



भारतीय प्रबन्धन संस्थान तिरुचिरापल्ली Indian Institute of Management Tiruchirappalli

(An Autonomous Institute under the Ministry of Education 'Shiksha Mantralaya', Government of India)
Tiruchirappalli – 620 024, Tamil Nadu, INDIA

Press Release
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Leadership Conclave – DAKSHA 2024: Episode 2

Indian Institute of Management Tiruchirappalli successfully hosted the second episode of the 2024 edition of its Leadership Conclave, 'Daksha', on Thursday, August 29, 2024. The theme of this year's conclave – which is spread across a few episodes – is “*Leadership Renaissance: Embracing Change, Seizing Opportunities.*”

Episode 2 (on August 29, 2024) focused on sustainability under the theme “*Leadership in the Era of Sustainable Transformation: Navigating Challenges and Opportunities.*” The Daksha series remains a testament to IIM Tiruchirappalli's ongoing commitment to learning. This thought-provoking discussion provided participants with a profound understanding of navigating challenges effectively and seizing opportunities.

The event commenced with invocation, lighting of the lamp, and welcome of the guests by Prof. Abhishek Totawar (Chairperson, Placements).

Prof. Gopal V, Dean of Academics at IIM Tiruchirappalli, delivered the welcome address, emphasising the importance of sustainability in today's business landscape. He highlighted that discussing sustainability within a business school context is essential for preparing future managers to navigate the challenges of balancing profitability with environmental and social responsibility. Additionally, he spoke about the sustainable practices implemented on the IIM Tiruchirappalli campus, including the largest solar plant among all IIMs and the highest tree density of any IIM. He expressed that by focusing on this theme, the goal is to equip students with the skills and mindset needed to lead in an era where sustainable practices are not merely optional but imperative for long-term success.

The panel featured distinguished speakers with a wealth of experience and insights from the sustainability space.

Mr. Abhishek Ranjan is the Sr. Director and Global Head of ESG, Brillio. He is a distinguished leader in the sustainability space, known for his visionary leadership in CSR and ESG initiatives. At Brillio, he has been instrumental in achieving carbon neutrality, championing diversity and inclusion, and leading the "Brillio Bringing Smiles" program, which aims to uplift 1 million under-served children. His involvement extends globally through organisations like ASSOCHAM and UNGC, and he is recognised as one of the top 40 under 40 ESG leaders.

Ms. Dhaarini Srinivasan is the Global Sustainability Lead of VDart. With over 13 years of international experience, Ms. Srinivasan is a seasoned HR professional with a strong focus on sustainability. She has been actively involved in promoting the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). She has significantly contributed to HR transformation, employee relations, and diversity initiatives in the private and public sectors. Her dedication to sustainability is reflected in her daily practices, where she strives to exceed the standards set by the UN SDGs.

Mr. Sushil Reddy, an alum of IIT Bombay and HEC Paris, advocates for sustainability through his initiative, The SunPedal Ride, where he has undertaken multiple journeys across the globe on zero-tail-pipe emission vehicles. The Guinness World Record has recognised his efforts for the longest journey on an e-

bike. His journey reflects a commitment to raising awareness about sustainability and promoting the use of clean energy.

The panel discussion was moderated by **Prof. Gajanand M. S.**, Associate Professor in the Operations Management & Decision Sciences Area. He earned his bachelor's degree in Industrial Engineering from the College of Engineering Guindy, Anna University, Chennai, and holds a Ph.D. from the Department of Management Studies at the Indian Institute of Technology Madras. His research focuses on distribution planning and green logistics, and he has published extensively in prominent international journals and conferences.

The session concluded with an engaging Audience Q&A Session, allowing participants to interact directly with the panellists and gain deeper insights into the discussed topics.

Vote of thanks was proposed by **Mr Nitin Deshmukh** (Member, Placement Office).

The event concluded with the mass singing of the National Anthem.