IIM BODH GAYA
सब्बे भद्राणि पस्सन्तु

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கொழும்புப் பல்கலைக்கழகம்
UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO

Nālandā
UNIVERSITY

International Conference on
Buddhonomics 2026

Partnering for Prosperity, Posterity, and Peace



IIM Bodh Gaya

On 20th - 22nd November

#TheEnlighteningIIM

About the Conference

From time immemorial, Indian Knowledge Systems have shaped civilisations, guided governance, and influenced trade across Asia and beyond. From Ayurveda to astronomy, from mathematics to economics, India developed enduring traditions of knowledge that continue to inspire scholarship and practice. These practice-oriented disciplines attracted scholars from across the world, establishing India as a global centre of learning. Over the centuries, however, this rich heritage gradually lost its place. The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 marks a renewed commitment to integrating Indian Knowledge Systems into higher education, recognizing their enduring relevance in the modern world. It is in this spirit that IIM Bodh Gaya carefully curated Buddhonomics 2026. Built on a Pali motto, shaped by Buddhist core values, and located in the land where one of India's greatest knowledge traditions began, IIM Bodh Gaya is working in line with the Ministry of Education's vision. Buddhonomics 2026 is a platform to revive and apply the knowledge this land has produced, and to bring it into direct conversation with the challenges of the modern economy.

Among India's many knowledge traditions, Buddhism has a distinctive relationship with economic life. It did not spread through scripture alone. It travelled through trade. Merchants carried its principles along the Silk Road and the sea routes of Southeast Asia. The Jataka tales celebrate the merchant Bodhisattva, the trader who is ambitious and compassionate. The Noble Eightfold Path organised around Wisdom, Ethical Conduct and Mental Discipline, offers a framework for right action that is as relevant to business as it is to individual life. At the heart of this tradition is the Buddha's "मज्झिमापटिपदा ", the Middle Path, which applies as directly to economic systems as it does to personal conduct. It challenges the assumption that more is always better, replacing it with the idea that true wellbeing is achieved through moderation, simplicity and non-violence.

Buddhonomics 2026 is the meeting point of these two streams, Buddhist wisdom and modern economics. It asks what management, enterprise and governance would look like if prosperity, posterity and peace were pursued together. Organised in partnership with Nalanda University and the University of Colombo, Buddhonomics 2026 creates a platform where scholarship meets policy and ancient principles are tested against real-world challenges.



Director's Message

Welcome to Bodh Gaya – The Land of Enlightenment!

It gives me immense pleasure to welcome you to the **International Conference on Buddhonomics**, organized by the Indian Institute of Management Bodh Gaya. Hosting this conference in Bodh Gaya—the sacred land where Lord Buddha attained enlightenment—offers a unique opportunity to revisit timeless wisdom and explore its relevance in addressing the complex challenges of the twenty-first century.

The world today is witnessing unprecedented economic uncertainty, geopolitical tensions, environmental crises, and widening social inequalities. These realities call for a paradigm shift from growth driven solely by economic indicators to development that values peace, compassion, sustainability, and human well-being. Buddhonomics offers a transformative perspective by emphasizing mindfulness, ethical conduct, moderation, interdependence, and happiness over mere material prosperity. It encourages us to measure progress not only through Gross Domestic Product (GDP) but also through the quality of life, social harmony, and the well-being of people and the planet.

This conference seeks to bring together scholars, policymakers, industry leaders, and practitioners from across the globe to deliberate on the role of Buddhist thought in shaping sustainable economies, fostering ethical governance, promoting responsible business, and strengthening peaceful international cooperation. The discussions will also explore how Buddhist principles can contribute to conflict resolution, geopolitical harmony, compassionate leadership, and resilient institutions in an increasingly interconnected world.

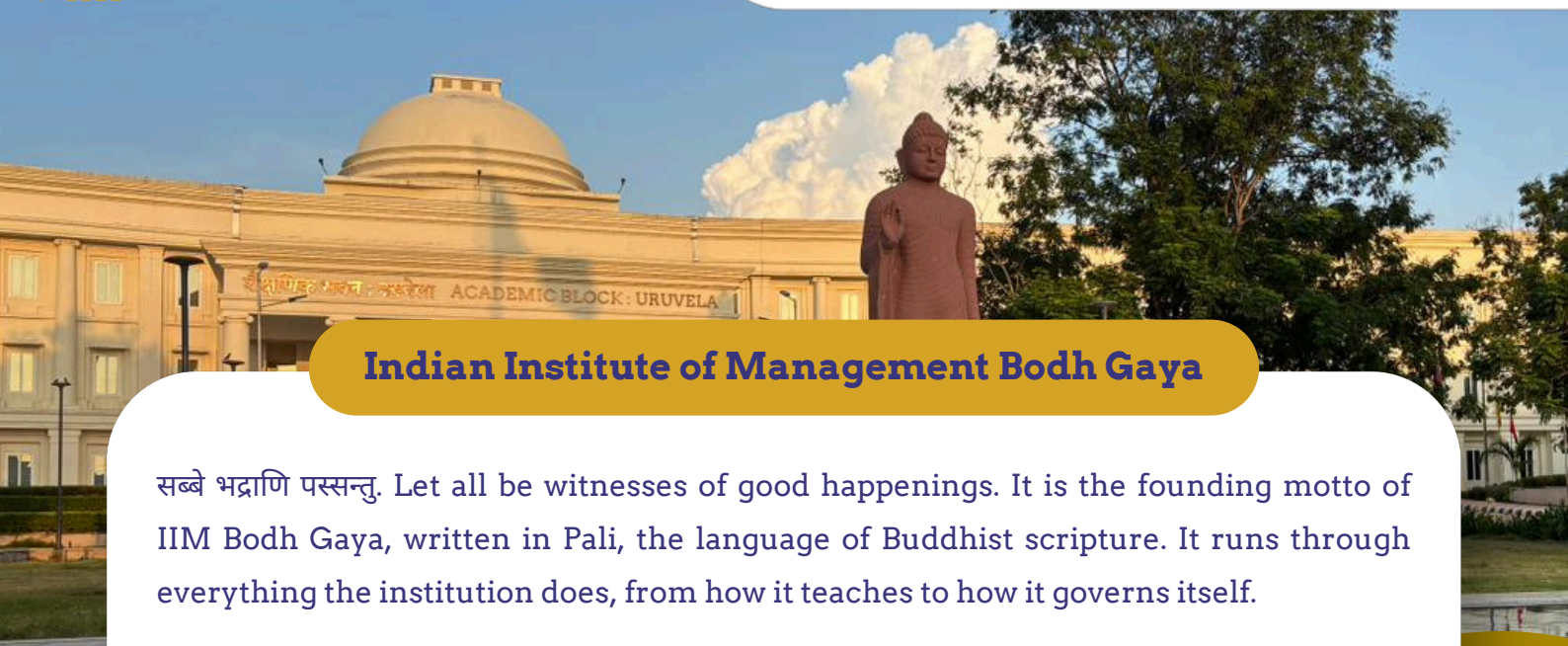
At the Indian Institute of Management Bodh Gaya, we believe that management education and research must contribute to building a more just, peaceful, and sustainable future. I warmly invite you to join this unique academic gathering and contribute to advancing ideas that inspire prosperity with purpose and happiness with harmony.

I look forward to welcoming you to Bodh Gaya and wish you a stimulating and memorable conference.

Warm Regards,
Director
Indian Institute of Management Bodh Gaya



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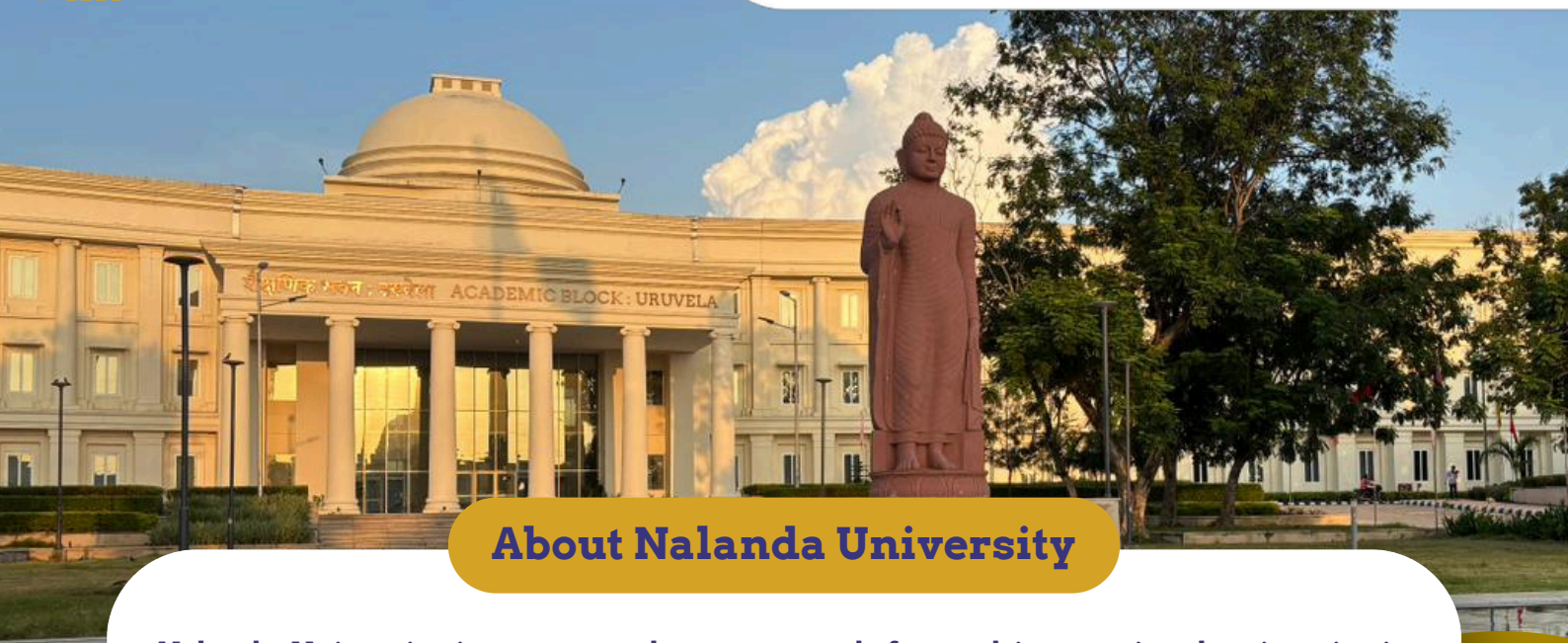
Indian Institute of Management Bodh Gaya

सब्बे भद्राणि पस्सन्तु. Let all be witnesses of good happenings. It is the founding motto of IIM Bodh Gaya, written in Pali, the language of Buddhist scripture. It runs through everything the institution does, from how it teaches to how it governs itself.

The architecture of the campus reflects the same conviction. Designed with classical columns, open courtyards, and spaces for reflection, it draws from the monastic university tradition that once made Nalanda a center of the ancient world's intellectual life. On 3 January 2020, His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama gave IIM Bodh Gaya a new identity by unveiling the institute's logo, deepening its commitment to building leaders who are analytically sharp and ethically grounded in equal measure.

That commitment is embedded in its five core values: mindfulness, social responsibility, leadership, lifelong learning, and sustainability. These are not abstract aspirations. They shape the curriculum, the culture, and the conduct of the institution every day.

Ranked 31st in the NIRF Management rankings, IIM Bodh Gaya today stands as the largest IIM in India by student strength, with students from across 25 states representing nearly 300 cities. Its academic partnerships span institutions across five continents, from Bologna Business School in Italy and HEC Liège in Belgium to the University of Gothenburg in Sweden, Tarleton State University in the United States, and National Cheng Kung University in Taiwan, enabling student exchanges, joint research, and faculty collaboration. Hosting Buddhonomics 2026 extends its academic mission from the classroom to the world stage, convening the dialogue for which its own founding philosophy was built.



About Nalanda University

Nalanda University is a post-graduate, research-focused international university in Rajgir, Bihar. Established on 25 Nov 2010 by Parliament Act No. 39, it was set up as an "institution of national importance" to revive the ancient Nalanda — the world's first residential university that flourished from 5th to 12th century CE. The idea was proposed by Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam and supported by East Asia Summit member countries in 2007 & 2009 to boost regional understanding, education cooperation, and shared heritage. Several nations have signed MoUs to support it. Inspired by its historic legacy, the university aims to advance research, build capacity in key areas of learning, and promote regional peace and global understanding.

About the University of Colombo

The University of Colombo, established in 1921, is Sri Lanka's oldest and most prominent institution of higher education. Guided by its motto "बुद्धिः शर्वत्र भ्रजते", "Wisdom Enlightens", it brings together around 77 academic departments and six specialist institutes, offering programs across the arts, management, law, medicine, natural sciences, and education. A member of the Asian Universities Alliance, it maintains active research collaborations with institutions across Europe, Australia, and Asia. Its partnership with Buddhonomics 2026 reflects a shared commitment to knowledge traditions that place wisdom, not just growth, at the center of human progress.



A Flagship Global Initiative

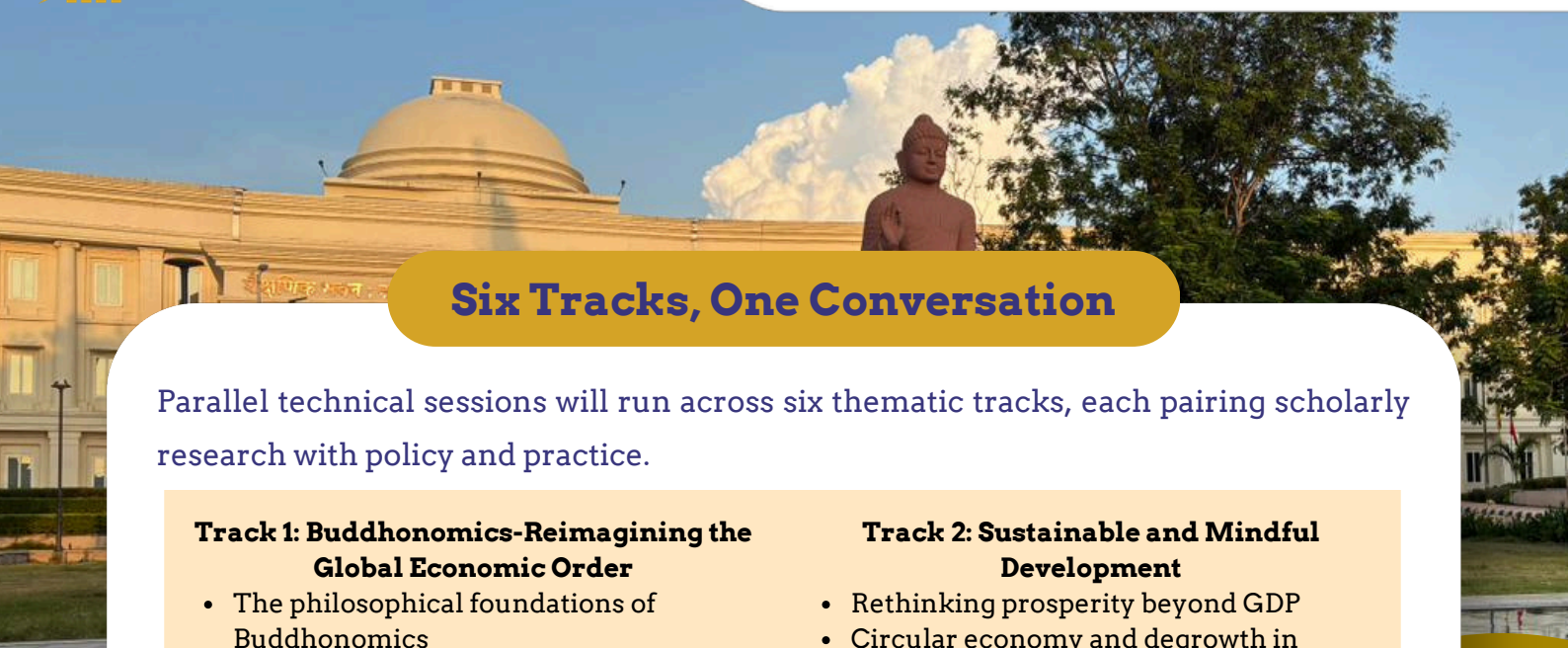
The International Conference on Buddhonomics 2026 aligns Bihar's civilisational heritage with the world's most pressing economic and governance questions. It is envisioned as the founding moment of a new field, one in which India, and Bihar in particular, leads global thinking on ethical, sustainable and compassionate development.

It will strengthen Bihar's standing as the birthplace of Buddhist wisdom and establish it as a destination for intellectual exchange, policy innovation, and collaborative action for years to come.

Roundtable Discussions

Alongside the academic programme, the conference will convene closed-door roundtables that bring senior government officials, diplomats, industry leaders and scholars into direct dialogue — designed to turn research into recommendations governments can use.

- ❖ Ethical Leadership and Governance for the Twenty-First Century
- ❖ Responsible Artificial Intelligence and Digital Transformation
- ❖ Sustainable Tourism and the Cultural Economy of Bihar
- ❖ Climate Action through Compassion and Collective Responsibility
- ❖ Building Partnerships for Peace, Prosperity and Sustainable Development



Six Tracks, One Conversation

Parallel technical sessions will run across six thematic tracks, each pairing scholarly research with policy and practice.

Track 1: Buddhonomics-Reimagining the Global Economic Order

- The philosophical foundations of Buddhonomics
- Integrating mindfulness, moderation, and interdependence in economic systems
- Ethical consumption and the economics of sufficiency
- Comparative perspectives: Buddhist, Islamic, Gandhian, and Post-Keynesian ideas

Track 2: Sustainable and Mindful Development

- Rethinking prosperity beyond GDP
- Circular economy and degrowth in Buddhist nations
- Climate change, compassion and intergenerational justice
- Lessons from Bhutan's Gross National Happiness

Track 3: Peace, Prosperity and Geopolitical Harmony

- Buddhist diplomacy and the geopolitics of peace
- Trade and cultural corridors among Buddhist nations
- Conflict resolution and peacebuilding in Asia
- Economic resilience in a multipolar world

Track 4: Human Capital, Governance, and Moral Institutions

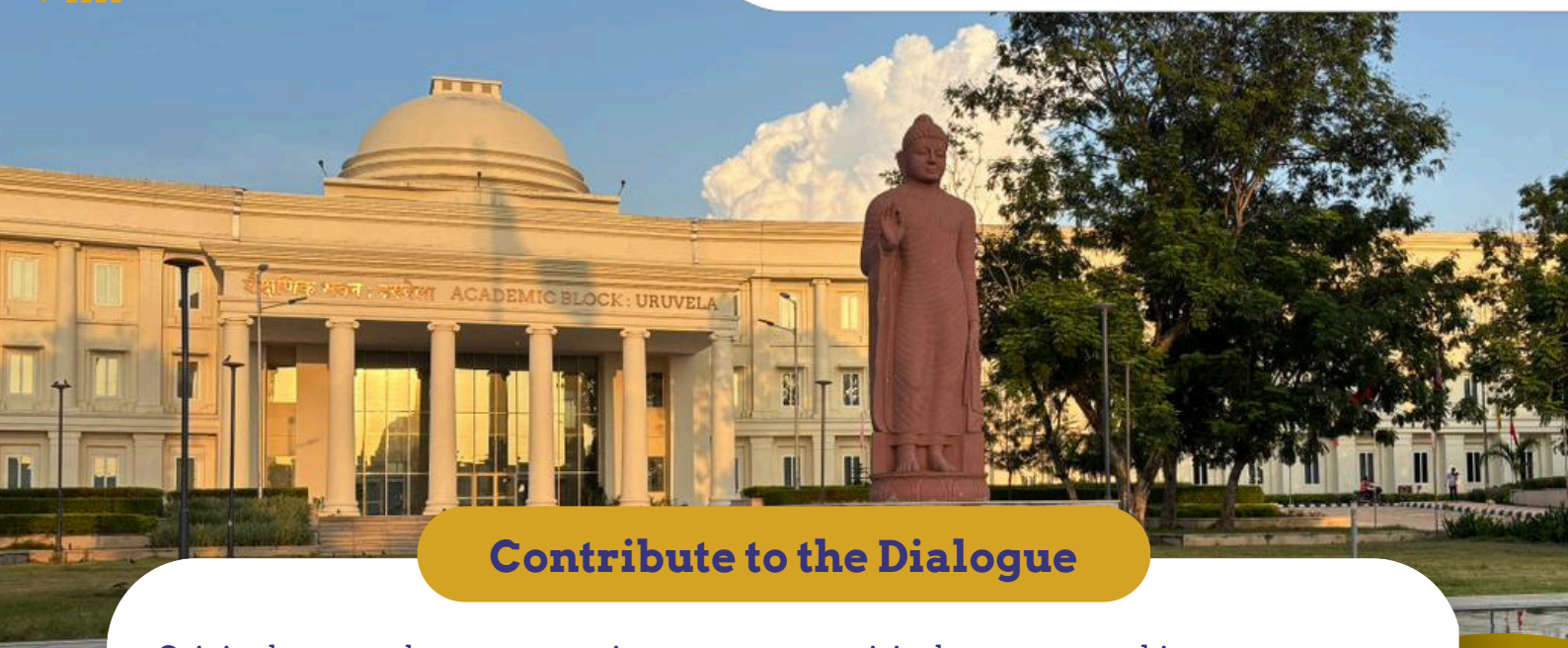
- Buddhist values in governance and leadership
- Ethics and integrity in public administration
- Education, empathy, and social transformation
- Building compassionate institutions for inclusive growth

Track 5: Business, Mindfulness, and Responsible Innovation

- Conscious capitalism and ethical business
- Mindful leadership and corporate well-being
- Buddhist perspectives on entrepreneurship and social enterprise
- AI and digital transformation through a Buddhonomics lens

Track 6: Cultural, Historical, and Spiritual Dimensions

- Buddhist heritage as a driver of cultural diplomacy
- Heritage tourism and sustainable local economies
- Interfaith dialogue and pluralismShared identity and cooperation among Buddhist countries



Contribute to the Dialogue

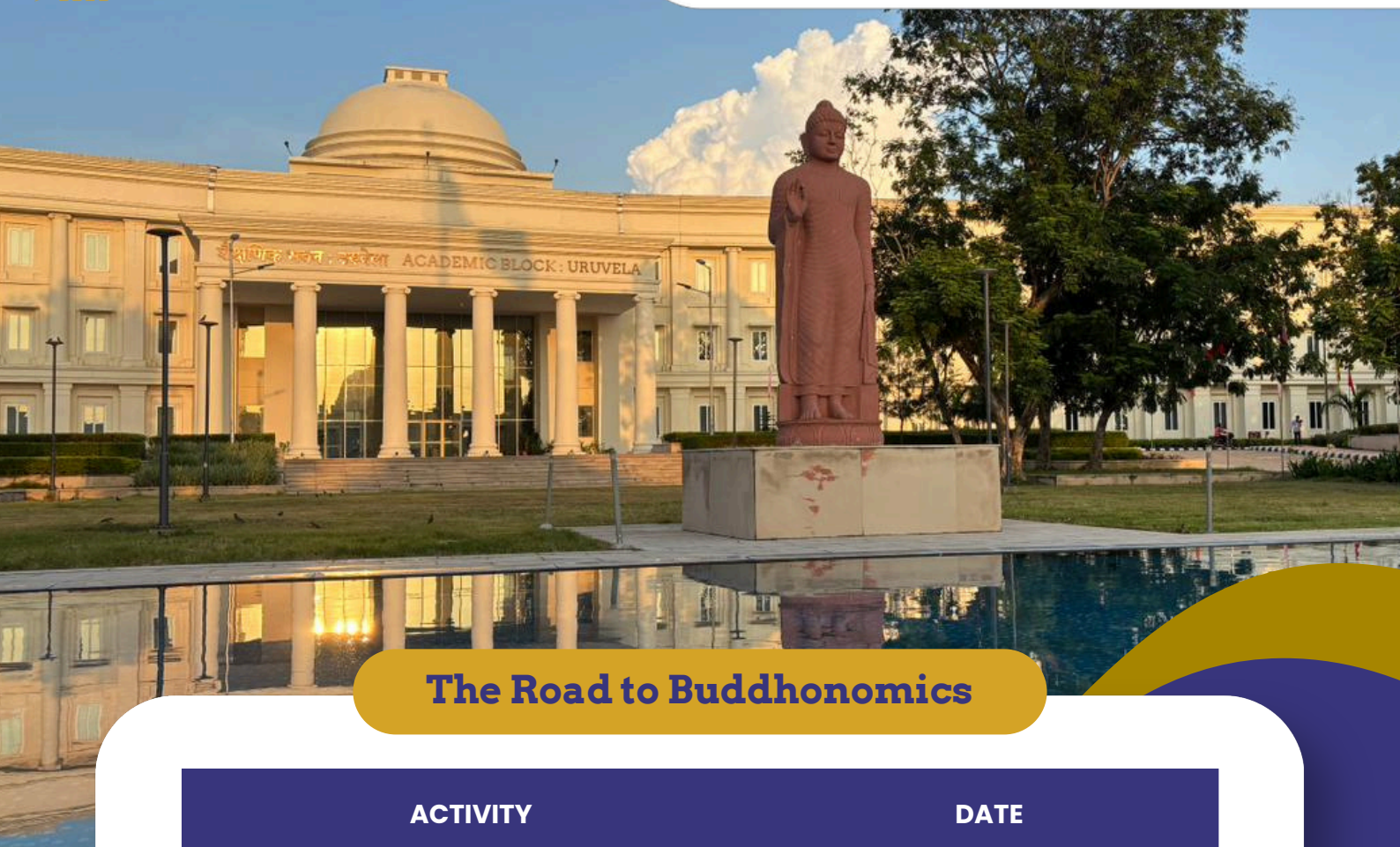
Original research papers, review papers, empirical papers, working papers, case studies and extended abstracts are invited from academics, doctoral scholars, policymakers, and practitioners across all six conference tracks. The conference is held in hybrid mode, so submissions and participation are equally welcome online or in person.

Submissions may be made as an extended abstract (500-1000 words)

Registration Fees

The conference is offered in hybrid mode, and registration fees are identical for online and offline participation. Fees are inclusive of GST and also cover participation in the pre-conference workshop.

Delegate Category	Indian Affiliation	Foreign Affiliation
Research Scholars	₹ 7,500	100 USD
Faculty Members	₹ 10,000	150 USD
Industry Professionals / Practitioners	₹ 12,500	200 USD



The Road to Buddhonomics

ACTIVITY	DATE
Extended abstract submission deadline	15 September 2026
Notification of acceptance	Notifications issued on a rolling basis; latest by — 1 October 2026
Registration window	1 – 10 October 2026
Pre-conference workshop on Mindfulness & Buddhist Philosophy	19 November 2026
Paper presentations	20 – 21 November 2026
Policy discussion, debate & dialogue	22 November 2026

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Types of Submissions

Authors may submit in one of two formats across all six conference tracks:
Extended Abstract (500–1,000 words): A structured overview covering Purpose, Design/Methodology/Approach, Findings, and Originality/Value

❖ Full Paper (5,000–8,000 words, including references): A complete manuscript comprising Introduction, Literature Review, Theoretical Framework, Methodology, Findings, Discussion, Implications, Conclusion, and References accompanied by a structured abstract of no more than 250 words

Publication Opportunities

Selected full-length papers may be considered for publication in the reputed journals listed below. The conference has established collaborations with these journals and is exploring additional partnerships, including the possibility of an edited volume. The list of publication opportunities will be updated as new agreements are finalized.

❖ Prague Economic Papers
❖ Journal of Economic and Administrative Sciences
❖ Journal of Policy Research in Tourism, Leisure and Events
❖ Management of Environmental Quality: An International Journal
❖ Environmental Quality Management

Best Paper Awards

Three awards will be presented to recognize outstanding research contributions:
First Prize: INR 20,000
Second Prize: INR 15,000
Third Prize: INR 10,000

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IIM Bodh Gaya



Getting Here

Bodh Gaya is well connected by air, rail and road, and the Organising Committee will arrange airport and station transfers for delegates on request.

By Air

- Gaya Airport — approx. 17 km
- Direct flights from Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata & other metros
- Seasonal international connections on the Buddhist circuit

By Rail

- Gaya Junction — approx. 17 km
- Connected to Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai, Varanasi & more

By Road

- Varanasi — approx. 252 km
- Nalanda — approx. 101 km
- Rajgir — approx. 78 km
- Taxis, auto-rickshaws & cycle-rickshaws available locally

10 YEARS OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

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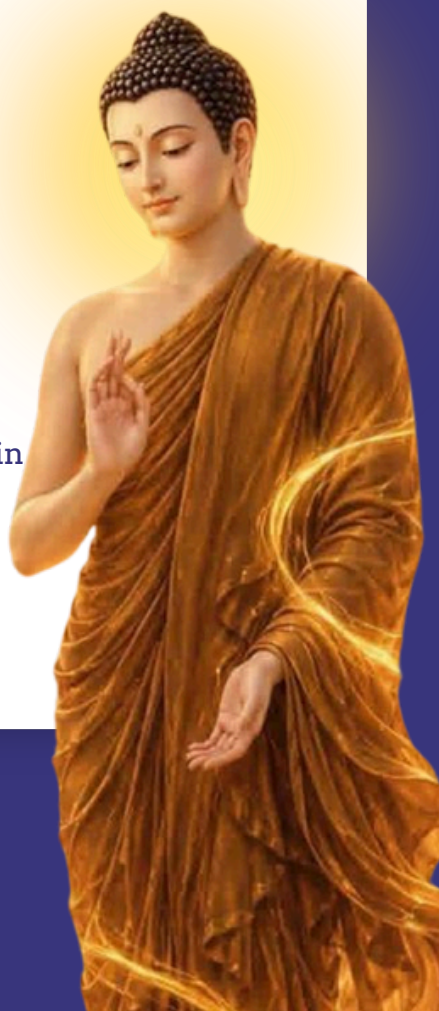
भारतीय प्रबंध संस्थान बोधगया
Indian Institute of Management
Bodh Gaya

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Save the Date

20 - 22 November 2026



CONFERENCE VENUE

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