

Report of MIC Driven activity on "out of the box thinking for Problem Solving"

Ministry of education along with AICTE organised a webinar based on "Out of the thinking for problem solving" on 28-June 2022 from 2:00pm to 3:00pm . The speaker for the session were Professor V. Kamakoti , Director at IIT Madras.

Proffessor V. Kamakoti started out the session by giving introduction about the topic. He emphasized on how thinking differently will help bring a change in the society. We have to cultivate within ourselves a way to think differently, it will lead to a different solution which will be more effective. A sucessful future generation should be in a position to think differently.

Professor further explained"out of the box thinking through Mathematics". he explained The apple-knife-stone theory. There is no connection between the apple and the stone but to cut an apple properly one needs a sharp knife. Here, he compared the apple to a problem, the knife as the brain and the stone to foundation knowledge. In order to solve a problem preciesly, one needs to sharpen their foundation knowledge. the theory is an exercise for the brain. He stated that one should train their brain to think creatively and in an unconventional manner. The focus should be shifted from rote learning to critical thinking, which is a must for next generation entrepreneurs. Many tradational games like Pailanguzhi in Tamil involve mathematical insights. by playing these type of games one can develop mathematical skills and strategy building at a young age.

The human brain is tutored to think in a certain way. When given a question, the world will give one answer, but there can be another answer which is different. He explained this through varoius mathematical examples. Through out the session professor V. Kamakoti explained the ideas through various mathematical problems making it easy to understand. At the end of the session questions from the audience were answered.



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