



**Mahatma Education Society's
Pillai College of Education and Research
Sector 8, New Panvel 410206**

**National Level Seminar
Designing the 21st Century Classroom**

Two-day National Level Seminar on “**Designing the 21st Century Classroom**” was organized by Pillai College of Education and Research, New Panvel, on 9th and 10th April 2017.



Day 1: The seminar had an august gathering of intellectuals from the field of education. The concept and rationale behind the topic of the seminar was elaborated by Dr. Geeta R. Thakur, the organizing secretary. Key note speaker, revered Prof. G. Ravindra, former Director NCERT, augmented the vision of the seminar with his path breaking ideas on balancing new and old ways of learning. Emphasizing the need for a balance between the good and the bad, he said the bad must be balanced with the good not vice versa. He explained the main reason for problems that arise in the real world with the help of examples stressing that the part cannot contradict the whole but in reality, the part contradicts the whole, creating a chaos. According to him, no learning can take place without fundamentals, and education should prepare the children for self-education leading to self-realization.

Session 1 was on the sub theme, ‘Curriculum Design and Development for 21st Century Learning’ by Dr. Sugra Chunawala, Dean, HBCSE. Her interactive session and mind stirring questions left the audience asking for more. She led us to a broader perspective of design and technology and helped clear our misconceptions about the meaning of technology. Her session highlighted authentic and constructive activities that engage pupils to collaborate and reach a shared goal.



The post lunch session was filled with a set of diverse paper presentations. Ideas and viewpoints on different subjects and disciplines were shared which were effective in stimulating the thought process of the participants.

Day 2: Session 1 was on the sub-theme ‘Development of 21st Century Citizenship’ by Dr. James Joseph Keezangatte, Director, SAMAGRATA. He said the 21st century citizenship includes civic literacy,

environmental consciousness, and global citizenship. He emphasized the concept of ‘earth citizen’ or ‘citizen of the globe’ by drawing examples from technology, industry & business, religion and from his own life experiences.

Session 2 was on the sub theme ‘Integrating Technology in the 21st Century Classroom’ by Mr. Raghavendra Rao, Post Graduate Teacher in Biology, Jawahar Navoday Vidyalay, Vizianagaram. It was a webinar session, and his presentation was based on the use of web for the maximum student engagement. He stressed maintaining a balance between pedagogy and technology in the classroom and that every teacher should be a transforming agent to transform the society. He provided tips for using technology in classrooms. Post lunch, a few more papers along with online presentations followed. The participants expressed what they gained from the two-day national level seminar. Overall, the seminar served as a cognitive treat for the intellectual mind.

