



Activity Report

Title of Event: CONVERGENCE'23

Date of Session: 3rd November 2023 (Friday)

Time: 10 AM onwards

Speakers: Ms. Manjula Pradeep, Ms. Pallabi Ghosh, Major General Yash Mor, Ms. Rida Tharana, Mr. Abhilash Thapliyal, Dr. Vijender Chauhan, Mr. Manish Modi, Mr. Manjit Thakur, Mr. Neeraj Gaba, Mr. Akshay Srivastava

Poster/Banner/Brochure of the event:

INSTAGRAM: <https://www.instagram.com/p/CyyJjDayesA/>

Activity Summary

Convergence – The Annual Leadership Summit of SSCBS

Convergence 2023, the Annual Leadership Summit of Shaheed Sukhdev College of Business Studies was organized on 3rd November 2023. This year's theme was

“Transcending Limits: Bridging to Infinity”

In a world brimming with challenges, opportunities, and self-imposed limits, the pursuit of breaking these barriers and embarking on the unknown beckons. It is an exploration of boundless potential, a

journey that calls for pushing the limits, questioning the status quo, and daring to dream without limits. Our collective commitment to transcend preconceived boundaries, to seek the extraordinary amidst the ordinary, and to delve deeper into unconventional paths of innovation and discovery is the essence of our journey. As we gather to deliberate, collaborate, and innovate, we aim to bridge the gaps that confine us, forging pathways to an infinity of possibilities.

The event began with a warm welcome speech and thereafter the exquisite lamp-lighting ceremony was carried out. It was followed by an enthralling enchantment of Saraswati Vandana by team “Dhwani”.

After the blessing of Lordess Saraswati, **Prof. Poonam Verma**, our esteemed Principal inaugurated the event. She greeted and thanked all the speakers ardently and appreciated Team Convergence for conducting the event. Talking about the theme of the event she emphasized that dreams are unlimited and that to achieve, we ought to go beyond the ordinary and mold ourselves in a manner to stand out amidst the ceaseless flow of time.

Further, the event was bestowed by our inaugural speaker **Ms. Vandana Gupta**, who is currently serving as the Inclusion and Diversity Lead at Accenture. She captured the audience’s attention by laying focus on unexplored potential and enlightened students with her learnings.

Ms. Vandana Gupta

Ms. Vandana Gupta currently serves as the Inclusion and Diversity Lead at Accenture. Notably, she is an alumna of our college, belonging to the class of 1990. She completed her Post Graduate Diploma in Marketing Management from the Times School of Marketing. Throughout her career, she has received numerous accolades, including The Good Samaritan Award, the 2014 Brandon Hall Excellence Awards in Learning, and the Equality Awards.

Ms. Vandana Gupta enriched the minds of the crowd with her immersive and profound thoughts throughout the session. She shed light on her past experiences and insights on the importance of innate abilities, and the challenges faced by college students, highlighting the need to avoid preconceived notions and expectations and to be open to new experiences and risks. She shared the statistics of how only 8.15 percent of Indians complete post-secondary education and emphasized the importance of remembering one's privileges and the potential for success. She then highlighted the significance of focusing on the positive aspects of life, such as learning from experiences and applying lessons learned to new experiences, and brought to attention the value of looking on the bright side of things and making the most of each opportunity to grow. If you want to attempt something new, she said, start with an empty cup, think outside the box, and explore something new. Ms. Vandana further stressed the importance of accepting their mistakes and focusing on personal growth and encouraged acknowledging individuals for their principles, friendliness, and modesty and not passing judgment based on appearances. She then outlined the importance of raw talent, which requires a lot of failure and work, and that success is subjective. In conclusion, her advice emphasizes the importance of embracing one's abilities, approaching life in a new way by seizing opportunities, and taking up the challenges that come with it.

A rapturous round of applause and cheers marked the end of the session.

Further came the panelists, our first panel session comprised Ms. Pallabi Ghosh and Ms. Manjula Pradeep.

Panel Session -1 (The Journey of Impact)

Ms. Pallabi Ghosh:

Ms. Pallabi Ghosh is a dedicated anti-trafficking activist who serves as the director of the Impact and Dialogue Foundation and is a Co-founder of the Antislavery Collective for Generation Equality. Her primary mission is to prevent, rescue, and rehabilitate victims of human trafficking. Over the last 11 years, she has led numerous human trafficking raids, resulting in the rescue of more than 10,000 children, youth, and women, significantly transforming their lives. Her remarkable contributions to the cause have earned her the prestigious Grand Prize Digital Changemaker Award in 2022, a well-deserved recognition of her outstanding efforts in the fight against human trafficking and for the betterment of vulnerable individuals in society.

Ms. Manjula Pradeep:

Ms. Manjula Pradeep is a distinguished lawyer and the founder of the WAYVE foundation, known for her extensive commitment to human rights advocacy, particularly in support of marginalized communities, such as Dalits and women. With a career spanning over three decades, she has been a prominent figure in the Dalit movement. Ms. Pradeep served as the Executive Director of Navsarjan Trust for more than 12 years and held the esteemed position of former Co-Chair of the International Dalit Solidarity Network. In this role, she tirelessly represented the concerns and issues of Dalits with a special focus on Dalit women on international platforms, including the United Nations. Her unwavering dedication and the significant impact of her initiatives have earned her multiple prestigious awards, including the Women Peace Maker Award in 2011, the Femina Women Social Impact Award in 2015, and recognition as one of BBC's 100 influential and inspirational women in 2021.

The panel had a glorious discussion on disparate questions on the theme 'The Journey of Impact', quoting their inspirations behind selecting their respective career paths, along with the journey they went through to reach these commendable heights in their career fields.

Ms. Pallabi Ghosh shared her journey as an anti-trafficking activist, reminiscing about the impact of her work on people's lives and her own experience. She began her career at Delhi University's Lady Shri Ram College and has since established a trust with philanthropists, journalists, and societal leaders. She discovered her life's work, the fight against human trafficking while completing her degree in gender studies. Her advocacy strategy involved publicly discussing the nitty-gritty facts of trafficking on sites like YouTube, breaking taboos, and starting important debates. Her candor helped raise awareness, but it also brought harassment and threats. Despite her dedication to transparency, she faces mental health issues and emphasizes the importance of reaching out to the most vulnerable members of society. She is actively engaged in helping people recover and establishing their economic independence. After joining an organization, she conducted extensive rescue operations against all types of trafficking. She realized that rescuing someone was not enough; they needed to be empowered and rehabilitated. So, she started providing girls with an automated livelihood and a platform to skill themselves up. The battle against trafficking is not just the work of activists, academics, and politicians; the entire country must work together to defeat this criminal organization. She urges people to be empathetic, as their one call to action can help prevent many crimes.

Ms. Manjula Pradeep discussed how she dedicated her life to fighting for the rights of the oppressed marginalized class. Born into a conservative family with stringent customs and traditions, she faced sexual abuse at a young age but remained determined to fight for equality. She joined the Navsarjan Trust in 1992, where she dealt with sensitive cases such as the exploitation of agricultural women by dominant caste landlords, gang rape, the murder of a Dalit youth by Gujarat police, and land reforms for Dalits. Between 2007 and 2009, she conducted extensive research on untouchability in Gujarat, releasing a report titled "Understanding Untouchability." In 2017, she visited the Nagaloka Institute and founded the WAVYE Foundation, which educates women from marginalized communities through workshops and connects with women's rights advocates. She also collaborated with other working-class organizations in Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Gujarat. After the COVID-19 pandemic, she continues her campaigns on social media platforms and has set up a National Council of Women leaders from fifteen states to launch their first campaign on caste-based sexual violence. She believes that the solution is to educate perpetrators about the harm they cause to the social fabric and that a robust mechanism is needed to address social inequalities through awareness and legislation.

The audience took an agile part in the session enthusiastically and asked various questions to them about their impactful journey.

Cheers and applause thundered in the whole auditorium throughout the marvelous panel session.

The next session was another inspiring panel session.

Panel Session -2 (Unscripted Brilliance: The Art of Creativity)

The second panel session consisted of Mr. Abhilash Thapliyal and Ms. Rida Tharana.

Mr. Abhilash Thapliyal

Mr. Abhilash Thapliyal is known for his contributions as a radio jockey and versatile film actor. Hailing from Pauri Garhwal in Uttarakhand, Abhilash's journey in the entertainment industry began during his undergraduate days at Delhi University. Admirably, he made his acting debut in the film "Dil Juunglee" and has also featured in popular TVF web series including, "Inmates" and "Aspirants". He has also graced the airwaves of several renowned radio stations, including 94.3 Radio One, Fever 104 FM, and Red FM as an RJ, showcasing his charismatic presence, and has worked as a voice artist for popular TV channels like Bindass, National Geographic, Fox History, and Cartoon Network. Abhilash's vibrant career reflects his dedication, enthusiasm, and multifaceted talents making him a prominent figure in India's entertainment landscape.

Ms. Rida Tharana

Ms. Rida Tharana is a distinguished content creator, influencer, model, and professional emcee with over 6 years of experience, having hosted more than 500 shows. In the realm of content creation, she adeptly delves into intricate subjects, encompassing patriarchy, ingrained self-doubt, financial autonomy, and biases rooted in gender, race, and body size, all while demonstrating unwavering bravery and profound understanding. Her influence extends well beyond the digital realm as she generously shares her knowledge and passion by hosting workshops focused on boosting confidence and honing public speaking skills. From graduating in the field of biotechnology and genetics to making a grand career in such an unconventional field, she has truly defied norms. Her inspiring journey has captured the hearts of millions and made her a true youth icon with an impressive 9.28 lakh Instagram followers and 41.1 k YouTube subscribers.

The panel engaged in a captivating discussion covering a wide array of intriguing topics, including the personal journeys of the panel members and the pivotal role of family support in their endeavors. Additionally, they delved into the significance of emotional intelligence in the realm of our professional lives.

During the panel session, Mr. Abhilash Thapliyal shared his journey, which involved transitioning from a radio jockey to becoming an actor. He emphasized the invaluable assistance his wife and family provided him with as his career developed. He actively engaged students by discussing important subjects like self-acceptance, self-love, and pursuing one's passion. Mr. Thapliyal urged the audience to ignore social norms and live life on their terms. During his speech, he highlighted the importance of fostering deep connections and guiding the students regarding how he handles personal difficulties well enough to keep them out of the way of his career.

Ms. Rida Tharana talked about her financial struggles as she narrated her journey from Coorg to Bangalore. She mentioned that she didn't have much privilege or family support but followed her passion regardless and is today one of the best in her field. She also discussed the positive aspects of life and offered advice on how to be happier. Talking about dealing with insecurities, she urged the students to be consistent, and don't let the opinion of others affect their self-esteem. She further discussed the problem of colorism in India and guided the people to stay true to who they are despite social pressures. In her final remarks, she emphasized the value of travel and life exploration. She concluded by sharing what motivates her, what keeps her going, and her future aspirations in a way that left the audience feeling motivated and ready to take on their journeys.

Our next session was graced by none other than Major General Yash Mor.

Major General Yash Mor (The Ethereal Echoes of Inner Brilliance)

Major General Yashpal Singh Mor, a distinguished Army veteran and Ph.D. holder in Nuclear Strategy and Doctrine, boasts a remarkable 40-year career in the Indian Army. Graduating from the esteemed Indian Military Academy in 1985, he was commissioned in 1 Guards, one of the oldest infantry battalions. With expertise in counter-terrorism, he commanded both a Unit and an independent Armored Brigade in active militancy zones. His international service includes representing India in UN Peacekeeping in Mozambique and completing the Command and Staff Course in Bangladesh. Recognized for gallantry, he received the SENA MEDAL and Army Chief COMMENDATION CARD. Post-superannuation, he served as Chief of Staff of a Corps in the Desert Sector. Currently, he leads environmental efforts as the CEO of Save the Himalaya Foundation and serves as an influential educator, inspiring over a lakh young defense aspirants nationwide.

Major General Yash Mor described his journey as unconventional and unpredictable as he had no ambitious goals initially in life. However, his life took a pivotal turn with the CDS exam, where he emerged victorious in his first attempt, setting the stage for an illustrious career in the Indian military. His experiences in the armed forces instilled in him a deep understanding of diverse cultures and religions. After retirement, he embarked on a new journey as an author, publishing his first article, "2 Mile Run in Dhaka," and his first book, "Man of Sea." He also formed a team of headhunters to combat terrorism and dismantle various militant groups. His philosophy of working with gut feelings led him to establish his own company. He encouraged individuals to focus on what they can control and enjoy every aspect of life. He concluded by instilling his mantra for the younger generation: "Fire in the belly and passion in the heart."

A rapturous round of applause and cheers marked the end of the session.

Next up on the list was another enthralling panel session.

Panel Session -3 (Unveiling the Art of Conveying Confidence)

The third panel session consisted of Mr. Manjit Thakur, Mr. Manish Modi, and Dr. Vijender Chauhan

Mr. Manjit Thakur

Manjit Thakur is a seasoned senior correspondent with a remarkable career spanning over 18 years. His profound understanding of media and communication is reflected in his diverse skill set, including broadcasting, storytelling, news writing, translations, and editing. His contributions extend to book editing, scriptwriting, film creation, and crafting narratives for web series, highlighting a truly versatile skill set. Currently serving as a Special Correspondent at India Today, a widely respected and prominent entity in the field of newspapers and news services industry, he has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to delivering insightful and impactful journalism. This dedication has not gone unnoticed, as his career has seen contributions to esteemed organizations like The Economic Times and Nestlé Deutschland, further cementing his reputation as a reliable and accomplished journalist. His insights, honed by years of experience, have not only informed but also inspired countless individuals.

Mr. Manish Modi

Manish Modi, the COO and Co-founder of HairOriginals is a seasoned entrepreneur with a proven track record of success in the IT and services industries. His multifaceted career journey encompasses his prior roles as the co-founder of Quick Seek and a reputable political consultant. Manish's entrepreneurial prowess was on full display when he successfully pitched HairOriginals on Shark Tank India along with his team, capturing the interest of all five sharks and raising substantial funding from the three of them. In addition to his entrepreneurial achievements, Manish holds a Bachelor of Technology (B.Tech.) in mechanical engineering from the prestigious Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi. His dedication to his work is evident in his passion and love for what he does, making him a true professional with a commitment to excellence.

Dr. Vijender Chauhan

Dr. Vijender Chauhan is an exemplary Indian educator, distinguished researcher, and social media personality. He is renowned for his pivotal role as a mock interview panel member at Drishti IAS coaching center, where he assists UPSC aspirants in honing their interview skills. With a profound background in academia and an innate passion for motivating others, he's left an indelible mark on the field of education and beyond. His professional journey spans from his tenure as a lecturer at government colleges in Delhi to serving as an assistant professor at Zakir Hussain College, illustrating a truly inspiring path. His contributions extend beyond academia as he's a prolific writer with notable literary works like 'Kyuki Bharat Bhi Ek Fractal Hai' and 'Media V Stri: Ek Uttar Vimarsh.' His remarkable insights and unwavering commitment to education have merited him the prestigious Bhartendu Harishchandra Award. Moreover, he is a sought-after public speaker, sharing his wisdom at prestigious events like TEDx and Josh Talk

The panel immersed themselves in a compelling discussion, exchanging thoughts on topics ranging from their definitions of confidence to strategies for handling trolling and overcoming life's adversities.

Reflecting on his early life, Mr. Manjit Thakur revealed that during his schooling, he succumbed to family pressure to pursue PCB after the 10th to become a doctor. However, a shift in career perspectives led him to explore agriculture and, subsequently, journalism as a potential career option. Advocating the importance of carving one's path, he emphasized the avoidance of external influences to prevent future regrets. Despite facing criticism for some of his articles as a journalist, he

persevered, highlighting the necessity to move forward rather than succumb to obstacles. At last, he advised the younger generation to experiment with life in the formative years, discover their passions, and relentlessly progress in those chosen fields.

Mr. Manish Modi shared that he decided to follow his startup dream after graduating from IIT Delhi, his family criticized his idea and stopped talking to him for 6 months. Determined not to look back and regret anything, he continued his efforts. His sense of self-assurance came from his ability to solve problems and use criticism as motivation for growth. Hurdles weren't roadblocks but markers of meaningful progress; a philosophy encapsulated in the belief that if you're not facing failures, you're not doing enough was his motto. His narrative embodies the spirit of unwavering resolve and the bravery to turn obstacles into stepping stones, demonstrating that when one goes on the correct path, progress and eventual support line up with the journey's ultimate goal.

Dr. Vijender Chauhan recalled that he was often criticized for deviating from the norm when he decided to pursue Hindi honours instead of a career as an electrical engineer. He emphasized the importance of reading and shared that, he read a lot of books and resources which helped in amassing confidence that flows naturally into lively discussions. He used this depth of understanding as a panelist in interviews. He also stressed the need to own up to mistakes to evolve as a person and the bravery required to go forward on one's own. Realizing that growth demands criticism, he promoted patience in dealing with trolls and advised to convert criticism into chances for personal growth. Advocating for the pursuit of personal fulfillment, he acknowledged setbacks without placing undue pressure on himself. His final advice was to live truly and to accept the highs and lows of life.

The last speaker for our session was Mr. Neeraj Gaba

Mr. Neeraj Gaba (Reimagining the Eternal Realities)

Mr. Neeraj Gaba, a dynamic force in creative entrepreneurship, is popularly addressed as Mr. Gaba of India's Next Top Model on MTV India and Shaadi Fit on MX Player. He seamlessly embodies the roles of a youth mentor through his offline and online motivational speaking sessions and is an exceptional anchor of fashion and lifestyle events. He has also served as a distinguished judge at Femina Miss India 2022, and directed shows at the prestigious Lakme Fashion Week since 2019.

Neeraj Gaba gave the assembled audience a heartfelt welcome. He exuded unlimited energy, had a commanding voice, and a captivating personality. He emphasizes in his speech the importance of accepting accountability for one's actions as well as the need for others to acknowledge one's existence, commitments, and deeds. He suggested that people should start over in life, use the internet to learn more, and see failure as a positive step because it leads to growth and possibilities. He emphasized the idea of spirituality or Swadharna as the unification factor of humanity with a higher dimension. He reminded everyone that they must discover their innate gift and embrace failure as an opportunity for growth and learning. By creating the essence of an ideal self, people will recognize and value your authenticity and uniqueness. One's existence must not be affected by the opinions of the outer world because existence is located in the core elements rather than the external manifestations. He concluded by spreading the idea that all that exists in the concept of eternal truth is a mirror of the individual.

Cheers and applause from every corner of the auditorium marked the end of his speech.

PHOTOGRAPHS







Participants list:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1RQQeQPwvRoKcQyoHfZc93zSSGKFZkbMqdy-bswbnE0c/edit#gid=500104863>

Faculty Feedback:

Faculty Name	Feedback
Ms. Shalini Prakash	It was an inspiring and intriguing session.
Dr. Anuja Mathur	It was a great experience and informative for the students.
Dr. Anamika Gupta	I thoroughly enjoyed this informative session, and I am confident that it was a constructive experience for students as well.
Dr. Sushmita	This session was very prolific, and it surely broadened the students' perspective.