

Tuesday, 15th December 2020: Indian Institute of Management Jammu continued the second day of its virtual International Conference on Circular Economy with the same theme- 'Responsible Management for Circularity and Sustainability'. The session commenced with Prof. Jabir Ali- IIM Jammu, Prof. Nripendra Rana- School of Management, University of Bradford giving a brief overview of the conference. Prof. Rana presented a welcome note and thanked the panelists for adorning the conference with their presence. It was followed by the address of Mr. Rajeev Kher- Founder and Managing Director, Sara Plast Pvt. Ltd. Mr. Kher talked about Circular Economy and how it can be used for sustainable growth and development. He also mentioned how his venture is going to contribute to the idea of circular economy.

The first plenary session of the day was on the topic- 'Process of supporting a circular economy: Factoring resources, strategies, and competencies across the value chain' and it was graced by 3 keynote speakers, Mr. Parthasarathi Mishra- Board Member, Amnaya Corporation; Dr. Pradeep Panigrahi- Dy. General Manager, Group Sustainability, Mahindra Group; and Mr. Richard Cooper- Knowledge Transfer Manager, Projects KTN and was moderated by Prof. Muqbil Burhan- IIM Jammu. The session started with Mr. Mishra speaking on the topic- 'Green HRM- Understanding and exploring the 'forgotten' elements of the circular economy: Socioeconomic, behavioural and health impacts, and interventions to sustain change'. It was followed by Dr. Panigrahi addressing the conference on 'Circular Economy- The Mahindra Way' and talking about 3Cs of circular economy- commitment, creativity and collaboration. Thereafter, Mr. Cooper spoke on the topic- 'The sustainable use of plastics - Innovation landscape in the UK and alignment to industry needs' where he also mentioned the solution for plastic waste. The plenary session was concluded with a QnA round.

This was followed by the first technical session of the day which revolved around the topic- 'Disruptive innovation as an enabler of the circular economy: Evaluating the role of emerging technologies'. Mr. Piyush Dhawan- Co-Founder, The Circular Collective; Mr. Anshul Ujlayan- Data Scientist Researcher; Ms. Sunanda Mehta, Senior Consultant, PwC; and Mr. Shushant Vasisth, Consultant, Sofies India graced this session with their presence, while it was moderated by Prof. Nitin Upadhyay. The session commenced by Mr. Dhawan talking on the topic- 'Circular Cities: aligning Circular Economy principles to Smart Cities Mission in India', followed by Mr. Ujlayan talking on 'Knowledge Graph and Ontology-Based Artificial Intelligence for Circular Economy'. While he shared valuable insights on the linear versus circular economy model and the circular city indicators. Thereafter, Ms. Mehta and Mr. Vasisth took over the session as they both addressed the conference on the topic- 'Tools to promote circular economy: The role of Extended Producer Responsibility in creating responsible business practices'.

As the first technical session ended with a QnA round, the final and second technical session of the day was ennobled with the presence of Dr. Michael Grove- CEO, Topolytics; Dr. Hishmi Jamil Husain- Head, Biodiversity Corporate Sustainability, Tata Steel Limited; Mr. Shailendra Singh- Founder & CEO, SustainMantra; Ms. Catherine Weetman- Director, Rethink Global; Ms. Zarnain Fatima- CSR Manager, Vedanta Resources Ltd. and it was moderated by Prof. Ateeque Sheikh. The session started with Dr. Grove's address on- 'The Circular Economy - A Digital Revolution?'

and it was carried forward by Dr. Husain talking on the topic 'Importance of Circular Economy for Achieving the Sustainable Mining'. Thereafter, Mr. Singh spoke on- 'The "Dark Side" of Circular Economy'. He was followed by Ms. Weetman while she talked about- 'Circular business models- profitable, resilient and sustainable'. He also covered the social aspects of circular economy and including the underprivileged within the framework of circular economy. Ultimately, Ms. Fatima shared her views on the topic and spoke on 'Nand Ghar: Modern Anganwadi Centres to promote sustainable system and society'.

The second and final day of this International Conference was wrapped up with a vote of thanks extended to the reputed speakers for taking out their time and sharing valuable insights with the students of IIM Jammu and other attendees.