



केन्द्रीय माध्यमिक शिक्षा बोर्ड
(शिक्षा मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार के अधीन एक स्वायत्त संगठन)
CENTRAL BOARD OF SECONDARY EDUCATION
(An Autonomous Organisation under the Ministry of Education, Govt. of India)



CBSE/Aff./Circular/2026/002287

Dated: 13.02.2026

Circular No. 05/2026

Circular

To All the Heads & Managers of CBSE Affiliated Schools

Subject: Six month bridge course for in-service Primary teachers from NIOS in respect of teachers appointed with B.Ed. degree as per Hon'ble Supreme Court order dated 11.08.2023 - reg.

Sir/ Madam,

The National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) gives recognition to National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) through Order No. NRC/NCTE/441st Meeting (Volume-3) Sl. No. 34/2025/233333-233338 dated 02.07.2025 (Copy Enclosed) to conduct a six months Bridge Course Programme for in-service Primary Teachers who are B.Ed. degree holders. Completion of this Bridge Course is mandatory for such teachers to become eligible for teaching at the primary level, in compliance with the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in Civil Appeal No. 5068/2023 dated 11.08.2023. The following conditions to be adhered by the stakeholders:

1. This Bridge Course Programme is exclusively meant for those Primary Teachers who were appointed with a B.Ed. degree in accordance with NCTE Notification dated 28.06.2018 and who were in service prior to the date of the Hon'ble Supreme Court's judgment dated 11.08.2023.
2. The Primary teachers who had been appointed with B.Ed. degree may avail this one-time opportunity to complete the course as Hon'ble Supreme Court has directed that failure of any candidate to participate and complete the course within time frame, as decided by the educational authorities, will invalidate their appointment;
3. The participant teachers shall complete the course within one year of the commencement of the course of NIOS;
4. Qualifying the Bridge course will be strictly applicable for primary teachers who had been appointed with B.Ed. degree to protect their existing employment only. This Bridge Course will not be valid for those teachers seeking subsequent employments as primary teachers.
5. NIOS has launched an online portal wherein all relevant information regarding the 6-Month Certificate Course (Bridge) in Primary Teacher Education are available.

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एकीकृत कार्यालय परिसर, सेक्टर-23, फेज-1, द्वारका नई दिल्ली - 110077
INTEGRATED OFFICE COMPLEX, SECTOR-23, PHASE-1, DWARKA, DELHI - 110077



Phone: 011-22509256, 22509257 E-mail: info.cbse@gov.in, website: www.cbse.gov.in



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The last date for registration for the 6 months Certificate Course (Bridge) in Primary Teacher Education is upto the midnight of 20.02.2026 (Friday). Therefore, all CBSE-affiliated schools are requested to ensure that eligible teachers are enrolled in the said course through NIOS at bridge.nios.ac.in.

This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority of CBSE.

Himanshu Gupta)
Secretary, CBSE

Distribution:

1. The Commissioner, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, 18 Institutional Area, Shaheed Jeet Singh Marg, New Delhi-16.
2. The Commissioner, Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti, B-15, Sector-62, Institutional Area, Noida-201309.
3. The Secretary, Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS), Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India.
4. The Secretary, Sainik Schools Society, Room No. 101, D-1 Wing, Sena Bhawan, New Delhi-110001.
5. The Chairman, Odisha Adarsha Vidyalaya Sangathan, N-1/9, Near Doordarshan Kendra, PO Sainik School Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar, Odisha-751005.
6. The Director of School Education, Andhra Pradesh, 3rd Floor, B block, Anjaneya Towers, VTPS Rd, Bhimaraju Gutta, Ibrahimpatnam, Andhra Pradesh - 521 456.
7. The Director of School Education, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar -791 111.
8. The Director of Education, Govt. of Sikkim, Gangtok, Sikkim -737101.
9. The Director of Education, Govt. of A&N Islands, Port Blair - 744101.
10. The Director of Public Instructions (Schools), Union Territory Secretariat, Sector 9, Chandigarh-160017.
11. The Director of Education, Directorate of Education, Govt. of NCT of Delhi, Old Secretariat, Delhi-110 054.
12. The Director of School Education, Ladakh, Room No.101-102, Ground Floor, Council Secretariat, Kurbathang, Kargil – Ladakh.
13. The Director, Sambhota Tibetan Schools Society, Dharmshala, Himachal Pradesh.
14. The Additional Director General of Army Education, A-Wing, Sena Bhawan, DHQ, PO, New Delhi-110001.
15. The Secretary AWES, Integrated Headquarters of MoD (Army), FDRC Building No. 202, Shankar Vihar (Near APS), Delhi Cantt-110010
16. The Group Captain Education (Schools), Directorate of Education, West Block VI, Air HQs (RKP), R.K. Puram, New Delhi- 110066
17. The Commodore (Naval Education), Directorate of Naval Education, Naval Headquarters, Ministry of Defence, West Block- V, RK Puram, New Delhi- 110066.

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एकीकृत कार्यालय परिसर, सेक्टर-23, फेज-1, द्वारका नई दिल्ली - 110077

INTEGRATED OFFICE COMPLEX, SECTOR-23, PHASE-1, DWARKA, DELHI - 110077



Phone: 011-22509256, 22509257 E-mail: info.cbse@gov.in, website: www.cbse.gov.in



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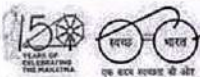
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18. JS to Chairperson, CBSE.
19. Secretary/ Controller of Examinations/ All Directors, CBSE.
20. All Regional Directors/ Regional Officers of CBSE with the request to send this circular to all the Heads of the affiliated schools of the Board in their respective regions
21. All Joint Secretary/ Deputy Secretary/ Under Secretary/ Assistant Secretary, CBSE
22. All Head(s)/ In-Charge(s), Centre of Excellence, CBSE.
23. In charge IT Unit with the request to put this Notification on the CBSE Affiliation Website
24. In-Charge, Library.
25. Record File.

(Himanshu Gupta)
Secretary, CBSE



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INTEGRATED OFFICE COMPLEX, SECTOR-23, PHASE-1, DWARKA, DELHI - 110077



Phone: 011-22509258, 22509257 E-mail: info.cbse@gov.in, website: www.cbse.gov.in

**TO BE PUBLISHED IN GAZETTE OF INDIA (EXTRAORDINARY)
PART - III, SECTION 4**

F. No. NRC/NCTE/441st Meeting (Volume-3) Sl. No. 34/2025/
Computer No.87201

Date: 02/07/25

RECOGNITION ORDER

WHEREAS, in terms of Section 14/15 of the NCTE Act, 1993, the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS), A-24-25, Institutional Area, Sector-62, Noida Uttar Pradesh has submitted an application to Northern Regional Committee of NCTE for the grant of recognition to conduct 6 months certificate Course (Bridge) in Primary Teacher Education through ODL mode.

AND WHEREAS, the matter was placed before NRC in its 441st Meeting held on 21st & 22nd May, 2025 and the Committee noted as under:-

"The file of the institution along with other related documents, NCTE Act, 1993, Rules, Regulations, SOP, guidelines issued from time to time were placed before the Northern Regional Committee and the Committee observed the following: -

- NCTE (HQ) vide letter dated 29.04.2025 communicated that the NCTE has laid down the notifications regarding minimum qualification for a person to be eligible for consideration of appointment as a teacher for classes I to VIII published vide Notification dated 23.08.2010 as amended vide Notification dated 29.07.2011, 28.06.2018, 13.11.2019 and 13.10.2021.

- Vide amendment Notification dated 28.06.2018, the NCTE brought out the following addition in the minimum qualification for a person to be eligible for consideration of appointment as a teacher for classes I to V:

"Graduation with at least 50% marks and B.Ed."

Provided that who has acquired the qualification of B.Ed. from any National Council for Teacher Education recognised institution shall be considered for appointment as a teacher in classes I to V;

Provided that the person so appointed as a teacher shall mandatorily undergo a six-month Bridge Course in Elementary Education recognised by the National Council for Teacher Education, within two years of such appointment as primary teacher.

- The aforesaid notification was challenged before the Hon'ble High Court of Rajasthan at Jodhpur Bench. The Hon'ble High Court of Rajasthan at Jodhpur passed an order dated 23.11.2021 and set aside the NCTE Notification dated 28.06.2018. The said judgment passed by the Hon'ble High Court of Rajasthan at Jodhpur was further challenged before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

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जी-7, सेक्टर-10, द्वारका, नई दिल्ली-110075
G-7, Sector-10, Dwarka, New Delhi -110075

Phone : +91-11-20893262

E-mail : nrc@ncte-india.org | Website : www.ncte.gov.in

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- The Hon'ble Supreme Court vide its judgment dated 11/08/2023 in *Devesh Sharma Vs UOI and ors.* had upheld the Order dated 25.11.2021 passed by the High Court of Rajasthan at Jodhpur and quashed & set aside the NCTE Notification dated 28/06/2018 whereby the applicants having B.Ed. degree are no longer eligible for consideration of appointment as a school teacher for classes I to V.

- The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide its judgment dated 08.04.2024 in *MA Dy. No. 4303 of 2024* in the matter of *Devesh Sharma Vs UOI and ors.* passed the following order:

"As it appears that a large number of candidates with B.Ed. degree had already been appointed on the basis of eligibility criteria specified by the educational authorities, we do not think it to be equitable to effect their removal. We, accordingly hold that the judgment delivered by this Bench on 11th August, 2023 shall have prospective operation. But prospective operation of this judgment shall be only for those candidates who were appointed without any qualification or conditions imposed by any Court of Law to the effect that their appointment would be subject to final outcome of the case which might have had been instituted by them and such candidates were in regular employment without any disqualification and were appointed in pursuance of a notice of advertisement where B.Ed. was stipulated to be valid qualification. Services of only such candidates shall not be disturbed because of this judgment. We make it clear that this benefit is only for the candidates who were appointed prior to the date our judgment was delivered, on 11th August, 2023.

Mere selection of such candidates or their participation in the process will not entitle them for a benefit under our present order. Moreover, the candidates having B.Ed. qualification whose appointments we are protecting in this judgment, will have to undergo a bridge course and we direct the educational authorities to device such course, which would be applicable for each state and union territory, within a period of one year from today. This course shall be only for those appointees who have been engaged with B.Ed. degree only in the subject-posts under conditions stipulated in the earlier part of this order. National Council for Teacher Education shall design such course under overall supervision of the Ministry of Education, Union of India. Upon formulation of such course, the same shall be publicly notified and a timeframe shall also be given within which the respective candidates shall participate therein. Failure of any candidate to participate and complete the course within the timeframe to be given by the concerned educational authorities will invalidate the appointment of such candidate.

We also make it clear that the directions contained in this order shall not be confined to the applicant state only and shall cover all cases which may be pending in different judicial fora in any State or Union territory on the same point of law. The present application stands disposed of in the above terms.

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Pending application(s), if any, shall also stand disposed of."

- In compliance with the above Order passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, the NCTE had constituted a Committee vide Order dated 3rd May 2024 to design the course under overall supervision of the Ministry of Education, Union of India within a period of one year from 08.04.2024 as directed by the Hon'ble Apex Court. The above Committee submitted its report on 03.12.2024.
- The NCTE had constituted another Committee vide Office Order dated 17.01.2025 to examine the Norms & Standards and detailed Curriculum syllabi of 6 months Bridge Course in Primary Teacher Education for Teachers of Primary Schools appointed with B.Ed. degree as submitted by the Expert Committee constituted by NCTE. The Committee submitted its final report, which was sent to the Ministry of Education, Government of India on 24.02.2025 for approval.
 - The Ministry of Education vide letter No. 3-15/2021-IS.1(IS.20) dated 07.04.2025 has conveyed the approval of the Competent Authority to the proposed Norms, Standards and Curriculum of 6-months Certificate Course (Bridge) in Primary Teacher Education for the teachers of primary schools appointed with B.Ed. degree subject to certain conditions mentioned therein.
 - i. NIOS may apply for recognition to conduct the course on ODL mode from NCTE.
 - ii. This course will only be meant for those primary teachers who had been appointed with B.Ed. degree in accordance with NCTE's notification dated 28.06.2018 and who were in-service before the date of Hon'ble Supreme Court's judgment dated 11.08.2023. Appropriate mechanism will be evolved by NCTE and NIOS to ensure that any candidate, who is not covered under the ambit of the judgment dated 08.04.2024, shall not avail of the Course. Orders of the competent authority in this Department will be obtained in this regard. The participant teachers shall complete the course within one year of the commencement of course of NIOS.
 - iii. The teachers indicated at point ii above may avail this one-time opportunity to complete the course as Hon'ble Supreme Court has directed that failure of any candidate to participate and complete the course within time frame, as decided by the educational authorities, will invalidate their appointment. Sufficient advertisement/wide publicity shall be ensured by NCTE/NIOS in this regard.
 - iv. Qualifying the Bridge Course will be strictly meant for teachers indicated in point (ii) above, to protect their existing employment only. This Bridge Course will not be valid for these teachers seeking subsequent employments as primary teachers.

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- In compliance of the judgment dated 08.04.2024, the 6-months Certificate Course (Bridge) in Primary Teacher Education has been notified by the NCTE vide Public Notice dated 07.04.2025 and the Corrigendum dated 10.04.2025 and hosted on the official website of NCTE for information to all the stakeholders.
- In view of the above, NCTE (HQ) has directed the Northern Regional Committee, National Council for Teacher Education, to grant recognition to NIOS for 6-months Certificate Course (Bridge) in Primary Teacher Education through ODL mode subject to the conditions mentioned above. They have also requested to the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) to apply to the Northern Regional Committee, National Council for Teacher Education, New Delhi for seeking recognition to run 6-months Certificate Course (Bridge) in Primary Teacher Education through ODL mode.
- Subsequently, the NIOS vide their letter dated 09.05.2025 received in NRC on 21.05.2025 has requested for recognition to conduct 6 months Certificate course (Bridge) in Primary Teacher Education through ODL mode. The NIOS has also attached the memorandum of Association and Rules and Regulations of NIOS (Amended upto July 2012).

3. **AND WHEREAS**, the Committee decided that the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) i.e. recognized to conduct 6 months Certificate course (Bridge) in Primary Teacher Education through ODL mode under the following stipulations:

- (i) This course will only be meant for those primary teachers who had been appointed with B.Ed. degree in accordance with NCTE's notification dated 28.06.2018 and who were in-service before the date of Hon'ble Supreme Court's judgment dated 11.08.2023.
- (ii) The teachers indicated at point (i) above may avail this one-time opportunity to complete the course as Hon'ble Supreme Court has directed that failure of any candidate to participate and complete the course within time frame, as decided by the educational authorities, will invalidate their appointment.
- (iii) The participant teachers shall complete the course within one year of the commencement of course of NIOS.
- (iv) Qualifying the Bridge Course will be strictly meant for teachers indicated in point (i) above, to protect their existing employment only. This Bridge Course will not be valid for those teachers seeking subsequent employments as primary teachers.
- (v) Sufficient advertisement/wide publicity shall be ensured by NIOS in this regard.

NIOS may coordinate with the NCTE(HQ) in respect of other aspects or for further clarification, if required.

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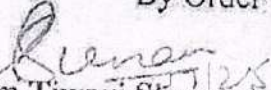
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4. **NOW THEREFORE**, the institution namely, the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS), A-24-25, Institutional Area, Sector-62, Noida Uttar Pradesh is hereby granted recognition to conduct 6 months certificate Course (Bridge) in Primary Teacher Education through ODL as per stipulation mentioned in para 3 above.

5. The institution shall adhere to the provisions of the NCTE Act, Rules, Regulations and Orders made or issued thereunder.

By Order

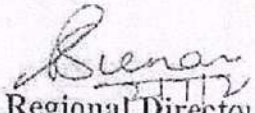

(Purnam Tiwari Sharma)
Regional Director

233333 To,

The Manager,
Govt. of India Press
Department of Publications, (Gazette Section)
Civil Lines, Delhi - 110054.

Copy to:

- 233334 1. The Chairman, National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS), A-24-25, Institutional Area, Sector-62, Noida Uttar Pradesh.
- 233335 2. The Secretary, National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS), A-24-25, Institutional Area, Sector-62, Noida Uttar Pradesh.
- 233336 3. The Principal Secretary, (Higher Education), Government of Uttar Pradesh, Secretariat Lucknow-226001, Uttar Pradesh.
- 233337 4. The Secretary, Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education, Govt. of India, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110001
- 233338 5. The US (Computer), National Council for Teacher Education, G-7, Sector-10, Dwarka New Delhi-110075.


Regional Director