

REPORT OF A TALK ON CAREER OPPORTUNITIES IN TOURISM

The Career Guidance Cell of M.E.S. College of Arts and Commerce, Zuarinagar – Goa in collaboration with Department of Tourism and Travel of M.E.S. College of Arts and Commerce, Zuarinagar–Goa organized an online talk on ‘Career Opportunities in Tourism’ on 19th April 2021 on Google Meet platform for the B.A/B.Com./B.B.A/B.B.A.(Shipping and Logistics) students. The Resource person for the talk was Dr. Cidalia Bodade, Associate Professor (retired), M.E.S. College of Arts and Commerce, Zuarinagar- Goa.

The talk began by the deliverance of welcome address by the Officiating Principal of the college Dr. Meenakshi Bawa. Dr. Meenakshi Bawa introduced the resource person Dr. Cidalia Bodade.

Dr. Cidalia Bodade, began the sessions by stating that the travel and tourism Industry has grown by leaps and bounds and it will surely reach even better heights in the times to come. Career opportunities in tourism are booming as the number of tourists continues to grow and visitor expectations change with every generation. She highlighted that today, when we talk about the growth of this industry, we cannot ignore mentioning the ample amount of career opportunities that lay subsumed in it.

She stressed that keeping up with the changing trends of the industry is vital for making a career in this field and that many institutes imparting education in this sector ensure to do that. In her session she highlighted that all the best hotel management colleges in India have made provisions to make students industry-ready via different online and offline programs. Dr. Cidalia Bodade in her session mentioned that today many institutions offer various full time and part time courses pertaining to requirements of travel and tourism industry. The certification ranges from Bachelor to Master degree, diploma courses and also that there are courses offering distance learning programmes. She said that there are different verticals of travel and tourism industry such as hotel operation, hospitality, hotel management, airline management (ticketing to steward), administration etc. and courses are available for almost all the verticals.

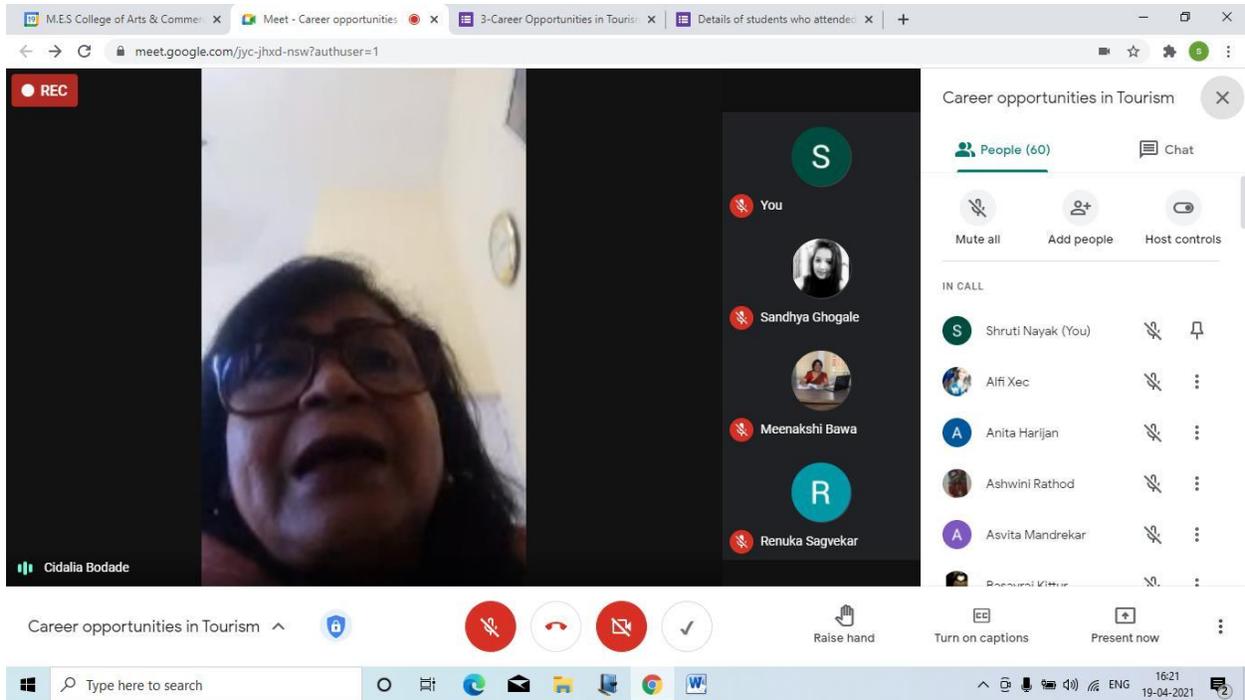
In her session she clearly mentioned that the students have endless career opportunities in the fastest growing industry of travel. Few of the career options are working in travel agencies she mentioned were Customer Ground Handling (customer service) at international or domestic airports, tour operator, event manager, ticketing officer, adventure tourism expert, transport officer, holiday consultant, logistics, cruises, airlines, hotels, and tourism departments in government and private sectors etc.

Dr. Cidalia Bodade stressed on the importance of communication skills in the tourism industry. Apart from the communication skills she also stressed that other skills required could include knowledge of Computer reservation systems (CRS- Amadeus, Galileo, Sabre & Abacus), Air fares and ticketing skills, Language skills, Selling skills, experience of handling money & foreign currencies, Customer service, Travel agency management and travel & tourism geography knowledge. She enlightened the students the need to develop interest in knowing the global culture and all aspects of travel business. Customer relation management while dealing with large volumes of business is also a major skill tourism students need to acquire. She stressed that knowledge of a foreign language will also come in handy in this profession.

She specified various employment opportunities available in private as well as public sector after completing Bachelor's degree in Tourism. She concluded by stating that positive attitude and cooperation are important factors along with marketing and time management skills.

Overall, the session was highly informative and educative to the aspiring and ever-enthusiastic students. The session was followed by an interactive session with the speaker. The highly motivated students raised a variety of questions to the speaker to which she answered with unwavering enthusiasm. All together 57 students attended the talk.

The vote of thanks was delivered by the Chairperson of the Career Guidance Cell Asst. Prof. Shruti B. Nayak and the session was compeered by Asst. Prof. Sandhya Ghogale.



Dr. Cidalia Bodade addressing the gathering

Ms. Shruti B. Nayak
Chairperson
Career Guidance Cell

Ms. Sandhya Ghogale
Co-ordinator
Department of Tourism and Travel

Dr. Meenakshi Bawa
Officiating Principal