ARTHANAAD 2026: Exploring the Future of Quantitative Finance – Where Code Meets Capital

Chetana's R.K. Institutes of Management & Research hosts its flagship annual finance symposium

Chetana's R.K. Institutes of Management & Research successfully organised Arthanaad 2026, its annual flagship finance symposium, on 22 August 2026 at the institute auditorium. Organised by the Finance Forum, this year's symposium was themed "QuantAUM Leap: Where Code Meets Capital", focusing on the growing role of quantitative techniques, algorithmic models, artificial intelligence and data-driven decision-making in modern investment management. Dr. Madhumita Patil , CEO declared the event open . Director Dr. Shalini Sinha gave the welcome address.

The symposium brought together eminent industry professionals, academicians and management students on a common platform to explore the changing dynamics of the financial markets. The theme highlighted how investment management is evolving through the integration of mathematical modelling, quantitative risk assessment and human judgement.



Industry Insights on India's Investment Landscape

The event commenced with an insightful keynote address by Mr. Sailesh Bhan, President and Chief Investment Officer (CIO), Nippon India AMC. Addressing the gathering of management students and finance enthusiasts, he highlighted India's strategic macroeconomic position and its emergence as a significant global economic powerhouse.

He emphasised the growing opportunities in Indian capital markets and encouraged students to develop strong analytical capabilities to understand and respond to the rapidly evolving investment environment.

Panel Discussion: Intuition versus Algorithmic Intelligence



One of the major highlights of Arthanaad 2026 was the panel discussion titled “Squaring the Circle – Intuition vs Code”, moderated by Mr. Vikaas Sachdeva, CEO, BitDelta India.

The distinguished panel comprised:

- Mr. Balakrishnan Illango – London Stock Exchange Group (LSEG)

- Mr. Mehul Patel – ASK Index Plus Fund

- Mr. Neil Jha – Axis Direct

The discussion explored an important question confronting the investment management industry: Can human intuition and algorithmic precision work together in investment decision-making?

The panellists shared their industry experiences and discussed how human judgement, market psychology and contextual understanding complement quantitative models and rule-based risk management systems. They highlighted that while algorithms help minimise emotional biases and improve analytical accuracy, human insight remains valuable in identifying market developments that mathematical models may overlook.

The discussion concluded that the future of institutional investment management lies not in choosing between human intelligence and technology, but in effectively integrating both to achieve informed and risk-adjusted investment decisions.

Masterclass on Passive Fund Investing



Adding further value to the symposium, Mr. Aman Singhania of HDFC AMC conducted a specialised masterclass on passive fund investing strategies. The session provided insights into systematic market tracking and the role of passive investment approaches in the broader quantitative investment framework.

The masterclass offered students an opportunity to understand the practical relevance of rule-based investment strategies in contemporary asset management.

Finnopreneur 2026: Celebrating Innovation in Finance

The symposium concluded with the much-awaited prize distribution ceremony of Finnopreneur 2026, the institute's flagship student competition designed to test participants' financial knowledge, analytical abilities and innovative thinking.

The competition challenged students to assume the role of institutional asset managers and develop backtested portfolio strategies across various investment vehicles, including Mutual Funds, Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs), Portfolio Management Services (PMS) and structured products, while adhering to regulatory requirements and institutional risk parameters.

Moving beyond conventional presentations, the finalist teams showcased their strategies through institutional-style fact sheets, analytical kiosk posters and interactive AI-powered dashboards. Their presentations incorporated important investment performance indicators such as the Sharpe Ratio, Tracking Error and Time-Weighted Rate of Return (TWRR), along with simulated macroeconomic stress tests.

After an intensive evaluation by industry judges, the following teams emerged as winners:

Winners –1st Place- Team ZENITH

₹25,000

Team members: Janhavi Jalgaonkar, Shambhavi Deshpande, Om Achrekar, Arpita Gandhi, Jash Shah, Chinmay Redkar, Prathamesh Bagad, Somyani Nikita, Borate Ajay, Manihar Ibrahim and Shedge Pawan.

First Runner-Up – Team PORTFOLIO PIONEERS

₹15,000

Team members: Pratham Joshi, Sanchita Patil, Avinash Singh, Shweta Dharsandiya, Chirag Laturiya, Roopa Bhanushali, Raj Dawawala, Garthe Aditya, Pawar Swayam, Pimpale Soham and Agrawal Divanshu.

Second Runner-Up – Team FINVISION

₹10,000

Team members: Saniya Inamdar, Mamta Yadav, Komal Singh, Nakul Bhingude, Sahil Jadhav, Sushant Kharat, Gunjan Mude, Shah Pearl, Gharat Ujjwal, Rane Nidhi and Salunkhe Shreeraj.







A Step Towards the Future of Finance

Arthanaad 2026 concluded on an inspiring note, reinforcing the importance of technological advancement, analytical thinking and innovation in the financial sector. The symposium provided students with valuable exposure to industry perspectives and emerging investment practices while bridging the gap between academic learning and professional applications.

Through insightful discussions, expert interactions and practical financial challenges, Arthanaad 2026 successfully highlighted the growing significance of quantitative finance in shaping the future of investment management.

The event once again reaffirmed the institute's commitment to providing students with meaningful industry exposure and creating platforms that encourage financial innovation, critical thinking and professional excellence.



Certainly. The corrected institutional name throughout the event report will be:

Chetana’s R.K. Institute of Management and Research

The revised headline and opening paragraph will read:

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