

Mahesh Chandra Pant

maheshcpant47@yahoo.com

Name : Mahesh Chandra Pant

Date of Birth : 8 May 1947

Service : Uttar Pradesh Educational Service

Designation : Former **Chairman, National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS)**
Former **Director of Education, Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal**

Qualifications

Educational	M.Sc. (Physics), Agra University
Professional	Diploma in Educational Planning and Administration from NIEPA, New Delhi

Other Achievements

Honorary Fellow of the Commonwealth of Learning (COL), Vancouver, Canada.

Detail of Previous Posts held and Experience:

Position Held	Duration
Chairman, National Institute of Open Schooling	17 May, 2004 to April 2009
Director of Education, Uttaranchal	February 2001 to May 2004
Director of Education (Basic), U.P.	December 1998 to January 2001
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Additional Director, Vocational (Education, U.P.)• Additional Director of Education (Hills, U.P.)	April 1998 to December 1998
Deputy Secretary/ Joint Secretary (Govt. of U.P., Education Department)	September 1995 to April 1998
Sr. Professional "U.P. Education for All Project"	December 1993 to September 1995
Dy. Director of Education	October 1987 to December 1993
District Inspector of Schools	June 1983 to October 1987
District Basic Education Officer	July, 1981 to June 1983
Principal Govt. Inter College	August 1978 to 1981
U.P.E.S.. Class II(Under Training)	June 1977 to August 1978
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Treasury Officer• Sales Tax Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• June 1973 to May 1974• May 1974 to June 1977
Lecturer in Physics	July 1967 to June 1973

Experience and Areas of Expertise:

- Started career as a Lecturer in Intermediate College and worked in various degree colleges in Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal
 - Taught students for six years and gained experience in teaching Physics at different levels.
 - Different processes of learning and evaluation techniques, both theory as well as practical aspects of Physics teaching, were internalized and used in the career at various levels of work.
- Acquired profound knowledge of question paper setting, evaluation and different related areas of learning. The experience gained was used while working as an educational administrator and as a Principal of Intermediate College in remote area of Nainital District for about three years.
 - Various aspects of school administration, teachers' competence, performance appraisal and preparation of institutional plans, their implementation were the focus areas.
- Worked as Educational Planner and Administrator at District Level in the capacity of Basic Shiksha Adhikari as well as District Inspector of Schools.
- Supervised Primary and Secondary Education Programme for about six years in different Districts of Uttar Pradesh and acquired sound knowledge of preparation and implementation of educational plans.
- Prepared and implemented the District Educational Plans and submitted proposals for state sector allocation in education to the state government. The minute details of plan process commencing from collection of data and identifying local specific needs to meet the long, medium and short term goals were taken into account. Among other things, these included the availability and allocation of resources and time, planning for successful implementation of different action plans to achieve the required goals.
 - The focus of educational plans was "education for all" with special attention towards weaker sections of the society specially SCs, STs, Girls and Minorities.

Other Responsibilities:

- Preparation of Supplementary Reading Material for Primary Classes and capacity building programme for new lesson writers.
- Preparation of Training Modules for School Teachers and Administrators.
- Preparation of new quality Text Books and introduction of new transparent policy of printing of text books.
- Baseline assessment studies for Basic Education Project (BEP) Districts and later on for District Primary Education Programme (DPEP) Districts to assess the learning levels of children with the help of expert agencies.
- Development of new curriculum for primary classes and its adoption by the Basic Shiksha Parishad as the Chairman of the Parishad.
- Policy guidelines for implementation of decentralization of planning and administration of primary education to Village Panchayats.

- Implementation of various innovative programmes for education of marginalized and deprived sections of children in the remote areas of the state.
- Participated in the review Programme of BEP and DPEP as an internal member of Joint Review Missions of the World Bank and the Government of India.
- Steered the Library Strengthening Programme in the state of Uttar Pradesh as Officer on Special Duty in the Government.
- Introduction of innovative scheme of multigrade teaching in the state of Uttaranchal for single teacher schools in the remote areas of the state.
- Introduction of Innovative scheme “Rajeev Gandhi Navodaya Vidyalaya” to identify talented children from remote and rural areas of state of Uttaranchal and provided the Residential quality schooling facilities to them.
- Monitoring the computer literacy programme in the state of Uttar Pradesh and subsequently introduction of a massive computer literacy programme in the state of Uttaranchal .New initiatives taken for making the entire school system of the state computer friendly by providing computers in each secondary school and by making intensive training facility available to each secondary school teacher with the support from Intel and Microsoft within three years.
- Development of new text books of classes VI to VIII having infused the environmental concerns with support from Ministry of Environment, Government of India and making provision of teacher training for the same.
- Introduction of new subject on issues relating to sustainability of environment as one complete subject at upper primary level in the schools of Uttaranchal in phased manner.
- Implementations of Health check up of all children in primary schools of the state of Uttaranchal and identification of children with special needs.

Financial Management:

Acquired deep knowledge of financial rules and regulation while working with the Finance department in Government of Uttar Pradesh. Responsibilities included:

- Preparing budget estimates for the State
- Implementation of store purchase rules
- Supervision of the audit and accounting process and presentation of the financial reports to competent bodies, namely the Accountant General, Uttar Pradesh and the Public Account Committee through the Government.
- A significant activity was restructuring of salary structure of Secondary School Teachers in the light of the provision of the Fifth Pay Commission.

Significant Academic Ventures:

- The rich experience acquired in teaching, school administration, preparation of institutional plans, development of curriculum and instructional materials, and monitoring and supervision of educational programmes was reinforced while working as the Director of Education in Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal.

- Besides the usual programmes related to school education, developed and implemented the District Primary Education Programme and the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (Education for All) in Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal.
- Significant initiatives taken as the Director of Education Uttaranchal included setting up of the Uttaranchal Sabhi Ke Liye Shiksha Parishad, the Mahila Samakhya Society, the State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT), Uttaranchal Shiksha Evam Pariksha Parishad (Board of School Education), setting of State Literacy Mission Authority (SLMA), introduction of Computer Literacy Programme, and infusion of Environmental Education in the general curriculum for school education.

Promotion of Open Schooling:

As the Chairman of the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS), took significant steps to put the open schooling system in India on a sound pedestal. These inter alia included:

- Strengthening of process of planning.
- Implementation and monitoring of open schooling programmes.
- Expansion of Open Vocational Education Programme, the On Demand Examination System and e-governance.
- Realizing that the open schooling programme with inherent flexibilities has potential to meet substantially the challenge of universalisation of school education, a comprehensive re-engineering of the process as an integral part of the strategic approach for promotion of open schooling was initiated.
- Steps taken in collaboration with international organizations like Commonwealth of Learning (COL), UNESCO, and UNFPA for promotion of Open Schooling in developing countries, particularly in Asia and Africa, through advocacy, consultancy and capacity building programmes under the Open Schooling Association of Commonwealth (OSAC) and the International Centre for Training in Open Schooling (ICTOS) located in NIOS.
- Through consultation with experts, developed the Vision 2020 document for NIOS. NIOS has been marching ahead steadily making strides in open schooling programmes and activities at national and international level.