

**UGC sponsored One-Day National Seminar  
on  
Right to Education and Its Implementation: Issues and Challenges  
Date: March 31, 2017**



Department of Education  
Ravenshaw University  
Cuttack

## **About Ravenshaw University**

Ravenshaw University came into existence on the 15th day of November, 2006. It was an upgradation of Ravenshaw College established in 1868, one of the oldest and largest colleges in India which subsequently became an autonomous college with CPE status by UGC and 'A' grade by NAAC. The College with all its glorious academic achievement and ceaseless scholastic pursuits had already created a distinct niche for itself in India and abroad. The history of this great institution is, in a manner of speaking, the history of modern Odisha. It was the cradle of ideas fostering national unity and nationalism, promoting social mobilization and gearing up the freedom struggle. Started with a meagre enrolment of 6 students in 1868, present student strength is 8000+. Recently, in December, 2016, the NAAC has accredited the University as Grade – A with grade point average of 3.13. This year, on the occasion of sesquicentennial celebration, Ravenshaw has been organizing many academic and cultural activities. This National Seminar is a part of this annual activity.

## **About the Department of Education**

The Department of Education was established in the year 1943. Over the preceding decades, the Department evolve as a pace-setter in establishing Education as a Liberal Discipline enriching Educational Research in the State. This is the first University Department of Education (2006) in the State having liberal course in Education at Under-graduate and Post-graduate level including M.Phil, Ph.D. (Edu.) and Integrated B.A/B.Sc B.Ed programme introduced from the session 2016-17. The Department has been adopting many innovative teaching-learning practices like team teaching, concept mapping, peer teaching, use of ICT tools including different web-tools, seminar presentation, demo-lessons by faculty members, and development of Lesson plans with constructivist approach such as 5E and ICON design and lesson delivery during internship for transaction of learning experiences. Besides, cognitive apprenticeship, panel discussion, small group-whole group discussion, assignment-presentation cum discussion, dialogue, case and field study methods are also followed for curriculum strategies. The thrust areas of research are Elementary Education, ICT in Education and Teacher Education following quantitative, qualitative and mixed method approach. The Department has been conducting various academic activities in collaboration with National Council of Rural Institutes, Hyderabad, MHRD, NCERT, and All India Association for Educational Research at the National level as well as Jewels International Chetna Institute for Intellectually Impaired, Bhubaneswar, Ranjita Mishra Memorial Trust, Bhubaneswar and TEEKA Foundation, Cuttack at the State level. The Ravenshaw Journal of Educational Studies, Bi-annual peer-reviewed journal with ISSN: 2319-7374 is published from the Department.

## **About the Seminar**

The Right of Children to free and Compulsory Education Act (RTE Act) 2009 has been implemented from April 01, 2010. It envisages free and compulsory elementary education to all children of six to fourteen years (eighteen years in case of children with special needs) without any discrimination in a neighbourhood school. The RTE act clearly describes the goal, duties, responsibilities and functions of appropriate Government, Local authorities, Parents, SMC members, schools and teachers. Number of initiatives have been taken both by central and state government towards implementation of the act such as: Formulation of rules to implement RTE Act by the

states; developing activity-based curriculum; constitution of State Commission for Protection of Child Rights; Prohibition of corporal punishment; prohibition of screening procedure in admission; discontinuation of Board examination at elementary level; provision for free textbooks, uniforms, transport and residential facilities; conducting Teacher Eligibility Test for appointing teachers; reimbursement of per child expenditure in favour of unaided and special category schools for admission of children belonging to weaker section and disadvantaged group; establishment of Grievance Redressal Cell; engagement of part time teachers; professional development of teachers through regular in-service training programmes; guidelines for functioning of SMC; establishment of MLE schools; appointment of MLE teachers; implementation of CCE; etc.

Seven years is going to be completed in implementation of RTE Act, 2009 and there is need to have a reality check. Still we have many problems, issues and challenges such as: deteriorating quality of elementary education, particularly in government schools; lack of awareness of the Act at the community level; limited focus on quality aspects particularly, learning performance; financial constraints; no clarity on how 25 per cent reservation in private schools; issue of untrained teachers particularly, from SC and ST category; lack of community involvement through SMCs and PTAs; lack of better planning, management, monitoring and evaluation of the education system; lack of accountability of stakeholders; etc. The bottleneck in the proper implementation of the RTE- Act needs to be discussed and deliberated. Responsibilities go to the Government, Local administration, School authority, Curriculum designers, teachers and parents. The seminar would provide a platform for analytical discussion on the issues and challenges faced by the stakeholders in implementation of this act. The NGOs monitoring the proper implementation of the Act would be involved to familiarize the students and staff with a field view of the scenario.

### **Objectives of the Seminar:**

- To identify the milestones in implementing RTE Act
- To examine the features of the Act and to assess the level of preparedness towards implementation of RTE Act
- To identify the challenges in implementing RTE Act
- To identify the area-specific problems in implementing RTE Act
- To suggest the action plan for implementation of RTE Act

### **Sub-themes of the Seminar**

- RTE as a fundamental Right or obligation
- Practical problems of implementing RTE Act
- RTE and problems of Marginalized group
- Role of stakeholders regarding the implementation of RTE-Act
- Curriculum preparation, transaction and evaluation

### **Invitation of Papers**

Reflective and research papers are invited from teachers, teacher educators, scholars, educationists, practitioners, NGOs and the functionaries working in the area of school education.

## **Key Dates**

Date of National Seminar: March 31, 2017

Last date of submission of abstracts: March 25, 2017

Confirmation of the acceptance of paper: March 26, 2017

Submission of full paper: March 28, 2017

## **Registration**

The registration fee is Rs.300/-

## **Travel and Accommodation**

There is no provision for TA/DA for participants. However organizers will take care of accommodation for out-station participants only on prior intimation.

## **Chief Patron of the Seminar**

Prof. P.C. Sarangi

## **Patron of the Seminar**

Prof. G.C. Nanda

## **Convenor of the Seminar**

Dr. Sudarshan Mishra

## **Organizing Secretaries**

Dr. S.K. Rout

Dr. D.B. Tali

Dr. B.C. Das

## **Organizing Committee**

Dr. P.K.Sahoo

Dr. Neena Dash

Dr. Gitanjali Mohanty

Dr. Ashok Dansana

Dr. Mahima Chhabra

Ms. P.B.Binjha

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