn.), Dr. C.Rajapandian (Former Principal, DIET, Chennai), Ms. Sumitra (Principal, The School, KFI, Chennai), Ms. Jayanthi Ravi (Director, Eversmile Learning Pvt. Ltd) were the other experts who contributed to the success of the programme.

Prof. D. Kumaran (NTS-I RFU Coordinator and Head, Dept. of Education, University of Madras) coordinated the programme. Dr. V.Ilangovan (SRP), Ms. R.Shakunthala (JRP-Acad.), Mr. V.K.Dheerajj (JRP-Tech.) of NTS-I provided the necessary resources under the guidance of Dr. M.Balakumar (Head, NTS-I).

In House Training-cum-Workshop on Statistical Methods

5th to 9th November 2012

NTS-I organised a five-day refresher course on Statistical Methods for Educational Evaluation for the academics of NTS-I at CIIL, Mysore from 5th to 9th November 2012. The objective was to provide orientation towards the use of the latest statistical tools and techniques in the educational evaluation. The fellowship awardees of NTS-I and a few other research scholars also participated in the programme.

The experts in the field of Statistics, Educational Psychology and Testing & Evaluation from the three language regions (Hindi/Tamil/Urdu) viz., Prof. K.P.Pandey (Former Vice Chancellor of Mahatma Gandhi Kashi Vidyapeeth, Varanasi), Prof. D.Kumaran and Prof. M.R. Srinivasan (both from University of Madras), Prof. Shoeb Abdullah and Dr. Roohi Fatima (both from Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi) and Dr. N.Kalai Arasi (N.K.T. College of Education, Chennai) gave lectures using power point presentations. The lectures were followed by exercises and home assignments to enhance and ensure the understanding of the concepts taught.



Prof. K.P. Pandey delivering lecture on Ednl. Testing & Evaluation

Dr. V.Ilangovan (SRP of NTS-I) coordinated the programme under the supervision of Dr. M.Balakumar (Head, NTS-I). The over all guidance was provided by Prof. Awadesh Kumar Mishra (Director, CIIL).

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

Training-cum-Workshops/Orientation-cum-Training programmes were held between January 2012 and December 2012 at the Regional Field Units of NTS-I. The language wise details are given below:

(The numbers given in brackets indicate the no. of beneficiaries and the no. of items prepared respectively. In some of the RFUs Question Items developed by NTS-I academics were also field tested)

Hindi Region:

- Mahakoshal Arts and Commerce College, Jabalpur, M.P. - 10th to 12th January, 2012- (40;500)
- Dronacharya College of Education, Rait, Kangra, H.P. - 27th June to 1st July 2012- (50;600)
- Dept. of Education, HP University, Shimla, H.P. - 3rd to 7th July 2012- (45;500)
- NGF College of Engineering & Technology, Palwal, Haryana - 24th to 28th July 2012 - (65;700)
- Shri.Guru Ram Rai PG College, Dehradun - 22nd to 26th August 2012 - (59;700)
- Unity Degree College, Lucknow, U.P. - 18th to 22nd September 2012 - (40;500)
- Intermediary visit by The Head, NTS-I: NGF College of Engineering and Technology Palwal, Haryana; Unity Degree College & Eram Intermediate College, Lucknow - 22nd to 26th July 2012.

Tamil Region:

- St.Mary's Hr. Secondary School, Dindigul, T.N. - 20th to 22nd January 2012 - (50;800)
- Adhiparashakthi College, Kalavai, T.N. - 25th to 30th June 2012 - (40;700)
- Vivekanandha College of Arts & Sci. for Women, Namakal, T.N. - 2nd to 6th July 2012 - (50;600)
- Alagappa University, Karaikudi, T.N. - 23rd to 30th July 2012 - (30;1150)
- St. Xavier's College, Palyamkottai, T.N. - 2nd to 6th August 2012 - (35;900)
- Geethaanjali All India Hr. Sec. School, - Thindal, Erode, T.N. - 21st August 2012 - (40;800)
- National Academy School, Ramanathapuram, T.N. - 11th to 15th Sept' 2012 - (30;700)
- National College, Trichi, T.N. - 3rd to 7th October 2012 - (45;1000)

Urdu Region:

- Eram Intermediate College, Lucknow, U.P. - 11th to 15th June 2012 - (20;700)
- Al-huda Public School, Srinagar, J&K - 7th to 11th July 2012 - (30;400)
- Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, U.P. - 27th to 31st August 2012 - (25;700)
- Citizen Welfare Education Society, Malegaon, Maharashtra - 10th to 14th Sept' 2012 - (25;900)
- Karim City College, Jamshedpur, Jharkhand - 24th to 28th Sept' 2012 - (25;700)
- Reshmi Welfare & Education Society, Hubli, Karnataka - 17th to 21st December, 2012 - (20;600)

The following resource persons and supporting staff of NTS-I provided the necessary resources for the programmes and coordinated workshops in the respective languages. Dr.V.Ilangovan (SRP), Dr. Biresh Kumar (RP), Mr. A.K.Gautham, Dr.Rishi Bhushan Choubey, Dr. Sanjay Prasad Srivastava (JRPs Academic-Hindi), Ms. R.Shakunthala, Dr. B.Vijayakumar, Dr. P.T.Kingston (JRPs Academic-Tamil), Dr.G.M.Ansari,

Dr. Md. Rizwan, Dr. Jamshed Ahmad, Dr. Zubair Shadab Khan (JRPs Academic-Urdu), Mr. Ancy Thomas, Ms. R.Kavitha, Mr. B.L.Mahesh, Mr. V.K.Dheeraji, Mr. K.S.Raghvan (JRPs Technical), Mr. B.M.Lingaraj (Officer-RFUs) and Ms. G.Usha Nandini (of CT&E, CIIL).

Strategy Meeting for the Representatives of NTS-I RFUs at CIIL

1st & 2nd, 5th & 6th and 21st & 22nd June 2012:

National Testing Service-India hosted a two-day strategy meetings for the decision makers and the local coordinators of the institutions housing Regional Field Units (RFUs) of NTS-I for school level and college level on 1st & 2nd, 5th & 6th and 21st & 22nd June 2012 at its H. Qtrs. CIIL, Mysore.

In this meeting, a plan of action for field administration of tests for the higher secondary levels and graduate



Prof. S.N. Burman interacting with the representatives of RFUs

levels as a part of standardization process was chalked out and tentative time table for conducting the programmes in the various regions of NTS-I RFUs during the year 2012-13 was also discussed.

Prof. S.N.Burman (Director i/c of CIIL) during his interaction with the representatives of NTS-I RFUs, said that CIIL will fulfill the requirements of the institutions housing RFUs as per the MOU between them and NTS. Dr. M.Balakumar (Head, NTS-I & CT&E) briefed about the agenda of the meeting. Dr. V.Ilangovan (SRP, NTS) explained the activities to

be undertaken by them and the rules and regulations to be followed by the institutions housing RFUs of NTS-I as per the Memorandum of Understanding. Mr. B.M.Lingaraj (Officer-RFUs) had an interaction with the representatives of RFUs.

Altogether 40 representatives from 23 RFUs located at Srinagar (Jammu & Kashmir), Shimla and Kangra (Himachal Pradesh), Palwal (Haryana), Lucknow and Aligarh (Uttar Pradesh), Dehradun (Uttarakhand), Khazipet (Andhra Pradesh), Hubli (Karnataka) and Chennai, Tuticorin, Palayamkottai, Maduari, Dindigul, Erode, Coimbatore, Vellore, Ooty (Tamil Nadu) participated in this programme and assured their fullest cooperation with NTS-I in all its activities.

Dr. M.Balakumar provided the overall guidance in consultation with Prof. S.N.Burman. The programmes were coordinated by Dr. V.Ilangovan.

Training-cum-Workshop on Item Writing at Dronacharya College of Education

27th to 30th June 2012

A four day Training-cum-Workshop on Testing & Evaluation and Item Writing was held at Dronacharya College of Education (NTS-I RFU No. Region-1A HP), Rait, Kangra, H.P. from 27th to 30th June 2012. Dr. Biresh Kumar (RP) led the NTS-I team consisting of Mr. Arvind Kumar Gautam (JRP-Acad.), and Ms. R.Kavitha (JRP-Tech.). Around 50 teachers from various colleges participated in the workshop. Prof. Om Aswathy, (formerly of Dept. of Education, Gurunanak Dev University, Amritsar, Punjab) and Dr. Prabhat Sharma (Director, School Education) shared their views with the participants. Dr. Jograj (Principal, Urdu Teaching and Research Centre, Solan, HP), while addressing the audience, emphasized the significance of the workshop for the teachers and said that a good evaluator would become a better teacher.

Training-cum-Workshop on Item Writing at HP University

3rd to 6th July, 2012

The NTS-I team led by Dr. Biresh Kumar (RP, NTS-I) visited NTS-I Regional Field Unit (No. Region-1B HP) located at the Department of Education, Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla, H.P. to conduct a four day training programme on item writing from 3rd to 6th July, 2012. Mr. Arvind Kumar Gautam (JRP-Acad.), and Ms. R.Kavitha (JRP-Tech.) of NTS-I were the other members of the team.

Dr. A.D.Bajpai (Vice Chancellor, Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla), in his inaugural address, expressed his happiness to know that NTS-I is developing methods, materials and human resources in the area of testing and evaluation. Prof. Lokesh Koul (formerly of Dept. of Education, HP University) described the triangle of learning experience or means, evaluation or evidences and competence or end product.

The faculty members of the Dept. of Education were also present on this occasion. Prof. Romesh Chand was the Local Coordinator. About 500 question items were prepared during the programme. Prof. Baniyal (Director of Higher Education, HP) and Prof. Sekhari (Dean, Academics, HP University) distributed the certificates to the participants during the valedictory session.



Prof. Romesh Chand addressing the gathering

Training-cum-Workshop on Item Writing at Al-Huda Public School

7th to 11th July 2012



Prof. Md. Zaman Azurdah addressing the audience

A five day Training-cum-Workshop on Item Writing in Urdu was held at the Al-Huda Public School (NTS-I RFU No. Region-1-J&K), Srinagar, J&K from 7th to 11th July 2012. The NTS-I team comprised of Dr. Md. Rizwan, Dr. Zubair Shadab Khan, (JRPs-Acad.) and Mr. Ancy Thomas (JRP-Tech.) provided the necessary input for the Higher Secondary level teachers of Jammu & Kashmir region. Prof. Mohammad Zaman Azurdah (former Dean) and Prof. Nazir Ahmad Malik (Dean, Faculty of Arts, University of Kashmir, Srinagar) delivered lectures on teaching and testing of language and literature.

Dr. M.Balakumar (Head, NTS-I), staying at the head quarters (CIIL, Mysore), interacted with the participants through video conferencing facility. The teacher trainees prepared more than 400 questions items.

Training-cum-Workshop on Item Writing at Alagappa University

23rd to 27th July 2012

National Testing Service-India conducted a five day Training-cum-Workshop on Item Writing in Tamil at Dept. of Tamil, Alagappa University, Karaikudi (Region-9 TN Old Ramnad) from 23rd to 27th July 2012. Prof. S.Sudalaimuthu (Vice-Chancellor, Alagappa University), in his inaugural address, said that an effective teacher should know the new techniques emerging in the field of education and apply them in their teaching. He also thanked Dr. M.Balakumar (Head, NTS-I) and the Director CIIL for having established NTS-IRFU at the university.



Prof. S. Sudalaimuthu delivering inaugural address

Prof. T.Sethupandian (MKU, Madurai), Dr. V.Ilangoan (SRP, NTS-I); Ms. R.Shakunthala and Dr. B.Vijayakumar and Ms. R.Kavitha (JRPs, NTS-I) trained the participants in different areas of testing and evaluation. The participants prepared about 1150 question items of different types in the areas of language and literature.

During the valedictory session, Prof. Udayasuriyan (Controller of Examinations, Alagappa University) opined that this kind of training should be given not only for language teachers but also to the teachers of all disciplines. Prof. M.Pandi (Head of the Dept. of Tamil and Local Coordinator, NTS-I RFU) distributed the certificates to the participants. Dr. M.Sudha (Asst. Local Coordinator, NTS-IRFU) proposed vote of thanks.

Training-cum-Workshop at NGF College of Engineering and Technology

24th to 28th July 2012



Dr. M.Balakumar addressing the gathering

A five day Training-cum-Workshop on Item Writing was conducted at the NGF College of Engineering and Technology, Palwal, Haryana from 24th to 28th July, 2012. The NTS-I resource persons were Dr. Rishi Bhushan Choubey, Dr. Sanjay Srivastava (JRPs-Acad.) and Mr. B.L.Mahesh (JRP-Tech.). Dr. M.Balakumar (Head, NTS-I) and Mr. Ancy Thomas (JRP-tech.) joined the programme on 25th July, 2012.

Altogether 35 participants from the disciplines of

science and technology, language and literature attended the programme and prepared 500 question items in their respective fields. Besides this, 65 students took part in the field administration of the question Items.

Training-cum-Workshop on Item Writing at Geethanjali School

21st to 25th August 2012

A five day Training-cum-Workshop on Item Writing in Tamil was held between 21st and 25th of August 2012 at Geethanjali All India Secondary School, Thindal (NTS-I RFU No. 6TN-KA B2) for the higher secondary level teachers of Erode region.

Prof. T.Sethupandian (MKU, Madurai) explained the concept of grammar concerning poetry and also described the components of language and literature. NTS-I academics covered the other areas of item writing.



Dr. M.Balakumar addressing the teachers

On the final day Dr. M Balakumar (Head, NTS-I) briefed about the aims and objectives of the NTS-I, and the activities that are expected to be carried out by the RFUs. He also stressed the need to fix benchmarks by setting local, regional and national norms in education to ensure inter and intra level comparability among the courses, institutions and individuals.

Orientation-cum-Training Programme at Aligarh Muslim University

27th to 31st August 2012

National Testing Service-India organized a five day Orientation-cum-Training programme on Testing and Evaluation at its RFU located at the Department of Linguistics (NTS-I RFU No.Region-4 U.P.) Aligarh Muslim University (AMU), Aligarh, U.P. from 27th to 31st August 2012. A three member team of NTS-I comprised of Dr. G M Ansari, Dr. Zubair Shadab Khan, (JRPs-Acad.) and Mr. K.S. Raghavan (JRP-Tech.) provided the training and practice in item writing in Urdu to the degree level teachers of that region.



Lt. Gen. Zameeruddin Shah expressing his views about the programme

Aligarh Muslim University) expressed his views on teaching and testing Urdu language and literature. Prof. Ghazanfar Ali (Director, APDUMT, JMI, New Delhi) also addressed the audience. Around 25 teachers participated in this programme and produced 700 question items.

Intermediary visit to PSG College of Arts and Science

1st September 2012

A three member team led by Dr. M.Balakumar (Head, NTS-I) comprised of Dr. P.T.Kingston (JRP-Academic) and Mr. N.Murali Mohana (Officer-General) visited the RFU established at PSG College of Arts and Science (NTS-I RFU No.-5B), Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu on 1st September, 2012. This was to ensure the availability of infrastructure facilities at the RFU to hold workshops, training programmes, seminars etc. During the discussion with Dr. R.Rajendran (Principal, PSG College of Arts and Science) and Dr. Kanda Subramaniam (Local Coordinator, NTS-I) the Head, NTS-I pointed out the necessity of organising training programmes and workshops on testing & evaluation and item writing for the teachers. It was decided to conduct a one day sensitization programme for the heads of the institutions, deans, principals and professors of the colleges in Coimbatore region.



Dr. M.Balakumar interacting with the Principal of PSG CAS

Visit to Applicant Institutions:

The NTS-I faculty inspected the following Institutions which had applied to establish NTS-IRFUs:

10th March 2012: The team led by Dr. M.Balakumar (Head, NTS-I), visited DMI College of Education, Palanjur, Kanchipuram District to verify the availability of necessary infrastructure and other facilities to establish Regional Field Unit. Dr. Biresh Kumar (RP), Mr. B.M.Lingaraj (Officer-RFU) and Dr. B. Vijaykumar (JRP-Acad.) were the other members of the team.

16th September 2012: NTS-I team consisting of Dr. V.Ilangovan (SRP) and Dr. Sanjay Prasad Srivastava (JRP) visited Institute of Education, SHEPA Campus, Varanasi. Prof. K.P.Pandey, Director, Institute of Education, SHEPA welcomed the NTS-I team and showed them the facilities available on the campus like computer lab, smart class rooms, auditoriums and hostels for boys and girls. The NTS-I team submitted a report to the Head, NTS-I in the prescribed format, regarding the infrastructure facilities and human resources available.



NTS-I officials with the members of SHEPA faculty

Do you know?

Blended learning:

A combination of modes of learning. It is currently normally used to describe a combination of e-learning (or some other form of distance learning) and face-to-face student-teacher contact... This represents a blend of asynchronous, distributed learning with traditional synchronous, non-distributed provision.

Constructivist View:

A view of education which challenges the belief that learning is something which can be delivered by means of a teacher transmitting facts or knowledge to a class of passive recipient learners; but rather that knowledge, meaning and understanding are actively constructed by learners by a process of development, which builds on what they already know, causing them to change and adapt and invent ideas.

Dictionary of Education – OUP -2009

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.

Current Activities

The following list shows the NTS-I GIA programmes held during year 2012:

Sl. No.	Date	Name of the Institute	Theme of the Workshop / Seminar / Conference	No. of Beneficiaries	No. of Items Prepared
1.	23 rd & 24 th January, 2012	Department of Linguistics, School of Tamil Studies, Madurai Kamaraj University (MKU), Madurai	Two-day National Seminar on Evaluation of Higher Secondary Language Textbooks	45	50
*2.	28 th & 29 th January, 2012	Government Victoria College, Palakkad, Kerala	Two day training-cum-workshop on testing and evaluation	40	500
*3.	17 th & 18 th February, 2012	NEHU (TURA Campus) (Meghalaya)	National Seminar on Examination reforms	55	55
6.	23 rd to 25 th July, 2012	Bhilai Maitri College, Bhilai, Chhattisgarh	Workshop on Item Writing for Testing Educational Objectives	35	700
*7.	10 th to 12 th September, 2012	Dept. of Linguistics, Madurai Kamaraj University (MKU), Madurai, Tamil Nadu	Evaluation of Uniform Syllabus Education - Tamil Text Books	52	-
8.	7 th to 9 th October 2012,	Kongu Engineering College, Perundurai, T.N.	Testing and Evaluation: the Measures of effective Mathematics teaching among Hr. Sec. School Teachers	40	-
9.	16 th to 18 th October, 2012	Regional Vocational Training Institute (RVTI), Bangalore	Item Writing related to Vocational and Industrial Skills	35	700
*10.	29 th to 31 st October, 2012 <i>National Level.</i>	Dept. of English, Karunya University, Coimbatore	Workshop on Assessing Communicative Competence of Learners	63	300
*11.	30 th & 31 st October 2012	Dr. R.C. Hiremath Institute of Kannada Studies, Karnatak University, Dharwad,	Workshop on Modernization of Kannada Syllabus for Undergraduate Classes	40	-
12.	30 th October to 1 st November, 2012	Bara Inter College, Bara, Ghazipur, U.P.	Orientation-cum-Training programme on Item writing	30	300
13.	23 rd & 24 th November, 2012	Department of Tamil, K.G. College of Arts and Science, Coimbatore	Training-cum-Workshop on Testing and Evaluation	40	880
*14.	27 th to 29 th November, 2012	Dept. of Manipuri, Manipur University, Imphal	Training Programme on Item Writing Manipur University	35	700
*15.	7 th & 8 th December, 2012	J.S.S. Law College, Kuvempunagar, Mysore	Training-cum-Workshop on curriculum development, Testing & Evaluation	35	700
*16.	21 st & 22 nd December, 2012	Dayalbagh Educational Institute, Agra	Two day National Seminar on Continuous, Comprehensive Evaluation	55	55
17.	28 th to 30 th December, 2012	International Forum for information Technology (INFITI) and Annamalai University, jointly rganized at Chidambaram, T.N.	11 th Tamil Internet International Conference, TIC-2012	150	-

* News in detail

The following personnel from NTS-I provided the necessary resources for these programmes and coordinated the workshops: Dr. V.Ilangovan (SRP), Dr. Biresk Kumar (RP), Ms. Shakunthala, Dr. G.M.Ansari, Dr. Md.Rizwan, Dr. Zubair Shadab Khan, Mr. A.K.Gautham, Dr. Rishi Bhushan Choubey, Dr. B.Vijayakumar, Dr. P.T.Kingston, Dr. Jamshed Ahmad, Mr. Ancy Thomas, Ms. R.Kavitha, Mr. V.K.Dheerajj, Mr. B.L.Mahesh, Mr. K.S.Raghvan (all JRPs); Ms. Usha Nandini, Mr. B.M.Lingaraj and Mr. N.Murali Mohana (Admin. staff).

Training-cum-Workshop at Government Victoria College

28th & 29th January 2012

A two day Training-cum-Workshop on Testing and Evaluation was held at Govt. Victoria College, Palakad, Kerala on 28th & 29th January 2012. Dr. M.Balakumar (Head, NTS-I), Prof. N.Nadaraja Pillai, Prof. Sam Mohan Lal (both formerly of CIIL) and Dr. Subhashree were the resource persons and Prof. Rajaram of Govt. Victoria College was the Coordinator of the programme. Around 40 teachers participated in this programme and got trained in test designing and item writing.



Dr. M.Balakumar distributing certificates to the participants

National Seminar on Examination Reforms at NEHU (TURA Campus)

17th & 18th February, 2012

North-Eastern Hill University (NEHU), Tura Campus, Meghalaya organized a National Seminar on Examination Reforms in collaboration with NTS-I on 17th and 18th February, 2012. In this seminar, many academics and research scholars from the universities across the country presented papers on different issues related to examination reform. The faculty members of NEHU also presented papers. The Regional Director of IGNOU (Shillong campus) delivered a special lecture on the problems in introducing examination reforms and pointed out that it is the need of the hour. Dr. V.Ilangovan (SRP) and Dr. Biresk Kumar (RP) represented NTS-I and briefed the audience on the objectives and activities of CIIL and NTS-India.

National Seminar-cum-Workshop at Madurai Kamaraj University

10th to 12th September 2012

A three day National Seminar-cum-Workshop on Evaluation of Uniform Syllabus Education-Tamil Text Books was organized by the Dept. of Linguistics, Madurai Kamaraj University (MKU), Madurai in collaboration with the National Testing Service-India (NTS-I) at the Dept. of Linguistics, MKU, Madurai from 10th to 12th September 2012.

The seminar-cum-workshop was inaugurated by Dr. Kalyani Mathivanan (Vice-Chancellor of the MKU, Madurai). Dr. S.Nagaraja Murugan (Chief Educational Officer, Madurai), in his address, emphasized the importance of Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation (CCE) and the knowledge of evaluation for teachers. Dr. V. Ilangovan (SRP, NTS-I), explained the objectives and activities of the CIIL and NTS-I.



NTS-I officials with the VC of MKU

Five different committees were formed to evaluate Tamil textbooks for standards 6th to 10th. Prof. N.Nadaraja Pillai (formerly of CIIL, Mysore), Dr. V.Thayalan and Dr. T.Muthukrishnan (both from Bharatiar University, Coimbatore), Dr. T.Parasuraman (PILC, Puducherry), Dr. G.Balasubramanian (Dravidian, University, Kuppam), Dr. P.Selvakumar and Dr. T.Janaki (both from IITS, Chennai) and Dr. K.Visvanathan (Tamil University, Thanjavur) presented their views on the text books.

Ms. R.Shakunthala, Dr. P.T.Kingston and

Dr. Sanjay Prasad Srivastava, the academics from NTS-I presented papers on “Evaluation of Language Textbook for Secondary Level: The NTS-I Perspectives” and “A Suggestion for Evaluation of Methods and Materials”. Mr. B.L.Mahesh (JRP-Tech) accompanied the NTS-I team. Prof. V.Renuka Devi (Head, Dept. of Linguistics, MKU, Madurai) coordinated the programme. Mr. N.Murali Mohana (Officer-General) and Mr. R.Srinivasa (Accounts Asst.) assisted the coordinator.

Workshop at Karunya University

29th to 31st October 2012

National Testing Service-India organised a three day National Level Workshop on Assessing Communicative Competence of Learners at Dept. of English, Karunya University Coimbatore from 29th to 31st October 2012.

Prof. Vasanth Kumar (The Director, School of Science and Humanities, Karunya University) was the chief guest. Dr. V. Ilangoan (SRP, NTS-I), Dr. R.Nageswari (Asst. Prof, VIT University), Prof. R.Saravana Selvan (Bharathiar University), Prof. Shakila Mathew (Bannari Amman Institute of Technology), Prof. J.Sundarsingh, Dr. Clement Sudhakar, Dr. Dinesh Peter and Dr. Helen U.B. (faculty of Karunya University) and Mr. Thirumurugan (Ph.D scholar) delivered lectures on the related topics. Mr. V.K.Dheerajj (JRP-Tech.) provided the necessary technical assistance during the programme. Teachers, research scholars and P.G. students participated in the programme. The number of participants underwent the training programme was sixty.

Training-cum-Workshops at Karnatak University

30th & 31st October, 2012

A two day workshop on Modernization of Kannada Syllabus for Undergraduate Course was organised by the Centre for Testing and Evaluation of CIIL, Mysore in collaboration with Dr. R.C. Hiremath Institute of Kannada Studies (RCHIKS), Karnatak University, Dharwad on 30th & 31st October, 2012 at RCHIKS, Dharwad. The programme was inaugurated by Prof. H.B. Walekar, the Vice Chancellor of the University. Prof. K.R. Durgadas (Registrar, Evaluation (i/c)) was the Chief Guest and the function was presided over by Prof. Madhu Venka Reddy, the Chairperson of the institute and Coordinator of the programme.



Prof. Madhu Venka Reddy expressing her presidential remarks

Dr. Biresh Kumar (RP) and Mr. K.S.Raghavan (JRP-Tech.) of NTS-I provided the necessary resources. Dr. M.Balakumar (Head, NTS-I) and Prof. Awadesh Kumar Mishra (Director, CIIL) provided the guidance and support to organize this programme. Around 50 teachers of Karnatak University and the affiliated colleges participated in this programme. Prof. H.M.Maheshwaraiiah (former chairperson of RCHIKS, Karnatak University, Dharwad) was also present during the valedictory session of the programme

Training Programme at Manipur University

27th to 29th November 2012



A view of the participants with the experts in the workshop

NTS-I of CIIL, Mysore organised a three day Training Programme on Item Writing at the Dept. of Manipuri, Manipur University, Imphal from 27th to 29th November, 2012. The programme was inaugurated by Prof. H.Nanda Kumar Sharma, Vice-Chancellor of the University. He appreciated the commendable initiative taken by NTS-I to train teachers in the basics of testing and evaluation and techniques of item writing. The Vice-Chancellor, also, asserted the need for the academic auditing of the huge public money spent on education and the necessity of quality maintenance in this area. Prof. P.Gunindro Singh, the Local Coordinator

of this programme presided over the function. Prof. N.Nadaraja Pillai (Professor cum Deputy Director & Former Controller of Exams, CIIL) and Dr. Biresh Kumar (RP, NTS-I) along with three resource persons available locally, discussed the issues related to item writing and prepared the participants. Around 35 College and University teachers participated in this programme and more than 700 question items were developed.

Training-cum-Workshop at JSS Law College, Mysore

7th & 8th December 2012

A two day Training cum Workshop on Curriculum Development and Testing & Evaluation was organised by NTS-I of CIIL, Mysore in collaboration with the J.S.S. Law College, Kuvempunagar, Mysore on 7th & 8th December 2012 at J.S.S. Law College.

Prof. Awadesh Kumar Mishra (Director, CIIL), in his keynote address, suggested that academicians should rethink and re-plan the existing curriculum and syllabus as per the changing needs of the society. He further emphasized that the need to develop packages of learning and teaching materials with provisions to update them as per the changing requirements.

The programme was inaugurated by Prof. C.K.N.Raja (an expert in Legal Studies). He said that it was very unfortunate to consider the internal marks as a gift to the students by the institution. Prof. K.S.Suresh (Principal, J.S.S Law College, Mysore) said that though evaluation is one of the four provisions in the Universities Act, only the other three viz., teaching, research and awarding degrees are given importance. Prof. R.Subbakrishna (Professor-cum-Deputy Director, CIIL) observed that the teachers must have absolute knowledge of the particular subject to impress upon their students.



Prof. A.K.Mishra lighting lamp at the inaugural session of the workshop

Dr. M.Balakumar (Head, NTS-I) briefed the aims and objectives of NTS-I & CIIL. The participants were trained in the various aspects of curriculum development and testing and evaluation. Dr. K.V.V.L.Narasimharao, Prof. N.Nadaraja Pillai (both formerly of CIIL), Prof. P.Ratnasabapathy (Counsellor, TIERA, Chennai), Dr. Biresh Kumar (RP, NTS-I) delivered lectures on related topics. About 50 participants took active part in the proceedings of the workshop. Prof. J.S.Patil (Vice-Chancellor of Karnataka State Law University, Dharwad) delivered the valedictory address.

Prof. S.Nataraju (Associate Professor J.S.S. Law College, Mysore) coordinated the programme and he was assisted by Prof. P.Shivananda Bharathi (Associate Professor J.S.S. Law College, Mysore). Mr. N.Murali Mohana (Officer, NTS-I) assisted them under the supervision of Dr. M.Balakumar. Prof. Awadesh Kumar Mishra, the Director of CIIL provided overall guidance.

National Seminar at Agra

21st to 22nd December 2012

The NTS-I team led by Dr. M.Balakumar (Head, NTS-I) visited Dayalbagh Educational Institute (DEI), Agra to attend the two day National Seminar on Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation-2012 organised by the faculty of education of the institute on 21st and 22nd December 2012. Dr. Biresh Kumar (RP) and Dr. Sanjay Prasad Srivastava (JRP) accompanied the Head, NTS-I.

Prof. H.S.Srivastava (formerly of NCERT) delivered the keynote address. Prof. R.N.Mehrotra (Vice Chairman, DEI, Agra), Prof. J.S.Rajput (Former Director, NCERT and Founder Chairman NCTE) also discussed the features of CCE. Altogether 200 participants from all over the country attended the seminar. Around 150 academics presented papers in the parallel sessions. During the valedictory session, Prof. V.G.Das (Director, DEI, Agra) emphasized the importance of the CCE and requested the teachers to implement it in its true spirit. Prof. K.C.Vashistha, the Convener of the programme proposed vote of thanks.

From Agra the NTS-I team left for Varanasi to attend a seminar at Institute of Education SHEPA. There they met the Vice-Chancellor of Central University of Tibetan Studies (CUTS), Sarnath, Varanasi. The Head, NTS-I, was invited to visit CUTS. Accepting the invitation Dr. M.Balakumar called on Prof. Navang Samten (Vice-Chancellor of CUTS) at the University Campus and discussed the various issues of teaching, testing and evaluation with special reference to languages.

Earlier, on his way to Agra from Delhi, the Head, NTS-I visited the RFU located at NGF college of Engineering and Technology, where an NTS-I programme was going on.



Dr. M.Balakumar and the NTS-I officials with the V.C., CUTS

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.

Current Activities

Release of NTS-I Fellowships to the Awardees (from Jan. -Dec. 2012)

A sum of ` 43,14,566/- was released during the year 2012 towards 39 Doctoral fellowships and 07 Post Doctoral Fellowships. The following scholars submitted their theses during January–December 2012.

Sl. No.	Name of the Scholar	University of the Scholar Conducted his Research	Topic of the Research
1.	Ms. N.Saranaya Devi	Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai, TN	A Study on the Evaluation of Managerial Skills of the Management Students
2.	Mr. D.Arish	Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Thiruchirapalli, TN	Synthesis, Characterisation, Antimicrobial and DNA Cleavage Studies of some Novel Schiff Base Metal Complex Systems
3.	Ms. Zarnigar Yasmeeen	Patna University, Patna, Bihar	Qurratul Ain Hyder Ke Novelon Ka Mauzuati Motalea
4.	Ms. Sabiha Bano	Patna University, Patna, Bihar	Marasie Anis Mein Wageya-e-Karbala Ki Akkasi
5.	Ms. Rupendra Singh	Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, U.P.	Construction and Standardisation of a Test Battery for the Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness
6.	Ms. Paiker Fatima	Aligarh Muslim University, U.P.	A Linguistic Study of Spelling Mistakes in the Writing of Class 5 th to 7 th Students of Urdu Medium School in Aligarh

News Capsule

➤ **1st & 2nd February, 2012:** GVG Vishalakshi College, Udumalpet, TN had arranged a two day Training Programme on Testing and Evaluation and requested NTS-I to depute resource persons. Accordingly Dr. V.Ilangovan (S.R.P.) attended the two day Training Programme held at Udumalpet as a resource person. Prof. T.Sethupandian (formerly of MK University) and Prof. C.Shunmugom (formerly of Bharathiar University) also delivered lectures.

➤ **10th February 2012:** Prof. K.P.Pandey (former Vice-Chancellor, Mahatma Gandhi Kashi Vidyapeeth) delivered a lecture describing the different aspects of Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation (CCE) for the benefit of the faculty and the fellowship awardees of NTS-I.

- **11th February, 2012:** Dr. M.Balakumar (Head, NTS-I) delivered the keynote address at National Seminar on Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation held at Annai Saraswathi College of Education, Thiruvallur, Chennai. Dr. P.T.Kingston and Mr. N.Murali Mohana accompanied the Head NTS-I.
- **11th to 15th February, 2012:** Dr. M.Balakumar attended DSERT workshop for evaluating Tamil text books of Govt. of Karnataka held at Bangalore from 11th to 15th February, 2012.
- **25th February, 2012:** Dr. Biresk Kumar (RP, NTS-I) presented his research paper on “Constitutional and Legal Aspects of Women Empowerment in India” at the National Seminar on Components of Women Empowerment in Hindi Literature held at the Dept. of Hindi, NPS Government College for Women, Chittoor, Andhra Pradesh on 25th February, 2012.
- **4th March, 2012:** DKM College of Education, Vellore, TN arranged a one day Training Programme on Test Designing and Item Writing (Funded by UGC) on 4th March 2012 and had requested the Head, NTS-I, CIIL for the deputation of resource persons. Accordingly, Dr. V. Ilangoan SRP attended the programme held at DKM College of Education, Vellore as a resource person.
- **8th to 11th March, 2012:** Meston College of Education, Chennai organised National Seminar on Evaluation from 8th to 11th March, 2012. At the invitation of the principal, Dr. M.Balakumar, Dr. Biresk Kumar, Dr. B. Vijayakumar and Mr. B.M.Lingaraj of NTS-I attended the programme. Also, they visited NTS-I RFU located at the Dept. of Education, University of Madras.
- **27th April 2012:** A National Seminar on ‘Simile in Modern Literature’ was organised by Thamizh Thai Trust, Thanjavur at CIIL on 27th April. The academics of CIIL delivered lectures on Modern Literature.
- **13th September 2012:** Prof. Omkar N.Koul (former Director i/c of the CIIL) delivered a special lecture on “Tools of Testing and Evaluation and Curriculum Development” at NTS-I, CIIL, Mysore
- **22nd September 2012:** Dr. M.Balakumar (Head, NTS-I) and Dr. P.T.Kingston (JRP-Academic) visited University of Madras. They met the Registrar to discuss the issues related to the RFU established at the university.
- **6th & 7th October 2012:** The NTS-I team comprised of Dr. M.Balakumar (Head, NTS-I) and Dr. P.T.Kingston (JRP-Acad.) and Mr. N.Murali Mohana (Officer-Gen.) visited a few publishing houses in Chennai in connection with the purchase of books for NTS-I Library.
- **30th November & 1st December 2012:** Dr. M.Balakumar (Head, NTS-I) was invited for the Two day National Seminar on Programmed Learning Material at J.J. College of Education, Thiruchirapalli to preside over the valedictory session of the programme. The Head, NTS-I addressed the participants. Dr. P.T.Kingston (JRP-Acad.) briefed the gathering about the objectives and activities of NTS-I. Mr. N.Murali Mohana (Officer-Gen.) accompanied the Head, NTS-I.
- **19th December 2012:** Prof. Mohammed Miyan (Vice-Chancellor, MANUU), visited CIIL and interacted with the Director and Academics of the institute. Prof. Md. Miyan was accompanied by Dr. Khazi Ziaullah (Regional Director, MANUU, Bangalore).
- **22nd December 2012:** A seminar on Norm Referenced and Criterion Referenced Tests in the context of CCE at school level was held at Institute of Education, SHEPA Varanasi. Dr. M.Balakumar was invited to the seminar. Accordingly, he participated in the seminar. Dr. Biresk Kumar & Dr. Sanjay Prasad Srivastava accompanied the Head, NTS-I.

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