

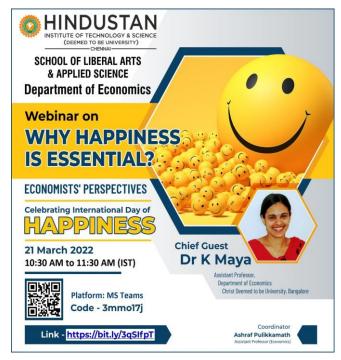
SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS AND APPLIED SCIENCE (SLAAS) DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

WEBINAR ON WHY HAPPINESS IS ESSENTIAL? ECONOMISTS' PERSPECTIVES

21 March 2022

Discussions on social and psychological elements such as 'happiness' or 'subjective wellbeing' have little acknowledgement in conventional economics and allied research. Behavioural

Economics is a path breaking modern economic thought in which subjective well-being including happiness is intensively researched and discussed. In this context, with an objective to give the students exposure to such recent developments in economics, the Department had invited a well-known researcher in Happiness Economics, Dr K Maya from Christ Deemed to be University, Bangalore to deliver her thoughts on the occasion of International Day of Happiness (20 March 2022). The talk opened up various socially and economically relevant dimensions of happiness, parallel to the growing



importance of subjective wellbeing in economic development. The talk engaged the audience in a serious discussion on the social realities beyond economic growth, the Happiness Index as an alternate model of development, revisiting economic theories for subjective wellbeing, important scholars in happiness economics, data and research prospects in behavioural economics and career opportunities associated. The students enthusiastically engaged with the Guest in the Open Forum, raising about happiness scenario in India, associated stereotypes, Indian obsession with material happiness, the relationship between underdevelopment and happiness, India's poor rank on Happiness Index, etc.