

Report on the Inauguration of Loyola Sanskrit Association (LSA) and Guest Lecture on "Sanskrit and IKS – Relevance to UG Students"

The **Department of Sanskrit, Loyola College (Autonomous), Chennai**, organized the **Inauguration of the Loyola Sanskrit Association (LSA)** along with a **Guest Lecture on "Sanskrit and IKS – Relevance to UG Students"** on **27th July 2026** from **11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** at **MRF Hall**. The programme was conducted with the objective of introducing students to the significance of **Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS)** and creating a vibrant academic platform through the inauguration of the Loyola Sanskrit Association.

The programme commenced with a **prayer**, invoking the blessings of the Almighty and setting a serene and auspicious atmosphere for the event.

The **Welcome Address** was delivered on behalf of the Department of Sanskrit, warmly welcoming the distinguished resource person, **Dr. V. Yamuna Devi, Director of Research, Kuppuswami Sastri Research Institute (KSRI), Mylapore, Chennai**, along with the faculty members and students. The gathering was reminded that knowledge flourishes when shared, and the event was presented as an opportunity to explore the timeless wisdom of Sanskrit and the Indian Knowledge Systems.

Following the welcome, the **Guest Introduction** highlighted the remarkable academic contributions and scholarly achievements of **Dr. V. Yamuna Devi**, emphasizing her dedication to Sanskrit research and her invaluable service in preserving and promoting India's intellectual heritage through the Kuppuswami Sastri Research Institute.

The **Guest Speaker** was **felicitated with a memento**, symbolizing the department's appreciation for her gracious presence and willingness to share her expertise.

The highlight of the programme was the **Guest Lecture** on the theme **"Sanskrit and IKS – Relevance to UG Students."** Dr. V. Yamuna Devi eloquently explained the indispensable role of Sanskrit as the repository of India's knowledge traditions. She elaborated on how the Indian Knowledge Systems encompass diverse disciplines, demonstrating their continued relevance in contemporary education and daily life. She encouraged undergraduate students to explore Sanskrit not merely as a classical language but as a gateway to India's vast intellectual and cultural heritage. Her lecture inspired students to appreciate the interdisciplinary nature of Indian Knowledge Systems and motivated them to pursue further learning and research in the field.

At the conclusion of the lecture, the Department expressed its heartfelt gratitude to **Dr. V. Yamuna Devi** for delivering an insightful, thought-provoking, and inspiring address that left a lasting impression on the audience.

The programme then marked the **formal inauguration of the Loyola Sanskrit Association (LSA)**. On this significant occasion, the **official badges** of the newly formed association were presented by **Dr. V. Yamuna Devi** to the student office bearers. The badge distribution symbolized the beginning of a new chapter for the association and entrusted the student leaders with the responsibility of promoting Sanskrit studies and organizing meaningful academic and cultural activities.

Following the badge distribution, the **Vice President of the Loyola Sanskrit Association, Ms. Shalini**, addressed the gathering. She shared the vision, objectives, and future plans of the association, expressing confidence that the LSA would become a dynamic platform for students to deepen their understanding of Sanskrit and actively engage in the preservation and dissemination of India's rich cultural and intellectual traditions.

The programme concluded with the **Vote of Thanks**, delivered by **Mr. Ratheesh, Secretary of the Loyola Sanskrit Association**, who sincerely thanked the management of Loyola College, the Principal, the Head of the Department, the distinguished guest speaker, faculty members, student organizers, and all participants for their valuable contributions in making the event a memorable and successful one.

The event successfully fulfilled its objective of promoting awareness about the significance of **Sanskrit and Indian Knowledge Systems** among undergraduate students while inaugurating the **Loyola Sanskrit Association** as a vibrant academic forum dedicated to preserving and promoting India's timeless heritage. The enthusiastic participation of students and faculty reflected the growing interest in Sanskrit studies and reaffirmed the department's commitment to fostering intellectual curiosity and cultural appreciation.