ODL as a Tool for Women Empowerment: Reflections from National Institute of Open Schooling, India.

Dr Mamta Srivastava
Deputy Director (Vocational Education)
NIOS
Basic Facts

- Woman -48.5%
- Female literacy -64.6%
  - Senior Secondary -5.9
  - Secondary -12.5
  - Middle -15.3
- Women participation very low in job market.
- For development of any country
  - Women participation is essential
  - Helps in reducing poverty.
  - Helps in achieving social justice.
Education is an effective tool for empowerment

• How ODL facilitates
  ✓ Education at the door step
  ✓ Providing education flexible in terms of pace and place.
  ✓ No upper age limit
  ✓ Flexibility in subject selection
NIOS : Facts

- 1979 - as project - CBSE
- 1989 - autonomous – MHRD
- 2002 renamed as NIOS

Vision - Sustainable inclusive learning with universal and flexible access to quality school education and skill development."

Target - rural poor, girls n women, disabled migratory population, and any other who cannot go to school

Courses and Programmes : OBE, Secondary and Senior secondary, vocational education
Operational Network

0.55 Million/year students on roll
2.78 million cumulative enrolment
(For last 5 Years)

6351 Study Centres
(AIs, AVIs and AAs)

32 Study Centres in Middle East & Nepal

3.32 Million students certified since 1989

21 Regional Centres
4 Centres in Shillong, Gangtok and Kota, Darbhanga,
1. Courses supporting girls & women

**Vocational Courses**
- leading to employment
- Popular courses
- 65% enrollment is of girls and women

**Academic Courses**
- Fee concession for girls and women
- Only girls schools as study centers
- Only 35% enrollment of girls and women
Our Proud Learners

MC Mary Kom
Winner of Bronze Medal of LONDON Olympics -2012

L. Athira Krishna
An international Violinist/ Guinness world record holder

Leema Babu
Film Artist

Kavya Madhavan
Kerala's Leading Actress State Award Winner
2. Special Projects for girls and women

Hunar
- More than 30,000 girls of minority and other backward community benefitted
- Skill training in 7 trades and 37 districts of Bihar
- Training centers - community based, near their home
- Project created a mass educational awareness
- Change in the self esteem and confidence level
- Socio economic empowerment

Voc. training in KGBV
- Vocational courses introduced in all schools of Rajasthan State
- Girls motivated and led to socio economic empowerment - self employed / wage employed
Project ASHA

- MOU with MoHFW - certifying Nine Lakh ASHA workers
- Specially designed vocational course – complement training
- enhancing the competency
- professional credibility of ASHAs
Conclusion

- NIOS making efforts to change the life of women and girls by imparting flexible, affordable, relevant and quality education up to pre degree level.

- If you educate a man you educate an individual, however, if you educate a woman you educate a whole family. Women empowered means mother India empowered”.

  PT. JAWAHARLAL NEHRU
Thank You

mamta.srivastava@nios.ac.in