

### Report on Online Orientation Programme for Academic Counsellors and Dissertation Guides BLIS and MLIS Programmes, 2025–2026

An Online Orientation Programme was conducted for Academic Counsellors and Dissertation Guides involved in the Bachelor of Library and Information Science (BLIS) and Master of Library and Information Science (MLIS) programmes for the academic session of 2025–2026. The primary objective of the programme was to acquaint counsellors and guides with the goals, structure, and expectations of the courses. Additionally, the programme sought to enhance their capacity to mentor and guide students effectively.

The orientation witnessed the active participation of **146 attendees**, reflecting the enthusiasm and commitment of the academic community towards professional development and learner support.



#### Objectives of the Programme

- To orient academic counsellors and dissertation guides about the **curriculum framework** of BLIS and MLIS programmes.
- To highlight the **roles and responsibilities** of counsellors and guides in learner support services.
- To discuss **best practices in dissertation guidance** and evaluation.
- To foster collaboration and academic excellence in the field of Library and Information Science.

#### Distinguished Speakers:

The programme featured insightful addresses and interactive sessions by eminent faculty members of **Netaji Subhas Open University (NSOU)**:

**Prof. Anirban Ghosh**, Director, School of Professional Studies (SPS), NSOU

**Prof. Arun Kumar Chakraborty**, Professor, DLIS, NSOU

**Prof Biplab Chakraborty**, Professor, DLIS, NSOU

**Dr Anamika Das**, Head of the Department, DLIS, NSOU

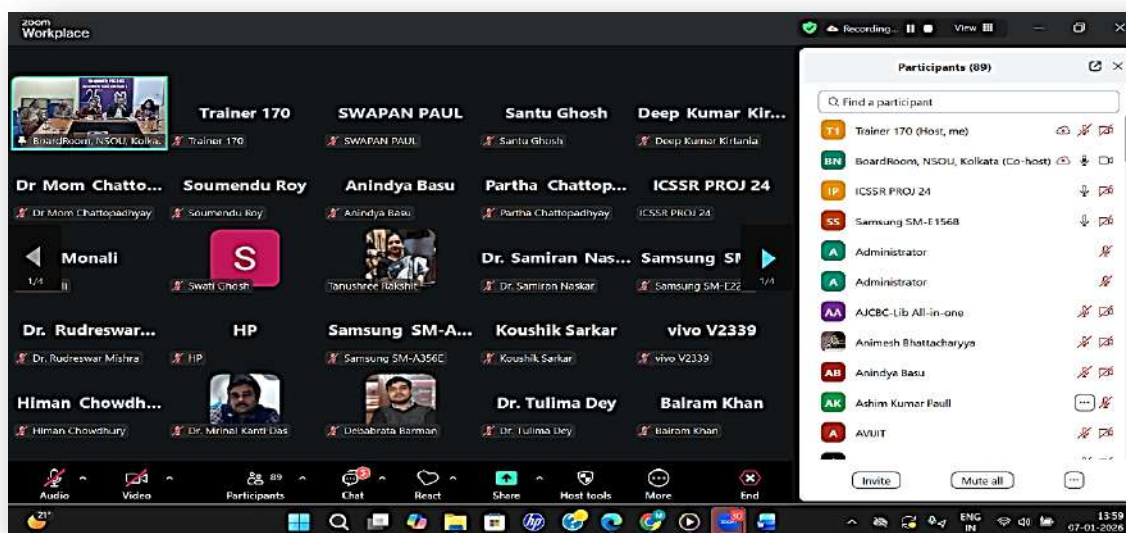
**Dr Barnali Roy Choudhury**, Assistant Professor, DLIS, NSOU

### Highlights of the Sessions

Dr. Anamika Das opened the session by welcoming the participants and highlighting the crucial role of academic counselling in open and distance learning. She provided valuable insights into the dissertation guidance methodology, emphasising research ethics, topic selection, and various supportive modalities. Following her, Prof. Anirban Ghosh outlined the vision of the School of Professional Studies to enhance academic programs. He also detailed the essential norms for dissertation guidance that foster effective research work. The session delivered practical strategies for mentoring learners throughout their research journey. Dr Barnali Roy Choudhury expanded on the pedagogical methods necessary for engaging learners effectively and setting clear evaluation criteria. She underscored the importance of counsellors as facilitators in knowledge and skill development. Lastly, Prof. Arun Kumar Chakraborty presented a thought-provoking lecture on examination patterns, focusing on how to assess learners' progress in line with the standards set by Netaji Subhas Open University.

### Participation and Engagement

The programme recorded **146 participants**, including academic counsellors and dissertation guides from various study centres. Interactive discussions, question–and–answer sessions, and experience sharing enriched the orientation, making it a collaborative learning platform.



The **Online Orientation Programme** successfully achieved its objectives by equipping academic counsellors and dissertation guides with updated knowledge, skills, and perspectives. It reinforced the importance of their role in ensuring quality learner support and effective dissertation guidance in the BLIS and MLIS programmes.

The event marked a significant step towards academic excellence and professional growth, setting a strong foundation for the **2025–2026 academic session**.

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