Deloitte.

DELOITTE COMPILED MEDIA REPORT

29 May, 2025

Total Mention 68

Print	Financial	Mainline	Regional	Periodical
15	3	11	1	N/A

Online
53

Print

No	Newspaper	Headline	Edition	Pg
1.	The Economic Times	Former Tech Inc Execs Carve their Own Semicon Path	Jaipur + 5	1,11
2.	The Economic Times	Local CA Firms Set for Global Tie-ups	Jaipur + 4	12
3.	The Economic Times	Local CA Firms Set for Global Tieups	Pune	8
4.	The Times of India	A TRENDSETTER IN NEW-AGE EDUCATION INNOVATION , AND IMPACT	Chandigarh	10
5.	The Times of India	Institute Sets Benchmark with 102 Startups Valued at Rs 500 crore	Chennai + 2	1
6.	The Times of India	Institute Sets Benchmark with 102 Startups Valued at Rs 500 vote	Pune	1
7.	The Times of India	Redefining Engineering Education with Global Vision and Local Impact	Chandigarh + 1	11
8.	The Times of India	Blending Urban Advantage with Academic Distinction	Mumbai + 2	11
9.	The Times of India	A TRENDSETTER IN NEW-AGE EDUCATION, INNOVATION, AND IMPACT	Chennai + 2	10
10.	The Times of India	Blending Urban Advantage with Acamedic Distinction	Chennai	11
11.	The Times of India	WHERE DREAMS GET WINGS TO FLY	Pune	17
12.	The Times of India	EHERE DREAMS GET WINGS TO FLY	Chandigarh	17
13.	Millenniumpost	IS FIXED REALITY HELPING STUDENTS LEARN FASTER & SMARTER	Kolkata	11
14.	Millenniumpost	IS MIXED REALITY HELPING STUDENTS LEARN FASTER & SMARTER	Delhi	13
15.	Kalantar	The dream of becoming a millionaire by investing a new bucks	Kolkata	3

The Economic Times • 29 May • Deloitte

Former Tech Inc Execs Carve their Own Semicon Path

1,11 • PG | 821 • Sqcm | 127184 • AVE | 33.32K • Cir | Bottom Left,Middle Center

Jaipur • Delhi • Mumbai • Chandigarh • Kochi • Bengaluru

Former Tech Inc Execs Carve their Own Semicon Path

Buoyed by govt's incentives and strong investor interest, veterans from cos such as Intel, AMD developing indigenous AI chips

BEGINNING OF A NEW CHIP CHAPTER

Co (Founded in)	What It Does	Founders	Formerly
Agrani Labs (2024)	Develops AI chips	Ashok Jagannathan	Vice-president, Krutrim
		Sri Nimmagadda	Sr principal engineer, Intel
		Rajesh Vivekanandham	Performance engineer, AMD
		Dheemanth Nagaraj	Senior fellow, Datacenter Solutions Group, AMD
C2i Semiconductors (2024)	Power management for semiconductors	Ram Anant	Texas Instruments – Director-Power Mgmt Products
		Preetam Tadeparthy	Texas Instruments – Architect & chief technologist
		Vikram Gakhar	Texas Instruments – Design engineer
		DB Suryanarayana	Texas Instruments – Sr member of technical staff
Bodhi Computing (2023)	After being acquired by Krutrim, focus is on creating AI chips	Sambit Sahu	Vice-president and general manager, IoT Engineering, at Intel
		Raghuraman Barathalwar	Vice-president, Intel

Source: LinkedIn; company websites

Swathi Moorthy

Bengaluru: About a dozen executives from semiconductor and chip design companies such as Intel, AMD and Texas Instruments have quit to establish AI chip startups in India to tap into the multi-billion-dollar industry.

Four from Texas Instruments have started C2i Semiconductors, which is developing products to reduce energy consumption by semiconductors. They have raised $4 million from Yali Capital and Intel CEO Lip Bu-Tan, according to Tracxn.

Bodhi Computing, which was acquired by Krutrim, was started by two Intel veterans, Sambit Sahu and Raghuraman Barathalwar. They are currently heading Krutrim's semiconductor initiatives, which ET had reported earlier.

Four former Intel and AMD executives have set up Agrani Labs and are developing indigenous AI chips in Bengaluru. They are in talks to raise $8 million from Peak XV Partners, as per people in the know.

Most of these executives have spent 15-20 years in the semiconductor industry. India's semiconductor ecosystem is evolving rapidly through a combination of government initiatives such as design-linked incentives, experts said.

Apart from this, the country is becoming a key centre for chip design and development and concentrated efforts are being made to set up semiconductor hubs.

Funding Unlocked ▸▸ 11

Funding Unlocked

▸▸ From Page 1

Global semiconductor sales are on track to reach $1 trillion by 2030 from $627 billion in 2024, according to a Deloitte report, driven by the demand for generative AI and other chips, including those for CPUs, GPUs, memory and power.

In addition to this, semiconductor startups — even those that do not cater to the AI space — have seen investor interest in the past year. These include Mindgrove Technologies, InCore and Agnit Semiconductors.

Agrani Labs is developing AI chips for the global market and is currently in stealth mode, according to people aware of the matter. Agrani Labs and Peak XV Partners didn't respond to queries.

C2i Semiconductors, which is also in stealth mode, recently received the first part of funding from the government's design-linked incentive programme, the company announced on LinkedIn.

Krutrim had earlier announced that the company is developing the Bodhi 1 chip, focused on advanced AI models, which is expected to hit the market in 2026. Bodhi 2, focused on training and inferencing, is scheduled for release by 2028.

Others that have received funding recently include InCore, which raised $3 million from Peak XV. Mindgrove Technologies raised $8 million from Peak XV and others. Agnit Semiconductors has raised $4.87 million from 3one4 Capital and others.

The Covid pandemic showed that India needed to develop its own supply chain, said Ganapathy Subramaniam, managing partner, Yali Capital, and former Texas Instruments executive. In the last few years, the government has drawn up several initiatives to develop the ecosystem.

Over the past four decades, the country has produced chip designers for Texas Instruments, Intel and AMD, Subramaniam said.

"India is the second-largest centre for chip design for companies in the US, South Korea and Japan, creating a huge talent pool in the country," he said.

CHALLENGES

Scaling up semiconductors is still a challenge, said Tarun Pathak, research director, Counterpoint Research.

"India is still dependent on imports for many essential inputs, particularly from China, which holds cost and volume advantages due to its mature manufacturing and efficient supply chains," he said. "Matching the scale while keeping the costs down will be a challenge."

In addition, while government policies help, global original equipment manufacturers have established supply networks and the shift will take time, he said.

The Economic Times • 29 May • Deloitte

Local CA Firms Set for Global Tie-ups

12 • PG | 477 • Sqcm | 73900 • AVE | 33.32K • Cir | Bottom Left

Jaipur • Mumbai • Bengaluru • Delhi • Chandigarh

ICAI APPROVES DRAFT REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

Local CA Firms Set for Global Tie-ups

Banikinkar Pattanayak

New Delhi: The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) has approved a crucial draft regulatory framework which will enable domestic chartered accountant firms to tie up with their global peers to set up shop in the country, said its president Charanjot Singh Nanda.

The move is aimed at enabling local entities to gain scale, in sync with the Centre's vision of creating large home-grown accounting firms, he told **ET**.

The framework would require local firms that are already affiliated with global accounting entities to register with the ICAI and undertake necessary compliances, said people aware of the details.

The institute held talks with the corporate affairs ministry before finalising the draft, approved by its apex council on Monday, Nanda indicated. The draft will soon be put out for stakeholder comments and notified by early July, he said.

Currently, there is no formal framework governing such global tie-ups. Those with foreign tie-ups were earlier required to submit certain details with the ICAI by submitting a form, which was discontinued four years ago, as a formal framework on this was sought to be introduced.

Contours of the draft framework

As per the draft framework, an accountancy firm formed through a tie-up with an overseas entity has to register with the ICAI and designate a senior member or partner as a nodal officer for ensuring various compliances, said the people cited earlier.

Such firms will have to submit their names, registration details and changes in constitution with the ICAI. They will also have to file their annual returns with the institute.

Firms will have to share their names, registration details, changes in constituion, annual returns with ICAI

Domestic entities that would be part of the firms formed with overseas networks will have to abide by the stipulated ethical standards.

"The operations of overseas networks in India will have to comply with all these regulations," said one of the persons, who did not wish to be identified.

To help local accounting firms gain scale, the ICAI had last year amended its guidelines to allow those wishing to merge up to 10 years, instead of the earlier five, to separate if things didn't go according to plan. Similarly, no fees would be charged for freezing the names along with the corresponding firm registration number.

The Economic Times • 29 May • Deloitte

Local CA Firms Set for Global Tieups

8 • PG | 198 • Sqcm | 74063 • AVE | 102.04K • Cir | Bottom Left

Pune

ICAI APPROVES DRAFT REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

Local CA Firms Set for Global Tieups

Charting New Path

Local CA firms already affiliated with global entities and new ones have to register with ICAI

They have to nominate senior members as nodal officers for compliance

Such firms have to abide by local audit rules, ethical standards

Tie-ups to enable more local firms to acquire scale, expertise

Currently, EY, Deloitte, KPMG, PwC, Grant Thornton & BDO dominate audit ecosystem via affiliates

They handled audits of 326 of 486 top Nifty companies in FY25

Bankinkar Pattanayak

New Delhi: The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) has approved a crucial draft regulatory framework which will enable domestic chartered accountant firms to tie up with their global peers to set up shop in the country, said its president Charanjot Singh Nanda.

The move is aimed at enabling local entities to gain scale, in sync with the Centre's vision of creating large home-grown accounting firms, he told ET.

The framework would require local firms that are already affiliated with global accounting entities to register with the ICAI and undertake necessary compliances, said people aware of the details.

The institute held talks with the corporate affairs ministry before finalising the draft, approved by its apex council on Monday, Nanda indicated. The draft will soon be put out for stakeholder comments and notified by early July, he said.

Currently, there is no formal framework governing such global tie-ups. Those with foreign tie-ups were earlier required to submit certain details with the ICAI by submitting a form, which was discontinued four years ago, as a formal framework on this was sought to be introduced.

Contours of the draft framework

As per the draft framework, an accountancy firm formed through a tie-up with an overseas entity has to register with the ICAI and designate a senior member or partner as a nodal officer for ensuring various compliances, said the people cited earlier.

Such firms will have to submit their names, registration details and changes in constitution with the ICAI. They will also have to file their annual returns with the institute.

Firms will have to share their names, registration details, changes in constituion, annual returns with ICAI

Domestic entities that would be part of the firms formed with overseas networks will have to abide by the stipulated ethical standards.

"The operations of overseas networks in India will have to comply with all these regulations," said one of the persons, who did not wish to be identified.

To help local accounting firms gain scale, the ICAI had last year amended its guidelines to allow those wishing to merge up to 10 years, instead of the earlier five, to separate if things didn't go according to plan. Similarly, no fees would be charged for freezing the names along with the corresponding firm registration number.

The Times of India • 29 May • Deloitte
A TRENDSETTER IN NEW-AGE EDUCATION INNOVATION , AND IMPACT

10 • PG | 861 • Sqcm | 417348 • AVE | 345.95K • Cir | Top Left

Chandigarh

A TRENDSETTER IN NEW-AGE EDUCATION, INNOVATION, AND IMPACT

SRM University-AP, Amaravati: Driven by Knowledge, Defined by Purpose

SRM University-AP, Amaravati, is carving a distinct identity in India's higher education landscape as a new-age, multidisciplinary, research-intensive force, driven by a strong commitment to academic quality, innovation, and societal impact.

Established in 2017 in the heart of Amaravati—India's envisioned global capital—the university is spread across a 100-acre, eco-friendly campus built on principles of sustainable development, aligning seamlessly with the broader vision of Amaravati as a futuristic greenfield city in Andhra Pradesh.

In just a few years, SRM-AP, Amaravati has achieved remarkable progress, gaining prominence for its innovative research, global partnerships, entrepreneurial spirit, and community-driven initiatives. Its international collaborations and outreach programmes continue to serve as catalysts for regional transformation.

Consistently ranked the #1 University across multiple rankings and recently awarded an AAAAA rating by Careers360 among the Top Engineering Colleges in India, SRM-AP stands as a beacon of modern education and innovation.

> "SRM University-AP, Amaravati, has a community working together towards a model for the future of higher education in India, Asia, and globally. A university like SRM-AP, Amaravati, promises to build on the best of the past while creating new models for the future."
>
> *- Prof. Nicholas B Dirks, Honorary Pro-Chancellor and Member of the Governing Body, SRM University-AP, Amaravati*

Leading with a Future-Focused Academic Model

SRM University-AP, Amaravati aligns its academic structure with both industry needs and student aspirations through a progressive Outcome-Based Education (OBE) framework enhanced by the Choice-Based Credit System (CBCS). The academic offerings span three broad verticals: Engineering Technologies, Management, and Liberal Arts.

Students are encouraged to craft personalised learning journeys through interdisciplinary major-minor combinations and open electives. The curriculum is anchored in active, experiential learning- including case studies, simulations, industry projects, internships, and continuous assessments designed for a holistic development, building core competencies such as critical thinking, communication, and problem-solving.

From undergraduate to doctoral levels, the university offers new-age, application-driven programmes that equip students with both global exposure and practical expertise.

Ensuring Latest Knowledge, through Global Collaboration

A standout feature of SRM-AP, Amaravati's academic ecosystem is its focus on future-oriented, modern domains such as Artificial Intelligence. With more than 100 affiliations across the globe, it has fortified its research and pedagogy with landmark collaborations, like one with the School of Computer Science at Carnegie Mellon University (CMU SCS), USA - one of the world's premier AI research hubs.

Partnerships like this enable joint research, student internships, AI lab development, curriculum enrichment, and faculty development initiatives, collectively enhancing the university's technological edge and academic rigour.

Strong Placement Record with Global Impact

SRM-AP, Amaravati has built a robust academia-industry interface that supports exceptional student placements. Recognised by FICCI for 'Excellence in Creating Employment' and by World Education Summit 2025 as one of the 'Best Universities with Excellent Placement of the Year', the university continues to foster strong corporate partnerships.

P Sathyanarayanan, Pro-Chancellor, SRM University-AP

Programs such as alumni mentorship, skill training and a structured mentor-mentee ecosystem prepare students for evolving market dynamics. The Industry-Institute Interaction platform further facilitates exposure to industry leaders through workshops, webinars, and training sessions.

Students have secured prestigious roles in some of the top-tier companies including Oracle, IBM, Philips, Deloitte, Samsung, PayPal, Amazon, Flipkart, JPMorgan Chase, and Volvo, among others, with approximately 850 recruitment partners, some of the top packages ranging from ₹45–₹55 LPA, and ~5% of students placed internationally. Despite being young, SRM-AP, Amaravati has emerged as a hub for placements. Moreover, some of its students gain admission to QS Top 50 universities globally, often with scholarships, for higher studies.

Creating a Culture of Innovation and Research Eminence

With a strong focus on entrepreneurship and innovation, SRM-AP, Amaravati has developed Innovative research infrastructure including eight Centres of Excellence and a comprehensive digital and physical library. Recognised by ASSOCHAM for Excellence in Enabling Research Environment (Science), the university prides to have set-up 80+ Labs for research and boasts over 2,193 research publications (more than 40% in Q1 journals), over 480 patents filed, 55 granted, and two successful technology transfers. With a Scopus H-index of 67, it ranks third among private Indian universities in the Nature Index 2023, and five of its faculty are listed among Stanford University's top 2% scientists worldwide.

The entrepreneurial spirit is supported by Hatchlab Research Centre, which has incubated over 40 startups. The university's flagship rural entrepreneurship initiative—ADITRI has empowered nearly 100 women entrepreneurs across AP.

Holistic Development of a Global Citizen

SRM-AP, Amaravati's inclusive and nurturing environment has enabled students to thrive in academics, athletics, and adventure. Olympians Deepthi Jeevanji- a Bronze medallist at the Paralympics 2024, and Jyothika Sri Dandi, who represented India in the Women's Relay at Paris Olympics 2024, are stellar examples of the university's sporting legacy.

It is also the first private university in India to send a student expedition to the Everest Base Camp, underscoring its commitment to developing leadership, resilience, and global awareness. Among a student body of over 9,000 learners from almost every Indian State and 28 nationalities internationally, supported by 800 university staff, SRM University-AP, Amaravati offers a culturally rich, intellectually vibrant, and globally aligned educational experience.

Pro-Chancellor P. Sathyanarayanan summarises his vision as:

> "At SRM University-AP, Amaravati, we don't just educate—we inspire and provide a launchpad for future aspirants. Rooted in innovation and research, and guided by a bold vision, we equip students with the knowledge, purpose, and skills to shape their path and create a better world. Here, education is not mere learning—it's a real-world experience and a lifelong catalyst for personal growth and societal transformation."

A Vision defining Future: Educating to drive change

Guided by a noble vision, SRM-AP, Amaravati is poised to set newer benchmarks ahead. 21st century course spread, an expanding campus, an Industrial Research Park, state-of-the-art AI Labs with capable faculty & passionate talents, will cumulatively curate an ecosystem that drives collaboration between academia and industry. SRM-AP's roadmap is firmly aligned with building a globally respected, future-ready institution that delivers holistic, high-impact education.

> "SRM University-AP, Amaravati, challenges the boundaries of scientific knowledge and research acquisition. The university embraces application-oriented teaching and learning methodologies, nurturing students to be industry-ready professionals with 21st century skillsets.
>
> *- Prof. Manoj K Arora, Vice Chancellor*

SRM UNIVERSITY AP
Andhra Pradesh

For more information, contact:
SRM University-AP, Amaravati
Website: www.srmap.edu.in
Admission Helpline No: 08069886999

The Times of India • 29 May • Deloitte

Institute Sets Benchmark with 102 Startups Valued at Rs 500 crore

1 • PG | 304 • Sqcm | 603534 • AVE | 1.21M • Cir | Bottom Right

Chennai • Mumbai • Chandigarh

Institute Sets Benchmark with 102 Startups Valued at ₹500 crore

At a time when the nation is championing Atmanirbhar Bharat and Startup India, GL Bajaj Institute of Technology and Management, Greater Noida, has arisen as a crucible of innovation, making waves across India's entrepreneurial landscape. The institution has incubated Around 102 startups, valued at somewhere around 500 crore—an extraordinary feat unmatched by most academic institutions across the country.

What sets this achievement further apart is that over 50% of these ventures are founded by women, reflecting gender parity and inclusive growth.

These startups are purpose-driven enterprises tackling challenges across diverse sectors, including healthcare technology, renewable energy, agritech, edtech, fintech, AI and machine learning, cybersecurity, social impact, and mobility solutions. From mobile apps that assist visually impaired users in navigation to AI-powered platforms enhancing remote healthcare diagnostics, GL Bajaj's innovation engine is solving problems that matter to millions.

Pankaj Agarwal, Vice Chairman, GL Bajaj Educational Institutions, Greater Noida/ Mathura, honoured by Nitin Gadkari, Hon'ble Minister of Road Transport and Highways of India, for his contribution in the field of Electric Vehicles

Placements That Set Benchmarks

GL Bajaj's innovation journey is matched by its strong placement record, with over 2000 recruiters visiting its campus annually. Some of the prestigious companies like Amazon, Capgemini, Deloitte, TCS, Infosys, Cognizant, Zscaler, Wipro, and Palo Alto Networks continue to handpick talent from the institution, year after year.

Global Stage: International Conferences at GL Bajaj

GL Bajaj has become a booming epicenter for global academic discourse, regularly hosting international conferences, that unite researchers, industry pioneers, policymakers, and students. The recent IEEE-sponsored International Conference on Power, Energy, Environment, and Intelligent Control (PEEIC 2024) showcased research in sustainable technologies.

Other marquee conferences have explored themes such as Disruptive Technologies in the 21st Century, Multidisciplinary Concepts in Management & Innovation, Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare, Smart Cities, IoT & Mobility, and Women in Leadership & Tech.

These forums are knowledge-sharing platforms.

Mental Wellness: A Priority, not a Privilege

Understanding that success stems from overall development, GL Bajaj hosts annual Mental Health Conclaves, inviting Spiritual and thought leaders. Names like Sadhguru and Gaur Gopal Das have graced the institution to share wisdom.

The institution has taken a visionary approach to ensuring that students evolve emotionally and spiritually.

Hackathons That Drive Disruption

Innovation at GL Bajaj goes beyond labs. It succeeds in its competitive hackathon ecosystem. Students participate in and frequently win national and international hackathons, including Kavach (Cybersecurity Challenge by MoE & MHA), SuperNova. These events torch the creative and critical minds of tomorrow, producing ideas and solutions.

Visionary Visits: Wisdom That Transforms

What makes GL Bajaj's learning atmosphere even more unique is its regular engagement with icons, celebrities, cricketers, and changemakers from various walks of life. Over the past few years, the institution has welcomed Shrikant Bolla, Bill Gates, Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh- Yogi Aditya Nath, K. Sivan, Ashutosh Rana, Chris Gayle, Brett Lee, Vishwa Hindu Parishad National Secretary Alok Kumar, Sunidhi Chauhan, Kumar Vishwas, Tripti Dimri, Kumar Vishwas, Vicky Kaushal, Sanya Malhotra and many many more. These interactions have left an unforgettable impact on students.

Labs That Lead: Tech Hubs of the Future

GL Bajaj's infrastructure is an embodiment of its futuristic vision. The institution has specialized Centers of Excellence, including Cisco Cybersecurity Lab – recently inaugurated, and one of the first in North India, Palo Alto Cybersecurity Lab. These centers are the grounds where the next generation of technologists are built.

In its pursuit of academic brilliance and societal transformation, GL Bajaj is a movement that empowers dreamers to become doers, ideas to become enterprises, and students to become global citizens.

The Times of India • 29 May • Deloitte
Institute Sets Benchmark with 102 Startups Valued at Rs 500 vote

1 • PG | 305 • Sqcm | 738851 • AVE | 500.33K • Cir | Middle Center

Pune

Institute Sets Benchmark with 102 Startups Valued at ₹500 crore

At a time when the nation is championing Atmanirbhar Bharat and Startup India, GL Bajaj Institute of Technology and Management, Greater Noida, has arisen as a crucible of innovation, making waves across India's entrepreneurial landscape. The institution has incubated Around 102 startups, valued at somewhere around 500 crore—an extraordinary feat unmatched by most academic institutions across the country.

What sets this achievement further apart is that over 50% of these ventures are founded by women, reflecting gender parity and inclusive growth.

These startups are purpose-driven enterprises tackling challenges across diverse sectors, including healthcare technology, renewable energy, agritech, edtech, fintech, AI and machine learning, cybersecurity, social impact, and mobility solutions. From mobile apps that assist visually impaired users in navigation to AI-powered platforms enhancing remote healthcare diagnostics, GL Bajaj's innovation engine is solving problems that matter to millions.

Pankaj Agarwal, Vice Chairman, GL Bajaj Educational Institutions, Greater Noida/ Mathura, honoured by Nitin Gadkari, Hon'ble Minister of Road Transport and Highways of India, for his contribution in the field of Electric Vehicles

Placements That Set Benchmarks

GL Bajaj's innovation journey is matched by its strong placement record, with over 2000 recruiters visiting its campus annually. Some of the prestigious companies like Amazon, Capgemini, Deloitte, TCS, Infosys, Cognizant, Zscaler, Wipro, and Palo Alto Networks continue to handpick talent from the institution, year after year.

Global Stage: International Conferences at GL Bajaj

GL Bajaj has become a booming epicenter for global academic discourse, regularly hosting international conferences that unite researchers, industry pioneers, policymakers, and students. The recent IEEE-sponsored International Conference on Power, Energy, Environment, and Intelligent Control (PEEIC 2024) showcased research in sustainable technologies.

Other marquee conferences have explored themes such as Disruptive Technologies in the 21st Century, Multidisciplinary Concepts in Management & Innovation, Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare, Smart Cities, IoT & Mobility, and Women in Leadership & Tech.

These forums are knowledge-sharing platforms.

Mental Wellness: A Priority, not a Privilege

Understanding that success stems from overall development, GL Bajaj hosts annual Mental Health Conclaves, inviting Spiritual and thought leaders. Names like Sadhguru and Gaur Gopal Das have graced the institution to share wisdom.

The institution has taken a visionary approach to ensuring that students evolve emotionally and spiritually.

Hackathons That Drive Disruption

Innovation at GL Bajaj goes beyond labs. It succeeds in its competitive hackathon ecosystem. Students participate in and frequently win national and international hackathons, including Kavach (Cybersecurity Challenge by MoE & MHA), SuperNova. These events torch the creative and critical minds of tomorrow, producing ideas and solutions.

Visionary Visits: Wisdom That Transforms

What makes GL Bajaj's learning atmosphere even more unique is its regular engagement with icons, celebrities, cricketers, and changemakers from various walks of life. Over the past few years, the institution has welcomed Shrikant Bolla, Bill Gates, Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh- Yogi Aditya Nath, K. Sivan, Ashutosh Rana, Chris Gayle, Brett Lee, Vishwa Hindu Parishad National Secretary Alok Kumar, Sunidhi Chauhan, Kumar Vishwas, Tripti Dimri, Kumar Vishwas, Vicky Kaushal, Sanya Malhotra and many many more. These interactions have left an unforgettable impact on students.

Labs That Lead: Tech Hubs of the Future

GL Bajaj's infrastructure is an embodiment of its futuristic vision. The institution has specialized Centers of Excellence, including Cisco Cybersecurity Lab – recently inaugurated, and one of the first in North India, Palo Alto Cybersecurity Lab. These centers are the grounds where the next generation of technologists are built.

In its pursuit of academic brilliance and societal transformation, GL Bajaj is a movement that empowers dreamers to become doers, ideas to become enterprises, and students to become global citizens.

The Times of India • 29 May • Deloitte
Redefining Engineering Education with Global Vision and Local Impact

11 • PG | 346 • Sqcm | 167954 • AVE | 345.95K • Cir | Top Left

Chandigarh • Mumbai

Redefining Engineering Education with Global Vision and Local Impact

In an era where the demands of the engineering profession are rapidly evolving, Chitkara University has emerged as a flagbearer of innovation, quality, and global relevance in engineering education. From academic distinction to strong industry linkages and meaningful international collaborations, the university continues to redefine the parameters of what makes an engineering institution truly modern. With a blend of futuristic pedagogy, real-world exposure, and global integration, Chitkara University is preparing students not just for jobs, but for lifelong success and leadership in a dynamic global economy.

The university's impact on India's higher education landscape is reflected in its growing recognition across national rankings. In Rankings 2024, by one of the leading magazine, Chitkara University's engineering programs secured great position nationally—an achievement that places it among the top engineering institutions in the country. Its 10th rank in the Employability Index one of the leading magazines for T-School Rankings 2024 further underscores the university's strong emphasis on making students career-ready from day one.

The foundation of Chitkara's success lies in its forward-looking, industry-aligned curriculum. The university offers a wide range of undergraduate engineering programs, including B.E. CSE with specialisations in Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning in collaboration with Microsoft, Cloud Computing and Virtualisation Technology in collaboration with AWS, Civil Engineering with specialisation in AI & ML as well as niche disciplines like Mechatronics, and Electronics & Communication with specialised tracks in IoT, VLSI and Embedded Systems. Automobile Engineering with specialisation in Electric and Hybrid Vehicles (EV & HEV) is offered in collaboration with ARAI. These programs build strong academic foundations while encouraging critical thinking, interdisciplinary collaboration, and practical learning through labs, projects, and live simulations. This emphasis on experiential learning equips graduates to solve complex, real-world challenges across industries.

A standout feature of Chitkara University's approach is its focus on global exposure. Collaborations with some of the prestigious institutions such as Arizona State University (ASU), USA—ranked #1 in the U.S. for innovation—enable the university to offer a Dual Degree in B.E. Computer Science and Technology. Students complete two years at Chitkara and two years at ASU, earning a globally recognised degree. Similarly, 2+2 pathway programs in Software Engineering and Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning are offered in academic mentorship with Deakin University, Australia, which ranks among the top 1% of universities worldwide. These collaborations provide cross-cultural experiences and boost global employability, preparing students for multicultural professional environments.

Research and innovation are integral to Chitkara's engineering ecosystem. The university has seen a steady increase in research output, with publications gaining visibility in reputed international journals. Faculty and students are involved in research projects supported by government bodies, industry leaders, and international agencies. Research areas range from AI and cybersecurity to sustainable infrastructure and automation, with undergraduate students encouraged to contribute from early stages.

Industry collaboration remains another cornerstone of Chitkara University's success. These partnerships influence the curriculum, drive pedagogy, and provide real-world mentorship and project opportunities. Centres such as the Code Experience Centre powered by Capgemini, and the iOS Student Development Centre supported by Apple and Infosys, keep students in sync with the latest technological trends. This has translated into remarkable placements with some of the top recruiters like Microsoft, Deloitte, Infosys, Capgemini, and Tata Technologies. The highest package offered has exceeded ₹1 crore per annum, highlighting the international value of a Chitkara engineering degree.

Chitkara University also takes pride in its modern infrastructure, with advanced labs, Centres of Excellence, simulation environments, and smart classrooms. Students are encouraged to participate in national and international hackathons, join innovation clusters, and explore entrepreneurship through campus-based incubators.

Chitkara University is not just awarding degrees—it is shaping future-ready engineers who are technically skilled, adaptable, creative, and capable of leading in a globalised world. With academic rigour, real-world relevance, and strategic international collaborations, the university is transforming engineering education in India.

In a world driven by innovation and defined by global collaboration, Chitkara University continues to stand tall. Its Achievements are a testament to visionary leadership and a resolute belief in creating not just engineers, but change-makers who are equipped to shape the future.

The Times of India • 29 May • Deloitte

Blending Urban Advantage with Academic Distinction

11 • PG | 848 • Sqcm | 4784489 • AVE | 2.74M • Cir | Bottom Left

Mumbai • Pune • Chandigarh

Blending Urban Advantage with Academic Distinction

In an era where higher education is rapidly evolving to match the pace of global industry demands and technological innovation, SRM Institute of Science and Technology (SRMIST), Vadapalani campus, is steadily gaining traction as a high-impact urban university.

Strategically located in the heart of Chennai — right next to the Vadapalani Metro Station — the campus is becoming one of the preferred destination for students seeking academic rigour, international exposure, and strong career outcomes.

With over 8,000 students currently enrolled, More than 2000 recruiters engaged, and approximately 80 international collaborations in place, SRMIST Vadapalani is emerging as more than just a regional education hub — it is increasingly being recognised as a launchpad for global careers.

Comprehensive Industry Linkages & Strong Placement Performance

SRMIST Vadapalani's one of the most compelling strength lies in its career-focused ecosystem. The campus maintains remarkable placement track record across all major disciplines — Engineering, Management, Science, and Humanities.

- The highest CTC recorded by students from SRMIST has reached an impressive ₹52 LPA (as per LinkedIn data), with another notable package of ₹34.62 LPA offered to a CSE student from the 2016-2020 batch
- The average CTC stands at approximately ₹7.5 LPA, although it varies across departments
- Placement achievement is consistent, with placement rates depending on the stream and programme

Over 2,000 companies have visited the SRM Group campuses for recruitment over the years. The Vadapalani campus continues to attract industry giants such as:

- EY, TCS, Cognizant, Accenture, IBM, Amazon, Google, Wipro, Deloitte, Infosys, and KPMG, among others

This industry engagement extends beyond recruitment. SRMIST offers students regular exposure to guest lectures, internships, case competitions, and hands-on training aligned with real-world business and engineering challenges.

National Accreditations and Global Rankings

SRMIST Vadapalani holds a firm place in national and internatjonal rankings, validating the academic and institutional quality it offers.

- Accredited with NAAC A++, the highest possible grade, valid until 2031
- All programmes are fully approved by UGC and AICTE, ensuring academic compliance and standardisation
- Ranked in the Top 30 in Engineering and Pharmacy under the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF)
- According to QS World University Rankings, SRMIST is placed in the 1001-1200 bracket globally, and is notably ranked 17th in India for sustainability performance, a rare honour for private institutions in the country

Such credentials reflect a consistent commitment to academic quality and socially responsible development.

Research, Innovation, and National Recognition

Research and innovation are at the core of SRMIST Vadapalani's ethos. The university has received multiple honours under the Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation Achievements (ARIIA) — a prestigious indicator of innovation output in Indian higher education.

- Ranked 2nd in 2020, 3rd in 2019, and 4th in 2021 among all private institutions in India for innovation

SRMIST has also earned a spot on the Nature Index Ranking, which highlights institutions contributing significantly to quality scientific research. Areas of special focus include:

- Chemistry
- Life Sciences
- Environmental Studies

In 2024, the Vadapalani campus celebrated its students' victory at the Smart India Hackathon, a national competition backed by the Government of India that recognises innovation and problem-solving at scale. This win speaks volumes about the campus's research culture and mentorship support.

International Collaborations and Global Exposure

SRMIST Vadapalani places significant emphasis on creating global citizens. The university has fostered more than 80 international collaborations with reputed institutions and research centres around the world.

The International Advisory Board (IAB) features faculty and thought leaders from universities such as:

- Harvard University
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)
- Stanford University
- University of Cambridge

Students benefit from the Semester Abroad Programme (SAP), which provides opportunities to study or intern at global institutions, equipping them with international experience, cross-cultural skills, and industry-aligned learning.

These collaborations further enhance curriculum delivery, facilitate joint research, and expose students to international standards of academic delivery and assessment.

Comprehensive Academic Offerings

SRMIST Vadapalani delivers a diverse academic portfolio across undergraduate, postgraduate, diploma, and doctoral levels. All programmes are tailored with an emphasis on industry relevance and emerging technology trends.

Faculty of Engineering & Technology

- **B.Tech:**
  - Computer Science & Engineering (General and Honours)
  - CSE with Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning
  - CSE with Big Data Analytics
  - CSE with Cyber Security
  - Computer Science and Business System
  - Electronics & Communication Engineering (ECE with Data Science)
  - Electronics Engineering (VLSI Design & Technology)
  - Mechanical Engineering (including AI/ML specialisation)
  - Working Professional formats available in select streams
- **M.Tech:**
  - CSE with AI & ML
  - VLSI Design

Faculty of Management

- **Undergraduate:**
  - BBA (General and Specialised Tracks)
  - Postgraduate:
  - MBA in Marketing, Finance, HRM, Analytics, and Operations
  - MBA in Banking and Financial Services
  - MBA for Working Professionals

Faculty of Science & Humanities

- **B.Com** specialisations in:
  - General, Accounting & Finance, International Finance, Computer Applications, Finance & Taxation (with Chartered Accountancy coaching)
- **BCA and BCA with Data Science**
- **B.Sc programmes in:**
  - Cyber Security
  - Psychology
  - Visual Communication
  - Hotel & Hospitality Administration
- **Postgraduate options include:**
  - M.Com
  - MCA
  - Master of Social Work (MSW)
  - Diploma in Hotel Management & Catering Science

Each programme is supported by value-added training, skill certification modules, and career guidance services, ensuring students are industry-ready from day one.

Campus Infrastructure & Health Partnerships

While being compact at 5 acres, the Vadapalani campus maximises its location and layout:

- Digitally enabled classrooms and fully equipped laboratories for hands-on learning
- Campus-wide high-speed Wi-Fi
- Access to modern computing tools and cloud-based platforms
- A dedicated tie-up with SIMS Hospital, located adjacent to the campus, ensuring access to quality healthcare for students and staff

The campus is also accessible via the Chennai Metro, making daily commute convenient for day scholars and faculty.

Cultural Activities and National Representation

SRMIST Vadapalani places equal importance on co-curricular development. The annual Margazhi Vaibhavam event brings together students and faculty in celebration of Tamil culture through traditional music, dance, and art forms.

The campus is also home to student-athletes of national repute:

- Prithviya Tondaiman, Olympian and national-level shooter
- Nethra Kumanan, India's first female sailor to qualify for the Olympics

Both are products of SRM's support for sports and flexible academic planning that accommodates rigorous training schedules.

Student-Centric Governance and Safety

SRMIST enforces a strict anti-ragging policy. In line with UGC regulations, any student found guilty of ragging or abetting it faces strict disciplinary action, including possible expulsion.

Support services include:

- Academic counselling
- Mental health support
- Mentorship programmes
- Career advisory cells

This student-first approach fosters a respectful, inclusive, and supportive campus culture.

Admissions Open for 2025–26

Applications are now being accepted for the 2025-2026 academic year. The admission process is open for all UG, PG, and diploma programmes across the three faculties.

For more information, contact:
SRM Institute of Science and Technology – Vadapalani Campus
University Building, C Block, No. 1,
100 Feet Road, Jawaharlal Nehru Salai, Adjacent to SIMS Hospital,
Vadapalani, Chennai – 600026
Contact Numbers:
+91 78239 41999 +91 9176002999
Email: admissions.vdp@srmist.edu.in
Website: www.srmistvdp.edu.in

SRM INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
Deemed to be University u/s 3 of UGC Act, 1956
VADAPALANI

The Times of India • 29 May • Deloitte
A TRENDSETTER IN NEW-AGE EDUCATION, INNOVATION, AND IMPACT

10 • PG | 884 • Sqcm | 1755665 • AVE | 1.21M • Cir | Top Center

Chennai • Mumbai • Kolkata

A TRENDSETTER IN NEW-AGE EDUCATION, INNOVATION, AND IMPACT

SRM University-AP, Amaravati: Driven by Knowledge, Defined by Purpose

SRM University-AP, Amaravati, is carving a distinct identity in India's higher education landscape as a new-age, multidisciplinary, research-intensive force, driven by a strong commitment to academic quality, innovation, and societal impact.

Established in 2017 in the heart of Amaravati—India's envisioned global capital—the university is spread across a 100-acre, eco-friendly campus built on principles of sustainable development, aligning seamlessly with the broader vision of Amaravati as a futuristic greenfield city in Andhra Pradesh.

In just a few years, SRM-AP, Amaravati has achieved remarkable progress, gaining prominence for its innovative research, global partnerships, entrepreneurial spirit, and community-driven initiatives. Its international collaborations and outreach programmes continue to serve as catalysts for regional transformation.

Consistently ranked the #1 University across multiple rankings and recently awarded an AAAAA rating by Careers360 among the Top Engineering Colleges in India, SRM-AP stands as a beacon of modern education and innovation.

> "SRM University-AP, Amaravati, has a community working together towards a model for the future of higher education in India, Asia, and globally. A university like SRM-AP, Amaravati, promises to build on the best of the past while creating new models for the future."
>
> *- Prof. Nicholas B Dirks, Honorary Pro-Chancellor and Member of the Governing Body, SRM University-AP, Amaravati*

Leading with a Future-Focused Academic Model

SRM University-AP, Amaravati aligns its academic structure with both industry needs and student aspirations through a progressive Outcome-Based Education (OBE) framework enhanced by the Choice-Based Credit System (CBCS). The academic offerings span three broad verticals: Engineering Technologies, Management, and Liberal Arts.

Students are encouraged to craft personalised learning journeys through interdisciplinary major-minor combinations and open electives. The curriculum is anchored in active, experiential learning- including case studies, simulations, industry projects, internships, and continuous assessments designed for a holistic development, building core competencies such as critical thinking, communication, and problem-solving.

From undergraduate to doctoral levels, the university offers new-age, application-driven programmes that equip students with both global exposure and practical expertise.

Ensuring Latest Knowledge, through Global Collaboration

A standout feature of SRM-AP, Amaravati's academic ecosystem is its focus on future-oriented, modern domains such as Artificial Intelligence. With more than 100 affiliations across the globe, it has fortified its research and pedagogy with landmark collaborations, like one with the School of Computer Science at Carnegie Mellon University (CMU SCS), USA - one of the world's premier AI research hubs.

Partnerships like this enable joint research, student internships, AI lab development, curriculum enrichment, and faculty development initiatives, collectively enhancing the university's technological edge and academic rigour.

Strong Placement Record with Global Impact

SRM-AP, Amaravati has built a robust academia-industry interface that supports exceptional student placements. Recognised by FICCI for 'Excellence in Creating Employment' and by World Education Summit 2025 as one of the 'Best Universities with Excellent Placement of the Year', the university continues to foster strong corporate partnerships.

Programs such as alumni mentorship, skill training and a structured mentor-mentee ecosystem prepare students for evolving market dynamics. The Industry-Institute Interaction platform further facilitates exposure to industry leaders through workshops, webinars, and training sessions.

Students have secured prestigious roles in some of the top-tier companies including Oracle, IBM, Philips, Deloitte, Samsung, PayPal, Amazon, Flipkart, JPMorgan Chase, and Volvo, among others, with approximately 850 recruitment partners, some of the top packages ranging from ₹45-₹55 LPA, and ~5% of students placed internationally. Despite being young, SRM-AP, Amaravati has emerged as a hub for placements. Moreover, some of its students gain admission to QS Top 50 universities globally, often with scholarships, for higher studies.

P Sathyanarayanan, Pro-Chancellor, SRM University-AP

Pro-Chancellor P. Sathyanarayanan summarises his vision as:

> "At SRM University-AP, Amaravati, we don't just educate—we inspire and provide a launchpad for future aspirants. Rooted in innovation and research, and guided by a bold vision, we equip students with the knowledge, purpose, and skills to shape their path and create a better world. Here, education is not mere learning—it's a real-world experience and a lifelong catalyst for personal growth and societal transformation."

Creating a Culture of Innovation and Research Eminence

With a strong focus on entrepreneurship and innovation, SRM-AP, Amaravati has developed Innovative research infrastructure including eight Centres of Excellence and a comprehensive digital and physical library. Recognised by ASSOCHAM for Excellence in Enabling Research Environment (Science), the university prides to have set-up 80+ Labs for research and boasts over 2,193 research publications (more than 40% in Q1 journals), over 480 patents filed, 55 granted, and two successful technology transfers. With a Scopus H-index of 67, it ranks third among private Indian universities in the Nature Index 2023, and five of its faculty are listed among Stanford University's top 2% scientists worldwide.

The entrepreneurial spirit is supported by Hatchlab Research Centre, which has incubated over 40 startups. The university's flagship rural entrepreneurship initiative—ADITRI has empowered nearly 100 women entrepreneurs across AP.

Holistic Development of a Global Citizen

SRM-AP, Amaravati's inclusive and nurturing environment has enabled students to thrive in academics, athletics, and adventure. Olympians Deepthi Jeevanji- a Bronze medallist at the Paralympics 2024, and Jyothika Sri Dandi, who represented India in the Women's Relay at Paris Olympics 2024, are stellar examples of the university's sporting legacy.

It is also the first private university in India to send a student expedition to the Everest Base Camp, underscoring its commitment to developing leadership, resilience, and global awareness. Among a student body of over 9,000 learners from almost every Indian State and 28 nationalities internationally, supported by 800 university staff, SRM University-AP, Amaravati offers a culturally rich, intellectually vibrant, and globally aligned educational experience.

A Vision defining Future: Educating to drive change

Guided by a noble vision, SRM-AP, Amaravati is poised to set newer benchmarks ahead. 21st century course spread, an expanding campus, an Industrial Research Park, state-of-the-art AI Labs with capable faculty & passionate talents, will cumulatively curate an ecosystem that drives collaboration between academia and industry. SRM-AP's roadmap is firmly aligned with building a globally respected, future-ready institution that delivers holistic, high-impact education.

> "SRM University-AP, Amaravati, challenges the boundaries of scientific knowledge and research acquisition. The university embraces application-oriented teaching and learning methodologies, nurturing students to be industry-ready professionals with 21st century skillsets."
>
> *- Prof. Manoj K Arora, Vice Chancellor*

SRM UNIVERSITY AP
Andhra Pradesh

For more information, contact: SRM University-AP, Amaravati
Website: www.srmap.edu.in
Admission Helpline No: 08069886999

The Times of India • 29 May • Deloitte

Blending Urban Advantage with Acamedic Distinction

11 • PG | 883 • Sqcm | 1753259 • AVE | 1.21M • Cir | Bottom Center

Chennai

Blending Urban Advantage with Academic Distinction

In an era where higher education is rapidly evolving to match the pace of global industry demands and technological innovation, SRM Institute of Science and Technology (SRMIST), Vadapalani campus, is steadily gaining traction as a high-impact urban university.

Strategically located in the heart of Chennai — right next to the Vadapalani Metro Station — the campus is becoming one of the preferred destination for students seeking academic rigour, international exposure, and strong career outcomes.

With over 8,000 students currently enrolled, More than 2000 recruiters engaged, and approximately 80 international collaborations in place, SRMIST Vadapalani is emerging as more than just a regional education hub — it is increasingly being recognised as a launchpad for global careers.

Comprehensive Industry Linkages & Strong Placement Performance

SRMIST Vadapalani's one of the most compelling strength lies in its career-focused ecosystem. The campus maintains remarkable placement track record across all major disciplines — Engineering, Management, Science, and Humanities.

- The highest CTC recorded by students from SRMIST has reached an impressive ₹52 LPA (as per LinkedIn data), with another notable package of ₹34.62 LPA offered to a CSE student from the 2016-2020 batch
- The average CTC stands at approximately ₹7.5 LPA, although it varies across departments
- Placement achievement is consistent, with placement rates depending on the stream and programme

Over 2,000 companies have visited the SRM Group campuses for recruitment over the years. The Vadapalani campus continues to attract industry giants such as:

- EY, TCS, Cognizant, Accenture, IBM, Amazon, Google, Wipro, Deloitte, Infosys, and KPMG, among others

This industry engagement extends beyond recruitment. SRMIST offers students regular exposure to guest lectures, internships, case competitions, and hands-on training aligned with real-world business and engineering challenges.

National Accreditations and Global Rankings

SRMIST Vadapalani holds a firm place in national and international rankings, validating the academic and institutional quality it offers.

- Accredited with NAAC A++, the highest possible grade, valid until 2031
- All programmes are fully approved by UGC and AICTE, ensuring academic compliance and standardisation
- Ranked in the Top 30 in Engineering and Pharmacy under the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF)
- According to QS World University Rankings, SRMIST is placed in the 1001–1200 bracket globally, and is notably ranked 17th in India for sustainability performance, a rare honour for private institutions in the country

Such credentials reflect a consistent commitment to academic quality and socially responsible development.

Research, Innovation, and National Recognition

Research and innovation are at the core of SRMIST Vadapalani's ethos. The university has received multiple honours under the Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation Achievements (ARIIA) — a prestigious indicator of innovation output in Indian higher education.

- Ranked 2nd in 2020, 3rd in 2019, and 4th in 2021 among all private institutions in India for innovation

SRMIST has also earned a spot on the Nature Index Ranking, which highlights institutions contributing significantly to quality scientific research. Areas of special focus include:

- Chemistry
- Life Sciences
- Environmental Studies

In 2024, the Vadapalani campus celebrated its students' victory at the Smart India Hackathon, a national competition backed by the Government of India that recognises innovation and problem-solving at scale. This win speaks volumes about the campus's research culture and mentorship support.

SRM INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
VADAPALANI

International Collaborations and Global Exposure

SRMIST Vadapalani places significant emphasis on creating global citizens. The university has fostered more than 80 international collaborations with reputed institutions and research centres around the world.

The International Advisory Board (IAB) features faculty and thought leaders from universities such as:

- Harvard University
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)
- Stanford University
- University of Cambridge

Students benefit from the Semester Abroad Programme (SAP), which provides opportunities to study or intern at global institutions, equipping them with international experience, cross-cultural skills, and industry-aligned learning.

These collaborations further enhance curriculum delivery, facilitate joint research, and expose students to international standards of academic delivery and assessment.

Comprehensive Academic Offerings

SRMIST Vadapalani delivers a diverse academic portfolio across undergraduate, postgraduate, diploma, and doctoral levels. All programmes are tailored with an emphasis on industry relevance and emerging technology trends.

Faculty of Engineering & Technology

- **B.Tech:**
  - Computer Science & Engineering (General and Honours)
  - CSE with Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning
  - CSE with Big Data Analytics
  - CSE with Cyber Security
  - Computer Science and Business System
  - Electronics & Communication Engineering (ECE with Data Science)
  - Electronics Engineering (VLSI Design & Technology)
  - Mechanical Engineering (including AI/ML specialisation)
  - Working Professional formats available in select streams
- **M.Tech:**
  - CSE with AI & ML
  - VLSI Design

Faculty of Management

- **Undergraduate:**
  - BBA (General and Specialised Tracks)
  - Postgraduate:
  - MBA in Marketing, Finance, HRM, Analytics, and Operations
  - MBA in Banking and Financial Services
  - MBA for Working Professionals

Faculty of Science & Humanities

- **B.Com specialisations in:**
  - General, Accounting & Finance, International Finance, Computer Applications, Finance & Taxation (with Chartered Accountancy coaching)
- **BCA and BCA with Data Science**
- **B.Sc programmes in:**
  - Cyber Security
  - Psychology
  - Visual Communication
  - Hotel & Hospitality Administration
- **Postgraduate options include:**
  - M.Com
  - MCA
  - Master of Social Work (MSW)
  - Diploma in Hotel Management & Catering Science

Each programme is supported by value-added training, skill certification modules, and career guidance services, ensuring students are industry-ready from day one.

Campus Infrastructure & Health Partnerships

While being compact at 5 acres, the Vadapalani campus maximises its location and layout:

- Digitally enabled classrooms and fully equipped laboratories for hands-on learning
- Campus-wide high-speed Wi-Fi
- Access to modern computing tools and cloud-based platforms
- A dedicated tie-up with SIMS Hospital, located adjacent to the campus, ensuring access to quality healthcare for students and staff

The campus is also accessible via the Chennai Metro, making daily commute convenient for day scholars and faculty.

Cultural Activities and National Representation

SRMIST Vadapalani places equal importance on co-curricular development. The annual Margazhi Vaibhavam event brings together students and faculty in celebration of Tamil culture through traditional music, dance, and art forms.

The campus is also home to student-athletes of national repute:

- Prithviya Tondaiman, Olympian and national-level shooter
- Nethra Kumanan, India's first female sailor to qualify for the Olympics

Both are products of SRM's support for sports and flexible academic planning that accommodates rigorous training schedules.

Student-Centric Governance and Safety

SRMIST enforces a strict anti-ragging policy. In line with UGC regulations, any student found guilty of ragging or abetting it faces strict disciplinary action, including possible expulsion.

Support services include:

- Academic counselling
- Mental health support
- Mentorship programmes
- Career advisory cells

This student-first approach fosters a respectful, inclusive, and supportive campus culture.

Admissions Open for 2025-26

Applications are now being accepted for the 2025-2026 academic year. The admission process is open for all UG, PG, and diploma programmes across the three faculties.

For more information, contact:
SRM Institute of Science and Technology – Vadapalani Campus
University Building, C Block, No. 1,
100 Feet Road, Jawaharlal Nehru Salai, Adjacent to SIMS Hospital,
Vadapalani, Chennai – 600026
Contact Numbers:
+91 78239 41999 +91 9176002999
Email: admissions.vdp@srmist.edu.in
Website: www.srmistvdp.edu.in

The Times of India • 29 May • Deloitte
WHERE DREAMS GET WINGS TO FLY

17 • PG | 262 • Sqcm | 636515 • AVE | 500.33K • Cir | Middle Left

Pune

WHERE DREAMS GET WINGS TO FLY

In a world being rapidly transformed by emerging technologies like Artificial Intelligence, Data Science, and the Internet of Things, the Institute of Technical Education and Research (ITER) in Bhubaneswar stands as a beacon of academic eminence, innovation, and holistic development.

Part of the renowned Siksha 'O' Anusandhan (SOA), Deemed to be University, ITER has carved a niche for itself by nurturing young minds to meet the challenges of tomorrow with skill, vision, and integrity.

Founded in 1996-97 with just 118 students in a modest rented facility, ITER is the manifestation of the visionary dream of Prof. Manojranjan Nayak, an alumnus of both NIT Rourkela and IIT Kharagpur. His goal was clear—democratize access to modern technical education in Odisha. Nearly three decades later, that dream has blossomed into one of India's most distinguished engineering institutions, backed by state-of-the-art infrastructure, world-class faculty, and an unrelenting pursuit of excellence.

ITER is now a proud and integral part of SOA, which has seen meteoric growth in India's academic landscape. Ranked 14th nationally in the NIRF Rankings 2024, SOA has also received A++ accreditation from NAAC (2022) and Category-I Graded Autonomy by the UGC. Its international reputation is reflected in its strong performance in the QS and Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings 2025. ITER specifically features in the 501–600 band globally in Engineering and Technology, and in the 601–800 band in Computer Science (THE 2025). It also appears in the 401–450 (Engineering) and 751–850 (Computer Science and Information Systems) bands in the QS Subject Rankings 2025.

"ITER is the tiny seed sown years ago that has grown into a vast educational edifice where quality education and focused research converge to create global citizens ready to shine in every sphere of life," reflects Prof. Nayak, Founder President of SOA.

The growth of ITER is mirrored by the expansive SOA ecosystem, which today includes institutions for medical, dental, pharmaceutical, legal, agricultural, management, hospitality, and veterinary sciences. SOA also operates two medical and nursing colleges, the SUM Ultimate Medicare—delivering modern healthcare—and a 200-bed SUM Hospital in Berhampur.

At the core of ITER's prowess is its wide range of academic offerings. Ranked 26th in India in the NIRF Engineering Rankings 2024, the institute offers undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral programs in engineering, technology, and applied sciences. Flagship B.Tech programs span traditional streams like Mechanical, Electrical, Civil, and Electronics & Communication Engineering, as well as high-demand specializations such as AI, Cyber Security, Data Science, and IoT. Postgraduate offerings include M.Tech, MCA, M.Sc, and Ph.D. programs designed to bridge academic theory with real-world application.

ITER provides students with a dynamic learning environment powered by smart classrooms, high-tech laboratories, and specialized infrastructure. Dedicated labs—like those for VLSI and Embedded Systems, Design and Manufacturing, and IoT—enable hands-on learning and innovation. Beyond academics, the campus also supports an active sports culture with top-tier facilities for cricket, football, basketball, badminton, tennis, and more. A well-equipped gym with professional trainers and a hygienic multi-cuisine cafeteria promotes student well-being.

Safety and inclusivity are prioritized, with 24/7 CCTV surveillance and a strictly enforced anti-ragging policy. Importantly, ITER maintains an accessible and affordable fee structure, opening doors for students from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds.

The central library is a hub of knowledge and research, offering access to some of the leading repositories including IEEE, Springer, and Elsevier. ITER also fosters entrepreneurship through its Center for Innovation and Incubation (SOA-CII) and the Atal Incubation Center (AIC-SOA Foundation), helping student-led startups grow from idea to execution.

Perhaps most impressively, ITER boasts an enviable placement record. Its students have secured roles at top global companies including Microsoft, Infosys, IBM, Accenture, TCS, HCL, EY, Deloitte, Tata Technologies, PwC, Capgemini, Siemens, Akamai, J.P. Morgan, Samsung, CISCO, and many others. These outcomes reflect the institute's commitment not just to employability, but to shaping well-rounded professionals who contribute meaningfully to industry and society.

As the world continues to evolve at an unprecedented pace, ITER remains steadfast in its mission: to prepare future-ready leaders, innovators, and changemakers.

For more information, visit www.soa.ac.in

The Times of India • 29 May • Deloitte
EHERE DREAMS GET WINGS TO FLY

17 • PG | 266 • Sqcm | 129121 • AVE | 345.95K • Cir | Middle Left

Chandigarh

WHERE DREAMS GET WINGS TO FLY

In a world being rapidly transformed by emerging technologies like Artificial Intelligence, Data Science, and the Internet of Things, the Institute of Technical Education and Research (ITER) in Bhubaneswar stands as a beacon of academic eminence, innovation, and holistic development.

Part of the renowned Siksha 'O' Anusandhan (SOA), Deemed to be University, ITER has carved a niche for itself by nurturing young minds to meet the challenges of tomorrow with skill, vision, and integrity.

Founded in 1996-97 with just 118 students in a modest rented facility, ITER is the manifestation of the visionary dream of Prof. Manojranjan Nayak, an alumnus of both NIT Rourkela and IIT Kharagpur. His goal was clear—democratize access to modern technical education in Odisha. Nearly three decades later, that dream has blossomed into one of India's most distinguished engineering institutions, backed by state-of-the-art infrastructure, world-class faculty, and an unrelenting pursuit of excellence.

ITER is now a proud and integral part of SOA, which has seen meteoric growth in India's academic landscape. Ranked 14th nationally in the NIRF Rankings 2024, SOA has also received A++ accreditation from NAAC (2022) and Category-I Graded Autonomy by the UGC. Its international reputation is reflected in its strong performance in the QS and Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings 2025. ITER specifically features in the 501–600 band globally in Engineering and Technology, and in the 601–800 band in Computer Science (THE 2025). It also appears in the 401–450 (Engineering) and 751–850 (Computer Science and Information Systems) bands in the QS Subject Rankings 2025.

"ITER is the tiny seed sown years ago that has grown into a vast educational edifice where quality education and focused research converge to create global citizens ready to shine in every sphere of life," reflects Prof. Nayak, Founder President of SOA.

The growth of ITER is mirrored by the expansive SOA ecosystem, which today includes institutions for medical, dental, pharmaceutical, legal, agricultural, management, hospitality, and veterinary sciences. SOA also operates two medical and nursing colleges, the SUM Ultimate Medicare—delivering modern healthcare—and a 200-bed SUM Hospital in Berhampur.

At the core of ITER's prowess is its wide range of academic offerings. Ranked 26th in India in the NIRF Engineering Rankings 2024, the institute offers undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral programs in engineering, technology, and applied sciences. Flagship B.Tech programs span traditional streams like Mechanical, Electrical, Civil, and Electronics & Communication Engineering, as well as high-demand specializations such as AI, Cyber Security, Data Science, and IoT. Postgraduate offerings include M.Tech, MCA, M.Sc, and Ph.D. programs designed to bridge academic theory with real-world application.

ITER provides students with a dynamic learning environment powered by smart classrooms, high-tech laboratories, and specialized infrastructure. Dedicated labs—like those for VLSI and Embedded Systems, Design and Manufacturing, and IoT—enable hands-on learning and innovation. Beyond academics, the campus also supports an active sports culture with top-tier facilities for cricket, football, basketball, badminton, tennis, and more. A well-equipped gym with professional trainers and a hygienic multi-cuisine cafeteria promotes student well-being.

Safety and inclusivity are prioritized, with 24/7 CCTV surveillance and a strictly enforced anti-ragging policy. Importantly, ITER maintains an accessible and affordable fee structure, opening doors for students from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds.

The central library is a hub of knowledge and research, offering access to some of the leading repositories including IEEE, Springer, and Elsevier. ITER also fosters entrepreneurship through its Center for Innovation and Incubation (SOA-CII) and the Atal Incubation Center (AIC-SOA Foundation), helping student-led startups grow from idea to execution.

Perhaps most impressively, ITER boasts an enviable placement record. Its students have secured roles at top global companies including Microsoft, Infosys, IBM, Accenture, TCS, HCL, EY, Deloitte, Tata Technologies, PwC, Capgemini, Siemens, Akamai, J.P. Morgan, Samsung, CISCO, and many others. These outcomes reflect the institute's commitment not just to employability, but to shaping well-rounded professionals who contribute meaningfully to industry and society.

As the world continues to evolve at an unprecedented pace, ITER remains steadfast in its mission: to prepare future-ready leaders, innovators, and changemakers.

For more information, visit www.soa.ac.in

Millenniumpost • 29 May • Deloitte
IS FIXED REALITY HELPING STUDENTS LEARN FASTER & SMARTER

11 • PG | 652 • Sqcm | 1087301 • AVE | 350K • Cir | Top Left

Kolkata

IS MIXED REALITY HELPING STUDENTS LEARN FASTER & SMARTER?

MR IS HELPING SCHOOLS MOVE FROM THEORY-BASED TEACHING TO SKILL-BASED, HANDS-ON LEARNING

ANINDITA ACHARYA

Try picturing DNA replication or fluid dynamics through static images. Now imagine learning the same through an interactive Mixed Reality (MR) simulation where students can rotate, zoom, and dissect a model in real-time. Traditional methods often fall short when it comes to explaining complex ideas. MR, which combines reality with digital, is fast becoming a game-changer in education. Whether it's a high school student exploring the human heart in 3D or an engineering undergrad walking through the inner workings of a turbine, MR is shifting how we learn, understand, and apply knowledge.

"MR is changing how students learn by replacing passive learning with real-time, interactive experiences. It allows learners to explore complex topics like anatomy, robotics, or astronomy by interacting with 3D environments. This helps build critical thinking and practical skills. As industries adopt AR/VR/MR technologies, students exposed to MR early are better prepared for careers in engineering, healthcare, design, and manufacturing. According to PwC, employees trained in VR complete tasks 4x faster than in classrooms. MR is helping schools move from theory-based teaching to skill-based, hands-on learning—bridging the gap between academics and job-ready skills," said Anurag Gupta, CEO and Co-Founder of STEMROBO Technologies.

At Case Western Reserve University in Ohio, students use HoloLens-based "HoloAnatomy" to walk inside human body holograms. Over in Oxford, MR is replacing traditional cadavers with digital anatomy lessons. In Goa, high schoolers at Vidya Vikas Academy use MR to explore volcanoes and the solar system, all from their classroom. And Deakin University in Australia lets nursing students virtually simulate real-world emergencies.

"MR technologies offer multimodal learning experiences by integrating visual, auditory, and kinesthetic elements. Interactive 3D models and simulations allow students to explore intricate concepts—such as molecular structures, mechanical systems, or anatomical functions—in a tangible and manipulable format. This interactive engagement promotes deeper cognitive processing, enabling learners to construct meaningful mental models and enhance memory consolidation. By moving beyond passive content consumption, MR fosters active exploration and immediate feedback, both of which are associated with improved retention and conceptual understanding in educational research," said an expert of Hindustan Institute of Technology and Science.

MR is not just about making lessons cool. It's about giving students hands-on exposure to tools and platforms that are fast becoming essential in modern industries. Sectors like healthcare, architecture, automotive, and even retail are already hiring people who can design or work with AR/VR/MR systems.

High-end labs, museum tours or industrial visits are often out of reach for students in remote or low-income areas. But MR changes that

A 2023 Deloitte report stated that jobs in extended reality (XR, which includes AR/VR/MR) will grow by 31% annually over the next five years. Educational institutions that integrate MR are not just teaching, they're preparing students for roles that didn't exist a decade ago. From virtual prototyping to surgical training, students with MR exposure stand a step ahead in the job market. Singapore's Nanyang Technological University (NTU) already trains future engineers using MR to simulate bridge-building and structural stress tests. These are job-relevant, real-world applications brought into the classroom.

"Students who engage with MR are more confident in using technology to create, not just consume. According to LinkedIn's 2024 emerging jobs report, AR/VR specialists are among the top 10 fastest-growing roles globally. By integrating MR in education, schools are building a talent pipeline aligned with the future workforce where immersive technology will be a core requirement," said Gupta.

What's even more powerful is MR's potential to make quality education accessible. High-end labs, museum tours, or industrial visits are often out of reach for students in remote or low-income areas. But MR changes that. With just a headset and basic internet, a child in a rural school can dissect a frog virtually or walk through the Louvre Museum, experiences once reserved for the privileged. "MR possesses significant potential to democratise education by mitigating disparities in access to high-quality learning experiences. Virtual classrooms, holographic lecturers, and cloud-based simulation libraries can bring world-class educational resources to remote or underserved communities," said the expert from Hindustan Institute of Technology and Science.

Lets' remember that exposure to MR in classrooms helps students build both tech skills and critical thinking skills needed for future careers. They learn how to work with 3D spaces, design user experiences, and create immersive content, skills useful in fields like healthcare, engineering, architecture, and media. This prepares students not just to use new technology, but to shape and improve it in the real world.

Millenniumpost • 29 May • Deloitte
IS MIXED REALITY HELPING STUDENTS LEARN FASTER & SMARTER

13 • PG | 642 • Sqcm | 1156088 • AVE | 750K • Cir | Middle Left

Delhi

IS MIXED REALITY HELPING STUDENTS LEARN FASTER & SMARTER?

MR IS HELPING SCHOOLS MOVE FROM THEORY-BASED TEACHING TO SKILL-BASED, HANDS-ON LEARNING

ANINDITA ACHARYA

Try picturing DNA replication or fluid dynamics through static images. Now imagine learning the same through an interactive Mixed Reality (MR) simulation where students can rotate, zoom, and dissect a model in real-time. Traditional methods often fall short when it comes to explaining complex ideas. MR, which combines reality with digital, is fast becoming a game-changer in education. Whether it's a high school student exploring the human heart in 3D or an engineering undergrad walking through the inner workings of a turbine, MR is shifting how we learn, understand, and apply knowledge.

"MR is changing how students learn by replacing passive learning with real-time, interactive experiences. It allows learners to explore complex topics like anatomy, robotics, or astronomy by interacting with 3D environments. This helps build critical thinking and practical skills. As industries adopt AR/VR/MR technologies, students exposed to MR early are better prepared for careers in engineering, healthcare, design, and manufacturing. According to PwC, employees trained in VR complete tasks 4x faster than in classrooms. MR is helping schools move from theory-based teaching to skill-based, hands-on learning—bridging the gap between academics and job-ready skills," said Anurag Gupta, CEO and Co-Founder of STEMROBO Technologies.

At Case Western Reserve University in Ohio, students use HoloLens-based "HoloAnatomy" to walk inside human body holograms. Over in Oxford, MR is replacing traditional cadavers with digital anatomy lessons. In Goa, high schoolers at Vidya Vikas Academy use MR to explore volcanoes and the solar system, all from their classroom. And Deakin University in Australia lets nursing students virtually simulate real-world emergencies.

"MR technologies offer multimodal learning experiences by integrating visual, auditory, and kinesthetic elements. Interactive 3D models and simulations allow students to explore intricate concepts—such as molecular structures, mechanical systems, or anatomical functions—in a tangible and manipulable format. This interactive engagement promotes deeper cognitive processing, enabling learners to construct meaningful mental models and enhance memory consolidation. By moving beyond passive content consumption, MR fosters active exploration and immediate feedback, both of which are associated with improved retention and conceptual understanding in educational research," said an expert of Hindustan Institute of Technology and Science.

MR is not just about making lessons cool. It's about giving students hands-on exposure to tools and platforms that are fast becoming essential in modern industries. Sectors like healthcare, architecture, automotive, and even retail are already hiring people who can design or work with AR/VR/MR systems.

A 2023 Deloitte report stated that jobs in extended reality (XR, which includes AR/VR/MR) will grow by 31% annually over the next five years. Educational institutions that integrate MR are not just teaching, they're preparing students for roles that didn't exist a decade ago. From virtual prototyping to surgical training, students with MR exposure stand a step ahead in the job market. Singapore's Nanyang Technological University (NTU) already trains future engineers using MR to simulate bridge-building and structural stress tests. These are job-relevant, real-world applications brought into the classroom.

High-end labs, museum tours or industrial visits are often out of reach for students in remote or low-income areas. But MR changes that

"Students who engage with MR are more confident in using technology to create, not just consume. According to LinkedIn's 2024 emerging jobs report, AR/VR specialists are among the top 10 fastest-growing roles globally. By integrating MR in education, schools are building a talent pipeline aligned with the future workforce where immersive technology will be a core requirement," said Gupta.

What's even more powerful is MR's potential to make quality education accessible. High-end labs, museum tours, or industrial visits are often out of reach for students in remote or low-income areas. But MR changes that. With just a headset and basic internet, a child in a rural school can dissect a frog virtually or walk through the Louvre Museum, experiences once reserved for the privileged. "MR possesses significant potential to democratise education by mitigating disparities in access to high-quality learning experiences. Virtual classrooms, holographic lecturers, and cloud-based simulation libraries can bring world-class educational resources to remote or underserved communities," said the expert from Hindustan Institute of Technology and Science.

Lets' remember that exposure to MR in classrooms helps students build both tech skills and critical thinking skills needed for future careers. They learn how to work with 3D spaces, design user experiences, and create immersive content, skills useful in fields like healthcare, engineering, architecture, and media. This prepares students not just to use new technology, but to shape and improve it in the real world.

Kalantar • 29 May • Deloitte
The dream of becoming a millionaire by investing a new bucks

3 • PG | 919 • Sqcm | 367437 • AVE | N/A • Cir | Middle Left

Kolkata

ভারতে বেড়েছে ‘ফ্যান্টাসি গেমের’ জনপ্রিয়তা

কয়েক টাকা বিনিয়োগ করে কোটিপতি হওয়ার স্বপ্ন

সুমেধা পাল
বিবিসি সংবাদদাতা

ইন্ডিয়ান প্রিমিয়ার লিগ (আইপিএল) ১৭ই মে থেকে আবার শুরু হওয়ায় বেশ উচ্ছ্বসিত। ভারত-পাকিস্তানের মধ্যে সংঘর্ষের কারণে আইপিএল স্থগিত করা হয়েছিল। তবে আইপিএল-এর প্রতি গৌতমের এই আবেগের পিছনে শুধুমাত্র ক্রিকেটের প্রতি ভালোবাসা নয়, অন্য কারণও রয়েছে।

আসলে, বিশ্বের অন্যতম অর্থশালী ফ্র্যাঞ্চাইজি ক্রিকেট লিগ হিসেবে বিবেচিত আইপিএল চলাকালীন এই দুই মাসই তার কাছে এমন একটা সুযোগ এনে দেয়, যে সময় তিনি ‘ফ্যান্টাসি অ্যাপ’-এর মাধ্যমে অর্থ উপার্জন করতে পারেন। পেশায় গাড়ির পার্কিং লট সামলান ধর্মেন্দ্র গৌতম। তিনি বলেন, ‘খেলার রোমাঞ্চ আর জেতার আশা আমাকে আকর্ষণ করে।’

‘ফ্যান্টাসি গেমিং অ্যাপ্লিকেশন’গুলোতে যে কেউ বাস্তব খেলোয়াড়দের নিয়ে নিজেদের পছন্দ মতো দল তৈরি করতে পারেন। এই খেলোয়াড়রা আসল ম্যাচে যেমন যেমন পারফর্ম করেন, সেই অনুযায়ী অ্যাপ ব্যবহারকারীরা পয়েন্ট পান। এই পয়েন্টগুলোর ভিত্তিতে অ্যাপ ব্যবহারকারীরা লিডারবোর্ডে শীর্ষস্থানগুলোতে চলে আসতে পারেন এবং নগদ পুরস্কার জিততে পারেন। এই গেমে প্রবেশের জন্য ‘এন্ট্রি ফি’ এক টাকা হতে পারে এবং এই টাকা দিয়েই ব্যবহারকারীরা লক্ষ লক্ষ টাকা জেতার সুযোগ পেয়ে যেতে পারেন। গৌতমের মতো অনেক ভারতীয়ের জন্যই, ‘ফ্যান্টাসি ক্রিকেট অ্যাপ’ এমন একটা সুযোগ হয়ে দাঁড়িয়েছে যেখানে তারা তাদের প্রিয় খেলা দেখতেও পারেন আবার তার মাধ্যমে অর্থও উপার্জন করার সুযোগ পান।

ফ্যান্টাসি ক্রিকেটের রমরমা: ভারতে ক্রিকেটের ব্যাপক জনপ্রিয়তার ফলে এই জাতীয় ‘ফ্যান্টাসি গেমিং অ্যাপ’গুলোকে ইতিমধ্যে একটা লক্ষ লক্ষ ভক্তের বড়সড় ভাণ্ডার তৈরি করে দিয়েছে। ভারতে ২০১৫ থেকে ২০২০ সালের মধ্যে ইন্টারনেটে ব্যবহারকারীর সংখ্যা দ্রুত বেড়েছে। একই সঙ্গে টেলিকম সংস্থাগুলোর মধ্যে সস্তা ইন্টারনেট প্ল্যান চালু করাকে কেন্দ্র করে একটা প্রতিযোগিতাও শুরু হয় যা ‘ফ্যান্টাসি গেমিং অ্যাপ’গুলোকে দ্রুত ছড়িয়ে পড়তে সাহায্য করে। সহজলভ্য ইন্টারনেট কানেকশন খেলার ‘লাইভ স্ট্রিমিং’ এবং ‘ফ্যান্টাসি অ্যাপ’ দু’টোকেই সাধারণ মানুষের মোবাইলের স্ক্রিনে পৌঁছে যেতে সাহায্য করেছে। বহুজাতিক সংস্থা কেপিএমজি-র এক প্রতিবেদনে বলা হয়েছে, ভারতে ব্রডব্যান্ড ইন্টারনেট ব্যবহারকারীর সংখ্যা ২০১৬ সালে ৩৬ কোটি ৮০ লাখ থেকে বেড়ে ২০১৮ সালে ৫৬ কোটিতে দাঁড়িয়েছে। ওই একই সময়ে ‘ফ্যান্টাসি স্পোর্টস অপারেটর’দের সংখ্যা ১০ থেকে বেড়ে দাঁড়িয়েছে ৭০-এ। পাঁচ বছর আগে, অর্থাৎ, ২০১৯ সালে ‘ড্রিম ১১’ ‘ইউনিকর্ন স্ট্যাটাস’ লাভ করে। অর্থাৎ ওই কোম্পানির সম্পদমূল্য এক বিলিয়ন বা ১০০ কোটি ডলারে পৌঁছায়। এটাই প্রথম ভারতীয় ফ্যান্টাসি গেমিং প্ল্যাটফর্ম যে এই স্ট্যাটাস অর্জন করে। এর পরে ২০২১ সালে ‘মোবাইল প্রিমিয়ার লিগ’ (এমপিএল) এবং ২০২২ সালে ‘গেমস ২৪ x ৭’ শত কোটি ডলার ব্যবসার ঘরে পৌঁছে যায়।

‘ফেডারেশন অফ ইন্ডিয়ান ফ্যান্টাসি স্পোর্টস’ বিবিসিকে জানিয়েছে, ভারতে এখন ২২.৫ কোটির চেয়েও বেশি মানুষ ‘ফ্যান্টাসি স্পোর্টস অ্যাপ’ ব্যবহার করেন। ডেলয়েট-এর সহযোগিতায় পরিচালিত এক গবেষণা থেকে এই পরিসংখ্যান পাওয়া গেছে। ‘ফেডারেশন অফ ইন্ডিয়ান ফ্যান্টাসি স্পোর্টস’-এর তথ্য অনুযায়ী, এই অ্যাপগুলো ব্যবহারকারীদের বিভিন্ন খেলায় অর্থ বিনিয়োগের অনুমতি দেয়, কিন্তু ৮৫ শতাংশ ব্যবহারকারীদের আগ্রহ শুধুমাত্র ক্রিকেটের মধ্যেই সীমাবদ্ধ থাকে।

দ্রুত উপার্জন এবং তার বিপদ: ‘ফ্যান্টাসি অ্যাপ’-এর প্রতি এই ব্যাপক আকর্ষণের কারণ খুব সহজ-এর মাধ্যমে দ্রুত টাকা আয় করার আশা। দিল্লির ক্রীড়া সাংবাদিক সিদ্ধান্ত আনে বলছেন, ‘এই গেমগুলো এমনভাবে ডিজাইন করা হয়েছে যাতে লোকে ভাবে যে তারাই জিতবে। ভারতে মূলত ক্রিকেটের সঙ্গে এই অ্যাপগুলোর সম্পর্ক ছিল কিন্তু এখন অন্যান্য খেলার ক্ষেত্রেও তা দেখা যাচ্ছে। এই অ্যাপের সবচেয়ে বড় শক্তি হলো দ্রুত টাকা পাওয়ার লোভ।’

উত্তরপ্রদেশের মির্জাপুরের স্থানীয় আদালতে কেরানির কাজ করেন দয়ারাম। তার গল্প বেঁধে রেখেছে। ‘আপনি না-ই জিততে পারেন কিন্তু এই খেলায় যে উত্তেজনা এবং রোমাঞ্চ রয়েছে যা অন্যান্য। আপনি হয়ত এবার জিততে পারেননি কিন্তু মনে হবে যে পরের বার নিশ্চয়ই জিতবেন,’ বলেছেন মহম্মদ রাকিব। ‘আমি হয়তো তিন কোটি টাকা জিততে পারব না, কিন্তু আমি লোককে ৩০০ টাকা বা ৫০০ টাকা জিততে দেখেছি।’

কেপিএমজি-র রিপোর্ট অনুযায়ী, যাদের বার্ষিক আয় তিন লক্ষ টাকার কম, তাদের মধ্যে ৪০ শতাংশ সপ্তাহে পাঁচবারের বেশি ‘ফ্যান্টাসি স্পোর্টস’ খেলেন। আবার যাদের আয় ১০ লক্ষ টাকার বেশি, তাদের ১২ শতাংশের মধ্যে এই প্রবণতা দেখা গিয়েছে। এক্ষেত্রে উল্লেখযোগ্য বিষয় হলো যাদের আয় বছরে তিন লক্ষ টাকার কম, তাদের মধ্যে ৩৯ শতাংশ জানিয়েছেন, এই খেলায় অংশ নেওয়ার সবচেয়ে বড় কারণ হল টাকা জেতার সুযোগ।

তবে এই ‘গেমিং অ্যাপ্লিকেশন’ এবং সেটা ঘিরে তৈরি আশার করুণ পরিণতিও দেখা গেছে। ‘ফ্যান্টাসি গেম’-এ বড় ধরনের হারের পর আত্মহত্যার ঘটনাও প্রকাশ্যে এসেছে। গত মার্চ মাসে বিহারে ৩৮ বছরের এক ব্যক্তি দুই কোটি টাকা খোয়ানোর পর আত্মহত্যা করেন। ঘটনাস্থল থেকে একটা নোট উদ্ধার করা হয়েছিল। সেই নোটে তিনি তার আসক্তির জন্য ফ্যান্টাসি ক্রিকেটকে দায়ী করেছেন। তিনি জানিয়েছিলেন, কোভিডের সময় থেকেই এই খেলার প্রতি আসক্ত হয়ে পড়েন তিনি।

চিকিৎসক মনোজ কুমার শর্মা, ‘সার্ভিস ফর হেলদি ইউজ অফ টেকনোলজি’ নামে একটা মানসিক স্বাস্থ্য ক্লিনিক চালান। তার মতে কোভিডের পর থেকে ‘ফ্যান্টাসি স্পোর্টস’-এর প্রতি আকর্ষণ তাৎপর্যপূর্ণভাবে বেড়েছে। ডা. কুমার বলছেন, ‘একটা বিভ্রম কাজ করে যে সবকিছু (ব্যবহারকারীর) নিয়ন্ত্রণে আছে। মানুষ ভাবতে থাকে যে সে জিততে পারে। কিন্তু বারবার হেরে যাওয়া মানসিক এবং ব্যবহারিক সমস্যার কারণ হতে পারে।’ আত্মহত্যার ঘটনার পর কয়েকটা রাজ্য ‘গেমিং অ্যাপ্লিকেশন’গুলোর বিরুদ্ধে পদক্ষেপ নিয়েছিল।

২০২২ সালে তামিলনাড়ুর মুখ্যমন্ত্রী এম. কে. স্টালিন গেমিং অ্যাপ-এর বিরুদ্ধে এই জাতীয় অভিযোগ খতিয়ে দেখার জন্য একটা বিশেষ কমিটি গঠনের কথা ঘোষণা করেছিলেন। ওই বছরই মধ্যপ্রদেশের স্বরাষ্ট্রমন্ত্রী নরোত্তম মিশ্র জানান, তার সরকার ‘অনলাইন গেমিং’ নিয়ন্ত্রণের জন্য আইন প্রণয়ন করবে। বিশেষজ্ঞদের মতে ‘ফ্যান্টাসি গেমিং’কে ঝুঁকিপূর্ণ করে তোলার পিছনে সবচেয়ে বড় কারণ হলো এর সঠিক নিয়ন্ত্রণের অভাব।

নিয়ন্ত্রণের বিষয়ে স্বচ্ছতার অভাব : ফ্যান্টাসি স্পোর্টস-এর নিয়ন্ত্রণ কয়েক বছর ধরেই বিতর্কের কারণ হয়ে দাঁড়িয়েছে। ওড়িশা, আসাম, অন্ধ্রপ্রদেশ ও তেলেঙ্গানার মতো কমপক্ষে চারটে রাজ্য জুয়া বিরোধী আইনের আওতায় এই অ্যাপগুলো নিষিদ্ধ করেছে। তবে এই বিধিনিষেধের বৈধতা নিয়ে প্রশ্ন উঠেছে। এর কারণ হলো ‘ফ্যান্টাসি স্পোর্টস’-এর জন্য আসলে কৌশলগত দক্ষতা দরকার না কি এটা ভাগ্যের বিষয়- এই বিষয়টা এখনও বিতর্কই রয়ে গিয়েছে। দক্ষতা ভিত্তিক খেলায় কৌশলগত সিদ্ধান্ত নেওয়ার বিষয় থাকে, প্রতিভা এবং জ্ঞানও দরকার। অন্যদিকে, ভাগ্যের উপর ভিত্তি করে যে সমস্ত গেম রয়েছে তা সম্পূর্ণরূপে ভাগ্যের উপর নির্ভর করে। প্রযুক্তি এবং গেমিং আইনজীবী জে শেঠার কথায়, ক্ষ্যফ্যান্টাসি স্পোর্টস দক্ষতা-ভিত্তিক গেম। একে জুয়া হিসাবে শ্রেণিবদ্ধ করা যায় না। সুপ্রিম কোর্টও তা গ্রাহ্য করে কয়েকটা সিদ্ধান্ত বহাল রেখেছে। এই পরিস্থিতিতে রাজ্য সরকার এবং কেন্দ্র এই অ্যাপগুলোকে পুরোপুরি নিষিদ্ধ করতে পারেনা। আদালতের তরফে ওই যুক্তি দেখিয়ে কর্ণাটক এবং তামিলনাড়ুর রাজ্য সরকারের তরফে ‘ফ্যান্টাসি গেমিং’-এর উপর চাপানো নিষেধাজ্ঞা বাতিল করা হয়। কেন্দ্রীয় সরকার ২০২৩ সালে ফ্যান্টাসি গেমিং অ্যাপগুলোর ব্যবহার কমানোর উদ্দেশ্যে এই গেমে জেতা পুরস্কারের উপর ১৮ শতাংশ জিএসটি আরোপ করেছে। এই করের হার অ্যালকোহল এবং তামাকের সমতুল্য। এই সিদ্ধান্তকে চ্যালেঞ্জ জানিয়ে সুপ্রিম কোর্টে পাল্টা আবেদন জানানো হয়।

‘ফ্যান্টাসি গেমিং’ সংস্থাগুলো সহ আবেদনকারীদের যুক্তি ছিল যে, এই কর অনুচ্ছেদ ১৪ (আইনের কাছে সমতা) এবং অনুচ্ছেদ ১৯ (১) (জি) (যে কোনও পেশা অনুশীলনের) স্বাধীনতাকে লঙ্ঘন করে। ২০২৩ সালে, ভারত সরকারের তথ্য প্রযুক্তি অনলাইন গেমিং শিল্পের জন্য একটা ‘ন্যাশনাল রেগুলেটরি ফ্রেম ওয়ার্ক’ (জাতীয় নিয়ন্ত্রক কাঠামো) সম্পর্কে একটা নোটিফিকেশন প্রকাশ করেছিল। কিন্তু এই কাঠামোর আওতায় যেসব স্বনিয়ন্ত্রক সংস্থা গড়ে ওঠার কথা ছিল, তা এখনও হয়নি। এফআইএফএস বিবিসিকে বলেছে যে ‘ফ্যান্টাসি গেমিং প্ল্যাটফর্ম’গুলো ‘দায়িত্বশীল গেমিং’ এর জন্য বেশ কয়েকটা শক্তপোক্ত পদক্ষেপ নিয়েছে। এই প্ল্যাটফর্মে ব্যবহারকারীদের ‘তাদের নিজস্ব ব্যয় এবং সময় নিয়ন্ত্রণ করার’ বিকল্প দেয়। এর উদ্দেশ্য হলো ব্যবহারকারীরা যাতে তাদের সিদ্ধান্ত সম্পর্কে সচেতন হতে পারেন। এফআইএফএস আরও দাবি করে যে ‘ফ্যান্টাসি স্পোর্টস ইন্ডাস্ট্রি’ ভারতের অর্থনীতিতে উল্লেখযোগ্য অবদান রাখছে। এসব অ্যাপ নিয়ে বিতর্ক চলতে থাকলেও ব্যবহারকারীদের কাছে খেলায় অংশ নেওয়াটা নিত্যদিনের ঘটনা। ধর্মেন্দ্র গৌতমের মতো অনেকের কাছে এটা এটা ‘নেশা’ হয়ে দাঁড়িয়েছে। তার কথায়, ‘আমি খেলি কারণ আমার চারপাশে বাকিরাও এই খেলা খেলে। আমরা সবাই এই আশায় খেলি যে হয়ত আমরা জিতব। এই জন্য হাল ছেড়ে দেওয়াটা কিন্তু কঠিন।’

Online Coverage

No	Portal Name	Headline (Incorporated with URL)	Reach
1.	Msn India	Intel, AMD former executives throw the hat into AI semiconductor ring	733.9M
2.	Msn India	Intel, AMD former executives throw the hat into AI semiconductor ring	733.9M
3.	Msn India	ITR deadline extended: Taxpayers may earn more interest, but government could fa...	733.9M
4.	हिन्दुस्तान(Live Hindustan)	एकेडमी और इंडस्ट्री के बीच के गैप को दूर करना आज की मांग	64.8M
5.	Manorama Online	FEATURED CONTENT സെന്റ്ഗിറ്റ്സ്: മാറുന്ന സങ്കല്പത്തിനൊപ്പം സ്വയം നവീകരിക്കപ്പെടു...	37.6M
6.	Loksatta - Marathi Newspaper	आयटी कंपन्यांमध्ये कॉस्टकटिंग, अप्रायजलही रखडले; पडद्यामागे काय घडतंय?	33.4M
7.	The Economic Times	Intel, AMD former executives throw the hat into AI semiconductor ring	28.7M
8.	The Economic Times	Intel, AMD former executives throw the hat into AI semiconductor ring	28.7M
9.	Jagran Josh	Outstanding Placements in Top Companies Secured by Jamia Millia Islamia Students	21.6M
10.	Analytics India Magazine	Why InMobi Is Betting on Lucknow as the Next Tech Growth Hub	1.6M
11.	Taxscan	ICAI approves Draft Regulatory Framework allowing Global Networking of CA Firms	1.5M
12.	Avenue Mail	Accenture Senior MD C Lakshmi stresses need to reimagine talent models amid tech...	443.7K
13.	Tech Circle	AI and algorithms are the new paradigms in Indian taxation	127.4K
14.	Business News Week	PHDCCI organised Seminar on Taxation Issues in Business restructuring	10.3K
15.	Contentmediasolution.com	PHDCCI organised Seminar on Taxation Issues in Business restructuring	6.8K
16.	Etcio	Intel, AMD former executives throw the hat into AI semiconductor ring	5K
17.	ETTelecom	Intel, AMD former executives throw the hat into AI semiconductor ring	5K
18.	Pro Capitas	The $1 Mistake Costing Americans Thousands Each Year	N/A
19.	BizWire Express	VCI Global Teases ‘Project QG": Sovereign AI and Encrypted Data Monetization Pl...	N/A
20.	Global Hr News & Trends	Arun Shivdasani Joins 2U as Chief Financial Officer	N/A
21.	Dhriti News	एक जून को डीआईटी यूनिवर्सिटी में प्रवेश काउंसलिंग, पंजीकरण की अंतिम तिथि 31 मई	N/A
22.	न्यूज़ पोर्टल	एक जून को डीआईटी यूनिवर्सिटी में प्रवेश काउंसलिंग, पंजीकरण की अंतिम तिथि 31 मई	N/A
23.	India Talks Live	एक जून को डीआईटी यूनिवर्सिटी में प्रवेश काउंसलिंग, पंजीकरण की अंतिम तिथि 31 मई	N/A

24.	The Uttarakhandtribune	एक जून को डीआईटी यूनिवर्सिटी में प्रवेश काउंसलिंग, पंजीकरण की अंतिम तिथि 31 मई	N/A
25.	Dev Bhoomi Jan Samvad	एक जून को डीआईटी यूनिवर्सिटी में प्रवेश काउंसलिंग, पंजीकरण की अंतिम तिथि 31 मई	N/A
26.	Textile Value Chain	A Competitive Study to Assess the Product Range of Colorplus in Retail	N/A
27.	The jharkhand	XLRI Jamshedpur holds recruiters" conclave Rendezvous with XLRI-Bengaluru	N/A
28.	Travel And Tour	Vacationing on a Budget: How the Economy Is Impacting Summer Travel Plans in 202...	N/A
29.	Fatehlive	Jamshedpur Xlri : एकेडमी और इंडस्ट्री के बीच के गैप को दूर करना है आज के वक्त की...	N/A
30.	Hoteldealers	Vacationing on a Budget: How the Economy Is Impacting Summer Travel Plans in 202...	N/A
31.	Business News for Profit	PHDCCI organised Seminar on Taxation Issues in Business restructuring	N/A
32.	Onlinemediacafe.com	PHDCCI organised Seminar on Taxation Issues in Business restructuring	N/A
33.	Biz News Desk	PHDCCI organised Seminar on Taxation Issues in Business restructuring	N/A
34.	BizWire Express	Study by MBA Students Recommends Launching a Platform for Generating and T rackin...	N/A
35.	Shiksha	Unpacking Christ Bangalore"s Most Desired Program: Backed by Shiksha.com"s Pol...	N/A
36.	The Economic Times	Former Intel, AMD executives launch AI semiconductor startups in India	N/A
37.	UniList	Career Paths After Doing an MBA: Opportunities and Options	N/A
38.	Pune Plus	Rising Office Space Demand Signals Shift Towards Tier-II Cities in India"s Real...	N/A
39.	BizWire Express	Unleash AI"s Infinite Potential: AI+ Power 2025, Hong Kong"s Premier AI Applic...	N/A
40.	Newz 9	Exploring Texas A&M University System Projects and Identity: Highlights from...	N/A
41.	Pune Media	Intel, AMD former executives throw the hat into AI semiconductor ring Pune Media ...	N/A
42.	Forever News	Unleash AI"s Infinite Potential: AI+ Power 2025, Hong Kong"s Premier AI Applic...	N/A
43.	The Mobi World	ITR deadline extended: Taxpayers may earn more interest, but government could fa...	N/A
44.	Business News India	Public sector AI adoption 2025: Can Deloitte"s S2S model replace legacy IT vend. ..	N/A
45.	Pune Media	India aims for USD2 trillion FDI market Pune Media On May 29, 2025	N/A
46.	The Economic Times	Former Intel, AMD executives launch AI semiconductor startups in India	N/A
47.	Odisha Samachar	Unleash AI"s Infinite Potential: AI+ Power 2025, Hong Kong"s Premier AI Applic...	N/A
48.	Pune Media	Why India"s richest are preferring real estate over stocks and gold | Biz News ...	N/A

49.	News	ITR deadline extended: Taxpayers may earn more interest, but government could fa...	N/A
50.	Careers Info Security	State of Healthcare Cybersecurity: Progress and Pitfalls	N/A
51.	BizWire Express	Performance-Optimized Web Development Projects by Digital Silk Potentially Help i...	N/A
52.	IT News Online	SustainableIT.org Honors Visionary Technology Leaders with the 2025 Responsible ...	N/A
53.	Data Breach Today	State of Healthcare Cybersecurity: Progress and Pitfalls	N/A