

Happenings @SPJIMR

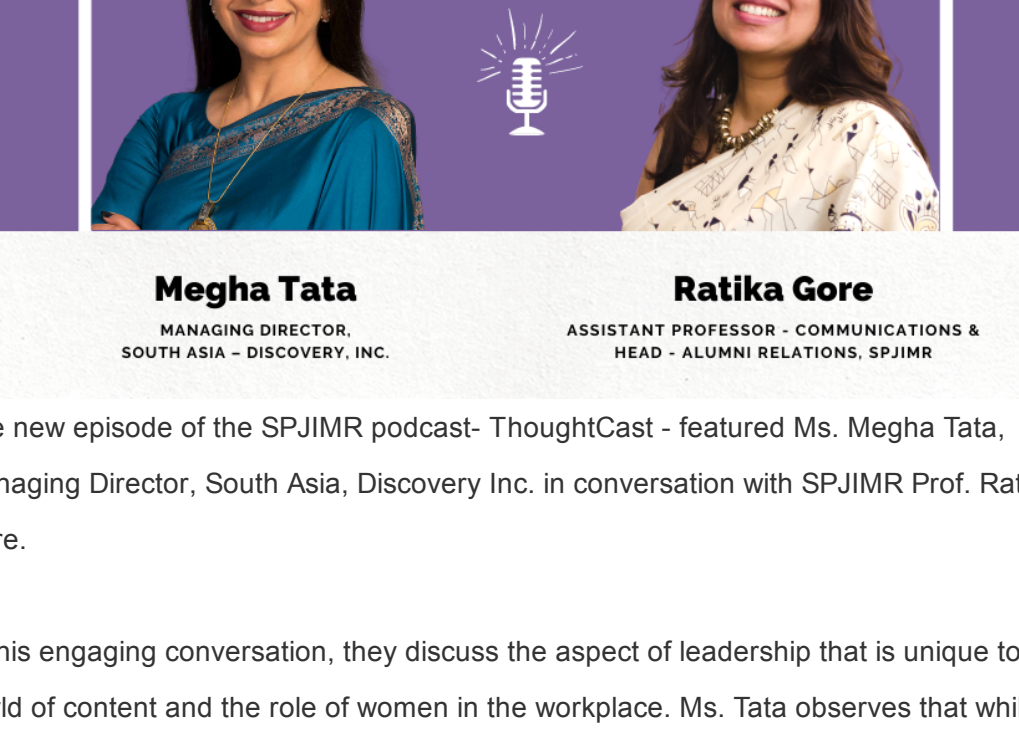


PGPDM virtual Convocation held

SPJIMR's Post-Graduate Programme in Development Management (PGPDM) hosted its first-ever virtual convocation ceremony on 30th October. A total of 60 students graduated from batches, 15, 16 and 17 of the programme. Family members, SPJIMR faculty and staff were present to cheer and support the graduates. Dean Dr. Varun Nagaraj spoke about the role the social sector should play in fixing free-market failure and expressed hope that the actions of the graduating participants will help create a world that is equal, sustainable, and just.

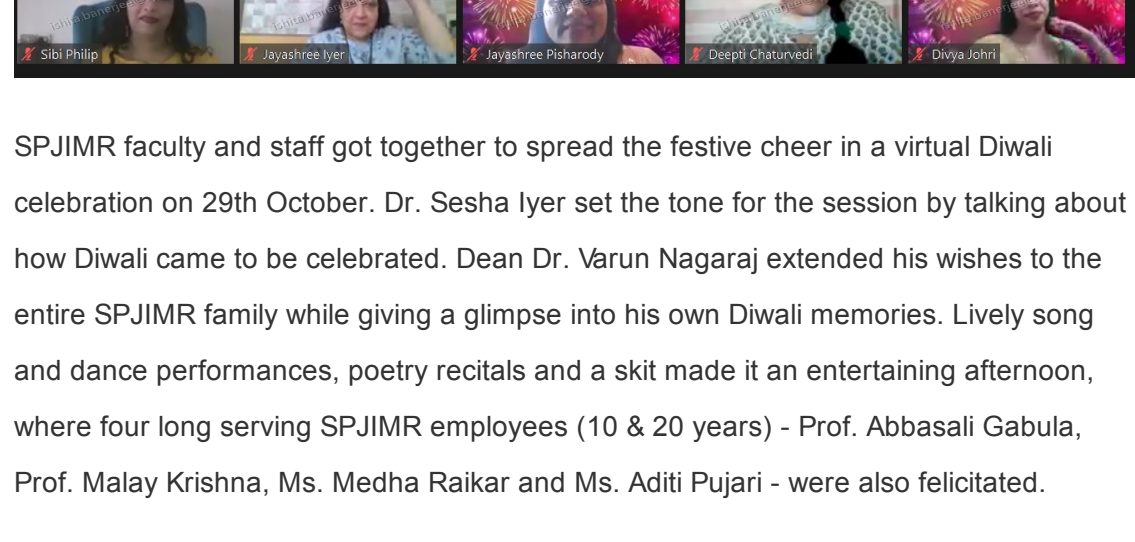
Mr. Paul Abraham, CEO of Hinduja Foundation, and ex-COO of IndusInd Bank was the Chief Guest for the occasion. In his convocation address, Mr. Abraham emphasized that the participants are on the cusp of a transformational period in the world and it is imperative to embrace innovative ways to use technology in solving problems in a post-pandemic world. He said post-Covid, our world is fragile, vulnerable and in need of care and attention. On a philosophical level, we are in the midst of climate change, failed health care systems and failed educational systems. He spoke on how COVID has shown that none of the problems can be externalized, a working elsewhere in another geography or another community is ours. He added why challenge in the area of social impact at a macro level is an incredible act of self-preservation as by working and solving the problems of the world, one is making life more meaningful and happier for oneself. He also shared with the graduating participants his three insightful mantras - Power of government, social impact space at the last mile, and the multiplier effect. Programme Chairperson, Mr. Prabhat Pani read out the names of the graduating participants and showcased their virtual Graduation Certificates. Prof. Dr Suranjan Das delivered the Vote of Thanks. [You can watch the full ceremony here.](#)

Dean in a fireside chat at Tech Mahindra's Primetime Exclusives



Dean Dr. Varun Nagaraj was invited by Tech Mahindra's Primetime Exclusives to a fireside chat, in conversation with senior alum, Mr. Krishna Gopal, Global Head Sales Enablement, Tech Mahindra. They discussed, why in spite of being the most efficient allocation mechanism, do free markets fail, and the principles to help a more equitable distribution of resources. [Watch the discussion here.](#)

ThoughtCast: Ms. Megha Tata, MD, Discovery Inc. with Prof. Ratika Gore



The new episode of the SPJIMR podcast- ThoughtCast - featured Ms. Megha Tata, Managing Director, South Asia - Discovery Inc. in conversation with SPJIMR Prof. Ratika Gore.

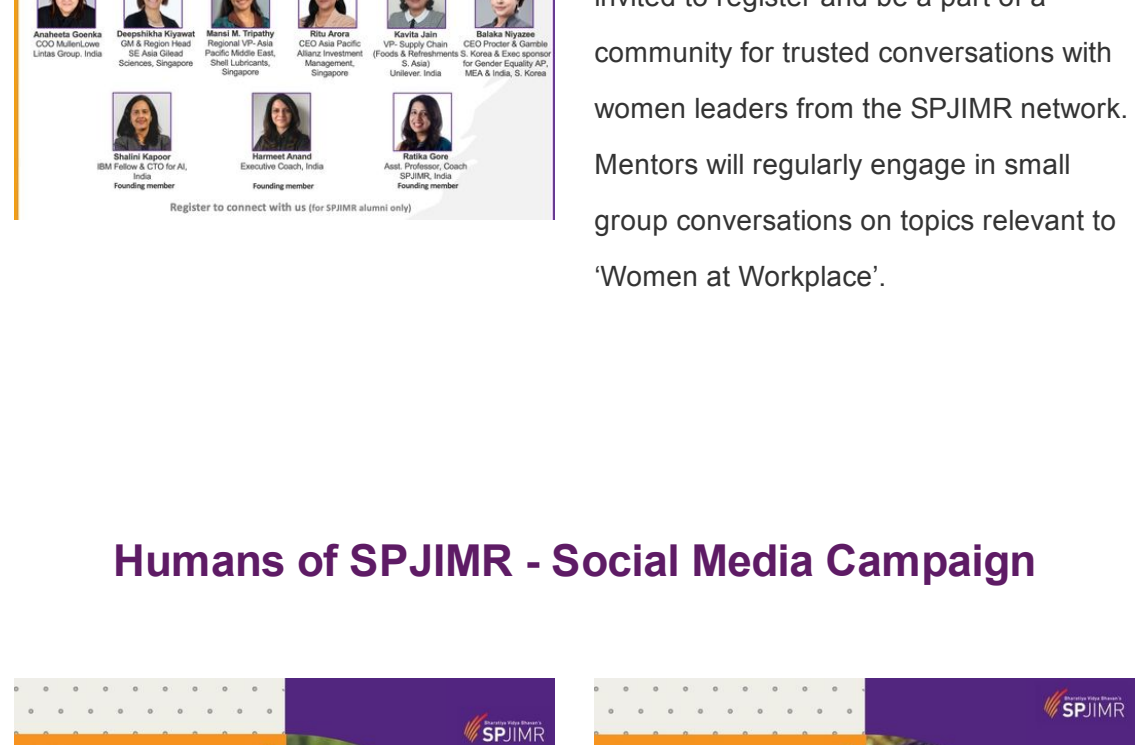
In this engaging conversation, they discuss the aspect of leadership that is unique to the world of content and the role of women in the workplace. Ms. Tata observes that while the participation of women has increased in the workforce there are still very few CXO level positions held by women in the Media Industry. They also discuss how digital consumption has been accelerated during the pandemic and the unique opportunities that have come along with it. [Listen to the ThoughtCast here.](#)

SPJIMR family celebrates Diwali



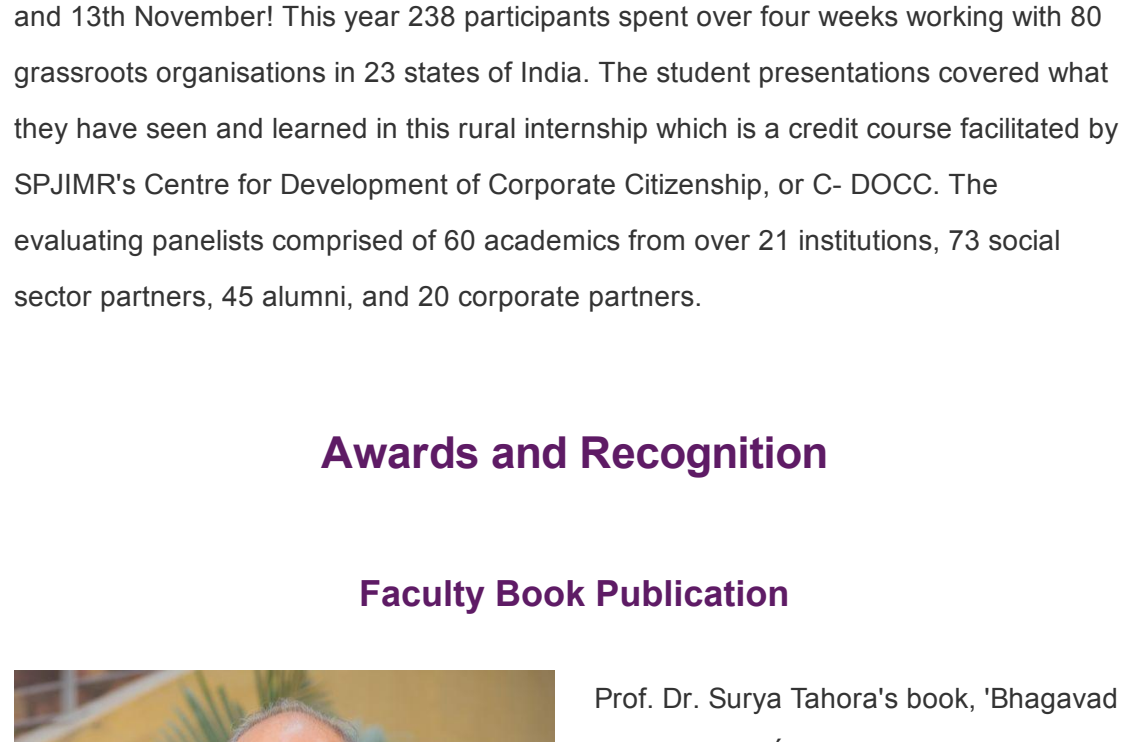
SPJIMR faculty and staff got together to spread the festive cheer in a virtual Diwali celebration on 29th October. Dr. Seshu Iyer set the tone for the session by talking about how Diwali came to be celebrated. Dean Dr. Varun Nagaraj extended his wishes to the entire SPJIMR family while giving a glimpse into his own Diwali memories. Lively song and dance performances, poetry recitals and a skit made it an entertaining afternoon, where four long serving SPJIMR employees (10 & 20 years) - Prof. Abbasali Gabula, Prof. Malay Krishna, Ms. Medha Raikar and Ms. Aditi Pujari - were also felicitated.

Prof. Anandhi Bharadwaj conducts a research session



Prof. Anandhi Bharadwaj, Vice Dean for Faculty and Research, Goizueta Business School at Emory University, USA conducted a session at the SPJIMR campus in Mumbai on 18th October. She was a guest speaker as a part of the 'Research Seminar Series' organised by the Office of Research and Innovation (ORI). This seminar series fosters the exchange and cross-fertilization of ideas concerning research domains, research methodologies, and other relevant discourses concerning the field of management research.

Chetna Gala Sinha at DoCC's Voice of Change event



Chetna Gala Sinha was the Voice of Change at a Development of Corporate Citizenship (DoCC) hosted event. Ms. Sinha is the founder-chairman of Mann Deshi Mahila Sahakari Bank, a rural bank for women for women. Chetna Gala Sinha spoke of extraordinary women working on innovative ideas and bringing about change. Sharing her motto "never create poor solutions for poor people", she spoke of women using "courage as capital" to embark on entrepreneurial journeys. Ms. Sinha is an awardee of Nari Shakti Puraskar- the highest civilian award for women in India.

Alumni Office launches SPACE, a mentoring initiative for emerging women leaders



SPJIMR's Alumni Relations Office has launched SPACE - S P Alumni Circle of Empowerment (for women), a new mentoring initiative for emerging women leaders. As part of this mentoring initiative, emerging women leaders of SPJIMR are invited to register and be a part of a community for trusted conversations with women leaders from the SPJIMR network. Mentors will regularly engage in small group conversations on topics relevant to 'Women at Workplace'.

Humans of SPJIMR - Social Media Campaign



A new series, "Humans of SPJIMR", debuting on the institute's social media has gained great engagement and response. Showcasing unique, untold stories that exemplify the diverse and inclusive nature of our institution, this series is a celebration of individual journeys of struggle and triumph. The series has been curated by the Communications Committee. [If you haven't read them already, here they are.](#)

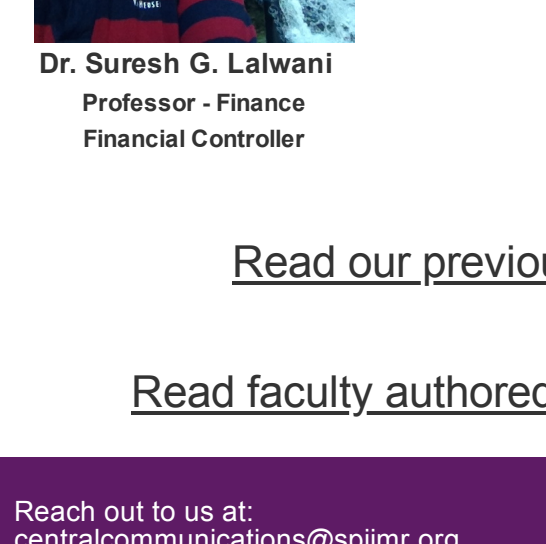
DoCC Evaluations



Almost 200 panelists from nonprofits, academia, and corporate India listened in, engaged with and evaluated social projects of second-year PGPDM participants on 12th and 13th November! This year 238 participants spent over four weeks working with 80 grassroots organisations in 23 states of India. The student presentations covered what they have seen and learned in this rural internship which is a credit course facilitated by SPJIMR's Centre for Development of Corporate Citizenship, or C- DOCC. The evaluating panelists comprised of 60 academics from over 21 institutions, 73 social sector partners, 45 alumni, and 20 corporate partners.

Awards and Recognition

Faculty Book Publication



Prof. Dr. Surya Tahora's book, 'Bhagavad Gita: Cours d'Étude de la Bhagavad Gita - Volume 3', a french translation of Swami Dayananda Saraswati's Bhagavad Gita Home Study Course has been published. This volume includes chapter 3 of the Gita, entitled Action (Karma Yoga), as well as a summary of the first three chapters. [Access the book here.](#)

SPJIMR students win country's largest B-School challenge

SPJIMR's Team Lemonade, comprising of PGPDM 2021-23 participants, Debrup Poddar, Pranjal Jagdish Rao, and Nuzhat Tai won the 13th season of the country's largest B-School challenge, L.I.M.E (Lessons in Marketing Excellence) presented by Hindustan Unilever Limited. The Grand Finale was aired on CNBC-TV18.

Webinars

Dean speaks at a Business Today panel

Dean Dr. Varun Nagaraj was a part of a panel to discuss Business Today's Best B Schools Survey for 2021. SPJIMR has been ranked as the best private B School in India and 5th best overall. Congratulations to all of us! [Watch it here.](#)

Dr. Chandrika Parmar attends session on 'Sustainability Education in B-Schools'

SPJIMR Prof. Dr. Chandrika Parmar, Current Chair of PRME India Chapter was a panelist for a session on 'Sustainability Education in B-Schools' held on 29th October 2021. The session was part of the 8th Annual India And Sustainability Standards, an international conference organised by the Centre for Responsible Business between 27th – 29th October 2021.

SPJIMR's Centre for Financial Studies (CFS) hosted a fireside chat with Mr. Rajnish Kumar – Former Chairman SBI, Author – 'The Custodian of Trust – A Banker's Memoir' and SPJIMR Prof. Ananth Narayan - Associate Professor Finance, SPJIMR on Saturday, 30th October. [Watch the webinar recording here](#)

Know Your Colleague

- Favourite Book:** 'Ikigai'
- Favourite Song:** 'Chiquitita' by ABBA
- Favourite Holiday Spot:** Goa
- Favourite movie:** 'The Godfather' 1972 (Part 1)
- Role Model:** Uday Kotak
- Lesser Known Facts:** Do often let my guard down to do crazy, stupid, fun stuff in the company of close friends

Dr. Suresh G. Lalwani
Professor - Finance
Financial Controller

[Read our previous newsletters here](#)

[Read faculty authored press articles over here](#)

