

## **ORIENTATION & BEYOND: REPORT ON THE CERTIFICATE COURSE ON 21ST CENTURY SKILLS FOR IN-SERVICE AND PRE-SERVICE TEACHERS**

In order to match up with the **SDG Alignment of inclusive and quality education by Experiencing Lifelong Learning** and the challenges of 21<sup>st</sup> century, Symbiosis Law School Pune, (SLS Pune), a constituent of Symbiosis International (Deemed University) (SIU), as key partner, floated the project, “Teacher training with specialization on life and information technology skills” (“21<sup>st</sup> Teach Skills”), with the purpose to carry forward the concept of 21st Century Skills – to establish an indispensable mark on the education system of India.

The rapid technological advancements and new patterns of work have compelled to encapsulate 21st century skills in the education of India. To meet the required skillset of the present times, it is required for teachers to be trained and, the skills need to be integrated into the teacher educational programs for honing the efficiency of teachers and enabling them to effectively impart and transfer the 21st century skills among students.

Keeping in line with this requirement, the module on Critical Thinking Skills and Collaborative Problem-Solving Skills was developed by SLS Pune and was offered as a “Certificate Program on 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills” from October 2023 to January 2024 to pre-service and in-service teachers as per the project requirements of pilot study. Critical Thinking as a skill is vital throughout one’s professional life and is therefore a part of lifelong learning.

An orientation session in hybrid mode for the same was organized by Symbiosis Law School, Pune on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2023, which focused on acquainting the participants with the objectives of the project, content of course along with the deliverables.



Dr. Shashikala Gurpur, Project Manager SIU, Director SLS Pune, Addressing the participants on hybrid mode

The background of the participants is as follows:

### In-Service teachers

Sr. No.	Affiliation	Number of participants	Attendance (Online/Physical)
1	SLS Pune	39	Physical
2	Other SIU Constituent Institutes	30	Online
3	Symbiosis School	137	Both Online and Physical
4	Outside Symbiosis 1. Rural 2. Urban	45 (12) (33)	Online
	<b>Total</b>	<b>251</b>	

### Pre-Service teachers

Sr. No.	Affiliation	Number of participants	Attendance (Online/Physical)
1	SLS Pune- LLM	71	Physical
2	Other SIU	11	Online
3	Outside Symbiosis 1. Rural 2. Urban	15 (03) (12)	Online
	<b>Total</b>	<b>97</b>	

The participants were from various schools as below:

- Symbiosis International School, Pune, Maharashtra
- Symbiosis Teaching Learning Resource Centre, Pune, Maharashtra
- Symbiosis Centre for Management studies, Nagpur campus, Maharashtra
- Symbiosis Institute of Technology, Symbiosis International (Deemed University) Pune, Maharashtra
- Symbiosis Medical College for women, Lavale, Pune, Maharashtra
- The Shillong Law College, Shillong, Meghalaya
- Kaveri college of Arts science and commerce Erandwane Pune, Maharashtra
- Kannada Sangha Kaveri College, Pune, Maharashtra
- ICAR Central Citrus Research Institute, Nagpur, Maharashtra
- Kannad Sangha Kaveri college, Pune, Maharashtra
- Kannada Sangha Pune's Kaveri College of Arts, Science and Commerce, Pune, Maharashtra
- Government Law College Thrissur, Kerala
- Goa University, Goa
- Symbiosis Institute of Business Management, Hyderabad, Telangana
- Symbiosis Institute of Management Studies, Pune, Maharashtra

- Symbiosis Institute of Health Sciences, Pune, Maharashtra
- Symbiosis School of Sports Sciences, Pune, Maharashtra
- Symbiosis Law School, Hyderabad, Telangana
- Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts, Pune, Maharashtra
- Kaveri International school, Lohegaon, Pune, Maharashtra
- Sou Vimlabai Garware Junior college Pune, Maharashtra
- Z.P. SCHOOL ARAG TAL. Miraj, Maharashtra
- Z. P. School No.1 Arag Tal-Miraj, Maharashtra
- Z. P. School Laxmiwadi, Sangli, Maharashtra
- Symbiosis Kindergarten, Pune, Maharashtra
- National English Medium School Arag, Miraj, Maharashtra
- Symbiosis Institute for Teacher Education, Pune, Maharashtra.

### Map of India



It was an achievement to have teacher participants from different states of India such as Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Kerala, Goa and Telangana.

The orientation session commenced with welcoming the participants (online and offline).



Following this, the participants were acquainted with the objectives of the project along with the relevance of 21st-century teaching skills in the current scenario. Prof. Dr. Shashikala Gurpur, Director, Symbiosis Law School, Pune, and Dean, Faculty of Law, Symbiosis International (Deemed University) delivered the inaugural address. Her address helped participants to orient themselves with the importance of project deliverables which emphasized on the development of curriculum, by collaborating with in-service teachers and pre-service teachers.

Session in progress for pre-service and in-service teachers

Further, team of SCES/SLS Pune took the participants through the project journey and told them about the development of the 4 modules by the participating HEIs. She informed the participants about the 4 modules that were developed namely on ‘Teaching Critical Thinking and Collaborative Problem-Solving Skills’, ‘Education Technology Skills’, ‘Authentic Learning Tasks’, and ‘Optimizing Assessment for 21st Century Skills’.



Participants attending the orientation session on the 21<sup>st</sup> Teach Skills Certificate Program

She stressed on the importance of the proposed certificate program which aligns with the United Nation’s SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals), UNESCO’s International Bureau of Education Framework, National Education Policy of India, WHO’s 10 core life skills OECD Transformative Competencies & Better Life initiatives – to boost the career prospects. The participants were told that the certificate course focused on soft skills and skills that will help individuals to cope with various situations at the workspace, which accounts for 85% of professional success. It was also stressed upon the participants that, an individual with a high level of technological adroitness, Critical Thinking Skills and Collaborative, Problem-Solving Skills will excel in research and teaching.

Imbibing 21st century skills will provide students with a winning edge over others. It would prepare them to take up leadership roles in the digital age and would enable them to shine as job creators. It will also motivate them for lifelong learning.



Participants and Trainers attending the orientation session on the 21<sup>st</sup> Teach Skills Certificate Program

The participants were oriented about the learning methods and course duration of the certificate course with the help of the MOODLE Platform. During the orientation session the participants were trained for the Moodle registration process and access to the content available on Moodle along with the process of assessment. The selected content of all 4 modules were made available to the registered participants to access, learn and carry out the activities based on it.

The orientation program provided the necessary handholding to the participants regarding registration on the platform and the assessment plan.



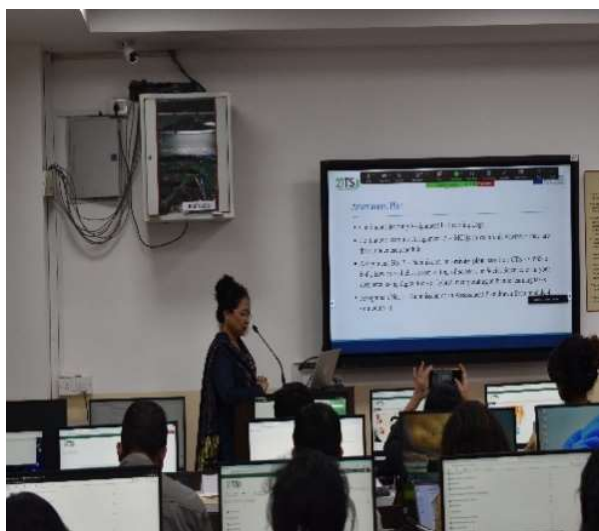
Participants attending the orientation session on the 21<sup>st</sup> Teach Skills Certificate Program

### Queries from participants

The questions from the participants related mainly to the following themes:

- Technical issues regarding the platform
- Assessments given under the certificate programme
- Receipt of certificates

The SLS Pune team answered their queries and shared a step-by-step guide for accessing the platform. Templates and detailed guidelines for the assessments were also shared with the participants. The participants were informed that subject to their satisfactory attendance and completion of all the assessments they would receive their certificates 15 days after the last day of the course.



21<sup>st</sup> TS Team, SLS Pune addressing the participants on hybrid mode

### Impact of the course

Based on the feedback of the participants on the platform, the impact can be summarized as follows:

- The participants appreciated the initiative taken by SLS Pune for inculcating 21<sup>st</sup> century Skills like critical thinking skills and collaborative problem-solving skills.
- The participants found the course very motivating and thought provoking especially an opportunity to upskill themselves.
- They expressed that the course will enhance their skills which they can not only relate to in their respective classes and improve their course delivery but also enhance their own understanding of the topic.



Participants attending the orientation session on the 21<sup>st</sup> Teach Skills Certificate Program

## Testimonials of participants:

*The Teaching methods used by the teachers. The integration of self-learning, learning from the peers as well as having the teachers as our guide is something great and unique. This made us non-dependent on the teachers alone.*

*The website is very smooth.*

*The user interface is very good. It is easy to navigate. It motivates the students to explore the modules effectively.*

*The training is so innovative, informative, and instructive; linking our minds to ideas and possibilities*

*I would really appreciate the way the modules have been designed and the various activities that have been given to make the teaching-learning process effective and interesting.*

### A infographics of the feedback from participants:

