



Confederation of Indian Industry

“Educational institutes have to go through disruption to prepare the new-age workforce for the constantly disruptive nature of jobs”

Mumbai, 10th August: The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) WR organized the 4th edition of the Higher Education Summit 2018 on 10 August in Mumbai. The event commenced with an address from **Ninad Karpe, Immediate Past Chairman, CII Western Region & Director, Aptech**. The Summit was chaired by **Prof. Dr Uday Salunkhe, Chairman, CII Western Region Higher Education Sub-Committee, and Group Director, WeSchool**.

In his inaugural address, **Ninad Karpe, Immediate Past Chairman, CII Western Region & Director, Aptech** said, “Stakeholders in education sector need to ensure the youth is provided with adequate skill sets that will be required in the future.” Underlining the skills gap, he added, “There is a huge gap between the skills imparted by institutes and industry demands. There is an immediate need for collaboration between industry and academia to work in unison towards bridging this gap.”

Addressing the gathering, **Prof. Dr Uday Salunkhe, Chairman, CII Western Region Higher Education Sub-Committee, and Group Director, WeSchool** said, “Emergence of disruptive technology is driving innovation and offering a plethora of opportunities for learners offline and online. With aggressive enhancement in the fields of AI and refined capabilities in machine learning, education sector needs to create leaders who are well-equipped for the new roles. Value based learning with focus on developing critical thinking is a skill which will leverage the role of technology. Educational institutes have to go through disruption themselves in order to prepare the new-age workforce for the constantly disruptive nature of jobs. The institutes will have to be built on the principle of ‘collaboration’ where the focus will be on imparting problem solving skills.

In her Inaugural address **Shaina NC** said, “The State government will be happy to facilitate Industry and Academia interventions through Industry Partners such as CII. There is a need to give a thrust to Higher Education and concrete efforts have to be made with specific growth areas in mind”.

The Summit highlighted the need for higher educational institutes to adapt innovation and become flexible. Eminent personalities from academia, government and corporate led the panel discussions on topics such as, ‘Voice of Stakeholders: Expectations and Responsibilities’, ‘Technology Disruption & Future of Work’, ‘Collaboration, Co-creation & Incubation’, ‘Role of Self for the Future of Education’, and the central theme of the event ‘Disrupt or Get Disrupted’.

The summit was also attended by other prominent personalities such as Sanjay Jog, Chief People Officer, Reliance Jio ; Dr. Suhas Pednekar, Vice Chancellor, University of Mumbai; Lyndon Rego, Executive Director, Centre for Leadership at African Leadership University, Mauritius ; Sujatha Sudheendra, Head-HR, Aditya Birla Finance; Sunil Khanna, Chairman, CII WR Sub-Committee on Skill Development & President & Managing Director, Vertiv Energy amongst others.

About CII

The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) works to create and sustain an environment conducive to the development of India, partnering industry, Government, and civil society, through advisory and consultative processes.

CII is a non-government, not-for-profit, industry-led and industry-managed organization, playing a proactive role in India's development process. Founded in 1895, India's premier business association has around 9000 members, from the private as well as public sectors, including SMEs and MNCs, and an indirect membership of over 300,000 enterprises from around 265 national and regional sectoral industry bodies.

Extending its agenda beyond business, CII assists industry to identify and execute corporate citizenship programmes. Partnerships with civil society organizations carry forward corporate initiatives for integrated and inclusive development across diverse domains including affirmative action, healthcare, education, livelihood, diversity management, skill development, empowerment of women, and water, to name a few.

With 65 offices, including 9 Centres of Excellence, in India, and 11 overseas offices in Australia, China, Dubai, Egypt, France, Germany, Iran, Singapore, South Africa, UK, and USA, as well as institutional partnerships with 355 counterpart organizations in 126 countries, CII serves as a reference point for Indian industry and the international business community.