

Report of the Two Day Training cum Workshop for Faculty on Objective Based Evaluation in Higher Education Organized by Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), Mahatma Gandhi University, Priyadarshini Hills, Kottayam

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The Internal Quality Assurance Cell(IQAC), Mahatma Gandhi University conducted a two day training cum workshop for the faculty of the different Schools and Centres of the University on Objective Based Evaluation in Higher Education on 31st Jan-1st Feb 2019 in Seminar Hall, School of Pure and Applied Physics, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam. The main aim of the workshop was to provide the faculty an insight to prepare questions that test the acquisition of programme objectives in tune with programme outcomes, which is found lacking in the present day evaluation which is reflected in the question papers. At present the Course Objectives, Programme Objectives and Programme Outcomes have little coordination. The two day workshop has given hands-on training to the science and non-science faculty members in separate sessions on the first and second days respectively in framing quality questions which tests the extent of realization of the Course Outcomes. The formal inauguration of the Workshop cum Training Programme was done by Prof. (Dr.) Sabu Thomas, Hon. Vice Chancellor, Mahatma Gandhi University. In the inaugural session on 31st Jan 2019, Dr. K. M. Krishnan, Member (Syndicate & IQAC) & Head and Professor, School of Letters welcomed the august gathering. In the inaugural address, Prof. (Dr.) Sabu Thomas, Hon. Vice Chancellor, Mahatma Gandhi University, pointed out the importance of Objective Based Evaluation in improving the quality of programmes as well as that of the students. The Inaugural session was enriched by the felicitation by Dr. R. Pragash, Syndicate Member & Asso. Professor, Govt. College, Kottayam and the presence of the faculty members of different schools and centres. The session ended with vote of thanks proposed by Prof. (Dr.) Asha J.V., Coordinator of the workshop and Professor, SPS, Mahatma Gandhi University. She reminded the participants about the paradigm shift in education from general education to education driven by open markets in which the main aim of education is to help students to acquire Minimum Level Skills (MLS), where the teachers should have futuristic perspectives to help the learners to fulfill their future prospects. The resource person for the sessions was Prof. (Dr.) E. Ramganes, Head, Dept. of Educational Technology & Chair, School of Education, Bharathidasan University, Thiruchirappally, Tamil Nadu. In the morning there was a thematic session, in which he explained the Prospects of Objective Assessment in Higher Education. He gave a detailed description regarding the purpose of examination reforms. He detailed the three levels of Outcome Based Evaluation namely, Programme Educational Outcomes (PEO), Programme Outcomes (PO) and Course Objectives (CO). He has illustrated the three levels with adequate examples. After that he has presented the attributes and types of question paper. Training for constructing a good test was also given to the participants in the technical session in the afternoon. The faculties were grouped according to the subjects taught. They were given worksheets, which consists of two sections. The first section was about objective assessment where each faculty group was asked to write PEO, PO and CO based on the programme selected by them. In the second section, the group had to decide a unit of the course and construct a total of 18 questions giving weightage to each forms. They have to clarify the level of cognitive objectives and its relation to CO and PO. After this, at 3.30 pm presentation by faculty groups were done. A discussion was carried out based on the presentations. The participants could give suggestions and express their observations. After the concluding remarks by the resource person the session ended on both the days. After the presentation on the second day, there was a feedback session followed by the valedictory session in which the certificates were distributed to all the participants.

