# NATIONAL TESTING SERVICE-INDIA

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

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### A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

October 2009



# Evaluation in Education : A *Proposition by NTS*

As reported earlier, developing *materials* and *methodologies* to meet the evaluation requirements of the country is one of the main objectives of NTS. To achieve this, the NTS has surveyed all the popular tests that are conducted across the globe and made an analysis with reference to their purposes. The outcome of the analysis has widely been disseminated through the programmes of NTS. It could be seen that these tests are used as tools & scales to obtain *data* or *evidences* in a quantified form for taking decisions in order to fulfill certain *purposes* falling under the following *three* broad categories.

For fulfilling the *first* category of purposes, tests are used to obtain evidences that indicate the possession of inherent or acquired *potential*, a concept known as *aptitude*. This concept as a psychological construct is pertaining to the mental process and could be seen as reflected from the details provided under the cognitive domain of the Taxonomy of Educational Objectives. Assessing the possession of aptitude helps the authorities to arrive at a decision on the suitability of an individual for providing *admission* into a course or a training programme. Thus, an *aptitude test*, also referred to as *entrance* or *admission test*, is administered to find out whether the applicant possesses the requisite potential to undertake a specific course of study / training programme, and to complete the same successfully.

For the *second* category of purposes, tests are used to obtain evidences that indicate the *progress* made by an individual in all respects, a concept known as *achievement*. Assessing a person's achievement would help the authorities to take a decision on his / her suitability for *certification* on completion of a prescribed syllabus or a course of study / training programme. Thus, an *achievement test*, also referred to as *progress* or *terminal test*, is administered to find out whether the learner has achieved the *fixed target* that encompasses the *acquisition* of 'subject matter,' *growth* of 'human traits' (in terms of mental, emotional, and physical domains) and *acquiring* positive values to fulfill the 'societal needs.'

In the same way, for the *third* category, the tests are used to obtain evidences that are viewed as indicatives of the possession of required *skills* by an individual to perform a *specific job*, a concept known as *proficiency*. This concept as a psychological construct pertaining to the physical action, could be seen as reflected from the details provided under the psychomotor domain of the Taxonomy of Educational Objectives. Assessment of proficiency would help the authorities to decide the suitability of an individual for providing *employment*. Thus, a *proficiency test*, also called as *placement* or *selection test*, is administered to find out whether the candidate is capable of *performing* a specific job in a skillful way by applying the acquired knowledge in real life/unpredictable situations.

In all the cases, however, motivation, an affective factor is playing a vital role in shaping up one's growth with reference to aptitude, achievement, and proficiency.

Based on these broader perspectives, NTS is developing a set of *three conceptual frameworks* - one each to highlight the above said concepts. These frameworks could be used as a *roadmap* by any *institution or individual* for *setting items* and *developing tests* to fulfill the above mentioned three purposes at *every level* of education and in every *subject area*. Based on these frameworks, the task of developing 'aptitude tests for admission', 'achievement tests for certification', and 'proficiency tests for employment', has been initiated by the NTS in the area of *language* & *literature* for Hindi, Tamil & Urdu at the *Higher Secondary* and *Graduate* levels at the first instance. Subsequently, the process will be extended to other areas of study and levels of education.

(to be continued)

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### 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

For documenting the information and strengthening the database, the S&D group of NTS is involved in collecting the details like objectives, visions, and missions of the educational institutions, addresses of interdisciplinary scholars, etc., and updating them continuously.

In this process, about 1000 addresses were updated during the month of September 2009, by obtaining the details from the following institutions : Birla Institute of Technology, Mesra, Ranchi, Jharkhand; Xavier Labour Research Institute, Jamshedpur, Jharkhand; IIMs - Calcutta, Bangalore and Lucknow; Indian Institute of Social Welfare and Business Management, Kolkata; IITs Bombay, and Kharagpur; Motilal Nehru National Institute of Technology, Allahabad (UP) and 15 Engineering Colleges and specialised institutions located across Karnataka. Ms. R. Kavitha and Mr. K.S. Raghavan (JRPs-Tech.) are engaged in this work and Mr. Paniraj (DEO, NTS) is assisting them.

### Consultancy and Training (C&T)

- · Evolving a mechanism for periodical training · Preparing teaching cum training modules
- Producing documentary films 
  Creating trained manpower in various branches of evaluation
- Extending consultancy on matters related to testing and evaluation.

### Current Activities

### Workshop cum Training Programme on Item Writing

I. 8<sup>th</sup>to10<sup>th</sup> September 2009 at NTS H.Qrs., Mysore

Development of human resources in the field of testing and evaluation is one of the main objectives of NTS-India. To achieve this objective, it was decided to give training to the school and college teachers on item preparation through the RFUs of NTS spread across the length and breadth of the country. Accordingly, the first workshop cum training programme on item writing was conducted for three days at NTS H.Qs., CIIL, Mysore. The objective of this programme was to provide on-the-job training in item writing to the teachers in their respective subjects. 10 teachers representing the RFU (school level) located at Geethaanjali All India Secondary School, Erode, TN and 10 lecturers representing the RFU (college level) located at Vivekananda College of Arts and Science for Women, Tiruchengodu, TN attended the training programme.

Prof. Pon Subbiah (Head, NTS-India) explained the objectives of NTS and the role of RFUs. He further elaborated each of the ten parameters included in the Item File Card (IFC) and the principles behind them. Dr. M. Balakumar (RRO, CT&E & Coordinator, NTS Programmes) dealt with different types of question items in the afternoon's session. The next day's session began with a series of lectures by NTS academics. The topics covered were : Educational objectives, Psychomotor domain, Contents with reference to Language & Literature, Item formats,



A view of participants attending the lectures of Prof. Pon Subbiah, (Left), and Dr. M. Balakumar, (Right)

and Conceptual Framework for assessing Aptitude, Achievement, and Proficiency. The second day's programme concluded with an interactive session on the dimensions of the test format.

On the last day, the participants were given item writing assignment in the area of their specialisation. Later, these items were scrutinized by the panel of experts consisting of Prof. P.T. Abraham (Former Director, Institute of Tribal Studies, Rajiv Gandhi University, Itanagar), Prof. M. Susheela (Former HOD of Linguistics, Tamil University, Thanjavur, TN), and Dr. N. Nadaraja Pillai (Former Controller of Exams., CIIL, Mysore). Then the participants were asked to modify the question items as per the suggestions of the experts. More than 50 items were developed during this programme. The academics of the NTS involved in the programme were Dr. R.C.Maurya (SRP), Dr. Biresh Kumar, Dr. R. Senkuttuvan, Dr.M.Yesudas, (RPs), Dr. T. Janaki, and Dr. G. Sandhya Nayak (JRPs). The programme was coordinated by Mr. M. Saravana (SRP, NTS).

#### II. 30<sup>th</sup> September to 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2009 at NTS-RFU 7(B), Tiruchirapalli

The second Workshop cum Training Programme on *item writing* was conducted for three days at the NTS RFU No.7(B) located in the National College, Tiruchirapalli, Tamil Nadu. About 40 scholars comprising Professors, Associate Professors, and Assistant Professors drawn from various institutions located in the jurisdiction of the RFU participated in the programme. They represented various disciplines like Botany, Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics, Commerce, Economics, English, Philosophy, Tamil, Yoga, and Zoology.

In the inaugural session, Dr. K. Rajarathinam (HOD, Dept. of Tamil and Local Coordinator of the RFU) welcomed the participants. Prof. Pon Subbiah (Head, NTS) briefed the objectives of the programme. Dr. K. Anbarasu (Principal, National College) and Mr. A. Krishnamoorthy (Vice-Principal, National College) were also present. After tea break, the Head, NTS elaborated the rationale of the whole work which was going on for decades at CIIL, Mysore. He also pointed out the importance of evaluation in the teaching-learning process. This was followed by a press-meet in the office of Mr. K. Raghunathan (Secretary, National College). About 20 reporters representing regional and national dailies, and TV channels were present. The objectives and activities of NTS were highlighted by the Head, NTS.

The after-noon session started with a demonstration on "item preparation". The Head, NTS briefed the process involved in the preparation of question items and its operational contexts i.e., identification, production, and suitability with examples. Subsequently, a general discussion was held with the participants, wherein he clarified all the doubts raised by them. At the end of the first day's session, the participants were divided into groups according to their subject specialisation as a prelude to the next day's activity.

On the next day, the actual task of item writing in their respective disciplines, based on the operational contexts was assigned to the participants. Mr. M. Saravana (SRP, NTS) explained the *Item File Card* developed by NTS and its use for the item writers. In the afternoon session, the representatives of each group consolidated the work done by their teams and presented the same for comments.

On the last day, the participants were asked to complete the task of item writing and to incorporate the question items in the IFC format. Around 300 items were developed in different subjects. Dr. M. Balakumar (Coordinator, NTS Programmes) clarified various doubts raised by the participants. In the afternoon session, the participants submitted all the question items prepared in IFC format. The programme concluded, after getting feedback from participants. Dr. M. Balakumar issued certificates to the participants. The programme was coordinated by Mr. M. Saravana.



Prof. Pon Subbiah addressing the participants

Dr. M. Balakumar issuing certificates to the participants

## 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

### Inauguration & Orientation Programme at University of Madras, Chennai, TN

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2009

NTS Regional Field Unit [No.T-1B] of the Tamil speaking areas meant for higher education, was established in the premises of the University of Madras, Chennai. It was inaugurated by the Vice-Chancellor Prof. S. Ramachandran. The programme commenced in the conference hall of the Dept. of Politics and Public Administration of the University. While providing preliminary orientation to the staff, Prof. Pon Subbiah (Head, NTS) explained the objectives of the NTS, and its significance in the context of proliferation of educational institutions and migration of learners from one place to the other for the purpose of education and employment.



L-R : Prof. Pon Subbiah, Prof. S. Ramachandran, Prof. V.K. Padmanaban

This necessitates the need for developing a mechanism to make comparison among the courses, institutions, and individuals. He also pointed out the activities that are expected to be carried out by the RFUs. Subsequent to this, there was an interactive session wherein about 40 faculty members and students from different disciplines participated. Prof. V.K. Padmanaban (Registrar i/c) presided over the programme. Prof. M.R.Srinivasan (Dean, Academic) welcomed the gathering, and Prof. V.D. Swaminathan (Director i/c, University Students Advisory Bureau) proposed vote of thanks. NTS was represented by Dr. R. Senkuttuvan (RP) and Mr. Ancy Thomas (JRP-T). This RFU has the jurisdiction of Chennai, Thiruvallur Districts and the border areas of AP adjacent to this region, for higher education.

### Preliminary Orientation Programme at +2 Purvanchal School, Darbhanga, Bihar



 $\label{eq:prof.Pon} \textit{Prof. Pon Subbiah and his team with the staff of Darbhanga RFU}$ 

#### 15<sup>th</sup> September 2009

The NTS team led by Prof. Pon Subbiah (Head, NTS) visited the Regional Field Unit [No.H-7A] of the Hindi speaking areas meant for school education established in the campus of +2 Purvanchal High School, Laheriasarai, Darbhanga, Bihar. The preliminary orientation was given by Prof. Pon Subbiah. In his power point presentation, he explained the objectives of NTS and the activities of RFUs along with the details of field units so far established all over the country. About 40 teachers of this school, and faculty members of the nearby institutions attended the programme. Subsequently, there was an interactive session wherein the queries raised by the scholars were clarified. Mr. Aashish Ranjan (District Educational Officer), Mr. Thakur Dhirendra Singh (Member, Academic Council, Bihar State Secondary Teachers Association), Dr. Deonarayan Yadav (Director, Mithila Sodh Sansthan), Mr. Krishnakant Jha, and

Mr. Yogendra Mahto (Faculty members) were also present on this occasion. Mr. Ram Deo Roy (Local Coordinator) welcomed the gathering. Dr. Biresh Kumar (RP, NTS) gave a briefing in Hindi of what the Head NTS said in his speech. Others representing NTS were Dr. G. Sandhya Nayak (JRP-Academic) and Ms. R. Kavitha (JRP-Tech.). This RFU has the jurisdiction of the whole state of Bihar, for school education.

Preliminary Orientation Programme at Govt. Women's Polytechnic, Patna, Bihar

### 16<sup>th</sup> September 2009

NTS Regional Field Unit [No.H-7B] of the Hindi speaking areas meant for higher education, was established in the campus of the Govt. Women's Polytechnic, Phulwari Sharif, Patna. It was formally visited and preliminary orientation given by Prof. Pon Subbiah (the Head, NTS). He explained the objectives and the activities that are expected to be carried out by the RFUs. He described the existing scenario of educational evaluation and emphasized the need for creating a people's movement on quality assurance in education. About 50 participants including teachers, students, and faculty members of the institution attended the programme. Following this, there was an



Prof. Pon Subbiah and his team with the staff of Patna RFU

interactive session wherein the doubts raised by the participants were clarified by the Head, NTS. Ms. Usha Rani (Local Coordinator) welcomed the gathering and Mr. Kumar Chandra Shekar (Lecturer in Electrical Engg.) proposed the vote of thanks. NTS was represented by Dr. Biresh Kumar (RP), Dr. G. Sandhya Nayak (JRP-Academic), and Ms. R. Kavitha (JRP-Tech.). This RFU has the jurisdiction of the the whole state of Bihar, for higher education.

### **Grant-in-Aid**

### Meeting on Short-listing of Proposals for NTS-GIA

4<sup>th</sup> September 2009 at NTS H.Qrs., Mysore



A view of the committee members short-listing the applications

In order to encourage individuals and institutions to undertake the work of developing materials and to create trained manpower in the area of testing and evaluation, NTS is extending the financial support in the form of lumpsum grants under its GIA sub scheme. In this connection, NTS invited applications from Hindi / Tamil / Urdu speaking regions of the country including North-East-Region (NER) for the year 2009-10, through an advertisement published in national and regional dailies. In response to this, NTS received 50 proposals. Out of them, 26 were from NER and 24 from the rest of the country.

In this connection, a meeting was held at CIIL, Mysore to scrutinise the proposals. For this purpose, a committee consisting of Prof. P.T. Abraham (Former Director, Institute of Tribal Studies, Rajiv Gandhi University, Itanagar), Mr. B.D. Jayaram (Lecturer-SG (Retd.), CIIL), Dr. N. Nadaraja Pillai (Former Controller of Exams., CIIL), Dr. S.N. Burman, Dr. Kedutso Kapfo, Dr. L. Ramamoorthy (RROs, CIIL) was constituted.

Prof. Pon Subbiah (Head, NTS) briefed the objectives of the scheme to the committee members. Dr. M. Balakumar (Co-ordinator, NTS Programmes) was also present in the meeting. Out of the 50 proposals, 22 were short-listed (7 workshops, 5 seminars, 1 training programme, and 9 short term research projects).

The committee recommended the NTS to hold a two day workshop for the shortlisted GIA applicants. This would facilitate providing them a brief orientation about the objectives and activities of NTS and also to obtain further details about the proposals. Dr. Biresh Kumar (RP), Dr. Jamshed Ahmad (JRP), and Mr. P. Harsha (PRO) of NTS assisted the committee. The meeting was coordinated by Dr. G. Sandhya Nayak (JRP).

### **Fellowships**

### Meeting for Shortlisting the Applications for NTS Fellowships

### $23^{rd}$ & $24^{th}$ September 2009 at NTS H.Qrs., Mysore

In order to encourage young scholars to undertake the research in the interdisciplinary area of testing and evaluation, the NTS invited applications for the award of doctoral and post doctoral fellowships from the postgraduates and research scholars across the country (Hindi/Tamil/Urdu speaking regions) including North-East-Region (NER) for the Year 2009-10.

In this connection, a two day meeting was conducted for short-listing the applications. For this purpose, a screening committee was constituted. The members of the committee include : Prof. Tippeswamy (Retd. from UOM, Mysore) and Prof. M.Gnanam (Regional Director, CHI, Mysore) for Hindi; Dr. P. Veerappan (HOD of Social Sciences and Humanities, RIE, Mysore) and Dr.N.Nadaraja Pillai (Former Controller of Exams., CIIL) for Tamil; Prof. Masood Siraj (HOD of Urdu, UOM, Mysore) and Prof. Wazira Begum (Dept. of Urdu, Maharani's Science College, Mysore) for Urdu; and Prof. P.T. Abraham (Former Director, Institute of Tribal Studies, Rajiv Gandhi University, Itanagar) and Dr. Kedusto Kapfo (RRO, CIIL, Mysore) for NER. Prof. Pon Subbiah (Head, NTS) and Dr. M.Balakumar (Co-ordinator, NTS Programmes) were also present in the meeting.

Of the 214 applicants, 78 (Hindi-28, Tamil-31, and Urdu-19) for doctoral fellowships, and 13 (Hindi-3, Tamil-8, and Urdu-2) for post doctoral fellowships were shortlisted to be called for a workshop-cum-interview. No one from NER was found suitable. The meeting was coordinated by Dr. R.C. Maurya (SRP) and Dr. T. Janaki (JRP) of NTS. Mr. Aravind Kumar Gautam and Dr. Rizwan (JRPs) of NTS assisted the committee.

### NTS Fellowships : Details of the Amount released during September 2009

NTS-India has instituted 30 doctoral and 15 post doctoral fellowships per year for the young researchers from various disciplines of study. The details of the fellowships released during the month of September 2009 are as follows :

Sl. No.	Name of the awardee and University	For the Month of	Amount Released	Sl. No.	Name of the awardee and University	For the Month of	Amount Released
Post Doctoral Fellowships for 2007-08 Batch				$\frac{110.}{4.}$		July, 2009	Rs.10,000/-
1.	Dr. Ganeshmoorthy. P.S	July, 2009	Rs.12,000/-		M K University, Madurai		
2.	S V University, Tirupathi Dr. Premkumar, S	July, 2009	Rs.12,000/-	5.	Mr. Manoharan. A Tamil University, Thanjavur	July, 2009	Rs.10,000/-
	University of Madras, Chennai	sury, 2009	1.5.12,000,	6.	Mr. Md. Sohel Rana	July, 2009	Rs.10,000/-
Do	ctoral Fellowships for 2007-08	Batch			Aligarh Muslim Univ., Aligarh		
1.	Mr. Kamaraj. K Bharathiar University, Coimbato	July, 2009 re	Rs.10,000/-	7.	Ms. Nidhi Mishra Bansthali Vidyapith, Bansthali	July, 2009	Rs.10,000/-
2.	Mr. Manikandan. M Alagappa University, Karaikudi	July, 2009	Rs.10,000/-	8.	Ms. Parvathy Hemalatha. S Bharathiar University, Coimbato	July, 2009 re	Rs.10,000/-
3.	Mr. Prem Kumar. L.R M K University, Madurai	July, 2009	Rs.10,000/-	9.	Mr. Praduman C C S H A U, Hisar, Haryana	July, 2009	Rs.10,000/-
4.	Mr. Ravi Kumar. R University of Madras, Chennai	June & July, 2009	Rs.20,000/-	10.	Ms. Revathi. S Queen Mary's College, Chennai	July, 2009	Rs.10,000/-
5.	Mr. Sankar. M Gandhigram Rural Univ., Dindig	July, 2009 ul	Rs.10,000/-	11.	Ms. Sabiha Bano Patna University, Patna	July, 2009	Rs.10,000/-
	t Doctoral Fellowships for 2008-09 Batch				Ms. Saranya Devi. N	July, 2009	Rs.10,000/-
1.	Dr. Vetrivel. K Dravidian University, Kuppam	July, 2009	Rs.12,000/-		M K University, Madurai	July, 2009	D 10.0001
Do	Doctoral Fellowships for 2008-09 Batch				13. Mr. Srinivasan. S J Presidency College, Chennai		Rs.10,000/-
1.	Mr. Amoudhan. E Pondicherry Institute of	July, 2009	Rs.10,000/-	14.	Mr. Sundarrajan. S Tamil University, Thanjavur	July, 2009	Rs.10,000/-
	Linguistics & Culture, Pondicherry			15.	Mr. Tanbir Ahamad	July, 2009	Rs.10,000/-
2.	Mr. Arish. D	July, 2009	Rs.10,000/-		J N U, New Delhi	-	
	M S University, Tirunelveli			16.	Ms. Zarnigar Yasmeen Patna University, Patna	July, 2009	Rs.10,000/-
3.	Ms. Husna Anjun Ranchi University, Ranchi	July, 2009	Rs.10,000/-				

### News & Events

#### Best teacher award !

5<sup>th</sup> September 2009 : Prof. Pon Subbiah (Head, NTS-India, Centre for Testing & Evaluation and Dean, School of Language Pedagogy, CIIL, Mysore), has been honoured with the 'Best Teacher Award' by the Tamizhaga Institute of Educational Research and Advancement, Chennai on the eve of 'Teachers Day' in recognition of his decades of work in pedagogy and for his other academic contributions. In view of this, all the staff (comprising academic, technical, and ministerial) of the NTS led by Dr. M. Balakumar (Co-ordinator, NTS Programmes) greeted the Head, NTS at Mysore.



NTS team felicitates the Head, NTS, CIIL, Mysore

#### Intermediary visit to RFUs, already established

The main objective of the intermediary visit to the RFUs is to verify whether the infrastructural facilities (like reference library, computer with internet facility, fax, etc.) which ought to have been provided (as per the terms & conditions agreed upon under the MOU) are available and also to check the functioning of them.

• Accordingly, a two member committee comprising Dr. M.K.Sultana (RRO, UTRC, Lucknow) and Dr. R.C. Maurya (SRP, NTS) undertook intermediary visits to the following 3 RFUs:

1<sup>st</sup> September 2009 : Ewing Christian College, Allahabad, UP

2<sup>nd</sup> September 2009: Kanpur Kanya Mahavidhyalaya Inter College, Kanpur, UP

3<sup>nd</sup> September 2009: Eram Intermediate College, Lucknow, UP.

• 4<sup>th</sup> September 2009 : Similarly, another committee comprising Dr. R.Senkuttuvan (RP, NTS) and Mr. Ancy Thomas (JRP-Tech., NTS) visited the RFU located at Jaya College of Education, Thiruninravur. The inspection reports have been submitted to the NTS Head Quarters by the respective team.

### Inspection of applicant institutions for RFUs

10<sup>th</sup> September 2009 : A committee consists of Dr. R.C. Maurya (SRP), Dr. M. Yesudass (RP), and Dr. Jamshed Ahmad (JRP) of NTS visited an applicant institution DHM Senior Secondary Public School, Najafgarh, Delhi for establishing a Regional Field Unit for Hindi region. the availability of space and other facilities was cross verified with reference to their application.

#### Introductory meeting for RFUs

12<sup>th</sup> September 2009 : A team led by Prof. Pon Subbiah (Head, NTS) attended the introductory meeting in the Dept. of Urdu, University of Delhi. He briefed the objectives and activities of NTS to the members of the faculty.

Orientation for NTS research fellowship awardees

September 2009 : As per the terms and conditions of NTS-fellowship scheme, the awardees should be available for orientation at the NTS Head Quarters, CIIL, Mysore for 90 days every year. To fulfill this requirement, 7 doctoral / postdoctoral fellowship awardees of 2007-08, were present in the HQrs. during the month of September 2009.

### **Programmes for October**

- 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> October 2009 : RFU Interactive Meeting for Tamil Regions at CIIL, Mysore, Karnataka.
- 12<sup>th</sup> October 2009 : Preliminary Orientation Programme at RFU located in the campus of Al-Huda Public School, Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir.
- 12<sup>th</sup> October 2009 : Preliminary Orientation Programme at RFU located in the campus of Geethaanjali All India Secondary School, Thindal, Erode, Tamil Nadu.
- 13<sup>th</sup> October 2009 : Inauguration and Preliminary Orientation Programme at RFU located in the campus of Atman College of Education, Jammu, Jammu & Kashmir.
- 15<sup>th</sup> October 2009 : Preliminary Orientation Programme at RFU located in the campus of Shri Gururam Rai PG College, Dehradun, Uttarakhand.

- 22<sup>nd</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2009 : Workshop on Concept based Continuum of Graded Syllabi to finalise the dimensions and sub dimensions for literature part at CIIL, Mysore, Karnataka.
- 26<sup>th</sup> October 2009 : Short Term project cum Training Programme for the scholars from Hindi, Tamil, and Urdu speaking areas of the country for the purpose of item writing at CIIL, Mysore, Karnataka.
- 26<sup>th</sup> October 2009 : Presentation of NTS Project / Scheme by Prof. Pon Subbiah (Head, NTS), at the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India, New Delhi.

# What do they contain

Tests of Language Proficiency Secondary (Std. X) Level



These volumes in Malayalam, Marathi, and Oriya consist of innovatively cultivated *item resources* on a variety of content areas applicable for secondary (Std. X) level of general education. They are presented under seven broad categories of which the following five have been provided with examples. *Reading Comprehension* (main idea, direct information, sequence, cause and effect, inference, and vocabulary), *Lexical Skills* (lexical meaning, contextual meaning, synonyms, and antonyms), *Structure* (sequence completion, error detection, sentence comprehension, transformation, and formal grammar), *Writing and Composition* (spelling, idioms and proverbs, precis writing, text organization, letter writing and composition). Specifications needed for the remaining categories viz., *Listening Comprehension, Speaking* and *General Language* related Information, have been left to the decision of item writers in view of their familiarity with those categories. Tests of required length and time can be constructed from these resources to *assess language proficiency* for such purposes as job *selection*, and *training. Teachers, learners* 

and *evaluators* of language education will find these volumes very useful. These volumes can be procured by placing orders to Sales Executive (Publication), CIIL, Mysore-570006, Karnataka, e-mail:chandrasekhar@ciil.stpmy.soft.net, Ph: 0821-2345040.

### **Reader's View**

### A Milestone in the Education Field...

The NTS Newsletter is really worth reading and very much informative. The kind of task you have undertaken will surely become a milestone in the education sector of our country. I wish every success of NTS-INDIA under the able guidance and leadership of its Head, Prof. Pon Subbiah.



Bipradas Mukherjee Asst. Manager (Retd.), NIC, New Delhi.

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