

# Conference Report



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11<sup>th</sup>  
**elets** **HIGHER EDUCATION & HUMAN RESOURCE CONCLAVE** PUNE, MAHARASHTRA  
CONFERENCE | EXPO | AWARDS  
4 MAY 2019

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*Magazine launch during the conclave*

## Maharashtra's Evolution as Higher Education Hub

**M**aharashtra witnessed a grand confluence of country's top academicians and industry leaders in May 2019 during the 11th Higher Education and Human Resource Conclave held in Pune.

With Government of Telangana as Supporting Partner and powered by NoPaperForms, the conclave was organised by Elets Technomedia Pvt Ltd. The summit was aimed to highlight innovation now imperative in higher education and human resource management practices to quickly cater to changing demands of the industry.

The 11th edition of the conclave was inaugurated by Dr Vinod Kumar Bhardwaj, State Nodal Officer, Innovations & Skill Development Programmes, Department of College Education, Government of Rajasthan in the presence of Suraj Sapra, Chief Strategy Officer, NoPaperForms, and Dr Dhaval Mody, Director, RoundGlass College Wellbeing.

The aforesaid dignitaries also unveiled a special issue of digitalLEARNING magazine that highlights the Maharashtra's efforts to leverage innovative approaches to become the educational hub of India.

The summit witnessed a special address by Padmashree Dr D Y Patil, Former Governor Bihar, Tripura & West Bengal and Founder, D Y Patil Group. He touched upon various important points related to improvement in higher education sector of Maharashtra as well as the India.

The day-long summit witnessed panel and discussions on various topics related to higher education such as: Changing Dynamics of Higher Education in a Globalised Context: Envisioning Strategies for Future; Role of Technology in Enrolments: A Marketing Perspective; among others.

During the 11th Higher Education and Human Resource Conclave Pune, over 50 institutes were felicitated from across the Western region of country.

The industry presentations during the summit highlighted the scope of technology and its comprehensive effect in the school education sector.

Here is a glimpse of the summit:

# GOVERNMENT SPEAKER



**PADMASHREE DR D Y PATIL**  
FORMER GOVERNOR BIHAR, TRIPURA & WEST  
BENGAL, AND FOUNDER, D Y PATIL GROUP



“I don't see God in temples, God is within you. If you develop good qualities, good habits and character you are bound to succeed. It is important to plan what you want to do in life and be dedicated for that all the time. Whatever you do if you do with planning you are going to succeed. Ego is bad for living a happy life and a person without ego enjoys the life most. If you do anything dedicatedly, joyfully, and without any self consideration, every action is close to God.

The relation of conscious mind and subconscious mind is like land and farmer. Land will never guide you what to sow, you will have to select the seed, plant it on the pasture. Whatever you plant, it will grow.

Nothing happens accidentally. George Washington was a peon. While ringing the bell he used to go in trance and say I want to be the president of USA. At the age of 27, he became a senate member and at the age of 52, he became the Governor of a State. At the age of 62 he became the President of America. All the time he was chanting, I wanted to become the President of America.”

# KEY SPEAKERS



## DR VINOD KUMAR BHARDWAJ

State Nodal Officer, Innovations & Skill Development Programmes,  
 Department of College Education, Govt of Rajasthan

“The four areas Rajasthan Government focussing on to ensure quality higher education are: Quality, Delivery, Faculty and Employability.

The State currently has 252 government colleges in which around 4.20 lakh regular students are pursuing various courses. Another interesting fact is that out of these students, almost 50% are girls. Along with government colleges, there are 1,569 private colleges and 837 BEd Colleges. So, the State has over 2,700 colleges with more than 9 lakh students.”



## SURAJ SAPRA

Chief Strategy Officer  
 NoPaperForms

“Whenever we hear our National Anthem, it gives us a different kind of motivation to do a different thing. This belief/ideology of adoption to change or willingness to change should always be there. Looking at the West, the way they have adopted the technology in education is significant. It is very important for all of the institutions to teach their students that the change is the only constant and they must be adoptive to changes.”



## NARESH DUBLE

Head-Asia Commercial Excellence & FMD  
 Armstrong World Industries (India) Pvt Ltd

Armstrong World Industries, Inc. (AWI) is a global leader in the design and manufacturing of innovative commercial and residential ceiling, wall and suspension system solutions. At home, at work, in healthcare facilities, classrooms, stores, or restaurants, Armstrong World Industries offers interior solutions that help to enhance comfort, save time, improve building efficiency and overall performance, and create beautiful spaces.



## DR DHAVAL MODY

Director  
 RoundGlass College Wellbeing

“Placements have been a big thing when it comes to higher education institutes. The colleges are striving hard to get their students placed in the reputed organisations. But the industry requirements are very different and colleges are required to bridge that gap. We have collaborated with various colleges in all the aforesaid domains working for the mental health and well being of the students.”

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## Chocko Valliappa

Founder & CEO  
 Hiremee

“The world is heading towards Industry 4.0 and the amount of metamorphosis the world is going to see is enormous. One million jobs are going to be displaced; one million people are going to be displaced. New jobs are going to come. It is considered that around 600 different types of jobs will be introduced. So, how our education system will be in sync with that changed world? No one knows the kind of jobs likely to be available in the future.”



## Dr Suresh Ukarande

Principal

K J Somaiya Institute of Engineering and Information Technology, Mumbai

“There are three aspects: Curriculum development, Delivery of the relevant course content and evaluation on regular basis. Taking care of these parameters will help in developing a modern and industry relevant course material. Regular evaluations will help the curriculum to remain relevant as per the latest trends and industry demands.”



## Prof Amita Mahor

Dean  
 VIT University, Bhopal

“Innovation in higher education should not only be limited to adopting new technologies rather we also need to focus on adopting the latest pedagogical practices. It is often heard from the institutes that our curriculum is at par to the global standards which is a good thing. However, the curriculum must also serve the needs of our country's requirement then only we can be successful.”



## Dr Chandrani Singh

Director - MCA  
 Sinhgad Institute of Management, Pune

Globally, around 600 million students are likely to get enrolled every year by 2040 with China as the biggest contributor followed by North America, Europe, United States, and Africa. As far as African countries are concerned, they are likely to contribute 22 million students every year by 2020. Indian Government's rigorous initiatives to promote tertiary education across various regions of the country have supported the public and private sector to rethink about infrastructure and quality assurance framework for betterment of education sector.



## Dr Manju Punia Chopra

*Director  
 International School of  
 Management and Research, Pune*

ISMR is an emerging and most promising business school in Pune and India as well. I believe that certain underlying principles are the core of ISMR which will ensure its continuing pole position. In an endeavor to educate leaders of tomorrow, we draw upon reserves of goodwill among the diaspora of our alumni, network among recruiters and potential students and we proudly flaunt the commitment of our faculty and staff.



## Dr Ganesh Rao

*Director  
 MITCON Institute of Management, Pune*

“Another very common thing we hear nowadays is that the education system needs to be changed. It is important to note here that we need not to change the education basics rather we just need to change education practices and adopt latest technologies. We need to inculcate confidence among the youth so that they don't get stressed due to ridiculous stories.”



## Dr Avinash G Kharat

*Director - Academics  
 Jayawant Shikshan Prasarak Mandal, Pune*

“The association of industry and academia will help the institution to work on real life problems. To find solution to any of the problem, it will be important for the institutions to apply relevant knowledge. It will not only help students to gain hands on experience rather it will also help the institutes to become knowledge hub for a particular sector. Moreover for industries, they need not to spend huge amounts on Research and Development rather they just need to help institutions in carrying out the problem specific researches.”



## HR PANEL DISCUSSION: HR'S ROLE IN THE EVER-EVOLVING LANDSCAPE OF EMPLOYMENT, INNOVATION & ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN NEW INDIA



### MAHESH IYER

*Co-founder & Curator  
The Jump Start*

Human Resource professional plays a very important role when it comes to academia and supply chain of work force. It is very important to understand the role of HR professional in bridging the gap between industry and academia. Along with this, it is also needed to be found out that how technology may help HR professionals and academicians in promoting the employability among students.



### AKHIL SHAHANI

*Managing Director  
Thadomal Shahani Centre for Management, Mumbai*

“There is no certain definition of employability. It actually is defined as per the job role in any industry. So, it is very important to what we actually mean with the term employability. Employability basically means the ability to get your first job and keep on being employable as one advances in his/her professional life.”



### PROF DR FIRDOS SHROFF

*Joint Director  
Indian Institute of Banking & Finance, Mumbai*

“It is important for training & placement officers in the college to find out that the students are spiritually smart or not. Most of the colleges do not focus on spiritually developed students. Students are more curious towards the remunerations rather than the nature they are being offered.”



### AWANTIKA BHARDWAJ

*Head HR  
Tieto*

Most of the freshers nowadays are joining an organisation with a proposition or a purpose. If the organisation serves that proposition or purpose well, then the person continues otherwise they start looking for a job in any other organisation. Moreover, salary becomes secondary if the purpose is served.



## YASH PALEJA

Vice President - Strategy & Training  
 Coldwell Banker

“People from the industry can add a great value to academia. But somewhere, still I feel that there is a lot of gap between industry and academia. Sometimes people from academia feel that the industry people don’t have time to dedicate for the improvement in education sector. It is not true. We are committed to give back our learnings from industry to academia.”



## SUSHMA PAUL

Head HR  
 CompuCom CSI Systems Pvt Ltd

“Every weekend, we have a hiring drive where we witness a footfall of 400-500 job seekers. Out of them, I am able to select only 5-10 people that clearly explains the huge gap. It is not that the students are not equipped rather they are lacking in the skills required by the industry. So, students are needed to be trained in the skills needed by the industry along with academics.”



## PROF PRABHA SHANKAR

Director-Corporate Relations  
 ASM Group of Institutes

“Students join an institute with lot of passion and aspirations. If the institutes are able to catch that passion quotient of the students, we are able to imbibe industry relevant skills among them. As now the communication mediums are so good due to social media and internet, we can also nurture the quality of developing Human Relations among the students.”



## PRASAD KULKARNI

Vice President of Global HR Operations  
 Accelya Group

“In any organisations, we have different generations as employees and the technology is the only thing that connects all these generations with each other. But it is very important that how the technology is being implemented as per the generation-specific needs. The technological tools must be customised as per the needs of users and purpose.”



## Panel Discussion: Changing Dynamics of Higher Education in a Globalised Context: Envisioning Strategies for Future



**Panelists (L-R):** Dr Vinod Kumar Bhardwaj, State Nodal Officer, Innovations & Skill Development Programmes, Department of College Education, Government of Rajasthan; Dr Manju Punia Chopra, Director, International School of Management and Research, Pune; Dr Chandrani Singh, Director - MCA, Sinhgad Institute of Management, Pune; Chocko Valliappa, Founder & CEO, Hiremee Dr Avinash G Kharat, Director - Academics, Jayawant Shikshan Prasarak Mandal, Pune; Dr Lakshmi Mohan, Director, ITM Business School, Navi Mumbai; Prof Amita Mahor, Dean, VIT University, Bhopal; Dr Ganesh Rao, Director, MITCON Institute of Management, Pune

## Panel Discussion on Importance of Research-led, Practice-driven Technology-Oriented Curriculum to Train Next Generation Engineers



**Panelists (L-R):** Charudatta V Kulkarni, Principal, Thadomal Shahani Engineering College, Pune; Dr Prakash H Patil, Vice Principal & Dean Academics, D Y Patil College of Engineering, Pune; Dr Pradeep B Mane, Principal, All India Shri Shivaji Memorial Society Institute of Information Technology, Pune; Dr Suresh Ukarande, Principal, K J Somaiya Institute of Engineering and Information Technology, Mumbai; Dr R D Kharadkar, Principal, G H Raisoni Institute of Engineering & Technology, Pune; Mahadeo Digambar Kokate, Principal, Shree Neminath Jain Brahmacharashram College of Engineering; Dr Manjusha Deshmukh, Principal, Saraswati College of Engineering, Navi Mumbai; Dr C M Sedani, Principal, Padmabhushan Vasantdada Patil Institute of Technology, Pune; Dr K T V Reddy, Principal, Sir Visvesvaraya Memorial Engineering College, Nashik

## Panel Discussion on Role of Technology in Enrollments: A Marketing Perspective



**Panelists (L-R):** Dr Santosh Kumar, Director - IT, Indira Group of Institutes, Pune; Sandip Sane, Director, ASM Group of Institutes, Pune; Dr Samir Karkhanis, CEO, Strategic Alliance Network- Yangpoo; Suraj Sapra, Chief Strategy Officer, NoPaperForms; Dr Mohit Dubey, CEO, MIT ADT University, Pune; Dr Sunita Srivastava, Director, Aditya Institute of Management Studies and Research, Pune; Malhar Pangrikar, Group Head - Marketing, MIT Group of Institutes, Pune; Santosh Nair, Senior Director, Parul University, Vadodara

## Panel Discussion on The Regulatory Framework in Higher Education: Key Challenges and the Way Forward to Quality Assurance for Institutions



**Panelists (L-R):** Dr Smita Jape, Associate Professor, Dr V N Bedekar Institute of Management Studies; Prof Sushil Kumar Kulkarni, Training & Placement Officer, Dr D Y Patil Institute of Management & Research, Pune; Dr Ramchandra V Pujeri, Dean/Director, MIT Art Design and Technology University, Pune; Dr Snigdha Mishra, HOD, Professor, Human Resource Management, ITM Business School, Navi Mumbai; Dr Ashok Agrawal, Principal, Kaveri College of Arts Science and Commerce, Pune; Dr Alok Misra, Dean, SVKM's NMIMS Kirit P Mehta School of Law, Mumbai; Lt Col A N Jha, Senior Psychologist, Army Sports Institute, Pune

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# Expo



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# Thank You!

**11<sup>th</sup> Higher Education and Human Resource Conclave, Pune,** witnessed the congregation of edu-leaders and eminent stakeholders of the industry, creating a unique opportunity for knowledge exchange and networking. We want to extend our sincere thanks to all our respected speakers, partners, exhibitors and delegates for making the conclave a shining success with their contribution.



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