



Round Table Forum



Emerging India: The Role of Nagpur in Achieving Viksit Bharat 2047

18th March 2026

Venue: Department of Education Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University Law College Campus, Law College Square, Amravati Road, Nagpur, Maharashtra, India

Inauguration Ceremony

The Indian Council for Technical Research and Development (ICTRD), in collaboration with the PG Department of Education, RTM Nagpur University, organized a round table on “Emerging India: The Role of Nagpur in Achieving Viksit Bharat 2047” at Nagpur University’s Department of Education. The discussion focused on how Nagpur and other Tier-II cities can drive India’s growth, especially as nearly 50% of future GDP is expected from Tier-II and Tier-III cities by 2035. With the rise of startups beyond metros, the session emphasized regional innovation and development. Over 40 experts from startups, academia, healthcare, governance, and industry contributed insights toward a roadmap for positioning Nagpur in the Viksit Bharat 2047 vision.

The event was inaugurated by **Neeta Rajendra Thakare**, Mayor of Nagpur. Key dignitaries included **Vikas Mahatme**, Padma Shri awardee and former Rajya Sabha Member; **Ketan Mohitkar**, Member Secretary of ICTRD; **Ashish Sasankar**, Chairman of ICTRD; **Rajesh Gadewar**, former Pro-Vice-Chancellor; **Rajashri Vaishnav**, Dean at RTM Nagpur University; **Sunanda Bajaj**, Assistant Commissioner, District Skill Development; **Pallavi Dhattrak**, Deputy Director of Sports and Youth Services; **Shivaji Dhavad** from IIM Nagpur; and Vivekanand Aoti from Nagpur Police. The session was moderated by **Siddharth Roy**, Director of Communications at ICTRD.

In her address, Neeta Rajendra Thakare stressed collaboration between government, academia, and industry, highlighting ICTRD’s role in promoting innovation and startups. Ketan Mohitkar spoke about ICTRD’s outreach, connecting over 1,600 citizens through innovation initiatives. Vikas Mahatme emphasized the importance of individual growth in nation-building, while Ashish Sasankar highlighted Nagpur’s potential across logistics, healthcare, tourism, and infrastructure. Other dignitaries, including Rajesh Gadewar and Rajashri Vaishnav, emphasized strengthening education, skill development, and creating an ecosystem for regional growth.

The discussion concluded with a consensus that Nagpur can emerge as a key innovation and growth hub in India’s development journey. Participants highlighted the need for collaboration, policy support, and investment in education, startups, and infrastructure to accelerate progress, aligning regional development with the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047.



Mrs. Neeta Rajendra Thakare, Mayor of Nagpur Municipal Corporation



Mrs. Neeta Thakre emphasized that the vision of Viksit Bharat represents a collective effort driven by multiple initiatives and coordinated actions across departments. She highlighted the importance of utilizing skills and expertise from various sectors to accelerate national development. She stressed the need for a unified approach where all stakeholders work towards a common national goal of achieving developed status by 2047.

She also pointed out that each department must introspect and identify its contribution toward this vision. Drawing from her extensive experience serving Nagpur, she emphasized the importance of collaboration and practical insights in addressing emerging challenges. She acknowledged that while challenges may vary, a coordinated and unified effort will lead to sustainable and impactful outcomes.

Conclusion

Mrs. Thakre's insights highlighted the importance of collaboration, departmental responsibility, and a unified vision in achieving Viksit Bharat 2047. She reinforced that collective efforts across governance, industry, and society are essential for sustainable development.

Padmashri Dr. Vikas Mahatme, Former Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha



Dr. Vikas Mahatme reflected on the evolving perception of Bharat, emphasizing that understanding the nation goes beyond geography and lies in its people and collective identity. He stated that building a Viksit Bharat begins with self-awareness, continuous learning, and personal growth at both individual and societal levels.

He highlighted the importance of emotional resilience and stress management as essential life skills. He encouraged individuals to view failure not as defeat but as a temporary phase that contributes to long-term success. He also stressed the significance of investing in oneself through skill development and lifelong learning.

Furthermore, he emphasized that collaboration is more valuable than competition, as shared knowledge and collective efforts are key to national progress.

Conclusion

Dr. Mahatme's perspective focused on personal development, emotional strength, and collaboration as foundational elements for nation-building. He highlighted that individual growth and collective cooperation are essential for achieving the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047.

Dr. Gaurishankar Parashar, Ex Vice-Chancellor



Dr. Gaurishankar Parashar emphasized the importance of limitless thinking by stating that “sky is the limit,” encouraging participants to aim high and think beyond conventional boundaries. He highlighted that every individual’s idea has the potential to bring meaningful change to society. He strongly advocated for respecting diverse perspectives and creating an environment where people feel comfortable expressing their thoughts freely.

He appreciated the platform created by the conference, noting that it is designed to channel innovative ideas into actionable development initiatives. He encouraged active participation from all attendees and stressed the importance of collaboration, idea exchange, and a positive environment that supports creativity and growth.

Conclusion

Dr. Parashar’s insights focused on fostering an open, inclusive, and innovation-driven environment where ideas are respected and transformed into impactful outcomes. His perspective reinforced the importance of collective participation in achieving meaningful development aligned with Viksit Bharat 2047.

Dr. Rajesh Gadewar, Ex-Pro Vice Chancellor



Dr. Rajesh Gadewar highlighted education as a critical and urgent issue requiring immediate attention and collective action. He noted that since 2016, Nagpur has seen significant progress in the field of education and emphasized the need to further strengthen this growth. He advocated for positioning Nagpur as a starting point for the vision of Viksit Bharat.

He stressed the importance of skill development as a key driver of national progress and encouraged students to become job creators rather than job seekers. He also emphasized innovation, entrepreneurship, and practical learning as essential components of modern education. He called for collaboration among all stakeholders to build a stronger education system and highlighted that respecting diverse ideas and encouraging open participation are vital for transformative change.

Conclusion

Dr. Gadewar's perspective underlined the central role of education and skill development in nation-building. He emphasized collaboration, innovation, and a shift toward an entrepreneurial mindset as essential elements in realizing the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047.

Dr. Ashish Sasankar, Chairman ICTRD



As Chairman of ICTRD, Mr. Ashish Sasankar emphasized Nagpur's potential to play a transformative role in shaping India's future across multiple sectors. He highlighted that Nagpur can emerge as a knowledge and education hub of Central India, fostering innovation, research, and academic excellence.

He also pointed out Nagpur's potential in agricultural innovation, particularly for the Vidarbha region, which can contribute to sustainable farming and rural development. Additionally, he noted that the city can develop into a healthcare and medical research hub, improving access to advanced medical facilities.

He further emphasized Nagpur's scope as a center for cultural and eco-tourism, which can boost both the regional economy and global recognition. Importantly, he stressed that achieving Viksit Bharat 2047 requires collaboration among academia, industry, research institutions, and society, rather than relying solely on government efforts.

Conclusion

Mr. Sasankar's insights highlighted Nagpur's multi-sectoral potential and the necessity of a collaborative, multi-stakeholder approach. He emphasized that leveraging regional strengths collectively is key to contributing to national progress and realizing the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047

Ketan Mohitkar, Member Secretary ICTRD



Dr. Ketan Mohitkar highlighted ICTRD's active role in citizen engagement and innovation-driven initiatives. He shared that ICTRD, in collaboration with the Municipal Corporation, identified 16 key problem statements in Nagpur and invited citizens to propose solutions through participatory platforms.

He noted that around 1,600 citizens, including students and senior individuals, participated in the Citizen Hackathon by presenting ideas, PPTs, and prototypes. He also mentioned ICTRD's contributions during the COVID-19 pandemic, where it supported startups and facilitated university examinations efficiently.

He further spoke about initiatives such as the Innovators Meet, which brought together over 500 innovators for discussions with the Chief Minister, and the development of a self-sustainable ICTRD Secretariat without government funding. He also highlighted ICTRD's network of 350 experts across the country and its future plan to establish a large Innovation Campus on the Amravati Highway.

Conclusion

Dr. Mohitkar's insights showcased ICTRD's commitment to innovation, citizen participation, and ecosystem development. He emphasized the importance of structured platforms, collaborative engagement, and long-term planning in building a strong foundation for innovation and contributing to Viksit Bharat 2047.

Expert Participant's Insights

1. Smt. Sunanda Bajaj, Assistant Commissioner, Dist Skill Development



Sunanda Bajaj, Assistant Commissioner, District Skill Development, shared her perspective by emphasizing the need for balanced development between urban and rural areas. She highlighted that while urban regions are progressing rapidly, equal attention must be given to rural development to ensure inclusive and sustainable growth. According to her, skill development initiatives should be extended more effectively into rural areas so that youth from these regions can also access opportunities and contribute to the overall economic progress.

She stressed the importance of establishing incubators in rural areas to encourage innovation, entrepreneurship, and local enterprise development. By creating such support systems closer to rural communities, youth can be empowered to transform their ideas into viable business opportunities without needing to migrate to urban centers. She also suggested that regular engagement through monthly and weekly visits to schools and colleges can help spread awareness about skill development programs and career opportunities.

Additionally, she emphasized the goal of reaching and educating a significant portion of rural youth—stating that around 90% of rural youth should be made aware of and trained in relevant skills to improve their employability. She also underlined the importance of ecosystem-based training, where learning is aligned with real-world industry requirements and supported by a network of institutions, trainers, and industry partners.

Conclusion

Smt. Bajaj's insights highlighted the critical need for rural skill development, awareness, and ecosystem-based training to ensure inclusive growth. She emphasized the role of incubators,

regular outreach, and structured training programs in empowering rural youth. Her perspective reinforced that bridging the urban-rural divide through skill development initiatives is essential for achieving balanced regional development and contributing to the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047.

2. Smt. Pallavi Dhatriak, Deputy Director, Sports & Youth Services, Nagpur division



Pallavi Dhatriak, Deputy Director of Sports & Youth Services, Nagpur Division, shared her perspective by highlighting the importance of sports development in achieving the vision of Viksit Bharat. She expressed that it was her first time attending the conference and emphasized that the vision discussed for national development is both significant and inspiring. She shared her observations based on her experience since joining Nagpur in 2022, noting the scope for improvement in participation and awareness in sports activities across the region.

She mentioned that out of approximately 3000 to 4000 schools in Nagpur, initially only around 989 schools were actively participating in the relevant sports development programs. However, with focused efforts, this number has now increased to around 1130 schools. She also highlighted that participation among boys and girls has grown to approximately 70,000, although she stressed that this number still needs to increase further to achieve broader impact and inclusivity.

She emphasized the need to promote sports awareness from the grassroots level by integrating sports education early in the academic journey. According to her, students should be educated about the significance of events like the Olympics and the value of sports as a discipline. She underlined the importance of nurturing talent to prepare athletes capable of

performing at national and international levels, which requires consistent encouragement, training, and infrastructure support.

Additionally, she pointed out that sports can also serve as a viable career option, citing examples such as the IPL and professional leagues, where opportunities exist not only for players but also in various related roles. She strongly advocated for structured sports counseling to guide students in identifying their potential and exploring careers in sports. In her view, systematic counseling and awareness programs are essential to motivate youth and build a strong sports ecosystem.

Conclusion

Pallavi Dhatri's insights highlighted the critical role of sports in youth development and nation-building. She emphasized expanding participation, enhancing grassroots awareness, and integrating sports as a career pathway. Her perspective reinforced the need for sports counseling, better outreach, and institutional support to cultivate talent and create opportunities for youth, thereby contributing to the holistic development envisioned under Viksit Bharat.

3. Mr.Vivekanand Vijaykumar Auti, Cyber Police Station, Nagpur City



Vivekanand Vijaykumar Auti, representing the Cyber Police Station, Nagpur City, shared his perspective by emphasizing the growing importance of cyber awareness in the context of Viksit Bharat. He highlighted that with increasing digitalization, cyber threats have also evolved, with hackers operating from different parts of the world and attempting to breach systems remotely. He stressed that such activities are illegal and pose significant risks to individuals, organizations, and national security.

He underscored the need to strengthen cyber awareness among citizens, students, and institutions so that they can identify potential threats and protect themselves from cybercrimes. According to him, awareness is the first line of defense in combating cyber frauds, data breaches, and online scams, which are becoming increasingly common in today's digital environment.

He also emphasized the importance of collective responsibility, stating that government bodies, educational institutions, industry, and the public must work together to address cyber security challenges. By spreading awareness and adopting safe digital practices, society can significantly reduce vulnerabilities and build a more secure digital ecosystem.

Conclusion

Mr. Auti's insights highlighted cyber awareness as a crucial component of modern development in the digital era. He emphasized the need for education, vigilance, and collaboration to tackle cyber threats effectively. His perspective reinforced that by promoting cyber safety and working together, stakeholders can ensure a secure digital environment that supports the broader vision of Viksit Bharat 2047.

4. Shri. Anurag Wagh, Center Head, Nagpur Campus, Ratan tata Maharashtra State Skill University, Mumbai



Anurag Wagh, Center Head of the Nagpur Campus at Ratan Tata Maharashtra State Skill University, Mumbai, shared his perspective by focusing on the alignment between academic learning and industry requirements as a key driver for achieving the vision of Viksit Bharat. He emphasized that the primary objective should be to bridge the existing gap between what industries demand and what students learn in academic institutions. According to him,

effective skill training programs that are aligned with industry needs can significantly enhance employability and prepare students for real-world challenges.

He highlighted the importance of adopting and effectively implementing the National Education Policy (NEP), stating that its framework provides an opportunity to modernize and transform the education system. He encouraged institutions to make maximum use of NEP guidelines and to actively spread awareness about its benefits among students, educators, and stakeholders. He believed that NEP can play a crucial role in promoting flexibility, skill-based education, and multidisciplinary learning.

Additionally, he stressed the need to increase awareness around startups and entrepreneurship among students. He encouraged a mindset shift where individuals aspire to become job creators rather than job seekers. By fostering entrepreneurial thinking and supporting innovation, educational institutions can contribute to building a self-reliant and dynamic economy.

Conclusion

Shri. Wagh's insights underscored the importance of aligning education with industry needs, leveraging NEP effectively, and promoting startup culture among students. He emphasized that skill development, awareness, and an entrepreneurial mindset are essential for transforming students into job creators. His perspective reinforced that such initiatives will play a vital role in bridging the academia-industry gap and advancing the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047.

5. Prof. Rajashree Vaishav, Dean, Interdisciplinary, RTMNU



Rajashree Vaishav, Dean of Interdisciplinary Studies at RTMNU, shared her perspective by emphasizing the growing importance of interdisciplinary education in shaping the future of

higher education and innovation. She highlighted that in today's rapidly evolving world, complex challenges cannot be addressed through a single discipline alone, and therefore, integrating knowledge from multiple fields is essential for holistic learning and problem-solving.

She pointed out that universities must move beyond traditional subject silos and encourage collaborative learning environments where students from different domains can work together. According to her, interdisciplinary approaches not only enhance critical thinking and creativity but also prepare students to adapt to real-world challenges that demand a combination of technical, analytical, and soft skills.

She further stressed the role of institutions like RTMNU in fostering innovation through curriculum reforms, research opportunities, and industry collaborations. By promoting interdisciplinary programs, universities can equip students with versatile skill sets that improve their employability and make them more industry-ready. She also underlined the importance of aligning academic programs with emerging technological trends and societal needs.

Additionally, she emphasized that interdisciplinary education can play a significant role in supporting initiatives like Viksit Bharat by nurturing well-rounded graduates who can contribute effectively across sectors such as technology, healthcare, environment, and social development. She encouraged faculty members to adopt flexible teaching methodologies and actively engage in research that bridges multiple disciplines.

Conclusion

Prof. Vaishav's insights highlighted the critical need for interdisciplinary education in modern academia as a means to foster innovation, adaptability, and holistic development among students. She underscored that breaking traditional academic boundaries and encouraging collaboration across disciplines will better prepare students for future challenges. Her perspective reinforced the idea that interdisciplinary learning is key to building a skilled, innovative, and future-ready workforce aligned with the goals of sustainable national development.

6. Dr. Shivaji Dhawad, COO, Infed (IIM Nagpur)



Shivaji Dhawad, COO of INFED at IIM Nagpur, shared his insights by focusing on the growing importance of startups and innovation as key drivers of economic and urban development. He emphasized that access to high-risk capital is one of the most critical enablers for fostering a thriving startup ecosystem. He noted that prior to 2022, funding opportunities for startups in Central India were limited; however, the introduction of government-backed funding initiatives has significantly improved the landscape, highlighting the essential role of government support in nurturing innovation and entrepreneurship.

He further stressed that cities like Nagpur must adopt a proactive and solution-oriented mindset to address their own urban challenges through locally developed mechanisms. According to him, innovation should emerge from within the city by leveraging local talent and resources to create sustainable solutions. He introduced the concept of “Nagpur innovation,” where youth and institutions collaborate to identify and solve pressing urban issues, thereby contributing to the city’s development in a self-reliant manner.

Dr. Dhawad also highlighted the vast potential in areas such as waste management and tourism. Referring to the idea that “wealth lies in waste,” he emphasized the importance of identifying opportunities in resource optimization and circular economy practices. He suggested that sustainable development models can be built by transforming challenges into opportunities through innovation and strategic thinking.

Additionally, he underscored the need for a holistic approach to development, where multiple sectors such as startups, infrastructure, tourism, and urban planning are integrated to drive overall progress. He encouraged the youth to actively participate in innovation-driven initiatives and contribute to solving real-world problems faced by the city.

Conclusion

Dr. Dhawad's perspective highlighted the significance of government support, access to funding, and a strong innovation ecosystem in fostering startup growth. He emphasized local problem-solving, youth engagement, and sustainable development as key pillars for progress. His insights reinforced the idea that with a collaborative and holistic approach, Nagpur can emerge as a hub of innovation and play a vital role in achieving the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047.

7. Dr. Shailendra Mundhada, Founder – Dhruv Diagnostics



Shailendra Mundhada, a senior expert in the diagnostics field, shared his journey spanning over three decades, highlighting the evolution of diagnostic services in Nagpur. He began by recalling the early days when the city primarily had numerous small laboratories performing routine tests, but lacked advanced diagnostic facilities. Recognizing this gap, his team took the initiative to establish specialized testing capabilities, particularly focusing on PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction), a critical technology used for detecting viral infections. He emphasized that setting up such advanced diagnostic infrastructure required significant investment and vision, especially at a time when such facilities were not widely available in the region.

He further explained how over the years, various epidemics such as HIV and swine flu brought increased attention to viral diagnostics, with many samples previously being sent to metropolitan cities like Mumbai for testing. With the establishment of their own advanced lab in Nagpur, they were able to build the necessary expertise and infrastructure locally. This preparedness proved highly valuable during the COVID-19 pandemic, when their lab became

the first in Central India to receive permission for COVID testing, demonstrating the importance of early investment in diagnostic capabilities.

Dr. Mundhada also spoke about another significant contribution—introducing HLA typing, a crucial process used in kidney transplants. This initiative enabled compatibility testing (cross-matching), which played a key role in facilitating cadaveric transplants and improving transplant success rates in Nagpur. His efforts contributed to strengthening the region's medical ecosystem and expanding access to advanced healthcare services locally.

Looking toward the future, he emphasized the potential of advanced genetic diagnostics, including gene sequencing, which can play a vital role in the detection and treatment of diseases such as cancer. He highlighted that understanding genetic and genotype information can significantly improve personalized treatment approaches and patient outcomes. His broader vision is to make Nagpur a self-sufficient regional medical hub, reducing dependency on other major cities for advanced diagnostic and medical services, and fostering local healthcare innovation and accessibility.

Conclusion

Dr. Mundhada's insights reflected a long-term commitment to advancing diagnostic healthcare in Nagpur through innovation, infrastructure development, and strategic foresight. He underscored the importance of investing in advanced technologies such as PCR, HLA typing, and genetic sequencing to strengthen medical capabilities. His vision of transforming Nagpur into a regional medical hub aligns with the broader goal of self-reliance in healthcare, ensuring that high-quality diagnostic and treatment services are accessible locally, thereby contributing to improved public health outcomes and regional development.

8. Mrs. Arushi Sana, Founder, Santerra Industries



Arushi Sana, Founder of Santerra Industries, shared her perspective by highlighting Nagpur as a strong example of sustainable growth in India. She emphasized that the city has made significant progress in adopting renewable energy, particularly solar energy, and has utilized its natural resources effectively. She noted that a substantial portion of Nagpur Metro’s energy requirements—around 67%—is met through solar power, reflecting the city’s commitment to sustainability and green initiatives.

She further pointed out that while Nagpur has achieved commendable progress in sustainability, there is still considerable scope for growth in the IT sector. Strengthening the technology ecosystem, she suggested, would help diversify the city’s economic base and create new opportunities for innovation, employment, and entrepreneurship. She stressed the importance of integrating technological advancement with sustainable development to ensure balanced and future-ready growth.

Additionally, she emphasized the need to promote and preserve cultural values alongside technological and industrial development. According to her, a harmonious blend of technology, sustainability, and cultural promotion can contribute to holistic urban development and enhance the identity of the city.

Conclusion

Mrs. Sana’s insights highlighted Nagpur’s achievements in sustainability, particularly in renewable energy adoption, while also identifying key areas for future growth such as the IT sector. She emphasized the importance of combining technology, sustainability, and cultural preservation to drive comprehensive development. Her perspective reinforced that such a balanced approach will play a significant role in positioning Nagpur as a progressive and sustainable city aligned with the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047.

9. Adv. Nikita Pedgaonkar Doshi, Founder, Elevate Fitness & Suro Infra



Nikita Pedgaonkar Doshi, Founder of Elevate Fitness & Suro Infra, shared her insights by focusing on the rapid growth of Nagpur in the sectors of real estate, logistics, and infrastructure development. She emphasized that these emerging sectors are playing a crucial role in transforming Nagpur into a prominent and fast-developing urban center. According to her, Nagpur is steadily evolving into a major city with increasing opportunities, attracting migration from various regions due to its expanding economic and infrastructural landscape.

She highlighted that Nagpur is becoming a key hub for logistics development, which is further strengthening its position in trade and connectivity. She noted that with continued progress in infrastructure, the city has the potential to offer better employment opportunities and improved living standards. In her view, providing strong infrastructure along with sustainable job creation within the city will significantly contribute to its long-term growth and development.

She also stressed the importance of focusing on the health sector, stating that “health is wealth,” and underlining the need for greater attention to healthcare services as part of overall urban development. She suggested that balanced growth across infrastructure, logistics, and healthcare will ensure holistic development of the city and its residents.

Conclusion

Mrs. Pedgaonkar’s perspective highlighted Nagpur’s growing importance as a center for logistics, infrastructure, and real estate development. She emphasized the need for integrated growth that combines employment generation, infrastructure expansion, and healthcare advancement. Her insights reflected confidence that Nagpur, with its steady and strategic development, will play a significant role in achieving the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047 and emerge as a major contributor to India’s overall progress

10. CA Aniket Khapre, Chartered Accountant



Aniket Khapre, a Chartered Accountant, shared his perspective by emphasizing the critical role of finance in driving growth and development. He stated that economic growth is inherently linked with the availability and effective utilization of financial resources, and without adequate financial support, sustainable development becomes challenging. He highlighted four key focus groups that require special attention in the growth process—namely the poor, women, farmers, and youth—who collectively form the backbone of inclusive development.

He further stressed the importance of practical, hands-on training in Nagpur to enhance the skills and employability of the youth. He pointed out that financial institutions typically provide training periods of around 45 days, which, according to him, should be extended to at least six months to ensure deeper learning, better exposure, and improved professional competence. He also underscored the significance of skill development schemes as essential tools for building a capable and industry-ready workforce.

Additionally, he mentioned that logistics policies offer various incentives, including financial and electricity-related benefits, which can support industries in reducing operational costs and improving efficiency. He suggested that collaboration between the finance sector, logistics industry, and other industries can create a synergistic ecosystem that fosters growth and investment. He also highlighted Nagpur's strategic position as a central capital, which can be leveraged to strengthen financial and industrial development in the region.

Conclusion

CA Khapre's insights emphasized the importance of finance as a driving force for growth, along with the need for inclusive development focusing on key societal groups. He highlighted practical training, skill development, and policy incentives as crucial enablers of economic progress. His perspective reinforced that collaboration between finance, industry, and

logistics, combined with Nagpur's central advantage, can significantly contribute to sustainable growth and align with the broader vision of Viksit Bharat 2047.

11. Adv. Ashish Tarwari, Advocate



Ashish Tarwari, an Advocate, shared his perspective by emphasizing Nagpur's strategic position as a potential logistics hub due to its central location in the country. He highlighted that the city already possesses a strong foundation of infrastructure development, which can be further leveraged to strengthen connectivity and trade. According to him, Nagpur's geographical advantage places it in a unique position to become a key center for logistics and distribution networks in India.

He further stated that the modern economy is increasingly driven by startups rather than traditional job structures. In this context, he emphasized the importance of fostering an ecosystem that supports entrepreneurship, innovation, and business creation. He noted that institutions like Nagpur University, along with improving infrastructure and institutional support, can play a significant role in nurturing talent and enabling economic growth.

He also encouraged businesses and companies to take a proactive role in generating employment opportunities by engaging with startups and supporting the local ecosystem. He highlighted that the growth of startups, along with the adoption of co-working culture, can create a dynamic environment for collaboration, innovation, and job creation.

Conclusion

Adv. Tarwari's insights underlined Nagpur's potential to emerge as a logistics and startup hub driven by its central location and growing infrastructure. He emphasized the need to promote entrepreneurship, strengthen industry participation, and build a collaborative ecosystem

supported by co-working and institutional engagement. His perspective reinforced that such developments will contribute significantly toward achieving the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047 by fostering innovation-led economic growth and sustainable employment opportunities.

12. Capt. Shreejit Awari, Founder, Pilot Pathshala



Shreejit Awari, Founder of Pilot Pathshala, shared his perspective by highlighting Nagpur's strong potential to emerge as an international pilot training hub. He emphasized that the city's central location in India provides a strategic advantage for aviation training and connectivity. Additionally, he pointed out that Nagpur's geographical position away from coastal regions ensures relatively stable and clear weather conditions, which are highly suitable for consistent pilot training operations.

He further explained that areas like MIHAN (Multi-modal International Cargo Hub and Airport at Nagpur) offer robust infrastructure that can support the development of a comprehensive aviation training ecosystem. With the availability of land, connectivity, and existing aviation facilities, Nagpur has the capacity to host large-scale pilot training institutes and related aviation services.

Looking ahead, he highlighted the growing demand in the aviation sector, stating that India will require nearly 30,000 pilots in the coming years. This, he noted, presents a significant opportunity for Nagpur to position itself as a key contributor to meeting this demand. By investing in aviation training infrastructure and skill development, the city can create employment opportunities and strengthen its role in the aviation industry.

Conclusion

Capt. Awari's insights emphasized Nagpur's potential to become a global hub for pilot training, driven by its strategic location, favorable weather conditions, and strong infrastructure. He highlighted the increasing demand for skilled aviation professionals and the opportunity it

presents for regional growth. His perspective reinforced that focusing on the aviation sector can contribute significantly to employment generation and align with the broader vision of Viksit Bharat 2047.

13. Miss. Neesha Panjwani, Journalist, INBC News



Neesha Panjwani, Journalist at INBC News, shared her perspective by emphasizing that the vision of Viksit Bharat is not just a conceptual discussion but a collective responsibility that must be reflected in ground realities. She stressed the importance of moving beyond theoretical vision and focusing on the actual challenges faced by society, particularly by the youth.

She highlighted a critical concern that many young individuals are not receiving adequate opportunities locally, which is leading to migration in search of better prospects. According to her, this trend needs immediate attention, as retaining local talent is essential for the sustainable development of any region. She emphasized that creating meaningful opportunities within the city will not only empower the youth but also contribute to overall economic and social growth.

She further suggested that policymakers, institutions, and industry stakeholders must work together to bridge this gap by generating employment, enhancing skill development, and creating an enabling environment where youth can thrive. Encouraging and supporting young individuals at the local level, she noted, is key to building a stronger and more self-reliant community.

Conclusion

Miss Panjwani's insights highlighted the importance of addressing ground realities and ensuring that development initiatives translate into tangible opportunities for the youth. She

emphasized the need to reduce migration by creating local employment and growth prospects. Her perspective reinforced that empowering youth at the grassroots level is essential for achieving the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047 and ensuring inclusive and sustainable development.

14. Miss. Taniya Bageshwar, Counselling Psychologist



Taniya Bageshwar, a Counselling Psychologist, shared her perspective by drawing attention to an often-overlooked but critical aspect of development—mental health. She pointed out that while discussions around infrastructure, GDP, innovation, and economic growth are essential, equal importance must be given to the mental well-being of individuals, especially the youth. She emphasized that without a mentally healthy population, especially among young people, the overall progress achieved through economic and infrastructural development may not be sustainable.

She highlighted that mental health awareness should begin at the foundational level, particularly in schools, where students can be introduced to concepts such as emotional awareness, stress management, and psychological well-being. According to her, incorporating mental health education into the curriculum and encouraging open discussions can help reduce stigma and create a supportive environment for students to express their thoughts and challenges.

She also stressed the importance of mental health awareness in workplaces, noting that productivity and performance are closely linked to the mental well-being of employees. By fostering a healthy work environment and encouraging mental wellness practices, organizations can enhance efficiency and overall satisfaction among employees. Additionally,

she suggested that public awareness campaigns, including slogans and initiatives in public spaces, can help normalize conversations around mental health and encourage individuals to seek help when needed.

Conclusion

Miss Bageshwar's insights highlighted mental health as a fundamental pillar of holistic development. She emphasized that emotional stability, awareness, and psychological well-being are essential for individuals to contribute effectively to society. Her perspective reinforced that achieving the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047 requires not only economic and infrastructural progress but also a strong focus on the mental and emotional well-being of its citizens.

15. Shri. Kshitij Ingle, Crowdera Foundation

Kshitij Ingle, representing Crowdera Foundation, shared his perspective by emphasizing the importance of inclusive participation and the role of the non-profit sector in achieving the vision of Viksit Bharat. He highlighted that every citizen should be given a platform to express their thoughts and contribute to the development process, as collective participation is essential for meaningful progress.

He focused on the significance of the non-profit ecosystem, stating that it plays a crucial role in addressing societal challenges that may not always be covered by government or private sectors. He emphasized key areas such as holistic healthcare and education, particularly integrating emerging technologies like Artificial Intelligence to enhance accessibility and effectiveness in learning and service delivery.

He also stressed the importance of sustainability, suggesting that efforts should be made to reduce waste and promote environmentally responsible practices. According to him, developing sustainable housing solutions and encouraging eco-friendly lifestyles are important steps toward long-term urban development. Additionally, he proposed the creation of active citizen forums, where individuals can engage in discussions and decision-making processes related to city development.

A key point he highlighted was the need to increase female workforce participation, emphasizing that women should be actively involved in mainstream economic and social activities. He noted that empowering women is essential for balanced and inclusive growth. He also underlined the importance of motivation and drive ("hunger") as a fundamental factor in achieving personal and collective goals.

Conclusion

Shri. Ingle's insights highlighted the vital role of citizen participation, non-profit initiatives, and sustainability in achieving holistic development. He emphasized healthcare, education with AI integration, environmental responsibility, and active civic engagement as key pillars. His perspective reinforced that empowering women, encouraging participation, and fostering a sense of purpose among citizens are essential for building an inclusive and sustainable future aligned with the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047.



16. Dr. Yogesh Bonde, Physician

Yogesh Bonde, a Physician, shared his perspective by emphasizing that a nation's true strength lies in the health and well-being of its people. He stated that for India to effectively face future challenges and progress toward the vision of Viksit Bharat, it is essential to build a strong and self-reliant healthcare system.

He highlighted concerns regarding the limited production and promotion of Ayurvedic medicines, noting that traditional systems of medicine hold significant potential but are currently underutilized. According to him, increasing the production of basic and Ayurvedic medicines can not only strengthen the healthcare sector but also create new economic opportunities.

He further suggested that farmers should be encouraged to cultivate medicinal plants used in Ayurveda, which can open new avenues of income generation. By linking agriculture with the healthcare and pharmaceutical sectors, farmers can diversify their income sources and reduce financial distress. He emphasized that such initiatives can help address critical issues like farmer suicides while also contributing to sustainable agricultural practices.

Additionally, he pointed out that promoting medicinal plant cultivation and eco-friendly practices can support environmental sustainability and align with broader goals such as reducing the impact of global warming and moving toward a greener economy. He also encouraged farmers to adopt a business-oriented mindset, enabling them to participate more actively in value chains and economic growth.

Conclusion

Dr. Bonde's insights highlighted the interconnectedness of health, agriculture, and economic development. He emphasized the need to promote Ayurvedic medicine production, empower farmers through diversification, and adopt sustainable practices. His perspective reinforced

that a healthy population, supported by a strong agricultural and healthcare ecosystem, is essential for achieving the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047 and ensuring inclusive and sustainable national growth.

