

# **SREE NARAYANA TRAINING COLLEGE**

**Nedunganda , Varkala**

**Affiliated to the University of Kerala, Recognized by UGC, NCTE, Re-Accredited  
by NAAC with A Grade**



## ***NATIONAL WEBINAR SERIES***

**"INTELLIGENTIA BEYOND DISCIPLINES: CROSS-DISCIPLINARY  
COLLABORATION IN EDUCATION 2024-25."**

**REPORT**

## SESSION 5

### QUALITY ASSURANCE IN HIGHER EDUCATION – GLOBAL TRENDS, CHALLENGES AND DEVELOPMENTS.

#### Valedictory Session

Date & Time: 29/05/2025 | 7:00 P.M.

Session: National Webinar Series – Phase IV, Session 5

Resource Person: Prof. (Dr.) Asha J.V., Head, Dept. Of Education, School of Pedagogical Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam

**Theme:** *Quality Assurance in Higher Education – Global Trends, Challenges and Developments*

The Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of Sree Narayana Training College, Nedunganda, successfully organized the Valedictory Session of Phase IV of the National Webinar Series titled "*Intelligentia Beyond Disciplines: Cross-Disciplinary Collaboration in Education 2024–25*" on 29th May 2025. The session was thematically focused on **“Quality Assurance in Higher Education – Global Trends, Challenges and Developments.”** This initiative reflected the institution's unwavering commitment to promoting academic excellence, fostering global relevance, and encouraging meaningful educational innovation.

The session commenced with the prayer by Ms. Gopika Nair from the Department of Social Science, setting a thoughtful and respectful tone for the event. Dr. Vij V. S., Assistant Professor of Physical Science Education, extended a warm welcome to the esteemed guests and participants, highlighting the significance of the theme in the current academic climate. Dr. Sangeetha N. R., Associate Professor and IQAC Coordinator, presented a concise overview of the webinar, summarizing the key discussions and insights. Prof. (Dr.) Sheeba P., Principal, Sree Narayana Training College, delivered the presidential address, emphasizing the need to revisit and reform quality benchmarks in higher education to align with global expectations.

## **Keynote Address Highlightes**

The keynote address was delivered by **Prof. (Dr.) Asha J.V.**, Head of the School of Pedagogical Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam. Her presentation provided a critical analysis of the **Challenges prevailing in the higher education systems of Kerala and India**, while proposing pragmatic strategies for improvement.

Prof. Dr. Asha J. V., in her presentation, highlighted several pressing challenges confronting the higher education sector today. She pointed out significant resource constraints, including limited infrastructural facilities, a persistent digital divide, and the lack of financial autonomy across many institutions. A growing trend of student migration to foreign countries was identified as a major concern, often driven by the lack of career-oriented courses that align with the evolving demands of the job market. Dr. Asha also emphasized the inconsistent implementation of academic reforms and quality assurance policies, which frequently remain confined to documentation due to weak monitoring mechanisms. The speaker noted critical gaps in faculty preparedness, particularly in terms of continuous professional development necessary to keep pace with new pedagogical innovations. Additionally, fragmentation in curriculum design, marked by outdated models and sluggish adoption of interdisciplinary and skill-based learning, was discussed as a barrier to holistic education. She also raised concerns about existing assessment and accreditation practices, urging the need for more institution-specific and context-sensitive evaluation frameworks. Lastly, she expressed apprehension regarding the Integrated Teacher Education Programme (ITEP), calling for deeper scrutiny and alignment with the broader educational objectives.

Prof. Asha's keynote encouraged participants to envision higher education institutions as dynamic, inclusive, and globally responsive hubs of learning that are deeply rooted in local contexts yet open to global influences.

The valedictory address was delivered by **Sri. Aji S.R.M.**, Executive Member, S.N. Trust, Kollam. He commended the initiative for addressing critical issues in higher education and reaffirmed the Trust's support in promoting academic excellence and social relevance.

The event concluded with a heartfelt vote of thanks by Dr. Chitra S., Assistant Professor, Department of General Education, expressing gratitude to all dignitaries, speakers, faculty, and participants for their valuable contributions. The session reinforced the need for cross-disciplinary collaboration and globally aligned quality benchmarks in higher education. It encouraged

educators and institutions to reimagine their roles in shaping future-ready learners and institutions rooted in quality, inclusivity, and innovation.



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