

2nd Dr Shantilal K Somaiya Global Research Conference

Jointly Organised by

**Dr Shantilal K Somaiya School of
Commerce and Business Studies**

(Somaiya Vidyavihar University), India
and

Aston Business School

(Aston University), United Kingdom.

REIMAGINING GROWTH

Circular Economy Pathways for Resilient Societies

6th-7th-8th JANUARY 2027

HYBRID MODE

In association with

SOMAIYA VIDYAVIHAR UNIVERSITY

Somaiya Vidyavihar University (Accredited with A Grade by NAAC), established in 2019, is a leading University in India, built upon the 84-year legacy of the Somaiya Vidyavihar. Guided by the motto **ज्ञानादेव तु कैवल्यम्** ('Knowledge Alone Liberates'), the university emphasises academic excellence, holistic development, and character-building. Offering a diverse range of undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral programs, Somaiya Vidyavihar University integrates industry collaborations, interdisciplinary learning, and research-driven education. The university's strategic location in Mumbai provides students with

access to sectors such as Management, Engineering & Technology, Education, Dharma Studies, Commerce & Business Studies, Basic & Applied Sciences, Sports, Civilisation Studies, Music & Performing Arts, Art, Film, Humanities & Social Sciences, Design and Library & Information Science. The university promotes innovation through a Startup Incubator. It also emphasises experiential learning with real-world projects. With a strong commitment to sustainability, research, and the development of well-rounded leaders, Somaiya Vidyavihar University continues to play a pivotal role in shaping India's educational landscape.

DR SHANTILAL K SOMAIYA SCHOOL OF COMMERCE AND BUSINESS STUDIES

A constituent unit of Somaiya Vidyavihar University, S K Somaiya College established in 2019, is an institution for new-age liberal, and multidisciplinary education. The Governing Body, Somaiya Vidyavihar University has restructured and reorganized the S K Somaiya College in New School as Dr Shantilal K Somaiya School of Commerce and Business Studies. The college offers a wide array of professionally oriented undergraduate

and postgraduate programs in the fields of Commerce & Business Studies as well as certificate courses in languages. It offers academic flexibility to students earning their degrees, viz. honours, multidisciplinary majors, postgraduate and PhD programmes. Dr Shantilal K Somaiya School of Commerce and Business Studies offers PhD programs in Commerce and Business Studies.

ABOUT ASTON BUSINESS SCHOOL

Aston Business School (ABS), founded in 1972, is the largest school at Aston University, Birmingham, UK. It holds triple accreditation from AACSB, EQUIS and AMBA, a distinction shared by only about 1% of business schools worldwide. Its programmes, from undergraduate to doctoral and executive education, combine rigorous academics with applied, industry-facing learning, supported by guaranteed placements and strong graduate employment outcomes. A signatory to the UN-backed Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME) since 2008, Aston has embedded sustainability across education, research, and operations, guided by its Sustainability Strategy 2030 and aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Its flagship Green Energy Centre, backed by a £35.5 million UK government grant, anchors the University's commitment to net zero by 2028. Aston holds Gold in the UK Teaching Excellence Framework, ranks second in England for

graduate social mobility, and was awarded Athena Swan Gold in 2024 for advancing gender equality. ABS also drives regional impact through initiatives like the Aston Centre for Growth and the Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses programme, translating research into real-world business and policy outcomes.



CONFERENCE THEME

REIMAGINING GROWTH: CIRCULAR ECONOMY PATHWAYS FOR RESILIENT SOCIETIES

The contemporary global economy is confronting unprecedented challenges arising from climate change, resource depletion, environmental degradation, supply chain disruptions, and widening socio-economic inequalities. Traditional linear models of “take–make–dispose” are increasingly proving unsustainable in addressing the long-term needs of societies and economies.

The Circular Economy (CE) has emerged as a transformative paradigm that redefines growth by decoupling economic development from resource consumption. By emphasizing regeneration, reuse, recycling, redesign, and responsible consumption, circular economy models provide viable pathways for building resilient, inclusive, and future-ready societies.

In this context, the proposed Global Research Conference titled “Reimagining Growth: Circular Economy Pathways for Resilient Societies” seeks to bring together scholars, policymakers, industry leaders, practitioners, and doctoral researchers from across the world. The conference aims to foster interdisciplinary dialogue and generate actionable insights on how circular economy principles can be embedded within business strategy, public policy, innovation ecosystems, and societal transformation.

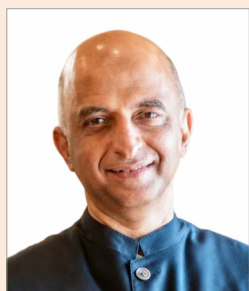
The collaboration between Aston University (UK) and Dr Shantilal K Somaiya School of Commerce and Business Studies (India) symbolises a strong Global North–South academic partnership, enabling comparative perspectives, cross-country learning, and context-driven solutions for both developed and emerging economies.



CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES

- To advance scholarly research on circular economy frameworks, business models, and policy mechanisms that support sustainable and resilient growth.
- To promote interdisciplinary integration by connecting insights from marketing, finance, supply chain management, entrepreneurship, data science, and human resource management.
- To encourage India–UK and global academic collaboration through joint research discussions, special issues, and research networking.
- To bridge theory and practice by integrating industry perspectives, practitioner-led sessions, and real-world case studies.
- To provide a global platform for emerging scholars, doctoral students, and early-career researchers to present high-quality research.
- To stimulate policy-oriented discussions on sustainability transitions, ESG frameworks, and circular economy governance.
- To develop publishable research outcomes, including edited volumes in Scopus/WOS/ABDC-aligned special issues.

CONFERENCE PATRONS



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CHIEF GUEST FOR THE CONFERENCE

DR PRASANTA KUMAR DEY

Operations Management Aston Business School, Aston University, Birmingham UK
Master Class for (Doctoral Colloquium) PhD Scholars and Students on 6th January 2027
Conducting Pre-Conference Workshop on 7th January 2027
Moderator for Panel Discussion on Circular Economy on 7th January 2027

Dr Prasanta Kumar Dey is a Professor of Operations Management at Aston Business School, Aston University, Birmingham UK, and Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences, UK. He is an award-winning researcher for Circular Economy leading impactful projects in sustainability, decarbonisation, waste management, and water purification. He recently completed a UK Government-funded £11 million Decarbonisation of SMEs project, supporting more than 3,500 SMEs, that addressed environmental challenges in Kenya, Gujarat, and Punjab. He has been honoured with the 50th Anniversary Chair of Aston University, along with Vice Chancellor's Awards for Research Excellence and Business Engagement.

CONFERENCE TRACKS

Track 1: Circular Economy and Marketing

(Track Code: M01)

- Sustainable and circular consumption behaviour
- Green branding and purpose-driven marketing
- Consumer adoption of circular products and services
- Marketing communication for sustainability transitions
- Circular economy and Gen Z consumer behaviour
- Digital marketing for sustainable value creation
- Trust, transparency, and eco-labelling
- Customer engagement in reuse, repair, and sharing models

Track 2: Circular Economy and Finance

(Track Code: F02)

- Sustainable finance and green investment models
- ESG integration and impact measurement
- Circular economy financing frameworks
- Green bonds and climate finance
- Risk assessment in circular business models
- Role of financial institutions in sustainability transitions
- Valuation of circular assets
- Corporate governance and sustainability reporting
- Environmental and sustainability auditing
- Accounting standards and disclosure practices for circular business models

Track 3: Circular Supply Chain and Operations Management (Track Code: S03)

- Circular supply chain design and optimisation
- Reverse logistics and closed-loop systems
- Sustainable sourcing and procurement
- Supply chain resilience and risk management
- Industry 4.0 and circular operations
- Waste reduction and material recovery strategies
- Traceability, transparency, and blockchain applications
- Circular manufacturing systems

Track 4: Circular Entrepreneurship and Innovation

(Track Code: E04)

- Circular start-ups and business model innovation
- Social entrepreneurship and sustainability
- Frugal innovation and resource efficiency
- Platform-based sharing economy models
- Role of incubators and accelerators
- MSMEs and circular economy adoption
- Rural and inclusive circular entrepreneurship
- Policy support for green entrepreneurship

Track 5: Circular Economy, Data Science and Digital Technologies (Track Code: D05)

- AI and machine learning for circular optimisation
- Big data analytics for waste and resource management
- Digital twins and lifecycle assessment
- Internet of Things (IoT) for circular systems
- Predictive analytics for sustainable operations
- Smart cities and circular infrastructure
- Technology-driven decision-making for sustainability
- Data governance in sustainability analytics
- ICT infrastructure and governance for circular transitions
- Decision-support systems and information systems for sustainability
- Human-computer interaction and security in ICT-enabled circular systems
- ICT and society: digital technology's role in inclusive, resilient transitions

Track 6: Circular Economy and Human Resource Management (Track Code: H06)

- Green HRM and sustainable workplaces
- Skills development for circular economy
- Leadership for sustainability and change management
- Employee engagement in circular initiatives
- Organisational culture and sustainability orientation
- Talent management for green transitions
- Training and reskilling for future jobs
- Ethical leadership and social sustainability

Doctoral Colloquium

As part of the 2nd Dr Shantilal K Somaiya Global Research Conference, a dedicated Doctoral Colloquium will be organised exclusively for PhD scholars. This session is designed to provide doctoral researchers with a structured and supportive academic forum to discuss their ongoing research, receive critical feedback from senior academics and subject experts, and engage in meaningful scholarly dialogue with peers from India and abroad.

Objectives of the Doctoral Colloquium

- To provide PhD scholars with a platform to present and discuss their doctoral research in an international academic setting.
- To facilitate mentoring by senior faculty, research

guides, and international scholars from Aston University and partner institutions.

- To help doctoral researchers strengthen their theoretical frameworks, research methodologies, and contribution to knowledge.
- To foster an academic community among emerging researchers across disciplines and geographies.

Expected Outcomes

- Development of international research collaborations
- Publication opportunities in Scopus / ABDC / WOS journals

- Edited book volumes and special conference proceedings
- Policy briefs and practitioner insights
- Strengthened India-UK academic engagement

Target Participants

- Academicians and researchers
- Doctoral and post-doctoral scholars
- Industry professionals and sustainability leaders
- Policymakers and government representatives
- Entrepreneurs and start-up founders
- Think tanks and NGOs

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

All manuscripts must be original and unpublished. Each author may submit a maximum of three papers, regardless of authorship order. Requests to modify author names, author order, or affiliations will not be accepted after submission. Submissions may employ any research methodology. The designated track code must be included at the beginning of the title (e.g., *Track code #: Title*).

GUIDELINES FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSION (STRICTLY UP TO 250 WORDS)

- Purpose
- Study design/methodology/approach
- Findings
- Research limitations
- Practical implications
- Managerial/ Social implications
- Originality and Value

Abstract should be strictly given as per the above format.

GUIDELINES FOR FULL PAPER SUBMISSION

Manuscripts should be prepared in **Times New Roman, 12-point font, double-spaced**, with **1-inch (2.5 cm) margins** on all sides and a page size of **8.5" × 11"**. The references may be single spaced. (Appendices, tables, figures, citations, and references must be prepared in accordance with the **APA - American Psychological Association Style Guide**)

The complete submission, including the title page (in Title Case), abstract, main text, figures, tables, and references must be compiled into a single document in Microsoft Word (.doc/.docx) format only.

Headings: Use only three levels, all in bold.

- First level: **ALL CAPS, centered**
- Second level: **Title Case, aligned left**
- Third level: **Sentence case, indented, italicized, and run into the paragraph**

Word Count: Submissions should be between 6000 to 8000 words. (including abstract, references, tables, and figures).

Do not include page numbers or running heads. If notes are necessary, **footnotes** are used on the same page. **Endnotes should not be used.**

PLEASE NOTE

- Full Research Paper submission is mandatory for publication.
- Selected manuscripts will be recommended for publication to Journal indexed in Scopus/Web of Science or listed in ABDC subject to fulfillment of terms and conditions of the journals. APC (in case) will be applicable accordingly.

REGISTRATION FEES

Category	Research Paper Presentation
Industry Professionals	₹ 2500
Faculty	₹ 2500
Research Scholars	₹ 2500
Foreign Participants	\$ 50

PLEASE NOTE

- Each author and co-author is required to pay the registration fee individually. All the authors are required to register for the conference (presentation in person or online mode).
- Participants unable to attend in person may present their research papers in virtual mode (online).
- For participants attending the conference, the organising team will assist with accommodation arrangements. International and outstation participants from India may choose their preferred accommodation, which will be arranged at their own expense, provided the organising team is informed in advance by 15 December 2026.
- Registration includes the Conference Kit, breakfast, lunch, and tea/coffee (for in-person participants only).

IMPORTANT DATES

Submission of Abstract Deadline	30th September 2026
Intimation of Acceptance for Abstract	5th October 2026
Submission of Full Research Papers Deadline	31st October 2026
Intimation of Acceptance for Full Research Paper	30th November 2026
Last date for Registration & Payment of Fees for the Conference	15th December 2026

Scan here for
abstract submission



ORGANISING COMMITTEE

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