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XIX ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Forum for Global Knowledge Sharing



THEME

Innovation and Economy

BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

DATES	VENUE	HOSTED BY
29–31 October 2026 Thursday – Saturday	**Seminar Hall, HSB 356** Second Floor	**Dept. of Humanities and** Social Sciences, IIT Madras

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Thursday, 29 October 2026

DAY 1 · *Seminar Hall, HSB 356, Second Floor*

9:00–9:30	**Registration**
9:30–10:30	OPENING **Inaugural Session** **Chair:** Prof. N. S. Siddharthan, President, Knowledge Forum **Welcome Address:** Head, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Madras **Inaugural Address:** Prof. Manu Santhanam, Dean, ICSR, IIT Madras **Overview of Sessions:** Prof. K. Narayanan, IIT Bombay; Hon. Secretary, Knowledge Forum **Vote of Thanks:** Local Organising Chair, IIT Madras
10:30–11:00	PANEL DISCUSSION **Tamil Nadu 2047: Innovation & Economy** **Chair:** Prof. K. Narayanan, Head, Department of Economics, IIT Bombay **Panelists:** M Thenmozhi, Chair Professor, IIT Madras; Mr. Abhishek Anand, Founder and Managing Director, Insignia Policy Research
11:00–11:30	**Group Photo & Tea/Coffee**
11:30–12:00	SPECIAL SESSION BY MCX **Innovations in Commodity Derivatives Market** **Speaker:** Scini V, Assistant Vice President, Strategy, MCX
12:00–13:00	COMPETITIVE TECHNICAL SESSION I **AI, Robotics & Labour Markets** **Chair and Discussant:** Prof. Bino Paul (TISS Mumbai & Treasurer, Knowledge Forum) ***Do Environmental Taxes Encourage Industrial Robot Adoption?*** — Canh Nguyen, Nguyen Doan, Nadia Doytch & Binh Quang Nguyen, University of Economics and Finance, Vietnam & CUNY New York ***Robots and Labour Market Dynamics in India*** — Manoj Tarai, Nadia Doytch & Radeef Chundakkadan, IIT Bombay & CUNY New York
13:00–14:30	**Lunch**
14:30–16:00	COMPETITIVE TECHNICAL SESSION II **Patents, IPR & R&D Spillovers** **Chair and Discussant:** Prof. Uday Bhanu Sinha (Delhi School of Economics, DU) ***Do Patents Pay? Evidence on Total Factor Productivity from Indian Manufacturing Firms*** — Joel Jacob & Sunil Kumar Ambrammal, NIT Goa ***Patent Yields and Financial Distress Risk: Evidence from Indian Manufacturing Firms*** — Anjali Thakur & Madan Dhanora, MNIT Bhopal ***Patent Policy and Strategic Reallocation of Innovation in India: Evidence from Patent Examination Reform*** — Tanmay Sharma & Ruchi Sharma, IIT Indore
16:00–16:15	**Tea/Coffee Break**
16:15–17:45	COMPETITIVE TECHNICAL SESSION III **Sustainability, Climate Change & Energy Transition** **Chair and Discussant:** Prof. B. N. Goldar (Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi) ***Household Willingness to Pay for Low-Carbon Heating in the United Kingdom: Evidence from a Discrete Choice Experiment*** — Jayashree Dutta, University of Birmingham, UK ***Determinants of Environmental and Social Impact R&D: A Study of Large, Listed Firms in the Automobile and Auto-ancillary Industry in India*** — Savita Bhat, NITK Surathkal ***Grid Expansion, Displacement, and the Household Energy Transition: Quasi-Experimental Evidence from Rural India*** — Srikant Shaw & Santosh Kumar Sahu, IIT Madras
18:00–18:30	**Governing Council Meeting (Internal)**
19:00	**Dinner**

Friday, 30 October 2026

DAY 2 · *Seminar Hall, HSB 356, Second Floor*

9:30–11:00	COMPETITIVE TECHNICAL SESSION IV **Technology Strategy, Innovation & Firm Performance** **Chair and Discussant:** Prof. Unmesh Patnaik, TISS Mumbai ***Technology Strategy Persistence and Policy Paradox: Evidence from Indian Manufacturing Firms*** — Sudarshan Vinayak Thakur & Sunil Kumar Ambrammal, NIT Goa ***Technology- and Knowledge-Based Sectoral Orientation and Business Group Performance*** — Ashish Biswas & Atulan Guha, Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum & IIM Kashipur ***Do the Indian Manufacturing Firms Ensure a "Productivity-Dividend Hypothesis"?*** — Prantik Bagchi, Santosh Kumar Sahu & Chandan Kumar Jha, IIT Kharagpur, IIT Madras & Le Moyne College, Syracuse, NY
11:00–11:30	**Tea/Coffee Break**
11:30–12:30	COMPETITIVE TECHNICAL SESSION V **Trade, FDI & Global Value Chains** **Chair and Discussant:** Prof. Kaushalesh Lal (Formerly at UNU-MERIT Maastricht) ***Import Competition and Firm Innovation: Evidence from India*** — Hariom Arora & Ruchi Sharma, IIT Indore ***The Conditional Upstreamness Premium: Global Value Chain Intensity and Firm Performance in Indian Manufacturing*** — Melvin Vincent & Subash Sasidharan, IIT Madras
12:30–14:00	**Lunch**
14:00–15:30	COMPETITIVE TECHNICAL SESSION VI **Digital Platforms, Gender, Employment & Public Policy towards Innovation** **Chair and Discussant:** Prof. Nadia Doytch, CUNY New York ***Digital Platforms, Innovation and Competition Policy Challenges in India*** — P. L. Beena & Raj Kumar, Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum ***Firm Size and Internet Adoption in the Indian Informal Sector*** — Jayati Chatterjee & Subash S., SRM University Amaravati & IIT Madras ***Technological and Non-Technological Innovation in Shaping Gender-Based Employment Diversity: Evidence from Manufacturing Enterprises in a Large Developing Economy — India*** — Akash Yadav & Sandeep Kumar Kujur, IIT Madras
15:30–16:30	NETWORKING **Networking Session with NPTEL and IITM Pravartak**
16:30–17:30	**General Body Meeting**
18:30	**Conference Dinner**

Saturday, 31 October 2026

DAY 3 · *Seminar Hall, HSB 356, Second Floor*

9:30–10:30	COMPETITIVE TECHNICAL SESSION VII **Chair and Discussant:** Prof. Sabuj Kumar Mandal, IIT Madras ***Technology or Pollution Transfer? — Inference from a Plant-level Analysis*** — Sritama Kar, Prantik Bagchi & Anwesha Aditya, IIT Kharagpur ***Intra-industry R&D Spillovers from Star Firms*** — Jitamitra Behera, Werner Bönte & Ruchi Sharma, IIT Indore and University of Wuppertal
10:30–11:30	COMPETITIVE TECHNICAL SESSION VIII **Chair and Discussant:** Prof. Ruchi Sharma, IIT Indore ***Does Institutional Quality Moderate the Impact of Technology on Adoption of Green Practices: Evidence from an International Set of Firms*** — Devlina & Joachim Antony Komban, Madras School of Economics ***Green or Dirty? Foreign Direct Investment, Policy, and Energy Efficiency in Indian Manufacturing Firms*** — Soumya Thicker, IIM Kashipur
11:30–12:00	CLOSING **Concluding Session** Rapporteur's Summary & Closing Remarks
12:00	**Lunch**

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MSc in Sustainable Energy Systems

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

- Term 1 at IIT Madras, Term 2 at Birmingham
- Term 3: stay in Birmingham (Track 1) or return to IIT Madras (Track 2)
- Year-long research project co-guided by both

WHY THIS PROGRAMME

- Specialisation in data science and AI
- Technology, economics and policy of energy
- Industrial placement opportunity

ELIGIBILITY

- 3+ year Bachelor's in Engineering / Science, normally 60% or higher

CAREERS

- Sustainability Engineer · Energy Expert · Applied Scientist · Research Scientist

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IIT MADRAS × SWANSEA UNIVERSITY

MSc in Sustainable Engineering

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

- Track 1: 6 months IIT Madras + 12 months Swansea, with UK dissertation
- Track 2: 6 months each at IIT Madras and Swansea + 6-month project at IIT Madras
- No GATE qualification required

ADVANCED EXPERTISE IN

- Renewable energy systems and circular economy
- Climate change, sustainable materials and construction
- Environmental systems, policy and climate economics

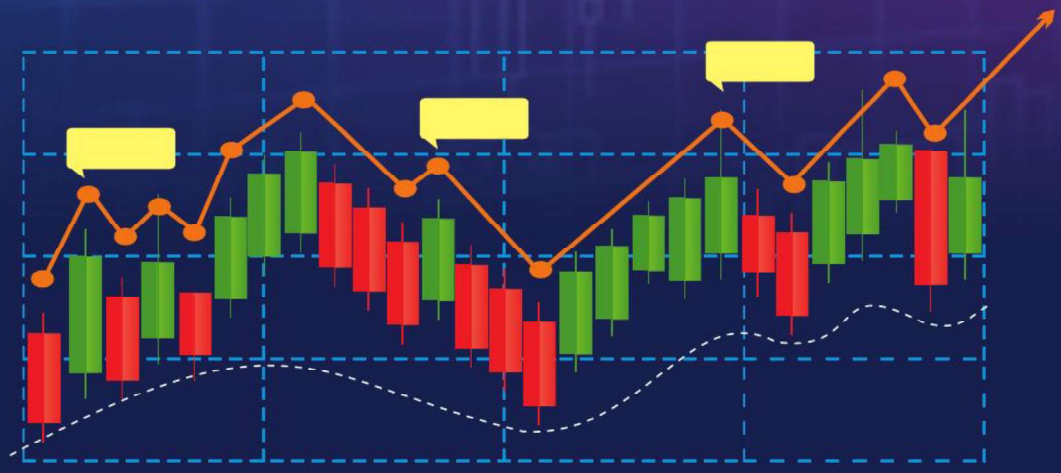
CAREERS

- Renewable Energy Engineer · Sustainability Consultant · Climate Analyst · ESG Specialist · Environmental Engineer

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