

# FREE THINKERS CLUB

## **A REPORT** **PPT PRESENTATION ON** **INDIA : THE 4<sup>TH</sup> LARGEST** **ECONOMY**

The Departmental Society of Political Science, in collaboration with the Free Thinkers Club, organized an insightful seminar on “**India’s Economic Journey and Global Position**” on **28th August 2025** at **11:00 AM** in the **Conference Hall**. The event aimed to analyze India’s economic evolution, challenges, and opportunities through a multidimensional lens.

The seminar was graced by **Principal Professor Bharti Bhagra Ma’am** as the **Chief Guest** and **Vice Principal Sir Deepak Kaprate** as the **Guest of Honour**, along with several **esteemed professors** and a gathering of nearly **150 students**.





## Proceedings of the event

The session began with an introduction delivered by Divyansh Shyam student of BA 2<sup>nd</sup> year, who welcomed the dignitaries, faculty members, and students.

He highlighted the objective of the seminar — to understand how India evolved economically from ancient times to its current standing as the 4th largest economy, and what challenges and opportunities lie ahead.

# Speakers and Key Highlights

## 1. Alina student of BA 2<sup>nd</sup> year — Historical Aspects of India's Economy

Alina traced the journey of the **Indian economy** from ancient times to the colonial period and beyond.

- In **1 CE**, India contributed nearly **23% to 30% of the world's GDP**, showcasing its prosperous past.
- During the **Mughal era**, India's **industrial output was ~25%**, making it one of the strongest global economies.
- However, the **British exploitation** drained India's wealth, leading to **severe economic stagnation** by the time of independence.
- She also covered the **1991 economic reforms**, emphasizing how liberalization, privatization, and globalization reshaped India's economic trajectory.



## 2. Shiwangi student of BA 1<sup>st</sup> year — Understanding GDP, GNP, and PPP

Shiwangi explained fundamental **economic concepts** in a simplified manner:

- **GDP (Gross Domestic Product):** The total value of goods and services produced within a country.
- **GNP (Gross National Product):** GDP plus income earned from abroad.
- **PPP (Purchasing Power Parity):** A measure comparing living standards and economic productivity across nations.
- She highlighted India's rise to the **4th largest economy** globally but also pointed out that **per capita income** remains low, ranking **142nd globally**, which creates a gap between overall growth and individual well-being.





### 3. Yamini student of BA 1<sup>ST</sup> YEAR— India's Advantages and Global Position

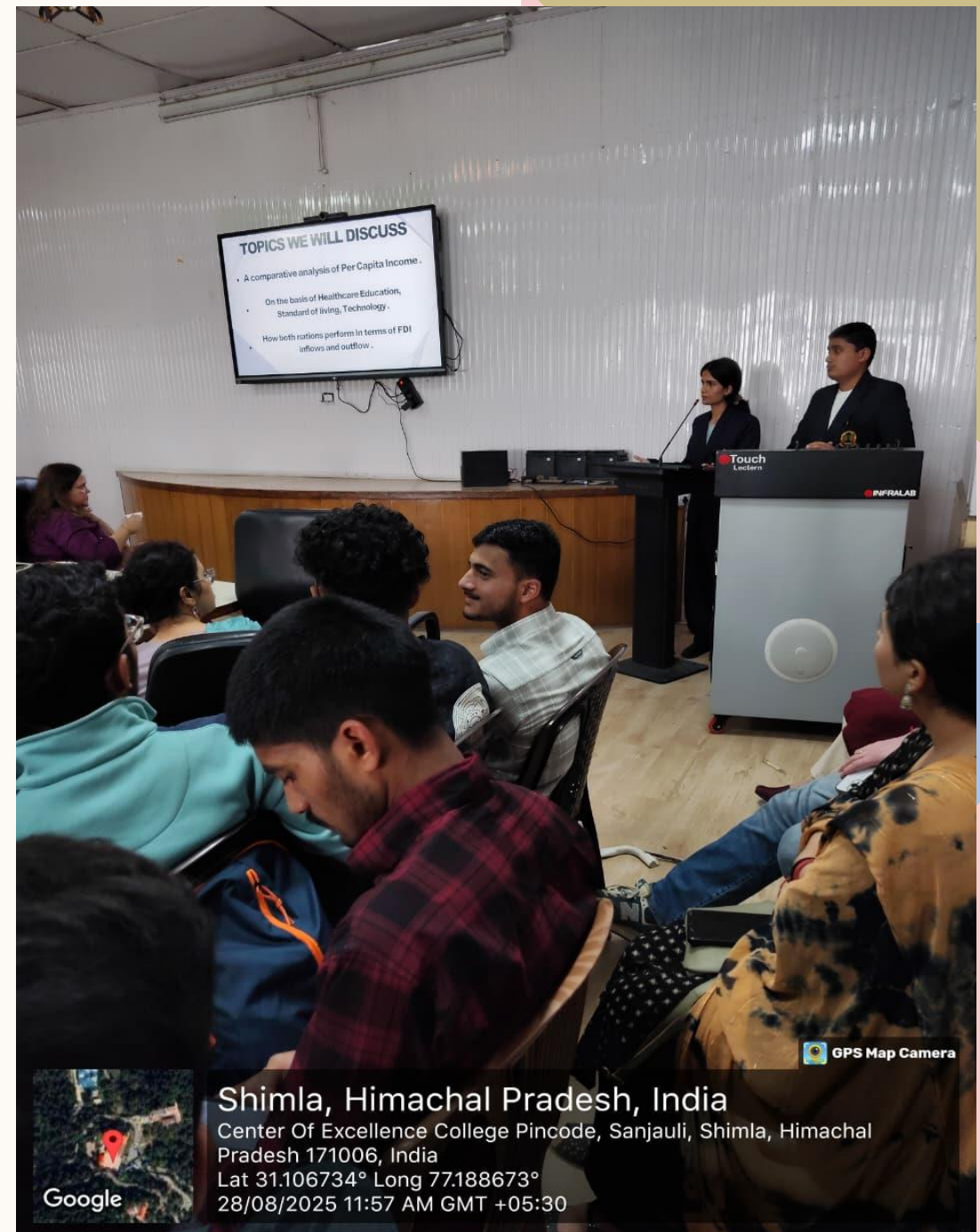
Yamini focused on **India's emerging global influence:**

- India's **G20 Presidency** and **record FDI inflows** mark its rising diplomatic and economic importance.
- **Exports** are booming, crossing **\$775 billion in 2023-24**, with significant contributions from **software, pharmaceuticals, defense, and semiconductors**.
- India is now a **technology hub**, with **108+ unicorns**, advancements in **AI, green tech, and space exploration** (e.g., **Chandrayaan-3** and **Aditya-L1**).
- She emphasized that **Digital India** has transformed governance, finance, and inclusivity, making India a leader in digital public infrastructure.

#### 4. Rupali student of BA 1<sup>st</sup> year — Comparative Analysis: India vs. Japan

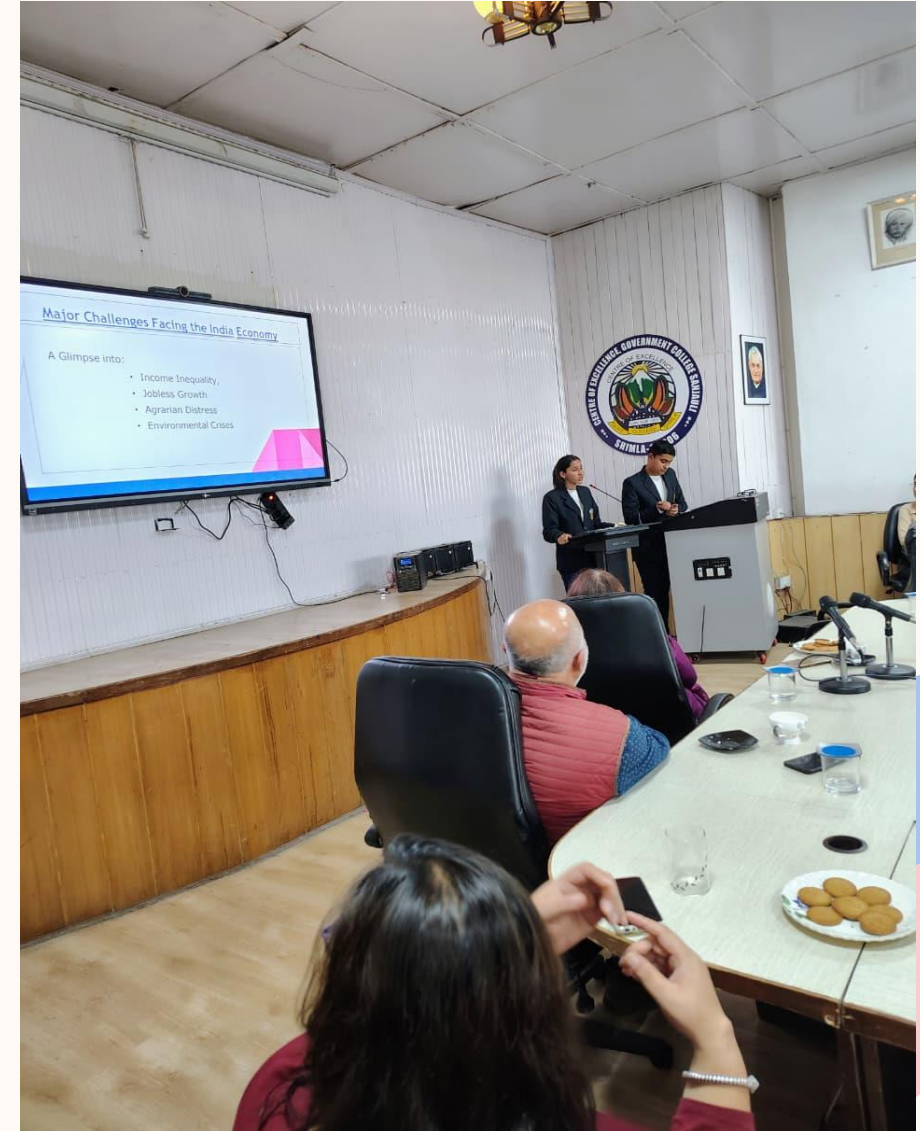
Rupali provided a **comparative perspective** on **India and Japan**:

- **GDP vs. Per Capita Income:** While India's GDP rivals Japan's, its **per capita income** is much lower (~\$2,900 vs. Japan's much higher levels).
- **Education & Healthcare:** Japan invests **3.2% of GDP in R&D** and maintains a **high standard of living** with better education and healthcare facilities, whereas India invests only **0.7%**.
- **Poverty Levels:** Japan has a relatively lower poverty rate, while in India, **5.3% of the population** lives on less than \$3 per day.
- Rupali stressed that **India's GDP growth** must translate into **better living standards** for ordinary citizens.



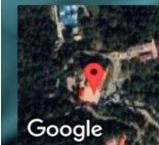
## 5. Shruti student of BA 1<sup>st</sup> year— Criticism of India's Progress

- Shruti offered a **critical perspective** on India's economic journey:
- Despite high **GDP growth**, **income inequality** remains stark — the **richest 10% hold 77% of national wealth** (Oxfam Report 2023).
- The phenomenon of **jobless growth** persists, with **youth unemployment** hovering around **15-18%**.
- **Agrarian distress** continues, with **farmer incomes stagnating** and rising debt levels.
- Environmental challenges such as **pollution**, **climate change**, and **resource depletion** pose serious threats to sustainable development.



Ritasha student of BA 2<sup>nd</sup> year concluded the seminar by succinctly synthesizing the key themes presented by the speakers.

- She acknowledged India's historical economic evolution, the relevance of macroeconomic indicators, and comparative insights drawn from Japan.
- While recognizing India's global advancements, she highlighted persistent challenges such as inequality, jobless growth, and gaps in healthcare and education.
- Ritasha proposed a forward-looking approach centered on inclusive development, grassroots entrepreneurship, and strategic investment in clean energy and localized industries. Her remarks provided a balanced and constructive closure to the session



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## Feedback and Closing

The event was further enriched by **Professor Mona Ma'am's feedback**, where she praised the clarity of presentations and the thoughtful engagement of the students. Finally, **Principal Professor Bharti Bhagra Ma'am** addressed the gathering with her inspiring words, applauding the initiative of the Departmental Society and the Free Thinkers Club in organizing such meaningful academic discussions.

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## Question & Answer Session

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The seminar concluded with an **interactive Q&A session conducted by Krish student of final year**, where students and faculty members engaged actively with the speakers.



## Vote of thanks

Divyansh student of BA 2<sup>nd</sup> year delivered the **vote of thanks** and summarized the seminar's key insights. He emphasized that while India has made **extraordinary progress**, challenges like **income disparity**, **employment generation**, and **sustainable growth** need urgent attention. The event ended on a note of optimism, envisioning **India@2047** as a **digitally empowered, innovation-driven, and globally leading economy**.



# THANK YOU

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