



SANDIP INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH CENTRE

An Autonomous Institute Permanently Affiliated to Savitribai Phule Pune University,
Pune, Approved by AICTE, New Delhi and Govt. of Maharashtra

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Accredited with “A” grade by NAAC With CGPA Score of 3.11

NBA Accredited for Computer & Mechanical Engineering(UG Course) w.e.f. 2023-24 to 2025-26



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EVENT REPORT

COFFEE WITH THE PRINCIPAL – A CUP FULL OF MEMORIES

Organized by: Department of Management Studies (MBA), Sandip Foundation – SITRC, Nashik

Name of the Event: Coffee with the Principal

Date: 6th October 2026

Time: 11:30 AM

Venue: D Building Seminar Hall, SITRC

Guest of Honour: Hon’ble Principal Dr. Amol D. Potgantwar

Participants: MBA Students and Faculty Members

1. Introduction

The Department of Management Studies (MBA), Sandip Foundation – SITRC, Nashik, successfully organized “*Coffee with the Principal – A Cup Full of Memories*” on 6th October 2026 at the D Building Seminar Hall. The programme was conceptualized as an interactive and informal engagement initiative to bring students closer to institutional leadership through meaningful conversations, entertainment, experience sharing, and experiential learning.

The event featured the esteemed presence of Hon’ble Principal Dr. Amol D. Potgantwar, an academician, researcher, and academic leader whose professional journey and experiences offered valuable perspectives for students. The initiative created a platform where students could interact with the Principal beyond the conventional formalities of institutional meetings and experience a more approachable, engaging, and human side of academic leadership.

Unlike a conventional lecture or formal address, the programme blended rapid-fire rounds, entertaining skits, tricky questions, humour, and meaningful conversations. This unique combination of fun and learning encouraged students to participate actively, express themselves confidently, and gain insights through direct interaction.

The programme received an enthusiastic response from students and created memorable moments while reinforcing the importance of communication, leadership, creativity, confidence, and relationship-building in management education.

2. Objectives of the Programme

The programme was organized with the following objectives:

1. To establish meaningful interaction between students and institutional leadership in an informal and welcoming environment.
2. To provide students with opportunities to develop communication skills, confidence, spontaneity, and public interaction abilities.
3. To promote experiential learning through interactive activities, rapid-fire questions, creative skits, and real-life experiences.

4. To encourage critical thinking, presence of mind, decision-making, and the ability to respond to challenging questions.
5. To provide insights into leadership, professional conduct, personal growth, and the importance of continuous learning.
6. To create an environment that promotes student engagement, creativity, teamwork, and mutual understanding.
7. To strengthen the relationship between students, faculty members, and institutional leadership.
8. To demonstrate how informal and innovative educational initiatives can complement classroom teaching and contribute to students' holistic development.

3. Proceedings of the Programme

The programme was designed around the idea that meaningful learning does not always require a classroom, a presentation, or a formal lecture. Sometimes, the most valuable lessons emerge through conversations, laughter, spontaneous questions, shared experiences, and the freedom to express oneself.

The presence of Hon'ble Principal Dr. Amol D. Potgantwar added significance to the event. His participation provided students with an opportunity to engage directly with the institution's leadership in a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere.

The programme progressed through a series of engaging activities that combined entertainment with educational value.

3.1 Welcome and Introduction

The event began by welcoming the Principal and introducing the purpose of *Coffee with the Principal*. The programme emphasized the importance of building connections between students and leadership, encouraging open interaction, and creating opportunities for learning outside the traditional classroom environment.

The introduction also acknowledged the professional journey and academic contributions of Dr. Amol D. Potgantwar, setting the tone for an engaging interaction between the guest and the students.

3.2 Rapid-Fire Round – Quick Questions, Thoughtful Insights

One of the highlights of the programme was the rapid-fire round, which brought energy, excitement, and spontaneity to the session.

Students posed a series of quick and engaging questions, creating opportunities for humorous responses, interesting revelations, and thoughtful reflections. The format encouraged students to think quickly, listen attentively, and engage confidently in a live interaction.

Beyond its entertainment value, the activity demonstrated the importance of quick thinking, effective communication, active listening, and composure under pressure—qualities that are equally relevant in interviews, group discussions, presentations, and managerial decision-making.



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3.3 Tricky Questions – A Blend of Wit and Wisdom

The tricky-question segment added an element of curiosity, humour, and intellectual engagement. The questions encouraged spontaneous responses and provided opportunities to explore different perspectives in an enjoyable setting.

The segment demonstrated how challenging questions can become learning opportunities when approached with an open mind, a positive attitude, and a willingness to think beyond conventional answers.

For MBA students, this was particularly relevant to developing the presence of mind, adaptability, reasoning, and confidence required in professional situations.

3.4 Student Skits – Creativity with a Message

The student skits brought another dimension to the programme by combining creativity, humour, teamwork, and expression. Through performances and entertaining situations, students were able to communicate ideas in an engaging and memorable manner.

The skits illustrated the value of experiential learning, where students learn not only by listening but also by creating, performing, observing, and reflecting.

Such activities provide opportunities to strengthen teamwork, coordination, stage confidence, creative thinking, and the ability to communicate messages effectively. The use of humour also helped make the programme lively and relatable while creating memorable learning moments.

3.5 Experience Sharing and Leadership Interaction

A significant dimension of the programme was the opportunity for students to engage with the Principal and gain perspectives from his academic and professional journey.

Interaction with experienced institutional leaders can help students appreciate the importance of discipline, perseverance, continuous learning, professional responsibility, and adaptability. It can also help them understand that leadership involves not only authority and decision-making but also communication, empathy, mentoring, and the ability to inspire others.

The informal setting encouraged a more personal connection and enabled students to view leadership through experiences and conversations rather than solely through formal institutional roles.

3.6 Fun, Laughter and Relationship Building

The programme maintained a lively atmosphere through humour, spontaneous responses, student participation, and shared moments of enjoyment.

These elements were not merely recreational additions; they contributed to creating a comfortable environment for interaction. By reducing the formality commonly associated with institutional engagements, the event encouraged students to participate more naturally and helped strengthen the sense of connection between students and leadership.

The combination of fun and reflection made the programme distinctive, engaging, and memorable.

4. Learning Beyond the Classroom

One of the most important aspects of *Coffee with the Principal* was its demonstration that education extends beyond textbooks, lectures, examinations, and assignments.

Traditional classroom teaching remains essential for building conceptual knowledge. However, students also need opportunities to develop communication, confidence, emotional intelligence, creativity, teamwork, adaptability, and interpersonal effectiveness. These competencies are often strengthened through activities that encourage participation, practical engagement, reflection, and interaction with experienced professionals.

Social and Interpersonal Learning: Direct interaction with the Principal and participation in shared activities created opportunities to practise respectful communication, active listening, and relationship-building.

Reflective Learning: Exposure to leadership experiences provided students with perspectives they could relate to their own academic journey, professional ambitions, and personal development.

Creative Learning: The skits and interactive segments encouraged students to explore ideas, communicate through different formats, and appreciate the value of creativity in problem-solving.

Confidence through Participation: Activities involving spontaneous responses and public interaction provided students with opportunities to express themselves, overcome hesitation, and become more comfortable participating in group settings.

Emotional and Relational Learning: Shared laughter, conversations, and memorable experiences helped demonstrate the importance of approachability, mutual respect, and positive relationships within an educational institution.

In this way, the event illustrated that meaningful learning can occur through a carefully designed combination of knowledge, experience, interaction, creativity, and enjoyment.

5. Impact on Students' Personal and Professional Development

The programme was designed to contribute to students' holistic development by providing an environment in which learning and interaction could take place naturally.

5.1 Improved Communication and Self-Expression

The interactive format encouraged students to formulate questions, express their thoughts, and participate in conversations. Such opportunities are valuable for developing the communication skills required for interviews, presentations, professional meetings, and leadership roles.

5.2 Confidence and Presence of Mind

Rapid-fire rounds and tricky questions created situations that required spontaneous thinking and responses. Participation in such activities can help students become more comfortable with uncertainty and develop confidence in expressing themselves without extensive preparation.

5.3 Leadership Awareness and Professional Inspiration

Interaction with the Principal provided students with an opportunity to understand leadership through personal engagement. Such experiences can broaden students' understanding of leadership as a combination of responsibility, experience, communication, decision-making, and mentorship.

5.4 Creativity, Teamwork and Collaboration

The skits and group-based activities highlighted the importance of planning, coordination, cooperation, and creative expression. These competencies are particularly relevant for management students who will work in collaborative and performance-oriented professional environments.

5.5 Emotional Intelligence and Interpersonal Relationships

The programme offered opportunities for students to practise listening, respond respectfully, appreciate different perspectives, and interact in a relaxed environment. These experiences can support the development of empathy, interpersonal sensitivity, and relationship-management skills.

5.6 A Sense of Belonging and Institutional Connection

Informal interactions with institutional leadership can help students feel more connected to their educational environment. When students have opportunities to engage openly with leaders, it can support approachability, mutual understanding, and a stronger sense of participation in institutional life.

5.7 Memorable Learning Experiences

The combination of rapid-fire questions, humour, skits, and meaningful conversations created an engaging learning environment. Memorable experiences can help reinforce the value of communication, creativity, leadership, and active participation long after an event concludes.

6. Significance of Such Initiatives in Management Education

Management education aims to prepare students not only to understand business concepts but also to work effectively with people, respond to challenges, make decisions, and assume leadership responsibilities.

For this reason, initiatives such as *Coffee with the Principal* can serve as valuable complements to formal academic instruction. They offer an opportunity to integrate soft skills, experiential learning, professional awareness, and interpersonal development into campus life.

Such programmes also help create a more participative educational environment in which students are encouraged to ask questions, share ideas, express their creativity, and learn from people with varied experiences.

By bringing leadership and students together in a less formal setting, the initiative demonstrated how institutional engagement can become a meaningful educational experience rather than merely a ceremonial activity.

The programme also reinforced the idea that student development requires a balanced approach—one that combines academic knowledge with the personal, social, and professional competencies necessary for long-term success.

7. Overall Response and Highlights

The programme received an enthusiastic response from students and was marked by lively participation, laughter, creativity, and meaningful interaction.

The rapid-fire rounds brought spontaneity and excitement, the tricky questions stimulated curiosity, the skits added entertainment and creative expression, and the experience-sharing segments offered opportunities for reflection and learning.

The event successfully brought together several dimensions of student development within a single engaging platform. Its value lay not only in the activities themselves but also in the atmosphere of openness, connection, and shared learning that they helped create.

8. Conclusion

Coffee with the Principal – A Cup Full of Memories was a distinctive and meaningful initiative organized by the Department of Management Studies (MBA), Sandip Foundation – SITRC, Nashik, on 6th October 2026.

The programme went beyond the conventional format of institutional events by bringing together rapid-fire rounds, tricky questions, entertaining skits, humour, experience sharing, and direct interaction with Hon'ble Principal Dr. Amol D. Potgantwar.

It demonstrated that meaningful education is not limited to classrooms and textbooks. Students also learn through conversations, participation, creative expression, observation, and shared experiences. Such initiatives provide valuable opportunities to strengthen confidence, communication, teamwork, leadership awareness, and interpersonal effectiveness while fostering a positive relationship between students and institutional leadership.

The event also highlighted the importance of creating an educational environment where students feel encouraged to participate, ask questions, think creatively, and learn from experiences beyond the formal curriculum.

The spirit of the programme was captured in the simple idea that coffee brought people together, conversations built connections, and experiences created opportunities for learning.

The event concluded as a memorable blend of fun, interaction, inspiration, and experiential learning, reinforcing the Department’s commitment to holistic student development and meaningful campus engagement.

A Cup Full of Memories, A Lifetime of Learning

Sometimes, the most valuable lessons are not delivered from a podium; they emerge through a conversation, a thoughtful question, a shared laugh, and the experience of connecting with people who inspire us.

Glimpse of Program

