

FEBRUARY 13, 2026



VIRTUAL ROUND TABLE

DECODING INDIA'S UNION BUDGET



UNION BUDGET 2026-27

India's economic strategy is at a transformative juncture, emphasizing innovation, entrepreneurship, and technology-led growth. ICTRD convened a distinguished Virtual Round Table on "Decoding India's Union Budget 2026-27: Growth, Innovation, and Economic Resilience" to analyze the broader implications of the Union Budget and its potential to shape India's next phase of economic development. Policymakers, industry leaders, academicians, and entrepreneurs participated in a dialogue focused on fostering industrial modernization, enhancing research and innovation, and promoting inclusive growth aligned with the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047.

The forum united academicians, industry leaders, policymakers, skilling experts, and students to discuss shifting India from a degree-centric system to a competence-driven education aligned with industry needs and NEP 2020 aspirations.

Strengthening India's Innovation-First Economy

The Union Budget 2026-27 emphasizes a technology-driven, startup-friendly, and globally competitive economy. Key highlights include:

- Startup Funding – ₹30,000 crore for the Fund of Funds for Startups and ₹2,000 crore for the Self-Reliant India Fund to support growth across sectors.
- Technology & AI – Expansion of the India Semiconductor Mission, AI governance reforms, and Bharat-VISTAAR, a multilingual AI platform for farmers.
- Education & Skills – Focus on STEM, healthcare, creative industries, and professional training, including new NIPERs, AVGC labs, and design and Ayurveda institutes in Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities.

ICTRD views the Budget as a strategic blueprint to advance India's innovation and entrepreneurship objectives.

Voices from the Round Table

Mr. Chinmoy Chatte, MD & CEO, Archisman Infratech India Pvt. Ltd. Described the Union Budget 2026–27 as a forward-looking roadmap focused on capital expenditure, infrastructure modernization, semiconductor expansion, and manufacturing growth. He noted that investments in biopharma, electronics, rail corridors, and waterways reflect the government’s commitment to strengthening India’s industrial ecosystem and long-term economic resilience.



Technology Shaping Future Economy

Mr. Sitesh Anand, HOD – Mechanical Engineering, Ramgovind Institute of Technology, Highlighted AI research, MSME support, green energy, and supply chain modernization as catalysts for India’s global competitiveness. Research funding, digital learning, and infrastructure development are central to this transformation.

Mr. Viral Pate, CEO, Radha Lifescape LLP, Described the budget as a balanced framework supporting growth and fiscal discipline, highlighting innovation initiatives, startup incentives, and semiconductor investments as key drivers of economic stability.

Empowering Skills and Education

Dr. Ranjeet Prasad, Director, Himalayan Vision Production, Focused on digital education, structured skill development, and entrepreneurship mentorship. He stressed collaboration among NGOs, academia, and industry for inclusive development and rural empowerment. He also highlighted the importance of creating accessible learning platforms that can nurture young talent and encourage innovation at the grassroots level.



Building Skills and Innovation for the Future

Dr. Hemant Shyam Sonare Appreciated youth empowerment and the textile sector as an employment engine. Initiatives include technical textiles promotion, integrated fiber strategies, and mega textile parks to enhance exports and MSME growth.

Dr. Meghana Manohar Jalgaonkar, Director, Mxap Financial Pvt. Ltd, Highlighted India’s shift to vision-driven development, emphasizing deep-tech, startups, sustainable manufacturing, and green energy.

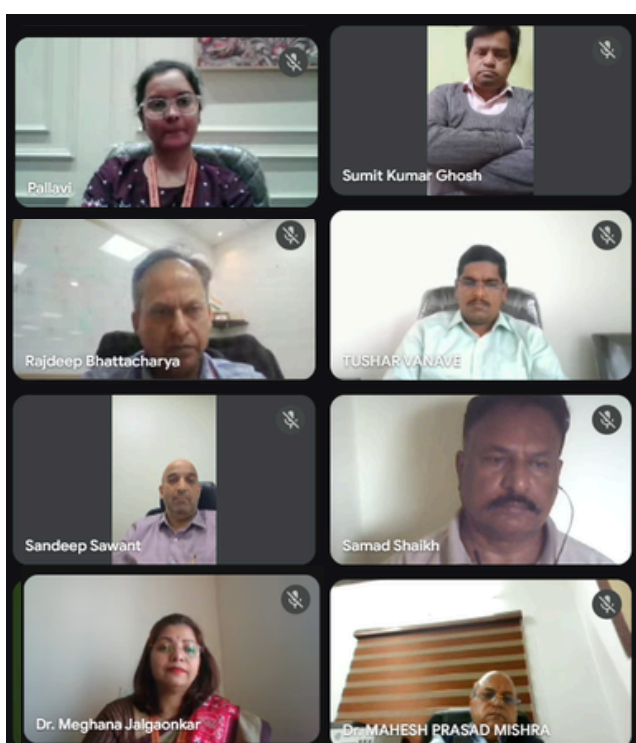
TOWARDS A NATIONAL PRIORITY ON GRADUATE READINESS

The Union Budget 2026–27 focuses on building a technology-driven and innovation-led economy, supporting startups, AI, and

advanced manufacturing. Initiatives like Bharat-VISTAAR and semiconductor expansion aim to drive inclusive growth.

Education and skill development are key priorities, with programs in STEM, healthcare, and creative industries to nurture talent and improve employability across India, including Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities.

Sustainable growth is emphasized through green energy, MSMEs, and modern infrastructure, ensuring long-term economic resilience and a shift toward vision-driven development.



Meet the Speakers

Mr. Chinmoy Chatterjee, MD & CEO

Mr. Sitesh Anand, HOD

Mr. Viral Patel, Chief Executive Officer

Dr. Ranjeet Prasad, Director

Dr. Hemant Shyam Sonare, President

Dr. Meghana Manohar Jalgaonkar, Director

VOICES THAT SHAPED THE SESSION: OUR PARTICIPANTS

Sr. No	Name	Designation	Organization
1	Mr. Tushar Devidas Vanave	Employee	Government
2	Mr.Thiyagarajan K	PhD Scholar	Anna University Chennai
3	Dr. Teki Nagendra Rao	Technical Consultant	Freelance Consultancy
4	Dr. Suneet Mathur	Adjunct Professor	Indian Institute of Production Management
5	Mr. Sumit Kumar Ghosh	Freelancer	Digital Marketing
6	Mr.Suman Sarkar	Post Graduate	Central University of Karnataka
7	Mr.Sudhir Bhaskar Bagarao	Consultant - Technical & Quality Assurance	Apex Kidney Care
8	Dr.Srinivasa Rao Pallapu	Assistant Professor	Malla Reddy Engineering College For Women
9	Mr. Sriharsha Guda	Associate Director	Cognizant
10	Mr. Saurabh Kumar	AVP- User Success	Convegenius Digital India Services Pvt. Ltd
11	Mr.Sasidharan Pallikunnummal	Freelance Trainer- Production/Process	Oil & Gas Industries- Onshore- Offshore and FPSO
12	Dr.Santosh Jagwani	Associate Professor	Sri Satya Sai University of Technology & Medical Sciences
13	Mr. Sandeep Sawant	Director - Human Resources	Glatt Systems
14	Mr. Abdul Samad Shaikh	CEO	Samadpro LLP
15	Mr. Rajdeep Bhattacharya	Chief Project Officer	Leap India Foods And Logistics
16	Dr. Rahul Kumar	Manager_Accounts & Finance	Arrjavv Builder Private Limited
17	Mr. Rahul Gopalrao Kulkarni	Director	RGK Consulting Services
18	Mr.Naman Kamra	Student	Sri Guru Gobind Singh college of Commerce
19	Mr. Mofidur Rahman	Assistant General Manager	EMRI Green Health Services
20	Ms. Kritika Koundal	Process Associate - Physician Assistant	IDS Infotech Ltd

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Sr. No	Name	Designation	Organization
21	Mrs. Acharya.kamala Raju Meruga	Founder trustee	Sri Yoga vidya Prana Shakti Foundation
22	Mr. Jothi Senthil Kannan	Founder/Grand Master.	Jothi Silambam Kshakthiriya Gurukulam
23	Dr. Jerome Jayanathan Needhipathi	AI & Data Analytics Leader, Researcher, Strategist, Author, Mentor	Shell
24	Mr. Harsh Suman	Project Head	Contec Global
25	Dr.Rakesh Kumar Karn	Electronics Lab Incharge (Technical)	Jawaharlal Nehu University
26	Dr. Sreekumar Krishnan	Managing Partner	Yantra Holdings
27	Dr.Rajesh Dangoria	Professor and Joint Dean (School of Design)	Mody University of Science and Technology, Laxmangarh
28	Mr. Mahesh Prasad Mishra	Project Director-Technical	Om Construction Companies India Private Limited
29	Dr.Nunna Venkata Ramana	Lecturer in Botany	Government Degree College
30	Dr. Murari Lal Gaur	Vice Chancellor Dean Principal HOD Professor Principal Scientist	CAR DARE Govt of India
31	Mr. Dinankar Dev Parmar	Managing Director	Dropout Trader
32	Mr.Pm D Danish Sha Kareem	Lecturer in Physics	SEICOM Group of Institutions
33	Mr.Devendra Nitin Waykole	Social Media Manager	Hatha Yoga Institute
34	Mr. Bhushan Salve	Director	Enhance Empyreal Technologies Pvt Ltd
35	Mr. Ayush Rikhari	Senior Executive HR and Admin	-
36	Mr. Avisek Pal	Partner	Ascentrek Consultants
37	Dr. Avijit Raha	Global Head Sales & Service Delivery	Wrizto Healthcare Pvt Ltd

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Sr. No	Name	Designation	Organization
38	Mr. Ateequr Rahman	Asst Executive Engineer (Electrical)	Oil And Natural Gas Corporation
39	Mr.Ashutosh Subhashchandra Rajput	Student	Nettur Technical Training Foundation
40	Dr. Ashutosh Gholap	Vice President	Virtual Galaxy Infotech Ltd
41	Dr.Aravind Krishna	Founder, Director	Global Entrepreneurship Team (G.E.T) Solutions