

REPORT

TWO DAYS WORKSHOP ON

DYNAMIC ECONOMIC ISSUES: SPECIAL FOCUS ON INDIA'S MIDDLE CLASS

A two day workshop was organized by Department of Economics, Mata Sundri College for Women, University of Delhi in association with B.A. (Programme) Society and Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) in Collaboration with Meghnad Desai Academy of Economics on 6-7 November 2020. The purpose of the workshop was to enlighten the students regarding the basic foundation, situation and critical issues of the middle class society of India. It made them learn and identify the structure, terminology and potential areas of research in this broad spectrum of arena. The keynote speaker of the workshop was Dr. Sandhya Krishnan, PhD from University of Amsterdam. At the inaugural ceremony, Teacher-In-Charge Mrs. Upasana Dhawan delivered the welcome speech, Principal Madam Prof.(Dr.) Harpreet Kaur and Dr. Lokesh Kumar Gupta enlightened us with their kind and words. First day, the session was moderated by Dr. Jasleen Kaur. Dr. Krishnan explained the origin of the word middle class from the historical perspective which was quotidian in the British Era. She covered the two questions such as how has the middle class in India expanded in the period from 1999-00 to 2011-12 and how sensitive are the results to different definitions of the middle class on 6th November. Her accountability and presentation with the tables and graphs catered the interest of the students. She also explained the economic aspect of middle class in the current scenario. Second day, the session was hosted by Dr. Niti Arora who also pointed out the significance of the workshop. Dr. Krishnan answered the last two questions that how middle class is different from the poor and affluent in terms of its spending pattern and what is its structural composition. She also showed different videos related to the concerned subject to clarify the concept. The analysis of distribution of middle class among different sections like caste, class and religion gave an insight for deep edge of vindication as it's based on the NSSO 68th survey. In the workshop, approximately 80 students have participated and identified the key contextual factors to be taken into account and an assignment is given to all of them as a mandatory requisite to receive the certificate. Many students asked different questions related to this topic and a healthy conversation was established. Lastly, vote of thanks was given by Mrs. Shivani Verma and Principal Prof.(Dr.) Harpreet Kaur and Dr. Lokesh Kumar Gupta . The pro student approach of the speaker gave new perception and attitude towards the gravity of the topic and as well as provide a plot for the potential research base. It was an informative and illuminating session which renaissance the interest of the students as well as of the faculty members.