

# NABA BALLYGUNGE MAHAVIDYALAYA

#### (Formerly CHARUCHANDRA EVENING COLLEGE)

27E, Bosepukur Road, Kolkata - 700042 Email: nbmv2005@yahoo.co.in, Website: nbmahavidyalaya.in

Topic: Commerce Career Mentorship Programme Seminar type: Career Development Seminar

Organizers: Campus Recruitment and Employment Cell, Naba Ballygunge Mahavidyalaya and IMS Pro School

Speaker: Mehul Thakkar, Chief Mentor and Industry Expert, IMS

Date: 05.12.2023

No. Of participants: 33

Link to the seminar on Institution's YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VKPl8\_ME0uI



Digital poster of the seminar on Commerce Career Mentorship programme on 05.12.2023

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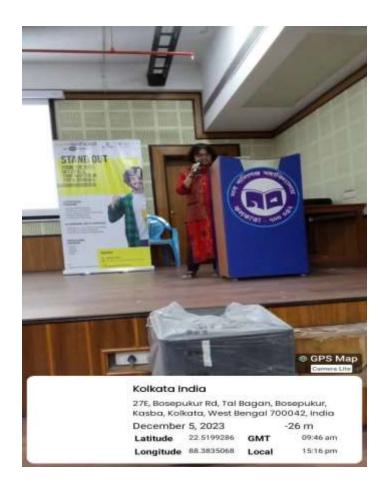


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The speaker began the seminar with a very realistic approach, addressing a realistic problem of the job aspirants, that is, first, not getting a suitable or a dream job, and second, even if a desired job is achieved, one gets stuck in it and dissatisfaction creeps up after a certain point of time. This immediately drew the attention of the students, because this is a problem that seemed relatable to them or to their senior acquaintances who are already in a job. Mr. Thakkar emphasised on the point that job seekers are only concerned about their degrees, and they expect that good degrees will fetch them good jobs, while they are completely oblivious of the fact that for getting good jobs more than degree, what is necessary is good skills. Since the target audience of the seminar were mainly the UG and PG commerce students, Mr. Thakkar addressed the question that a perpetual problem that many commerce students face is that they think that their discipline has very narrow career options. In a very student friendly way, he spread a ray of hope when he said that the days of career-merit hierarchy no longer persists, it is no longer the time when mediocre students go for commerce.



The compere gives a brief introduction to the speaker Mr Mehul Thakkar at the beginning of the career development seminar Commerce Career Mentorship Programme on 05.12.2023

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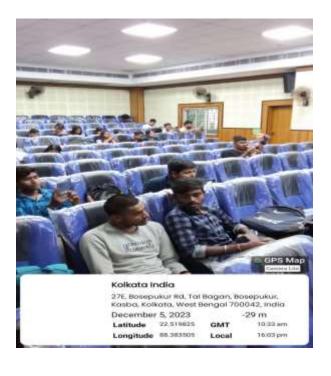


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It was an optimistic hopeful message for our commerce students because in this seminar, Mr. Thakkar said that nowadays marks have a minimal role to play in getting a dream job, because the recruitment companies now emphasize more on skills and aptitude-attitude than on once-achieved marks. He threw light on the fact that there are plenty of new options apart from traditional CA, CS, MBA in the discipline of commerce like ACCA, CFA, CPA, CMA, Analytics and so on. As much as it was a heartening message for our UG Commerce students that marks in Higher Secondary and subsequent choice of commerce isn't the end of all hope, it also was a message to gear up now, so that marks in undergraduate exam is good enough to get them into good jobs. This career development seminar became a vibrant one as interactions started. Regarding the speaker's question on our student's interest in Chartered Accountancy, one student mentioned that he had already completed and cleared the foundation level in CA. In a very interesting way, Mr. Thakkar explained five career options through the acronym FABLE 5 that are common in commerce Finance, Accounts, Business, Law and Emerging career. He stated that after knowing the idiosyncrasies of all these five options, the students will be able to narrow down goals into two, which will minimise their confusion once they complete graduation. The two things that one ought to keep in mind before furthering their choice in commerce is first, their efficiency, ability, attitude, aptitude, that is to what extent they are confident that they will be able to put in the job; and secondly, what are their expectations about the materialistic rewards from the job, especially the remuneration and emoluments. Mr. Thakkar, in a very distinct way manifested on a slide the options in these five categories: Finance opens the career of Banking and Insurance and other financial services, Accounting opens the career of CA and CMA in Indian context and internationally ACCA, CPA etc, Business offers the choices of BBA MBA in the Indian scenario, and entrepreneurship in India as well as abroad.



The commerce students of UG and OG of Naba ballygunge
Mahavidyalaya listen to Mr Thakkar on 05.12.2023

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Law opens the door for CLAT and CS which nevertheless is very satisfying, Emerging, last but not the least, offers Analytics and Fintech. As far as Banking and Insurance is concerned, he said that one will learn Banking operations, regulations, and tasks, Insurance principles, regulations, and tasks, Financial markets, analysis, and risk management, Legal frameworks that control banking and insurance businesses. After completion, one will be able to work as an accountant, financial advisor, insurance manager, or loan counselor, work in banking, insurance, or financial services etc. In the banking sector he said that 95% of jobs will be well-paid and respectable general management or relationship manager jobs. With a boom in the private bank industry, the options of jobs have opened remarkably in an unparalleled way, the information of credit card, net banking, apps related to banking and so on. The audience's curiosity to know about the relationship manager's job in a bank was satisfied as the speaker of the day said that a relationship manager's task is to bring the right product in front of the client, satisfy the needs of the client with the apt stuff that they require in that moment and in the same way to also help the bank financially. Therefore, a relationship manages job is a two-way process. Coming to another important criterion of banking, he said that Risk management in banking refers to refers to the comprehensive strategies and practices that financial institutions use to identify, monitor, and mitigate risks that could potentially impact their operations and financial health.



The stage and the talk going on... Commerce Career Mentorship Programme on 05.12.2023

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Mr Thakkar picked up the issue of risk in mutual funds, saying that the much circulated slogans associated with mutual funds "Invest in Your Tomorrow", "Wealth Building Made Easy", "Your Future Starts Here", "Smart Choices for a Secure Future" " and "Empower Your Financial Journey" immediately remind us of the tagline warning "Mutual funds are subject to market risks". He said that for the job of mutual fund risk manager a student must have an aptitude in mathematics, because a minute comprehension of the data is necessary. Detailing Certified Financial Planner (CFP) course, Mr. Thakkar said that it is a training program that teaches students how to develop financial plans for individuals and organizations. The CFP course is recognized internationally and is considered the gold standard in financial planning. What the CFP course covers were also catalogued by the mentor: Investment planning, Retirement Planning, Tax Planning, Risk and estate planning, and Financialplanning ethics. What can CFP graduates do? Work in finance consultation, Work in investment banking, Work in portfolio management, and Work in the banking sector. The basic requirement is passing the +2 and on completion, one can be a financial advisor. CFP graduates can develop customized financial plans for their clients in different profiles and advise on investment strategies, retirement planning, estate planning, and tax planning. A very needful point of the hour that Mr. Thakkar pointed out is the need of financial planning. In an economic system where inflation is the word of the day, one's income is not tantamount to one's expenditure, in order to have enough savings; one needs to make financial planning. The merger of banks is a particular situation when two banks club their assets and liabilities to become one bank. He then went on to explaining a very pertinent issue in the economy of India. That is the merging of banks recently. The merger has many common motives like Diversification, Tax Purpose, and increase in financial capacity, and many more. The merger may include certain challenges like Tech interaction, Human resources, decision making, and provisions. The cost of banking operations is reduced by the initiation of mergers enacted by Nirmala Sitharaman, resulting in the betterment of non-performing assets and risk management. A larger bank can easily manage its short and long-term liquidity.



Mr Mehul Thakkar guiding students on career options after Commerce Graduation in a career development seminar on 05.12.2023

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The merger may have the benefits like a brand new customer base, empowering business, increased holding the market share, and opportunity for technology to upgrade. Coming to the benefits of bank merging, he said that a large bank is capable of facing global competitiveness. Indian banks can gain greater recognition in the global market as global banks. When a merger occurs, it will reduce the cost of operations too. The weaker banks get merged into the stronger ones and benefit from large-scale operations. For example, the state bank of India, Bank of India, and syndicate bank are in a small town. A merger can replace all the branches into one, resulting reduction in operational costs and improved efficiency. Under the FABLE umbrella, the next component was Accounts, and Mr. Thakkar said that obe can become a tax consultant- the most obvious job pursuing accountancy- Creating IT return file, advising people how to minimise one's tax, advising on areas of tax exemption and so on. It was an added advantage because he lectured on the areas of time management and stress management especially in the case of clearing Chartered Accountancy levels because especially in this examination, managing the time, giving allotted time to specific areas is very important. His extensive lecture also encompassed the discussion of ACCA, a course unfamiliar with our students. They came to know from Mr. Thakkar that ACCA in India is a professional certification course that trains candidates according to current market standards. The ACCA global body regularly updates the students on industry changes. Pursuing ACCA can benefit a CA in several ways. Apart from adding to your academic qualifications, it gives a comprehensive approach to mastering the skills most relevant for Chartered Accountancy. It strengthens management abilities and as the syllabus covers some fields of study, including taxation, business studies, financial management, and others, one can have a holistic view of how to approach and solve accounting problems. Having an international recognition has international recognition and opens up a range of opportunities throughout the world, giving a chance to work with overseas accounting bodies, multinational organisations, other organisations like the World Bank and the United Nations, and others. So, a wild range of avenues open once they get an ACCA Certification after completing CA. Regarding MBA, he said that sitting for CAT, MAT, GMAT are the stepping stones, one needs to have a good grip over English and Mathematics. Career opportunities after pursuing Law in the stream of Commerce, he said that Graduates of these courses can work as corporate lawyers, tax lawyers, company secretaries, legal consultants, judges, or entrepreneurs. B.Com LLB, we knew, is a five-year course that combines a bachelor's degree in commerce with a law degree. This course is suitable for students who want to work in commercial law, trade law, or securities law. BBA LLB, he informed course that combines a bachelor's degree in business administration with a law degree. This course is suitable for students who want to work in corporate law, banking law, or arbitration law.

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Mr Mehul Thakkar guiding students on career options after Commerce Graduation through FABLE analysis, in a career development seminar on 05.12.2023

#### **Outcomes of the seminar**

- ✓ B. Com Students were able to have their doubts regarding their future career cleared.
- ✓ B. Com students came to know about many newly offered avenues for them.
- ✓ B. A students were exposed to lucrative job opportunities that are offered to graduates from all streams.
- ✓ B. Com students were enlightened about certain areas in their core curriculum like Finance, Banking, Audit, and Taxation that need more focus to help enhance their job expertise.
- ✓ Students were able to know about many unconventional career choices after commerce like ACCA, CFA, CPA etc apart from traditional CA or MBA.
- ✓ Students came to know the areas they need to strengthen their skills as per their aspired job requisites.

**√** 

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