

IIM Raipur organises lecture on Punyashlok Lokmata Ahilyabai Holkar

■ Staff Reporter
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INDIAN Institute of Management Raipur (IIM-R) hosted a lecture programme commemorating the birth centenary of Punyashlok Lokmata Ahilyabai Holkar. The event saw participation from students across India.

Dr Toplal Verma, the chief speaker, highlighted Ahilyabai Holkar's remarkable life and achievements: She had proficiency in 18 disciplines, which demonstrates her versatility and intellectual depth. She was an efficient Administrator as she successfully governed her kingdom for 28 years.

Ahilya Bai was a visionary Leader as she expanded her kingdom from eight to 37 chiefs, fostering a strong and prosperous region. She was patron of edu-



Dr Toplal Verma speaks about Ahilya Bai Holkar at the lecture programme as IIM students listen.

cation. She Established Gurukuls across Malwa and appointed 19 scholars to promote research. Holkar was also a champion of justice for she was known for her impartial justice, even punishing her own son and officers when necessary. Ahilya Bai was also a social reformer. She married her daughter to a tribal youth, promoting social harmo-

ny and challenging societal norms. Holkar was also an environmentalist as recognised for her efforts in environmental protection and the renovation of temples across India.

Dr Verma emphasised the significance of Ahilyabai Holkar's life philosophy, highlighting her efficient administration, dedication to justice, and focus on social wel-

fare. He stressed that her values, such as discipline, hard work, and farsightedness, remain highly relevant for nation-building today. The programme, attended by 300 students and 5 professors, provided a valuable learning experience for the students. Special guests Varnika Sharma and Sanjay Joshi also graced the occasion.