



ASHOKA  
UNIVERSITY

# Annual Review





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# Letter from the Chancellor



The growth and development of Ashoka is possible because of the work all of you put in and the generous contributions many of you make.

Dear members of the Ashoka community,

It is my privilege every year to introduce you to the Annual Report of the University.

I hope you will spare a few minutes of your time to glance at the Annual Report for 2024-25. In my letter to all of you last year, I had written that Ashoka is at the cusp of transition. The process of transition is well under way. A part of the new campus is now operational and we are poised for greater expansion. While major steps have been taken to expand the reach of our teaching and research in the fundamental Sciences, we have also established, thanks to the generosity of Harish and Bina Shah, the School for Humanities. In the next academic year, Ashoka will be introducing courses in Management Studies. All these efforts are integral parts of the ongoing endeavours to make Ashoka a top-class university that aims to provide an allround education to its students and contribute to the world of scholarship through innovative and original research.

The growth and development of Ashoka is possible because of the work all of you put in and the generous contributions many of you make. No words of gratitude are enough for this. Please continue to be part of the onward and upward march of Ashoka.



**Warm regards,**  
**Rudrangshu Mukherjee**  
Chancellor, Ashoka University

# Letter from the Chairperson, Board of Trustees



We have been able to reach this far with the help of supporters who believed in Ashoka long before its impact could be measured.

From our earliest days, our journey of building Ashoka University has been shaped by the trust and belief of our founders, trustees, donors, and supporters. Their generosity and conviction helped us lay the foundations of an inclusive, interdisciplinary institution of higher education. It enabled us to bring on board outstanding faculty, support students through strong financial aid, develop rigorous academic programmes and centres, and build a campus that nurtures critical thinking, inquiry, research, and real-life skills that prepare our future leaders. We are deeply grateful.

Today, we have more than 3,300 students across our undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral programmes, and over 5,900 alumni contributing across disciplines in India and around the world. By every measure, we remain sub-scaled. If we are to serve India at the level we aspire to, we need to grow further in size, capability, and reach.

The decade ahead will focus on this next phase of scaling up. We aim to welcome more talented students from a wider socioeconomic spectrum, strengthen financial aid, and continue raising the bar for academic excellence. We will deepen our research capacity, expand our faculty, and widen partnerships in India and globally. We will keep paying close attention to areas where the demand for knowledge, innovation, and problem-solving is rapidly increasing.

Ashoka's recognition is growing, and we are ever so encouraged by the confidence that students, parents, and employers place in us.

Our focus is to match that confidence with stronger outcomes, broader access, and a larger contribution to higher education in India.

We have been able to reach this far with the help of supporters who believed in Ashoka long before its impact could be measured. In recent years, our alumni have also begun joining this community of supporters, and we could not be more proud. While universities around the world rely heavily on alumni philanthropy, Ashoka has been fortunate to be shaped by individuals from all fronts who believed in the possibility of building a world-class university here in India.

We will continue to need champions who share this belief.

Our responsibility is massive but clear: to set higher benchmarks for academic and institutional quality and advance what we do well. With steady progress and collective support, we will keep building Ashoka as one of India's finest universities. We are fully committed to the task.



**Warm regards,**  
**Pramath Raj Sinha**  
 Chairperson, Board of Trustees,  
 Ashoka University

# Letter from the Vice-Chancellor



I extend my heartfelt gratitude to our founders, trustees, faculty, staff, alumni, students, and their families. It is your collective vision and dedication that allows Ashoka to thrive.

It is my privilege to present the Annual Report for 2024–25, a year that has marked both continuity and transformation in Ashoka University's academic journey. Entering our second decade, Ashoka has stayed true to its mission of advancing rigorous, interdisciplinary education while expanding its role as a research-driven and socially engaged institution.

This year, Ashoka was recognised as the top private university in India by the Indian Institutional Ranking Framework (IIRF) – a testament to the academic excellence, innovative pedagogy, and inclusive ethos that define us. Our academic programmes continue to evolve, with new disciplines, collaborations, and pedagogical initiatives ensuring that we remain at the forefront of the National Education Policy's vision for higher education.

Our research ecosystem has flourished across disciplines. Faculty and students published widely in leading journals and received competitive fellowships and awards, including the JC Bose National Fellowship, the JV Narlikar Lifetime Achievement Award, fellowships of the Indian National Science Academy, and the Pfizer Prize. The Zeiss Imaging Facility at the School of Biosciences – among the most advanced in India – is now fully operational, enabling world-class research for young scientists. The Trivedi School of Biosciences, along with other centres such as the Ashoka Innovation Centre and Koita Centre for Digital Health, continues to expand Ashoka's contributions to India's knowledge economy.

Student outcomes have been exceptional. Over 320 students secured placements in 115+ leading organisations, while our graduating cohort received admission offers from more than 50 prestigious universities worldwide, including Oxford, Cambridge, Yale, Columbia, and Sciences Po. Many of our students also earned highly competitive scholarships such as the Felix Scholarship.

Inclusion and access remain central to Ashoka's mission. This year, the University committed more than INR 100 crores towards financial aid, with 47% of students supported and 21% receiving a full tuition waiver or more. Beyond financial aid, the Equal Opportunity Cell, the Office of Learning Support, and the Ashoka Centre for Well-being continue to ensure that our campus is welcoming and accessible to all, supporting visible and invisible disabilities, mental health needs, and diverse learning requirements.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to our founders, trustees, faculty, staff, alumni, students, and their families. It is your collective vision and dedication that allows Ashoka to thrive. As we move forward, let us continue to build a university that keeps setting benchmarks in excellence, inclusion, and impact.

*Somak Raychaudhury*

**Warm regards,**  
**Somak Raychaudhury**  
 Vice-Chancellor, Ashoka University

# Highlight from 2024-25

## July 2024

Ashoka University secured the first position among private universities in the IIRF 2024 Rankings.



## August 2024

AshokaX and the Environment Defense Fund (EDF) partnered to lead the Climate Corps Fellowship programme in India to build the next generation of sustainability talent.

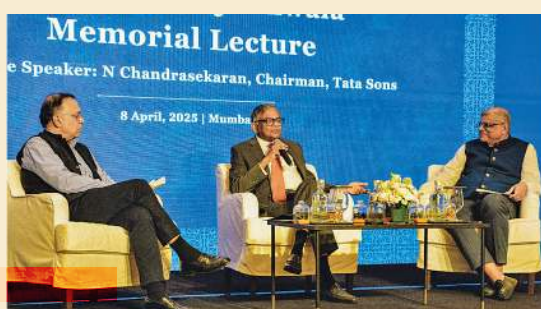
## February 2025

- The Trivedi School of Biosciences was inaugurated by Dr Rajiv Bahl, Secretary to Government of India, Department of Health Research & Director General, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR).
- Axis Bank signed an MoU with Ashoka University, committing ₹104 crore over four years to support interdisciplinary science research.
- Ashoka announced the Havells School of Management & Leadership, a hub for interdisciplinary management education rooted in liberal learning.



## March 2025

The School of Advanced Computing was launched to lead interdisciplinary research in AI, Machine Learning, and Computational Sciences.



## April 2025

The second annual Rakesh Jhunjhunwala Memorial Lecture was organised in Mumbai where N Chandrasekaran, Chairman, Tata Sons, delivered the keynote address on how AI will fuel India's growth story.

## September 2024

- Ashoka University hosted the EU Research and Innovation (R&I) Info Day in collaboration with the Delegation of the European Union to India and EURAXESS India.
- The Isaac Centre for Public Policy (ICPP) was launched to advance research-based policymaking and leadership in governance.
- Dirac Labs and Ashoka University received a ₹1 crore grant from the Indo-US Science and Technology Forum (IUSSTF) for quantum tech research.



## October 2024

Filmmaker Sai Paranjpye donated her collection of original handwritten drafts and screenplays of her films and stage plays across Marathi, Hindi and English, to the Ashoka Archives.

## November 2024

A WHO-supported project led by Dr Laasya Samhita (Assistant Professor of Biology) was awarded the prestigious International Pathogen Surveillance Network (IPSN) catalytic grant.



## January 2025

- The Ashoka Centre for Translation, in collaboration with the New India Foundation, launched Bhashavaad, India's first non-profit, open-access and crowd-sourced database of Indian translations.
- Ashoka received the Haryana Labour Department Award for maintaining a safe and inclusive working environment.

## December 2024

Ashoka University inaugurated the Ashoka-Zeiss Core Imaging Facility, which consists of four high resolution, super resolution, and high content microscopes from Zeiss, a German-origin optics and optoelectronics company.



## May 2025

A new batch of Undergraduates, Master's, and PhD students graduated. The convocation address was delivered by Nobel Laureate Sir Paul Nurse.



## June 2025

Ashoka University ranked first for the second consecutive year in the IIRF 2025 rankings.





01

# Academic Programmes

Ashoka's academic programmes are anchored in interdisciplinary inquiry and close faculty mentorship. Across schools, undergraduate and postgraduate programmes, doctoral training, and lifelong learning initiatives, they reflect the University's commitment to building knowledge, nurturing talent, and advancing academic excellence.

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# Schools at Ashoka

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Ashoka's academic and research enterprise is anchored in seven interdisciplinary schools. Each school brings together departments, faculty, and research centres that shape the University's intellectual life – advancing

rigorous scholarship, innovative teaching, and cross-disciplinary collaboration. Together, they provide the foundation on which Ashoka's academic programmes and research strengths continue to grow.

## ▲ Harish and Bina Shah School of Humanities

A leading hub for the Humanities, the School houses six departments – English, History, Philosophy, Creative Writing, Performing Arts, and Visual Arts – alongside three research-

driven centres: the Centre for Translation, the Centre for Interdisciplinary Archaeological Research, and the Centre for the Creative and the Critical.

## ▲ Rakesh Jhunjhunwala School of Economics and Finance

Home to one of India's most respected Economics departments, the School also houses the Isaac Centre for Public Policy,

enabling high-quality research and teaching in Economics and allied fields.

## ▲ Trivedi School of Biosciences

A pioneering space for cutting-edge research and teaching in the Biosciences, the School houses the Department of Biology and several major centres: the Koita Centre for Digital Health, the Centre for Health Analytics and Trends, the Centre for Glycans and Metabolic

Programming, and the Centre for Precision Biology. Its state-of-the-art infrastructure includes the Spatial Biology Lab, the Zeiss Core Imaging Facility, and the Datla Human Immunome Lab.

## ▲ RK Damani School of Natural and Mathematical Sciences

Advancing excellence in the Natural Sciences, the School houses the departments of Mathematics, Chemistry, and Physics, and

hosts the Lodha Genius Programme for gifted high-school students.

## ▲ Vachani School of Advanced Computing

Envisioned as a first-of-its-kind initiative within an interdisciplinary university, the School explores the future of computing and its applications across domains. It houses the Department of Computer Science along with

three centres: the Centre for Data Science and Analytics, the Safexpress Centre for Data, Learning and Decision Sciences, and the Centre for Digitalisation, AI and Society.

## ▲ Havells School of Management and Leadership

Blending the science and art of Management, the School is home to the InfoEdge Centre for Entrepreneurship and is set to introduce

a flagship 20-course programme for undergraduate students.

## ▲ School of Social Sciences

The School will bring together departments such as International Relations, Political Science, Sociology and Anthropology – creating a vibrant space for understanding society, institutions, and global systems through interdisciplinary research and teaching.



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# Undergraduate Programme

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## ▲ Highlights

779

Students enrolled  
from 10 countries and 111  
Indian towns and cities as  
part of the incoming batch

₹97Cr

Awarded in scholarships  
46% of UG students received  
financial aid

738

Courses offered  
including 25 new courses and two  
new majors

23

New faculty members joined  
Eight faculty members received  
tenure and promotions

1,080+

Schools reached  
across 127 cities, leading to  
a 6% rise in applications



## ▲ Introduction

Ashoka's undergraduate programme – a four-year multidisciplinary degree – is structured around foundation, major and minor courses, complemented by a range of co-curriculars and mandatory internships. The comprehensive design ensures that students gain not just academic knowledge but are also equipped with essential skills for dynamic workplaces.

In the last academic year, Ashoka further strengthened its four-year undergraduate

programme – with the introduction of two new majors. The University offered its undergraduate students a total of 738 courses, of which 25 were newly introduced.

With the transition to the four-year undergraduate programme as outlined in the National Education Policy, AY 2024-25 also marked the final year for admissions to the three-year BA/BSc as well as the Ashoka Scholars Programme.

## ▲ Faculty

Faculty strength grew to 178, with 23 new scholars joining as permanent faculty in AY 2024-25. Additionally, over 90 visiting scholars taught courses during the year.

Some of the notable senior appointments include Prachi Mishra (PhD Columbia University) who joined the Department of Economics along with Devesh Roy (PhD University of Maryland College Park); Partha

Pratim Das (PhD IIT Kharagpur) who joined the Department of Computer Science; and Dipyaman Ganguly (PhD Indian Institute of Chemical Biology) and Kedar Natarajan (PhD Imperial College of London) both of whom joined as professors in the Department of Biology.

During the year, eight assistant professors were granted tenure and promoted.



## ▲ Outreach and Admissions

In 2025, 779 students enrolled in the UG programme. They come from 10 countries and 111 Indian towns and cities.

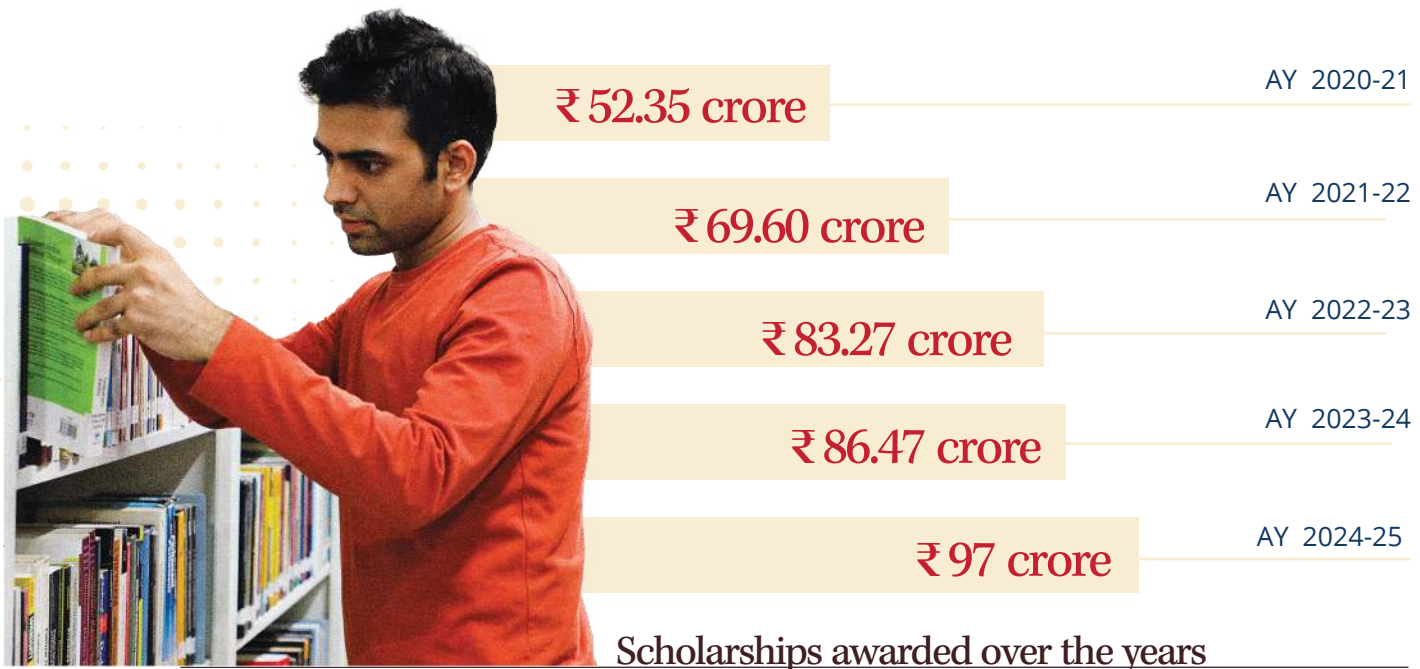
The Office of Outreach reached out to over 1,080 schools across 127 cities and 28 states. The total number of applications received,

registered a six per cent growth over the previous year. The team organised over 170 outreach events across various cities like open houses, in addition to school presentations, career fairs, and conducting campus tours for prospective students.

## ▲ Scholarships

Ashoka offers both merit-based and need-based scholarships, with all students eligible to apply for full or partial financial support. Ashoka reaffirmed its commitment to access

and inclusion by awarding INR 97 crore in scholarships to undergraduate students. Over 46 per cent of students received some form of tuition and residence waivers.



## ▲ Convocation

The Class of 2025 graduated in May. Over 600 students, from across undergraduate, masters', and PhD programmes, received their degrees at the convocation ceremony.

Renowned geneticist and cell biologist, Sir Paul Nurse, who also received the 2001 Nobel Prize in Physiology, was the keynote speaker for the event.

# Young India Fellowship

## ▲ Highlights

88

Fellows

from 57 towns and cities across 21 Indian states and regions, and 3 countries

₹6.7 Cr

Awarded in scholarships

80% of Fellows received financial aid

10

Chancellor's Merit Scholars

and about 30% first-generation college goers

31

Courses offered,

including 9 new courses

22

Experiential Learning projects

consisting of 17 projects with partner organisations and five self-designed projects

65+

Outreach sessions and workshops

with audiences from 250+ cities and towns



## ▲ Introduction

The Young India Fellowship (YIF), Ashoka University's flagship post-graduate diploma, completed its fourteenth year in AY 2024–25. The one-year programme attracts young individuals with exceptional intellectual ability

and leadership potential. The Class of 2025 comprised 88 Fellows from 3 countries, speaking over 25 languages, representing 63 institutions and 35+ undergraduate majors.

## ▲ Curriculum and Faculty

Fellows pursued 31 courses, including new offerings in Macroeconomics, Leadership, Communications, and Law. The Critical Writing Programme remained a central component of the programme, with the second annual Critical Writing Conference featuring eminent

sociologist Virginius Xaxa as keynote speaker.

The Fellowship was taught by 13 full-time and 20 visiting faculty, including eight international scholars.

## ▲ Experiential Learning and Mentorship

Fellows undertook the Experiential Learning Module across 17 projects with organisations such as Civic Studios, Kerala Development and Innovation Strategic Council, Safe in India, and The Education Alliance, alongside five self-designed projects. Holistic engagement was enriched through guest lectures (Aruna

Roy, Jayaprakash Narayan, Sumeet Samos), alumni-in-residence, and mentorship programmes. Sixty-eight Fellows enrolled in the mentorship programme, guided by experts including K VijayRaghavan, Ravi Sreedharan, Disha Mullick, Satyam Vyas, and Ruha Shadab, among many others.

## ▲ Outreach and Admissions

The YIF outreach team expanded its reach through 65+ workshops and webinars, 29 in-person sessions, and enhanced digital engagement. Social media channels, Instagram and LinkedIn registered a 30 per cent growth each.

These efforts drew participants from 250+ cities globally.

The Class of 2026 enrolled 100 Fellows, representing 25 states and 4 countries. All received scholarships, with 35 per cent first-generation college-goers and 59 per cent identifying as female.

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# Master's, PhD and other programmes

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## ▲ Master's in English

Now in its sixth year, the Master's in English programme currently has 32 students, enrolled across two cohorts. The programme, which offers an intellectually rigorous immersion in the study of Literature, also carries a strong focus on research. Students work on diverse subject areas including South Asian Literature,

Global and Indian Shakespeares, Gender and Sexuality Studies, and Modern Literature and Culture.

In 2025, 11 students graduated with a Master's in English.

## ▲ Master's in Economics

Launched in 2017-18, the programme combines economic theory and rigorous data analysis. At the end of two years, students are expected to have state-of-the-art quantitative skills, valued both in academia and in the corporate world.

The seventh cohort of 32 students graduated in May 2025. The programme currently has 98 students enrolled.

## ▲ Master's in Biology

The Master's in Biology was the first master's offering in the Sciences. Designed to impart holistic training in the fundamentals of physical, chemical and mathematical principles of Biology, the programme provided hands-on training aided by contemporary pedagogical

methods and extensive independent research.

Eight students graduated in 2024-25, and the final cohort has seven students enrolled.



## ▲ Master's in Liberal Studies

The Master's in Liberal Studies (MLS) was a one-of-its-kind, year-long postgraduate programme designed exclusively for graduates of the Young India Fellowship (YIF). It offered Fellows an opportunity to deepen their academic engagement, pursue independent research, or chart interdisciplinary pathways under close faculty mentorship.

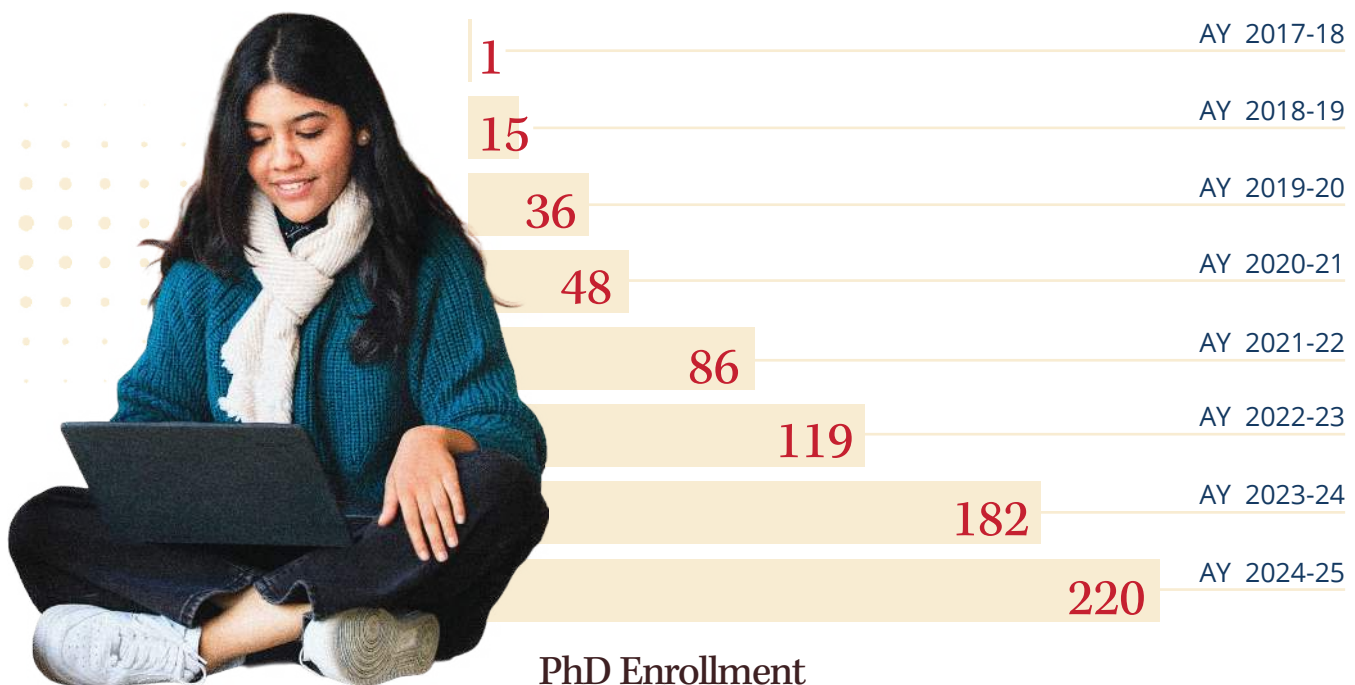
Since its inception in 2015, 121 students have completed the programme, contributing to academia, policy, and industry with their advanced training. Eleven students graduated in 2024-25, marking the last year of the programme.

## ▲ PhD

Ashoka offers a fully-funded PhD programme across 11 disciplines. This includes Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Economics, English, Environmental Studies, History, Mathematics, Physics, Psychology, and Sociology and Anthropology. In the first two years, scholars concentrate on coursework and formulating research questions before progressing to work on their theses.

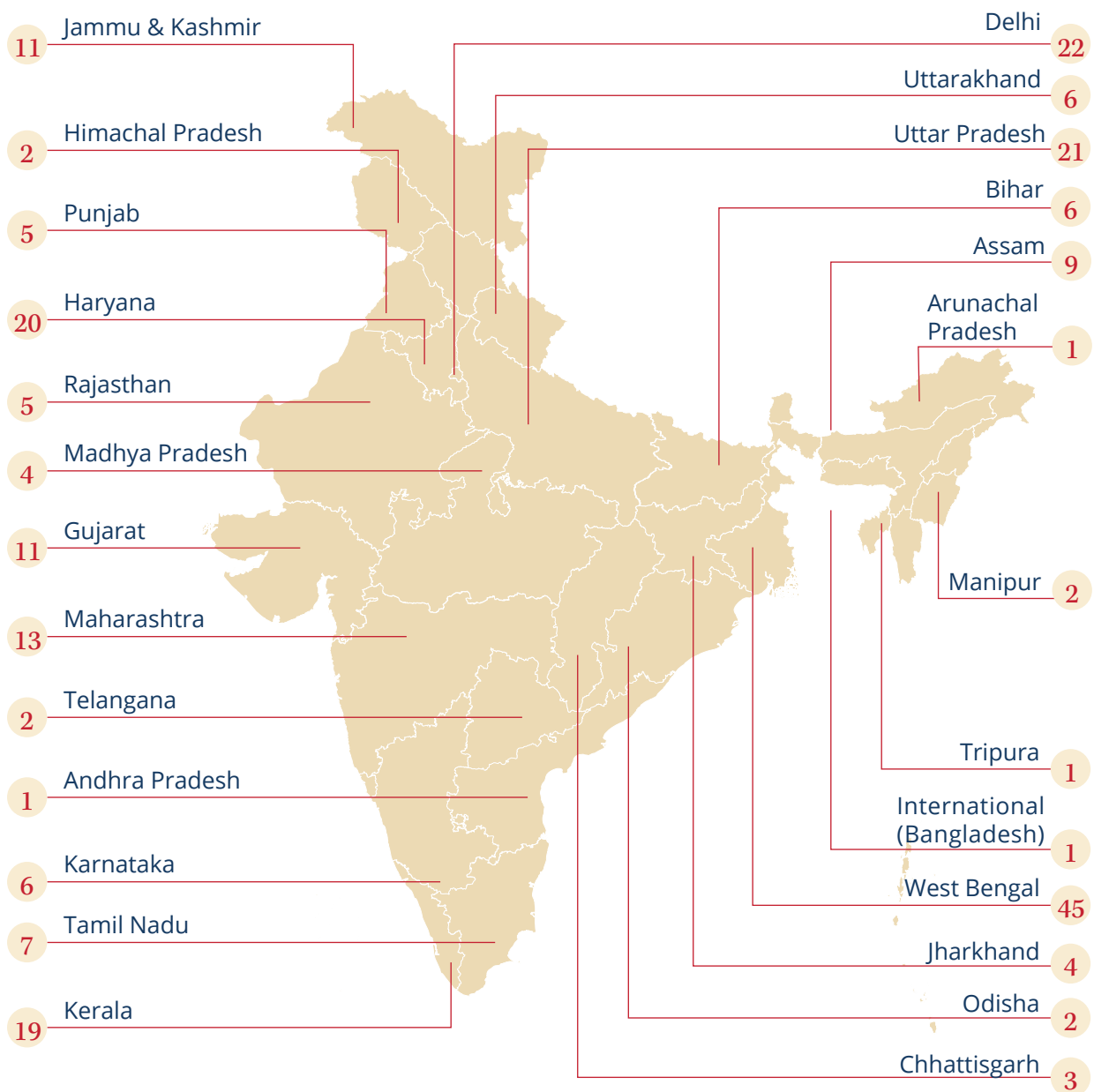
In the last academic year, 220 scholars, coming from across 23 Indian states, were enrolled in the programme. AY 2024-25 also marked the graduation of nine PhD scholars. Their work spanned disciplines such as History, English, Biology, Economics, amongst others.

## ▲ Growth of the PhD programme over the years



The total investment towards the PhD programme for 2024-25 session was ₹ 15.5 cr

## Demographic Representation

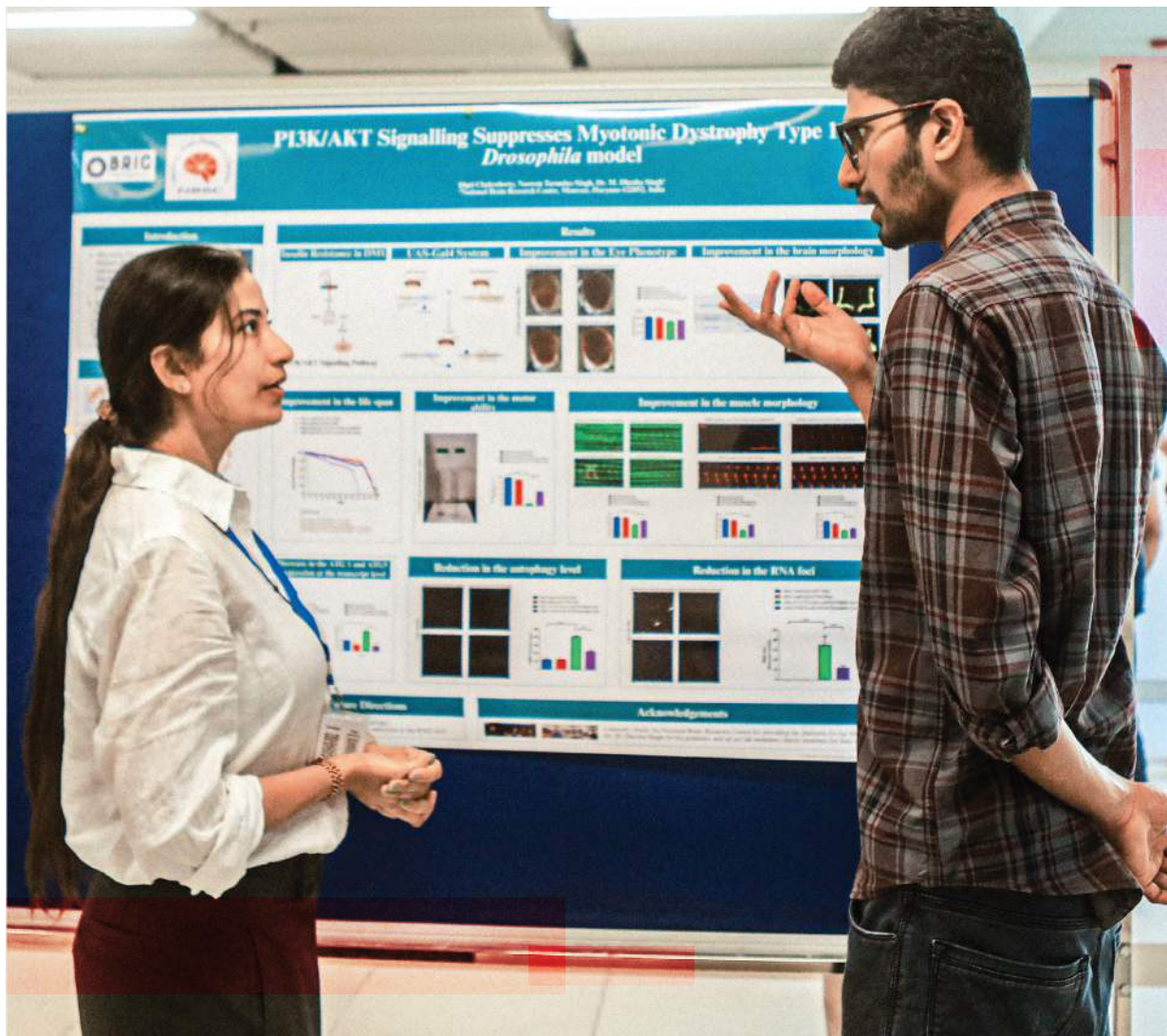


## ▲ Simons Ashoka Early Career Fellowship

The Simons–Ashoka Early Career Fellowship in Quantitative Biomedical Sciences is an innovative initiative launched by the Trivedi School of Biosciences in collaboration with the Simons Foundation. This is the first fellowship of its kind introduced by the Foundation outside the United States, and the first in a developing country.

The programme currently has four scholars, whose focus areas include Precision Medicine,

Digital Healthcare, Fundamental Biology, Astrophysics, and Computational Biology. In the last academic year, Fellows published over 10 journal articles and presented their research at events hosted by institutions such as the Yale School of Public Health, Max Planck Institute for Molecular Biomedicine, and Tata Institute of Fundamental Research.



## ▲ AshokaX

AshokaX is bridging the gap between academia and real-world impact by offering flexible formats – online, in-person, synchronous, and asynchronous.

In 2024-25, a number of programmes were conducted – the Professional Executive and Development Programme in Data Science for Social Impact; ‘Design for Change’: Certificate in Applied Behavioural Science; and the ‘Leadership and Selfhood through Creative Writing’ Programme. Cumulatively, these programmes were attended by 150+ participants. In addition to these programmes, AshokaX, in collaboration with data.org and Capacity Accelerator Network partners, hosted a workshop on ‘Building Resilient Futures:

Data Skilling for Climate and Health’. The event brought together policymakers, data experts, and changemakers to address climate and public health challenges.

AshokaX is also partnering with the Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) to execute the Climate Corps fellowship in India, to build a skilled green workforce. The Ashoka-Environmental Defense Fund Climate Corps Fellowship is an innovative fellowship programme that trains talented and passionate postgraduate students and pairs them with companies and public institutions committed to meeting climate goals.



# High School Programmes

## ▲ Highlights (AY 2024–25)

2,100+

High school students

admitted across 150+ towns and cities, spanning 25 states and 6 countries

200+

Faculty and industry experts

engaged across all programmes

Expanded course offerings

7 thematic tracks at YSP, 15 interdisciplinary micro-courses at Horizons, 3 specialised tracks (Junior, Science, Mathematics) at Lodha Genius Programme

New international partnerships

forged with CERN and the University of California, Santa Cruz, opening pathways for research immersion.

Global recognition

including medals at the International Earth Science Olympiad (China) and 2nd place at the European Tournament of Enthusiastic Apprentice Mathematicians (France)

## ▲ Introduction

Ashoka currently offers three immersive programmes to high-school students – inviting them to explore the world through an

interdisciplinary lens, while also introducing them to the essence of an Ashokan education.

## ▲ Young Scholars Programme (YSP)

India's largest and most prestigious summer residential programmes for high schoolers, the Young Scholars Programme (YSP) was held in May and June 2025, in two editions – bringing together over 1,500 students from 130+ cities and 4 countries. The cohort comprised 55 per cent female students along with several individuals identifying beyond the binary.

This year's edition featured seven interdisciplinary tracks, with the introduction of two new tracks – Psychology, Behaviour and Well-Being, and Impact Leaders of Tomorrow. Programmes combined classroom dialogue with

experiential learning – whether in Ashoka's science labs, through Makerspace projects, or in workshops on design thinking, social entrepreneurship, data analysis, branding, policy design, and persuasive writing.

Across the two editions, students interacted with 160+ distinguished faculty and experts, including Nobel Laureates Brian Schmidt and Sir Paul Nurse, and industry leaders such as Deep Kalra (MakeMyTrip) and Sharmila Bhattacharya (NASA). YSP prepares and inspires students for confident subject choices, college outcomes, and career decisions.



## ▲ Horizons Achievers Programme

The sixth cohort of the Horizons Achievers Programme welcomed over 300 students from 70+ cities worldwide, with 57 per cent female participants. Horizons offered 15 deeply immersive short-term courses, spanning Economics, Psychology, Entrepreneurship, International Relations, and future-ready skills such as Design Thinking, Critical Thinking, and Communication.

Capstone projects and one-on-one mentorship pushed students to apply their learning

– ranging from AI-powered poker bots to investor pitches and policy simulations. Select students continued into extended mentorship, research, and internship opportunities with Ashoka faculty.

Horizons students also gained international recognition – winning awards, publishing books, and receiving grants to continue achieving more.

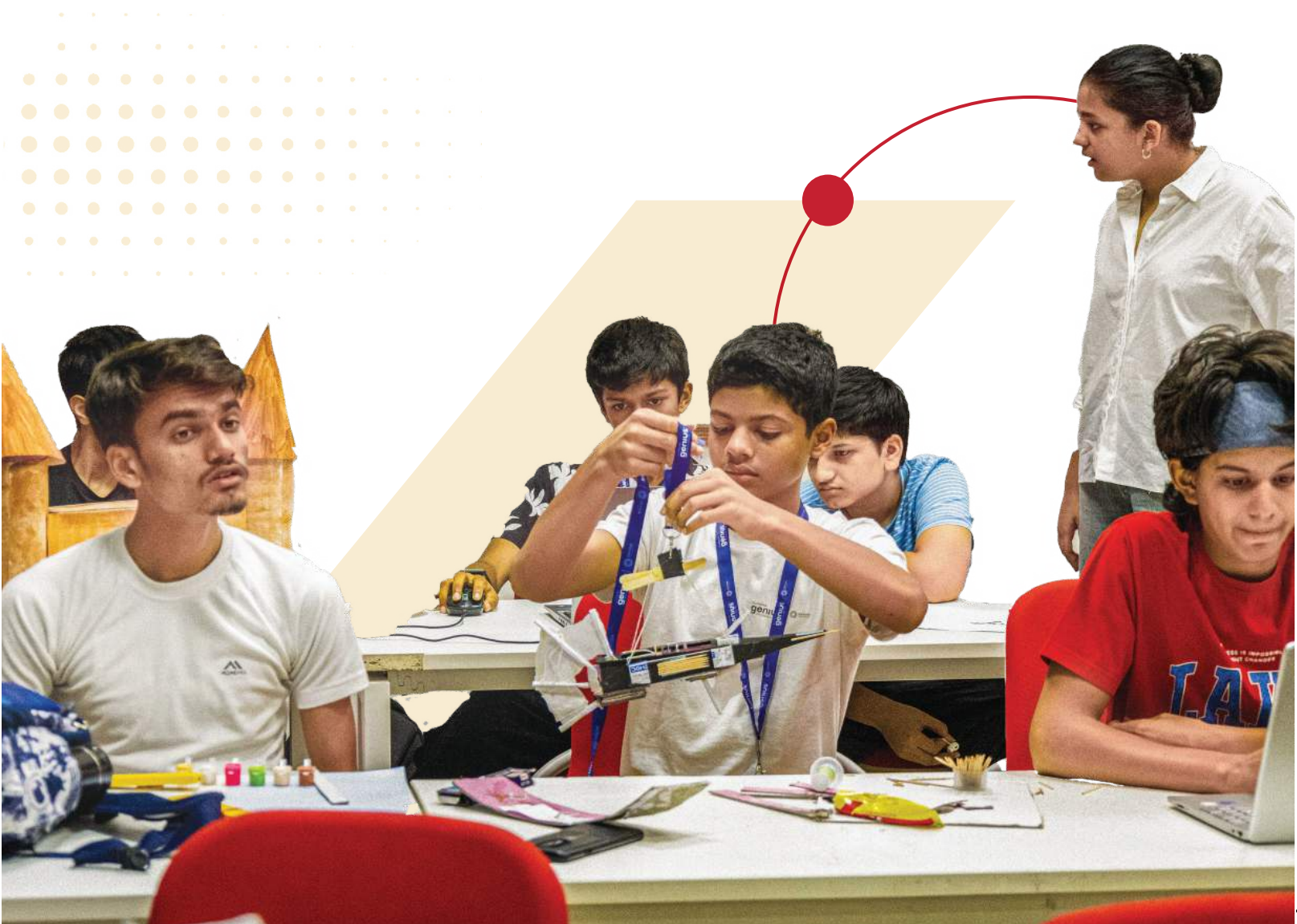
## ▲ Lodha Genius Programme (LGP)

The Lodha Genius Programme grew to 277 students, coming from 71 cities across 22 states and union territories. Forty-seven per cent of the cohort comprised female students. In 2025, the programme introduced three tracks – Junior, Science, and Mathematics. Within Mathematics, the students could opt for further divisions in Pure, Applied, and Discrete Mathematics.

The on-campus Great Ideas Seminar (GIS) lecture series featured two Nobel Laureates, a Padma Shri awardee, and global experts from fields as diverse as fashion design and aerospace medicine. Field-based learning included an ecology immersion in Uttarakhand's Devalsari forests.

LGP participants gained notable achievements, including second place at the European Tournament of Enthusiastic Apprentice Mathematicians (France), the Foldscope Innovation Awards for pioneering microscopy projects, as well as gold and silver medals at the International Earth Science Olympiad (China).

New global partnerships were established with CERN and the University of California, Santa Cruz, giving students pathways into advanced research environments.



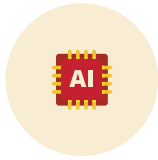


02

# Centres of Excellence

Ashoka's Centres of Excellence advance rigorous research, interdisciplinary collaboration, and real-world impact across a range of subjects. They serve as hubs where ideas grow, challenges are explored, and solutions are shaped.

# Thematic Areas



AI and Data  
Sciences



Economics, Society  
and Politics



Culture and  
Heritage



Sustainability



Student Life and  
Well Being

## AI and Data Sciences

Ashoka's Centres in digitalisation, AI and data sciences explore the ethical, social, and technical dimensions of technology while advancing research and innovation in healthcare, climate, governance, and society. In 2024–25, they hosted global conferences, collaborated with national and international

institutions, built cutting-edge infrastructure and trained the next generation of researchers. With these initiatives, Ashoka's Centres are playing a key role in helping shape India's digital future at the intersection of data, science, and society.

## Collective Highlights

1

Winner of the Mozilla Responsible Computing Challenge for teaching innovation (Centre for Digitalisation, AI and Society)

2

25+ international researchers and 170+ participants at the inaugural exSPLORe 2025 conference (Safexpress Centre for Data, Learning and Decision Sciences)

3

Co-hosted the World Health Summit Regional Meeting in India with global leaders in digital health (Koita Centre for Digital Health at Ashoka)

4

Released Datalake 2.0 with advanced visualisation and security features (Centre for Data Science and Analytics)

## ▲ Centre Snapshots

**Centre for Digitalisation, AI and Society (CDAIS)** fostered critical inquiry into how technology shapes institutions, governance and everyday life. This year, CDAIS explored the ethics and governance of AI through a workshop featuring 15 national experts, 60+ students, and policymakers from the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology. It won the Mozilla Responsible Computing Challenge for the course New Geographies of the Information Age. Seven faculty publications from the Centre appeared in national and international platforms and two peer-reviewed papers were presented at global conferences.



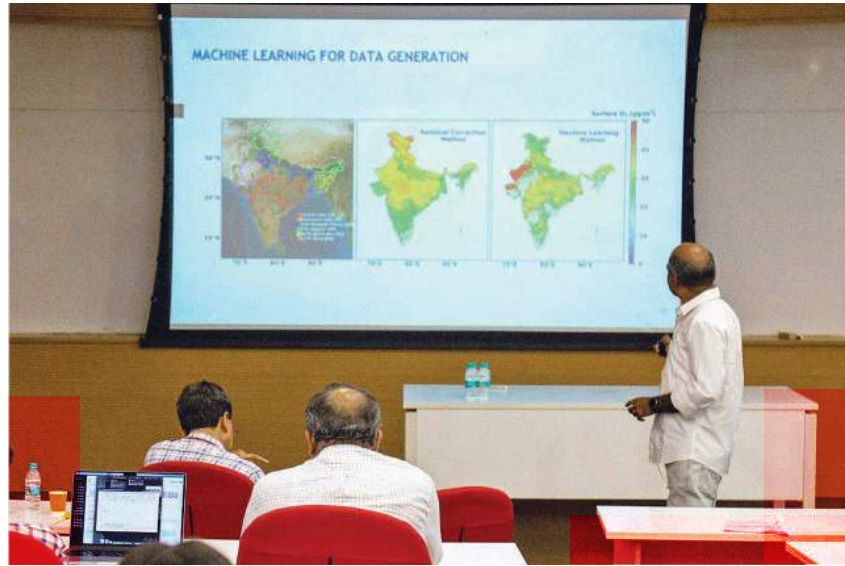
**Koita Centre for Digital Health at Ashoka (KCDH - A)** co-hosted the World Health Summit Regional Meeting in New Delhi, shaping global dialogue on responsible and equitable AI, digital health infrastructure, and the role of academia in health transformation. The Centre formalised a regional partnership with WHO-SEARO on Responsible AI in Healthcare and has launched a joint year-long webinar series

on deliberations, regional ethical frameworks, policy dialogue, and capacity building across Southeast Asia. It has also strengthened the research behind the digital health solutions by securing support from national and international grants and creating a hub for strategic partnerships.



### Safexpress Centre for Data, Learning and Decision Sciences (SCDLDS)

in its first year, hosted the flagship exSPLORe 2025 conference with 25 global researchers and 170+ participants, and its first AI/ML workshop on climate modelling with experts from IMD, IITs and Google DeepMind. Its research spans AI/ML for climate, finance and environmental policy, including the “Darjeeling Revival Project” with Alt Carbon. The Centre also expanded course offerings and upgraded to NVIDIA H100 GPUs with NVLink for large-scale AI research.



### Centre for Data Science and Analytics (CDSA)

strengthened Ashoka’s research data ecosystem by building infrastructure, enabling capacity building and building interdisciplinary collaborations that apply data science to real-world challenges. CDSA launched Datalake 2.0, adding geospatial mapping, dataset merging and enhanced security. It co-led the global

Building Resilient Futures: Data Skilling for Climate and Health with data.org, Wellcome Trust and J-PAL SA, and released a playbook on India’s data capacity for climate and health. CDSA also advanced interdisciplinary research on AI-driven data analysis and concluded the second cohort of its flagship Professional and Executive Development Programme.



## ▲ Economics, Society and Politics

Ashoka's Centres in economics, society, and politics deepen research, shape public policy, and strengthen India's engagement with global debates. In 2024–25, they convened policymakers and academics at high-profile conferences, pioneered new datasets and

tools, advanced behavioural interventions across health and climate, and built platforms for philanthropy and China studies. Through these initiatives, Ashoka is committed to address the most urgent challenges facing India and the world.

### Collective Highlights

- 1 145+ projects across 24 states reaching 500M+ people (Centre for Social and Behaviour Change)
- 2 Appointed as the India Country Expert for the Global Philanthropy Tracker 2025 (Centre for Social Impact and Philanthropy)
- 3 Launched India's first Queer Performance Archive (Centre for Studies in Gender and Sexuality)
- 4 350+ participants, 26 speakers at the inaugural Growth Conference (Isaac Centre for Public Policy)
- 5 34 courses and 150+ Mandarin learners engaged (Ashoka Centre for China Studies)
- 6 Pioneering India's first Case Centre for the Social Sector (Centre for Social Impact and Philanthropy)
- 7 Created India's first Economic Enterprises Tool integrating ASI and ASUSE data (Centre for Economic Data and Analysis)

## ▲ Centre Snapshots

**Centre for Economic Data and Analysis (CEDA)** continued to make socio-economic research widely accessible through its data portals and visualisations. In 2024–25, it created the Economic Enterprises Tool – a first-of-its kind platform harmonising India's formal and informal enterprise data. Research under its project on women's economic empowerment analysed barriers to re-entry after career breaks and the role of firm size in shaping female labour force participation.

**Isaac Centre for Public Policy (ICPP)** quickly became a hub for policy dialogue and research after its launch in 2024, ICPP quickly became a hub for policy dialogue and research. Its inaugural Growth Conference gathered 350+ participants and 26 experts speaking on fiscal policy, regulation, employment, and sustainability. With high-level engagements around the Interim Budget and 16th Finance Commission, as well as publications in top journals, ICPP established itself as a major convening platform within its first year.



### Ashoka Centre for China Studies (ACCS)

deepened linguistic and cultural engagement with the Sinophone world. It participated in the Ashoka Literature Festival by curating a special segment dedicated to Sinophone literature, co-hosted the NYU Shanghai-IIC Symposium, and welcomed former UK Business Secretary Vincent Cable for a lecture. ACCS also hosted the globally recognised TOCFL exam, with 37 students earning distinctions – a milestone for its Mandarin programme, which now counts 150+ learners. The China Studies minor has 17 graduates.

### Centre for Social and Behaviour Change (CSBC)

delivered high-impact interventions across health, climate, and digital inclusion, reaching more than 500 million people through 145 projects. Its *'Bano Iron Nari'* anaemia awareness campaign alone generated 186M+ impressions. CSBC developed the ESIS web portal that will benefit 2.7 million beneficiaries in UP, represented India in International behaviour science forums, and conducted an urban norms survey across 7 cities.

### Centre for Social Impact and Philanthropy (CSIP)

advanced knowledge on strategic philanthropy and enabled student engagement in the sector. In 2024–25, it published research papers from its fellowship cohort, launched India's first *Case Centre for the Social Sector* with leading partners, and was the country expert for India in the Global Philanthropy Tracker 2025. Its internship and field engagement programmes drew 617 applications, with 28 placements across 20+ organisations.

### The Centre for Studies in Gender and Sexuality (CSGS)

promoted knowledge and activism on issues of gender and sexuality through different initiatives. The Centre launched India's first Queer Performance Archive, created by Young India Fellows and awarded the Outstanding ELM Project 2025. It initiated TAARIF Fellowship, funded by the Antipode Grant, bringing together fellows for research and a conference on Trans\* Abundance with the University of Melbourne. CSGS also hosted the widely attended discussion on Desire in Sufi and Urdu poetry, released *Qurbatein: Digital Desires*, and supported publications on gender politics in India.



## ▲ Culture and Heritage

Ashoka's centres continue to preserve diverse voices, encourage dialogue and advance scholarship across archives, translation, creative practice, and archaeology. Together, they highlight India's rich cultural heritage while shaping new conversations.



### Collective Highlights

1

Crossed 100 private collections, including those of Dr Manmohan Singh and Sai Paranjpye (Archives of Contemporary India)

2

Celebrated a decade of Literary Activism with the 10th international symposium and Ved Mehta Award (Centre for the Creative and the Critical)

3

Launched Bhashavaad, India's first open-access translation database with 30,000+ entries (Ashoka Centre for Translation)

4

Discovered a prehistoric painted rock shelter in Bandhavgarh (Centre for Interdisciplinary Archaeological Research)

## ▲ Centre Snapshots

### Archives of Contemporary India (ACI)

reaffirmed its role as a key centre for preserving and documenting the voices that have shaped India's political, social, cultural, and intellectual history. It crossed the landmark of 100 private collections, including the papers of public figures such as Dr Manmohan Singh, Gopalkrishna Gandhi, Rajmohan Gandhi, Deepak Nayyar and Sai Paranjpye. This year, ACI digitised over 60,000 documents and photographs and Hindi periodicals *Nainital Samachar*, *Aniket*, and *Uttara Mahila Patrika*. It curated major exhibitions, including the 52nd Anniversary of Project Tiger and engaged students through archive exhibitions like DeCLASSIFIED.

### Ashoka Centre for Translation (ACT)

continued building resources, hosting conversations, and publishing translations that brought diverse voices into the mainstream. This year, the Centre launched *Bhashavaad*, India's first open-access database of translations, now listing 30,000+ entries. Its National Translation Conference convened 500+ translators, writers, and publishers, and works from Bengali, Hindi, Tamil, Kannada, Gujarati, and a multilingual volume with 11 languages were published. New partnerships were forged with publishing houses such as Westland, Vani, and Comma Press, expanding its reach.

### The Centre for the Creative and the Critical (CCC)

provided a forum to raise and address questions at the intersection of creative practice and critical argument. This year marked a decade of the Literary Activism series with the 10th symposium titled 'The

Non-Peer Reviewed Essay', in collaboration with University College London and India International Centre. The Literary Activism imprint expanded with Sunetra Gupta's *Memories of Rain* and *On Failing* edited by Professor Amit Chaudhuri. CCC also secured a grant from the Ved Mehta Foundation via Balliol College, University of Oxford, which will support 'The Ved Mehta Award for Creative Non-Fiction'.

### The Centre for Interdisciplinary

**Archaeological Research (CIAR)** deepened the study of the Indian past through cutting-edge research, collaborations, and field projects. It completed the Bandhavgarh Archaeological Project with the discovery of a prehistoric painted rock shelter and hosted workshops on archaeology, ecology, and geospatial methods. Backed by a 10-year research grant from Gopal Jain, CIAR appointed Dr Akash Srinivas as Assistant Director, awarded eight postdoctoral grants, and contributed to global scholarships, including the centenary edition of *Finding Forgotten Cities*.



## ▲ Sustainability

Ashoka's centres in climate, energy, and sustainability are pioneering people-centric approaches to India's net-zero transition and encouraging dialogue on biodiversity, water security, and sustainable futures. In 2024–25,

they launched multi-stakeholder consortiums, built advanced data and foresight labs, engaged communities in transitions away from coal, and convened global voices through conferences and films.

### Collective Highlights

**1** Launched the Collaborative Consortium on Critical Minerals (3C-SET) with 12+ partners (Ashoka Centre for a People-Centric Energy Transition)

**2** Organised the 5th Healing Earth 2 Conference on biodiversity loss and water insecurity (Centre for Climate Change and Sustainability)

## ▲ Centre Snapshots

**Ashoka Centre for a People-Centric Energy Transition (ACPET)** advanced research and action on India's just energy transition, combining fieldwork, community engagement, and policy foresight. It launched the Collaborative Consortium on Critical Minerals for Sustainable Energy Transition (3C-SET) and inaugurated the Energy Futures Lab to build AI- and data-driven policy tools. ACPET deepened community work by supporting farmers in post-coal Jharkhand, creating a climate vulnerability index for saltpan workers in Gujarat, and producing 13 research reports, journal publications and working papers. Partnerships with NITI Aayog, NTPC, and grants from the Wellcome Trust and Global Methane Hub expanded ACPET's role as an international thought leader on energy transitions.

**Centre for Climate Change and Sustainability (3CS)** expanded its interdisciplinary research and public engagement on climate change and sustainability. Its flagship Healing Earth 5.0 Conference convened leading experts to address biodiversity loss and water insecurity, bridging ecological science, social analysis, and policy. The conference hosted scholars and experts from institutes like IIT Bombay, IISER Bhopal, IISER Tirupati, and NCBS Bangalore. 3CS also funded and hosted the screening of *Seed Stories*, an acclaimed documentary on indigenous rice conservation, followed by critical discussions with filmmakers and scholars.



## ▲ Student Life and Well-being

Ashoka's Centres and Offices dedicated to student affairs and well-being worked to create a vibrant campus community, support inclusion, strengthen mental health, and foster entrepreneurial growth. In 2024-25, they introduced accessibility measures, hosted key conclaves and festivals, expanded mentorship and student leadership programmes, and built platforms for innovation and entrepreneurship. These Centres strive to support students both inside and outside of the classroom.



### Collective Highlights

- 1 Launched the Orientation Dashboard and Reno Campus system to enhance student onboarding and leadership support (Office of Student Affairs)
- 2 Released the Accessible Ashoka app and procured India's first Graphiti device for inclusive learning (Office of Learning Support)
- 3 Delivered 3,469 counselling sessions and hosted the MH360 Mental Health Festival (Ashoka Centre for Well-Being)
- 4 Welcomed 550+ participants and ₹8.5 lakh sponsorship at the Shatranj Entrepreneurship Festival (Centre for Entrepreneurship)
- 5 Hosted annual conference, with over 100 submissions from 75 institutions (Centre for Writing and Communication)

## ▲ Centre Snapshots

**Office of Student Affairs (OSA)** enhanced student life through new technology, mentorship, and community building. It launched the Orientation Dashboard and Reno Campus system to streamline onboarding and supported 225+ student events. Six new student-led clubs, including the Ashoka Fintech Club, *Kaagazi*, and The Common Room, were introduced. The Office also facilitated over 100 collaborations, bridging the campus with others through notable inter and intrauniversity events such as the AU Parliamentary Debate and the Ashoka Literature Festival. The Office also curated a rich calendar of marquee events that celebrated both our community and broader cultural heritage, such as The Festive *Haat*, *Safarnama*, *Baithak*, The Series, and the Student Excellence Awards.

**Office of Learning Support (OLS)** advanced inclusion in higher education through pioneering initiatives and national collaborations. It launched India's first College Readiness Course for neurodiverse students, hosted Conclave 2.0 on inclusive education with 100+ stakeholders, and created the Idea Labs – a Collaborative National Network (CNN) of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs). This network engaged members from like-minded institutions in accessibility-focused discussions and co-creation of inclusive models. OLS also rolled out Accessible Ashoka, India's first campus navigation app, and procured the Graphiti device to make Science accessible to blind students, while supporting 105 students with disabilities. It organised various events to engage the Ashoka community such as International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPwD), Neurodiversity 101 Workshop and Assistive Technology Training Workshop, amongst others.

**Ashoka Centre for Well-Being (ACWB)** strengthened campus well-being through direct services, advocacy, and outreach. It delivered 3,469 counselling sessions for 811 students, ran 107 well-being initiatives, and mobilised 22 interns in mental health advocacy. Signature programmes included Gatekeeper Trainings, Well-Being at Workplace, Mental Health for High Schoolers and Mental Health Advocacy. ACWB also expanded collaborations with IITs, IIMs, AIIMS, NIMHANS, and international partners to broaden the impact of its mental health initiatives.

**The InfoEdge Centre for Entrepreneurship (CfE)** scaled Ashoka's entrepreneurial ecosystem through teaching, events, and partnerships. Its flagship Shatranj festival drew 550+ participants and ₹8.5 lakh in sponsorships, while Startup Ashoka engaged 140+ budding entrepreneurs with 19 mentors. The Entrepreneurship Haat showcased 20+ student ventures and the ONDC Hackathon explored inclusive e-commerce solutions. CfE offered 44 courses, supported 26 startups, and built partnerships with sustainability and investment networks, reinforcing its position as a hub for entrepreneurial innovation.



**Centre for Writing and Communication (CWC)** deepened its academic support through 25+ workshops and sessions, an SOP writing toolkit, and new doctoral modules. Its annual conference 'A Song Called Teaching' drew 111 paper submissions from 75 institutions. CWC received a grant from Mphasis Lab for researching AI in academic writing, while faculty secured international fellowships and published monographs, strengthening its role in writing and pedagogy. This included Kanika Singh's monograph *The Story of a Sikh Museum: Heritage, Politics, Popular Culture*, Sonakshi Srivastava's ASLE Translation Grant and Writing Innovation Symposium Bedford/St Martin's Fellowship, and Archishman Sarker's invitation grant from the Centre for the Study of Manuscript Cultures, Hamburg, for a workshop on written artefacts.

## ▲ *Student & Scholar Highlights*

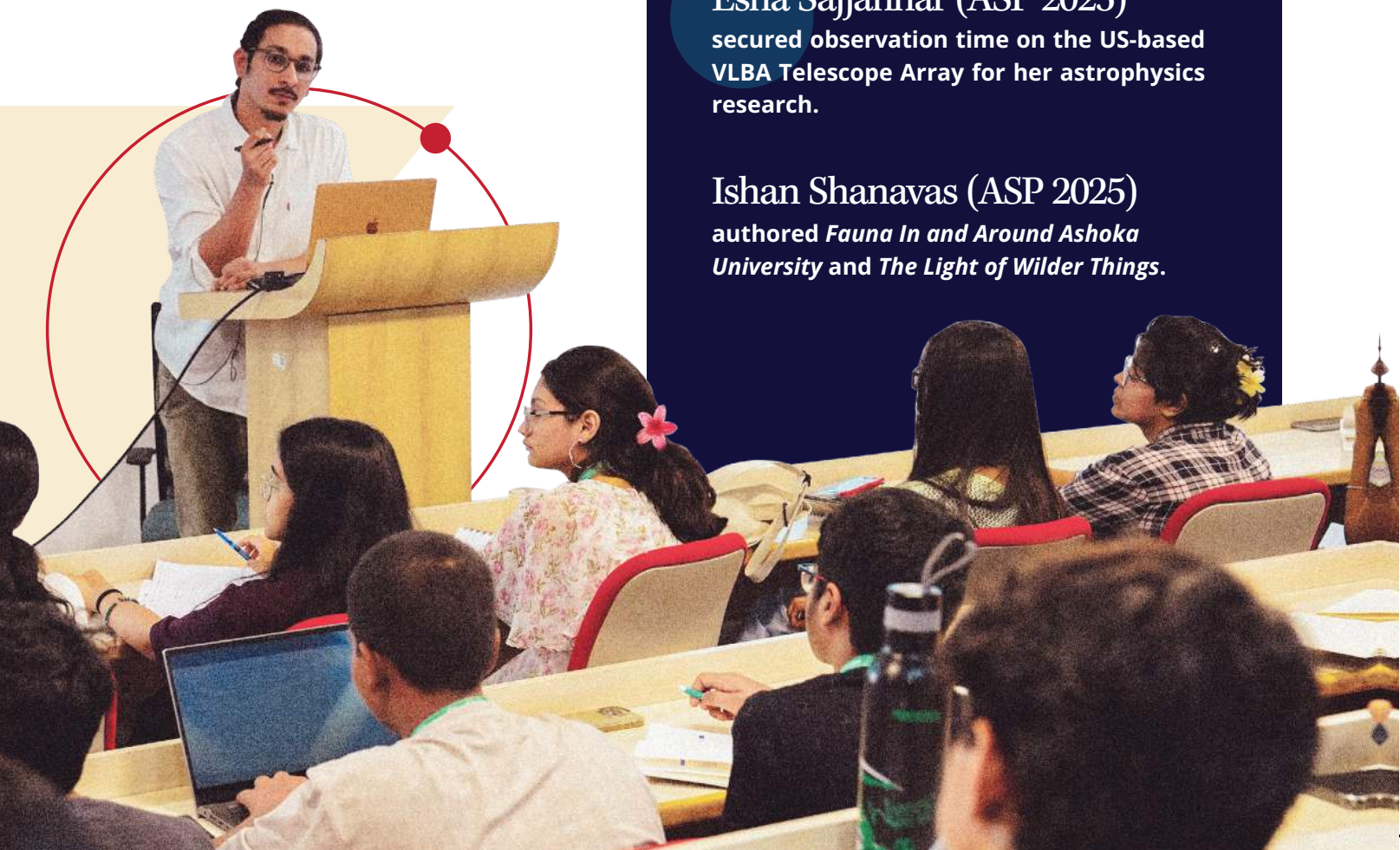
**Three Ashokans – Harsh Kumar Jha (UG 2025), Fouzia Fayaz (UG 2024), and Snigdha Arora (ASP 2021)**

received the prestigious Felix Scholarship for graduate studies in the UK.

**Ishan Pratap Singh (UG 2024)** represented India as one of the youngest invitees at the SDG Lab and the Global Shapers Summit in Geneva.

**Esha Sajjanhar (ASP 2025)** secured observation time on the US-based VLBA Telescope Array for her astrophysics research.

**Ishan Shanavas (ASP 2025)** authored *Fauna In and Around Ashoka University* and *The Light of Wilder Things*.



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# Inclusion, Diversity & Belonging

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779

Students  
joined Ashoka  
in 2025 (UG)

61%

Women

51

Students  
with visible  
and invisible  
disabilities

8

Countries

25

Indian States

138

towns and cities

▲ Scholarships awarded  
this year

₹97 Cr



▲ Students on scholarships since inception

5,000+

▲ Total scholarships awarded since inception

₹619 Cr





03

# Global Engagement

Ashoka's global engagement ecosystem connects the University to leading institutions, ideas, and networks around the world. Through partnerships, mobility, and research collaborations, it expands opportunities for students and faculty alike.

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# Highlight

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## ▲ Office of Global Education (OGE)

60+

Global partnerships  
across Europe, North  
America, and Asia

150

Visiting students  
from 40+ international  
universities

800

Ashokans abroad  
through exchange programmes,  
internships, and summer schools

## ▲ Ashoka Global Research Alliances (AGRA)

12

International  
research partnerships  
initiated in 2024–25

Engagement with 3  
global humanities  
networks and Erasmus+  
mobility programme

Advanced research  
facilities established  
with Zeiss and  
Infosys Foundation

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# Office of Global Education (OGE)

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The Office of Global Education continues to drive Ashoka's internationalisation efforts through student mobility, institutional collaborations, and thought leadership in global learning.

In 2024–25, 13 new partnerships were formalised, including with the University of Birmingham, UC Santa Cruz, Durham University, Freie University Berlin, and the University of Copenhagen.

Over 240 students participated in outbound programmes – 58 through semester exchanges and 180+ through summer schools, internships, and research engagements at leading institutions such as Oxford, Stanford, LSE, HEC Paris, and ANU. Financial aid worth ₹16 lakh supported these mobilities, including assistance for students on full tuition support at Ashoka.

Inbound mobility also continued to grow, with 14 visiting students joining from Monash, HEC Paris, Sciences Po, and the University of Zurich, among others. The Visiting Students Programme has now welcomed over 140 students from 40+ universities, further strengthening Ashoka's position as a hub for South Asian liberal arts and global learning.

The University was represented at major international forums such as NAFSA (USA), APAIE (India), and NUS Go Global (Singapore), engaging in over 110 international meetings and delegations. The flagship Ashoka–University of Toronto Multidisciplinary Urban Capstone Project continued to stand out for its real-world impact, addressing urban challenges through collaborative, community-based research.



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# Ashoka Global Research Alliances (AGRA)

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Ashoka Global Research Alliances (AGRA) anchors the University's global research collaborations – connecting its faculty, centres, and laboratories with leading universities and research institutions worldwide.

In 2024–25, AGRA deepened research linkages through dialogues with universities such as Ghent, KU Leuven, UMass Amherst, UC San Diego, University of Melbourne, and Warwick. Through its participation in Erasmus+, Ashoka facilitated research-led mobility for both students and faculty, marking an important milestone in institutional partnerships.

Ashoka's growing leadership in the Humanities was reinforced through its engagement with the Global Humanities Alliance (University of Melbourne) and the Cambridge-led Global

Humanities Network. Notably, Professor Mandakini Dubey from the Department of English, became the first-ever faculty member from a non-US university to complete a summer residency at the National Humanities Center, USA.

AGRA also spearheaded the creation of two cutting-edge facilities – the Ashoka-Zeiss Core Imaging Facility and the Infosys Foundation Advanced Chemical Biology Laboratory – enabling frontier research in Microscopy, Material Sciences, and Chemical Biology. During the year, Ashoka hosted Antoine Petit, Chairman and CEO of CNRS (France), and two Nobel Laureates, Sir Paul Nurse and Professor Brian Schmidt, reflecting its growing recognition as a hub for interdisciplinary research and international collaboration.



04

# Placements, Postgraduate Studies & Alumni

Ashoka's outcomes extend far beyond graduation – through strong placements, global postgraduate pathways, and a vibrant alumni community that continues to lead, contribute, and create impact across sectors.

Ashoka's graduates continue to demonstrate strong market relevance and academic ambition. Their success in securing positions at leading organisations and admissions to prestigious global universities reflects the University's commitment to excellence

in career and postgraduate outcomes. In AY 2024–25, a substantial proportion of students secured placements or advanced to postgraduate programmes, underscoring both institutional rigour and industry trust in an Ashokan education.

## Placement Outcomes

400+

Students placed

164

Recruiting organisations

35 LPA

Highest salary offered

44%

First-time recruiters

Among the graduating cohorts of 2025, 100% of students registered with the Career Development Office (CDO) received offers. Key recruiting sectors included banking and financial services, consulting, consumer goods, IT/Tech, development, and education. Top firms included Accenture Strategy, Alvarez & Marsal, Avendus Capital, Boston Consulting Group (BCG), Clix Capital, Deloitte, D.E. Shaw, Ernst & Young (EY), Foundation for Interoperability in Digital Economy (FIDE), Flipkart, Genpact, Hindustan Unilever Limited (HUL), JSW, Kearney, MakeMyTrip, McKinsey, Paisabazaar, the Convergence Foundation, and The Dalberg Group, among many others.

The Career Preparatory Programme, led by the CDO, supports students in transitioning from academia to the professional world. Running from the first semester, it prepares students for both internships and placements. In 2024–25, over 1,600 students participated in the programme.



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# Postgraduate Trajectories

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115+

Students secured admissions

350+

Offers from 50+ universities

7

Full-ride scholarships

Since inception, Ashoka students have received

prestigious scholarships and fellowships such as Rhodes, Inlaks, Chevening, Fulbright, Felix, McCall MacBain, Knight Hennessy, Erasmus Mundus, amongst others

International admits included Harvard, Stanford, Yale, Oxford, Cambridge, Columbia, UPenn, NYU, University of Chicago, SOAS, King's, LSE, Hertie, and Sciences Po, while top Indian admits included the IIMs, ISB, and NLUs. Graduates also secured prestigious scholarships and fellowships, including Chevening, Felix, Inlaks, and ISB Merit. In total, INR 8.17 crore was awarded in scholarships, with seven full-ride and 20 partial awards. The Office of Postgraduate Studies played a pivotal role in achieving these outcomes, supporting over 250 students with personalised guidance on university and course selection, SoP writing, and scholarship applications. Alumni- and expert-led workshops further strengthened student preparation.

Ashoka's outcomes reaffirm the University's dual ethos: preparing graduates to thrive in top-tier employment while empowering a substantial cohort to pursue advanced scholarship and leadership pathways.



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# Alumni

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Ashoka, today, has over 5,900 alumni, based across the country and the world. In the last 11 years, close to 900 undergraduate students have pursued higher education from some of the best global universities, including Harvard, Columbia, Oxford, London School of Economics, Cambridge, and Sciences Po.

Others are working with the finest companies, in diverse sectors such as consulting, media, development, education, and financial services.

Many have founded their own enterprises, making a mark as successful entrepreneurs.

The Alumni Relations and Parents Office plays a crucial role in connecting alumni and parents with the University. The last year saw a major rise in the number of engagements with the community – including 50+ alumni chapter meets conducted across the globe. Alumni and parents also contributed to Outreach and Admissions programmes in significant numbers.






05



# Faculty & Research



At Ashoka, faculty scholarship fuels innovation and discovery, strengthening an ecosystem where rigorous research and meaningful impact go hand in hand.

# Faculty Achievements

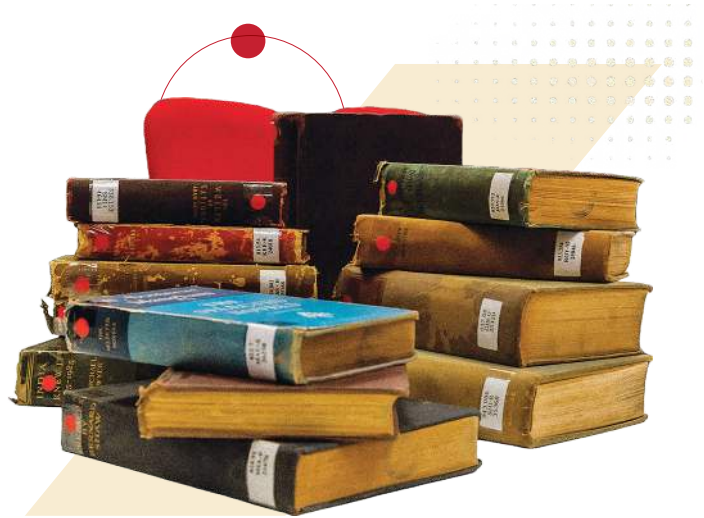
- **Prof Projit Bihari Mukharji** (History) won the Pfizer Award from the History of Science Society for *Brown Skin, White Coats*
- **Prof Mekhala Krishnamurthy** (Sociology & Anthropology) was named among LGIU's Top 25 Thinkers for her contributions to governance, justice, and local economies
- **Prof Deepak Asthana** (Chemistry) received the Thieme Chemistry Journals Award 2025 for excellence in Organic Chemistry
- **Prof Manvi Sharma** (Environmental Studies) earned the Prime Minister's Early Career Research Grant for her research on Himalayan carnivores
- **Prof Ashwini Deshpande** (Economics) was awarded the International Economics Association Fellowship for advancing inclusive economic research
- **Prof Sandeep Ameta** (Biology) received both the ANRF Early Career Research Grant and the Indo-French CEFIPRA Grant for pioneering work on synthetic life-like systems
- **Prof Divya Karnad** (Environmental Studies) received the BIMReN Grant for her research on fisheries across India and Bangladesh
- **Prof Anustubh Agnihotri** (Political Science) was selected as a Fellow at the Governance and Local Development Institute (2025–26) at Gothenburg and Cornell Universities
- **Prof Anisha Sharma** (Economics) was recognised as the International Economics Association's Featured Economist for 2024
- **Prof Dipin Kaur** (Political Science and International Relations) was awarded the prestigious US–India Security Studies Fellowship at Stanford University
- **Prof Aparna Vaidik** (History) was awarded the Senior Fellowship at the German Historical Institute London to conduct archival research across the UK
- **Prof Amit Chaudhuri's** (Creative Writing) first three novels – *Strange and Sublime Address*, *Afternoon Raag* and *Freedom Song* – were reissued by the New York Review Books (NYRB)



## Books

- *Inclusive Pedagogies: Teaching & Learning Practices in Higher Education in India*, edited by Kanika Singh (Centre for Writing and Communication)
- *Plant Thinkers of Twentieth-Century Bengal* by Sumana Roy (Creative Writing)
- *Ecology and German Realism* by Alexander Phillips (English)
- *Esoteric Orientalism* by Mandakini Dubey (English)
- *The Amateur* by Saikat Majumdar (English)

- *The Light of Wilder Things* by Ishan Shanavas (ASP 2025)



## Book Translations

### Arunava Sinha (Creative Writing and Ashoka Centre for Translation)

- *Vadivasal (graphic novel)*, original by Perumal Murugan and Appupen, Jadavpur University Press
- *Unstoppable Spring and Other Stories*, original by Murshida Zaman, Bee Books
- *You, Mother*, original by Jayasri Burman, Art Alive
- *Hospital Poems of Mathematics and Madness*, original by Binoy Majumdar, Parabaas
- *Limited Unlimited*, original by Sankar, Bloomsbury
- *First History Lessons: Clothes and Dressing*, original by Dev Kumar Jhanjh and Debarati Bagchi, Public Domain
- *First History Lessons: Food and Eating*, original by Anwasha Sengupta and Simantini Mukherjee, Public Domain
- *First History Lessons: Sports and Games*, original by Anik Biswas and Kaustubh Mani Sengupta, Public Domain
- *Phantoms of August*, original by Mashrur Arefin, Penguin Random House

- *Unlove Story*, original by Sudipto Pal, Seagull Books
- *Magadh*, original by Shrikant Verma, Jadavpur University Press
- *A Touch of Salt*, original by Anita Agnihotri, Penguin Random House
- *Ten Days of the Strike: Selected Stories*, original by Sandipan Chattopadhyay, HarperCollins

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## Grants/Fellowships

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- Rintu Kutum's (Computer Science) project was supported by the Public Health Alliance for Genomic Epidemiology (PHA4GE). He has also been awarded a grant from Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR).
- Guatam Menon's (Physics/Biology) research is funded by the National Modeling Disease Consortium, IIT B (BMGF & DBT).
- Projit B. Mukharji's (History) project is sponsored by the History of Science Society.
- Laasya Samhita's (Trivedi School of Biosciences) research is supported by International Pathogen Surveillance Network (IPSN) convened by WHO.
- Manu Awasthi's (Computer Science) research project is sponsored by Qualcomm.
- Kasturi Mitra's (Trivedi School of Biosciences) research project is funded by The University of Central Asia (UCA).
- Dipanjan Ray's (Psychology) project is supported by the Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB).
- Sanjukta Dutta's (History) research is funded by the National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS).
- Debayan Gupta's (Computer Science) project is sponsored by United States-India Science & Technology Endowment Fund (USISTEF) and University of Toronto India Foundation.
- Rama S Akondy's (Trivedi School of Biosciences) research is supported by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)
- Anurag Agrawal's (Trivedi School of Biosciences) project is funded by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and BIRAC.
- Geeta Trilok's (Koita Centre for Digital Health at Ashoka) research project is sponsored by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT).
- Bhanu Gupta's (Economics) project is funded by the Institute of Development Studies.
- Ujjaini Dasgupta's (Trivedi School of Biosciences) research is sponsored by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR).
- Poornima Prabhakaran's (Centre for Health Analytics Research and Trends [CHART], Trivedi School of Biosciences) research project is funded by the University of Edinburgh.

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# Faculty

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## ▲ Permanent

- Aarthy Vaidyanathan
- Abhinash Borah
- Abhishek Rai
- Abir Bashir Bazaz
- Aditi Sriram
- Alexander Bruce Watson
- Alexander Robert Phillips
- Alexandra Cassatt Verini
- Alok Bhattacharya
- Amin Ahmad Nizami
- Amit Jai Pal Julka
- Amit Kumar Goyal
- Amit Prakash Chaudhuri
- Amita Baviskar
- Ananya Sharma
- Andrew Alan Johnson
- Aniket Pankaj Aga
- Anirban Sen
- Anisha Sharma
- Anup Padmanabhan
- Anuradha Saha
- Anurag Agrawal
- Anustubh Agnihotri
- Aparajita Dasgupta
- Aparna Chaudhuri
- Aparna Vaidik
- Arghya Bhattacharya
- Arindam Chakrabarti
- Arunava Sinha
- Aryya Ghosh
- Ashwini Deshpande
- Ayush Pant
- Balaji Chattopadhyay
- Bann Seng Tan
- Bastian Steuwer
- Bhanu Gupta
- Bharat Ramaswami
- Bhaskar Dutta
- Bhrigupati Singh
- Bikram Phookun
- Bipasha Maity
- Biswajit Banerjee
- Chitrlekha Dhamija
- Clancy Martin
- Conjeeveram Srirangachari Rajan
- Daniel Benjamin Weltman
- Debapratim Banerjee
- Debayan Gupta
- Deepak Asthana
- Deepak Mehta
- Digvijay Singh Negi
- Dilip Kumar
- Dimitry Shevchenko
- Dipanjan Ray
- Dipankar Bhattacharya
- Dipin Kaur
- Divya Karnad
- Eloise Elizabeth Wright
- Eric Paul Snyder
- Garima Mishra
- Gaurav Churiwala Garg
- Gautam Iqbal Menon
- Geetanjali Chanda
- Gopalkrishna Gandhi
- Guhan Venkat H
- Hemanshu Kumar
- Huzaifa Omair Siddiqi
- Imroze Khan
- Janice Erica Pariat
- Jonathan Gil Harris
- Kalyan Sekhar Chakraborty
- Kanika Mahajan
- Kasturi Mitra
- Kasturi Pal
- Kathryn Collins Hardy
- Kaustav Dhar Chakrabarti
- Kaveri Rajaraman
- Kavita Agarwal
- Kranti Saran
- Krishna Maddaly
- Krishna Venkata Melnattur
- Krittika Bhattacharjee
- Kumarjit Saha
- Laasya Samhita
- Lalit Hemant Contractor
- Lipika Dey
- Madhavi Latha Kari
- Madhavi Menon
- Mahabir Prasad Jhanwar

- Mahesh Rangarajan
- Mali Annika Skotheim
- Malvika Maheshwari
- Mandakini Dubey
- Manon Grube
- Manu Awasthi
- Manvi Sharma
- Maya Mirchandani
- Meghna Agarwala
- Mekhala Krishnamurthy
- Mihir Bhattacharya
- Mitul Baruah
- Mohammad Amir Ahmad Khan
- Mukul Sharma
- Munmun Ghosh
- Naresh Keerthi
- Naseer Ahmad Bhat
- Navtej Singh Johar
- Nayan Ranjan Chanda
- Nayanjot Kaur Lahiri
- Nirajan Kafle
- Nishita Trisal
- Pallavi Raghavan
- Partha Pratim Das
- Piyali Banerjee
- Pramoda Kumar
- Pratyay Nath
- Pritam Ghosh
- Projit Bihari Mukharji
- Quintijn Benjamin Kat
- Rachel Kathleen Harbin
- Rajendra Bhatia
- Rakhi Peswani
- Rama Sundari Akondy
- Rashmi Nair
- Ratul Lahkar
- Ravindran S
- Rita Kothari
- Ronit Mukherji
- Rudrangshu Mukherjee
- S K Shanthi
- Sabyasachi Das
- Saikat Majumdar
- Saish Vijay Nevrekar
- Sandeep Ameta
- Sandeep Kumar Juneja
- Sandeep Sen
- Sanjukta Datta
- Saul Kriger Wilson
- Sayantani Mukherjee
- Seema Alavi
- Sharon Elizabeth Berry
- Shivani Krishna
- Simantini Ghosh
- Sneha Bakshi
- Somendra Mohan Bhattacharjee
- Sougata Roy
- Sourav Chatterjee
- Sourav Ghosh
- Sourav Pal
- Sraman Mukherjee
- Sramana Majumdar
- Srijita Ghosh
- Srinath Raghavan
- Subhashis Banerjee
- Subhasree Chakravarty
- Subrata Kumar Ritadhi
- Sumana Roy Ghosh
- Sunil Khilnani
- Supriya Ray
- Suraj Shekhar
- Suratna Das
- Susmita Saha
- Swagata Bhattacharjee
- Swargajyoti Gohain
- Tatyana Aleksandrovna Kostochka
- Thomas Michael Mccarthy
- Tisha Srivastav
- Upinder Singh
- Vidya Dnyaneshwar Avasare
- Vinay Sitapati
- Vivek Venkitaraman Narayan
- Vivek Yadav
- Yatish Arya

## ▲ Visiting

- A K Shivakumar
- Aakshi Magazine
- Alexander Iain Siantonas
- Amrita Narayanan
- Anita Pinheiro
- Annie Baxi
- Anunaya Chaubey
- Arpita Das
- Arun Kumar Singh
- Bhismadev Chakrabarti
- Chinmaya Thakur
- Dipankar Bhattacharya
- Dwight Jaggard
- Fuzail Asar Siddiqi
- G Mugesh
- Gaurav Bhatnagar
- Goutam Kumar Paul
- Jaspreet Bindra
- K VijayRaghavan
- Kandaswamy Subramanian
- Kavita Sardana
- Kenwyn Smith
- KP Krishnan
- L.S. Shashidhara
- Latika Gupta
- Maya Ramanath
- Meenu Gaur
- Mohammad Saeedimehr
- Nadeem Akhtar
- Natasha Badhwar
- Neha Dixit
- Pragya Jain
- Pramath Raj Sinha
- Radhika Mathrani Chakraborty
- Rafi Ahmed
- Raghu Kalluri
- Rahul Verma
- Ranjan Banerjee
- Rita Brara Mukhopadhyay
- Rudra Chaudhuri
- Ruppal Walia
- S Satish Kumar
- Sameer Kulkarni
- Sanghamitra Bandyopadhyay
- Sanjay Kathuria
- Santosh Venkatesh
- Saugatto Datta
- Shahid Jameel
- Shantanu Chowdhury
- Shitika Chowdhary
- Shivshankar Menon
- Sidharth Sinha
- Soumya Madabhushi
- Srinivas Adiya Mopidevi
- Srishti Sardana
- Subhamoy Maitra
- Sudheendra Hangal
- Sunil Khilnani
- Surinder Jodhka
- Sushmita Nath
- Tanya Jain
- Urvashi Butalia
- Varun Khandelwal
- Vinay Tergaonkar
- Vishva M. Dixit
- Vishwajyoti Ghosh
- Vivek Gopalkrishna Shanbhag
- William McDonald





06

# Fundraising, Governance, & Leadership

Built on the support of over 300 philanthropic contributors and a model of shared governance, Ashoka continues to strengthen its foundation through inclusive leadership and collective stewardship.

This year saw the launch of several new Schools and Centres, including inauguration of the Trivedi School of Biosciences, and the launch of Havells School of Management and Leadership.

As of October 2025, Ashoka has over 300 founders and donors who have collectively raised approximately Rs 4,193 crore (USD 473.07 million). This support has enabled Ashoka to strengthen its position as one of India's leading Liberal Arts and Sciences universities.

## Founders

### ▲ Distinguished Founders and Trustees

- Ambarish Raghuvanshi
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### ▲ Eminent Founders and Trustees

- Kunal Shroff

### ▲ Founder and Member of the Board of Trustees

- Abhay Pandey
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- Ashish Kacholia
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- Genpact
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- Kavita Gupta and Manish Sabharwal
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- Lata Krishnan and Ajay Shah
- Malabika and Sudipto Sarkar
- Mithun Sacheti

- Mphasis
- Pramath Raj Sinha
- Pramod Bhasin
- Puneet Dalmia
- Rahul Mookerjee
- Raj Mishra
- Rajeev and Swathi Nannapaneni (NATCO Pharma)
- Rajiv Sahney
- Raju Shukla
- Rakesh Jaggi
- Ravi Jhunjhunwala + HEG
- Ravi Modi (Vedant Fashions Ltd)
- Rekha and Rizwan Koita (Koita Foundation)
- Safexpress Foundation
- (Divya and Rubal Jain)
- Sameer and Monik Koticha
- Sanjay Kukreja
- Sanjiv Kumar
- Shashi Kiran Shetty
- Siddharth Yog
- Sonia and Sandeep Gupta
- Sushil Kumar Agarwal
- VT Bharadwaj

## ▲ Founder and Member of the Circle of Sponsors

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- Delta Faucet Company India Pvt. Ltd.
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- Harit Talwar
- Harsha and Lulu Raghavan
- Harshbeena Sahney Zaveri
- Hemendra Kothari
- HL Somany Foundation (Abhishek Somany)
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- Mike Khanna (Rahul Khanna)
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- Sean Fieler
- Shailesh Karwa
- Shailesh Lakhani
- Shalini and Vikas Srivastava
- Shantanu Rastogi
- Sheryl and Chip Kaye
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- TCM Sundaram
- UBS
- Varun Thapar (KCT Group)
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- Vikram Gandhi
- Vinati Kastia Kilambi
- Vishwavir Ahuja
- Zile and Ankit Sagwal

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- Amal Parikh
- Anurag Bhargava
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- Bajaj Finance Ltd.
- Credit Suisse
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- Girish Bhakoo and Gregory Alexander
- Gopal Jain (Gaja Capital)
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- HDFC Bank Ltd.
- HDFC Ergo
- HSBC
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- Info Edge (India) Ltd.
- Jaithirth Rao
- Jasbir Singh

- JM Financial Group
- Kavita Iyer and Sandeep Singhal
- Lodha Group
- Mandeep Manku
- Motilal Oswal Group
- Nipa and Utpal Sheth
- Nirmal Jain
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- Sanjay and Suniti Subhedar
- Sat Pal Khattar
- SBI Life Insurance Co Ltd.
- Shruti Khanna Tuli and Vipul Tuli
- Star Network
- The Great Eastern Shipping Co. Ltd.
- Uma Shankar Bhartia
- UTI Asset Management Co Ltd.
- Vikram Lal
- Vivek Khare

## Others

- Pranav Gupta
- Samir Mehta
- Vineet Gupta

## Donors

- Aavas Financiers Ltd.
- Ajay Manissery Konchery
- Ajay Vohra
- Anil Kasturi
- Arshad Zakaria
- Arun Gupta (Transline Technologies Ltd)
- Ashu Agrawal
- Atish Nigam
- AU Small Finance Bank
- Aurobindo Pharma Foundation
- Bala Malladi
- Bill Comfort
- Carl Zeiss India (Bangalore) Private Limited
- CGI Information Systems & Management Consultants (P) Ltd.
- Dalip Pathak
- Easy Access Financial Services Limited
- EDME Insurance Brokers Limited
- ETS Lindgren Engineering India (P) Ltd.



- Godfrey Phillips India Ltd.
- Gurudas and Sweta G Patel
- Himanshu Kohli
- Hindustan Foods Ltd.
- Janmejaya Kumar Sinha
- Kalyan Krishnamurthy
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- Nitin Rakesh
- Nitin Saigal
- Prashant Gupta
- Puneet Jain (Kogta Foundation)
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- Reema and Praveen Malhotra
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- Tarek AbuZayyad
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- Vikas Khattar
- Vivek Chhachhi
- Vivek Gupta
- Vivek Narayan Gour
- Wellesley BLC – Melissa King



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# Board of Management

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- Somak Raychaudhury
- The Secretary to Government, Haryana Education Department (in their absence, Director of Higher Education, Haryana)
- Pramath Raj Sinha
- Geeta Goel
- Harish Shah
- Varun Sahni
- Nandini Chatterjee Singh
- Sandeep Sen
- Dean of Research)
- Bikram Phookun
- Dheeraj Sanghi
- Anurag Agrawal

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# Governing Body

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- Rudrangshu Mukherjee (Chairperson)
- Somak Raychaudhury
- The Secretary to Government
- Manish Sabharwal
- Puneet Dalmia
- Ashish Dhawan
- Pramath Raj Sinha
- Siddharth Yog
- Deep Kalra
- Govind Iyer
- Malabika Sarkar
- K. VijayRaghavan
- Geeta Goel

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# Leadership Team

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- Rudrangshu Mukherjee  
*Chancellor*
- Somak Raychaudhury  
*Vice-Chancellor*
- Eshwara Venkatesam  
*Pro Vice-Chancellor*
- Anurag Agrawal  
*Dean, Biosciences and Health Research, Trivedi School of Biosciences and Head, Koita Centre for Digital Health at Ashoka*
- Bikram Phookun  
*Dean and Professor of Physics*
- Dheeraj Sanghi  
*Dean, Student Affairs*
- Gautam Menon  
*Dean, Research and Professor of Physics and Biology*
- Sandeep Sen  
*Dean, Faculty and Professor of Computer Science*
- K VijayRaghavan  
*Chair, Science Advisory Council*
- Ali Imran  
*Vice President, External Engagement*
- Annie Mathew  
*Vice President, Information Technology*
- Bhaskar K Mishra  
*Vice President, Operations - Administration*
- Gitanjali Gandhiok  
*Vice President, Development*
- Himanshu Sachdev  
*Vice President, Operations*
- Jasrita Dhir  
*Vice President, Brand and Communications*
- Priyanka Chandhok  
*Vice President, Career Development Office and Office of Postgraduate Studies*

- Meghnad Mitra  
*Vice President, Finance, Procurement, and Risk Assessment*
- Shipra Tripathi  
*Vice President, Public Affairs*
- Sachin Sharma  
*Registrar, Controller of Examinations*
- Manju Singh  
*Advisor, Vice Chancellor's Office*
- Ambica Chaturvedi  
*Assistant Vice President, Human Resources*
- Rashmi Berry  
*Assistant Vice President, High School Programmes*
- Amrita Sadarangani  
*Senior Director, Global Research Alliances*
- Anu Batra  
*Senior Director, Information Technology*
- Manish Gupta  
*Senior Director, Finance*
- Urmi Singh  
*Senior Director, Career Development Office*
- Neena Goel  
*Senior Director, Career Development Office*
- Amit Chaudhuri  
*Director, Centre for the Creative and the Critical and Professor of Creative Writing*
- Anu Singh  
*Director, Alumni and Parents Relations Office*
- Arvinder J Singh  
*Director, Ashoka Centre for Well-being*
- Arunava Sinha  
*Co-Director, Ashoka Center for Translation and Professor of Practice in Creative Writing*
- Ashwini Deshpande  
*Founding Director, Centre for Economic Data and Analysis and Professor of Economics*
- Deepa Bhatnagar  
*Director, Ashoka Archives of Contemporary India*
- Devendra Gupta  
*Director, Projects*
- Gitanjali Rana  
*Director, Office of Global Education*
- Jatin Seth  
*Director, Career Development Office*
- Jinny Uppal  
*Director, Centre for Social Impact and Philanthropy*
- Kanika Singh  
*Director, Centre for Writing and Communication*
- Karan Bhola  
*Director, Young India Fellowship*
- Madhavi Menon  
*Director, Centre for Studies in Gender and Sexuality and Professor of English*
- Mani Lamba  
*Director, PR and Communications*
- Mercia Prince  
*Director, Office of Admissions*
- Nayanjot Lahiri  
*Head, Centre for Interdisciplinary Archaeological Research and Professor of History*
- Pavan Mamidi  
*Director, Centre for Social and Behaviour Change*
- Priyank Narayan  
*Founding Director, InfoEdge Centre for Entrepreneurship*
- Pooja Manaktala  
*Director, Administration and Service Excellence*
- Prachi Mishra  
*Director, Isaac Centre for Public Policy and Professor of Economics*
- Rita Kothari  
*Co-Director, Ashoka Center for Translation and Professor of English*
- Reena Gupta  
*Director, Office of Learning Support*
- Sandeep Juneja  
*Director, Safexpress Centre for Data, Learning and Decision Sciences and Professor of Computer Science*
- Shantanu Ganguly  
*Director, Library*
- Sharon Marie Barnhardt  
*Research Director, Centre for Social and Behaviour Change*
- Shivshankar Menon Chair, Ashoka Centre for China Studies and Visiting Professor of International Relations
- Soumyo Dutta Gupta  
*Director, Office of Postgraduate Studies*
- Vaibhav Chowdhary  
*Director-in-charge, Ashoka Centre for a People-centric Energy Transition*
- Vivek Srivastava  
*Director, Office of Academic Affairs*

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# Academic Council

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- Somak Raychaudhury
- Bikram Phookun
- Gautam Menon
- Saikat Majumdar
- Projit Bihari Mukharji
- Danny Weltman
- Ravindran Sriramachandran
- M A A Khan
- Alok Bhattacharya
- Dipankar Bhattacharya
- Sourav Pal
- Piyali Banerjee
- Suraj Shekhar
- Aparna Chaudhuri
- Amin A Nizami
- Krishna Maddaly
- Supriya Ray
- Subhashis Banerjee
- Ashwini Deshpande

# Trends & Metrics

Metrics	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
<b>STUDENTS</b>	<b>2,529</b>	<b>2,815</b>	<b>3,357</b>
<b>Undergraduate + ASP</b>			
Number of students enrolled	2,203	2,500	2,904
<b>Diversity</b>			
Percentage of women	56.6%	58.4%	60.8%
Percentage of students from non-metro cities	39.1%	40%	57%
Percentage of international students	4.6%	5.6%	2.4%
<b>Postgraduate (MA/MSc, MLS)</b>			
Number of students enrolled	105	61	136
<b>Diversity</b>			
Percentage of women	59%	55.7%	64%
Percentage of students from non-metro cities	57.1%	59%	61.8%
<b>Young India Fellowship (YIF)</b>			
Number of students enrolled	100	101	97
<b>Diversity</b>			
Percentage of women	62%	58.4%	59.8%
Percentage of students from non-metro cities	61%	62.4%	71.1%
<b>PhD</b>			
Number of students enrolled	121	153	220
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS</b>	<b>2,529</b>	<b>2,815</b>	<b>3,357</b>

Metrics	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
<b>Financial Aid</b>			
Percentage of students receiving financial aid (UG)	49%	46%	46%
Percentage of students receiving financial aid (PG)	64%	65%	56%
Percentage of students receiving financial aid (YIF)	68%	81%	81%
Cumulative amount of aid (Rs Cr)	417	511	619
<b>Alumni</b>			
Number of alumni	4,747	5,602	5,912
Percentage in India	96%	78%	75%
Percentage in other countries	4%	22%	25%
<b>Placements</b>			
Number of recruiters who hired	145	158	164
<b>Faculty</b>			
<b>Undergraduate</b>			
Number of faculty	248	227	261
Full-time faculty	154	176	197
Visiting faculty	94	51	64
Percentage of women (includes only full-time)	40%	38.8%	30.4%

Metrics	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
<b>Young India Fellowship</b>			
Number of faculty	26	30	33
Full-time faculty	9	10	13
Visiting faculty	17	20	20
Percentage of women (includes only full-time)	20%	26.7%	30.8%
<b>Staff</b>			
Number of employees	444	270	412
Percentage of women	54	123	46.8%
<b>International Collaboration</b>			
Number of partnerships	52	54	66
Countries of partner institutions	18	18	22
Number of partners from 200 institutions	32	31	37
<b>Fundraising</b>			
Total commitments raised (Rs Cr)	2,279	3,087	4,193
Commitments raised during the year (Rs Cr)	442	807	687
Number of founders	190	207	229
Number of donors and annual contributors	57	68	77
<b>Infrastructure</b>			
Total constructed area (in '000sq ft)	1,204	1,204	1,575
Student housing capacity	2,548	2,548	3,410

# Five-Year Financial Review\*

Particulars	Academic Year Wise				
	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
UG revenue	95	123	161	194	223
YIF revenue	10	11	6	5	3
PG revenue	3	3	3	4	4
<b>Total student revenue</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>230</b>
Other revenue	4	5	10	22	31
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>260</b>
Total Academic cost	65	76	93	108	127
Academic cost	60	67	81	90	106
Research & Development Cost	5	8	12	18	21
<b>Non-academic cost</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>173</b>
Non-teaching staff salary	29	34	41	51	66
<b>Administration &amp; maintenance</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>55</b>
Others	17	22	33	46	52
<b>Total operational expenditure</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>300</b>
<b>EBITDA</b>	<b>-21</b>	<b>-25</b>	<b>-32</b>	<b>-20</b>	<b>-40</b>

\*In Rs. Crore