

At a Glance

No. of Teacher Training Programmes Organized: 9
No. of Communication Skills Assistant Professors Trained: 9
No. of Communication Skills Trainers Trained (college Level): 21
No. of Communication Skills Trainers Trained (School Level): 22
No. of Teacher Trainees Trained: 425
No. of Post Graduate Students (MA in English) Trained: 29
No. of College Students Trained in Communication Skills: 3190
No. of School Students Trained in Communication Skills: 2170
Books Written: 2

1. Regular Courses

a. PGCTE

95 PGCTE

The 95 PGCTE course was held from 26 July – 21 October with a batch of 53 teacher trainees comprising of 49 government in-service teachers and 4 would be teachers. The objective of the course was to improve the competence, performance and communication skills of the teacher trainees. Apart from this the trainees were introduced to research and material production by taking up mini projects or writing papers as assignments. During this course talks by Prof Malathy Krishanan (Professor, EFL University) on 'Methodology in Teaching of English' and Ms Rakesh Sachdeva (Principal, DAV School) on 'Continuous Comprehensive Evaluation' were also organized. The trainees were provided practice in using technology as an effective teaching tool. Many co-curricular activities and competitions were organized which are integral parts of the course.

96 PGCTE

The 96 PGCTE course was held from 21 November – 18 February with a batch of **43** teacher trainees comprising 35 government in-service teacher trainees - 3 from Jammu and Kashmir, 15 from Himachal Pradesh, 17 from Punjab and 8 would be teachers. The objective of the course was to upgrade the skills of the teachers. Methods of teaching English, English Linguistics, English Phonetics and Phonology, Grammar and Usage were some of the subject taught. Special classes for Communication Skills were conducted during the course that included interview skills, time management, stress management, techniques of group discussion and overall personality development. The trainees were provided practice in using technology as an effective teaching tool and they were also taught how to use Internet classroom to enhance their teaching.

b. MA in English

The Department of Postgraduate Studies, RIE had an intake of twenty-nine students (twenty for MA I and nine for MA II) for the academic session 2011-12. The Department of Postgraduate Studies, RIE, aimed to provide comprehensive and extensive knowledge to the students of the post-graduation subjects in particular; and develop English language

skills in general, using the latest teaching methods and media. There was a motivational workshop on 5 August by an NGO – Make a Difference (MAD) in which students were motivated to do the social service by teaching slum children and orphans. The month of September witnessed the participation of two students (Amardeep of MAI and Simranjeet of MAII) in inter-college public speaking competitions at DevSamaj College in which Amardeep was awarded a cash prize for standing first and Simranjeet won a consolation prize. The students participated in inter-college poster-making and rangoli-making competitions at the Home Science College. On 18 October Inter-College Declamation Competition was organized in which Surbhi (MA Part II Student) won the 1st prize.

2. Project Based Courses

a. RIE Certificate Course in Personal Development 2011-12

The second batch of 'RIE Certificate Course in Personal Development' was commenced on 1 August in six Government Colleges of Chandigarh. Approximately **2900** final year students enrolled themselves for the course. The objective of the programme is enhance the employability of the final year students by honing their communication skills through different modules like Interview Skills, Group Discussion Skills, Presentation Skills, Public Speaking Skills, Phonetics & Phonology and Grammar.

b. C-Toss Programme (2011-12) for the Government Schools of Chandigarh

The C-Toss Programme was launched on 1 October with the objective of imparting soft-skills to the students of Government Schools of classes 9, 10 and 11. The course aimed to improve their communication skills and enhance their vocabulary. The programme is being conducted in sixteen government schools of Chandigarh. Topics like Subject and Verb Agreement, Pronouns, Irregular Verbs, Tenses, Presentation Skills (Extempore) were covered during the course. Two short courses for the C-TOSS Trainers were also conducted on using Technology in Research and Teaching and Learning Methodology. The focus of the first short course was on how to use Microsoft Tools i.e. Word, Excel and Power Point for research purposes whereas the second course aimed at imparting knowledge about diverse learning and teaching styles in Indian and USA classrooms. Approximately **2000** students enrolled themselves for the course

3. International Courses

a. Afghan University Students Exchange Programme (AUSEP) II for Women

Four weeks (6 February - 2 March) Afghan University Students Exchange Programme (AUSEP) II for Women was launched in the Institute The programme, funded by the US Department of State through their embassy in Kabul, was implemented by Asia Foundation — an international NGO. As part of the programme, **25** Afghan nationals — 23 students and two chaperons — were handpicked through interviews, written tests and also on the basis of their academic performance. The students represented Eight Afghan universities — Baghlan University, Balkh University, Balkh Education University, Herat University, Herat Education University, Kabul University, Kabul Education University and Nangahar University.

b. Afghan University Students Exchange Programme (AUSEP) II for Men

Four weeks (5 March- 31 March) Afghan University Students Exchange Programme (AUSEP) II for Men was launched in the Institute The programme, funded by the US Department of State through their embassy in Kabul, was implemented by Asia Foundation — an international NGO. As part of the programme, **26** Afghan nationals — 25 students and one chaperon — were handpicked through interviews, written tests and also on the basis of their academic performance. The students represented Eight Afghan universities — Baghlan

University, Balkh University, Balkh Education University, Herat University, Herat Education University, Kabul University, Kabul Education University and Nangahar University.

c. Online Programme on Interactive Communication Skills I

Institute has initiated its first 100 hour online programme to improve Interactive Communication Skills of the teacher trainees. The course content includes Initial Assessment, Diagnostic Test, Learning & Training in the Interactive Skills and Skill Check (Evaluation). 53 teacher trainees completed the course.

d. Online Programme on Interactive Communication Skills II

The Institute has also initiated its second 100 hour online programme to improve Interactive Communication Skills of the teacher trainees from 21 November – 18 February. The course content includes Initial Assessment, Diagnostic Test, Learning & Training in the Interactive Skills and Skill Check (Evaluation). **43** teacher trainees completed the course.

4. Short Courses in Teacher Education

a. One week training programme on Video Editing in Studio

One week training programme was organized for faculty members from PGGGC-42, on “Video Editing in Studio” from 23 May - 27 May. **Five** associate professors attended the programme.

b. 27th RIE - SSA, UT Course in ELT for Secondary School Teachers

An Intensive Teacher Training Course was organized by the Institute in collaboration with SSA, Chandigarh Administration from 2 June to 14 June. The course was structured to meet the needs of class 6-8 government school teachers working under SSA, UT. The training included Introduction to Communicative Language Teaching, Introduction to Pair/Group work and there was also some teaching of Group-Formation and Poster activity. There were informational sessions on Right to Education, National Curriculum Framework, Continuous Comprehensive Evaluation, Disaster Management and Stress Management. **38** teachers attended the 10-day programme.

c. 28th RIE - SSA, UT Course in ELT for Secondary School Teachers

An Intensive Teacher Training Course was organized by the Institute in collaboration with SSA, Chandigarh Administration from 2 June to 14 June. The course was structured to meet the needs of class 6-8 government school teachers working under SSA, UT. The training included Introduction to Communicative Language Teaching, Introduction to Pair/Group work and there was also some teaching of Group-Formation and Poster activity. There were informational sessions on Right to Education, National Curriculum Framework, Continuous Comprehensive Evaluation, Disaster Management and Stress Management. **39** teachers attended the 10-day programme.

d. Ten Day Teacher Training for Primary School Teachers of UT

A ten day teacher training Course was organized from 10 October to 21 October for primary school teachers of UT. The Course content included Methodology of Teaching of English, Phonetics and Phonology, Speech: Song and Rhymes to improve Pronunciation, Stress and Intonation, Critical Thinking skills, Classroom Instructions and Social Skills. **35** teacher trainees participated in the course.

e. One Week Communication Skills Course for Teacher Trainees from Bhopal.

17 teacher trainees participated in the course.

5. Short Courses for students

a. Summer Programme on Personal Development

The Institute launched a summer programme in the months of April, May and June in the government colleges of Chandigarh. The course was structured to meet the needs of school students (100 hours) and second year college students (50 hours). The course included training in areas like Speaking, Remedial Teaching, Correction of Errors, Writing, Presentation Skills, Personality Development and Reading. **290** school students and **165** second year college students completed the course.

b. Communication Skills Programme for the Government Schools of Chandigarh

The Institute at the direction of Sarv Siksha Abhiyan (SSA) and in collaboration with SPIC organized a 50 hour Communication Skills Programme for the students belonging to minority classes. The programme started on 1 June and continued till 30 June. **170** students were trained in six batches.

6. Other Projects

a. Multimedia Learning Lab: Computer Assisted Learning Laboratory

RIE was deputed by the Education Department, Chandigarh Administration to set up Multimedia Language Learning Labs in seven schools of Chandigarh. To familiarize the teachers with the new concepts of language lab the Institute conducted two one-day training-cum-workshops in the month of April. The language labs were set up in the month of June in all the seven schools. An onsite training of teachers in these schools on using language labs was held in the month of August.

b. Research in EFL Project

Research in EFL Project based on the academic content and classroom interaction with the participants of the four weeks Afghan University Students Exchange Programme (AUSEP) has been taken up by the RIE faculty. Research areas include ESP, Reading, Listening and Speaking, Testing and Evaluation: Writing, Grammar and Usage, Poetry: Creative Writing, Literature and Vocabulary, Methods and Technology: Writing, Information Seeking Behaviour and Pronunciation. The teams researching are in the phase of producing the final report.

c. Audio Project

The Institute initiated an Audio project with an objective to provide CDs (audio) along with the Textbook "Marigold" Book 1 to 5. These CDs will provide correct pronunciation to the teachers as well as students. Each CD will be divided in four parts i.e. Words, Phrases, Texts and Questions.

7. Seminar

a. 33rd All India Conference of Linguists

Institute acted as host on 2 October for the Second day of paper presentations of the 3 day All India Conference of Linguists. This was the 33rd edition of the conference, which was organized collectively by the Institute, English and Cultural Studies Department of Panjab University and Central Institute of Indian Language, Mysore. Various national and international experts offered a perspective on the teaching of English and mother tongue in the conference. Over 100 delegates from across the world attended the conference.

b. Library Centred Teaching in this Digital Era

Institute organised a one day seminar on "*Library Centred Teaching in this Digital Era*" on 31 January at its campus. The seminar focused on how students can use reference sources of

the library during their classroom teaching. 53 teacher trainees attended the seminar

8. Human Resource Development

- Dr Sharda Kaushik, Director presented a paper entitled “From Spoon Feeding to Learner Autonomy: Evaluating ESL Teacher Training” in “TESOL International Convention & English Language Expo” held at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA (28-31 March).
 - Dr Sharda Kaushik, Director presented a paper entitled “Reflections on Emotional Issues in E learning” in “33rd All India Conference of Linguists” held at RIE Chandigarh (1-3 October).
 - Dr Sharda Kaushik, Director presented a paper on Reflective Teacher’s Growth in Second Annual and First International Conference on “Reflective Teaching Practices in ESL Classrooms” organized by ELTAI-Delhi Chapter (an associate of IATEFL, UK) and Regional English Language Office (RELO) American Center, New Delhi (7-9 October).
 - Dr Sharda Kaushik, Director received an award for her contribution to the Architectonics of Teaching English by First Friday Forum Awards for Creative Excellence (FFFACE).
 - Dr Bindu Bajwa, Associate Professor participated in three week professional development programme in *Teacher Leadership* (25 July – 13 August) offered by University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC), USA.
 - Ms Vandana Lunyal, Associate Professor was invited as subject expert to provide academic inputs in the 10 day workshop organized by State Institute of Education - 32 for preparing five teaching modules prepared for teachers of primary classes.
 - James Stabler-Havener Senior English Language Fellow presented a paper on “Cultural Dimensions in the Language Classroom” organized in “33rd All India Conference of Linguists” held at RIE Chandigarh (1-3 October).
- * Papers of the faculty members were published in Journal of National and International reputation. Some of the faculty also presented papers in National Level Conferences.

Publication

- a. A CD-Rom for the Book titled “Springboard to Success” by Dr Sharda Kaushik, Director and Dr Bindu Bajwa, Associate Professor, was prepared by the Institute.
- b. RIE published the April Issue of its Bi-annual ISSN Numbered Journal (0976-1306) ‘*FELT: Focus on English Language Teaching*’ titled “Developing Writing Skill: Methods and Practices” under the Editorial Board of Dr Sharda Kaushik, Director (Chief Editor) and Dr Pooja Sharma, Assistant Professor (Editor).
- c. Book titled “*Distance Education: Expectations and Possibilities*” written by Ms Vandana Lunyal, Associate Professor was published by Lap Lambert Academic Publishing.

9. New Faculty in the Institute

- James Stabler-Havener from Pasadena (Calif.) joined the institute on 20 September as Senior English Language Fellow from Georgetown University and the U.S. State Department.