



The New PRESTIGE of EDUCATION

*Recognising Excellence.
Celebrating Impact.
Inspiring the Future.*



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Education: THE SOUL OF A NATION

India teaches more people than most countries count as citizens. According to the Economic Survey 2025–26, some 24.69 crore students sit across 14.7 lakh schools, watched over by more than a crore teachers. What's more, 4.33 crore students move through higher education, up from 3.42 crore just eight years ago. By any conventional measure, the system is in rude health.

Yet, ask the industry at the other end of the pipeline whether Indian education is delivering what the country now needs, and the answer is revealing, as confidence thins noticeably.

Clearly, scale was never the problem. Relevance to the need of the hour is. Employers want graduates who can adapt and reason, not simply recite some lines. Meanwhile, students, for their part, want more than a framed degree on a wall. And legacy, that old and comfortable currency of prestige, buys less credibility than it once did.

The encouraging news is that a number of institutions are already unravelling and understanding the underpinnings of prestige in a new world order.

The widening idea of PRESTIGE

For years, an institution's standing rested on a familiar shortlist: legacy, rankings, faculty, and campus, with placements as the final proof. Those markers are still vital, but they are no longer sufficient, and the reasons are structural rather than sentimental.

India's education sector has grown fast enough to change its own rules. The country now counts 1,409 universities and more than 53,000 colleges on its soil, according to IBEF's 2026 analysis of the sector, which expects the market to reach roughly US\$313 billion by FY30. Growth of that order does what growth usually does: it multiplies choice for learners and competition for institutions, to the point where history alone can no longer guarantee relevance.

The Union Budget 2026-27 added its own signal, setting aside ₹100 crore for a Centre of Excellence in Artificial Intelligence for Education. It might well be a modest sum, but it nonetheless confirms that policymakers expect the next decade of learning to be AI-shaped. AI, however, is only the most visible marker of a larger challenge:



preparing students for jobs and skills that do not fully exist yet. Future readiness, and not just present performance, has become the harder and more honest test of institutional excellence.

Broadly put, there has been a widening of the definition of who education serves, and what it must deliver in return. Put the disparate threads mentioned so far together, and prestige starts to look less like a fixed title and more like a moving target. Its pattern is clear though; an emphasis on future-ready skills, research and innovation, industry partnership, technology-enabled learning, entrepreneurship, global exposure, wellbeing, and community impact. And of course, the academic excellence that earned institutions their reputations in the first place is a given.

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Therefore, the question worth asking of any institution is no longer simply ‘how prestigious is it?’, but ‘*what does it actually enable its students, and the society around them, to achieve?*’

That is the premise on which the **3rd Edition of Prestigious Education Brands 2026** is built. The platform brings together education leaders, academicians, policymakers, industry executives, technology companies, and institutional decision-makers to debate the questions now shaping the sector’s next phase:

- **AI & the Future of Learning:** How institutions can use AI meaningfully while keeping education human-centred
- **Education & Employability:** How academia and industry can work together to close the skills gap
- **Research & Innovation:** Whether Indian institutions can become stronger contributors to global research and intellectual property
- **The Next-Generation Learner:** How changing expectations are reshaping student experience and institutional brand
- **Global Education:** How Indian institutions can deepen international partnerships and exposure
- **Student Experience & Wellbeing:** How institutions can build environments where students genuinely thrive
- **Education & Social Impact:** How institutions can extend their influence beyond the campus gate





Built on RESEARCH, *not just reputation*

None of this is decided by applause heard in industry echo chambers. The 3rd edition of this seminal platform is shaped by in-depth research conducted by our research partner LeadCap Ventures, which delved into the evolving benchmarks of institutional excellence, learner experience, and future readiness. The assessment considered:

- Academic Excellence & Learning Outcomes
- AI, Technology, & Future Readiness
- Research, Innovation, & Entrepreneurship
- Industry Connect & Employability
- Student Experience & Wellbeing
- Global Exposure & Partnerships
- Institutional Reputation & Leadership
- Social Impact & Sustainability

Who should ATTEND?

The room will bring together the people who set the direction of Indian education, such as:

- Chancellors, Vice Chancellors, & University Presidents
- Deans, Directors, Principals, & Academic Leaders
- Trustees, Educationists, & Institutional Decision-Makers
- Government Officials, Policymakers, & Regulatory Bodies
- Heads of Research, Innovation, & International Partnerships
- Career Services, Employability, & Student Experience Leaders
- CEOs, CHROs, & Industry-Academia Partnership Leaders
- EdTech, AI, & Education Technology Leaders
- International Universities & Global Education Networks
- Education Investors, Entrepreneurs, & Solution Providers





Tentative AGENDA

TIME	SESSION
02.00 – 03.00 pm	Registration
03.00 – 03.10 pm	Opening Remarks by Team Marksmen Network
03.10 – 03.30 pm	Keynote: From Education to Empowerment: Preparing Learners for a Changing World Exploring how education institutions can move beyond traditional learning to build future-ready skills, adaptability, digital confidence and real-world capabilities, empowering learners to thrive in a rapidly changing world.
03.30 – 04.20 pm	Panel Discussion: Building Education as a Brand: From Academic Excellence to Lasting Trust KEY DISCUSSION POINTS: • Moving beyond academics to build a distinctive institutional identity • How student experience, outcomes and reputation shape an education brand • The role of digital presence, storytelling and social media in influencing students and parents • Building trust and credibility in an increasingly competitive education landscape • Leveraging alumni, industry partnerships and global collaborations to strengthen brand equity • Balancing legacy with innovation to remain relevant to the next generation of learners
04.20 – 04.30 pm	Guest of Honours' Address
04.30 – 05.00 pm	Felicitations
05.00 pm	Networking Hi-Tea

PRINT COVERAGE



POST EVENT COVERAGE

10th DEC 2025
Newest Mumbai International Airport

#MDEducationBrands

Honouring Excellence in Learning & Leadership

Prestigious Education Brands and India's

Team Marksmen Network successfully hosted the 2nd edition of Prestigious Education Brands 2025, uniting institutions that not only deliver learning but also challenge conventions, ignite curiosity, and shape tomorrow's leaders with intention and integrity.

This milestone event honoured India's most influential, innovative, and purpose-driven education brands institutions building classrooms without boundaries and nurturing minds equipped to thrive in an ever-evolving world.



PROF. SUBHASIS CHAUDHURY
Former Director
IIT Bombay

Whenever you want to talk about the future, we need to know where we stand and where we were before. That means we must look at the past to understand how education evolves over time.

HONOURING THE INSTITUTIONS THAT SHAPED THE SPOTLIGHT AT PRESTIGIOUS EDUCATION BRANDS 2025.














And more...



To know more about such initiatives, write to us at: info@teammarksmen.com or visit our website for more information: www.teammarksmen.com

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Present

#MDEducationBrands

19th Sep 2024
SAMRA STAR HOTEL, MUMBAI

Celebrating Excellence in EDUCATION BRANDS

Honoring **ACADEMIC BRILLIANCE**

Prestigious Education Brands 2024-25 organised by Team Marksmen Network recognizes and celebrates institutions that not just focused on curriculum but understand the importance of a holistic approach to education. By blending academic rigor with creative exploration, they ignite students' passions and inspire them to become lifelong learners.

Those recognised as part of this initiative were
















and more...

Here's the glimpses of the event










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Shaping Tomorrow's Legacy From Campus to Community

BENCHMARKING EXCELLENCE FOR A NEW ERA OF EDUCATION

The 2nd Edition of Prestigious Education Brands 2025 saw India's most respected academic leaders spotlight how education is being redefined and going beyond classrooms

The global education landscape is undergoing a fundamental recalibration. In an era defined by rapid technological disruption and evolving workforce dynamics, the mandate for educational institutions has shifted from merely disseminating knowledge to actively shaping adaptable and future-ready intellects.

Recognizing this pivotal transition, Team Marksmen Network recently convened the second edition of Prestigious Education Brands 2025.

This initiative serves as a barometer for excellence by spotlighting institutions that have successfully integrated purpose with pedagogy to deliver tangible societal impact.

These are not just academic hubs. They are incubators of innovation that are redefining the benchmarks of learning, skill development and holistic growth.

By bridging the gap between academic theory and industry reality, these brands are ensuring that India's demographic dividend translates into a sustainable economic advantage.

This year's edition celebrates a diverse cohort of institutions that have demonstrated exceptional foresight and resilience. The following brands have been felicitated as part of this landmark industry-centric initiative for their unwavering commitment to educational excellence and their role in architecting the future of the nation.

Those recognised for their outstanding contributions included:

- ATLAS SKILLTECH UNIVERSITY
- Birla Open Minds Education Pvt. Ltd.
- Government of Maharashtra's SIMSREE
- Indian Institute of Management Bangalore
- Jamnalal Bajaj Institute of Management, Mumbai
- Lal Bahadur Shastri Institute of Management, Delhi
- Podar International School
- SVKM's NMIMS (Deemed to be University)
- The Cathedral and John Connon School

#MDEducationBrands

EXPERT PERSPECTIVES

At Podar Education Network, we view a school as a powerful platform for community upliftment rather than a mere academic institution. Our schools operate as inclusive learning ecosystems that engage students, families, and the neighbourhood at large.

We integrate life skills development, value-based learning, social responsibility, environmental awareness and digital citizenship into the education experience. Beyond the classroom, our schools host parent engagement sessions, wellbeing initiatives, community outreach programmes, and student-led social impact activities. Through these efforts, we encourage young learners to apply knowledge in real-life contexts, cultivate empathy, and grow into responsible and confident citizens. In our philosophy, a school must contribute to the holistic development of both students and the broader community it serves.

By Podar International School

India's management education stands at the crossroads of global technological disruption and a fast-growing, diverse domestic economy, making agility an institutional necessity for MBA/PGDM programmes. MBA/PGDM programmes must move beyond content-heavy curricula to capability-driven learning that reflects India's scale, constraints, and opportunities.

Technology should not be taught in isolation but embedded across functional areas and Indian sectors. Flexible, modular curriculum design within AICTE frameworks is a practical solution and should be scaled across institutions. However, curriculum agility will fail without parallel investment in faculty development. Faculty must continuously engage with industry, applied research, and global best practices to remain relevant.

The experiential learning is equally important, comprising live projects, consulting assignments, and field-based immersion programmes—which propels students to manage real-world complexity rather than idealised cases. Ultimately, the success of Indian management education will be measured by graduates who can lead ethical, inclusive, and technology-enabled transformation in Indian organizations, not by imitating the global MBA models.



Panel Discussion L - R : Dr. Anand Kulkarni, Professor and Associate Director, MIT-WPU Pune | Dr. Rajan Welkar, Vice Chancellor, ATLAS SkillTech University | Dr. Rajan Saxena, Former Vice Chancellor, NMIMS University | Dr. Kavita R. Jagtap, Director & Professor, Jamnalal Bajaj Institute of Management, Mumbai | Prof. Sourav Mukherjee, Dean (Faculty), IIM Bangalore | Karan Karayi, Editor-in-Chief, Team Marksmen Network



Prof. (Dr.) Anupam Narula
Professor of Marketing
Lal Bahadur Shastri Institute of Management, Delhi

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GLIMPSES OF PAST EDITION



ABOUT **TEAM MARKSMEN**

At **TEAM MARKSMEN NETWORK**, our mission is to lead from the front as trailblazers in the B2B media landscape. We are India's fastest growing B2B media firm also recognized by DPIIT. We create impactful platforms that inspire thought leadership, foster collaboration, and spark innovation across industries. Driven by a relentless commitment to excellence, we aim to amplify stories of resilience, innovation, and transformation, shaping narratives that empower leaders and drive meaningful progress in India and beyond.



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ABOUT **MARKSMEN DAILY**

MARKSMEN DAILY is a leading and fastest growing digital knowledge platform committed to showcasing stories that engage, inspire, and captivate the imagination. Through crisp, bite-sized information, this new-age website breaks down the world around us by uncovering the latest business happenings, highlights trends to keep an eye on, and demystifies all things complex.

MarksmenDaily.com has been very well-received and gets over 175,000 visitors a month and is already very well received by industry executives and general populace.

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