REPORT ON A TWO DAY SEMINAR ON SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP

"If opportunity doesn't knock, build a door."
-Milton Berle

A two day webinar was conducted on the 3rd and 4th of November, 2020 by the Department of Sociology of Mount Carmel College in association with the Institutions's Innovation Council and the Functional Vocational Training and Research Society (FVTRS). The webinar was aimed at shedding light on the Development of Entrepreneurships and allowed students to gain first hand-information about entrepreneurs run their ventures. This was highly successful in allowing students to extrapolate their learnings of Social Entrepreneurs from their Sociology curriculum to understand the real world dynamics of these changemaking and impactful organisations.

The First day of the Webinar was presented by Mr. CP Nicholas, Manager Projects and Mr. Felix Dsouza, Senior Programme Manager of Functional Vocational Training and Research Society (FVTRS). They brought out the disparities in skillsets possessed by different groups of people in society, which arose out of lack of opportunities to learn and develop talents and interests among the marginalised. This gap was widening and impoverishment increased as a result of it. FVTRS as an organisation has done remarkable work in imparting vocational, livelihood and skill training to young schoolchildren and dropouts of deprived communities like the fisher community, Adivasis, Tribes, religious minorities, etc so that they had a chance at leading a better life. They spoke about their work and how training one can result in a chain effect that can make lives better for the others of the group. It made us realise that even in times like today where education is a constitutionally guaranteed right, education is still not able to disseminate to reach all.

The Second day of the webinar, was more focused on Social Entrepreneurship. It started with a talk by Mr. Kaushik VA of Vrook. It was an interactive session moderated by Ishita Ma'am of the Sociology Department , who was also the teacher coordinator of the segment. Students were inspired by Mr. Kaushik's talk that spoke about how leadership values and training had to be instilled at a young age. He spoke about how important it is for leaders to brace themselves for any challenge that arises and how training oneself to be a leader, early in life, can be superbly beneficial. It was followed by an interaction with students, where Mr.Kaushik helped understand social entrepreneurship better with an in depth analysis of the activities of a social entrepreneur and how they varied from a normal entrepreneur.

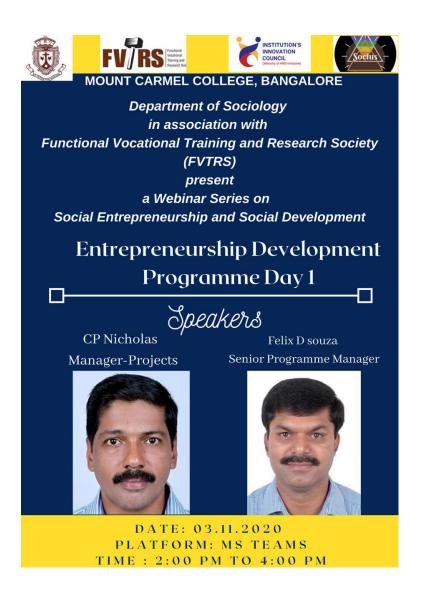
Following this was a talk by Ms.Anjana Sharma, a social entrepreneur from Jaipur who spoke about how a small endeavour to start selling spices along with a group of other ladies had increased in magnitude to become a full fledged, prosperous Social entrepreneurship by the name of Maa Annapurna Masala. It was tremendously inspiring to listen to Ms. Anjana who spoke passionately about her entrepreneurship's growth and how it facilitates women to engage in activities outside the walls of their home and gave them a breath of independence.

The Webinar was immensely useful in allowing students to realise the power of an idea, the entrepreneurial spirit and how the real social entrepreneurs keep going even during the toughest times! The webinar would not have been possible without the support of our Sociology HOD, Kala

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Ma'am and the department members. Ishita Ma'am played the instrumental role of arranging for the speakers and moderating the events.

Thank You!



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