



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

National Level Seminar

Environmental Re-Engineering: Series-10 People and Nature: A Livable and Sustainable Future

Pillai College of Education and Research, New Panvel, organized a one-day National Level Seminar on **“ENVIRONMENTAL RE-ENGINEERING: SERIES-10 People and Nature: A Livable and Sustainable Future”** on **23rd December 2019**.

The inauguration session was graced by the presence of dignitaries of various institutions of MES and intellectuals from different organizations. Organizing Secretary, Dr. Pratima Pradhan in her welcome address elaborated the concept and rationale behind the theme of the seminar. In her address she posed some significant questions which were going to be discussed and pondered over during the course of the day.

The first session of the day was on sub theme 1: ‘A Livable Earth for Present Generation’. Dr. Meera Shah also known as the City’s Zero Waste Woman gave us some hard hitting facts on the present situation of waste generated in Mumbai and the amount of money invested in getting the waste sorted. She stuck a cord with the audience by her simple and minimalistic approach towards life. She expressed her reasons to start with a low waste lifestyle and strictly follows the 5 R’s of sustainability: Reduce,



Reuse, Refuse, Recycle and Rot. In her session she also gave information on the organization which works effortlessly for improving living environmental conditions. Her approach towards the environment is mindful, she has influenced people around her; bringing about a change in their attitude and approach towards life.

The second sub theme was on ‘Mindful Consumption for a Sustainable Gen-Next’. The speaker Dr. Ketna Matkar is an educationist and a hard core environmentalist – working tirelessly and extensively in projects towards building a sustainable living world. She emphasized that being mindful is the only way out of our crisis. She effectively brought to our notice the two patterns of consumption – mindful and mindless and took us through facts and figures related to our consumption pattern. She led us all to a broader perspective of sustainability and elaborated the 3 pillars of sustainability:



Planet, People and Profitability. She emphasized that making reasonable choices forms the backbone of sustainable practices. She elaborated on the United Nations: Sustainable Development Goals and took us through all its parts. Her talk was supported with many inspiring videos. She concluded with the quotes by Mahatma Gandhi and John Sawhill.

The second session was followed by diverse paper presentations. The paper presenters were students from school, junior college and teacher training institution, degree college teachers and teacher educators. Ideas and viewpoints on different aspects of environment were shared and made available to all.

Overall the seminar triggered new ideas to help us become mindful consumers and more sustainable in our approach towards life. The participants expressed their views and appreciated the efforts taken by the institution to bring presenters from different organization under a single roof.

