

NMFC Bulletin

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NMFC Goes International

By Vaibhav Agrawal
FYBMM

Nirmala Memorial Foundation College of Commerce and Science had organised a five-day International Faculty Development Programme, through webinars, in association with Griffith University, Queensland, Australia.

The webinar series was organised by the Department of Mass Media (BAMMC) and Internal Quality Assurance Cell of the College, to equip media teachers to train their students on how to cover pandemics like COVID-19. The conduction of webinars involved selection of appropriate topics, good resource persons, ensuring participation, selection of a good platform for the webinar, moderation and issuance of participation certificates, among other things. All this had to be done remotely, due to the lockdown. Our Principal I/C Ms Swiddle D'Cunha, got into action and formed a team to carry forward the plan to organise the webinar series. Tasks and responsibilities were assigned to the team members, all of whom got into action immediately, coordinating with each other from their homes, due to the lockdown. Emphasis was laid on the topics and the resource persons.

The schedule, the final topics and the resource persons were:

May 4, 2020: Resource Person: Mr Surinder Singh Oberoi, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) **Topic: Ethics of Reporting in Situations of Emergencies like COVID-19 Pandemic.**

May 5, 2020: Resource Person: Ms Sanya Seth, UN Women, **Topic: Reporting issues of Women during COVID-19 Pandemic.**

May 6, 2020: Resource Person: Mr Devendra Singh Tak, Save the Children Foundation, **Topic: Reporting issues of Children during COVID-19 Pandemic.**

May 7, 2020: Resource Person: Ms Kasun Ubayasiri, Griffith University, Australia **Topic: Ensuring that COVID-19 Pandemic is not attributed to a geographical region, community or creed.**

May 8, 2020 Resource Person: Mr A P Jayaraman, Retired Scientist from BARC **Topic: Scientific Approach for Covering COVID-19 Pandemics.**

A major development was that Griffith University agreed to join hands with NMFC to organise the webinars.

The biggest challenge was of selecting the platform for the conduction of the webinars. The IT department of the College was entrusted with this task.

With no experience of organising a webinar, it was an assignment, which was to have a zero failure rate.

The team comprised Ms Bhakti Chaudhari, Ms Sumathi Rajkumar, Ms Vaishali Mishra and Mr Vikas Agrawal. With Ms Chaudhari taking the lead, they tried Google Meet, Cisco, Webex, GotoWebinar and Zoom among other platforms.

cont. on page 4



The Technical Team: (From left to right) Ms Bhakti Chaudhari, Ms Sumathi Rajkumar, Ms Vaishali Mishra and Vikas Agrawal

Principal's Message

Dear Nirmalites,

We are facing a time, the likes of which we have never experienced, either in our personal or professional lives. This time of the COVID -19 Pandemic shows us many shades of life, as it comes with a lot of challenges and valuable insights on life.



As we sail through this sea of uncertainties, it is important to take care of ourselves, our loved ones and to work on making this lockdown period fruitful through new learnings. Many short term courses and digital education opportunities are open during this lockdown period. I am sure you have grabbed the best of these opportunities to stay updated and to get broader insights on various subjects.

Our college organised 16 webinars to serve the learners as well as the teaching fraternity, an intellectual treat on varied subjects ranging from Media in the Covid-19 scenario to impact of COVID-19 on MSMEs and research methodology.

We received an overwhelming response to all the events with great participation and constructive discussions by participants. Taking

up the responsibility of spreading awareness about COVID-19, our NSS volunteers, as well as the entire staff of our college, prepared an awareness video that was circulated to educate masses on care to be taken in this difficult situation. Our staff members also gave their one-day salary to be contributed to the National Relief Fund for COVID-19. As we continue to do our part towards the society, our results were declared as per the University Directives.

We have opened admissions online as well as offline, to ensure less crowd, convenience of students and to maintain social distancing. We have made sure that our digital infrastructure is ready for conducting online lectures.

Keeping in mind the varied situations our staff and students might be facing and to ensure that they have the amenities for online teaching-learning, a survey was conducted to assess the readiness of staff and students for online lectures.

We look forward to venturing into this 'new' of learning i.e 'Digital Learning' soon.

I wish you all the best for the academic year 2020-21. Let us consolidate on our strengths to overcome this tough phase of life. After all, HOPE prevails.

Stay safe. Stay strong. Stay updated.

Swiddle D'Cunha
I/C Principal

College Admissions Online

By Alisha Jadhav
TYBMM

Though educational institutes have not been granted permission to start regular classes, the admission process had to begin all over the country.

Our college also started the admission process by going online, under the guidelines of Mumbai University. NMFC Registrar Ms Swati Desai said that in order to help the students with the online process, our college held an online, video-based orientation programme. She added that respective teachers made calls to students, who did not or could not attend the orientation programme. This shows how the college is student-friendly.

The Registrar said that the students filling the form online, paid the fees online. However, those students, who could not fill the admission forms online, were given the option to come to the

college in person and complete the formalities. "This facility was made available on Mondays and Thursdays. The college took care to ensure that all the guidelines on hygiene and social distancing were followed. The entire campus was sanitised and hand sanitisers were kept at the entrance for the use of the students and anybody entering the college building," Ms Desai said.

She added even the body temperature was checked and only 20 students were allowed in at a time, ensuring that they maintained a distance according to the government guidelines. According to Ms Desai, the College management decided that female staff members would be asked to work from home and not more than 10 per cent were asked to come to help in the admission process. The 10 per cent limit is part of the University guidelines, she added.

Change Mindset to Achieve Gender Equity, says Ms D'Cunha

By Alisha Jadhav
TYBMM

Gender equality can be brought about by legislation, but for gender equality and equity, there has to be a change in the mind-set of the people at large, said NMFC Principal I/C Ms Swiddle D'Cunha in her inaugural address to a webinar on Gender Equity and COVID-19.

The webinar was organised by Nirmala Memorial Foundation College of Commerce and Science, in association with Women's Development Cell of Mumbai University, on May 14, 2020. One of the sub-theme of the conference was Sex Work and Workers and the resource person for the theme was Prof (Dr) Vibhuti Patel.

The webinar for this sub-theme was handled by our college team led by Ms Vaishali Mishra. Principal D'Cunha added in her inaugural address, "We have been talking of gender equality and women's rights for over a century, yet we find gender discrimination in different societies all over the world. The question is: are we seeking gender equality or gender equity? Can gender equality help the progress of all the genders? Oxford dictionary defines equality as: the fact of being equal in rights, status, advantages, racial/social/sexual equality, equality of opportunity, while equity is a situation in which everyone is treated equally. In equity, we expect not only equality in status and rights, but also opportunities for professional as well as personal growth."

Ms D'Cunha also emphasised that in today's situation, we cannot speak only of men and women, it is important to speak for the third gender too. "We need to recognise the fact that we still live in a world of gender stereotypes. This is also seen during selection of candidates, where evaluators frequently use selection criteria to determine which candidate to hire or promote. However, research has shown that when selection criteria are not given preassigned weightings, evaluators may subtly shift the importance of certain criteria to favour candidates who fit a gender stereotypical profile.

In one U.S.-based experiment, researchers asked 93 participants to consider both male and

female applicants for a construction manager position. When the applicants' genders were concealed, participants rated education as a more important criterion for success on the job than prior work experience and were more likely to prefer the more educated candidate. However, when the applicants' genders were revealed, and the highly educated applicant, with low work experience, was a woman, participants rated prior work experience as more important than education, to the advantage of the male applicant," she said.

When we speak of change, that change has to begin at the micro level; at home, in housing societies, in schools and colleges, for it to go at a macro level, she stated. "The lockdown due to the COVID-19 pandemic has forced most of us to work from home. We also speak of women being into multi-tasking, but one wonders if this has been noticed by the men in most families in the country, at least during the lockdown.

"As working women, we are also working from home, but there have been complaints from women that their work at home has increased due to the work from home of the men in the families. There are reports of increase in domestic violence. Gender equity should also mean that not only would all genders get equal status, but also equal opportunities to grow during the lockdown period, even if they are not working in any organisation. Working women should be helped to reduce the stress and the strain during the lockdown period, by sharing of responsibilities of domestic chores. The same thing should happen with the non-employed women, so that they could use their spare time for personal growth," Ms D'Cunha said.

She said, "Men and women should share equal responsibilities to care of domestic chores, not only during the lockdown period, but even later.

The lockdown period should have been an eye-opener for many men on the need for gender equity for women. It is anybody's guess, whether it has happened. As teachers, we are in a position to reach out to lakhs of students collectively and it is our responsibility to train them on gender equity, Principal D'Cunha concluded.

Webinar on Latest Trends in IT Sector

By Alisha Jadhav
TYBMM

The College, in association with TechSutra Education, an IT talent development company had organised a three-day national webinar series from May 29 to 31, 2020. The webinar was exclusively for under-graduate and post-graduate students of Information Technology and Computer Science, said Prof Vaishali Mishra, BSc (IT) co-ordinator and in-charge of organising the webinar series.

The webinar was organised to provide an opportunity for under-graduate and post-graduate students across India to communicate and interact with the experts of the IT industry in real time.

The topics for the webinar were Robotic Automation Process, Block Chain and Data Science, each topic being devoted to one day of the webinar. Mr Ankit Khotari spoke on Robotic

Automation Process, Mr Prashant Raj spoke on Block Chain and Mr Nimish Marfatia spoke on Data Science.

The three IT experts explained their respective subjects to the students in a simplified manner, which helped the students acquaint themselves with the latest concepts in the three areas of IT, discussed in the webinars.

A contest, based on the topic discussed was held on the first day of the webinar series and the result was declared on the last day. The contest was won by Shahbaz Khan, who was given a one year subscription from ganna.com, a plus course discount coupon from TechSutra Education. The consolation prize, in the form of a discount coupon for TechSutra Education course, was bagged by Pruthviraj Mhaske, according to Ms Mishra.

NMFC Goes International

from page 1

The cost was also a factor along with the utility of the application. A webinar hosting agency was also approached to help out. But our IT team found a solution and saved the College the cost of paying an exorbitant price to the agency. As if the team members were to appear for an examination, they tried different applications and their sessions went on till the wee hours. Finally, they zeroed in on Zoom.

The team had thought of getting around 200 participants, but within about three hours of the opening of the online registration, there were 522 registrations.

Several dry runs were conducted on Zoom and some of these sessions also went on till around 2 am. Ms Chaudhari learnt how to share screen, record the meet, allow participants in and mute microphones and cameras, when necessary. During the five days of the webinar, she carried out the task professionally. Given the limitation on the number of participants in Zoom at a time on one hand and requests from a very large number of teachers from across the nation on the other, it was decided to post the webinar on Facebook Live and YouTube Live. The result was that on an average there were nearly 1500 participants

everyday on the three platforms together.

Ms Sumathi Rajkumar said that the success of the webinars was all about teamwork and timeline. "Being a first timer in the conduction of an international webinar, there were technological and time zone challenges, yet we coped with it only because of the motivation by our principal madam and Mr Abhay Mokashi, who guided us through it. Collaboration among those who were managing the webinars was challenging, but it happened effectively due to strong communication and coordination," she said.

The webinars were conducted with military precision and started sharp at 4 pm, the scheduled time for the webinar. The punctuality of the team was appreciated by many participants.

During the webinars, Ms Mishra, Ms Sumathi and Ms Deveeka Shetty monitored the questions and passed them on to Mr Mokashi, our Live Newsroom Head, who was the moderator for the webinars. The BAMMC Coordinator, Ms Deveeka Shetty said that the webinar series inspired her to always be ready with a second plan of action to take care of any situations that may arise.

Children Are Our Present : Mr Tak

By Alisha Jadhav
TYBMM

The lives of children in the country have been turned upside down due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the lockdown due to it and that is a challenge for the media communicators, said Mr Devendra Singh Tak of Save the Children. He was the resource person for the third day of the five-day international webinar series as a part of Faculty Development Programme organised by the College.

He stated that according to a survey, two-thirds of the world population relies on news organisations for information. "Government and health organisations want media to show what is happening and what needs to be done," Mr Tak said. According to Mr Tak children's issues should form a major part of news reporting, as children constitute 40 per cent of the Indian population. "In the coming years, India will have the youngest work force. Children are not only the future, but also the present of the country," he added.

He said that the media should bring about awareness of children's issues, adding that during the tough times children face problems like violence, malnutrition, child trafficking, child labour and the like. According to him, child trafficking is a major threat and in the current situation, it has increased all over the world. The lockdown has had a psychological effect on the



children as they have to spend time only with adults, cannot meet friends, cannot go outdoor and have to attend online lectures. All this is making the children vulnerable and has increased anguish among them, he

said.

He called upon parents to pay attention to their children as the survey showed that there is an increase in child pornography. Mr Tak blamed the media for affecting children's psychology by vividly showing crime spots and disturbing images, which have an adverse impact on the child's mind. "Access to social media, without any restrictions leads to children getting inappropriate knowledge, which deteriorates their intellectual thinking and could result in their going on the wrong path," Mr Tak said.

"Somebody should go on the ground and meet the children, as they are not visible in the media now.

He said the NDTV Telethon, has given the visibility to invisible. "It has brought forth the situation of street children, those begging or working on tea stalls."

Protect Yourself says Mr Oberoi, Tells Scribes

By Alisha Jadhav
TYBMM

Journalists have to play a vital role during the COVID-19 pandemic, but they have to take care of themselves while reporting, said Mr Surinder Singh Oberoi, a former journalist, who is presently working with International Committee of Red Cross. Mr Oberoi was the resource person for the inaugural webinar. His topic was Ethics of Reporting in Situations of Emergencies like COVID -19 Pandemic. While reporting on the situation, a journalist has to bear this in mind and



should be alert to the vulnerable situation. Personal safety should be of prime concern to journalists, in such situations," They should also disinfect their equipment like mikes and cameras, he added. "They should keep safe distance from the doctors and para-medical staff, they would be talking to," stated Mr Oberoi.

He cautioned that the journalists should guard against rumours, ensure there is no truth causality, avoid glorification and should be able to distinguish between fake news and real news.

He reminded the participants that journalists owe a responsibility towards the society and they should balance their stories, without playing with people's faith.

Challenge Gender Stereotypes, Ms Seth Appeals To Media

By Vaibhav Agrawal
FYBMM

Gender is about unequal relations between men and women, that are created by and in the society and these need to be changed, said Ms Sanya Seth from UN Women. She spoke on the second day of the five-day international webinar series to train media teachers. Her topic was 'Reporting Issues of Women During COVID-19 Pandemic'.

She clarified at the start of her talk that gender is not the biological sex and that gender is not only women. She added that her address is to all genders and is not restricted to women. Ms Seth said that we are socialised into understanding how we respond to being a male or a female or the other categories of gender identities as we are culturally brought up in a society.

Ms Seth explained that gender and sex are two different things. One relates to our physical appearance and the other relates to our response to the different categories we have evolved so far. "People are born female, male or intersex. We learn to be girls and boys, who grow into men and women fitting in two boxes or binaries.

"We learn what is appropriate behaviour, attitude and role of being a man or a woman. This learnt behaviour brings about gender identity and determines our gender roles," she said.

On gender roles she mentioned that it is the cultural and societal norms that determine who does what, sexual division of labour. "We assume these roles and internalise them to be 'given' on 'natural', while they are actually dynamic and change-able. It is a privilege for performing gender roles but punishment for not conforming," Ms Seth added.

While talking about gender equality she mentioned substantiated equality, which recognises that women are in an unequal position and need to be treated differently from men so as to benefit equally. Therefore, there

should be more equal opportunities to get more equality of results.

To have a gender perspective is to have the ability to detect if and when men, women, boys girls and others are being affected differently by a situation due to their gender. We need gender inclusive society:

To establish equality

To address both men and women's needs.

To stop violence against women and girls.

To empower women and girls.

To have safe working places and homes for all.

To ensure inclusive governance.

To ensure inclusive development.

She described gender based violence as a form of discrimination that seriously inhibits women's ability to enjoy rights and freedoms on the basis of equality with men. It broadens from an initial focus on violence against women to becoming an umbrella term for violence perpetrated based on socially ascribed gender differences. "Any act of gender based violence that results in or is likely

to result in physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threads of such acts coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, is to be condemned," she said.

Whether occurring in public or private life, it is violence that is directed against women because she is a woman or that which affects women disproportionately," Ms Seth said.

She added that violence against women is deeply rooted in gender inequality and is a manifestation of historically unequal power relation between men and women.

The forms of violence can be many like sexual, physical, emotional, psychological and economic. Such violence is carried out at various sites like public places and community spaces.



Ask Questions, Dr Jayaraman Tells Teachers

By Vaibhav Agrawal
FYBMM

Dr A P Jayaraman, a senior scientist, who spoke on the last day of the five-day international webinar series, said that there were two approaches to life--scientific and foolish.

A scientific mind is sceptical and questions everything, he said and asked the participants to be sceptical and ask questions. Dr Jayaraman is also a renowned science story teller and has a great sense of humour. With the same sense of humour, he said that a pandemic is an epidemic with a P, where P stands for passport and when it 'spreads globally' we call it pandemic.

"Entropy is a measure of the disorder of the system and information is negative entropy. Information is a perishable commodity, as it keeps mutating with time," Dr Jayaraman said.

He added that life expectancy of information depends on how many people are working on the topic. "Information, which unconsciously takes up errors, is misinformation, but if it is done

deliberately, it becomes disinformation," the former scientist of Bhabha Atomic Research Centre said.

According to him, science is the only profession that gives one the freedom to change one's opinion.



He then moved on to speak about virus and the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr Jayaraman said that virus is a time packet of information

bearing crystallinity. Looking at the virus from the perspective of a journalist, he quoted Nobel Laureate Peter Medawar, who had described virus as bad news wrapped in a protein. The session end with questions from the participants, aptly answered by Dr Jayaraman.

Participants Praise NMFC and its Team

It was a unique experience to attend a webinar effectively organised and managed by your team. It provided us an opportunity to learn different aspects of COVID 19 situation.

We learnt how to handle our students in this stress period.

Dr Sanjay Nimbalkar
Associate Professor
Seva Sadan's College of Education,
Ulhasnagar

Very knowledgeable and informative session. Good content.

Dr Jeet Singh
Assistant Professor,
Mahamaya Government Degree College,
Sherkot (Dist Bijnor) UP

Congratulations to the entire team of NMFC for organising the successful Webinar. The selection of speakers was outstanding.

The topics were rich in content. Thank you so much.

Rajshree Rathod
Tilak College of Education, Pune

Nice session

Dr Asha M Dharaskar
Government College of Education, Akola

Thank you very much for conducting such wonderful, informative webinar.

Assistant Professor Karuna V Shinde

Today's session was a very great and elaborative one. Thanks a lot respected Jayaraman Sir.

All the sessions were also great, excellent and well planned. Congratulations to Organising Committee and all team members of International Webinar. Thanks for giving me an opportunity to participate in this webinar.

Vikas Thakur

Highly engaging, informative and well organised sessions. Thank you so much.

Amrin Monger
Guru Nanak College of Arts, Science and Commerce

(These are some of the comments from participants from different parts of India.)

Cannot Blame China For COVID-19 : Dr Ubayasiri

By Vaibhav Agrawal
FYBMM

It would be inappropriate to blame China for the spread of COVID-19, according to Dr Kasun Ubayasiri, Journalism Programme Director at Griffith University, Australia.

He spoke on the penultimate day of the five-day international webinar series to train media trainers. "If anybody has to be blamed, it should be the leaders, people, who could not avoid the storm of COVID-19 from hitting humankind, when it was just a week or two old. The next lot to be blamed, if at all, is ourselves," he added.



He was speaking on 'Ensuring that COVID-19 Pandemic is Not Attributed to any Geographic Region, Community or Creed'.

Dr Ubayasiri stated that the function of news is to singularise events and make people aware about it. On the other hand, the function of truth is to bring to light hidden facts, to set them in relation with each other and make a picture of reality on which humans can act. Journalism is more than just reporting, he said and added that the problem with reporting is our understanding of journalism, that is a challenge.

Media consists of a lot more than journalists and journalism. The core functions of journalism, according to him, are to provide public service announcements, carry reports and produce journalism (media product). "For truth to emerge, journalism has to be contextual," he said. He then gave some advice to aspiring journalists.

He said, "If you want to become a future journalist, make truth and logical thinking your only master. Stop and take a hard good look at yourself. Identify your prejudice, political blind spots, we all have these. Once you have identified them, try and leave the baggage behind," Dr Ubayasiri said, adding, "When you are a journalist, you are not a Hindu or a Muslim not even an Indian, in that context, all that matters to you is truth."

Dr Ubayasiri, who is also a human rights

activist, said that people have been accusing Muslims for spreading the Corona V2. "This comes from very old deep-seated prejudice, which of course has no fundamental base. "So in order to eradicate that, we need to go back to the idea of contesting journalism and not just report the news," he stated.

There is a concept in journalism that we animate democracy and uphold the new society. A solution to tackle this long old seeded prejudice is producing factual, contextual journalism, being logical and not slaves of these prejudice," he said. Giving his personal opinion on Muslims spreading the COVID-19, he said as a journalist he doesn't have the luxury of looking down his nose and moving away, asking questions is what we do. The job is not to argue with a person, but to ask pointed questions. Our first job is to identify that this idea is out there.

The only way we have to change people's view is bringing out facts and contextualise data, acknowledge our leaders. Dr Ubayasiri expressed concern over the migration of people within India, due to the lockdown. He was pained to see that though India has over 138 billionaires, the migrant workers had to walk home or remain stranded. The government, which has failed to provide adequate care for migrant workers, is now blaming them for spreading the virus. He said that the movement of migrant workers is problematic, but caring for them was the government's responsibility.

Adding to the statement of Mr Abhay Mokashi, he said that if we sacrifice truth we all will pay a heavy price for that. Dr Kasun said, "For the very survival as journalists, if we want to draw a salary, we need to think of the first person important to us that is our readers, we need to provide them with useful information and connect with them. "We are not reporting this because we are culturally conditioned not to see this. The real problem is with the system, the system that favours the ultra-rich. It always safeguards the losses of the rich and powerful and puts the risk of financial loss to the marginalised and the poor. "As journalists, we need to cut through this small screen. Our job is not getting through just the pandemic, our job is teaching students to think logically and provide truthful journalism," he said.

Making Taxation Less Taxing

The Internal Quality Assurance Cell and Department of Accountancy of Nirmala organised a five-day webinar series in association with Department of Commerce of University of Mumbai and Western Region Council of Institute of Chartered Accountants of Indian (WIRC of ICAI) and Vasai Branch of WIRC OF ICAI.

The webinars were held from May 9 to 13, 2020.

CA Lalit Bajaj (Chairman, WIRC of ICAI, Mumbai), delivered the keynote address on **Emerging Trends and Practices in Accounting and Taxation: Practitioner's Perspective.**

The topics and the resource persons for the webinars were:

Comparison of IFRS and AS: CA Vedprakash Sharma (CPA Ireland, Dip IFRS ACCA- UK) Mumbai;

Practical Implications of Budgeted 2021 Slab with Old Tax Slab and Filing of Returns: CA. Ramesh Pandey, Mumbai;

Availing Input Tax credit under GST: CA (Dr) Mahesh Gaur (M.com, M.B.A (Fin), CCA, CFM, ADFM, DBA in Auditing and LLB) Mumbai;

Concept of time of supply under GST: CA Megha Joshi;

Innovative technique of Cost Accounting: CA Ramesh Thakkar (CA, CS, CMA) Ahmedabad.

Every event is an amazing journey and not a one-night game, said Dr Poonam Kakkad on the conduction of the series of webinars on a variety of subjects, by Nirmala Memorial Foundation College of Commerce and Science. Dr Kakkad played a key role in some of the webinars.

"It took a lot of time to shortlist speakers, for the webinars, who had great expertise in their fields. Each day was a dry wrap, checking on the PPTs sent by the speakers and coordinating with them was the major task," Dr Kakkad, Coordinator for the Department of BMS and BAF of NMFC, stated during an interview regarding the taxation webinar held by the college.

"Taking polls after every webinar was a way to ensure that the participants are active and give a genuine response. My duty was to ensure quality assurance from the scratch to post webinars. We strictly followed deadlines and e-Certificates for the webinar were sent to the participants on

time," she added.

Through these webinars, NMFC created a benchmark for itself and the conduction of every session was appreciated by majority of the participants from across the nation.

She mentioned that since every participant was geographically at distance and technology was the only source to connect, it had some barriers and areas beyond control (network problem, connectivity issues, etc) which were later taken care of. The IT committee had to be alert at all times and take effective decisions quickly.

The entire webinar series was a team work, for which a lot of brainstorming was done with different departments of the college, she stated.

An activity was also arranged for the non-teaching staff of the college, where they had to prepare a recipe inclusive of nutrients and

elements which would boost immunity to help fight COVID-19, she said.

Dr Jignesh Dalal, coordinator for BCom, said that they got in touch with the chairman of ICAI (Institute of Chartered Accountants India) suburban western



for the webinar on GST and Taxation.

There were a lot of technical challenges, including ensuring that the internet was stable and the webinars went off smoothly in terms of technology, Dr Dalal stated and added that this was taken care of by the IT department.

According to him, mock runs were conducted on the eve of every webinar to check if there were any flaws and to take corrective steps.

There was good participation in the question and answer sessions, which went off smoothly, he added.

"The overall response for the webinars was very good and I feel I have contributed something to the society and the college, Altogether it was a teamwork and not a one man show," he concluded.

Webinar on Creating Leaders

Leadership remains one of the glaring needs of the world and the need of the hour is great. Post lockdown, in the unprecedented times nothing shall be more important than leadership because as quoted by J. Oswald Sanders "Leadership is influence, nothing more, nothing less."

With this view, the IQAC, English Literary Association and Department of Business Communication of Nirmala Memorial Foundation College of Commerce and Science, had organised a One Day National Level Leadership webinar on 'Pathway to Permanence by Empowering, Equipping and Engaging Influencers - Post Lockdown', on May 26 2020, in collaboration with Habitat For Humanity India .

Resource Persons for the webinar were Ms Apoorva Poojary and Ms Sophia Joseph.

Ms Poojary is National Manager, Youth Partnership and Engagement Program of Habitat India and an APAC Certified Regional Master Trainer from Center for Creative Leadership (CCL), having years of experience in conducting leadership training programmes. She has trained nearly 28,000 youth across India under the Government of India initiative 'Skill India Mission' by NSDC.

Ms Joseph, is Associate Director, Behavioural Change Communication (BCC), Program of Habitat India and is a certified social worker by renowned institutes, due to her core competencies in the area of Psychiatric Social Work, Behavioural Change Communication, Disaster Management, Disability Rehabilitation and much more.

NMFC Principal I/C Ms Swiddle D'Cunha in her welcome address said that students, colleagues

and the society as a whole are sailing through a sea of unprecedented happenings, anxiety and unfulfilled dreams.

"For us, as academicians and leaders, hard times are life's richest times of growth, opportunity and the possibility to fly, this is life's richest time to make a difference in the life of our students, colleague's, subordinates and the

society to help them see the silver lining and to give them infinite hope. They look up to us for encouragement and guidance. So we have to be the wind beneath their wings to help them reach the shore," Ms D'Cunha said. She added that the webinar had been organised keeping this in mind.

The Principal thanked Mr Rajan Samuel of Habitat for Humanity India, for giving our college the opportunity to collaborate in the noble cause.

She also expressed her gratitude to Ms Aruna Desai, the Director of Nirmala Memorial Foundation College of Commerce and Science for giving the team the opportunity to conduct this webinar.

The two resources persons, Ms Poojary and Ms Joseph, with their vast experience in social work and leadership, enlightened the participants on the intricacies of successful leadership during these tough times.

This webinar received overwhelming response, in terms of participation from various parts of India.

Among the participants were Principals, Vice-Principals, Heads of Departments, Coordinators and faculty members, all of whom play the role of influencers as teachers and mentors.

The success of the webinar was due to the efforts put in by the efforts of the IQAC, English Literary Association, Department of Business Communication and the IT team of our college.



Editorial Team: Alisha Jadhav (TYBMM), Kirti Ganganaboina (TYBMM), Vaibhav Agrawal (FYBMM), under the guidance of Live Newsroom Head Abhay Mokashi.

Do send in your comments and suggestions to the NMFC Bulletin team. Email ID: nmfcbulletin@gmail.com For Private circulation only