

December 20, 2025

ICIDS 2025 Inaugural Sets Vision for Sustainable Infrastructure

The ICIDS 2025 was inaugurated at Adani University, setting a forward-looking agenda focused on collaboration, innovation, and sustainability in infrastructure development. The event was presided over by senior dignitaries, including Provost Prof. Dhaval Pujara, CEO of Adani Cements Shri Vinod Bahety, Vice President Prof. Arun Kumar Sharma, and Dean Prof. Sandip Solanki, along with Conference Chairs Mr. Karan Nilesh Radia and Dr. Riya Mehta. Key highlights included the release of the ICIDS 2025 book of abstracts, the ICIDS 2024 proceedings, and Cement Chalisa by Adani Cements. The session concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Dr. Riya Mehta.



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Provost Calls for Global Vision and Climate-Resilient Infrastructure at ICIDS 2025

In his inaugural address, Prof. Dhaval Pujara, Provost of Adani University, underscored the importance of a global perspective in tackling India's sustainable development challenges and driving digitalization in infrastructure. Extending a warm welcome to dignitaries, experts, faculty, participants, and students, he highlighted ICIDS' alignment with the Adani Group's vision for future-ready, sustainable infrastructure. He expressed confidence in the ICIDS series and noted potential collaboration with Adani Energy for ICIDS 2026 to deepen industry-academia engagement. Citing India's planned USD 1.5 trillion infrastructure investment, he emphasized life cycle thinking, technological enablement, and climate resilience, and urged meaningful, real-world impact beyond academia.



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Technology and Sustainability Poised to Redefine Infrastructure in a Post-Pandemic Era

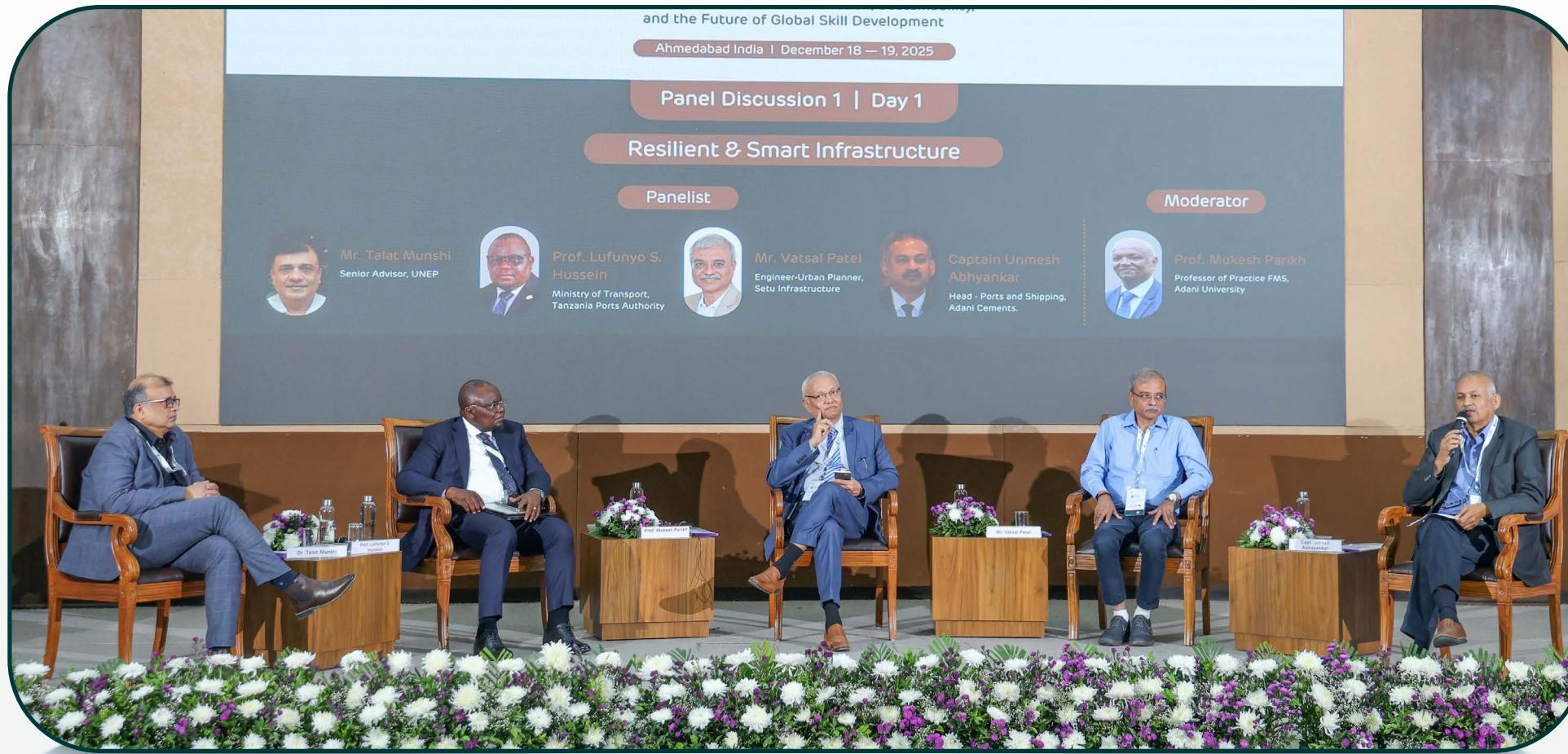
In the keynote address, Prof. Dr. Arun Kumar Sharma, Vice President of Adani University, highlighted the shifting infrastructure landscape in a post-pandemic and technology-driven world, underscoring the role of platforms like ICIDS in strengthening academia-industry convergence. Drawing from past editions, he stressed that conferences enable integration of business models, regulatory frameworks, and emerging technologies to support holistic development. He examined how Blockchain, Artificial Intelligence, and 3D Printing are reshaping infrastructure through data-centric planning, automation, and enhanced decision-making. Emphasizing sustainability, he noted the potential of low-emission materials and resource-efficient 3D printing, positioning advanced technologies as catalysts for resilient, environmentally responsible infrastructure systems.



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Driving National Growth Through Decarbonization, Digital Innovation, and Circular Infrastructure

Delivering the Chief Guest address, Shri Vinod Bahety, CEO of Adani Cements, underscored infrastructure as the bedrock of national growth and resilience, aligning with India's GDP trajectory, the National Infrastructure Pipeline, and the vision of a developed India by 2047. He highlighted cement's central role and prioritized decarbonization through low-carbon manufacturing, CCUS, renewable energy, and science-based net-zero goals guided by government frameworks. He cited innovations such as green cement, circular economy practices, and biodiversity conservation. Stressing digitalization, he discussed AI, IoT, and analytics for greater efficiency and sustainability, concluding with the FutureX initiative to strengthen capacity building and industry-academia collaboration.



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Panel Discussion on

Resilient & Smart Infrastructure

The first panel discussion on Resilient Infrastructure, moderated by Prof. Mukesh Parikh, brought international perspectives on sustainable and climate-ready transport, port, and urban systems. UNEP Senior Advisor Mr. Talat Munshi urged climate-resilient planning, clean technologies, and nature-based solutions. Prof. Lufunyo S. Hussein emphasized ESG frameworks, renewable energy, PPP models, and green financing. Urban planner Mr. Vatsal Patel highlighted policy-led planning backed by climate data, citing the Sabarmati Riverfront as a model for risk-responsive design. Capt. Unmesh Abhyankar focused on decarbonized fuels, smart port design, and data-driven systems, collectively advocating policy alignment, skilled manpower, and future-ready mobility.



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Plenary Session on

Innovation & Sustainability in Infrastructure

In the plenary session, Mr. Nayan Parikh, CEO, Nayan Parikh & consultants, stressed that infrastructure must evolve beyond expansion to become smarter and more sustainable. He underscored circular and resource-efficient practices that reduce waste and enhance long-term performance. Highlighting advancements in materials, technology, and digital tools, he pointed to Smart Indore as a benchmark for integrated policy, technology adoption, and community participation. Its achievements—zero landfill, 100 percent waste segregation, clean water bodies, and improved air quality—demonstrate scalable urban sustainability. He called for collaboration among government, industry, and innovators, backed by policy support, financing, and pilot projects to translate ideas into climate-friendly infrastructure.



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Fireside Chat

The Road to Net-Zero: Integrating Clean Energy Tomorrow's Infrastructure

The fireside chat on "The Road to Net-Zero," moderated by Dr. Namita Pragya, convened experts Prof. Tarun Gupta, Dean of Research & Development and Professor of Civil Engineering at IIT Kanpur, Mr. Rajeev Pal Energy & Manufacturing, Cluster Head at Central Project Assurance Group, Adani Group, and Mr. Vaneet Kumar, Chief Technology Officer for Batteries, Adani New Industries Limited to examine how infrastructure systems must adapt to global net-zero goals. The discussion emphasized integrating clean energy across transport, logistics, buildings, and industry rather than relying on isolated renewable projects. Panelists highlighted policy coherence, regulatory frameworks, and inclusive planning to align decarbonization with economic growth and social equity. They also discussed the evolving skillsets required for future managers in the energy sector, stressing multidisciplinary training to support large-scale adoption of clean technologies.



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Pre-Conference Workshop on

Advanced Quantitative Research Methods

The first and second sessions of the Pre-Conference Workshop on Data-Driven Decision-Making in Marketing Research were held at CR2, Adani University, with around 67 participants including faculty members, research scholars, and students. The sessions were conducted by Prof. Anand Kumar Jaiswal, Professor of Marketing at IIM Ahmedabad. He highlighted the evolving role of marketers in a data-driven business environment, stressing the balance between creativity and analytical skills. The workshop covered marketing analytics, AI, machine learning, and big data applications, along with quantitative research methods, a coffee bar case study, and a hands-on SPSS session using real datasets.



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Pre-Conference Workshop on

Practical Insights on Writing and Showcasing Research

The Pre-Conference Workshop on Practical Insights on Writing & Showcasing Research, led by Prof. Dr. Dhaval Pujara, Provost, Adani University, focused on strengthening researchers' ability to communicate and disseminate scholarly work effectively. The session highlighted the linkage between research and innovation, the importance of selecting impactful research topics, and the essential elements of a high-quality manuscript. Practical guidance was provided on pre-publication checks, responding constructively to reviewers' feedback, and enhancing research visibility through open-access publishing, collaboration, digital platforms, and conferences. The workshop emphasized creativity, strategic dissemination, and integration of research with teaching to improve academic impact.



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Pre-Conference Workshop on Research Ethics

The third Pre-Conference Workshop on Research Ethics and Academic Publishing, led by Ms. Priya Vyas, Senior Editor at Atlantis Press (Springer Nature), emphasized the importance of research integrity as a shared responsibility among authors, reviewers, institutions, and publishers. The session highlighted growing ethical challenges arising from academic pressure, technological advancements, and evolving publishing models, and introduced the role of COPE in upholding ethical standards. Key issues discussed included data fabrication and falsification, image manipulation, informed consent, research involving vulnerable groups, animal ethics, plagiarism, duplicate submissions, and authorship responsibilities. Practical insights into plagiarism detection tools reinforced ethical compliance as the foundation of credible, responsible, and impactful scholarly research.



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Brief by Mr. Umesh Soni and Mr. Jaimin Patel from PSP Projects Ltd.

Mr. Umesh Soni (Sr. VP & National Head-Tech Services, Adani Cement; Director-CMPPL) and Mr. Jaimin Patel, General Manager (Project Execution), PSP Projects Ltd., concluded the session with a detailed project brief on the Vishv Umiyadham Temple. The session highlighted the making of the project, execution style, quantity insights, and the large scale of construction, making it the world's tallest temple. The inception of the temple, raft planning chronology, initial pour plan, conceptualization, and benefits of monolithic construction with zero joints and time optimization were explained.



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Site Visit VUF (Vishv Umiyadham Temple)

The site visit offered valuable insights into the execution strategy of the Vishv Umiyadham Temple, envisioned as the world's tallest religious temple at 153 m, spread across 60 acres near Vaishnodevi Circle, Ahmedabad. The project team explained the scale and complexity of the raft foundation measuring approximately 140×210 sq. m, executed through a single continuous mass concreting of nearly $24,000$ m³. The visit showcased robust logistics planning with multiple RMC plants, GPS-tracked transit mixers, and centralized monitoring.



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Panel Discussion on

Future-Ready Mobility Infrastructure

This session was moderated by Dr. Rachna Gangwar, Professor, and focused on building future-ready mobility infrastructure across transport, ports, and urban systems. The panelists included Mr. Jagan Shah, CEO, The Infravision Foundation; Prof. Sanjay Gupta, Professor, School of Planning and Architecture; Dr. Sundaravalli Narayanaswami, Professor, IIMA; and Prof. Thierry Vanelslander, Professor, University of Antwerp, who joined online. The panel concluded that resilient mobility requires integrated governance, people-centric planning, clean energy adoption, and strong institutional coordination.



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Plenary Session on

Skill for the Future Infrastructure Workforce

This session was led by Mr. Robin Bhowmik, CEO-Skills & Education, Adani Group, who discussed emerging technologies shaping future-ready infrastructure. He highlighted artificial intelligence, cloud computing, and automation as key enablers driving efficiency and transformation. Emphasizing the importance of strategic investments, he noted the steady rise in employability supported by technology-led growth. The session stressed the need to unlock human potential by developing future-ready skills and aligning workforce capabilities with both immediate priorities and long-term business vision.

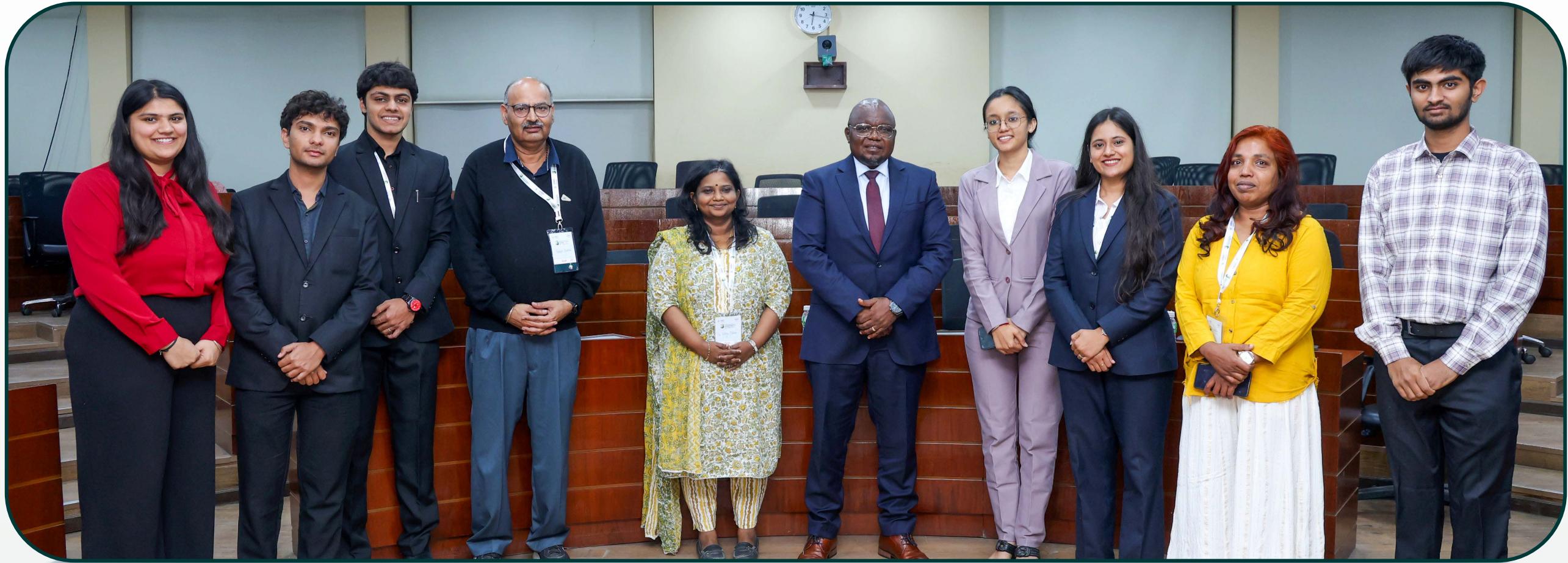


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Panel Discussion on

Real Estate Transformation in Smart Cities

This session was moderated by Dr. Sameer Patel, Assistant Professor and HOD (Civil and Infrastructure Engineering), Adani University. The panelists—Mr. Ajit Pai, Delhi Urban Art Commission; Mr. Satish Kokate, Adani Reality; Mr. Bhargav Dave, Founder and CEO, VisiLean Ltd.; and Mr. Sameer Sinha, Founder and Managing Director, Savvy Group—discussed the critical role of urban planning in India's growth. Mr. Ajit Pai emphasized sustainability, integrated land use, transit-oriented development, and empowered Urban Local Bodies. Mr. Satish Kokate highlighted compact infrastructure, rental housing, and parallel city development. Mr. Bhargav Dave stressed strengthening Urban Local Body capacity and structured recruitment. Mr. Sameer Sinha focused on people-centric smart cities, sustainability, green buildings, and citizen engagement.



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Technical Session on

Infrastructure, Sustainable Urbanization, and Climate Resilience

This technical session was chaired by Dr. Vidya G. Mohan, and Prof. Lufunyo Hussein, Ministry of Transport, Tanzania Ports Authority. The session focused on disaster preparedness, inclusive development, ecotourism, and sustainability in India, featuring research on peri-urban vulnerabilities in Gujarat and links between economic growth and environmental sustainability. A parallel Track 1 session was chaired by Mr. Talat Munshi, Senior Advisor, UNEP Copenhagen Climate Centre, and Dr. Vishal Lad, it addressed sustainable silica production from rice husk, infrastructure safety technologies, smart rural planning, and the interlinkages between livability, urban planning, and governance, highlighting integrated and climate-resilient development approaches.



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Technical Session on

Low-Carbon and Autonomous Transportation: Economic and Environmental Implications

This session was led by Prof. Rachna Gangwar; Mr. Jagan Shah, CEO, The Infravision Foundation; and Dr. Krishna Murthy Inumula, Professor, FMS, Adani University. The session focused on sustainable, smart, and inclusive transportation systems and their impact. Six research papers covered smart green port development aligned with Agenda 2030, public-private partnerships in Indian metro rail, and surge pricing effects in app-based taxis. Other presentations examined blockchain and IoT for maritime security, container-to-wagon optimization to reduce emissions, and a doughnut framework for inclusive redevelopment of Dharavi, Mumbai.



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Technical Session on

Innovative Energy Solutions for a Sustainable, Net-Zero Future

This session was chaired by Dr. Alok Kumar Singh and Dr. Namita Pragya, Adani University, and focused on emerging energy solutions and decarbonization pathways for a sustainable, net-zero future. The session featured four research papers addressing innovative and forward-looking themes, including carbon credit-based cryptocurrency systems, solar panel recycling processes and their environmental impacts, green hydrogen as a transformative energy solution for net-zero goals, and strategies for decarbonizing the exploration and production (E&P) sector by addressing Scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions. The presentations highlighted the integration of technology, policy, and sustainability to support energy transition and climate action.



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Technical Session on

The Digital Revolution AI, Deep Tech, and Infrastructure Development

This session was chaired by Dr. Spoorthy Venkatesh, Dr. Ajay Kumar Vyas, and Dr. Maitri Vaghela, and focused on the transformative role of artificial intelligence and deep technologies in infrastructure development. The session featured five research papers addressing neuro-symbolic decision intelligence, the integration of Building Information Modelling (BIM) with construction contracts, the impact of artificial intelligence on supply chain performance, the role of technology and sustainability in road infrastructure, and strategic frameworks to overcome financial challenges in digital transformation within the construction sector.



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Technical Session on

Global Skill Development to Build a Diverse and Future-Ready Workforce

This session was chaired by Dr. Anindita Chatterjee and Dr. Baishali Mitra. The session highlighted the importance of skills in addressing global and infrastructure-driven workforce demands. Three research papers examined strategic and sustainable skill development, the role of financial inclusion in empowering women, and women-centric skill programs aligned with green and digital infrastructure in Haryana. Emphasis was placed on long-term employability, capability building, and inclusive growth.



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Valedictory & Award Ceremony of ICIDS 2025

The Valedictory & Award Ceremony marked the formal conclusion of the conference, celebrating academic excellence and scholarly contributions. The Best Research Paper Awards were presented to Kartikay Ahluwalia and Rakesh Shahani (First Prize), Tarun Gupta (First Runner-Up), and Aman Deep Gupta, Dhruv Talaviya, Bhavnesh Koshti, and Rohan Majumder (Second Runner-Up). The Promising Scholar Award was conferred on Abhishek Shrivastav. The ceremony concluded with a Vote of Thanks by Dr. Riya Mehta, Assistant Professor, FMS, Adani University.