

## Day 1 Report

**ICSSR Sponsored Two-Day International Conference on “Digital Marginalisation and AI Bias: Redefining Business and Society (ICDMAI-BS 2026)”, held on 27–28 February 2026 in Hybrid Mode.**

**The conference was jointly organized by Chetana College and Chetana’s R. K. Institute of Management and Research, Mumbai**

### Inaugural Function-

- Shri Suresh Prabhu, Former Union Cabinet Minister- Chief Guest
- Patrons:  
Pandit Shri Shridatta Haldankar, Hon. President, Chetana Trust  
Shri Shirish Chaudhari- Hon. Secretary- Chetana Trust
- Dr. Madhumita Patil, CEO–CIMR & CRKIMR
- Keynote Speaker- Mr. Vivek Sawant, Chief Mentor of Maharashtra Knowledge Corporation Limited (MKCL)
- Conference Chairpersons:  
Dr. Sanjay Jagtap, Principal, Chetana College  
CA Suhas Gharat, I/C Director–CRKIMR
- Conference Convenor:  
Dr. Kavita Khadse- Conference Convenor  
Nyomi Fonseca- VP, Chetana HS College

The day commenced with Registration. The formal inauguration began with the Digital Lighting of the Lamp, symbolizing the illumination of knowledge and collective academic pursuit. Prof. Shivprasad addressed the gathering and elaborated on the significance and contemporary relevance of the conference theme. The dignitaries were then respectfully welcomed with floral bouquets. The souvenir of the conference was formally released during the inaugural session.



The introduction of the Chief Guest, **Shri Suresh Prabhu**, Former Union Cabinet Minister, was then presented. In his address, Shri Suresh Prabhu described the present era as one of “mammoth change,” acknowledging that technological advancement would create opportunities for some while posing

challenges for others. He referred to workforce restructuring within organizations and emphasized the necessity of mitigating risks—an objective central to the conference deliberations. He reflected on societal biases, including caste and social divides, and cautioned that since AI systems are built upon historical data and human-designed algorithms, inherent prejudices may become amplified. He underscored that while technology may appear neutral, human intervention shapes its development. Regulatory frameworks are necessary. He also remarked that AI in education would not render teachers irrelevant. **Shri Shridatta Haldankar**, Hon. President, Chetana Trust, presented a memento to the Chief Guest.

Subsequently, Nyomi Fonseca provided an overview of the conference theme, participant representation, and collaborations with international universities. **CA Suhas Gharat**, I/C Director – CRKIMR, addressed the audience, noting the pervasive integration of AI into daily life and the timeliness of the conference in light of recent AI summit. He highlighted the receipt of over 300 research papers and more than 500 registrations, emphasizing that while AI is unavoidable, reducing bias remains a shared responsibility.

**Dr. Madhumita Patil**, CEO – CIMR & CRKIMR, addressed the gathering using analogies from the humanities and explained that AI possesses the potential for both constructive and adverse impact, while reiterating the indispensable role of human judgment in guiding its application responsibly. Shri Shridatta Haldankar further emphasized that innovation must be inclusive, progress balanced with responsibility, and growth equitable. The inaugural session concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Dr. Kavita Khadse.

Keynote Address- Mr. Vivek Sawant, Chief Mentor of Maharashtra Knowledge Corporation Limited (MKCL)



The introduction of the Keynote Speaker, **Mr. Vivek Sawant**, Chief Mentor, Maharashtra Knowledge Corporation Limited (MKCL), highlighted his academic journey, tenure at C-DAC, and his pivotal contribution to the development of India's first supercomputer, PARAM. In his keynote address, he described the present as an era of partnership with AI. He discussed 23 forms of bias and drew attention to marginalized communities, including women, linguistic minorities, and gig workers. He examined bias in hiring and facial recognition systems, referenced the Bhashini initiative to incorporate dialect diversity, and emphasized the imperative of responsible AI and regulatory mechanisms—drawing parallels to global frameworks established after 9 August 1945. He also reflected on AI applications in legal systems and preventive healthcare, referred to “Kranti,” an AI tool responding in

Marathi, emphasized the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration, and reaffirmed the necessity of human oversight. Dr. Madhumita Patil felicitated him with a memento, followed by a vote of thanks by Dr. Balaji Sadavarte.

**Dr. Muhammed Abdulhai**, President, Al Shamal Private University, Syria, joined virtually and addressed the participants.



The first plenary session, “Defence Perspectives on AI and Governance,” was delivered by **Wing Cdr Rohan Chandak (Retd.)**, Program Director – Technocraft Centre for Applied Artificial Intelligence, IIT Mumbai, and chaired by **Dr. Sivaprasad**, Associate Professor, CRKIMR. The session examined the

emergence of AI-driven warfare, ethical considerations, interoperability, cybersecurity resilience, and technological advancements developed by government PSUs. Dr. Sivaprasad proposed the vote of thanks.

The subsequent plenary session on “AI Bias in Data Protection, Privacy and Citizen Rights” was delivered by **Dr. Naresh Harale**, Co-Founder and COO, SecurWires Technologies and Solutions, and chaired by **Dr. Kavita Khadse**, Senior Academician and Ph.D. Research Guide, CRKIMR. Dr. Harale discussed data bias, algorithmic bias, deployment bias, and legal compliance, including GDPR, emphasizing that AI bias constitutes a systemic challenge.



Following the lunch break, the session on “Legal Risks and Compliances in the Expanding Digital Economy” was presented by **Mr. Francy Chacko Thattil**, Technical Program Manager and Solution Architect, Miracle Info-Tech Pvt. Ltd., and chaired by **Dr. Neha Bhatia**, Assistant Professor and IQAC Coordinator, PTVA’s Institute of Management. Drawing upon cases such as Yes Bank (2020), Karvy Stock Broking (2019), the Equifax breach, and the Facebook–Cambridge Analytica incident (2018), he discussed compliance frameworks, and informed consent limitations.

The session on “AI, Neuro Education and the Science of Learning” was delivered by **Dr. Selby Jose**, Professor, Institute of Science, HBSU, who has guided five doctoral scholars, and chaired by **Dr. Tanuja Koli**, Vice Principal and Professor, Chetana HS College. Dr. Jose explained learning as a biological process, elaborating on neuroplasticity, working memory constraints, emotional safety, and the cognitive impact of stress. He demonstrated how AI can assist through educational pattern recognition while affirming that teachers will be leaders, with AI functioning as an amplifier.



The day concluded with a panel discussion chaired by **Dr. Nandita Mishra, Director**, CIMR, featuring **Prof. Ajay Singh** (Government Advisor), **Mr. Charanpreet Singh** (Praxis Business School), **Mr. Raghunath Reddy** (LA Technologies), and **Mr. Sanmesh Kalyanpurkar** (Fintech Advisor). The panel addressed human oversight in AI, evolving managerial decision-making, responsible implementation, contextual use of AI, and the importance of formulating better questions. A rapid-fire round was conducted, followed by concluding remarks. Mementos were presented by Dr. Madhumita Patil, and the session ended with a vote of thanks and group photograph.

Thereafter, paper presentation sessions were conducted in various classrooms by shortlisted students and research scholars. The top performers were felicitated on Day 2.

Day 1 concluded on a highly successful note, marked by well-structured deliberations, insightful addresses by distinguished speakers, and rigorous academic discussions across sessions. The proceedings reflected both depth and diversity of thought, bringing together perspectives from governance, technology, law, defence, education, and industry. The active participation of faculty members, students, and research scholars further enriched the discourse, making the day a meaningful contribution to the ongoing conversation on digital marginalization and AI bias.