



BENGALURU  
DR. B. R. AMBEDKAR  
SCHOOL OF  
ECONOMICS

*A Unitary University, Govt. of Karnataka*

**Bengaluru Dr. B. R. Ambedkar School of Economics**  
A Unitary University, Govt. of Karnataka



[www.base.ac.in](http://www.base.ac.in)

**2020-21**  
**Placement Brochure**





## Bengaluru Dr. B. R. Ambedkar School of Economics

A Unitary University, Govt. of Karnataka

## A Unitary University

**Bengaluru Dr. B. R. Ambedkar School of Economics**, was established in the year 2017, and has become a Unitary University of Government of Karnataka vide notification no. ED41UBV2018(T-2) dated 30/10/2019. We're happy to announce that the first batch of students is set to graduate with a BSc (Honours) in Economics in 2020. This brochure is meant to bring all the necessary information about the Institute and the students to potential employers.

BSc (Honours) Economics programme is unique for all the quantitative rigor that it provides, together with the wide range of inter-disciplinary core subjects that provide a nuanced understanding of any economic scenario. The core economics courses have, built into them, games and special activities in laboratory-like sessions, that have provided and continue to provide a first-person perspective to some key topics, that may not be apparent from the reading of a text. The software packages that the students have been exposed to in their Econometrics and Business Analytics courses (using R and Python) have given them the edge needed in this age of big data. They receive hands-on training in optimisation techniques, data mining and predictive modelling using time series forecasting and machine learning. Guest lectures are built into the weekly timetable, and this time slot has been utilised to bring to the students, speakers from a wide array of disciplines. Some of the students have already made the institute proud by projecting themselves at the national and international levels.

We believe that BASE University students possess a wide range of skills that can be productively utilised in a wide range of professional environments, be it corporate, government, not-for-profit, or research institutes, and we look forward to seeing our students flourish in all areas.



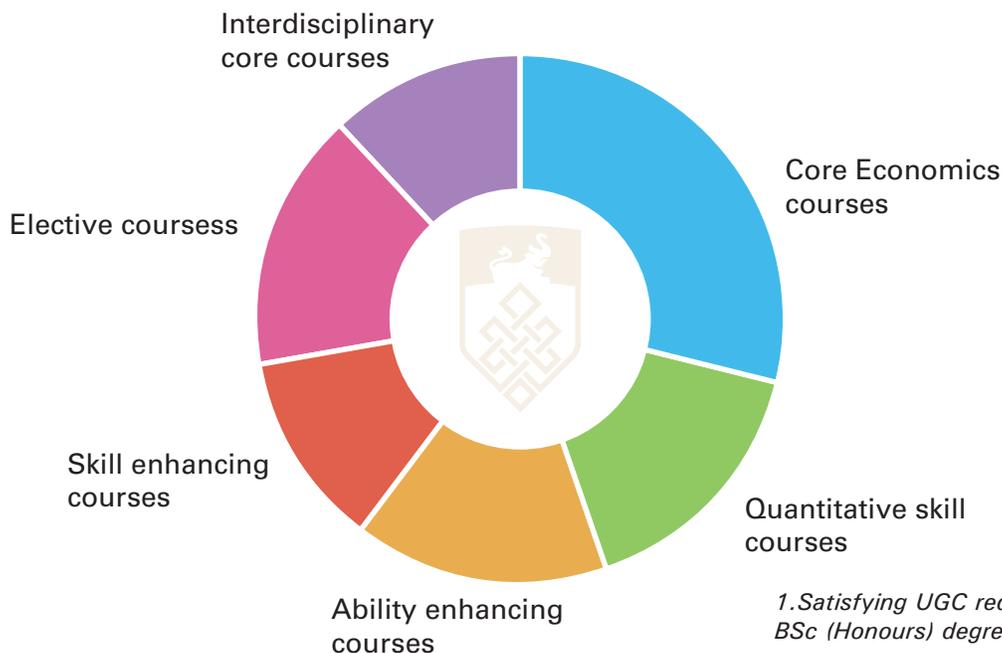


## Course outline<sup>1</sup>

### Core subjects:

Economics	Quantitative	Skill Enhancing	Ability Enhancing	Interdisciplinary
Microeconomics i, ii, iii	Mathematics for Economics i, ii	Computer Fundamentals	English i, ii	Perspectives on Social Science
Macroeconomics i, ii, iii	Statistics for Economics i, ii	Computer Laboratory i, ii	Indian Language i, ii	Ambedkar Studies
Economics of Development and Growth i, ii	Econometrics i, ii	Research Methodology	Foreign Language i, ii	Economics of Caste and Discrimination
Public Economics i, ii		Internship		Business Law and Economic Legislation
Indian Economy		Minor and Major Research Projects		Ethics, Economy and Society

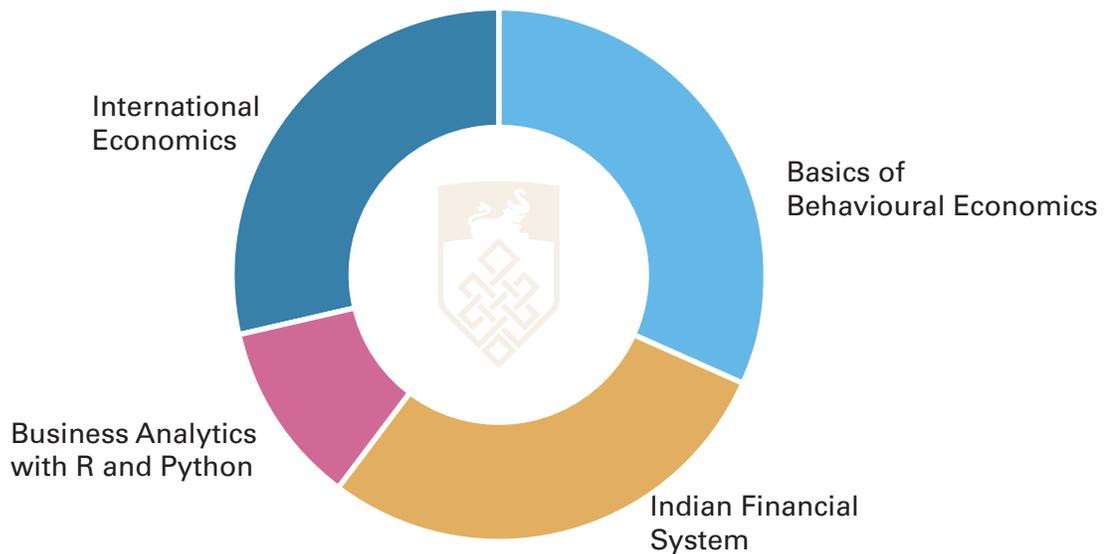
### Course credits distribution across the undergraduate programme, for our Third Year Students



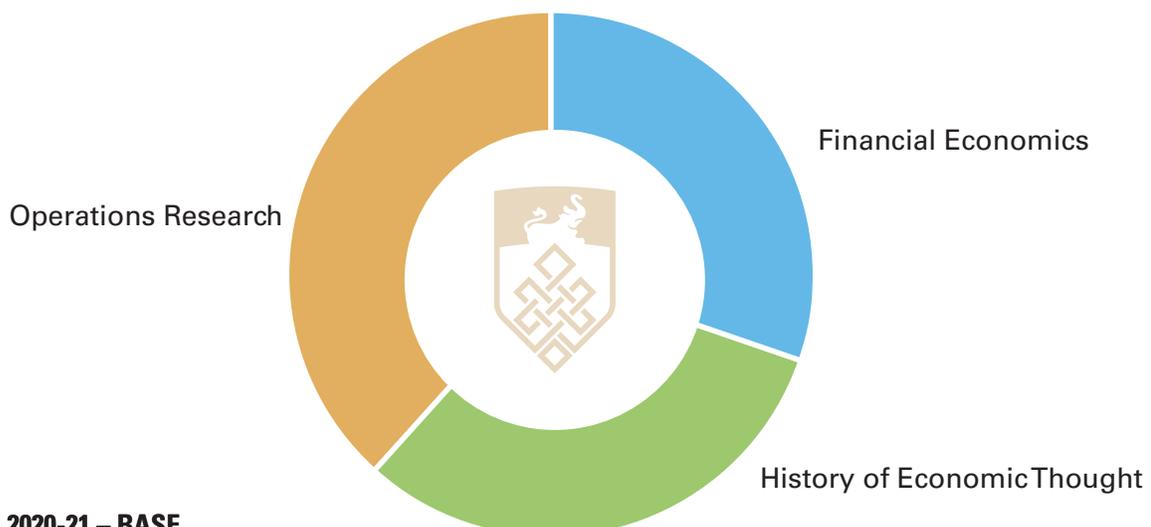
## Elective subjects:

Sem iii	Indian Financial System Political Economy
Sem iv	Environmental Economics Financial Economics
Sem v and vi	The choice of elective subjects, shown below, chosen by our senior students in their final year is presented for all 2nd and 3rd year students because they studied these electives together. As research has proven, we have also found that in mixed groups, learning is greatly enhanced. Seniors and juniors coached each other and boosted the quality of teaching and learning in the classroom.

### Electives during odd semester 2019-20 (Among 93 Second and Third Year Students)



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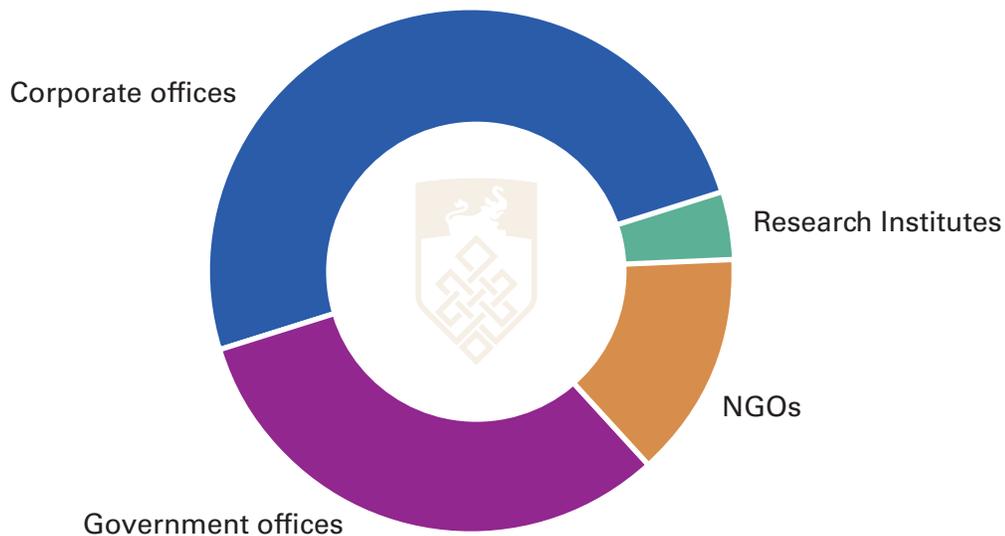




The Summer internship for 2 credits forms a mandatory part of our undergraduate programme. This first batch of students showed great initiative through the entire internship process, even though they have no senior batch to look to for guidance.

Following is a snapshot of the companies/organisations where our students went last summer.

### Summer Internships 2019 (Among 49 Third Year Students)



**Corporate**

- ABB
- Bosch
- Toyota
- Arvind Mills
- Canara Bank
- Koch Industries
- Mahle, Chennai
- Karvy
- Stockbrokers

**Government**

- BEL
- Karnataka Dept of Statistics and Planning
- Karnataka State Finance Corporation
- Karnataka Labour Dept
- Rail Wheel Factory

**NGO**

- Hoguva
- Deshpande Foundation, Hubballi
- Social Consultancy Services, Lucknow
- Ekjut Foundation, Chakradharpur

**Research**

- Public Affairs Centre
- Institute for Social and Economic Change
- Indian Institute for Foreign Trade, New Delhi

## Visits to Corporates, Govt. Offices & other Institutions during Internship Programme



During the visits of our faculty to the local companies to discuss the progress of the students, the reviews received were both delightful and encouraging. The corporate offices normally consider only engineering students for internship, and this was their first experience working with students of economics. ABB said they had **never had better interns** than BASE students. Bosch **offered two of our interns placements** after graduation. Toyota Kirloskar (TKM) rigorously trained two students from BASE for two months, and the students came away having learnt a lot.

Four students who interned with NGOs carried out exciting new research: some evaluated the impact of a poverty alleviation programme, one studied the financial burden on a family with a mentally challenged member, while another experienced talking to rural women about contraception and menstrual hygiene.

BASE students who worked in government offices had the privilege of thumbing through any file in any

office and talking to any of the people who were visiting the office for redressal. They made the best use of this opportunity and gained a wealth of knowledge. The team of students who went to BEL were excited with the chance to see, up close, the functioning of a wing of the Ministry of Defence. It's a rare instance for an economics undergraduate student in the country to learn about **RADARs and tanks** of different types, the **process of securing bids, and final manufacture**. Students who went to the Rail Wheel Factory performed the important task of digitising a large room full Provident Fund data files, and received commendation for their diligence.

At IIFT, New Delhi, a student from BASE was part of a project where the World Bank has partnered with the **Centre for Trade Facilitation and Logistics**. From her weekly progress report submissions, the new learning on **marine exports** and the research process was evident.

We could not have hoped for a richer range of experiences for BASE students.

## Research Project:



Final year undergraduate students are spending two whole semesters on their research project – Minor Research Project, or proposal during Semester v, and Major Research Project, or final research report during Semester vi. This gives them a good length of time to get deep into their chosen subject area including data collection, choice of data instruments and use of appropriate economics concepts and theories.

BASE students are in the process of researching some exciting new areas like:

- the economics of happiness,
- influence of consumer sentiment on passenger car sales,
- impact of technology on agriculture,
- impact of stoppage of capital flows on India's foreign exchange reserves,

- relations between inflation, development and growth,
- impacting consumer preferences for reducing sanitary waste,
- the life cycle of Hampi as a tourist destination,
- efficacy of e-governance projects,
- perceptions of money,
- multi-level marketing,
- prison reform, among many other promising areas.

It is heartening to report, for example, that some of them are approaching their research questions with a rather unique perspective, using game theory to understand the complexities of decision making, conducting primary surveys to understand behavioural dimensions of economic entities – whether homo economicus, or human beings subject to bounded rationality.

## Students' achievements:



**Ms Bibhabari Patra** and **Ms Dhanusha Prabhu** converted their summer internship work into a research paper, titled Management of Ecological Balance: A Case Study of Bangalore University Campus, that is about to be published in a peer-reviewed journal. Students in any discipline should be proud to have conducted research on the ground, literally, measuring the width and height of different species of trees in Bangalore University. We are reasonably confident that the quality of their work is far superior to that in several management schools and maybe even some postgraduate research papers. They demonstrated how the measurement of biomass (experimental study) could be translated into an economic and management science framework.

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**Ms Meera Mohan**, won a national classical dance competition.

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**Ms Niharika Choudhury** and **Mr Nevin George** won the third prize in Christ University's Young Economist Competition. While they were in their very first year, they competed with senior students from Delhi University and other established institutes.

# Some non-curricular activities of BASE University students



Freshers' welcome event >



< Ambedkar Jayanti celebration

Visit to IIM-Bangalore campus >



< Visit to Agricultural University campus

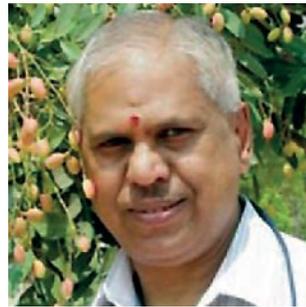
# Some of our distinguished guest speakers



## **Dr Shirin Madon**

Associate Professor,  
Department of International Development,  
London School of Economics and Political Science

Dr Madon's talk on "E-Governance for Development: A Focus on Rural India", generated active participation of the students and the faculty being one of the very first guest lecturers at BASE.



## **Dr Chandrakanth**

Director, Institute for Social and Economic Change

The topic of his lecture was "Externalities and their Measurement", a topic very much related to the course Environmental Economics which our students were studying at that point. This was quite a help for the students to see a different perspective on the importance of negative and positive externalities and their relevance for policy.



## **Mr Soham Sen**

Data Scientist, Anhauser-Busch Inbev and

**Ms Kanika Agarwal**, Analyst at Chase Bank.

The focus of their talk was on forecasting the performance of a company with respect to investment, growth, employment and profit.



## **Dr Shagata Mukherjee**

Assistant Professor at Meghnad Desai Academy for Economics, A graduate of Presidency College, Kolkata, and JNU, Delhi, PhD from Georgia State University's Andrew Young School of Policy Studies in Atlanta, USA.

The focus of his lecture was "How to Evaluate Public Policy, policies which will have an impact on the functioning of the corporate sector and other economic entities". The students evinced interest in evaluation methodology, given the Nobel Prize awarded to experimental economics.



## **Dr Sandeep Shastri**

Pro-Vice Chancellor, Jain University

His talk was on "Understanding Political Science". This topic has turned out to be important for the students at BASE in view of their study of Political Economy, Public Economics, and Development Economics, which are all always dotted with political environment of the country.



**Mr Varun Thomas**

Lawyer and Author

Mr Thomas has recently come out with a book titled, "The Black Dwarves of the Good Little Bay". This talk on various contemporary issues provided a different perspective to students, even though the topic is distantly related to their course of study. The argumentative skill of the speaker was quite impressive to the audience.



**Ms Sakshi Arora**

Analyst, Ernst and Young

**Ms Melita Menezes**

Senior Analytics Consultant, Bridge2i Analytics Solutions Pvt. Ltd.

Their talk was on their corporate experience after an economics education, which is a relevant topic for our students. The students could appreciate the job opportunities available to them after completing their BSc (Honours) / MSc in Economics.



**Mr Sheshadri Ramaswami, Hoguva**

The discussion session in a small group was held by him with a focus on environment related issues. This session was followed by a field experience where he explained the importance of indigenous tree species. He even guided two of our students to measure the biomass in the Bangalore University campus and suggest management strategies for improving the carbon footprint. This paper is being published as a research paper, titled "Management of Ecological Balance: A Case Study of Bangalore University Campus", in a peer reviewed journal.



**Mrs Usha Rajagopalan**

Puttenahalli Neighbourhood Lake Improvement Trust

She is an accomplished author and environmental activist, who spoke about her experience in initiating community participation in the rejuvenation of a local lake. This kind of a problem, though not directly related to economics, can be brought into the fold of economic analysis with ease, that is, economic analysis of rehabilitating a degraded tanking system.



**Ms Aishwarya Singh, Teach for India**

Ms Singh discussed the option for economics graduates to work with NGOs and to participate in human resource development. Further, this kind of teaching would make the participants more employable. In addition to working for the NGO, the graduates of BASE University can also conduct research by performing economic analysis. This has opened up to our students different avenues of jobs available for them, as well as perhaps better scales of pay and working conditions.



**Dr K L Krishna**, Chairperson

Madras Institute of Development Studies, Chennai

He has a PhD in Economics from the University of Chicago. He has been a teacher and research supervisor at the Delhi School of Economics for more than four decades and has written and edited several books and articles. He was also the Founding Managing Editor of the Journal of Quantitative Economics. Our students and faculty were privileged to hear from this legend in the area of econometric theory.



**Ms Sonali Beeraka**

NEPRA Foundation, Ahmedabad

Ms Beeraka completed her MA from Christ University. She showed how a student can be extremely productive and satisfied with working for a company, NEPRA Foundation, where she went for her summer internship. Her talk was on the theme of dry waste management, and how it is transforming the way waste is viewed in the modern age. This talk exposed the students to the possibility of converting waste to a resource and thereby subject to economic analysis in the framework of Resource Economics.



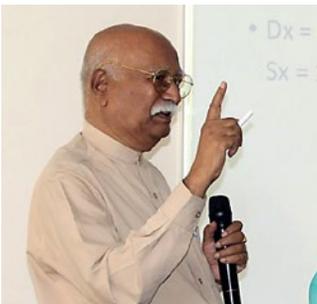
**Dr Anjan Mukherji**, Professor Emeritus, Centre for Economic Studies and Planning, Jawaharlal Nehru University.

Dr Mukherji's exposition on the fundamentals of consumer theory was enlightening, and he explained the derivation of the many related concepts like indifference curves from theoretical apparatus.



**Ms Deepa Kotnis**, Executive Director Finance, Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Ltd.

The title of her lecture was "Indian Transportation System: The Move Towards Tomorrow", under which, she provided insights into her forecast of movement of Indian transport system. One audience question that was quite interesting was the economics of usage of solar power instead of traditional electric power to power the metro stations.



**Dr S Bisaliah,**

Former Vice-chancellor, University of Agricultural Science, Governing Council Member & Academic Head - BASE

Dr Bisaliah has held too many prestigious research and academic administrative positions nationally and internationally for them all to be mentioned here. Dr Bisaliah first visited BASE as a guest speaker. He spoke about the use of mathematics in economics, and how the most mundane coefficients can give deep insights into the black box that is the decision-making process of the economic agent.



**Prof M H Suryanarayana**, Professor  
Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research

Prof Suryanarayana's lecture series on the use of statistical tools in economic analysis was exciting for our students, who were then at the early stages of their economics education.



**Ms Sudha Murthy**, Chair person - Infosys Foundation,  
Member of Governing Council - BASE

Ms Sudha Murthy's visit was preceded by a lot of excitement among the students. As she is often said to do, she entered our collective hearts when, instead of walking straight to the dais, she walked among the students and shook hands with them and spoke with them about their hometowns and their education at BASE. Her casual talk on her life experiences and general outlook on life were an inspiration to all.

## Orientation sessions planned for the students

BASE University is organising orientation sessions on the following topics to make our graduates more employable, in addition to the employability skills grafted into their course package:

- CV writing workshop – as a group, and one-on-one
- A piece of critical analysis through R
- Group discussion
- Thinking about a career path
- Important pointers for facing an interview effectively
- Career counselling – to assist in choosing of companies to approach
- One-to-one session with each student – career counselling
- Training for quantitative and psychological aptitude tests
- Creating LinkedIn profiles
- Hackathon – to apply software knowledge
- Individual student presentations - to build confidence
- Mock interviews – near the end of all training components
- How to make an effective presentation using slides

These orientation sessions are already initiated at BASE University.

## Faculty Coordinators



**Sheetal Bharat** has had a range of experiences in the not-for-profit sector and in academia over the past fifteen years. She studied her BA (H) Economics from the Shri Ram College of Commerce, Delhi University, MA Development Economics from University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK and finally, she completed her PhD from the University of California, Riverside, USA in 2012, having attended classes by and being guided by renowned scholars.

She has been with BASE University since the admission of its first batch of students in August 2017. For this reason, she is also the one constant with the students and this has enabled her to develop a good rapport with the students, including counselling them. She has offered varied courses such as microeconomics, macroeconomics, environmental economics, political economy, statistics, growth and development economics, and history of economic thought.

Prof. Sheetal was nodal officer for interacting between the students and the 20 companies/ organisations which offered internship. She is now coordinating in the matter of placement process.

sheetal@base.ac.in

0 99863 93591



**Bipin Sony** joined BASE University in July 2019 as an Assistant Professor. He completed his PhD thesis on Information asymmetry and capital structure decisions from Madras School of Economics. Bipin is passionate about research and his areas of interest includes corporate finance, macroeconomics and behavioural finance. In fact, he is encouraging students to work on dissertation topics like consumer sentiments, economics of happiness etc. Prior to the PhD, he had a short stint as an analyst with Goldman Sachs handling anti-money-laundering operations. It is the passion for research and academics that motivated him to quit a lucrative job and pursue a career in academics at BASE University. Currently he is working on consumer sentiments and the banking sector crisis. Bipin teaches Macroeconomics, Econometrics, Statistics and Financial Economics.

bipin@base.ac.in

0 98842 68587

# Students Placement Cell

Students placement cell of BASE 2019-20 consists of students who have been elected among themselves and some have been nominated based on academic performance.

Placement cell consists of the following members:

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**Niharika Choudhury**

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**Ashwini P**

ashwinireddyp99@gmail.com

Phone: 9740201139

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Faculty Co-ordinator: **Prof. Sheetal Bharat**

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## Responsibilities of Placement cell:

- i. Coordinating the entire placement work in association with the HR experts and the companies.
- ii. Arrangement of placement interviews.
- iii. Registration of eligible and interested candidates 30 minutes before Preplacement talk shall be done by student coordinators. To display welcome poster of the company visiting our campus which includes name of the company, their team members, name of the program and venue.
- iv. Allocation of Rooms: Arranging classrooms for aptitude test, group discussion and interview process.
- v. Hospitality: Arrangement of breakfast, lunch and snacks for the recruiters.
- vi. Updating Records: Staff Co-coordinator will update their departmental records, prepare analysis and collect proofs from students.
- vii. Placement cell constantly works towards inviting more repudiated companies for campus placement.
- viii. Find ways and means to improve Industry –Institute Interactions.



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Opposite to National Law School of India University (NLSIU)  
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