



(स्थापना/ Established in 1956)
बेहतर भविष्य के लिए क्षमता निर्माण
Capacity Building for a Better Future

International Institute for Population Sciences, Mumbai

BUILDING SOCIAL IMPACT CAREER PATHWAYS IN THE 21ST CENTURY



GANDHI FELLOWSHIP
unfold impact enjoy



Piramal
Foundation

National Education Policy 2020

2026

Event Overview

The Placement Cell of IIPS & IIPSAA, in collaboration with the Gandhi Fellowship Program and Piramal Foundation, organized a talk titled “*Building Social Impact Career Pathways in the 21st Century*” on 14th February 2026 at IIPS, Mumbai, from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM. The session aimed to guide students in exploring meaningful career opportunities in the social and development sector.

The event featured distinguished speakers Mr. Debanjan Roy, Core Team Member, Piramal Foundation, and Ms. Nisha Sharma, Senior Program Manager, Gandhi Fellowship. The session was coordinated by Prof. Abhishek Singh and Prof. Nandita Saikia. A total of 53 students actively participated in the programme.

At the outset, Prof. Nandita Saikia felicitated the guests and highlighted the significance of such initiatives in shaping socially responsible professionals. The speakers elaborated on the evolving landscape of social impact careers in the 21st century. They discussed how young professionals can contribute meaningfully to sectors such as public health, education, rural development, governance, and community empowerment.

A key highlight of the session was the Skill Challenge activity, which actively engaged students in problem-solving and critical thinking exercises. Participants were divided into groups and presented with real-world development scenarios. They were encouraged to analyze the issues, propose innovative solutions, and present their ideas. This activity helped students understand the practical skills required in the social sector, such as leadership, teamwork, communication, adaptability, and strategic thinking.

In addition to the Skill Challenge, interactive discussions and a question-and-answer session allowed students to clarify doubts regarding fellowships, fieldwork exposure, and long-term career prospects in the development sector. The speakers emphasized the importance of grassroots engagement, empathy, and systems thinking while building a sustainable career in social impact.

The session concluded with remarks by Prof. Nandita Saikia, encouraging students to pursue careers aligned with social responsibility. She emphasized the importance of engaging with opportunities that contribute to community development and social transformation.

Overall, the session was highly informative and inspiring. It provided students with clarity on career pathways beyond conventional options and encouraged them to explore opportunities that create meaningful societal change. The event successfully combined knowledge-sharing with experiential learning, making it both engaging and impactful for all participants.

Glimpse of the Event



Skill Challenge Activity



BUILDING SOCIAL IMPACT CAREER PATHWAYS IN THE 21ST CENTURY

ORGANISED BY PLACEMENT CELL OF IIPS & IIPSAA IN COLLABORATION WITH THE GANDHI FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

MEET THE SPEAKERS



Debanjan Roy
Core Team Member,
Piramal Foundation



Nisha Sharma
Senior Program Manager,
Gandhi Fellowship

Organisers: Prof. Abhishek Singh & Prof. Nandita Saikia

Date: 14th February 2026
Time: 11.00 AM to 1.00 PM
Venue: IIPS, Mumbai



SCAN HERE



Crack the Code: 21st Century Skills Challenge!

Instructions:

1. **Find & Unravel:** There are 10 hidden skills in all directions. Find any 5!
2. **Crack the Code:** Unscramble each word to reveal the 21st-century skills.

T	I	B	I	I	A	K	L	F	E	E	N	S
N	E	R	E	R	T	P	E	N	M	E	R	E
N	V	I	A	O	S	L	C	I	A	R	I	T
I	O	A	I	T	I	N	I	T	I	V	P	L
B	A	D	T	I	P	R	L	A	T	I	A	D
I	I	R	N	I	I	E	N	I	H	O	I	C
I	C	A	I	A	L	O	I	T	C	P	A	L
A	A	I	O	S	V	P	Y	K	I	T	L	S
L	D	I	I	T	N	Y	R	I	D	A	S	E
S	E	A	I	M	N	C	C	O	U	O	P	L
R	I	V	E	L	E	B	T	A	P	A	D	T
C	R	F	A	T	I	I	T	Y	I	N	G	V
D	E	A	E	S	H	L	R	I	P	L	K	G
I	N	H	G	T	I	N	K	I	C	L	A	C

Wanna build your own community?
 Apply for the Gandhi Fellowship





*** A Quick Vibe Check?**

The Gandhi Fellowship is a 23-month, paid, full-time on-ground fellowship working inside public systems in aspirational districts identified by the Govt. of India, where policies meet real people and real resistance. This is policy implementation in action, beyond armchair discussions.

What you learn: Leadership • Problem-solving • Data analysis & reporting • Policy implementation & community building • Stakeholder management • Resilience • Discovering yourself

Lowkey, your role is to:

- Implement projects in education, health, inclusion
- Conduct field studies & data collection
- Work with government officials & communities
- Present insights to district/state departments
- Co-create solutions with communities, not for them

Lock in if you are:

- Graduating by June 2026
- Scored 55%+ in 10th, 12th, Graduation or PG
- Below 25 years OR 26-29 with 1+ year of work experience
- Excited for a rural posting, travel and fieldwork
- Can commit 23 months full-time

Perks & Power-Ups



Stipend



Medical Insurance



Mobility support



Laptop/tablet



Mentorship

Post Fellowship Career, Rizz:

- Get placement support from our NEST team
- Follow your dreams of higher education
- Get access to our global alumni network
- Build your own venture



Let the creative in you unleash!



Community

Empathy

Reflection

Transformation

Growth

Growing together.

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