

Public Financial Management System Training for the College Staff (Organized by the IQAC)

Radical transformations are underway since the Modi-led Government of India announced Demonetization on 8th November 2016. Digital money transfers had been the buzz word for all those handled money irrespective of the denominations. From petty shops to corporates, housewives to CEO, everyone is adapting themselves to the new ways of digital era. Following this, a year ago, University Grants Commission announced that every paisa that an Institution receives from any Government Funding Agency must be accounted for through digital money transfers. An online web-based Financial Management software called Public Financial Management System, popularly known as PFMS was launched by the Ministry of Finance, Govt. of India for all those organizations and institutions that receive funds from Govt. agencies and to whom they are to submit audited reports of the expenditures incurred in the execution of the relevant projects. But, there has been a slack in the usage of this PFMS portal, for which a Two-Day workshop has been organized by the Internal Quality Assurance Cell of National College (Autonomous), Tiruchirapalli on 26th and 27th November 2019 in the College premises. The inaugural function was held on 26th November, 2019 at 9.30 am at seminar hall. A large group of participants from over 38 Colleges participated. Among them were Principals of institutions, Assistant Professors, Bursars, Office Superintendents and other Non-Teaching staff who were either involved in disbursing the Grants from the Government funding agencies or responsible for preparation of Utilization Certificates and Statement of Expenditures of various funded projects. Shri. S. Francis, Senior Accounts Officer, (Technology Division), from the Ministry of Finance, PFMS along with Prof. P. Mehalingam, Nodal Officer, PFMS, VHNSN College, Virudhunagar were the resource persons for the two-day workshop in the PFMS web-based portal. Principal of National College, Dr. R. Sundararaman welcomed the gathering at the Inaugural function and honoured the resource persons. Prof. P. Mehalingam, in his talk reminded that the funding agencies announced several times that they would not entertain proposals and grant funds if the Institutions did not make use of PFMS portals for the submission of expenditure details. He said, "A number of such programs are being organized in various parts of the country to create awareness." Mr. S. Francis, in his talk,

mentioned, "The PFMS portal may be quite complicated to start with. However, it is the easiest way of managing funds as per the regulations. Such workshop training is essential in order to make the users familiar with the procedures." Prof. M.S. Mohamed Jaabir, Coordinator of IQAC and also the event, thanked everyone for gracing the occasion. The workshop was regarded highly crucial where several modules regarding linking of institutional bank account, various schemes, fixing vendors, making transfers between bank accounts and many other tools and online fund transfer issues were demonstrated for all the trainees. Every participant was asked to log into their respective institutional PFMS account. Participants highly appreciated the efforts taken by the host institution and the resource persons for giving such an opportunity to upgrade themselves in their professional demands. PFMS issues faced by the institutions were resolved by the representatives.