

Friends of Library Association

I.J. Patel Library of NM is one of the biggest assets of NM College of Commerce and Economics and is known for its huge collection of 60017 books, 94 periodicals, 535 CD-ROMS and 19 types of newspapers. The library aims for the inculcation of reading habits among students and to encourage collaborative efforts among library staff and students to maximize the utilization of the library facilities. The Friends of Library Association is a group of people who help in the achievement of this aim. This association pledges to always help their fellow students in a friendly and approachable manner to discover the bookworm in them. The association does everything it can to maintain the authenticity and rules of the library. It does everything it can to develop the library into a better one and makes it more student friendly. Just after their recruitment drive, the FOL association held two events in 2016 which were a major success and drew large amounts of students in.

1. The Friends of Library Book Fair- Friends of Library Association had held its first event, a book fair, in I.J. Patel Library on the 11th and 12th August '16. The fair was attended by thousands of teachers and students of NM. It was a major success, making the association popular among the crowd. A large variety of books ranging from business studies, Indian and Modern History, Technological Histories, Biographies, Fiction, Non-Fiction, Academic Textbooks and Psychological and Personality Development books were on exhibit. The people were allowed to issue the books to read. A lot of reference books were also on display which were not allowed to be issued but to be read on the spot. This event didn't disrupt the rules of the library at all and was held during the college hours itself. The FOL association received lots of positive feedbacks. Students came with their friends

and issued unique books that helped them develop their personalities and knowledge. Around 150 books were issued on the first day of the event and more than 160 books were issued on the day after. 12th August was also National Librarian's Day and thus the college librarian was honored by a bouquet for always managing the library with top notch excellence. The library being of two floors, one the floors was wholly used for the fair and out of the 60000 and more books of the library, the best and most popular books were chosen. A lot of new books were added to the massive library collection. There were books based on travel and personalities too. Books on competitive exams and CA exams were helpful to students for decreasing stress and helping them self-study.

2. Stepping Stones- After the success of FOL's first event, it came up with its second event on 27th August. The event was a guest lecture given by a super amazing and inspiring speaker, Sir Sujhaat Ali. Mr. Ali was an honored speaker and took time out of his busy schedule to come to NM and teach us important lessons in life about achievements and dreams. The event was held especially for all the Junior College students who were new to the commerce and economics stream and were preparing to start the building of their dream castles. The interactive session taught students about personality development and handling peer pressure and stress. It taught them about confidence, determination, self-will, time management and how to not succumb to the deadly peer pressure. Mr. Ali taught the students to hold their heads high when the scenario became tough. Students loved sir's way of connecting with the students and learnt a lot that day. FOL received lovely remarks about the lecture and enjoyed every bit of it. The afternoon was filled with laughs. Students responded well to questions

thrown their way by Sir Sujhaat. Everyone went home with a new approach on college life and hard work. Sir Sujhaat was impressed by FOL's efforts and the infrastructure of the college. He loved the way the students were cheerful and answered his questions with positive sport. He loved how warmly welcome he felt at NM. The event in all was a big success and adored by students.

The library has a suggestions and recommendations box outside it where everyone is welcome to suggest new books and ways to develop the library and Friends of Library Association. The support of the students and teachers is what makes it grow after all. Warm love will help it. The Association will keep coming up with amazing events and work hard to help the students and make it more popular among the students.