



CONFEDERATION OF  
INDIAN PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES

*In association with*



# Bharat Higher Education Summit 2025

23<sup>rd</sup> April & 24<sup>th</sup> April 2025

----- Venue -----

**Mahindra University, Hyderabad**

*Theme:*

**'Building Next Generation Leaders in Higher Education'**



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# ABOUT THE SUMMIT

The Bharat Higher Education Summit 2025 is a premier platform dedicated to shaping the future of higher education in India. With the theme “**Building Next Generation Leaders in Higher Education,**” the summit aims to address the evolving educational landscape and the need for leadership that is visionary, inclusive, and transformative.

India’s higher education sector is at a pivotal crossroads. The demand for dynamic leadership capable of navigating complex challenges, fostering innovation, and steering institutions toward excellence has never been greater. This summit brings together thought leaders, policymakers, educators, and industry experts to discuss strategies for nurturing future leaders who will not only contribute to academic excellence but also drive sustainable socio-economic development.

The Summit will highlight the role of universities as engines of innovation, research, and community impact, ensuring they are equipped to meet the demands of tomorrow’s workforce.

By providing a platform for cross-sector collaboration, the Bharat Higher Education Summit seeks to lay the foundation for a new generation of academic leaders who will champion educational reforms and empower future generations to excel in a globalized world.

# About Mahindra University

**“A new paradigm made possible by a historic collaboration involving the Mahindra Group and École Centrale Paris”- Anand Mahindra, Chancellor**

Mahindra University (MU) signifies Global Thinkers and Engaged Leaders. The professionals who think how the world is for them and others and how to make it a better place through positive engagement. Further who embodies the Mahindra Rise spirit of Accepting No Limits, Driving Positive Change and Alternative thinking

What started as an engineering college in 2014, is now home to exceptional schools of Engineering, Management, Law, Education, Life Sciences, Media and Hotel Management that offer a world-class education. The university equips students with cutting-edge technical skills and fosters innovation through industry partnerships. Further, the schools nurture leaders by comprehensively understanding strategies and practices. All the schools emphasize experiential learning and research, preparing students to excel in their chosen fields. The schools empower students to become future-ready professionals.

Research and innovation thrive at the heart of every academic pursuit at MU. World-class faculty and cutting-edge facilities foster groundbreaking discoveries across diverse fields. MU fosters a culture of curiosity, creativity, and collaboration, resulting in discoveries and solutions that address real-world challenges. The commitment to excellence drives MU to be at the forefront of research-driven innovation, making a meaningful impact on society and the world at large.

MU's faculty are world-renowned for expanding the boundaries of knowledge while educating the generation of thinkers and doers. They are all highly qualified faculty, all of whom are doctorates from reputed premier institutions and universities from around the globe.

**The journey continues with the PURPOSE**

**“To educate future citizens for and of a better world”**





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# About CIPU

Confederation of Indian Private Universities (CIPU) emerged as an outcome of several rounds of discussions and brainstorming with stakeholders in the Higher Education ecosystem. This took the shape of the first formal dialogue in 2022 when more than 25 American and 30 Indian thought leaders met in Washington D.C. Building on the successful deliberations in Washington, more than 70 leading Private Universities met in Pune in January 2023 to take forward the mission.

CIPU is a not-for-profit member driven body that works and advocates for the promotion and interests of the tertiary, higher education, and University levels in various national and international forums.

The vision of CIPU is to make India, the knowledge capital of the world and re-establish the country's credentials as a Vishwa Guru in the 21st century.

The organisation will work closely with the Government and Education Entrepreneurs to ensure that the needs and concerns of higher education institutions are heard and addressed in policy making. CIPU also collaborates with international organisations and associations to promote the internationalization of higher education and to enhance the global reputation of the sector.

The Confederation serves as a unifying force, providing a platform for member institutions to exchange ideas, share best practices, and collectively address challenges facing the higher educational landscape. It also provides a platform for consensus building and networking on key issues.



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## STEERING COMMITTEE



**Prof. (Dr.) Gopal Pathak**

Honorary President,  
CIPU &  
Director General,  
Sarla Birla University,  
Ranchi



**Prof. (Dr.) G. K. Shirude**

Honorary Vice President,  
CIPU & Vice Chancellor,  
Sri Balaji University,  
Pune (SBUP)



**Prof. (Dr.) Sandeep Sancheti**

Chairperson, CIPU National Committee  
on R&D and Industry-Academia  
Collaboration & Vice President, Research  
Relations and Academic Affairs,  
Elsevier (India)



**Prof. (Dr.) Yajulu Medury**

Chairperson,  
CIPU Southern India Regional  
Council & Vice Chancellor,  
Mahindra University,  
Hyderabad



**Prof. (Dr.) Parvinder Singh**

Chairperson, CIPU Northern India  
Regional Council and Vice Chancellor,  
Lamrin Tech Skills University,  
Punjab



**Prof. (Dr.) Rajesh Dixit**

Convenor, CIPU National  
Committee on implementation  
of NEP 2020 & Vice Chancellor,  
Renaissance University,  
Indore



**Prof. (Dr.) Shiv K Tripathi**

Convenor, CIPU National  
Committee on Sustainability  
& Dean of the Faculty at  
Berlin School of Business  
and Innovation,  
Germany



**Prof. (Dr.) P. Nagabhushan**

Vice Chancellor,  
Vignan's Foundation for  
Science,  
Guntur



**Prof. (Dr.) R. M. Chitnis**

Vice Chancellor,  
MIT World Peace University,  
Pune



**Prof. (Dr.) Ranjit Singh**

Vice Chancellor,  
Shobhit University,  
Saharanpur



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## INAUGURAL SESSION

1730 Hrs - 1900 Hrs,

23rd April 2025, Mahindra University, Hyderabad

## DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

Inaugural Address



**Prof. (Dr.) T. G. Sitharam**

Chairman,  
All India Council for Technical  
Education (AICTE),  
New Delhi

Keynote Address



**Prof. (Dr.) Anil Sahasrabudhe**

Chairman,  
Executive Committee,  
NAAC and Chairman, NBA,  
Bangalore

Presidential Address



**Dr. Rahul V. Karad**

Chief Patron, CIPU  
& Executive President,  
MIT-World Peace University,  
Pune

Welcome Address



**Prof. (Dr.) Yajulu Medury**

Chairperson,  
CIPU Southern India Regional  
Council and Vice Chancellor,  
Mahindra University,  
Hyderabad

Theme Address



**Prof. (Dr.) Gopal Pathak**

Honorary President,  
CIPU &  
Director General,  
Sarla Birla University,  
Ranchi

Special Address



**Mr. Murali Bukkapatnam**

Chairman,  
Global Board of Trustees,  
TiE and Founder & CEO,  
Volsy Technologies,  
Hyderabad

Concluding Remarks  
& Vote of Thanks



**Prof. (Dr.) G. K. Shirude**

Honorary Vice President,  
CIPU & Vice Chancellor,  
Sri Balaji University,  
Pune (SBUP)



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## **PLENARY SESSIONS**

**0900 Hrs to 1730 Hrs,  
24th April 2025, Mahindra University, Hyderabad**

**Special Address on 'Challenges to Academic Leadership in the Next Decade'**

**0900 Hrs - 0920 Hrs**



**Prof. (Dr.) D.P. Agrawal**

Former Chairman,  
Union Public Service  
Commission,  
New Delhi

**Guest of Honour Address on 'Education as Soft Power - India's Global Influence through Higher Learning'**

**0920 Hrs - 0940 Hrs**

Guest of Honour Address



**Dr. Vijay Chauthaiwale**

In-Charge,  
Overseas Friends of BJP &  
Foreign Affairs Cell,  
Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)





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## Panel Discussion on 'Public-Private Partnership in Research Capacity Building'

This session will explore how collaborative models between academia, industry, and government can drive research excellence and innovation. Panelists will discuss best practices, funding mechanisms, and policy frameworks that can strengthen research ecosystems in higher education. The discussion will focus on fostering meaningful partnerships that enhance institutional research capacity and global competitiveness.

0940 Hrs - 1110 Hrs

### Session Moderator



**Prof. (Dr.) Rajasekharan Pillai**

Former Chairman,  
UGC and Vice Chancellor,  
Somaiya Vidyavihar  
University, Mumbai

### Distinguished Panelists



**Prof. (Dr.) Anil Kashyap**

President and Chancellor,  
NICMAR University,  
Pune



**Prof. (Dr.) Roop Mahajan**

Lewis Hester Chair Professor,  
Virginia Tech,  
USA



**Prof. (Dr.) Padmakali Banerjee**

Vice Chancellor,  
IILM University,  
Gurugram



**Prof. (Dr) Nihar Ranjan Biswas**

Vice Chancellor,  
Sri Balaji Vidyapeeth,  
Pondicherry



**Dr. (Mrs) C Tara Satyavathi**

Director,  
ICAR – Indian Institute of Millets  
Research, Hyderabad





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## Panel Discussion on 'Leadership Skills for Digital Age'

In an era defined by rapid technological advancements, academic leaders must embrace digital transformation to drive institutional success. This session will examine the essential leadership competencies required to navigate digital disruption, implement technology-driven learning models, and create future-ready institutions. Experts will share insights on digital fluency, data-driven decision-making, and leading in an increasingly tech-centric education landscape.

1130 Hrs - 1300 Hrs

### Session Moderator



**Prof. (Dr.) Parvinder Singh**

Chairperson,  
CIPU Northern India Regional Council &  
Vice Chancellor,  
Lamrin Tech Skills University,  
Punjab

### Distinguished Panelists



**Dr. Onkar Bagaria**

Trustee & CEO,  
Vivekananda Global University,  
Jaipur



**Prof. (Dr.) Rajita Kulkarni**

President,  
Sri Sri University,  
Cuttack



**Prof. (Dr.) Arun Kumar Pujari.**

HOD of AI & CSE,  
Adviser & Professor Emeritus,  
Mahindra University,  
Hyderabad



**Prof. (Dr.) Monika Sethi**

Vice Chancellor,  
KK Modi University,  
Chhattisgarh



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## Panel Discussion on 'Fostering Entrepreneurial Mindsets in Academia'

Entrepreneurial thinking is becoming essential in higher education to drive innovation, problem-solving, and industry impact. This session will delve into strategies for embedding entrepreneurship within academic institutions, empowering faculty and students to pursue innovation, and building a culture that supports startups and commercialization. Panelists will share global best practices and discuss how universities can be catalysts for economic growth and societal transformation.

1400 Hrs - 1530 Hrs

### Session Moderator



**Prof. (Dr.) Ramgopal Rao**

Group Vice Chancellor,  
BITS Pilani

### Distinguished Panelists



**Prof. (Dr.) Pawan Kumar Singh**

Director,  
IIM Tiruchirappalli



**Prof. (Dr.) Y.S.R. Murthy**

Vice Chancellor,  
The Assam Royal Global  
University,  
Guwahati



**Dr. Madhu Chitkara**

Pro-Chancellor,  
Chitkara University,  
Punjab



**Dr. Yogesh Brahmkar**

Innovation Director,  
MoE's Innovation Cell,  
Delhi



**Mr. Rajesh Pagadala**

President - TiE Hyderabad &  
Founder & Managing Director  
Pagadala Constructions Pvt. Ltd.,  
Hyderabad



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## Panel Discussion on 'Leadership in Research and Innovation'

Research and innovation are at the core of academic excellence and national progress. This session will bring together thought leaders to discuss how universities can strengthen research capabilities, drive interdisciplinary collaborations, and ensure research integrity. Panelists will explore key themes such as research inclusion, impact, intelligence, and ethical leadership in advancing knowledge and shaping the future of higher education.

1600 Hrs - 1730 Hrs

### Session Moderator



**Prof. (Dr.) Sandeep Sancheti**

Chairperson,  
CIPU National Committee on R&D and  
Industry-Academia Collaboration &  
Vice President,  
Research Relations and Academic Affairs,  
Elsevier (India)

### Distinguished Panelists



**Prof. M. Krishnamurthy**

Centre Director,  
Tata Institute of Fundamental  
Research,  
Hyderabad



**Prof. (Dr.) Arvind Shaligram**

Hon. Director,  
ISRO-UoP Space Technology Cell, Symbiosis Institute of Business  
Savitribai Phule  
Pune University



**Prof. (Dr.) K. P. Venugopala Rao**

Director,  
Symbiosis Institute of Business  
Management,  
Hyderabad



**Prof. (Dr.) Bishnu Pal**

Professor & Dean Ecole Centrale  
School of Engineering & HoD,  
Physics,  
Mahindra University,  
Hyderabad



**Prof. (Dr.) Kumar Molugaram**

Vice-Chancellor,  
Osmania University,  
Hyderabad



# CONTACT US

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