INTERNAL QUALITY ASSURANCE CELL

Report on

One Day National-Level Colloquium on "Role of Artificial Intelligence in Sustaining Quality in HEIs"

Date	:	28.02.2026
Mode	:	Online – Microsoft Teams
Time	:	10:00 am to 4:30 pm
Organized By	:	Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) and Academic Staff College (ASC)
Target Audience	:	Faculty from KLEF, Other Higher Education Institutions I India and Abroad

Workshop Brochure:

ABOUT US

Koneru Lakshmaiah Education Foundation (KLEF) is a premier Indian university recognized as a Category 1 institution by the UGC, committed to excellence in education, research, and innovation. Consistently ranked among India's top universities, KLEF holds strong positions in NIRF, QS, and Times Higher Education rankings, reflecting its global academic and sustainability impact. The university offers diverse undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral programs supported by highly qualified faculty, advanced laboratories, smart classrooms, industry skill centers, and eco-friendly campuses. Research at KLEF focuses on emerging fields such as artificial intelligence, clean energy, and sustainable development, contributing through funded projects, patents, and scholarly publications aligned with global goals. Strong industry integration, global collaborations, and innovative teaching aligned with national reforms enhance student learning and employability. With excellent placements, vibrant campus life, entrepreneurship support, and active community engagement, KLEF continues to nurture globally competent, socially responsible leaders.

In NIRF 2025, KLEF ranks 26 among all universities, 35 in engineering, 46 overall, 70 in management, and falls in the 11–50 band for innovation. In QS Sustainability 2026, it holds a global rank of 1500+, with 1251+ in social and environmental impact and 1039 in governance; QS Asia 2026 places it in the 741–750 band and 224 in Southern Asia. THE rankings include 801–1000 globally (2026), 301–305 in Asia (2025), 401–500 in Interdisciplinary Science, and Bronze Tier in Online Learning. THE Impact Rankings 2025 position it 601–800 overall. Supported by advanced infrastructure, strong research in AI and clean energy, global partnerships, and excellent placements, KLEF fosters innovation, sustainability, and globally competent graduates.

THE COLLOQUIUM

A colloquium on the Role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Sustaining Quality in Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) was organized to explore how emerging technologies are transforming teaching, learning, research, and institutional management. The event brought together academicians, researchers, administrators, quality assurance experts, and students to deliberate on the opportunities and challenges of AI integration in higher education.

OBJECTIVE OF THE WORKSHOP

The primary objectives were:

- To understand how AI can enhance academic quality and institutional performance. To examine AI-driven tools for teaching, assessment, and research.
- To discuss ethical considerations and responsible AI usage.
- To explore policy frameworks for sustainable AI adoption in HEIs.

SCHEDULE

Time	Event
10.00 am	Inauguration (Jyothi prajwalan, Prayer)
10.05 am	Opening Remarks by Dr. K. Ramakrishna, Dean – Quality
10.10 am	Welcome Address by Dr. G. P. Saradhi Varma, Vice Chancellor
Session – 1	
10.15 am	Keynote Address by Resource person – I Dr. Rajat Gupta Topic: **Role of Artificial Intelligence in Sustaining Quality in HEIs**
11.15 am	Interactive session: Questions & Answers
	11.30 am – 11.45 am - BREAK
Session – II	
11.45 am	Keynote Address by Resource person – II, **Dr. Neelam Sinha** Topic: **Effect of AI on Higher Education Quality**
12.45 pm	Interactive session: Questions & Answers
	1.00 pm – 2.00 pm –LUNCH BREAK
Session – III	
2.00 pm	Keynote Address by Resource person – III, **Dr. Muhammad Azahar Abas** Topic: **Strategic Sharing session on Global University Rankings: QS & THE World University Rankings (WUR)**
3.30 pm	Interactive session: Questions & Answers
3.45 pm	Address by Dr. K. S. Jagannadha Rao, Pro Chancellor
4.00 pm	Concluding Remarks by Prof. of Mech Engg. & Assoc. Dean – Quality Dr. K.V. Narasimha Rao
4.15 pm	National Anthem

1. Preamble

The rapid advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AI) has significantly transformed the higher education landscape across the globe. Universities and higher education institutions are increasingly leveraging AI-driven tools and analytics to enhance academic quality, governance, research productivity, learner engagement, and global visibility. In this context, the **1-Day National Level Colloquium–2026** on *"Role of Artificial Intelligence in Sustaining Quality in Higher Education Institutions (HEIs)"* was conceptualized and organized with the objective of creating a national-level platform for dialogue, reflection, and capacity building among academicians, administrators, and quality professionals.

The colloquium was designed to deliberate on contemporary challenges in quality assurance, the integration of AI in academic and administrative processes, and the evolving expectations of accreditation agencies and global ranking systems. With participation from faculty members, IQAC coordinators, researchers, and academic leaders from various institutions, the event served as an important academic forum for sharing best practices, strategic insights, and future-ready perspectives.

2. Objectives of the Colloquium

The primary objectives of the colloquium were:

- To understand the role of Artificial Intelligence in sustaining and enhancing quality in HEIs.
- To explore AI-enabled approaches in teaching–learning, assessment, research, and institutional governance.
- To familiarize participants with global trends in quality assurance and benchmarking.
- To provide strategic insights into QS and THE World University Rankings and the role of data analytics and AI in improving institutional performance.
- To encourage dialogue and interaction among academicians and administrators on future-ready quality frameworks.

The Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) and Academic Staff College (ASC) jointly organized a **One Day National-Level Colloquium on "Role of Artificial Intelligence in Sustaining Quality in HEIs"** in online mode using MS Teams platform on 28th February 2026. The Colloquium was inaugurated virtually at 10 am with Jyoti Prajwalana.
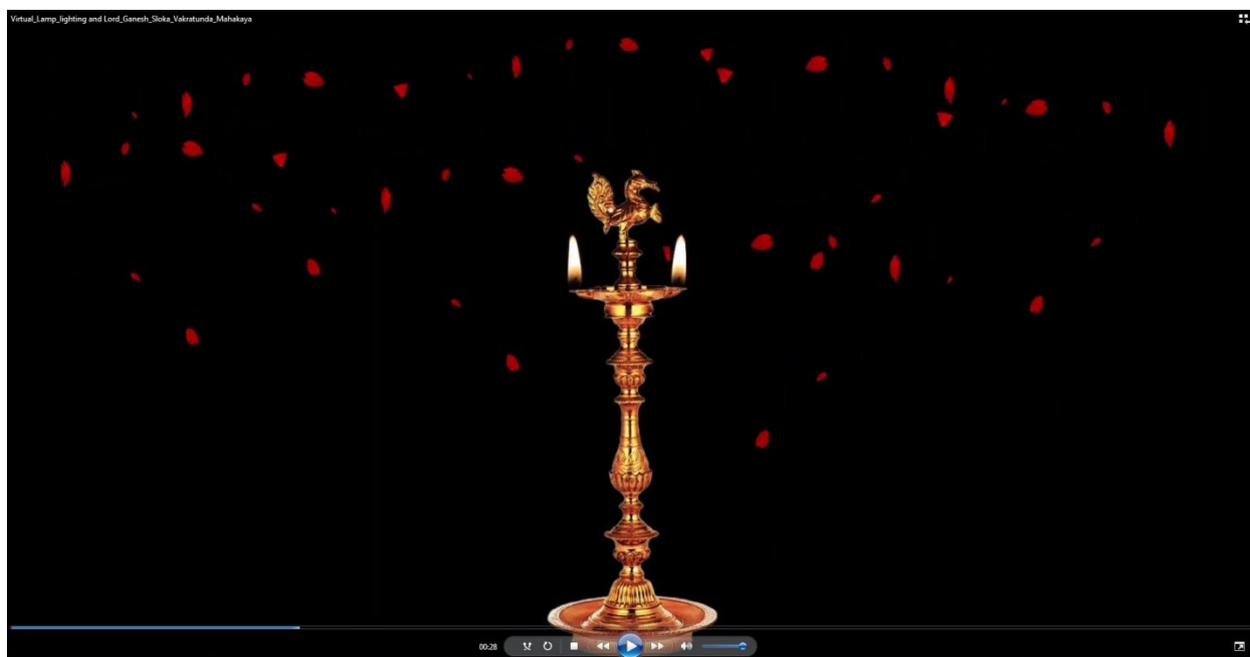

Photo: Jyoti-prajwalan

3. Inaugural Session

The Programme commenced at 10.00 a.m. with **Jyothi Prajwalana and prayer**, symbolizing the auspicious beginning of an intellectually enriching academic event. The inaugural session set the tone for the colloquium by highlighting the importance of innovation, digital transformation, and quality culture in higher education.

The **Opening Remarks** were delivered by **Dr. K. Ramakrishna, Dean – Quality**, who emphasized that quality in higher education is no longer confined to compliance-based mechanisms. He underlined the need for predictive analytics, evidence-based planning, and AI-driven monitoring systems to ensure continuous quality improvement. He also highlighted the relevance of AI in strengthening Internal Quality Assurance Cells (IQACs) and outcome-based education frameworks.

This was followed by the **Welcome Address** by **Dr. G. P. Saradhi Varma, Vice-Chancellor**, who extended a warm welcome to the resource persons and participants. In his address, he stressed that Artificial Intelligence has emerged as a strategic enabler for

academic excellence, institutional transparency, and global competitiveness. He encouraged participants to actively engage with the sessions and reflect on how AI can be effectively integrated into their respective institutions.

Dr. K. V. Narasimha Rao, Associate Dean Quality, introduced the Chief Guest and Resource person, Dr. Prof. Rajat Gupta to the participants.


Professor Gupta is a **national scholarship holder** and earned his **Ph.D. from IIT Delhi**. He has had a highly distinguished academic career spanning nearly three decades, serving as **Professor (HAG) in the Department of Mechanical Engineering at NIT Silchar**. His leadership credentials are equally remarkable—he has served as the **Director of NIT Srinagar, NIT Mizoram, and NIT Silchar**, contributing significantly to institutional development and academic excellence.

A prolific researcher and mentor, Professor Gupta has successfully guided **17 Ph.D. scholars**, with several more currently pursuing doctoral research under his supervision. He holds **two patents** and has published **over 200 research papers** in reputed national and international journals and conferences. His research interests include **thermo-fluids, computational fluid dynamics (CFD), and non-conventional energy systems**.

Professor Gupta has chaired and delivered keynote addresses at numerous national and international conferences. His contributions have been recognized with several prestigious honors, including the **Education Leadership Award**, **Rajiv Gandhi Education Excellence Award**, and the title of **Eminent Engineering Personality** by the Institution of Engineers (India) in 2021. Notably, he has also been **recognized among the top 2% of scientists worldwide**, as a testament to his global research impact. Dr. K. V. Narasimha Rao thanked the Guest and invited him to take the session.

4. Technical Session I: AI and Quality Sustainability in HEIs

Gist of the presentation:
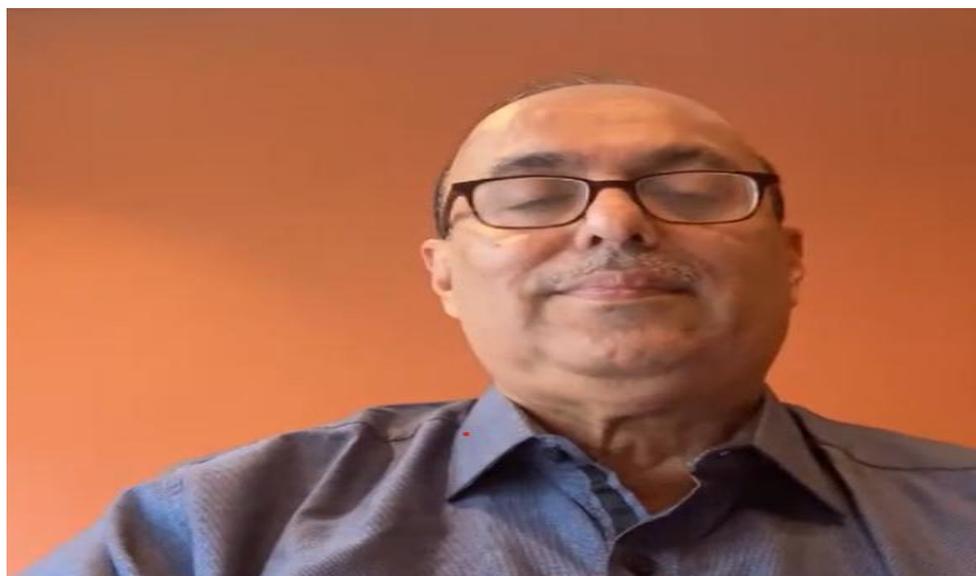
In his keynote address, Dr. Rajat Gupta provided a comprehensive overview of how AI is redefining quality assurance mechanisms in higher education. He elaborated on the transition from traditional, retrospective quality models to proactive and predictive quality systems enabled by AI. The keynote highlighted the following key dimensions:

- **AI in Teaching–Learning Processes:** The speaker discussed adaptive learning platforms, intelligent tutoring systems, and personalized learning pathways that cater to diverse learner needs. He emphasized that AI-driven learning analytics can help faculty identify learning gaps and improve student outcomes.

- **AI in Assessment and Evaluation:** Dr. Gupta explained how AI-based assessment tools support continuous evaluation, rubric-based grading, plagiarism detection, and feedback automation, thereby enhancing fairness, transparency, and efficiency.

- **AI in Quality Assurance and Accreditation:** The address highlighted the use of dashboards, data visualization tools, and automated report generation for accreditation processes such as NAAC, NBA, and international accreditations.

- **AI in Institutional Governance:** He emphasized the role of AI in decision-making, resource optimization, student retention strategies, and risk management.

The speaker provided practical insights and emphasized the importance of capacity building and changing management.

5. Technical Session II: Impact of AI on Higher Education Quality

After a short break, the second technical session commenced with the introduction of the keynote speaker by Dr. P. Lakshmi Prasanna, Associate Dean-Quality. The session featured the **Keynote Address by Dr. Neelam Sinha, Associate Professor, Centre for Brain Research, IISc, Bengaluru**, on the *"Effect of AI on Higher Education Quality."*

Brief profile of Dr. Neelam Sinha:

Prof. Neelam Sinha is currently serving as an **Professor at the Centre for Brain Research, Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru**. She earned her PhD from IISc in 2008, where her doctoral research focused on strategies for rapid MR imaging—an area that laid the foundation for her impactful career in medical imaging and healthcare analytics.

Her professional journey includes valuable industry experience with **GE Healthcare**, followed by a significant academic tenure at **IIIT Bangalore**, where her research addressed real-world healthcare challenges involving surgical video analysis, fundal imaging, and neuro-data analytics. She has successfully executed a **DST-funded project on resting-state fMRI for brain characterization** and has collaborated extensively with premier institutions such as **NIMHANS** on advanced problems including age estimation using diffusion MRI, analysis of Parkinson's disease variants, and chromosomal mutation detection in low-grade glioma.

Prof. Sinha has also contributed to industry-sponsored and state-funded initiatives, including projects on visual functioning networks using fMRI time-series data and EEG-based analysis of abstract cognitive traits such as creativity. She joined the **Centre for Brain Research, IISc**, in July 2023 and continues to make significant contributions to interdisciplinary brain research.

An accomplished mentor, Prof. Sinha has guided numerous postgraduate students and interns. Under her supervision, her students have received international recognition, including multiple paper acceptances at **IEEE ISBI 2024** and awards at national digital health symposia.

With **over 106 research publications in reputed international SCI journals**, Prof. Neelam Sinha's scholarly contributions have had a profound impact on the fields of neuroimaging, machine learning, and healthcare research.

Gist of the presentation:

Dr. Neelam Sinha's address focused on the pedagogical and academic dimensions of AI adoption in higher education. She highlighted how AI is reshaping curriculum design, instructional delivery, assessment strategies, and faculty roles. Key aspects of her presentation included:

- **Curriculum Innovation:** The speaker emphasized the need for AI-integrated curricula that promote interdisciplinary learning, digital literacy, and future skills.
- **Faculty Empowerment:** She discussed how AI tools can support faculty in instructional design, content creation, and learner analytics, enabling a shift from content delivery to mentorship and facilitation.
- **Student Engagement and Support:** The role of chatbots, virtual assistants, and early warning systems in improving student engagement, counseling, and retention was elaborated.
- **Quality Culture and Continuous Improvement:** Dr. Sinha highlighted that AI should be viewed as a quality enabler rather than a replacement for human judgment. She stressed the importance of ethical AI, inclusivity, and transparency in quality systems.

Lunch Break

6. Technical Session III: Global University Rankings – QS & THE

The post-lunch session featured a strategic sharing session by **Dr. Muhammad Azahar Abas, Director, Research Impact Centre, Universiti Malaysia Kelantan, Malaysia**. The session focused on *"Global University Rankings: QS and THE World University Rankings (WUR)."*

Mr. M. Lakshmana Kumar, Associate Dean Quality introduced Professor Azahar Abas to the participants.

Brief profile of Dr. Muhamad Azahar Abas:
Dr. Muhamad Azahar Abas is a distinguished academic leader currently serving as the **Director of the Research Impact Centre** at **Universiti Malaysia Kelantan (UMK)**. With a strategic focus on institutional excellence, he has been a pivotal figure in driving UMK's global standing and research visibility.

Since 2021, Dr. Azahar has been deeply involved in the management and strategic planning of **UMK's University Rankings**, navigating the complexities of international benchmarks to enhance the university's academic footprint. His expertise spans across the methodologies of major ranking bodies, particularly the **QS World University Rankings** and **THE (Times Higher Education) World University Rankings**.

Under his leadership at the Research Impact Centre, he focuses on optimizing research output, citation impact, and data-driven strategies to ensure sustainable quality

assurance in higher education. As an expert in institutional performance, Dr. Azahar is passionate about sharing insights on how universities can strategically align their internal processes with global excellence standards.

Gist of the presentation:

Dr. Abas provided a global perspective on ranking methodologies, performance indicators, and the growing importance of data accuracy and analytics. He explained the key parameters of QS and THE rankings, including academic reputation, employer reputation, research impact, citations, internationalization, and sustainability metrics.

The speaker emphasized the following points:

- **Strategic Alignment:** Institutions must align their academic and research strategies with ranking indicators without compromising their core mission.
- **Role of AI and Analytics:** AI-driven data management systems play a critical role in tracking performance, improving research visibility, and enhancing institutional reputation.
- **Research Impact and Collaboration:** The importance of high-quality publications, international collaborations, and societal impact was highlighted.
- **Long-Term Perspective:** Dr. Abas cautioned against short-term ranking-driven approaches and advocated for sustainable quality enhancement.

7. Valedictory Session

The valedictory session marked the formal conclusion of the colloquium. The session began with the introduction of **Dr. BTP Madhav, Dean (R&D)**, who addressed the gathering and highlighted the importance of integrating AI into research management, innovation ecosystems, and industry collaboration.

Mr. M. Lakshmana Kumar, Associate Dean Quality introduced Professor Azahar Abas to the participants.

Brief profile of Professor B. T. P. Madhav:

Dr. B. T. P. Madhav is working as Professor and Dean (R&D) at KLEF. He has 22 years of teaching and research experience. He has published more than 696 papers in International, National journals and Conferences. Scopus and SCI publications of 549 with H-Index of 39 and total citations are more than 6888. He is the reviewer for several international journals, including IEEE, Elsevier, Springer, Wiley and Taylor and Francis and served as reviewer for several international conferences. He published 24 books/chapters and 92 patents. His research interests include antennas, liquid crystal applications and wireless communications. He has completed 6 sponsored projects worth of 9 cores and 248 consultancy projects from the industry and NGOs. He is an editorial board member of 46 journals and Editor-in-Chief for 2 Journals. He delivered 68 guest lectures at various academic organizations, and 60 video lectures related to e-content on his YouTube channel. Madhav received several awards like AICTE Best Teacher award for 2022, World Record for Highest number of Publications under Age 40 years, Indian book of records, Asian book of records, Outstanding reviewer from Elsevier, the Best researcher and Distinguished researcher from KLEF. Madhav name was included in Top 2% scientists of the world, published by Stanford University in collaboration with Elsevier. Madhav name is in the Top 5th position of the world and Top 1 in India as per Scopus Research Discovery database in the area of Antennas. He guided 85 bachelor's, 42 master's students for their project work, and 20 PhD scholars received degrees under his guidance.

Gist of the Address: *The Role of AI in Quality Research*

An informative address on **"The Role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Quality Research"** highlighted how AI technologies are transforming research practices and contributing to the enhancement of research quality. The presentation focused on the various dimensions of AI applications in research, along with the advantages, limitations, and ethical considerations associated with its use.

The speaker explained that AI plays a significant role in **enhancing research design and methodology** by enabling researchers to develop more structured and effective research frameworks. Through intelligent tools and predictive models, researchers can refine research questions, simulate research scenarios, and design more reliable methodologies.

A key aspect discussed during the presentation was the use of AI in **efficient literature review and knowledge discovery**. AI-powered search tools and databases help researchers quickly access large volumes of scholarly literature, identify relevant studies, and discover emerging trends. This greatly reduces the time required for literature surveys while improving the comprehensiveness of research.

The address also emphasized the importance of AI in **data collection and preprocessing**. Automated systems and machine learning tools facilitate the gathering, cleaning, and organization of large datasets, ensuring that the data used for analysis is accurate and well-structured. AI further supports **advanced data analysis and interpretation**, enabling researchers to identify patterns, correlations, and insights that might otherwise be difficult to detect through traditional methods.

Another important benefit highlighted was **improving accuracy and reducing human error** in research processes. AI tools assist in minimizing manual errors and increasing

the reliability of research outcomes. In addition, AI promotes **innovation and interdisciplinary research** by enabling collaboration across different domains and integrating knowledge from multiple fields.

The presentation also discussed the role of AI in **ethical research practices**, particularly through plagiarism detection tools and research integrity checks. AI-assisted platforms further support **faster publication and peer review processes**, while personalized research assistance tools help researchers manage references and summarize information efficiently.

However, the speaker also noted certain **challenges and considerations**, including issues related to algorithmic bias, data privacy, and overdependence on AI systems. The address concluded by emphasizing that AI should serve as a supportive tool that enhances human intelligence and contributes to the advancement of **high-quality, ethical, and innovative research**.

This was followed by the address of **Dr. K. S. Jagannatha Rao, Pro-Chancellor**, who appreciated the relevance and depth of the deliberations. He emphasized that quality and innovation must go hand in hand and encouraged institutions to adopt AI responsibly and strategically.

The **Concluding Remarks** were delivered by **Dr. K. V. Narasimha Rao, Associate Dean – Quality**, who summarized the key takeaways of the colloquium. He reiterated that AI has immense potential to strengthen quality frameworks, provided it is supported by institutional vision, leadership commitment, and continuous capacity building.

The program concluded with a formal **Vote of Thanks** by Dr. CH. Radhika Rani, Principal, ASC.

All the participants were asked to provide feedback on the Conference and were provided a link. Over 160 faculty responded and provided feedback.

The colloquium ended with the chanting of **National Anthem**.

8. Outcomes and Key Takeaways

The colloquium successfully achieved its objectives by creating awareness and fostering meaningful dialogue on AI-driven quality enhancement. The key outcomes include:

- Enhanced understanding of AI applications in quality assurance and accreditation.
- Strategic insights into global ranking systems and benchmarking practices.
- Increased awareness of ethical, inclusive, and sustainable AI adoption in HEIs.
- Strengthened networking and collaboration among participants.

9. Conclusion

The **1-Day National Level Colloquium–2026** served as a significant academic initiative in addressing the emerging challenges and opportunities associated with Artificial Intelligence in higher education. The deliberations reinforced the idea that AI, when integrated thoughtfully and ethically, can serve as a powerful catalyst for sustaining and enhancing quality in HEIs. The event laid a strong foundation for future capacity-building programmes, policy discussions, and collaborative initiatives aimed at creating resilient, innovative, and quality-driven higher education institutions.

Dr. K. Ramakrishna
(Dean-Quality)

To: All the Participants of the Workshop
Cc: The Hon'ble Chancellor
     Office of the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor
     IQAC File