

Dr. Sukanta Kumar Mahapatra

Dr. Sukanta Kumar Mahapatra is working as Associate Professor of Sociology of Education in Department of Educational Psychology and Foundations of Education, NCERT, New Delhi. Dr. Mahapatra has done M.Phil. from National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration (NIEPA). He holds Doctorate in the area of Sociology of Education from Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai. Additionally, he has done Certificate course in Designing and Facilitating E-Learning from Open Polytechnic of New Zealand, sponsored by Commonwealth of Learning (COL), Canada. He has more than 13 years of professional experience in teaching, training and conducting research in the area of Sociology and Education, particularly in the area of Parental involvement in Education, Education of marginalised communities, Value education, Tribal Culture and Education, Gender issues and women empowerment, disability and technology-based education.

Dr. Mahapatra has been involved in various works in the department in NCERT including content development in the area of School Culture and Value Education, research on Peer Relations and School Engagement, development of Mobile App under Manodarpan (an Initiative of Ministry of Education (MoE) for Psychological support and Mental well-being of students). He is also coordinator for development of Online Course on Value Education for Teachers.

Before joining to NCERT, he has worked at National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS), NOIDA. As an academic, he has planned, designed and developed curriculum and course material of many courses in the area of sociology, Gender Studies, Indian Sign Language and Disability Studies. He has done research on Factors Affecting Enrolment in different Subjects of NIOS. He was the Coordinator of Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) in Sociology for NIOS which were being delivered through SWAYAM. He contributed as coordinator for development of e-content and various audio and video programmes in Sociology for NIOS, which were used in MOOCs and Swayamprabha channels.

He has edited 3 books and authored more than 30 papers in various journals, books and proceedings at national and international level including the recent one on 'Peer Interaction, Exclusion and School Participation' in the journal of Contemporary Voice of Dalits (Sage Publication); on 'Gender and Open Schooling' in a book published by Commonwealth of Learning (COL), Canada, 'Technology-enabled education for deaf learners in India: The case of a sign language initiative' published by Ishara Press, Lancaster, United Kingdom, and 'Ritual

Effect, Migration and Impoverishment of Tribes' in journal 'Eastern Anthropologists' etc. He has also contributed in development of Inclusive Education Policy and Gender Policy for Open Schools in India, developed in collaboration with UN Women and also part of the core committee constituted by Ministry of Education for development of National Guidelines and Implementation framework on Equitable and Inclusive Education.

He has also presented papers, contributed as a panelist and chaired sessions in more than 50 national and international seminars, conferences and workshops including UNESCO, Bangladesh, Commonwealth of Learning (COL), Canada, University of Central Lancashire, United Kingdom, Open University of Malaysia, Malaysia, National University of Nizeria, Nizeria, Tribhuvan University, Nepal and Bangladesh Open University, Bangladesh.

He has coordinated Indian Sign Language Project in NIOS, which is part of NEP, 2020 implementation plan. He was the channel coordinator of SwayamPrabha Channel 30: Gyanamrit (from October 2018 to August 2020), which broadcast videos in Sign language version. This innovation in Sign Language also brought laurels to NIOS winning UNESCO King Sejong International Literacy Award for the year 2021. For his extensive contribution in the field of teaching and research, he was conferred with many awards and accolades including Bharat Jyoti Award in the year 2013 by International Friendship Society, New Delhi, Guru Drona Award (Best Teacher Award) by NIOS in 2021 on the occasion of Teachers Day, Smt. Sushil Gupta Excellence Award 2023 and Scholarship by Commonwealth of Learning (COL), Canada in 2013 and 2016