



Happenings @SPJIMR



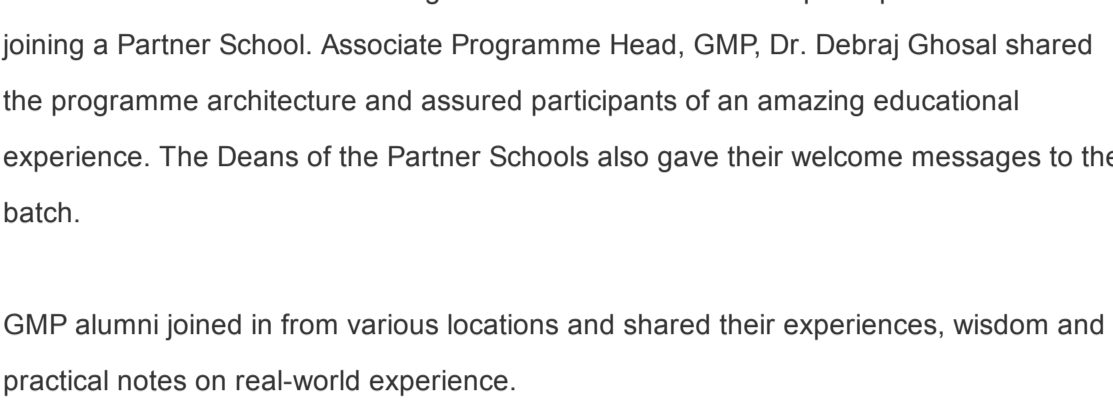
Dr. Varun Nagaraj

SPJIMR announces Dr. Varun Nagaraj, US-based practitioner-academic, as the new Dean

SPJIMR's new Dean Dr. Varun Nagaraj met the faculty and staff briefly for the first time on Thursday 10th June, 2021. Announcing the appointment, Mr Deepak Parekh, Chairman of the Governing Council of SPJIMR, said that Dr Nagaraj was selected after a rigorous global search process led by a C-Suite executive search firm. Dr Nagaraj is a practitioner-academic, currently based in California, USA, and will be joining SPJIMR in September 2021. Dr. Nagaraj said he was looking forward to moving to Mumbai to take up the new role. He said: "As technology rapidly transforms industry and society, the SPJIMR mission of influencing industry practice and promoting values-based growth is more relevant than ever."

[For more details read here.](#)

SPJIMR GMP's June 21 Cohort - Batch 14 Inauguration



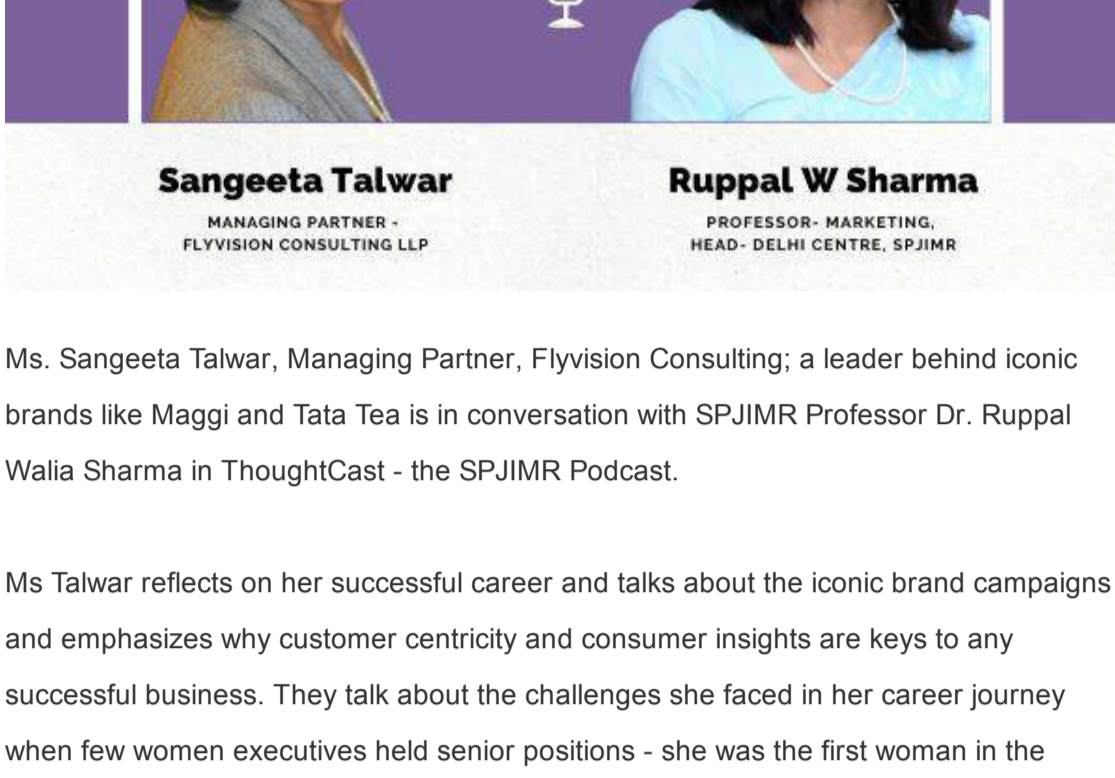
SPJIMR's GMP programme held a virtual inauguration for its June 21 cohort – GMP Batch 14 on 7th June. The inauguration was attended by the institute's faculty, staff, alumni and participants.

The incoming students were taken on a virtual tour of the SPJIMR campus by Prof. Vineeta Dwivedi. Dr. Vasant Sivaraman, Associate Dean (Academics) in his address encouraged the participants to "Take the best from SPJIMR and give your best" and make use of peer learning and networking. Prof. Prem Chandrani, Advisor to GMP, spoke about the genesis of the GMP programme and how it has gone from strength to strength. Dr. Sesha Iyer highlighted SPJIMR's legacy and Bhavan's culture.

GMP Programme Head, Prof. Milind Kamat highlighted the importance of effective communication and understanding the cultural nuances for the participants before joining a Partner School. Associate Programme Head, GMP, Dr. Debraj Ghosal shared the programme architecture and assured participants of an amazing educational experience. The Deans of the Partner Schools also gave their welcome messages to the batch.

GMP alumni joined in from various locations and shared their experiences, wisdom and practical notes on real-world experience.

ThoughtCast with Ms. Sangeeta Talwar, Managing Partner, Flyvision Consulting and Dr. Ruppall Walia Sharma

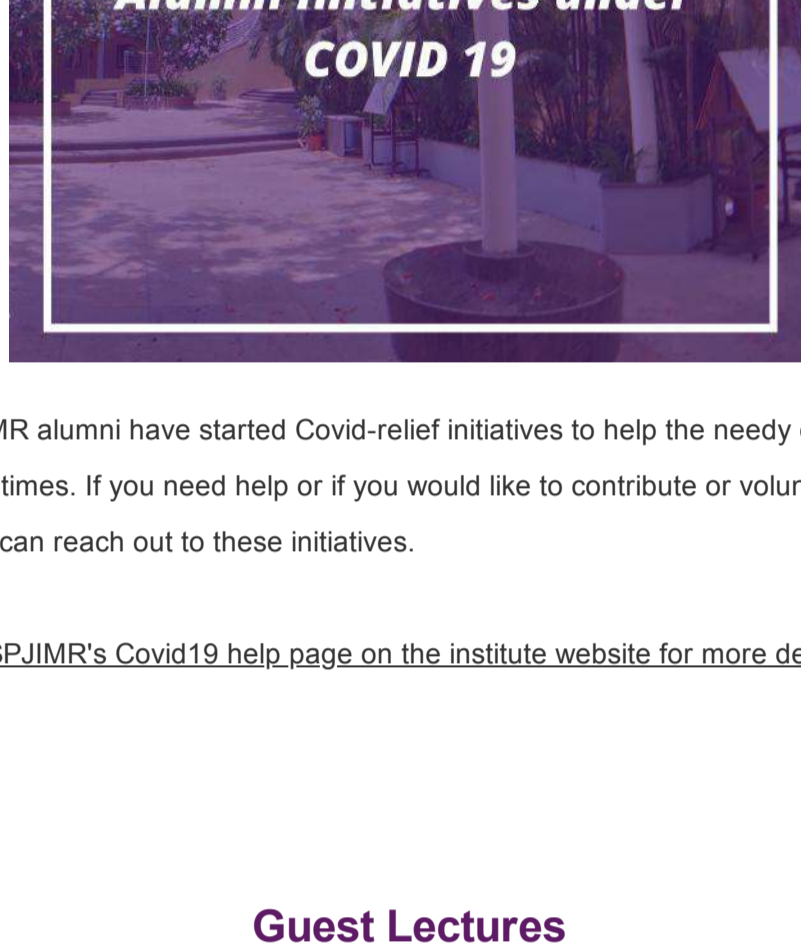


Ms. Sangeeta Talwar, Managing Partner, Flyvision Consulting; a leader behind iconic brands like Maggi and Tata Tea is in conversation with SPJIMR Professor Dr. Ruppall Walia Sharma in ThoughtCast - the SPJIMR Podcast.

Ms Talwar reflects on her successful career and talks about the iconic brand campaigns and emphasizes why customer centricity and consumer insights are keys to any successful business. They talk about the challenges she faced in her career journey when few women executives held senior positions - she was the first woman in the management cadre in Nestle India. They discuss how great ideas can be turned into long-term sustainable businesses and the importance of innovation, experimentation and collaboration in today's interconnected world. Ms. Talwar signs off with some inspiring words for all budding corporate executives especially for women who want to make a mark in their careers.

[Listen to the podcast on SPJIMR's ThoughtCast page.](#)

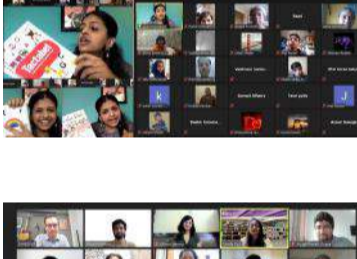
Alumni Initiatives for Covid Relief



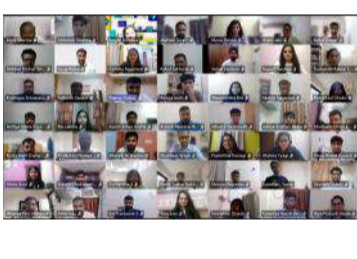
Many SPJIMR alumni have started Covid-relief initiatives to help the needy during these challenging times. If you need help or if you would like to contribute or volunteer in these efforts, you can reach out to these initiatives.

[Check out SPJIMR's Covid19 help page on the institute website for more details](#)

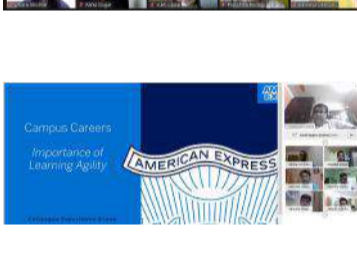
Guest Lectures



The Operations and Supply Chain specialization of SPJIMR's PGDM Class of 2022 gained insights on city logistics, inventory management and category management in the world of E-commerce from industry leaders through the Industry-Academia Alliance with Flipkart. [Read more here.](#)



SPJIMR's PGDM programme hosted a virtual session with distinguished academic Dr. Sunny Jose in their virtual guest session, Mahir Milan where he spoke on the topic, 'Child Undernutrition in India: Progress, Pause and Reversal'. [Read more about the session here.](#)



The Analytics Club of SPJIMR organized an Advanced Excel Workshop with chief guest Mr. Havish Madhvapaty, Founder, Havish M Consulting, that covered various topics like Dynamic Array, Power Query, Power Pivot, VBA, Web Apps, and TypeScript. [Learn more about the workshop here.](#)



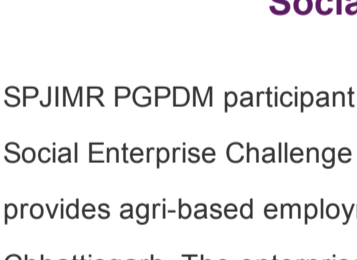
Abhyudaya-SPJIMR had a special session for its Sitaras with chief guest, Upasana Makati Sharat, founder, White Print, India's First English Lifestyle Magazine in Braille. [Learn more about the session here.](#)



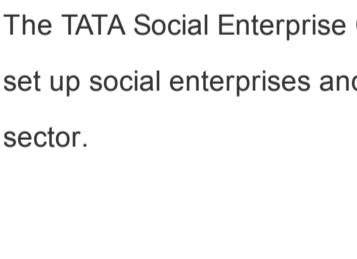
SPJIMR PGDM's Marketing cohort hosted a guest lecture by Mr. Sandeep Mittal from Cartesian Consulting | SOLUS.ai where Mr. Mittal shared the Lord of The Rings framework for campaign management in the realm of programmatic/algorithmic marketing. [Read more here.](#)



SPJIMR hosted Mr. Varun Kandhari from Mars, for a Guest Lecture on 3rd June 2021. In the session, he shared the perfect platform for participants to match the theory with the practice in the world of Operations & Supply Chain, and Marketing. [Read more about the session here.](#)



The Marketing cohort of SPJIMR's PGDM Class of 2022 gained rich insights on category management in the world of e-commerce from industry leaders through the Industry-Academia alliance with Flipkart. [Learn more about the session here.](#)



SPJIMR's PGDM Class of 2022 hosted a guest lecture by Dr. Sachin Gulati from American Express. The informative session aimed at understanding the importance of learning agility in this dynamic environment. [Read more about the session here.](#)

Awards and Recognition

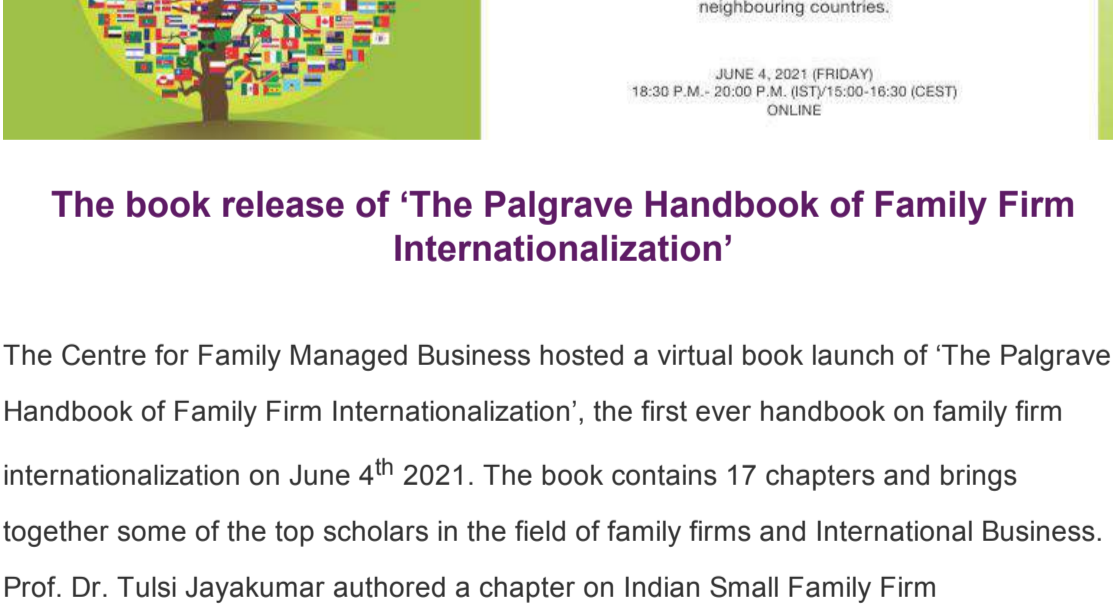


SPJIMR PGDM participant, Satendrasingh Lihare wins the Tata Social Enterprise Challenge award

SPJIMR PGDM participant, Mr Satendrasingh Lihare has won the prestigious Tata Social Enterprise Challenge award for his social enterprise, 'Bastar se Bazaar tak' which provides agri-based employment opportunities to people in the rural areas of Bastar, Chhattisgarh. The enterprise enhances the livelihoods of local forest dwellers by reducing post-harvest losses and supplying high quality, unadulterated, processed forest produce to urban consumers at a fair price.

The TATA Social Enterprise Challenge aims at encouraging youth to come forward and set up social enterprises and raise awareness about entrepreneurship in the social sector.

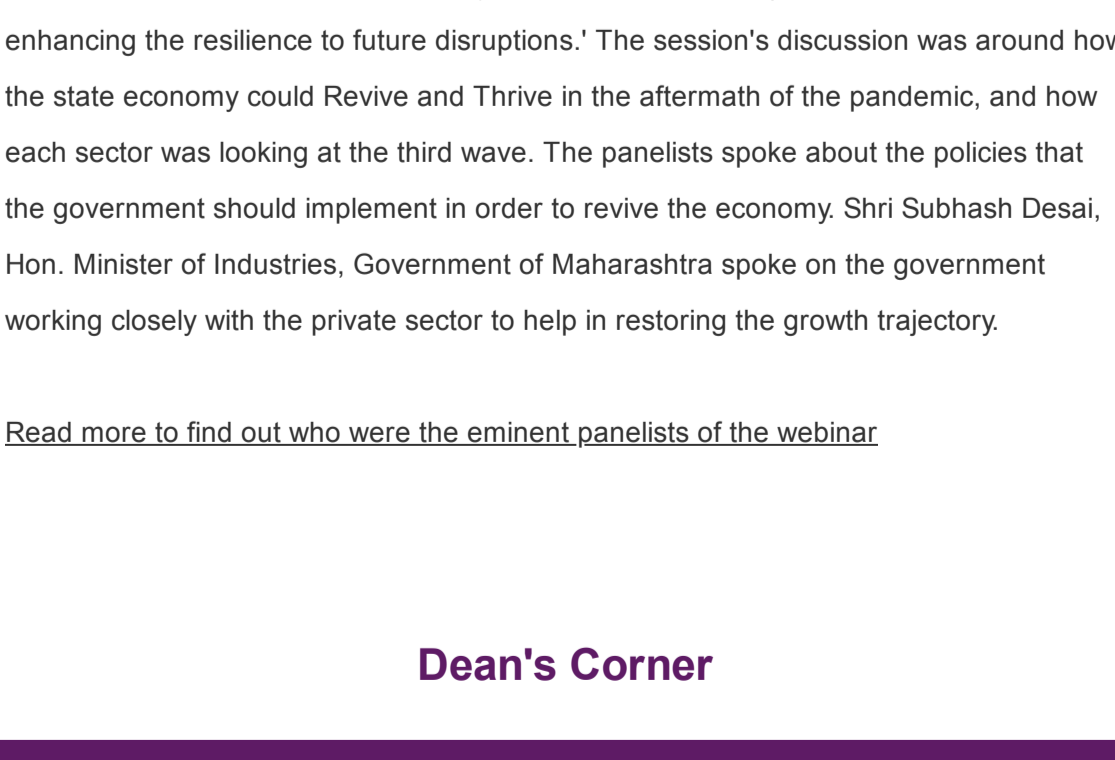
Webinars



Dr. Lata Dhir invited as a speaker at a conference organized by the Rotterdam School of Management

SPJIMR Prof. Dr. Lata Dhir was invited as one of the speakers for the conference, 'Driving Systems Change: Corporate Leadership for the SDGs' hosted by The Partnerships Resource Centre founded by the Rotterdam School of Management, Erasmus University. The topic for the session was 'The Wickedness Challenge: Principles of Sustainable Business' where she spoke about how SPJIMR is contributing in facilitating the execution of various Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations over the past two decades.

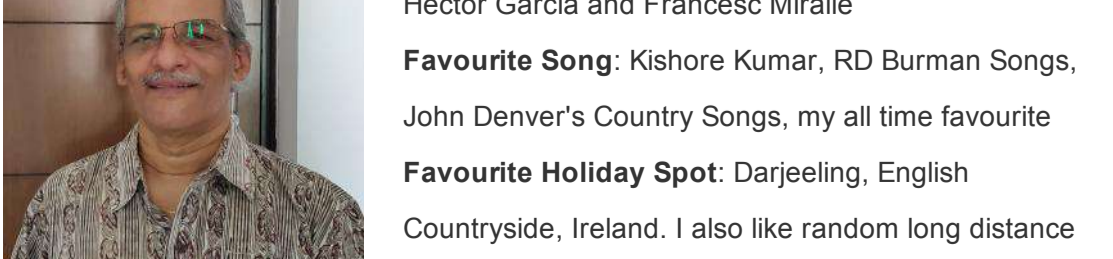
[Read more to find out who were the other panelists in the session.](#)



The book release of 'The Palgrave Handbook of Family Firm Internationalization'

The Centre for Family Managed Business hosted a virtual book launch of 'The Palgrave Handbook of Family Firm Internationalization', the first ever handbook on family firm internationalization on June 4th 2021. The book contains 17 chapters and brings together some of the top scholars in the field of family firms and International Business. Prof. Dr. Tulsi Jayakumar authored a chapter on Indian Small Family Firm Internationalization.

The session covered views of internationally reputed scholars and included a general discussion with the authors of the book chapters, which covered views from all the continents of the world, with a special focus on 'Family Firm internationalization from emerging markets'.

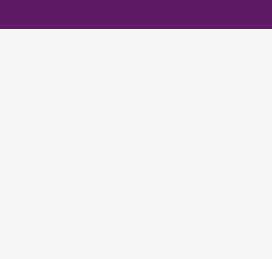


Dr. Tulsi Jayakumar moderated a webinar organized by FICCI

SPJIMR Prof. Dr. Tulsi Jayakumar was the moderator at the FICCI webinar, 'Impact of COVID-19 on Maharashtra's Economy - Interventions to mitigate the impact and enhancing the resilience to future disruptions.' The session's discussion was around how the state economy could Revive and Thrive in the aftermath of the pandemic, and how each sector was looking at the third wave. The panelists spoke about the policies that the government should implement in order to revive the economy. Shri Subhash Desai, Hon. Minister of Industries, Government of Maharashtra spoke on the government working closely with the private sector to help in restoring the growth trajectory.

[Read more to find out who were the eminent panelists of the webinar](#)

Dean's Corner



Dr. Renuka Kamath
Associate Dean, SPJIMR

"It is June, the month when rains begin. I can't help but remember the quote by Bob Marley, my all time favourite singer and songwriter:
"Some people feel the rain, others just get wet"
Enjoy the rain, friends. This year too will work from home, quietly watch and feel the rain without getting wet.
Wouldn't that be a positive outlook in a way?"

Know Your Colleague

Mr. Gaurav Asthana
Head Client Engagement
Executive Management
Programmes

Favourite Book: I like light reading. Currently reading IKIGAI, the Japanese secret to a Long and Happy Life: Hector Garcia and Francesc Miralle

Favourite Song: Kishore Kumar, RD Burman Songs, John Denver's Country Songs, my all time favourite

Favourite Holiday Spot: Darjeeling, English Countryside, Ireland. I also like random long distance driving

Favourite movie: Golmaal series, James Bond Movies
Role Model: My Father

Lesser Known Facts: Electronic gadgets fascinate me. I buy/change cell phones on an average of thrice a year.

Reach out to us at:
centralcommunications@spjmr.org

