

# NUKSA THE PINE CHRONICLE

NEWS, VIEWS & CREATIVE EXPRESSIONS

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**IIM Shillong Celebrates its 18th Foundation Day: A Vision for Agile Leadership**

## ABOUT NUKSA

Nuksa The Pine Chronicle is the monthly news magazine of IIM Shillong.

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# COVER STORY

## IIM Shillong Celebrates its 18th Foundation Day: A Vision for Agile Leadership



On a day filled with pride and anticipation, IIM Shillong marked its 18th Foundation Day with a celebration that not only honored its rich history but also set the stage for an exciting future in management education.

The air was electric as distinguished guests, faculty, staff, and students gathered to commemorate this milestone. At the heart of the festivities was an inspiring address by the Chief Guest, **Shri C. H. Vijayashankar, the Hon'ble Governor of Meghalaya**. His words resonated through the halls, challenging the IIM

Shillong community to push the boundaries of excellence and innovation.

"In this era of rapid change, it is not enough to simply keep pace. We must lead the charge in reimagining management education for the challenges of tomorrow," Shri Vijayashankar emphasized.

The celebration reached new heights with a thought-provoking panel discussion titled "**Developing Agile Leaders: Rethinking Management Education for a Disruptive and**

**Uncertain World.**" This engaging dialogue featured Shri Ashish Chauhan, MD and CEO of NSE India, alongside Shri Shishir Kumar Bajoria, Chairman of the Board of Governors.

Shri Chauhan's insights on technology's role in shaping the future of business were particularly enlightening. He painted a vivid picture of a world where positive disruptions are not just inevitable but essential for progress.

"The leaders of tomorrow must be adept at navigating uncertainty," Shri Chauhan noted. "Our duty is to equip them with the tools to not just survive but thrive in this new landscape."

As alumni, your journey with IIM Shillong continues to inspire the next generation. The institute's commitment to innovation in education is stronger than ever, with plans to:

- Launch cutting-edge programs tailored to emerging industries
- Enhance global partnerships for a truly international perspective
- Invest in state-of-the-art facilities to support advanced research

The 18th Foundation Day wasn't just a celebration of the past; it was a launchpad for the future. As we reflect on our achievements, we're excited about the opportunities that lie ahead.

# International Collaboration

## IIM Shillong and POLIMI Graduate School of Management Forge Global Partnership



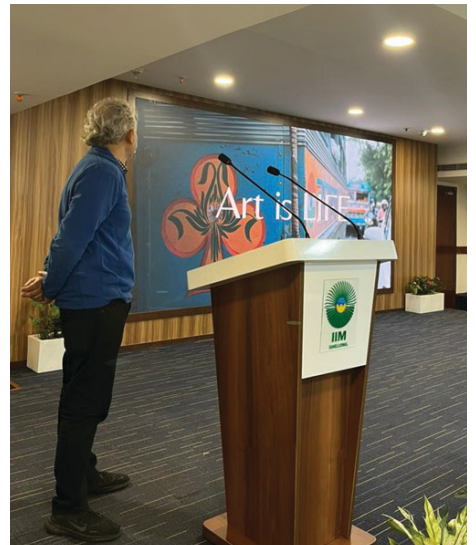
In a groundbreaking move set to transform the landscape of international business education, Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Shillong has inked a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the prestigious POLIMI Graduate School of Management. This strategic alliance aims to foster a global outlook among students and researchers, opening doors to a world of opportunities.

The partnership, aligned with IIM Shillong's vision of nurturing global leaders, encompasses several key areas of collaboration:

- **Student Exchange Programs:** Immerse yourself in a new culture while gaining international exposure.
- **Dual Degrees and Immersion Programs:** Earn credentials from two world-class institutions, boosting your global employability.
- **Cutting-edge Research Collaborations:** Contribute to groundbreaking studies that address global business challenges.
- **Faculty Exchange and Development:** Learn from diverse perspectives and benefit from cross-cultural academic insights.

# PHOTO GALLERY

## GLIMPSES OF NOVEMBER EVENTS



# TIMELINE

## Leading the Way: IIM Shillong's Business Leadership Summit & Golf Tournament Season 15



As the city of Shillong blossomed in the vibrant hues of the cherry blossom festival, IIM Shillong geared up to host two landmark events that promised to be a convergence of ideas, innovation, and leadership. From November 29th to December 1st, 2024, the prestigious institution hosted the 7th Edition of the Business Leadership Summit (BLS), its annual management conclave, and the 15th Edition of Learning on the Green Turf, its annual golf cup.

Over the course of three days, this event brought together 30+ CXOs, industry leaders, inspiring speakers, and over 2,000 attendees. The Business Leadership Summit explored the theme "Building a Future-Ready India," focusing on the most pressing issues that shaped the business landscape in the country. The summit featured six dynamic panel discussions led by prominent C-suite executives across various industries. Topics such as Leadership for the Future, Sustainability in Business, Digital Transformation, and Economic Strategies for Growth provided invaluable insights into navigating the complexities of the rapidly evolving global economy.

A key highlight of the event was the unique Learning on the Green Turf initiative—an

exclusive offering by IIM Shillong that blended the strategic intricacies of golf with essential leadership lessons. Over 250 participants, including corporate leaders, faculty, and students, gathered at the iconic Shillong Golf Course for a one-of-a-kind experience. This initiative fostered an informal yet impactful space for leaders to engage, build connections, and reflect on leadership challenges and solutions. Golf, often described as a sport of precision, patience, and resilience, offered profound insights into leadership, teaching leaders how to stay focused under pressure, adapt to challenges, and persist in the face of setbacks. It served as a powerful reminder of the qualities that define great leaders: strategy, foresight, and the ability to remain calm and composed under adversity.

IIM Shillong's commitment to fostering innovation and leadership was evident as it hosted its management conclave, offering a unique space for fresh ideas, meaningful connections, and leadership growth. It was an experience that went beyond just learning—it was about connecting with others, tackling challenges, and walking away with new insights to lead in today's fast-evolving world.

# SUSCON XI: Charting the Course for a Climate Positive World



In an era where sustainability is no longer a choice but a necessity, SUSCON XI emerged as a beacon of hope and innovation. This groundbreaking conference brought together global thought leaders, researchers, and practitioners for an intensive two-and-a-half-day exploration of sustainability's most pressing challenges and opportunities.

The conference kicked off with powerful keynote addresses that set the tone for transformative discussions:

- **Prof. Kuldip Singh Sangwan** illuminated the critical role of life cycle assessment in driving sustainable practices.
- **Dr. Bibhab Kumar Talukdar** challenged attendees to rethink human attitudes towards climate change mitigation.
- **Mr. Harsh Choudhry** and **Mr. Somdeb Banerjee** provided invaluable insights into industrial decarbonization and the economic challenges of sustainability.
- **Prof. Christoph Herrmann** presented innovative solutions for sustainable urban development.
- **Prof. Gerard Farias** closed the keynotes by debunking myths in corporate sustainability, paving the way for more authentic and impactful corporate actions.

SUSCON XI's technical sessions were hotbeds of cutting-edge ideas and strategies:

**Policy and Governance:** Discussions centered on ESG frameworks and the development of electric vehicle ecosystems, highlighting the intersection of policy and technological advancement.

**Climate Science and Impact:** Experts delved into climate modelling, renewable energy solutions, and the revolutionary role of AI in sustainable development.

**Sustainable Finance and Investment:** Sessions explored green finance mechanisms, ESG metrics, and strategies for low-carbon economic growth.

Two standout presentations captured the essence of innovation at SUSCON XI:

1. **Mr. Flo Oberhofer** unveiled groundbreaking carbon removal technologies, offering a glimpse into a future where negative emissions become a reality.
2. **Mr. Pradeep Sangwan** shared inspiring insights on circular economy practices, demonstrating how waste can be transformed into valuable resources.

SUSCON XI wasn't just about ideas—it was about action. The conference saw the birth of several collaborative initiatives:

- A cross-sector taskforce to accelerate the adoption of ESG frameworks across industries
- A joint research project on AI-driven climate modeling to enhance predictive capabilities
- An international mentorship program connecting sustainability leaders with emerging professionals

As SUSCON XI concluded, it became clear that this was more than just a conference—it was a catalyst for change. The ideas shared and connections made here are set to ripple across industries, governments, and communities, driving us towards a truly "Climate Positive World."

# Advancing Excellence in Rural Development: Empowering Leaders at IIM Shillong



The Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Centre for Policy Research and Analysis at IIM Shillong successfully hosted a Management Development Program (MDP) titled “Advancing Excellence in Rural Development” from November 25th to 29th, 2024. Designed for Block Development Officers (BDOs) of Arunachal Pradesh, the program aimed to strengthen leadership capabilities and equip participants with innovative approaches to address rural challenges.

on key themes such as policy implementation, sustainable resource management, and rural entrepreneurship. Participants explored practical strategies for fostering inclusive growth and enhancing governance at the grassroots level.

Over five days, the program featured expert-led sessions, case studies, and interactive workshops

The MDP concluded with participants sharing their appreciation for the insightful sessions and actionable learning outcomes. By fostering collaboration and innovation, the program reinforced IIM Shillong’s commitment to empowering rural leaders and advancing sustainable development in Arunachal Pradesh.

# Zeitgeist November Highlights: Celebrating Art, Cinema, and Creativity at IIM Shillong



On November 2024, the IIM Shillong community witnessed an inspiring display of creativity and engagement, thanks to team Zeitgeist, which successfully hosted two remarkable events that left a lasting impact.

The month kicked off with the second edition of the Artist Residency Programme, held from November 6 to 16. The programme culminated in the unveiling of the Open Studio at the Umsawli campus, showcasing over 100 stunning artworks. Themed "Misty Musings: The Shifting Landscape," the residency delved into the



dynamic relationship between clarity and ambiguity in art and beyond. Sixteen renowned artists from across India partnered with the IIM Shillong community, facilitating workshops and discussions that seamlessly integrated art with essential themes of leadership, creativity, and problem-solving. The inauguration of the Residency Program was graced by Chairman of the Board of Governors, Shri Shishir Kumar Bajoria, along with Board members Shri Atul Kulkarni, Dr. Paula Sengupta, and Prof. Abhishek Vashisht, Chairperson of Student Affairs & Placement. Their presence underscored the residency's commitment to innovation and holistic learning.

Complementing the artistic endeavours, Zeitgeist organized a lively Movie Night on November 22, where the iconic Shah Rukh Khan film "Main Hoon Na" was screened at the Nongthymmai campus Common Room. The event was filled with

laughter and nostalgia, igniting the magic of SRK among the audience, all while enjoying delicious snacks and the warmth of camaraderie.

In addition to these exciting events, Zeitgeist facilitated student participation in the Shillong Literary Festival, organized by the Department of Tourism, Government of Meghalaya. The club also marked IIM Shillong's 18th Foundation Day by conducting essay-writing and short-film-making competitions, further fostering creativity within the student body.

Through these initiatives, team Zeitgeist not only enriched the cultural landscape of IIM Shillong but also cultivated a sense of community, creativity, and collaboration among students and faculty alike. The month of November stood as a testament to the institute's dedication to nurturing innovative thinkers and inspiring leaders for the future.

## IIM Shillong and HDFC Bank Unite for Life-Saving Blood Donation Drive



In a remarkable display of community spirit and social responsibility, the EcoBiz Club of IIM Shillong, in partnership with HDFC Bank, recently orchestrated a highly successful Blood Donation Drive. This inspiring initiative not only showcased the power of collaboration but also reinforced our commitment to making a tangible difference in society.

The event witnessed an **overwhelming response**, with over 150 members of the IIM Shillong community stepping forward to donate blood. Students, faculty, and staff alike joined hands in this noble cause, demonstrating that when



we come together, we can create a significant impact.

"The enthusiasm and selflessness displayed by our community members were truly heartwarming. It's a testament to the values we uphold at IIM Shillong," remarked a faculty member.

The partnership between the EcoBiz Club and HDFC Bank proved to be a game-changer. HDFC Bank's support amplified the reach and effectiveness of the drive, showcasing how corporate-academic collaborations can lead to meaningful social initiatives.

*"This collaboration with IIM Shillong aligns perfectly with our commitment to corporate social responsibility. Together, we're not just donating blood; we're infusing hope into our community,"* said an HDFC Bank representative.

Every drop counts, and the impact of this drive

is far-reaching. The collected blood has been directed to the Regional Blood Bank at the Pasteur Institute, Shillong, ensuring its availability to those in critical need. This initiative has the potential to save numerous lives, reminding us of the profound impact of our collective actions.

## **EcoBiz Club's Cloth Donation Drive: Empowering Communities Through Collective Action**



The EcoBiz Club of IIM Shillong successfully organized a cloth donation drive, showcasing the institute's unwavering commitment to social responsibility and sustainability. The initiative received overwhelming support from the IIM Shillong community, with generous contributions collected to support Bethany Society, an NGO dedicated to empowering children and individuals

with disabilities. The donations were handed over during a visit to the NGO, which provided a humbling experience and a heartfelt reminder of the impact of collective action. Through this initiative, IIM Shillong reinforced its dedication to sustainability and social responsibility, making a positive impact on the local community.



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