

Report of Planning Forum and Economics Association

The Planning Forum and Economic Cell of R.A Podar College headed by Mrs. Karishma Khadiwala, is the oldest association of college which aims to create a dialogue and discussion on various topics ranging from finance, economic and governance within the country.

The Planning forum had a very successful year which consisted of creative and innovative events for the students.

The first event managed by the forum was **‘Movie Screening’**. It was held on 11th August at 1pm in the AV room. The movie screened was ‘Pursuit of Happiness’. The aim behind screening of this movie was how a person with ambition can change his life from rags to riches if he persists. The event was successful because of the response from the students who came for the screening and also because they learned a valuable lesson according to their reviews.

The second event organised was **‘Fact and Furious’** which was held on the 4th of October 2017 in the F3 class from 11.30 onwards. It was a management game which tested the general knowledge of the students. It wasn’t a regular quiz, it was unique as it had a fun element in it, which was a spinning wheel which had the quiz categories. It had two rounds, first round consisted of the quiz and the qualifying team went into the second round which consisted of a case study. The students had to use their basic economic and business knowledge to solve it. The event was judged by Mr. Sagar sir and it was wrapped up with a vote of thanks to him.

The third event of the forum was a seminar in collaboration with Loksatta, popularly called as **Loksatta TALKS** where the guest speaker Mr.Mangesh Soman was invited to talk on the trending topic of the impact of GST. The event was held on 13 October 2017 from 9.15 to 10.45. The students attending the seminar found it to be very much informative. Mr. Soman explained the complicated concept of GST in a very simple manner. He was felicitated by Mrs. Shobana Vasudevan and the whole event was under the supervision of the faculty incharge Mrs. Karishma Khadiwala.

The fourth event: Planning forum and Economics Association of R. A. Podar College of Commerce and Economics, headed by Prof. Karishma Khadiwala, conducted an in-house session to discuss the Union Finance Budget 2018-19 on 7th Feb 2018 at 10.30am.

Principal Dr. Mrs. Shobhana Vasudevan extended her solid support to the idea of conducting this session to trigger brainstorming exercise for the college students as the prospective economists and future subject matter experts.

Ms. Arya Gadagkar (SYBcom) inaugurated the event by giving the keynote address.

Primarily touching upon the aspects of agriculture, MSMEs, health, education, infrastructure, urbanization and tax. The session then was taken over by Mihir Desai (TYBcom) and he spoke about topic agriculture which included the right of the farmers to sell the produce at MSP, introduction of e-NAM, Pradhan Mantri Saubhagya Yojana and many more reformist schemes. Followed by Mihir, Yashada Kaskhedikar (TYBcom), addressed the health sector and MSMEs sector where she not only spoke about Ayushman Bharat Programme, Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana, Trade Receivable Discounting System, Mudra Yojana and its target, but also asked the students how will they use these funds if they were MSMEs, at this point the whole session turned into a large room brainstorming where principal Madam was pitching in at appropriate junctures to share her connoisseur views. Further Renuka Bahulkar (SYBcom) spoke about education and infrastructure aspects of the budget. She spoke about the holistic approach of the budget towards education by explaining the integrated B.Ed. Programme, Ekalavya Model Residential School, strengthening of railways, implementing and practicing the 'Safety First' policy and many other reforms to which the audience could greatly relate and answer the questions. Anushka More (SYBcom) then spoke about the urbanization which focused on the Smart Cities Mission, bullet train project and projects such as AMRUT and NABHNIRMAN engaging the audience further and probing them to ask questions.

Lastly, Prof. Dr. CA. Pradeep Kamthekar explained the tax implications post budget 2018 by discussing the salient features of the budget and giving small household examples to make the students understand properly. Sir gave a clear picture about the changes in the provisions of Long term capital gains and also explained the implications of the same on the share market. He spoke about the standard deduction for the salaried class and threw light on many topics by discussing some more important taxation concepts with the students.

The session ended with a vote of thanks from Yashada Kaskhedikar.

Informal feedback from sections of the audience underlined the need of such sessions more often than not and the trickling of thought process on such important topic was well acknowledged/appreciated.

