



# 19<sup>th</sup> FICCI HIGHER EDUCATION SUMMIT 2024

Global Conference & Exhibition

**“Changing Paradigms of Higher Education in  
The Global Landscape”**

October 18-19, 2024 | New Delhi

## CONFERENCE PROGRAM

### Day 1, October 18, 2024 (Friday)

Venue:- Dr Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi

8:30 am – 9:45 am	Registration
9.45 am – 11:10 am	Inaugural Session
9:45 am – 9:50 am	Welcome Address Ms Jyoti Vij, Director General, FICCI
9:50 am – 9:57 am	Theme Address Dr Vidya Yeravdekar, Chair-HE Committee & Pro Chancellor- Symbiosis International University
9:57 am – 10:05 am	Special Address Ms Lindy Cameron CB OBE, British High Commissioner to the Republic of India
10:05 am – 10:10 am	Release of FICCI EY Knowledge Report 2024 & FICCI KPMG Report on Alternate Financing 2024
10:10 am – 10:35am	Presentation of 10 <sup>th</sup> FICCI Higher Education Excellence Awards
10:35 am – 10:50 am	Inaugural Address Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Minister of Education, Government of India*
10:50 am – 11:55 am	Vote of Thanks FICCI
10:55 am – 11:00 am	Inauguration of Exhibition
11:00 am – 11:30 am	Tea Break

11:30 am – 11:45 am	Special Address Shri K Sanjay Murthy, Secretary, Department of Higher Education, Government of India *
---------------------	--



11:45 am – 01:00 pm	<b>Panel Discussion 1</b>
	<p><b>Research Collaboration and Harmonious Innovation for Global Thought Leadership</b></p> <p>The world faces an ever-growing array of complex challenges, from climate change and global health to technological disruptions and social inequalities. Fragmented research efforts struggle to keep pace with this complex reality. The traditional siloed approach to research, where disciplines operate independently, limits its potential to address these pressing issues. By fostering collaboration across disciplines, universities can leverage diverse perspectives and expertise to generate innovative solutions.</p> <p>This session will explore how universities can evolve their research strategies to achieve global thought leadership in addressing complex challenges.</p> <p>Some of the specific discussion points in the session will entail the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interdisciplinary and translational research fostering collaborations across diverse academic fields.</li> <li>• Ensuring research findings have a tangible impact on real-world problems and societal needs.</li> <li>• Exploring the role of open-access research platforms and citizen science initiatives.</li> <li>• Strategies for motivating and measuring the effectiveness of interdisciplinary collaborations and ensuring long-term sustainability of these collaborative efforts.</li> <li>• Building Global Research Networks and Partnerships for forming strategic alliances with industries, governments, and international organizations.</li> <li>• Integrating Emerging Technologies like artificial intelligence, big data analytics, and blockchain into Research to Accelerate Innovation.</li> </ul>
11:45 am – 11:53 am	<b>Presentation on FICCI EY Knowledge Report 2024</b> <b>Dr. Avantika Tomar, Partner, EY-Parthenon</b>
11:53 am – 1:00 pm  <i>(Each panelist will be given 7-8 minutes time slot to speak)</i>	Speakers:- <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Dr. Anil Kashyap</b>, President and Chancellor, NICMAR University</li> <li>2. <b>Prof. V.N. Rajasekharan Pillai</b>, Vice-Chancellor, Somaiya Vidyavihar University</li> <li>3. <b>Dr. Rajkumar Singh</b>, Head, Research &amp; Development, Bharat Forge</li> </ol>



	<p>4. <b>Prof. Varvara Nazrova</b>, Head &amp; Associate Professor, St. Petersburg School of Economics and Management, HSE University</p> <p>5. <b>Dr. Ketan Kotecha</b>, Dean, Faculty of Engineering, Symbiosis International University</p> <p><b>Moderator:- Dr. S. Sundar Manoharan</b>, Director General, Pandit Deendayal Energy University</p> <p><b>Q &amp; A</b></p>
<b>1:00 pm – 1:45 pm</b>	<b>Lunch Break</b>
<b>1:45 pm – 2:00 pm</b>	<b>Special Address</b> <b>Dr Aleks Subic</b> , Vice-Chancellor and Chief Executive, Aston University
<b>2:00 pm - 3:15 pm</b>	<b>Panel Discussion 2</b>
	<p><b>Internationalization of Higher Education to Build Global Linkages</b></p> <p>In today's interconnected world, the internationalization of education is reshaping the higher education landscape. Institutions across the globe are evolving into dynamic hubs of global learning and research, driven by international collaborations, the establishment of international branch campuses, joint degrees, and vibrant student and faculty exchange programs. These initiatives are crucial for building a competitive, innovative, and globally responsive educational ecosystem.</p> <p>This panel session will explore the multifaceted approaches to internationalizing education, examining the strategic benefits, challenges, and opportunities inherent in fostering global partnerships.</p> <p>The discussion will entail the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establishment and management of international branch offices, the strategic goals of cross-border educational initiatives, and how they benefit both the host country and the home institution.</li> <li>• Design, implementation, and outcomes of joint, dual, and twin degree programs, including how these initiatives create unique opportunities for students and foster global competency and cross-cultural skills.</li> <li>• Global research collaborations to help drive innovation, foster knowledge exchange, and address pressing global challenges, while enhancing the research profiles of participating institutions.</li> <li>• Importance of international faculty and student exchanges in enriching the learning environment, enhancing cross-cultural understanding, and preparing students for global careers.</li> <li>• Best practices for embedding internationalization into the institutional strategy, including leadership development,</li> </ul>



	<p>governance, and the creation of inclusive, equitable, and sustainable international partnerships.</p> <p>Speakers:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Smt. Neeta Prasad</b>, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Education, Government of India</li> <li>2. <b>Prof. Francis Ewusie Nunoo</b>, Deputy Director General, Ghana Tertiary Education Commission</li> <li>3. <b>Mr Manoj Kumar</b>, CMD, EdCIL</li> <li>4. <b>Dr. Andrew Atherton</b>, VP International and Engagement, University of Southampton</li> <li>5. <b>Prof. Raghunathan Rengaswamy</b>, Dean, Global Engagement, IIT Madras</li> <li>6. <b>Prof. Akshay Dvivedi</b>, Dean Sponsored Research &amp; Industrial Consultancy, IIT Roorkee</li> </ol> <p><b>Moderator:- Dr. Vidya Yeravdekar</b>, Chair, FICCI Higher Education Committee &amp; Pro-chancellor, Symbiosis International University</p> <p><b>Q &amp; A</b></p>
<b>3:15 pm – 3:45 pm</b>	<b>Tea Break</b>
<b>3:45 pm – 4:00 pm</b>	<p><b>Special Address</b></p> <p><b>Shri. S K Barnwal</b>, Additional Secretary, Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Government of India</p>
<b>4:00 pm – 5:15 pm</b>	<b>Panel Discussion 3</b>
	<p><b>Building a Thriving Higher Education Ecosystem with Effective Governance &amp; Faculty</b></p> <p>Our institutions of higher education function as complex ecosystems where success hinges on two interconnected pillars: exceptional faculty, and effective governance. They intertwine to build a robust ecosystem of learning, teaching, and innovation. Effective faculty development ensures faculty members are well-equipped to educate and guide students. Meanwhile, strong governance provides a framework for collaboration, accountability, and continuous improvement.</p> <p>This session will explore innovative approaches to faculty development and best practices in institutional governance. This session will also touch on the importance of fostering diversity and inclusion within faculty roles and governance structures, ensuring a wider range of perspectives that contribute to decision-making.</p>



	<p>The discussion shall entail the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Equipping faculty with the skills and resources to excel in teaching, research, and mentorship, fostering a culture of innovation, adaptability, and student-centricity.</li> <li>• Creating transparent and inclusive structures that empower faculty, promote responsiveness, and guide our institutions toward thought leadership.</li> <li>• Strategies for evaluating the effectiveness of faculty development programs and governance framework, ensuring continuous improvement.</li> <li>• Developing visionary and futuristic leaders who are strongly inclined towards embracing change and adopting radical and transformative ideas for institutional augmentation.</li> <li>• Role of digital solutions such as learning management systems, data analytics, and virtual collaboration platforms in supporting faculty development, improving transparency in governance, and foster a more agile, responsive institution.</li> </ul> <p>Speakers:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Prof. Basuthkar Jagdeeshwar Rao</b>, Vice Chancellor, University of Hyderabad</li> <li>2. <b>Dr. Sekar Viswanathan</b>, Vice President , Vellore Institute of Technology</li> <li>3. <b>Prof. Rajita Kulkarni</b>, President, Sri Sri University</li> <li>4. <b>Prof. Ajay Batish</b>, Dean Partnerships and Accreditation, and Deputy Director, Thapar Institute of Engineering &amp; Technology</li> <li>5. <b>Dr. Janette Muir</b>, Vice Provost – Academic Affairs, George Mason University</li> <li>6. <b>Dr Balakrishnan Shankar</b>, Dean, Engineering, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham</li> </ol> <p><b>Moderator:- Dr Rajan Saxena</b>, Advisor, FICCI HE Committee &amp; Former VC, NMIMS (Deemed University) and Strategic Advisor, Aditya Group of Institutions</p> <p><b>Q &amp; A</b></p>
<p><b>5:15 pm – 6:15 pm</b></p>	<p><b>Panel Discussion 4</b></p>
	<p><b>Reimagining Learning Through the Tech-Edu Alliance</b></p> <p>The way we learn is changing. Traditional educational institutions have been the cornerstone of knowledge for centuries, but new technology-</p>



सत्यमेव जयते

Ministry of Education  
Government of India



enabled companies are emerging, offering innovative ways to access information and skills. This session explores the concept of digital democratization of knowledge, where technology breaks down barriers and empowers everyone to learn, regardless of background or location.

The future of education lies in collaboration, not competition. Traditional universities have a wealth of experience, established faculty, and a formidable reputation for in-depth learning. Tech companies bring innovation, accessibility, and a focus on engaging, interactive learning formats. By working together, they can create a powerful ecosystem that caters to the diverse needs of learners in the digital age.

This panel session will discuss the following:

- Use of technology in enhancing the traditional classroom experience, personalize learning, and make education more accessible for everyone.
- Strategies for forging partnerships between traditional universities and EdTech companies.
- Highlighting the strengths of blended learning that provides access to a wider range of educational resources and the development of essential digital skills.
- Role of generative AI and learning applications in digital transformation of education, offering personalized learning, on-demand learning experiences, adaptive learning paths, and real-time feedback.
- Role of universities and EdTech platforms in offering accredited, flexible and modular courses such as micro credentials and certifications for continuous learning.

Speakers:-

1. **Shri Govind Jaiswal**, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Education, Government of India
2. **Mr. Nitin Kukreja**, Co-Chair, FICCI New Education Providers Sub-Committee & CEO, Allen Career Institute
3. **Mr. Raghav Gupta**, MD India & Asia Pacific, Coursera
4. **Mr. PP Sunil Acharya**, India & South Asia Lead - Education, Space, NPO, Channels & Alliances, Amazon Web Services
5. **Mr. Anuj Vishwakarma**, President - Higher-ed Programs, upGrad
6. **Mr. Varun Dhamija**, Chief Digital Strategy Officer, TimesPro

**Moderator:- Mr. Hemant Sahal**, Founder & CEO, Digii



	Q & A
7:00 pm onwards	Cocktail & Networking Dinner at FICCI Federation House, New Delhi

## **Day 2, October 19, 2024 (Saturday)**

Venue:- FICCI Federation House, New Delhi

8:30 am – 10:30 am	<b>B2B Meetings</b>
10:30 am – 10:45 am	<b>Special Address</b> Dr. Nicolas Patrici, Director, OBREAL – Global
10:45 am – 12:00 noon	<b>Panel Discussion 5</b>
	<p><b>One Planet, Shared Future: Role of Universities</b></p> <p>Our planet faces the existential threats of, a warming climate, dwindling resources, and a burgeoning population. These interconnected issues threaten the environment and our very way of life. Sustainability is not a local issue; it is a global imperative requiring international collaboration, knowledge sharing, and collective action. These challenges endanger our environment, our livelihood, businesses, and society.</p> <p>This panel will discuss the role of universities and higher educational institutions in promoting sustainability and working towards a unified path of a sustainable future for all.</p> <p>Some of the key discussion points will be on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The socio-economic consequences of environmental degradation and the impact of universities in addressing the same.</li> <li>• Role of universities, government and industry in promoting the SDGs.</li> <li>• Challenges and opportunities associated with transitioning to a more sustainable future.</li> <li>• Embedding sustainability across curricula and research agendas encourage students to think critically about environmental, social, and economic impacts.</li> <li>• Role of global networks and global diplomacy in fostering cross-border collaborations and joint initiatives to accelerate the development of sustainable technologies and policies, and contribute to a shared global strategy for sustainability.</li> </ul>



	<p>Speakers:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Prof. Ananya Mukherjee</b>, Vice Chancellor, Shiv Nadar University</li> <li>2. <b>Ms. Alison Barrett MBE</b>, Country Director, British Council India</li> <li>3. <b>Dr Narayana Sabhahit</b>, Pro Vice Chancellor, Technology &amp; Science, Manipal Academy of Higher Education</li> <li>4. <b>Dr. Veronica Donahue</b>, Associate Dean, Advanced Academic Programs, Johns Hopkins University</li> <li>5. <b>Prof. Bhavani Rao R</b>, Dean, School of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham</li> <li>6. <b>Ms. Joyce Poan</b>, Chief, Education Sector, UNESCO</li> <li>7. <b>Mr. Pradeep Rangi</b>, Certified Fellow of IRM (Level 5) and Chief Risk Officer, Airtel Payments Bank</li> <li>8. <b>Ms. Deepti Vij</b>, Director, Talent Acquisition and Diversity, Honeywell</li> </ol> <p><b>Moderator:- Mr. Nick Booker</b>, Co-Founder, IndoGenius</p> <p><b>Q &amp; A</b></p>
<p><b>12:00 pm – 12:30pm</b></p>	<p><b>Tea Break</b></p>
<p><b>12:30 noon – 1:45 pm</b></p>	<p><b>Panel Discussion 6</b></p>
	<p><b>Co-Creating a Competitive and Collaborative Higher Education Ecosystem through Industry-Academia Engagement</b></p> <p>The traditional relationship between industry and academia has often been one of silos, affecting many opportunities for mutual growth. However, the need of the hour demands a more symbiotic relationship. This panel will discuss fostering collaboration and healthy competition between academia and industry, to discover the ways industry and academia can leverage each other's strengths to tackle complex challenges, drive innovation, and propel our economy forward. It will also examine strategies for overcoming potential challenges, such as intellectual property rights, and bridging the cultural divide between academia and industry.</p> <p>Some of the key discussion points will be on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creating robust partnerships and communication channels between universities and industry leaders.</li> <li>• Ensuring universities are equipped to train students with the relevant skills and knowledge needed by the evolving job market.</li> </ul>





	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exploring collaborative research and development opportunities for groundbreaking discoveries and market-ready solutions.</li> <li>• Complementing the mutual strengths of Universities and Industry in developing a talented pipeline of students who could address the 21<sup>st</sup> century challenges.</li> <li>• Explore how universities and industry can collaborate to co-develop curricula, internships, and experiential learning opportunities.</li> <li>• Addressing the critical challenges in intellectual property (IP) like managing IP rights, ensuring equitable benefit-sharing and ensuring fair commercialization processes.</li> </ul> <p>Speakers:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Prof. Ravindra Kumar Sinha</b>, Vice Chancellor, Gautam Buddha University</li> <li>2. <b>Dr. Ramakrishnan Raman</b>, Vice Chancellor, Symbiosis International University</li> <li>3. <b>Mr. Salavadi Easwaran</b>, Academic Dean, Biocon Academy</li> <li>4. <b>Dr. Elena Remezova</b>, Head of Rossotrudnichestvo Mission in India, Director of Russian House, New Delhi</li> <li>5. <b>Dr. Devashis Rath</b>, Professor of Practice, Aditya School of Business Management</li> <li>6. <b>Dr. Rachna Chaturvedi</b>, Director, Research and Project, Rabindranath Tagore University</li> </ol> <p>Moderator:-</p> <p>Q &amp; A</p>
1:45 pm – 2:30 pm	Lunch Break
2:30 pm - 2:45 pm	<b>Special Address</b> <b>Prof. K K Aggarwal</b> , President, South Asian University
2:45 pm - 4:00 pm	<b>Panel Discussion 7</b>
	<p><b>Innovative Funding Framework: Imperative for Higher Education Expansion</b></p> <p>With the rising demand for quality education and constrained government resources, exploring innovating financing mechanisms for higher education institutions in India has become imperative. Traditional funding models struggle to keep pace, creating a financial barrier for many who yearn for a college degree. The current model of higher education funding is unsustainable. Education is not just a personal investment; it is an investment in the future of our communities and our global society. Similarly, to fund research and</p>



	<p>innovation in educational institutions, we need to find alternative ways to keep up with progression across sectors.</p> <p>This session delves into alternative financing options that can help alleviate this burden and ensure education remains affordable and accessible for all.</p> <p>The key points of discussion include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alternative financing solutions amid the evolving landscape of educational funding.</li> <li>• Diversified financing strategy for HEIs to meet the larger goal of ensuring equitable access to quality education to present and future learners.</li> <li>• Reducing the financial burden on students, by making higher education accessible to a wider range of individuals.</li> <li>• Alternative ways to fund universities and colleges beyond traditional tuition fees, ensuring their long-term sustainability and ability to invest in research and innovation.</li> <li>• Use of technology streamlining financial processes, connecting students with funding opportunities, and improving transparency in higher education financing ecosystem.</li> </ul> <p>Speakers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Mr. Ajay Bohora</b>, Co-Founder, HDFC Credila</li> <li>2. <b>Prof. Vasudev Murthy</b>, Executive Director, Rishihood University</li> <li>3. <b>Mr. Arup Chakraborty</b>, Certified Member (Level 4) of Institute of Risk Management and Seasoned Risk Expert</li> <li>4. <b>Prof. Lakshmi Kumar</b>, Dean, Business School, Krea University</li> <li>5. <b>Ms. Amrita Sadarangani</b>, Senior Director and Head - Global Research Alliances, Ashoka University</li> </ol> <p><b>Moderator:- Mr Narayanan Ramaswamy</b>, National Leader - Education and Skill Development, Government and Public Services, KPMG in India</p> <p><b>Q &amp; A</b></p>
<p><b>4:00 pm – 4:15pm</b></p>	<p><b>Tea Break</b></p>
<p><b>4:15 pm – 5:30 pm</b></p>	<p><b>Panel Discussion 8</b></p>
	<p><b>Regulation and Benchmarking: Catalyst for Future of Education</b></p> <p>In today's rapidly evolving world, nations increasingly recognize the critical role of thought leadership in establishing themselves as global leaders. This pursuit of a competitive edge necessitates fostering an</p>



	<p>environment that cultivates innovation, drives progress, and attracts a skilled workforce. However, a common misconception exists that regulations and policies function as hurdles to progress. Conversely, the world's most innovative nations have looked at the regulatory frameworks as potent tools of progress and quality benchmarking</p> <p>This session will delve into the critical role of regulations, and policy frameworks, in shaping a nation's education trajectory.</p> <p>The key points of discussion will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Successful regulatory models in higher education and its impact in augmenting quality and scale on the global stage.</li> <li>• Need for regulations to be robust and flexible enough to accommodate evolving global trends in education.</li> <li>• Role of universities and higher educational institutions in adopting the broad regulatory norms, be innovative and contribute to global thought leadership.</li> <li>• Benchmarking Standards for countries to set standard educational quality, innovation, and research output on a global scale.</li> <li>• Striking a balance between institutional autonomy and regulatory accountability to ensure that universities have the freedom to innovate while being held to rigorous quality and performance standards.</li> </ul> <p>Speakers:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Dr Rajan Saxena</b>, Advisor, FICCI &amp; Former VC, NMIMS (Deemed University) and Strategic Advisor, Aditya Group of Institutions)</li> <li>2. <b>Prof. P B Sharma</b>, Vice Chancellor, Amity University, Manesar</li> <li>3. <b>Dr Sandeep Sancheti</b>, Vice President - Research Relations &amp; Academic Advisory, Elsevier (India)</li> <li>4. <b>Dr Pallab Saha</b>, General Manager (India), The Open Group</li> </ol> <p><b>Moderator:- Ms. Rittika Parruck MBE</b>, Director Education, British Council India</p> <p><b>Q &amp; A</b></p>
<p><b>5:30 pm – 5:45 pm</b></p>	<p><b>Concluding Session</b></p>
<p><b>5:45 pm onwards</b></p>	<p><b>High Tea</b></p>