



## CONFERENCE **RFPORT**



## Education Conclave Underlines Technology's Key Role to Enhance Quality

echnology can play a key role in improving the quality of education, said Bihar Education Minister Krishna Nandan Prasad Verma recently in Patna while participating in the Education Conclave, Bihar organised by Elets Technomedia with Microsoft as presenting partner. Considering the scope and endeavours being made by the Nitish Kumar Government in Bihar, this education conclave organised on June 22 held a distinct significance from various dimensions.

The conclave was the confluence of policymakers, heads of schools and higher education institutes, university vice-chancellors and officials from the edu-tech corporate. Over 200 schools and higher education institutes participated in the conclave from all over Bihar.

Also present on the occasion were Patna's Mayor Sita Sahu and Bihar State Higher Education Council's Vice-Chairman Kameshwar Jha, who deliberated on challenges and their contribution to the education sector during the conclave.

The education conclave observed participation of edu-leaders including Prof Dolly Sinha, Pro Vice Chancellor, Patna University; Dr R K Pande, Vice Chancellor, Dr C V Raman University; Jaidevrath, Senior Director, Microsoft; Abdul Hamid, Secretary, Patna Municipal Corporation and Nand Kishor Kushwaha, Member, Food Commission, Government of Bihar.

The conclave witnessed panel discussions on the topics like: Transformative Practices towards Ensuring Quality in Higher Education, How to Scale up Personalised Learning in School Education and Reforming Education in The Age of Technology.

During the conclave, top universities, B-schools, Engineering Colleges and Schools were also felicitated by digitalLEARNING magazine for their exemplary work in the field of education.

The industry presentations during the summit highlighted the scope of technology and its comprehensive effect on the education sector. A glimpse of the conclave:













"With regards to Bihar's educational landscape, I can say that the State, in recent times, has made rapid strides on many fronts. The current Government is committed to accelerate the pace of digital transformation of State's educational institutions and for this, we are joining hands with many relevant stakeholders too. I am sure that various issues deliberated in the conclave would further offer us useful insights on the areas that need to be worked upon.

The schools with not enough teachers can use smart classes, e-learning and digital learning to boost the education sector. A digital revolution is needed in the State's education sector so that students may study through computers and enjoy the learning. The State Government is working towards making the education system transparent. It is the reason that only deserving candidates can qualify the exams."



Magazine launch at Education Conclave Bihar (From L-R): Sita Sahu, Mayor, Patna; Krishna Nandan Prasad Verma, Education Minister, Government of Bihar; Kameshwar Jha, Vice Chairman, Bihar State Higher education Council, Government of Bihar

#### Sita Sahu Mayor, Patna

"Just as food is essential for a human being, similarly good education is essential for an all-round development of citizens. Today, I am pleased to state that Bihar in recent times, has taken many pathbreaking initiatives to bolster the state of education in Bihar. I am happy to say that the State's students are now able to avail educational facilities and opportunities at par with the standards prevalent in any other State in the country."





#### Kameshwar Jha

Vice Chairman, Bihar State Higher Education Council, Government of Bihar

"There is an increased interest both by policymakers and administrators of Bihar's various for educational institutes for transforming State's institutions into digitally-enabled institutions which indeed is a positive sign. Increasingly, institutions are embracing latest technologies to transform the delivery process of educational content. I am so pleased with the pace of State's digital transformation that I can assure you, after one year from now, in each district of Bihar you would find at least two digitally-enabled institutions."



## Nand Kishore Kushwaha

Member

Food Commission, Government of Bihar

"Education is about finding out from the children: what are they good at? How good they are at the things they are good at? When it comes to good education, you really do need to keep the idea of 'good elitism' in mind. In the form of global collaboration, particularly Guyana and India partnership is in the area of offshore medical schools with providence in India operating in Guyana."













### **Prof Dolly Sinha**

Pro Vice-Chancellor Patna University

"The digitisation has a tremendous scope in improving the state of education in the country and thus, I would say, bringing about educational reforms through digitisation is the need of the hour. Further, there is a need for the establishment of universities which should act as a model for the rest of the educational institutions in terms of digitisation and modern techniques. Besides, for first-time learners, an emphasis on the holistic development of the candidates need to be nurtured, this should include components such as gender issues, ethics, cleanliness, and environmental sustainability."





## **Jaydev Rath**

Senior Education Director Microsoft

"We, at Microsoft, believe in empowering students and teachers create the world of tomorrow. The mantra for achieving this is by way of achieving better outcomes for students and backed by technology, managing educational institutions effectively and efficiently. For this, we have partnered with Government of India for its various IT-enabled initiatives, one of them is SWAYAM (Study Webs of Active-Learning for Young Aspiring Minds) platform, whereby 30 lakhs students are being benefitted out of it. There is a need for more of such initiatives."



#### Dr R K Pande

Vice Chancellor Dr C V Raman University

"Today, across Bihar there is a dearth of teachers who are digitally skilled and are able to impart the education as per the demands of the current scenario. While of late, I acknowledge the State's policymakers have left no stone unturned for actualising an ICT-led education landscape in the State, a lot is still left to be done. I am sure inputs received under today's conclave would be useful in this regard."



#### **Brijesh Singh** Dr C V Raman University

"Our key focus areas include an updated curriculum in tune with the realities of today's job market and a digital approach to education. Most of our courses are ICT-backed. We give a strong emphasis on making sure that we always have the latest in IT infrastructure. In recent times, the university has been focusing on promoting skill-based programmes such as The National Skills Qualifications Framework (NSQF) which is a competency-based framework that organizes all qualifications according to a series of levels of knowledge, skills and aptitude. We have vocational courses such as courses in cloud computing, robotics too."



#### Prajyot Saran . Director

Kaizala in Education. Microsoft

"Microsoft Kaizalaa, our mobile app for large group communication and work management can play a significant role in transforming the educationalcontent delivery. The app showcases many features such as the ability to connect with people both outside and inside the organisation, broadcast information such as text, photos, videos and documents. It also facilities Collection of data via polls or surveys. coupled with a chat interface and an ability to connect with external partners through a public group. We believe such an app can give a boost to an organisation's work efficiency."

#### Varun Dua

Solution Specialist Lead Azure in Education, Microsoft

"Cloud technologies can really transform the Indian education landscape and this is the best time to invest in cloud technologies in the education sector since it opens a plethora of limitless possibilities and computing opportunities that can be made available for the benefit of students. For example, you can start a virtual lab in cloud, without worrying about your local infrastructure. Thus, if your local computer has a browser, internet connection, you can now think beyond your imagination and create unlimited applications."











#### **Balendu Sharma Dadhich**

Director Localisation, Microsoft

"Considering the fact that India being such a vast country and home to numerous languages, I would focus upon the utility of localisation (in terms of language-based content) in the educational-content delivery. Going forward, I believe, organisations that are taking localisation seriously are bound to succeed in the education sector in India. This holds true for the State of Bihar as well."



#### Simran Dawar

**Product Marketing** M365 Education, Microsoft

"We, at Microsoft, strongly believe that digitallybacked delivery of educational content is the way forward and there exist a plethora of untapped opportunities if we are really able to effectively harness the full capability of new-age technologies such as cloud for educational purposes. While we are empowering students through our innovative product offerings, we also offer applications to have some control over students' usage of IT environment. I think that was one important area flagged recently by the industry and our device management solutions are exactly meant to offer such a control only."



Saif Khan Zonal Manager Vawsum

"Vawsum's Parent teacher engagement app can improve the already -existing connect between school and parents. It can especially be a boon to nuclear families who wish to always remain in touch with their wards' school but due to lack of time, at times, are unable to do so."



#### PANEL DISCUSSION: HOW TO SCALE UP PERSONALISED LEARNING IN SCHOOL EDUCATION



(From L-R): Niraj Gupta, Principal, Takshila School, Gaya; Simran Dawar, Product Marketng Education, Microsoft; Col Prem Prakash SM, Principal, Radiant International School, Patna; Reeta Jha, Director - Academics, NIMS International School, Jaipur.

### PANEL DISCUSSION: REFORMING EDUCATION IN THE AGE OF TECHNOLOGY



(From L-R): Prof Shahshank Shekhar, Bhagalpur College of Engineering; Dr Md Masood Ahmad, Director, Maulana Azad College of Engineering and Technology; Anupam Singh, Director, Seth MR Jaipuria School, Patna; Prof (Dr) Nirmal Kumar, Principal, Bhagalpur College of Engineering; Reeta Jha, Director - Academics, NIMS International School











## PANEL DISCUSSION: TRANSFORMATIVE PRACTICES TOWARDS ENSURING QUALITY IN HIGHER EDUCATION



(From L-R): Dr Abhijeet Singh, Director, VIDM Institute of Design and Management; Neeru Kumari Jha, Administrator, International School of Management; Balendu Sharma, Localization Lead Microsoft; Dr A K Nayak, Director, Indian Institute of Business Management; Kameshwar Jha, Vice-Chairman, Bihar State Higher Education Council, Government of Bihar; Dr Sitesh, Registrar, Dr C V Raman University; Dr Md Masood Ahmad, Director, Maulana Azad College of Engineering and Technology; Sanjay Kumar Parida, Dean-Academic, Indian Institute of Technology

#### **AWARD WINNERS**























# "THANK YOU"

#### for making Education Conclave Bihar a Grand Success

As Elets Education Conclave 2018 in Patna witnessed the congregation of eminent bureaucrats, policymakers, edu-leaders, edu-tech thought leaders and key stakeholders on June 22, we thank Bihar Education Minister, Patna Mayor, every participant, speaker and exhibitor for sharing their thoughts and innovations in the conclave and making it successful.















#### **OUR PARTNERS**













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