

R. A PODAR COLLEGE OF COMMERCE AND ECONOMICS (EMPOWERED AUTONOMOUS)

Department of Lifelong Learning & Extension (DLLE)

ANNUAL REPORT 2025-26



Teachers In-Charge:

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About the forum:

R. A. Podar College of Commerce & Economics (Empowered Autonomous) is affiliated with the Department of Lifelong Learning & Extension, University of Mumbai. The motto of the Extension Work Unit is 'Reach to Unreached.' In the academic year 2025-2026, 100 students were enrolled in the extension work activities.

Details of Projects undertaken for the Academic Year 2025-2026:

1. Career Project (CP):

The Career Project (CP) aims to provide students with comprehensive information regarding alternative career paths and higher education opportunities. The number of students registered for this project is 39 for this year. They actively participated in diverse activities designed to explore and present various professional options.

As part of their extension work, students prepared high-quality resource materials, including charts, brochures, and structured talks. A significant highlight of the project was the Career Exhibition, where participants confidently delivered presentations to college peers and faculty. Furthering their community reach, the students conducted a school visit to orient secondary students (Std. 8th and 9th), helping them understand future academic pathways and vocational choices.

To maximise the project's impact, students also created informative videos and written content detailing specific career trajectories. These materials were strategically shared across social media platforms, including WhatsApp and Instagram, to ensure the information reached a wider audience. Through these dedicated efforts, the students effectively fulfilled the objectives of the Career Project, fostering informed decision-making and community awareness.

2. Annapoorna Yojna (APY):

The Annapoorna Yojna (APY) is designed to encourage students to try their hand at small-scale businesses and startups, fostering self-reliance and entrepreneurial skills. This year, 20 students registered for this project and actively participated in activities aimed at showcasing their ability to manage accounts, finance, and marketing for their business ideas.

A major highlight of the project was “Annapoorna Yojna (APY – AASWAD),” a cultural food festival and exhibition organised on 28th January 2026 in association with the Gujarati Literary Circle. Under this initiative, DLLE students set up multiple stalls featuring a variety of traditional food items alongside handmade products and fashion accessories. Students managed the sale of items such as jewellery boxes, keychains, rings, and crochet products, while also organising refreshments for the college community.

Through these events, the APY students gained hands-on experience in resource management, teamwork, and creative commerce. By providing a platform to interact with a wide audience of students and faculty, the initiative effectively met the objectives of the project, integrating practical business learning with community engagement and making the project both meaningful and impactful.

3. Survey Research (SR):

The Survey Research (SR) project aims to bridge academic theory and community reality by engaging students in systematic social inquiry. This year, 41 students registered for this project and actively participated in research activities within adopted areas to collect baseline data regarding local issues. The primary objective was to facilitate the college in obtaining authentic insights to plan future population education programmes. Throughout the project, students gained hands-on experience in research methodology by identifying local needs, defining problem statements, and building rapport with the community.

A key highlight of the project was the integration of technology, as students utilised Google Forms and digital tools to efficiently conduct surveys, tabulate data, and carry out research. The study covered critical domains such as the status of women, literacy rates, and

environmental degradation, culminating in the submission of comprehensive research reports. Through these dedicated efforts, the 41 participants developed strong analytical skills and a deeper understanding of societal challenges, making the SR project both impactful and intellectually enriching.

Apart from the projects undertaken, the DLLE students also participated in numerous other college-level and university-level activities.

1. International Yoga Day:

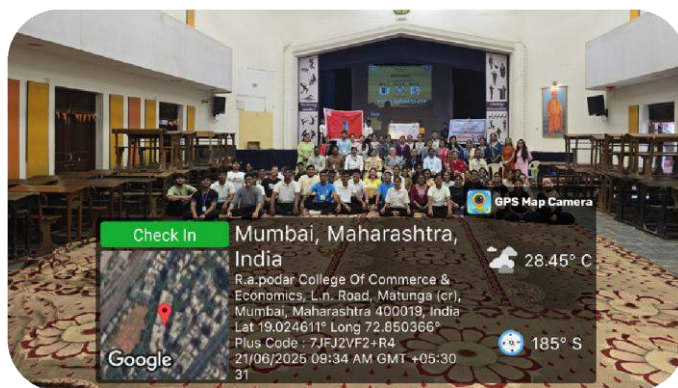
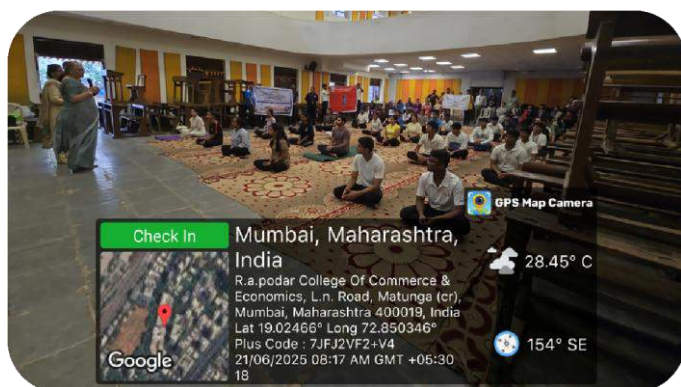
Date: 19th June to 21st June 2025

Time: 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM

Venue: College Auditorium

Number of Participants/Attendance: Male-7
Female-8 Total-15

Event Description: The Department of Lifelong Learning and Extension (DLLE), in collaboration with the NSS, NCC, and WDC, organised a three-day programme to commemorate International Yoga Day. The initiative featured guided sessions by certified instructors focusing on basic asanas, pranayama, and meditation techniques. By emphasising the holistic benefits of yoga for stress management and physical fitness, the event successfully encouraged students to adopt mindfulness and discipline in their daily lives.



2. Tree Plantation Drive:

Date: 27th July 2025

Time: 6:15 AM onwards

Venue: Yogi Hills, Mulund

Number of Participants/Attendance: Male-4
Female-2 Total-6

Event Description: The Department of Lifelong Learning and Extension (DLLE) of R.A. Podar College, in collaboration with NSS, NCC, and the Hikers Club, organised a Tree Plantation Drive to mark Nature's Conservation Day. The initiative involved the plantation of saplings followed by a thorough cleanliness drive at the venue. By engaging in these hands-

on activities, student volunteers reinforced the importance of ecological balance and hygiene, aligning with DLLE's goal of experiential learning and community welfare.



3. International Tiger Day Awareness Session:

Date: 31st July 2024

Time: 11:30 AM onwards

Venue: Room G1

Number of Participants/Attendance: Male-18
Female: 24; Total: 42

Event Description: The Department of Lifelong Learning and Extension (DLLE), in collaboration with Nature's Club, organised an awareness session to mark International Tiger Day. Vice Principal Mr. Kapildeo Indurkar conducted an interactive lecture highlighting the critical role of tigers in maintaining ecological balance and the modern challenges facing wildlife conservation. Through real-life examples and engaging discussions, the session successfully fostered environmental sensitivity and a sense of collective responsibility among the students, aligning with the DLLE objective of experiential learning.



4. DLLE First Term Training Session

Date: 23rd September 2025

Time: 11:30 AM

Venue: Room F8

Number of Participants/Attendance: Male-19
Female-26 Total-45

Event Description: The Department of Lifelong Learning and Extension (DLLE) conducted its First Term Training Session to orient registered members and introduce the forum's structural framework. The session focused on defining the roles and responsibilities of members, detailing the year's community-orientated programmes, and explaining the core concepts of experiential learning and social outreach. This foundational briefing successfully established a clear roadmap for the academic year, fostering coordination and enthusiasm among the 45 student participants.



5. University-Level Mass Singing of “Vande Mataram”:

Date: 7th November 2025
Time: As per the reporting schedule
Venue: University Sports Pavilion, Marine Lines
Number of Participants/Attendance: Male-18
Female: 12 Total: 30

Event Description: The Department of Lifelong Learning and Extension (DLLE) participated in a historic university-level mass singing of “Vande Mataram” to commemorate the song's 150th anniversary. Graced by the Honourable Chief Minister and featuring a performance by Shri Shankar Mahadevan, the event aimed to promote national integration and cultural heritage. DLLE students joined thousands in collective singing, fostering a powerful sense of patriotism and unity. This large-scale engagement supported the department's goal of value-based learning and holistic development.



6. Constitution Day Seminar:

Date: 26th November 2025

Time: As per the schedule

Venue: College Premises

Number of Participants/Attendance: Male-7
Female-20 Total- 27

Event Description: The Department of Lifelong Learning and Extension (DLLE), in collaboration with NSS and NCC, organised a seminar titled “Social Change, Youth, and the Constitution” to commemorate Constitution Day. Guest speaker Ms. Rahee Shruti Ganesh delivered an insightful lecture on the contemporary relevance of constitutional values and the pivotal role of youth in strengthening democracy. The session encouraged active reflection on civic duties and rights, successfully enhancing democratic awareness and social responsibility among the 27 student participants.



7. University-Level Second Term Training of Extension Work Activities

Date: 3rd December 2025

Time: 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Venue: R.A. Podar College of Commerce and Economics (Autonomous)

Number of Participants/Attendance: Male-120
Female-180

“Nurturing Intellect and Creating Personalities”

Total: 300 (Representing 100 colleges)

Event Description: The Department of Lifelong Learning and Extension (DLLE) had the privilege and honour of organising the university-level second-term training session, an opportunity graciously entrusted to it by the DLLE, University of Mumbai. The session was conducted to orient extension work teachers and student managers regarding the effective execution of second-term DLLE activities.

The programme brought together eminent authorities from DLLE, University of Mumbai; distinguished resource persons; field coordinators representing various clusters of affiliated colleges; and teachers-in-charge of DLLE units from across institutions. The deliberations focused on the structural execution of second-term programmes, with emphasis on systematic planning, coordination, and ensuring uniform implementation of DLLE initiatives across colleges affiliated with the University of Mumbai.

By providing a platform for direct interaction, professional guidance, and collaborative discussion, the session facilitated alignment of operational practices among nearly 100 participating institutions. The training further strengthened the collective commitment to extension work, community engagement, and student development, thereby reinforcing the broader objectives of the DLLE framework.



8. DLLE Second Term Training Session:

Date: 19th December 2025

Time: 11:00 AM

Venue: Room F8

Number of Participants/Attendance: Male-8
Female-17, Total-25

Event Description: The Department of Lifelong Learning and Extension (DLLE) conducted its Second Term Training Session to orient registered members on the upcoming phase of activities. The session provided a detailed roadmap for the second term, clarifying the execution of community-orientated programmes and the specific roles members are expected to play. By focusing on implementation strategies and member engagement, the session successfully motivated the 25 attendees to participate effectively in the forum's extension work and strengthened the overall coordination of the department.



9. National Youth Day Celebration:

Date: 12th January 2026

Time: 8:00 AM (Youth Run) & 11:00 AM (Auditorium Session)

Venue: College Campus and Auditorium

Number of Participants/Attendance: Male-12

Female-6

Total DLLE Members: 18

Total Students Present: 123

Event Description: The Department of Lifelong Learning and Extension (DLLE) of R.A. Podar College observed National Youth Day to commemorate the 164th birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda. The celebration featured a 2 km "Youth Run" symbolizing energy and unity, followed by an auditorium programme in which Swami Vivekananda's historic Chicago speech was screened. Guided by an address from Cadet Mitali and anchored by Lt Sanjay Dhage, the event emphasised leadership and nation-building. This initiative successfully reinforced the values of service and social responsibility, aligning with the DLLE's mission of value-based learning.



10. Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam Ki Oar 4.0—Sankraman Kaal:

“Nurturing Intellect and Creating Personalities”

Date: 21st January 2026
Time: 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Venue: August Kranti Maidaan
Number of Participants/Attendance: Male-6
Female-9 Total-15

Event Description: The Department of Lifelong Learning and Extension (DLLE) organized an educational visit to the public exhibition “Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam Ki Oar 4.0 – Sankraman Kaal.” The exhibition showcased 12 ancient and universal principles designed to guide ethical decision-making in modern society. By exploring narratives on global system breakdowns and power imbalances, students gained practical insights into applying these timeless values to family and social life. The visit successfully met DLLE’s objective of experiential learning by fostering critical thinking and social responsibility among the participants.



11. 77th Republic Day Celebration:

Date: 26th January 2026
Time: 7:15 AM
Venue: College Premises
Number of Participants/Attendance: Male-5
Female-4, Total-9

Event Description: The Department of Lifelong Learning and Extension (DLLE) participated in the 77th Republic Day celebrations to commemorate the adoption of the Indian Constitution. The event featured a formal flag-hoisting ceremony and a discussion on constitutional values. To foster national pride within the college community, DLLE students organized the distribution and sale of tricolour badges. This initiative successfully promoted the importance of national symbols and collective responsibility, aligning with the DLLE’s commitment to value-based learning and nation building.



12. Annapoorna Yojna (APY – AASWAD):

Date: 28th January 2026

Time: 10:00 AM onwards

Venue: College Auditorium

Number of Participants/Attendance: Male-15
Female-18 Total- 33

Event Description: The Department of Lifelong Learning and Extension (DLLE), in collaboration with the Gujarati Literary Circle (GLC), organized “AASWAD” under the Annapoorna Yojna initiative. This cultural food festival celebrated authentic Gujarati traditions, featuring stalls with regional cuisine, handmade products, and traditional jewelry. The event served as an entrepreneurial platform, allowing students to manage stalls while experiencing regional culture firsthand. By integrating community bonding with creative commerce, the program successfully fulfilled DLLE’s objective of holistic development and experiential learning.



13. University of Mumbai: Annual Extension Work Festival – UDAAN:

Date: 3rd February 2026

Time: 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Venue: Nagindas Khandwala College of Commerce, Malad (West)

Number of Participants/Attendance: Male-10

“Nurturing Intellect and Creating Personalities”

Female-11 Total- 21

Event Description: The Department of Lifelong Learning and Extension (DLLE) unit of R. A. Podar College actively participated in the University of Mumbai's annual festival, "UDAAN – The Flight of Extension." This decentralized festival brings together 25 colleges from across the Mumbai jurisdiction to showcase social awareness through artistic performance. Our students represented the college in the Poster Exhibition, Creative Writing, Elocution, and Powada Singing, effectively communicating the core objectives of our extension work projects. The event served as a significant platform for students to witness diverse social perspectives and engage in university-level cultural exchange.

Our team secured 2nd place in the Street Play competition.



14. School Visit (Career Project):

Date: 23rd and 24th February 2026

Time: 9:00 AM onwards

Venue: L.K. Waghji Secondary Mumbai Public School, Matunga East

Number of Participants/ Attendance: Male-6
Female-13 Total- 19

Event Description: The Department of Lifelong Learning and Extension (DLLE) of R.A. Podar College organised a school visit to orient students of Std 8th and 9th regarding diverse career pathways and educational opportunities. The sessions covered emerging professional fields, skill-development courses, and competitive examinations, delivered through interactive and motivational discussions. By bridging the gap between school and higher education, our volunteers helped young learners make informed decisions about their future, fulfilling the DLLE's mission of community outreach and social responsibility.



“Nurturing Intellect and Creating Personalities”

15. Career Exhibition (Career Project):

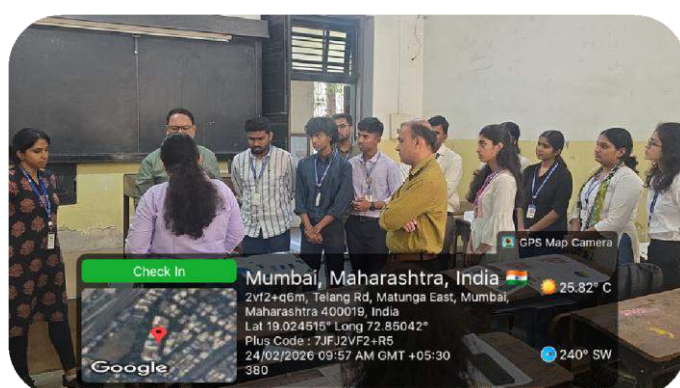
Date: 23rd and 24th February 2026

Time: 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM

Venue: Room G7

Number of Participants/Attendance: Male-6
Female-13 Total-19

Event Description: The Department of Lifelong Learning and Extension (DLLE) organized a Career Exhibition open to all students and faculty of the college. The exhibition aimed to create awareness regarding diverse career pathways, emerging professional fields, and various competitive examinations. Through informative displays and interactive orientations, the participating members provided guidance on higher education and skill development opportunities. This initiative successfully fostered an environment of informed decision-making within the college community, aligning with the DLLE's objective of promoting career awareness and academic growth.



Other Noteworthy Activities

Apart from the fifteen events discussed in the preceding section of this report, the academic year also witnessed several additional activities that meaningfully reflected the spirit and commitment of the DLLE volunteers. Although these initiatives are not elaborated as independent events, they merit special mention for the enthusiasm, initiative, and social sensitivity demonstrated by the students.

The members of the DLLE unit did not confine their engagement solely to formal DLLE programmes; rather, they actively extended the ethos of extension work across various institutional and social platforms. DLLE volunteers dedicated their time and efforts to assist in the **E-Waste Collection Drive** organised by the Department of Environmental Studies from 5th to 12th January 2026, thereby contributing towards environmental sustainability and responsible waste management. They also extended their support during the **F.Y.B.Com. Parent-Teacher Meeting**, assisting faculty mentors in coordinating and facilitating the interaction process.

Students undertaking the Foundations of Research Skills (FRS) – Community Service projects further strengthened these efforts. As DLLE volunteers, they actively participated in several awareness initiatives conducted within the college, including **Stem Cell Donation awareness programmes, HIV/AIDS awareness rallies, Constitution Day rallies, and Cancer Awareness sessions**, thereby reinforcing the DLLE objective of nurturing socially responsible and informed citizens.

The DLLE unit of the college has consistently responded positively to invitations extended by the Department of Lifelong Learning and Extension, University of Mumbai, and has actively participated in various university-level programmes. In this regard, a group of students led by the Student Manager participated in a **Practice Session on “Vimarsh and Global Scenario”** held on 16 November 2025 (Sunday) at Yashwantrao Bhavan, Parel. The session aimed at promoting dialogue and awareness on both global and Bharatiya perspectives, encouraging thoughtful reflection on contemporary socio-cultural issues.

Similarly, another group of students represented the college at **the National Conference titled “Routes, Roots, and Rights: Contemporary Perspectives on Migration,”** organised by the Mumbai School of Economics and Public Policy in collaboration with Adhasthan Samajik Sanstha on 22 December 2025 at the Sir Cowasji Jehangir Convocation Hall, Fort Campus, University of Mumbai. Participation in this academic event provided students with exposure to contemporary research discussions and enhanced their understanding of migration-related social and economic issues. The **“Mahila Kaushalya Vikas Melawa”** empowered by DLLE, University of Mumbai held at Marathi Bhasha Bhavan, Vidyanagari Campus, on 17 & 18 February 2026, was attended by around ten DLLE volunteers along with both the Teachers-in-Charge. The visit aimed to **encourage women entrepreneurs** who had exhibited and offered for sale products and handicrafts prepared through their skill-development initiatives. The interaction provided students with exposure to grassroots entrepreneurship and reinforced the values of **self-reliance, women empowerment, and community support**, in line with the spirit of **DLLE extension work**.

These engagements collectively demonstrate the proactive involvement of the DLLE unit beyond structured programmes, reflecting the true spirit of extension work—learning through service and contributing meaningfully to society.