



## NTS should be an apex organisation for Testing & Evaluation - Says Padmashri Dr.D.P.Pattanayak



Dr. D.P. Pattanayak

Dr. D.P. Pattanayak, founder Director of CIIL, visited NTS H.Qrs. on 9<sup>th</sup> April 2009. He interacted with the staff of NTS and later addressed the gathering. While appreciating the activities undertaken by the NTS, Dr.Pattanayak, opined that the NTS should be made as an apex organisation for Testing & Evaluation. The excerpts from the transcribed version of the views expressed by him during the interaction are as follows:

- *Let us consider the pattern of conducting examinations in our country. Somebody takes a board examination from Orissa, second one from Uttar Pradesh and the third one from Kerala. There are no ways to say whether these board examinations are comparable with each other, whether they are different from each other, whether they have boomed to break these existing patterns. We need to develop a single test not only for medical or engineering but for all other purposes which would be good for entry into higher education so that a student need not run for writing different examinations, one in Delhi, another in Bangalore, next one in Hyderabad, and the other one in Kolkatta. Therefore please consider developing a single common test.*
- *There has been some discussion about common school system. Kothari Commission reviewed the idea of common school. Now intermittently people talk about that but there is no common school, common standard. Everybody wants to tell that his school has its own standard. What is that standard? How they achieved it? It is important to ask, 'what is the value of the board exam? and what is the use of it ?' Absolutely no use without a standard and uniformity in it. You must prepare a single test for entry into higher education.*
- *What you have done so far is wonderful. This is necessary to convince people that testing and evaluation is not an easy job. It requires a group of specialists with 'subject competence'. What is happening in the field of management today? Everybody is aspiring for management education. My only complaint against that trend is that there is no subject competence in management. A management fellow says 'I can manage anything of your affairs' without having any subject competence. Subject competence can not be ignored.*
- *At one point of time two school subjects were necessary in order to get admission into B.Ed course. Now, only one school subject is enough for B.Ed. admission. On the basis of B.Ed, people become teachers with no subject competence. I have seen a school*

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in Jharkhand where a Botany teacher was teaching English. This is not correct. Subject competence is vanishing now a days. You can develop a single test, which can emphasize on subjects as well as on languages. The amount of work you have done should have got the same amount of attention. You have prepared books for language based tests. For Engineering, Medicine and other fields, there are no books on evaluation. You should produce books for such disciplines also so that everybody can make use of them.

○ I visualize the expectation of the NTS that every institution should know more about testing & evaluation. It should make efforts to keep out the fake & half baked institutions from the business so that there will be uniformity and standard in the field of education. Like America's ETS, NTS should be the soul organization for India in matters related to Testing & Evaluation. I visualize NTS to be the apex organization for Testing & Evaluation. When we established the CIIL, it was meant not only for the country but also for the whole world. We wanted to draw people's attention that CIIL is one of the apex organizations. In the third year of our existence the government of Nigeria sent a high power team to study this institute with an intention of setting up a similar one in their country. I want the NTS to play a similar role in the area of Testing & Evaluation.

○ Whatever you are doing must be put into use. Then only those who are working in a particular Language or Literature will come to know practically and would accept whatever you have done. Learning is a continuous process. There is no beginning and no end to it. Unless our language teachers accept this trick, they are good for nothing. Our subject disciplines are splitting into smaller and smaller units and then building walls around that. At one end we are talking about interdisciplinary areas, at the other end we are making the disciplines into smaller and smaller elements. Whatever work you are doing would go a long way in generating a mindset that testing and evaluation does not necessarily mean that you confine yourself into a small discipline. But you have captured at last, the idea of establishing 3 concepts- Aptitude, Achievement and Proficiency across the disciplines.

○ People will say that we have everything, we don't need anything. Some others will say, we have nothing. Whatever you say should be good for both of them. As leaders you have to lead the people above you, you have to lead the people below you. It depends on how you make all people together. You have a very good leader who is open to suggestions. Very often it happens that leaders would not seek other people's opinion. They work on their own but here, there is a leader and a team which works together with open mind. We have to explore this system we are trying to see. First training programme in CIIL, 80 UPSC people were trained by us to do evaluation. We are specialized organization for that. When we talk about a language we forget that language is not only a subject, but also a media; without the media, there is no subject.

○ Teaching about a Language and teaching through a Language are two different things altogether. If you are evaluating you must understand the difference. Language evaluators should know the differences between the first language, second language, and foreign language. When a person evaluates the first language competence he should know what the first language is. When you deal with languages you should know the basic notions about the language so that the efforts that you put in could not go out of focus.

○ Earlier, the objectives of NTS and the activities undertaken by it were briefed to the guest by Prof. Pon Subbiah, The Head, NTS



Head,NTS introducing the Guest



NTS team with the dignitary during the interactive session

## Research and Development (R&D)

- 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

#### V Phase of the Workshop on CCGS held at UOM, Chennai and at CIIL, Mysore

8<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> April 2009, University of Madras, Chennai :

This programme was organised in two parts. The first one was conducted at the University of Madras, Chennai from 8<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> April 2009. This part of the programme was devoted to discuss and analyze the distribution of sub components of the dimensions for all the seven levels of education. Accordingly the components were taken up for discussion one after the other. The experts who participated in the workshop felt that some of the dimensions were needed to be reviewed once again. This part of the workshop were participated by the following nine senior scholars : Prof. P.Rathnasabapathy (Counselor, TIERA, Chennai), Prof. T. Sethupandian (Academic Coordinator, Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai), Prof. Arthanareeswaran (Retired from Dept of Tamil, Presidency College), and Dr. K.G. Venkataraman (Resource Person, Central Institute of Classical Tamil) represented Literature. Prof. C.Shunmugom (Former HOD of Linguistics, Bharathiar University, Coimbatore), Prof.M.Suseela (Former HOD of Linguistics, Tamil University, Thanjavur), Dr.N.Nadaraja Pillai (Former Controller of Exams, CIIL, Mysore), Dr.K.Pasumpon (Assistant Director of Tamil Development, Govt of Tamil Nadu, Madurai), and Dr.L.Ramamoorthy (RRO, CIIL, Mysore) represented Language.

22<sup>nd</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> April 2009, CIIL, Mysore :

As per the understanding arrived at during first part of the programme at Chennai, a followup work was arranged at the CIIL, Mysore, wherein five senior scholars were associated. Prof.C.Shunmugom (Former HOD of Linguistics, Bharathiar University, Coimbatore), Prof. P.N.Datta Baruah (Former Deputy Director, CIIL, Mysore), Prof.M. Suseela (Former HOD of Linguistics, Tamil University, Thanjavur), Dr. N. Nadaraja Pillai (Former Controller of Exams, CIIL, Mysore), and Dr.K.Pasumpon (Assistant Director of Tamil Development, Govt of Tamil Nadu, Madurai). This part of the work was devoted to review the distribution of sub components of the dimensions into the seven levels of general education. The participating experts felt that some of them were still overlapping. Hence the discussion was focussed once again on these aspects. They felt that there was a need for further discussion on this matter with wider participation.

This programme was coordinated by Dr.M.Balakumar (RRO, CT&E). Prior to its commencement, Prof.Pon Subbiah (Head, NTS) gave a briefing about the rationale of the whole process which was going on for decades. The need for re-considering few more modifications were suggested by the groups working on Aptitude, Achievement, and Proficiency. A general session was held at the end of the workshop to have an overview of the task accomplished.

## Survey and Documentation (S&D)

- Collecting, consolidating, and creating a grid of resources pertaining to: Contents, methods, and purposes of evaluation
- Contact particulars of individuals and institutions involved in preparing and using different types of tests
- Syllabi of various courses and corresponding question papers at different levels of education.

### Current Activities

The process of collecting addresses of academic scholars, educational institutions and documenting them in the database of NTS is under process. Broad details regarding Central and State government departments, Universities, Autonomous and Professional Institutions have already been collected and documented. Similar details pertaining to Defence Research and Development Organisation, Central Scientific and Industrial Research organization, National Council of Educational Research and Training were also added. Mr.K.S.Raghavan, and Ms.R.Kavitha, (JRPs-Technical) were involved in this process. Mr. Md.Ibrahim, and Mr.T.S.Phaniraj (DEOs) were assisting them.

## Regional Field Units (RFUS)

- 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.

### Orientation programme at Theivanai Ammal College for Women, Viluppuram, TN.

24<sup>th</sup> April 2009

NTS regional field unit [NoTN 4B] of the Tamil speaking areas meant for higher education, was established in the campus of Theivanai Ammal College for Women, Viluppuram, Tamil Nadu. It was formally visited and preliminary orientation given to the teaching staff of the college on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2009 by Prof. Pon Subbiah, Head, NTS-India. The activities that are expected to be carried out by the RFUs were also explained. The faculty members were called upon to take up the task of preparing training modules, item preparation, etc. The queries raised by interdisciplinary scholars present in the meeting were answered by the Head,



*Head, NTS addressing the academic staff of Theivanai Ammal College*

NTS. Dr. Kasturi Bai Dhanasekaran, Principal of the College, welcomed the gathering. Ms. S. A. Shanthi, Local Coordinator, Mr. J. Vijayakumar, Superintendent, staff and students of the college were present on the occasion. The meeting concluded with vote of thanks by the Local co-ordinator. The NTS team included Mrs. R. Shakunthala, Dr. Md. Rizwan, and Dr. G.Suseela (JRPs) and Mr. B.M. Lingaraj (Officer RFUs). This Field Unit has the jurisdiction of Cuddalore, Karaikkal, Perambalur, Nagappattinam, and Viluppuram districts of TN and Puducherry.

### Orientation programme at Vetri Venkateswara College of Education, Pondicherry.

25<sup>th</sup> April 2009

NTS regional field unit [No TN 4A] of the Tamil speaking regions meant for school education, was established in the campus of Vetri Venkateswara College of Education, Moolakkulam, Puducherry. It was formally visited and preliminary orientation given to the teaching staff of the college on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2009 by Prof. Pon Subbiah, Head, NTS-India. The activities that are expected to be carried out by the RFUs were also explained. The queries raised by the staff were clarified by the Head, NTS. Dr. A. G. Ramachandran Nair, (Dean, Vetri Venkateswara College of Education) presided over the programme.



*Head, NTS addressing the academic staff of VV College of Education*

Dr. R. Gunasekaran, (Founder-cum-Chairman of the college) welcomed the gathering. Prof. M. Pakkirisamy (Principal) gave vote of thanks. The NTS team included Mrs. Shakunthala, Dr. Md. Rizwan, and Dr. G.Suseela (JRPs) and Mr. B.M. Lingaraj (Officer RFUs). This Field Unit has the jurisdiction of Cuddalore, Karaikkal, Perambalur, Nagappattinam, and Viluppuram districts of TN and Puducherry. .

## Institutions Identified as RFUs of NTS

The following Institutions which met all the requirements of NTS were identified for the establishment of RFUs. The details of which are given below : 1. College of Teacher Education, Bhopal, 2. KGN Multi Purpose High School, Surguja, Chattisgarh, 3. Dept of Urdu, University of Delhi, Delhi, 4. Dronacharya College of Education, Rait, Kangra, H.P, 5. Adhiparashakti College of Arts and Science, Kalavai, Vellore, TN, 6. Annammal College of Education for Women, Thoothukudi, TN, 7. National Academy, Montessori Matric Higher Secondary School, Pattinamkathan, TN, 8. Geethaanjali All India Secondary School (CBSE), Thindal, Erode, TN, 9. St. Joseph's College of Education, St. Mary's Hill, Ooty, TN, 10. Department of Education, Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla, HP.

## Grant-in-Aid

In response to the advertisement, proposals from individuals and institutions were received by the NTS for providing lumpsum grant for the year 2008-09. Proposals received from the the following eight addressees were considered for conducting workshops, seminars, training programmes, etc. The details such as topics of the proposal, name of the coordinator, names of the institutions, etc., are given below :

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Coordinator and the Institution</i>	<i>Topic of the Proposal</i>	<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Coordinator and the Institution</i>	<i>Topic of the Proposal</i>
1.	Dr. Deepak Srivastava Asst.Professor, Dept. of Political Science, Govt. Mahakoshal Arts & Commerce(Autonomous) Post Graduate College, Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh	Training programme on Methodologies and Technique of Testing and Evaluation	5.	Dr.N.Karunamoorthy, Organizing Secretary Thiagarajar College, Kamarajar Salai, Madurai, Tamil Nadu	Workshop on New Methods of Testing & Evaluation of Part I Tamil Syllabi prescribed for Colleges
2.	Dr. Anand Kumar Local Coordinator, RFU Shri Guru Ram Rai (P.O.) College, Dehradun, Uttar Khand	Training programme on Revamping the Evaluation System	6.	Prof. Mazheruddin Farouqi Director Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Gachibowli, Hyderabad, Andra Pradesh	Training Programme on Evaluation and Testing for Teacher-Educators, Head Masters and Senior Teachers
3.	Dr.K.Rajarathinam Local Coordinator, RFU National College, Tiruchirapalli TamilNadu	Workshop on Teaching & Evaluation Programme	7.	Prof.A.R.Fatihi Chairman & Coordinator, DRS Programme, Department of Linguistics Aligarh Muslim University Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh	Workshop on Language Testing and Evaluation
4.	Dr. M. Joseph Irudaya Xavier Local Coordinator, RFU St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Palayamkottai Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu	Workshop on Evaluation Techniques in Higher Education	8.	Ms. Nalini Xavier Reader and Head Dept. of English Teresian College, Siddarthanagar, Mysore, Karnataka	Seminar cum Workshop on Testing and Evaluation in Education

## News & Events

### Engagement of Data Entry Operators:

To identify suitable candidates for holding the position of Data Entry Operator in Tamil, technical test was conducted on 21st April 2009 at CIIL, Mysore. Four candidates appeared for the test. They were ranked according to their performance by a group of technical experts and a panel of names was obtained for future engagements.

## Fellowships

Shortlisted applicants of Doctoral and Post-Doctoral fellowships for the year 2008-09 were invited for a two day workshop on..... Based on their performance in the workshop, the following candidates were selected for the award of NTS Fellowships.

### Doctoral:

#### Hindi Group

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| 1. Mr.Md. Sohel Rana<br>Aligarh Muslim University<br>Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh              | 3. Ms.Vineeta Sharma<br>CCS HAU, Hisar<br>Haryana | 5. Ms.Nidhi Mishra<br>Banasthali University<br>Banasthali, Rajasthan.  |
| 2. Mr.Umesha H.M.<br>Gandhigram Rural<br>University, Gandhigram,<br>Dindigul, Tamil Nadu | 4. Mr.Praduman<br>CCS HAU, Hisar<br>Haryana.      | 6. Mr.Madhusudan Chaturvedi<br>VIT University,<br>Vellore, Tamil Nadu. |

#### Tamil Group

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| 1. Mr.E. Amoudhan<br>Pondicherry Institute of<br>Linguistics and Culture<br>Pondicherry. | 4. Mr.A.Manoharan<br>Tamil University,<br>Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu.               | 8. Mr. D. Arish<br>M.S. University,<br>Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu.                   |
| 2. Mr.L.B. Kishore Kumar<br>Madurai Kamaraj<br>University, Madurai,<br>Tamil Nadu.       | 5. Ms.N. Saranya Devi<br>Madurai Kamaraj University,<br>Madurai , Tamil Nadu.  | 9. Mr. S. Srinivasan<br>Presidency College,<br>Chennai, Tamil Nadu.               |
| 3. Mr.S. Sundarrajan<br>Tamil University,<br>Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu.                      | 6. Ms.S. Dhivya<br>Bharathiar University,<br>Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.           | 10. Ms. S. Parvathy Hemalatha<br>Bharathiar University,<br>Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu |
|  | 7. Ms.S. Revathi<br>Queen Mary's College, (Autonomous)<br>Chennai, Tamil Nadu. |   |

#### Urdu Group

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| 1. Mr.Tanbir Ahamed<br>Jawaharlal Nehru<br>University,<br>New Delhi. | 2. Ms.Zarnigar Yasmeen<br>Patna University,<br>Patna , Bihar | 4. Ms.Husna Anjum<br>Ranchi University<br>Ranchi, Jharkhand. |
|  | 3. Ms.Sabiha Bano<br>Patna University<br>Patna , Bihar.      |  |

### Post Doctoral:

1. Dr. V. Vetrivel,  
Dravidian University, Kuppam, Andra Pradesh

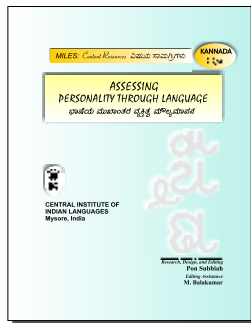
### Do you know ?

**Growth-Referenced Evaluation** is a new technique for the evaluation of an instructional programme. It provides comparative information on the rates of learning various skills thereby avoiding the pitfalls associated with other techniques used for decision making purposes. It has the following six characteristics (a) Analyse the teaching objectives into component skills, (b) Each component skill is weighted for comparative importance, (c) The rate of programme learning is determined for each component skill, (d) A commensurate growth ratio is computed, (e) A remedial potential ratio is calculated, (f) A final intervention index is promulgated.

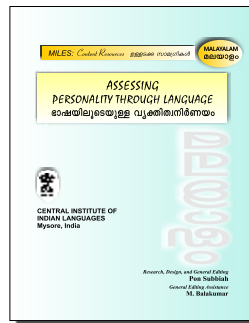
Source : *An Introduction to Evaluation Terminology, CIIL, Mysore, 2008*

# What do they contain?

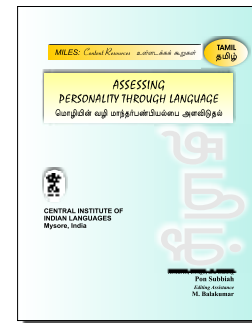
## Assessing Personality through Language



**KANNADA**  
ISBN : 81-7342-125-0  
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and General Editing  
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**TAMIL**  
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2004, Rs.160/-  
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and General Editing  
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M. Balakumar

These volumes highlight the concept of *contents in personality through language*. Scores of question (item) resources are included here as constituent models for the construction of tests and examinations of varying lengths and difficulty levels. They could be used for collecting and quantifying the details of personality factors (behavioral traits) acquired as part of all-round growth towards making objective assessment. Being built up on a dimensional problem, every item is presented in an Item File Card format with bilingual instructions. The item resources are prepared on each of the sub components and are hierarchically listed under *cognitive, affective, and psychomotor* domains as prescribed in the Taxonomy of Educational Objectives. They are intended to assess the alround *growth* of a person in all its dimensions with sampling error free content coverage (drawn from phonological, morphological, syntactic, and semantic levels of *language*). The introductory part includes a discussion on theoretical premises as well. This pioneering work in Indian languages will be an indispensable *companion* to all those who want to construct personality tests in language at various levels of education.

## Announcements

### 1. Preparation of Training Modules

Training modules are required to be prepared to equip the NTS task group on Consultancy & Training, which is expected to impart training on testing & evaluation to the teachers of various disciplines and levels of education, across the country. A list of 82 topics covering various branches of evaluation was released through website for this purpose. 52 modules are in the process of preparation by different scholars. 30 modules are still open to the scholars who have interest on these topics. Such scholars may send their synopses on any of these 30 unallotted topics. The synopsis should have the following specifications. Language of the module: English (with an option of translating the module into one of the three languages viz., Hindi, Tamil and Urdu). Size of the synopsis: About 700 words (as per specification) on any one of the 'topics displayed in black colour'. Size of the full module: Maximum 15 to 16 pages including exercises (as per specification). Remuneration / Honorarium: Rs.40,000/- for each module with translation in one of the above 3 languages (Rs.30,000/- for main English version and Rs.10,000/- for translated version).

For details such as application proforma, list of topics, specifications, etc., please log on to [www.ciil-miles.net](http://www.ciil-miles.net) and look for ANNOUNCEMENT (NEW). The proforma may be downloaded from the website. The duly filled in prescribed application (with synopses) should reach the **Head, NTS-India, CIIL, Mysore-570006**.

### 2. Setting up of Regional Field Units

Applications in the prescribed format are invited from the managements of reputed schools and colleges for setting up the Regional Field Units (RFUs) of the NTS-India. For this purpose, 30 regions have been created across 18 states of the country to cover Hindi, Tamil and Urdu speaking areas. At the rate of 2 per region 60 RFUs

are proposed and 40 have already been established. Remaining 20 are in the process of getting opened. The details have been released through press advertisements besides uploading the same in the Centre's website. Any school or college located in the specified regions is eligible to become an RFU of NTS, provided it fulfills the terms and conditions laid down for this purpose. RFUs will be required to assist NTS in matters related to test construction and standardization. All the expenditure incurred in this connection will be borne by the NTS. For operational details, terms & conditions, prescribed format of application, etc., please log on to [www.ciil-miles.net](http://www.ciil-miles.net) and look for ANNOUNCEMENT (NEW). The application format may be downloaded from the website. The duly filled in application should reach the **Head, NTS-India, CIIL, Mysore-570006**.

### Activities to be undertaken by the RFUs :

- 1. Building up of a Reference Library** - with necessary books, journals, etc., on testing & evaluation in addition to the materials supplied by the NTS, CIIL. The institution holding RFU may also procure as many reference materials as possible, by utilizing their own resources.
- 2. Procuring the Syllabi Materials** - of all the courses that are available in their jurisdiction in various disciplines (level wise) and corresponding question papers for ready reference at the time of holding item writing workshops.
- 3. Identification of Institutions** - for having a tie-up (with about 50 schools or colleges as the case may be) located under the jurisdiction of the concerned RFU for associating them to NTS activities.
- 4. Selection of Teachers / Item writers** - as representative samples (atleast 2 each from the identified institutions) for practical training / orientation on developing tools & scales.
- 5. Arranging Interactive Meetings** - for periodical interaction among the teachers identified from the concerned jurisdictional area (in order to create awareness and also to update the developments).
- 6. Dissemination of Information** - about the activities of NTS-INDIA, by circulating Information Brochures, Write-ups, Documentary Films, NTS Monthly Newsletters, etc., & obtain feed back.
- 7. Functioning as a Nodal Centre** -for undertaking the process of *item writing, test construction, field administration, standardisation*, etc., as per the NTS frame work.
- 8. Undertaking the I level Scrutiny of Raw Items** - for *eliminating unqualified items* (at the initial level) besides facilitating the field administration of tests in their jurisdiction for the purposes of *standardising* them.
- 9. Evolving Local / Regional Norms** - for the *courses* of study, *institutions* which run those courses, and *individuals* who get into such courses and also those who are handling them.
- 10. Establishing Benchmarks** - for all the above entities, with reference to the jurisdictional area.

## Readers View

Academic activities pertaining to testing and evaluation under clearly defined task groups- R&D, S&D, C&T, and RFUs - are highly informative; doctoral and post-doctoral fellowships will really encourage young scholars of the nation. I appreciate the efforts taken by the NTS to bring out this Newsletter with standard & quality.

*Prof. A. Karuppiah,  
Head, Dept. of Sociology, University of Madras, Chennai.*

A good beginning already made by NTS is evident from the different issues of the NTS Newsletter. The publications of the CT&E when reviewed through the NTS Newsletter will definitely help the readers. The idea of providing 'online access' to Newsletter is welcome. The Newsletter could also give insights regarding different aspects of evaluation. The dedication and hard work of the team of professionals associated with NTS need to be appreciated.

*Dr. Jessy Abraham,  
Associate Professor, Faculty of Education, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi.*

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