

PENUMBRA

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December' 25

PAGES DISCLOSED

- Faculty sports league
- Convocation 2023-25
- Agrifest 2025
- Sahyogita
- Faculty seminar
- Christmas 2025

THEME

Bidding Farewell to
2025:
Reflections and New
Year Hopes



BIDDING FAREWELL TO 2025:

Reflections and New Year Hopes

As the clock strikes midnight on December 31, 2025, we stand at the threshold of another year, ready to wave goodbye to the highs, lows, and everything in between that defined the past 12 months. 2025 was a year of resilience for many—think of the buzzing campus events at places like SIBM Nagpur, from vibrant Christmas connects and agribusiness fests like NAVANKUR to convocation triumphs and insightful global talks. Personally and globally, it brought challenges like adapting to AI-driven shifts in work and agriculture, yet also triumphs in community bonds, festive joys, and academic milestones. Saying bye isn't just closure; it's gratitude for lessons learned, connections forged, and growth sparked amid uncertainties.



Reflecting deeper, 2025 tested our adaptability, much like the agri-FMCG discussions in NAVANKUR highlighted supply chain hurdles turning into innovation opportunities. In India, from Nagpur's local scenes to national strides, we saw sustainability push forward in SDGs-aligned events, entrepreneurial sparks in case competitions, and cultural warmth in holiday gatherings. Yet, it wasn't without trials—economic fluxes, tech disruptions, and personal hustles reminded us of humanity's core: compassion, as echoed in spirituality sessions. These moments built character, urging us to cherish the journey over destinations.



FACULTY SPORTS LEAGUE:

Celebrating Fitness and Unity

SIBM Nagpur's Sports Committee hosted the Faculty Sports League on December 3, 2025, at the SIU Nagpur Campus Sports Complex. Faculty and staff participated enthusiastically in games like badminton, table tennis, carom, chess, and pool, blending with friendly competition.

The event promoted physical fitness, team spirit, and work-life balance while aligning with SDGs: SDG 3 for health and well-being, SDG 4 for quality education through a positive culture, SDG 8 for decent work, and SDG 11 for community cohesion. It fostered bonding, reduced stress, and created a lively campus vibe with cheers from colleagues and student.

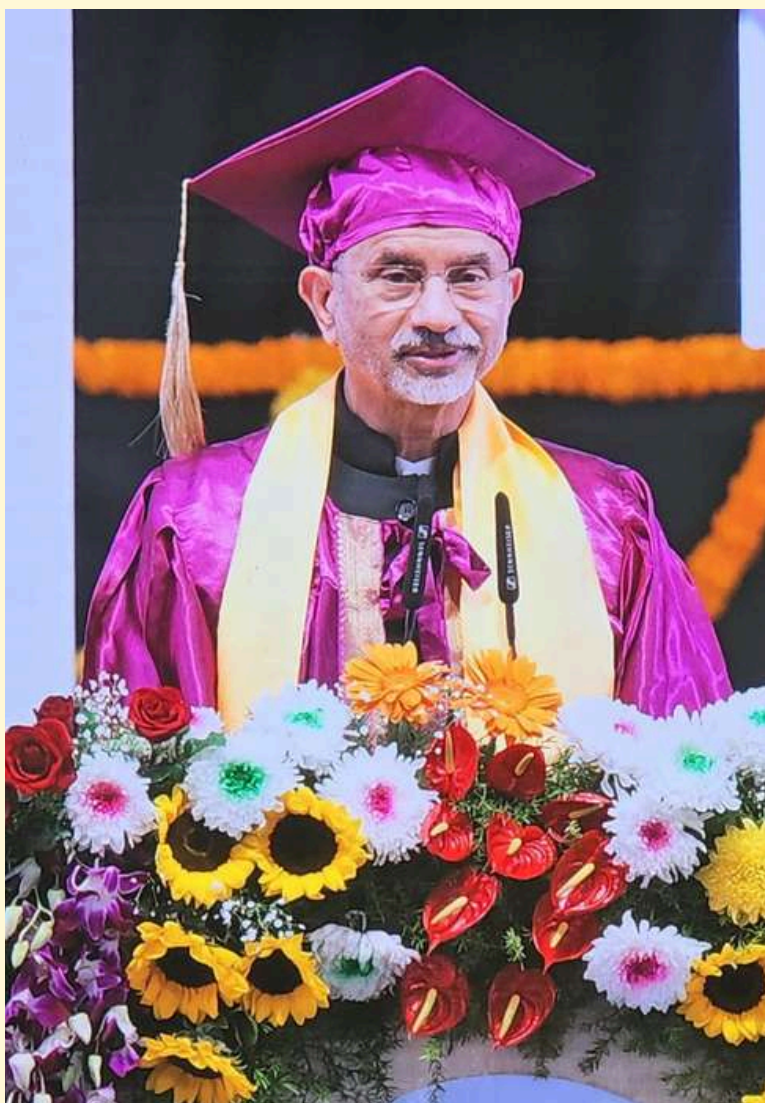
Winners

- Badminton (Senior): 1st - Dr. Sandeep Dongre; 2nd - Dr. Ashok Patil
- Badminton (Junior): 1st - Manish Chaudhary; 2nd - Pratik Gavhane
- Badminton (Doubles): Dr. Smruti Patre & Dr. Sandeep Dongre
- Table Tennis: 1st - Dr. Ashok Patil; 2nd - Dr. Prakash Bhongade
- Chess: 1st - Dr. Rajesh Vaidya; 2nd - Dr. Arif Abad
- Pool: 1st - Manish Chaudhary; 2nd - Dr. Arif Abad



CONVOCATION CEREMONY

Honouring Achievement and Growth



SIBM Nagpur's MBA Batch 2023-25 celebrated their milestone at the 22nd Convocation of Symbiosis International (Deemed University) on December 20, 2025, at the Lavale Hill Campus in Pune, where degrees were formally conferred amid prestige and inspiration. Graced by Chief Guest Dr. S. Jaishankar (Hon'ble Minister of External Affairs), presided over by Chancellor Prof. (Dr.) S. B. Mujumdar and Pro Chancellor Dr. Vidya Yeravdekar, the event featured SIBM Director Prof. (Dr.) Shailesh Rastogi, Deputy Director Dr. Smruti Patre, and faculty like Dr. Rajesh Vaidya and Dr. Vinod Surange. Aimed at honoring academic achievements while instilling professional excellence, ethics, and lifelong learning, it fostered pride, reflection, and a global outlook, transitioning graduates into impactful professionals and reinforcing Symbiosis' holistic values.

NAVNAYAN 2025:

AgriBusiness Innovation Unleashed

SIBM Nagpur organized NAVNAYAN - The AgriBusiness Case Competition 2025, hosted on Unstop from November 25 to December 3, 2025. The event drew 101 registrations from students across institutions, offering a platform to tackle real-world agribusiness challenges for Grain Delight Foods through strategic thinking and innovation.

The competition unfolded in three stages: Stage 1 (November 25) featured a 30-minute online aptitude test with 30 MCQs on business, agriculture, logic, and quant skills. Stage 2 (November 26-29) required shortlisted teams to submit a 7-slide strategic blueprint, judged on originality, analysis, feasibility, and storytelling. Stage 3 (December 3-7) demanded a full business strategy report and implementation roadmap.



Parallel to this, the Agripreneurship Challenge 2025 spurred teams to ideate tech-driven solutions using AI, IoT, automation, and digital tools for agriculture. It emphasized creativity, business viability, and future-ready leadership in the evolving agri-food ecosystem.

Guidance from Dr. Sandeep Dongre and Dr. Vinod G. Surange enriched participants with insights, promoting experiential learning beyond classrooms. The events underscored grassroots entrepreneurship and sustainable solutions for India's agriculture.

Key outcomes included sharpened strategic skills, boosted innovation in agribusiness, career exposure with job opportunities, and reinforced SIBM Nagpur's focus on industry-relevant education.



PANEL POWERHOUSE

Insights from Industry Leaders

NAVANKUR 2025's panel discussion, themed "Agriculture is Our Core and FMCG is the Prize," featured senior leaders from Amul, ZOFF, EF Polymer India, Monginis Foods, and Sid's Farm. Moderated by Dr. Shailesh Rastogi, Director of SIBM Nagpur, it dissected why India's agri-base lags in FMCG value, spotlighting supply chain gaps (Mr. Vedansh Dubey), tech procurement (Mr. Abhishake Jetly & Mr. Uday Singh), farm-level innovation (Mr. Vikash Mehta), and farmer-inclusive chains (Mr. Ahmad Kaba & Mr. Prashanth G.). A special session with Mr. Kaba offered career tips on curiosity, communication, adaptability, and attitude.



Key outcomes were profound: students gained nuanced understanding of agri-FMCG value chains and real industry hurdles; direct leader interactions built networks and global views; skills in strategy, analysis, and entrepreneurship sharpened notably. It strengthened academia-industry bridges, championed innovation, opt ables

sustainability, and inclusive growth mindsets, while cultural events boosted teamwork, creativity, and leadership. Ultimately, NAVANKUR solidified SIBM Nagpur's experiential learning ethos, equipping participants with inspiration and tools to tackle dynamic agribusiness futures.

Students thrived in competitive engagements like the Agripreneurship Competition, Agrisphere Simulation League, and Boardroom Discussions, honing strategic and analytical skills. The fest wrapped with a lively Cultural Night—Rang-e-Sangeet—boasting Saaz Band performances, open mics, stalls, and showcases, blending intellect with campus vibrancy.



MINDFUL LIVING

Spirituality in Everyday Practice

SIBM Nagpur hosted a session on "Spirituality in Daily Life" on December 10, 2025, from 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM at Nalanda Hall. It drew 38 faculty and staff members, led by Dr. Anant Deogaonkar, Associate Professor at SIBM Nagpur.

The event aimed to boost inner well-being, mindfulness, and emotional balance by weaving spiritual principles into daily personal and professional routines. It focused on building self-awareness, ethical conduct, and holistic growth amid work pressures.



Aligning with SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-Being), it promoted mental wellness and stress relief. It also supported SDG 4 (Quality Education) through value-based learning, lifelong development, and enhanced teaching effectiveness.

Dr. Deogaonkar shared practical insights on using mindfulness, self-discipline, and positive thinking for stress management and better relationships. Interactive discussions encouraged reflection, fostering a meaningful experience that enriched participants' professional harmony and personal peace.



SAHYOGITA TALKS

Entrepreneurship in the AI Era

SIBM Nagpur hosted an online expert talk under the Sahyogita: A Global Talk Series on December 15, 2025, at engaging MBA students and faculty members. The session spotlighted "Entrepreneurship in the Data-Driven, AI-Defined Century: Challenges & Pathways Forward," delivered by Dr. Rishi Raj, EdD, Associate Director at Prairie View A&M University. It aimed to equip participants with global perspectives on leveraging data analytics and AI for entrepreneurship, highlighting emerging challenges like data-intensive decision-making, ethical AI adoption, and the need for adaptive leadership. Dr. Raj drew from real-world examples to illustrate how these technologies are reshaping entrepreneurial models, urging a blend of human judgment, interdisciplinary thinking, research-driven solutions, and lifelong learning to thrive in a competitive landscape.



The poster for the Sahyogita A Global Talk Series features a green and white color scheme. At the top right is the SIBM Nagpur logo. The title "Sahyogita" is written in a large, elegant script font, with "(Collaboration)" in smaller text below it. Underneath, "A GLOBAL TALK SERIES" is written in bold, black, sans-serif capital letters. The date and time are listed as "15 DECEMBER, 2025" and "4:30 PM" with corresponding icons. The location is "SEMINAR HALL". A dark green button with white text says "ONLINE MODE". The topic is "Entrepreneurship in the Data-Driven AI-Defined Century: Challenges and Pathways Forward". A circular portrait of Dr. Rishi Raj, a man with glasses and a mustache wearing a pink suit, is centered. Below the portrait, his name "DR. RISHI RAJ" is written in white on a dark green background, followed by his title "Associate Director" and "PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY" in smaller text.

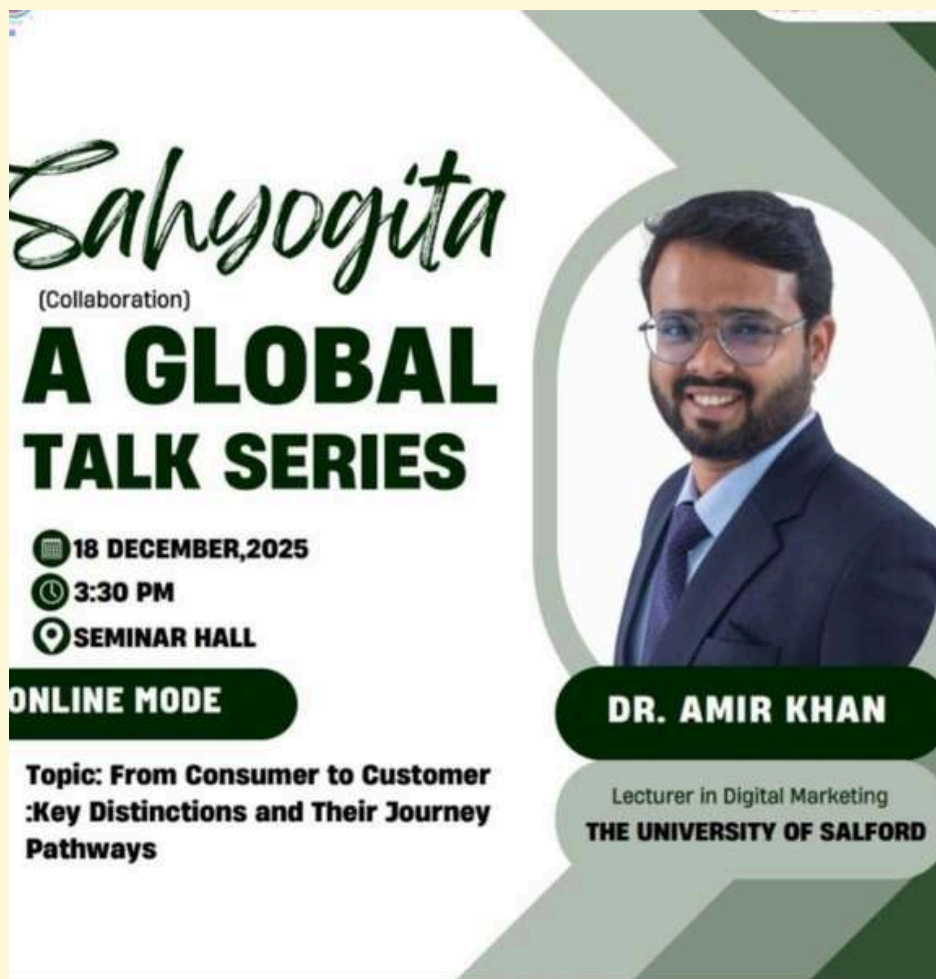
The program flowed seamlessly: a welcome address from 4:30-4:35 PM introduced the speaker, followed by Dr. Raj's core talk from 4:35-5:25 PM packed with insights on innovation and responsible tech use. An interactive Q&A (5:25-5:40 PM) sparked dynamic discussions, wrapping up with a vote of thanks by 5:45 PM. Aligning with SDGs, it advanced SDG 4 (Quality Education) via future-ready skills, SDG 8 (Decent Work) through innovation-led growth, SDG 9 (Industry & Innovation), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption), and SDG 17 (Partnerships), emphasizing ethical tech integration and global collaboration. Strong ties to SDG 4, 8, 9, 12, and 17 via skill-building and ethical innovation. Highly interactive; boosted global exposure and entrepreneurial clarity for future pathways.

Furthermore, the session proved instrumental in enhancing participants' strategic outlook toward entrepreneurship in a rapidly evolving digital economy. By bridging academic insights with practical applications, the talk encouraged students to think beyond traditional business models and embrace data-driven, socially responsible innovation. The emphasis on ethical AI, sustainable growth, and global collaboration resonated strongly with aspiring entrepreneurs, motivating them to develop solutions that are not only technologically advanced but also inclusive and impactful.

INTERNATIONAL DIALOGUE

Connecting Ideas Across Borders

SIBM Nagpur's Internationalization Committee hosted an online expert session under the Sahyogita: A Global Talk Series on December 18, 2025, focusing on "From Consumer to Customer: Key Distinctions and Their Journey Pathways." Delivered by Dr. Amir Khan, PGCAP, FHEA, Lecturer in Digital Marketing at The University of Salford, the talk equipped students with insights into modern digital marketing. It unpacked the shift from transactional consumer interactions to building lasting customer loyalty, emphasizing behavioral changes in the digital ecosystem, value-driven touchpoints, personalization, and strategic engagement strategies. Dr. Khan bridged theory and practice through global cases, helping participants grasp how brands foster loyalty amid evolving digital behaviors.

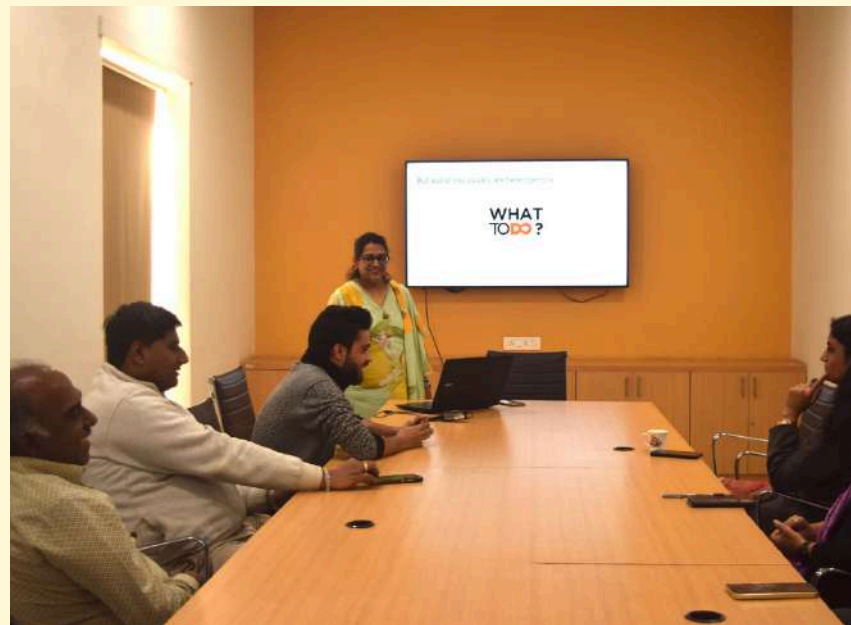


The program was well-structured and interactive, featuring a welcome address, an insightful expert session by Dr. Amir on innovation and responsible technology use, followed by an engaging Q&A and a formal vote of thanks. The talk aligned strongly with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, especially quality education, innovation, decent work, responsible consumption, and global partnerships. It enhanced global exposure and entrepreneurial clarity among MBA students by emphasizing ethical innovation, sustainability, and purpose-driven leadership. Overall, the session encouraged responsible integration of emerging technologies and inspired participants to create long-term value in an increasingly AI-driven world.

SCHOLARS' FORUM

Perspectives in Teaching and Research

SIBM Nagpur hosted an inspiring faculty seminar by Dr. Anant Deogaonkar titled "A Journey Into Spirituality." He illuminated how simple practices like mindfulness, reflection, gratitude, and conscious breathing foster greater self-awareness, balance, and clarity in daily life. Emphasizing awakening the inner self beyond material success, Dr. Deogaonkar highlighted humanity, compassion, and higher purpose, encouraging alignment with enriching values for personal and collective well-being



In a separate session under the Faculty Seminar Series, Dr. Smruti Patre led a detailed exploration of the "ELM Models," or Elaboration Likelihood Model, a dual-process theory of persuasion. She unpacked its core routes—central (deep, thoughtful processing for strong attitudes) and peripheral (quick cues like attractiveness for fleeting changes)—with real-world applications in marketing, decision-making, attitude formation, and even classroom dynamics. Patre connected it to contemporary teaching and research, showing how it enhances student engagement, evaluates communication effectiveness, and informs evidence-based pedagogy in business education.

Faculty actively participated across both seminars, brainstorming practical integrations—like applying ELM for persuasive teaching and spirituality for mindful leadership—which sparked vibrant exchanges on classroom dynamics, communication, and work-life harmony. These discussions reinforced SIBM Nagpur's commitment to continuous learning, research excellence, and collaborative growth, leaving participants motivated to elevate their academic practices with deeper intellectual and personal insights

CANDYCANE CELEBRATION

Connecting Hearts This Christmas

CandyCane - Christmas Connect, hosted by SIBM Nagpur's Mudita committee on December 24, 2025, at 5:00 PM in the Dome Area, immersed the campus in holiday magic with a striking red-white-green theme evoking Christmas cheer. Designed to nurture togetherness, joy, cultural harmony, and interpersonal bonds among students and faculty, the event opened with a touching faculty gathering. They cut a special Christmas cake, a ritual symbolizing unity, goodwill, and shared festive spirit, setting a warm tone for the evening.

Festivities unfolded with energetic photo sessions, where groups posed amid decorations for timeless snapshots of smiles and camaraderie. Faculty and staff poured heart into writing Christmas wishes on greeting cards, circulating messages of peace, gratitude, love, and holiday blessings throughout the campus. The excitement peaked on December 25 with a Secret Santa for students—anonymous gift exchanges sparking surprises, peals of laughter, playful reveals, and heartfelt thanks, turning the dorms and common areas into hubs of delight and connection.



It ignited a profound festive spirit laced with cultural inclusivity, weaving diverse traditions into a unified celebration; fortified faculty-student relationships through collaborative fun; spurred widespread participation that uplifted emotional well-being and joy; forged enduring memories via interactive rituals; and amplified SIBM Nagpur's vibrant community ethos, leaving everyone refreshed and closely knit.

WITH GRATITUDE TO THE SUPPORTING TEAM

