



highlighted that teachers are key to helping students think creatively and critically — skills that AI cannot replicate. He said institutions need to rethink how they train and support their faculty so they can keep up with fast-changing tech.

The AI Dilemma

The panel discussion on 'Navigating Ethical Dilemmas in the Age of AI, Big Data and Disruptive Technologies' delved into ethical aspects of AI, as well as inherent biases that have crept into the new-age technologies too.

R Janardhan, Pro Vice Chancellor, Dayanand Sagar University, made it clear that technology is there to benefit and gain and make somebody's life comfortable. "We need to take advantage to deliver faster and cheaper in this competitive world," he said.

Sagar Gulati, Director, Jain University, highlighted, "As educators we emphasise whether a project is completed through AI or human intelligence. We give the liberty to students to complete the project with the help of AI. However, if an outcome is created through generative AI tools and the students are able to explain it, the job is done."

BD Kumbar, Vice Chancellor, Devangere University, highlighted the importance of training the faculty to identify the unethical use of AI. "It is the responsibility of the higher education institutions to help and train the students also about the right use of AI. Such types of dilemmas are common on the part of students and



faculty."

Teachers must be trained about the use of AI in the classroom including the research and innovation activities. The use of AI while grading can be disastrous to the students. We need to assess whether AI is improving our thinking capacity and not letting creativity diminished, Kumbar added.

MBA & Digital Transformation

Speaking at a panel discussion 'Re-thinking MBA Education in the Era of Digital Transformation and Global Uncertainty', experts pointed to the growing influence of artificial intelligence (AI), automation and economic volatility and called for stronger industry integration, flexible learning models and a renewed focus on ethics and leadership.

"We can no longer teach business the way we did a decade ago," said Lt Col Prasad SN, Director, SDMIMD. "Today's MBA must be tech-savvy, ethically grounded and globally minded. The goal is not just management education but transformational leadership."

SK Prasad, Dean, Srinivas University, said MBA curricula must reflect a world where machines are taking on increasingly complex tasks. "AI and automation are redefining workplace roles," he said. "We must prepare students to work with machines, not compete with them."

Tuhin S Banerjee, Deputy Director, MineRVa, RV Centre for Leadership and Executive Education, said that institutions should place greater emphasis on applied and interdisciplinary learning. "We are witnessing a paradigm shift from knowledge acquisition to capability building," he said. "MBA programmes must simulate real-world problem-solving, crisis leadership and agility."

Narayani Romachandran, Director, NMIMS Bangalore, said technology must be used to broaden access, not deepen existing inequalities. "Digital transformation should be a leveller, not a divider," she said.

Sridevi, Director, IFIM College, argued that stronger collaboration with the private sector was vital. "Our partnerships with industry are not optional

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