Fostering an Inclusive India through Digital Transformation

With a strong demographic dividend, a growing entrepreneurial ecosystem and a large domestic market, the time is right for India’s economy to soar. The world is expecting India to translate its potential into action. If the economic liberalization of 1991 was a watershed moment for India, 25 years later India again stands on the threshold of another historic moment. The World Bank and the International Monetary Fund both project a robust 7.5% growth for the country in 2016 and 2017. Yet, India also faces challenges, including shrinking exports, an infrastructure deficit, barriers to business and stalled reforms. If the pace of reform fails to pick up and improvement in the ease of doing business proves too slow, companies may look elsewhere.

As the government ensures that the benefits of the previous industrial revolutions reach all Indians, it should also prepare itself for the Fourth Industrial Revolution – a technological revolution that is changing the scale, scope and complexity of the opportunities and challenges that we face. India’s leadership in innovating with technology continues to improve the country’s economic prosperity, civic participation and digital governance – engaging with its citizens, updating them on policies, resolving issues and connecting with them through live conversations.

This is an important inflection point for India, where it can ensure that its economic growth is more broad-based and socially inclusive, and also lead from the front on the Fourth Industrial Revolution to benefit its people and communities. With the possibility of India taking over the G20 presidency in 2018, progress made now will define the country’s G20 leadership.

Co-Chairs

Anil Agarwal, Executive Chairman, Vedanta Resources, United Kingdom

Johan C. Aurik, Global Managing Partner and Chairman of the Board, A.T. Kearney, USA

Gita Gopinath, Professor of Economics, Harvard University, USA

Amitabh Kant, Chief Executive Officer, NITI Aayog, India

John Rice, Vice-Chairman, GE, USA

Vijay Shekhar Sharma, Chief Executive Officer, One97 Communications, India
Summit Objective

At this critical juncture for India, the India Economic Summit, held in partnership with the Confederation of Indian Industry, will provide the platform to engage the global multistakeholder community of the World Economic Forum. The summit will bring together high-level leaders from business, government, civil society and academia to explore how to collectively shape policies for inclusive growth and harness the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

Systems at the Summit

The complexity and urgency of many of today’s challenges require far more integrated thinking and combined effort than any portfolio of activities that a company or institution is capable of organizing on their own. A fundamental transformation of international cooperation and governance is required – a mainstreaming of public-private dialogue and collaboration across a broad spectrum of issues that is only achievable if it becomes a distributed, rather than mediated, phenomenon.

The Forum is focusing its efforts on 14 global, regional and industry System Initiatives to collaboratively shape the future.

The India Economic Summit will be an opportunity for participants to provide input and gain insights through the lens of these System Initiatives. At the summit, some of them will be highlighted in sessions dedicated to the issues at hand. Please consult the programme on TopLink for more detail. Specifically, the systems featured in the programme are:

- Shaping the Future of Digital Economy and Society
- Shaping the Future of Economic Growth and Social Inclusion
- Shaping the Future of Energy
- Shaping the Future of Environment and Natural Resource Security
- Shaping the Future of Food Security and Agriculture
- Shaping the Future of International Trade and Investment
- Shaping the Future of Long-term Investing, Infrastructure and Development
- Shaping the Future of Mobility
- Shaping the Future of Production

Programme Pillars

The summit will address key issues of national and regional importance under three thematic pillars:

Mastering the Fourth Industrial Revolution
- How can India become an innovation-driven manufacturing hub?
- What are the skills needed in the digital age? How can digital platforms accelerate skill development?
- How can policy-makers and regulators support technological development without stifling innovation?
- How can India shape the rules underpinning the digital ecosystem?
- How to balance private investment in digital infrastructure and content with national policy objectives?

Driving Sustainable and Equitable Growth
- How can India ensure food and nutrition security for its 1.25 billion citizens?
- What solutions are needed to make India’s growing youth employable?
- How can agriculture and land development continue to drive growth while preserving India’s diverse ecosystems?
- What innovative partnership models can help achieve rapid growth in the new and renewable energy sector?
- How can the infrastructure sustainably support the massive wave of urbanization that Indian towns and cities are witnessing?

Improving the Ease of Doing Business
- How can the public-private partnership model help meet vast infrastructure needs and address the investment deficit?
- Amid mounting bad debt and low credit growth, what measures can be taken to ensure that banks contribute to economic growth?
- How can cooperative federalism ensure streamlined and expedited procedures at federal and state levels?
- How can the government drive labour reforms to build an enabling environment for businesses?
- How can business and government work together to reduce the burden of regulation for both sides?
The Summit Experience

To create meaningful dialogue and debate, the programme will feature innovative formats that aim to generate insight, spark inspiration and drive impact.

**Plenary sessions** feature senior government officials and business leaders, cover broad issues under the summit’s theme and provide the conceptual framework for further discussion.

**Interactive sessions** pursue topics related to the pillars of the programme in greater depth and are structured around a panel, bringing together expert views and contrasting perspectives.

**Televised sessions** raise awareness of important trends and debates by broadcasting the discussion to a global audience. They are aired by the broadcast partner hosting the debate.

**Arena sessions** promote dialogue among panellists by placing them in the centre of the room. The audience encircles the panel to create an intimate and stimulating atmosphere.

**Solutions sessions** highlight the creative approaches taken by the Forum’s communities to solve certain intractable issues.

**Transformation Hub** sessions feature key trends and transformations by industry, region or issue through the Transformation Maps.

**Issue Briefings** offer insight into relevant topics and the latest developments from leading experts in a particular field.

The **Virtual Reality** experience is available during the hours of the meeting, giving participants a taste of the latest innovations in VR technology.

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**Preliminary Agenda**

**Thursday 6 October**

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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>07.00</td>
<td>Registration Opens</td>
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<tr>
<td>08.30 - 09.00</td>
<td>Welcome Coffee</td>
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<tr>
<td>09.00 - 10.00</td>
<td>Opening Plenary</td>
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<td>10.00 - 10.30</td>
<td>Community Break</td>
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<td>10.30 - 12.00</td>
<td>Sessions in Parallel</td>
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<td>12.00 - 13.30</td>
<td>Community Lunch</td>
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<td>13.30 - 14.30</td>
<td>Sessions in Parallel</td>
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<td>14.30 - 15.00</td>
<td>Community Break</td>
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<td>15.00 - 16.30</td>
<td>Sessions in Parallel</td>
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<td>16.30 - 17.00</td>
<td>Community Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>17.00 - 18.00</td>
<td>Sessions in Parallel</td>
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<tr>
<td>19.00 - 21.30</td>
<td>India Social Entrepreneur of the Year 2016 Award Ceremony and Welcome Dinner</td>
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**Friday 7 October**

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<td>15.00 - 16.00</td>
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**FAQ**

**Where will the meeting take place?**
The meeting will take place at the Taj Palace Hotel, New Delhi, India.

Taj Palace Hotel  
Sardar Patel Marg, Diplomatic Enclave  
New Delhi 10021  
Tel.: +91 112 611 0202  
Fax: +91 112 611 0808  

**Where will I stay?**
PublicisLive, the Forum’s operations and logistics provider, will arrange accommodation at the Taj Palace Hotel. You will receive a hotel booking form upon confirmation of your registration.

**What does registration include?**
Registration includes access to all sessions, including lunches and dinners.

**What is the working language of the meeting?**
Sessions will be held in English.

**By when do I need to register?**
The deadline for registration is Thursday 15 September 2016. We recommend that you register before this date.

**Do I need a visa?**
Please check with the Indian embassy or consulate nearest you for visa requirements. The World Economic Forum is not responsible for providing visas.

**Where do I find additional information about the programme?**
When you register you will receive access to TopLink, the Forum’s online collaboration and interaction platform, where you can find the programme and other details.

**Who do I contact for more information?**
Please send you enquiry to [India@weforum.org](mailto:India@weforum.org).
The World Economic Forum – committed to improving the state of the world – is the International Organization for Public-Private Cooperation. The Forum engages the foremost political, business and other leaders of society to shape global, regional and industry agendas.