

## Report on conduct of Online Exam for DERT, Meghalaya using PBOX of NIC Odisha



Online examination is becoming the trend in the academic institution specifically after the COVID 19 pandemic. NIC has developed the PBOX which is capable to handle exam both in centralized online mode and decentralized on-campus mode keeping eyes on the requirement of the rural India and scale of the operation. It provides modules like QPAD which may be used for question paper Authoring and dispatching, Smart Lock App for endpoint security, Exam centre Server module etc. with network resiliency capability specifically designed for rural India.

NIC got a privilege to on boarding two exams Primary School Scholarship & Upper Primary School Scholarship on PBOX platform as requested from Directorate of Educational Research & Training, Government of Meghalaya which became living lab with all parameters for benchmarking like testing network resiliency due to rural network connectivity of a NE state, user friendliness of the system as candidates appearing exam are from class 5<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> only. It was envisioned that this experience will help us to make the product more robust yet agile.

So NIC, Odisha took the challenge but followed a planned strategic trajectory to avoid any possibility of hassle to the primary & upper primary students during this process. NIC, Odisha helped the department to provide the data in proper format, took sufficient time for preparation, exam centre in charge are trained to help students, organized 5 rounds of mock test till the students became confident enough, created a WhatsApp group for communication with team of NIC Meghalaya as well as controller of examination as their staffs, setup a control room at NIC Odisha to avoid any hassle to the children. Total 8 rounds of examination conducted successfully involving 935 numbers of students from Tura, Williamnagar, Jowai, Khliehriat, Nongstoin, Mairang, Sohra, Ampati, etc across the state of Meghalaya.

On behalf of the Directorate of Educational Research and Training, we would like to extend our heartiest appreciation and gratitude to all the officials from NIC Odisha and NIC Meghalaya for all their support, contribution and cooperation we had received for the last few months and especially in the successful conduct of the exams. We cannot only thank you but also our prayers and best wishes are with you and especially in your future endeavours. We look forward to your cooperation and guidance in the near future. Thank you once again. God bless.

--- Message from Controller of Examination, DERT, Meghalaya.