



**Indira Gandhi National Open University  
(School of Continuing Education)**

**Minutes of the 68<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the School Board of SOCE held on 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2023**

The 68<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the School Board of School of Continuing Education (SOCE) was held on 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2023 from 11:30 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. through virtual mode via Google meet. The following members were present:

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| 1.  | <b>Prof. Rekha Sharma Sen</b><br>Director, SOCE, IGNOU  | Chairperson                          |
| 2.  | <b>Prof. S.P. Mishra</b><br>Former Founder Vice Chancellor<br>Dev Sanskriti Vishwavidyalaya<br>Haridwar   | Member [under 10A (2) (e)]           |
| 3.  | <b>Prof. Shagufa Kapadia</b><br>Former HOD, Department of Human<br>Development and Family Studies<br>MS University of Baroda, Vadodara                        | Member [under 10A (2) (e)]           |
| 4.  | <b>Prof. Manisha Gahlot</b><br>Department of Clothing and Textiles<br>College of Home Science<br>GB Pan University of Agriculture and Technology<br>Pantnagar | Member [under 10A (2) (e)]           |
| 5.  | <b>Prof. R. Baskar</b><br>Professor,<br>School of Science, IGNOU  | Member [under 10A (2) (d)]           |
| 6.  | <b>Prof. Arbind Kumar Jha</b><br>Professor,<br>School of Education, IGNOU   | Member [under 10A (2) (d)]           |
| 7.  | <b>Dr. Anamika Shukla</b><br>Associate Professor,<br>School of Social Science, IGNOU  | Member [under 10A (2) (d)]           |
| 8.  | <b>Dr. Monika Mishra</b><br>Assistant Professor,<br>School of Social Science, IGNOU   | Member [under 10A (2) (d)]           |
| 9.  | <b>Prof. Deeksha Kapur</b><br>Professor, Nutritional Science,<br>SOCE, IGNOU  | Ex-Officio [under 10(A) 2 (a) & (b)] |
| 10. | <b>Prof. Neerja Chadha</b><br>Professor, Child Development,<br>SOCE, IGNOU  | Ex-Officio [under 10(A) 2 (a) & (b)] |

*Rekha S. Sen*

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| 11. | <b>Prof. Heena K. Bijli</b><br>Professor, Home Science,<br>SOCE, IGNOU                   | Ex-Officio [under 10(A) 2 (a) & (b)] |
| 12. | <b>Dr. Priyanka Suryavanshi</b><br>Associate Professor, Child Development<br>SOCE, IGNOU | Member [under 10A (2) (c)]           |
| 13. | <b>Sh. Buta Singh</b><br>Assistant Professor, Rural Development,<br>SOCE, IGNOU          | Member [under 10A (2) (c)]           |
| 14. | <b>Dr. Meenu Verma</b><br>Associate Professor, Home Science,<br>SOCE, IGNOU              | Member [under 10A (2) (c)]           |
| 15. | <b>Dr. Namrata Singh</b><br>Assistant Professor, Nutritional Sciences,<br>SOCE, IGNOU    | Member [under 10A (2) (c)]           |

#### Special Invitees

1. **Prof. Arobindo Mahato**  
Professor, Rural Development,  
SOCE, IGNOU
2. **Dr. Alok Upadhyay**  
Associate Professor, Disability Studies in Child Development,  
SOCE, IGNOU
3. **Dr. Balkar Singh**  
Assistant Professor, Rural Development,  
SOCE, IGNOU
4. **Dr. Preetika Badgujar**  
Assistant Professor, Child Development,  
SOCE, IGNOU

Prof. Meenakshi Mital, Dept. of Resource, Management and Design Applications, Lady Irwin College and Prof. Kumud Khanna, Ex-Director, Institute of Home Economics could not attend the meeting.

The Chairperson extended a warm welcome to all the members of the School Board and began the presentation of the Agenda Items:

**Agenda Item 1**      **To confirm the Minutes of the 67<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the School Board held on 6<sup>th</sup> September, 2023.**

**SB 68.1.1**      The Chairperson informed the School Board that the draft minutes of the 67<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the School Board held on 6<sup>th</sup> September, 2023 were circulated to all the members. Comments were received by Prof. Neerja Chadha, these were incorporated and the minutes were considered as final and circulated to all the School Board members.

*Author S. Jan*



SB 68.1.2

The School Board confirmed the Minutes of the 67<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the School Board.

**Agenda Item 2**

**To note Action Taken Report with respect to the decisions on the Agenda Items of 67<sup>th</sup> School Board Meeting.**

SB 68.2.1

The School Board was informed about the Action Taken regarding the various activities approved during the 67<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the School Board.

Item	Title of the Item	Action taken by the School
SB.67.3.2	To consider and approve the Programme Proposal Form and Concept Note for Bachelor's Degree Programme in Rural Studies.	PPF and Concept Note approved in APC Meeting held on November , 2023
SB.67.4.2	To consider and recommend the list of experts for the Expert Committee Meeting for Bachelor's Degree Programme in Rural Studies.	Expert Committee was held on 5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> December, 2023.
SB.67.5.2	To consider and recommend the names of additional Course Team Members (Unit Writers, Block-Editors and Content-Editors) for the Courses of MARD Programme.	Letters have been sent and course writing is in progress.
SB.67.6.2	To consider and recommend the names of additional Course Team Members (Unit Writers, Block-Editors and Content-Editors) for the Courses of DPLAD Programme.	Online meeting with course writers will be held shortly.
SB.67.7.2	To consider and approve Credit Transfer from Certificate to Post Graduate and from Post Graduate to Master's Programmes of Rural Development from ODL to ODL; ODL to Online; and Online to ODL.	Approved Credit Transfer Scheme has been sent to SRD.
SB.67.8.2	To consider and approve the minutes of the Doctoral Research Committee Meeting Minutes of the Discipline of Child Development held on 17 <sup>th</sup> August, 2023.	The minutes of the DRC and the School Board regarding modification of eligibility criteria have been put up to ACSC along with Agenda Note and the matter has been further referred to AC.
SB.67.9.2	To consider and recommend the list of experts for the Doctoral Research Committee of the Discipline of Child Development.	The experts will be invited for future DRCs from the said list.
SB.67.10.2	To consider and recommend the list of additional Translators and Vettors for the Certificate Programme in Early Childhood Care and Education.	The units will be given for translation shortly.
SB.67.11.2	To consider and recommend the names of additional paper setters and moderators of various courses of PGDECFE, DECE, CNCC, ACC and four Certificate Programmes in Disabilities.	The approved list has been sent to SED.

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SB.67.12.2	To consider and recommend the list of experts for the Doctoral Research Committee of the Discipline of Nutritional Sciences.	The experts will be invited for future DRCs from the said list.
SB.67.13.2	To consider and recommend the list of experts for Paper-setting and moderation of papers for the programme(s) of Discipline of Nutritional Sciences.	The approved list has been sent to SED.
SB.67.14.2	To consider and approve the Minutes of the Expert Committee Meeting for enhancement of credits of Diploma in Event Management from 32 to 40 and Certificate in Event Management from 16 to 20 credits.	Development of the Course for enhancement of credits for Certificate and Diploma in Event Management is in progress
SB.67.15.2	To consider and approve the PDF and PPR Forms of the Certificate in Event Management for enhancement from 16 credits to 20 credits.	Development of the Course for enhancement of credits for Certificate in Event Management is in progress.
SB.67.16.2	To consider and recommend the names of Expert Committee Members for alignment of Diploma/Certificate in Event Management with NCVET norms.	Response awaited from NCVET, after the purpose of holding the expert committee meeting was informed
SB.67.17.2	To consider and recommend the list of additional Course Writers and Editors for M. Sc. in Community Development and Extension Management, Discipline of Home Science.	Course writing for the M.Sc programme is in progress
SB.67.18.2	Post-facto approval of Expert Committee Member for Expert Committee Meeting of Diploma in Event Management.	The member's name with details was approved
SB.67.19.2	To consider and recommend the list of experts for the Doctoral Research Committee of the Discipline of Home Science.	The list was approved
SB.67.20.2	To consider and approve the Programme Proposal Form (PPF) of Diploma in Event Management (DEVMT) for enhancement of credits from 32 to 40 credits, as per NEP 2020.	Development of the Course for enhancement of credits for Diploma in Event Management is in progress
SB.67.21.2	To consider and recommend the Evaluators for the Programme(s) at SOCE, sent by Regional Centres/Regional Evaluation Centres and received directly in the School.	The approved list has been sent to SED.
SB 67.22a.2	To consider and recommend the names of 05 additional evaluators for Dissertation/Project Reports of the MARD Programme (MRDP-	The approved list has been sent to SED.

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	<b>001) and PGDRD Project Report (MRDP-205).</b>	
<b>SB 67.22b.2</b>	<b>To consider and recommend the additional list of Paper-setters and Moderators for the various courses of DCYP Programme (E-vidyabharati and GOAL GUYANA).</b>	The approved list has been sent to SED.

SB 68.2.2

The School Board noted the Action Taken regarding the various activities approved during the 67<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the School Board. The Action Taken with respect to the Point.67.8.2 regarding modification of eligibility criteria for Ph.D. in Child Development was discussed in detail with the School Board members. It was stated that a discussion had taken place in the ACSC meeting that the eligibility criteria for the Ph.D. in Child Development should be the same as for the eligibility criteria recruitment of Assistant Professor in the Discipline of Child Development. The School Board members, especially Prof. R.Baskar and Prof. Arbind Kumar Jha pointed out that the eligibility criteria for Ph.D. can be much broader than the eligibility criteria recruitment of Assistant Professor and the two need not be identical. In keeping with NEP 2020 and its multi-disciplinary approach, students from various disciplinary backgrounds should be encouraged to pursue Ph.D. in a discipline. Citing the example of Ph.D. in Earth and Environmental Sciences, Prof. R.Baskar pointed out that candidates from medical background are also eligible to register for Ph.D. He stated that the eligibility criteria for recruitment of Assistant Professor in any discipline can be changed from time-to-time depending upon the specific requirement of the discipline at that point of time when the recruitment is being made. The School Board agreed with the Discipline of Child Development in expanding its eligibility criteria for Ph.D. as approved in the 67<sup>th</sup> meeting of the School Board.

With this discussion, the ATR was approved.

### **Agenda Item 3**

**To consider and approve the Programme Development Form (PDF), Minutes of the Expert Committee Meeting and Programme Project Report (PPR) Form for Bachelor in Rural Studies.**

SB 68.3.1

Prof. Arobindo Mahato presented the Programme Development Form (PDF), Minutes of the Expert Committee Meeting and Programme Project Report (PPR) Form for Bachelor in Rural Studies for consideration and approval of the School Board of SOCE.

SB 68.3.2

The Course Structure developed by the Expert Committee was appreciated. Prof. Monika Mishra and Prof. Deeksha Kapur expressed the view that the component of viva-voce must be introduced in the evaluation component of the Dissertation in order to ensure its authenticity given the fact that there are so many instances of Plagiarism being reported. They suggested that this can be suggested in the future Expert Committee Meetings organized by the discipline since the Dissertation component is only in the fourth year. Prof. Arbind Kumar Jha emphasized that when the course on Research Methodology is being developed, care should be taken to ensure that a variety of qualitative research approaches are discussed such as Ethnography, Focus Group Discussions and Grounded Theory. Prof. Mahato clarified that the

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Research Methodology course which is proposed to be adopted for BRS had been recently revised but the discipline would look into it.

Regarding the disciplines and subjects, which could be taken up as Minor by the BRS students, Prof. Mahato also proposed to include the following streams apart from the ones mentioned in the syllabus structure in the PDF Form. These streams are Computer Literacy, Commerce, Social Audit, and Gender and Development Studies. Prof. Mahato also proposed that if a Minor Course on Research Methodology is available then the same could be scrutinized and if found relevant could be added to the stream of Minor Courses in addition to the Core Discipline Course in Research Methodology.

Prof. Deeksha Kapur emphasized the importance of including Food Security, Public Distribution Systems and Rural Health in greater detail. It was suggested that this point may be discussed during the Course Writers' meeting so that this content is not missed.

The School Board appreciated the initiative of launching Bachelor's in Rural Studies as it would give a direction to the growth of the discipline at the Under Graduate Level and provide high opportunities of employability.

With these observations, the School Board considered and approved the Programme Development Form (PDF), Minutes of the Expert Committee Meeting and and Programme Project Report (PPR) Forms for Bachelor in Rural Studies.

**Agenda Item 4**

**To consider and approve the list of Course Team Members (Unit Writers, Block Coordinators, Course Coordinators, Course Editors, Block Editors, Practical Manual Editors) for Bachelor's Programme in Rural Studies, DPLAD and MARD.**

SB 68.4.1

Mr. Buta Singh presented the list of Course Team Members (Unit Writers, Block Coordinators, Course Coordinators, Course Editors, Block Editors, Practical Manual Editors) for Bachelor's Programme in Rural Studies, DPLAD and MARD for consideration and approval of the School Board of SOCE.

SB 67.4.2

The School Board considered the list and Prof. Heena K. Bijli stated that at a subsequent point of time, she would provide additional names of Course Writers from Agricultural Universities. She also emphasized the need for providing orientation to Course Writers before they embark on Unit Writing.

The School Board considered and approved the list of Course Team Members (Unit Writers, Block Coordinators, Course Coordinators, Course Editors, Block Editors, Practical Manual Editors) for Bachelor's Programme in Rural Studies, DPLAD and MARD.

*Kulhar S. Sen*



**Agenda Item 5**      **To consider and approve the minutes of the Doctoral Committee Meeting in the Discipline of Child Development held on 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2023.**

SB 68.5.1      Prof. Rekha Sharma Sen presented the Minutes of the Doctoral Committee in the Discipline of Child Development held on 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2023 for approving the Research Topic and the Research Supervisor for the Ph.D. Scholar in the Discipline of Child Development for consideration and approval of the School Board of SOCE.

SB 68.5.2      The Programme Coordinator, Prof. Rekha Sharma Sen while presenting the item explained that the DRC of the Discipline of Child Development had extensively reviewed the proposal of the Ph.D. Scholar and provided inputs with respect to the title of the proposal, sampling procedure, tools and methodology. The Research Topic and the Research Supervisor was finalised as stated in the Minutes of the Doctoral Committee in the Discipline of Child Development held on 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2023.

The School Board considered and approved the Minutes of the Doctoral Committee in the Discipline of Child Development held on 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2023.

**Agenda Item 6**      **To consider and recommend the additional list of Course Team Members (Unit Writers, Block Coordinators, Course Coordinators, Course Editors, Block Editors, Practical Manual Editors) for Master's Programme in Early Childhood Care and Education.**

SB 68.6.1      Dr. Preetika Badgujar presented the additional list of Course Team Members (Unit Writers, Block Coordinators, Course Coordinators, Course Editors, Block Editors, Practical Manual Editors) for Master's Programme in Early Childhood Care and Education for consideration and recommendation of the School Board of SOCE. She explained that the earlier approved Course Writers were not able to go ahead with Course Writing and new Course Writers needed to be identified and presented the new list of Course Writers.

SB 68.6.2      The School Board considered and recommended the additional list of Course Team Members (Unit Writers, Block Coordinators, Course Coordinators, Course Editors, Block Editors, Practical Manual Editors) for Master's Programme in Early Childhood Care and Education.

**Agenda Item 7:**      **To consider and approve the Programme Development Form (PDF) and Programme Project Report (PPR) for Certificate in Early Childhood Special Education Enabling Inclusion (Hearing Impairment).**

SB 68.7.1      Prof. Rekha Sharma Sen provided the background regarding the RCI, IGNOU MOU revived in April, 2023 and said that after the development of the programme in Visual Impairment, the discipline was now taking up the development of the programme of Hearing Impairment. Dr. Alok Kumar Upadhyay presented the Minutes of the Expert Committee Meeting. He explained that the Experts had noted that the existing SLM need considerable re-writing and accordingly a new syllabus was developed in the Expert Committee Meeting, keeping in view the latest developments in the field. He presented the syllabus in detail including the Theory and Practical

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components and explained that the programme would be launched through RCI recognized institutions that will function as LSCs. The Evaluation Methodology was the same as for the earlier programme in Visual Impairment. Dr. Alok Kumar Upadhyay presented the Programme Development Form (PDF) and Programme Project Report (PPR) for Certificate in Early Childhood Special Education Enabling Inclusion (Hearing Impairment) for consideration and approval of the School Board of SOCE.

SB 68.7.2 The School Board considered and approved the Programme Development Form (PDF), minutes of the Expert Committee Meeting and Programme Project Report (PPR) for Certificate in Early Childhood Special Education Enabling Inclusion (Hearing Impairment).

**Agenda Item 8 To consider and approve the list of Course Team Members (Unit Writers, Block Coordinators, Course Coordinators, Course Editors, Block Editors, Practical Manual Editors) for Certificate in Early Childhood Special Education Enabling Inclusion (Hearing Impairment).**

SB 68.8.1 Dr. Alok Upadhyay presented the list of Course Team Members (Unit Writers, Block Coordinators, Course Coordinators, Course Editors, Block Editors, Practical Manual Editors) for Certificate in Early Childhood Special Education Enabling Inclusion (Hearing Impairment) for consideration and approval of the School Board of SOCE. He clarified that the Unit Writing process would be overseen by a leading expert in the area of Hearing Impairment, Dr. Varsha Gathoo and that both external writers and internal IGNOU faculty would participate in the course writing.

SB 68.8.2 The School Board considered and approved the list of Course Team Members (Unit Writers, Block Coordinators, Course Coordinators, Course Editors, Block Editors, Practical Manual Editors) for Certificate in Early Childhood Special Education Enabling Inclusion (Hearing Impairment).

**Agenda Item 9 To ratify the approval given by Competent Authority for Programme Launch Form for Certificate in Early Childhood Special Education enabling Inclusion (Visual Impairment) and to consider and approve the Programme Launch Form for Awareness-cum-Training Packages for parents and family members of children with disabilities (Visual Impairment).**

SB 68.9.1 Dr. Priyanka Suryavanshi presented the ratification of the approval given by Competent Authority for Programme Launch Form for Certificate in Early Childhood Special Education enabling Inclusion (Visual Impairment). She also presented the Programme Launch Form for Awareness-cum-Training Packages for parents and family members of children with disabilities (Visual Impairment) consideration and approval of the School Board of SOCE.

SB 68.9.2 The School Board ratified the approval given by Competent Authority for Programme Launch Form for Certificate in Early Childhood Special Education enabling Inclusion (Visual Impairment) and approved the Programme Launch Form for Awareness-cum-Training Packages for parents and family members of children with disabilities (Visual Impairment).

*Kulhar S. Sen*



**Agenda Item 10:**

**To consider and approve the Programme Launch form of Certificate in Event Management.**

SB 68.10.1

Prof. Heena K. Bijli presented the Programme Launch form of Certificate in Event Management for consideration and approval of the School Board of SOCE. She explained that the earlier approval from APC and ACSC was for 16 credit programme and now the approval for 20 credit programme had been sought in the 63<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the ACSC held on 12<sup>th</sup> December, 2023. It was apprised that the Programme is in both Hindi and English. Prof. S.P.Mishra appreciated the same. Prof. R.Baskar stated that it would be appropriate to make efforts to seek recognition from the Skill Council for wider employability through the programme. Prof. Heena K.Bijli agreed and stated that efforts were on to seek recognition and collaboration with NCVET and NSDC.

SB 68.10.2

The School Board considered and approved the Programme Launch Form of Certificate in Event Management.

**Agenda Item 11**

**To consider and approve the revised nomenclature of M.Sc. in Community Development and Extension Management as M. Sc. (Home Science) in Community Development and Extension Management, that is under development in the Discipline of Home Science.**

SB 68.11.1

Prof. Heena K. Bijli presented the revised nomenclature of M.Sc. in Community Development and Extension Management as M. Sc. (Home Science) Community Development and Extension Management, that is under development in the Discipline of Home Science consideration and approval of the School Board of SOCE. Prof. S.P.Mishra enquired whether the syllabus of the M. Sc. (Home Science) Community Development and Extension Management was the same as the syllabus of the same discipline under the NET. Prof. Heena K. Bijli clarified that it was so. Prof. Rekha Sharma Sen explained that a common NET exam under the discipline of Home Science is available which includes all the sub-specializations of the Home Science field – Nutrition, Child Development, Community Resource Management, Textiles and Clothing and FRM. Prof. R.Baskar said that the renaming of the programme to include the title Home Science is in interest of the students. Prof. Gahlot stated that the term Home Science should be out of the bracketed region and the term 'Community Development and Extension Management' should be brackets. Prof. Heena provided clarification that it should be the reverse as per her talks in the UGC regarding the UGC guidelines of 2014, pertaining to programme nomenclatures. Prof. Shagufa appreciated the revised nomenclature of the programme proposed by Prof.Bijli.

SB 68.11.2

The School Board considered and approved the revised nomenclature of M.Sc. in Community Development and Extension Management as M. Sc. (Home Science) Community Development and Extension Management, that is under development in the Discipline of Home Science.

*Rekha S. Sen*

**Agenda Item 12**      **To Consider and recommend the additional list of Ph.D. Course Work, Term-end Examination Evaluators, Paper-setters and Moderators of Ph.D. Programme in Rural Development.**

SB 68.12.1      Dr. Balkar Singh presented the list of Ph.D. Course Work, Term-end Examination Evaluators, Paper-setters and Moderators of Ph.D. Programme in Rural Development for consideration and recommendation of the School Board of SOCE.

SB 68.12.2      The School Board considered and recommendation the list of Ph.D. Course Work, Term-end Examination Evaluators, Paper-setters and Moderators of Ph.D. Programme in Rural Development.

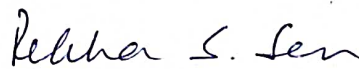
**Agenda Item 13**      **To consider and recommend the list of Evaluators for the Programme(s) at SOCE sent by Regional Centres/Regional Evaluation Centres.**

SB 68.13.1      The list of Evaluators for the Programme(s) at SOCE sent by Regional Centres/Regional Evaluation Centres was presented before consideration and recommendation of the School Board of SOCE.

SB 68.13.2      The School Board considered and recommended the list of Evaluators for the Programme(s) at SOCE sent by Regional Centres/Regional Evaluation Centres

**Agenda Item 14**      **Any other item(s) with the permission of the Chair.**

The Meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

  
(Prof. Rekha Sharma Sen)  
Chairperson  
प्रो. रेखा शर्मा सेन  
Prof. Rekha Sharma Sen  
निदेशक (स.शि.व.) / Director (SOCE)