



राष्ट्रीय मुक्त विद्यालयी शिक्षा संस्थान  
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF OPEN SCHOOLING

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(स्कूल शिक्षा और साक्षरता विभाग, शिक्षा मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार के अंतर्गत एक स्वायत्त संस्था)  
(An autonomous Institution under Deptt. of SE&L, Ministry of Education (MoE), Govt. of India)

L. No. 82-20/2025/NIOS/CBC/BRIDGE/CORR/04

Dated: 01.08.2025

To

All Regional Directors  
National Institute of Open Schooling

**Subject: Regarding 6 Months Certificate Course (Bridge) in Primary Teacher Education.**

Madam/Sir,

I am to refer to the Ministry of Education letter No. D.O. No. 3-15/2021-IS.1 dated 16.07.2025 addressed to all Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/Commissioner (Education), All States and Union Territories regarding 6 months Certificate Course (Bridge) in Primary Teacher Education stated that the NCTE, via Gazette Notification dated 23.08.2010, prescribed minimum qualifications for appointment as teachers for Classes I to VIII and an amendment dated 28.06.2018 added further qualifications for eligibility to teach Classes I to V as follows :

- "Graduation with at least 50% marks and B.Ed."
- *Provided that who has acquired the qualification of B.Ed. from any NCTE recognized institution shall be considered for appointment as a Teacher in class I to V;*
- *Provided that the person so appointed as a Teacher shall mandatory to undergo a Six Months Bridge Course in Elementary Education recognized by the NCTE, within Two Years of such appointment as Primary Teacher.*

The NCTE's Notification dated 28.06.2018 was challenged before the Hon'ble High Court of Rajasthan at Jodhpur, which, vide order dated 25.11.2021, set aside the notification dated 28.06.2018. This decision was subsequently challenged before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. The Hon'ble Supreme Court, in its judgment dated 11.08.2023 in the matter of *Devesh Sharma vs. Union of India & Ors.*, upheld the order of the High Court of Rajasthan at Jodhpur, thereby holding that candidates possessing a B.Ed. degree are not eligible for appointment as school teachers for Classes I to V.

In this context, the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide its judgment dated 08.04.2024 issued in MA Dy. No. 4303 of 2024, passed the order as under :

*"As it appears that a large number of candidates with B.Ed. degree had already been appointed on the basis of eligibility criteria specified by the educational authorities, we do not think it to be equitable to effect their removal. We, accordingly, hold that the judgment delivered by this Bench on 11<sup>th</sup> August, 2023 shall have prospective operation. But prospective operation of this judgment shall be only for those candidates who were appointed without any*



*qualification or conditions imposed by any Court of Law to the effect that their appointment would be subject to final outcome of the case which might have had been instituted by them and such candidates were in regular employment without any disqualification and were appointed in pursuance of a notice of advertisement where B.Ed. was stipulated to be valid qualification. Services of only such candidates shall not be disturbed because of this judgment. We make it clear that this benefit is only for the candidates who were appointed prior to the date our judgment was delivered, on 11<sup>th</sup> August, 2023.*

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

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

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

In compliance with the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India order, the 6 Months Certificate Course (Bridge) in Primary Teacher Education has been designed and notified by the NCTE vide Public Notice dated 07.04.2025 and Corrigendum dated 10.04.2025, hosted on the official website of NCTE for information to all the stakeholders.

In line with the above directions, NIOS has submitted an application to the NRC, NCTE, for the recognition of the aforementioned course. Subsequently, NCTE granted recognition to NIOS through Order No. NRC/NCTE/441st Meeting (Volume-3) Sl. No. 34/2025/233333-233338 dated 02.07.2025, allowing NIOS to conduct the 6 Months Certificate Course (Bridge) in Primary Teacher Education through ODL mode.

In view of the above, the following conditions are to be adhered by all stakeholders:

- i. This course will only be meant for those primary teachers who had been appointed with B.Ed. degree in accordance with NCTE's notification dated 28.06.2018 and who were in-service before the date of Hon'ble Supreme Court's judgment dated 11.08.2023.
- ii. The teachers indicated at point (i) above may avail this one-time opportunity to complete the course as Hon'ble Supreme Court has directed that failure of any

- candidate to participate and complete the course within time frame, as decided by the educational authorities, will invalidate their appointment.
- iii. The participant teachers shall complete the course within one year of the commencement of course of NIOS.
  - iv. Qualifying the Bridge Course will be strictly meant for teachers indicated in point 'i' above, to protect their existing employment only. This Bridge Course will not be valid for those teachers seeking subsequent employments as primary teachers.

Accordingly, NIOS will soon launch an online portal where all relevant information regarding the 6 Months Certificate Course (Bridge) in Primary Teacher Education, will be made available.

In view of the above, it is requested that all Regional Directors, NIOS may contact the concerned State Govt. Authorities to obtain the State Nodal Officer details and the list of primary teachers in the enclosed performa latest by 11.08.2025.

This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

Yours faithfully,

  
(S. Vijaya Kumar)  
Director (SSS)

Encl:

1. Letter dated 16.07.2025 of JS (Institutions & Training), Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Education, Government of India
2. Recognition Order dated 02.07.2025
3. Performa Seeking variables from the States in reference of eligible primary teachers with B.Ed qualification for registration in the Bridge Course