

# **PROGRAMME REPORT**

**2020-21**

**Department of Biotechnology**

**Mar Ivanios College (Autonomous)**

## Webinar Report: Motivation Talks on Life Skills

**Date:** 7th July 2021

**Venue:** Mar Ivanios College

**Coordinator:** Dr. Lini N. and Dr. Deepthy Alex

**Speaker:** Dr. Gibi Geevargheese, Associate Professor, Mar Theophilus Training College, Trivandrum

**Participants:** 100 students

### **Speaker Profile:**

Dr. Gibi Geevargheese is an esteemed Associate Professor with extensive experience in life skills education and motivational strategies. Her work focuses on enhancing personal and professional growth through effective communication, problem-solving, and time management techniques. Dr. Geevargheese is known for her engaging and practical approach to teaching, making her sessions highly impactful and relatable.

### **Webinar Content:**

Dr. Geevargheese began the webinar by emphasizing the significance of life skills in daily living and professional settings. She highlighted several key skills essential for success:

- **Communication:** The ability to convey information effectively and build strong relationships.
- **Problem-Solving:** Techniques to identify solutions and make informed decisions.
- **Time Management:** Strategies to prioritize tasks and manage time efficiently.

The webinar also included practical advice on motivation techniques, such as setting realistic goals and maintaining a positive mindset.

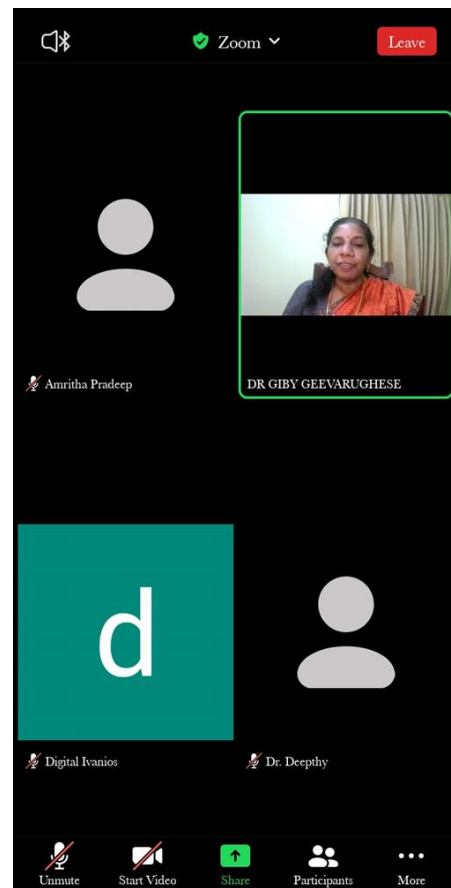
### **Q&A Session:**

Attendees posed various questions, including:

- How can one improve communication skills in a professional setting?
- What are some effective techniques for managing time when balancing multiple responsibilities?
- How can individuals stay motivated when facing prolonged challenges?

### **Conclusion:**

"Motivation Talks on Life Skills" webinar was a resounding success. With Dr. Gibi Geevargheese's insightful guidance and practical advice, participants left the webinar feeling motivated and equipped with new skills to enhance their personal and professional lives.



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## **Webinar Report: How to Read Scientific Literature & Introduction to MANAV-The Human Atlas Initiative**

**Date:** 2nd October 2021

**Venue:** Mar Ivanios College

**Organizers:** Department of Biotechnology, Botany & Zoology at Mar Ivanios College and IISER Pune

**Participants:** Students, faculty members, and researchers from various disciplines

### **Objectives:**

1. Equip participants with effective strategies for reading and understanding scientific literature.
2. Introduce participants to the MANAV-The Human Atlas Initiative.
3. Foster skill development in the interpretation and application of scientific data.

### **Content and Highlights:**

- **Reading Scientific Literature:**
  - Identifying Key Components: Abstract, introduction, methodology, results, and discussion.
  - Critical Analysis: Techniques for analyzing data and methodologies used in studies.
  - Efficient Reading: Strategies for skimming for main ideas and detailed reading.
- **Introduction to MANAV-The Human Atlas Initiative:**
  - Goals and Objectives: Creating a detailed map of the human body at the cellular level.
  - Opportunities for Contribution: Data annotation, analysis, and participation in research projects.
  - Benefits: Insights for scientific research, medical advancements, and personalized medicine.

### **Interactive Sessions:**

- Challenges in Reading Scientific Literature: Practical advice from the speakers.
- Contribution to MANAV: Skills required and ways to participate.

### **Conclusion:**

The "How to Read Scientific Literature & Introduction to MANAV-The Human Atlas Initiative" webinar was a significant success. Participants left feeling motivated and prepared to explore and contribute to the MANAV project.

# "How to Read Scientific Literature?" and "Introduction to MANAV- The Human Atlas Initiative"

by  
**Dr. Anupma Harshal W.**  
Consultant  
Science Communication and Public Engagement  
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Project MANAV - The Human Atlas Initiative is a citizen science initiative that aims to create a human atlas by collecting all available macro and micro-level information from life science literature and public databases. The initiative is funded by the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India. This collaborative project between IISER Pune, NCCS Pune, and Persistent Systems Ltd aims to introduce students to scientific reading, which is an important skill to succeed in any field of science. Learning how to effectively extract information from research articles is not only important in academics, but in research and policy-making too. The purpose of this megaproject is to collect and integrate molecular information about human tissues and organs that is currently scattered in various research articles. The resulting database would assist researchers in identifying gaps in current knowledge conveniently. The project would be revolutionary in supporting future diagnostics and other disease-related projects.

Advisory committee  
Rev. Dr. Gigi Thomas, Dean of Studies

IISER, Pune

Patron and Manager  
His Beatitude  
Moran Mor Basilio Cardinal Oseim Cardinal

Convener  
Dr. Zijimon K. Thomas  
Principal

Coordinator  
Dr. Lind M.  
Asst. Professor, Dept. of Biotechnology

On  
2<sup>nd</sup>  
October 2021  
11:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Collaborators



Funded by




Co-funded by




1. How to Read Scientific Literature ?  
2. Introduction to MANAV-The Human Atlas Initiative.

Collaborators

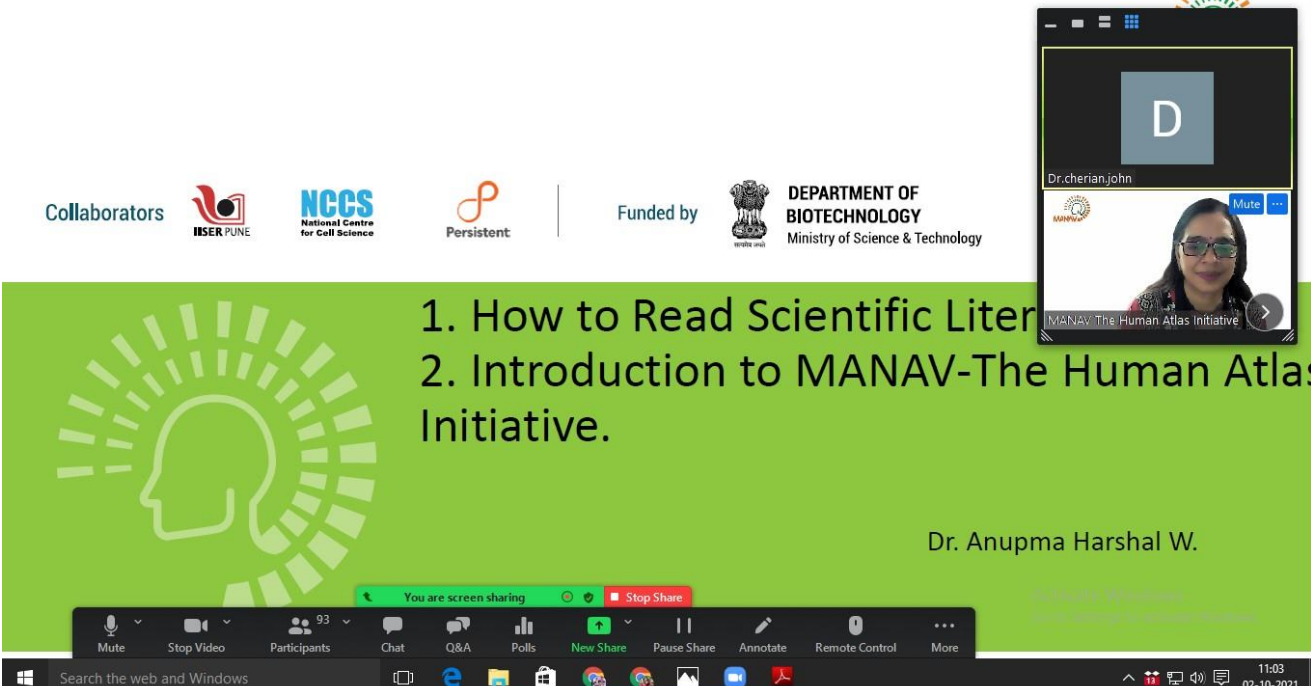


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1. How to Read Scientific Literature ?  
2. Introduction to MANAV-The Human Atlas Initiative.

Dr. Anupma Harshal W.



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02-10-2021

## Report: First Bell: Orientation Programme for Biotech

**Date:** 7th October 2021

**Venue:** Mar Ivanios College

**Coordinator:** Dr. Lini N.

**Speaker:** Dr. Manoj Narayanan, Sreebudha College of Engineering, Alappuzha

**Participants:** New biotechnology students and faculty members

### Objectives:

1. Introduce students to the field of biotechnology and its applications.
2. Inspire and educate students about the potential of biotechnology in solving medical challenges.

### Content and Highlights:

- **Welcome Address:** By Dr. Lini N.
- **Biotechnology: Panacea for Human Maladies:** Overview by Dr. Manoj Narayanan, discussing:
  - Interdisciplinary Nature: Integration of various scientific disciplines.
  - Healthcare Impact: Examples of biotechnological innovations revolutionizing treatments and therapies.

### Interactive Sessions:

- Students engaged with Dr. Narayanan, asking questions and sharing perspectives.

### Conclusion:

The orientation program successfully introduced students to biotechnology and inspired them to explore opportunities in this cutting-edge discipline.



# **Report: Psychological Wellbeing of Youth: An Interactive Session**

**Date:** 9th October 2021

**Venue:** Mar Ivanios College

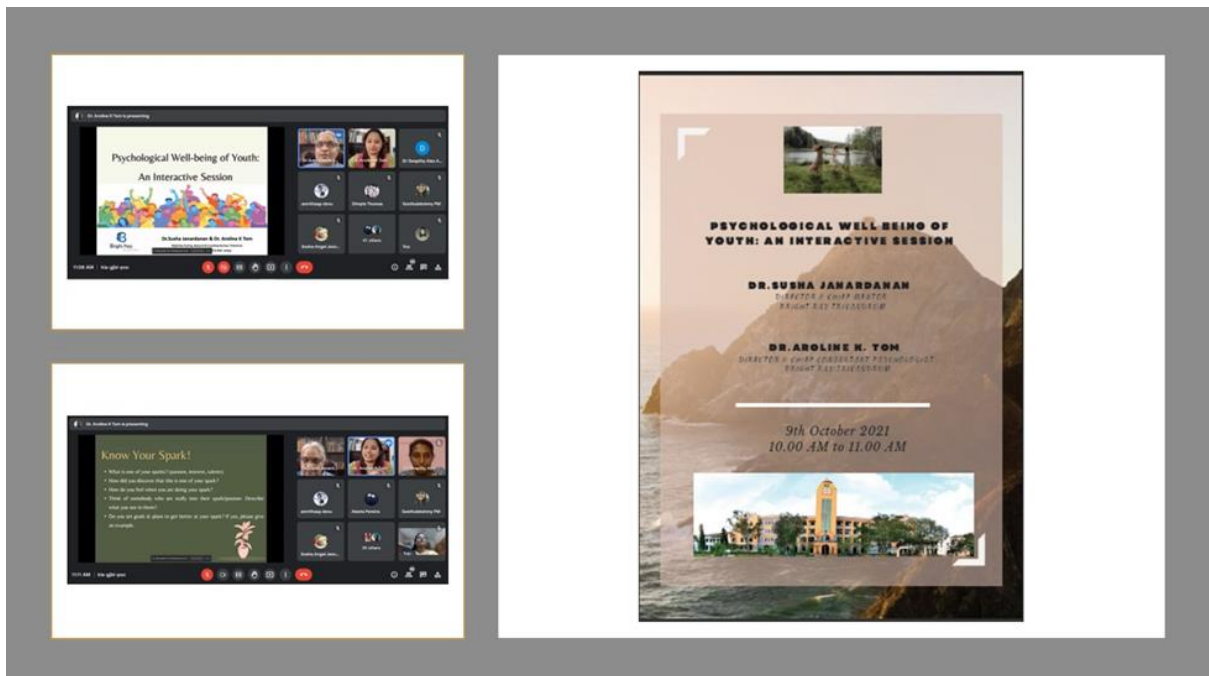
**Coordinator:** Dr. Lini N. and Dr. Deepthy Alex

**Speakers:** Dr. Sushma Janardhanan and Dr. Aroline K Tom, Bright Ray, Trivandrum

**Participants:** Biotech students

## **Objectives:**

1. Raise awareness about the importance of psychological wellbeing among youth.
2. Address the psychological challenges faced by young individuals.
3. Promote mental health and equip participants with strategies to manage their psychological wellbeing.



## **Content and Highlights:**

- **Welcome Address:** By Dr. Lini N.
- **Keynote Address:** By Dr. Deepthy Alex, HOD
- **Psychological Characteristics and Challenges:** By Dr. Sushma Janardhanan and Dr. Aroline K Tom, discussing:
  - **Mental Health Significance:** Importance for overall wellbeing and academic success.
  - **Challenges:** Common issues such as stress, anxiety, and peer pressure.

## **Interactive Sessions:**

- Participants shared concerns and received personalized guidance.
- **Strategies for Wellbeing:** Practical advice for managing stress and improving mental health.

## **Report: Dr. Thompson Kuruvilla's Memorial Lecture on "Biotechnology: A Global Perspective"**

**Date:** 16th November 2021

**Venue:** Mar Ivanios College

**Coordinator:** Dr. Deepthy Alex

**Speaker:** Dr. Joseph Raj Kumar, Principal Scientist, CPCRI, Kayamkulam

**Participants:** Students, faculty members, and researchers interested in biotechnology

### **Objectives:**

1. Provide an overview of the global landscape of biotechnology.
2. Discuss the implications of biotechnology for various sectors.
3. Inspire and educate attendees about the transformative potential of biotechnology.

### **Content and Highlights:**

- **Welcome Address:** By Dr. Lini N.
- **Keynote Address:** By Dr. Deepthy Alex, HOD
- **Biotechnology: A Global Perspective:** By Dr. Joseph Raj Kumar, discussing:
  - Global Trends: Current trends in biotechnology.
  - Significant Advancements: Innovations in agriculture, medicine, environmental conservation, and industrial processes.
  - Sustainable Solutions: Biotechnology's role in developing sustainable solutions.

### **Interactive Sessions:**

- Participants engaged with Dr. Kumar, discussing ethical considerations and future prospects in biotechnology.

### **Conclusion:**

The memorial lecture provided valuable insights into global advancements in biotechnology and inspired attendees to contribute to this dynamic field.



# Report: Webinar on "Avenues Revealed: Study Biotechnology Abroad"

**Date:** 10th August 2021

**Venue:** Mar Ivanios College

**Coordinator:** Dr. Lini N.

**Speaker:** Jijoe Abraha, expert in academic support and international education systems

**Participants:** Students interested in pursuing biotechnology studies abroad

## Objectives:

1. Inform students about opportunities for studying biotechnology in foreign countries.
2. Provide practical guidance on the application process, scholarships, and academic expectations.

## Content and Highlights:

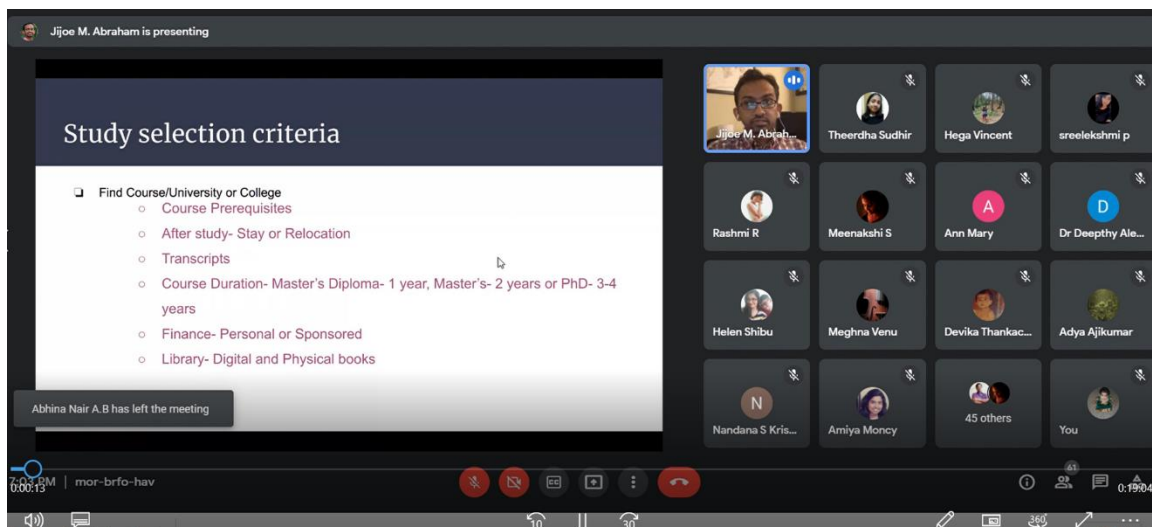
- **Welcome Address:** By Dr. Lini N.
- **Opportunities for Studying Biotechnology Abroad:** By Jijoe Abraha, discussing:
  - Leading Institutions: Highlighting top programs.
  - Scholarships and Funding: Information on scholarships and funding options.
  - Academic Expectations: Insights into academic and cultural adjustments.

## Interactive Sessions:

- Students engaged with Jijoe Abraha, discussing application processes and cultural adaptation.

## Conclusion:

The webinar provided valuable insights and practical guidance, empowering participants to explore and seize opportunities for international education in biotechnology.



The screenshot shows a Zoom meeting interface. The main window displays a slide titled "Study selection criteria" with a bulleted list:

- Find Course/University or College
  - Course Prerequisites
  - After study- Stay or Relocation
  - Transcripts
  - Course Duration- Master's Diploma- 1 year, Master's- 2 years or PhD- 3-4 years
  - Finance- Personal or Sponsored
  - Library- Digital and Physical books

A notification at the bottom left of the slide area says "Abhina Nair A.B has left the meeting". The right side of the screen shows a grid of participant avatars, including Jijoe M. Abraham, Theerdha Sudhir, Hega Vincent, sreelekhmi p, Rashmi R, Meenakshi S, Ann Mary, Dr Deepthy Ale..., Helen Shibu, Meghna Venu, Devika Thankac..., Adya Ajikumar, Nandana S Kris..., and Amiya Moncy. The bottom of the screen shows the Zoom control bar with a timer at 0:19:04 and a meeting ID of mor-brfo-hav.



## **Report: Talk on 'Pursuing Higher Studies in Biotechnology'**

**Date:** 30th January 2022

**Venue:** Mar Ivanios College

**Coordinator:** Dr. Lini N.

**Speaker:** Mr. Suneesh S., alumnus of the Department of Biotechnology, Mar Ivanios College

### **Objectives:**

1. Inspire and motivate students by sharing personal experiences and success stories.
2. Provide career guidance for students considering higher education in biotechnology.

### **Session Highlights:**

- **Higher Education in Biotechnology:** By Mr. Suneesh S., discussing opportunities for career advancement and specialization. Practical advice on the application process was shared.

### **Outcome:**

The talk inspired students to pursue higher studies and was well-received by participants, highlighting the importance of advanced studies for career growth.

### **Conclusion:**

The event successfully inspired students to consider higher education in biotechnology and provided pathways to achieving success in the field.



## **Interdepartmental Essay Writing Competition and Quiz Programmes on 'Global Impact of Covid-19'**

**Date:** 28th February 2022

**Venue:** Mar Ivanios College

**Participants:** Nearly 60 students

### **Objective:**

1. Encourage research and reflection on the global impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.
2. Promote critical thinking and knowledge-sharing.
3. Foster interdepartmental collaboration and participation in academic activities.

### **Session Highlights:**

- **Essay Competition:** Students shared perspectives on the pandemic's effects on health, economy, education, and society.
- **Quiz Programmes:** Focused on the origins, spread, impact, and global measures taken to combat Covid-19.

### **Outcome:**

The events successfully enhanced students' knowledge and critical thinking skills.

## **Report: Talk on 'Nanobiotechnology and Its Applications'**

**Date:** 15th March 2022

**Venue:** Mar Ivanios College

**Cordinator : Dr.Deepthy Alex**

On March 15th, 2022, an invited talk on "Nanobiotechnology and Its Applications" was held at Mar Ivanios College. The session, delivered by Dr. Neethu Hari, a prominent expert in nanobiotechnology, aimed to introduce participants to the cutting-edge advancements and diverse applications of nanobiotechnology.

### **Objective:**

- To educate students and faculty about the fundamentals and advancements in nanobiotechnology.
- To explore various applications of nanobiotechnology in fields such as medicine, agriculture, and environmental science.
- To inspire students to pursue research and careers in nanobiotechnology.

### **Session Highlights:**

Dr. Hari began with an overview of nanobiotechnology, explaining its fundamental principles and interdisciplinary nature. She discussed the potential of nanobiotechnology in agriculture, focusing on nanopesticides, nano-fertilizers, and disease detection systems that enhance crop yield and sustainability. Dr. Hari also highlighted nanobiotechnology's role in environmental science, particularly in pollution detection and remediation.

### **Outcome:**

The attendees' enthusiasm and curiosity underscored the topic's relevance and importance. The session successfully emphasized nanobiotechnology's significance in addressing contemporary challenges and highlighted the potential for future innovations.

### **Conclusion:**

The talk inspired students and faculty to consider nanobiotechnology as a field of study and research, showcasing its vast potential for future advancements.



## **Report: Orientation Session 'Only One Earth - Let's Live Sustainably in Harmony with Nature'**

**Date:** 6th June 2022

**Time:** 10:30 AM

**Venue:** Mar Gregorious Hall

On June 6th, 2022, an orientation session titled "Only One Earth - Let's Live Sustainably in Harmony with Nature" was conducted at Mar Gregorious Hall. Led by Dr. Anila P Ajayan, a Commission member at the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Commission on Ecosystem Management, the session aimed to raise awareness about sustainable living and the importance of harmonizing human activities with nature.

### **Objective:**

- To educate participants about the concept of sustainability and its significance.
- To promote sustainable living practices and environmental conservation.

### **Session Highlights:**

Dr. Ajayan introduced the concept of sustainability and its relevance in addressing global environmental challenges. She discussed practical strategies for sustainable living, such as reducing carbon footprints, conserving resources, and promoting biodiversity. Dr. Ajayan emphasized community involvement and policy advocacy in achieving sustainability goals.

### **Outcome:**

The session concluded with an inspirational message, urging attendees to take personal responsibility for environmental stewardship. The event successfully inspired participants to adopt sustainable practices and contribute to environmental conservation efforts.

### **Conclusion:**

The orientation session effectively raised awareness about the importance of sustainability and motivated participants to engage in sustainable practices and support environmental initiatives.

## **Report: Visit to Snehaveedu, a Home for the Mentally Challenged**

**Date:** 16th June 2022

**Venue:** Snehaveedu

On June 16th, 2022, a visit to Snehaveedu, a home for the mentally challenged, was organized as part of a social service initiative. The visit aimed to bring joy and companionship to the residents through various entertainment programmes and personal interactions.

### **Objective:**

- To provide emotional support and companionship to the residents.
- To engage the residents in entertaining activities and create a joyful atmosphere.
- To foster a sense of community and compassion among the participants.

### **Session Highlights:**

The visit featured lively performances of dancing and singing by the students, which entertained the residents and encouraged their active participation. The residents also showcased their talents and engaged with the visitors. Students spent quality time with the residents, engaging in conversations and listening to their stories. Dr. Deepthy Alex delivered a short speech, offering words of encouragement and highlighting the importance of compassion and understanding towards individuals with mental challenges.

### **Outcome:**

The entertainment programmes and personal interactions brought smiles and joy to the residents, creating a lively and positive environment. The visit provided much-needed emotional support and companionship, helping the residents feel valued and cared for.

### **Conclusion:**

The event underscored the importance of social service and the positive impact it can have on the lives of individuals with mental challenges, fostering a sense of care and empathy among the participants.

