

Report

Pillai College of Education and Research, New Panvel, organized a two-day National Level Seminar on Systemic Integration of ICT in Education in the Global Context on 17th & 18th of April, 2013

The chief guest for the seminar, the young, dynamic, action oriented and a perfect exemplary for the present generation Dr. Priam Pillai, COO, MES, inaugurated the event. Dr. Priam Pillai in his inaugural address brought to forth the fact that with the fast paced innovations in the field of ICT, the teachers need to understand their changing roles and equip themselves to face the challenges lying ahead. He cited the example of 'Hole in the wall' discovery wherein the fact was revealed that with no prior experience the children learnt the use of computer on their own. He also emphasized that the teachers of today need to figure out for themselves the best practices that can be adopted in ICT which are fruitful, creative and also motivating.

The keynote speaker Prof Ram Takwale, a prominent educationist and ex vice chancellor of 3 universities Pune, IGNOU and YCMOU familiarized all with the fact that we are changing from an industrial society towards a new Information or Knowledge Society, which calls for the radical reconstruction of education and society. He highlighted that we are juggling between 2 spaces that is the cyber space and the real space. He lauded 'Param a futuristic University's efforts and shared that Param's educational initiatives are instrumental in successful technology integration in education".

The thematic focus of the first session was on Web enabled collective intelligence in Education. Speaking on the topic, the expert Mr.Dilp Tikle, Founder and Consultant at Connect DOTS consulting and Training, stated that the wisdom of nature is such that every human being is endowed with the capacity of self-learning. He convincingly remarked that collective intelligence is instrumental in fostering innovations, collaborative learning, sound decision making and developing global understanding.

The host college emerged as the trend setter in organising an online session on Educational innovations and ICT which was streamed from Singapore. Mr. Shiv Kumar, as an expert, illuminated us on the global trends in ICT and its adoption in the field of education and the variety of software such as Coursera, Moodle, Desckera and so on that could aid to better learning. It was indeed a fascinating experience to be a part of this virtual interactive session

Session 3 was graced by Dr. Ela Goyal, Asst. Prof. SIES College of management, Nerul as the resource person. While speaking on theme 2 'Professional developments and ICT', she shared the problems faced by the teachers in today's time towards professional development

in their lieu of the heavy workload and professional commitment. Dr. Goyal very well demonstrated the use of Moodle & CAMPLUS as an on-going practice in her college at SIES.

All the sessions saw excellent and eye opening paper presentations wherein intelligible and captivating exchange of ideas kindled the minds to think on how ICT can be so contributory in upgrading the knowledge of teachers and making them a lifelong learner. The seminar drew participants not only from in and around Mumbai but from various parts of the state and even outside the state.