

Panel Discussion on ‘Rural Linkages through ecofarm Entrepreneurs’

The Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of MES College of Arts & Commerce, Zuarinagar, conducted a Panel Discussion on ‘Rural Linkages through ecofarm Entrepreneurs’ in the M. S. Kamat Seminar Hall. The discussion was towards educating the B. A./B. Com. students towards the many opportunities available to them if they adopted the age-old agricultural system to create and sustain employment.

Introducing the speakers and the topic, Coordinator Ms. Rochana Kharangate emphasized on the need to be aware of the alternate employments available to students in the post-covid scenario. Eminent ecologist, Mr. Parag Rangnekar served as the moderator of the discussion while the panelists included, Dr. Sachin Tendulkar, Mineral Foundation of Goa, Mr. Madhav Sahakari of Sahakari farms, Ms. Smita Patil of NV Eco-farm and Mr. Shrirang Jambale, Principal of RCPR School of Agriculture & Community College, Savoi-Verem, Ponda.



Each of the speakers spoke of their passion for agriculture and the brilliant ways of nurturing their passion into an effective source of income. Dr. Tendulkar who identifies himself as a farmer/agriculturalist spoke of how one could use innovative ways to tap the market for selling the farm produce be it fruits, vegetables, spices, honey or any natural product. Mr. Sahakari mentioned how his Sahakari Spice Farm began in a humble way combining his ancestral land and passion into a highly profitable ecofarm. Ms. Smita Patil shared her insight into how social media helped their NV Eco-farms to gain visibility and tourist exposure.



The entrepreneurs spoke at length about the benefits of relying on the land and agriculture to sustain and make oneself financially secure in uncertain times in the present post-covid society.

Earlier on, the Principal Dr. Manasvi M. Kamat welcomed the attendees mentioning the importance of rural linkages through organic/eco farming ventures to the present generation of students who largely seek employment in the government sectors. The Vice-Principal, Dr. Ashish Joshi who proposed the vote of thanks deliberated on the importance of agriculture which became prominent during the covid months as people who were left unemployed sought the nurture of their farmlands for the upkeep of their families.

The programme was well attended by students and faculty of the college.