



# 7<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION

17<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2025 | INDIA HABITAT CENTRE

**SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION FOR GREEN JOBS**

## 1 INAUGURAL SESSION

The inaugural session of the 7<sup>th</sup> edition of International Conference on Sustainability Education (ICSE) commenced with a reflective video capturing the six-year journey of ICSE, highlighting its evolution as a dynamic platform fostering dialogue and action around sustainability education. This was followed by a heart-warming welcome song performed by students of Gyan Anant Vidyalaya (GAV), setting a hopeful and positive tone for the proceedings.



The event was initiated with the nobility of the traditional lamp lighting ceremony, symbolizing the dispelling of darkness and the illumination of knowledge. The dignitaries—Mr. Pradip Burman, Chairman, Mobius Foundation; Mr. Pradip Kumar Das, Chairman & Managing Director, IREDA Limited, New Delhi; Mr. Benno Böer, Chief, Natural Sciences Unit, UNESCO South-Asia Regional Office, New Delhi; Mr. Praveen Garg, IAS (Retd.), President, Mobius Foundation; and Dr. Ram Boojh, Advisor, Mobius Foundation —graced the occasion, marking an auspicious beginning to the proceedings.



**Welcome Address - Dr. Ram Boojh** thanked dignitaries, partners, and organisers, praising Chairman Mr. Pradip Burman's leadership and President Mr. Praveen Garg's policy insights. He acknowledged key supporters and celebrated ICSE's growth over six years into a global platform. He closed with a hopeful message, stressing the shared passion behind the conference's mission.



**Special Address - Mr. Praveen Garg** emphasized the crucial role of sustainability education in building a greener, fairer future. He called for empowering youth with green skills, promoting climate justice, and fostering grassroots efforts and global partnerships for lasting change.



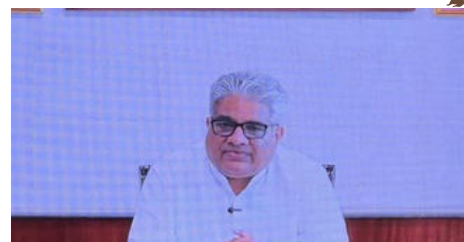
**Guest of Honour's Address - Dr. Benno Böer** stressed the need to center innovation around sustainability and thanked key contributors. He addressed the triple planetary crisis and highlighted the essential role of youth as active problem-solvers in today's world.



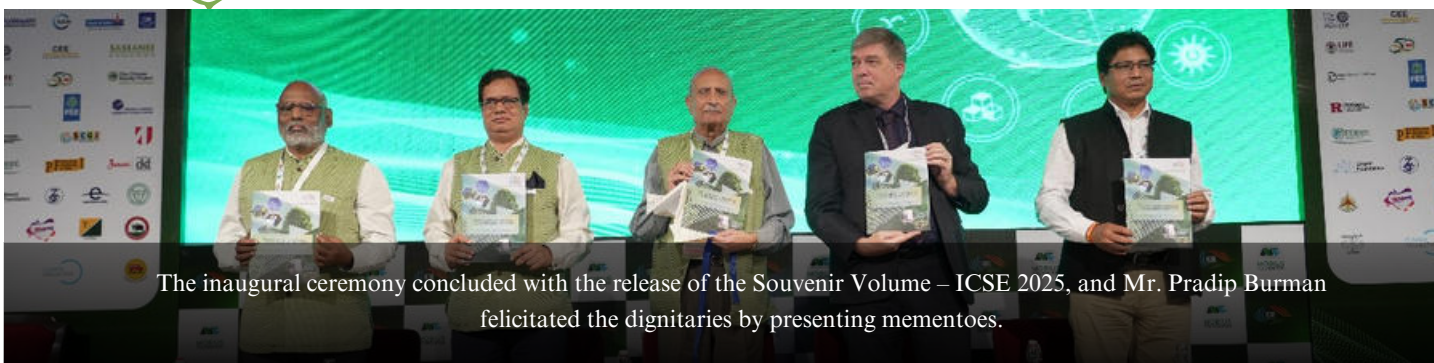
**Guest of Honour's Address - Mr. Pradip Kumar Das** discussed advancing a sustainable economy through clean energy. He noted IREDA's paperless transformation, support for 27 GW of renewables, and job creation. He highlighted partnerships with IITs and praised India's leadership in global renewable energy efforts.



**Chairman's Address - Mr. Pradip Burman** welcomed attendees and stressed the urgency of the conference theme. He emphasized youth-led balanced growth and reaffirmed Mobius Foundation's commitment to education through initiatives like Gyan Kanya Shakti and Mobius Young Climate Leaders for Himalayan Development (MYCL). He positioned the conference as a key platform to prepare future green leaders.



**Chief Guest's Address (Video Message)- Shri Bhupendra Yadav** highlighted climate change and inclusive growth as pressing challenges. He described green jobs as a vital solution, supported by NEP 2020's vocational focus. He stressed the pivotal role of women, youth, and partnerships in driving progress, recognizing youth as leaders of change.



The inaugural ceremony concluded with the release of the Souvenir Volume – ICSE 2025, and Mr. Pradip Burman felicitated the dignitaries by presenting mementoes.



### PLENARY 1: SETTING THE AGENDA: SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION FOR GREEN JOBS

The Opening Plenary stressed the importance of sustainability education in building a green, future-ready workforce. Speakers advocated integrating green skills into curricula, enhancing teacher training, and fostering partnerships. Education was positioned as key to inclusive climate action and green job creation.



### PLENARY 2: FROM VISION TO ACTION: CULTIVATING A WORLD READY FOR GREEN JOBS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

This plenary highlighted Biosphere Reserves as models for sustainability education and green jobs, showcasing grassroots initiatives that empower communities through eco-tourism, forest products, and ecological training. It emphasized inclusive, place-based approaches and their role as living labs for green skills.



### PLENARY 3: TECHNOLOGY AND AI: DRIVING GREEN CAREERS WITH AI INNOVATIONS

The session explored how AI and emerging tech are transforming sustainability and green careers. Discussions covered sustainable design, energy efficiency, agentic AI, and ethical use. Speakers called for integrating AI and sustainability into education, promoting responsible tech, and upskilling for a just, inclusive transition.



### PLENARY 4: GREENING THE JOBS AND CAREERS

This session addressed the green skills gap and the need to align education with sustainability goals. Focus areas included sectors like fashion and energy, with calls to map skill gaps, co-create curricula with industry, and ensure just transitions. It also supported India's Green Jobs for Youth Pact by promoting inclusive, market-relevant training.



### PLENARY 5: BUILDING GREEN SKILLS: EDUCATIONAL CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE GLOBAL SOUTH

The session on "Building Green Skills" explored education's role in a just green transition, highlighting the need to integrate sustainability, vocational training, and traditional knowledge. It emphasized addressing skill gaps, promoting value-based learning, and expanding access through cross-sector partnerships for inclusive, future-ready communities.



### PLENARY 6: STEM FOR SUSTAINABILITY: INNOVATING A GREENER TOMORROW

The session highlighted STEM as a driver of green jobs, policy innovation, and sustainable solutions, emphasizing equity, mindset change, and effective communication. It also touched on the challenges and opportunities of AI and climate change in shaping a future-ready workforce.



### SUSTAINABILITY SAMVAD 1

featured an engaging conversation with Raffaella Folli and Richard McDonald on the vision of the 'School of the Future'. The discussion highlighted the role of transformative teachers, intergenerational and intercultural exchanges, and empowering young minds with imagination, engagement, and courage rather than instructions.



### SUSTAINABILITY SAMVAD 2

featured Dr. Rajendra Singh (*Waterman of India*) and Mr. Pradip Burman in dialogue on water as the source of life, the integration of culture and nature, and the vital role of communities in conservation practices.



### LIGHTNING TALK BY MR. ANUJ RAMATRI:

The talk highlighted the rising opportunities in sustainability, with brands increasingly prioritising eco-conscious practices. He shared personal experiences of entering the field through content creation and filmmaking, illustrating how creativity and storytelling can play a powerful role in driving environmental awareness. Through inspiring examples, his talk underscored the growing scope for youth-led innovation and green careers in media, communication, and beyond.



### SPECIAL ADDRESS – MR. AJAY KUMAR, DGM BANK OF INDIA

In his address, Mr. Ajay Kumar highlighted Bank of India's support for green finance through loans for sustainability projects, green mortgages, and clean energy initiatives. He emphasized the bank's commitment to expanding these efforts alongside education to promote a sustainable future.



### BOOK LAUNCH:

The launch of Environmental Milestones of India by Dr. Erach Bharucha introduced a two-volume encyclopedia tracing India's environmental journey from ancient times to the present. The work aims to highlight key triggers in environmental education and chart a path forward.



### FIRESIDE CHAT: A DOCUMENTARY ON PLANETARY BOUNDARIES

The session launched the teaser of the 10 episode documentary series, conceptualised by Mobius Foundation and brought to life in collaboration with Warner Bros Discovery and Robin Roy films, that is inspired by Breaking Boundaries, but aimed at offering real solutions. The filmmakers emphasized research, storytelling, and highlighting hopeful, solution-driven narratives. Positive examples included farmers adopting new techniques and communities coexisting with wildlife. Discussions covered India's climate role, the need for immediate action, especially by youth, and the shift to sustainable practices like biofertilizers. The session reinforced that meaningful change is possible when development is made sustainable and supported by collective efforts.



Dr. Purnima Devi Barman (Champion of The Earth Awardee, UN) shared her inspiring journey of conserving the Greater Adjutant Stork, locally called Hargila. Once seen as a bad omen, the bird's population had fallen to about 450 individuals. Through her 'Hargila Army' of over 20,000 women, the numbers have now grown to nearly 1800, moving the species from Endangered to Near Threatened. By protecting nesting trees, weaving stork motifs into traditional textiles, and celebrating community events like 'baby showers' for chicks, she has changed attitudes, empowered women, and made conservation part of local pride and livelihood.

## AN EVENING ENRICHED WITH ENERGY



The day concluded with a vibrant cultural dance performance by the students of Gyan Anant Vidyalaya (GAV). Their energetic and spirited performance filled the auditorium with excitement, as rhythmic claps and cheers from the audience made the entire hall come alive. Finally, the networking dinner marked the close of the evening, offering participants an opportunity to connect and exchange thoughts on the day's inspiring sessions.