



## Interactive Meeting for Module Writers

14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> October 2008



*Prof. Pon Subbiah, Head, NTS-India addressing to the participants.*

**B**ackground : For the purpose of creating trained manpower in the area of testing & evaluation, a separate task group on consultancy & training has been set up by the NTS-India. In order to meet the input requirements for such training, it has been decided to prepare training modules on testing & evaluation in about 100 topics with the help of scholars from different disciplines, across the country. In this connection, advertisements / circulars were released through the website of the CT&E and also through national dailies inviting synopses on the prescribed topics. In response to these nationwide advertisements NTS has received a number of synopses on different topics. Based on these synopses, a few module writers have been selected and invited for an interactive meeting at the NTS H.Qrs. in order to enable them to obtain necessary orientation and guidelines. The 4<sup>th</sup> such meeting under this series was held on 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> October 2008 at CIIL, Mysore.

Dr. A.S. Gangane (Parbhani, Maharashtra), Mrs. Madhavi Bhagavan (Secunderabad, Andhra Pradesh), Mr. C. Ashok, (Sivakasi, Tamil Nadu), Dr. V. Ramdas (Mysore, Karnataka), Mr. G.J. Paneerselvam (Madurai, Tamil Nadu), Mrs. R. Girija (Tirupur, Tamil Nadu) and Dr. Britto Newman Sunder (Madurai, Tamil Nadu) participated in the meeting. The participating scholars were given all the required academic guidelines by Prof. Pon Subbiah, Head, NTS-India, on each of the proposed modules. The queries and doubts raised by the participants on the topic chosen by them for module development, were also clarified. The academics of NTS too, joined with the Head, in completing this exercise. Dr. Anand Ravi and Mr. A.K. Singh, JRPs of NTS coordinated the programme.

### CONTENTS

- INTERACTIVE MEETING FOR MODULE WRITERS
- CURRENT ACTIVITIES
  - SURVEY & DOCUMENTATION
  - REGIONAL FIELD UNITS
- GRANT-IN-AID
- FELLOWSHIPS
- NEWS AND EVENTS
- ANNOUNCEMENTS

## 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

#### Expansion of Database

The electronic database / information grid is being equipped with additional details of **institutions** such as *Councils, Commissions, Boards, Universities, Specialised & Professional Institutes, Govt. Departments / Directorates, etc., apart from Regional Field Units* of NTS. Besides, the details of **individuals** associated with *Educational Planning, Decision Making, Policy Implementation, etc.,* are also being collected and incorporated in the database. This work will continue till the target is achieved. Ms. Kavitha, and Mr. Raghavan, JRPs (tech.) are playing a key role in this regard. They are assisted by Ms. N. Bagavathi, and Md. Ibrahim DEOs of NTS.

## 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.

### Current Activities

#### Reference Materials for RFUs

Thirty eight printed books on Testing and Evaluation worth of Rs. 8500/- (Eight thousand five hundred), brought out by the Centre for Testing and Evaluation, CIIL, Mysore have been dispatched to each one of the 30 Regional Field Units located across the country (Hindi, Tamil and Urdu regions) for creating a specialised reference library exclusively for the RFU. These books are meant to be used as reference materials while undertaking the process of preparing question items. Introduction to Evaluation Terminology, Assessing Mastery of Language, Assessing Mastery of Literature, Assessing Personality through Language, Assessing Personality through Literature, Tests of Language Proficiency, etc., are some of the titles. Mr. B.M. Lingaraj, Officer looking after the RFU affairs at the NTS H.Qrs. is playing a key role in this regard.

## Grant-in-Aid

### Second Meeting of the Scrutiny Committee

10<sup>th</sup> October 2008

A committee consisting of Prof. Masood Siraj (Chairman, Dept. of Urdu, University of Mysore), Prof. Sethumani Manian (Special Invitee for translation, NTS-India), Dr. S.N. Burman (RRO, CIIL), Dr. G. Kulanthaivel (Asst. Professor, NITTTR, Chennai) was constituted for the above purpose, after a detailed review of the short-listed proposals, identified 10 of them for awarding financial assistance under the grant-in-aid sub-scheme of NTS-India. The details of topics, etc., of the proposals identified under different categories are as follows :

**Workshops :** 1. Developing Evaluation Techniques in Commerce submitted by Dr. P.C. Sai Babu from Guntur, Andhra Pradesh. 2. Enhancing second language Teaching by effective Evaluation Methods submitted by Dr. J.R. Nirmala from Chennai, Tamil Nadu. 3. Case study Role Play, Group Discussion and Assignment as Evaluation Components in Management Education submitted by Dr. S.K.G. Ganesh from Chennai, Tamil Nadu.

**Seminars :** 1. Testing and Evaluation in English for School submitted by Dr. (Mrs) L. Saraswathi from Madurai, Tamil Nadu 2. Recent Trends in Testing and Evaluation submitted by Dr. K.P. Suresh from Kannur, Kerala.

**Training Programmes :** 1. Testing and Evaluation submitted by Dr. N. Murugaiyan from Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu. 2. School Headmasters of Upper Primary and Secondary School on use of Formative and Diagnostic Assessment tools submitted by Mr. Chetan Sharma from Delhi.

**Short term Projects :** 1. A Study of the mechanism and processing of Evaluation and Testing submitted by Dr. Dasarathi Bhuyan from Ganjam, Orissa. 2. Antecedents and consequences of students performance at higher Education level private University / College vis-a-vis Govt. University / College submitted by Dr. P. Ganesan from Vellore, Tamil Nadu. 3. Awareness of Testing and Evaluation practices of the College Teachers in Namakkal District submitted by Dr. C. Paramasivam from Trichengode, Tamil Nadu.

The committee, after identifying the proposals for awarding fellowships, recommended a two day workshop for these GIA applicants with a view to provide them a brief orientation about the objectives and other activities of the NTS. The committee also suggested that the quantum of grant to be released may be decided by the Director, CIIL and the Head, NTS taking in to account the availability of funds. Dr. Biresh Kumar, RP, Dr. G.M. Ansari, JRP assisted the committee. The meeting was coordinated by Dr. G. Sandhya Nayak, JRP of NTS.

## Fellowships

### Short-listing of Applicants for Research Fellowships

21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2008

For the purpose of short-listing the applications received in connection with the award of doctoral and post-doctoral fellowships for the year 2008-09, a meeting of the screening committee was held on 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2008. The following members attended the meeting, Prof. M. Gnanam (CHI, Mysore) and Mr. B.D. Jayaram (CIIL, Mysore) for Hindi. Prof. Sethumani Manian (former faculty, Lady Doak College, Madurai) and Dr. Veerappan (RIE, Mysore) for Tamil. Prof. Masood Siraj (UOM, Mysore) for Urdu. Dr. Biresh Kumar, RP, Dr. G. Sandhya Nayak and Dr. G.M. Ansari, JRPs of NTS assisted them for Hindi, Tamil, & Urdu respectively. The Programme was coordinated by Dr. M. Balakumar.

The committee, recommended to invite all the shortlisted candidates (of doctoral and post doctoral fellowships) for an interactive session with a suggestion that they should be given necessary academic guidelines by the Head, NTS-India.

## News & Events

### Pre-Convention Meeting (Hindi)

20<sup>th</sup> October 2008

Preliminary meeting to discuss about the modality to be followed in proposed National Convention on Testing and Evaluation (Hindi) was held at the NTS headquarters, CIIL, Mysore. Prof. Pon Subbiah, Head, NTS discussed the matters regarding organization of the Convention at Delhi with the representatives of the KHS Prof. S.C. Jaswal and Prof. M. Gnanam, Regional Directors of the Delhi and Mysore centres. Dr. M. Balakumar, Programme Coordinator and a few academics of Hindi group also attended the meeting.



*Prof. S.C. Jaswal along with NTS Head Prof. Pon Subbiah , Coordinator Dr. M. Balakumar, and NTS Personnel.*

## Workshop for the Applicants of NTS Positions

16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> October 2008.

An interactive workshop for identifying appropriate candidates for the positions of Senior Resource Person (SRP) and Resource Persons (RP) in NTS was conducted from 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> October 2008. Six candidates who applied through proper channel under deputation cum foreign service category, from different institutions attended the workshop. Prof. B.N. Patnaik (former Prof. of IIT, Kanpur), Prof. V.G. Talawar (former Registrar, UOM), and Prof. P. Ratnasabapathy (former Prof. of IASE, Chennai) were experts involved in assessing the suitability of the applicants. Mr. M. Saravana, SRP of NTS co-ordinated the programme.

## Short term Project for Young Scholars

NTS-India has invited young scholars from Hindi, Tamil and Urdu speaking areas of the country for a short term project of three months duration starting from 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2008. They represent the disciplines of Linguistics, Language, Literature, Education, Psychology, Statistics, Journalism, Management, etc. During their stay at the NTS H.Qrs., they are being given *on-the-job-training* in the areas of data collection, question writing, etc., followed by practical assignments. The Head, NTS delivered a series of lectures on various topics related to the activities to be carried out by the young scholars. The academics of the NTS are monitoring the activities of the short-term project on a weekly rotation basis.

# Announcements

## 1. Developing Modules

Synopses are invited for developing Training Modules on various topics related to testing and evaluation in education (list provided in the website) from the scholars of any discipline / field of study.

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; Size of the full module : Maximum 15 to 16 pages including exercises (as per specification); Remuneration / Honorarium: For each module with translation in one of the above 3 languages Rs.40,000/- (Rs.30,000/-for main English version and Rs.10,000/- for translated version).

For details such as application pro forma, list of topics, specifications, etc., please log on to [www.ciil-miles.net](http://www.ciil-miles.net) and look for ANNOUNCEMENT (NEW). The pro forma 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 to establish Regional Field Units (RFUs) of the NTS-India in Hindi, Tamil and Urdu speaking areas of the country. Out of 60 RFUs proposed, 29 are yet to be established in the regions specified. The details are provided in the NTS-advertisements released through National English Dailies and also in the Dailies of concerned Indian languages besides University News (a higher education journal of the AIU, New Delhi). The details have also been uploaded 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 in the process of test construction and standardization. All the expenditure incurred in this connection will be borne by the NTS, in addition to the monthly maintenance cost payable to institutions housing the RFUs.

For operational details, terms & conditions, prescribed format of application, geographical jurisdiction, 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**.

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