NAST Conference Breakaway Session Feedback Template

**Theme: Innovating Technical Education for a Changing World**

**MECHANICAL technology: FITTING AND TURNING**

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**Group Number:** \_E12\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Date:**  01 July 2025

Session Topic (Extension):

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## 1. Aligning Curriculum with Industry Needs

How can technical education align the curriculum with industry's needs?
Please provide practical strategies and planning for improved relevance and responsiveness.

**Group Insights & Recommendations:**- Collaboration, develop, verify, train and implementation
- Tracking of the students

- Work base learning

- Curriculum review

## 2. Addressing Teacher Shortages in Specialized Technical Subjects

Specific ideas and suggestions to address teacher shortages in specialized technical subjects.
Consider recruitment, training, and retention strategies based on current realities.

**Group Insights & Recommendations:**
- Reskill the current teachers with short courses and work placement during school holidays
- Recruitment of new teachers for technical subject
- Incentive based retention

## 3. Enhancing School-Industry Partnerships

How can technical schools participate in and benefit from school-industry partnerships?
Include workplace exposure opportunities for learners.

**Group Insights & Recommendations:**
- Performance of the school
- Partnership with industry through apprenticeship for students
- Enforce career guidance and discipline

-Provide incubation(entrepreneurship)

## 4. Gaining Recognition as Special-Focus Schools

How can technical schools gain greater recognition as special-focus schools?
Explore branding, policy, and community engagement approaches.

Group Insights & Recommendations:
- Project Based Learning
- Professional Logo and Slogan
- Compete in National skills competitions

Host/Join Exhibitions (Open days)

## 5. Integrating eLearning in Practical Subjects

**Will the integration of eLearning platforms in practical subjects be effective?**

Group Insights & Recommendations:
Yes, through the inclusion of 4IR

**How can we prepare for this future-oriented shift?**
- E-learning will complement and not replace practical work, by using videos and simulation before doing practical’s
- Students can learn at their own pace

Revise before doing practical work

**Identify tools, training needs, and implementation steps.**

E-learning supports collaborative learning {Social media platforms}

Simulations, connectivity

Training teachers on digital tools

**steps**

Survey the school surroundings

Teachers

Curriculum alignment with the practical

## Summary of Group Feedback

**Top 3 Recommendations:**
1. Competitive salary to attract artisans
2. Maintenance of machines annually
3. Procurement of quality machines

**Challenges Identified:**

* Skills shortages of teachers
* Old and outdated equipment
* Curriculum that doesn’t correspond with 4 IR

**Proposals Worth Scaling or Piloting:**
N/A