



VIVEKANAND
EDUCATION SOCIETY
COLLEGE OF ARTS, SCIENCE &
COMMERCE (AUTONOMOUS)



Faculty Development Programme on “Ethics in Research”
Organized by the Research Circle
Under the Aegis of PM-USHA
14th – 21st June 2025

Introduction

The Research Circle of Vivekanand Education Society’s College of Arts, Science and Commerce (Autonomous), Chembur, Mumbai, organized a Faculty Development Programme (FDP) titled “*Ethics in Research*” from 14th to 21st June 2025 which was conducted under the aegis of the PM-USHA. The programme aimed to familiarize participants with key ethical issues and best practices in academic research and publishing. Though primarily designed for faculty members, the programme was also made available to postgraduate students to promote early exposure to research ethics.

Objectives

The objectives of the programme were as follows:

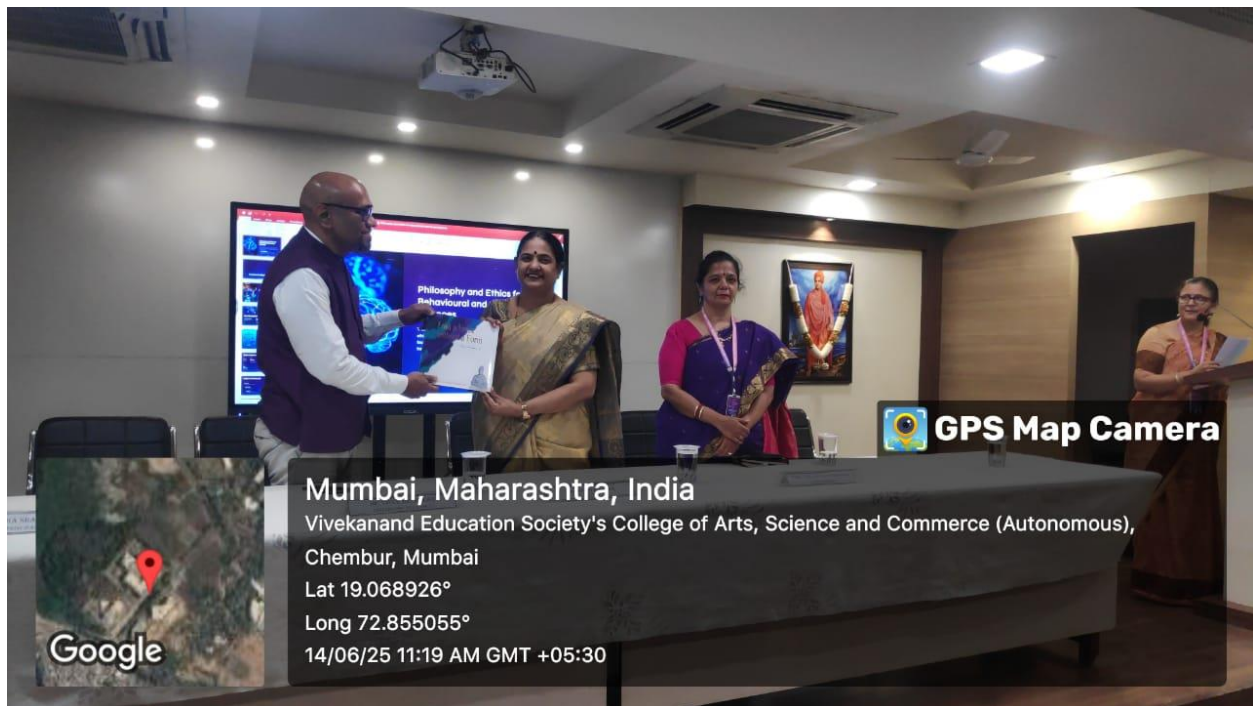
1. To introduce the basic concepts of the philosophy of science and ethics.
2. To promote awareness of research integrity.
3. To examine the principles of publication ethics.
4. To equip participants to identify research misconduct and predatory publications.
5. To provide an overview of indexing and citation databases.
6. To offer insights into open access publishing and research metrics.
7. To demonstrate the use of plagiarism detection tools.

3. Programme Structure

The week-long FDP comprised seven sessions delivered by invited experts, each focusing on a specific aspect of research and publication ethics.

14th June 2025: Inaugural Session

The programme commenced with an inaugural session hosted by Dr. Shweta Patil. The Principal, Vice Principal, and Convenor of the Research Circle were present. The keynote address was delivered by Prof. Vivek Behlekar, who introduced the philosophical foundations of ethics in research.



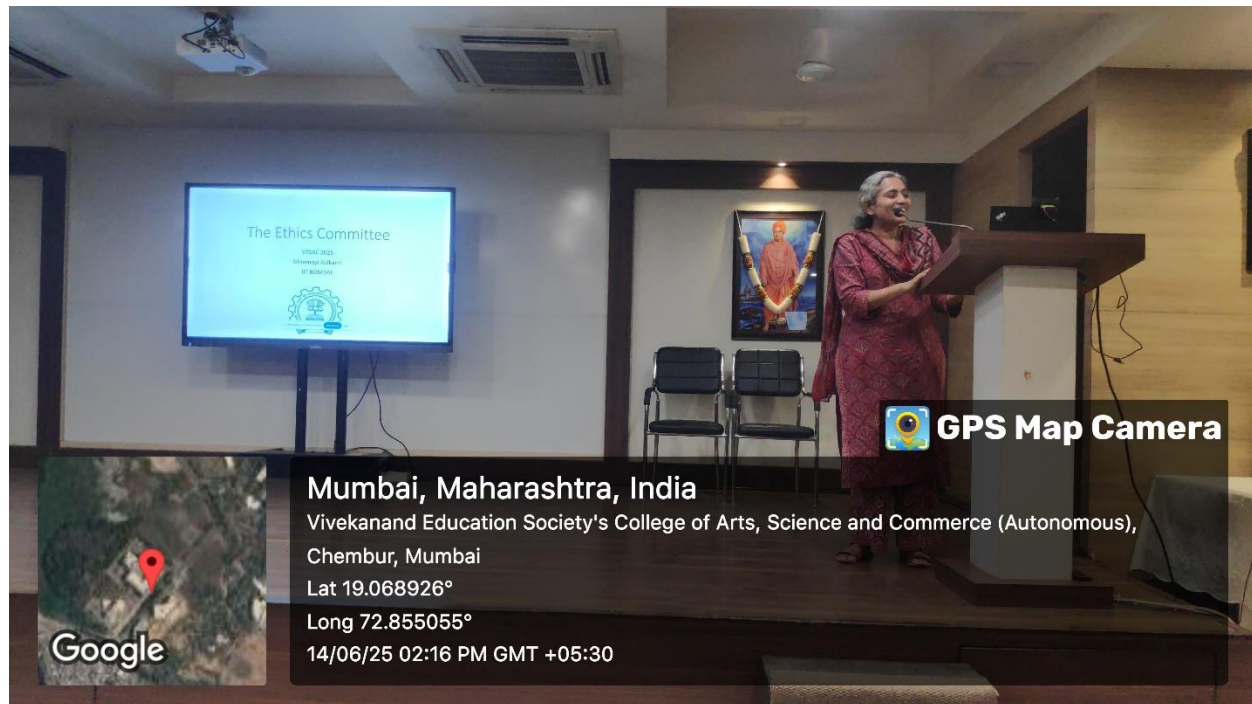
Session I – Prof. Vivek Behlekar HOD, Department of Applied Psychology, University of Mumbai

Prof. Behlekar discussed philosophical and ethical frameworks, with a focus on moral reasoning in research. He highlighted examples from behavioural science, such as the Tuskegee Syphilis Study and the Stanford Prison Experiment, to illustrate historical breaches of ethics.



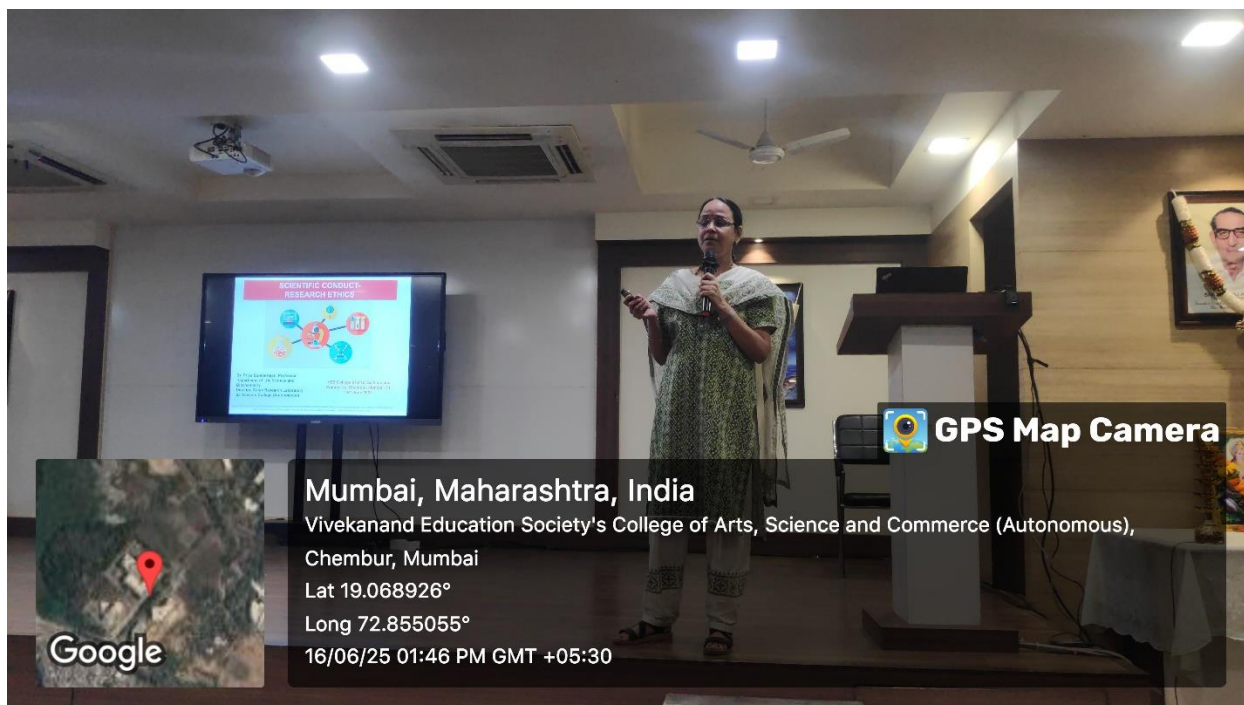
Session II – Dr. Mrinmoyi Kulkarni (Professor, Department HSS IIT Bombay)

Dr. Kulkarni addressed *Scientific Conduct I*, focusing on issues such as conflicts of interest, ethical dilemmas arising from academic pressures, and administrative ethics. The session encouraged critical reflection on systems that support ethical research environments.



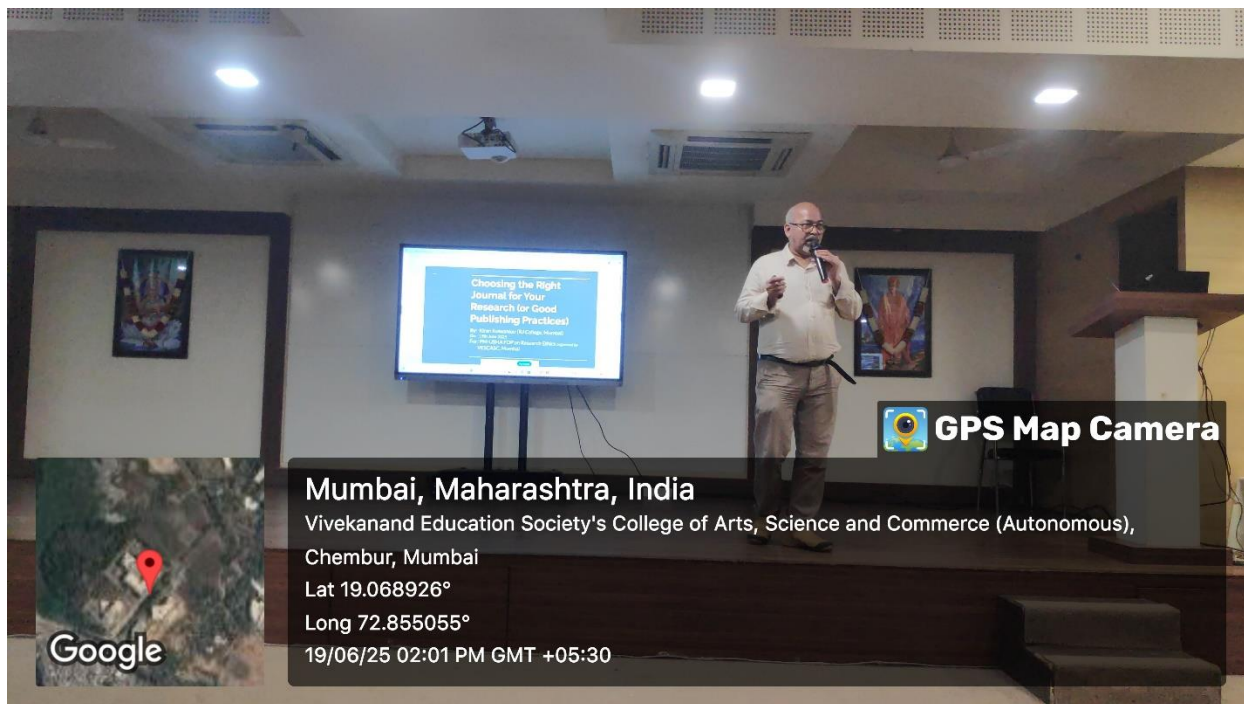
16th June 2025: Session III – Dr. Priya Sundararajan (Professor, St. Xavier's College)

Dr. Sundararajan discussed *Scientific Conduct II*, elaborating on research misconduct including plagiarism, fabrication, and falsification. She provided practical guidance on maintaining academic honesty and introduced plagiarism detection strategies. She also explained various academic writing styles used in scholarly communication.



19th June 2025: Session IV – Dr. Kiran Kolwankar (Professor Department of Physics Ramnirnan Jhunjhunwala College)

Dr. Kolwankar's session focused on *Choosing the Right Journal*. The session covered journal selection criteria such as peer review, editorial board, indexing, impact factor, and ethical editorial practices.



20th June 2025: Session V – Ms. Madhavi Wadkar (Senior Librarian, ICT)

Ms. Wadkar conducted a session on *Publication Ethics and Plagiarism Detection Tools*. She discussed citation practices, identification of predatory journals, and transparency in authorship. The session included demonstrations of tools for plagiarism detection and journal assessment.



21st June 2025: Session VI – Dr. Shamprasad Pujar (Chief Librarian IGIDR)

Dr. Pujar spoke on *Open Access Publications*, covering topics such as Creative Commons licensing, open repositories, and tools including Scopus, Web of Science, and Google Scholar.

Session VII – Dr. Shamprasad Pujar

In the concluding session, Dr. Pujar elaborated on *Research Metrics*. He explained the use and limitations of bibliometric indicators such as citation counts, h-index, and journal impact factor in evaluating research outputs.

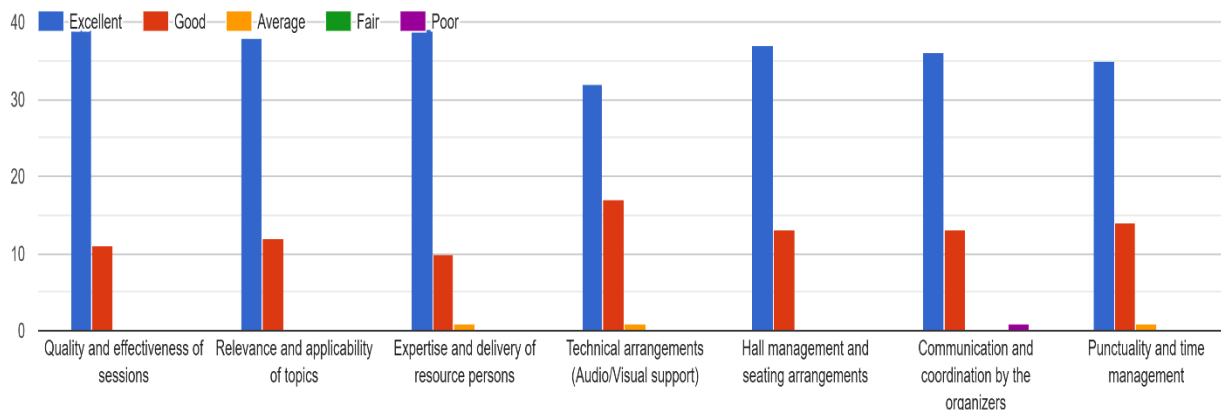


Participation

The FDP was attended by 40 faculty members and 06 research scholars and 11 postgraduate students. The sessions were conducted in hybrid mode, allowing participation from external institutions as well.

Feedback: The programme was well received by the participants. Participants appreciated the relevance and depth of the content, the expertise and clarity of the resource persons, the well-structured timing and duration of the sessions, and the overall coordination and logistical arrangements

Please rate the following aspects (1 – Poor, 5 – Excellent)



Outcomes of the Programme

- Increased awareness among faculty members and students about ethical research practices.
- Improved ability to identify credible publishing avenues and avoid unethical practices.
- Enhanced understanding of open access publishing and licensing frameworks.
- Exposure to bibliometric tools and databases used to track research visibility and impact.

Conclusion

The Faculty Development Programme on “Ethics in Research” provided a structured opportunity for participants to engage with core issues surrounding integrity and responsibility in scholarly research. By covering philosophical, practical, and technical aspects of research ethics, the programme contributed to strengthening the research culture of the institution and among the participating academic community.

