

Report of Six-day Workshop on 'Indian Sign Language (ISL)' for the Hearing Impaired under the Department of Mass Education Extension & Library Services, Govt. of West Bengal.

**Organized by
Department of Mass Education & Extension & Library Services, Govt.
of West Bengal.**

**In Collaboration with
Department of Special Education, School of Education, Netaji Subhas
Open University, West Bengal**

Duration of the Programme: 6 days (28th July to 2nd August, 2025)

Venue: Institute of Co-operative Management for Agricultural & Rural Development (ICMARD), ICMARD Building Scheme – VIII (M) Block – 14/ 2, Bidhannagar Road, Ultadanga, Kolkata – 700067, West Bengal.

Introduction

The goal of the Indian Sign Language (ISL) Workshop is to raise knowledge and comprehension of the language spoken by the Deaf community in India. In order to communicate effectively with hearing-impaired people, it seeks to acquaint participants with the fundamentals of ISL, such as gestures, expressions, and grammar. In addition to encouraging inclusivity, this program facilitates communication between hearing and non-hearing people. Learners become more sensitive to the Deaf community's culture and the value of sign language in everyday life and education through interactive lessons and hands-on demonstrations. These workshop sessions lay the groundwork for fostering empathy, respect, and fair opportunity for those with hearing impairments.

Day- I (28.07.2025), Monday.



Firstly, welcoming the Dignitaries on the Stage and felicitating them.
Afterward, the ceremonial lamp is lit.

Inaugural Session



Inaugural Address was delivered by **Dr. Rajesh Kumar**, IPS, Principal Secretary, Department of MEE & LS, Govt. of West Bengal introduced the Theme of the entire programme highlighting the objectives of the programme. Hon. MIC **Janab Siddiqullah Choudhury** of the West Bengal government's Department of MEE & LS underlined the importance of raising awareness of the difficulties surrounding the characteristics and upbringing of hearing-impaired people.

The secretary of the Narendrapur Ramakrishna Mission, **Swami Shastrajnananda Maharaj**, emphasized the importance of an outreach campaign in spreading awareness of these difficulties and encouraging appropriate behavior. In order to continue this, he emphasized the roles and responsibilities of the essential functionaries as the nodal person. The Director of SoE, NSOU, **Prof. Debi Prosad Nag Chowdhury**, eloquently explained the significance of this program. This session was concluded by proposing Vote of Thanks by **Sm. Upali Roy**, Director, Mass Education & Extension & Library Services, Govt. of West Bengal.

Session –I & II

This session was addressed by Ms. Indira Ghosh, Faculty, (Interpreter), AYJNISHD, Kolkata, Regional Centre. She discussed about “Brief History and Importance of Sign Language” and “Introduction to Indian Sign Language (ISL)”. She vividly narrate the history and

nicely discussed ISL through action, gesture and sign. Use of slides and PPTs made the session very contextual. Participants were enjoyed the sessions. The session was coordinated by Mrs. Antara Choudhury, Asst. Prof. of Spl. Education, SoE, NSOU.



Session –III & IV

The third & fourth session of the day was also taken by Ms. Indira Ghosh, Faculty, (Interpreter), AYJNISHD, Kolkata, Regional Centre. Her talk encompassed “Difference between Sign Language and Sign System” and “Basics of Non-verbal Communication & Deaf Culture”. Her total lecture comprised of slides, PPTs etc. The session was really a vibrant and interactive one and enjoyed by the participants. The session was coordinated by Mr. Biswajit Dhar, Asst. Prof. of Spl. Education, SoE, NSOU.

End of the Day Participants played some activity by ISL

Day- 2 (29.07.2025). Tuesday.

Session –I & II



This session was started by the discussion of previous day's topic. After that Mr. Rabindranath Sarkar, Faculty, AYJNISHD, Kolkata, Regional Centre, deliberated about "ISL Alpha (A-Z) – Finger Spelling" and "Numbers (1-100 and above)". He brilliantly express the various spelling and nicely discussed numbering through action, gesture and sign. Use of slides and PPTs made the session very contextual. Mr. Narayan Ray, Faculty, AYJNISHD, Kolkata, Regional Centre act as an interpreter. Participants were joyfully learnt that matter and relish the sessions. The session was coordinated by Ms. Swapna Deb, Asst. Prof. of Spl. Education, SoE, NSOU.

Session –III & IV

After lunch the third & fourth session of the day was started and the session was taken by Mr. Rabindranath Sarkar, Faculty, AYJNISHD, Kolkata, Regional Centre. Her talk encompassed "Common Nouns (Classroom objects, Food, Family etc.)" and "Greetings and Basic Expressions". Her total lecture comprised of slides, PPTs etc. Mr. Narayan Ray, Faculty, AYJNISHD, Kolkata, Regional Centre act as an interpreter of the whole session. The session was really a vibrant and interactive one and enjoyed by the participants. The session was coordinated by Mr. Biswajit Dhar, Asst. Prof. of Spl. Education, SoE, NSOU.

The day was ended by the Sign of participant's name, numbers in ISL and paired practice and group signing.

Day- 3 (30.07.2025). Wednesday

Session –I & II

The topic from the previous day was discussed to begin this session.

After that Ms. Indira Ghosh, Faculty, AYJNISHD, Kolkata, Regional Centre, discussed about "Bilingual/ Bimodal Teaching Approaches" and "Adapting Lessons for Deaf Students". She vividly narrates regarding the topic through action, gesture and sign. Use of slides and PPTs made the session very contextual. Participants were happily learnt about the matter and enjoy the sessions. The session was coordinated by Mrs. Rakhi Bhattacharya, Asst. Prof. of Spl. Education, SoE, NSOU.

Session –III & IV

The third & fourth session of the day was started after lunch and the session was taken by Ms. Indira Ghosh, Faculty, AYJNISHD, Kolkata, Regional Centre. Her talk involved about "Designing ISL-supported Lesson Plan" and "Group Task-Presenting Micro Teaching". Her total lecture comprised of slides, PPTs etc. The participants thoroughly appreciated the lively and involved seminar. The session was coordinated by Ms. Swapna Deb, Asst. Prof. of Spl. Education, SoE, NSOU.

The day was ended by create Visual Teaching aids with ISL & Peer Feedback on Teaching Presentations.

Day- 4 (31.07.2025), Thursday

Session –I & II

This session was started by the summarise of previous day's topic. After that Ms. Trisha Sarkar, Faculty, AYJNISHD, Kolkata, Regional Centre, started that day's session by the topic "Common classroom sign: sit, stand, write, read, open, close, repeat etc." and "Emotions and behavioural signs". Nicely she expresses the sign and participants were relished very much.



Mr. Narayan Ray act as an interpreter of the whole session. The session was coordinated by Mr. Biswajit Dhar, Asst. Prof. of Spl. Education, SoE, NSOU.

Session –III & IV

Ms. Trisha Sarkar, Faculty, AYJNISHD, Kolkata, Regional Centre, started post lunch session by the topic "Question words: who, what, where, when, why, how etc." and "Politeness markers in sign". Ms. Sarkar very beautifully presented the topic through conversation by sign language. Participants were really appreciated the sessions. The whole session was attractively interpreted by Mr. Narayan Ray, Faculty, AYJNISHD, Kolkata, Regional Centre. The session was coordinated by Mrs. Rakhi Bhattacharya, Asst. Prof. of Spl. Education, SoE, NSOU.

End of the Day Participants played some activity, such as 'Role Play: Conducting the Class using the signs' and 'Flash card activity for rapid Vocabulary.'

Day- 5 (01.08.2025), Friday

Session –I & II

This session was also started by the sum up of previous day's topic. Mr. Sourav Bhattacharyay, Faculty, AYJNISHD, Kolkata, Regional Centre, started his session about the topic "Key vocabulary in English, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies". After that session he discussed the topic "Signs for common school materials and tools." He brilliantly expresses the subject and subject specific various words through action, gesture and sign. Use of slides and PPTs made the session very contextual. Mr. Narayan Ray, Faculty, AYJNISHD, Kolkata, Regional Centre act as an interpreter of the whole session. Participants were joyfully learnt that matter and relish the sessions. The session was coordinated by Mrs. Antara Choudhury, Asst. Prof. of Spl. Education, SoE, NSOU and Dr. Abhedananda Panigrahi, Coordinator, B.Ed., SoE, NSOU

Session –III & IV

Post lunch session was started by Mr. Sourav Bhattacharyay, Faculty, AYJNISHD, Kolkata, Regional Centre. In this Sessions the topic was "Adapting lesson plans for deaf and hard

of hearing students” and Use of visual aids, gestures and expressions”. Mr. Bhattacharyay nicely express that topic and participants were very much enjoyed the sessions. Mr. Narayan Ray, Faculty, AYJNISHD, Kolkata, Regional Centre act as an interpreter of the whole session.

End of the day group activity was done and participants were preparing them for next day’s evaluation.

Day- 6 (02.08.2025), Saturday

Session –I & II

That day was the last day of the programme. 1st day Hon. MIC **Janab Siddiqullah Choudhury, Govt. of West Bengal, MEE & LS** was declared that according to the Participant’s performance the prize will be given. So, the Participants were very much excited for their evaluation. All the resource persons who were taken the session, they were evaluate the participants.

Session – III

It was a feedback session where all academic members of Special Education, School of Education, NSOU, and **Dr. Rajesh Kumar**, IPS, Principal Secretary, Department of MEE & LS, Govt. of West Bengal, **Sm. Upali Roy**, Director, Mass Education & Extension & Library Services, Govt. of West Bengal, **Mrs. Soma Chakraborty**, Program coordinator, Department of MEE & LS, Govt. of West Bengal and other members were present. Dr. Kumar’s inspiring speech enlightened all. In this session participants shared their experiences on the different aspects of training programme, relevance of the contents of training, Quality of training, Effective Transaction of the programme, Resource Person’s good technique of learning and overall observations and suggestions. The organisers noted down the proposals and suggestions. Participants expressed their happiness for conducting such a nice programme and also thanked the organizers for good hospitality and other arrangements. They also mentioned the session as taken by the speakers and the content areas were covered and said they will be waiting for this type of programme for future

After that disbursing the Participation Certificates.

Special Thanks was given to the Programme Coordinators Dr. Abhedananda Panigrahi, Coordinator, B.Ed., SoE, NSOU, Ms. Swapna Deb, Asst. Prof. of Spl. Education, SoE, NSOU, Mrs. Soma Chakraborty, Asst. Director, Department of MEE & LS, Govt. of West Bengal and Mr. Sanjoy Bandyopadhyay, Asst. Director, Department of MEE & LS, Govt. of West Bengal

The programme ended with a vote of thanks followed by **National Anthem with sign language**.

Total Program Coordinated by **Shri Sanjoy Bandyopadhyay**, WBES, Asst. Director, Mass Education Extension Directorate, Govt. of WB, **Dr. Soma Chakraborty**, WBES, Asst. Director, Mass Education Extension Directorate, Govt. of WB, **Dr. Abhedananda Panigrahi**, Coordinator, B.Ed., SoE, NSOU & **Ms. Swapna Deb**, Asst. Prof. of Spl. Education, SoE, NSOU.

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