# SUSTAIN 6.0

## Impact Report



**TEAM SHUNYA**

Beyond Net Zero
Designing a Sustainable Future

IIT Bombay | 14 March 2026

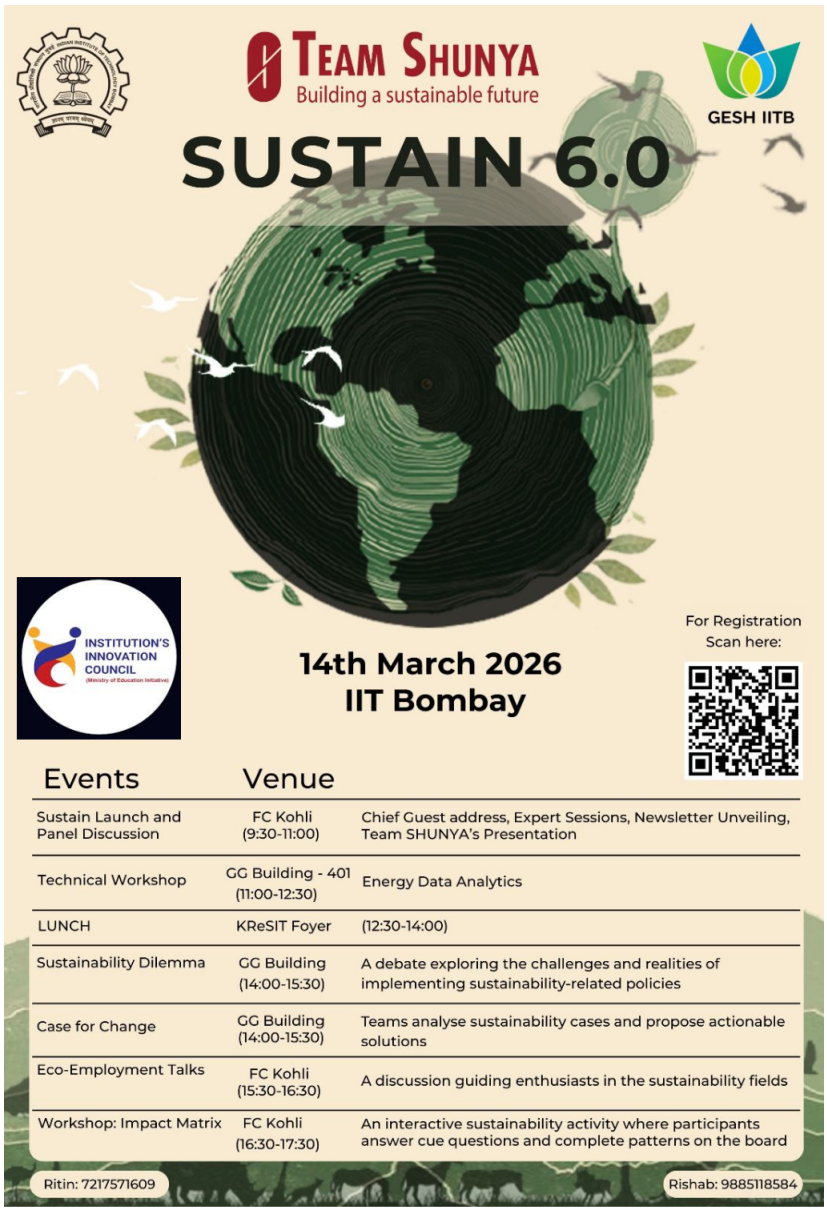
# SUSTAIN 6.0 at a glance

Team SHUNYA held its sixth sustainability conclave at IIT Bombay on 14 March 2026 with GESH IITB and the Institution's Innovation Council. Under the theme "Beyond Net Zero: Designing a Sustainable Future", students presented decarbonisation proposals, debated climate policy and analysed electricity demand using real power-system data.

**135**
Case for Change registrants

**₹45,000**
Combined competition prize pool

**6**
Companies in the career talks




Official SUSTAIN 6.0 event poster and programme.

## ANRF-PAIR participation

Students from our faculty-led ANRF-PAIR project attended the conclave. The programme gave them an opportunity to explore sustainable buildings through energy data, student proposals and a visit to Team SHUNYA's Net Zero House.

## 10 of 44 consulting teams advanced

About 23% of the registered teams reached final jury review. Five were selected for the campus brief and five for the neighbourhood brief.



Students work with power-system data in the GG Building.

## The afternoon programme

Case for Change and Sustainability Dilemma held their finals in parallel. At FC Kohli Auditorium, the Eco-Employment Talks were followed by Impact Matrix, a team game built around environmental questions.

# Institute leadership and keynotes

Prof. Shireesh B. Kedare, Director of IIT Bombay, delivered the keynote address at FC Kohli Auditorium, KReSIT. Prof. Ravindra D. Gudi, Deputy Director (Finance, Infrastructure and Administration), attended the launch.



Prof. Shireesh B. Kedare, Director, IIT Bombay.



Prof. Ravindra D. Gudi, Deputy Director, IIT Bombay.




Institute dignitaries and guests unveil Team SHUNYA's Beyond Net Zero newsletter. The opening programme also included the launch of an AI-powered sustainability tool.

## Expert keynotes

### Pratima Washan

*Global Head of Knowledge and Technical Excellence, Global Buildings Performance Network*

Washan examined the gap between a net-zero design and a building's performance in use. She discussed how climate-responsive design and better use of data can guide decisions as cities adopt green building practices.

### Dr. Mala Singh

*Mumbai Chapter Head, Indian Green Building Council*

Dr. Singh discussed how green building frameworks guide construction and operations. She connected choices about materials and resources on site with the efficiency of a building once it is occupied.

Team SHUNYA's account of the opening and panel

# Panel discussion and green careers

## Beyond Net Zero

Prof. Aparna Phadke of the University of Mumbai moderated the five-member panel. The discussion covered energy efficiency in buildings, urban climate resilience and the role of communities and local institutions in putting policy into practice.




The Beyond Net Zero panel at IIT Bombay.

**Pratima Washan**
Global Buildings Performance Network (GBPN)

**Dr. Mala Singh**
Indian Green Building Council (IGBC), Mumbai Chapter

**Arjun P Gupta**
Founder and CEO, Smart Joules

**Shishir Joshi**
Founder and CEO, Project Mumbai

**Wazeem Nishad**
COO, GESH IITB

## Eco-Employment Talks

Six companies brought perspectives on energy storage, smart buildings, sustainable packaging and solar power. One presenter set a CAD drawing beside a photograph from a construction site to show students how a design changes during delivery.




Company presentations and audience questions during the Eco-Employment Talks.

**COMPANIES AND SPEAKERS**

**AmpereHour Energy**
Ayush Misra, Co-founder

**SustLabs**
Kaushik Bose, CEO

**Schmancy Pack Pvt. Ltd.**
Nikhil Parekh, Founder

**Albatross Energetics**
Srihari Balaji, Co-founder

**ILIOS Power**
Artika Thakur, COO

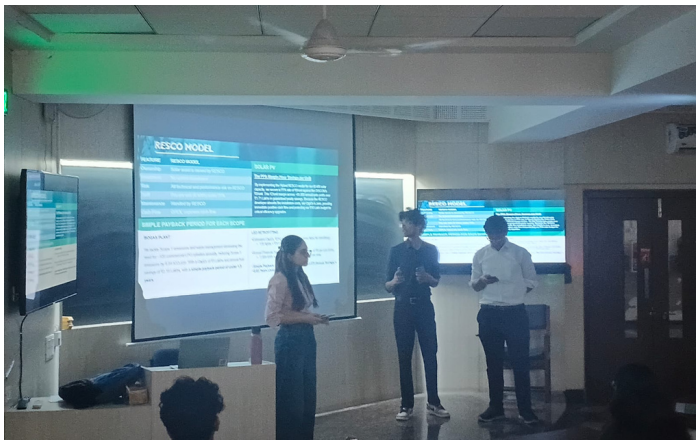
**Smart Joules**
Aishwarya Ramchandran, Senior Manager

# Case competition and debate

Case for Change and Sustainability Dilemma offered a combined prize pool of ₹45,000. Consulting teams defended the cost and feasibility of an emissions plan. Debaters defended a policy position and responded to the opposing team's arguments.

SUSTAINABILITY CONSULTING

## Case for Change




A finalist team presents its proposal to the jury.

| | |
|---|---|
| **44** | registered teams |
| **135** | registrants from 2 institutes |
| **10** | finalist teams |
| **₹30,000** | prize pool |

### Two decarbonisation briefs

The campus brief covered Scope 1 and 2 emissions, transport and renewable power. The neighbourhood brief added household electricity, cooking fuels, rooftop solar and the question of who could coordinate action across homes.

### Mentorship and jury review

Teams submitted an approach note, received feedback and refined their roadmaps. Five teams per brief reached the final. Two GESH judges reviewed campus proposals, and three Team SHUNYA alumni assessed neighbourhood proposals for feasibility, cost and potential emissions reductions.

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE

## Sustainability Dilemma




Recognition of a Sustainability Dilemma participant.

| | |
|---|---|
| **25+** | preliminary participants |
| **6** | institutes represented |
| **8** | debate finalists |
| **₹15,000** | prize pool |

### Five minutes to prepare

In the online preliminaries, speakers prepared both sides of a motion and received feedback. The motions included whether sustainability indicators should replace GDP and whether climate policy should take household income into account.

### Government and Opposition

At IIT Bombay, the eight finalists formed two teams of four. Each side presented opening arguments, questioned the other side's reasoning and offered rebuttals. Prof. Ajay Deshpande judged the parliamentary final.

# Research participation and applied learning

Students from our faculty-led ANRF-PAIR project attended SUSTAIN 6.0. Under the Anusandhan National Research Foundation's Partnerships for Accelerated Innovation and Research programme, sustainable buildings are part of IIT Bombay's energy and sustainability research theme.

ANRF programme and IIT Bombay research themes

## Working with power-system data

In the Python for Energy Data Analytics workshop, students used Google Colab and VS Code to forecast demand, identify unusual readings and explore smart-grid operation.

## Inside the Net Zero House

Participants toured Team SHUNYA's Net Zero House to see its design in practice. The team's Project Vivaan was runner-up in the 2023 US Solar Decathlon Build Challenge.




Team SHUNYA and SUSTAIN 6.0 participants at IIT Bombay on 14 March 2026. Photo courtesy of Team SHUNYA.

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