



Industry Summit 2026 at Department of Chemical Engineering, IIT Hyderabad, Showcases Strong Industry Academia Synergy

Highlights:

- **First Industry Summit 2026:** Organised by the Department of Chemical Engineering at Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad (IITH), marking a milestone in industry engagement.
- **Wide Industry Participation:** Brought together nearly 100 delegates from around 40 leading industries spanning Oil & Energy, Materials, Manufacturing, and Pharmaceutical sectors.
- **Collaborative Engagement Platform:** Served as a dynamic forum connecting industry leaders, researchers, faculty, and students to foster meaningful collaboration and innovation.

Hyderabad, March 02, 2026: The Department of Chemical Engineering at the Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad (IITH) successfully hosted its first **Industry Summit 2026**, bringing together nearly 100 delegates from around 40 leading industries across Oil & Energy, Materials, manufacturing, and Pharma sectors. The summit served as a dynamic platform to connect industry leaders, researchers, faculty, and students, with a shared focus on advancing innovation aligned with national priorities and the vision of Viksit Bharat.

The event featured research showcases across key domains, including Sustainability and Clean Energy, Catalysis, Healthcare technologies, Critical minerals, Advanced materials, Polymers and Soft matter, AI/ML-driven Chemical Engineering, Computational modelling, and Fluid dynamics. Interactive poster sessions and lab visits enabled direct dialogue between industry delegates and research scholars, fostering opportunities for translational partnerships.

A highlight of the summit was the panel discussion titled **“Beyond Collaboration: Building an Actionable Industry–Academia Framework for Viksit Bharat.”** The discussion emphasised moving from conventional MoU-based engagement toward structured, outcome-driven partnerships involving co-developed research programs, industry-embedded internships, joint doctoral supervision, and accelerated technology translation.

Chief Guest Mr. Achyut Ghatak, Director (Technical), Coal India Limited, underscored the importance of trust-based collaboration between academia and industry. He noted that India’s growth trajectory depends on faster commercialization of research and stronger integration of academic innovation with industrial scale-up. He encouraged deeper engagement through problem-driven research and long-term strategic partnerships rather than transactional interactions and reconfirmed his commitment on behalf of the Coal India Limited to recently established CLEANZ centre of excellence at IITH for Clean Coal Energy with net zero emissions.

Prof. B S Murty, Director, IITH, in his video message highlighted IITH’s commitment to research excellence and innovation-driven impact. He emphasized that institutions like IIT Hyderabad must serve as engines of technological transformation by aligning academic research with national industrial priorities. He called for collaborative ecosystems where industry contributes not only funding, but also domain challenges, mentorship, and shared infrastructure to accelerate progress. On this occasion, he also highlighted about IITH Technology Research Park (TRP), to facilitate industry interaction with IITH so that innovative technologies can be developed through collaboration whose mission is to bridge the gap between industry & academia, to establish a world class innovation hub

through industry-IITH collaboration & to provide a strong and robust platform to foster innovations and inventions through collaboration.

Prof. Chandra Shekhar Sharma, Head of the Department of Chemical Engineering, IITH, described the summit as a milestone in strengthening industry engagement. He stated, “This summit is not an end in itself but the beginning of sustained partnerships. Our goal is to move beyond collaboration toward co-creation—where industry and academia jointly define problems, co-develop solutions, and translate research into scalable impact.” He further added that the Industry Summit 2026 stands as a testament to the Department of Chemical Engineering at IIT Hyderabad’s commitment to bridging research and real-world application—transforming ideas into innovation and collaboration into measurable impact.

The discussions throughout the day identified key action areas, including:

- Structured industry-embedded student training models
- Sponsored doctoral and postdoctoral programs
- Joint research centers in high-impact themes
- Shared pilot-scale and translational research facilities
- Accelerated pathways for technology transfer and commercialization

The summit concluded with a collective resolve to institutionalize this engagement as an annual platform and to initiate focused follow-up interactions with participating industries in the coming months.

About IIT Hyderabad:

IITH, established in 2008, has reached a respectable position in academics, research, technology development, and Start-ups in a short span of 17 years. In the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF-2025), IITH is ranked 7th among Engineering institutes (crossing a first-generation IIT this year), and is ranked 6th in Innovation, while it has maintained its rank within the top 10 Engineering Institutes ever since NIRF was launched. IITH is ranked 664th and 270th in the QS World and Asian University Rankings 2026, respectively (among the top 10% of global institutions in citations per faculty). IITH secured 46 positions by 31 faculties in the Global Top 2% Scientists World list 2025 released by Stanford University (SU) in collaboration with Elsevier across two categories. IITH has been striving for excellence with a motto of "Inventing & Innovating in Technology for Humanity (IITH)".

With 340+ full-time Faculty, 350+ non-teaching Staff and 5,800+ Students (PG+PhD students accounting for about 60%), IITH has a strong research focus with 5320+ R&D Projects worth of Rs. 1680 Cr (Rs. 335+ Cr funding in 2024-25, i.e. Rs. 1+ Cr per Faculty, one of the largest per capita funding among IITs), 13,200+ Publications, 2,55,000+ Citations, 158 h-index, 710+ Patents (250 Patents in 2025, making it 0.75 patents per faculty in 2025), and about 335+ Start-ups (that have generated 1100+ jobs with a revenue of Rs. 1500+ Cr).

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