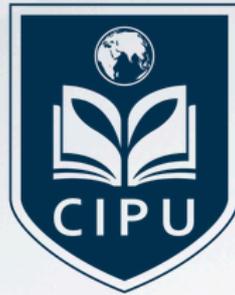# UNIVERSITY VOICE

CIPU

CONFEDERATION OF INDIAN PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES

Moving Bharat (India) Again Towards Vishwa Guru

Host University

SGT UNIVERSITY
Shree Guru Gobind Singh Tricentenary University

NAAC A+

2nd BHARAT HIGHER EDUCATION SUMMIT

(BHES) 2025

• THEME •

BUILDING RESEARCH-DRIVEN UNIVERSITIES

📅 23rd Dec 2025

• VINUE •

SGT University, Gurugram

cipuglobal.org

Objective

The 2nd Bharat Higher Education Summit (BHES) aimed to advance a national dialogue on transforming Indian universities into research-driven institutions. The Summit focused on strengthening research ecosystems, fostering innovation, promoting global and industry collaborations, and aligning institutional research priorities with national and societal needs in the spirit of the National Education Policy (NEP).

Inaugural Speakers

Prof. (Dr.) Anil Sahasrabudhe
Chairman, NAAC (EC) & Chairman, NBA

Dr. G. S. Chauhan
Joint Secretary, UGC

Prof. (Dr.) Suresh Garimella
President, University of Arizona, USA

Prof. (Dr.) V. N. Rajasekharan Pillai,
Former Chairman, UGC

Prof.(Dr.) Sanjay Kaushik
Vice Chancellor, Gurugram University

Dr. Vibha Dhawan
Director General, TERI

Prof. (Dr.) Gopal Pathak
Honorary President, CIPU

Prof. (Dr.) Hemant Verma
Vice Chancellor, SGT University

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Panel-I

Global Collaborations and Industry Linkages, Unlocking Research Impact

Session Chair

Prof. (Dr.) Sunil Rai, Chancellor, UPES

Prof. (Dr.) N. R. Biswas

Vice Chancellor,
Sri Balaji Vidyapeeth, Puducherry

Prof. (Dr.) Raghuvir Singh

Vice Chancellor,
K R Mangalam University, Haryana

Ms. Meenakshi Kachroo Chatta

Senior Director,
South & Central Asia, The College Board

Prof. (Dr.) Vishnu Nanda Magare

Vice Chancellor,
Pravara Institute of Medical Sciences (DU)

Prof. (Dr.) Shiv Tripathi

Dean,
Berlin School of Business & Innovation, Germany

Mr. Amit Gossain

Managing Director,
KONE Elevators India Pvt. Ltd.

Panel-II

From Lab to Society: Translating Research into Policy, Products, and Practices

Session Chair

Prof. (Dr.) Bhushan Patwardhan,
National Research Professor,
Ministry of Ayush

Prof. (Dr.) Raviraja N. Seetharam

Vice Chancellor,
Chandigarh University, Mohali

Prof. (Dr.) Ram Karan Singh

Vice Chancellor,
ICFAI University, Dehradun

Dr. Prahlad Rai Sodani

President,
IIHMR University, Jaipur

Prof. (Dr.) Rakesh Kumar Jain

Vice Chancellor,
Ajeenkya D. Y. Patil University, Pune

Prof. (Dr.) Ranjit Singh

Vice Chancellor,
Shobhit University, Uttar Pradesh, Meerut

Panel-III

Fostering a Culture of Curiosity: Institutional Strategies for Research Excellence

Session Chair

Prof. (Dr.) Sandeep Sancheti
Chairperson,
CIPU National Committee on R&D and Industry, Academia Collaboration

Prof. (Dr.) V. R. Desai
Director,
IIT Dharwad

Prof. (Dr.) P. S. Jassal
Pro President & Campus Director,
Singhania University, Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan

Prof. (Dr.) Parvinder Singh
Former Vice Chancellor,
Lamrin Tech Skill University,Ropar, Punjab

Prof. (Dr.) Yogesh Goswami
Vice Chancellor,
Shri Vaishnav Vidyapeeth Vishwavidyalaya,
Indore

Prof. (Dr.) Anup Gupta
Vice Chancellor,
GLA University, Mathura

Outcome

The Summit reinforced a shared commitment among private universities to build strong, context-sensitive research ecosystems. It highlighted the importance of academic autonomy, collaborative research models, industry co-creation, and student-centric inquiry to enhance research quality and societal impact. BHES 2025 also strengthened inter-university collaboration under CIPU, laying the foundation for sustained partnerships and a unified national and global voice for India's private universities.

![CIPU logo]

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Host University

![Assam down town University logo | NAAC A+]

ROUNDTABLE INTERACTION

on
Reimagining University Administration in the Age of Digital Transformation

📅 13th Nov 2025

📍 Assam downtown University
   Guwahati, Assam

ABOUT THE ROUNDTABLE

This exclusive boardroom format dialogue brought Registrars/Administrative Heads from leading institutions to co-develop actionable strategies on evolving role of senior academic/administrative leaders in the era of digital transformation.

KEY POINTS DISCUSSED

- Capacity Building for Administrative Staff Cybersecurity
- and Data Privacy
- Improving Stakeholder Experience
- Digital Governance and Compliance
- Streamlining Academic & Administrative Workflows

Prof. (Dr.) D. P. Agrawal, Distinguished Member, CIPU Board of Advisors and Former Chairman, Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) joined as the special guest and chaired the session. Prof. (Dr.) Narayan Chandra Talukdar, Vice Chancellor, Assam down town University, delivered the welcome address.

KEY SUGGESTIONS AND TAKEAWAYS

The roundtable brought forth several actionable insights and recommendations aimed at strengthening digital governance, enhancing stakeholder experience, and improving academic–administrative efficiency across private universities. The following section consolidates the key suggestions emerging from the insightful discussion.

Capacity Building for Administrative Staff

Participants emphasized the need for continuous upskilling of administrative personnel to effectively operate within modern digital ecosystems. Universities must invest in structured training on ERP, LMS, data analytics, and AI- enabled tools. A bottom-up approach to system strengthening was recommended, ensuring that staff are fully aware of data flows, compliance requirements, and the operational nuances of digital platforms. Regular workshops and hands-on training modules were suggested to reduce dependence on manual administrative processes.

Cybersecurity and Data Privacy

Concerns regarding data security and privacy were prominent throughout the discussion. Delegates underscored the importance of maintaining single-source data repositories that ensure accuracy, integrity, and reduced duplication. Universities must adopt robust cybersecurity protocols and ensure compliance with emerging data protection frameworks. The committee also noted the increasing relevance of the government-driven SAMARTH ERP, recommending that private institutions maintain data structures that allow seamless migration, should the platform become mandatory in the future.

Improving Stakeholder Experience

Several recommendationsfocused onenhancing the overall experience of students, faculty, staff, and parents. A modern grievance-management system capable of accepting voice-based submissions, including vernacular language inputs with automated translation, was strongly encouraged. Such systems can support timely triaging and prioritization of concerns. The need to balance technological adoption with human interaction was reiterated; while digital pedagogy-such as flipped classrooms, short video content, shared reading materials, and continuous assessment-improves engagement, mentoring and personalized guidance remain indispensable. Care was advised to avoid overwhelming parents with excessive communication and instead cultivate strong, supportive teacher–student relationships.

Digital Governance and Compliance

Delegates acknowledged that while most universities have adopted ERP systems, these platforms often mirror traditional administrative processes. The roundtable highlighted the need to redesign governance frameworks to fully leverage digital capabilities, including predictive analytics, automated reporting, and integrated compliance workflows.

The potential of forming consortia led by CIPU was discussed, allowing private universities to collectively negotiate access to essential digital tools such as plagiarism checkers, LMS platforms, and research databases-mirroring the benefits available to government institutions under ONOS and other national initiatives. Increased utilization of SWAYAM and MOOC platforms, in alignment with NEP recommendations, was strongly encouraged.

Streamlining Academic and Administrative Workflows

The discussion underscored the importance of adopting a holistic, integrated approach to academic and administrative workflows. Universities were advised to phase out hybrid models involving both digital and paper- based processes and transition toward fully integrated digital systems. Efficient ERP usage, backed by accurate data entry and standardized processes, was identified as key to improving transparency and operational efficiency. Participants recommended reducing non-teaching duties for faculty by employing trained administrative staff for data-intensive tasks. Annual curriculum reviews, meaningful library-based assignments, and judicious use of plagiarism detection tools were also emphasized as critical for academic quality enhancement.

'Voices of University Governance'

Building Institutional Agility: Registrar's Role in Change Management

Session Chair

Dr. Kamaljeet Kaur Siddhu
Executive Vice President, Ajeenkya DY Patil Group

Distinguished Panelists

Prof. Dr. Sudhakar Shinde
Registrar, Ajeenkya DY Patil University

Prof. Dr . Sanjivani Shelke
Registrar, DES Pune University

Prof. Dr. Mahesh Chopade
Registrar, MIT ADT University

Prof. (Dr.) Prashant Dave
Registrar, NICMAR University

A high-impact thought-leadership dialogue on Building Institutional Agility: Registrar's Role in Change Management, hosted by Ajeenkya DY Patil University, that brought together distinguished Registrars from leading Indian universities

At a time when higher education is undergoing profound transformation, the conversation underscored a powerful shift: Registrars are no longer just custodians of rules and processes. They are emerging as strategic leaders, driving institutional agility, enabling digital transformation, and translating policy into practice.

YouTube Link: https://youtu.be/zc0Nx7gHoxQ

Promoting Collaboration, Research Culture and Innovation in Private Universities.

Session Chair

Dr. Amandeep Gill
Dean R&D, Vivekananda Global University, Jaipur

Distinguished Panelists

Dr. ND Mathur
President,
Vivekananda Global University, Jaipur

Dr. DVS Bhagavanulu
Pro-President,
Vivekananda Global University, Jaipur

Dr. Prabhat Pankaj
Director,
Jaipuria Institute of Management, Jaipur

Dr. Lalita Ledwani
Dean Research,
Manipal University, Jaipur

Dr. Sanjay Sharma
Dean Research,
JECRC University, Jaipur

The Confederation of Indian Private Universities (CIPU) organized a panel discussion under its Voices of University Governance, A CIPU Knowledge Dialogue Series, centred on the theme "Promoting Collaboration, Research Culture and Innovation in Private Universities." Hosted by Vivekananda Global University, the session brought together senior academic leaders and research administrators who deliberated on strengthening research ecosystems within private higher education institutions.

The discussion focused on fostering inter-university collaboration, building a sustainable research culture, enhancing industry partnerships, and promoting innovation-driven academic frameworks. Panelists highlighted the importance of research mentorship, interdisciplinary engagement, grant mobilization, and outcome-based research strategies aligned with national priorities. The dialogue underscored that private universities needed to evolve beyond teaching-centric models to become hubs of knowledge creation and societal impact. The session concluded with a collective commitment to strengthening collaborative networks and advancing innovation-led growth across India's private higher education landscape.

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Ensuring Academic Integrity: Digital Proctoring and Examination Reforms

Session Chair

Prof. (Dr.) Devesh Bathla
Director,
Centre for Analytics & Data Excellence
Chitkara Business School Chitkara University, Punjab

Distinguished Panelists

Prof. Sanjiv Singh
Controller of Examinations,
Bareilly University, Bareilly

Prof. (Dr.) Rajeev Sharma
Controller of Examinations,
Chitkara University, Punjab

Prof. (Dr.) B. P. Garg
Controller of Examinations,
Central University, Punjab

Dr. Shruti Goel
Controller of Examinations,
Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law, Patiala

The dialogue was hosted by Chitkara University and brought together senior examination administrators and academic leaders who discussed evolving assessment practices in higher education. The discussion addressed the growing need for robust digital proctoring systems, secure online examination platforms, AI-enabled monitoring tools, and transparent evaluation mechanisms. Panellists emphasized the importance of balancing technological efficiency with fairness, data security, and student privacy. The session also explored hybrid assessment models, regulatory compliance, and strategies to strengthen credibility in digital examinations.

The dialogue concluded with a collective understanding that technology-driven reforms needed to reinforce trust, uphold academic standards, and ensure integrity across India's evolving higher education ecosystem.

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From Administrators to Visionaries:
Redefining the Role of Vice Chancellors in 21st-Century Higher Education

Session Chair

Prof. (Dr.) Jyoti Bindal,
Vice Chancellor, Sri Aurobindo University, Indore

Prof. (Dr.) Amol Gore

Vice Chancellor,
Oriental University, Indore

Prof. (Dr.) Dilip Kumar Patnaik

Vice Chancellor,
Medicaps University, Indore

Prof. (Dr.) Yogesh C Goswami

Vice Chancellor,
Shri Vaishnav Vidyapeeth, Indore

Prof. (Dr.) Anand Misra

Registrar,
Sri Aurobindo University

In today's rapidly evolving higher education landscape, the role of the Vice Chancellor is undergoing a significant transformation. No longer confined to administrative oversight, institutional leadership demanded strategic vision, innovation, global engagement, and ecosystem building. The dialogue brought together eminent Vice Chancellors who reflected on how university leadership was shifting from operational management to visionary change-making.

The session explored how leaders navigated policy reforms, digital transformation, industry integration, internationalization, research excellence, and stakeholder expectations, while sustaining institutional values and academic integrity. The discussion aimed to highlight best practices, leadership challenges, and forward-looking strategies that were shaping the future of Indian higher education.

Articles

Fostering a Sporting Culture in Indian Universities:Pathways to Holistic Education

Prof. (Dr.) Parvinder Singh

Advisor, CIPU & Director, International Academic Affairs, Eco Paryavaran Engineers and Consultants Pvt. Ltd. & Former Vice Chancellor, Lamrin Tech Skills University, Ropar, Punjab

Indian higher education has largely focused on academic attainment while overlooking the equally vital dimensions of physical health and emotional balance. The result has been graduates equipped with knowledge but often lacking teamwork, resilience, and leadership traits that define success in real life. Cultivating a strong sporting culture across universities is, therefore, essential to realize the vision of holistic and inclusive education envisioned in the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.

Sports as a Crucible of Learning

Sports are not simply physical activities; they are laboratories of experiential learning. The playing field teaches values that lectures cannot discipline: cooperation, fair play, and perseverance. Participation in team sports nurtures leadership as well as humility; one learns to follow directions, handle defeat gracefully, and celebrate collective success. These experiences shape responsible and confident individuals.

Integrating sports with academics also strengthens intellectual performance. Global studies consistently highlight that regular physical activity enhances memory, focus, and emotional stability. Students who play sports are often better at managing stress and multitasking. Thus, universities that consciously bridge the divide between academic and athletic learning take a decisive step toward creating more balanced and capable graduates.

Challenges in the Present System

Despite India's long-standing association with physical culture from yoga to indigenous games like kabaddi and kho-kho, sports in higher education continue to occupy a peripheral role. In many institutions, sports are viewed as extracurricular add-ons rather than integral components of learning. Limited infrastructure, insufficient funding, inadequate coaching support, and a lack of structured incentives discourage both participation and excellence.

Another major challenge lies in the rigid academic schedules that often clash with sporting events. Student-athletes are forced to choose between academic success and athletic pursuit, leading to the loss of potential talent. As a result, both the individuals and the institutions miss opportunities to develop a healthy, vibrant, and engaged student community.

Policy Directions and Emerging Practices

The NEP 2020 represents a turning point by emphasizing sports-integrated learning and positioning physical education as a key element of holistic development. Many universities are responding positively to this call. Some have introduced credit-based sports courses, mandatory fitness modules, and sports analytics electives that blend technology, data, and management with athletics.

Many private Institutions such as Lovely Professional University, Chandigarh University, and several central universities have established dedicated departments, athlete scholarships, and interdisciplinary programs connecting sports with psychology, media, and business studies. The Fit India and Khelo India University Games initiatives have further encouraged collaboration, provided funding, and promoted grassroots participation, helping universities create structured sporting ecosystems.

Leadership, Inclusion, and Student Well-being

A thriving sporting culture directly contributes to leadership and inclusion. Campus sports clubs, inter-departmental leagues, and annual festivals teach students to plan, organize, and lead skills that complement classroom learning. Moreover, sports transcend social barriers. They unite students across caste, class, and gender lines, nurturing a shared sense of identity and belonging.

Women's participation in university sports has improved, yet challenges remain in access, safety, and societal attitudes. Dedicated programs, mentoring, and infrastructural support are needed to ensure gender parity. Likewise, promoting adaptive sports for differently abled students creates a culture of inclusivity and redefines how success and ability are perceived.

Sports also play a crucial role in promoting mental health. Today's university students face intense academic pressures and digital fatigue, often leading to stress and anxiety. Physical activity provides a natural and positive outlet for emotional release. Team sports foster camaraderie and purpose, improving overall well-being and social connectedness on campus.

Linking Sports with Academics and Careers

For a sustained sporting ecosystem, universities must reimagine the academic-sports relationship. Flexible attendance norms, academic credits for athletic achievement, and dual pathways that accommodate sports and studies can transform the current landscape.

Moreover, emerging career opportunities in sports management, analytics, physiotherapy, event coordination, and media can attract students who wish to combine passion with profession. Collaborations with industries, community organizations, and government agencies can provide internships, mentorship, and exposure, thus bridge the gap between campus learning and real-world experience.

Future opportunities

To embed sports deeply into university life, both infrastructure and mindset must evolve. Investments in multipurpose stadiums, training facilities, and fitness centers are necessary, but equally vital is cultivating appreciation for sports within institutional culture. University leadership should form sports councils, recognize athletic achievements with equal prestige as academic awards, and ensure participation opportunities for all students not just elite athletes.

Community partnerships and alumni engagement can further strengthen these initiatives. Annual sports festivals, local tournaments, and corporate sponsorships can help sustain funding and enthusiasm. Technology can be a game-changer through digital tracking, fitness applications, and virtual coaching, especially for smaller or resource-constrained institutions.

A university that views sports as an essential part of learning prepares its students not only for examinations but for life itself. By fostering a sporting culture, Indian universities can nurture graduates who are intellectually alert, emotionally stable, socially conscious, and physically fit the true hallmarks of holistic education.

Holistic education and life skills

The classrooms of the future will extend to the playgrounds, where character is built alongside competence. Sports, therefore, must not remain a supplement to education but stand at its very heart as a living expression of energy, discipline, and harmony that define an educated human being.

INTEGRATING YOGA AND SPORTING CULTURE IN EDUCATION

Prof. (Dr) Nihar Ranjan Biswas

Vice Chancellor,
Sri Balaji Vidyapeeth,
Pillaiyarkuppam, Puducherry

Yogacharya Dr Ananda Balayogi Bhavanani

Professor Yoga Therapy &
Director, Institute of Salutogenesis and Complementary
Medicine (ISCM),
Sri Balaji Vidyapeeth,
(Deemed to be University),
Pillaiyarkuppam, Puducherry

A Youth-Centric Salutogenic Initiative at Sri Balaji Vidyapeeth

Higher education today faces a subtle but serious paradox. While academic opportunities, technology, and infrastructure have expanded dramatically, student well-being has emerged as a growing concern. Rising stress, anxiety, sedentary lifestyles, and performance pressure among youth signal the need for educational models that nurture not only competence but also resilience.
balance and purpose.

Responding to this challenge, Sri Balaji Vidyapeeth (SBV), Puducherry, through its Institute of Salutogenesis and Complementary Medicine (ISCM), has pioneered an innovative integration of Yoga and sporting culture within the university ecosystem. This approach reflects a conscious shift from outcome-driven education to a Salutogenic model, one that actively cultivates health, coherence, and lifelong well-being.

Yoga and Sport: Complementary Pathways, Not Contradictions

Sport has long been valued in education for promoting fitness, discipline, teamwork, and performance excellence. Yoga, rooted in India's classical knowledge systems, complements this culture by addressing dimensions often neglected in competitive environments: mental resilience, emotional regulation, ethical awareness, and self-reflection.

At SBV, Yoga is not positioned as an alternative to sport, but as a refining and strengthening force. Yogic principles such as samatvam (equanimity) and karmasu kaushalam (skilful action) help students engage in sport with clarity, composure, and balance. Athletic participation thus becomes a conscious developmental journey rather than a source of stress.

Supporting Performance, Preventing Burnout

Scientific evidence increasingly supports the role of Yoga in enhancing flexibility, balance, coordination, strength, and neuromuscular efficiency—key factors for athletic performance and injury prevention. Through ISCM, SBV integrates Yoga as both:

- a foundation for student wellness, and
- a performance-supportive discipline for sport.

Structured training in āsana, prāṇāyāma, and mindful movement equips students to meet physical demands while emphasizing recovery, alignment, and breath awareness. This holistic approach promotes sustainable participation and reduces burnout an increasingly important concern among young athletes.

Mental Resilience and Emotional Well-Being

Competitive academic and sporting environments can place significant psychological demands on students. Yoga offers practical tools for self-regulation through practices that enhance focus, emotional stability, stress management, and self-awareness. Students trained in yogic methods demonstrate improved concentration, confidence, emotional intelligence, and healthier interpersonal relationships.

ISCM's youth-oriented programs frame Yoga as a self-regulatory life skill, empowering students to face both success and failure with resilience and perspective.

Yoga as Wellness and Yogasana as Sport

A distinctive feature of SBV's model is the dual integration of Yoga:

- as a discipline for wellness and positive health, and
- as a Yogasana sport, aligned with national sporting standards.

Through formal collaboration with Yogasana Bharat, the nationally recognized federation for Yogasana sport, SBV provides students with structured pathways for competitive participation. This ensures standardized training, ethical practice, safety, and national-level recognition, bridging traditional yogic culture with contemporary sporting aspirations.

Inclusive Integration across University Life

Yoga at SBV is embedded across:
- curricular programs,
- co-curricular initiatives, and
- extracurricular platforms, including Yogasana sport and wellness activities.

This layered integration ensures inclusivity, allowing students of diverse abilities and interests to participate meaningfully. Yoga thus becomes a unifying element of campus life rather than a niche activity.

A Salutogenic Vision Aligned with NEP 2020

ISCM's work reflects a broader institutional commitment to Salutogenesis the creation of positive health. This vision aligns closely with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, which emphasizes wellness, sports-integrated education, and Indian Knowledge Systems as pillars of holistic development.

By embedding Yoga within formal educational structures, SBV demonstrates how universities can move beyond fragmented wellness initiatives toward coherent, value-based educational reform.

Conclusion

Sri Balaji Vidyapeeth's integration of Yoga and sporting culture represents a forward-looking educational model, one that balances performance with well-being, competition with consciousness, and achievement with ethical grounding.

Through the Institute of Salutogenesis and Complementary Medicine, SBV continues to exemplify how universities can nurture healthy, resilient, self-aware, and purpose-driven youth, fulfilling education's highest mandate in the contemporary world.

Fostering a Sporting Culture in Indian Universities: Pathways to Holistic Education

Prof. (Dr.) Yajulu Medury

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

(Visalakshi Talakokula1, Sandeep Yechuri1 and Priya Mahadevappa1)

Today's generations started looking the world through a small screen, from studies to socializing, profession to passion. This shift has led to an increasingly sedentary lifestyle, where there is nothing much activity outside to smell the soil as the personal and professional both lives are just revolving around the gadgets. Even the sports/games are digitally played further creating a fragile generation which contradicts with the world we are dreaming about. The result is alarming with the following concerns,

- Academic Stress and Burnout
- Physical and mental health issues
- Social Isolation and Poor Interpersonal Skills
- Low Self-Confidence and Motivation
- Sedentary Lifestyle Habits
- Lack of Life Skills and Leadership Qualities

As articulated in our Mahindra University's vision "To educate future citizens for and of a better World", we underscore a commitment to education that extends beyond disciplinary knowledge to the holistic development of individuals capable of contributing meaningfully to create a better world.

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As articulated in our Mahindra University's vision "To educate future citizens for and of a better World", we underscore a commitment to education that extends beyond disciplinary knowledge to the holistic development of individuals capable of contributing meaningfully to create a better world.

Adding Sports education into curriculum merely gives the knowledge of sports, which is not enough. We at Mahindra University embed physical activity into our institutional culture, where sport becomes a way of life on campus reflecting in our daily routines, shared values, and collective participation. It transcends formal coursework and fosters lifelong habits of health, teamwork, and resilience. A culturally ingrained sporting environment encourages voluntary engagement, inclusivity, and sustained well-being, ensuring that physical activity is not perceived as an obligation but as an essential component of holistic practice.

Some of the unique practices inculcated at Mahindra University:

Fraternity as whole: As a best practice at Mahindra University, the promotion of sports and physical activity extends beyond students actively engaging faculty and staff members as flag bearers of the sporting culture. Their enthusiastic participation reinforces the idea that sport is a lifelong pursuit and an integral part of well-being. By leading through example, faculty and staff help create an inclusive, vibrant campus environment where physical activity is embedded in everyday institutional life rather than confined to student programs alone.

Not just involve but inspire: Mahindra University has developed world-class sports infrastructure that reflects its strong commitment to athletic excellence and participation. A key highlight of this initiative is the India's First "FIFA Quality" Certified Football Pitch and a 400-meter running track inside the campus along with other indoor and our door sporting facilities.

Such state-of-the-art facilities not only motivate students, faculty and staff to actively engage in sports but also strengthen alumni connection reinforcing a sustainable and aspirational sporting culture on campus. Every effort is a testament to the university's unwavering commitment to fostering a vibrant sporting culture and providing world-class sports facilities to its students.

An active club for each sport: To give a wide range of choices to students, faculty and staff, we have more than 16 active sports clubs at Mahindra University, led by students and mentored by faculty members. Catering to 100s of intra and inter university sports events where the nations sports enthusiasts are invited and honoured.

At Mahindra University, sports are viewed not as a matter of regulatory compliance or a peripheral activity, but as a deeply embedded institutional culture ingrained in the very fabric of the university. This cultural approach ensures that physical activity and sport are woven into everyday campus life, influencing attitudes, behaviours, and shared values across the university community. When sport is internalized at this level, participation becomes voluntary, inclusive, and sustained rather than obligatory. Such an environment fosters a sense of belonging, collective identity, and well-being, encouraging students, faculty, and staff to embrace sport as a lifelong pursuit. By transcending compliance-driven models, the university cultivates a vibrant sporting ecosystem that supports holistic development, resilience, and balanced living, thereby reinforcing its broader educational mission.

We continue **"To educate future citizens for and of a better World"**

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Global Citizenship Alliance:
Preparing Students for a Shared Future

Prof. (Dr.) Reza Fakhari

President & CEO,
Global Citizenship Alliance, USA

In a world defined by unprecedented interconnectedness, students everywhere must learn not only about global issues but as participants in an interdependent human community. The **Global Citizenship Alliance (GCA)** is a leader in global citizenship education, empowering university students and educators to deepen their understanding of our shared challenges, broaden their perspectives, and act responsibly in a world where local actions have global consequences.

What Is Global Citizenship, and Why It Matters

At its core, global citizenship refers to recognizing ourselves as part of a broader human community, one in which rights and responsibilities extend beyond borders, and where an individual's identity embraces both local roots and global awareness. It is rooted in respect for diversity, human rights, commitment to justice and sustainability, and a willingness to work collaboratively across cultural and national boundaries.

In today's turbulent world, marked by climate change, political polarization, economic inequality, mass migration, and rapid technological change, graduates need more than academic knowledge. They must be equipped with the **mindsets and competencies** to engage with complexity, listen across differences, bridge divides, and act with ethical purpose. This is what global citizenship education strives to achieve, and it is central to GCA's mission.

GCA's Mission and Approach

Established as an independent nonprofit in 2015, the Global Citizenship Alliance traces its roots to earlier global citizenship initiatives associated with the renowned **Salzburg Global.** Today, it offers one of the most systematic and inclusive global citizenship education programs in the world, engaging colleges, universities, faculty, and students across continents.

GCA's mission is to **prepare students for work, life, and citizenship in an increasingly interdependent world in the 21st Century.** This involves helping them develop the knowledge, values, and skills that make global engagement meaningful and constructive. Through its immersive programs, GCA enables participants to:

- Understand how local and global systems interlink,
- Examine complex global challenges, from human rights to sustainability,
- Practice dialogue and intercultural collaboration,
- Build empathy and ethical leadership, and
- Translate global learning into responsible action in their communities and careers.

The Power of Immersive Learning in Salzburg

One of the most distinctive features of the GCA experience is its intensive, week-long residential seminars held at Schloss Leopoldskron, a historic 18th-century castle in Salzburg, Austria. Perched on a peaceful estate near the city's cultural heart, the setting combines historic gravitas with an atmosphere conducive to deep reflection and dialogue.

Unlike traditional academic programs that may rely on lectures and exams, GCA seminars are total immersive experiences. Students and faculty live and learn together, engaging in structured dialogue, collaborative problem-solving, project and career mentoring, and critical reflection.

Lectures and discussions explore global issues from multiple perspectives, and excursions and field activities often bring these themes to life in the vibrant international context of Salzburg, including a visit to Mauthausen Memorial Concentration Camp.

This immersive approach fosters not only intellectual insight but *transformation*. Participants develop self-awareness, intercultural sensitivity, and the confidence to navigate real-world complexity, qualities that cannot be taught as abstract concepts but must be cultivated through shared experience.

Global Citizenship and Career Preparedness

In today's global marketplace, employers and professional communities value graduates who can operate effectively across borders, cultures, and disciplines. The competencies developed through GCA's seminars, such as global perspective, critical thinking, ethical judgment, collaborative leadership, and cross-cultural communication, are precisely the attributes that distinguish competitive candidates in international careers.

Whether entering business, public policy, education, technology, or civil society, students with global citizenship training bring a broader perspective and expanded problem-solving capacity. They understand how economic trends, political dynamics, and cultural forces intersect, and they are better positioned to lead innovation, build partnerships, and contribute to solutions that matter.

A Special Opportunity for Indian Students

India, as the world's largest democracy and one of its most dynamic societies, is home to millions of young learners whose futures will be shaped by global interdependence. Indian students who participate in GCA seminars gain a distinctive edge: they learn in a truly international cohort, engage with peers from diverse regions and disciplines, and gain firsthand experience in collaborative dialogue and multicultural understanding.

Exposure to a week-long immersive program at Schloss Leopoldskron not only enriches students' intellectual horizons but also strengthens their cultural literacy and global confidence, assets that resonate deeply in an interconnected professional and civic landscape.

Conclusion: A Step Toward Shared Futures

The Global Citizenship Alliance stands at the forefront of preparing the next generation of leaders for a world that cannot be understood or shaped from within single national perspectives. By combining rigorous intellectual inquiry, immersive cultural experience, and ethical engagement, GCA's Seminars offer students a transformative journey toward global awareness, personal growth, and professional readiness. For CIPU member universities and their students, this represents not just an international experience — but a strategic investment in global capability and shared futures.

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Building Research-Driven Universities

Prof. (Dr.) Raviraja N. Seetharam

Vice Chancellor,
Chandigarh University, Mohali, Punjab

Research-driven universities flourish not simply by achieving high metrics, but by creating a well-designed ecosystem. This ecosystem seamlessly integrates infrastructure, people, policy, and partnerships, all of which work together to advance scientific understanding, encourage innovation, enhance education, and address complicated societal problems.

Transitioning from Teaching-Focused to Research-Centric Culture

Universities across the globe are increasingly moving away from a model focused solely on teaching to one that places research and innovation at the heart of academic life. In this evolving context, research is no longer an additional task—it becomes a primary force behind learning, discovery, and societal progress. Chandigarh University demonstrates this shift by systematically cultivating a research-oriented environment. Key initiatives include establishing advanced laboratories, adopting digital research tools, creating spaces for collaboration and start-up incubation, and launching industry-partnered centres and Centres of Excellence in emerging disciplines.

Recognized as India's leading private university by QS Asia for three consecutive years and among the top 20 NIRF institutions, Chandigarh University has made remarkable strides in just 13 years since its inception. The university excels in research output, patent applications, and interdisciplinary collaboration spanning engineering, biotechnology, management, humanities, and law. With partnerships involving over 530 international universities, Chandigarh University promotes joint research, global exchanges, and access to international grants. Its close relationships with industry ensure that research is translated into practical, scalable solutions.

Institutional Priorities, Infrastructure, and Human Resources

The foundation of a research-centric university lies in strong institutional priorities that embed research at the core of its mission. Essential infrastructure, such as modern laboratories, digital research tools, and collaborative spaces, provides the necessary support for high-quality research. Technology business incubators and a dynamic start-up ecosystem further encourage innovation by offering entrepreneurs mentorship, resources, and networking opportunities, helping transform research breakthroughs into successful ventures.

Equally important is the investment in talented faculty, researchers, and motivated students, who collectively drive the institution's research agenda. When institutional priorities, infrastructure, and human capital are aligned, a vibrant and impactful research ecosystem is established.

Policy, Incentive, and Funding Mechanisms

Effective policies, incentives, and diverse funding mechanisms form the backbone of a research-intensive university. Clear policies set expectations, incentives encourage active research participation, and multiple funding streams ensure the ongoing progress of research and innovation. Together, these elements create an environment that supports the advancement of research and the achievement of significant, long-term results.

Policy

A robust policy framework is vital for building a research-intensive university. Supportive policies provide clarity, streamline processes, and guarantee that faculty and researchers have the autonomy needed for high-quality scholarship. Institutions must clearly define research priorities, set performance benchmarks, offer transparent guidelines for funding and publication, and establish straightforward procedures for approvals and resource requests. Additionally, universities should provide mentorship and professional development opportunities while fostering a collaborative and innovative environment.

Incentives

Both monetary and non-monetary incentives play a crucial role in driving research and innovation. Financial rewards may include payments or reimbursements for publishing, filing patents, and securing research grants, often covering fees, travel, or project costs. Non-financial recognition, such as awards and peer acknowledgment, enhances motivation, visibility, and self-esteem and can lead to new collaborations and leadership roles.

Funding Mechanisms

A sustainable research environment relies on a varied portfolio of funding sources, including intramural grants, seed funding, external grants, and industry-supported projects. Intramural and seed grants support early-career researchers in exploring new ideas and building capacity for larger projects. External grants and industry collaborations enable wide-ranging, interdisciplinary research with significant commercial relevance. Supported by comprehensive policies and well-structured incentives, these resources help research thrive and contribute meaningfully to both institutional and national objectives.

Research and Innovation Verticals

The research ecosystem encompasses several key verticals, each supported by important sub-activities:

Scientific Publications: Producing journal articles, conference papers, books, and book chapters.

Patents and Technology Transfer: Managing patent lifecycles, executing technology transfer agreements, and providing commercialisation support.

Grants and Consultancy: Securing research funding, obtaining CSR grants, and undertaking consultancy projects.

Doctoral and Postdoctoral Studies: Overseeing PhD and postdoctoral programmes.

Technology Business Incubator: Supporting business incubation, strengthening the start-up ecosystem, and offering funding and mentorship.

AI-Enabled Data Management: Ensuring effective data management, competitive intelligence, and automated incentive processing.

Summary and Conclusion

Research-driven universities place research at the centre of their mission, building robust infrastructure and fostering partnerships to stimulate innovation and address societal challenges. Worldwide, institutions are shifting from teaching-focused to research-centric models, making inquiry and problem-solving fundamental to academic advancement for both faculty and students. The key success factors are clear institutional priorities, state-of-the-art facilities, a collaborative ecosystem, and ongoing investment in skilled personnel. Leading universities, such as Chandigarh University, exemplify this approach by integrating research deeply into their core operations.

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Webinars

Research Data Management in Indian Universities: Best Practices, Tools and Policy Frameworks

13th October 2025 | 03:30 PM – 05:00 PM (IST)

Moderator:

Prof. (Dr.) Sandeep Sancheti,
Vice President,
Research Relations and Academic Affairs, Elsevier India

Distinguished Panelists

Prof. (Dr.) Gautam Menon

Dean,
Research, Ashoka University, Sonipat

Prof. (Dr.) Bhuvnesh Kumar

Dean, Research,
Sharda University, Greater Noida

Prof. (Dr.) Shalini Kapoor

Director,
R&D Cell, SGT University, Gurugram

Prof. (Dr.) Sarita Sachdeva

Executive Director & Dean,
Research, Manav Rachna International
Institute of Research and Studies,
Faridabad

Prof. (Dr.) Sanjay Sharma

Dean, Research,
JECRC University, Jaipur

The webinar focused on the growing importance of structured Research Data Management (RDM) in enhancing academic integrity, transparency, and research impact. The distinguished panel shared insights on developing institutional RDM policies, implementing Data Management Plans (DMPs), and adopting FAIR data principles to ensure data is findable, accessible, interoperable, and reusable. Discussions emphasized the need for robust digital infrastructure, secure repositories, metadata standards, and stronger collaboration between research offices, libraries, and IT departments. Panelists also highlighted compliance with funding agency requirements and evolving data protection frameworks, stressing that effective data governance is now central to research excellence and global competitiveness.

YouTube Link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mftlqoH6g4E&t=6s

Global Citizenship Education for Faculty & Students, Concept & Experience Sharing

22 January 2026 | 11:30 AM – 12:45 PM (IST)
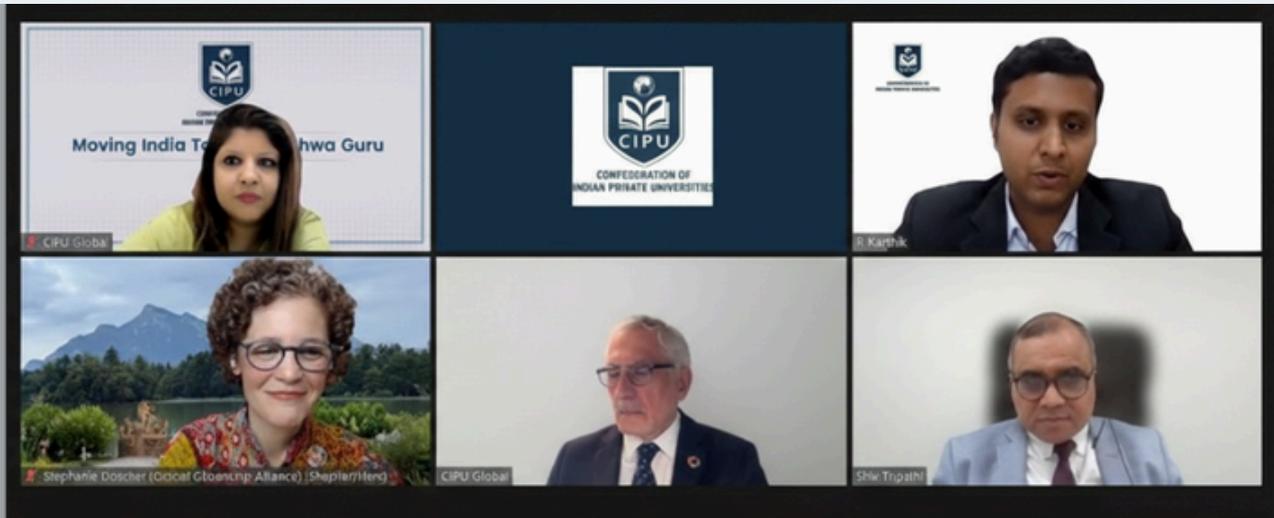
The Confederation of Indian Private Universities (CIPU), in partnership with the Global Citizenship Alliance, organized a globally anchored webinar focused on advancing Global Citizenship Education within Indian higher education institutions. As universities increasingly prepared students and faculty for an interconnected and interdependent world, the session explored the conceptual foundations and practical applications of global citizenship education.

The webinar featured distinguished international thought leaders and academic administrators, including **Reza Fakhari, President** & CEO of GCA (USA); **Stephanie Doscher**, **Senior Fellow**, GCA and Executive Board Member, COIL Connect; and **Shiv Tripathi, Dean** at the Berlin School of Business and Innovation. Participants gained firsthand insights into GCA's immersive Global Citizenship Seminars conducted at the historic Schloss Leopoldskron Palace in Salzburg, Austria. The discussion highlighted curriculum integration, SDG alignment, COIL-based collaboration, and experiential learning models that strengthened internationalization strategies.

New Initiatives

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"VIKSIT BHARAT YUVA CONNECT"

The Confederation of Indian Private Universities (CIPU) is proud to partner with the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India, for the nationwide Yuva Connect initiative, an ambitious engagement series across universities to catalyse youth participation in the vision of Viksit Bharat.

About Yuva Connect

Yuva Connect is designed to sensitise students to the aspirations, opportunities, and responsibilities embedded in the Viksit Bharat roadmap, while actively soliciting their ideas, policy suggestions, and innovative solutions for India's growth journey. The sessions aim to transform campuses into dialogue platforms where young minds engage with national priorities, economic transformation, technological leadership, sustainability, governance reform, and social inclusion.

Yuva Connect sessions were held in the following institutions:

- Renaissance University
- MGM Medical College and Hospital
- Sri Venkateswara Vedic University
- Sarala Birla University
- Symbiosis University Of Applied Sciences, Indore
- Bharatiya Engineering Science & Technology Innovation University
- Auro University
- Assam Downtown University

- Vivekananda Global University
- BML Munjal University
- Babu Banarasi Das University
- Sri Sri University
- Ajeenkya D Y Patil University
- DBS Global University
- AMET University
- Atlas Skilltech University
- K R Mangalam University
- Sri Balaji University, Pune

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Host University

AMITY UNIVERSITY GURUGRAM

ACADEMIC-INDUSTRY ROUNDTABLE ON

CSR–Driven Academic–Industry Partnerships for Research, Innovation and Institutional Growth

📅 **10th April 2026** | 🕐 **10:30am–1:30pm**

Venue - Amity University, Gurugram

About the Initiative

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) offers a powerful and sustainable mechanism to bridge the gap between academia and industry. By aligning CSR objectives with institutional priorities, universities and industries can jointly drive research excellence, innovation, capacity building, and long-term institutional growth.

This round table aims to bring together university leaders, industry representatives, and CSR decision-makers to explore meaningful, practical, and scalable models of academic–industry collaboration.

Key Focus Areas

- CSR support for strengthening **research infrastructure, laboratories, and centres of excellence**
- **Industry-funded research projects** and collaborative innovation hubs
- CSR-backed initiatives for **training, startups, incubation centres, and entrepreneurship**
- **Skill development programmes** to enhance student employability
- **Research and outreach projects** delivering measurable societal and community impact
- Alignment with **NEP 2020** and national development priorities

Who should Participate?

Chancellors/Vice Chancellors/ Deans/Research Directors/CXOs/CSR & HR Heads

For Registration, Please Contact Ms. Saloni

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Welcome Our New Members

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Ajeenkya D Y Patil University	Maharashtra
SRM Institute Of Science and Technology,	Tamil Nadu
GLA University	Uttar Pradesh
Vishwakarma University	Maharashtra
AURO University	Gujarat
Sparsh Himalaya University	Uttarakhand
Assam down town University	Assam
Vivekananda Global University	Rajasthan
Chandigarh University	Punjab
Asian International University	Manipur
Babu Banarasi Das University (BBDU)	Uttar Pradesh
Jagran Lakecity University	Madhya Pradesh
Sandip University	Maharashtra

About CIPU

The Confederation of Indian Private Universities (CIPU) is a mission-driven, **not-for-profit** organisation established to champion the voice, visibility, and vitality of India's Private Universities. Born out of deep consultation and strategic dialogues with academic and policy leaders, CIPU took shape through landmark engagements beginning with a Visioning Workshop in Washington D.C. in 2022 and followed by a pivotal national convening of over 70 leading private universities in Pune in 2023.

CIPU envisions positioning India as the knowledge capital of the world, reigniting its civilizational role as a Vishwa Guru in the 21st century. Anchored in this vision, CIPU works at the intersection of policy, practice, and partnerships to empower private universities and elevate their role in shaping national and global education agendas.

Through sustained engagement with government, academia, industry, and international associations, CIPU advocates for enabling policies, fosters institutional collaboration, and promotes the internationalization of Indian higher education.

CIPU also serves as a dynamic platform for academic leaders to exchange ideas, co-create solutions, and drive excellence. Its member institutions come together to share best practices, engage in consensus-building, and address emerging challenges in a rapidly evolving educational ecosystem.

Together, we strive to build a future-ready, globally respected, and socially impactful higher education system for India.

Thank you

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