



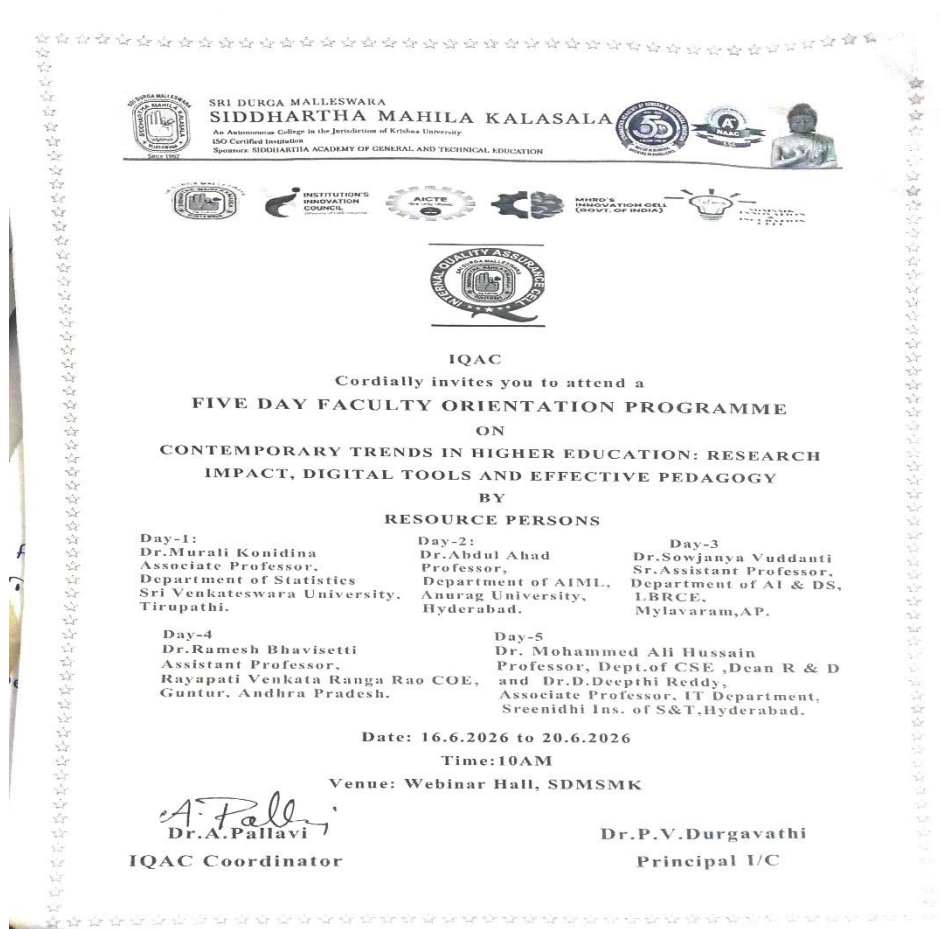
Report on the Five-Day Faculty Orientation Programme (FOP): “Contemporary Trends in Higher Education: Research Impact, Digital Tools and Effective Pedagogy”

Date & Day: 16.06.2026(Tuesday) to 20.06.2026 (Saturday)

Venue: Webinar Hall

Time: 10:00AM-12.00PM

INVITATION:



PROGRAMME SCHEDULE:

DATE	TOPIC	RESOURCE PERSON
16.06.2026 TUESDAY	Empowering Research with Statistics and Data Science	Dr.Murali Konidina Associate Professor, Department of Statistics Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupathi.
17.06.2026 WEDNESDAY	Empowering Educators through AI Tools and Technologies	Dr.Abdul Ahad Professor Department of AIML Anurag University, Hyderabad.
18.06.2026 THURSDAY	Contemporary Innovative Teaching Practices for Educators	Dr.Sowjanya Vuddanti Sr.Assistant Professor Department of AI & DS LBRCE, Mylavaram, AP
19.06.2026 FRIDAY	Positive Learning Environment in the classrooms	Dr.Ramesh Bhavisetti Assistant Professor, Rayapati Venkata Ranga Rao COE, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh.
20.06.2026 SATURDAY	Research Skill for Academic Growth: Improving Citations and Research Indexes	Dr. Mohammed Ali Hussain Professor, Dept.of CSE ,Dean R & D, And Dr.D.Deepthi Reddy Associate Professor,IT Department Sreenidhi institute of S&T,Hyderabad.

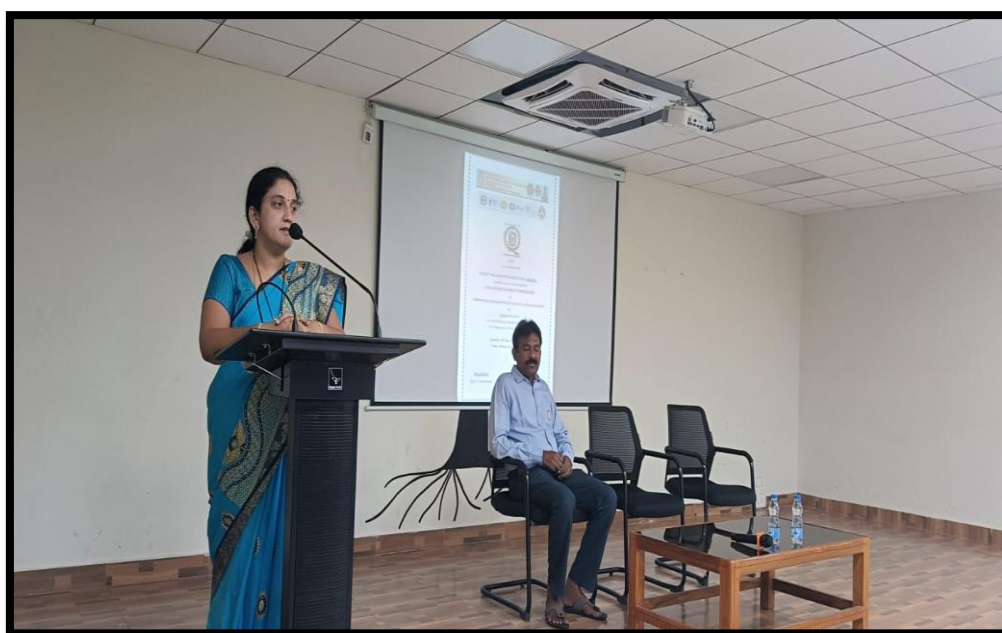
OBJECTIVE: Enhancing the professional competencies of faculty members by equipping them with the latest advancements in research, technology-enabled teaching, innovative pedagogical practices, and academic development. The programme aimed to foster a culture of continuous learning, improve teaching effectiveness, strengthen research capabilities, and empower educators to meet the evolving demands of higher education.

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

The Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of SDMSMK organized a Five-Day Faculty Orientation Programme (FOP) on the theme "Contemporary Trends in Higher Education: Research Impact, Digital Tools and Effective Pedagogy" which was held from 16.06.2026 to 20.06.2026.

ADDRESSING BY THE IQAC CO-ORDINATOR:

The programme commenced with a welcome address by the IQAC Coordinator, who highlighted the significance of faculty orientation programmes in promoting academic excellence and lifelong professional development. The Coordinator emphasized that such programmes provide a valuable platform for faculty members to update their knowledge, acquire new skills, and adopt contemporary teaching and research practices.



SESSION BY THE RESOURCE PERSONS:

On 16.06.2026:

The first session of the Five-Day Faculty Orientation Programme was delivered by Dr. Murali Konidina on the topic "Empowering Research with Statistics and Data Science." The session provided valuable insights into the significance of statistics in academic research and emphasized how statistical methods contribute to producing

reliable, valid, and meaningful research outcomes. The resource person began by explaining the beauty of Statistics, highlighting its indispensable role in organizing, analyzing, interpreting, and presenting data for evidence-based decision-making. He elaborated on the importance of statistics in every stage of the research process and explained how it enables researchers to draw meaningful conclusions from collected data. He discussed the role of statistics in research by distinguishing between descriptive statistics and analytical (inferential) statistics. He explained that descriptive statistics summarize and present data effectively through measures such as averages, percentages, tables, and graphs, while analytical or inferential statistics help researchers draw conclusions, test hypotheses, and make predictions about a larger population based on sample data. The session also covered the types of data, namely qualitative and quantitative data, along with their characteristics and applications in different research studies. Further, he highlighted the importance of identifying the limitations of a research study, explaining that acknowledging limitations enhances the transparency, credibility, and scope for future research.

The session was highly informative and enabled the faculty members to gain a better understanding of the role of statistics in research methodology, data analysis, and scholarly writing.

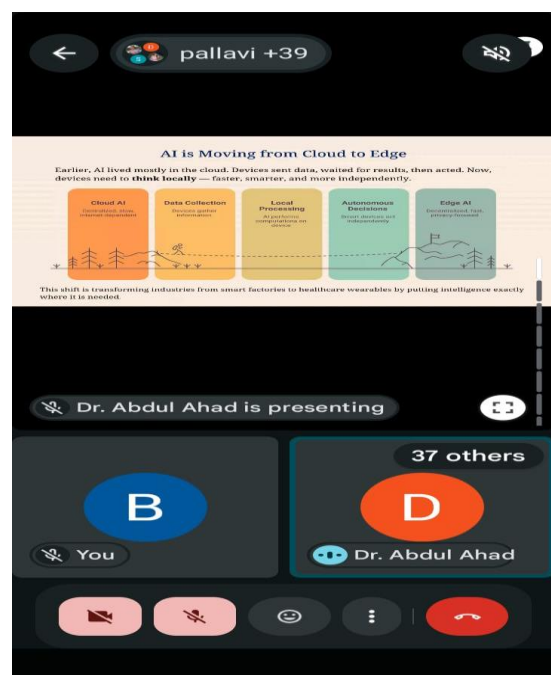
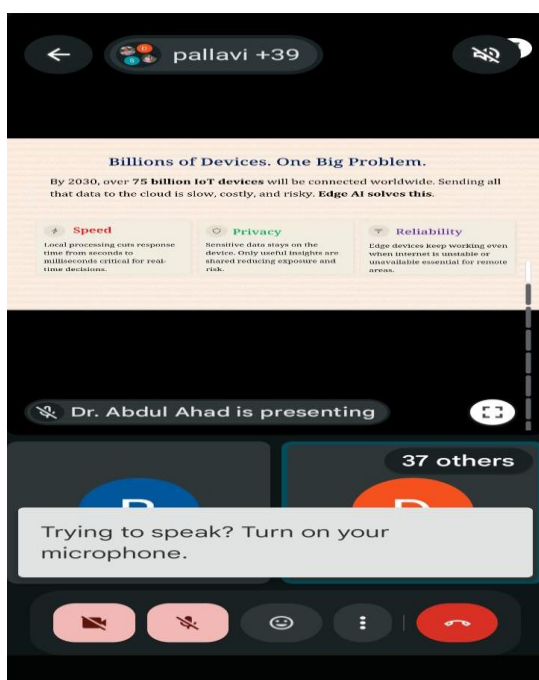
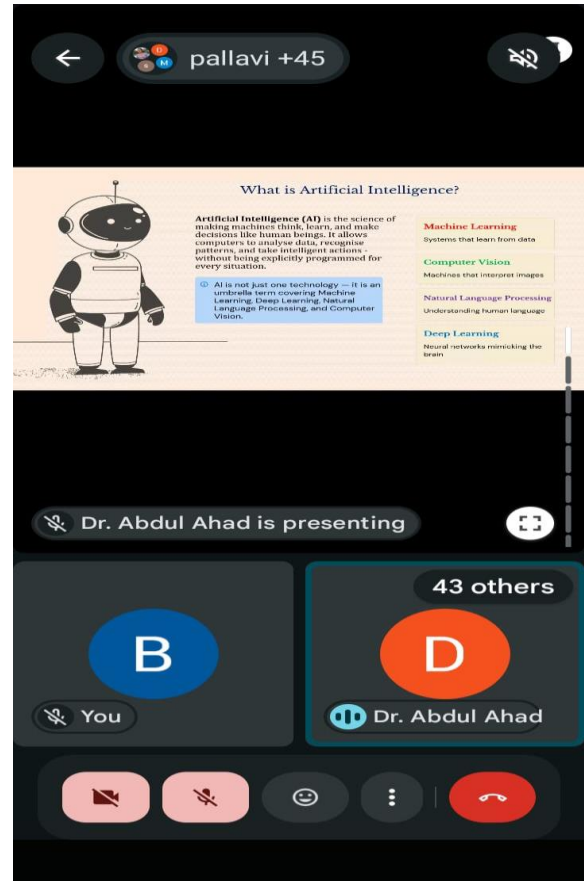
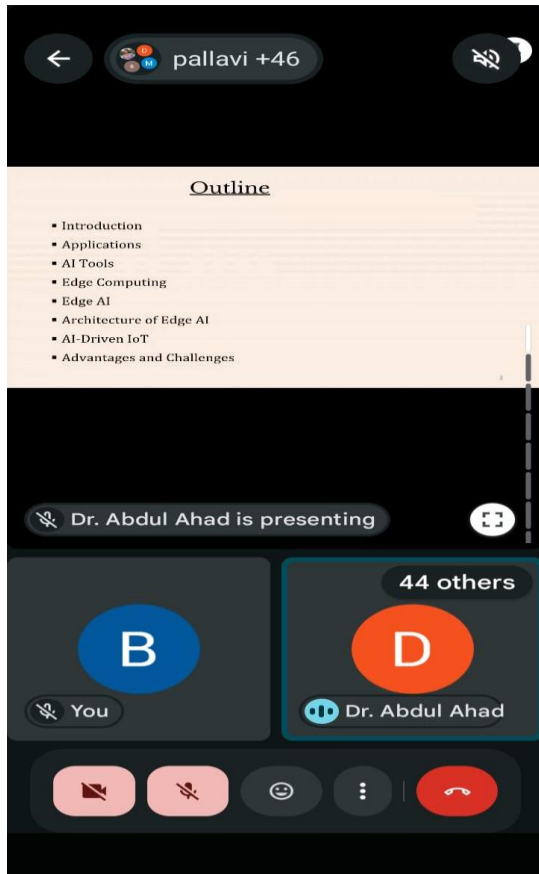


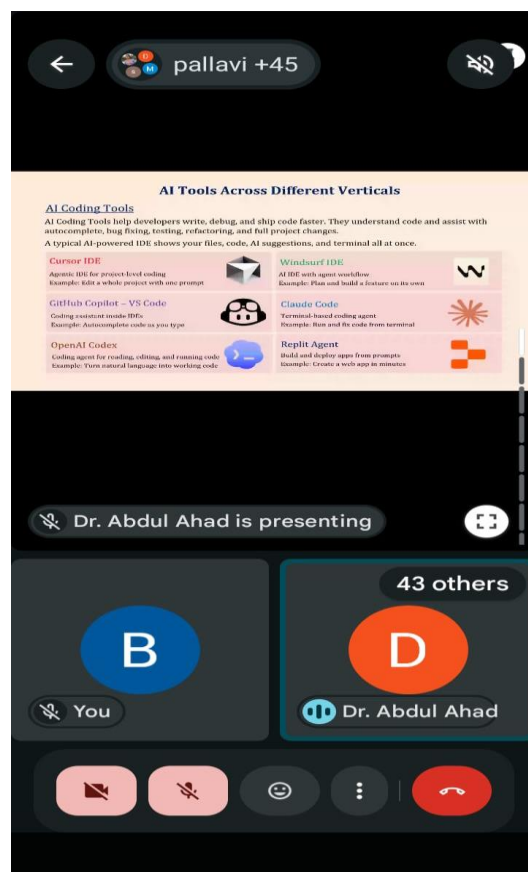
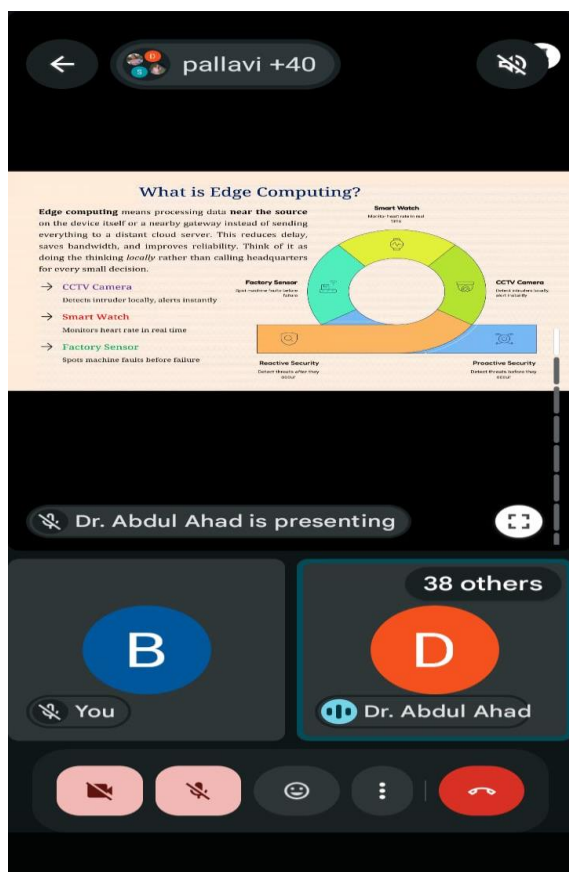


On 17.06.2026:

The second day of the Five-Day Faculty Orientation Programme featured an online technical session by Dr.Abdul Ahad on the topic “Empowering Educators through AI Tools and Technologies.” The session introduced faculty members to the rapidly evolving field of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and its growing significance in higher education. The resource person began with an introduction to Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning, followed by a discussion on the role of AI in Education and why AI matters for educators in enhancing teaching, learning, research, and academic productivity. The session covered a wide range of AI applications and tools, including AI tools across different educational and professional verticals, AI chat and research tools, AI image and video generation tools, AI presentation and design tools, AI writing and content creation tools, and AI voice and audio tools. These tools were demonstrated as valuable resources for improving instructional design, content development, research, and communication. Further, he introduced the concept of Edge AI, explaining its relevance in modern computing environments. The session also highlighted the differences between Cloud AI and Edge AI, discussed the challenges associated with Edge AI, and concluded with an overview of AI for the Internet of Things (IoT) and its emerging applications.

The session was highly informative and provided faculty members with an overview of contemporary AI technologies and their potential to transform teaching, research, and academic practices in higher education.



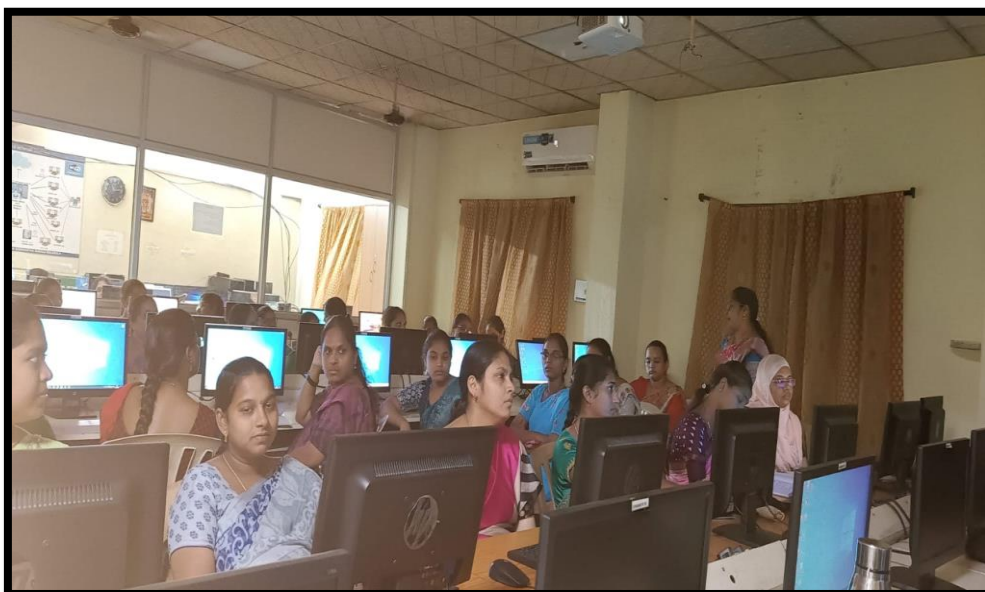


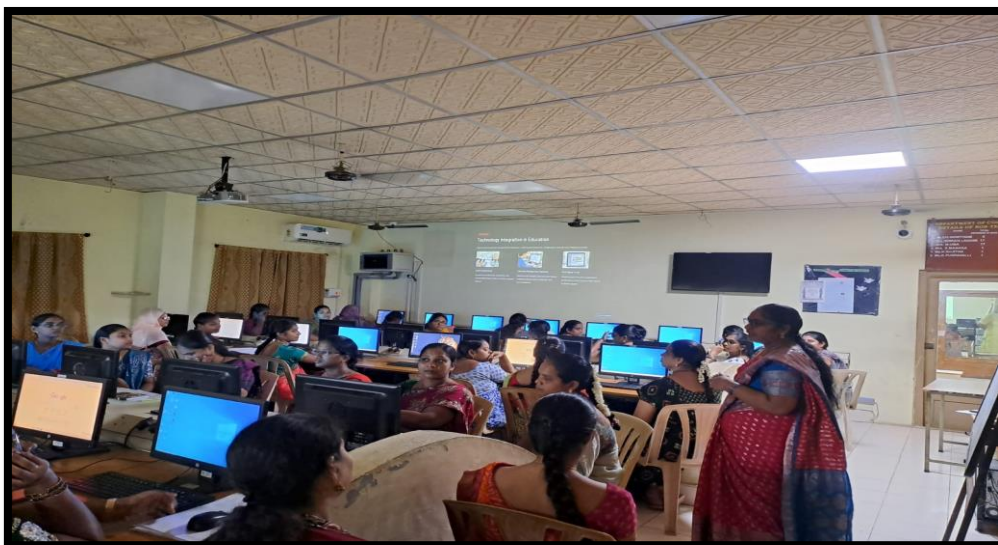
On 18.06.2026:

The third day of the Five-Day Faculty Orientation Programme featured a hands-on training session conducted by Dr.Sowjanya Vuddanti on the topic "Contemporary Innovative Teaching Practices for Educators." The session focused on equipping faculty members with modern pedagogical approaches and technology-enabled teaching strategies to enhance student learning experiences. The resource person began by discussing different pedagogical techniques, highlighting the transition from traditional to modern teaching practices. The session covered the evolution of teaching, the significance of contemporary teaching practices, and the importance of technology integration in education to create engaging and effective learning environments. She also introduced various learner-centered instructional approaches, including blended learning, flipped classroom models, activity-based learning, collaborative learning, and inclusive learning, emphasizing their role in promoting active participation, critical thinking, and student engagement. The session concluded with insights into the future of teaching and lifelong learning, encouraging faculty members to continuously update their teaching

methodologies in response to evolving educational needs. As part of the practical component, the resource person provided hands-on training on digital teaching tools such as Padlet, an interactive digital collaborative board, and Gamma App for creating AI-powered presentations and instructional content. Faculty members actively participated in the activities and gained practical experience in using these tools to design interactive and engaging learning experiences.

The session was highly interactive and enabled the participants to explore innovative pedagogical techniques and digital tools that can be effectively integrated into classroom teaching and learning.





On 19.06.2026:

The fourth day of the Five-Day Faculty Orientation Programme featured an insightful session by Dr. Ramesh Bhavisetti on the topic "Positive Learning Environment in the Classrooms." The session emphasized the importance of fostering a healthy, supportive, and student-centered classroom environment that promotes effective learning and overall well-being. The resource person began by discussing psychological behaviour in the classroom and its influence on students' learning, engagement, and academic performance. The session highlighted eight strategies for creating a positive learning environment using the acronym POSITIVE, namely Patience, Open-mindedness, Self-awareness, Inspiring Motivation, Thoughtful Communication, Inquiry, Values of Empathy, and Emotional Regulation and Resilience. He also emphasized that questions are the gateway to knowledge, encouraging educators to cultivate curiosity and critical thinking among students through meaningful classroom interactions. The speaker further illustrated that teachers should live like a tree, symbolizing qualities such as patience, selfless service, continuous growth, and providing support to learners. The session concluded with the inspiring message of "Happy Minds, Happy People, Happy Classrooms," reinforcing the idea that a positive mindset and empathetic teaching approach contribute significantly to creating an engaging, inclusive, and joyful learning environment.

The session was thought-provoking and motivated faculty members to reflect on their teaching practices and adopt strategies that promote positive relationships, emotional well-being, and effective learning in the classroom.



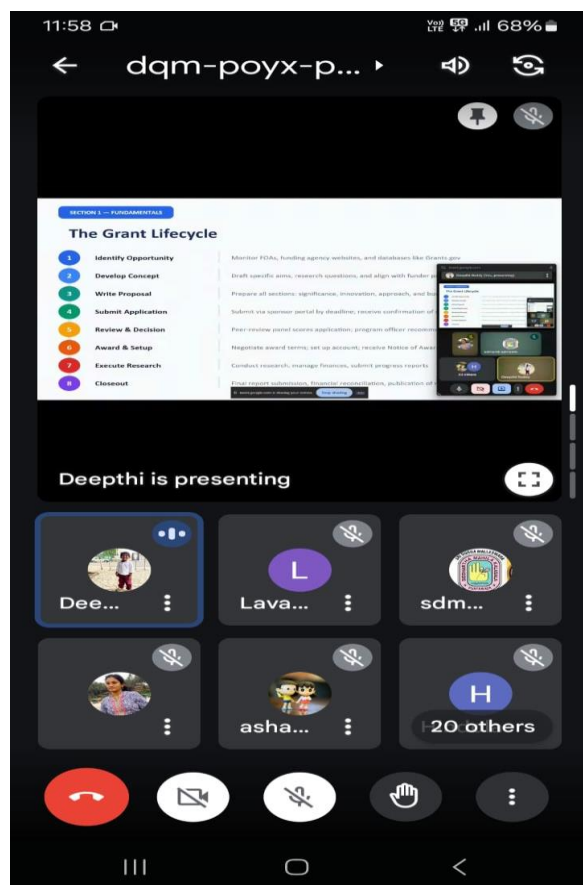
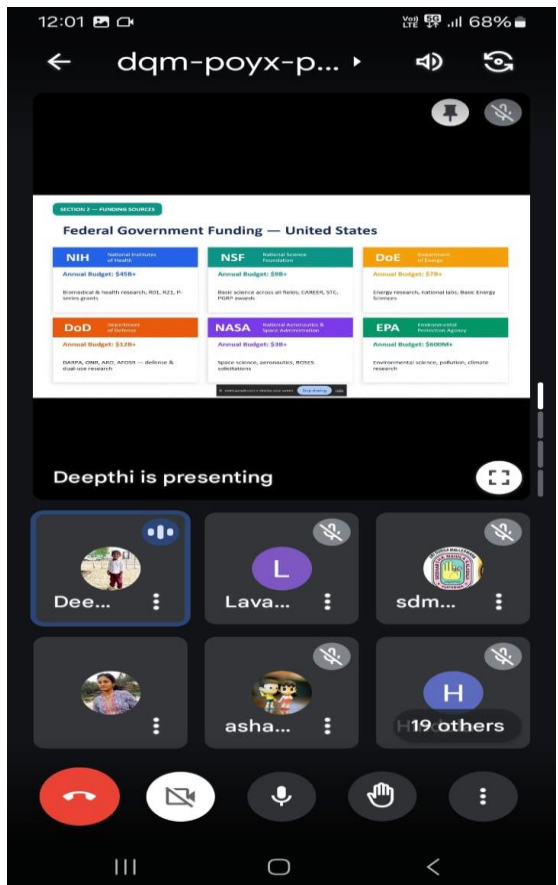
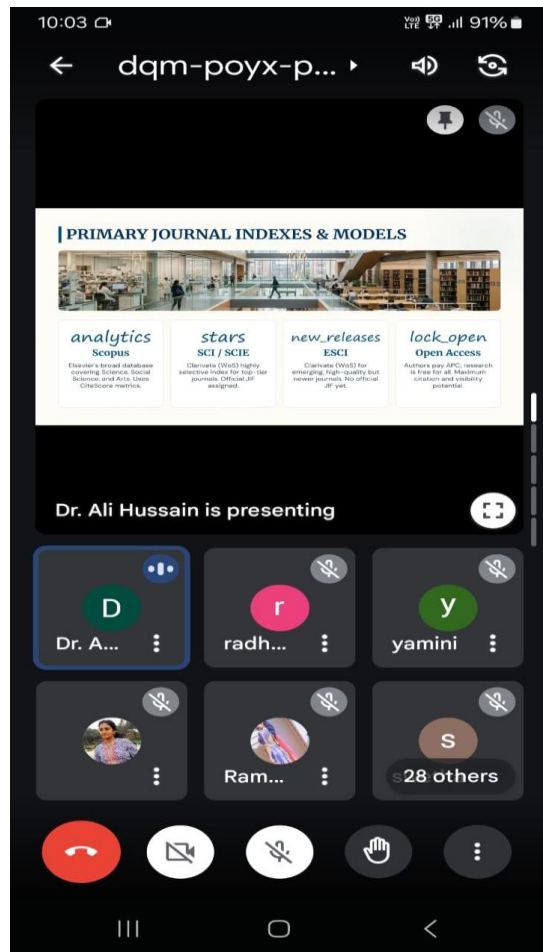
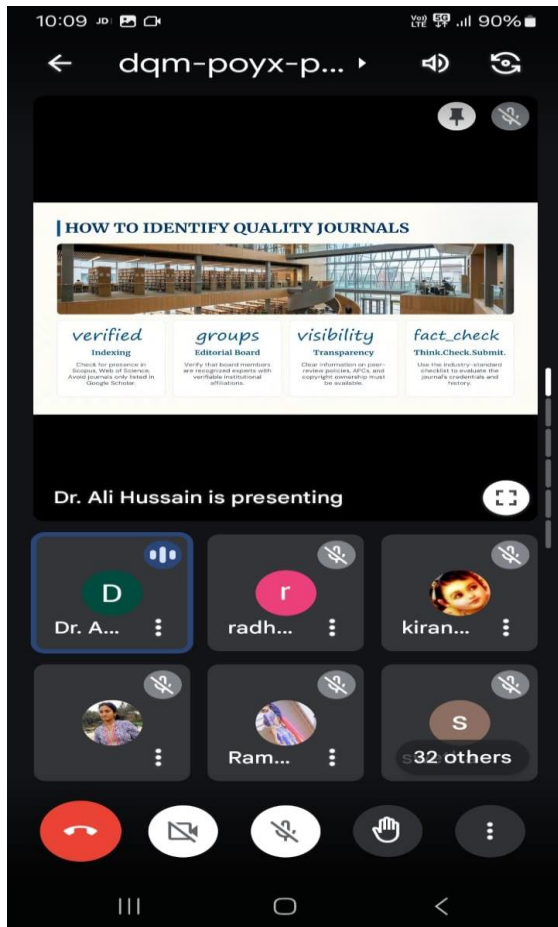
On 20.06.2026:

The fifth and final day of the Five-Day Faculty Orientation Programme featured two online technical sessions delivered by distinguished resource persons, Dr. Mohammed Ali Hussain and Dr.D.Deepthi Reddy, focusing on research excellence, academic publishing, and research funding opportunities.

In the first session, Dr. Mohammed Ali Hussain delivered a lecture on "Research Skills for Academic Growth: Improving Citations and Research Indexes." The session covered important aspects of academic publishing excellence, strategies and best practices for scholarly publishing, and navigating the journey from manuscript preparation to achieving global research impact. The resource person also explained why journal selection matters, how to identify quality journals, understanding journal impact factors, and effective strategies to enhance citation impact, enabling faculty members to strengthen the quality and visibility of their research publications.

The second session was conducted by Dr.D.Deepthi Reddy, who provided valuable insights into research funding opportunities and proposal development. The session covered research funding agencies, the key requirements of funding agencies, understanding the reviewers' perspective, the research compliance framework, and the use of digital tools and Artificial Intelligence (AI) for research funding. The speaker highlighted the importance of preparing high-quality research proposals that align with funding agency expectations and emphasized the role of digital technologies in supporting grant writing and research management.

Both sessions were highly informative and provided faculty members with practical knowledge on enhancing research quality, increasing academic impact, and exploring funding opportunities to support innovative research initiatives.



OUTCOME:

The Five-Day Faculty Orientation Programme significantly enhanced the participants' understanding of contemporary trends in higher education, research methodologies, digital technologies, and innovative pedagogical practices.

The programme concluded with the distribution of Faculty Orientation Programme certificates to all the participants by the IQAC Coordinator, who appreciated the enthusiastic participation of the faculty members throughout the five-day programme. The programme ended on a positive note with a renewed commitment among the faculty members towards continuous learning, research excellence, and effective teaching practices.



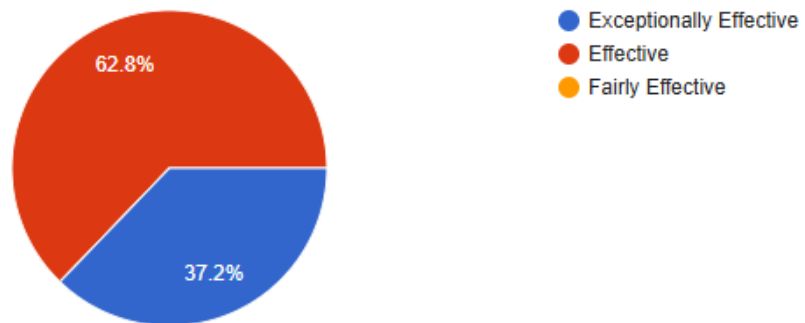


FEEDBACK FROM THE FACULTY:

The participants were encouraged to actively engage in all the sessions, interact with the resource persons, and make the best use of this learning opportunity. The IQAC Coordinator expressed confidence that the expertise and experience shared by the distinguished resource persons would enrich the faculty members with new perspectives, practical insights, and innovative approaches that could be effectively implemented in their teaching, research, and academic responsibilities.

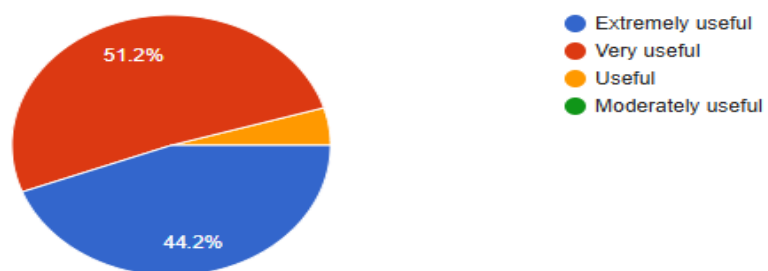
How effectively did the speaker Dr.K.Murali explain the role of Statistics and Data Science in enhancing research quality and outcomes?

43 responses



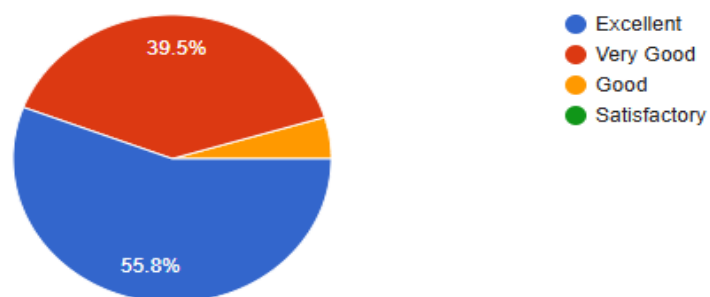
How useful was the speaker's Dr.Abdul Ahad demonstration of AI tools and technologies for improving teaching, learning, and academic productivity?

43 responses



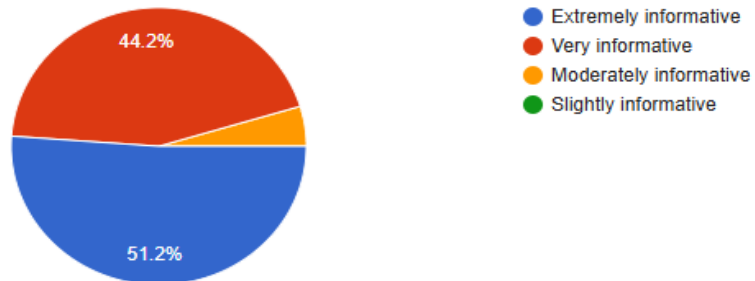
To what extent did the session by Dr.V.Sowjanya help you understand and adopt innovative teaching practices in your classroom?

43 responses



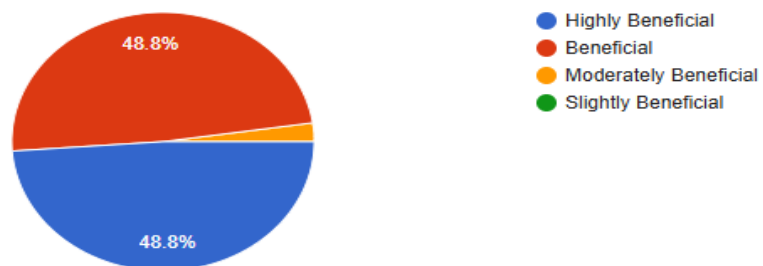
How informative did the speaker Dr.B.Ramesh highlight strategies for creating a positive and inclusive learning environment in the classroom?

43 responses



How beneficial was the session by Dr. Md. Ali Hussain and Dr.D.Deepthi in improving your understanding of academic publishing, citation management, and research indexes?

43 responses



The topics covered in all the sessions were relevant to you.

 [Copy chart](#)

43 responses

