

Malaviya National Institute of Technology Jaipur Department of Humanities and Social Sciences

HUMPALS: PEER ACTIVE LEARNING FOR SCHOLARS

Report of the 25th session conducted on April 23, 2025

The 25th session of HUMPALS was successfully held on April 23, 2025, from 10:00 AM onwards, maintaining the spirit of self-learning, re-learning, and co-learning. This initiative, undertaken under the aegis of the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, aims to foster knowledge sharing and academic growth.



The session commenced with an opening note by Nidhi, who warmly welcomed the participants and introduced the distinguished speaker of the day — Dr. Bhavna Pandey. Dr. Pandey is a renowned academic and researcher currently based in the United States. She holds a Ph.D. in Management Science from Symbiosis International University, Pune, and serves as adjunct faculty at Gurugram University and several other private universities in India. Her academic portfolio reflects her extensive experience in both teaching and research across national and international institutions. Dr. Pandey specializes in computational finance, qualitative research, and machine learning. Her research on farmer distress and agricultural credit has informed policy discussions with RBI, NABARD, and NIBM. She collaborates internationally, including projects with Carnegie Mellon University and a multinational initiative with partners in Poland, the Czech Republic, and Croatia on evidence-based management.

Dr. Pandey delivered a session on *“Talk, Listen, and Plan: A Field Guide to Interviews and Questionnaire”*, offering valuable insights into the art of conducting interviews and designing effective questionnaires. Emphasizing the alignment of tools with research objectives, she elaborated on formulating meaningful questions, selecting appropriate response scales, and conducting pilot studies to refine the instruments. Drawing from her vast field experience, she stressed the importance of field notes and adapting questionnaires based on real-time feedback and contextual observations.

The session was enriched by the presence of esteemed faculty members, including Dr. Preeti Bhatt, Prof. Manju Singh, Prof. Nupur Tandon, Prof. Vibhuti Singh Shekhawat, and Dr. Niraja Saraswat; their participation added both academic depth and encouragement to the session. An engaging Q&A segment followed the lecture, allowing attendees to interact directly with Dr. Pandey and gain further clarity on practical challenges and solutions in field-based research.

The event concluded on a warm note with a heartfelt vote of thanks delivered by Prof. Manju Singh, acknowledging Dr. Pandey’s valuable contribution and the enthusiastic participation of the audience.
