

Dear Sir/ Madam,

India is one of the most important players in the global economy. The trade policies, government reforms and inherent economic strengths have attributed to its standing as one of the most sought after destinations for foreign investments in the world. Free International Trade offers wide variety of products and services to consumers at affordable cost. International Trade allows countries to specialize and concentrate on specific sectors in which they have a comparative advantage. Specialized operations and tech based logistics has enhanced productivity worldwide at lower cost of consumption. It is not proven that free trade will prevail, because each country has an incentive to raise import tariffs. Regional cooperation and multilateral trade agreements are focusing on better economic models. It is in this context that the Department of Commerce, School of Business Management and Legal Studies, University of Kerala is hosting an International Seminar entitled **TRADE WAR – DOES IT AFFECT THE GLOBAL FREE TRADE ORDER ?** during March 26th to 28th, 2019. We have immense pleasure in inviting you to participate in the seminar as an academician of repute. Research Papers and Presentations will enrich the seminar proceedings and your valuable inputs in this regard will be appreciated. Looking forward to meet you in the Seminar.

Prof. (Dr) G. Raju
Dean & Head,
Conference Secretary

Thiruvananthapuram
18-01-2019

Prof. (Dr) Gabriel Simon Thattil
Organizing Secretary

Department of Commerce

The Department of Commerce was established in 1985 as a teaching and research department of the University of Kerala. Within a span of 33 years the Department could establish itself as a centre of excellence with focus on education, research, consultancy and extension services. The department offers post graduate level programmes in commerce viz, M.Com,M.Phil and Doctoral Programmes leading to Ph.D. Major achievements of the Department include; inclusion of the Department under GIAN project of MHRD, Govt. of India and successful completion of UGC-SAP DRS Phase I. The department has completed several research projects for the Govt. of India and the State including projects on Financial Planning and Financial Literacy. Our Consultancy projects have been widely appreciated by the industry and we support career planning for Govt. school students under the flagship programme **My Career My Dream**. Inputs from projects undertaken consultancy services rendered and research work are made use of in the teaching learning processes.



Objectives of the Seminar

1. To examine the emerging opportunities and challenges for India in the Global Industry
2. To assess the impact of business collaborations in World Trade.
3. To evaluate the impact of Global Trade Association and Agreements on Foreign Trade.
4. To revisit the legal environment for Global Trade in terms of support it provides and challenges it imposes.

Relevance of the Seminar

For centuries together, trade and industry have been at the center stage of development. There has been consistent efforts by each nation to promote industrial development and there by economic growth. Continuous efforts have been made to promote global trade through removal of restrictions in the movement of Goods and Services. GATT has a long history of negotiations in this regard which culminated in the formation of WTO. There have been numerous regional, bilateral and multilateral trade associations and summits of co-operation. These include the European Union, G20, SAARC, ASEAN, BRICS and so on. Efforts to build up regional co-operation were subsequently being revisited in terms of regional benefits and developmental achievements. Common dialogue, common currencies and common trade started being come to be questioned. New Business models that addressed global needs emerged. Collaborations, Mergers and Acquisitions resulted in trade marriages which at times broke up and trade wars emerged between Industrial superpowers like U.S and China. Nations have begun to view one another with a sense of apprehension. The current seminar will like to examine global trade in terms of multilateral trade agreements and emerging business models that support industrial development of a nation.

