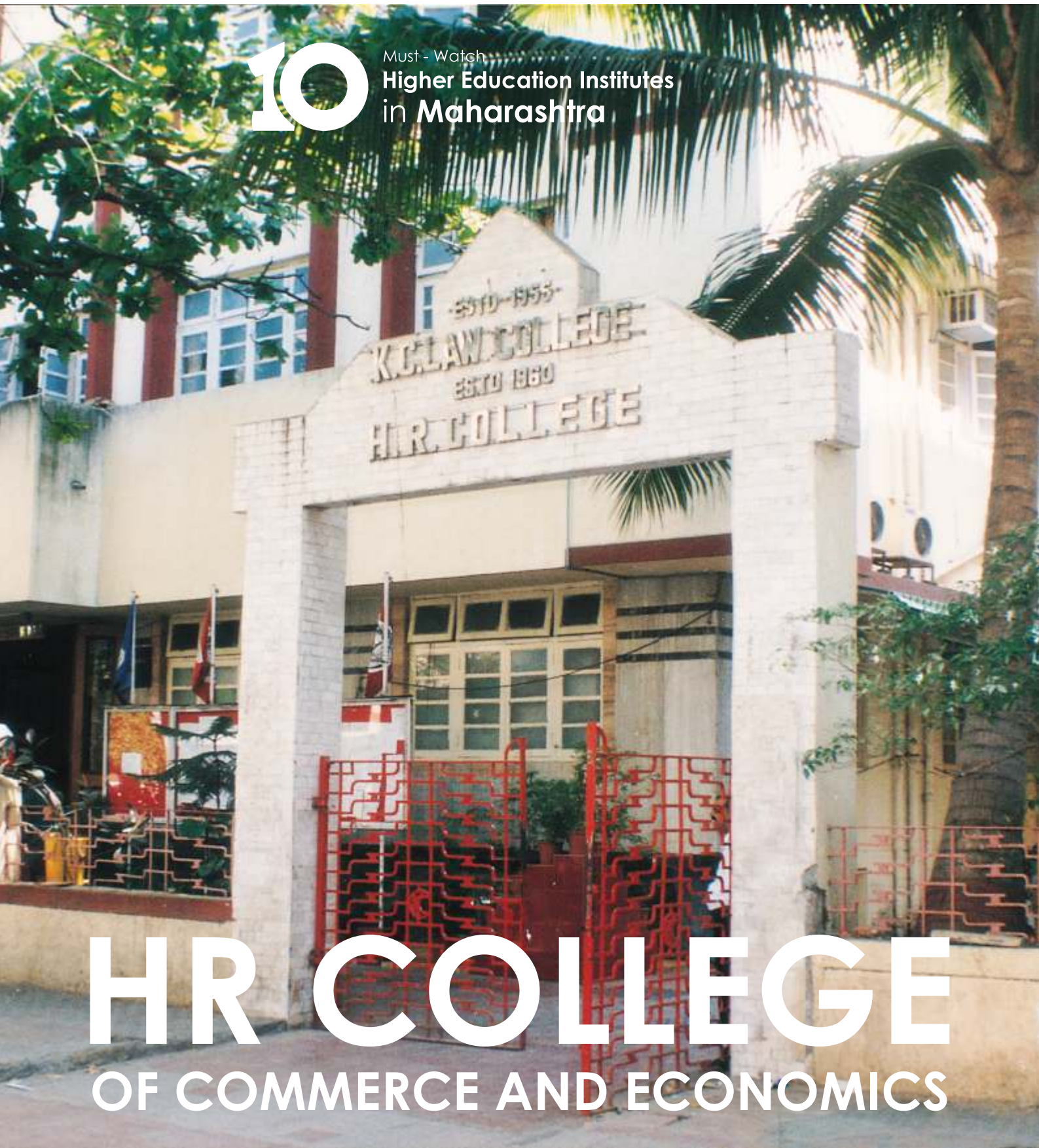


10

Must - Watch
Higher Education Institutes
in Maharashtra



HR COLLEGE OF COMMERCE AND ECONOMICS

Mumbai 'The City of Dreams' where people from across the whole country come to see their dreams come into fruition. Back in the 1960s, when Mumbai was allegedly referred to as 'Bombay'. A group of few visionaries came to Bombay with their one shared dream, a dream to introduce Bombay to its newest College of Commerce and Economics. It was on the dawn of June 20, 1960, that Bombay saw the historic establishment of its newest College of Commerce and Economics; and its doors wide-open ready to embrace anyone that sought knowledge. The city back then was not so populated, this created a sense of concern in the mind of the Principal at the time, if he would have enough students to fill his classes. Whatever happened next was a dream come true for the founders, History shows that classes filled up soon enough! Located on 123 Dinshaw Wachha Road, at the intersection of the road that faces the University of Mumbai, with its imposing clock tower, the College was founded on the principle of 'Idealism'.

Hassaram Rijhumal (HR) College of Commerce and Economics was initially set-up in Hyderabad Sind in the year 1945, before the partition. The fledgling Institution had to be hastily forsaken in the storm of Partition. However, as the saying goes "Fire is the test of gold, Adversity, of strong men" so was the determination of the foresighted and feisty founding fathers of the College. The trials were tremendous, but so was the tenacity of the many mighty men who were determined to germinate this institutional oak again. Finally, after many hardships and sacrifices of numerous leaders, the Institute was again established in Bombay in 1960.

An interesting yet not coincidental fact worth mentioning is that when the college first started in 1945, Shri H.C. Malkani was appointed as its Principal. Finally, when the College was reborn in Mumbai in 1960, the mantle yet again fell upon the industrious Shri H.C. Malkani, to take on the 'Principal' role in mentoring and remaking the destiny of an institution that was so closely linked to his own! It seemed as if the two, the College and Principal H.C. Malkani, were a match made with a divine exactitude that not even the ruinous partition could rend asunder.

H.R. College was the first college in Maharashtra to be accredited 'A' grade with a score of 87.95% by the NAAC (National Assessment and Accreditation Council) under the revised scheme for 2002. In 2008, HR College was awarded an 'A' grade by NAAC once again with a CGPA of 3.46. In Jan 2013 the college underwent a third accreditation process with NAAC awarding an 'A' Grade to the College with a CGPA of 3.72 on a 4 point scale, the highest CGPA in India under the revised scheme; and the highest score in Maharashtra.

HR College of Commerce & Economics on Industry Collaborations

The College believes in creating students who are not just employable in India but even across International borders. This is why the college prides itself in building effective relationships with all its stakeholders especially the corporate world. The current leaders of HR College strongly believe that a thrust on internationalization through global immersion has resulted in greater teacher-student mobility and the adoption of global best practices.



The institute has a very strong 'International Programs Committee' headed by a faculty and a group of students who continuously work on building international relationships with leading foreign universities in the USA, UK, Europe, Australia, New Zealand, and many other countries. Throughout the year, the institute invites majorly successful alumni and industry doyens to give their suggestions on the courses and curriculum. Similarly, the College hosts visiting faculty and students from leading universities and encourages college faculty to visit the above-mentioned foreign universities. Leading subject experts, university officials, heads of departments from premier colleges, leading academic peers from India and abroad, are also invited for orientations and discussions on the curriculum. Apart from all these industry collaborations, the institute realizes that numerous students choose to pursue higher education

An Institute Leading Towards the Height of Excellence

lying across the seven oceans. This is why the college has tie-ups with various consulates who help students to understand not just the admission and visa processes but also helps students understand the cultural differences that are present in their envisioned foreign universities.

HR College believes in regular academia-industry interaction to help students be able to understand the ways in which their knowledge can be applied in the real world.

Pedagogy – HR's Secret to Success

HR College, along with KC College and Bombay Teachers Training College; due to its consistent benchmark performance in NAAC (National Assessment and Accreditation Council) was brought by the Government of Maharashtra and RUSA under the umbrella of HSNC University, Mumbai, the State Cluster University. H.R. College being the lead college of the Cluster University aims at providing quality education focusing on the overall personality development of the students by offering them industry-oriented and society-focused programs.

However, any student can only be as good as the lessons that sink into their subconscious at this shaping stage of their lives. HR College of Commerce and Economics realizes and acknowledges this crucial role that teachers play in any students' life. This is why, the institute organizes Faculty Development Programmes periodically, on curriculum design and development to train and orient the staff in current and emerging trends. The College had also deliberately invested in Faculty Development by sponsoring its faculty to national and international seminars, symposia, and conferences.

Prominent among these are visits to foreign universities such as Carnegie Mellon, Boston University, University of California at Berkeley, and NYU Stern in the US; London School of Economics and the University of Westminster in the UK and several universities in France, Austria, Turkey, and among many other countries. The College also highly encourages faculty members to apply for UGC/University Research Grants for minor/major research projects. A point worth mentioning is that several staff members have successfully completed their Ph.D. Research Grants are also been

provided by the parent Hyderabad Sind National Collegiate (HSNC) Board as a further stimulus to the faculty.

We had a small talk with the current Principal of HR College of Commerce and Economics, Dr. Pooja Ramchandani. When asked about her view of working, and her vision for the success of the Institute, she states, "Nurturing curiosity and fostering creativity are two key elements of a successful education. We at HR firmly believe in the philosophy of developing young minds who will become future leaders of our nation and responsible citizens of the world. The institution actively engages in harnessing the creative energies of the academic and student community, inspiring faculty and students to do their best, and realize their full potential."

The college emphasises on working with various stakeholders to update and upgrade its curriculum to give the best to its students, she added. All of these above-mentioned processes make faculty members at HR College of Commerce and Economics unique in every aspect.



About Spokesperson

Pooja Ramchandani

I/C Principal
H.R. College of Commerce & Economics

Dr. Pooja Ramchandani has an enriching experience of more than 20 years as a faculty in the Department of Commerce, and she was the Vice-Principal (Degree College) since July 2016. She is a hardworking and visionary person who has actively worked towards the growth and development of the college by working with the Institute for more than 20 years now. Her arsenal of wisdom contains expertise in Marketing, Human Resource Management, Principles of Management, Marketing Research, Organisational Behaviour, for which she has been conducting lectures throughout her career.



She is the Head of the Department of Commerce and is a member of the Board of Studies in Business Management. She was awarded honorary DLit for her contribution in the field of Education; and recognized as a guide for Doctor in Philosophy in the subject of Commerce, by the University of Mumbai. She has been appointed as Dean for Commerce and Management under the HSNC University.

A Great Leader, who is truly loved by her students, Dr. Ramchandani is considered a very approachable person, which is why she has many student associations to her credit, many stated under her mentorship. Her ultimate motto in life is to "create responsible student leaders, who bring positive change in the society". She is a firm believer and a true practitioner of hard work for achieving success and excellence, she believes there is no other way around it.

Dr. Pooja Ramchandani has been appointed as the Principal In-charge of H.R. College from July 10, 2020.