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From the Editor's Desk

Dear students and faculty members,

The never ending lockdown shall end one day, and in that hope we toil and work hard towards our goals. I would like to dedicate this issue of Newsletter to all the working women in our gender role specific society. A woman working from home is but naturally expected to be the first choice for household work, there is no celebration involved, no patting of the back. On the other hand, the internet and social media is ripe with valedictory and celebratory posts of men entering the kitchen, cooking, cleaning, and “helping out” in household chores. It is indeed a moment of joy when the lockdown is seemingly dissolving the gender specific roles. However, firstly, this is not a uniform change cutting across socio-economic and culture boundaries. Secondly, the change is sporadic and the celebratory mood around it has, in fact, reinstated the gender specified roles, as if it is a sense of achievement for the cultural male to shed his yoke and enter into the household.

The biggest hurdle that is faced by the working women during this lockdown is perhaps the need to be “productive”. For a cultural female, it is one of the biggest dilemmas as to what constitutes productive output? Is it being efficient at work from home? Is it being efficient at the household chores and familial responsibilities? Or perhaps it is both? If our answers are tilting towards the third option, that is, being efficient in both her personal and professional sphere, then we have to realize the sheer enormity of the burden we are placing on the shoulders of these women. Socially, what do we owe to these cultural females?

Ms. Shambhavi Mishra
Assistant Professor,
DME Law School

Being Productive at Home: The Expectations, the Guilt and the Anxieties

- *Shambhavi Mishra*
Assistant Professor

There is a constant question at the back of my mind, during this lockdown, like a never ending buzz of a fly, which refuses to get swatted down. This question is now as subtle and loud at the same time as my tinnitus. Am I being productive? Am I producing good work? Am I reading new things? Am I working on that research paper that I loved so much? Am I being responsive at my work? And although being trapped in a state of complete isolation, I have a couple of voices that reply back to me. My parents shake their head at my studies, my guide sniffs in utter disapproval at my feeble attempts at writing, my boss gives me a cautious smile and remains tight lipped about my performance, and my own self turns her nose away from whatever my inept hands have produced in the kitchen. The guilt to be productive surmounts. The need to be relevant supersedes everything, even the apparent end of the world at the hands of a tiny, invisible to the naked eye virus.

In a market driven society, it is the output which becomes the trademark of one's relevancy in that society. This society does not give space to slowness, or idleness. There seems to be no time for a person stop in her tracks, and just waste her time away, to be at a conversation with herself. Being productive does not give one the privilege to look within and address the coiling turmoil of our minds. Everything is tested on the whetstone of their outputs: the number of papers published, the work assigned completed, the amount of fun and creativity shown around the house, #dalgona_coffee, #DIY and the list is endless. What becomes surprising is the manner in which this lockdown has affected the people at large. Is the lockdown effect also gendered in nature? Is the anxiety to be productive, efficient and relevant in the society is uniform or is felt differently by the different genders?

These questions take an entirely different colour when looked at from a feminist perspective. Productivity, in the post feudal capitalist, industrial revolution era, was understood to be quantifiable output. Labourer A can spin 200 bolts of cotton in a day, while labourer B can spin 100 bolts in an hour. B then was considered to be more productive than A. The idea of productivity, thus, was not just dependent on the output, but also on the factor of time. How much produced in what time was the simple formula of productivity and efficiency. With the pandemic dancing over our heads, isolation has become the norm, and it is being said across sectors and industries that work-from-home is probably going to be the way in the future. This isolation has provided us with a gift that is wonderful and dreadful at the same time: Time.

The time of commutation, the time of idling away with colleagues on a particularly tough day, the time of heading off towards market, the time of the “Thank God it's Friday” socialization on weekends is now available at our disposal. With the boon of Time at our disposal, the expectation of productivity doubles. And expectations are directly proportional to our internal panic and guilt systems.

The question of gender quietly slips in here. A 21st century working woman is expected to work side by side with their male counterparts. Gender disparity plays absolutely no role when it comes to productivity and efficiency. The women who stand at the cross section of work and family also have this boon of extra time in their hands. She is now expected to be more involved and focused towards her original gender role that is, being the keeper of the household. It is not that the men do not have their share of anxieties, or that there problems are lesser than those of women. Their primary gender role as the provider of the family has come under a terrible scare as the lockdown inches towards the promise of recession and economic slowdown. The anxieties attached with the role of masculinity are a very big issue in itself.

Maybe it is high time for us to pause, reflect and for utilize this extra time in not to worry about being productive. It is a time, where we can sit back, stare at that ceiling and embrace that much needed existential crisis that we are going through. It is time to turn to our family members and tell them that it is absolutely okay to fail in fulfilling these expectations that come attached with a gender role. A virus, a pandemic and isolation: this is what took to make us stop in our races and think. Let's continue the practice shall we?

Editorial Board:

Ms Shambhavi Mishra, Ms Shabeeh Rahat, Ms Sakshi Agarwal

Whether one wants to discover their talent or polish it, DME has always provided a significant platform. Even in the tough times of covid-19, when the whole nation was locked inside their homes, the cultural societies of DME has continued to do what we do the best and showed the world that students at DME never stop. Be it in the field of dance, singing, theatre, arts or fashion, students have continued to motivate people to stay at home and work safely towards their passion, keeping up with their mental health.

The DME Dance society, FITOOR came up with their quarantine special dance videos, proving that be it a stage or lockdown, the dancers won't stop dancing. The members of Fitoor have also organised an 'Online Solo Dance Competition' giving students an online platform to show case their talents and be safe at home during the tough times of lockdown. Similarly the talented students of DME Art society, SPECTRUM have proved that Art is not something that you see but what you make others see and have come up with "Muskurayega India" to encourage the citizens of the nation to have faith and stay united to overcome this pandemic.

The music society ALANKAR and fashion society STYLEIT are also not left behind. The members of DME Fashion Society,

STYLEIT have come up with their quarantine special fashion walk with a theme that fashion is not something that exists in dresses only and proving with the extraordinary styles, that fashion is in the sky, in the street, in the ideas, the way we live and what is happening around us. Similarly, the members of music society ALANKAR has also made efforts to entertain the audience and encourage them to stay safe at home.

Coming to the gracious DME Theatre Society, TAABIIR, which developed an Instagram page to stay connected with people and expand its vision and audience. The society hosted a monologue competition as well. The theatre society also conducted a live session and hosted theatre sessions for free of cost giving in-depth knowledge about skills and field of theatre and showing a path with an exhilarant vision to the children interested in theatre. The members of all the cultural societies have put great efforts under the guidance of DME Cultural Head, Ms. Navjot Suri and the audience has shown extraordinary response to their hard work. We shall continue to do the same at DME. Soon we are coming up with more Dance videos by Bhangra society , Theatre Society , Art Society and Dance Society. Next month will be focused on conducting online Inter and Intra competitions.

FITOOR - DANCE SOCIETY OF DME
PRESENTS

EXPRESSIONS

(ONLY FOR DME STUDENTS)

AN ONLINE SOLO DANCE COMPETITION

--PARTICIPATE NOW--

LAST DATE TO POST VIDEO 5th JUNE'2020

TROPHIES/ MEDALS AND E-CERTIFICATES FOR WINNERS

ALL FORMS ARE WELCOME

GO THROUGH RULES

FOR QUERIES CONTACT:
SHUBHANGI NEGI (9971972409)
ISHAN GUPTA (9958505045)

RULES

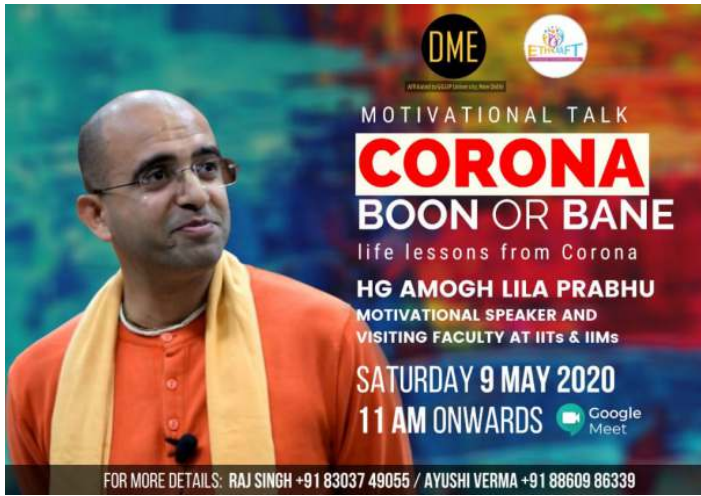
RULES FOR COMPETITION

1. Only DME Students can participate.
2. Time limit 1.5-3 minutes.
3. TO PARTICIPATE- The participants have to post the video on their Instagram (Instagram feed not story) and tag @dmenoida, @sagar_chand78 & @fitoordme. Make sure your account is public account.
4. Only one entry allowed by one participant.
5. Judgement criteria- Time management, choreography, expressions, props, stunts & flexibility.
6. Video should be made in one shot. (Straight disqualification if not in one shot)
7. Decision of the judge will be final.
8. JUDGE- Mr.Sagar Chand

RESULTS WILL BE ANNOUNCED ON EVERY TAGGED PAGE.

HEADING?????

“IT'S NOT THE PROBLEMS IN LIFE THAT MAKES US WEAK BUT THE MODUS HOW WE DEAL WITH IT. IN LIFE WE SHOULD TRY NOT TO GO, BUT GROW WITH IT” - HG PRABHU AMOGH LILA DAS



In this hard-dwelling time, where life expectancy has fallen so short, what else can give us a moral support other than the motivation of “YES, WE CAN”. Being very well aware of this issue, DME along with the ETHICRAFT SOCIETY conducted a MOTIVATIONAL SEMINAR by one of the greatly renowned influencing speaker, HG PRABHU AMOGH LILADAS JI. The seminar was conducted under the mentorship of Assistant Professor (DME) Navjot Suri Maam and was attended by our Respected Director (DME), Professor Ravikant Swamy Sir, The Vice- President of Ethicraft Society, Shivanshu Sir, Dr. Sudhir Bisht , (Faculty, DME) and the students of DME.

As already told PRABHU AMOGH LILA DAS JI is a widely acclaimed personality and a YouTube celebrity widely known as E-GURU, changing million of lives. Having completed his B.TECH. in Computer Science from Delhi University, PRABHU JI is currently serving as the Vice President at ISKCON, Dwarka. His success list does not end here. He is also a Co-Faculty at IIM Ahmedabad for teaching PRINCIPLE ETHICS AND MORALITY IN LEADERSHIP.

He serves youth forum Dwarka for the uplifting character among the youth.

He also delivers weekly sessions at NSIT and DTU. Prabhu Ji is also the Co-Director and Corporate Trainer at V-SERVE (Vedic Solutions To Empower Resources By Value Education), spiritual corporate training wing. Prabhu Ji has also delivered sessions on Stress Management, anger management, conflict management IT Sector in companies like Max New York Life, Emami, Nestle, Maruti, Holland Tractors, Ernst And Young, Prakash Industries are just the name of a few. The seminar was conducted very smoothly where is the theme of the topic was explained clearly by Prabhu Ji that whether **COVID-19 WAS A BANE OR BOON**. Just as the case with all the other things, it was explained that COVID-19 also has both the sides. Firstly explaining the BANE part, he made us clear with the Economic Downfall, the number of casualties and the problems suffered by the people majorly the lower class people to an extent. Next getting onto the BOON part, he cleared us with the fact that we already have a life with no change. He explained that we did nothing but to follow the routine we have already set up without trying anything new, without spending time with loved ones. It was also very shocking to know that even though the virus had taken so many of us but healed nature in a spectacular way. There were many other points which Prabhuji, focused on, interacting with everyone in the seminar. At last he cleared all the doubts which were in the minds of the audience and made everyone quench the thirst of their unknowingness. The seminar was hence brought to an end filling us all with the boon of positiveness.

- Mr. Raj Singh
BA LLB (1st YEAR-B)
Co-Convenor (Ethicraft Society)
Co-Convenor (Literary and Debate Society)
Student, DME.

