

Report on National Level Conference on Productivity and Sustainability 28th December, 2023

Forenoon Session Program link available @

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CCo1Tgf9ghw&t=15295s>

Afternoon Session Program link available @

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MykCvU3VRdA&t=10331s>

NPC Conference on Productivity and Sustainability ended with fruitful outcomes. National Productivity Council in association with Dr.M.G.R Educational and Research Institute, The Institution of Engineers India (TVLC) and The Institution of Green Engineers organized One day Conference on “Productivity and Sustainability-Knowledge and Skill Paradigms for Educators and Young Engineers” on December 28th,2023 at Dr.M.G.R.ERI , Maduravoyal. The event is sponsored by IPL Center for rural outreach.

SDG17 (Partnerships For The Goals)brought together 25 speakers — 14 academic institutions — 10 industries — 65 academic experts — 25 industry experts — 75 students — 35 professional society members. The summit was witnessed by 9 action recommendations on green sustainable productivity

The National Conference on Productivity and Sustainability convened with great enthusiasm, drawing nearly 170 delegates from diverse backgrounds, including academicians, industrial members, and business executives from various institutions. Dr. Latha extended a warm welcome to the audience, setting the stage for an insightful exchange of ideas. The inauguration commenced with the ceremonial lamp lighting, symbolizing enlightenment and knowledge, led by esteemed dignitaries. Dr. L. Ramesh, Joint Registrar and Chairman of IGEN at Dr. M.G.R Educational and Research Institute, set the tone by elucidating the purpose behind convening this crucial gathering.



In the thematic address, Shri D. Sreenivasulu, Regional Director of the National Productivity Council, AIP, Chennai, provided insights into the conference's significance. He highlighted the participation of various industries and drew attention to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), underlining their relevance to the overarching theme.



Dr. Girish Kumar, Company Secretary at Indian Potash Limited (IPL), delivered a special address, focusing on the three pillars of economic growth. His insightful perspective added depth to the discourse, contributing to the multifaceted understanding of productivity and sustainability. Dr. Viswanathan, former Vice Chancellor of Anna University and Rector at Dr. M.G.R Educational and Research Institute, extended appreciation to Dr. L. Ramesh for his dedicated efforts towards achieving the UN SDG goals. His address emphasized the importance of green productivity and sustainability in contemporary times.



The Inaugural Address by Dr. S. Geethalakshimi, Vice Chancellor of Dr. MGR Educational and Research Institute, centered around the pivotal role women play in driving productivity and sustainability. Her words resonated with the audience, highlighting the indispensable contribution of women to these crucial facets of development. A significant moment followed with the distribution of appreciation certificates to IPL ICRO audit beneficiaries, acknowledging their commitment to sustainable practices. Dr. E.Kavitha then provided a comprehensive profile reading of Dr. Rajeev Ranjan, IAS, Chief Secretary, and Director ICRO.



The conference reached its zenith with the Keynote Address delivered by Dr. Rajeev Ranjan, IAS, Chief Secretary, and Director ICRO. His address delved into the core issues of sustainable management, infrastructure management, collaboration, and partnership. Dr. Ranjan also shed light on the pressing matter of climate change and its far-reaching impact on productivity and sustainability.

The National Conference on Productivity and Sustainability featured a dynamic panel discussion that delved into the crucial theme of enhancing productivity and sustainability through re-skilling, up-skilling, and cross-skilling. The discussion

brought together experts from diverse fields, fostering a comprehensive exploration of strategies and best practices.



Panelists

Dr.K.Manivannan, Director, Vinayaka mission research foundation and EC Member - Global Engineering Dean's Council , Industry leader with extensive experience in workforce development. **Dr.J.Merlineshyla**, Dean Research, LOYOLA COLLEGE Academician and expert in skill development. **Dr.J.Balamurugan**, Senior Manager, Tamil Nadu Energy Development agency & Vice President, The Institution of Green Engineers: Renowned educator specializing in sustainable development practices. **Dr.S.GaneshVaidyanthan**, Principal, Sri Venkateswara College of Engineering: Human Resources specialist with a focus on skill acquisition and retention.



Dr.J.Balamurugan set the stage by emphasizing the critical role of re-skilling, up-skilling, and cross-skilling in addressing the evolving demands of industries. The focus was on aligning workforce capabilities with the dynamic landscape of productivity and sustainability. **Dr.K.Manivannan** highlighted the imperative for industries to invest in continuous learning initiatives. He stressed the need for reskilling to bridge the gap between traditional skill sets and the requirements of emerging technologies, fostering innovation and adaptability.

Dr.J.Merline Shyla brought an academic perspective, underscoring the significance of incorporating sustainability education into skill development programs. She emphasized the role of educational institutions in shaping environmentally conscious and socially responsible professionals. **Dr.S.Ganesh Vaidyanthan** shed light on the human resources aspect, emphasizing the role of strategic up-skilling in talent retention. She discussed the positive impact of cross-skilling in creating versatile and agile teams capable of contributing to diverse aspects of sustainability.

Interactive Q&A Session:

The discussion included an engaging Q&A session, where participants and delegates had the opportunity to seek insights from the panelists. Queries ranged from the integration of digital skills to the challenges faced in implementing large-scale skill development programs. The insights and recommendations from this panel discussion contribute significantly to the broader narrative of achieving productivity and sustainability through strategic skill development, providing a roadmap for organizations and policymakers alike. Pious Niranjana, Secretary of MGR IGEN ENSAV club extended a warm welcome to the audience, setting the stage for afternoon session with insightful exchange of ideas.



Students delivered a compelling presentation that delved into the crucial intersection between productivity and sustainability. The presentation covered various aspects, providing a comprehensive understanding of the concept of green productivity and its significance in contemporary contexts. The presentation served as a testament to the commitment of the academic community, represented by Students, in fostering a future where productivity and sustainability coexist harmoniously. Dr. Suchithra, Dean Events, Dr. MGR ERI then provided a comprehensive profile reading of Dr. P.S. Kumar, Executive - Director OF Pritivi Grow Care Pvt. Ltd.



Dr. P.S. Kumar, who delivered a thought-provoking presentation on the crucial intersection of academic acceleration, productivity in the context of Industry 4.0/5.0, and the imperative of sustainability. highlighting the paradigm shifts in manufacturing and technology. The presentation outlined how academic institutions need to adapt to these changes for effective knowledge dissemination. A central theme of the presentation was the integration of sustainability into academic and industrial practices. Dr. Kumar elucidated on the importance of nurturing a mindset that values ecological, social, and economic sustainability. This included discussions on green technologies, circular economy principles, and responsible innovation. The integration of forward-looking academic strategies with sustainable principles reflects a holistic approach to preparing the workforce for the challenges and opportunities of the future industrial landscape.



Then, The session commenced with an overview of the significance of SDGs in addressing global challenges such as poverty, inequality, climate change, and fostering sustainable development.

Panel Discussion Highlights:

Dr.L.Ramesh, the moderator of this session emphasized the role of green engineering in achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). He shed light on how academic institutions can integrate green practices into their curriculum to foster environmentally conscious professionals.



Dr. Robin, with his expertise in innovation, discussed the importance of fostering a culture of creativity and innovation in academic institutions. He elaborated on how innovation is integral to achieving SDGs and enhancing overall productivity.

As the CEO of EV NEXUS Private Ltd., **Dr. Padmanathan** shared insights on the role of the private sector in contributing to sustainable development. He discussed collaborative efforts between academia and industry to bridge the gap and align academic pursuits with real-world challenges.



Dr. Gayathri, from the Centre for Clean Environment at VIT University, Vellore, addressed the need for clean and sustainable environments. She highlighted the significance of interdisciplinary approaches in academic integration to address environmental challenges and contribute to SDGs. **Er. Gokul**, a scientist at ISRO / SHAR and Secretary of The Institution of Engineers India, TNSC, shared his insights into how engineering institutions can align their goals with space technology and exploration. He discussed the importance of technological advancements in achieving SDGs.

Dr. Seetharaman, as the Dean of Sri Eshwar College of Engineering, spoke on the role of academic leadership in fostering a holistic learning environment. He discussed strategies for aligning educational objectives with the broader SDGs to prepare students for global challenges. **Dr. Mathangi**, from Sri Ramachandra Institute of Higher Education and Research, shared her insights on the integration of quality assurance and academic excellence. She discussed the importance of continuous improvement in academic programs to meet the evolving needs of society. The panel discussion provided a comprehensive exploration of the critical intersection between academic integration, productivity, and the Sustainable Development Goals. The diverse perspectives offered by the panelists underscored the importance of collaborative efforts, innovation, and a holistic approach in addressing the challenges outlined by the SDGs. The central focus of the discussion was on the role of academic institutions in promoting awareness, understanding, and implementation of SDGs.



Further, Dr. S. SenthilKumar, Director of The Institution of Green Engineers and Assistant Executive Engineer at TNSLDC, TANTRANSOCO provided a case study output of the IGEN ENERGY 99 Challenge. His talk proved to be a resounding success in achieving its objectives. By combining education, hands-on experiences, and project-based learning, the challenge not only created awareness but also empowered students to take tangible actions toward a sustainable future. The emergence of a cadre of Sustainable Ambassadors exemplifies the transformative impact of this initiative and sets the stage for continued efforts in shaping environmentally conscious leaders of tomorrow.



The concluding session of Event marked the culmination of a dynamic and insightful series of discussions and activities. Dr. V. Cyril Raj, Addl. Registrar, Dr.MGR ERI, and Honorary Secretary, The Institution of Engineers India, TVLC, along with Mr. K. Vijayaraju, Deputy Director, National Productivity Council, Chennai, took the stage to share reflections and key takeaways from the event.

And then, Shri. Sreenivasulu delivered a comprehensive and gracious Vote of thanks, expressing gratitude to all participants and contributors for their valuable contributions.

THANK YOU