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## SCHOOL & MASS EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

### NOTIFICATION

The 22nd June, 2015

No.12572. XII-SME-(Trg.)01/2014/SME. . Due to various constraints i.e. financial, manpower, infrastructure and various socio-economic and other reasons, it is not possible for the formal schooling system in the State to bring all the out of school children to the fold of formal schools. Institute like National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) is also unable to cater to the regional requirement. The correspondence course of education of BSE(O) provides opportunity for the drop-out to appear exam within a fixed frame and the rate of pass out is also not encouraging .

In order to cater to the need of large number of adolescent and rural youth, working men and women, SC & ST, differently able persons and other disadvantaged persons who are unable to take advantage of formal secondary schooling within the stipulated school hours and to enhance access, equity, quality and management especially in backward parts of the State and for widening access to secondary education, Government after careful consideration have decided to establish State Institute of Open Schooling (SIOS) in the State.

The SIOS will be established under Society Registration Act, 1860 and will be an independent body. At the initial stage, the BSE (O) will conduct examination and issue Certificates to the successful candidates of SIOS till SIOS functions in full-fledged manner.

### **STRUCTURE:**

The SIOS in the State will be an autonomous organization on the pattern of the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS). The general management and organizational structure shall be as decided by Government from time to time.

**Functions:—**

- i. SIOS will take steps for delivering strategy plans for promoting and up- scaling to Open Schooling programme in the State of Odisha.
- ii. It will provide training to Tutors, Academic facilitators, Paper Setters, Evaluators & Lesson Writers to make them conscious of their functions and responsibility.
- iii. It will provide technical and financial support to Districts in Odisha for setting up and up-scaling District Open Schools.
- iv. It will offer a wide spectrum of courses of study in general, Vocational and continuing education and life enrichment courses at Secondary level.
- v. Wherever applicable, SIOS will tie-up with other agencies in terms of MOUs/ Agreements with necessary TORs /compliance clause etc.MoU with National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) may be signed for setting up of Odisha State Open Schools (OSOS) & Opening of Study Centers.

**Financial Viability and Management**

SIOS will utilize funds available from State Government grants and grants provided under different projects.

By Order of the Governor

USHA PADHEE

Commissioner-*cum*-Secretary to Government