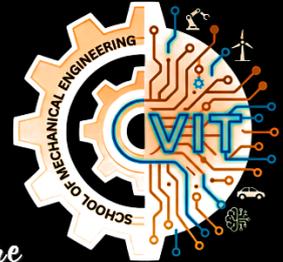




**VIT**<sup>®</sup>  
Vellore Institute of Technology  
(Deemed to be University under section 3 of UGC Act, 1956)



*School of Mechanical Engineering & Career Development Centre*

# Industry-Academia Networking Conclave 2026

*Reimagining Mechanical Engineering in the Digital Era*

**IANC 2026**

March 24, 2026

## Schedule of Events



**SCHOOL OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING & CAREER DEVELOPMENT CENTRE**  
**Industry-Academia Networking Conclave - March 24, 2026**

**Inauguration - Programme Schedule**

9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.	Registration at Anna Auditorium [CS Hall]	
10:00 a.m. – 10:03 a.m.	Invocation	
10:03 a.m. – 10:06 a.m.	Welcome Address	Dr. Samuel Rajkumar, <i>Director CDC</i>
10:06 a.m. – 10:09 a.m.	Lighting of Kuthuvilakku	Dignitaries on the Dias
10:09 a.m. – 10:12 a.m.	About IANC 2026	Dr. P. Kuppan, <i>Dean, School of Mechanical Engineering</i>
10:12 a.m. – 10:16 a.m.	Felicitation	Dr. Jayabarathi T, Registrar Dr. Partha Sharathi Mallick, Pro -Vice Chancellor Dr. Kanchana Bhaaskaran V. S., Vice-Chancellor Ms. Kadambari S. Viswanathan, Assistant Vice-President Dr. Sandhya, Executive Director Dr. Sekar Viswanathan, Vice - President Dr. Sankar Viswanathan, Vice - President
10:16 a.m. – 10:20 a.m.	Exchange of MoUs	e-TRNL Energy Pvt. Ltd, Bengaluru
10:20 a.m. – 10:22 a.m.	Introduction of the Guest of Honour	Dr. Renold Elsen, <i>Professor, School of Mechanical Engineering</i>



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10:23 a.m. – 10:33 a.m.	Address by Guest of Honour	Shri. S. Murugesan <i>Vice President - Marketing &amp; Sales, Rane (Madras) Limited, Steering and Linkage Division, Chennai</i>
10:33 a.m. – 10:43 a.m.	Presidential Address	Dr. G. Viswanathan, <i>Founder &amp; Chancellor, VIT</i>
10:43 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.	Introduction of the Chief Guest	Dr. Bibin John, <i>Professor, School of Mechanical Engineering</i>
10:45 a.m. – 11:55 a.m.	Inaugural Address by the Chief Guest	Dr. Shankar Venugopal <i>Vice President, Technology Innovation Mahindra &amp; Mahindra, Chennai</i>
10:55 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Word of Thanks	Dr. K. Nanthagopal <i>Associate Dean, School of Mechanical Engineering</i>
11:00 a.m.	Group Photo	



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**Programme Schedule**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Venue</b>
10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.	Inauguration	Anna Auditorium
11:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.	Group Photo and Networking Coffee / Tea	
11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.	<p><b>Panel Discussion 1: From Innovation to Impact: Mechanical Engineering for Sustainable Future</b></p> <p><i>Panelists:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Dr. Sagar M. Agravat, Head – R&amp;D, L&amp;T Construction</li> <li>2. Mr. Anant Karegaonkar, Technical Specialist, Forbes Marshall</li> <li>3. Dr. Thangasivam Gandhi, Senior Manager – Innovation, Danfoss</li> <li>4. Dr. Kartik Kumar, Centre Director – R&amp;D, Saint-Gobain</li> <li>5. Dr. Uttam Kumar Sen, Co-Founder &amp; CTO, e-TRNL Energy</li> <li>6. Mr. Veerendra Vasamsetty, Director – R&amp;D, Schneider Electric</li> <li>7. Mr. Venkataramani Ramachandran, Principal Systems Engineer, Honeywell Aerospace India</li> </ol>	Anna Auditorium
	<p><b>Panel Discussion 2: Engineering the Future: Emerging Skills, and Global Opportunities in Mechanical Engineering</b></p> <p><i>Panelists:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Dr. N. Saravanan, Principal Engineer, Mahindra &amp; Mahindra, Chennai</li> <li>2. Dr. Ragothaman Arjunan, Assistant General Manager, Volvo Group India</li> </ol>	Rajaji Hall



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	<p>3. Mr. Saravanan Jeyaraj, Senior Manager – Operational Excellence, Collins Aerospace, Bengaluru</p> <p>4. Mr. Magesh D, Manager – R&amp; D, Schwing Stetter India Pvt. Ltd., Cheyyar</p> <p>5. Mr. Karthikeyan Varadarajan, Senior VP – Technical, EDS Technologies, Chennai</p> <p>6. Dr. Tarani Murugesan, Co-founder &amp; Director, ST Advanced Composites Pvt. Ltd., Chennai</p>	
	<p><b>Keynote 1:</b> Aerospace 4.0 - Challenges and Opportunities <b>Speaker:</b> D Uma Maheshwar, Chief Consulting Engineer, GE Aerospace</p>	MB210
	<p><b>Keynote 2:</b> Reshaping Automotive Product Development through Digital Engineering for a Sustainable Future <b>Speaker:</b> Mr. Mayur Kulkarni, Ashok Leyland</p>	MB108
	<p><b>Keynote 3:</b> Smart and Sustainable Construction Equipment: Industry Challenges and Future Opportunities <b>Speaker:</b> Mr. Ravi Siddharth, Schwing Stetter</p>	MB110
	<p><b>Keynote 4:</b> Emerging Technology Trend in Aerospace and Challenges <b>Speaker:</b> Mr. Govind Yadav, Honeywell Aerospace</p>	MB111
	<p><b>Keynote 5:</b> Emerging Global Scenarios in Mechanical Engineering <b>Speaker:</b> Dr. Nithyanandan Devaraj, Managing Partner, SAA Enterprises</p>	MB112
	<p><b>Keynote 6:</b> e-Mobility and Ecosystem <b>Speaker:</b> Dr. C. S. Nanda Kumar, Senior Technical Lead, Bosch Global Software Technologies</p>	GDN130
Lab Visit, Faculty Interaction, and Exploration of Collaboration Opportunities		



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12:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	Student Expo visit and discussion with students (FN Session)	CS Hall
1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.	Networking Lunch	CS Hall
2:00 p.m. to 2:45 p.m.	Student Expo visit and discussion with students (AN Session)	CS Hall
2:45 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.	<p><b>Panel Discussion 3: Additive Manufacturing in Aerospace: Challenges and Opportunities in Adoption, Certification, and Scaling</b></p> <p><i>Panelists:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. D. Uma Maheshwar, Chief Consulting Engineer, GE Aerospace, Bengaluru</li> <li>Mr. Gracio Lobo, Materials &amp; Process Engineer – Manufacturing Technology Integration, Boeing Aerospace, Bengaluru</li> <li>Mr. Krishna Prasad, Project Director, Aeronautical Development Agency, Bengaluru</li> <li>Mr. Prasath Babu Kuppa, Director – Operations &amp; Supply Chain, Collins Aerospace, Bengaluru</li> <li>Mr. Anandh Pujari, Manager – Account Management, Autodesk, Bengaluru</li> <li>Mr. Perumal Rakkiyagounder, Honeywell Aerospace, Bengaluru</li> </ol>	Anna Auditorium
	<p><b>Panel Discussion 4: Inside Engineering Systems: What Industry Really Demands</b></p> <p><i>Panelists:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dr. C. S. Nanda Kumar, Senior Technical Lead, Bosch Global Software Technologies, Coimbatore</li> </ol>	Rajaji Hall



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	<p>2. Mr. Shankar G Subburathinam, Head – Advanced Materials Technology Division, Caterpillar India Pvt Ltd, Chennai</p> <p>3. Dr. T. Sukumar, Deputy General Manager, ZF (CVCS) India Ltd, Chennai</p> <p>4. Mr. Prakash V S, R&amp;D Manager, Honeywell Aerospace India</p> <p>5. Dr. Nithin Devaraj, Managing Partner, SAA Enterprises, Coimbatore</p> <p>6. Mr. Ravi Siddharth L, Deputy Manager, Schwing Stetter India Pvt. Ltd., Cheyyar</p>	
	<p><b>Keynote 7:</b> Sustainability in the Process Industry: The Impact of Steam Systems <b>Speaker:</b> Mr. Anant Karegaonkar, Forbes Marshall</p>	MB210
	<p><b>Keynote 8:</b> When Machines Decide: The Journey from Automation to Autonomy <b>Speaker:</b> Dr. Abhishek D. Patange, ABB Global, Industries and Services Pvt. Ltd.</p>	MB108
	<p><b>Keynote 9:</b> AI-Enabled Opportunities in Mechanical Components Design <b>Speaker:</b> Mr. Yogesha Aralakuppe Ramegowda, Technical Leader – Aerospace Systems, Honeywell Aerospace Technology</p>	MB110
	<p><b>Keynote 10:</b> Design, Operation, and Applications of Gate and Globe Valves <b>Speaker:</b> Mr. Tomoson, Director, Aalan Control Technology Pvt. Ltd.</p>	MB111
	<p><b>Keynote 11:</b> Role of structural Analysis in Engineering Design <b>Speaker:</b> Mr. Khalidh Kaleem, Structural Specialist, HPP-II Innovation Danfoss</p>	MB112
	Lab Visit, Faculty Interaction, and Exploration of Collaboration Opportunities	
	Demonstration of PIV integrated LTTD Technology (Funded by Ministry of Earth Science and NIOT)	
3:45 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.	Industry Feedback Session & Certificate distribution to IANC Event winners	Anna Auditorium
4:00 p.m.	High Tea	



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**Participating Industries and Sponsors**

