

NIRMALA LEARNING HUB: A CAPACITY BUILDING INITIATIVE



INSTITUTIONAL DISTINCTIVENESS 2019-20 NIRMALA LEARNING HUB: A Capacity Building Initiative

Nirmala College was established in 1953 and it has now become one of the premier educational institutions in India. The college is known for its high academic standards and the students bag university ranks on a continuous basis. In tune with the vision statement 'Academic Excellence with Integrity of Character', the college imparts value-based education for the last 67 years.

Nirmala Learning Hub is an initiative for capacity building envisaged by the IQAC of the college to provide academic exposure and develop 21st century skills among faculty members and students of the college and the academic fraternity outside the college as well. The initiative was started with the following objectives.

- To function as an academic extension wing of the college.
- To act as a teaching learning centre for the neighbouring colleges.
- To equip both the in-house and outside faculty members as per the requirements of curricular reforms.
- To provide academic support to the teachers across the state when new curriculum is introduced.
- To collaborate with reputed institutions for skill development of students and organize student development programmes.

The activities done as part of this initiative during this academic year are mentioned below.

1. Academic Extension through Curriculum Workshops

The college organised three curriculum workshops for newly introduced courses for teachers in the university. On 17.08.2019, the college organised a state level workshop for teachers on 'Project Guidance - A Practical Approach'. 55 teachers from other colleges participated in the event. On 04.09.2019, the college organised one-day state level curriculum workshop on 'Applied Learning of Accounting Standards' in collaboration with Institute of Chartered Accountants of India, Ernakulam Chapter. 33 teachers from other teachers who teach 'Specialised Accounting' in Master of Commerce Programme Participated in the

programme. On 27.11.2019, the college organised another workshop on 'Teaching SPSS at Undergraduate Level'. 42 faculty members from other colleges attended the programme.

2. Student Development Initiatives

The college organised 'One Day Workshop on GST' for students as it is being introduced in the new curriculum. In the programme, hands on training was given to the students. Training sessions were given to the students on 'Digital Banking' in collaboration with State Bank of India. The college organised a 'Theatre Workshop' during 23.08.2020 - 24.08.2020 to impart acting skills among students. 25 students benefited from the programme.

3. Skill Based Certificate Courses

During this academic year, seven new certificate courses are added to promote the employability and entrepreneurial skills of the student community. It includes Introduction to SAS, Foundation Programme on Banking and Finance, Robotics and Artificial Intelligence, News Paper Designing, etc.

4. <u>Digital Skills for Teachers</u>

During this academic year, five faculty development programmes were organised by the college solely focusing on improving the digital skills of the teaching community. It includes the NAAC Sponsored National Seminar on 'Integration of Technology in Teaching, Learning and Evaluation Processes' during 30.09.2019 to 01.10.2019. Hands on training sessions were given to the teachers on Moodle, Preparation of Online Materials, etc.

5. Student Solar Ambassador Programme

As part of the Student Solar Ambassador (SSA) Programme of the MHRD and IIT Mumbai, the college trained 475 students of the college and 195 students of neighbouring schools in assembling solar lamps. Students from five neighbouring schools participated in the event.

6. Academic Integrity among Students and Teachers

The college has organised many programmes to instil academic integrity among teachers and students. A faculty development on 'Research Ethics and Plagiarism' was conducted on 05.11.2019. Following this, teachers gave sessions to the postgraduate students on various aspects of plagiarism at department level.

