
Annual Report
2024-2025

6 YEARS
OF
**LEARNING, INNOVATION,
IMPACT AND GROWTH**

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CHANCELLOR'S MESSAGE

It has been another year of innovation, growth, and progress in pursuit of Krea's mission.

As the world evolved, Krea remained focused on preparing students to navigate complex challenges with confidence, curiosity, and adaptability, while introducing new disciplines, strengthening approaches to learning, teaching, and research and bringing in new resources and expertise.

Krea's Interwoven Learning approach distinguishes it among Indian universities. By integrating multiple academic disciplines, it highlights the interconnectedness of knowledge and encourages students to explore the intersections of arts, sciences, business, and social development. This interdisciplinary approach nurtures critical thinking, creativity, and a holistic understanding of complex global challenges, equipping students to respond effectively to an unpredictable world.

Students broaden their perspectives, break down intellectual silos, and reconsider assumptions through diverse viewpoints. Comfort with uncertainty and curiosity, shaped by exposure to varied perspectives, is deeply embedded in Krea's way of learning.

Learning through lived experience remains central to Krea's philosophy. The university facilitates meaningful dialogues on contemporary societal issues across the humanities, arts, sciences, and management, while sustaining a welcoming, inclusive, and state-of-the-art environment where every member of its community can thrive.



LAKSHMI NARAYANAN

Krea is reimagining its role in global higher education. Advances in technology, open innovation, and AI are reshaping learning, and the university is preparing students to embrace these shifts. The School of Business, for example, is being re-envisioned to equip them for technology-driven business models and entrepreneurial opportunities.

Engagement with IFMR research centres continues to expand, creating more opportunities for collaboration between students, faculty, and centres. Ambitious plans for research-informed curricula and the establishment of research-oriented schools in humanities, computational sciences, and life sciences are underway. Redesigning courses, integrating technologies innovatively, fostering inclusivity, and nurturing a critically engaged civic society remain ongoing priorities.

Throughout this journey, the support and guidance of the Governing Council, alongside their active engagement with the university community, have been invaluable.

I extend my best wishes to our students and alumni as they continue their journeys of learning, growth, and success.

VICE CHANCELLOR'S MESSAGE

We are delighted to have had yet another successful year, and it gives me great pleasure to share with you some of the developments of which we are most proud. This year, we marked our fifth founding anniversary, graced by distinguished guests, Chief Guest Professor Ram Ramaswamy and honorary doctorate recipients, eminent academic Professor Vivek Borkar and acclaimed author Dr Geetanjali Shree. It was a moment of immense pride for our community.

This year's annual report illustrates our achievements and reaffirms the university's commitment to excellence in education and scholarship. We have continued to attract outstanding students from across the country, and have been more ambitious than ever in our local and regional outreach. In 2024–25, the School of Interwoven Arts and Sciences (SIAS) enrolled 245 students to the BA (Honours) and BSc (Honours) programmes, with Maharashtra contributing the highest share with 24.5% and 40% of the intake from southern India. The MBA programme at IFMR Graduate School of Business (GSB) welcomed 282 students — a mix of fresh graduates and experienced professionals from 21 states and union territories. The Integrated MBA programme drew 62 students from across 14 states.

The university has achieved managed, strategic growth in student numbers through the expansion of recruitment channels, and now proudly welcomes more than 1,600 students. With a strong emphasis on critical thinking and problem-based learning, our programmes challenge students to excel and prepare them for successful careers. Guided by our mission and driven by our vision to cultivate lifelong leadership skills, we remain committed to shaping future leaders. Underpinning everything we do is a shared set of values — principles that define how we work, learn, and live together.

Our partnerships with leading institutions worldwide connect us to a vibrant network of thought leadership and creativity, with an impact felt far beyond our campus. Krea University has forged collaborations with renowned global universities such as Sussex, Bristol, Northeastern, Exeter, Liverpool, Case Western Reserve, and Sciences Po. Our students gain valuable experience through internships and placements, moving into careers across government, the corporate sector, and the not-for-profit space. Many pursue postgraduate study at leading global institutions. SIAS graduates this year received Master's offers from Johns Hopkins University, University of Chicago, Northeastern University,



PROFESSOR NIRMALA RAO

SOAS, University College London, University of Glasgow, Imperial College London, and more. Others took on roles at NIIT, Ernst & Young, Flipkart, KPMG, The Red Pen, Rise Education, The Convergent Foundation, Shikha Education Institute, and the Teach For India Fellowship. At IFMR GSB, the cohort achieved near 100% placement, securing roles in BFSI, Analytics, IT, and Consulting, with prestigious recruiters such as JPMorgan Chase, Deloitte, KPMG, PwC, Oxane Partners, Wells Fargo, EY, BFL Brandfolio, HSBC, Société Générale, Arcesium, Shell, Federal Bank, Standard Chartered, Moody's, and Oracle.

This year also marks a turning point for Krea. After years of sustained effort, we are close to reaching the level of financial strength that will enable transformative investment in our academic mission. In autumn 2024, we completed a new academic block accommodating over 900 students and 100 faculty, with state-of-the-art lecture rooms, laboratories, and open learning spaces. New investments in endowed chairs across key disciplines will further academic leadership, advance knowledge frontiers, and help attract and retain the best faculty.

These accomplishments, remarkable for a university established just six years ago, are the result of the dedication and excellence of our faculty and staff. I extend my heartfelt thanks to them for their hard work and commitment.

The support and generosity of our donors have been integral to our success. Krea is an exceptional place, enriched by exceptional people and ideas. I am proud to lead a university that lives up to the ambitions of its founders — a place of distinction where talent, opportunity, and knowledge converge in service to our students and the global community.

KREA IN 2024-25: LOOKING BACK, LOOKING FORWARD

Milestone Moments*

The New Academic Block with 110, 000 sq ft, 20 smart classrooms, science & media labs, dance studio, PhD bays, student lounges and more was opened for the Krea community.



Synergy 2025's inaugural session was an initiative to drive research dialogues, spark ideas, and translate them into action. The event brought together all of Krea's research centres and leading academics, policymakers, and industry leaders to shape data-driven solutions for developmental challenges.



In 2024 and 2025, Krea held three editions of **Krea Summer School** for young school going learners.



Partnerships with University of Sussex and Sciences Po alongside University of Liverpool, Exeter, and Case Western Reserve University.



An MoU was signed with Nasscom on IT-ITeS Sector Skills Council for Undertaking Skill Development Training





Krea was granted the **India Education Equality Index (IEEI) 2024 Award** for Academic Inclusion - in recognition of our commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion



We installed a **passive VLF** receiver provided by the University of Washington, joining a global network of 80 stations monitoring lightning activity. This initiative marks the beginning of experimental Atmospheric and Space research at Krea.



In partnership with CII, we hosted the **Mystic South Youth Summit**, an exclusive event for Krea's young students and alumni, as a precursor to CII's major event, Mystic South - Global Linkages Summit 2025.



Krea University was a nodal centre for ISRO's START-2024 summer training programme.

Professor Bishnu N Mohapatra, Director of the Moturi Satyanarayana Centre for Advanced Study in the Humanities and Social Sciences, Krea University and Professor of Politics, SIAS was invited by the CHCI to **anchor the World Humanities Report India /South Asia report**. This report, comprising thirteen essays and twelve video conversations, illustrates the humanities' dynamic presence across various cultures and languages.



***A few of the many**



KREA AT A GLANCE

Instituted by a team of global academicians, industrialists and intellectuals with a vision for the 21st Century and beyond, Krea is an effort to re-imagine the education system, aiming to enable students to become agile, ethical and purposeful leaders in this fast-changing world. Krea University currently houses three Schools and provides strategic oversight to various Research Centres.

The School of Interwoven Arts and Sciences (SIAS) currently offers 4 year BA (Honours) & BSc (Honours) degrees, with an option to do a 3 year BA or BSc degree. IFMR Graduate School of Business (GSB) offers a 5 year Integrated MBA Programme, 2 year MBA programme, and customised Management Development Programmes. Krea Doctoral College oversees the PhD programmes.

The world faces tremendous challenges today and Krea aims to prepare a new generation of leaders who can address these problems that permeate the social, economic and ecological spectrums. Krea believes that solutions transcend disciplines and answers can't be sought by working in silos. This year, we continued the resolute commitment to our mission and re-affirmed our values.

Krea is located in Sri City in the State of Andhra Pradesh, India, about 70 km from Chennai.

Mission

Krea University's mission is to help humanity prepare for an unpredictable world.



We do this by developing a view of the future through rigorous and interdisciplinary research and education that continuously feeds the design of Interwoven Learning. In doing so, we enable high potential individuals to learn to create positive, catalytic impact ethically.

DNA

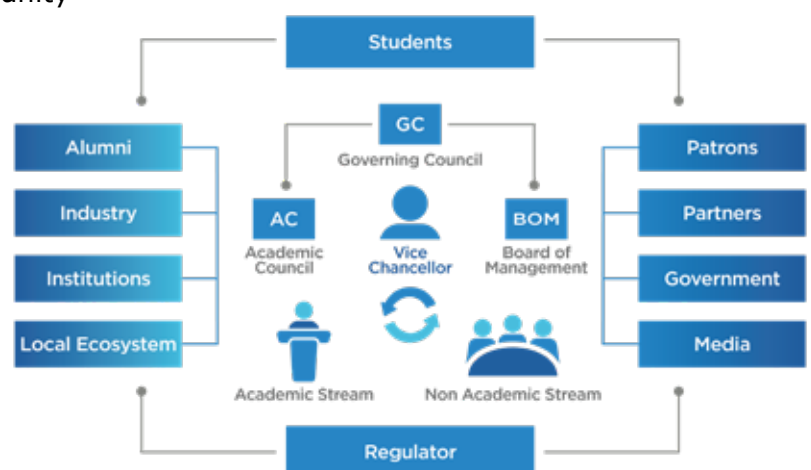
Interwoven Learning brings together thought with action, arts with sciences and ultimately, connects our learnings from the past with our preparedness for the future. In a world shaped by the evolving balance between humans, machines and the environment, Interwoven Learning is a journey, not a destination; and hence the need to constantly innovate.

Values

Krea University's core values are ethics, excellence, inclusivity and accountability. Every decision and action we take each day must, without exception, be ethical and transparent, strive towards extraordinary standards of excellence, celebrate diversity and inclusivity, and represent the most efficient and accountable use of scarce resources.

Governance

The Governing Council, the Executive Committee of the Governing Council, the Board of Management, Academic Advisory Board, and Academic Council form the apex governance framework at Krea.



SCHOOLS AND CENTRES AT KREA

Krea University currently houses three Schools and provides strategic oversight to various Research Centres.



SIAS, currently offers an undergraduate programme in the form of a 4-year BA (Honours) & BSc (Honours) degrees, with an option to exit in the third year with a BA or BSc Degree. SIAS also offers PhD programmes.

IFMR GSB offers full-time and part-time MBA programmes, a 5 year Integrated BBA+MBA programme, a full-time PhD programme, as well as both open and customised management development programmes.



The Krea Doctoral College oversees the PhD programme at Krea, headed by Dean (Research).

The Research Centers work closely with international agencies, governments, policy makers and academicians in the areas of financial inclusion, direct benefit transfers, MSMEs, gender participation in the workforce, health and infrastructure.



Leveraging Evidence for Access and Development (LEAD) focuses on action-oriented research and strategic engagement with a diverse group of stakeholders to create impact through capabilities in research, monitoring & evaluation, and fostering technical capacity. LEAD has enabled the setting up of two initiatives that engage in high quality and sophisticated research and policy development in India- IWWAGE on women's economic empowerment and Catalyst AIC on digital financial inclusion. This has been elaborated further in latter sections of this report.

Centre for Digital Financial Inclusion (CDFI) focuses on reducing inequities in financial access and services using technology. Over the years, CDFI has developed innovations to execute large scale multi-stakeholder projects to promote access to basic financial services, accelerate benefits transfer and promote access to affordable credit.





Inclusion Economics India Centre (IEIC) works in close collaboration with Yale's Economic Growth Center to understand how policy can promote inclusive, accountable economies and societies.

Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL) South Asia's focus is to improve the effectiveness of poverty programmes in South Asia by providing policy makers with clear scientific results that help shape successful policies to combat poverty. Much of Nobel laureates Abhijit Banerjee and Esther Duflo's work on randomised control trials for shaping policy in India was done at J-PAL South Asia.



The Sapien Labs Centre for the Human Brain and Mind at Krea University is a collaboration between Sapien Labs and Krea University with an aim to pursue research and learning related to the human brain and mind. It also intends to build a globally distributed infrastructure for large-scale, real-time data acquisition and insights as well as development of interventions and tools that can become scalable products and services embedded in the world to move the needle.

Water, Environment, Land and Livelihoods (WELL) Labs is an environmental research and innovation centre to address issues related to land degradation, rural livelihoods and water management.



The Moturi Satyanarayana Centre for Advanced Study in the Humanities and Social Sciences is a Centre of excellence for advanced research across the humanities and social sciences through a range of interdisciplinary projects. It serves as a hub for independent and collaborative post-doctoral research and provides an environment that stimulates the spirit of active intellectual enquiry and ethical reflection through critical analysis and empirical studies.



THE VISIONARIES BEHIND THE MISSION THAT'S KREA

GOVERNING COUNCIL



Lakshmi Narayanan
Chancellor & Chairperson



Professor Nirmala Rao
Vice Chancellor & Member



Amitava Saha
Member



Ashwin Bajaj
Member



Dr Esther Duflo
Member



Dr John W Etchemendy
Member



Kalpana Morparia
Member



Kapil Viswanathan
Member



S Mahalingam
Member



Dr Raghuram G Rajan
Member



Raghu Sundaram
Member



Rajiv Memani
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Dr Ravindra Sannareddy
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D Sundaram
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Dr Tara Thiagarajan
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Dr Vishakha N Desai
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C S Venkatakrishnan
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P R Venketrama Raja
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Mazumdar-Shaw**
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Dr John W Etchemendy
Member

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT



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Rao**
Vice Chancellor & Member



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**Professor
Lakshmi Kumar**
Member



**Dr Prithvi Datta
Chandra Shobhi**
Member



Roxana Daver
Member



Dr Balaji Srinivasan
Member

UNIVERSITY STATUS

Krea University has been enacted by the Legislature of the State of Andhra Pradesh as per The Andhra Pradesh Private Universities (Establishment and Regulation) (Amendment) Act, 2018 vide the gazette notification published on April 30, 2018. Krea University is listed on the UGC website under State Private Universities.

Krea University is recognised by UGC and authorised to confer degrees as decided by the faculty of the University.

IFMR Society is the sponsoring body of the University and is registered as a non-for-profit organisation and has wide experience in education and research.

Krea University is registered under 10(23C) (vi) and 80G of the income Tax Act 1961. Donations to Krea University are eligible for a tax rebate of 50% under 80 (G) certification.

Krea is compliant with the latest amendment to the CSR Policy in February 2021. As per the revised mandate, a CSR-1 registration number has been obtained from the Ministry of Corporate Affairs. Krea's SRN number is T15709405.

Through the lens of Interwoven Learning

Embedded in the DNA of Krea University, Interwoven Learning brings together thought with action, arts with sciences and ultimately, connects our learnings from the past with our preparedness for the future. In a world shaped by the evolving balance between humans, machines and the environment, Interwoven Learning is a journey, not a destination; and hence the need to constantly innovate.

Interwoven Learning is a holistic approach to education, based on a set of guiding principles that are seen as essential for a transformative and cutting-edge college experience. A deep engagement with the interwoven philosophy and approach through teaching, learning, research, and life prepares students for the challenges the future holds, helping them unpack a complex and intricate tapestry of relationships among humans, machines, and nature in ways that will transform the world.



IN CONTINUUM

The complete journey of learning at Krea both within and beyond the classroom is thoughtfully curated. Their official first step into the University is through the Orientation Programmes and their official step into the world beyond Krea to etch chapters of their own is through the graduation ceremony. In between, along the way, the years of learning, discovery and evolution is what forms the crux of their story, and ours.

WHERE IT ALL BEGINS

The Orientation Weeks

IFMR GSB MBA

Prarambh 2024, the Orientation Programme for the MBA Cohort of 2026 at IFMR GSB, Krea University, commenced on July 3, 2024, with a warm welcome from the Krea community. The inaugural ceremony featured Chief Guest Divakar Jain, Leader, Risk & Financial Advisory at Deloitte, US-India, who shared insights from his two-decade-long professional journey. Professor Lakshmi Kumar, Dean, IFMR GSB and Professor Madhuri Saripalle, Chairperson of the MBA Programme, guided students on the path ahead. Faculty members and student volunteers engaged the cohort in sessions covering placements, campus life, and student experiences. Running until July 7, 2024, the programme included sessions on mental well-being, business etiquette, disability sensitisation, and substance awareness, setting the stage for an enriching journey at Krea.



Krea University welcomed the SIAS undergraduate cohort (Class of 2024-2028) with a comprehensive five-day orientation program on campus from 17–21 July 2024. This “Kreators’ Mosaic” orientation introduced hundreds of new students and their families to the Krea ecosystem. The inaugural ceremony featured Krea’s leadership and faculty sharing guidance to ensure a smooth start for students. Over the week, various sessions covered academics, student life, and campus services: Dr Kalyan Chakrabarti, Associate Dean (Students) outlined the BA/BSc (Hons) curriculum structure, the Admissions team highlighted campus diversity and upcoming plans, and the Operations team introduced the Krea Services Hub app – a one-stop platform for student service requests and aspects about campus safety. Student representatives (Student Council and Election Commission) also addressed the newcomers, explaining student governance and how collaboration is fostered within the Kreaverse. Overall, the SIAS orientation provided new undergraduates and their parents a warm welcome and important information about academics, well-being resources, and campus life. It also included mandatory workshops such as those on substance abuse, prevention of sexual harassment, consent, plagiarism and use of AI, understanding inclusion and intersectionality as well as a very engaging session with alumni of the school.



SOARING IN FLIGHT

Convocation 2025

At the time of writing this report, Krea University's fourth graduation ceremony had taken place, witnessing the graduation of 400 students from across undergraduate, masters and doctoral programmes. Hosted in The Music Academy, Chennai, the event witnessed the graduation of the UG Cohort of School of Interwoven Arts and Sciences (SIAS) (2025), the 2-year MBA Cohort of IFMR Graduate School of Business (GSB) (2025), the 3-year L&T MBA Cohort of IFMR GSB (2025) and the PhD Cohort of IFMR GSB (2025). Professor Ram Ramaswamy, Former Vice Chancellor, University of Hyderabad and Honorary Professor, Department of Physics, IIT Delhi was the Chief Guest at the ceremony. Krea University's Convocation 2025 also witnessed the conferral of the Doctor of Science, *honoris causa* (D.Sc.), upon Professor Vivek Borkar, Emeritus Fellow, IIT Bombay, and the Doctor of Letters, *honoris causa* (D.Litt.), upon Dr Geetanjali Shree, author and novelist.



ENABLING THE NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERS

IFMR GSB

Since its inception in 1970, IFMR has been at the forefront of research and teaching in various areas of Management and Business. IFMR GSB provides a vibrant intellectual foundation of theory, knowledge, skills and perspectives to its students.

Enriched by the unique Interwoven Learning approach of Krea University, IFMR GSB focuses on endowing students with critical, abstractive, analytical, quantitative, integrative and ethical thinking.

IFMR has been recognised as a Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (SIRO) by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India.

Academic Programmes at IFMR GSB

The IFMR Graduate School of Business (IFMR GSB) offers a 5 year Integrated MBA programme, full-time and part-time MBA programmes, a full-time PhD programme, as well as both open and customised management development programmes.



Full-time MBA Programme

The IFMR GSB first-year curriculum includes courses that inter-weave skills across management disciplines. Students learn about the challenges facing an organisation in the real world and develop skills to effectively manage them. These interwoven courses are co-taught by faculty members from multiple disciplines, as well as industry experts. Ethics, Communications, Design Thinking, and Capstone Simulation are offered under the interwoven curriculum.

Core courses in the first year build the foundation in Business Management while the electives in the second-year offer domain expertise.

In the second year these areas are provided as electives :

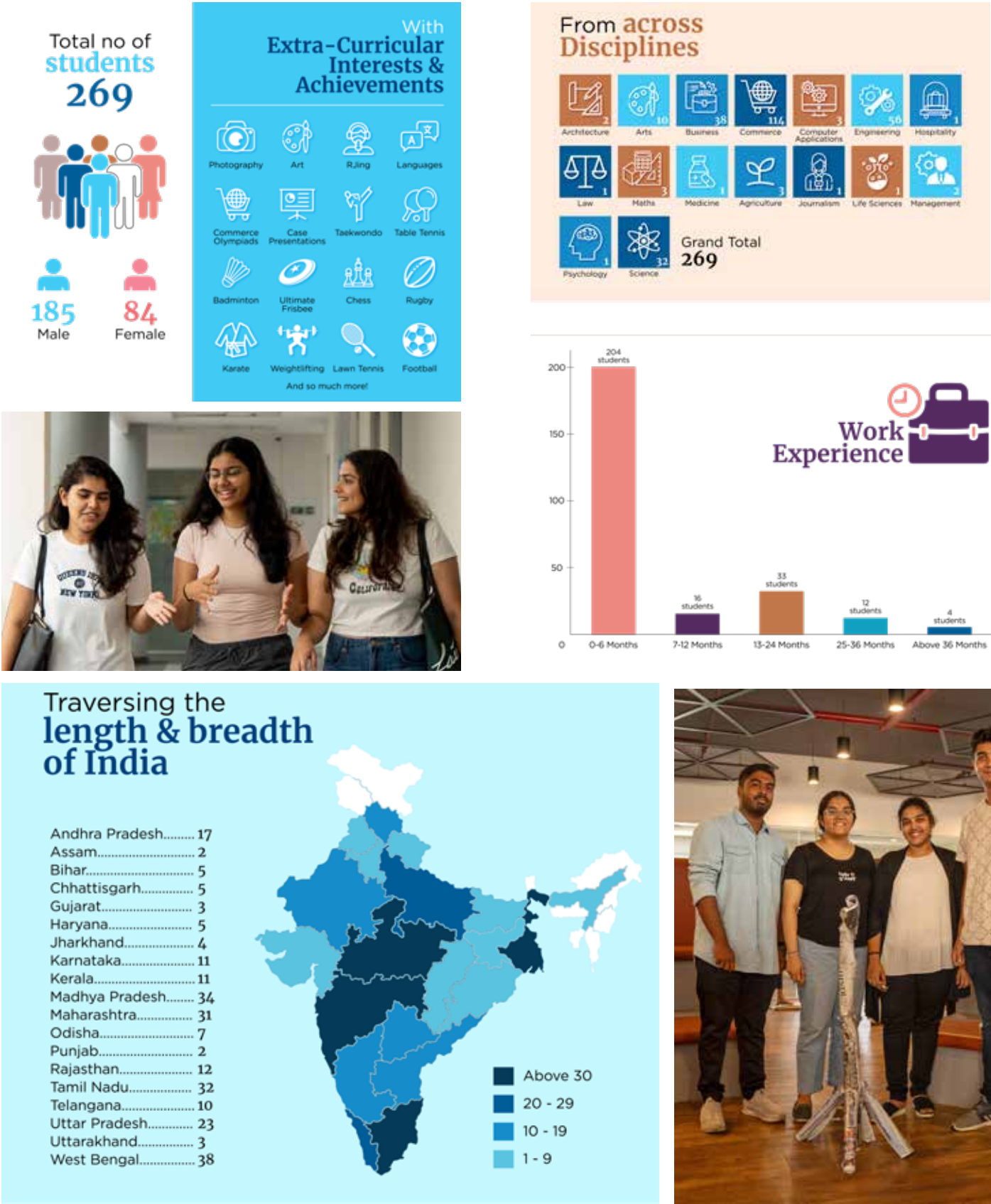
- Communications
- Data Science & Information Systems
- Economics
- Finance & Accounting, Quantitative Finance
- Marketing
- OB & HR
- Operations
- Strategic Management



During the year NPTEL Swayam courses were introduced for the MBA students.

The students at IFMR GSB come from all parts of the country, making the experience enriching, diverse and truly inclusive.

IFMR GSB Cohort Profile of 2024-26



Integrated MBA Programme

IFMR GSB offers a flagship Integrated MBA Programme with the firm belief that a leader needs to get started young, straight out of school, and be provided with domain knowledge and an understanding of the world of business and management through their undergraduate journey. The programme offers students a unique opportunity to exit after the third year with a BBA degree, take a sabbatical with a commitment to return a year later and pursue the 2 year MBA. Alternatively, students can also exit after the 4th year with a BBA (Hons) degree.

The 5-year Pathway

- **First Year** - Strengthening knowledge in Accounts
- **Second Year** - Building skills in Sales
- **Third Year** - Learning Negotiation and Conflict Management
- **Fourth Year** - Foundational MBA with Core Courses
- **Fifth Year** - Choosing Electives for specialisations

Specialisation Courses

- Business Management
- Entrepreneurship
- Managing Family Business
- Business Journalism

The Integrated MBA cohort is synonymous with the ethos of diversity, inclusivity and equity at Krea.

Integrated MBA Programme Cohort of 2024-29

Total no of students
71



40 Female
31 Male



From various Disciplines



Across boards of education

- Andhra Pradesh Board of Intermediate Education
- Cambridge International Education
- CBSE
- CISCE
- IBDP
- IGSE
- IB
- Kerala Board of Higher Secondary Education
- Maharashtra State Board of Secondary and Higher Secondary Education
- NIOS
- Gujarat Secondary and Higher Secondary Education
- Tamil Nadu Board of Higher Secondary Education
- Telangana Board of Intermediate Education
- Others

Countries of Origin of Integrated BBA+MBA Students*

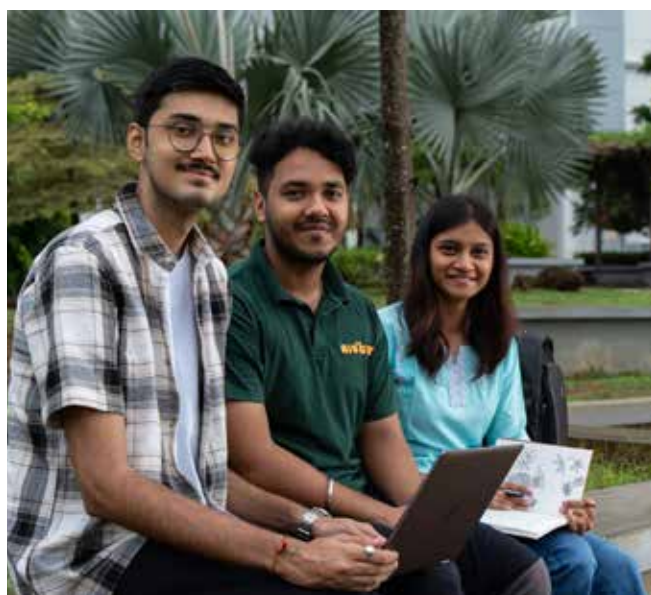


Traversing the length & breadth of India

Andhra Pradesh	4
Bihar	1
Gujarat	1
Haryana	2
Karnataka	7
Kerala	1
Madhya Pradesh	3
Maharashtra	6
Rajasthan	1
Tamil Nadu	24
Telangana	8
Uttar Pradesh	6
West Bengal	1



*6 students hail from the Union Territory and other countries





SIAS UG Programmes

SIAS offers a distinctive undergraduate curriculum in the Humanities, Social Sciences, Literature, Arts and Sciences, taught by distinguished faculty from some of the world's finest academic institutions. The academic programme emphasises the guiding principles of Interwoven Learning, a multi-directional approach to knowledge that encourages creativity, critical thinking, communication, contemplation, cross-disciplinary approaches, real-world implementation, and the ability to negotiate unanswered questions.

The School offers 4 year BA (Honours) and BSc (Honours) degree programmes with an option to exit in the third year with a BA or BSc. The learning experience at SIAS is designed to allow the students to build their academic choices through a strong foundation year followed by deep diving into subjects through Majors and Minors. All majors and minors are housed in the Division of Humanities and Social Sciences, Division of Literature and Arts, and Division of Sciences.

In their first year of undergraduation, students have to complete eleven Core and Skill courses.

The first-year core and skill courses offered are as follows:

Core Courses

- Literature & Arts
- Mathematical Reasoning
- Exploring the Social and the Historical
- Scientific Reasoning
- Philosophical Perspectives Across Cultures
- Creative Expression
- Engaging with the Environment

Skill Courses

- Writing & Oral Communication
- Introduction to Computational Thinking
- Data Analytics
- Design Thinking
- Ethics

Students choose a major in their second year. The majors and minors currently offered are as follows:

14 Majors

Economics, Psychology, Computer Science, Biological Sciences, History, Environmental Studies, Politics, Mathematics, Literature and Arts, Sociology and Social Anthropology, Physics, Chemistry and Data Science

Minors

- Business Studies
- Philosophy
- Global Arts

+ All the 14 Majors can be taken as Minors as well.

Double Majors

Any two subjects offered as majors can be combined to achieve a Double Major.

Beyond geographical boundaries, social brackets and unique individual ideologies, students at SIAS build their stories together.



SIAS Cohort Profile of 2024-28

Total Number of
Students
260+



59.2% Female
40.7% Male
.1% Prefer not to disclose

Milestones that Matter



Financial Assistance Provided:
71 Students



First Generation UG Students: **36**

With Extra-Curricular Interests & Achievements



Sports



Music



Poetry



Classical Dance



Writing



Performing Arts



Film Making



Gaming



Designing



Painting



Debating



Farming

And so much more!

Across Boards of Education

- ✓ Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)
- ✓ IB Board
- ✓ Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations (ISC)
- ✓ CIE A Level/IGCSE
- ✓ Maharashtra State Board of Secondary and Higher Secondary Education
- ✓ National Institute of Open Schooling
- ✓ Andhra Pradesh Board of Intermediate Education
- ✓ Telangana State Board of Intermediate Education
- ✓ Tamil Nadu Board of Higher Secondary Education
- ✓ Kerala Board of Public Examinations
- ✓ Karnataka Board of Pre-University Education
- ✓ American High School Diploma
- And others

Streams opted in Grade XII



Science - 34%



Commerce - 25%



Humanities - 41%

Promising Profiles

- ✓ Published authors
- ✓ Columnist ✓ Actors
- ✓ National air pistol shooter
- ✓ Environmentalists
- ✓ Entrepreneur
- ✓ Social workers
- ✓ Professional drummer
- ✓ Professional athletes
- ✓ TEDx speakers
- ✓ Bloggers ✓ Activists

Countries of Origin

Traversing the length and breadth of the world



Across Indian States

Andhra Pradesh
Assam
Bihar
Chhattisgarh
Goa
Gujarat
Haryana
Himachal Pradesh
Jammu and Kashmir
Jharkhand
Karnataka
Kerala
Madhya Pradesh
Maharashtra
New Delhi
Odisha
Punjab
Rajasthan
Tamil Nadu
Telangana
Uttar Pradesh
West Bengal



1 - 20
21 - 40
41 - 60
Above 61

KREA DOCTORAL COLLEGE

SIAS invited PhD applications in the following eight disciplines:

- Biological Sciences
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Environmental Studies
- Sociology and Social Anthropology
- Politics
- History
- Mathematics

Additionally, the Moturi Satyanarayana Fellowship in Indian History was also announced this year.

Five full-time PhD scholars were onboarded, two of whom are Moturi Satyanarayana PhD Fellows in Indian History and one each in physics, biological sciences and politics.

IFMR GSB offered PhD in Management, with the following specialisations:

- Economics
- Data Science & Information Systems
- Operations Management
- Finance and Accounting
- Strategy Management
- Marketing
- OB & HR

Three executive PhD scholars were onboarded. All three scholars are alumni of the IFMR GSB MBA programme, which speaks to the quality of research training at Krea.

The PhD scholars admitted in AY 2025-26 across the schools come from diverse professional backgrounds. Two executive PhDs are currently employed at Deloitte and one executive PhD is affiliated with The World Bank. The batch comprises students from different parts of the country. The youngest scholar is 24 years old and the oldest is 37 years old.

The Doctorate Degree was conferred to the following scholars during Convocation 2025 held on June 14, 2025:

Kalyani Paul

Thesis title: Essays in Environmental Regulation and Firm Outcomes in India

Supervisor: Dr Jyoti Prasad Mukhopadhyay

Ajmal TK

Thesis title: Empirical Essays on Tax Avoidance in India

Supervisor: Professor G Balasubramanian



Krea Summer School Programme

Over 100 bright high school students from across the country came to Krea and charted a stellar chapter of their own as part of the Krea Summer School programme. The first batch was held from 27 April to 4 May 2025 and the June edition from 22 to 29 June 2025. Learners created innumerable memories through tailor made academic programmes, immersive workshops, peer learning, field visits and much more. Students chose one of three programmes offered this summer — Hide and Seek, Connect the Dots, and Building Blocks. They also put their heads together, ideated, tapped their feet in unison, encouraged each other, forged friendships and took home memories for life. From knowledge packed classes, interesting presentations, elevator pitches, a visit to ISRO.



EXECUTIVE EDUCATION AT IFMR GSB

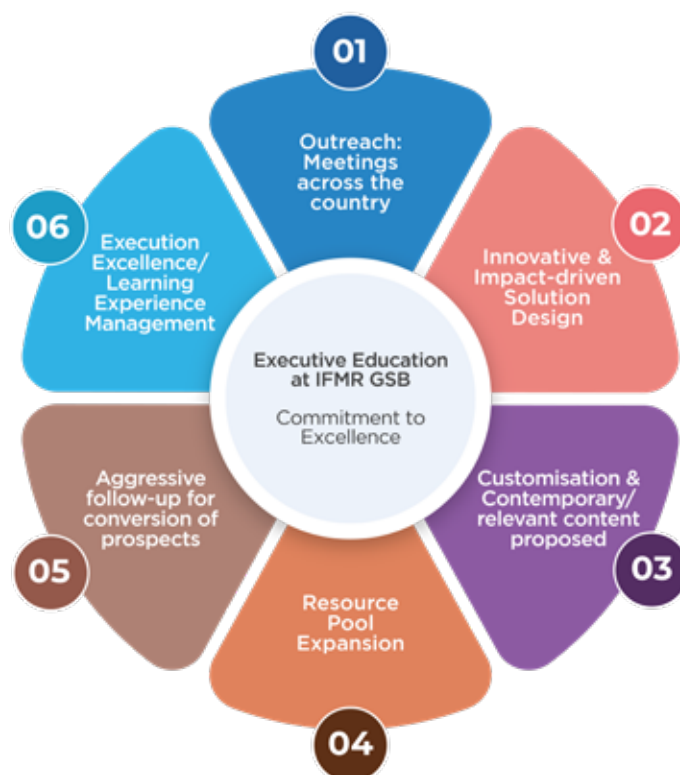
The Executive Education offerings at IFMR GSB, Krea University are a unique blend of legacy expertise and fresh agility. The combination of IFMR's (Institute for Financial Management and Research) rich history in financial executive education and research with a renewed approach to education through the Interwoven Learning approach. Today it covers the entire length and breadth of management education including some of the emerging areas of management.

The team aims to develop and deliver impact-driven modular programmes that help leverage learning for client organisations across business verticals, helping performance-driven senior executives seeking to broaden their knowledge, embrace future competencies leading to their growth in their organisations apart from fresh executives learning the ropes of the sector or a mid-level manager ready to enhance their skills to meet the future workplace demands.

Key Highlights

New courses, programmes and programme synopsis

- **TVS Motors** : A unique programme for the HR Leaders of TVS motors was delivered for understanding HR next practices covering Behavioural economics, Ethnography and Anthropology.
- **Aditya Birla Group**: Working capital management programme was delivered for the functional heads of the Aditya Birla group of companies including Aditya Birla retail, Grasim, Hindalco, Ultra tech Cement at their Learning centre Gnadoya at Mumbai.
- **Sony India Software Services**: The audience consisted of the top Management lead by their MD and his direct reports on strategy and strategic thinking and later for the middle management on Emotional intelligence.
- **City Union bank** : A 6 month learning journey was crafted and delivered for the senior leaders of City Union bank covering topics ranging from Leadership, Finance and risk management, Strategy, ESG and sustainability, Digital banking and customer centricity and delivered in a hybrid format.
- **Sanmar Group** : Finance for non finance



programmes was delivered for the managers of Sanmar group .

- **Magic tamil** : A leading ebook app driven company competing with Amazon chose Krea University for a three day programme for entrepreneurs ,
- **Mindsprint** : A well known GCC arm of Olam International , experienced our programme on strategy, strategic thinking and Business acumen for their leaders.
- **Sundaram Finance** : A programme on general management was delivered for their Zonal managers on subjects ranging from Finance, digital finance, business value creation and measurement, risk management , customer value analysis and digital marketing.
- **Hyundai Motors**: Several programmes ranging from
 - Boundary less working, Leadership
 - Consulting and coaching for the union leaders and management ahead of their long term settlement for bonding
 - A learning journey for the maintenance leaders over 6 months

- Thryve Digital : A programme on finance for senior operations managers of the GCC Thryve which has a global presence.
- L&T Ascent II – Competency based Leadership Development Program- a 120 hours, Batch 3 hybrid Leadership intervention for the high potential leaders, currently at middle management levels at Larsen & Toubro conglomerate at L&T Leadership Development Academy, Lonavla
- L&T Hydrocarbon Ltd – ‘Strategic Analysis & Investment Decisions’ for General Managers – 40 in number across 2 batches. The two-day program enables participants with tools, techniques and frameworks to Analyse situations, take relevant information from humungous information available from multiple sources towards investment decision making
- Open Program – Profitability Analytics – 22 participants – from automotive Tier I suppliers on analysing organisational revenues, costs and investments
- L&T EDP – 4 batches – General Management Program for 1st Time Managers
- Shibaura Machines India (Toshiba Machines) – Residential 1 week long residential program – 3 batches - 1 batch each of Managerial Development Program, Executive Development Program and Supervisory Development Program – General Management Program
- TAFE / TMTL – Residential 3 & 2 day programs - Finance for Operations and Sales & Marketing Managers- 3 batches each

New corporate tie ups

- Aditya Birla Group
- TVS Motors
- City Union Bank
- Sanmar Group
- Sony India Software Services
- Thryve Digital
- Brakes India Ltd
- Rane Holdings
- Rane NSK
- Rane ZF
- Simpson & Co

Student distribution across electives/specialisation in L&T 2024-25

	MBA L&T 2023-26	MBA L&T 2022-25
Area	No of students	No of students
Finance	27	30
OB&HR	1	2
Operations	1	5
Total No Students	29	37

The 24~27 Batch has 37 participants- They will choose their specialisation shortly.



REACHING OUT BEYOND THE KREAVEVERSE

Outreach and Admissions

IFMR GSB, has an Admissions process which is rigorous yet holistic, evaluating applicants with tailor made rounds catering to diverse aspirants.

Highlights

- This year new partnership research was done, for lead generation and digital branding multiple vendors were onboarded such as Shiksha.com, Collegedunia, MBA Universe, Career launcher, TIME and many more.
- Digital marketing efforts were strategised and an agency onboarded to run brand and Google AdWords campaign, which has significantly reduced the per application cost.
- For the MBA programme, the CMAT cut off was improved to 97 percentile and CAT cut off was kept at 75 percentile.
- All MBA entrance interviews were conducted offline mode, an offline interviews' drive of around 800 interviews in 14 cities within a month.
- Top 5 application contributions were from Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Madhya Pradesh.
- The admission timeline was pushed a little to conduct offline interviews smoothly, this has improved the withdrawal percentage, and we have observed a significant drop in withdrawals as compared to the previous year.



Programme Name	Applications Received	Offers Issued	Admissions
MBA	2334	674	264
BBA	698	312	72

At SIAS, the holistic admissions process goes beyond the academic scores and gauges potential through varied aspects.

Admission Process

Stage 1

ONLINE APPLICATION

The online application form consists of the following sections:

- Personal story
- Personal information
- Scores from grades 9-12, Grade 12 predicted scores (self-predicted/school predicted)
- Co-curricular, and extracurricular activities

ONLINE ASSESSMENT

Students who submit their application with all the relevant documents will appear for the Krea Aptitude Test (75 minutes) that comprises the following four sections:

- Logical Reasoning
- Numerical Reasoning
- Verbal Ability and Critical Analysis
- Essay Writing

This step helps Krea gauge students' abilities to organise, synthesise, and articulate thoughts on various aspects of a given topic, and understand the well-rounded perspectives of the aspirant.

Stage 2

Based on the application review and student performance in the Krea Aptitude Test, candidates will move to the next stage of the Admissions process, which comprises the Krea Immersive Case analysis and/or personal interaction.

KREA IMMERSIVE CASE ANALYSIS (KIC)

The case discussions will comprise a group of fellow candidates and panelists. The Krea Immersive Case analysis is a mere tool to enable candidates to be able to articulate their thoughts with more liberty and clarity.

PERSONAL INTERACTION

Personal interactions will be held individually and will comprise a panel of faculty members.

In line with our mission rooted in diversity and inclusivity, we are resolute to provide aspirants opportunities to be assessed by varied techniques and not just a singular one. This helps candidates be their authentic selves and helps them understand if Krea is the right fit for them.

This year addition in terms of partnerships and outreach, there were focused efforts:

- We partnered with Mindler which works with schools and students across India. Mindler is a third party hired by schools to guide their students towards universities in India and they have showcased Krea as the top choice in Liberal arts and Sciences segment.
- Tracked the schools which have provided applications and admissions in past years, and we could cover more than 75% of those schools via various focused activities.
- A new outreach initiative was launched where Krea would partner with schools through an MoU to facilitate research for high school students. This led to stronger relationships with the schools.
- The outreach team covered more than 350 schools across India via various activities, successfully conducting multiple open-house, counselors meet-ups and school principal conclave.
- Recorded an all time high number of applications in SIAS which also led to an all time high number of offers released for SIAS.
- Observing that school counselors play a vital role in university selection for a student hence the team worked closely with school counselors and also organised a counselor's visit to campus which was attended by more than 50 representatives.
- Adopted a more aggressive approach on digital marketing front, launched targeted Google AdWords campaign, counter campaigns were launched to save our application being targeted by competitors, Search engine optimization for our existing website to list better on google search pages, successful re-marketing campaigns on YouTube and Instagram along with content creation on Quora.
- Significantly increased our pool of applications and admissions from the northern part of the country.
- The team worked on the promotion of Krea Summer School and organised exclusive events to promote the same, increasing our summer school admissions by 4 fold.
- To overcome a challenge in our previous admissions timelines where a large gap comes around the board exams causing us to lose applicants, we broke down the admission timeline and added one more round of admissions.

AMPLIFYING BRAND ETHOS

COMMUNICATIONS DESK AT KREA

The role of the Communications Team at Krea is to enhance Krea's reputation, attract exceptional students, faculty, and staff, motivate external stakeholders to collaborate with the university, and cultivate a strong sense of unity and commitment within the Krea community. In our attempt to build brand Krea, and amplify to a larger universe, the many initiatives and events unfurling in the institution, the Communications Team has been committed to creating content in a manner that is authentic, consistent, and engaging.

**OUR COLOURS
DRIVE
ACCESSIBILITY
AND UNIQUELY
SPOTLIGHT EACH
PROGRAMME IN
OUR ECOSYSTEM**



One of the major projects undertaken by the team in 2024-25 was revamping Krea University's brand guidelines. This helped in providing a unique identity to each school and its programmes yet weaving them into the story that's Krea.

Applying the Brand: Stationery, Print & Merchandise

In this Section

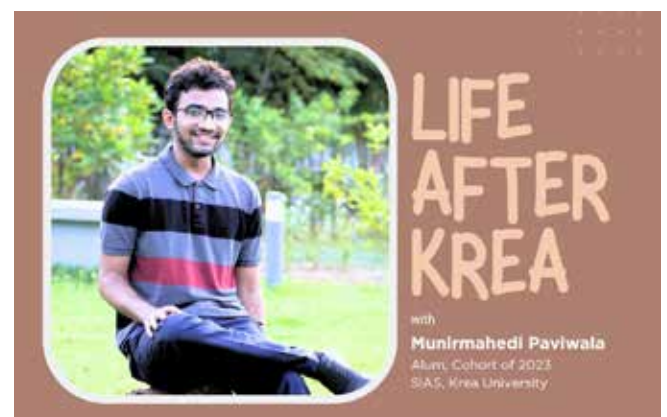


This year we ran a multitude of social media campaigns which involved stakeholders from both within and beyond the Kreaverse. 'Architects of Impact' exhibited critical ongoing projects of our research centres. 'Decoding Disciplines' shed light on the subject offerings at Krea. 'Onwards and Upwards' showcased SIAS placement stories. 'Decoding Interwoven Learning' included students explaining how Interwoven Learning pedagogy had helped them. 'A Walk Down Memory Lane' took us through notes of nostalgia from the outgoing cohorts of 2024. 'IFMR GSB Placement Diaries' took us through the experiences of the 2024 cohort's employment experiences. 'Dear First Year Me' had senior students welcoming the



incoming cohort by sharing their journeys from uncertain beginnings to thriving in a supportive environment at Krea. 'Life After Krea' took a walk through the journey of our alumni beyond Krea. 'One Month at Krea' showcased students and their initial month at the university. 'IFMR GSB Internship Diaries' took students through the internship experiences of the MBA cohort of 2022-25. 'The Perfect Fit' included speaking to IFMR GSB students deep-diving into their choices of specialisations, including the why and how. 'My Major Moment' involved students voicing out their thoughts on why they chose a specific major at SIAS. The 'PhD at Krea' campaign showcased PhD scholars, their takeaways from the Krea PhD, including the pedagogy, opportunities and support delivered. During the year the team also ideated and created various audio-visual projects that revolved around various facets of Krea, with the aim to enhance the university's brand perception.

Krea, this Week, our weekly newsletter continued strong with its weekly editions. The Krea University Podcast added new segments such as Beyond the Vision, focusing on entrepreneurship with students from the Centre for Entrepreneurship.



These are just a few of many. For the upcoming year, there is so much more in store.

LIFE BEYOND KREA

Placements and Higher-Education Opportunities

Students from both schools chose diverse roles, higher-education options and organizations and universities that are the best in the field, nationally and globally. Corporate Relations and Career Services (CRCS) team at IFMR GSB and Career Services Office (CSO) at SIAS helm the initiatives and activities across placements, internships and higher education support.

IFMR GSB

95% from IFMR GSB's 2023-25 Cohort Placed in Top BFSI, Consulting, and IT Firms.

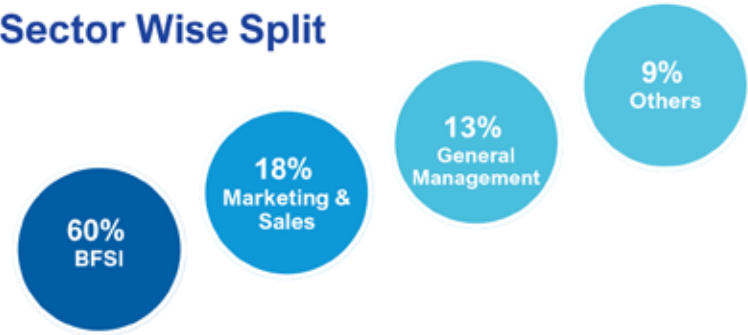
Placements MBA 2023-25



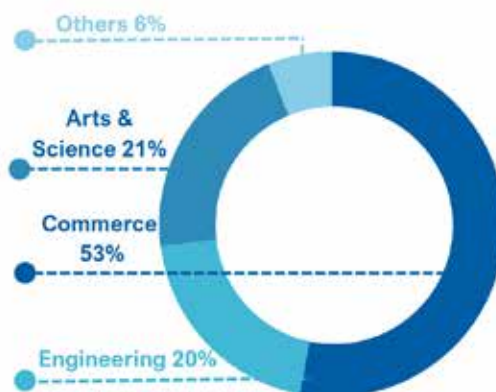
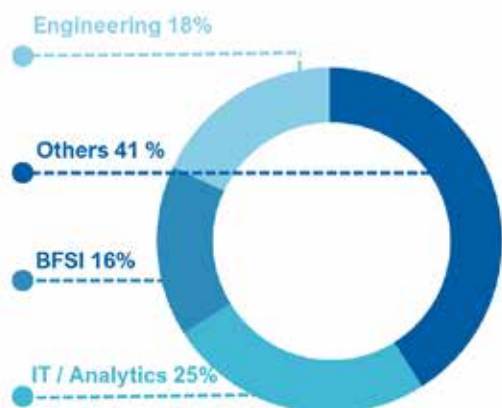
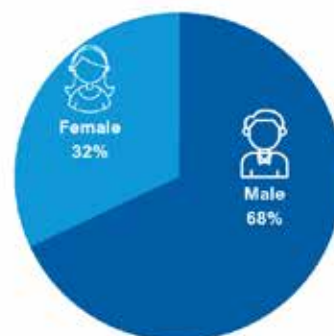
Percentile wise CTC



Sector Wise Split



MBA BATCH Profile 2024-26




19.2 Months
Average Work Experience


282
Batch Strength
*21 Students got admission through Andhra Pradesh SET



Prominent Final Placement Recruiters 2024-25



Roles Offered Final Placements

- Global Finance & Business Management
- Corporate Analyst
- Global Research & Risk Solutions
- Management Trainee - Global Analytics Centre
- Management Trainee
- Modal Risk Management
- Business Valuation
- Risk and Financial Advisory
- Risk Consulting - Tech Risk
- Business Banking
- Global Payment Solutions
- Credit Risk
- Management Trainee – Finance & Control
- Associate - Cyber Risk
- Associate Consultant
- Analyst - Financial Operations
- Analyst - Financial Data and Documentation Services - Treasury
- Business Analyst
- Senior Analyst - Portfolio Management Group
- Deputy Manager (Financial Crime Intelligence)
- Staff Consultant - Financial Service
- Global Market Operation
- Risk Finance and Treasury
- Territory Manager
- Consultant - Risk Advisory
- Credit Risk Reporting
- Management Trainee - Credit
- Area Sales Manager
- Officer – Sales & Client Acquisition
- Data Scientist - Management Trainee
- Senior Management Trainee – Strategic Accounts
- Relationship Manager
- Banking and Financial Services Manager Treasury
- Credit Underwriting
- Product Manager
- Key Account Manager



Summer Internships MBA 2024-26

**Average
Stipend**

₹22,000 p.m.

**Median
Stipend**

₹15,000 p.m.

**Highest
Stipend**

₹75,000 p.m.

Percentile wise Stipend

**Top
10%ile**

₹72,000 p.m.

**Top
25%ile**

₹59,000 p.m.

**Top
50%ile**

₹37,000 p.m.

Sector Wise Split

**56%
BFSI**

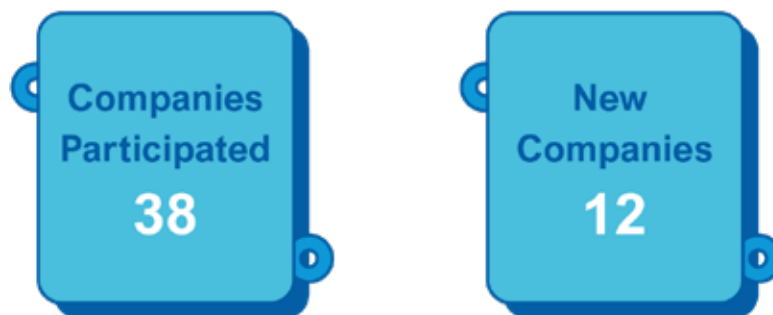
**31%
IT &
Analytics**

**7%
Consulting**

**6%
Marketing &
Others**



Prominent Summer Internship Recruiters 2024-25



Sessions

15 talks by industry experts were organised over the year to help students open up their minds and understand the corporate world through the lens of established industry leaders. 61 preparatory talk sessions were also conducted to help them gear up for placements.

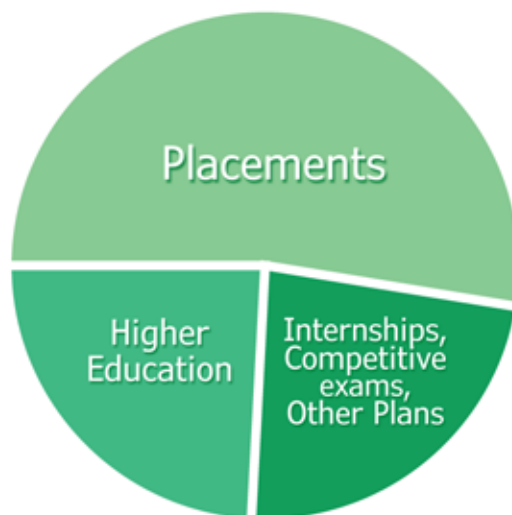
Alumni Engagement

On 8 December 2024, Anunaad 2024, the Chennai chapter brought together alumni from various years at IFMR GSB in an afternoon filled with memories, experiences and learning. Everyone took a pause and travelled down the memory lane, the ones made in the corridors of IFMR GSB, re-visiting lessons learnt within the classrooms and re-embarking on tales etched, beyond.

Placements and Higher-Ed Opportunities

Students from both schools chose diverse roles, higher-education options and organizations and universities that are the best in the field, nationally and globally. Corporate Relations and Career Services (CRCS) team at IFMR GSB and Career Services Office (CSO) at SIAS help the initiatives and activities across placements, internships and higher education support.

SIAS

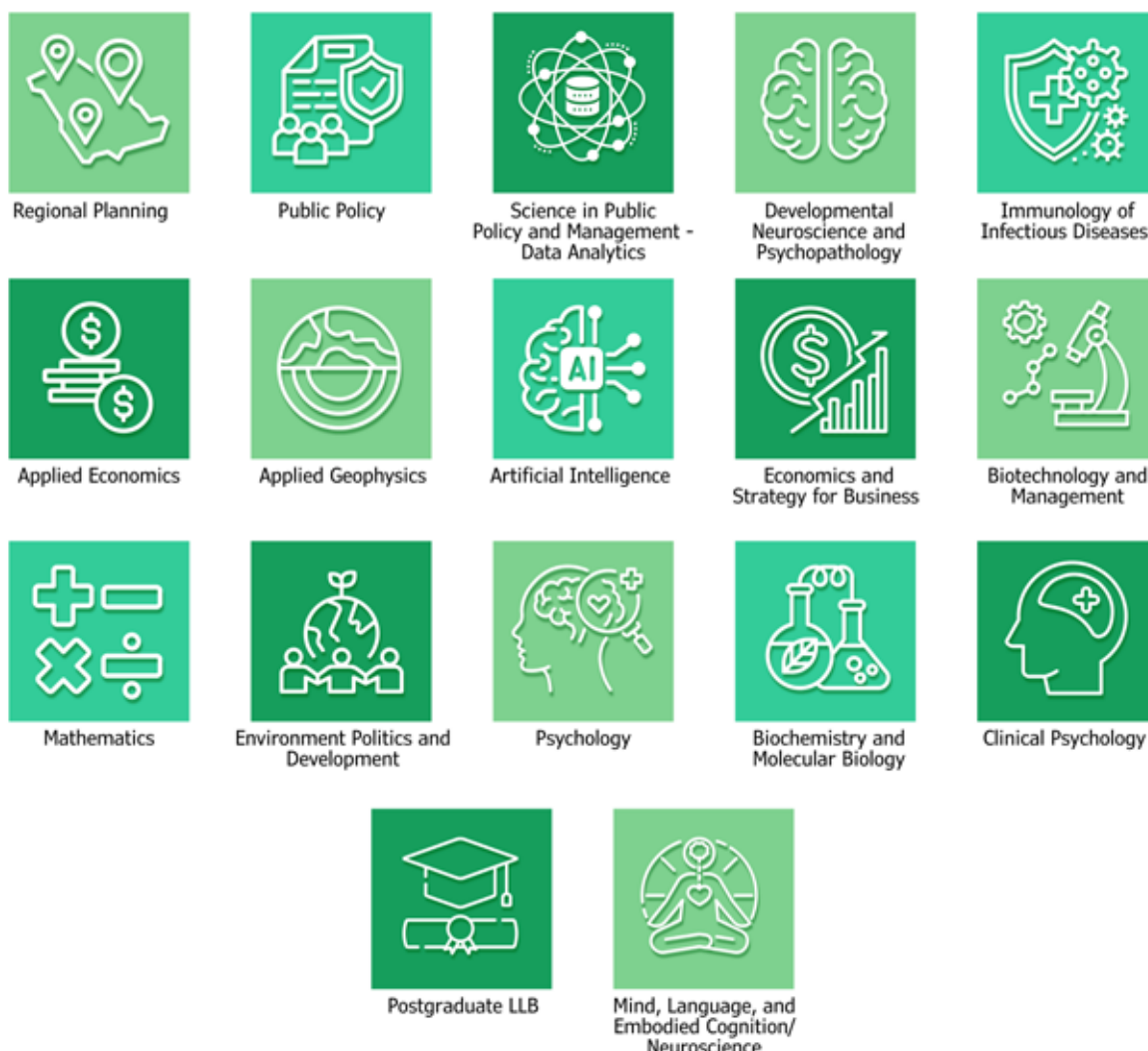


Placements: **57%**
 Higher Education: **23%**
 Internships, Competitive exams, Other Plans: **20%**
 Total no of graduates (Cohort of 2025): **108**

Our Kreators received offers from top universities across globe like:



Our Kreators received offers from top universities across globe like:



Our students are stepping into roles with leading organisations across industries



Roles

- Analyst
- Management Trainee
- Advisory Consulting
- Account Management or Creative – Copywriter
- Business Analyst
- Program Associate
- Pre-Sales/Project coordinator
- Assistant Curriculum Developer
- Copywriter
- HR -Trainee
- Operations - Associate
- Research Assistant
- Business Development Associate
- Product Design & Testing Intern
- Occupational Therapist

Sectors



Risk Consulting/
Enterprise Risk



Financial
Research



G&PS – E&S practice
at KPMG in India



Education



Technology
Services



Services



Research



IT



Management

Social Impact Internships

In 2025, 40+ SIAS students opted for social impact internships and received internship offers that commenced in May 2025. They were placed with organisations like Karta, Assist, The Unify Collective, Agastya International Foundation, Pratham and Centa.

No of Organisations	30
No of Projects offered	55
No of Interns required	125
No of Students Placed (Internships)	40

* Self found: 59

Nearly 50 + Year 1 students also pursued self procured internships with organisations The Hindu, Ernst & Young, Khan Academy, National Foundation of India (NFI), The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), IEMA etc.

Industry Internships

During the summer of their second year, students take part in the Industry Internships Programme. Guided by student interest form responses, the CSO partners with organizations across a wide range of sectors. This year, student interests included areas such as consulting, finance, startups, and policy roles.

In 2025, more than 60 students secured industry internship roles across a variety of organizations, including Maritide, Lumiere Education, Coral Research, Inclusion Economics India Centre (IEC), The Red Pen (TRP), Aureolis Ventures, and Triedge. In addition, several students pursued research opportunities with Krea faculty and at institutions such as IISER Mohali and BITS Mesra.

-We had 20 organisations offering 30+ projects requiring 50+ interns

No of Organisations	20
No of Projects offered	30
No of Interns required	125
No of Students Placed (Internships)	40

* Self found: 100

Additionally, over 100 students independently secured internships with prestigious organizations such as The Hindu, The Week, PepsiCo, Ogilvy & Mather Pvt. Ltd., Longevity India at IISc Bengaluru, IIT Gandhinagar, DIYA Robotics, and more.

Research Internships

A key component of the internship experience each year is the Research Internships Programme, where students assist Krea faculty with their ongoing projects. This opportunity provides students with firsthand exposure to academic research, guided by the very faculty who design and teach Krea's curriculum.

This cycle, over 15 research opportunities were shared with students and 30 students were selected for the research internship programme.

Cohort	No of Students
Year 1	3
Year 2 and Year 3	25

This summer, Krea faculty-led research internships spanned diverse disciplines like Economics, Business Studies, Political Science, and Environmental Science. Students gained practical experience in key research activities, including fieldwork, literature reviews, and data analysis.

Topics of interest include, (a) studying the basics of these atmospheric layers and organizing relevant datasets. The research will utilize existing NASA satellite data to address these knowledge gaps (b) Economic cost of religious conflict © Using a mixed-methods approach—qualitative interviews and experimental tests—the research will uncover how platform features influence users' emotional bonds with these brands.

Externships

Throughout the academic year, we provided students with externship opportunities that enabled them to work on projects alongside their coursework. Over 20 SIAS students gained valuable work experience while continuing their studies at Krea

Our students engaged in meaningful and rewarding externships with organisations such as Child Mental Health, Carpediem, The Unify Collective, Udaan Therapy Centre, and TADS Education Services. The Child Mental Health externship focused on public mental health issues. Carpediem also offered valuable opportunities, with Deepa Parihar serving as an Inclusive Learning Advocate and Hemani Kanwala contributing as a Psychology Content Creator

Career Planning, Industry and Research Talks

Pre-placement talks by prospective employers, such as Ernst & Young and NIIT for students interested in placement or internship opportunities

Title	Workshop/ Seminar
Pre-Placement Talk by Ernst & Young	Presentation
Pre-Placement Talk by NIIT	Presentation + Conversation
Pre-Placement Talk by The Red Pen	Presentation + Conversation
Pre-Placement Talk by FCB	Pre-Placement Talk
Pre-Placement Talk by KPMG	Pre-Placement Talk
Pre-Placement Talk by Flipkart	Pre-Placement Talk

Higher Education Support

According to a survey conducted by the CSO in August 2024, 40% of the graduating batch expressed interest in pursuing master's degrees. In response, the CSO partnered with an education consultancy firm to support students with applications, timelines, resumes, SOPs, and related guidance

The education consultancy also awarded scholarships to Year 3 and Year 4 students applying for master's abroad. This involved close monitoring and guidance for the postgraduate applications.

Names of scholarship recipients:

1. Nandish Hiremath
2. Sneha Sucharita Pillai.
3. Shitoshna Rastogi

Higher Education Talks/sessions conducted:

Workshops & webinars conducted during Academic Year 2024-2025	
Aug 2024	TRP webinar: Actionable strategies to craft standout resumes, optimize your LinkedIn profiles, and master the art of interviewing.
Sept 2024	Higher Ed Town Hall
Oct 24	Study abroad timeline and planning your summers effectively
	Effective college research: How do I identify the best fit program and university for me?
	Day 3: Writing an impactful Statement of Purpose (For year 3 and Year 4): What should I include and what should I omit and why?
Dec 24	Alumni Connect with Inika and Charita (batch of 24)
Jan 25	TRP One on One sessions with higher ed applicants
Feb25	Workshop: Statement of Purpose Webinar: Resume Writing TRP One on One sessions with higher ed applicants

Partnerships

Krea continues to cement pivotal partnerships across the globe, 2024-25 had us inking the line with Sciences Po and University of Exeter, adding to the existing bouquet of partnerships with Northeastern University, University of Bristol and Sussex University.

The CSO engaged with numerous universities to introduce Krea and explore potential partnership opportunities. The higher education event held on campus provided an excellent platform to showcase Krea's diverse student community.

Other highlights include :

1. The third edition of the Higher Education Fair was hosted on the Krea campus on 30 November 2024. The event was attended by 20+ universities and 4 country representatives and a large number of students from Year 1 to Year 4 (SIAS), and some BBA students (GSB).

The HEF was attended by country representatives of Education New Zealand, Campus France, Australia, EducationUSA at USIEF. There were

also University representatives from Northeastern University, IE University, Queen Mary University of London, University of Liverpool to name a few.

The event was designed to introduce Krea undergraduate students to opportunities available after graduation. It provided a valuable platform to welcome university representatives and government officials from various countries, helping showcase Krea, strengthen relationships, and expand our network.

2. Batch Profile: The CSO has created a batch profile for students seeking placements after their UG from SIAS: <https://krea.edu.in/sias/students-list/>. This has been well received by the students and prospective employers.

Alumni Engagement

CSO four alumni to engage with Year 3 and Year 4 students in a session focused on master's admissions in the UK

The CSO sends a newsletter to Alumni on a weekly basis through Almashines alumni connect Portal. We have also shared 10+ job opportunities from

organisations like The Arts Quotient, Pari Washington, ISL to name a few. A mentorship programme wherein current students are paired with alumni with similar interests is in the pipeline.

We received several internship and full-time opportunities through the support of our alumni network, highlighting the strong bonds and continued engagement of Krea graduates. These contributions have played a valuable role in expanding career pathways for our students. We look forward to deepening these connections and further strengthening the alumni network to create more such meaningful opportunities in the future.



STUDENTS IN SPOTLIGHT

The academic year 2024-2025 at Krea University has been a successful one for our talented and accomplished students.

SIAS

Krea University's academic contingent comprising - Dheer Panjwani, Manan Malik, Mudit Kohli, Sarthak Bhargava, and Sibhi Aravindan, SIAS excelled at Biswamil 2024, hosted by OP Jindal College. The Krea academic contingent, led by student Dheer Panjwani, participated in multiple competitions at Biswamil and impressively secured first place in every event they entered. For example, Krea students won the "Stock Market Fiasco" finance event, among others. Team members Manan Malik, Mudit Kohli, Sibhi Aravindan, and Saarthak Bhargava each topped their respective contests, demonstrating Krea's academic caliber and versatile talent on a national stage. This dominant performance by our students, bringing home several trophies from Biswamil '24, was a proud moment for the University community.



Sibhi Aravindan and Dheer Panjwani, second-year BA/BSc students, won 1st Place in an online debate competition hosted by IIM Ranchi in August 2024. Competing against teams from across the country in "Terra Nullius" – an inter-collegiate debate – the Krea duo emerged champions, earning a ₹20,000 cash prize. This achievement showcased the oratory and critical thinking skills nurtured at SIAS.

Aarthi Venkatesh, SIAS, was selected to present her research at SAFAL - 2024, IIT Bombay

Sparsh Makharia, SIAS, was selected as a LINC Fellow for 2024-25

Tishaa Kumar, SIAS, Krea University, Cohort of 2023-27 recently secured first place in the Tamil Nadu State Championship in powerlifting in Salem. She achieved a total lift of 245 kgs across Squat, Bench Press, and Deadlift. Tishaa won 4 gold medals in both the juniors and seniors categories. This achievement reflects Tishaa's hard work and dedication.

Photography Competition Winner (SIAS): Shreya Kabadi, a third-year SIAS student, won First Prize in Photography at Abhisarga 2024, the annual inter-collegiate cultural fest hosted by IIIT Sri City. Shreya's photograph was adjudged the best among 110 entries submitted from across India in the preliminary round. She then topped the final round held on-site at IIIT Sri City, thanks to her keen eye and storytelling through images. Shreya credited Krea's Media Lab and her campus experiences for honing her skills, and her victory in this national-level cultural competition is a testament to the creative growth of our students.



Design and Innovation: Krea students also shone in design and innovation contests. , Cohort of 2022–26 won the Synergy 2025 Logo Design Competition, having her design selected as the official logo for a major industry event. Isha's creative concept and artistic skills earned her this distinction, and in a Krea feature she shared the inspiration behind her winning logo. Such achievements highlight the blend of liberal arts and practical skills that Krea fosters.

In summary, Krea's students – from undergraduate liberal arts to MBA – have excelled in diverse arenas including debates, cultural arts, writing,

and business competitions. These individual achievements not only enriched the students' personal growth but also enhanced Krea University's reputation for nurturing well-rounded, high-achieving individuals. The University formally recognized and celebrated these accomplishments through its "Student Spotlight" features and social media updates, inspiring other students to aim high.

IFMR GSB

IFMR GSB MBA students Urvashi Gupta, Purna Dhingra, and Poorva Rathore shine at IMT Hyderabad's Impelz 10.0



Abinav Ram Kumar and Tejasvini Karthikeyan from IFMR GSB bagged the 1st Prize in Finance Fast Forward Competition (F3) organised by J.P Morgan Chase & Co

Malyaj Jain, MBA Cohort of 2023-25, IFMR Graduate School of Business (GSB) has won the Young Business Leader competition, the flagship event at T. A. Pai Management Institute (TAPMI)



Three first-year MBA students from IFMR Graduate School of Business (GSB) — Rahul Kumar, Jayesh Sharma and Harsh Verma — secured second place in Entrée-preneurship 7.0, an online case study competition held as part of Tangerine Trails, organised by the Entrepreneurship Cell of IIM Nagpur on 16 December, 2024.



Ananya Manikandan, Cohort of 2023-25 from IFMR GSB secured second place in a national-level competition organised by XIMB. She also secured First Place (with a cash award) in the "CRE-AI-tive Writing" competition at Chrysalis 2024-25, a national-level B-school fest organised by Loyola Institute of Business Administration (LIBA), Chennai. On 12 February 2025, Ananya excelled through two challenging rounds – including composing AI-assisted poetry and a short story – outperforming peers from other top B-schools. In addition, her article "India's Fintech Revolution: How Startups Are Reshaping the Financial Landscape" was recognized as "Article of the Quarter" in the inaugural issue of Management Manuscripts, a management magazine by JNU Delhi. These dual achievements reflect the diverse talents of our MBA students, blending creativity, technical savvy, and thought leadership.



Abinav Ram Kumar and Tejasvini Karthikeyan, Cohort of 2024-26 secured the first place at the prestigious Finance Fast Forward Competition (F3) conducted by JPMorgan Chase & Co., on 20 September, 2024 in the Mumbai office of JPMC



LAURELS AND ACCOLADES

Climate Olympiad '24

Ritvic Paarekh, Cohort of 2022-25, SIAS, Krea University, cleared the semi-finals of the Climate Olympiad 2024. The Olympiad is designed to encourage students to develop solutions to climate and environmental challenges.



From the Mountains - Extracurricular Achievements outside Krea

In some thrilling news from the mountains, Arnav Bajoria, SIAS Cohort of 2023-27, successfully completed a trek to Kala Patthar (5645 m) and the Everest Base Camp (5364 m) on 29 May 2024, coinciding with International Everest Day.

MEDALS AND MERIT CERTIFICATE WINNERS

IFMR GSB MBA 2023-25

Merit-cum-Means Scholarships

Akshatha N M
Akshay Chander Mirani
Anshuman Shankar
Malyaj Jain
Nikhil Shukla
Yuwampuri Goswami

Merit Awards

1st C. M. Kothari	2023-25	Ananya M
2nd A. Sivasailam	2023-25	Anshuman Shankar
3rd A. M. M. Arunachalam	2023-25	VLVS Chaitanya
4th H. T. Parekh (Best All-Round)	2023-25	Ananya M

SIAS

Full Name	Batch	3/4YUP	Opting for	Remarks
Netra Krishna	2021-24	4 YUP	Double Major	Secured Highest CGPA in the Double Major 4YUP
Suhaava Kaur Kooner	2021-24	4YUP	Single Major	Secured Highest CGPA in the Single Major 4YUP in BIOS
P Vidisha Ponnappa	2021-24	4YUP	Single Major	Secured Highest CGPA in the Single Major 4YUP in CS
Anish Kumar	2021-24	4YUP	Single Major	Secured Highest CGPA in the Single Major 4YUP in ECON
Shloka Uchil	2021-24	4YUP	Single Major	Secured Highest CGPA in the Single Major 4YUP in ENVS
Rananjay Nair	2021-24	4YUP	Single Major	Secured Highest CGPA in the Single Major 4YUP in MATH
Anoop Yadav	2021-24	4YUP	Single Major	Secured Highest CGPA in the Single Major 4YUP in PHYS
Shaikh Nemat Parveen Mohd Israil	2021-24	4YUP	Single Major	Secured Highest CGPA in the Single Major 4YUP in POLT
Priyanka Prasanna Acharya	2021-24	4YUP	Single Major	Secured Highest CGPA in the Single Major 4YUP in PSYC
Reeva Agarwalla	2022-25	3YUP	Joint Major	Secured Highest CGPA in the Single Major 3YUP in Jt. Major POLT & HIST
Granville Dominic Austin	2022-25	3YUP	Single Major	Secured Highest CGPA in the Single Major 3YUP in BIOS
Muskan Aneja	2022-25	3YUP	Single Major	Secured Highest CGPA in the Single Major 3YUP in CS

Sneha Sucharita Palei	2022-25	3YUP	Single Major	Secured Highest CGPA in the Single Major 3YUP in ECON
Trisha Raghavendra Putturaya	2022-25	3YUP	Single Major	Secured Highest CGPA in the Single Major 3YUP in ENVS
Aditya Chauhan	2022-25	3YUP	Single Major	Secured Highest CGPA in the Single Major 3YUP in HIST
Chandak Devanshi Anand	2022-25	3YUP	Single Major	Secured Highest CGPA in the Single Major 3YUP in LITT
Jainab Shaikh	2022-25	3YUP	Single Major	Secured Highest CGPA in the Single Major 3YUP in MATH
Anusha A Prajapati	2022-25	3YUP	Single Major	Secured Highest CGPA in the Single Major 3YUP in PHYS
Uditi Lunawat	2022-25	3YUP	Single Major	Secured Highest CGPA in the Single Major 3YUP in POLT
Jia Makharria	2022-25	3YUP	Single Major	Secured Highest CGPA in the Single Major 3YUP in PSYC
Vedantam Karthikeya Tanav	2022-25	3YUP	Single Major	Secured Highest CGPA in the Single Major 3YUP in SS



Paper Presentations by PhD Scholars

Name	Title of the paper	Conference /Symposium
Kumar Ashutosh	Beyond Food Security: Green Revolution and Excess Body Weight Risks among Women in India	6th Annual Economics Conference, Ahmedabad University, India, 2025
Kumar Ashutosh	Street Safety: Fuel to Girls' Secondary Schooling in India	16th Annual IMR Doctoral Conference, Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore, India, 2025
Utkarsh Choudhary	The Mitigating impact of technology at crisis times	XIX International Conference on Public Policy and Management
Utkarsh Choudhary and Dr Sumit Mishra	Political Mobilization and electoral outcomes: Impact of Bharat Jodo Yatra	1. XIX ISI Delhi Annual Conference 2. 6th Annual Economics Conference, Ahmedabad University
Mohammed Hashim	Regional Disparities in India: Evidence of Uneven Development in Karnataka	Crossroads PhD Colloquium, Centre for Development Studies, Kerala (March 2025)
Mohammed Hashim	Illuminating Inequality: Intra-State Economic Convergence and Regional Disparities in Karnataka, India	1. Spatial Econometrics Workshop and PhD Colloquium at IIT Indore, Madhya Pradesh, India (November 2024) 2. Eighth Annual Meeting of the Portuguese Association for Political Economy, University of Coimbra, Portugal (September 2024)
Mugdha Kinhikar, Dr Soumya Pal	Does Fiscal Position of States matter in allocation of Climate Adaptation Funds in India?	Annual Conference of Economics and Finance, BITS Pilani, Hyderabad Campus (4th-6th February,2025)
Jyothis Maria Franklin, Dr Jayasankar Ramanthan	A Bibliometric Study of the Literature on Advertising Ethics	American Marketing Association (AMA) Winter Academic Conference 2025 - Virtual Date: February 10, 2025
Jyothis Maria Franklin, Dr Jayasankar Ramanthan	Understanding the Literature on Advertising Ethics	15th European Marketing Academy Conference (EMAC) Regional 2024 hosted by the ISEG (Lisbon School of Economics and Management)/Advance in Lisbon, Portugal Dates: September 25-27, 2024
Pratibha Jain	Exploring Employee Retention Dynamics in NPOs: A Comprehensive Review	2nd International Conference on Sustainability, Entrepreneurship, Equity and Digital Strategies
Pratibha Jain & Dr Pallavi Pandey	Empowering Marginalized Communities through Sustainable Management: Lessons from a Grassroots NGO in Rajasthan	IIM Nagpur IVEY Case Conference 2024

Pratibha Jain & Dr Pallavi Pandey	The Retention Puzzle: A Review of Non-profit Employee Dynamics	International Management Perspective Conference (IMPeC) – 2025 organised by IIM Sambalpur
Soumyabrata Basu, Dr Praveen Bhagawan and Dr Jyoti Prasad Mukhopadhyay	Creditor Rights and Tax Avoidance: Evidence from Quasi-natural Experiment in India	1. 34th European Financial Management Association 2025 Annual Meeting, 25-28th June 2025, Athens, Greece 2. International Conference on Financial Markets and Corporate Finance, DMS&IE, IIT KGP, 2025 3. International Conference on Financial Markets and Corporate Financial Markets & Corporate Finance, DMS&IE, IIT KGP, 2025 4. Doctoral Colloquium on Financial Markets & Corporate Finance 2025, IIT (ISM) Dhanbad 5. 33rd European Financial Management Association 2024 Annual Meeting, Lisbon, Portugal 6. World Finance Conference, Cyprus (virtual), 2024 7. Vietnam Symposium in Entrepreneurship, Finance, and Innovation, Vietnam (virtual) 2024 8. 6th International Conference on Financial Markets and Corporate Finance, DMS&IE, IIT(ISM) Dhanbad 9 Annual Research Workshop on Insolvency and Bankruptcy organised jointly by IIM Ahmedabad and the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India
Soumyabrata Basu, Dr Praveen Bhagawan and Dr Jyoti Prasad Mukhopadhyay	Bankruptcy Reform and Audit Fees: Evidence from Quasinatural Experiment in India	1. XKDR Forum's Workshop on Insolvency and bankruptcy reforms in India: 10 years after IBC, 2024 2. India Finance Conference, 2024

Publications during 2024-25

Kumar Ashutosh : First chapter of thesis got published as Invited Article at Ideas for India website. It's is jointly managed by researchers at London School of Economics and Oxford University - <https://www.ideasforindia.in/topics/human-development/street-safety-and-girls-secondary-schooling-in-india.html>

Utkarsh Choudhary: *Behind the Screen: Unraveling the Relationship Between Cyberbullying and Student Achievement Across the Globe Using TIMMS 2019 Data. International Journal of Bullying Prevention.* DOI:10.1007/s42380-025-00291-8 - <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s42380-025-00291-8>

Jyothis Maria Franklin: *Understanding the Literature on Advertising Ethics Using Morphological Analysis*, co-authored with Dr. Jaysankar Ramanathan (Associate Professor, IFMR GSB) in the Indian Journal of Marketing (ABDC-C and Scopus indexed) - <https://doi.org/10.17010/ijom/2025/v55/i7/175201>

Soumyabrata Basu: *Basu, S., Bhagawan, P., & Mukhopadhyay, J. P. (2025). Bankruptcy Reform and Audit Fees: Evidence from Quasi-natural Experiment in India. Finance Research Letters, 107512* - <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.frl.2025.107512> (ABDC: A, SJR: Q1)

Achievements during 2024-25

Kumar Ashutosh : Attended Causal Inference workshop in April 2025 at University of Arizona, US with scholarship provided from organisers.

Utkarsh Choudhary: One his papers received the International Journal of Bullying Prevention (IJBP) Springer Biennial Award (2023–2025) for Best Paper, jointly conferred by Professor James O 'Higgins Norman (UNESCO Chair on Bullying and Cyberbullying) and Professor Sameer Hinduja (Co-founder, Cyberbullying Research Center). The award was presented at the World Anti-Bullying Forum 2025 in Stavanger, Norway—an international recognition of impactful research fostering safer digital and physical spaces for youth.

Mohammed Hashim: Received Best Paper Award from Spatial Econometrics Workshop and PhD Colloquium at IIT Indore, Madhya Pradesh, India (November 2024) for the paper "Illuminating Inequality: Intra-State Economic Convergence and Regional Disparities in Karnataka, India"

Jyothis Maria Franklin: Received a conference waiver grant by the Society for Business Ethics (SBE), granted through their Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee (DEIC). The award includes registration for the 2025 SBE Annual Conference, which will be held in a hybrid mode (virtual and in-person) in Copenhagen from July 24-27, as well as one year of SBE membership.

Pratibha Jain: Got selected to attend Organization studies | Organization Theory Paper Development Workshop 2024 organised by by PRME Team SPJIMR.

Soumyabrata Basu : Best Paper Award (First Position) at 6th International Conference on Financial markets and corporate financial markets & corporate finance, DMS&IE, IIT(ISM) Dhanbad



FACULTY IN SPOTLIGHT

Faculty Publications and Paper Presentations

Krea's multifaceted faculty enables learners to push the boundaries of learning. They encourage students to think afresh, challenge the status quo and prepare them to tackle real-world challenges.

Here are some of the many contributions by various faculty members from both the schools.

Publications

SIAS

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Conferences

SIAS

- Raut, Sushant. 'Standard and non-standard physics with neutrinos from kaon decay-at-rest', XXXI International Conference on Neutrino Physics and Astrophysics, Milan, June 16-22, 2024
- Adya, Akanksha. 'Shifting the Center: Theorizing Motherhood as Resistance', 20th Conference of the International Society for Theoretical Psychology, Serbia, May 20-24, 2024
- Siddiqui, Sabah. 'The Ghost as Method', The 20th Conference of the International Society for Theoretical Psychology, Serbia, May 20-24, 2024
- Adya, Akanksha. 'Shouldering Care: Narrating the ideological dilemmas of self as a professional and mother' and 'Monstrous Mothers in India: Contested Images', International Association for Maternal Action+ Scholarship (IAMAS). Boston, June 21-24th, 2024
- Gudibande, Rohan. 'Conflicts and Consumption'. 19th Annual Conference on Economic Growth and Development, Delhi, December 19-21 2024
- Cavale, Karthik. 'Skilling Regimes in South India', Annual Meeting of the Society for Advancement of Socio-Economics, Limerick
- Cavale, Karthik. 'Albert Hirschman's The Passions and the Interests as a contribution to HET', Indian Society for the History of Economic, Hyderabad, October 29, 2024
- Dhara, Chirag. 'Impact of rapid reductions in regional aerosols on the near-future strengthening of the South Asian Monsoon', International Workshop on "Stratosphere-Toposphere Interactions and Prediction of Monsoon weather EXtremes (STIPMEX), Virtual, June 3-7, 2024
- Viswanathan, Lakshmi Narayanan. 'Global Response of Topside Ionosphere to the Severe Geomagnetic Storm of April 2023', 45th Scientific Assembly of COSPAR (Committee Of SPace Research), Busan, July 13-21, 2024
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IFMR GSB

- Mukhopadhyay, Jyoti Prasad. Impact of Environmental Regulation on Cost of Debt: Empirical Evidence from India
- Paliwal, Ankur. 'Does Board Compensation Influence Corporate Social Responsibility?', Vietnam Banking and Finance Symposium, Hanoi, October 24-26 2024
- Nakra, Neelam. 'Towards the Nomological Network of Sustainable Human Resource Management'. Bath, June 25-28 2024
- Mukhopadhyay, Jyoti Prasad. 'Impact of Environmental Regulation on Cost of Debt', MSFC 2024, Virtual, December 3 2024
- Mishra, Debasish. 'Image-based Cutting Tool Health Diagnosis in Multi-machine Settings', 6th International Conference on Industry 4.0 and Smart Manufacturing. Prague, November 20-22, 2024
- Moturi, Sairam. 'Auditor Familiarity and Audit Quality in Business Groups', India Management Research Conference, Hyderabad, December 9, 2024.
- Saha, Debankur. 'Birdwatching and Ecotourism: Exploring the Motivations for Participation in Eco-Avitourism Indian Academy of Management (INDAM), Kolkata, January 15-18, 2024
- C., Vijaya. 'Dynamic Connectedness of Volatility among ESG ETFs, ESG Indices and Cap-Weighted Indices', The Global Banking and Finance Association (GLOBAFA) Virtual, May 30-31, 2025

POROUS BOUNDARIES

At Krea, experiential learning brings the real world into the classroom for students. This includes inviting guest lecturers who are experts in their respective fields to share their experiences, wisdom, and insights, thereby helping students broaden their perspectives.

Throughout the year, we have had the privilege of hosting numerous thought leaders and experts from various domains. Krea Talks has welcomed diverse subject experts such as Dr Saradamoyee Chatterjee, Fellow and Director of Studies in Land Economy at Lucy Cavendish College; P. B. Prince Gajendra Babu, General Secretary, SPCSS-TN; Dr Kumar Akhilesh, Director, Sharma Centre for Heritage Education; Parameswaran Sankaran, Professor Emeritus, Chennai Mathematical Institute; Sue Willman, Assistant Director of Clinical Legal Education and Supervising Solicitor/ Senior Lecturer, King's Legal Clinic, Dickson Poon School of Law, King's College, London; Dr Lakshmi Sankaran, Co- Director (Training & Research) BALM & ex-Chair for PG programme in Applied Psychology (BALM-TISS), Dr Partha Lahiri, Department of Mathematics, University of Maryland College Park, USA; Professor Geraldine Forbes, Professor Emerita, Women's and Gender Studies, State University of New York Oswego; Philippe Cullet, Professor, SOAS; Christian Griesinger, Professor and Director, Max Planck Institute for Multidisciplinary Sciences, Germany, N. R. Bhanumurthy, Director, Madras School of Economics, Chennai; author Meena Kandasamy and many more.

Few leaders who came to IFMR GSB classrooms in the recent times as part of the Corporate to Campus series included Amit Kamath, Vice President at BlackRock, Sunil Subramaniam Former Director, Sundaram Assets, Hari Krishnan, Managing Director, Publicis Groupe, Karthik Pasupathy, Director at Deutsche Bank, Aijaz Khan, Vice President at Bajaj Allianz, Debashish Ghosh, SVP & Country HR Head Berkadia, Fatema Hunaid, Managing Partner Grand Thornton, Bhaskar Banerjee, Strategic CFO, Flipcarbon, Sai prasad S, CHRO, Samunnati, Muthukumar, V Managing

Partner at Sett & Lucas, Julian Francis, SVP - Asset Management RMZ, Fabian Figredo, Head of Talent Acquisition Shell, Srinivas Baratam, Managing Director, Stakeboat Capital and Hemasundar Reddy B, Director Operations - Middle Office BNY, among others.



We also hosted the Distinguished Lecture Series, proposed by Professor Nirmala Rao, Vice Chancellor, Krea University, addressing current issues in world politics to promote local, national, and global engagement among the student body. Lecture themes included international humanitarian law, water and environmental security, challenges of climate change, war and forced migration, refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs), global governance and political thought. The lectures were delivered by a diverse range of academics and practitioners, offering Krea students an invaluable opportunity to connect their academic studies to real-world issues and engage with leading experts. The series was convened by Sherman Teichman, Emeritus Founding Director of The Institute for Global Leadership at Tufts University (1984-2016).

BUILDING A COMMUNITY

OFFICE OF STUDENT LIFE

The Office of Student Life drives the extra-curricular, student leadership and development programming of the University which range from creative and performative arts, social and educational programmes, leadership and training opportunities, experiential learning, volunteering opportunities, driving student-led programmes and much more. By championing, guiding and encouraging student organisations, clubs, initiatives and events, the Office promotes maximum student participation and involvement in Campus life. The Office Student Life firmly believes in the principle of diversity and inclusion and aspires to build a campus culture that is deeply rooted in this ideology. Through various programmes and activities, the Office strives to give students the best of opportunities and nurture a culturally, socially and intellectually enriching environment on campus.

Clubs and Committees

Clubs and Extracurricular Engagement on Campus

With the growing student numbers on campus, the university witnessed extraordinary levels of participation from students in various clubs and societies especially in the areas pertaining to the performing arts, academics, robotics, sports and entrepreneurship. 2023-2024 has been an year of various initiatives and engagements which gave students an opportunity to immerse themselves in learning outside the classrooms.

Currently there are 13 Student committees and 30+ clubs in areas such as dance, music, theatre, quizzing, marketing, debating, science,

community service, and gaming, among others. Some of the competitions conducted by the clubs on campus are:

- Bolt '24-'25
- Fiscal Finesse - IFMR Finance Committee
- Markastrat' 24 - IFMR Marketing Committee

In addition to the above, many of the clubs also put up many in-house productions and performances which not only showcased the talent of our students but also contributed to building a vibrant campus experience for the Krea community:

Inara - The Business Club

The Business Club hosted an exciting lineup of events aimed at fostering networking, skill-building, and entrepreneurial passion. The Well-Being Stall featured a wellness wall for students to share their stress-relief methods, a rapid-fire round on mental health in business, and a quick Russian puzzle challenge. The Social Network Movie Screening inspired students with the hustle culture and ignited their passion for business. The Open Meeting included introductions, icebreaker sessions, and business-themed trivia games to engage members. Lastly, in collaboration with the Skills Club, a LinkedIn Profile Building Workshop helped students optimize their profiles for internships and networking opportunities.

Cyber Club

The Cyber Club at Krea has hosted a variety of engaging events to enhance students' technical skills and knowledge in computational sciences. The Arduino Workshop introduced IoT concepts through basic electronics and coding, while the GitHub Workshop, led by Professor Srikumar, covered version control fundamentals. The Cyber

Club Mixer featured seven Krea faculty members sharing insights on computational sciences. Students explored coding through a Python Learning Session and gained career insights in the “What After Computer Science at Krea?” discussion. The club also hosted a screening of Ada Lovelace Day and showcased student projects from COMP205 in a Game Showcase. Lastly, DataLith, a two-day data science event, combined movie screenings and hands-on workshops to deepen students’ understanding of the field



PERFORMING & VISUAL ARTS CLUBS

Layam - Music Club

The Christmas Production took place on December 14, 2024, in the atrium, featuring 27 participants in a choir and two octets. The Western Subcommittee’s production, A Symphony Through Time, was held on March 6, 2025, at the Open Air Theatre, with 36 participants showcasing Western music genres. On March 8, 2025, the Indian Subcommittee’s production, Kala-Bhav, transformed Seminar Hall 3 into a musical museum, featuring 25-26 participants guiding the audience through genres like Folk, Hindustani, Carnatic, Percussion, and Indowestern. Layam’s Final Showcase, An Ode to Music in Krea, on March 24, 2025, at the Open Air Theatre, celebrated musical groups formed over the years, with 12 performances and 45 participants, including duos, trios, the choir, Rackettails, and other music groups. The clubs also collaborated for Artscade, a performing arts arcade held on April 5, 2025, featuring interactive music, dance, and theatre games rather than performances, fostering engagement and fun across the university.

Christmas Production:

The annual Christmas Production happened on the 14th of December 2024 in the atrium of the academic building. There were 27 participants who took part in the production, who formed the choir and two octets that performed for the production.

Western Subcommittee Production:

The production held by our Western Subcommittee was called “A Symphony Through Time”, and took place on the 6th of March 2025 in the Open Air Theatre. This production was a showcase of different genres of Western music that have developed through time, including Western Classical, Musical Theatre, Country, Jazz, Rock, R&B, Pop, and Indie. There were a total of 36 participants in production who were split over these groups.

Indian Subcommittee Production:

The production held by our Indian Subcommittee was called “Kala-Bhav” (meaning become the art) and took place on the 8th of March 2025 in Seminar Hall 3. This production was a continuation from the Western Subcommittee Production, as it was a showcase of different genres of Indian music. This production was put up in the form of a museum, where the audience were taken around the Seminar Hall to see the different genres. These genres were Folk, Hindustani and Carnatic, Percussion, and Indowestern. There were a total of 25-26 participants, including performers and tour guides who took the audience through the museum.

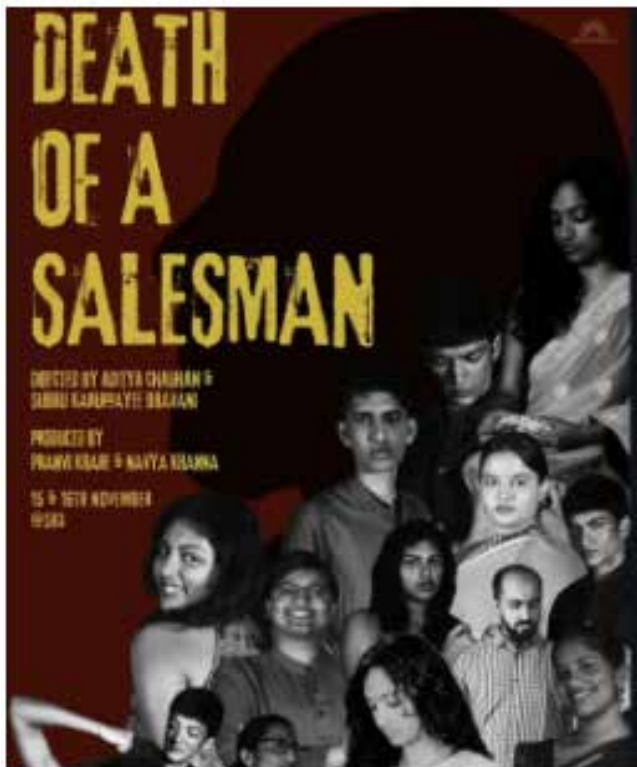
Layam’s Final Showcase:

Our final production called “An Ode to Music in Krea” took place on the 24th of March 2025 in the Open Air Theatre. This production was specifically for music groups in Krea (including duos and trios) who have come together through the last few years and performed in various events that have taken place on campus. This was also to allow students who are graduating to perform with their groups one last time in Krea. There were a total of 12 performances, and 45 participants in total, split over 3 duos, 3 trios, the choir, the Rackettails, and 4 other music groups.

Rangasthala: Theatre Club

Rangasthala is a close-knit community of individuals who share the same passion for the art form - Theatre. The club aims to foster a community where individuals can come together to discuss ideas and creative discussion and learn about the art form together.

The club has three subcommittees - Acting, Crew, and Script writing. The individuals can choose to be a part of one or more of these subcommittees. The club has put up a total of 8/9 productions in the past three academic years, some of which are: Accidental death of an anarchist, Manto day (a compilation of plays written by Hasan Manto), Monologues(a compilation of monologues with no particular theme were performed), Fleabag, Red, 12 Angry Jurors, Mitrachi Goshta, Death of a Salesman, Omkara.



Mudra - Dance Club

Mudra, the university's vibrant dance club, has hosted an array of events celebrating diverse dance forms and cultural expressions. The Bollywood Workshop by Reetu Verma (PhD) and the Kuthu Workshop by Radha Ragamalika (SIAS, 3rd Year) culminated in performances at the Cinemagic flashmob, a dance event in collaboration with MOCC for the Halloween x Diwali celebration. The Garba Workshop, led by Shivani Ranipa and Aatmaja V (SIAS, 1st Year), prepared students for Garba Night, while Shaam-e-Gharana, in collaboration with Samyak, explored the history and evolution of classical dance gharanas. The club also showcased its talent through Mukti Showcase, Parampara (Indian competing crew), TBD Showcase (non-Indian competing crew), and their in-house productions Reverie and Dor, featuring both Indian and non-Indian dance forms. Skill-building took center stage with the Bolly-Kathak Workshop by Pramati Anand, blending Bollywood and Kathak techniques. Artscade, a collaboration of SIAS's three performing arts clubs, created an engaging arcade experience filled with games. Finally, the Mukti Showcase, in collaboration with Layam (Music Club), brought live music into the mix, highlighting the fusion of dance and melody.

Kala, the Arts Club,

Diya Painting Event: In collaboration with MOCC, Kala hosted a vibrant diya painting session for Diwali, celebrating creativity and festivity.

Mandala Colouring Session: An introductory Sunday session where members enjoyed a relaxing, expressive colouring experience.

Scribble Station (Well-Being Fair): Kala set up a space for spontaneous art and an art therapy corner, encouraging emotional expression through creativity.

Syahi, the Literary Arts Club

Syahi, the Literary Arts Club, SIAS hosted Intro to Literature offering insights into all things Literature — from courses to faculty. They also hosted a Trivia Night, with questions on popular movies and books, people competed in pairs to test their knowledge of pop culture and literature.

Rachana Club

Rachana, the university's creative arts club, has hosted a series of engaging and collaborative events celebrating artistic expression and design. Pictionary Night brought students together for a fun-filled evening of quick thinking and sketching, fostering creativity and teamwork. In collaboration with Bolt, the university's sports club, Rachana organised the Merch Design event, where a team of talented designers worked together to create unique and eye-catching merchandise for Bolt. The Clay Charms Workshop provided students with a hands-on opportunity to craft personalised clay charms, exploring a new artistic medium. Additionally, the Rachana x Bolt Jersey Designing Competition challenged participants to design innovative and stylish jerseys, blending aesthetics with sports culture to create visually striking apparel. Through these initiatives, Rachana continues to be a hub for artistic collaboration and creative expression on campus.

Her Campus Krea

Capture the Flag has been a Krea classic for three years, and on 8 February 2025, the event reached a new level of excitement. Now one of HerCampus's flagship events — after taking the reins from the Sports Club — the day showcased intense batch-versus-batch rivalries, featuring

careful strategising, fast-paced chases, and suspenseful moments.

Sukrutya, the Skills Club

The SIAS Skills Club, Sukrutya, hosted a series of engaging and enriching events, blending creativity, well-being, nostalgia, and skill-building. Friends & Mandala offered a relaxing mandala art session with Friends playing in the background for a cozy atmosphere. At the Well-Being Fair Photo Booth, participants captured fun moments with props and received a daily well-being activity guide along with their pictures. A screening of Home Alone brought back cherished childhood memories, filling the air with festive nostalgia. The Sign Language Workshop introduced participants to Indian Sign Language, covering letters, colors, relationships, and basic social phrases. Lastly, the LinkedIn Profile Building Workshop, organised by the Business and Skills Club, guided students on leveraging LinkedIn for internships, networking, and career growth.



Niti, the Politics Club

The Niti Club hosted a series of insightful political and economic discussions, fostering awareness and engagement. The Unfiltered Conversation on the Union Budget, in collaboration with IFMR Speakers Club, featured Dr Soumya Pal, who simplified government spending's impact on daily life, finances, and future opportunities. Niti Trivia Night tested participants' knowledge of global and Indian politics, encouraging political awareness and critical thinking through a fun, interactive

quiz. Niti Sabha - Youth Parliament on the UCC provided a dynamic platform for students to debate one of India's most crucial legal and cultural topics, with participants representing pro-UCC, anti-UCC, and policy think tank perspectives, leading to a thought-provoking exchange of ideas.



Sahas – The Adventure Club of Krea University

The overnight trek organised by SAHAS - the Adventure Club on 7 and 8 December 2024, in Satyavedu Forest, was a thrilling experience for 17 participants. After reaching the base, the group trekked to the campsite, arriving after nightfall. Campers pitched tents, gathered wood for a cozy bonfire and cooked dinner together, sharing stories and laughter over Maggi, bhel and tea. Under moonlight, games and music added to the charm. At 4.00 am, they trekked deeper, discovering waterfalls at sunrise and enjoying a refreshing swim. The trip, filled with wilderness skills like fire-building, tent-pitching and night navigation, ended with cherished memories and valuable lessons.

What began as a simple getaway on 8 and 9 February 2025 turned into an exhilarating adventure of missed trains, unexpected detours and thrilling discoveries. A missed train to Ponneri led us to buses and finally to Pulicat town, where we struggled to find a boat to an elusive island. As the sun set, an old boatman agreed to take us across the golden waters of Pulicat Lagoon, nestled between India's second-largest lake and the Bay of Bengal. Under a starlit sky, we shared stories, feasted and revelled in the thrill of the unknown. As dawn broke, we brewed tea, cooked Maggi, and embraced the ocean's embrace before reluctantly returning



Economics Society of Krea

The Economics Club kickstarted its activities with engaging and intellectually stimulating events. The Econ Quiz Night provided a brief introduction to the club, followed by a fast-paced quiz designed to challenge participants' economic acumen. Adding a unique twist to traditional quizzing, Economics Jeopardy! tested students' knowledge in a dynamic and competitive format, making learning economics both fun and interactive.

Prakriti Club

The Sustainability Club has hosted a variety of events promoting environmental awareness, community engagement, and well-being. The Community Thrift Store Event provided a platform for students to buy and sell pre-loved clothes, stationery, and accessories, fostering a culture of reuse through a transparent buyer-seller system. In line with Well-Being Week, the club organised a stall featuring a card game on ecosystems and a positivity tree where students shared thoughts on the connection between nature and mental health. A Movie Night Screening of The Lion King brought the community together for an evening of entertainment, while the Scavenger Hunt encouraged teamwork, problem-solving, and exploration across campus in a fun and interactive way. Through these initiatives, the club continues to blend sustainability with engagement and well-being.



Navyata - The Well-being Club

The Well-Being Club has hosted a series of engaging events fostering inclusivity, self-expression, and community building. Pink Day celebrated the iconic "On Wednesdays, We Wear Pink" theme with a cranberry soda stall and a Mean Girls screening, creating a fun and relaxed space for students. The Well-Being Fair Exhibition focused on body positivity and inclusivity through an interactive pamphlet exploring aesthetics vs. functionality and a compliment bar promoting non-appearance-based positivity. Festive spirit was embraced with a Hot Chocolate Stall, while the Vision Board Workshop, in collaboration with Embrace, encouraged goal-setting and self-reflection. Floral Day welcomed summer with painting sessions and tarot readings, and Ethnic Day provided a platform for cultural expression, culminating in a lively karaoke night. Through these initiatives, the club continues to promote well-being, creativity, and a sense of belonging on campus.



Finance Club

The Finance Club has organised a series of insightful events aimed at enhancing financial literacy and investment acumen among students. The club hosted expert-led finance talks, including Reflections on the Indian Capital Markets by Sunil Subramaniam, Former MD of Sundaram Asset Management, offering valuable insights into market trends. Neil Borate, Deputy Editor and Head of Personal Finance at MINT, shared 3 Money Hacks to Build Your Wealth, providing practical strategies for financial growth. Akshat Garg, AVP, Choice Wealth Pvt Ltd, delivered an engaging session on Sectors That Will Perform Well in India in the Next 5-10 Years, helping students understand emerging investment opportunities. Adding a competitive edge, the Asset Alchemist Investment Competition challenged participants to showcase their investment skills, with a cash prize of ₹5,000, fostering strategic thinking and financial decision-making. Through these initiatives, the club continues to empower students with essential financial knowledge and investment strategies.

Connect Club

On 21 August, 2024, the Connect Club at SIAS, Krea University hosted a riveting debate final on the motion, "This house believes that a liberal arts education is more valuable than specialized professional training."

Talented teams clashed over this thought-provoking topic, with the debate judged by Dr John Mathew, Associate Professor of History of Science, SIAS, Krea University and Maitreyi Muttemwar, a second-year SIAS student.

This debate showcased an engaging clash of ideas on the role of education in personal and professional growth, highlighting compelling arguments on the relative merits of liberal arts versus specialized training.

Ministry of Campus and Culture

The MoCC organised several successful events, including a festive Diwali and Halloween celebration, a Winter Fair, and a Christmas dinner. The Diwali event, held at the Futsal, featured dance workshops hosted by Mudra, with a lively Garba session and games, though some logistical

issues with volunteers and speaker volume were noted. The Winter Fair, from 4:30 to 8:30 pm, featured 22 student stalls and two external food vendors, including a popular waffle shop, despite their delayed arrival. The event was well-received by students and visitors, with positive feedback on food and overall atmosphere. The MoCC also hosted a Christmas dinner on the 15th, with a special meal catered by Swati and a live band from Chennai, creating a memorable evening for the entire student body, who enjoyed the dinner and festive music in formal attire.



Abhinay

Abhinay, the Drama Club of IFMR GSB, captivated audiences with their poignant play, Roshni, staged at Krea University on 19 October, 2024. The play illustrates the tale of Roshni, an ordinary girl who lives in a conservative hamlet, where social forces push girls to marry off early. The play traces the story through Roshni and her experiences, and Balbeer, her father, who is driven by family expectations and personal preference rather than concern for her future.

Analytics Club

The Analytics Committee of IFMR GSB hosted Datawiz 1.0, a two-day event focused on enhancing analytical skills. It was a 3-hour Python workshop by Dr Debashish Mishra, Assistant Professor, Data Science & Information Systems, IFMR GSB. The workshop was conducted online and offline to ensure better accessibility for all students. Participants gained hands-on experience with Python tools and received certificates for their participation.



Markaholic

Markaholic, the Marketing Committee of IFMR GSB, held a two-day competition called Markstrat '24. Round 1 was a high-energy marketing quiz hosted on Mentimeter. It featured 13 tagline questions, 13 logo identification challenges and 4 general marketing questions, each with a strict 20-second timer. This round tested participants' quick thinking and marketing knowledge. Round 2 brought together 20 teams, who had qualified in the previous round, for a dynamic meme war. Split into 10 batches of two, each team was assigned a brand to showcase through picture and video memes creatively. Teams competed head-to-head, entertaining both the audience and the judge, Dr Debankur Saha, Assistant Professor of Marketing, IFMR GSB.



Arthsabha

The Fin-Auction event was a successful auction simulation, challenging participants' financial prowess and strategic acumen. Teams were assigned budgets and competed to build the best team, deciding how high to bid or when to withdraw. The event tested key skills such as portfolio building, crisis handling, budget management, and adaptive strategy formulation in response to competitors' decisions. With enthusiastic participation, the competition concluded with three winners who excelled in fund management and strategic execution, making the event an engaging and insightful experience for all.

The three-round finance event, Fiscal Finesse, challenged students in financial knowledge, strategic thinking, and presentation skills through interactive activities. Round 1 featured a finance quiz testing investment principles and market trends. Round 2 engaged teams in a stock market simulation, requiring strategic investment decisions to maximize returns. Round 3 had teams present their investment strategies to judges, honing their communication and analytical skills. The event fostered teamwork, critical thinking, and market understanding, while also providing networking opportunities with peers, seniors, and faculty.



Samarthan

The Samarthan Committee organised a series of impactful social initiatives, fostering community engagement and giving. A blood donation camp, in collaboration with the Red Cross Society, saw 113 donors from across campus contribute to a noble cause. A fundraising event featuring six stalls for food, games, nail art, and mehendi generated a profit of ₹4,000. The committee also visited Aadharavu Home, donating toiletries and engaging residents in fun activities. The Wishtree Event, held on 14th December 2024, encouraged students and faculty to fulfill the wishes of Samarpana and Asha Nivas by donating essentials like daily provisions, a water filter, and sports equipment, reinforcing a spirit of generosity. Additionally, 100 orphaned children were hosted on campus for a day of joy, featuring a magic show, engaging activities, delicious meals, and thoughtful gifts, creating cherished memories for all involved.



Shutterbugs

Shutterbugs organised a photography event, held from 29 November to 8 December 2024, featuring three rounds of creativity testing and storytelling skills. The first two rounds required online submissions based on given themes. The final round, conducted offline in SH-1, challenged participants to capture four themed photos at different locations and craft a compelling narrative, which they presented to Judge Dr Debankur.



Consulting Committee

CONSULTIUM 2024, a flagship event for aspiring consultants, successfully fostered innovation, strategic thinking, and teamwork among MBA students. Held in two rounds (8 and 10 December 2024) with 85 teams participating, the event featured a quiz, strategy challenge, and problem-solving presentations on campus food service issues. Dr Debankur Saha evaluated the finalists, providing valuable insights. The event enhanced problem-solving, collaboration, and strategic skills, offering networking opportunities and recognition for top talent, leaving a lasting impact on participants.

Quiz Club

The event saw 70 two-member teams competing across three engaging rounds. Round 1 featured a General Quiz with MCQs and a crossword, totaling 25 marks, from which 15 teams advanced. Round 2 tested creativity with Pictionary and a song snippet guessing challenge, narrowing the competition to five teams for the final Treasure Hunt inside the Academic Building.



Speaker's Club

Improv Odyssey, hosted by the Speakers Club, was a thrilling showcase of creativity, spontaneity, and storytelling. The event featured three rounds: Reverse Charades, testing quick thinking; Whose Line Is It Anyway, emphasizing humor and improvisation; and Slide & Story, where finalists built engaging narratives using random images. Participants impressed with their wit, teamwork, and adaptability, making it a memorable experience for all. The event concluded on a high note, reaffirming the Speakers Club's dedication to enhancing communication and performance skills in a fun and interactive setting.



MUN Club

On 20 January 2025, the MUN Club of IFMR GSB organised a Lok Sabha simulation on 'One Nation, One Election: A Viable Reform'. Students participated as members of the ruling and opposition parties, debating the feasibility and implications of synchronising elections nationwide.

Nritya, the Dance Club

Dance Alchemy, organised by Nritya, the Dance Club of IFMR GSB, on 18 January 2025, provided batchmates a much-needed break from their hectic schedules. The event featured multiple rounds, each bringing its own set of challenges and excitement, culminating in a grand celebration.

Optimux

XPEDITE was an engaging event focused on operations management, featuring two rounds: a Basic Operations Quiz and a Beer Simulation. The first round tested participants' understanding of concepts like supply chain management, inventory control, and process optimization through multiple-choice questions and situational problems. The second round, a Beer Game Simulation, challenged teams to manage a beer production and distribution supply chain, requiring effective decision-making, inventory control, and teamwork. The top 10 teams from both rounds earned an industrial visit, offering a practical, real-world learning experience.

IFMR BSportive

IFMR Bsportive organised a Badminton Competition. The event featured teams competing across various categories in knockout matches, fostering a spirit of healthy competition and physical fitness. It attracted a diverse crowd of students who came to support their friends, creating an energetic and encouraging atmosphere throughout the competition. The event successfully promoted teamwork, sportsmanship, and active participation, while motivating students to stay fit and engaged.



Ghostly Gala

The GhostlyGala at IFMR GSB was a resounding success, uniting the campus community for a night of creativity, entertainment, and eerie excitement. Organised by Raga, Nritya, and Abhinay, the event showcased exceptional talent through haunting melodies, spine-chilling dance performances, and gripping theatrical acts, with individual participants adding their unique flair. The immersive ambiance, complete with dim lighting and thematic décor, enhanced the spooky experience, leaving attendees enthralled. The event boosted club engagement, strengthened community bonds, and received glowing feedback for its innovative execution, setting a new benchmark for cultural events at IFMR GSB.



Retroverse

The campus transformed into a vibrant retro haven with Reteroverse. Students from all cohorts gathered for an unforgettable celebration of the 70s, 80s and 90s. The campus buzzed with neon lights and vintage decor, setting the tone for a nostalgic weekend. Vibrant styles, featuring iconic elements like polka dots, suspenders, flared sleeves, bell-bottoms evoking the glamorous era of 70s and 80s Bollywood during the retro-themed fashion show, while enthusiastic sing-alongs echoed classic hits.

Dance-offs and choreographies got everyone moving to iconic tunes. Meanwhile, a retro trivia challenge tested knowledge of bygone eras. The retro movie posters, disco balls, lights, patterns and vintage flairs added a touch of nostalgia, completing the immersive experience. Laughter, music and love for old Bollywood films filled the air, making for a truly memorable weekend.

NEW ADDITIONS/ INITIATIVES BY OSL

Savaari : A Day Trip to Chennai

OSL (The Office of Student Life) inaugurated their new initiative, Savaari, on Sunday, September 8, 2024. Savaari aims to take students on regular trips to nearby historical landmarks, museums, national parks, and other attractions, promoting cultural awareness, knowledge sharing, and team bonding. By leveraging affordable and eco-friendly



transportation options, Savaari encourages students to step out of their comfort zones and engage in hands-on learning experiences, providing students with unforgettable experiences that combine learning with adventure. The first trip took students to the Government Museum in Chennai, India's second largest museum, with its wide collection of bronzes, anthropology objects, geological and zoological specimens, a numismatics gallery, age-old sculptures and more. The group later visited the Connemara Library, and spent the evening at the Marina beach

SIAS Global Arts Collective

Samyak, Krea's very own Global Arts Collective are collaborating with Mudra, the SIAS Dance Club for a collaborative event - Shaam-e-Gharana, an evening full of education, enthrallment & all things Kathak and Bharatanatyam.

The session showcased performances from Mudra club performers, and explained the rich histories, aspects of patronage and the evolution of the forms they're trained in. Performers heading the event for Kathak were Pramati Anand (Lucknow Gharana), Aatmaja Vachhani (Jaipur Gharana) and Suhaava Kooner (Benaras Gharana). For Bharatnatyam, Alankrita Krishnan (Vazhuvoor Bani) and Ananya KV (Pandanallur) lead the event. Shaam-e-Gharana was held at 6.00 pm, on 9 November, 2024 at SH3, Krea University campus.



Dissecting Disney was an engaging session that delved into the history and evolution of Disney, exploring its impact on storytelling, animation, and pop culture. The session concluded with a lively karaoke night, where participants sang along to classic Disney songs, adding a nostalgic and interactive touch to the event.

QALAM-E-TARIKH - Celebrating Deccani Art, Literature and History

On 8 January 2025, the Global Arts discipline at SIAS, in collaboration with the Office of Student Life (OSL) and as part of the course Arts of the Deccan, presented an immersive evening celebrating Deccani Art, Literature, and History. There were two workshops, one of which focused on Qalamkari textiles. This intricate art involves creating detailed designs on fabric using a pen with mordant chemical catalysts. The other workshop was an introduction to the style of Nasta'liq calligraphy and was taught by artist Shaikh Ahsaanuddin of Gulbarga, who works with many styles of Perso-Arabic calligraphy, including the beautiful Nasta'liq style. These workshops were accompanied by Deccani music, samasya-puranas and a brief walkthrough on the history of Deccan by the students of the Arts of the Deccan Course. It was a great experience to learn from such established and experienced artists.



Sports Club

Krea University had an eventful season across multiple sports, showcasing strong participation and competitive spirit. The 3v3 basketball tournament (Sept 20-22, 2024) saw 33 men and 24 women from SIAS and BBA compete, with great turnout from both players and spectators, reinforcing interest in campus sports. The men's basketball team secured a 62-46 victory against IIIT Sricity in a friendly match but faced a tough loss in a 5v5 rematch at home, using it as motivation for future training. The football team finished 4th in a tournament at Puzhal, while the volleyball team participated in a local MLA-funded tournament near Ponneri village, winning two matches before exiting in the quarterfinals. A practice match against RSN Boys provided valuable experience. The cricket team played a T20 match against IIIT Sri City, losing by 13 runs despite a strong effort. In an intercollegiate tournament with 32 teams from South India, we fought through knockouts before bowing out in the quarterfinals. Across all events, the commitment and enthusiasm of players and supporters reflected a growing sporting culture at Krea. The deadlifting event showcased the physical and technical skills essential in strength sports, with 16 participants progressively lifting heavier weights. Top performances reached up to 180 kg, demonstrating both strength and technique. The use of progressive overload allowed newcomers to safely push their limits while fostering a supportive environment. The event not only highlighted athletic excellence but also encouraged camaraderie and growth within the lifting community.



BOLT: Sports Festival

Bolt is Krea University's sports extravaganza, organised by the SIAS Sports Club. This two-week celebration of athleticism and community spirit took place from February 28th to March 15th, bringing together 500+ enthusiastic participants from both schools, IFMR and SIAS, for the first time this year. The fest featured a dynamic lineup of over 20+ sports, including Basketball, Football, Volleyball, Tennis, and Table Tennis, along with unique events like Tug of War, Kho-Kho, and Ultimate Frisbee. From strategic indoor games like Chess and Carrom to high-energy challenges like Dodgeball and a Marathon in Sricity. This year, the sponsors for BOLT were PepsiCo, Daishik and FanUp.



Football match on the newly inaugurated turf

IFMR GSB hosted an electrifying football exhibition match between the first and second year MBA students at the newly inaugurated football ground. The game showcased intense competition, strategic gameplay and remarkable teamwork, ultimately concluding with a 5-3 victory for the MBA first year team



TEDxKrea University

Krea University hosted its second annual TEDxKrea University on 14 September 2024, at its Sri City campus with the theme **“From Contradiction to Collaboration.”** Seven distinguished speakers shared insights on innovation, inclusion, and sustainability.

Speakers included:

- **TS Tirumurti**, former Ambassador to the UN, on navigating global contradictions.
- **Vivek Krishnani**, CEO of MovieVerse Studios, on storytelling and technology.
- **Barsha Banerjee**, MD of Perkins India, on inclusive education.
- **Deepa Sathiam**, environmentalist, on eco-solutions.
- **Anushree Dash**, “Pad Woman of Odisha,” on breaking health taboos.
- **Dharmarajan S**, founder of Impact Sure Technologies, on AI as a partner.
- **Sapan Jain**, CEO of Blubirch, on culture and sustainability.

The event, fostering collaboration amid diverse perspectives, was supported by sponsors including Max Protein, School of Design Thinking, The Red Pen, Herway Coffee, and M Raj & Co.



Her Campus Krea

HCK organised a series of engaging and impactful events throughout the year, ranging from social awareness initiatives to festive celebrations. Collaborating with the AKS Foundation, we conducted workshops addressing gender-based violence, fostering critical discussions within our community. The Writer’s Workshop provided a platform for aspiring writers to refine their craft through interactive analysis of past articles. Festive spirits were high with the Wreath & Snowflake Making Workshop, Christmas Karaoke,

and Secret Santa, creating a joyous atmosphere on campus. Competitive energy surged during Capture the Flag, a thrilling battle of wit and teamwork between juniors and seniors. Splash-a-palooza, a staple HCK event during Spirit Week, brought students together to cool off in a fun, interactive way. Valentine’s Karaoke Night celebrated love and friendship through music, while Duel of the Drinks, a halftime stall at the basketball finals, fueled school spirit with team-themed refreshments. These events not only entertained but also strengthened community bonds and student engagement.

Pride Society

Pride Weekend was a vibrant celebration of inclusivity and expression, featuring a series of engaging events. The Mixer & Gayme Night kicked off the festivities with an interactive trivia session, fostering connections within the community. The Queer Ball & Performance Night showcased incredible performances by members of the Pride Forum, culminating in a joyous cake-cutting ceremony to mark six years since the landmark judgment. The weekend concluded with a screening of Bohemian Rhapsody, allowing attendees to immerse themselves in the powerful story of Freddie Mercury and celebrate queer representation in cinema.



OFFICE OF STUDENT LIFE COLLABORATION

1. SPIC MACAY

In collaboration with SPIC MACAY (Society for the Promotion of Indian Classical Music And Culture Amongst Youth), OSL (Office of Student Life) organised a few performances this academic year.

Manipuri dance performance

Manipuri dance performance by the esteemed Dr Sinam Basu Singh and Monika Devi on 22 October, 2024, Krea University campus. Dr Sinam Basu Singh and Konjengbam Monika Devi are noted Manipuri dancers who hail from the state of Manipur. Dr Sinam Basu Singh is the first male dancer to receive Sangeet Natak Akademi Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar for Manipuri dance, and is a choreographer at the Progressive Artist Laboratory. Konjengbam Monika Devi is an Artistic director of Ukhal Dance Theatre, Imphal.



The Jazz Explor Trio

The Jazz Explor Trio performed at Krea University (2nd in the series of collaborations with SPIC MACAY) on 2 December 2024, perfectly captured the spirit of global cultural exchange. Composed of Danish artists Lars Møller (saxophone), Thor Madsen (guitar), and Jonas Johansen (drums), the group melds jazz traditions with a global outlook. Their setlist included tracks such as Blues In Five, A Woman's Purse, Moose and Know that showcased both their musical brilliance and their knack for weaving cheerful, conversational rhythms into the fabric of their music, creating an experience that was moving. They also announced and played a few songs from their upcoming album, inspired by Miles Davis's iconic album, Kind of Blue.



1. Krea Kalotsavam '25 – A Celebration of Arts & Culture

The Office of Student Life (OSL) at Krea University hosted a vibrant celebration of India's artistic heritage. Unrolling an exciting lineup of dance and music performances, immersive workshops, and creative experiences.

A. Kattaikkuttu

Kattaikkuttu is Tamil Nadu's traditional musical theatre. Kattaikkuttu originally features full-night theater plays. "Kattai" signifies "wood," while "kuttu" translates to "theatre." These plays included music, song, dialogue, dance, movements, acting, and makeup, creating a unique combination of all the arts. During its initial days, Kattaikkuttu was played by male actors alone, who played both the male and female roles. Thus, it was a male-only theater. In recent years however, female actors have begun to perform as well, one of whom is our guest performer, Bharathi A.



B. Palm Leaf Weaving: A Timeless Craft

Palm leaf weaving is a traditional art that transforms dried palm leaves into intricate, eco-friendly designs. Ms. Jelka conducted a hands-on workshop, guiding participants through folding and interlacing techniques to create beautiful handcrafted pieces. The session highlighted creativity, precision, and the importance of preserving this fading craft.



C. Flute Recital by Vidushi Sikkil Mala Chandrasekhar

Renowned Carnatic flautist Vidushi Sikkil Mala Chandrasekhar captivated the audience with a soulful recital, blending tradition with her unique musical expression. She was accompanied by Smt. Meera Sivaramakrishnan (violin), Sri Neyveli K.V. Ramkumar (mridangam), and Dr. K. Murali (ghatam), whose synergy enriched the performance, creating a mesmerizing musical experience.



D. Kathak Performance by Dr. Laxminarayan Jena

Dr. Laxminarayan Jena enthralled the audience with a spellbinding Kathak performance, showcasing grace, rhythm, and storytelling through intricate footwork and expressive abhinaya. He was accompanied by a talented orchestra that elevated the recital—Guru Shri Mysore B Nagaraj on Padhant (rhythmic recitation), Kumari Shreya Singh on vocals, Sri Roopak Vaidya on tabla, and Sri Arjun Anand on sitar, creating a harmonious blend of music and movement.



E. Learning Together Trio

The Krea Kalotsavam finale featured the Learning Together Trio, led by saxophonist Abhay Sharma, delivering a captivating performance.

Abhay Sharma, a seasoned saxophonist and founding member of Soul'd Out and The Revisit Project, has collaborated with industry greats like Shankar Ehsaan Loy and Vishal Bhardwaj. Aditya Bhagavatula, drummer for The Revisit Project, showcased his dynamic style, having performed



with Rekha Bhardwaj and Zila Khan. Tanisha Bhatnagar, an emerging bassist and vocalist, brought her expertise from collaborations with The Art Trio, Learning Together, and indie acts like Komorebi. Their fusion of jazz, funk, and Indian classical music provided a fitting and memorable conclusion to the festival.

F. Sonik-Intervention

On March 12, Krea University hosted Sonik-Intervention, an immersive musical experience blending music, history, and cultural storytelling. Presented by Global Arts and the Office of Student Life, the event showcased singer-songwriter Zeeshaan Nabi and rapper UMX, who fused Kashmiri (Koshur), Urdu, and English poetry with folk, rock, hip-hop, and experimental sounds. Their evocative performance offered a powerful glimpse into Kashmir's heritage, struggles, and resilience, leaving the audience deeply engaged.



FESTIVALS AT KREA

Krea's inclusive campus culture was evident in the enthusiastic celebration of various festivals, led by student clubs and committees. One major example was Onam 2024, the traditional harvest festival of Kerala. Krea University celebrated Onam on 12–13 September 2024 with grand festivities, bringing together students from all batches and backgrounds. Organised by the student cultural committee, the celebrations began with fun activities on 12th evening – a lively musical chairs game and the traditional “sundarikku pottu thodal” (ornamentation) event – followed by a special screening of a Malayalam film. On 13th, the campus was vibrant with a traditional Onam sadhya (feast) served on banana leaves for all, a captivating chenda melam drum performance, tug-of-war contests, and a graceful Thiruvathira dance by students in traditional attire. The festivities culminated in a cultural night of music and dance, truly capturing the spirit of

Onam. Students from Kerala and other states collaborated to share this cultural experience with the whole campus. Similarly, other festivals were celebrated: the Sankranti/Pongal harvest festival in January (with kite-flying and bonfires), Diwali in October (with a campus illumination and talent show), and Christmas and Holi events – each organised by relevant student clubs ensuring all communities felt at home. These student-led celebrations not only provided joy and break from routine, but also educated peers about India's diverse cultural heritage. The Administration and Operations departments supported logistics and safety measures, but credit goes to the student teams for injecting warmth and togetherness into campus life.

Janmashtami

The students of Krea University celebrated Janmashtami on campus on 26 August, 2024. The organising committee brought together students from different cultural backgrounds to celebrate the occasion. The day began with an aesthetic rangoli competition where students showcased their artistic skills in forms of beautiful rangolis, followed by a singing competition. The day got even better when students from both the years participated in the matki tod event to form human pyramids and break the hanging pot. The day ended with a vibrant cultural night where people performed traditional dances and sang songs which described the traditions of this puja along with sweets distribution to all.



Ganesh Chaturthi

The Ganesh Chaturthi festivities on campus commenced with the grand arrival of Lord Ganesha, accompanied by the energetic beats of dhol-tasha drums. Students were decked up in traditional attire, with the girls radiant in vibrant nauvari sarees. Everyone danced to the drum beats welcoming Bappa with immense joy. The celebrations continued with the sacred Ganesh Sthapna Pooja and aarti, followed by a special lunch with modaks as prasad.

The cultural night was a true showstopper, with a mesmerising array of performances, including classical dances, soulful singing, and captivating instrumental acts. The talented students made the event an unforgettable experience. The next morning began with another aarti and prasad distribution, followed by the visarjan ceremony in the evening. As the idol was immersed in water, the gathering bid an emotional farewell to Ganpati Bappa, accompanied by music, chants, and a shower of petals, creating a truly immersive cultural experience.



Onam

The Krea community celebrated Onam on the 12 and 13 September, 2024 with grand festivities, bringing together students from all batches and departments to mark the joyous occasion. The celebrations began on the evening of 12 September, 2024 with a lively game of musical chairs and the traditional sundarikku pottu thodal event. The night concluded with a special screening of the movie Aavesham.

The next day kicked off with a traditional Onam feast, sadhya, followed by a captivating performance of chenda melam, Kerala's iconic percussion ensemble. Later in the evening, the excitement grew with a thrilling tug-of-war competition, followed by a mesmerising thiruvathira dance performance. The celebrations culminated in a vibrant cultural night, where students from diverse backgrounds came together to embrace the festive spirit.



Sankranti

The Sankranti Committee at Krea University transformed the campus into a vibrant tapestry of colours and culture, beautifully capturing the essence of the festival. Traditional rangoli designs adorned the pathways, creating a lively and festive atmosphere.

The Krea community came together to celebrate the harvest festival with enthusiasm and joy. Engaging activities brought students, faculty, and staff closer, fostering a sense of togetherness and cultural appreciation. The festivities culminated in a sumptuous feast, where everyone enjoyed delicious traditional dishes, adding warmth and flavour to the occasion.

Sankranti Puppet Show: The Office of Student Life (OSL), in collaboration with the Sankranti Committee, presented Tholu Bommalaata: The Dance of the Shadow Puppets on 13 January 2025 at the atrium. The performance featured the renowned Dalavai Kullayappa and his talented team, who brought folk artistry to life with intricately detailed leather puppets.



IFMR GSB Freshers Event

On 27 July, 2024 IFMR GSB, Krea University hosted an exciting and vibrant fresher's event named BAYSHERS for the junior batch, embracing the lively theme of a beach party. The event took place at the OAT, where the talented groups—Nritya, Abhinay, Raga, and Laasya—delivered electrifying performances. Juniors also took to the stage, adding their energy and enthusiasm, making the event even more thrilling. The night concluded with a dynamic DJ session, and competitions for Miss and Mr Freshers added an extra layer of excitement. The entire evening was a memorable blend of talent, fun, and camaraderie.

IFMR GSB Elections

The club and committee selection process for the MBA Class of 2024-26 at IFMR GSB was nothing short of intense and transformative. The process kicked off with a series of unique rounds for each group. For instance, Raga and Arthasabha focused on creative and analytical tasks, while Nritya and Abhinay demanded a blend of performance skills and leadership qualities. Synergy and Shutterbugs challenged candidates with teamwork and innovative thinking, whereas Public Relations and Markaholic assessed communication prowess and strategic insights. SportsCom rounded out the selection with sports-related activities testing agility and team spirit. The final hurdle was the personal interview, where candidates had the opportunity to shine individually. Representatives from each club and committee made the eagerly awaited announcements, welcoming the new members with enthusiasm and celebration.

SIAS Elections

The Student Government elections at SIAS (School of Interwoven Arts and Sciences), Krea University for the academic year 2024-25 concluded successfully on 8 September, 2024.

The election process was overseen by the Election Commission, comprising Anshika Jain, Suryaansh Sharma, Hiya Thakkar, Rutuja Chavan, and Kanika Dua. The process included several stages such as manifesto circulation, speeches, debates, and voting. The newly elected representatives now take on the responsibility of leading the student body, fostering campus culture, and enhancing the overall student experience. With their vision and commitment, the student community looks

forward to a year of growth, collaboration, and positive change.

Integrated MBA Elections

The newly elected members of the BBA batch 2024-2027 got through rigorous rounds of the selection process and made it to their respective committees.

The newly elected members of the BBA Admission Committee (Genesis) are Aakruti Bhandari, Anushka Jha, Rohan Singhi, Swetha N and Somina Rithvik Sastry. The brand new members of the BBA Student Council are Konda Vibhuvan and Dhiya Mariyam John. The Placement Committee welcomes Aadith Menon, S Chinmayi, Kimaya Amrutha and Rhea Kadam.

Abhyudaya 2025 – Annual Cultural & Management Fest

The flagship student-organised event was Abhyudaya 2025, IFMR GSB's annual cultural-cum-management festival. Held on 21-22 February 2025 on campus, Abhyudaya 2025 brought together two thrilling days of electrifying performances, competitions, and networking. Over 3,000 students from top institutes across India participated, making it one of the largest inter-college fests in the region. The fest featured a potpourri of events – case study contests, business quizzes, cultural shows, dance and music battles, sports challenges, and more. Honoring its name (which means “rise” or “new dawn”), Abhyudaya showcased talent and creativity beyond academics. The Dean of IFMR, Professor Lakshmi Kumar, noted that Abhyudaya is “more than just a fest – it's a celebration of collaboration and spirit”. Students took full ownership: from fundraising and sponsorships to event programming and hospitality. The inaugural ceremony included addresses by faculty and student leaders emphasizing how such events complement formal education. Over the two days, highlights included a show-stopping concert by a popular band, high-stakes management simulations, and cultural performances by teams from visiting colleges. The event concluded with a gala awards night recognizing the competition winners. Abhyudaya 2025's grand scale and flawless execution underscored the organizational capabilities of Krea's students and has firmly placed Krea on the national college fest map.

ENABLING AND EMPOWERING

INCLUSIVE LEARNING SUPPORT (ILS)

The mission of the Inclusive Learning Support (ILS) Office is to make all aspects of campus life and academics inclusive and accessible for every member of the university community—students, faculty, and staff alike. Accessibility and inclusivity remain the two central pillars of the office’s work.

A key focus of ILS is to support individuals living with disabilities, including those with physical disabilities (such as visual or hearing impairments, paraplegia, and cerebral palsy), learning disabilities (like ADHD, dyslexia, dyscalculia, and dysgraphia), and neurodivergent conditions such as autism. Additionally, the office provides learning support to students from marginalised communities or challenging socio-economic backgrounds, helping ensure their academic success at Krea.

Support is tailored on a case-by-case basis, with the office recommending accommodations related to academics, the social environment, and physical infrastructure where necessary. Currently, ILS is actively supporting over 150 students with diverse learning needs. Beyond individual support, the office works collaboratively with other departments and student clubs to promote inclusive practices and policies across the university.

ILS also functions as a resource hub, providing access to services and information that enable students to thrive. This includes individual academic mentoring, bridge programmes, and skill-building workshops.

In recognition of the connection between academic success and mental well-being, ILS also oversees Mental Health Support Services on campus, including those provided through YourDOST, SCARF, and the Peer Support Programme.

In the 2024–2025 academic year, the office expanded its work to include advocacy, education, and awareness-building through a series of

events, workshops, and conversations focused on accessibility, diversity, and inclusion—further reinforcing its commitment to building a more equitable campus community. (Website: [link](#))

Academic Learning Support for Students

The Office of Inclusive Learning Support strives to ensure that students who encounter barriers in their academic journeys receive the necessary assistance and support to engage meaningfully with their academics at Krea through various initiatives and programmes of the Office:

Reasonable Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Each year, the number of students with disabilities on campus has been steadily increasing. In response, ILS has worked closely with the Admissions Teams of both schools to make the admissions process more accessible and inclusive.

The office also collaborates actively with key departments—including the Academic Office, Examination Office, Operations, and Admissions—to ensure that reasonable accommodations are provided not only during the admissions process but also throughout the students’ time at the university. Currently, ILS supports students with a range of disabilities, including physical disabilities, autism, specific learning

disabilities (such as dyslexia, dysgraphia, and dyscalculia), ADHD, and psycho-social disabilities.

Tutoring Programme

The Math Club, Cyber Club, and Ministry of Learning, in collaboration with ILS, organised peer tutoring sessions to support students needing additional help in core and skill-based courses such as Mathematical Reasoning, Data Analytics, and Introduction to Computational Thinking for SIAS students.

Over the past academic year, more than 100 students have benefited from this robust peer tutoring programme. In addition, ILS provides one-on-one academic mentoring and tutoring for students with learning disabilities and those facing significant mental health challenges.

Academic Bridge Programmes

ILS also conducted a Tech Bridge Programme for students who were not confident using laptops and basic digital tools such as Microsoft Word, Excel, and Gmail. The programme aimed to equip them with the necessary digital skills to manage both academic tasks and administrative processes at the university.

1:1 Mentoring and Academic Advising

ILS has also provided 1:1 mentoring to more than 40+ students in the last academic year and has mentored them with executive functioning skills, time management and advised them on how to manage their course load, submissions, exams and other areas in their academics where they have reported to struggle.

TALKS, WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS: CONVERSATIONS AND CELEBRATIONS OF DIVERSITY

Embroidering Resilience: Community Building through the Craft of Kantha

Ms. Manjuwara Mullah, founder of Amrapari, a community-led initiative in Assam, shared her journey of working with women from the char communities to which she belongs. In her talk, she described how Amrapari emerged during the COVID-19 pandemic as a response to the isolation faced by these communities, compounded by the uncertainty and fear surrounding the NRC process.

In her talk, she discussed the importance of listening to voices within the community, and the need to respond to challenges like climate displacement and mental health concerns, particularly among women. She also spoke about how kantha embroidery became a meaningful way for women to connect, express themselves, and support each other. The session offered a thoughtful look at community work rooted in lived experience and mutual support.



Masterclass on Kantha and Building a Women's Collective

In a workshop conducted subsequently, Ms. Manjuwara Mullah shared her work with kantha, a traditional form of embroidery, as a way of telling the stories of women from communities facing displacement and marginalisation. During the workshop, students had the chance to interact with Ms. Mullah and learn basic aspects of kantha embroidery, gaining insight into both the craft and the everyday realities of the women who practise it. More than just providing financial aid, Amrapari focused on empowering women from remote areas by helping them find strength and identity through their craft.

Ambedkar Jayanti

In honour of Ambedkar Jayanti, Inclusive Learning Support and Division of Politics collaborated to host a series of events.

The celebration of Ambedkar Jayanti commenced on 7 April 2024, with Parai Attam, a traditional percussion performance, followed by a Reading Circle on 8 April 2024, discussing Ambedkar's essay titled 'Buddha and Karl Marx'. After the

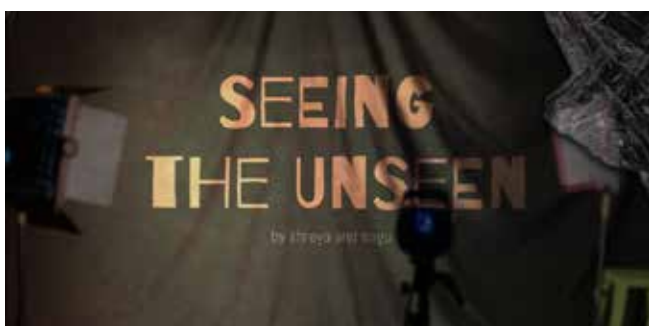
mid-week break, the celebration resumed with a virtual lecture by Professor Syed Sayeed on April 10, 2024, exploring the relevance of Ambedkar's 'Annihilation of Caste' to Identity Politics in India today. To conclude the week-long celebration, movie screenings were held on 13 April and 14 April 2024, featuring 'Blue Star' and 'Sarpatta Parambarai' depicting caste dynamics in India.



Challenging the Unseen: Student-led Exhibitions on Identity and Belonging at Krea

Students from SIAS, Shreya Kabadi and Sagu curated "Seeing the Unseen", a photo series that showcased the lived experiences of students from diverse communities on campus.

The exhibition challenged the notion of Krea as an isolated haven by highlighting personal narratives of queer students and those from varied socio-economic backgrounds—voices that are an integral part of the university's cultural fabric.



Exposure visit to Vidya Sagar

Organised in collaboration with the Department of Psychology, this exposure visit to Chennai aimed to help students understand inclusive education and rehabilitation practices for individuals with disabilities. The one-day visit included a guided tour of Vidya Sagar, an organisation that works with children and adults with intellectual and

developmental disabilities, and a visit to the Vocational Centre in T. Nagar, followed by a stop at the Museum of Possibilities, showcasing innovative approaches to accessibility and inclusion.



Bilateral Stimulation Audio-Assisted Meditation

This workshop featured Ms. Nancy McLaughlin Walter, Co-Director of Research at The Monroe Institute, USA, who led a guided audio-assisted meditation for students, staff, and faculty at Krea University. The session combined music and somatic experiencing to facilitate neural integration and healing, creating an immersive experience. Following the meditation, there was a theoretical discussion on the neuro-cognitive, physiological, and experiential aspects of the practice.



Theatre Workshop on Trauma and Community Healing

An engaging workshop on Trauma and Community Healing was conducted by Dr Sugandh Dixit, offering participants an opportunity to explore and harness their inner resources to better understand and process trauma.

The session fostered a sense of connection and belonging, aiming to break down feelings of alienation and isolation. It served as a meaningful step toward building a supportive community, emphasizing the importance of psychosocial well-being and collective healing.



Fireside Chat

Fireside Chats is a series of informal yet structured conversations between a guest and a moderator. The series features speakers from various walks of life, offering informative and engaging perspectives. Set in a more casual format, the conversations aim to foster open, transparent discussions for the audience to enjoy.

Breaking Barriers: Challenging and Changing Gender Norms in STEM

The first edition of the Fireside Chat, organised by ILS in collaboration with the Physics Discipline, featured an insightful discussion with Professor

Srubabati Goswami on the topic, Breaking Barriers: Challenging and Changing Gender Norms in STEM. Professor Goswami, a Senior Professor of Theoretical High Energy Physics at the Physical Research Laboratory in Ahmedabad, shared personal and professional anecdotes that highlighted the stereotype that STEM subjects are for boys and humanities for girls.

She noted that these preconceived notions begin at a young age in schools and are further reinforced through representations in textbooks. She recounted instances of bias she faced during her appointment and throughout her career, emphasising that closing the gender gap requires conscious action at all levels.

As chair of the Gender in Physics working group of the Indian Physics Association, Professor Goswami contributed to the development of the Hyderabad Charter for Gender Equity in Physics, which includes several recommendations aimed at addressing the disproportionately low representation of women in the hard sciences.



Caste Aside: Has reservation Hijacked Higher Education

ILS in collaboration with the Centre for Writing and Pedagogy at Krea University (Krea-CWP), hosted a Fireside Chat featuring Professor Aparna Vaidik, Professor of History at Ashoka University. The session was titled “Caste Aside: Has Higher Reservation Hijacked Higher Education?”

In this thought-provoking conversation, Professor Vaidik addressed widespread narratives surrounding caste-based reservations in higher education. Sharing her personal journey, she invited participants to reflect on the structural inequalities embedded within educational institutions and questioned who truly benefits from the existing systems of privilege.

Go with the Flo: How a Board Game is Breaking Menstrual Taboos

The session featured a conversation between Dr. Ranjini Krishnan, creator of Go with the Flo, and Sabah Siddiqui, exploring the ideas, research, and intentions behind the design of the board game. Go with the Flo, developed by Sradha Culture Lab, is an innovative educational tool aimed at demystifying menstruation and building menstrual literacy among young menstruators, parents, and educators.

The discussion highlighted how the game fosters open, stigma-free conversations around topics often considered uncomfortable—such as puberty, cramps, mood shifts, and social taboos—creating space for informed dialogue.



FILTER COFFEE, UNFILTERED CONVERSATIONS

Dealing with rejections

Organised as part of the wellbeing week, a filter coffee unfiltered conversation on “Dealing with Rejections” session provided a much-needed space for candid and empathetic conversations. As MBA students navigated the often difficult placement season, the event brought together Nagarani Muthuswamy, Professor Vijayalakshmi, Dr Pallavi Pandey, who shared personal stories of facing professional setbacks, reminding students that rejection was a shared experience—not a personal failure. These honest reflections offered both reassurance and practical insights, helping students reframe rejection as a natural part of growth.

One key perspective that emerged during the session was the idea that rejection is not a reflection of one’s worth or ability but often a result of timing, fit, or external factors beyond one’s control. Recognizing this helped students approach the placement process with greater resilience and self-compassion.



The Union Budget

The Ministry of Finance (MOF) and Inclusive Learning Support organised a discussion analyzing the key takeaways, economic impact, and policy shifts from the Union budget released on February 1. The session featured insightful discussions with Dr Soumya, Dr Suresh and Dr Suchika where they decoded the budget and its real-world implications.

Recognizing Signs of Burnout and Ways to Address It

Burnout can creep into our lives when we least expect it—through academic pressures, personal responsibilities, or the endless pursuit of perfection. It’s a state of emotional, physical, and mental exhaustion that many of us experience but rarely address openly. Dr Madhavilatha, Dr Rakshi and Dr Preeti unpack what burnout is and how it can be addressed.

On Loneliness and Aloneness

Dr Gowhar Fazili, Dr Neha Aggarwal, and Dr Suryodaya Sharma had a discussion with students to explore the theme of understanding and navigating feelings of solitude while finding belonging amidst isolation. The conversation encouraged students to reflect on their own emotional landscapes and recognize that solitude

can be both a challenge and a space for personal growth. Together, they explored ways to build meaningful connections without dismissing the reality of feeling alone.



SPOTLIGHT ON MENTAL HEALTH

PSV Training

With guidance from professionals at the Schizophrenia Research Foundation (SCARF), the third batch of Peer Support Volunteers (PSVs) underwent a two-day training workshop on the fundamentals of counselling. The sessions, led by Dr. Shiva, psychiatrist at SCARF, provided a comprehensive overview of counselling and highlighted the importance of fostering empathy in peer interactions.

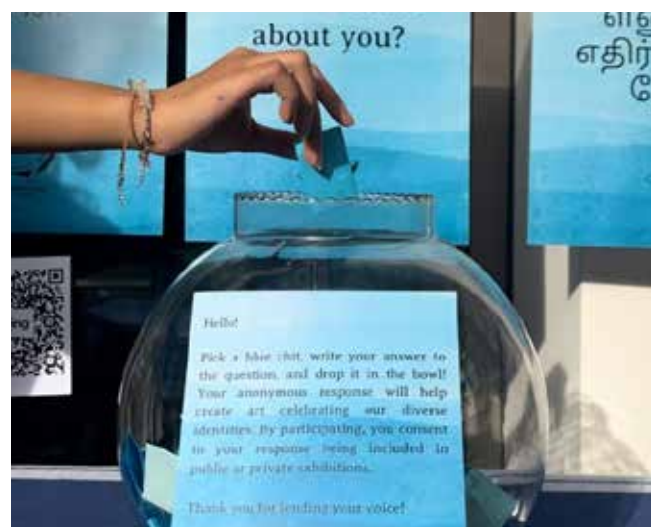
The workshop included hands-on activities, such as role plays and case studies, helping participants better understand the nature of peer support and how to respond appropriately. A key takeaway was the emphasis on confidentiality, essential for creating a safe and trusting space for students seeking support.



World Suicide Prevention Day: From Isolation to Connection: Creating Safe Spaces for Healing

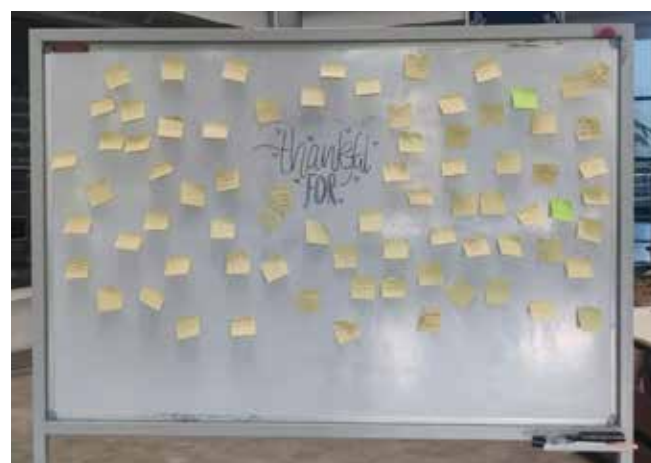
To mark World Suicide Prevention Day, Inclusive Learning Support, the Department of Psychology, the Psychology Society, Sibling, and Peer Support Volunteers came together to host a series of interactive and reflective events on 10 and 11 September 2024.

Centered on the theme “From Isolation to Connection: Creating Safe Spaces for Healing,” these events aimed to foster meaningful conversations, build supportive networks, and create spaces where students can share, listen, and heal together.



Art Exhibition

The exhibition organised by the ILS in collaboration with Psychology Society featured a wide range of student submissions—from digital and physical art to photography and poetry—each exploring deeply personal narratives and emotions. Contributors responded to prompts such as “The Silence Between Us, Finding Light in the Darkness and so on.





Talk by Jocelyn Chua

ILS in collaboration with the Psychology Department organised a talk on ‘Suicide and Anthropology: Ethnographic Approaches to Self-Harm and Self-Inflicted Death.’

Drawing on insights from her previous research on suicide in Kerala and highlighting anthropologists’ involvement in community-based and intervention studies, she will offer one perspective on the discipline’s approaches to self-harm and self-inflicted death, as well as its potential for multidisciplinary collaboration.



52 Hertz Human

Sibling in collaboration with ILS hosted the concluding segment of their unique three-part series, “52 Hertz Human,” inspired by the story of the world’s loneliest whale. This initiative explored themes of communication, connection, and the deep human longing to be understood and remembered.

The final segment took place at 9 PM in an intimate, technology-free setting designed to foster authentic and undisturbed interaction. Participants were given special visiting cards upon

arrival, which they personalised with reflections on how they wished to be remembered. These cards were then exchanged, creating quiet moments of connection rooted in shared vulnerability and empathy.



Whorls of Wonder

This event marked the PSVs’ first initiative of the academic year aimed at helping students relieve the stress of the ongoing end-of-term period of the first trimester. The event invited students to sit and colour mandalas while soothing music played in the background allowing for a refreshing break.



Self-Harm Awareness Training

Sneha Foundation, a leading non-profit organisation dedicated to addressing mental health challenges, conducted a training with a particular focus on suicide prevention and self-harm awareness. The training was designed to equip individuals, educators, healthcare professionals, and community members with the knowledge and tools to recognize, understand, and respond to self-harm behaviors effectively.



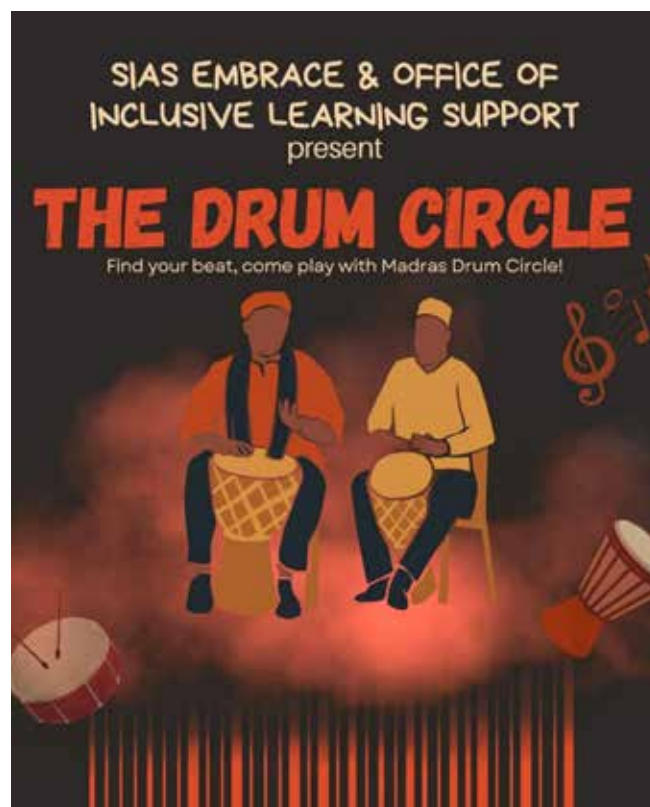
Well-being Week

ILS organised the third edition of the Wellbeing week from 18-23 November with an array of thoughtfully curated events including workshops, events and interactive activities to engage and support the community.



The Drum Circle

The Wellbeing Week kicked off with the Madras Drum Circle, a facilitated session that brought students together to experience the therapeutic power of drumming. In two rounds, participants played drums at varying speeds under the guidance of a facilitator who emphasised the stress-relieving and team-building benefits of this practice. Widely adopted by corporates to enhance productivity, drumming fosters teamwork, cooperation and empowerment while uplifting the group's spirit.



Affirmation Desk & Gratitude Letters and Gratitude Wall

This activity encouraged students to write gratitude notes and affirmations. Participants could pen down positive quotes or express their appreciation for friends, faculty, or staff. Visitors to the desk picked up these notes, reminding them of the importance of gratitude. At the end of the week, the letters were delivered to recipients, creating meaningful connections and spreading positivity across campus.



A card-making experience

The Peer Support Volunteers set up a card-making stall to celebrate the spirit of giving. Students crafted heartfelt Christmas cards for children at RaiseAChild orphanage, a cause supported annually by Aikyatha, the SIAS social outreach club. Adding a thoughtful touch to International Men's Day, the stall also distributed roses to men on campus.



Self-care kit workshop

In this interactive workshop, students learnt how to create a personalised Self-Care Kit with essential items and techniques that helps improve their overall well-being.



Low Stimulation Zone

A low-stimulation zone was created to offer participants a calming retreat from the hustle and bustle of campus life. Designed as a peaceful and quiet space, it allowed individuals to unwind, de-stress, and recharge in a soothing environment.



Cognitive Connections: Building an EF-ficient Brain

Dr Sharanya Anil Bajaj conducted a session aimed at equipping college students with Executive Functioning (EF) skills through evidence-based strategies.

While college life is often filled with memorable and enriching experiences, it can also become overwhelming for many. The workshop addressed the question: Why does this happen, and how can students navigate it more effectively? Dr. Bajaj guided participants in understanding what Executive Functioning is, why it matters, and how strengthening these skills can help students manage their time, focus, emotions, and responsibilities more effectively.



Journaling Marathon

This guided session was facilitated by Peer Support Volunteers (PSVs). Participants were given creative and reflective prompts, along with worksheets for group discussions and individual exercises. The self-reflection questions encouraged participants to ponder their decisions, choices, likes, dislikes and evaluate how they have been approaching life's challenges.

Wellbeing Fair

The wellbeing week concluded with a grand fair. The fair offered a vibrant mix of activities, games, music, and delicious food, creating a fun and engaging environment for all attendees. The fair featured 20 stalls from various clubs, each contributing to the theme of mental well-being.

- Fashion Club of SIAS: Distributed booklets featuring self-reflection questions, encouraging positive body image
- Literary Arts Club: Offered poetry prescriptions and comforting books for sale, supporting the theme of mental well-being
- Other stalls focused on promoting affirmation and self-care, further reinforcing the fair's commitment to fostering mental well-being.
- Layam, the SIAS Music Club organised a lively karaoke event, adding to the festive atmosphere of the fair



GENDER AND CONSENT ADVOCACY

ILS and the Gender and Consent Advocacy Volunteers organised several events including awareness workshops and exhibitions this year. Here is a glimpse into some of the events:

Gender and Consent Advocacy volunteer Training

In 2025, a series of online training sessions were arranged for the Gender and Consent Advocacy volunteers. Experts in the field of gender advocacy and POSH law led sessions on organising advocacy events to raise awareness about POSH, as well as crafting campaign materials for more impactful advocacy efforts on campus.

#MeToo Exhibition

The Prevention of Sexual Harassment Advocacy Group, in collaboration with Syahi and the Pride Forum, organised an exhibition dedicated to raising awareness of the #MeToo movement. The exhibition featured a carefully curated series of artworks and accessible insights into the movement's origins, milestones, and its continued relevance today. This event was intended as a space for reflection and understanding.





Prevention of Sexual Harassment: Of Law, Institutions and Society

In light of the Kolkata Rape and Murder case in August, ILS invited lawyer Akila R S to lead an open discussion on the issue and explore institutional measures to enhance safety. One of the initial questions raised was why laws on sexual harassment fail to deter crimes. Although the POSH Act is comprehensive, its implementation does not seem to translate into tangible safety for women and vulnerable groups in the workplace.

Akila highlighted the issue of assigning blame. When blame is placed solely on institutions and not on the broader culture, we overlook how society enables and even protects perpetrators of sexual violence. When people become aware of something deeply disturbing, they often react by demanding instant justice and stricter punishments. They tend to “other” the perpetrators, believing that they and their close circles would never violate someone’s boundaries. Such beliefs are harmful as they prevent us from addressing the root problem and hinder large-scale social reform.



Gender Equity Dialogues

The Gender and Consent Advocacy Volunteers organised a series of events in March. This included Gender Equity Dialogues, featuring a Bystander Intervention Training, a screening of The Great Indian Kitchen with a discussion, a performance of A Raisin in the Sun, and a panel discussion titled Navigating Consent: Through the Lens of Gender and Power Dynamics to create critical spaces for dialogue around gender, power, and consent.



Bystander Intervention workshop

The workshop on bystander intervention equipped participants with the knowledge and skills to recognise, respond to, and intervene in instances of sexual and gender-based violence. The workshop was conducted by the Imaara Survivor Support Foundation, an organisation dedicated to educating individuals in schools, colleges, workplaces, and communities on gender-based violence (GBV), effective bystander intervention techniques, survivor support, and fostering a culture of empathy and respect.



Panel Discussion on Navigating Consent: Through the Lens of Gender and Power Dynamics

Dr Rakshi Rath, Prof. Geeti Das, Prof. Srajana Kaikini, and Prof. Vivek Tewary discussed their experience with power structures, and how certain systems are important in institutions to ensure safety. They also shared their personal experiences, with and without consent, and how these have shaped their understanding of consent. This discussion was crucial for understanding and exploring how gender and power influence the way consent is understood, communicated, and practiced in academic, social, and personal settings.



TRAININGS FOR STAFF

Training for Staff on Gender and Sexuality

Inclusive Learning Support (ILS) team organised a sensitisation session focused on gender and sexuality for the support staff on 10 October, 2024. The event featured two interactive sessions, facilitated by Siva, Regina, Naveen and Clara, a four-member team from the NGO Nirangal, based in Chennai.

The discussions started with a thorough examination of common stereotypes related to gender and sexuality. The facilitators encouraged participants to critically evaluate why certain beliefs and norms are often accepted without question, even in the face of numerous counterexamples observed in nature. They also discussed the existing rights and laws to protect the minority community. This dialogue prompted staff to reflect on their own assumptions and the societal influences shaping their views. This discussion was an opportunity for participants to gain a deeper understanding of the implications of gender and sexuality issues.



POSH training for Support Staff

ILS organised a sensitisation session on the Prevention of Sexual Harassment for support staff across the campus on 21 September, 2024. This essential initiative aimed to raise awareness and foster a safer working environment for all employees including security guards and maintenance staff.

A central theme of the discussion was the fundamental right of every employee to work in a safe and secure environment. Akila highlighted

the University's commitment to maintaining a supportive workplace culture.

To further empower attendees, she provided a comprehensive overview of the university's policies and procedures related to sexual harassment. Akila outlined the steps employees can take to seek redressal in cases of harassment, ensuring that staff were well-informed about their options. She also detailed the mandate of the Internal Complaints Committee, which is tasked with receiving, investigating, and addressing complaints of sexual harassment.



Training on Mental Health

A 2-hour training session on handling mental health emergencies and equipping the first responder staff members with effective response strategies was organised by ILS. The session conducted by experts from SCARF was attended by the staff of Inclusive Learning Support team, Student Affairs team, Residence Life and Safety and Security from the University.



WELL-BEING AT KREA

The Mental Well-being wing of the Office of Inclusive Learning Support (ILS) continues to play a pivotal role in supporting students through their academic journey. As part of the orientation for the incoming cohort, the ILS team conducted an introductory session on mental health and well-being, designed to address the challenges students often face while adapting to university life.

Led by experienced mental health professionals, the session focused on helping students identify common stressors, build resilience, and develop effective coping strategies. Through interactive discussions and engaging presentations, students were equipped with practical tools to manage academic pressures, social transitions, and personal challenges. The session also emphasised the importance of seeking help, fostering a culture where students feel safe, supported, and empowered to prioritise their mental health from day one.

To further strengthen the campus mental health ecosystem, the University has increased readiness training for Peer Support Volunteers (PSVs). These volunteers are now better equipped to identify early warning signs and notify relevant support teams in the event of a mental health emergency. This initiative enhances early intervention, improves crisis response, and ensures that student concerns are addressed promptly and effectively.

Year in Review: Counselling Services (July 2024 – May 2025)

In House Sessions	Online	347
	Offline	280
Total no. Of Your Dost Counseling Sessions (July 2024 to May 2025)	Online & Offline	730
New Registered Users on YourDost in this year (July 2023 to May 2024)	Online & Offline	107
Psychiatric Support (via SCARF, Chennai)	In-person, teleconsultation & Online	47



HIGHLIGHTS

Award from Pride Circle

Krea University has been recognised with an award for Academic Inclusion in the India Education Equality Index (IEEI) 2024 during the IEEI 2024 Summit and Awards Ceremony held in Bengaluru on 26 October, 2024. Krea University was recognized for embracing an inclusive curriculum that acknowledges and celebrates diversity, ensuring that LGBT+ students feel seen and valued in their academic journey

The ILS had registered for IEEI as a part of self-assessment, to receive an analysis of Krea University's strengths, areas needing improvement and practical recommendations to guide Krea's journey towards building a more inclusive, respectful and welcoming campus for all students.



Paper Presentation at Gitam

This year, the Office of Inclusive Learning Support at Krea University shared insights from its five-year collaboration with SCARF in building a robust, responsive mental health accommodations system. While national policies address physical and learning disabilities, the team noted a lack of structured support for students with mental health conditions—despite legal recognition of mental illness as a disability.

In response, the team developed a policy paper proposing a principle-oriented framework to guide institutions in implementing disorder-specific, equitable accommodations. Rooted in the social model of disability and grounded in practical experience, the framework aims to empower educators, administrators, and mental health professionals across India to foster inclusive and supportive learning environments.



TRANSFORMING LIVES

Fundraising and Development

Krea University has a strategic plan in place for the upcoming years. What makes our dreams and aspirations possible is the invaluable partnership of our donors and partners. We are deeply grateful to all our donors for their encouragement and backing that gives us the impetus to craft out a lofty vision and walk the path to fulfill our mission of helping humanity prepare for an unpredictable world.

Our partners include CSRs, Foundations and Individual donors who share our mission of providing equitable access and uniform facilities to young scholars across India.

Donations received in FY 2024-2025

Name	Purpose	Amount (in Cr)
Kalpana Morparia	Scholarship(4 students - 100% FA, 2 students - Partial)	1.00
VS Foundation-Vikram Lal	Scholarship(4 Students - 100% FA)	0.40
Janaki Bajaj Gram Vikas Sanstha		0.80
Ms.Sangita Jindal	Scholarship (1 Student - 100% FA)	0.11
Designwave Services LLP		0.02
Mr Vaidyanathan Vembu - IDFC First Bank	Scholarship (2 Students - 100% FA)	0.20
Kalpak Chhajed		0.02
Akanksha Foundation		0.02
Acsys Investments		1.00
Ajanta Pharma	Scholarship(3 Students - 100% FA)	0.30
Delphi TVS Technologies Ltd	Scholarship(2 students - 100% FA)	0.20
Dhanam Foundation	Scholarship	1.65
Lucas TVS Limited	Scholarship (2 students - 100% FA)	0.20
Allcargo Logistics	Scholarship(2 Students - 100% FA)	0.20
Sundram Fasteners Limited	Chair Professorship - 3 Faculty Chairs	1.00

Our Donors

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		ODITI FOUNDATION	RAMCO GROUP
RAVI AND PAULA MARIWALA	RUKMANI SOCIAL WELFARE TRUST		

VT BHARADWAJ

New Scholarships Introduced in 2024–25:

The Shri Laxmi Tanna Scholarship was introduced during 2024–25. This has been made possible through a generous donation from Dr Kalpana Morparia.

Key highlights:

- The donation comprises ` 1 crore each for two consecutive academic years: 2024–25 and 2025–26.
- The scholarship will cover the tuition fees of 6 girl students at Krea University annually.
- As per the terms of the agreement, Krea University will match the donation amount equally for the respective years.

NURTURING TALENT

Human Resources

The Human Resources Team at Krea continue with hiring, training and supporting employees at Krea through various initiatives.



Total Employees

319



Faculty (incl adjunct)

152



Post Doctoral Fellow

7



Faculty Teaching Associate

1



Teaching Fellows

31



Staff

128



HIGHLIGHTS

Talent Acquisition

- Handled recruitment process for 114 joiners across functions at different levels.
- Introduced a structured and effective onboarding process for hassle free onboarding, movement to campus.
- Orientation and Introduction sessions across levels for better understanding of the university culture, clarification on roles, providing resources and policies on time for seamless integration and an increased productivity.

Employee Engagement

- Initiated periodic HR Meetings, Department wise for better communication, retain talent, quicker action on challenges/address queries and to increase employee satisfaction.
- Rolled out weekly SriCity Campus visit by HR team to ensure increased accessibility, in-person support and increased employee relations.
- Introduced Collaboration Sessions like Women's Day, New Year Celebration etc to foster cross-functional interaction and inclusive workplace culture.

Learning & Development

- Organised training programs across departments including IT, Media Lab, IRB, POSH session and trainings that supports operational output like hrms portal, medical insurance coverage and clarifications, expense portal etc.

Audit and External Consultant

Managed internal audit, external audit and consultant discussions for HR Audit.

Strategic HR Initiatives

- Compensation Benchmarking exercise: comprehensive compensation benchmarking exercise to align institutional pay structures with the university standards, through data collection, internal data analysis discussions with senior management, and ensure internal parity. The findings have informed policy updates, finalization of pay scales, pay guidelines, salary adjustments and future talent strategy.

- Technology & Automation: Initiated recruit module for complete end to end recruitment process and improvisations across exit, leave modules etc
- Talent Pipeline Development: Initiated campus recruitment drive, linkedIn head hunting, internships, SriCity connect, University visits for increased source of applications and employer branding.
- Workforce Planning: Partnered with departments for manpower forecasting, role clarity and budget preparation with analytics on data.

Policies, Compliance & Processes

- Prepared policies updation/revision based on the experiences for Staff HR Manual, Staff Promotion Policy, Sabbatical Policy, Superannuation policy and support in extra teaching policy, Anti-discrimination policy.
- Initiated a formal Background verification process for staff as a risk management tool to support ethical hiring and strengthen institutional credibility.
- Implemented Application forms to get qualitative data on source of applications, complete information to support decision making, offer finalisation etc. Onboarding and Offboarding process improvement for better induction, faster productivity and appropriate on time settlements
- Initiated legal advice on compliance matters for University HR for adapting a check list and process to ensure adherence to all applicable employment laws, regulations and ethical standards.
- Process streamlining/initiatives: Implemented processes for Staff probation-confirmation, Contract renewal guidelines to ensure review mechanism and appropriate action on time.

RESEARCH AND IMPACT

Krea Doctoral College

Research Labs

Last year, the University invested INR 2100L towards the setting up of research labs. The following equipments and facilities have been commissioned at Krea:

- 1.High-pressure Raman Spectrometer
- 2.NMR Spectrometers (300 MHz and 600 MHz)
- 3.Green Houses
- 4.EEG
- 5.Setup to study NV-centres in diamond for quantum technology applications



Raman Spectrometer



Greenhouses at Sri City campus

Krea Research Fellowship

The Krea Research Fellowship is an annual, competitive intramural grant at Krea that allows faculty to access funding over their stipulated faculty research grants towards research projects. Krea Research Fellowship 2024-25 was awarded to six projects, amounting to INR 18,50,000. Some of the projects include “Hydroxyl Airglow Imaging with a Low-cost instrument (HAIL)”, “Formalisation and Verified Implementation of Group Theoretic Algorithms”, and “Joining the dots: Testing hypotheses for multigenerational *Danainae* butterfly migration in Peninsular India”. Krea Research Fellowship 2024-25 was open to STEM research only since support for the Humanities and Social Science projects was available from IFMR. Details of these projects can be found in last year’s annual report.

Call for Proposals for Krea Research Fellowship 2025-26 were announced in April 2025.

External Grants

Dr Jyoti Kumari was awarded the Major Research Project (2024-2025) grant by the Indian Council for Social Science Research (ICSSR), Ministry of Education. Her project is titled “The Role of Alternative Data in Expanding Credit Access: A Study of Fintech Innovations in India”.

Dr Tanmoy Chakrabarty was awarded the CRS Project Proposal at UGC-DAE Consortium for Scientific Research for his project titled ‘Exploring the magnetically ordered states in novel magneto-electric compounds $\text{Sr/CaFe}_3\text{O(PO}_4)_3$ ’.

Invited Talks and Visiting Researcher Fellowships

1.Dr Sushant Raut was invited to the FIP 2024 conference at the University of Hyderabad to give an invited review talk on neutrino physics. The conference was attended by PhD and Masters students, and experts from universities/institutes across India.

2.Dr Lakshmi Narayanan Viswanathan was invited to present a talk on ‘Importance of Studying

Lightning in the Whole Atmosphere Perspective' ata workshop and training programme on Atmospheric Lightning monitoring, forecasting and mitigation' at the National Remote Sensing Center, Hyderabad.

3. Professor S Sivakumar gave invited talks on advanced thermodynamics and fluctuation theorems at the National Academy of Sciences Workshop on Energy Storage Materials, which was conducted at The Gadhigram Rural Institute, Tamil Nadu, from February 20 to 22, 2025.

4. Dr Anwesha Chakrabarti was offered a visiting researcher position at Universita Cattolica del Sacro Cuore in Piacenza, Italy for a project entitled "Trends of Sustainable and Healthy Consumption in the EU", in collaboration with Prof. Paolo Sckokai.

5. Dr Sabah Siddiqui was invited by the Faculty of Education of Federal University of Goiás (Goiânia, Brazil) to speak at the Third Marxism & Psychology Conference between November 12-15, 2024.

Undergraduate Research

1. Three PGD students — Deesha Jeppu, Tanvi Kadakol, and Nivedita Naveen — presented a poster under the guidance of Prof. Guha Dharmarajan at the Indian Wildlife Ecology Conference 2024, held from 14–16 June at the National Centre for Biological Sciences, Bengaluru.

2. Our alumni, Inika Khosla, got her capstone dissertation published in the Cambridge Journal of Human Behaviour. The paper is titled "[Exploring Community-based Alcohol Rehabilitation in India: A case study of a community rehabilitation and support centre](#)". Inika was supervised by Dr Sabah Siddiqui.

3. Sreeshma Ravi (capstone mentee) and Ameena Abbas (voluntary contributor), both 2024 graduates, co-authored the paper "Solvothermal Synthesis of Cuprous Oxide Microsphere and its Application as Catalyst for Synthesis of β -Hydroxy Triazole" under the guidance of Dr Randhir Rai.

Capstone Confab

The Capstone Confab is an annual research event wherein undergraduate students undertaking capstone projects as part of their Year 4 coursework make poster presentations of their research projects. The second edition was hosted in March 2024 and the third edition was hosted in March 2025. The confab is followed by a dinner wherein the students further interact with the Deans (SIAS & Research) about their projects and about other ideas and interests as well.



Capstone Confab March 2024



Capstone Confab March 2025

Research Symposium on Finance and Economics (RSFE) 2025

Research Symposium on Finance and Economics (RSFE) is an important event in the academic calendar of IFMR GSB, Krea University, India. RSFE provides an excellent opportunity for researchers worldwide to present their scholarly work on finance and economics and receive constructive feedback from domain experts. The symposium has received good response from researchers in India and abroad. In RSFE 2025, more than 130 papers were presented from various parts of the world virtually during the three-day research symposium (i.e., from June 11 to June 13, 2025). Papers were presented and discussed on a wide range of areas that include corporate finance, corporate governance, corporate innovation, investment policy, mergers and acquisitions, financial reporting, banking, bank risk and monitoring, government policy and regulation, ESG, CSR, green finance, climate risk and insurance, climate change and policy, behavioural finance, fintech, cryptocurrency and digitalization, financial markets, asset pricing, special topics in finance, entrepreneurship and firm behaviour, education, gender and development, labour economics, Health and household economics, applied macroeconomics. The speakers, who delivered keynote lectures include Prof. Amiyatosh Purnanandam, Michael Stark Professor of Finance, Ross School of Business, University of Michigan, US, Prof. Prasanna Tantri, Associate Professor, Indian School of Business (ISB) Hyderabad, India, Prof. Edward Altman, Max L. Heine Professor of Finance Emeritus, Stern School of Business, New York University, US, Prof. Partha Sarathy Mohanram, John H. Watson Chair in Value Investing, Rotman School of Management, University of Toronto, Canada, Prof. Alexander K. Zentefis, Campbell National Fellow, Hoover Institution, Stanford University, US, Prof. Claudia Custodio, Professor of Finance, Imperial College, UK, Prof. Michael Weber, Associate Professor of Finance, University of Chicago, Booth School of Business, US, Prof. Jonathan B. Berk, The A.P. Giannini Professor of Finance, Stanford Graduate School of Business, US, Prof. Anand Srinivasan, Associate Professor of Finance, National University of Singapore (NUS) Business School, Singapore, and Prof. Ankit Kalda, Associate Professor of Finance, Indiana University, US. During the research symposium, we organised panel discussions on contemporary issues in Finance. The panel members, who were a part of

panel discussion are Prof. Tom Smith, Macquarie University, Professor, Department of Applied Finance, Centre for Corporate Sustainability and Environmental Finance, Centre for Risk Analytics, Macquarie University, Australia, Prof. Balasingham Balachandran, Professor of Finance, Monash University, Malaysia, Prof. Chandrasekhar Krishnamurti, Professor of Finance, University of South Australia, Australia, Prof. Jonathan A. Batten, Deputy Dean (Research and Innovation), Professor of Finance, RMIT University College of Business and Law, Melbourne, Australia, Prof. Bart Lambrecht, Professor of Finance, Judge Business School, University of Cambridge, UK, Prof. Peter G. Szilagyi, Professor of Finance, EDHEC Business School, France, Prof. Douglas Cumming, Chair and DeSantis Distinguished Professor of Finance and Entrepreneurship, College of Business, Florida Atlantic University, US, Prof. Suman Banerjee, Associate Professor, School of Business, Stevens Institute of Technology, US, Prof. Varun Jindal, Assistant Professor in the area of Finance & Accounting, Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Bangalore, India.



Research Centres

The novel challenges and crises that the world faces today calls for collective efforts that can tackle not just current issues but also potential future crises. There has been no time more critical than now as the impact of social, economic and environmental vulnerabilities becomes more visibly altering for the future of the planet and the people.

For 55 years, IFMR (Institute for Financial Management and Research) pioneered finance training research, becoming Asia's first of its kind. Over the years with an ever-growing tree of research centres, IFMR has worked on some of the most crucial social challenges and conducted advanced and in-depth research on a wide range of policy-relevant issues coupled with strategic action, and it continues with renewed vigour.

Another strong year has passed by and this year we have added many more strategic collaborations, transdisciplinary research, policy engagements, pivotal events and engineered confluence of the finest from various fields coming together to shape ideas, dialogue and action on contemporary challenges. During 2024-25, our research centres continued to work towards building a healthier, happier and sustainable future for all and paving an optimistic way forward.

These are a few highlights of the significant impact led research work done by our research centres over the past year.



Leveraging Evidence for Access and Development (LEAD)

LEAD LEVERAGING EVIDENCE FOR ACCESS AND DEVELOPMENT

LEAD is an action-oriented research centre working towards enhancing the socio-economic prosperity of vulnerable and marginalised individuals, households, and enterprises over the last two decades, 2024-25 was an important year in LEAD's journey, marked by the successful launch and execution of several key initiatives.

As part of its efforts to enhance women's economic empowerment, LEAD signed a strategic MoU with the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) to jointly advance research and solutions that support rural women entrepreneurs. The partnership aimed to identify key barriers to financial access, generate actionable insights, and inform programmatic interventions within MoRD's nationwide platforms such as DAY-NRLM. In a major step toward strengthening data systems and enabling evidence-based policymaking, IFMR signed an MoU with the Government of Meghalaya to advance data-driven governance.

LEAD's partnership with the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT). This partnership builds on the ongoing engagement with MeitY over the past year under our new initiative, the Gender x Digital hub, where LEAD has been working to advance

gender-intentional approaches to digital inclusion.

LEAD is also the Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning partner for an Asian Development Bank (ADB) and Microfinance Industry Network (MFIN) initiative that will pilot parametric microinsurance products aimed at enhancing climate resilience for rural women. The Gender X Digital hub (GxD hub) at IFMR was established as a cross-disciplinary platform dedicated to advancing meaningful digital connectivity among women and girls in India. Over the past year, the GxD hub has gained strong momentum.

LEAD is currently conducting a comprehensive impact evaluation of the Goldman Sachs 10,000 Women program, in collaboration with NSRCEL, IIM Bangalore. The study examines the impact of business education, mentoring, and financial exposure on the growth trajectories of women-led enterprises across India. Nano enterprises—hyperlocal businesses with annual turnovers under INR 1 crore—play a vital role in urban livelihoods but struggle to withstand prolonged external shocks. Recognising this gap, the Michael & Susan Dell Foundation and LEAD undertook a three-year longitudinal study to assess the impact of access to credit on nano enterprises. LEAD in collaboration with the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), worked on adapting and piloting the Women's Empowerment in Agrifood Governance (WEAGov) framework in India. As part of this engagement, LEAD developed recommendations to enhance women's voice, agency, and participation across the agrifood policy cycle.

As part of the EU-UNDP global initiative 'Advancing Health and Environmental Sustainability through Action on Air Pollution', LEAD partnered with the Centre for Chronic Disease Control (CCDC) and PGIMER to develop an investment case for air pollution reduction in Amritsar and Gurugram, India. To tap into the digital growth potential of MSME segment, USAID and DAI launched a policy research fellowship anchored by LEAD at Krea University. The programme supported three fellows who explored key challenges and digitalisation opportunities across underserved MSME segments, culminating in actionable recommendations for policymakers and industry stakeholders. LEAD in collaboration with the Ford Foundation, undertook a multi-pronged initiative to explore women's mobility and safety through data and lived experiences to inform



policy. During the year 40 learning outputs were published in the year, including peer-reviewed journal articles, reports, blogs, and infographics.

As part of policy & outreach LEAD successfully organised and participated in 25 stakeholder events to showcase the insights and learnings from our work, fostering collaboration and dialogue among key stakeholders, and members



of the team represented our work at several regional and global forums. LEAD was also part of various events across the world during the year. LEAD was also deeply involved in the curation and management of Synergy 2025- Krea University's flagship annual event, hosted in partnership with IFMR.

Institute for What Works to Advance Gender Equality (IWWAGE)



2024 was a landmark year for IWWAGE, one that brought global recognition and reaffirmed our mission to empower women through research and policy advocacy. IWWAGE was honoured with two prestigious recognitions for its impactful work on women's economic empowerment. They were recognised as Asia Pacific Care Champions, 2024, by the United Nations Economic and Social

Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) and UN Women, acknowledging our leadership in advancing gender-inclusive care solutions and strengthening care systems. They also received the SAHIT Award for Excellence in Research for our work on women's entrepreneurship, conducted in collaboration with ISST and TQH for FICCI's Women in Workforce Report.

Over the year the centre published various blogs and publications. IWWAGE also published a factsheet series highlighting a rise in India's Female Labour Force Participation Rate—from 23.3% in 2017–18 to 41.7%. The Feminist Policy Collective launched the India Gender Report 2024, with IWWAGE contributing a chapter titled 'Trends in Women's Workforce Participation in India'. Authors Sona Mitra and Mridusmita Bordoloi analysed barriers like unpaid care responsibilities, mobility restrictions, and employer bias.

IWWAGE's Future of Work series explored how emerging sectors, gender-responsive strategies, and inclusive workplace practices can help retain women in India's evolving workforce.

IWWAGE also conducted bi-monthly seminar around, Gender Transformative Evaluation - Why and How?, Beneath the Headline Numbers: Employment Trends and Returns to Work in the Indian Labour Market, and Capturing Women's Work Through Time Use Surveys: Implications for Policy. IWWAGE was also at gLOCAL Evaluation Week 2024

The team hosted a workshop titled "Capturing Women's Work to Measure Better," moderated



by Radha Chellappa and Santanu Pramanik. The session provided key recommendations for enhancing gender data, including updating time-use surveys, valuing unpaid care work, refining definitions of work, and addressing perception biases in labour statistics. Held in August in New Delhi IWWAGE's dissemination workshop explored sustainable childcare models for underserved communities. Featuring speakers from NULM, MoHUA and ISLE, discussions focused on strengthening financial provisions, expanding Early Childhood Development (ECD) investments, and fostering multi-stakeholder collaboration. Findings from a four-state study informed key recommendations—scaling quality creches, improving ECD infrastructure, and using data-driven planning to prioritise accessible childcare in India's urban and informal settings.

At the Asia-Pacific Care Forum held in Bangkok, IWWAGE co-facilitated a session focusing on transforming care systems in the Asia-Pacific region. Key insights from the session were presented in a plenary discussion, highlighting opportunities and challenges in strengthening the care economy and empowering women. IWWAGE also convened a high-level panel at the NGO CSW69 Forum to discuss India's care economy. Panellists from government, philanthropy, and civil society highlighted achievements, persistent challenges, and the need for urgent policy reforms. The discussion called for systemic recognition of care work as essential to inclusive growth and emphasised the importance of increased public investment and accountability in building a gender-responsive care ecosystem.

During the year, DAY-NRLM and IWWAGE held the Fifth Gender Samvaad, engaging over 3 lakh participants to share GBV strategies. IWWAGE and PRADAN presented key insights from the second-year campaign, highlighting the need to challenge the normalisation of GBV, strengthen women's agency through SHGs, and foster intergenerational dialogues to shift gender norms. The event called for emphasising stronger community institutions on legal issues and closer ties with Panchayats, along with adopting more preventive measures to address GBV.

The Ministry of Rural Development, in collaboration with IWWAGE, hosted the National Conclave on Gender Mainstreaming under DAY-NRLM in New Delhi. The event highlighted initiatives like Gender Resource Centres and Nayi Chetna, focusing on

strengthening gender integration, empowering SHGs, and addressing key challenges such as institutional gaps, unpaid care work, and youth engagement. Launched in November, Nayi Chetna 3.0—"Pahal Badlaav Ki" (Initiative for Change) —is a national campaign led by DAY-NRLM to combat gender-based violence. IWWAGE supported the campaign's design, outreach, and impact study to strengthen local institutions and enhance effectiveness.

Catalyst



In its nine years of existence, Catalyst has supported over 50 impact-focused startups across diverse sectors such as fintech, sustainability, crafts, agri-tech and allied sectors. The accelerator supports startups with forward market linkages, investments via its own and partner funds, global mentor connects and industry partnerships. 2024 was a pivotal year for Catalyst. The accelerator successfully transformed itself from an incubation-first model to a more intense, outcome-oriented accelerator model. We also launched several new programs for startups across sectors, and in partnership with a host of reputed donor partners.

Key highlights included, the fourth crafts-focused cohort, as a part of NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission, was successfully concluded with 8 craft startups supported across 7 different states. These startups made a combined revenue of INR 16 crore+ in FY 24-25, impacting the livelihoods of nearly 1200 artisans across 6 different craft forms. The cohort concluded with our first ever 'Impact Pitch' event in December of 2024. The 'Impact Pitch' provides a platform to credible, growth and innovation focused impact startups, to pitch to a targeted group of global impact investors and decision makers, ultimately helping them raise growth capital for scaling up their tech businesses.

2024 Impact Pitch was organised in partnership with IIMA Ventures, and featured 10 startups

selected jointly, from across India. 3 startups were successful in securing investments in post-event deals. The event saw 10 institutional impact investors from across India participating in the pitch.

New programmes were launched such as 'Srijan', in partnership with HDFC Bank. Srijan' program was jointly launched by HDFC and Catalyst, to accelerate craft startups by providing them with necessary capital and mentorship support. Catalyst was selected as one of only 6 incubators & accelerators from India, for HDFC Bank's CSR division for its "SmartUp Parivartan Grants" 'Catalyst partnered with Aditya Birla Group's CSR division 'Aadyam Handwoven' for a new accelerator program for crafts startups in the textile space and 'Gurukul' was launched. The programme aims to provide rapid solutioning to startups within 3 months, and helping them launch newer products in the market. 'Gurukul' also provides startups with the opportunity to expand their markets by partnering with India's largest retail group.

Catalyst and LEAD jointly initiated an 'Artisan Entrepreneurship Program', in partnership with HCL Foundation. The programme, envisages creation of 13-15 small enterprises, formally organised in the form of a company or LLP, which will be onboarded across ecommerce platforms as well as on HCL Foundation's ehaat platform. 200+ artisans are being trained across

10 different modules in the coming 7 months, wherein training related to product design, supply chain management, inventory management, social media, ecommerce, financing and capital etc. shall be imparted.

In the previous FY, Catalyst had successfully received approval from DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce, for a dedicated in-house seed fund. In FY 24-25 Catalyst successfully closed investments in 4 startups, with an average investment ticket size of INR 25 Lakhs. These startups include P-TAL, Sarron Handicrafts, Shaanoli Designs and Moora Designs. The investments are governed by an external Investment Committee, with instruments of investment being either debt or grant. The Seed Fund received from the Government is our first step towards creating possibly a larger Micro-VC fund, targeted specifically at social impact and inclusive tech startups and enterprises.

Catalyst is now also in the process of opening up a new centre within the Krea University campus, with the focus on incubating mission-driven, entrepreneurial students, across emerging technology sectors such as Deep-Tech, Data Science, AI among others.

Centre for Digital Financial Inclusion (CDFI)



CDFI, an innovation and research centre at IFMR, is focused on using technology to empower the poor & excluded with tools / information and developing mechanisms to sustain and scale such solutions. Over the years, CDFI has developed, supported, scaled and sustained award-winning innovative solutions for the social sector that



The key highlights of the year included:

Digitize, Direct, Design (D3) - The D3 project seeks to facilitate women's financial inclusion and economic engagement in India through two primary channels: a) enhancing the implementation of social protection programs, focusing on MGNREGS, a national-level rural employment guarantee scheme, which directly transfers payments to women, and b) making financial institutions and services more accessible to women. In doing so, our objective is to increase women's engagement with the formal financial system and boost their economic and overall empowerment.

Working for Women: Gender-Intentional Safety Net Implementation - Despite strong economic growth, Indian women remain socioeconomically marginalized, as evidenced by conservative gender norms that limit their agency at home and mobility in their communities. IEIC's research has identified a pathway to improve women's agency and broader well-being: Working with the Indian government's Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) workfare program, we tested an approach utilizing two instruments: (1) helping low-income women sign up for individual direct deposit of MGNREGS wages into biometrically-linked bank accounts, and (2) training women to ensure they can access these payments.

From 2023-24, the IE network has scaled up this research study in 90 blocks (administrative unit below the district) of MP. IEIC, with PRADAN, has investigated the linking of MGNREGS workers to Aadhaar-Based Payment systems over multiple

rounds of scoping across six districts in Madhya Pradesh. IEIC refining training content with PRADAN. The teams have completed a large baseline survey with 60,000 rural households in MP, and intend to start the training intervention scale-up by August 2025.

Introducing the VOICES - This ambitious evidence agenda involves a multi-state data collection initiative to map the variation in women's representation across India's diverse regions and a large-scale randomized experiment to evaluate policy mechanisms for building women leaders' capacity and autonomy.

Unlocking Young Women's Minds At Scale- This research investigates the effectiveness and sustainability of a Career Exploration Program (CEP) in empowering students from lower socio-economic backgrounds, particularly young women, in North Indian metropolitan cities.

Pairing Community Warning Networks with High Technology Systems For Climate Action- Early warning systems (EWS) have the potential to reduce socioeconomic flood impacts, yet inadequate dissemination infrastructure, low literacy rates, and distrust in external agencies may hamper their effectiveness. IEIC works with a group of financially incentivized volunteers trained to interpret flood warnings and alert their communities. The intervention spans 319 village communities across 12 flood-prone districts.

Targeting Payments to Preserve Community Forests in India - Payments for ecosystem services (PES)—which compensate landowners for refraining from ecologically damaging activities—



are a promising tool to protect ecosystems while providing income to rural communities. Since 2024, researchers from IEIC are partnering with the Government of Meghalaya to embed machine-learning predictions of deforestation risk into a large-scale expansion of an existing PES program in Meghalaya.

Unlocking Data to Improve Lives Of Marginalized Communities- PayDash in Bihar - IEIC created a mobile application to provide Government officials with data on timely wage payments, to improve the delivery of the world's largest social protection program- the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA)- that provides work to tens of millions of rural households in India.

Gender and Growth Gaps In South Asia - A Research And Policy Workshop – IEIC hosted the second edition of the “Gender and Growth Gaps” research and policy dialogue focussing on India at IIC, New Delhi.

Women in Leadership (WiL) in Economics workshop (in partnership with Yale Inclusion Economics, Yale Economic Growth Center, and Institute of Economic Growth (IEG) - In an effort to ensure an increasing number of women play an influential role and/or expand the sphere of their influence in India's economic and public policy thought leadership, IEIC is currently working on a strategic plan under the Women in Leadership (WiL) in Economics initiative.

MoU with Ministry of Rural Development, Govt of India 2024-2029 - IEIC recently extended their partnership, renewing existing MoU with the department.

Last-Mile Innovations for Inclusive Governance - Research and Policy Symposium - Researchers at IEIC have collaborated with the Ministry of Rural Development to evaluate rural work and livelihoods programme. Recently the initiative organised a half-day research-policy symposium to showcase successful innovations in last-mile governance to improve social programmes and promote community resilience.

Water, Environment, Land and Livelihoods (WELL) Labs



WELL Labs is a water systems research and innovation centre at IFMR. They design, curate, and test solutions to solve pressing challenges and transform systems over time. Solving water problems at scale requires addressing the underlying drivers—environment, land, and livelihoods issues—and then testing solutions in real-world settings (labs).

Over the past year, WELL Labs utilised our scientific expertise across urban and rural landscapes to test different approaches and identify drivers of impact. This resulted in significant wins in terms of working with governments to shape policies and programmes, and developing frameworks and toolboxes to optimise impact.

The key highlights of the year included:

The Technical Consulting programme that enables better decision-making in the natural resources



management sector through data and tools. It works with philanthropic organisations and NGOs to improve their monitoring, evaluation, and learning systems. It is also developing simple, accurate, and easy-to-measure water security indicators for the sector and providing advisory services to government agencies on water systems management.

WELL Labs conducted monitoring, learning, and evaluation (MEL) studies of community-based groundwater management programmes and tools. They undertook evaluation of Groundwater Recharge Pits in Maharashtra in partnership with the Environmental Defense Fund and Save Groundwater Foundation. They did evaluation of Groundwater Collectivisation in Andhra Pradesh in partnership with the Environmental Defense Fund and WASSAN. Evaluation of the Planning of Water Conservation Structures in Karnataka in partnership with the Environmental Defense Fund, Arghyam, and Foundation for Ecological Security. Hydrological Assessment of CLART in partnership with the Environmental Defense Fund and Foundation for Ecological Security.

They created a MEL Toolbox, that is, a compendium of tools and methods to democratise impact assessment for watershed management programmes, in partnership with the Environmental Defense Fund. In an effort in systematising MEL in corporate social responsibility programmes, they are working with Tata Consumer Products Limited and its implementing partners.

WELL Labs also built the Water Index for Sustainability, Equity, and Resilience (WISER) to assess water security accurately, in partnership with the Hindustan Unilever Foundation. The team built digital public tools and datasets for water management interventions, in partnership with the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, CommonsTech Foundation for Participatory Technologies, and AVPN

Commoning for Resilience and Equity (CoRE Stack) is a set of digital public tools and datasets to accelerate sustainable rural development and promote ecological resilience and social equity. It includes the Know Your Landscape A secondary data analysis platform for the socio-hydrological diagnosis of water challenges, Commons Connect A participatory planning app linked to Know Your Landscape data layers and capable of generating Detailed Project Reports

(a comprehensive document outlining technical, financial, and design aspects of a proposed project, which serves as a blueprint for the project's implementation), and Jaltol A web app to assess the impact of interventions with respect to environmental metrics. They are also devising a source sustainability strategy for Jal Jeevan Mission Assam, in partnership with the Public Health Engineering Department, Assam.

Under the Rural Futures programme they work in Raichur, Koppal, and Chikkaballapur districts of Karnataka across five levers: 1) irrigation infrastructure, 2) communities' technical capacities, 3) technology and support systems to optimise labour, 4) access to alternative agricultural inputs, and 5) market access. WELL Labs has designed and built irrigation infrastructure for improved last-mile water access in dryland villages. They have built community knowledge systems and cooperatives for collective action and put in place technological innovations and support systems to address the labour burden of sustainable agricultural practices and create rural livelihoods.

The lab has promoted access to alternative agricultural inputs (seeds, pesticides, and fertilisers) to support ecological farming methods and researched pathways to improve market links and make crop diversification economically viable.

Under platforms and partnerships, the Green Rural Economy (GRE) platform is the centrepiece. It connects changemakers with service providers to accelerate the discovery and implementation of sustainable solutions. WELL Labs has fostered 80 collaborations for sustainable solutions. They rolled out The GRE website this year. They also published 40 playbooks to promote cross-learning.

The Centre organised 25 'Clinics' to address queries and troubleshoot challenges of social-sector organisations, and also built directories of solutions and services. Integrated the sandbox concept with GRE, for testing of new ideas, approaches, and technologies in a real-world setting within the controlled parameters of a particular geography.

The Futures Research programme works in 'Transformation Labs' (T-Labs). These are collaborative spaces where communities co-develop and test sustainable, equitable solutions. The goal is to create future-proof solutions for a world

grappling with climate change. The programme hosts the Climate Adaptation and Resilience in Tropical Drylands (CLARITY) project, part of a global consortium to build climate resilience in the tropical drylands of Africa and India. As part of this, the centre conducted a situation analysis of Raichur and Chikkaballapur Transformation Labs. They also conducted a community hydrology training programme to boost technical capacity at the grassroots and thereby improve water management in water user cooperative societies. They also conducted a qualitative study to understand communities' problems, aspirations, and innovations. Also launched was a video creator programme in Raichur to enable communities to document their aspirations and desired pathways of change. There was also research undertaken on the dynamic interactions between communities and water resources to develop strategies for long-term water resilience. Partnerships were built across the board to co-create knowledge and solutions for land and water challenges.

The Urban Water programme designs pathways towards water-secure and resilient cities using water circularity and nature-based solutions. Under this programme, WELL Labs built a framework to diagnose urban water challenges and identify appropriate solutions. They also developed a lake restoration framework and conducted a workshop to refine it in partnership with the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), DCB Bank, and Friends of Lakes. They also researched the barriers to mainstreaming nature-based solutions (NbS). They also researched strategies to boost wastewater circularity, in partnership with the Gates Foundation, studying urban growth trends in cities like Bangalore and Chennai. Fostering community engagement for water conservation, the centre partnered with the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) to evaluate applications for the Green Star Challenge, a competition to acknowledge and promote communities' and institutions' water conservation efforts in Bengaluru.

Sapien Labs Centre for Human Brain and Mind in India

SAPIEN LABS | **CENTRE FOR HUMAN BRAIN AND MIND**

The Sapien Labs Centre for Human Brain and Mind investigates the nature and extent of the

relationship between the environment and the human brain and mind. In doing so, the Centre expects that the findings and research will be used to inform policymakers and to develop interventions that improve brain and mind wellbeing. The India Centre has begun a large-scale, longitudinal brain and mind-health data collection effort in India. This data, alongside the Global Mind (online) data the team is collecting, has helped generate some insights into what may be driving poor mental well-being among the youth in India. These insights are now being used by policymakers in India- more specifically a note by our Centre featured quite prominently in the Economic Survey of India 2024-25. Moreover, the work has also been published in reputed journals and they continue to establish collaborations with leading institutes/researchers in the area of mental health.

The Centre has so far collected data in Tamil Nadu and Delhi on more than 7,000 individuals in the age range of 13-74, including information on mental well-being and EEGs (Electroencephalographs). Within the span of 20 months, this data is already the largest of its kind in the world—one which we hope can serve as a platform for cutting-edge and exciting research on the determinants of mental well-being and potential interventions to help promote better mental health.

Over the past year, the lab's research has been published in academic journals, featured in the Economic Survey of India 2024-2025, and also used as a background paper in the UNDP World Report 2025.

Academic Publications focused on the large-scale EEG data collection, the uniqueness and the usefulness of this investment in data- one that can lead to rich insights to policymakers, public health, and potentially clinical practice.



- Scaling neuroscience research for real-time, global understanding of the human brain (Nature Neuroscience (forthcoming, July 2025))
- EEG Data Quality in Large Scale Studies in India and Tanzania (eNeuro Forthcoming July 2025)
- An exploration of the impact of smartphones in childhood on mind health.

(Background paper for the UNDP, Human Development Report 2025)

Work from Sapien Labs India featured in the Economic Survey 2024-25. The findings are important in light of the fact that the youth-on whom so much of India's economic growth hinges- have low levels of mental wellbeing fueled by less than optimal lifestyle choices.

The Sapien Labs Centre is constantly engaged in establishing research collaborations with other centres and institutes around the country, such as the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurological Sciences (NIMHANS). The Centre anticipates that these collaborations will help propel the Centre into a preeminent mental and brain health research institute in India.

The Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL) South Asia



J-PAL is a global research centre working to reduce poverty by ensuring that policy is informed by scientific evidence. Anchored by a network of more than 1,000 researchers at universities around the world, J-PAL conducts randomized impact evaluations to answer critical questions in the fight against poverty. J-PAL co-founders Abhijit Banerjee and Esther Duflo, with long time affiliate Michael Kremer, were awarded the 2019 Nobel Prize in Economics for their pioneering approach to alleviating global poverty.

In 2024-25, the centre's collaborations with national and state governments expanded

rapidly, driven by a strong pipeline of innovative solutions, increased data collection capacity, and a growing commitment to translating evidence into policy action. The research team is engaged in 94 projects across sectors such as education, health, environment, women-led development and governance. J-PAL SA now has twelve active Evidence-to-Policy partnerships at the national and state levels, and are actively exploring another four. Together, these partnerships span the full evidence cycle - including co-creating innovations and generating new insights, synthesizing evidence for decision-makers, catalysing the application and scale of evidence-informed programs and M&E capacity building. Through these investments, five evidence-based programs were scaled up with state governments, directly benefiting 22 million people. In an effort to build a pipeline for future evidence adoption, they seeded five diagnostic/pilot studies or landscape assessments, one panel survey, and five rigorous impact evaluations.

They continue to engage across their state government partnerships in Tamil Nadu, Punjab, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana, through in-depth policy-research dialogues, field-based scoping exercises, and administrative data analysis.

They produced and disseminated eight evidence briefs and policy memos, conducted 24 evidence-policy dialogues to share insights, delivered three customised training sessions, and issued 11 publications. This year also saw the launch of the first "education learning lab" in Karnataka in collaboration with the state's school education department.

Under the Solutions and Advancements through Research for Water and Air (SARWA), launched in 2023 with Community Jameel to tackle India's air and water crisis, the centre launched our second embedded lab with the Government of India's Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, expanding upon the first partnership with the Gujarat government.

Since the launch of the Alliance for Scaling Policy Impact through Research and Evidence (ASPIRE) in 2022, their work with governments to scale evidence-based programs has gained strong momentum. They are currently supporting

large-scale implementation efforts with state governments across Gujarat, Punjab, Odisha, Bihar, and Karnataka. J-PAL SA has also been selected as the technical and knowledge partner for the Government of India's Samaveshi Aajevika Yojana (Inclusive Livelihoods Programme), based on the Graduation Approach.

In response to growing interest in the role of Artificial Intelligence in development, J-PAL SA signed their first major partnership with the Government of Telangana to help shape the future of AI in India's social policy – maximising its benefits while mitigating potential harm. They have an ongoing collaboration with the IndiaAI Mission with MeitY to identify and test high potential innovative AI for social good use cases.

In support of a broader culture of evidence use, they launched a training programme for government officials, featuring 17 years of seminal J-PAL studies. Hosted on the Government of India's iGOT platform, the course has enrolled over 70,000 learners and received a 4.3/5 rating from more than 5,000 reviews.

The growing success of their Research for Impact Fellowship (RFI) – now in its sixth year – reflects their continued investment in nurturing Indian PhD talent.

Over the past year, J-PAL South Asia shared evidence with a wide audience through over eight synthesis notes and presentations at more than 11 conferences and panels. This included a roundtable on poverty alleviation under the

Samaveshi Aajevika initiative, set the agenda for poverty alleviation with participation from MoRD, JEEViKA, BRAC, BMGF, the World Bank, and The/ Nudge Institute, a panel discussion at Jaipur Literature Festival, on gender-based violence in India, sharing findings from a two-city survey on the issue's scope and impact and more. The team participated in prominent global forums—including COP29, where we spotlighted evidence-based solutions for food and water resilience, and at CIES2025, where we shared learnings from embedded education labs in India.

The centre published 11 articles on current policy issues across prominent media outlets.

In 2024 - 2025, J-PAL South Asia's Training vertical worked closely with governments, non-profits, academia and the private sector to strengthen Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) systems and build technical capacity to inculcate a strong culture of evidence use in decision making through a wide variety of capacity building initiatives, technical advisory services, and knowledge sharing exercises. J-PAL South Asia's Training vertical has reached more than 1000 people through its in-person training and events, and more than 80,000 people through online training and events.

J-PAL South Asia's Training team collaborates with governments at the national and sub-national level. At the national level, for officers across all levels of the Government of India, last year, we launched the course titled 'Case Studies in the Use of Data and Evidence for Governance' on the Government of India's Integrated Government Online Training



(iGOT) platform. As part of J-PAL SA long-term partnership with the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA), the premier training institute of Government of India of senior bureaucrats, J-PAL's Global Executive Director, Iqbal Dhaliwal, delivered a session on evidence-based policymaking. J-PAL SA also renewed its Statement of Intent (SoI) with the Development, Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO) at NITI Aayog, the apex monitoring and evaluation (M&E) body of Government of India for another three years. Other collaborations were carried out with Andhra Pradesh State Skill Development Corporation (APSSDC) and the Department of Skill Development and Training, Government of Tamil Nadu and more. They also conducted a variety of custom training programmes and technical advisory sessions for partners such as Roundglass Foundation, Akanksha Foundation, Aga Khan Academy, HPPI, NILERD, CIFF, IIT Delhi and the Center of Policy Research and Governance.

Their flagship open-enrollment course, Evaluating Social Programs (ESP), was held in-person for the first time since the Covid-19 pandemic in December 2024 in Bangalore.

The J-PAL South Asia Training vertical conducts knowledge dissemination activities as a public good to strengthen the ecosystem for evidence informed policy making, thereby building awareness and demand for evidence. Towards this, the vertical convened gLOCAL Evaluation Week 2024 across South Asia. gLOCAL focused on the theme 'Evaluation and Transformational Change: Balancing Ambition and Realism,' with 33 thought-provoking events in South Asia from 24 organisations across India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, and Cambodia. J-PAL SA team also convened panels and participated in other knowledge sharing events and regarding M&E in South Asia, including the Asian Development Bank's Asian Evaluation Week, UNDP and Global Evaluation Initiative (GEI)'s National Evaluation Conference, ISDM Panel on DataSights, New Development Bank and IDEAS' annual conference, and many more.

Between April 2024 and March 2025, J-PAL South Asia's Research team has provided robust support to nearly 150 researchers, helping them turn a broad spectrum of ideas into actionable studies—from rapid-deployment experiments that answer tightly focused questions to large,

policy-relevant evaluations embedded in state systems. The network of researchers working with the J-PAL South Asia office now includes 51 affiliated professors, 20 invited researchers, and 21 graduate students, each benefiting from the same agile, demand-sensitive support model that lets us tailor assistance to early-career scholars as readily as to senior academics undertaking multi-year randomised evaluations.

The Moturi Satyanarayana Centre for Advanced Study in the Humanities and Social Sciences



This is the third year since Moturi Satyanarayana Centre for Advanced Study in the Humanities and Social Sciences (henceforth the Centre) began its journey in 2022. Since 1 April 2022, under the leadership of Professor Bishnu Mohapatra, Moturi Satyanarayana Centre has progressed well in its mission. Since its inception, the Centre has run its flagship postdoctoral programme in which the postdoctoral fellows undertake research and communication to turn their doctoral work into publications. To date, eight postdoctoral scholars have passed through the Centre.

Postdoctoral Fellows: In 2024 – 2025, the Centre had seven postdoctoral scholars, of whom Dr Mumtaz left the Centre after completing his tenure in September 2024. Dr Sayori Ghoshal left the Centre to join the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin, as a Research Fellow in October 2024, and Dr P Arun left in January 2025 to join the Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute at Harvard University as a Research Fellow in January 2025.

Dr Mohammad Sajjad Hussain, Dr Soham Bhattacharya, Dr Salwa Yahya, and Dr Nidhin Donald worked in the Centre as Postdoctoral Fellows during the reporting period. The Fellows belong to several academic disciplines, including politics, history, sociology, social anthropology, and Science and Technology Studies.

Publications: During this period, the postdoctoral fellows published nine (09) in several reputed journals and edited volumes. Together, they presented fourteen (14) seminars/conference papers within and outside India.

Seminars and Workshop: The Centre ran a robust seminar/talks program throughout this period. It organised nine talks during this period. A series of talks (four) was organised on the broad theme of 'Navigating Political Concepts and Ideals: The Discourses of the Past and Present'. The seminar series explored the evolving discourse on political concepts and ideals by examining contemporary themes such as sovereignty, bureaucracy, freedom, secularism, and citizenship. The speakers came from notable institutions, including Jawaharlal Nehru University, Ambedkar University, and Central University, Gujarat.

Within the rubric of 'The Postdoctoral Colloquium', the four postdoctoral fellows of the Centre presented their research to the Krea audience. The primary objective of the colloquium was to receive feedback on fellows' ongoing research.

For the first time, the Centre organised a workshop on 'Platform Economy and Gig Work in India

in February 2025. The workshop explores the fundamental changes and transformations brought about by the platform economy and the nature of gig work in India. In this daylong workshop, ten scholars participated from different institutions such as Krea University, IIIT, Hyderabad, IIIT, Bangalore, GITAM University, Bangalore, Jamia Millia Islamia, Delhi, Just Jobs Network, Delhi, and Hyderabad Urban Lab, Hyderabad. Dr Sajjad, postdoctoral fellow of the Centre, coordinated the workshop.

The Centre has emerged as a key site for research and dialogue within Krea University. Its reputation has spread within and outside India. We have received several applications for fellowships from universities within and outside India. Undoubtedly, the Centre will further strengthen itself in the coming years.



A LEARNING LABORATORY

Campus

Krea University's campus is conceived as a learning laboratory, rooted in its ethos of learning beyond the classroom and is designed to facilitate collaborative learning. Apart from technology enabled classrooms and e-resources, the campus provides space and infrastructure for sporting, cultural and other leisure activities.

Located 70 kms from Chennai in Sri City and built on a 40-acre campus with vast green cover, the campus is currently home to resident students pursuing their undergraduate, post graduate or PhD studies and many faculty and staff members, some of whom reside on campus.

During the year, the University made strides in developing its campus infrastructure. A notable addition was a new sports arena and football field at the Sri City campus, expanding opportunities for student recreation and intercollegiate sports. In September 2024, Office of Student Life organised LevelUp 2024, the first men's football tournament on the new field, christening the facility with enthusiastic student participation. Such enhancements in physical infrastructure – including upgraded laboratories, student housing, and recreational spaces – have improved the campus experience and safety. The administration and operations teams ensured that these facilities were completed and operational in time for student use, aligning with Krea's emphasis on holistic development.

These highlights illustrate a year of growth for Krea University – from academic innovations and partnerships to research impact and campus enhancements – laying a strong foundation for the University's future.



New Infrastructure Development

Project	Scope & Features	Operational Status	Strategic Benefit
New Academic Block (NAB) (≈ 110,000 ft², G+3)	20 smart classrooms, science & media labs, dance studio, PhD bays, student lounges	Fully operational AY 2024-25 (formal hand-over Dec 2023)	+22 % teaching capacity; hub for interdisciplinary research
Virtual Trading Floor	24-seat Bloomberg/ market-data lab with Zerodha Varsity integration	Inaugurated 2 Feb 2024	Experiential learning for B.Sc. Eco & MBA finance cohorts
Academic Support Offices	Examination Cell & expanded IT workspace	Q3 2024	Streamlined assessments; stronger campus digital backbone
Electrical Sub-station & Power Synchronisation	2 × 1.5 MVA transformers; DG synchronisation; SCADA-enabled switch-gear	Commissioned Aug 2024	30 % head-room for new loads; seamless switchover during outages
Campus-wide Energy Management System (EMS)	IoT meters, real-time dashboards, alert protocols	Live since Jan 2025	Baseline established for future conservation targets



New Amenities for Students, Staff & Faculty

Amentity	Highlights	Impact during 2024-25
Housing & Accommodation	- Off-campus Bhargava Flats leased for faculty 20-bed support-staff dormitory added on campus.	Zero wait-list for faculty housing; improved staff retention.
Sports & Recreation	- FIFA-standard, flood-lit football field commissioned Dec 2024. - Indoor badminton hall re-floored & re-lit.	> 1,200 student-hours/month of organised sport; intramural “Night-Kick” league launched.
Dining & Staff Welfare	- Air-conditioned staff canteen - Third-party hygiene audits (Food Maven) every 60 days. - Air curtains & insect-killers installed in mess halls.	Mess satisfaction scores up from 3.2 → 4.1 / 5; < 2 % food-borne incident rate.
Campus Convenience & Safety	Automated RFID access at the main gate. - Boundary netting to deter snakes & strays. - New VC vehicle (EV sedan); scissor-lift ladder for safe street-light and cob-web maintenance. - Lease rationalisation: 2 Innovas → 1 Tempo = ₹ 20 k / month savings.	Faster student move-ins; 17 % drop in security incidents; O&M task close-out time cut by 28 %.



Sustainability Initiatives & Quantified Impact

Focus Area	2024-25 Action	Metric Achieved
Renewable Energy	520 kWp solar PV farm – year-round generation	0.75 GWh clean energy → avoided 620 tCO ₂ e (~40,000 trees)
Energy Efficiency	- Heat-pump water heaters in new hostels (replaced resistive geysers). - EMS-driven load analytics; LED retrofits underway.	60 % cut in water-heating kWh; projected 8 % campus-wide electricity reduction by FY 2026.
Water Stewardship	- STP treats 100 % effluent → re-use for irrigation & flushing. - RO upgrade 500 L/h → 1,500 L/h; hostel tank level sensors networked.	200 kL/day recycled; municipal water drawdown down 35 %.
Waste Management	- On-site organic waste converter & shredder (July 2024). - Three-stream segregation stations campus-wide.	100 % kitchen waste composted; landfill diversion rate now 82 %.
Biodiversity & Green Campus	710 native trees + fruit orchard (212 banana, 83 mango). - Butterfly & Zen gardens completed.	Total canopy > 3,900 trees; 23 confirmed butterfly species; “Green Walk” eco-trail launched for students.

liveability, and environmental stewardship. The Operations Department delivered every major project **on schedule and within budget**, while embedding sustainability metrics into routine decision-making.



Tech Infrastructure

The IT Team at Krea University is constantly exploring the latest technologies in network infrastructure and academic software to not only meet the existing needs of the users but also keeping in view to build a solid, high-end computing infrastructure coupled with user-friendly software applications that will service the faculty, staff and students in the years to come.

IT Infrastructure

- Setup IT Infrastructure and establishing connectivity in RH8 and RH9
- Setup IT Infrastructure and connectivity in New Academy Block
- Setup IT Infrastructure and establishing high quality audio and video in the 300 seater auditorium in the New Academy Block
- Replaced old/outdated servers with new high-end servers to run IT systems and controls (like DHCP...)

IT Network

- Completed High Availability setup for all critical components (Firewall, Core Switches, Wireless Controllers)

Software Solutions

- Developed in-house ERP systems for key campus functions - Venue Management, Main Gate Security Management, IT Helpdesk, Student Attendance Management, Venue Management, Inventory Management (IT assets), Krea Donation Management
- Enhancement of Student Onboarding system in in-house ERP system to include additional features
- Redevelopment of Student Information System (SIS) in in-house ERP system (this is Work in Progress)
- Worked with Zoho to implement their 'Recruit' product to manage employee/faculty hiring process
- Worked with Zoho to explore their Accounting platform (Zoho Books) as a potential replacement for SAP

Team Augmentation

- Strengthened the existing IT Infra team with additional support engineers to handle more workload
- Set up a software development team to manage and support the in-house ERP solution in a more sustainable manner

The IT team strengthened the overall IT infrastructure on campus by implementing better devices/systems and by fixing some of the loopholes/weak spots. With the exception of firewall, all other components (switches, wireless controllers, access points, servers) are of enterprise level with committed better performance levels

(Note: Firewall is proposed to be replaced in the current financial year. Some additional security features can be implemented in the campus once an enterprise firewall is in place.)

Campus ERP is in a better shape now compared to past years. Onboarding of students for the 2nd consecutive year through the newly built 'Onboarding' system. This ensures that 'clean' data of students personal/academic/health/work experience is captured properly on Day 1. Once the in-construction workflow based SIS system is in place, the IT backbone for core campus operations (Student Onboarding - Student Information System - Exam Office) will be fully functional. This will smoothen campus operations to a large extent and also will empower the faculty and the management with powerful analytical reports and dashboards for effective decision making. We also plan to develop other critical features such as student payments, Inclusion, Security and AI driven solutions after the above mentioned backbone is built.



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To The Governing Council of KREA University

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of **KREA University** ("the University"), which comprise the Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2025, and the Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended on that date, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of material accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, the aforesaid financial statements give a true and fair view in conformity with the accounting principles generally accepted in India, of the state of affairs of the University as at 31st March 2025, its excess of income over expenditure for the year ended on that date.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit of the financial statements in accordance with the Standards on Auditing ("SA"s) issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India ("ICAI"). Our responsibilities under those Standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the University in accordance with the Code of Ethics issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India ("ICAI") together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the ICAI's Code of Ethics. We believe that the audit evidence obtained by us is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion on the financial statements.

Responsibilities of Management and the Governing Council for the Financial Statements

The University's governing council is responsible for the preparation of these financial statements that give a true and fair view of the financial position and the Income and Expenditure account of the University in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted in India. This responsibility also includes maintenance of adequate accounting records for safeguarding the assets of the University and for preventing and detecting frauds and other irregularities; selection and application of appropriate accounting policies; making judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and design, implementation and maintenance of adequate internal financial controls, that were operating effectively for ensuring the accuracy and completeness of the accounting records, relevant to the preparation and presentation of the financial statements that give a true and fair view and are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.



In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the University's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the management either intend to liquidate the University or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so. The members of the governing council are also responsible for overseeing the University's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with SAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with SAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal financial controls relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the university's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the University's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the University to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.



Materiality is the magnitude of misstatements in the financial statements that, individually or in aggregate, makes it probable that the economic decisions of a reasonably knowledgeable user of the financial statements may be influenced. We consider quantitative materiality and qualitative factors in (i) planning the scope of our audit work and in evaluating the results of our work; and (ii) to evaluate the effect of any identified misstatements in the financial statements.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings that we identify during our audit.

We also provide those charged with governance with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

For Deloitte Haskins & Sells
Chartered Accountants
(Firm's Registration. No. 008072S)



P. Usha Parvathy
Partner

Membership No. 207704
UDIN: 25207704BMODAZ9281

Place: Chennai
Date: 10th September 2025

KREA UNIVERSITY
Registered under Andhra Pradesh Private Universities
(Establishment and Regulations) Act, 2016
Balance Sheet as at March 31, 2025

Amount in Lakhs

Particulars	Note No.	As at March 31, 2025	As at March 31, 2024
I SOURCES OF FUNDS			
1 NPO Funds			
(a) Unrestricted Funds	1	5,392.08	3,398.28
(b) Restricted Funds	2	13,921.68	7,547.78
		19,313.75	10,946.06
2 Non-Current Liabilities			
(a) Long Term Provisions	3	130.07	104.31
		130.07	104.31
3 Current Liabilities			
(a) Payables	4	1,221.17	799.13
(b) Other Current Liabilities	5	3,038.55	3,649.88
(c) Short Term Provisions	6	216.83	109.88
		4,476.56	4,558.89
TOTAL		23,920.38	15,609.26
II APPLICATION OF FUNDS			
1 Non-Current Assets			
(a) Property, Plant, and Equipment and Intangible assets			
(i) Property, Plant, and Equipment	7A	8,916.18	3,150.94
(ii) Intangible assets	7B	36.21	51.27
(iii) Capital work in progress	7C	3,564.94	1,799.43
(b) Long Term Loans and Advances	8	68.00	44.21
(c) Other Non-Current Assets (Investment in Fixed Deposit maturing after 12 months)	9	1,758.43	1,707.80
		14,343.76	6,753.66
2 Current Assets			
(a) Current Investments	10	69.81	-
(b) Receivables	11	107.70	216.67
(c) Cash and Bank Balances (Includes deposits maturing in less than 3 months)	12	8,046.66	7,702.36
(d) Short Term Loans & Advances	13	1,325.30	829.62
(e) Other Current Assets	14	27.15	106.95
		9,576.62	8,855.60
Total		23,920.38	15,609.26
Refer accompanying notes forming part of financial statements			

For and on behalf of Krea University

In terms of our report attached
For Deloitte Haskins & Sells
Chartered Accountants
(Firm's Regn. No. 008072S)

Place: Chennai
Date: 10th September 2025

Lakshmi Narayanan
Chancellor

Prof. Nirmala Rao
Vice-Chancellor

Ravish Kumar Arora
Chief Financial Officer

P. Usha Parvathy
Partner
Membership No. 207704



KREA UNIVERSITY
Registered under Andhra Pradesh Private Universities
(Establishment and Regulations) Act, 2016
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Amount in Lakhs

Particulars	Note No.	For the year ended March 31, 2025			For the year ended March 31, 2024		
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
(I) Income							
Donations and Grants							
(a) Donation & Grants	15	-	317.00	317.00	-	629.32	629.32
(b) Fees from Academic Activity	16	13,105.23	-	13,105.23	10,808.94	-	10,808.94
(II) Other Income	17	391.68	250.94	642.62	219.32	178.09	397.41
(III) Total Income (I + II)		13,496.90	567.94	14,064.85	11,028.26	807.41	11,835.67
(IV) EXPENDITURE							
(a) Utilisation of Grants	18	-	317.00	317.00	-	629.32	629.32
(b) Employee benefit expenses	19	5,596.75	53.78	5,650.54	4,724.49	57.39	4,781.88
(c) Depreciation and Amortization	7 A&B	773.21	-	773.21	493.46	-	493.46
(d) Academic and Program Related expenses	20	2,375.15	-	2,375.15	1,821.81	2.20	1,824.00
(e) Administrative and General expenses	21	2,757.99	4.96	2,762.95	2,334.57	0.27	2,334.84
Total Expenses		11,503.11	375.74	11,878.85	9,374.32	689.18	10,063.51
(V) Excess of Income over Expenditure for the year (III- IV)		1,993.79	192.20	2,185.99	1,653.93	118.23	1,772.16
Balance being Surplus/(Deficit) transferred to General Fund		1,993.79	192.20	2,185.99	1,653.93	118.23	1,772.16
Refer accompanying notes forming part of financial statements							

For and on behalf of Krea University

Place: Chennai
Date: 10th September 2025



Lakshmi Narayanan
Chancellor



Prof. Nirmala Rao
Vice-Chancellor



Ravish Kumar Arora
Chief Financial Officer



P. Usha Parvathy
Partner
Membership No. 207704

In terms of our report attached
For Deloitte Haskins & Sells
Chartered Accountants
(Firm's Regn. No. 008072S)



KREA University			Amount in Lakhs			
Notes forming part of the financial statements						
Particulars	As at March 31, 2025			As at March 31, 2024		
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
NPO FUNDS						
<u>Note -1 Unrestricted funds</u>						
General Fund						
Opening Balance	3,398.28	-	3,398.28	1,744.35	-	1,744.35
(Deduct)/Add: Balance of net (expenditure)/income	1,993.79	-	1,993.79	1,653.93	-	1,653.93
Closing Balance	5,392.08	-	5,392.08	3,398.28	-	3,398.28
<u>Note 2 - Restricted Fund</u>						
General Fund						
Opening Balance	-	1,668.23	1,668.23	-	-	-
Add: Contributions received	-	2,500.00	2,500.00	-	1,550.00	1,550.00
(Deduct)/Add: Balance of net (expenditure)/income	-	192.20	192.20	-	118.23	118.23
Closing Balance	-	4,360.42	4,360.42	-	1,668.23	1,668.23
AP Endowment fund						
Opening balance	-	185.57	185.57	-	174.45	174.45
Add: Interest earned on AP Endowment Fund	-	11.87	11.87	-	11.11	11.11
Closing Balance	-	197.44	197.44	-	185.57	185.57
Moturi Endowment Fund						
Opening balance	-	1,559.46	1,559.46	-	1,030.45	1,030.45
Add: Funds received during the year	-	-	-	-	500.00	500.00
Add: Interest earned on Moturi Endowment Fund	-	111.08	111.08	-	72.52	72.52
Less: Transferred to Moturi Income Fund	-	(81.71)	(81.71)	-	(43.51)	(43.51)
Closing Balance	-	1,588.83	1,588.83	-	1,559.46	1,559.46
Total Endowment Fund						
	-	6,146.69	6,146.69	-	3,413.26	3,413.26
Moturi Income Fund						
Opening balance	-	(6.17)	(6.17)	-	13.87	13.87
Add: Transferred from Moturi Income Fund	-	81.71	81.71	-	43.51	43.51
Less: Utilisation during the year	-	(58.74)	(58.74)	-	(63.56)	(63.56)
Closing Balance	-	16.80	16.80	-	(6.17)	(6.17)
Scholarship Donation						
Opening balance	-	131.03	131.03	-	249.31	249.31
Add: Grant received during the year	-	322.57	322.57	-	441.32	441.32
Add: Interest on donation/grants	-	-	-	-	-	-
Less: Utilisation during the year	-	(296.91)	(296.91)	-	(559.60)	(559.60)
Closing Balance	-	156.69	156.69	-	131.03	131.03
Covid Donation						
Opening balance	-	9.06	9.06	-	9.06	9.06
Add: Grant received during the year	-	-	-	-	-	-
Less: Utilisation during the year	-	(9.06)	(9.06)	-	-	-
Closing Balance	-	-	-	-	9.06	9.06
Faculty Chair Donation						
Opening balance	-	-	-	-	15.02	15.02
Add: Grant received during the year	-	100.00	100.00	-	120.00	120.00
Less: Utilisation during the year	-	(100.00)	(100.00)	-	(135.02)	(135.02)
Closing Balance	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sricity Ecosystem donation						
Opening balance	-	-	-	-	-	-
Add: Grant received during the year	-	4.50	4.50	-	-	-
Less: Transferred to Scholarship	-	(1.00)	(1.00)	-	-	-
Less: Utilisation during the year	-	(0.80)	(0.80)	-	-	-
Closing Balance	-	2.70	2.70	-	-	-
Capital Expenditure Donation						
Opening balance	-	2,534.50	2,534.50	-	600.00	600.00
Add: Grant received during the year	-	2,000.00	2,000.00	-	3,100.00	3,100.00
Add: Interest on donation/grants	-	96.13	96.13	-	34.50	34.50
Less: Transferred to Deferred Income	-	(2,600.00)	(2,600.00)	-	(1,200.00)	(1,200.00)
Closing Balance	-	2,030.63	2,030.63	-	2,534.50	2,534.50



Particulars	As at March 31, 2025			As at March 31, 2024		
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
Environment Hub Donation						
Opening balance	-	7.01	7.01	-	-	-
Add: Grant received during the year	-	-	-	-	75.00	75.00
Less: Utilisation during the year	-	(4.13)	(4.13)	-	(67.99)	(67.99)
Closing Balance	-	2.88	2.88	-	7.01	7.01
JSW Donation						
Opening balance	-	-	-	-	-	-
Add: Grant received during the year	-	1,538.06	1,538.06	-	-	-
Less: Utilisation during the year	-	-	-	-	-	-
Closing Balance	-	1,538.06	1,538.06	-	-	-
Serb Fund						
Opening balance	-	5.97	5.97	-	20.16	20.16
Add: Transferred from Deferred Income	-	14.19	14.19	-	-	-
Less: Utilisation during the year	-	(19.20)	(19.20)	-	(14.19)	(14.19)
Closing Balance	-	0.95	0.95	-	5.97	5.97
Inspire Faculty Fellowship (MST)						
Opening balance	-	7.00	7.00	-	-	-
Add: Grant received during the year	-	-	-	-	7.00	7.00
Less: Utilisation during the year	-	(2.06)	(2.06)	-	-	-
Closing Balance	-	4.94	4.94	-	7.00	7.00
Donation in Kind - Others						
Opening balance	-	50.39	50.39	-	-	-
Add: Grant received during the year	-	-	-	-	52.37	52.37
Less: Transferred to Deferred Income	-	(2.62)	(2.62)	-	(1.97)	(1.97)
Closing Balance	-	47.78	47.78	-	50.39	50.39
Donation in Kind - Library Books						
Opening balance	-	-	-	-	-	-
Add: Grant received during the year	-	87.71	87.71	-	-	-
Less: Transferred to Deferred Income	-	(31.81)	(31.81)	-	-	-
Closing Balance	-	55.90	55.90	-	-	-
Donation in Kind - Shares						
Opening balance	-	-	-	-	-	-
Add: Shares received during the year	-	100.00	100.00	-	-	-
Add: Profit on Sale of Shares	-	0.33	0.33	-	-	-
Add: Dividend Income (Shares)	-	0.33	0.33	-	-	-
Less: Transferred to Deferred Income	-	(6.91)	(6.91)	-	-	-
Closing Balance	-	93.75	93.75	-	-	-
Deferred Income (Specific Fund)						
Opening Balance	-	1,395.74	1,395.74	-	291.66	291.66
Add: Transferred from Capital Expenditure Donation	-	2,600.00	2,600.00	-	1,200.00	1,200.00
Add: Depreciation on donation - in - kind (Others)	-	2.62	2.62	-	1.97	1.97
Add: Depreciation on Donation-in-Kind- Library Books	-	31.81	31.81	-	-	-
Less: Depreciation charged (considered as Non Cash Income)	-	(192.07)	(192.07)	-	(112.08)	(112.08)
Less: Utilisation of Serb Fund (pending capitalisation)	-	(14.19)	(14.19)	-	14.19	14.19
Closing Balance	-	3,823.91	3,823.91	-	1,395.74	1,395.74
Total Donation/Grants	-	13,921.68	13,921.68	-	7,547.78	7,547.78



KREA University						
Notes forming part of the financial statements						
Amount in Lakhs						
Particulars	As at March 31, 2025			As at March 31, 2024		
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES						
Note 3 - Long Term Provisions						
Provision for Compensated Absences	130.07	-	130.07	104.31	-	104.31
Total	130.07	-	130.07	104.31	-	104.31
CURRENT LIABILITIES						
Note 4 - Payables						
(a) Sundry Creditors						
(i) Total outstanding dues of micro, small and medium enterprises	91.49	-	91.49	190.38	-	190.38
(ii) Total outstanding dues of creditors other than micro, small and medium enterprises	364.11	-	364.11	213.58	-	213.58
(iii) Due to Related Party	-	-	-	11.82	-	11.82
(b) Liability for Capital Expenditure	765.57	-	765.57	383.35	-	383.35
Total	1,221.17	-	1,221.17	799.13	-	799.13
Note 5 - Other Current Liabilities						
(a) Provision for Expenses	213.42	-	213.42	139.88	-	139.88
(b) Employee Provision	82.78	-	82.78	92.52	-	92.52
(c) Employee payable	11.44	-	11.44	15.24	-	15.24
(d) Deposits from students	565.53	-	565.53	425.22	-	425.22
(e) Other Deposit	0.25	-	0.25	0.25	-	0.25
(g) Fees Received in Advance	2,020.77	-	2,020.77	2,808.76	-	2,808.76
(h) Statutory Liabilities	144.37	-	144.37	168.02	-	168.02
Total	3,038.55	-	3,038.55	3,649.88	-	3,649.88
Note 6 - Short Term Provisions						
(a) Provision for Gratuity	137.05	-	137.05	51.59	-	51.59
(b) Provision for Compensated Absence	79.78	-	79.78	58.29	-	58.29
Total	216.83	-	216.83	109.88	-	109.88
Total Current Liabilities	4,476.56	-	4,476.56	4,558.89	-	4,558.89
Non - CURRENT ASSETS						
Note 7C - Capital Work in Progress						
Opening Balance	1,799.43	-	1,799.43	1,075.14	-	1,075.14
Add: Additions during the year	2,522.98	5,076.17	7,599.15	782.40	1,749.45	2,531.85
Less: Capitalized during the year	(2,429.06)	(3,404.59)	(5,833.64)	(58.11)	(1,749.45)	(1,807.56)
Total	1,893.35	1,671.58	3,564.94	1,799.43	-	1,799.43
Note 8 - Long Term loans and Advances						
Rental Deposit	58.76	-	58.76	44.04	-	44.04
Miscellaneous Deposits	0.18	-	0.18	0.18	-	0.18
Other Deposits	9.06	-	9.06	-	-	-
Total	68.00	-	68.00	44.21	-	44.21
Note 9 - Other Non-Current Assets						
Deposit Accounts with more than 12 months maturity	-	1,758.43	1,758.43	-	1,707.80	1,707.80
Total	-	1,758.43	1,758.43	-	1,707.80	1,707.80



Note 7A -Plant, Property and Equipment

Amount in Lakhs

DESCRIPTION	GROSS BLOCK				ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION				NET BLOCK	NET BLOCK
	As at April 01, 2024	Additions during the year	Deletions during the year	As at Mar 31, 2025	As at April 01, 2024	Additions During the year	Deletions during the year	As at Mar 31, 2025	As at Mar 31, 2025	AS at Mar 31 2024
Tangible Assets										
Air Conditioner	183.44	370.99		554.43	35.45	48.90		84.35	470.08	147.98
Furniture & fixtures	453.36	367.09		820.45	84.07	60.44		144.51	675.94	369.29
Computer/peripherals	758.86	365.56		1,124.41	340.37	164.98		505.35	619.06	418.49
Electrical Fittings	146.28	528.67		674.94	15.00	39.16		54.16	620.78	131.28
Fire Protection Equipments	41.12	112.49		153.61	16.23	18.60		34.83	118.78	24.89
Lab and other Equipment	739.58	176.27		915.85	391.14	176.50		567.64	348.20	348.43
Library Books	167.57	120.51		288.08	71.67	66.56		138.22	149.85	95.90
Lease hold land	174.30	13.05		187.35	7.59	1.90		9.49	177.86	166.71
Plant & Machinery	23.68	138.69		162.37	1.34	9.99		11.33	151.05	22.34
Lease Hold Improvement	1,468.31	4,304.45		5,772.77	55.35	168.46		223.81	5,548.96	1,412.97
Vehicle	13.72	25.62		39.34	1.06	2.65		3.71	35.63	12.66
Total Tangible asset	4,170.20	6,523.39	-	10,693.59	1,019.26	758.15	-	1,777.41	8,916.18	3,150.94
Previous year	2,020.64	2,149.56	-	4,170.20	543.86	475.40	-	1,019.26	3,150.94	1,476.78

Note 7B -Intangible Assets

DESCRIPTION	GROSS BLOCK				Amortisation				NET BLOCK	NET BLOCK
	As at April 01, 2024	Additions during the year	Deletions during the year	As at Mar 31, 2025	As at April 01, 2024	Additions During the year	Deletions during the year	As at Mar 31, 2025	As at Mar 31, 2025	AS at Mar 31 2024
Software	87.99			87.99	39.45	14.78		54.23	33.77	48.54
Trade Mark	2.88			2.88	0.15	0.29		0.44	2.44	2.73
Total Intangible asset	90.87	-	-	90.87	39.60	15.06	-	54.66	36.21	51.27
Previous year	103.47	12.14	24.75	90.87	21.54	23.72	5.67	39.60	51.27	81.93
Total Assets	4,261.07	6,523.39	-	10,784.46	1,058.86	773.21	-	1,832.07	8,952.39	3,202.21



Particulars	Funds As at March 31, 2025			Funds As at March 31, 2024		
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
CURRENT ASSETS						
Note 10 - Current Investments						
(a) Investment in other entities (2,000 Shares @ Rs. 5,000 each)	-	100.00	100.00	-	-	-
Less: Sale of Investment	-	(6.25)	(6.25)	-	-	-
Less: Provision for diminution in value of investments	-	(23.94)	(23.94)	-	-	-
Total	-	69.81	69.81	-	-	-
Note 11 - Receivables						
Student & Program Fee Receivable						
(a) Due from Related Party	2.11	-	2.11	-	-	-
(b) Due from Others	54.31	-	54.31	135.21	-	135.21
	56.42	-	56.42	135.21	-	135.21
Outstanding for a period exceeding 6 months from the date they are due for receipt						
(a) Unsecured Considered good	51.27	-	51.27	81.46	-	81.46
(b) Doubtful	49.28	-	49.28	30.73	-	30.73
Less: Provision for Doubtful Receivables	(49.28)	-	(49.28)	(30.73)	-	(30.73)
	51.27	-	51.27	81.46	-	81.46
Total	107.70	-	107.70	216.67	-	216.67
Note 12 - Cash and Bank Balances						
A. Cash and Cash Equivalents						
(a) On Current Account	19.70	-	19.70	43.35	-	43.35
(b) On Savings Account	700.43	-	700.43	1,002.91	-	1,002.91
(c) Fixed Deposits (Deposits with original maturity of less than three months)	1,454.82	900.00	2,354.82	-	-	-
B. Other Bank Balances						
(a) Fixed Deposits (Deposits with original maturity of more than 3 months but less than 12 months from reporting date)	2,171.71	2,800.00	4,971.71	4,121.60	2,534.50	6,656.10
Total	4,346.66	3,700.00	8,046.66	5,167.86	2,534.50	7,702.36
Note 13 - Short Term Loans and advances						
(a) Capital Advance	752.59	-	752.59	264.25	-	264.25
(b) Advance to suppliers	67.85	-	67.85	65.11	-	65.11
(c) Advance to Employees	9.24	-	9.24	7.52	-	7.52
(d) Prepaid Expenses	199.28	-	199.28	207.19	-	207.19
(e) Prepaid UG Scholarship	221.01	-	221.01	188.20	-	188.20
(f) Balance with statutory authorities						
(i) GST input credit receivable	0.81	-	0.81	0.71	-	0.71
(ii) Income tax deducted at source	72.49	-	72.49	73.11	-	73.11
(g) Rental Deposit	1.92	-	1.92	23.28	-	23.28
(h) Other Deposits	0.10	-	0.10	0.25	-	0.25
Total	1,325.30	-	1,325.30	829.62	-	829.62
Note 14 - Other Current assets						
(a) Interest Accrued but not due on deposits	27.15	-	27.15	68.38	38.58	106.95
Total	27.15	-	27.15	68.38	38.58	106.95



Particulars	For the year ended March 31,2025			For the year ended March 31,2024		
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
Note 15 - Donation and Grants						
(a) Student Scholarship	-	312.87	312.87	-	561.33	561.33
(b) Environment Hub Donation	-	4.13	4.13	-	67.99	67.99
Total	-	317.00	317.00	-	629.32	629.32
Note 16 - Fees from Academic Activity						
(a) Tuition fee	10,010.56	-	10,010.56	8,481.08	-	8,481.08
(b) Hostel and Mess fee	2,669.92	-	2,669.92	2,016.70	-	2,016.70
(c) Income from research/consultancy project	356.20	-	356.20	263.22	-	263.22
(d) Application fee	68.00	-	68.00	46.34	-	46.34
(e) Miscellaneous fee	0.56	-	0.56	1.60	-	1.60
Total	13,105.23	-	13,105.23	10,808.94	-	10,808.94
Note 17 - Other income						
(a) Interest on deposits	323.26	-	323.26	191.75	-	191.75
(b) Interest on Endowment fund	-	58.74	58.74	-	63.56	63.56
(c) Interest on Savings	21.59	-	21.59	15.71	-	15.71
(d) Interest on Staff loan	0.03	-	0.03	-	-	-
(e) Interest on IT refund	4.05	-	4.05	-	-	-
Total (A)	348.93	58.74	407.67	207.46	63.56	271.02
Others						
(a) Miscellaneous Income	35.17	-	35.17	11.82	-	11.82
(a) Non - Cash Income : Fixed Asset Donations	-	192.07	192.07	-	112.08	112.08
(a) Grants Received	-	0.13	0.13	-	2.45	2.45
(a) Summer School Fees	7.58	-	7.58	-	-	-
(a) Miscellaneous Receipt	-	-	-	0.04	-	0.04
Total (B)	42.75	192.20	234.95	11.86	114.53	126.39
Grand Total (A+B)	391.68	250.94	642.62	219.32	178.09	397.41
Note 18 - Utilisation of Grants						
(a) Student Scholarship	-	312.87	312.87	-	561.33	561.33
(b) Environment Hub Expense	-	4.13	4.13	-	67.99	67.99
Total	-	317.00	317.00	-	629.32	629.32
Note 19 - Employee Benefit Expenses						
(a) Salaries, wages, bonus and other allowances	4,904.11	53.09	4,957.20	4,195.20	57.39	4,252.59
(b) Contribution to Provident and other funds	194.66	-	194.66	162.36	-	162.36
(c) Gratuity expenses	85.93	-	85.93	57.09	-	57.09
(d) Medical facility/Insurance	126.20	-	126.20	77.88	-	77.88
(e) Leave expenses	66.57	-	66.57	45.87	-	45.87
(f) Staff Welfare expenses	33.23	0.07	33.30	29.00	-	29.00
(g) Recruitment and Training	76.57	-	76.57	50.76	-	50.76
(h) Research Grant	109.49	0.62	110.12	106.35	-	106.35
Total	5,596.75	53.78	5,650.54	4,724.49	57.39	4,781.88



Notes forming part of the financial statements

Amount in Lakhs

Note 20 - Academic and other program expenses

(a) Accreditation	0.21	-	0.21	12.39	-	12.39
(b) Admission expenses	208.45	-	208.45	174.89	-	174.89
(c) Living Expenses	574.94	-	574.94	486.51	1.14	487.65
(d) Books & Periodicals	80.97	-	80.97	120.89	-	120.89
(e) Convocation expenses	25.69	-	25.69	43.54	-	43.54
(f) Honorarium expenses	258.18	-	258.18	263.74	1.05	264.79
(g) PhD Programme expenses	-	-	-	0.24	-	0.24
(h) Printing and Postage	0.34	-	0.34	0.52	-	0.52
(i) Seminar/Workshop expenses	1.51	-	1.51	2.57	-	2.57
(j) Stipend expenses	93.60	-	93.60	76.85	-	76.85
(k) Business Promotion expenses	8.61	-	8.61	-	-	-
(l) Student Insurance	16.34	-	16.34	8.51	-	8.51
(m) Student Events	17.40	-	17.40	1.31	-	1.31
(n) Lab Consumables	8.77	-	8.77	7.60	-	7.60
(o) Other Academic Expenses	95.75	-	95.75	45.16	-	45.16
(p) Scholarship to Students Expense	984.39	-	984.39	577.08	-	577.08
Total	2,375.15	-	2,375.15	1,821.81	2.20	1,824.00

Note 21 - Administrative and general expenses

(a) Auditors Remuneration						
(i) Statutory Audit Fees	11.23		11.23	10.48		10.48
(ii) Fees for taxation services	2.69		2.69	3.15		3.15
(iii) Fees for other services	-		-	-		-
(b) Electricity, water and power charges	417.03	-	417.03	367.92	-	367.92
(c) Insurance expenses	8.57	-	8.57	9.50	-	9.50
(d) Rent, Rates and Taxes	246.01	-	246.01	216.92	-	216.92
(e) Postage & Courier	4.60	-	4.60	3.46	-	3.46
(f) Telephone/Internet/Cable Charges	100.71	-	100.71	80.01	-	80.01
(g) Printing and Stationery	18.21	-	18.21	15.55	-	15.55
(h) Traveling and Conveyance Expenses	238.82	2.02	240.84	230.28	0.27	230.55
(i) Professional Charges	180.22	0.35	180.57	179.30	-	179.30
(j) Advertisement and Publicity	41.70	2.56	44.26	10.10	-	10.10
(k) Subscription to Journals & Periodicals	364.78	-	364.78	293.04	-	293.04
(l) Security Charges	158.64	-	158.64	127.05	-	127.05
(m) Meeting expenses	9.23	0.02	9.26	30.86	-	30.86
(n) Software and Automation Charges	168.77	-	168.77	174.92	-	174.92
(o) Miscellaneous Expenses	3.47	-	3.47	3.89	-	3.89
(p) Loss on sale of asset	-	-	-	0.21	-	0.21
(q) Events expenses	45.42	-	45.42	47.72	-	47.72
(r) House Keeping expenses	354.51	-	354.51	262.26	-	262.26
(s) Repairs and Maintenance	277.92	-	277.92	184.25	-	184.25
(t) Medical Facilities	71.83	-	71.83	62.74	-	62.74
(u) Bank charges	2.29	-	2.29	2.95	-	2.95
(v) Loss on Foreign Exchange (net)	1.85	-	1.85	-	-	-
(w) Research/Consultancy project expenses	10.94	-	10.94	7.84	-	7.84
(x) Provision for doubtful debts	18.55	-	18.55	10.17	-	10.17
Total	2,757.99	4.96	2,762.95	2,334.57	0.27	2,334.84



KREA UNIVERSITY

Registered under the Andhra Pradesh Private Universities (Establishment and Regulation) Act, 2016

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2025

Background:

Krea university has been established by the Institute for Financial Management and Research (“IFMR”), the sponsoring body.

The AP Government notified Krea university vide publication in the Andhra Pradesh Gazette on April 30, 2018 (Reference Act No. 18 of 2018).

IFMR as the sponsoring body has been involved in setting up of Krea university as per the Guidelines issued under Andhra Pradesh Private Universities Act (Establishment & Regulation) Act, 2016. As prescribed under this Act, the Governing Council, the apex body of the University and Board of Management has been formed. The Chancellor and Vice Chancellor have been appointed as per the Act.

Krea University offers post graduate MBA program and an Undergraduate Liberal Arts program. Krea University operates out of its campus at Sri City, Tada, Andhra Pradesh.

The University has obtained exemption under section 10(23C) and under section 80G of the Income tax Act 1961.

22. Material Accounting Policies:

22.1 Basis of Accounting:

- i. The financial statements of the University have been prepared in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Principles in India (Indian GAAP) and the recognized accounting policies and practices to comply with the Accounting Standards issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI).
- ii. Pursuant to the Technical Guide on Accounting for Not for Profit Organisations issued by the ICAI in June 2023, the Financial Statements have been presented in conformity with the format prescribed therein.
- iii. The financial statements have been prepared on accrual basis under the historical cost convention. The accounting policies adopted in the preparation of financial statements are consistent with those followed in the previous year.

22.2 Income:

- a) All course and seminar fees are accounted on accrual and time proportion basis over the period of instruction.
- b) Other Program income is recognized on accrual basis based on service period.
- c) Interest income is accounted on a time proportion basis.



KREA UNIVERSITY

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2025

22.3 Property, Plant, and Equipment Intangible Assets, Depreciation and Amortisation:

Assets are recorded at cost of acquisition and any directly attributable expenditure on making the asset ready for its intended use. Depreciation on property, plant and equipment and amortisation of intangible assets is charged on the straight-line method at the following rates:

Asset Category	Rate %
Leasehold land	Over the lease period
Leasehold Improvement	5
Electrical fittings and furniture	10
Plant & Machinery including Air-conditioners	15
Fire Protection Equipments	25
Other miscellaneous equipment	25
Computer	20
Software (intangible asset)	20
Library books	20
Trade Marks	10
Vehicle	15

22.4 Capital Work in progress

Property, Plant and Equipment that are not yet ready for their intended use are carried at cost, comprising of direct cost and related incidental expenses.

22.5 Restricted Fund

Donations and grants received for specific purpose are shown as Restricted Funds and utilization are disclosed accordingly.

22.6 Provisions

A provision is recognized when there is a present obligation as a result of past event and it is probable that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation, in respect of which reliable estimates can be made. Provisions (excluding retirement benefits) are not discounted to its present value and are determined based on best estimate required to settle the obligation at the balance sheet date.

22.7 Contingent Liabilities

Contingent liabilities are not recognised but are disclosed in the notes. Contingent liabilities are present obligations that arise from past events but are not recognized as it is not probable that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation or a reliable estimate cannot be made.



KREA UNIVERSITY

Registered under the Andhra Pradesh Private Universities (Establishment and Regulation) Act, 2016

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2025

22.8 Defined benefit plans (Long term employee benefits)

Gratuity: Krea university has set up a Gratuity Trust administered by the Life Insurance Corporation(LIC) of India. The University makes its contribution to Gratuity fund maintained with LIC to discharge the gratuity liability to the employees. The University accounts for its liability for future gratuity benefits based on actuarial valuation, as at the balance sheet date, determined by actuary using the projected unit credit method. Effects of changes in actuarial valuation are immediately recognized in the income and expenditure account.

Compensated absences: The University records its liability for compensated absences based on actuarial valuation as at the balance sheet date using the projected unit credit method. Effects of changes in actuarial valuation are immediately recognized in the income and expenditure account.

Short term employee benefits are recognized as an expense as per the University's scheme based on expected obligations on an undiscounted basis.

23. Notes on Accounts:

23.1 Employee Benefits:

- a. Provident Fund: The University makes contribution to the Employees Provident Fund Organisation to discharge its liabilities towards Employees Provident Fund. The University has no other liability other than its contribution.
- b. SuperAnnuation Fund: The University has superannuation liability, for those employees who were transferred from IFMR to Krea university and entitled to Superannuation. The University has no other liability other than its contribution.
- i) Krea university recognized Rs. 1,73,86,283/- (year ended March 31, 2024 Rs. 1,38,23,227) for Provident Fund contributions to EPFO and (year ended March 31, 2024 Rs. 13,13,548) & March 31st 2025 Rs. 12,00,169 for Superannuation Contributions to LIC.
- ii) The details of actuarial valuation in respect of Gratuity liability are given below:
 - i.

Particulars	Rs.	Rs.
	March 31, 2025	March 31, 2024
Projected benefit obligation as at the beginning of the year	26,329,649	22,410,434
Service cost	60,67,986	49,42,790
Interest cost	18,81,236	16,39,440
Actuarial Loss/(gains)	21,58,377	6,78,179
Benefits Paid	(27,40,332)	(33,41,194)
Projected benefit obligation at the end of the year	33,696,916	26,329,649



KREA UNIVERSITY

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2025

ii.	Particulars	March 31, 2025	March 31, 2024
	Fair value of plan assets as at the beginning of the year	21,170,851	21,317,543
	Expected return on plan assets	15,12,643	15,59,490
	Contributions	46,807	16,43,058
	Benefits paid	(27,40,332)	(33,41,194)
	Actuarial gain/(losses) on plan assets	2020	(8,046)
	Fair value of plan assets	19,991,989	21,170,851

iii.	Amount recognized in the Balance Sheet	March 31, 2025	March 31, 2024
	Projected benefit obligation at the end of the year	33,696,916	26,329,649
	Fair value of plan assets at the end of the year	19,991,989	21,170,851
	Liability recognized in the balance Sheet	(13,704,927)	(51,58,798)

iv	Cost of the defined plan for the Year	March 31, 2025	March 31, 2024
	Total Service cost	60,67,986	4,942,790
	Interest on obligation	18,81,236	1,639,440
	Expected return on planned assets	(15,12,643)	(1,559,490)
	Net actuarial (gains)/losses recognized in the year	21,56,357	686,225
	Net cost recognized in the Income and expenditure account	85,92,936	5,708,965

v.	Assumptions	March 31, 2025	March 31, 2024
	Discount Rate	6.50%	7.15%
	Expected rate of return	6.50%	7.15%
	Salary escalation	8.00%	8.00%

Actuarial Calculations (Gratuity Plan) as per AS 15:

	Experience History	March 31, 2025	March 31, 2024	March 31, 2023	March 31, 2022	March 31, 2021
1	Defined Benefit Obligation at end of the period	33,696,916	26,329,649	22,410,434	20,495,285	19,073,213
2	Plan Assets at end of the period	19,991,989	21,170,851	21,317,543	20,984,582	16,054,198
3	Funded Status	(13,704,927)	(5,158,798)	(1,092,891)	489,297	(3,019,015)
4	Experience Adjustments on Plan liabilities	23,60,605	532,435	838,954	(1,372,908)	994,269
5	Experience Adjustments on Plan Assets	2,020	(8,046)	116,043	(221,210)	(229,908)



KREA UNIVERSITY

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2025**24. Capital Commitments**

The total value of contracts remaining to be executed is Rs.1,27,33,42,923

Advances paid towards these contracts amounts to Rs. 82,79,85,054.

25. Related Party Transactions:**A. Name of the Related Party & Nature of Relationship**

IFMR as a sponsoring body established Krea university under the Andhra Pradesh Private Universities (Establishment and Regulation) Act, 2016. By virtue of this IFMR is a related party.

B. Transactions with related Parties during the year:

Name of the Related Party	Nature of Transaction	FY 24-25	FY 23-24
Services Provided			
IFMR	Usage of Brand	-	5,00,000
IFMR	Technical Support	9,72,918	3,33,334
Services Received			
IFMR	Research Support	-	2,04,820
IFMR	Honorarium & Accounts receivable	5,10,305	2,40,000
Others			
IFMR	Transfer of Lease Hold Rights	-	5,00,000
IFMR	Tuition Fees (received on behalf of Students)	1,73,96,655	2,60,83,997
IFMR	Corpus Fund	25,00,00,000	15,50,00,000
IFMR	Reimbursement	34,75,286	-



KREA UNIVERSITY

Registered under the Andhra Pradesh Private Universities (Establishment and Regulation) Act, 2016

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2025**C. Balances with related Parties as at end of the year:**

Name of the Related Party	Nature of Balance as on Balance Sheet date Transaction	As at 31 st March 2025	As at 31 st March 2024
IFMR	Receivable	5,10,305	-
IFMR	Payable	-	82,949

25.1 As per the Andhra Pradesh Private Universities (Establishment and Regulation) Act, 2016 and as per rules notified vide G.O. Number 22 dated May 18, 2017, an Endowment Fund of Rs. 12,500,000 has been established. This Fund is kept in the form of a Fixed Deposit with ICICI Bank in the joint names of The Secretary, APSCHE (AP State Council of Higher Education) and KREA university. Interest earned upto 2024-25 amounting to Rs. 72,43,726/- including interest for the period 2024-25 of Rs.11,86,973 has been added to the endowment fund and this is disclosed in Note 2.

25.2 Previous year's numbers have been regrouped / reclassified wherever necessary to correspond with the current year's classification / disclosure.

For and on behalf of KREA University

Place: Chennai
Date: 10-09-2025


Lakshminarayana
Chancellor


Prof. Nirmala Rao
Vice-Chancellor


Ravish Kumar Arora
Chief Financial Officer







CAMPUS LOCATION

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City, Andhra Pradesh - 517646
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