## Report (2017)

The Economics department began the new session with the Fresher's Debate, held on 7th September 2017. The topic given to the participants was 'Rise of Protectionism in a Globalized World'. The event saw enthusiastic participation from the speakers as well as the audience. The second event was the Plural Eco Lecture delivered by Mr. Sukumar Murlidharan on 'Press Freedom'. The lecture threw light on the urgent need to protect the fourth pillar of democracy- journalism, from rising threats of commercialization, biased news, political pressure, intimidation, barriers to entry in media etc. He eloquently put forward the point, "We have lost the civility in honorary lives and what we have lost as a society is a courageous voice."

The third event was the plural eco lecture delivered by Ms. Rakhi Seghal on 'Feminism and Trade Unionism'. Ms. Seghal gave an insightful talk on the grave reality of discrimination against women in workplaces with respect to wages, work hours, nature of work etc. She shared with the students, anecdotes from her union meetings and the importance of the role of women in strengthening labor strikes at the grassroots level. What followed was an engaging discussion on the plausible reasons for discriminatory behavior experienced by women in every sphere of life. They revealed the need for a strong legal structure to support and enforce equality of wages, perquisites and work hours for women.

The fourth event was the annual 'AD Shroff Elocution Competition'. Participants were required to speak on any one of the following topics: Digitization: The Way Forward, Importance of Infrastructure in Economic Development, Ethics in Business and Industry, Role of Youth in Building a New India. It was an extremely lively event, with participants throwing light on the importance of India's demographic potential and infrastructural development in facilitating economic growth and fighting social evils.

A final plural eco lecture given by third year students on trending topics like behavioral sciences, political spectrum, dera politics, female economists etc. The session was interactive, with students and teachers voicing their opinions and taking away much to ponder upon at home.