

Talk on Schooling and Aspirations in the Urban Margins

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An Interactive talk on Schooling and aspirations in the urban margins was held on 11th October 2021 from 4:00 pm to 5:30pm on google meet platform for B.EL.ED 2nd year students under their Academic enrichment initiative. Dr. Gunjan Sharma, Assistant Professor at Ambedkar University Delhi, was the guest speaker of the talk. This talk was based on an ethnographic study of a slum cluster and its neighbourhood state-run primary school in Delhi which was conducted by the speaker herself.

She discussed how a State school, as a social and pedagogic institution, shapes the aspirations and worldviews of children in the urban margins. She highlighted the children's everyday experience of marginality and exclusion as they negotiate the intersecting axes of caste, class, gender, and citizenship in her talk. Speaker was able to help the audience develop a sense of the political dynamics between the State and its margins while highlighting the role of schools and locating childhood in this context. The talk was organised by Ms. Divya sharma (Assistant Professor, MSC) and it was attended by 42 students along with 6 faculty members from B.El.Ed.