



Gujarat Technological University

(Accredited with A+ Grade by NAAC)

GTU School of Management Studies

Report on Academia Industry Meet (AIM)

1) **Title of Event:** Academia Industry Meet (AIM) (Academia Industry Meet for Interaction among Academicians and Industrialists)

2) **Type of Event:** Panel Discussion

3) **Date, Time and Venue of the Event:**

Date: 21st February, 2026

Time: 10:30 AM Onwards

Venue: Acharya Chanakya Hall, Academic Block- 04, GTU- SMS, Chandkheda, Ahmedabad.

4) **Description of Event (Objective/Rationale to organize the event):**

Objective of the Event: The Academia Industry Meet (AIM) 2026 was organized to bridge the gap between academia and industry by fostering meaningful dialogue, collaboration, and knowledge exchange. The event aimed to: Provide students and faculty exposure to contemporary industry practices. Discuss emerging business trends in the AI-driven global environment. Strengthen industry–academia partnerships for internships, placements, and research collaborations. Encourage interactive engagement between industry leaders and management students.

About the Event: The event commenced with the ceremonial welcome of the esteemed industry guests followed by the Lamp Lighting Ceremony and the rendition of the GTU Song, symbolizing knowledge and enlightenment. Dr. Krishnaba Vaghela, Associate Professor, GTU-SMS, delivered the Welcome Address for AIM 2026 and highlighted the importance of continuous collaboration between academic institutions and industry stakeholders. Dr. Pankajray Patel, Professor & Director, GSMS, presented the Future Roadmap and provided an overview of GSMS initiatives, emphasizing innovation, industry alignment, and global competitiveness.

Panel Discussion Details:

Panel Discussion Topic: “Glocal Business in the AI Era: India’s Path to Global Competitiveness”



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Moderator: Dr. Kaushal Bhatt, Associate Professor, GTU-SMS

Esteemed Panel Members:

Dr. Venkatesh B. Iyer – Deputy General Manager, The Hindu

Dr. (HC) Ravi Purohit – Manager (Learning & Development), HR Department, LCC Projects Limited

Mr. Hardik Thakkar – Director, Enjoy Finserve

Mr. Rushay Vadaliya – Marketing Director, Rama Gum Industries India Limited

Ms. Mariam Rangwala – Director & Co-Founder, Creating Impact & Freelance Trainings

The panel discussion revolved around how Indian businesses can integrate Artificial Intelligence with local strengths to compete globally. The experts shared practical insights on digital transformation, skill development, global branding strategies, leadership adaptability, and ethical AI integration. Students actively participated by raising insightful questions regarding career readiness, emerging industry roles, and entrepreneurship opportunities in the AI era.

Vote of Thanks: The event concluded with a Vote of Thanks delivered by Dr. Tushar Panchal, Assistant Professor, GSMS, who expressed gratitude to the dignitaries, panel members, faculty members, organizing team, and students for making AIM 2026 a successful and impactful event.

Round Table Discussion & Networking: Post the formal session, a Round Table Discussion was conducted at IQAC with all industry experts. This session allowed deeper interaction on curriculum enhancement, industry expectations, skill gaps, internship opportunities, and collaborative initiatives. The event concluded with networking and lunch, strengthening professional relationships and future collaboration prospects.

Outcome of the Event: Enhanced industry exposure for management students. Strengthened industry–academia linkage. Practical insights on AI-driven business transformation. Identification of collaborative opportunities in research, internships, and placements. Reinforced GSMS’s commitment towards experiential and industry-integrated learning.



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6) Brochure or Flyer of the Event:



7) Feedback on the Event:

The Academia Industry Meet (AIM) 2026 proved to be a highly enriching and impactful learning experience for students. The event was systematically organized and commenced with an inspiring welcome address by Dr. Krishnaba Vaghela, followed by an insightful presentation by Dr. Pankajray Patel, who shared the strategic vision and future roadmap of GSMS, highlighting emerging opportunities for management students.

The panel discussion on the theme “Glocal Business in the AI Era: India’s Path to Global Competitiveness” provided valuable exposure to real-world industry perspectives. The distinguished panel members shared practical insights on industry



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expectations, skill enhancement, technological adaptability, leadership qualities, and career preparedness in the AI-driven business environment. Their experiences and guidance offered students a clearer understanding of current market dynamics and professional growth pathways.

The interactive nature of the session encouraged active participation, enabling students to clarify their queries and gain practical career advice directly from industry leaders. The event concluded with a formal Vote of Thanks by Dr. Tushar Panchal, bringing the session to a meaningful and well-coordinated close.

Overall, AIM 2026 successfully bridged the gap between academia and industry. The initiative provided students with exposure beyond classroom learning and reinforced the importance of continuous learning, confidence building, and professional networking. The efforts of the faculty members and organizing committee are sincerely appreciated for creating such a valuable platform for student development.

8) Photo of the Event:





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