

Announcing a landmark pledge to Mahindra University from Mr Anand Mahindra

March 27, 2024, Mahindra University, Hyderabad

Mahindra University is pleased to announce a landmark personal pledge from Mr Anand Mahindra and his family of Rs. 500 Crores over the next five years (starting from FY25 till FY29). This generous pledge will be pivotal for the University as it continues to expand into new disciplines. It will help propel Mahindra University's mission to strive for interdisciplinary academic excellence and train multi-skilled leaders committed to inclusive and sustainable progress.

In addition, Mr Mahindra has made a dedicated pledge of Rs. 50 Crore endowing the Indira Mahindra School of Education in FY25. Named in memory of Ms. Indira Mahindra, a teacher (and Mr. Mahindra's mother), the school aspires to be a centre of excellence in educational research, practice, and innovations.

This combined pledge of Rs 550 Crores is the latest of many education initiatives that Mr Mahindra supports around India, including the Mahindra United World College India and the Mahindra International School. In 1996, he started the Nanhi Kali programme, which has provided over 700,000 underprivileged girls with access to high-quality education over the past two decades.

About Mahindra University

Mahindra University ('MU') was established in May 2020 as the brainchild of Mr Vineet Nayyar, former Vice Chairman of Tech Mahindra, with the aim of "educating future citizens for and of a better world", driven by the need for multi-skilling, interdisciplinary academic education, and inculcation of entrepreneurial mindsets for future leaders. Beginning with the school of engineering, the university has steadily expanded its offerings over the last four years, offering 35 programmes across five schools and four centres at the undergraduate, post-graduate, and doctorate levels.

With interdisciplinary academic delivery at its core, Mahindra University believes that certain elements are transversal to all undergraduate degrees, irrespective of the major: AI Training / Data Science, Digital Humanities, Entrepreneurial mindset, Emotional Intelligence & Leadership, and Communication, Creativity, and Critical Thinking.

The École Centrale School of Engineering (in collaboration with École Centrale Paris), the School of Management, the School of Law, the School of Media, and the Indira Mahindra School of Education are currently operational. Two additional schools including the School of Hospitality Management are expected to be established in AY 2024-25.

MU has over ~4,100 students enrolled, approximately 10% of whom are at the postgraduate level. Situated in a sylvan ~100-acre campus in Hyderabad, MU has dedicated infrastructure, including research laboratories, hostels that accommodate over 3,500+ students, a 1,100-seat auditorium, faculty and staff accommodation, and dedicated sports facilities, including the recently inaugurated FIFA-certified Football Ground.

MU has partnered with leading global academic institutions, such as Centrale Supélec (erstwhile École Central Paris), Cornell SC Johnson School of Business, Virginia Tech, Babson College, the University of Florida, and La Trobe University, for curriculum building, student immersion and exchange programmes, faculty exchange programmes, and research collaborations.

About Anand Mahindra

Mr Anand Mahindra is the Chairman of the Mahindra Group and Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd. (M&M), a multinational federation of companies with 260,000 employees in over 100 countries. M&M enjoys a leadership position in farm equipment, utility vehicles, information technology, and financial services in India. It is the world's largest tractor company by volume. It has a strong presence in renewable energy, agriculture, logistics, hospitality and real estate.

Mr. Mahindra has served on several influential national and international bodies. These include the Central Board of the Reserve Bank of India, the UN Global Compact Board, the Global Board of Advisors of the Council on Foreign Relations, the World Bank Group's Advisory Board for Doing Business, among others. He has previously been the President of The Confederation of Indian Industry and served on the boards of the National Stock Exchange of India and the National Council of Applied Economic Research. He is on the Invest India board, the National Investment Promotion and Facilitation Agency of India.

Mr Mahindra has been conferred with the Padma Bhushan Award (2020, for his contribution to the nation in the field of 'Trade and Industry'. He was appointed 'Knight in the National Order of the Legion of Honour' by the President of the French Republic (2016). He was conferred the 'Grand Officer of the Order of the Star of Italy' by the President of Italy (2013).

Apart from the Nanhi Kali programme mentioned earlier, Mr Mahindra is the Chairman of the Board of Naandi Foundation, India's leading NGO focused on educating girls, skilling youth, and providing sustainable livelihoods to small farmers through biodynamic agriculture. He also serves on the Founders' Board of The Rise Fund, a \$2 billion impact fund.

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