

S P e c t r u m

Bhavan's SPJIMR Alumni Newsletter

April 2026

Announcement

Banking veteran Zarin Daruwala joins
SPJIMR Governing Council



Ms. Zarin Daruwala

Group CEO, PL Capital
(Prabhudas Lilladher)

Former CEO, India and South Asia
Standard Chartered Bank

Joins

SPJIMR
Governing Council



Zarin Daruwala, Group CEO, PL Capital (Prabhudas Lilladher), has joined the Governing Council of SPJIMR, with her term commencing April 15, 2026.

With over three decades of leadership across banking and financial services, including her tenure as CEO for India and South Asia at Standard Chartered, she brings deep institutional insight and experience in leading at scale.

Commenting on her appointment, Ms. Daruwala said, “SPJIMR is recognised for its values-driven approach to management education. I look forward to contributing to its efforts in shaping responsible, future-ready leaders.”

Her appointment strengthens SPJIMR’s industry engagement as management education responds to evolving economic, technological and societal shifts, while

reinforcing the Institute's commitment to bridging academia and practice.

Read the full announcement [here](#)

Update

SPJIMR Marks 45 Years with Reflection, Recognition and Culture



SPJIMR celebrated its 45th Foundation Day with an evening of reflection, recognition, and cultural engagement.

The ML Shrikant Memorial Speech, instituted in memory of the former Dean, was delivered by N. Ravichandran, former Director of IIM Indore. He spoke on the role of management education in shaping future leaders and the responsibilities institutions carry in this process.

The evening also recognised long-serving members of SPJIMR, honouring their sustained contributions to the institution's growth. Awards were presented by Dean Varun Nagraj.

The celebration concluded with a live Hindi musical play, *Bansuri Jab Gaane Lage*.

Read more [here](#)

Abhyudaya

Beyond Access: Nurturing High-Potential Students



Questions of educational equity, mentorship and sustained student support were at the centre of the High Potential Students Nurturance Convening hosted in New Delhi by Central Square Foundation, focused on improving school education in India.

Bringing together educators and practitioners, the convening explored pathways for enabling underserved, high-potential students to thrive.

A key highlight was the launch of The Long Bet, a compendium of best practices from nine Indian organisations building nurturance pathways for students, featuring a chapter on SPJIMR's Abhyudaya and situating it within a broader emerging field. Representing SPJIMR, Arati Nagaraj, Director, Abhyudaya, contributed to a panel on designing enabling ecosystems for underserved students.

Drawing on the Abhyudaya experience, she highlighted sustained mentorship between SPJIMR PGDM students and municipal school learners, extending beyond academics to socio-emotional development, confidence-building and continuity of support.

Set within a wider national conversation on educational equity, the convening underscored how institutions can combine mentorship with social responsibility.

Reflections from Gurcharan Das, distinguished author, intellectual, and former CEO of Procter & Gamble India further highlighted the ethos behind Abhyudaya's approach.

Read more [here](#)

Alumni Focus

Notable Alumni

Subhankar Sen (PGEMP,2014) assumes charge as Chairman of Indraprastha Gas Limited. Read more [here](#)

Radha Mohan Gupta (PGDM, Class of 1995) on this recognition for the Exemplary Skills and Competence in Strategic Sourcing and Supply Chain Management conferred by CE Worldwide. Read more [here](#)

Krishnakumar S. (PGEMP, 2004) appointed CEO at Arcelor Mittal Building Solutions India. Read more [here](#)

Debjani Ghosh (PGDM Class of 1993) recognized with the SAHIT Award by ASSOCHAM (The Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India) for her contributions to science and technology. Read more [here](#)

Archana Panda (PGDM, Class of 1999) received the Nari Award from the Consulate General of India, San Francisco. Read more [here](#)

Share your success stories in brief at alumni.admin@spjimr.org, and include the relevant hyperlink

Events



New York based alumni met on 17th April 2026 on the occasion of SPJIMR Foundation Day.



PGPM alumni meet was held on 25th April 2026

Alumni on Campus



Issac John (PGDM, Class of 2006)
Co-founder at Ivory recently interacted with participants of the PGPGM programme in Mumbai Campus sharing reflections from his entrepreneurial journey.

Faculty Speak

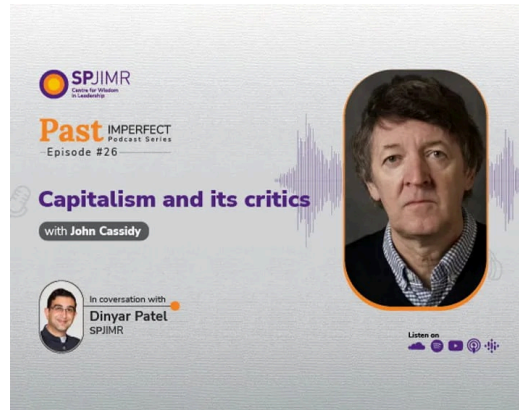
Articles

- A. [Hacking the 'software of the mind': Why mindset, not skillset, matters most](#) by Prof. Snehal Shah in The Economics Times on 16th April, 2026.
- B. [Ensuring to borrow is to build](#) by Prof. Tulsi Jayakumar in The New Indian Express on 16th April, 2026.
- C. [From chai to corridor: Assam's quiet economic transformation deserves national attention](#) by Prof. Vidhu Shekhar in Swarajya on 9th April, 2026.
- D. [Bata's long walk back to cool](#) by Prof. Ashita Aggarwal in Reputation Today 3rd March, 2026.

Disclaimer: Views in these articles may not reflect the views of the Institute

To view more faculty published articles click [here](#)

Podcast



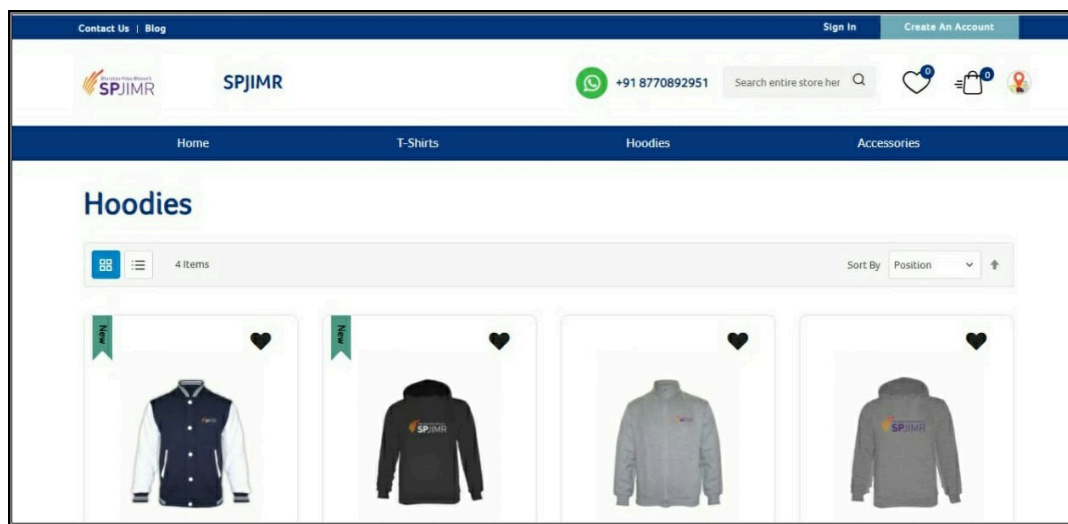
Past Imperfect Episode 26: John Cassidy on capitalism and its critics



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