

17th South Asian Management Forum (SAMF) 2026

11th - 12th May 2026

on

“Resilient Leadership and Innovation: Navigating South Asia’s Dynamic Governance Landscape.”

The SAMF was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of Bhutan His Excellency Dasho Tshering Tobgay



**Reception to
Hon'ble Prime Minister of Bhutan**



Welcome Dance



Bhutan Cultural Heritage - Marchang Ceremony

AMDISA Executive Board 2025 - 2027

President

Ms. Tshering Yangden, Director General, Royal Institute of Management, Thimphu, Bhutan

Vice President

Prof. Dr. Bijay KC, Professor & Dean, Kathmandu University School of Management, Lalitpur, Nepal

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Dr. Sarwar Uddin Ahmed, Dean and Professor, School of Business, University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB), Dhaka, Bangladesh

Prof. S. Sreenivasa Murthy, Director, Institute of Public Enterprise (IPE), Hyderabad, India

Prof. Madhumita Chatterji, Director, ABBS School of Management, Bengaluru, India

Dr. Rajan Saxena, Strategic Advisor & Vice Chairman, Aditya School of Business Management (ASBM), Mumbai, India

Mr. Abdulla Nafiz, Dean, Qasim Ibrahim School of Business, Villa College, Male', Maldives

Prof. Naukhez Sarwar, Principal & Dean, NUST Business School, National University of Sciences and Technology, Islamabad, Pakistan

Mr. Talib Syed Karim, President, Institute of Business Management (IoBM), Karachi, Pakistan

Dr. Asanga Ranasinghe, Director, Postgraduate Institute of Management, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Colombo, Sri Lanka

Invitees

Immediate Past President

Prof. Mohammad Abdul Momen, Bangladesh (2022-2024), Former Director, Institute of Business Administration (IBA), University of Dhaka, Dhaka, Bangladesh

Vice Chancellor, University of Hyderabad, India

Prof. J. Anuradha, In-Charge Vice Chancellor, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad, India

President of National Network in South Asia

Prof. Dr. Asif Raza, President, AMDIP and Rector, University of Management and Technology (UMT), Lahore, Pakistan

Invitees - Past Presidents

Mr. G. B. N. Pradhan, Nepal (1991-1994), Former Executive Director, Nepal Administrative Staff College, Kathmandu, Nepal

Prof. Dr. Abdur Rab, Bangladesh (1996-1998), Vice Chancellor, International University of Business Agriculture & Technology (IUBAT), Dhaka, Bangladesh

Dasho Kunzang Wangdi, Bhutan (1998-2000), Former Chief Election Commissioner of Bhutan, Thimphu, Bhutan

Dr. Mohamed Latheef, Maldives (2002-2004), Former Chancellor, The Maldives National University, Male, Republic of Maldives

Dr. Syed Zahoor Hassan, Pakistan (2004-2006), Professor & Former Vice Chancellor, Lahore University of Management Sciences, Lahore, Pakistan

Mr. Karma Tshering, Bhutan (2009-2011), Director General, Department of School Education, Ministry of School Education, Thimphu, Bhutan

Mr. Punya Prasad Neupane, Nepal (2011-2013), Former Executive Director, Nepal Administrative Staff College, Kathmandu, Nepal

Dr. Ashok R. Joshi, India (2013-2015), Director General, IndSearch Institute of Management Studies & Research, Pune, India

Prof. Lakshman R. Watawala, Sri Lanka (2015-2017), President, The Institute of Chartered Professional Managers of Sri Lanka, Colombo, Sri Lanka

Mr. Shathif Ali, Maldives (2017-2018), Former Dean, MNU Business School, The Maldives National University, Male', Republic of Maldives

Mr. Abdul Rahman Mubaarique, Maldives (2018-2019), Deputy Vice Chancellor (Administration and Finance), The Maldives National University, Male', Republic of Maldives

Prof. Dr. Syed Mir Muhammad Shah, Pakistan (2020-2022), Pro Vice Chancellor, Sukkur IBA University, Sukkur, Pakistan

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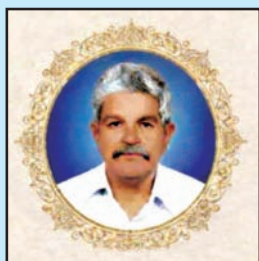
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AMDISA Condoles



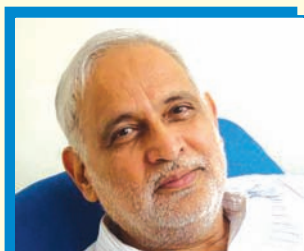
Mr. M. Durga Prasad

AMDISA deeply mourns the passing away of its veteran Mr. Durga Prasad, Senior Manager (Administration) on 2nd February 2026 due to age-related ailments. He was 77.

Mr. Durga Prasad was among the earliest employees of AMDISA, joining the organization soon after the ground breaking ceremony of the AMDISA Secretariat building in March 2006. He played a pivotal role in supervising the construction of the Secretariat building under the guidance and advice of the Building Committee, contributing significantly to the establishment of AMDISA's permanent headquarters. His professionalism, hard work, and unwavering devotion to duty earned him the respect and affection of colleagues and associates alike. We extend our heartfelt condolences to his bereaved family and pray that they find strength and comfort during this difficult time.

May his soul rest in peace!

From the Editor



Dear Readers,

Greetings from AMDISA!

It gives me great pleasure to present the 66th edition of the AMDISA Newsletter.

A major highlight of this issue is the successful conduct of the **AMDISA 17th South Asian Management Forum (SAMF) 2026**, hosted by the Royal Institute of Management (RIM), Thimphu, Bhutan, on the theme *“Resilient Leadership and Innovation: Navigating South Asia’s Dynamic Governance Landscape.”* The Forum was inaugurated by **His Excellency Dasho Tshering Tobgay, Hon’ble Prime Minister of Bhutan**.

The Forum featured the **5th Dharni P. Sinha Memorial Lecture** delivered by Dr. Rajan Saxena, who reflected

on the transformative challenges confronting management education in an era of continuous disruption, digital transformation, and artificial intelligence. The plenary and parallel sessions generated valuable insights on governance innovation, sustainability, technology, organisational learning, and leadership development.

Reports on the **EQUAL Board Meeting 2026**, which focused on strengthening global collaboration of networks and accreditation agencies, and on the forthcoming **India–UK Business School Dialogue 2026**, partnered with AMDISA, are included in this newsletter.

The Newsletter highlights a range of academic programmes of management education initiatives across the region.

It is with deep respect that we pay our condolences to the family of **Mr M. Durga Prasad**, one of the earliest members of the AMDISA Secretariat team.

We hope you find this issue informative and engaging.

Warm regards,

Ashok R Joshi

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SAQS is a globally benchmarked strategic audit and accreditation system, designed to assess business schools in diverse national and cultural contexts. It recognizes institutions for meeting international standards of excellence and provides strategic direction for long-term quality enhancement. **SAQS** accreditation is institutional in nature, covering the entire business and management education unit.

Key Features of SAQS

- International and intercultural approach to quality assurance
- Emphasis on corporate relevance and stakeholder engagement
- Comprehensive institution-wide review of academic and executive education
- Collaborative, learning-oriented peer review process
- Guided by globally recognized quality benchmarks

Benefits of SAQS Accreditation

- International recognition through a robust accreditation framework
- Strategic insights for continuous institutional enhancement
- Enhanced visibility, credibility, and global competitiveness
- Post-accreditation support for quality maintenance
- Use of the "**SAQS Accredited**" label as a mark of distinction
- Benchmarking opportunities for international comparisons

Recognition and Network

- **Recognized by the Association of Indian Universities (AIU):** SAQS is considered on par with NBA for granting equivalence of PGDM programs from standalone institutions with MBA degrees from Indian universities.
- **Member of the EQUAL Network:** AMDISA is part of this prestigious European-led platform that promotes quality standards in business and management education.
- **Proven Track Record:** Over **86 institutions** have been accredited under SAQS, gaining not only international recognition but also a roadmap for continuous quality improvement.

For more details, please visit www.saqs.org.in or
send your expression of interest / query to execdir.amdisa@gmail.com



17th SAMF Group Photo

Prime Minister's Speech

Distinguished representatives of AMDISA, esteemed scholars and practitioners, friends from across South Asia. Welcome to Bhutan.

And a special welcome to Executive Director Ramakrishna on your second visit to Bhutan, and to those representatives of AMDISA who have been here before.

President Tshering Yangden, Executive Director C. Ramakrishna, board members of AMDISA, representatives, distinguished representatives of AMDISA, Dashos, ladies and gentlemen.



Inaugural address by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of Bhutan His Excellency Dasho Tshering Tobgay

It is a pleasure to join you for the 17th South Asian Management Forum. I thank the Association of Management Development Institutions in South Asia and the Royal Institute of Management for bringing together such a distinguished gathering of leaders, academics, policymakers, and professionals.

Your presence here reflects something important. It reflects a growing recognition that South Asia's future will depend not only on economic growth, but also on the strength, adaptability, and integrity of our institutions.

Today, our region stands at a moment of profound transformation. Technology is changing how governments function. Climate change is reshaping economic and social priorities. Demographic shifts are altering labor markets and expectations, and uncertainty globally and regionally has become a constant reality.

These changes test the resilience of our leadership and governance systems, but they also create enormous opportunities.

For Bhutan, development has always been guided by a broader understanding of progress. Our philosophy of Gross National Happiness reminds us that development must serve people. Economic growth matters, but so do social well-being, environmental stewardship, cultural resilience, and good governance.

For us, innovation is not pursued simply for disruption or for speed. Innovation must improve the lives of people. It must strengthen trust, and it must contribute to a collective and sustainable future.

Resilience, therefore, is not merely the ability to withstand shocks. It is the ability to learn and to adapt, and to act responsibly in times of uncertainty.

The theme of this forum—*Resilient Leadership and Innovation: Navigating South Asia's Dynamic Governance and Landscape*—is therefore both timely and important.

Leadership today has become more demanding than ever. Leaders must manage digital transformation while also maintaining public trust. They must encourage innovation while ensuring inclusion, and they must pursue efficiency without losing ethical grounding.

Technology may transform governance, but trust remains the foundation of every stable society.

Institutions today can no longer depend only on rigid systems and established procedures. They must become learning institutions—institutions capable of collaboration, experimentation, adaptation. This requires leadership that values evidence, encourages dialogue, and empowers people at every level.

Across South Asia, we already see encouraging examples of innovation and reform. We see entrepreneurial energy, we see institutional creativity, and we see governments attempting new approaches to complex challenges.

But innovation succeeds only when supported by capable governance, skilled human resources, and strong partnerships—partnerships between government, academia, industry, and society.

That is why forums such as this are so valuable. Academic inquiry brings evidence, reflection, and long-term thinking. Practitioners bring experience and implementation. When these communities work together, policies become more responsive, institutions become more effective, and societies become more resilient.

Regional cooperation is equally important. Despite our differences in size and circumstance, South Asian countries share many common challenges, and we have much to learn from one another—not only from successes, but also from our failures. Because resilience grows through learning.

Bhutan continues to modernize while remaining guided by values that place people at the center of development. As we expand digital public services, strengthen institutions, and encourage responsible entrepreneurship, we remain mindful of one important principle: innovation must reinforce trust, equity, and sustainability. Innovation without inclusion can deepen inequality, and leadership without integrity can weaken institutions.

The discussions taking place during this forum on governance innovation, organizational learning, leadership inclusion, and sustainable enterprise speak directly to these shared priorities. I encourage all participants to move beyond diagnosis toward practical collaboration and actionable solutions.

And I hope this forum will create partnerships that continue long after the conference concludes—partnerships that contribute to stronger institutions, better governance, and more inclusive opportunities across our region. In an increasingly uncertain world, resilient leadership will not be defined by control alone. It will be defined by the wisdom to adapt, the courage to collaborate, and the discipline to act in the long-term interest of our people.

Bhutan is honored to host this gathering, and we look forward to the ideas, partnerships, and innovations that will emerge from our discussions.

I wish you productive deliberations and meaningful exchanges. Thank you very much, and Tashi Delek.

- - -

5th Dharni P. Sinha Memorial Lecture

The inaugural session also featured the 5th Dharni P. Sinha Memorial Lecture delivered by Prof. Dr. Rajan Saxena, Former Director, IIM Indore and Former Vice-Chancellor, NMIMS University, Mumbai, India.

The abstract of Dr. Rajan Saxena's Lecture is given below:

Dr Rajan Saxena outlined that we are today living in a world which is in a continuous state of disruption. The era of equilibrium is now a 'passe' and the pendulum is continuously shifting. There is hardly any sector of the economy and society which is remaining constant. Yesterday does not hold good today. The pace of disruption has made old structures and systems irrelevant. Value in product or service is now shifting leaving companies and institutions bewildered. They realise that the value is no more now in the product but lies in customer experience. And this has to be on a continuing basis. Continuous innovations is the mantra for sustainable growth. Management institutions too have been debating on their future in the new multi polar and digital world, the role of faculty and students especially in an era of ChatGPT or GenAI. Demography, technology, geopolitical developments and regulations have now made institutional transformation an urgent necessity and a complex challenge. Management schools now face intense pressure to innovate and adopt global strategies to remain relevant to the new world. Faced with these challenges, they have developed myriads of strategies some with success and the rest not necessarily as successful as planned. Individual schools have also had a different response to the same challenge. Many studies categorized schools as innovators, followers and laggard. The last category of schools do not know what has already hit them and how to respond to this continuous disruption. Many of these laggards are today closing down or are up for sale in India. Innovator schools have integrated technology; focussed on interdisciplinary research to solve industry or community



Dr. Rajan Saxena delivering the 5th Dr. Dharni P Sinha Memorial Lecture at the 17th SAMF

problems; make learner the rationale' of any innovation in programme or pedagogy; student success becomes the bottom line and so is value creation for the industry. Innovators are also characterised by multidisciplinary teams working on courses and research.

The success of any institution is to a large extent dependant on leader. There are individuals who have successfully led transformation of institutions and there are others who assumed the leadership role but played either the role of a passenger or a bureaucrat for whom processes, compliance and rules mattered more than anything else in the institution. They resisted change. Transformational leaders, on the other hand, believed in networking, sharing, engaging in a dialogue and strengthening the community. They understand that transformation can happen only when individual's capabilities are enhanced.

Book Launch

The book on Introduction of Merit-Based Personnel Administration System in Royal Government of Bhutan by Dasho Kunzang Wangdi, Former AMDISA President was launched by His Excellency Dasho Tshering Tobgay, Honourable Prime Minister of Bhutan at the Inaugural.



Book Launch: L-R: Mr C. Ramakrishna, His Excellency Dasho Tshering Tobgay, Ms. Tshering Yangden and Dasho Kunzang Wangdi



Delegates at the Inaugural of the 17th SAMF



Delegates at the Inaugural of the 17th SAMF

Plenary Sessions

Plenary 1

The first plenary session on the theme “**The Future of Globalization – Challenges for Management Education and Networks**” was chaired by Dr. Ashok Joshi, Past President and Chairman, Local Management Committee, AMDISA.

The session explored the evolving challenges of globalization and their implications for management education, academic collaboration, and institutional networks.



PLENARY 1: L-R: Dr. Madhumita Chatterji, Director, ABBS School of Management, Bangalore, India; Prof. Dr. Abdur Rab, Vice Chancellor, IUBAT-International University of Business Agriculture and Technology, Dhaka, Bangladesh; Dr. Ashok Joshi, Director General, IndSearch Institute of Management Studies & Research, Pune, India; and Dr. Asanga Ranasinghe, Director, Postgraduate Institute of Management, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Colombo, Sri Lanka

Plenary 2

The second plenary session on the theme “**South Asia 2030: Navigating Change through Resilience and Innovation**” was chaired by Dr. S. Padam, Chairman, SAQS Accreditation Awarding Committee, AMDISA. Discussions focused on resilience, innovation, sustainable development, and collaborative regional approaches for shaping South Asia’s future.



PLENARY 2: L-R: Prof. Dr. Ajantha Dharmasiri, Former Director and Senior Professor in Management, Postgraduate Institute of Management, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Colombo, Sri Lanka; Dr. S. Padam, Chairman, SAQS Accreditation Awarding Committee, AMDISA; Prof. Venu Gopal Rao, Director, ICFAI Business School, ICFAI Foundation for Higher Education, Hyderabad, India.

Plenary 3

The third Plenary Session on the theme “Rebooting Management Education: Harnessing Emerging Technologies to shape the Future of South Asia” was chaired by Dr. Syed Zahoor Hassan, Former Vice Chancellor, LUMS, Pakistan. The session explored the transformative role of AI, analytics, digital technologies, and innovation in shaping future-ready management education and leadership development.



PLENARY 3:

L-R: Dr. Syed Zahoor Hassan, Former Vice Chancellor, Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS), Pakistan; Dr. S. Sreenivasa Murthy, Director, Institute of Public Enterprise, Hyderabad, Dr Rudra Pradhan, Professor and Dean, Vinod Gupta School of Management, Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, Dr. Sarwar Uddin Ahmed, Dean and Professor, School of Business, University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB), Dhaka, Bangladesh ; and Mr. Talib Syed Karim, President, Institute of Business Management, Karachi, Pakistan (online)



Sponsors

Prof. Venu Gopal Rao, Director of ICFAI Business School, representing the sponsor ICFAI Foundation for Higher Education (IFHE), presented an overview of the activities of the Institute. A video highlighting the Institute's initiatives and achievements was also screened.



Prof. Venugopal Rao, Director, ICFAI Business School, ICFAI Foundation for Higher Education, Hyderabad
presenting an overview of IFHE

Prof. S. Sreenivasa Murthy, Director of Institute of Public Enterprise, Hyderabad, India, representing the sponsor Institute of Public Enterprise presented an overview of the activities of the Institute. A video highlighting the Institute's initiatives and achievements was also screened.



Prof. S. Sreenivasa Murthy, Director, Institute of Public Enterprise, Hyderabad
presenting an overview of IPE

Parallel Sessions

The parallel sessions covered important themes including Governance 4.0, AI and analytics for public value creation, Circular Economy and Green Innovation, Green HRM and Sustainable Organizational Behavior, and Governance and Institutional Innovation.

The sessions emphasized the importance of innovation, sustainability, institutional resilience, and regional cooperation in addressing emerging governance and development challenges across South Asia.



Parallel Session in Progress



Panelists in one of the Sessions with online paper presenter



Paper presentation by authors and Panelists



Paper presentation by author and Panelists

Valedictory Session

The 17th South Asian Management Forum (SAMF) 2026 concluded successfully with the Valedictory Session held at the Royal Institute of Management, Bhutan.

The session reflected on the major outcomes and key insights emerging from the Forum's plenary and parallel sessions conducted over two days.

Mathew J. Manimala-SAJM Best Paper Awards

The session featured the presentation of Mathew J. Manimala-SAJM Best Paper Awards of the South Asian Journal of Management (SAJM) for 2021–2024 by Ms. Tshering Yangden, President-AMDISA and Director General, RIM Bhutan. The award consisted of a Citation Plaque.

The papers considered for these awards were selected from those published in SAJM during the periods 2021 & 2022 (Volumes 28.1 to 29.4) and 2023 & 2024 (Volumes 30.1 to 31.4).

The following papers for the period 2021 & 2022 and **2023 & 2024** were selected by the AMDISA Panel Members from among 56 papers published across eight issues of the *South Asian Journal of Management* for each 2 year period.

Paper Title: *In-Store Atmospheric: A Contextual Background Influencing Patronage Intentions*

Authors: Farah S. Choudhary and Alka Sharma

Publication Details: Vol. 29, No. 4 (October–December 2022)

Paper Title: *Does Type of Financial Markets Matter for Achieving Economic Growth? Evidence from OECD Countries*

Authors: Tamal Nath, Rudra P. Pradhan, Mohd Tabrej Alam, Bhuyashi Talukdar, Shifa Shahin, and Satyajit Mallik

Publication Details: Vol. 31, No. 4 (October–December 2024)

One of the authors, Prof. Rudra P. Pradhan in the above paper has received the Best Paper Award personally.



Dr Rudra Pradhan, Professor and Dean, Vinod Gupta School of Management, Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur (second from left) receiving the SAJM Best Paper Award from Ms. Tshering Yangden, President-AMDISA and Director General, RIM, Bhutan

The Forum concluded with renewed commitments toward strengthening regional collaboration, innovation, sustainability, and resilient leadership across South Asia.

EQUAL BOARD MEETING

EQUAL BOARD MEETING 2026

The EQUAL Board Meeting was held virtually on 13 March 2026, bringing together representatives of leading management education associations, accreditation bodies, and business school networks from across the world. AMDISA was represented by Dr. Ashok R. Joshi, Chairman, Local Management Committee & Past President, AMDISA and Mr. C. Ramakrishna, Executive Director.

The meeting reviewed the achievements of the EQUAL Network during 2023–2026, including the EQUAL Sustainability Project and a successful webinar series on sustainability. Members reaffirmed the importance of EQUAL as a unique global platform for collaboration, peer learning, and exchange among management education networks and accreditation agencies.

Discussions focused on the future direction of the network, with strong support for strengthening EQUAL's role as a community and knowledge-sharing platform. Members also explored opportunities to enhance engagement through digital initiatives, thought leadership, and the effective use of emerging technologies. Governance and leadership succession were discussed, with proposals for the future structure of the network to be developed and shared with members.



EQUAL Board Meeting 2026 in-session

India-UK Business School Dialogue Chartered Association of Business Schools at New Delhi, India

India-UK Business School Dialogue 2026



AMDISA invites member institutions to participate in the **India–UK Business School Dialogue 2026**, a high-impact international event organised by the **Chartered Association of Business Schools (CABS)**, UK, with AMDISA as a strategic partner.

Venue: Shangri-La Eros, New Delhi

Dates: 14–16 September 2026

Building on the success of the inaugural Dialogue in 2025, the event will bring together senior leaders from leading business schools in India and the United Kingdom, along with policymakers, regulators, accreditation bodies, and international higher education stakeholders, to strengthen long-term academic partnerships and advance collaboration in management education.

AMDISA will lead a plenary session on **“The Value of Networks for Building Sustainable Relationships between Indian and UK Business Schools.”** The session will explore the role of academic networks, quality assurance, accreditation, and institutional collaboration in fostering sustainable international partnerships. Particular emphasis will be placed on the contribution of AMDISA and the SAQS accreditation system in promoting quality enhancement, internationalisation, and institutional development across business schools and management institutions.

In addition to the plenary session, AMDISA will facilitate a thematic workshop addressing a key priority area for India-UK collaboration in management education. Further details will be announced in due course.

The Dialogue will feature leadership forums, best-practice exchanges, thematic workshops, and structured networking opportunities designed to promote transnational education partnerships, collaborative research, faculty development, and student mobility initiatives.

Who Should Attend: Vice-Chancellors, Directors, Deans, Heads of Institutions, International Office Leaders, and Senior Faculty Members.

For more information, please visit the **India-UK Business School Dialogue** webpage: <https://charteredabs.org/events/uk-india-business-school-dialogue-2026> and complete the **CABS Expression of Interest Form** to secure your place.

NEWS FROM AMDISA SECRETARIAT

I. SAQS News

The following are the highlights with reference to SAQS operations since the last Newsletter:

- a) 5 institutions entered the SAQS Accreditation process
- b) 13 Mentor visits were completed.
- c) 3 Peer Review Team visits were completed.
- d) 3 Institutions have been awarded SAQS Accreditation

SAQS E-Meetings

SAQS Committee – 32 E Meetings were held with regard to process requirements.

SAQS Accreditation Awarding Committee (SAAC) – 5 E Meetings were held with regard to process requirements.

II. AMDISA New Members

- a) International Institute of Business Study (IIBS), Bangalore, Karnataka, India
- b) Department of Management Studies, Dayananda Sagar College of Engineering, Bengaluru, Karnataka, India.
- c) Faculty of Management, South Asian University, New Delhi, India
- d) School of Business, Mody University of Science and Technology, Laxmangarh, Rajasthan, India
- e) Vinod Gupta School of Management, Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur, Kharagpur, West Bengal, India
- f) Department of Business Administration, Faculty of Business Studies, Premier University, Chittagong, Bangladesh

III. AMDISA Meetings

I. Executive Board Meeting

The 88th Executive Board Meeting of AMDISA was held on 10th May, 2026 hosted by Royal Institute of Management (RIM), Thimphu, Bhutan at Hotel Nordenma, Olakha. Ms. Tshering Yangden, Director General, Royal Institute of Management, Thimphu, Bhutan, chaired the meeting.



88th Executive Board Meeting of AMDISA at Thimphu, Bhutan

L-R: Dr. Ashok Joshi, Dasho Kunzang Wangdi, Dr. Rajan Saxena, Dr. S. Padam, Dr. Madhumita Chatterji, Ms. Tshering Yangden, Mr. C. Ramakrishna, Prof. Dr. Abdur Rab, Dr. Syed Zahoor Hassan, Dr. Asanga Ranasinghe, Dr. S. Sreenivasa Murthy and Prof. Dr. Sarwar Uddin Ahmed

The highlights of the meeting were:

- a) Noting changes in the Executive Board - (a) Prof. J. Anuradha, In-Charge Vice Chancellor, University of Hyderabad (UoH) and (b) Consequent upon completion of the tenure of Prof. Imran Rahman as Vice Chancellor, Dr. Sarwar Uddin Ahmed, Dean, School of Business, University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB), Dhaka, Bangladesh is nominated by ULAB to the Executive Board.
- b) Approving the nomination of Dr. Rajan Saxena, Former Director, IIM Indore and Former Vice-Chancellor, NMIMS University, Mumbai, India to deliver the 5th Dr. Dharni P. Sinha Memorial Lecture at the 17th SAMF at Bhutan.
- c) Approving the recommendation of the Mathew J Maminala-SAJM Best Paper Awards.
- d) Approving the appointment of Auditors.
- e) The Board noted that AMDISA's EU Erasmus Capacity Building project, developed in collaboration with EFMD Global and international partners, has been successfully resubmitted under the 2026 Erasmus+ Call.
- f) Taking note of Statutory Compliances
- g) Noting and thanking ICFAI Foundation for Higher Education, Hyderabad and Institute of Public Enterprise, (IPE), Hyderabad for their sponsorship support to the 17th SAMF.

2. Local Management Committee Meeting

The 37th Local Management Committee (LMC) meeting was held Online on 23rd February, 2026 at AMDISA Secretariat. Dr. Ashok R Joshi, Chairman, Local Management Committee and Director General, IndSearch Institute of Management Studies and Research, Pune, chaired the meeting.



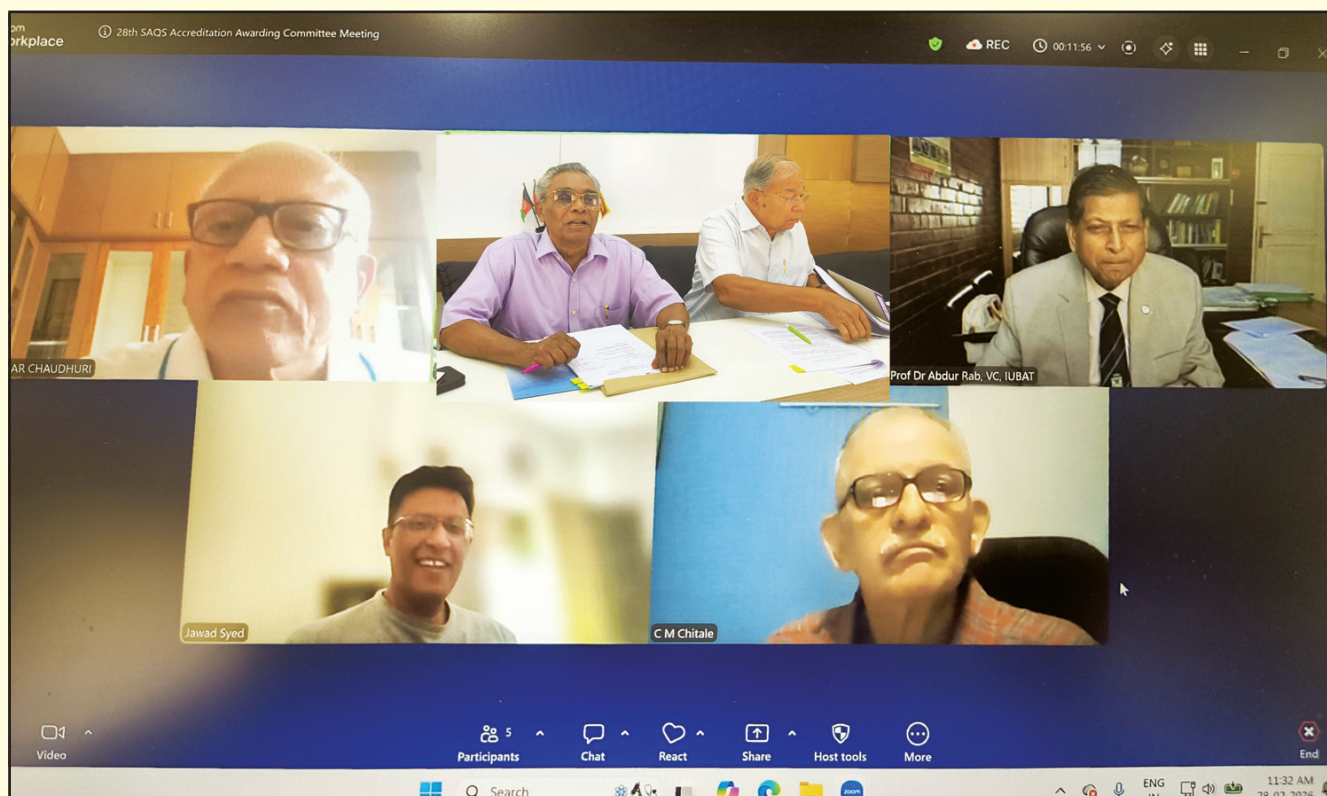
The highlights of the meeting were:

Making the recommendation on the following to the Executive Board:

- a) Nomination of Dr. Rajan Saxena, Former Director, IIM Indore and Former Vice-Chancellor, NMIMS University, Mumbai, India to deliver the 5th Dr. Dharni P. Sinha Memorial Lecture at the 17th SAMF at Bhutan.
- a) Recommending appointment of auditors.
- b) Recommending to the Mathew J Maminala-SAJM Best Papers awards selected by panel of experts.
- c) Taking note of statutory compliances.

3. SAQS Accreditation Awarding Committee Meetings

The 28th and 29th SAQS Accreditation Awarding Committee (SAAC) Meetings were held on 28th February, 2026 and 30th April, 2026 at AMDISA Secretariat, respectively. Dr. S. Padam, Chairman, SAQS Accreditation Awarding Committee, chaired the meetings.



28th SAQS Accreditation Awarding Committee Meeting
L-R: from bottom - Dr. Jawad Syed, Dr. (Capt) C. M. Chitale, Dr. Shekhar Chaudhuri, Dr. S. Padam, Mr. C. Ramakrishna and Prof. Dr. Abdur Rab

The following 3 institutions were awarded SAQS Accreditation in these meetings:

Accreditation

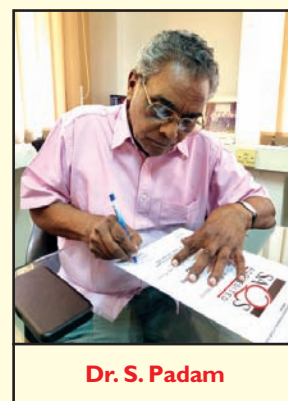
1. Qasim Ibrahim School of Business (QISB), Villa College, Male', Maldives

Re-Accreditation

2. IMT Ghaziabad, India
3. Institute of Public Enterprise (IPE), Hyderabad, India

SAQS Accreditation Awards

SAQS Accreditation Award was given to 3 institutions and accorded accreditation at the 28th and 29th meetings of SAQS Accreditation Awarding Committee (SAAC) on 28th February, 2026 and 30th April, 2026. Picture alongside shows Dr. S. Padam, Chairman of SAAC, signing the SAQS Accreditation Award Certificates.



Dr. S. Padam

AMDISA



AMDISA facilitates networking, exchange of ideas, knowledge, expertise and Quality Assurance through SAQS Accreditation.

AMDISA conferences / workshops / seminars are happening places where ideas are exchanged, knowledge is shared and connections are forged.

An ideal environment to build a strong legacy for member organizations and its stakeholders.

Institutions/Corporates desirous of joining the Association may please apply for membership. For details, please visit our website at www.amdisa.org/membership/ or write to the Executive Director, AMDISA at execdir.amdisa@gmail.com, execdir@amdisa.org

4. Building Committee Meeting

The 25th Building Committee Meeting was held on 7th March, 2026 at AMDISA Secretariat. Dr. S. Nagabhushana Rao, Chairman, Building Committee, chaired the meeting.



25th Building Committee Meeting

L-R: Dr. S. Padam, Mr. Subodh Sapatnekar, Dr. Nagabhushana Rao, Mr. Ganapathi Prasad and Mr. C. Ramakrishna

The highlights of the meeting were:

- a) Reviewed deferred capital works.
- b) Emphasised early painting of the building.
- c) Advised to explore solar power option
- d) Reviewed and approved after inspection the lift installation at the AMDISA Secretariat.

IV. Visit to University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad, India

Prof. J. Anuradha took over as In-charge Vice Chancellor, University of Hyderabad in place of Prof. Basuthkar Jagadeeshwar Rao, whose tenure ended on 12th March 2026. Mr. C. Ramakrishna, Executive Director paid a courtesy call to her. The Vice Chancellor of UoH is a permanent invitee to the AMDISA Executive Board.



L-R: Mr. C. Ramakrishna, Executive Director, AMDISA and Prof. J. Anuradha, In-charge Vice Chancellor, University of Hyderabad



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AMDISA SUPPORTED PROGRAMMES

I. Jagdish Sheth School of Management (JAGSoM), Bangalore, India

International Conference on “Sustainable India: Bridging ESG Principles with Indian Knowledge Systems”

The International Conference on “Sustainable India: Bridging ESG Principles with Indian Knowledge Systems” (16-17 February 2026), was conceived as an academic platform to explore the convergence of contemporary ESG frameworks with the rich philosophical, ethical, and practical wisdom embedded in Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS).

In the context of pressing global challenges such as environmental degradation, social inequities, and governance complexities, the conference sought to highlight culturally grounded, value-driven pathways toward sustainable development. The International Conference was successfully executed by Jagdish Sheth School of Management (JAGSoM) in collaboration with Sri Sri Institute for Advanced Research (SSIAR) and the Art of Living Foundation. AMIDSA partnered with JAGSoM for this International Conference.

The conference brought together academicians, researchers, industry practitioners, policymakers, and thought leaders across six thoughtfully curated academic tracks:

- Environmental Sustainability inspired by Indian Knowledge Systems
- Social Responsibility & Community Well-being – blending Indian ethos with ESG
- Governance, Ethics & Leadership through the lens of Indian traditions
- Application of IKS in Business, Industry & ESG practices
- Technology, Innovation & IKS for sustainable development
- Policy, Education & Global perspectives on IKS–ESG integration

The contributions of all speakers, presenters, session chairs, reviewers, and participants whose engagement made the conference a meaningful academic endeavour.

The Conference Patron was Mr. Sanjay Padode, Chairman, Centre for Developmental Education, and Founding President, Vijaybhoomi University. The Chairperson of the International Conference was Dr Rajendra K Sinha, Professor Emeritus & Chairperson, Centre of Excellence in Banking, JAGSoM. The Co-Chairpersons were Prof. M. Sivagnanasundaram, Area Chair-Marketing, JAGSoM, and Prof. A. M. Sakkthivel, Dean, IFIM College.



Lamp Lighting

L-R: Prof. Pranesh B. Aswath (Provost & Executive VP-Academic Affairs, Texas State University), Prof. Rajan Saxena (Former Vice Chancellor, NMIMS), Ms. Kalpana Padode, Secretary, CDE), Mr. Sanjay Padode (President, Vijaybhoomi University), Mr. Pranav Padode (CEO, DSJ Keep Learning, Dr. Sudhir Kumar Barai (Director, BITS Pilani), Dr Rajendra K Sinha (Professor Emeritus, JAGSoM and Chairperson of International Conference on Sustainability).

Seen Lamp lighting Mr. Satish Kalra, Director Client Relationship, Art of Living

2. Indus Business Academy (IBA), Bangalore, India

Confluence of Polity, Economics & Research-Ecofluence 3.0

Ecofluence 3.0- confluence of economists and policy makers was organized at Indus Business Academy (IBA) in collaboration with Indian Economic Association (IEA) and supported by AMDISA on February 20-21, 2026. The theme was 'Economics and Public Policy for India in the Digital Century'.

As India navigates the digital disruptions accentuated by the swift emergence of AI tools, it is pertinent to examine the preparedness of the Indian economy and the accompanying challenges to the policy makers. The confluence therefore sought to be the platform for such an investigation. The conference was inaugurated by Dr. Mahendra Dev, Chairman, PM-Economic Advisory Council who laid out the macroeconomic roadmap for India as it prepares for Viksit Bharat 2047. The Guest of Honour, Dr. Charan Singh, E-GROW Foundation complimented the address with anecdotes and personal experiences to highlight India's place in the digital universe.

Prof. Shishir Jha, IIT Bombay stressed on the 'Digital and Regenerative' an important point in the contemporary discourse. Dr. Pravakar Sahoo, Niti Aayog elucidated at length in a free-wheeling talk on 'How Governments Work'. Dr. JBG Tilak, Council of Social Development, presented a comprehensive analysis on Challenges for Higher Educational Institutions in the current discourse. Dr. Ashok Dalwai, IAS spelt his views through his vast experience on Development Economics, Dr. Suryanarayana N, IGIDR (retired) made a persuasive argument on methodological issues in poverty measurement. Dr. RK Mishra, IPE Hyderabad spoke on Public Finance and Institutions, the point echoed by Dr. K Gayatri, ISEC, Dr. Yashwant Kumar, IAAS and Dr. S S Somra, Dr. KN Harikumar, Deccan Herald enabled the audience to understand Trump's tariff wars. Dr. Geetanjali Natraj, CII enabled the understanding of the free trade agreements. Dr. Suresh Agarwal, Institute of Human Development shared his experiences in developmental economics, similar points shared by Dr. Vinayak Deshpande, VC GH Raisen University, Dr. Basavaprabhu Jirli, CMDR Dharwad, Dr. Deepika, Alliance University, Prof. Lallan Prasad, Kautilya Foundation among others.

There was a comprehensive panels in multiple sessions on Karnataka economy addressed by Dr. Basavaraj Benni, Dr. Basavaraj Nagoor, Dr. Jayaram Bhat, Dr. KB Rangappa, Dr. Ravi Tirlapur, Dr. Mahesha M, Dr. Naseer Khan, Dr. Neelakanta NT, Dr. Khalil Shaha among others. There were intervention on International Trade by Dr. Malini Tantri and Dr. RR Biradar, with similar interventions on sustainability, education and heritage by Dr. SR Keshava, Dr. Nagesh Prabhu and Dr. Sridevi Gummadi. There were further discussions on SDGs which saw the participation of Dr. Elumalai Kannan, Dr. Navitha Thimmaiah, Dr. Sivakumar S and Dr. Kasturi Bhattacharya. Among other dignitaries who participated include Dr. Ravindra Kumar, Dr. SV Hanagondimath and Dr. Sivasubramanian.



Book Launch:

L-R: Dr. Mansi Bansal , Co Chair Ecofluence 3.0, Prof. Subhash Sharma , Chief Mentor and Chairman Governing Council Indus Business Academy Bangalore, Prof. R S Deshpande, Director (Retd), Institute of Social and Economic Change Bangalore, Prof. S Mahendra Dev, Chairman Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council New Delhi, Dr. Manish Jain, Chairman Indus Business Academy Bangalore, Prof. Charan Singh, Founder, EGROW Foundation New Delhi, Prof. Ravindra Brahma, General Secretary Indian Economic Association, and Prof. Prashant Kulkarni, Faculty Economics Indus Business Academy

3. S.P. Jain Institute of Management & Research (SPJIMR), Mumbai, India

TaSIC 2026 - International Technology and Societal Impact Conference 20–21, February 2026.

How might India meet growing consumer aspirations responsibly and sustainably?

Over two days, TaSIC 2026 brought together global scholars, senior industry leaders, doctoral researchers, and innovators to move from question to prescription — through research, debate, and deliberate co-creation.

~40 Research papers presented	~80 Peer reviewers from India and abroad	~50 Industry Design Sprint participants	6 Wise Innovations showcased	~1,000 Nominations for Wise Innovation Awards
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Conference format

An Academic–Practice Sprint

TaSIC was deliberately structured not as a conventional conference but as a sprint — designed to convert scholarly dialogue into actionable prescriptions. Day 1 (Friday) centred on research: four plenary addresses by leading international scholars, followed by five parallel paper-presentation tracks. Day 2 (Saturday) shifted to practice: an executive Industry Design Sprint and the Wise Innovation Showcase. Outputs from both days feed directly into a SPJIMR policy paper on meeting India’s consumer aspirations responsibly.

Research tracks

Five themes, ~40 papers

- Track 1: Sustainable consumer well-being
- Track 2: Digital transformation and inclusion
- Track 3: Circularity and sustainability of supply chains
- Track 4: Sustainable finance and financial innovation
- Track 5: Leadership, technology, and the future of work

Papers were drawn from a competitive review process — shaped by nearly 80 reviewers — and supported by a pre-conference Online Research Writing Workshop (Oct–Nov 2025) with nine expert faculty coaches from IIMs, NUS, SMU, and Michigan State.

Academic plenary – Day 1

Four global scholars, one shared question

Esade Prof. Joan Rodón Mòdol	King’s College London Prof. Matteo Montecchi	McMaster University Prof. Khaled Hassanein	Edinburgh Business School Prof. Edward Sweeney
How moral markets can scale without diluting their founding values	Embedding responsibility, resilience, and respect into marketing strategy	Inclusive technology design for equitable digital futures	Co-creating sustainable, circular and inclusive value chains

Wise Innovation Showcase – Day 2

Six innovations, three categories

Climate and Environmental Resilience	Inclusive Human Capital and Opportunity	Health, Nutrition and Wellbeing
FluXGen Winner AI/IoT water intelligence – reduces industrial leakage and wastage by up to 30%	Languify AI Winner Automated communication coaching at one-tenth the cost of traditional methods	YourDOST Winner 15 lakh+ counselling sessions via 900 experts and 300 institutional clients

Industry Design Sprint — Day 2 (by invitation)

Practitioner insight → policy prescription

Senior leaders from six organisations and cross-sector teams of ~50 participants worked to co- create actionable prescriptions for India's policy paper on responsible growth.

- Deepak Iyer — EVP & President AMEA, Mondelēz International
- Manjari Upadhye — CMO, Mahindra & Mahindra (Auto)
- Subramanian Chidambaran — Chief Strategy & Sustainability Officer, Cummins India
- Sunil Kataria — CEO & MD, Godrej Agrovet
- Suraj Saharan — Co-Founder, Delhivery
- Venu Nair — Chief, Strategic Partnerships & Omnichannel, Myntra

Key outcomes

Best Paper Awards

Five categories, each carrying a cash prize of INR 1 lakh (excluding Special Mention)

Policy paper inputs

Design Sprint outputs feed directly into SPJIMR's policy paper *India 2026*:

Prescriptions for meeting growing aspirations sustainably and responsibly **Research** ecosystem strengthened Pre-conference writing workshop improved manuscript quality across 40 accepted papers

Academic–industry bridge

50+ industry sprinters, 4 international scholars, and 80+ reviewers created a genuinely cross-sector knowledge community.



TaSIC 2026 International Technology and Societal Impact Conference 20-21 February 2026 | SPJIMR, Mumbai

L-R: Prof. Khaled Hassanein, Dean of the DeGroote School of Business, McMaster University, Prof. Matteo Montecchi, Associate Professor of Marketing at King's Business School, King's College London. Prof. Varun Nagaraj, Dean S.P. Jain Institute of Management & Research (SPJIMR), Prof. Edward Sweeney, Deputy Executive Dean of Edinburgh Business School, Heriot-Watt University and - Prof. Joan Rodón Mòdol, Full Professor in the Department of Data, Analytics, Technology and Artificial Intelligence and Deputy General Director at Esade

4. School of Management & Liberal Arts, IMS Unison University, Dehradun, India

International Conference 2026 (ICON2026) on “Redefining Value Creation: Digital Transformation for a Sustainable and HumanCentric Economy”

The International Conference 2026 (ICON2026) on the theme “Redefining Value Creation: Digital Transformation for a Sustainable and HumanCentric Economy” was successfully organized on April 10-11, 2026 by the School of Management

& Liberal Arts, IMS Unison University. Conducted in hybrid mode, the conference brought together eminent academicians, researchers, and industry leaders from across the globe. It was held in collaboration with the University of West Alabama (USA), Gedu College of Business Studies, Royal University of Bhutan (Bhutan), Skyline University (Nigeria), and HNB Garhwal University (India). The conference was enriched by the support of AMDISA (Association of Management Development Institutions in South Asia) and AIMS (Association of Indian Management Schools), who served as knowledge partners, further strengthening the academic depth and collaborative spirit of the event.

Distinguished dignitaries addressed the gathering, including Dr. K.S. Chandrashekhar, Vice Chancellor, Cluster University of Jammu, who delivered the keynote. Additional keynote contributions came from Dr. Parag Kalkar, President AIMS & Pro Vice Chancellor, SPPU Pune, and Dr. Neeraj Dwivedi, Director, IIM Kashipur, offering valuable perspectives on digital transformation and academic leadership. Special addresses were delivered by Sarada Maganti, Director, Public Relations & Corporate Affairs, Skyline University, Nigeria; Dr. Mark Davis, Dean of International Programs, University of West Alabama, USA; and Keshar Nath, Lecturer, Gedu College of Business Studies, Bhutan. The proceedings also featured an address by Puneet Wadhwa, Chair, CII Yi, Dehradun, underscoring the importance of industry-academia collaboration in shaping sustainable value creation.

A panel discussion on “Sustainability in the Digital Age: Balancing Innovation with Responsibility” featured leading voices such as Dr. K.S. Chandrashekhar, Anoop Kumar (Chairman, ISTD, Dehradun Chapter), Dr. Rajashekheran Pillai (Professor & Director, WGSMA – MAHE, Manipal), and Keshar Nath (GCBS, Bhutan). The session was moderated by Dr. Mahendra Babu (Professor & Head, Business Management, HNB Garhwal University) and emphasized responsible innovation and sustainable growth.

Across the two days, the conference hosted six technical tracks that covered a wide spectrum of contemporary themes:

1. Artificial Intelligence & Industry 5.0
2. Sustainability & Green Transformation
3. Business Analytics & Decision Making
4. Innovation & Entrepreneurship
5. Marketing & Digital Economy
6. Human Capital & the Future of Work



International Conference on “Redefining Value Creation: Digital Transformation for a Sustainable and Human Centric Economy” organised by IMS Unison University

L-R: Dr. Anita Ramachander, Pro-Vice Chancellor, IMS Unison University, Dehradun. Dr. Anil Subbarao Paila, Vice Chancellor, IMS Unison University, Dehradun, Dr. K S Chandrashekhar, Vice Chancellor, Cluster University of Jammu and Keynote Speaker, Dr. Sunil Jakhoria, Dean, School of Management and Liberal Arts, IMS Unison University, Dehradun and Conference Chair (ICON-2026), and Mr. Keshar Nath Dhakal, Gedu College of Business Studies, Royal University of Bhutan.

Each track was chaired by distinguished faculty and featured insightful paper presentations and discussions. The response from scholars and practitioners was overwhelming, with over 200 research papers received, reflecting the strong interest and relevance of the conference theme in today's academic and professional landscape.

Ahead of the main event, a preconference workshop on “AI enabled Tools and techniques for Research, academic writing and Data Analytics” was conducted on April 9, 2026. The workshop offered hands-on training in AI-enabled research design, academic writing, data analysis, and publication strategies, equipping participants to maximize the impact of their scholarly contributions.

Overall Impact:

ICON2026 successfully fostered international collaboration, academic excellence, and innovation. The hybrid format ensured wide participation, while the diverse tracks, keynote addresses, and panel discussions enriched scholarly dialogue on digital transformation and sustainability.

UPCOMING AMDISA SUPPORTED PROGRAMMES

Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India, Gandhinagar, Gujarat, India

17th Biennial Conference on “Entrepreneurship”

Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDII), Gandhinagar, Gujarat, India is organizing 17th Biennial Conference on “Entrepreneurship” from 24th to 26th February, 2027.

In line with the sixteen biennial conferences held over the past 32 years, the 17th Biennial Conference on Entrepreneurship continues to serve as an established forum to share their ideas and research findings with other researchers, professionals and thinkers in the field. Researchers are invited to contribute papers that explore and expand upon the field of entrepreneurship theory and practice.

For details, please visit AMDISA's website at <https://www.amdisa.org/supported-programme/edii-2027/>

SHORT TAKES

1. Dr. Suvrashis Sarkar has taken over as Director, Aditya School of Business Management, Mumbai, Maharashtra, India.
2. Dr. Parag Kalkar, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune, Maharashtra has taken over as Association of Indian Management Schools (AIMS), Hyderabad.
3. Dr. Roja Reddy has taken over as Executive Director, AIMS Institutions, Bangalore.
4. Dr. B M Rama Murthy has taken over as Principal, AIMS Institutes, Bangalore.
5. Prof. Brigadier General Dr. A. K. M. Iqbal Azim ndc, psc, G+ (Retd), has taken over as Dean, School of Business, Eastern University, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
6. Prof. J. Anuradha has taken charge as the In-Charge Vice-Chancellor of the University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad.
7. Prof. Mohammad Main Uddin has taken over as Dean (In-charge) Faculty of Business Studies, University of Rajshahi, Rajshahi, Bangladesh.
8. Dr. Bharati Deshpande has taken over as Director, Kohinoor Business School (KBS), Mumbai.
9. Dr. Gurdip Singh Batra has taken over as Pro Vice Chancellor and Dean Faculty of Business Management and Commerce at Desh Bhagat University, Mandi Gobindgarh, Punjab.
10. Prof. Shamsad Mortuza has taken over as Vice Chancellor, University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB), Dhaka, Bangladesh.
11. Prof. Ashay Kadam has taken over as Dean, Paari School of Business, SRM University AP, Andhra Pradesh.
12. Dr. Mohammed Masum Billah has taken over as Head, Department of Business Administration, Faculty of Business Studies, BGMEA University of Fashion & Technology (BUFT) Dhaka, Bangladesh.
13. Dr. Hanuman Prasad has taken over as Director, Faculty of Management Studies, Mohanlal Sukhadia University, Udaipur, Rajasthan, India.
14. Dr. Raman Meenakshi Sundaram has taken over as Director, ICAR–National Academy of Agricultural Research Management, Hyderabad, Telangana, India
15. Dr. Subhajyoti Ray has taken over as Pro-Vice Chancellor, XIM University, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India.
16. Dr. Debasis Pradhan has taken over as Director, T.A. Pai Management Institute, Manipal, Karnataka
17. Dr. Nalini Dixit has taken over as Director, International Institute of Management Studies (IIMS) Pune, Maharashtra, India
18. Dr. Daneshwar Sharma has taken over as Director, Jaipuria Institute of Management, Jaipur, Rajasthan, India



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