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Summer Camp 2025: A hands-on, holistic learning experience

This year, we hosted both our junior and senior Sitaras in two camps with one mission: empowering young minds through hands-on, career-focused learning. With an average attendance of 85%, 353 Sitaras across Class 7–13 participated between April 1 and May 14, 2025. Undeterred by the summer heat, they enthusiastically engaged in sports, career counseling sessions, group projects, and nutritious meals at the SPJIMR mess.

Camp highlights

- Theatre workshop:** 25 Sitaras built confidence, expression, and collaboration through an immersive theatre programme.
- Nature trail:** A walk through the Bhavan's campus introduced Sitaras to composting, the nursery, and the principles of sustainability.
- Spotlight Saturdays:** Inspiring sessions where alumni Sitaras and guest speakers shared life stories and success journeys.
- Overnight nature camp:** 60 senior Sitaras experienced a memorable overnight camp at the Bhavan's Nature and Adventure Centre (BNAC), packed with team activities and reflective skits.
- Fitness and sports:** Core strength training, sports drills, and leadership-building exercises contributed to fitness and life skills.
- Academic prep for Class 10:** Focused study sessions helped Class 10 students get a head start on board exam preparation.
- Career and college planning:** Senior Sitaras (Class 11+) attended workshops on career guidance and soft skills for real-world challenges and decision-making.



Faculty and professionals who inspired

We thank the SPJIMR faculty and professionals who shared their knowledge and time with our Sitaras:

Faculty and Professionals	Session
Amit Shah	Career guidance: Chartered Accountancy
Bhishm Chugani	Why study all subjects
C. Deep Prakash	Careers in sports
Nilendra Pawar	Computer literacy
Sajit Mathews	Note-taking techniques
Tanvi Mankodi	Effective communication
Vineeta Dwivedi	Introduction to journalism
Monit Kumawat	Career path: Graphic design
Noorin Pethani	Sustainability
Sunil Kadam	Composting
Bhushan Vyas	Modern Indian history
Ravi Narnolia	Rivers of India

Reflections by PGDM ADMAP Committee

The Assessment and Development of Managerial and Administrative Potential (ADMAP) is a unique immersive experience pioneered by SPJIMR. It enables participants to develop their administrative capabilities and management skills experientially. This two-credit course instils in the participant the core principles of self-learning and self-management through the prism of doing, observing, reflecting, and recording.

Abhyudaya has 16 students dedicated to this each year. We will be highlighting their reflections each month.

How Abhyudaya shaped my leadership style

Aishwarya Agrawal, PGDM 2024-26

“My time with the Abhyudaya Committee was a journey of growth, learning, and connection. I discovered my ability to organise tasks and lead teams, turning chaos into order while learning to let go of perfection when needed. Handling major events like ‘Hastantaran’ and ‘Walk in the Shoes of a Mentor’ taught me to be empathetic and decisive, always keeping people at the heart of my decisions. I became better at prioritising tasks, balancing what was urgent with what was important, and encouraging open discussions when conflicts arose. I also learned to embrace uncertainty, trusting my instincts and leaning on my team’s collective wisdom. Building genuine relationships was key—I connected with people across the committee, creating a supportive and inclusive environment.”



This experience was about more than just getting things done. It was about the people, the emotions, and the joy of seeing my team succeed. I laughed, faced challenges, and celebrated victories, and it left me feeling fulfilled and more confident in my ability to lead with empathy and collaboration. My time with Abhyudaya shaped me into the person and leader I am today.”

From chaos to connection

Anoushka Murali, PGDM 2024-26

“Being the SPOC of Abhyudaya was a truly rewarding experience. Planning all the events was a deeply transformative journey. I still remember running on adrenaline during ‘Hastantaran’ for a whole week because that was how much time we had to put the entire event together. The team’s responsiveness and collaboration brought it all to life beautifully, and seeing our batchmates meet their Sitaras was incredibly rewarding.

During the ‘Walk in the Shoes of a Mentor’, I felt a deep sense of achievement as I watched Sitaras eagerly step into our world, their excitement mirrored in their questions and the fun they had role-playing as us. ‘Green Games’ was particularly close to my heart. The challenge of managing time slots was intense, but watching mentors and Sitaras playing together at the end of the day made it all worthwhile.



Despite the logistical hurdles of outdoor setups and cross-slotting of mentors and Sitaras, witnessing their genuine engagement reaffirmed the importance of the event. These experiences, filled with challenges and triumphs, left an undeniable mark on me and reinforced the value of small, personal connections.”



Prafull Sakpal

Chamakta Sitara

From uncertainty to impact



“Abhyudaya played a key role in helping me decide on my academic path and career. After my graduation, while I was waiting for my first job to begin, Abhyudaya helped me get an Internship at SPJIMR.”

Prafull comes from a single-parent home and benefited from the yoga, English and computer classes provided by Abhyudaya. He was a bright student but was uncertain about his career path.

Abhyudaya provided Prafull with counseling and guidance, helping him gain clarity and confidence in his decisions. Mentors also offered valuable guidance by sharing their own experiences. The financial support extended by Abhyudaya was also a great help to his family.

“I also met many students who were just like me; some of them have now become my close friends.”

Prafull is currently working as a Senior Software Engineer at I2E, where he develops and maintains a mobile app called ‘Transcend’ for The Bhaktivedanta Book Trust—a leading publisher of traditional scriptures translated into 87 languages, as well as books that interpret and explain these texts.

“Looking ahead, I aspire to continue growing in my career—to take on more challenging roles, expand my technical expertise, and contribute to meaningful projects that make a difference.”

Aligned with the UN SDG 4 (Quality Education) and SDG 17 (Partnership for the Goals), SPJIMR’s Abhyudaya is a community-based organisation that provides mentoring and holistic after-school education to bright, underprivileged children (Sitaras = Stars), from low-income neighbourhoods in Mumbai’s K-West ward so that they become independent and the schools and community around them improve.

To donate to Abhyudaya, write to [abhyudaya@spjimr.org](mailto:abhyudaya@spjimr.org) or visit our website [www.spjimr.org](http://www.spjimr.org)

