



**Confederation of Indian Industry**

## **CII Global Summit on Industry-Academia Partnership**

*‘Catalysing India’s Rise as R&D Powerhouse: Forging partnerships, driving Excellence’*

**05 December 2025; Indian Habitat Centre, New Delhi**

# **PROPOSAL**

# 1. Background:

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In today's rapidly evolving global landscape, shaped by shifting geopolitics, climate challenges, and disruptive technologies, collaboration between industry and academia is no longer optional — it is essential.

Industry brings market orientation, resources, and real-world problem statements. Academia contributes deep research capability, intellectual capital, and a pipeline of skilled talent. When these forces converge, they unlock innovation, accelerate R&D, and build a workforce ready for future challenges.

For industry, partnering with academia creates early access to frontier research, reduces R&D costs through shared infrastructure, and ensures faster pathways to commercialization. For academia, collaboration with industry ensures curricula remain relevant, enhances employability of graduates, attracts sustained funding, and converts research into scalable solutions with societal impact.

Globally, leading economies are strengthening industry-academia linkages as a cornerstone of competitiveness. From the U.S. and Europe to China and South Korea, public-private partnerships are driving frontier technologies, accelerating commercialization, and nurturing innovation-led ecosystems. India is determined to lead this global race.

Despite progress, India continues to face challenges such as silos, fragmented incentives, and information asymmetry that limit effective collaboration. The CII Global Summit on Industry-Academia Partnership 2025 is designed to directly address these gaps.

Envisioned as a dynamic, inclusive platform, the Summit will accelerate India's innovation journey, foster co-creation, and demonstrate the nation's commitment to building a resilient, future-ready ecosystem. By bridging the gap between laboratories and markets, and classrooms and industry needs, the Summit seeks to unlock breakthrough solutions that will power the vision of a Viksit Bharat. Briefly describing each of the priority areas:

## **1. Driving Sunrise Technologies**

India's Techade will be powered by leadership in sunrise sectors like BioFuture, MedTech, e-Mobility, and advanced manufacturing, supported by enabling technologies such as AI, robotics, and quantum. Building global competitiveness requires not only cutting-edge research but also fast-tracking its transition into scalable solutions that fuel entrepreneurship, investment, and national growth.

## **2. Government Push for Innovation**

A landmark national research initiative, backed by a ₹1 lakh crore fund, reflects the government's strong commitment to positioning India as a global R&D leader. By promoting interdisciplinary research, incentivizing partnerships, and ensuring predictable long-term funding, the initiative is designed to accelerate high-impact projects and bridge the critical gap between discovery and deployment.

## **3. Strengthening Partnerships for Commercialization**

Robust industry-academia linkages are the key to translating intellectual property into market-ready products. Overcoming the "valley of death" from TRL 3/4 to TRL 7/8 requires shared infrastructure, effective technology transfer mechanisms, and flexible funding models. Collaboration among universities, startups, and industry players will unlock dormant research, build resilient ecosystems, and ensure innovations deliver both economic and societal impact.

## **4. Building Future-Ready Talent**

As technologies advance at unprecedented speed, preparing a workforce equipped with future-ready skills is paramount. By aligning curricula with industry needs, embedding entrepreneurial mindsets in academic programs, and creating pathways for experiential learning, India can cultivate a talent pool capable of driving innovation, commercialization, and competitiveness on a global scale.

## **5. Scope of Partnership**

- |                                     |                       |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| - Technology Research               | - Lab Infrastructure  |
| - Centre of Excellence              | - Faculty Consulting  |
| - CSR                               | - Technology Skilling |
| - Continuing Education Programmes   | - PhD Scholarship     |
| - Management Development Programmes | - Internships         |

With this background, the Confederation of Indian Industry is hosting Annual Global Summit on Industry-Academia Partnership on 5th December 2025 at Hotel Le Meridian, New Delhi. The summit and the deliberations would be a testament to the country's commitment to becoming a global leader in technology research and innovation. Through strategic leadership and partnerships, a robust IP framework, and strong industry-academia collaborations, India is well-positioned to become a knowledge economy.

## 2. Objective

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This Annual Summit aims to:

- **Offer a global platform** bringing together industry (large enterprises, MSMEs, VCs, foundations, R&D organizations), academia, policymakers, funding agencies, and university-incubated start-ups. Thus, breaking barriers of information asymmetry, silos, and limited mobility by showcasing the technology portfolios of leading institutions and pioneering faculty research.
- **Convert conversations into collaborations** that drive innovation, accelerate commercialization, and align with India's collective vision of a Viksit Bharat.
- **Facilitate strategic networking** and alliances to bridge the “valley of death” between academic discoveries and market-ready products.
- **Inspire a cultural shift** within academia, encouraging greater awareness of market demand, industry needs, and innovation trends.
- **Unlock the commercial and societal potential** of academic research while cultivating critical skills for India's development.
- **Highlight the role of industry academia ecosystem** as a key driver of innovation, showcase effective mechanisms for strengthening knowledge transfer between academia and industry, and share best practices for building collaborative ecosystems that foster innovation, accelerate commercialization, and enhance competitiveness.

## 3. Theme

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**‘Catalyzing India's Rise as a Research & Innovation Powerhouse: Forging Partnerships, Driving Excellence’**

The theme indicates that this summit is not just a platform for dialogue but an active trigger for collaborations, policies, and investments that accelerate India's innovation journey. It aims to position India as a future global leader in R&D, technology development, and commercialization—highlighting ambition, scale, and competitiveness.

## 4. Focus Areas

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The summit will address critical themes, including:

1. **Strengthening & accelerating Collaboration**
  - a. Industry-academia partnership models
  - b. Policy frameworks for sustainable partnerships
  - c. B2B and B2A meetings

## **2. Bridging Research to Market**

- a. Ways to advancing TRL 3/4 to TRL 7/8 for commercialization
- b. Overcoming the “valley of death” (validation, funding, scaling, IP)
- c. Deepening industry involvement in R&D

## **3. Financing Innovation**

- a. Leveraging government-led schemes (innovation funds, startup programs)
- b. Public-private funding models for scale and impact

## **4. Future-Ready Talent & Curriculum**

- a. Aligning curricula with emerging tech & industry skill demands
- b. Fostering entrepreneurial and innovation-driven mindsets in academia

## **5. Showcasing Opportunities**

- a. Innovation showcase & technology exhibitions
- b. Collaboration avenues for industry, startups, and research institutions

# **5. Who Should Attend**

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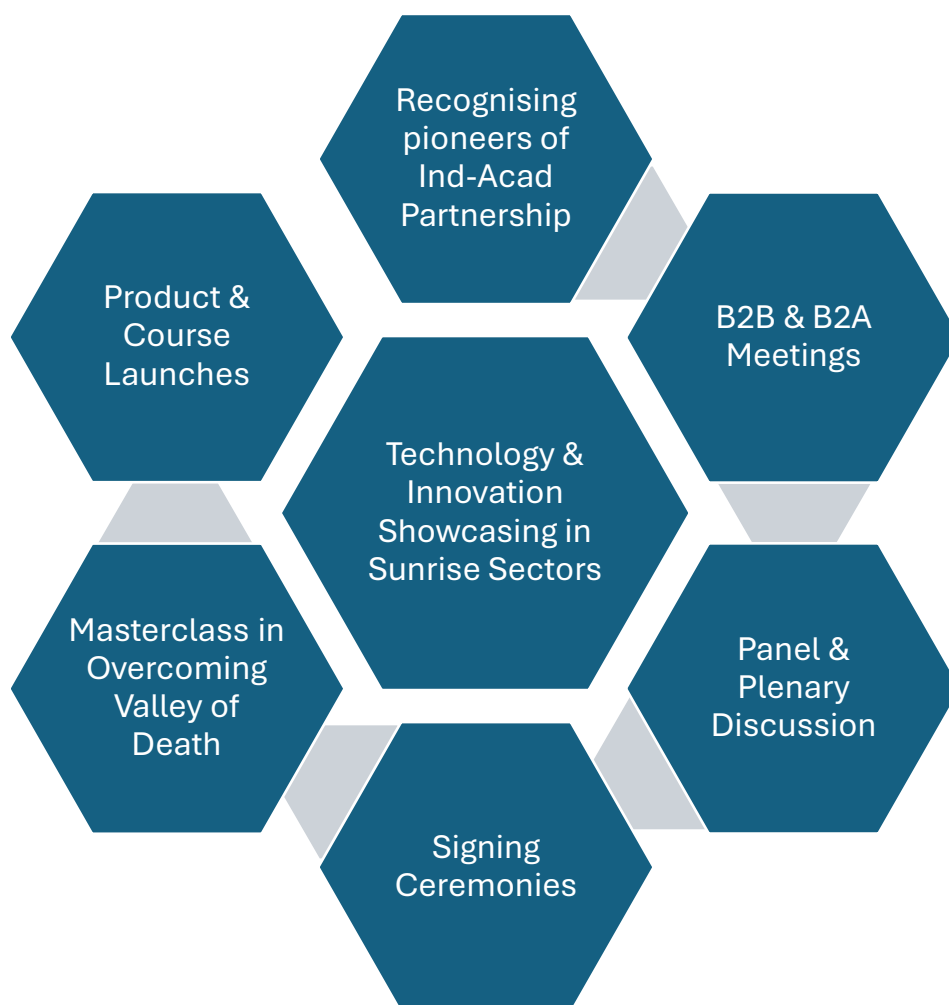
The summit will bring together:

- Industry & MSME – MD, CXOs, Research Heads, Ind-Acad Partnership Heads
- Academia – Vice Chancellor, Director, Deans, HODs, Incubated startup
- Centre of Excellence – Founding Members, CXOs
- Research Parks – CXOs and Innovation Managers
- Research Institutions & Labs – Heads and Senior Researchers
- Faculty with successful startups and/or relevant research background
- Government officials, Policymakers, Funding Agencies
- VCs, PE investors, international R&D agencies
- Heads of Foundations, CSR, Family Run Businesses

# **6. Key Highlights**

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- ✓ Leadership talks by eminent global and Indian thought leaders
- ✓ Panel discussions on sunrise technologies, funding, and talent
- ✓ Showcasing cutting-edge innovations through Technology Exhibition
- ✓ Real-world stories of successful research-to-market journeys
- ✓ Awards recognizing outstanding industry-academia partnerships
- ✓ B2B and B2A networking opportunities



## 7. Why participate

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- ✓ **Learn from the Best:** Gain insights into global benchmarks, best practices, and strategies to overcome barriers in industry-academia collaboration.
- ✓ **Forge Strategic Partnerships:** Build networks with industry leaders, academic institutions, policymakers, startups, and funding agencies.
- ✓ **Spot Opportunities:** Explore high-potential collaboration avenues with India's leading technology and research institutions.
- ✓ **Shape the Future:** Contribute to policy recommendations, strategic roadmaps, and global use cases of public-private partnership models.
- ✓ **Access Knowledge Resources:** Be part of the release of a compendium of best practices and innovative models.
- ✓ **Catalyze Action:** Initiate joint projects, pilot programs, internships, and knowledge-sharing through this global platform.

- ✓ **Build Capacity:** Strengthen institutional and industry capabilities to drive research, innovation, and commercialization worldwide.

## 8. Format and Duration

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The summit is one - day event featuring:

- Keynote addresses by global thought leaders
- Panel discussions and Plenary sessions
- Networking sessions and B2B/B2A meetings
- CII Industry Academia Partnership Award ceremony
- Technology Exhibition cum Innovation showcase by Industry and Academia
  - Bio Future
  - MedTech
  - Advance Manufacturing & Technologies
  - Mobility

A key highlight of the Summit will be the Technology Exhibition cum Innovation Showcase, where leading universities, research institutions, startups, and industries will present their most promising technologies and research outcomes across domains such as BioFuture, MedTech, Advanced Manufacturing, Mobility and related sunrise sector. The exhibition will serve as a live platform for demonstrating frontier innovations, exploring collaboration opportunities, and enabling early connections between researchers, industry leaders, and investors. Participating institutions will benefit from enhanced visibility, access to potential industry partners, and opportunities for commercialization of their technologies. For industry, the showcase offers a window into cutting-edge academic research and ready-to-scale solutions, helping to bridge the critical gap between laboratories and markets.

1. Bio Futures
2. Dev & scaling of Bio-Based / Bio tech materials
3. Bio-based plastic alternates
4. World class measurement capabilities
5. Bio remediation
6. Bio actives

1. Advanced Driver Assistance Systems under Indian Traffic Conditions.
2. Systems Engineering for Electric, Autonomous and Safe Mobility - Road and Farm Vehicle Applications.
3. Materials for Electric Vehicles - Battery, Motors and Semi-Conductor Devices.
4. Software Defined Vehicles and Automotive Cybersecurity

1. Advanced Manufacturing Technologies
2. Development of Indigenous Manufacturing Equipment
3. Digital Transformations of Manufacturing Processes and Systems
4. Development of Advanced Materials
5. Sustainable Manufacturing

1. Digital & AI-driven Healthcare Technologies
2. Advanced Medical Devices & Diagnostics
3. Emerging Therapeutics & Regenerative Technologies
4. Exploring frontier innovations in bioprinting, therapeutic interventions, and digital mental health solutions
5. Implants & Assistive Technologies

## 9. How to Engage

The summit will be organized by CII in collaboration with leading academia, research institutions, industry and policy regulators committed to fostering innovation and education excellence. The summit is designed not just for dialogue, but for action. Participants can engage by contributing problem statements and solutions ahead of the event, taking part in curated B2B and B2A matchmaking meetings, and visiting the Technology Showcase to explore cutting-edge innovations. Faculty, researchers, and startups are encouraged to present their work for potential collaborations, while industry leaders can commit to pilots, internships, or joint research projects during sessions. Interactive panels, networking breaks, and signing ceremonies provide multiple touchpoints for translating conversations into concrete outcomes.

### A. Partnership Benefits:



<b>Tier</b>	<b>Contributions</b>	<b>Benefits</b>
Platinum Partner	INR 12 Lakhs	Refer Sponsorship Matrix
Principal Partner	INR 10 Lakhs	Refer Sponsorship Matrix
Corporate Partner	INR 7.5 Lakhs	Refer Sponsorship Matrix
Associate Partner	INR 05 Lakhs	Refer Sponsorship Matrix
Co-Associate Partner	INR 03 Lakhs	Refer Sponsorship Matrix
Institutional Partner	INR 02 Lakhs	Refer Sponsorship Matrix
Exhibition Partner	INR 65 thousand	Refer Sponsorship Matrix

## 10. Conclusion

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The Global Summit on Industry–Academia Partnership 2025 is envisioned as a catalyst to unlock the combined potential of education, research, and industry in driving India’s innovation-led growth. By convening global stakeholders under one roof, the summit seeks to bridge the gap between laboratories, classrooms, and markets—transforming ideas into impactful solutions. It will not only spark dialogue but also trigger concrete partnerships, policy insights, and commercialization pathways that strengthen India’s position as a research and innovation powerhouse. True patriotism today lies in building technology supremacy, innovation leadership, and nurturing world-class talent. Ultimately, it seeks to establish resilient, future-ready ecosystems capable of addressing complex challenges, accelerating sustainable development, and realizing the vision of a Viksit Bharat.

## Annexure 1: Detailed Agenda

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**Friday, 5 Dec 2025**

Timings (IST)	Duration	Session name
0800 – 0900 Hrs	60 mins	Registration & Networking Tea/Coffee
0900 – 0930 Hrs	30 mins	Opening Ceremony of Technology Showcase by Industry & Academia
0930 - 1030 Hrs	60 mins	Inaugural Session & Welcome Address
1030 - 1115 Hrs	45 mins	From Conversation to Collaboration: A CXOs guide to forging successful industry academia partnerships in India
1115 - 1200 Hrs	45 mins	From Campus to Commercialization: Academic Heads Roundtable
1200 - 1245 Hrs	45 mins	Frontiers in BioFuture and MedTech Innovation: From Discovery to Deployment
1245 - 1330 Hrs	45 mins	Networking Lunch
1330 - 1415 Hrs	45 mins	The Valley of Death Challenge: Stories of Successful Translation & Scale
1415 - 1500 Hrs	45 mins	Smart Manufacturing & Technologies: Co-Creating the Future with Industry and Academia
1500 - 1545 Hrs	45 mins	Universities of the Future: Co-Creating with Industry
1545 - 1715 Hrs	1 hr 30 mins	CII Industry Academia Partnership Award Ceremony & Vote of Thanks

## Annexure 2: Detailed Sponsorship Matrix

Category	Platinum	Principal	Corporate	Associate	Co-Associate	Institutional	Exhibitor^
Value (INR, Lakh)	12	10	7.5	5	3	2	0.65
Speaker Slot Leadership Session*	Y	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Speaker Slot in Session*	Y	Y	Y	Y	NA	NA	NA
Technology Showcase**	4*2	4*2	3*2	3*2	2*2	NA	2*2
B2B / B2A Cafe	Y	Y	Y	Y	NA	NA	NA
<b>Logo Visibility</b>							
On Prominent places	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
On Website	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Thank You sponsor panel at the venue	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
On side Panels next to speaker stage	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	NA
Corporate Video	120 sec	60 sec	60 sec	NA	NA	NA	NA
Social Media Messages	120 sec	120 sec	60 sec	NA	NA	NA	NA
Ad during Conference Session Breaks	60 sec	60 sec	45 sec	45 sec	NA	NA	NA
Complimentary Delegate Passes***	8	6	4	4	3	2	2
Special Announcement of Sponsors at the event	Y	Y	Y	Y	NA	NA	NA
Reserved seating for sponsors	Y	Y	Y	NA	NA	NA	NA

\*-> Subject to approval from CII Forum leadership, First Basis, Only Industry

\*\*-> Exhibition Booth, First Basis, Limited in numbers

^->Applicable only for Academic Institutions

GST as applicable