

28th ANNUAL REPORT 2014-15



भारतीय पुनर्वास परिषद्

REHABILITATION COUNCIL OF INDIA

(A Statutory Body Under the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment)

Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities

B-22, Qutab Institutional Area, New Delhi – 110016

Ph.: 91-11-26532408, 26534287 Fax: 91-11-26534291

E-mail: rehabstd@nde.vsnl.net.in

Website: www.rehabcouncil.nic.in

Published by Member Secretary

Rehabilitation Council of India

B-22, Qutab Institutional Area, New Delhi-110016

Designed and Produced by Newfields Advertising Pvt. Ltd.,

3/4A, Asaf Ali Road, New Delhi-110002

CONTENTS

Chapter	Title	Page No.
1.	Introduction, Major Provisions of the RCI Act, General Council, Executive Committee and their Meetings	1-26
2.	Expert Committees & Standardization of Training Courses/Programmes	27-44
3.	Continuing Rehabilitation Education Programme and Other Activities	45-51
4.	Examination Cell - National Board of Examination in Rehabilitation	52-55
5.	Inspection and Approval of Institutions	56-63
6.	Central Rehabilitation Register	64-66
7.	Outreach Division: Distance Education and Zonal Coordination Committees	67-79
8.	Administration & Accounts	80-82
9.	Annexures	83-212



CHAPTER - 1

INTRODUCTION

VISION

To create an environment that facilitates the highest standards in human resource development in the disability sector based on principles of human rights and inclusion.

MISSION

To ensure enhancement in the quality of existing and emerging human resource development programmes in disability rehabilitation and to address the life cycle needs of persons with disabilities across the country, including those from remote and less served areas.

The Rehabilitation Council was set up under the Societies Registration Act, XXI of 1860 vide Resolution No. 22-17/83-HW.III dated 31st January, 1986 to have uniformity and to ensure minimum standards and quality of education & training in the field of special education and rehabilitation. It was given Statutory status by an Act of Parliament, the Rehabilitation Council of India Act, 1992 (No. 34 of 1992) dated 1st September, 1992 effective from 22nd June, 1993. The RCI Act was amended by Parliament in 2000 (No. 38 of 2000) to make it more broad based. The Act provides for constitution of the Rehabilitation Council of India for regulating and monitoring the training of rehabilitation professionals and personnel, promotion of research in rehabilitation and special education and maintenance of a Central Rehabilitation Register.

By signing and ratifying the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD), India has committed itself to harmonize all the domestic laws including the RCI Act. Based on the provisions of UNCRPD, the syllabi and curricula of the various rehabilitation courses developed and standardized by RCI have been revised.



MAJOR PROVISIONS OF THE RCI ACT

Objectives of the Council

1. To regulate and monitor the training programmes in the field of rehabilitation of persons with disabilities.
2. To prescribe minimum standards of education and training for various categories of professionals dealing with persons with disabilities.
3. To regulate these standards in all training institutions to bring about uniformity throughout the country.
4. To make recommendations to the Ministry regarding recognition of qualifications granted by Universities, etc., in India for rehabilitation professionals.
5. To make recommendations to the Ministry regarding recognition of qualification by institutions outside India.
6. To maintain Central Rehabilitation Register of persons possessing the recognized rehabilitation qualification.
7. To encourage Continuing Rehabilitation Education in collaboration with organizations working in the field of disability.
8. To promote research in rehabilitation and special education.

Functions of the Council

1. The qualifications granted by any University or other institution in India that are included in the Schedule shall be recognized qualifications for Rehabilitation Professionals.
2. Any University or other Institution which grants qualification for rehabilitation professionals not included in Schedule may apply to the Central Government to have any such qualification recognized and the Central Government, after consulting the Council may, by notification amend the Schedule so as to include such qualification therein and any such notification may also direct that any entry shall be made in the last column of the Schedule against such qualification only when granted after a specified date.
3. The Council may enter into negotiations with a recognized authority in any other country for setting up of a scheme of reciprocity for the recognition of qualifications. In pursuance of any such scheme, the Central Government may by notification, amend the Schedule so as to include therein any qualification which the Council has decided should be recognized, and by such notification may also direct that an entry shall be made in the last column of the Schedule declaring that it shall be a recognized qualification only when granted after a specified date.



4. Registration of Rehabilitation Professionals in the Central Rehabilitation Register of persons possessing the recognized rehabilitation qualifications as per the Schedule attached to the Act.
5. To prescribe the minimum standards of education required for granting recognized rehabilitation qualification by Universities/Institutions in India.
6. To prescribe the standards of professionals, conduct and etiquette & code of ethics for rehabilitation professionals.
7. To assess and grant approval to institutions/universities for the training of professionals in the field of rehabilitation and to facilitate their recognition and its withdrawal by the Government.
8. The Council may appoint such number of visitors as it may deem requisite to inspect any University or Institution wherein education for rehabilitation professionals is given or attend any examination for the purpose of granting recognized rehabilitation qualifications.

Rehabilitation Professionals under the Purview of the Council

The following categories of Professionals/Personnel are covered under the RCI Act:

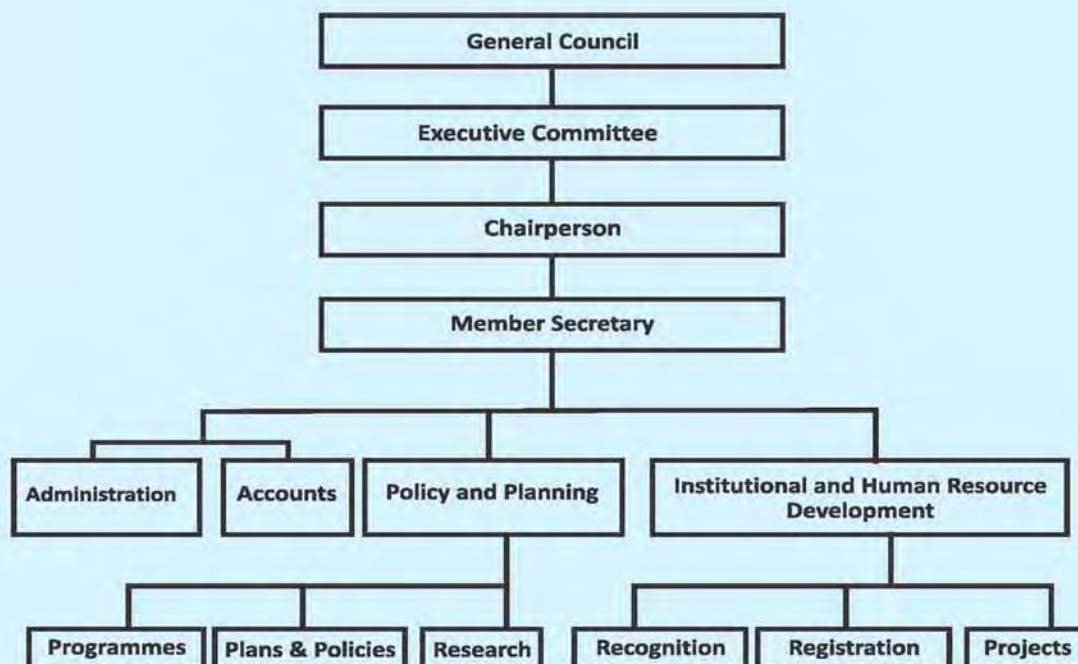
- (i) Audiologists and Speech Therapists
- (ii) Clinical Psychologists
- (iii) Hearing and Ear Mould Technicians
- (iv) Rehabilitation Engineers and Technicians
- (v) Special Teachers for Educating and Training the Persons with Disabilities
- (vi) Vocational Counsellors, Employment Officers and Placement Officers dealing with Persons with Disabilities
- (vii) Multi-purpose Rehabilitation Therapists & Technicians
- (viii) Speech Pathologists
- (ix) Rehabilitation Psychologists
- (x) Rehabilitation Social Workers
- (xi) Rehabilitation Practitioners in Mental Retardation
- (xii) Orientation and Mobility Specialists
- (xiii) Community Based Rehabilitation Professionals
- (xiv) Rehabilitation Counsellors/Administrators
- (xv) Prosthetists and Orthotists
- (xvi) Rehabilitation Workshop Managers
- (xvii) Any other category of Professionals included from time to time



COUNCIL AND ITS MEETINGS

The Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) functions under the administrative control of the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment. RCI is headed by the Chairperson, who is also the Chairperson of the General Council and Executive Committee. An organizational chart of the organization is given below:

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART OF THE COUNCIL



GENERAL COUNCIL

In accordance with Sub-Section (1) and (3) of Section 3 of RCI Act, 1992 (34 of 1992), the Central Government appoints Members of the General Council of Rehabilitation Council of India consisting of a Chairperson and 28 Members representing the Ministries/Departments, rehabilitation professionals, social workers, medical practitioners and Members of Parliament. Prof. (Mrs.) Sudesh Mukhopadhyay was appointed as Chairperson of the Council vide Notification No. S.O. 887 (E) dt. 25th March, 2014. Shri S. K. Srivastava was appointed as Member Secretary of the Council on deputation basis w. e. f. 11th March, 2015.

List of General Council members as on 31st March, 2015 is placed at **Annexure 1.1**.

MEETINGS OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL

As per RCI Act and Regulations, the Council shall have general control on the affairs of the Council and authority to exercise all powers and perform all the acts and deeds of the Council.

As per Section 4 (3) of the RCI Act, 1992, the Council shall meet at least once a year at such time and place as may be decided by the Council or Chairperson may decide. As per Section 7 (2) of the Rehabilitation Council of India Regulations, 1997, General Meetings of the Council may be held at any time during the year and at such time and place as the Chairperson may decide. Accordingly following meeting of the General Council was held during the year:

37th Meeting of the General Council

37th Meeting of the General Council of Rehabilitation Council of India was held on 27th November, 2014 at India International Centre, New Delhi. Following decisions were taken in the meeting :-

(i) **Follow up Action on the Minutes of the 36th Meeting of the General Council**

Follow up action on the Minutes of the 36th Meeting of the General Council was approved with following observations/ recommendations:



Welcome of Shri S. K. Srivastava as Member Secretary and bidding farewell to
Shri D.N. Sreenivasappa, Member Secretary, RCI



Shri Awanish K. Awasthi, Joint Secretary, DEPwD, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment and Prof. Sudesh Mukhopadhyay, Chairperson, RCI at the 37th Meeting of the General Council held on 27th November, 2014 at IIC, New Delhi.



Members at the 37th Meeting of the General Council held on 27th November, 2014 at IIC, New Delhi.



1. In regard to Academic Monitoring and Analysis System (AMAS), it was decided by the General Council that following action needs to be taken immediately:
 - (a) RCI to invite Request for Proposals/Expression of Interest for software development for AMAS from reputed firms/agencies/companies as per provisions of GFR by 15th December, 2014. If required, RFP guidelines may be obtained from the website of Planning Commission.
 - (b) AMAS may be put in place and made operational from April, 2015.
2. Regarding issue of "No Objection Certificate"(NOC) by the State Governments, it was informed that there has been delay/problem in issue of NOC by the States of Bihar, Delhi, Odisha, Kerala and Tamilnadu. It was suggested by Jt. Secretary (DA), that the Secretary, Department of Disability Affairs would write to the Chief Secretaries of these States to expedite the issue of "NOC" to institutes desirous of running RCI approved courses. Accordingly, a draft letter from Secretary, D/o DA to Chief Secretaries may be put up.

(ii) Progress Report

Progress Report of the Council between March and October, 2014 was perused and approved with the following observations/recommendations:

1. It should be ensured that all inspection reports are received within seven days from the date of inspection and the inspection reports received after seven days should not be considered.
2. It was observed that inspection of six institutes for extension of approval has not been conducted for 2014-15. It was decided that inspection of these six institutes or any other such remaining cases, be conducted by 15th December, 2014.
3. It was decided that hard copies of the Online Applications for fresh proposals for 2015-16 may be accepted by the Council even if received after due date till 15th December.
4. In case of extension of approval of courses not submitted within the stipulated date for the academic session 2015-16, it was decided such proposals may also be accepted with a penalty of Rs. 5,000 for each course latest by 15th December, 2014. Such concerned institutions may be informed to apply for extension of approval accordingly.
5. With regard to release of grants by D/o DA and expenditure thereof, G.C. observed that the pace of expenditure has been very slow and submission of the required utilization certificates for release of grants is to be expedited. RCI to ensure that utilization certificate and proposal for release of grant is submitted on time and the expenditure on various budget items is expedited.



Prof. Sudesh Mukhopadhyay, Chairperson, RCI and Ms. Kiran Puri, Joint Secretary & Financial Adviser, DEPwD, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment at the 37th Meeting of the General Council held on 27th November, 2014 at IIC, New Delhi.



(From Right to Left) Prof. Sudesh Mukhopadhyay, Chairperson, RCI, Shri Awanish K. Awasthi, Joint Secretary, Shri M. L. Meena, Deputy Secretary, DEPwD, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment and Shri D. N. Sreenivasappa, Member Secretary, RCI at the 37th Meeting of the General Council held on 27th November, 2014 at IIC, New Delhi.



(iii) Minutes of the Executive Committee of RCI

Minutes of the 66th Meeting of Executive Committee of RCI held on 25th July, 2014 were perused.

(iv) Scheme for Implementation of Special Component for Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes

With regard to the implementation of the Scheme for Implementation of Special Component for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes, the following decisions were taken to implement the Scheme:

(a) RCI should process the applications/data of the students received so far and start implementing the Scheme immediately without waiting for receipt of further proposals from students/institutions.

(b) The undertaking required to be obtained from the students needs to be revised to include "I have not received any Laptop or any such other gadget, from any other Central/State Government Department/Organization/Agency". The undertaking should be obtained from the eligible students through respective institutions within next 15 days and release the sanctioned amount through their bank accounts directly under intimation to the concerned institute.

(c) Beneficiary student will submit bill for purchase of Laptop, duly certified by the Institute, within a fortnight of the transfer of amount to his/her account. Pending this, student will not be allowed to appear for the forthcoming examination.

(v) Conduct of All India Aptitude Test (AIAT) for the Academic Session 2015-16 for Admission to RCI Approved Diploma and Certificate Level Courses

The members discussed in detail the proposal of conducting the All India Aptitude Test (AIAT) by RCI for admission to Diploma/Certificate level Courses for 2015-16 academic session and decided to defer the conduct of AIAT for one more year. However, this decision may be reviewed by the National Board of Examination in Rehabilitation (NBER) when it becomes functional and start conducting Diploma/Certificate examinations

(vi) Payment of Salary to the Special Examination Unit Staff, NCDS, IGNOU

Proposal for payment of balance amount of Rs. 20,03,479 (Rupees twenty lakhs three thousand four hundred and seventy nine only) towards salary of the staff of Special Examination Unit, NCDS, IGNOU, New Delhi for conducting examination of Diploma/ Certificate level Courses of RCI, was approved by the General Council.

(vii) Operationalization of National Board of Examination in Rehabilitation (NBER) and conduct of Examination by National Institutes

Proposal for making the NBER operationalization was approved and it was decided that, to begin with, NBER shall start conducting examination of Diploma/Certificate level Courses of the Annual System from June, 2015.

(viii) Revised Estimates (RE) 2014-15 (Plan & Non-Plan) and Budget Estimates (BE) 2015-16 (Non-Plan)

General Council approved the Revised Estimates for the year 2014-15 amounting to Rs. 6.23 crores under Plan & Rs. 2.17 crores under Non-Plan respectively and Budget Estimates (BE) for Non-Plan for the year 2015-16, amounting to Rs. 2.47 crores as sent to the Department of Disability Affairs.

(ix) Approval of Draft 27th Annual Report (2013-14) & Audit Report Along with Annual Accounts

27th Draft Annual Report for the year 2013-14 along with Audit Report for the period from 1st April, 2013 to 31st March, 2014 has been approved by the General Council.

(x) Approval of Simplified Proposal Formats for Fresh Application and Application for Extension of Approval

General Council approved the simplified formats for Fresh Application and Application for Extension of Approval.

(xi) Approval of Revised Joint Inspection Report Format for Fresh Application and Application for Extension of Approval

General Council approved the revised Joint Inspection Report Format for Fresh Application and Application for Extension of Approval.

(xii) Enhancement of Inspection Fees for Re-Inspection Cases

General Council approved the proposal to charge processing fee of Rs. 7500 for re-inspection. However, the proposal to enhance the inspection fee for re-inspection has not been approved.

(xiii) Approval for Enhancement of Financial Assistance for Continuing Rehabilitation Education (CRE) Programmes Effective from Financial Year 2015-16

General Council approved the revised CRE Scheme enhancing CRE budget from existing Rs. 60,000 to Rs. 90,000 out of which RCI contribution would be limited to 60% or the actual budget, whichever is less.

(xiv) Scheme for Financial Assistance to the Organizations to Conduct Seminars/ Workshops/ Symposia/Conferences in Disability Sector by RCI

As regards approval of the proposed Scheme for Financial Assistance to the Organizations to conduct Seminars/Workshops/Symposia/Conferences in Disability Sector by RCI, it was decided that proposals received from Governmental Organizations/approved institutions, etc., for funding of Seminars/Workshops/Conferences, etc., should be considered and approved by RCI based on the relevance of theme in disability sector.



(xv) Any Other Matter with the Permission of Chairperson

Following suggestions/recommendations have also been made:

1. RCI would organize a three-day Seminar on “Disability Management” from 19th to 21st January, 2015 at Guwahati, Assam in collaboration with CRC, Guwahati/Sishu Sarothi (Shri Armann Ali, Chairperson, Sishu Sarothi)/ZCC North-Eastern Zone, Imphal.
2. A Committee consisting of following has been constituted to frame proposals for funding of Diploma in Inclusive Education Course in North-Eastern States:
 - (i) Prof. (Mrs.) Sudesh Mukhopadhyay, Chairperson, RCI
 - (ii) Shri Awanish K. Awasthi, JS, D/o DA
 - (iii) Ms. Kiran Puri, JS & FA, D/o DA
 - (iv) Ms. Shirleen Sawkmie, Member, General Council, RCI
 - (v) At least three other representatives from NGOs from north-east to be identified by RCI in consultation with Ms. Sawkmie, Member, General Council.

A meeting of the NGOs willing to run RCI courses along with these members will be held on 18th December, 2014 at RCI, New Delhi.

3. RCI to develop/revise the Certificate Course in Care Giving of one year duration. The participants can be any person with minimum qualification proposed for admission including parents of children with disabilities. Dr. Shyama Chona may be invited to the meeting of the Core Committee/Expert Committee constituted for this purpose.
4. A Committee of Experts across all Diploma Courses may be constituted by RCI to review the minimum eligibility criteria of 50% for admission to Diploma level Courses. Dr. Shyama Chona and Dr. N.S. Dharmshaktu may be invited to the meeting of the Committee constituted for this purpose.
5. RCI should make it mandatory for the institutions to send list of applicants, merit list and final list of admitted candidates to Diploma and Certificate Courses Online from the academic session 2015-16. Institutions may also be directed to display the merit list covering all applicants as well as list of admitted candidates prominently at their Notice Board.



Members participating in the 37th Meeting of the General Council held on 27th November, 2014 at IIC, New Delhi.



6. RCI to issue an advertisement on all India basis in national and regional language newspapers, containing details of approved institutions and the courses run by them, for information of aspiring candidates, parents and general public. The advertisement should be issued by 15th January, 2015.
7. Dr. N.S. Dharamshaktu, ADG, DGHS has been requested to send suggestions on preparing schemes/courses for Disability Management Training of Leprosy Cured Persons.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

To fulfill the purpose of the RCI Act, the General Council as per the powers conferred under Sub Section (1) of Section 7, the Chairperson, RCI constituted the Executive Committee from amongst the members of the General Council. The Executive Committee is responsible for the management and administration of the affairs of the Council. The Executive Committee of the Council shall meet at least once in every four months. The meeting of the Executive Committee may be convened by the Chairperson of the Executive Committee or any other member of the Executive Committee who may be authorized by him on his behalf. List of the Executive Committee Members as on 31st March, 2015 is placed at **Annexure 1.2**. Following meetings of the Executive Committee were held during the year as per details given below:

66th Meeting of the Executive Committee

66th Meeting of the Executive Committee was held on 25th July, 2014 at RCI and the following decisions were taken:

(i) confirmation of the Minutes of the 65th Meeting

The Minutes of the 65th Meeting of the Executive Committee held on 1st October, 2013 were confirmed.

(ii) Follow up Action of the Minutes of the 65th Meeting

Follow up action on the Minutes of the 65th Meeting was approved with the following observations:

1. Proforma for inspection of new institutions and extension of approval needs to be re-looked and revised to overcome the difficulties faced during its implementation during 2014-15. Revised inspection format will be used for the year 2015-16 for which the advertisement has already been issued by the Council and the last date for receipt of proposals is 31st August, 2014
2. RCI to examine the issue of getting Inspection Reports from the visiting experts through online mode within a maximum period of three days from the date of conduct of inspection. Dr. Ravindra Singh, ICMR would share further details about the online system.

3. Details about the inspection conducted for approval of courses for the session 2014-15, in the following format, may be sent to all the Executive Committee members through email within 10 days of the meeting of the Executive Committee:

- (a) Name of the organization with Course
- (b) Date of inspection
- (c) Date of receipt of the inspection report by RCI

(iii) Notification of Regulations for Conduct of Examinations, Qualifications of Examiners and the Conditions of Admission to Examinations

The members noted the matter and stressed that setting up of the National Board of Examination in Rehabilitation (NBER) may be expedited by the Council and a mechanism to conduct the examinations of Diploma/Certificate Courses may be put in place as the National Institutes are not able to conduct these examinations due to their own commitments.

(iv) Capacity Building for Rehabilitation Professionals in North - East

1. The proposal for capacity building for rehabilitation professionals in North-East was approved with a provision of Rs. 25 lakhs.
2. One person to be hired on contract basis to look after the evolving projects/programmes for North-East and make one person from RCI as nodal officer.

(v) Scheme for Implementation of Special Component Plan for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the RCI Approved Institutions/Organizations

Scheme for implementation of SCP for SCs and STs needs to be re-designed by including the following components:

1. Grant for purchase of Laptop by SC and ST students to be directly transferred online to their bank accounts. 80% grant may be released at the time of issue of sanction order and the balance 20% grant may be released after completion of purchase formalities and receipt of bills, etc.
2. A similar scheme for giving grant for purchase of Laptop by SC and ST faculty members working in the RCI approved institutions may also be prepared.
3. A Scheme of funding for Research & Development under the SCP for SC and ST professionals registered in the Central Rehabilitation Register (CRR) may be devised by the Council. As on date, 4028 professionals and 4727 personnel belonging to SC and 747 professionals and 1063 personnel belonging to ST category respectively are registered with the Council.
4. A Scheme for funding for pursuing Ph.D. by SC and ST professionals may also be thought of on the lines of similar scheme of other Universities/Institutions specifying the financial support which can be given under the scheme.



These Schemes, after approval of the competent authority, may be given wide publicity and uploaded on the RCI website for the benefit of all concerned SC and ST candidates and implemented during the current financial year 2014-15.

(vi) Approval of Course Curricula

The syllabi of following Courses have been approved by the Executive Committee for implementation from the academic session 2014-15:

1. Diploma in Education Special Education -D.Ed. Spl.Ed (HI)
2. Diploma in Education Special Education – D.Ed. Spl.Ed (MR)
3. Diploma in Education Special Education – D.Ed. Spl.Ed (VI)
4. Diploma in Education Special Education – D.Ed. Spl.Ed (ASD)
5. Diploma in Education Special Education – D.Ed. Spl.Ed (Db)
6. Diploma in Education Special Education – D.Ed. Spl.Ed (CP)
7. Diploma in Early Childhood Special Education – D.E.C.S.E (MR)
8. Diploma in Early Childhood Special Education – D.E.C.S.E (HI)
9. Diploma in Prosthetics and Orthotics – D.P.O
10. Certificate Course in Prosthetics and Orthotics – C.P.O
11. Master of Prosthetics and Orthotics - M.P.O
12. Diploma in Computer Education (VI) on Pilot Basis - D.C.E. (VI)

It was also decided that Course curricula of all the Courses developed/standardized/ approved by the Council should be placed on the RCI website inviting suggestions/ comments from the general public for modification/changes/revision/deletion of the Course curricula giving one month time. This exercise should be completed by 10th August, 2014. Comments/suggestions may also be invited from all the approved institutions offering these Courses. Employability and quantum of employability of trained professionals/ personnel should be kept in mind while making suggestions/modifications in the course syllabi. The Executive Committee members may be informed about the outcome of this exercise in its next meeting.

(vii) Issuance of Certificates for Diploma and Certificates Courses to the Successful Students of Academic Session 2010-11 and 2011-12 by IGNOU

The issue was deliberated by the members and it was informed that Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) has refused to issue the Diploma Certificates to approx. 8,000 candidates for whom the examination was conducted by IGNOU under an MoU signed between IGNOU and RCI. RCI had taken a decision to register these candidates in the Central Rehabilitation Register on the basis of the mark sheet issued by IGNOU. As the candidates



are facing problem in seeking admission to higher courses or for employment purposes in the absence of a Diploma Certificate and approaching RCI, keeping in view the interest of the students, it is decided by the Executive Committee that Diploma Certificates to all the students who have passed from IGNOU, will be issued by the Council. Initially the Diploma Certificate will be issued to the candidates who have been registered in the Central Rehabilitation Register on the basis of the mark sheet issued by IGNOU. Diploma Certificate will be signed jointly by Member Secretary and Chairperson. A hologram will be affixed on these Diploma Certificates. Diploma Certificates to all the registered candidates will be issued latest by 31st August, 2014 and to other candidates as and when they apply to the Council. This information may be placed on the website of RCI for the benefit of candidates and prospective employers.

(viii) Operationalization of National Board of Examination in Rehabilitation

Members were informed that Regulations under Sub-Section (k) of Section 29 of the RCI Act 1992 (34 of 1992) relating to National Board of Examination in Rehabilitation (NBER) have been notified after approval of the government.

Following decisions were taken with regard to establishment of NBER:

(1) Hiring of Accommodation for NBER

- a. Executive Committee approved the proposal for hiring of accommodation for housing NBER on priority basis for which JS (DA) agreed to provide Rs.1.00 crore as seed money to set up NBER.
- b. An advertisement for hiring of accommodation may be issued immediately giving 15 days of time for submitting the proposals so that the building is hired by 16th August, 2014.
- c. A Negotiation Committee comprising of Member Secretary, RCI, Director (Finance), D/o Disability Affairs, Deputy Director (T) and Deputy Director (Admn.), RCI has been constituted for negotiating the rent rates for hiring of accommodation.

(2) Creation of posts under National Board of Examination in Rehabilitation (NBER)

- a. To conduct the business of the NBER and to meet the immediate requirement for making the Board operational, the Executive Committee has agreed to outsource conducting examination related work and to appoint minimum required staff on contract basis.
- b. Advertisement for hiring of staff should be issued immediately and staff engaged for the Board so that it starts functioning from September, 2014.
- c. Requirement of computers, equipments, furniture and fixtures, etc. should be assessed and action initiated for speedy procurement of these items.



- (d) As regards the relationship between RCI and NBER, which is an adjunct body of RCI, it was clarified that broad policy guidelines will be issued by RCI and the work relating to examinations will be handled independently by NBER through outsourcing agency with proper secrecy and monitoring.

(ix) Enhancement of Affiliation Fee, Incidental Charges and Examination Fee

The proposal to enhance the affiliation fee/incidental charges relating to examination of Certificate/Diploma Courses has been approved by the Executive Committee with following modifications:

Item	Enrollment fee from students	Examination Fee from students	Affiliation fee from approved Institutes	Incidental charges from approved Institutes
Proposed Fee (Effective from the academic session 2015-16)	Rs. 500 (inclusive of issuance of mark sheet and diploma certificate)	Rs. 150 per paper	Rs. 2500	Rs. 8000 per semester/ per year

(x) Inspection Report on the Accounts of the Council for the Year 2011 to 2013

It was decided by the Executive Committee that each and every outstanding audit para should be examined and placed before the Member Secretary and Chairperson, RCI for taking further necessary action to settle the outstanding audit paras. A brief report on the action taken be placed before the Executive Committee in its next meeting.

(xi) Constitution of the Governing Body of NBER

Members noted the point and suggested that letter should be written to all the concerned Ministries/Departments/Institutions to nominate their representative on the Governing Body as envisaged in the Rehabilitation Council of India (Conduct of Examinations, Qualifications of Examiners and the Condition of Admission to Examinations) Regulations, 2014 notified in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary vide file No. 5-62/93-RCI dated 8th June, 2014 and communicated vide Order No.7-19(1)/Exam Main/2014/RCI dated 17th July, 2014. Director, D/o Disability Affairs looking after the work of RCI is nominated by JS (DA) as representative of the M/o Social Justice & Empowerment.

(xii) Any Other Item

- Following are the two priority areas of the Government for which monitoring at the highest levels will be undertaken every month and D/o Disability Affairs will provide a



grant of Rs.10 lakhs for creating a Cell at RCI through outsourcing exclusively to develop programmes for :

- (a) Economic Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities
- (b) Technology to deliver low cost quality education to specially abled students in home through e-learning.

The strategy for the proposed Cell will be developed in consultation with Department of Disability Affairs as some professionals on contract basis need to be appointed.

2. A professional agency may be hired by the Council for undertaking a survey of approx. 90,000 registered professionals/personnel about their present status through a questionnaire specially designed for this purpose. This project can be funded under the "Research" head. An advertisement inviting "Expression of Interest" from the professional agencies to undertake this research study may be issued immediately and the study may be conducted within six months.
3. Smt. Shirleen Sawkmie will submit a proposal for capacity building of NGOs in the north-east directly to the Department of Disability Affairs for funding. State Governments in the north-east may also be requested to submit similar proposals to the D/o Disability Affairs. A copy may be sent to RCI for follow up.
4. RCI may develop norms for recruitment/appointment of professionals in the field of disability rehabilitation and special education to further strengthen this field as one of its activities.

67th Meeting of the Executive Committee

67th Meeting of the Executive Committee of Rehabilitation Council of India was held on 2nd February, 2015 at RCI, New Delhi in which following decisions were taken:

(i) Confirmation of the Minutes of the 66th Meeting

The Minutes of the 66th meeting of the Executive Committee held on 25th July, 2014 were confirmed.

(ii) Follow up Action of the Minutes of the 66th Meeting

Follow up Action on the Minutes of the 66th Meeting held on 25th July, 2014 was approved with following observations:

1. Regarding development of online system for receiving proposals, getting inspection reports from visiting experts online, Executive Committee members desired to know the reasons for making the online system operational from academic session 2016-17. It has been clarified that due to the following reasons, the online system would be made operational from the academic session 2016-17:
 - (a) Online proposals for academic session 2015-16 have already been received by



15th September, 2014 and process of deputing visiting experts has also started from September, 2014. Approval process has also started.

- (b) In the meanwhile, National Council of Teacher Education (Recognition, Norms and Procedure) Regulation, 2014 have been issued by NCTE increasing the duration of B.Ed. and M.Ed. courses from one year to two years. RCI has initiated necessary action to keep the B.Ed. and M.Ed. (Special Education) Courses on par with NCTE and increase the duration from one year to two years. The revised norms and regulations have to be incorporated in the new AMAS; hence it can be initiated only in 2016-17.
2. (a) Regarding implementation of Research Scheme, it was informed that a detailed research scheme is being worked out by the Council based on the feedback of National Consultation on Research Agenda for Disability Sector and would be implemented from the next financial year, i.e. 2015-16 as this will have financial implications that need to be adequately budgeted and put into public domain.
- (b) Dr. Ravindra Singh will provide information on the research scheme being implemented by ICMR for technology development. RCI to write to him to furnish the details and share with him the scheme of the DEPwD as available on the website of M/o SJ&E.
3. The report on the accounts of the Council and outstanding paras may be taken up with the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, M/o SJ&E for settlement of outstanding audit paras. A detailed proposal may be prepared and submitted by the Council.

(iii) Progress Report

Progress Report of the Council was perused by the members and following observations were made:

1. Inspection and Approval of Institutions:
Details of proposals regretted may also be included in the statement.
2. Registration of Professionals/Personnel:
In addition to the table giving the details of month-wise registration, write-up/analysis also needs to be given for registration of Professional and Personnel. Action may be taken by RCI to issue e-registration certificates for registered professionals/personnel.
3. Regarding Workshops/Seminars/Refresher Programmes organized by RCI, it was directed to give the updated information/data on the activities of the Council.

(iv) Capacity Building for Rehabilitation Professionals in North East Region

Members were happy to note that the Council is organizing a three-day Seminar on Capacity Building of Rehabilitation Professionals for Persons with Disabilities in North-East from 5-7



"Seminar on Capacity Building of Rehabilitation Professionals for Persons with Disabilities in North-East" from 5 - 7 February, 2015 at Guwahati



February, 2015 at Guwahati in association with Shishu Sarothi Centre for Rehabilitation & Training for Multiple Disabilities and Composite Regional Centre for Persons with Disabilities, Guwahati.

(v) Scheme for Implementation of Special Component Plan for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the RCI Approved Institutions/Organizations

Members noted the action taken by RCI for implementation of the Scheme for Implementation of Special Component Plan for SCs and STs. It was informed that the expenditure on implementation of Laptop Scheme would be low as the number of eligible students to avail the Scheme is less in ST category. It was, therefore, decided to give one time relaxation as a special case to consider names of students received after the last date in respect of ST students, subject to the availability of funds.

As only 80% grant is being released to the eligible students under the Scheme, provision for the balance 20% grant should be made and the money be retained during the current financial year for release to the students on completion of the formalities.

Shri M.L. Meena, Deputy Secretary, DEPwD, informed that the budget under the SCP for SCs and STs has been reduced to Rs. 48 lakhs and Rs. 24 lakhs respectively during the current financial year, i.e., 2014-15 as against Rs. 80 lakhs and Rs. 40 lakhs. Allocation for North East has been brought down to Rs.30 lakhs only during the year 2014-15 as against Rs. 50 lakhs. Therefore, action may be taken accordingly to implement the Scheme as per the revised budget allocation.

(vi) Issuance of Certificates for Diploma and Certificate Courses to the Successful Students of Academic Session 2010-11 and 2011-12 by IGNOU

It was informed that necessary action has been taken for issue of Diploma Certificates to the successful candidates of 2010-11 and 2011-12 academic sessions whose examination was conducted by IGNOU. Council would start issuing Diploma Certificates to the eligible candidates from the third week of February, 2015.

(vii) Operationalization of National Board of Examination in Rehabilitation (NBER)

The Executive Committee was informed about the first meeting of the Governing Board (GB) of NBER held on 28th January, 2015. Following decisions were taken regarding operationalization of NBER:

- (a) It was approved to appoint minimum required staff on contract basis for NBER.
- (b) A detailed proposal may be prepared for getting seed money from the Ministry/ DEPwD for making the NBER operational. Details of non-recurring expenditure may be prepared in consultation with the National Institutes, the meeting for which has been tentatively scheduled on 2-3 March, 2015 at RCI/AYJNIHH, Mumbai.
- (c) The matter of getting rent reasonable certificate from CPWD for hiring of accommodation for NBER is to be followed up. Though the proposal by RCI to initiate work from the present premises was appreciated.



(d) Minutes of the General Body meeting of the NBER held on 28th January, 2015 were approved.

(viii) Revision of Course Curricula of B.Ed. (Special Education) and M. Ed. (Special Education) Courses

Keeping in view the implications of National Council of Teacher Education (Recognition, Norms and Procedure) Regulation, 2014, Executive Committee approved the proposal of RCI to convene the meeting of the Expert Committee on 10th and 11th February, 2015 for revising the syllabi of B.Ed. and M.Ed. (Special Education) for increasing the duration from one year to two years to keep the courses on par with NCTE for recruitment purposes.

(ix) Enhancement of Honorarium for Writing of Books/Manuals

Executive Committee approved the following rate of honorarium for writing of Books/Manuals, etc. with immediate effect:

Sr. No.	Nature of Work	No. of Pages	Page & Font	Existing Rate	Revised Approved Rate
1.	Writing of Books/ Manuscripts/ Instruction Material/ Manual	Upto 100 pages	A4 size, single line 12 font	Rs.15,000 (proportionate for less than 100 pages)	Rs.25,000
2.	Writing of Books/ Manuscripts/ Instruction Material/ Manual	Upto 200 pages	A4 size, single line 12 font	Rs.20,000 (proportionate for less than 200 pages)	Rs.35,000

In addition, Executive Committee approved Rs. 5000 per publication for peer review of each and every publication brought out by RCI.

(x) Medical Reimbursement to the Pensioners of the Council

It was decided by the Executive Committee that a detailed proposal for medical reimbursement to the pensioners of Rehabilitation Council of India may be prepared and submitted to the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, M/o SJ&E for consideration and approval.

(xi) Implementation of Central Sector Scheme of "In-service Training & Sensitization of State Governments, Local Bodies & Other Service Providers"

Executive Committee approved the action taken by RCI for implementation of Central Scheme of "In-service Training & Sensitization of State Governments, Local Bodies & Other Service Providers" in holding the meeting of experts on 27th January, 2015 at RCI to prepare the structure for content writing for development of training modules for different categories of functionaries. It was decided to write to the Department of Empowerment of



Persons with Disabilities to release funds earmarked for RCI during the current financial year to meet the expenditure on development of different modules and other items and conduct few programmes this year.

(xii) Proposal for Human Resource Development Programmes in Rehabilitation and Special Education in "North-Eastern Region"

Executive Committee considered and approved the proposal for Human Resource Development in Rehabilitation and Special Education in North-Eastern region. It was also approved to approach the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, M/o SJ & E to consider the proposal and release funds for implementation of the Scheme in North Eastern Region for development of institutions for human resource development in disability rehabilitation and special education.

68th Meeting of the Executive Committee

68th Meeting of the Executive Committee of Rehabilitation Council of India was held on 30th March, 2015 at RCI, New Delhi. Following decisions were taken in the meeting:

(i) Confirmation of the Minutes of the 67th Meeting

The Minutes of the 67th meeting of the Executive Committee held on 2nd February, 2015 were confirmed.

(ii) Follow up Action of the Minutes of the 67th Meeting

Follow up Action on the Minutes of the 67th Meeting held on 2nd February, 2015 was approved by the Executive Committee.

(iii) Progress Report

Progress Report of the Council was perused by the members and expressed their satisfaction in the progress made by the Council. Ms. Shirleen Sawkmie, Member expressed her happiness to note that so much attention has been paid by the Council for the first time for initiating different activities in North-East.

(iv) Action Plan for the Year 2015-16

Action Plan for the year 2015-16 was approved by the Executive Committee subject to availability of funds as allocated by the DEPwD, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment.

(v) Research Scheme of RCI

Research Scheme prepared by the Council comprising of Research Projects, Research Programmes, Research Fellowships and Research Publications was approved by the Executive Committee with the suggestion that provision should be made in the Research Scheme to provide one time lump sum financial support, subject to a maximum of Rs. 20,000, to students pursuing Master's degree/Post Master's degree courses in the disability rehabilitation and special education for writing their thesis/dissertation.

(vi) HRD Programme in Rehabilitation & Special Education for North Eastern Region

It was informed to the Executive Committee that a Scheme on Human Resource Development Programme in Rehabilitation & Special Education for North Eastern Region to encourage



organizations and institutions to conduct RCI approved courses has been proposed by the Council. The Scheme provides for extending financial support to organisations/institutions in North-East for faculty, infrastructure and teaching-learning material, etc. It was also informed that presently a limited number of courses are being run by NGOs and regional centres of National Institutes. Recently the Hon'ble Minister for Social Justice & Empowerment, Shri Thaawarchand Gehlot has announced rupees one crore to be made available to RCI for manpower development for North East.

Executive Committee approved the Scheme for HRD Programme in Rehabilitation & Special Education for North Eastern Region and it was decided that financial support should be extended, subject to availability of funds under the Scheme, to RCI approved Institutions run by non-governmental organizations (NGOs), government organizations (GOs) (including National Institutes) and Universities, provided prescribed norms are met, both for regular mode courses as well as distance mode courses. However, this could be only for one batch of 30 for admissions in 2015-16 and completing Courses in 2016-17 (the end of current Five Year Plan) subject to the availability of funds as approximate cost per institution needs to be limited to Rs.36 lakhs for the first year and Rs.32 lakhs for the second year for a batch of 30 students.

(vii) Central Sector Scheme of "In-service Training & Sensitization of State Governments, Local Bodies & Other Service Providers"

It was informed to the members that the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment has assigned the responsibility of being the Nodal Agency to Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) for implementation of its Central Sector Scheme of "In-service Training & Sensitization of State Governments, Local Bodies & Other Service Providers". The main objective of this Scheme is to train & sensitize key functionaries of the Central/State Govt., Local Bodies and other service providers on a regular basis on disability related matters through State, District/Block level workshops towards creating awareness among employees and peer groups about capabilities of Persons with Disabilities and to create an inclusive environment, etc., at workplace.

Executive Committee noted the contents of the Scheme and made the following recommendations for consideration by DEPwD :

- (i) Duration of the sensitization programme should be restricted 01 to 03 days only.
- (ii) Guidelines for cost estimation of the programme should be worked out level-wise for different modules for Central & State Govt. Officials, Local Bodies (Panchayat/Municipalities/SMC Local Bodies (Panchayat/Municipalities/SMC, Teachers and Principals and Grass root level Workers.
- (iii) Infrastructure available at Rashtriya Bal Swasthaya Karyakaram (RBSK) should be utilized for sensitization training at the grass-root level.
- (iv) A small committee of experts be formed by the Council for finalizing the training material for sensitization programme.



(viii) Discontinuation of Post Graduate Diploma Courses

Keeping in view the present status and NCTE notification of 2014 and subsequent discussions, the Executive Committee approved the proposal to keep the following P.G. Diploma Courses in abeyance till the issue is decided in terms of the impact and output from these courses and in consultation with NCTE where issue of parity arises for recruitment purposes:

1. Post Graduate Diploma in Special Education (Mental Retardation)
2. Post Graduate Diploma in Special Education (Multiple-Disabilities Physical & Neurological)

(ix) Revision of Syllabus of B.Ed. Spl. Edu. (ODL) Courses of RCI

Executive Committee approved the revised norms for B.Ed. Spl. Ed. (ODL) with the following recommendations with regard to eligibility criteria:

1. Weightage should be given to parents of children with disabilities and persons with disabilities for admission to B.Ed. Spl. Ed. (ODL) by relaxing the condition of production of two years (as may be decided by RCI from time to time) teaching experience certificate.
2. Executive Committee also approved the proposal to keep on hold the other distance education courses, namely, Post Graduate Professional Diploma in Special Education (PGPD-SEDE), Post Graduate Professional Certificate in Special Education (PGPCSE) and M.Ed. SE-DE also.

(x) No Objection Certificate (NOC) issued in the Year 2010 to PECT

While discussing the issue of considering "NOC" issued by the Govt. of Odisha in April, 2010 for B. Ed. Spl. Ed. (MR) & B. Ed. Spl. (HI) to Pratiba Educational & Charitable Trust, Bhubaneswar, Odisha for the year 2015-16, it was informed that the Govt. of Odisha has stopped issuing "NOC" to any institute since 2011 for running B.Ed. Spl. Ed. Courses. Therefore, it was not possible to consider the request of Pratiba Educational & Charitable Trust, Bhubaneswar on the basis of NOC issued in 2010.

Further, it was decided by the Executive Committee that the matter of issue of "NOC" by the State governments for running courses in disability rehabilitation and special education, may be taken to the General Council for taking appropriate decision as many issues are coming up because of NOC by the State governments.

(xi) Curriculum Framework of B.Ed. Spl. Ed. (Regular)

Revised curriculum framework of B.Ed. Spl. Ed. (Regular mode) for a two-year programme was approved by the Executive Committee for implementation from the academic session 2015-16.

(xii) Syllabus for B.A./B.Sc./B.Com./B.Ed.Spl.Ed. (4 years) Integrated Programme through Regular Mode

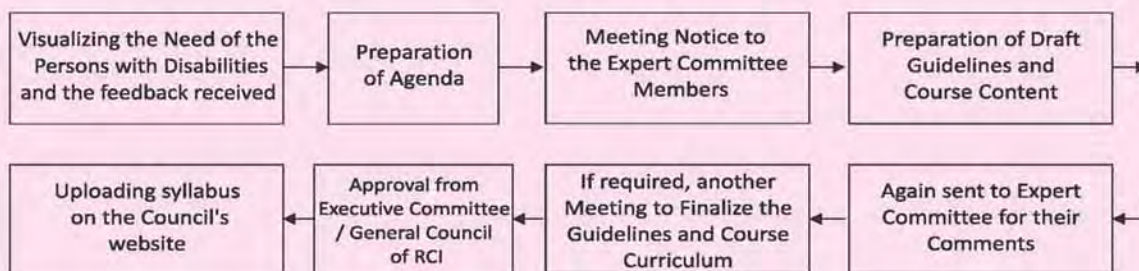
Executive Committee approved the Syllabus for B.A./B.Sc./B.Com./B.Ed.Spl.Ed. (4 years) Integrated Programme through regular mode submitted by Amity University, NOIDA to be used as Model/Sample syllabus for other Universities willing to offer this Integrated Programme.

CHAPTER - 2

EXPERT COMMITTEES AND STANDARDIZATION OF TRAINING COURSES

The Council develops and standardizes training courses to meet the human resource requirement for various categories of Professionals/Personnel. These courses are reviewed, revised and updated from time to time. At present 62 courses are operational through regular mode in the area of disability rehabilitation and special education and the list is given at **Annexure 2.1**.

Procedure for Standardization of Courses in the Field of Disability Rehabilitation and Special Education



During the financial year, the Council conducted fourteen Expert Committee/Core Committee meetings and revised the norms, guidelines and contents of the following courses:

- i. Diploma in Education Special Education (HI)
- ii. Diploma in Education Special Education (MR)
- iii. Diploma in Education Special Education (VI)
- iv. Diploma in Education Special Education (ASD)
- v. Diploma in Education Special Education (Db)
- vi. Diploma in Education Special Education (CP)
- vii. Diploma in Early Childhood Special Education (MR)
- viii. Diploma in Early Childhood Special Education (HI)
- ix. Diploma in Prosthetics and Orthotics
- x. Certificate Course in Prosthetics and Orthotics
- xi. Master of Prosthetics and Orthotics



The following new Courses have been developed and standardized and approved by the Council on pilot basis:

- i. Diploma in Computer Education (VI)
- ii. Integrated B.A/ B.Com./ B.Sc. B.Ed. Special Education

The following courses are in the process of revision by the Council:

- i. Bachelor in Education Special Education (ASD)
- ii. Bachelor in Education Special Education (HI)
- iii. Bachelor in Education Special Education (LD)
- iv. Bachelor in Education Special Education (MR)
- v. Bachelor in Education Special Education (MD)
- vi. Bachelor in Education Special Education (VI)
- vii. Bachelor of Audiology & Speech Language Pathology
- viii. Master in Education Special Education (MR)
- ix. Master in Education Special Education (HI)
- x. Master in Education Special Education (LD)
- xi. Master in Education Special Education (VI)
- xii. Master in Disability Rehabilitation & Administration
- xiii. Diploma in Inclusive Education
- xiv. Diploma in Vocational Rehabilitation (MR)
- xv. Diploma in Indian Sign Language Interpretation
- xvi. Diploma in Hearing Language & Speech
- xvii. Diploma in Hearing Aid and Ear Mould Technology

EXPERT COMMITTEES/CORE COMMITTEES

To carry out the purposes of the RCI Act, the Council has constituted various Expert Committees under Sub-Section (1) of Section 7 of the RCI Act. The list of the Expert Committees is placed at **Annexures 2.2 to 2.12**. The objectives of the Expert Committees are as follows:

- i To recommend the courses, the duration of the courses, subjects for examinations and standards of the proficiency to be obtained in any Universities or institutions for grant of recognized rehabilitation qualifications.
- ii To recommend to the Council, the standards of the staff, equipment, accommodation, training and other facilities for study or training of the rehabilitation professionals.
- iii. Any other matter related to the above issues.



The details of the meetings of the Expert/Core Committees conducted during the period along with gist of the discussion and decisions taken are given below:

- i. **Meeting of Core Committee on Speech & Hearing to Review Diploma in Hearing Language & Speech and Diploma in Hearing Aid and Ear Mould Technology held from 26th June, 2014 to 27th June, 2014 at AIISH, Mysore**

The syllabus of DHLS Course was deliberated upon. However, the members strongly recommended discontinuation of the course as it is not in the interest of either the profession or the clinical population that we profess to serve. It was felt that the situation prevailing at the time when the diploma course was introduced is no longer valid, and therefore, the course needs to be disbanded now. For example, there were only 2 graduate programmes in speech and hearing in the country when diploma was introduced. Today, there are 40+ graduate programmes all over the country. The exact number of graduates and post-graduates in speech and hearing coming out of Indian Universities is not known, but it is estimated that around 450+ PG's and 600+ graduates graduate every year. This being the case, there is no need for Diploma Course.

However, it was felt that continuation or discontinuation of the course should be discussed at a larger forum, and with appropriate supporting data. Therefore, to meet the eventuality of the Council deciding to continue the diploma course, the syllabus was thoroughly modified. It was strongly felt by the members that such a course should primarily focus on imparting clinical skills rather than be preoccupied with theory.

- ii. **Meeting of Core Committee on Hearing Impairment to Review Diploma in Indian Sign Language Interpretation held on 21st July, 2014 at AYJNIHH, Mumbai.**

The Chairperson explained the need for critical thinking and considerations while framing the norms and guidelines of different courses keeping the current trends and avenues for employability. She suggested that the minimum eligibility criteria should be re-looked for admission to DISLI course and be made as Graduate if interpreters are to be employed in University set ups and other crucial set ups such as hospitals, courts, etc. Few members expressed apprehensions about the minimum eligibility criteria as it may further reduce the enrolment in the course. However, the group as a whole was convinced to increase the eligibility to graduation. The need for having online courses in ISL was also discussed and members expressed a great need for such an initiative.

The members expressed that currently the sign language and interpreters training are combined and form a single course. It was also expressed that the two needs to be separate courses and proficiency in Indian sign language and any other oral language should be mandatory for eligibility to Interpreters course of Indian Sign language. It was also suggested by few to make the DISLI a two-year programme so that in the first year ISL could be taught and in the second year Interpreting skills are focused. Members also expressed that there could be specialization options such as business and legal situations, educational and medical settings. Though all members appreciated such revisions, it was decided that



currently the duration of course would remain as one year and the minimum eligibility criteria should be discussed in a larger forum with appropriate supporting data.

Three syllabi submitted to the Council, namely, DISLI course from AYJNIHH Mumbai, Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda University, Coimbatore and The Deaf Way Foundation, New Delhi along with the existing syllabus of DISLI of RCI were discussed. The members suggested that the recommendations of all the syllabi be considered for formulating the content of the revised DISLI.

The framework for theory papers and practical were discussed in detail and the committees were formulated to prepare the content of the syllabus. It was also decided to circulate the same within the members for finalization of the content.

iii. Meeting of Core Committee on Inclusive Education and Multi Category Course to Review Integrated B.A./B.Com./B.Sc. B.Ed. Special Education from 26th August, 2014 to 27th August, 2014 at RCI.

Approval of syllabus of B.A./B.Sc./B.Com/B.Ed. Special Education (4 year).

A. The syllabus of the Course was discussed by the members and it was decided to call representatives from Amity University to clarify certain issues related to the course. Accordingly, two representatives from Amity University, Noida, namely, Shri Ravi Prakash Kumar and Shri Navin Kumar Singh attended the meeting of the Expert Committee on 27th August, 2014. In response to certain queries/clarifications related to the B.A./B.Sc./B.Com/B.Ed. Special Education 4 year (Integrated Course), they made following submissions:

- (i) Curriculum of the B.A./B.Sc./B.Com/B.Ed. Special Education 4 year (Integrated Course) designed by RCI was adopted by Amity University.
- (ii) Course curriculum was modified to include components on developmental disabilities, autism spectrum disorder, multiple disabilities and teaching pedagogy apart from including some topics on recent legal provisions and latest developments in the field.
- (iii) Curriculum has been framed into credit system as per Amity University standards.
- (iv) Disability components have been spread over four years by making appropriated allocation of hours for theory and practical.
- (v) Some papers have been merged to avoid overlapping of topics and repetition of contents.
- (vi) Passed out candidates may be registered in CRR as "Special Educator (Multi Category)".
- (vii) Candidates may be allowed mobility to higher education in M.Ed. Special Education in respective areas of disability covered under the Course.

B. They also assured the Committee that Amity University is open to accept and implement any changes/modifications/suggestions made by the Expert Committee of RCI



and the same will be included since the said Course has been approved to Amity University on pilot basis.

C. Following recommendations have been made with regard to B.A./B.Sc./B.Com./B.Ed. Special Education - 4 year (Integrated Course):

- i. This is an innovative programme which needs to be encouraged.
- ii. The Course provides mobility to students pursuing 4 year Integrated Course in Special Education to higher education to pursue master level programmes being offered by various Universities. The examination of credits and hours allocated to each content area indicates mismatch between the provision in the syllabus and the requirement at the University level. It is, therefore, suggested that this aspect may be looked into and corrected in the syllabus.
- iii. The Course should also be viewed in the light of recruitment requirements in States. This may also be mentioned in the revised syllabus.
- iv. Weightage in terms of practicum in professional courses in special education in different areas of disability is inadequate. Practical skills should be given due weightage.
- v. Low vision and deaf blindness is not included in the syllabus. ASD component is not Clear. Contents in the specialized areas need to be re-framed.
- vi. Faculty requirement is not given in the syllabus.
- vii. Re-inspection of the Amity University may be undertaken.
- viii. A Core Committee consisting of the following has been constituted to consider and revise the syllabus of B.A./B.Sc./B.Com./B.Ed. – 4 year (Integrated Course):
 - a. Mrs. Aloka Guha
 - b. Dr. Dharmendra Kumar
 - c. Dr. (Ms) Gayatri Ahuja
 - d. Representative of Amity University

Meeting of the Core Committee may be organized and the first revised Draft Syllabus may be submitted to the Council by 15th October, 2014.

Approval of Diploma in Education (Inclusive Education)

At the outset, Prof. N.K. Jangira said that the role of RCI in developing courses on Inclusive Education is hazy. Therefore, the Ministry of Human Resource Development and Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment may look into it and take a decision where and in what category this course should be placed. He also suggested that prior to this, a meeting of the



Chairpersons of Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) and National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) may be convened to arrive at an agreement and feed the respective Ministries of Human Resource Development and Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment for further action.

The syllabus of Diploma in Education (Inclusive Education) submitted by Billimoria Foundation, Mumbai in the year 2012 was also discussed by the Committee in detail and following recommendations were made:

- a. Diploma in Education (Inclusive Education) course is required to provide for a resource teacher at school level to provide support to the regular class room teacher in an inclusive setting.
- b. The syllabus requires thorough revision and modifications in the contents and arrangements of papers, etc. Introduction/Preamble has been re-written and some changes/modifications were made by the experts in the syllabus.
- c. Shri A.K. Mittal sent suggestions and requested that the same may be considered while revising the syllabus of Diploma in Education (Inclusive Education).

Suggestions by Shri A. K. Mittal

- (i) The nomenclature of the Course is deceptive as it does not contain any reference to disability. As such, is the course really within the RCI purview?
- (ii) As per stated objectives of the course, "Is a major step towards generating teachers / across the country to reach and teach all children," "to formulate a comprehensive course for future teachers to equip them to teach in (a) mainstream school, (b) inclusive settings", the focus and objective of the course is not on the disability sector or teachers for children with disabilities.
- (iii) As per the course content, the course does gross injustice to children with disabilities. To illustrate: Paper IV "Exceptionalities In Development", Unit 2.2 states "definition, characteristics, types and etiology – Visual Impairment". The correct term would be "Blindness and Low Vision", Semester IV – Practicals, S.No.3 provides for just one week's training in Braille and just 3 days for training in Sign language. No course content is given. Time allowed is also too little.
- (iv) No reference is found in the practical portion of the course to acquisition by student-teachers of such critical skills as Orientation and Mobility, sensory training, use of basic assistive devices (Taylor Frame, Abacus, Geometry Kit, embossed maps etc).
- (v) No reference is found to attitudinal aspects with reference to disability—community, parental, stereotypes, myths, etc. nor any elucidation of positive attitudes without which inclusion is just not possible.
- (vi) Since the syllabus requires lot of changes/modifications which could not be carried out in the expert committee meeting, a Core Committee consisting of following experts has



been constituted to revise the syllabus of Diploma in Education (Inclusive Education):

- Mrs. Aloka Guha
- Mrs. Ruma Banerjee
- Dr. Shanti Auluck
- Shri Krupanandam Yasarapudi
- Dr. Gayatri Ahuja

It was recommended that the meeting of the Core Committee may be convened on or around 15th October, 2014 and the first revised Draft Syllabus of Diploma in Education (Inclusive Education) be submitted to the Council by 1st October, 2014 for placing it before the Expert Committee on Inclusive Education for consideration and approval.

Development of Norms for Space for Multiple Courses

The Council is being approached by the approved organizations/institutions regarding requirement of space for offering multiple courses. However, the guidelines prescribed in the syllabi are only for each course. The matter was discussed by the Committee at length and after deliberations, following recommendations were made:

- (a) It was recommended that for every additional Course/Batch, 60% of the space (constructed area) prescribed in the respective syllabi, i.e. 300 sq. mtrs. (60% of 500 sq. mtrs.) (Constructed area) should be made mandatory for each additional Batch/Course.
- (b) A multi-disciplinary team of experts should be sent on surprise visit to see and assess the space requirement and availability at RCI approved Institutions conducting more than two courses/batches. Prior to deputing the team for surprise visit, a proforma for self assessment of space requirement and availability may be sent to the institutions for on-site verification. Inspectors who have done the inspection of the concerned Institute should not be deputed for surprise inspection.

Discussion on Multi-category Teacher Training Programme

The issue of Multi-category Teacher Training Programme was discussed and it was decided that this matter may be taken up after the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Bill, 2013 is passed by the Parliament so that the exact number of categories of disabilities is known. It is seen that RPWD Bill contains 19 categories of disabilities.

iv. Meeting of Core Committee on Visual Impairment to Review B.Ed. Spl. Ed. (VI) and M.Ed. Spl. Ed. (VI) from 28th August, 2014 to 29th August, 2014 at RCI

1. It was suggested that common and optional papers be revised by constituting a Core Committee including two experts from each specialization area since these are applicable in all courses. Preamble and objectives be prepared by the same Committee.
2. Eligibility criteria for admission to B.Ed. Spl. Ed. (VI) & M.Ed. Spl. Ed. (VI) have been revised to 50% in the qualifying examination in view of CTET/STET.



3. Infrastructure to run the programme in Special Education has been revised. An organization/institution/school can have MoU with one organization or one school only for one programme.
4. Academic Performance Indicator (API) – faculties working in the field of special education at B.Ed. and M.Ed. level, API should be as per UGC norms. However, participating in the RCI activities should also be given weightage in calculating API.
5. Passing criteria in Braille is compulsory with at least 60% marks.
6. National Eligibility Test (NET) - RCI should write to UGC to conduct NET examination in Special Education. In the meantime, NET in Education/Ph.D. in Education (topic of research should be relating to special education) will be considered as essential criteria for appointment of faculty.
7. Specialized papers of B.Ed. Spl. Ed. (VI) & M.Ed. Spl. Ed. (VI) have been revised.
8. The Committee decided that Prof. Sushma Sharma will prepare and submit list of suggestive reading for each specialization course for both courses by 15th November, 2014.
9. Prof. S.R. Mittal will work out the details of practical for B.Ed. Spl. Ed. (VI) as well as objectives of specialized paper and the same will be submitted by 30th November, 2014.

v. Meeting of Core Committee on Mental Retardation and Learning Disabilities to review B.Ed. Spl. Ed. (MR) , B.Ed. Spl.Ed(LD), M.Ed. Spl. Ed. (MR) and M.Ed. Spl. Ed. (MR) from 9th September, 2014 to 10th September, 2014 held at RCI

Recommendations made by the Core Committee are as under:

1. Specialization papers of B.Ed.Spl. Ed. (MR) and (LD) and M.Ed.Spl.Ed. (MR) and (LD) have been revised.
2. A core committee meeting comprising experts from all disability may be convened to finalize the core/common papers of B.Ed. and M.Ed.Spl.Ed.
3. The committee was of opinion that uniform diagnosis and certification across the country for children with Learning Disability should be essential component so that it is ensured that the student trainees do their practical with children diagnosed as LD only. Till date specific guidelines under PwD Act (1995) have not been issued.
4. Institutions intending to offer programmes in special education ideally should have their own special model school having minimum sixty children. However, in cases where the institutions do not have special school of their own, they can have undertaking (written agreement) with special school.
5. For practice teaching in inclusive school, the institutions should have undertaking with regular schools having classes with at least 3 to 5 children with specific disabilities in each class.



6. It was also recommended that an institution should have undertaking with one school for each course. In case of multiple programmes in special education, the institutions should have undertaking with respective number of schools.
7. Such undertaking should not be with schools that already have similar undertaking with other teacher training organizations/institutions.
8. New proposal for Diploma in Expressive Art Therapy and Post Graduate Diploma in Music Therapy were reviewed by the committee and was not recommended. The committee appreciated the idea of innovation. However, it is important to find out efficacy, need and feasibility (evidence based research) of these courses. It was recommended that since special education courses at diploma, bachelor and master level have music and art as co-curricular areas, the art and music therapy can be offered as CRE programme (five days duration) to the teachers.

vi. Core Committee Meeting on Hearing Impairment to Revise B.Ed. Spl.Ed. (HI) and M.Ed. Spl.Ed (HI) held on 11-12 September, 2014 at RCI, New Delhi

The proceedings were as follows:

1. Suggestions received from the professionals were reviewed and deliberated.
2. Regarding the suggestion on change in nomenclature of the degree, it was decided to adhere to the Gazette Notification of UGC issued in the month of July, 2014.
3. In order to incorporate changes in the core papers of B.Ed & M.Ed (Spl. Education) syllabi, it was decided to convene a Core Committee of experts comprising of all disabilities.
4. Specialization papers of B.Ed.Spl.Ed. (HI) and M.Ed.Spl.Ed. (HI) were further deliberated and revised.
5. Regarding the general guidelines and norms the following was agreed:
 - (a) Institutions intending to offer programmes in special education ideally should have their own special/model school with a minimum of sixty children. However, in cases of National Institutes & University Departments who do not have special school of their own, an MOU will have to be undertaken with special school.
 - (b) For practice teaching in inclusive school, it was decided that the training institutes need to have an MOU with regular schools having classes with at least 3 to 5 children with specific disabilities in each class.
 - (c) It was also recommended that an institution should have undertaking with one school for each course. In case of multiple programmes in special education, the institutions should have undertaking with respective no. of schools. Such undertaking should not be with schools that already have similar undertaking with other teacher training organizations/institutions.



Other matters

1. The proposal submitted by Dr. Madan Vasishta for writing a book was discussed and it was suggested that he may be permitted to write the book as proposed.
2. Regarding the proposal for a "Certificate for Master Trainers for Early Intervention of Deaf Children", it was decided that the course content and proposal be circulated to all members and the same may be discussed in the next meeting as and when it is convened.
3. The issue regarding relaxation of percentage for recruitment purposes was also discussed and it was suggested that it be decided by the respective institutes.
4. The issue with regard to Academic Performance Indicator (API) was also discussed and it was felt that appropriate weightage has been given to RCI activities. However, if any college faces specific issue, the same may be requested for further discussion.

vii. Meeting of Core Committee to Revised/Reconsider B.Ed. Spl. Ed. (ASD), B. Ed. Spl. Ed. (MD) and B.Ed.Spl.Ed. (Locomotor and Neuromuscular Disorders) Syllabi held on 17-18 September, 2014

Recommendations made by the Core Committee are as under:

1. Nomenclature should be as per the notification of UGC.
2. Core/common papers should be revised separately.

B.Ed.Spl.Ed.(Multiple Disabilities)

1. B.Ed. Spl. Ed.(Locomotor and Neuromuscular Disorders) & PGDSE(MD: P & N) should be phased out from 2016-17 due to following reasons :
 - a. Only one or two organization is offering the programme
 - b. Issue with nomenclature
 - c. B. Ed. Spl. Ed. (MD) course is available
2. NIEPMD should provide feedback on practical components (how and what was the difficulty) in terms of implementation in all areas i.e. Group A,B,C & D.
3. Revised curriculum of B. Ed. Spl. Ed. (MD) should be sent to NIEPMD and request them to revise practical component as per the revised syllabus.

The Committee suggested following qualifications for faculty in ASD and MD course:

- (i) Essential qualifications for faculty: -B.Ed.Spl.Ed.(Autism Spectrum Disorders)
 - (a) Post Graduate degree
 - (b) M.Ed (Special Education) with either a dissertation in the field of ASD or a Diploma in ASD
 - (c) Two years experience of teaching in special schools for children with ASD



- (d) Having valid RCI registration

This would be applicable for next three years, to be revised as per need.

- (ii) Essential qualifications for faculty: B.Ed.Spl.Ed.(Multiple Disabilities)

- (a) Post Graduate degree

- (b) M.Ed (Special Education) with either a dissertation in the field of MD or B.Ed. (Special Education) MD/B.Ed. Special Education (Locomotor and Neurological Disorder)/P.G. Diploma in Special Education (MD:Physical and Neuro.)/P.G. Diploma. in Developmental Therapy (MD:P&N)

- (c) Two years experience of teaching in special schools for children with multiple disabilities

- (d) Having valid RCI registration

This would be applicable for next three years, to be revised as per need.

- viii. **Meeting of Core Committee to Revise Diploma in Vocational Rehabilitation (MR), Master in Disability Rehabilitation Administration (MDRA) and Development of Diploma in Vocational Rehabilitation (Across Disability) and PG Diploma in Rehabilitation Social Work courses held on 27-28 October, 2014.**

Recommendations made by the Core Committee are as under:

- A. Diploma in Vocational Rehabilitation (AD)- New Programme

The content of proposed syllabus submitted by Shri R Narsimham was discussed in detail. It was felt that reorganization of content is required. Shri R Narsimham will revise the content as per the suggestions. The nomenclature of the course will be DVR (Across Disability) or it can be decided later on. The revised syllabus will be submitted by December, 15, 2014 which will be placed before Expert Committee.

- B. Diploma in Vocational Rehabilitation (MR)

The existing curriculum of DVR (MR) was revised in the year 2004. It was decided that DVR (MR) course may continue for next three years. The institutions/organizations may be given time to develop infrastructure for DVR (AD) course and gradually implement DVR (AD) course. After implementation of DVR (AD), DVR (MR) course will be stopped. The Committee felt that DVR (AD) will provide more opportunity for the trainees.

- C. Master in Disability Rehabilitation Administration (MDRA)

The existing curriculum of MDRA was revised in the year 2004. The content of MDRA was deliberated and members suggested that title of subjects, content of the subjects and reorganization of syllabus is required. Shri B. Ashok will revise the syllabus of MDRA and submit the same by December 15, 2014 for further necessary action.



- D. P.G. Diploma in Rehabilitation Social Work- New Programme-Prof. Lina Kashyap informed that work on development of curriculum has begun and will take at least 6-8 months to complete the process of development.

ix. Meeting of Core Committee to Revise BASLP Syllabus held on 13th December, 2014

Following decisions were also taken:

- (a) It was decided that only semester pattern will be worked on and that RCI should ensure that all the participating institutions adopt semester pattern of training in the coming years. It was opined that the Credit Based Choice System of UGC may be impractical in a professional and clinical field like BASLP. However, it was decided to draft the curriculum with an inbuilt flexibility to incorporate the features of the CBCS in the coming years.
- (b) After much discussion, it was agreed to have 36 papers/practicals/clinicals in the 6 semesters, with extensive clinical work in different set ups in the 7th and 8th semesters. It was also agreed to have clinical examinations in Speech-language Pathology, and Audiology at the end of 8th semester. Universities shall award degrees only after successful completion of the clinical examinations at the end of 8th semester.
- (c) It was agreed that students shall compulsorily spend 50% of the duration outside their parent institution in their internship (7th and 8th semester) period.
- (d) The following work allotment and schedule was agreed upon for expeditious completion of the preparation of the syllabus:

Dr. Y. V. Geetha	1st & 2nd Sem. Speech-Language Pathology & allied
Dr. Prakash Boominathan	3rd & 4th Sem. Speech-Language Pathology
Dr. R. Manjula	5th & 6th Sem. Speech-Language Pathology
Dr. Ajith Kumar	1st & 2nd Semester Audiology & allied
Dr. M. Sandeep	3rd & 4th Semester Audiology
Ms. Roopa Nagarajan	5th & 6th Semester Audiology
- (e) First draft will be sent by 20th December 2014. Dr. M. Sandeep will work out the number of semester hours and credits (for each semester and for the entire course including the internship) as per the broad agreement reached at the meeting.
- (f) It was agreed that UGC guidelines/University requirements shall be kept in mind, as far as possible, in the preparation of the curriculum. This is with reference to number of papers, CBCS, semester hours, clinical and practicals, examination pattern etc. However, if an deviation is necessary, then RCI should intervene with UGC/Universities to settle the issue keeping in mind the clinical nature of the field in a disability area.
- (g) It was opined that after the necessary approvals/formalities at RCI and different Universities, the new syllabus can be introduced in the year 2016 throughout the country.



x. Experts Committee Meeting for Development of Training Programmes to Promote Courses in Inclusive Education and Multi-category Courses held on 22nd to 23rd January, 2015 at RCI, New Delhi

Following decisions were taken by the Committee:

1. Nomenclature of courses of RCI should be as per UGC Notification of 2008 and 2014.
2. RCI approved training institutions sometimes face difficulty in running Special Education at B.Ed. and M.Ed. level due to the difference in the structure of the courses as per University norms; since usually Universities have a common Board of Studies for General and Special Courses.
3. Entry qualification should be 10+2 or its equivalent with at least 50% marks for diploma courses.
4. In view of the UGC directive, Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) has to be implemented for University level courses; RCI can plan for semester based/ annual courses but final decision will be made by the affiliating universities.
5. Removal of term integrated from the course name be made since NCTE has already used it in another context for four year courses.
6. RCI should formulate model Recruitment Rules for special educators at different levels & States should be requested to follow the same accordingly.
7. RCI should extend the MoU with NCTE and include qualification of special educator/ teacher from class I to XII including pre-school.
8. Need of school readiness programmes before enrolling the children in inclusive education/schools needs to be emphasized.

B.A./B.Sc./B.Com. B. Ed. Spl. Ed. (4 years Integrated Course)

Specific recommendations have been made with regard to B.A./ B.Sc./ B.Com./ B.Ed. Special Education - 4 year (Integrated Course) as submitted by Amity University and recommended by RCI as Pilot since 2013-14. Following was recommended:

1. ICT, gender education and yoga to be included as part of the curriculum
2. School readiness to be included with respect to each disability area
3. Bibliography and references should be termed as essential reading and suggested reading in APA format
4. "Teacher made test" to be included in Practical for CCE
5. Stress management and mental health (sign and symptoms) to be added as mental illness is covered under National Trust Act and Mental Health is an important concern at secondary stage.



6. Objectives for the Course and at all other related areas to be written in behavioral terms and brevity to be maintained.
7. Term pupil- teacher to be replaced by student- teacher while referring to trainees of this course.
8. UNCRPD should be referred to with regard to range of services for students with disabilities
9. Requirement of staff, infrastructure, library, software, etc. should be projected fully with implementation to be done in a phased manner.
10. Professional editing to be done for the entire syllabus.
11. The term Abnormal Psychology to be replaced by suitable terminology.
12. With regard to Degree, it has to be as per UGC nomenclature, i.e B.A B.Ed (Special and Inclusive Education), B.Com B.Ed. (Special and Inclusive Education), B.Sc. B.Ed. (Special and Inclusive Education).
13. The paper on Methodology of Teaching in Inclusive Setting to be reframed as Pedagogy of Inclusive Education.
14. Course content review in detail was carried out as under:
 - a. Visual impairment and low vision was reviewed by Shri A.K. Mittal and will be further looked into by Shri Mittal, Prof. Sushma Sharma and Dr. Vijay Shankar Sharma
 - b. Locomotor and Cerebral Palsy was reviewed by Dr. Dharmender Kumar. He will again be requested to ensure content update.
 - c. Course content for Hearing Impairment and Deaf-blindness is to be reviewed by Dr. Gayatri Ahuja.
 - d. Autism will be reviewed by Ms Diana Lil Philip.
 - e. Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities will be reviewed by Dr. Jayanti Pujari and Mr. Naveen Singh.
 - f. Learning disability will be reviewed by other faculty of Amity University.

Diploma in Education (Inclusive Education for CwDs)

As a follow-up of the earlier meeting, Mrs. Aloka Guha presented the content of revised syllabus of Diploma in Education(Inclusive Education for CwDs). It was decided that the group may again work on this with other members and review in the light of NCTE Notification as well as other developments since last meeting. The Group was advised to review and suggest an alternative if so agreed. Accordingly:

1. Mrs. Aloka Guha presented the proposed format of the main content of the syllabus outlining 9 papers in four semesters, with roughly 4 to 5 units in each paper.



2. Paper on Communication Strategies has been proposed as IX paper because of the difficulties faced in real school situations.
3. Unit 6 from Paper I to be transferred to Paper IV.
4. With regard to school readiness, new material as being developed by MWCD will be forwarded by Chairperson, RCI to Ms. Aloka Guha.
5. Shri A.K. Mittal and Prof. Sushma Sharma will design Paper I and II and submit by 2nd February, 2015 to RCI.
6. Practical content should be listed as experiential learning and practical learning in the syllabus. Braille and orientation and mobility, role of assistive devices should also be incorporated. Shri A.K. Mittal will provide the practical content for the section on Visual Impairment.
7. Mr. Naveen Singh from Amity University will send the practical equivalent to 10 hours to Ms. Aloka Guha along with list of books and tools for each disability.
8. Ms. Aloka Guha suggested that RCI can request SSA, to share all IE related materials that have been developed by the Central and State Governments so that gaps may be identified for preparation of new material as part of the teaching learning process in Inclusive Education related courses of RCI.
9. It was also decided that both B. Ed. Spl. Ed. and Diploma Spl. Ed. Courses will also be accompanied by suggestions/recommendations for the appropriate material/manual development to ensure uniformity of course implementation across the country. RCI can also undertake material development if concrete proposals can be made.
10. Ms. Aloka Guha and Dr. Gayatri Ahuja will design the other papers for submission to Chairperson, Dr. Jangira, with copy to Chairperson, RCI by 10th February, 2015.
11. Ms. Aloka Guha and Dr. Gayatri Ahuja will provide the details of Papers III, IV, V, VI, VII, VII, IX and submit the same for circulation to other members by 2nd February, 2015.
12. It is also to be decided if Paper I and II can be combined into one paper so that there is a possibility of developing a separate paper for NCF and subject Specialization for Inclusive Education.
13. Nomenclature to be changed as Diploma in Education (Special and Inclusive Education).
14. The effort is to move away from a disability centered course to a course to promoting cross disability approaches.

P.G. Diploma in Inclusive Education Syllabus

Post Graduate Diploma in Inclusive Education syllabus submitted by Centre for Disability Studies and Action, School of Social Work, TISS, Mumbai was presented before the Committee. The Committee was of the opinion that -



- (a) Such courses should be put on hold till the issue of inclusion of PG Diploma in NCTE notification is resolved.
- (b) The Council is in process of developing Diploma in Education (Inclusive Education for CwDs) and BA/B.Sc./B.Com. B. Ed. Spl. Ed. (4 years Integrated Course) is already running on Pilot Basis.

xi. Meeting of Core Committee on Special Education to Revise B.Ed. Spl. Ed., M.Ed. Spl. Ed. Syllabi held on 10-11 February, 2015 at RCI

The Committee deliberated in detail about the norms, guidelines and structure of B.Ed. Spl.Ed. Course and unanimously decided the following:

- (a) The term 'course' will be used instead of 'paper' and "programme" instead of "Course" being used presently.
- (b) Nomenclature of B. Ed. and M. Ed. Special Education Courses should be as per UGC Notification of 2008 and 2014 and the new nomenclature should be B.Ed. Spl.Ed. Name of Specialization in Disability such as (VI & Inclusive Education) for B.Ed. Spl.Ed. and M.Ed.Spl.Ed.
- (c) RCI approved B.Ed. and M.Ed. Special Education programme will be revised separately one- by-one on each and every parameters of the programme.
- (d) Committee and Sub-Committees will be constituted for the development of course content in respective discipline but structure will be shared immediately.
- (e) The Chairperson will constitute the Committee/Subcommittee to revise the B.Ed.Spl.Ed. and M.Ed.Spl.Ed programme.
- (f) For running Open and Distance Education programme, per disability per programme, one additional faculty will be required.
- (g) A candidate will be permitted for pursuing B.Ed. Spl. Edu. in respective discipline through ODL, only if, he/she has completed D.Ed. Spl. Ed. in same disability through regular mode along with Graduation from any recognized University with minimum 50% marks.
- (h) M.Ed.-SEDE, PGPD-SEDE and PGPC-SEDE programmes should be discontinued from the session 2015-16.

Duration of B.Ed and M.Ed Special Education in view of NCTE Regulation, 2014

The Committee unanimously decided that the duration of B.Ed and M.Ed Special Education will be of two academic years from academic year 2015-16.

Content of B.Ed and M.Ed Special Education in view of NCTE Regulation, 2014.

The Core Committee members reviewed each and every parameter of the B.Ed. Spl.Ed. programme. Following suggestions were made:

1. Number of intake for B. Ed. Special Education programme will remain 25 and for M.Ed. Special Education programme will be 10. Reservation and relaxation will be applicable



as per the concerned Central/ State Govt. rule.

2. Minimum marks will remain 50% in the entry qualification.
3. Norms for Faculty requirement of D.Ed., B.Ed. and M.Ed. Special Education Courses was revised and agreed to open for final discussions before finalization.
4. Keeping in mind the lack of qualified professionals in the field, Teacher: Student ratio was enhanced as 1:10 for both the programmes.
5. Objectives of the B. Ed. Special Education programme were reframed and it was decided that it could be further reviewed after the development of content of all courses in different disability specializations.
6. Under the parameter of 'Passing Minimum' it was decided to fix 50% and that the grace marks will be allowed as per University policy.
7. B. Ed. Special Education programme was divided into three sub-areas i.e., Core area, Cross Disability & Inclusive Education area and Disability Specialization area in semester system.
8. M.Ed. Spl.Ed. programme framework was also developed in Semester and credit based system.

xii. Meeting of Core Committee on Speech & Hearing to Revise/Consider Post Graduate Diploma Auditory Verbal Therapy held on 27th February, 2015 at AYJNIHH, Mumbai

After much discussion, it was decided to start a Post Graduate Diploma Course rather than a Post Graduate Certificate Course. The experts were of the opinion that a post graduate certificate course may not only lack face validity, but also may not be very popular. In tune with the nomenclature of PG diploma course, it was decided to make it a one year program.

The following are some of the features of the proposed course:

Post Graduate Diploma in Auditory Verbal Training (PGDAVT)

The objectives of this programme are to:

- (a) impart knowledge about the developments in modern technology and its implications in the practice of educating children with hearing impairment.
- (b) identify the principles and practices in auditory verbal therapy and its allied areas.
- (c) develop skills and competencies for practicing Auditory Verbal Therapy as a part of the early intervention services to cater to the needs of young children with hearing impairment.
- (d) to promote speech, language development, education and parent empowerment.



OTHER ACTIVITIES

National Interactive Web Portal "Punarbhava" On Disability

Rehabilitation Council of India in collaboration with Media Lab Asia started an interactive and informative web portal "Punarbhava" (www.punarbhava.in) on disability and rehabilitation in the year 2007. The purpose of the webportal is to fill the gap of availability of information and its dissemination for persons with disabilities. The webportal has opened new horizons for persons with disabilities. This is an innovative initiative where two government organizations have joined hands for reaching the unreached and providing them opportunities to fully participate in social life and become productive members of the society.

Punarbhava is an attempt to provide a gateway to information for persons with disabilities and all others concerned with this sector. It is a recognized that information holds the key to knowledge, which in turn enables and empowers people and this initiative of Media Lab Asia in collaboration with Rehabilitation Council of India, is envisioned as a medium for persons with disabilities and all related stakeholders to be empowered and to participate fully in the national mainstream. Latest and updated information was uploaded on Punarbhava regularly under different heads like national disability register, legal instrument resources/publications, RCI programmes, careers for persons with disabilities, national and international news in the field of disability, event calendar, research articles, assistive devices, data collection/NGO registration form, update on Navshikhar Channel, CDs on lecture series of Navshikhar, etc.

National Consultation on Research Agenda Across All Disabilities

In the context of recent developments in disability sector, a "National Consultation on Research Agenda Across All Disabilities" was organized by the Council on 29th December, 2014 at ISIC, New Delhi. 39 experts from different disability areas participated in the said meet. Based on the recommendations, the existing Research and Fellowship Scheme of RCI has been revised and recommendations shared with DEPwD, MoSJ&E.



Smt. Stuti Kacker, Secretary, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Prof. Sudesh Mukhopadhyay, Chairperson, RCI and Shri Awanish K. Awasthi, Joint Secretary, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, M/o Social Justice & Empowerment at the National Consultation on Research Agenda for Disability Sector



CHAPTER -3

CONTINUING REHABILITATION EDUCATION (CRE) PROGRAMME & OTHER ACTIVITIES

RCI is responsible for updating and upgrading the knowledge and skills of professionals/ personnel working in different areas of disability. Objectives of Continuing Rehabilitation Education (CRE) programmes are as given below:

1. To upgrade the knowledge & skills of in-service & practicing Rehabilitation Professionals & Personnel already registered with the RCI under Section 19 of the RCI Act of 1992.
2. To update professional knowledge of master trainers working in the field of rehabilitation & special education.

Norms and Guidelines to Conduct CRE Programmes

Following norms and guidelines have been prescribed for approval/sanction of Continuing Rehabilitation Education (CRE) programmes:

- (i) Institute must have 2 years of experience in offering RCI approved course to be eligible for conducting a CRE programme. This condition can be relaxed in the case of J&K and North East where CRE programmes can be organized with the recommendation of National Institutes and Zonal Coordination Committees of RCI.
- (ii) CRE points are awarded for 1 day/2 days/3 days/4 days/5 days programmes with 6 hours of actual training excluding lunch break.
- (iii) The candidate may choose any topic of interest from the approved list of topics irrespective of his/her professional area of disability. However, the institutions should be given the option to conduct CREs on the topics which are not included in the list of approved topics if they meet the needs of professionals and persons with disabilities. The institutions are required to submit a detailed proposal covering the following items:
 - (a) Background (highlighting the need of the programme)
 - (b) Aim
 - (c) Detailed content of the programme with name (s) of the resource person (s)
 - (d) Methodology
 - (e) Desired outcome
- (iv) For according CRE status to various Seminars/Conferences/Workshops and other programmes, following information/documents have to be supplied at least two months before the scheduled dates:



- (a) Background and theme
 - (b) Aim
 - (c) Detailed content of the programme
 - (d) List of resource persons – content- wise
 - (e) Expected outcome of the programme.
- (v) All CRE programmes will be approved on first come first served basis and financial assistance for conducting CRE programme will be given only once in two financial years. However, there will not be any limit to the number of CREs to be conducted by an institution without financial support, subject to meeting the RCI norms.



Shri S. K. Srivastava, Member Secretary, RCI at the CRE Programme on "Speech & Language" organized by AYJNIHH, NRC, New Delhi from 24-26 March, 2015



CRE Programme on "Speech & Language" organized by AJNIHH, NRC, New Delhi from 24-26 March, 2015



Group Photograph of participants of CRE Programme





Following table gives the list of activities for which CRE points are granted by the Council:

Table Showing List of Activities for Earning CRE Points

S.No.	Programme/ Activity	Level	CRE Pnts
1.	Annual Conference (with prior approval of RCI)	(a) Resource/Key note speaker/invited speaker (b) Paper presentation (c) Poster presentation (d) Participants	(a) 30 (b) 20 (c) 15 (d) 6 points per day
2.	CRE Program (with prior approval of RCI)	(a) Resource Person (b) Coordinator (c) Participant	(a) 30 (b) 5 points per day (c) 6 points per day
3.	Seminar/Conference (with prior approval of RCI)	(a) Resource Person (b) Coordinator (c) Participant	(a) 30 (b) 5 points per day (c) 6 points per day
4.(a)	Workshops Knowledge based (with prior approval of RCI)	(a) Instructor (b) Coordinator (c) Participant	(a) 30 (b) 5 points per day (c) 6 points per day
4.(b)	Workshops Hands on Practical training e.g. P&O etc. (with prior approval of RCI)	(a) Instructor (b) Coordinator (c) Participant	(a) 30 (b) 5 points per day (c) 6 points per day
5.	Participation in Research (not as a part of syllabus/course)	(a) *Research / Project Investigator (b) Investigator (c) Co-investigator * Project related to the area of disability	(a) 60 (b) 40 (c) 20
6.	*Publications (i) Journal should have ISSN No. & Peer reviewed/indexed)	(a) 1st /Single/Author/Editor of full book (b) 2nd Author (c) Subsequent author (d) Editor of Journal	(a) 50 (b) 25 (c) 20 (d) 30



S.No.	Programme/ Activity	Level	CRE Ponts
	(ii) Books * Journal related to the area of disability	(e) Reviewer of Research Article	(e) 20 #10 # Bonus Points for International Journals
7.	Tele-conferencing Programme of RCI	Navshikhar – as a Resource Person for a 2 hour lecture	30

Based on the above norms and guidelines, 51 CRE programmes were sanctioned with grant and 243 CRE programmes without grant to 176 training institutions across the country. Month wise status of CRE Programmes conducted during the year is mentioned at **Table A**.

Table- A

Status of Sanctioned CRE Programmes During the Year 2014-15

Sl. No.	Month	2014-15
1.	April, 2014	12
2.	May, 2014	05
3.	June, 2014	10
4.	July, 2014	11
5.	August, 2014	12
6.	September, 2014	21
7.	October, 2014	38
8.	November, 2014	33
9	December, 2014	30
10	January, 2015	31
11.	February, 2015	37
12	March, 2015	54
	Total	294



In addition to these, CRE status was granted to 75 Seminars/Workshops/Conferences and 392 short-term programmes conducted at the National Institutes/CRCs of DEPwD, M/oSJ&E. The details of number of beneficiaries who have undergone CRE programmes, Workshops/Seminars/Conferences, Short-Term Programmes during the year is mentioned at **Table B**.

Table- B

Activities	2014-15	No. of beneficiaries in each workshop	Total Beneficiaries (Approx.)
CRE Programme	295	30	8850
Workshop/Seminar/Conference	75	50	3750
Short Term Programmes organized by NIs	392	30	11760
Total	762	-	24360

Other Professional Activities

RCI conducts Seminars/Workshops/Conferences and other programmes with the help of Universities, Institutions, Organizations for updating the knowledge and skills of faculty, professionals and personnel. Refresher Programmes on Research Methodology were conducted during the year with the following objectives:

1. To provide opportunity to faculty members for upgrading their knowledge and skills in learning advances in research methodology in disability rehabilitation.
2. To acquaint with the qualitative and quantitative techniques in data collection, analysis and processing.
3. To familiarize the participants with computer applications, Statistical Packages for Social Science (SPSS) in disability rehabilitation and special education.

Refresher Programme On Research Methodology

During the year, the Refresher Programme on Research Methodology were conducted in collaboration with following Universities for which financial assistance @ Rs.3.50 lakhs were provided to each University to conduct the said programme with an intake of 30 in each programme. Accordingly, 120 faculty members of RCI's approved institutions were benefitted from these courses:

1. Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi
2. SNDT Women's University, Mumbai
3. Jai Narayan Vyas University, Jodhpur
4. Andhra University, Vishakhapatnam

CHAPTER – 4

EXAMINATION CELL/NATIONAL BOARD OF EXAMINATION IN REHABILITATION

Examination Cell was set up in RCI in 2005–06 to conduct, streamline and bring uniformity in the examination of Diploma and Certificate level Courses approved by RCI. Initially the examination work was entrusted to the Manipal University and subsequently the same was given to Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) from the academic session from 2010-11 to 2011-12. However, IGNOU refused to conduct examination on behalf of RCI and the work of conducting the examination for Diploma/Certificate Courses from the academic session 2012-13 was given to the National Institutes, viz. Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for Hearing Handicapped, Mumbai, National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped, Secunderabad, National Institute for the Orthopaedically Handicapped, Kolkata, National Institute for the Visually Handicapped, Dehradun and National Institute of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Chennai.

Conduct of Examination for Certificate/Diploma Courses

RCI approves Courses that are affiliated to the Universities. Admissions and examinations for such Courses are guided by the respective Universities. However, the work of conduct of examination for Diploma/Certificate courses is conducted by the Council through the National Institutes. The National Institutes have completed the Semester/Term End Examinations and declared the results as per details given below:-

Sr. No.	Name of the National Institute	Courses allotted	Date of Examination	Date of declaration of result
1.	Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for the Hearing Handicapped, Mumbai	(i) D. Ed. Spl. Ed.(DHH) Sem-I (Suppl) (2013-14) Sem-II (Final & Suppl) -(2013-14) Sem-III (Final (2012-14) Sem-IV (Final) (2012-14) (ii) D.T.Y.(DHH) (2013-14) (iii) D.H.L.S. (2013-14) (iv) D.H.A.E.M.T. (2013-14) (v) D.I.S.L.I. (2013-14)	18.8.2014 to 21.8.2014 22.8.2014 to 23.8.2014 11.8.2014 to 14.8.2014 08.8.2014 to 09.8.2014 09.8.2014 to 14.8.2014 08.8.2014 to 14.8.2014 08.8.2014 to 09.8.2014 08.8.2014	15.12.2014 18.11.2014 07.10.2014 07.10.2014 09.12.2014 05.11.2014 19.12.2014 07.01.2015



S.I No.	Name of the National Institute	Courses allotted	Date of Examination	Date of declaration of result
2.	National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped, Secunderabad	(i) D Ed. Spl. Ed. (MR) (ii) D.E.C.S.E. (MR) (iii) D.V.R. (MR) (iv) D.C.B.R.	15.9.2014 to 27.9.2014 15.9.2014 to 27.9.2014 15.9.2014 to 27.9.2014 15.9.2014 to 27.9.2014	08.01.2015 08.01.2015 08.01.2015 08.01.2015
3.	National Institute for the Visually Handicapped, Dehradun	(i) D.Ed. Spl. Ed.(VI) 1st Semester (2013-15) 4th Semester (2012-14) 2nd Semester (2013-15) 1st Semester (2014-16) (ii) D.Ed. Spl. Ed.(Db) 2nd year (2012-14)	12.2.2014 to 17.2.2014 23.6.2014 to 27.6.2014 14.7.2014 to 18.7.2014 09.2.2015 to 16.2.2015 26.5.2014 to 04.6.2014 23.6.2014	23.04.2014 28.08.2014 22.09.2014 08.05.2015 27.10.2014 21.10.2014
4.	National Institute for the Empowerment of Persons with Multiple Disabilities, Chennai	(i) C.C.C.G. (ii) D.Ed. Spl. Ed.(CP) (iii) D.Ed.Spl.Ed.(ASD)	20.6.2014 to 27.6.2014 20.6.2014 to 27.6.2014 20.6.2014 to 27.6.2014	01.10.2014 01.10.2014 01.10.2014
5.	National Institute for the Orthopedically Handicapped, Kolkata	(i) C.P.O. (ii) D.P.O. (iii) D.R.T. (iv) C.R.T	19.8.2014 to 22.8.2014 19.8.2014 to 25.8.2014 19.8.2014 to 25.8.2014 19.8.2014 to 23.8.2014	19.12.2014 19.12.2014 19.12.2014 19.12.2014



National Board of Examination in Rehabilitation (NBER)

National Board of Examination in Rehabilitation (NBER) was registered as a Society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 in 2006 as an adjunct body of the Council to conduct examinations for Certificate/Diploma level Courses approved by the Council. In exercise of the powers conferred by Sub Section (k) of Section 29 of the Rehabilitation Council of India Act, 1992 (34 of 1992), Regulations for Conduct of Examinations, Qualifications of Examiners and the Condition of Admission to such Examinations have been notified by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment on June 8, 2014.

Governing Body of the NBER was constituted vide order No. 7-19 (1)/ Exam Main (NBER)/ 2014/ RCI/8608-28 dated 9th January, 2015. A copy of the members of Governing Body of NBER is placed at Annexure 4.1.

First Meeting of the Governing Body was held on 28th January, 2015 at RCI in which following decisions were taken:

(i) Operationalization of National Board of Examination in Rehabilitation (NBER) and Conduct of Examination by National Institutes (NIs)

- a. It has been decided that the examinations of all RCI approved Diploma/Certificate level Courses will continue to be conducted by National Institutes on the basis of the guidelines to be issued by NBER/RCI. In order to have zone-wise evaluation for declaring timely result, the matter needs to be sorted out in consultation with NIs.
- b. It has been decided that NBER will start functioning from RCI building till a separate accommodation is finalized.
- c. The members agreed with proposal of appointing minimum staff for NBER to facilitate monitoring and supervision of NBER work.
- d. Optimum number of staff to facilitate NBER work at NIs will be reviewed for consideration along with financial implications.
- e. Scheme of examination and different Guidelines for CLO, Paper Setter, Evaluators, Qualification of Examiners, etc. needs to be reviewed and incorporated in the NBER over-all guidelines.
- f. For operationalizing and sustaining the NBER, the members were of unanimous opinion to request Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities one time seed money to the tune of Rs. 1.5 crore and 15% of recurring cost every year. 15% of recurring cost works out to Rs. 45 Lakhs approx.

(ii) Accommodation for National Board of Examination in Rehabilitation

The members agreed to the proposal for hiring of accommodation keeping in view the increased activities of RCI. The Council is in the process of hiring accommodation for accommodating staff of NBER, Distance Education Cell etc. The requisite proforma provided by CPWD for assessing rent reasonableness has been duly filled in and sent to



CPWD on 27th January, 2015. The matter will be pursued with CPWD for expediting assessment of rent reasonableness to proceed further in the matter.

(iii) Financial Feasibility (Estimated Resource Generation and Recurring and Non-recurring Expenditure (Projected Budget of NBER)

The members decided that the financial implications need to be revisited item-wise and be discussed in a meeting of a Sub Committee to be constituted by Chairperson. It has been decided that the Sub-Committee may include Directors/nominees of National Institutes and other members as decided by the Chairperson. It was decided to convene the meeting of the Sub-Committee on 2nd and 3rd March, 2015.

(iv) Conduct of All India Online Aptitude Test (AIOAT) for the Academic Session 2015-16 for Admission in RCI Approved Diploma and Certificate Level Courses

It has been decided to review the contents of the entrance test (in place of AIOAT). As regards admission of the students, the choice may be left to the institutions for adopting their mechanism for admitting students as per RCI guidelines.

The General Body puts on record its appreciation for NIs for their support to the Council for conducting Semester/Term-end examinations of RCI approved Diploma/Certificate level Courses.



CHAPTER -5

INSPECTION & APPROVAL OF INSTITUTIONS

As per the provision of Section 11(2) of RCI Act of 1992 and Section 7(3)(h) of its regulations, online proposals from the prospective government organizations (GOs)/non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to conduct RCI approved training courses are invited by RCI every year generally in the month of June. Accordingly, inspections are carried out by a team of experts for grant of permission to run the courses on fulfillment of prescribed norms and RCI recommends to Government for recognition to run training courses in the field of special education and disability rehabilitation.

During the year, teams of visiting experts were deputed by the Council to conduct inspection of 544 training programmes (290 extension of approval and 254 new proposals). The total number of approved/recognized institutions increased from 493 to 527 conducting 1018 batches of training programmes (Certificate to M.Phil. level) as on March 31, 2015. List of recognized institutions is placed at **Annexure 5.1**.

Disability-wise/Batch-wise Status of Recognized/Approved Institutions Offering Certificate/Diploma Courses as on 31st March, 2015

Sr. No.	Disability	Institutions Certificate/Diploma	
		No. of Institutions	No. of Batches
1.	Mental Retardation	203	217
2.	Visual Impairment	46	46
3.	Hearing Impairment	114	116
4.	Locomotor and Cerebral Palsy	20	21
5.	Autism Spectrum Disorder	23	23
6.	Care Givers	11	11
7.	Rehabilitation Therapy	09	10
8.	Prosthetics & Orthotics	19	19
9.	Community Based Rehabilitation	12	12
10.	Speech & Hearing	41	46



Disability-wise/Batch-wise Status of Recognized/Approved Institutions Offering Degree/Master's Degree/P.G. Diploma Courses as on 31st March, 2015

Sr. No.	Disability	Institutions Degree/Master Degree/PG Diploma	
		No. of Institutions	No. of Batches
1.	Mental Retardation	83	103
2.	Visual Impairment	27	39
3.	Hearing Impairment	57	59
4.	Learning Disability	13	16
5.	Rehabilitation Engineering/Technology	01	01
6.	Clinical Psychology	24	24
7.	Locomotor and Cerebral Palsy	07	07
8.	Vocational Counselling and Rehabilitation Social Work/Administration	07	08
9.	Rehabilitation Psychology	13	14
10.	Prosthetics & Orthotics	14	16
11.	Speech & Hearing	57	85

State-wise Status of Institutions as on 31st March, 2015

Sr. No.	State	Number of Institutions	Number of Batches
1.	Andhra Pradesh	17	31
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	01	01
3.	Assam	04	05
4.	Bihar	11	32
5.	Chandigarh	06	10
6.	Chhattisgarh	07	11
7.	Delhi	24	62
8.	Goa	03	03
9.	Gujarat	21	35

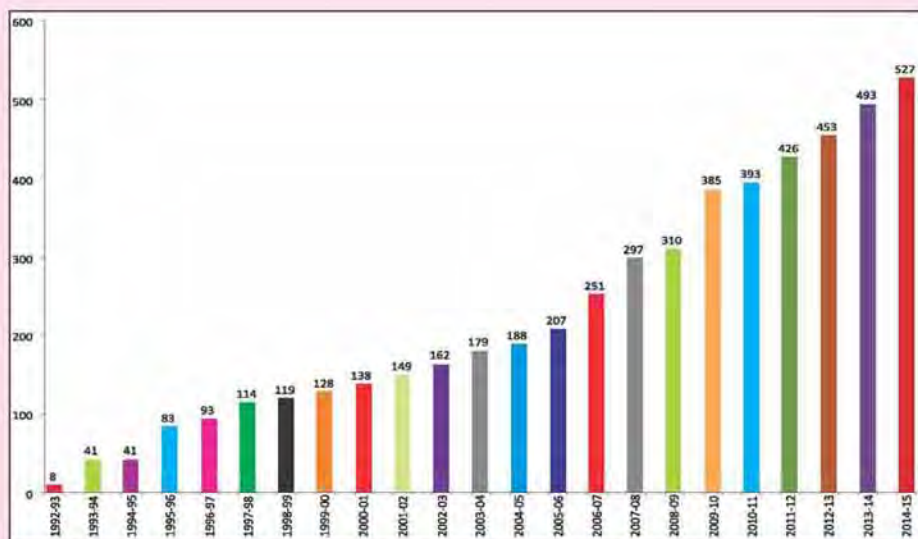


State-wise Status of Institutions as on 31st March, 2015

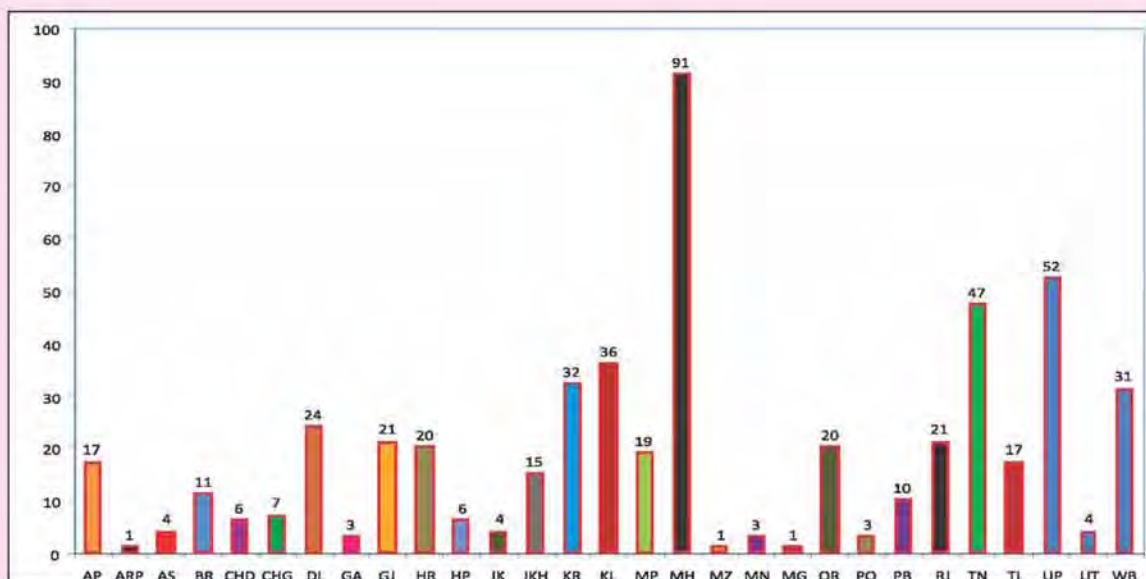
Sr. No.	State	Number of Institutions	Number of Batches
10.	Haryana	20	46
11.	Himachal Pradesh	06	13
12.	Jammu & Kashmir	04	10
13.	Jharkhand	15	25
14.	Karnataka	32	56
15.	Kerala	36	60
16.	Madhya Pradesh	19	28
17.	Maharashtra	91	153
18.	Mizoram	01	01
19.	Manipur	03	05
20.	Meghalaya	01	02
21.	Orissa	20	31
22.	Puducherry	03	05
23.	Punjab	10	19
24.	Rajasthan	21	32
25.	Tamilnadu	47	101
26.	Telangana	17	61
27.	Uttar Pradesh	52	116
28.	Uttarakhand	04	08
29.	West Bengal	31	56
	Total	527	1018



Year-wise Growth of RCI Recognized Institutions



State-wise Status of Approved/Recognized Institutions till 31st March, 2015





Orientation Programme for Course Coordinators

The Council organized two days 'Orientation Programme for Course Coordinators/qualified faculty' of Diploma/Degree/Master level Courses of RCI in two regions of the country in collaboration with the institute and the respective Zonal Coordination Committees (ZCCs) of the RCI. The objectives of programme were on the following issue:

- (a) Orientation of Course coordinator/Faculty of RCI approved training institutions about the Joint Inspection Report Formats
- (b) Orientation of Course Coordinators/Faculty about the conduct of inspection, writing report and submission of Joint Inspection Report
- (c) Suggestions/views of Course Coordinators/Faculty of RCI approved training institutions on RCI approved courses and Joint Inspection Formats
- (d) Suggestions / views on curriculum transaction and other issues related to courses.
- (e) Issues related to Online Entrance Exam, Admission & Examination.
- (f) Issues related to Continuing Rehabilitation Education (CRE)/Programme.

The Orientation Programme for States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamilnadu, Pondicherry was organized in association with Helen Keller's Institute of Research and Rehabilitation for the Disabled Children, Secunderabad from 9 to 10 October, 2014. The Orientation Programme was inaugurated by Shri T.C.Sivakumar, Director, NIMH, Secunderabad. 176 Course Coordinators/Faculty Members participated in the Orientation Programme. Prof. Sudesh Mukhopadhyay, Chairperson, RCI addressed the participants. The programme was coordinated by Shri Suman Kumar, Deputy Director, Shri S.P. Parasher, PS and Shri Sandeep P Tambe, ADT.

Another orientation programme for States of Delhi, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Chandigarh, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab & Uttarakhand was organized in association with Integrated Institute for the Disabled, Karaundi (B.H.U.) Varanasi from 16-17 October, 2014. Dr. A. K. Rai, CEO, Laxmi Hospital, Varanasi inaugurated the programme. The Orientation Programme was attended by 130 participants. The programme was coordinated by Dr. Subodh Kumar, Deputy Director, Shri Suman Kumar, Deputy Director and Shri Santosh K Pal, AS.



Orientation Programme and Course Coordinators Meet Held at Hyderabad on 11-12 October, 2014



Orientation Programme and Course Coordinators Meet Held at Hyderabad on 11-12 October, 2014



Orientation Programme and Course Coordinators Meet Held at Hyderabad on 11-12 October, 2014



CHAPTER - 6

CENTRAL REHABILITATION REGISTER

In accordance with Section 23 of the RCI Act, a Central Rehabilitation Register (CRR) is being maintained for registering the Professionals/Personnel having RCI approved qualifications in disability sector.

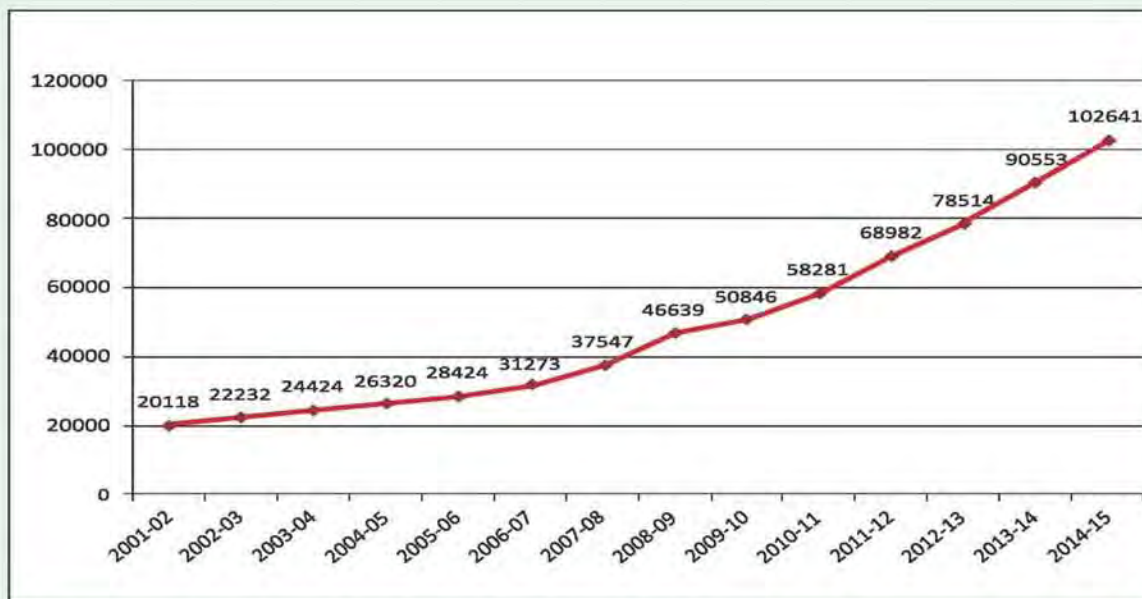
During the year, registration has been granted to 12,088 Professionals/Personnel out of which number of registered Professionals is 6,809 and 5,279 is in Personnel category. Accordingly, 42,256 Professionals and 60,385 Personnel raising the cumulative total to 1,02,641 have been registered in the Central Rehabilitation Register as on 31st March, 2015. Details of the registration done during the year are given below.

Status of Registered Professionals/Personnel in Central Rehabilitation Register (CRR) (April, 2014 to March, 2015)

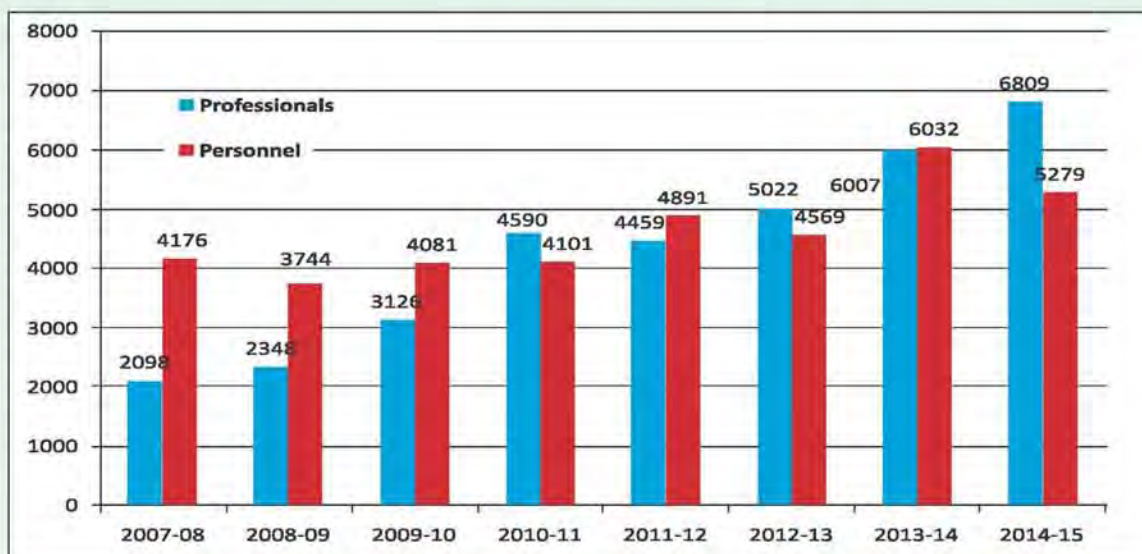
Month	Professionals (A)	Personnel (B)	Total (A+B)	Cumulative Total Personnel (C)	Cumulative Total Professional (D)	Cumulative Total (C+D)
April, 2014	314	344	658	55450	35761	91211
May, 2014	440	550	990	56000	36201	92201
June, 2014	454	486	940	56486	36655	93141
July, 2014	510	518	1028	57004	37165	94169
August, 2014	590	393	983	57397	37755	95152
September, 2014	1247	1327	2574	58724	39002	97726
October, 2014	490	314	804	59038	39492	98530
November, 2014	525	312	837	59350	40017	99637
December, 2014	542	275	817	59625	40559	100184
January, 2015	593	240	833	59865	41152	101017
February, 2015	494	240	734	60105	41646	101751
March, 2015	610	280	890	60385	42256	102641
Total	6809	5279	12088			



CUMULATIVE STATUS OF PROFESSIONALS & PERSONNEL IN CRR (AS ON 31ST MARCH, 2015)



YEAR-WISE STATUS OF REGISTERED PROFESSIONALS & PERSONNEL FROM 2007-08 TO 2014-15





Miscellaneous Cases of Registration

During the financial year, RCI issued renewal of registration certificates to 2,094 registered Professionals. Details of addition of qualification in CRR, issuance of Good Standing Certificate and Visa Screening cases are mentioned as under:

Renewal of Registration	2094
Addition of Qualification	1056
Good Standing Certificate	34
Visa Screening	12
Total	3196

Assessment & Accreditation Committee (AAC) Meeting

Assessment & Accreditation Committee (AAC) meeting comprising of eminent experts from various fields of disability that decide the equivalence of foreign qualifications at par with RCI approved qualifications was held on 16th February, 2015 at RCI to consider the applications received from candidates having foreign qualifications. Twelve applications with foreign qualifications were placed before the AAC to decide their equivalence to RCI approved qualifications. Applicants were also given a chance to present their credentials and relevant transcripts in respect of their foreign degree/diploma before the Committee. Based on their qualifications and equivalency to the RCI approved courses, four applicants were recommended for registration with the Council. Accordingly, registration certificates were issued to four applicants and eight applicants were regretted.

Research Study to Know the Present Status of One Lakh Registered Rehabilitation Professionals/ Personnel About Their Status of Employability and Career Prospects in Disability Sector

The Council invited Request for Proposals (RFP) from the academic institutions/university departments for conducting a research study to know the present status of one lakh registered rehabilitation Professionals/Personnel to know about their status of employability and carrier prospects in disability sector in the country. This was one of the decisions of EC of RCI. The last date for submission of proposal to the Council was 7th February, 2015. In response to advertisement for inviting proposals, Eight agencies have submitted their proposals. The meeting of Screening committee for opening of Technical & Financial bids will be held on 22nd April, 2015. Accordingly, eligible agency will be considered for award of work order for the said study.



CHAPTER - 7

OUTREACH DIVISION

Distance Education Cell

The quality of rehabilitation services received by persons with disabilities is in turn depend upon the quality of education of rehabilitation professionals. As a result, need based special education programmes through distance education mode were initiated by RCI in the year 2001 as a joint venture with different State/Central Open Universities with an aim to develop trained professionals in the field of special education and disability rehabilitation.

The demand for the courses through distance mode increased manifold in due course of time and RCI started receiving requests from various stakeholders such as prospective learners, NGOs, GOs and approved training colleges to launch the teacher training programmes in special education through distance mode in order to bridge the gap between demand and supply.

Accordingly, a Distance Education Cell was set up by RCI in the year 2001 to implement and monitor the teachers' training courses through distance mode in collaboration with State/Central Open Universities in the country. The 1st MoU was signed between RCI & Madhya Pradesh Bhoj Open University (MPBOU), Bhopal to conduct B.Ed. –SEDE Courses through distance mode in the year 2001. As per the MoU, RCI started generation of separate revenues in the form of 10% of fee share from the respective Open Universities to sustain the Distance Education Cell.

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

At present, the Council has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) with 11 State Open Universities for conducting Special Education Courses through distance mode from Certificate to Degree level courses within their jurisdiction. During the period under report, MoUs were signed with two State Open Universities, namely, Vardhman Open University, Kota and Uttarakhand Open University, Haldwani, to conduct B.Ed.Spl.Ed. and other courses through distance mode. The details of 11 Universities are given as under:



List of Open Universities

Sr.NO.	Name of the University	Programme
1.	Madhya Pradesh Bhoj (Open) University, ITI (Gas Rahat) Building, Govindpura, Bhopal	PGPD-SEDE(HI/VI/MR) B.Ed.-SEDE (HI/VI/MR) FC-SEDE
2.	North -Eastern Hill University Bijni Copmlex, Shillong	PGPD-SEDE(HI/VI/MR) B.Ed.-SEDE (HI/VI/MR) FC-SEDE
3.	Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Open University, RC Technical Institute Campus, Ahmedabad	PGPD-SEDE(HI/VI/MR) B.Ed.-SEDE (HI/VI/MR)
4.	U. P. Rajarshi Tandon Open University, 17, Maharishi Dayanand Marg, Allahabad	PGPD-SEDE(HI/VI/MR) B.Ed.-SEDE (HI/VI/MR)
5.	Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Open University, Road No.46, Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad-	B.Ed.-SEDE (HI/VI/MR) PGPD-SEDE (HI/VI/MR)
6.	Karnataka State Open University, Manasagangothri, Mysore	B.Ed.-SEDE (HI/VI/MR)
7.	Tamilnadu State Open University, Guindy, Chennai	B.Ed.-SEDE (HI/VI/MR) M.Ed.-SEDE (HI/VI/MR) FC-SEDE-LD FC-SEDE PGPD-SEDE PGPC-SEDE
8.	Netaji Subhas Open University, 1, Woodburn Park, Kolkata	B.Ed.-SEDE (HI/VI/MR) FC-SEDE-LD FC-SEDE
9.	Vardhmana Open University- Kota Rawatbhata Road, Kota	B.Ed.-SEDE (HI/VI/MR/LD) PGPD-SEDE (HI/VI/MR/LD) FC-SEDE FC-SEDE-LD
10.	Uttarakhand Open University* Teenpani Bypass Road, Haldwani	B.Ed.-SEDE (HI/VI/MR/LD) PGPD-SEDE (HI/VI/MR/LD) FC-SEDE FCCLD
11.	Yashwant Rao Chavan Maharashtra Open University * Dnyangangotri, Nashik	B.Ed.-SEDE (HI/VI/MR/LD) PGPD-SEDE (HI/VI/MR/LD)

* Courses yet to be started



Details of New/Extension of Memorandum of Understanding

During the period under report, the following MoUs with State Open Universities have been renewed/signed:

New MoU								
Sr. No.	Name of State University	Course	Intake (per academic session)	State	Date of signing of MoU	Period of validity		
						From	To	Year
1.	Vardhman Mahaveer Open University, Kota	B.Ed.-SEDE (VI, HI, MR, LD)	500	Rajasthan	1st Dec., 2014	1st Dec., 2014	30th Nov., 2019	05 years
		PGPD-SEDE (VI, HI, MR, LD)	500					
		FC-SEDE	500					
2.	Uttarakhand Open University, Haldwani	B.Ed.-SEDE (VI, HI, MR, LD)	500	Uttarakhand	16 January, 2015	16 January, 2015	15th Jan., 2020	05 years
		PGPD-SEDE (VI, HI, MR, LD)	500					
		FC-SEDE	500					
Extension of MoU								
Sr. No.	Name of State University	Course	Intake (per academic session)	State	Date of signing of MoU	Period of validity		
						From	To	Year
1.	Madhya Pradesh Bhoj Open University, Bhopal	B.Ed.-SEDE (VI, HI, MR, LD)	500	Madhya Pradesh	31st Oct. , 2014	31st Oct. 2014	30th Oct. 2019	05 years
		PGPD-SEDE (VI, HI, MR, LD)	500					
		FC-SEDE	500					



Enrolment Status for the Year 2014-15

Sr. No.	Name of University	Course	No. of Candidates
1.	Tamil Nadu Open University, Chennai	B.Ed.-SEDE	486
2.	Madhya Pradesh Bhoj Open University, Bhopal	B.Ed.-SEDE	320
		PGPD-SEDE	162
		FC-SEDE	338
3.	Uttar Pradesh Rajarshi Tandon Open University, Allahabad	B.Ed. -SEDE	395
		PGPD-SEDE	397
4.	North Eastern Hill University, Shillong	B.Ed.-SEDE	201
		PGPD-SEDE	136
		FC-SEDE	224
5.	Netaji Subhash Open University, Kolkata	B.Ed.-SEDE	500
6.	Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Open University, Telangana	B.Ed.-SEDE	250
7.	Babasaheb Ambedkar Open University, Ahmedabad	B.Ed.-SEDE	117
		PGPD-SEDE	33
8.	Karnataka State Open University, Mysore	B.Ed.-SEDE	365

Enhancement of Intake of Study Centre(s) under NEHU

The Council has enhanced the intake from 20 to 40 per batch in respect of distance mode courses, namely, FC-SEDE, B.Ed.-SEDE & P.G.P.D.-SEDE at all approved Study Centres under NEHU, Shillong from the academic session 2015-16 onwards.

Restart of BPO Condensed Course through Distance Mode

Based on the representation of OPAL, Chennai, the Council in its meeting held on 16 th June, 2014 at RCI has considered their request to restart the BPO Condensed Course through distance mode with the objective to give last and final opportunity to all RCI approved Diploma holders in the field of P & O having 05 years of working experience in the field.

Meetings

- Meeting to discuss various issues pertaining to BPO Condensed Course in Prosthetics & Orthotics was organized with the representatives of OPAL on 16th June, 2014 at RCI.
- Meeting of Course Coordinators of all State Open Universities conducting special Education Distance Education Courses was organized on 26th June, 2014 at AIISH, Mysore.
- Meeting to discuss issues relating to DCBR/PGPDCR & Add-on Course conducted by Bangalore University was organized on 23rd October, 2014 at Bangalore, Member Secretary, RCI attended the meeting.



- iv. Meeting in connection with signing of renewal of MoU with Madhya Pradesh Bhoj Open University, Bhopal was held on 31st October, 2014 at Bhopal . Accordingly, RCI has signed renewal of MoU with MPBOU to launch B.Ed. Special Education (HI, VI & MR) Courses from the academic session 2014-15 in the State of Madhya Pradesh. MoU is valid for a period of 05 years from 2014 to 2019.
- v. Meeting in connection with launch of special education courses and signing of MoU with Vardhman Mahaveer Open University, Kota was held on 1st December, 2014 at Kota. Accordingly, RCI has signed an MoU with VMOU to launch B.Ed. Special Education (HI, VI & MR) Courses from the academic session 2015-16 in the State of Rajasthan. MoU is valid for a period of 05 years from 2015 to 2020.
- vi. Meeting in connection with launch of special education courses and signing of MoU with Uttarakhand Open University, Haldwani was held on 16th January, 2015 at Haldwani. MoU has been signed to launch B.Ed. Special Education (HI, VI & MR), FC-SEDE Courses from the academic session 2015-16 in the State of Uttarakhand. MoU is valid for a period of 05 years from 2015 to 2020.
- vii. Matter regarding revision of norms, eligibility criteria etc. for distance education courses in the light of NCTE Notification, 2014 was discussed during the meeting held on 10th & 11th February, 2015 at RCI.

Zonal Coordination Committees (ZCC)

The Rehabilitation Council of India has adopted a unique method of reaching the grass root functionaries by establishing Zonal Coordination Committees in collaboration with non-governmental organizations. These Zonal Coordination Committees are advisory in nature and act as a zonal chapter of the Council. Zonal Coordination Committees in different zones of the country have initiated the process of strengthening the training programmes under their zone by inviting professionals/personnel and NGOs in the workshops/sensitization programmes, etc., being conducted in their respective zones. The Council has been utilizing their services for monitoring of RCI approved training institutions. They are also being encouraged to conduct short-term programmes for grass root level functionaries apart from executives and legislatives. They are also involved in smooth conduct and monitoring of distance mode programmes.

The Council re-constituted the Zonal Coordination Committees during the month of June, 2014. Details of newly reconstituted ZCCs are as under:



Hon'ble Minister for Social Justice & Empowerment, Shri Thaawarchand Gehlot
at the Inauguration of ZCC Southern Zone-II at Tirupati on 27th September, 2014



Smt. Stuti Kacker, Secretary, D/o Disability Affairs, Ms. Kiran Puri, JS & FA, D/o DA and Dr. G. Munirathnam, Chairperson, ZCC at the inauguration of ZCC Southern Zone-II



Shri D. N. Sreenivasappa, Member Secretary, RCI at the inauguration of ZCC Southern Zone-II



List of Zonal Coordination Committees

Sr. No.	Zone	State Covered	Name & Address of the Chairperson
1.	North Eastern Zone	Assam Arunachal Pradesh Nagaland Mizoram Meghalaya Tripura Sikkim Manipur	Shri L.T. Ricky, Secretary, Spastic Society of Manipur, Moirangkhom, Soughajjam Leorak, Imphal, Manipur
2.	Eastern Zone	Bihar Jharkhand Orissa West Bengal	Dr. Asok Chakraborty, Secretary, Shelter, 3, Bholanath Bhaduri Sarani, Bhadreswar, Hoogly, West Bengal
3.	Central Zone	Delhi Chhatisgarh Madhya Pradesh Uttar Pradesh	Dr. R.A. Joseph, President, Integrated Institute for the Disabled, Karaundi B.H.U., (Susuwahi), Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh
4.	Northern Zone	Haryana Chandigarh Himachal Pradesh Jammu & Kashmir Punjab Uttarakhand	Dr. K.R. Arya, Chairman, Babu Jagjivan Ram Trust for Social Development, Arya Estate, Una – Nangal Highway, Mehatpur, Dist. Una, Himachal Pradesh
5.	Western Zone	Goa Gujarat Maharashtra Rajasthan	Shri Vasant Thakkar, President, SAVALI Association for the Mentally Retarded & Cerebral Palsy Children, Bhusari Colony, Paud Road, Kohrud, Pune, Maharashtra
6.	Southern Zone-I	Andhra Pradesh Telangana Karnataka	Dr. G. Munirathnam, General Secretary, RASS College of Special Education, Rashtriya Seva Samiti, Seva Nilayam, Annamaiah Marg, Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh
7.	Southern Zone-II	Andaman & Nicobar, Kerala Puducherry Tamil Nadu	Mrs. L.V. Jayshree, Director, Spastic Society of Tamilnadu, Taramani Road, Chennai, Tamil Nadu



Zone Wise Details of Activities Organized by ZCCs during 2014-15

S.I No.	Zone	Activities	Date	Venue
1.	Southern Zone-I	(i) First Level Southern Region II Committee Meeting to identify the needs in respective areas, such as strengthening RCI programmes, training needs for NGOs and rehabilitation Professionals.	12.09.2014	Chennai
		(ii) Simulation Lab for Learning Disabilities for Special Educators.	21.12.2014	Coimbatore
		(iii) Awareness Programme on Disability Rights and Social Inclusion for NGOs. Parents, Govt. Officials and Panchayat Leaders.	16.02.2015	Puducherry
		(iv) Orientation-cum-consultation with stakeholders on Disability Inclusion for Aanganwadi Workers.	26.03.2015	
		(v) The struggling student- Is it a Disability? From Identification to Effective Inclusion for Special Educators	22.12.2014 to 23.12.2014	
2.	Southern Zone-II	(i) Inaugural Function of Zonal Coordination Committee (Southern- Zone-II). Shri Thaawarchand Gehlot, Hon'ble Minister of Social Justice & Empowerment, Govt. of India, Shri Sudarshan Bhagat, Hon'ble Minister of State Social Justice & Empowerment, Smt. Stuti Kacker, Secretary, Shri Awanish K. Awasthi, Joint Secretary, Department of Disability Affairs, Prof. (Mrs.) Sudesh Mukhopadhyay, Chairperson, RCI, Shri D.N. Sreenivasappa, Member Secretary, Dr. Subodh Kumar, Dy. Director, RCI and other distinguished dignitaries attended the inaugural function.	27.09.2014	Tirutati



S.I No.	Zone	Activities	Date	Venue
3.	Western Zone	(ii) Awareness-cum-interaction programme for NGOs working in Disability Sector	27.09.2014	Tirupati
		(i) Awareness-cum-Sensitization Workshop	28.01.2015	Ahmednagar
		(ii) Awareness-cum-Sensitization Workshop	27.02.2015	Nandurbar
		(iii) Awareness-cum-Sensitization Workshop	24.03.2015	Ahmedabad
		(iv) Awareness-cum-Sensitization Workshop	09.03.2015	Goa
		(v) Regional Meet- Change the System for the Rights of Disabled	12.02.2015 to 13.02.2015	Pune
4.	North Eastern Zone	(i) Annual Meeting of Chairpersons of newly constituted ZCCs.	04.7.2014	Imphal
		(ii) In - Service Training and Sensitization Programme for District Level Officers for Stakeholder Departments on Disability Issues	12.12.2014	Gangtok
		(iii) Human Capacity Building of Institutions in terms of Human Resources/Professionals in Disability Sector for NGOs	15.12.2014	Dimapur
		(iv) In-Service Training and Sensitization programme for District Level Officers for Stakeholder Departments on Disability Issues	20.03.2015	Imphal
		(v) Consultation Meet for Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities	26.02.2015 & 27.02.2015	Imphal
		(vi) Capacity Building of Institutions in terms of Human Resources/ Professionals in Disability Sector for NGOs	09.01.2015	Aizwal



5.	Eastern Zone	(i)	Sensitization Programme of Govt. Officers/Panchayat Members/NGO Representatives working in the field of Disability	29.12.2014	Ranchi
		(ii)	Sensitization Programme of Disability for Govt. Officers, Local Bodies and NGOs	12.01.2015	Bhubaneswar
		(iii)	New Approaches to Capacity Building of Professionals in Disability Sector	23.03.2015	Kolkata
6.	Central Zone	(i)	Capacity Building of Institutions in terms of Human Resources/ Professionals in Disability Sector	20.12. 2014	Raipur
		(ii)	In-service Training and Sensitization Programme	25.02.2015	Ujjain
		(iii)	In-service Training and Sensitization Programme	22.02.2015	Basti
		(iv)	Capacity Building of Institutions in terms of Human Resources/ Professionals in Disability Sector	28.02.2015	Varanasi
		(v)	Regional Workshop on SWOT Analysis of Rehabilitation Programme & Zonal Meeting	27.03.2015 to 28.03.2015	Varanasi







CHAPTER - 8

ADMINISTRATION/ACCOUNTS

Administration of the Rehabilitation Council of India involves many activities besides managing the establishment and financial aspects.

Use of Hindi in Official Work

In order to promote use of Hindi in official work, the orders/instructions/guidelines issued by the Department of Official Language from time to time are followed strictly by the Council. The employees of RCI are motivated to carry out their official work in Hindi. During the year, the Council celebrated Hindi Pakhwara between 15-29 September, 2014 wherein various programmes were organized and prizes were given to employees for their performance in various competitions organized during Hindi Pakhwara to promote use of Hindi. A Committee under the Chairmanship of Member Secretary, RCI has been set up to oversee the implementation of official language in RCI. Quarterly reports on the work done in Hindi were submitted to DEPwD, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment and Department of Official Language, Ministry of Home Affairs regularly.

Reservation Policy

The procedure prescribed by the Government to implement the reservation policy in the office of RCI is followed and due consideration is given for compliance of the orders on reservation issued by the Government from time to time. One candidate with visual impairment was appointed as Receptionist-cum-Telephone Operator (Group C) in the Council.

Training

Officers/staff of the Council were deputed to attend training courses/workshops organized by ISTM & other institutes of repute from time to time for better competency

Implementation of RTI Act, 2005

Consequent upon the enactment of the RTI Act, 2005, RCI is following the directions and guidelines issued by the Government from time to time. All the requisite information about RCI is displayed on the website of the Council, www.rehabcouncil.nic.in for the general public. During the year, total 264 RTI applications were received, out of which 241 were replied. Eight applications were transferred to other public authorities to provide information. Out of 14 First Appeals received, 12 were disposed off.

Vigilance Awareness Week

Vigilance Awareness Week was observed in RCI from 27th October to 1st November, 2014. During the period awareness is created among its employees to maintain the transparency and honesty in the official work. Employees were also administered Pledge to bring about integrity and transparency in all spheres of their activities and to strive for eradicating corruption from all spheres of life.



Swachh Bharat Mission

Swachh Bharat Mission was launched in RCI on 2nd October, 2014 by cleaning of RCI building campus and neighbourhood. Different activities were organized during the year as part of Swachh Bharat Mission.



Prof. Sudesh Mukhopadhyay, Chairperson, RCI, Shri D.N. Sreenivasappa, Member Secretary and other employees of RCI at the launch of Swachh Bharat Mission on 2nd October, 2014



Member Secretary and other employees of Rehabilitation Council of India during the launch of Swachh Bharat Mission on 02nd October, 2014



Library and Documentation

RCI has a good collection of books/publications/audio video/journals/periodicals in the area of disability rehabilitation and special education which are being used by the professionals/personnel/experts/students.

Publications

RCI brings out a number of publications on regular intervals such as the Journal of the Rehabilitation Council of India (JRCI), Status of Disability in India, RCI Newsletter, Manuals of Diploma Courses, Training Manuals for different functionaries, etc. During the year following publications were brought out:

1. 27th Annual Report for the year 2013-14 (Bi-lingual)
2. Journal of Rehabilitation Council of India, Vol.8, No.1 & 2 (Jan. to Dec. 2012)
3. Re-printing of Status of Disability in India - 2012
4. Revised Brochure entitled "Empowering Persons with Disabilities" (Bi-lingual) published for Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities.

Staff Strength

Under Section 8 (1) of the RCI Act, 1992, Central Government shall appoint the Member Secretary of the Council and under Section 8 (2) of the RCI Act, the Council shall, with the previous sanction of the Central Government employ such officers and other employees as it deems necessary to carry out the purpose of the Act. The present staff strength of the Council is 38 (i.e. 4 in Group 'A', 11 in Group 'B' and 23 in Group 'C'). Details of sanctioned strength of staff are placed at **Annexure 8.1**.

Annual Accounts and Audit Report

The accounts of the Rehabilitation Council of India are audited under Section 19 (2) of the Comptroller and Auditor General's (Duties, Powers & Conditions & Service) Act, 1971 read with Section 21 (3) of RCI Regulations, 1997 notified under Section 29 of Rehabilitation Council of India Act, 1992 (34 of 1992). The Office of the Director General Audit, Central Expenditure has conducted audit of accounts for the year 2014-15 from 16th July, 2015 to 27th July, 2015. The Audit Report along with Audited Accounts is placed at **Annexure 8.2**.