

Planning Forum and Economics Association

2024-25

Teacher In-Charge: Ms. Sudarshana Saikia

Student Secretary: Ms. Varnika Kamath

About the Forum: One of the oldest associations of the college, the **Planning Forum and Economics Association** provides a platform for meaningful discussions on finance, economics, and governance. Through insightful dialogues and engagements, it encourages students to explore diverse perspectives and develop a deeper understanding of key issues shaping the world around them.

Event 1: Union Budget 2024 Livestream

Date & Day: 23rd July, 2024 (Tuesday)

Time & Venue: 11:00 a.m., First Floor Foyer

Number of Attendees: More than 60 students and Faculty members

Description: A live-streaming event was organised for the presentation of the Union Budget of India, 2024, by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman. Held on the first floor, the event was open to all, allowing students and faculty to stop by, watch, and engage with the budget in real time. This setup provided an accessible space for attendees to follow key policy announcements, economic priorities, and financial allocations. The event encouraged discussions on the budget's implications for various sectors, fostering a deeper understanding of its impact on the economy and governance.



Event 2: Essay Writing Competition

Date & Day: 2nd September, 2024 (Tuesday)

Time & Venue: Online Submission

Number of Participants: 28 students

Description: The annual Intra-Collegiate Essay Writing Competition, provides students with a platform to articulate their thoughts, analyze contemporary issues, and showcase their writing skills. Open to both Junior College and Undergraduate Degree students, the competition encouraged participants to engage deeply with pressing topics, fostering critical thinking and intellectual expression.

This year's essay topics were carefully selected to reflect significant socio-economic and cultural themes:

1. Are giving freebies an effective way to ensure development?
2. Culture, Community, and Collaboration: Digital platforms reviving folk art.
3. The Rise of Influencer Culture: Shaping Modern Public Opinion and Communication.
4. Youth's Choice of Homegrown Quiet Luxury over Flashy Foreign Labels.
5. The Tamils of Sri Lanka: A Tale of Migration.

Participants submitted their essays within the given timeframe, and the winning entries were selected based on originality, depth of analysis, and clarity of expression. The event was judged

by Sandesh Agate, co-founder of the YouTube channel Because Why Not, former Principal Content Producer at The Times of India, and an alumnus of the Times School of Journalism, Delhi.

The winners of the competition were as follows:

1st Position – Aashna Choudhary (SY BMS)

Topic: Are freebies an effective way to ensure development?

2nd Position – Sahil Katiyar (SY BSc. Data Science and Analytics)

Topic: The Tamils of Sri Lanka: A Tale of Migration.

3rd Position – Siddhi Gharat (SY BMS)

Topic: Youth's Choice of Homegrown Quiet Luxury over Flashy Foreign Labels.

The winning essays were published in the Podar Pageant, celebrating the students' ability to engage with thought-provoking subjects and contribute meaningfully to intellectual discourse.

Event 3: Quote Unquote- Open Mic

Date & Day: 4th January, 2025 (Saturday)

Time & Venue: 1:00 p.m., G6 Classroom

Number of Participants: 21 students

Description: Quote Unquote, an intercollegiate open mic event organized by the Planning Forum in collaboration with the English Literary Circle, offered a stage for creative expression and thought-provoking performances. Centered around the theme, "The Masks We Wear", the event delved into the complexities of identity, self-expression, and the facades we adopt in daily life. Participants captivated the audience with a diverse range of performances, including raps, songs, poems, and storytelling, each adding a unique perspective to the theme. The event was judged by Ms. Rucha Naik and Ms. Kajal Malik, who carefully evaluated the performances based on originality, delivery, and impact.

Following were the winners:

1st Place – Kashmira Hambire

2nd Place – Rohit Bansode

3rd Place – Raashi Shah



Event 4: TEDxRAPodarCollege

Description: The Planning Forum is gearing up for its most awaited flagship event, TEDxRAPodarCollege, set to take place on April 19, 2025. Rooted in the spirit of *ideas worth spreading*, TEDxRAPodarCollege aims to initiate meaningful conversations by providing a platform for local voices with transformative perspectives. This edition will spotlight students and alumni, celebrating their ideas, experiences, and innovations that have the potential to inspire change. As the countdown begins, the team is dedicated to curating an event that challenges perspectives, sparks curiosity, and fosters a community of thought leaders.

The Consulting Club

By The Planning Forum and Economics Association

Event 1: Consulting 101

Date & Day: 20th September, 2024 (Friday)

Time & Venue: 11:30 a.m., F8 Classroom

Number of Participants: 28 students

Description: Consulting 101, was an insightful session led by Ms. Chitra Parmeshwaran, introducing students to the consulting profession. The session provided a comprehensive overview of the industry, covering key domains such as strategy, operations, and financial consulting. Ms. Parmeshwaran emphasized the importance of problem-solving, communication, and strategic thinking, offering practical advice on career pathways and consulting interviews. An engaging Q&A session allowed students to seek guidance on resume building, networking, and cracking case interviews. The session successfully enhanced students' understanding of the field, equipping them with valuable skills and inspiring interest in consulting as a career.



Event 2: Strategy Showdown

Date & Day: 18th December, 2024 (Wednesday)

Time & Venue: 11:30 a.m., G1 Classroom

Number of Participants: 49 students

Description: The Strategy Showdown, was an interactive workshop led by Mr. Jeetendra Khilnani, a BCG consultant and alumnus of NYU Stern and R.A. Podar College. This session provided students with hands-on experience in consulting case interviews, offering insights into structured problem-solving, teamwork, and effective communication. Mr. Khilnani guided participants through the case interview process, shared real-world examples, and conducted a live problem-solving exercise, simulating the pressure of an actual consulting interview. He also provided practical tips on excelling in case interviews, resume building, and standing out in the recruitment process. An engaging Q&A session allowed students to explore consulting career paths, networking strategies, and industry expectations. The session successfully equipped participants with essential skills, boosting their confidence and preparedness for the consulting world.



Event 3: Crack the Case

Date & Day: 25th January, 2025 (Saturday)

Time & Venue: 11:30 a.m., G1 Classroom

Number of Participants: 45 students

Description: Crack the Case, was an interactive workshop led by Mr. Naitik Reshamwala, a BCG consultant and alumnus. The session provided hands-on experience in case-solving and guesstimates, offering insider insights into consulting interviews. Participants worked on real-world business problems, honing their problem-solving, critical thinking, and communication skills. A lively Q&A session covered consulting careers, networking, and interview strategies. With expert guidance and practical exposure, the workshop proved to be an enriching experience for aspiring consultants.

