



St. Joseph's College of Commerce (Autonomous)

Affiliated to Bengaluru City University

Accredited with A++ Grade by NAAC in 4th Cycle (CGPA of 3.57/4)

College with Potential for Excellence (CPE)

Ranked 93rd in NIRF 2022 by the Ministry of Education, Government of India

#183, Brigade Road, Bengaluru - 560025, Karnataka, India



Conference Proceedings

NAAC Sponsored

One Day National Level Conference

On

**Innovation and Quality Enhancement in
Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in the Context of
the National Education Policy (NEP) - 2020**



St. Joseph's College of Commerce (Autonomous)

Affiliated to Bengaluru City University

Accredited with "A++" Grade by NAAC 4th Cycle (CGPA of 3.57/4)

College with Potential for Excellence

Ranked 65th in NIRF 2023 by the Ministry of Education, Government of India

#163, Brigade Road, Bengaluru- 560 025, Karnataka, India

Phone: 080 – 25360644/46 Fax: 080 – 25540378

Email: info@sjcc.edu.in

Website: sjcc.edu.in

NAAC sponsored

One Day National Level Conference

**Innovation and Quality enhancement in Higher Educational Institutions in
the context of NEP 2020**

17April 2023

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

The Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of SJCC organised a NAAC sponsored One Day National Level Conference on "Innovation and quality enhancement in Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in the context of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020". The conference was held on April 17, 2023, with participation from several colleges across India. The theme of the National Conference was to outline the vision for a new educational system in India and make an attempt to answer the question of how NEP 2020 will serve as milestones in achieving the country's inclusive development goals in the field of higher education. There were 40 participants and paper presenters. An added attraction were participants from places

like Andhra Pradesh, Bhopal, Coimbatore, Pune, Chennai, Kerala, and Mysore. Dr. Charles Lasrado SJ, principal and patron, delivered the welcome address and stressed the relevance of the conference in today's context of education. Dr. A M Sheela, convenor of the conference, introduced the Vice Chancellor of St. Joseph's University Bangalore, Father Victor Lobo SJ, and the keynote address speaker, Dr. N R Bhanumurthy, Vice Chancellor of Dr. B R Ambedkar School of Economics University Bengaluru (BASE University). The principal also felicitated Father Victor Lobo and Dr. N. R. Bhanumurthy.

Rev. Dr. Victor Lobo presented the inaugural address for the conference. Father elaborated on the significance of NEP and how it fosters creativity, inclusivity, and a holistic approach to learning, embraces changes, and has set out to shape and lay the foundations for India's future to be brighter.

The keynote address for the conference was delivered by Dr. N. R. Bhanumurthy, Vice Chancellor of the B. R. Ambedkar School of Economics University, Bengaluru (BASE). He addressed the crowd by stating that the New Education Policy, 2020 (the NEP, hereinafter) was a pivotal move for the Indian Education System, and implementation of the same would be very challenging, however, it will also bring about transformative change in the educational sphere.

Dr. Bhanumurthy went on to say that the NEP document is the most simplistic, inclusive, and flexible document to be implemented, when compared to any UGC guidelines or orders received. One extremely helpful benefit of the NEP, as he rightly pointed out, is that learning is no longer restricted to four walls. The educational horizon has broadened in a much bigger way.

Dr. Bhanumurthy's keynote address also outlined the taking-off challenges of the NEP, one of which is the system of transfer. Where applications for lateral entry (transfer from one institution to another, as allowed by the NEP) have already started, the speaker rightly pointed out that a few guidelines on how to go about the same must be released by the UGC and/or other institutions. He also touched upon the hurried implementation of the same in many universities, where the proper systems and technologies weren't in place. Dr. Bhanumurthy concluded by saying that universities must adopt the NEP wholeheartedly, as it provides them with a clean slate by revolutionising the institutions' flexibility, competitiveness, and overall quality.

Technical Session 1: NEP 2020 and Interdisciplinary Education

Dr. Mukhta, a professor at SJCC, moderated the first session, and Dr. Joseph Dorairaj, a professor and chancellor at Gandhi Gramme Rural University, conducted it. Dr. Dorairaj spoke about the New Education Policy 2020 and the importance of an interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary education at the UG and Ph.D. levels with Multidisciplinary Education and Research Universities (MERUS) established in every district. Sir gave us an overview of the policy: the goal, the challenges, and the solution to tackle these issues. He spoke about how the education ecosystem in India today is fragmented into various departments and sections, and there is a lack of interaction. Going forward, our country requires a more holistic approach to education that not only focuses on the intellectual aspect of education but also the creative, analytic, emotional, philosophical, aesthetic, and ethical aspects of a student's development. He also spoke about the importance of differentiation between research-intensive universities, as given by Humboldt, a German scholar, and teaching intensive universities to help students develop. He says an interdisciplinary education is of higher recommendation as compared to a multidisciplinary education, as an interdisciplinary education allows interactions among the various sectors, which will provide a holistic development for a student. He concluded the session by talking about how giving excessive importance to vocational education in comparison to liberal education will prove detrimental to our education system.

Technical Session 2: NEP Challenges and Ways Forward

Technical Session 2 was presided over by Dr. Prasad, Academic Head at ICFAI University, Hyderabad, and moderated by Dr. Raja Jebasingh. Dr. Prasad very eloquently put across his points with regards to employability and higher education institutions and how the NEP was a document that provided a vision for a new way forward. There is also a great change that has come about from previous generations to this generation, older generations preferred stability and held jobs for longer, but today's generation wants to explore their options. But what does this mean for employability? Earlier, the burden of training young employees was put on corporate institutions, but in today's competitive environment, higher education institutions need to assume responsibility and take a holistic and multidisciplinary approach to education, training, and development. There is a stark difference between students in elite institutions and those in other institutions, students in elite institutions are self-driven and ambitious, but there

is a need for training and development for other students to make them job ready. There is a promise of innovation and change that has come into play. Complex blend of skill, attitude, experience, motivation, and interest underpinned by the ability to learn and to apply that learning to the challenges that work presents. In order to remain employable, one must learn to learn. Employability is not only about economic ends, NIRF measures jobs, salaries, and the number of students.

Technical Session 3: Quality Enhancement in HEI in the Context of NEP Implementation

The technical session was conducted by Dr. Parimala Veluvali, Director of Online Education, Symbiosis School for Online and Distance Learning, Pune, on the topic "Quality Enhancement in HEI in the Context of NEP Implementation." The moderator of the session was Syed Wajeed. The session mainly covered why quality education is important in today's world, where there are thousands of other universities that provide the same courses. She also spoke about how NEP is student centric and how they focus on the personality development of the student. NEP also focuses on creating a better mental and emotional environment for the student.

Session 4 : Paper Presentations

After the technical session, the paper presentations were organised, where several academicians and research scholars presented their perspectives on various aspects of NEP. One of the participants, Ann Kuruvalli, presented on NEP and the multidisciplinary approach in higher education institutions. She talked about how few colleges are equipped to provide students with interdisciplinary courses.

She also talked about how, by the end of a course, the student should have acquired a mindset that lets them be a critical thinker. She concluded by saying that the institution should make changes in their curriculum to let their students have a more cognitive approach.

Another research paper titled "Relevance of Community Engagement in NEP 2020" was presented by Rajeemol TR. She emphasised how community engagement is very important to the development of an individual.

Ms. S. Jayashree presented a paper titled "Enhancing Employability in Higher Education Institutions through the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 India". She spoke about how

the NEP 2020 recognises the importance of developing these employability skills in students and encourages higher education institutions to adopt innovative pedagogical approaches that can facilitate their development.

The National Conference concluded with a valedictory ceremony.

St. Joseph's College of Commerce is one of the first institutions in the state to implement the NEP. The institution conducts continuous interactions with academicians within and outside the institution to adhere to the changing guidelines of the NEP. Participants and their paper presentations have made the organisers understand that change in the education system with its varied challenges is the need of the times, and when the changes are implemented, in the right spirit, they can benefit the future stakeholders, which are the students.

Some of the outcomes of the conference would be to

1. Deliberations on strengthening the education ecosystem of HEIs on quality and innovation
2. To make the HEIs focus on the implementation of the National Education Policy 2020
3. To implement more skill-based courses at the undergraduate level.
4. To make the academic bank of credits more adaptable to the student community in order to bring in flexibility
5. Various skill based programmes and multidisciplinary courses are to be initiated at the undergraduate level through appropriate approvals at the board of academic and governing councils of the institutions. To make the course attractive in the fourth year of the Honours program which would enthuse student to continue their higher education.



Participants Registration



Lighting of lamp by the Dignitaries



Principal Rev. Dr. Charles Lasrado S.J addresses the gathering



Felicitation of the Chief guest



Address by Keynote Speaker Dr Bhanumurthy



Release of Conference Compendium of the National Conference 2023



Technical Session -1 Speaker Dr Joseph DoraiRaj



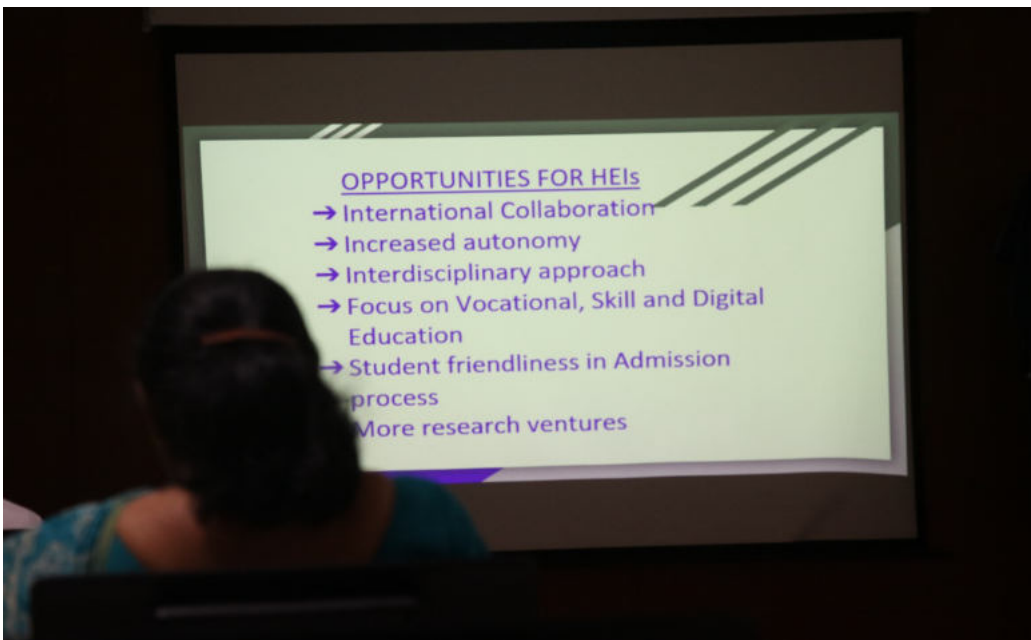
Participants at the conference



Technical Session -2 Speaker Dr Prasad



Technical Session - 3 Speaker Dr ParimalaVeluvalli



Paper presentation



Participants receiving certificates

