

**PRESS RELEASE**

**RTE Resource Centre, IIM Ahmedabad, to host first ever e-Winter School for its 6th edition**

*****Journalist Ravish Kumar interacting with participants of Winter School*

**October 28, 2020 | Ahmedabad**

The Right To Education Resource Centre (RTERC) of the Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad is set to host the 6th edition of its annual flagship event, **Winter School,** from January 2nd to 10th, 2021. The program aims to orient participants towards public policy and the role of education in creating social change.

The idea of the Winter School is to create a platform for individuals to understand and challenge the dominant ideas about education, social segregation, and the power structures that exist in our society. The co-created space seeks to spur discussion on themes like the *importance of community knowledge*, *social work vs social change*, *engendering of education*, *social policy & practice*, *participatory research*, and *political-cultural dynamics around education*.

The theme of this year’s Winter School is ‘Inequality in education’, through which the program seeks to empower young leaders to understand and analyze how inequality in education and livelihood is caused, especially accelerated by the pandemic.

Owing to the COVID pandemic, safety, and restriction on travel, participants of this year’s Winter School would go through a 9-day orientation programme in a completely virtual manner. Esteemed professors of the Institute and various other dignitaries from all over India would take orientation classes for the participants. The purpose of the orientation programme is to give the participants a basic set of tools for understanding policy and the social equations surrounding them. The previous editions of Winter School have witnessed lectures from dignitaries across the country like Shri, Manish Sisodia, Deputy Chief Minister of Delhi; Journalist Ravish Kumar; Dr. Anant Maringanti, Exec. Director of Hyderabad Urban Lab; Atishi Marlena, Educator and MLA from Delhi; Anil Swarup IAS, former Secretary to the Government of India, and author; Justice R.A. Mehta and so on, in addition to distinguished Professors of IIM Ahmedabad.

Post the orientation programme; participants will pick a policy of their choice and do a practicum about an organization of their choice, related to the policy. The practicum would ideally take twenty days. Participants are expected to send a report to the RTERC, detailing the work they have done to earn a certificate from IIMA. This year, taking advantage of the virtual medium, participants shall continue to engage with each other during the research and preparation, and present their work upon conclusion. Previous participants’ works included the Capacity building of School Management Committees (SMCs) in Delhi State Government Schools, Night schools in Mumbai, operations and issues faced by non-profit organizations, shelter homes, etc.

*Abhinav Singh describing his Winter school experience wrote, “For me, Winter school has caused a change in my perspectives. I was expecting a lot of theoretical knowledge, facts, case studies on various social and policy issues. The program offered this and more. I learned that the true essence of Winter School was the activities, sessions, conversations and the people I came across, and this experience, I gained shifted my perspective on social awareness completely.”*

*Ganesh V, the Coordinator of RTERC, IIMA quoted “The program aims at providing the participants with the necessary insights into policy and its impact on the society. Over 80 individuals were selected from a large number of applications to actively participate in the last edition of the event. The Winter School has been receiving overwhelming participation from all corners of India.”*

*Prof. Ankur Sarin, Public Systems Group and Faculty Advisor, RTERC at IIMA, quoted, “As part of a larger action research effort, the Winter School brings in participants from across India and is an important student initiative to understand public policy from the perspective of excluded and marginalized groups.”*

The deadline to apply to the Programme is 10th November 2020, and more details can be found on the Centre’s Facebook page. For more info, please visit RTERC’s Facebook page:

https://www.facebook.com/IIMA.RTERC/

Participants can also fill the google form link to apply to the program: [https://forms.gle/fihEk9Ni9pXBQ8Ww5](https://forms.gle/fihEk9Ni9pXBQ8Ww5?fbclid=IwAR2G2R3f3oXRP6bueCJYFulZ1Servdu_s35bAVvxzCFyRE1HzWUoRLxkP7I)

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**About IIMA:**

Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad (IIMA) is a premier B-school in the Asia Pacific region. Globally, the Institute’s programmes have earned high reputation and acclaim, becoming the first Indian institution to receive international accreditation EQUIS. Founded in 1961 as a unique public-private partnership for development through the application of knowledge, today it has overseas presence in Dubai and associates with over 80 foreign B-schools to offer academically superior, market-driven and socially impactful programmes, research and consultancy services. In 2018, IIMA made it to the number four position in the Financial Times (FT) Asia Pacific Top 25 Business School Rank, ahead of all Indian B-Schools. FT conducted the ranking after considering the quality and breath of all the B-schools programmes. Over the last several years, IIMA is the only Indian B-school to feature in the reputed Economist ranking and emerged at number one position in India Ranking 2020 NIRF (National Institutional Ranking Framework), released by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India.

Over the years, IIMA has benefited more than 38,000 alumni who graduated from its various programmes. Currently, besides its renowned flagship Two-year Master in Business Administration (MBA), earlier known as Post Graduate Programme in Management (PGP); the Institute continues to draw top-quality students to its PhD Programme in Management, MBA in Food and Agri-Business Management (FABM), MBA-PGPX (One-Year Full-Time Post Graduate Programme in Management for Executives), Faculty Development Programme (FDP), Armed Forces Programme (AFP), e-Post Graduate Programme (ePGP), e-Post Graduate Diploma in Advanced Business Analytics (ePGD-ABA), and benefits industry professionals through its short duration Executive Education Programmes.

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