



Sri Aurobindo College
(University of Delhi)

REPORT OF ICSSR SPONSORED INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON 'ENVISIONING INDIA AS A GLOBAL LEADER: UNDER G20 PRESIDENCY'

Name of the Conference: 'Envisioning India as a Global Leader: Under G20 Presidency'

Date of the Conference: February 23-24, 2024

Venue of the Conference:

February 23, 2024: Conference Centre, North Campus, University of Delhi, Delhi

February 24, 2024: Sri Aurobindo College, Malviya Nagar, Delhi

Number of attendees: 400

Sponsoring Organization: ICSSR

Continuing the legacy of knowledge creation and dissemination, the Department of Commerce of Sri Aurobindo College organised the ICSSR-sponsored International Conference on 'Envisioning India as a Global Leader: Under G20 Presidency' on February 23-24, 2024, at two different venues in New Delhi. The two-day event witnessed the presence and deliberations by a galaxy of intellectuals from both India and abroad.

Deliberations on Day 1: February 23, 2024

The inaugural session of the conference began with the opening remarks of Prof. Vipin Kumar Aggarwal, Principal, Sri Aurobindo College. Prof. Aggarwal broke down the essential terms that were linked with the conference's theme to explain it in a lucid manner. Following that, Shri Anand Mohan Bajaj (CPA), Additional Deputy Comptroller & Auditor General (Eastern Region) & CTO, focused upon ongoing efforts to shift the functioning of governmental departments towards full-scale automation. The next guest was the keynote speaker, Mr. S. Ravi (CA), former Chairman, BSE India. He spoke about the urgency to address a myriad of issues, such as, gender equality, green ecosystem, sustainable development, inclusivity, and cyber security, to accelerate India's pace to achieve the status of 'Viksit Bharat'. Mr. Rahul Himalian, Director, IRCTC Limited, gave the final speech of the inaugural session. He made a case for direct connection between national scope for tourism and economic development.

The first technical session of the conference was titled as 'Dynamics of Economic Environment, Trade and Investment' which witnessed the discourses of six great luminaries. Firstly, the audience was addressed by Prof. Niti Bhasin, Professor, Delhi School of Economics. Prof. Bhasin explained that the dynamics of foreign trade are undergoing de-risking and decoupling as a measure to strengthen global supply chain management. Next, Shri Alok Kumar (IAS), Former Secretary, Ministry of Power, Government of India, apprised the students and faculty of the challenges in achieving large scale transition to green energy. After that, Mr. Pranav Kumar, Vice President (International Trade), Reliance Industries Limited, shared India's success story in achieving unanimous adoption of New Delhi declaration at the G20 Summit. Thereafter, Prof. Ashwani Mahajan, Professor, PGDAV College, stressed on the fact that India's historical status had never been less than of a global leader. Post that, Mr. Sameet Gambhir (CS), Vice President (Corporate Laws), DCM Shriram Limited, acclaimed that micro-level roles of individuals and society are most significant in meeting the requirements of global sustainable development. Mr. Adhish Verma,



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Associate Director (Senior Economist), CRISIL, showcased the composition of India's imports and exports in both manufacturing and service sectors.

The second technical session captured the area of 'Digital Transformation'. It delved into the intricacies of digital transformation and its far-reaching implications. Ms. Anjilee Istwal, Senior Editor and Anchor at ITGD, TVTN, shed light on the evolving media landscape, noting the shift from traditional TV viewership to AI-driven news sources. She introduced Sana AI, a news anchor powered by artificial intelligence, endorsed by the Prime Minister, while emphasizing the enduring value of human creativity alongside AI advancements. In his online address, Mr. Gopal Krishna G S S, Segment Business Head for North America at Tata Consultancy Services, examined the technical aspects fueling Digital India's growth, acknowledging resistance during the transition while emphasizing its role in bolstering national resilience. He highlighted the pandemic's role in accelerating digital adoption by businesses, showcasing initiatives like DigiYatra, UPI systems, and the CoWIN App as pivotal tools in this transformation, with data emerging as a key economic asset. Mr. Ashok Sangwan, Executive, Delivery Partner, Kyndryl Solutions Private Limited, underscored the importance of API-based integration and digital strategies for businesses, illustrating their impact on traditional processes like order to cash processing through AI applications. He cautioned against financial risks due to technical glitches, advocating for robust automated alert systems for operational teams. Together, the speakers provided a comprehensive overview of the digital landscape's challenges and opportunities, urging businesses to adapt strategically to thrive in the digital age.

Deliberations on Day 2: February 24, 2024

With great enthusiasm and willingness to absorb knowledge, all the registered students and faculty members attended the third technical session on 'International Relations and Multilateral Reforms'. To begin with, Ms. Ngawang Hardy, Economic Analyst, Royal Thai Embassy, spoke about the dynamics of economic integration and significance of 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan'. The second speaker, Shri Pawan Aggarwal (IAS), Thought Leader & CEO, Food Future Foundation, provided a deeper understanding of food procurement systems and minimum support prices. The last speaker of the session, Dr. Manasi Sinha, Associate Professor, Galgotias University, touched upon a plethora of issues including geopolitical conflicts, climate change, and multilateral reforms, to name a few.

The first-half of day 2 of the Conference featured a total of 24 paper presentations held in two parallel slots. Post lunch, the last technical session titled 'Inclusive Growth' took place. The session was deliberated by a bench of four speakers, Prof. H. K. Dangi, Professor, Delhi School of Economics; Dr. Tarunika Jain, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Management Studies; Ms. Deepti Nagpal (CA), Head, Internal Audit, Luminous Power Technologies; and Ms. Ojasvi Goyal, Consultant, National Council for Vocational Education and Training, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship. The major takeaway from this session was that the medium to achieve inclusive growth lies in skill development, technological advancements, financial inclusion, agricultural development, creation of jobs, ensuring regional parities, and eradication of poverty. These issues act as bottlenecks in rising towards an inclusive society.



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Thereafter, the valedictory session commenced with the exemplary address of Mr. Rajiv Kumar Gupta, President, PB Fintech Limited. He highlighted the potential scope for India's digital public infrastructure and fintech innovations in envisioning India as the global leader. After that, a brief report of the two-day deliberations was presented, which was followed by the announcement of best paper awards and certificate distribution ceremony. Best paper awards were shared by two sets of co-authors: Mr. Roshan and Mr. Rajeev Verma; and Dr. Meenakshi Chaudhary and Dr. Vandana Munjal. Lastly, the two-day event came to a close with a vote of thanks and recitation of the National Anthem of India.





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